

# Greedy

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## Greedy:

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- algorithm that makes the locally optimal choice at each stage
- a greedy algorithm never reconsiders its choices
  - choice made by a greedy algorithm may depend on choices made so far, but not on future choices or all the solutions to the subproblem

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## Greedy components:

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- a candidate set: from which a solution is created
- a selection function: chooses best candidate to be added to the solution
- a feasibility function: determines if a candidate can be used to contribute to a solution
- an objective function: assigns a value to a solution (or partial solution)
- a solution function: indicates when we discover a complete solution

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## Examples:

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- Traveling Salesman
  - Given a list of cities and the distances between each pair of cities, what is the shortest possible route that visits each city exactly once and returns to the origin city
- min coins to give change
  - pick biggest coin possible, next biggest possible, etc.
- minimum spanning tree
  - Kruskal's
  - Prim's
- optimum Huffman trees

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## Sources:

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- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greedy\\_algorithm](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greedy_algorithm)