

# Greedy Method

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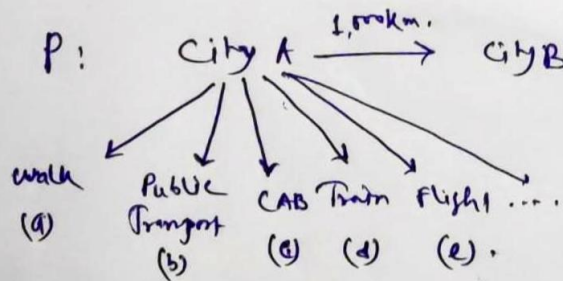
The main idea of this technique, as the name implies, is to make a series of greedy choices in order to construct an optimal solution for a given problem.

The focus of these lectures is to enrich students with the general idea of ~~idea~~ / structure of the greedy method & show how it can be applied to Knapsack & scheduling problems.

Problem p:

City A  $\longrightarrow$  City B

Suppose I have to travel from City A to City B, Now for any problem (for this one) there can be multiple solutions



Now let's add a condition/constraint in the above problem.

$\rightarrow$  You have to travel within 24 hrs.

$\Rightarrow$  To satisfy this problem, we have to travel either by ~~(a)~~ (d) Train, or (e) Flight, There are the 'Feasible Solution'

Now let's add another criteria, that ~~I/we~~ I/we have to travel with minimum cost, ( $\leq 2,000$  INR).

$\Rightarrow$  Flight is costly Thus traveling by ~~train~~ (d) Train is the only solution. It's a optimal Solution.

$\Rightarrow$  There can be multiple feasible solution but there will

be only one optimal solution.

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⇒ further this kind of problem which require maximization/minimization is called "optimization problem."

⇒ Greedy Method mostly deals with the optimization problem.

### Algorithm

Greedy (PS, N).

```
{ J=0;
  for (j=1 to n)
  {
    x = select from (PS);
    if (x is Feasible)
    {
      Solution[j] = Solution x
      J++;
    }
  }
}
```

N=4.

PS1	PS2	PS3	PS4
1	2	3	4

Time to Modify the definition / Learn the definition.

Def<sup>n</sup>:- It is a method to solve the optimization

problem, that involves searching through a set of configurations to find that one which minimizes or maximizes an objective function defined on these configurations.

The greedy approach does not always lead to an optimal solution. But there are several problems that it does work optimally for, & such problem are said to possess the greedy choice property. This is the property that



a global optimal configuration can be reached by a series of locally optimal choices, starting from a well-defined configuration. (3)

### Fractional Knapsack Problem:

object: O:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
profit: p:	10	5	15	7	6	18	3
weight: w:	2	3	5	7	1	4	1.

There are 7 object, each object have some weight & have ~~an~~ a profit.

Let there is a bag whose capacity is 15 kg. which you will be using to carry objects from location A to B & on transferring you will receive the profit. So it is a container transfer problem.

AIM  $\Rightarrow$  You have to transfer so that the profit is Maximum.

$\Rightarrow$  it is a maximization problem.

$\rightarrow$  there can be many solution but only one has maximum.

Thus we can apply greedy method to solve the problem.

Assumption: The objects are divisible.

Objective:- How to include these object in the bag,  
 $\rightarrow$  selection criteria.

object: $o_i$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
profit: $P_i$	10	5	15	7	6	18	3
weight: $w_i$	2	3	5	7	1	4	1

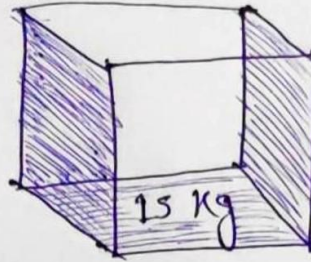
$P/w_i$	5	1.3	3	1	6	4.5	3
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$$x = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \\ x_6 \\ x_7 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2/3 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

(b) (d) (d) (a) (c) (c)

$$0 \leq x \leq 1.$$

Constraint:  $\sum_{i=1}^n x_i w_i \leq m.$



- a)  $15 - 1 = 14$
- b)  $14 - 2 = 12$
- c)  $12 - 4 = 8$
- d)  $8 - 5 = 3$
- e)  $3 - 1 = 2$
- f)  $2 - 2 = 0$

Let's verify if we are taking 15 kg, -

$$\sum_{i=1}^n x_i w_i = 1 \times 2 + 2/3 \times 3 + 1 \times 5 + 0 \times 7 + 1 \times 6 + 1 \times 4 + 1 \times 1$$

Again let's calculate the profit, -

$$\sum_{i=1}^n x_i P_i = 1 \times 10 + 2/3 \times 5 + 1 \times 15 + 0 \times 7 + 1 \times 6 + 1 \times 18 + 1 \times 3$$

Objective:  $\max \left( \sum_{i=1}^n x_i P_i \right)$

Thus we have reached our objective with the given constraints.

$\Rightarrow$  Now let's formalize the solution:

Consider the fractional Knapsack problem where we are given a set of  $n$  items, such that each item ' $i$ ' has a positive benefit  $b_i$  & a positive weight  $w_i$ , & we wish to find the maximum-benefit subset that does not exceed the given weight  $W$ .

Here, we can break items into fractions arbitrarily.  
i.e. we can take an amount  $x_i$  of each item ' $i$ ' such that

$$0 \leq x_i \leq w_i; \text{ for each } i \in S \text{ \& } \sum_{i \in S} (x_i) \leq W.$$

The total benefit of the items taken is determined by the objective function

$$\sum_{i \in S} b_i (x_i / w_i).$$

Algorithm:

FunctionalKnapsack ( $S, W$ ).

Input: Set  $S$  of Items, such that each item  $i \in S$  has a <sup>positive</sup> ~~non~~ benefit ' $b_i$ ' & a <sup>positive</sup> ~~non~~ weight ' $w_i$ ' & <sup>positive</sup> ~~non~~ maximum total weight  $W$ .

Output: Amount  $x_i$  of each item  $i \in S$  that maximizes the total benefit while not exceeding the maximum total weight  $W$ .

```

for (each item  $i \in S$ )
{
     $x_i \leftarrow 0$ ;
     $v_i \leftarrow b_i / w_i$ ; [// value index of item  $i$ ]
}
 $w \leftarrow 0$ ;
while ( $w < W$ )
{
    remove item ' $i$ ' with highest value index from  $S$ . [// greedy choice]
     $a \leftarrow \min(w_i, W - w)$  [// more than  $W - w$  cause weight overflow]
     $x_i \leftarrow a$ ;
     $w = w + a$ 
}

```

$$O(n \log n)$$