

Experiment-9

Find a subset of a given set $S = \{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n\}$ of n positive integers whose sum is equal to a given positive integer d . For example, if $S = \{1, 2, 5, 6, 8\}$ and $d = 9$ there are two solutions $\{1, 2, 6\}$ and $\{1, 8\}$. A suitable message is to be displayed if the given problem instance doesn't have a solution.

The Backtracking Technique

The procedure whereby, after determining that a node lead to nothing but dead ends, we **go back** ("**backtrack**") to the node's parent and proceed with the search on the next child.

- ❑ **Promising** : the node can lead to a solution, otherwise, it is called as **nonpromising**.
- ❑ **Pruning** : check each node whether it is promising, if not, backtracking to the node's parent.

Backtracking is the procedure to **prune** state space tree.

5.4 The Sum-of-Subsets Problem

- Find a subset of a given set $S=\{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n\}$ of n positive integers whose sum is equal to a given positive integer d .
- The state space tree can be constructed as a binary tree. The root of the tree represents the starting point, with no decisions about the given elements made as yet.
- Its left and right child represents respectively inclusion and exclusion of s_1 in a set being sought.
- Going to the left from the node of the first level corresponds to inclusion of s_2 .

Sum of subset Cont..

- Going to the right corresponds to its exclusion.
- A path from the root to a node on the i th level of the tree indicates which of the first i numbers have been included in the subsets represented by that node.
- We record the value of s' , the sum of these numbers in the node. If s' is equal to d , we have solution to the problem.
- We can either report this result and stop or, if all the solutions need to be found, continue by backtracking to the node's parent.
- problem of determining such sets is called the **Sum-of-Subsets Problem**.

Example 5.1

Suppose that $n = 3$, $W = 6$, and

$$w_1 = 2, w_2 = 4, w_3 = 5.$$

Find the solutions.

Sol:

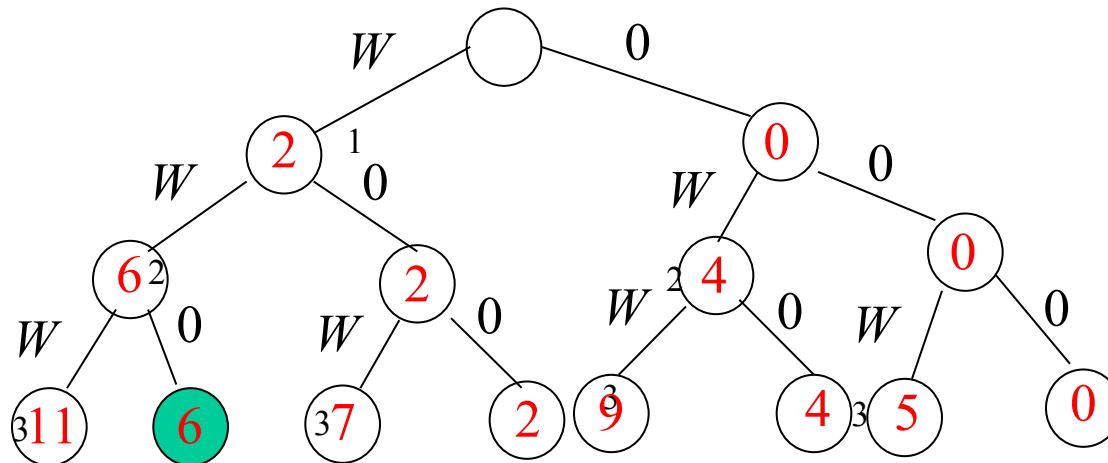
Example 5.1

Suppose that $n = 3$, $W = 6$, and

$$w_1 = 2, w_2 = 4, w_3 = 5.$$

Find the solutions.

Sol:



Example 5.2

Suppose that $n = 5$, $W = 21$, and

$w_1 = 5$, $w_2 = 6$, $w_3 = 10$, $w_4 = 11$, and $w_5 = 16$.

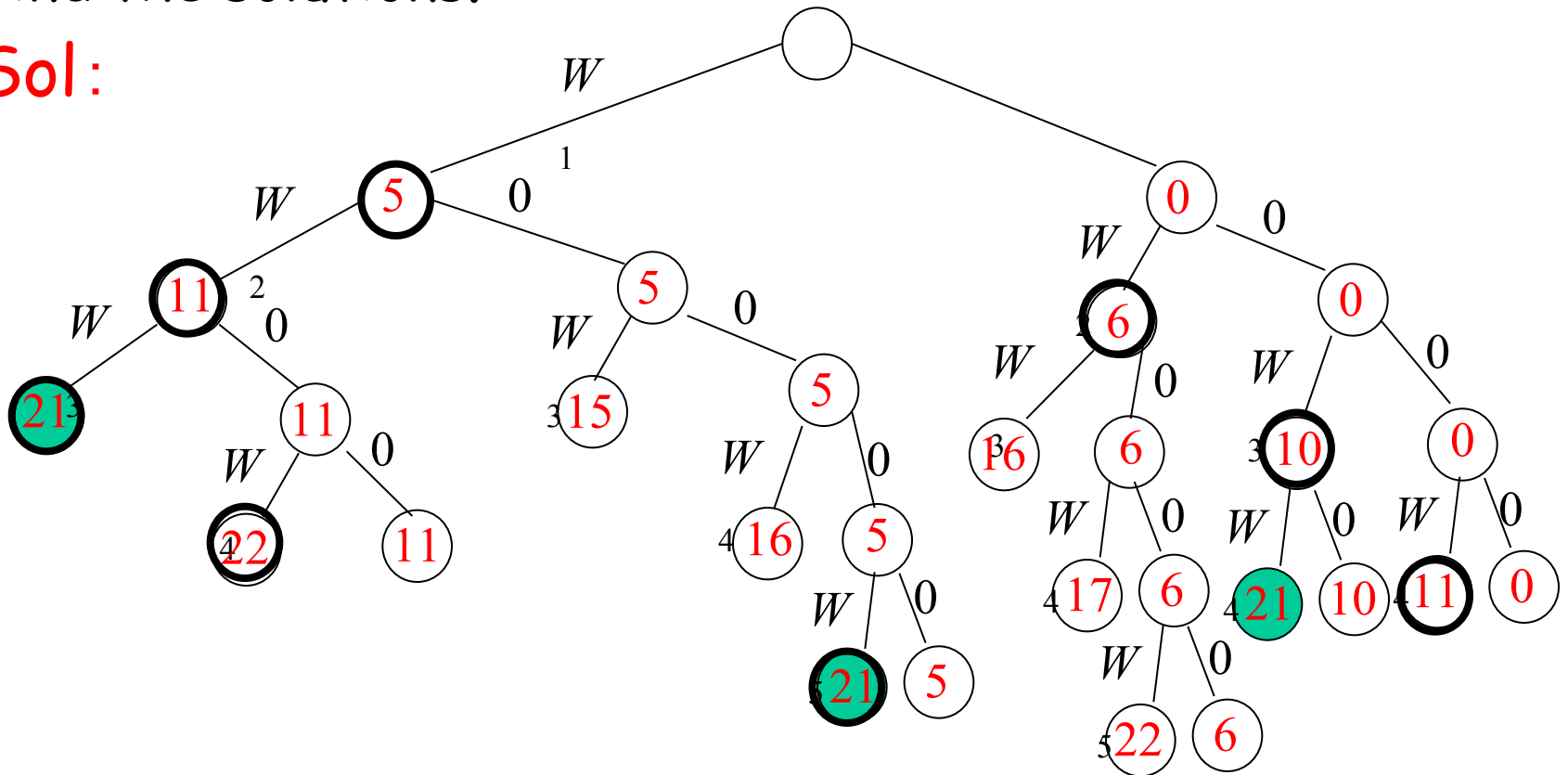
Find the solutions.

Sol:

Example 5.2

Suppose there are $n = 5$, Sum required $W = 21$,
and $n_1 = 5, n_2 = 6, n_3 = 10, n_4 = 11, n_5 = 16$.
Find the solutions.

Sol:



Example 5.4

Suppose that $n = 4$, $W = 13$, and

$$w_1 = 3, w_2 = 4, w_3 = 5, w_4 = 6.$$

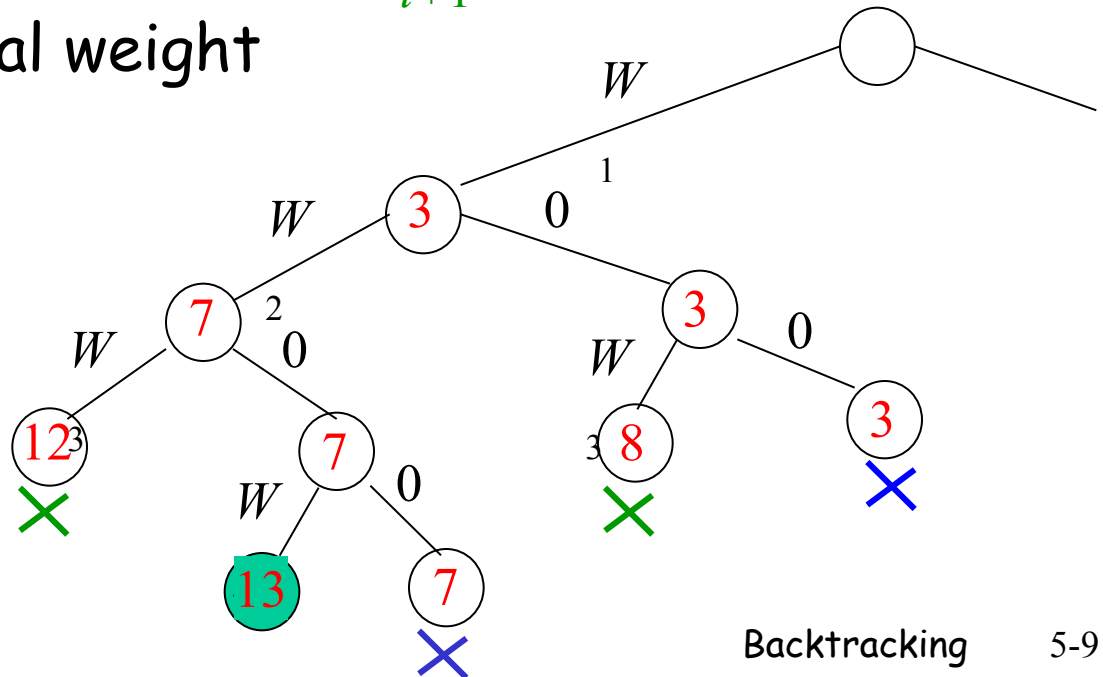
Find the solutions.

Sol: For the weights sorting in nondecreasing order,

a node is nonpromising if $weight + w_{i+1} > W$

where $weight$ is the total weight up to a node at level i .

$weight + total_r < W$
is also nonpromising.



Algorithm 5.4

□ **Problem**: Given n positive weights and a positive integer W , find all combinations of the weights that sum to W .

Inputs: positive integer n , sorted array a index from 1 to n , and a positive integer W .

Output: all combinations of the weights that sum to W .

```
void sum_of_subsets (index  $i$ , int  $weight$ , int  $total$ )
```

```
{ if (promising( $i$ ))  
    if ( $weight = W$ )  
        cout << include[1] through include[ $i$ ];  
    else { include[ $i+1$ ] = "yes";  
          sum_of_subsets( $i+1$ ,  $weight+w[i+1]$ ,  $total-w[i+1]$ );  
          include[ $i+1$ ] = "no";  
          sum_of_subsets( $i+1$ ,  $weight$ ,  $total-w[i+1]$ ); }  
}
```

```
bool promising (index  $i$ )
```

```
{ return ( $weight+total \geq W$ ) && ( $weight = W \parallel weight+w[i+1] \leq W$ ); }
```

Analysis of Algorithm 5.4

Worst-Case Time Complexity:

Number of nodes in the state space tree searched

$$1 + 2 + 2^2 + 2^3 + \dots + 2^n = 2^{n+1} - 1$$

If $\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} w_i < W$ and $w_n = W$,

it needs an exponentially large number of nodes to be visited.