

## Problem Set 8

Please write your solutions in the L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X template provided. Aim for concise solutions; convoluted and obtuse descriptions might receive low marks, even when they are correct. **There is no coding part to submit.**

Please solve each of the following problems using **dynamic programming**. For each problem, be sure to define a set of subproblems, relate the subproblems recursively, argue the relation is acyclic, provide base cases, construct a solution from the subproblems, and analyze its runtime. Correct but inefficient dynamic programs will be awarded significant partial credit.

For each problem below, please indicate whether the requested runtime is either: **1 polynomial**, **2 pseudopolynomial**, or **3 exponential** in the size of the input. This categorization will be worth 3 points per problem.

### Problem 8-1. [25 points] Oil Well that Ends Well

The oil wells of tycoon Ron Jockefeller will produce  $m$  oil barrels this month. Ron has a list of  $n$  orders from potential buyers, where the  $i$ th order is a willingness to buy  $a_i$  barrels for a total price of  $p_i$  (not per barrel), which may be negative.<sup>1</sup> Each order must be filled completely or not at all, and can only be filled once. Ron does not have to sell all of his oil, but he must pay  $s$  dollars per unsold barrel in storage costs. Describe an  $O(nm)$ -time algorithm to determine which orders to fill so that Ron can maximize his profit (which may be negative).

### Problem 8-2. [25 points] Splits Bowling

In Lecture 15, we introduced **Bowling**: a one-player game played on a sequence of  $n$  pins, where pin  $i$  has integer value  $v_i$  (possibly negative). The player repeatedly knocks down pins in two ways:

- knock down a single pin, providing  $v_i$  points; or
- knock down two adjacent pins  $i$  and  $i+1$ , providing  $v_i + v_{i+1}$  points.

Pins may be knocked down at most once, though the player may choose not to knock down some pins. A Bowling variant, **Split Bowling**, adds a third way the player can knock down two pins forming a **split**, specifically:

- knock down two pins  $i$  and  $j > i + 1$  if all pins in  $\{i+1, \dots, j-1\}$  between them have already been previously knocked down, providing  $v_i + v_j$  points.

Describe an  $O(n^3)$ -time algorithm to determine the maximum possible playing Split Bowling on a given sequence of  $n$  pins.

<sup>1</sup>Earlier this year, oil futures contract prices went negative: people were paying \$ to not receive delivery of oil because demand for oil had fallen dramatically and there was a shortage of places to store oil.



**Problem 8-3.** [25 points] **Quarter Partition**

Given a set  $A = \{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$  containing  $n$  distinct positive integers where  $M = \sum_{a_i \in A} a_i$ , describe an  $O(m^3n)$ -time algorithm to find a **partition** of  $A$  into four subsets  $A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4 \subseteq A$  (where  $A_1 \cup A_2 \cup A_3 \cup A_4 = A$ ) such that the maximum of their individual sums is as small as possible, i.e., such that  $\max \left\{ \sum_{a_i \in A_j} a_i \mid j \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\} \right\}$  is minimized.

**Problem 8-4.** [25 points] **Corrupt Chronicles**

Kimmy Jerk is the captain of the USS Exitcost, a starship charged with exploring new worlds. Each day, Capt. Jerk uploads a **captain's log** to the ship's database: a string of at most  $M$  lowercase English letters and spaces, where a **word** in a log is any maximal substring not containing a period.


One day, Capt. Jerk is abducted, and Communications Officer Uhota Nyura goes to the captain's logs looking for evidence. Unfortunately, the log upload system has malfunctioned, and has **corrupted** each of the last  $n$  logs by dropping all spaces. Officer Nyura wants to restore the spaces based on Capt. Jerk's word patterns in previous logs. Given a list  $L_c$  of the  $n$  corrupted logs, as well as a list  $L_u$  of  $O(m^2n)$  uncorrupted logs from before the malfunction, Officer Nyura wants to:

- for each word  $w$  appearing in any log in  $L_u$ , compute  $f(w)$ : the positive integer number of times word  $w$  appears in  $L_u$ ;  $f(w)$  is 0 for any word  $w$  not appearing in  $L_u$ , and
- for each log  $\ell_i \in L_c$ , find a **restoration**  $R_i$  of  $\ell_i$  (i.e., a sequence of words  $R_i$  whose ordered concatenation equals  $\ell_i$ ) such that  $\sum_{w \in R_i} f(w)$  is maximized over all possible restorations.

Describe an  $O(m^3n)$ -time algorithm to restore Capt. Jerk's logs based on the above protocol.



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