

NPTEL MOOC, JAN-FEB 2015  
Week 7, Module 4

# DESIGN AND ANALYSIS OF ALGORITHMS

Common Subwords and Subsequences

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# Longest common subword

- \* Given two strings, find the (length of the) longest common subword
  - \* “secret”, “secretary” — “secret”, length 6
  - \* “bisect”, “trisection” — “sect”, length 4
  - \* “bisect”, “secret” — “sec”, length 3
  - \* “director”, “secretary” — “ec”, “re”, length 2



# More formally ...

- \* Let  $u = a_0a_1\dots a_m$  and  $v = b_0b_1\dots b_n$  be two strings
- \* If we can find  $i, j$  such that  $a_ia_{i+1}\dots a_{i+k-1} = b_jb_{j+1}\dots b_{j+k-1}$ ,  $u$  and  $v$  have a common subword of length  $k$
- \* Aim is to find the length of the longest common subword of  $u$  and  $v$



# Brute force

- \* Let  $u = a_0a_1\dots a_m$  and  $v = b_0b_1\dots b_n$
- \* Try every pair of starting positions  $i$  in  $u$ ,  $j$  in  $v$ 
  - \* Match  $(a_i, b_i), (a_{i+1}, b_{i+1}), \dots$  as far as possible
  - \* Keep track of the length of the longest match
- \* Assuming  $m > n$ , this is  $O(mn^2)$ 
  - \*  $mn$  pairs of positions
  - \* From each starting point, scan can be  $O(n)$



# Inductive structure

- \* Let  $u = a_0a_1\dots a_m$  and  $v = b_0b_1\dots b_n$
- \*  $a_ia_{i+1}\dots a_{i+k-1} = b_jb_{j+1}\dots b_{j+k-1}$  is a common subword of length  $k$  at  $(i,j)$  iff  $a_{i+1}\dots a_{i+k-1} = b_{j+1}\dots b_{j+k-1}$  is a common subword of length  $k-1$  at  $(i+1,j+1)$
- \*  $LCW(i,j)$ : length of the longest common subword starting at  $a_i$  and  $b_j$ 
  - \* If  $a_i \neq b_j$ ,  $LCW(i,j)$  is 0, otherwise  $1+LCW(i+1,j+1)$
  - \* Boundary condition: when we have reached the end of one of the words



# Inductive structure

- \* Consider positions 0 to  $m+1$  in  $u$ , 0 to  $n+1$  in  $v$ 
  - \*  $m+1, n+1$  means we have reached the end of the word
- \*  $\text{LCW}(m+1, j) = 0$  for all  $j$
- \*  $\text{LCW}(i, n+1) = 0$  for all  $i$
- \*  $\text{LCW}(i, j) = 0$ , if  $a_i \neq b_j$ ,  
 $1 + \text{LCW}(i+1, j+1)$ , if  $a_i = b_j$



# Subproblem dependency

- \*  $LCW(i,j)$  depends on  $LCW(i+1,j+1)$
- \* Last row and column have no dependencies
- \* Start at bottom right corner and fill by row or by column

		0	1	2	3	4	5	6
		s	e	c	r	e	t	.
0	b							
1	i							
2	s							
3	e							
4	c							
5	t							
6	.							



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		s	e	c	r	e	t	.
0	b							
1	i							
2	s							
3	e							
4	c							
5	t							
6	.							



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		0	1	2	3	4	5	6
		s	e	c	r	e	t	.
0	b							0
1	i							0
2	s							0
3	e							0
4	c							0
5	t							0
6	.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0



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- \* Start at bottom right corner and fill by row or by column

		0	1	2	3	4	5	6
		s	e	c	r	e	t	.
0	b						0	0
1	i						0	0
2	s						0	0
3	e						0	0
4	c						0	0
5	t						1	0
6	.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0



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		0	1	2	3	4	5	6
		s	e	c	r	e	t	.
0	b					0	0	0
1	i					0	0	0
2	s					0	0	0
3	e					1	0	0
4	c					0	0	0
5	t					0	1	0
6	.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0



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- \* Start at bottom right corner and fill by row or by column

		0	1	2	3	4	5	6
		s	e	c	r	e	t	.
0	b				0	0	0	0
1	i				0	0	0	0
2	s				0	0	0	0
3	e				0	1	0	0
4	c				0	0	0	0
5	t				0	0	1	0
6	.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0



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- \*  $LCW(i,j)$  depends on  $LCW(i+1,j+1)$
- \* Last row and column have no dependencies
- \* Start at bottom right corner and fill by row or by column

		0	1	2	3	4	5	6
		s	e	c	r	e	t	.
0	b			0	0	0	0	0
1	i			0	0	0	0	0
2	s			0	0	0	0	0
3	e			0	0	1	0	0
4	c			1	0	0	0	0
5	t			0	0	0	1	0
6	.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0



# Subproblem dependency

- \*  $LCW(i,j)$  depends on  $LCW(i+1,j+1)$
- \* Last row and column have no dependencies
- \* Start at bottom right corner and fill by row or by column

		0	1	2	3	4	5	6
		s	e	c	r	e	t	.
0	b		0	0	0	0	0	0
1	i		0	0	0	0	0	0
2	s		0	0	0	0	0	0
3	e		2	0	0	1	0	0
4	c		0	1	0	0	0	0
5	t		0	0	0	0	1	0
6	.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0



# Subproblem dependency

- \*  $LCW(i,j)$  depends on  $LCW(i+1,j+1)$
- \* Last row and column have no dependencies
- \* Start at bottom right corner and fill by row or by column

		0	1	2	3	4	5	6
		s	e	c	r	e	t	.
0	b	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	i	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	s	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	e	0	2	0	0	1	0	0
4	c	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
5	t	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
6	.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0



# Reading off the solution

- \* Find (i,j) with largest entry
- \*  $LCW(2,0) = 3$
- \* Read off the actual subword diagonally

		0	1	2	3	4	5	6
		s	e	c	r	e	t	.
0	b	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	i	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	s	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	e	0	2	0	0	1	0	0
4	c	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
5	t	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
6	.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0



# Reading off the solution

- \* Find (i,j) with largest entry
- \*  $LCW(2,0) = 3$
- \* Read off the actual subword diagonally

		0	1	2	3	4	5	6
		s	e	c	r	e	t	.
0	b	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	i	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	s	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	e	0	2	0	0	1	0	0
4	c	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
5	t	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
6	.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0



# LCW(u,v), DP

```
function LCW(u,v) # u[0..m], v[0..n]
for r = 0,1,...,m+1 { LCW[r][n+1] = 0 } # r for row
for c = 0,1,...,m+1 { LCW[m+1][c] = 0 } # c for col

maxLCW = 0

for c = n,n-1,...,0
  for r = m,m-1,...,0
    if (u[r] == v[c])
      LCW[r][c] = 1 + LCW[r+1][c+1]
    else
      LCW[r][c] = 0
    if (LCW[r][c] > maxLCW)
      maxLCW = LCW[r][c]

return(maxLCW)
```



# Complexity

- \* Recall that the brute force approach was  $O(mn^2)$
- \* The inductive solution is  $O(mn)$  if we use dynamic programming (or memoization)
  - \* Need to fill an  $O(mn)$  size table
  - \* Each table entry takes constant time to compute



# Longest common subsequence

- \* Subsequence: can drop some letters in between
- \* Given two strings, find the (length of the) longest common subsequence
  - \* “secret”, “secretary” — “secret”, length 6
  - \* “bisect”, “trisection” — “isect”, length 5
  - \* “bisect”, “secret” — “sect”, length 4
  - \* “director”, “secretary” — “ectr”, “retr”, length 4



# LCS

- \* LCS is longest path we can find between non-zero LCW entries, moving right and down

		0	1	2	3	4	5	6
		s	e	c	r	e	t	.
0	b	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	i	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	s	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	e	0	2	0	0	1	0	0
4	c	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
5	t	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
6	.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

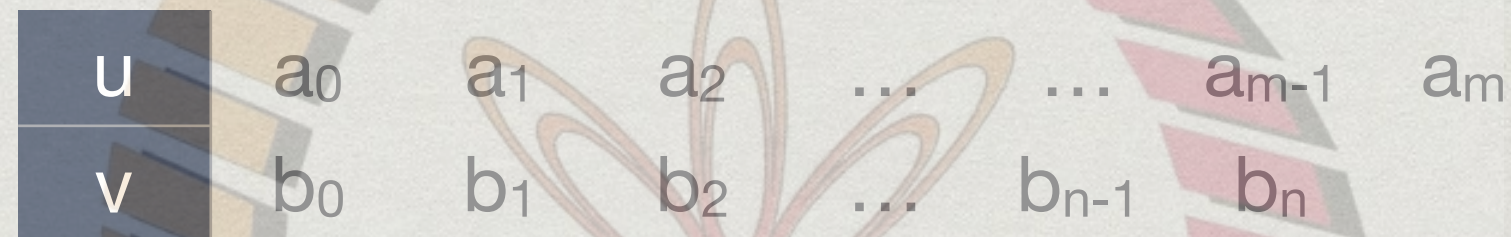


# Applications

- \* Analyzing genes
  - \* DNA is a long string over A,T,G,C
  - \* Two species are closer if their DNA has longer common subsequence
- \* UNIX diff command
  - \* Compares text files
  - \* Find longest matching subsequence of lines



# Inductive structure



u	a <sub>0</sub>	a <sub>1</sub>	a <sub>2</sub>	...	...	a <sub>m-1</sub>	a <sub>m</sub>
v	b <sub>0</sub>	b <sub>1</sub>	b <sub>2</sub>	...	b <sub>n-1</sub>	b <sub>n</sub>	

- \* If  $a_0 = b_0$ ,  
$$\text{LCS}(a_0a_1\dots a_m, b_0b_1\dots b_n) = 1 + \text{LCS}(a_1a_2\dots a_m, b_1b_2\dots b_n)$$
  - \* Can force  $(a_0, b_0)$  to be part of LCS
- \* If not,  $a_0$  and  $b_0$  cannot both be part of LCS
  - \* Not sure which one to drop
  - \* Solve both subproblems  $\text{LCS}(a_1a_2\dots a_m, b_0b_1\dots b_n)$  and  $\text{LCS}(a_0a_1\dots a_m, b_1b_2\dots b_n)$  and take the maximum



# Inductive structure

u	$a_i$	$a_{i+1}$	$a_{i+2}$	...	...	$a_{m-1}$	$a_m$
v	$b_j$	$b_{j+1}$	$b_{j+2}$	...	$b_{n-1}$	$b_n$	

- \*  $\text{LCS}(i,j)$  stands for  $\text{LCS}(a_i a_{i+1} \dots a_m, b_j b_{j+1} \dots b_n)$
- \* If  $a_i = b_j$ ,  $\text{LCS}(i,j) = 1 + \text{LCS}(i+1, j+1)$
- \* If  $a_i \neq b_j$ ,  $\text{LCS}(i,j) = \max(\text{LCS}(i+1, j), \text{LCS}(i, j+1))$
- \* As with LCW, extend positions to  $m+1, n+1$ 
  - \*  $\text{LCS}(m+1, j) = 0$  for all  $j$
  - \*  $\text{LCS}(i, n+1) = 0$  for all  $i$



# Subproblem dependency

- \*  $LCS(i,j)$  depends on  $LCS(i+1,j+1)$  as well as  $LCS(i+1,j)$  and  $LCS(i,j+1)$
- \* Dependencies for  $LCS(m,n)$  are known
- \* Start at  $LCS(m,n)$  and fill by row, column or diagonal

		0	1	2	3	4	5	6
		s	e	c	r	e	t	.
0	b							
1	i							
2	s							
3	e							
4	c							
5	t							
6	.							





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		0	1	2	3	4	5	6
		s	e	c	r	e	t	•
0	b							
1	i							
2	s							
3	e							
4	c							
5	t							
6	•							



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- \* Dependencies for  $LCS(m,n)$  are known
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		0	1	2	3	4	5	6
		s	e	c	r	e	t	.
0	b							0
1	i							0
2	s							0
3	e							0
4	c							0
5	t							0
6	.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0



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		0	1	2	3	4	5	6
		s	e	c	r	e	t	.
0	b						0	0
1	i						0	0
2	s						0	0
3	e						0	0
4	c						0	0
5	t						1	0
6	.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0



# Subproblem dependency

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- \* Dependencies for  $LCS(m,n)$  are known
- \* Start at  $LCS(m,n)$  and fill by row, column or diagonal

		0	1	2	3	4	5	6
		s	e	c	r	e	t	.
0	b					1	0	0
1	i					1	0	0
2	s					1	0	0
3	e					1	0	0
4	c					1	0	0
5	t					1	1	0
6	.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0



# Subproblem dependency

- \*  $LCS(i,j)$  depends on  $LCS(i+1,j+1)$  as well as  $LCS(i+1,j)$  and  $LCS(i,j+1)$
- \* Dependencies for  $LCS(m,n)$  are known
- \* Start at  $LCS(m,n)$  and fill by row, column or diagonal

		0	1	2	3	4	5	6
		s	e	c	r	e	t	.
0	b				1	1	0	0
1	i				1	1	0	0
2	s				1	1	0	0
3	e				1	1	0	0
4	c				1	1	0	0
5	t				1	1	1	0
6	.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0



# Subproblem dependency

- \*  $LCS(i,j)$  depends on  $LCS(i+1,j+1)$  as well as  $LCS(i+1,j)$  and  $LCS(i,j+1)$
- \* Dependencies for  $LCS(m,n)$  are known
- \* Start at  $LCS(m,n)$  and fill by row, column or diagonal

		0	1	2	3	4	5	6
		s	e	c	r	e	t	.
0	b			2	1	1	0	0
1	i			2	1	1	0	0
2	s			2	1	1	0	0
3	e			2	1	1	0	0
4	c			2	1	1	0	0
5	t			1	1	1	1	0
6	.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0



# Subproblem dependency

- \*  $LCS(i,j)$  depends on  $LCS(i+1,j+1)$  as well as  $LCS(i+1,j)$  and  $LCS(i,j+1)$
- \* Dependencies for  $LCS(m,n)$  are known
- \* Start at  $LCS(m,n)$  and fill by row, column or diagonal

		0	1	2	3	4	5	6
		s	e	c	r	e	t	.
0	b		3	2	1	1	0	0
1	i		3	2	1	1	0	0
2	s		3	2	1	1	0	0
3	e		3	2	1	1	0	0
4	c		2	2	1	1	0	0
5	t		1	1	1	1	1	0
6	.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0



# Subproblem dependency

- \*  $LCS(i,j)$  depends on  $LCS(i+1,j+1)$  as well as  $LCS(i+1,j)$  and  $LCS(i,j+1)$
- \* Dependencies for  $LCS(m,n)$  are known
- \* Start at  $LCS(m,n)$  and fill by row, column or diagonal

		0	1	2	3	4	5	6
		s	e	c	r	e	t	.
0	b	4	3	2	1	1	0	0
1	i	4	3	2	1	1	0	0
2	s	4	3	2	1	1	0	0
3	e	3	3	2	1	1	0	0
4	c	2	2	2	1	1	0	0
5	t	1	1	1	1	1	1	0
6	.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0



# Recovering the sequence

- \* Trace back the path by which each entry was filled
- \* Each diagonal step is an element of the LCS
- \* “sect”

		0	1	2	3	4	5	6
		s	e	c	r	e	t	.
0	b	4	3	2	1	1	0	0
1	i	4	3	2	1	1	0	0
2	s	4	3	2	1	1	0	0
3	e	3	3	2	1	1	0	0
4	c	2	2	2	1	1	0	0
5	t	1	1	1	1	1	1	0
6	.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0



# LCS(u,v), DP

```
function LCS(u,v) # u[0..m], v[0..n]
for r = 0,1,...,m+1 { LCS[r][n+1] = 0 }
for c = 0,1,...,m+1 { LCS[m+1][c] = 0 }
for c = n,n-1,...,0
  for r = m,m-1,...,0
    if (u[r] == v[c])
      LCS[r][c] = 1 + LCS[r+1][c+1]
    else
      LCS[r][c] = max(LCS[r+1][c],
                      LCS[r][c+1])
return(LCS[0][0])
```



# Complexity

- \* Again  $O(mn)$  using dynamic programming (or memoization)
- \* Need to fill an  $O(mn)$  size table
- \* Each table entry takes constant time to compute

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