

Greedy Algorithms

- make choice that looks best at the moment
- makes locally optimal choice in hopes of coming to a globally optimal solution
- does not always produce the optimal solⁿ, sometimes it does

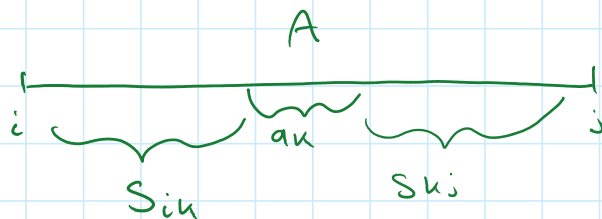
Activity Selection Problem

Goal: select max size subset of mutually compatible activities

S_{ij} : set of activities that start after activity a_i finishes and that finish before activity a_j starts.

↳ want the max set of mutually compatible activities in S_{ij}

A_{ij} is that set: contains a_k



$$A_{ij} = S_{ik} \cup \{a_k\} \cup S_{kj}$$

$$|A_{ij}| = |A_{ik}| + |A_{kj}| + 1 \text{ activities}$$

Dynamic perspective:

$$c[i, j] = c[i, k] + c[k, j] + 1$$

→ must examine all activities in S_{ij}

$$c[i, j] = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } S_{ij} = \emptyset \end{cases}$$

$$c[i, j] = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } S_{ij} = \emptyset \\ \max_{a_k \in S_{ij}} \{c[i, k] + c[k, j] + 1\} & \text{if } S_{ij} \neq \emptyset \end{cases}$$

→ have to fill out the table in a similar fashion to the Longest Common Sequence.

Lets be greedy:

- select an activity to add to our optimal solⁿ w/o solving all the subproblems.
- select activity that leaves resource available for as many other activities as possible
 - ↳ select a_1 since they are sorted by finish time
- all compatible activities must start after a_1 finishes.

all activities after a_k finishes: $S_k = \{a_i \in S : s_i \geq f_k\}$

→ if we greedy select a_1 , then S_1 remains only problem to solve

Thm 16.1: Consider any nonempty subproblem S_k and let a_m be an activity in S_k w the earliest finish time. Then a_m is included in some max-size subset of mutually compatible activities of S_k

So far...

- Repeatedly choose activity that finishes 1st
- keep only activities compatible (no-overlap)
- repeat until no activities remain.

Top down: • put activity in optimal solⁿ

- ↳ solve what is left over.
- ↳ typical for greedy algs

s : start times array

f : finish times

k : S_k subproblem

n : size of original problem

RECURSIVE-ACTIVITY-SELECTOR(s, f, k, n)

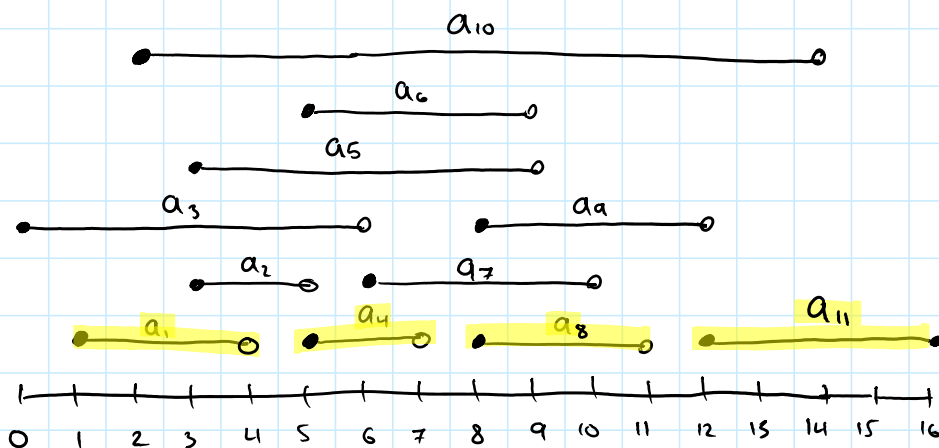
$\Theta(n)$ {
1 $m = k + 1$
2 **while** $m \leq n$ and $s[m] < f[k]$ // find the first activity in S_k to finish
3 $m = m + 1$ looking for $S_m \geq f_k$
4 **if** $m \leq n$
5 **return** $\{a_m\} \cup \text{RECURSIVE-ACTIVITY-SELECTOR}(s, f, m, n)$
6 **else return** \emptyset

add a_0 to solution, S_0 is remaining set of activities.

i	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
s_i	1	3	0	5	3	5	6	8	8	2	12
f_i	4	5	6	7	9	9	10	11	12	14	16

$\{a_1\} \cup \text{Rec-Act-Sel}(s, f, 1, 11)$ S_1
 $\{a_1, a_4\} \cup \text{Rec-Act-Sel}(s, f, 4, 11)$ S_4
 $\{a_1, a_4, a_8\} \cup \text{Rec-Act-Sel}(s, f, 8, 11)$ S_8
 $\{a_1, a_4, a_8, a_{11}\} \cup \text{Rec-Act-Sel}(s, f, 11, 11)$ S_{11}

\emptyset
Final answer = $\{a_1, a_4, a_8, a_{11}\}$



Iterative Version:

Greedy Act Selector (s, f):

$n = s.length$

$A = \{a_1\}$

$k = 1$

$\Theta(n)$

for $m = 2$ to n :

if $s[m] \geq f[k]$

$A = A \cup \{a_m\}$

$k = m$

return A