



# Dynamic programming

## Longest Common Subsequence



# Dynamic programming

It is used, when the solution can be recursively described in terms of solutions to subproblems (*optimal substructure*)

Algorithm finds solutions to subproblems and stores them in memory for later use

More efficient than “*brute-force methods*”, which solve the same subproblems over and over again

# Longest Common Subsequence (LCS)

Application: comparison of two DNA strings

Ex:  $X = \{A B C B D A B\}$ ,  $Y = \{B D C A B A\}$

Longest Common Subsequence:

$X = A \text{ **B** } \text{ **C** } \text{ **B** } D \text{ **A** } B$

$Y = \text{ **B** } D \text{ **C** } A \text{ **B** } \text{ **A** }$

Brute force algorithm would compare each subsequence of  $X$  with the symbols in  $Y$

# LCS Algorithm

if  $|X| = m$ ,  $|Y| = n$ , then there are  $2^m$  subsequences of  $x$ ; we must compare each with  $Y$  ( $n$  comparisons)

So the running time of the brute-force algorithm is  $O(n 2^m)$

Notice that the LCS problem has *optimal substructure*: solutions of subproblems are parts of the final solution.

Subproblems: “find LCS of pairs of *prefixes* of  $X$  and  $Y$ ”

# LCS Algorithm

First we'll find the length of LCS. Later we'll modify the algorithm to find LCS itself.

Define  $X_i$ ,  $Y_j$  to be the prefixes of  $X$  and  $Y$  of length  $i$  and  $j$  respectively

Define  $c[i,j]$  to be the length of LCS of  $X_i$  and  $Y_j$

Then the length of LCS of  $X$  and  $Y$  will be  $c[m,n]$

$$c[i, j] = \begin{cases} c[i-1, j-1] + 1 & \text{if } x[i] = y[j], \\ \max(c[i, j-1], c[i-1, j]) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

# LCS recursive solution

$$c[i, j] = \begin{cases} c[i-1, j-1] + 1 & \text{if } x[i] = y[j], \\ \max(c[i, j-1], c[i-1, j]) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

We start with  $i = j = 0$  (empty substrings of  $x$  and  $y$ )

Since  $X_0$  and  $Y_0$  are empty strings, their LCS is always empty (i.e.  $c[0,0] = 0$ )

LCS of empty string and any other string is empty, so for every  $i$  and  $j$ :  $c[0, j] = c[i, 0] = 0$

# LCS recursive solution

$$c[i, j] = \begin{cases} c[i-1, j-1] + 1 & \text{if } x[i] = y[j], \\ \max(c[i, j-1], c[i-1, j]) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

When we calculate  $c[i, j]$ , we consider two cases:

**First case:**  $x[i] = y[j]$ : one more symbol in strings  $X$  and  $Y$  matches, so the length of LCS  $X_i$  and  $Y_j$  equals to the length of LCS of smaller strings  $X_{i-1}$  and  $Y_{j-1}$ , plus 1

# LCS recursive solution

$$c[i, j] = \begin{cases} c[i-1, j-1] + 1 & \text{if } x[i] = y[j], \\ \max(c[i, j-1], c[i-1, j]) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

**Second case:  $x[i] \neq y[j]$**

As symbols don't match, our solution is not improved, and the length of  $\text{LCS}(X_i, Y_j)$  is the same as before (i.e. maximum of  $\text{LCS}(X_i, Y_{j-1})$  and  $\text{LCS}(X_{i-1}, Y_j)$ )



# LCS Length Algorithm

LCS-Length(X, Y)

1.  $m = \text{length}(X)$  // get the # of symbols in X
2.  $n = \text{length}(Y)$  // get the # of symbols in Y
3. for  $i = 1$  to  $m$   $c[i,0] = 0$  // special case:  $Y_0$
4. for  $j = 1$  to  $n$   $c[0,j] = 0$  // special case:  $X_0$
5. for  $i = 1$  to  $m$  // for all  $X_i$
6.     for  $j = 1$  to  $n$  // for all  $Y_j$
7.         if (  $X_i == Y_j$  )
8.              $c[i,j] = c[i-1,j-1] + 1$
9.         else  $c[i,j] = \max( c[i-1,j], c[i,j-1] )$
10. return c

# LCS Example

We'll see how LCS algorithm works on the following example:

- $X = \text{A B C B}$
- $Y = \text{B D C A B}$

What is the Longest Common Subsequence of  $X$  and  $Y$ ?

$\text{LCS}(X, Y) = \text{B C B}$

$X = \text{A } \mathbf{B} \quad \mathbf{C} \quad \mathbf{B}$

$Y = \quad \mathbf{B} \text{ D } \mathbf{C} \text{ A } \mathbf{B}$

# LCS Example (0)

ABCB  
BDCAB

		j	0	1	2	3	4	5
			Y <sub>j</sub>	<b>B</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>
i								
0	X <sub>i</sub>							
1	<b>A</b>							
2	<b>B</b>							
3	<b>C</b>							
4	<b>B</b>							

$X = \text{ABCB}; \quad m = |X| = 4$

$Y = \text{BDCAB}; \quad n = |Y| = 5$

Allocate array  $c[5,4]$

# LCS Example (1)

ABCB  
BDCAB

		j	0	1	2	3	4	5
			Y <sub>j</sub>	B	D	C	A	B
i	X <sub>i</sub>							
0			0	0	0	0	0	0
1	A		0					
2	B		0					
3	C		0					
4	B		0					

for  $i = 1$  to  $m$        $c[i,0] = 0$   
 for  $j = 1$  to  $n$        $c[0,j] = 0$

# LCS Example (2)

ABCB  
BDCAB

i	j						
		0	1	2	3	4	5
		Y <sub>j</sub>	B	D	C	A	B
0	X <sub>i</sub>	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	A	0	0				
2	B	0					
3	C	0					
4	B	0					

if (  $X_i == Y_j$  )  
 $c[i,j] = c[i-1,j-1] + 1$   
 else  $c[i,j] = \max( c[i-1,j], c[i,j-1] )$

# LCS Example (3)

ABCB  
BDCAB

i	j	Y <sub>j</sub>						
			0	1	2	3	4	5
			B	D	C	A	B	
0	X <sub>i</sub>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	A	0	0	0	0			
2	B	0						
3	C	0						
4	B	0						

if (  $X_i == Y_j$  )  
 $c[i,j] = c[i-1,j-1] + 1$   
 else  $c[i,j] = \max( c[i-1,j], c[i,j-1] )$

# LCS Example (4)

ABCB  
BDCAB

		j	0	1	2	3	4	5
			Y <sub>j</sub>	B	D	C	A	B
i	X <sub>i</sub>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	A	0	0	0	0	0	1	
2	B	0						
3	C	0						
4	B	0						

if (  $X_i == Y_j$  )  
 $c[i,j] = c[i-1,j-1] + 1$   
 else  $c[i,j] = \max( c[i-1,j], c[i,j-1] )$

# LCS Example (5)

ABCB  
BDCAB

		j	0	1	2	3	4	5
			Y <sub>j</sub>	B	D	C	A	B
i	X <sub>i</sub>							
0			0	0	0	0	0	0
1	A		0	0	0	0	1	1
2	B		0					
3	C		0					
4	B		0					

if (  $X_i == Y_j$  )  
 $c[i,j] = c[i-1,j-1] + 1$   
 else  $c[i,j] = \max( c[i-1,j], c[i,j-1] )$



# LCS Example (6)

ABCB  
BDCAB

i	j	Y <sub>j</sub>	0	1	2	3	4	5
				B	D	C	A	B
0	X <sub>i</sub>		0	0	0	0	0	0
1	A		0	0	0	0	1	1
2	B		0	1				
3	C		0					
4	B		0					

if (  $X_i == Y_j$  )  
 $c[i,j] = c[i-1,j-1] + 1$   
 else  $c[i,j] = \max( c[i-1,j], c[i,j-1] )$

# LCS Example (7)

ABCB  
BD CAB

i	j	Y <sub>j</sub>					
			0	1	2	3	4
				B	D	C	A
0	X <sub>i</sub>		0	0	0	0	0
1	A		0	0	0	0	1
2	B		0	1	1	1	1
3	C		0				
4	B		0				

if (  $X_i == Y_j$  )  
 $c[i,j] = c[i-1,j-1] + 1$   
 else  $c[i,j] = \max( c[i-1,j], c[i,j-1] )$

# LCS Example (8)

ABCB  
BDCAB

i	j	Y <sub>j</sub>						
			0	1	2	3	4	5
				B	D	C	A	B
0	X <sub>i</sub>		0	0	0	0	0	0
1	A		0	0	0	0	1	1
2	B		0	1	1	1	1	2
3	C		0					
4	B		0					

if (  $X_i == Y_j$  )  
 $c[i,j] = c[i-1,j-1] + 1$   
 else  $c[i,j] = \max( c[i-1,j], c[i,j-1] )$

# LCS Example (10)

ABCB  
BDCAB

i	j						
		0	1	2	3	4	5
		Y <sub>j</sub>	B	D	C	A	B
0	X <sub>i</sub>	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	A	0	0	0	0	1	1
2	B	0	1	1	1	1	2
3	C	0	↓	↓			
			1	1			
4	B	0					

if (  $X_i == Y_j$  )  
 $c[i,j] = c[i-1,j-1] + 1$   
 else  $c[i,j] = \max( c[i-1,j], c[i,j-1] )$

# LCS Example (11)

ABCB  
BDAB

i	j	Y <sub>j</sub>	0	1	2	3	4	5
				B	D	C	A	B
0	X <sub>i</sub>		0	0	0	0	0	0
1	A		0	0	0	0	1	1
2	B		0	1	1	1	1	2
3	C		0	1	1	2		
4	B		0					

if (  $X_i == Y_j$  )  
 $c[i,j] = c[i-1,j-1] + 1$   
 else  $c[i,j] = \max( c[i-1,j], c[i,j-1] )$

# LCS Example (12)

ABCB  
BDCAB

		j	0	1	2	3	4	5
			Y <sub>j</sub>	B	D	C	A	B
i	X <sub>i</sub>							
0			0	0	0	0	0	0
1	A		0	0	0	0	1	1
2	B		0	1	1	1	1	2
3	C		0	1	1	2	2	2
4	B		0					

if (  $X_i == Y_j$  )

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

else  $c[i,j] = \max( c[i-1,j], c[i,j-1] )$

# LCS Example (13)

ABCB

BDCAB

i	j	Yj	0	1	2	3	4	5
				B	D	C	A	B
0	Xi		0	0	0	0	0	0
1	A		0	0	0	0	1	1
2	B		0	1	1	1	1	2
3	C		0	1	1	2	2	2
4	B		0	1				

if (  $X_i == Y_j$  )

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

else  $c[i,j] = \max( c[i-1,j], c[i,j-1] )$

# LCS Example (14)

ABCB  
BD CAB

i	j	Y <sub>j</sub>	0	1	2	3	4	5
				B	D	C	A	B
0	X <sub>i</sub>		0	0	0	0	0	0
1	A		0	0	0	0	1	1
2	B		0	1	1	1	1	2
3	C		0	1	1	2	2	2
4	B		0	1	1	2	2	

if (  $X_i == Y_j$  )  
 $c[i,j] = c[i-1,j-1] + 1$   
 else  $c[i,j] = \max( c[i-1,j], c[i,j-1] )$



# LCS Example (15)

ABCB  
BD CAB

i	j	Y <sub>j</sub>						
			0	1	2	3	4	5
				B	D	C	A	<b>B</b>
0	X <sub>i</sub>		0	0	0	0	0	0
1	A		0	0	0	0	1	1
2	B		0	1	1	1	1	2
3	C		0	1	1	2	2	2
4	<b>B</b>		0	1	1	2	2	<b>3</b>

if (  $X_i == Y_j$  )

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

else  $c[i,j] = \max( c[i-1,j], c[i,j-1] )$

# LCS Algorithm Running Time

- LCS algorithm calculates the values of each entry of the array  $c[m,n]$
- So what is the running time?

$O(m*n)$

since each  $c[i,j]$  is calculated in constant time, and there are  $m*n$  elements in the array

# How to find actual LCS

- ❑ So far, we have just found the *length* of LCS, but not LCS itself.
- ❑ We want to modify this algorithm to make it output Longest Common Subsequence of X and Y

Each  $c[i,j]$  depends on  $c[i-1,j]$  and  $c[i,j-1]$  or  $c[i-1,j-1]$

For each  $c[i,j]$  we can say how it was acquired:

2	2
2	3

For example, here

$$c[i,j] = c[i-1,j-1] + 1 = 2 + 1 = 3$$

# How to find actual LCS - continued

- Remember that

$$c[i, j] = \begin{cases} c[i-1, j-1] + 1 & \text{if } x[i] = y[j], \\ \max(c[i, j-1], c[i-1, j]) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- So we can start from  $c[m, n]$  and go backwards
- Whenever  $c[i, j] = c[i-1, j-1] + 1$ , remember  $x[i]$  (because  $x[i]$  is a part of LCS)
- When  $i=0$  or  $j=0$  (i.e. we reached the beginning), output remembered letters in reverse order

# Finding LCS

		j	0	1	2	3	4	5
i		Yj	B	D	C	A	B	
0	Xi	0	0	0	0	0	0	
1	A	0	0	0	0	1	1	
2	B	0	1	1	1	1	2	
3	C	0	1	1	2	2	2	
4	B	0	1	1	2	2	3	

# Finding LCS (2)

		j	0	1	2	3	4	5
i		Yj		<b>B</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>
	Xi							
0			0	0	0	0	0	0
1	<b>A</b>		0	0	0	0	1	1
2	<b>B</b>		0	1	1	1	1	2
3	<b>C</b>		0	1	1	2	2	2
4	<b>B</b>		0	1	1	2	2	<b>3</b>

LCS (reversed order): **B C B**

LCS (straight order): **B C B**  
 (this string turned out to be a palindrome)