

CS3000

5/22 - Mon.

### Admin

- Long HW2 are tom. 9pm
- Rec tom., no problem set → come with questions!
- next HW - Long 3, out thurs, due 5/31
- Cracking the coding interview → O4

### Agenda

1. Scheduling problem
2. DP solution to scheduling
3. Greedy solution to scheduling

### Recap

DP mostly for optimization problems

Optimal Substructure? Solution to a subproblem is contained in solution to bigger problem

DP solution

recursive formula  
 $C[i, j] = C[i-1, j] + 1$



iterative  
fill in table bottom-up

# 1. Scheduling Problem

Activities that require use of a shared resource.  
Only one activity can use the resource at a time.

ex

- access to a classroom
- a soccer field
- OS resources (ex: CPU)

Scheduling details

$S = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$  set of activities  
that want to use  
the resource

Every  $a_i$  has:

- $s_i$  (start time)
- $f_i$  (finish time)
- another activity can start at or after  $a_i$  finishes

Activities  $a_i, a_j$  are compatible if  $s_i \geq f_j$  or  
 $s_j \geq f_i$

What ~~are~~ are we trying to optimize for?

- least amount of unused time
- ★ • most amount of activities ★
- least amount of time to run the activities

Define Set  $S_{ij}$  = set of compatible activities that start after  $a_i$  finishes (and) finish before  $a_j$  starts

Goal: maximize  $|S_{ij}| \rightarrow$  optimization problem!

(ex)

i	1	2	3	4	5	6
$s_i$	2	1	3	3	6	12
$f_i$	3	6	6	8	10	14

→ sorted by finish time!

Goal: maximize  $|S_{ij}|$  (optimal  $S_{ij}$ )

(ex)  $S_{1,5} = \{a_3, a_4, a_5, a_6\} \rightarrow$  start after  $a_1$   
 $\{a_1, a_2, a_3\} \rightarrow$  finish before  $a_5$   
 $= \{a_3\}$

i	1	2	3	4	5	6
$s_i$	2	1	3	3	6	12
$t_i$	3	6	6	8	10	14

What is  $S_{1,6}$ ?,  $\{2_3, 2_5\}$   $|S_{1,6}| = 2$

now... remove  $2_3 \rightarrow \{2_5\}$

$$S_{1,3} = \{2\} \rightarrow \begin{matrix} (1 \\ \cdot \cdot \end{matrix}$$

$$S_{3,6} = \{2_5\}$$

$$S_{1,6} = S_{1,3} + S_{3,6} + 2_3$$

Optimal  
Substructure

## 2. DP scheduling solution

recursive  
formula

iterative  
comp.

- Build a C table

- $C[i,j] = |S_{ij}|$  for the best/optimal  $S_{ij}$

# Recursive formula

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

i	1	2	3	4	5	6
$s_i$	2	1	3	3	6	12
$t_i$	3	6	6	8	10	14

ex: C table for ↗

	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	0	0	0	0	1 (3)	2 (3,5)
2		0	0	0	0	1 (5)
3			0	0	0	1 (5)
4				0	0	0
5					0	0
6						0

Run-time:  $\Theta(n^3)$  ... better than brute force!  
 Space:  $\Theta(n^2)$

Can we  
do better?  
||

10:47

### 3. Greedy Solution to Scheduling

naive  $\rightarrow$  divide & conquer  $\rightarrow$  DP  $\rightarrow$  Greedy

Algorithmic techniques  $\rightarrow$

Greedy

- always make the current best choice
- don't solve subproblems
- don't think recursively
- simple to implement!  $\downarrow$
- doesn't always work  $\downarrow$
- Is it efficient? TBD
- Tends to be used for optimization problems

Today's problem: Scheduling

- optimal (max) # of activities
- greedy: at any one time, pick the best compatible activity
- Always have a set  $S$  = set of compatible activities
- at any step, pick the best compatible activity and add to the set

What is the best activity to choose?

- Best = leaves most resources available  
= earliest finish time  
(more than one way though!)

Activity Algorithm:

- input: two arrays,  $s$  and  $f$   
↳ start times      ↳ finish times

(correspond with each other)

$a_i$  has  $s[i]$  start time  
 $f[i]$  finish time)

- returns: set of activities (hopefully optimal)  
↳ by indexes

ACTIVITY (s, f)

// sort s and f by finish time → pre process

S = {1} → a<sub>1</sub> has earliest finish time

k = 1 → index of activity we just added

for m = 2 to E.length → iterate over activities

if  $s[m] \geq f[k]$  → Found compatible activity

S = S ∪ {m} } → update set S  
k = m and index k

return S

→ Return set of activity choices

i	1	2	3	4	5	6
s <sub>i</sub>	2	1	3	3	6	12
f <sub>i</sub>	3	6	6	8	10	14
	-		=		-	-

(ex)

→ already sorted!

↳ hopefully the answer!

Steps of algo:

S = {1}

k = 1

m = 2

is 2 compatible? no!



$m = 3$   
is 3 compatible? yes!

$S = \{1, 3\}$

$m = 4$   
is 4 compatible? no!

$m = 5$   
is 5 compatible? yes!

$S = \{1, 3, 5\}$

$m = 6$   
is 6 compatible? yes!

$S = \{1, 3, 5, 6\}$

↓  
returned

Did we get an optimal solution? (yes) !!

Run time? sort + loop  
 $\Theta(\log n) + \Theta(n)$

→ Band by  
Sort!

$\Theta(\log n)$

or runtime is  $\Theta(n)$ ,

assuming data is already sorted

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Does this really work, or was an input lucky?

- Greedy doesn't always work
- But in this case it does, where we sort by earliest finish time

How do we know it works?

$S_k$  is any subproblem ( $k \leq n$ )

$S_k$  has  $z_m$  as earliest finish time

Let  $A_k$  be optimal solution to  $S_k$

• Is  $z_m \in A_k$ ? Duh!

• Is  $z_m \notin A_k$ ?

Let  $z_j \in A_k$  with earliest finish time

Can we swap out  $z_j$  and replace with  $z_m$ ?

Yes!

$$f\{m\} \leq f\{j\}$$

$z_m$  ~~does not~~ can't conflict with an

activity if  $z_j$  doesn't conflict.

So, we have optimal solution  $A_k = A_k - \{z_j\} \cup \{z_m\}$

• Activity with earliest finish time  
is always in optimal solution