



Dynamic Programming

Emmanuel Anaya Gonzalez

Meeting 8. May 28, 2024

Competitive Programming Club @ UCSD

What is DP?

- Wikipedia: "...simplifying a complicated problem by breaking it down into simpler sub-problems in a recursive manner."

General form of a DP solution

1. Define subproblems (original problem usually a particular case)
2. Formulate recursive relation between subproblems
3. Solve base cases
4. Cache subproblem solutions

Dynamic programming formulation

```
map<problem, value> memory;

value dp(problem P) {
    if (is_base_case(P)) {
        return base_case_value(P);
    }

    if (memory.find(P) != memory.end()) {
        return memory[P];
    }

    value result = some value;
    for (problem Q in subproblems(P)) {
        result = combine(result, dp(Q));
    }

    memory[P] = result;
    return result;
}
```

The staircase problem

Alice is at the bottom of a staircase with n steps. She is able to climb either 1 or 2 steps at the time.

Problem: How many different ways are there for Alice to get to the top of the staircase?

For $n = 5$, she could step on $[1, 3, 5]$, or $[2, 4, 5]$, or $[2, 3, 4, 5]$. All of these count as different solutions.

1. Define subproblems (original problem should be particular case)

Let $\text{ways}(i) = \#$ of ways to get to step i

Then the solution to the original task is $\text{ways}(n)$

The staircase problem

2. Formulate recursive relation between subproblems

- Let's say Alice is at step i
- The previous step must have been either $i - 1$ or $i - 2$
- If we know $\text{ways}(i - 1)$ and $\text{ways}(i - 2)$, then we can obtain $\text{ways}(i)$

$$\text{ways}(i) = \text{ways}(i - 1) + \text{ways}(i - 2)$$

3. Solve base cases

$$\text{ways}(1) = \text{ways}(2) = 1$$

The staircase problem

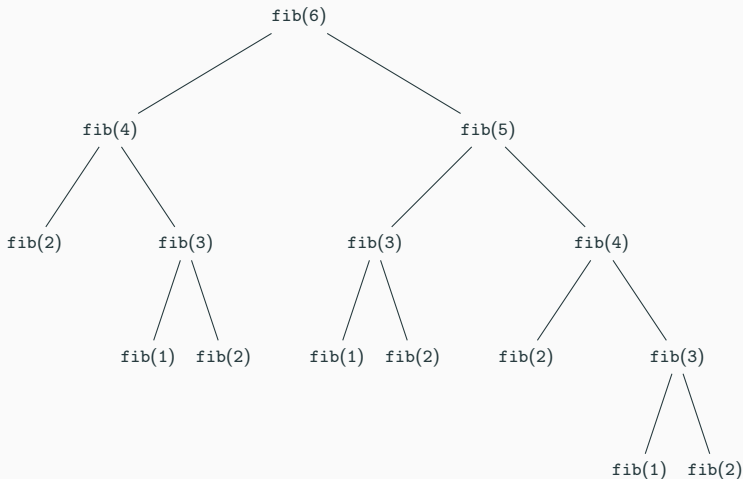
```
int ways(int n) {  
    if (n <= 2) {  
        return 1;  
    }  
  
    int res = ways(n - 2) + ways(n - 1);  
  
    return res;  
}
```

The Fibonacci sequence

```
int fibonacci(int n) {  
    if (n <= 2) {  
        return 1;  
    }  
  
    int res = fibonacci(n - 2) + fibonacci(n - 1);  
  
    return res;  
}
```


The Fibonacci sequence

- What is the time complexity of this? Exponential, almost $O(2^n)$



The Fibonacci sequence

4. Cache subproblem solutions

```
int dp[1000];  
for (int i = 0; i < 1000; i++)  
    dp[i] = -1;  
  
int fibonacci(int n) {  
    if (n <= 2) return 1;  
  
    if (dp[n] != -1) return dp[n];  
  
    dp[n] = fibonacci(n - 2) + fibonacci(n - 1);  
  
    return dp[n];  
}
```

Total time complexity is $O(n)$

Longest increasing subsequence

Given a sequence of numbers $a = a_1, \dots, a_n$, we say a' is a *subsequence* of a if it can be obtained by deleting some (possible zero) elements from a .

- Example: $a = [5, 1, 8, 1, 9, 2]$
- $[5, 8, 9]$ is a subsequence
- $[1, 1]$ is a subsequence
- $[5, 1, 8, 1, 9, 2]$ is a subsequence
- $[]$ is a subsequence
- $[8, 5]$ is **not** a subsequence
- $[10]$ is **not** a subsequence

Longest increasing subsequence

An increasing sequence is such that the elements are in (strictly) increasing order

Problem: What is the length the Longest Increasing Subsequence (LIS) of a .

- $[5, 8, 9]$ and $[1, 8, 9]$ are the longest increasing subsequences of $a = [5, 1, 8, 1, 9, 2]$

Naive algorithm: There are 2^n subsequences, check if each is increasing.
Worst case complexity is $O(n2^n)$

What about dynamic programming?

Longest increasing subsequence

1. Define subproblems

Let $dp(i)$ = length of LIS ending at element i .

Our original task is then $\max_i \{dp(i)\}$

2. Formulate recurrence relation

- Let's say we want to use elements a_i as the last element of an IS.
- We can do so for previous ISs that end in an element **smaller** than a_i .

$$dp(i) = 1 + \max_{j < i, a_j < a_i} \{dp(j)\}$$

3. Solve base cases

$$dp(0) = 0$$

4. Cache subproblem results.

Longest increasing subsequence

```
int a[1000], dp[1000];
memset(dp, -1, sizeof(dp));

int lis(int i) {
    if (dp[i] != -1) return dp[i];

    int res = 1;
    for (int j = 0; j < i; j++)
        if (a[j] < a[i])
            res = max(res, 1 + lis(j));

    return dp[i] = res;
}

int main(){
    int mx = 0;
    for (int i = 0; i < n; i++)
        mx = max(mx, dp(i));
    printf("%d\n", mx);
}
```

New time complexity $O(n^2)$

0-1 Knapsack

We have knapsack with maximum capacity W .

There are n available items. The i -th item has weight w_i and gives us a value v_i .

Problem: What is the maximum value we can hold in our knapsack?

- Example: $n = 4, W = 10, w = [20, 5, 50, 40], v = [1, 3, 7, 8]$
- $[3, 4]$ doesn't work, weight is $15 > 10$.
- $[2, 3]$ fits in the knapsack, but value 55 is not optimal.
- $[1, 4]$ is the solution with value 60.

0-1 Knapsack

Naive algorithm: For each subset, check weight $\leq W$, keep max.

Complexity $O(2^n)$.

We can do better with DP.

1. Define subproblems

Let $dp(i, j)$ = maximum value we can obtain with the first i items and maximum weight j .

The solution to the original task is $dp(n, W)$.

0-1 Knapsack

2. Formulate recursive relation

- For given i, j , we can decide to take object i or not to.
- If we don't take it, we directly reuse the solution of $i - 1$.
- If we do take it, we can improve our solution by v_i , but we now have to query for $j - w_i$.

$$dp(i, j) = \max(dp(i - 1, j), \quad v_i + dp(i - 1, j - w_i))$$

3. Solve base cases

$$dp(0, j) = dp(i, 0) = 0$$

4. Cache subproblem solutions

0-1 Knapsack

```
int n, W, w[1000], v[1000], dp[1000][1000];
memset(dp, -1, sizeof(dp));

int ks(i, j) {

    if (!i || !j) return 0;

    if (dp[i][j] != -1) return dp[i][j];

    dp[i][j] = max(
        ks(i - 1, j),
        ks(i - 1, j - w[i]) + v[i]
    );

    return dp[i][j];
}
```

New complexity is $O(nW)$.

One issue: stack size

Top-down vs Bottom-up

- Top-down
 - Direct from recursive definition
 - Stack usage impacts performance
- Bottom-up
 - Implementation can get non-trivial
 - $O(1)$ stack usage

0-1 Knapsack

```
int n, W, w[1000], v[1000], dp[1000][1000];
memset(dp, 0, sizeof(dp));

int ks() {
    for(int i = 1; i <= n; i++) {
        for(int j = 1; j <= W; j++) {
            dp[i][j] = max(
                ks(i - 1, j),
                ks(i - 1, j - w[i]) + v[i]
            );
        }
    }

    printf("%d\n", dp[i][j]);
}
```

Longest common subsequence

Problem: Given 2 sequences a_1, \dots, a_m and b_1, \dots, b_m , find the length of the longest subsequence they have in common.

$a = \text{"b\underline{a}\underline{n}\underline{a}\underline{n}\underline{i}\underline{n}\underline{n}"}$

$b = \text{"k\underline{a}\underline{n}\underline{i}\underline{n}\underline{a}\underline{n}"}$

The longest common subsequence of a and b , "aninn", has length 5.

1. Define subproblems

Let $lcs(i, j) = \text{length of LCS of } a_1, \dots, a_i \text{ and } b_1, \dots, b_j$.

Our original task is exactly $lcs(n, m)$.

Longest common subsequence

2. Formulate recursive relation

- When looking at elements i, j we can decide to match them or not, if they coincide.
- If they don't we just reuse the subproblem solution.

$$lcs(i, j) = \max \begin{cases} lcs(i, j - 1) \\ lcs(i - 1, j) \\ lcs(i - 1, j - 1) + a[i] == b[j] \end{cases}$$

3. Solve base cases

$$lcs(0, j) = lcs(i, 0) = 0$$

4. Cache subproblem solutions

Longest common subsequence

```
string a = "bananinn",
        b = "kaninan";
int dp[1000][1000];
memset(dp, 0, sizeof(dp));

int lcs() {
    for(int i = 1; i <= a.size(); i++) {
        for(int j = 1; j <= b.size(); j++) {
            dp[i][j] = max(
                max(
                    dp[i - 1][j],
                    dp[i][j - 1]
                )
                dp[i - 1][j - 1] + a[i] == b[j]
            )
        }
    }
    printf("%d\n", dp[a.size()][b.size()]);
}
```

Time complexity is $O(nm)$

The diameter of a graph is the length of the longest simple path in it.

Problem: Given a rooted tree with n nodes, compute its diameter.

1. Define subproblems

Let $f(i)$ = length of longest path from i to a descendant.

Let $g(i)$ = length of longest path rooted at i .

Since the longest path is rooted at some node, then the solution of the original task is $\max_i g(i)$

2. Formulate recursive relation

Let c_1, \dots, c_m be the children of node i .

Then, $f(i) = 1 + \max_j \{f(c_j)\}$

Also, $g(i) = 1 + \max_{j \neq k} \{f(c_j) + f(c_k)\}$

3. Solve base cases

$f(\text{leaf}) = g(\text{leaf}) = 1$

You should learn DP

- Subset sum
- Coin change
- DP on DAGs
- Edit distance
- Graph distances
- DP with bitmasks
- DP on digits