

Dynamic Programming

CPSCP – Collaborative Problem Solving and Competitive Programming

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RAVEN – Research on Algorithms Venice



Naive Recursion

Staircase problem: 1 or 2 steps
at a time – # ways to reach step n ?

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$$\begin{aligned}\Rightarrow T(n) &= \\ T(n-1) + T(n-2) + O(1) &= \\ O(\varphi^n) - \text{exponential}\end{aligned}$$

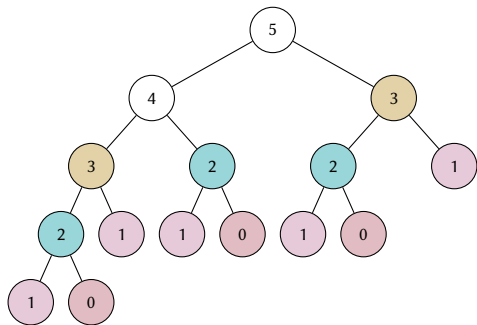
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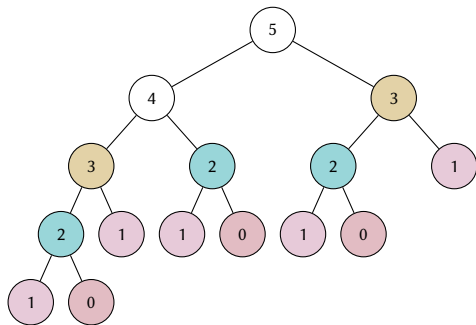
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same-colored nodes = same argument, recomputed

Dynamic Programming

Key observation

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⇒ **DP: recursion + remember what you already solved**

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int memo[MAXN];
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⇒ each value computed **once**
⇒ $O(n)$ time, $O(n)$ space

Top-Down vs. Bottom-Up

Memoization (top-down)

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Tabulation (bottom-up)

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f[0] = f[1] = 1;  
for (int i = 2; i <= n; i++)  
    f[i] = f[i-1] + f[i-2];
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- both $O(n)$ time
- tabulation avoids recursion overhead and can drop to $O(1)$ space

Another Example: Longest Common Subsequence

Problem: length of the LCS of s_1 (len. n), s_2 (len. m).

$\text{lcs}(i, j)$ = LCS of prefixes $s_1[1..i]$, $s_2[1..j]$:

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Example

$s_1 = \text{ABCD}$, $s_2 = \text{ACBD}$

$\Rightarrow \text{lcs} = \text{ACD}$ (length 3)

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$$\text{lcs}(i, j) = \begin{cases} 0 & i = 0 \text{ or } j = 0 \\ 1 + \text{lcs}(i-1, j-1) & i, j > 0, s_1[i] = s_2[j] \\ \max(\text{lcs}(i-1, j), \text{lcs}(i, j-1)) & i, j > 0, s_1[i] \neq s_2[j] \end{cases}$$

Example

$s_1 = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{B} \mathbf{C} \mathbf{D}$, $s_2 = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{C} \mathbf{B} \mathbf{D}$
 $\Rightarrow \text{lcs} = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{C} \mathbf{D}$ (length 3)

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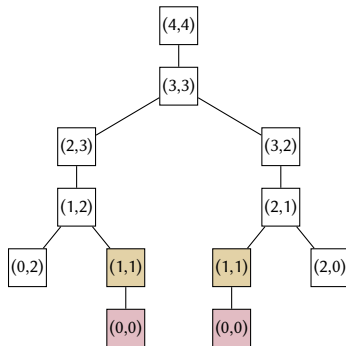
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 $O(2^{n+m})$

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$(1, 1)$ and $(0, 0)$ each recomputed

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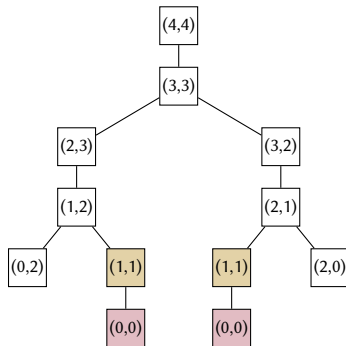
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		A	C	B	D
	0	0	0	0	0
A	0	1	1	1	1
B	0	1	1	2	2
C	0	1	2	2	2
D	0	1	2	2	3

dp filled bottom-up: no state recomputed

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Conclusion

	Fibonacci	LCS
naive	$O(\varphi^n)$	$O(2^{n+m})$
# states	$n+1$	$(n+1)(m+1)$
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Recipe

1. **State**: Which parameters describe subproblem?
E.g., number/pair of indices
2. **Recurrence**: write how one state results from previous states
3. **Overlap?** Yes $\rightarrow$ DP.
No $\rightarrow$ Simple Recursion.
4. **Store & Reuse**: Either by memoization (top-down) or Tabulation (bottom-up)

Your Task

- <https://open.kattis.com/problems/knapsack>
- <https://open.kattis.com/problems/trainorting>