CS/COE 1501

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Greedy Algorithms and Dynamic Programming

Consider the change making problem

- What is the minimum number of coins needed to make up a given value k?
- If you were working as a cashier, what would your algorithm be to solve this problem?

This is a greedy algorithm

- At each step, the algorithm makes the choice that seems to be best at the moment
- Have we seen greedy algorithms already this term?

.... But wait

- Nearest neighbor doesn't solve travelling salesman
 - Does not produce an optimal result
- Does our change making algorithm solve the change making problem?
 - For US currency...
 - But what about a currency composed of pennies (1 cent),

thrickels (3 cents), and fourters (4 cents)?

• What denominations would it pick for k=6?

So what changed about the problem?

- For greedy algorithms to produce optimal results, problems must have two properties:
 - Optimal substructure
 - Optimal solution to a subproblem leads to an optimal solution to the overall problem
 - The greedy choice property
 - Globally optimal solutions can be assembled from locally optimal choices
- Why is optimal substructure not enough?

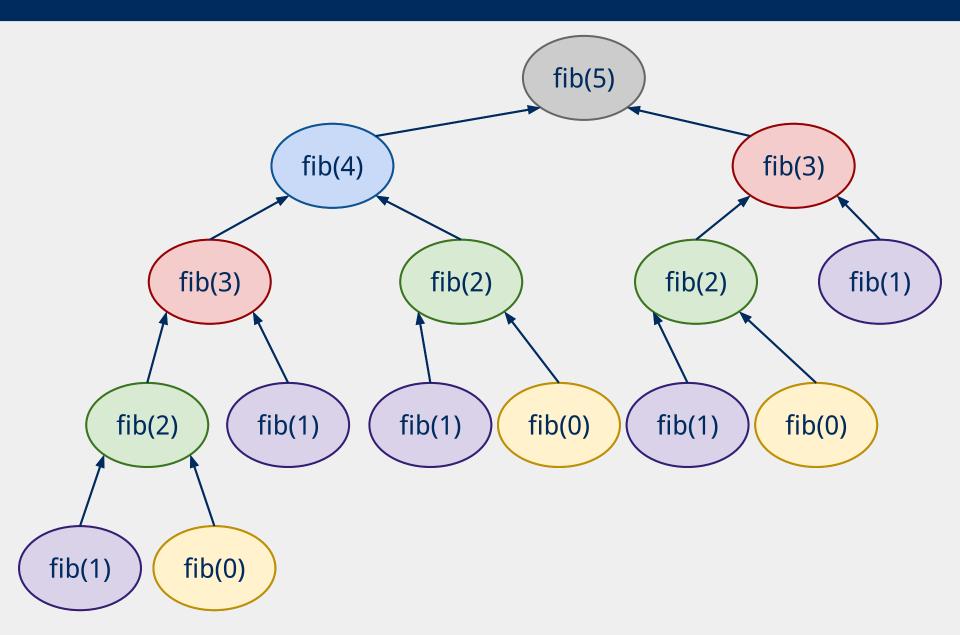
Finding all subproblems solutions can be inefficient

• Consider computing the Fibonacci sequence:

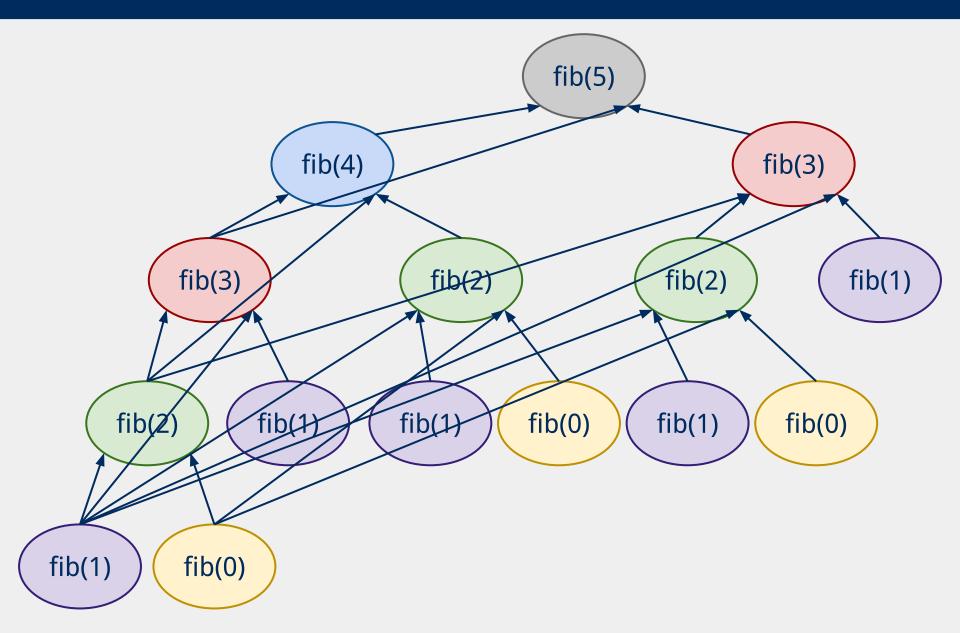
```
int fib(n) {
    if (n == 0) return 0;
    else if (n == 1) return 1;
    else {
        return fib(n - 1) + fib(n - 2);
    }
}
```

• What does the call tree for n = 5 look like?

fib(5)



How do we improve?



Memoization

```
int[] F = new int[n+1];
F[0] = 0;
F[1] = 1;
for(int i = 2; i <= n; i++) F[i] = -1;</pre>
int dp_fib(x) {
    if (F[x] == -1)
       F[x] = dp fib(x-1) + dp fib(x-2);
    return F[x];
}
```

Note that we can also do this bottom-up

```
int bottomup_fib(n) {
   if (n == 0)
       return 0;
   int[] F = new int[n+1];
   F[0] = 0;
   F[1] = 1;
   for(int i = 2; i <= n; i++) {</pre>
       F[i] = F[i-1] + F[i-2];
    }
   return F[n];
}
```

Can we improve this bottom-up approach?

Where can we apply dynamic programming?

- Problems with two properties:
 - Optimal substructure
 - Optimal solution to a subproblem leads to an optimal solution to the overall problem
 - Overlapping subproblems
 - Naively, we would need to recompute the same subproblem multiple times
- How do these properties contrast with those for greedy algorithms?

The unbounded knapsack problem

 Given a knapsack that can hold a weight limit L, and a set of n types of items that each has a weight (w_i) and value (v_i), what is the maximum value we can fit in the knapsack if we assume we have unbounded copies of each item?

$$K[0] = 0$$

for (l = 1; l <= L; l++)
$$K[1] = \max_{w_i <=1} (v_i + K[1 - w_i])$$

The 0/1 knapsack problem

- What if we have a finite set of items, with each item having a
 - weight and value?
 - Two choices for each item:
 - Goes in the knapsack
 - Left out of the knapsack

The 0/1 knapsack problem

int knapSack(int[] wt, int[] val, int L, int n) {

```
if (n == 0 || L == 0):
```

return 0;

```
if (wt[n-1] > L):
```

return knapSack(wt, val, L, n-1);

else:

}

```
int knapSack(int wt[], int val[], int L, int n) {
   int[][] K = new int[n+1][L+1];
   for (int i = 0; i <= n; i++) {</pre>
       for (int l = 0; l <= L; l++) \{
           if (i==0 || l==0) K[i][l] = 0;
           else if (wt[i-1] > 1) K[i][1] = K[i-1][1];
           else
               K[i][1] = max(val[i-1] + K[i-1][1-wt[i-1]]),
                              K[i-1][1]);
       }
   }
   return K[n][L];
}
```

wt =
$$[2, 3, 4, 5]$$

val = $[3, 4, 5, 6]$

i\I	0	1	2	3	4	5
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1						
2						
3						
4						

wt =
$$\begin{bmatrix} 2, 3, 4, 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

val = $\begin{bmatrix} 3, 4, 5, 6 \end{bmatrix}$

i\I	0	1	2	3	4	5
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1						
2						
3						
4						

i\I	0	1	2	3	4	5
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	3	3	3	3
2						
3						
4						

i\l	0	1	2	3	4	5
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	3	3	3	3
2	0	0	3	4	4	7
3						
4						

i\I	0	1	2	3	4	5
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	3	3	3	3
2	0	0	3	4	4	7
3	0	0	3	4	5	7
4						

The 0/1 knapsack dynamic programming solution

```
int knapSack(int wt[], int val[], int L, int n) {
   int[][] K = new int[n+1][L+1];
   for (int i = 0; i <= n; i++) {</pre>
      for (int l = 0; l <= L; l++) {
          if (i==0 | | 1==0) K[i][1] = 0;
          else if (wt[i-1] > 1) K[i][1] = K[i-1][1];
          else
              K[i][1] = max(val[i-1] + K[i-1][1-wt[i-1]]),
                            K[i-1][1]);
          }
                                    How can we also return the
   }
                                    items stored in the knapsack?
   return K[n][L];
```

To review...

- Questions to ask in finding dynamic programming solutions:
 - Does the problem have optimal substructure?
 - Can solve the problem by splitting it into smaller problems?
 - Can you identify subproblems that build up to a solution?
 - Does the problem have overlapping subproblems?
 - Where would you find yourself recomputing values?
 - How can you save and reuse these values?

The change-making problem

Consider a currency with n different denominations of coins d₁, d₂, ..., d_n. What is the minimum number of coins needed to make up a given value k?