How (not) to compute the Fibonacci numbers  $F_0 = F_1 = 1$  $F_n = F_{n-2} + F_{n-1}$  for  $n \ge 2$ 

def f(n):
 return 1 if n<2 else f(n-2) + f(n-1)</pre>

QUESTION Why is this a daft implementation?



How (not) to compute the Fibonacci numbers  $F_0 = F_1 = 1$  $F_n = F_{n-2} + F_{n-1}$  for  $n \ge 2$ 

We can get  $\Theta(n)$  running time by leveraging duplication in the dependency graph.



# 3.1 Practical dynamic programming

The naive recursive solution to the Bellman equation is often impractical, since the computation tree typically grows exponentially with the size of the problem.



In many interesting problems, there is substantial overlap in the subproblems, permitting polynomial-time solution, using ...

#### top-down memo-ization

Simply implement the recursion, and cache the results

#### or bottom-up iteration

Start from the leaves and work up (but we first need to figure out the dependency graph)

## Example: rod cutting

A DIY supplier has a steel rod of length  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and a machine that can cut it into smaller pieces. Different lengths can be sold for different prices; a piece of length  $\ell \in \mathbb{N}$  fetches  $p_{\ell}$ .



How should it be cut, to maximize profit?

**Bellman equation:** Let v(n) be the maximum profit achievable from a rod of length n. Then

 $v(n) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n = 0 \\ \max_{1 \le i \le n} \{ p_i + v(n-i) \} & \text{if } n > 0 & \text{if } n > 0 \end{cases} \quad \text{(n) depends on } (n-1), (n-2), \dots, (n) \end{cases}$ 

Dependency graph  $v(0) = v(1) = v(2) = \cdots = v(n)$ 

Bottom-up strategy: 1. Create an away of size n+12. Set v(0)=03. Fill in v(1), v(2), ..., v(n) in order.

Top-down news-ization strategy: nothing special to say here; it's a totally generic opproach.

### Example 3.1.1 Matrix chain multiplication

The cost of multiplying two matrices depends on their dimensions:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \ell \times m \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ m \times n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \ell \times n \end{bmatrix}$$

 $\ell mn$  multiplications  $+ \ell (m-1)n$  additions Let's take the total cost to be  $\ell mn$ .

If we want to compute the product of several matrices, we have a choice about the order of multiplication (because matrix multiplication is associative). For example,

$$ABCDE = (AB)((CD)E) = A(B((CD)E))$$

Find the least-cost way to compute the product  $\begin{array}{c} A_0 \cdot A_1 \cdot \cdots \cdot A_{n-1} \\ d_0 \times d_1 \ d_1 \times d_2 \end{array}$ 

**Bellman equation:** Let v(i, j) be the minimum cost for multiplying  $A_i A_{i+1} \cdots A_{j-1}$ , for i < j. Then

$$v(i,j) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } j = i+1 \\ \min_{i < k < j} \left\{ d_i d_k d_j + v(i,k) + v(k,j) \right\} & \text{if } j > i+1 \end{cases}$$

$$d_{i} \times d_{k} \operatorname{matvin} d_{k} \times d_{j} \operatorname{matvin} \left( \begin{array}{c} A_{i} \\ A_{i} \\ \end{array} \right) \left( \begin{array}{c} A_{j} \\ \end{array} \right) \left( \begin{array}{c} A_{j} \\ \end{array} \right)$$

**Bellman equation:** Let v(i, j) be the minimum cost for multiplying  $A_i A_{i+1} \cdots A_{j-1}$ , for i < j. Then

$$v(i,j) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } j = i+1 \\ \min_{i < k < j} \{d_i d_k d_j + v(i,k) + v(k,j)\} & \text{if } j > i+1 & \text{ie } v(i,j) \text{ depends on} \\ v(i,k) & \text{for } k \text{ larger than } i \end{cases}$$

$$v(i,k) & \text{for } k \text{ larger than } i \end{cases}$$

$$v(k,j) & \text{for } k \text{ smaller than } j$$

$$v(k,j) & \text{for } k \text{ smaller than } j$$

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### Example 3.1.2 Longest common subsequence

A subsequence of a string s is any string obtained by dropping zero or more characters from s. Given two strings s and t, what's the longest subsequence they have in common?



Let's frame the task as choosing a sequence from these actions:

- decrement i
- j decrement j
- ${}^{{m}}$  match a character and decrement i & j

**Bellman equation:** Let  $v_{i,j}$  be the length of the LCS between s[0:i] and t[0:j]. Then

$$v_{i,j} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i = 0 \text{ or } j = 0\\ v_{i-1,j} \lor v_{i,j-1} \lor (1 + v_{i-1,j-1}) & \text{if } i > 0 \text{ and } j > 0 \text{ and } s[i-1]=t[j-1]\\ v_{i-1,j} \lor v_{i,j-1} & \text{if } i > 0 \text{ and } j > 0 \text{ and } s[i-1] \neq t[j-1] \end{cases}$$

**Bellman equation:** Let  $v_{i,j}$  be the length of the LCS between s[0:i] and t[0:j]. Then

$$v_{i,j} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i = 0 \text{ or } j = 0\\ v_{i-1,j} \lor v_{i,j-1} \lor (1 + v_{i-1,j-1}) & \text{if } i > 0 \text{ and } j > 0 \text{ and } s[i-1]=t[j-1]\\ v_{i-1,j} \lor v_{i,j-1} & \text{if } i > 0 \text{ and } j > 0 \text{ and } s[i-1] \neq t[j-1] \end{cases}$$

#### How to extract the programme



When we compute the maximum  $v(x) = \max_{a} \{\operatorname{reward}_{x,a} + v(\operatorname{next}_{x,a})\}$ let's also store which *a* achieved the maximum.

To find an optimal path, just start at the top and repeatedly pick the best action.

This works whether we're computing the values bottom-up, or top-down with memo-ization.

QUESTION What would you do if there are two equally-good actions?

#### Example 3.1.2 Longest common subsequence

We produce a table of  $v_{i,j}$  = length of longest common subsequence between s[0:i] and t[0:j] At the same time, we store the optimal action at each state (i, j)

To extract the match, start at the initial state (i, j) = (len(s), len(t)), then follow the optimal actions.

A longest common substring of ALGORITHM and LOGARITHM is LGRITHM

	t = "logarithm"										IJ
	L O G A R I T H										
<b>()</b>	•	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	A L G O R I T	0	1	1	1	Z	4	4	4	4	<del>(</del>
		0	Z	$\leftarrow$	÷	1	1	1	1	1	1
2		0	$\Leftrightarrow$	$\leftarrow$		$\mathbf{A}$	¢	¢	¢	$\blacklozenge$	¢
90		0	$\bigwedge^+$		1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Ϋ́		0	$\bigwedge_{+}$	1	4	1	R	¢	¢	$\diamond$	<del>¢</del>
ţ,		0	$\uparrow$	4	4	1	1	R	<del>(</del>	$\leftarrow$	$\leftarrow$
3		0	$\bigwedge^+$	4	4	4	1	4		¢	<del>¢</del>
5		0	$\uparrow$	4	4	4	1	1	1		<del>¢</del>
i —		0	1	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	

OPTIMAL ACTION

- ↑ decrement *i*
- $\leftarrow$  decrement *j*
- match a character and

decrement *i* & *j* 

The art of dynamic programming is to formulate the problem so that we maximize overlap between subproblems.

**Example.** Find the least-cost way to compute the matrix product  $A_0A_1 \cdots A_{n-1}$ Recall that matrix multiplication is associative: ABCDE = (AB)((CD)E) = A(B((CD)E))

Let's think of the problem as "repeatedly, choose a pair of adjacent matrices to multiply".

d, d, dz ds du ds ABCDEd, d, dz du ds  $ABM_1E$ 

$$M_2 M_1^{d_1} E$$

$$M_2 M_3$$

This is yucky because the dependency graph has lots of nodes (one node for every possible  $\underline{e}$  for a given list of matrices). For our other approach, #nodes is quadratic in n.

Let  $v(\underline{e})$  be the minimum cost of multiplying matrices with dimension-sequence  $\underline{e} = [e_0, e_1, \dots, e_n]$ . Then

$$v(\underline{e}) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n=1 \\ \min_{\substack{0 \leq k \leq n}} \left\{ d_{k-1} d_{k} d_{k+1} + \gamma \left( \underline{e} \text{ with item} \right) \right\} \\ \left\{ d_{k-1} d_{k} d_{k+1} + \gamma \left( \underline{e} \text{ with item} \right) \right\} \end{cases}$$

### Example 3.2.1 Resource allocation

Several different university societies have all requested to book the sports hall, request k having start time  $u_k \in \mathbb{R}$  and end time  $v_k \in \mathbb{R}$ . The hall can only fit one activity at a time. What is the maximum number of requests that can be satisfied without overlap?



f(X) = max # requests that can be simultaneously sanified from a set X.

$$f(\phi) = 0$$

$$f(\chi) = \max \left\{ 1 + f\left( \begin{cases} l \in \chi : \\ v_{l} \neq u_{R} \end{cases} \right) + f\left( \begin{pmatrix} l \in \chi : \\ u_{l} \neq v_{R} \end{pmatrix} \right) \right\}$$

EXERCISE

Find a different formulation, not based on sets, so that the subproblems overlap better.

events in X that finish before k stang events in X that stant after k end