COL106: Data Structures and Algorithms

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Let S and T be strings of characters. S is of length n and T is of length m. Find a *longest common subsequence* in S and T. This is a longest sequence of characters (not necessarily contiguous) that appear in both S and T.

• Example S = XYXZPQ, T = YXQYXP

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- Example S = XYXZPQ, T = YXQYXP
 - The longest common subsequence is XYXP
 - S = XYXZPQ, T = YXQYXP
- How do we define the subproblems?

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- What is L(1,j) for $1 < j \le m$?

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 - 1 if S[1] is present in the string T[1], ..., T[j], 0 otherwise.
 - 1 if S[1] = T[j] else L(1,j) = L(1,j-1) (with L(1,0) = 0)

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- Similarly, we can define L(i, 1) for $1 < i \le n$.
- Can we say something similar for L(i,j) for $i, j \neq 1$?

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- Can we say something similar for L(i,j) for $i, j \neq 1$?
 - <u>Claim 1</u>: If S[i] = T[j], then L(i,j) = 1 + L(i-1,j-1).
 - <u>Claim 2</u>: If $S[i] \neq T[j]$, then $L(i,j) = \max \{L(i-1,j), L(i,j-1)\}$.

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Longest common subsequence

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Figure: The arrows show the dependencies between subproblems.

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Longest common subsequence

Algorithm

Length-LCS(S, T)
- If
$$(S[1] = T[1])$$
, then $L[1,1] \leftarrow 1$ else $L[1,1] \leftarrow 0$
- For $j = 2$ to m
- If $(S[1] = T[j])$, then $L[1,j] \leftarrow 1$ else $L[1,j] \leftarrow L[1,j-1]$
- For $i = 2$ to n
- If $(S[i] = T[1])$, then $L[i,1] \leftarrow 1$ else $L[i,1] \leftarrow L[i-1,1]$
- For $j = 2$ to n
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- If $(S[i] = T[j])$ then $L[i,j] \leftarrow 1 + L[i-1,j-1]$
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• What is the running time of the above table-filling algorithm?

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else $L[i,j] \leftarrow \max \{L[i-1,j], L[i,j-1]\}$
- Return $(L[n,m])$

 What is the running time of the above table-filling algorithm? O(nm)

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• How do we find a longest common subsequence?



Figure: Array P is used to maintain the pointers to the appropriate subproblem. The blue squares give the position of the characters in a longest common subsequence.

• Example: S = XYXZPQ, T = YXQYXP



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• Example: S = XYXZPQ, T = YXQYXP



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- Claim 1: If i = 0 or j = 0, then L(i, j) = 0.
- <u>Claim 2</u>: If S[i] = T[j], then L(i,j) = 1 + L(i-1,j-1).
- <u>Claim 3</u>: If $S[i] \neq T[j]$, then $L(i,j) = \max \{L(i-1,j), L(i,j-1)\}.$

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Longest common subsequence

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- <u>Claim 2</u>: If S[i] = T[j], then L(i,j) = 1 + L(i-1,j-1).
- Claim 3: If $S[i] \neq T[j]$, then

$$L(i,j) = \max \{L(i-1,j), L(i,j-1)\}.$$

• Here is a simple recursive program to find the length of the longest common subsequence.

Algorithm

 $\begin{aligned} & \text{LCS-rec}(S, n, T, m) \\ & -\text{ If } (n = 0 \text{ OR } m = 0) \text{ then return}(0) \\ & -\text{ If } (S[n] = S[m]) \text{ return}(1 + \text{LCS-rec}(S, n - 1, T, m - 1)) \\ & -\text{ If } (S[n] \neq T[m]) \\ & \text{ return}(\max\{\text{LCS-rec}(S, n, T, m - 1), \text{ LCS-rec}(S, n - 1, T, m)\}) \end{aligned}$

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Longest common subsequence

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$$\begin{aligned} & \text{LCS-rec}(S, n, T, m) \\ & -\text{ If } (n = 0 \text{ OR } m = 0) \text{ then return}(0) \\ & -\text{ If } (S[n] = S[m]) \text{ return}(1 + \text{LCS-rec}(S, n - 1, T, m - 1)) \\ & -\text{ If } (S[n] \neq T[m]) \\ & \text{ return}(\max\{\text{LCS-rec}(S, n, T, m - 1), \text{LCS-rec}(S, n - 1, T, m)\}) \end{aligned}$$

• What is the running time of this algorithm?

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Longest common subsequence

Algorithm

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- What is the running time of this algorithm?
 - This is exponentially large!

Longest common subsequence

Algorithm

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{LCS-rec}(S, n, T, m) \\ &\text{- If } (n = 0 \text{ OR } m = 0) \text{ then return}(0) \\ &\text{- If } (S[n] = S[m]) \text{ return}(1 + \text{LCS-rec}(S, n - 1, T, m - 1)) \\ &\text{- If } (S[n] \neq T[m]) \\ &\text{return}(\max\{\text{LCS-rec}(S, n, T, m - 1), \text{LCS-rec}(S, n - 1, T, m)\}) \end{aligned}$$

• Here is a *memoized* version of the above algorithm.

Algorithm

$$\begin{split} & \text{LCS-mem}(S, n, T, m) \\ & -\text{ If } (n = 0 \text{ OR } m = 0) \text{ then return}(0) \\ & -\text{ If } (L[n, m] \text{ is known}) \text{ then return}(L[n, m]) \\ & -\text{ If } (S[n] = S[m]) \\ & -\text{ length} \leftarrow 1 + \text{ LCS-mem}(S, n - 1, T, m - 1) \\ & -\text{ If } (S[n] \neq T[m]) \\ & -\text{ length} \leftarrow \max\{\text{LCS-mem}(S, n, T, m - 1), \\ & \text{ LCS-mem}(S, n - 1, T, m)\} \\ & - L[n, m] \leftarrow \text{ length} \\ & -\text{ return}(\text{length}) \end{split}$$

• Here is a *memoized* version of the recursive algorithm.

Algorithm

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{LCS-mem}(S, n, T, m) \\ & - \text{ If } (n = 0 \text{ OR } m = 0) \text{ then return}(0) \\ & - \text{ If } (L[n, m] \text{ is known}) \text{ then return}(L[n, m]) \\ & - \text{ If } (S[n] = S[m]) \\ & - \text{ length} \leftarrow 1 + \text{ LCS-mem}(S, n - 1, T, m - 1) \\ & - \text{ If } (S[n] \neq T[m]) \\ & - \text{ length} \leftarrow \max\{\text{ LCS-mem}(S, n, T, m - 1), \\ & \text{ LCS-mem}(S, n - 1, T, m)\} \\ & - L[n, m] \leftarrow \text{ length} \end{aligned}$$

return(length)

• What is the running time of the above algorithm?

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End

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