

Greedy Algorithm

"Optimization Problem"

Greedy algorithm generate a solution

- which are
1. feasible (satisfying the constraints)
 2. local optimal (maybe not global optimal)
 3. Irreversible (i.e. no Backtracking. Once a part of solution is generated it remains unchanged)

General Template:

1. Sorting. Based on some criterion.
2. Choose the optimal one at current stage

"Greedy Algorithm may not be globally optimal"

Example: Find the subset with maximum sum of non-adjacent elements

Algorithm:

```
S := empty set
While some elements remain in A:
    Pick the largest A[i]
    S.append(A[i])
    delete A[i] and its neighbours
return S
```

Consider a counter example (non-global-optimal one)

A = {1, 4, 6, 4} $\xrightarrow{\text{algorithm}}$ S = {1, 6}, sum = 7.

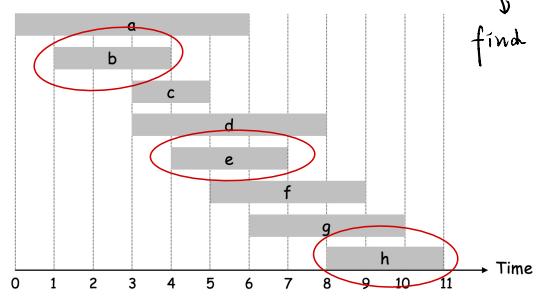
Actual Optimal one

S' = {4, 4}, sum = 8.

Interval Scheduling

Interval scheduling:

- Job j starts at s_j and finishes at f_j .
- Two jobs are compatible if they don't overlap.
- Goal: find maximum size subset of mutually compatible jobs.



find subset with max # jobs.

Greedy Template

1. Consider jobs in some orders

Start time?
Interval length?
Conflicts?
...

2. Choose the one which is compatible with the ones already taken && is optimal base on criterion at current stage

The algorithm:

"We sort jobs in order of finish time

Sort jobs by finish time so that $f_1 \leq f_2 \leq f_3 \dots \leq f_n$.

$A \leftarrow \emptyset$, last $\leftarrow 0$

for $j \leftarrow 1$ to n

if s_j (start time of job j) $>$ last then:

$A \leftarrow A \cup \{j\}$, last $\leftarrow f_j$ (finish time of job j)

return A

Running time is dominated by cost of sorting

$\therefore T(n) = \Theta(n \log n)$

Optimality: This algorithm is global optimal!

proof:

Let the Greedy Algorithm generated solution be G

the Optimal Solution is O (i.e. with maximum # compatible jobs)

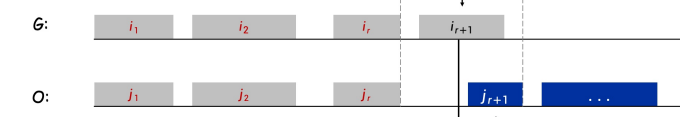
Assume: G is different from O

G = $\{i_1, i_2, i_3, \dots, i_n\}$.

O = $\{j_1, j_2, j_3, \dots, j_m\}$

Find the largest r, so that $i_1 = j_1, i_2 = j_2, \dots, i_r = j_r$

By definition of Greedy, job i_{r+1} finishes before j_r .



Then consider another solution O':

O' = $\{j_1, j_2, j_3, \dots, j_r, i_{r+1}, \dots\}$

remaining part of O

substituting j_{r+1} with i_{r+1}

We can find two things:

- ① jobs in O' is still compatible with each others

i.e. still no time conflicts

Since by Greedy Definition, the finish time of j_{r+1} is later than i_{r+1}

the finish time of j_r is equal to i_r

$\Rightarrow$ There is enough space for i_{r+1} !

- ② O' is still optimal, since # jobs doesn't change.

Then, we can repeat the above process with $O \leftarrow O'$

Until O becomes the same as G!

$\Rightarrow$ Proof finished! G is also optimal as O!

The fraction Knapsack Problem:

Input: Set of n items: item i has weight w_i and value v_i , and a knapsack with capacity W.
Goal: Find $0 \leq x_1, \dots, x_n \leq 1$ such that $\sum_{i=1}^n x_i w_i \leq W$ and $\sum_{i=1}^n x_i v_i$ is maximized.

Sum of fractions of items
Sum of weighted values

fraction knapsack: $0 \leq x_1, \dots, x_n \leq 1$

0/1 knapsack: $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in \{0, 1\}$.

Algorithm:

Sort items so that $\frac{v_1}{w_1} \geq \frac{v_2}{w_2} \geq \dots \geq \frac{v_n}{w_n}$ ("Value-per-pound")

$w \leftarrow W$

for $i \leftarrow 1$ to n :

if $w_i \leq w$ then:

$x_i \leftarrow 1$

$w \leftarrow w - w_i$

else:

$x_i \leftarrow w/w_i$ (i.e. fill up the remaining space)

return

Running time: $\Theta(n \log n)$ (dominated by sorting)

Correctness (Optimality) Proof:

We assume $\sum w_i \geq W$. Since if $\sum w_i < W$ the algorithm is trivially optimal

Let greedy solution $G = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, 0, \dots, 0)$

Since $\sum w_i < k$

Consider optimal solution

$O = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n)$

Look at the first item i where the two solutions differ.

$G = (x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_{i-1}, x_i, \dots, x_k, \dots, 0, 0)$
 $O = (x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_{i-1}, y_i, \dots, y_k, \dots, y_{n-1}, y_n)$

Same

By definition of Greedy, $x_i \geq y_i$

Let $x = x_i - y_i \geq 0$

We then do: ① Let $y_i = x_i$; ② remove a total weight of $x w_i$ items from $(y_{i+1}, \dots, y_n)$

This is always doable. Since $\sum_{j=i}^n x_j w_j = \sum_{j=i}^n y_j w_j$ the is always enough items to fill the gaps

After the modification:

1. The total value is not decreased

Since we: ① add weight $x w_i$ items with value-per-pound $\frac{v_i}{w_i}$ to O

② remove weight $x w_i$ items with value $\frac{v}{w}$ from O.

$\frac{\sum_{j=i+1}^n v_j}{\sum_{j=i+1}^n w_j}$

Since the items is sorted based on $\frac{v_i}{w_i}$

The removed items have lower or equal value compared to added items.

2. The total value cannot be larger

Since: O is already optimal

$\therefore$ The modified O (O') is still optimal

Then we do: ① $O \leftarrow O'$, repeat the process

until $O = G \Rightarrow G$ is also optimal!

Interval Partitioning

- Lecture j starts at s_j and finishes at f_j .
- Goal: find the minimum number of classrooms to schedule all lectures so that no two occur at the same time in the same room.

Algorithm

Sort intervals by starting time so that $s_1 \leq s_2 \leq \dots \leq s_n$.

$d \leftarrow 0$ // # Classrooms.

for $i \leftarrow 1$ to n :

if lecture i is compatible with some classroom k:

Schedule lecture i in classroom k.

else:

add a new classroom $d+1$.

Schedule lecture i in classroom $d+1$.

$d \leftarrow d+1$

Optimality:

Define: Depth = the maximum number of intervals that exist at any instance of time

Observation: "# Classroom needed $\geq$ Depth"

$\therefore$ if solution $\Rightarrow$ # Classroom needed = Depth

then the solution is optimal

Proof of the optimality of the algorithm:

Let d = number of classroom opened by greedy algorithm

Note that: the reason why opened the d-th classroom:

is we need to schedule a lecture j, which is incompatible

with all d-1 other classrooms

which means, at time s_j (starting time of lecture j)

there are d-1 lectures that are proceeding

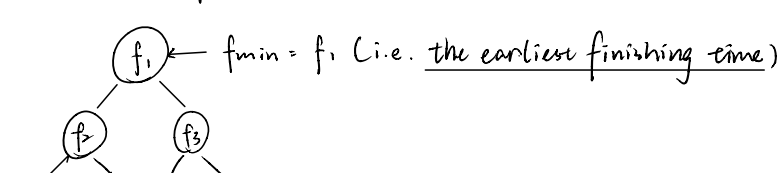
$\therefore$ depth $\geq d$ (depth: the maximum number of intervals that exist at any instance of time)

Since depth $\leq d$ by observation

$\therefore$ depth = d $\Rightarrow$ Algorithm is optimal

Running time:

Using a min-heap to store classrooms



for $i \leftarrow 1$ to n :

if lecture i is compatible with some classroom k:

Schedule lecture i in classroom k.

else:

add a new classroom $d+1$.

Schedule lecture i in classroom $d+1$.

$d \leftarrow d+1$

"Insert"

$\therefore$ Running Time: n intervals, each one with $\Theta(\log n)$ time.

$\Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta(n \log n)$