Algorithmic Paradigms

Greed. Build up a solution incrementally, myopically optimizing some local criterion.

Divide-and-conquer. Break up a problem into two sub-problems, solve each sub-problem independently, and combine solution to sub-problems to form solution to original problem.

Dynamic programming. Break up a problem into a series of overlapping sub-problems, and build up solutions to larger and larger sub-problems.

Dynamic Programming History

Bellman. Pioneered the systematic study of dynamic programming in the 1950s.

Etymology.

- Dynamic programming = planning over time.
- Secretary of Defense was hostile to mathematical research.
- Bellman sought an impressive name to avoid confrontation.
  - "it's impossible to use dynamic in a pejorative sense"
  - "something not even a Congressman could object to"

Reference: Bellman, R. E. *Eye of the Hurricane, An Autobiography.*

Dynamic Programming Applications

Areas.

- Bioinformatics.
- Control theory.
- Information theory.
- Operations research.
- Computer science: theory, graphics, AI, systems, ….

Some famous dynamic programming algorithms.

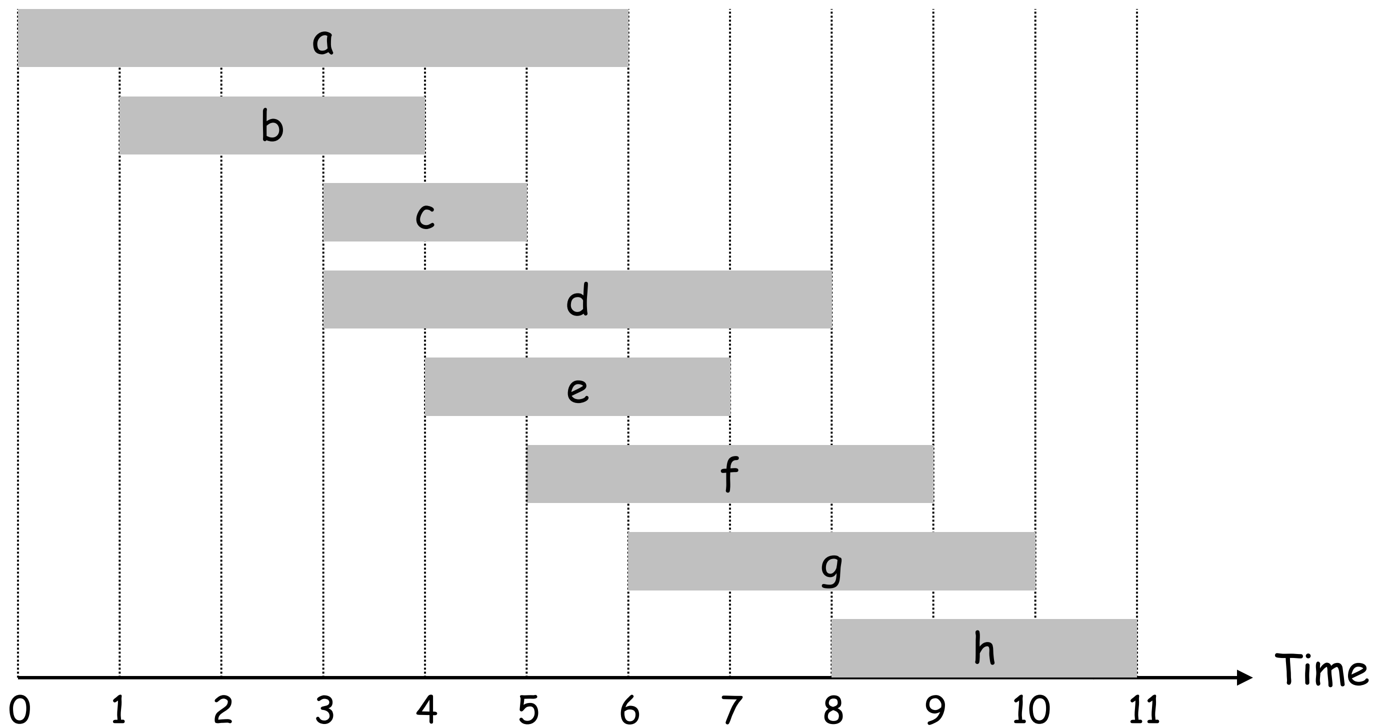
- Viterbi for hidden Markov models.
- Unix diff for comparing two files.
- Smith-Waterman for sequence alignment.
- Bellman-Ford for shortest path routing in networks.
- Cocke-Kasami-Younger for parsing context free grammars.

6.1 Weighted Interval Scheduling

Weighted Interval Scheduling

Weighted interval scheduling problem.

- Job j starts at s_j, finishes at f_j, and has weight or value v_j .
- Two jobs compatible if they don't overlap.
- Goal: find maximum weight subset of mutually compatible jobs.

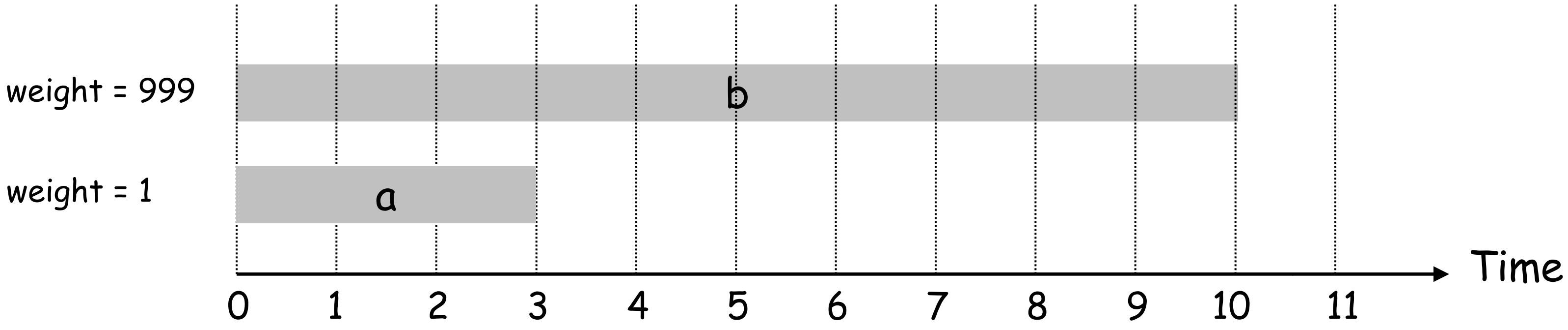


Unweighted Interval Scheduling Review

Recall. Greedy algorithm works if all weights are 1.

- Consider jobs in ascending order of finish time.
- Add job to subset if it is compatible with previously chosen jobs.

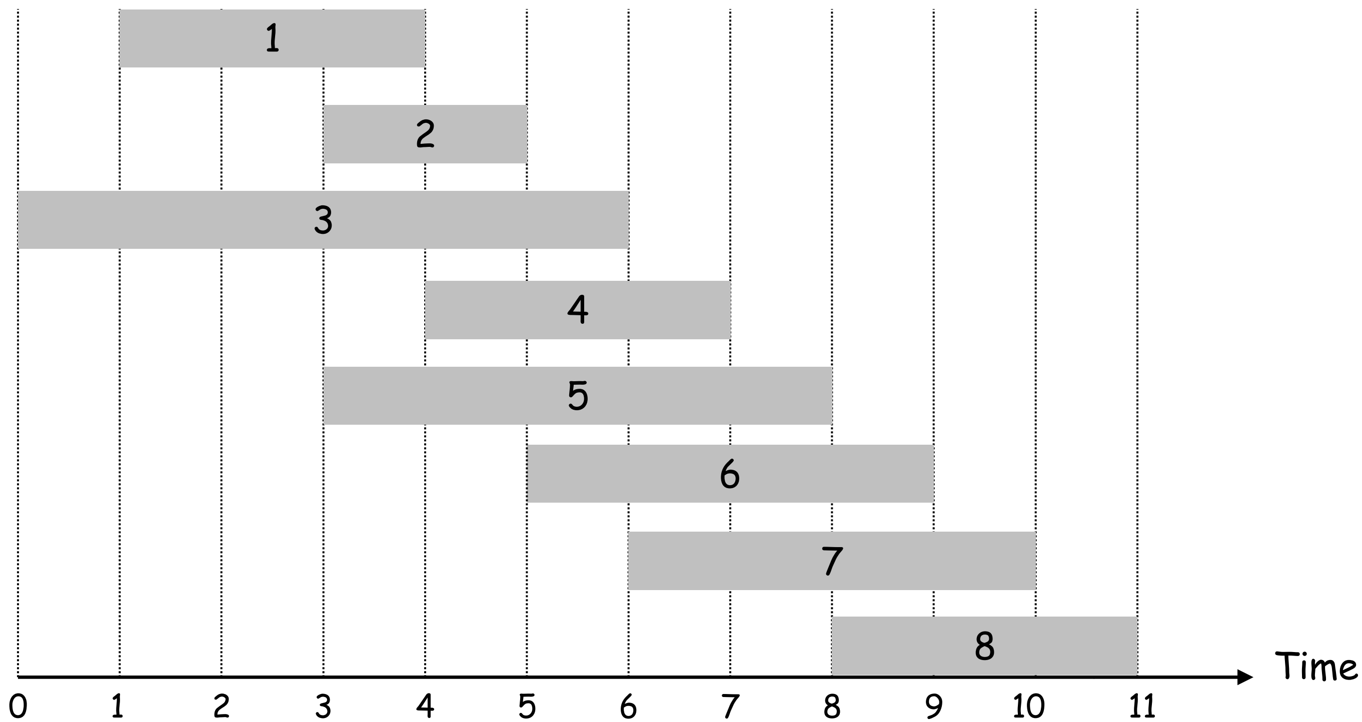
Observation. Greedy algorithm can fail spectacularly if arbitrary weights are allowed.



Weighted Interval Scheduling

Notation. Label jobs by finishing time: $f_1 \le f_2 \le \ldots \le f_n$.
Def. p(j) = largest index i < j such that job i is compatible with j.

Ex: p(8) = 5, p(7) = 3, p(2) = 0.



Dynamic Programming: Binary Choice

Notation. OPT(j) = value of optimal solution to the problem consisting of job requests 1, 2, ..., j.

- Case 1: OPT selects job j.
  - can't use incompatible jobs { p(j) + 1, p(j) + 2, ..., j - 1 }
  - must include optimal solution to problem consisting of remaining compatible jobs 1, 2, ..., p(j)

optimal substructure

- Case 2: OPT does not select job j.
  - must include optimal solution to problem consisting of remaining compatible jobs 1, 2, ..., j-1

$$OPT(j) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } j = 0 \\ \max \{ v_j + OPT(p(j)),\ OPT(j-1) \} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Weighted Interval Scheduling: Brute Force

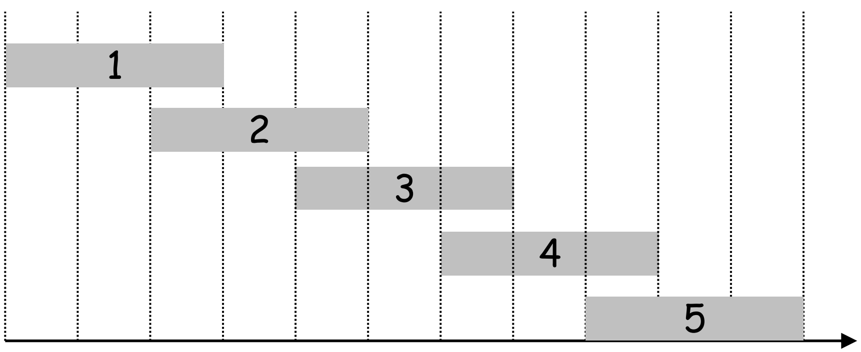
Brute force algorithm.

```
Input: n, s_1,…,s_n , f_1,…,f_n , v_1,…,v_n

Sort jobs by finish times so that f_1 ≤ f_2 ≤ ... ≤ f_n.

Compute p(1), p(2), …, p(n)

Compute-Opt(j) {
   if (j = 0)
      return 0
   else
      return max(v_j + Compute-Opt(p(j)), Compute-Opt(j-1))
}
```

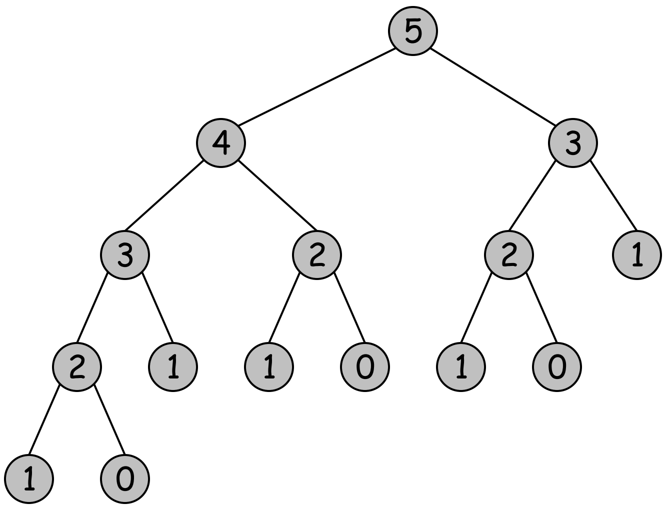
Weighted Interval Scheduling: Brute Force

Observation. Recursive algorithm fails spectacularly because of redundant sub-problems $\Rightarrow$ exponential algorithms.

Ex. Number of recursive calls for family of "layered" instances grows like Fibonacci sequence.



$p(1) = 0, p(j) = j-2$



Weighted Interval Scheduling: Memoization

Memoization. Store results of each sub-problem in a cache; lookup as needed.

```
Input: n, s1,…,sn , f1,…,fn , v1,…,vn

Sort jobs by finish times so that f1 ≤ f2 ≤ ... ≤ fn.
Compute p(1), p(2), …, p(n)

for j = 1 to n
   M[j] = empty  ← global array
M[j] = 0

M-Compute-Opt(j) {
   if (M[j] is empty)
      M[j] = max(wj + M-Compute-Opt(p(j)), M-Compute-Opt(j-1))
   return M[j]
}
```

Weighted Interval Scheduling: Running Time

Claim. Memoized version of algorithm takes O(n log n) time.

- Sort by finish time: O(n log n).
- Computing $p(\cdot)$: O(n) after sorting by start time.

- `M-Compute-Opt(j)`: each invocation takes O(1) time and either
  - (i) returns an existing value `M[j]`
  - (ii) fills in one new entry `M[j]` and makes two recursive calls

- Progress measure Φ = # nonempty entries of `M[]`.
  - initially $\Phi = 0$, throughout $\Phi \leq n$.
  - (ii) increases Φ by 1 $\Rightarrow$ at most 2n recursive calls.

- Overall running time of `M-Compute-Opt(n)` is O(n). ▪

Remark. O(n) if jobs are pre-sorted by start and finish times.

Automated Memoization

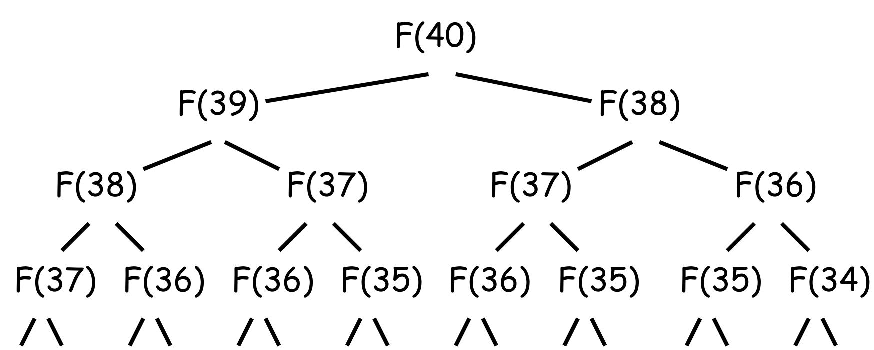
Automated memoization. Many functional programming languages (e.g., Lisp) have built-in support for memoization.

```
(defun F (n)
  (if
    (<= n 1)
    n
    (+ (F (- n 1)) (F (- n 2)))))
```

Lisp (efficient)

```
static int F(int n) {
   if (n <= 1) return n;
   else return F(n-1) + F(n-2);
}
```

Java (exponential)



Weighted Interval Scheduling: Finding a Solution

Q. Dynamic programming algorithms computes optimal value. What if we want the solution itself?

A. Do some post-processing.

```
Run M-Compute-Opt(n)
Run Find-Solution(n)

Find-Solution(j) {
   if (j = 0)
      output nothing
   else if (v_j + M[p(j)] > M[j-1])
      print j
      Find-Solution(p(j))
   else
      Find-Solution(j-1)
}
```

- # of recursive calls $\leq n \Rightarrow O(n)$.

Weighted Interval Scheduling: Bottom-Up

Bottom-up dynamic programming. Unwind recursion.

```
Input: n, s1,…,sn , f1,…,fn , v1,…,vn

Sort jobs by finish times so that f1 ≤ f2 ≤ ... ≤ fn.

Compute p(1), p(2), …, p(n)

Iterative-Compute-Opt {
   M[0] = 0
   for j = 1 to n
      M[j] = max(vj + M[p(j)], M[j-1])
}
```