

Due Dates: One numbered question of your choice is due by **11:59PM Friday, 4 November** and will be graded on completion only (1 point). Your full answers to **any two** questions are due by **11:59PM Tuesday, 8 November**. Each solution will be graded for correctness and clarity (4 points per question).

At the top of your write-up for each problem, estimate the amount of time you spent on the problem, list your collaborators, and briefly describe the nature of your collaboration.

Each of the problems below is a well-known dynamic programming problem, so you may be able to find substantial guidance online. **Cite any resource you consult** to answer these problems.

I have provided detailed subquestions in the problems below to encourage you to develop a set of habits when looking at a new problem (specifically, in this case, one that is amenable to dynamic programming solutions).

1. Maximum stock profit

Take a look at problem 7 on pages 318-319 of Kleinberg & Tardos. They start you off with a price p_i per share of a given stock, for days numbered $i = 1, \dots, n$, and set you the task of developing an $O(n)$ dynamic programming algorithm for finding the largest profit per share you could have made had you bought the stock on day i and sold it on day $j > i$.

More specifically, please do the following.

- (a) Show an example for which there is no available profit.
- (b) What constitutes “brute force” for this problem? Give and justify a big-oh estimate of the running time of a brute force algorithm.
- (c) Let $M(k)$ represent the maximum profit available among all pairs of days (i, j) where $1 \leq i < j \leq k$. (We will refer to $M(k)$ as a “parameterized subproblem” with one parameter. Note that $M(n)$ will be the solution to the problem we are trying to solve.)
- (d) Devise a recursive formula, including base case, for computing $M(k)$.
- (e) Give a big-oh estimate of the running time if you run your recursion as-is with no preprocessing or dynamic programming or other cleverness.
- (f) Show the values of $M(2)$ and $M(3)$ computed directly from your base case and your recurrence for $M(k)$.
- (g) Generalize the previous item to show an iterative algorithm for computing $M(1), M(2), \dots, M(n)$ from your base case and recurrence.
- (h) Show the $M(1), \dots, M(n)$ generated by your algorithm for $\mathbf{p} = [4, 5, 10, 7, 1, 6, 9, 8]$.
- (i) Give a big-oh estimate of the running time of your algorithm.
- (j) Show an enhanced algorithm that will generate not just the maximum profit $M(n)$, but also values of i and j that produce that profit.
- (k) Show that your enhanced algorithm has the same big-oh performance as your un-enhanced version.

2. Wire-cutting with cost

In class (10/31 and 11/2) we discussed a wire-cutting problem (often referred to as a *rod-cutting problem*). We are given an array $p[1\dots m]$ where each $p[k]$ represents the price we can charge for a piece of wire of length k . The problem asks how to cut up a wire of length $n \leq m$ so as to maximize our total revenue from the resulting pieces of wire.

For this problem, we will add a small twist—each cut you make will cost c units, thus cutting (sorry) into your profit. (For example, if you cut your original wire into three pieces, that will reduce your profit by $2c$ for the cost of making two cuts.)

- What constitutes brute force for this problem? Give and justify a big-oh estimate of the running time of a brute force algorithm.
- Define a parameterized subproblem (analogous to the $M(k)$ in the previous problem) suitable for solving this problem recursively.
- Show how the maximum profit for a length- n piece of wire can be expressed in terms of one of your subproblems.
- Show a recursive decomposition, including base case, of your parameterized subproblem.
- Give a big-oh estimate of the running time if you run your recursion as-is with no preprocessing or dynamic programming or other cleverness.
- Show an iterative algorithm for solving enough of your subproblems to enable you to solve the top-level problem for the length- n wire.
- Give and justify a big-oh estimate of the running time of your algorithm.
- Show an enhanced algorithm that will generate not just the maximum profit for the length- n wire, but also the lengths of the pieces (or the locations of the cuts) that produce that profit.
- Give and justify a big-oh estimate of the running time of your enhanced algorithm.

3. Longest common substring

Consider two character strings $A = A_1A_2\dots A_m$ and $B = B_1B_2\dots B_n$. We would like to find the length of the longest substring contained in both A and B . For example, if

A = CATDOGEMUFOXGOAT

and

B = STRATEGEMS

then the longest common substring (GEM) has length 3.

- What constitutes brute force for this problem? Give and justify a big-oh estimate of the running time of a brute force algorithm.
- Define a parameterized subproblem (analogous to the $M(k)$ in the previous problem) suitable for solving this problem recursively. Note that for this problem, your subproblem

will have two parameters. (Hint: let the parameters i and j be indexes into the strings A and B .)

- (c) Show how the length of the longest common substring can be expressed in terms of one of your subproblems.
- (d) Show a recursive decomposition, including base case, of your parameterized subproblem.
- (e) Give a big-oh estimate of the running time if you run your recursion as-is with no preprocessing or dynamic programming or other cleverness.
- (f) Show an iterative algorithm for solving enough of your subproblems to enable you to solve the top-level problem for the full strings A and B .
- (g) Give and justify a big-oh estimate of the running time of your algorithm.
- (h) Show an enhanced algorithm that will generate not just the length of the longest common substring, but an actual common substring that has that length.
- (i) Give and justify a big-oh estimate of the running time of your enhanced algorithm.