

# CS 4102, Algorithms Spring 2022

5th Lecture in Unit C

Wrap up DP and Gerrymandering,  
then on to Greedy Algorithms!

# Dynamic Programming and Gerrymandering

- Let's review / wrap-up a few things from the Gerrymandering lecture
  - Time-complexity
  - Pseudo-polynomial time-complexity for algorithms

# Run Time

$$S(j, k, x, y) = S(j - 1, k - 1, x - R(p_j), y) \vee S(j - 1, k, x, y - R(p_j))$$

Initialize  $S(0,0,0,0) = \text{True}$

$n$  for  $j = 1, \dots, n$ :

$\frac{n}{2}$  for  $k = 1, \dots, \min(j, \frac{n}{2})$ :

$nm$  for  $x = 0, \dots, jm$ :

$nm$  for  $y = 0, \dots, jm$ :

$S(j, k, x, y) =$

$$S(j - 1, k - 1, x - R(p_j), y) \vee S(j - 1, k, x, y - R(p_j))$$

Search for True entry at  $S(n, \frac{n}{2}, > \frac{mn}{4}, > \frac{mn}{4})$

$\Theta(n^4 m^2)$

$$\Theta(n^4 m^2)$$

- This looks big! Yes, and it's interesting too! 😊
- Inputs:
  - List (size  $n$ ) of precincts and counts of voters for Regular Party,  $R(p_i)$
  - Number of voters (integer  $m$ )
- $n$  is a **size** of one of the inputs
  - If  $n$  doubles, twice as many items in the list that's our input
- But  $m$  is an input **value** (not a size)
  - If  $m$  doubles, it's still one integer, one input item
  - But the amount of work grows
  - The complexity depends on the size of this single integer

# Size of a Numeric Input-Value

**Question:** How do we measure the size of an integer?

**Answer:** the number of bits to represent it.

**Example:**

The value 4 (decimal) in binary is 100, so the size of “value 4” is 3.

If the size grows by 1, that’s 4 bits. With 4 bits, the value could be 1000 or 8 decimal.

Wait, what? Size of input grows by 1, and the value doubles (4 to 8).

That sounds like exponential!  $2^n$  vs.  $2^{n+1}$

# Pseudo-Polynomial Time

Yes, the *inputSize* (in bits) of value  $m$  is  $\log_2 m$

$$\text{inputSize} = \log_2 m$$

$$m = 2^{\text{inputSize}}$$

$$\text{So } m^2 = (2^{\text{inputSize}})^2 = 2^{2 \cdot \text{inputSize}}$$

**Gerrymandering's run-time is exponential because of *size* of input  $m$**

- Because run-time  $\Theta(n^4 m^2)$  written in terms of the *value of  $m$* , not the *size of  $m$*
- Input size is really  $n + |m| = n + \log m$

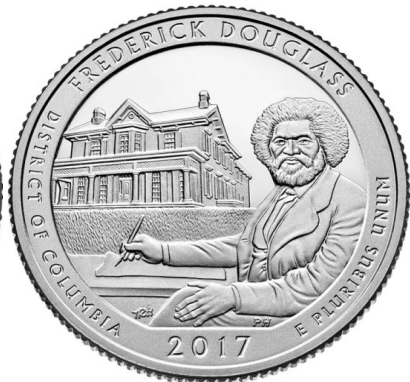
This is called **pseudo-polynomial time** ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pseudo-polynomial\\_time](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pseudo-polynomial_time))

We may see others like this! E.g. Coin-changing DP  $\Theta(k \cdot x)$  and Knapsack DP  $\Theta(n \cdot C)$

# CS4102 Algorithms

Spring 2022 –Hott and Horton

It's time to “change” things up and start our unit on Greedy Algorithms! 😊



# Where We're Going

- Terminology about optimization problems and greedy algorithms
- Example 1: Coin Changing
  - Contrast with dynamic programming approach
  - Proofs of correctness
- Example 2: Interval Scheduling
- ...
- **Textbook readings: CLRS Chapter 16 (go for it!)**



# Remember Our First Example?

Finding the correct change with minimum number of coins

- **Problem:**
  - Give back the right amount of change, and...
  - Return the fewest number of coins!
- **Inputs:** the dollar-amount to return
  - Also, the set of possible coins
- **Output:** a set of coins
  
- Let's re-visit this with more detail

# Coin Changing

**Imagine a world without computerized cash registers!**

*The problem:* Given an unlimited quantities of pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters (worth value 1, 5, 10, 25 respectively), determine a set of coins (the *change*) for a given value  $x$  using the fewest number of coins.



# How Would You Solve This?

- Would this be your algorithm?
  - Generate each possible set of coins that sum to  $x$ .
  - Determine which of these sets has the fewest coins.
- No, this is probably *not at all* what you thought of doing!
  - It's correct. But it's a *brute force* approach.
- What would you do?
  - Take a moment and try to describe your approach as an algorithm.

# Change Making Algorithm

- Given: target value  $x$ , list of coins  $C = [c_1, \dots, c_k]$   
(in this case  $C = [1, 5, 10, 25]$ )
- Repeatedly select the largest coin less than the remaining target value:  
while ( $x > 0$ )  
    let  $c = \max(c_i \in \{c_1, \dots, c_k\} \mid c_i \leq x)$   
    add  $c$  to solution  
     $x = x - c$

**Observation:** We can rewrite this to take  $\lfloor n/c \rfloor$  copies of the next largest coin at each step, and reduce  $x$  by  $(c \cdot \lfloor n/c \rfloor)$

Avoid call to  $\max()$  by choosing next  $c_i$  from largest to smallest.

$C$  must be sorted.

# Let's reflect on this

- What's its time-complexity?
  - Looks like it's  $O(x)$  in the worst-case. (Why do I say that?)
    - Maybe it's  $O(kx)$  if I really have to do a `max()` operation at each step
  - We'll come back to this.
- Does this always work? I.e. how can we prove it to be correct?
  - Intuitively you know it's true for US coins, right?

# Some Terminology Before We Continue...

- **Optimization problems: terminology**
  - A solution must meet certain constraints:  
A solution is *feasible*  
Example: All edges in solution are in graph, form a simple path.
  - Solutions judged on some criteria:  
*Objective function*  
Example: Sum of edge weights in path is smallest
  - One (or more) feasible solutions that scores highest (by the objective function) is called the *optimal solution(s)*
- Both **dynamic programming** and the **greedy approach** are often good choices for optimization problems.

# Greedy Strategy: An Overview

- Greedy strategy:
  - Build solution by stages, adding one item to the partial solution we've found before this stage
  - At each stage, make *locally optimal choice* based on the **greedy choice** (sometimes called the *greedy rule* or the *selection function*)
    - Locally optimal, i.e. best given what info we have now
  - Irrevocable: a choice can't be un-done
  - Sequence of locally optimal choices leads to globally optimal solution (hopefully)
    - Must prove this for a given problem!
    - Sometimes basis for *approximation algorithms* or *heuristic algorithms* used to get something close to optimal solution.

# We've Seen Greedy Graph Algorithms

- Dijkstra's Shortest Path and Prim's MST are greedy!
- Build solution by adding item to partial solution
  - Dijkstra's: add edge to connect  $k$ th vertex, where the edges for the  $k-1$  already selected show the shortest paths to those  $k-1$  vertices
- Greedy choice
  - Dijkstra's: for all vertices connected to one of the  $k-1$  vertices processed, choose  $w$  where  $dist(s,w)$  is the minimum
- We did have to prove that this sequence of locally optimal choices leads to globally optimal solution

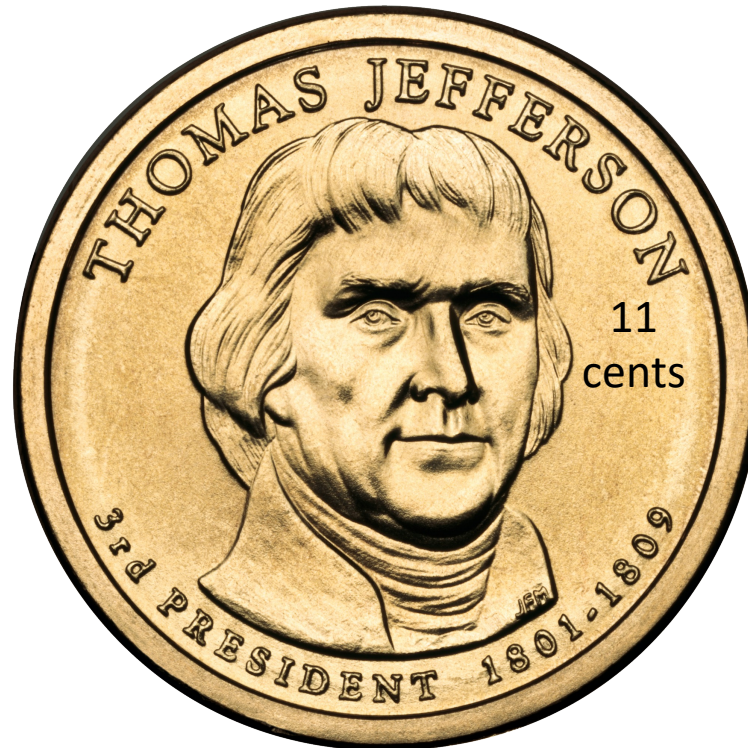


# Back to Coin Changing: Correctness?

- Can you think of how you might argue this strategy (algorithm) always choose the optimal solution for coin-changing?
- Maybe argue along these lines:
  - If an algorithm did something different than what our algorithm does, then it won't choose optimal solution.
  - We'll see proof later in slides.

# Warm Up, take 2

Given access to unlimited quantities of pennies, nickels, dimes, toms, and quarters (worth value 1, 5, 10, 11, 25 respectively), give 90 cents change using the **fewest** number of coins.



# Greedy method's solution

90 cents



# Greedy solution not optimal!

90 cents



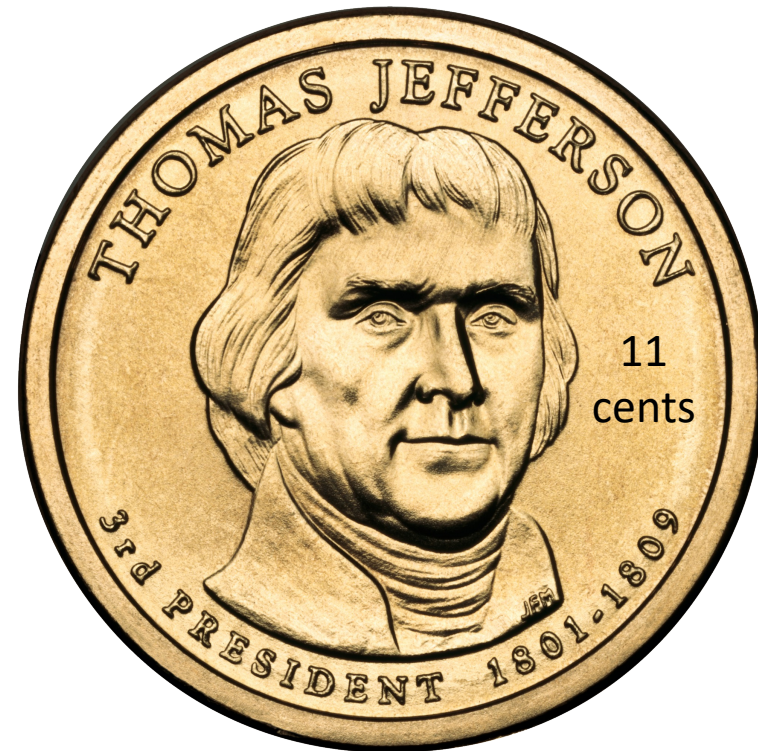


# Warm Up, take 2

Given access to unlimited quantities of pennies, nickels, dimes, toms, and quarters (worth value 1, 5, 10, 11, 25 respectively), give 90 cents change using the **fewest** number of coins.

We can solve coin changing with dynamic programming, too.

Will that work for this set of coins?



# Dynamic Programming

- Requires **Optimal Substructure**
  - Optimal solution to a problem contains optimal solutions to subproblems
- Idea:
  1. Identify the recursive structure of the problem
    - What is the “last thing” done?
  2. Save the solution to each subproblem in memory
  3. Select a good order for solving subproblems
    - “Top Down”: Solve each recursively
    - “Bottom Up”: Iteratively solve smallest to largest

# Identify Recursive Structure

Change( $x$ ): minimum number of coins needed to give change for  $x$  cents

## Possibilities for last coin



## Coins needed

$$\text{Change}(x - 25) + 1 \quad \text{if } x \geq 25$$

$$\text{Change}(x - 11) + 1 \quad \text{if } x \geq 11$$

$$\text{Change}(x - 10) + 1 \quad \text{if } x \geq 10$$

$$\text{Change}(x - 5) + 1 \quad \text{if } x \geq 5$$

$$\text{Change}(x - 1) + 1 \quad \text{if } x \geq 1$$

Of course we need to define a data structure to remember partial results and fill it in some order. We won't address that here.

# Identify Recursive Structure

Change( $x$ ): minimum number of coins needed to give change for  $x$  cents

$$\text{Change}(x) = \min \begin{cases} \text{Change}(x - 25) + 1 & \text{if } x \geq 25 \\ \text{Change}(x - 11) + 1 & \text{if } x \geq 11 \\ \text{Change}(x - 10) + 1 & \text{if } x \geq 10 \\ \text{Change}(x - 5) + 1 & \text{if } x \geq 5 \\ \text{Change}(x - 1) + 1 & \text{if } x \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

**Correctness:** The optimal solution must be contained in one of these configurations

**Base Case:**  $\text{Change}(0) = 0$

**Running time:**  $O(kx)$

$k$  is number of possible coins

Size of input  $x$  is how many bits to store  $x$ .  
Size  $n = \lg x$  so  $x = 2^{\lg x}$ , so  $O(k 2^n)$

Is this efficient? Isn't it polynomial?

No, this is pseudo-polynomial time



# Greedy Change Making

**Greedy approach:** Only consider a single case/subproblem, which gives an asymptotically-better algorithm. When can we use the greedy approach?

$c_k]$

coin less than the

remain

value:

```
while( $x > 0$ )
```

```
  let  $c = \max(c_i \in \{c_1, \dots, c_k\} \mid c_i \leq x)$ 
```

```
  add  $c$  to solution
```

```
   $x = x - c$ 
```

**Observation:** We can rewrite this to take  $\lfloor n/c \rfloor$  copies of the largest coin at each step. Then loop over values  $c_i$  from largest to smallest. Then if C is sorted....

**Running time:**  $O(k)$

$k$  is number of possible coins

**Polynomial-time!**

# Greedy vs DP

- **Dynamic Programming:**
  - Require Optimal Substructure
  - Several choices for which small subproblem
- **Greedy:**
  - Require Optimal Substructure
  - Must only consider one choice for small subproblem

## **Log Cutting:**

Maximum profit for each last cut

## **Longest Common Subsequence:**

Max length with same last character or with one or the other

## **Seam Carving:**

Min energy seam that could connect with this pixel

# Greedy Algorithms

- Require **Optimal Substructure**
  - Optimal solution to a problem contains optimal solutions to subproblems
  - Only one subproblem to consider!
- Idea:
  1. Identify a greedy **choice property**
    - How to make a choice guaranteed to be included in some optimal solution
  2. Repeatedly apply the choice property until no subproblems remain

# Change Making Choice Property

- Our algorithm's **Greedy choice**:  
Choose largest coin less than or equal to target value
- Leads to optimal solution?
  - For standard U.S. coins: Yes, coin chosen must be part of some optimal solution. We can prove it!
  - For “unusual” sets of coins? We saw a counter-example.
  - For U.S. postage stamps? Hmm...

# Correctness of Greedy Algorithm



Optimal solution must satisfy following properties:

- At most 4 pennies
- At most 1 nickel
- At most 2 dimes
- Cannot contain 2 dimes and 1 nickel

# Correctness of Greedy Algorithm

**Claim:** argue that at every step, greedy choice is part of some optimal solution

- **Case 1:** Suppose  $x < 5$ 
  - Optimal solution must contain a penny (no other option available)
  - **Greedy choice:** penny
- **Case 2:** Suppose  $5 \leq x < 10$ 
  - Optimal solution must contain a nickel
    - Suppose otherwise. Then optimal solution can only contain pennies (there are no other options), so it must contain  $x > 4$  pennies (**contradiction**)
  - **Greedy choice:** nickel
- **Case 3:** Suppose  $10 \leq x < 25$ 
  - Optimal solution must contain a dime
    - Suppose otherwise. By construction, the optimal solution can contain at most 1 nickel, so there must be at least 6 pennies in the optimal solution (**contradiction**)
  - **Greedy choice:** dime

# Correctness of Greedy Algorithm

**Claim:** argue that at every step, greedy choice is part of some optimal solution

- **Case 4:** Suppose  $25 \leq x$ 
  - Optimal solution must contain a quarter
    - Suppose otherwise. There are two possibilities for the optimal solution:
      - If it contains 2 dimes, then it can contain 0 nickels, in which case it contains at least 5 pennies (**contradiction**)
      - If it contains fewer than 2 dimes, then it can contain at most 1 nickel, so it must also contain at least 10 pennies (**contradiction**)
  - **Greedy choice:** quarter

**Conclusion:** in every case, the greedy choice is consistent with some optimal solution

# Correctness of Greedy Algorithm

What about that 11-cent coin, the “tom”? How’s that break this proof?

- **Claim:** argue that at every step, greedy choice is part of some optimal solution

- Case 1: Suppose  $n < 5$ 
  - Optimal solution must contain a penny (no other option available)
  - Greedy choice: penny
- Case 2: Suppose  $5 \leq n < 10$ 
  - Optimal solution must contain a nickel
  - Suppose otherwise. Then optimal solution can only contain pennies
  - Greedy choice: nickel

This argument no longer holds. Sometimes, it's better to take the dime; other times, it's better to take the 11-cent piece.

For 15: 1 tom + 4 pennies vs. 1 dime + 1 nickel.

For 12: 1 tom + 1 penny vs. 1 dime + 2 pennies

- **Revised Case 3:** Suppose  $11 \leq x < 25$ 
  - Optimal solution must contain a ~~dime~~ tom
    - Suppose otherwise. By construction, the optimal solution can contain at most 1 nickel, so there must be at least 6 pennies in the optimal solution (**contradiction**).
  - Greedy choice: ~~dime~~ tom



# Wrap-up on Greedy basics

- An approach to solving ***optimization problems***
  - Finds ***optimal solution*** among set of ***feasible solutions***
- Problem must have ***optimal substructure property***
- Works in stages, applying ***greedy choice*** at each stage
  - Makes locally optimal choice, with goal of reaching overall optimal solution for entire problem
- Proof needed to show correctness

# Need more on Optimal Substructure Property?

- Detailed discussion on p. 379 of CLRS (chapter on Dynamic Programming)
  - If  $A$  is an optimal solution to a problem, then the components of  $A$  are optimal solutions to subproblems
- Another example: Shortest Path in graph problem
  - Say  $P$  is min-length path from CHO to LA and includes DAL
  - Let  $P_1$  be component of  $P$  from CHO to DAL, and  $P_2$  be component of  $P$  from DAL to LA
  - $P_1$  must be shortest path from CHO to DAL, and  $P_2$  must be shortest path from DAL to LA
  - Why is this true? Can you prove it? Yes, by contradiction. (Try this at home!)

Next: *Interval Scheduling*

–CLRS Section 16.1

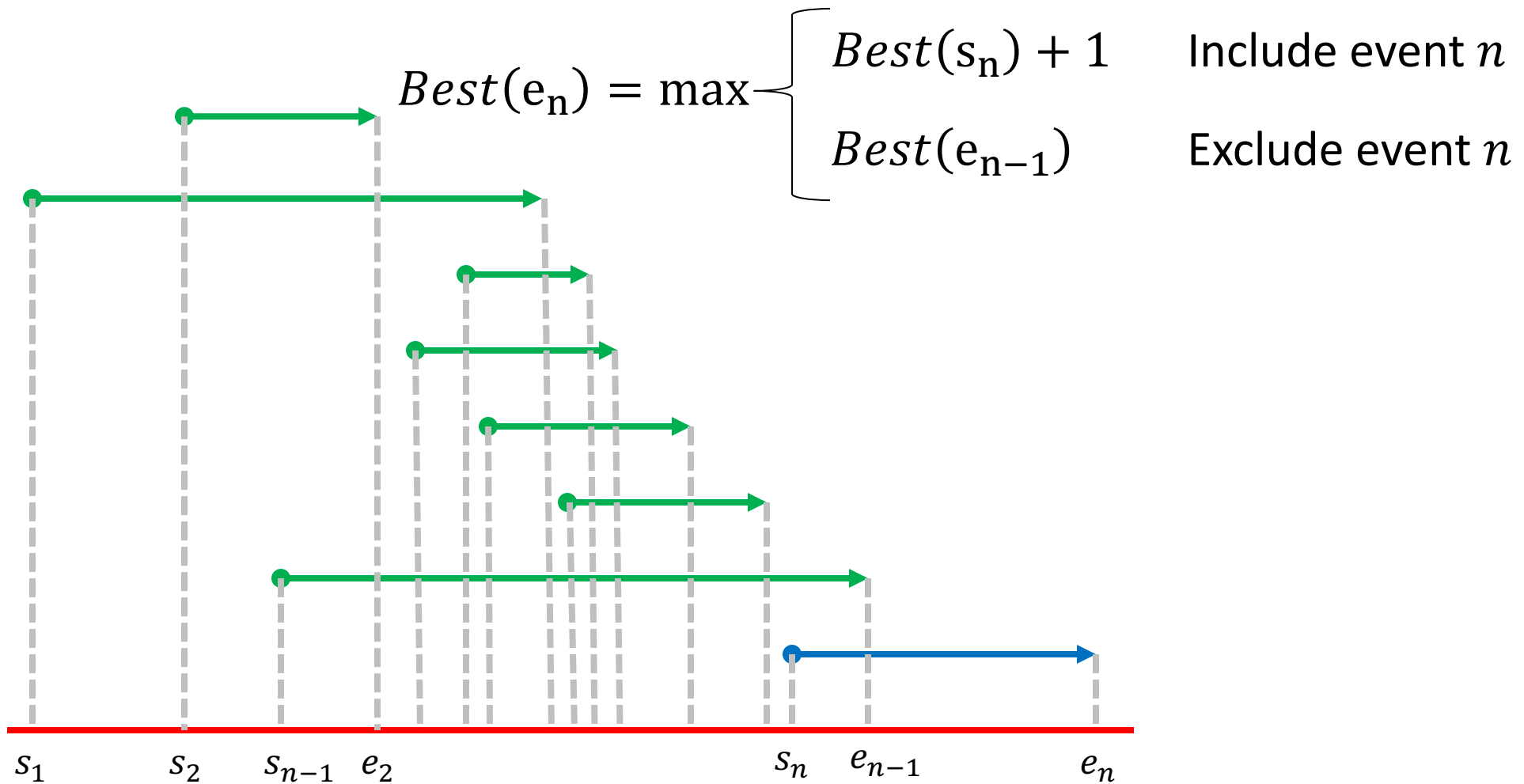
# Interval Scheduling

- Input: List of events with their start and end times (sorted by end time)
- Output: largest set of non-conflicting events (start time of each event is after the end time of all preceding events)

[1, 2.25]	Lunch Zoom with friends
[2, 3.25]	CS4102 Live Zoom session
[3, 4]	Streaming department talk
[4, 5.25]	Virtual Office hours
[4.5, 6]	Zoom discussion section
[5, 7.5]	Super Smash Brothers online game night
[7.75, 11]	UVA Basketball Championship re-watch party

# Interval Scheduling DP

$Best(t) = \max \#$  events that can be scheduled before time  $t$



# Greedy Interval Scheduling

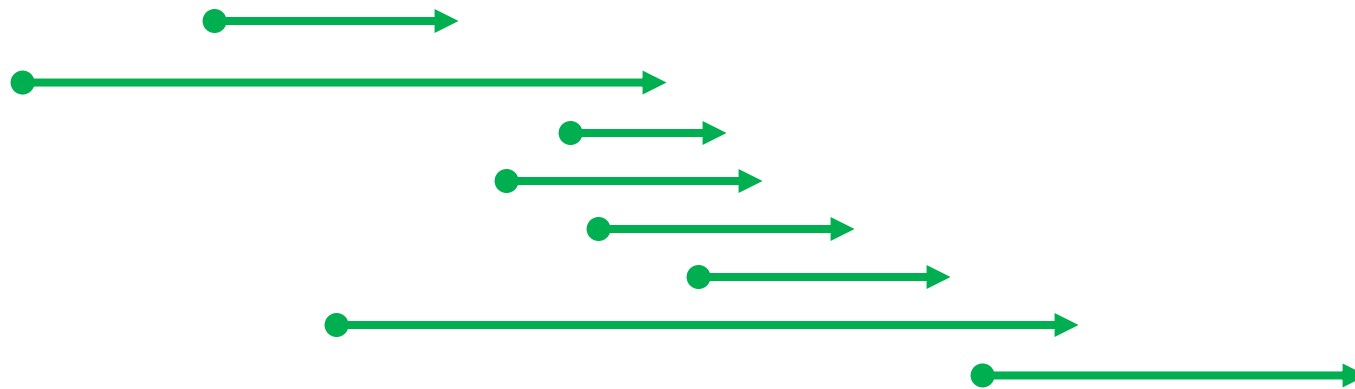
- Step 1: Identify a **greedy choice property**

# Interval Scheduling Algorithm

Find event ending earliest, add to solution,

Remove **it** and **all conflicting events**,

Repeat until all events removed, return **solution**

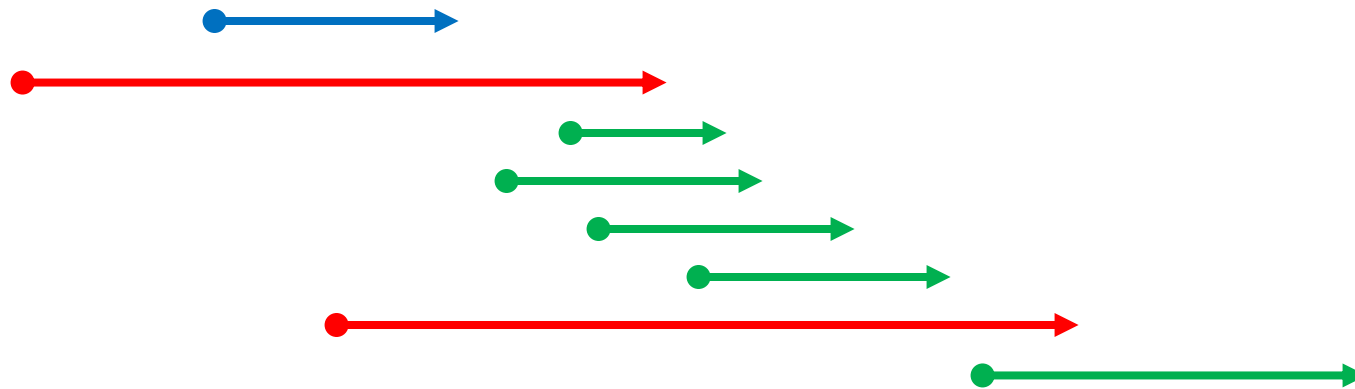


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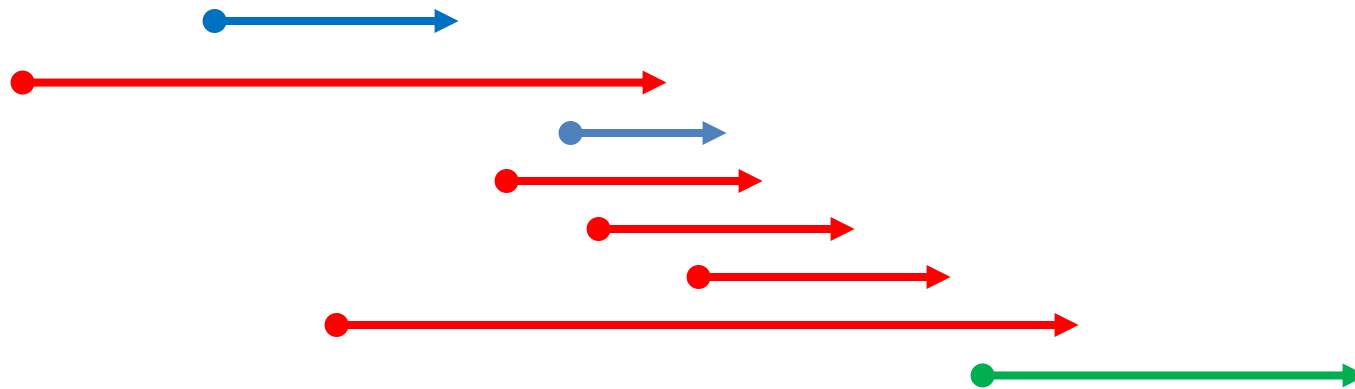


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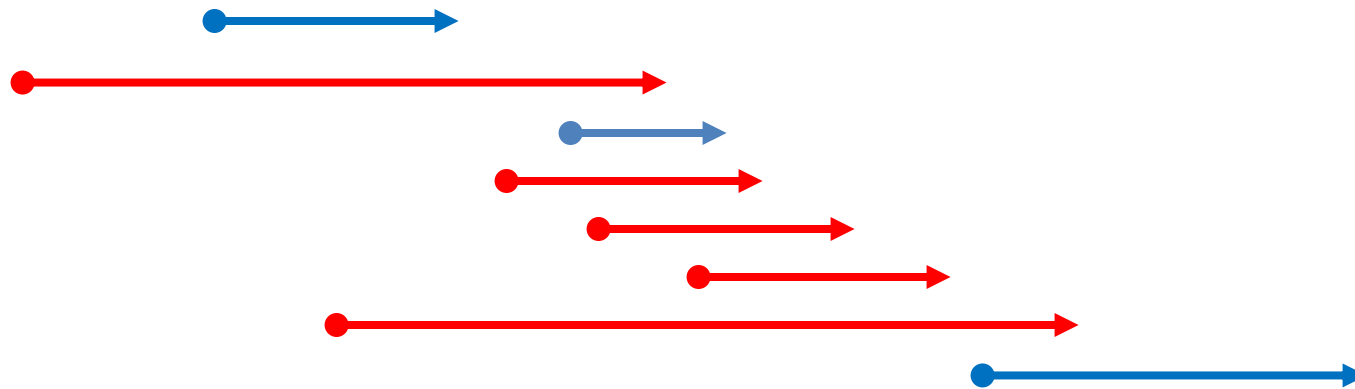


# Interval Scheduling Algorithm

Find event ending earliest, add to solution,

Remove **it** and **all conflicting events**,

Repeat until all events removed, return **solution**



# Interval Scheduling Run Time

Find event ending earliest, add to solution,

Remove **it** and **all conflicting events**,

Repeat until all events removed, return **solution**

Sort intervals by finish time

StartTime = 0

for each interval (in order of finish time):

    if begin of interval > StartTime:

        add interval to solution

        StartTime = end of interval

# Exchange argument

- Shows correctness of a greedy algorithm
- Idea:
  - Show exchanging an item from an arbitrary optimal solution with your greedy choice makes the new solution no worse
  - How to show my sandwich is at least as good as yours:
    - Show: “I can remove any item from your sandwich, and it would be no worse by replacing it with the same item from my sandwich”



# Exchange Argument for Earliest End Time

# Exchange Argument for Earliest End Time

- **Claim:** earliest ending interval is always part of some optimal solution
- Let  $OPT_{i,j}$  be an optimal solution for time range  $[i, j]$
- Let  $a^*$  be the first interval in  $[i, j]$  to finish overall
- If  $a^* \in OPT_{i,j}$  then **claim** holds
- Else if  $a^* \notin OPT_{i,j}$ , let  $a$  be the first interval to end in  $OPT_{i,j}$ 
  - By definition  $a^*$  ends before  $a$ , and therefore does not conflict with any other events in  $OPT_{i,j}$
  - Therefore  $OPT_{i,j} - \{a\} + \{a^*\}$  is also an optimal solution
  - Thus **claim** holds