# Greedy Algorithms

Murat Osmanoglu

- given a set of intervals  $(I_1, I_2, ..., I_n)$
- each interval  $I_i$  has a starting time  $s_i$ , a finishing time  $f_i$
- your task is to find the largest subset of mutually non-overlapping intervals

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  - Suppose there are n meetings requests for a meeting room.
  - Each meeting i has a starting time  $\mathbf{s}_i$  and an ending time  $\mathbf{t}_i.$
  - We have a constraint : no two meetings can not be scheduled at same time.
  - Our goal is to schedule as many meetings as possible

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**Dynamic Programming Solution** 



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Can we get a simpler solution?

• solve the problem in myopic fashion

(don't pay attention the global situaton - don't consider all possible solutions)

make desicion at each step based on improving local state

(use greedy approach - pick the one available to you at the moment based on some fixed and simple priority rules)

- choose the first interval as the one having the earliest start time
- remove all intervals not compatible with the chosen one

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- choose the first interval as the shortest one
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- choose the first interval as the one having the earliest finish time
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```
<u>input</u> : n interval (I_1, ..., I_n) together
with their start time and finish time
```

```
--sort intervals according to their finish time (f_1 \le f_2 \le ... \le f_n)
--initialize an empty set S
```

```
for (i=1 to n)
if interval I_i is compatible with S
S = S \cup \{I_i\}
return S
```

<u>Theorem</u> (Greedy-choice property): The interval having earliest finish time (first interval) will be part of some optimal solution set. (Our greedy approach yields us an optimal solution)

<u>Proof</u>

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#### Proof

Assume S is an optimal solution set for problem and S does not contain the first interval  $I_1$ .

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Assume S is an optimal solution set for problem and S does not contain the first interval  $I_1$ .

Let  $I_i^*$  be the interval in S having earliest finish time.

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Assume S is an optimal solution set for problem and S does not contain the first interval  $I_1$ .

Let  $I_i^*$  be the interval in S having earliest finish time.

Since  $I_1$  has the earliest finish time for all,  $f_1 \leq f_i$ .

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 $S^* = S - \{ I_i^* \} \cup \{ I_1 \}$  such that  $|S^*| = |S|$ 

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This is a contradiction!

### **Greedy Algorithms**

- solve the problem by breaking it a sequence of subproblems
- make the best local choice among all feasible one available on that moment (one choice at a time)
  - your choice does not depend on any future choices or any past choices you have made
- prove that the Greedy Choice Property satisfies. A sequence of locally optimal choices yields a global optimal solution

# <u>Cashier's Problem</u>

- given a certain amount of money, M cents, and a set of denominations of coins  $c_1$  , ... ,  $c_m$
- make change for M cents using a minimum total number of coins (each denomination is available in unlimited quantity)

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<u>147 cents</u>

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```
<u>input</u> : an amount of money M
a set of denominations (c<sub>1</sub>, ... , c<sub>n</sub>)
```

```
sort denominations

c_1 \ge ... \ge c_n

totalw = M

j=1

k=0

while (j \le n)

if (c_j \le totalw )

totalw = totalw - c_j

k = k +1

else

j = j +1

return k
```



<u>Theorem</u> (Greedy-choice property): Let (10, 5, 1) be the denomination set. For the amount M, there exists an optimal solution set that contains the largest denomination  $c_j \leq M$ . (Our greedy approach yields us an optimal solution) *Proof* 

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<u>Proof</u>

Assume S is an optimal solution for M, and 10  $\leq$  M. But S does not contain any 10.

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M = a.5 + b.1 (total a + b coins)

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M can be written as

$$M = a.5 + b.1 = 10 - 10 + a.5 + b.1$$

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= 1.10 + (a - 2).5 + b.1 (total a + b - 1 coins)

This is contradiction.



#### Will the Greedy Technique give an optimal solution for all denomination set?



M = 24











Will the Greedy Technique give an optimal solution for all denomination set?



### use dynamic programming



- given n items and a knapsack with the capacity M
- each item i has a weight  $w_i$ , and a value  $p_i$
- you are allowed to get a fraction  $x_i$  of an item i that yields a profit  $x_i.p_i$  where  $0 \le x_i \le 1$
- your goal is to get a filling that maximizes the profit under the weight constraint M

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 $P_1=10$  $w_2=5$   
 $p_2=5$  $w_1=15$   
 $p_1=5$  $w_1=5$   
 $p_1=15$  $M=25$ pearlgoldsilverdiamonds

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 $p_1=15$  $M=25$ pearl  
 $p_1/w_1=1/2$ gold  
 $p_2/w_2=1$ silver  
 $p_3/w_3=1/3$ diamonds  
 $p_4/w_4=3$ 

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M = 20 3.5+1.5

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M = 15 3 . 5 + 1 . 5 + (1/2) . 15

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M = 0 3 . 5 + 1 . 5 + (1/2) . 15 = 27.5

<u>input</u> : n items together with their prices  $p_i$ and weight  $w_i$ , and a knapsack with the capacity M

```
sort items according to the ratio (p_i/w_i)
(p_1/w_1) \leq \dots \leq (p_n/w_n)
totalw = M
j=1
while (totalw > 0)
     if (w<sub>i</sub> > totalw)
         add totalw fraction of item j to the knapsack
         totalw = 0
     else
         add item j to the knapsack
         totalw = totalw - w<sub>i</sub>
         j = j + 1
return knapsack
```

<u>Theorem</u> (Greedy-choice property): Let j be the item with the maximum ratio  $p_i/w_i$ . There exists an optimal solution that contains item j as much as possible.

(Our greedy approach yields us an optimal solution)

<u>Proof</u>

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Assume S is an optimal solution with the full knapsack of capacity M and total profit U.

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Assume S is an optimal solution with the full knapsack of capacity M and total profit U.

Assume S does not contain the item j as much as possible.

There must exist some item k such that  $k \neq j$  and  $(p_k / w_k) < (p_j / w_j)$ 

<u>Theorem</u> (Greedy-choice property): Let j be the item with the maximum ratio  $p_i/w_i$ . There exists an optimal solution that contains item j as much as possible.

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We take out some amount of item k, (suppose  $\alpha$ ) and

put same amount of item j.

 $S^* = S - \{\alpha \text{ of item } k\} \cup \{\alpha \text{ of item } j\}$ 

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Assume S is an optimal solution with the full knapsack of capacity M and total profit U.

Assume S does not contain the item j as much as possible.

There must exist some item k such that k  $\neq$  j and (p<sub>k</sub> / w<sub>k</sub>) < (p<sub>j</sub> / w<sub>j</sub>) We take out some amount of item k, (suppose  $\alpha$ ) and

put same amount of item j.

 $S^* = S - \{\alpha \text{ of item } k\} \cup \{\alpha \text{ of item } j\}$ 

Let U\* be the profit of S\*. Then,

 $U^* = U - \alpha.(p_k / w_k) + \alpha.(p_j / w_j)$ 

<u>Theorem</u> (Greedy-choice property): Let j be the item with the maximum ratio  $p_i/w_i$ . There exists an optimal solution that contains item j as much as possible.

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Let U<sup>\*</sup> be the profit of S<sup>\*</sup>. Then,

$$U^* = U - \alpha.(p_k / w_k) + \alpha.(p_j / w_j)$$

Since  $(p_k / w_k) < (p_j / w_j), U^* > U$ .
#### Fractional Knapsack

<u>Theorem</u> (Greedy-choice property): Let j be the item with the maximum ratio  $p_i/w_i$ . There exists an optimal solution that contains item j as much as possible.

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#### <u>Proof</u>

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 $S^* = S - \{\alpha \text{ of item } k\} \cup \{\alpha \text{ of item } j\}$ 

Let U\* be the profit of S\*. Then,

 $U^* = U - \alpha.(p_k / w_k) + \alpha.(p_j / w_j)$ Since  $(p_k / w_k) < (p_j / w_j), U^* > U.$ 

This is contradiction!

- given n items and a knapsack with the capacity M
- each item i has a weight  $w_i$ , and a value  $p_i$
- your goal is to get a filling that maximizes the profit under the weight constraint M

(You cannot take fraction of an item, you take the item or not)

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Can we use Greedy Technique to solve this problem?

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Can we use Greedy Technique to solve this problem?

$$w_1=10$$
  
 $p_1=60$  $w_2=20$   
 $p_2=100$  $w_3=30$   
 $p_3=120$  $M = 50$  $p_1/w_1=6$  $p_2/w_2=5$  $p_3/w_3=4$ 

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M = 50 ↔ 60

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M = 40  $\iff$  60 + 100

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M = 20  $\iff$  60 + 100 = 160

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 $p_1=60$  $w_2=20$   
 $p_2=100$  $w_3=30$   
 $p_3=120$  $M=50$  $p_1/w_1=6$  $p_2/w_2=5$  $p_3/w_3=4$ 

M = 20  $\longleftrightarrow$  60 + 100 = 160

100 + 120 = 220

- given n items and a knapsack with the capacity M
- each item i has a weight  $w_i$ , and a value  $p_i$
- your goal is to get a filling that maximizes the profit under the weight constraint M

(You cannot take fraction of an item, you take the item or not)

Can we use Greedy Technique to solve this problem?

$$w_1=10$$
  
 $p_1=60$  $w_2=20$   
 $p_2=100$  $w_3=30$   
 $p_3=120$  $M = 50$  $p_1/w_1=6$  $p_2/w_2=5$  $p_3/w_3=4$ 

M = 20 🛶 60 + 100 = 160

100 + 120 = 220

#### use dynamic programming



- given a computer and n processes  $p_1,\,...\,,\,p_n$  such that each of them has a completion time  $t_i$
- find an optimal order of processes that has the minimum average finishing time



- given a computer and n processes  $p_1,\,...\,,\,p_n$  such that each of them has a completion time  $t_i$
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If we define the finishing time  $C_i$  of the process i as  $C_i = \sum_{j=1..i} t_j$ , then the average finishing time will be  $(\sum_{i=1..n} C_i)/n$ .

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$$t_1 = 4$$
  $t_2 = 2$   $t_3 = 5$   $t_4 = 3$ 

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this part is constant

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<u>Proof</u>

Assume there is an optimal sequence  $S^*$  in which the processes have not been sorted.



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<u>Theorem</u> (Greedy-choice property): Let S be a sequence of processes ordered according to the completion time. Then S is an optimal sequence. (Our greedy approach yields us an optimal solution) <u>Proof</u>

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- finishing time of the processes up to i-1 not changing (C<sub>1</sub>, ..., C<sub>i-1</sub> remain same)
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   (C, ..., C, remain same)

• Let 
$$\Delta = t_i - t_i$$
.

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   (C \_)

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. Then  
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 $C_{i+1}^* = C_{i+1} - \Delta$ 

$$C_{j-1}^* = C_{j-1} - \Delta$$

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•  $\Sigma_{i=1..n} C_i$  decreasing
# Process Scheduling

<u>Theorem</u> (Greedy-choice property): Let S be a sequence of processes ordered according to the completion time. Then S is an optimal sequence. (Our greedy approach yields us an optimal solution) <u>Proof</u>

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 $\vdots$   
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this is a contradiction

 $\Sigma_{i=1..n} C_i$  decreasing

- given a computer and n processes  $p_1, ..., p_n$  such that each of them has a processing time  $t_i$  and a deadline  $d_i$
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Our goal is to minimize  $L = \max_{i} I_{i}$ 

- Given  $t_1$ , ...,  $t_n$
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	1	2	3	4
† <sub>i</sub>	4	2	5	3
d <sub>i</sub>	6	4	10	8

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How do we sort the processes ?

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	1	2
† <sub>i</sub>	1	5
d <sub>i</sub>	12	5

How do we sort the processes ?



$$t_1 = 1$$
  $t_2 = 5$   $L = 1$   
 $L_1 = 0$   $L_2 = 1$ 

How do we sort the processes ?

	1	2
† <sub>i</sub>	1	5
d <sub>i</sub>	12	5

$$\begin{array}{c|c} t_1 = 1 & t_2 = 5 \\ L_1 = 0 & L_2 = 1 \\ t_2 = 5 & t_1 = 1 \\ L_1 = 0 & L_2 = 0 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c|c} L = 1 \\ L = 0 \\ L_1 = 0 \\ L_2 = 0 \end{array}$$

How do we sort the processes ?

• according to their slack time  $d_i - t_i$ 

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• according to their slack time  $d_i - t_i$ 

	1	2
† <sub>i</sub>	1	5
d <sub>i</sub>	2	5

$$t_2 = 5$$
  $t_1 = 1$   $L = 4$   
 $L_1 = 0$   $L_2 = 4$   $L = 1$ 

 $L_1 = 0$   $L_2 = 1$ 

How do we sort the processes ?

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How do we sort the processes ?

• according to their deadlines d<sub>i</sub>

	1	2	3	4
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d <sub>i</sub>	6	4	10	8

$$t_2 = 2$$
  $t_1 = 4$   $t_4 = 3$   $t_3 = 5$   $L = 4$   
 $L_1 = 0$   $L_2 = 0$   $L_3 = 1$   $L_4 = 4$ 

<u>Theorem</u> (Greedy-choice property): Let S be a sequence of processes ordered according to the deadline. Then S is an optimal sequence. (Our greedy approach yields us an optimal solution)

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What happens if we swap i and j?





Encode them using 3-bit strings


























•  $B(T, \{ f_c \}) = \Sigma f_c.I_c$ 

 freq

 A
 5

 B
 2

 R
 2

 C
 1

 D
 1

- $B(T, \{ f_c \}) = \Sigma f_c.I_c$
- try to minimize the function B

 freq

 A
 5

 B
 2

 R
 2

 C
 1

 D
 1

- $B(T, \{f_c\}) = \Sigma f_c.I_c$
- try to minimize the function B
- use smaller length encoding for the character having larger frequency

freq					
Α	i	5	ł	0	
В		2		1	
R		2	ł	01	
С		1	ł	10	
D	į.	1	ł	11	

- $B(T, \{ f_c \}) = \Sigma f_c.I_c$
- try to minimize the function B
- use smaller length encoding for the character having larger frequency

freq			<u>cost</u>
A	5	0	5
В	2	1	2
R	2	01	4
С	1	10	2
D	1	11	2
			15

- $B(T, \{f_c\}) = \Sigma f_c.I_c$
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- try to minimize the function B
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Is there any problem for this encoding?

freq			<u>cost</u>
A	5	0	5
B R	2	01	2 4
С	1	10	2
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00110110

freq			<u>cost</u>
Α	5	0	5
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00110110 AADRC

freq			<u>cost</u>
Α	5	0	5
В	2	1	2
R	2	01	4
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0 0 1 1 0 1 1 0 AADRC A A BBA D A ARBRC

<u>freq</u>			<u>cost</u>
A	5	0	5
В	2	1	2
R	2	01	4
С	1	10	2
D	1	11	2
			15

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00110110 A A BBA D A AADRC ARBRC AABBADA

freq			<u>cost</u>
Α	5	0	5
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00110110 A A BBA D A AADRC ARBRC AABBADA

freq			<u>cost</u>
A B	5 2 2	01	5 2
к С D	2 1 1	10 10 11	4 2 2
			15

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decoding is not unique

freq			<u>cost</u>
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В	2	1	2
R	2	01	4
	1	10	2
D	T	11	2
			15

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00110110 A A BBA D A

AADRC ARBRC AABBADA

decoding is not unique

to get unique decoding, coding should be 'prefix-free'

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В	2	1	2
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Coding is called 'prefix free' if for any i, j; encoding c<sub>i</sub> is not prefix of encoding c<sub>j</sub>



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encoding of B -1- is prefix of encoding of C -10- 10



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encoding of B -1- is prefix of encoding of C -10- 1010 = C



- $B(T, \{ f_c \}) = \Sigma f_c.I_c$
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encoding of B -1- is prefix of encoding of C -10- 10 10 = C10 = BA



• If you have a prefix-free code, you can uniquely decode it





- If you have a prefix-free code, you can uniquely decode it
- encoding for each char ends with '0'
- use different length encoding for each char



freqA250E1810M13110B101110K711110T5111110U2111110L11111110

- If you have a prefix-free code, you can uniquely decode it
- encoding for each char ends with '0'
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#### 1100111100111111010



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1100111100111111010 MAKALE



- If you have a prefix-free code, you can uniquely decode it
- encoding for each char ends with '0'
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• for '1', create a left child for '0', create a right child



• for '1', create a left child for '0', create a right child





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to get an optimal encoding, create an optimal tree







to get an optimal encoding, create an optimal tree

optimal encoding = optimal tree




Lemma : Optimal tree is full. (every node has either two children or no child)

Proof:

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*Proof* : Suppose there is an optimal tree T having one node with one child.



Because all characters in subtree B of T\* have encodings 1 bit shorter than encodings in subtree B of T,

 $B(T) > B(T^*)$ 



• sort all frequencies in decreasing order



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- sort all frequencies in decreasing order
- start with lowest two frequencies





- sort all frequencies in decreasing order
- start with lowest two frequencies combine them in one one, rearrange to preserve the order





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# <u>Huffman Coding</u>

cost

sort all frequencies in decreasing order

start with lowest two frequencies combine them in one one, rearrange to preserve the order


sort all frequencies in decreasing order

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### <u>Huffman Coding</u>

cost

• sort all frequencies in decreasing order



### <u>Huffman Coding</u>

cost

• sort all frequencies in decreasing order



sort all frequencies in decreasing order

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### <u>Huffman Coding</u>

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<u>Theorem</u> (Greedy-choice property): Let x and y be twe symbols with the smallest frequencies  $f_x$  and  $f_y$ . There exists an optimal tree where x and y are siblings with the highest depth. (Our greedy approach yields us an optimal solution)

<u>Proof</u>

<u>Theorem</u> (Greedy-choice property): Let x and y be twe symbols with the smallest frequencies  $f_x$  and  $f_y$ . There exists an optimal tree where x and y are siblings with the highest depth. (Our greedy approach yields us an optimal solution)

<u>Proof</u>

Assume there is an optimal tree T where x and y are not siblings.

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 $f_x$ ,  $f_y \leq f_a$ ,  $f_b$ 

#### swap x and a

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• B(T) =

•

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• 
$$B(T) = C + f_x \cdot I_x + f_a \cdot I_a$$

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• 
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$$B(T') = C + \hat{f}_x \hat{I}_a + \tilde{f}_a \hat{I}_x$$

• 
$$B(T) - B(T') = f_x (I_x - I_a) + f_a (I_a - I_x)$$

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$$B(T) = C + f_x \cdot I_x + f_a \cdot I_a$$
  
•  $B(T') = C + f_x \cdot I_a + f_a \cdot I_x$   
•  $B(T) - B(T') = f_x (I_x - I_a) + f_a (I_a - I_x)$   
 $= (I_a - I_x) (f_a - f_x) \ge 0$ 

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- Since  $\dot{f}_{\rm x}$  and  $f_{\rm y}$  are the smallest frequencies,

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$$B(T) = C + f_x I_x + f_a I_a$$

• 
$$B(T) - B(T') = f_x (I_x - I_a) + f_a (I_a - I_x)$$
  
=  $(I_a - I_x) (f_a - f_x) \ge 0$ 

• B(T') - B(T") ≥ 0

<u>Theorem</u> (Greedy-choice property): Let x and y be twe symbols with the smallest frequencies  $f_x$  and  $f_y$ . There exists an optimal tree where x and y are siblings with the highest depth. (Our greedy approach yields us an optimal solution)

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Assume there is an optimal tree T where x and y are not siblings.



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• B(T ') - B(T") ≥ 0

## **Greedy Algorithms**

- solve the problem by breaking it a sequence of subproblems
- make the best local choice among all feasible one available on that moment (one choice at a time)
  - your choice does not depend on any future choices or any past choices you have made
- prove that the Greedy Choice Property satisfies. A sequence of locally optimal choices yields a global optimal solution