

The 0-1 Knapsack Problem: a thief robbing a store finds n items; the i th item is worth v_i dollars and weights w_i pounds, where v_i and w_i are positive integers. He wants to take as valuable a load as possible, but he can carry at most W pounds in his knapsack for some positive integer W . What items should be taken?

Formally, the 0-1 knapsack problem can be stated as follows:

Given: n items of values v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n (positive integers) and of the weight w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n (positive integers), and a total weight W (positive integer).

Find: a subset $\mathcal{S} \subseteq \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ of the items such that

$$\sum_{i \in \mathcal{S}} w_i \leq W \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{i \in \mathcal{S}} v_i \quad \text{is maximized.}$$

This is called the 0-1 knapsack problem because each item must either be taken or left behind; the thief cannot take a fractional amount of an item or take an item more than once. The knapsack problem is an abstraction of many real problems, from investing to telephone routing.

Dynamic Programming

- The solution is based on the *optimal-substructure* observation as discussed in the class.

Let k be the highest-numbered item in an optimal solution \mathcal{S} of W pounds and items $\{1, \dots, n\}$. Then $\mathcal{S}' = \mathcal{S} - \{k\}$ is an optimal solution for $W - w_k$ pounds and items $1, \dots, k - 1$, and the value of the solution \mathcal{S} is v_k plus the value of the subproblem solution \mathcal{S}' .

- We can express the above optimal-substructure observation in the following formula

Define $c[i, w]$ to be the value of an optimal solution for items $1 \dots i$ and maximum weight w . Then

$$c[i, w] = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i = 0 \text{ or } w = 0 \\ c[i - 1, w] & \text{if } w_i > w \\ \max(v_i + c[i - 1, w - w_i], c[i - 1, w]) & \text{if } i > 0 \text{ and } w_i \leq w \end{cases}$$

This says that the value of a solution for item i is either includes item i , in which case it is v_i plus a subproblem solution for $i - 1$ items and the weight excluding w_i , or does not include item i , in which case it is a subproblem solution of $i - 1$ items and the same weight. This is, if the thief picks item i , he takes v_i value, and he can choose from items $1 \dots i - 1$ up to the weight limit $w - w_i$, and get $c[i - 1, w - w_i]$ additional value. On the other hand, if he decides not to take item i , he can choose from items $1 \dots i - 1$ up to the weight limit w , and get $c[i - 1, w]$ value. The better of these two choices should be made.

- Although the 0-1 knapsack problem doesn't seem analogous to the LCS problem, the above formula for c is similar to the LCS formula: initial values are 0, and other values are computed from the inputs and "earlier" values of c . So the 0-1 knapsack problem is like the LCS algorithm for finding the LCS of two sequences.

- The pseudocode is presented below.

The algorithm takes as inputs the maximum weight W , the number of items n , and the two sequences $v = \langle v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n \rangle$ and $w = \langle w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n \rangle$. It stores the $c[i, w]$ values in the table of $c[0 \dots n, 0 \dots W]$ whose entries are computed row-major order (This is, the first row of c is filled from left to right, then the second row, and so on.) At the end of the computation, $c[n, W]$ contains the maximum value the thief can take.

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Dynamic 0-1 Knapsack(v,w,n,W)
  for w = 0 to W
    c[0,w] = 0
  for i = 1 to n
    c[i,0] = 0
    for w = 1 to W
      if w[i] <= w then
        if v[i] + c[i-1,w-w[i]] > c[i-1,w] then
          c[i,w] = v[i] + c[i-1,w-w[i]]
        else
          c[i,w] = c[i-1,w]
      else
        c[i,w] = c[i-1,w]

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- The set of items to take can be deduced from the c -table by starting at $c[n, W]$ and tracing where the optimal values came from.
 - If $c[i, w] = c[i - 1, w]$, item i is not part of the solution, and we continue tracing with $c[i - 1, w]$.
 - Otherwise item i is part of the solution, and we continue tracing with $c[i - 1, w - w_i]$.
- The above algorithm takes $\Theta(nW)$ time total:
 - $\Theta(nW)$ to fill in the c table, $\Theta(1)$ per entry.
 - $O(n)$ time to trace the solution (why?)
- Example: Let $n = 9$, $v = \langle 2, 3, 3, 4, 4, 5, 7, 8, 8 \rangle$, $w = \langle 3, 5, 7, 4, 3, 9, 2, 11, 5 \rangle$, and $W = 15$. The calculated c -table is

$w \rightarrow$	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
$i = 1$	0	0	0	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
$i = 2$	0	0	0	2	2	3	3	3	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
$i = 3$	0	0	0	2	2	3	3	3	5	5	5	5	6	6	6	8
$i = 4$	0	0	0	2	4	4	4	6	6	7	7	7	9	9	9	9
$i = 5$	0	0	0	4	4	4	6	8	8	8	10	10	11	11	11	13
$i = 6$	0	0	0	4	4	4	6	8	8	8	10	10	11	11	11	13
$i = 7$	0	0	7	7	7	11	11	11	13	15	15	15	17	17	18	18
$i = 8$	0	0	7	7	7	11	11	11	13	15	15	15	17	17	18	18
$i = 9$	0	0	7	7	7	11	11	15	15	15	19	19	19	21	23	23

By the above c -table, we know

- The optimal value is $c[9, 15] = 23$.
- The set of items to take is $S = \{9, 7, 5, 4\}$ (why?)