


Greedy algorithms

David Kauchak
cs140
Spring 2023



1


Administrative

Assignment 5 due today at 9pm

Assignment 6 out later today and due next Friday 3/10 at 8pm

LC meetings this week

LC meetings next week?




2

Greedy algorithms

Algorithm that makes a local decision with the goal of creating a globally optimal solution

Method for solving problems where optimal solutions can be defined in terms of optimal solutions to sub-problems




3

Greedy vs. divide and conquer


Divide and conquer

To solve the general problem:




↓

Break into sum number of sub problems, solve:



then possibly do a little work



4

Greedy vs. divide and conquer

Divide and conquer

To solve the general problem:

The solution to the general problem is solved with respect to solutions to sub-problems!

5

Greedy vs. divide and conquer

Greedy

To solve the general problem:

Pick a locally optimal solution and repeat

6

Greedy vs. divide and conquer

Greedy

To solve the general problem:

The solution to the general problem is solved with respect to solutions to sub-problems!

Slightly different than divide and conquer

7

Horn formula

A horn formula is a set of implications and negative clauses:

$$\Rightarrow x \qquad x \wedge u \Rightarrow z$$

$$\Rightarrow y \qquad \bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee \bar{z}$$

8

Goal

Given a horn formula, determine if the formula is satisfiable, i.e. an assignment of true/false to the variables that is consistent with all of the implications/causes

$$\Rightarrow x \quad x \wedge u \Rightarrow z$$

$$\Rightarrow y \quad \bar{x} \vee \bar{y} \vee \bar{z}$$

u	x	y	z
0	1	1	0

9

A greedy solution?

$$\Rightarrow x \quad x \wedge z \Rightarrow w \quad w \wedge y \wedge z \Rightarrow x$$

$$x \Rightarrow y \quad x \wedge y \Rightarrow w \quad \bar{w} \vee \bar{x} \vee \bar{y}$$

$$w \ 0$$

$$x \ 0$$

$$y \ 0$$

$$z \ 0$$

10

A greedy solution?

$$\boxed{\Rightarrow x} \quad x \wedge z \Rightarrow w \quad w \wedge y \wedge z \Rightarrow x$$

$$x \Rightarrow y \quad x \wedge y \Rightarrow w \quad \bar{w} \vee \bar{x} \vee \bar{y}$$

$$w \ 0$$

$$x \ 1$$

$$y \ 0$$

$$z \ 0$$

11

A greedy solution?

$$\Rightarrow x \quad x \wedge z \Rightarrow w \quad w \wedge y \wedge z \Rightarrow x$$

$$\boxed{x \Rightarrow y} \quad x \wedge y \Rightarrow w \quad \bar{w} \vee \bar{x} \vee \bar{y}$$

$$w \ 0$$

$$x \ 1$$

$$y \ 1$$

$$z \ 0$$

12

A greedy solution?

$\Rightarrow x$ $x \wedge z \Rightarrow w$ $w \wedge y \wedge z \Rightarrow x$
 $x \Rightarrow y$ $x \wedge y \Rightarrow w$ $\bar{w} \vee \bar{x} \vee \bar{y}$

w 1
 x 1
 y 1
 z 0

13

A greedy solution?

$\Rightarrow x$ $x \wedge z \Rightarrow w$ $w \wedge y \wedge z \Rightarrow x$
 $x \Rightarrow y$ $x \wedge y \Rightarrow w$ $\bar{w} \vee \bar{x} \vee \bar{y}$

w 1
 x 1 not satisfiable
 y 1
 z 0

14

A greedy solution

HORN(H)

```

1 set all variables to false
2 for all implications i
3   if EMPTY(LHS(i))
4     RHS(i) ← true
5 changed ← true
6 while changed
7   changed ← false
8   for all implications i
9     if LHS(i) = true and !RHS(i) = true
10      RHS(i) ← true
11      changed = true
12 for all negative clauses c
13   if c = false
14     return false
15 return true
    
```

15

A greedy solution

```

1 set all variables to false
2 for all implications i
3   if EMPTY(LHS(i))
4     RHS(i) ← true
5 changed ← true
6 while changed
7   changed ← false
8   for all implications i
9     if LHS(i) = true and !RHS(i) = true
10      RHS(i) ← true
11      changed = true
12 for all negative clauses c
13   if c = false
14     return false
15 return true
    
```

set all variables of the implications of the form "→x" to true

16

A greedy solution

```

HORN(H)
1 set all variables to false
2 for all implications i
3   if EMPTY(LHS(i))
4     RHS(i) ← true
5 changed ← true
6 while changed
7   changed ← false
8   for all implications i
9     if LHS(i) = true and !RHS(i) = true
10      RHS(i) ← true
11      changed = true
12 for all negative clauses c
13   if c = false
14     return false
15 return true
    
```

if the all variables of the lhs of an implication are true, then set the rhs variable to true

17

A greedy solution

```

HORN(H)
1 set all variables to false
2 for all implications i
3   if EMPTY(LHS(i))
4     RHS(i) ← true
5 changed ← true
6 while changed
7   changed ← false
8   for all implications i
9     if LHS(i) = true and !RHS(i) = true
10      RHS(i) ← true
11      changed = true
12 for all negative clauses c
13   if c = false
14     return false
15 return true
    
```

see if all of the negative clauses are satisfied

18

A greedy solution

```

HORN(H)
1 set all variables to false
2 for all implications i
3   if EMPTY(LHS(i))
4     RHS(i) ← true
5 changed ← true
6 while changed
7   changed ← false
8   for all implications i
9     if LHS(i) = true and !RHS(i) = true
10      RHS(i) ← true
11      changed = true
12 for all negative clauses c
13   if c = false
14     return false
15 return true
    
```

How is this a greedy algorithm?

19

A greedy solution

```

HORN(H)
1 set all variables to false
2 for all implications i
3   if EMPTY(LHS(i))
4     RHS(i) ← true
5 changed ← true
6 while changed
7   changed ← false
8   for all implications i
9     if LHS(i) = true and !RHS(i) = true
10      RHS(i) ← true
11      changed = true
12 for all negative clauses c
13   if c = false
14     return false
15 return true
    
```

How is this a greedy algorithm?

Make a greedy decision about which variables to set and then moves on

20

Correctness of greedy solution

Two parts:

- If our algorithm returns an assignment, is it a valid assignment?
- If our algorithm does not return an assignment, does an assignment exist?

21

Correctness of greedy solution

If our algorithm returns an assignment, is it a valid assignment?

```

HORN(H)
1  set all variables to false
2  for all implications i
3      if EMPTY(LHS(i))
4          RHS(i) ← true
5  changed ← true
6  while changed
7      changed ← false
8      for all implications i
9          if LHS(i) = true and !RHS(i) = true
10             RHS(i) ← true
11             changed = true
12 for all negative clauses c
13     if c = false
14         return false
15 return true
  
```

22

Correctness of greedy solution

If our algorithm returns an assignment, is it a valid assignment?

```

HORN(H)
1  set all variables to false
2  for all implications i
3      if EMPTY(LHS(i))
4          RHS(i) ← true
5  changed ← true
6  while changed
7      changed ← false
8      for all implications i
9          if LHS(i) = true and !RHS(i) = true
10             RHS(i) ← true
11             changed = true
12 for all negative clauses c
13     if c = false
14         return false
15 return true
  
```

explicitly check all negative clauses

23

Correctness of greedy solution

If our algorithm returns an assignment, is it a valid assignment?

```

HORN(H)
1  set all variables to false
2  for all implications i
3      if EMPTY(LHS(i))
4          RHS(i) ← true
5  changed ← true
6  while changed
7      changed ← false
8      for all implications i
9          if LHS(i) = true and !RHS(i) = true
10             RHS(i) ← true
11             changed = true
12 for all negative clauses c
13     if c = false
14         return false
15 return true
  
```

don't stop until all implications with all lhs elements true have rhs true

24

Correctness of greedy solution

If our algorithm does not return an assignment, does an assignment exist?

```

HORN(H)
1 set all variables to false
2 for all implications i
3   if EMPTY(LHS(i))
4     RHS(i) ← true
5 changed ← true
6 while changed
7   changed ← false
8   for all implications i
9     if LHS(i) = true and !RHS(i) = true
10      RHS(i) ← true
11      changed = true
12 for all negative clauses c
13   if c = false
14     return false
15 return true
  
```

Our algorithm is “stingy”. It only sets those variables that **have to be true**. All others remain **false**.

25

Correctness of greedy solution

If our algorithm does not return an assignment, does an assignment exist?

```

HORN(H)
1 set all variables to false
2 for all implications i
3   if EMPTY(LHS(i))
4     RHS(i) ← true
5 changed ← true
6 while changed
7   changed ← false
8   for all implications i
9     if LHS(i) = true and !RHS(i) = true
10      RHS(i) ← true
11      changed = true
12 for all negative clauses c
13   if c = false
14     return false
15 return true
  
```

26

Running time?

```

HORN(H)
1 set all variables to false
2 for all implications i
3   if EMPTY(LHS(i))
4     RHS(i) ← true
5 changed ← true
6 while changed
7   changed ← false
8   for all implications i
9     if LHS(i) = true and !RHS(i) = true
10      RHS(i) ← true
11      changed = true
12 for all negative clauses c
13   if c = false
14     return false
15 return true
  
```

?

n = number of variables
 m = number of formulas

27

Running time?

```

HORN(H)
1 set all variables to false
2 for all implications i
3   if EMPTY(LHS(i))
4     RHS(i) ← true
5 changed ← true
6 while changed
7   changed ← false
8   for all implications i
9     if LHS(i) = true and !RHS(i) = true
10      RHS(i) ← true
11      changed = true
12 for all negative clauses c
13   if c = false
14     return false
15 return true
  
```

 $O(nm)$

n = number of variables
 m = number of formulas

28

Data compression

Given a file containing some data of a fixed alphabet Σ (e.g. A, B, C, D), we would like to pick a binary character code that minimizes the number of bits required to represent the data.

minimize the size of the encoded file

ACADAADB ...

→

0010100100100 ...

29

Compression algorithms

General purpose

- Run-length encoding (RLE) - a simple scheme that provides good compression of data containing lots of runs of the same value.
- Lempel-Ziv (LZ) (LZ77, Lempel-Ziv-Markov chain (LZMK), used by GIF images and sometimes among many other applications).
- DEFLATE - used by gzip, ZIP (block vector ZD), and as part of the compression process of Portable Network Graphics (PNG), Flash (to Flash Protocol (FPFL), FPFL, SWF).
- LZSS - using the Burrows-Wheeler transform, this provides slower but higher compression than DEFLATE.
- Lempel-Ziv-Oberhumer (LZO) - used by 7zip, etc. and other programs; higher compression than LZSS as well as much faster decompression.
- Lempel-Ziv-Coder (LZC) - designed for compression/decompression based on the expense of compression ratio.
- Statistical Lempel-Ziv - a combination of statistical method and dictionary-based method, better compression ratio than using single method.

Audio

- Free Lossless Audio Codec - FLAC
- Apple Lossless - ALAC (Apple Lossless Audio Codec)
- uLAW - Lossless
- Adaptive Transform Acoustic Coding - ATAC
- Audio Lossless Coding - also known as WPE/ALB
- MP3DLX (DLX) - also known as HD-AAC
- Direct Stream Transfer - DST
- Dirac TrueHD
- ATRAC3 Master Audio
- Variable Lossless Packing - MLP
- Monkey's Audio - Monkey's Audio APE
- Opus (FLOSS)
- Original Sound Quality - OSQ
- RealTime - RealAudio Lossless
- Decision - SDP
- TTA - True Audio Lossless
- WavePack - WavePack Lossless
- WMA Lossless - Windows Media Lossless

Graphics

- zlib - lossless RLE compression of Argo (FF Images)
- JPEG - standard or lossy compression of BMW (images)
- JPEG-XR - Revolutionary Lossless compression standard
- JPEG 2000 - includes lossless compression method, as proven by Sanku Kumar, Prof San Diego State University
- JPEG-SI - formerly JMH/MS and J2C/Pro, includes a lossless compression method
- FLIC - Progressive Graphics File (lossless or lossy compression)
- FLI - Progressive Network Graphics
- TIF - Tagged Image File Format
- Graphics (GIF) - Optimized gif files
- Integration of (GIF) - Optimized png files

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lossless_data_compression

30

Simplifying assumption: frequency only

Assume that we only have character frequency information for a file

ACADAADB ...

=

Symbol	Frequency
A	70
B	3
C	20
D	37

31

Fixed length code

Use $\lceil \log_2 |\Sigma| \rceil$ bits for each character

A =
B =
C =
D =

32

Fixed length code

Use $\lceil \log_2 \Sigma \rceil$ bits for each character

A = 00 $2 \times 70 +$
 B = 01 $2 \times 3 +$
 C = 10 $2 \times 20 +$
 D = 11 $2 \times 37 =$
 260 bits

Symbol	Frequency
A	70
B	3
C	20
D	37

How many bits to encode the file?

33

Fixed length code

Use $\lceil \log_2 \Sigma \rceil$ bits for each character

A = 00 $2 \times 70 +$
 B = 01 $2 \times 3 +$
 C = 10 $2 \times 20 +$
 D = 11 $2 \times 37 =$
 260 bits

Symbol	Frequency
A	70
B	3
C	20
D	37

Can we do better?

34

Variable length code

What about:

A = 0 $1 \times 70 +$
 B = 01 $2 \times 3 +$
 C = 10 $2 \times 20 +$
 D = 1 $1 \times 37 =$
 153 bits

Symbol	Frequency
A	70
B	3
C	20
D	37

How many bits to encode the file?

35

Decoding a file

A = 0 010100011010
 B = 01
 C = 10
 D = 1

What characters does this sequence represent?

36

Decoding a file

A = 0
B = 01
C = 10
D = 1

010100011010
}
A D or B?

What characters does this sequence represent?

37

Variable length code

What about:

A = 0
B = 100
C = 101
D = 11

Is it decodeable?

Symbol	Frequency
A	70
B	3
C	20
D	37

38

Variable length code

What about:

A = 0 1 x 70 +
B = 100 3 x 3 +
C = 101 3 x 20 +
D = 11 2 x 37 =

213 bits
(18% reduction)

Symbol	Frequency
A	70
B	3
C	20
D	37

How many bits to encode the file?

39

Prefix codes

A prefix code is a set of codes where no codeword is a **prefix** of any other codeword

A = 0
B = 01
C = 10
D = 1

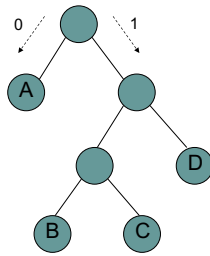
A = 0
B = 100
C = 101
D = 11

40

Prefix tree

We can encode a prefix code using a **full** binary tree where each leaf represents an encoding of a symbol

- A = 0
- B = 100
- C = 101
- D = 11

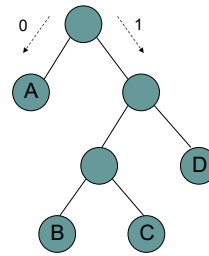


41

Decoding using a prefix tree

To decode, we traverse the graph until a leaf node is reached and output the symbol

- A = 0
- B = 100
- C = 101
- D = 11

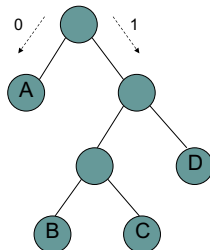


42

Decoding using a prefix tree

Traverse the graph until a leaf node is reached and output the symbol

1000111010100

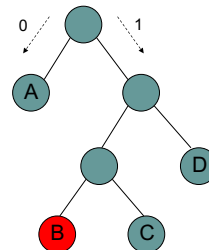


43

Decoding using a prefix tree

Traverse the graph until a leaf node is reached and output the symbol

1000|111010100
B

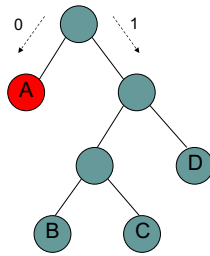


44

Decoding using a prefix tree

Traverse the graph until a leaf node is reached and output the symbol

1000|111010100
B A

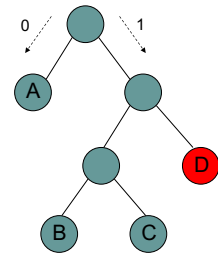


45

Decoding using a prefix tree

Traverse the graph until a leaf node is reached and output the symbol

1000|111|010100
B A D

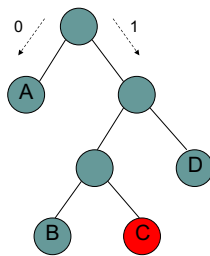


46

Decoding using a prefix tree

Traverse the graph until a leaf node is reached and output the symbol

1000|111|010|0100
B A D C

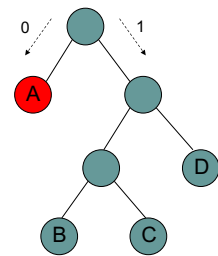


47

Decoding using a prefix tree

Traverse the graph until a leaf node is reached and output the symbol

1000|111|010|0100
B A D C A

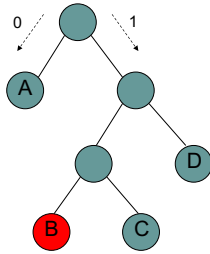


48

Decoding using a prefix tree

Traverse the graph until a leaf node is reached and output the symbol

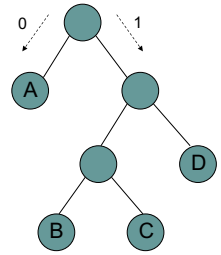
1000111010100
 B A D C A B



49

Determining the cost of a file

Symbol	Frequency
A	70
B	3
C	20
D	37

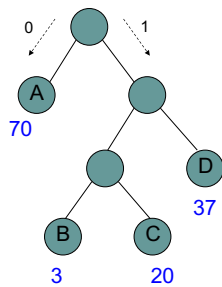


50

Determining the cost of a file

Symbol	Frequency
A	70
B	3
C	20
D	37

$$\text{cost}(T) = \sum_{i=1}^n f_i \text{depth}(i)$$

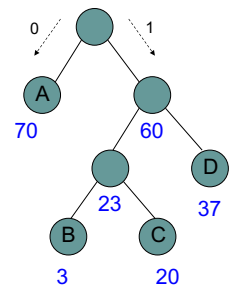


51

Determining the cost of a file

Symbol	Frequency
A	70
B	3
C	20
D	37

What if we label the internal nodes with the sum of the children?

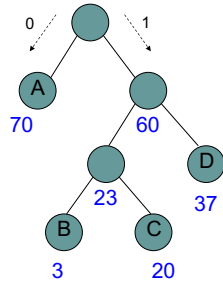


52

Determining the cost of a file

Symbol	Frequency
A	70
B	3
C	20
D	37

Cost is equal to the sum of the internal nodes (excluding the root) and the leaf nodes



53

Determining the cost of a file

As we move down the tree, one bit gets read for every nonroot node

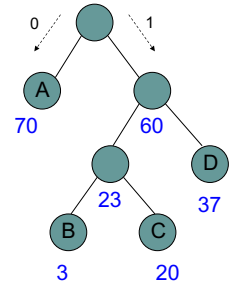
70 times we see a 0 by itself

60 times we see a prefix that starts with a 1

of those, 37 times we see an additional 1

the remaining 23 times we see an additional 0

of these, 20 times we see a last 1 and 3 times a last 0

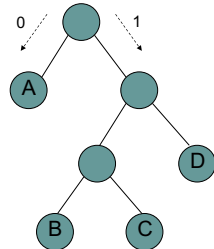


54

A greedy algorithm?

Given file frequencies, can we come up with a prefix-free encoding (i.e. build a prefix tree) that minimizes the number of bits?

Symbol	Frequency
A	70
B	3
C	20
D	37



55

A greedy algorithm?

Given file frequencies, can we come up with a prefix-free encoding (i.e. build a prefix tree) that minimizes the number of bits?

```

HUFFMAN(F)
1  Q ← MAKEHEAP(F)
2  for i ← 1 to |Q| - 1
3      allocate a new node z
4      left[z] ← x ← EXTRACTMIN(Q)
5      right[z] ← y ← EXTRACTMIN(Q)
6      f[z] ← f[x] + f[y]
7      INSERT(Q, z)
8  return EXTRACTMIN(Q)
    
```

56

```

HUFFMAN(F)
1 Q ← MAKEHEAP(F)
2 for i ← 1 to |Q| - 1
3   allocate a new node z
4   left[z] ← x ← EXTRACTMIN(Q)
5   right[z] ← y ← EXTRACTMIN(Q)
6   f[z] ← f[x] + f[y]
7   INSERT(Q, z)
8 return EXTRACTMIN(Q)
    
```

Symbol	Frequency
A	70
B	3
C	20
D	37

Heap

57

```

HUFFMAN(F)
1 Q ← MAKEHEAP(F)
2 for i ← 1 to |Q| - 1
3   allocate a new node z
4   left[z] ← x ← EXTRACTMIN(Q)
5   right[z] ← y ← EXTRACTMIN(Q)
6   f[z] ← f[x] + f[y]
7   INSERT(Q, z)
8 return EXTRACTMIN(Q)
    
```

Symbol	Frequency
A	70
B	3
C	20
D	37

Heap

B 3
C 20
D 37
A 70

58

```

HUFFMAN(F)
1 Q ← MAKEHEAP(F)
2 for i ← 1 to |Q| - 1
3   allocate a new node z
4   left[z] ← x ← EXTRACTMIN(Q)
5   right[z] ← y ← EXTRACTMIN(Q)
6   f[z] ← f[x] + f[y]
7   INSERT(Q, z)
8 return EXTRACTMIN(Q)
    
```

Symbol	Frequency
A	70
B	3
C	20
D	37

Heap

merging with this node will incur an additional cost of 23 →

BC	23
D	37
A	70

59

```

HUFFMAN(F)
1 Q ← MAKEHEAP(F)
2 for i ← 1 to |Q| - 1
3   allocate a new node z
4   left[z] ← x ← EXTRACTMIN(Q)
5   right[z] ← y ← EXTRACTMIN(Q)
6   f[z] ← f[x] + f[y]
7   INSERT(Q, z)
8 return EXTRACTMIN(Q)
    
```

Symbol	Frequency
A	70
B	3
C	20
D	37

Heap

BCD	60
A	70

60

```

HUFFMAN(F)
1 Q ← MAKEHEAP(F)
2 for i ← 1 to |Q| - 1
3   allocate a new node z
4   left[z] ← x ← EXTRACTMIN(Q)
5   right[z] ← y ← EXTRACTMIN(Q)
6   f[z] ← f[x] + f[y]
7   INSERT(Q, z)
8 return EXTRACTMIN(Q)
    
```

Symbol	Frequency
A	70
B	3
C	20
D	37

Heap

ABCD 130

61

What is the code?

Symbol	Frequency
A	70
B	3
C	20
D	37

62

What is the code?

Symbol	Frequency
A	70
B	3
C	20
D	37

A: 1
 B: 000
 C: 001
 D: 01

63

Is it correct?

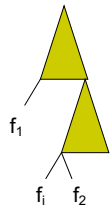
The algorithm selects the symbols with the two smallest frequencies first (call them f_1 and f_2)

64

Is it correct?

The algorithm selects the symbols with the two smallest frequencies first (call them f_1 and f_2)

Consider a tree that did not do this (proof by contradiction):



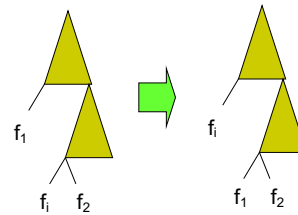
Is it optimal?

65

Is it correct?

The algorithm selects the symbols with the two smallest frequencies first (call them f_1 and f_2)

Consider a tree that did not do this:



$$\text{cost}(T) = \sum_{i=1}^n f_i \text{depth}(i)$$

- frequencies don't change
- cost will decrease since $f_1 < f_i$

contradiction

66

Runtime?

HUFFMAN(F)

```

1  Q ← MAKEHEAP(F)
2  for i ← 1 to |Q| - 1
3      allocate a new node z
4      left[z] ← x ← EXTRACTMIN(Q)
5      right[z] ← y ← EXTRACTMIN(Q)
6      f[z] ← f[x] + f[y]
7      INSERT(Q, z)
8  return EXTRACTMIN(Q)
    
```

1 call to MakeHeap

2(n-1) calls ExtractMin

n-1 calls Insert

$O(n \log n)$

67

HUFFMAN(F)

```

1  Q ← MAKEHEAP(F)
2  for i ← 1 to |Q| - 1
3      allocate a new node z
4      left[z] ← x ← EXTRACTMIN(Q)
5      right[z] ← y ← EXTRACTMIN(Q)
6      f[z] ← f[x] + f[y]
7      INSERT(Q, z)
8  return EXTRACTMIN(Q)
    
```

Symbol	Frequency
A	5
B	20
C	10
D	13
E	9

What is the tree?

What is the encoding?

How many bits to encode the file?

68

Non-optimal greedy algorithms

All the greedy algorithms we've looked at so far give the optimal answer

Some of the most common greedy algorithms generate good, but non-optimal solutions

- set cover
- clustering
- hill-climbing
- relaxation

69

Knapsack problems: Greedy or not?

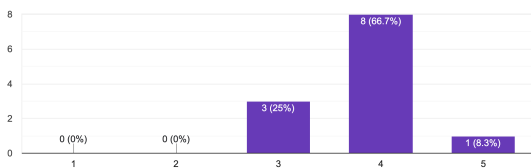
0-1 Knapsack – A thief robbing a store finds n items worth v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n dollars and weight w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n pounds, where v_i and w_i are integers. The thief can carry at most W pounds in the knapsack. Which items should the thief take if he wants to maximize value.

Fractional knapsack problem – Same as above, but the thief happens to be at the bulk section of the store and can carry fractional portions of the items. For example, the thief could take 20% of item i for a weight of $0.2w_i$ and a value of $0.2v_i$.

70

Course feedback

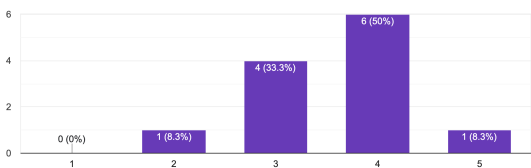
Overall, how is the class going?
12 responses



71

Course feedback

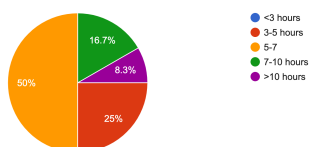
How is the difficulty of the class?
12 responses



72

Course feedback

About how many hours a week do you spend on this class?
12 responses



73

Course feedback

I love proving things and looking at the Math behind the concepts from CS62.

the group assignments

Honestly I just really like the little comics at the start of every homework

74

Course feedback

lectures are wayyy too fast, barely enough time to process things so it feels pointless to take notes; current course content is comprehensive and makes sense but it feels disorganized, like different content stitched together sort of so...

Having more examples, or going through the slides a bit slower

75

Course feedback

The homeworks are a lot of work and the mentors are super helpful but someone's even they don't have the solutions and that wastes hours of our time. I think homeworks can have more straight forward problems that show we understand things rather than problems that we always have to scavenge the internet and bug mentors for understandings.

76

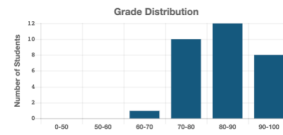
Course feedback

During Class, could we have some more exercises along with the lecture contents?



77

Checkpoint 1



Mean/Median: 17.5 (83%)



78