Introduction to Algorithms 0-1 Knapsack Problem

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Knapsack Problem

- The knapsack problem is a NP-complete problem of combinatorial optimization. Similar problems often appear in the fields of business, mathematics, computational complexity theory, cryptography, and applied mathematics.
- The knapsack problem has been studied for more than a century, with early works dating as far back as 1897.
- Application: find the least wasteful way to cut raw materials, choose investment and portfolio, choose asset-backed asset securitization, generate keys for Merkle-Hellman and other backpack cryptosystems.

Knapsack Problem

- Suppose we are planning a hiking trip; and we are, therefore, interested in filling a knapsack with items that are considered necessary for the trip.
- There are n different item types that are deemed desirable; these could include bottle of water, apple, orange, sandwich, and so forth. Each item type has a given set of two attributes, namely a weight (or volume) and a value that quantifies the level of importance associated with each unit of that type of item.
- Since the knapsack has a limited weight (or volume) capacity, the problem of interest is to figure out how to load the knapsack with a combination of units of the specified types of items that yields the greatest total value.

Knapsack Problem

Problem Definition(Knapsack):

- ► Input: Knapsack takes a set S of n items, each with benefit b_i and weight w_i, and a knapsack with weight bound W (for simplicity we assume that all elements have w_i ≤ W).
- Output: Find a subset of items $I \subseteq S$ that maximizes $\sum_{i \in I} b_i$, and satisfies the constraint $\sum_{i \in I} w_i \leq W$.

Knapsack Problem

There are two versions of the problem:

- Fractional knapsack problem: Items are divisible; you can take any fraction of an item.
- 0-1 knapsack problem: Items are indivisible; you either take an item or not.

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Greedy Algorithm for Knapsack

Greedy-Algorithm()

- 1: Sort items in non-increasing order of $\frac{b_i}{w}$.
- 2: Greedily pick items in the above order.
- To solve the fractional problem, we first compute the benefit per weight b_i/w_i for each item;
- Obeying a greedy strategy, we begins by taking as much as possible of the item with the greatest value per pound;
- Then we takes the next greatest valuable item, and so forth until he fills the knapsack;
- Thus, by sorting the items by value per pound, the greedy algorithm runs in O(nlgn) time.
- The fractional knapsack problem has the greedy-choice property. ロト (周) (日) (日) (日) (日) (日)

Greedy Algorithm for Knapsack

- ▶ But this greedy strategy does not work for the 0-1 knapsack problem. To see the reason, consider the problem instance illustrated in Figure 16.2(a).
- ▶ The benefit per weight of item 1 is 6 per weight, which is greater than that of either item 2 (5 per weight) or item 3 (4 per weight).
- However, the optimal solution takes items 2 and 3, leaving 1 behind. The two possible solutions that involve item 1 are both suboptimal.



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Greedy Algorithm for Knapsack

- ▶ The reason is that taking item 1 we are unable to fill the knapsack to capacity, and the empty space lowers the effective profit per size of our load.
- But for the comparable fractional problem, the greedy strategy, which takes item 1 first, does yield an optimal solution, as shown in Figure 16.2(c).



Greedy Algorithm for Knapsack: Very Bad

Greedy performs arbitraruly bad in the worst case.

Assume that there are two items. The first one has weight $\varepsilon > 0$ and benefit 2ε , and the second one has weight B and benefit B. The capacity of the knapsack is B.

Our greedy algorithm will only pick the small item, and the benefit is 2ε . The optimal solution is to pick the second item, with benefit B. This example makes this greedy method a pretty bad algorithm.

Greedy-Redux Algorithm for Knapsack: Small Twist

Therefore, we make the following small adjustment to our greedy algorithm:

Greedy-Algorithm Redux()

- 1: Sort items in non-increasing order of $\frac{b_i}{w_i}$ // we here denote each item as a_i , where $1 \le i \le n$.
- 2: Greedily add items until we hit an item a_i that is too big. $(\sum_{k=1}^{i} w_k > W \ge \sum_{k=1}^{i-1} w_k).$
- 3: Pick the better of $\{a_1, a_2, ..., a_{i-1}\}$ and a_i .

Greedy-Redux Algorithm for Knapsack: Bounded Approximation Ratio

Theorem: Greedy Algorithm Redux is a 2-approximation for the knapsack problem.

Proof: We employed a greedy algorithm. Therefore we can say that if our solution is suboptimal, we must have some leftover space W_{rest} at the end. Imagine for a second that our algorithm was able to take a fraction of an item. Then, by adding $\frac{W_{rest}}{w_i} b_i$ to our knapsack value, we would either match or exceed OPT (remember that OPT is unable to take fractional items), i.e., $\sum_{k=1}^{i-1} b_k + \frac{W_{rest}}{w_i} b_i \ge OPT$.

Therefore, either $\sum_{k=1}^{i-1} b_k \ge \frac{1}{2}OPT$ or $b_i \ge \frac{W_{rest}}{w_i} b_i \ge \frac{1}{2}OPT$

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Dynamic Programming

- We can do better with an algorithm based on dynamic programming.
- We need to carefully identify the subproblems.

Dynamic Programming

Defining a Subproblem

- Given a knapsack with maximum capacity W, and a set S consisting of n items
- Each item i has some weight w_i and benefit b_i (Here, we can assume all w_i and W are integer values.)
- Problem: How to pack the knapsack to achieve maximum total value of packed items?
- Let's add another parameter: w, which will represent the weight of the knapsack for a subproblem.

Dynamic Programming

Defining a Subproblem

- ▶ The subproblem will then be to compute V[k,w], i.e., to find an optimal solution for S_k = items labeled1,2,..k in a knapsack of size w
- ► Assuming knowing V[i,j], where i = 0, 1, 2, ..., k − 1, j = 0, 1, 2, ..., w, how to derive V[k,w]?

Dynamic Programming

Recursive Formula for subproblems:

$$\label{eq:Vk} \mathbf{V}[\mathbf{k},\mathbf{w}] = \begin{cases} \mathbf{V}[\mathbf{k}-1,\mathbf{w}] & \text{if } \mathbf{w}_{\mathbf{k}} > \mathbf{w} \\ \max\{\mathbf{V}[\mathbf{k}-1,\mathbf{w}],\mathbf{V}[\mathbf{k}-1.\mathbf{w}-\mathbf{w}_{\mathbf{k}}] + \mathbf{b}_{\mathbf{k}}\} & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

It means, that the best subset of S_k that has total weight w is:

- ▶ the best subset of S_{k-1} that has total weight $\leq w$, or
- ▶ the best subset of S_{k-1} that has total weight $\leq w w_k$ plus the item k

Dynamic Programming

DP for knapsack()
1: for
$$w = 0$$
 to W do
2: $V[0,w]=0$
3: for $i = 1$ to n do
4: $V[i,0]=0$
5: for $i = 1$ to n do
6: for $w = 0$ to W do
7: if $w_i \le W$ then
8: if $b_i + V[i-1, w - w_i] > V[i-1, w]$ then
9: $V[i,w] = b_i + V[i-1, w - w_i]$
10: else
11: $V[i,w] = V[i-1,w]$

Dynamic Programming

• What is the running time of this algorithm? O(nW)

Let's run our algorithm on the following data: n = 4 (number of items) W = 5 (weight bound) Elements (weight, benefit): (2,3), (3,4), (4,5), (5,6)

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Dynamic Programming Example



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Dynamic Programming

How to find actual Knapsack Items

- ▶ All of the information we need is in the table.
- V[n,W] is the maximal value of items that can be placed in the Knapsack.

$$\blacktriangleright \text{ Let } i = n \text{ and } k = W.$$

find actual knapsacks items()

1: if i = n and k = W then

2: mark the i-th item as in the knapsack

3:
$$i = i - 1, k = k - w_i$$

4: else

5: i = i - 1

Dynamic Programming Example



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Discussion : Pseudo-polynomial

Pseudo-polynomial time:

a numeric algorithm runs in pseudo-polynomial time if its running time is a polynomial in the numeric value of the input — but not necessarily in the length of the input (the number of bits required to represent it)

- The Running time of dynamic programming algorithm on 0-1 Knapsack problem is O(W*n), the number W needs logW bits to describe, so it is pseudo-polynomial.
- ▶ Other pseudo-polynomial algorithm: Primality testing

Discussion: Another DP apprach, Pseudo-polynomial

- ▶ Let P be the profit of the most profitable object, i.e. $P = \max_{a \in S} p(a)$. From this, we can upper bound the profit that can be achieved as nP for the n objects. Here, we can assume the benefit of each item are interger values.
- ▶ For each $i \in \{1,...,n\}$ and $p \in \{1,...,nP\}$, let $S_{i,p}$ denote a subset of $\{a_1,...,a_i\}$ that has a total profit of exactly p and takes up the least amount of sapce possible.
- Let A(i, p) be the size of the set S_{i,p}, with a value of ∞ to denote no such subset.
- For A(i,p), we have the base case A(1,p) where A(1,p(a₁)) is s(a₁) and all other values are ∞.

Discussion: Another DP apprach, Pseudo-polynomial

- ► We can use the following recurrence to caculate all values for A(i,p): $A(i+1,p) = \begin{cases} \min\{A(i,p), s(a_{i+1}) + A(i,p-p(a_{i+1}))\}, & \text{if } p(a_{i+1}) \le p\\ A(i,p), & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$
 - ▶ The optimal subset then corresponds with the set $S_{n,p}$ for which p is maximized and $A(n,p) \leq B$. Since this iterates through at most n different values to caculate each A(i,p)we get a total running time of $O(n^2P)$ and thus a pseudo-polynomial algorithm for knapsack.

 It is easy to modify the above DP algorithm to achieve a full polynomial-time approximation scheme (FPTAS) for 0-1 knapsack.

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Another Dynamic Programming for Knapsack

DP for knapsack()

- 1: Let P be the maximum benefit of all items.
- 2: Given $\varepsilon > 0$, let $K = \frac{\varepsilon \cdot P}{n}$.
- 3: for each object a_i do
- 4: define a new profit $p'(a_i) = \lfloor \frac{p(a_i)}{K} \rfloor$.
- 5: With these as profits of n items, using the dynamic programming algorithm presented in previous slide, find the most profitable set, say S'.
- 6: Output S' as the final solution for the original knapsack problem

Another Dynamic Programming for Knapsack

Theorem

The set S', output by the aforementioned algorithm, satisfies that

$$P(S') \ge (1 - \varepsilon) \cdot OPT.$$

Here P(S') denotes the profit (or benefit) from the set S', and OPT is the optimum benefit of the original problem.

Another Dynamic Programming for Knapsack

Proof.

Let O be the optimal set for the original problem, and let P'(X) be the modified profit of set X with profit function p'(). Clearly,

 $p(a) - K \le K \cdot p'(a) \le p(a);$

 $P(O) - K \cdot P'(O) \le n \cdot K.$

Then we have

 $P(S') \ge K \cdot P'(S') \ge K \cdot P'(O) \ge P(O) - nK = OPT - \varepsilon \cdot P \ge (1 - \varepsilon)OPT$

This finishes the proof.

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Discussions: Variations of Knapsack Problem

There are many variations of the knapsack problem that have arisen from the vast number of applications of the basic problem.

- Basic knapsack: n items, each with benefit b_i and weight w_i, and a knapsack with weight bound W.
- Unbounded knapsack problem: For each item a_i, it can be selected unlimited times, i.e., we do not put any upper bounds on the number of times an item may be selected.
- Bounded knapsack problem: For each item a_i, it can only be selected by at most k_i times in the final solution, i.e., there is an upper bound that an item may be selected.
- Multidimensional knapsack problem There are more than one constraints (for example, both a volume limit and a weight limit). This problem has 0-1, bounded, and unbounded etc. variants

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