

Scientific Programming: Algorithms (part B)

Programming paradigms - continued -

Greedy algorithms

Greedy

- Greedy approach: select the choice which appears "locally optimal"
- Area of application: optimization problems

Independent intervals

Input

Let $S = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ be a set of interval of the real line. Each interval $[a_i, b_i[$, with $i \in S$, is closed on the left and open on the right.

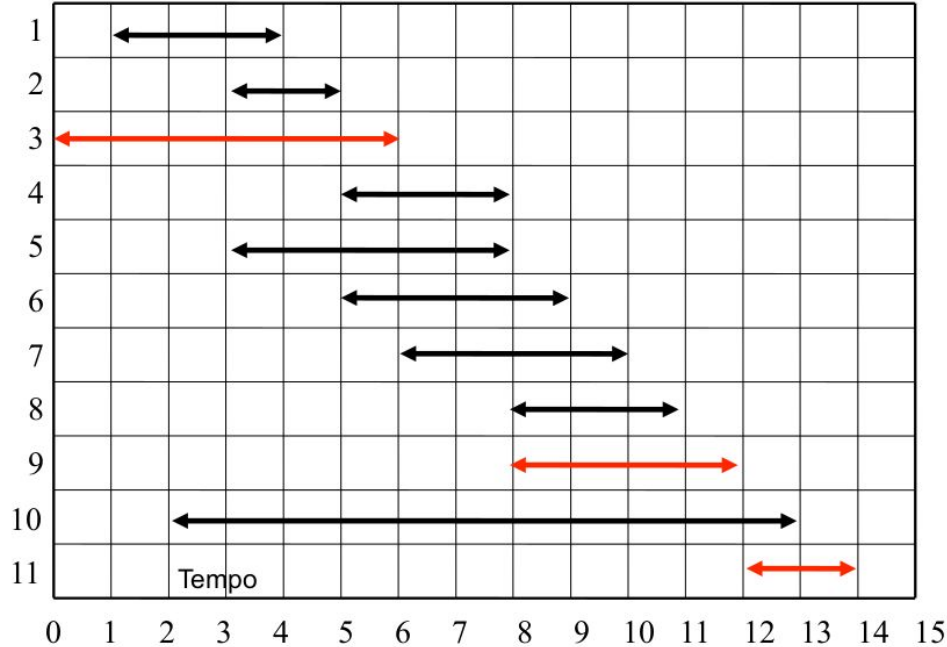
- a_i : starting time
- b_i : finish time

Problem definition

Find a **maximal independent subset**, i.e. a subset that has maximal cardinality and it is composed by completely disjoint intervals.

i	a_i	b_i
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3	0	6
4	5	7
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6	5	9
7	6	10
8	8	11
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Independent intervals



↑
intervals are open on the right, hence these are disjoint

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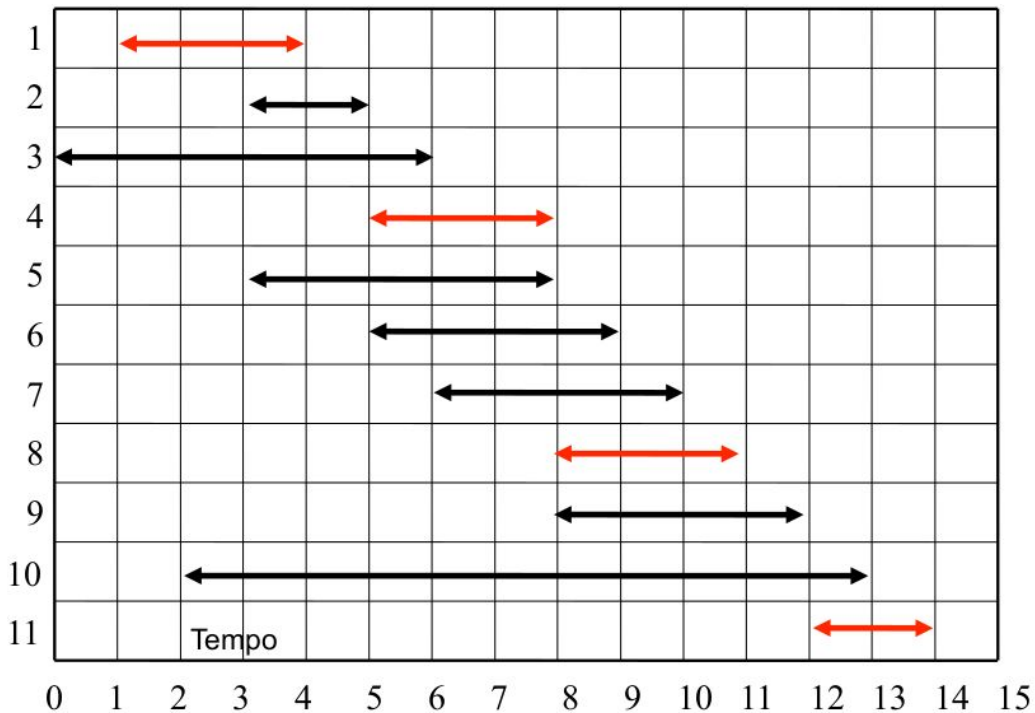
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these three intervals are not maximal!

Independent intervals



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Path to the solution

We start with dynamic programming

- Let's define the problem in a mathematical way
- Let's define the recursive definition

We move to greedy

- Let's search for a greedy choice
- Let's prove that the greedy choice is optimal
- Let's write an iterative algorithm

Optimal substructure

- Assume that the intervals are sorted by finish time:

$$b_1 \leq b_2 \leq \dots \leq b_n$$

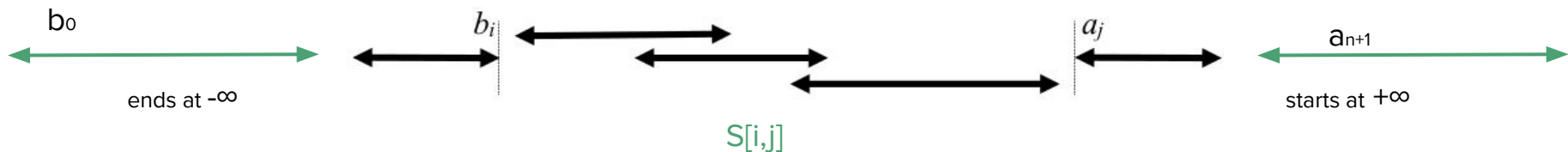
- Let the **subproblem** $S[i, j]$ be the set of intervals that start after the end of i and finish before the start of j :

$$S[i, j] = \{k | b_i \leq a_k < b_k \leq a_j\}$$

- Let's add two "dummy" intervals

- Interval 0: $b_0 = -\infty$
- Interval $n + 1$: $a_{n+1} = +\infty$

- The initial problem corresponds to problem $S[0, n + 1]$

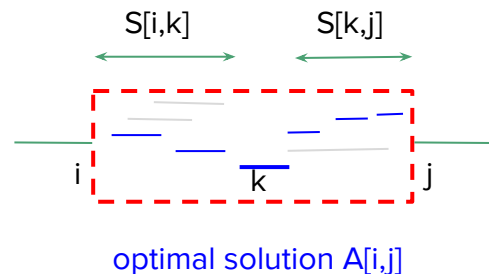


Optimal substructure

Theorem

Let $A[i, j]$ be an optimal solution of $S[i, j]$ and let k be an interval belonging to $A[i, j]$; then

- The problem $S[i, j]$ is subdivided in two subproblems
 - $S[i, k]$: the intervals of $S[i, j]$ that finish before k
 - $S[k, j]$: the intervals of $S[i, j]$ that start after k
- $A[i, j]$ contains the optimal solutions of $S[i, k]$ e $S[k, j]$
 - $A[i, j] \cap S[i, k]$ is an optimal solution of $S[i, k]$
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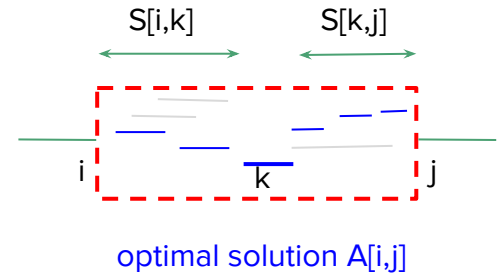
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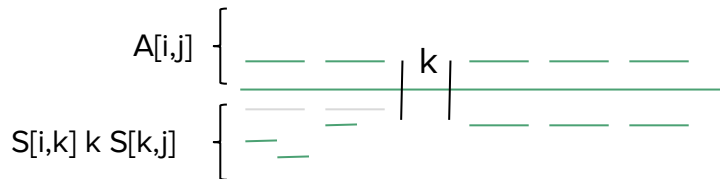
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Proof

We want to prove that if $A[i, j]$ contains the optimal solution of $S[i, j]$ and k is in $A[i, j]$ then it optimally solves $S[i, k]$ and $S[k, j]$. By contradiction:

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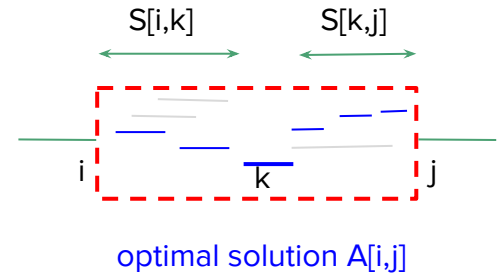
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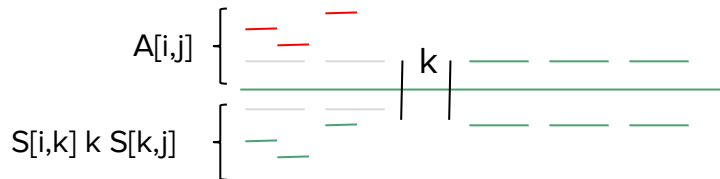
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Recursive formula

Recursive definition of the solution

$$A[i, j] = A[i, k] \cup \{k\} \cup A[k, j]$$

Recursive definition of the cost

- How to identify k ? By trying all the possibilities
- Let $D[i, j]$ the size of the largest subset $A[i, j] \subseteq S[i, j]$ of independent intervals

$$D[i, j] = \begin{cases} 0 & S[i, j] = \emptyset \\ \max_{k \in S[i, j]} \{D[i, k] + D[k, j] + 1\} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

because we chose interval K

Dynamic programming

```
import math

#gets intervals within startI (the interval) and endI
def S(intervals, startI, endI):
    return [x for x in intervals
            if x[0]>=startI[1] and x[1] < endI[0]]

def disjointInt(intervals, i, j, DP):

    s = S(intervals, intervals[i], intervals[j])
    if len(s) == 0:
        return 0
    else:
        if (i,j) not in DP:
            m = 0
            start = intervals.index(s[0])
            end = intervals.index(s[-1])
            for k in range(start,end+1):
                if (i,k) not in DP:
                    DP[(i,k)] = disjointInt(intervals, i, k, DP)
                if (k, j) not in DP:
                    DP[(k, j)] = disjointInt(intervals,k, j, DP)

            m = max(m, DP[(i,k)] + DP[(k, j)] + 1)
            DP[(i,j)] = m

        return DP[(i,j)]

def disjoint_intervals(intervals):
    D = dict()
    return disjointInt(intervals, 0, len(intervals)-1, D)
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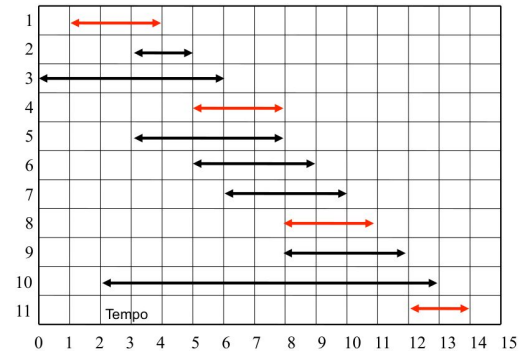
↑
top-down: DP[0,n]

$$D[i, j] = \begin{cases} 0 & S[i, j] = \emptyset \\ \max_{k \in S[i, j]} \{D[i, k] + D[k, j] + 1\} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

```
intervals = [(-math.inf,0), (1,4),(3,5), (0,6), (5,8), (3,8), (5,9), (6,10),(8,11),
             (8,12), (2,13), (12,14), (15,math.inf)]
```

```
print(S(intervals, (1,4), (12,14)))
print(S(intervals, (3,5), (12,14)))
print(S(intervals, intervals[0], intervals[-1]))
print(disjoint_intervals(intervals))
```

```
[(5, 8), (5, 9), (6, 10), (8, 11)]
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4
```



Complexity

Dynamic programming


- The definition allows us to write an algorithm based on dynamic programming or memoization
- Complexity $O(n^3)$: we need to solve all potential problems with $i < j$, and it costs $O(n)$ for each subproblem in the worst case.

Can we do better?

- Are we sure that we need to analyze all the values of k ?

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Greedy choice

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Let $S = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ be a set of interval of the real line. Each interval $[a_i, b_i[$, with $i \in S$, is closed on the left and open on the right.

- a_i : starting time
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Theorem

Let $S[i, j]$ a non-empty subproblem, and let m be the interval of $S[i, j]$ that has the **smallest finish time**, then:

- 1 the subproblem $S[i, m]$ is empty
- 2 m is included in some optimal solution of $S[i, j]$

Proof

1

We know that: $a_m < b_m$ (Interval definition)

We know that: $\forall k \in S[i, j] : b_m \leq b_k$ (m has smallest finish time)

Then: $\forall k \in S[i, j] : a_m < b_k$ (Transitivity)

If no interval in $S[i, j]$ terminates before a_m , then $S[i, m] = \emptyset$

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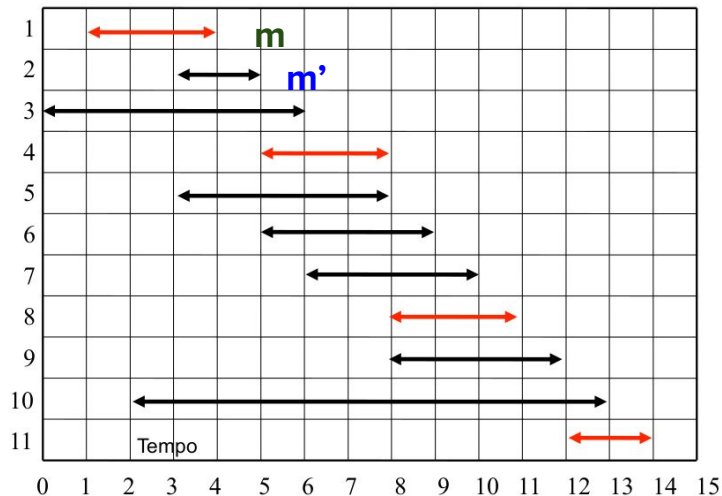
Proof

2

- Let $A'[i, j]$ an optimal solution of $S[i, j]$
- Let $m' \in A'[i, j]$ be the interval with smallest finish time $A'[i, j]$
- Let $A[i, j] = A'[i, j] - \{m'\} \cup \{m\}$ be a new solution obtained by removing m' from and adding m to $A'[i, j]$
- $A[i, j]$ is an optimal solution that contains m , because it has same size of $A'[i, j]$

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Consequences of the theorem

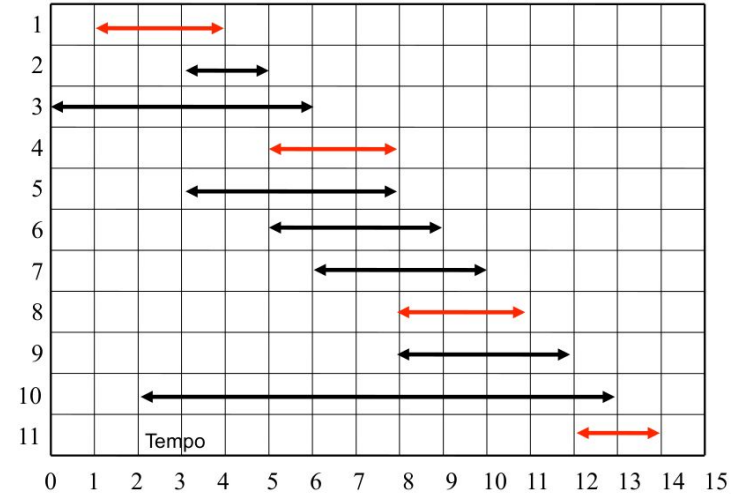
- It's not necessary to analyze all values of k
 - Let's do a "greedy" choice: let's select the activity m with the smallest finish time
- It is not necessary to analyze two subproblems
 - Remove all the activities that are not compatible with the greedy choice
 - We only get a subproblem: $S[m, j]$

Greedy algorithm

```
def disjoint_greedy(intervals):  
    #sort pairs by finishing time  
    #if not sorted  
    intervals.sort(key = lambda x : x[1])  
    S = [0] #first greedy choice  
    last = 0  
    for i in range(1, len(intervals)):  
        if intervals[i][0] >= intervals[last][1]:  
            S.append(i) #other greedy choices  
            last = i  
    return S
```

```
intervals = [ (1,4), (3,5), (0,6), (5,8), (3,8), (5,9), (6,10), (8,11),  
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DI = disjoint_greedy(intervals)  
print(DI)  
for i in DI:  
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Complexity?

If input not sorted: $O(n \log n + n) = O(n \log n)$

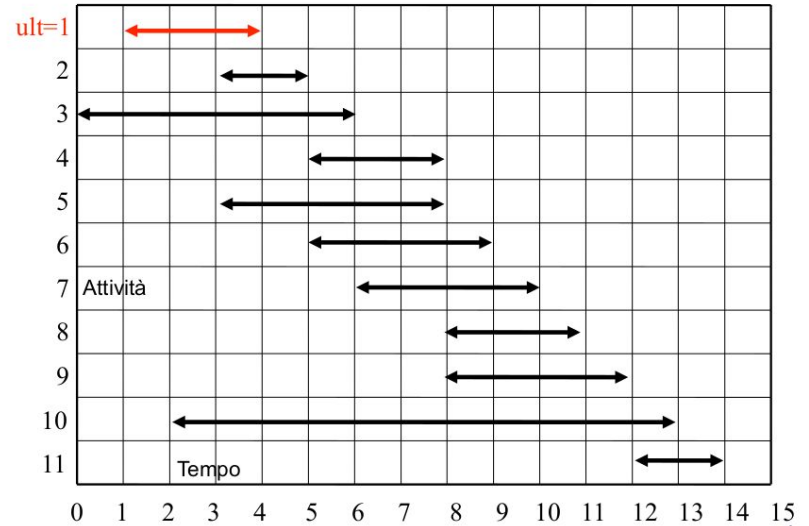
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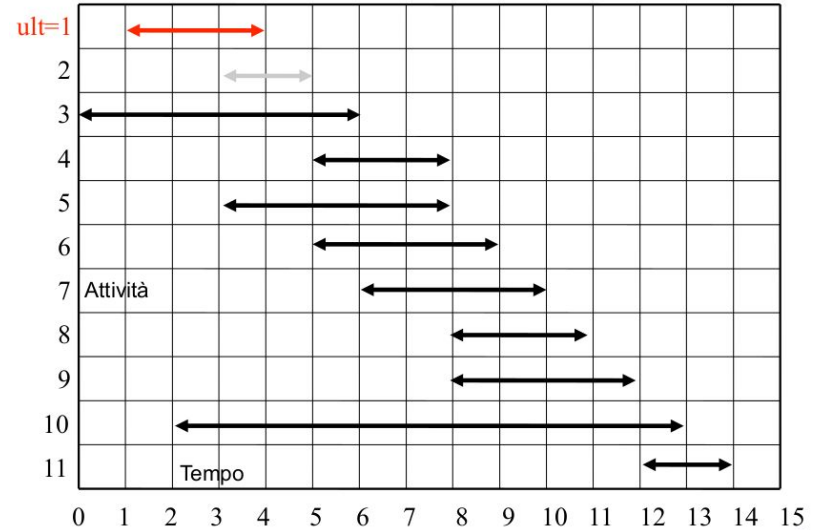
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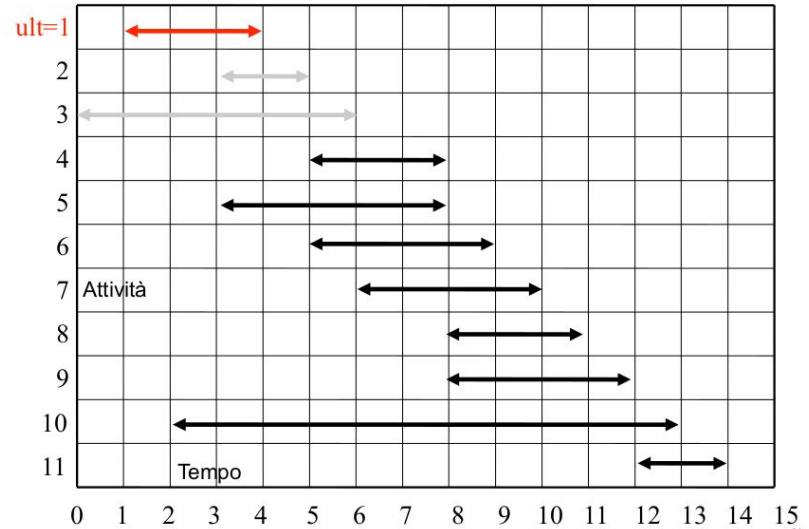
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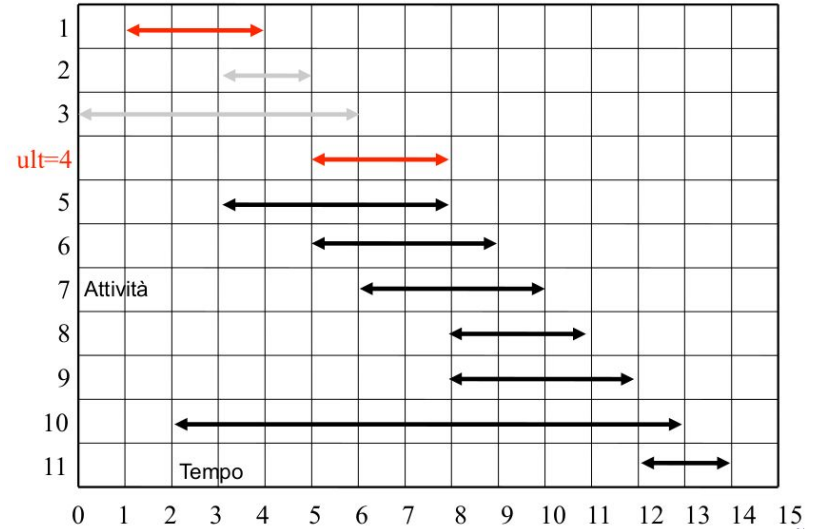
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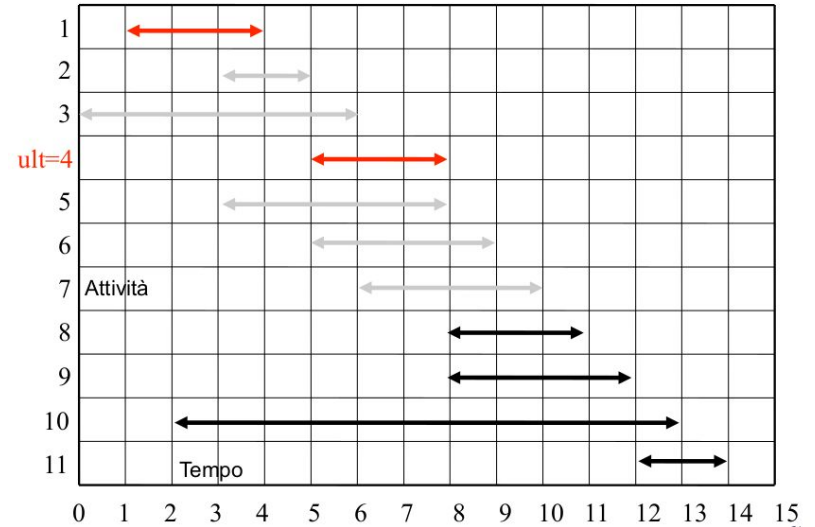
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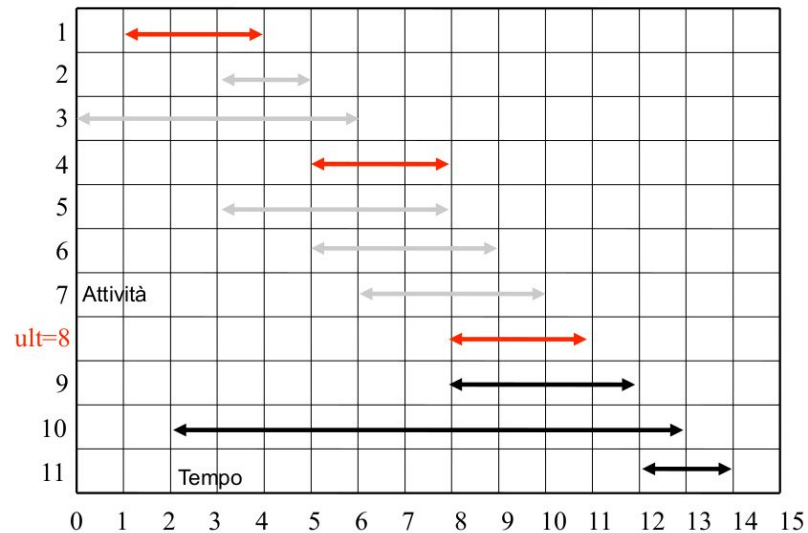
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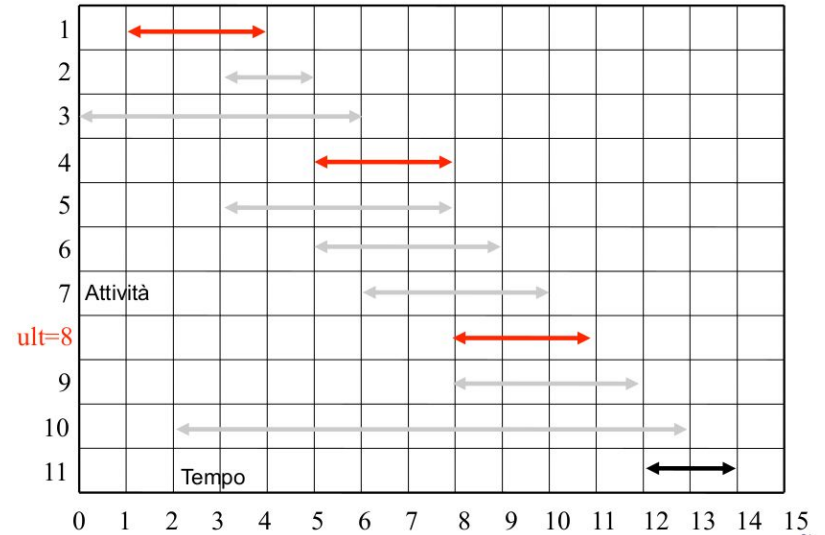
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Complexity

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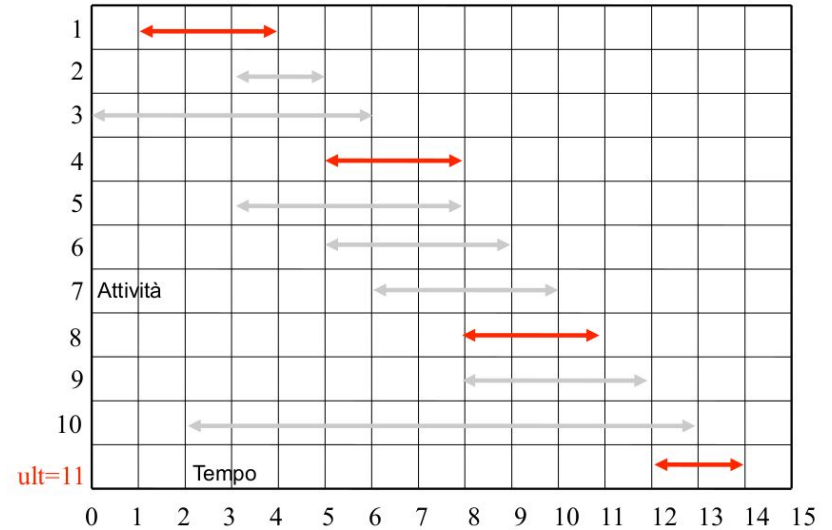
If input sorted: $O(n)$

Greedy algorithm

```
def disjoint_greedy(intervals):  
    #sort pairs by finishing time  
    #if not sorted  
    intervals.sort(key = lambda x : x[1])  
    S = [0] #first greedy choice  
    last = 0  
    for i in range(1, len(intervals)):  
        if intervals[i][0] >= intervals[last][1]:  
            S.append(i) #other greedy choices  
            last = i  
    return S
```

```
intervals = [ (1,4), (3,5), (0,6), (5,8), (3,8), (5,9), (6,10), (8,11),  
              (8,12), (2,13), (12,14)]  
DI = disjoint_greedy(intervals)  
print(DI)  
for i in DI:  
    print(intervals[i], end = " ")
```

```
[0, 3, 7, 10]  
(1, 4) (5, 8) (8, 11) (12, 14)
```

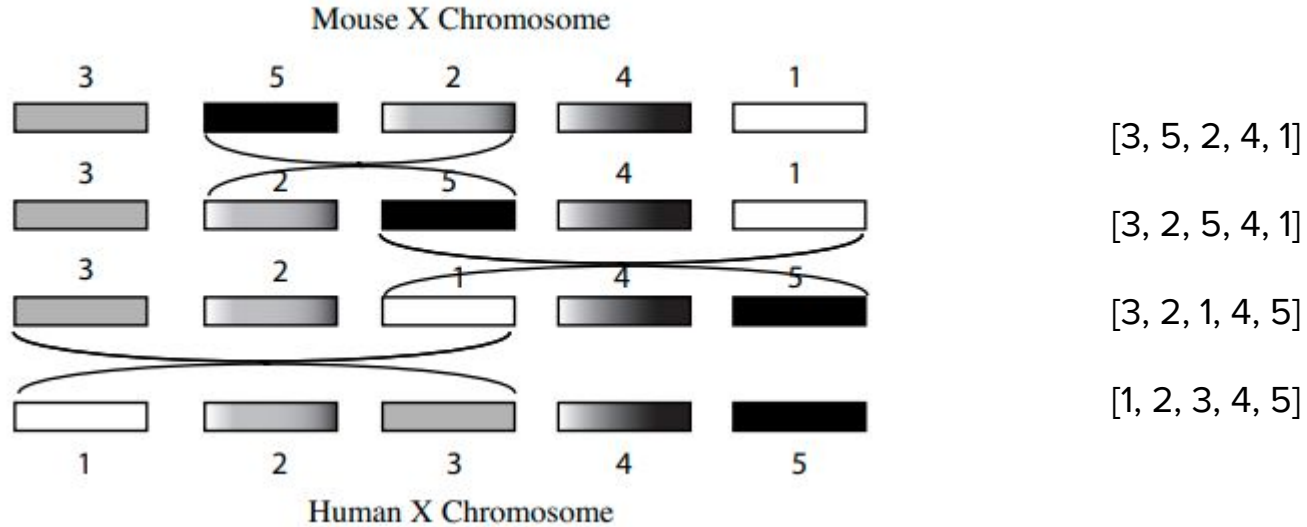


Complexity

If input not sorted: $O(n \log n + n) = O(n \log n)$

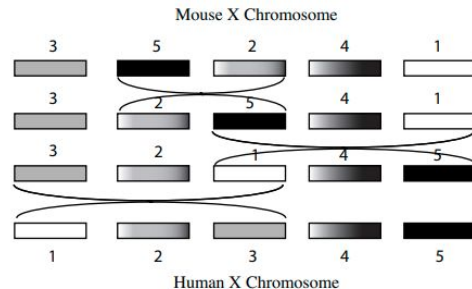
If input sorted: $O(n)$

Genome rearrangements



Transformation of mouse gene order into human gene order on Chr X
(biggest syntenic blocks)

Genome rearrangements



- Syntheny blocks (for a computer scientist: substrings)
- Re-arrangement: reversing the order of a group of syntheny block
- $\pi = \pi_1 \pi_2 \dots \pi_{i-1} \overrightarrow{\pi_i \pi_{i+1} \dots \pi_{j-1} \pi_j} \pi_{j+1} \dots \pi_{n-1} \pi_n$
- $\pi \cdot \rho(i, j) = \pi_1 \pi_2 \dots \pi_{i-1} \overleftarrow{\pi_j \pi_{j-1} \dots \pi_{i+1} \pi_i} \pi_{j+1} \dots \pi_{n-1} \pi_n$
- Example: $\pi = 1\ 2\ \overrightarrow{4\ 3\ 7\ 5}\ 6$, $\pi \cdot \rho(3, 6) = 1\ 2\ \overleftarrow{5\ 7\ 3\ 4}\ 6$

Reversal Distance Problem

Given two permutations, find a shortest series of reversals that transforms one permutation into another

Greedy solution

Reversal Distance Problem

Given two permutations, find a shortest series of reversals that transforms one permutation into another

- We define $prefix(\pi)$ to be the number of already-sorted elements of π
- A sensible strategy for sorting by reversals is to increase $prefix(\pi)$ at every step.
- This leads to an algorithm that sorts a permutation by repeatedly moving its i th element to the i th position.

Greedy solution

Reversal Distance Problem

Given two permutations, find a shortest series of reversals that transforms one permutation into another

```
def simple_reversal_sorting(L):
    n = len(L)
    for i in range(0, n-1):
        j = L.index(i)
        if j != i:
            L[i:j+1] = L[i:j+1][::-1] # rho(i, j)
            print(L)
```

Simple but not optimal!

Approximated algorithms exist...

```
L = [5, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4]
print("In list:\n{}\n".format(L))
simple_reversal_sorting(L)
```

```
L1 = [2, 4, 1, 3, 0]
print("\nIn list:\n{}\n".format(L1))
simple_reversal_sorting(L1)
```

In list:
[2, 4, 1, 3, 0]

[0, 3, 1, 4, 2]
[0, 1, 3, 4, 2]
[0, 1, 2, 4, 3]
[0, 1, 2, 3, 4]

In list:
[5, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4]

[0, 5, 1, 2, 3, 4]
[0, 1, 5, 2, 3, 4]
[0, 1, 2, 5, 3, 4]
[0, 1, 2, 3, 5, 4]
[0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5]

In list:
[5, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4]

[4, 3, 2, 1, 0, 5]
[0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5]

Backtracking

Problem classes (decisional, search, optimization)

- Definition bases on the concept of **admissible solution**: a solution that satisfies a given set of criteria

Typical problems

- Build one or all admissible solution
- Counting the admissible solutions
- Find the admissible solution "largest", "smallest", in general "optimal"

Typical problems

Enumeration

- List algorithmically all possible solutions (search space)
- Example: list all the permutations of a set

Build at least a solution

- We use the algorithm for enumeration, stopping at the first solution found
- Example: identify a sequence of steps in the Fifteen game

we explore all possible solutions building/enumerating them and counting or stopping when we find one



Typical problems

Count the solutions

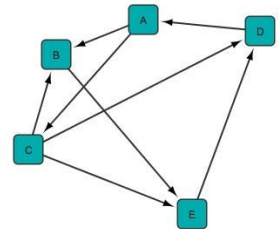
- In some cases, it is possible to count in analytical way
- Example: counting the number of subsets of k elements taken by a set of n elements
- In other cases, we build the solutions and we count them
- Example: number of subsets of a integer set S whose sum is equal to a prime number

$$\frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!}$$

Typical problems

Find optimal solutions

- We enumerate all possible solutions and evaluate them through a cost function
- Only if other techniques are not possible:
 - Dynamic programming
 - Greedy
- Example: Hamiltonian circuit (Traveling salesman)



Build all solutions

To build all the solutions, we use a "brute-force" approach

- Sometimes, it is the only possible way
- The power of modern computer makes possible to deal with problems medium-small problems
 - $10! = 3.63 \cdot 10^6$ (permutation of 10 elements)
 - $2^{20} = 1.05 \cdot 10^6$ (subsets of 20 elements)
- Sometimes, the space of all possible solutions does not need to be analyzed entirely

Backtracking

Approach

- Try to build a solution, if it works you are done else undo it and try again
- “keep trying, you’ll get luckier”

Needs a systematic way to explore the search space looking for the admissible solution(s)



General scheme

General organization

- A solution is represented by a **list S**
- The content of element $S[i]$ is taken from a **set of choices C** that depends on the problem

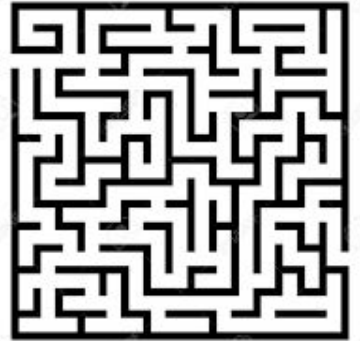
Examples

- C generic set, possible solutions **permutations** of C
- C generic set, possible solutions **subsets** of C
- C game moves, possible solutions **a sequence of moves**
- C edges of a graph, possible solutions **paths**



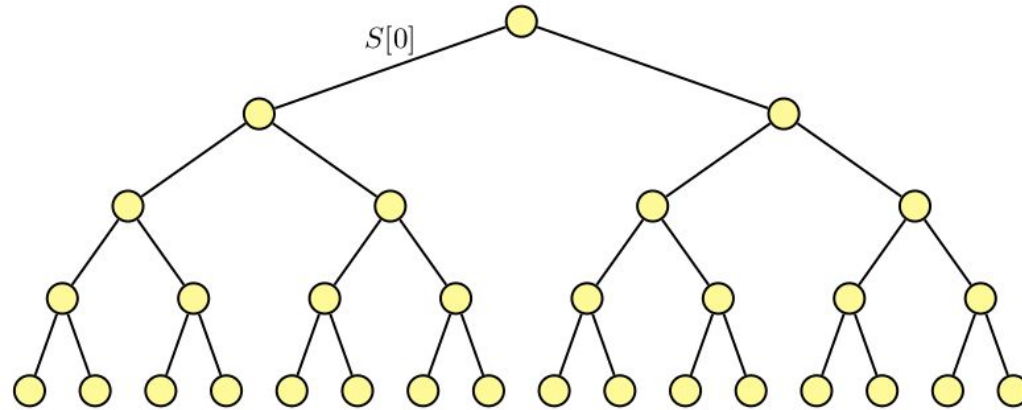
Partial solutions

- At each step, we start from a partial solution S where $k \geq 0$ choices have been already taken
- If $S[0 : k]$ is an admissible solution, we "process" it
 - E.g., we can print it
 - We can then decide to stop here or keep going by listing/printing all solutions
- If $S[0 : k]$ is not a complete solution:
 - If possible, we extended solution $S[0 : k]$ with one of the possible choices to get a solution $S[0 : k + 1]$
 - Otherwise, we "cancel" the element $S[k]$ (backtrack) and we go back to to solution $S[0 : k - 1]$



Decision tree

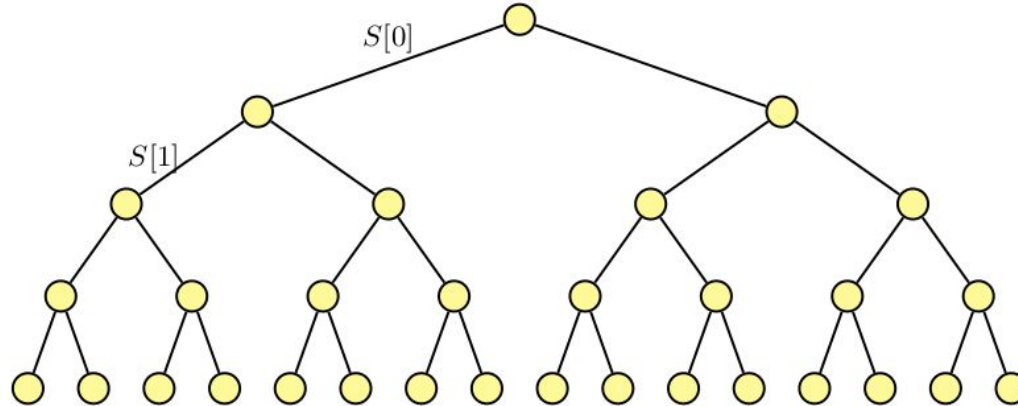
- **Decision tree** \equiv Search space
- **Root** \equiv Empty solution
- **Internal nodes** \equiv Partial solutions
- **Leaves** \equiv Admissible solutions



Note: the decision tree is “virtual” we do not need to store it all...

Decision tree

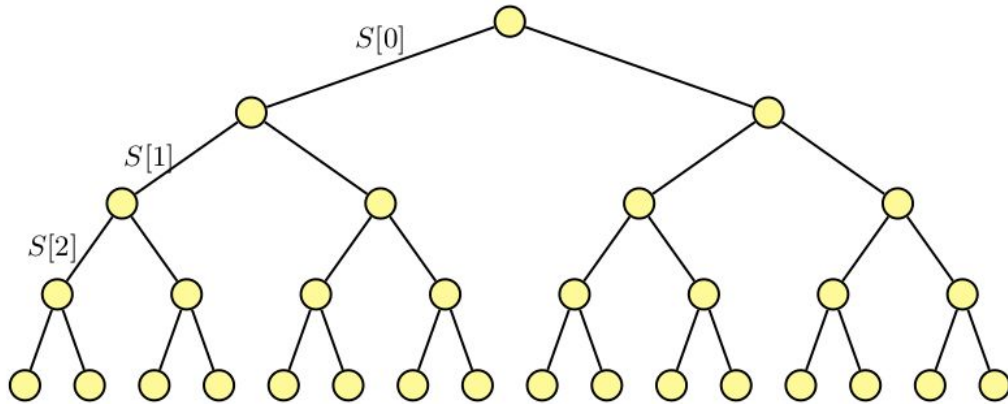
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Decision tree

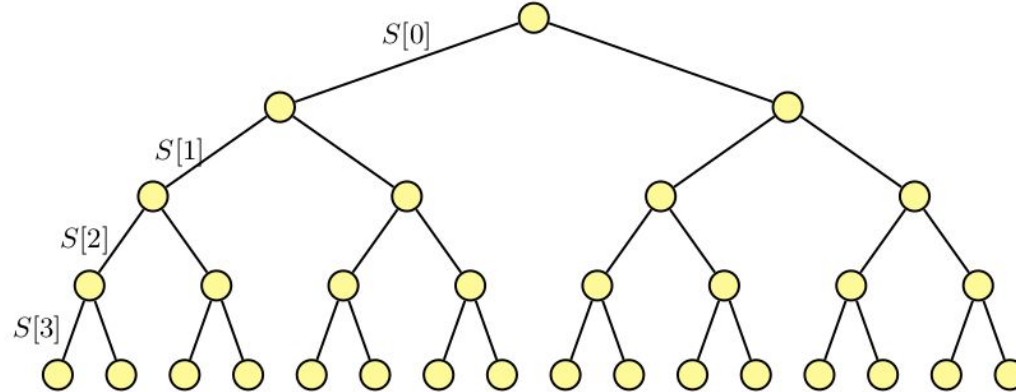
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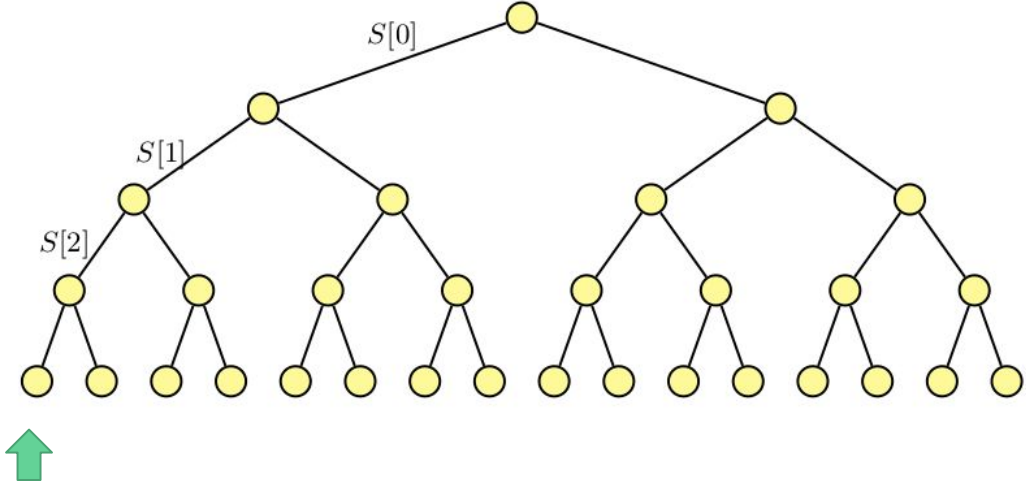


process or ignore the
solution

Note: the decision tree
is “virtual” we do not
need to store it all...

Decision tree

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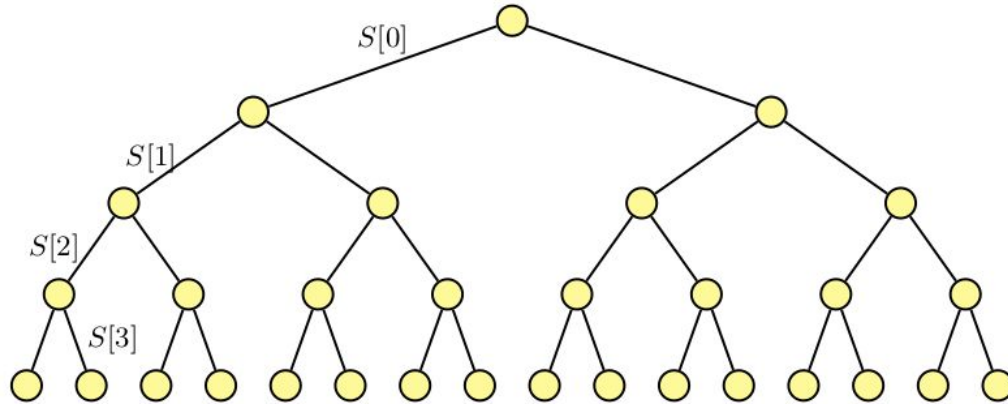


solution ignored

Note: the decision tree is “virtual” we do not need to store it all...

Decision tree

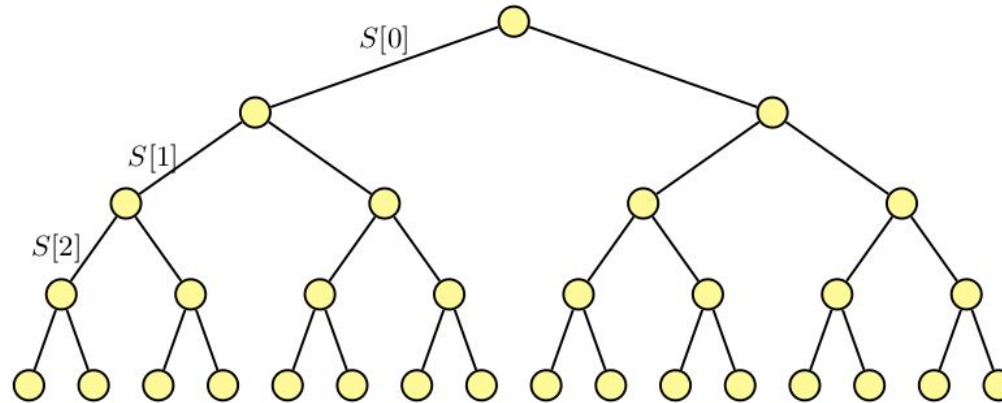
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Decision tree

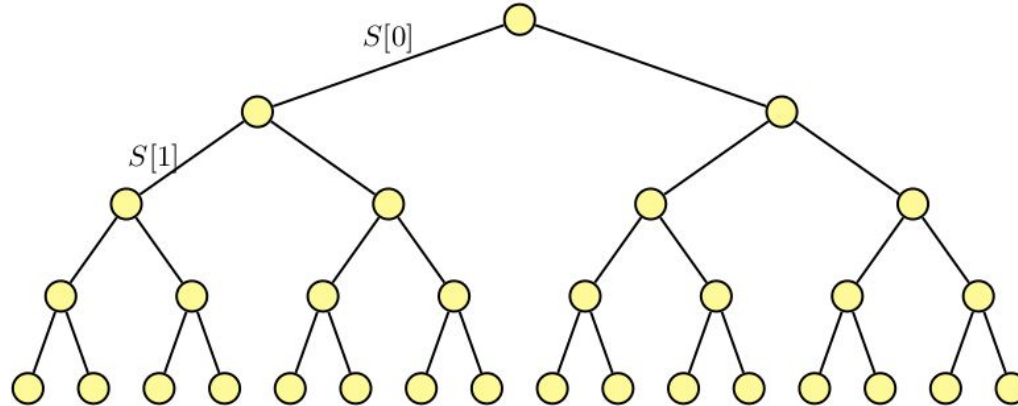
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Decision tree

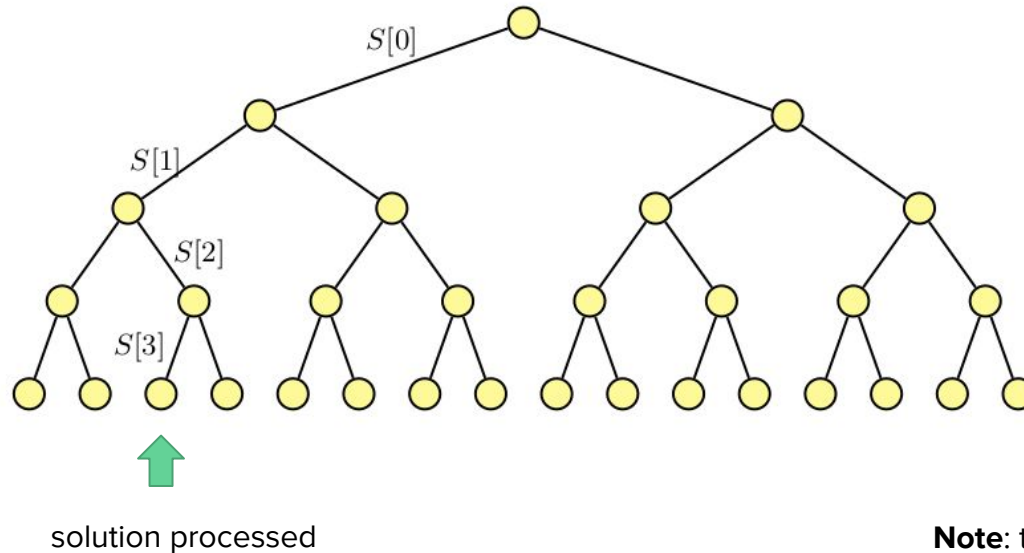
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Note: the decision tree is “virtual” we do not need to store it all...

Decision tree

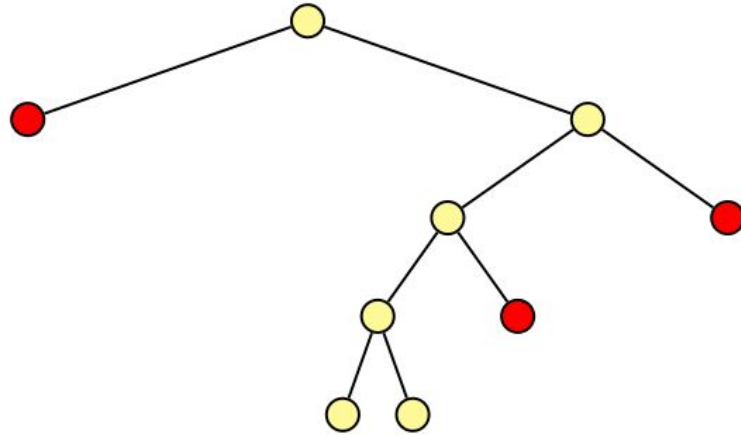
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- **Leaves** \equiv Admissible solutions



Note: the decision tree is “virtual” we do not need to store it all...

Pruning

- "Branches" of the trees that do not bring to admissible solutions can be "pruned"
- The evaluation is done in the partial solutions corresponding to internal nodes



Even though the tree might be exponential, with pruning we might not need to explore it all

General schema to find a solution (modify as you like)

```
boolean enumeration(OBJECT[] S, int n, int i, ...)
SET C = choices(S, n, i, ...)    % Compute C based on S[0 : i - 1]
foreach c ∈ C do
    S[i] = c
    if isAdmissible(S, n, i) then
        if processSolution(S, n, i, ...) then
            return True
        if enumeration(S, n, i + 1, ...) then
            return True
return False
```

S is the list of choices
n is the maximum number of choices
i is the index of the choice I am currently making
... other inputs

The recursive call will test all solutions unless they return true

1. We build a next choice with choices(...) based on the previous choices $S[0:i-1]$: the logic of the code goes here
2. For each possible choice, we memorize the choice in $S[i]$
3. If $S[i]$ is admissible then we process it and we can either stop (if we needed at least one solution) or continue to the next one (return false)
4. In the latter case we keep going calling enumeration again to compute choice $i+1$

Enumeration

- S : list containing the partial solutions
- i : current index
- \dots : additional information
- C : the set of possible candidates to extend the current solution
- `isAdmissible()`: returns **True** if $S[0 : i]$ is an admissible solution
- `processSolution()`: returns
 - **True** to stop the execution at the first admissible solution
 - **False** to explore the entire tree

```
boolean enumeration(OBJECT[] S, int n, int i, ...)  
SET C = choices(S, n, i, ...)    % Compute C based on S[0 : i - 1]  
foreach c ∈ C do  
    S[i] = c  
    if isAdmissible(S, n, i) then  
        if processSolution(S, n, i, ...) then  
            return True  
    if enumeration(S, n, i + 1, ...) then  
        return True  
return False
```

Subsets problem

List all subsets of $\{0, \dots, n - 1\}$

```
def process_solution(S):
    for i in range(len(S)):
        print(S[i], end = " ")
    print("")
    return False  # False: we want all solutions

def subsets(S,n,i):
    #print("subsets({}, {}, {})".format(S,n,i))
    C = [1, 0] if i < n else []  # choice: keep or discard element
    for c in C:
        S[i] = c
        if i == n-1:  # an admissible solution has decided if to keep or discard all elements
            #print("\t\tS: {} c: {} i: {}".format(S,c,i))
            if process_solution(S):
                return True
        else:
            #print("\tCalling: subsets({}, {}, {})".format(S,n,i+1))
            subsets(S,n,i+1)
    return False

n = 5
S = [0]*n
subsets(S,n,0)
```

```
1 1 1 1 1
1 1 1 1 0
1 1 1 0 1
1 1 1 0 0
1 1 0 1 1
1 1 0 1 0
1 1 0 0 1
1 1 0 0 0
1 0 1 1 1
1 0 1 1 0
1 0 1 0 1
1 0 1 0 0
1 0 0 1 1
1 0 0 1 0
1 0 0 0 1
1 0 0 0 0
0 1 1 1 1
0 1 1 1 0
0 1 1 0 1
0 1 1 0 0
0 1 0 1 1
0 1 0 1 0
0 1 0 0 1
0 1 0 0 0
0 0 1 1 1
0 0 1 1 0
0 0 1 0 1
0 0 1 0 0
0 0 0 1 1
0 0 0 1 0
0 0 0 0 1
0 0 0 0 0
```

```
boolean enumeration(OBJECT[] S, int n, int i, ...)
```

```
SET C = choices(S, n, i, ...) % Compute C based on S[0 : i - 1]
```

```
foreach c ∈ C do
    S[i] = c
    if isAdmissible(S, n, i) then
        if processSolution(S, n, i, ...) then
            return True
    if enumeration(S, n, i + 1, ...) then
        return True
```

```
return False
```

```
subsets([0, 0, 0, 0, 0],5,0)
    Calling: subsets([1, 0, 0, 0, 0],5,1)
subsets([1, 0, 0, 0, 0],5,1)
    Calling: subsets([1, 1, 0, 0, 0],5,2)
subsets([1, 1, 0, 0, 0],5,2)
    Calling: subsets([1, 1, 1, 0, 0],5,3)
subsets([1, 1, 1, 0, 0],5,3)
    Calling: subsets([1, 1, 1, 1, 0],5,4)
subsets([1, 1, 1, 1, 0],5,4)
    S:[1, 1, 1, 1, 1] c:1 i:4
1 1 1 1 1
    S:[1, 1, 1, 1, 0] c:0 i:4
1 1 1 1 0
    Calling: subsets([1, 1, 1, 0, 0],5,4)
subsets([1, 1, 1, 0, 0],5,4)
    S:[1, 1, 1, 0, 1] c:1 i:4
1 1 1 0 1
    S:[1, 1, 1, 0, 0] c:0 i:4
1 1 1 0 0
    Calling: subsets([1, 1, 0, 0, 0],5,3)
subsets([1, 1, 0, 0, 0],5,3)
...
```

Subsets problem

List all subsets of $\{0, \dots, n - 1\}$

- There is no pruning. All the possible space is explored.
But this is required by the definition of the problem
- Computational complexity $O(n2^n)$ (→ i.e. 2^n sets, printing each costs n)
- In which order sets are printed?
- Is it possible to think to an iterative version, ad-hoc for this problem?
(non-backtracking)

```
def process_solution(S):
    for i in range(len(S)):
        print(S[i], end = " ")
    print("")
    return False

def subsets(S,n,i):
    #print("subsets({}, {}, {})".format(S,n,i))
    C = [1, 0] if i < n else []
    for c in C:
        S[i] = c
        if i == n-1:
            #print("\t\tS: {} c: {} i: {}".format(S,c,i))
            if process_solution(S):
                return True
        else:
            #print("\tCalling: subsets({}, {}, {})".format(S,n,i+1))
            subsets(S,n,i+1)
    return False

n = 5
S = [0]*n
subsets(S,n,0)
```

Subsets problem


List all subsets of $\{0, \dots, n - 1\}$

- There is no pruning. All the possible space is explored.
But this is required by the definition of the problem
- Computational complexity $O(n2^n)$ (→ i.e. 2^n sets, printing each costs n)
- In which order sets are printed? (→ 1111 first and then values decrease...)
- Is it possible to think to an iterative version, ad-hoc for this problem?
(non-backtracking)

```
def process_solution(S):
    for i in range(len(S)):
        print(S[i], end = " ")
    print("")
    return False

def subsets(S,n,i):
    #print("subsets({}, {}, {})".format(S,n,i))
    C = [1, 0] if i < n else []
    for c in C:
        S[i] = c
        if i == n-1:
            #print("\t\tS: {} c: {} i: {}".format(S,c,i))
            if process_solution(S):
                return True
        else:
            #print("\tCalling: subsets({}, {}, {})".format(S,n,i+1))
            subsets(S,n,i+1)
    return False

n = 5
S = [0]*n
subsets(S,n,0)
```

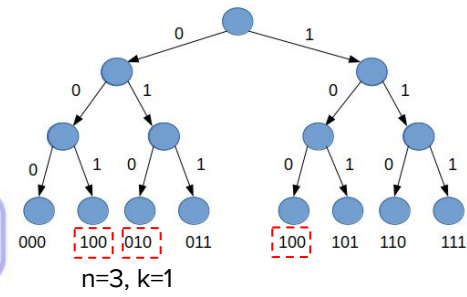


```
def subsets(n):
    for i in range(0,2**n):
        #i is a bit mask!
        print("{0:05b}".format(i))

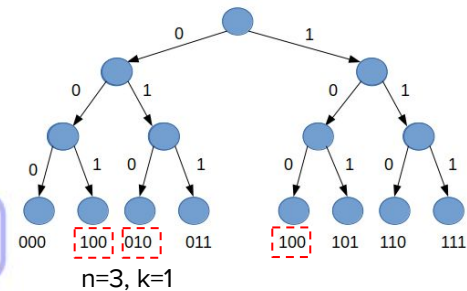
subsets(5)
```

Subsets problem: iterative code

List all possible subsets of size k of a set $\{0, \dots, n - 1\}$



Subsets problem:iterative code



List all possible subsets of size k of a set $\{0, \dots, n - 1\}$

```
def subsets(n, k):  
    for i in range(0,2**n):  
        #i is a bit mask!  
        b = "{0:05b}".format(i)  
        sets = [x for x in range(len(b)) if int(b[x]) == 1]  
  
        if len(sets) == k:  
            print("{} --> subset: {}".format(b,sets))  
  
subsets(5,3)
```

```
00111 --> subset: [2, 3, 4]  
01011 --> subset: [1, 3, 4]  
01101 --> subset: [1, 2, 4]  
01110 --> subset: [1, 2, 3]  
10011 --> subset: [0, 3, 4]  
10101 --> subset: [0, 2, 4]  
10110 --> subset: [0, 2, 3]  
11001 --> subset: [0, 1, 4]  
11010 --> subset: [0, 1, 3]  
11100 --> subset: [0, 1, 2]
```

What is the complexity of this iterative code?

$O(n \cdot 2^n)$

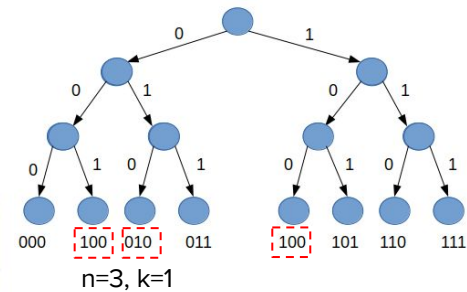
creation of the subsets (cost: $O(n)$)

printing subsets (cost: $O(n)$)

How many solutions are we testing?

2^n no pruning... can we improve this?

Subsets problem: backtracking



List all possible subsets of size k of a set $\{0, \dots, n - 1\}$

```
def process_solution(S):
    sets = []
    for i in range(len(S)):
        print(S[i], end = "")
        if S[i] == 1:
            sets.append(i)
    print(" -> {}".format(sets))
    return False
```

we want all solutions

```
def subsets(S, k, n, i, count ):
    C = [1,0]
    for c in C:
        S[i] = c
        count = count + c
        if i == n-1:
            if count == k:
                #print(S)
                process_solution(S)
            else:
                subsets(S, k, n, i+1, count)
        #backtracking:
        #print(count)
        count = count - c
```

n = 5
k = 3
S = [0]*n
subsets(S, k, n, 0, 0)

count how many 1s
admissible solutions
have k 1s

- 11100 -> [0, 1, 2]
- 11010 -> [0, 1, 3]
- 11001 -> [0, 1, 4]
- 10110 -> [0, 2, 3]
- 10101 -> [0, 2, 4]
- 10011 -> [0, 3, 4]
- 01110 -> [1, 2, 3]
- 01101 -> [1, 2, 4]
- 01011 -> [1, 3, 4]
- 00111 -> [2, 3, 4]

Still generates 2^n subsets, for each it will count how many 1s are present and finally print only the ones having a correct number of 1s.

What is the complexity of this backtracking code?

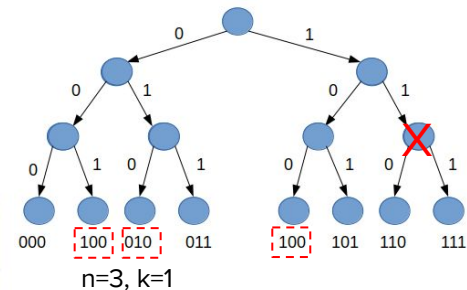
$$O(n \cdot 2^n)$$

How many solutions are we testing?

$$2^n$$

no pruning... can we improve this?

Subsets problem: backtracking & pruning



List all possible subsets of size k of a set $\{0, \dots, n-1\}$

```
#Pruning!  
def subsets(S, k, n, i, count):  
    if count < k and count + (n-i) >= k:  
        C = [1,0]  
    else:  
        C = []  
    for c in C:  
        S[i] = c  
        count = count + c  
        if count == k:  
            #print(S)  
            process_solution(S)  
        else:  
            subsets(S, k, n, i+1, count)  
    #backtracking:  
    #print(count)  
    count = count - c  
    S[i] = 0  
  
n = 5  
k = 3  
S = [0]*n  
subsets(S, k, n, 0, 0)
```

generate only solutions that can potentially be admissible!

What is the complexity of this iterative code?

$$O(n \cdot 2^n)$$

```
11100 -> [0, 1, 2]  
11010 -> [0, 1, 3]  
11001 -> [0, 1, 4]  
10110 -> [0, 2, 3]  
10101 -> [0, 2, 4]  
10011 -> [0, 3, 4]  
01110 -> [1, 2, 3]  
01101 -> [1, 2, 4]  
01011 -> [1, 3, 4]  
00111 -> [2, 3, 4]
```

Sudoku

2	5			9			7	6
			2		4			
		1	5		3	9		
	8	9	4		5	2	6	
1				2				4
	2	5	6			7	3	
		8	3		2	1		
			9		7			
3	7			8			9	2

2	5	3	8	9	1	4	7	6
8	9	7	2	6	4	3	1	5
6	4	1	5	7	3	9	2	8
7	8	9	4	3	5	2	6	1
1	3	6	7	2	9	8	5	4
4	2	5	6	1	8	7	3	9
9	6	8	3	5	2	1	4	7
5	1	2	9	4	7	6	8	3
3	7	4	1	8	6	5	9	2

Sudoku: pseudocode

2	5			9			7	6
			2	4				
		1	5		3	9		
	8	9	4		5	2	6	
1				2				4
	2	5	6			7	3	
		8	3		2	1		
			9		7			
3	7			8			9	2

2	5	3	8	9	1	4	7	6
8	9	7	2	6	4	3	1	5
6	4	1	5	7	3	9	2	8
7	8	9	4	3	5	2	6	1
1	3	6	7	2	9	8	5	4
4	2	5	6	1	8	7	3	9
9	6	8	3	5	2	1	4	7
5	1	2	9	4	7	6	8	3
3	7	4	1	8	6	5	9	2

```
boolean sudoku(int[][] S, int i)
```

```
  int x = i mod 9
```

```
  int y =  $\lfloor i/9 \rfloor$ 
```

```
  SET C = Set()
```

```
  if  $i \leq 80$  then
```

```
    if  $S[x, y] \neq 0$  then
```

```
      | C.insert( $S[x, y]$ )
```

```
    else
```

```
      for  $c = 1$  to 9 do
```

```
        | if check( $S, x, y, c$ ) then
```

```
          | C.insert( $c$ )
```

```
  int old =  $S[x, y]$ 
```

```
  foreach  $c \in C$  do
```

```
    |  $S[x, y] = c$ 
```

```
    if  $i = 80$  then
```

```
      | processSolution( $S, n$ )
```

```
      | return True
```

```
    if sudoku( $S, i + 1$ ) then
```

```
      | return True
```

```
   $S[x, y] = old$ 
```

```
  return False
```

Sudoku: pseudocode

2	5		9		7	6		
		2	4					
	1	5	3	9				
	8	9	4	5	2	6		
1			2					4
	2	5	6			7	3	
		8	3	2	1			
			9	7				
3	7			8			9	2

2	5	3	8	9	1	4	7	6
8	9	7	2	6	4	3	1	5
6	4	1	5	7	3	9	2	8
7	8	9	4	3	5	2	6	1
1	3	6	7	2	9	8	5	4
4	2	5	6	1	8	7	3	9
9	6	8	3	5	2	1	4	7
5	1	2	9	4	7	6	8	3
3	7	4	1	8	6	5	9	2

```
boolean check(int[][] S, int x, int y, int c)
```

```
for j = 0 to 8 do
```

```
    if S[x, j] = c then
```

```
        return False
```

```
    % Column check
```

```
    if S[j, y] = c then
```

```
        return False
```

```
    % Row check
```

```
int bx = [x/3]
```

```
int by = [y/3]
```

```
for ix = 0 to 2 do
```

```
    for int iy = 0 to 2 do
```

```
    % Subtable check
```

```
        if S[bx · 3 + ix, by · 3 + iy] = c then
```

```
            return False
```

```
return True
```

Sudoku: python code

```
#This function prints the sudoku matrix
def process_solution(S):
    for i in range(0,9):
        if i > 0 and i % 3 == 0:
            print("-----")
        for j in range(0,9):
            if j % 3 == 0:
                print("|", end = "")
            print(S.get((i,j), "."), end = "\t")

        else:
            print("")
#Given a solution S, checks if c can go in (x,y)
def check_sudoku(S,x,y, c):
    for j in range(0,9):
        #column check
        if S.get((x,j), "") == c:
            return False
        #row check
        if S.get((j,y), "") == c:
            return False
    #diagonal check
    bx = x //3
    by = y //3
    for ix in range(0,3):
        for iy in range(0,3):
            if S.get((bx*3 + ix, by*3+iy), "") == c:
                return False
    return True
```

```
#finds a backtracking solution to an input sudoku matrix S
#with brute force
```

```
def sudoku(S, i):
    x = i % 9
    y = i //9
    C = set()
    if i <= 81:
        if S[(x,y)] != 0:
            C.add(S[(x,y)])
        else:
            for c in range(1,10):
                if check_sudoku(S,x,y, c):
                    C.add(c)

    old = S.get((x,y), "")
    for c in C:
        S[(x,y)] = c
        if i == 80:
            process_solution(S)
            return True
        if sudoku(S,i+1):
            return True
        #print(old)
        if old != "":
            S[(x,y)] = old

    return False
```

```
def initialize(S):
    for i in range(0,9):
        for j in range(0,9):
            S[(i,j)] = 0

mat = dict()
initialize(mat)
for i in range(0,9):
    mat[(i,i)] = i+1
print("Initial board:")
process_solution(mat)
print("\n\nSolution:")
sudoku(mat,0)
```

Initial board:

1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0

0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0

0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9

Solution:

1	8	6	2	9	4	3	5	7
4	2	7	1	3	5	8	9	6
5	9	3	8	6	7	2	4	1

2	1	9	4	7	8	6	3	5
3	6	4	9	5	2	1	7	8
8	7	5	3	1	6	9	2	4

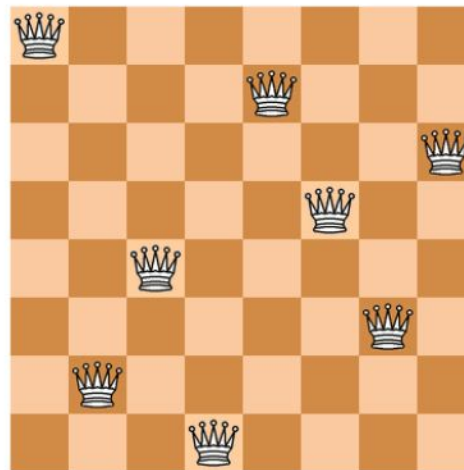
9	3	8	5	4	1	7	6	2
6	4	1	7	2	9	5	8	3
7	5	2	6	8	3	4	1	9

8 queens puzzle

Problem

The eight queens puzzle is the problem of placing eight chess queens on an 8×8 chessboard so that no two queens threaten each other

- History:
 - Introduced by Max Bezzel (1848)
 - Gauss found 72 of the 92 solutions
- Let's start from the stupidest approach, and let's refine the solution step by step



8 queens puzzle

Idea: every column must contain exactly one queen

$S[0:n]$ coordinates in $\{0 \dots n-1\}$	permutations of $\{1 \dots n\}$
ISADMISSIBLE()	$i == n$
choices(S, n, i)	$\{0 \dots n-1\}$
pruning	removes diagonals
# Solutions for $n = 8$	$n! = 8! = 40320$

Comments

- Solutions actually visited = 15720

```
def queens(S, i, columns):
    for c in columns:
        S[i] = c
        columns.remove(c)
        if (diagonalsOK(S,i)):
            if len(columns)==0:
                printBoard(S)
            else:
                queens(S,i+1,columns)
    columns.add(c)
```