

Lecture 4.3

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We have the following theorem:

Suppose all n item values in a knapsack instance are integers. Then we can compute an optimal solution in $O(n V_{tot})$ time, where V_{tot} is the total value of all items.

We define $weight(S) = \sum_{x_i \in S} weight(x_i)$ and $value(S) = \sum_{x_i \in S} value(x_i)$, i.e. the weight/value of a set is the total weight/value of the items in that set. Furthermore, we define S_i to be a set consisting of the first i items in X , i.e. $S_i = \{x_1, \dots, x_i\}$. Finally, we let $S_0 = \emptyset$.

We are using a dynamic-programming strategy. As subproblems, we define (for $0 \leq i \leq n$ and $0 \leq j \leq V_{tot}$) $A[i, j]$ = minimum weight of any subset $S \subseteq S_i$ whose total value is exactly j . We let $A[i, j] = \infty$ if no such subset S exists.

The table is useful because the maximum value of any subset $S \subseteq X$ with $weight(S) \leq W$ is equal to the largest j such that $A[n, j] \leq W$.

To solve this problem by dynamic programming, we first give a recursive formula for $A[i, j]$. Then, we compute all $A[i, j]$ by filling in a table. Finally, we find the largest j such that $A[n, j] \leq W$.

$$A[i, j] = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{(take the empty set) if } j=0 \\ \infty & \text{(from empty set, obtaining value } > 0 \text{ (this also value } = j \text{)) is impossible if } j > 0 \text{ and } i=0 \\ A[i-1, j] & \text{if } j > 0 \text{ and } i > 0 \text{ and } value(x_i) > j \\ \min(A[i-1, j], A[i-1, j - value(x_i)] + weight(x_i)) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$\min \left(\begin{array}{l} \text{min weight of any } S \dots \text{ and that includes } x_i \\ \text{min weight of any } S \dots \text{ and that does not include } x_i \end{array} \right)$

→ $A[i-1, j - value(x_i)] + weight(x_i)$
 → $A[i-1, j]$

note: this case is not allowed when $value(x_i) > j$