

## 2. Longest common subsequence.

Given two strings A and B,

Find the length of the longest common subsequence.

A="ACHEFMGLP"

B="XYCEPQMLG"

output = 4 , "CEMG" is the longest common subsequence

Given two strings A and B, common subsequence is the sequence of characters not necessarily contiguous which is present in both the string.

A="ACHEFMGLP"

B="XYCEPQMLG"

Another example of subsequences

A="ACHEFMGLP"

B="XYCEPQMLG"

A="ACHEFMGLP"

B="XYCEPQMLG"

Longest common subsequence is CEMG

Find the longest common subsequence.

Hint : Start by comparing last characters of two strings and enumerate all the candidates for next comparisons

# 1. State

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### **Parameters**

i - Last index of the substring of A

j - Last index of the substring of B

### **Cost function**

$lcs(i,j,A,B)$  - length of longest common subsequence in the string A ending at index i and string B ending at index j.

We check one character at a time.

## 2. Transitions

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### **Base case**

$i = -1$  or  $j = -1$  , return 0 , Either one of the string is empty

### **Choices**

## Longest common subsequence

$i$   
↓  
ACHEFMGLP  
 $j$   
↓  
XYCEPQMLG

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$i$   
↓  
ACHEFMGLP  
 $j$   
↓  
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## 2. Transitions

### Base case

$i = -1$  or  $j = -1$  , return 0 , Either one of the string is empty

### Choices

$lcs(i, j, A, B)$

**Case 1 :** If  $A[i] \neq B[j]$

$lcs(i-1, j, A, B)$

$lcs(i, j-1, A, B)$

### Optimal choice

$lcs(i, j, A, B) = \text{MAX}(lcs(i-1, j, A, B), lcs(i, j-1, A, B))$

**Case 2:** If  $A[i] == B[j]$

$lcs(i, j, A, B) = lcs(i-1, j-1, A, B) + 1$

### Recurrence relation

$lcs(i,j,A,B) = -1$ , if  $i=-1$  or  $j=-1$

$lcs(i,j,A,B) = lcs(i-1,j-1,A,B)+1$  , if  $A[i] == B[j]$

$lcs(i,j,A,B) = \text{MAX}(lcs(i-1,j,A,B),lcs(i,j-1,A,B))$  , if  $A[i] != B[j]$

### 3. Recursive solution

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#### **Pseudo code**

`lcs(i,j,A,B)`

    if `i == -1` or `j == -1`

        return 0

    if `A[i] == B[j]`

        return `lcs(i-1,j-1,A,B) + 1`

    else

        return `MAX(lcs(i-1,j,A,B),lcs(i,j-1,A,B))`

Java

```
public static int lcs(int i,int j,String A,String B){  
    if(i == -1 || j == -1){  
        return 0;  
    }  
    if(A.charAt(i) == B.charAt(j)){  
        return lcs(i-1,j-1,A,B)+1;  
    }else {  
        return Math.max(lcs(i-1,j,A,B),lcs(i,j-1,A,B));  
    }  
}
```

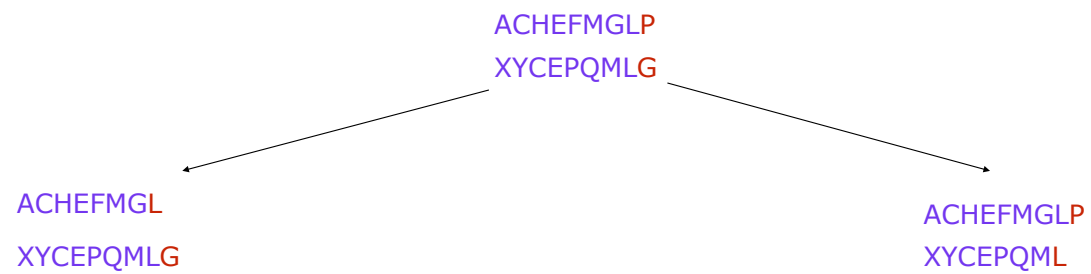
Python

```
def lcs(i, j, A, B):  
    if i == -1 or j == -1:  
        return 0  
    if A[i] == B[j]:  
        return lcs(i - 1, j - 1, A, B) + 1  
    else:  
        return max(lcs(i - 1, j, A, B), lcs(i, j - 1, A, B))
```

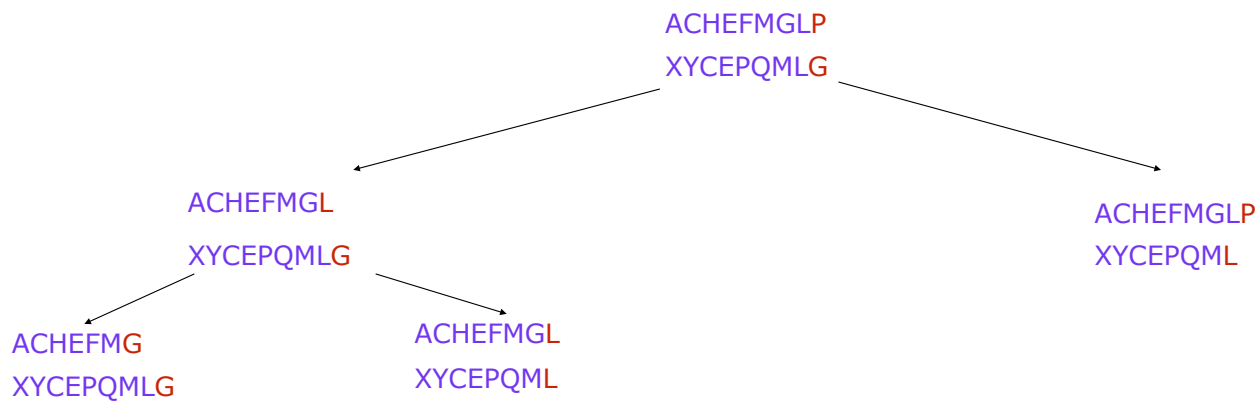
## Longest common subsequence

ACHEFMGLP  
XYCEPQMLG

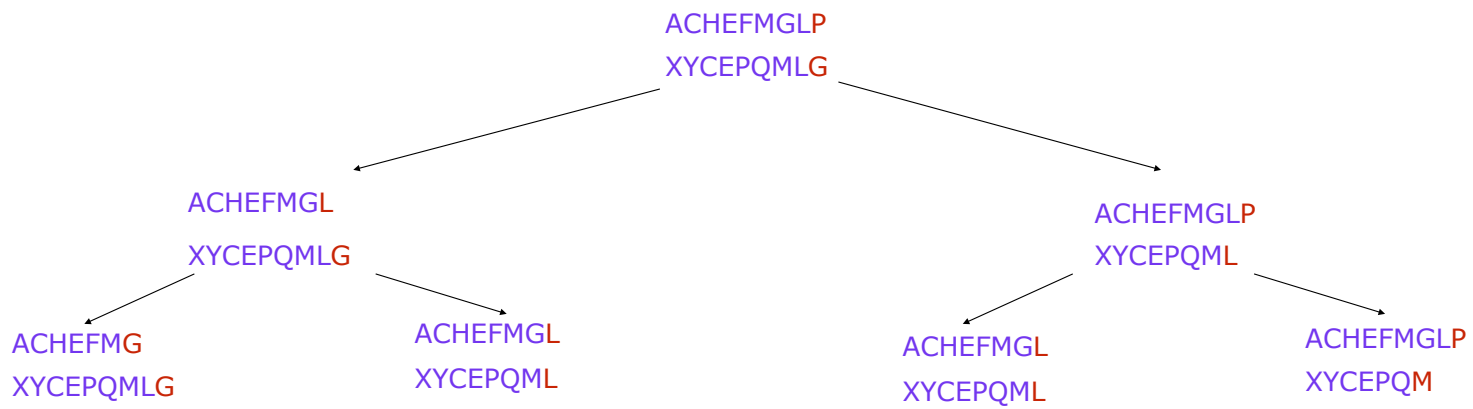
## Longest common subsequence



## Longest common subsequence



## Longest common subsequence



## 4. Memoize

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We can cache the results in a 2D array and reuse it whenever needed again

Key -> (i,j)

Value -> LCS in the substring of A ending at i and substring of B ending at index j

Default value -> -1

Java

```
public static int lcsMemo(int i,int j,String A,String B,int[][] cache){  
    if(i == -1 || j == -1){  
        return 0;  
    }  
    if(cache[i][j] != -1){  
        return cache[i][j];  
    }  
    if(A.charAt(i) == B.charAt(j)){  
        cache[i][j] = lcsMemo(i-1,j-1,A,B,cache)+1;  
        return cache[i][j];  
    }else {  
        cache[i][j] = Math.max(lcs(i-1,j,A,B),lcsMemo(i,j-1,A,B,cache));  
        return cache[i][j];  
    }  
}
```

Java

```
public static int lcsMemo(String A,String B){  
    int[][] cache = new int[A.length()][B.length()];  
    for(int[] row : cache){  
        Arrays.fill(row,-1);  
    }  
    return lcsMemo(A.length()-1,B.length()-1,A,B,cache);  
}
```

Python

```
def lcs_memo(i, j, A, B, cache):  
    if i == -1 or j == -1:  
        return 0  
    if cache[i][j] != -1:  
        return cache[i][j]  
    if A[i] == B[j]:  
        cache[i][j] = lcs_memo(i - 1, j - 1, A, B, cache) + 1  
        return cache[i][j]  
    else:  
        cache[i][j] = max(lcs_memo(i - 1, j, A, B, cache),  
lcs_memo(i, j - 1, A, B, cache))  
        return cache[i][j]
```

## 5. Bottom up approach

## Recurrence relation

$$\text{lcs}(i,j,A,B) = 0, \text{ if } i=-1 \text{ or } j=-1$$

$$\text{lcs}(i,j,A,B) = \text{lcs}(i-1,j-1,A,B)+1, \text{ if } A[i] == B[j]$$

$$\text{lcs}(i,j,A,B) = \text{MAX}(\text{lcs}(i-1,j,A,B), \text{lcs}(i,j-1,A,B)), \text{ if } A[i] \neq B[j]$$

## Bottom up equation

$$\text{dp}[i][j] = 0, \text{ if } i=0 \text{ or } j=0$$

$$\text{dp}[i][j] = \text{dp}[i-1][j-1]+1, \text{ if } A[i-1] == B[j-1]$$

$$\text{dp}[i][j] = \text{MAX}(\text{dp}[i-1][j], \text{dp}[i][j-1]), \text{ if } A[i] \neq B[j]$$

		0	1	2	3	4
			Y	X	A	E
0						
1	X					
2	P					
3	A					
4	E					

		0	1	2	3	4
			Y	X	A	E
0		0	0	0	0	0
1	X					
2	P					
3	A					
4	E					

		0	1	2	3	4
			Y	X	A	E
0		0	0	0	0	0
1	X	0				
2	P	0				
3	A	0				
4	E	0				

		0	1	2	3	4
			Y	X	A	E
0		0	0	0	0	0
1	X	0				
2	P	0				
3	A	0				
4	E	0				

		0	1	2	3	4
			Y	X	A	E
0		0	0	0	0	0
1	X	0	0			
2	P	0				
3	A	0				
4	E	0				

		0	1	2	3	4
			Y	X	A	E
0		0	0	0	0	0
1	X	0	0	1		
2	P	0				
3	A	0				
4	E	0				

		0	1	2	3	4
			Y	X	A	E
0		0	0	0	0	0
1	X	0	0	1	1	
2	P	0				
3	A	0				
4	E	0				

		0	1	2	3	4
			Y	X	A	E
0		0	0	0	0	0
1	X	0	0	1	1	1
2	P	0				
3	A	0				
4	E	0				

		0	1	2	3	4
			Y	X	A	E
0		0	0	0	0	0
1	X	0	0	1	1	1
2	P	0	0			
3	A	0				
4	E	0				

		0	1	2	3	4
			Y	X	A	E
0		0	0	0	0	0
1	X	0	0	1	1	1
2	P	0	0	1		
3	A	0				
4	E	0				

		0	1	2	3	4
			Y	X	A	E
0		0	0	0	0	0
1	X	0	0	1	1	1
2	P	0	0	1	1	1
3	A	0				
4	E	0				

		0	1	2	3	4
			Y	X	A	E
0		0	0	0	0	0
1	X	0	0	1	1	1
2	P	0	0	1	1	1
3	A	0	0			
4	E	0				

		0	1	2	3	4
			Y	X	A	E
0		0	0	0	0	0
1	X	0	0	1	1	1
2	P	0	0	1	1	1
3	A	0	0	1		
4	E	0				

		0	1	2	3	4
			Y	X	A	E
0		0	0	0	0	0
1	X	0	0	1	1	1
2	P	0	0	1	1	1
3	A	0	0	1	2	
4	E	0				

		0	1	2	3	4
			Y	X	A	E
0		0	0	0	0	0
1	X	0	0	1	1	1
2	P	0	0	1	1	1
3	A	0	0	1	2	2
4	E	0				

		0	1	2	3	4
			Y	X	A	E
0		0	0	0	0	0
1	X	0	0	1	1	1
2	P	0	0	1	1	1
3	A	0	0	1	2	2
4	E	0	0			

		0	1	2	3	4
			Y	X	A	E
0		0	0	0	0	0
1	X	0	0	1	1	1
2	P	0	0	1	1	1
3	A	0	0	1	2	2
4	E	0	0	1		

		0	1	2	3	4
			Y	X	A	E
0		0	0	0	0	0
1	X	0	0	1	1	1
2	P	0	0	1	1	1
3	A	0	0	1	2	2
4	E	0	0	1	2	

		0	1	2	3	4
			Y	X	A	E
0		0	0	0	0	0
1	X	0	0	1	1	1
2	P	0	0	1	1	1
3	A	0	0	1	2	2
4	E	0	0	1	2	3

Java

```
public static int lcsDP(String A,String B){
    int M = A.length();
    int N = B.length();
    int[][] dp = new int[M+1][N+1];
    for(int i=1;i<=M;i++){
        for(int j=1;j<=N;j++){
            if(A.charAt(i-1) == B.charAt(j-1)){
                dp[i][j] = dp[i-1][j-1]+1;
            }else{
                dp[i][j] = Math.max(dp[i-1][j],dp[i][j-1]);
            }
        }
    }
    return dp[M][N];
}
```

Python

```
def lcs_dp(A,B):  
    M = len(A)  
    N = len(B)  
    dp = [[0 for _ in range(0,N+1)] for _ in range(0,M+1)]  
    for i in range(1,M+1):  
        for j in range(1,N+1):  
            if A[i-1] == B[j-1]:  
                dp[i][j] = dp[i-1][j-1]+1  
            else:  
                dp[i][j] = max(dp[i-1][j],dp[i][j-1])  
    return dp[M][N]
```

# Time and space complexity analysis

Recursive implementation

Recursion tree

Number of children at each node , 2 , Binary tree

Height of the tree ,  $\text{MAX}(M, N)$

Number of nodes in the tree ,  $2^N$

Time complexity ,  $O(2^N)$  , Exponential

Space complexity,  $O(1)$

## Dynamic programming

Two for loops.

Outer for loop,  $i=0,1,\dots,M$

Inner for loop,  $j=0,1,2,\dots,N$

Total time complexity  $O(MN)$

Space complexity  $O(MN)$ , because we use a 2D array of size  $MN$