1 Shortest Paths with Dynamic Programming!

In this problem we will design a dynamic programming algorithm for finding the shortest $S \rightarrow E$ path in a DAG like the one above.

(a) What are the subproblems you need to solve?

(b) Can you define the optimal solution to any subproblem as a function of the solutions to other subproblems?

(c) The dependency graph of a DP is a directed graph in which each subproblem becomes a vertex, and edge $(u, v)$ denotes that subproblem $u$ requires the solution to subproblem $v$ in order to be solved. What does the dependency graph look like for this problem? What property of the dependency graph allows us to solve the problem using DP?

(d) If we proceed iteratively, what would be the best order to solve these subproblems?

(e) How many subproblems are there, and how long does it take to solve each? What is the overall running time of this algorithm?

(f) Run your algorithm on the example graph. What is the shortest path?
2 Copper Pipes

Bubbles has a copper pipe of length \( n \) inches and an array of nonnegative integers that contains prices of all pieces of size smaller than \( n \). He wants to find the maximum value he can make by cutting up the pipe and selling the pieces. For example, if length of the pipe is 8 and the values of different pieces are given as following, then the maximum obtainable value is 22 (by cutting in two pieces of lengths 2 and 6).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>length</th>
<th>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>price</td>
<td>1 5 8 9 10 17 17 20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Give a dynamic programming algorithm so Bubbles can find the maximum obtainable value given any pipe length and set of prices. Clearly describe your algorithm, prove its correctness and runtime.

3 String Shuffling

Let \( x \), \( y \), and \( z \) be strings. We want to know if \( z \) can be obtained only from \( x \) and \( y \) by interleaving the characters from \( x \) and \( y \) such that the characters in \( x \) appear in order and the characters in \( y \) appear in order. For example, if \( x = \text{efficient} \) and \( y = \text{ALGORITHM} \), then it is true for \( z = \text{effALGiORciIenTHMt} \), but false for \( z = \text{efficientALGORITHMS} \) (extra characters), \( z = \text{effALGORITHMMicien} \) (missing the final \( t \)), and \( z = \text{effOALGRicieITHMnt} \) (out of order). How can we answer this query efficiently? Your answer must be able to efficiently deal with strings with lots of overlap, such as \( x = aaaaaaaaaab \) and \( y = aaaaaaaaac \).

1. Design an efficient algorithm to solve the above problem and state its runtime.

2. Consider an iterative implementation of our DP algorithm in part (a). Naively if we want to keep track of every solved sub-problem, this requires \( O(|x||y|) \) space (double check to see if you understand why this is the case). How can we reduce the amount of space our algorithm uses?