CSE 431/531: Algorithm Analysis and Design (Spring 2021) Greedy Algorithms

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## Goals of algorithm design

- Design efficient algorithms to solve problems
- Obsign more efficient algorithms to solve problems

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- Divide and Conquer
- Dynamic Programming
- Greedy algorithms are often for optimization problems.
- They often run in polynomial time due to their simplicity.

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- At each step, make an irrevocable decision using a "reasonable" strategy

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**Def.** A strategy is safe: there is always an optimum solution that agrees with the decision made according to the strategy.

# Outline

#### Toy Example: Box Packing

- 2 Interval Scheduling
- Offline Caching
  Heap: Concrete Data Structure for Priority Queue
- 4 Data Compression and Huffman Code

## 5 Summary

## Box Packing

**Input:** n boxes of capacities  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n$ m items of sizes  $s_1, s_2, \dots, s_m$ Can put at most 1 item in a box Item j can be put into box i if  $s_j \le c_i$ **Output:** A way to put as many items as possible in the boxes.

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#### Example:

- Box capacities: 60, 40, 25, 15, 12
- Item sizes: 45, 42, 20, 19, 16
- Can put 3 items in boxes:  $45 \rightarrow 60, 20 \rightarrow 40, 19 \rightarrow 25$

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- Q: Take box 1. Which item should we put in box 1?
- A: The item of the largest size that can be put into the box.

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• Intuition: putting the item gives us the easiest residual problem.

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- Intuition: putting the item gives us the easiest residual problem.
- formal proof via exchanging argument:

## Proof.

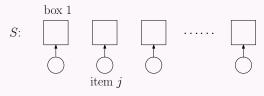
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## Proof.

- Let j =largest item that box 1 can hold.
- Take any optimum solution S. If j is put into Box 1 in S, done.

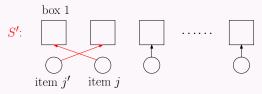
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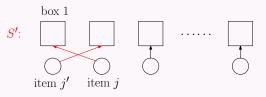
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- $s_{j'} \leq s_j$ , and swapping gives another solution S'
- S' is also an optimum solution. In S', j is put into Box 1.

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#### Analysis of Greedy Algorithm

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- Trivial: we decided to put Item *j* into Box 1, and the remaining instance is obtained by removing Item *j* and Box 1.

- 1: while the instance is non-trivial do
- 2: make the choice using the greedy strategy
- 3: reduce the instance

#### Greedy Algorithm for Box Packing

1: 
$$T \leftarrow \{1, 2, 3, \cdots, m\}$$

- 2: for  $i \leftarrow 1$  to n do
- 3: **if** some item in T can be put into box i **then**
- 4:  $j \leftarrow \text{the largest item in } T \text{ that can be put into box } i$
- 5: print("put item j in box i")
- 6:  $T \leftarrow T \setminus \{j\}$

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**Lemma** Generic algorithm is correct if and only if the greedy strategy is safe.

- Greedy strategy is safe: we will not miss the optimum solution
- Greedy stretegy is not safe: we will miss the optimum solution for some instance, since the choices we made are irrevocable.

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**Def.** A strategy is "safe" if there is always an optimum solution that is "consistent" with the decision made according to the strategy.

#### Exchange argument: Proof of Safety of a Strategy

- let S be an arbitrary optimum solution.
- $\bullet\,$  if S is consistent with the greedy choice, done.
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#### Outline

#### Toy Example: Box Packing

#### Interval Scheduling

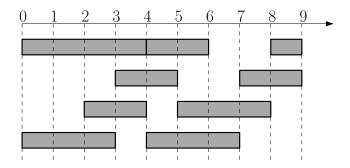
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#### 5 Summary

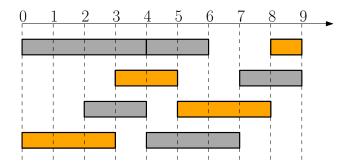
#### Interval Scheduling

**Input:** n jobs, job i with start time  $s_i$  and finish time  $f_i$ i and j are compatible if  $[s_i, f_i)$  and  $[s_j, f_j)$  are disjoint **Output:** A maximum-size subset of mutually compatible jobs



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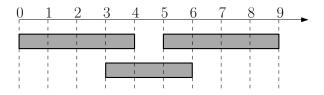


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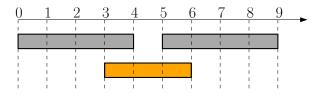
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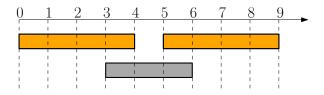
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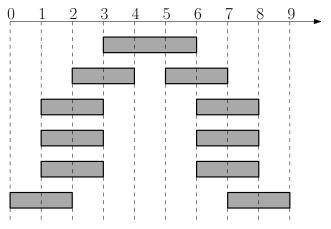


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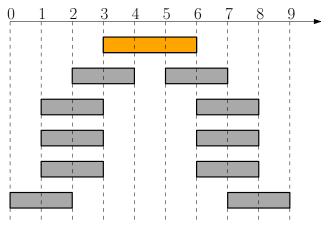
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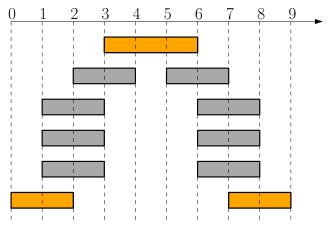
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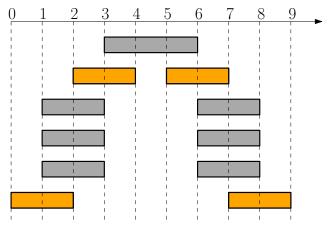
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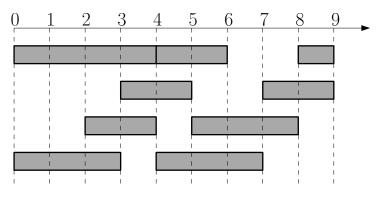


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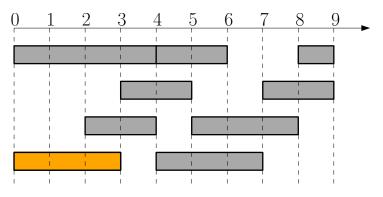
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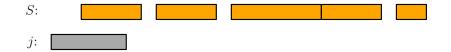
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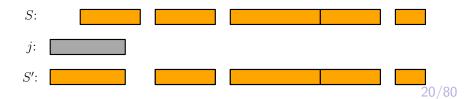
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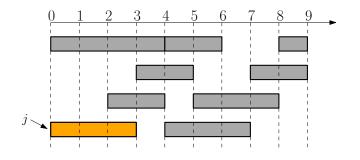


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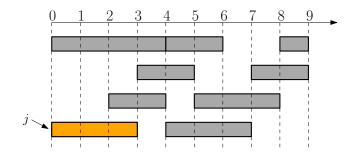
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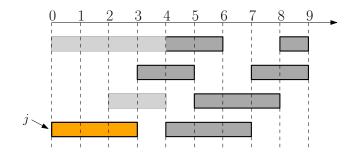
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- Is it another instance of interval scheduling problem?



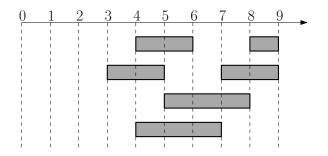
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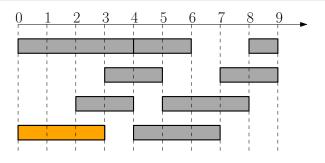


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Schedule(s, f, n)  
1: 
$$A \leftarrow \{1, 2, \dots, n\}, S \leftarrow \emptyset$$
  
2: while  $A \neq \emptyset$  do  
3:  $j \leftarrow \arg \min_{j' \in A} f_{j'}$   
4:  $S \leftarrow S \cup \{j\}; A \leftarrow \{j' \in A : s_{j'} \ge f_j\}$   
5: return S

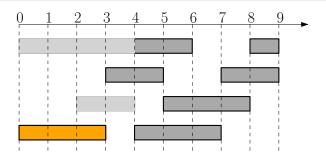
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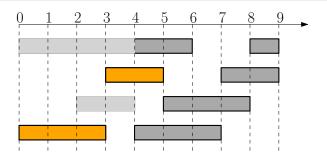
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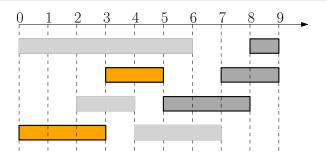
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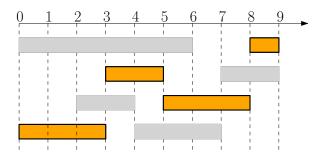
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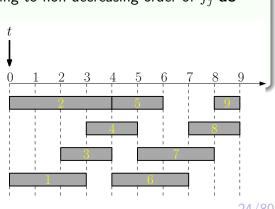
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#### Running time of algorithm?

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- Clever implementation:  $O(n \lg n)$  time

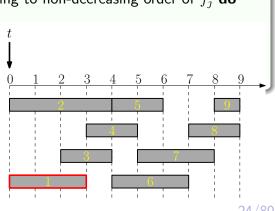
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- 1: sort jobs according to  $f\xspace$  values
- 2:  $t \leftarrow 0$ ,  $S \leftarrow \emptyset$
- 3: for every  $j \in [n]$  according to non-decreasing order of  $f_j$  do
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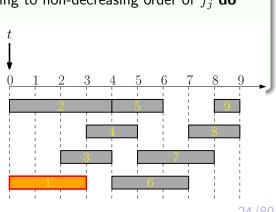
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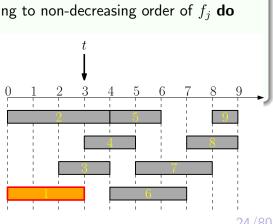


### Schedule(s, f, n)

- 1: sort jobs according to f values
- 2:  $t \leftarrow 0, S \leftarrow \emptyset$

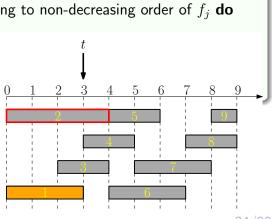
3: for every  $j \in [n]$  according to non-decreasing order of  $f_i$  do

- if  $s_i \geq t$  then 4:
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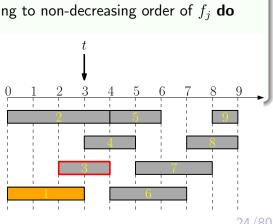


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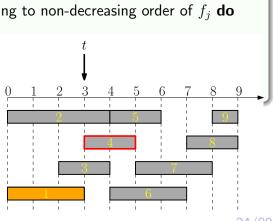


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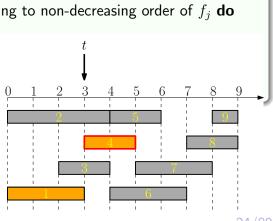


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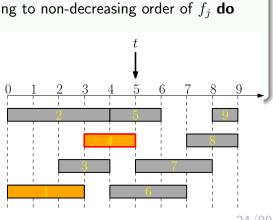


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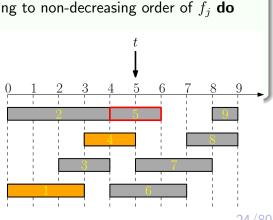


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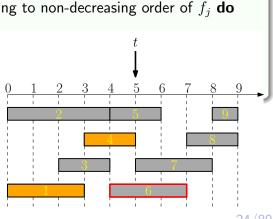


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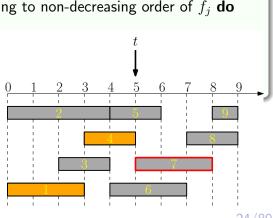


### $\mathsf{Schedule}(s, f, n)$

- 1: sort jobs according to f values
- 2:  $t \leftarrow 0$ ,  $S \leftarrow \emptyset$

3: for every  $j \in [n]$  according to non-decreasing order of  $f_j$  do

- 4: **if**  $s_j \ge t$  then
- 5:  $S \leftarrow S \cup \{j\}$
- $6: t \leftarrow f_j$

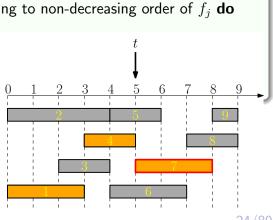


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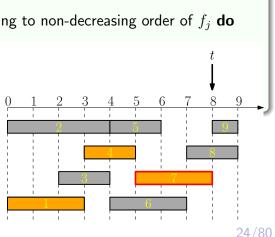


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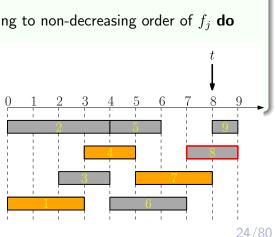


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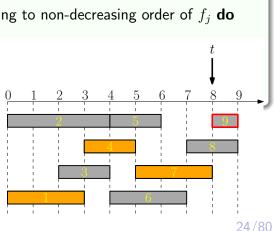


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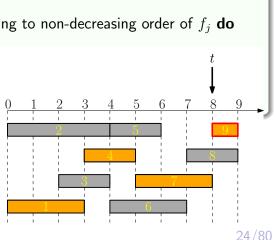


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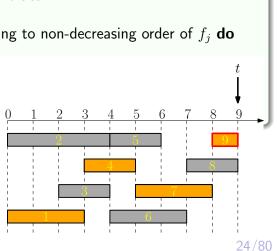


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### Outline

#### Toy Example: Box Packing

#### 2 Interval Scheduling



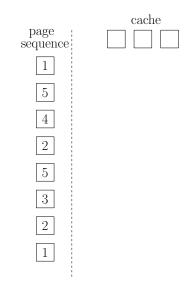
#### Offline Caching • Heap: Concrete Data Structure for Priority Queue

#### Data Compression and Huffman Code

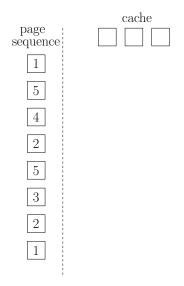
#### 5 Summary

- $\bullet\,$  Cache that can store k pages
- Sequence of page requests

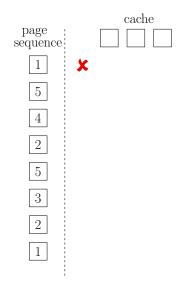
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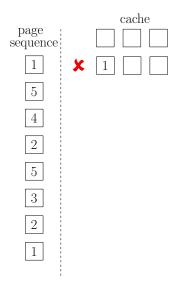
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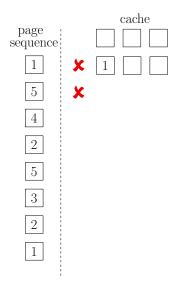
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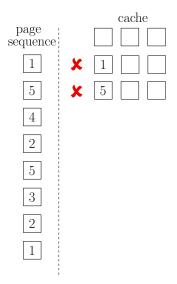
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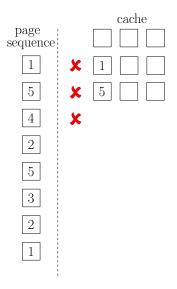
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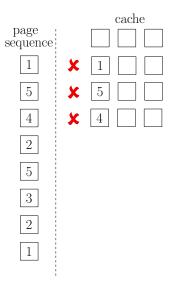
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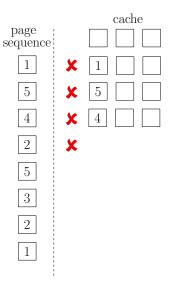
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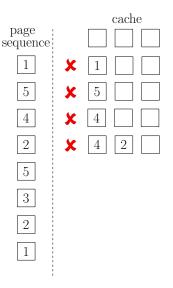
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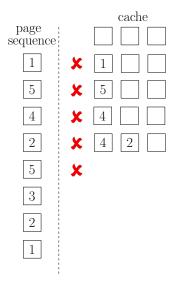
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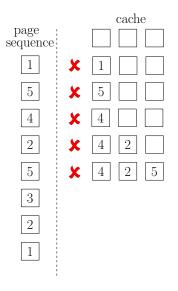
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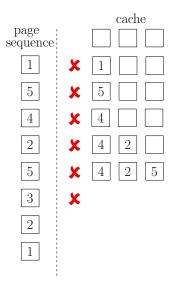
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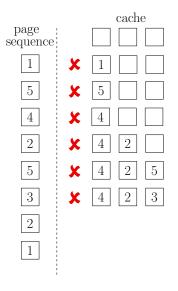
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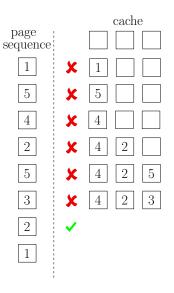
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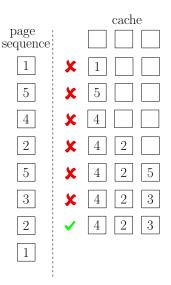
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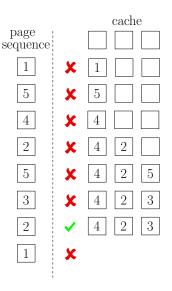
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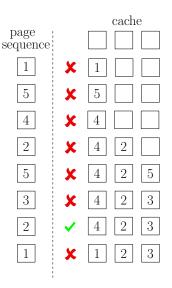
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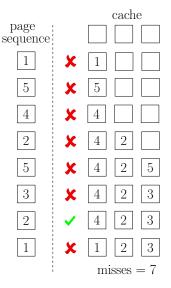
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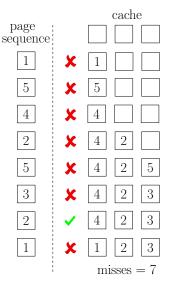
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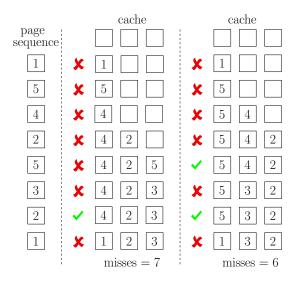
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- Cache hit happens if requested page already in cache.
- Goal: minimize the number of cache misses.



### A Better Solution for Example



**Input:** k: the size of cache n: number of pages  $\rho_1, \rho_2, \rho_3, \dots, \rho_T \in [n]$ : sequence of requests **Output:**  $i_1, i_2, i_3, \dots, i_T \in \{\text{hit, empty}\} \cup [n]$ : indices of pages to evict ("hit" means evicting no page, "empty" means evicting empty page)

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- Offline Caching: we know the whole sequence ahead of time.
- Online Caching: we have to make decisions on the fly, before seeing future requests.

**Input:** k: the size of cache n: number of pages  $\rho_1, \rho_2, \rho_3, \dots, \rho_T \in [n]$ : sequence of requests **Output:**  $i_1, i_2, i_3, \dots, i_T \in \{\text{hit, empty}\} \cup [n]$ : indices of pages to evict ("hit" means evicting no page, "empty" means evicting empty page)

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- Online Caching: we have to make decisions on the fly, before seeing future requests.
- Q: Which one is more realistic?

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#### A: Online caching

- Offline Caching: we know the whole sequence ahead of time.
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- Q: Which one is more realistic?
- A: Online caching

**Q:** Why do we study the offline caching problem?

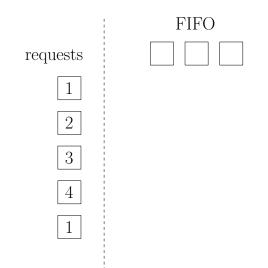
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- Online Caching: we have to make decisions on the fly, before seeing future requests.
- Q: Which one is more realistic?
- A: Online caching
- **Q:** Why do we study the offline caching problem?
- **A:** Use the offline solution as a benchmark to measure the "competitive ratio" of online algorithms

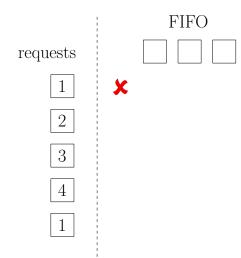
• FIFO(First-In-First-Out): always evict the first page in cache

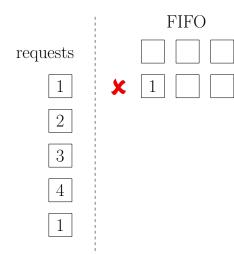
- FIFO(First-In-First-Out): always evict the first page in cache
- LRU(Least-Recently-Used): Evict page whose most recent access was earliest

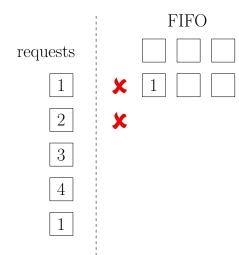
- FIFO(First-In-First-Out): always evict the first page in cache
- LRU(Least-Recently-Used): Evict page whose most recent access was earliest
- LFU(Least-Frequently-Used): Evict page that was least frequently requested

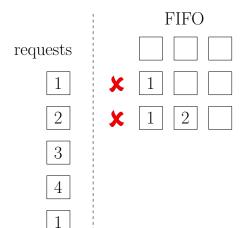
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- LRU(Least-Recently-Used): Evict page whose most recent access was earliest
- LFU(Least-Frequently-Used): Evict page that was least frequently requested
- All the above algorithms are not optimum!
- Indeed all the algorithms are "online", i.e, the decisions can be made without knowing future requests. Online algorithms can not be optimum.

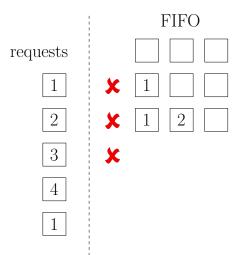


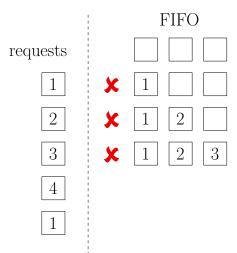


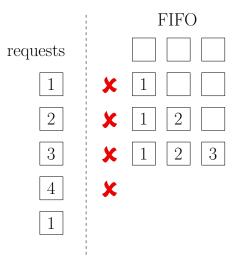


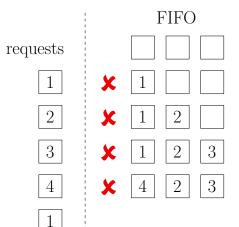


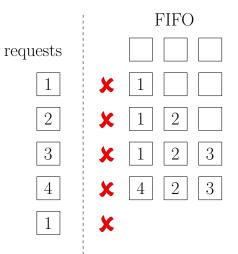


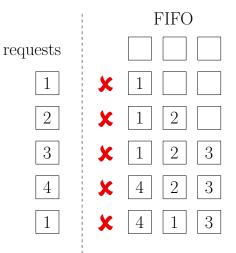


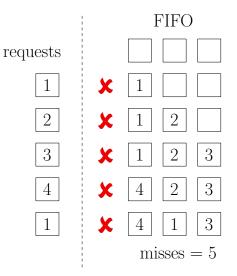


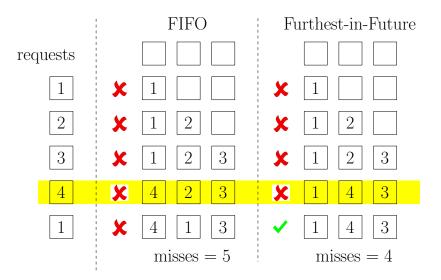










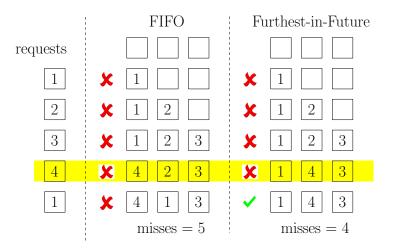


# **Optimum Offline Caching**

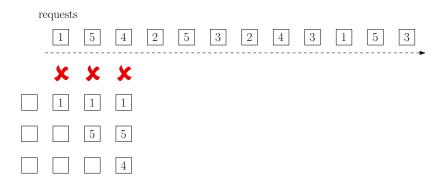
#### Furthest-in-Future (FF)

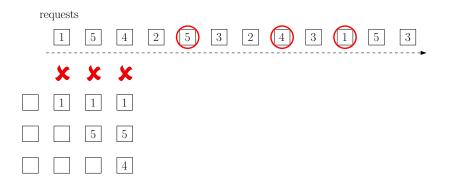
- Algorithm: every time, evict the item that is not requested until furthest in the future, if we need to evict one.
- The algorithm is **not** an online algorithm, since the decision at a step depends on the request sequence in the future.

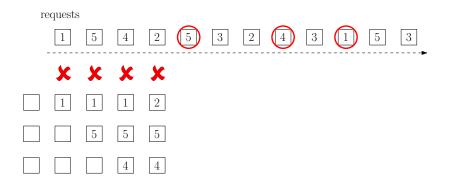
# Furthest-in-Future (FF)

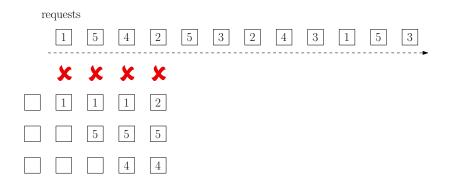


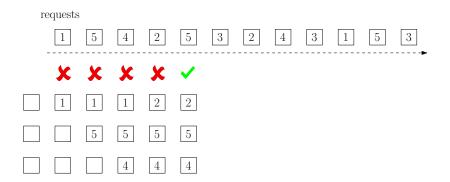
# requests 1 5 4 2 5 3 2 4 3 1 5 3

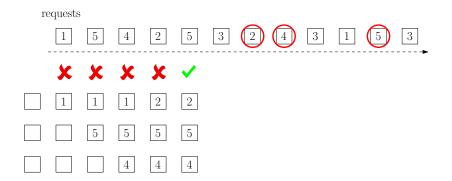


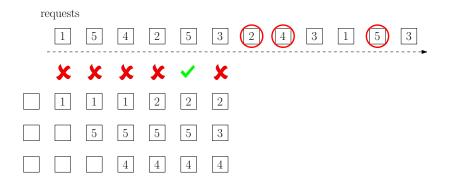


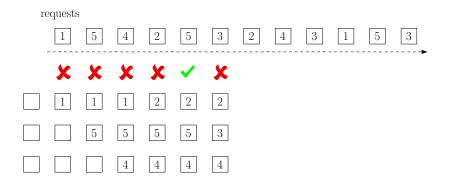


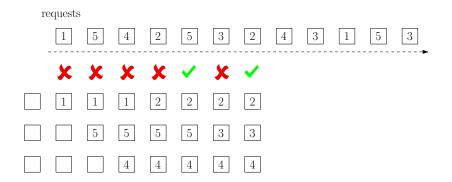


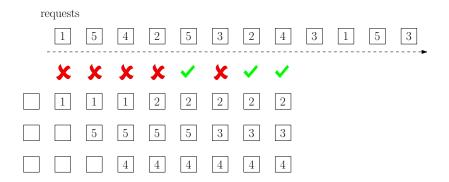


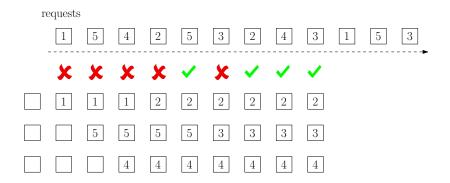


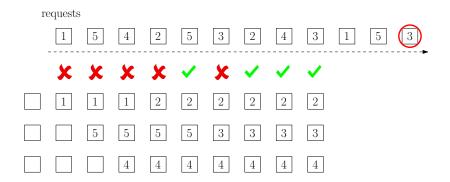


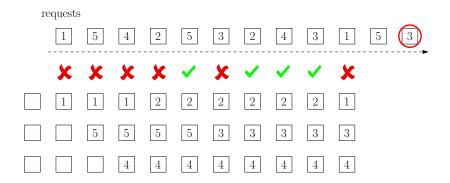


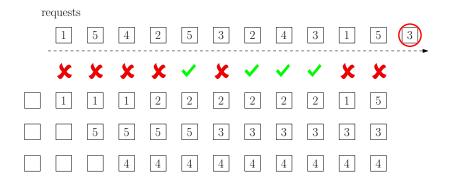


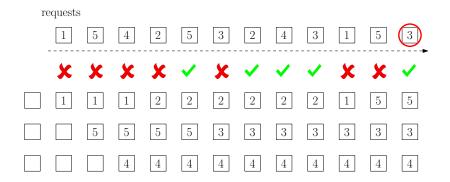












# Recall: Designing and Analyzing Greedy Algorithms

#### Greedy Algorithm

- Build up the solutions in steps
- At each step, make an irrevocable decision using a "reasonable" strategy

#### Analysis of Greedy Algorithm

- Prove that the reasonable strategy is "safe" (key)
- Show that the remaining task after applying the strategy is to solve a (many) smaller instance(s) of the same problem (usually easy)

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#### Offline Caching Problem Input: k: the size of cache n: number of pages $\rho_1, \rho_2, \rho_3, \dots, \rho_T \in [n]$ : sequence of requests Output: $i_1, i_2, i_3, \dots, i_t \in \{\text{hit}, \text{empty}\} \cup [n]$ • empty stands for an empty page • "hit" means evicting no pages

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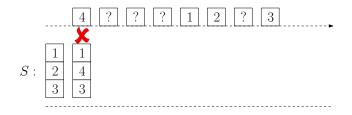
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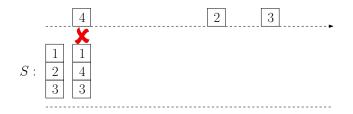
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  - In the example,  $p^{\ast}=3.$

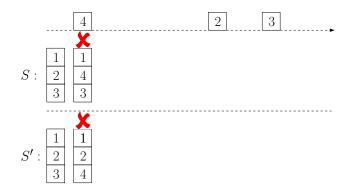


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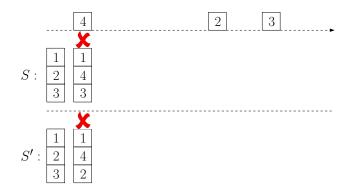


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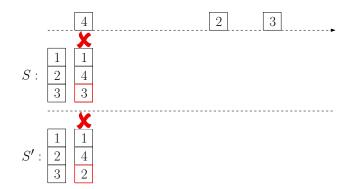




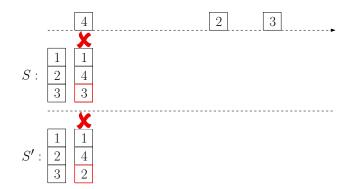
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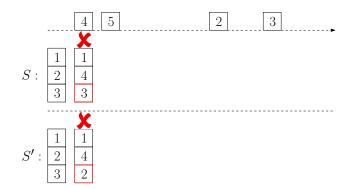
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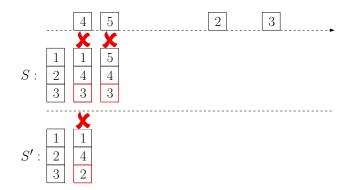
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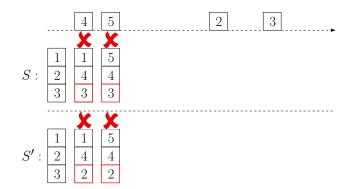
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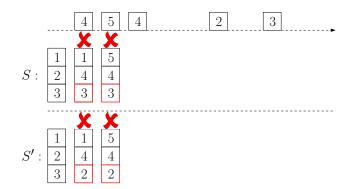
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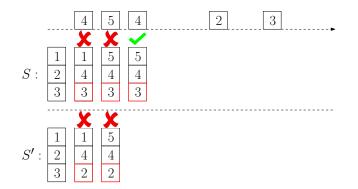
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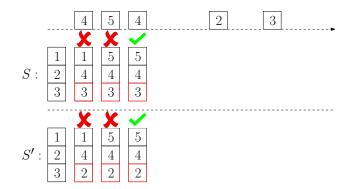
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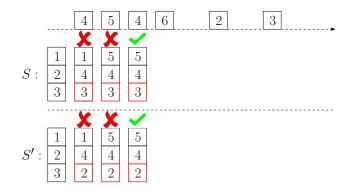
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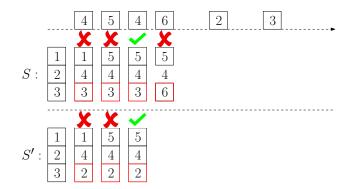
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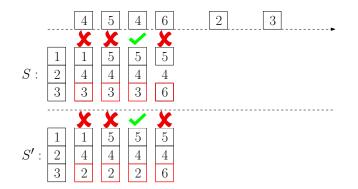
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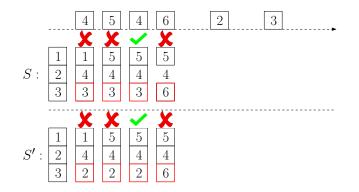
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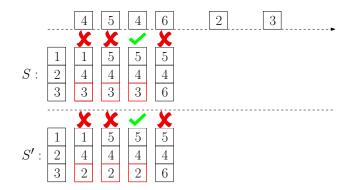


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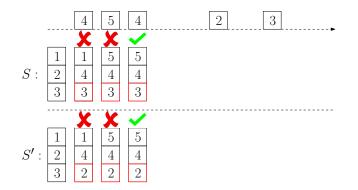


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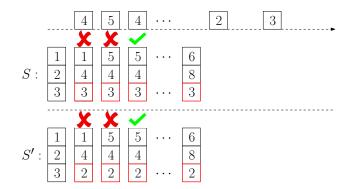


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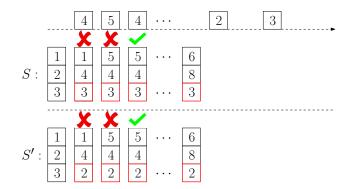
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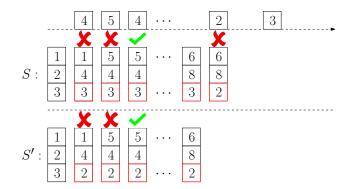
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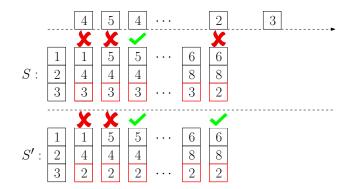


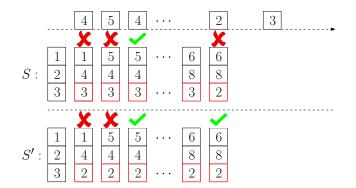
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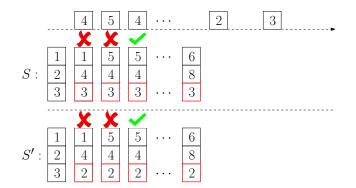
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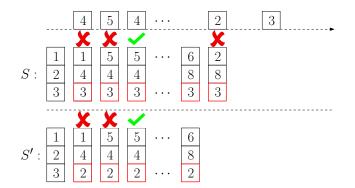


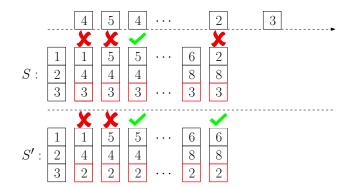


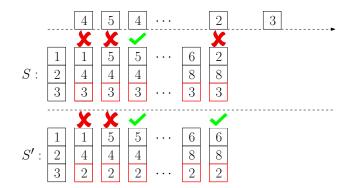




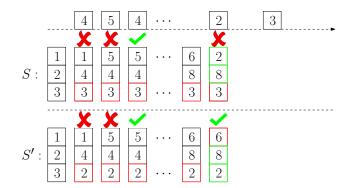




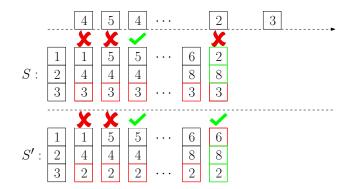


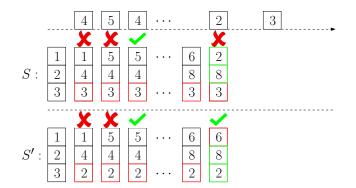


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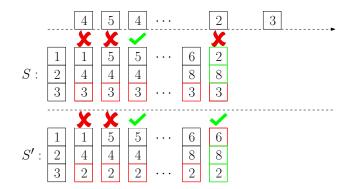


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- <sup>(2)</sup> We can then guarantee that S' make at most the same number of page-misses as S does.
  - Idea: if S has a page-hit and S' has a page-miss, we use the opportunity to make the status of S' the same as that of S.

• Thus, we have shown how to create another solution S' with the same number of page-misses as that of the optimum solution S. Thus, we proved

**Lemma** Assume at time 1 a page fault happens and there are no empty pages in the cache. Let  $p^*$  be the page in cache that is not requested until furthest in the future. There is an optimum solution in which  $p^*$  is evicted at time 1.

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**Theorem** The furthest-in-future strategy is optimum.

1: <b>fc</b>	or $t \leftarrow 1$ to $T$ do
2:	if $\rho_t$ is in cache <b>then</b> do nothing
3:	else if there is an empty page in cache then
4:	evict the empty page and load $ ho_t$ in cache
5:	else
6:	$p^* \leftarrow page$ in cache that is not used furthest in the future
7:	evict $p^*$ and load $ ho_t$ in cache



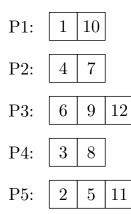
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- Use a priority queue data structure to hold all the pages in cache, so that we can easily find the page that is requested furthest in the future.

time	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
pages		P1	P5	P4	P2	P5	P3	P2	P4	P3	P1	P5	P3	

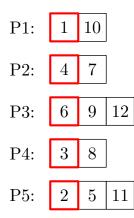


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priority queue

pages	priority values

	ł													
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pages		P1	P5	P4	P2	P5	P3	P2	P4	P3	P1	P5	P3	

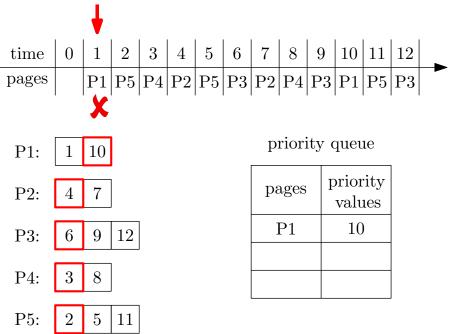


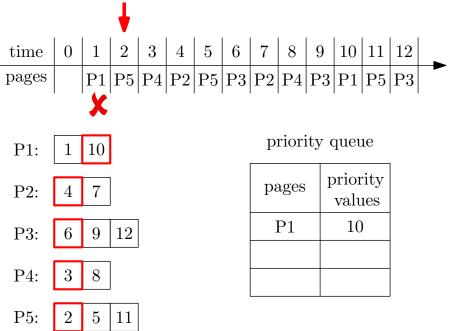
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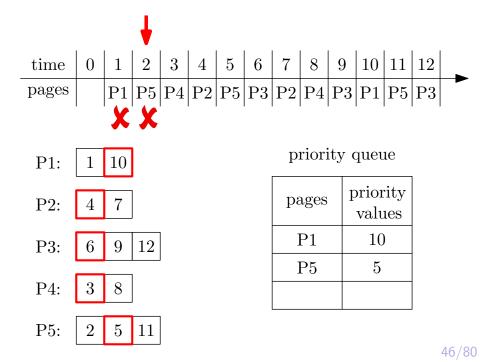
		¥												
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pages		P1	P5	P4	P2	P5	P3	P2	P4	P3	P1	P5	P3	
P1:	1	10	]					p	riori	ity a	quei	ıe		
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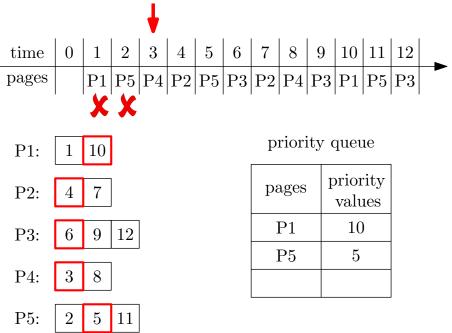
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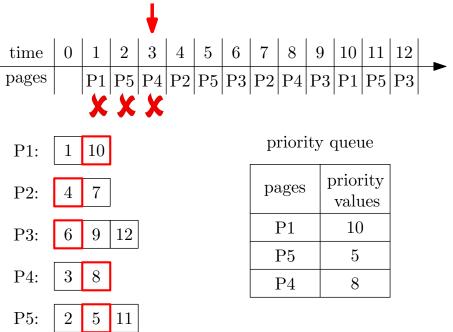


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					¥									
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pages		P1	P5	P4	P2	P5	P3	P2	P4	P3	P1	P5	P3	
		X	X	X										
P1:	1	10						p	riori	ity o	quet	ıe		
P2:	4	7						pa	ages	-	orior valu	•		
P3:	6	9	12					]	P1		10	)		
				]				]	P5		5			
P4:	3	8						]	P4		8			
P5:	2	5	11											

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time	0	1	2					7				11		
pages		P1	P5	P4	P2	P5	P3	P2	P4	P3	P1	P5	P3	
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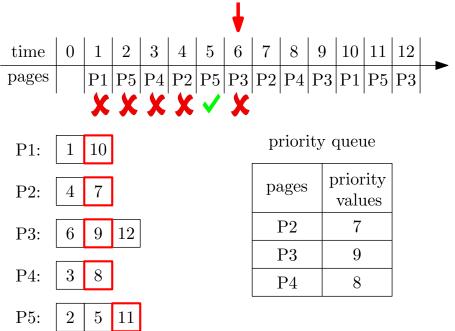
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		X	X	X	X	$\checkmark$								
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		X	X	X	X	~								
P1:	1	10						p	riori	ity o	quet	ıe	1	
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P3:	6	9	12					]	P2		7			
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time	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
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		X	X	X	X	<ul> <li>Image: A start of the start of</li></ul>	X	<b>V</b>	<b>V</b>	<b>V</b>	X	X	<b>V</b>	
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								]	P3		$\propto$	)		
P4:	3	8						]	P4		$\propto$	)		
P5:	2	5	11					L					1	

- 1: for every  $p \leftarrow 1$  to n do
- $\textbf{3:} \quad pointer[p] \gets 1$
- 4:  $Q \leftarrow \text{empty priority queue}$
- 5: for every  $t \leftarrow 1$  to T do
- 6:  $pointer[\rho_t] \leftarrow pointer[\rho_t] + 1$
- 7:  $nexttime[\rho_t] \leftarrow times[\rho_t, pointer[\rho_t]]$
- 8: **if**  $\rho_t \in Q$  then
- 9: Q.increase-key $(\rho_t, next time[\rho_t])$ , print "hit", continue
- 10: **if**  $Q.size() \le k$  then
- 11: **print** "load  $\rho_t$  to an empty page "
- 12: **else**
- 13:  $p \leftarrow Q.extract-max()$ , **print** "evict p and load  $\rho_t$ "
- $\begin{array}{ll} \mbox{14:} & Q.{\rm insert}(\rho_t, nexttime[\rho_t]) & \rhd \mbox{ add } \rho_t \mbox{ to } Q \mbox{ with key value } nexttime[\rho_t] \end{array}$

## Outline

### Toy Example: Box Packing

### 2 Interval Scheduling



### Offline Caching • Heap: Concrete Data Structure for Priority Queue

### Data Compression and Huffman Code

## 5 Summary

### • Let V be a ground set of size n.

**Def.** A priority queue is an abstract data structure that maintains a set  $U \subseteq V$  of elements, each with an associated key value, and supports the following operations:

- insert $(v, key\_value)$ : insert an element  $v \in V \setminus U$ , with associated key value  $key\_value$ .
- decrease\_key( $v, new_key_value$ ): decrease the key value of an element  $v \in U$  to  $new_key_value$
- extract\_min(): return and remove the element in U with the smallest key value

•••

# Simple Implementations for Priority Queue

• n = size of ground set V

data structures	insert	extract_min	decrease_key		
array					
sorted array					

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• n = size of ground set V

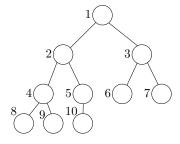
data structures	insert	extract_min	decrease_key
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## Simple Implementations for Priority Queue

• n = size of ground set V

data structures	insert	extract_min	decrease_key
array	O(1)	O(n)	O(1)
sorted array	O(n)	O(1)	O(n)
heap	$O(\lg n)$	$O(\lg n)$	$O(\lg n)$

The elements in a heap is organized using a complete binary tree:

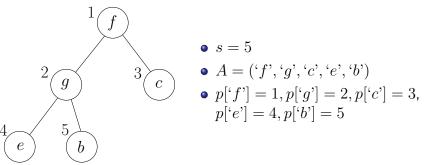


- Nodes are indexed as  $\{1, 2, 3, \cdots, s\}$
- Parent of node  $i: \lfloor i/2 \rfloor$
- Left child of node i: 2i
- Right child of node i: 2i + 1

## Heap

A heap  ${\cal H}$  contains the following fields

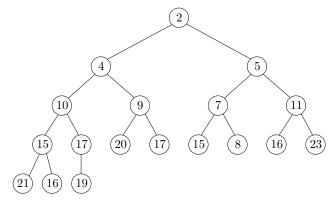
- s: size of U (number of elements in the heap)
- $A[i], 1 \leq i \leq s$ : the element at node i of the tree
- $p[v], v \in U$ : the index of node containing v
- $key[v], v \in U$ : the key value of element v



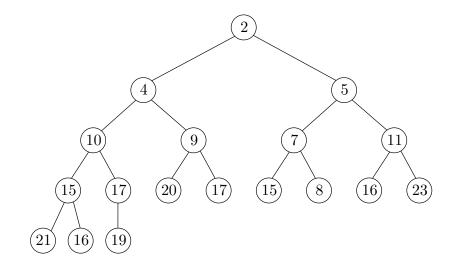
## Heap

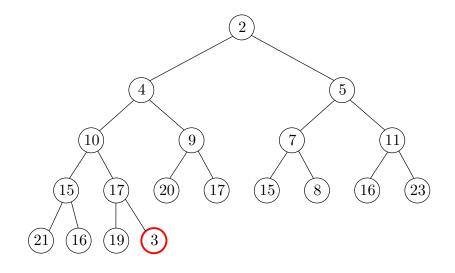
The following heap property is satisfied:

• for any two nodes i, j such that i is the parent of j, we have  $key[A[i]] \le key[A[j]].$ 

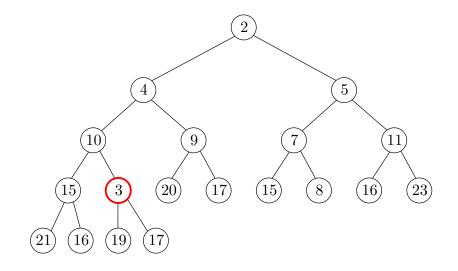


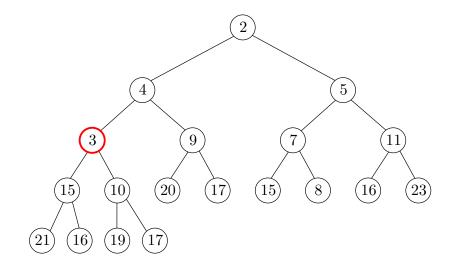
A heap. Numbers in the circles denote key values of elements.



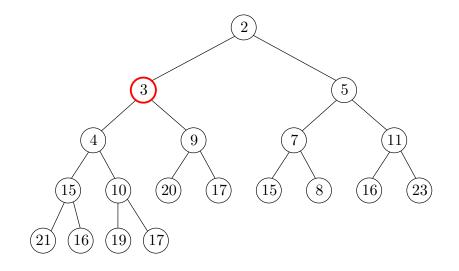


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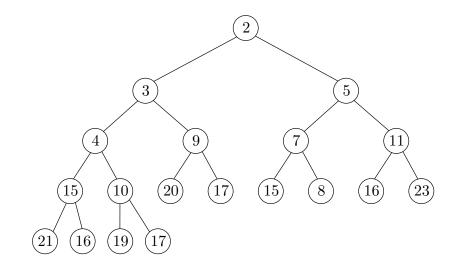
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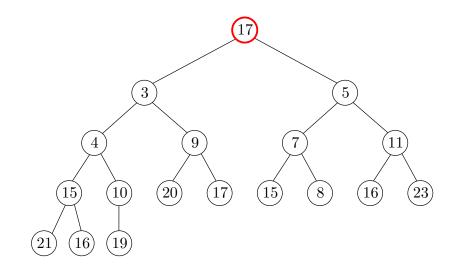
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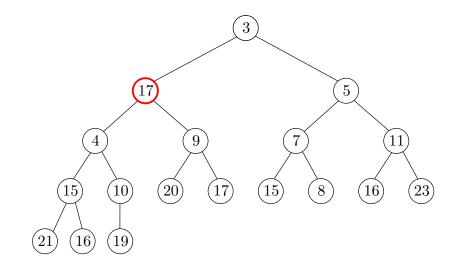
ins	$ert(v, key\_value)$
1:	$s \leftarrow s+1$
2:	$A[s] \leftarrow v$
3:	$p[v] \leftarrow s$
4:	$key[v] \leftarrow key\_value$
5:	$heapify\_up(s)$

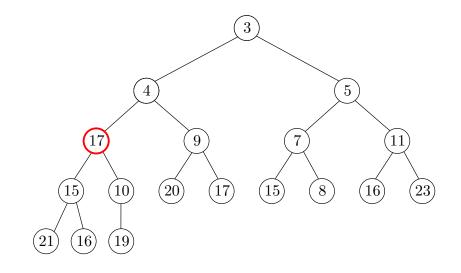
#### heapify-up(i)

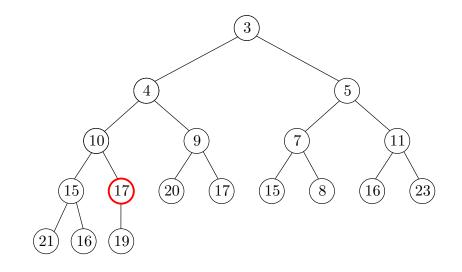


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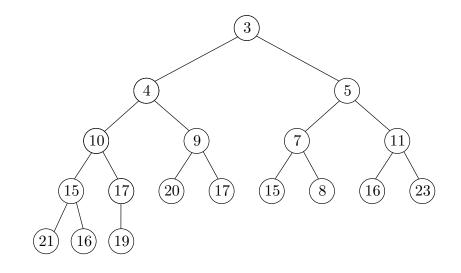








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- 1:  $ret \leftarrow A[1]$ 2:  $A[1] \leftarrow A[s]$ 3:  $p[A[1]] \leftarrow 1$ 4:  $s \leftarrow s - 1$ 5: **if**  $s \ge 1$  **then**
- 6:  $heapify_down(1)$
- 7: return ret

#### decrease\_key $(v, key_val)$

- 1:  $key[v] \leftarrow key\_value$
- 2: heapify-up(p[v])

#### heapify-down(i)

1: while 2i < s do if 2i = s or 2:  $key[A[2i]] \leq key[A[2i+1]]$  then  $i \leftarrow 2i$ 3: 4: else  $i \leftarrow 2i + 1$ 5: if key[A[j]] < key[A[i]] then 6: swap A[i] and A[j]7:  $p[A[i]] \leftarrow i, p[A[j]] \leftarrow j$ 8:  $i \leftarrow j$ 9: else break 10:

 $\bullet\,$  Running time of heapify\_up and heapify\_down:  $O(\lg n)$ 

- Running time of heapify\_up and heapify\_down:  $O(\lg n)$
- Running time of insert, exact\_min and decrease\_key:  $O(\lg n)$

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data structures	insert	extract_min	decrease_key
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sorted array	O(n)	O(1)	O(n)
heap	$O(\lg n)$	$O(\lg n)$	$O(\lg n)$

Two Definitions Needed to Prove that the Procedures Maintain Heap Property

**Def.** We say that H is almost a heap except that key[A[i]] is too small if we can increase key[A[i]] to make H a heap.

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## Outline

#### Toy Example: Box Packing

- 2 Interval Scheduling
- Offline Caching
   Heap: Concrete Data Structure for Priority Queue

#### 4 Data Compression and Huffman Code

#### 5 Summary

## **Encoding Letters Using Bits**

- 8 letters a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h in a language
- need to encode a message using bits
- idea: use 3 bits per letter

a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h
000	001	010	011	100	101	110	111

 $deacfg \rightarrow 011100000010101110$ 

Q: Can we have a better encoding scheme?

• Seems unlikely: must use 3 bits per letter

Q: What if some letters appear more frequently than the others?

**Q:** If some letters appear more frequently than the others, can we have a better encoding scheme?

A: Using variable-length encoding scheme might be more efficient.

#### Idea

• using fewer bits for letters that are more frequently used, and more bits for letters that are less frequently used.

# Q: What is the issue with the following encoding scheme? a: 0 b: 1 c: 00

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**A:** Can not guarantee a unique decoding. For example, 00 can be decoded to aa or c.

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**A:** Can not guarantee a unique decoding. For example, 00 can be decoded to aa or c.

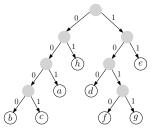
#### Solution

Use prefix codes to guarantee a unique decoding.

**Def.** A prefix code for a set S of letters is a function  $\gamma: S \to \{0, 1\}^*$  such that for two distinct  $x, y \in S$ ,  $\gamma(x)$  is not a prefix of  $\gamma(y)$ .

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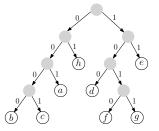
a	b	c	d
001	0000	0001	100
e	f	g	h



• Reason: there is only one way to cut the first code.

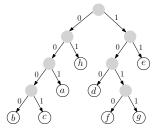
• Reason: there is only one way to cut the first code.

a	b	С	d
001	0000	0001	100
e	f	g	h
11	1010	1011	01



• Reason: there is only one way to cut the first code.

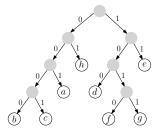
a	b	c	d
001	0000	0001	100
e	f	g	h



• 0001001100000001011110100001001

• Reason: there is only one way to cut the first code.

a	b	c	d
001	0000	0001	100
	ſ		1
e	Ĵ	g	h

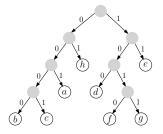


• 0001/00110000001011110100001001

• C

• Reason: there is only one way to cut the first code.

a	b	c	d
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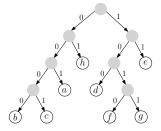


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Ca

• Reason: there is only one way to cut the first code.

a	b	c	d
001	0000	0001	100
e	f	g	h

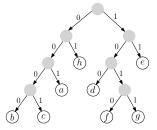


• 0001/001/100/000001011110100001001

• cad

• Reason: there is only one way to cut the first code.

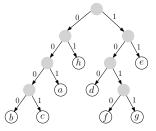
a	b	c	d
001	0000	0001	100
e	f	a	h
U	J	g	n



• 0001/001/100/0000/01011110100001001

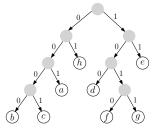
cadb

a	b	c	d
001	0000	0001	100
e	f	g	h
11	1010	1011	01



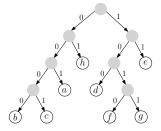
- 0001/001/100/0000/01/011110100001001
- cadbh

a	b	c	d
001	0000	0001	100
e	f	g	h



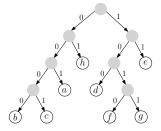
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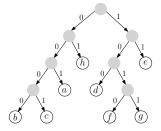
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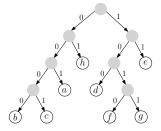
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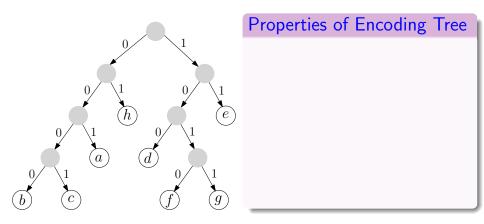


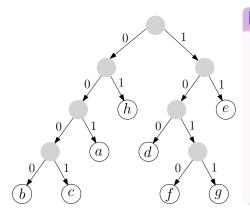
- 0001/001/100/0000/01/01/11/1010/0001/001
- cadbhhef<mark>c</mark>

a	b	c	d
001	0000	0001	100
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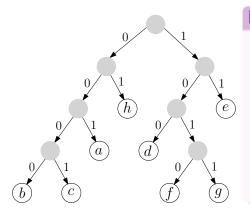
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- cadbhhefca



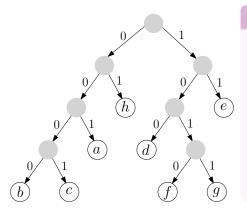


• Rooted binary tree

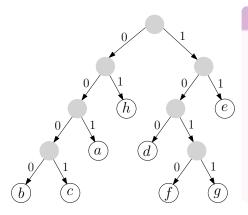
66/80



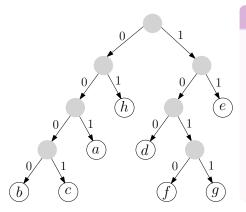
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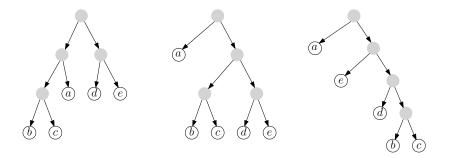
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#### Best Prefix Codes

Input: frequencies of letters in a message Output: prefix coding scheme with the shortest encoding for the message

### example

letters	a	b	c	d	e	
frequencies	18	3	4	6	10	



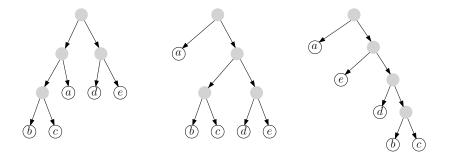
scheme 1



scheme 3

### example

letters	a	b	c	d	e	
frequencies	18	3	4	6	10	
scheme 1 length	2	3	3	2	2	total = 89
scheme 2 length	1	3	3	3	3	total = 87
scheme 3 length	1	4	4	3	2	total = 84



scheme 1



scheme 3

**Q:** What types of decisions should we make?

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• Can we directly give a code for some letter?

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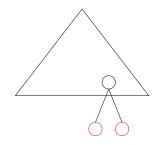
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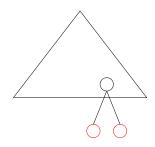
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A: We can choose two letters and make them brothers in the tree.

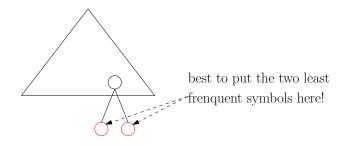
• Focus on the "structure" of the optimum encoding tree



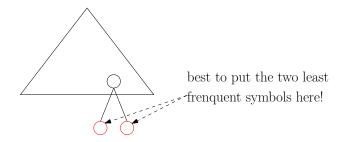
- Focus on the "structure" of the optimum encoding tree
- There are two deepest leaves that are brothers



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Lemma It is safe to make the two least frequent letters brothers.

• So we can irrevocably decide to make the two least frequent letters brothers.

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**Q:** Is the residual problem another instance of the best prefix codes problem?

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**Q:** Is the residual problem another instance of the best prefix codes problem?

A: Yes, though it is not immediate to see why.

- $f_x$ : the frequency of the letter x in the support.
- $x_1$  and  $x_2$ : the two letters we decided to put together.
- $d_x$  the depth of letter x in our output encoding tree.

 $\sum_{x \in S} f_x d_x$  $\sum f_x d_x + f_{x_1} d_{x_1} + f_{x_2} d_{x_2}$ =  $x \in S \setminus \{x_1, x_2\}$  $\sum f_x d_x + (f_{x_1} + f_{x_2}) d_{x_1}$  $x \in S \setminus \{x_1, x_2\}$ 

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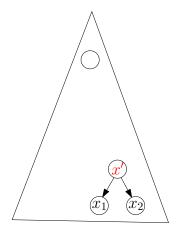
$$\sum_{x \in S} f_x d_x$$

$$= \sum_{x \in S \setminus \{x_1, x_2\}} f_x d_x + f_{x_1} d_{x_1} + f_{x_2} d_{x_2}$$

$$= \sum_{x \in S \setminus \{x_1, x_2\}} f_x d_x + (f_{x_1} + f_{x_2}) d_{x_1}$$

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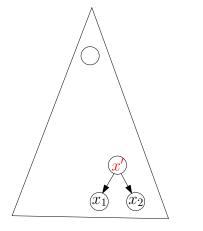
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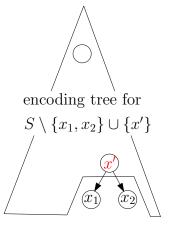
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Def:  $f_{r'} = f_{r_1} + f_{r_2}$ 

 $\sum f_x d_x$  $x \in S$  $= \sum f_x d_x + f_{x_1} d_{x_1} + f_{x_2} d_{x_2}$  $x \in S \setminus \{x_1, x_2\}$  $= \sum f_x d_x + (f_{x_1} + f_{x_2}) d_{x_1}$  $x \in S \setminus \{x_1, x_2\}$  $= \sum f_x d_x + f_{x'}(d_{x'} + 1)$  $x \in S \setminus \{x_1, x_2\}$  $\sum f_x d_x + f_{x'}$  $x \in S \setminus \{x_1, x_2\} \cup \{x'\}$ 

In order to minimize

$$\sum_{x \in S} f_x d_x,$$

we need to minimize

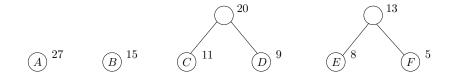
 $\sum_{x \in S \setminus \{x_1, x_2\} \cup \{x'\}} f_x d_x,$ 

subject to that d is the depth function for an encoding tree of  $S \setminus \{x_1, x_2\}$ .

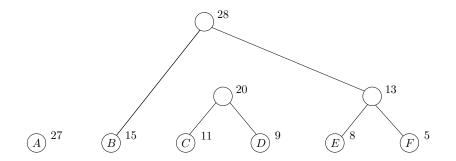
• This is exactly the best prefix codes problem, with letters  $S \setminus \{x_1, x_2\} \cup \{x'\}$  and frequency vector f!

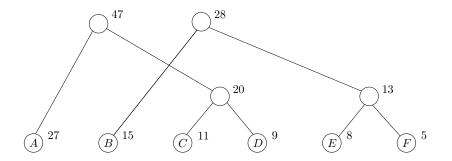


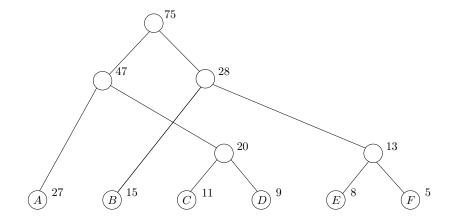


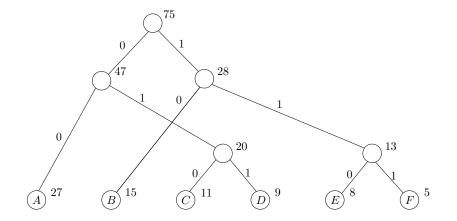


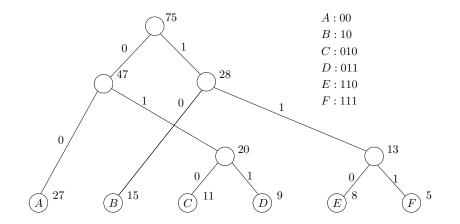
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**Def.** The codes given the greedy algorithm is called the Huffman codes.

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#### $\mathsf{Huffman}(S, f)$

- 1: while  $\left|S\right|>1~\mathrm{do}$
- 2: let  $x_1, x_2$  be the two letters with the smallest f values
- 3: introduce a new letter x' and let  $f_{x'} = f_{x_1} + f_{x_2}$
- 4: let  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  be the two children of x'

5: 
$$S \leftarrow S \setminus \{x_1, x_2\} \cup \{x'\}$$

6: return the tree constructed

# Algorithm using Priority Queue

#### $\mathsf{Huffman}(S, f)$

- 1:  $Q \leftarrow \mathsf{build-priority-queue}(S)$
- 2: while Q.size > 1 do
- 3:  $x_1 \leftarrow Q.\text{extract-min}()$
- 4:  $x_2 \leftarrow Q.\text{extract-min}()$
- 5: introduce a new letter x' and let  $f_{x'} = f_{x_1} + f_{x_2}$
- 6: let  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  be the two children of x'
- 7: Q.insert(x')
- 8: return the tree constructed

### Outline

#### Toy Example: Box Packing

- 2 Interval Scheduling
- Offline Caching
   Heap: Concrete Data Structure for Priority Queue
- 4 Data Compression and Huffman Code



- Build up the solutions in steps
- At each step, make an irrevocable decision using a "reasonable" strategy

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- Show that the remaining task after applying the strategy is to solve a (many) smaller instance(s) of the same problem (usually easy)

#### Analysis of Greedy Algorithm

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- Show that the remaining task after applying the strategy is to solve a (many) smaller instance(s) of the same problem (usually easy)

**Def.** A strategy is "safe" if there is always an optimum solution that "agrees with" the decision made according to the strategy.

 $\bullet\,$  Take an arbitrary optimum solution S

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- Offline caching: trivial
- Huffman codes: merge two letters into one