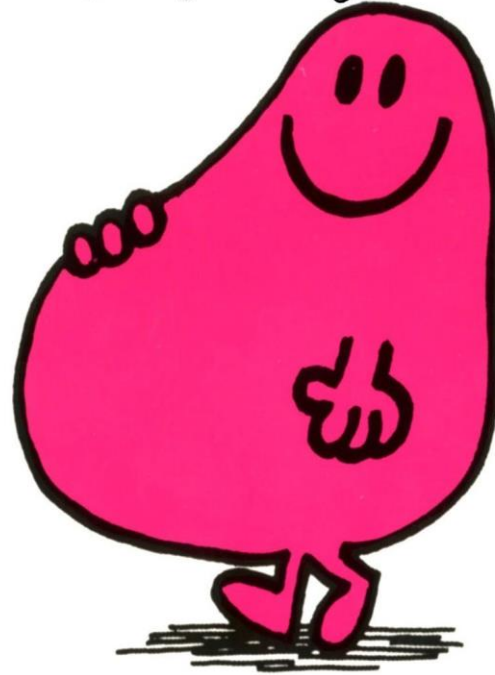


# MR. GREEDY

by Roger Hargreaves



## Algorithm Design and Analysis Greedy Algorithms

<http://ada.miulab.tw>

slido: #ADA2021



國立臺灣大學  
National Taiwan University

Yun-Nung (Vivian) Chen

# Outline

- Greedy Algorithms
- Greedy #1: Activity-Selection / Interval Scheduling
- Greedy #2: Coin Changing
- Greedy #3: Fractional Knapsack Problem
- Greedy #4: Huffman Codes
- Greedy #5: Breakpoint Selection
- Greedy #6: Task-Scheduling
- Greedy #7: Scheduling to Minimize Lateness



# Algorithm Design Strategy

- Do not focus on “specific algorithms”
- But “some strategies” to “design” algorithms
- First Skill: Divide-and-Conquer (各個擊破/分治)
- Second Skill: Dynamic Programming (動態規劃)
- Third Skill: Greedy (貪婪法則)

# Greedy Algorithms

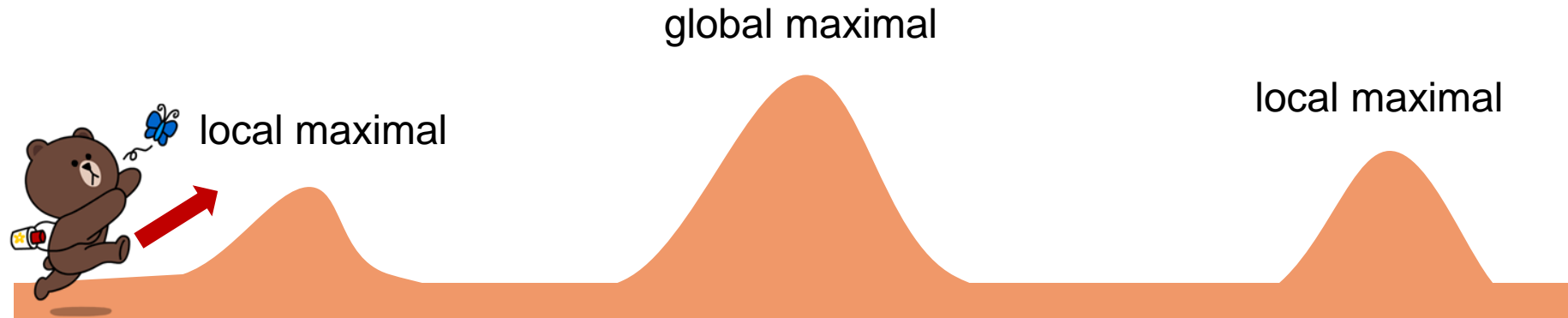
---

Textbook Chapter 16 – Greedy Algorithms

Textbook Chapter 16.2 – Elements of the greedy strategy

# What is Greedy Algorithms?

- always makes the choice that looks best at the moment
- makes a **locally optimal** choice in the hope that this choice will lead to a **globally optimal** solution
  - not always yield optimal solution; may end up at local optimal

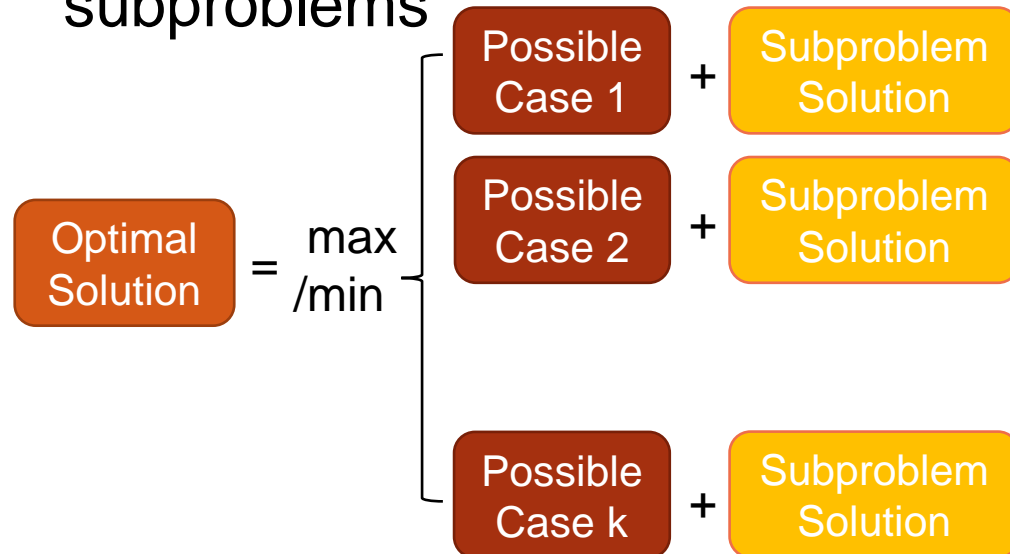


Greedy: move towards max gradient and hope it is global maximum

# Algorithm Design Paradigms

- Dynamic Programming

- has **optimal substructure**
- make an informed choice after getting optimal solutions to subproblems
- **dependent** or **overlapping** subproblems



- Greedy Algorithms

- has **optimal substructure**
- make a greedy choice before solving the subproblem
- **no overlapping** subproblems
  - ✓ Each round selects only one subproblem
  - ✓ The subproblem size decreases



# Greedy Procedure

1. **Cast the optimization problem** as one in which we make a choice and remain one subproblem to solve
2. **Demonstrate the optimal substructure**
  - ✓ Combining an optimal solution to the subproblem via greedy can arrive an optimal solution to the original problem
3. **Prove** that there is always an optimal solution to the original problem that makes the **greedy choice**

# Greedy Algorithms

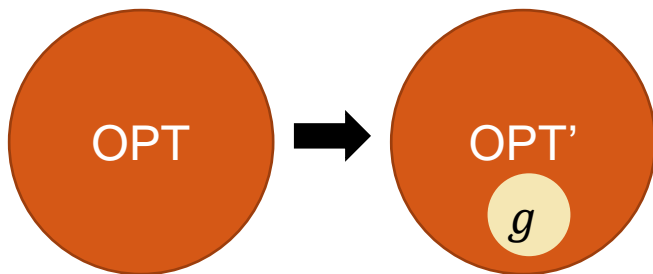
To yield an optimal solution, the problem should exhibit

1. **Optimal Substructure** : an optimal solution to the problem contains within its optimal solutions to subproblems
2. **Greedy-Choice Property** : making locally optimal (greedy) choices leads to a globally optimal solution



# Proof of Correctness Skills

- **Optimal Substructure**: an optimal solution to the problem contains within its optimal solutions to subproblems
- **Greedy-Choice Property**: making locally optimal (greedy) choices leads to a globally optimal solution
  - Show that it exists an optimal solution that “contains” the greedy choice using **exchange argument**
  - For any optimal solution OPT, the greedy choice  $g$  has two cases
    - $g$  is in OPT: done
    - $g$  not in OPT: modify OPT into OPT' s.t. OPT' contains  $g$  and is at least as good as OPT



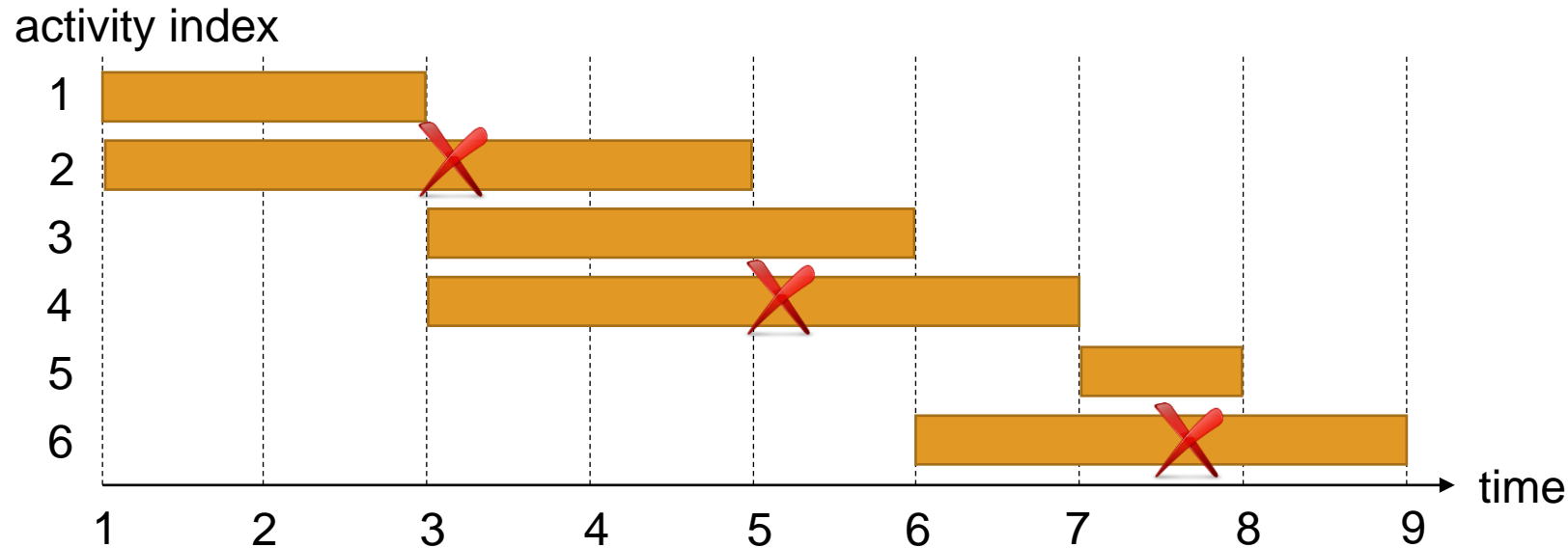
- ✓ If OPT' is better than OPT, the property is proved by contradiction
- ✓ If OPT' is as good as OPT, then we showed that there exists an optimal solution containing  $g$  by construction

# Greedy #1: Activity-Selection / Interval Scheduling

Textbook Chapter 16.1 – An activity-selection problem

# Activity-Selection/ Interval Scheduling

- Input:  $n$  activities with start times  $s_i$  and finish times  $f_i$  (the activities are sorted in monotonically increasing order of finish time  $f_1 \leq f_2 \leq \dots \leq f_n$ )
- Output: the maximum number of compatible activities
- Without loss of generality:  $s_1 < s_2 < \dots < s_n$  and  $f_1 < f_2 < \dots < f_n$ 
  - 大的包小的則不考慮大的  $\rightarrow$  用小的取代大的一定不會變差





# Weighted Interval Scheduling

## Weighted Interval Scheduling Problem

Input:  $n$  jobs with  $\langle s_i, f_i, v_i \rangle$ ,  $p(j)$  = largest index  $i < j$  s.t. jobs  $i$  and  $j$  are compatible

Output: the maximum total value obtainable from compatible

- Subproblems
  - $WIS(i)$ : weighted interval scheduling for the first  $i$  jobs
  - Goal:  $WIS(n)$
- Dynamic programming algorithm

$$M_i = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i = 0 \\ \max(v_i + M_{p(i)}, M_{i-1}) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

i	0	1	2	3	4	5	...	n
M[i]								

$$T(n) = \Theta(n)$$

Set  $v_i = 1$  for all  $i$  to formulate it into the activity-selection problem

# Activity-Selection Problem

## Activity-Selection Problem

Input:  $n$  activities with  $\langle s_i, f_i \rangle$ ,  $p(j)$  = largest index  $i < j$  s.t.  $i$  and  $j$  are compatible

Output: the maximum number of activities

- Dynamic programming

$$M_i = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i = 0 \\ \max(1 + M_{p(i)}, M_{i-1}) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- **Optimal substructure** is already proved
- Greedy algorithm

$$M_i = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i = 0 \\ 1 + M_{p(i)} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

select the  $i$ -th activity

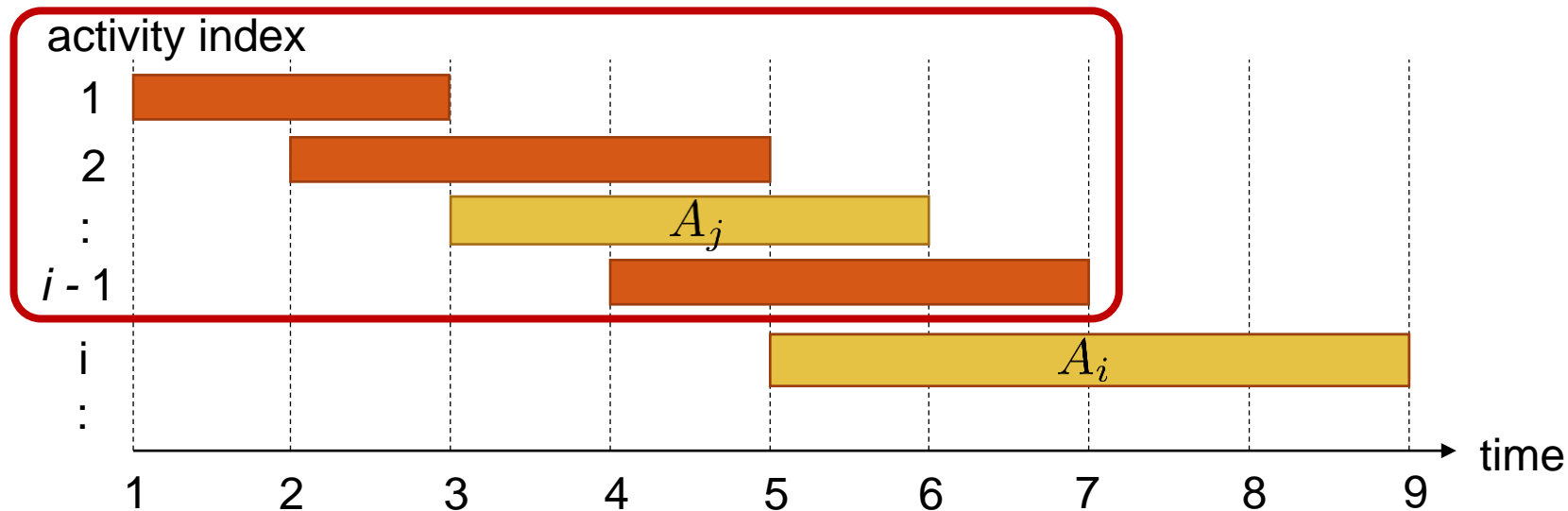
Why does the  $i$ -th activity must appear in an OPT?



# Greedy-Choice Property

- Goal:  $1 + M_{p(i)} \geq M_{i-1}$
- Proof
  - Assume there is an OPT solution for the first  $i - 1$  activities ( $M_{i-1}$ )
    - $A_j$  is the last activity in the OPT solution  $\rightarrow M_{i-1} = 1 + M_{p(j)}$
  - Replacing  $A_j$  with  $A_i$  does not make the OPT worse

$$1 + M_{p(i)} \geq 1 + M_{p(j)} = M_{i-1}$$



# Pseudo Code

## Activity-Selection Problem

Input:  $n$  activities with  $\langle s_i, f_i \rangle$ ,  $p(j)$  = largest index  $i < j$  s.t.  $i$  and  $j$  are compatible

Output: the maximum number of activities

```

Act-Select( $n, s, f, v, p$ )
   $M[0] = 0$ 
  for  $i = 1$  to  $n$ 
     $M[i] = 1 + M[p[i]]$ 
  return  $M[n]$ 

```

$$T(n) = \Theta(n)$$

```

Find-Solution( $M, n$ )
  if  $n = 0$ 
    return {}
  return  $\{n\} \cup \text{Find-Solution}(p[n])$ 

```

$$T(n) = \Theta(n)$$

Select the **last** compatible one ( $\leftarrow$ ) = Select the **first** compatible one ( $\rightarrow$ )



# Greedy #2: Coin Changing

---

Textbook Exercise 16.1



# Coin Changing Problem

- Input:  $n$  dollars and unlimited coins with values  $\{v_i\}$  (1, 5, 10, 50)
- Output: the minimum number of coins with the total value  $n$
- **Cashier's algorithm:** at each iteration, add the coin with the largest value no more than the current total

Does this algorithm return the OPT?



# Step 1: Cast Optimization Problem

## Coin Changing Problem

Input:  $n$  dollars and unlimited coins with values  $\{v_i\}$  (1, 5, 10, 50)

Output: the minimum number of coins with the total value  $n$

- Subproblems
  - $C(i)$ : minimal number of coins for the total value  $i$
  - Goal:  $C(n)$

# Step 2: Prove Optimal Substructure

## Coin Changing Problem

Input:  $n$  dollars and unlimited coins with values  $\{v_i\}$  (1, 5, 10, 50)

Output: the minimum number of coins with the total value  $n$

- Suppose OPT is an optimal solution to  $C(i)$ , there are 4 cases:
  - Case 1: coin 1 in OPT
    - $\text{OPT} \setminus \text{coin1}$  is an optimal solution of  $C(i - v_1)$
  - Case 2: coin 2 in OPT
    - $\text{OPT} \setminus \text{coin2}$  is an optimal solution of  $C(i - v_2)$
  - Case 3: coin 3 in OPT
    - $\text{OPT} \setminus \text{coin3}$  is an optimal solution of  $C(i - v_3)$
  - Case 4: coin 4 in OPT
    - $\text{OPT} \setminus \text{coin4}$  is an optimal solution of  $C(i - v_4)$

$$C_i = \min_j (1 + C_{i-v_j})$$

# Step 3: Prove Greedy-Choice Property

## Coin Changing Problem

Input:  $n$  dollars and unlimited coins with values  $\{v_i\}$  (1, 5, 10, 50)

Output: the minimum number of coins with the total value  $n$

- Greedy choice: select the coin with the largest value no more than the current total
- Proof via contradiction (use the case  $10 \leq i < 50$  for demo)
  - Assume that there is no OPT including this greedy choice (choose 10)
    - all OPT use 1, 5, 50 to pay  $i$ 
      - 50 cannot be used
      - #coins with value 5  $< 2 \rightarrow$  otherwise we can use a 10 to have a better output
      - #coins with value 1  $< 5 \rightarrow$  otherwise we can use a 5 to have a better output
  - We cannot pay  $i$  with the constraints (at most  $5 + 4 = 9$ )



# Greedy #3: Fractional Knapsack Problem

Textbook Exercise 16.2-2

# Knapsack Problem



- Input:  $n$  items where  $i$ -th item has value  $v_i$  and weighs  $w_i$  ( $v_i$  and  $w_i$  are positive integers)
- Output: the maximum value for the knapsack with capacity of  $W$
- Variants of knapsack problem
  - 0-1 Knapsack Problem: 每項物品只能拿一個
  - Unbounded Knapsack Problem: 每項物品可以拿多個
  - Multidimensional Knapsack Problem: 背包空間有限
  - Multiple-Choice Knapsack Problem: 每一類物品最多拿一個
  - Fractional Knapsack Problem: 物品可以只拿部分

# Knapsack Problem



- Input:  $n$  items where  $i$ -th item has value  $v_i$  and weighs  $w_i$  ( $v_i$  and  $w_i$  are positive integers)
- Output: the maximum value for the knapsack with capacity of  $W$
- Variants of knapsack problem
  - 0-1 Knapsack Problem: 每項物品只能拿一個
  - Unbounded Knapsack Problem: 每項物品可以拿多個
  - Multidimensional Knapsack Problem: 背包空間有限
  - Multiple-Choice Knapsack Problem: 每一類物品最多拿一個
  - **Fractional Knapsack Problem: 物品可以只拿部分**

# Fractional Knapsack Problem

- Input:  $n$  items where  $i$ -th item has value  $v_i$  and weighs  $w_i$  ( $v_i$  and  $w_i$  are positive integers)
- Output: the maximum value for the knapsack with capacity of  $W$ , where we can take **any fraction of items**
- Greedy algorithm: at each iteration, choose the item with the highest  $\frac{v_i}{w_i}$  and continue when  $W - w_i > 0$



# Step 1: Cast Optimization Problem

## Fractional Knapsack Problem

Input:  $n$  items where  $i$ -th item has value  $v_i$  and weighs  $w_i$

Output: the max value within  $W$  capacity, where we can take **any fraction of items**

- Subproblems
  - $F\text{-KP}(i, w)$ : fractional knapsack problem within  $w$  capacity for the first  $i$  items
  - Goal:  $F\text{-KP}(n, W)$

# Step 2: Prove Optimal Substructure

## Fractional Knapsack Problem

Input:  $n$  items where  $i$ -th item has value  $v_i$  and weighs  $w_i$

Output: the max value within  $W$  capacity, where we can take **any fraction of items**

- Suppose OPT is an optimal solution to  $F-KP(i, w)$ , there are 2 cases:
  - Case 1: full/partial item  $i$  in OPT
    - Remove  $w'$  of item  $i$  from OPT is an optimal solution of  $F-KP(i - 1, w - w')$
  - Case 2: item  $i$  not in OPT
    - OPT is an optimal solution of  $F-KP(i - 1, w)$

# Step 3: Prove Greedy-Choice Property

## Fractional Knapsack Problem

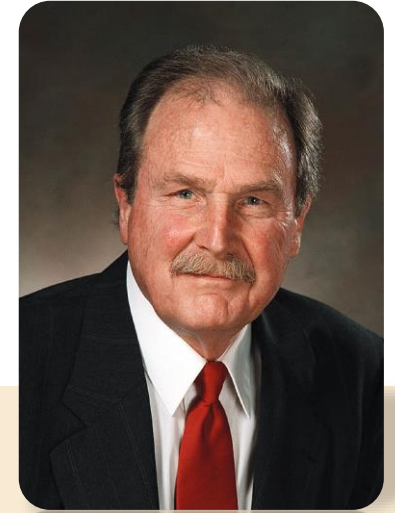
Input:  $n$  items where  $i$ -th item has value  $v_i$  and weighs  $w_i$

Output: the max value within  $W$  capacity, where we can take **any fraction of items**

- Greedy choice: select the item with the highest  $\frac{v_i}{w_i}$
- Proof via contradiction ( $j = \operatorname{argmax}_i \frac{v_i}{w_i}$ )
  - Assume that there is no OPT including this greedy choice
    - If  $W \leq w_j$ , we can replace all items in OPT with item  $j$
    - If  $W > w_j$ , we can replace any item weighting  $w_j$  in OPT with item  $j$
  - The total value must be equal or higher, because item  $j$  has the highest  $\frac{v_i}{w_i}$

Do other knapsack problems have this property?





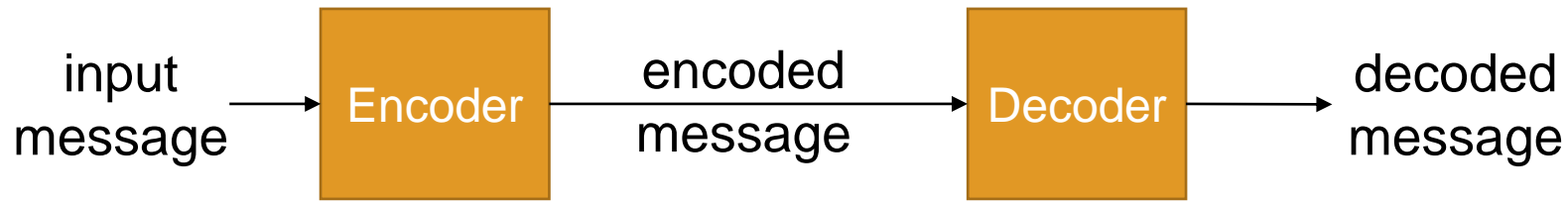
# Greedy #4: Huffman Codes

---

Textbook Chapter 16.3 – Huffman codes

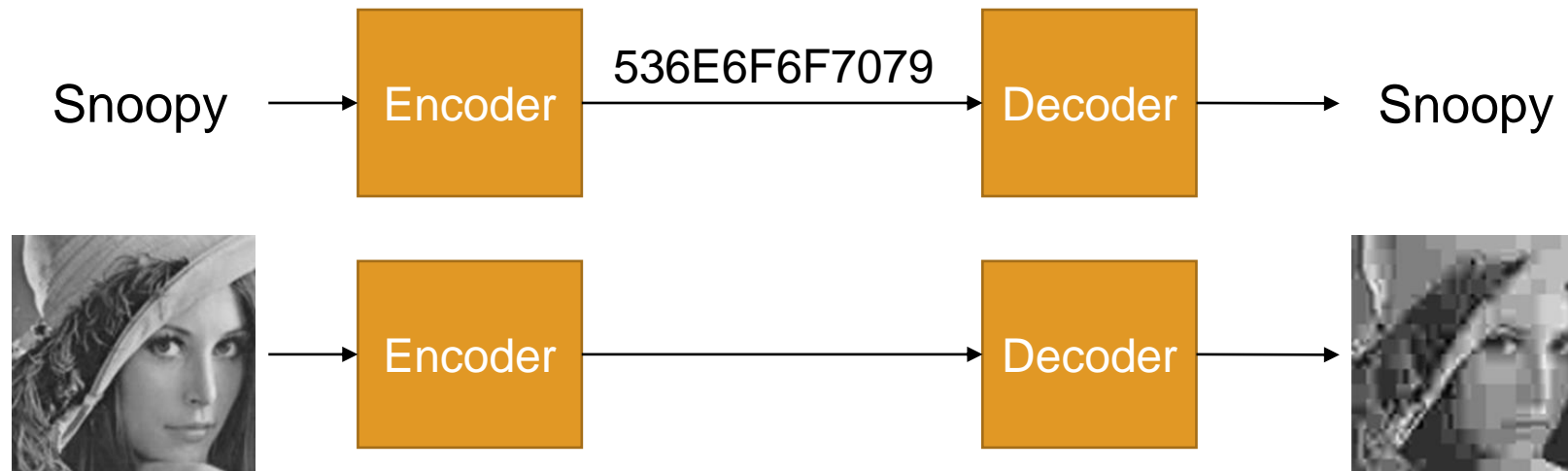
# Encoding & Decoding

- **Code (編碼)** is a system of **rules to convert information**—such as a letter, word, sound, image, or gesture—into another, sometimes shortened or secret, form or representation for communication through a channel or storage in a medium.

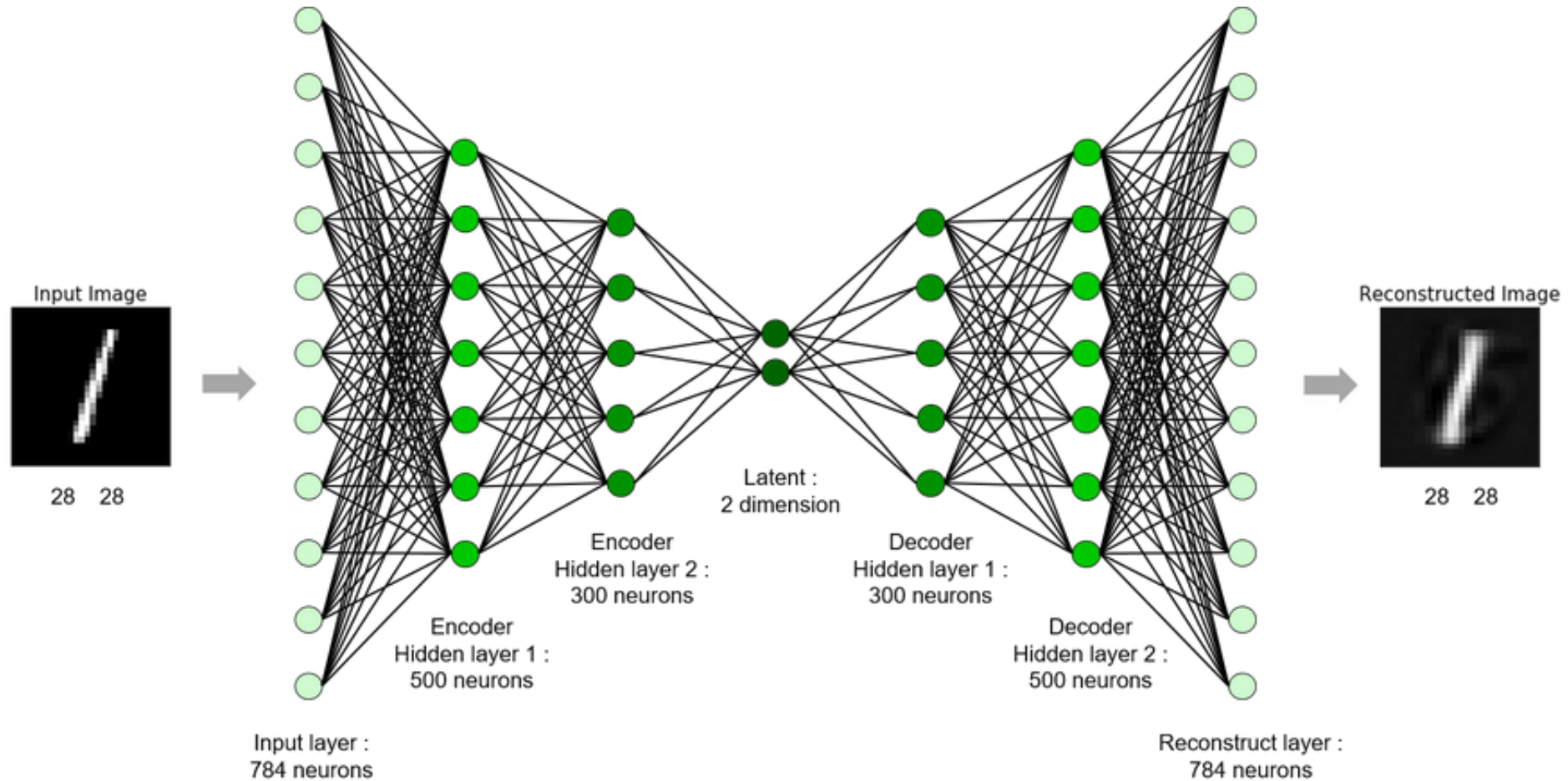


# Encoding & Decoding

- Goal
  - Enable communication and storage
  - Detect or correct errors introduced during transmission
  - Compress data: lossy or lossless



# Lossy Data Compression: Autoencoder



# Lossless Data Compression

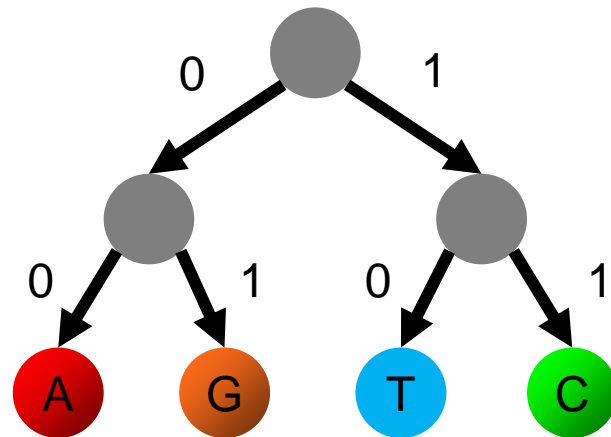
- Goal: encode each symbol using a unique binary code (w/o ambiguity)
  - How to represent symbols?
  - How to ensure  $\text{decode}(\text{encode}(x))=x$ ?
  - How to minimize the number of bits?



# Lossless Data Compression

- Goal: encode each symbol using a unique binary code (w/o ambiguity)
  - **How to represent symbols?**
  - How to ensure  $\text{decode}(\text{encode}(x))=x$ ?
  - How to minimize the number of bits?

find a binary tree



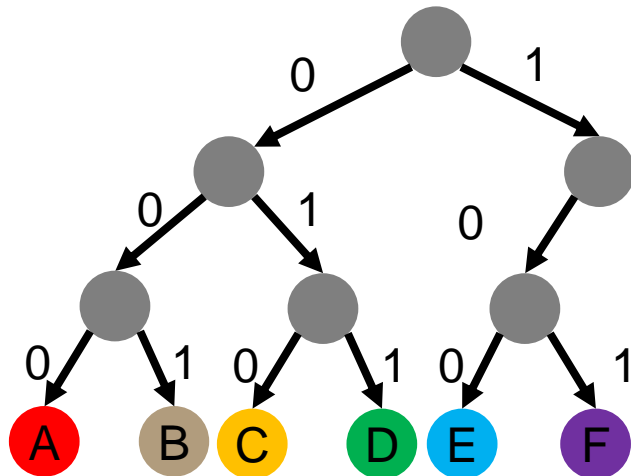
10101101011010100101010010  
T T C G G T T T G G G A T

# Code

Symbol	A	B	C	D	E	F
Frequency (K)	45	13	12	16	9	5
Fixed-length	000	001	010	011	100	101
Variable-length	0	101	100	111	1101	1100

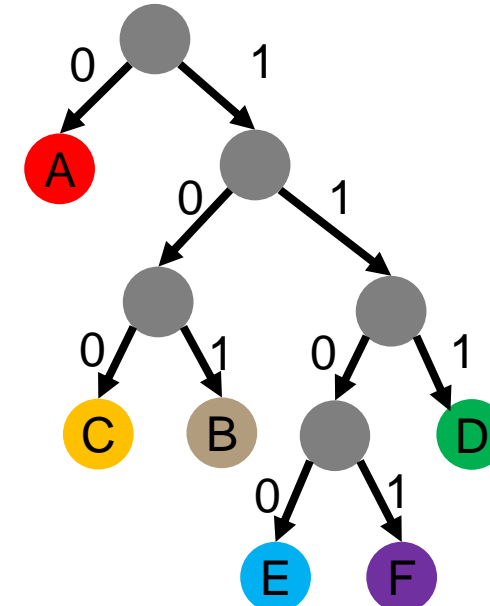
- **Fixed-length:** use the same number of bits for encoding every symbol

- Ex. ASCII, Big5, UTF



- The length of this sequence is  $(45 + 13 + 12 + 16 + 9 + 5) \cdot 3 = 300$

- **Variable-length:** shorter codewords for more frequent symbols



- The length of this sequence is  $45 \cdot 1 + (13 + 12 + 16) \cdot 3 + (9 + 5) \cdot 4 = 224$

# Lossless Data Compression

- Goal: encode each symbol using a unique binary code (w/o ambiguity)
  - How to represent symbols?
  - **How to ensure  $\text{decode}(\text{encode}(x))=x$ ?**
  - How to minimize the number of bits?

use codes that are uniquely decodable

# Prefix Code

- Definition: a variable-length code where no codeword is a prefix of some other codeword

Symbol		A	B	C	D	E	F
<i>Frequency (K)</i>		45	13	12	16	9	5
Variable-length	Prefix code	0	101	100	111	1101	1100
	Not prefix code	0	<b>101</b>	<b>10</b>	111	1101	1100

- Ambiguity: decode(1011100) can be 'BF' or 'CDAA'

prefix codes are uniquely decodable

# Lossless Data Compression

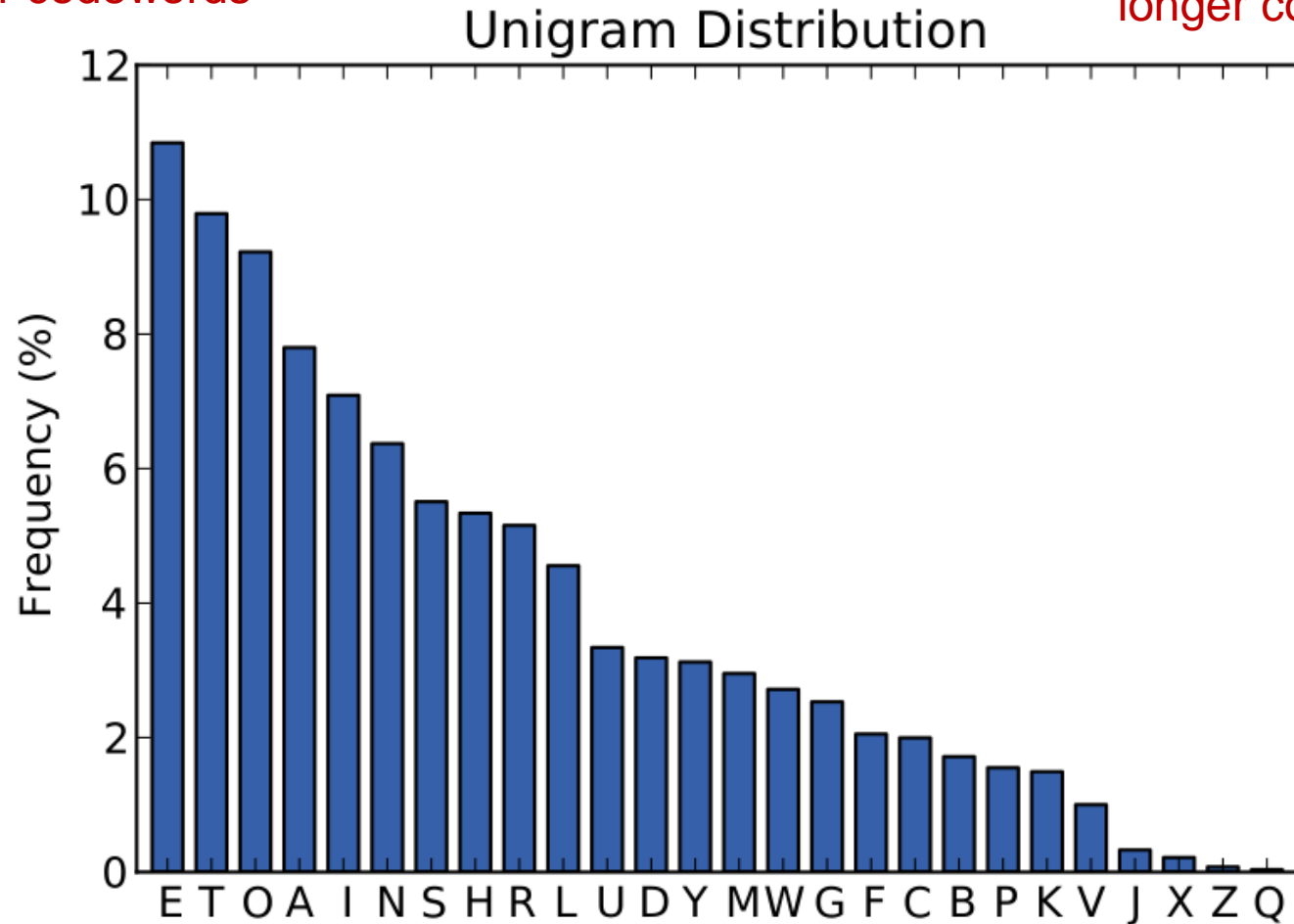
- Goal: encode each symbol using a unique binary code (w/o ambiguity)
  - How to represent symbols?
  - How to ensure  $\text{decode}(\text{encode}(x))=x$ ?
  - **How to minimize the number of bits?**

more frequent symbols should use shorter codewords

# Letter Frequency Distribution

shorter codewords

longer codewords



# Total Length of Codes

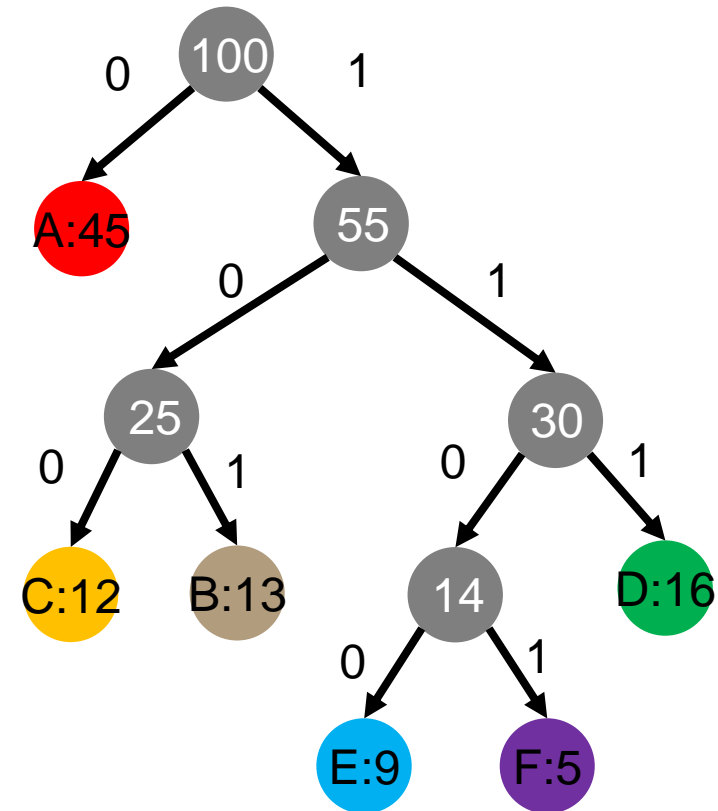
- The weighted depth of a leaf = weight of a leaf (freq) × depth of a leaf
- Total length of codes = Total weighted depth of leaves
- Cost of the tree  $T$

$$B(T) = \sum_{c \in C} \text{freq}(c) \cdot d_T(c)$$

- Average bits per character

$$\frac{B(T)}{100} = \sum_{c \in C} \text{relative-freq}(c) \cdot d_T(c)$$

How to find the **optimal prefix code** to **minimize the cost**?



# Prefix Code Problem

- Input:  $n$  positive integers  $w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n$  indicating word frequency
- Output: a binary tree of  $n$  leaves, whose weights form  $w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n$  s.t. the cost of the tree is minimized

$$T^* = \arg \min_T B(T) = \arg \min_T \sum_{c \in C} \text{freq}(c) \cdot d_T(c)$$



# Step 1: Cast Optimization Problem

## Prefix Code Problem

Input:  $n$  positive integers  $w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n$  indicating word frequency

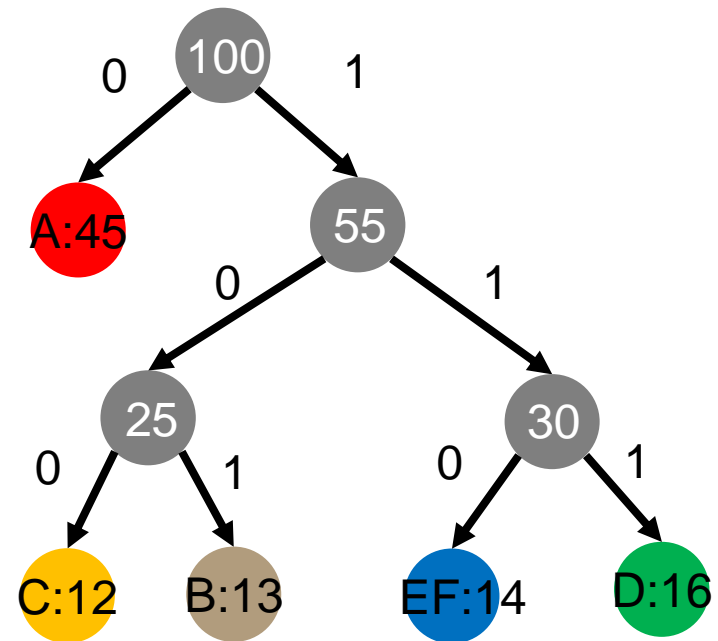
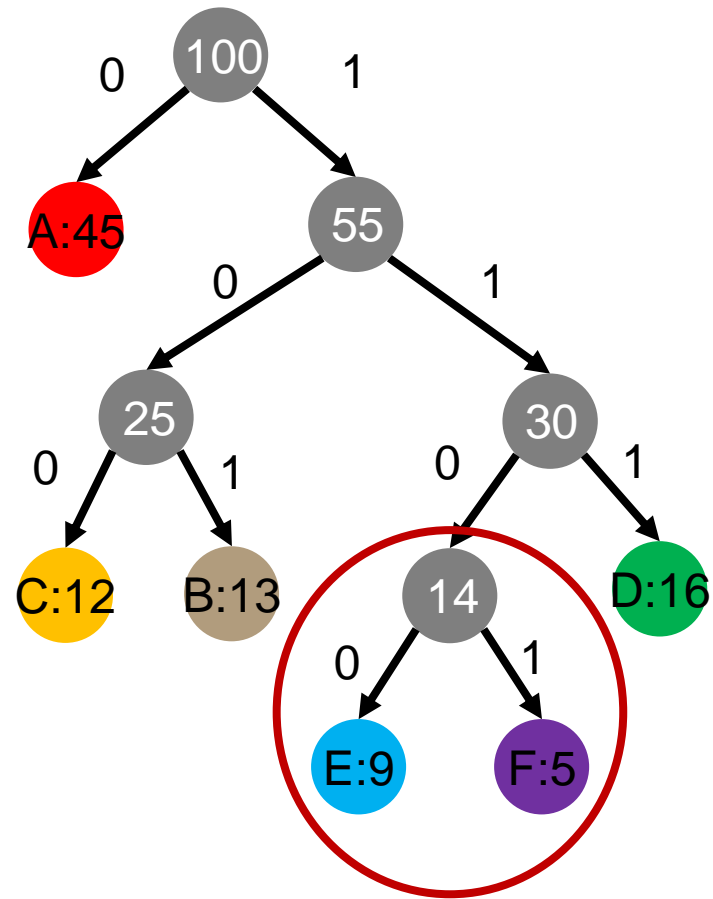
Output: a binary tree of  $n$  leaves with minimal cost

- Subproblem: merge two characters into a new one whose weight is their sum
  - $PC(i)$ : prefix code problem for  $i$  leaves
  - Goal:  $PC(n)$
- Issues
  - It is not the subproblem of the original problem
  - The cost of two merged characters should be considered

$$PC(n) \rightarrow PC(n - 1)$$



# Example



# Step 2: Prove Optimal Substructure

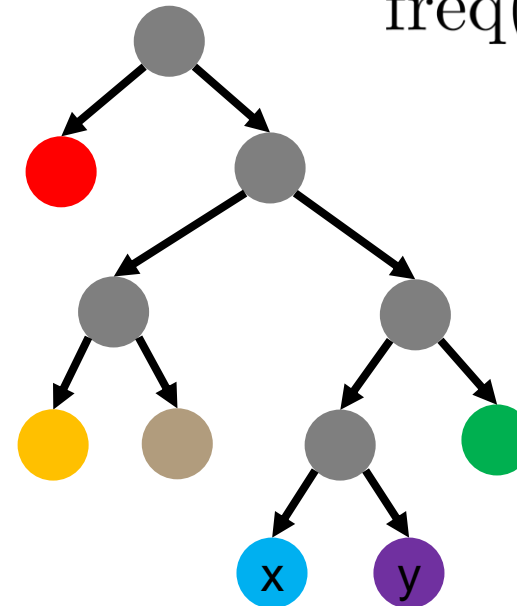
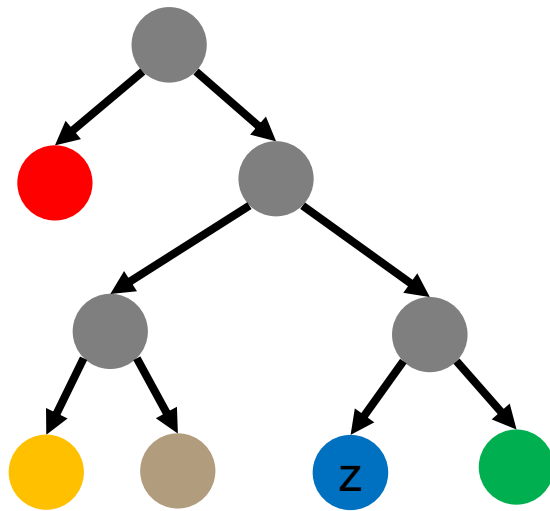
## Prefix Code Problem

Input:  $n$  positive integers  $w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n$  indicating word frequency

Output: a binary tree of  $n$  leaves with minimal cost

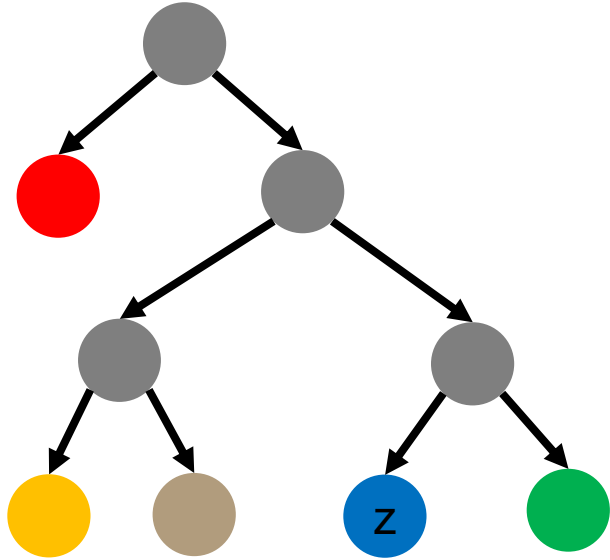
- Suppose  $T'$  is an optimal solution to  $PC(i, \{w_1 \dots w_{i-1}, z\})$
- $T$  is an optimal solution to  $PC(i+1, \{w_1 \dots w_{i-1}, x, y\})$

$$\text{freq}(z) = \text{freq}(x) + \text{freq}(y)$$

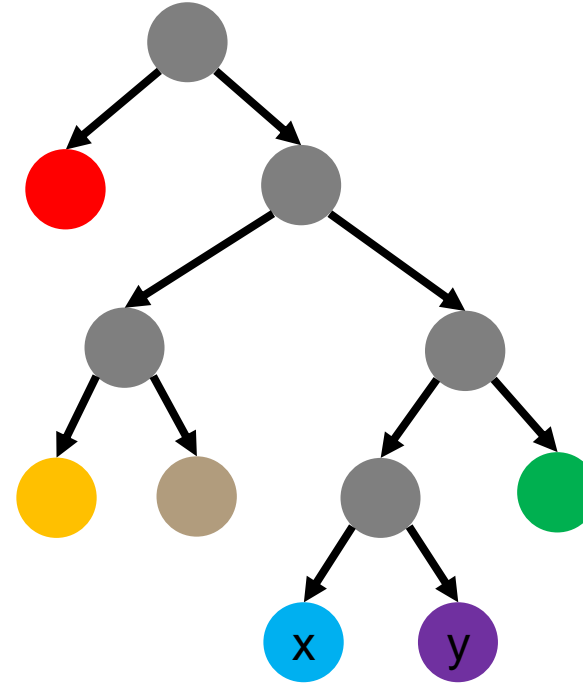


# Step 2: Prove Optimal Substructure

•  $T'$



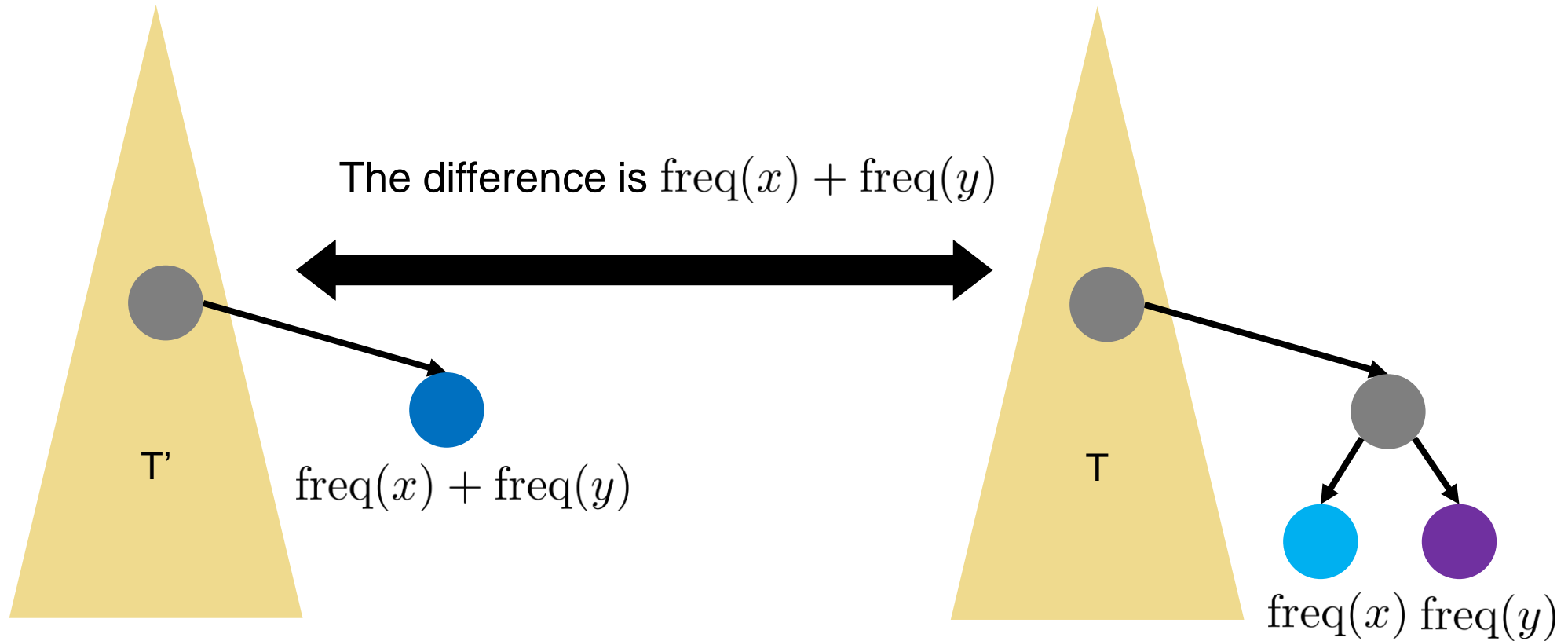
•  $T$



$$\begin{aligned}
 B(T) &= B(T') - \text{freq}(z)d_{T'}(z) + \text{freq}(x)d_T(x) + \text{freq}(y)d_T(y) \\
 &= B(T') - (\text{freq}(x) + \text{freq}(y))d_{T'}(z) + \text{freq}(x)(1 + d_{T'}(z)) + \text{freq}(y)(1 + d_{T'}(z)) \\
 &= B(T') + \text{freq}(x) + \text{freq}(y)
 \end{aligned}$$

# Step 2: Prove Optimal Substructure

- Optimal substructure:  $T'$  is OPT if and only if  $T$  is OPT



# Greedy Algorithm Design

## Prefix Code Problem

Input:  $n$  positive integers  $w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n$  indicating word frequency

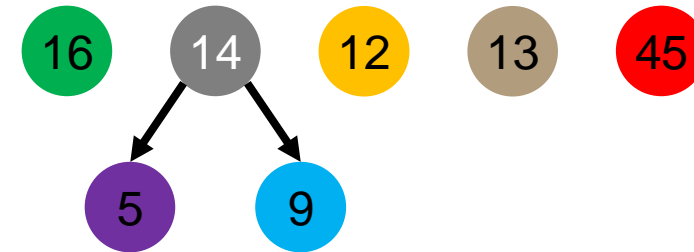
Output: a binary tree of  $n$  leaves with minimal cost

- Greedy choice: merge repeatedly until one tree left
  - Select two trees  $x, y$  with minimal frequency roots  $\text{freq}(x)$  and  $\text{freq}(y)$
  - Merge into a single tree by adding root  $z$  with the frequency  $\text{freq}(x) + \text{freq}(y)$

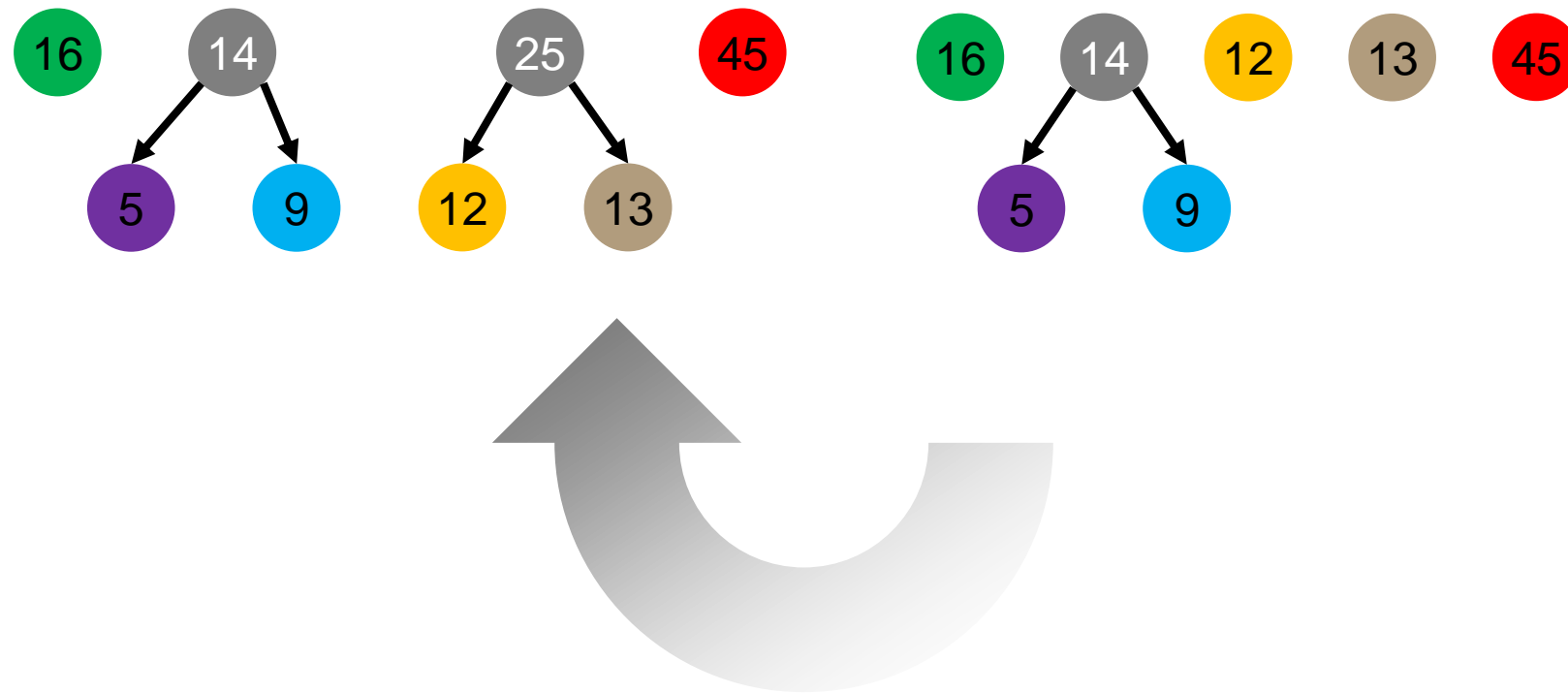
# Example



Initial set (store in a priority queue)

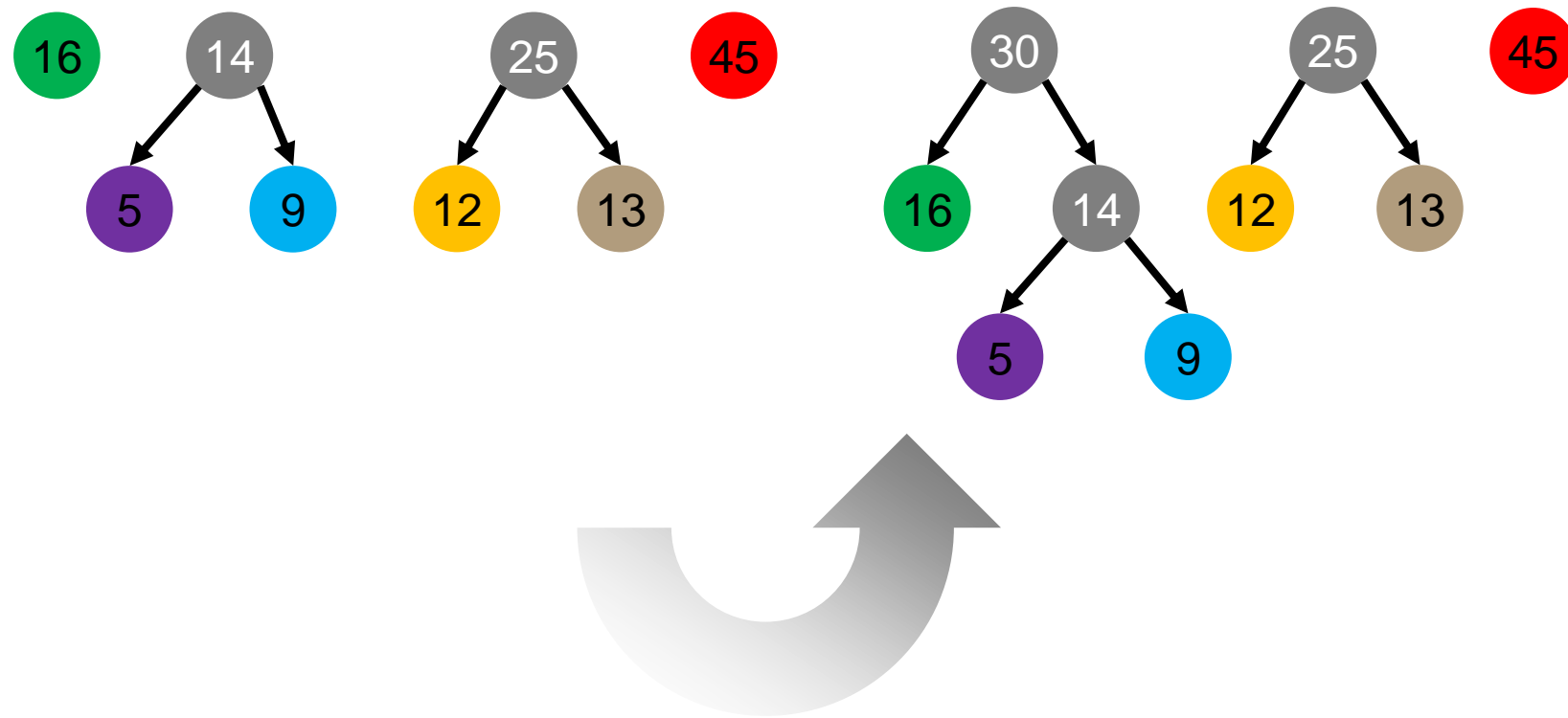


# Example

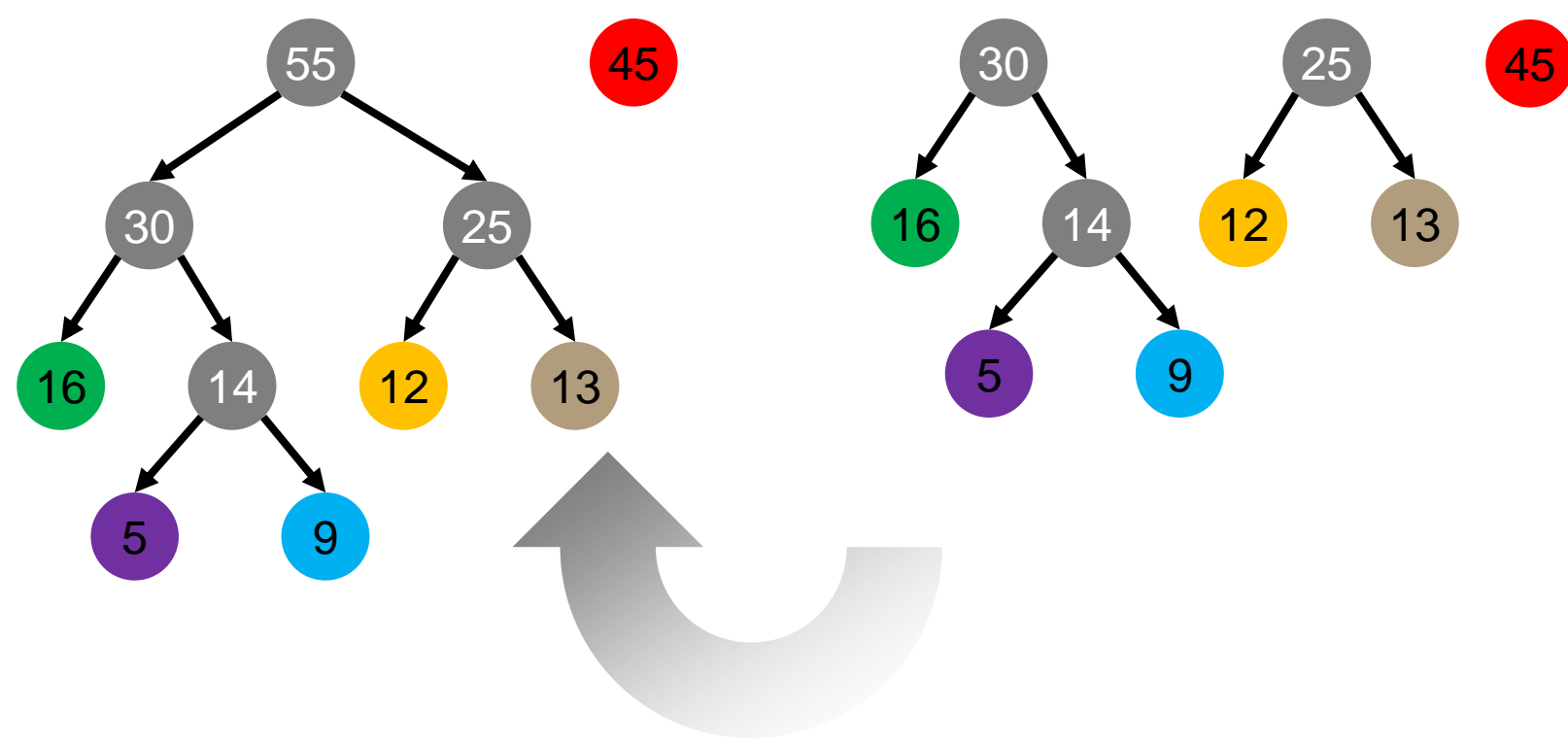




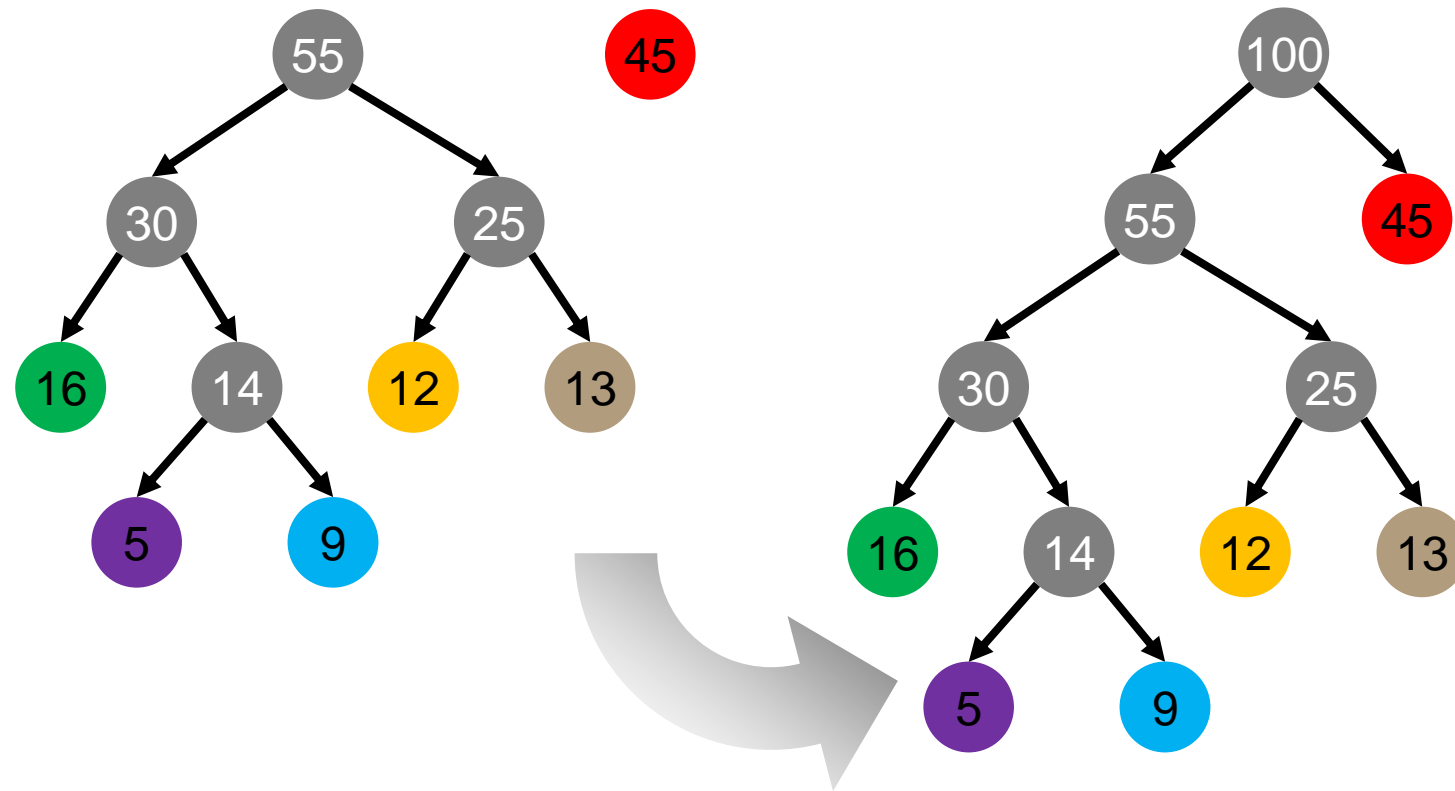
# Example



# Example



# Example



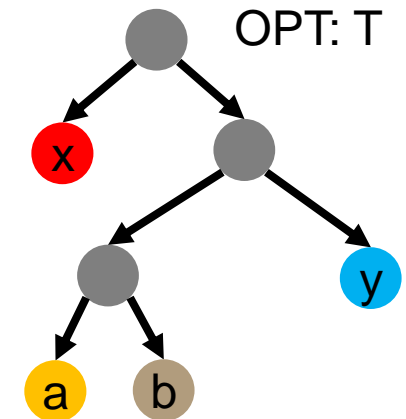
# Step 3: Prove Greedy-Choice Property

## Prefix Code Problem

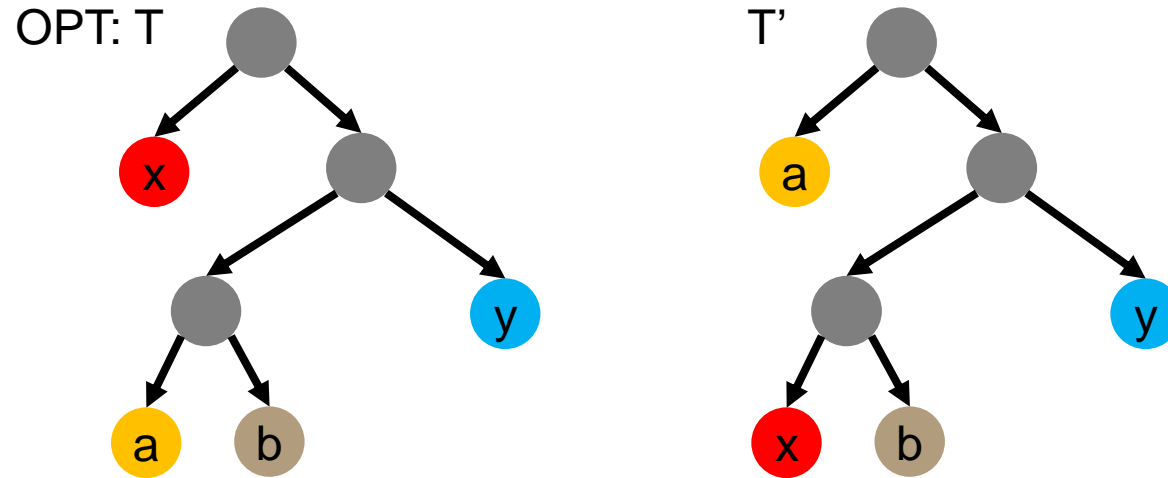
Input:  $n$  positive integers  $w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n$  indicating word frequency

Output: a binary tree of  $n$  leaves with minimal cost

- Greedy choice: merge two nodes with min weights repeatedly
- Proof via contradiction
  - Assume that there is no OPT including this greedy choice
    - $x$  and  $y$  are two symbols with lowest frequencies
    - $a$  and  $b$  are siblings with largest depths
    - WLOG, assume  $\text{freq}(a) \leq \text{freq}(b)$  and  $\text{freq}(x) \leq \text{freq}(y)$
  - $\text{freq}(x) \leq \text{freq}(a)$  and  $\text{freq}(y) \leq \text{freq}(b)$
  - Exchanging  $a$  with  $x$  and then  $b$  with  $y$  can make the tree equally or better



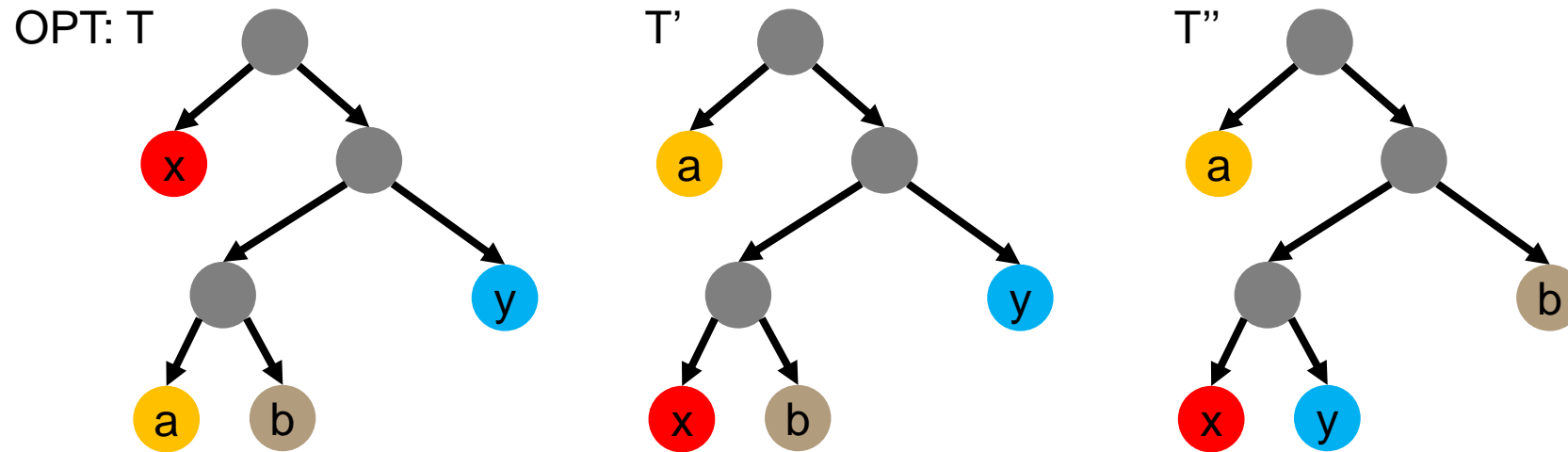
# Step 3: Prove Greedy-Choice Property



$$\begin{aligned}
 B(T) - B(T') &= \sum_{s \in S} \text{freq}(s) d_T(s) - \sum_{s \in S} \text{freq}(s) d_{T'}(s) \\
 &= \text{freq}(x) d_T(x) + \text{freq}(a) d_T(a) - \text{freq}(x) d_{T'}(x) - \text{freq}(a) d_{T'}(a) \\
 &= \text{freq}(x) d_T(x) + \text{freq}(a) d_T(a) - \text{freq}(x) d_T(a) - \text{freq}(a) d_T(x) \\
 &= (\text{freq}(a) - \text{freq}(x))(d_T(a) - d_T(x)) \geq 0 \quad \because \text{freq}(x) \leq \text{freq}(a)
 \end{aligned}$$

- Because T is OPT, T' must be another optimal solution.

# Step 3: Prove Greedy-Choice Property



$$\begin{aligned}
 B(T') - B(T'') &= \sum_{s \in S} \text{freq}(s) d_{T'}(s) - \sum_{s \in S} \text{freq}(s) d_{T''}(s) \\
 &= \text{freq}(y) d_{T'}(y) + \text{freq}(b) d_{T'}(b) - \text{freq}(y) d_{T''}(y) - \text{freq}(b) d_{T''}(b) \\
 &= \text{freq}(y) d_{T'}(y) + \text{freq}(b) d_{T'}(b) - \text{freq}(y) d_{T'}(b) - \text{freq}(b) d_{T'}(y) \\
 &= (\text{freq}(b) - \text{freq}(y))(d_{T'}(b) - d_{T'}(y)) \geq 0 \quad \because \text{freq}(y) \leq \text{freq}(b)
 \end{aligned}$$

- Because T' is OPT, T'' must be another optimal solution.

Practice: prove the optimal tree must be a full tree

# Correctness and Optimality

- Theorem: Huffman algorithm generates an optimal prefix code

- Proof

- Use induction to prove: Huffman codes are optimal for  $n$  symbols
  - $n = 2$ , trivial
  - For a set  $S$  with  $n + 1$  symbols,
    1. Based on the greedy choice property, two symbols with minimum frequencies are siblings in  $T$
    2. Construct  $T'$  by replacing these two symbols  $x$  and  $y$  with  $z$  s.t.  $S' = (S \setminus \{x, y\}) \cup \{z\}$  and  $\text{freq}(z) = \text{freq}(x) + \text{freq}(y)$
    3. Assume  $T'$  is the optimal tree for  $n$  symbols by inductive hypothesis
    4. Based on the optimal substructure property, we know that when  $T'$  is optimal,  $T$  is optimal too (case  $n + 1$  holds)

This induction proof framework can be applied to prove its **optimality** using the **optimal substructure** and the **greedy choice property**.

# Pseudo Code

## Prefix Code Problem

Input:  $n$  positive integers  $w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n$  indicating word frequency

Output: a binary tree of  $n$  leaves with minimal cost

`Huffman(S)`

```
n = |S|
Q = Build-Priority-Queue(S)
for i = 1 to n - 1
    allocate a new node z
    z.left = x = Extract-Min(Q)
    z.right = y = Extract-Min(Q)
    freq(z) = freq(x) + freq(y)
    Insert(Q, z)
    Delete(Q, x)
    Delete(Q, y)
return Extract-Min(Q) // return the prefix tree
```

$$T(n) = \Theta(n \log n)$$



# Drawbacks of Huffman Codes

- Huffman's algorithm is optimal for a symbol-by-symbol coding with a known input probability distribution
- Huffman's algorithm is sub-optimal when
  - blending among symbols is allowed
  - the probability distribution is unknown
  - symbols are not independent

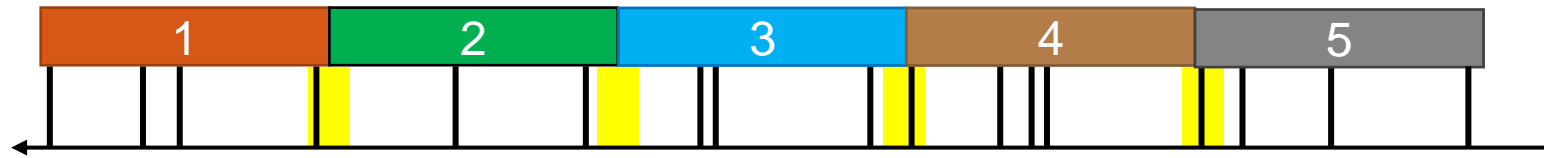
# Greedy #5: Breakpoint Selection

---

# Breakpoint Selection Problem

- Input: a planned route with  $n + 1$  gas stations  $b_0, \dots, b_n$ ; the car can go at most  $C$  after refueling at a breakpoint
- Output: a refueling schedule  $(b_0 \rightarrow b_n)$  that minimizes the number of stops

Ideally: stop when out of gas



Actually: may not be able to find the gas station when out of gas



- Greedy algorithm: go as far as you can before refueling

# Step 1: Cast Optimization Problem

## Breakpoint Selection Problem

Input:  $n + 1$  breakpoints  $b_0, \dots, b_n$ ; gas storage is  $C$

Output: a refueling schedule  $(b_0 \rightarrow b_n)$  that minimizes the number of stops

- Subproblems

- $B(i)$ : breakpoint selection problem from  $b_i$  to  $b_n$
- Goal:  $B(0)$

# Step 2: Prove Optimal Substructure

## Breakpoint Selection Problem

Input:  $n + 1$  breakpoints  $b_0, \dots, b_n$ ; gas storage is  $C$

Output: a refueling schedule  $(b_0 \rightarrow b_n)$  that minimizes the number of stops

- Suppose OPT is an optimal solution to  $B(i, j)$  where  $j$  is the largest index satisfying  $b_j - b_i \leq C$ , there are  $j - i$  cases
  - Case 1: stop at  $b_{i+1}$ 
    - $\text{OPT} + \{b_{i+1}\}$  is an optimal solution of  $B(i, i+1)$
  - Case 2: stop at  $b_{i+2}$ 
    - $\text{OPT} + \{b_{i+2}\}$  is an optimal solution of  $B(i, i+2)$
  - $\vdots$
  - Case  $j - i$ : stop at  $b_j$ 
    - $\text{OPT} + \{b_j\}$  is an optimal solution of  $B(i, j)$

$$B_i = \min_{i < k \leq j} (1 + B_k)$$

# Step 3: Prove Greedy-Choice Property

## Breakpoint Selection Problem

Input:  $n + 1$  breakpoints  $b_0, \dots, b_n$ ; gas storage is  $C$

Output: a refueling schedule  $(b_0 \rightarrow b_n)$  that minimizes the number of stops

- Greedy choice: go as far as you can before refueling (select  $b_j$ )
- Proof via contradiction
  - Assume that there is no OPT including this greedy choice (after  $b_i$  then stop at  $b_k, k \neq j$ )
    - If  $k > j$ , we cannot stop at  $b_k$  due to out of gas
    - If  $k < j$ , we can replace the stop at  $b_k$  with the stop at  $b_j$
  - The total value must be equal or higher, because we refuel later ( $b_j > b_k$ )

$$B_i = \min_{i < k \leq j} (1 + B_k) \Rightarrow B_i = 1 + B_j$$

# Pseudo Code

## Breakpoint Selection Problem

Input:  $n + 1$  breakpoints  $b_0, \dots, b_n$ ; gas storage is  $C$

Output: a refueling schedule ( $b_0 \rightarrow b_n$ ) that minimizes the number of stops

```
BP-Select(C, b)
  Sort(b) s.t.  $b[0] < b[1] < \dots < b[n]$ 
  p = 0
  S = {0}
  for i = 1 to n - 1
    if  $b[i + 1] - b[p] > C$ 
      if i == p
        return "no solution"
      A = A  $\cup$  {i}
      p = i
  return A
```

$$T(n) = \Theta(n \log n)$$



# To Be Continued...

---







# Question?

Important announcement will be sent to  
@ntu.edu.tw mailbox & post to the course website

Course Website: <http://ada.miulab.tw>  
Email: [ada-ta@csie.ntu.edu.tw](mailto:ada-ta@csie.ntu.edu.tw)