CSCI 232: Data Structures and Algorithms

Dynamic Programming (Part 1)

Reese Pearsall Spring 2025

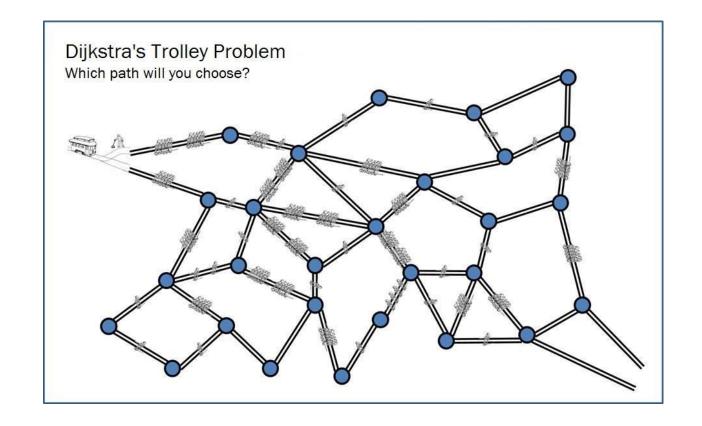
Announcements

Program 3 Due one week from today (4/22)

Tuesday April 22 will be an optional help session for Program 3 in Banard Hall 257 (no lecture)

Thursday's class will be a recorded lecture (no in-person class)

No lab this week



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$$K = 37$$

Answer = 4

(Quarter, dime, two pennies)

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Algorithm?

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$$D = [1, 5, 10, 25]$$

$$K = 37$$

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(Quarter, dime, two pennies)

Use as many quarters as possible, then as many dimes as possible, ...

Given a set a coin denominations **D**, how can you represent **K** cents with the smallest number of coins?

$$D = [1, 5, 10, 25]$$

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(Quarter, dime, two pennies)

Use as many quarters as possible, then as many dimes as possible, ...

This is known as the **greedy** approach

Given a set a coin denominations **D**, how can you represent **K** cents with the smallest number of coins?

D = [1, 5, 10, 25]

$$K = 37$$

Greedy Algorithm

Use as many quarters as possible, then as many dimes as possible, ...

Given a set a coin denominations **D**, how can you represent **K** cents with the smallest number of coins?

Greedy Algorithm

$$D = [1, 5, 10, 18, 25]$$

$$K = 37$$

Use as many quarters as possible, then as many 18 cent pieces as possible, then dimes, ...

What if there were also an 18-cent coin?

Given a set a coin denominations **D**, how can you represent **K** cents with the smallest number of coins?

D = [1, 5, 10, 18, 25]

$$K = 37$$

Greedy Algorithm

Use as many quarters as possible, then as many 18 cent pieces as possible, then dimes, ...

25, 10, 1, 1 (4 coins)

What if there were also an 18-cent coin?

Given a set a coin denominations **D**, how can you represent **K** cents with the smallest number of coins?

D = [1, 5, 10, 18, 25]

$$K = 37$$

Greedy Algorithm

Use as many quarters as possible, then as many 18 cent pieces as possible, then dimes, ...

25, 10, 1, 1 (4 coins)

What if there were also an 18-cent coin?

Real Answer = 18, 18, 1 (3 coins)

Given a set a coin denominations **D**, how can you represent **K** cents with the smallest number of coins?

Greedy Algorithm

$$D = [1, 5, 10, 18, 25]$$

$$K = 37$$

Use as many quarters as possible, then as many 18 cent pieces as possible, then dimes, ...

25, 10, 1, 1 (4 coins)

What if there were also an 18-cent coin?

Real Answer = 18, 18, 1 (3 coins)

Lesson Learned: The Greedy approach works for the United States denominations, but not for a general set of denominations

Suppose I tell you that 2 quarters, 1 dime, and 3 pennies are the minimum number of coins needed to make **63 cents**

(We will assume we have the standard US denominations [1, 5, 10, 25] (NO 50 CENT PIECE)

$$25 + 25 + 10 + 1 + 1 + 1 = 63$$













What can you conclude?

Does this provide an answer to any other change making problems?

Suppose I tell you that 2 quarters, 1 dime, and 3 pennies are the minimum number of coins needed to make **63 cents**

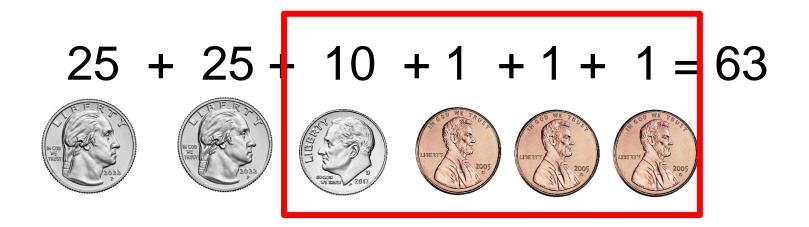
(We will assume we have the standard US denominations [1, 5, 10, 25] (NO 50 CENT PIECE)



This is the minimum coins needed to make 38 cents

Suppose I tell you that 2 quarters, 1 dime, and 3 pennies are the minimum number of coins needed to make **63 cents**

(We will assume we have the standard US denominations [1, 5, 10, 25] (NO 50 CENT PIECE)



This is the minimum coins needed to make 13 cents

Suppose I tell you that 2 quarters, 1 dime, and 3 pennies are the minimum number of coins needed to make **63 cents**

(We will assume we have the standard US denominations [1, 5, 10, 25] (NO 50 CENT PIECE)



This is the minimum coins needed to make 3 cents

Suppose I tell you that 2 quarters, 1 dime, and 3 pennies are the minimum number of coins needed to make **63 cents**

(We will assume we have the standard US denominations [1, 5, 10, 25] (NO 50 CENT PIECE)

This is the minimum coins needed to make 2 cents

Suppose I tell you that 2 quarters, 1 dime, and 3 pennies are the minimum number of coins needed to make **63 cents**

(We will assume we have the standard US denominations [1, 5, 10, 25] (NO 50 CENT PIECE)

This is the minimum coins needed to make 1 cent

Suppose I tell you that 2 quarters, 1 dime, and 3 pennies are the minimum number of coins needed to make **63 cents**

(We will assume we have the standard US denominations [1, 5, 10, 25] (NO 50 CENT PIECE)

$$25 + 25 + 10 + 1 + 1 + 1 = 63$$













The solution to the change making problems consists of solutions to smaller change making problems

We can use **recursion** to solve this problem

In general, suppose a country has coins with denominations:

$$1 = d_1 < d_2 < \dots < d_k$$
 (US coins: $d_1 = 1, d_2 = 5, d_3 = 10, d_4 = 25$)

Algorithm: To make change for p cents, we are going to figure out change for every value x < p. We will build solution for p out of smaller solutions.

C(p) – minimum number of coins to make p cents.

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x – value (e.g. \$0.25) of a coin used in the optimal solution.

$$C(p) = 1 + C(p - x).$$

$$C(37) = 1 + C(12)$$

We used one quarter

Now find the minimum number of coins needed to make 12 cents

C(p) – minimum number of coins to make p cents.

x – value (e.g. \$0.25) of a coin used in the optimal solution.

$$C(p) = 1 + C(p - x).$$

$$C(37) = 1 + C(12)$$
We used one dime
$$C(12) = 1 + C(2)$$

Now find the minimum number of coins needed to make 2 cents

C(p) – minimum number of coins to make p cents.

$$C(p) = 1 + C(p - x).$$

$$C(37) = 1 + C(12)$$

$$C(12) = 1 + C(2)$$

$$C(2) = 1 + C(1)$$

$$C(1) = 1 + C(0)$$

C(p) – minimum number of coins to make p cents.

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C(p) – minimum number of coins to make p cents.

$$C(p) = 1 + C(p - x).$$

$$C(37) = 1 + C(12)$$
 $C(12) = 3$



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x – value (e.g. \$0.25) of a coin used in the optimal solution.

$$C(p) = 1 + C(p - x).$$

$$C(37) = 4$$

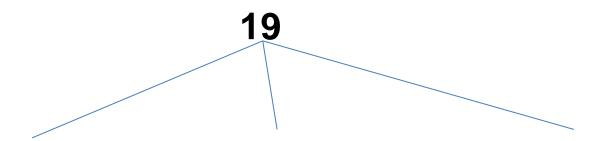
The minimum number of coins needed to make 37 cents is 4

In general, suppose a country has coins with denominations:

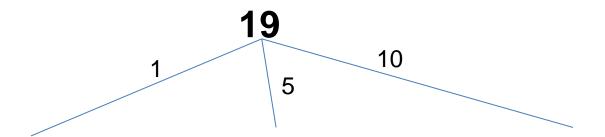
$$1=d_1 < d_2 < \cdots < d_k$$
 (US coins: $d_1=1, d_2=5, d_3=10, d_4=25$) (This algorithm must work for ALL denominations)

Algorithm: To make change for p cents, we are going to figure out change for every value x < p. We will build solution for p out of smaller solutions.

Make \$0.19 with \$0.01, \$0.05, \$0.10

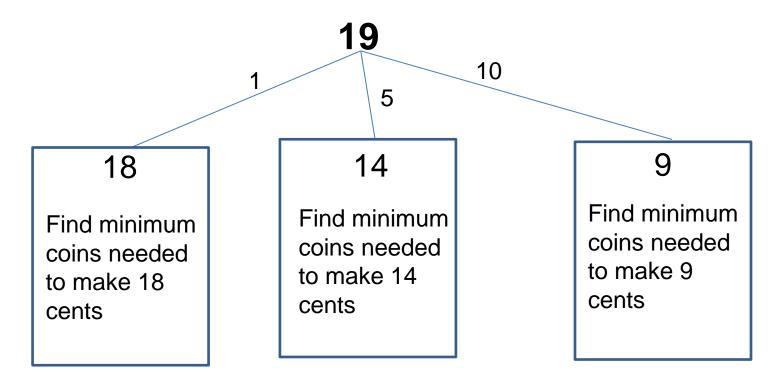


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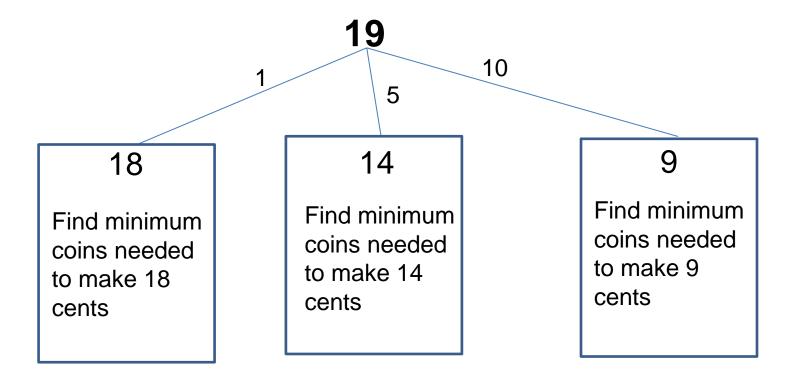
k = # denominations



To find the minimum number of coins needed to create 19 cents, we generate **k** subproblems

Make \$0.19 with \$0.01, \$0.05, \$0.10

k = # denominations

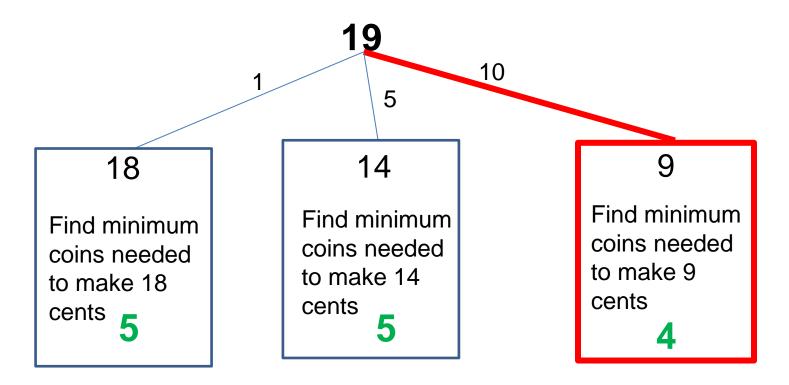


We want to select the **minimum** solution of these three subproblems



Make \$0.19 with \$0.01, \$0.05, \$0.10

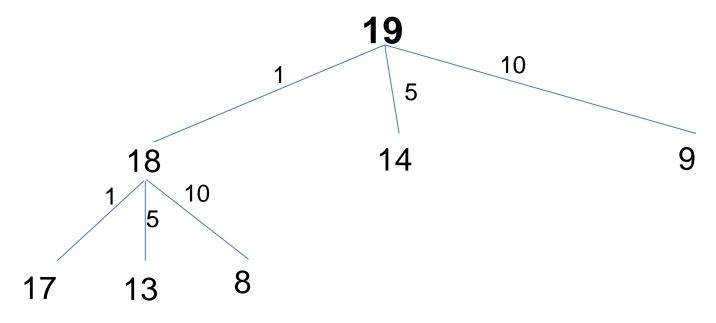
k = # denominations



For the solution of our original problem (19), we want to select this branch (one dime used)

Make \$0.19 with \$0.01, \$0.05, \$0.10

k = # denominations



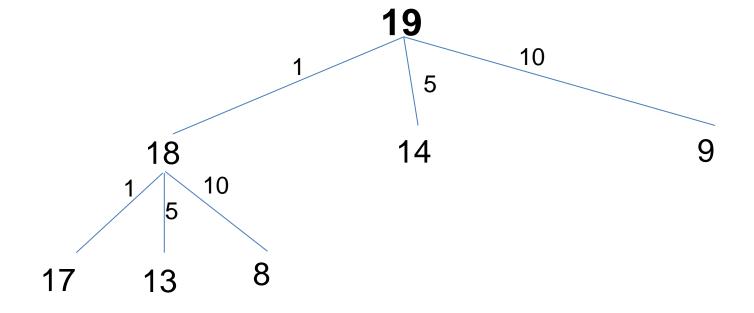
Find minimum coins needed to make 17 cents

Find minimum coins needed to make 13 cents

Find minimum coins needed to make 8 cents

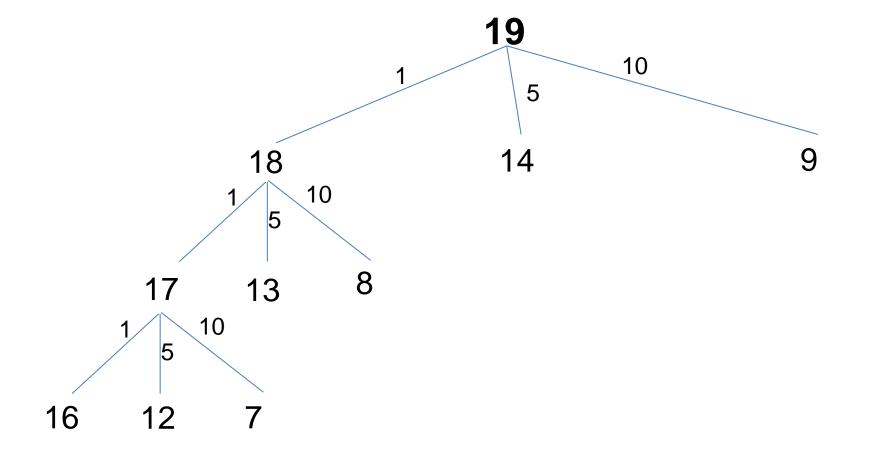
Make \$0.19 with \$0.01, \$0.05, \$0.10

k = # denominations



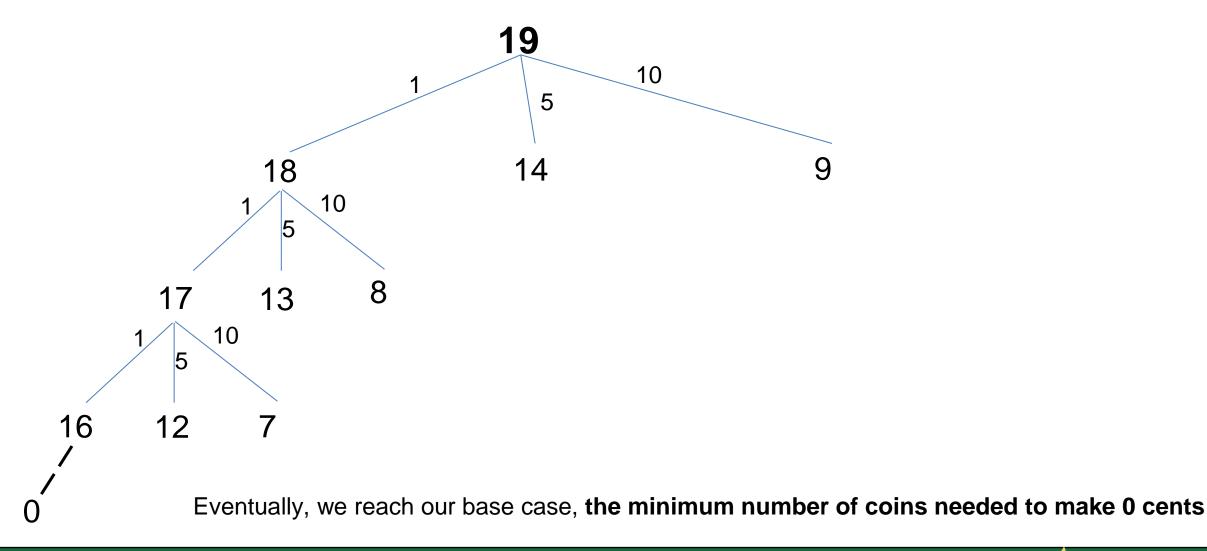
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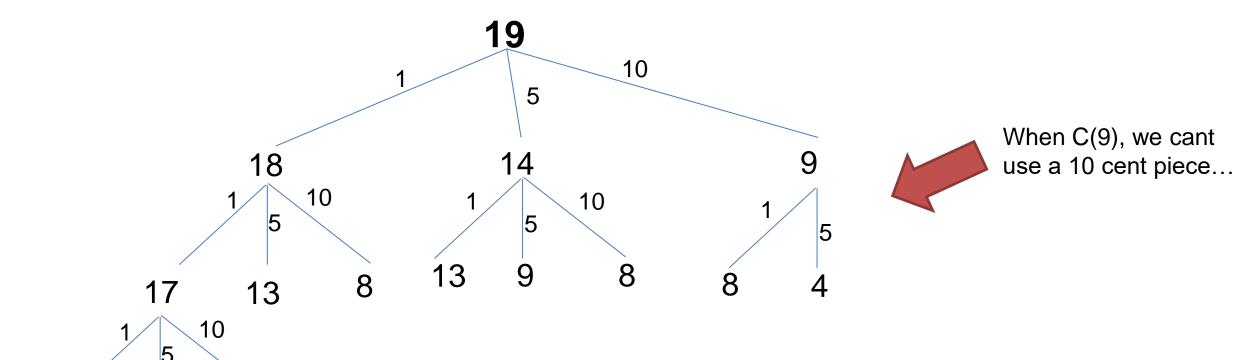
k = # denominations



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Make \$0.19 with \$0.01, \$0.05, \$0.10

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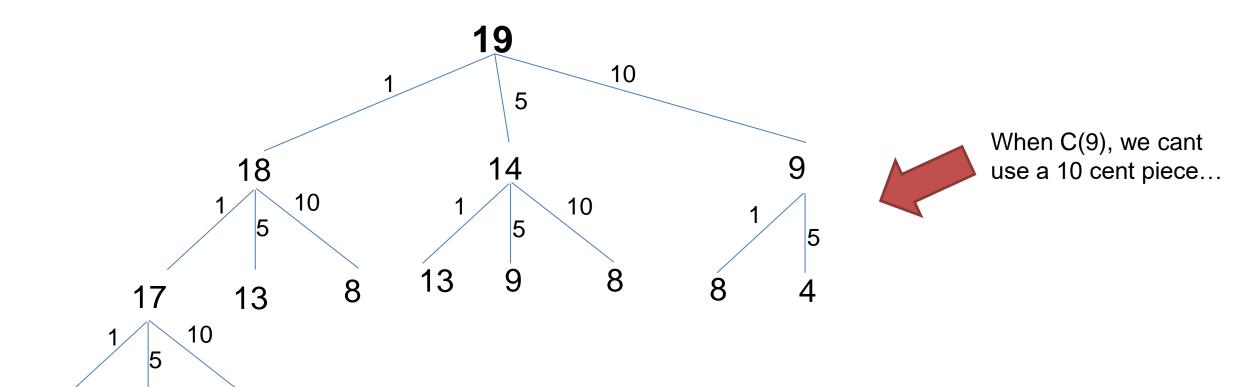
For each change making problem we solve, we must solve at most 3 smaller change making problems

Once we solve the smaller problems, we must select the branch that has the minimum value

16

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$$C(p) = \begin{cases} \min_{i:d_i \le p} C(p - d_i) + 1, p > 0 \\ 0, p = 0 \end{cases}$$

Least change for 19 cents = minimum of:

- least change for 19-10 = 9 cents
- least change for 19-5 = 14 cents
- least change for 19-1 = 18 cents

For each problem P, we will solve the problem for (P – d), where d represents each possible denomination

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We want to select only the branch the yields the minimum value

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Base Case

```
D = array of denominations [1, 5, 10, 18, 25]
p = desired change (37)
  Base Case
int min = Integer.MAX_VALUE;
```

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D = array of denominations [1, 5, 10, 18, 25] p = desired change (37)

```
min coins(D, p)
   if p == 0
                                   Base Case
        return 0;
   else
       min = \infty
                                  int min = Integer.MAX_VALUE;
                                  int a = Integer.MAX_VALUE;;
       a = \infty
       for each d; in D
           if (p - d_i) >= 0
               a = min coins(D, p - d_i)
```

Recurse, and find the minimum number of coins needed using each valid denomination

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                                                        Recurse, and find the
                                                         minimum number of coins
            if (p - d_i) >= 0
                                                        needed using each valid
                a = min coins(D, p - d_i)
                                                        denomination
            if a < min
                                                         Select the branch that has
                min = a
                                                        the minimum value
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                                                       minimum number of coins
            if (p - d_i) >= 0
                                                       needed using each valid
                a = min coins(D, p - d_i)
                                                       denomination
            if a < min
```

Select the branch that has the minimum value

return 1 + min

min = a

Once, our for loop finishes, we should know the branch that had the minimum, so return (1 + min), 1 because one coin was used in the current method call

```
min coins(D, p)
   if p == 0
       return 0;
   else
      min = \infty
      a = ∞
      for each d; in D
         if (p - d_i) >= 0
             a = min coins(D, p - d_i)
          if a < min
             min = a
     return 1 + min
```

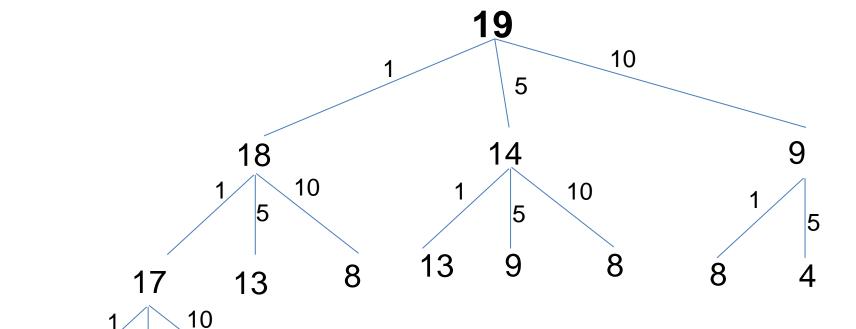
```
min coins(D, p)
   if p == 0
       return 0;
                                       Running time?
   else
      min = \infty
      a = \infty
      for each d; in D
          if (p - d_i) >= 0
             a = min coins(D, p - d_i)
          if a < min
             min = a
     return 1 + min
```

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Make \$0.19 with \$0.01, \$0.05, \$0.10

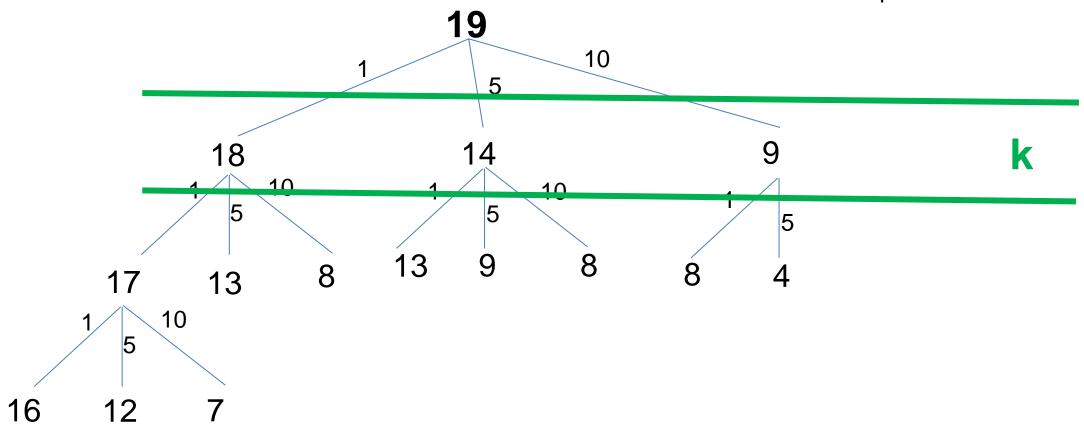
k = # denominationsp = value to make change for



For sufficiently large p, every permutation of denominations is included.

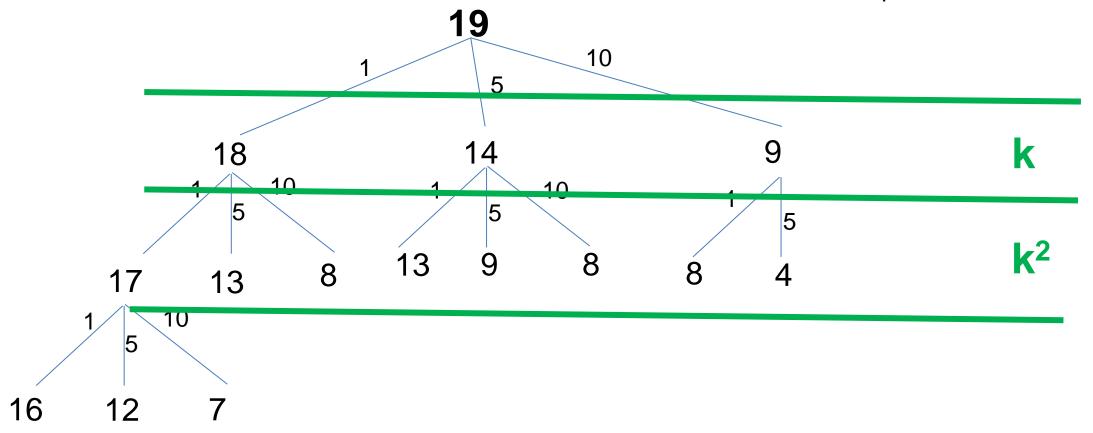


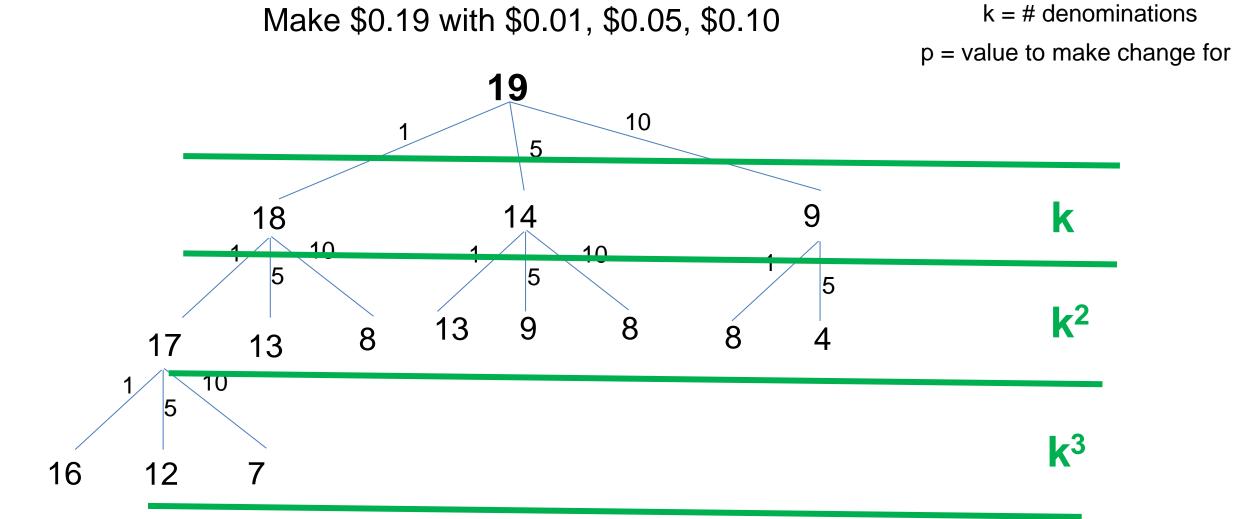
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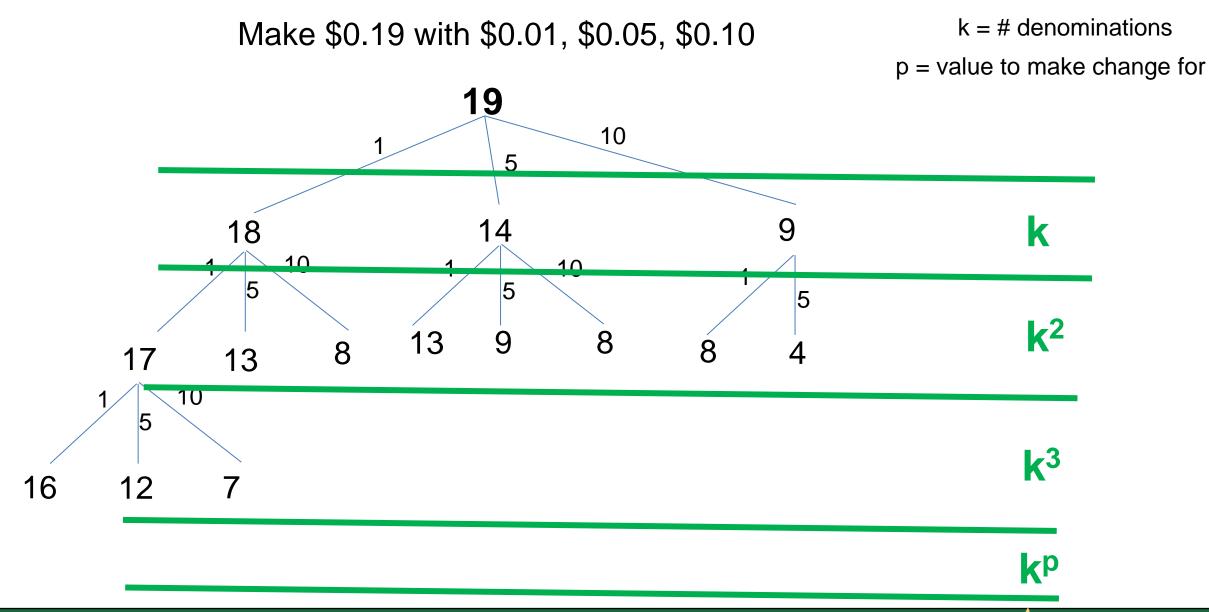




k = # denominationsp = value to make change for

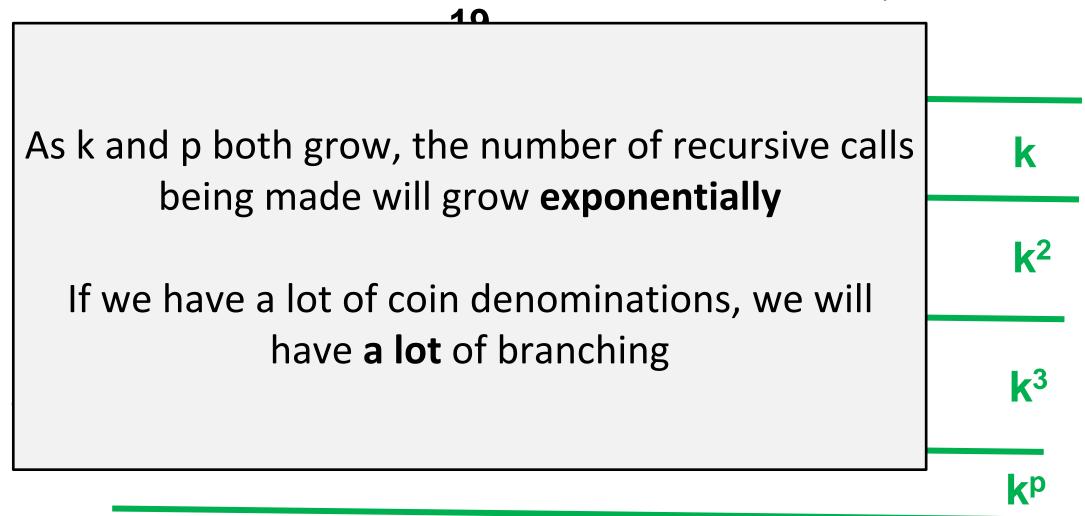






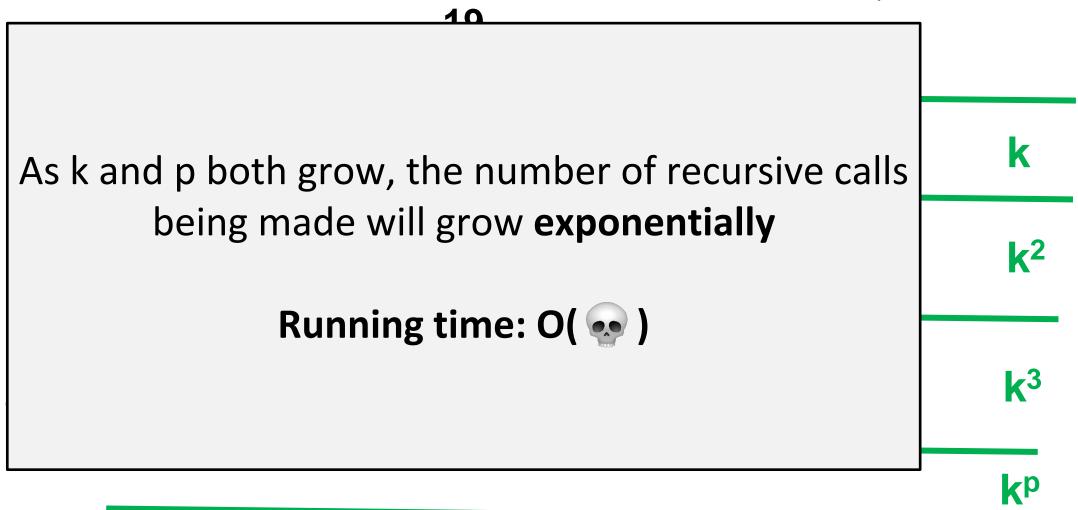
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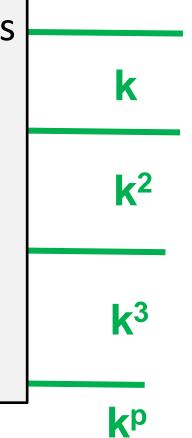
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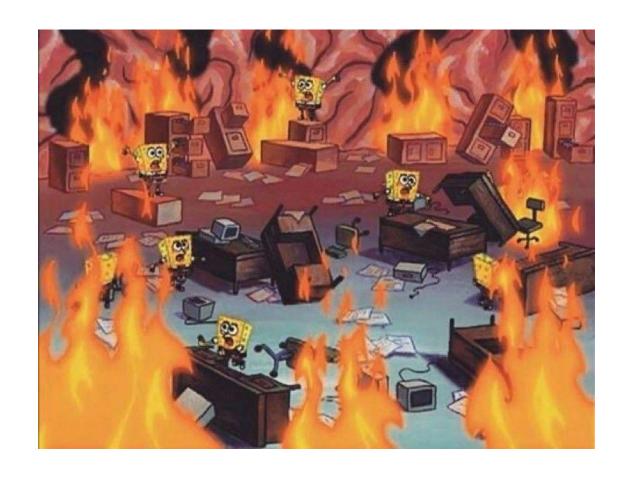
As k and p both grow, the number of recursive calls being made will grow **exponentially**

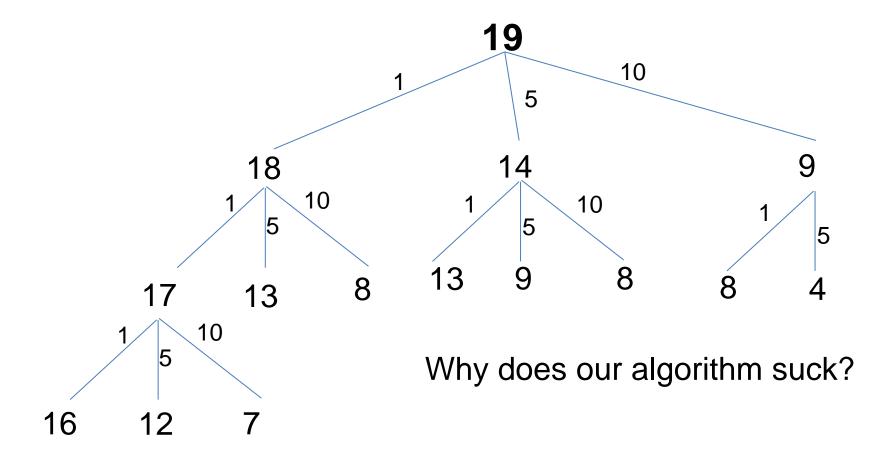
Running time: probably O(kp) or O(k!)

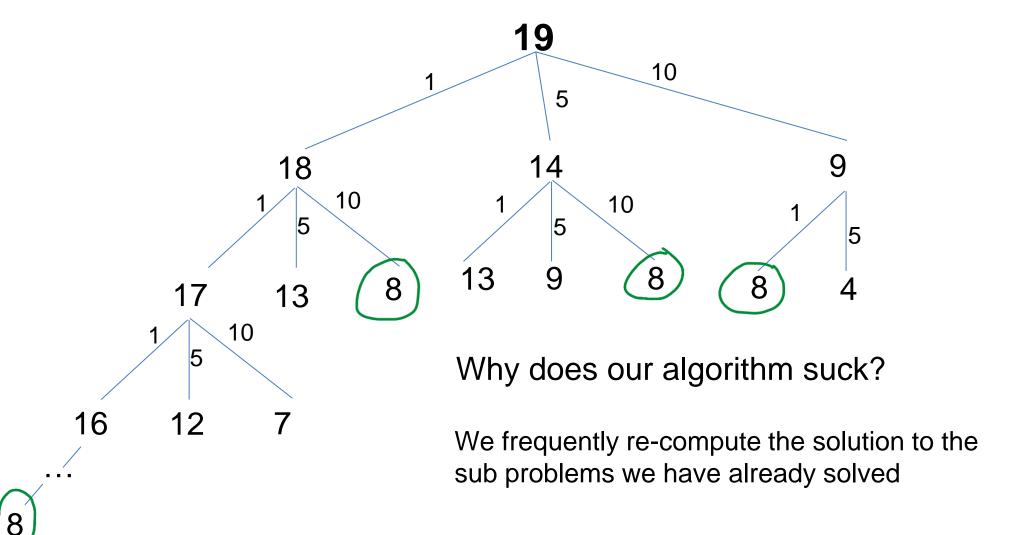
For a large set of denominations, or a large p, this algorithm will take a long time to run



Let's try 81 cents!

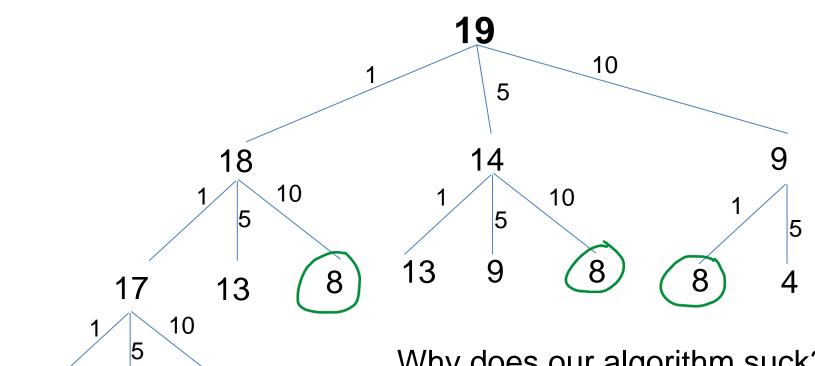






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12



We can fix this by utilizing some "smart recursion" AKA **Dynamic Programming**

Why does our algorithm suck?

We frequently re-compute the solution to the sub problems we have already solved

Dynamic Programming

Dynamic Programming is an algorithm technique used for optimization problems that involves smartly using recursion to solve a problem with many overlapping subproblems

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Optimal substructure- an optimal solution can be constructed from optimal solutions of its sub problems

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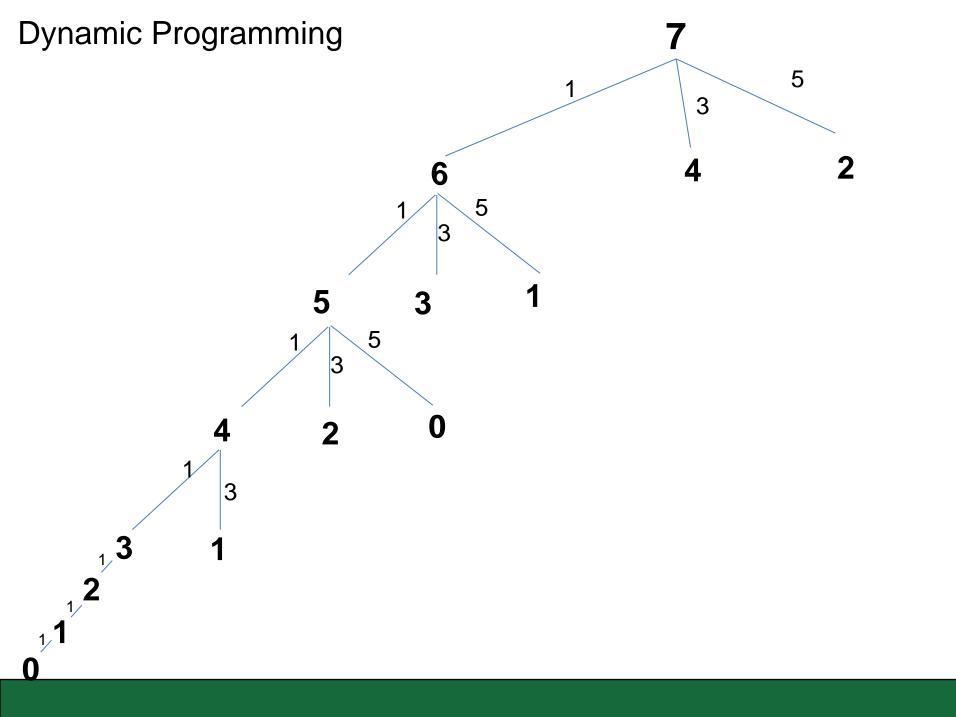
We frequently recompute the same subproblem throughout the algorithm

We satisfy these two conditions, which means we can leverage **Dynamic Programming**

Big idea of dynamic programming:
Use **memoization** to store solutions of sub problems we have already solved, and don't re compute them

(Yes, it's "memoization" and not "memorization")



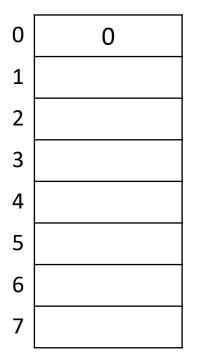


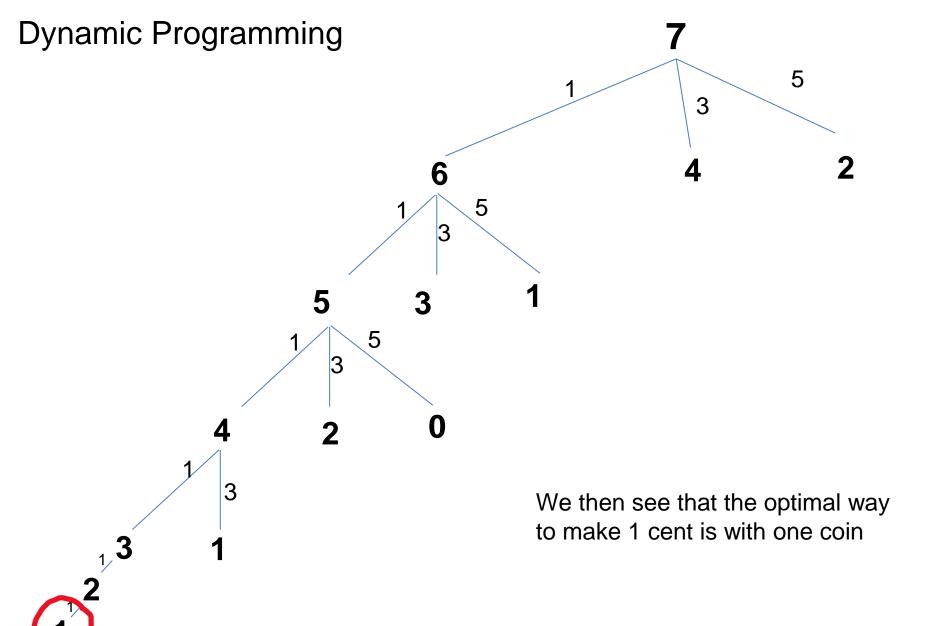
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Dynamic Programming 5 3 5 We eventually hit our base case, and solve that the optimal way to make 0 cents is with zero coins

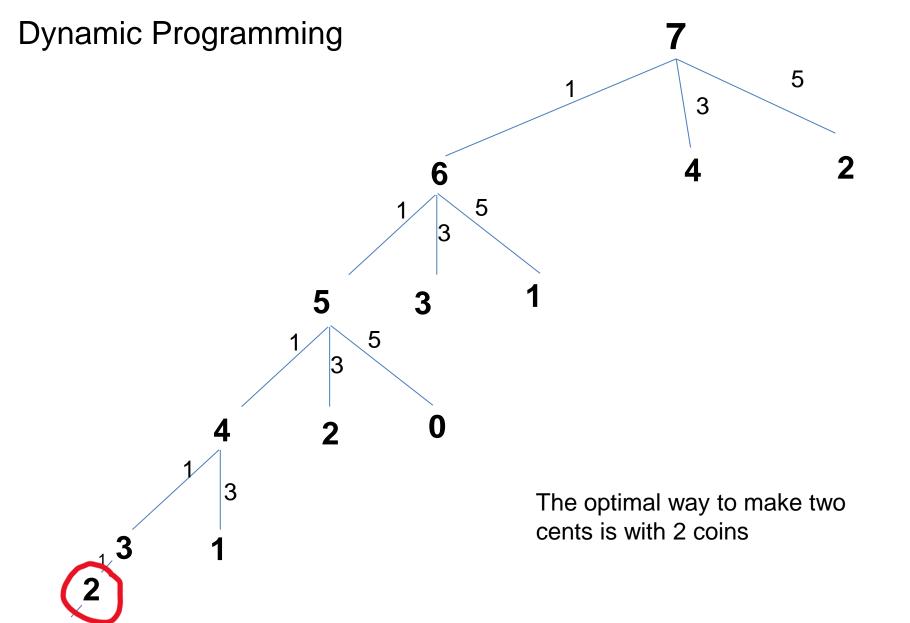
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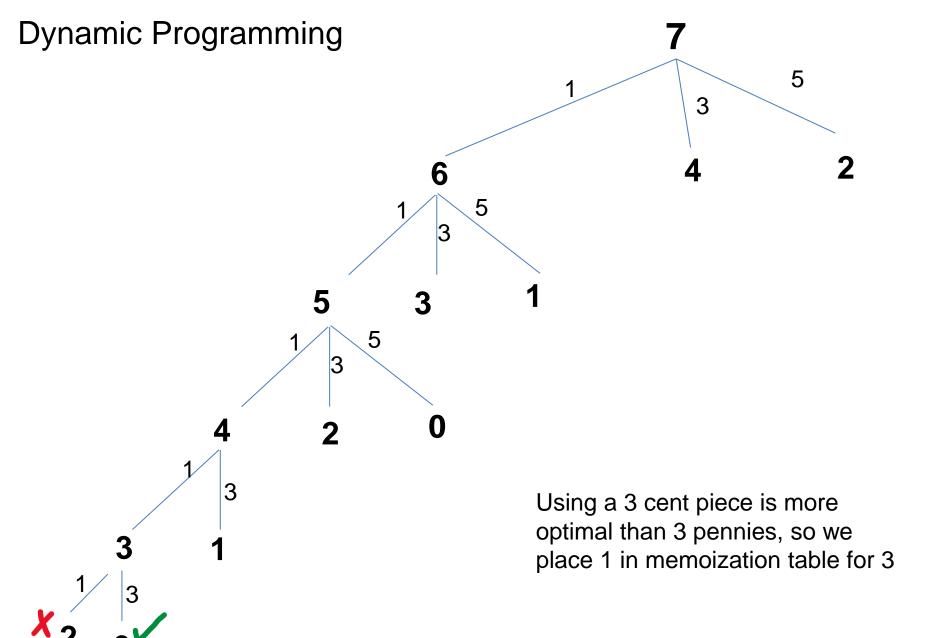


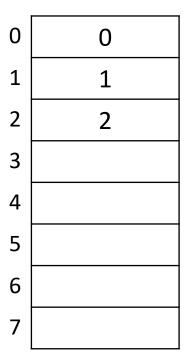


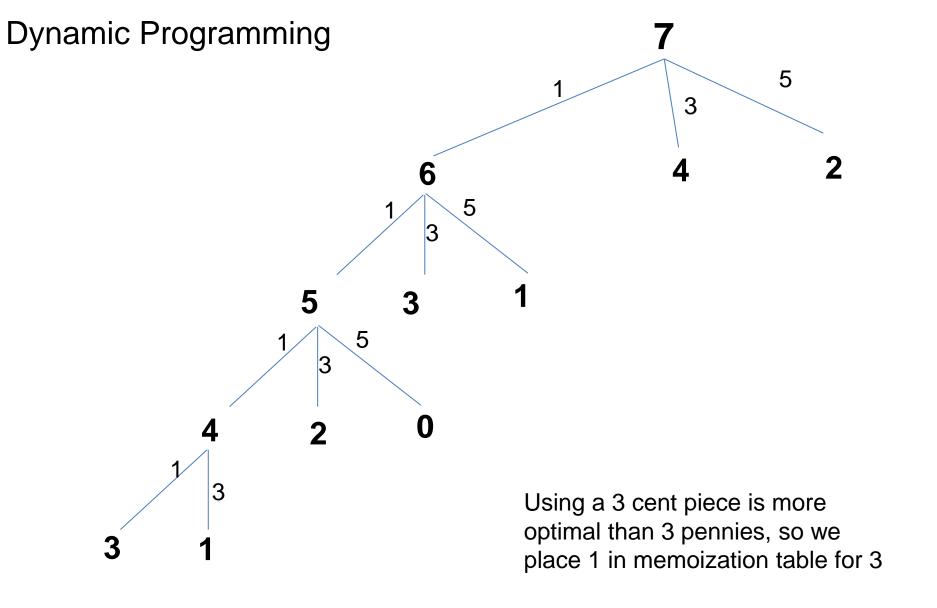
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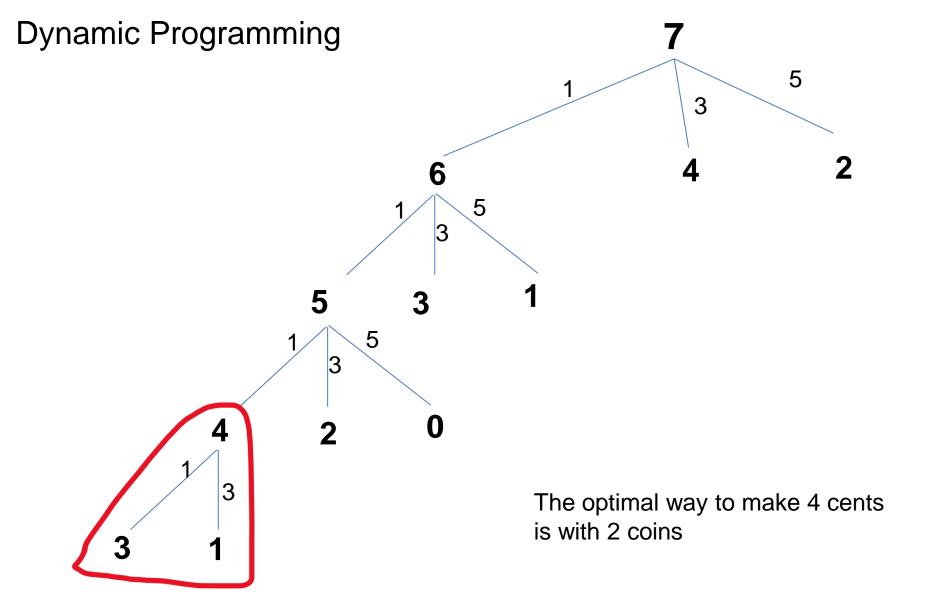
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7	

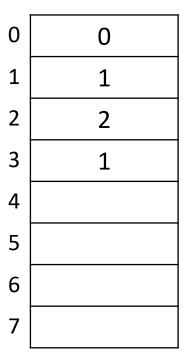


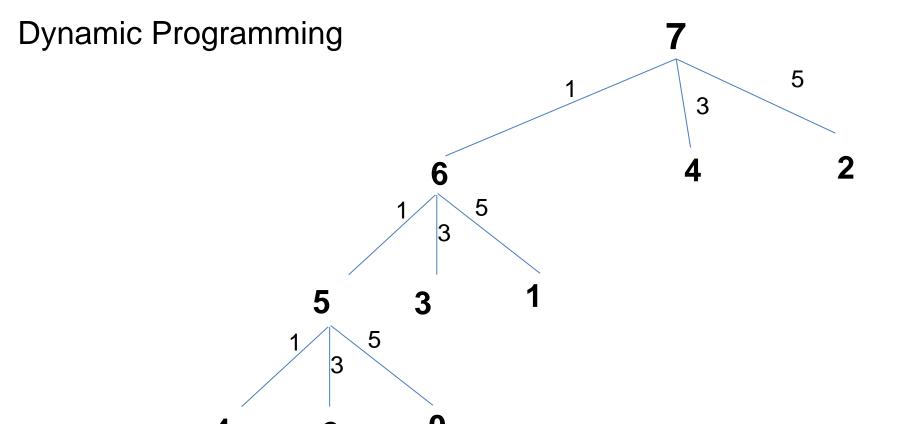




0	0
1	1
2	2
3	1
4	
5	
6	
7	







0	0
1	1
2	2
234	1
	2
5	
6	
7	

Dynamic Programming 5 3 5 We no longer need to branch

Memoization Table

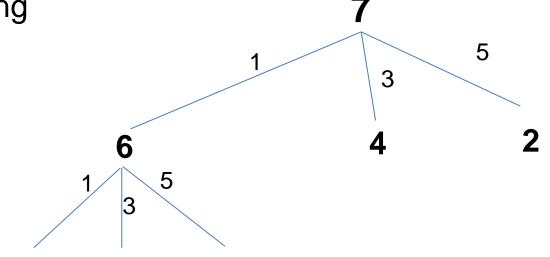
0	0
1	1
2	2
2 3 4 5 6	1
4	2
5	
6	
7	

We no longer need to branch here, because we already know the optimal way to make 2 cents!

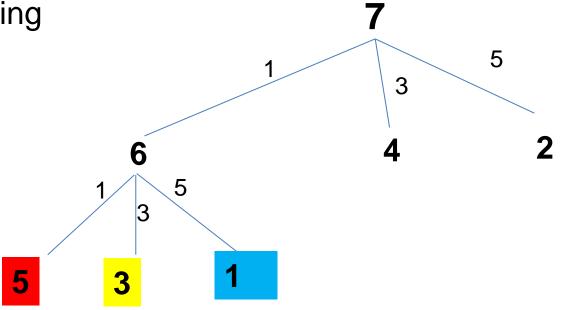
We learn the optimal way to make five cents is with one coin

0	0
1	1
2 3	2
	1
4	2
5	
6	
7	

5

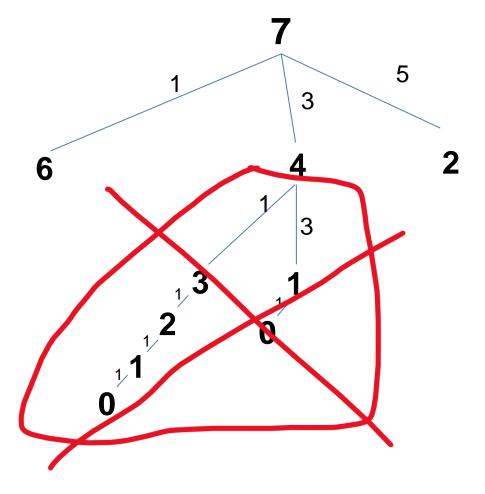


0	0
1	1
2	2
2	1
4	2
5	1
6	
7	



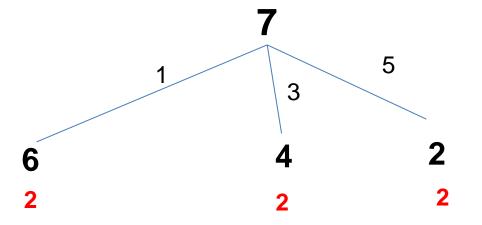
All three of these branches have the same cost, so making 6 cents requires 2 coint

0	0
1	1
2	2
234	1
4	2
5	1
6	
7	



We no longer need to branch here, because we already know the optimal solution for 4, so just check our memoization table!

0	0
1	1
2	2
3	1
4 5 6	2
5	1
6	2
7	



0	0
1	1
2	2
2	1
4	2
5	1
6	2
7	

- 0 0 1 1 2 2 3 1 4 2 5 1
- 7 3

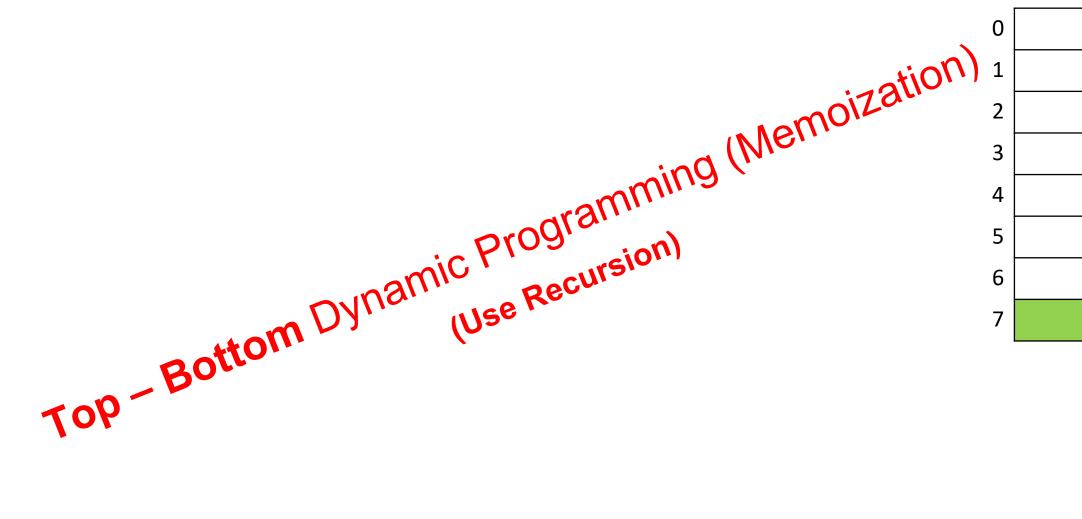
6

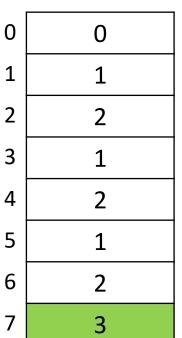
The optimal way to make 7 cents is with 3 coins:

[1, 1, 5]

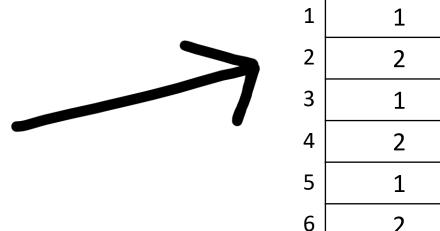
[3, 1, 3]

Code





If we don't want to use recursion, we can use a for loop to fill out this entire array (tabulation)



0

```
cache[0] = 0 //base case
For each cent value, i, in our array (0 - P):
    For each coin in our denomination set c: (1)
    if(c - cache[i] >= 0):
        x = cache[i - c];
    if x is smaller than what is currently in the cache:
        update cache to be x + 1
```

Cache 0 0 1 ∞ 2 ∞ 3 ∞ 4 ∞ 5 ∞ 6 ∞ 7 ∞

```
cache[0] = 0 //base case

For each cent value, i, in our array (0 - P):

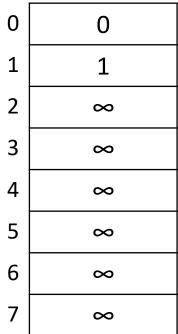
For each coin in our denomination set c: (1)

if(c - cache[i] >= 0):

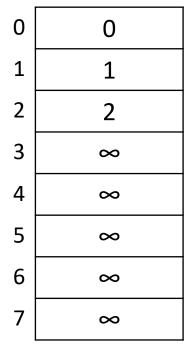
x = cache[i - c];

if x is smaller than what is currently in the cache:

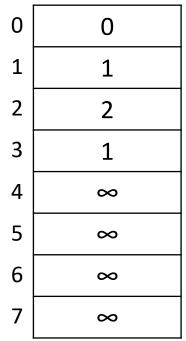
update cache to be x + 1
```

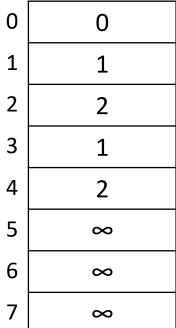


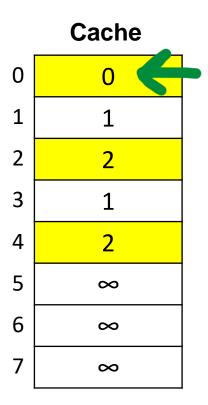
```
cache[0] = 0 //base case
For each cent value, i, in our array (0 - P):
    For each coin in our denomination set c: (1, 3)
    if(c - cache[i] >= 0):
        x = cache[i - c];
    if x is smaller than what is currently in the cache:
        update cache to be x + 1
```



```
cache[0] = 0 //base case
For each cent value, i, in our array (0 - P):
    For each coin in our denomination set c: (1, 3)
    if(c - cache[i] >= 0):
        x = cache[i - c];
    if x is smaller than what is currently in the cache:
        update cache to be x + 1
```







Cache 0 0 1 1 2 2 3 1 4 2 5 1 6 ∞

 ∞

```
cache[0] = 0 //base case

For each cent value, i, in our array (0 - P):

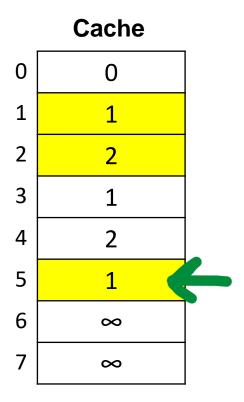
For each coin in our denomination set c: (1, 3, 5)

if (c - cache[i] >= 0):

x = cache[i - c];

if x is smaller than what is currently in the cache:

update cache to be x + 1
```



0	0
1	1
2	2
2	1
4	2
5	1
6	2
7	∞

```
cache[0] = 0 //base case

For each cent value, i, in our array (0 - P):

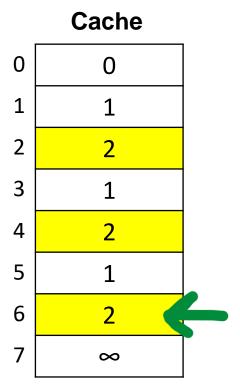
For each coin in our denomination set c: (1, 3, 5)

if (c - cache[i] >= 0):

x = cache[i - c];

if x is smaller than what is currently in the cache:

update cache to be x + 1
```



0	0
1	1
2	2
3	1
4	2
5	1
6	2
7	3

Ca	che

0	0
1	1
2	2
3	1
4	2
5	1
6	2
7	3

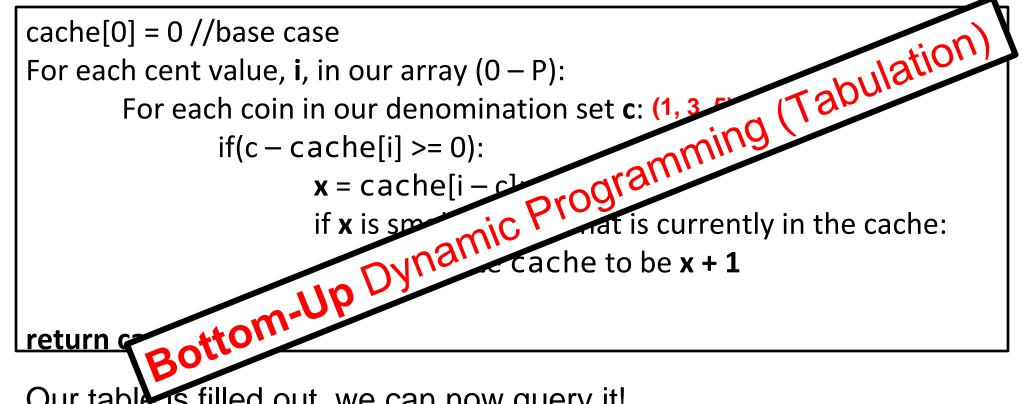
Our table is filled out, we can now query it!

0 1 1 2 2 3 1 4 2 5 1 6 2 7 2

Cache

Our table is filled out, we can now query it!

<u>return cache[P]</u>



	Judito
0	0
1	1
2	2
2 3 4	1
4	2
5 6	1
6	2
7	3

Cache

Our table is filled out, we can now query it!

start

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Top to Bottom Dynamic Programming

→ Use <u>recursion</u>, and fill out a **memoization table** as you are making recursive calls

Bottom-Up Dynamic Programming

→ Use a for loop to fill out a table (tabulation), then query the table

Both have the same running time. But a computer can handle a for loop better than recursion

(I think recursion is easier to understand)

DP improves running time from exponential to O(len(D) * p)



6



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0

start

