

CS 3100

# Data Structures and Algorithms 2

## Lecture 18: Seam Carving

**Co-instructors: Robbie Hott and Ray Pettit**  
**Spring 2024**

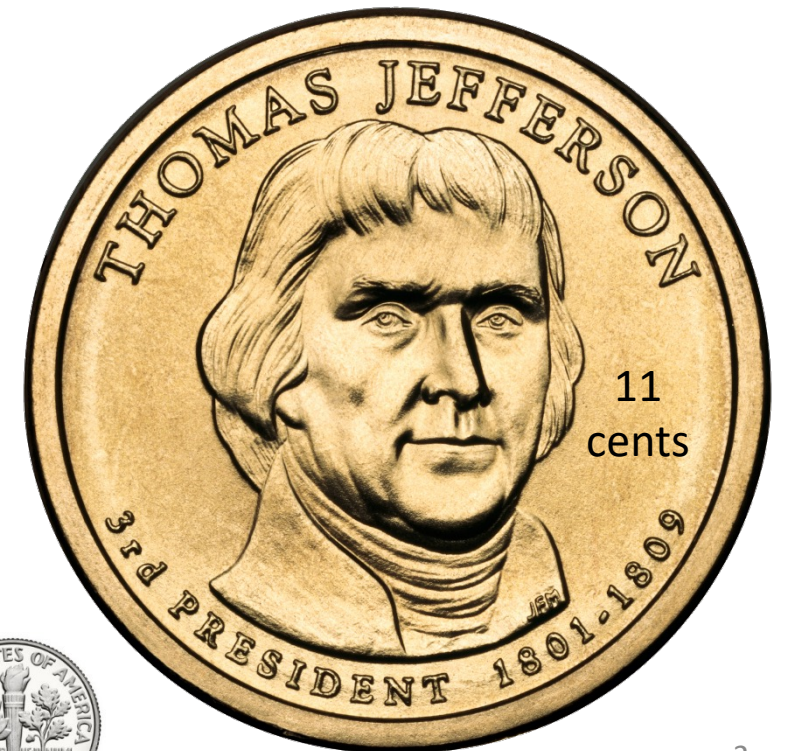
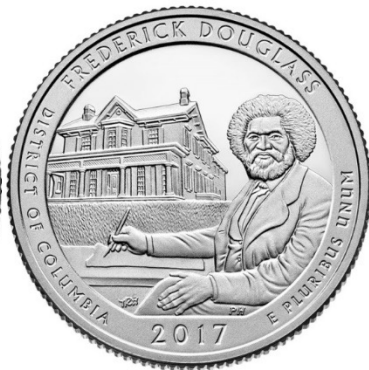
Readings in CLRS 4<sup>th</sup> edition:

- Chapter 14

# Warm Up!

## Remember change making?

Given access to unlimited quantities of pennies, nickels, dimes, toms, and quarters (worth value 1, 5, 10, 11, 25 respectively), give 90 cents change using the **fewest** number of coins.



# Remember: Greedy Change Making Algorithm

- Given: target value  $x$ , list of coins  $C = [c_1, \dots, c_n]$   
(in this case  $C = [1, 5, 10, 25]$ )
- Repeatedly select the largest coin less than the remaining target value:

```
while( $x > 0$ )  
  let  $c = \max(c_i \in \{c_1, \dots, c_n\} \mid c_i \leq x)$   
  print  $c$   
   $x = x - c$ 
```

# Greedy solution

90 cents



# Greedy solution

90 cents



# Why does greedy always work for US coins?

- If  $x < 5$ , then pennies only
  - Else 5 pennies can be exchanged for a nickel

Only case Greedy uses pennies!
- If  $5 \leq x < 10$  we must have a nickel
  - Else 2 nickels can be exchanged for a dime

Only case Greedy uses nickels!
- If  $10 \leq x < 25$  we must have at least 1 dime
  - Else 3 dimes can be exchanged for a quarter and a nickel

Only case Greedy uses dimes!
- If  $x \geq 25$  we must have at least 1 quarter
  - Else 4 quarters can be exchanged for a dollar

Only case Greedy uses quarters!

# Dynamic Programming

- Requires **Optimal Substructure**
  - Solution to larger problem contains the solutions to smaller ones
- Idea:
  1. Identify the recursive structure of the problem
    - What is the “last thing” done?
  2. Save the solution to each subproblem in memory
  3. Select a good order for solving subproblems
    - “Top Down”: Solve each recursively
    - “Bottom Up”: Iteratively solve smallest to largest

# Identify Recursive Structure

Change( $n$ ): minimum number of coins needed to give change for  $n$  cents

## Possibilities for last coin



## Coins needed

$\swarrow$  + coin

$$\text{Change}(n - 25) + 1 \quad \text{if } n \geq 25$$

$$\text{Change}(n - 11) + 1 \quad \text{if } n \geq 11$$

$$\text{Change}(n - 10) + 1 \quad \text{if } n \geq 10$$

$$\text{Change}(n - 5) + 1 \quad \text{if } n \geq 5$$

$$\text{Change}(n - 1) + 1 \quad \text{if } n \geq 1$$



# Identify Recursive Structure

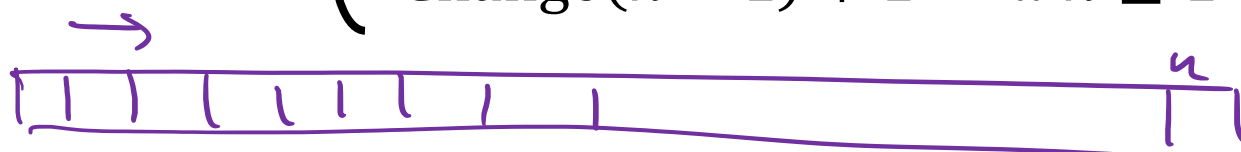
coins  $[ \quad ]$ ,  $n$

Change( $n$ ): minimum number of coins needed to give change for  $n$  cents

$k$  coins  $[25, 11, 10, 5, 1]$   
for  $i=0:n$

$$\text{Change}(n) = \min \begin{cases} \text{Change}(n - 25) + 1 & \text{if } n \geq 25 \\ \text{Change}(n - 11) + 1 & \text{if } n \geq 11 \\ \text{Change}(n - 10) + 1 & \text{if } n \geq 10 \\ \text{Change}(n - 5) + 1 & \text{if } n \geq 5 \\ \text{Change}(n - 1) + 1 & \text{if } n \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

**Correctness:** The optimal solution must be contained in one of these configurations



**Base Case:** Change(0) = 0

**Running time:**  $O(kn)$

$k$  is number of possible coins

Is this efficient?

No, this is pseudo-polynomial time

Input size is  $O(k \log n)$

# Announcements

- PS8 available soon
- PA4 now available!
- Office hours updates
  - Prof Hott Office Hours:
    - Tomorrow: 2-3pm only (no 10am hours)
    - Monday 4/1: 10-11am
    - Tuesday 4/2: 2-3pm

# Dynamic Programming

- Requires **Optimal Substructure**
  - Solution to larger problem contains the (optimal) solutions to smaller ones
- Idea:
  1. Identify the recursive structure of the problem
    - What is the “last thing” done?
  2. Save the solution to each subproblem in memory
  3. Select a good order for solving subproblems
    - “Top Down”: Solve each recursively
    - “Bottom Up”: Iteratively solve smallest to largest

# Log Cutting

Given a log of length  $n$

A list (of length  $n$ ) of prices  $P$  ( $P[i]$  is the price of a cut of size  $i$ )

Find the best way to cut the log

Price:	1	5	8	9	10	17	17	20	24	30
Length:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10



Select a list of lengths  $\ell_1, \dots, \ell_k$  such that:

$$\sum \ell_i = n$$

to maximize  $\sum P[\ell_i]$

Brute Force:  $O(2^n)$

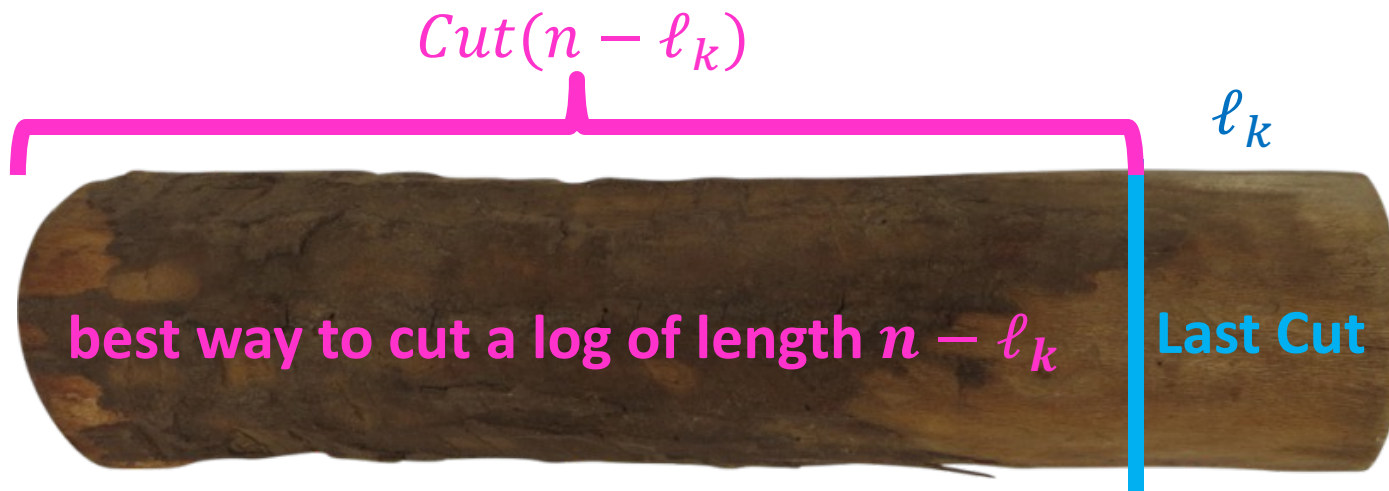
# 1. Identify Recursive Structure

$P[i]$  = value of a cut of length  $i$

$Cut(n)$  = value of best way to cut a log of length  $n$

$$Cut(n) = \max \begin{cases} Cut(n-1) + P[1] \\ Cut(n-2) + P[2] \\ \dots \\ Cut(0) + P[n] \end{cases}$$

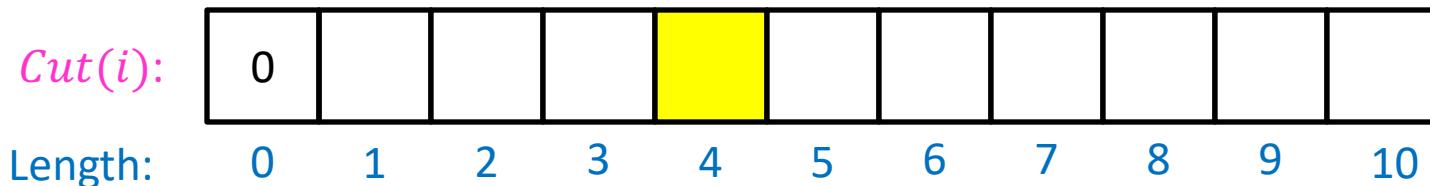
2. Save sub-solutions to memory!



# 3. Select a Good Order for Solving Subproblems

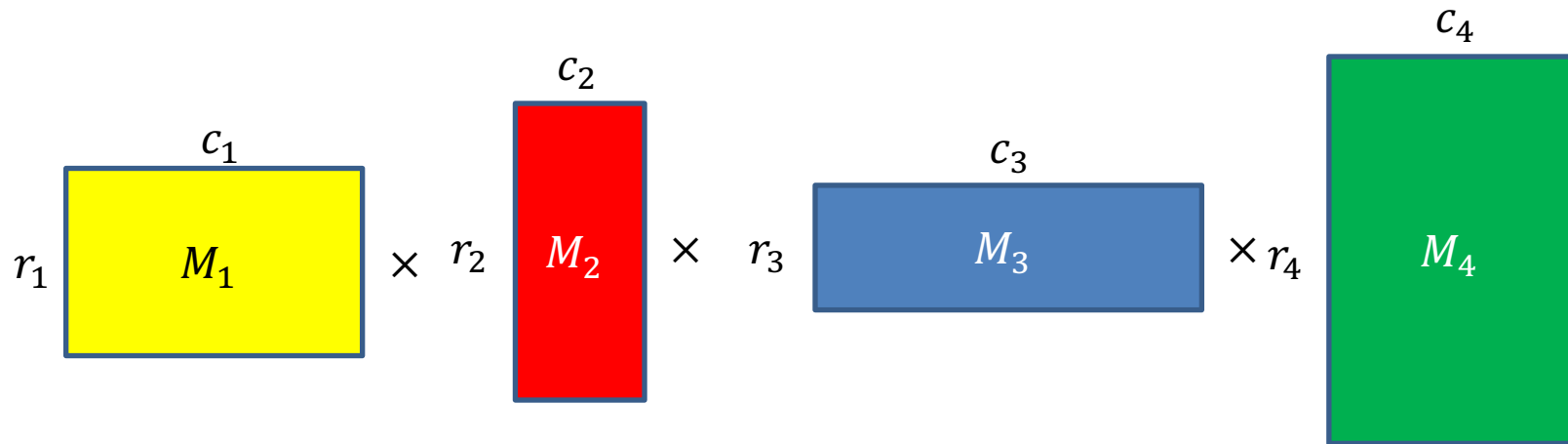
Solve Smallest subproblem first

$$Cut(4) = \max \begin{cases} Cut(3) + P[1] \\ Cut(2) + P[2] \\ Cut(1) + P[3] \\ Cut(0) + P[4] \end{cases}$$



# Matrix Chaining

- Given a sequence of Matrices  $(M_1, \dots, M_n)$ , what is the most efficient way to multiply them?



# 1. Identify the Recursive Structure of the Problem

- In general:

$Best(i, j)$  = cheapest way to multiply together  $M_i$  through  $M_j$

$$Best(i, j) = \min_{k=i}^{j-1} (Best(i, k) + Best(k + 1, j) + r_i r_{k+1} c_j)$$

$$Best(i, i) = 0$$

$$Best(1, n) = \min \left\{ \begin{array}{l} Best(2, n) + r_1 r_2 c_n \\ Best(1, 2) + Best(3, n) + r_1 r_3 c_n \\ Best(1, 3) + Best(4, n) + r_1 r_4 c_n \\ Best(1, 4) + Best(5, n) + r_1 r_5 c_n \\ \dots \\ Best(1, n - 1) + r_1 r_n c_n \end{array} \right.$$



## 2. Save Subsolutions in Memory

- In general:

$Best(i, j)$  = cheapest way to multiply together  $M_i$  through  $M_j$

$$Best(i, j) = \min_{k=i}^{j-1} (Best(i, k) + Best(k+1, j) + r_i r_{k+1} c_j)$$

$$Best(i, i) = 0$$

Save to  $M[n]$

Read from  $M[n]$   
if present

$$Best(1, n) = \min$$

$$Best(2, n) + r_1 r_2 c_n$$

$$Best(1, 2) + Best(3, n) + r_1 r_3 c_n$$

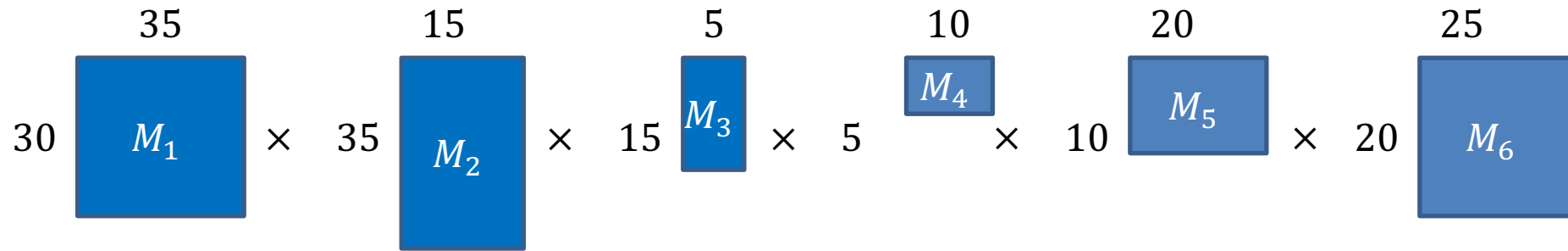
$$Best(1, 3) + Best(4, n) + r_1 r_4 c_n$$

$$Best(1, 4) + Best(5, n) + r_1 r_5 c_n$$

...

$$Best(1, n-1) + r_1 r_n c_n$$

# 3. Select a good order for solving subproblems



$$Best(i, j) = \min_{k=i}^{j-1} (Best(i, k) + Best(k + 1, j) + r_i r_{k+1} c_j)$$

$$Best(i, i) = 0$$

$j =$	1	2	3	4	5	6	$= i$
1	0	15750	7875				1
2		0	2625				2
3			0	750			3
4				0	1000		4
5					0	5000	5
6						0	6

To find  $Best(i, j)$ : Need all preceding terms of row  $i$  and column  $j$

Conclusion: solve in order of diagonal



## Movie Time!

In Season 9 Episode 7 “The Slicer” of the hit 90s TV show *Seinfeld*, George discovers that, years prior, he had a heated argument with his new boss, Mr. Kruger. This argument ended in George throwing Mr. Kruger’s boombox into the ocean. How did George make this discovery?



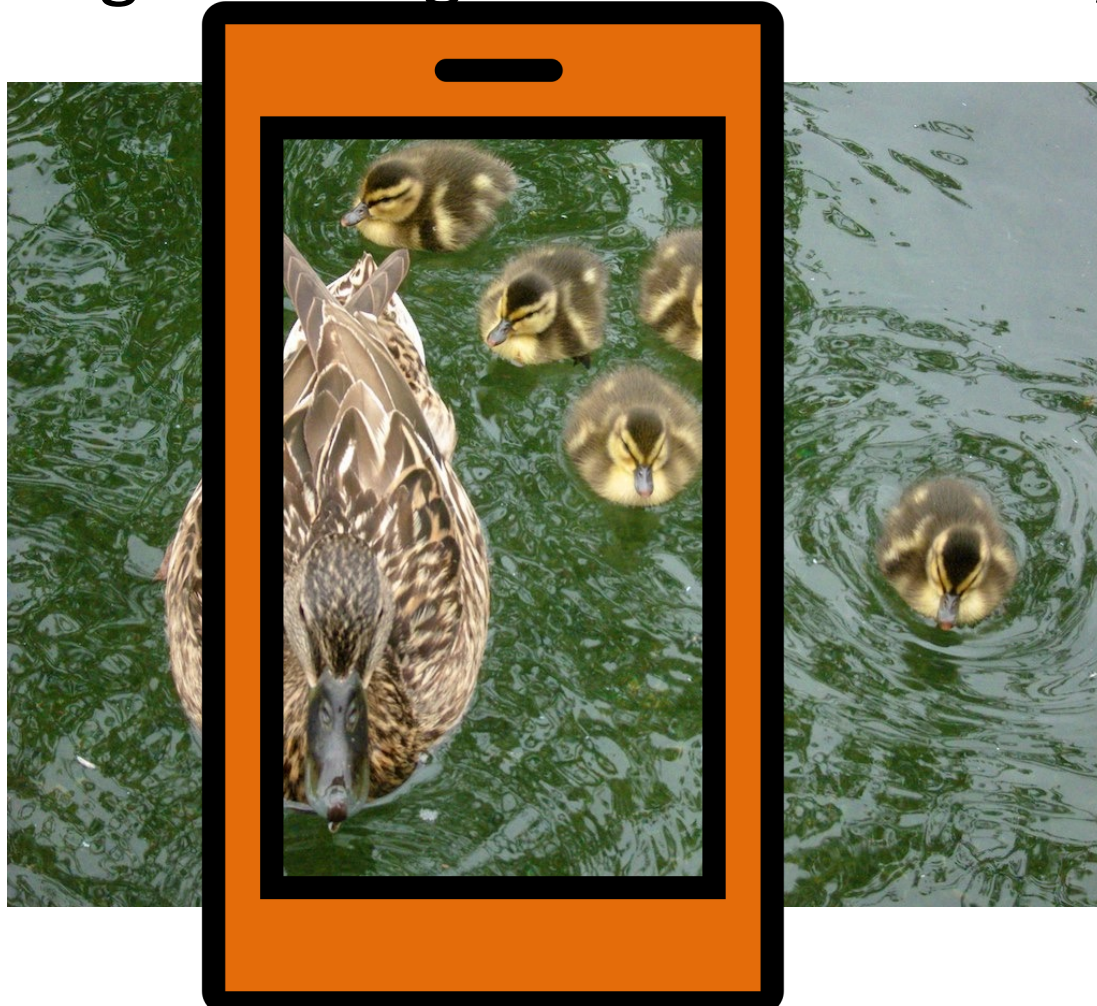


# Seam Carving

- Method for image resizing that doesn't scale/crop the image

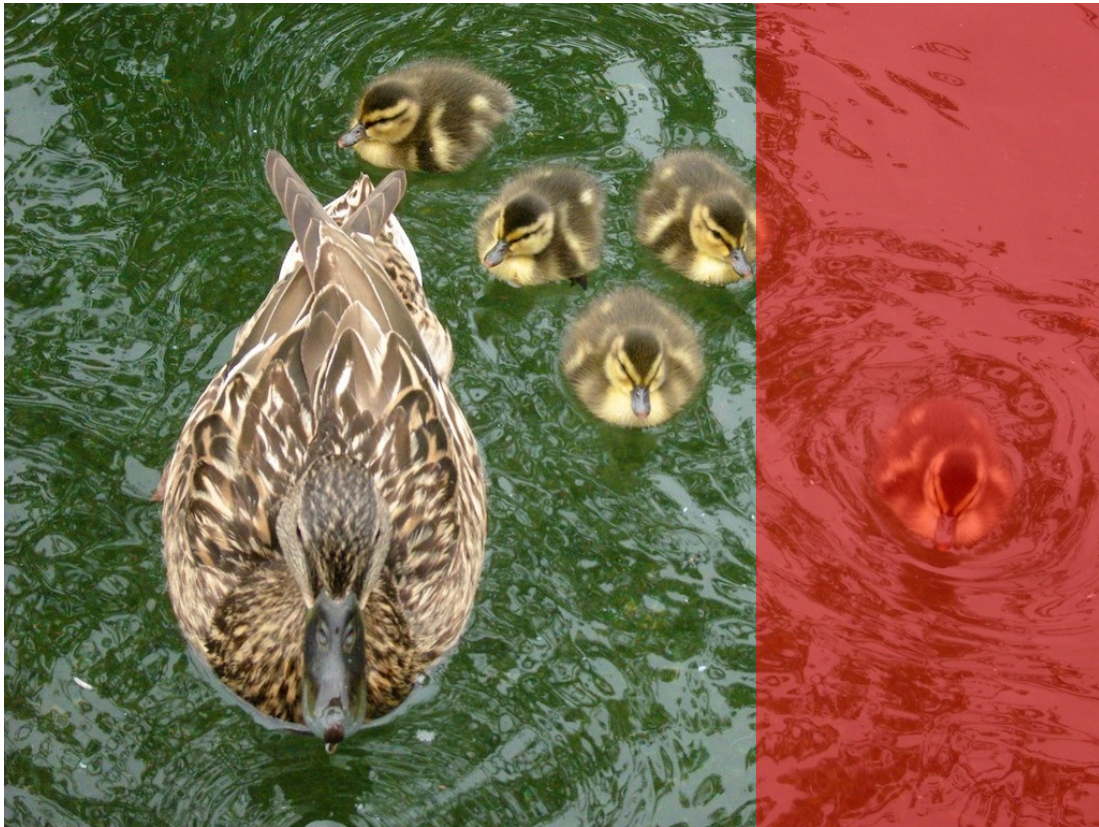
# Seam Carving

- Method for image resizing that doesn't scale/crop the image



# Cropping

- Removes a “block” of pixels

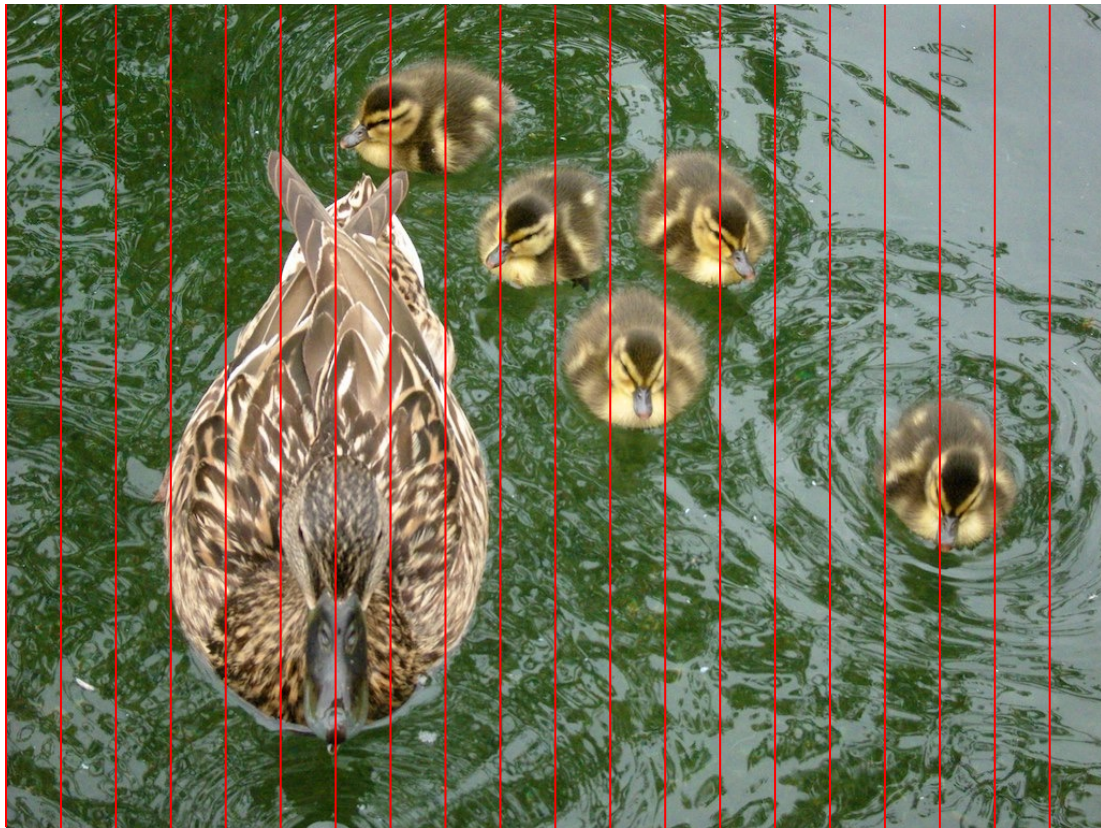


Cropped

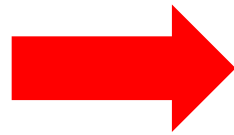


# Scaling

- Removes “stripes” of pixels



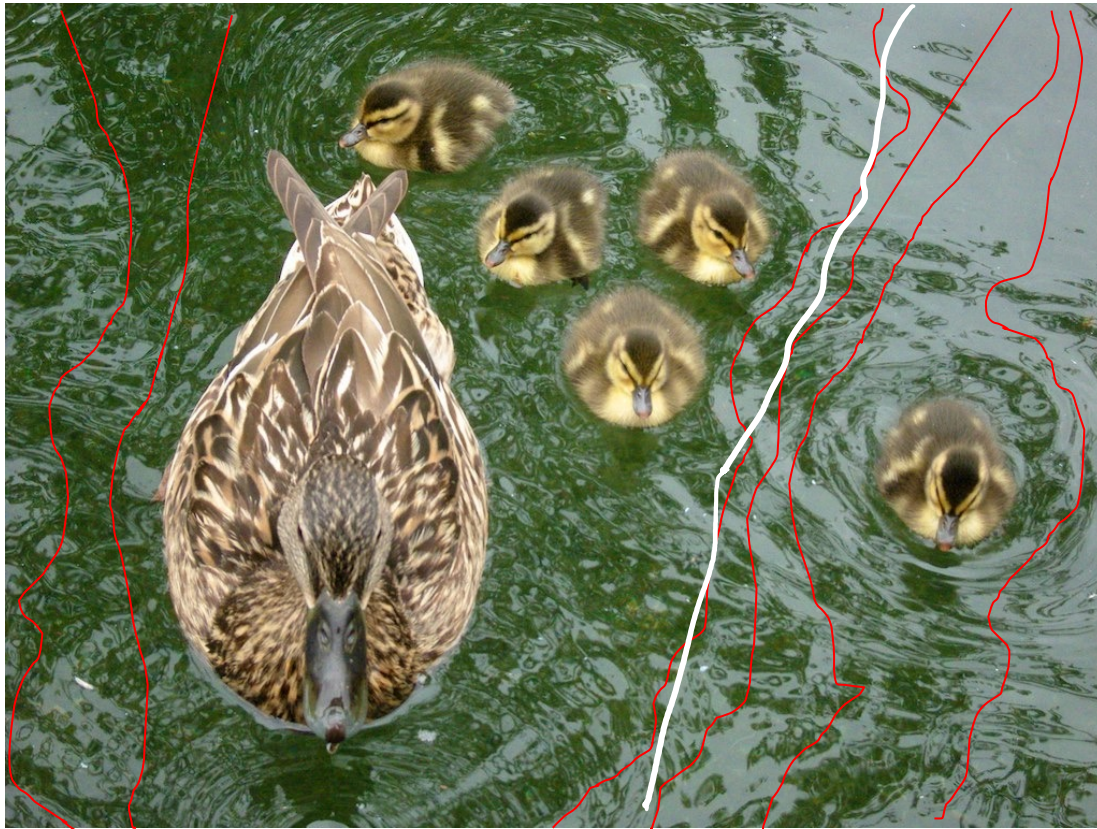
Scaled



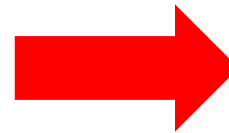


# Seam Carving

- Removes “least energy seam” of pixels
- <https://trekhleb.dev/js-image-carver/>



Carved



# Seam Carving

- Method for image resizing that doesn't scale/crop the image

Cropped



Scaled



Carved



# Seattle Skyline



# Energy of a Seam

- Sum of the energies of each pixel

$$e(p) = \text{energy of pixel } p$$

- Many choices for pixel energy
  - E.g.: change of gradient (how much the color of this pixel differs from its neighbors)
  - Particular choice doesn't matter, we use it as a “black box”
- Goal: find least-energy seam to remove

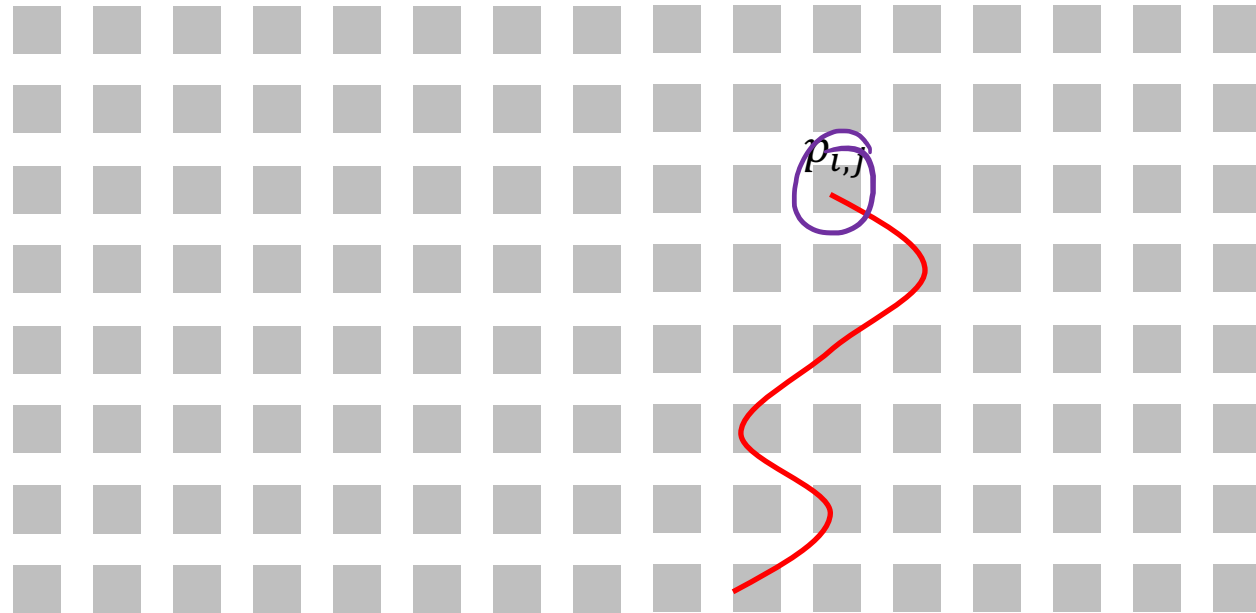
# Dynamic Programming

- Requires **Optimal Substructure**
  - Solution to larger problem contains the solutions to smaller ones
- Idea:
  1. Identify the recursive structure of the problem
    - What is the “last thing” done?
  2. Save the solution to each subproblem in memory
  3. Select a good order for solving subproblems
    - “Top Down”: Solve each recursively
    - “Bottom Up”: Iteratively solve smallest to largest

# Identify Recursive Structure

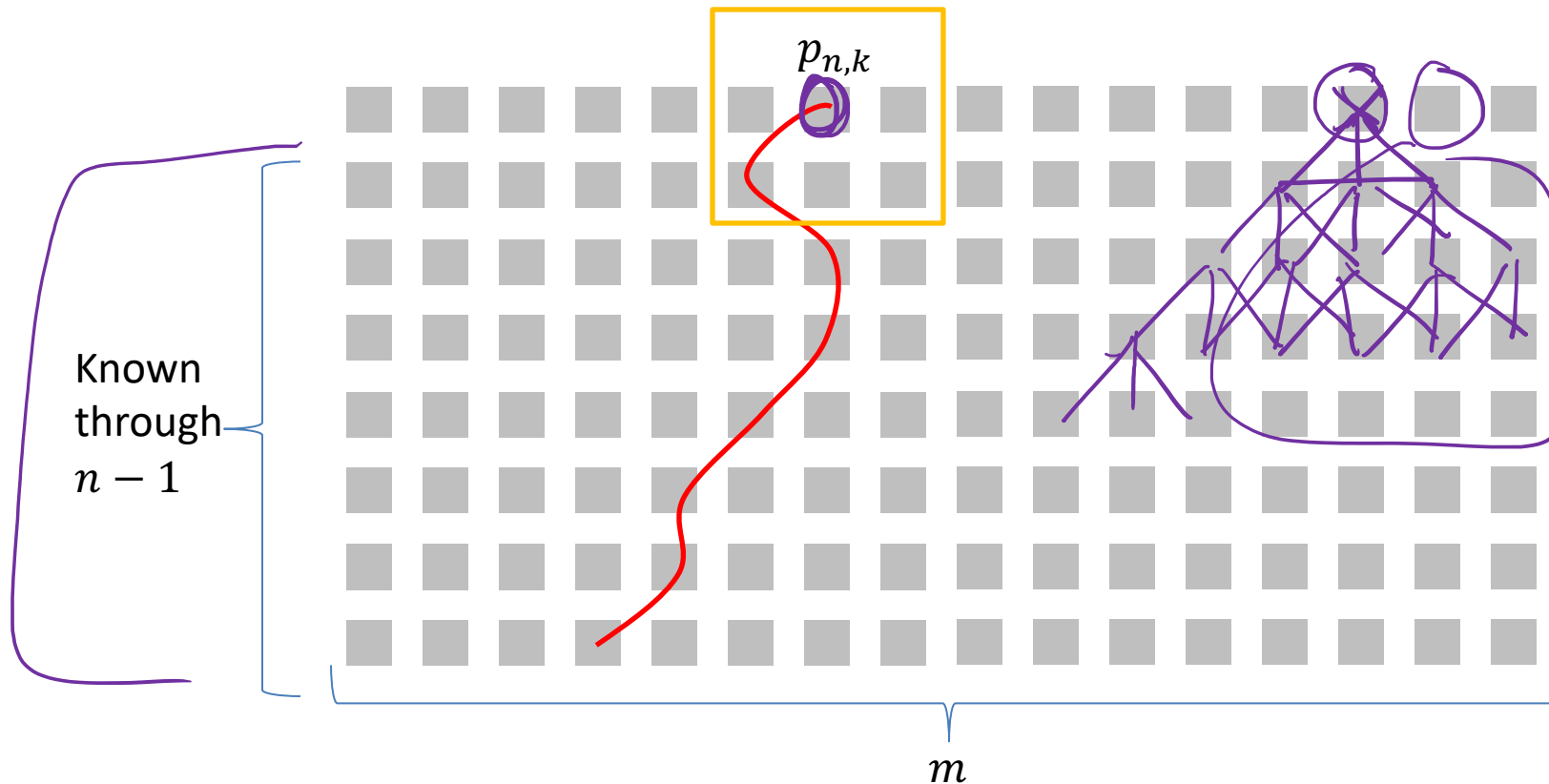
Let  $S(i, j)$  = least energy seam from the bottom of the image up to pixel  $p_{i,j}$

*weight  $\mathcal{L}$*



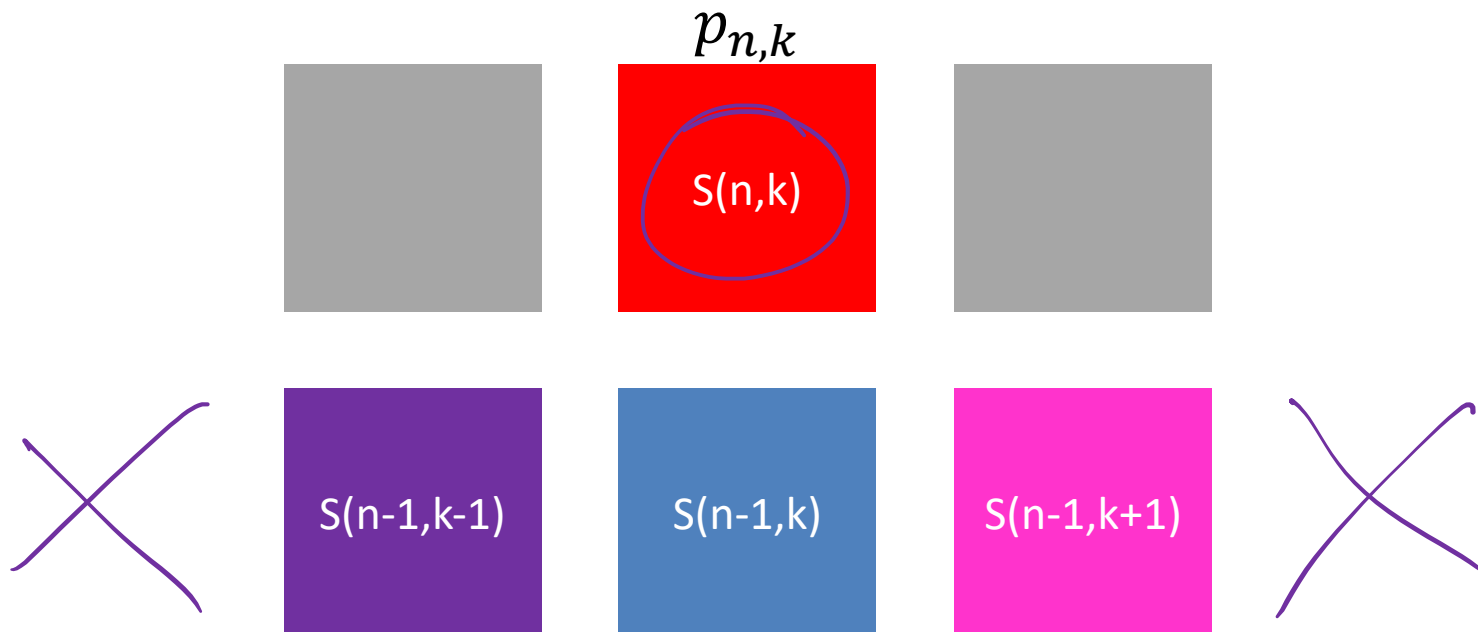
# Computing $S(n, k)$

Assume we know the least energy seams for all of row  $n - 1$   
(i.e. we know  $S(n - 1, \ell)$  for all  $\ell$ )



# Computing $S(n, k)$

Assume we know the least energy seams for all of row  $n - 1$   
(i.e. we know  $S(n - 1, \ell)$  for all  $\ell$ )





# Computing $S(n, k)$

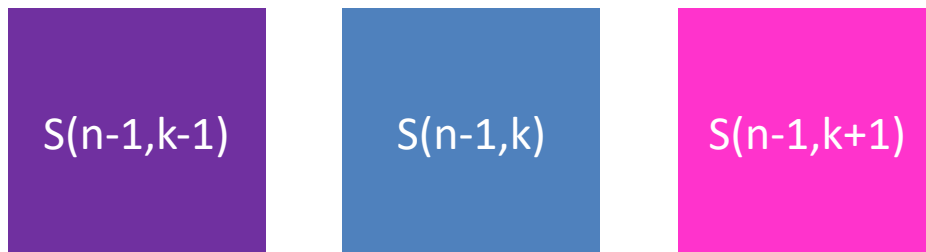
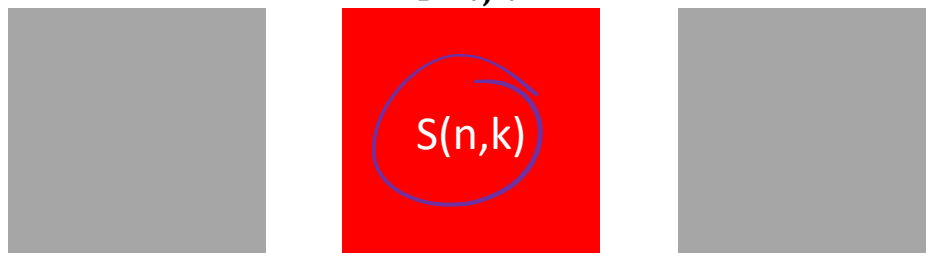
Assume we know the least energy seams for all of row  $n - 1$   
(i.e. we know  $S(n - 1, \ell)$  for all  $\ell$ )

$$S(n, k) = \min$$

$$S(n - 1, k - 1) + \underline{e(p_{n,k})}$$

$$S(n - 1, k) + e(p_{n,k})$$

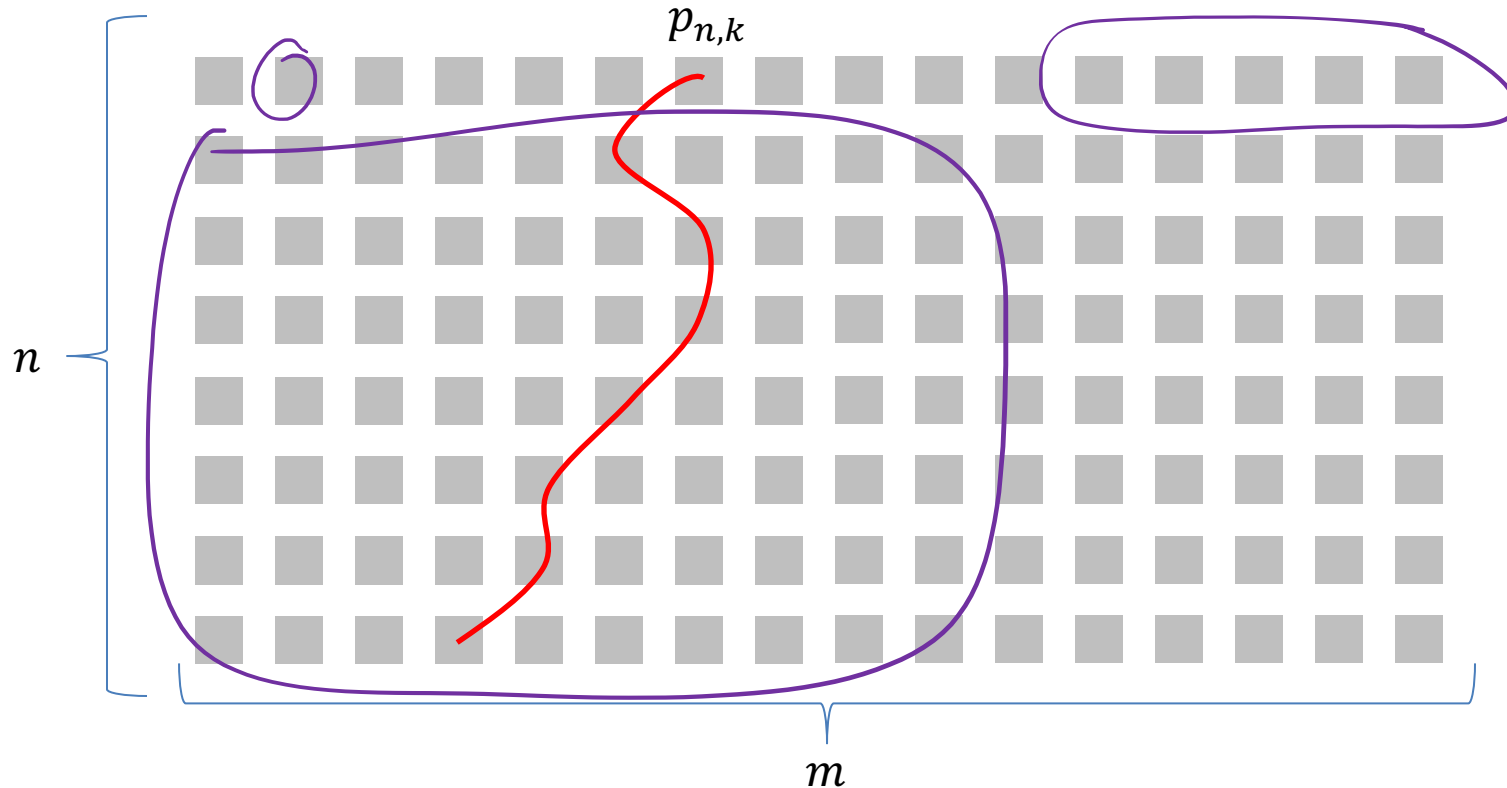
$$S(n - 1, k + 1) + e(p_{n,k})$$



# Finding the Least Energy Seam

Want to delete the least energy seam going from bottom to top, so delete:

$$\min_{k=1}^m (S(n, k))$$

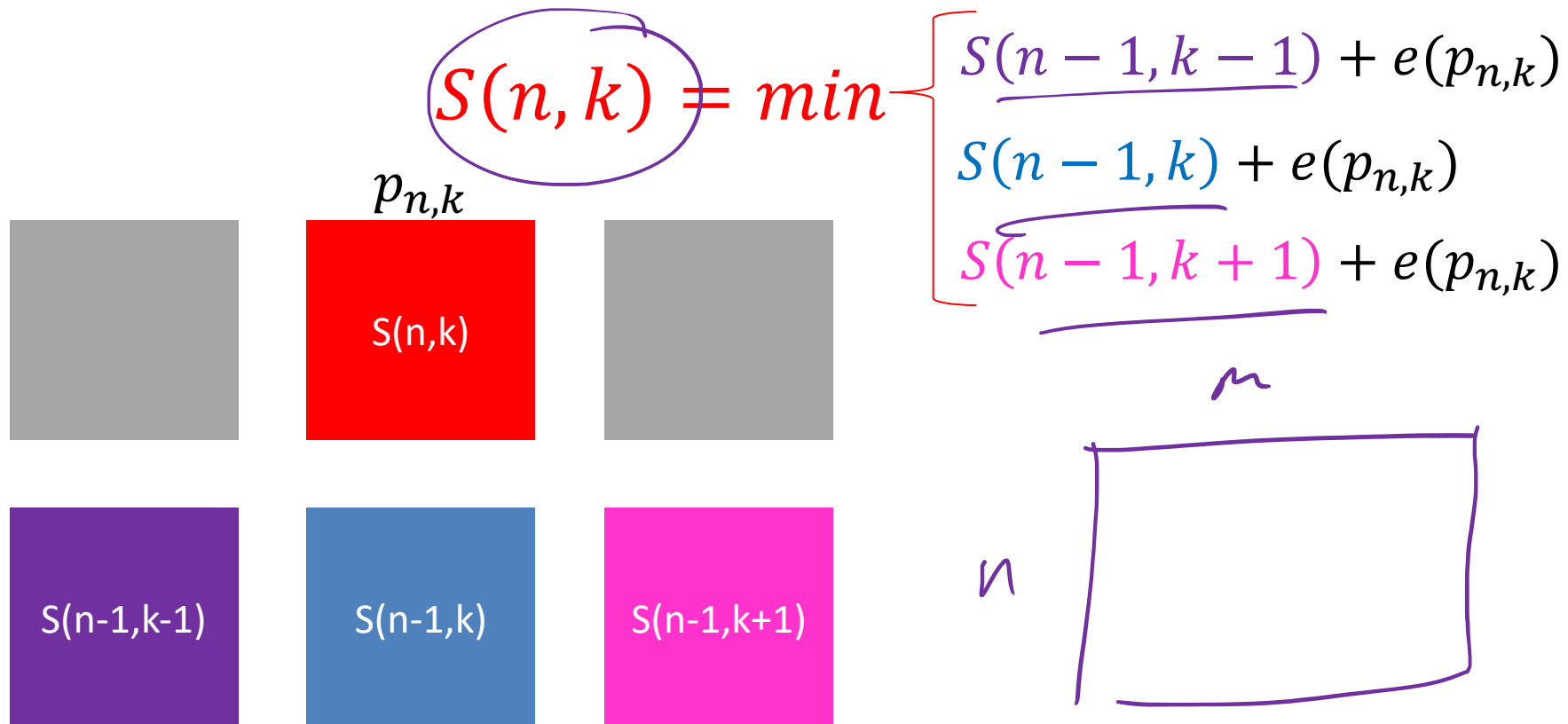


# Dynamic Programming

- Requires **Optimal Substructure**
  - Solution to larger problem contains the solutions to smaller ones
- Idea:
  1. Identify the recursive structure of the problem
    - What is the “last thing” done?
  2. Save the solution to each subproblem in memory
  3. Select a good order for solving subproblems
    - “Top Down”: Solve each recursively
    - “Bottom Up”: Iteratively solve smallest to largest

# Computing $S(n, k)$

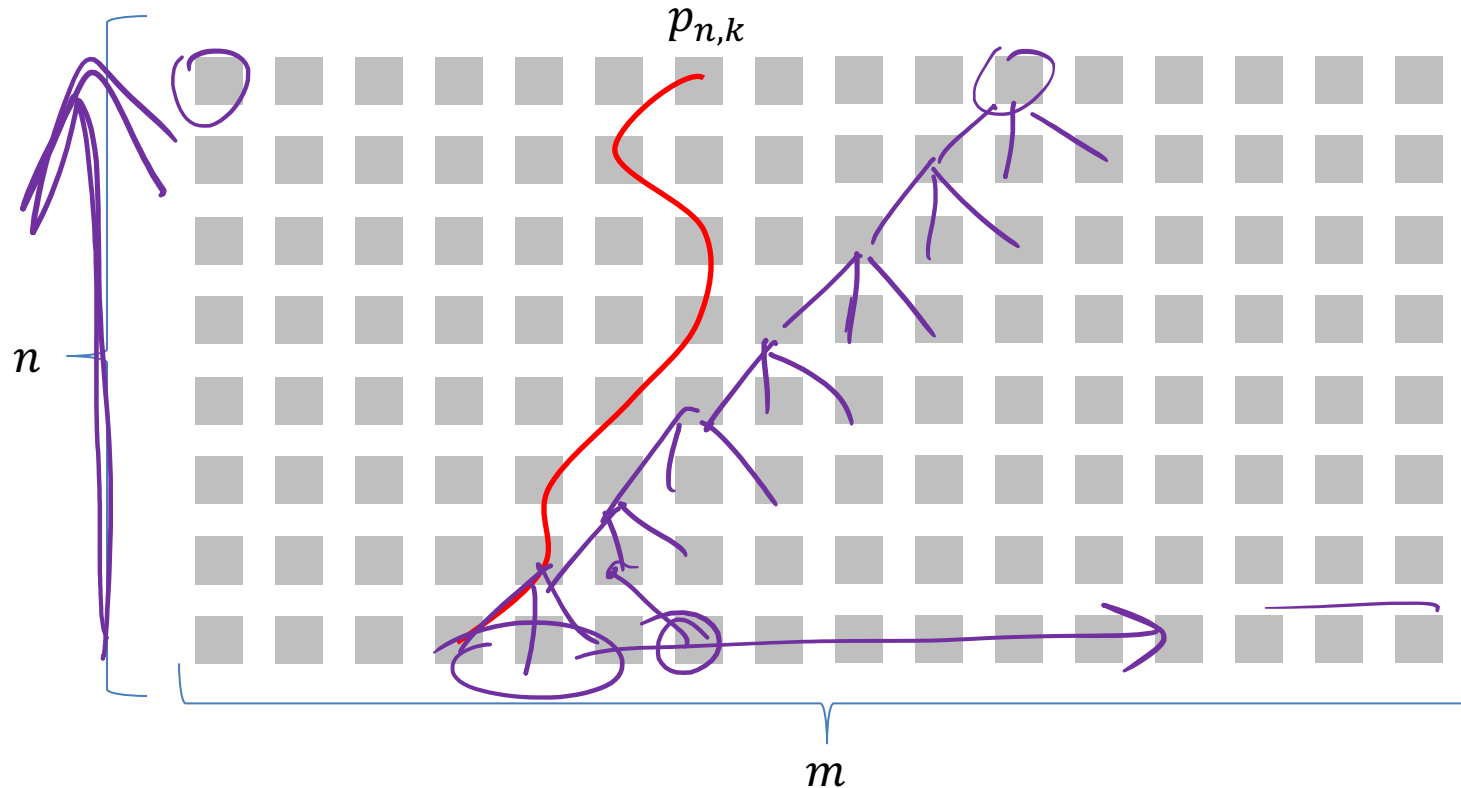
Assume we know the least energy seams for all of row  $n - 1$  (i.e. we know  $S(n - 1, \ell)$  for all  $\ell$ )



# Finding the Least Energy Seam

Want to delete the least energy seam going from bottom to top, so delete:

$$\min_{k=1}^m (S(n, k))$$



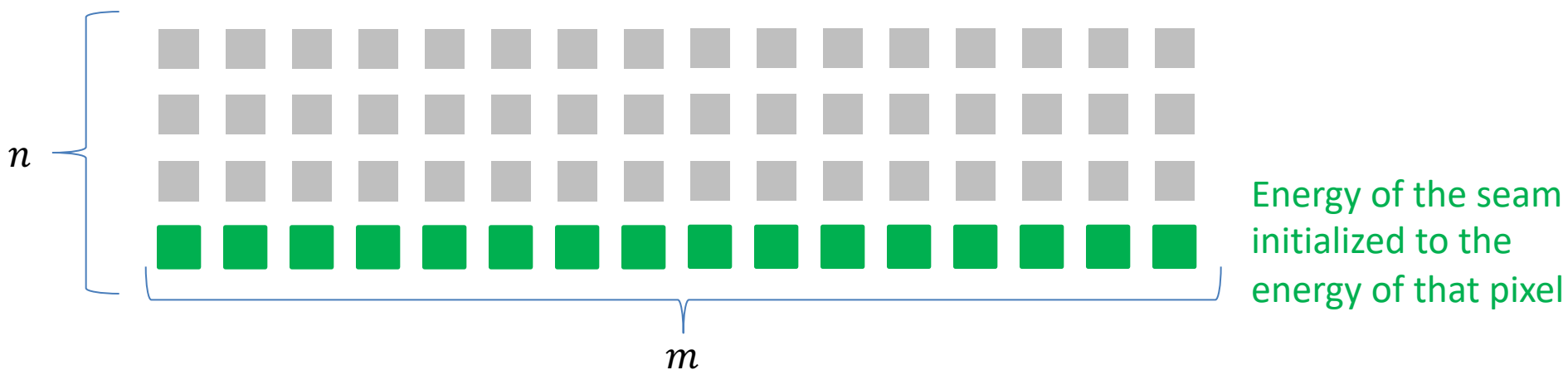
# Dynamic Programming

- Requires **Optimal Substructure**
  - Solution to larger problem contains the solutions to smaller ones
- Idea:
  1. Identify the recursive structure of the problem
    - What is the “last thing” done?
  2. Save the solution to each subproblem in memory
  3. Select a good order for solving subproblems
    - “Top Down”: Solve each recursively
    - “Bottom Up”: Iteratively solve smallest to largest

# Bring It All Together

Start from bottom of image (row 1), solve up to top

Initialize  $S(1, k) = e(p_{1,k})$  for each pixel in row 1

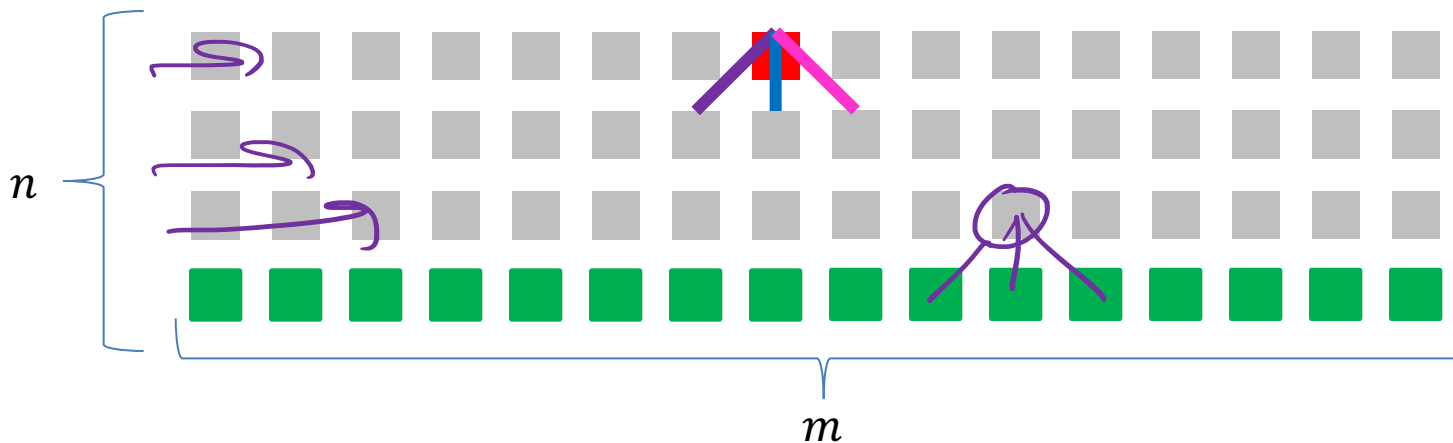


# Bring It All Together

Start from bottom of image (row 1), solve up to top

Initialize  $S(1, k) = e(p_{1,k})$  for each pixel  $p_{1,k}$

For  $i > 2$  find  $S(i, k) = \min \begin{cases} S(n-1, k-1) + e(p_{n,k}) \\ S(n-1, k) + e(p_{n,k}) \\ S(n-1, k+1) + e(p_{n,k}) \end{cases}$



Energy of the seam initialized to the energy of that pixel



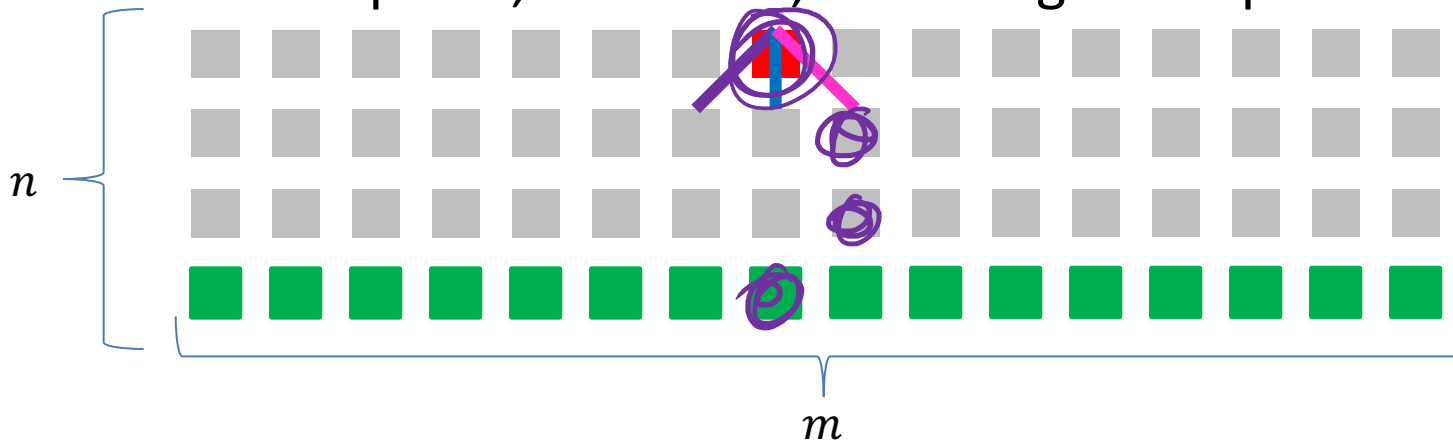
# Finding the Seam

Start from bottom of image (row 1), solve up to top

Initialize  $S(1, k) = e(p_{1,k})$  for each pixel  $p_{1,k}$

For  $i > 2$  find  $S(i, k) = \min$   $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} S(n-1, k-1) + e(p_{n,k}) \\ S(n-1, k) + e(p_{n,k}) \\ S(n-1, k+1) + e(p_{n,k}) \end{array} \right.$

Pick smallest from top row, backtrack, removing those pixels



Energy of the seam  
initialized to the  
energy of that pixel

# Run Time?

Start from bottom of image (row 1), solve up to top

Initialize  $S(1, k) = e(p_{1,k})$  for each pixel  $p_{1,k}$

$$\Theta(m)$$

For  $i > 2$  find  $S(i, k) = \min$

$$S(n-1, k-1) + e(p_{i,k})$$

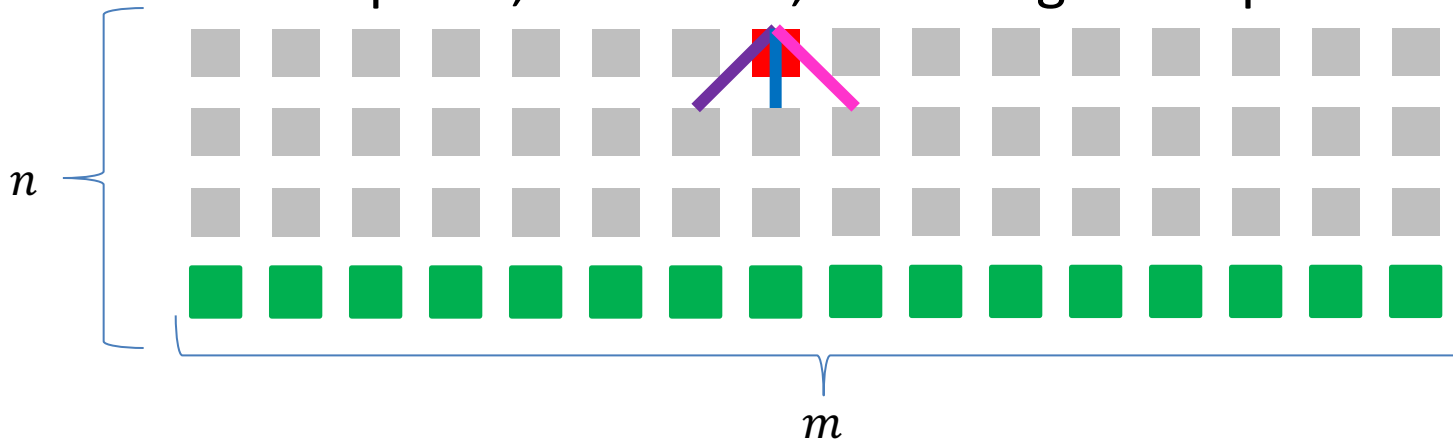
$$S(n-1, k) + e(p_{i,k})$$

$$S(n-1, k+1) + e(p_{i,k})$$

$$\Theta(n \cdot m)$$

Pick smallest from top row, backtrack, removing those pixels

$$\Theta(n + m)$$



Energy of the seam initialized to the energy of that pixel

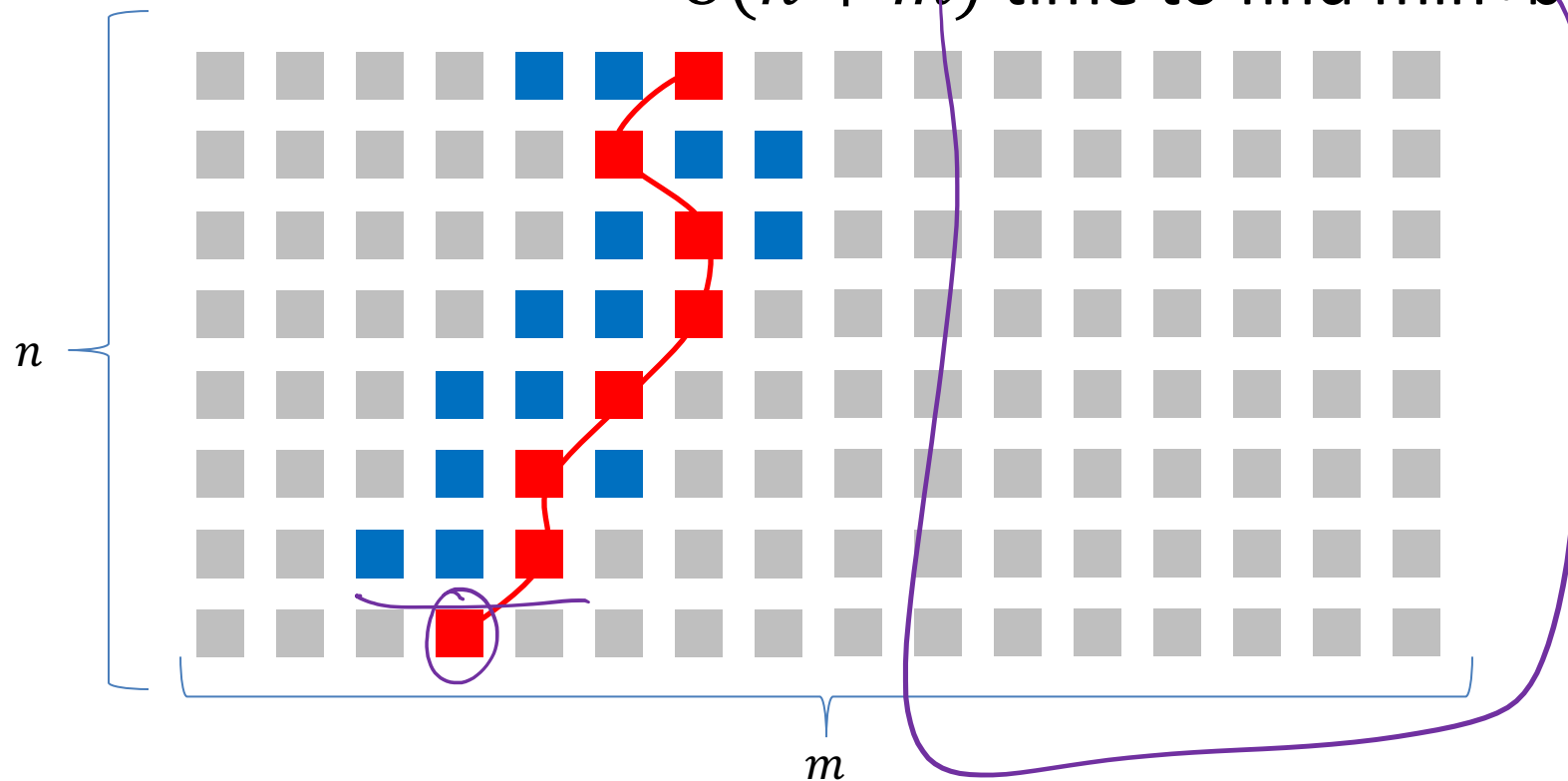
# Repeated Seam Removal

Only need to update **pixels dependent** on the **removed seam**

$2n$  pixels change

$\Theta(2n)$  time to update pixels

$\Theta(n + m)$  time to find min+backtrack



# Longest Common Subsequence

Given two sequences  $X$  and  $Y$ ,  
find the length of their longest  
common subsequence

Example:

$X = ATCTGAT$

$Y = TGCATA$

$LCS = TCTA$

Brute force: Compare every  
subsequence of  $X$  with  $Y$   
 $\Omega(2^n)$



# Dynamic Programming

- Requires **Optimal Substructure**
  - Solution to larger problem is the (optimal) solutions to a smaller one plus one “decision”
- Idea:
  1. Identify the substructure of the problem
    - What are the options for the “last thing” done? What subproblem comes from each?
  2. Save the solution to each subproblem in memory
  3. Select an order for solving subproblems
    - “Top Down”: Solve each recursively
    - “Bottom Up”: Iteratively solve smallest to largest

# 1. Identify Recursive Structure

Let  $LCS(i, j)$  = length of the LCS for the first  $i$  characters of  $X$ , first  $j$  character of  $Y$

Find  $LCS(i, j)$ :

Case 1:  $X[i] = Y[j]$

$X = ATCTGCGT$

$Y = TGCATAT$

$$LCS(i, j) = \underline{LCS(i - 1, j - 1)} + 1$$

Case 2:  $X[i] \neq Y[j]$

$X = ATCTGCGA$

$Y = TGCATAT$

$X = ATCTGCGT$

$Y = TGCATAC$

$$\max \left( \begin{array}{l} LCS(i, j) = LCS(i, j - 1) \\ LCS(i, j) = LCS(i - 1, j) \end{array} \right)$$

$$LCS(i, j) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i = 0 \text{ or } j = 0 \\ LCS(i - 1, j - 1) + 1 & \text{if } X[i] = Y[j] \\ \max(LCS(i, j - 1), LCS(i - 1, j)) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

# Dynamic Programming

- Requires **Optimal Substructure**
  - Solution to larger problem is the (optimal) solutions to a smaller one plus one “decision”
- Idea:
  1. Identify the substructure of the problem
    - What are the options for the “last thing” done? What subproblem comes from each?
  2. Save the solution to each subproblem in memory
  3. Select an order for solving subproblems
    - “Top Down”: Solve each recursively
    - “Bottom Up”: Iteratively solve smallest to largest

# 1. Identify Recursive Structure

Let  $LCS(i, j)$  = length of the LCS for the first  $i$  characters of  $X$ , first  $j$  character of  $Y$

Find  $LCS(i, j)$ :

Case 1:  $X[i] = Y[j]$

$X = ATCTGCGT$

$Y = TGCATAT$

$$LCS(i, j) = LCS(i - 1, j - 1) + 1$$

Case 2:  $X[i] \neq Y[j]$

$X = ATCTGCGA$

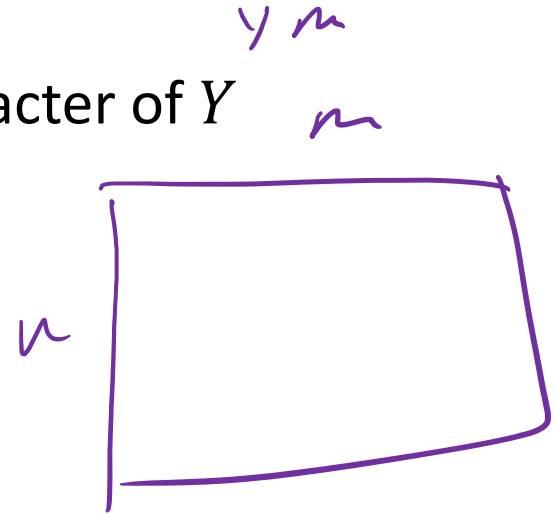
$Y = TGCATAT$

$$LCS(i, j) = LCS(i, j - 1)$$

$X = ATCTGCGT$

$Y = TGCATAC$

$$LCS(i, j) = LCS(i - 1, j)$$



$$LCS(i, j) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i = 0 \text{ or } j = 0 \\ LCS(i - 1, j - 1) + 1 & \text{if } X[i] = Y[j] \\ \max(LCS(i, j - 1), LCS(i - 1, j)) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

↑ Save to  $M[i, j]$ 
↖ Read from  $M[i, j]$  if present



X = "alkjdflaksjdf"

Y = "lakjsdfllkasjdlfs"

M = 2d array of len(X) rows and len(Y) columns, initialized to -1

def LCS(int i, int j):

    # returns the length of the LCS shared between the length-i prefix of X and length-j prefix of Y

    # memoization

    if M[i,j] > -1:

        return M[i,j]

    #base case:

    if i == 0 or j == 0:

        ans = 0

    elif X[i] == Y[j]:

        ans = LCS(i-1, j-1) + 1

    else:

        ans = max( LCS(i, j-1), LCS(i-1, j) )

    M[i,j] = ans

    return ans

print(LCS(len(X), len(Y))) # the answer for the entirety of X and Y

$$LCS(i, j) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i = 0 \text{ or } j = 0 \\ LCS(i - 1, j - 1) + 1 & \text{if } X[i] = Y[j] \\ \max(LCS(i, j - 1), LCS(i - 1, j)) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

# Dynamic Programming

- Requires **Optimal Substructure**
  - Solution to larger problem is the (optimal) solutions to a smaller one plus one “decision”
- Idea:
  1. Identify the substructure of the problem
    - What are the options for the “last thing” done? What subproblem comes from each?
  2. Save the solution to each subproblem in memory
  3. Select an order for solving subproblems
    - “Top Down”: Solve each recursively
    - “Bottom Up”: Iteratively solve smallest to largest

# 3. Solve in a Good Order

$$LCS(i, j) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i = 0 \text{ or } j = 0 \\ LCS(i - 1, j - 1) + 1 & \text{if } X[i] = Y[j] \\ \max(LCS(i, j - 1), LCS(i - 1, j)) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

		X =							
		0	A	T	C	T	G	A	T
Y =	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	T	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1
	G	2	0	0	1	1	1	2	2
	C	3	0	0	1	2	2	2	2
	A	4	0	1	1	2	2	2	3
	T	5	0	1	2	2	3	3	3
	A	6	0	1	2	2	3	3	4

To fill in cell  $(i, j)$  we need cells  $(i - 1, j - 1)$ ,  $(i - 1, j)$ ,  $(i, j - 1)$   
 Fill from Top->Bottom, Left->Right (with any preference)

# Run Time?

$$LCS(i, j) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i = 0 \text{ or } j = 0 \\ LCS(i - 1, j - 1) + 1 & \text{if } X[i] = Y[j] \\ \max(LCS(i, j - 1), LCS(i - 1, j)) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

		X =							
		0	A	T	C	T	G	A	T
Y =	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	T	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1
	G	0	0	1	1	1	2	2	2
	C	0	0	1	2	2	2	2	2
	A	0	1	1	2	2	2	3	3
	T	0	1	2	2	3	3	3	4
	A	0	1	2	2	3	3	4	4

Run Time:  $\Theta(n \cdot m)$  (for  $|X| = n, |Y| = m$ )

# Reconstructing the LCS

$$LCS(i, j) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i = 0 \text{ or } j = 0 \\ LCS(i - 1, j - 1) + 1 & \text{if } X[i] = Y[j] \\ \max(LCS(i, j - 1), LCS(i - 1, j)) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

		X =							
			A	T	C	T	G	A	T
Y =		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	T	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1
	G	0	0	1	1	1	2	2	2
	C	0	0	1	2	2	2	2	2
	A	0	1	1	2	2	2	3	3
	T	0	1	2	2	3	3	3	4
A	0	1	2	2	3	3	4	4	

Start from bottom right,  
 if symbols matched, print that symbol then go diagonally  
 else go to largest adjacent

# Reconstructing the LCS

$$LCS(i, j) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i = 0 \text{ or } j = 0 \\ LCS(i - 1, j - 1) + 1 & \text{if } X[i] = Y[j] \\ \max(LCS(i, j - 1), LCS(i - 1, j)) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

X =			A	T	C	T	G	A	T
		Y =	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
T	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1
G	2	0	0	1	1	1	2	2	2
C	3	0	0	1	2	2	2	2	2
A	4	0	1	1	2	2	2	3	3
T	5	0	1	2	2	3	3	3	4
A	6	0	1	2	2	3	3	4	4

Start from bottom right,  
 if symbols matched, print that symbol then go diagonally  
 else go to largest adjacent

# Reconstructing the LCS

$$LCS(i, j) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i = 0 \text{ or } j = 0 \\ LCS(i - 1, j - 1) + 1 & \text{if } X[i] = Y[j] \\ \max(LCS(i, j - 1), LCS(i - 1, j)) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

	X =		A	T	C	T	G	A	T
Y =		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
T	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1
G	2	0	0	1	1	1	2	2	2
C	3	0	0	1	2	2	2	2	2
A	4	0	1	1	2	2	2	3	3
T	5	0	1	2	2	3	3	3	4
A	6	0	1	2	2	3	3	4	4

Start from bottom right,  
 if symbols matched, print that symbol then go diagonally  
 else go to largest adjacent