



Portland State University

**W'21 CS 584/684**  
**Algorithm Design &**  
**Analysis**

**Fang Song**

## Lecture 8

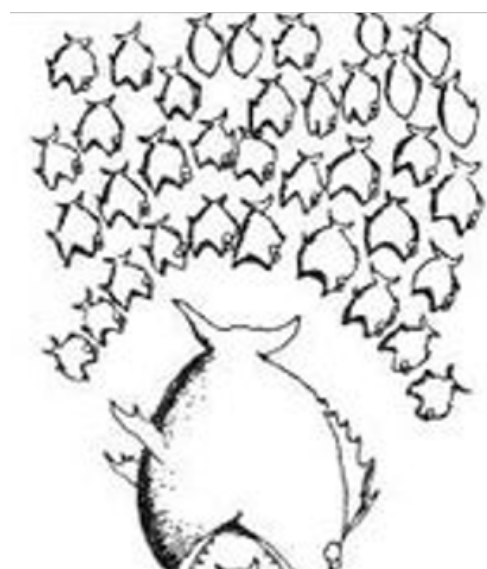
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- Longest common subsequence
- Bellman-Ford algorithm

Credit: based on slides by K. Wayne

# Essence of dynamic programming

Top-down ←



Credit: Mary Wootters

- DP is about **smart recursion** (i.e. without repetition) by **memoization**.
- Usually easy to express by building up a table **iteratively**.



→ Bottom up

# A recipe for DP

1. **Formulate the problem recursively (key step).**
  - a. **Specification.** Describe what problems to solve (not how).
  - b. **Recursion.** Give a recursive formula for the whole problem in terms of answers to smaller instances of the same problem.
  - c. Step back and double check.
2. **Build solutions to your recurrence (kinda routine).**
  - a. Identify subproblems.
  - b. Choose a **memoization** data structure.
  - c. Identify **dependencies** and find a good **order** (DAG in topological order).
  - d. Write down your algorithm.
  - e. Analyze time. Find possible improvement if possible.

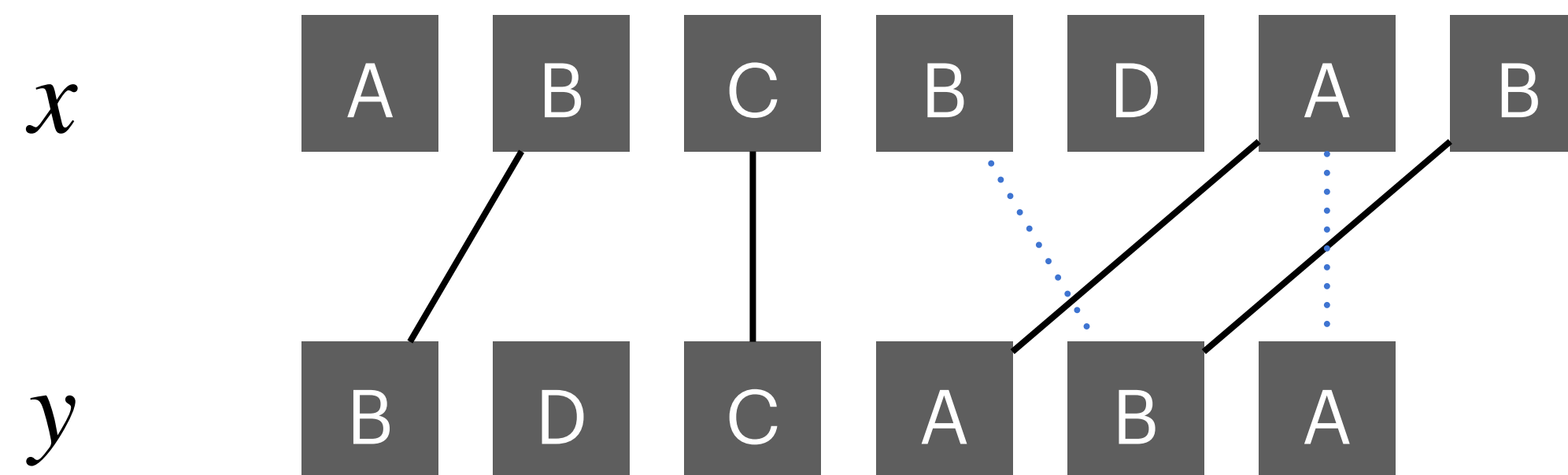


We usually go with **bottom-up** approach in this class.

# Longest common subsequence (LCS)

**Input:** two sequences  $x[1, \dots, m]$  and  $y[1, \dots, n]$

**Output:** A **longest** subsequence common to both.

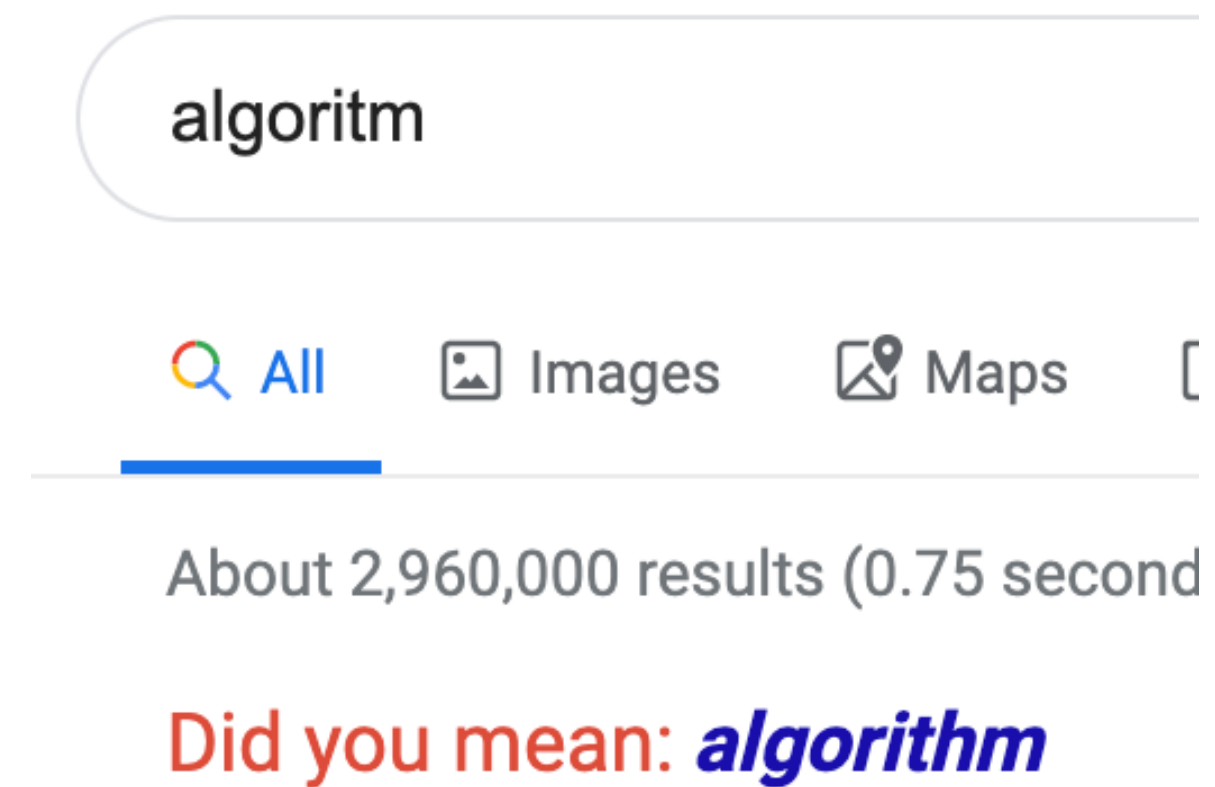


- ◎ Other names you may've heard of
  - Sequence alignment
  - Edit distance:  $n - \text{length}(LCS(x, y))$

# Motivation

## ◎ String matching [Levenshtein 1965]

- Auto corrector
- Spell checker
- Speech recognition
- Machine translation



## ◎ Computational biology [Needleman-Wunsch, 1970's]

- Simple measure of genome similarity

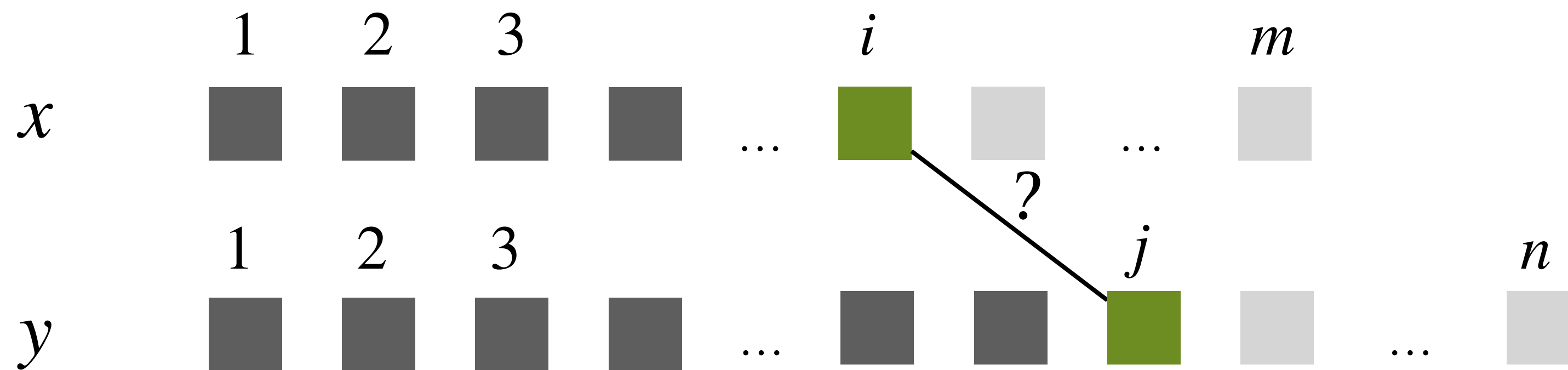




# DP1: develop a recurrence

- ◎ **Simplification:** look at the length of a longest-common subsequence
  - Extend the algorithm to find the LCS itself
- ◎ **1.a Specification.** What problems to solve?
  - **Definition.**  $c(i, j) := |LCS(x[1, \dots, i], y[1, \dots, j])|$ .       $|s|$ : length of string  $s$
  - **Goal.** Find  $c(m, n)$ .
- ◎ **1.b Recursion.** Recurrence to solve an subproblems from smaller ones.
  - **Base.**  $c(i, j) = 0$ , if  $i = 0$  or  $j = 0$ .
  - How to compute  $c(i, j)$  recursively?

# DP1: develop a recurrence, cont'd



⊙ **Case 1.**  $x[i] = y[j]$ .

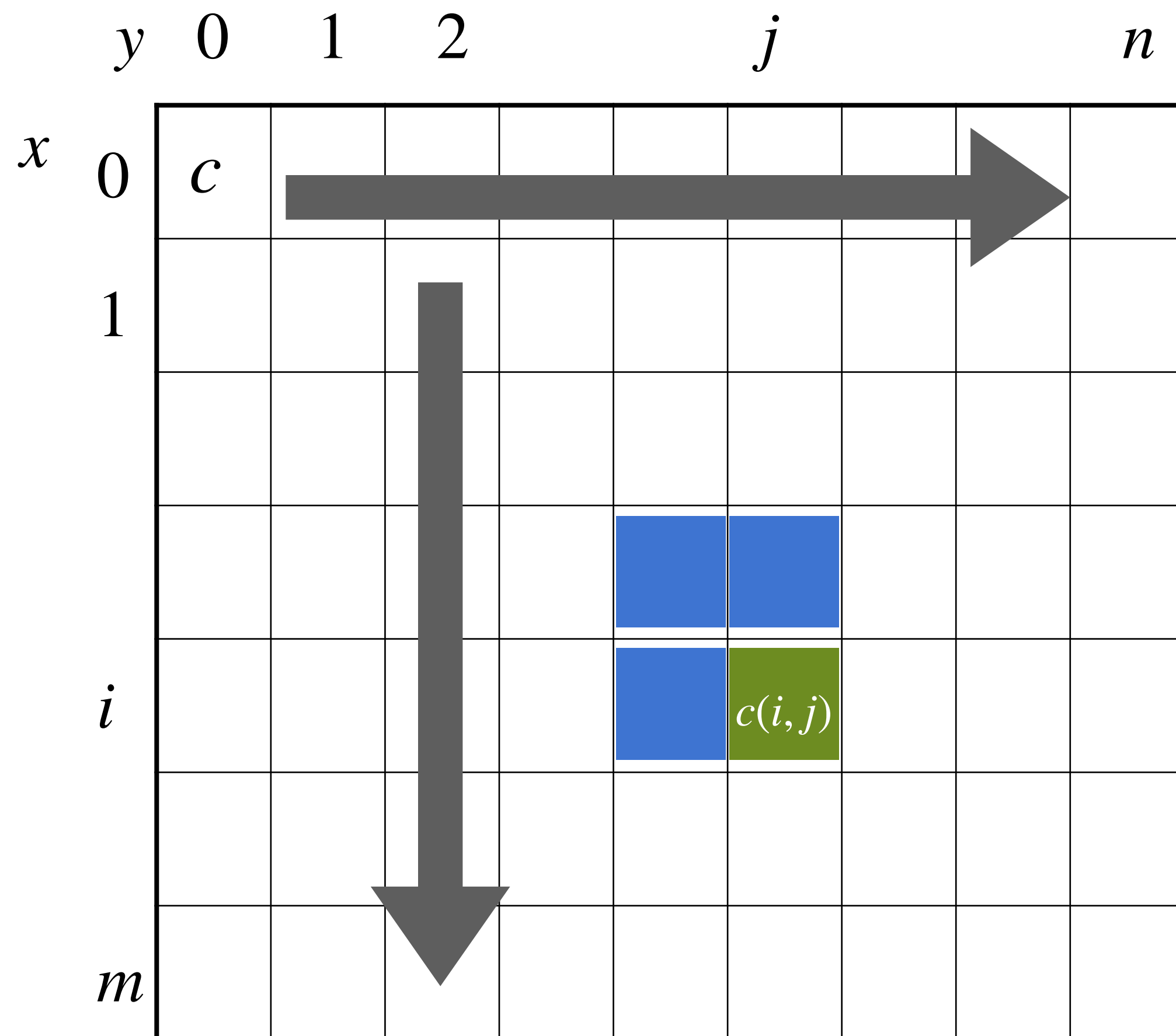
$$c(i, j) = c(i - 1, j - 1) + 1$$

⊙ **Case 2.**  $x[i] \neq y[j]$ .

$$c(i, j) = \max\{c[i - 1, j], c[i, j - 1]\}$$

$$c(i, j) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } i = 0 \text{ or } j = 0 \\ c(i - 1, j - 1) + 1, & \text{if } x[i] = y[j] \\ \max\{c[i - 1, j], c[i, j - 1]\}, & \text{if } x[i] \neq y[j] \end{cases}$$

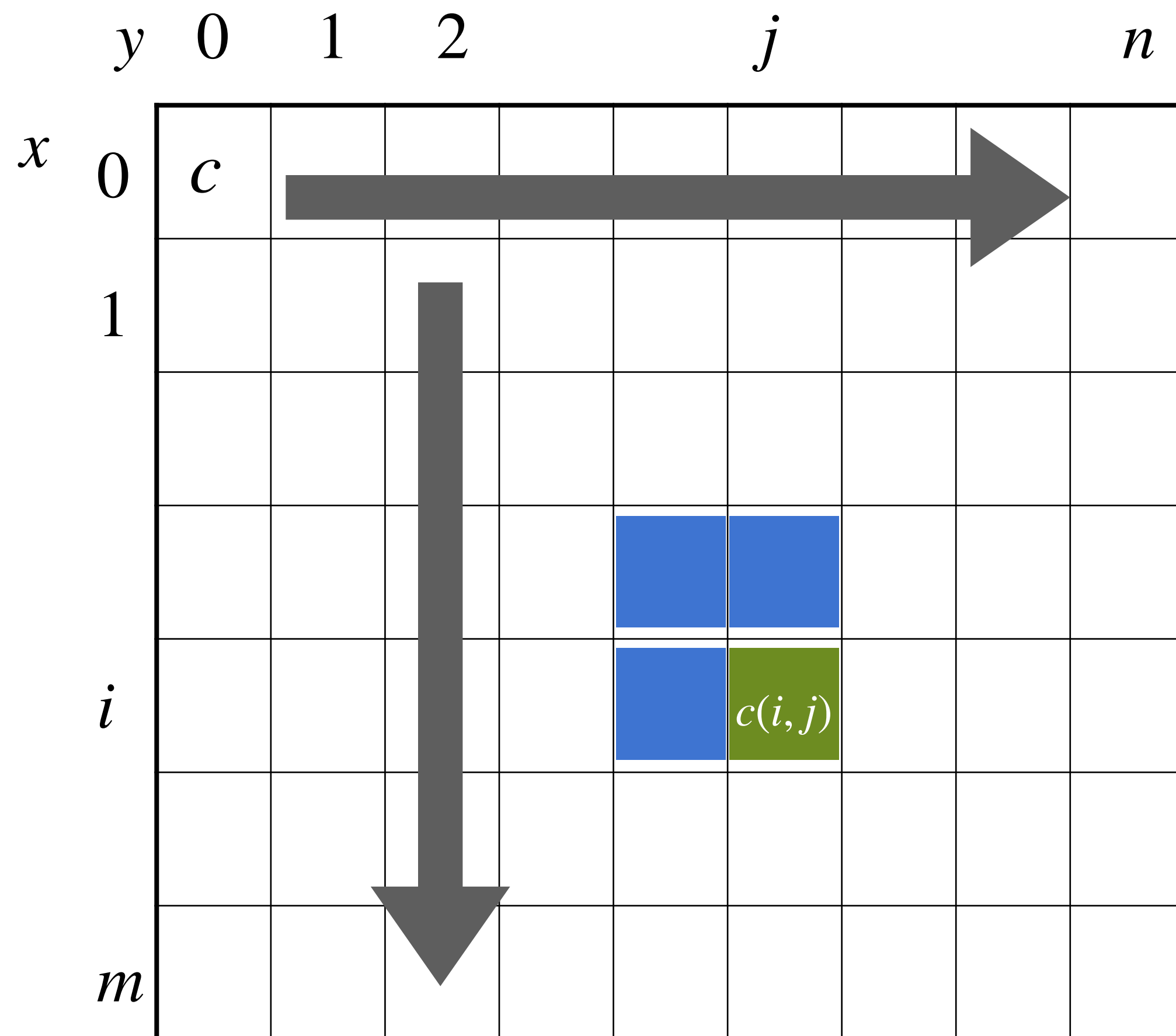
# DP2: build up solutions



- ◎ Subproblems.  $O(mn)$
- ◎ Memoization data structure
  - 2-D array  $c[0, \dots, m, 0, \dots, n]$
- ◎ Dependencies
  - Each  $c(i, j)$  depends on its 3 neighbors:  $c(i - 1, j - 1)$ ,  $c(i, j - 1)$ ,  $c(i - 1, j)$ .
- ◎ Evaluation order
  - Left-to-right, row by row



# DP2: build up solutions, cont'd



LCSLen( $x[1, \dots, m], y[1, \dots, n]$ ):

//  $c[i, j]$  store subproblem values

1. For  $j = 0, \dots, n$   $c[0, j] \leftarrow 0$
2. For  $i = 1, \dots, m$  // row by row
3.  $c[i, 0] \leftarrow 0$
4. For  $j = 1, \dots, n$  // left to right
  - If  $x[i] = y[j]$ 

$$c(i, j) = c(i - 1, j - 1) + 1$$
  - If  $x[i] \neq y[j]$ 

$$c(i, j) = \max\{c(i, j - 1), c(i - 1, j)\}$$
5. Return  $c[m, n]$

© Running time:  $O(mn)$ .

# Example

$x = \text{BDCABA}$

$y = \text{ABCBDAB}$

	$y$	A	B	C	B	D	A	B
$x$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
B	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1
D	0	0	1	1	1	2	2	2
C								
A								
B								
A								4

# DP3: constructing an optimal solution

$x = \text{BDCABA}$

$y = \text{ABCBDAB}$

## Reconstruct LCS by tracing backwards

- $LCS(x, y) = \text{BCBA}$
- Multiple solutions possible.

## Space: $O(mn)$

- Can you do it in  $\min\{m, n\}$ ?  
[Hint: divide-&-conquer]

	$y$	A	B	C	B	D	A	B
$x$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
B	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1
D	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
B	0	1	2	2	3	3	3	4
A	0	1	2	2	3	3	4	4

# Improved algorithms

- ⦿ [MasekPatersen 1980]  $O(n^2/\log n)$
- ⦿ How about  $O(n^{1.9999})$ ?

Quadratic  
Barrier

[BackursIndyk'STOC2015]

**Edit Distance Cannot Be Computed  
in Strongly Subquadratic Time  
(unless SETH is false)**

[BEG'SODA2018]

Approximating Edit Distance in Truly Subquadratic Time: Quantum  
and MapReduce\*†

[CDGKS'FOCS2018]

**Approximating Edit Distance Within Constant Factor in Truly Sub-Quadratic Time**

... Check STOC'20 for further improvements

# Shortest path problem, revisited

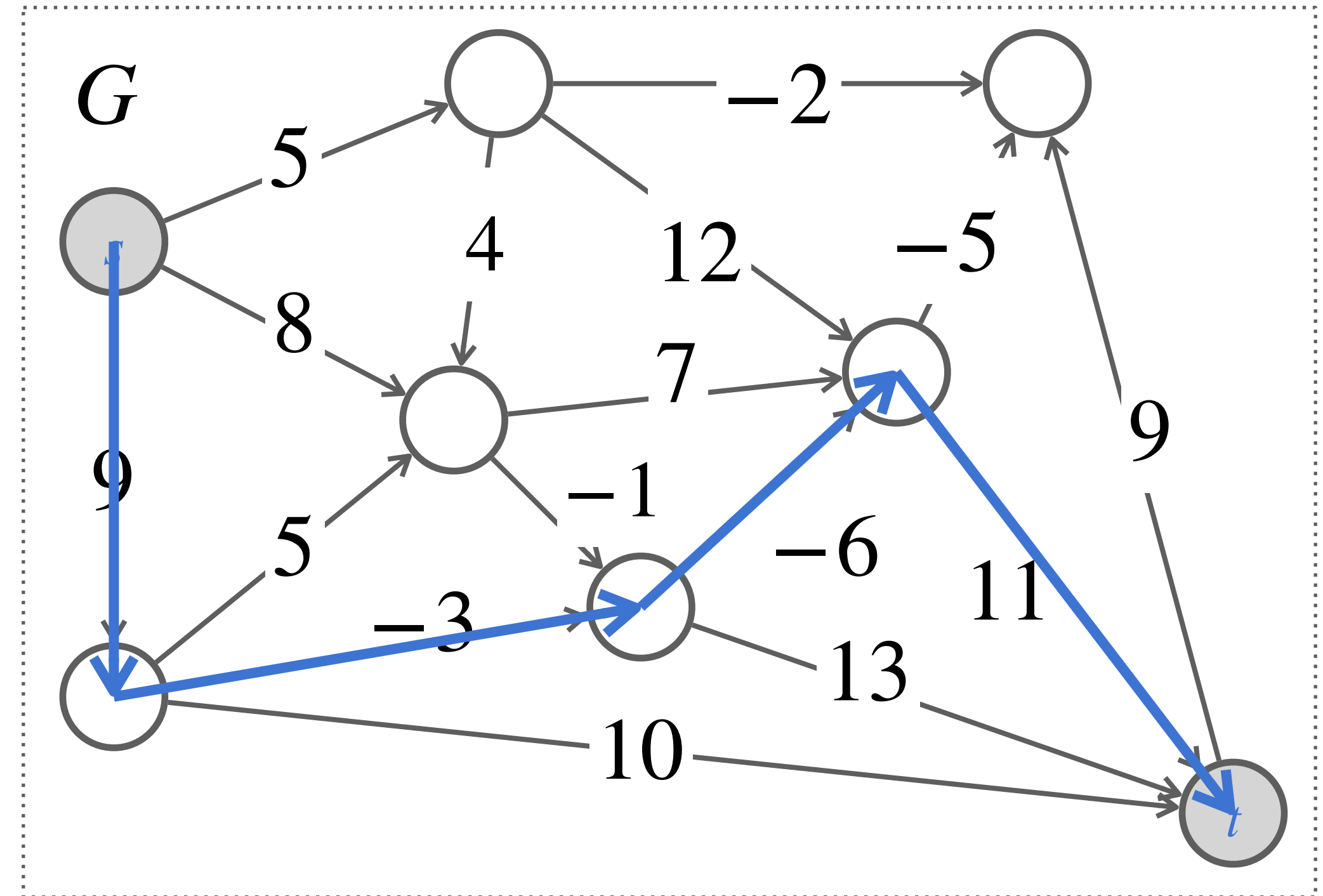
**Input:** Graph  $G$ , nodes  $s$  and  $t$ .

**Output:**  $dist(s, t)$ .

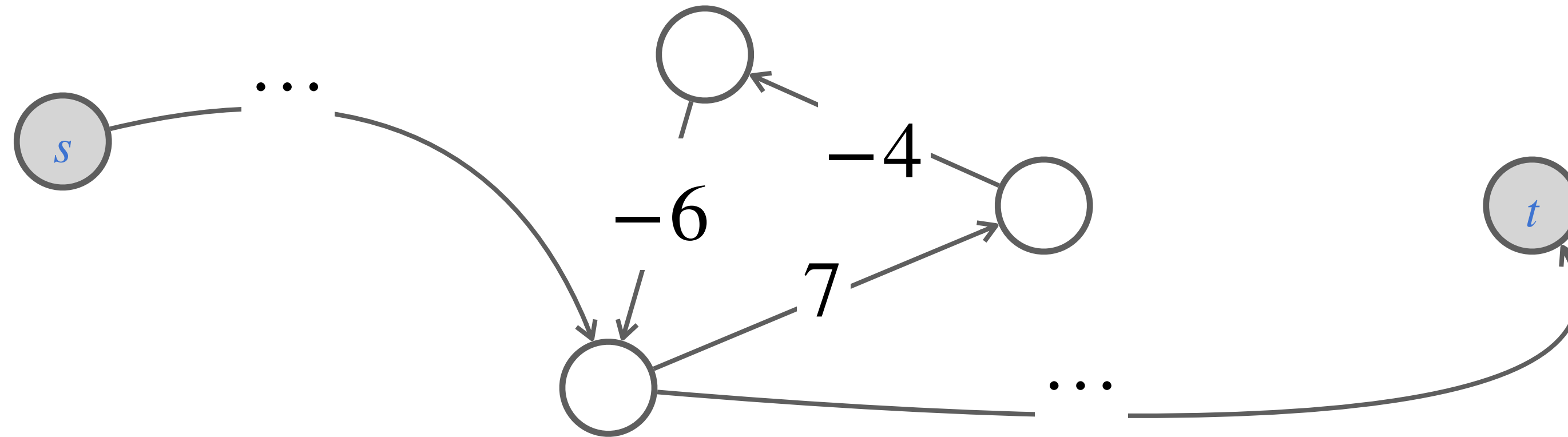
- Every edge has a length  $\ell_e$ .
- Length of a path  $\ell(P) = \sum_{e \in P} \ell_e$ .
- Distance  $dist(s, t) = \min_{P: u \rightsquigarrow v} \ell(P)$ .

## Special cases

- All edges have equal length: BFS  $O(m + n)$ .
- DAG: DP in topological order  $O(m + n)$ .



# A technical issue: negative length cycles



## ◎ Observation

- If some  $s \rightsquigarrow t$  path contains a **negative length cycle**, there **does not** exist a shortest  $s \rightsquigarrow t$  path.
  - Otherwise there exists a **simple** (i.e., no repetition node) path  $\leq n - 1$  edges.
- ## ◎ For simplicity, assuming $G$ has no NegativeLengthCycle
- Can be detected with little overhead.



# DP1: develop a recurrence

- ◎ Simplification: look at the length of a shortest path.
- ◎ 1.a **Specification**. What problems to solve?
  - **Definition**.  $OPT(i, v) :=$  length of shortest  $v \rightsquigarrow t$  path  $P$  using  $\leq i$  edges.
  - **Goal**. Find  $OPT(n - 1, s)$ .
- ◎ 1.b **Recursion**. Recurrence to solve an subproblems from smaller ones.
  - **Base**.  $OPT(i, v) = 0$  or  $\infty$  if  $i = 0$ .
  - How to compute  $OPT(i, v)$  recursively?

# DP1: develop a recurrence, cont'd

$OPT(i, j) :=$  length of shortest  $v \rightsquigarrow t$  path  $P$  using  $\leq i$  edges.

- **Case 1.**  $P$  uses at most  $i - 1$  edges.  $OPT(i, v) = OPT(i - 1, v)$
- **Case 2.**  $P$  uses exactly  $i$  edges.
  - If  $(v, w)$  is the first edge, then  $OPT$  uses  $(v, w)$  and then select best  $w \rightsquigarrow t$  path using  $\leq i - 1$  edges.
  - $OPT(i, v) = \min_{v \rightarrow w \in E} \{OPT(i - 1, w) + \ell_{v \rightarrow w}\}$

$$OPT(i, v) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } v = t \\ \infty, & \text{if } i = 0 \\ \min\{OPT(i - 1, v), \min_{v \rightarrow w \in E} \{OPT(i - 1, w) + \ell_{v \rightarrow w}\}\}, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

# DP2: build up solutions

	$V$	$t$	$s$	$v$	$v_n$				
$i$	0	0	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$
	1	0							
		0							
		0							
$i$	0								
		0							
$n - 1$	0								

- Subproblems.  $O(n^2)$
- Memoization data structure
  - 2-D array  $M[0, \dots, n - 1, v_1, \dots, v_n]$ .
- Dependencies
  - Each  $OPT(i, v)$  depends on subproblems in the row above.
- Evaluation order
  - Row by row, arbitrary within a row.

$$OPT(i, v) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } v = t \\ \infty, & \text{if } i = 0 \\ \min\{OPT(i - 1, v), \min_{v \rightarrow w \in E}\{OPT(i - 1, w) + \ell_{v \rightarrow w}\}\}, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

# DP2: build up solutions, cont'd

	$V$	$t$	$s$	$v$	$v_n$				
$i$	0	0	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$	$\infty$
1	0								
	0								
	0								
$i$	0								
	0								
$n - 1$	0								

SPLen( $G, s, t$ ):

//  $M[i, v]$  store subproblem values

//  $M[0, t] = 0, M[0, v] = \infty$  otherwise.

1. For  $i = 1, \dots, n - 1$  // row by row

2. For  $v \in V$  // arbitrary order

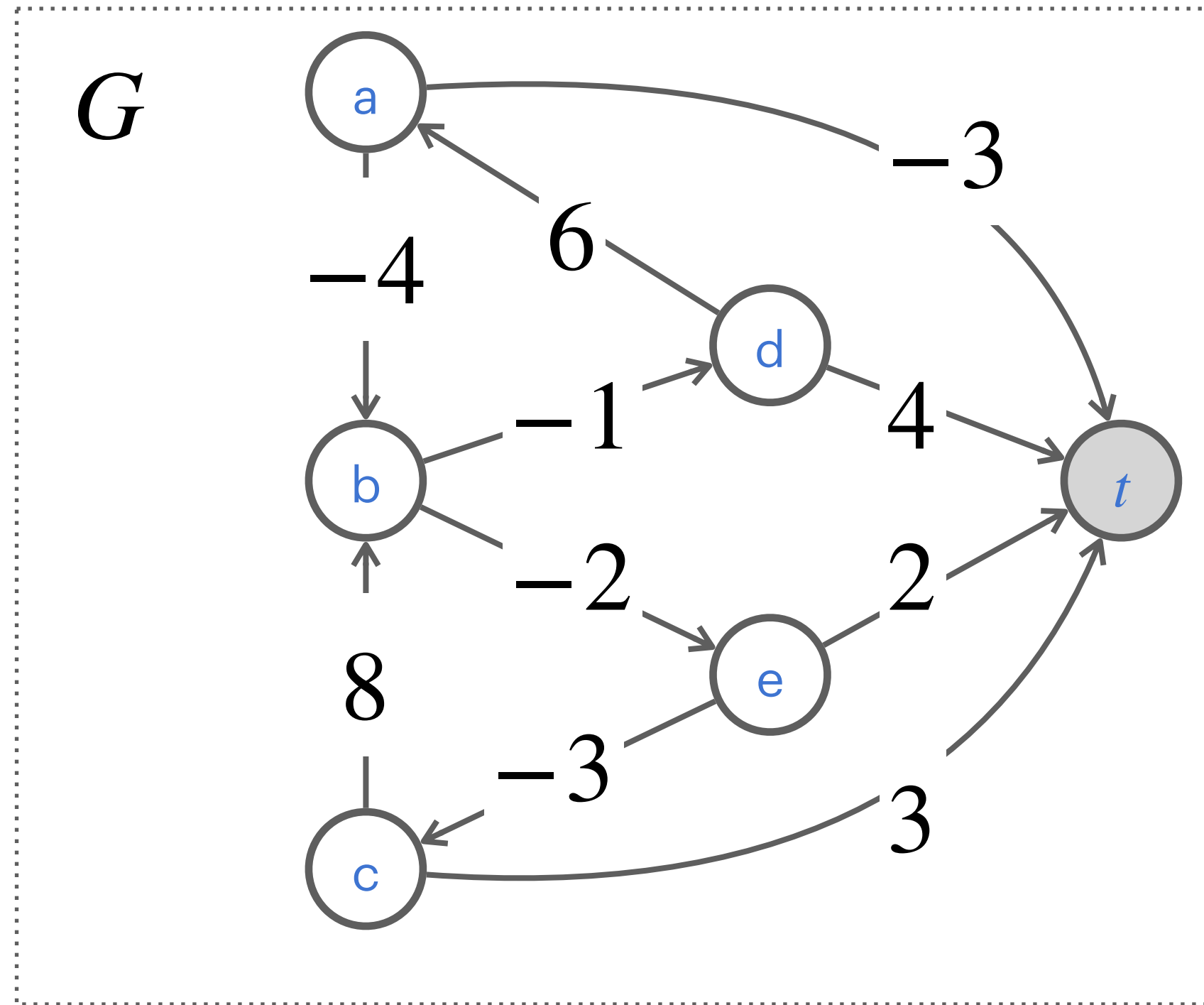
$M[i, v] \leftarrow M[i - 1, v]$  // case 1

For edge  $v \rightarrow w \in E$  // case 2

$M(i, j) \leftarrow \min\{M[i, v], M[i - 1, w] + \ell_{vw}\}$

3. Return  $M[n - 1, s]$

# Example



<i>V</i>	<i>t</i>	A	B	C	D	E
<i>i</i> 0	0	∞	∞	∞	∞	∞
1	0					
2	0					
3	0					
4	0					
5	0					

For  $v \in V$  // arbitrary order

$M[i, v] \leftarrow M[i - 1, v]$  // case 1

For edge  $v \rightarrow w \in E$  // case 2

$$M(i, j) \leftarrow \min\{M[i, v], M[i - 1, w] + \ell_{vw}\}$$

