

-①: Structure of the optimal solution:

$$X = [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m] \quad Y = [y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n]$$

Suppose $Z = [z_1, z_2, \dots, z_k] = \text{LCS}(X, Y)$.

Case 1: $x_m = y_n$

Then $z_k = x_m = y_n$ and

$$[z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{k-1}] = \text{LCS}([x_1, \dots, x_{m-1}], [y_1, \dots, y_{n-1}])$$

Case 2: $x_m \neq y_n$

Then $z_k \neq x_m$ or $z_k \neq y_n$ (or both)

Case 2a: $x_m \neq y_n$ and $z_k \neq x_m$

$$\text{Then } \underset{Z}{\cancel{[z_1, \dots, z_k]}} = \text{LCS}(X[1..m-1], Y[1..n])$$

Case 2b: $x_m \neq y_n$ and $z_k \neq y_n$

$$\text{Then } \underset{Z}{\cancel{[z_1, \dots, z_k]}} = \text{LCS}(X[1..m], Y[1..n-1])$$

But we don't ~~know~~ know Z , so we don't know which case we're in.

\Rightarrow Pick the best of the two. (try both!)

- ② Recurrence:

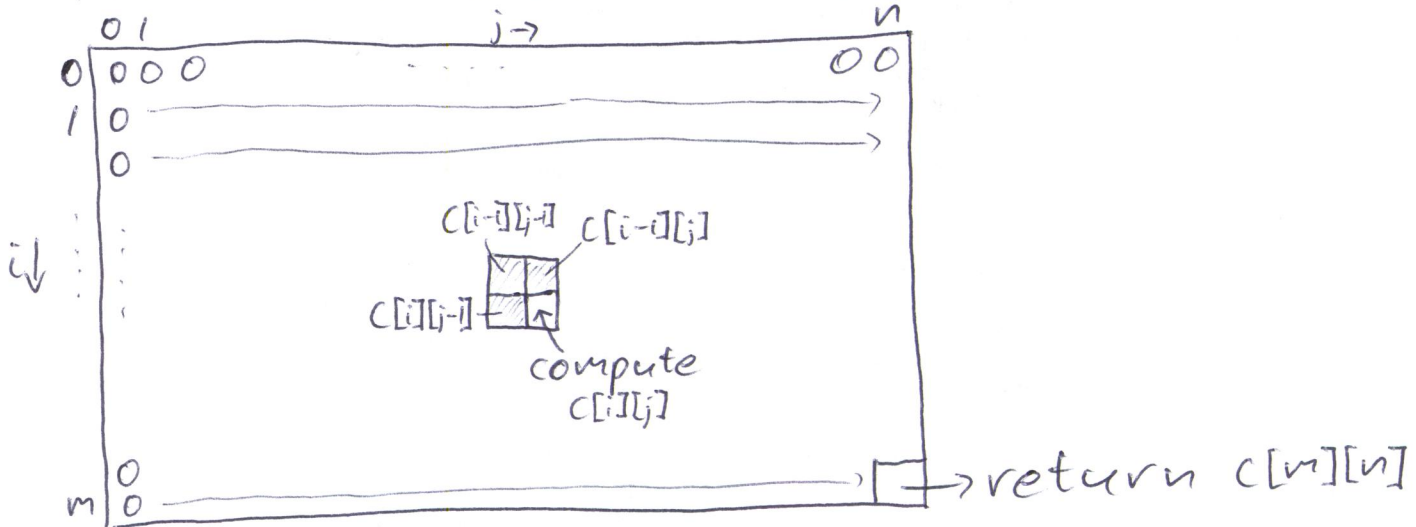
Define $c(i, j) = \text{length of LCS}(X[1..i], Y[1..j])$

We want to compute $c(m, n)$.

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

- ③ Solve bottom-up:

Fill in $m \times n$ matrix $c[i][j]$:



Algorithm $\text{LCS}(X, Y)$:

for $i \leftarrow 0$ to m do $c[i, 0] \leftarrow 0$

for $j \leftarrow 0$ to n do $c[0, j] \leftarrow 0$

for $i \leftarrow 1$ to m do

for $j \leftarrow 1$ to n do

if $X[i] = Y[j]$ then $c[i, j] \leftarrow 1 + c[i-1, j-1]$

else $c[i, j] \leftarrow \max(c[i-1, j], c[i, j-1])$

return $c[m, n]$

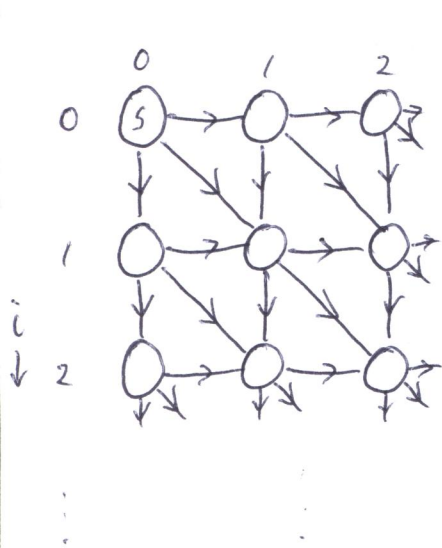
(Example!)

- Correct? Yes, by steps ① and ②.
- Terminates? Yes
- Efficient? $O(mn)$ time and space.

Can you think of a way to use less space?

Reduction to paths in DAGs

Consider this weighted DAG G :



- Diagonal edge to node (i, j) has weight 1 if $X[i] = Y[j]$
- All other edges have weight 0.



The longest ^{s-t} path in G corresponds to the longest common subsequence of X and Y .

We can find the longest path with a small modification of the shortest path algorithm.

Thus, we can solve longest common subsequence by ~~finding~~ solving longest path in a specific DAG.

\Rightarrow We have reduced LCS to longest path.