

6.7 Sequence Alignment in Linear Space

Sequence Alignment

Goal: Given two strings $X = x_1 x_2 \dots x_m$ and $Y = y_1 y_2 \dots y_n$ find *alignment* M of minimum cost.

Def. An **alignment** M is a set of ordered pairs x_i - y_j such that each item occurs in at most one pair and **no crossings**.

Def. The pair x_i - y_j and $x_{i'}$ - $y_{j'}$ **cross** if $i < i'$, but $j > j'$.

o c **u r r** a n c e -

o c **c u r r e n c e**

6 mismatches, 1 gap

o c - u r r **a** n c e

o c c u r r **e** n c e

1 mismatch, 1 gap

o c - u r r - a n c e

o c c u r r e - n c e

0 mismatches, 3 gaps

$$\text{cost} (M) = \underbrace{\sum_{(x_i, y_j) \in M} \alpha_{x_i y_j}}_{\text{mismatch}} + \underbrace{\sum_{i : x_i \text{ unmatched}} \delta + \sum_{j : y_j \text{ unmatched}} \delta}_{\text{gap}}$$

Sequence Alignment: Linear Space

Q. How to avoid quadratic **space** when only interested in the value? (1 min)

$$OPT(i, j) = \begin{cases} j\delta & \text{if } i = 0 \\ \min \begin{cases} \alpha_{x_i y_j} + OPT(i-1, j-1) \\ \delta + OPT(i-1, j) \\ \delta + OPT(i, j-1) \end{cases} & \text{otherwise} \\ i\delta & \text{if } j = 0 \end{cases}$$

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Q. How to avoid quadratic **space** when only interested in the value?

A. We can calculate the optimal **value** in $O(m + n)$ space and $O(mn)$ time.

- Compute $OPT(i, \bullet)$ from $OPT(i-1, \bullet)$. Re-use space for “row $i-1$ ”.
- No longer a simple way to recover alignment itself.

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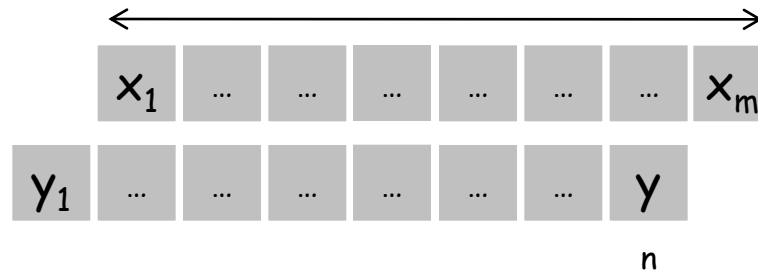
Q*. How can we still get the solution as well?

Theorem. [Hirschberg 1975] Optimal **alignment** in $O(m + n)$ space and $O(mn)$ time.

- Clever combination of divide-and-conquer and dynamic programming.
- Inspired by idea of Savitch from complexity theory.

Sequence Alignment: Divide and conquer

Q. How to apply divide and conquer? How to divide the problem? (1 min)



Sequence Alignment: Divide and conquer

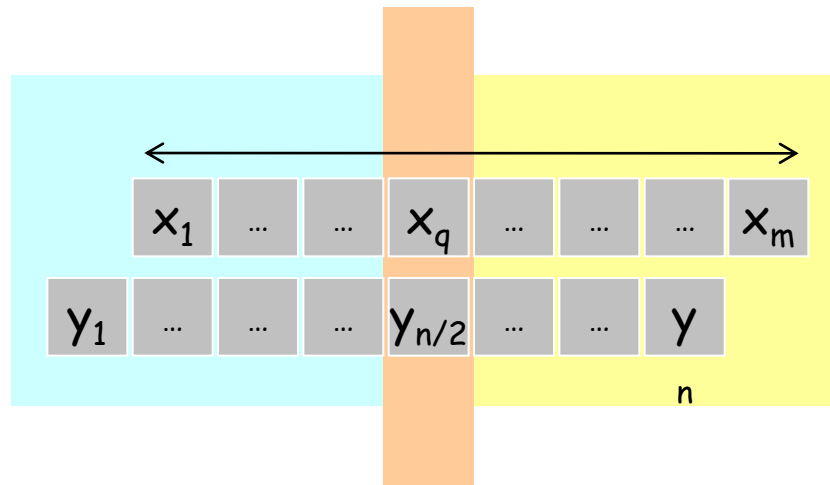
A. Cut string y into two halves.

Decide for every index q of x :

- the optimal alignment up to $(q, n/2)$ and
- the optimal alignment from $(q, n/2)$ to (m, n) .

Then, the shortest path from $(0, 0)$ to (m, n) uses the minimum of these.

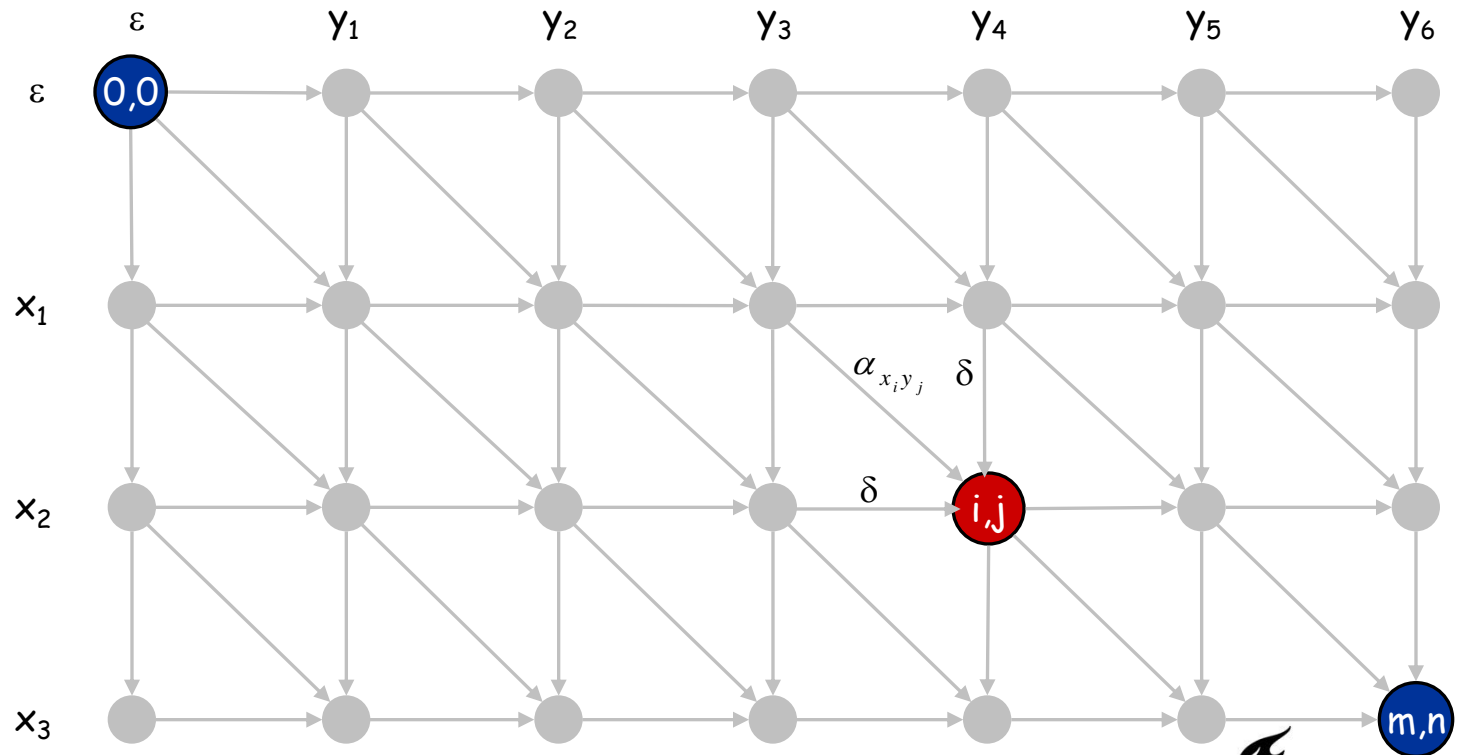
potentially requires us to solve m times a sequence alignment problem...



Sequence Alignment: Visualization of the matrix

Edit distance graph.

- Gap penalty δ ; mismatch penalty α_{ij} ; empty string ε

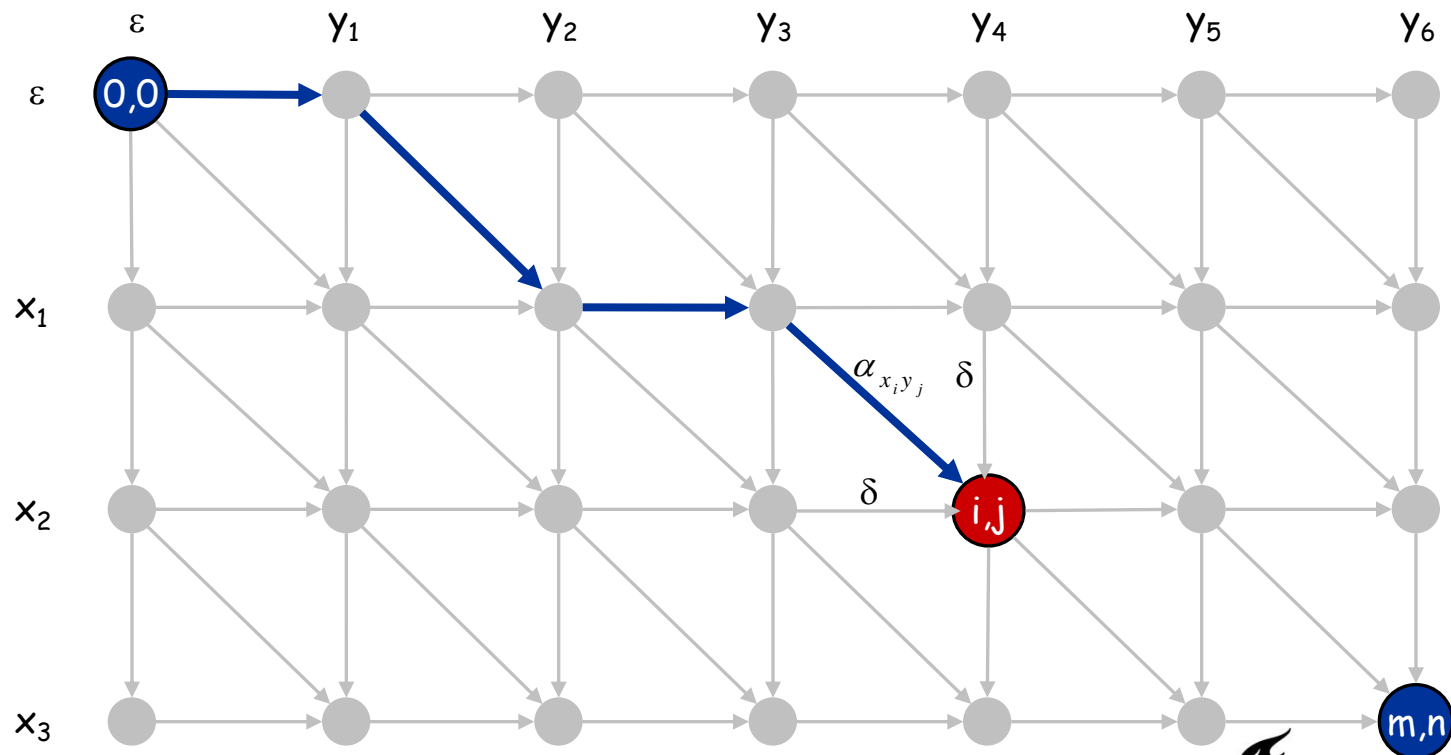


Sequence Alignment: Visualization of the matrix

Edit distance graph.

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- Let $f(i, j)$ be shortest path from $(0,0)$ to (i, j) .

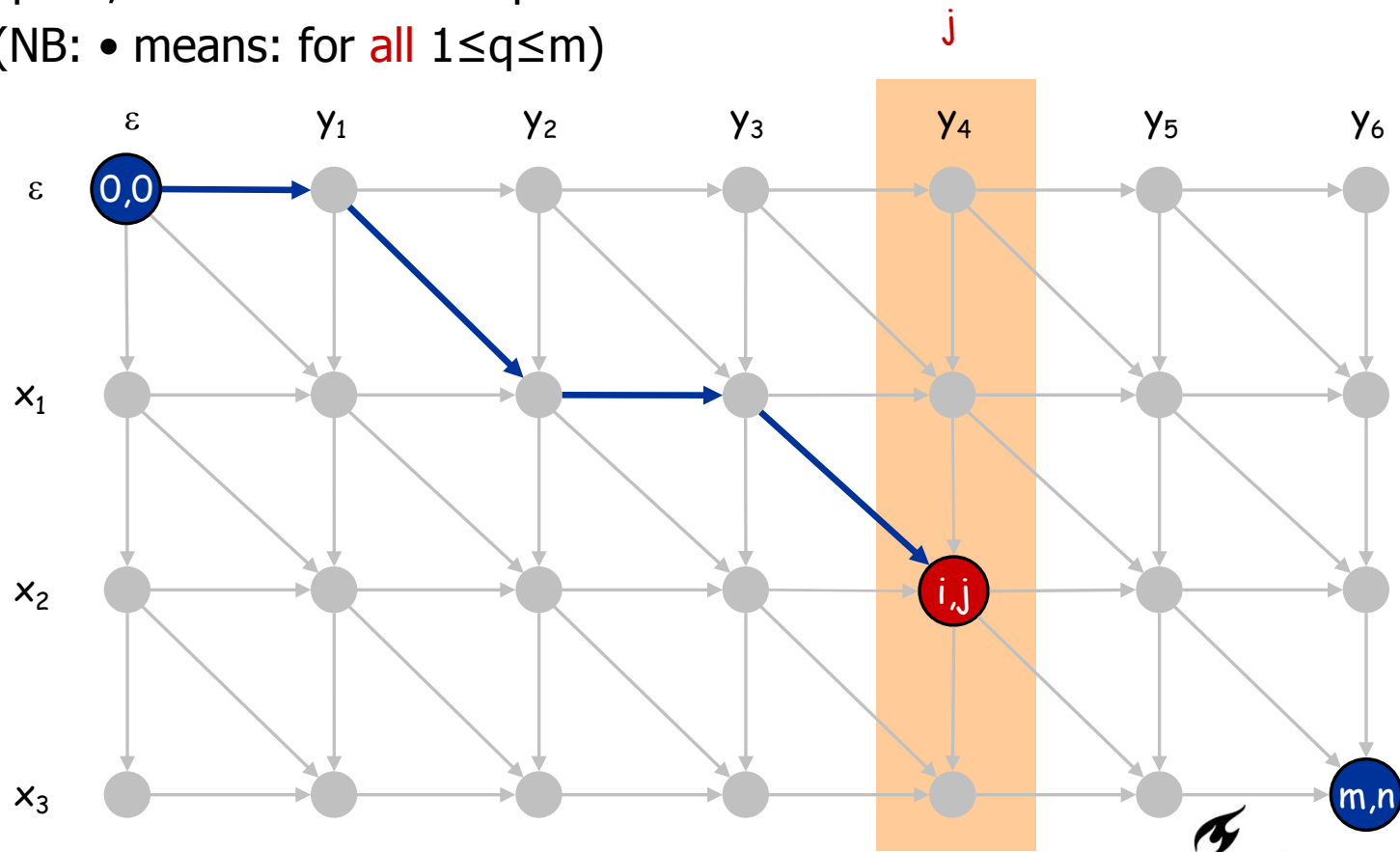
$f(i,j)$ represents the best way to align $x_1..x_i$ and $y_1..y_j$



Sequence Alignment: Linear Space

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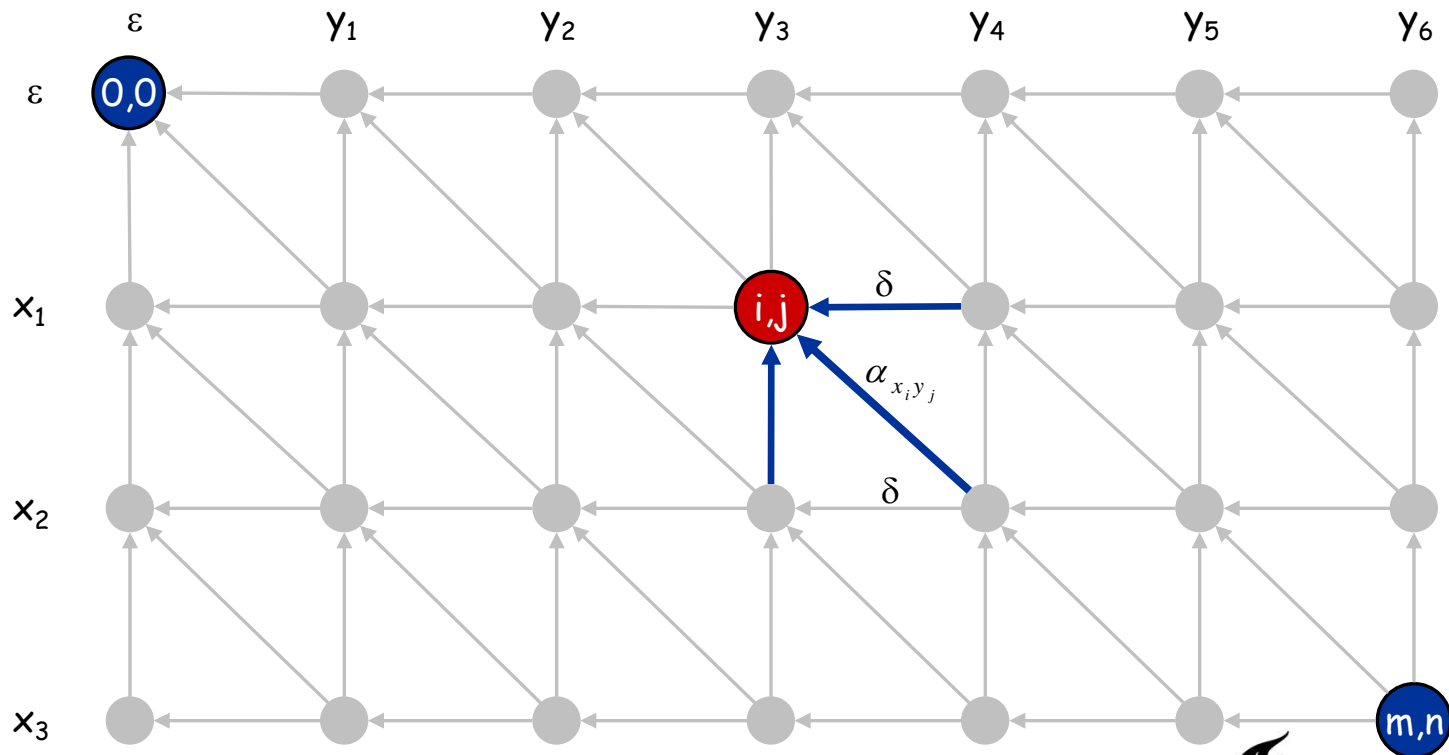
- Let $f(i, j)$ be shortest path from $(0,0)$ to (i, j) .
- Can compute length of $f(\bullet, j)$ for any j in $O(mn)$ time and $O(m + n)$ space, because same subproblems are used.
(NB: \bullet means: for **all** $1 \leq q \leq m$)



Sequence Alignment: Linear Space

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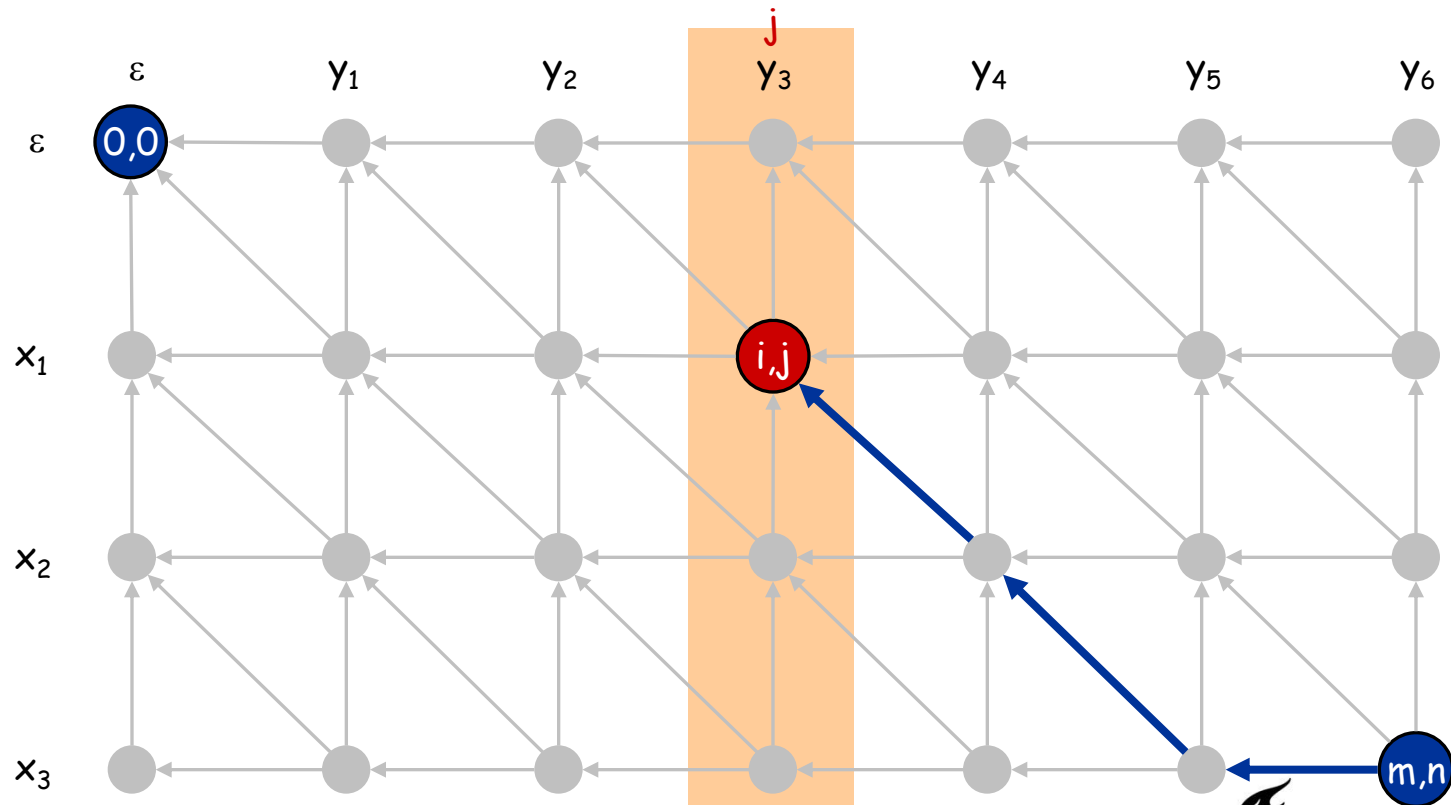
- Let $g(i, j)$ be shortest path from (i, j) to (m, n) .
- Can compute g by reversing the edge orientations and inverting the roles of $(0, 0)$ and (m, n)



Sequence Alignment: Linear Space

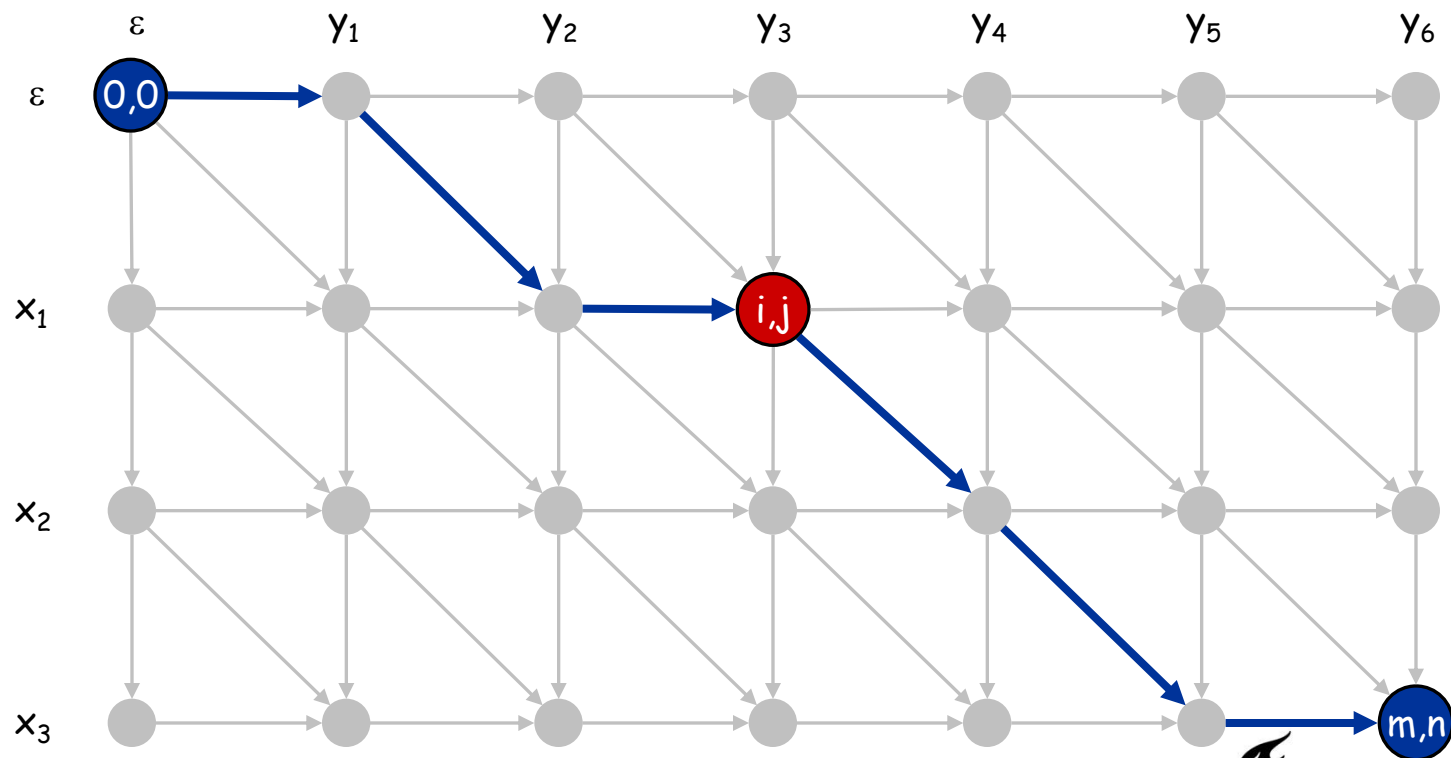
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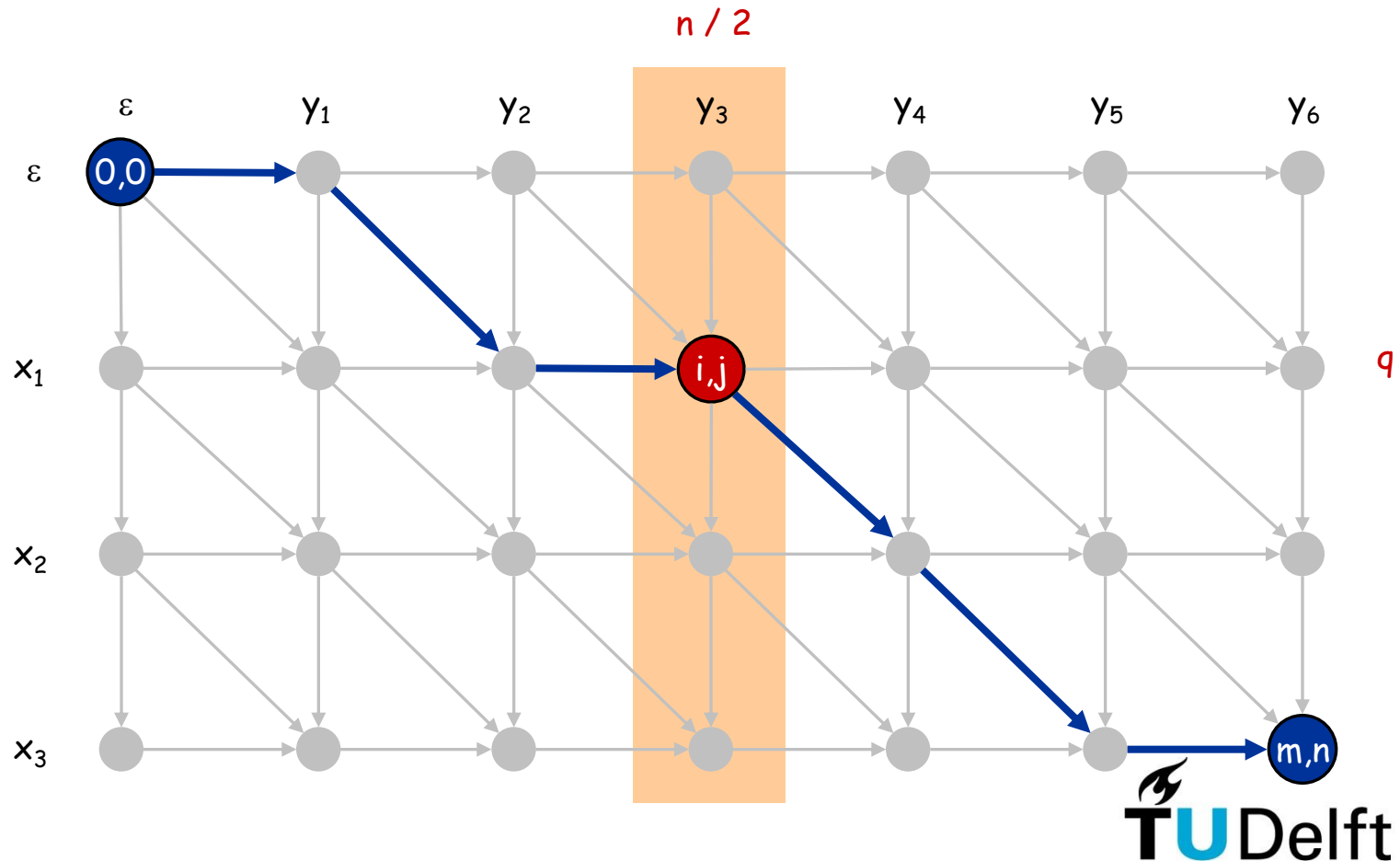
Sequence Alignment: Linear Space

Observation 1. The cost of the shortest path that uses (i, j) is $f(i, j) + g(i, j)$.



Sequence Alignment: Linear Space

Observation 2. let q be an index that minimizes $f(q, n/2) + g(q, n/2)$. Then, the shortest path from $(0, 0)$ to (m, n) uses $(q, n/2)$.



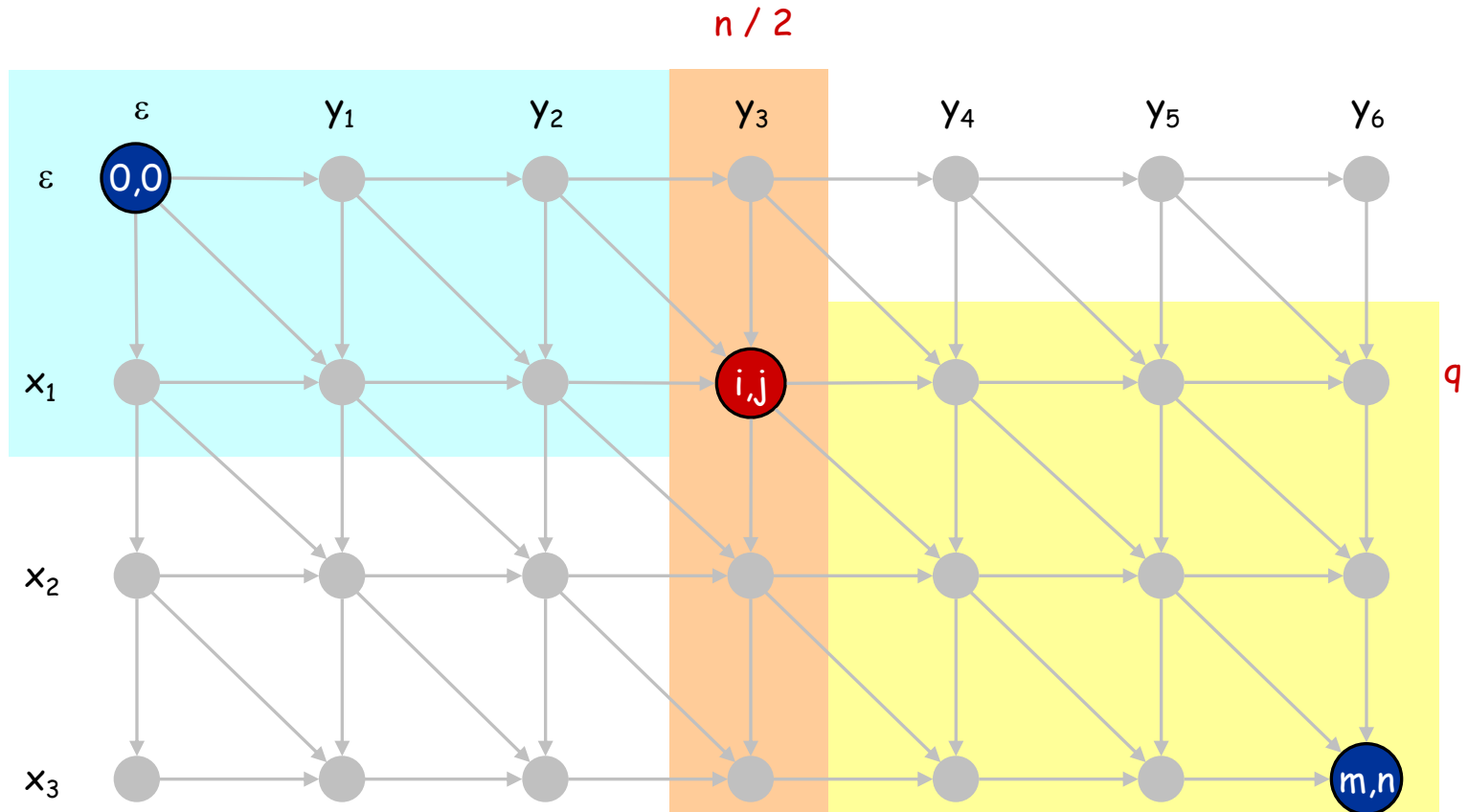
Sequence Alignment: Linear Space

Divide: find index q that minimizes $f(q, n/2) + g(q, n/2)$ using DP.

- Output: Align x_q and $y_{n/2}$.

Conquer: recursively compute optimal alignment in each piece.

Q. What is the running time of this algorithm?



Sequence Alignment: Running Time Analysis Warmup

Q. Let $T(m, n) = \max$ running time of algorithm on strings of length at most m and n . Give a tight bound for T .

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$$a = 2, b = 2; \quad n^{\log_b a} = n^{\log_2 2} = n$$

$$f(n) = \Omega(n^{1+\varepsilon})$$

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- So this is case 3. Check regularity condition: $2f(n/2) = 2(n/2)^2 \leq cn^2$;
e.g. for $c=1/2$, and thus: $T(n) = \Theta(n^2)$

Q. How to solve this for any m ?

$$T(m, n) \leq T(q, n/2) + T(m - q, n/2) + O(mn)$$

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Theorem. Let $T(m, n)$ = max running time of algorithm on strings of length m and n . $T(m, n) = O(mn)$.

$$T(m, n) \leq T(q, n/2) + T(m - q, n/2) + O(mn)$$

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- Choose constant c so that:

$$T(m, 2) \leq cm$$

$$T(2, n) \leq cn$$

$$T(m, n) \leq cmn + T(q, n/2) + T(m - q, n/2)$$

- Base cases:** $m = 2$ or $n = 2$: immediate from def. of c .
- Inductive hypothesis:** $T(m', n') \leq 2cm'n'$ for $m' < m$ and $n' < n$.
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\leq

$=$

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← Q. What can we use here?

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$$T(m, n) \leq T(q, n/2) + T(m - q, n/2) + cmn$$

$$\leq 2cqn/2 + 2c(m - q)n/2 + cmn$$

$$= cqn + cmn - cqn + cmn$$

$$= 2cmn$$

← use inductive hypothesis