

# Algorithms and Data Structures

Levenshtein distance, Dynamic programming

Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg



**UNI  
FREIBURG**

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Algorithms and Data Structures, February 2019

Introduction

Edit distance

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- Measurement for similarity of two words / strings
- Algorithm for efficient calculation
- General principle: dynamic programming

## BioInfSearch

ejafjatljökuk
eyjafjallajökull
eyjafjallajökull movie
eyjafjallajölull trailer

Search!

### Wikipedia.org:

"Der Eyjafjallajökull ([ˈeɪjaˌfjaˌlaˌjœːkʏtʃ])[3], auf Deutsch Eyjafjöll-Gletscher, ist der sechstgrößte Gletscher Islands.

Er liegt an der äußersten Südküste, westlich des Gletschers Mýrdalsjökull in der Gemeinde Rangárfing eystra, die größte Höhe beträgt 1651 m. Unter dem Gletscher befindet sich der Vulkan Eyjafjöll mit eigener Magmakammer, der seit der Besiedelung von Island in den Jahren 920, 1612 (oder 1613), 1821 bis 1823 und zuletzt im Jahr 2010 aktiv war."



Ulrich Latzenhofer; CC BY-SA 2.0





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- Duplicates in databases:

Hein Blöd	27568	Bremerhaven
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uniwersität verien 2017

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- Bioinformatics: Similarity of DNA-sequences

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- BLAST (**B**asic **L**ocal **A**lignment **S**earch **T**ool)



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### Search of similar proteins:

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- Cited 63437 times on Google Scholar (Sep. 2017)

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  - Delete a character



# Edit distance

## Example



1 2 3 4 5  
DOOF

BLOED

# Edit distance

## Example



1 2 3 4 5

DOOF



replace(1, B)

BOOF

BLOED

# Edit distance

## Example



1 2 3 4 5

DOOF



replace(1, B)

BOOF



replace(2, L)

BLOF

BLOED

# Edit distance

## Example

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# Edit distance

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⏟  
ED=4

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1 2 3 4 5

DOOF



BOOF



BLOF



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BLOED

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BLOF



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B LOED

DOOF

⏟  
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DOOF



BOOF



BLOF



BLOEF



BLOED

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replace(5, D)

ED=4

1 2 3 4 5

B LOED



B LOEF

replace(5, F)

DOOF

# Edit distance

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BOOF



BLOF



BLOEF



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B LOED



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BOOF



BLOF



BLOEF



BLOED

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B LOED



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BOOF

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BOOF



BLOF



BLOEF



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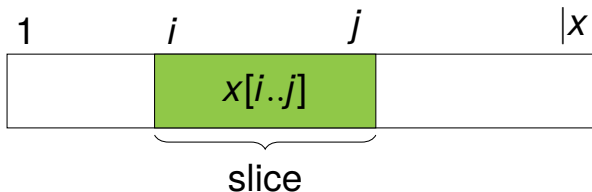
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■  $ED(x, y) = ED(y, x)$

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$$\text{abs}(x) = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x \geq 0 \\ -x & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

■  $ED(x, y) \leq ED(x[1..n-1], y[1..m-1]) + 1 \quad n = |x|, m = |y|$





## Solutions based on examples:



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### Recursive approach:

- Dividing in two halves? Not a good idea:

$$ED(\textit{GRAU}, \textit{RAUM}) = 2 \quad \text{but} \quad ED(\textit{GR}, \textit{RA}) + ED(\textit{AU}, \textit{UM}) = 4$$

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- Finding “smaller” sub problems?  
Let's try it!



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- Let  $x, y$  be two strings
- Let  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_k$  be a sequence of  $k$  operations where  $k = \text{ED}(x, y)$  for  $x \rightarrow y$  (transform  $x$  into  $y$ )  
(We do not know this sequence but we assume it exists)



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The position of  $\sigma_{i+1}$  is  $\geq$  the position of  $\sigma_i$  where we only allow the positions to be equal on a delete operation

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1 2 3 4 5

DOOF



replace(1, B)

BOOF



replace(2, L)

BLOF



insert(4, E)

BLOEF



replace(5, D)

BLOED

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

SAUDOOF



delete(1)

AUDOOF



delete(1)

UDOOF



delete(1)

DOOF



insert(4, O)

DOOOF

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1   2   3   4   5  
D   O   O   F

B   L   O   E   D

1   2   3   4   5   6   7  
S   A   U   D   O   O   F

D   O   O   O   F



**Consider the last operation:**

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- Solve **blue** part recursively

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DOOF  
↓ ↓ ↓ ↓  
BLOE

↓ insert

BLOED

Figure: Case 1a

DOOF  
↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓  
BLOEDF

↓ delete

BLOED

Figure: Case 1b

DOOF  
↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓  
BLOEF

↓ replace

BLOED

Figure: Case 1c



**Consider the last operation:**



### Consider the last operation:

- Solve **blue** part recursively



### Consider the last operation:

- Solve **blue** part recursively

W I N T E R

↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓

S O M M E R

↓ nothing

S O M M E R

### Display of solution:

- Alignment

- Example:

	B	L	O	E	D		
$\bar{S}$	$\bar{A}$	$\bar{U}$	B	L	O	E	D

Figure: Case 2



## Dynamic programming:



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(1920 - 1984)

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  - Shortest paths
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- Optimal solutions consist of optimal partial solutions
  - Shortest paths: Each partial path has to be optimal
  - Edit distance: Each partial alignment has to be optimal
- Always solvable through dynamic programming  
(Caching of optimal partial solutions)



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Example:

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- Let  $n = |x|, m = |y|, m' = |z|$

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Example:

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- Let  $n = |x|, m = |y|, m' = |z|$
- We note  $m' \in \{m-1, m, m+1\}$       why?





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  - Case 1c:  $\sigma_k = \text{replace}(m', y[m])$  [then  $m' = m$ ]
- Case 2:  $\sigma_k$  does nothing at the outer end:
  - Then  $z[m'] = y[m]$  and  $x[n'] = z[m']$  and with that  
 $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_{k-1}: x[1..n-1] \rightarrow y[1..m-1]$  and  $x[n] = y[m]$



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  - $ED(x[1..n-1], y) + 1$  and



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```
def edit_distance(x, y):  
    if len(x) == 0:  
        return len(y)  
    if len(y) == 0:  
        return len(x)  
  
    ed1 = edit_distance(x, y[:-1]) + 1  
    ed2 = edit_distance(x[:-1], y) + 1  
    ed3 = edit_distance(x[:-1], y[:-1])  
    if x[-1] != y[-1]:  
        ed3 += 1  
  
    return min(ed1, ed2, ed3)
```



## Recursive program:

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- The algorithm results in the following recursive formular:

$$\begin{aligned}T(n, m) &= T(n-1, m) + T(n, m-1) + T(n-1, m-1) + 1 \\&\geq T(n-1, m-1) + T(n-1, m-1) + T(n-1, m-1) \\&= 3 \cdot T(n-1, m-1)\end{aligned}$$

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⇒ The runtime is at least exponential



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- Operations always refer to the last position (indices are omitted)

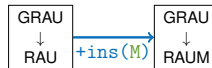
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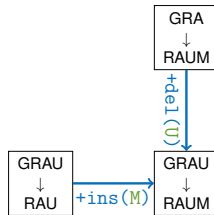
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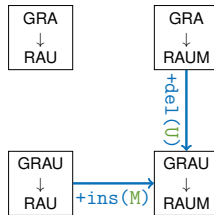
- Operations always refer to the last position (indices are omitted)
- We also display the replaced character on a `replace` operation to visualize operations without costs  
 $\Rightarrow \text{repl}(\text{A}, \text{A})$

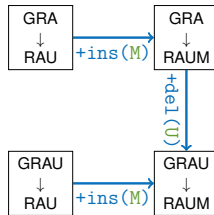


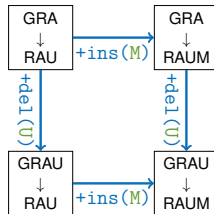


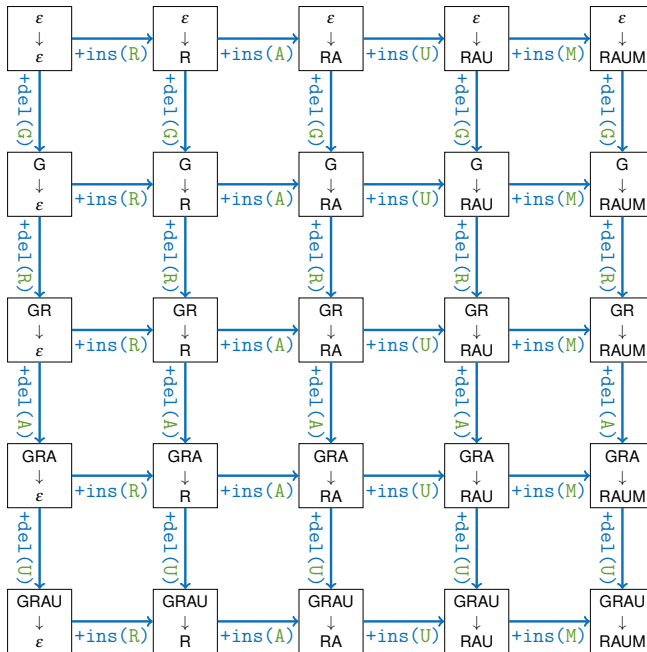






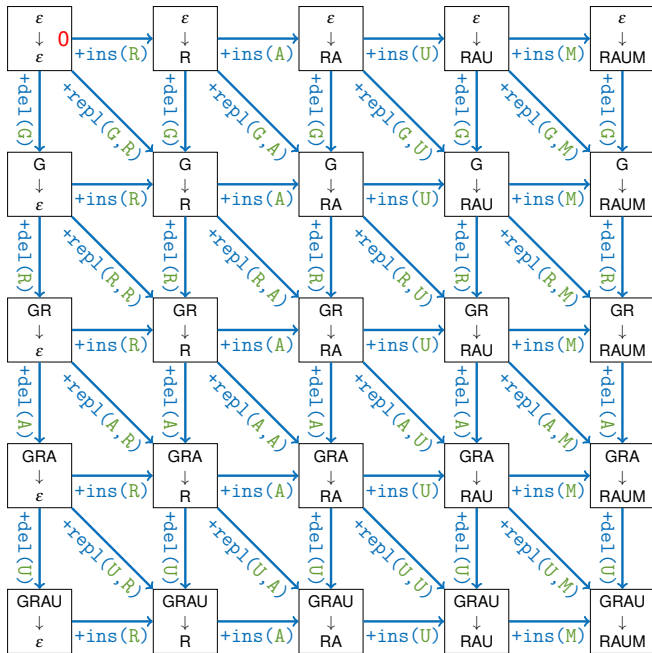


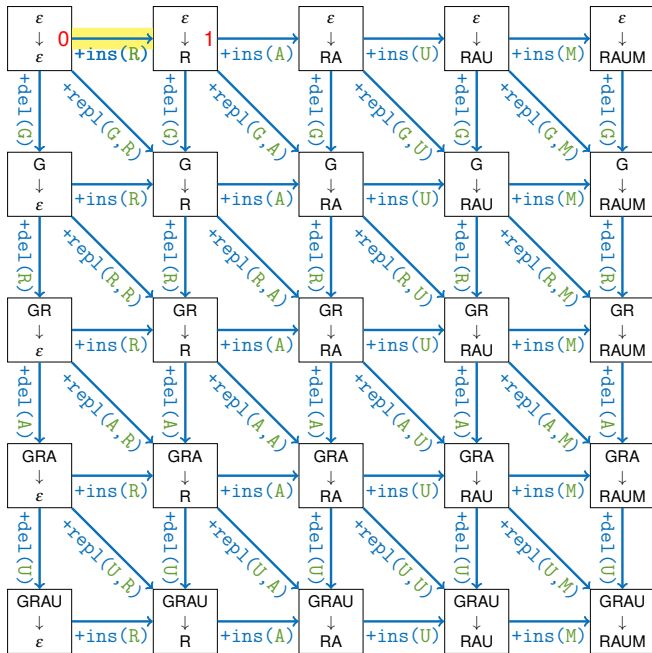




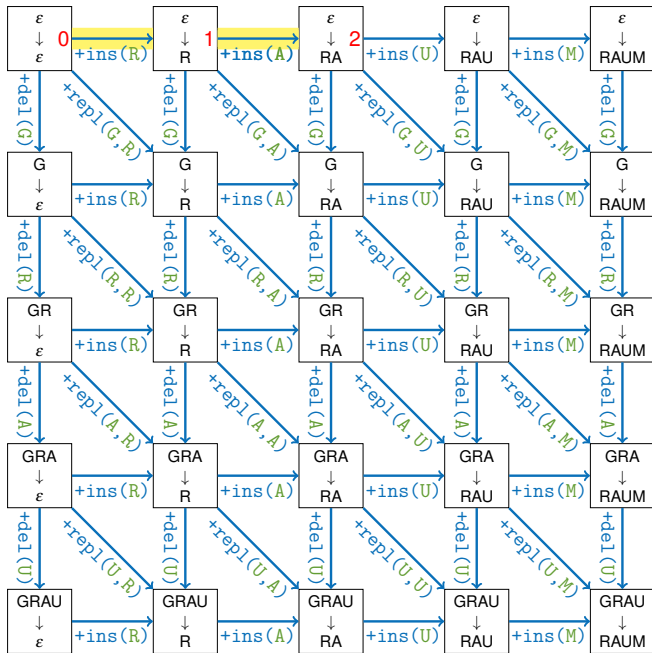
### **Fast algorithm:**

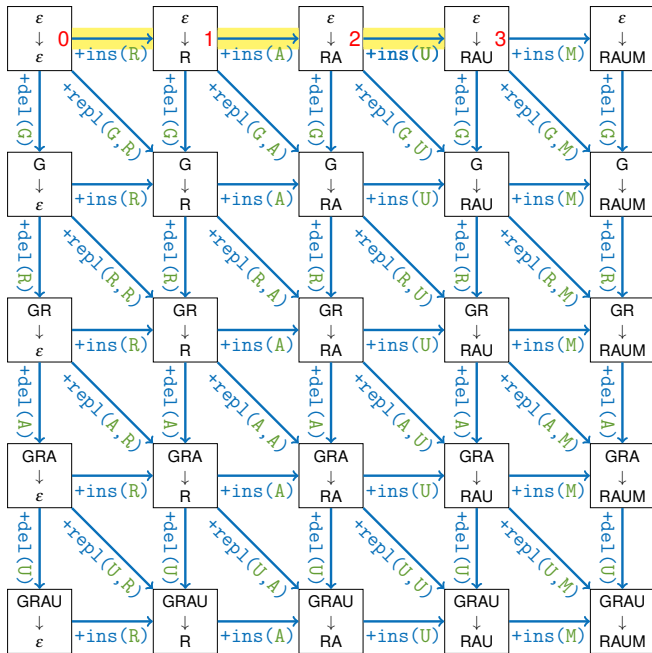
We can determine the **edit distance** for all combination of partial strings from the top left to bottom right.

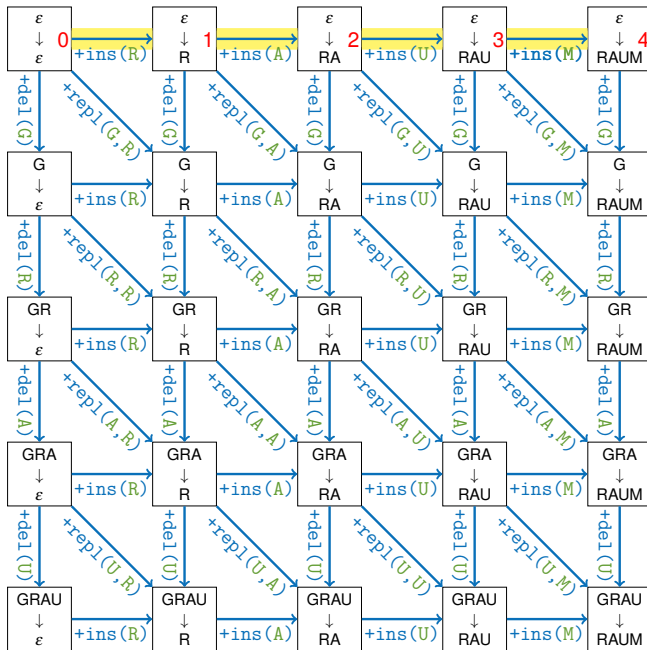


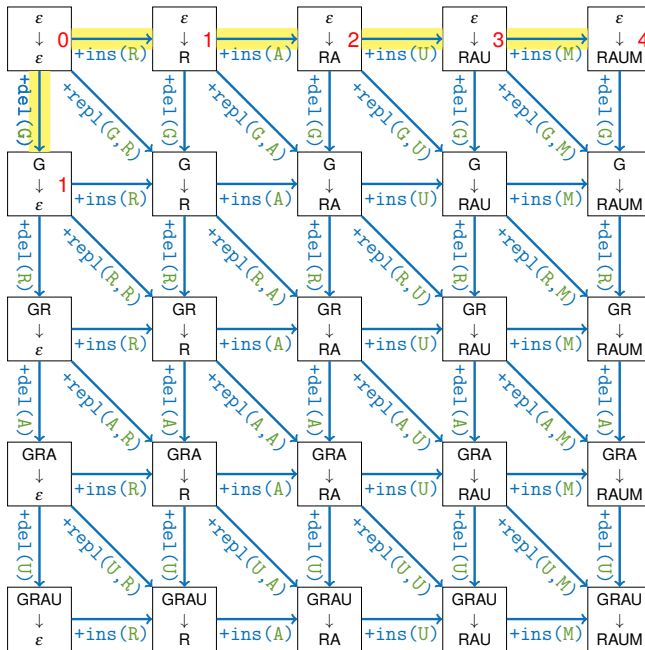


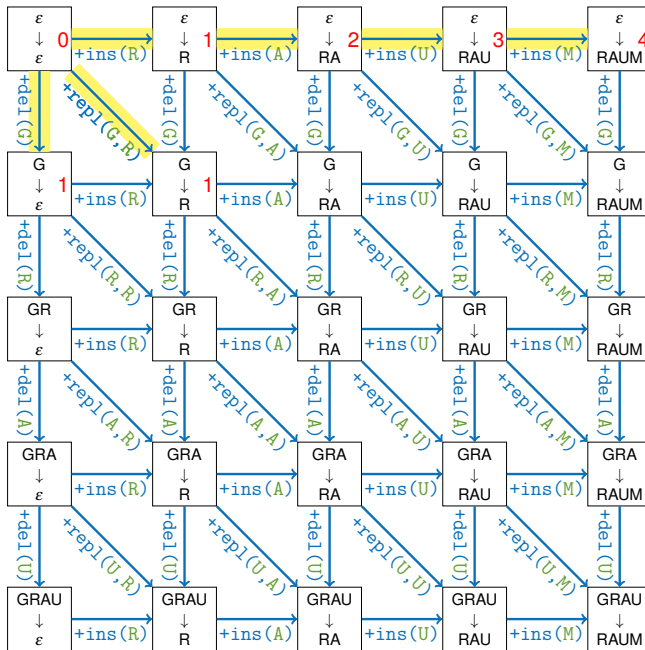


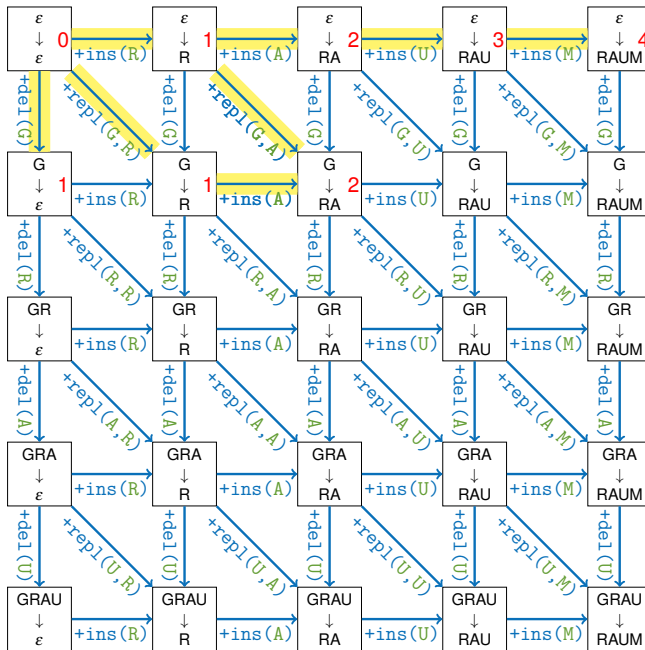


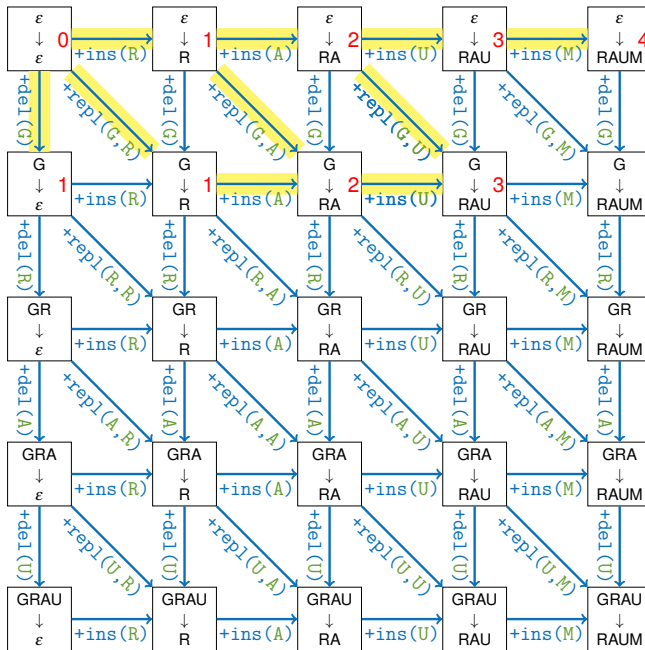


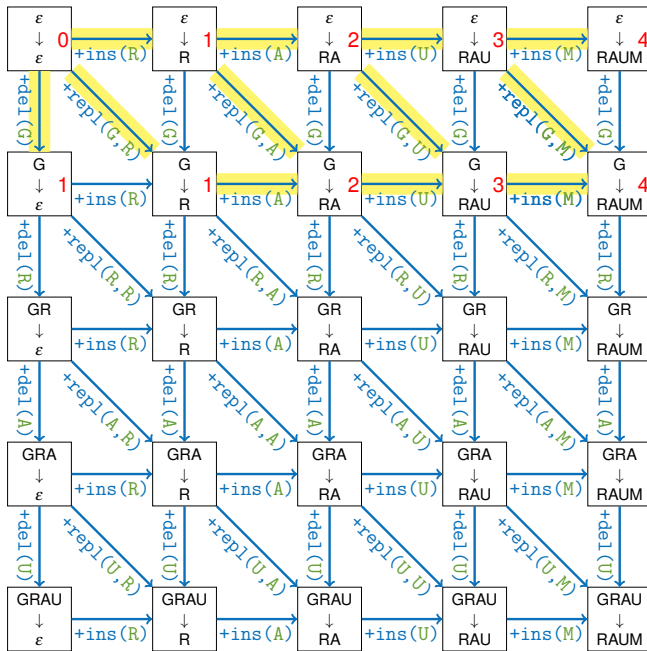




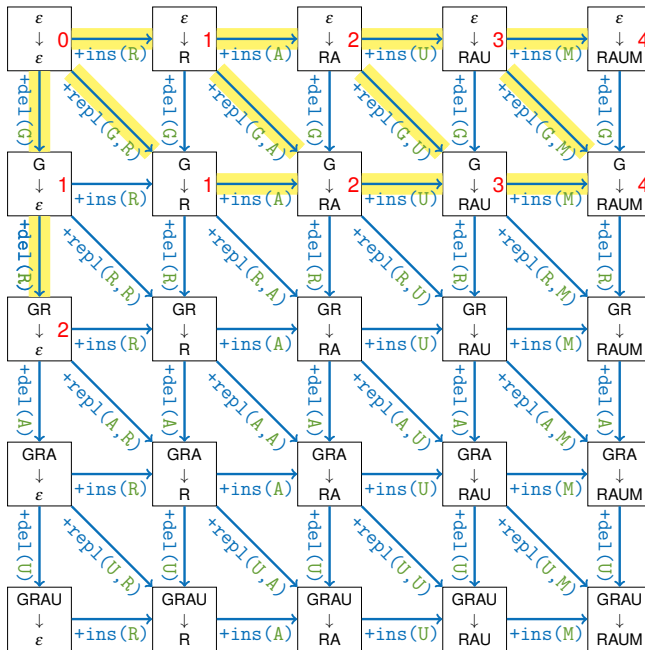


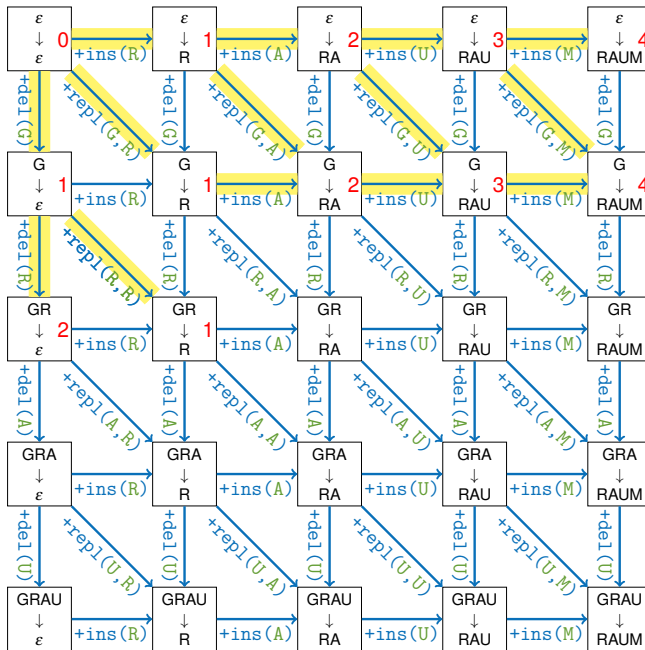




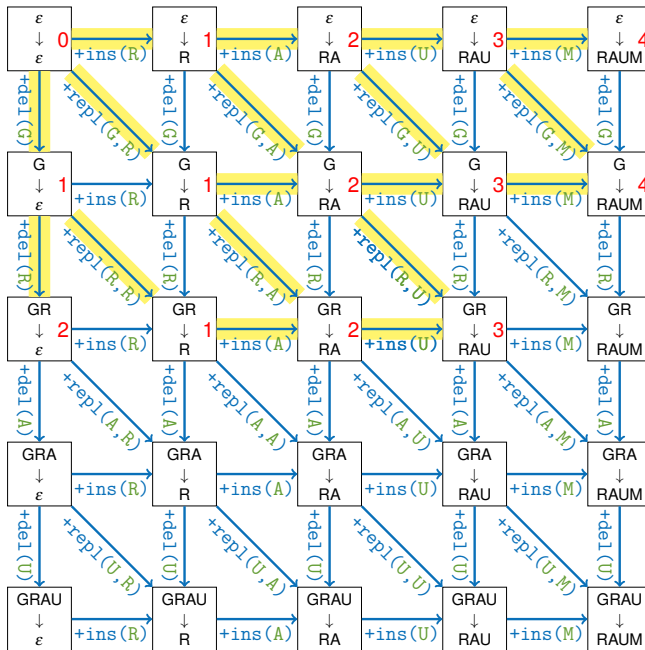


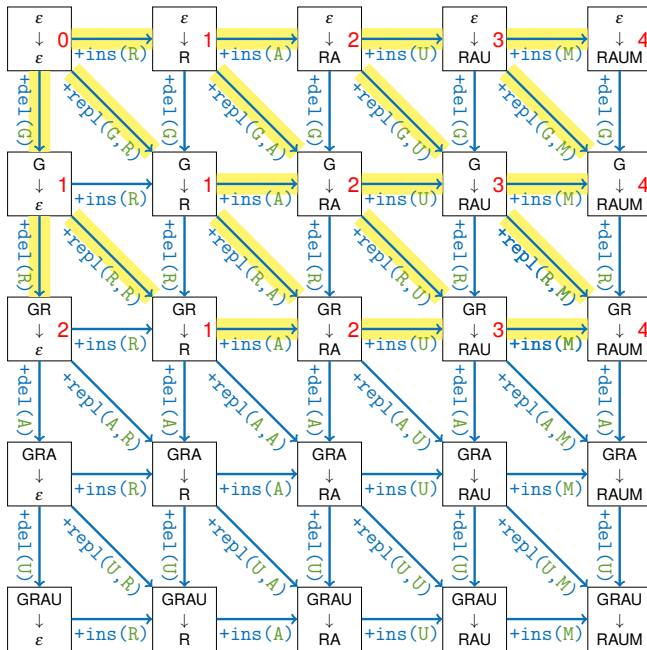


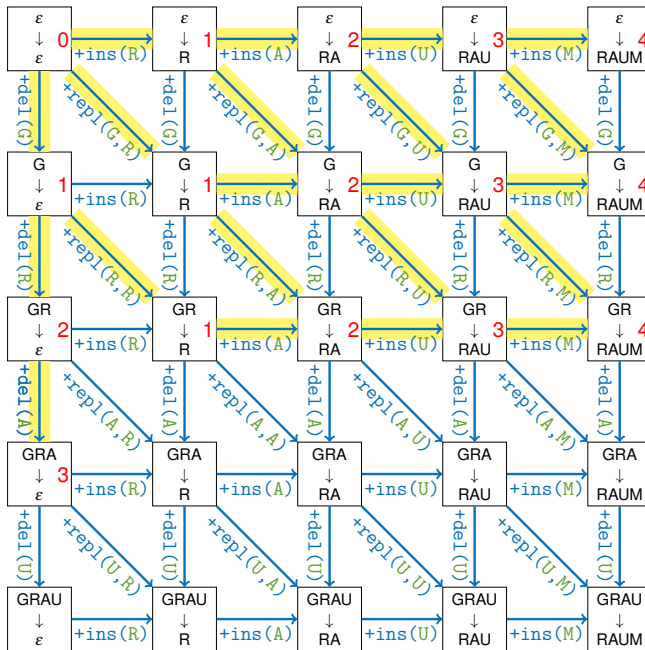


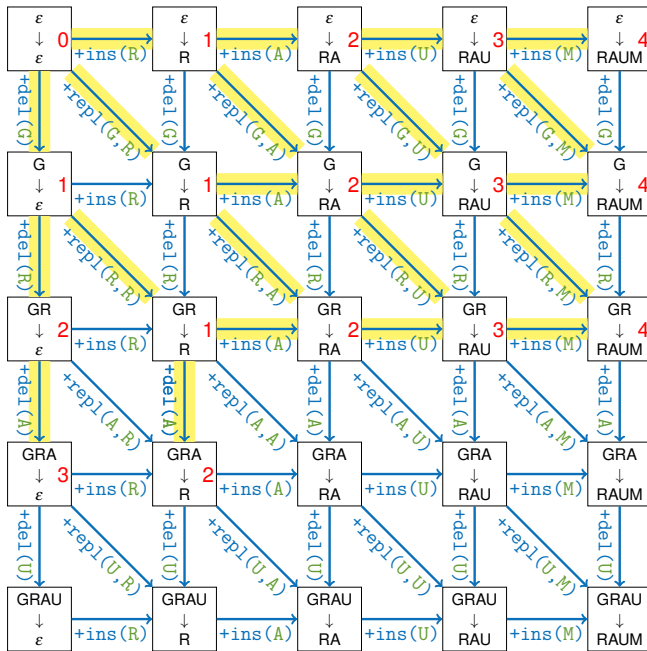


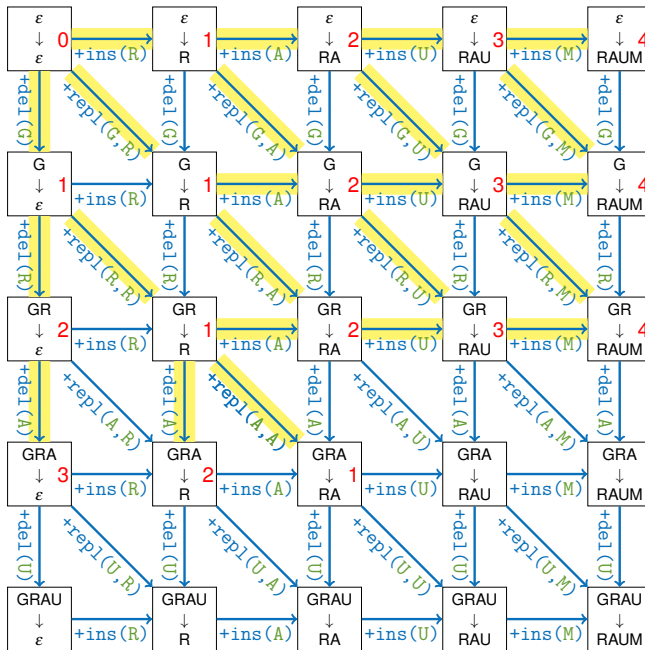




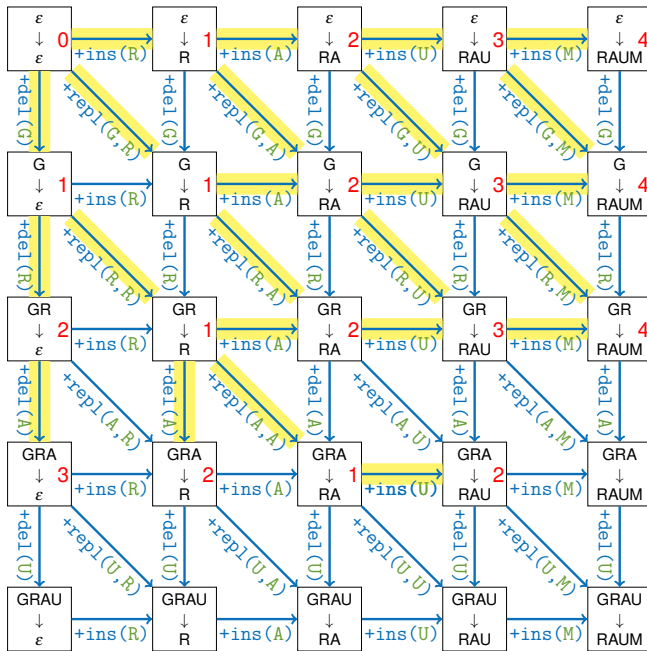


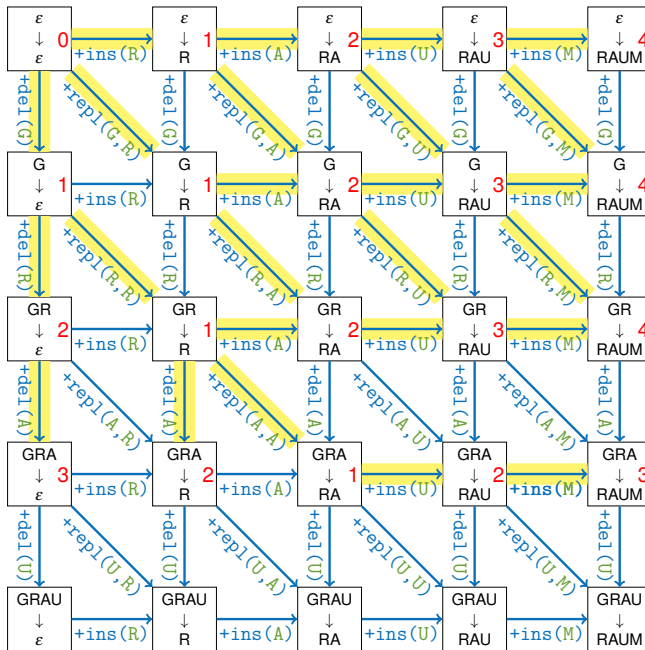


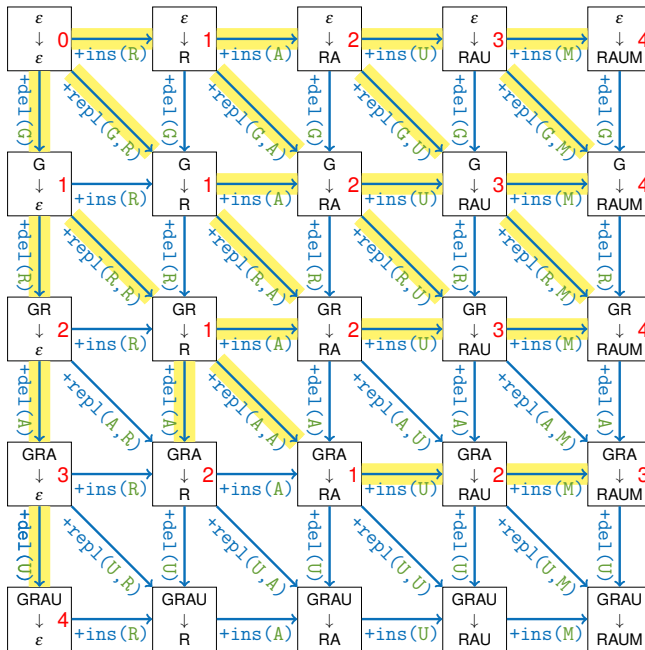


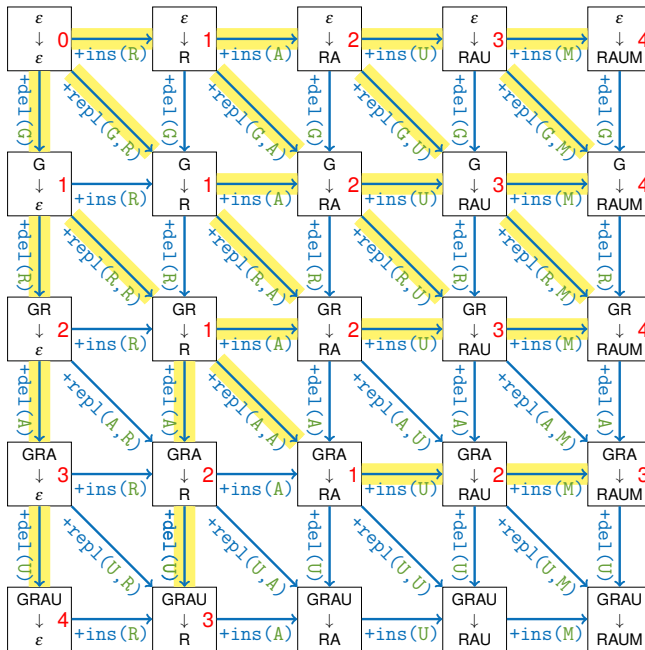


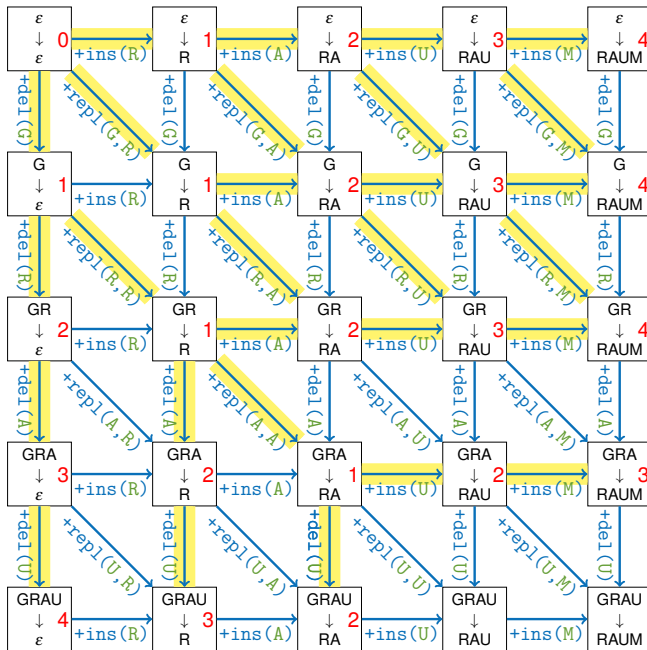


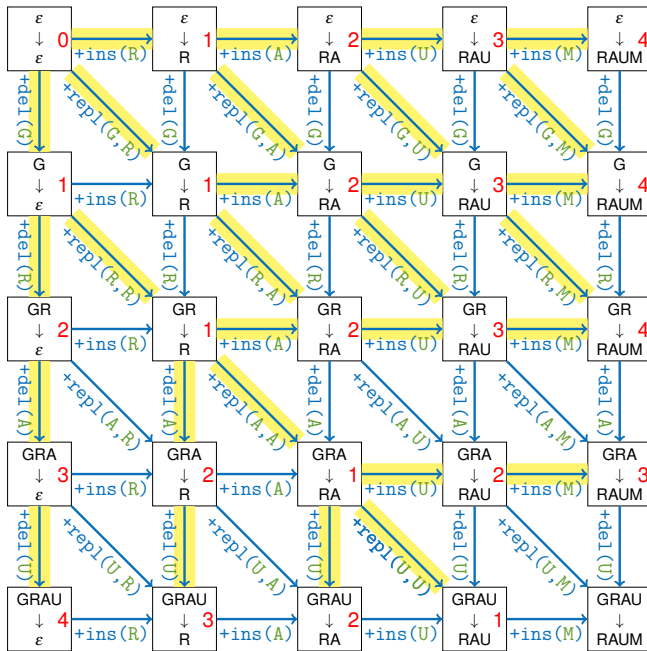


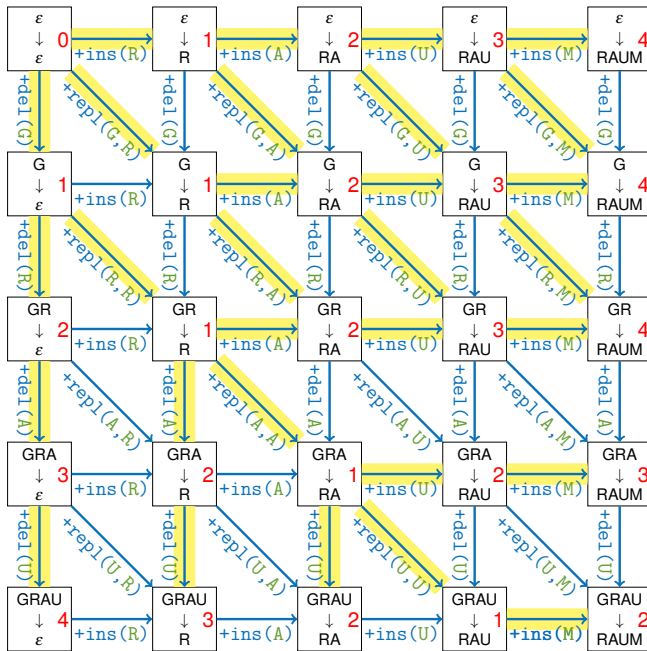












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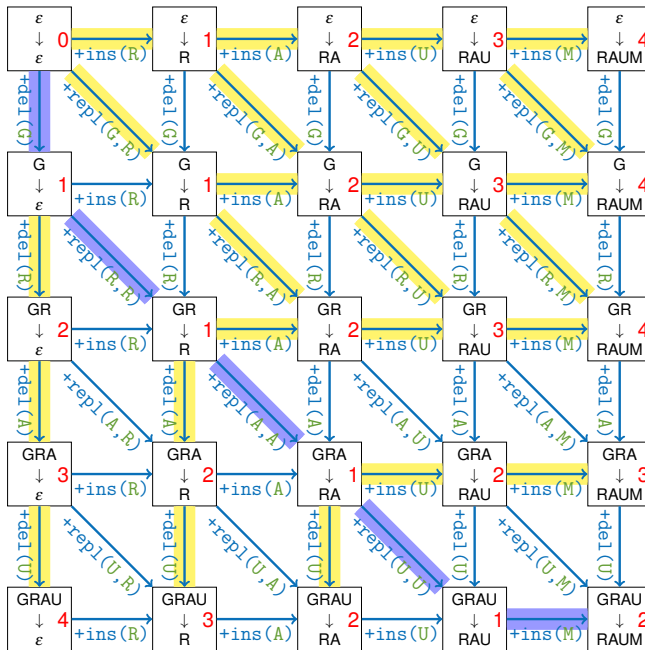
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  - If we can follow **more than one path** there exist more than one ideal **sequence**



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- The “path” to our solution normally gets computed while searching the best solution
- Dijkstra algorithm is basically dynamic programming!



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- Solution in  $O(n^3)$  time or  $O(n^2)$  affine



$O(n^2)$  space consumption might be problematic:

**Hirschberg algorithm:**

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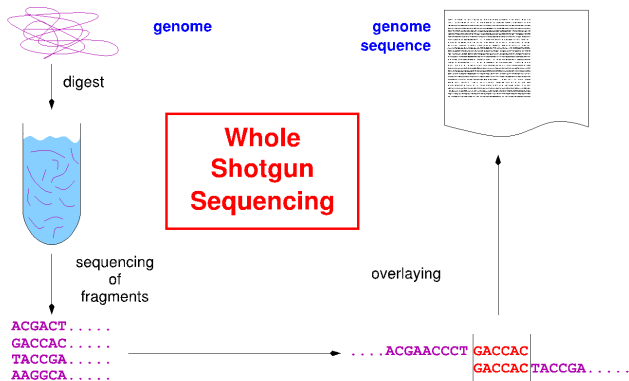
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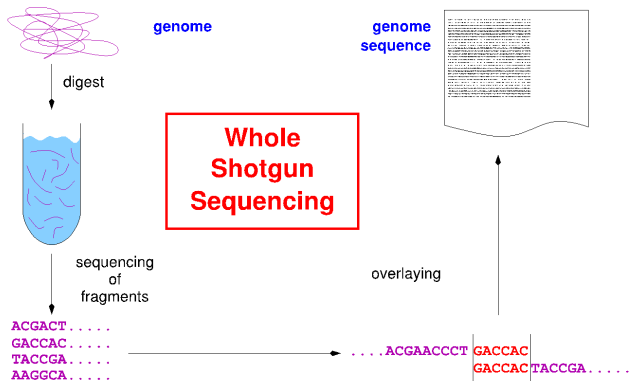
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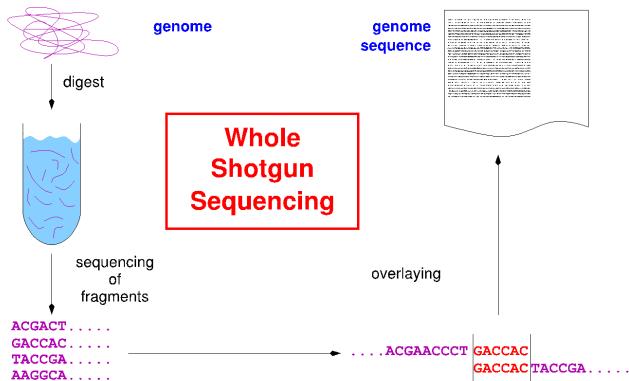
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- Index: suffixtree, suffixarray, burrow-wheeler-transform

## ■ General

- [CRL01] Thomas H. Cormen, Ronald L. Rivest, and Charles E. Leiserson.

**Introduction to Algorithms.**

MIT Press, Cambridge, Mass, 2001.

- [MS08] Kurt Mehlhorn and Peter Sanders.

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## ■ Dynamic programming

[Wik] [Dynamic programming](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dynamic_programming)

`https:`

`//en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dynamic_programming`

## ■ Edit distance

[Wik] [Levenshtein distance](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Levenshtein_distance)

`https:`

`//en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Levenshtein_distance`