

# Sequence Alignment and Dynamic Programming

# A Genome Sequence

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GCGTCTGACGGCGCACCGTTCGCGCTGCCGGCACCCCGGGCTCCATAATGAAAATCATGT  
TCAGTAAGCTACACTCTGCATATCGGGCTACCAACGAAATGGAGTATCGGTCATGATCTT  
GCCAGCCGTGCCTAAAAGCTTGGCCGCAGGGCCGAGTATAATTGGTCGCGGTCGCCTCGA  
AGTTAGCTTATGCAATGCAGGAGGTGGGGCAAAGTTCAGGCGGATCGGCCGATGGCGGGC  
GTAGGTGAAGGAGACAGCGGAGGCGTGGAGCGTGATGACATTGGCATGGTGGCCGCTTCC  
CCCGTCGCGTCTCGGGTAAATGGCAAGGTAGACGCTGACGTCGTCGGTCGATTTGCCACC  
TGCTGCCGTGCCCTGGGCATCGCGGTTTACCAGCGTAAACGTCCGCCGGACCTGGCTGCC  
GCCCCGTCTGGTTTCGCCGCGCTGACCCGCGTCGCCCATGACCAGTGCGACGCCTGGACC  
GGGCTGGCCGCTGCCGGCGACCAGTCCATCGGGGTGCTGGAAGCCGCCTCGCGCACGGCG  
ACCACGGCTGGTGTGTTGCAGCGGCAGGTGGAACCTGGCCGATAACGCCTTGGGCTTCCTG  
TACGACACCGGGCTGTACCTGCGTTTTTCGTGCCACCGGACCTGACGATTTCCACCTCGCG  
TATGCCGCTGCGTTGGCTTCGACGGGCGGGCCGGAGGAGTTTGCCAAGGCCAATCACGTG

**GGAGGTGGGGCAAAGTTCAGG**

**A fragment of a gene**

# A Genome Sequence

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GCGTCTGACGGCGCACCGTTCGCGCTGCCGGCACCCCGGGCTCCATAATGAAAATCATGT  
TCAGTAAGCTACACTCTGCATATCGGGCTACCAACGAAATGGAGTATCGGTCATGATCTT  
GCCAGCCGTGCCTAAAAGCTTGGCCGCAGGGCCGAGTATAATTGGTCGCGGTCGCCTCGA  
AGTTAGCTTATGCAATGCA**GGAGGTGGGGCAAAGTTCAGG**CGGATCGGCCGATGGCGGGC  
GTAGGTGAAGGAGACAGCGGAGGCGTGGAGCGTGATGACATTGGCATGGTGGCCGCTTCC  
CCCGTCGCGTCTCGGGTAAATGGCAAGGTAGACGCTGACGTCGTCGGTCGATTTGCCACC  
TGCTGCCGTGCCCTGGGCATCGCGGTTTACCAGCGTAAACGTCCGCCGGACCTGGCTGCC  
GCCCCGTCTGGTTTCGCCGCGCTGACCCGCGTCGCCCATGACCAGTGCGACGCCTGGACC  
GGGCTGGCCGCTGCCGGCGACCAGTCCATCGGGGTGCTGGAAGCCGCCTCGCGCACGGCG  
ACCACGGCTGGTGTGTTGCAGCGGCAGGTGGAACCTGGCCGATAACGCCTTGGGCTTCCTG  
TACGACACCGGGCTGTACCTGCGTTTTTCGTGCCACCGGACCTGACGATTTCCACCTCGCG  
TATGCCGCTGCGTTGGCTTCGACGGGCGGGCCGGAGGAGTTTGCCAAGGCCAATCACGTG

**GGAGGTGGGGCAAAGTTCAGG**

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# A Genome Sequence

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GCGTCTGACGGCGCACCGTTCGCGCTGCCGGCACCCCGGGCTCCATAATGAAAATCATGT  
TCAGTAAGCTACACTCTGCATATCGGGCTACCAACGAAATGGAGTATCGGTCATGATCTT  
GCCAGCCGTGCCTAAAAGCTTGGCCGCAGGGCCGAGTATAATTGGTCGCGGTCGCCTCGA  
AGTTAGCTTATGCAATGCA**GGAGGTGGGGCAAAGTTCAGG**CGGATCGGCCGATGGCGGGC  
GTAGGTGAAGGAGACAGCGGAGGCGTGGAGCGTGATGACATTGGCATGGTGGCCGCTTCC  
CCCGTCGCGTCTCGGGTAAATGGCAAGGTAGACGCTGACGTCGTCGGTCGATTTGCCACC  
TGCTGCCGTGCCCTGGGCATCGCGGTTTACCAGCGTAAACGTCCGCCGGACCTGGCTGCC  
GCCCCGTCTGGTTTCGCCGCGCTGACCCGCGTCGCCCATGACCAGTGCGACGCCTGGACC  
GGGCTGGCCGCTGCCGGCGACCAGTCCATCGGGGTGCTGGAAGCCGCCTCGCGCACGGCG  
ACCACGGCTGGTGTGTTGCAGCGGCAGGTGGAACCTGGCCGATAACGCCTTGGGCTTCCTG  
TACGACACCGGGCTGTACCTGCGTTTTTCGTGCCACCGGACCTGACGATTTCCACCTCGCG  
TATGCCGCTGCGTTGGCTTCGACGGGCGGGCCGGAGGAGTTTGCCAAGGCCAATCACGTG

**GGAGGTGGGGCAAAGTTCAGG**

**GGAGG**A**GGGGCAA**TT**TCAGG**

**GGAGG**A**GGG--AA**TTTTC**CGC**

# Sequence Alignment

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- Much of molecular biology concerns analyzing polymers
  - DNA
  - RNA
  - Proteins
- These sequences can be computationally represented by sequences of letters
- Sequence alignment is used in range of biological problems
  - Sequence Annotation
  - Homology detection
  - Function prediction
  - Structure prediction
  - Genome assembly
  - Phylogenetics
  - Genotyping

# The Sequence Alignment Problem

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- **Given:** Two Sequences

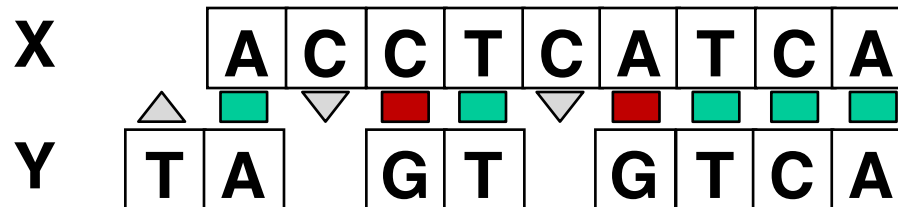
X    

A	C	C	T	C	A	T	C	A
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

    Y    

T	A	G	T	G	T	C	A
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

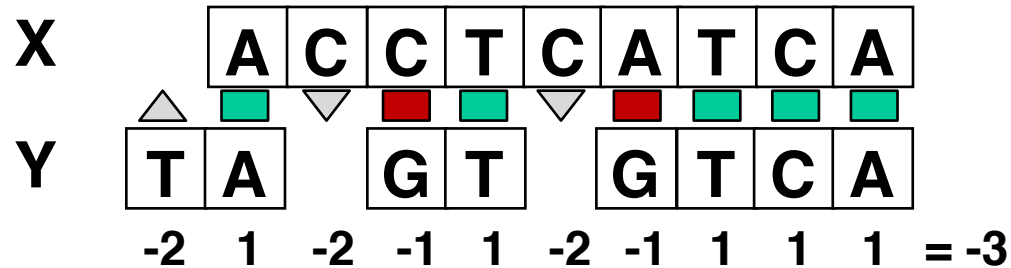
- **Output:** An alignment of both



*Is this a “good” alignment?*

# Scoring an Alignment

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- Score each position independently

**Match**  
**1**

**Mismatch**  
**-1**

**Indel**  
**-2**

- Additive scoring function: score of sequence is sum of score of each position

# The Sequence Alignment Problem

---

X	A	C	G	T	C	A	T	C	A
Y	T	A	G	T	G	T	C	A	

- Given additive scoring function:
  - Reward of match
  - Cost of mismatch
  - Cost of indel
- Need algorithm for inferring best alignment

***What if we just search all possible alignments of two sequences?***



# Can We Simply Enumerate All Alignments?

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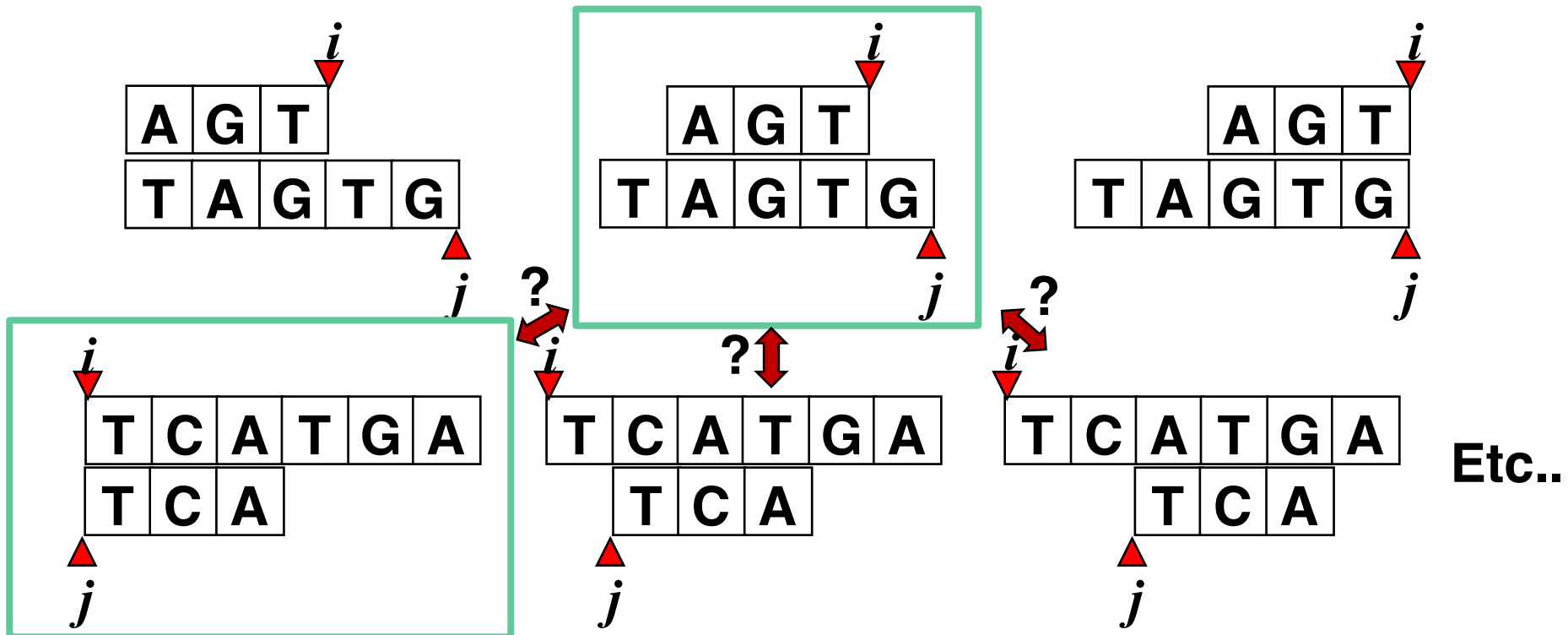
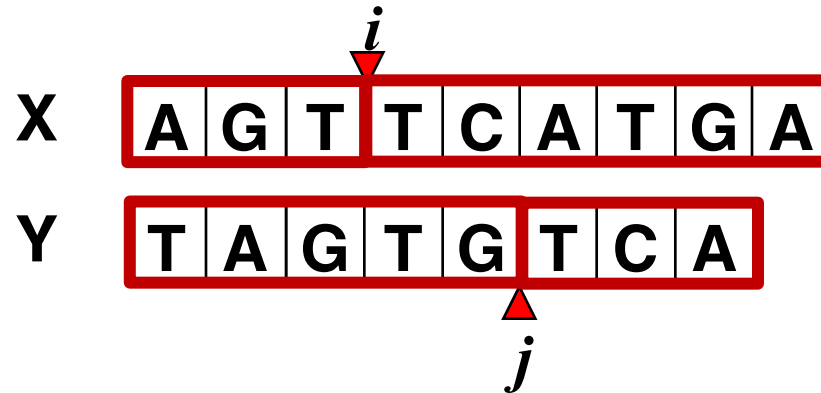
- Ways to align two sequences of length  $m$ ,  $n$

$$\binom{n+m}{m} = \frac{(m+n)!}{(m!)^2} \approx \frac{2^{m+n}}{\sqrt{\pi \cdot m}}$$

- For two sequences of length  $n$

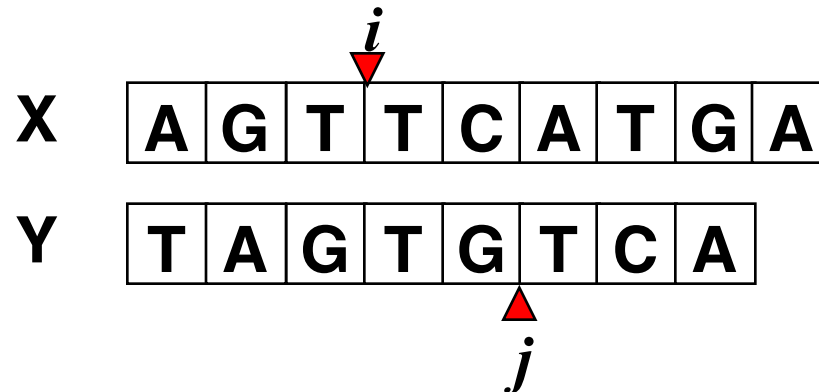
n	Enumeration
10	184,756
20	1.40E+11
100	9.00E+58

# Key Insight: Optimal Substructure



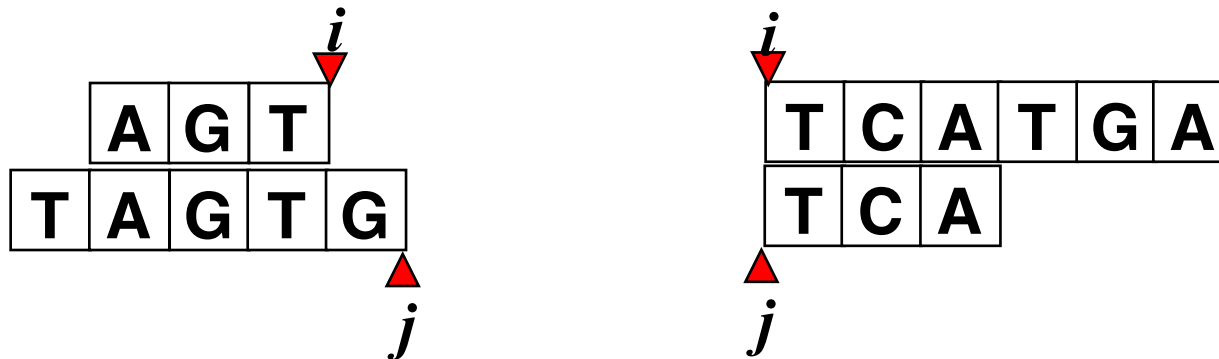
# Key Insight: Optimal Substructure

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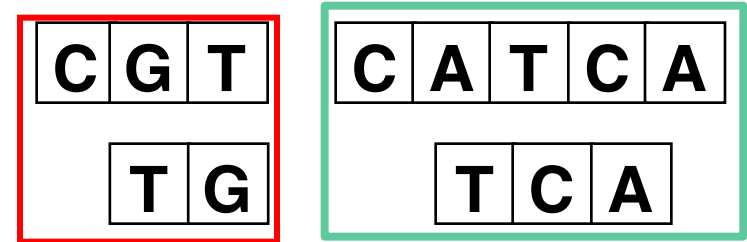
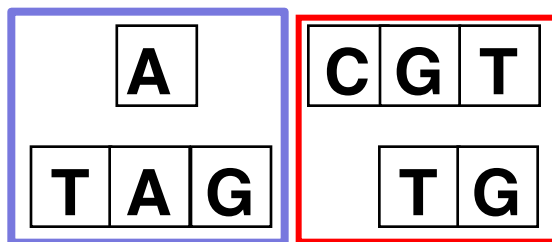
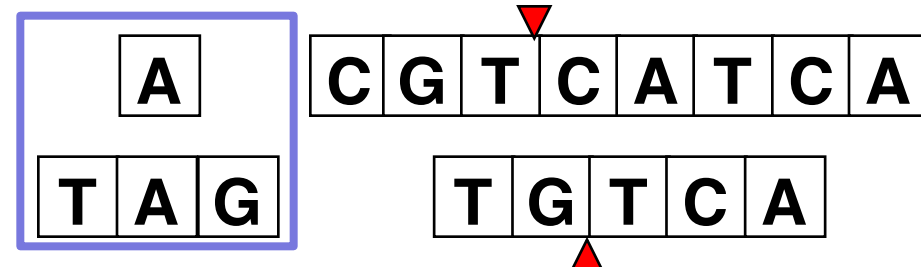
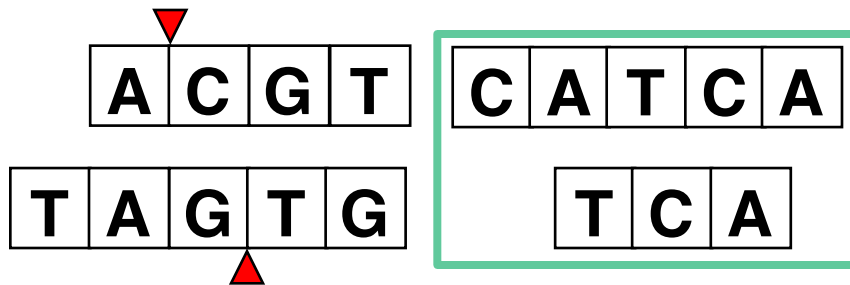
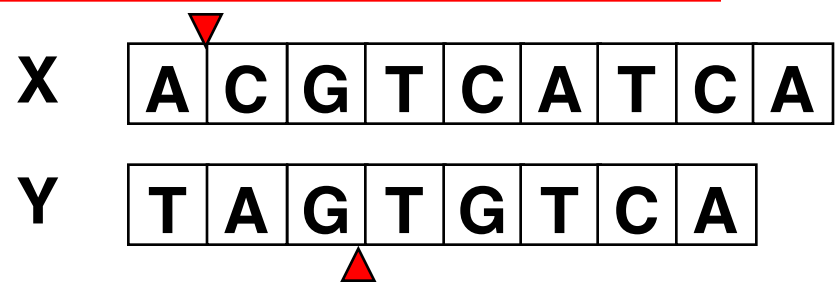
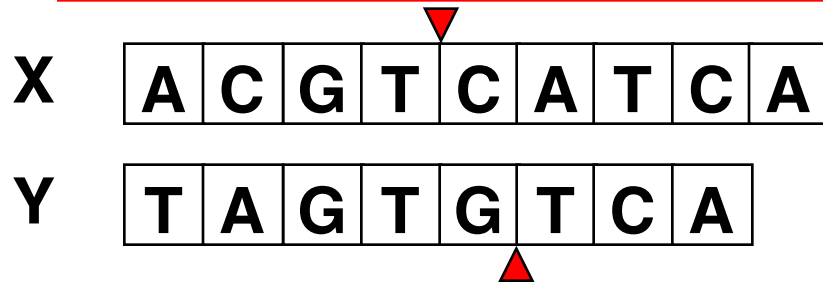
For any pair of indices  $(i, j)$ , the best alignment of  $(X, Y)$  is:

**Best** alignment of  $X[1..i]$  and  $Y[1..j]$   
AND **Best** alignment of  $X[i..n]$  and  $Y[j..m]$



# Key insight: re-use computation

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**Identical sub-problems! We can reuse our work!**

# Using Insights for Sequence Alignment

# Global Alignment

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## Needleman-Wunsch Algorithm

X    

A	G	T
---	---	---

Y    

A	A	G	C
---	---	---	---

### Scoring

Gap = -2

Mismatch = -1

Match = 1

\*

# Score Matrix – $F(i,j)$

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<b>i=0</b>		<b>A</b> <b>1</b>	<b>G</b> <b>2</b>	<b>T</b> <b>3</b>
<b>j= 0</b>				
<b>A 1</b>			<b>F(2,1)</b>	
<b>A 2</b>				
<b>G 3</b>				
<b>C 4</b>				

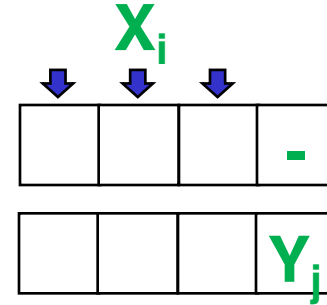
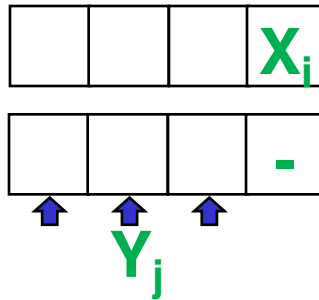
$F(i,j)$

Score of best  
alignment between  
 $X_1, \dots, X_i$   
and  
 $Y_1, \dots, Y_j$

# Getting to (i,j)

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Three ways an alignment of (i,j) can end

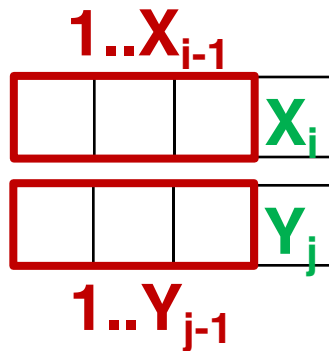




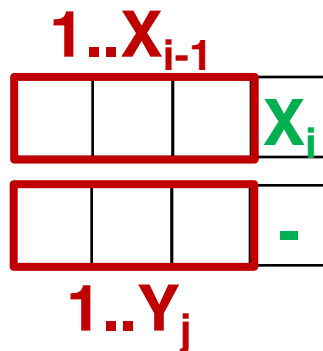
# Getting to (i,j)

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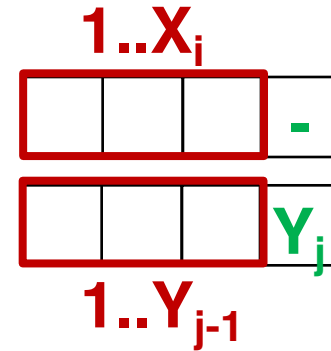
Three ways an alignment of (i,j) can end



**Extend (i-1,j-1)**  
with match or  
mismatch



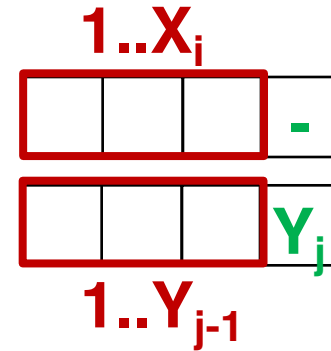
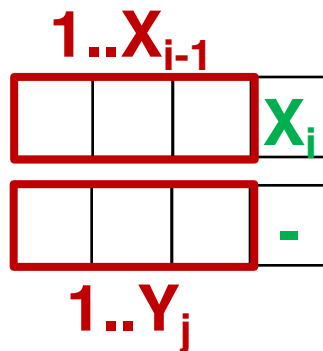
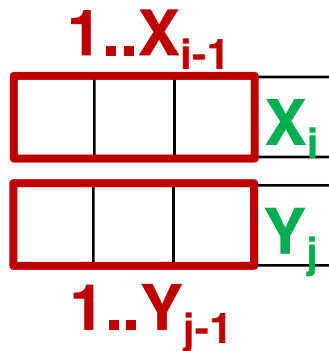
**Extend (i-1,j)**  
with gap  
matching  $X_i$



**Extend (i,j-1)**  
with gap  
matching  $Y_j$

# Getting to (i,j) – Scoring

What is the score of the best alignment in each scenario?



$$f(i,j) = F(i-1,j-1) \pm 1$$

Best  
alignment  
score up to  
(i-1,j-1)

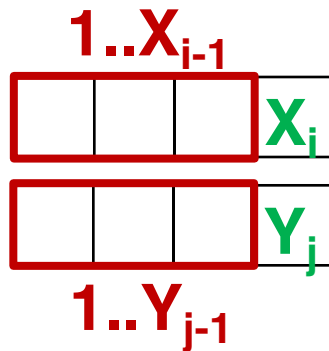
Change in  
score due to  
match or  
mismatch

*Optimality Substructure*

We do not need the  
score of *every* alignment  
( $X_{i-1}, Y_{j-1}$ ), just the *best*

# Getting to (i,j) – Scoring

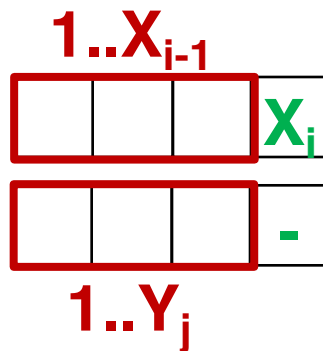
What is the score of the best alignment in each scenario?



$$f(i,j) = F(i-1,j-1) \pm 1$$

Best alignment score up to (i-1,j-1)

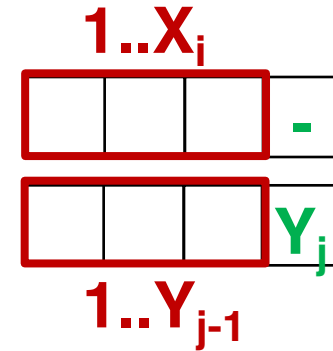
Change in score due to match or mismatch



$$f(i,j) = F(i-1,j) - 2$$

Best alignment score up to (i-1,j)

Change in score due to gap



$$f(i,j) = F(i,j-1) - 2$$

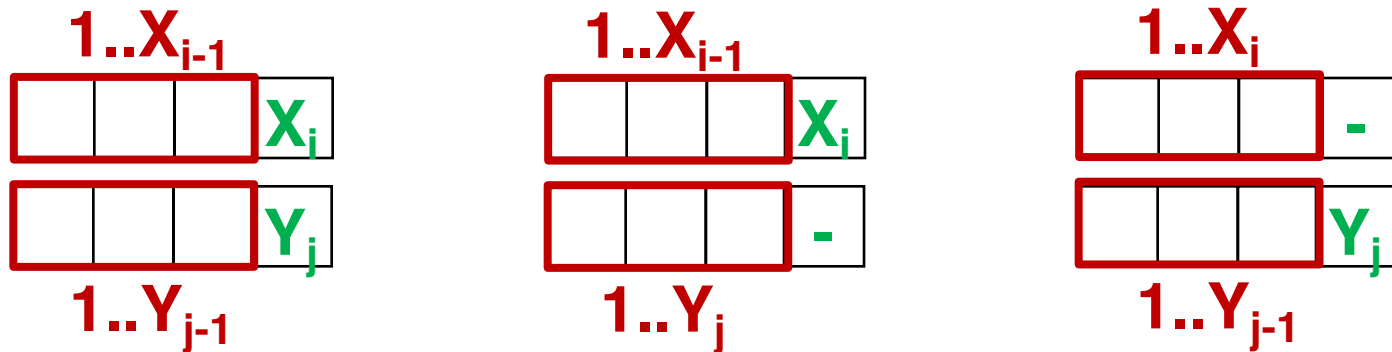
Best alignment score up to (i,j-1)

Change in score due to gap

# Getting to (i,j) – Scoring $F(i,j)$

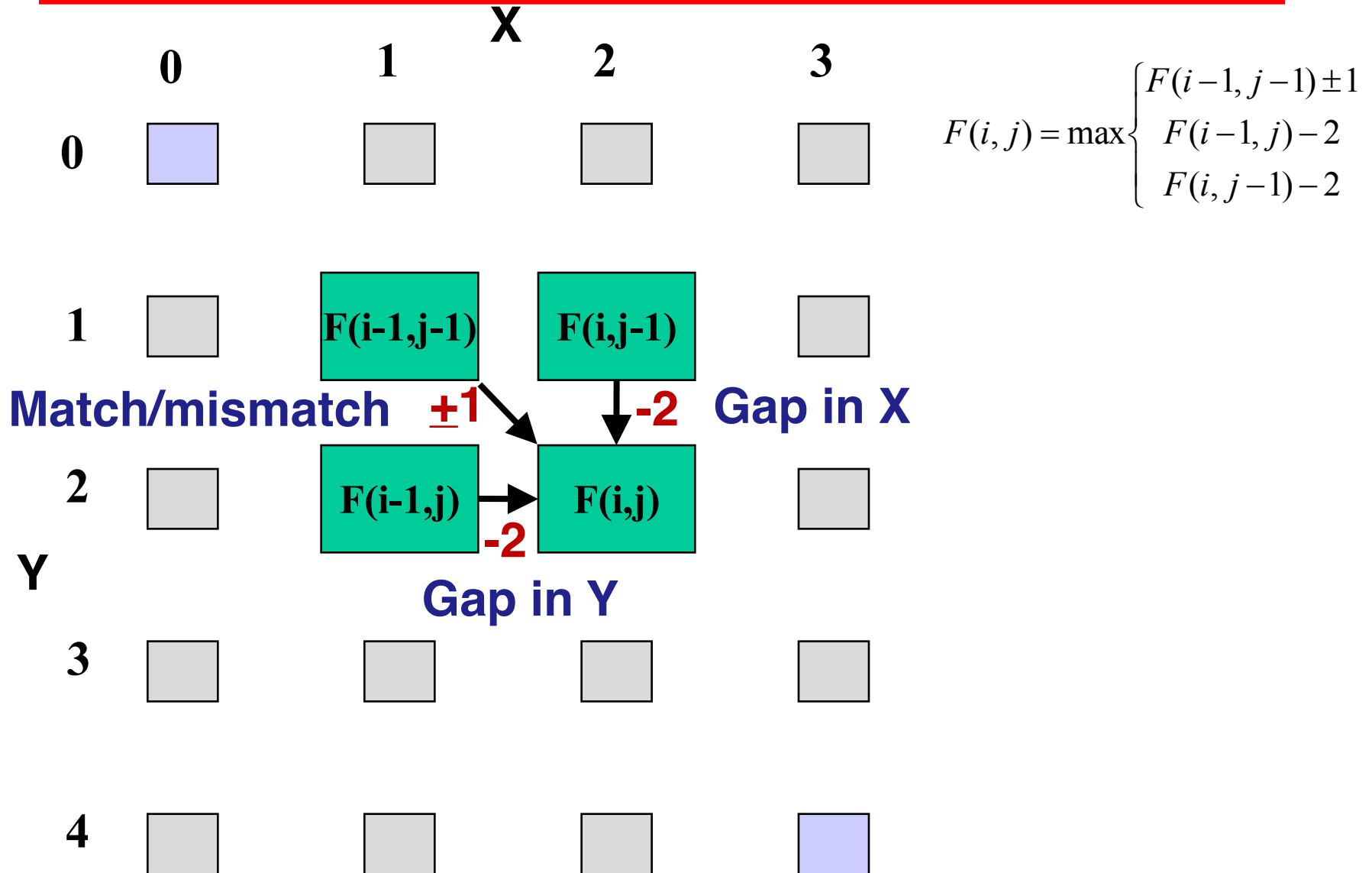
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The score of the *best* alignment of (i,j)



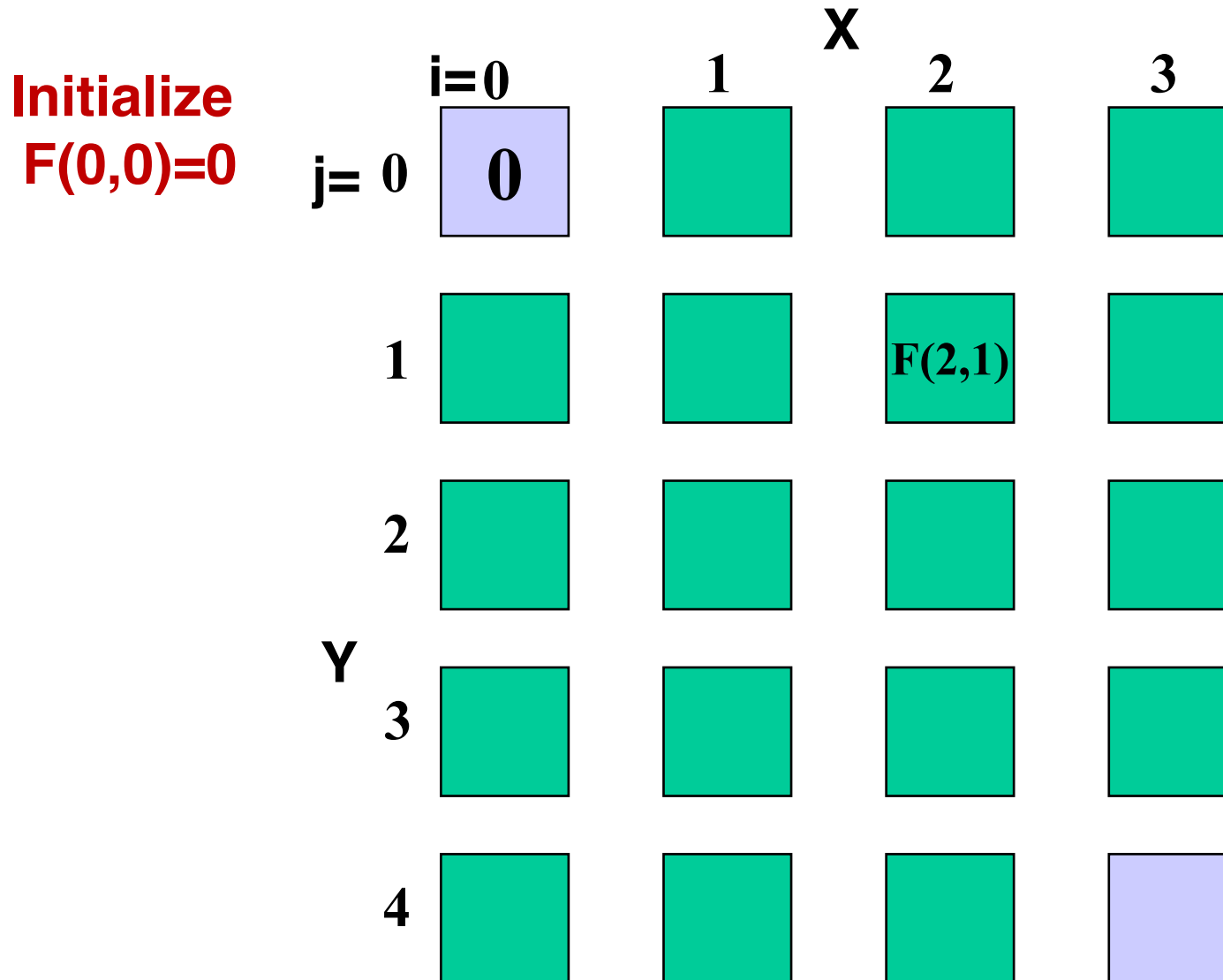
$$F(i, j) = \max \begin{cases} F(i-1, j-1) \pm 1 \\ F(i-1, j) - 2 \\ F(i, j-1) - 2 \end{cases}$$

# Score Matrix – $F(i,j)$

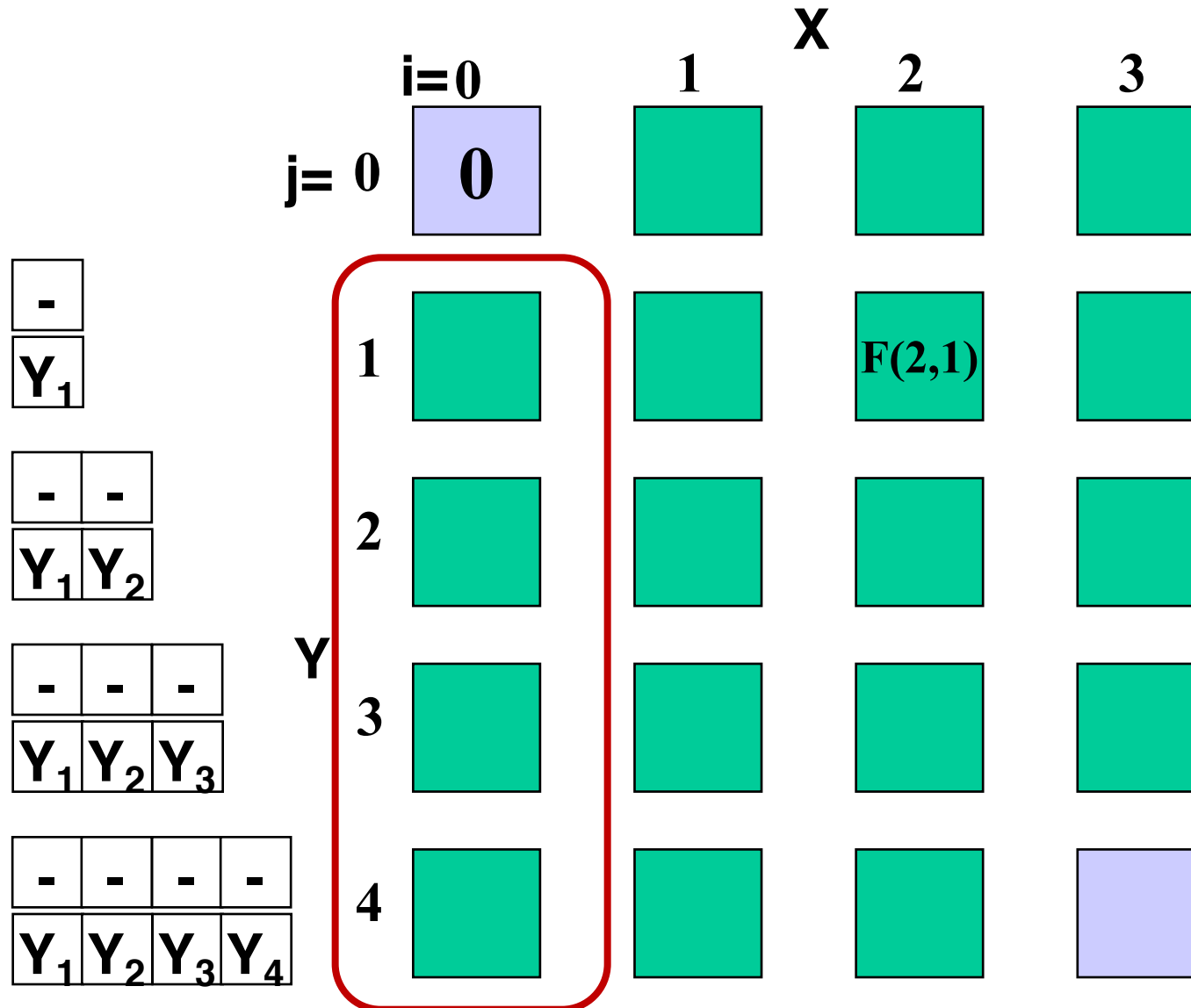


# Score Matrix – Boundaries

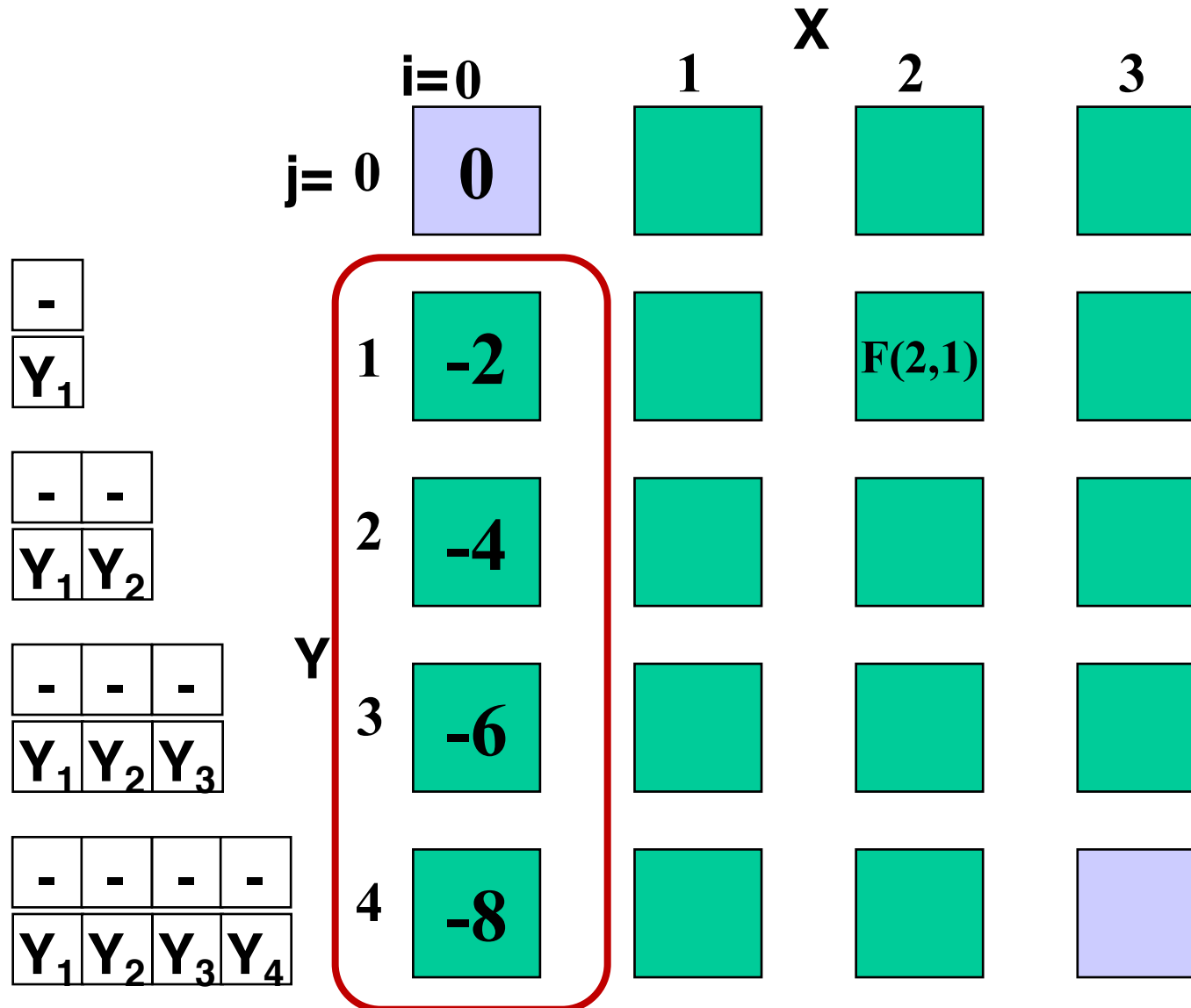
---



# Score Matrix – Boundaries



# Score Matrix – Boundaries





# Score Matrix – Boundaries

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		X			
		i=0	1	2	3
Y	j=0	0	-2	-4	-6
	1	-2		F(2,1)	
	2	-4			
	3	-6			
	4	-8			

# Score Matrix – Boundaries

---

		X			
		i=0	1	2	3
Y	j= 0	0	-2	-4	-6
	1	-2		F(2,1)	
	2	-4			
	3	-6			
	4	-8			

# Score Matrix – Boundaries

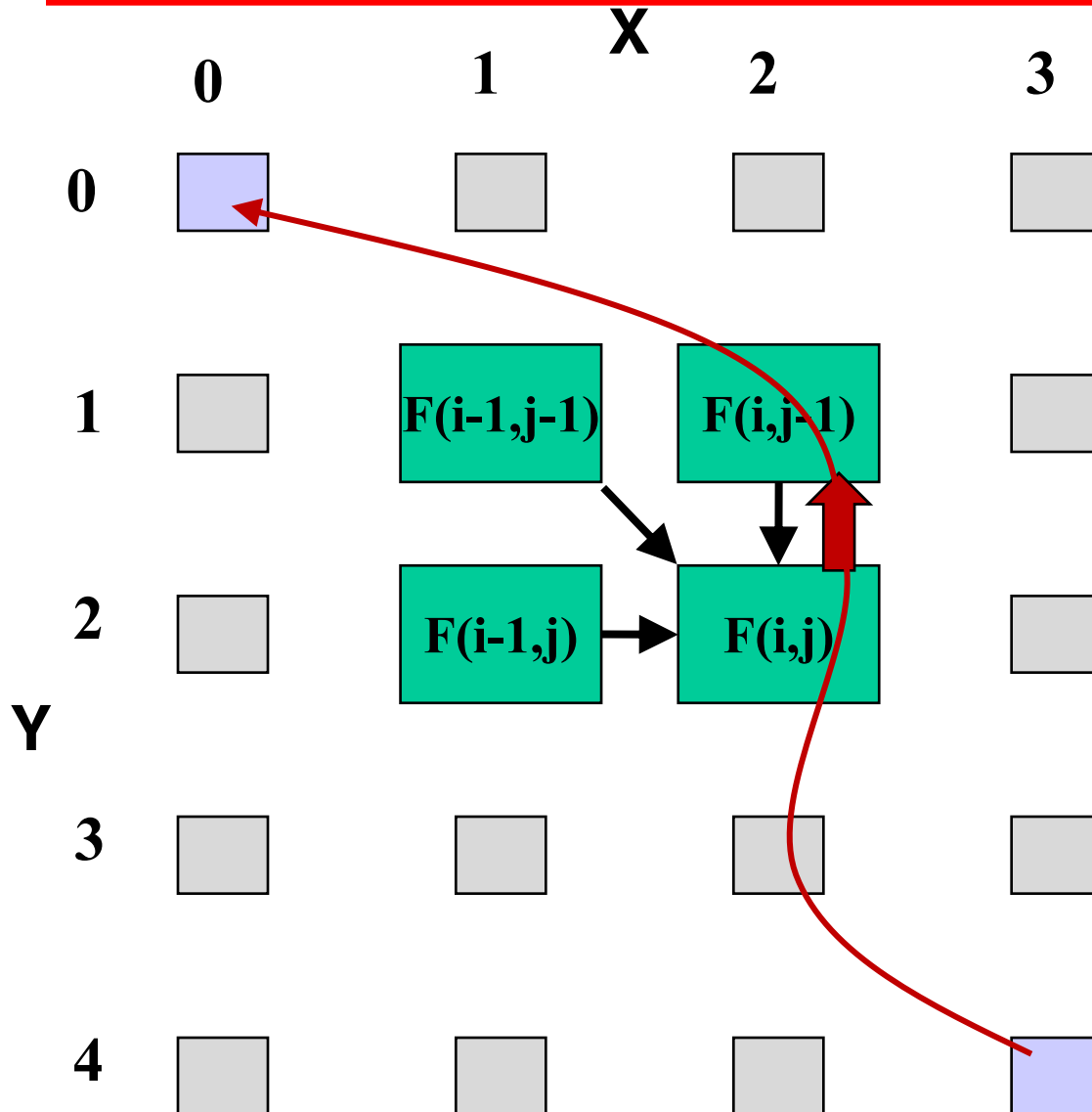
---

		X			
		i=0	1	2	3
j= 0		0	-2	-4	-6
1		-2		F(2,1)	
2		-4			
Y	3	-6			
4		-8			F(N,M)

$F(N,M)$   
**Score** of best  
global alignment

But how do we  
get the actual  
alignment?

# Tracebacks



To calculate  $F(i,j)$  we “came from” one of

$F(i-1,j-1)$   
 $F(i,j-1)$   
 $F(j-1,i)$

**Traceback:**  
Store a pointer from  $F(i,j)$  to the cell used

# Filling in an Example

---

	0	A 1	G 2	T 3
0	0	-2	-4	-6
A 1	-2	1		
A 2	-4			
G 3	-6			
C 4	-8			

**Scoring**  
Gap = -2  
Mismatch = -1  
Match = 1

# Filling in an Example

	0	A 1	G 2	T 3
0	0	-2	-4	-6
A 1	-2	1		
A 2	-4	-1		
G 3	-6			
C 4	-8			

**Scoring**  
Gap = -2  
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Match = 1

# Filling in an Example

	0	A 1	G 2	T 3
0	0	-2	-4	-6
A 1	-2	1	-1	
A 2	-4	-1		
G 3	-6			
C 4	-8			

**Scoring**  
Gap = -2  
Mismatch = -1  
Match = 1

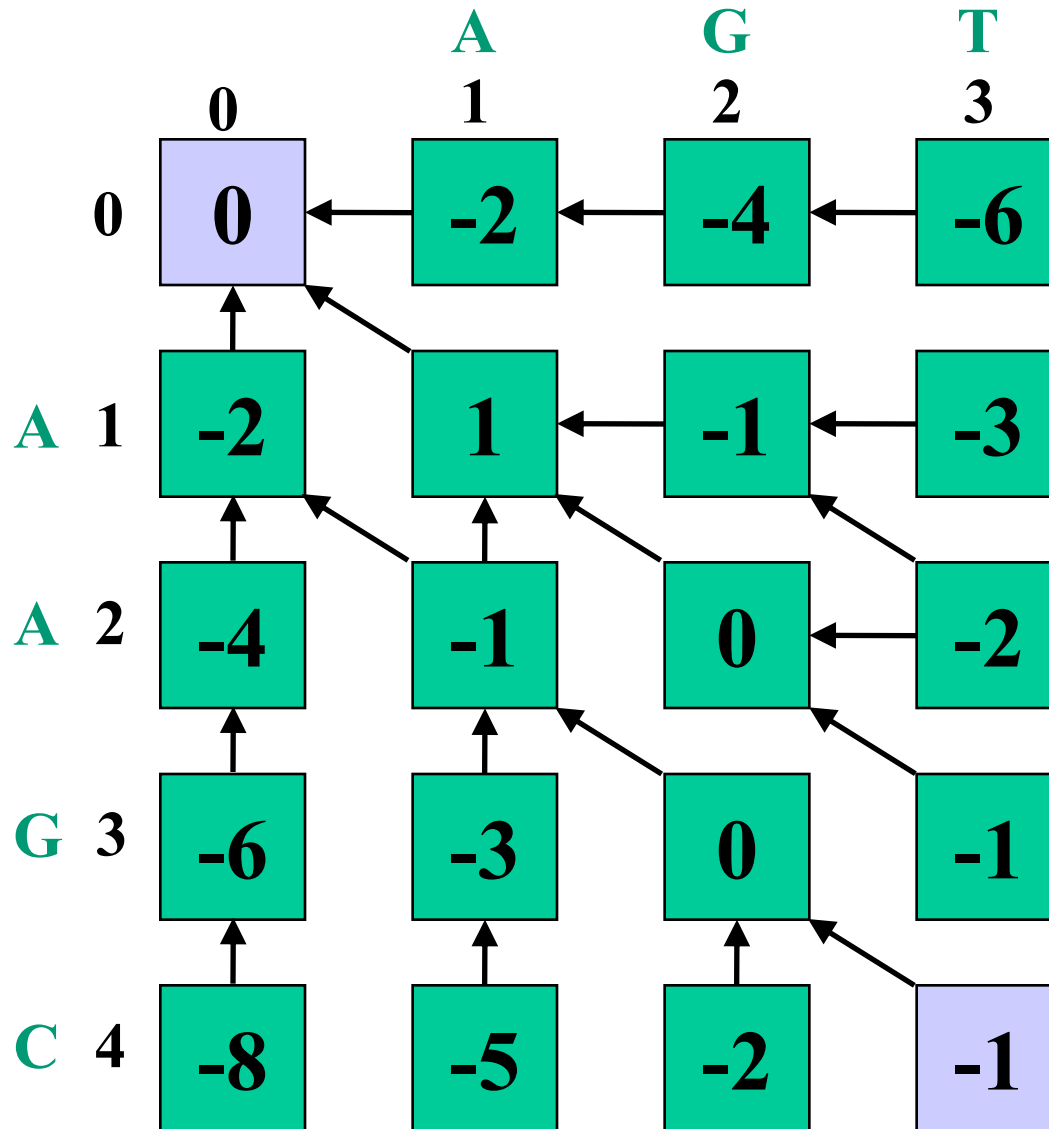
# Filling in an Example

		A	G	T
	0	1	2	3
0	0	-2	-4	-6
A 1	-2	1	-1	
A 2	-4	-1	0	
G 3	-6			
C 4	-8			

**Scoring**  
Gap = -2  
Mismatch = -1  
Match = 1

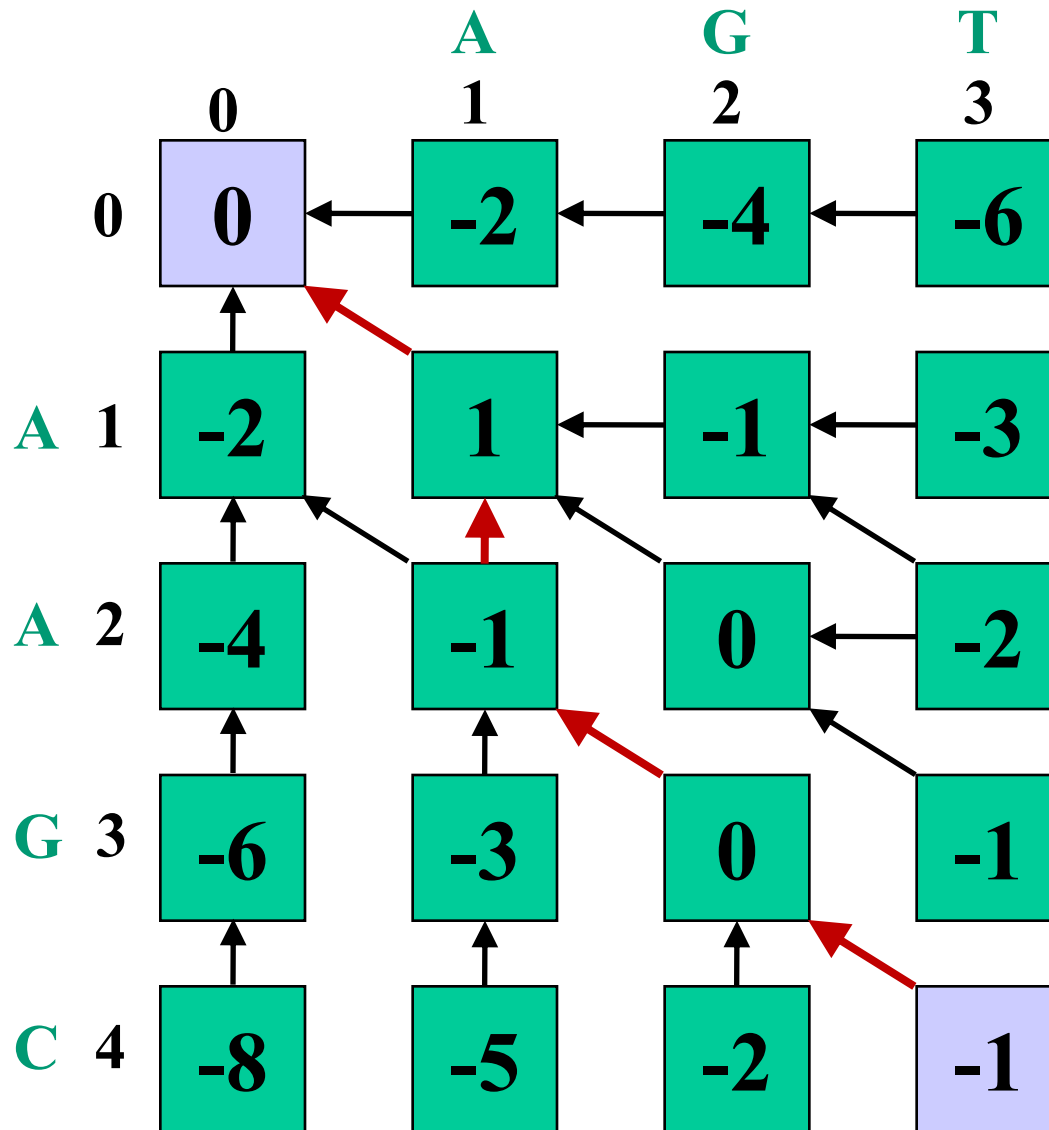


# The Full Matrix



**Scoring**  
Gap = **-2**  
Mismatch = **-1**  
Match = **1**

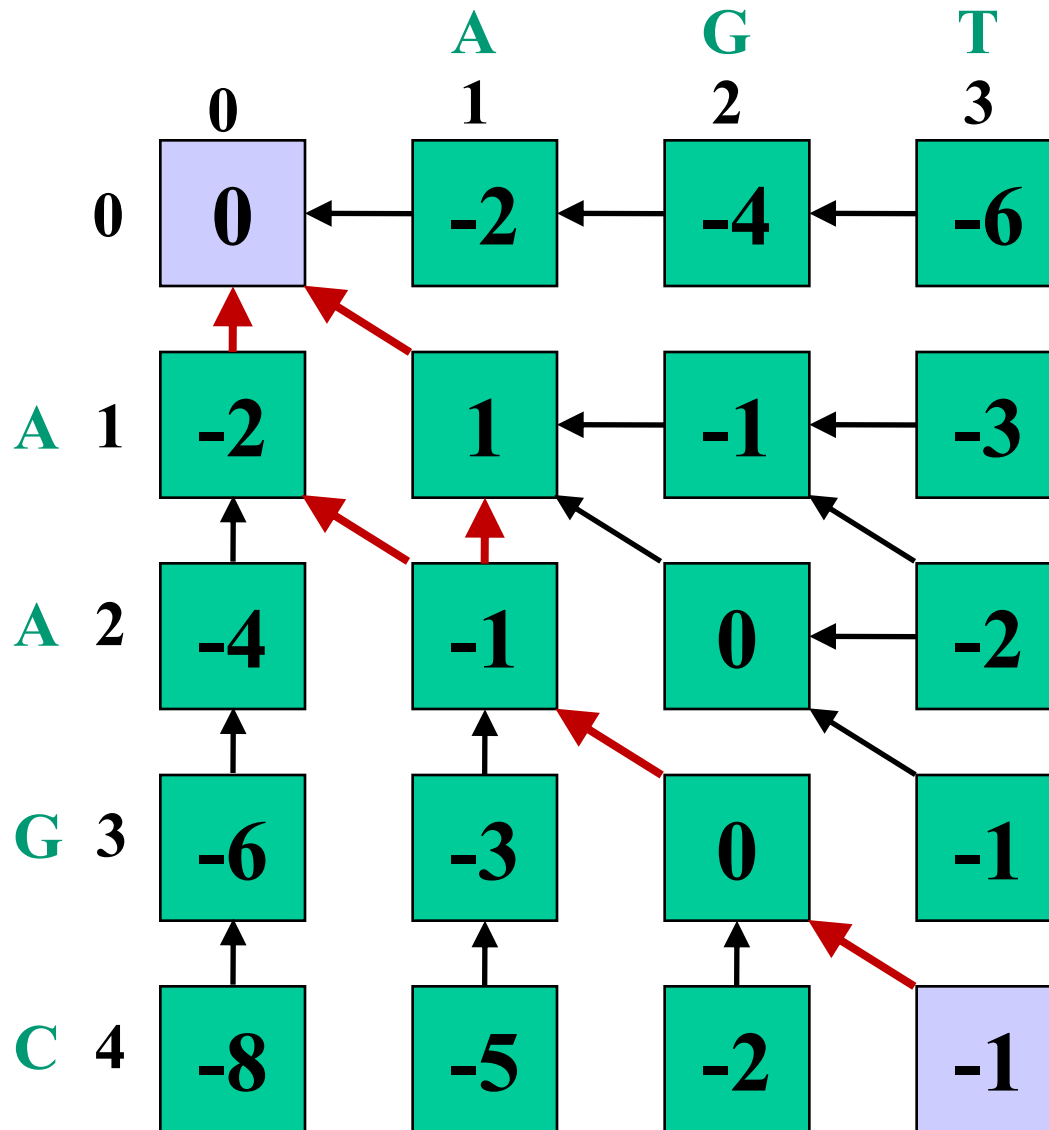
# The Full Matrix - Traceback



**Scoring**  
Gap = **-2**  
Mismatch = **-1**  
Match = **1**

A		G	T
A	A	G	C

# The Full Matrix - Traceback



**Scoring**  
Gap = **-2**  
Mismatch = **-1**  
Match = **1**

	A	G	T
A	A	G	C

# Needleman-Wunsch

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## Optimal Global Alignment of Two Sequences

- Very simple computationally
  - Just fill in the table to get the best score
  - Use traceback to get the best alignment(s)
- Ensures that there is no duplicated work
  - Only need to compute each sub-alignment once!
  - Every subpart that is calculated will be needed
- *Effectively* searches all possible alignments!
  - How does it do this???

# Running Time Analysis

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- We have to store  $(n+1) \times (m+1)$  numbers
- Each number requires constant time to compute (3 sums and a max)
- So,  $O(NM)$  or  $O(N^2)$  for sequences of same length

n	Enumeration	DP
10	184,756	100
20	1.40E+11	400
100	9.00E+58	10,000

# Dynamic Programming

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Needleman-Wunsch Algorithm is a type of dynamic programming algorithm

- **Optimality substructure**
  - Larger problems can be solved with the optimal solutions for subproblems
- **Overlapping subproblems**
  - The same subproblem needs solution many times

# Dynamic Programming in Practice

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- Setting up dynamic programming
  1. Identify “states” (e.g.  $i,j$ ) and “decisions” (match, gap, etc...)
  2. Recursion formula: larger problems =  $F(\text{subparts})$
  3. Traversal order: sub-results ready when you need them
    - Computation order matters! (bottom-up, but not always obvious)
  4. Remember choices: typically  $F()$  includes  $\min()$  or  $\max()$ 
    - Need representation for storing pointers
- Then start computing
  1. Systematically fill in table of results, find optimal score
  2. Trace-back from optimal score, find optimal solution

# Exercise for You

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- Often gaps come in bunches
- The probability of getting 10 gaps in a row is higher than 10 different 1 gap events
- Solution: Affine Gap Penalty
- $g(n)$  is penalty for gap of length  $n$ :

$$g(n) = \underset{\substack{\nearrow \\ \text{Gap-open penalty (d)}}}{(-d)} - (n-1) \underset{\substack{\nearrow \\ \text{Gap-extension penalty (e)}}}{e}$$

**What is the new update rule for  $F(i,j)$ ?**



