

# LONGEST COMMON SUBSEQUENCE

&

## DYNAMIC PROGRAMMING

X :  $\overbrace{A B C B D A B}^n$   
Y :  $\underbrace{B D C A B A}_{m \leq n}$

}  $|LCS(x,y)| = 4$

Brute force to find LCS:

for every subsequence of Y  
check if it exists in X

$\hookrightarrow O(n)$ : easy

$\theta(2^m)$

$\rightarrow O(n \cdot 2^m)$

# Finding /LCS/

$$c(i,j) = |LCS(x[1...i], y[1...j])| = \begin{cases} c(i-1, j-1) + 1 & \text{if } x[i] = y[j] \end{cases}$$

$LCS(x[1...i], y[1...j])$

must use  $x[i]$  or  $y[j]$   
otherwise we would improve

Given the above observation...

A B C C D A B  
B D C A B A B



A B C C D A B  
B D C A B A B

Slide last match over:  
just as good

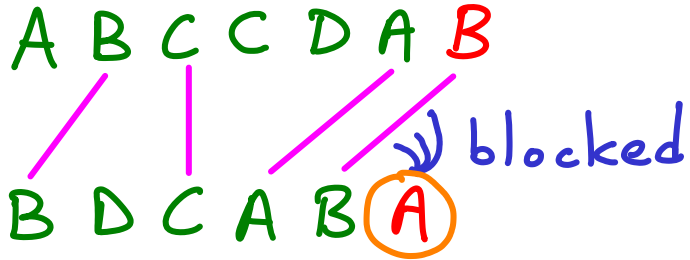
$c(i-1, j-1) + 1$

# Finding |LCS|

$$c(i,j) = |LCS(x[1...i], y[1...j])| = \begin{cases} c(i-1, j-1) + 1 & \text{if } x[i] = y[j] \\ \max\{c(i, j-1), c(i-1, j)\} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

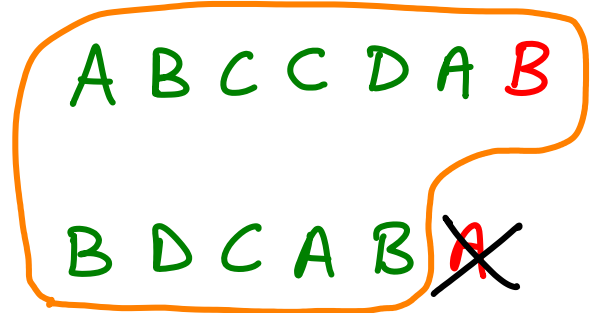
$LCS(x[1...i], y[1...j])$

cannot use both  $x[i]$  and  $y[j]$

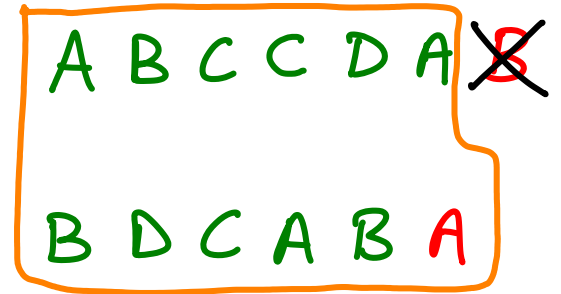


Hide each  
and take  
best result

$c(i, j-1)$



$c(i-1, j)$



$$c(i,j) = |LCS(x[1\dots i], y[1\dots j])| = \begin{cases} c(i-1, j-1) + 1 & \text{if } x[i] = y[j] \\ \max\{c(i, j-1), c(i-1, j)\} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

"optimal substructure" : optimal solutions of subproblems are part of the original problem solution.

$LCS(x, y, i, j)$  \ \ ignoring base case : if  $i$  or  $j = 0$  then  $c_{ij} = 0$   
if  $x_i = y_j$  then  $c_{ij} \leftarrow LCS(x, y, i-1, j-1) + 1$   
else  $c_{ij} \leftarrow \max\{LCS(x, y, i, j-1), LCS(x, y, i-1, j)\}$   
return  $c_{ij}$

$LCS(X, Y, i, j)$

if  $X_i = Y_j$  then  $c_{ij} \leftarrow LCS(X, Y, i-1, j-1) + 1$

else  $c_{ij} \leftarrow \max\{LCS(X, Y, i, j-1), LCS(X, Y, i-1, j)\}$

return  $c_{ij}$

worst case : always get  $X_i \neq Y_j$

ex:  $n=7, m=6$

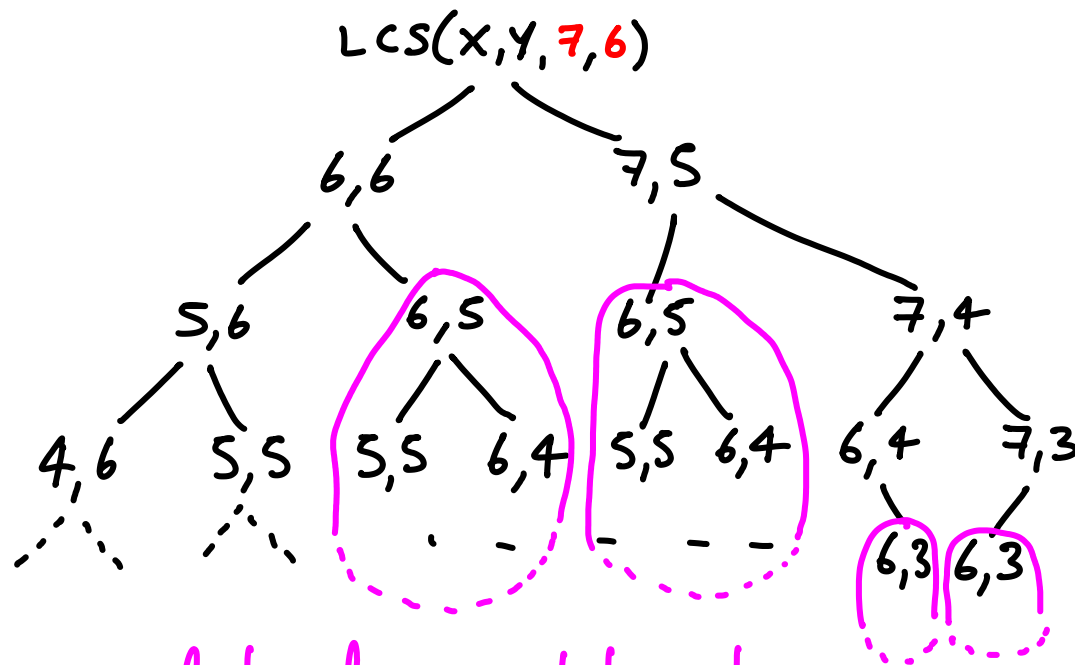
Repeated subproblems

+

optimal substructure



try dynamic programming



lots of repeated work

$\hookrightarrow$  #distinct subproblems =  $m \cdot n$

#full levels  
 $> \min\{m, n\}$

work =  $\Omega(2^n)$

if  $m \sim n$

$LCS(X, Y, i, j)$

if  $X_i = Y_j$  then  $c_{ij} \leftarrow LCS(X, Y, i-1, j-1) + 1$

else  $c_{ij} \leftarrow \max\{LCS(X, Y, i, j-1), LCS(X, Y, i-1, j)\}$

return  $c_{ij}$

Memoization

Make "memos" of solutions  
(to subproblems)

Let  $c[1\dots m, 1\dots n]$  be a  $m \times n$  table of  $-1$ 's.

whenever we need to know  $c_{ij}$

if it's the first time ( $c[i, j] = -1$ ) then calculate it

else look it up

$\Theta(mn)$  time & space

↑

$LCS(X, Y, i, j)$

if  $\min\{i, j\} = 0$  then return 0

if  $c[i, j] = -1$  then // first time

if  $X_i = Y_j$  then  $c[i, j] \leftarrow LCS(X, Y, i-1, j-1) + 1$

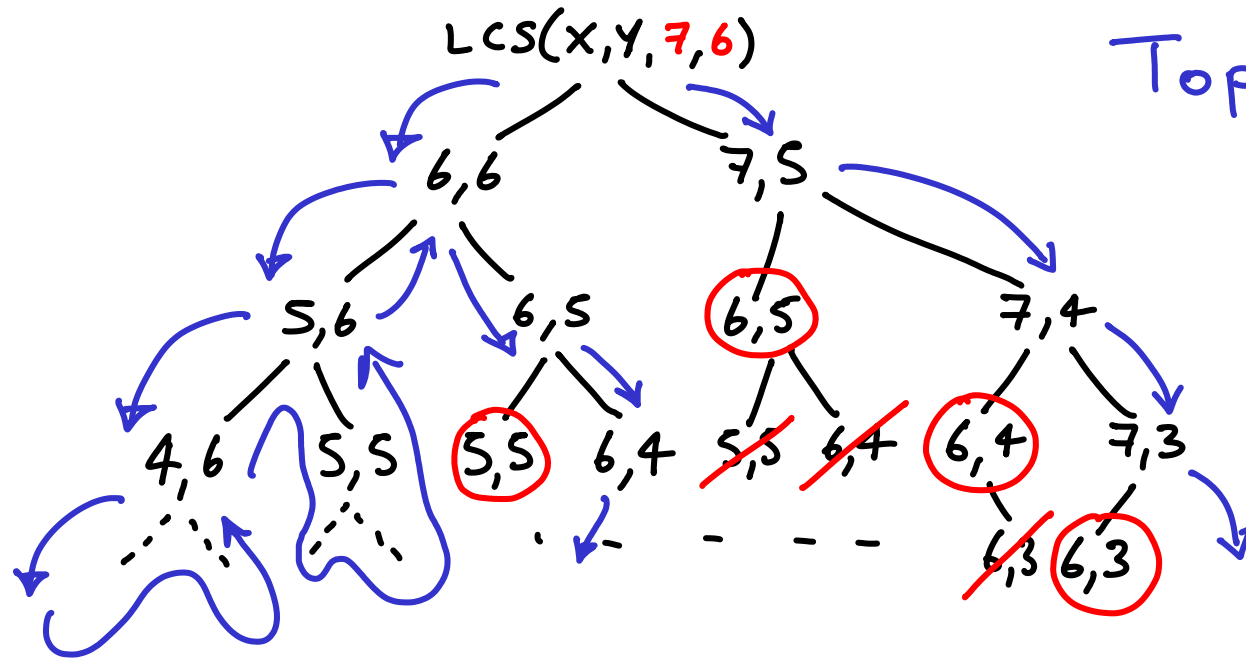
else  $c[i, j] \leftarrow \max\{LCS(X, Y, i, j-1), LCS(X, Y, i-1, j)\}$

return  $c[i, j]$  // look up

# Memoization

Make "memos" of solutions  
(to subproblems)

Top-down



# DYNAMIC PROGRAMMING

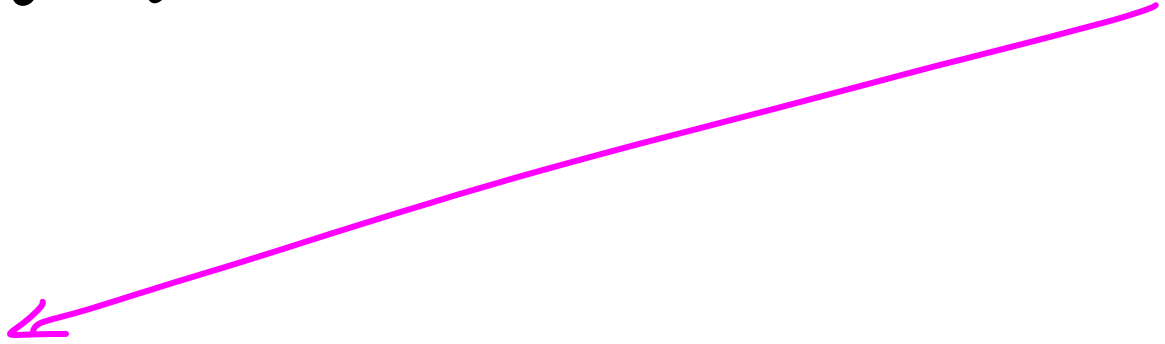
bottom-up

A B C B D A B

← base cases

B  
D  
C  
A  
B  
A

o  
o  
o  
o  
o  
o  
o





# DYNAMIC PROGRAMMING

	A	B	C	B	D	A	B
B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
D	0	0	1	1	1	2	2
C	0	0	1	2	2	2	2
A	0	1	1	2	2	3	3
B	0	1	2	2	3	3	4
A	0	1	2	3	3	4	4

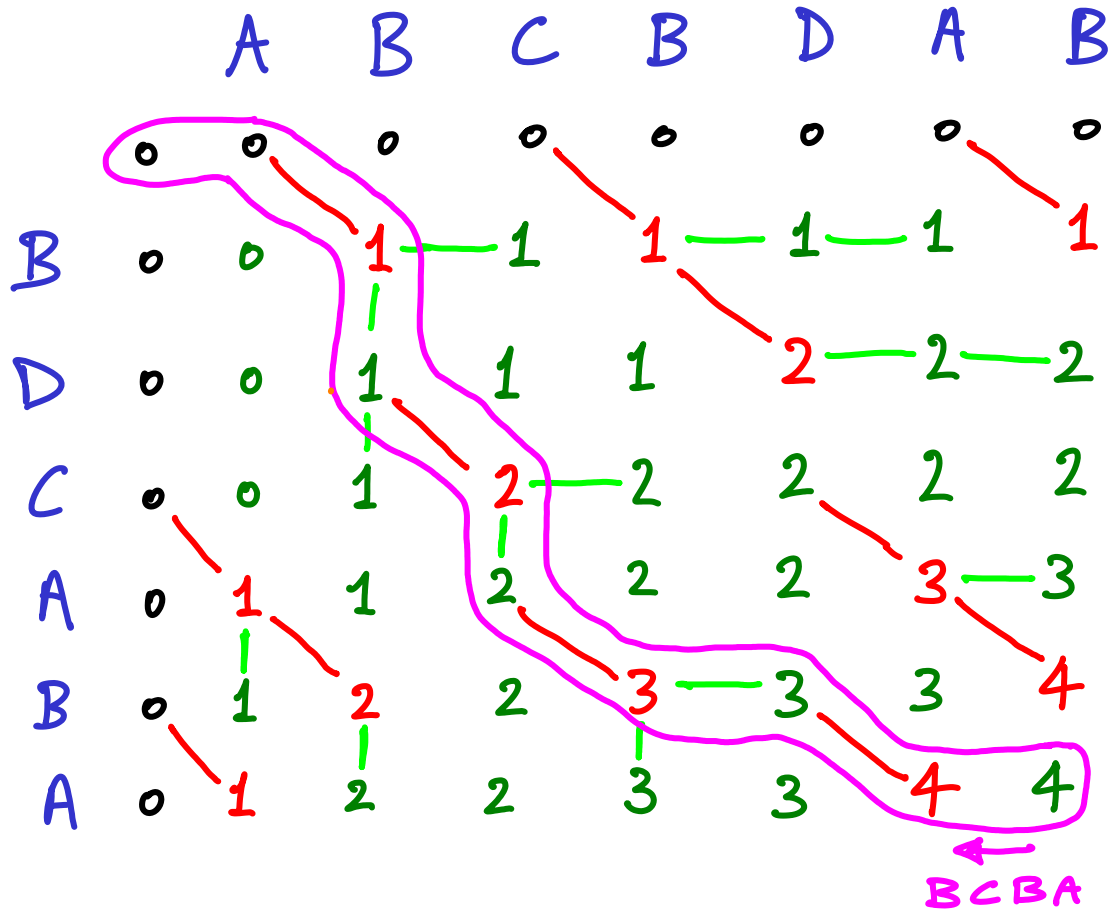
red # :  $1 + \text{diag} \uparrow \#$

when letters in column & row of # match

green # :  $\max\{\text{above, left}\}$

when letters in column & row of # don't match

# DYNAMIC PROGRAMMING



red # :  $1 + \text{diag} \uparrow \#$

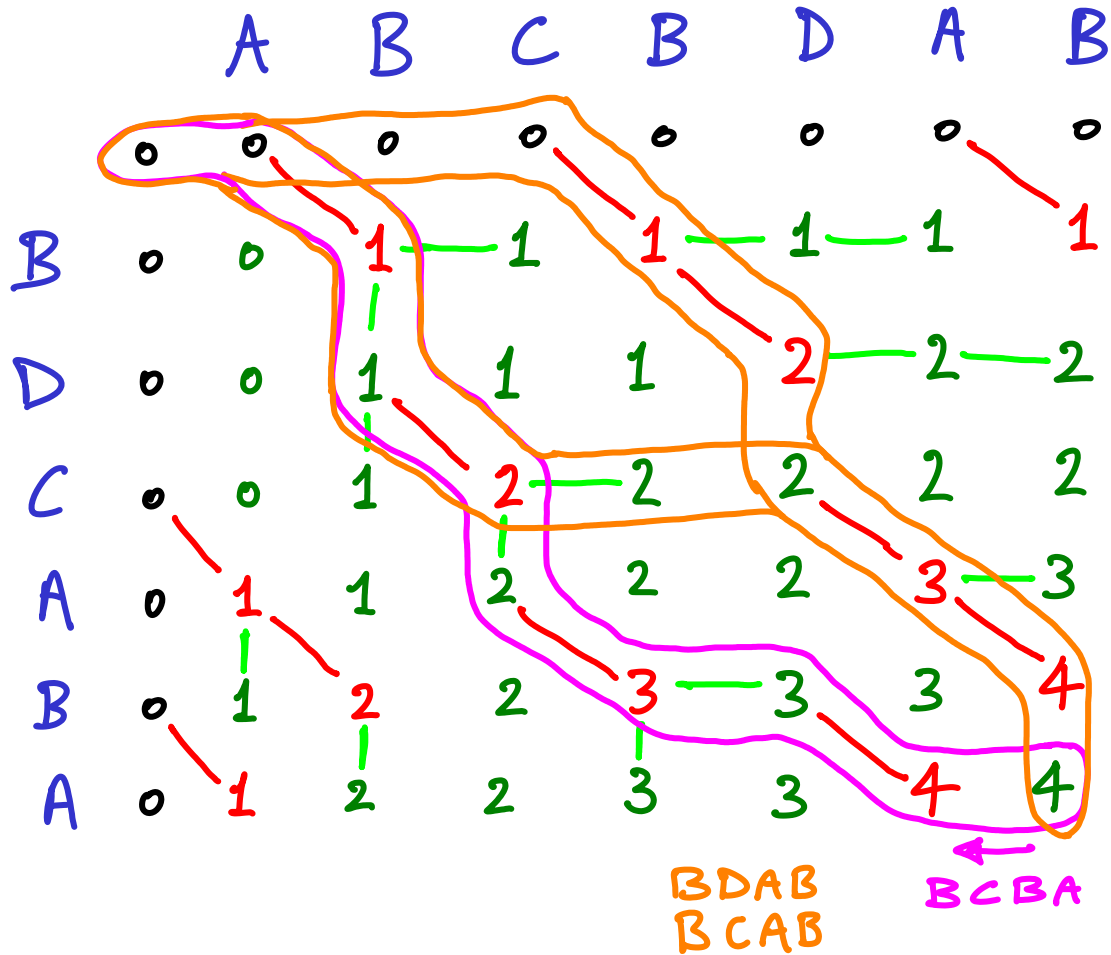
when letters in column & row of # match

green # :  $\max\{\text{above}, \text{left}\}$

when letters in column & row of # don't match

Trace from  $C_{mn}$  to  $C_{11}$  to get LCS

# DYNAMIC PROGRAMMING



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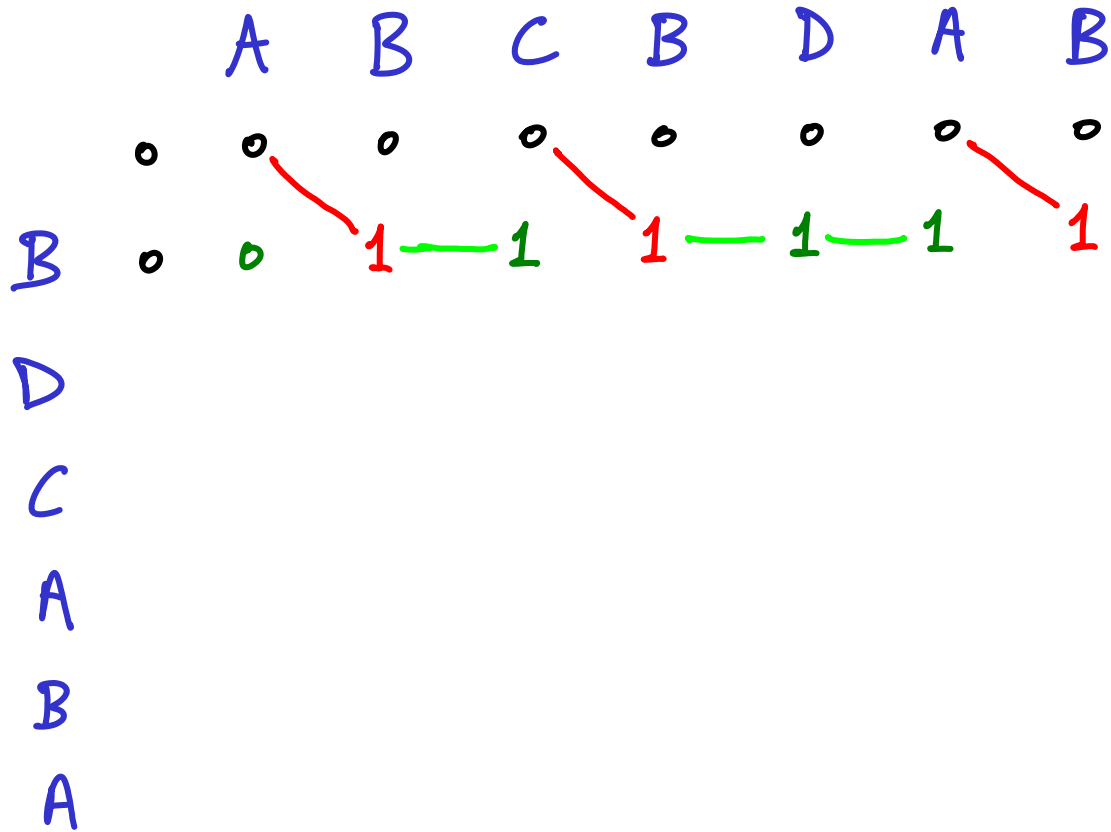
when letters in column & row of # don't match

Trace from  $C_{mn}$  to  $C_{11}$  to get LCS

↳ follow mandatory paths ;  
optional branches : multiple solutions

$\Theta(mn)$  time & space (+1 trace)

# DYNAMIC PROGRAMMING



red # :  $1 + \text{diag} \uparrow \#$

when letters in column & row of # match

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Trace from  $C_{mn}$  to  $C_{11}$  to get LCS

↳ follow mandatory paths ;  
optional branches : multiple solutions

$\Theta(mn)$  time & space (+1 trace)

Save space :  $\min\{m, n\}$

# DYNAMIC PROGRAMMING

A B C B D A B

B	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1
D	0	0	1	1	1	2	2	2
C								
A								
B								
A								

Diagram description: The table shows the dynamic programming table for the LCS of "BDBACBA" and "ABCBA". The top row is labeled with the characters of the first string (A, B, C, B, D, A, B) and the left column with the characters of the second string (B, D, C, A, B, A). The cells contain values from 0 to 2. Green lines connect (1,3) to (1,4), (1,5) to (1,6), (1,6) to (1,7), (2,3) to (2,4), (2,4) to (2,5), and (2,5) to (2,6). A red line connects (1,5) to (2,6). A red '#' is placed above the cell (1,5).

red # :  $1 + \text{diag} \uparrow \#$

when letters in column & row of # match

green # :  $\max\{\text{above, left}\}$

when letters in column & row of # don't match

Trace from  $C_{mn}$  to  $C_{11}$  to get LCS

↳ follow mandatory paths ;  
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Save space :  $\min\{m, n\}$  

# DYNAMIC PROGRAMMING

A B C B D A B

B								
D	0	0	1	1	1	2	2	2
C	0	0	1	2	2	2	2	2
A								
B								
A								

etc

red # :  $1 + \text{diag} \uparrow \#$

when letters in column & row of # match

green # :  $\max\{\text{above, left}\}$

when letters in column & row of # don't match

Trace from  $C_{mn}$  to  $C_{11}$  to get LCS

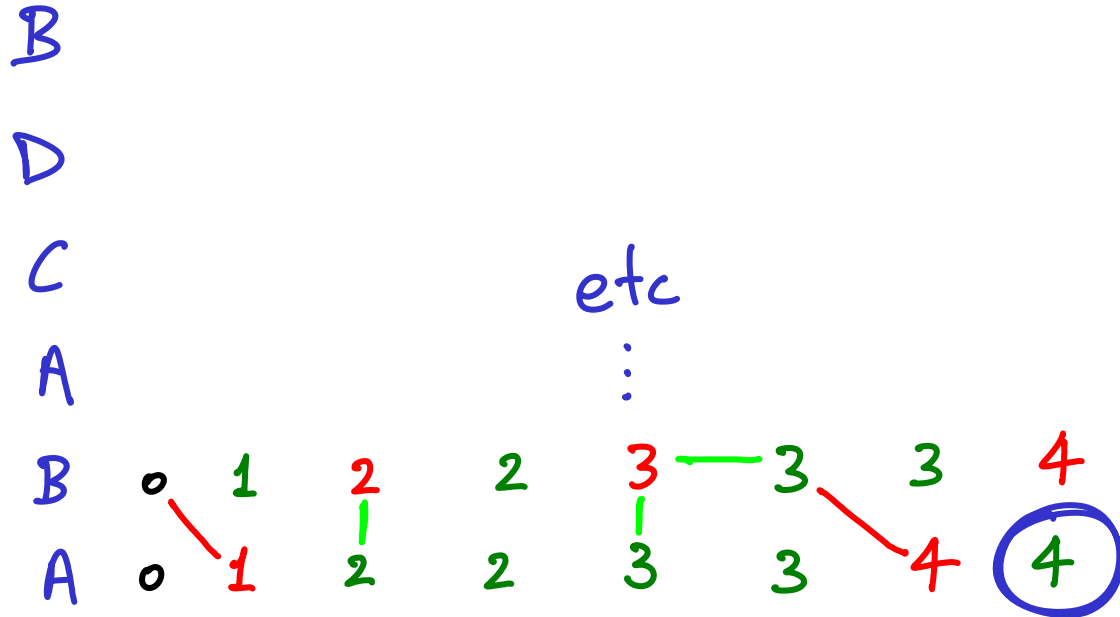
↳ follow mandatory paths ;  
optional branches : multiple solutions

$\Theta(mn)$  time & space (+1 trace)

Save space :  $\min\{m, n\}$

# DYNAMIC PROGRAMMING

A B C B D A B



get |LCS| but not LCS

red # : 1 + diag↑#

when letters in column & row of # match

green # : max of {above, left}

when letters in column & row of # don't match

Trace from  $C_{mn}$  to  $C_{11}$  to get LCS

↳ follow mandatory paths ;  
optional branches : multiple solutions

$\Theta(mn)$  time & space (+1 trace)

Save space :  $\min\{m, n\}$

