

# Lecture 14

## Dynamic programming III

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# Previously in CSE 421...

# Knapsack runtime

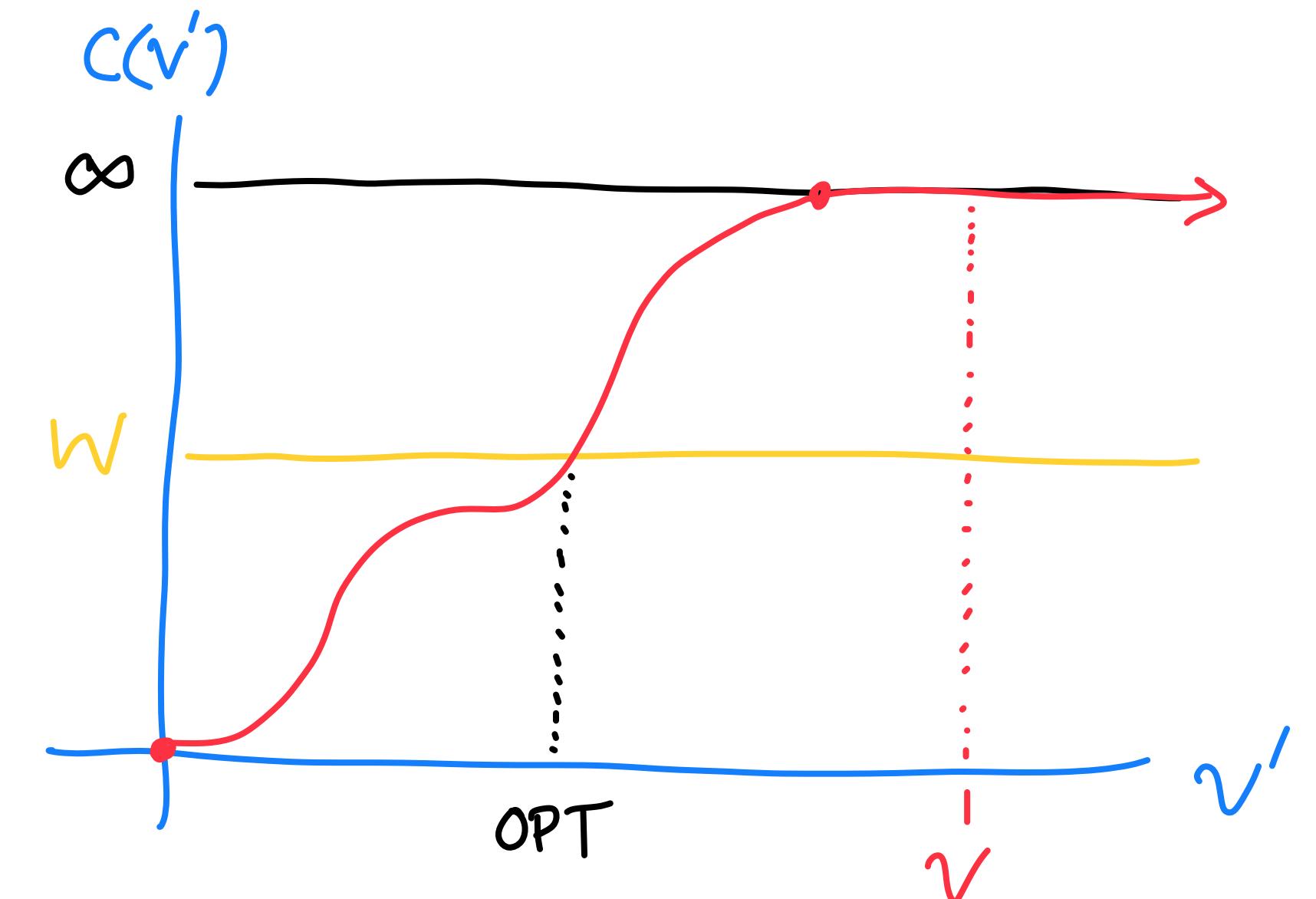
- The input for Knapsack is usually written in **binary** with each item weight  $w_i$  expressed with  $O(\log W)$  bit numbers and value with  $O(\log V)$  bit numbers
- Total input length is  $\Theta(n \log V + n \log W) = \Theta(n \log VW)$
- Runtime of Knapsack brute-force alg is  $O(n2^n \log VW)$ , exp in input length
- Runtime of Knapsack DP alg is  $O(nW \log VW)$  also exp in the input length
- **DP algorithm is only faster when  $W \ll 2^n$ .**

# Knapsack approximation algorithm

- Given a Knapsack problem  $(v_1, \dots, v_n, w_1, \dots, w_n, W)$ , let  $\text{OPT}$  be the optimal value of subset of items weighing  $\leq W$ :  $\text{OPT} = V(n, W)$
- An alg.  $\mathcal{A}$  is an  **$\epsilon$ -approximation alg.** if  $\mathcal{A}$  always outputs a subset  $\tilde{S}$  such that (a)  $\text{weight}(\tilde{S}) \leq W$  and (b)  $\text{value}(\tilde{S}) \geq (1 - \epsilon) \cdot \text{OPT}$ .
- Theorem:** For every  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists an  $\epsilon$ -approximation alg. for  $n$ -item Knapsack that runs in time  $O\left(\frac{n^3 \log(VW)}{\epsilon}\right)$ .
- The construction will be another dynamic programming algorithm.

# A different DP algorithm for (exact) Knapsack

- Assume that  $0 \leq w_i \leq W$  for all items.
- Let  $v_{\max} = \max_i v_i$ . Then,  $v_{\max} \leq \text{OPT} \leq V$
- **Define:**  $C(V')$  to be the minimum weight of a set  $S$  such that  $\text{value}(S) \geq V'$ 
  - Let  $C(V') = \infty$  if no set  $S$  exists of this value.
  - Base case of  $C(0) = 0$
  - $C(V') = \infty$  for  $V' > V$
  - $C(V')$  is monotonically increasing
- Then, Knapsack solution  $\text{OPT} = \max \text{ value } V' \text{ s.t. } C(V') \leq W$



# A slightly different optimization

- $C(V')$  can be “morally” seen as a dual problem to maximization  $V(W')$
- **Define:**  $C(i, V')$  as the minimum weight of a set  $S$  such that  $\text{value}(S) \geq V'$  using items only  $\{1, \dots, i\}$ 
  - This new subproblem has a recursive definition similar to our previous example
- $$C(i, V') = \min \left\{ \begin{array}{l} C(i - 1, V'), \\ C(i - 1, V' - v_i) + w_i \end{array} \right\}$$
- The table  $C(\cdot, \cdot)$  consists of  $O(nV)$  entries
- **Observe**  $C(V') = C(n, V')$
- **Observe**  $\text{OPT} = \text{the maximum value } V' \text{ s.t. } C(n, V') \leq W$

# A different Knapsack algorithm

- This new algorithm has a table of size  $(n + 1) \times V$
- Each entry of the table can be constructed in  $O(\log W + \log V) = O(\log VW)$  time
- Computing  $\text{OPT}$  after table involves binary searching along  $C(n, \cdot)$  as  $C(n, \cdot)$  is monotonic
  - $\text{OPT} = \text{the maximum value } V' \text{ s.t. } C(n, V') \leq W$
  - Requires  $O(\log V(\log VW))$  total compute
- **Yields a total runtime of  $O(nV \log VW)$** 
  - No exponential dependence in terms of  $\log W$
  - However, exponential dependence in terms of  $\log V$

# An approximation algorithm

- **Yields a total runtime of  $O(nV \log VW)$**
- What if we just replaced each  $v_i$  with  $v_i/Z$  for a large number  $Z$ ?
  - Would the algorithm now run in  $\tilde{O}\left(\frac{nV \log VW}{Z}\right)$  as the sum of values is now  $V/Z$ ?
  - **No.** Crucially, to run the dynamic programming algorithm we needed all the values to be **integers**.
- However, this suggests an *approximation algorithm*.
- **Approximation algorithm (overview):**
  - Define  $\tilde{v}_i := \lfloor v_i/Z \rfloor$ . Return  $S \leftarrow \text{Knapsack}(\{\tilde{v}_i\}, \{w_i\}, W)$  with our second DP algorithm.

# An approximation algorithm

- **Idea:** Compute  $S \leftarrow \text{Knapsack}(\{\tilde{v}_i\}, \{w_i\}, W)$  for  $\tilde{v}_i = \lfloor \frac{v_i}{Z} \rfloor$  &  $Z = \frac{\epsilon v_{\max}}{n}$ .

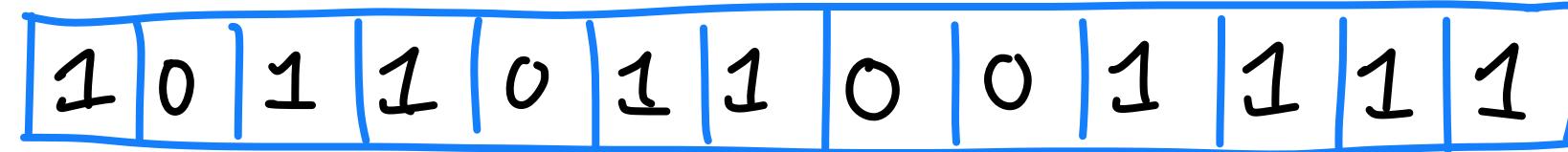
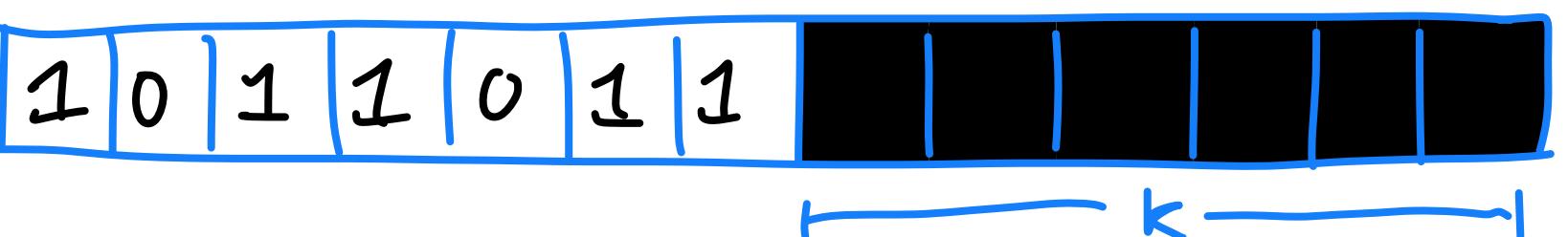
Since the weights are reduced, the runtime is shorter!

- **Runtime:**  $O\left(\frac{nV \log VW}{Z}\right) = O\left(\frac{n^2V \log VW}{\epsilon v_{\max}}\right) \leq O\left(\frac{n^3 \log VW}{\epsilon}\right)$
- **Claim:**  $S$  is a feasible solution and  $\text{value}(S) \geq (1 - \epsilon)\text{OPT}$ .

# An approximation algorithm

- **Idea:** Compute  $S \leftarrow \text{Knapsack}(\{\tilde{v}_i\}, \{w_i\}, W)$  for  $\tilde{v}_i = \lfloor \frac{v_i}{Z} \rfloor$  &  $Z = \frac{\epsilon v_{\max}}{n}$ .
- Since the weights are reduced, the runtime is shorter!

For intuition, say  $Z = 2^k$  for some  $k$ .

Then if we express  $v_i$  is binary:  $v_i$    
 $\tilde{v}_i$  

Keep only the significant digits. This alg. is merely rounding.

# An approximation algorithm

Let  $\tilde{v}_i = \left\lfloor \frac{v_i}{z} \right\rfloor$  for  $z = \frac{\epsilon v_{\max}}{n}$ . Output  $S \leftarrow \text{Knapsack}(\{\tilde{v}_i\}, \{w_i\}, W)$ .

**Claim:**  $S$  is a feasible solution to the original problem.

**Proof:** Since the weights  $\{w_i\}$  and limit  $W$  are the same in both problems,

then  $\sum_{i \in S} w_i \leq W$ .

# An approximation algorithm

Let  $\tilde{v}_i = \left\lfloor \frac{v_i}{\epsilon} \right\rfloor$  for  $\epsilon = \frac{\epsilon v_{\max}}{n}$ . Output  $S \leftarrow \text{Knapsack}(\{\tilde{v}_i\}, \{w_i\}, W)$ .

Let  $\text{value}(S) = \sum_{i \in S} v_i$ ,  $\tilde{\text{value}}(S) = \sum_{i \in S} \tilde{v}_i$ .

Let  $O$  be the optimal sol. to  
 $\text{Knapsack}(\{v_i\}, \{w_i\}, W)$ .  
So,  $\text{OPT} = \text{value}(O)$ .

Claim:  $\text{value}(S) \geq (1 - \epsilon) \text{OPT}$ .

# An approximation algorithm

Claim:  $\text{value}(S) \geq (1 - \epsilon) \text{OPT}$ .

Proof: For any item  $i$ ,  $v_i - \mathcal{Z} \tilde{v}_i = \mathcal{Z} \left( \frac{v_i}{\mathcal{Z}} - \left\lfloor \frac{v_i}{\mathcal{Z}} \right\rfloor \right) \leq \mathcal{Z}$ .

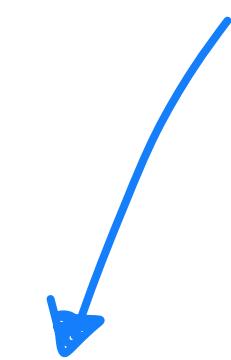
Since  $O$  has  $\leq n$  items,  $\text{OPT} - \mathcal{Z} \tilde{\text{value}}(O) = \sum_{i \in O} v_i - \mathcal{Z} \tilde{v}_i \leq n\mathcal{Z} = \epsilon v_{\max}$

$\mathcal{Z} \tilde{\text{value}}(O) \geq \text{OPT} - \epsilon v_{\max} \geq (1 - \epsilon) \text{OPT}$ . (1)

Next,  $\tilde{\text{value}}(S) \geq \tilde{\text{value}}(O)$  since  $S$  is optimal sol. to  $\text{Knapsack}(\{\tilde{v}_i\}, \{w_i\}, W)$

So,  $\text{value}(S) \geq \mathcal{Z} \tilde{\text{value}}(S) \geq \mathcal{Z} \tilde{\text{value}}(O) \geq (1 - \epsilon) \text{OPT}$ .  $\square$

Since  $\mathcal{Z} = \frac{\epsilon v_{\max}}{n}$



# Structure of approx. DP algorithm

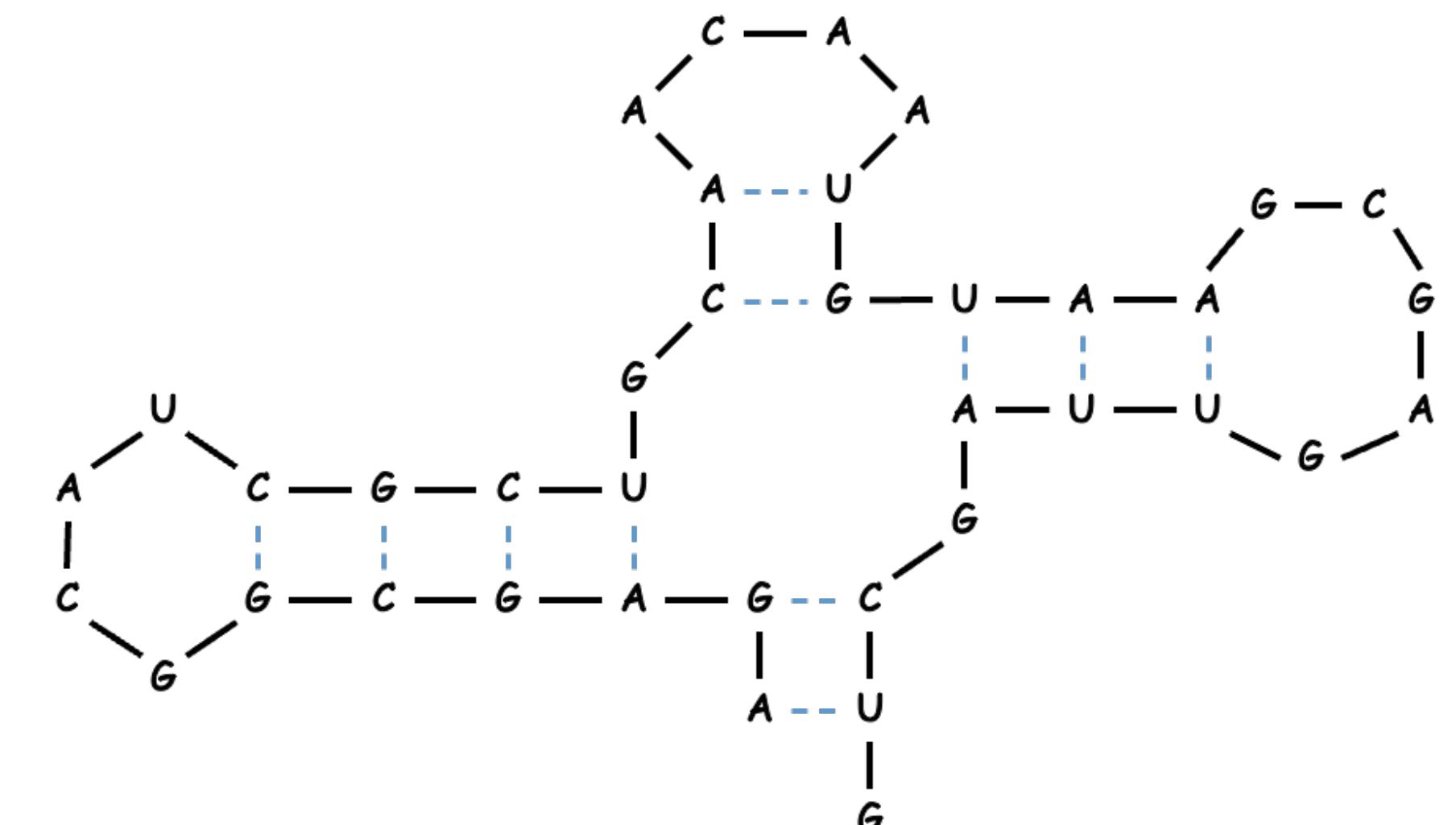
- We came up with two DP algorithms for **exact** Knapsack based on the following recursive definitions
  - $V(i, W') = \max$  value with items  $S \subseteq \{1, \dots, i\}$  s.t.  $\text{weight}(S) \leq W'$
  - $C(i, V') = \min$  weight with items  $S \subseteq \{1, \dots, i\}$  s.t.  $\text{value}(S) \geq V'$
- Approx. alg. by rounding values  $\tilde{v}_i = \lfloor v_i/Z \rfloor$  and running second alg.
- Is there an approx. alg. by rounding  $\tilde{w}_i = \lfloor w_i/Z \rfloor$ ,  $\tilde{W} = \lfloor W/Z \rfloor$  and running the first alg.?
  - Doing this will yield some subset  $S \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}$
  - Trouble is that this new set may not be **feasible** for the original weight constraints

# Knapsack overview

- **Input:**  $n$  items of integer values  $v_i$  and weights  $w_i$  and weight threshold  $W$ .
- **Input length:**  $O(n \log VW)$
- **Output:** optimal  $S \subseteq [n]$  maximizing  $\text{value}(S)$  s.t.  $\text{weight}(S) \leq W$
- **Various algorithms:**
  - Brute force alg: Runtime of  $O(n2^n \log VW)$
  - DP alg: Runtime  $O(nW \log VW)$  or  $O(nV \log VW)$
  - $\epsilon$ -approx. alg: Runtime  $O\left(\frac{n^3 \log VW}{\epsilon}\right)$

# RNA secondary structure

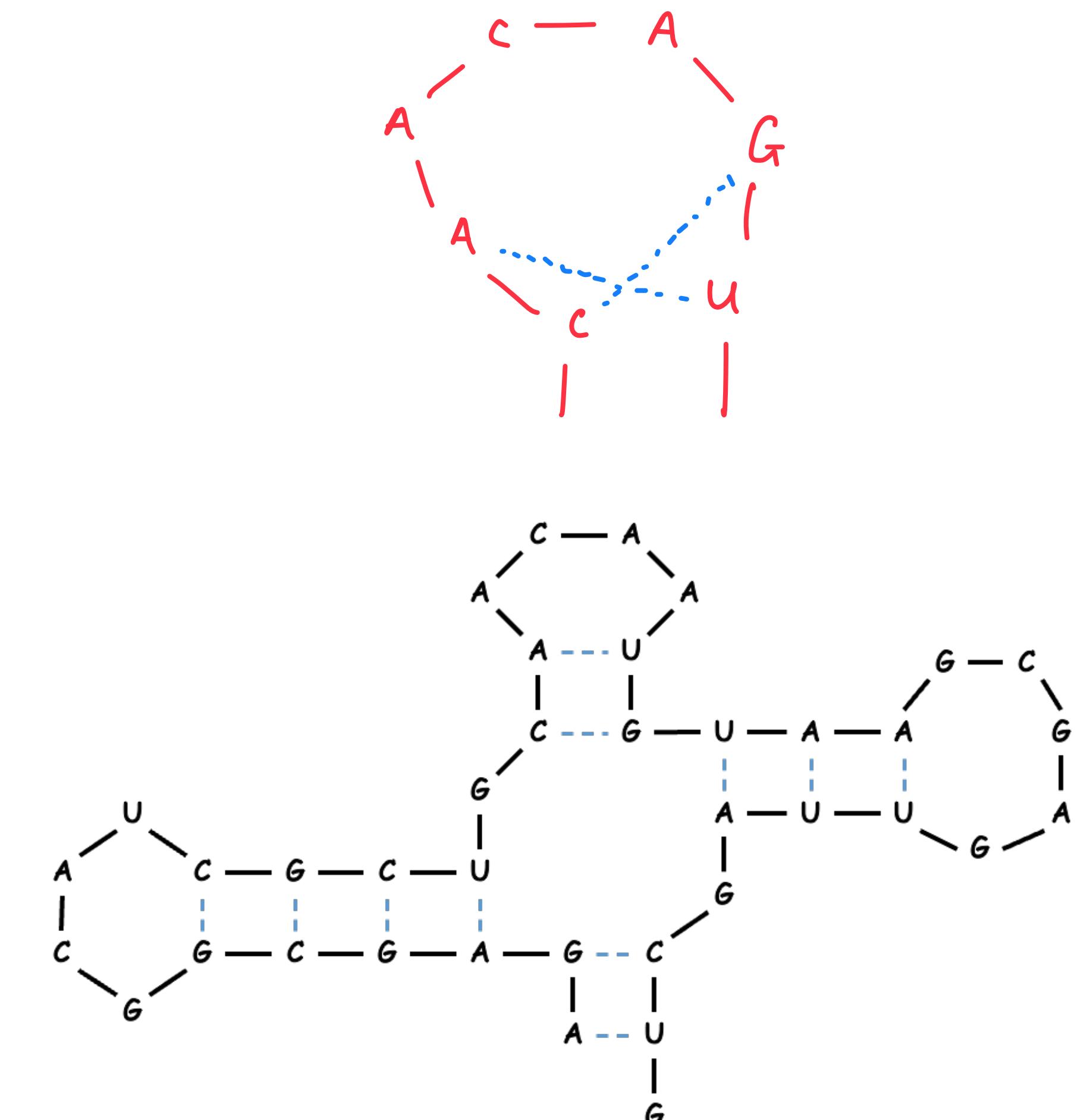
- RNA is expressed as a sequence of nucleotides: a string  $B = b_1 \dots b_n$  where each  $b_i \in \{A, C, G, U\}$  for adenine, cytosine, guanine, and uracil.
- RNA tends to not be linear in a molecule and forms **secondary structures**
  - Secondary structures cause the molecule to loop back and forth
  - These are bonds between the base pairs



# RNA secondary structure hypothesis

- **Definition.** A *secondary structure* for an RNA seq.  $B = b_1 \dots b_n$  is a set of pairs  $S = \{(b_i, b_j)\}$  such that
  - WC condition:  $S$  is a matching and pairs are Watson-Crick complements i.e.  $(b_i, b_j) \in WC := \{(A, U), (U, A), (G, C), (C, G)\}$
  - No sharp bends:  $(b_i, b_j) \in S$  only if  $4 < |i - j|$
  - Non-crossing: If  $(b_i, b_j)$  and  $(b_k, b_\ell)$  then the intervals  $[i, j]$  and  $[k, \ell]$  are either disjoint or one contains the other.

not allowed:

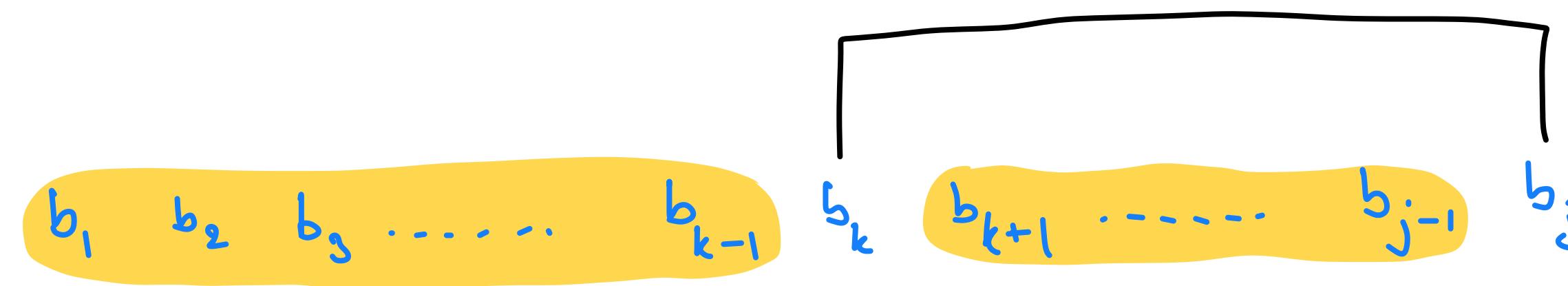


# RNA secondary structure problem

- **Input:** an RNA seq.  $B = b_1 \dots b_n$
- **Output:** a secondary structure  $S$  of maximal size for  $B$ .
- **Dynamic programming attempt 1:** For  $1 \leq i \leq j \leq n$  define  $S(j)$  as the maximal secondary structure using bases only  $b_1, b_2, \dots, b_j$ . Let  $f(j) = |S(j)|$ .

# RNA secondary structure problem

- **Two possibilities:** In the optimal solution, either  $(b_k, b_j) \in S$  or  $(b_k, b_j) \notin S$



- Splits problem into smaller problems but they aren't subproblems.
- **Problem:** Our choice of subproblem was not expressive enough.

# RNA secondary structure problem

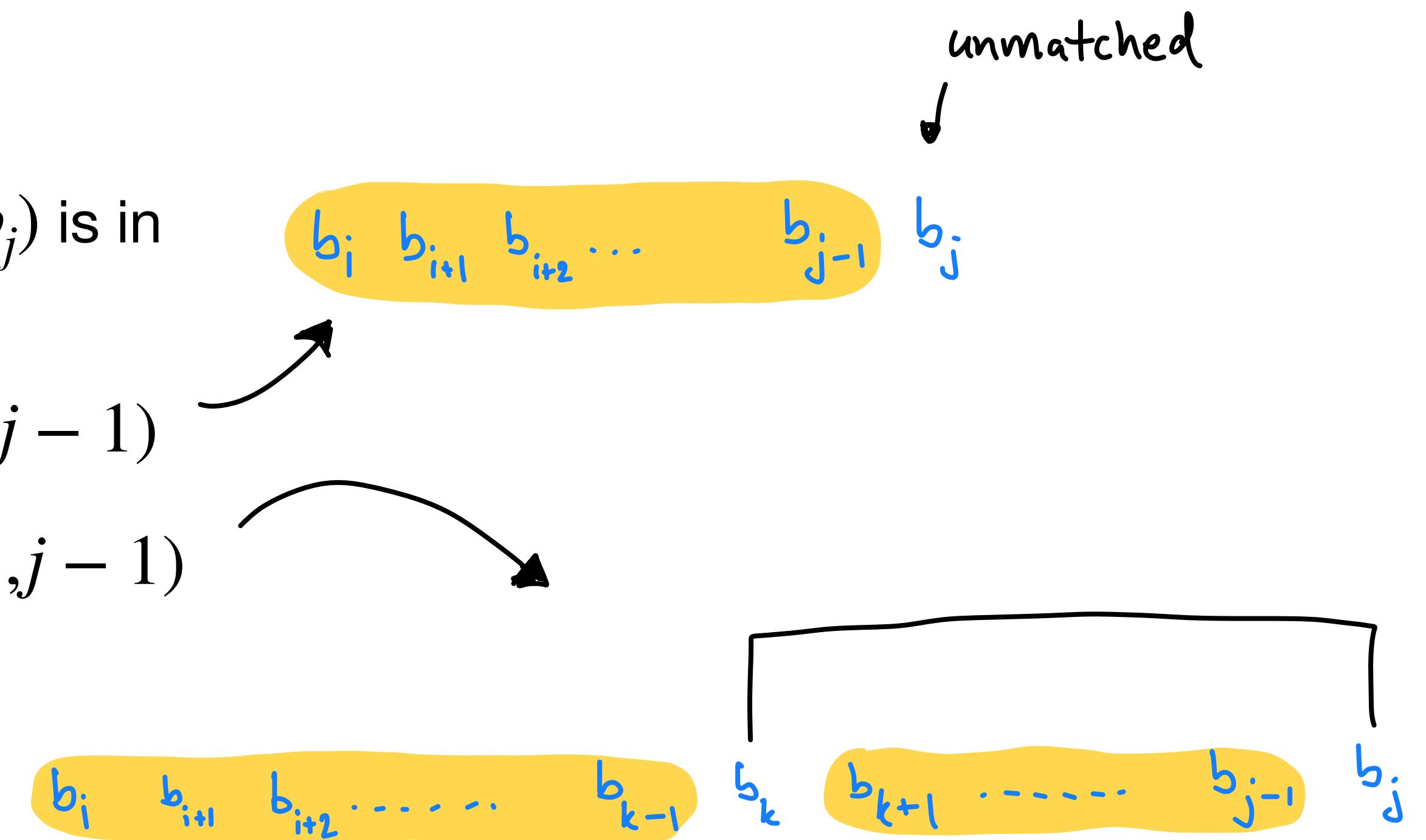
- **Input:** an RNA seq.  $B = b_1 \dots b_n$
- **Output:** a secondary structure  $S$  of maximal size for  $B$ .
- **Dynamic programming intuition:** For  $1 \leq i \leq j \leq n$  define  $S(i, j)$  as the maximal secondary structure using bases only  $b_i, b_{i+1}, \dots, b_j$ . Let  $f(i, j) = |S(i, j)|$ .

# RNA secondary structure DP algorithm

- **Dynamic programming intuition:** For  $1 \leq i \leq j \leq n$  define  $S(i, j)$  as the maximal secondary structure using bases only  $b_i, b_{i+1}, \dots, b_j$ . Let  $f(i, j) = |S(i, j)|$ .

- **Recursive definition:**

- In optimal solution, either  $b_j$  is not in a SS or  $(b_k, b_j)$  is in the SS
- In first case,  $f(i, j) = f(i, j - 1)$  and  $S(i, j) = S(i, j - 1)$
- In second case,  $f(i, j) = 1 + f(i, k - 1) + f(k + 1, j - 1)$
- Optimal solution can be calculated as a recursive minimization



# RNA secondary structure DP algorithm

- **Recursive definition:**
  - In optimal solution, either  $b_j$  is not in a SS or  $(b_k, b_j)$  is in the SS
  - In first case,  $f(i, j) = f(i, j - 1)$  and  $S(i, j) = S(i, j - 1)$
  - In second case,  $f(i, j) = 1 + f(i, k - 1) + f(k + 1, j - 1)$
- **Observation:** The recursive definition of  $f(i, j)$  only depends on  $f(i', j')$  for  $|j' - i'| < |j - i|$ .
- Therefore, we fill memo from bottom-to-top w.r.t  $|j - i|$ .

# RNA secondary structure DP algorithm

- **Filling memoization tables:**

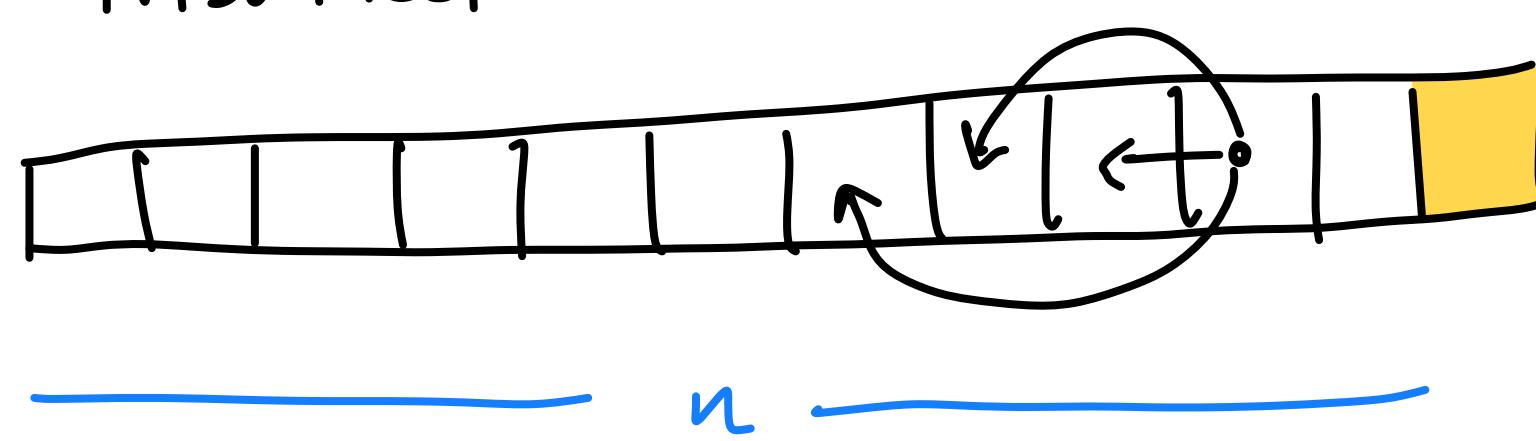
- Construct  $n \times n$  tables  $M$  and  $f$  initialized as  $\perp$
- Set  $f(i, i) \leftarrow 0$  for all  $i$ .
- For  $z \leftarrow 0$  to  $n - 1$  and  $i \leftarrow 1$  to  $n - z$ 
  - Let  $j \leftarrow i + z$
  - Compute  $V \leftarrow \max_{k \in \{i, \dots, j-5\} \wedge (b_j, b_k) \in WC} 1 + f(i, k - 1) + f(k + 1, j - 1)$  and let  $k$  be its argmin.
  - If  $V > f(i, j - 1)$ , set  $f(i, j) \leftarrow V$  and set  $M(i, j) \leftarrow k$
  - Else, set  $f(i, j) \leftarrow f(i, j - 1)$  and keep  $M(i, j) = \perp$ .

# RNA secondary structure DP algorithm

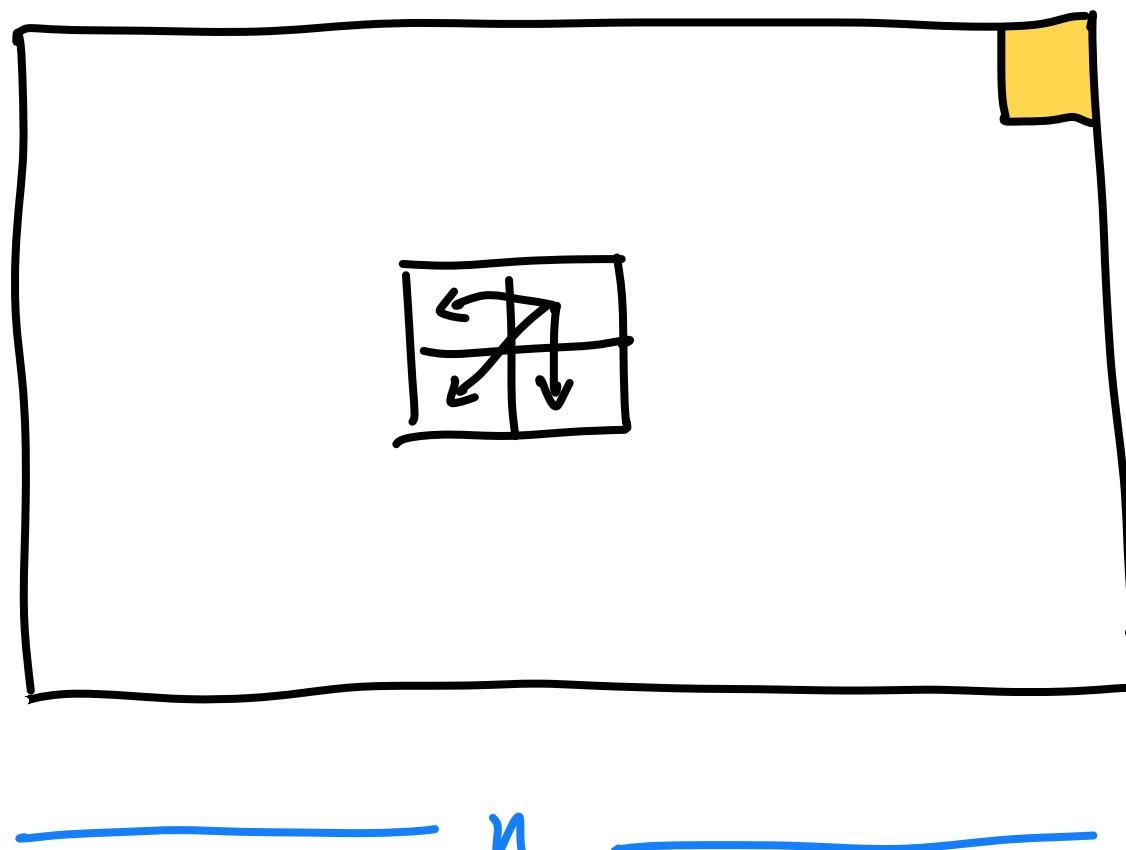
- **Computing optimal secondary structure:**
  - If  $M(i, j) = k$  this means that  $(b_k, b_j) \in S$ . Else  $j$  is not included in  $S$ .
  - To calculate optimal secondary structure run  $\text{Print}(1, n)$  where
  - $\text{Print}(i, j)$ :
    - If  $M(i, j) \leftarrow k$  output  $(k, j) \cup \text{Print}(i, k - 1) \cup \text{Print}(k + 1, j - 1)$
    - Else, output  $\text{Print}(i, j - 1)$
  - Can be made to run faster in practice using DFS or BFS instead of recursion
  - **Runtime**:  $O(n^2)$  sized table with each recursive computation taking  $O(n)$  time.  $\text{Print}$  runs in  $O(n)$  time after the table is computed. Total runtime:  $O(n^3)$ .

# Dynamic programming patterns

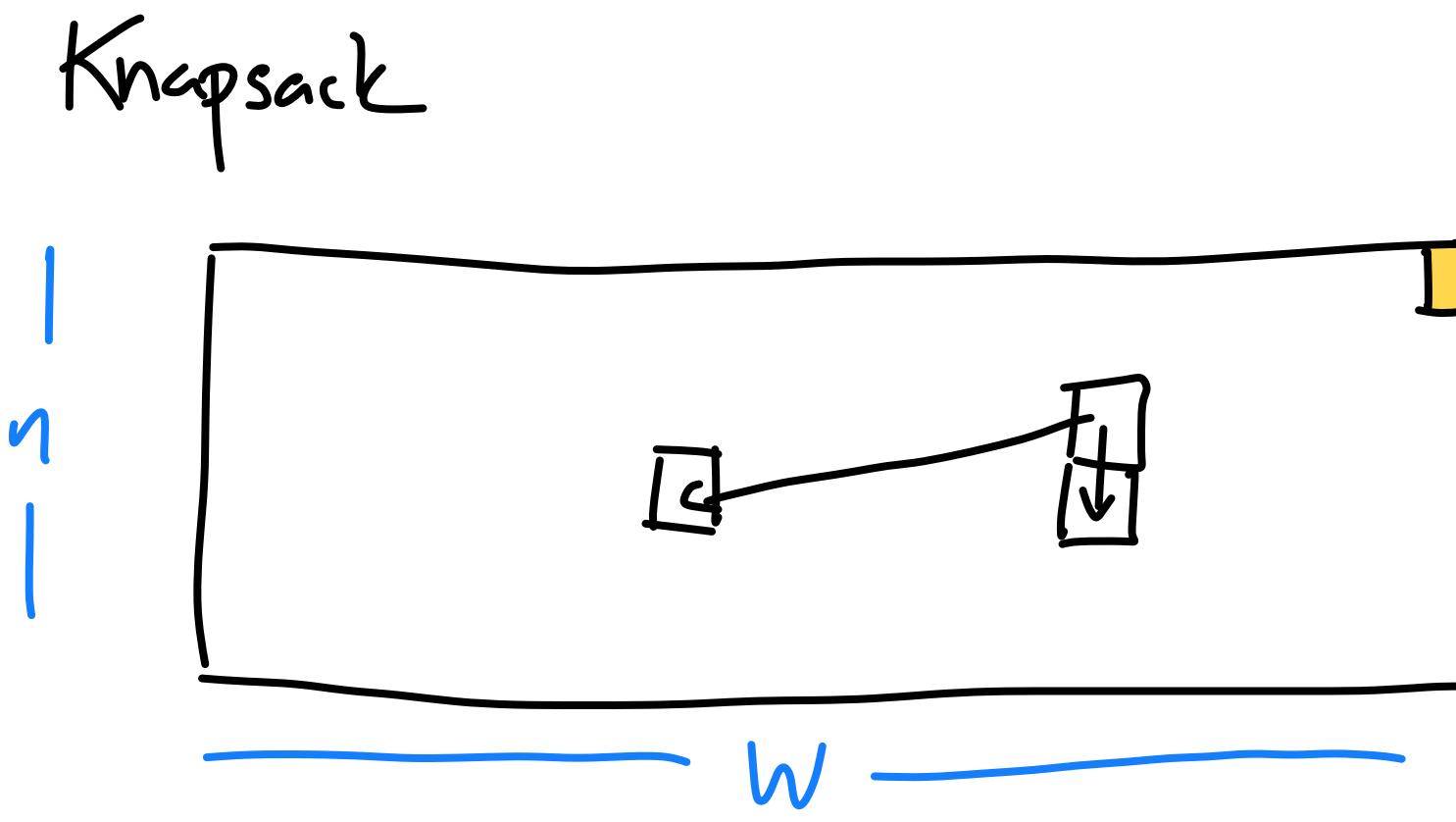
Tribonacci



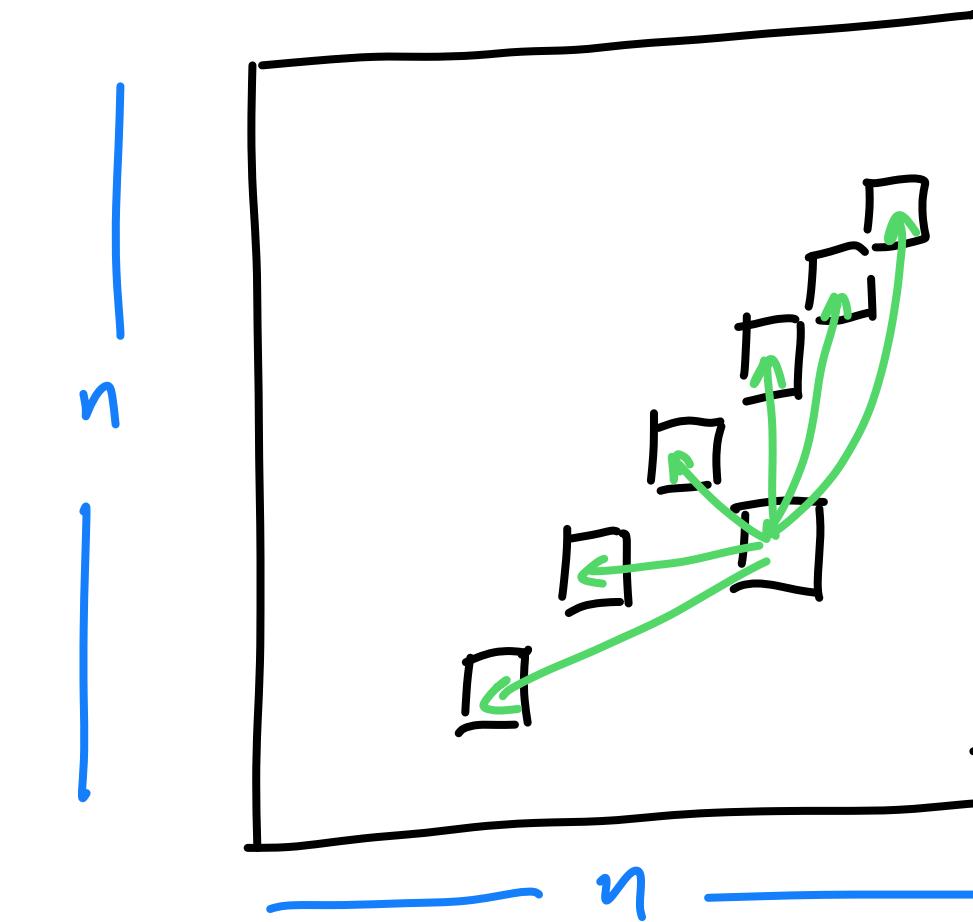
Edit distance



RNA second sequence



$O(n)$  recursive  
calls per entry



# Top-down vs bottom-up DP algorithms

- So far we have seen that the recursive subproblems in DP algorithms are always smaller. Examples
  - Knapsack:  $f(n, W')$  depends on  $f(n - 1, W'')$  for  $W'' \leq W'$
  - RNA SS:  $f(i, j)$  depends on  $f(i', j')$  where  $|j' - i'| < |j - i|$
- Yields a “bottom-up” ordering for filling the memoization table
- Instead we could fill up the table “top-down”

# Top-down vs bottom-up DP algorithms

- In a “top-down” DP algorithm  $f(x)$ 
  - Conclude that  $f(x)$  can be defined recursively based on  $f(y_1), f(y_2), \dots, f(y_k)$
  - For each  $y_j$ , check if  $f(y_j)$  has been previously calculated
    - If yes, use the value of  $f(y_j)$
    - If not, recursive compute  $f(y_j)$
  - Overall, runtime is asymptotically the same! Each square of the memo is only computed once.

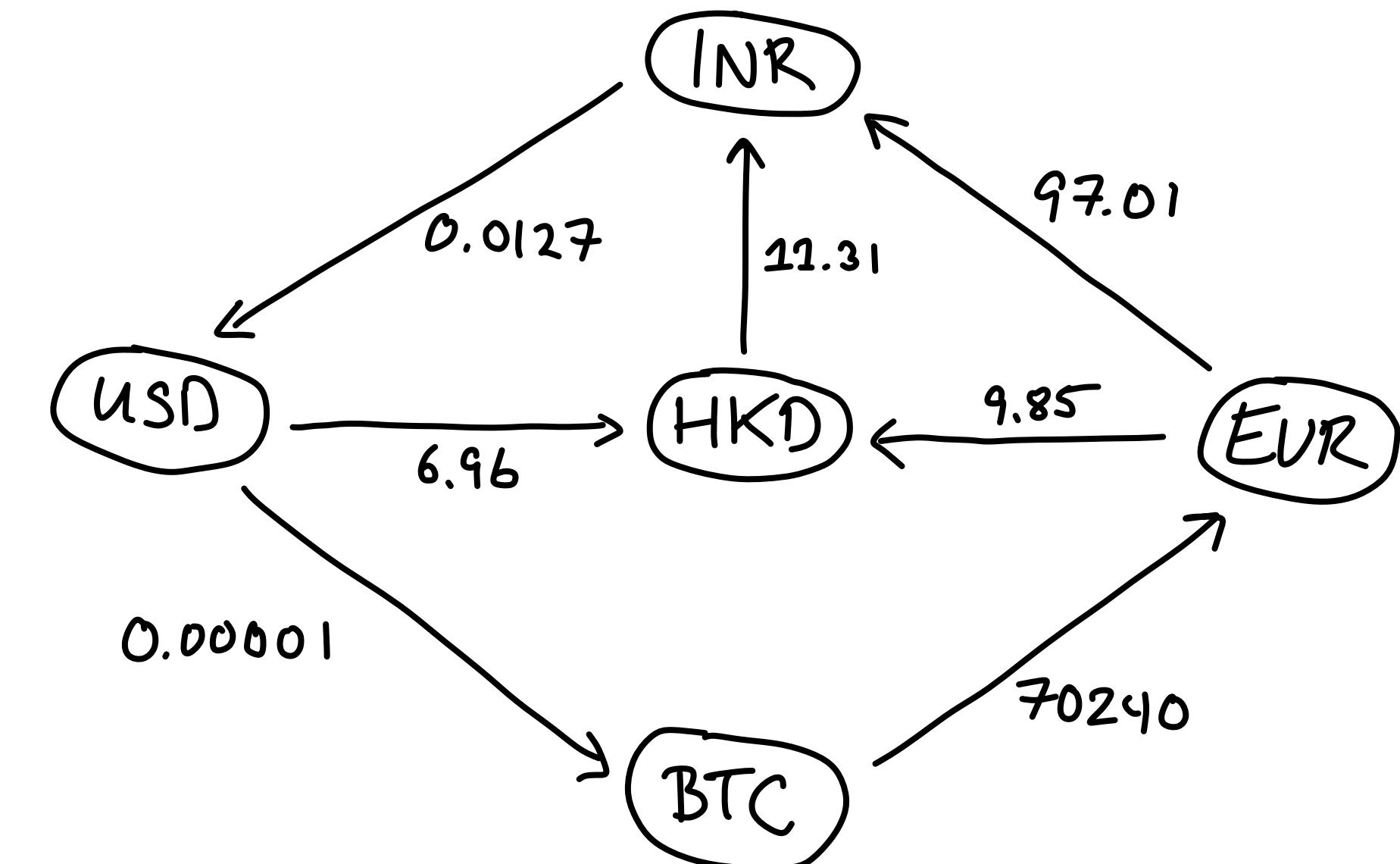
# Top-down vs bottom-up DP tradeoffs

- In top-down approaches, not all squares may get calculated
  - Can yield constant factor savings in terms of runtime
- However, the recursion stack usually scales poorly in top-down approaches
  - For example, in Tribonacci, recursion stack would be  $\Omega(n)$  in depth
  - Recursion stack is often in computer's memory while data being manipulated is expressed on the hard drive
  - Can yield memory overflow errors if not carefully programmed
- Top-down is better when the order of filling out squares isn't well defined
  - Occurs in graph DP algorithms like Bellman-Ford which we see soon
  - In such cases, a more sophisticated analysis is needed to argue that recursive defs. are not cyclical

# Graph dynamic programming

# Currency exchange

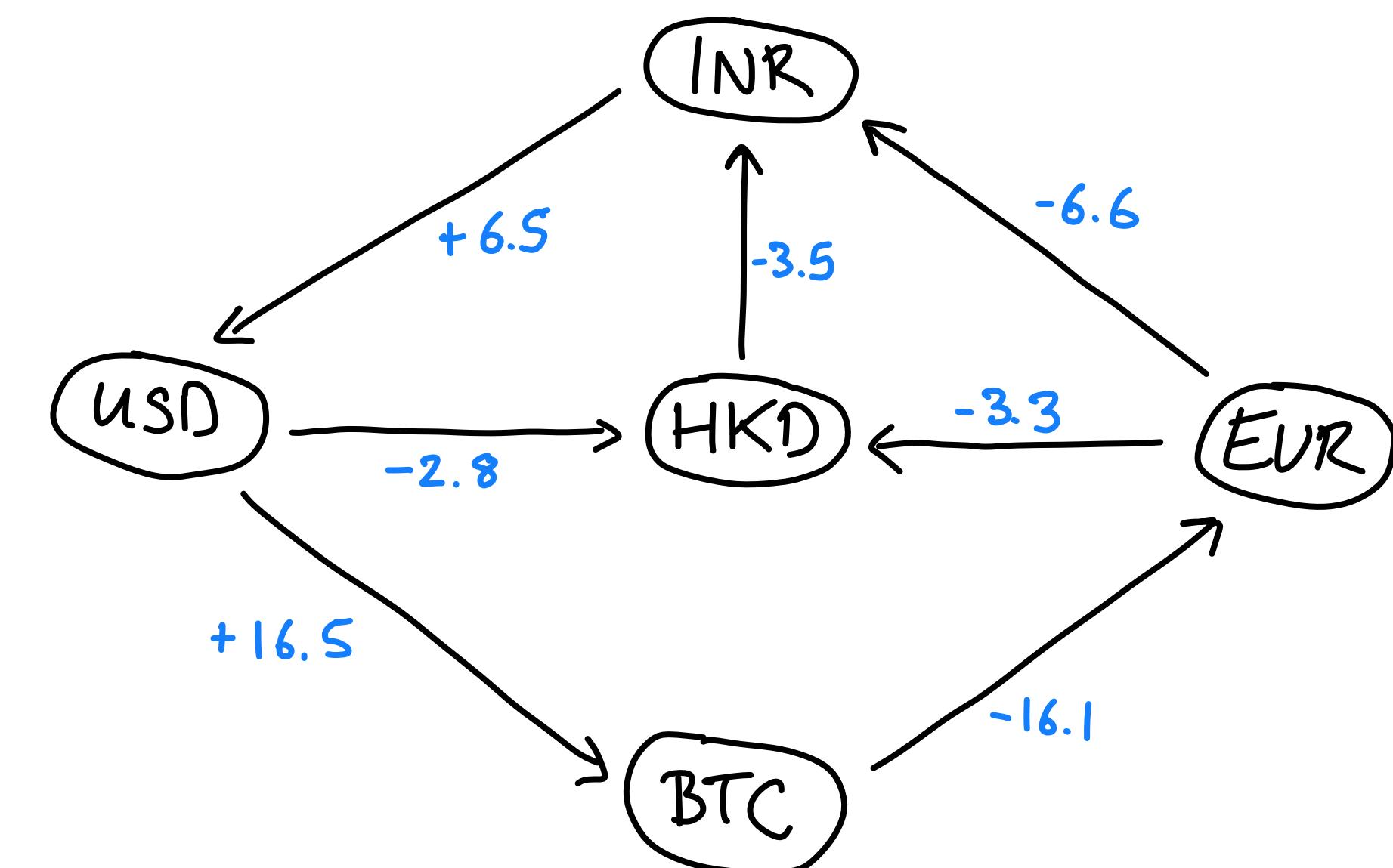
- USD to BTC: 0.00001
- BTC to EUR: 70,240
- INR to USD: 0.0127
- EUR to INR: 97.01
- EUR to HKD: 9.85
- HKD to INR: 11.31
- USD to HKD: 6.96



# Currency exchange

- USD to BTC: 0.00001
- BTC to EUR: 70,240
- INR to USD: 0.0127
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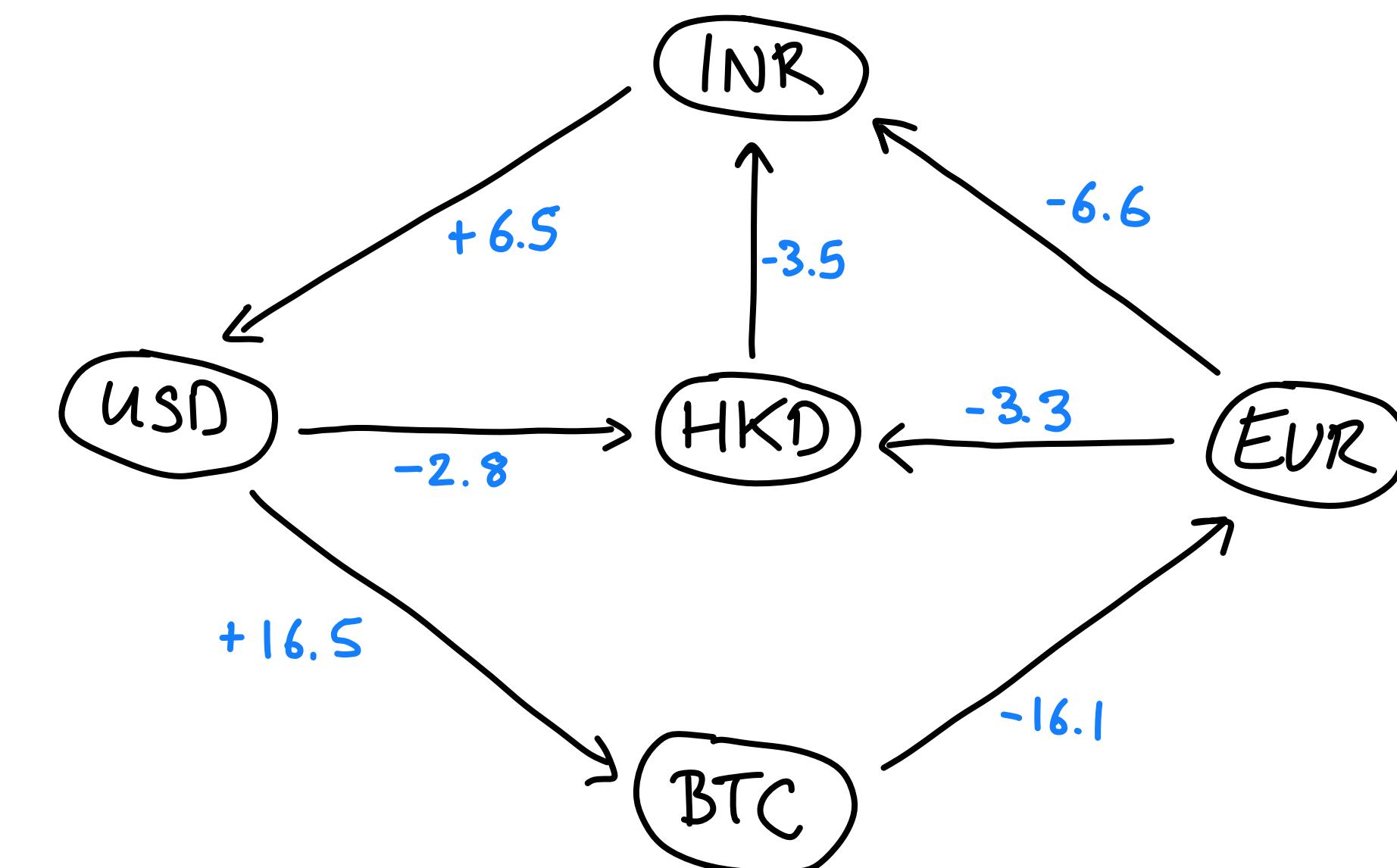
Set edge weight to  $\log_2(1/r) = -\log_2(r)$



# Currency exchange

Set edge weight to  $\log_2(1/r) = -\log_2(r)$

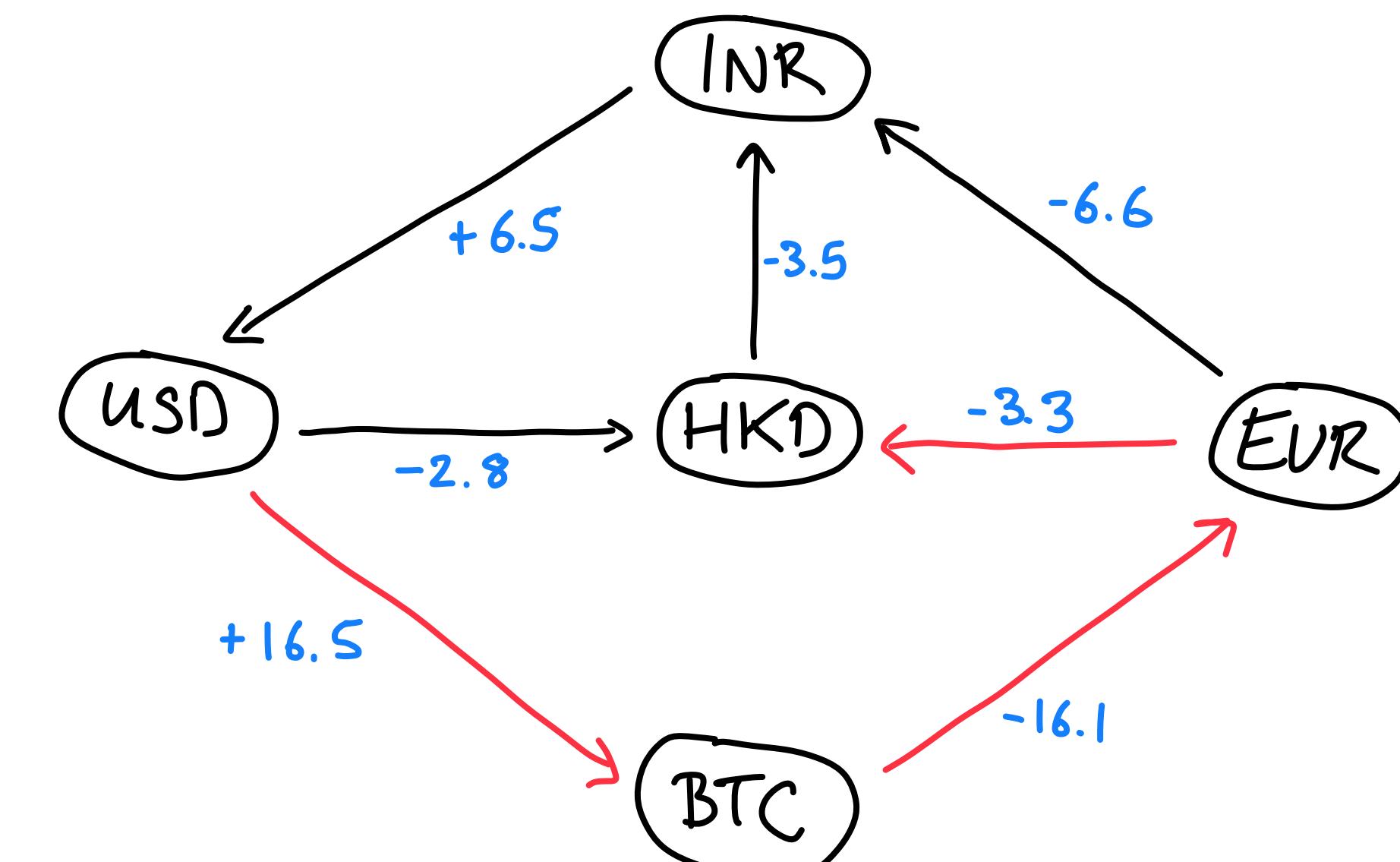
- A path  $p : u \rightsquigarrow v$  of net weight  $w$  implies a currency conversion from 1 unit of  $u$  to  $2^{-w}$  units of  $v$
- Finding a path of least weight from  $u$  to  $v$  yields the best seq. of currency exchanges
- Direct conversion of USD to HKD yields  $2^{2.8}$  HKD per USD



# Currency exchange

Set edge weight to  $\log_2(1/r) = -\log_2(r)$

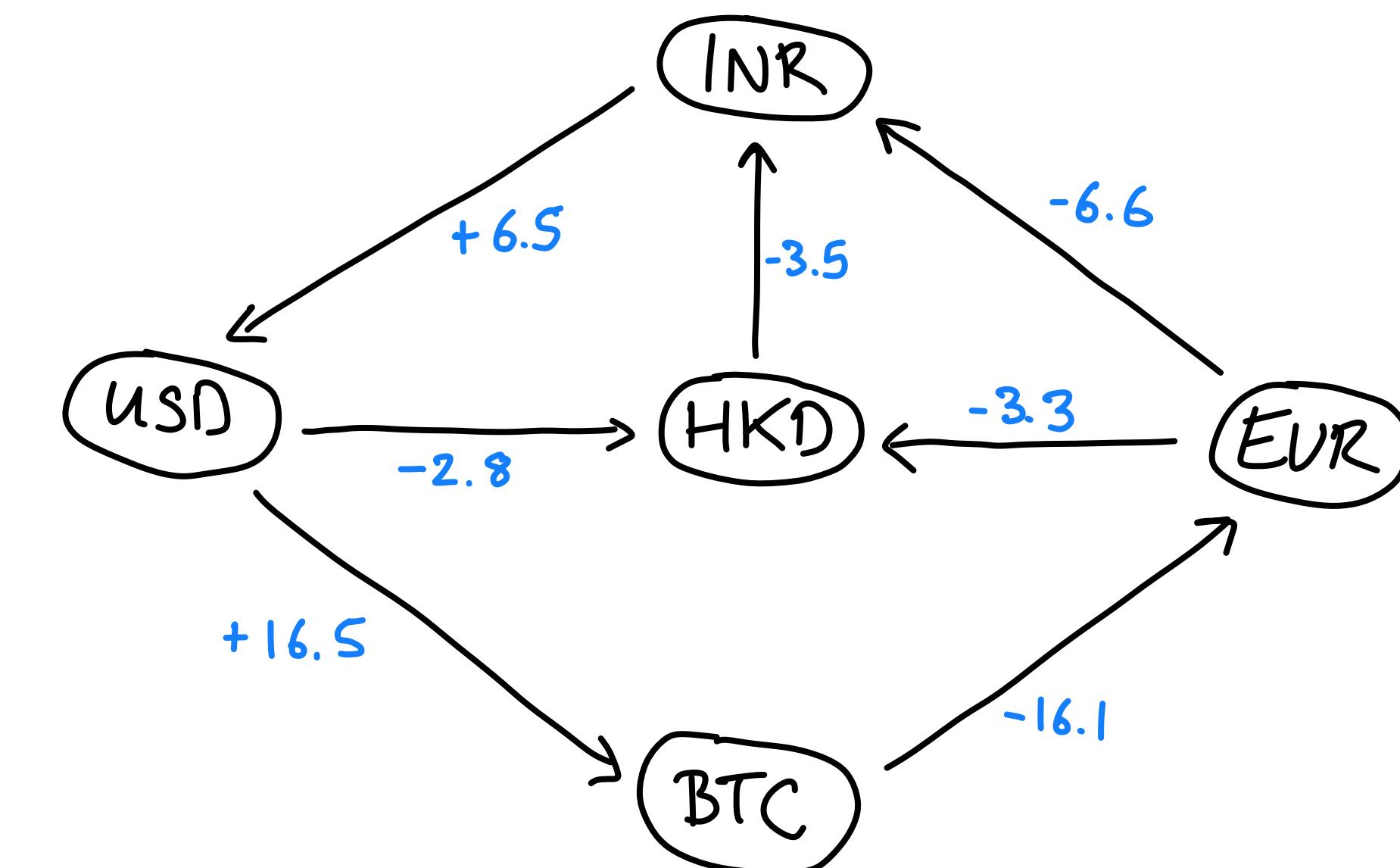
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- Finding a path of least weight from  $u$  to  $v$  yields the best seq. of currency exchanges
- Direct conversion of USD to HKD yields  $2^{2.8}$  HKD per USD
- $\text{USD} \rightarrow \text{BTC} \rightarrow \text{EUR} \rightarrow \text{HKD}$  yields  $2^{-(16.5-16.1-3.3)} = 2^{2.9}$  HKD per USD



# Currency exchange

Set edge weight to  $\log_2(1/r) = -\log_2(r)$

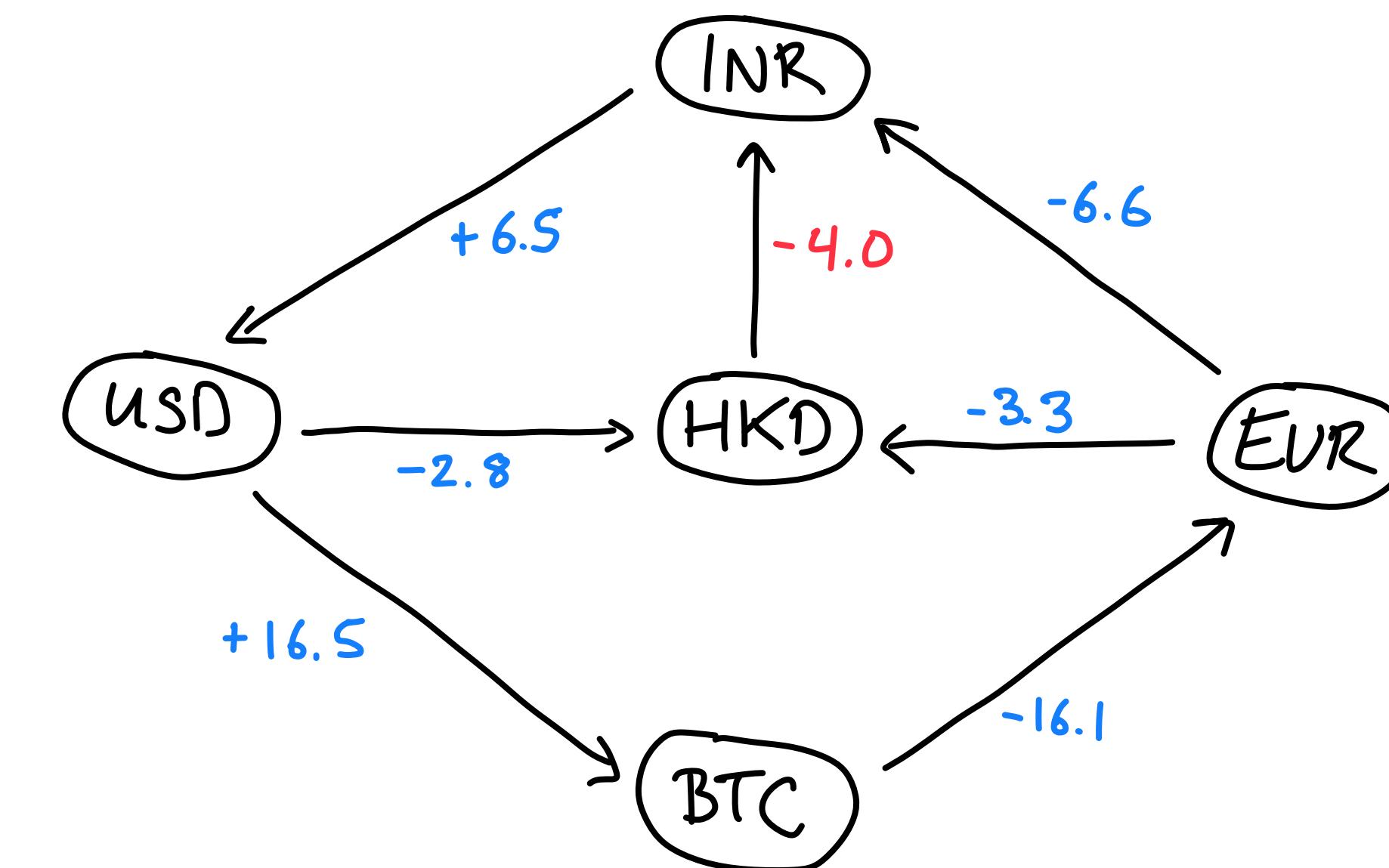
- What happens if HKD to INR rate changes from  $2^{3.5}$  to  $2^{4.0}$ ?



# Currency exchange

Set edge weight to  $\log_2(1/r) = -\log_2(r)$

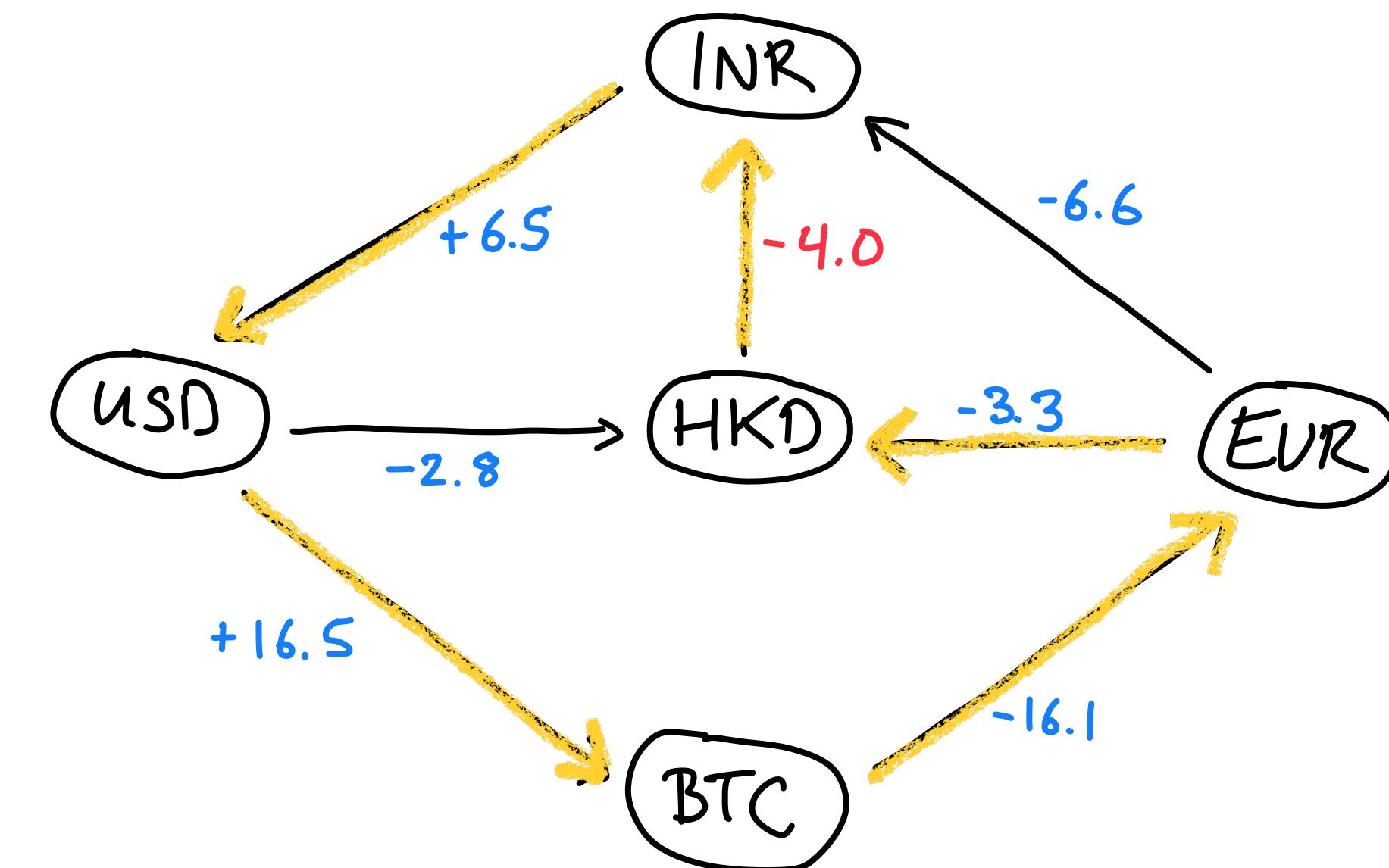
- What happens if HKD to INR rate changes from  $2^{3.5}$  to  $2^{4.0}$ ?



# Currency exchange

Set edge weight to  $\log_2(1/r) = -\log_2(r)$

- Consider the highlighted path from USD to USD:
- Converts 1 USD to  $2^{0.8} > 1$  USD
- Constitutes a **negative cycle** in the graph
- In the currency exchange problem, negative cycles represent **arbitrage**
- Since there is a negative cycle, any currency can be converted into any other for arbitrarily cheap as the graph is strongly connected

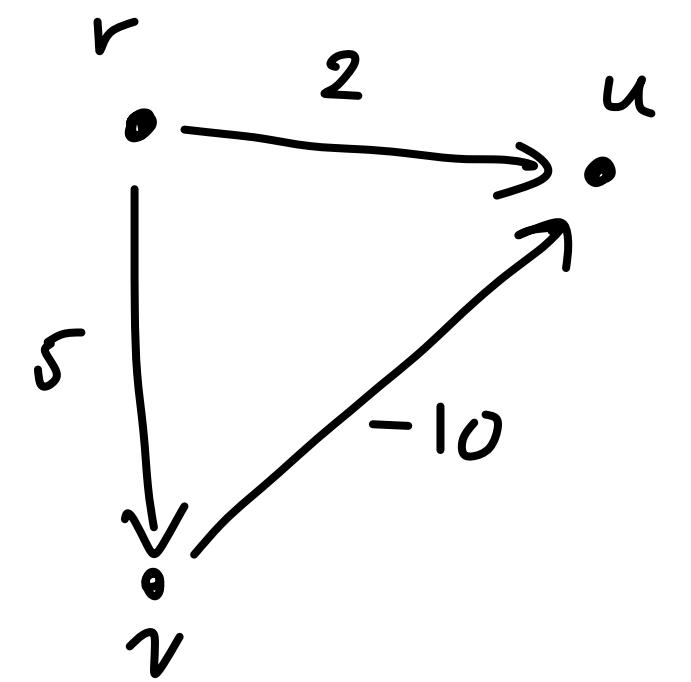


# Negative weights shortest paths

- **Input:** A directed graph  $G = (V, E)$  with weights  $w : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and a vertex  $r$
- **Output:** For every vertex  $v$ , the distance of the **lightest** directed path  $r \rightsquigarrow v$  where a path's weight is the sum of its weights
- Why not just run Dijkstra's?
- Dijkstra's will incorrectly calculate distances when negative weights are involved

# Negative weights shortest paths

- **Dijkstra's property:** Once a vertex  $v$  is visited, the distance  $d(r, v)$  never needs updating again
  - This does not hold with negative weights
  - Need a slower but more careful algorithm that accounts for negative weights
- In this example,
  - Dijkstra's would set distance of  $u$  as 2 with path  $r \rightarrow v$  in its first step
  - However, need to update the distance of  $u$  to  $-5$  after  $v$  is visited.



# Negative weights shortest paths

## Applications

- Trade routes: each vertex is a commodity and edge  $x \rightarrow y$  of weight  $w$  means 1 unit of  $x$  can be exchanged for  $2^{-w}$  units of  $y$ 
  - Multiplicative gains can be converted to linear gains by taking logarithms
  - Negative weights imply multiplicative losses
- Chemical networks: cost represent the excess energy required or **released** when a transformation is made
- Subsidies offered by governments for certain trades being performed
  - Example, US Govt. subsides flights from Portland, Oreg. to Pendleton, Oreg. to incentive airlines to fly to this market. (Annually, about \$4 million for just this route)
  - How can an airline design its route network to maximize revenue in light of subsidies?

# The Bellman-Ford algorithm

- Dijkstra's is a **greedy** algorithm and suffices to calculate shortest/lightest paths when all weights are non-negative
  - Distances will never need to be recalculated once set
- Bellman-Ford is a **dynamic programming** algorithm for computing shortest path in directed graphs
  - Will run slower than Dijkstra's:  $O(mn)$  time versus  $O(n + m)\log n$  time
  - Will involve “resetting” distances as the algorithm goes along
  - Bellman-Ford will detect **negative cycles** as shortest paths are undefined if there are negative cycles