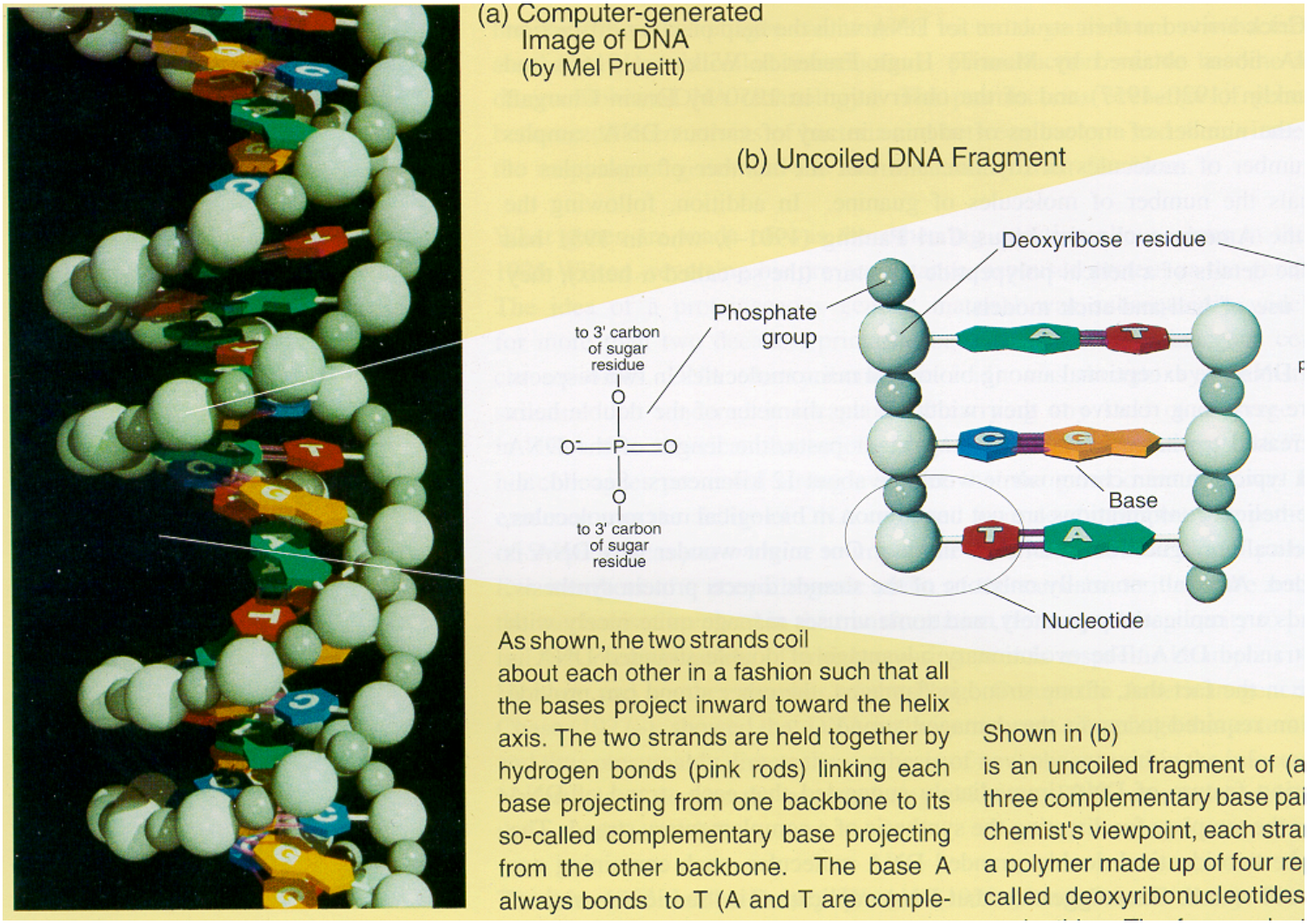
CSE 417: Algorithms and Computational Complexity

Winter 2009

W. L. Ruzzo

Dynamic Programming, II
RNA Folding

The Double Helix



Los Alamos Science

http://www.rcsb.org/pdb/explore.do?structureId=1GAT

NATURE VOL. 227 AUGUST 8 1970

Central Dogma of Molecular Biology

by
FRANCIS CRICK
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Hills Road,
Cambridge CB2 2QH

The central dogma of molecular biology deals with the detailed residue-by-residue transfer of sequential information. It states that such information cannot be transferred from protein to either protein or nucleic acid.

"The central dogma, enunciated by Crick in 1958 and the keystone of molecular biology ever since, is likely to prove a considerable over-simplification."

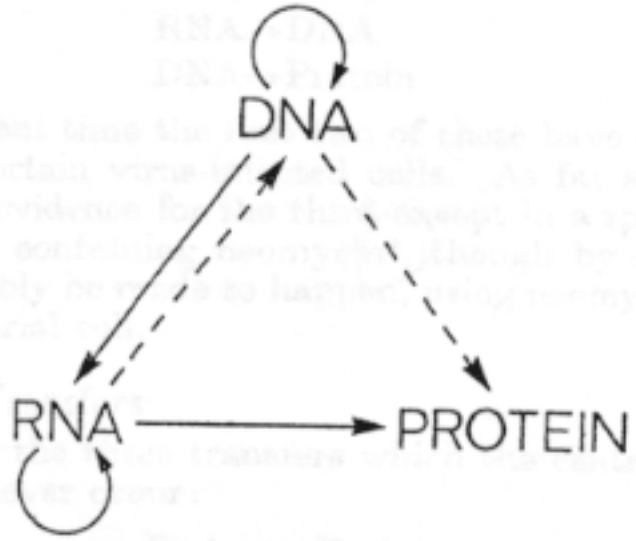
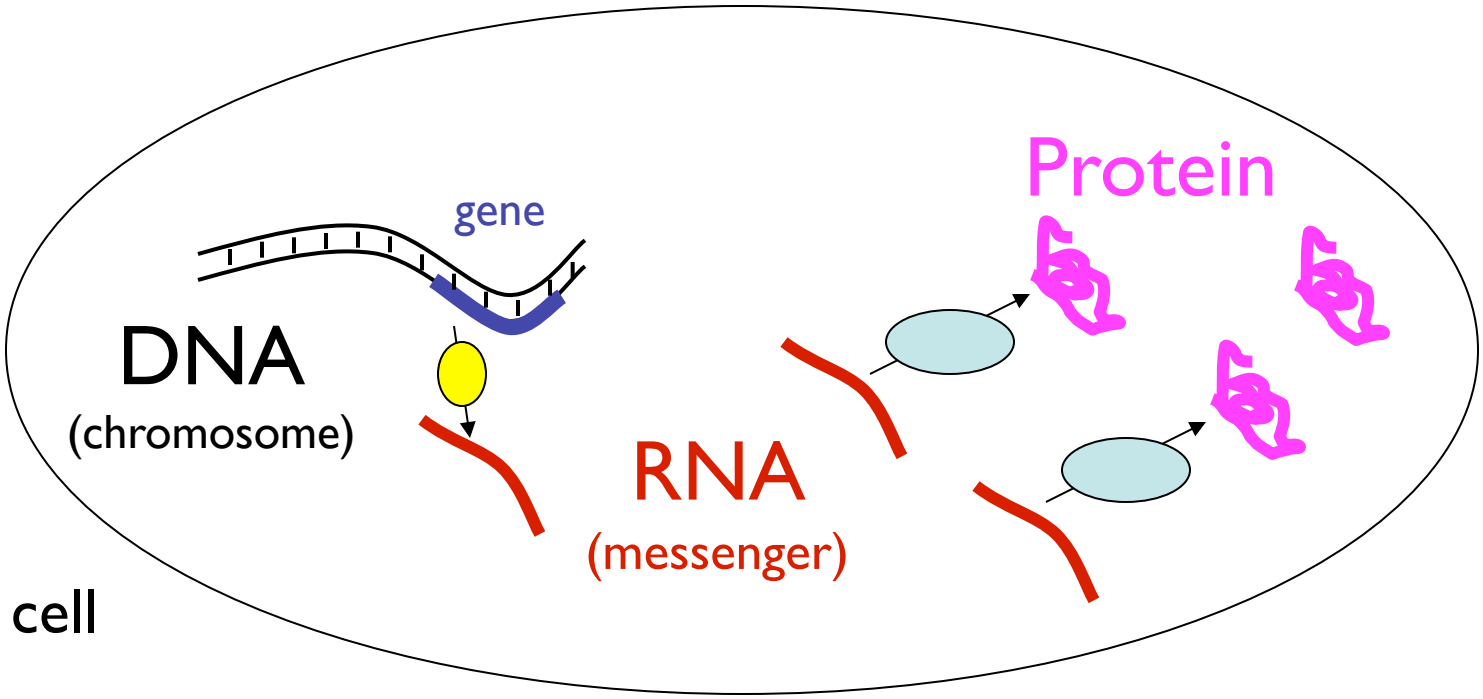


Fig. 2. The arrows show the situation as it seemed in 1958. Solid arrows represent probable transfers, dotted arrows possible transfers. The absent arrows (compare Fig. 1) represent the impossible transfers postulated by the central dogma. They are the three possible arrows starting from protein.

The "Central Dogma" of Molecular Biology

DNA → RNA → Protein



Non-coding RNA

Messenger RNA - codes for proteins

Non-coding RNA - all the rest

- Before, say, mid 1990's, 1-2 dozen known
  (critically important, but narrow roles)

Since mid 90's dramatic discoveries

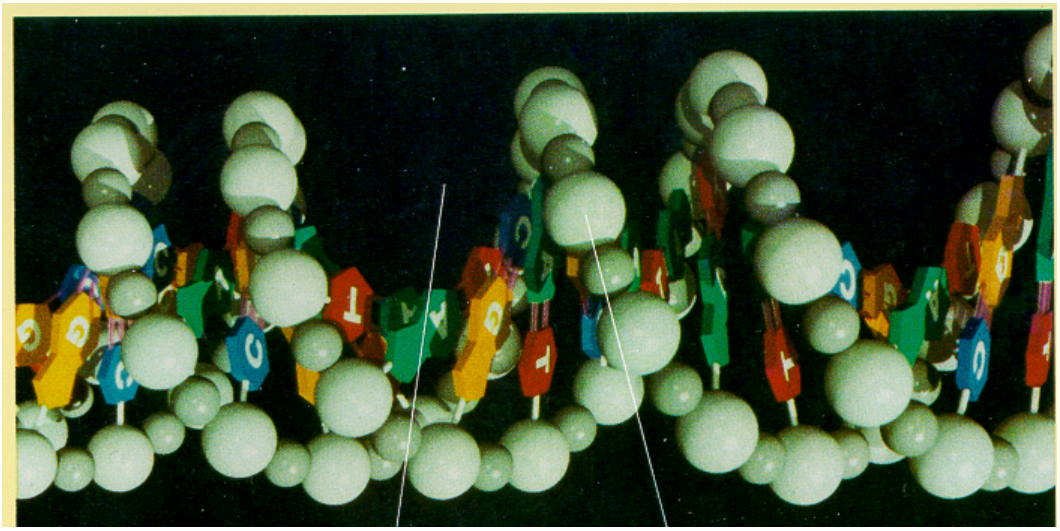
- Regulation, transport, stability/degradation
- E.g. "microRNA": 100s in humans => 50% of genes
- E.g. "riboswitches": 1000s in bacteria

DNA structure: dull

5’…ACCGCTAGATG…3’

| | | | | | | | | | |

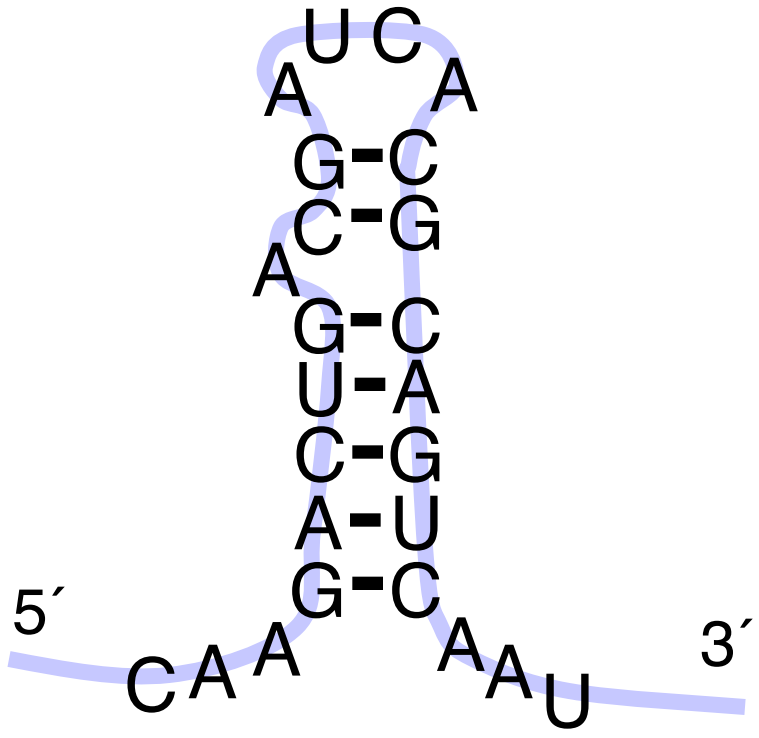
3’…TGGCGATCTAC…5’



RNA Secondary Structure:
RNA makes helices too

Base pairs

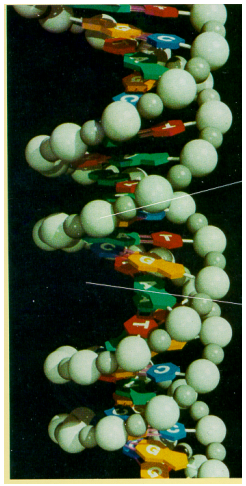
A-U
C-G

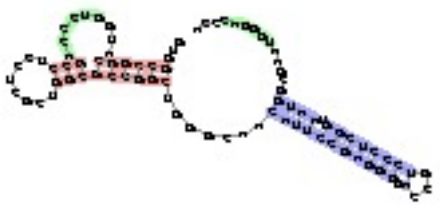


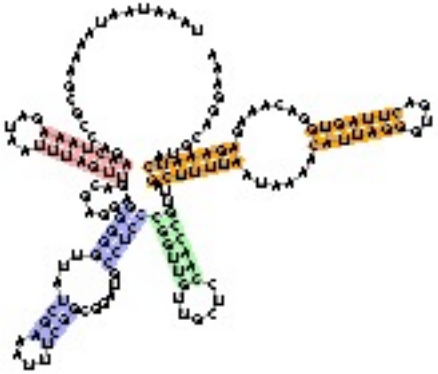
Usually *single* stranded

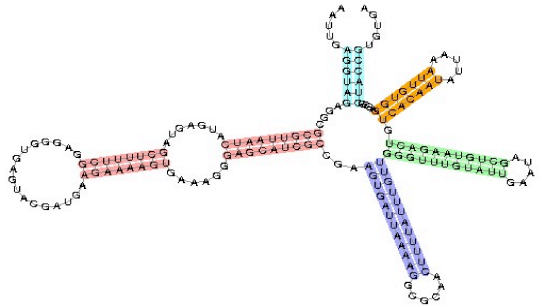
RNA Structure: Rich

- RNA's fold, and function
- Nature uses what works

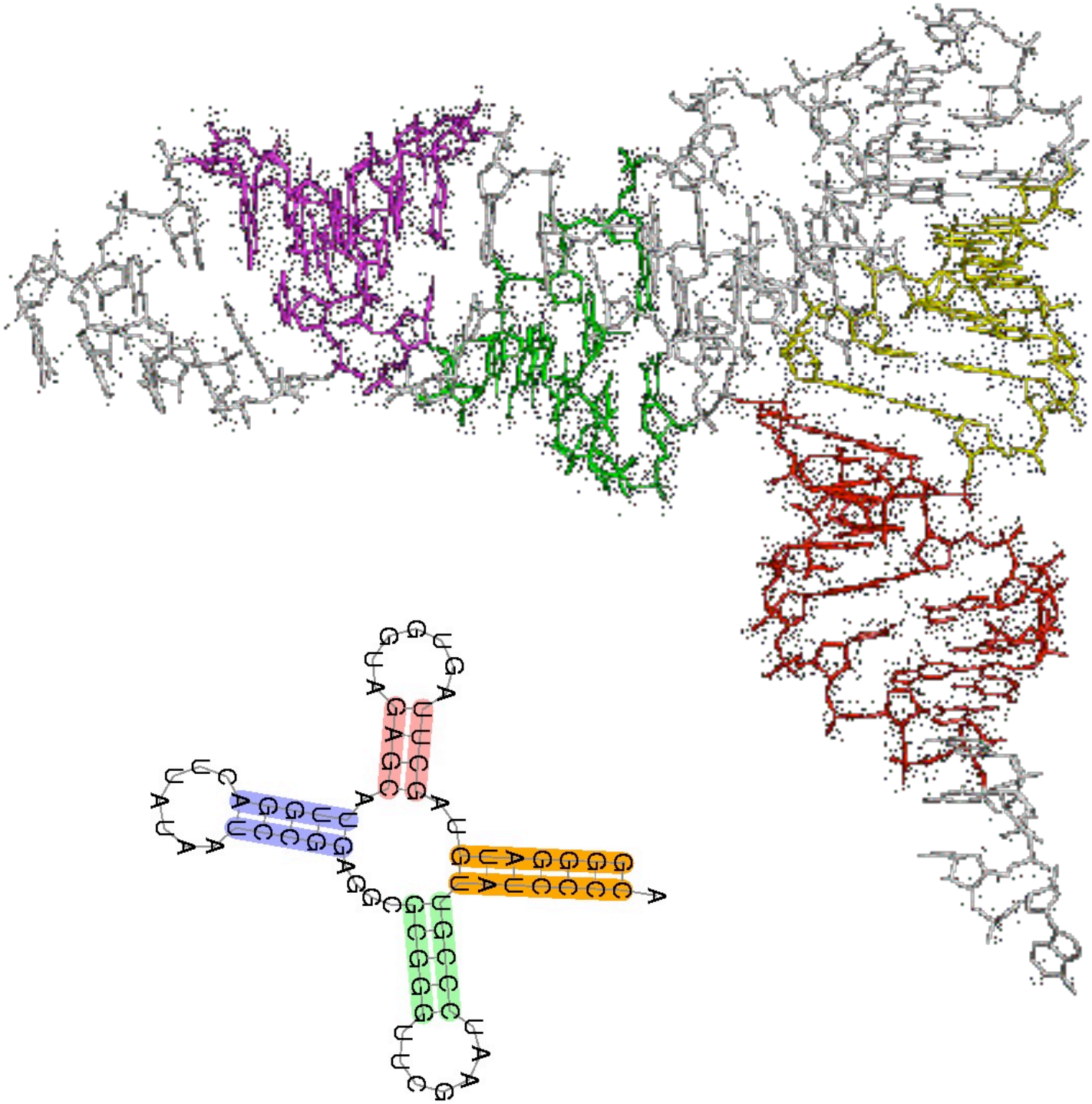






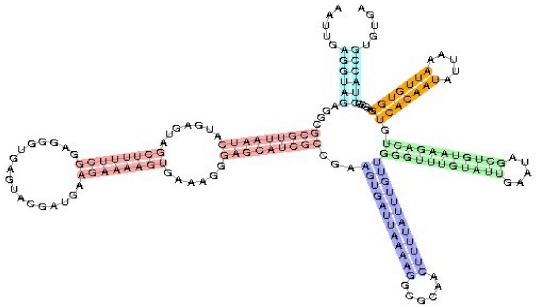


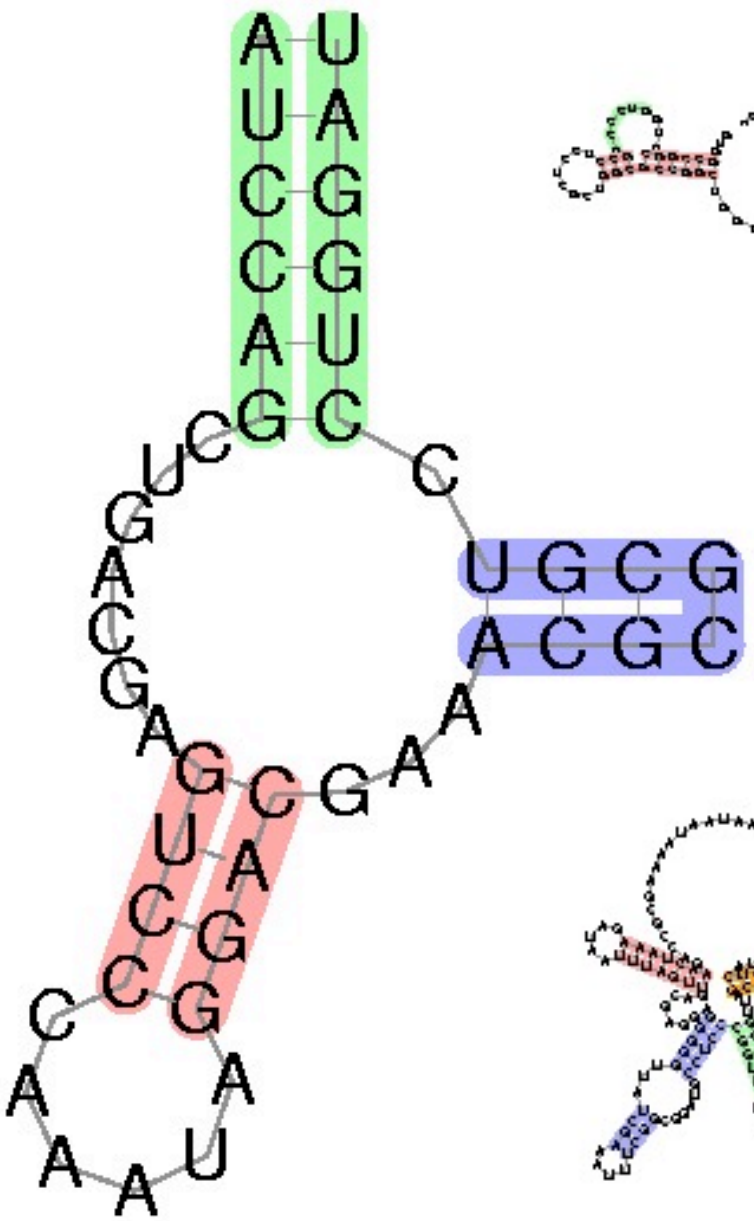
http://www.rcsb.org/pdb/explore.do?structureId=1EVV

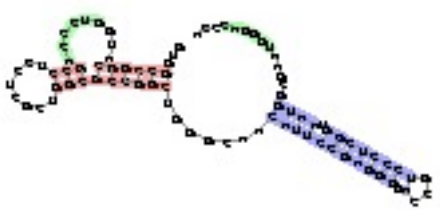


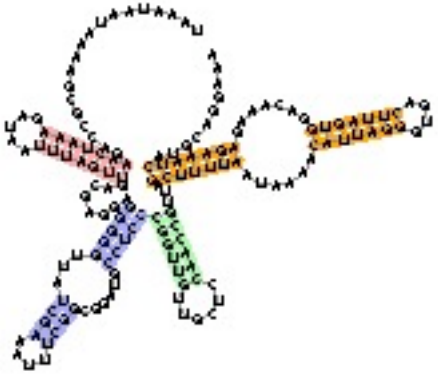
RNA Secondary Structure:

Not everything, but important, easier than 3d



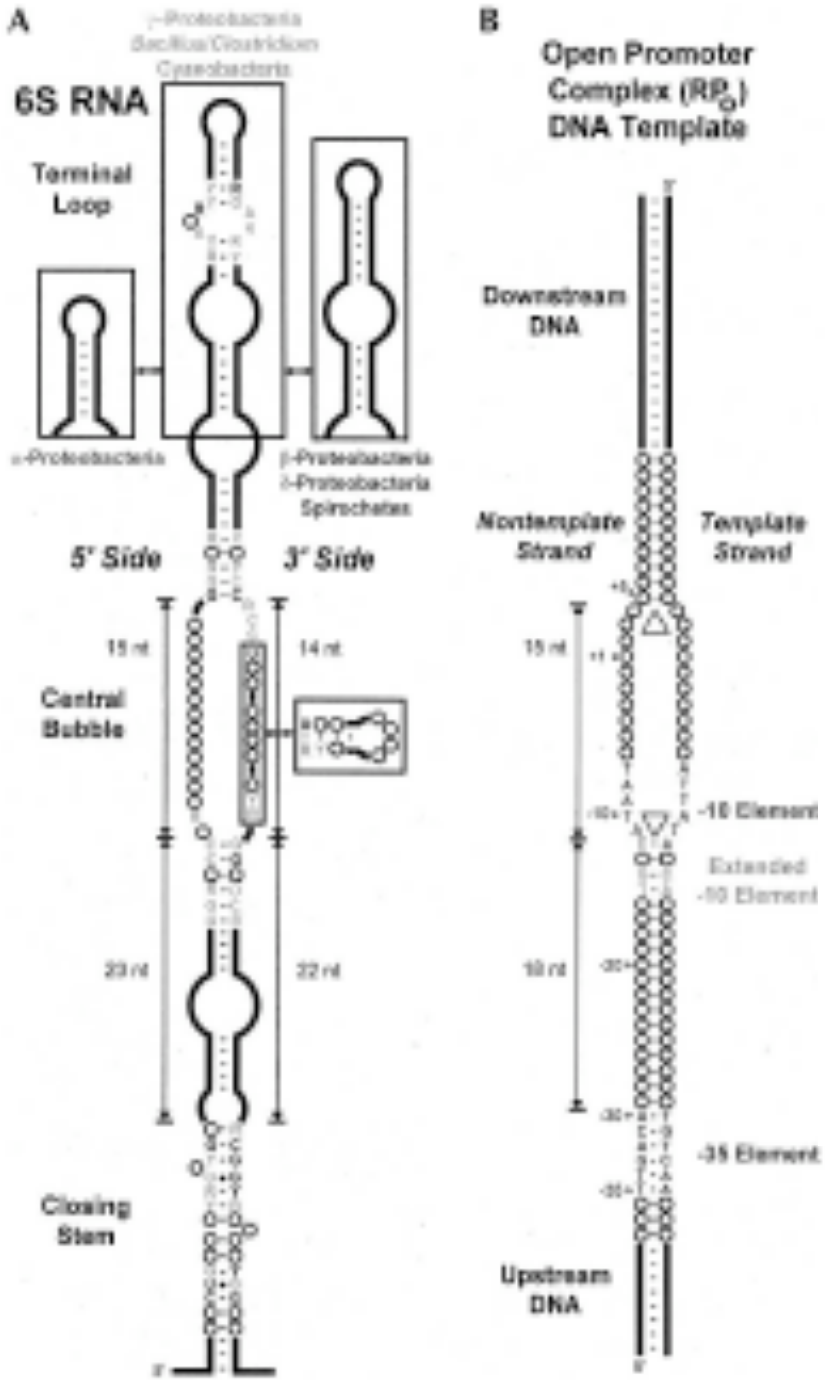




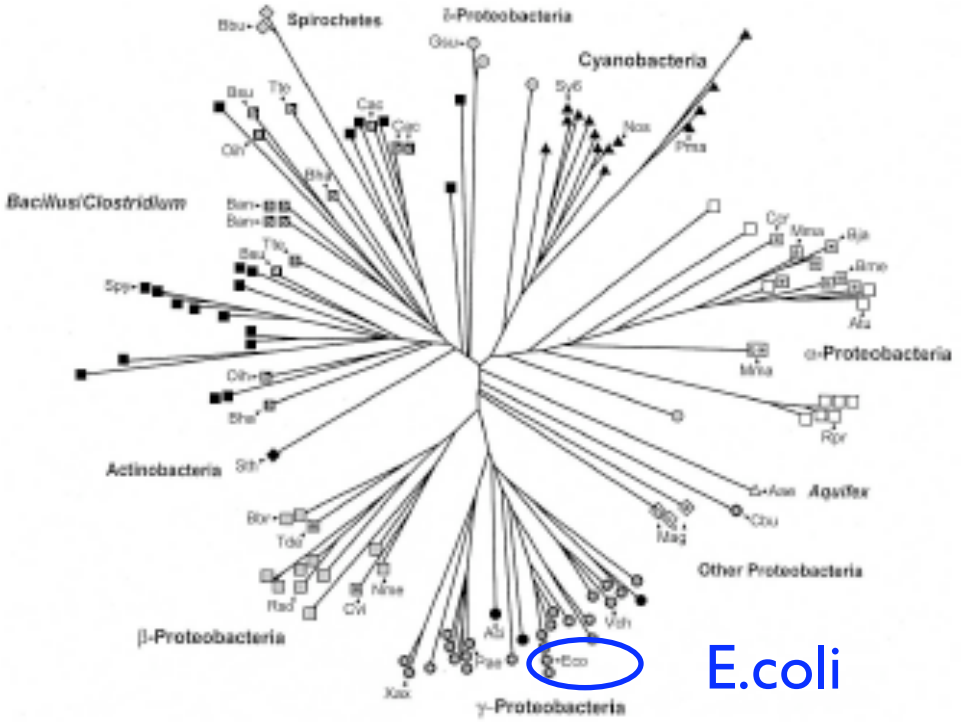


Why is structure important?

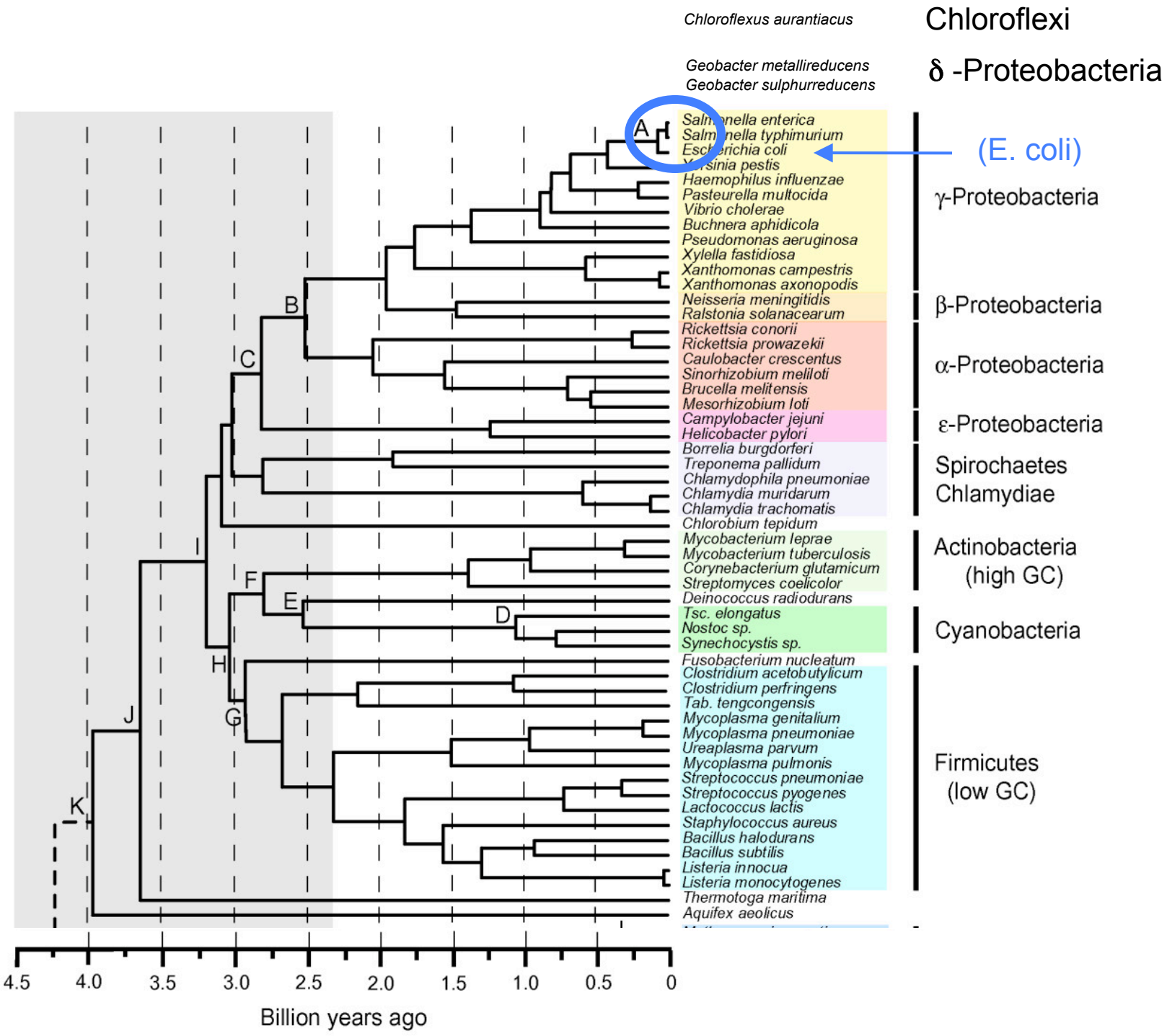
- For protein-coding, similarity in sequence is a powerful tool for finding related sequences
  - e.g. “hemoglobin” is easily recognized in all vertebrates
- For non-coding RNA, many different sequences have the same structure, and structure is most important for function.
  - So, using structure plus sequence, can find related sequences at much greater evolutionary distances



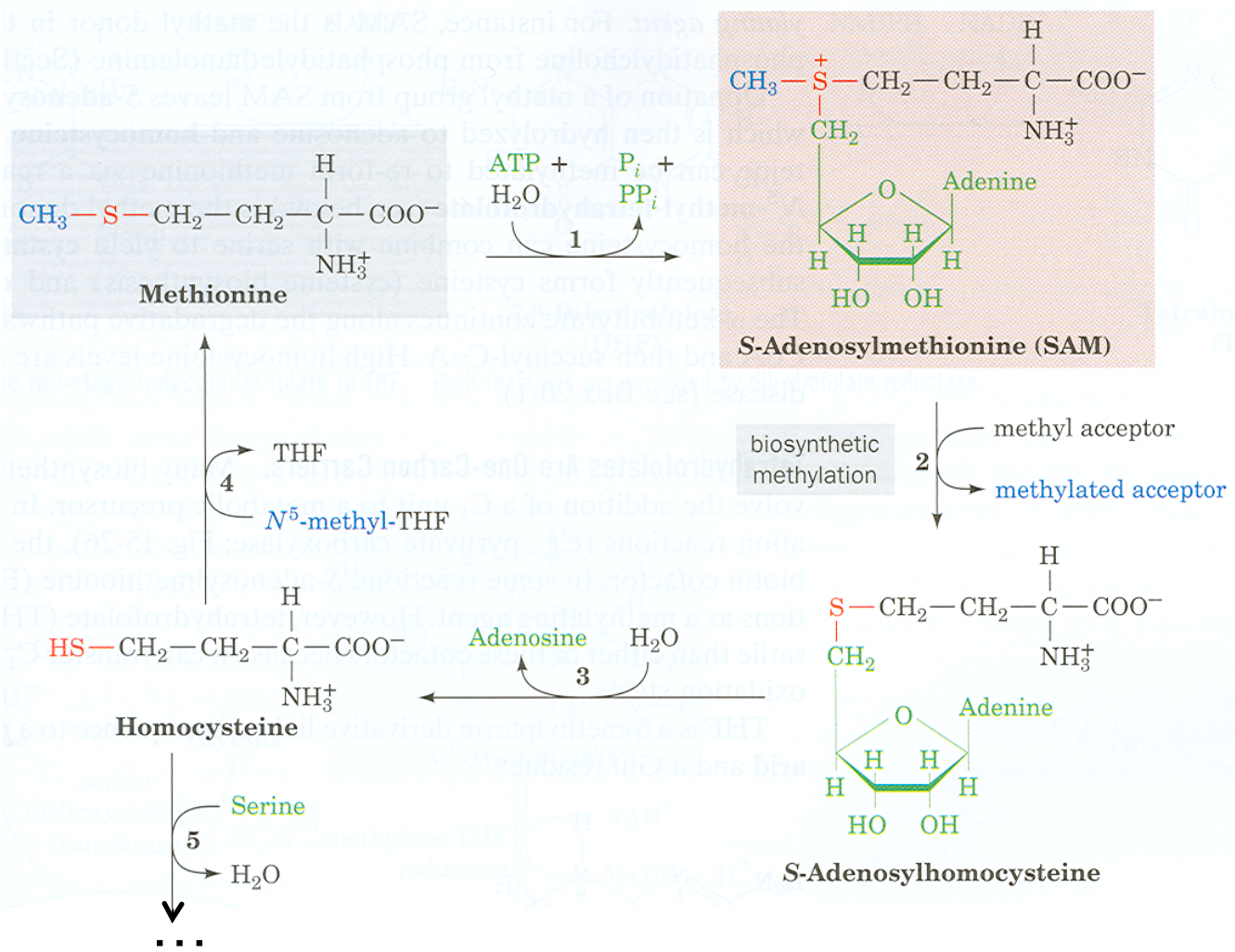
6S mimics an open promoter



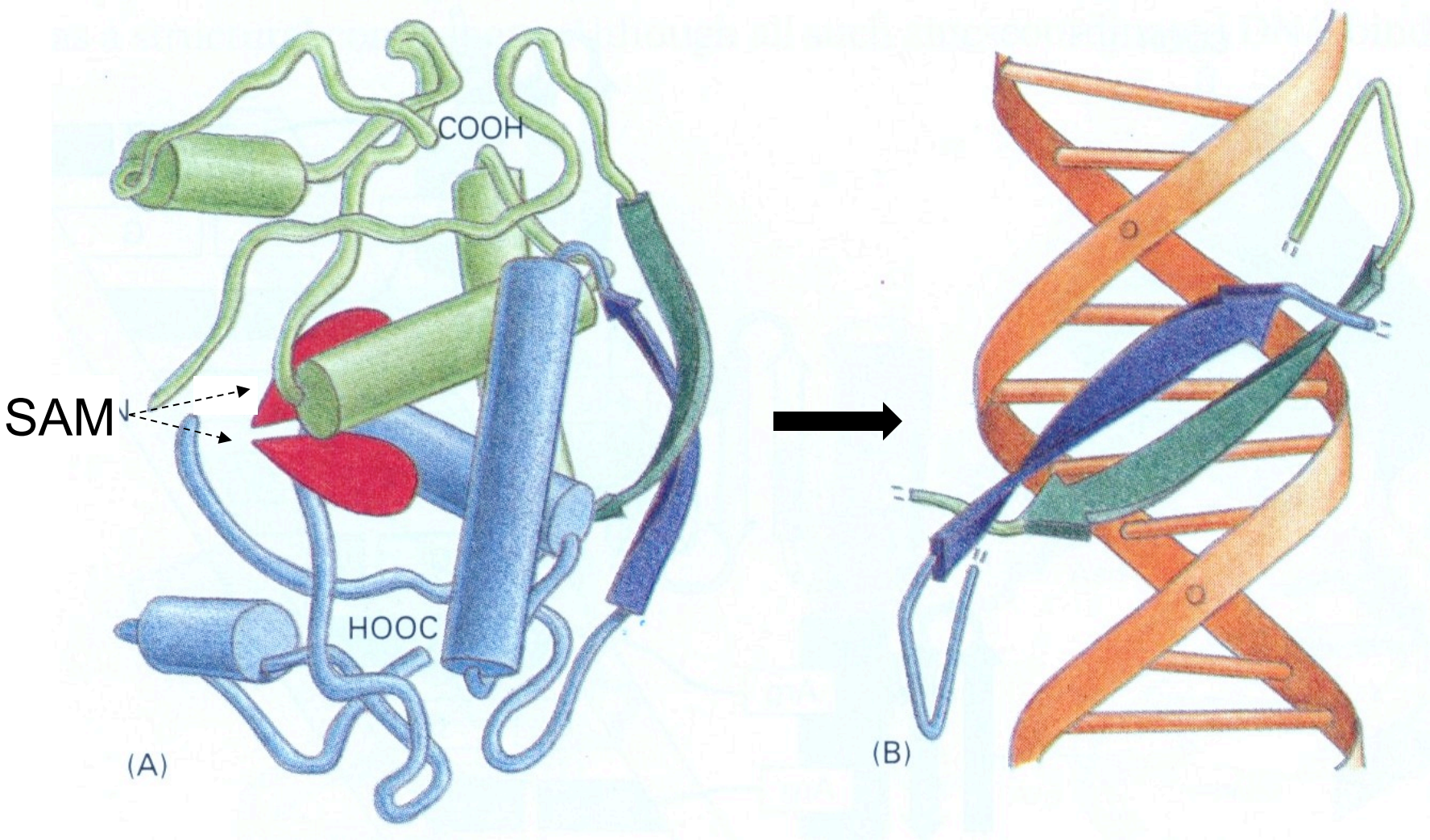
Barrick et al. *RNA* 2005
Trotochaud et al. *NSMB* 2005
Willkomm et al. NAR 2005


Chloroflexus aurantiacus
Chloroflexi
Geobacter metallireducens
Geobacter sulphurreducens
δ -Proteobacteria
A
B
C
D
E
F
G
H
I
J
K
Salmonella enterica
Salmonella typhimurium
Escherichia coli
Yersinia pestis
Haemophilus influenzae
Pasteurella multocida
Vibrio cholerae
Buchnera aphidicola
Pseudomonas aeruginosa
Xylella fastidiosa
Xanthomonas campestris
Xanthomonas axonopodis
Neisseria meningitidis
Ralstonia solanacearum
Rickettsia conorii
Rickettsia prowazekii
Caulobacter crescentus
Sinorhizobium meliloti
Brucella melitensis
Mesorhizobium loti
Campylobacter jejuni
Helicobacter pylori
Borrelia burgdorferi
Treponema pallidum
Chlamydophila pneumoniae
Chlamydia muridarum
Chlamydia trachomatis
Chlorobium tepidum
Mycobacterium leprae
Mycobacterium tuberculosis
Corynebacterium glutamicum
Streptomyces coelicolor
Deinococcus radiodurans
Tsc. elongatus
Nostoc sp.
Synechocystis sp.
Fusobacterium nucleatum
Clostridium acetobutylicum
Clostridium perfringens
Tab. tengcongensis
Mycoplasma genitalium
Mycoplasma pneumoniae
Ureaplasma parvum
Mycoplasma pulmonis
Streptococcus pneumoniae
Streptococcus pyogenes
Lactococcus lactis
Staphylococcus aureus
Bacillus halodurans
Bacillus subtilis
Listeria innocua
Listeria monocytogenes
Thermotoga maritima
Aquifex aeolicus
(E. coli)
γ-Proteobacteria
β-Proteobacteria
α-Proteobacteria
ε-Proteobacteria
Spirochaetes
Chlamydiae
Actinobacteria
(high GC)
Cyanobacteria
Firmicutes
(low GC)
4.5
4.0
3.5
3.0
2.5
2.0
1.5
1.0
0.5
0
Billion years ago

In Bacteria: A typical biosynthetic cycle around a critical metabolite ("SAM")



Gene Regulation: The MET Repressor

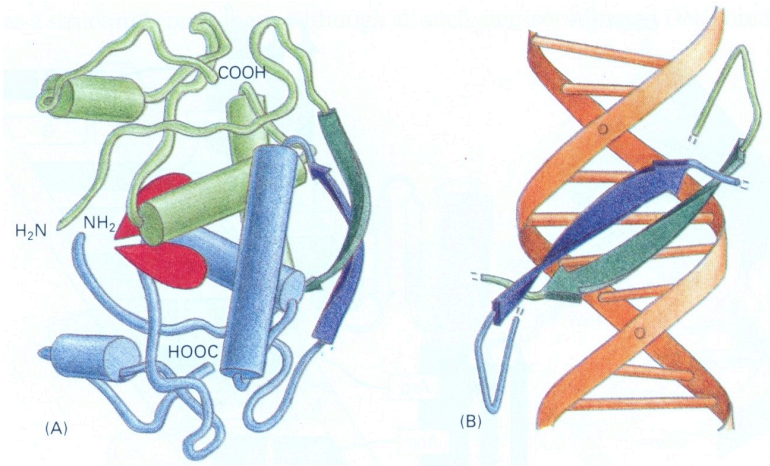


Protein

Alberts, et al, 3e.

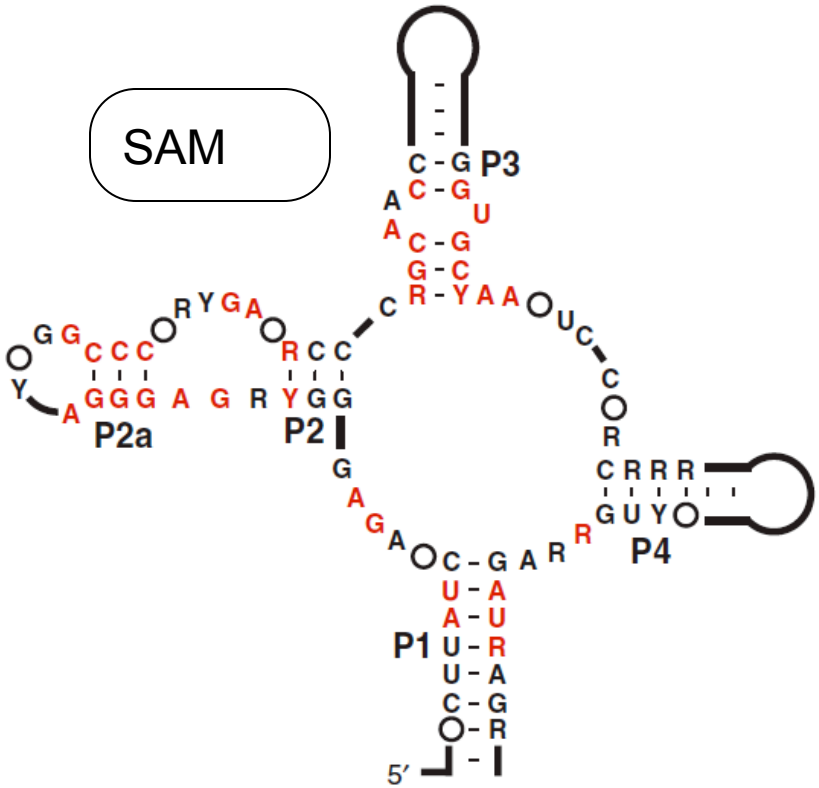
DNA

Alberts, et al, 3e.



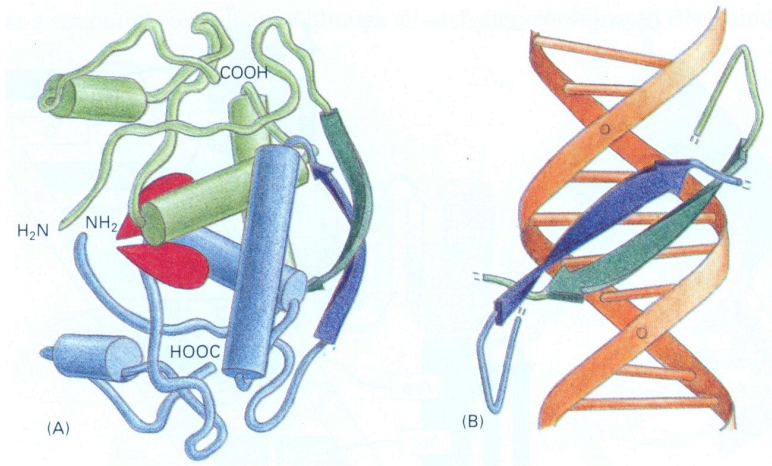
The protein way

Riboswitch alternative



Grundy & Henkin, Mol. Microbiol 1998
Epshtein, et al., PNAS 2003
Winkler et al., Nat. Struct. Biol. 2003

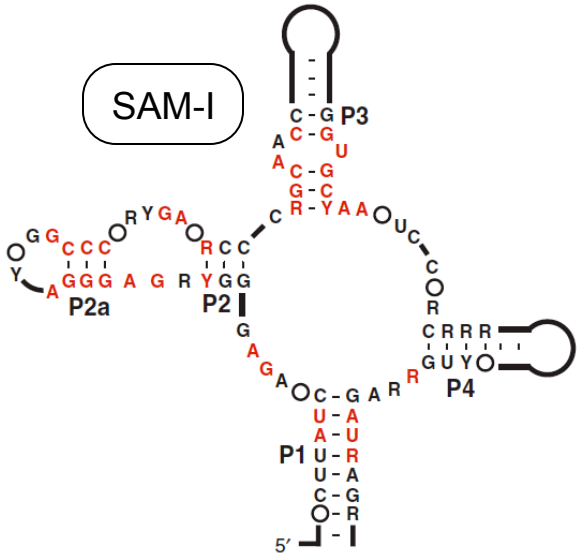
Alberts, et al, 3e.



The protein way

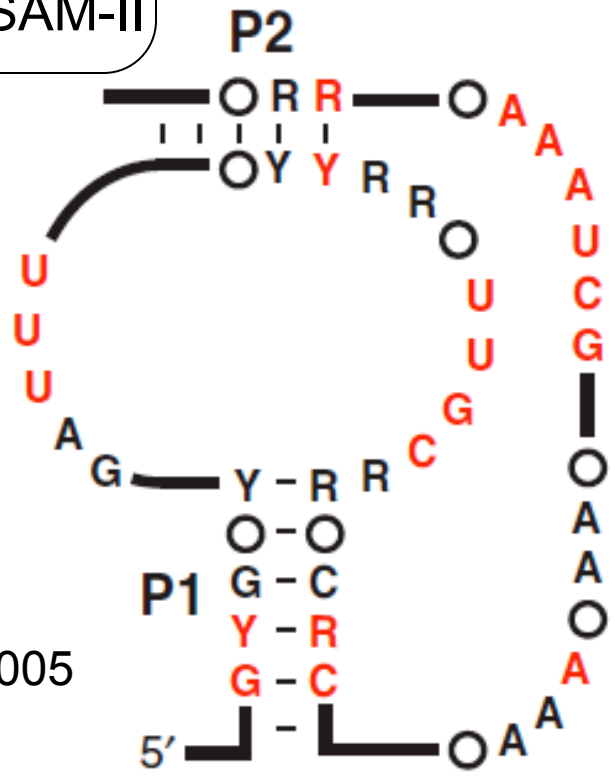
Riboswitch alternatives

SAM-I



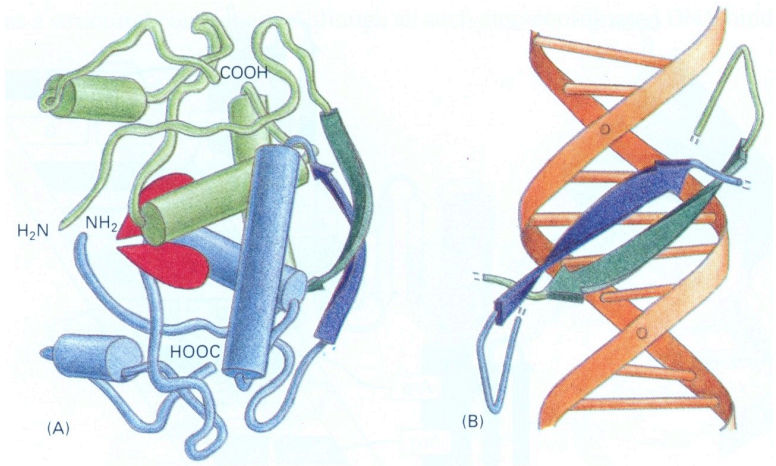
Grundy, Epshtein, Winkler et al., 1998, 2003

SAM-II



Corbino et al., Genome Biol. 2005

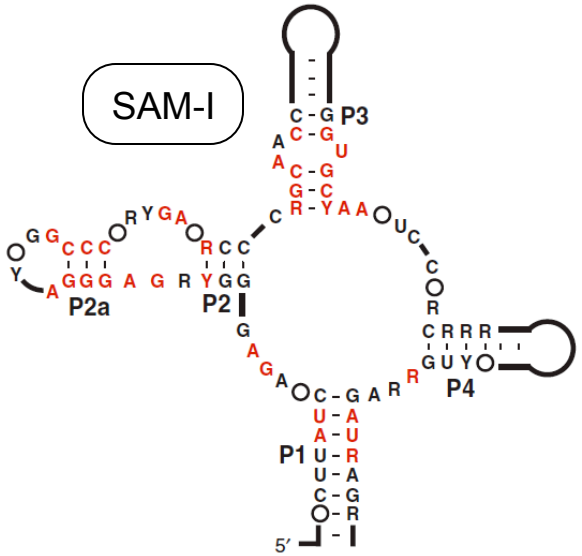
Alberts, et al, 3e.



The protein way

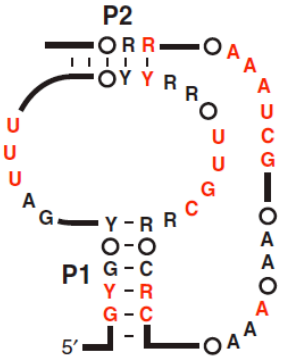
Riboswitch alternatives

SAM-I



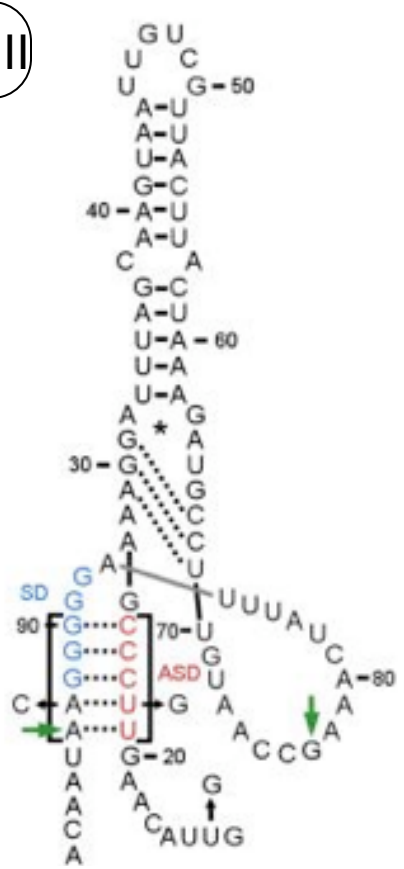
Grundy, Epshtein, Winkler et al., 1998, 2003

SAM-II



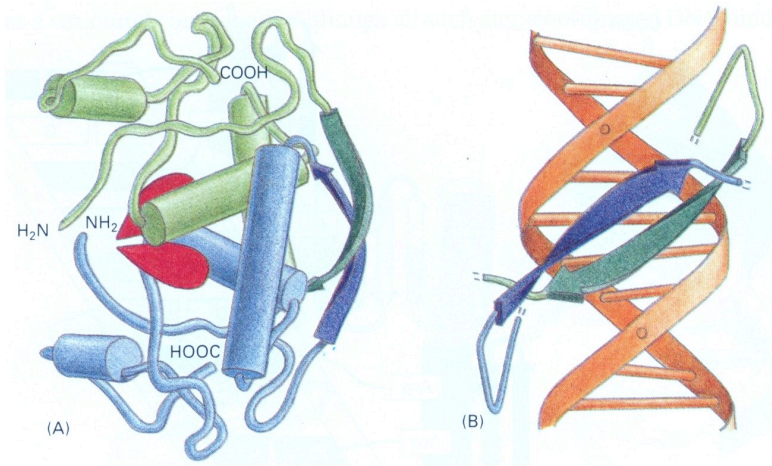
Corbino et al., Genome Biol. 2005

SAM-III



Fuchs et al., NSMB 2006

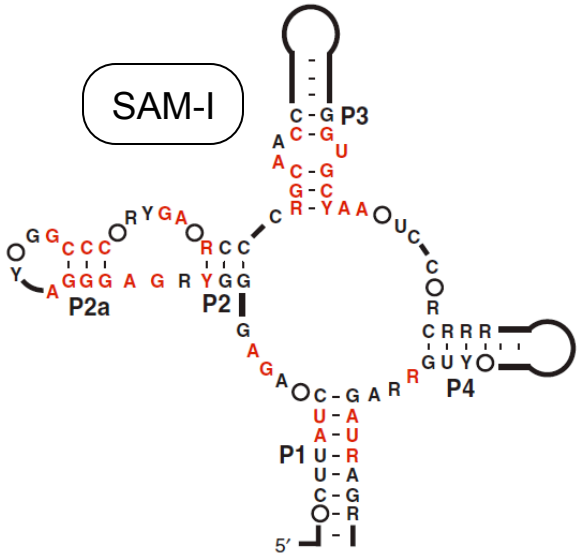
Alberts, et al, 3e.



The protein way

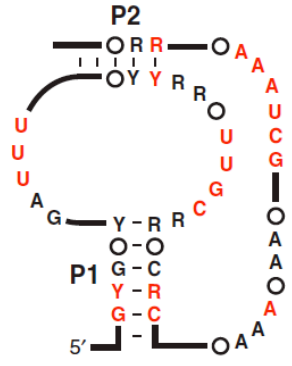
Riboswitch alternatives

SAM-I



Grundy, Epshtein, Winkler et al., 1998, 2003

SAM-II

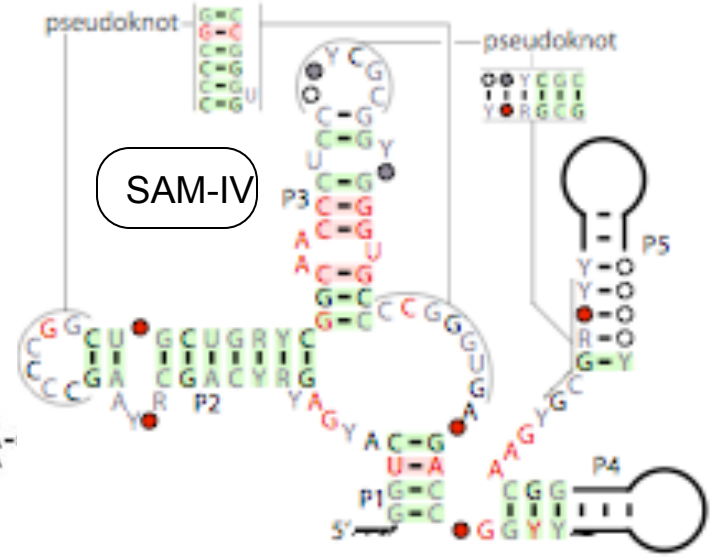


Corbino et al., Genome Biol. 2005

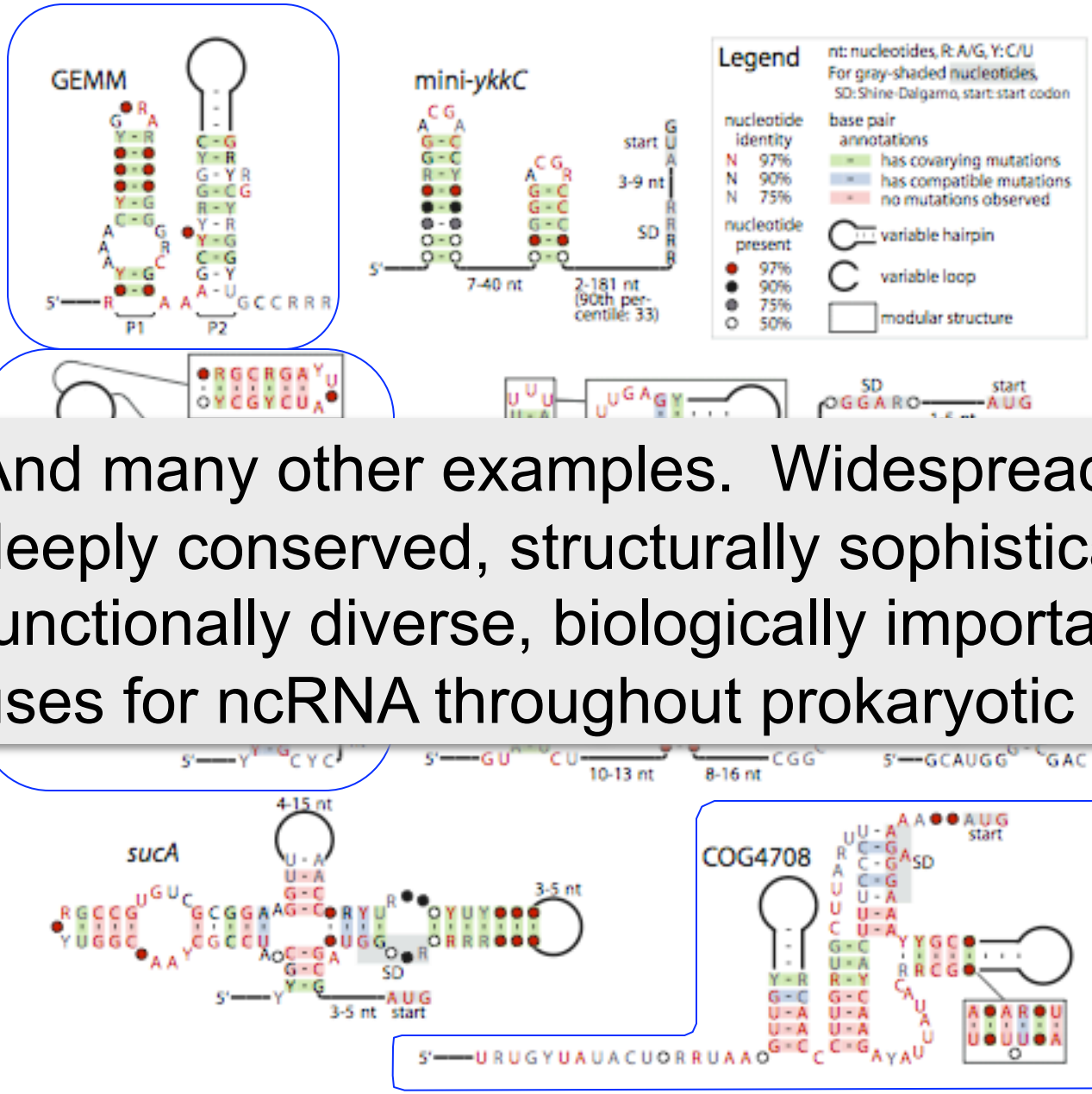
SAM-III

Fuchs et al., NSMB 2006

SAM-IV



Weinberg et al., RNA 2008



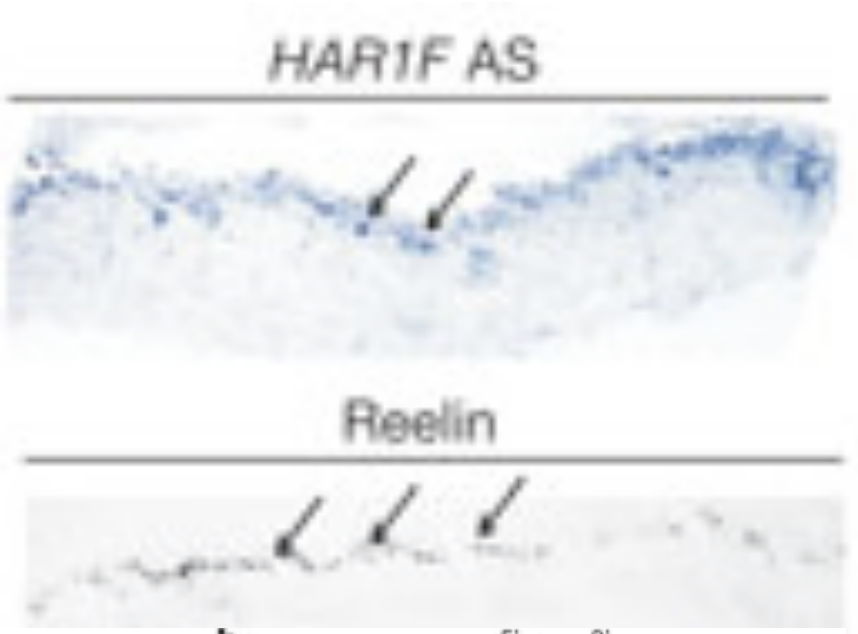
And many other examples. Widespread, deeply conserved, structurally sophisticated, functionally diverse, biologically important uses for ncRNA throughout prokaryotic world.

Weinberg, et al. Nucl. Acids Res., July 2007 35: 4809-4819.

Vertebrates

- Bigger, more complex genomes
- <2% coding
- But >5% conserved in sequence?
- And 50-90% transcribed?
- And *structural* conservation, if any, invisible (without proper alignments, etc.)
  - What's going on?

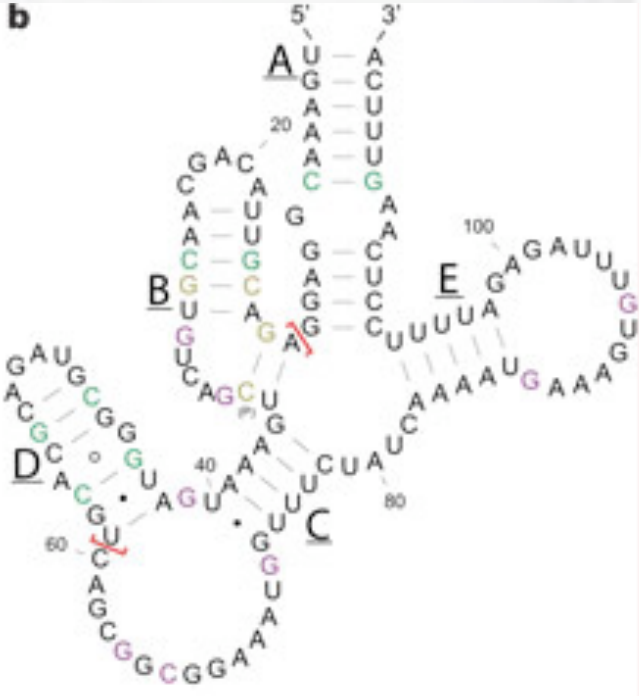
Fastest Human Gene?



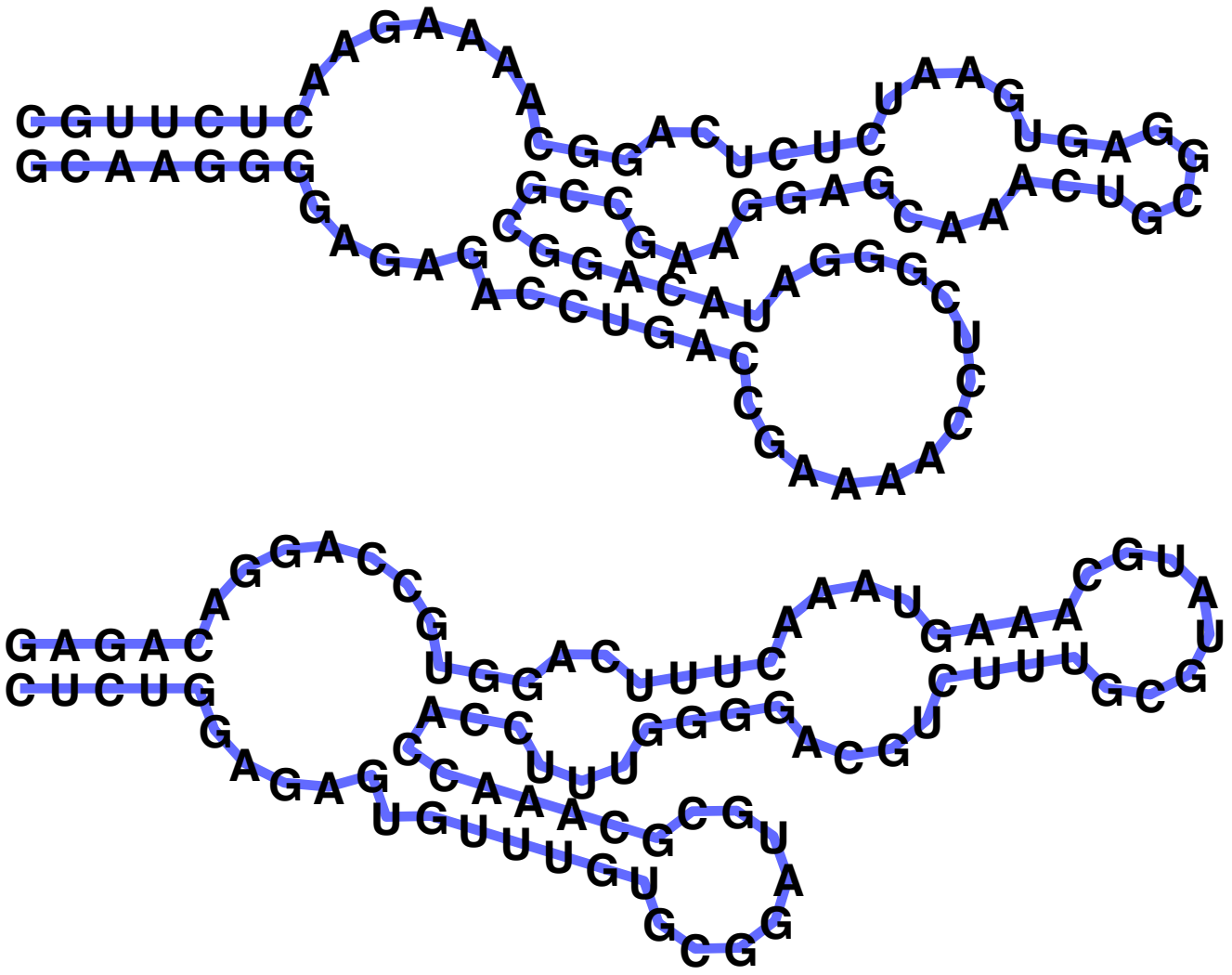
a

Position	20	30	40	50
Human	AGACGTTACAGCAACGTGTCAGCTGAAATGATGGGCGTAGACGCACGT			
Chimpanzee	AGAAATTACAGCAATTTATCAACTGAAATTATAGGTGTAGACACATGT			
Gorilla	AGAAATTACAGCAATTTATCAACTGAAATTATAGGTGTAGACACATGT			
Orang-utan	AGAAATTACAGCAATTTATCAACTGAAATTATAGGTGTAGACACATGT			
Macaque	AGAAATTACAGCAATTTATCAGCTGAAATTATAGGTGTAGACACATGT			
Mouse	AGAAATTACAGCAATTTATCAGCTGAAATTATAGGTGTAGACACATGT			
Dog	AGAAATTACAGCAATTTATCAACTGAAATTATAGGTGTAGACACATGT			
Cow	AGAAATTACAGCAATTCATCAGCTGAAATTATAGGTGTAGACACATGT			
Platypus	ATAAATTACAGCAATTTATCAAATGAAATTATAGGTGTAGACACATGT			
Opossum	AGAAATTACAGCAATTTATCAACTGAAATTATAGGTGTAGACACATGT			
Chicken	AGAAATTACAGCAATTTATCAACTGAAATTATAGGTGTAGACACATGT			
Fold	(((((((.....)))))).....))[[[[[.((((.(((....)))).))))			
Pair symbol	lmnopqr rqpon ml rstuvwx xwvutsr			

b

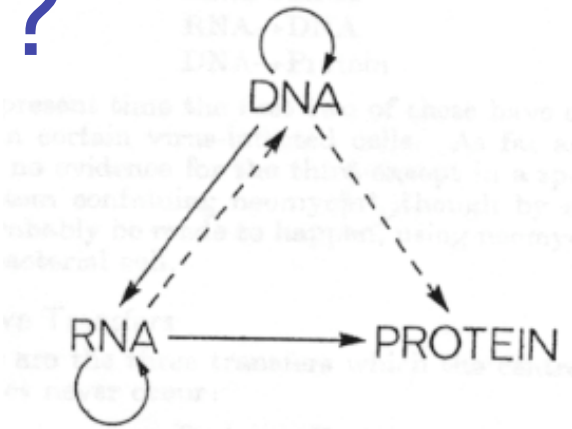


Q: What's so hard?



A: Structure often more important than sequence

Origin of Life?



Life needs

- information carrier: DNA
- molecular machines, like enzymes: Protein
- making proteins needs DNA + RNA + proteins
- making (duplicating) DNA needs proteins

Horrible circularities! How could it have arisen in an abiotic environment?

Origin of Life?

RNA can carry information, too

- RNA double helix; RNA-directed RNA polymerase

RNA can form complex structures

RNA enzymes exist (ribozymes)

RNA can control, do logic (riboswitches)

The “RNA world” hypothesis: 1st life was RNA-based

6.5 RNA Secondary Structure

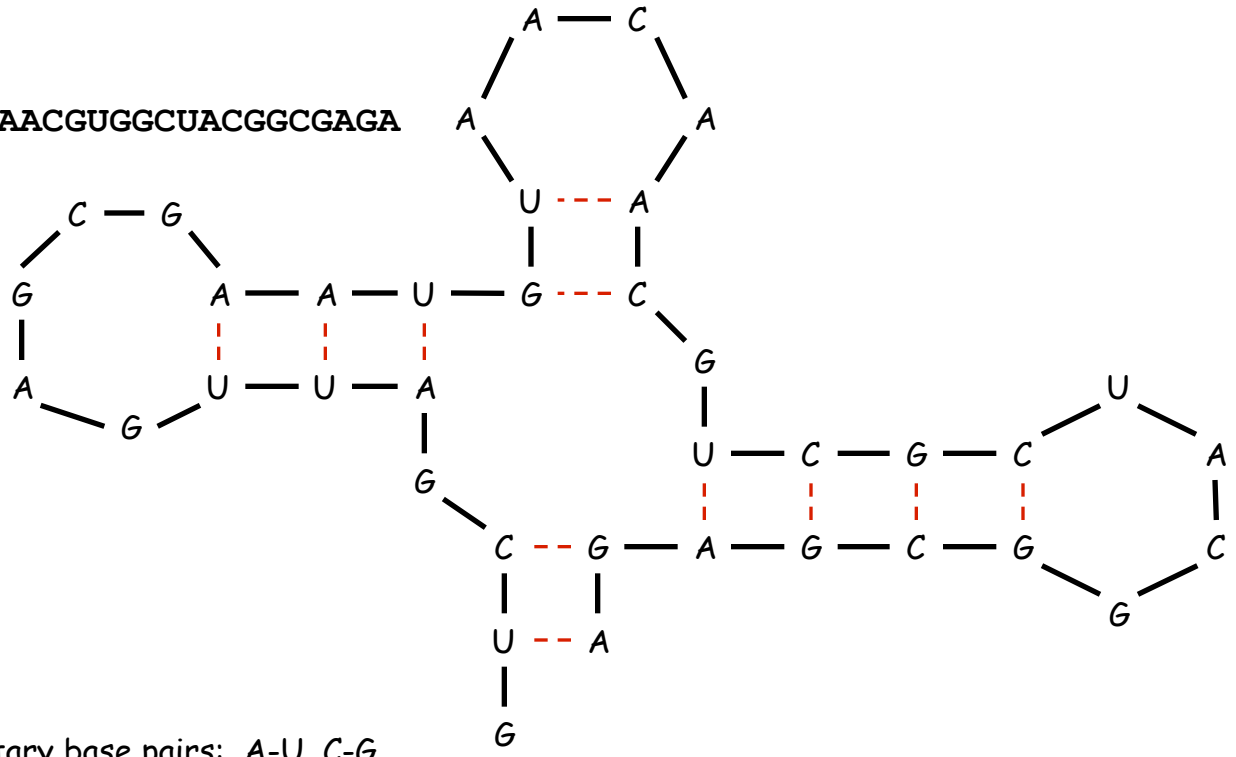
Nussinov's Algorithm – core technology
for RNA structure prediction

RNA Secondary Structure

RNA. String B = $b_1 b_2 \ldots b_n$ over alphabet { A, C, G, U }.

Secondary structure. RNA is usually single-stranded, and tends to loop back and form base pairs with itself. This structure is essential for understanding behavior of molecule.

Ex: **GUCGAUUGAGCGAAUGUAACAACGUGGCUACGGCGAGA**



complementary base pairs: A-U, C-G

RNA Secondary Structure (somewhat oversimplified)

Secondary structure. A set of pairs $S = \{ (b_i, b_j) \}$ that satisfy:

- [Watson-Crick.]
  - S is a *matching* , i.e. each base pairs with at most one other, and
  - each pair in S is a Watson-Crick pair: A-U, U-A, C-G, or G-C.
- [No sharp turns.] The ends of each pair are separated by at least 4 intervening bases. If $(b_i, b_j) \in S$, then $i < j - 4$.
- [Non-crossing.] If (b_i, b_j) and (b_k, b_l) are two pairs in S, then we cannot have $i < k < j < l$. (Violation of this is called a *pseudoknot.*)

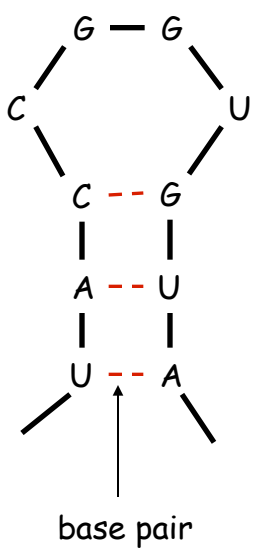
Free energy. Usual hypothesis is that an RNA molecule will form the secondary structure with the optimum total free energy.

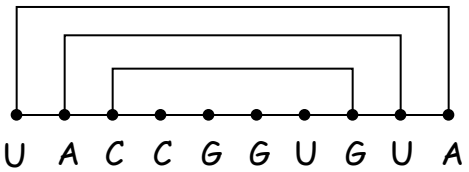
approximate by number of base pairs

Goal. Given an RNA molecule $B = b_1 b_2 \ldots b_n$, find a secondary structure S that maximizes the number of base pairs.

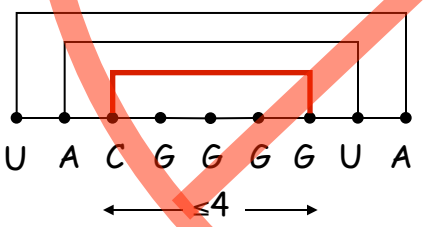
RNA Secondary Structure: Examples

Examples.

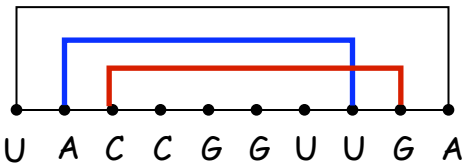


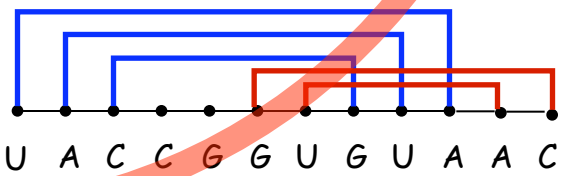


ok



sharp turn

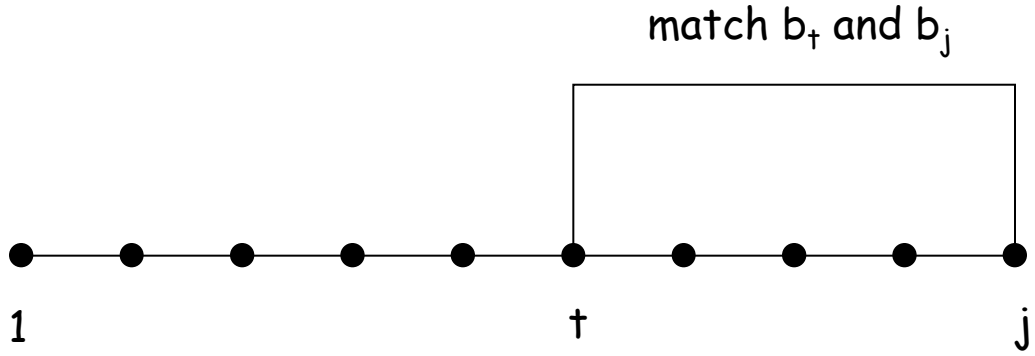




crossing

RNA Secondary Structure: Subproblems

First attempt. OPT[j] = maximum number of base pairs in a secondary structure of the substring $b_1 b_2 \ldots b_j$.



Difficulty. Results in two sub-problems.

- Finding secondary structure in: $b_1 b_2 \ldots b_{t-1}$. ← OPT(t-1)
- Finding secondary structure in: $b_{t+1} b_{t+2} \ldots b_{j-1}$. ← not OPT of anything; need more sub-problems

Dynamic Programming Over Intervals: (R. Nussinov's algorithm)

Notation. $OPT[i, j]$ = maximum number of base pairs in a secondary structure of the substring $b_i b_{i+1} \ldots b_j$.

- Case 1. If $i \geq j - 4$.
  - $OPT[i, j] = 0$ by no-sharp turns condition.
- Case 2. Base b_j is not involved in a pair.
  - $OPT[i, j] = OPT[i, j-1]$
- Case 3. Base b_j pairs with b_t for some $i \leq t < j - 4$.
  - non-crossing constraint decouples resulting sub-problems
  - $OPT[i, j] = 1 + \max_t \{ OPT[i, t-1] + OPT[t+1, j-1] \}$

take max over t such that $i \leq t < j-4$ and b_t and b_j are Watson-Crick complements

Key point: Either last base is unpaired (case 1,2) or paired (case 3)

Remark. Same core idea in CKY algorithm to parse context-free grammars.

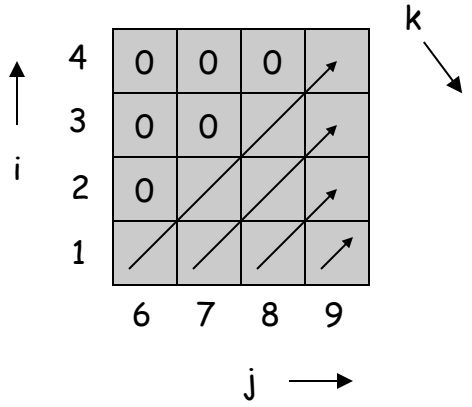
Bottom Up Dynamic Programming Over Intervals

Q. What order to solve the sub-problems?

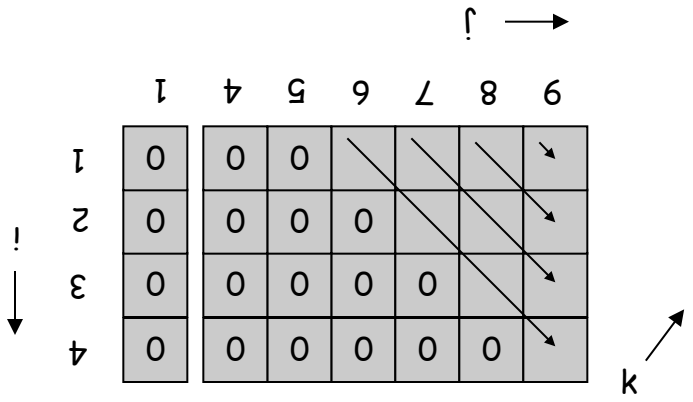
A. Do shortest intervals first.

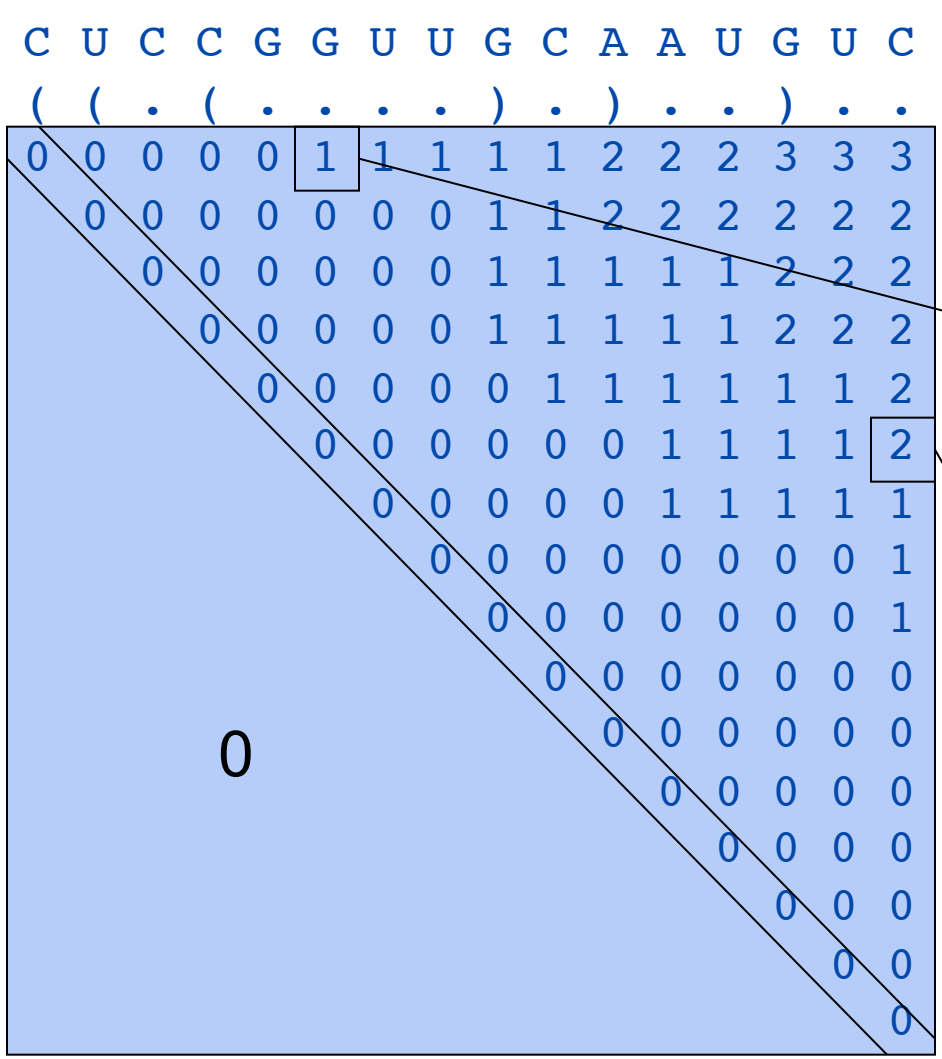
```
RNA(b1,…,bn) {
    for k = 5, 6, …, n-1
        for i = 1, 2, …, n-k
            j = i + k
            Compute OPT[i, j]
                                  ↖ using recurrence

    return OPT[1, n]
}
```



Running time. $O(n^3)$.





n = 16

E.g.:
OPT[1,6] = 1:

CUCCGG

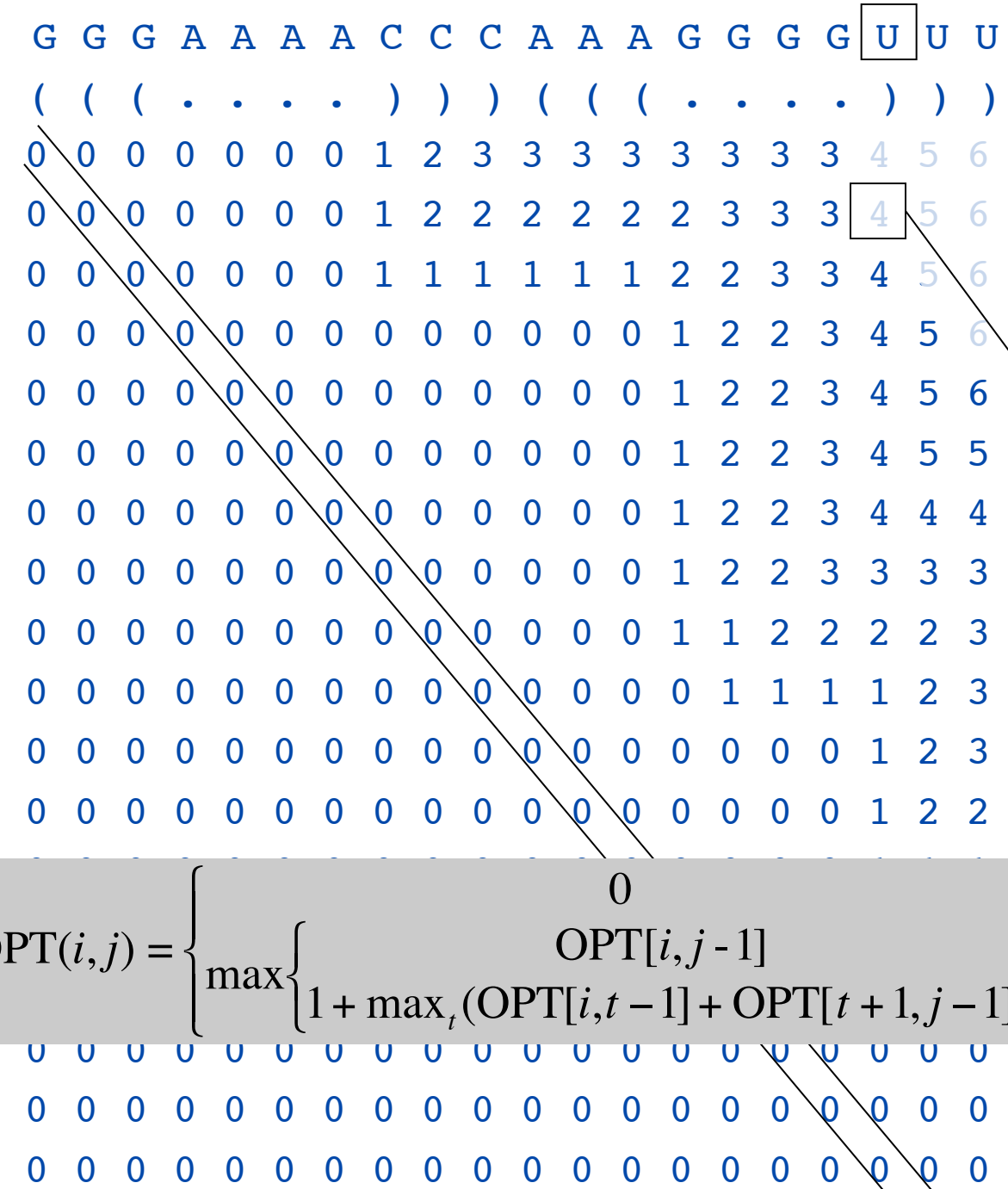
(....)

E.g.:
OPT[6,16] = 2:

GUUGCAAUGUC

((....)...)

Computing one cell: OPT[2,18] = ?

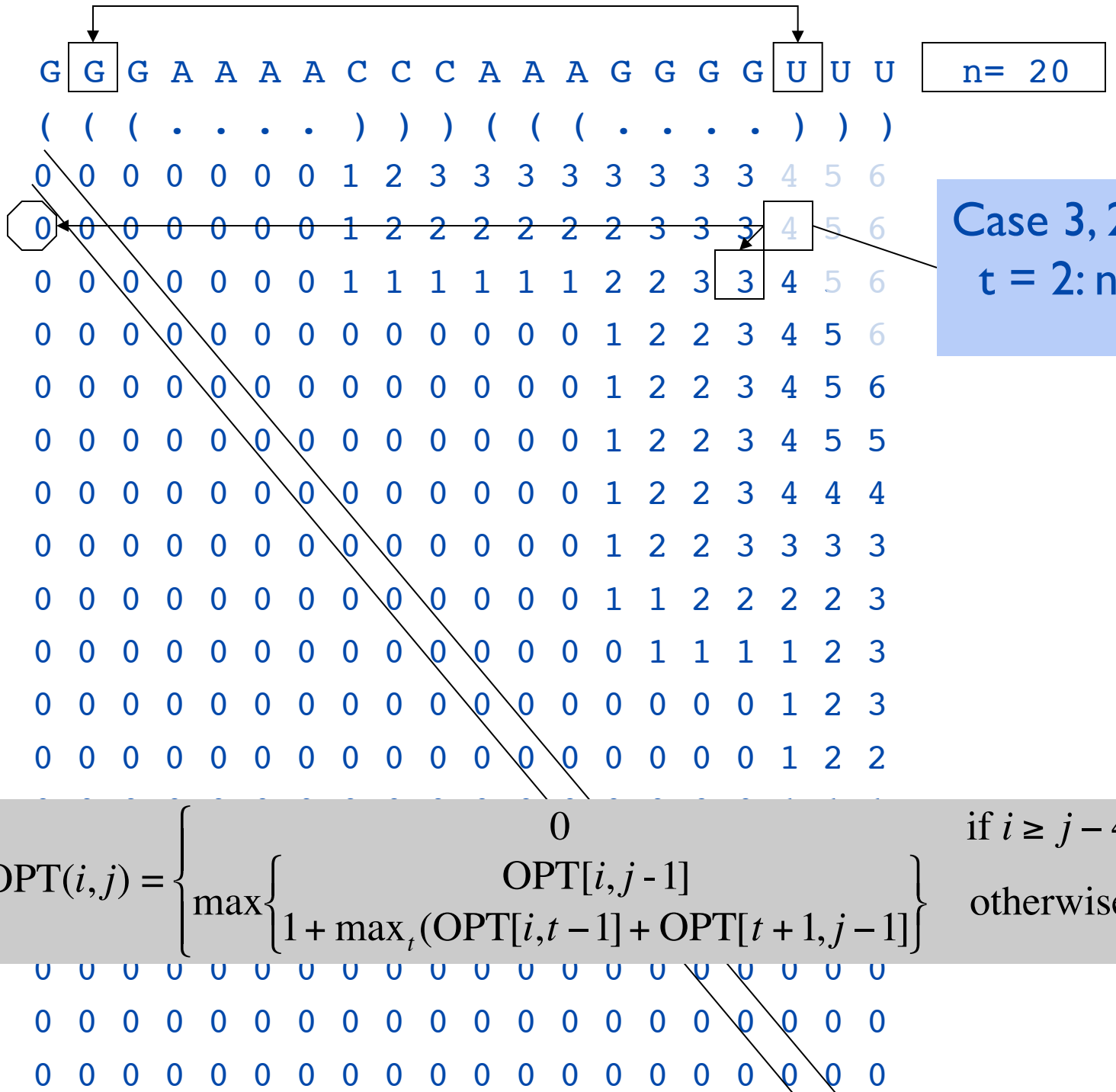


Case 1:
2 ≥ 18-4? no.
Case 2:
B_{18} unpaired?
Always a possibility;
then OPT[2,18] ≥ 3

GGAAAACCCAAAGGGGU
((. . . .)) (. . . .) . . .

$$\mathrm{OPT}(i,j) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i \geq j-4 \\ \max\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \mathrm{OPT}[i,j-1] \\ 1+\max_t(\mathrm{OPT}[i,t-1]+\mathrm{OPT}[t+1,j-1]) \end{array} \right\} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Computing one cell: OPT[2,18] = ?



$$\mathrm{OPT}(i,j) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i \geq j-4 \\ \max\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \mathrm{OPT}[i,j-1] \\ 1+\max_t(\mathrm{OPT}[i,t-1]+\mathrm{OPT}[t+1,j-1]) \end{array} \right\} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

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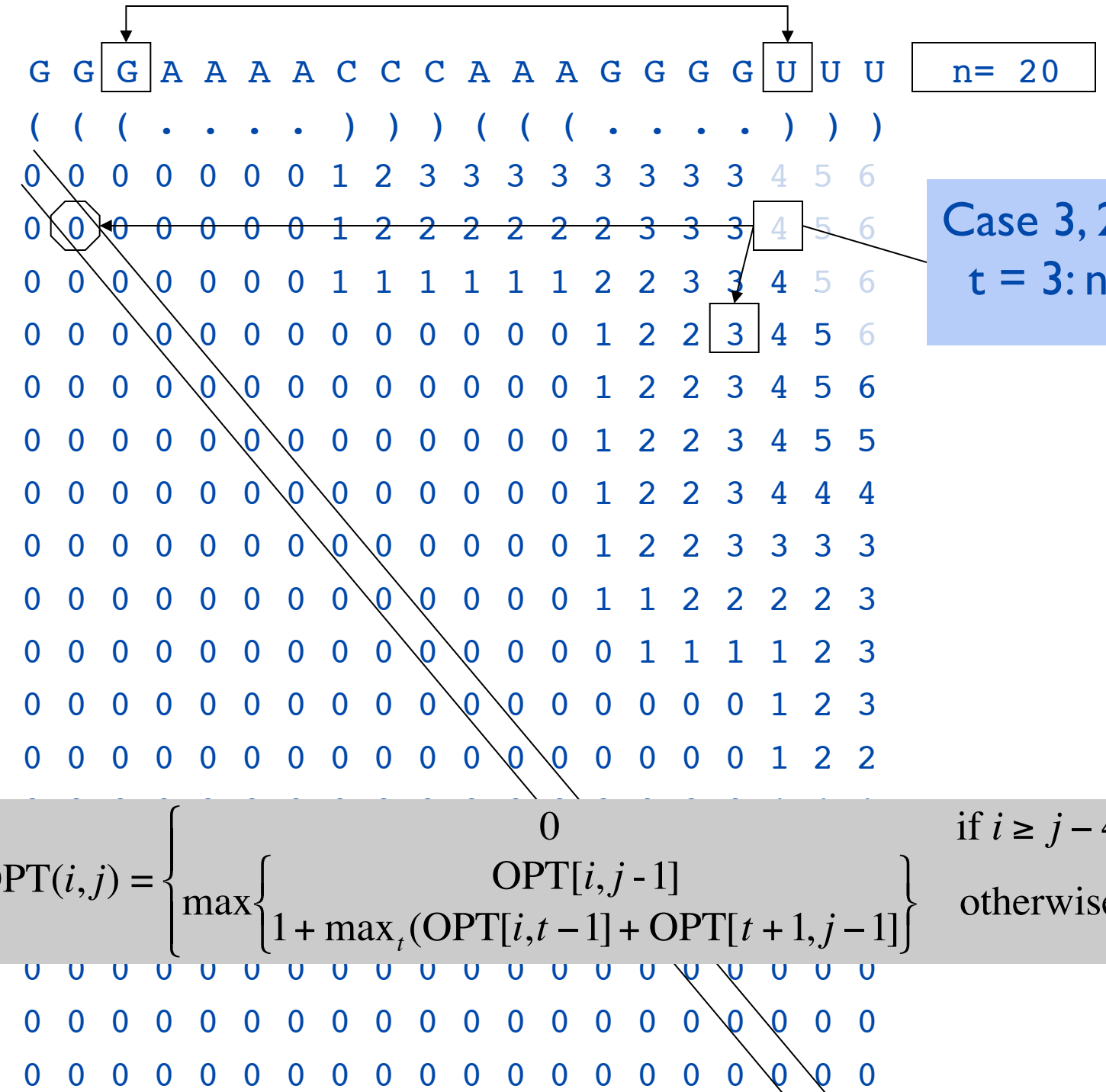
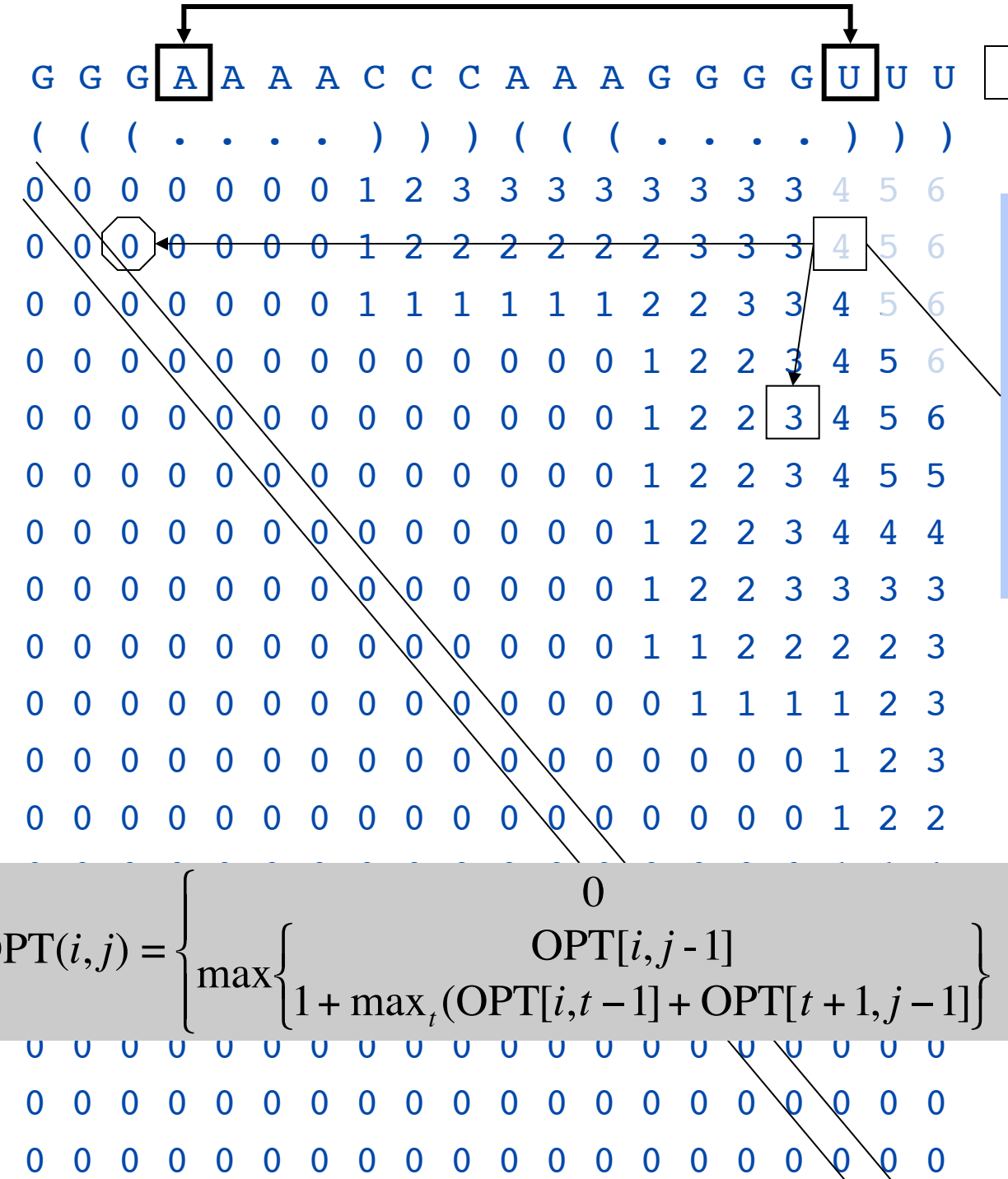


Case 3, $2 \le t < 18-4$:
$t = 3$: no pair

$$\mathrm{OPT}(i,j) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i \ge j-4 \\ \max\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \mathrm{OPT}[i,j-1] \\ 1+\max_t(\mathrm{OPT}[i,t-1]+\mathrm{OPT}[t+1,j-1]) \end{array} \right\} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Computing one cell: OPT[2,18] = ?

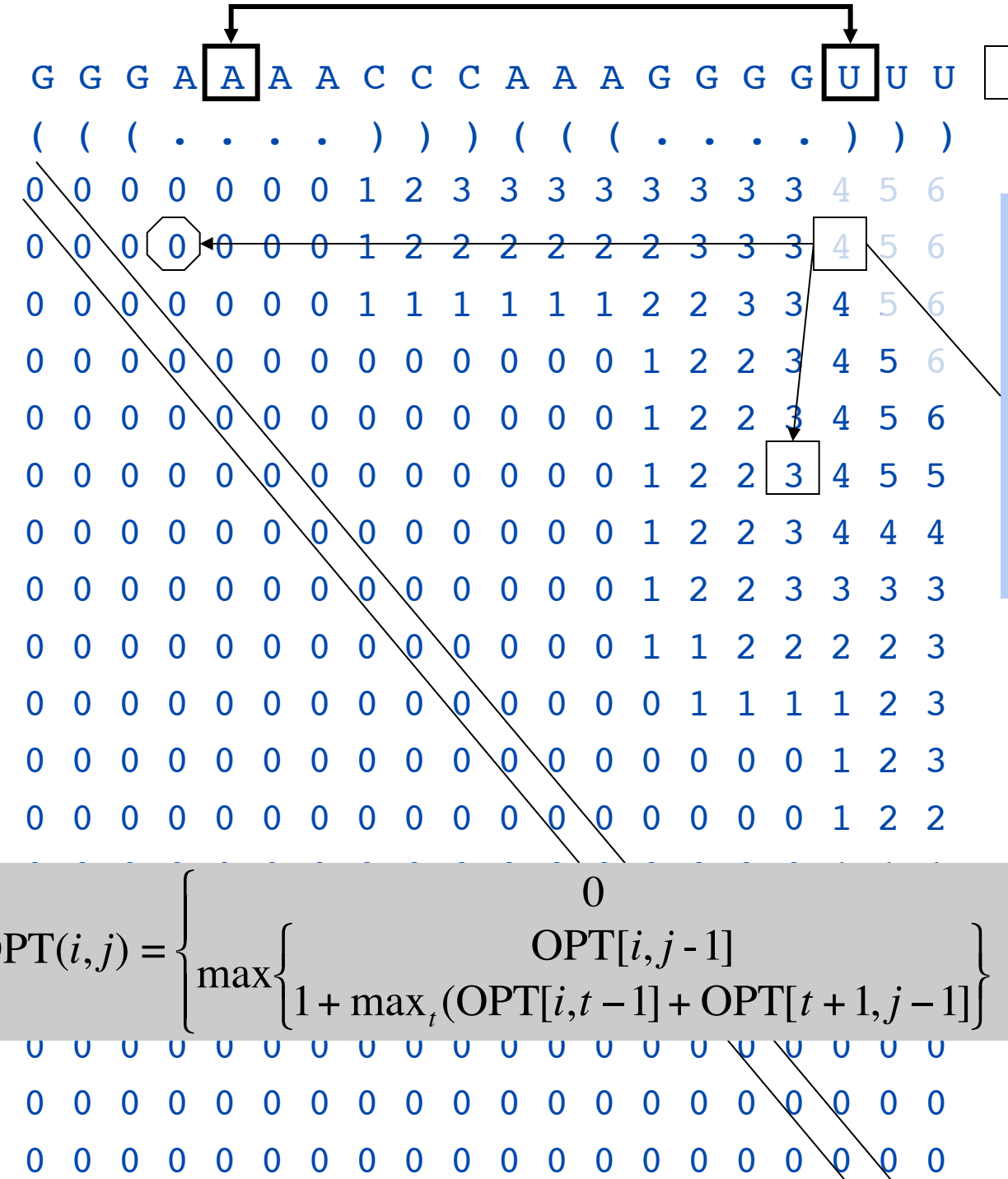


Case 3, $2 \le t < 18-4$:
t = 4: yes pair
OPT[2,18]≥1+0+3

GG**A**AAACCCAAAGGGG**U**
..(...(((....)))).

$$\mathrm{OPT}(i,j) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i \ge j-4 \\ \max\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \mathrm{OPT}[i,j-1] \\ 1+\max_t(\mathrm{OPT}[i,t-1]+\mathrm{OPT}[t+1,j-1]) \end{array} \right\} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Computing one cell: OPT[2,18] = ?

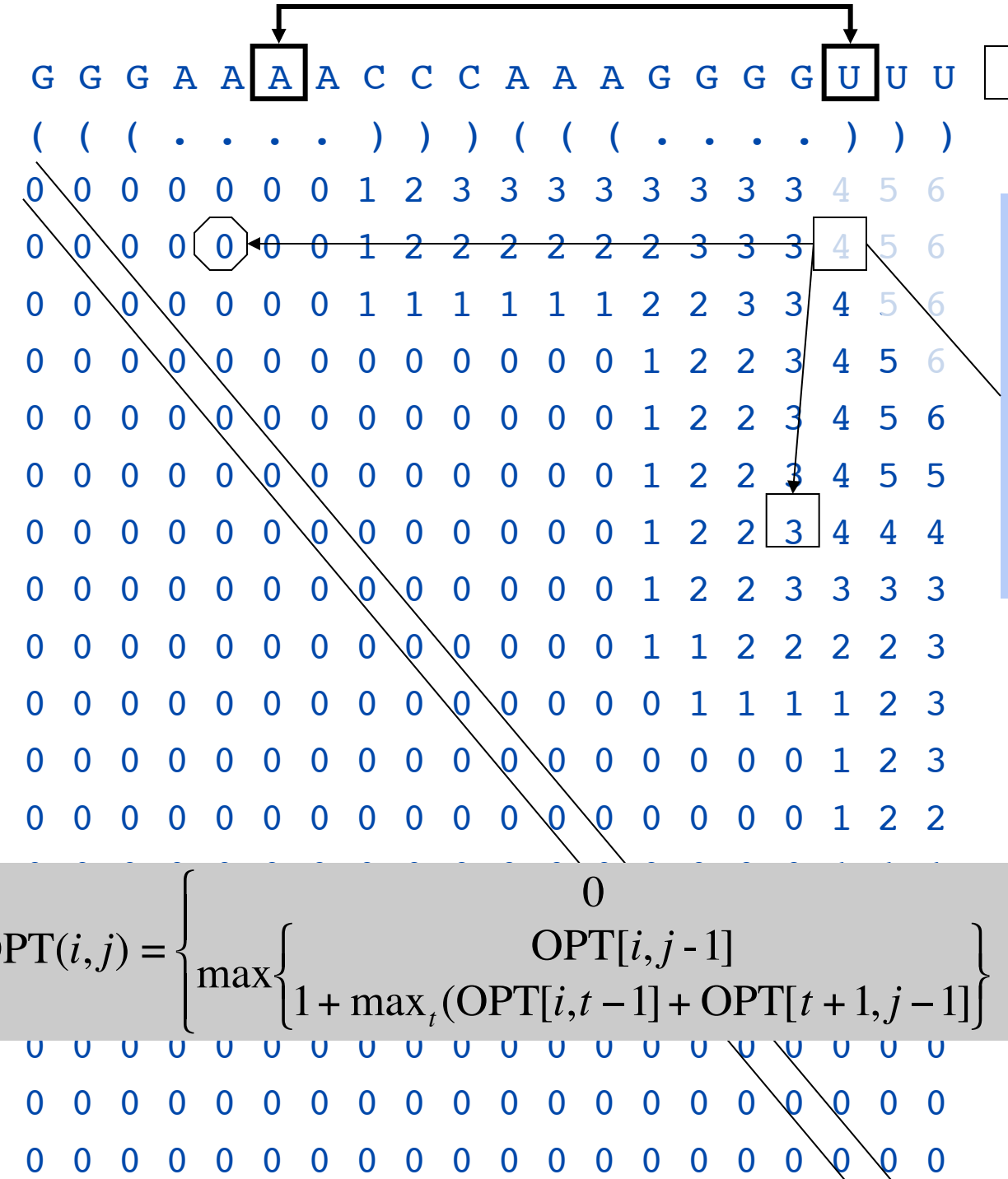


Case 3, 2 ≤ t <18-4:
t = 5: yes pair
OPT[2,18]≥1+0+3

GGA**A**AACCCAAAGGGG**U**
...(..(((....)))).

$$\mathrm{OPT}(i,j) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i \geq j-4 \\ \max\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \mathrm{OPT}[i,j-1] \\ 1+\max_t(\mathrm{OPT}[i,t-1]+\mathrm{OPT}[t+1,j-1]) \end{array} \right\} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Computing one cell: OPT[2,18] = ?

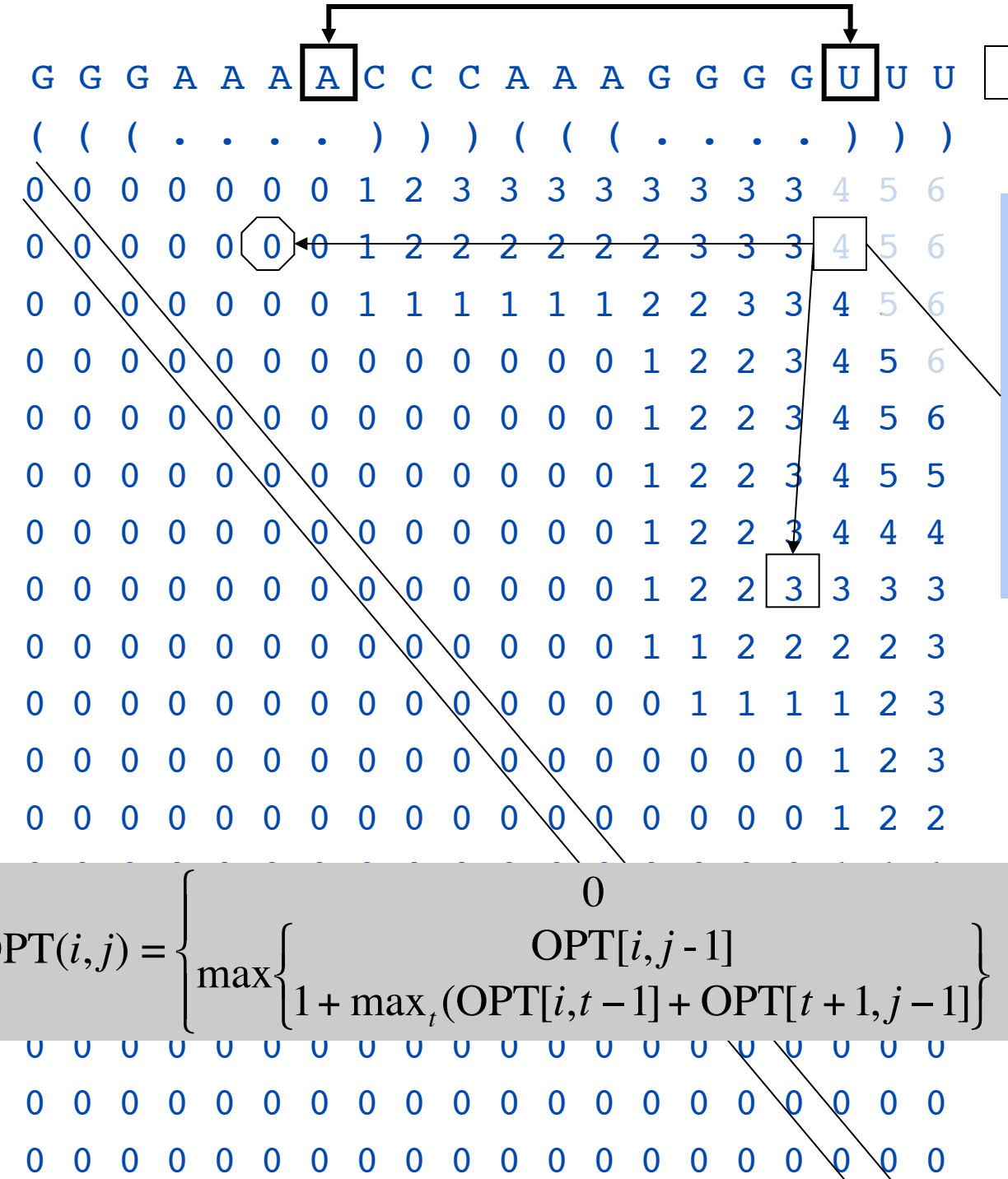


Case 3, 2 ≤ t <18-4:
t = 6: yes pair
OPT[2,18]≥1+0+3

GGAA**A**ACCCAAAGGGG**U**
....(.((((....))))

$$\mathrm{OPT}(i,j) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i \geq j-4 \\ \max\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \mathrm{OPT}[i,j-1] \\ 1+\max_t(\mathrm{OPT}[i,t-1]+\mathrm{OPT}[t+1,j-1]) \end{array} \right\} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Computing one cell: OPT[2,18] = ?

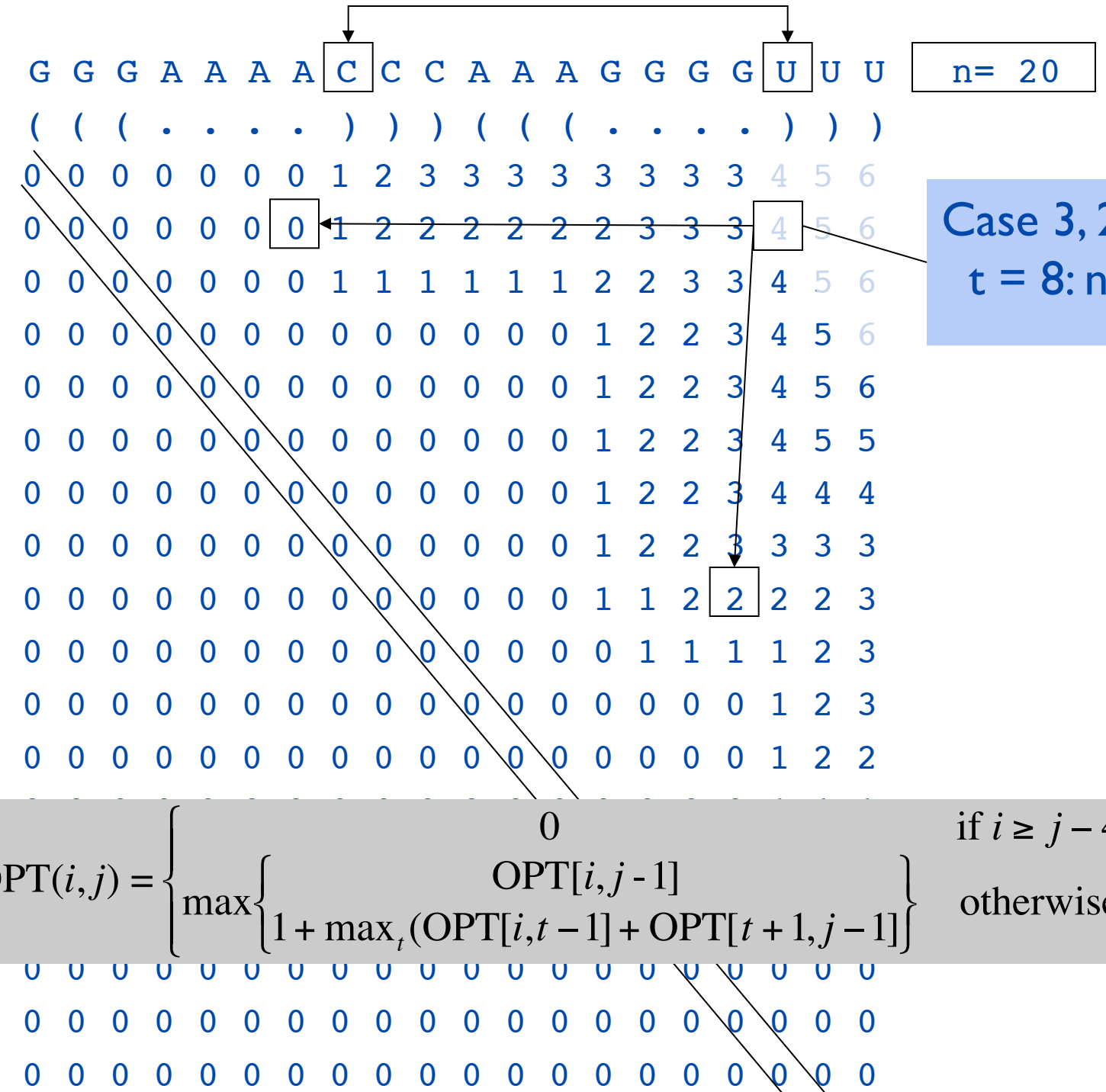


Case 3, $2 \le t < 18-4$:
t = 7: yes pair
OPT[2,18]≥1+0+3

GGAAA**A**CCCAAAGGGG**U**
.....((((....))))

$$\mathrm{OPT}(i,j) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i \ge j-4 \\ \max\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \mathrm{OPT}[i,j-1] \\ 1+\max_t(\mathrm{OPT}[i,t-1]+\mathrm{OPT}[t+1,j-1]) \end{array} \right\} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Computing one cell: OPT[2,18] = ?



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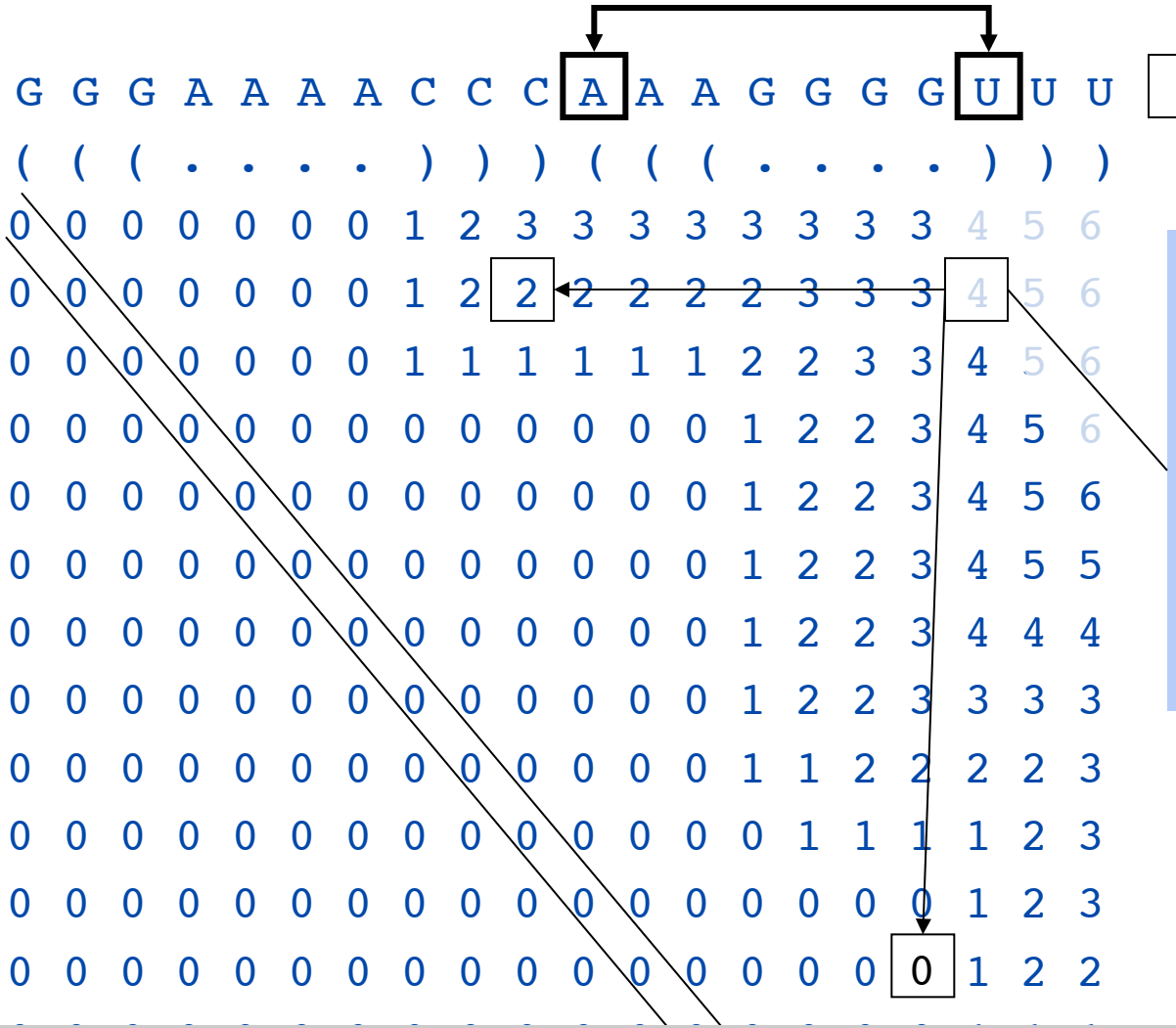
Computing one cell: OPT[2,18] = ?

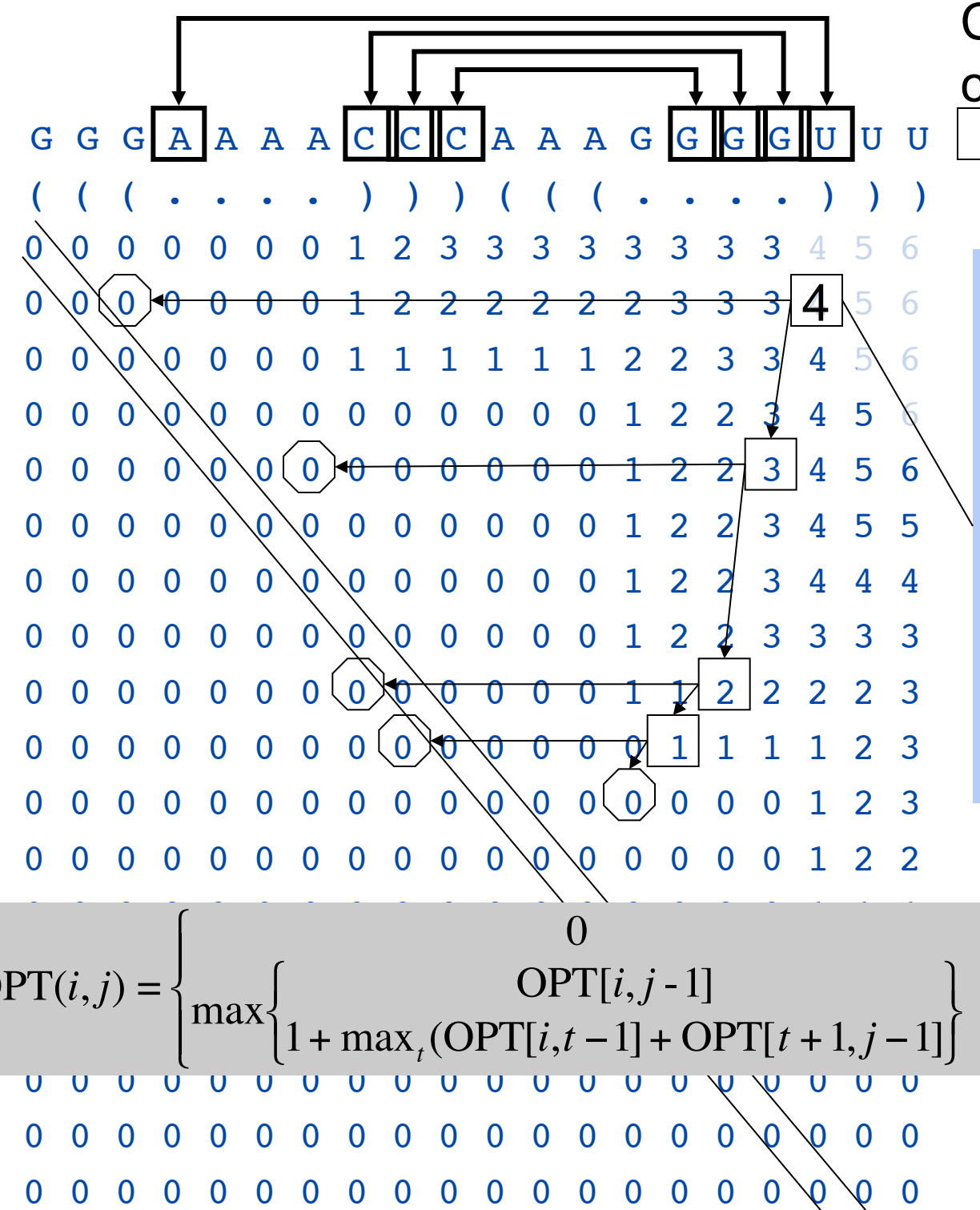


Case 3, $2 \le t < 18-4$:
t = 11: yes pair
OPT[2,18]≥1+2+0

GGAAAACCC**A**AAGGGG**U**
((.....))(.....)

(not shown:
t=9,10, 12,13)

$$\mathrm{OPT}(i,j) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i \ge j-4 \\ \max\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \mathrm{OPT}[i,j-1] \\ 1+\max_t(\mathrm{OPT}[i,t-1]+\mathrm{OPT}[t+1,j-1]) \end{array} \right\} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



Computing one cell: OPT[2,18] = 4

n= 20

Overall, Max = 4 several ways, e.g.:

GGAAAACCCAAAGGGGU

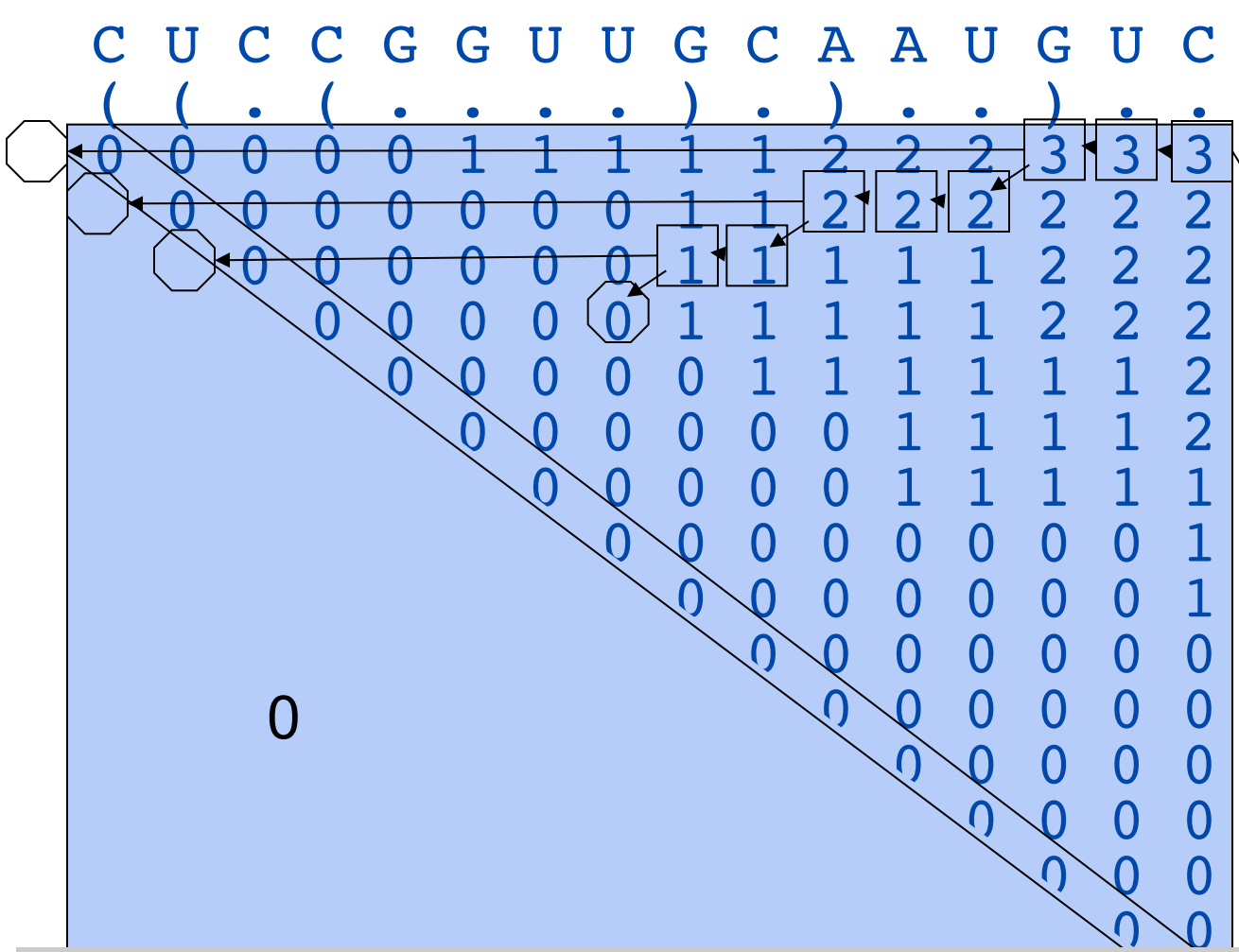
..(...(((....))))

tree shows trace back:

- square = case 3
- octagon = case 1

$$\mathrm{OPT}(i,j) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i \geq j-4 \\ \max\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \mathrm{OPT}[i,j-1] \\ 1+\max_t(\mathrm{OPT}[i,t-1]+\mathrm{OPT}[t+1,j-1]) \end{array} \right\} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Another Trace Back Example



E.g.:
OPT[1,16] = 3:

CUCCGGUUGCAAUGUC

((.(....).)..)..

$$\mathrm{OPT}(i,j) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i \geq j-4 \\ \max\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \mathrm{OPT}[i,j-1] \\ 1+\max_t(\mathrm{OPT}[i,t-1]+\mathrm{OPT}[t+1,j-1]) \end{array} \right\} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$