

NPTEL MOOC, JAN-FEB 2015  
Week 7, Module 3

# DESIGN AND ANALYSIS OF ALGORITHMS

## Grid Paths

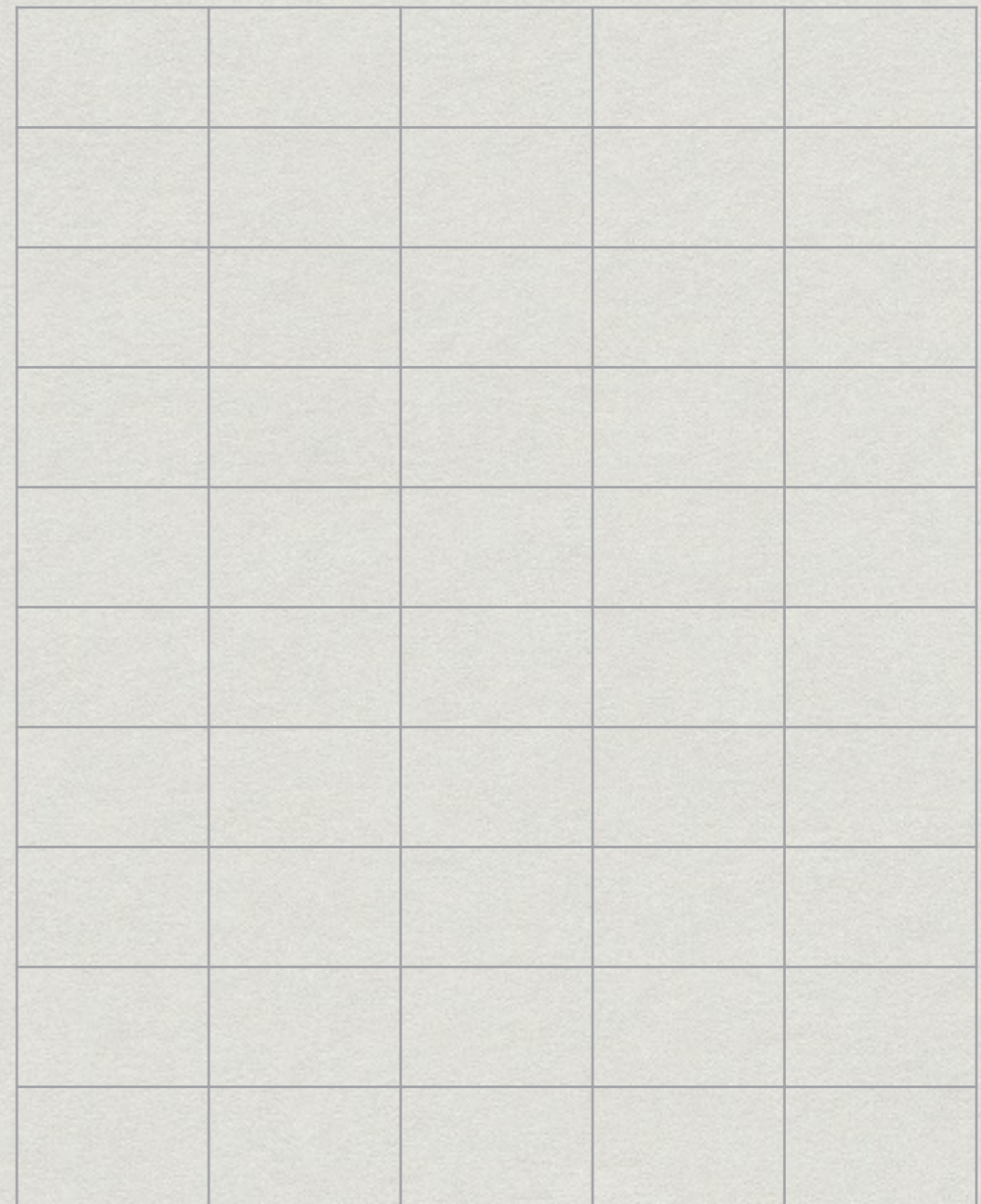
MADHAVAN MUKUND, CHENNAI MATHEMATICAL INSTITUTE  
<http://www.cmi.ac.in/~madhavan>



# Grid Paths

- \* Roads arranged in a rectangular grid
- \* Can only go up or right
- \* How many different routes from  $(0,0)$  to  $(m,n)$ ?

**$(5,10)$**

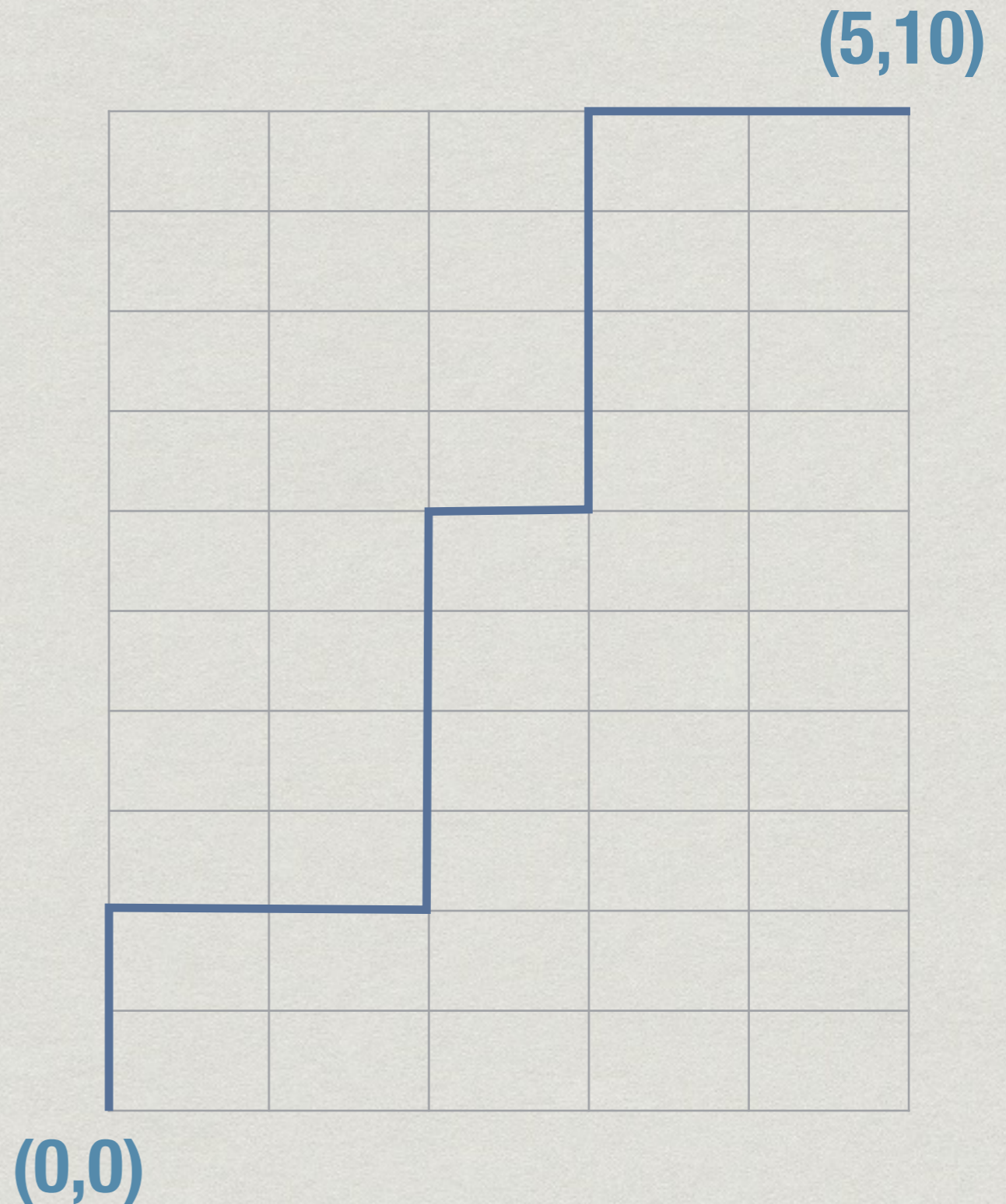


**$(0,0)$**



# Grid Paths

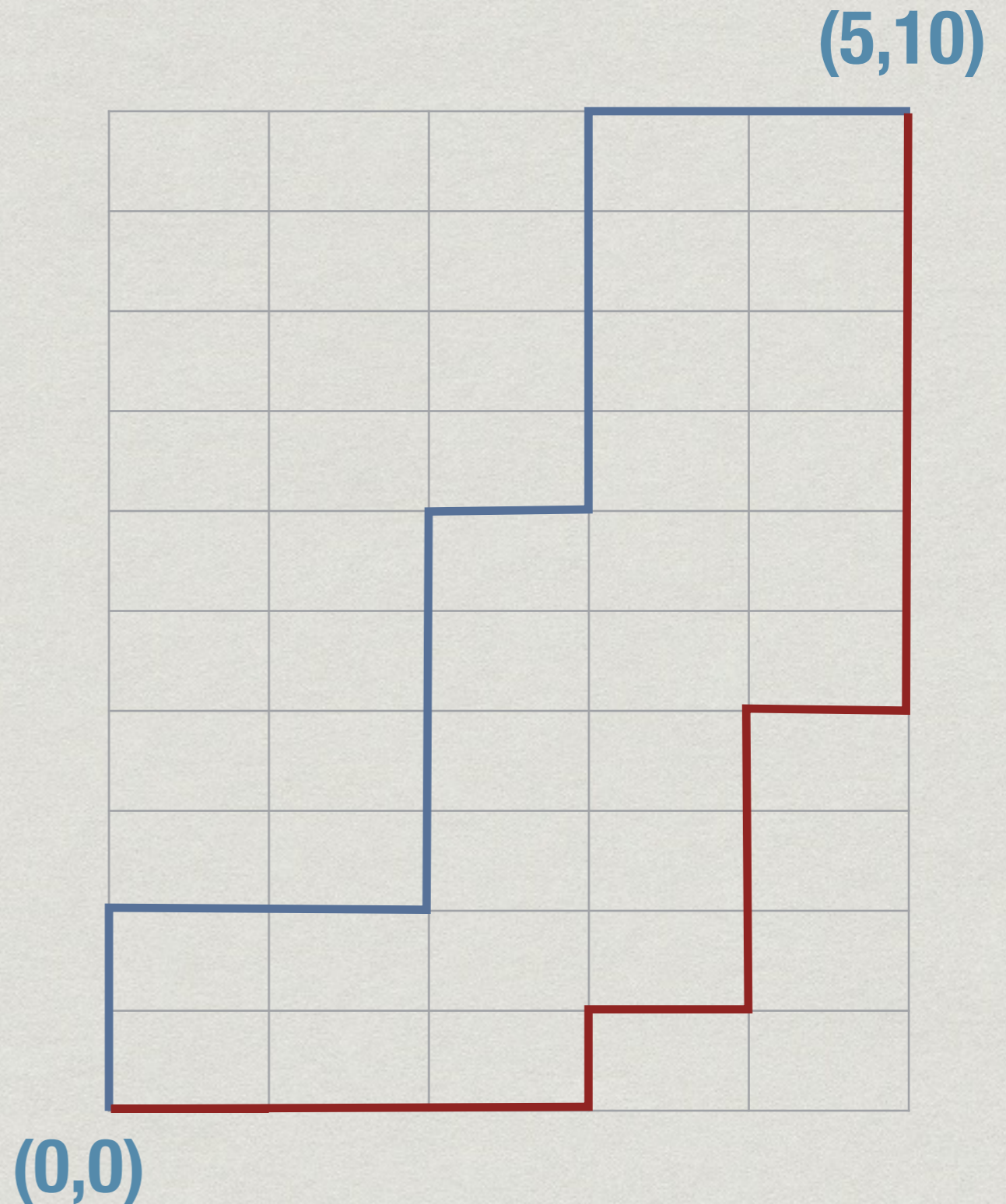
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# Grid Paths

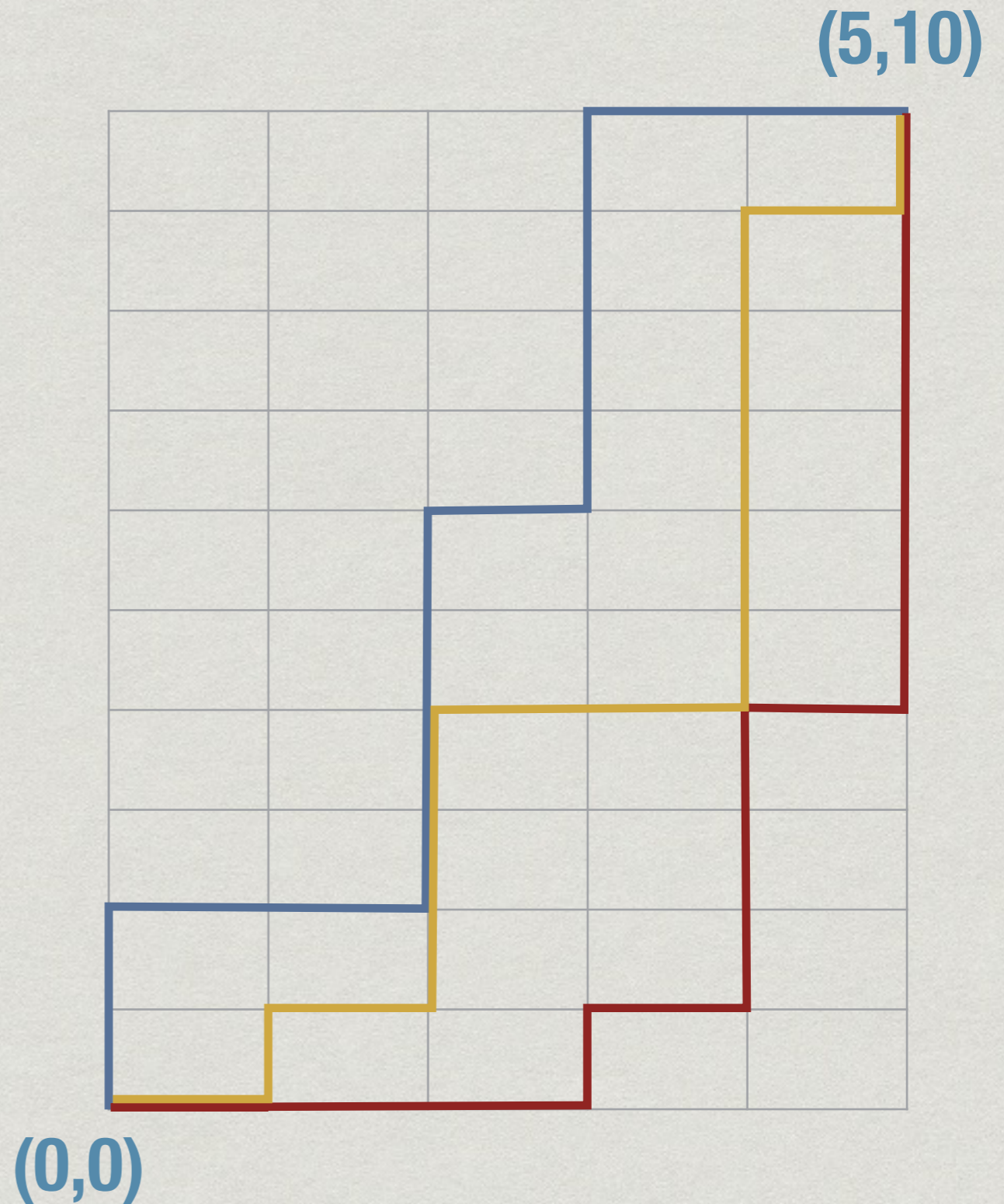
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# Combinatorial solution

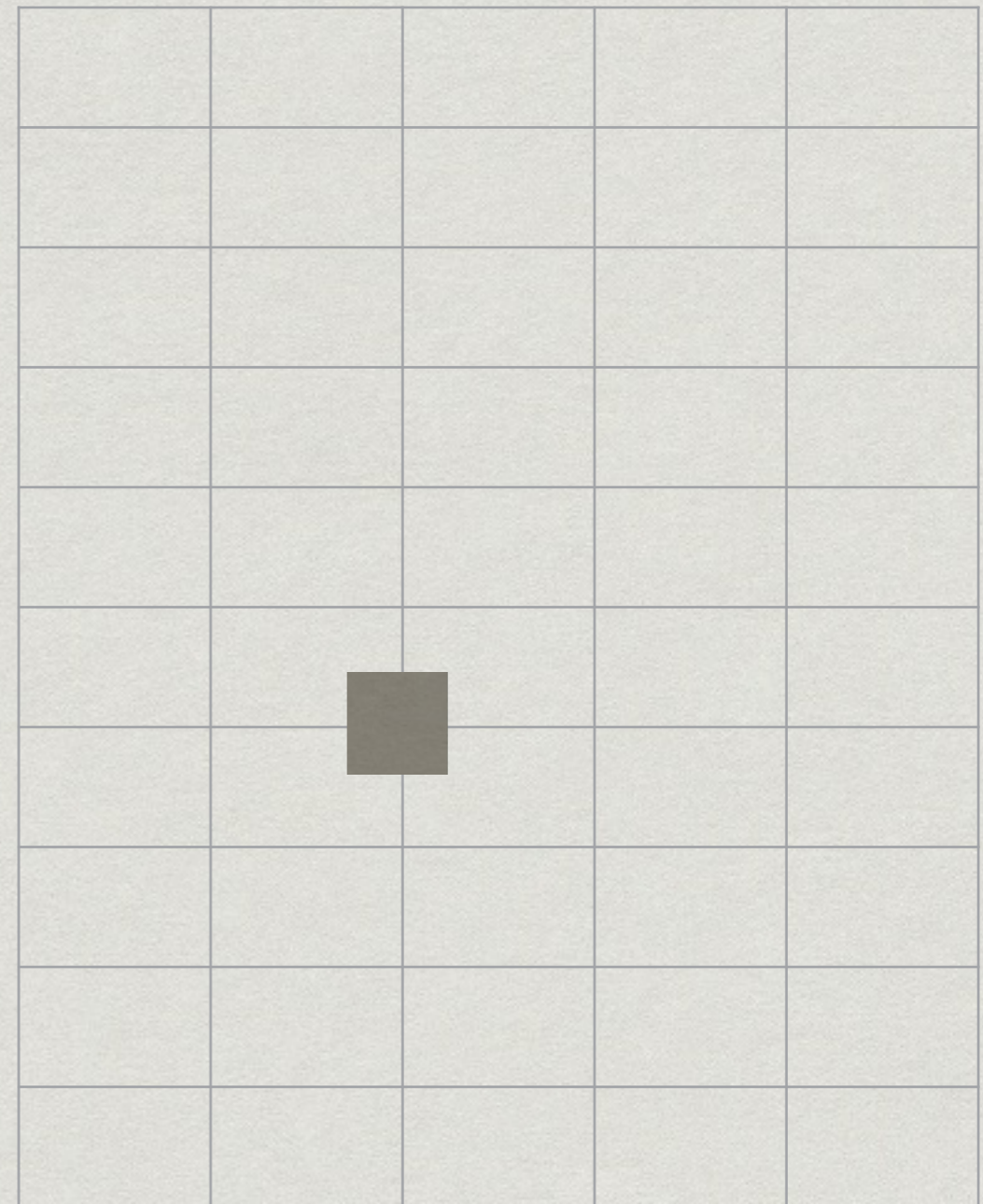
- \* Every path from (0,0) to (5,10) has 15 segments
  - \* In general  $m+n$  segments from (0,0) to (m,n)
- \* Of these exactly 5 are right moves, 10 are up moves
- \* Fix the positions of the 5 right moves among the overall 15 positions
  - \*  $15 \text{ choose } 5 = \frac{15!}{(10!)(5!)} = 3003$
  - \* Same as 15 choose 10: fix the 10 up moves



# Holes

- \* What if an intersection is blocked?
- \*  $(2,4)$ , for example
- \* Paths through  $(2,4)$  need to be discarded
- \* Two of our earlier examples are invalid paths

$(5,10)$

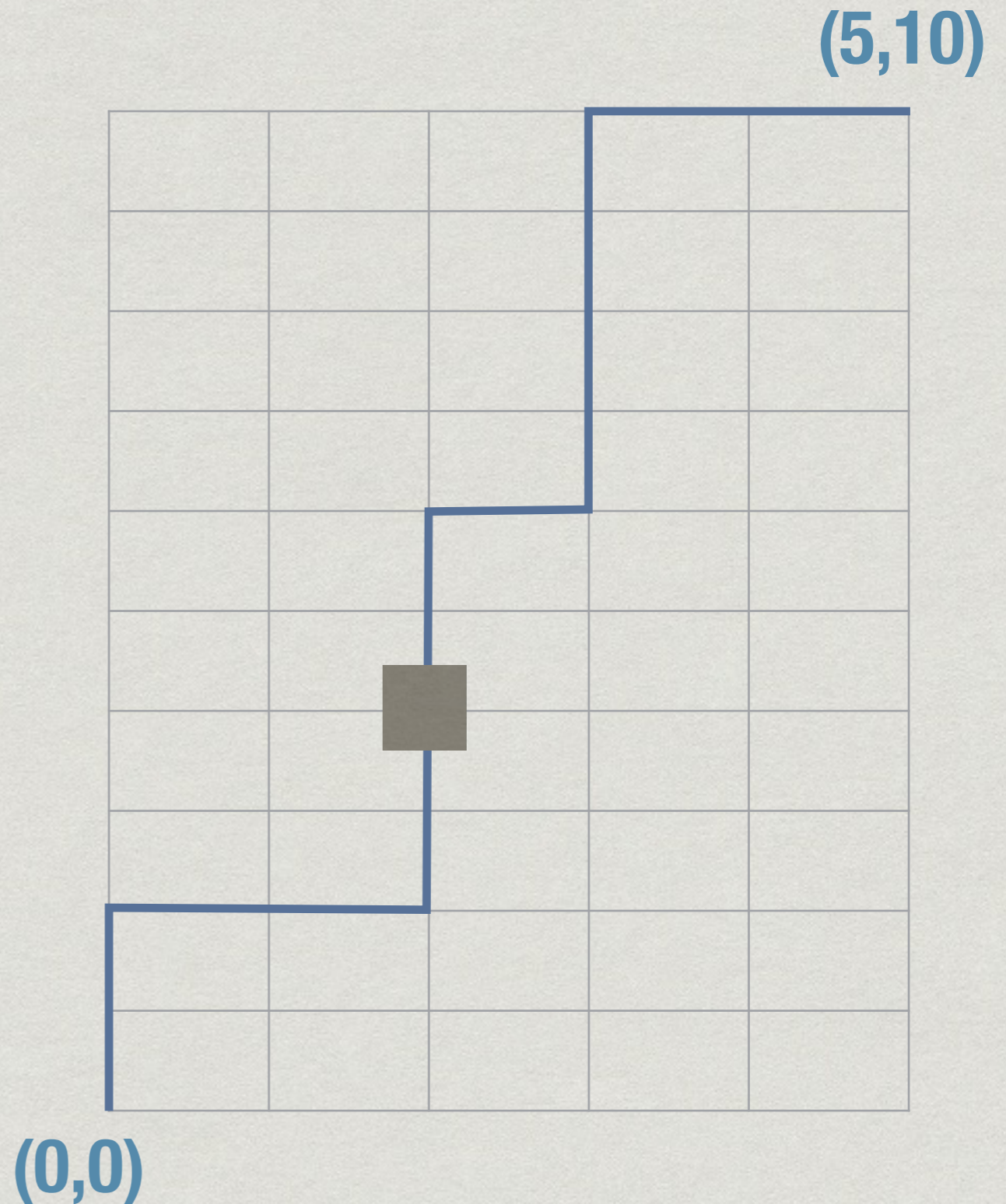


$(0,0)$



# Holes

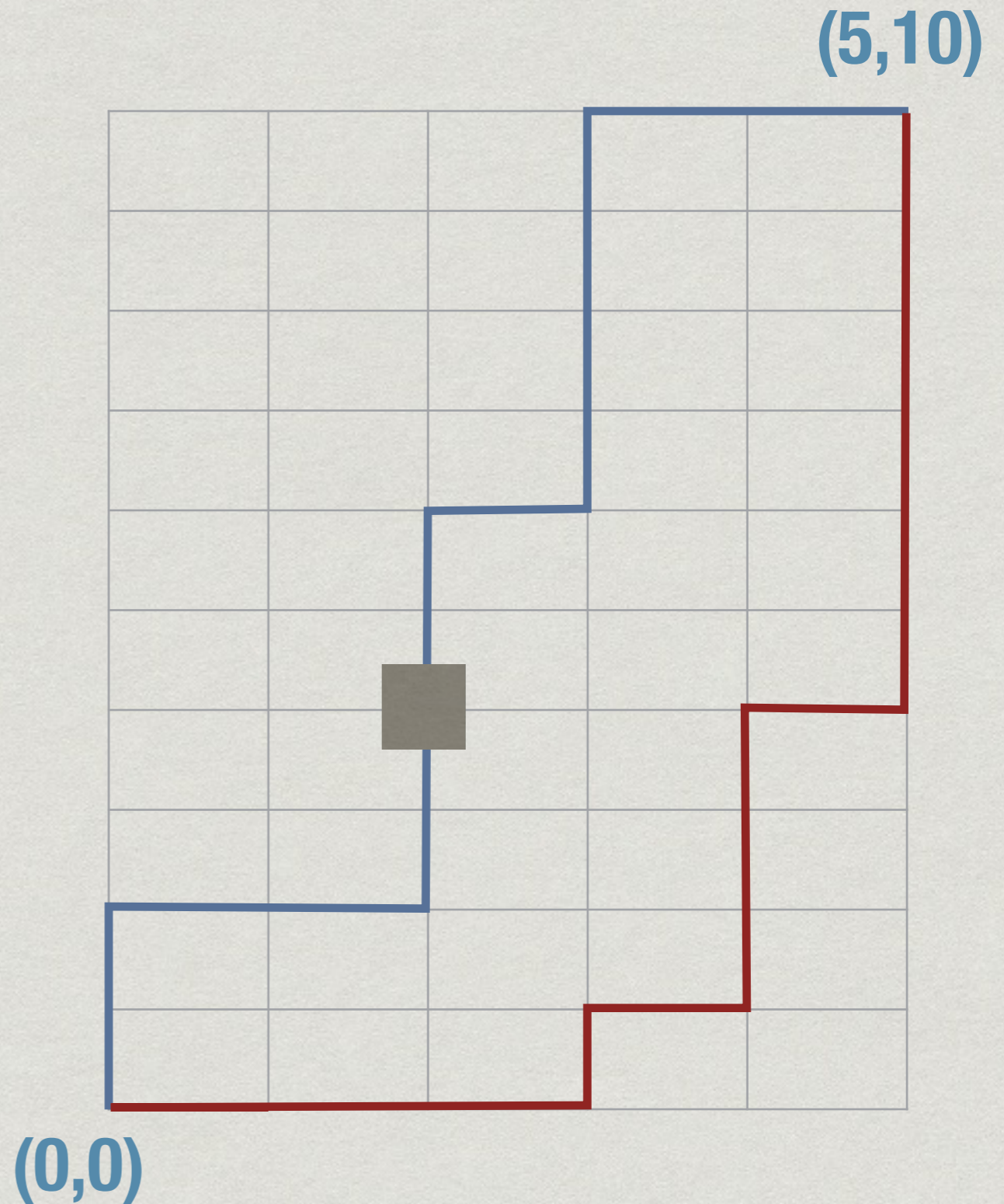
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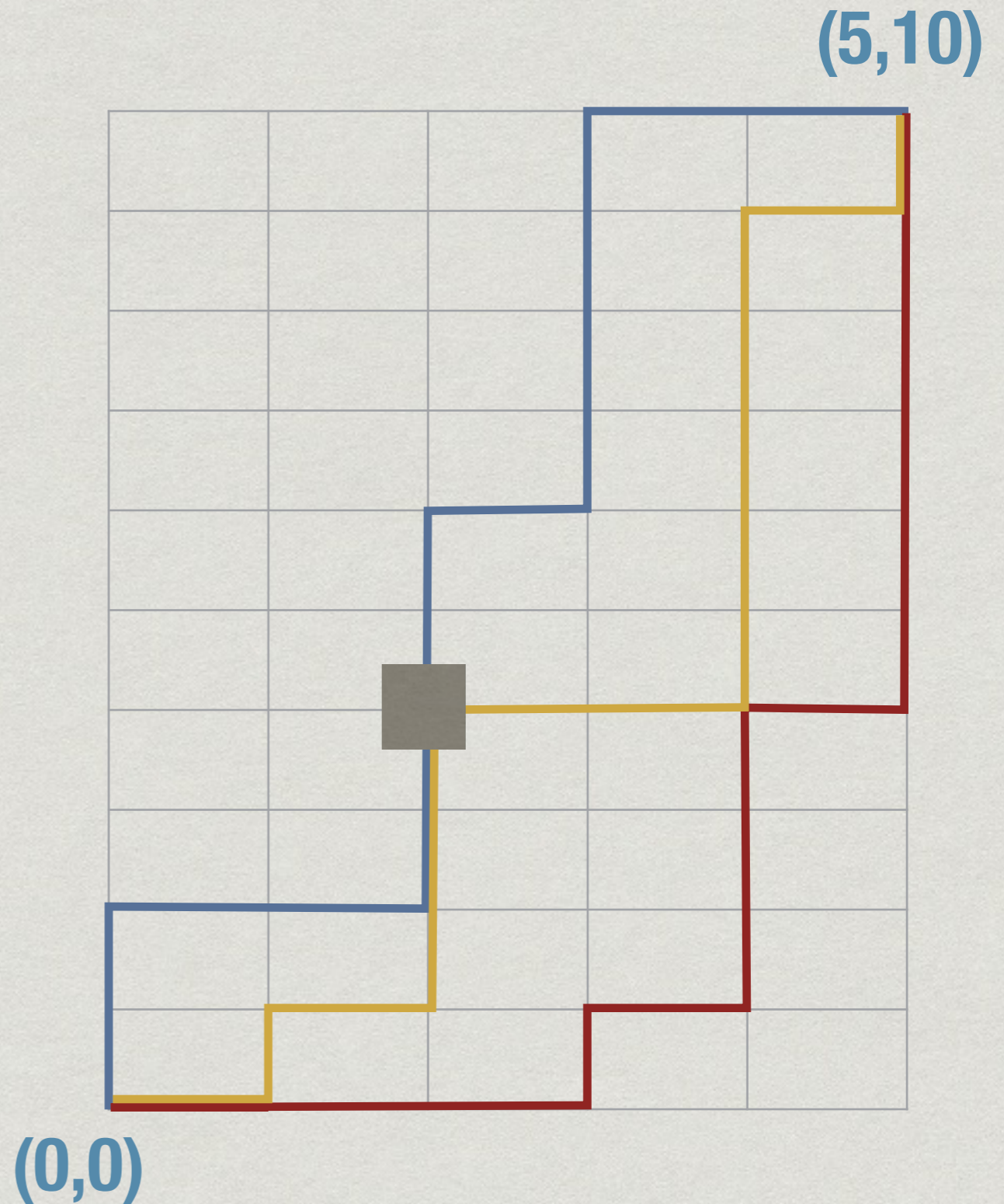
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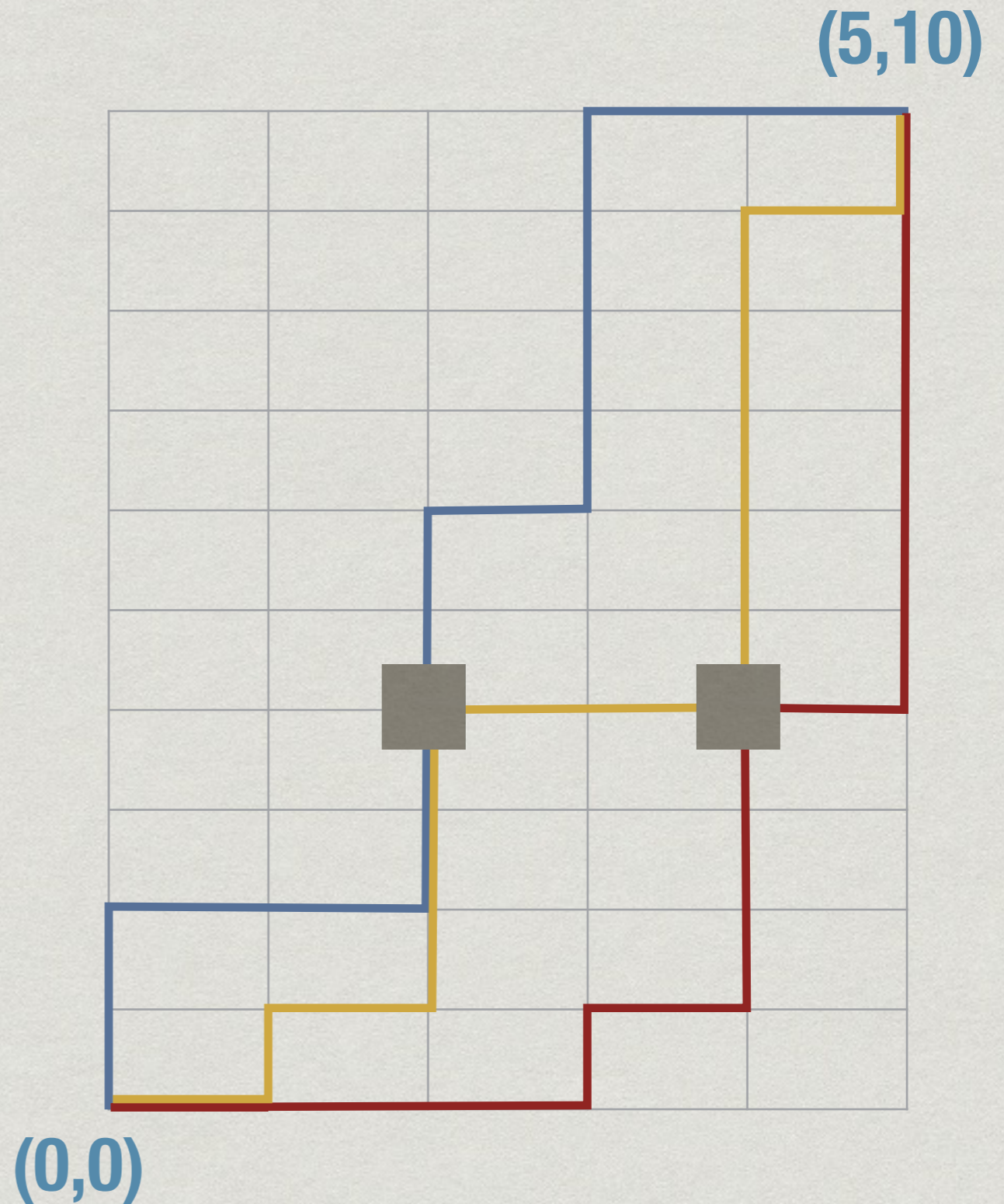
# Combinatorial solution

- \* Every path through (2,4) goes from (0,0) to (2,4) and then from (2,4) to (5,10)
  - \* Count these separately:
    - \*  $(4+2) \text{ choose } 2 = 15$
    - \*  $(6+3) \text{ choose } 3 = 84$
  - \* Multiply to get all paths through (2,4): 1260
  - \* Subtract from 15 choose 5 = 3003 to get valid paths that avoid (2,4): **1743**



# Holes

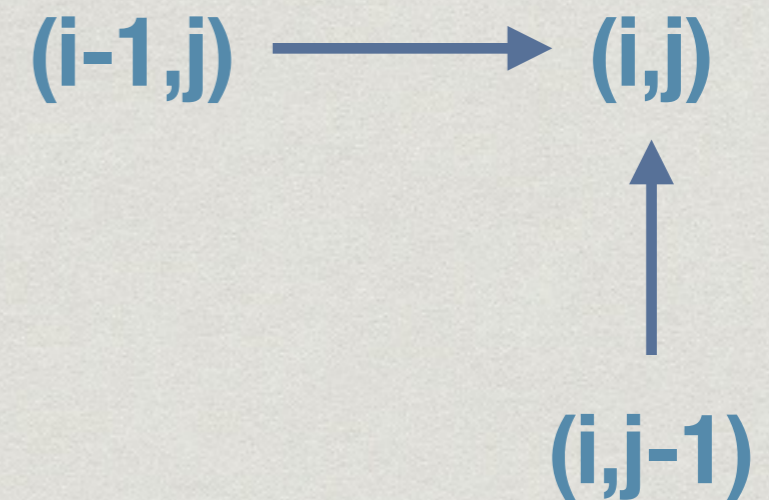
- \* What if two intersections are blocked?
- \* Subtract paths through  $(2,4)$ ,  $(4,4)$ 
  - \* Some paths are counted twice!
- \* Add back paths through both holes
- \* Inclusion-exclusion: messy





# Inductive formulation

- \* How can a path reach  $(i,j)$ 
  - \* Move up from  $(i,j-1)$
  - \* Move right from  $(i-1,j)$
- \* Every path to these neighbours extends in a unique way to  $(i,j)$





# Inductive formulation

- \*  $\text{Paths}(i,j)$  : Number of paths from  $(0,0)$  to  $(i,j)$
- \*  $\text{Paths}(i,j) = \text{Paths}(i-1,j) + \text{Paths}(i,j-1)$
- \* Boundary cases
  - \*  $\text{Paths}(i,0) = \text{Paths}(i-1,0)$  # Bottom row
  - \*  $\text{Paths}(0,j) = \text{Paths}(0,j-1)$  # Left column
  - \*  $\text{Paths}(0,0) = 1$  # Base case



# Dealing with holes

- \*  $\text{Paths}(i,j) = 0$ , if there is a hole at  $(i,j)$
- \*  $\text{Paths}(i,j) = \text{Paths}(i-1,j) + \text{Paths}(i,j-1)$ , otherwise
- \* Boundary cases
  - \*  $\text{Paths}(i,0) = \text{Paths}(i-1,0)$  # Bottom row
  - \*  $\text{Paths}(0,j) = \text{Paths}(0,j-1)$  # Left column
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# Computing Paths(i,j)

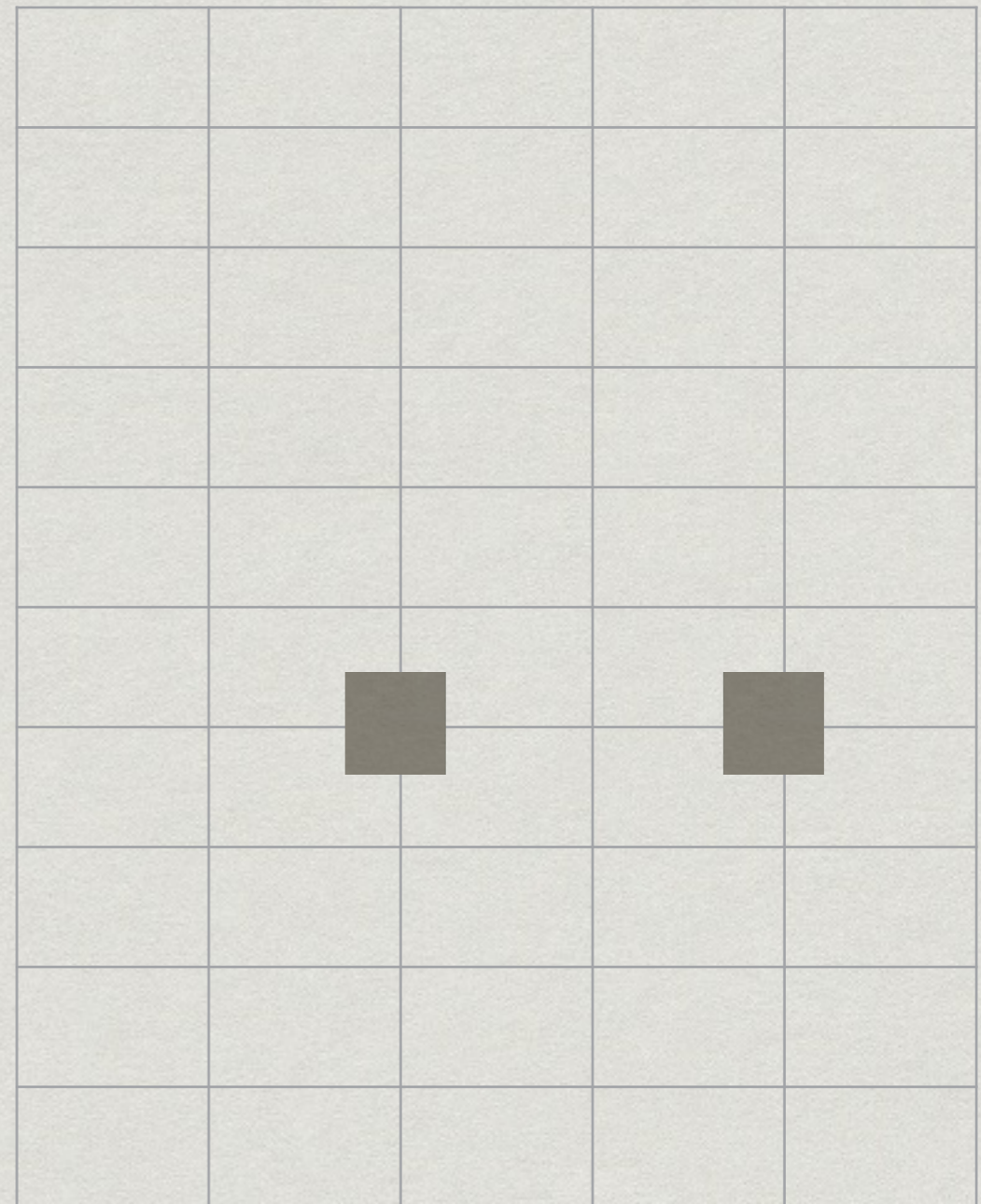
- \* Naive recursion will recompute multiple times
  - \* Paths(5,10) requires Paths(4,10) and Paths(5,9)
  - \* Both Paths(4,10) and Paths(5,9) require Paths(4,9)
- \* Use memoization ...
- \* ... or compute the subproblems directly in a suitable way



# Dynamic programming

(5,10)

- \* Identify DAG structure
- \* Paths(0,0) has no dependencies
- \* Start at (0,0)

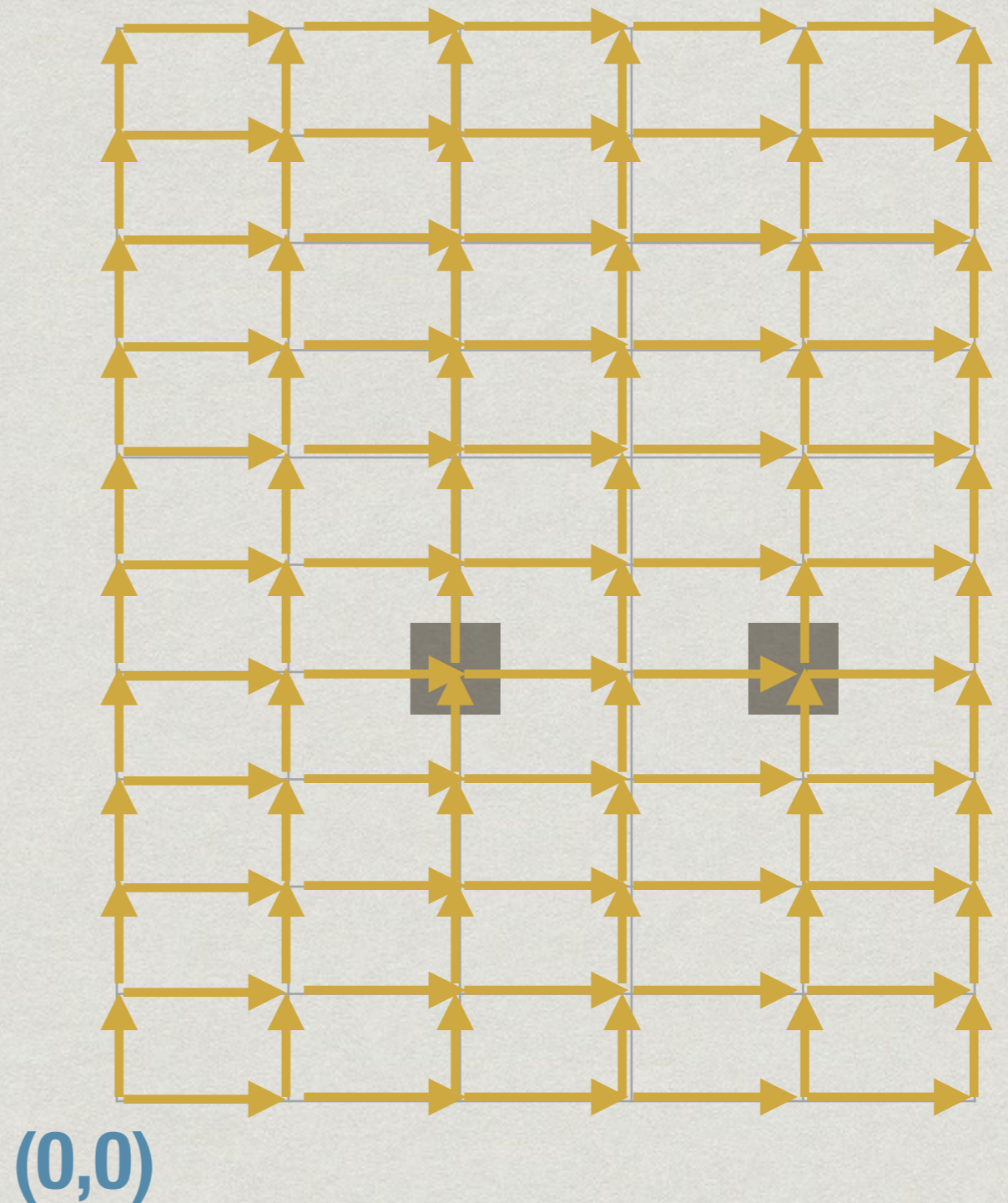




# Dynamic programming

(5,10)

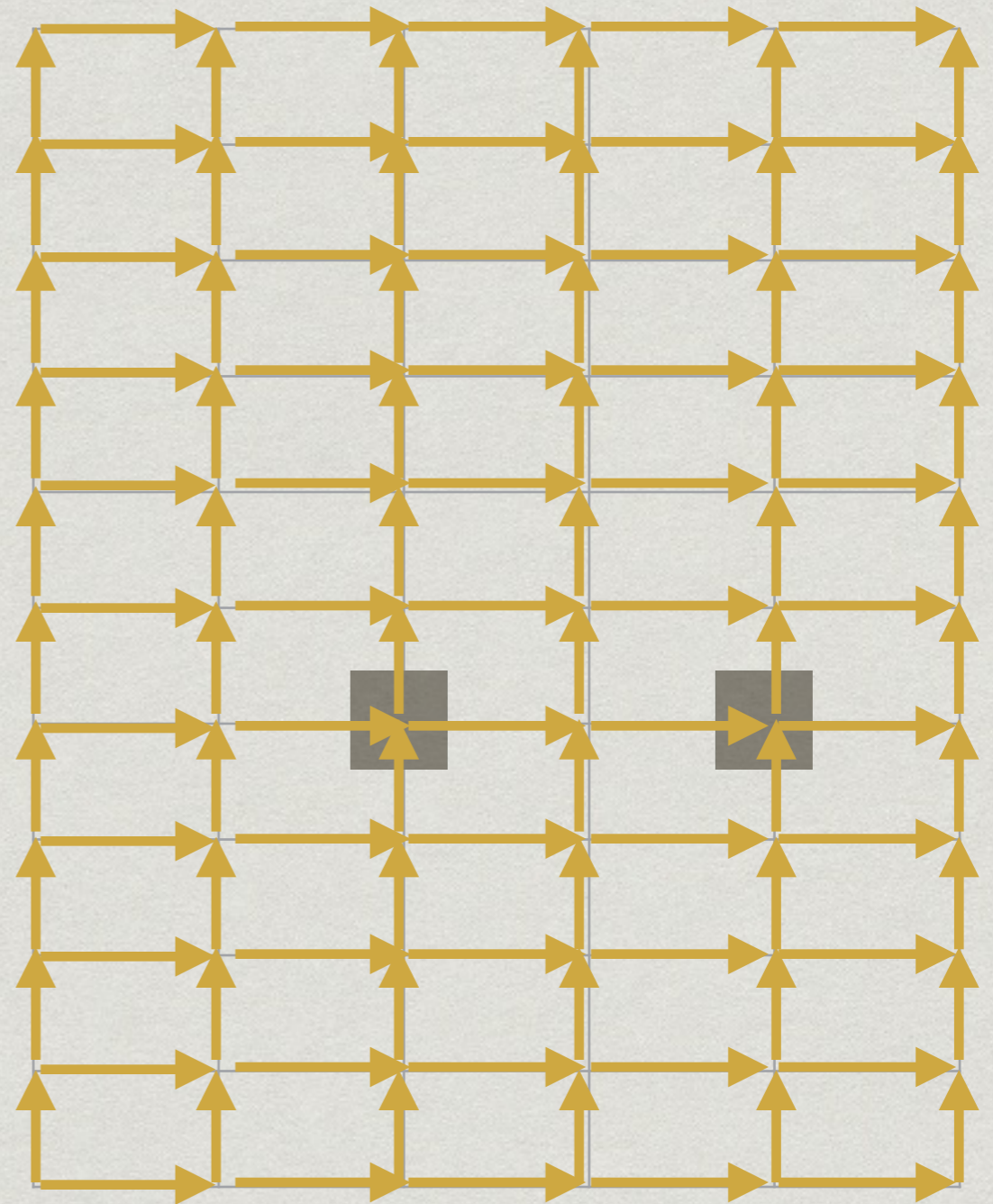
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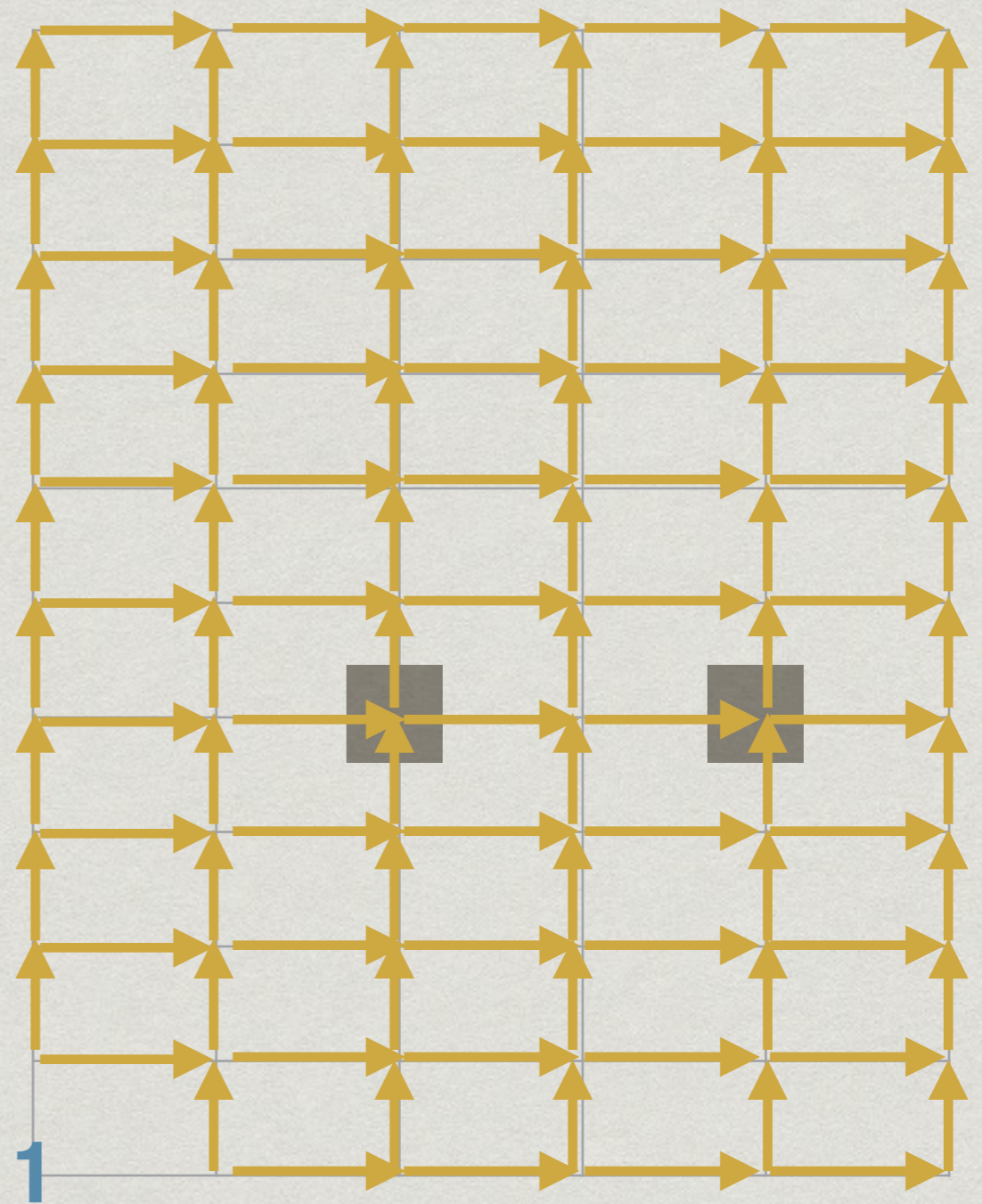
- \* Start at (0,0)
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# Dynamic programming

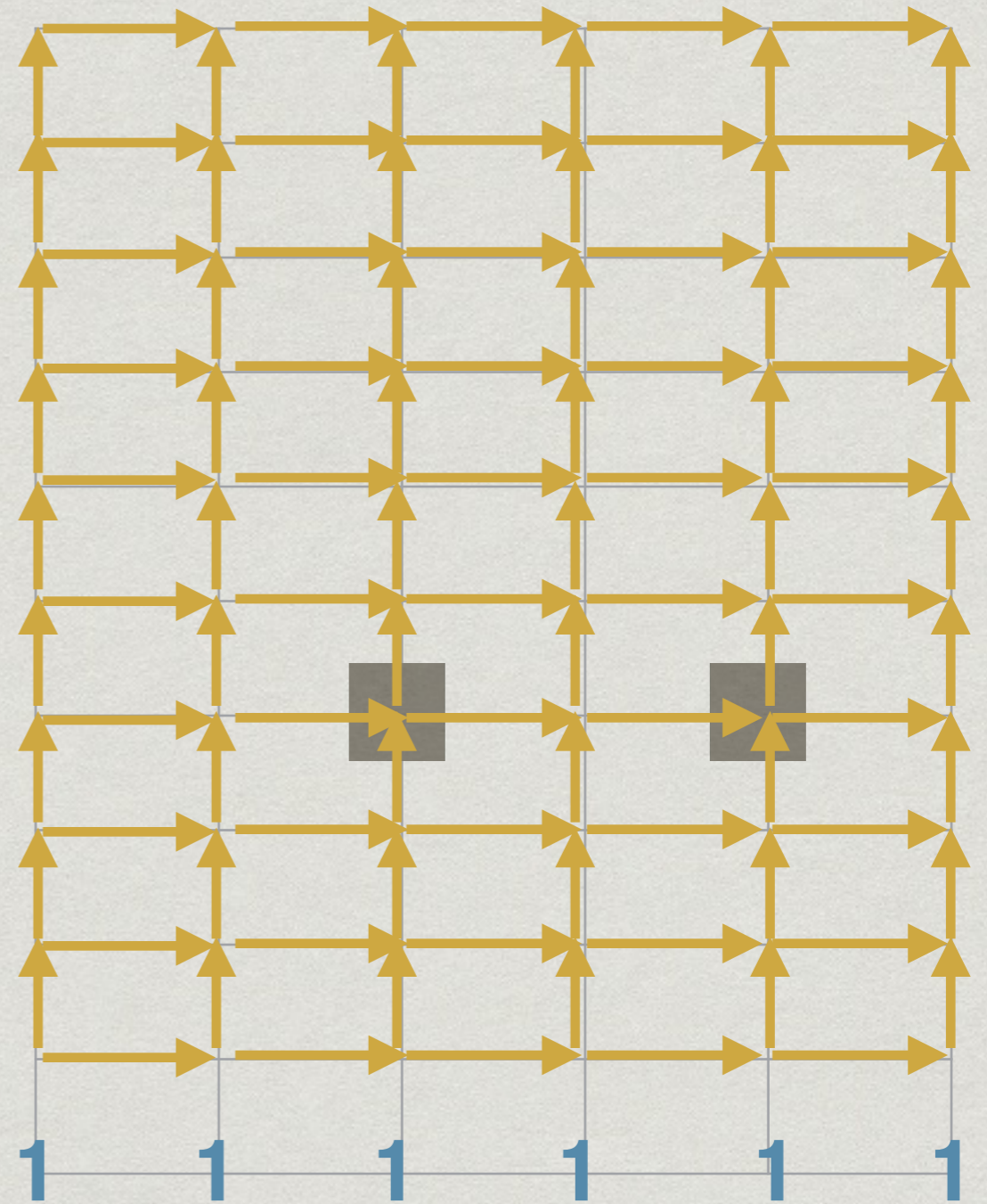
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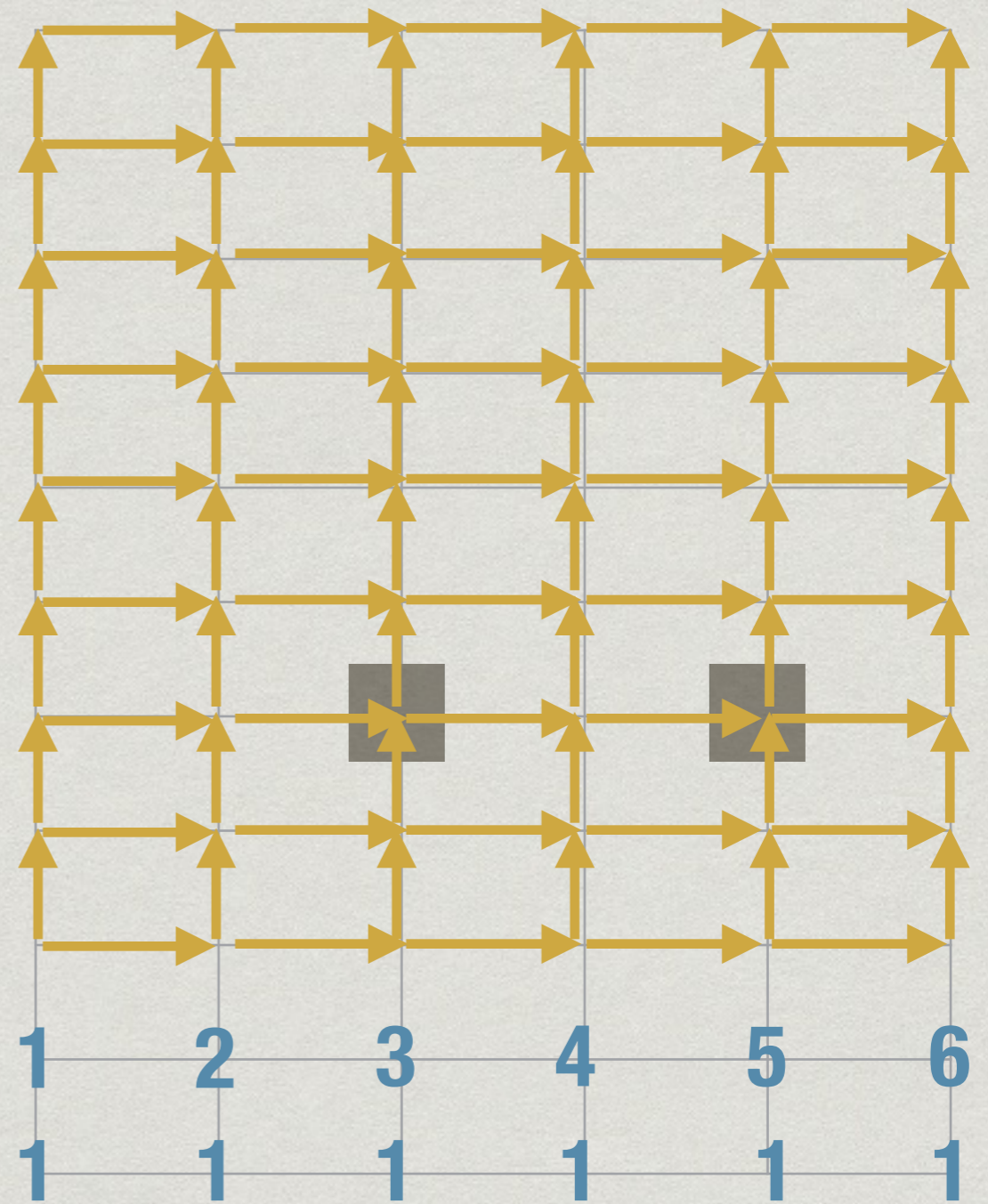
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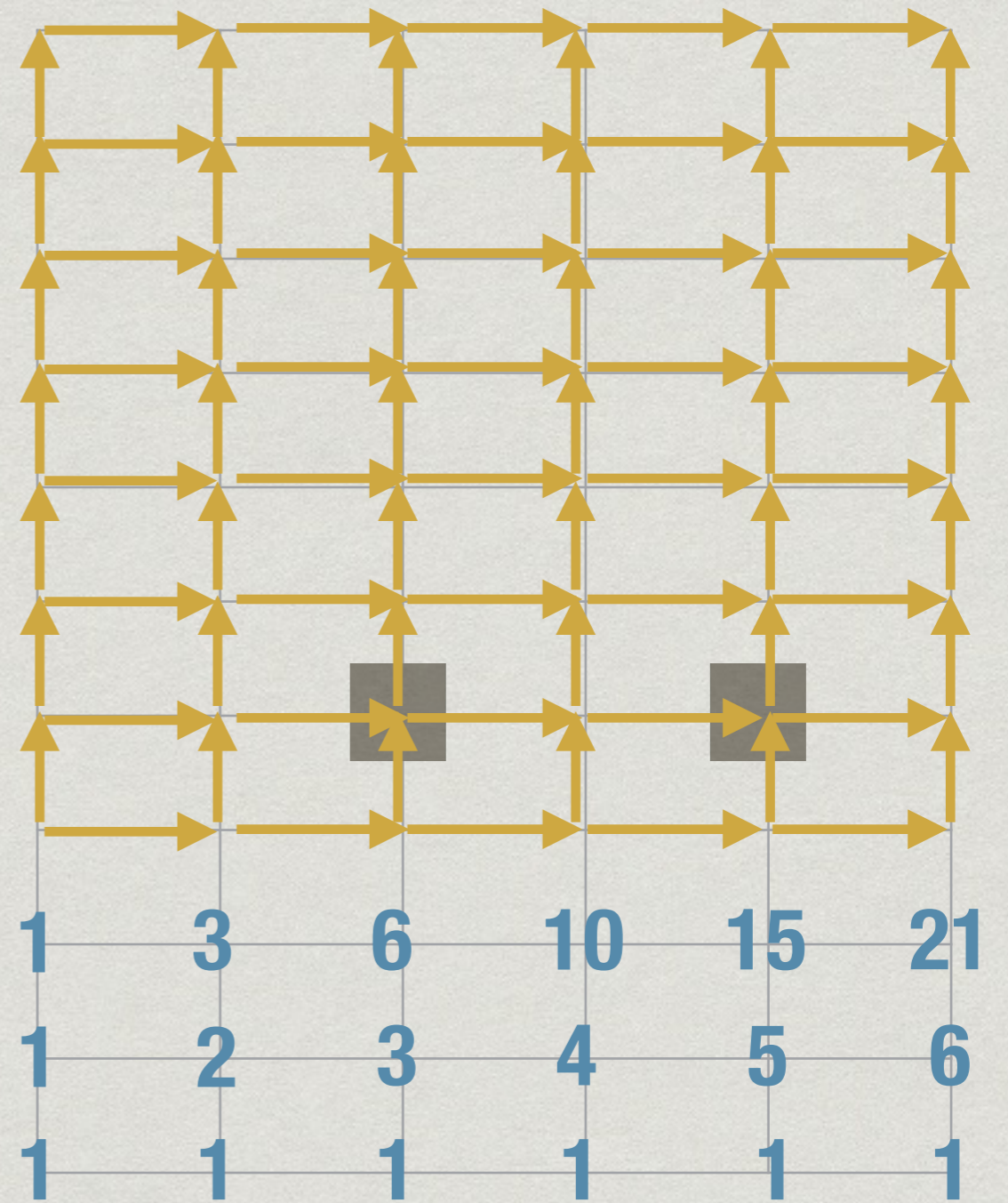
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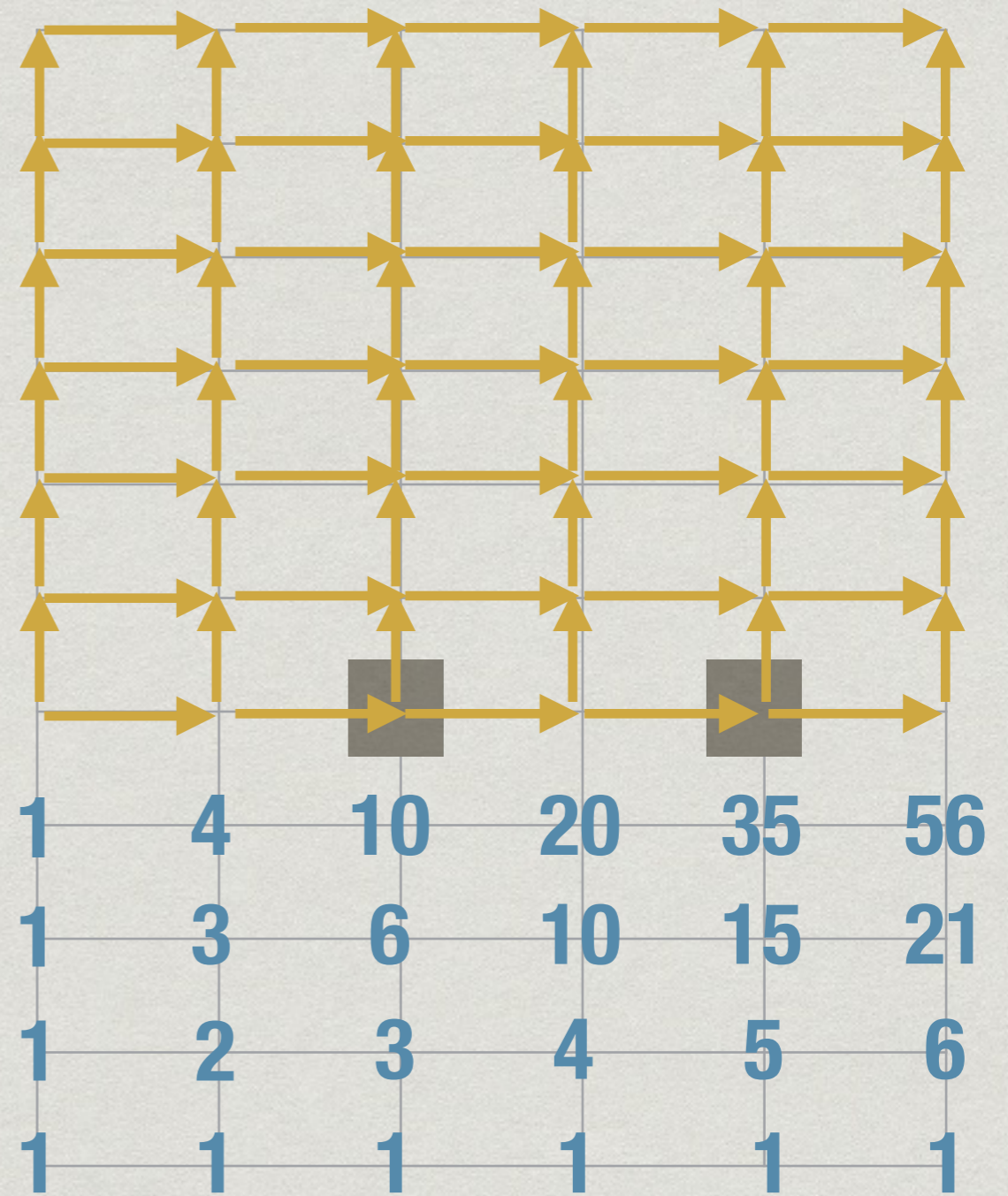
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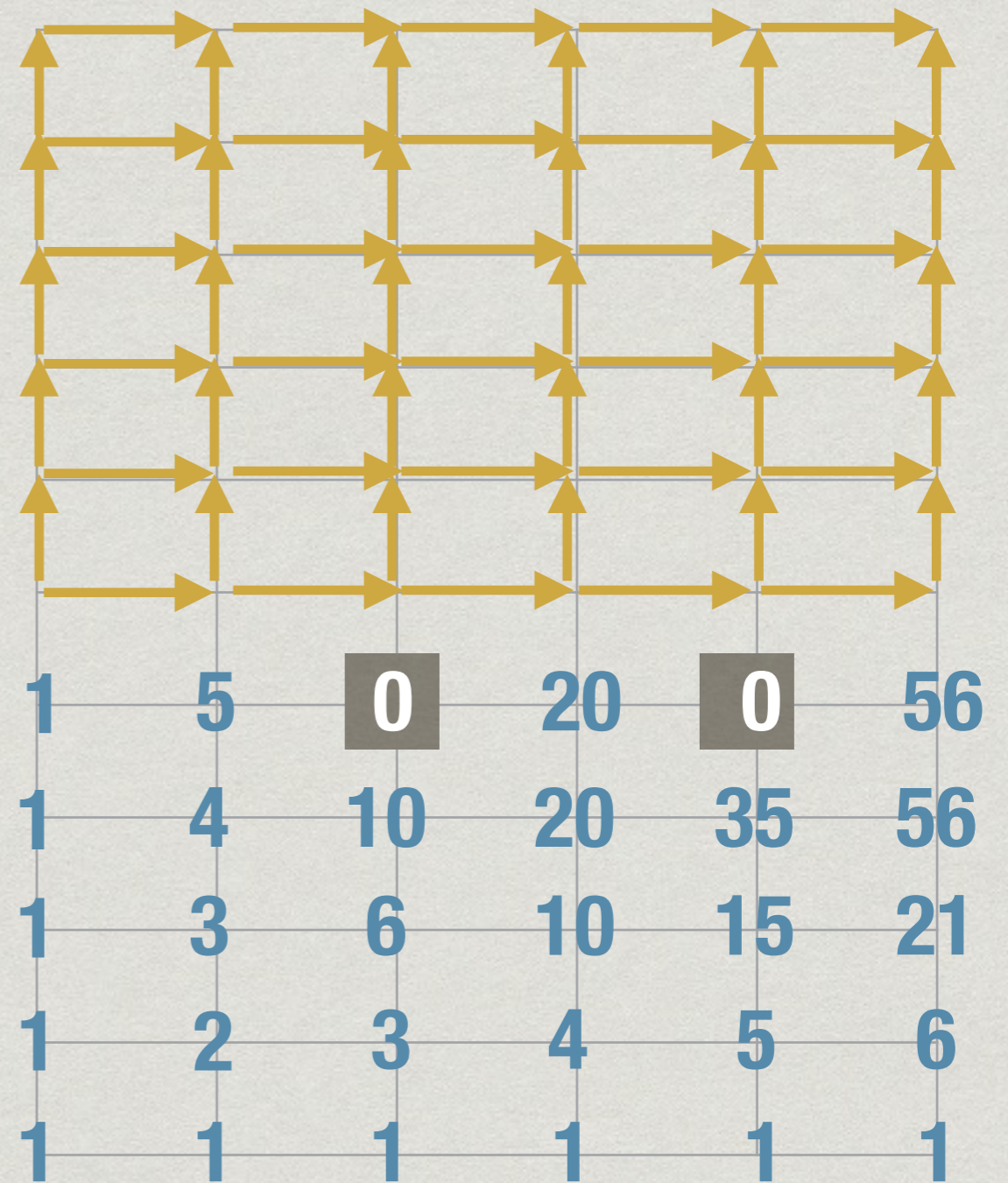
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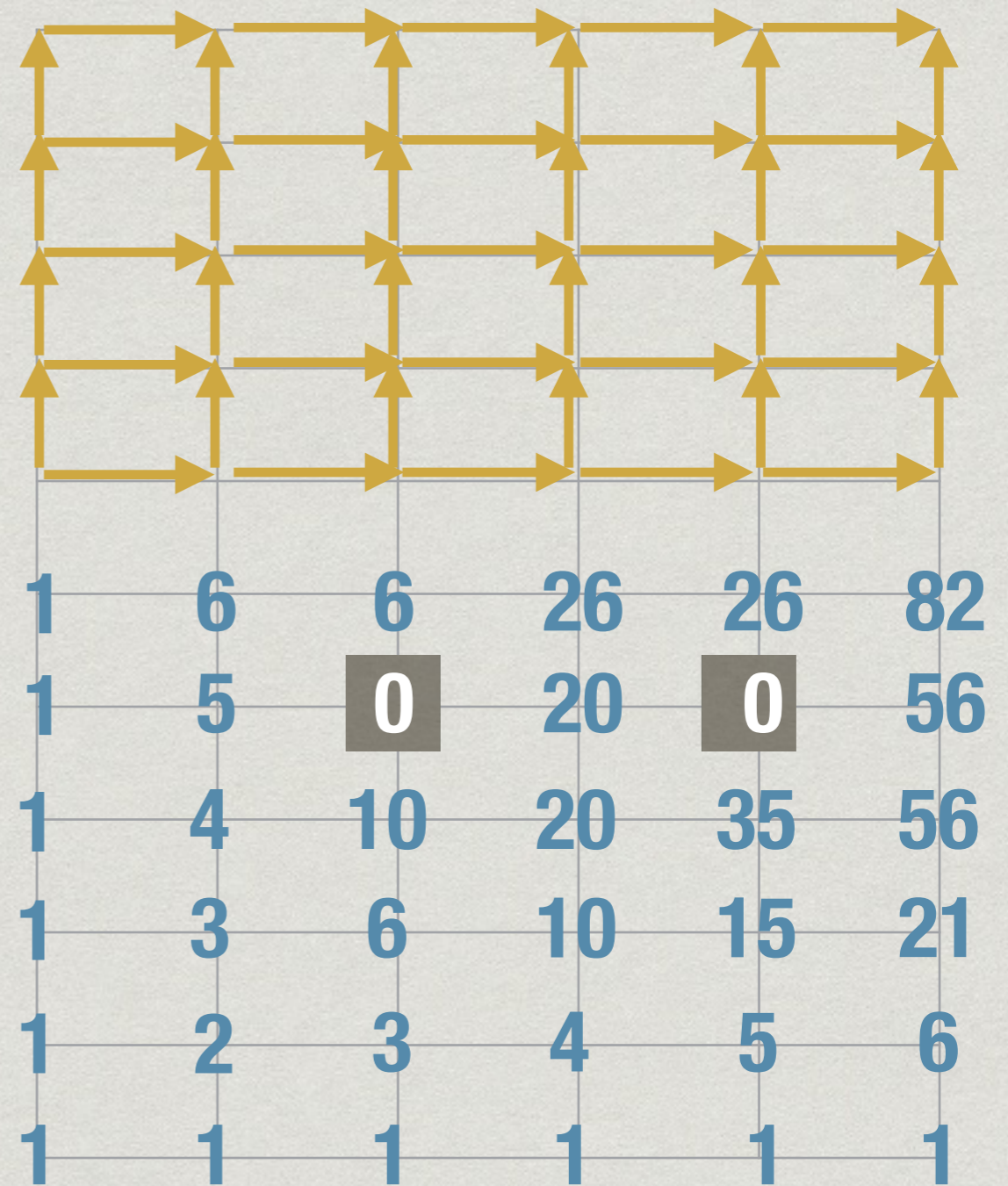
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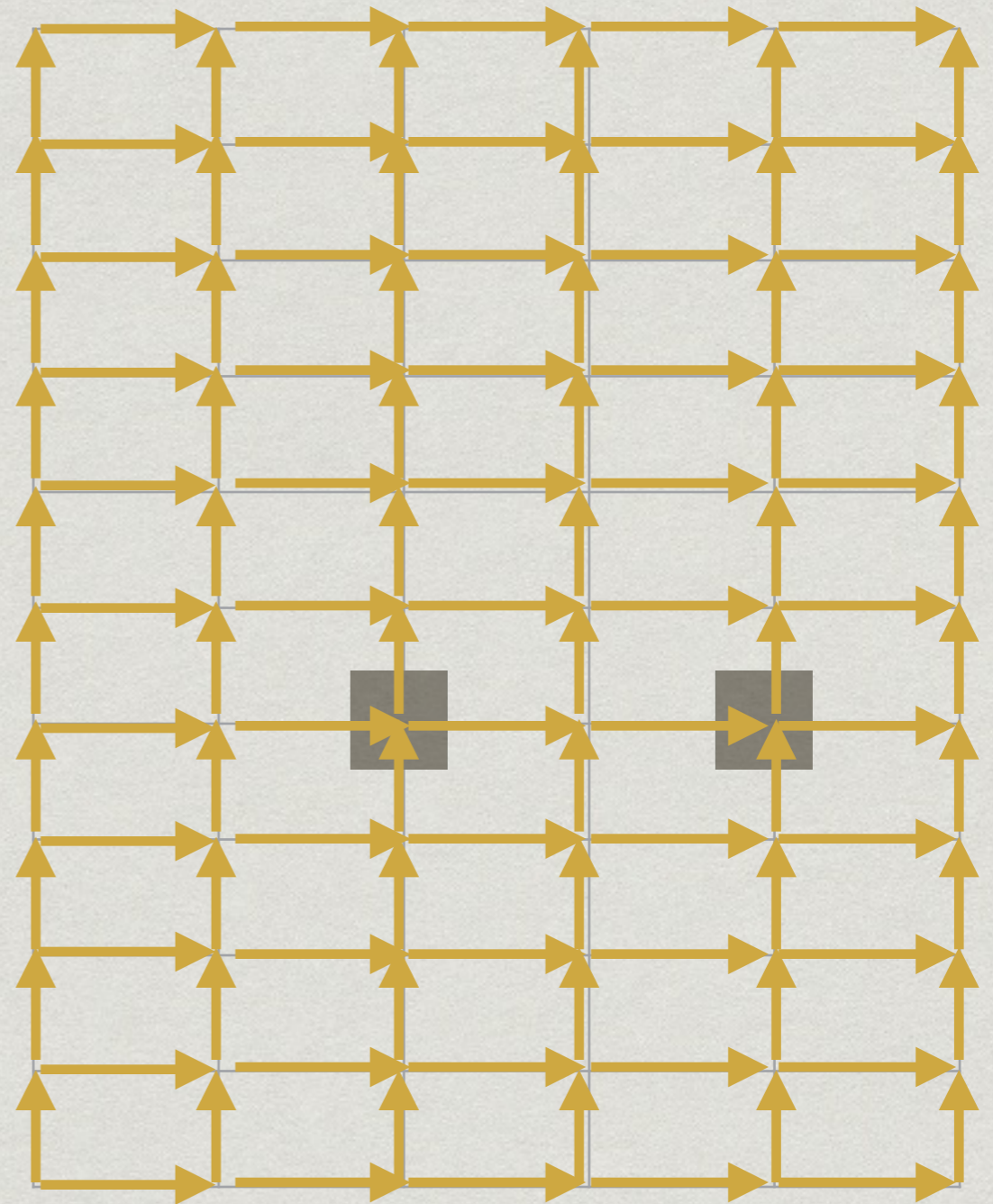
- \* Start at (0,0)
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1	11	51	181	526	1363
1	10	40	130	345	837
1	9	30	90	215	492
1	8	21	60	125	272
1	7	13	39	65	147
1	6	6	26	26	82
1	5	0	20	0	56
1	4	10	20	35	56
1	3	6	10	15	21
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1	1	1	1	1



# Dynamic programming

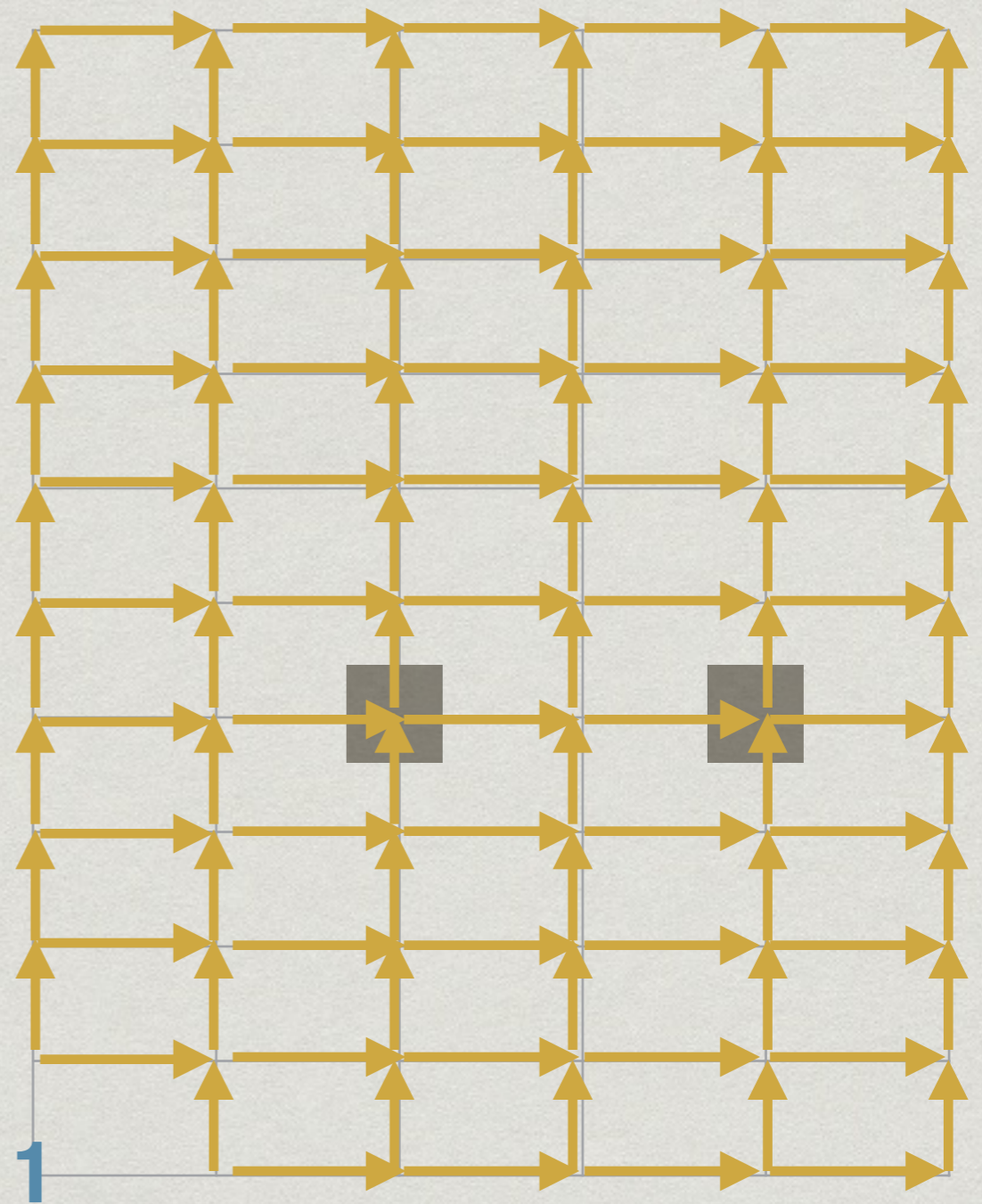
- \* Start at (0,0)
- \* Fill by column





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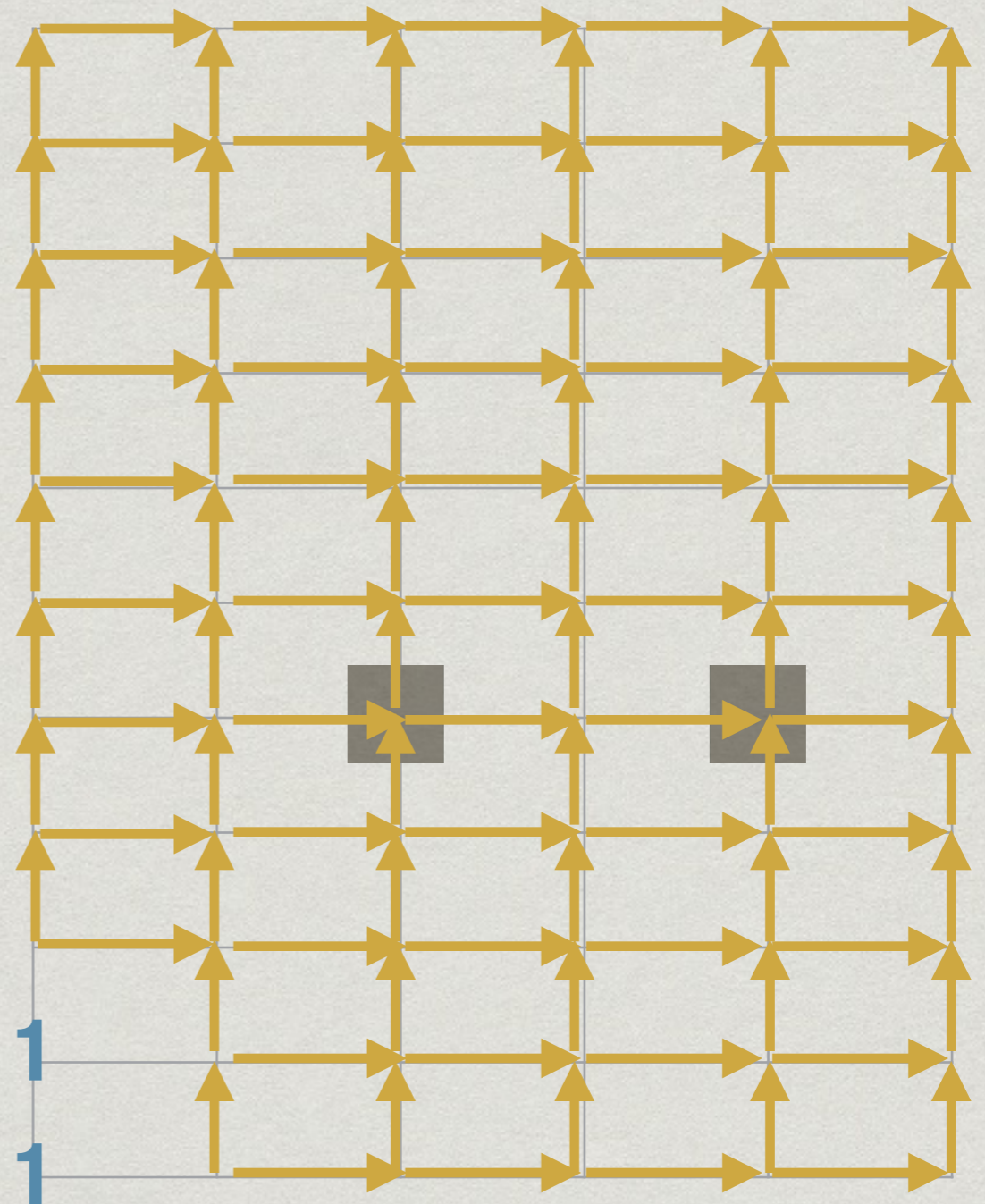
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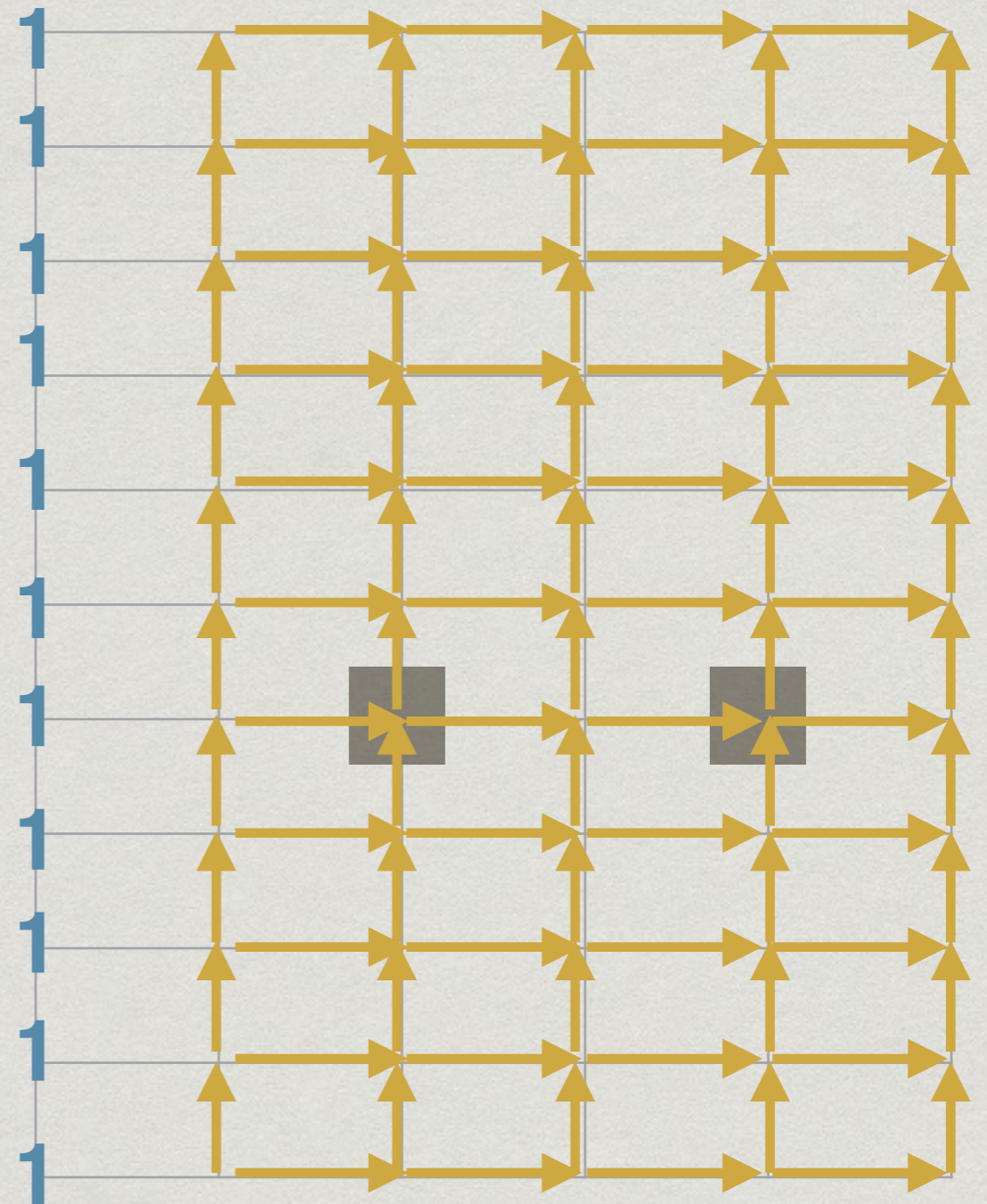
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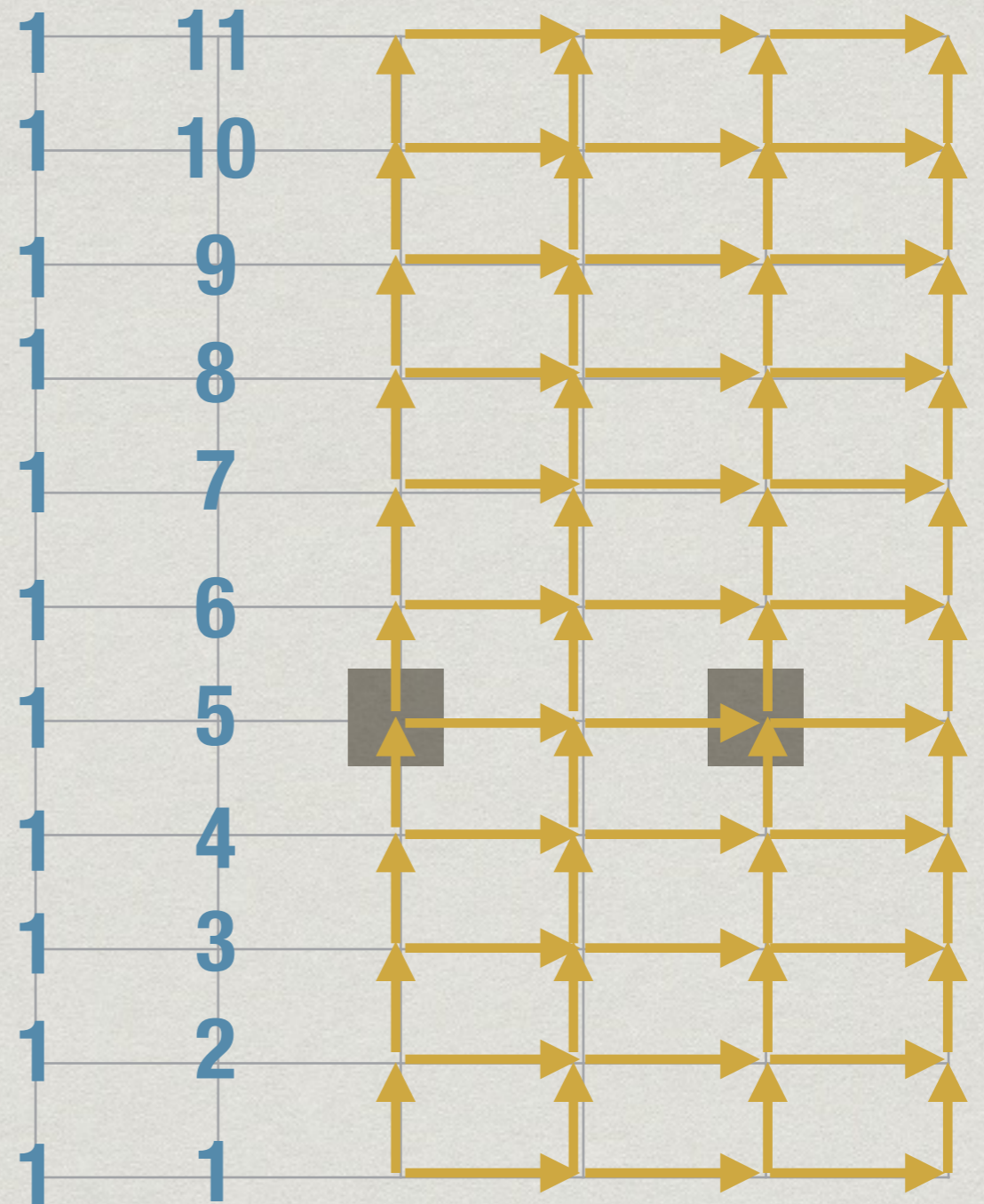
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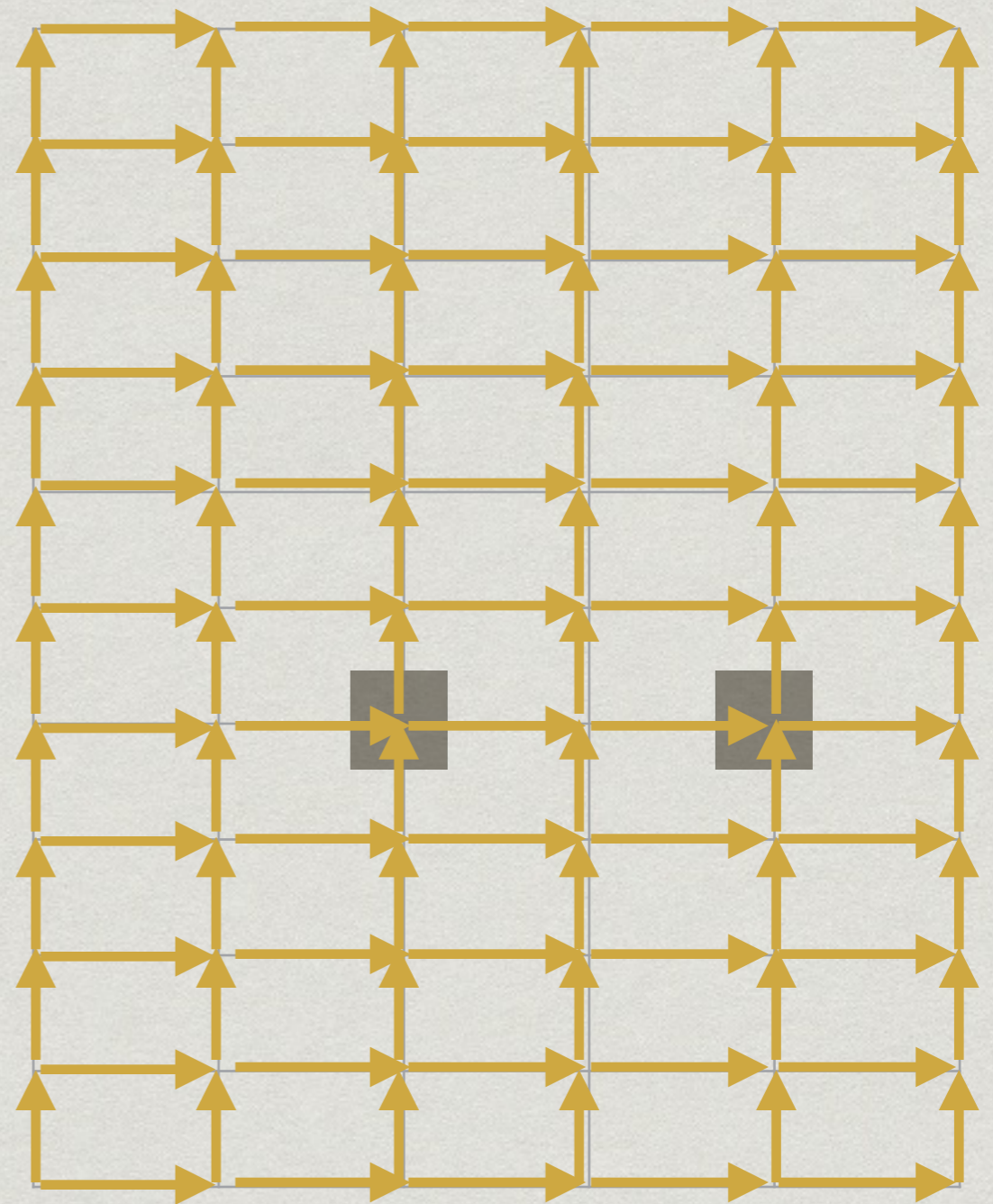
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1	2	3	4	5	6
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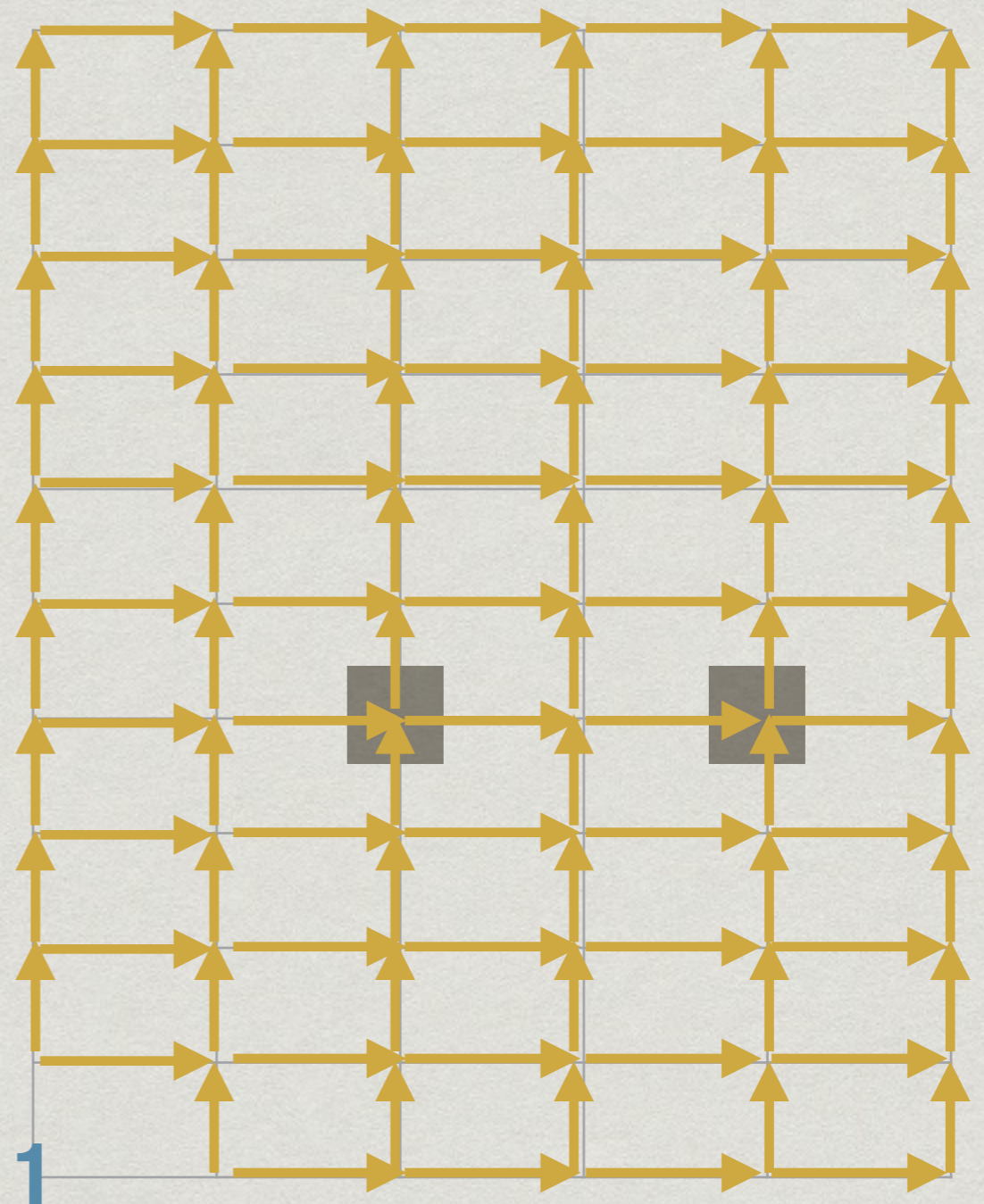
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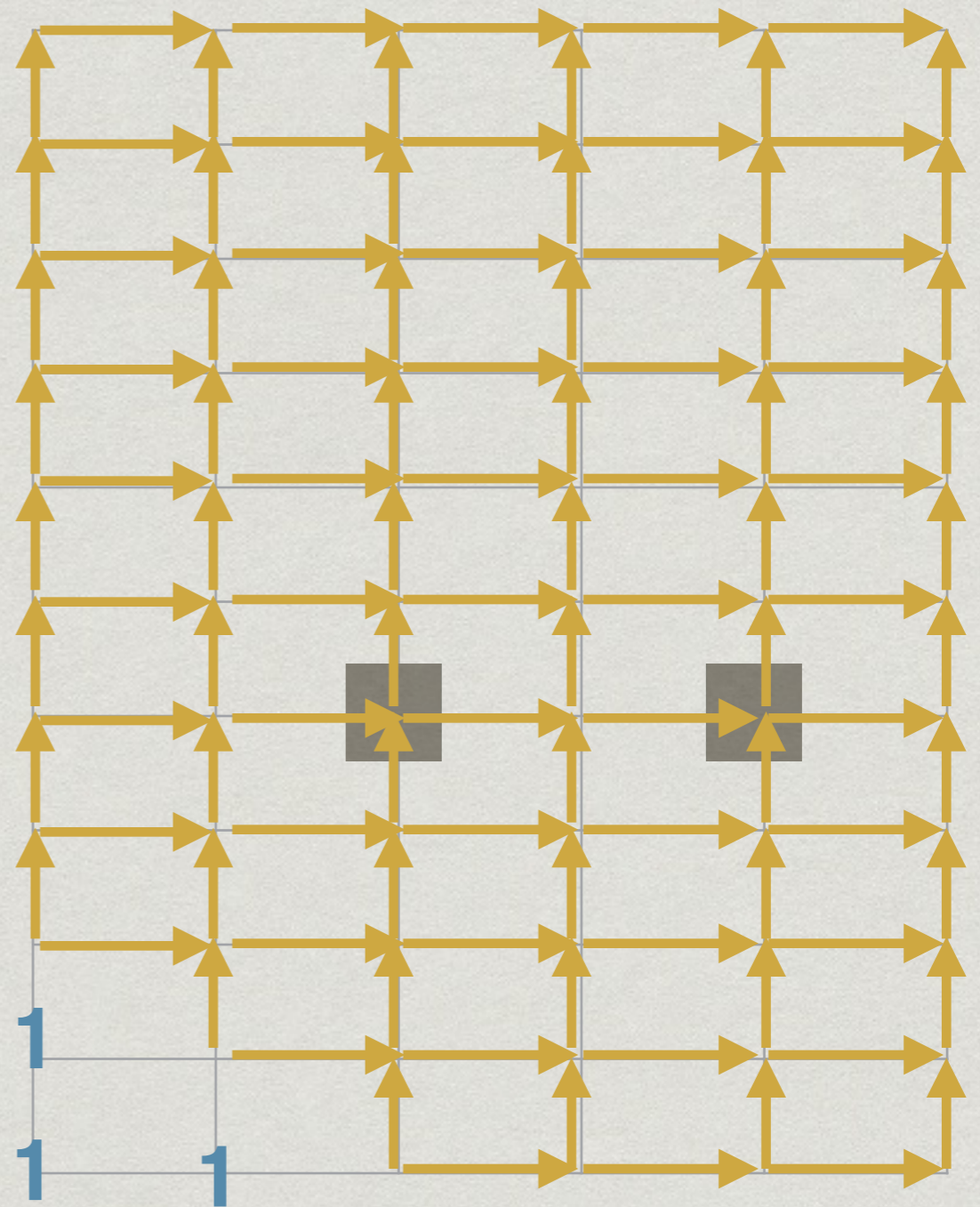
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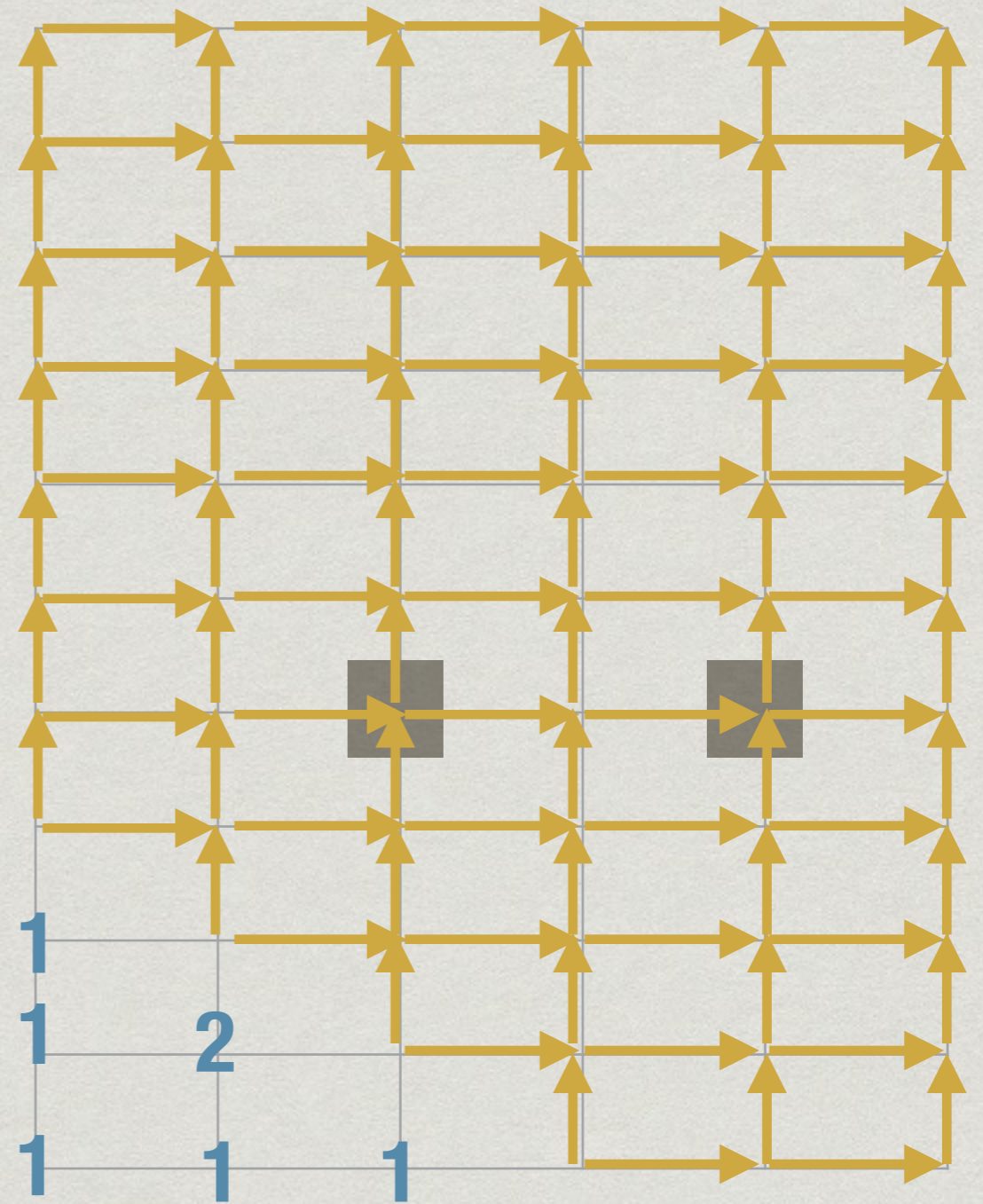
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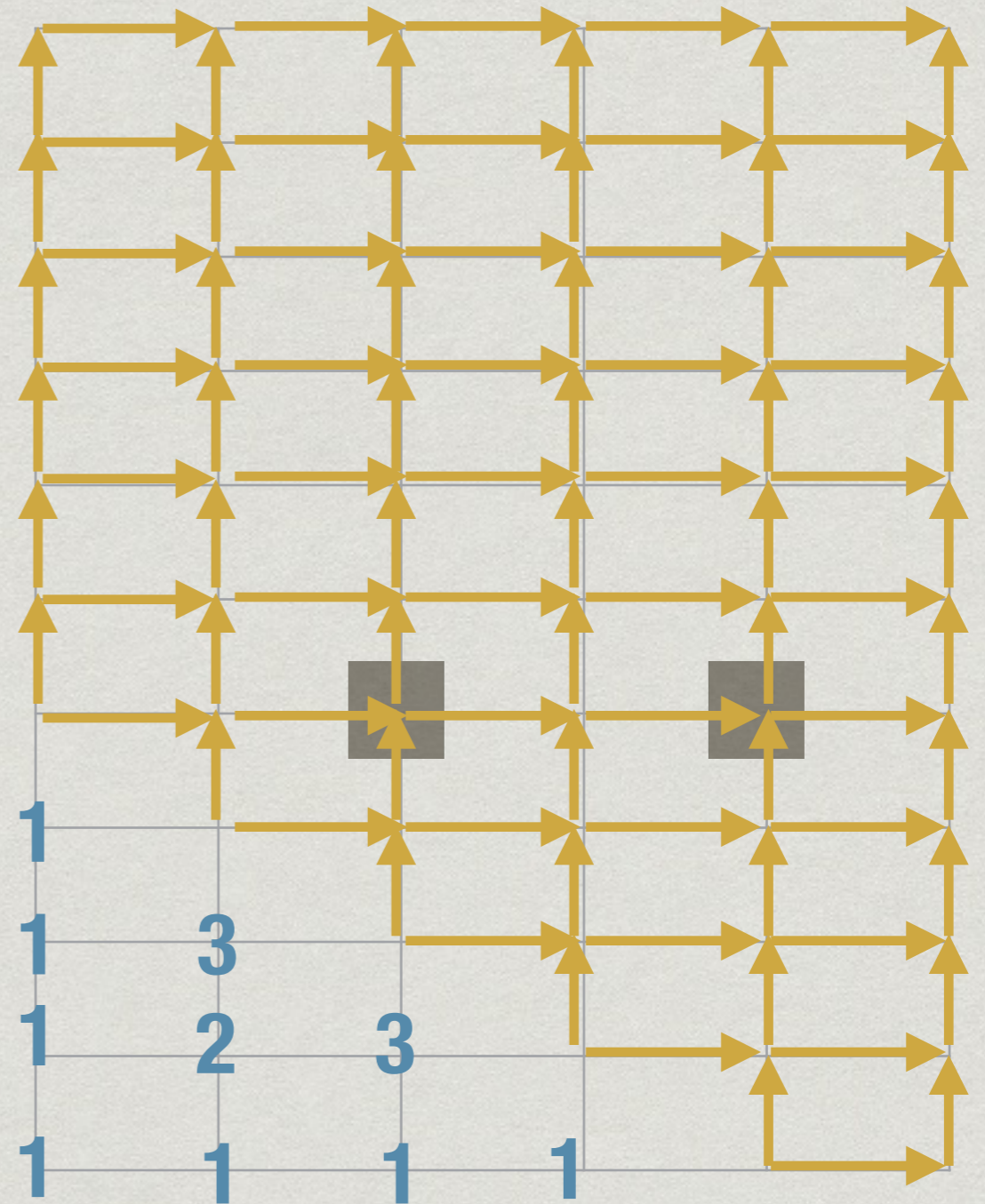
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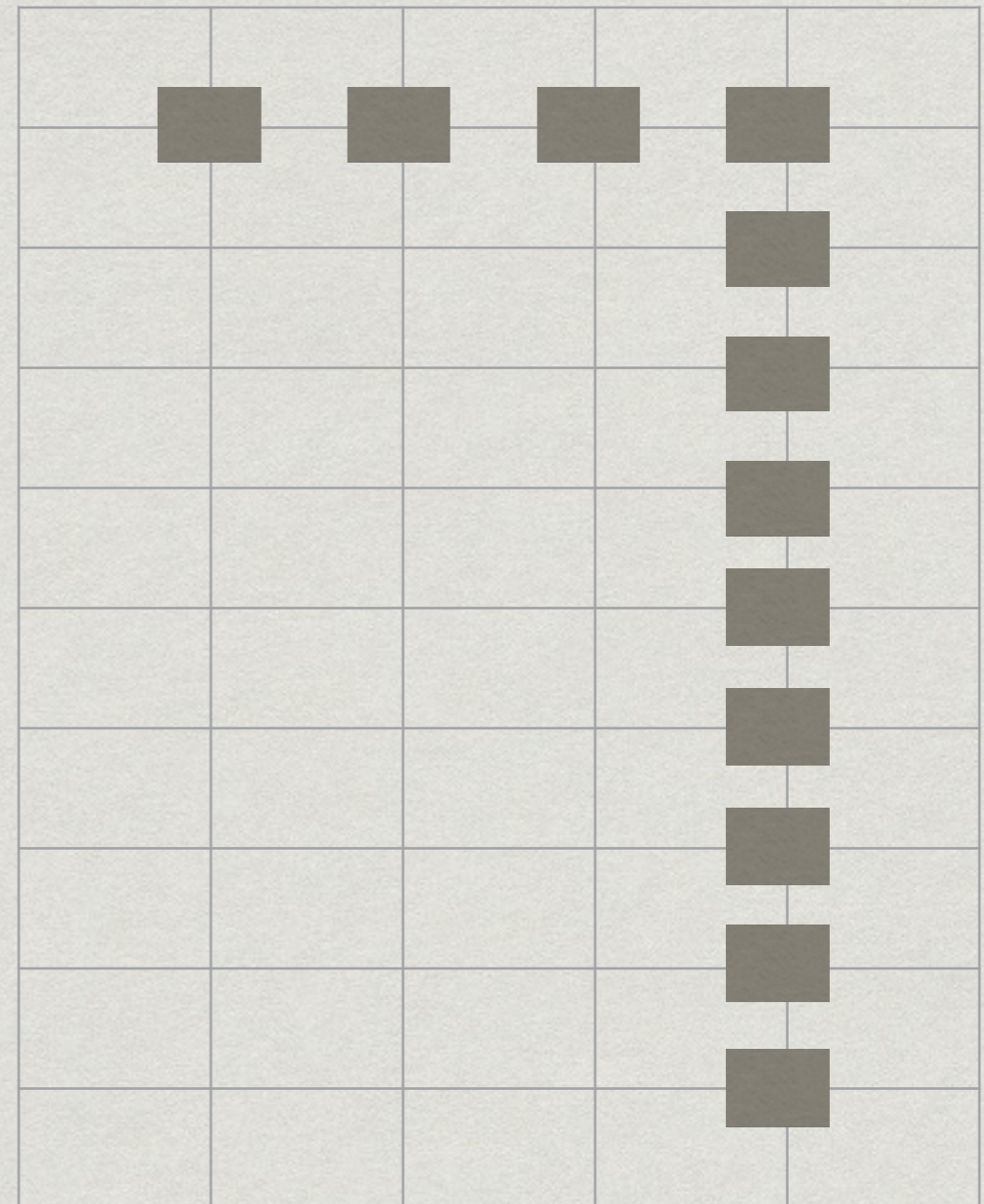
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# Memoization vs dynamic programming

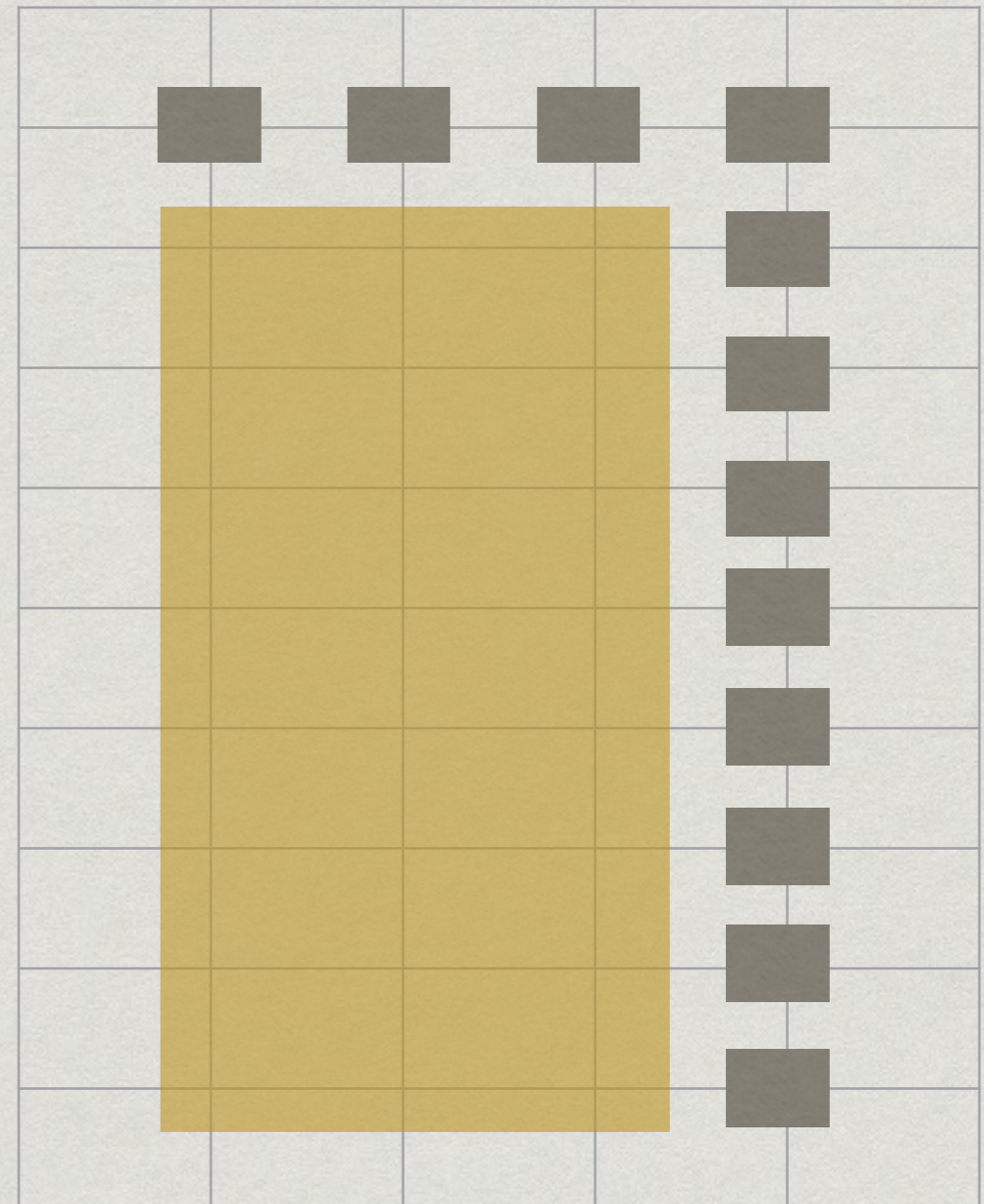
- \* Holes just inside the border
- \* Memoization never explores the shaded region





# Memoization vs dynamic programming

- \* Holes just inside the border
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# Memoization vs dynamic programming

- \* Memo table has  $O(m+n)$  entries
- \* Dynamic programming blindly fills all  $O(mn)$  entries
- \* Iteration vs recursion — “wasteful”  
dynamic programming is still better, in general

