

# Optimal Squares with Flexible Glues

# Tile Model of Self-Assembly

(Rothemund, Winfree STOC 2000)

Tile System:  $\{t, G, T, s\}$

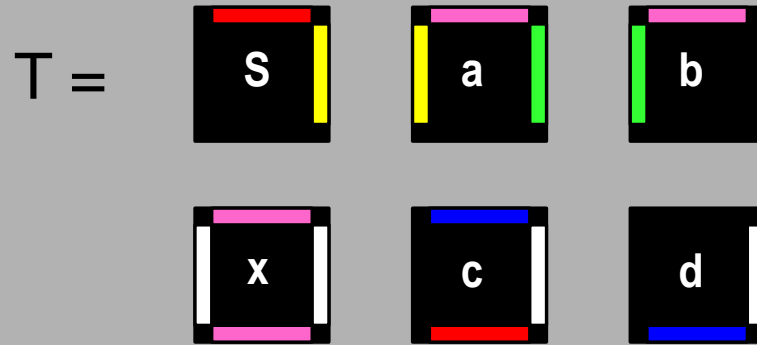
$t$ : temperature, positive integer

$G$ : glue function  $G: \Sigma \times \Sigma \rightarrow \{0, 1, \dots, t\}$

$T$ : tileset  $\left\{ \begin{array}{c} r \\ \text{b} \left| \begin{array}{c} \text{red} \\ \text{black} \\ \text{green} \end{array} \right| \text{y} \\ g \end{array} \right\}, \left\{ \begin{array}{c} p \\ \text{y} \left| \begin{array}{c} \text{pink} \\ \text{black} \\ \text{red} \end{array} \right| \text{w} \\ r \end{array} \right\}, \left\{ \begin{array}{c} r \\ \text{b} \left| \begin{array}{c} \text{red} \\ \text{black} \\ \text{red} \end{array} \right| \text{b} \\ r \end{array} \right\}, \dots \right\}$

$s$ : seed tile

# How a tile system self assembles



$$G(y,y) = 2$$

$$G(g,g) = 2$$

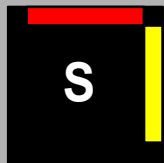
$$G(r,r) = 2$$

$$G(b,b) = 2$$

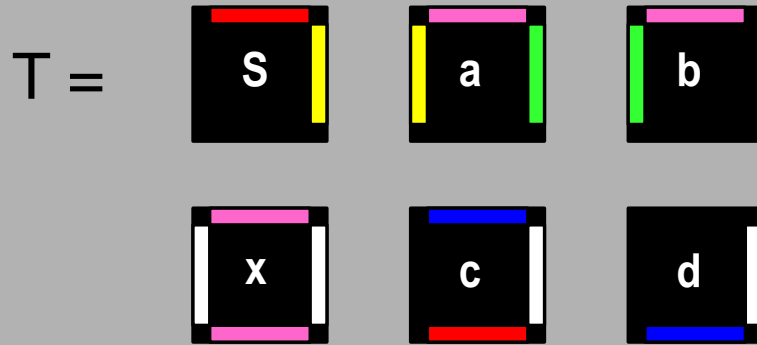
$$G(p,p) = 1$$

$$G(w,w) = 1$$

$$t = 2$$



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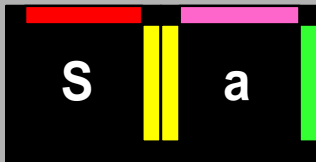
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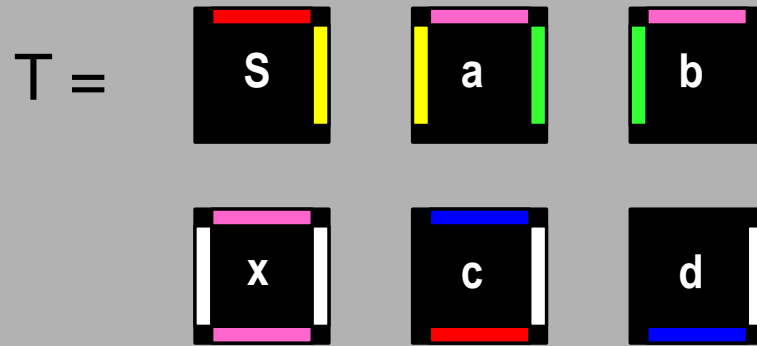
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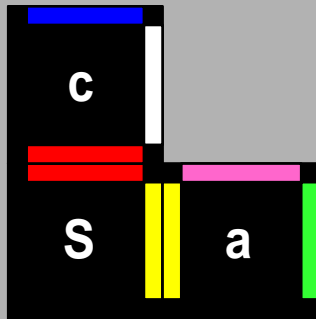


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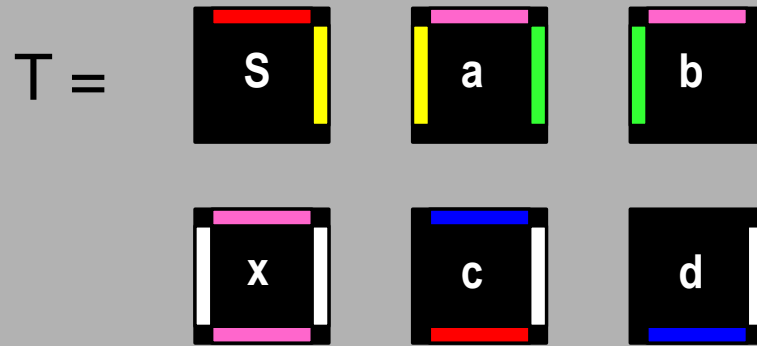


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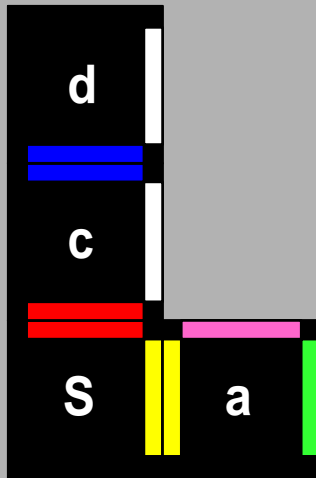


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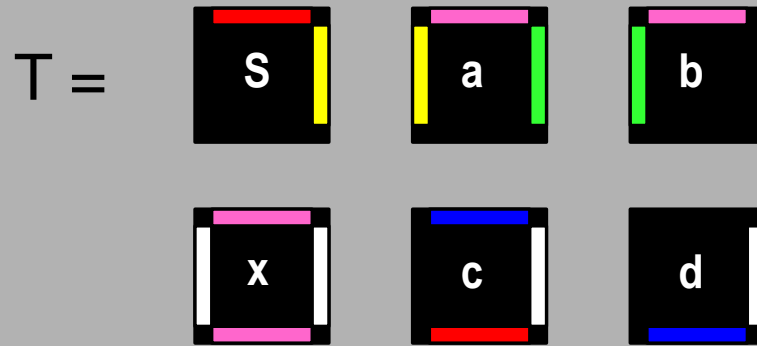


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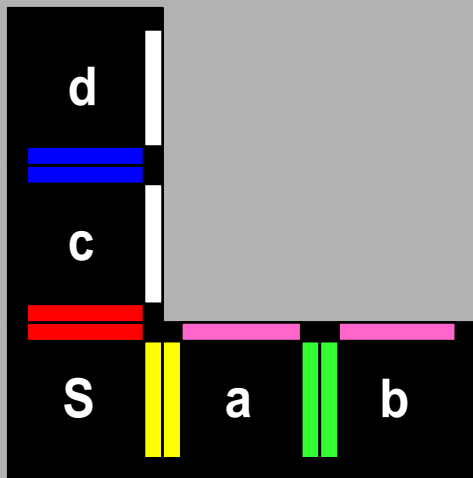


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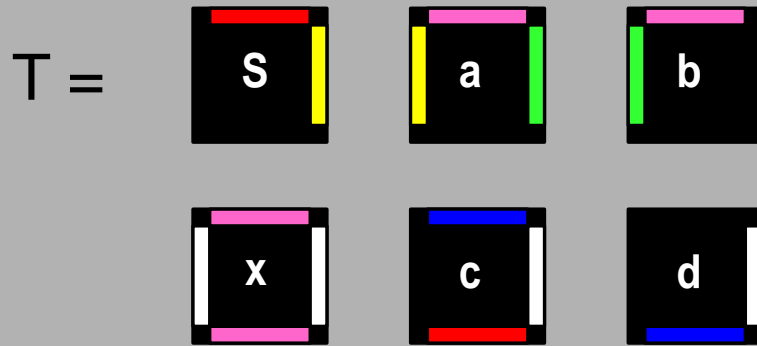


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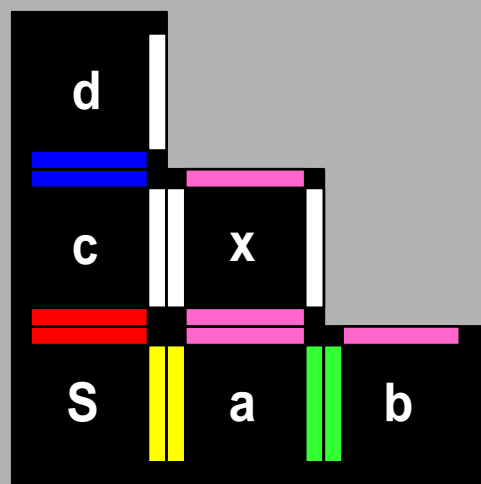


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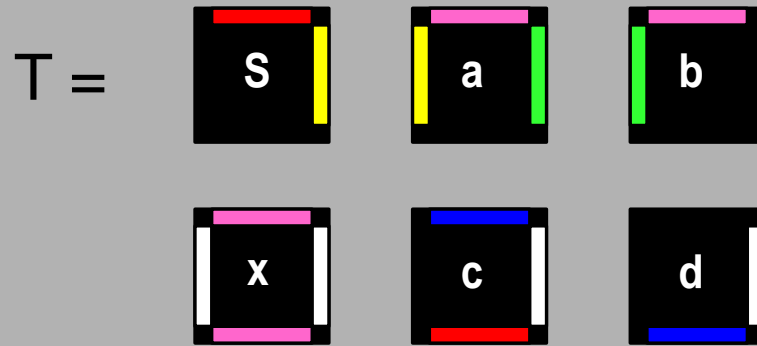
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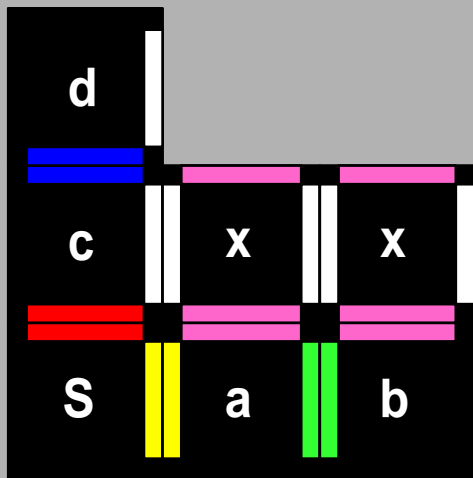


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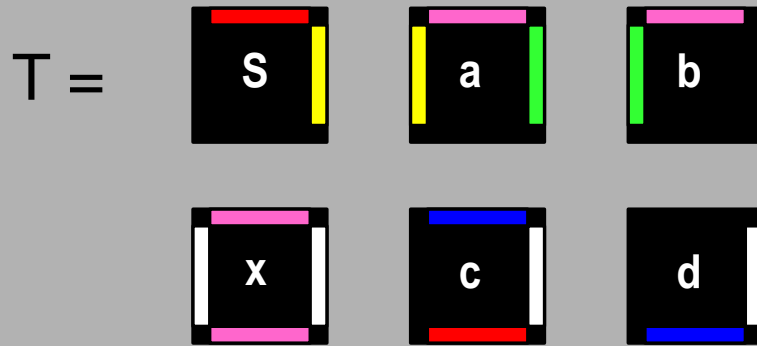


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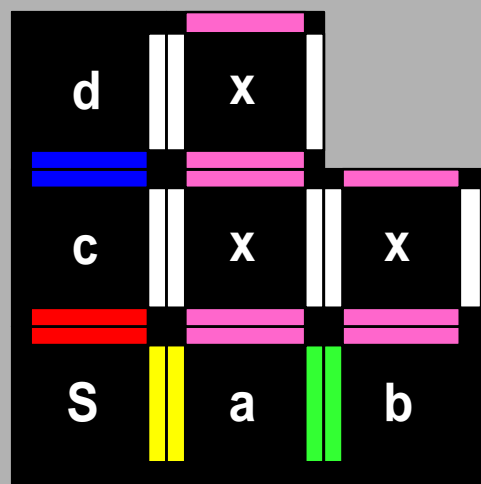


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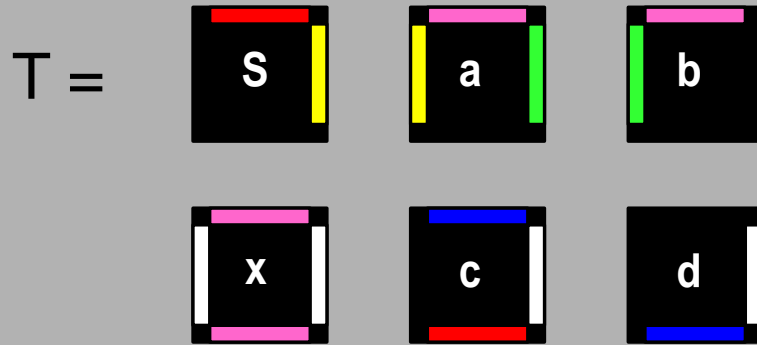


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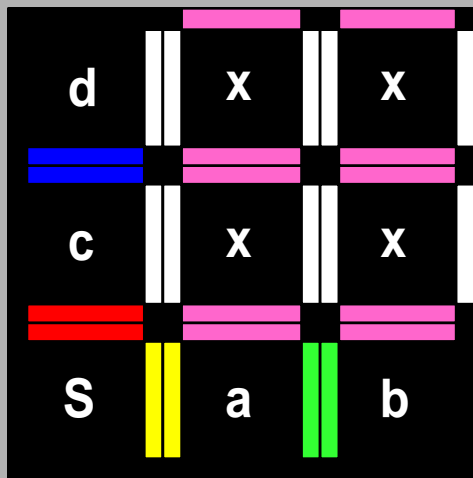


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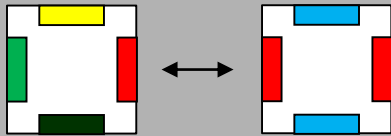
# Focus

- Flexible Glue Model
  - Remove the restriction that  $G(x, y) = 0$  for  $x \neq y$

## Basic model:

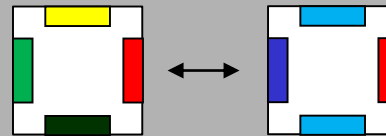
Only identical glues types stick

$$G(r, r) = 2$$



**Flexible Glue** model: Different glue types may be assigned positive interactions strength

$$G(r, b) = 2$$



# Focus

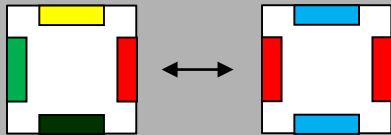
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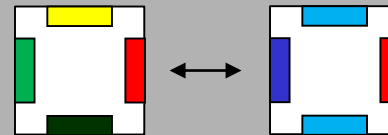
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**Flexible Glue** model: Different glue types may be assigned positive interactions strength

$$G(r, r) = 2$$



$$G(r, b) = 2$$



	nxn squares, Tile Complexity	
	upper bound	lower bound
<b>Basic</b>	$O(\log n / \log \log n)$	$\Omega(\log n / \log \log n)$ a.a
<b>Flexible</b>	?	? ( <b>Challenge:</b> derive bound)

# N x N Squares --- Flexible Glue Model

## Kolmogorov lower bounds:

Standard  $\longrightarrow \Omega\left(\frac{\log N}{\log \log N}\right)$  (Rothemund, Winfree STOC 2000)

Flexible  $\longrightarrow \Omega(\sqrt{\log N})$

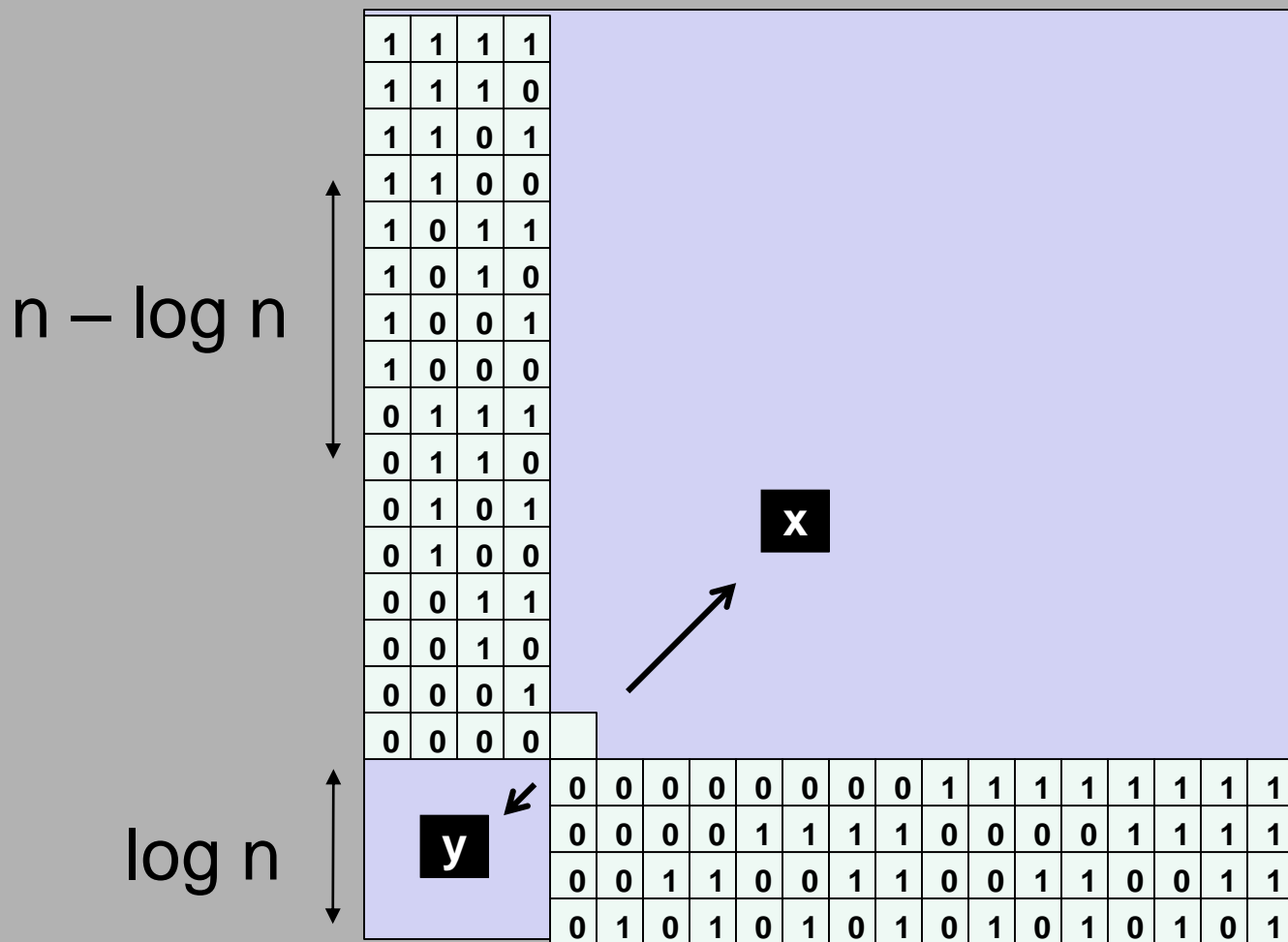
## Standard Glue Function

	a	b	c	d	e	f
a	1	-	-	-	-	-
b	-	0	-	-	-	-
c	-	-	3	-	-	-
d	-	-	-	2	-	-
e	-	-	-	-	2	-
f	-	-	-	-	-	1

## Flexible Glue Function

	a	b	c	d	e	f
a	1	0	2	0	0	1
b	0	0	1	0	1	0
c	0	0	3	0	1	1
d	2	2	2	2	0	1
e	0	0	0	1	2	1
f	1	1	2	2	1	1

# How efficiently can you build an $n \times n$ square?



Tile Complexity

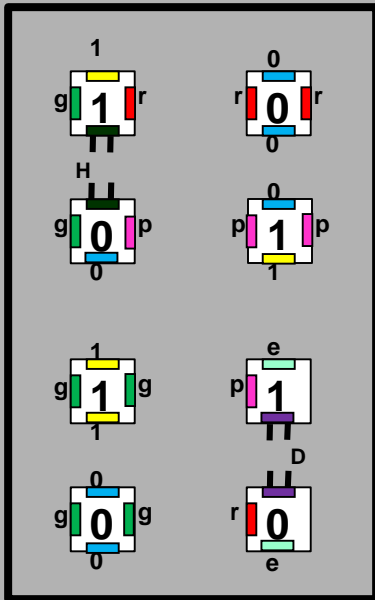
$O(\log n)$

(Rothemund, Winfree 2000)

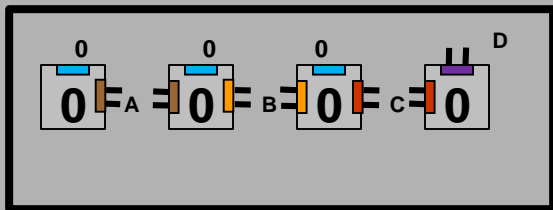
# Binary Counter

(Rothemund, Winfree 2000)

Tile set:

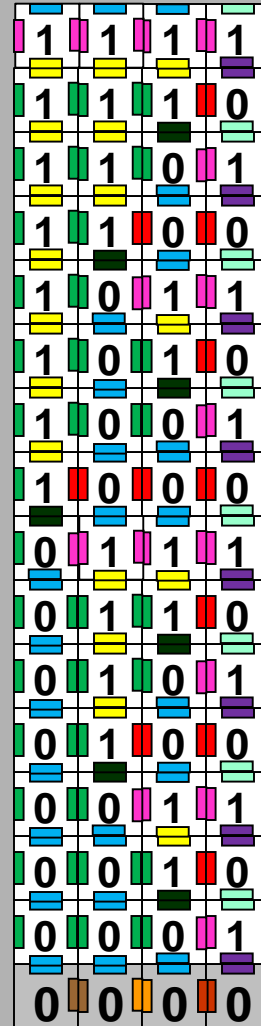


8 tile types



$\log n$   
tile types

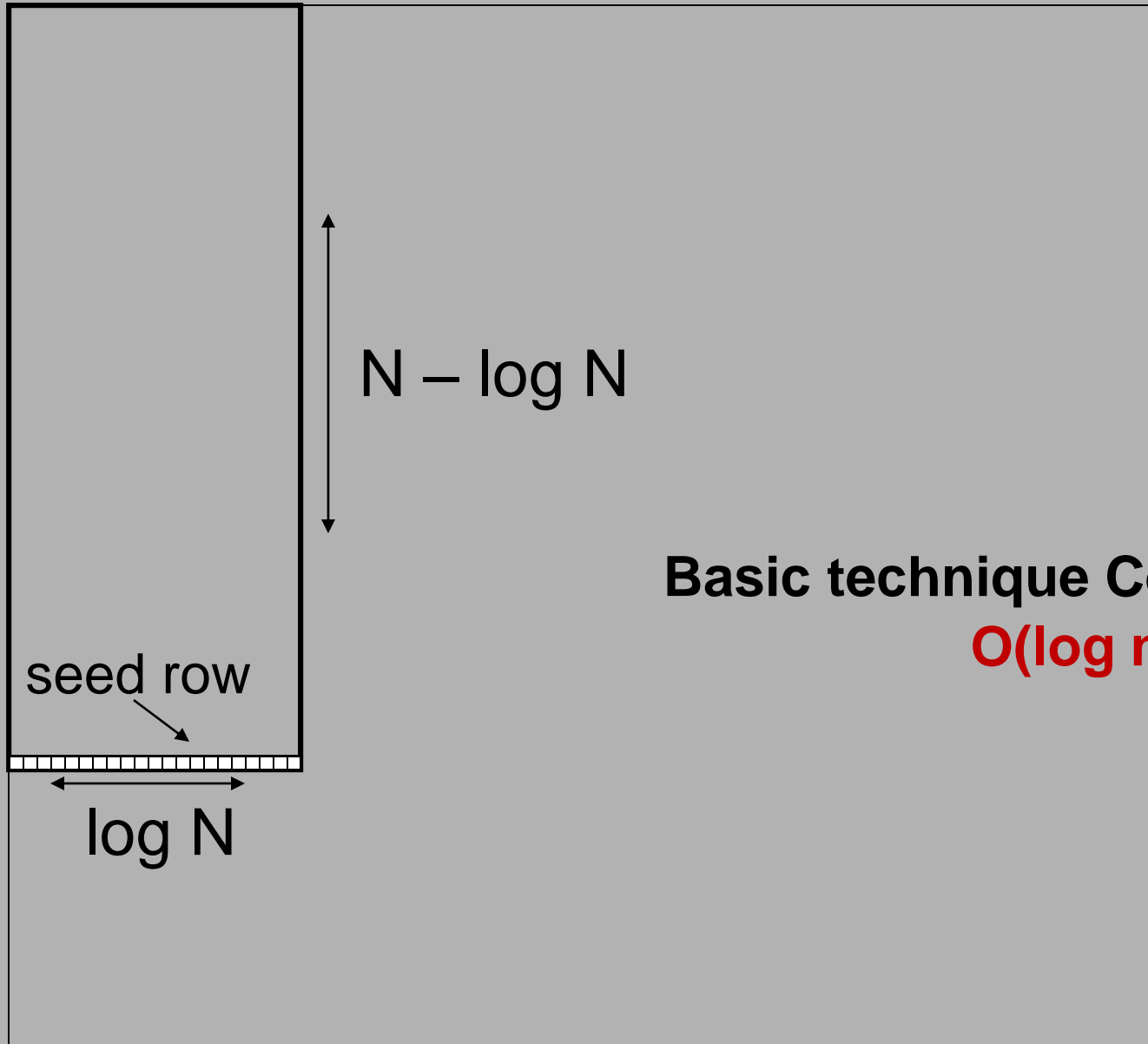
Assembly:



$n \times \log n$   
rectangle:  
 $O(\log n)$   
tile complexity



# N x N Square --- Flexible Glue Model



**Basic technique Complexity:**

**$O(\log n)$**

Build a 2 x 16 rectangle:

$t = 2$

$S_1$	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	P
S	$C_1$	$C_2$	$C_3$	$C_0$	$C_1$	$C_2$	$C_3$	$C_0$	$C_1$	$C_2$	$C_3$	$C_0$	$C_1$	$C_2$	$C_3$

2 x n lines

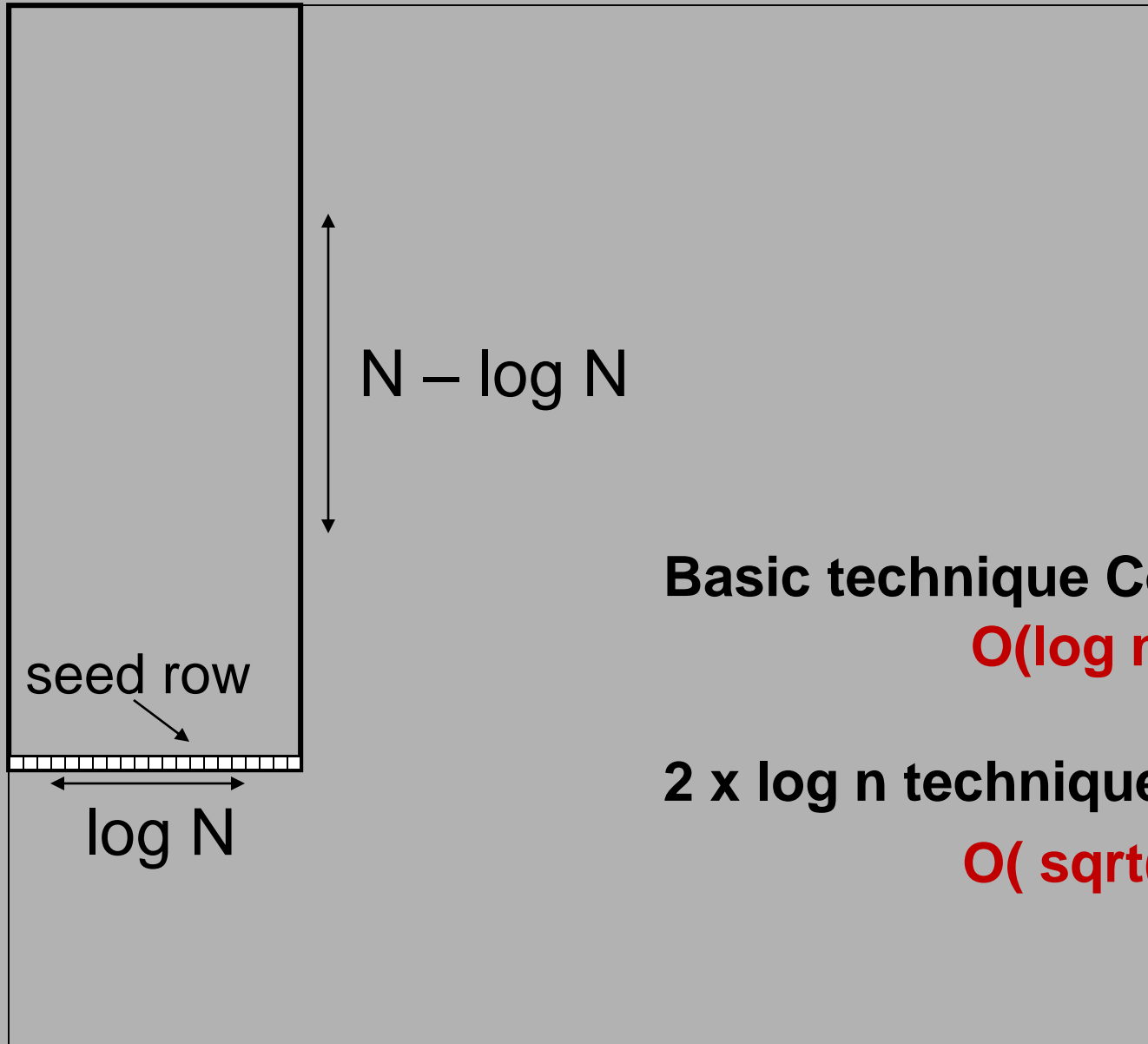
Lower Bound

Upper Bound

$$\Omega(\sqrt{n})$$

$$O(\sqrt{n})$$

# N x N Square --- Flexible Glue Model



**Basic technique Complexity:**

$$O(\log n)$$

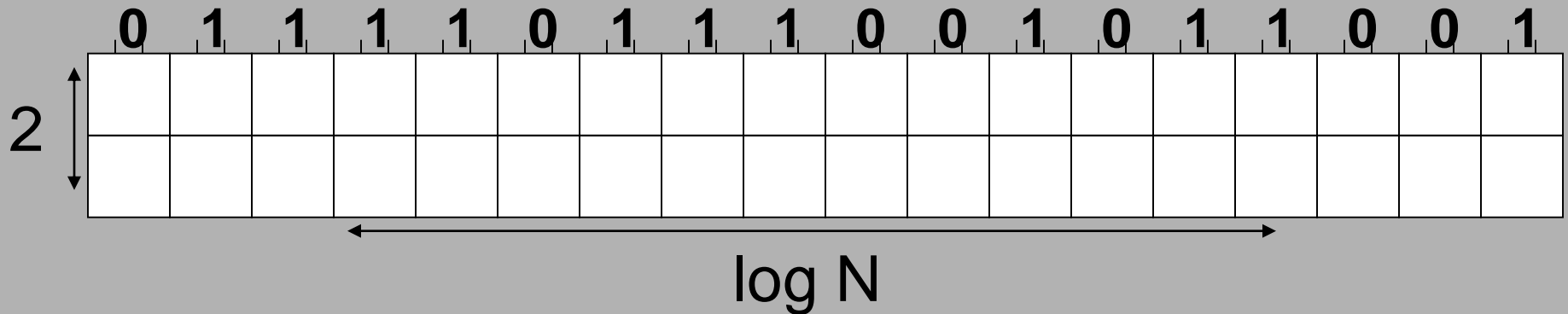
**2 x log n technique:**

$$O(\sqrt{\log n})$$

# N x N Square --- Flexible Glue Model

**goal:**

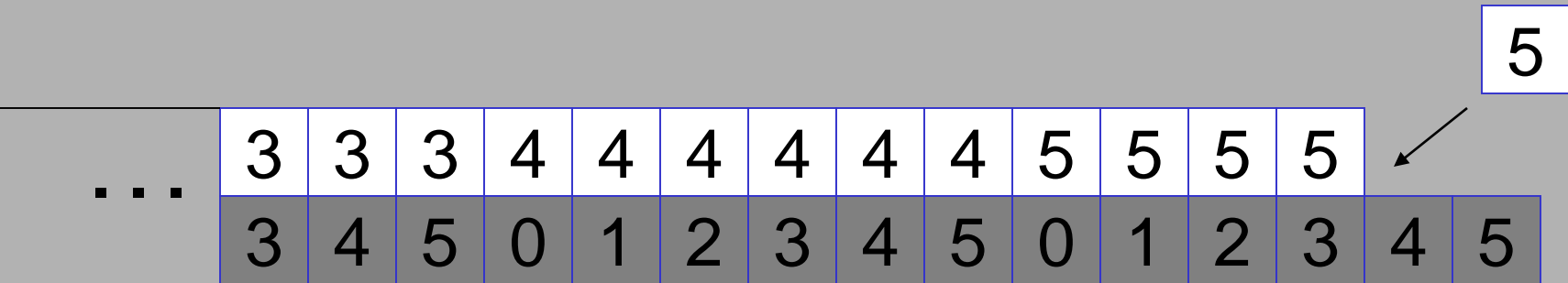
- seed binary counter to a given value
- $O(\sqrt{\log N})$



# N x N Square --- Flexible Glue Model

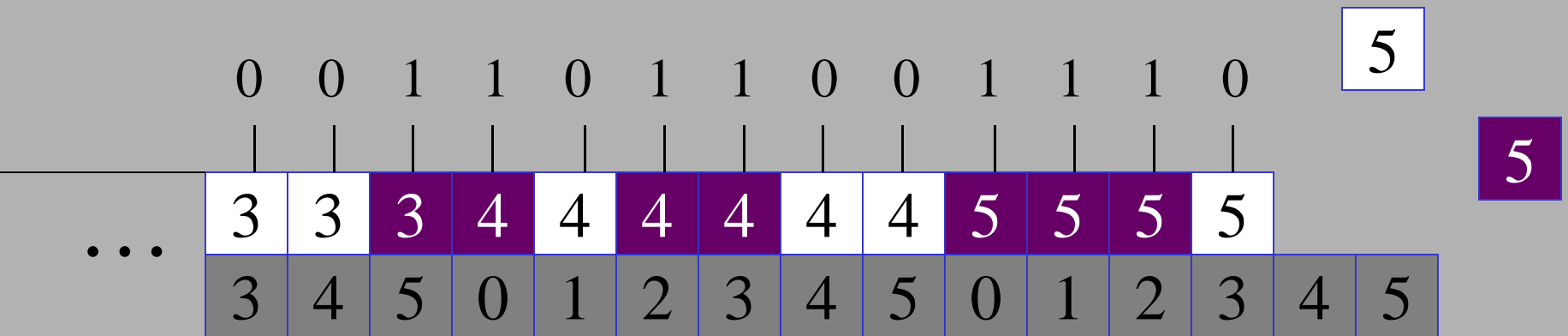
...	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	5	5	
...	3	4	5	0	1	2	3	4	5	0	1	2	3	4	5

5



# N x N Square --- Flexible Glue Model

key idea:



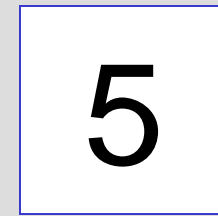
# N x N Square --- Flexible Glue Model

$$G(b_4, p_5) = 1$$

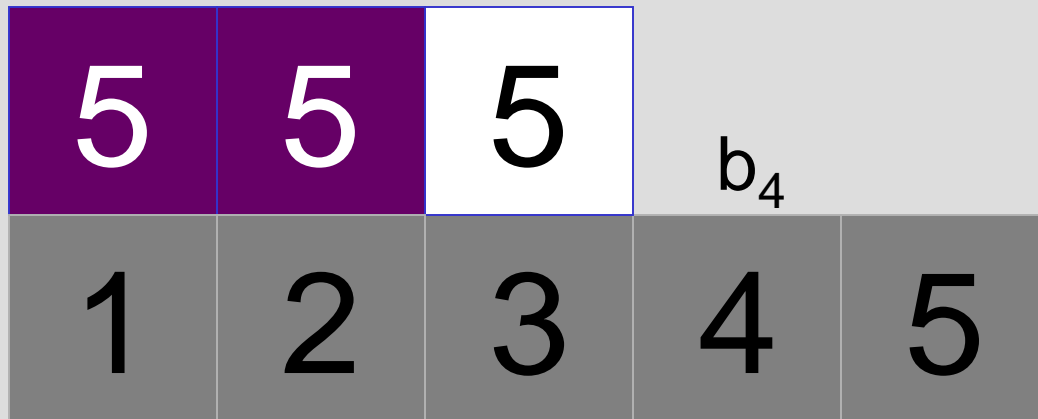
$$G(b_4, w_5) = 0$$



$p_5$



$w_5$



# N x N Square --- Flexible Glue Model

- given  $B = 011011\ 110101\ 010111\ \dots$
- encode  $B$  into glue function

5  
 $p_5$   
 $b_4$   
4

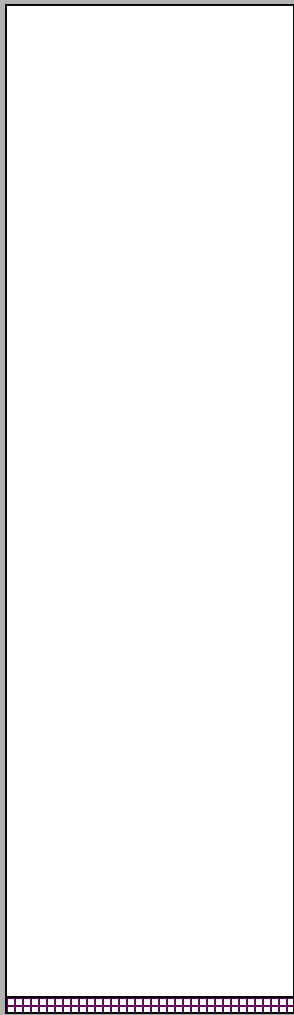
$B = 011011\ 110101\ 010111\ \dots \longrightarrow$

	p0	p1	p2	p3	p4	p5
b0	0	1	1	0	1	1
b1	1	1	0	1	0	1
b2	0	1	0	1	1	1
b3	0	0	1	0	1	0
b4	0	0	0	0	0	1
b5	1	1	1	1	1	0

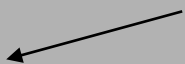








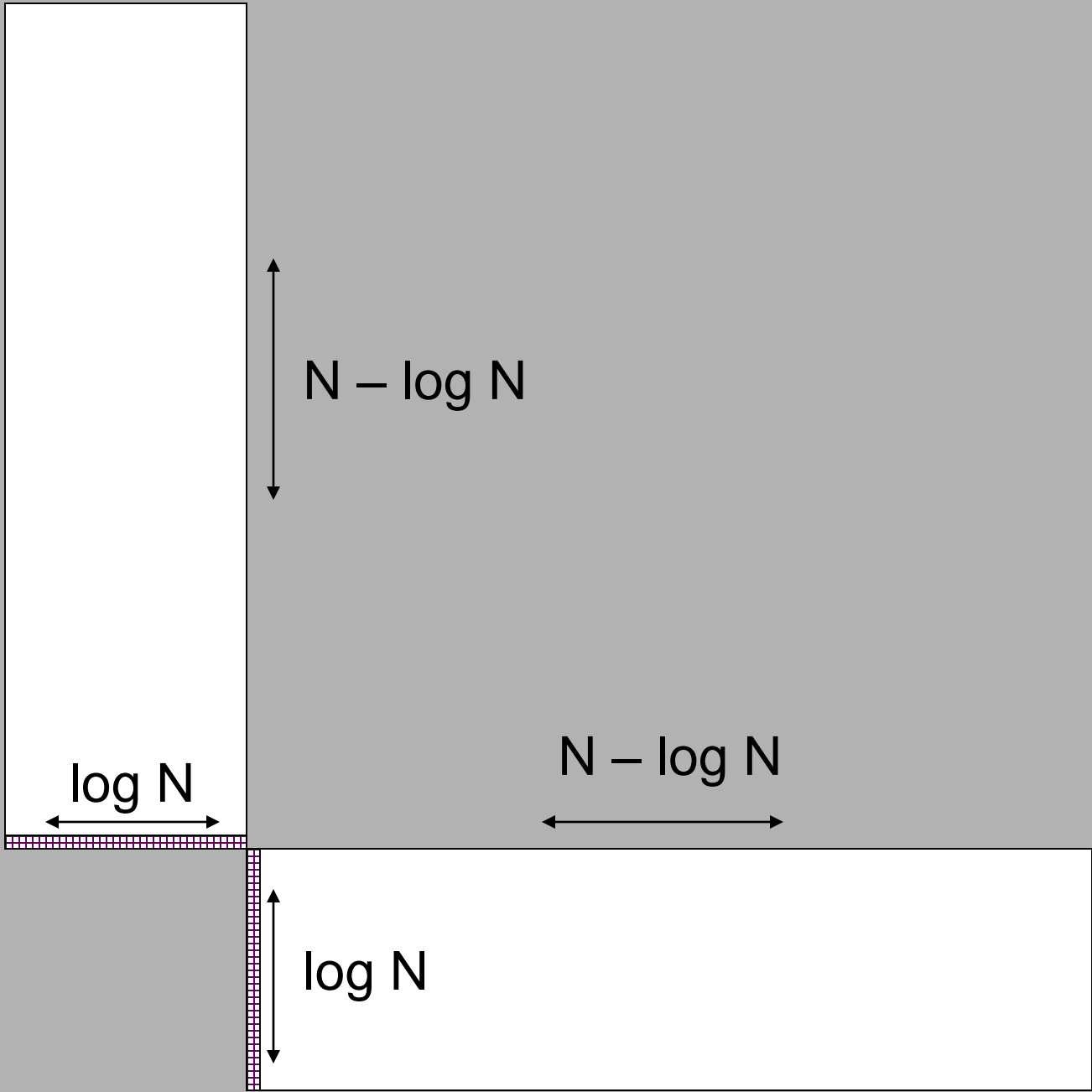
$N - \log N$

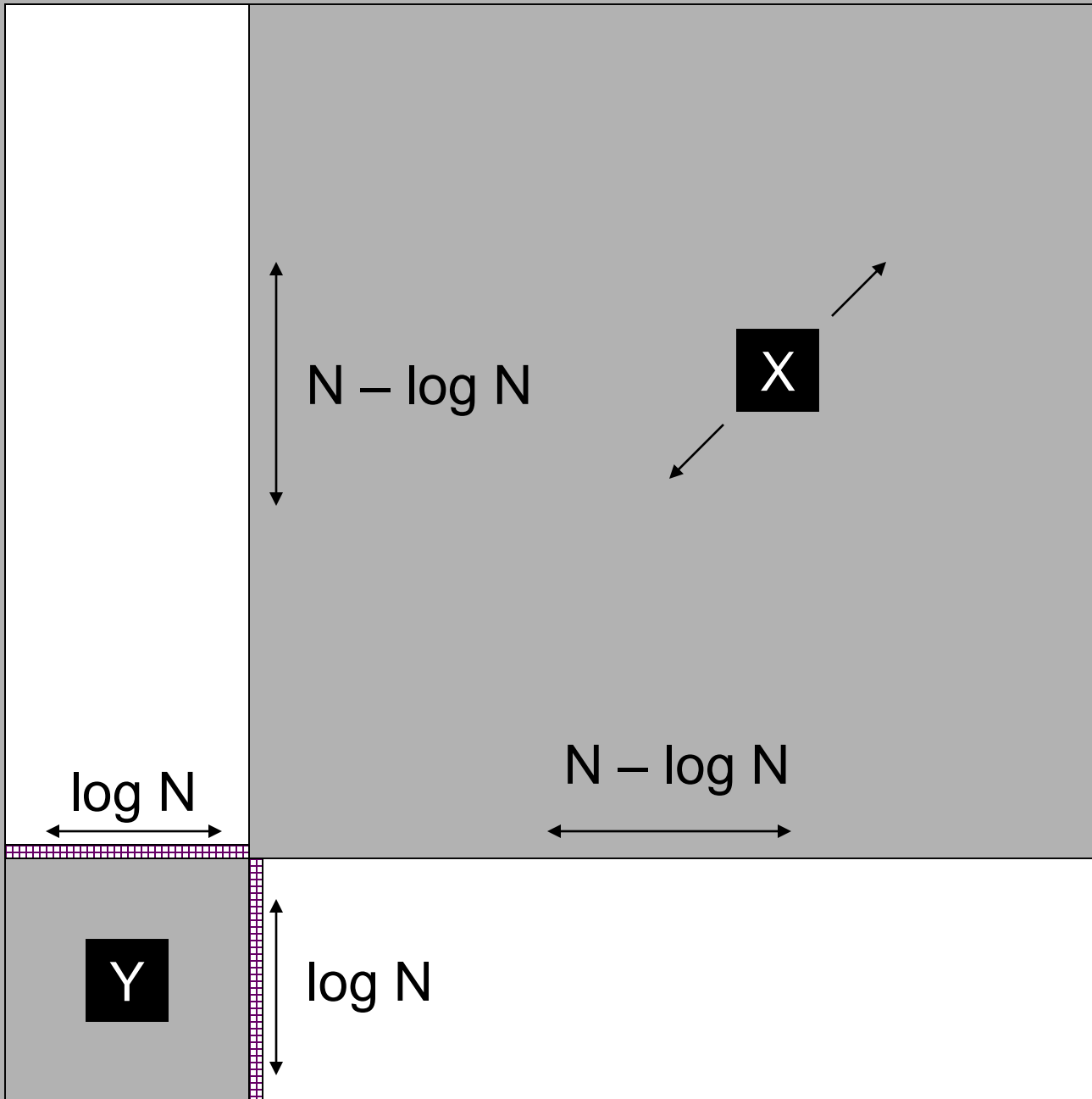


2 x log N block



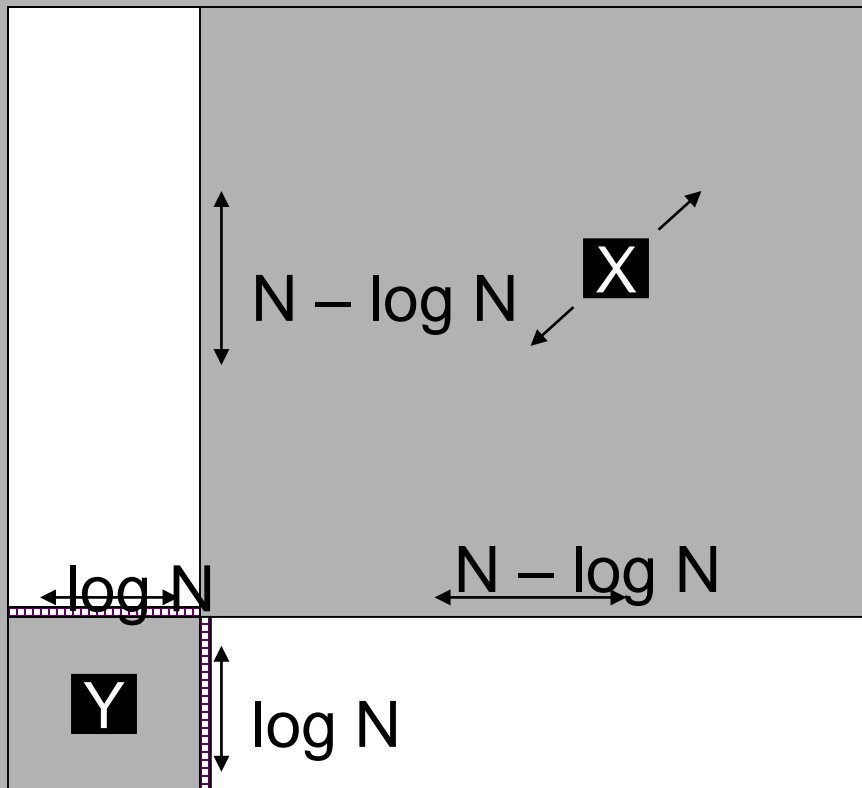
$\log N$





Complexity:

$$\Theta(\sqrt{\log N})$$



	$n \times n$ squares, Tile Complexity	
	upper bound	lower bound
Basic	$\Theta\left(\frac{\log N}{\log \log N}\right)$	
Flexible	$\Theta(\sqrt{\log N})$	