

# Supplementary File 1: Recurrences

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These recurrences were previously presented in [1] and [2]. We start by giving any notation used within this supplementary file and follow with the recurrences.

## 1 Notation

The following notations, used within this supplementary file, is outlined in this section. We let  $G$  denote a pseudoknot-free guide structure.

- $bp(i)$  is used to denote the base which pairs with  $i$  within the guide structure  $G$ .
- *Cover*: Assume  $k$  is an index in the guide structure  $G$ ;  $k$  is considered covered if there is a base pair  $i.j$  where  $i < k < j$  and there is other base pair  $i'.j'$  such that  $i < i' < k < j' < j$ .
- $isCovered(G, i)$  is true if and only if the base is is covered within the guide structure  $G$ .

## 2 Recurrences

$W(i, j)$  holds the energy of the MFE pseudoknotted secondary structure for region  $[i, j]$  of the structure over sequence  $S$ .

$$W(i, j) = \min \begin{cases} W(i, j - 1) \\ V(i, j) \\ \min_{i \leq k < j} W(i, k) + W(k + 1, j) \text{ k is not covered} \\ WMB(i, j) + P_s \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

$WI(i, j)$  holds the energy of the MFE pseudoknotted secondary structure for region  $[i, j]$  when the region is inside a pseudoknot.

$$WI(i, j) = \min \begin{cases} V(i, j) + P_{ps} \text{ if } i.j \in G \text{ or both are unpaired in } G \\ \min_{i \leq k < j} WI(i, k) + WI(k + 1, j) \\ WMB(i, j) + P_{sm} + P_{ps} \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

$WI'(i, j)$  holds the energy of the MFE pseudoknotted secondary structure for region  $[i, j]$  when the region is inside a band.

$$WI'(i, j) = \min \begin{cases} V(i, j) + b' \text{ if } i.j \in G \text{ or both are unpaired in } G \\ WI'(i + 1, j) + c' \text{ if } bp(i) = 0 \\ WI'(i, j - 1) + c' \text{ if } bp(j) = 0 \\ \min_{i \leq k < j} WI'(i, k) + WI'(k + 1, j) \\ WMB(i, j) + P_{sm} + b' \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

$VP(i, j)$  holds the energy of the MFE pseudoknotted secondary structure for region  $[i, j]$  closed by predicted base pair  $i.j$  which crosses a base pair in  $G$ .

$$VP(i, j) = \min \begin{cases} WI(i+1, B'(i, j) - 1) + WI(B(i, j) + 1, j - 1) & \text{if } isCovered(G, i) \text{ and NOT } iscovered(G, j), \\ WI(i+1, b(i, j) - 1) + WI(b'(i, j) + 1, j - 1) & \text{if NOT } isCovered(G, i) \text{ and } iscovered(G, j), \\ WI(i+1, B'(i, j) - 1) + WI(B(i, j) + 1, b(i, j) - 1) + WI(b'(i, j) + 1, j - 1) & \text{if } isCovered(G, i) \text{ and } iscovered(G, j), \\ e_{stP}(i, i+1, j-1, j) + VP(i+1, j-1) & \text{if } bp(i+1) = bp(j-1) = 0, \\ \min_{i \leq k < \min(B'(i, j), b(i, j))} e_{intP}(i, k, k'j) & \\ \min_{i \leq k < \min(B'(i, j), j)} WI'(i+1, k-1) + VP'(k, j-1) + a' + 2b' & \\ \min_{\max(i, b'(i, j)) \leq k < j} VP'(i+1, k) + WI'(k+1, j-1) + a' + 2b' & \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

$VP'(i, j)$  holds the energy of the MFE pseudoknotted secondary structure for region  $[i, j]$  where within a predicted base pair  $i.r$  or  $r.j$  for some  $r$  exists where  $i < r < j$  and  $i.r$  or  $r.j$  crosses a base pair in  $G$ .

$$VP'(i, j) = \min \begin{cases} \min_{\max(i, b'(i, j)) \leq k < j} VP(i, k) + WI'(k+1, j) & \\ \min_{i \leq k < \min(B'(i, j), j)} WI'(i, k-1) + VP(k, j) & \\ \min_{\max(i, b'(i, j)) \leq k < j} VP(i, k) + c'(j-k) & \\ \min_{i \leq k < \min(B'(i, j), j)} c'(k-i) + VP(k, j) & \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

$V(i, j)$  holds the energy of the MFE pseudoknotted secondary structure for region  $[i, j]$  closed by the base pair  $i.j$ .

$$V(i, j) = \min \begin{cases} e_H(i, j) \\ e_s(i, j) + V(i+1, j-1) \\ VBI(i, j) \\ VM(i, j) \end{cases} \quad (6)$$

$VBI(i, j)$  holds the energy of the MFE pseudoknotted secondary structure for region  $[i, j]$  where  $i.j$  and  $i.j$  closes a bulge or internal loop.

$$VBI(i, j) = \left\{ \min_{i < k < k' < j} e_{int}(i, k, k', j) + V(k, k') \right. \quad (7)$$

$VM(i, j)$  holds the energy of the MFE pseudoknotted secondary structure for region  $[i, j]$  where  $i.j$  and  $i.j$  closes a multiloop,

$$VM(i, j) = \min \begin{cases} \min_{i+1 < k \leq j-1} WM(i+1, k-1) + WM(k, j-1) + a + b \\ WMB(i+1, j-1) + a + P_{sm} + b \end{cases} \quad (8)$$

$WM(i, j)$  holds the energy of the MFE pseudoknotted secondary structure for region  $[i, j]$  where a base pair exists within  $i$  and  $j$ , and  $i$  and  $j$  are on a multibranch loop.

$$WM(i, j) = \min \begin{cases} V(i, j) + b \\ WM(i+1, j) + c \\ WM(i, j-1) + c \\ \min_{i \leq k \leq j-1} WM(i, k) + WM(k+1, j) \\ WMB(i+1, j-1) + P_{sm} + b \end{cases} \quad (9)$$

$WMB(i, j)$  holds the energy of the MFE pseudoknotted secondary structure for region  $[i, j]$  where within  $i$  and  $j$  exists a density-2 pseudoloop

$$WMB(i, j) = \min \begin{cases} P_b + \min_{bp(j) < k < j} BE(bp(j), bp(B'(k, j)), B'(k, j), j) \\ \quad + WMB'(i, k) + WI(k + 1, B'(k, j) - 1) \\ WMB'(i, j) \end{cases} \quad (10)$$

$WMB'(i, j)$  holds the energy of the MFE pseudoknotted secondary structure for region  $[i, j]$  where within  $i$  and  $j$ ,  $i$  starts the first band of the pseudoloop and  $j$  either closes the pseudoloop starting at  $i$ , is the closing base of a region within the pseudoloop starting at  $i$ , is an unpaired base outside the first two bands, or a closing base of a band associated with the pseudoloop.

$$WMB'(i, j) = \min \begin{cases} 2P_b + \min_{i < k < \min(j, b(i, j))} BE(bp(B(k, j)), bp(B'(k, j)), B'(k, j), B(k, j)) \\ \quad + WMB'(i, k - 1) + VP(k, j) \\ \min_{i < k < j} WMB'(i, k) + WI(k + 1, j) \\ P_b + VP(i, j) \\ 2P_b + \min_{i < k < bp(i)} BE(i, b'(i, k), bp(b'(i, k), bp(i)) + WI(b'(i, k), k - 1) \\ \quad + VP(k, j) \end{cases} \quad (11)$$

$BE(i, k, k', j)$  holds the energy of the MFE pseudoknotted secondary structure for the band  $[i, k] \cup [k', j]$  where  $i \leq k < k' \leq j$  and  $i, j$  and  $k, k'$ .

$$BE(i, k, k', j) = \min \begin{cases} e_{stP}(i, j) + BE(i + 1, k, k', j - 1) \\ e_{intP}(i, l, bp(l), j) + BE(l, k, k', bp(l)) \\ WI'(i + 1, l - 1) + BE(l, k, k', bp(l)) + WI'(bp(l) + 1, j - 1) + a' + 2b' \\ WI'(i + 1, l - 1) + BE(l, k, k', bp(l)) + a' + 2b' + c'(j - bp(l) + 1) \\ a' + 2b' + c'(l - i + 1) + BE(l, k, k', bp(l)) + WI'(bp(l) + 1, j - 1) \end{cases} \quad (12)$$

## References

- [1] Jabbari, H., Condon, A., Pop, A., Zhao, Y.: HFold: RNA Pseudoknotted Secondary Structure Prediction Using Hierarchical Folding. In: Algorithms in Bioinformatics, pp. 323–334. Springer, Berlin, Heidelberg (2007). doi:10.1007/978-3-540-74126-8\_30. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-540-74126-8\\_30](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-540-74126-8_30)
- [2] Jabbari, H., Condon, A.: A fast and robust iterative algorithm for prediction of RNA pseudoknotted secondary structures. BMC Bioinformatics **15** (2014). doi:10.1186/1471-2105-15-147

