

# Syllabus

## 5. String Problems

- Recap on Strings
- Pattern Matching: Knuth-Morris-Pratt
- Longest Common Substring
- Edit Distance
- Context-free Parsing: Cocke-Younger-Kasami
- Huffman Compression

## 5. String Problems

## strings recap

**Specification:** Fix finite alphabet  $\Sigma \neq \emptyset$ , often  $\{0,1\}$

A **string** over  $\Sigma$  is a finite sequence  $s = (s_0, \dots, s_{n-1}) \in \Sigma^*$ ,  
input/output as array  $s[0 \dots n-1]$ .

**Terminology:** Length  $|(s_0, \dots, s_{n-1})| = n$ ,

concatenation  $s \circ t$

initial segment  $(s_0, \dots, s_{n-1})_{< m} = (s_0, \dots, s_{m-1})$  for  $m \leq n$ .

$s$  substring of  $t \Leftrightarrow \exists u, v: t = v \circ s \circ u$

**Specification (cont.):** Fix finite set  $V \neq \emptyset$  disjoint to  $\Sigma$ .

## 5. String Problems Pattern Matching

**Input:** Two strings  $w$  and  $p$  of lengths  $n = |w| \gg |p| = m$ .

**Output:** Does  $w$  contain  $p$ , and where (first, all) ?

arrays  $w[0..n-1]$  and  $p[0..m-1]$

$w = \overset{\downarrow}{A}\overset{\downarrow}{B}\overset{\downarrow}{C}\overset{\downarrow}{X}\overset{\downarrow}{A}\overset{\downarrow}{B}\overset{\downarrow}{C}\overset{\downarrow}{D}\overset{\downarrow}{A}\overset{\downarrow}{B}\overset{\downarrow}{X}\overset{\downarrow}{A}\overset{\downarrow}{B}\overset{\downarrow}{C}\overset{\downarrow}{D}\overset{\downarrow}{A}\overset{\downarrow}{B}\overset{\downarrow}{C}\overset{\downarrow}{D}\overset{\downarrow}{A}\overset{\downarrow}{B}\overset{\downarrow}{D}\overset{\downarrow}{E}$   
 $p = \overset{\uparrow}{A}\overset{\uparrow}{B}\overset{\uparrow}{C}\overset{\uparrow}{D}\overset{\uparrow}{A}\overset{\uparrow}{B}\overset{\uparrow}{D}$

**Naïve algorithm:**

For  $k:=0$  to  $n-1$

If  $w[k]=p[0]$  then

Compare  $w[k+1..k+m-1]$  to  $p[1..m-1]$

If agree, then output  $k$ .

runtime  $O(n \cdot m)$

Preprocess  
pattern:

$T[] =$   
 -1 0 0 0 -1 0 2 0  
**A B C D A B D**

## 5. String Problems Knuth-Morris-Pratt

**Input:** Two strings  $w$  and  $p$  of lengths  $n = |w| \gg |p| = m$ .

**Output:** Does  $w$  contain  $p$ , and where (first, all) ?

arrays  $w[0..n-1]$  and  $p[0..m-1]$

$w = \text{ABCXABC DABXABC DABCDABDE}$   
 $p = \text{ABACABABA}$

**KMP algorithm:**

$k:=0$ ;  $j:=0$ ; While  $k < n$  do

If  $w[k]=p[j]$  then

$k++$ ;  $j++$ ;

If  $j=m$  then output  $k-j$ ;  $j:=T[j]$ ; endif  
 else  $j:=T[j]$ ; If  $j < 0$  then  $k++$ ;  $j++$ ; endif

runtime  $O(n+m)$

Preprocess  
pattern:

$T[] =$   
 -1 0 -1 1 -1 0 -1 3 -1 3  
**A B A C A B A B A**

runtime  $O(m)$

# 5. String Problems

## Longest Common Substring

**Specification:** Fix alphabet  $\Sigma$

**Input:**  $v \in \Sigma^n, w \in \Sigma^m$

**Output:** Length/positions of longest common substring?

**Example:** "ABABC" and "BABCA" share "BABC" as longest common substring

### Naïve Algorithm:

Try all possible pairs of initial positions

$$i=0, \dots, n-1 \text{ and } j=0, \dots, m-1.$$

For each compare  $v[i, \dots, i+k]$  to  $w[j, \dots]$

runtime  $O(n \cdot m \cdot \min(n, m))$

# 5. String Problems

## Longest Common Substring

**Specification:** Fix alphabet  $\Sigma$

**Input:**  $v \in \Sigma^n, w \in \Sigma^m$

**Output:** Length/positions of longest common substring?

### Better Algorithm:

Fill integer table  $LCS[0 \dots n, 0 \dots m]$ , such that  $LCS[i, j] :=$  length of longest common suffix shared by initial segments  $v[0 \dots i-1]$  and  $w[0 \dots j-1]$

$$LCS[0, j] = 0 = LCS[i, 0]$$

$$LCS[i+1, j+1] = LCS[i, j] + 1 \text{ if } v[i] = w[j] \\ = 0 \text{ if } v[i] \neq w[j]$$

runtime  $O(n \cdot m)$

### Example:

	A	B	A	B
B	0	1	0	1
A	1	0	2	0
B	0	2	0	3
A	1	0	3	0

## 5. String Problems

## Edit Distance

**Specification:** Fix alphabet  $\Sigma$

**Input:**  $v \in \Sigma^n, w \in \Sigma^m$

**Output:** Min. # symbol insert/delete op.s converting  $v$  into  $w$ .

**Proposition:** This constitutes a metric on  $\Sigma^*$ . **runtime  $O(n \cdot m)$**

**Example:** "kitten" and "sitting" have edit distance 5:

itten, sitten, sittn, sittin, sitting

**Wagner-Fischer Algorithm:** Fill table  $d[0..n, 0..m]$

such that  $d[i, j] :=$  edit distance of  $v[0..i-1]$  and  $w[0..j-1]$

$d[0, j] = j$        $d[i+1, j+1] = d[i, j]$       if  $v[i] = w[j]$

$d[i, 0] = i$        $= \min\{ d[i, j+1]+1, d[i+1, j]+1 \}$       if  $v[i] \neq w[j]$

**Variants:** Dis/allow (i) replacement, (ii) transposition, (iii) ...

Assign positive weights to different operations.

## 5. String Problems

## Grammar

**Specification:** Fix alphabet  $\Sigma$ , disjoint finite set  $V$  of variables  
and fix a finite set  $R$  of rules as well as  $S \in V$

**Input:**  $w \in \Sigma^*$ .      **Output:** Can  $w$  be generated from  $S$  ?

**Example:**  $V = \{S, X\}, \Sigma = \{a, b, c\}$

three rules       $S \rightarrow aXSc, S \rightarrow abc, Xa \rightarrow aX, Xb \rightarrow bb$

generate precisely the strings  $a^n b^n c^n, n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

**Definition:** A rule  $r$  is an assignment  $x \rightarrow y$ ,  
where  $x, y \in (\Sigma \cup V)^*$  and  $x$  contains some variable.

A rule  $x \rightarrow y$  is **context-free**, if  $x \in V$ .

## 5. String Problems Cocks-Younger-Kasami

**Specification:** Fix alphabet  $\Sigma$ , disjoint finite set  $V$  of variables and fix a finite set  $R$  of *context-free* rules as well as  $S \in V$

**Input:**  $w \in \Sigma^*$ .      **Output:** Can  $w$  be generated from  $S$  ?

Rules in *Chomsky normal form*:

either (i)  $X \rightarrow YZ$  (one to two variables)

or (ii)  $X \rightarrow a$  (one variable to one symbol)

or (iii)  $S \rightarrow \epsilon$  (empty string)      [exception only to generate  $\epsilon$ ..]

**Definition:** A **rule**  $r$  is an assignment  $x \rightarrow y$ , where  $x, y \in (\Sigma \cup V)^*$  and  $x$  contains some variable.

A rule  $x \rightarrow y$  is **context-free**, if  $x \in V$ .

## 5. String Problems Cocks-Younger-Kasami

Rules of the form (i)  $X \rightarrow YZ$  or (ii)  $X \rightarrow a$  or (iii)  $S \rightarrow \epsilon$

Table  $P[s, l, X] := "w_s, \dots, w_{s+l-1}$  can be generated from variable  $X"$ .

**Input:**  $w \in \Sigma^n$ .      **Output:** Can  $w$  be generated from  $S$  ?

```

Initialize  $P[..]$  with false.
For each  $s = 1$  to  $n$ 
    For each rule  $X \rightarrow w_s$  of type (ii)
         $P[s, 1, X] := true$ 
For  $l := 2$  to  $n$  // Length of span
    For  $s := 1$  to  $n-l+1$  // Start of span
        For  $k := 1$  to  $l-1$  // Partition of span
            For each rule of type (i)  $X \rightarrow Y Z$ 
                if  $P[s, k, Y]$  and  $P[s+k, l-k, Z]$ 
                    then  $P[s, l, X] := true$ 
//  $w$  can be generated iff  $P[1, n, S] = true$ .
runtime  $O(n^3)$ 

```

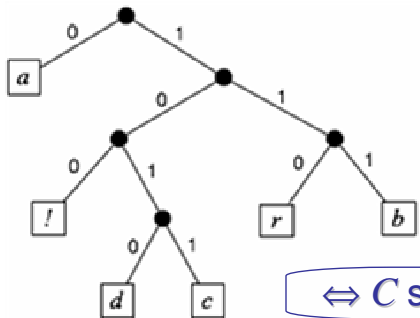
## 5. String Problems

**Specification:** Fix alphabet  $\Sigma$

**Input:**  $w \in \Sigma^*$  **Output:** "short bit-encoding" of  $w$

1. Determine frequencies  $f_s$  of symbols  $s \in \Sigma$  in  $w$

"this is an example of a huffman tree"



character	encoding
a	0
b	111
c	1011
d	1010
r	110
!	100

$\Leftrightarrow C$  set of leaves in some bin.tree

Variable length code, need delimiters—or better:

$C \subseteq \Sigma^*$  is **prefix-free** if  $v, w \in C$  and  $v \triangleleft w \Rightarrow v = w$ .

Char $\blacklozenge$	Freq $\blacklozenge$	Code $\blacklozenge$
space	7	111
a	4	010
e	4	000
f	3	1101
h	2	1010
i	2	1000
m	2	0111
n	2	0010
s	2	1011
t	2	0110
l	1	11001
o	1	00110
p	1	10011
r	1	11000
u	1	00111
x	1	10010

## 5. String Problems

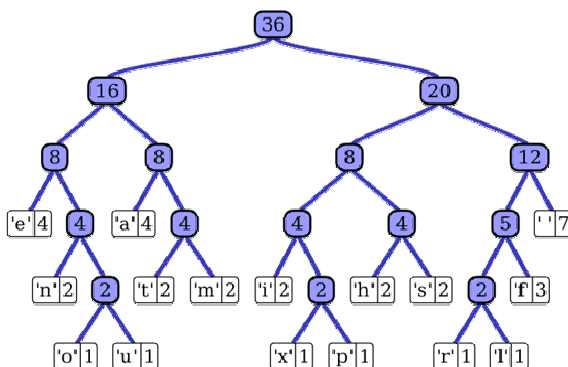
**Specification:** Fix alphabet  $\Sigma$

**Input:**  $w \in \Sigma^*$  **Output:** "short bit-encoding" of  $w$

1. Determine frequencies  $f_s$  of symbols  $s \in \Sigma$  in  $w$

2. Choose prefix-free  $C \subseteq \{0,1\}^*$  / binary tree  $T$

3. Assign to each  $s \in \Sigma$  a unique  $c_s \in C$  / leaf  $l_s$  of  $T$  such as to minimize expected length  $\sum_{s \in \Sigma} d(l_s) \cdot f_s$



Char $\blacklozenge$	Freq $\blacklozenge$	Code $\blacklozenge$
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i	2	1000
m	2	0111
n	2	0010
s	2	1011
t	2	0110
l	1	11001
o	1	00110
p	1	10011
r	1	11000
u	1	00111
x	1	10010

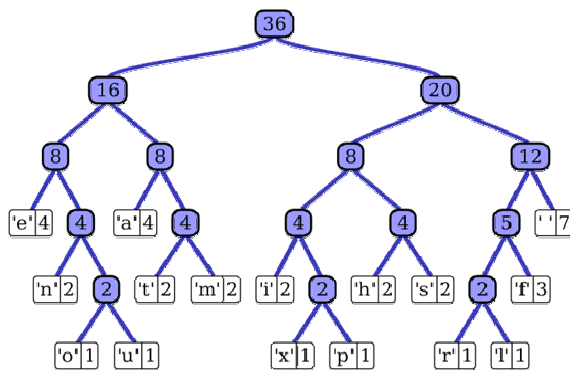
# 5. String Problems

## Huffman Tree

**Specification:** Fix alphabet  $\Sigma$

**Input:**  $w \in \Sigma^*$  **Output:** "short bit-encoding" of  $w$

1. Determine frequencies  $f_s$  of symbols  $s \in \Sigma$  in  $w$
2. Choose prefix-free  $C \subseteq \{0,1\}^*$  / binary tree  $T$
3. Assign to each  $s \in \Sigma$  a unique  $c_s \in C$  / leaf  $l_s$  of  $T$  such as to minimize expected length  $\sum_{s \in \Sigma} d(l_s) \cdot f_s$



**Idea:** Frequent symbols  $s$  (=large  $f_s$ ) should receive small depth  $d(l_s)$ , rare ones can afford large depth.

# 5. String Problems

## Huffman Tree

**Specification:** Fix alphabet  $\Sigma$

**Input:**  $w \in \Sigma^*$  **Output:** "short bit-encoding" of  $w$

File :

b	p	\	m	j	o	d	a	i	r	u	l	s	e	
1	1	2	2	3	3	3	4	4	5	5	6	6	8	12

Extract two symbols  $s, t \in \Sigma$  with least frequencies  $f_s, f_t$ .  
 Combine them to a tree with leaves  $s, t$  and root  $st \in \Sigma$  of frequency  $f_{st} := f_s + f_t$ .  
 Repeat.

**Idea:** Frequent symbols  $s$  (=large  $f_s$ ) should receive small depth  $d(l_s)$ , rare ones can afford large depth.