

# Analysing New Entropy Measures for Tries

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Information Retrieval

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# The Worst-Case Entropy

## Definition: Worst-Case Entropy

Let  $\mathcal{U}$  be a set, the **worst-case entropy**  $\mathcal{H}^{\text{wc}}(\mathcal{U})$  of  $\mathcal{U}$  is defined as

$$\mathcal{H}^{\text{wc}}(\mathcal{U}) = \log_2 |\mathcal{U}|$$

Example, if  $\mathcal{U} = \{\text{dog, cat, bird, mouse}\}$ , then  $\mathcal{H}^{\text{wc}}(\mathcal{U}) = \log_2 |\mathcal{U}| = \log_2 4 = 2$

# The Worst-Case Entropy of a String

Consider the string **S** = **aaaaaabaaaaaaaaabaaa**.

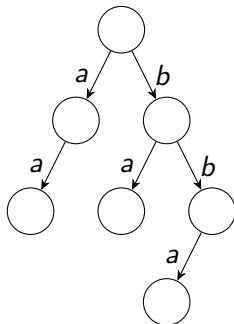
- If we consider  $\mathcal{U}$  as **the set of strings** of **length**  $n = 20$  over an **alphabet of size**  $\sigma = 2$ , then:

$$\mathcal{H}^{wc}(\mathcal{U}) = n \log \sigma = 20 \text{ bits}$$

- If  $\mathcal{U}$  is the set of strings where **a** and **b** appear **18** and **2** times:

$$\mathcal{H}^{wc}(\mathcal{U}) = \log \binom{20}{2} \approx 7.57 \text{ bits}$$

# The Worst-Case Entropy of a Trie



There exists a **famous worst-case formula** for the **set of tries** having **n** nodes over an **alphabet of size  $\sigma$** .

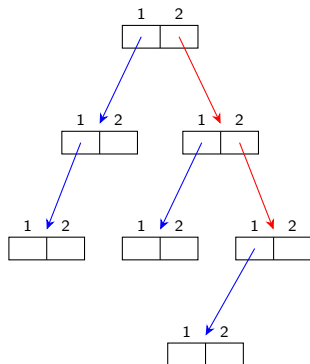
$$\mathcal{H}^{wc}(\mathcal{U}) = \log \frac{1}{n} \binom{n\sigma}{n-1} [1]$$

Ex. if  $n = 7$  and  $\sigma = 2$ , then  $\log \frac{1}{7} \binom{14}{6} \approx 8.7$  bits

What if we consider tries with a **given symbol distribution**?

1. R. Graham, D. Knuth, and O. Patashnik: *Concrete Mathematics*. Addison-Wesley. (1994)

# The Worst-Case Entropy of a Trie



The number of  $t$ -ary trees with a **fixed number of first, second, . . . ,  $t$ -th children** was computed using generating functions [2].

Ex. the 2-ary on the left has **4 first children**  
and **2 second children**.

- **In bijection** with our class of tries.

- $|\mathcal{U}| = \frac{1}{n} \prod_{c \in \Sigma} \binom{n}{n_c},$

$$n_c = \# \text{ edges labeled by the character } c.$$

# Our contributions

- 1 Provide an **alternative proof** for the formula  $|\mathcal{U}| = \frac{1}{n} \prod_{c \in \Sigma} \binom{n}{n_c}$

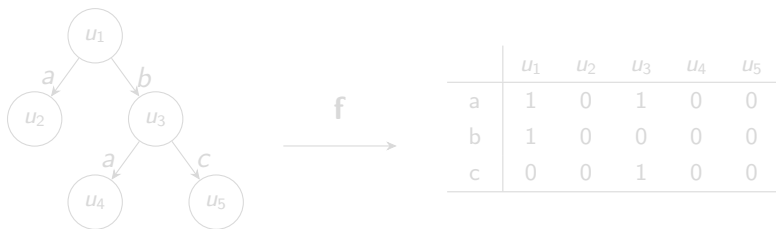
By using a simple bijection!

- 2 Introducing corresponding **worst-case entropy**  $\mathcal{H}^{wc}(\mathcal{U})$
- 3 Introducing an **empirical entropy for tries**  $\mathcal{H}_k(\mathcal{T})$
- 4 **Compress** and **index** a trie in  $n\mathcal{H}_k(\mathcal{T}) + o(n)$  bits using the **XBWT**

# The Function $f : \mathcal{U} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$

**Domain:**  $\mathcal{U} \leftarrow$  set of tries having  $n_c$  edges labeled by  $c \in \Sigma$

**Codomain:**  $\mathcal{M} \leftarrow$  set of  $\sigma \times n$  binary matrices having  $n_c$  ones at row  $c$ .



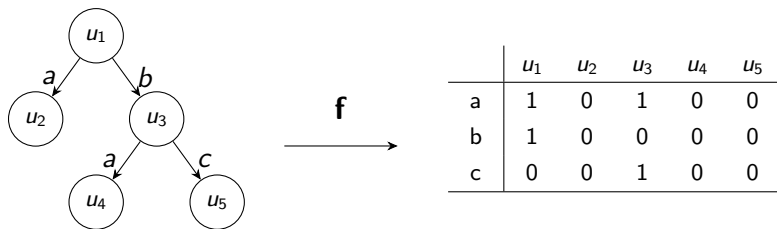
To compute the matrix  $M = f(T)$ :

- 1 Sort the nodes of  $\mathcal{T}$  based on a **pre-order visit**. ( $u_1, u_2, u_3, u_4, u_5$  in fig.)
- 2 Set  $M[i][c] = 1$  iff there exists the edge  $u_i \xrightarrow{c} v$ .

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# Inverting Function $f$

The function  $f$  is **injective**, but **not surjective**: some matrices in  $\mathcal{M}$  do not correspond to any trie.

	$u_1$	$u_2$	$u_3$	$u_4$	$u_5$
a	1	0	0	1	0
b	1	0	0	0	0
c	0	0	0	0	1

$f^{-1}$   
→



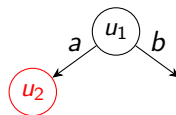
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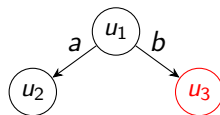
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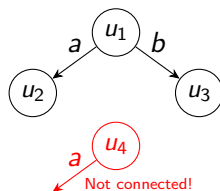
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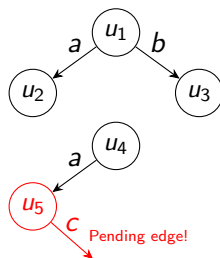
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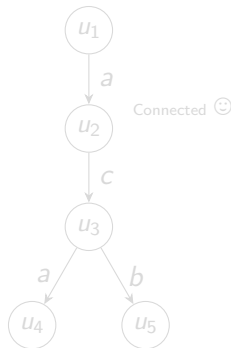
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What happens if we **rotate the matrix**?

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Rotating  
two columns!

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Now the **matrix is invertible**!

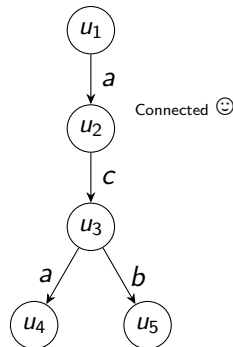
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# New Worst-Case Formula Measure

That's not by chance! Using a result about integer sequences [3] we deduced:

- 1 Every matrix  $M$  in  $\mathcal{M}$  has exactly  **$n$  distinct rotations**.  $n = \#$  of columns
- 2 The **rotation of  $M$  that is invertible** exists and is unique.

We observe  $|\mathcal{M}| = \prod_{c \in \Sigma} \binom{n}{n_c}$   $n_c =$  number of ones at the  $c$ -th row

Consequently,  $|\mathcal{U}| = \frac{1}{n} \prod_{c \in \Sigma} \binom{n}{n_c}$  and  $\mathcal{H}^{wc}(\mathcal{U}) = \sum_{c \in \Sigma} \log \binom{n}{n_c} - \log n$ .

3. G. Rote. Binary trees with nodes having 0, 1, and 2 children. Séminaire Lotharingien de Combinatoire. (1997)



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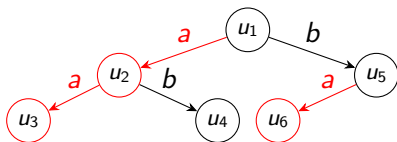
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# Formula Empirical Entropy for Tries

For  $w \in \Sigma^k$  and  $c \in \Sigma$ , consider the integers  $n_w$  and  $n_{w,c}$ :

- $n_w = |\{u \in V \mid u \text{ has context } w\}|$
- $n_{w,c} = |\{u \in V \mid u \text{ has context } w \text{ and there exists } u \xrightarrow{c} v\}|$



**Example:** In figure,  $n_a = 3$ .

Indeed,  $u_2$ ,  $u_3$ , and  $u_6$  are reached by the **string**  $a$ .

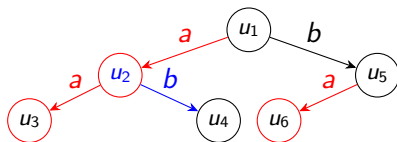
Definition:  $k$ -th order empirical entropy  $\mathcal{H}_k(\mathcal{T})$

$$\mathcal{H}_k(\mathcal{T}) = \sum_{c \in \Sigma} \sum_{w \in \Sigma^k} \frac{n_{w,c}}{n} \log \left( \frac{n_w}{n_{w,c}} \right) + \frac{n_w - n_{w,c}}{n} \log \left( \frac{n_w}{n_w - n_{w,c}} \right)$$

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**Example:** In figure,  $n_{a,b} = 1$ .

Among the **nodes reached by a**, only  $u_2$  has an **outgoing edge labeled by b**.

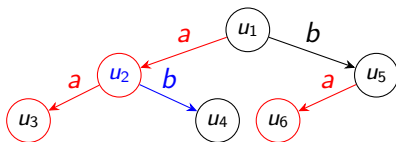
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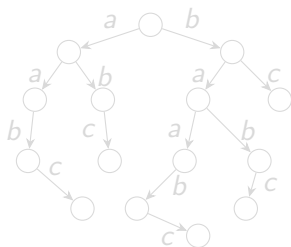
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# Properties for our Entropy Measures

Properties analogous to the string entropies:

- ①  $n\mathcal{H}_0(\mathcal{T}) = \mathcal{H}^{\text{wc}}(\mathcal{T}) + O(\sigma \log n)$
- ②  $\mathcal{H}_{k+1}(\mathcal{T}) \leq \mathcal{H}_k(\mathcal{T})$ , for every  $k \geq 0$



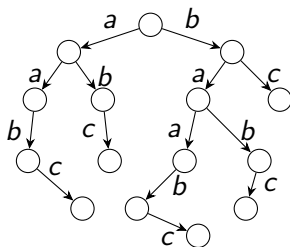
- Worst-case entropy without character frequencies [1] (**not ours!**):  
 $\log \frac{1}{n} \binom{n\sigma}{n-1} = \log \frac{1}{15} \binom{45}{14} \approx 33.37$  bits.
- 1st-order empirical entropy (**ours!**)  
 $n\mathcal{H}_1(\mathcal{T}) \approx 7.29$  bits

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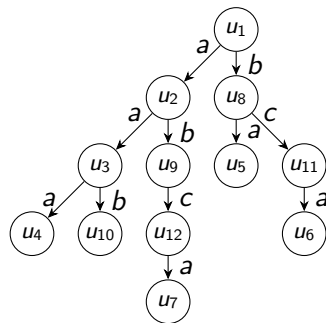
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# XBWT of a trie



$out(u) \leftarrow$  set of outgoing labels of  $u$

$u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n \leftarrow$  nodes sorted **co-lexicographically**

**Definition: XBWT [4]**

$$XBWT(\mathcal{T}) = out(u_1), out(u_2), \dots, out(u_n)$$

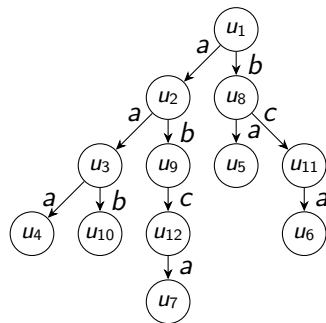
We can **compress** and **index** (count queries) a trie in:

$$n\mathcal{H}_k(\mathcal{T}) + o(n) \quad \forall k = o(\log_{\sigma} n)$$

co-lex	$u_1$	$u_2$	$u_3$	$u_4$	$u_5$	$u_6$	$u_7$	$u_8$	$u_9$	$u_{10}$	$u_{11}$	$u_{12}$
XBWT	a b	a b	a b					a  c	 c		a	a



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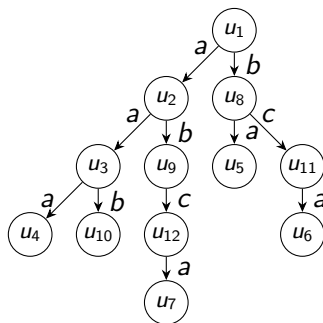
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# XBWT runs



XBWT run-break if:  $c \in \text{out}(u_i)$  and  $c \notin \text{out}(u_{i+1})$

$r$ -index for tries in:  $O(r \log n) + o(n)$  bits [5]

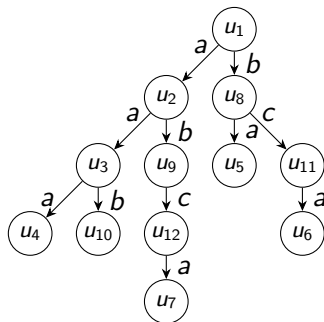
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(similar relation for strings! [6])

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5. N. Prezza. On Locating Paths in Compressed Tries. SODA. (2021)

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