Huffman Code

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■ Basics

■ Constructing the Huffman Code

Remarks on the implementation: The construction of the Huffman code is based on a given alphabet with frequencies; more precisely on a list of pairs {frequency, letter} - see for instance the list FTGerman above. (Having the frequency value in the first and the letter in the second position is only a matter of convenience.) This list is referred to as the underlying frequency table FT - which is the only input parameter of the function HuffmanTree.

The Huffman tree is constructed as a binary root-tree. Its subtrees are of the form {value, {left child, right child}} or {value, letter}. The latter ones are the "leaves" of the Huffman tree. The construction of the Huffman tree is done by a series of transformations on FT as follows:

- * FT is given in sorted form (sorted by the values of the subtrees).
- * The two subtrees with the lowest values (i.e. the first and the second subtree of FT are merged into another subtree, its value being the sum of the latter two.)
- * This new subtree replaces the two subtrees from which it was constructed.
- * This procedure is continued until there is only one subtree.

```
LowestValue1[T_] := First[T[[1]]];
LowestValue2[T_] := First[T[[2]]];

HuffmanTree[FT_] :=
   (If[verbose, Print[FT]];
   If[Length[FT] == 1, FT,
        HuffmanTree[Sort[
        Prepend[Delete[FT, {{1}, {2}}], {LowestValue1[FT] +
              LowestValue2[FT], {FT[[1]], FT[[2]]}}]]])
```

```
verbose = True
```

True

```
FTGerman
\{\{0.012, Q\}, \{0.023, X\}, \{0.023, Y\}, \{0.222, J\},
 \{0.655, P\}, \{1.041, V\}, \{1.299, Z\}, \{1.346, W\},
 \{1.463, F\}, \{1.626, K\}, \{2.527, B\}, \{2.633, G\},
 {2.644, O}, {2.832, C}, {2.949, M}, {3.3, L}, {4.517, H},
 {4.727, U}, {5.324, D}, {6.109, A}, {6.471, T},
 {6.704, S}, {7.7, R}, {8.238, I}, {9.771, N}, {15.844, E}}
HuffmanTree[FTGerman]
{{100., {{41.131,
     \{\{19.015, \{\{9.244, \{\{4.517, H\}, \{4.727, U\}\}\}, \{9.771, N\}\}\},
      {22.116, {{10.601, {{5.277, {{2.633, G}, {2.644, O}}}},
            {5.324, D}}}, {11.515, {{5.477, {{2.645,
               \{\{1.299, Z\}, \{1.346, W\}\}\}, \{2.832, C\}\}\}, \{6.038,
             \{\{2.949, M\}, \{3.089, \{\{1.463, F\}, \{1.626, K\}\}\}\}\}\}\}\}\}\}
    \{58.869, \{\{26.984, \{\{12.58, \{\{6.109, A\}, \{6.471, T\}\}\}\}, \}\}
         {14.404, {{6.704, S}, {7.7, R}}}}},
      {31.885, {{15.844, E}, {16.041, {{7.803, {{3.3, L},
              \{4.503, \{\{1.976, \{\{0.935, \{\{0.28, \{\{0.058, \{\{0.023, Y\}, \{0.058, \{\{0.023, Y\}, \{0.058, \{\{0.023, Y\}, \{0.023, Y\}, \{0.023, Y\}, \{0.023, Y\}, \{0.023, Y\}, \{0.023, Y\}, \}\}
                           \{0.035, \{\{0.012, Q\}, \{0.023, X\}\}\}\}\}
                         \{0.222, J\}\}\}, \{0.655, P\}\}\}, \{1.041, V\}\}\},
                 {2.527, B}}}}}, {8.238, I}}}}}}
% // TableForm
                                          4.517
                                                  Η
                                 9.244
                      19.015
                                          4.727
                                 9.771 N
                                                    2.633
                                           5.277
                                 10.601
                                                    2.644
                                                             \bigcirc
                                           5.324
                                                    D
            41.131
                                                             1.299
                                                                     7.
                                                    2.645
                                           5.477
                                                             1.346
                      22.116
                                                    2.832
                                                             С
                                 11.515
                                                    2.949
                                                            Μ
                                           6.038
                                                             1.463
                                                                     F
                                                    3.089
                                                             1.626
                                           6.109
                                                    Α
                                 12.58
100.
                                           6.471
                                                    Τ
                      26.984
                                           6.704
                                                    S
                                 14.404
                                           7.7
                                                    R
                                 15.844
                                           Ε
                                                    3.3
                                                             \mathbf{L}
            58.869
                                                                               0.28
                                                                      0.935
                                                             1.976
                                           7.803
                      31.885
                                                    4.503
                                 16.041
                                                                               0.655
                                                                      1.041
                                                                               V
                                                             2.527
                                           8.238 I
```

```
LeftChild[HT ] := { ((First[HT])[[2]])[[1]] };
 RightChild[HT ] := { ((First[HT])[[2]])[[2]] };
 LeafP[HT ] := Not[ListQ[(HT[[1]])[[2]]]];
 (* Leaf-Property *)
 Letter[Pair ] := Pair[[2]];
 HuffmanCodeTable[HT ] :=
   If[LeafP[HT],
    {Letter[First[HT]], "1"}, Sort[HCT[HT, ""]]];
 HCT[HT , code ] :=
  Which[HT = {}, {}, {},
   LeafP[HT], Return[{{Letter[First[HT]], code}}],
   True,
   Join[
    HCT[LeftChild[HT], StringJoin[code, "0"]],
    HCT[RightChild[HT], StringJoin[code, "1"]]]]
HuffmanCodeTable[{{0.6, "X"}}]
\{X, 1\}
HuffmanCodeTable[{{1, {{0.4, "U"}, {0.6, "V"}}}}]
{{U, 0}, {V, 1}}
HuffmanCodeTable[HuffmanTree[FTGerman]]
{{A, 1000}, {B, 111011}, {C, 01101}, {D, 0101},
 {E, 110}, {F, 011110}, {G, 01000}, {H, 0000}, {I, 1111},
 {J, 111010001}, {K, 011111}, {L, 11100}, {M, 01110},
 {N, 001}, {O, 01001}, {P, 11101001}, {Q, 11101000010},
 {R, 1011}, {S, 1010}, {T, 1001}, {U, 0001}, {V, 1110101},
```

 $\{W, 011001\}, \{X, 11101000011\}, \{Y, 1110100000\}, \{Z, 011000\}\}$

```
■ Some further utility functions
```

```
FTGerman
\{\{0.012, Q\}, \{0.023, X\}, \{0.023, Y\}, \{0.222, J\},
 \{0.655, P\}, \{1.041, V\}, \{1.299, Z\}, \{1.346, W\},
 \{1.463, F\}, \{1.626, K\}, \{2.527, B\}, \{2.633, G\},
 {2.644, O}, {2.832, C}, {2.949, M}, {3.3, L}, {4.517, H},
 \{4.727, U\}, \{5.324, D\}, \{6.109, A\}, \{6.471, T\},
 {6.704, S}, {7.7, R}, {8.238, I}, {9.771, N}, {15.844, E}}
Cases[FTGerman, {_ , "D"} ]
\{\{5.324, D\}\}
 Frequency[FT , symb ] :=
  First[First[Cases[FT, { , symb}]]]
Frequency[FTGerman, "D"]
5.324
 HuffmanCode[FT_, symb_] := Last[First[
    Cases[HuffmanCodeTable[HuffmanTree[FT]], {symb, _}]]]
HuffmanCode[FTGerman, "D"]
0101
MeanCodeLength[FT ] :=
 Module[{alph, freq, codes, mean = 0},
  alph = Sort[(Transpose[FT])[[2]]];
  freq = Map[Function[x, Frequency[FT, x]], alph];
  codes = Map[Function[x, HuffmanCode[FT, x]], alph];
  (* Print[{alph, freq, codes}]; *)
  Do[mean = mean + freq[[i]] * StringLength[codes[[i]]],
   {i, 1, Length[alph]} ];
  mean = 0.01 * mean;
  Return[mean]]
MeanCodeLength[FTGerman]
4.12501
```

■ Some Examples

In the following examples, a word is given. The word determines the respective alphabet and the frequencies of the letters.

■ Example: ABRAKADABRA

Exabrakadabra =

HuffmanTree[ExABRAKADABRA]

```
{{1., {{0.454545, A}, }, }, {0.545455, {{0.181818, {{0.0909091, D}, {0.0909091, K}}}, }, {0.363636, {{0.181818, B}, {0.181818, R}}}}}}}
```

% // TableForm

```
0.454545 A
0.181818 0.0909091 D
0.0909091 K
0.363636 0.181818 B
0.181818 R
```

HuffmanCodeTable[HuffmanTree[ExABRAKADABRA]]

```
{{A, 0}, {B, 110}, {D, 100}, {K, 101}, {R, 111}}
```

■ Example: MISSISSIPPIDAMPFER

```
ExMISSISSIPPIDAMPFER =
```

```
HuffmanTree[ExMISSISSIPPIDAMPFER]
      {{1., {{0.444444, {{0.222222, I}, {0.2222222, S}}}}, {0.555556,
          \{\{0.222222, \{\{0.1111111, \{\{0.0555556, A\}, \{0.0555556, D\}\}\}\},
             \{0.1111111, \{\{0.0555556, E\}, \{0.0555556, F\}\}\}\}\}
           {0.333333, {{0.166667, P}, {0.166667,
              {{0.0555556, R}, {0.111111, M}}}}}}}}
      % // TableForm
                        0.222222
              0.444444
                        0.222222
                                             0.0555556
                                                        Α
                                  0.111111
                                             0.0555556
                                                        D
                        0.222222
                                             0.0555556
                                                        Ε
      1.
                                  0.111111
                                             0.0555556
              0.555556
                                  0.166667
                        0.333333
                                             0.0555556
                                  0.166667
                                             0.111111
                                                        M
      HuffmanCodeTable[HuffmanTree[ExMISSISSIPPIDAMPFER]]
      {{A, 1000}, {D, 1001}, {E, 1010}, {F, 1011},
       {I, 00}, {M, 1111}, {P, 110}, {R, 1110}, {S, 01}}
■ Example: MISSISSIPPISCHIFF
      ExMISSISSIPPISCHIFF =
       Sort[{{1/17, "M"}, {5/17, "I"}, {5/17, "S"}, {2/17,
            "P"}, {1/17, "C"}, {1/17, "H"}, {2/17, "F"}}] // N
      {{0.0588235, C}, {0.0588235, H}, {0.0588235, M},
       {0.117647, F}, {0.117647, P}, {0.294118, I}, {0.294118, S}}
      Apply[Plus, Map[First, %]]
      1.
      HuffmanTree[ExMISSISSIPPISCHIFF]
      {{1., {{0.411765, {{0.176471, {{0.0588235, M}, {0.117647, F}}}},
           {0.235294, {{0.117647, P},
             \{0.117647, \{\{0.0588235, C\}, \{0.0588235, H\}\}\}\}\}\}
         {0.588235, {{0.294118, I}, {0.294118, S}}}}}
```

```
% // TableForm
                                  0.0588235
                                             Μ
                        0.176471
                                  0.117647
                                              F
              0.411765
                                  0.117647
                                             Ρ
                        0.235294
                                             0.0588235
      1.
                                  0.117647
                                             0.0588235 H
                        0.294118
              0.588235
                        0.294118
                                  S
      TableForm[HuffmanTree[ExMISSISSIPPISCHIFF]]
                                  0.0588235
                        0.176471
                                  0.117647
                                              F
                                  0.117647
              0.411765
      1.
                        0.235294
                                             0.0588235
                                  0.117647
                                             0.0588235 H
                        0.294118
              0.588235
                        0.294118
      HuffmanCodeTable[HuffmanTree[ExMISSISSIPPISCHIFF]]
      {{C, 0110}, {F, 001}, {H, 0111},
       {I, 10}, {M, 000}, {P, 010}, {S, 11}}
■ Example: Ex01
      Ex01 =
       (* input word:
          AAAAAABBBBDDDDDDDDDDDDEEEEEEEEEEEEEEFFFGGGGG *)
       Sort[{{6/49, "A"}, {4/49, "B"}, {12/49, "D"},
           {19 / 49, "E"}, {3 / 49, "F"}, {5 / 49, "G"}}] // N
      \{\{0.0612245, F\}, \{0.0816327, B\}, \{0.102041, G\},
       {0.122449, A}, {0.244898, D}, {0.387755, E}}
      Apply[Plus, Map[First, %]]
      1.
      HuffmanTree[Ex01]
      \{\{1., \{\{0.387755, E\}, \{0.612245, \{\{0.244898, D\}, \}\}\}\}
           \{0.367347, \{\{0.142857, \{\{0.0612245, F\}, \{0.0816327, B\}\}\}\}, \}
             {0.22449, {{0.102041, G}, {0.122449, A}}}}}}}}
```

```
% // TableForm
                                                          0.387755
                                                                                                    0.244898
                                                                                                                                                                                        0.0612245
                                                                                                                                              0.142857
                         1.
                                                                                                                                                                                        0.0816327
                                                          0.612245
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     В
                                                                                                    0.367347
                                                                                                                                                                                        0.102041
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                G
                                                                                                                                              0.22449
                                                                                                                                                                                        0.122449
                         TableForm[HuffmanTree[Ex01]]
                                                          0.387755
                                                                                                   Ε
                                                                                                    0.244898
                                                                                                                                                                                        0.0612245
                                                                                                                                              0.142857
                         1.
                                                         0.612245
                                                                                                                                                                                        0.0816327
                                                                                                    0.367347
                                                                                                                                                                                        0.102041
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                G
                                                                                                                                              0.22449
                                                                                                                                                                                        0.122449
                        HuffmanCodeTable[HuffmanTree[Ex01]]
                         {{A, 1111}, {B, 1101}, {D, 10}, {E, 0}, {F, 1100}, {G, 1110}}
■ Example Ex02
                        Ex02 =
                              \{\{1.\ , \{\{0.36\ , "E"\}, \{0.64\ , \{\{0.29\ , \{\{0.14\ , \{\{0.04\ , \{\{0.29\ , \{\{0.14\ , \{\{0.04\ , \{\{0.14\ , \{\{0.14\ , \{\{0.14\ , \{\{0.14\ , \{\{0.14\ , \{\{0.14\ , \{\{0.14\ , \{\{0.14\ , \{\{0.14\ , \{\{0.14\ , \{\{0.14\ , \{\{0.14\ , \{\{0.14\ , \{\{\{0.14\ , \{\{\{0.14\ , \{\{\{0.14\ , \{\{\{0.14\ , \{\{\{0.14\ , \{\{\{0.14\ , \{\{\{0.14\ , \{\{\{0.14\ , \{\{\{0.14\ , \{\{\{0.14\ , \{\{\{0.14\ , \{\{\{\{0.14\ , \{\{\{0.14\ , \{\{\{\{0.14\ , \{\{\{\{\{\{\{1.14\ , \{\{\{\{1.14\ , \{\{\{\{1.14\ , \{\{\{\{1.14\ , \{\{\{1.14\ , \{\{\{1.14\ , \{\{\{\{1.14\ , \{\{\{\{1.14\ , \{\{\{\{1.14\ , \{\{\{\{1.14\ , \{\{\{1.14\ , \{\{\{\{1.14\ , \{\{\{1.14\ , \{\{\{1.14\ , \{\{\{1.14\ , \{\{\{1.14\ , \{\{\{1.14\ , \{\{1.14\ , \{\{\{1.14\ , \{\{\{1.14\ , \{\{1.14\ , \{\{1.14\ , \{\{1.14\ , \{\{1.14\ , \{\{1.14\ , \{\{1.14\ , \{\{1.14\ , \{\{1.14\ , \{\{1.14\ , \{\{1.14\ , \{\{1.14\ , \{\{1.14\ , \{\{1.14\ , \{\{1.14\ , \{\{1.14\ , \{\{1.14\ , \{\{1.14\ , \{\{1.14\ , \{\{1.14\ , \{\{1.14\ , \{\{1.14\ , \{\{1.14\ , \{\{1.14\ , \{\{1.14\ , \{\{1.14\ , \{\{1.14\ , \{\{1.14\ , \{\{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{\{1.14\ , \{\{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{\{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{\{1.14\ , \{\{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{\{1.14\ , \{\{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.14\ , \{1.1
                                                                             "A"}, {0.1`, "C"}}}, {0.15`, "B"}}},
                                                      {0.35`, {{0.15`, "D"}, {0.2`, "F"}}}}}}}
                         \{\{1., \{\{0.36, E\},
                                      \{0.64, \{\{0.29, \{\{0.14, \{\{0.04, A\}, \{0.1, C\}\}\}\}, \{0.15, B\}\}\}\},
                                              \{0.35, \{\{0.15, D\}, \{0.2, F\}\}\}\}\}\}
                         % // TableForm
                                                          0.36
                                                                                                                                     0.04
                                                                                                            0.14
                                                                                   0.29
                                                                                                                                     0.1
                         1.
                                                         0.64
                                                                                                             0.15
                                                                                                                                     В
                                                                                                            0.15
0.2
                                                                                                                                     D
                                                                                   0.35
                                                                                                                                     F
                        HuffmanCodeTable[Ex02]
                         {{A, 1000}, {B, 101}, {C, 1001}, {D, 110}, {E, 0}, {F, 111}}
```

```
■ Example: Ex03
      ExSchulz =
        Sort[{{0.4, "W"}, {0.3, "S"}, {0.2, "G"}, {0.1, "H"}}]
                                                                              Z
      \{\{0.1, H\}, \{0.2, G\}, \{0.3, S\}, \{0.4, W\}\}
      HuffmanTree[ExSchulz]
      \{\{1., \{\{0.4, W\}, \{0.6, \{\{0.3, S\}, \{0.3, \{\{0.1, H\}, \{0.2, G\}\}\}\}\}\}\}\}\}\}\}
      % // TableForm
               0.4
                     0.3
      1.
               0.6
                          0.1
      HuffmanCodeTable[HuffmanTree[ExSchulz]]
      {{G, 111}, {H, 110}, {S, 10}, {W, 0}}
■ Example: Ex04
      ExRechenberg = Sort[{{0.36, "E"}, {0.22, "B"},
          {0.16, "A"}, {0.14, "C"}, {0.12, "D"}}]
      \{\{0.12, D\}, \{0.14, C\}, \{0.16, A\}, \{0.22, B\}, \{0.36, E\}\}
      HuffmanTree[ExRechenberg]
      \{\{1., \{\{0.38, \{\{0.16, A\}, \{0.22, B\}\}\}\},\
          \{0.62, \{\{0.26, \{\{0.12, D\}, \{0.14, C\}\}\}\}, \{0.36, E\}\}\}\}\}
      % // TableForm
                      0.16
               0.38
                      0.22
                            В
                            0.12
      1.
                      0.26
               0.62
                            0.14
                      0.36
      HuffmanCodeTable[HuffmanTree[ExRechenberg]]
      \{\{A, 00\}, \{B, 01\}, \{C, 101\}, \{D, 100\}, \{E, 11\}\}
```

```
■ Example: Ex05
      ExSchoening = Sort[{{0.44, "A"}, {0.13, "B"},
          {0.12, "C"}, {0.16, "D"}, {0.09, "E"}, {0.05, "F"}}]
      \{\{0.05, F\}, \{0.09, E\}, \{0.12, C\}, \{0.13, B\}, \{0.16, D\}, \{0.44, A\}\}
      HuffmanTree[ExSchoening]
      \{\{0.99, \{\{0.44, A\}, \{0.55, \{\{0.25, \{\{0.12, C\}, \{0.13, B\}\}\}\}, \}\}\}\}
            \{0.3, \{\{0.14, \{\{0.05, F\}, \{0.09, E\}\}\}, \{0.16, D\}\}\}\}\}\}\}
      % // TableForm
                 0.44
                               0.12
                                     C
                        0.25
                              0.13
                                     В
      0.99
                                     0.05
                 0.55
                                            F
                               0.14
                        0.3
                                     0.09
                               0.16
      HuffmanCodeTable[HuffmanTree[ExSchoening]]
      {{A, 0}, {B, 101}, {C, 100}, {D, 111}, {E, 1101}, {F, 1100}}
■ Example: Ex06
      ExUrff1 = Sort[Map[PairSwitch,
          {{"A", 0.2}, {"B", 0.12},
           {"C", 0.08}, {"D", 0.2}, {"E", 0.4}}]]
      \{\{0.08, C\}, \{0.12, B\}, \{0.2, A\}, \{0.2, D\}, \{0.4, E\}\}
      HuffmanTree[ExUrff1]
      \{\{1., \{\{0.4, \{\{0.2, A\}, \{0.2, D\}\}\}\},
          \{0.6, \{\{0.2, \{\{0.08, C\}, \{0.12, B\}\}\}\}, \{0.4, E\}\}\}\}\}
      % // TableForm
                     0.2
                          Α
               0.4
                         D
      1.
                          0.08
                    0.2
                          0.12
                     0.4
      HuffmanCodeTable[HuffmanTree[ExUrff1]]
      {{A, 00}, {B, 101}, {C, 100}, {D, 01}, {E, 11}}
```

```
100 * MeanCodeLength [ExUrff1]
      2.2
For comparison ("Probe"):
{{"A", "111"},{"B", "1101"},{"C", "1100"},{"D", "10"},{"E", "0"}}]
      3*0.2+4*0.12 + 4*0.08 + 2*0.2 + 1*0.4
      2.2
      ExUrff2 = Sort[Map[PairSwitch,
          {{"A", 0.1}, {"B", 0.12},
           {"C", 0.18}, {"D", 0.2}, {"E", 0.4}}]]
      \{\{0.1, A\}, \{0.12, B\}, \{0.18, C\}, \{0.2, D\}, \{0.4, E\}\}
      HuffmanTree[ExUrff2]
      \{\{1., \{\{0.4, E\}, \{0.6, \{\{0.22, \{\{0.1, A\}, \{0.12, B\}\}\}\},
            {0.38, {{0.18, C}, {0.2, D}}}}}}}
      % // TableForm
              0.4 E
                    0.22
      1.
              0.6
                    0.38
      HuffmanCodeTable[HuffmanTree[ExUrff2]]
      {{A, 100}, {B, 101}, {C, 110}, {D, 111}, {E, 0}}
■ Example: Deutsch mit Leerzeichen
```

■ Some Utilities