LEMPEL ZIV (LZ) ALGORITHMS

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Dictionary Coding

- Observation: Correlations between parts of the data (patterns)
- Idea: Replace recurring patterns with references to a dictionary
- Static, semi-adaptive, adaptive

Static Dictionary

- Static dictionary technique is most appropriate when considerable prior knowledge about the source is available.
- Similar to the concept of fixed length coding.

Example

- Encode the sequence ***abracadabra***

Code	Entry	Code	Entry
000	a	100	r
001	b	101	ab
010	c	110	ac
011	d	111	ad

Result: 101100110111101100000.

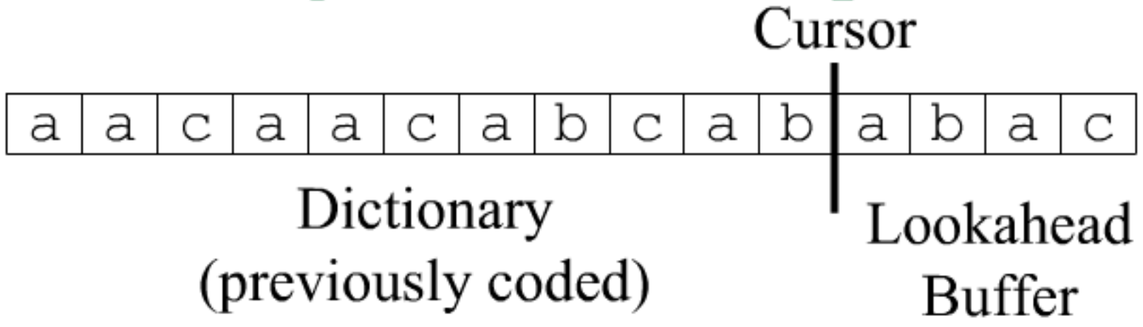
Adaptive dictionary

- LZ algorithms use this approach
- Coding scheme is universal
- No need to transmit/store dictionary
- Single-pass (dictionary creation “on-the-fly”)
- LZ77 and LZ78 are two lossless data compression algorithms developed by Abraham Lempel and Jacob Ziv in 1977 and 1978 respectively.

LZ77

- LZ77 coding uses the dictionary which is a portion of the previously encoded sequence.
- The input sequence is encoded through a sliding windows which consists of a search buffer and a look-ahead buffer.
- The encoder tries to find the match of patterns in the windows and encodes it with a triple <o, l, c>
  o: offset, l: length of the match, c: next character following the match.

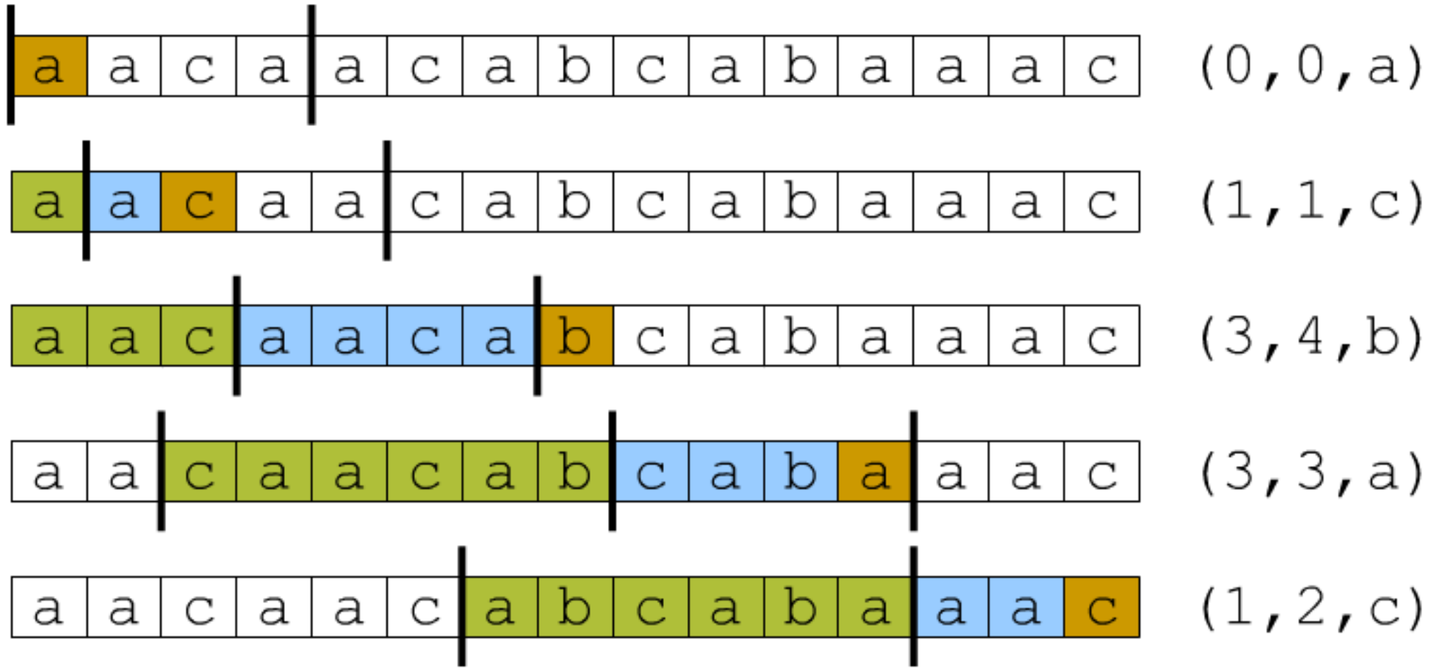
LZ77: Sliding Window Lempel-Ziv



- Dictionary and buffer "windows" are fixed length and slide with the cursor
- On each step:

  Output (o,l,c)
  o = relative position of the longest match in the dictionary
  l = length of longest match
  c = next char in buffer beyond longest match
- Advance window by l + 1

LZ77: Example



LZ77 Decoding

- Decoder keeps same dictionary window as encoder.
- For each message it looks it up in the dictionary and inserts a copy

LZ77 limitations

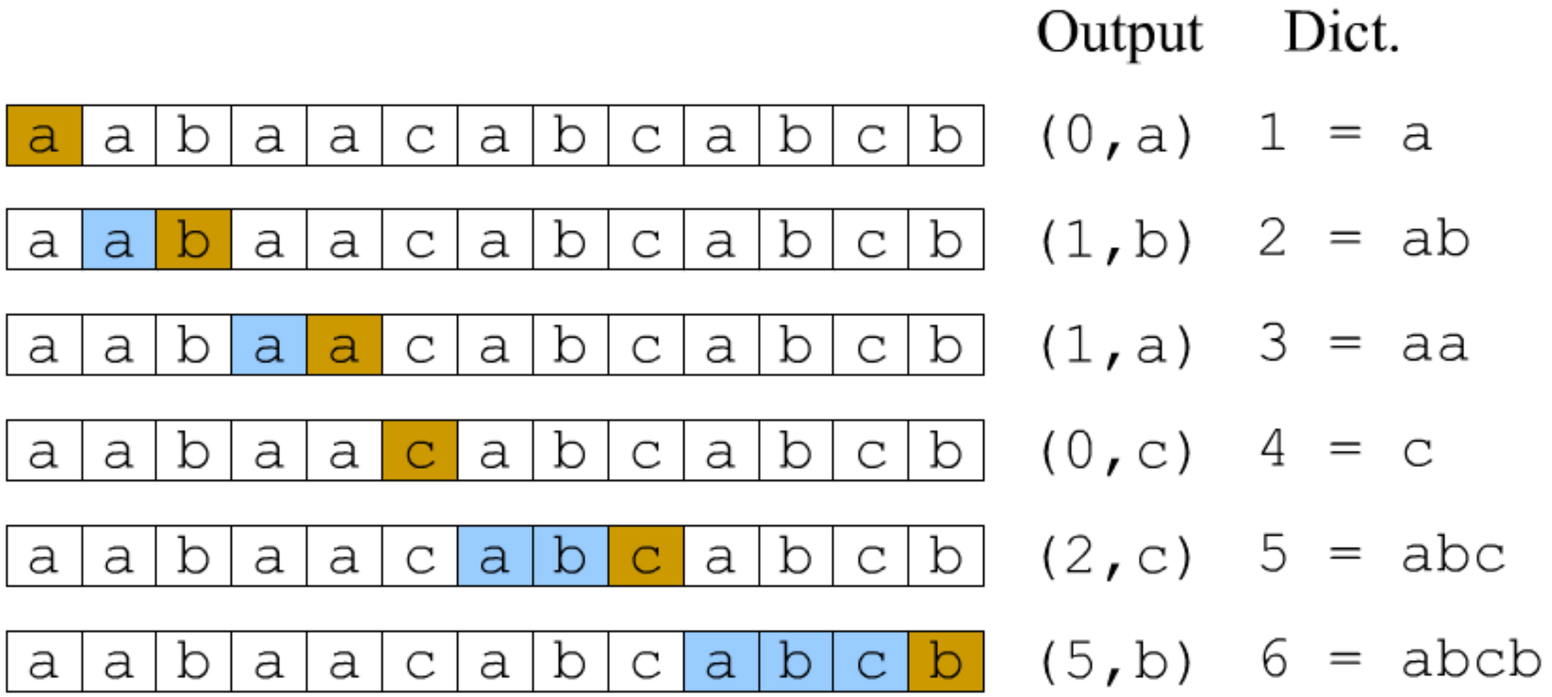
- The LZ77 implicitly assumes that the like pattern will occur closely.
- Sliding Window LZ is Asymptotically Optimal [Wyner-Ziv,94]
- Will compress long enough strings to the source entropy as the window size goes to infinity.

LZ78: Dictionary Lempel-Ziv

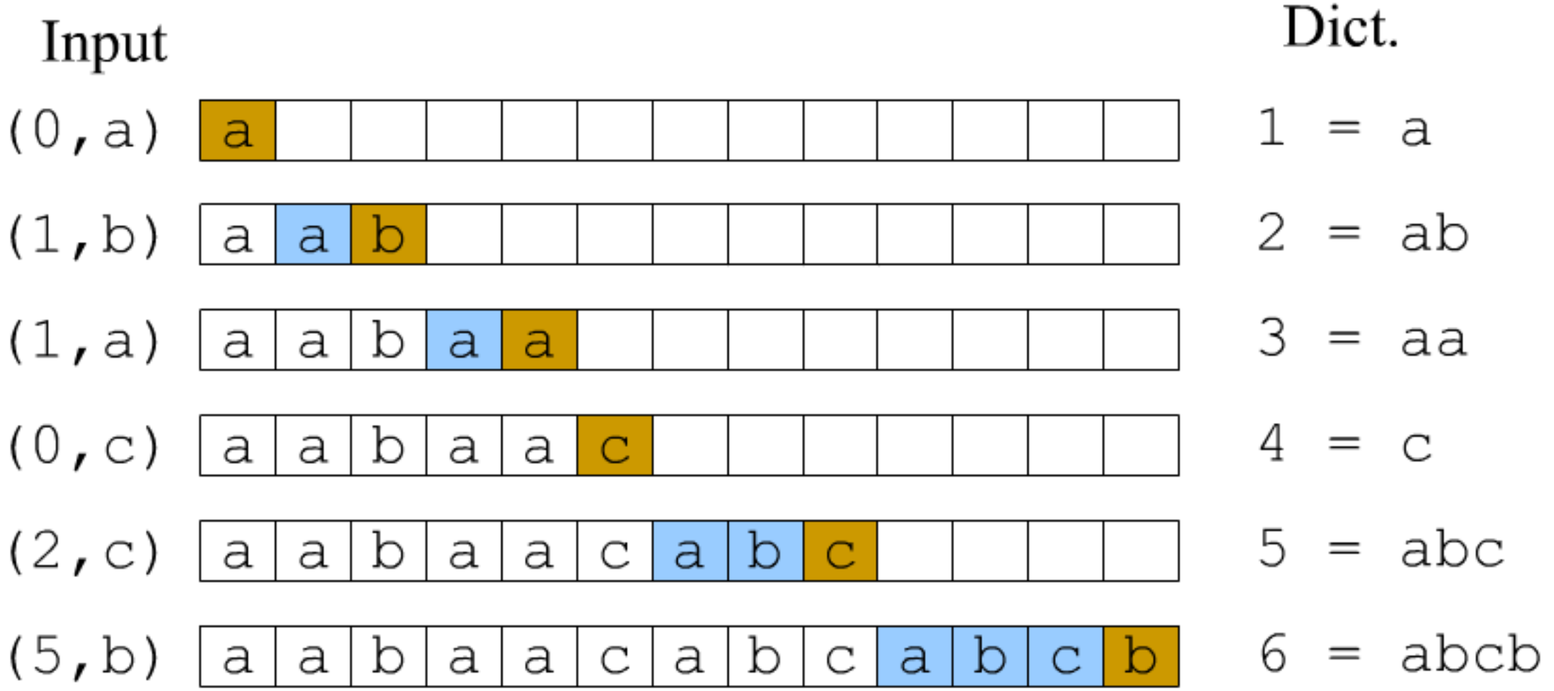
Basic algorithm:

- Keep dictionary of words with integer *id* for each entry (e.g. keep it as a trie).
- Coding loop
  - find the longest match *S* in the dictionary
  - Output the entry *id* of the match and the next character past the match from the input *(id,c)*
  - Add the string *Sc* to the dictionary
- Decoding keeps same dictionary and looks up *id*s

LZ78: Coding Example



LZ78: Decoding Example



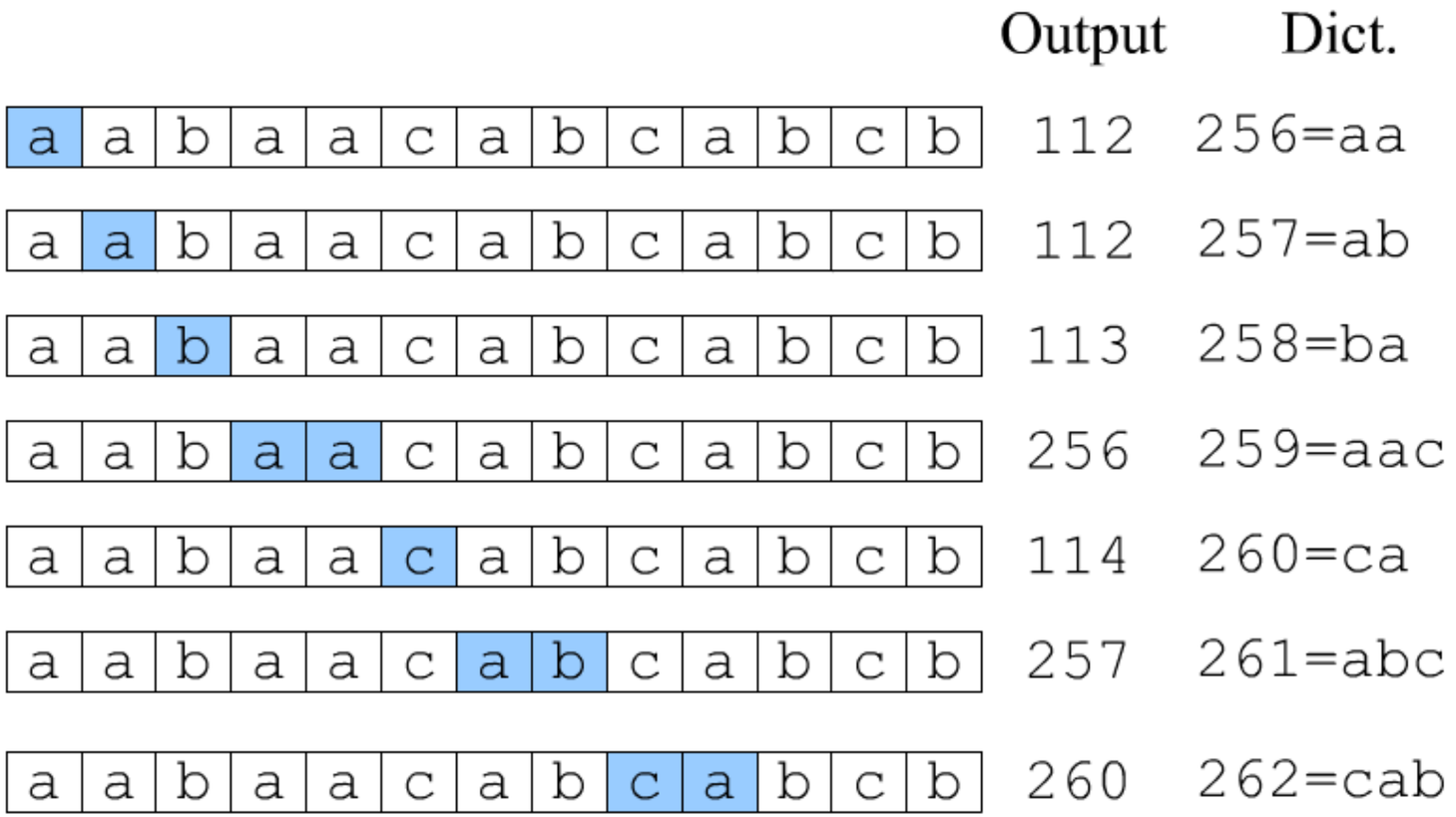
LZ78 Weaknesses

- Dictionary grows without bound
- Long phrases appear late
- Inclusion of first non-matching symbol may prevent a good match
- Few substrings of the processed input are entered into the dictionary

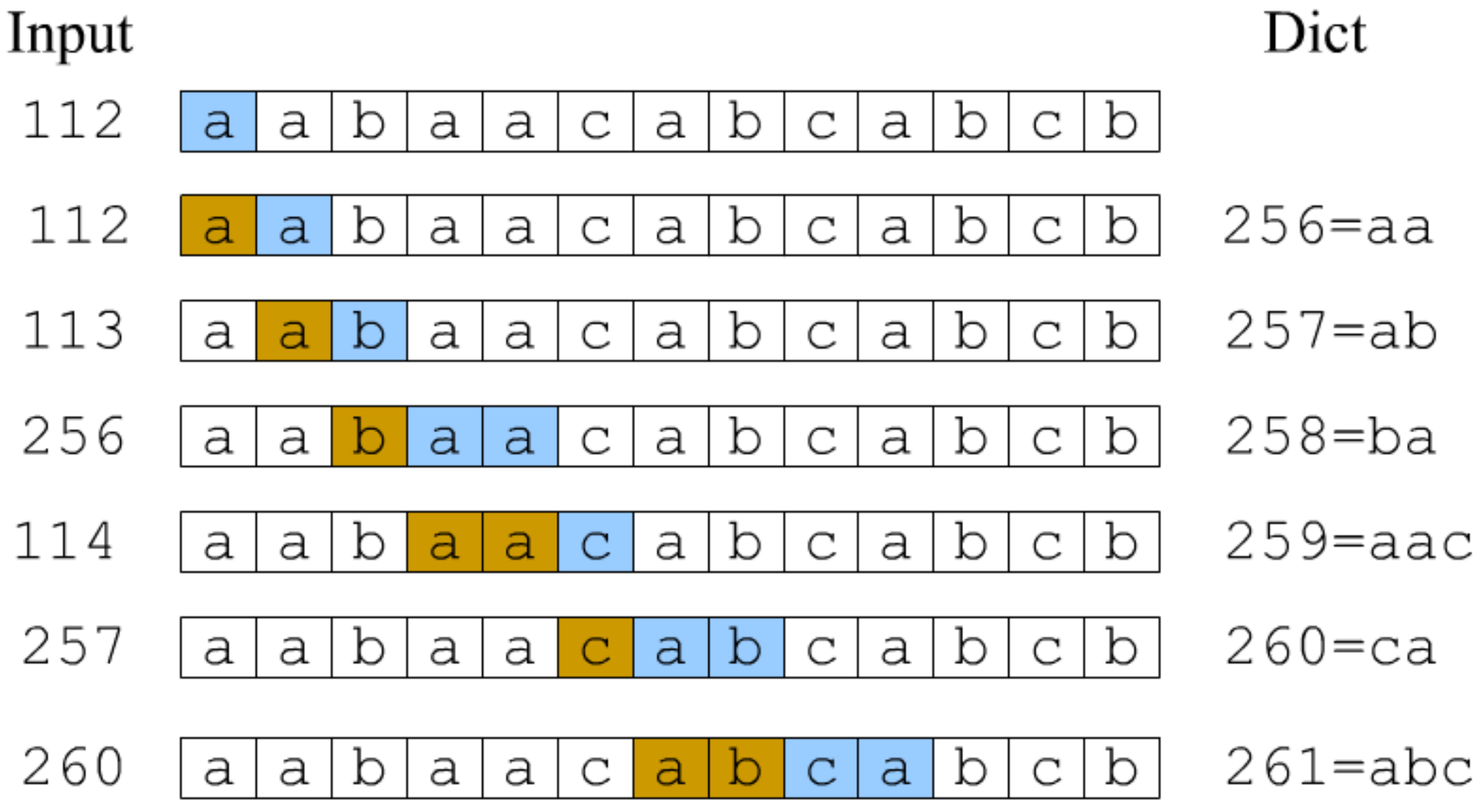
LZW (Lempel-Ziv-Welch)

- Don't send extra character *c*, but still add *Sc* to the dictionary.
- The dictionary is initialized with byte values being the first 256 entries (e.g. a=112, ascii), otherwise there is no way to start it up.
- The decoder is one step behind the coder since it does not know c

LZW: Encoding Example



LZW: Decoding Example



LZ78 and LZW issues

What happens when the dictionary gets too large?

- Throw the dictionary away when it reaches a certain size (used in GIF)
- Throw the dictionary away when it is no longer effective at compressing (used in unix compress)
- Throw the least-recently-used (LRU) entry away when it reaches a certain size (used in BTLZ, the British Telecom standard)

LZ Advantages

- The LZ algorithms are popular because they run in a single pass,
- Provide good compression, are easy to code, and run quickly
- Used in popular compression utilities such as compress, gzip, and WinZip

Lempel-Ziv Summary

LZ77 (Sliding Window)

- Variants: LZSS (Lempel-Ziv-Storer-Szymanski)
- Applications: gzip, Squeeze, LHA, PKZIP, ZOO

LZ78 (Dictionary Based)

- Variants: LZW (Lempel-Ziv-Welch),
  LZC (Lempel-Ziv-Compress)
- Applications:
  compress, GIF, CCITT (modems), ARC, PAK

REFERENCES

- http://en.wikipedia.org
- Data Compression: The Complete Reference,3rd Edition by David Salomon, published by Springer (2004).
- ieeexplore.ieee.org/

- THANK YOU