
Algorithm 1 Pseudocode of Huffman Algorithm [1]

To construct a prefix code for an alphabet S , with given frequencies:

if S has two letters **then** :

 Encode one letter using 0 and the other using 1.

else:

 Let y^* and z^* be the two lowest frequency letters

 Form a new alphabet S' by deleting y^* and z^* and replacing them with a new letter w of frequency $f_{y^*} + f_{z^*}$

 Recursively construct a prefix code γ' for S' , with tree T' .

 Define a prefix code for S as follows:

 Start with T'

 Take the leaf labeled w and add two children below it labeled y^* and z^*

end if

Algorithm 2 Proof of Termination

Let S be an alphabet, with given frequencies

Combine the two lowest frequency letters x and y into a meta-letter z .

Let S' be the updated alphabet containing z .

$|S'| = |S| - 1$

Each iteration produces an alphabet with 1 fewer letter than before; thus the algorithm will terminate when there are only two letters

$$ABL(\gamma) = \sum_{x \in S}^n f_x |\gamma(x)| \quad (1)$$

Algorithm 3 Proof of Optimality, by contradiction

Let S be the alphabet x, y, z , with given frequencies such that

$f(z) < f(x) < f(y)$ and $Depth(x) < Depth(y) = Depth(z)$

Let a denote the meta-letter x, y .

Prior to the formation of a : x, y , and z are all leaves. Thus, a would select the lowest two frequency letters. Because $f(x) < f(y)$, a would select x , not y , a contradiction.
