

Design and Analysis of Algorithms

CSC311

Huffman coding and decoding

(Project report)

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1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose

The goal of this project is to build a program that compresses text without losing any data using Huffman trees/Huffman coding, a technique created by David Huffman.

1.2 Problem statement

Characters in the text currently take 8 bits or 1 byte to be represented on computers and compressing text is a challenge because it needs to be compressed to less than 8 bits without any loss of data.

1.3 Main data structures

The main data structures used are: Linked list , Priority queue, Hash Map.

2. Experiments

Below are 4 experiments of increasing text (input) size and the resulting output of the program and Huffman tree with average running time when running the experiment 3 times.

Experiment 1: input size: 6 characters

File input = "CSC311"

The output:

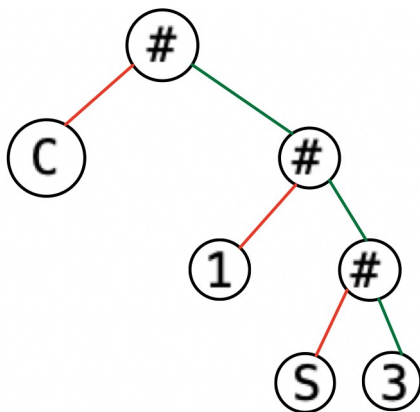
Char	Huffman code
C	0
1	10
S	110
3	111

Encoded text: 011001111010

Decoded text: CSC311

Size before compression: 48 bits
Size after Compression: 12 bits
Data compression rate: 75.00%

The average time= 5.66 ms .



Experiment 2: input size 16 characters

File input = "HuffmanEncoding1".

The output:

Char	Huffman code
n	00
a	0100
u	0101
E	0110
i	0111
m	1000
o	1001
l	1010
c	1011
f	110
H	1110
d	11110
g	11111

Encoded text: 11100101110110100001000001100010111001111100111100111111010

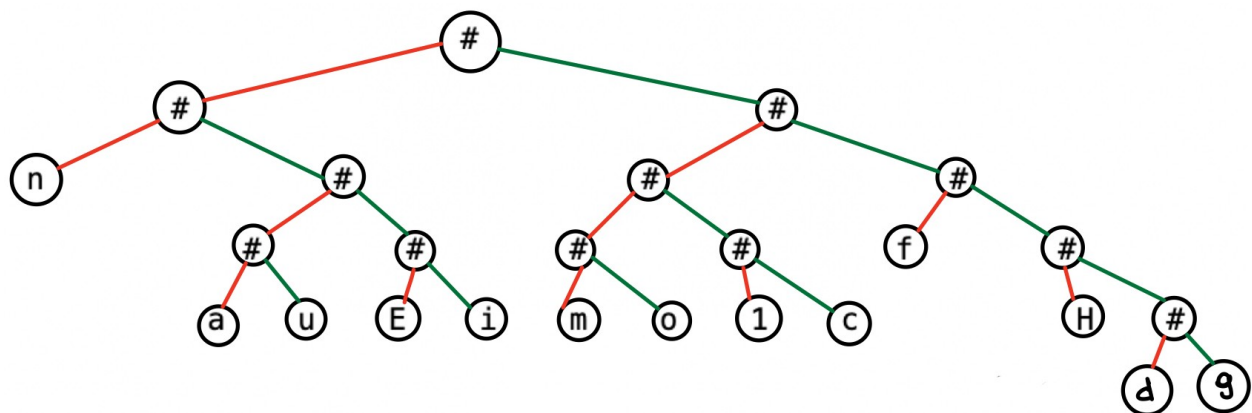
Decoded text: HuffmanEncoding1

Size before compression: 128 bits

Size after Compression: 58 bits

Data compression rate: 54.69%

The average time= 13 ms.



Experiment 3: input size 50 characters

File input = "aaaaaaaaa1bbbbbbbbbb2ooooooooo3ssssssssss4xxxxxxx".

The output:

Char	Huffman code
b	00
s	01
1	10000
2	10001
3	10010
4	10011
o	101
x	110
a	111

Encoded text:

[illegible]

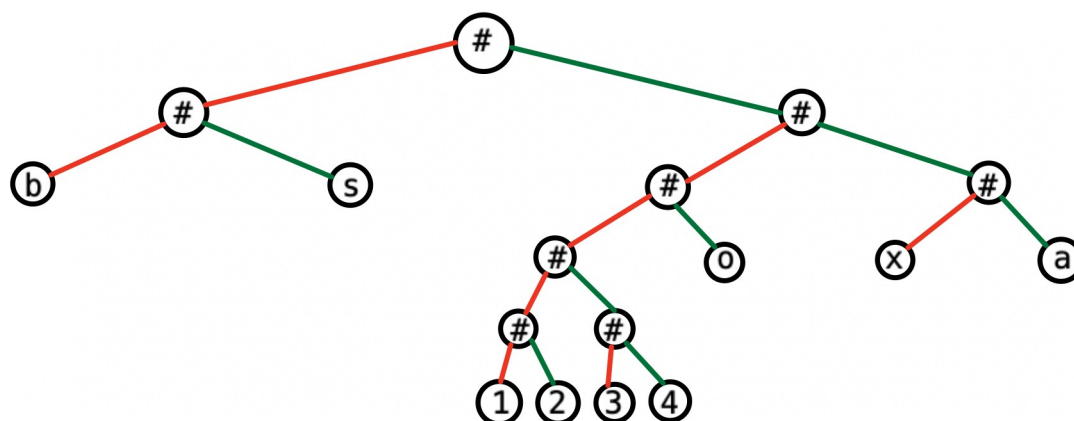
Decoded text: aaaaaaaaaa1bbbbbbbbbb2ooooooooo3ssssssssss4xxxxxxx

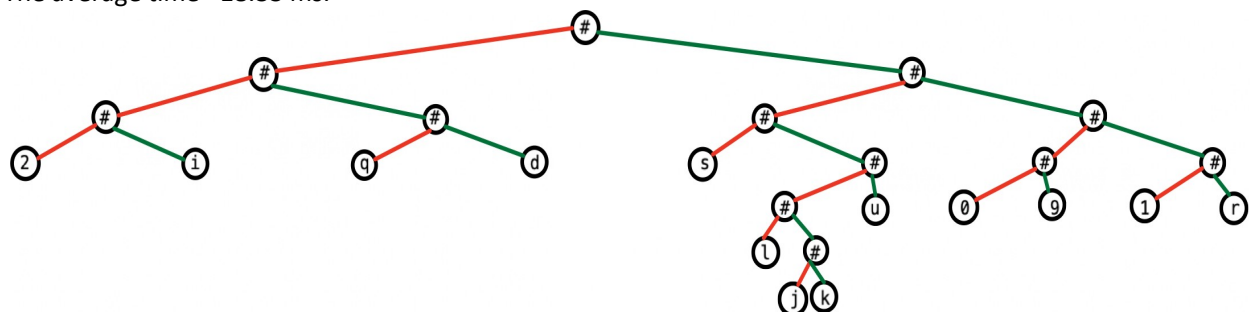
Size before compression: 400 bits

Size after Compression: 138 bits

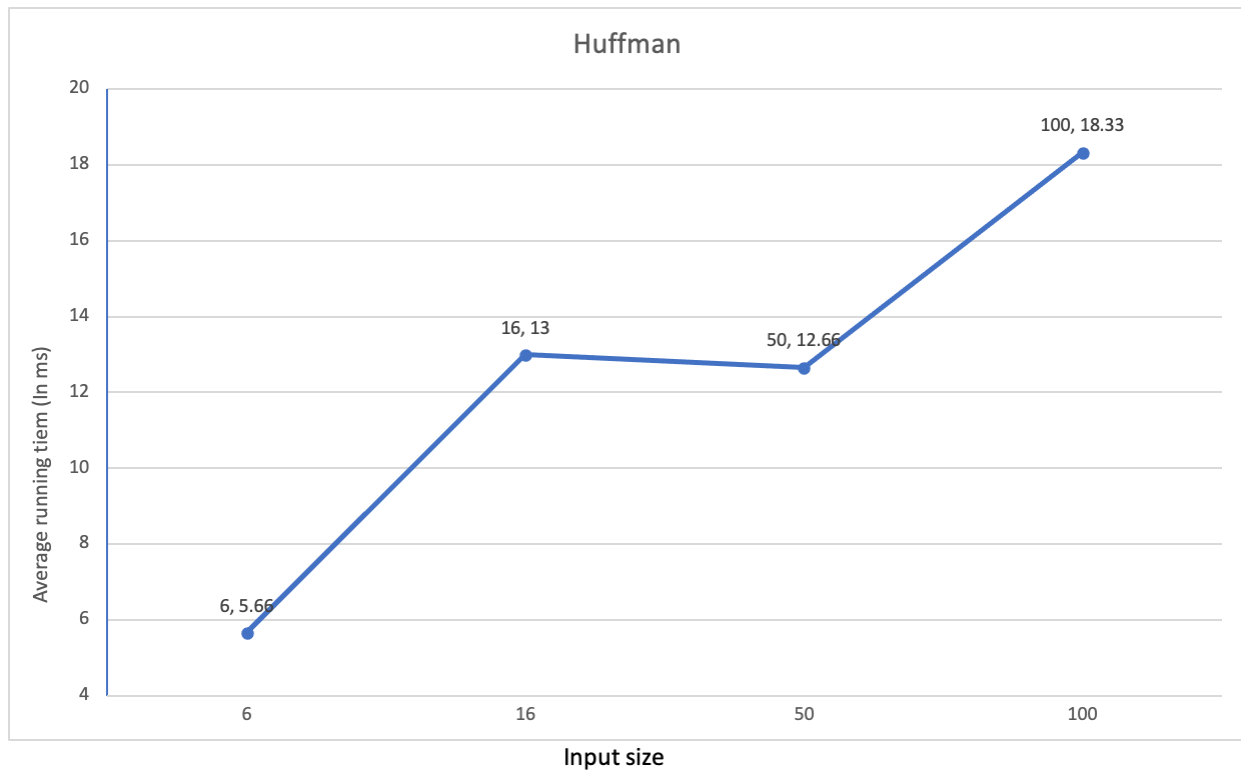
Data compression rate: 65.50%

The average time= 12.66 ms.





Average running time versus input size:



3. Conclusion

Huffman coding compresses text without loss and the smaller the text/input size the more effective the compression is, as we see in the experiments, the bigger the text/input size, the lesser the compression rate becomes, also the average time between 3 experiments was taken as each run varies in time as it depends on the CPU's speed and the CPU's task scheduler, and the Huffman coding algorithm has a time complexity of $O(n \log n)$.