

CS 5112

Algorithms

Huffman Codes

Divide and Conquer

Prefix Codes

Set of characters $S \xrightarrow{\alpha}$ Sequences of $\{0,1\}$
such that if $x, y \in S$, $\alpha(x)$ is not a prefix of $\alpha(y)$

Example $S = \{a, b, c, d, e\}$

a	11
b	01
c	001
d	10
e	000

11 001 0001 10

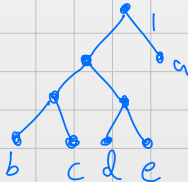
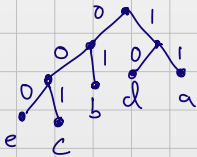
a c e d

I know this is "a" b/c of the prefix property

Prefix Codes and Binary Trees

α_1

a	→	11
b	→	01
c	→	001
d	→	10
e	→	000



a	→	1
b	→	000
c	→	001
d	→	010
e	→	011

Prefix code → binary tree
w/o labels on
interior nodes

There is a 1-1 correspondence b/w prefix codes
and binary trees with leaves labelled by Σ .

Huffman Codes

Start w/ two least frequent letters v, w .

Create a new letter $A = v | w$

$$f_A = f_v + f_w$$

Recurse on $S' = S \setminus \{v, w\} \cup \{A\}$

Repeat, repeat, repeat, ... until $|S| = 2$.

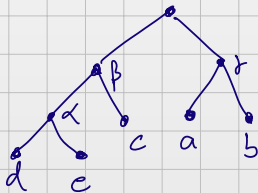
Huffman Code Example

$$\begin{aligned} f_a &= .32 \\ f_b &= .25 \\ f_c &= .20 \\ f_d &= .18 \\ f_e &= .05 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha &= d|e \\ f_\alpha &= .23 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \beta &= \alpha|c \\ f_\beta &= .43 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma &= a|b \\ f_\gamma &= .57 \end{aligned}$$



Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
a	a	β
b	b	γ
c	β	
α		

$$a \rightarrow 10$$

$$b \rightarrow 11$$

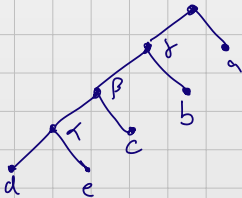
$$c \rightarrow 01$$

$$d \rightarrow 000$$

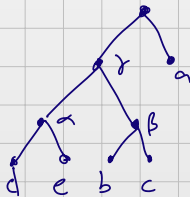
$$e \rightarrow 001$$

Huffman Code Example

$$\begin{aligned} f_a &= .90 \\ f_b &= .04 \\ f_c &= .03 \\ f_d &= .02 \\ f_e &= .01 \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned} f_x &= .03 \\ f_y &= .06 \\ f_z &= .10 \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned} f_a &= .90 \\ f_b &= .03 \\ f_c &= .03 \\ f_d &= .02 \\ f_e &= .02 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} f_x &= .04 \\ f_y &= .06 \end{aligned}$$

Huffman Codes

Huffmann(S, f)

If $|S| = 2$ then

Let T be tree with one letter set to 0, other 1

Else

Let v and w be the lowest-frequency letters

Let $S' = S - \{v, w\} + \{\omega\}$ with:

$$f_{\omega}' = f_v + f_w \text{ and } f_x' = f_x \text{ for } x \in S' - \{\omega\}$$

$T' = \text{Huffmann}(S', f')$

Let T be prefix tree with leafs v, w added below ω

Return T

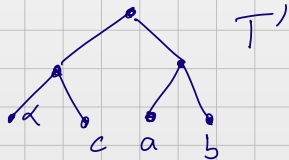
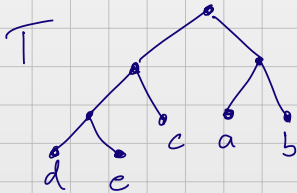
Huffman Codes are Optimal

3 Observations

For an optimal tree T ,
if $\text{depth}(v) < \text{depth}(w)$,
then $f_w < f_v$

There exists an optimal
prefix code with the two
least frequent characters as
siblings.

3rd Observation



$$\begin{aligned} ABL(T) &= ABL(T') + f_d \\ &= ABL(T') + f_d + f_e \end{aligned}$$

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For an optimal tree T ,
if $\text{depth}(v) < \text{depth}(w)$,
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$$\begin{aligned} \text{ABL}(T) \\ = \text{ABL}(T') + f_x \end{aligned}$$

Induction

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① $P(k)$ is true $\Rightarrow P(k+1)$ is true
for all $k \geq 1$

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for all $k > 1$

If the k th student gets 5 bonus points,
then the $(k+1)^{\text{st}}$ student gets 5 bonus points

Induction

Ⓐ $P(k)$ is true $\Rightarrow P(k+1)$ is true
for all $k > 1$

Ⓑ $P(1)$ is true

If the k th student gets 5 bonus points,
then the $(k+1)$ st student gets 5 bonus points

Induction

① $P(k)$ is true $\Rightarrow P(k+1)$ is true
for all $k > 1$

If the k th student gets 5 bonus points,
then the $(k+1)$ st student gets 5 bonus points

② $P(1)$ is true

The 1st student
gets 5 bonus points

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If ① and ② then $P(k)$ is true for all $k \geq 1$

Induction

"inductive step"

① $P(k)$ is true $\Rightarrow P(k+1)$ is true
for all $k \geq 1$

If the k th student gets 5 bonus points,
then the $(k+1)$ st student gets 5 bonus points

"base case"

② $P(1)$ is true

The 1st student
gets 5 bonus points

If ① and ② then $P(k)$ is true for all $k \geq 1$

Everybody gets 5 bonus points!

Huffman Codes are Optimal

Proof by induction on $k = |S|$ ($P(k)$ is "HC on S w/ $|S| = k$ is optimal")

Base case: $k=2$ Optimal tree has two leaves

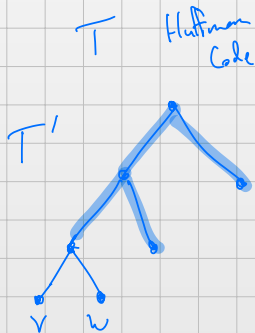


Inductive step ($P(k) \Rightarrow P(k+1)$): If Huffman codes are optimal for $|S| = k$, then they are optimal for $|S| = k+1$

Assume HC are optimal for $|S| = k$.

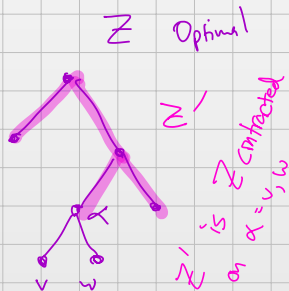
Let T be the tree for a HC for S w/ $|S| = k+1$.

Let Z be an optimal tree for S . By obs 2, can assume the two least frequent chars, v and w , are siblings in Z .



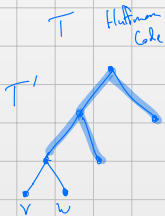
$$|S| = k+1$$

$$|S'| = k$$



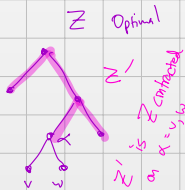
$$ABL(T) = ABL(T') + f_\alpha \quad ABL(Z) = ABL(Z') + f_\alpha$$

T' must be optimal (inductive hypothesis) $\Rightarrow ABL(T') \leq ABL(Z')$



$$|S| = k+1$$

$$|S'| = k$$



$$ABL(T) = ABL(T') + f_\alpha \quad ABL(Z) = ABL(Z') + f_\alpha$$

T' must be optimal (inductive hypothesis) $\Rightarrow ABL(T') \leq ABL(Z')$

$$\Rightarrow ABL(T) \leq ABL(Z)$$

$\Rightarrow T$ is optimal.

Divide and Conquer: Sorting

Let's start with a greedy approach

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Bruteforce-Sort(L)

While $|L| > 0$

Find minimum value x in L

Append x to L'

Remove x from L

Return L'

Runs in $O(n^2)$

Divide and Conquer

1. Divide the input into subproblems
2. Solve each subproblem
3. Carefully merge the solutions (often $O(n)$)

Merge Sort

Merge-Sort(L)

If $|L| = 1$ then Return L

Split L into two halves A, B

$A \leftarrow \text{Merge-Sort}(A)$

$B \leftarrow \text{Merge-Sort}(B)$

$L \leftarrow \text{Merge}(A, B)$

Return L

Run time:

$T(n) :=$ runtime of MS on a list of length n ,

$$T(n) = T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + cn$$

$$T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) = 2T\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) + c\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)$$

Merge Sort

Run time:

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$$(\# \text{ recursions}) \cdot cn + n$$
$$= \log n \cdot cn + n = O(n \log n)$$

$$\begin{array}{l} 2T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + cn \\ 4T\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) + cn \\ 8T\left(\frac{n}{8}\right) + cn \\ \vdots \\ nT(1) \end{array}$$