



Tries

Computing Lab
CS 69201
Department of Computer Science and Engineering
IIT Kharagpur



Previously

- We have looked at Trees and Graphs.
- We will start a new topic -

TRIE



Trie

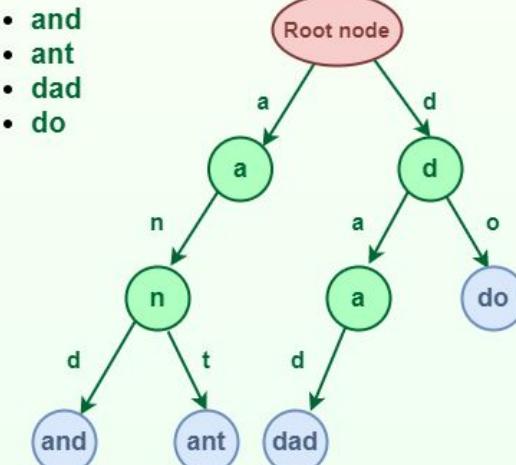
- Tries are efficient data structures for searching
- If you have a list of words in order of 1B words:
 - Iterative lookup takes $O(1B)$ time
 - Trie reduces to $O(M)$ where M is the length of the longest word in the list of words



Trie Structure - Initialization

```
struct TrieNode {  
    struct TrieNode* child[26];  
    bool isEndOfWord;  
};  
  
// Function to create a new Trie node  
struct TrieNode* getNode() {  
    struct TrieNode* node =  
        (struct TrieNode*)malloc(sizeof(struct TrieNode));  
    node->isEndOfWord = false;  
    for (int i = 0; i < 26; i++) {  
        node->child[i] = NULL;  
    }  
    return node;  
}
```

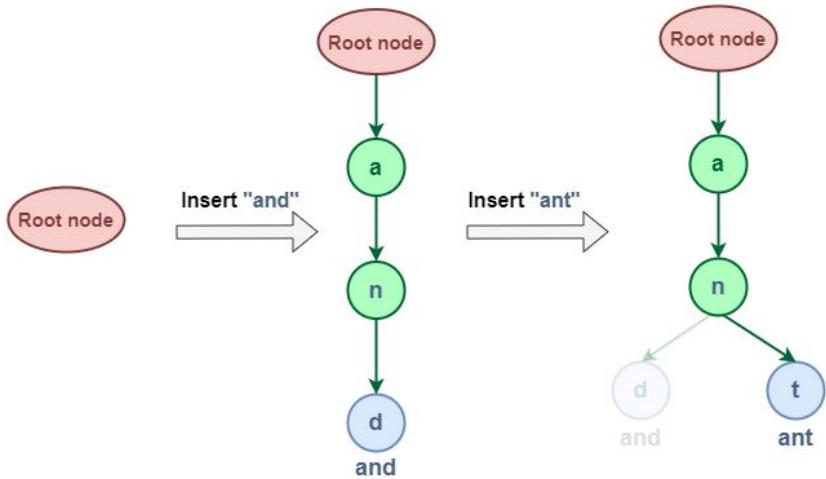
Trie Data Structure





Trie Structure - Insertion

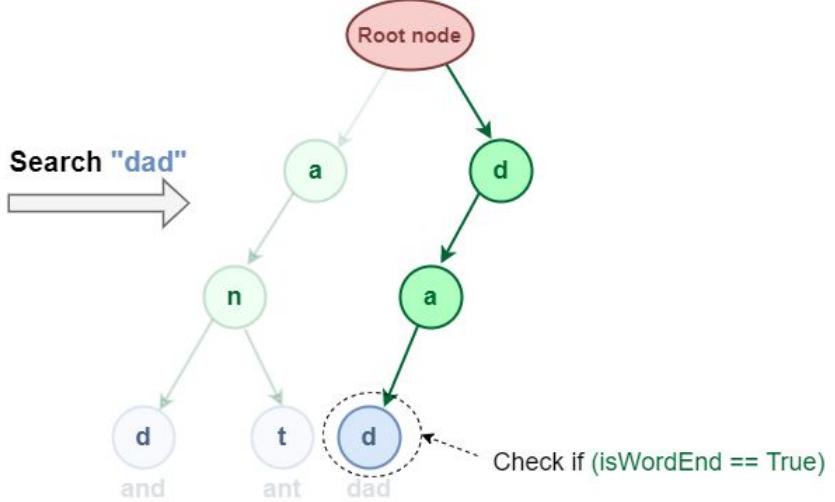
```
// Function to insert a key into the Trie
void insert(struct TrieNode* root, const char* key)
    struct TrieNode* curr = root;
    while (*key) {
        int index = *key - 'a';
        if (!curr->child[index]) {
            curr->child[index] = getNode();
        }
        curr = curr->child[index];
        key++;
    }
    curr->isEndOfWord = true;
}
```





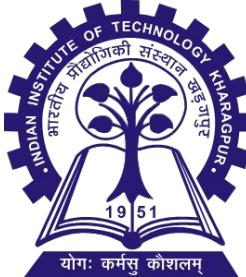
Trie Structure -Search

```
// Function to search a key in the Trie
bool search(struct TrieNode* root, const char* key) {
    struct TrieNode* curr = root;
    while (*key) {
        int index = *key - 'a';
        if (!curr->child[index]) {
            return false;
        }
        curr = curr->child[index];
        key++;
    }
    return (curr != NULL && curr->isEndOfWord);
}
```





Levenshtein Distance using a Trie



Levenshtein Distance same till a common prefix

		k	a	t	e
0	1	2	3	4	
c	1	1	2	3	4
a	2	2	1	2	3
t	3	3	2	1	2

Going from cat to “cats”
Only the last row changes.

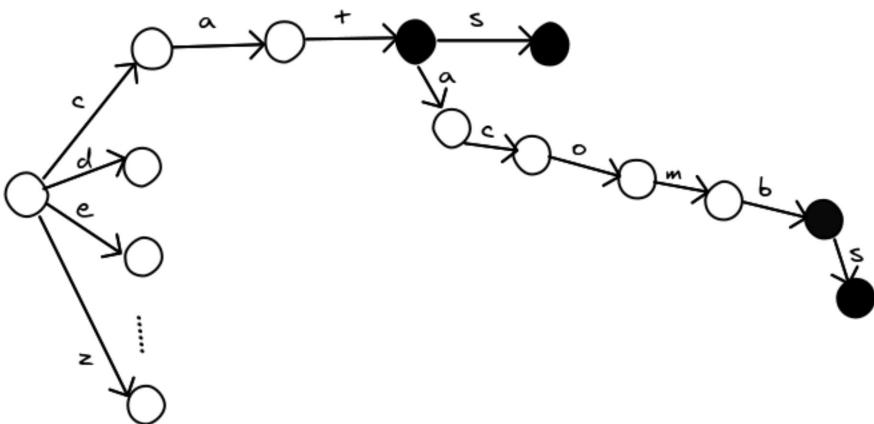
		k	a	t	e
0	1	2	3	4	
c	1	1	2	3	4
a	2	2	1	2	3
t	3	3	2	1	2
s	4	4	3	2	2



Solution: Use Trie

We can avoid a lot of work if we can process the words in order, so we never need to repeat a row for the same prefix of letters.

The **trie** data structure is perfect for this! (Here's one with the words cat, cats, catacomb, and catacombs)





Recursive Algo

Input: A target word, and a distance threshold

Output: list of words

1. Construct a trie using the entries from the file
2. Build the first row of edit distance matrix considering empty string
3. Recursively search each branch of the trie
 - a. Build one row for the letter, with a column for each letter in the target word
 - b. If the last entry in the row indicates the optimal cost is less than the maximum cost, and trie node is a word, then add it.
 - c. if any entries in the row are less than the maximum cost, then recursively search each branch of the trie