6 Text Indexing – Searching whole genomes

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Outline

6 Text Indexing

6.1 Motivation

Text indexing

- *Text indexing* (also: *offline text search*):
  - case of string matching: find $P[0..m-1]$ in $T[0..n-1]$
  - but with *fixed* text $\rightsquigarrow$ preprocess T (instead of P)
  - $\rightsquigarrow$ expect many queries P, answer them without looking at all of T
  - $\rightsquigarrow$ essentially a data structuring problem: "building an *index* of T"

    Latin: "one who points out"
- application areas
  - web search engines
  - online dictionaries
  - online encyclopedia
  - DNA/RNA data bases
  - . . . searching in any collection of text documents (that grows only moderately)

Inverted indices

- original indices (same as "indexes") in books: list of (key) words $\mapsto$ page numbers where they occur
- assumption: searches are only for **whole** (key) **words**

$\rightsquigarrow$ often reasonable for natural language text

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Inverted index:

- collect all words in T
  - can be as simple as splitting T at whitespace
  - actual implementations typically support *stemming* of words
    `goes` $\rightarrow$ `go`, `cats` $\rightarrow$ `cat`
- store mapping from words to a list of occurrences $\rightsquigarrow$ *how?*

like a dictionary!

keys = words

values = list of occurences

(BST, but $O(\log n)$ time)

Clicker Question

Do you know what a *trie* is?

- **A** A what? No!
- **B** I have heard the term, but don't quite remember.
- **C** I remember hearing about it in a module.
- **D** Sure.

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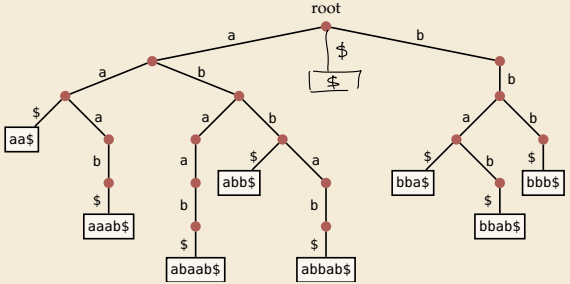
Click on "Polls" tab

Tries

- efficient dictionary data structure for strings
- name from re**trie**val, but pronounced "try"
- tree based on symbol comparisons

- **Assumption:** stored strings are *prefix-free* (no string is a prefix of another)
  - strings of same length
  - strings have "end-of-string" marker $ (some character $\notin \Sigma$)

- **Example**:
  {aa$, aaab$, abaab$, abb$, abbab$, bba$, bbab$, bbb$}



Clicker Question

Suppose we have a trie that stores n strings over $\Sigma = \{\texttt{A}, \ldots, \texttt{Z}\}$. Each stored string consists of m characters.
We now search for a query string Q with $|Q| = q$. $(q \leq m)$
How many **nodes** in the trie are **visited** during this **query**?

A $\Theta(\log n)$

B $\Theta(\log(nm))$

C $\Theta(m \cdot \log n)$

D $\Theta(m + \log n)$

E $\Theta(m)$

F $\Theta(\log m)$

G $\Theta(q)$

H $\Theta(\log q)$

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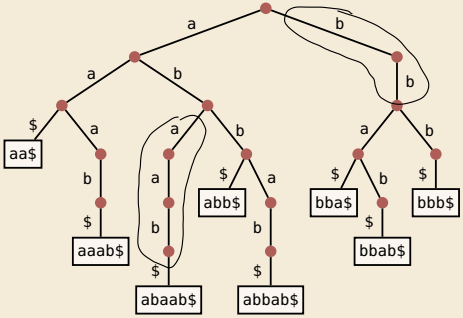
Compact tries

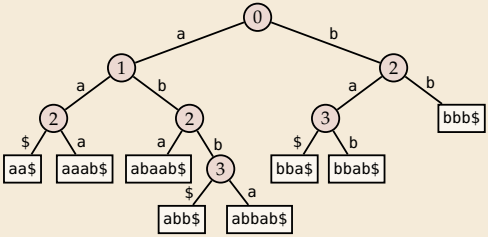
=1 child

- compress paths of unary nodes into single edge
- nodes store index of next character

standard trie



compact trie



⇝ searching slightly trickier, but same time complexity as in trie

not $O(n \cdot m)$

- all nodes ≥ 2 children ⇝ #nodes ≤ #leaves = #strings ⇝ linear space $O(n)$

Tries as inverted index


simple


fast lookup


cannot handle more general queries:

- search part of a word
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- cannot handle more general queries:
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- what if the 'text' does not even have words to begin with?!
  - biological sequences

```
ACAAGATGCCATTGTCCCCCGGCCTCCTGCTGCTGCTGCTCTCCGGGGCCACGGCCACCGCTGCCCTGCCCCTGGAGGGTGGCCCCACCGGC
CGAGACAGCGAGCATATGCAGGAAGCGGCAGGAATAAGGAAAAGCAGCCTCCTGACTTTCCTCGCTTGGTGGTTTGAGTGGACCTCCCAGGC
CAGTGCCGGGCCCCTCATAGGAGAGGAAGCTCGGGAGGTGGCCAGGCGGCAGGAAGGCGCACCCCCCCCAGCAATCCGCGCGCCGGGACAGAA
TGCCCTGCAGGAACTTCTTCTGGAAGACCTTCTCCTCCTGCAAATAAAACCTCACCCATGAATGCTCACGCAAGTTTAATTACAGACCTGAA
```

  - binary streams

```
00000010101001111010111000001111100011111011111001101101000011100010011011110000010001101010
01101100001101011010000000100000000111010110000010000111101011101100100011001011011101111111
11000101000101100101000000111010101001100000000110110000110011111000010 01010111011110000011
10101110010010101010100000111110100110000001111001101010000000100100100000101100011000110111
```

- ⇝ need new ideas