

Burrows-Wheeler
Transform



Recap final implementation project

- HW due next week
- In today & tomorrow

Today: The Burrows-Wheeler Transform

Idea: Data Compression

First, recall the steps:

- Construct all circular permutations of the input
- Sort them
- Store last column after sorting, plus the index of original string in sorted list

Classic banana example:

banana

banana\$

anana\$b

nana\$ba

ana\$ban

na\$bana

a\$banan

\$banana

60th char
is smallest

\$banana

a\$banan

ana\$ban

anana\$ba

banana\$

nana\$ba

na\$bana

Output:

annb\$aa

First - compression:

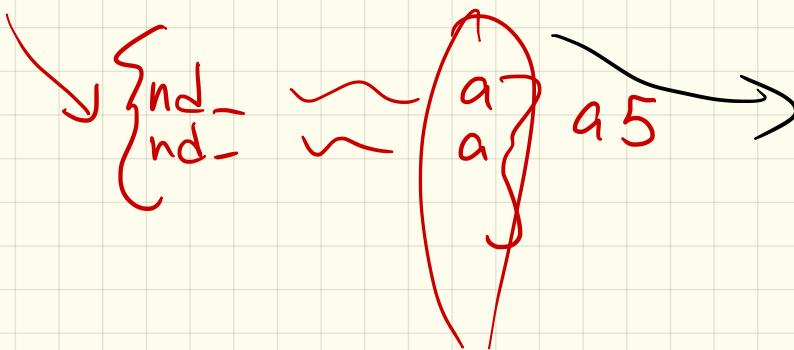
Why does this make compression easier?

Well - groups common things together!

Simple example: if "and_" is common but randomly distributed through the text, harder to find.

After the BWT, all of these will be a row ending with "a" and starting with "nd".

Simple compression algorithms can then be used



Example: Run length encoding

Idea: Replace "aaaaa" by "a5".

Given long runs, improvement is obvious.

↳ Simpler & faster

Another: Huffman codes:

Do frequency analysis,
make more common characters have a smaller encoding string.

(Uses prefix free codes & Huffman trees - often taught in data structures.)

End product: Tools like bzzip - highly effective for text compression.

Back to BWT:

Again, though - if you're paying attention, any compression could do this.

Also - any sort would make compression faster.

Key aspect of BWT:

It is invertible!
(+ fast - later)

How?

Well, last column contains all of the characters, just in the wrong order:

ANNB\$AA

Sort, and you recover 1st column:
\$AAA BNN

Between these, now have all pairs:

last
1st

AN
N
B
\$
A
A
B
N
N



A\$✓
NA✓
NA✓
BA✓
\$B✓
AN✓
AN✓

BANANAS

Sort
again

\$B
A\$
AN
AN
BA
NA
NA

last

1st + 2nd
columns!

Since we know
the last column,
can get all triples

Continue this, + output
row ending with \$.

Triples

A\$B	✓
ANAN	✓
NAN	✓
BAN	✓
BABA	✓
ANAA	✓
ANA	✓

last
A2ZB\$A

B\$A
AN
AN
BAA
BAA
NA
NA



4-tuples

A\$B	✓
ANAN	✓
NAN	✓
BAN	✓
BABA	✓
ANAA	✓
ANA	✓

sort

\$BA
ABA
ANAA
BAN
NA\$
NAN

last
A2ZB\$A



4-tuples

Code is fairly simple, although complexity analysis can get interesting

↪ bwt.py

```
1  #! /usr/bin/env python
2  """
3  A simple Burrows-Wheeler transform function in python.
4
5  Algorithm presented in:
6  Burrows M, Wheeler DJ: A Block Sorting Lossless Data Compression Algorithm.
7      Technical Report 124. Palo Alto, CA: Digital Equipment Corporation; 1994.
8
9  USAGE: bwt.py [-h] [-i INDEX] STRING
10 """
11
12 import argparse
13
14 def bw_transform(s):
15     n = len(s)
16     m = sorted([s[i:n]+s[0:i] for i in range(n)])
17     I = m.index(s)
18     L = ''.join([q[-1] for q in m])
19     return (I, L)
20
21 from operator import itemgetter
22
23 def bw_restore(I, L):
24     n = len(L)
25     X = sorted([(i, x) for i, x in enumerate(L)], key=itemgetter(1))
26
27     T = [None for i in range(n)]
28     for i, y in enumerate(X):
29         j, _ = y
30         T[j] = i
31
32     Tx = [I]
33     for i in range(1, n):
34         Tx.append(T[Tx[i-1]])
35
36     S = [L[i] for i in Tx]
37     S.reverse()
38     return ''.join(S)
39
```

Runtime: $O(n^2 \log n)$, space $O(n^2)$

$n^2 \log n^2$

Input: $n \times n$

If n is length of the string

BWT + Suffix tree connection

Let

s = appellee \$

Brute force search

IS same as
Suffix tree
order!

\$appellee
appellee\$
e\$appellee
ee\$appellee
eldee\$appellee
lee\$appellee
llee\$appellee
peldee\$appellee
peldee\$appellee\$aa

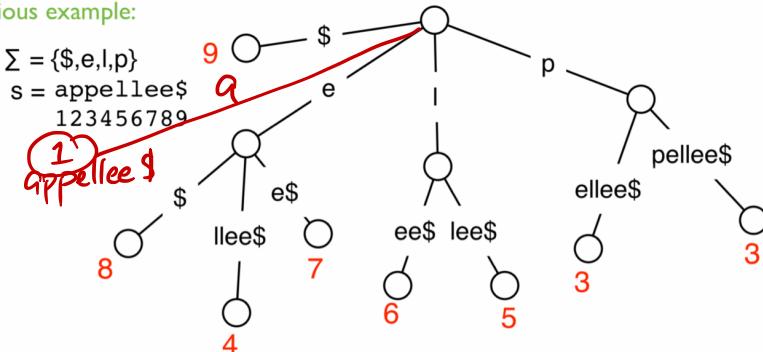
\$
appellee\$
e\$
ee\$
elée\$
lee\$
llee\$
pelée\$
ppelée\$

BWT matrix

The suffixes
are obtained
by deleting
everything
after the \$

$$\text{BWT} = \text{e\$elplepa}$$

Ordered suffix tree
for previous example:



↳ build another rep:
suffix array

Suffix array:

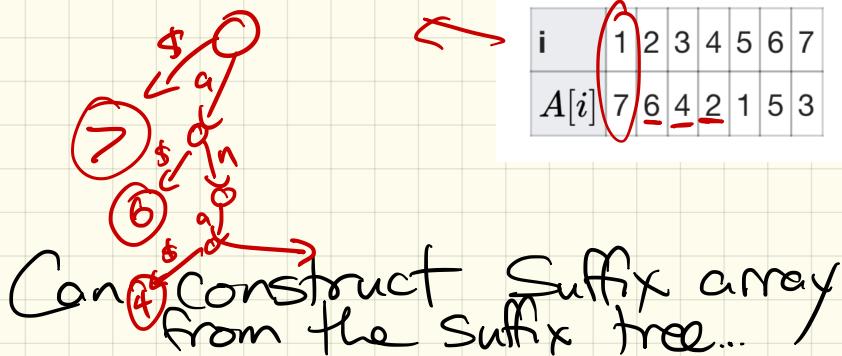
i	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
$S[i]$	b	a	n	a	n	a	\$

[Red brackets highlight the suffixes: \$, a\$, na\$, ana\$, nana\$]

Suffix	i
banana\$	1
anana\$	2
nana\$	3
ana\$	4
na\$	5
a\$	6
\$	7

Suffix	i
\$	7
a\$	6
ana\$	4
anana\$	2
banana\$	1
na\$	5
nana\$	3

Then:
Suffix array is the starting position of sorted suffixes:



This gives a new, faster way
to compute BWT:

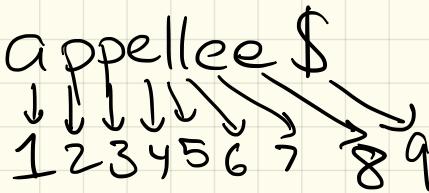
use Suffix tree!

Example: $S = \text{appellee\$}$

BWT	
\$	e
appellee\$	\$
appellee\$	e
e\$appelle	e
ee\$appell	I
elleep\$app	I
lee\$appel	P
llee\$appe	P
pellee\$ap	e
ppellee\$aa	p
	a

BWT
matrix

Reliable
to get
Indices



Suffixes

\$
appellee\$
e\$
ee\$
elleep\$
lee\$
llee\$
pellee\$
ppellee\$

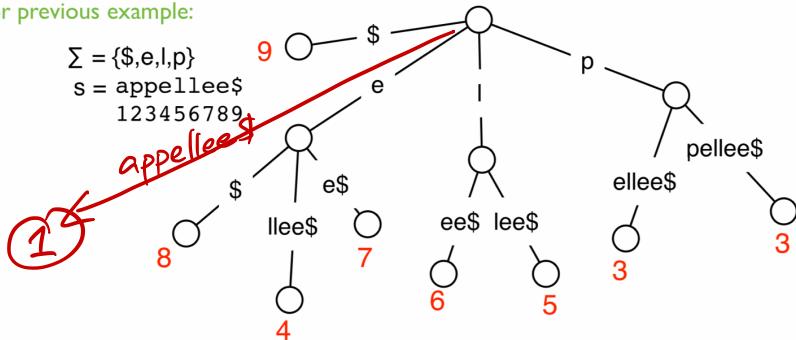
Suffix array: 9 1 8 7 4 6 5 3 2

Subtract 1
from each: 8 7 6 3 5 4 2 1

Get position of entry i in BWT

Suffix arrays + Suffix trees:

Ordered suffix tree
for previous example:



appellee\$
 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

\$appellee
 appellee\$
 e\$appellee
 ee\$appell
 ellee\$app
 lee\$appel
 llee\$appe
 pellee\$ap
 ppellee\$a

\$
 appellee\$
 e\$
 ee\$
 ellee\$
 lee\$
 llee\$
 pellee\$
 ppellee\$

These are still in sorted order because "\$" comes before everything else

9
 1
 8
 7
 4
 6
 5
 3
 2

- subtract 1 →

$s[9-1] = e$
 $s[1-1] = \$$
 $s[8-1] = e$
 $s[7-1] = l$
 $s[4-1] = p$
 $s[6-1] = l$
 $s[5-1] = e$
 $s[3-1] = p$
 $s[2-1] = a$

BWT matrix

The suffixes are obtained by deleting everything after the \$

Suffix array
(start position for the suffixes)

Suffix position - 1 = the position of the last character of the BWT matrix

(\$ is a special case)

So, new way to compute:
Compute SA (suffix tree - $O(n)$)

$$\text{BWT}[i] = \begin{cases} T[SA[i]-1] & \text{suffixary if } SA[i] > 0 \\ \$ & \text{if } SA[i] = 0 \end{cases}$$

Original String
(depending on indexing)

Ex:

\$ a b a a b a
a \$ a b a a b
a a b a \$ a b
a b a \$ a b a
a b a a b a \$
b a \$ a b a a
b a a b a \$ a

BWM(T)

6	\$
5	a \$
2	a a b a \$
3	a b a \$
0	a b a a b a \$
4	b a \$
1	b a a b a \$

SA(T)

Runtime:

- Easy $O(n^2 \log n)$ algorithm:
compute circular permutations
sort
read last row
- Some direct + space efficient $O(n)$ -algorithms!
(worst cover)
(built from:
~~*(*~~*)*
• Use Suffix array to get BWT.
~~*(*~~ *$O(n)$ time + space*
(but constants can be large)

Optimality :

BWT is in fact very good at compression.

Empirical entropy : defined

in terms of the # of occurrences of each symbol or group of them.

k^{th} order empirical entropy gives a lower bound on achievable compression, depending on k symbols before it

[Manzini 2001] showed

BWT is optimal (up to constant factor) for any k

Uses of bioinformatics:

Speeding up alignment!
(reduces memory requirement)

Bowtie

Software **Highly accessed** **Open access**

Ultrafast and memory-efficient alignment of short DNA sequences to the human genome

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The electronic version of this article is the complete one and can be found online at:
<http://genomebiology.com/2009/10/3/R25>

BWA

Fast and accurate short read alignment with Burrows–Wheeler transform

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Varying read length using Bowtie, Maq and SOAP						
Length	Program	CPU time	Wall clock time	Peak virtual memory footprint (megabytes)	Bowie speed-up	Reads aligned (%)
36 bp	Bowtie	6 m 15 s	6 m 21 s	1,305	-	62.2
	Maq	3 h 52 m 26 s	3 h 52 m 54 s	804	36.7x	65.0
	Bowtie -v 2	4 m 55 s	5 m 00 s	1,138	-	55.0
	SOAP	16 h 44 m 3 s	18 h 1 m 38 s	13,619	216x	55.1
50 bp	Bowtie	7 m 11 s	7 m 20 s	1,310	-	67.5
	Maq	2 h 39 m 56 s	2 h 40 m 9 s	804	21.8x	67.9
	Bowtie -v 2	5 m 32 s	5 m 46 s	1,138	-	56.2
	SOAP	48 h 42 m 4 s	66 h 26 m 53 s	13,619	691x	56.2
76 bp	Bowtie	18 m 58 s	19 m 6 s	1,323	-	44.5
	Maq 0.7.1	4 h 45 m 7 s	4 h 45 m 17 s	1,155	14.9x	44.9
	Bowtie -v 2	7 m 35 s	7 m 40 s	1,138	-	31.7
	SOAP	1 d 10 h 40 m 10 s	2 d 10 h 40 m 10 s	13,619	1,000x	31.7

The performance of Bowtie v0.9.6, SOAP v1.10, and Maq versions v0.6.6 and v0.7.1 on the server platform when aligning 2 M simulated reads from the 1,000 Genome project (National Center for Biotechnology Information Short Read Archive: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/ShortReadArchive>). All experiments used 36 bp reads of random lengths. The average per-base error rate was measured by quality values was uniform across the three sets. All reads pass through Maq's "calibrator". Maq v0.7.1 was used for the 76-bp experiment because it does not support reads longer than 63 bp. SOAP is excluded from the 76-bp experiment because it does not support reads longer than 60 bp. Other experimental parameters are identical to those in the experiments in Table 1. CPU, central processing unit.

Langmead et al. (2008)