# Lecture 16: Combinatorial Pattern Matching 

Study Chapter 9.1-9.5

## Repeat Finding



- Example of repeats:
- ATGGTCTAGGTCCTAGTGGTC
- Motivation to find them:
- Phenotypes arise from copy-number variations
- Genomic rearrangements are often associated with repeats
- Trace evolutionary secrets
- Some tumors are characterized by an explosion of repeats


## Repeat Finding



- Near matches are more difficult:
- ATGGTCTAGGACCTAGTGTTC
- Motivation to find them:
- same as before
- near matches are more realistic due to mutations


## [-mer Repeats

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- Short repeats are easy to find
- Long repeats are difficult to find
- Strategy for finding long repeats:
- Find exact repeats of short $\boldsymbol{\tau}$-mers ( $[$ is usually 10 to 13 )
- Extend $\boldsymbol{\ell}$-mer repeated seeds into longer, maximal repeats


## l-mer Repeats (cont'd)



- There are typically many locations where an $\ell$-mer is repeated:


## GCTTACAGATTCAGTCTTACAGATGGT

- The 4-mer TTAC starts at locations 3 and 17


## Extending 1 -mer Repeats

 GCTTACAGATTCAGTCTTACAGATGGT

- Extend these 4-mer matches:


## GCTTACAGATTCAGTCTTACAGATGGT

- Maximal repeat: CTTACAGAT
- Maximal repeats cannot be extended in either direction
- To find maximal repeats in this way, we need ALL start locations of all $\boldsymbol{l}$-mers in the genome
- Hashing lets us find repeats quickly in this manner


## Hashing: What is it?



- How hashing works...
- Generate an integer "key" from an arbitrary record
- Store record in an data structure indexed by this integer key
- Hashing is a very efficient way to store and retrieve data
- e.g., Python directories are hashes


## Hashing: Definitions



- Hash table: array used in hashing
- Records: data stored in a hash table
- Keys: identify sets of records
- Hash function: uses a key to generate an index to insert at in hash table
- Collision: when more than one record is mapped to the same index in the hash table


## Hashing: Example



- Where do the animals eat?
- Records: each animal
- Keys: where each animal eats



## Hashing: Maximal Repeats



- To find repeats in a genome:
- For all $\boldsymbol{l}$-mers in the genome, note its starting position and the sequence
- Generate a hash table index for each unique [-mer sequence
- In each index of the hash table, store all genome start locations of the $l$-mer which generated that index
- Extend $\mathcal{L}$-mer repeats to maximal repeats
- Problem as $l$ gets big the number of possible patterns becomes larger than the genome's length ( $4^{l} \gg \mathrm{n}$ )


## Hashing: Collisions



- Generate hash keys from a reduced space
Ex. Key = quaternary(seq) \% (N/l)
- Leads to possible collisions
- Dealing with collisions:
- "Chain" tuples of
(l-mer, start location) pairs in a linked list



## Hashing: Summary



- When finding genomic repeats from $\mathcal{C}$-mers:
- Generate a hash table index for each $\mathcal{l}$-mer sequence
- In each index, store all genome start locations of the $\boldsymbol{r}$-mer which generated that index
- Extend $\mathcal{C}$-mer repeats to maximal repeats


## Pattern Matching



- What if, instead of finding repeats in a genome, we want to find all positions of a particular sequence in a given large sequence?
- This leads us to a different problem, the Pattern Matching Problem


## Pattern Matching Problem



- Goal: Find all occurrences of a pattern in a text
- Input: Pattern $\boldsymbol{p}=p_{1} \ldots p_{n}$ and text $\boldsymbol{t}=t_{1} \ldots t_{m}$
- Output: All positions $1 \leq i \leq(m-n+1)$ such that the $n$-letter substring of $t$ starting at $i$ matches $p$
- Motivation: Searching database for a known pattern


## Exact Pattern Matching: A Brute-Force Algorithm

## PatternMatching(p,t)

$1 n \leftarrow$ length of pattern $\mathbf{p}$
$2 m \leftarrow$ length of text t
3 for $i \leqslant 1$ to ( $m-n+1$ )
4 if $t_{j} \ldots t_{i+n-1}=\mathrm{p}$
5 output $i$

## Exact Pattern Matching: An Example



- PatternMatching algorithm for:


## CGCATC

- Pattern GCAT CGCATC
- Text CGCATC
CCATC

CGCATC
CGCATC

## Exact Pattern Matching: Running Time



- PatternMatching runtime: $\mathrm{O}(\mathrm{nm})$
- Probability-wise, it's more like $\mathrm{O}(m)$
- Rarely will there be close to $n$ comparisons in line 4
- Worse case: Find "AAAAT" in "AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAT"
- Better solution: suffix trees
- Can solve problem in $\mathrm{O}(m)$ time
- Conceptually related to keyword trees


## Keyword Trees: Example



- Keyword tree:
- apple



## Keyword Trees: Example (cont'd)



- Keyword tree:
- apple
- apropos


## Keyword Trees: Example (cont'd)



- Keyword tree:
- apple
- apropos
- banana



## Keyword Trees: Example (cont'd)



- Keyword tree:
- apple
- apropos
- banana
- bandana



## Keyword Trees: Example (cont'd)



- Keyword tree:
- apple
- apropos
- banana
- bandana
- orange



## Keyword Trees: Properties



- Stores a set of keywords in a rooted labeled tree
- Each edge labeled with a letter from an alphabet
- Any two edges coming out of the same vertex have distinct labels
- Every keyword stored can be spelled on a path from root to some leaf
- Searches are performed by "threading" the target pattern through the tree



## Keyword Trees: Threading (cont'd)



- Thread "appeal"
- appeal


## Keyword Trees: Threading (cont'd)



- Thread "appeal"
- appeal


## Keyword Trees: Threading (cont'd)



- Thread "appeal"
- appeal


## Keyword Trees: Threading (cont'd)



- Thread "appeal"
- appeal
- no edge for e
- so "appeal" is not a keyword



## Keyword Trees: Threading (cont'd)



- Thread "apple"
- apple


## Keyword Trees: Threading (cont'd)



- Thread "apple"
- apple


## Keyword Trees: Threading (cont'd)



- Thread "apple"
- apple


## Keyword Trees: Threading (cont'd)



- Thread "apple"
- apple


## Keyword Trees: Threading (cont́d)



- Thread "apple"
- apple

Now thread "band", "or", and the nonsense word "apro"

How do you tell "real" words from nonsense?


## Multiple Pattern Matching Problem

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- Goal: Given a set of patterns and a text, find all occurrences of any of patterns in the text
- Input: $k$ patterns $\mathbf{p}^{1}, \ldots, \mathbf{p}^{k}$, and text $\mathbf{t}=t_{1} \ldots t_{m}$
- Output: Positions $1 \leq i \leq m$ where substring of $\mathbf{t}$ starting at $i$ matches $\mathbf{p}_{j}$ for $1 \leq j \leq k$
- Motivation: Searching database for known multiple patterns


## Multiple Pattern Matching: Straightforward Approach



- Can solve as k"Pattern Matching Problems"
- Runtime:


## O(kmn)

using the PatternMatching algorithm $k$ times
$-m$ - length of the text
$-n$ - average length of the pattern

## Multiple Pattern Matching: Keyword Tree Approach



- Or, we could use keyword trees:
- First build keyword tree in $\mathrm{O}(N)$ time; $N$ is total length of all patterns
- Now thread word starting at each position in the text to determine match with any pattern
- With naive threading: $\mathrm{O}(N+n m)$
- Aho-Corasick algorithm: $\mathrm{O}(N+m)$


## Keyword Trees: Naïve Threading



- To match patterns in a text using a keyword tree:
- Build keyword tree of patterns
- "Thread" the text through the keyword tree


drive were proud to say that they were perfectly normal thank you very much"



## Keyword Trees: Naïve Threading



- Threading is "complete" when we reach a leaf in the keyword tree
- When threading is "complete," we've found a pattern in the text

drive were proud to say that they were perfectly normal thank you very much"



## Suffix Trees=Collapsed Keyword Trees



- All suffixes of a given sequence
- Similar to keyword trees, except vertices of degree 2 are compressed
- each edge is labeled with a substring of a text
- each non-leaf has two or more children
- leaves, are labeled by the index of the pattern.



## Suffix Tree of a Text



- Construct a keyword tree from all suffixes of a text
- Collapse non-branching paths into an edge (path compression)

ATCATG
TCATG


Tree

Suffix Tree

ATG
TG How much time does it take?
G Time is linear in the total size of all suffixes, which is quadratic in the length of the text

## Suffix Trees: Advantages

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- With careful bookkeeping a text's suffix tree can be constructed in a single pass of the text
- Thus, suffix trees can be built faster than keyword trees of suffixes and transforming them
ATCATG
TCATG
 Tree

Suffix Tree
ATG TG

G linear (Weiner, McCreight \& Ukkonen suffix tree algorithms)

## Suffix Tree Construction



- Few books, including ours, delve into the details of suffix tree construction algorithms due to its reputation for being overly complicated.
- Weiner's and McCreight's original linear algorithms for constructing a suffix trees had some disadvantages.
- Principal among them was the requirement that the tree be built in reverse order, meaning that the tree was grown incrementally by adding characters from the end of the input.
- This ruled it out for on-line processing


## Ukkonen's Clever Bookkeeping



- Esko Ukkonen's construction works from left to right.
- It's incremental. Each step transforms the Suffix Tree of the prefix ending at the $i^{\text {th }}$ character to the Suffix Tree ending at the $i+1^{\text {th }}$.



## Tree Properties



- Extensions are done by threading each new prefix through the tree and visiting each of the suffixes of the current tree.
- At each step we start at the longest suffix (BOOK), and work our way down to the shortest (empty string)
- Each ends at a node of three types:
- A leaf node $(1,2,4,5)$
- An explicit node $(0,3)$
- An implicit node (Between characters of a substring labeling an edge, such as $\mathrm{BO}, \mathrm{BOO}$, and OO ).



## Observations



- There are 5 suffixes in the tree (including the empty string) after adding BOOK
- They are represented by the root and 4 leaves
- Adding the next letter, another ' $K$ ', requires visiting each of the suffixes in the existing tree, in order of decreasing length, and adding letter ' $K$ ' to its end.
- Adding a character to a leaf node never creates a new explicit node, regardless of the letter


воокк кк о


KK OKK
(4) (5)

- If the root already has an edge labeled ' $K$ ' we just extend it


## Split and Add Update



- The next step is to add an ' E ' to our tree
- As before, add ' $E$ ' to each suffix in order of decreasing lengths BOOKK, OOKK, OKK, KK, K
- The first suffix that does not terminate at a leaf is called the "active point" of the suffix tree



## Updating an Explicit Node



- After updating suffix K, we still have to update the next shorter suffix, which is the empty string.



## Generalizing



- Once a leaf node, always a leaf node
- Additional characters only extends the edge leading to the leaf (leaves are easy)
- When adding a new leaf, its edge will represent all characters from the $i^{\text {th }}$ suffix's starting point to the $i+1^{\text {st }}$ text's end. Because of this once a leaf is created, we can just forget about it. If the edge is later split, its start may change but it will extend to the end.
- This means that we only need to keep track of the active point in each tree, and update from there.


## One Last Detail



- The algorithm sketch so far glosses over one detail. At each step of an update we need to keep track of the next smaller suffix from the $i^{\text {th }}$ update
- To do this a suffix pointer is kept at each internal node
- For Pseudo code
- Mark Nelson, "Fast String Searching with Suffix Trees" Dr. Dobb's Journal August, 1996
- For proofs of linear space/time performance
- E. Ukkonen. "On-line construction of suffix trees. Algorithmica, 14(3):249-260, September 1995.



## Use of Suffix Trees



- Suffix trees hold all suffixes of a text, T
- i.e., ATCGC: ATCGC, TCGC, CGC, GC, C
- Builds in $\mathrm{O}(m)$ time for text of length $m$
- To find any pattern $\boldsymbol{P}$ in a text:
- Build suffix tree for text, $\mathrm{O}(m), m=|T|$
- Thread the pattern through the suffix tree
- Can find pattern in $\mathrm{O}(n)$ time! $(n=|P|)$
- $\mathrm{O}(|\boldsymbol{T}|+|\boldsymbol{P}|)$ time for "Pattern Matching Problem" (better than Naïve O(|P||T|)
- Build suffix tree and lookup pattern
- Multiple Pattern Matching in $\mathrm{O}(|\boldsymbol{T}|+k|\boldsymbol{P}|)$


## Pattern Matching with Suffix Trees

 SuffixTreePatternMatching(p,t)
1 Build suffix tree for text t
2 Thread pattern p through suffix tree
3 if threading is complete
4 traverse all paths from the threading's endpoint to leaves and output their positions
5 else
6 output "Pattern does not appear in text"

## Suffix Trees: Example

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Threading the pattern ATG
What letter occurs most frequently? What is the shortest pattern that


## Multiple Pattern Matching: Summary



- Keyword and suffix trees are useful data structures supporting various pattern finding problems
- Keyword trees:
- Build keyword tree of patterns, and thread text through it
- Suffix trees:
- Build suffix tree of text, and thread patterns through it


## Suffix Trees: Theory vs. Practice



- In concept, suffix trees are extremely powerful for making a variety of queries concerning a sequence
- What is the shortest unique substring?
- How many times does a given string appear in a text?
- Despite the existence of linear-time construction algorithms, and $O(m)$ search times, suffix trees are still rarely used for genome scale searching
- Large storage overhead (60+ GB for human genome)
- However, close cousins of the Suffix-Tree (Suffix Arrays and Burrows-Wheeler Transforms) are more common
- Next lecture

