

Prologo

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Pre-history of string processing !

- Collection of strings
 - Documents
 - Books
 - Emails
 - Source code
 - DNA sequences
 - ...

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An XML excerpt

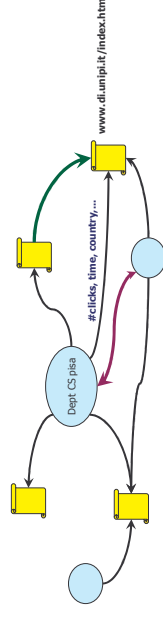
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<dblp>  
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  <author> Donald E. Knuth </author>  
  <title> The TeXbook </title>  
  <publisher> Addison-Wesley </publisher>  
  <year> 1986 </year>  
</book>  
<article>  
  <author> Donald E. Knuth </author>  
  <author> Ronald W. Moore </author>  
  <title> An Analysis of Alpha-Beta Pruning </title>  
  <page> 293-326 </page>  
  <year> 1975 </year>  
</journal> Artificial Intelligence </journal>  
</article>  
...  
</dblp>
```

size \approx 100Mb
#leaves \geq 7Mil for 75Mb
#internal nodes \geq 4 Mil for 25Mb
depth \leq 7



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The Query-Log graph



- QueryLog (Yahoo! dataset, 2005)
 - #links: \approx 70 Mil
 - #nodes: \approx 50 Mil
 - Dictionary of URLs: 24 Mil, 56.3 avg/chars, 1.6Gb
 - Dictionary of terms: 44 Mil, 7.3 avg/chars, 307Mb
 - Dictionary of Infos: 2.6Gb

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In all cases...

- Some structure: relation among items
 - Trees, (hyper-)graphs, ...
 - Some data: (meta-)information about the items
 - Labels on nodes and/or edges
 - Various operations to be supported
 - Given node u
 - Retrieve its label, $Fw(u)$, $Bw(u)$, ...
 - Given an edge (i, j)
 - Check its existence, Retrieve its label, ...
 - Given a string p :
 - search for **all** nodes/edges whose label includes p
 - search for **adjacent** nodes whose label equals p
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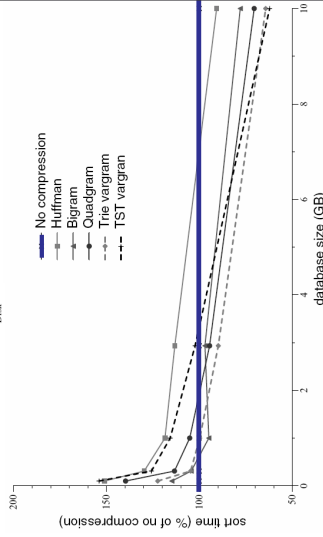
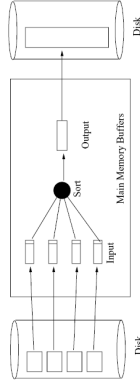
Large space
(I/O, cache,
compression, ...)

Id \leftrightarrow String

Index

Virtually enlarge M

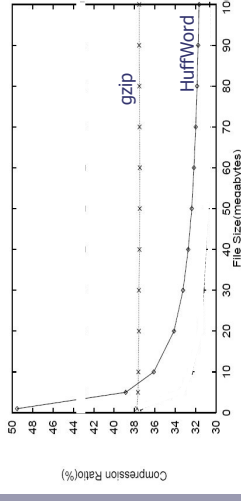
[Zobel et al, '07]



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Do you use (z)grep?

[deMoura et al, '00]



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≈ 1Gb data

- Grep takes 29 secs (scan the uncompressed data)
- Zgrep takes 33 secs (gunzip the data | grep)
- Cgrep takes 8 secs (scan directly the compressed)

IBM Research

Conclusions

Systems should **automatically compress data** whenever the **benefits** of storing or transmitting the compressed data outweigh the **costs**

- It's time to "teach" systems how to do this

In our lectures we are interested not only in the storage issue.

- Random Access
- Search

Data Compression

+

Data Structures

Toward Ubiquitous Compression

15

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Seven years ago...

[now, J. ACM 05]



FOCSS 2000

The 41st Annual Symposium on Foundations of Computer Science

Opportunistic Data Structures with Applications

P. Ferragina, G. Manzini

Nowadays several papers: theory & experiments

(see Navarro-Makinen's survey)

Our starting point was...

Ken Church (AT&T, 1995) said "If I compress the Suffix Array with Gzip I do not save anything. But the underlying text is compressible.... What's going on?"

Practitioners use many "squeezing heuristics" that compress data and still support fast access to them

Can we "automate" and "guarantee" the process ?

In these lectures....

A path consisting of five steps

- 1) The problem
- 2) What practitioners do and why they did not use "theory"
- 3) What theoreticians then did
- 4) Experiments
- 5) The moral ;-)

Muthu's challenge!

At the end, hopefully, you'll bring at home:

- ✓ Algorithmic tools to compress & index data
- ✓ Data aware measures to evaluate them
- ✓ Algorithmic reductions: Theorists and practitioners love them!
- ✓ **No ultimate receipts !!**

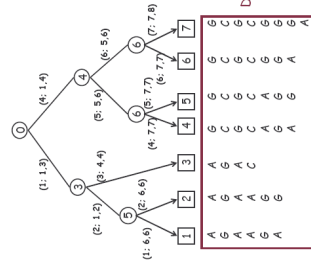
String Storage

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A basic problem

Given a dictionary D of strings, of variable length, compress them in a way that we can efficiently support $id \leftrightarrow string$

- Hash Table
 - Need D to avoid false-positive and for $id \rightarrow string$
- (Minimal) ordered perfect hashing
 - Need D for $id \rightarrow string$, or check
- (Compacted) Trie
 - Need D for edge match



Yet the dictionary D needs to be stored
its space is not negligible
> I/O- or cache-misses in retrieval

Front-coding

Practitioners use the following approach:

- Sort the dictionary strings
- Strip-off the shared prefixes [e.g. host reversal?]
- Introduce some **bucketing**, to ensure fast random access

uk-2002 crawl ≈ 250Mb

```

http://cheekmate.com/All/Natural/Applied.html
http://cheekmate.com/All/Natural/Aroma.html
http://cheekmate.com/All/Natural/Avocado.html
http://cheekmate.com/All/Natural/Avocado.html
http://cheekmate.com/All/Natural/Avocado.html
http://cheekmate.com/All/Natural/Avocado.html
http://cheekmate.com/All/Natural/Avocado.html
http://cheekmate.com/All/Natural/Avocado.html
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http://cheekmate.com/All/Natural/Avocado.html
http://cheekmate.com/All/Natural/Avocado.html
http://cheekmate.com/All/Natural/Avocado.html
    
```

```

0 http://cheekmate.com/All/Natural/
34 0.html
38 1.html
34 2.html
34 3.html
35 4.html
42 5.html
25 6.html
38 7.html
33 8.html
0 9.html
    
```

Do we need bucketing?
→ Experimental tuning ←

gzip ≈ 12%
Be back on this later on!

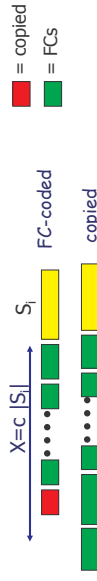
Locality-preserving FC

Bender et al., 2006

- Drop bucketing + optimal string decomposition
 - Compress D up to $(1+\epsilon)$ FC(D) bits
 - Decompress any string S in $1+|S|/\epsilon$ time

A simple incremental encoding algorithm [where $\epsilon = 2/(c-2)$]

- Assume to have $FC(S_1, \dots, S_{i-1})$
- Given S_i , we proceed backward for $X=c \cdot |S_i|$ chars in FC
 - Two cases



Locality-preserving FC

Bender et al., 2006

A simple incremental encoding algorithm [where $\epsilon = 2/(c-2)$]

- Assume to have $FC(S_1, \dots, S_{i-1})$
- Given S_i , we proceed backward for $X=c \cdot |S_i|$ chars in FC
 - If S_i is decoded, then we add $FC(S_i)$ else we add S_i

> Decoding is unaffected!!



--- Space occupancy (sketch)

- FC-encoded strings are OK!
- Partition the copied strings in (un)crowded
 - Let S_i be crowded, and Z its preceding copied string:
 - $|Z| \geq X/2 \geq (c/2) \cdot |S_i|$
 - Hence, length of crowded strings decreases **geometrically** !!
- Consider chains of copied: $\text{uncrowd crowd}^* \leq (c/2) \cdot \text{uncrowd}$
- Charge chain-cost to $X/2 = (c/2) \cdot \text{uncrowd}$ chars before uncrowd (ie FC-chars)

Random access to LPFC

We call C the LPFC-string, $n = \#$ strings in C , $m =$ total length of C

How do we Random Access the compressed C ?

- $Get(i)$: return the position of the i -th string in C ($id \rightarrow string$)
- $Previous(j)$, $Next(j)$: return the position of the string preceding or following character $C[j]$

Classical answers :-)

- Pointers to positions of copied-strings in C
 - Space is $O(n \log m)$ bits
 - Access time is $O(1) + O(|S|/\epsilon)$
- Some form of bucketing... Trade-off
 - Space is $O((n/b) \log m)$ bits
 - Access time is $O(b) + O(|S|/\epsilon)$

No trade-off !

Re-phrasing our problem

C is the LPFC-string, $n = \#strings$ in C , $m = \text{total length of } C$

Support the following operations on C :

- $Get(i)$: return the position of the i -th string in C
- $Previous(j)$, $Next(j)$: return the position of the string $prec$ /following $C[j]$

Proper integer encodings

$C = 0$ http://checkmate.com/All_Natural/ 33 Applied.html 38 1.html 38 tic.Art.html ...
 $B = 1$ 00000000000000000000000000000000 10 00000000 10 00000000 10 00000000 ...

- $Rank_i(x) = \text{number of } 1 \text{ in } B[1..x]$ $Rank_i(36) = 2$ $Rank_i(4) = 51$
- $Select_i(y) = \text{position of the } y\text{-th } 1 \text{ in } B$ $Select_i(2) = 36$ $Select_i(51) = 4$

- $Get(i) = Select_i(i)$
- $Previous(j) = Select_i(Rank_i(j) - 1)$
- $Next(j) = Select_i(Rank_i(j) + 1)$

Look at them as pointerless data structures

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A basic problem !

Jacobson, '89

B 0010100101010101111110000011010101010101110000...
 $Select_i(3) = 8$
 $Rank_i(7) = 4$

$m = |B|$
 $n = \#1s$

- $Rank_i(i) = \text{number of } b \text{ in } B[1..i]$
- $Select_i(i) = \text{position of the } i\text{-th } b \text{ in } B$
- Considering $b=1$ is enough:
 - $Select_i(B_i) = \#1 \text{ in } B_0 \text{ and } B_1 \leq \min\{m-n, n\}$
 - $Select_i$ is sim $|B_0| + |B_1| = m$

Any $Select$ → $Rank_i$ and $Select_i$ over two binary arrays:

- $B = 010001110010011111110$
- $B_0 = 1$ 0001 01 01 1, $|B_0| = m-n$
- $B_1 = 1$ 001 1 0000001, $|B_1| = n$

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A basic problem !

Jacobson, '89

B 00101001010101011111100000110101010101110000...
 $Select_i(3) = 8$
 $Rank_i(7) = 4$

$m = |B|$
 $n = \#1s$

- $Rank_i(i) = \text{number of } 1s \text{ in } B[1..i]$
- $Select_i(i) = \text{position of the } i\text{-th } 1 \text{ in } B$
- Given an integer set , we set B as its characteristic vector
 - $pred(x) = Select_i(Rank_i(x-1))$

LBs can be inherited
 [Patrascu-Thorup, '06]

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The Bit-Vector Index

Goal. B is read-only, and the additional index takes $o(m)$ bits.

B 0010100101010101111110001010101 01010101110000...
 Z 8
 $Rank_i$
 (absolute) $Rank_i$
 Z 4 5 7 9 17
 (bucket-relative) $Rank_i$
 block_pos #1

0000	1	0
...
1011	2	1
...

$m = |B|$
 $n = \#1s$

- Setting $Z = \text{poly}(\log m)$ and $z = (1/2) \log m$:
 - Space is $|B| + (m/Z) \log m + (m/z) \log Z + o(m)$
 - $m + O(m \log \log m / \log m)$ bits
 - Rank time is $O(1)$
 - The term $o(m)$ is crucial in practice $\Omega??$

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The Bit-Vector Index

$m = |B|$
 $n = \#1s$

B 001010010101011111100000110101010101010111000....

size $r \Rightarrow k$ consecutive 1s

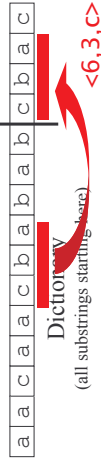
- **Sparse case:** If $r > k^2$ store explicitly the position of the k 1s
- **Dense case:** $k \leq r \leq k^2$, recurse... One level is enough!!
- ... still need a table of size $o(m)$.
- Setting $k \approx \text{polylog } m$
 - Space is $m + o(m)$, and B is not touched!
 - Select time is $O(1)$

LPFC + RankSelect

takes $[1+o(1)]$ extra bits per FC-char

There exists a Bit-Vector Index taking $|B| + o(|B|)$ bits and constant time for Rank/Select. **B is read-only!**

FC versus Gzip



Two features:

- Repetitiveness is deployed at any position
- Window is used for (practical) computational reasons

On the previous dataset of URLs (ie. uk-2002)

- FC achieves >30%
- Gzip achieves 12%
- PPM achieves 7%

No random access to substrings

May be combine the best of the two worlds?

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Compressed String Storage

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The empirical entropy H_0

$$H_0(S) = -\sum_i (m_i/m) \log_2 (m_i/m)$$

Frequency in S of the i-th symbol

- ❖ $m H_0(S)$ is the best you can hope for a memoryless compressor
- ❖ We know that Huffman or Arithmetic come close to this bound

H_0 cannot distinguish between $A^x B^y$ and a random with x A and y B

We get a better compression using a codeword that depends on the k symbols preceding the one to be compressed (context)

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The empirical entropy H_k

Use Huffman or Arithmetic
 ✓ Compress S up to $H_k(S)$
 = compress all $S[\omega]$ up to their H_0

$$H_k(S) = (1/|S|) \sum_{|\omega|=k} |S[\omega]| H_0(S[\omega])$$

❖ $S[\omega]$ = string of symbols that follow the substring ω in S

Example: Given $S = \text{"mississippi"}$, we have $S[\text{"is"}] = \text{ss}$

Follow \approx Precede

How much is "operational" ?

Entropy-bounded string storage

[Ferragina-Venturini, '07]

Goal. Given a string $S[1, m]$ drawn from an alphabet Σ of size σ

- encode S within $m H_k(S) + o(m \log \sigma)$ bits, with $k \leq \dots$
- extract any substring of L symbols in optimal $\Theta(L / \log m)$ time

This encoding fully-replaces S in the RAM model !

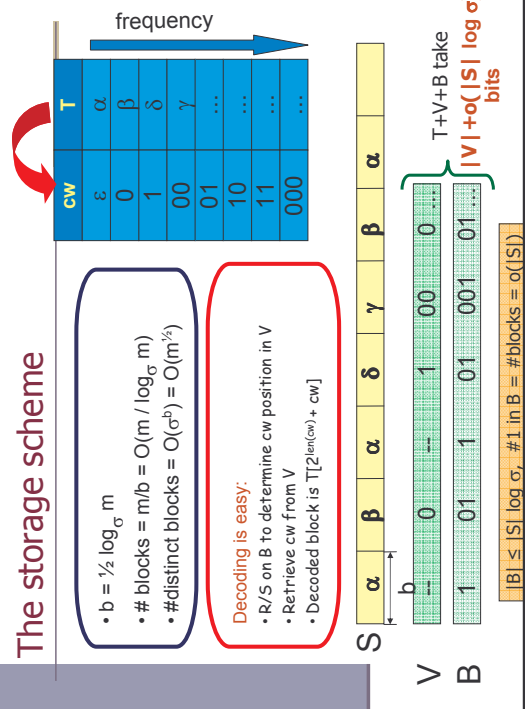
Two corollaries

- Compressed Rank/Select data structures
 - B was read-only in the simplest R/S scheme
 - We get $|B| H_k(B) + o(|B|)$ bits and R/S in $O(1)$ time
- Compressed Front-Coding + random access
 - Promising: FC+Gzip saves 16% over gzip on uk-2002

The storage scheme

- $b = \frac{1}{2} \log_{\sigma} m$
- # blocks = $m/b = O(m / \log_{\sigma} m)$
- #distinct blocks = $O(\sigma^b) = O(m^{1/2})$

Decoding is easy:
 • R/S on B to determine cw position in V
 • Retrieve cw from V
 • Decoded block is $T[2^{en(cw)} + cw]$



Bounding $|V|$ in terms of $H_k(S)$

- Introduce the statistical encoder $E_k(S)$:
 - Compute $F(i) = \text{freq of } S[i]$ within its k -th order context $S[i-k, i-1]$
 - Encode every block $B[1, b]$ of S as follows
 - 1) Write $B[1, k]$ explicitly
 - 2) Encode $B[k+1, b]$ by Arithmetic using the k -th order frequencies
 - Some algebra $\rightarrow (m/b) * (k \log \sigma) + m H_k(S) + 2 (m/b)$ bits
- $E_k(S)$ is worse than our encoding V
 - E_k assigns unique cw to blocks
 - These cw are a subset of $\{0, 1\}^*$
 - Our cw are the **shortest** of $\{0, 1\}^*$

Golden rule of data compression
 $|V| \leq |E_k(S)| \leq |S| H_k(S) + o(|S| \log \sigma)$ bits

Part #2: Take-home Msg

- Given a **binary string B**, we can
 - Store B in $|B| H_k(B) + o(|B|)$ bits
 - Support Rank & Select in constant time
 - Access any substring of B in optimal time
- Given a **string S** on Σ , we can
 - Store S in $|S| H_k(S) + o(|S| \log |\Sigma|)$ bits, where $k \leq \alpha \log |\Sigma|$ $|S|$
 - Access any substring of S in optimal time

Pointer-less data structure

Always better than SAM

Experimentally

- 10^7 select / sec
- 10^6 rank / sec

(Compressed) String Indexing

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What do we mean by "Indexing" ?

- **Word-based indexes**, here a notion of "word" must be devised !
 - » Inverted files, Signature files, Bitmaps.
- **Full-text indexes**, no constraint on text and queries !
 - » Suffix Array, Suffix tree, String B-tree,...



The Problem

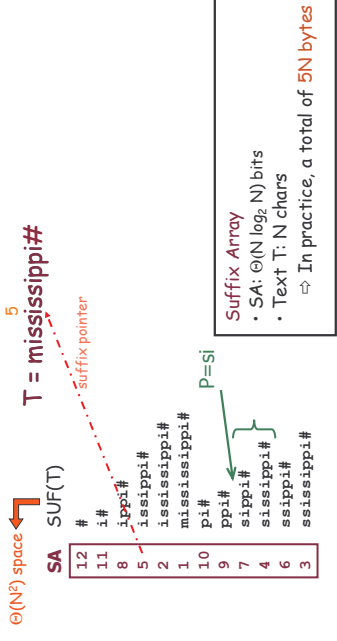
Given a text T , we wish to devise a **(compressed) representation** for T that efficiently supports the following operations:

- ✓ **Count(P)**: How many times string P occurs in T as a **substring**?
- ✓ **Locate(P)**: List the positions of the occurrences of P in T ?
- ✓ **Visualize(i,j)**: Print $T[i..j]$

- ☑ **Time-efficient solutions**, but not compressed
 - ❖ Suffix Arrays, Suffix Trees, ...
 - ❖ ...many others...
- ☑ **Space-efficient solutions**, but not time efficient
 - ❖ ZGrep: uncompress and then grep it
 - ❖ CGrep, NGrep: pattern-matching over compressed text

The Suffix Array

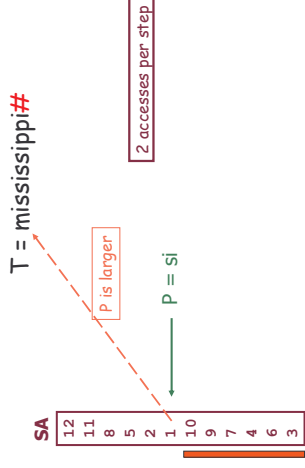
- Prop 1. All suffixes of T having prefix P are contiguous.
- Prop 2. Starting position is the lexicographic one of P.



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Searching a pattern

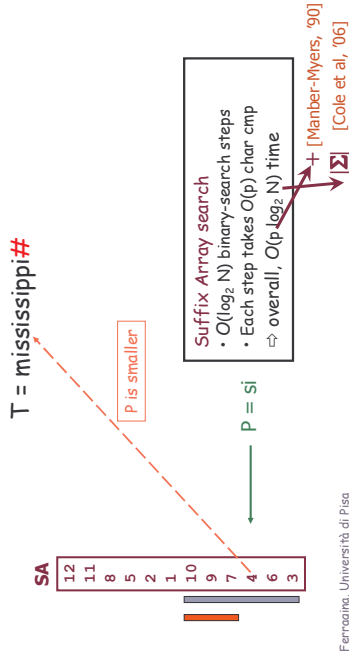
Indirected binary search on SA: $O(p)$ time per suffix cmp



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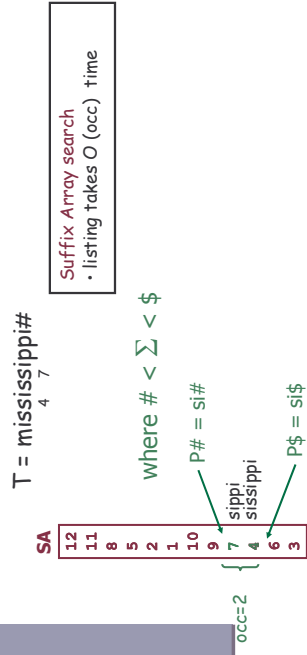
Searching a pattern

Indirected binary search on SA: $O(p)$ time per suffix cmp



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Listing of the occurrences



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Text mining

$Lcp[i, N-1]$ stores the LCP length between suffixes adjacent in SA

T = m i s s i s s i p p i #
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

Lcp	SA
0	12
0	11
1	8
4	5
2	2
0	1
0	10
1	9
0	7
2	4
1	6
3	3

ississippi
 ississippi

- Does it exist a repeated substrings of length $\geq L$?
 - Search for $Lcp[i] \geq L$
- Does it exist a substrings of length $\geq L$ occurring $\geq C$ times ?
 - Search for $Lcp[i, i+C-1]$ whose entries are $\geq L$

What about space occupancy?

T = mississippi#

SA
12
11
8
5
2
1
10
9
7
4
6
3

SA + T take $\Theta(N \log_2 N)$ bits

Do we need such an amount ?

- permutations on $\{1, 2, \dots, N\} = N!$
- SA cannot be any permutation of $\{1, \dots, N\}$
- #SA \hookrightarrow # texts = $|\Sigma|^N$
 - LB from #texts = $\Omega(N \log |\Sigma|)$ bits
 - LB from compression = $\Omega(N H_k(T))$ bits

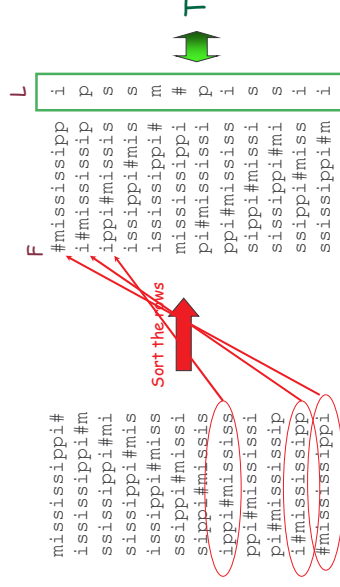
Very far

An elegant mathematical tool

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The Burrows-Wheeler Transform (1994)

Take the text T = mississippi#

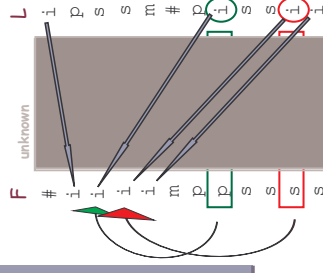


A famous example

final char (L)	sorted rotations
a	n to decompress. It achieves compression
o	n to perform only comparisons to a depth
o	n transformation} This section describes
o	n transformation} We use the example and
a	n treats the right-hand side as the most
a	n tree for each 16 kbyte input block, enc
i	n tree in the output stream, then encodes
i	n turn, set \$L[i]\$ to be the
i	n turn, set \$R[i]\$ to the
o	n unusual data. Like the algorithm of Man
a	n use a single set of probabilities table
e	n using the positions of the suffixes in
i	n value at a given point in the vector \$R
e	n we present modifications that improve t
e	n when the block size is quite large. Ho
i	n which codes that have not been seen in
i	n with \$ch\$. In our exam
i	n with Huffman or arithmetic coding. Bri
o	n with figures given by Bell`cite{bell}.

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A useful tool: L → F mapping

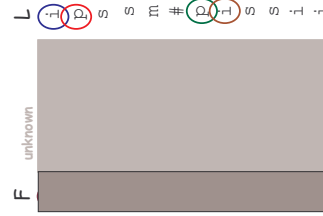


How do we map L's onto F's chars ?
... Need to distinguish equal chars in F...

- Take two equal L's chars
- Rotate rightward their rows
- Same relative order !!

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The BWT is invertible



- Two key properties:
1. LF-array maps L's to F's chars
 2. L[i] precedes F[i] in T

Reconstruct T backward:
T = ippi#

```
InvertBWT(L)
Compute LF[0,n-1];
r = 0; i = n;
while (>0) {
  T[i] = L[r];
  r = LF[r]; i--;
}
```

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How to compute the BWT ?



We said that: L[i] precedes F[i] in T

$$L[3] = T[7] = T[SA[3] - 1]$$

Given SA, we have L[i] = T[SA[i]-1]

Elegant but inefficient

COMPARISON_BASED_CONSTRUCTION(char *T, int n, char **SA)

```
{ for(i = 0; i < n; i++) SA[i] = T + i;
  qsort(SA, n, sizeof(char *), Suffix_cmp); }
```

SUFFIX_CMP(char **p, char **q) { return strcmp(*p, *q); }

Role of #

- Obvious inefficiencies:
- $O(n^2)$ time in the worst-case
- $O(n^2)$ cache misses or I/O faults

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Compressing L seems promising...

final char (L)	sorted rotations
a	n to decompress. It achieves compression
o	n to perform only comparisons to a depth
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o	n with figures given by Bell\cite{bell}).

Key observation:

- L is locally homogeneous
- L is highly compressible

Algorithm Bzip :

- Move-to-Front coding of L
- Run-Length coding
- Statistical coder

☑ Bzip vs. Gzip: 20% vs. 33%, but it is slower in (de)compression!

Why it works...

final char (L)	sorted rotations
a	n to decompress. It achieves compression
o	n to perform only comparisons to a depth
o	n transformation} This section describes
o	n transformation} We use the example and
a	n treats the right-hand side as the most
a	n tree for each 16 kbyte input block, enc
i	n tree in the output stream, then encodes
i	n turn, set \$R(i)\$ to be the
i	n turn, set \$R(i)\$ to the
o	n unusual data. Like the algorithm of Man
e	n use a single set of probabilities table
e	n using the positions of the suffixes in
e	n value at a given point in the vector \$R
e	n we present modifications that improve t
e	n when the block size is quite large. Ho
i	n which codes that have not been seen in
i	n with \$c_0\$ appear in the (\\em same order
i	n with \$c_0\$\$. In our exam
o	n with Huffman or arithmetic coding. Bri
o	n with figures given by Bell\cite{bell}).

Key observation:

- L is locally homogeneous
- L is highly compressible

Each piece \leftrightarrow a context

Compress pieces up to their H_0 , we achieve $H_k(T)$

MTF + RLE avoids the need to partition BWT

An encoding example

T = mississippimississippimississippi

L = ipppssssmmii#pppiissssssiiiiii

Mtf = 020030000030030200300300000100000

Mtf = 030040000040040300400400000200000

RLE0 = 02131031302131310110

Alphabet
|Σ|+1

Arithmetic/Huffman su |Σ|+1 simboli.....

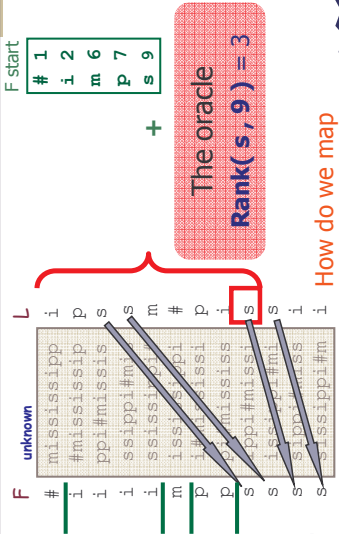
Be back on indexing: BWT \leftrightarrow SA

SA	BWT matrix	L
12	#mississipp	i
11	i#mississip	p
8	ippi#missis	s
5	issippi#mis	s
2	ississippi#	m
1	mississippi	#
10	pi#mississi	p
9	ppi#mississ	i
7	sippi#missi	s
4	siissippi#mi	s
6	ssissippi#mi	s
3	ssissippi#m	i



Implement the LF-mapping

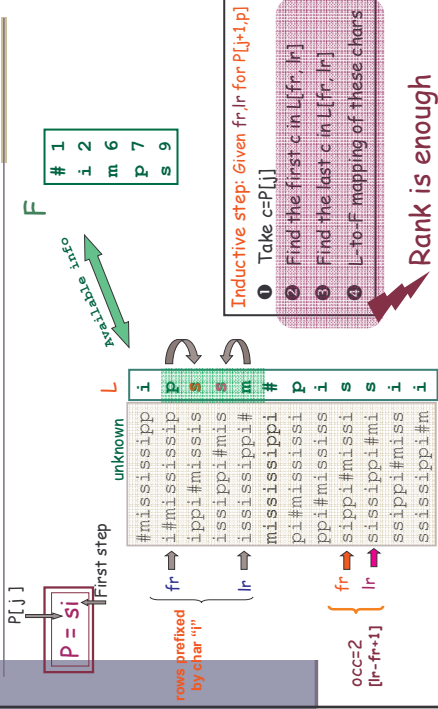
[Ferragina-Manzini]



We need Generalized R&S

Paolo Ferragina, Università di Pisa

Substring search in T (Count the pattern occurrences)



Paolo Ferragina, Università di Pisa

Rank and Select on strings

- ✓ If Σ is small (i.e. constant)
 - ❖ Build binary Rank data structure per symbol of Σ
 - ✓ Rank takes $O(1)$ time and entropy-bounded space
- ✓ If Σ is large (words?)
 - ❖ Need a smarter solution: Wavelet Tree data structure

[Grossi-Gupta-Vitter, '03]

Another step of reduction:
 → Reduce Rank&Select over arbitrary strings
 ... to Rank&Select over binary strings

Binary R/S are key tools
 → tons of papers ←

Paolo Ferragina, Università di Pisa

The FM-index

[Ferragina-Manzini, Focs '00]
 [Ferragina-Manzini, JACM '05]

- The result (on small alphabets):
- ✓ Count(P): $O(p)$ time
 - ✓ Locate(P): $O(\text{occ} \log^{k+6} N)$ time
 - ✓ Visualize(i, i+L): $O(L + \log^{k+6} N)$ time
 - ✓ Space occupancy: $O(N \mathcal{H}_k(T)) + o(N)$ bits $\rightarrow o(N)$ if T compressible

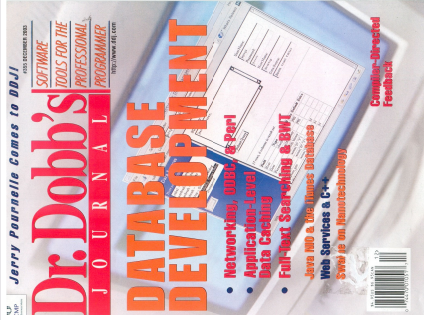
Index does not depend on k
 bound holds for all k, simultaneously

New concept: The FM-index is an opportunistic data structure

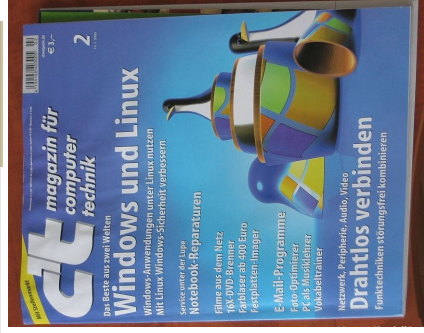
Survey of Navarro-Makinen
 contains many compressed index variants

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Is this a technological breakthrough ?



Paolo Ferragina, Università di Pisa [December 2003]



[January 2005]

The question then was...

How to turn these challenging and mature theoretical achievements into a technological breakthrough ?

- ✓ Engineered implementations
- ✓ Flexible API to allow reuse and development
- ✓ Framework for extensive testing

Paolo Ferragina, Università di Pisa

We need your applications...



Paolo Ferragina, Università di Pisa

Part #5: Take-home msg...

Data type

Text

This is a powerful paradigm to design compressed indexes:

1. Transform the input in few arrays
2. Index (= Compress) the arrays to support rank/select ops

Compression
and I/Os

Compression
and query distribution/flow

Other data types:
Labeled Trees
2D

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Where we are...

A data structure is "opportunistic" if it indexes a text T within compressed space and supports three kinds of queries:

- ✓ **Count(P)**: Count the occurrences of P occurs in T
- ✓ **Locate(P)**: List the occurrences of P in T
- ✓ **Display(i,j)**: Print $T[i,j]$

- ✓ **Key tools**: Burrows-Wheeler Transform + Suffix Array
- ✓ **Key idea**: reduce P 's queries to few rank/select queries on $BWT(T)$
- ✓ **Space complexity**: function the k -th order empirical entropy of T

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(Compressed) Tree Indexing

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Dipartimento di Informatica, Università di Pisa

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Another data format: XML

[W3C '98]

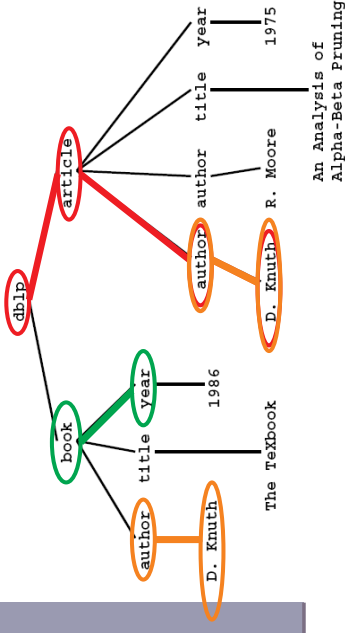
```

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<book>
  <author> Donald E. Knuth </author>
  <title> The TeXbook </title>
  <publisher> Addison-Wesley </publisher>
  <year> 1986 </year>
</book>
<article>
  <author> Donald E. Knuth </author>
  <author> Ronald W. Moore </author>
  <title> An Analysis of Alpha-Beta Pruning </title>
  <pages> 293-326 </pages>
  <year> 1975 </year>
  <volume> 6 </volume>
  <journal> Artificial Intelligence </journal>
</article>
...
</dblp>

```

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A tree interpretation...



- ☑ XML document exploration ≡ Tree navigation
- ☑ XML document search ≡ Labeled subpath searches

Subset of XPath [W3C]

A key concern: Verbosity...



Paolo Ferragina, Università di Pisa

IEEE Computer, April 2005

The problem, in practice...

We wish to devise a (compressed) representation for T that efficiently supports the following operations:

- ✓ Navigational operations: parent(u), child(u, i), child(u, i, c)
- ✓ Subpath searches over a sequence of k labels
- ✓ Content searches: subpath search + substrings

- ☑ XML-aware compressors (like XMill, XmlPpm, SempPpm,...) need the whole decomposition for navigation and search

- ☑ XML-queriable compressors (like XPress, XGrind, XQzip,...) achieve poor compression and need the scan of the whole (compressed) file

Theory?

XML-native search engines need this tool as a core block for query optimization and (compressed) storage of information

XBW is highly compressible

Theoretically, we could extend the definition of H_k to labeled trees by taking as k -context of a node its leading path of k -length (related to Markov random fields over trees)

XBW is compressible:

- S_α is locally homogeneous
- S_α has some structure and is small

Paolo Ferragina, Università di Pisa, XBW

XBzip – a simple XML compressor

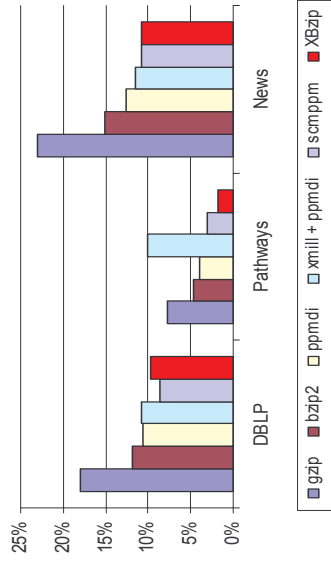
XBW is compressible:

- Compress S_α with PPM
- S_α is small...

Paolo Ferragina, Università di Pisa, XBW

XBzip = XBW + PPM

[Ferragina et al, 2006]



String compressors are not so bad: within 5%

Deploy huge literature on string compression

Paolo Ferragina, Università di Pisa

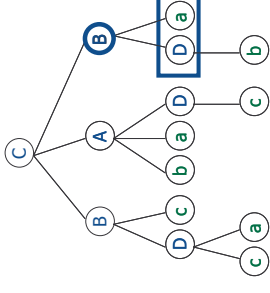
Some structural properties

Two useful properties:

- Children are contiguous and delimited by 1s
- Children reflect the order of their parents

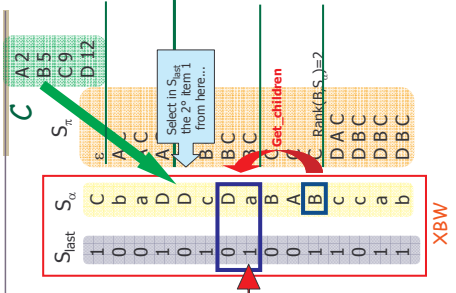
Paolo Ferragina, Università di Pisa, XBW

XBW is navigational



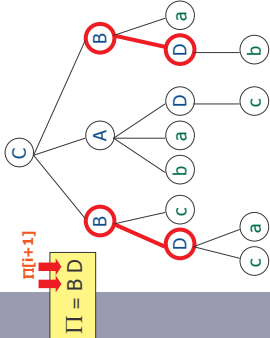
XBW is navigational:

- Rank-Select data structures on S_{last} and S_{α} .
- The array C of $|\Sigma|$ integers



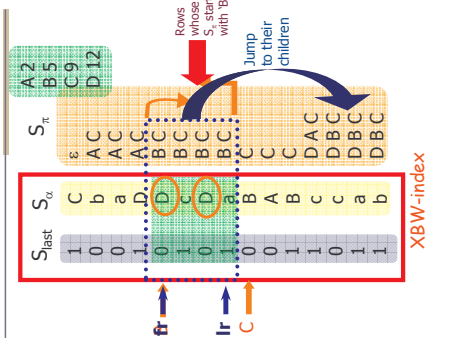
Paolo Ferragina, Università di Pisa

Subpath search in XBW



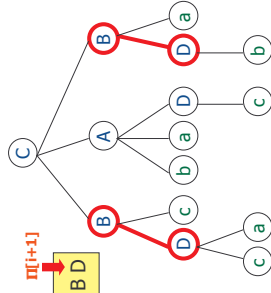
Inductive step:

- Pick the next char in $\Pi[i+1]$, i.e. 'D'.
- Search for the *first* and *last* 'D' in $S_{\alpha}[fr,lr]$
- Jump to their *children*



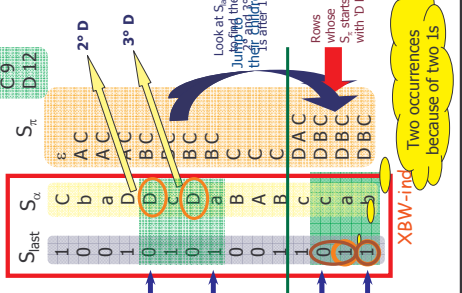
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Subpath search in XBW



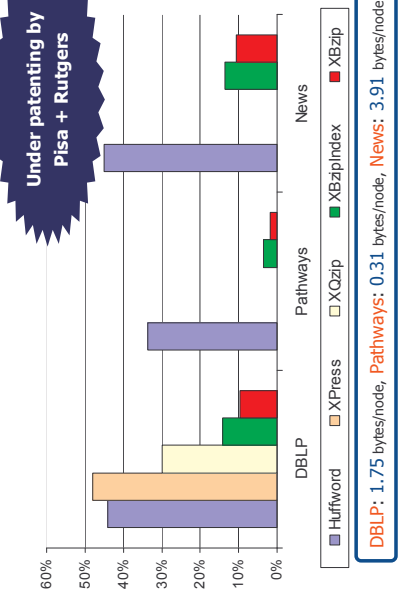
Inductive step:

- XBW indexing** (rank-select, rank, inverse)
- Rank and **Select** data structures are enough to navigate and search.



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XBZipIndex: XBW + FM-index



Paolo Ferragina, Università di Pisa

Part #6: Take-home msg...

Data type

Text

This is a powerful paradigm to design compress

1. Transform the input in few arrays
2. Index (- Compress) the arrays to support

More ops

More experiments and Applications

Other data types: 2D, Labeled graphs

Paolo Ferragina, Università di Pisa

I/O issues

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What about I/O-issues ?

B-tree is ubiquitous in large-scale applications:

- Atomic keys: integers, reals, ...
- Prefix B-tree: bounded length keys (≤ 255 chars)

String B-tree = B-tree + Patricia Trie [Ferragina-Grossi, 95]

- Unbounded length keys
- I/O-optimal prefix searches
- Efficient string updates
- Guaranteed optimal page fill ratio

Variants for various models

They are not opportunistic ☹️
[Bender et al → FC]

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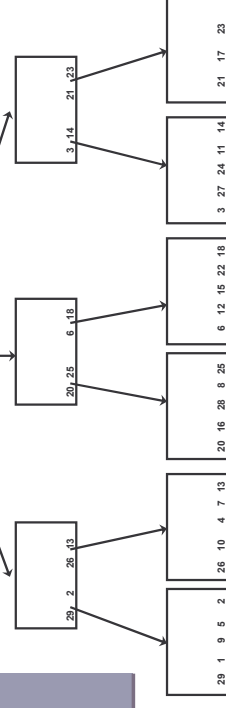
The B-tree

Search(P)
• $O((p/B) \log_2 n)$ I/Os
• $O(\text{occ}/B)$ I/Os

$P[1,p]$ pattern to search

$O(p/B \log_2 B)$ I/Os

$O(\log_B n)$ levels



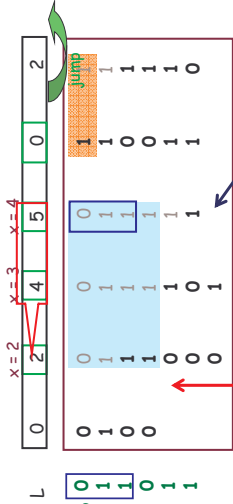
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On small sets...

[Ferguson, 92]

Scan FC(D) :

- If $P[L[x]] = 1$, then $\{ x++ \}$ else $\{ jump_r \}$
- Compare P and S[x] \rightarrow Max_lcp
- If $P[\text{Max_lcp}+1] = 0$ go left, else go right, until $L[i] \leq \text{Max_lcp}$



Init x = 1

4 is the candidate position, Mlcp=3
 Time is $\#b + |P| \leq |FC(D)|$
 Just S[x] needs to be decoded !!

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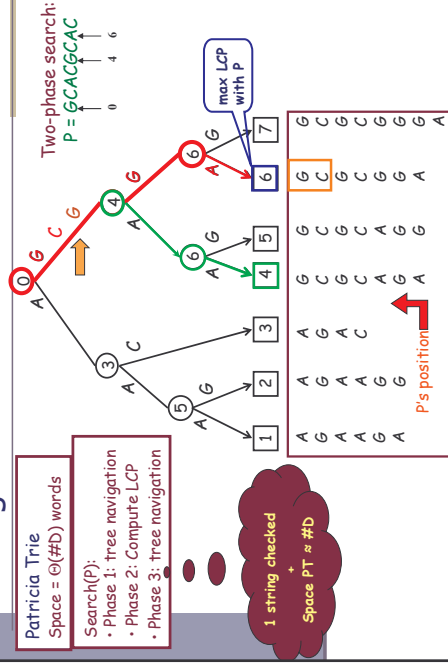
On larger sets...

Patricia Trie

Space = $O(\#D)$ words

Search(P):

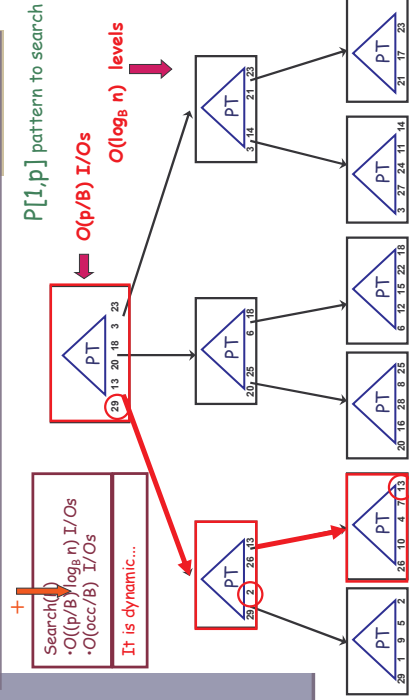
- Phase 1: tree navigation
- Phase 2: Compute LCP
- Phase 3: tree navigation



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The String B-tree

Succinct PT \rightarrow smaller height in practice
 ...not opportunistic: $\Omega(\#D \log |D|)$ bits



Lexicographic position of P

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