

Marc Hellmuth



Suffix Trees

Introduction

Ukkonen's Algorithm

Generalized Suffix Trees

# Datenstrukturen und Effiziente Algorithmen

Vorlesung *Datenstrukturen und Effiziente Algorithmen* im WS  
18/19

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# Introduction

## Suffix Tree

- data structure build from a string
- will assume that the alphabet size is a constant
- also allows to solve the exact matching problem in time  $O(n + m)$
- but here: preprocessing of text  $T$  in  $O(m)$  and then searching of  $P$  in  $T$  in time  $O(n + k)$ , where  $k$  is the number of occurrences of  $P$  in  $T$
- Z-Algorithm (and also Boyer-Moore) requires time  $\Omega(m)$  for searching
- suffix trees much more efficient than Z-Algorithm or Boyer-Moore, when  $m \gg n$  and many patterns are searched in fixed text
- suffix trees flexible data structure to solve many more string problems
- first linear-time algorithm for suffix tree construction found in 1973 (Wiener)
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## Definition: Suffix Tree

### Definition 1 (suffix tree)

- A suffix tree  $\mathcal{T}$  for an  $m$ -character string  $S$  is a rooted directed tree with exactly  $m$  leaves numbered 1 to  $m$ .
- Each internal node, other than the root, has at least two children and each edge is labeled with a nonempty substring of  $S$ .
- No two edges out of a node can have edge-labels beginning with the same character.
- For any leaf  $i$ , the concatenation of the edge-labels on the path from the root to leaf  $i$  exactly spells out the suffix  $S[i..m]$ .



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Suffix Trees

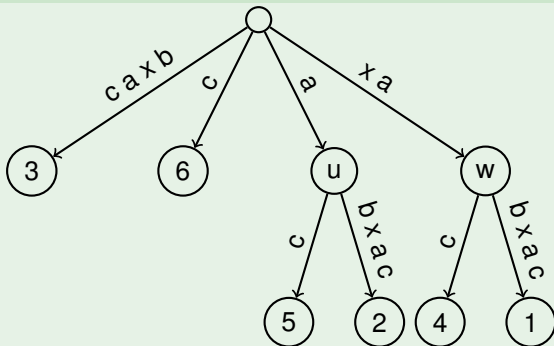
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# Example: Suffix Tree

## Example 2 (Suffix tree for $S = xabxac$ )



(letters on the edges to be read top-down)



# Suffix Tree

## Existence

- if a suffix of  $S$  is also as proper substring of  $S$  then no suffix tree according to above definition exists
- if the last character of  $S$  does not appear elsewhere, then a suffix tree always exists
- therefore will append a unique character  $\$$  to  $S$  and assume that  $\$$  does not appear in  $S$
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## Suffix Tree, Definitions

## Definition 3 (label of a path)

The **label of a path** in a suffix tree  $\mathcal{T}$  is the concatenation, in order, of the substrings labeling the edges of that path. The **path-label of a node** is the label of the path from the root of  $\mathcal{T}$  to that node.

## Definition 4 (string-depth)

For any node  $v$  in a suffix tree, the **string-depth** of  $v$  is the number of characters in  $v$ 's label.



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Let  $(u, v)$  be an edge of a suffix tree and the string  $\alpha$  be its label. For a proper prefix  $\alpha'$  of  $\alpha$  we then say the path from root to  $u$  and  $\alpha'$  specify together a **path that splits** the edge  $(u, v)$ . This path has as label the concatenation of the label of the path from root to  $u$  with  $\alpha'$ .

### Definition 6 (string in the tree)

We say that string  $\alpha$  is **in the tree** if there is a path in the tree, starting from the root, that has label  $\alpha$ .

### Notation

When a string uniquely determines a path from the root with given path-label (as is the case in suffix trees), we will identify strings and paths.

For example, we will say *string  $\alpha$  ends at vertex  $u$* .



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# Suffix Trees to Solve the Exact Substring Matching Problem

## Exact Substring Matching with Suffix Trees

- 1: **Input:** strings  $P$  and  $T$  of lengths  $n, m$ , respectively
- 2: build suffix tree for  $T\$$  in  $O(m)$  // explained later
- 3: follow the unique path from the root to find the path  $\pi$  with label  $P$
- 4: **if** no such path exists **then**
- 5:     report that  $P$  does not occur as substring in  $T$
- 6: **else**
- 7:     report the number of every leaf below the end of  $\pi$  as starting position of  $P$  in  $T$

## Running time

The running time of above algorithm is  $O(n + m)$ .  
More specifically, after  $O(m)$  preprocessing of  $T$ , it finds all occurrences of  $P$  in  $T$  in time  $O(n + k)$  where  $k$  is the number of times  $P$  occurs in  $T$ .

(Exercise: Argue, that the subtree below the end of  $\pi$  has  $O(k)$  vertices and edges and show how its leaf set can be determined in  $O(k)$  time.)





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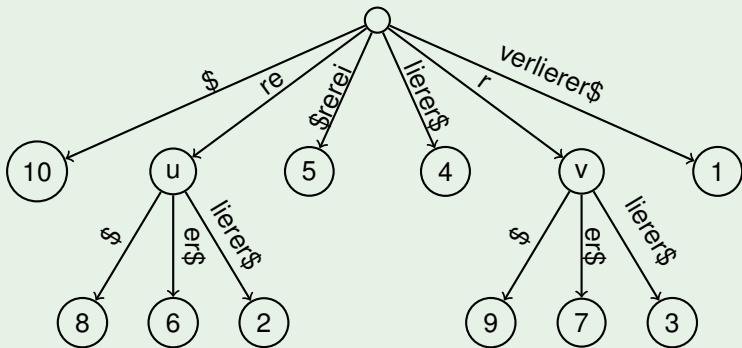
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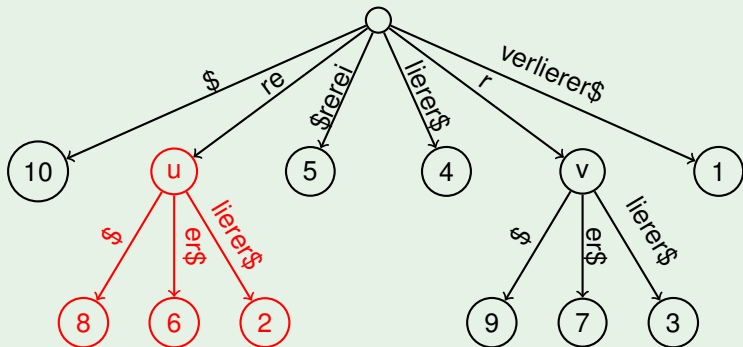
Example 7 ( $T = \text{verlierer}\$, P = \text{er}$ )





# Suffix Trees to Solve the Exact Substring Matching Problem

Example 7 ( $T = \text{verlierer}\$, P = \text{er}$ )



The pattern `er` occurs at positions 2, 6 and 8 in the text. These are the labels of all leaves in the subtree below the end of the path with label `er`.

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### Naive Algorithm to Build Suffix Tree $\mathcal{T}$ (*chalk board*)

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  - in both cases 1) and 2) insert a new edge  $(w, i + 1)$  labeled with the suffix of  $S[i + 1..m]$  that is not matched by the label of the path from root to  $w$
- call the new tree  $\mathcal{T}_{i+1}$





# Ukkonen's Algorithm

## Ukkonen's Algorithm

- constructs a suffix tree in linear time (Esko Ukkonen, 1995)
- will introduce the algorithm by step-wise improvements, starting from a simple, inefficient version, introducing ideas for the speedup from  $O(m^3)$  to  $O(m^2)$  to  $O(m)$





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### Definition 8 (implicit suffix tree)

An **implicit suffix tree** for string  $S$  is a tree obtained from the suffix tree for  $S\$$  by removing every copy of the terminal symbol  $\$$  from the edge labels of the tree, then removing any edge that has no label, and then removing any internal node that does not have at least two children.



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## Ukkonen's Algorithm

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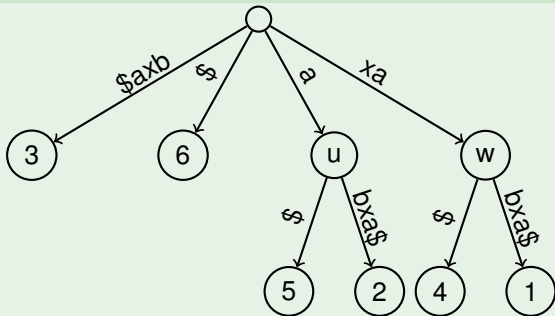
## implicit suffix tree

- an implicit suffix tree also contains all the suffixes of  $S$
- but not necessarily all suffixes are the path-labels of leafs



# Implicit Suffix Tree

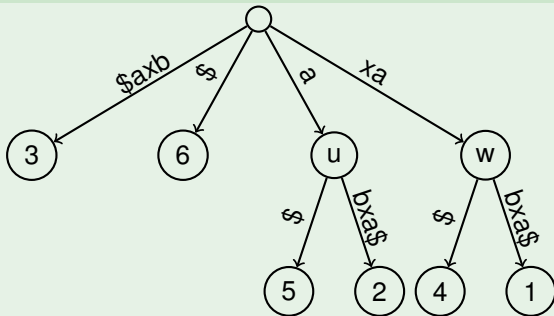
## Example 9 (Suffix tree for $S = xabxa\$$ )



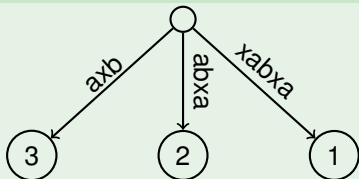


# Implicit Suffix Tree

## Example 9 (Suffix tree for $S = xabxa\$$ )



## Example 10 (Implicit suffix tree for $S = xabxa$ )





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## Ukkonen's algorithm on a high-level

- constructs an implicit suffix tree  $\mathcal{I}_i$  for prefix  $S[1..i]$  for  $i = 1, \dots, m$  in that order
- the suffix tree for  $S$  is build from  $\mathcal{I}_m$
- algorithm divided into  $m$  **phases**
- in phase  $i + 1$ ,  $\mathcal{I}_{i+1}$  is build from  $\mathcal{I}_i$ 
  - each phase is subdivided into  $i + 1$  (suffix) **extensions**
  - in extension  $j$  of phase  $i + 1$  the algorithm finds the end of the path from the root labeled with  $S[j..i]$
  - it then extends the substring by adding  $S[i + 1]$  to its end if it is not already in the tree
  - extension  $i + 1$  of phase  $i + 1$  just puts the single-letter string  $S[i + 1]$  into the tree, if it is not already there

## Ukkonen's Algorithm on a High-Level

### Ukkonen's algorithm on a high-level

```
1: construct tree  $\mathcal{T}_1$ 
2: for  $i = 1$  to  $m - 1$  do
3:   // phase  $i + 1$  begins
4:   for  $j = 1$  to  $i + 1$  do
5:     // extension  $j$  begins
6:     find the end of the path  $\pi$  with label  $S[j..i]$  from the root in the current tree
7:     if  $S[j..i + 1]$  is not already in the tree then
8:       extend  $\pi$  by adding character  $S[i + 1]$ 
```

### Order of suffix insertions

$S[1]$ , (phase 1)  
 $S[1..2]$ ,  $S[2..2]$ , (phase 2)  
 $S[1..3]$ ,  $S[2..3]$ ,  $S[3..3]$ , (phase 3)  
...  
 $S[1..i]$ ,  $S[2..i]$ , ...,  $S[i..i]$ , (phase  $i$ )  
...  
 $S[1..m]$ ,  $S[2..m]$ , ...,  $S[m..m]$ , (phase  $m$ )



## Suffix Extension Rules

### Suffix Extension Rules

In extension  $j$  of phase  $i + 1$  the algorithm first finds the end of  $\beta := S[j..i]$  in the tree.

It then extends  $\beta$  and ensures that  $\beta S[i + 1] = S[j..i + 1]$  is in the tree, according to one of the following rules:



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- case 1** If  $\beta$  ends at a leaf, character  $S[i + 1]$  is appended to the end of the leaf edge.
- case 2** If no path from the end of  $\beta$  starts with  $S[i + 1]$ , but  $\beta$  does not end at a leaf, then:
- If  $\beta$  ends inside an edge  $(u, v)$ , then create a new node  $w$  between  $u$  and  $v$ , such that  $\beta$  ends in  $w$ .
  - If  $\beta$  ends at a node, then let  $w$  denote that node.
  - Create a new leaf labeled  $j$  and an edge from  $w$  to that leaf labeled  $S[i + 1]$ .



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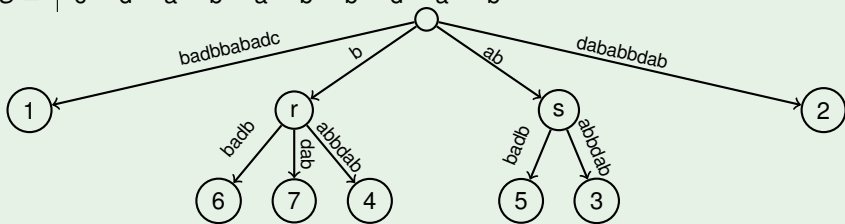
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  - Create a new leaf labeled  $j$  and an edge from  $w$  to that leaf labeled  $S[i + 1]$ .
- case 3** If some path from the end of  $\beta$  starts with character  $S[i + 1]$ , then do nothing.

## Suffix Extension

### Example 11 (Implicit suffix tree of cdababbdab)

S =

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
c	d	a	b	a	b	b	d	a	b



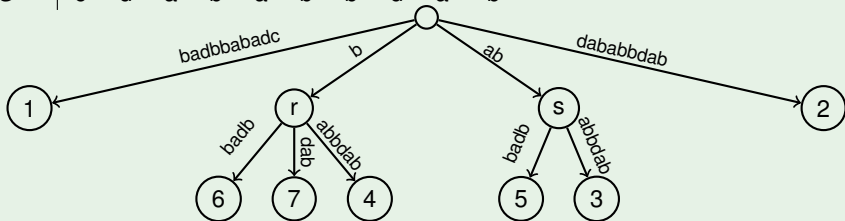
goto compressed version

# Suffix Extension

## Example 11 (Implicit suffix tree of cdababbdab)

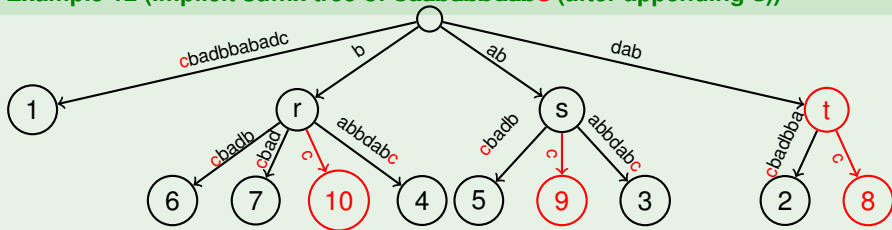
S = 

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
c	d	a	b	a	b	b	d	a	b



goto compressed version

## Example 12 (Implicit suffix tree of cdababbdab**c** (after appending c))





## Direct Implementation of High-Level Algorithm

### Direct implementation

Suppose in extension  $j$  of phase  $i$  the end of  $S[j..i]$  were determined by a search of the path from the root.

- extension  $j$  of phase  $i$  would then take time  $O(i - j)$



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Will reduce this to  $O(m)$  with several tricks

## Observation

If the end of  $S[j..i]$  in the tree is known then the extension of  $S[i + 1]$  to it can be done in constant time.

We will therefore try to speed up the search for the  $S[j..i]$ 's.



## Suffix Links

### Definition 13 (Suffix link)

Let  $v$  be an internal node with path-label  $x\alpha$ , where  $x$  is an arbitrary character and  $\alpha$  an arbitrary, possibly empty, string. If there is another node  $s(v)$  with path-label  $\alpha$ , then a pointer from  $v$  to  $s(v)$  is called a **suffix link**.

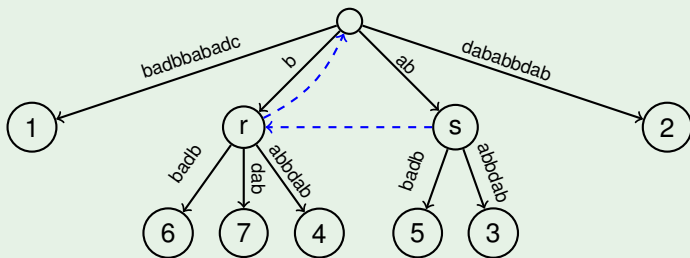


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### Example 14 (Suffix links)



(suffix links dashed and in blue)



## Suffix Trees

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# Suffix Links

## Lemma 15 (about existence of suffix links)

*If a new internal node  $v$  with path-label  $x\alpha$  is added to the current tree in extension  $j$  of phase  $i + 1$ , then after extension  $j + 1$  of that phase,  $\alpha$  will end at an internal node also.*



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## Suffix Links

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## Proof.

*(chalk board)*

Let  $v$  be a new internal node with path-label  $x\alpha$  that was added in extension  $j$  (of phase  $i + 1$ ). New internal nodes are only added in case 2 of the extension rules and we have  $\alpha = S[j + 1..i]$ . After extension  $j$  there are at least two edges leaving  $v$ , the one to the newly created leaf and at least one other edge. Let  $c$  be the first character on that other edge. We must have  $c \neq S[i + 1]$  because of the suffix tree property. After extension  $j + 1$  the string  $S[j + 1..i + 1] = \alpha S[i + 1]$  and the string  $\alpha c$  are both in the tree. The latter because  $x\alpha c$  must have first been inserted in an earlier phase  $i' \leq i$ . After that phase  $i'$  also  $\alpha c$  was in the tree. As the first disagreement between  $\alpha S[i + 1]$  and  $\alpha c$  is right after  $\alpha$ , there must be an internal node at  $\alpha$ .  $\square$



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## Corollary 16

*In Ukkonen's algorithm, any newly created internal node will have a suffix link from it by the end of the next extension.*



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# Suffix Links

## Corollary 16

*In Ukkonen's algorithm, any newly created internal node will have a suffix link from it by the end of the next extension.*

## Proof.

This follows from above lemma by observing that the only extension that is not followed by another extension of the same phase is the last extension of a phase, which inserts a single character and does not create an internal node. □



## First Extension is a Special Case

### The first extension of a phase

- consider extension 1 of phase  $i + 1$





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- $\Rightarrow$  first extension is of suffix extension case 1
- $S[1..i + 1]$  will be a leaf again
- can be done in constant time, when a pointer to the leaf labeled 1 is maintained

Marc Hellmuth



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# Suffix Links

## Using suffix links

Idea of suffix links: a **shortcut** so we don't have to start walking all the way from the root.





# Using Suffix Links

## Single Extension Algorithm

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- 11 extend character  $S[i + 1]$  using the suffix extension rules
- 12 if in extension  $j - 1$  a new internal node  $w$  was created (at the end of  $S[j - 1..i]$ ), then create the suffix link from  $w$  to the end of  $\alpha\gamma = S[j..i]$



## Trick 1: Count Edge Label Lengths

### Improving performance of path searching

- following a path  $\gamma$  as in the Single Extension Algorithm (SEA) the naive way takes time proportional to  $|\gamma|$



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- better, since the edge-labels can become arbitrarily long
- in the SEA we know that  $\gamma$  must be in the tree





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### Improving performance of path searching

- following a path  $\gamma$  as in the Single Extension Algorithm (SEA) the naive way takes time proportional to  $|\gamma|$
- want to improve to time proportional to the **number of nodes** on  $\gamma$
- better, since the edge-labels can become arbitrarily long
- in the SEA we know that  $\gamma$  must be in the tree
- therefore: no need to compare all characters on an edge



## Trick 1: Count Edge Label Lengths

### Improving performance of path searching

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- better, since the edge-labels can become arbitrarily long
- in the SEA we know that  $\gamma$  must be in the tree
- therefore: no need to compare all characters on an edge
- correct edge can be chosen by **comparing the first character only**



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## Count Edge Label Length Algorithm for Downwalk

- 1: input: starting node  $v$ , string  $\gamma$  guaranteed to be in subtree rooted at  $v$
- 2:  $h \leftarrow 0$  // the number of characters of  $\gamma$  matched so far
- 3: **repeat**
- 4:     let  $(v, w)$  be the edge for which the first character of its label  $\beta$  matches character  $h + 1$  of  $\gamma$
- 5:      $h \rightarrow h + |\beta|$
- 6:      $v \leftarrow w$
- 7: **until**  $h \geq |\gamma|$
- 8: **if**  $h = |\gamma|$  **then**
- 9:      $\gamma$  ends at node  $w$
- 10: **else**
- 11:      $\gamma$  ends on the edge from  $w$ 's parent to  $w$  after character  $|\beta| - h + |\gamma|$  on that edge



## Count Edge Label Length Algorithm for Downwalk

- 1: input: starting node  $v$ , string  $\gamma$  guaranteed to be in subtree rooted at  $v$
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## Runing time

Above algorithm finds the end of  $\gamma$  in time proportional to the number of nodes on its path.



## Suffix Links

### Definition 17 (depth of a node)

The **(node)-depth** of a node  $u$  is the number of edges on the path from the root to  $u$ . The depth of the root is 0.

We will use the term “current depth” referring to the depth of the node last visited.



# Suffix Links

## Definition 17 (depth of a node)

The **(node)-depth** of a node  $u$  is the number of edges on the path from the root to  $u$ . The depth of the root is 0.

We will use the term “current depth” referring to the depth of the node last visited.

## Lemma 18 (depth and suffix link)

*Let  $(v, s(v))$  be any suffix link traversed during Ukkonen's algorithm. At that moment, the depth of  $v$  is at most one greater than the depth of  $s(v)$ .*

## Proof.

*(chalk board)*





Suffix Trees

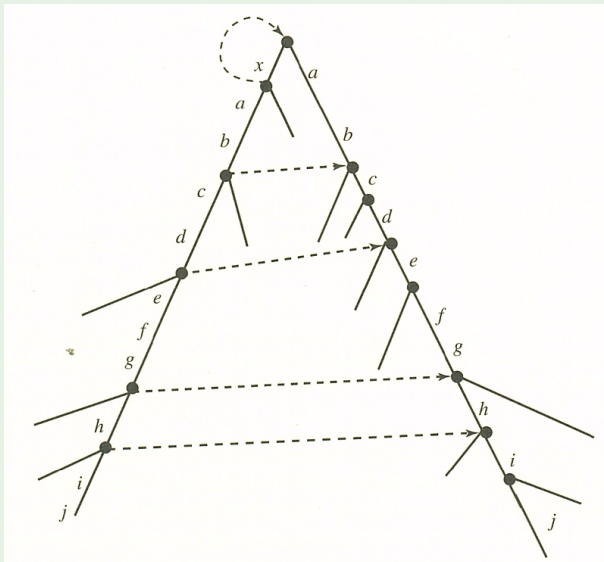
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# Depth and Suffix Links

## Example 19





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# Reduction to Quadratic Running Time

## Theorem 20

*Using the Count Edge Label Length Trick, any phase of Ukkonen's algorithm takes  $O(m)$  time and the complete algorithm takes time  $O(m^2)$ .*

## Proof.

*(chalk board)*







## Storing Edge Labels

### Space requirements

- storing all edge labels explicitly can take more than  $O(m)$  space:



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consider the string `abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz`  
with 26 characters



## Storing Edge Labels

### Space requirements

- storing all edge labels explicitly can take more than  $O(m)$  space:  
consider the string `abcdefghijklmnopqrstu`  
with 26 characters  
the suffix tree has 26 edges with length  $1, 2, \dots, 26$  each,  
totalling  $26 \cdot 27/2$  characters
- since an algorithm takes at least as much time as the  
output size, a linear-time suffix tree construction algorithm  
cannot use explicit edge label



## Storing Edge Labels

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- use availability of input string  $S$  and only **implicitly** store edge labels=substrings of  $S$



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## Storing Edge Labels

## Space requirements

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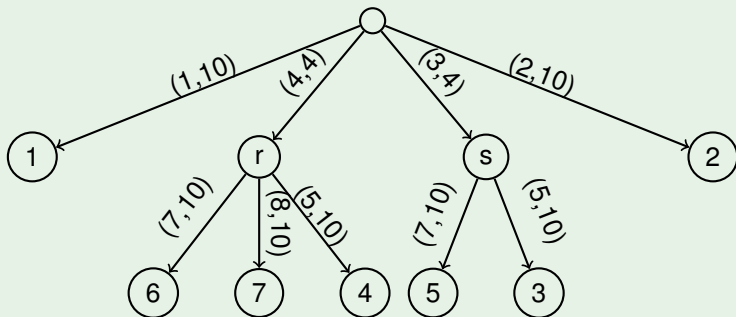
## Edge-label compression

When implementing an (implicit) suffix tree of string  $S$ , store at each edge only a pair of indices:  
the **start and end position** of a location of the edge label as substring in  $S$ .



# Edge label compression

## Example 21 (implicit suffix tree for `cdababbbdab` with edge-label compression)



goto uncompressed version



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## Suffix Extension Case 3

- suppose  $j$  is an extension of some phase  $i$  in which case 3 applies, i.e.  $S[j..i]$  was already in the tree before extension  $j$





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# Suffix Extension Case 3 Ends Phase

## Suffix Extension Case 3

- suppose  $j$  is an extension of some phase  $i$  in which case 3 applies, i.e.  $S[j..i]$  was already in the tree before extension  $j$
- then also  $S[j + 1..i]$  must already be in the tree: it was inserted to the latest in the extension after  $S[j..i]$  was initially inserted



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- inductively, in all extensions after  $j$  also the case 3 applies



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# Suffix Extension Case 3 Ends Phase

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- suppose  $j$  is an extension of some phase  $i$  in which case 3 applies, i.e.  $S[j..i]$  was already in the tree before extension  $j$
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- inductively, in all extensions after  $j$  also the case 3 applies

## Trick 2: End phase after case 3

- if in extension  $j$  case 3 applies, then end that phase
- nothing more would be done in that phase anyways as case 3 applies to all further extensions of that phase



## Once a Leaf, Always a Leaf

### Observation

- suppose at some point during Ukkonen's algorithm a leaf labeled  $j$  is created



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# Once a Leaf, Always a Leaf

## Observation

- suppose at some point during Ukkonen's algorithm a leaf labeled  $j$  is created
- the suffix extension rules never create an edge out of a leaf



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# Once a Leaf, Always a Leaf

## Observation

- suppose at some point during Ukkonen's algorithm a leaf labeled  $j$  is created
- the suffix extension rules never create an edge out of a leaf
- therefore, after leaf  $j$  is created all extensions  $j$  of future phases will be case 1 extensions, only increasing the end position of the leaf edge label



## Succession of Suffix Extension Cases

### Suffix extensions

Consider the cases for the suffix extension in phase  $i + 1$

- some (possibly empty) rest of the extensions in any phase is of case 3, the other cases are 1 or 2:  $\{1,2\}^*3^*$



## Succession of Suffix Extension Cases

### Suffix extensions

Consider the cases for the suffix extension in phase  $i + 1$

- some (possibly empty) rest of the extensions in any phase is of case 3, the other cases are 1 or 2:  $\{1,2\}^*3^*$
- let  $j_i$  be the number of cases 1 or 2 from phase  $i$  ( $j_1 = 1$ )





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## Succession of Suffix Extension Cases

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## Succession of Suffix Extension Cases

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  - if extension  $j$  was of case 1 in phase  $i$  then it is of case 1 in phase  $i + 1$  again because of the “once a leaf, always a leaf” observation



# Succession of Suffix Extension Cases

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- some (possibly empty) rest of the extensions in any phase is of case 3, the other cases are 1 or 2:  $\{1,2\}^*3^*$
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  - if extension  $j$  was of case 1 in phase  $i$  then it is of case 1 in phase  $i + 1$  again because of the “once a leaf, always a leaf” observation
  - if extension  $j$  was of case 2, then a new leaf labeled  $j$  was created in phase  $i + 1$ , therefore extension  $j$  is of case 1 in phase  $i + 1$



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## Succession of Suffix Extension Cases

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  - if extension  $j$  was of case 2, then a new leaf labeled  $j$  was created in phase  $i + 1$ , therefore extension  $j$  is of case 1 in phase  $i + 1$
- in phase  $i + 1$  the pattern of cases is therefore :  $1[j_i]\{1,2\}^*3^*$



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# Trick 3: Store End Position Only Globally

- after phase  $i + 1$  all leaf edges end at position  $i + 1$

Marc Hellmuth



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## Trick 3: Store End Position Only Globally

- after phase  $i + 1$  all leaf edges end at position  $i + 1$
- do not update each leaf edge individually, instead consider this fact in the implementation, making all leaf edge updates in constant time, e.g. by storing a reference to a global variable that holds the leaf label end positions

Marc Hellmuth



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## Trick 3: Store End Position Only Globally

- after phase  $i + 1$  all leaf edges end at position  $i + 1$
- do not update each leaf edge individually, instead consider this fact in the implementation, making all leaf edge updates in constant time, e.g. by storing a reference to a global variable that holds the leaf label end positions
- after entering phase  $i + 1$  start extensions only at extension  $j_i + 1$



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## Trick 3: Store End Position Only Globally

- after phase  $i + 1$  all leaf edges end at position  $i + 1$
- do not update each leaf edge individually, instead consider this fact in the implementation, making all leaf edge updates in constant time, e.g. by storing a reference to a global variable that holds the leaf label end positions
- after entering phase  $i + 1$  start extensions only at extension  $j_i + 1$
- do extensions only until the first case 3 applies (at extension  $j_{i+1} + 1$ )





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## Single Phase Algorithm for Phase $i > 1$

- 1 increment global variable that holds the leaf label end positions (or similar)
- 2 explicitly compute extensions using the Single Extension Algorithm starting with extension  $j_i + 1$  until the first case extension  $j^*$  where case 3 applies or until all extensions of this phase are done (set  $j^* := i + 1$  in this case), remember the location in the tree where the last extension ended
- 3 set  $j_{i+1}$  to  $j^* - 1$



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- 3 set  $j_{i+1}$  to  $j^* - 1$

## Observations

- phase  $i + 1$  begins explicit extensions for the same  $j$  as the last explicit extension of the previous phase,  $j^*$   
(e.g. the first case 3 of phase  $i$ )
- the later extension found the end of  $S[j^*..i]$ , which is saved
- the first extension of each phase therefore only needs constant time to extend  $S[j^*..i]$  by  $S[i + 1]$



## Linear Running Time Result

### Theorem 22

*Using suffix links, tricks 1, 2 and 3 and edge label compression, above algorithm computes the implicit suffix tree of  $S$  in time  $O(m)$ .*



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## Linear Running Time Result

## Theorem 22

*Using suffix links, tricks 1, 2 and 3 and edge label compression, above algorithm computes the implicit suffix tree of  $S$  in time  $O(m)$ .*

## Proof.

The time required for steps 1 and 3 of the Single Phase Algorithm is constant and so is  $O(m)$  over the  $m$  phases.

The total number of explicit extensions is

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\leq 1 + (j_2 - j_1 + 1) + (j_3 - j_2 + 1) + \cdots + (j_m - j_{m-1} + 1) \\
 &= j_m - j_1 + m \quad (\text{telescope sum}) \\
 &\leq 2m
 \end{aligned}$$

The time required for an explicit extension is constant plus time proportional to the number of nodes passed in the down-walk. The last explicit extension has the same depth as the first explicit extension of the next phase, and the first extension of each phase does not require down-walks. There are therefore at most  $m$  explicit extensions with down-walks. As the depth is bounded by  $m$ , the total number of down-walks is therefore  $O(m)$ .  $\square$



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# Constructing the Suffix Tree

## Making the implicit suffix tree explicit

- append the unique termination character \$ to the end of  $S$  and run above algorithm
- the resulting implicit suffix tree will also be a suffix tree, as no suffix of  $S\$$  is prefix of another suffix
- correctly set all end positions of leaf edges to  $|S\$|$  by an  $O(m)$  algorithm



## Constructing the Suffix Tree

### Making the implicit suffix tree explicit

- append the unique termination character \$ to the end of S and run above algorithm
- the resulting implicit suffix tree will also be a suffix tree, as no suffix of S\$ is prefix of another suffix
- correctly set all end positions of leaf edges to |S\$| by an  $O(m)$  algorithm

### Theorem 23

*Ukkonen's algorithm builds the suffix tree of string S along with all its suffix links in  $O(m)$  time.*



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**Example 24 (Ukkonen's Algorithm on  $S = abaabbabab\$$ )**

*(chalk board)*



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# Generalized Suffix Trees for Sets of Strings

## Sets of strings

- have a **set of strings**  $\{S_1, S_2, \dots, S_z\}$
- in some applications we want to find substrings **common to several or all** strings in the set
- solution: a generalized suffix tree that holds suffixes of all strings in the set





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## Generalized Suffix Trees for Sets of Strings

## Construction of a generalized suffix tree (theoretical way)

- 1 construct  $S = S_1\$S_2€S_3£\dots S_z¥$ ,  
where  $\$, €, £, \dots, ¥$  are terminal symbols assumed to be not in any of the  $S_i$
- 2 build suffix tree of  $S$  with Ukkonen's algorithm in  $O(m)$   
where  $m := |S_1| + \dots + |S_z|$   
*(chalk board)*
- 3 remove artificial suffixes that span more than 1 string in set, determine and store at each leaf the index  $i \in \{1, \dots, z\}$  of the string and shift sequence coordinates at leaf labels  
*(chalk board)*



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## Generalized Suffix Trees for Sets of Strings

## Construction of a generalized suffix tree (theoretical way)

- 1 construct  $S = S_1\$S_2\epsilon S_3\text{£} \dots S_z\text{¥}$ ,  
 where  $\$, \epsilon, \text{£}, \dots, \text{¥}$  are terminal symbols assumed to be  
 not in any of the  $S_i$
- 2 build suffix tree of  $S$  with Ukkonen's algorithm in  $O(m)$   
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 (*chalk board*)
- 3 remove artificial suffixes that span more than 1 string in  
 set, determine and store at each leaf the index  
 $i \in \{1, \dots, z\}$  of the string and shift sequence coordinates  
 at leaf labels  
 (*chalk board*)

## Observation

Because the terminal symbols are unique, after step 2 every *internal* node has a path label that is a substring of one or more of the  $S_i$  (no artificial substring spanning different strings).



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# Generalized Suffix Trees for Sets of Strings

## Step 3

- for  $i = 0, 1, \dots, z$  let  $\ell(i) = \sum_{k=1}^i (1 + |S_k|)$



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## Generalized Suffix Trees for Sets of Strings

## Step 3

- for  $i = 0, 1, \dots, z$  let  $\ell(i) = \sum_{k=1}^i (1 + |S_k|)$
- let  $i^*(c) := \min\{i \mid \ell(i) \geq c\}$  be the index of the string that suffix starting at  $i$  “really” represents



## Generalized Suffix Trees for Sets of Strings

### Step 3

- for  $i = 0, 1, \dots, z$  let  $\ell(i) = \sum_{k=1}^i (1 + |S_k|)$
- let  $i^*(c) := \min\{i \mid \ell(i) \geq c\}$  be the index of the string that suffix starting at  $i$  “really” represents
- in the suffix tree for  $S$  relabel a leaf labeled  $j$  as  $(i^*(j), j - \ell(i^*(j)) - 1)$



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## Generalized Suffix Trees for Sets of Strings

## Step 3

- for  $i = 0, 1, \dots, z$  let  $\ell(i) = \sum_{k=1}^i (1 + |S_k|)$
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- in the suffix tree for  $S$  relabel a leaf labeled  $j$  as  $(i^*(j), j - \ell(i^*(j)) - 1)$
- in the suffix tree for  $S$  relabel an edge labeled  $(c, d)$  as follows
  - $c \leftarrow c - \ell(i^*(c)) - 1$
  - $d \leftarrow \min\{d - \ell(i^*(c)) - 1, |S_{i^*(c)}| + 1\}$
  - also store the index  $i^*(c)$  of the string with the edge



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## Generalized Suffix Trees for Sets of Strings

## Step 3

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- remove all but one edge from the root that start with a special end-of-string-character



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## Generalized Suffix Trees for Sets of Strings

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  - also store the index  $i^*(c)$  of the string with the edge
- remove all but one edge from the root that start with a special end-of-string-character
- step 3 requires only time in  $O(m)$  if  $i^*$  is computed in constant time after preprocessing





Suffix Trees

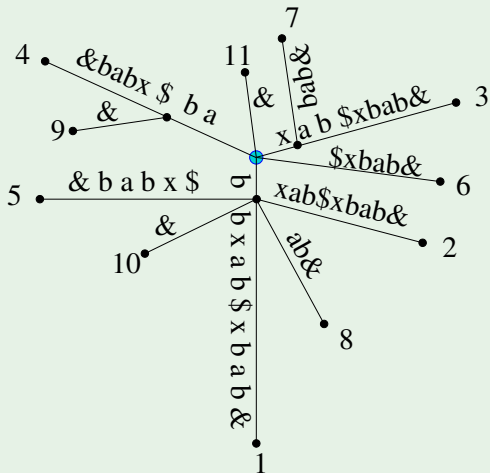
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# Generalized Suffix Trees for Sets of Strings

## Example 25 (suffix tree for $S_1 = \text{bbxab}$ and $S_2 = \text{xbab}$ )





Suffix Trees

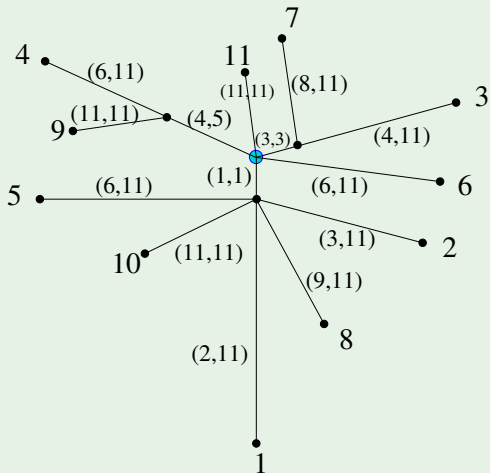
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# Generalized Suffix Trees for Sets of Strings

## Example 25 (suffix tree for $S_1 = \text{bbxab}$ and $S_2 = \text{xbab}$ )



same tree in edge label compression display



Suffix Trees

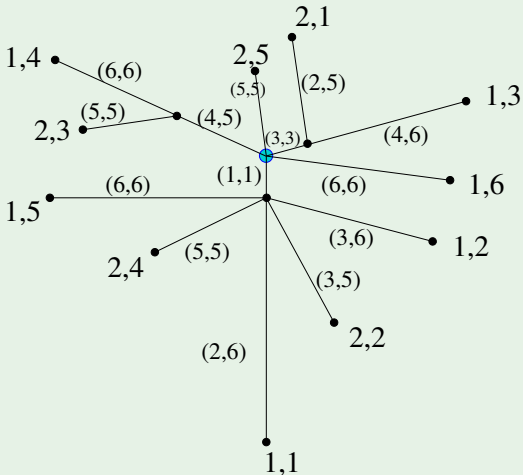
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# Generalized Suffix Trees for Sets of Strings

## Example 25 (suffix tree for $S_1 = \text{bbxab}$ and $S_2 = \text{xbab}$ )



generalized suffix tree after step 3; first number at leaf marks whether suffix belongs to  $S_1$  or  $S_2$



Suffix Trees

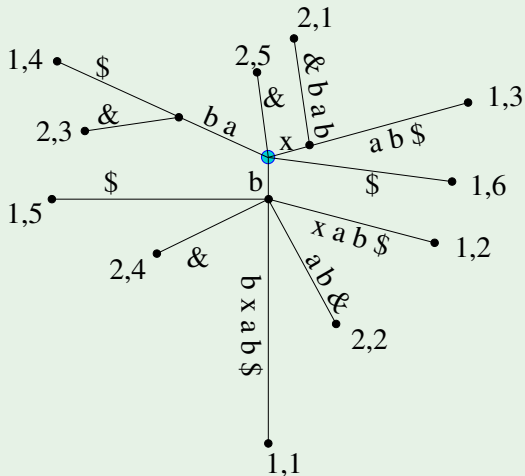
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# Generalized Suffix Trees for Sets of Strings

## Example 25 (suffix tree for $S_1 = \text{bbxab}$ and $S_2 = \text{xbab}$ )



generalized suffix tree with uncompressed edge labels