

Short communication

Canonical Huffman code based full-text index

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Abstract

Full-text indices are data structures that can be used to find any substring of a given string. Many full-text indices require space larger than the original string. In this paper, we introduce the canonical Huffman code to the wavelet tree of a string $T[1..n]$. Compared with Huffman code based wavelet tree, the memory space used to represent the shape of wavelet tree is not needed. In case of large alphabet, this part of memory is not negligible. The operations of wavelet tree are also simpler and more efficient due to the canonical Huffman code. Based on the resulting structure, the multi-key *rank* and *select* functions can be performed using at most $nH_0 + |\Sigma|(\lg \lg n + \lg n - \lg |\Sigma|) + O(nH_0)$ bits and in $O(H_0)$ time for average cases, where H_0 is the zeroth order empirical entropy of T . In the end, we present an efficient construction algorithm for this index, which is on-line and linear.

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1. Introduction

Full-text indices are data structures that can efficiently find any substring of a given string. The inverted index commonly used in text retrieval is space economical and fast. However, it is a kind of word index that is not suitable for sequences, such as Chinese texts or biological sequences. In such cases, three classic full-text indices suffix trees [1], suffix automata [2] and suffix arrays [3,4] are used. The major drawback that limits the applicability of these full-text indices is that their space required is quite larger than the original text.

Recent researches are focused on reducing the sizes of full-text indices [5–11]. The compressed suffix array structure [5] proposed by Grossi and Vitter is the first method for reducing the size of the suffix array from $O(n \log n)$ bits

to $O(n)$ bits and supporting access to any entry of the original suffix array in $O(\lg_{|\Sigma|}^{\epsilon} n)$ time, for any fixed constant $0 < \epsilon < 1$ (without computing the entire original suffix array).

FM-index [7] proposed by Ferragina and Manzini is a self-index data structure with good compression ratio and fast decompressing speed. The FM-index occupies at most $5nH_k + O(n)$ bits of storage and allows the search for the *occ* occurrences of a pattern $P[1..p]$ within T in $O(p + occ \lg^{1+\epsilon} n)$ time, where $\epsilon > 0$ is an arbitrary constant fixed in advance. In Ref. [12], the authors design a variant of the FM-index. The size of the new index is bounded by $nH_k + O((n \lg \lg n) / \log_{|\Sigma|} n)$ bits, where H_k is the k th order empirical entropy of T . Using this index, counting of the occurrences of an arbitrary pattern $P[1..p]$ as a substring of T takes $O(p \lg |\Sigma|)$ time.

In Ref. [8], He et al. present a succinct representation of suffix arrays of binary strings that uses $n + o(n)$ bits. For the case of large alphabet, they suggested an approach which conceptually sets a bit vector for each alphabet

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character to support multi-key *rank* and *select* functions, and uses a wavelet tree in the actual implementation to reduce the space cost.

In this paper, we introduce a canonical Huffman code based wavelet tree [5]. The wavelet tree is a data structure that efficiently supports basic operations for space-economical full-text indices. Huffman code based wavelet tree can be found in Ref. [5], which greatly reduces the memory consumption of wavelet tree. In our approach, the memory space used to represent the shape of wavelet tree is not needed. In case of large alphabet, this part of memory is not negligible. The data structure can be stored in continuous memory. This makes the operations of wavelet tree simpler and more efficient. It supports multi-key *rank* and *select* functions using at most $nH_0 + |\Sigma|(\lg \lg n + \lg n - \lg |\Sigma|) + O(nH_0)$ bits and taking $O(H_0)$ time on average, in $O(|\Sigma|)$ in the worst case, where H_0 is the 0th order empirical entropy of T . The number of characters which are not greater than a character in a string can be computed simultaneously with multi-key rank function without using any additional space. The same function in FM-index [7] and Ref. [8] is implemented via a table of $|\Sigma| \lg n$ bits. Based on this data structure, we implement the suffix automaton [2] in a space economical way. In the end, we present an efficient on-line construction algorithm for this structure. It runs in linear time using very small auxiliary memory space.

2. Preliminaries

Let Σ be a nonempty alphabet and $|\Sigma|$ the number of characters in Σ . Let $T = [t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n]$ be a word over Σ , $|T|$ denoting its length, $T[i]$ or t_i its i th character, and $T[i..]$ or T_i its suffix that begins at position i , $1 \leq i \leq |T|$. Denote T^R the reverse string of T . $Suff(T)$ denotes the set of all suffixes of T and $Fact(T)$ the set of its factors.

2.1. Suffix automaton

The suffix automaton [2] (also called DAWG) of a string T is the minimal DFA that accepts all the suffixes of T . For any string $u \in \Sigma^*$, let $u^{-1}S = \{x|ux \in S\}$. The syntactic congruence associated with $Suff(w)$ is denoted by $\equiv_{Suff(w)}$ [2] and is defined, for $x, y, w \in \Sigma^*$, by

$$x \equiv_{Suff(w)} y \iff x^{-1}Suff(w) = y^{-1}Suff(w)$$

We call classes of factors the congruence classes of the relation $\equiv_{Suff(w)}$. Let $[u]_w$ denote the congruence class of $u \in \Sigma^*$ under $\equiv_{Suff(w)}$. The longest element in $[u]_w$ is called its *representative*, denoted by $rp([u]_w)$.

Definition 1. The DAWG of w is a directed acyclic graph with set of states $\{[u]_w | u \in Fact(w)\}$ and set of edges $\{([u]_w, a, [ua]_w) | u, ua \in Fact(w), a \in \Sigma\}$, denoted by $DAWG(w)$. The state $[\varepsilon]_w$ is called the *root* of $DAWG(w)$.

The suffix link of a state p is the state whose representative v is the longest suffix of u such that v not $\equiv_{Suff(w)} u$.

2.2. The rank and select functions on bit vectors

The *rank* and *select* functions on bit vectors are extensively used in succinct index data structures. Function $rank_1(\mathbf{B}, i)$ and function $rank_0(\mathbf{B}, i)$ return the number of 1s and 0s in the bit vector $\mathbf{B}[1..n]$ up to position i , respectively. The *rank* function can be computed in constant time by using a data structure of size $n + o(n)$ bits [13]. Function $select_1(\mathbf{B}, i)$ and function $select_0(\mathbf{B}, i)$ return the positions of i th 1 and 0, respectively. The *select* function can be computed in constant time by using a data structure of size $n + o(n)$ bits [14].

For convenience, we use function $rank_1(\mathbf{B})$ and function $rank_0(\mathbf{B})$ to denote function $rank_1(\mathbf{B}, n)$ and function $rank_0(\mathbf{B}, n)$, respectively. We will also use function $rank_1(\mathbf{B}[s..i])$ and $rank_0(\mathbf{B}[s..i])$, $1 \leq s \leq i \leq n$, to denote functions $rank_1(\mathbf{B}, i) - rank_1(\mathbf{B}, s-1)$ and $rank_0(\mathbf{B}, i) - rank_0(\mathbf{B}, s-1)$. Both functions $rank_0(\mathbf{B}[s..i])$ and $rank_1(\mathbf{B}[s..i])$ run in constant time, just as function *rank* does.

3. Compact implementation of suffix automata

Let u be a substring of T , SA the suffix array of T . All the occurrences of u in T are grouped consecutively in SA . Therefore, an internal node \bar{u} of the suffix tree, where u is the longest string in the node, \bar{u} can be represented by an interval $[s, e]$ over SA where all suffixes with prefix u are included [8]. $SA[s]$ and $SA[e]$ are the lexically smallest and greatest suffixes in this interval. This approach leads to a space economical implementation of the suffix automaton. The nodes and suffix links of $DAWG(T)$ form the suffix tree of T^R [2]. A state of $DAWG(T)$ can therefore be represented by an interval of suffix array of T^R [11]. Denote by SA' the suffix array of T^R for a state $r = [s, e]$, for any suffix of T^R , say T_i^R , if $rp(r)^R$ is a prefix of T_i^R , $T_{SA'[s]}^R \leq T_i^R \leq T_{SA'[e]}^R$.

Through this representation, an edge (p, a, q) of DAWG, say $q = goto(p, a)$, need not be stored explicitly and the *goto* function of DAWG can be computed efficiently [11]. This representation includes an array E of size $n + 1$ defined as follows:

$$E[i] = \begin{cases} T[1], & \text{if } i = 0 \\ T^R[SA'[i] - 1] = T[n + 2 - SA'[i]], & \text{if } 0 < i < n + 1 \end{cases}$$

Each entry of this array stores the character after each prefix in SA' . It is similar to the reverse version of FM-index [7]. Another part of the representation is the data structure to support the multi-key *rank* function on E used to implement the *goto* function of DAWG. It extends *rank* function operation from bit vectors to strings. Let function $rank_x(\mathbf{E}, i)$ return the number of as in \mathbf{E} up to position i , function $rank_x^{\leq}(\mathbf{E}, i)$ return the number of characters which are not greater than a in string T , plus function $rank_x(\mathbf{E}, i)$. We have $goto([s, e], a) = [rank_x^{\leq}(\mathbf{E}, s), rank_x^{\leq}(\mathbf{E}, e)]$. The array E along with the data structure to support *rank* operation produces an implementation of suffix automaton which is space economical and not slowed down.

4. Multi-key rank and select functions canonical Huffman code based wavelet tree

We use the canonical Huffman code to encode the array E (defined in Section 3). Based on the encoded array, we introduce an efficient wavelet tree [5] to support the multi-key rank and select functions on E . Its space occupation is smaller than wavelet tree and Huffman code based wavelet tree. The speed of the new structure is not slowed down. By canonical Huffman code, the wavelet tree can be stored in continuous memory. Compared with Huffman code based wavelet tree, the memory space used to represent the shape of wavelet tree is not needed. In case of large alphabet, this part of memory is not negligible. The operation of the wavelet tree is also simpler and more efficient due to the continuous storing of the data structure.

The wavelet tree is a binary tree of height $\lceil \log |\Sigma| \rceil$ built on the alphabet characters, such that each leaf represents a distinct alphabet character and each inner node represents a distinct binary prefix of alphabet characters. The root is in layer 0. The bit vector of a node of layer i is the $(i + 1)$ th bits of all characters whose first i bit is the binary prefix of the node, the order of bits agrees with that of characters in string. For the root, its bit vector is the first bit of all characters of string, the order of these bits agrees with the order of characters in string.

For a character α in a string T , let $Huff(\alpha)$ be a Huffman code of α , $LH(\alpha)$ be the length of $Huff(\alpha)$, and $f_T(\alpha)$ be the frequency of α in T . By ordering the characters decreased by the length of their Huffman codes, an order of characters is available. We call this order the “decreasing Huffman order” of Σ according to T . To make the decreasing Huffman order consistent with the lexical order, we use a special optimal prefix code, namely “Canonical Huffman code”. That is, if $LH(\alpha) < LH(\beta)$, the codeword of α is lexically less than the codeword of β . Denote the canonical Huffman encoding of α by $CH(\alpha)$. Here, we use CH code to refer to the canonical Huffman code and CH tree the

Huffman tree corresponding to canonical Huffman code. Because the length of CH codeword of each character is equal to that of Huffman codeword, the length of CH encoded texts is equal to that of Huffman encoded texts. An example of CH tree is shown in Fig. 1.

In this section the array E is obtained from T according to the decreasing Huffman order other than the lexical order as in Section 4. We use \hat{E} to denote the canonical Huffman prefix encoding of E , that is, $\hat{E}[i] = CH(E[i])$, for $1 \leq i \leq n$.

Define a series of bit vectors of variable length: F^1, \dots, F^L , where L is the length of the longest canonical Huffman codeword in \hat{E} . First, F^1 is defined as follows:

$$F^1_i = \hat{E}[i]_1, \quad 1 \leq i \leq n$$

The length of bit vector F^2 is equal to the number of characters in E whose CH code’s length is greater than 1. If the length of CH code of any character is greater than 1, F^2 is defined by

$$F^2_i = \begin{cases} \hat{E}[\text{select}_0(F^1, i)]_2 & \text{for } 0 < i < \text{rank}_0(F^1) \\ & \text{and } \text{rank}_0(F^1) \neq 0 \\ \hat{E}[\text{select}_0(F^1, i)]_2 & \text{for } i = \text{rank}_0(F^1) \\ & \text{and } \text{rank}_0(F^1) \neq 0 \\ \hat{E}[\text{select}_1(F^1, i)]_2 & \text{for } \text{rank}_0(F^1) < i < n + 1 \\ & \text{and } \text{rank}_1(F^1) \neq 0 \end{cases}$$

If there exists a character which is encoded as 1, F^2 is defined by

$$F^2_i = \hat{E}[\text{select}_0(F^1, i)]_2, \quad 1 \leq i \leq \text{rank}_0(F^1)$$

The bit vector $F^k (1 < k \leq L)$ can be generated by the following procedure: First, order the positions in \hat{E} , on which the CH code’s length is not less than k , by the first $k - 1$ bits of each CH code on these positions. For positions on which the CH codes have the same first $k - 1$ bits, keep their order in \hat{E} . This step generates a series of positions:

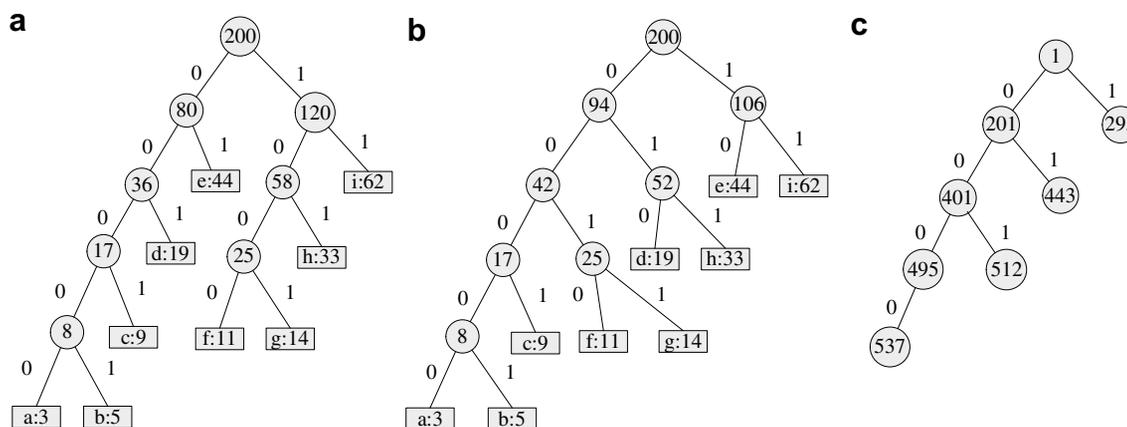


Fig. 1. Binary trees of Huffman code and canonical Huffman code (each leaf in tree (a) and (b) is labeled with a character and its frequency of occurrence). (a) The binary tree corresponding to a Huffman code; (b) the binary tree corresponding to a canonical Huffman code; (c) segment tree of (b) used in construction.

Select_b(E, count)

```

1:  s ← 1; e ← n; len ← n
2:  for i ← 1 to LH(b) do
3:    if bi = 1 then
4:      si+1 ← si + rank0(Fi[si .. ei])
5:    else
6:      ci+1 ← ci - rank1(Fi[si .. ei])
7:    end if
8:    Fi+1 ← Fi + len
9:    len ← len - LD[i]
10: end for
11:  c ← count
12: for i = 1 to LH(b) do
13:  c ← selectbi(Fi[si .. ei], c)
14: end for
15: return c

```

Denote s , e and c of each iteration in the running of the for loop of $rank_b(\mathbf{E}, end)$ by s_i, e_i and c_i , where i is the value of loop variable and $c_0 = end$, $\lambda = LH(b)$. The sequence of the computing of s_i, e_i and c_i in $rank$ is $c_1 = rank_{b_1}(F^1[s_1 \dots e_1], c_0)$, \dots , $c_{\lambda-1} = rank_{b_{\lambda-1}}(F^{\lambda-1}[s_{\lambda-1} \dots c_{\lambda-2}], c_{\lambda-2})$, $count = rank_{b_\lambda}(F^\lambda[s_\lambda \dots c_\lambda], c_{\lambda-1})$. The first for loop in lines 2–10 in function $select$ is to compute $rank_b(\mathbf{E})$, therefore $s'_i = s_i$, $e'_i = e_i$. Denote the value of c in each for loop in lines 12–14 of $select$ by c'_k (k is the value of loop variable) and the initial value of it by $c'_\lambda = count$, then $Select_b(\mathbf{E}, count) = c'_0$. According to the function $select$, the sequence of computing of c_i is $c'_{\lambda-1} = select_{b_\lambda}(F^\lambda[s_\lambda \dots c_\lambda], count)$, $c'_{\lambda-2} = select_{b_{\lambda-1}}(F^{\lambda-1}[s_{\lambda-1} \dots c_{\lambda-1}], c'_{\lambda-1})$, \dots , $c'_0 = select_{b_1}(F^1[s_1 \dots c_1], c'_1)$, where s'_i and e'_i are replaced with s_i and e_i . It is the reverse computing of $rank_b(\mathbf{E}, end)$. We have $c'_{\lambda-1} = c_{\lambda-1}$, $c'_i = c_i$ for $0 \leq i \leq \lambda$. If $E[end]=b$, $c'_0 = c_0$. Then $select_b(\mathbf{E}, count)=end$.

By a similar discussion of $rank$, $select_b(\mathbf{E}, end)$ can be calculated in $O(|\Sigma|)$ time in the worst case and in $O(H_0)$ time on average.

4.2. On-line linear construction of the canonical Huffman code based wavelet tree

In practice, $\mathbf{F} = \mathbf{F}^1, \dots, \mathbf{F}^L$ can be constructed in linear time, provided that the frequencies of characters occur in \mathbf{E} are known. In construction, each codeword of \widehat{E} is read one by one from $\widehat{E}[1]$ to $\widehat{E}[n]$, where \widehat{E} is the CH encoding of \mathbf{E} , and each bit of the codeword is processed from left to right. In the procedure, a position of \mathbf{F} is set according to an input bit. For $\widehat{E}[i]$, the k th bit, $1 \leq k \leq LH(E[i])$, of $\widehat{E}[i]$ is linked uniquely with a position x of \mathbf{F}^k , that is, $F_x^k = \widehat{E}[i]_k$. Function BP is used to represent this relation. $BP(i, k)$ returns the position x .

In construction, we use a binary tree to compute $BP(i, k)$. Consider the CH tree for \mathbf{E} , the tree has exactly $|\Sigma|$ leaves, one for each character of the alphabet, and exactly $|\Sigma| - 1$ internal nodes. Each leaf of tree is labeled with the character's frequency of occurrence and each internal node is labeled with the sum of frequencies of the leaves in its sub-

tree. Each segment of \mathbf{F} is corresponding to an internal node in this tree. Precisely, segment S_i^k corresponds to a node, say n_i^k , of depth k whose concatenation of path label from root to it is the binary representation of i , and the length of S_i^k is the label of the node. Then the start position of segment S_i^k , say $S(S_i^k)$, in \mathbf{F}^k is the sum of labels of the nodes whose depth is k and whose path is lexically less than i , plus 1 (see Fig. 1(c)). The start position of segment S_i^k in \mathbf{F} is $S(S_i^k)$ plus the sum of labels of the nodes whose depth is less than k . By replacing the label of each node with the start position in \mathbf{F} of each segment, and deleting the leaf nodes, we build the tree we need, namely "segment tree". The label of a node n is denoted by $CurTail(n)$. In practice, the tree can be stored in continuous memory and constructed on line in linear time on $|\Sigma|$. We augment the segment tree with auxiliary state \perp connected to eliminator ξ , such that $\xi a = \varepsilon$ of all characters $a \in \Sigma$. Therefore, $goto_{FT}(\perp, \alpha)$ equals $root = n_\varepsilon^1$ of segment tree for $\alpha \in \{0, 1\}$.

In the construction of \mathbf{F} , $\widehat{E}[1] = b_1 \dots b_{LH(E[1])}$ is input initially, and $BP(1, 1) = CurTail(n_\varepsilon^1) = 1$. Therefore, F_1^1 is set to $\widehat{E}[1]_1$, and $CurTail(n_\varepsilon^1)$ is increased by 1. For each depth k , let the current node be $n_{b_1 \dots b_k}^k$, and $BP(1, k)$ equals $CurTail(n_{b_1 \dots b_k}^k)$, then $F_{CurTail(n_{b_1 \dots b_k}^k)}^k$ should be set to $\widehat{E}[1]_k$, and $CurTail(n_{b_1 \dots b_k}^k)$ be increased by 1. The same procedure is used to process $\widehat{E}[i]$. When all the characters in \widehat{E} are processed, $\mathbf{F}^1, \mathbf{F}^2, \dots, \mathbf{F}^L$ are constructed successfully. The algorithm is given below.

Build_Index(E, FT)

```

1:  build segment tree FT of E; s ← 1; e ← n
2:  for i = 1 to n do
3:    c ← ⊥
4:    α ← E[i]
5:    for k = 1 to LH(E[i]) do
6:      c ← goto_FT(c, αk)
7:      F[CurTail(c)] ← αk+1
8:      CurTail(c) ← CurTail(c) + 1
9:    end for
10: end for
11: return F

```

5. Experiments

We implement the canonical Huffman code based wavelet tree, Huffman code based wavelet tree and wavelet tree. And we used them to implement the succinct suffix automaton as full-text index. To compare fairly, all three structures were represented in space-economical ways. The tests ran on a Pentium processor at 2.4 GHz, 2 GB of RAM. The compiler is Microsoft Visual C++ 6.0. Chinese texts were from two Chinese classic novels and essays of Steven Cheung. Programs were executable files of Power-Point and Spsswin program. These sequences are all read word by word (16 bits). In the test program, the address took 4 bytes.

Table 1
Size statistics of different compact indices

Source	Σ	Length (byte)	Index length (byte)		
			CHI	HI	WT
Program 1	63,759	6,146,760	11,961,456	12,059,749	16,565,164
Program 2	45,154	3,969,076	5,948,909	6,047,201	10,806,470
Chinese 1	4804	2,769,718	4,278,707	4,377,000	7,603,526
Chinese 2	2390	686,436	1,097,127	1,195,421	1,962,659

Table 1 compares the size of canonical Huffman code based index (CHI), Huffman code based index (HI) and wavelet tree based index (WT) for different sequences.

The canonical Huffman code based index takes about 1.5 times the text size, which is better than the other two indices. The memory for representing the shape of wavelet tree is not needed in CHI. This part of memory is related to the size of alphabet. In case of very large alphabets, for example a 32 bits word, even the RAM cannot hold it. But canonical Huffman code based index can work well in such cases without extra data structures.

6. Conclusions

We have presented a canonical Huffman code based wavelet tree structure. And we implement the suffix automaton in a space-economical way. The advantages of this structure over Huffman code based wavelet tree are that the tree structure need not store and operations on it are simple and efficient. We have also proposed a fast linear on-line construction algorithm for it. Compared with other indexes, it is better when applied to the text on large alphabet.

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