# Background Paper Presentation

Blanchette, J.C.: *Proof pearl: Mechanizing the textbook proof of Huffman's algorithm.* J. Autom. Reason. 2009

- Huffman Coding
- Huffman's Algorithm
- Proof of Optimality
- Conclusion
- Our Project

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### **Huffman Coding**

- Code,  $C = \{a \rightarrow 0, b \rightarrow 10, c \rightarrow 110, d \rightarrow 111\}$
- Full binary tree
- Minimize encoded string length
- Compression

| 0 1   |
|---|
|   |
| b   |
| $\left  \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ c \\ d \end{array} \right $ |

### Huffman's Algorithm

- Fixed-length vs variable-length
- Optimal solution
- Example for string "abacabad"
- Input

• Alphabet, 
$$A = (a_1, a_2, ..., a_n)$$



- Weights,  $W = (w_1, w_2, ..., w_n)$ , where  $w_i$  is the weight of  $a_i$
- **Output** : Code,  $C = (c_1, c_2, ..., c_n)$ , where  $c_i$  is the codeword for  $a_i$
- Minimal sum of  $w_i \cdot \text{length}(c_i)$

### Huffman's Algorithm Example





### **Functional Implementation**

- Datatypes
  - $\circ$  Leaf a w
  - InnerNode w  $t_1 t_2$
- Functions
  - cachedWeight \_
  - $\circ$  uniteTrees t<sub>1</sub> t<sub>2</sub>
  - insortTree t f

- Huffman's algorithm
  - huffman  $(t_1 t_2 t_3) =$

**huffman(insortTree(uniteTrees** t<sub>1</sub> t<sub>2</sub>) ts)

 $\circ$  huffman [t] = t



### **Basic auxiliary functions**

- functions defined on trees
- mostly recursive
- goal  $\rightarrow$  define *optimality* and lemmas to prove it



#### alphabet (Leaf w a) = $\{a\}$ ; alphabet (InnerNode w $t_1 t_2$ ) = alphabet $t_1 \cup$ alphabet $t_2$ .

• consistent:

consistent (Leaf w a) = True  $consistent (InnerNode w t_1 t_2) = (consistent t_1 \land consistent t_2$  $\land alphabet t_1 \cap alphabet t_2 = \emptyset).$  • *depth:* 

depth (Leaf w b) a = 0 $depth (InnerNode w t_1 t_2) a = (if a \in alphabet t_1 then depth t_1 a + 1)$  $else if a \in alphabet t_2 then depth t_2 a + 1$ else 0).

• height:

height (Leaf w a) = 0height (InnerNode w t<sub>1</sub> t<sub>2</sub>) = max (height t<sub>1</sub>) (height t<sub>2</sub>) + 1.



### freq (Leaf w b) a = (if a = b then w else 0)freq (InnerNode w $t_1 t_2$ ) $a = \text{freq } t_1 a + \text{freq } t_2 a$ .



weight (Leaf w a) = wweight (InnerNode  $w t_1 t_2$ ) = weight  $t_1$  + weight  $t_2$ . cost (Leaf w a) = 0 $cost (InnerNode w t_1 t_2) = weight t_1 + cost t_1 + weight t_2 + cost t_2.$ 

• optimum:

 $optimum t = (\forall u. \ consistent \ u \longrightarrow alphabet \ t = alphabet \ u \longrightarrow freq \ t = freq \ u$  $\longrightarrow cost \ t \le cost \ u).$ 

#### • *swapFourSyms*:

 $swapFourSyms \ t \ a \ b \ c \ d = (if \ a = d \ then \ swapSyms \ t \ b \ c$ else if  $b = c \ then \ swapSyms \ t \ a \ d$ else  $swapSyms \ (swapSyms \ t \ a \ c) \ b \ d).$ 

#### Exchange symbols so that a & b occupies the positions of c & d

 $swapLeaves (Leaf w_c c) w_a a w_b b = (if c = a then Leaf w_b b)$   $else if c = b then Leaf w_a a$   $else Leaf w_c c)$   $swapLeaves (InnerNode w t_1 t_2) w_a a w_b b = InnerNode w (swapLeaves t_1 w_a a w_b b)$  $(swapLeaves t_2 w_a a w_b b)$ 

swapSyms t a b = swapLeaves t (freq t a) a (freq t b) b

#### • mergeSiblings:

 $mergeSibling (Leaf w_b b) a = Leaf w_b b$   $mergeSibling (InnerNode w (Leaf w_b b) \\ (Leaf w_c c)) a = \begin{pmatrix} \text{if } a = b \lor a = c \text{ then } Leaf (w_b + w_c) a \\ \text{else } InnerNode w (Leaf w_b b) (Leaf w_c c)) \end{pmatrix}$   $mergeSibling (InnerNode w t_1 t_2) a = InnerNode w (mergeSibling t_1 a) \\ (mergeSibling t_2 a).$ 



#### • *splitLeaf:*

 $splitLeaf (Leaf w_c c) w_a a w_b b = (if c = a then InnerNode w_c (Leaf w_a a) (Leaf w_b b))$ 

else  $Leaf w_c c$ )  $splitLeaf (InnerNode w t_1 t_2) w_a a w_b b = InnerNode w (splitLeaf t_1 w_a a w_b b)$  $(splitLeaf t_2 w_a a w_b b).$ 

Normally, 
$$w_a + w_b = freq(t, a)$$



### Lemma 8.5 - Leaf Split Optimality

*If consistent t, optimum t, a*  $\in$  *alphabet t, b*  $\notin$  *alphabet t, freq t a* =  $w_a + w_b$ ,  $\forall c \in$  *alphabet t.*  $w_a \leq$  *freq t c*  $\land w_b \leq$  *freq t c, and*  $w_a \leq$   $w_b$ , *then optimum (splitLeaf t w<sub>a</sub> a w<sub>b</sub> b).* 

### **Intermediary lemmas - intuition**

• **Lemma 8.4:** If *a* and *b* are the minima of the tree:



• Lemma 7.2: merging two siblings **a** and **b** decreases the cost by  $w_a + w_b$ 

### Lemma 8.5 - Leaf Split Optimality - Proof

- assume  $\forall u, cost(t) \leq cost(u)$
- *height(t) > 0*: exists *c* and *d*, two sibling symbols at the bottom of *u*.
- swap *c* and *d* with *a* and *b*, minima of *u*.

We obtain a new tree **v**.



|        | $cost (splitLeaf t a w_a b w_b)$                               |               |
|--------|--|---------------|
| =      |  | by Lemma 7.3  |
|        | $cost t + w_a + w_b$   |               |
| $\leq$ | <i>v</i>   | by assumption |
|        | $cost (mergeSibling (swapFourSyms u a b c d) a) < + w_a + w_b$ |               |
| =      |  | by Lemma 7.2  |
|        | cost (swapFourSyms u a b c d)                                  |               |
| $\leq$ |  | by Lemma 8.4  |
|        | cost u.  |               |
|        |  |               |

### Leaf Split Commutativity

**Lemma 8.6** (Leaf Split Commutativity) *If* consistent<sub>F</sub> ts,  $ts \neq []$ , and  $a \in alphabet_F$  ts, then splitLeaf (huffman ts)  $w_a a w_b b = huffman$  (splitLeaf<sub>F</sub> ts  $w_a a w_b b$ ).



### **Huffman Optimality**

**Theorem 8.7** (Huffman Optimality) If consistent<sub>F</sub> ts, height<sub>F</sub> ts = 0, sortedByWeight ts, and ts  $\neq$  [], then optimum (huffman ts).



### Conclusion

- They formalized and demonstrated the textbook's proof of the Huffman algorithm
- They found that custom induction rules simplify a lot the proof using Isabelle
- They defined Lemmas that were not seen in the literature
  - e.g. each step of the algorithm preserves this invariant:
    - the nodes of the forest are ordered by weight from left to right, bottom to top:
    - They could not prove the preservation though



## Our project

- They proposed to then extend the proof's scope to the applications of the algorithm.
- That is what we will do:

We will implement a pair of *encode/decode* functions using the tree produced by the Huffman's algorithm and prove that they are bijectives. i.e. that

decode(encode(x)) = x