#### EECS 4101-5101 Advanced Data Structures



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Topic 7: String Data Structures York University

Picture is from the cover of the textbook CLRS.



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  - Explain dictionary abstract data types for maintaining a collection of strings.
  - Describe basic data structures (e.g., tries, Patricia trees) for maintaining dictionaries of strings and explain how search, insert, delete operations are answered using them.
  - Explain Suffix trees and their application in answering pattern matching queries.



**Fries** 

- Trie: A dictionary for binary strings
  - Items (keys) are stored only in the leaf nodes
  - A left child corresponds to a 0 bit
  - A right child corresponds to a 1 bit
- Keys can have different number of bits
- prefix-free: no key is a prefix of another key
- A prefix of a string S[0..n-1]: a substring S[0..i] of S for some  $0 \le i \le n-1$



• Example: A trie for  $S = \{00, 110, 111, 01010, 01011\}$ 





- Search: start from the root, follow the relevant path using bitwise comparisons
- Example: Search(01010)





- Search: start from the root, follow the relevant path using bitwise comparisons
- Example: Search(01010) successful





- Search: start from the root, follow the relevant path using bitwise comparisons
- Example: Search(0100)





- Search: start from the root, follow the relevant path using bitwise comparisons
- Example: Search(0100) unsuccessful





#### **Tries:** Insert

- Insert(x): First search for x
  - (a) If we finish at a leaf with key x, then x is already in trie: do nothing (e.g., when x = 110).
  - (b) If we finish at a leaf with a key  $y \neq x$ , then y is a prefix of x: not possible because our keys are prefix-free (e.g., x = 1100)
  - (c) If we finish at an internal node and there are no extra bits: not possible because our keys are prefix-free (e.g., when x = 11)
  - $(d)\;\;$  If we finish at an internal node and there are extra bits: expand trie by adding necessary nodes that correspond to extra bits





- Insert(x): First search for x
- Case (d) example: Insert(01000)





- Insert(x): First search for x
- Search(01000) unsuccessful Extra bits: 00





• Insert(x): First search for x





#### • Delete(x)

- Search for x to find the leaf  $v_x$
- Delete  $v_{\rm x}$  and all ancestors of  $v_{\rm x}$  until we reach an ancestor that has two children



- Delete(x)
- Example: Delete(01010)





- Delete(x)
- Example: Delete(01010)
- Search(01010) successful





- Delete(x)
- Example: Delete(01010)





Time Complexity of all operations (search, insert, delete) is Θ(|x|)
 |x|: length of binary string x, i.e., the number of bits in x



# Compressed Tries (Patricia Tries)

- **Patricia**: Practical Algorithm To Retrieve Information Coded in Alphanumeric (Introduced by Morrison (1968))
- Reduces storage requirement: eliminate nodes with only one child
- Every path of one-child nodes is compressed to a single edge
- Each node stores an index indicating the next bit to be tested during a search
- A compressed trie storing n keys always has n 1 internal (non-leaf) nodes



# Compressed Tries (Patricia Tries)

- Each node stores an index indicating the next bit to be tested during a search
- Example: A trie





# Compressed Tries (Patricia Tries)

- Each node stores an index indicating the next bit to be tested during a search
- Equivalent compressed trie



# 

# **Compressed Tries: Operations**

#### • Search(x):

- Follow the proper path from the root down in the tree to a leaf
- If search ends in an internal node, it is unsuccessful
  - E.g., search for **011**: we search index 0, go to the left, index 1, go to the right, and then there is no index 4; terminate!





## **Compressed Tries: Operations**

- Search(x):
  - Follow the proper path from the root down in the tree to a leaf
  - If search ends in an internal node, it is unsuccessful
    - E.g., search for **011**: we search index 0, go to the left, index 1, go to the right, and then there is no index 4; terminate!
  - In search ends in a leaf, we need to check again if the key stored at the leaf is indeed x.
    - e.g., search for 01110; we end up in a leaf but the search is not successful!



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## **Compressed Tries: Operations**

• Delete(x):

- Perform Search(x) to find x in a leaf
  If the search was successful, delete the leaf and its parent
  - E g , delete 01010 from the trie



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• Delete(x):

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## **Compressed Tries: Operations**

#### Insert(x):

- Perform Search(x); If the search ends at a leaf L with key y, compare x and y to find the first index i where they disagree.
  - Then create a new node N with index i.
  - Insert N along the path from the root to L so that the parent of N has index < i and one child of N is either L or an existing node on the path from the root to L that has index > i.
  - The other child of N will be a new leaf node containing x.
  - E.g., insert 011111: create N with index 2, insert it between nodes with indices 1 and 4 on the path to the leaf





## **Compressed Tries: Operations**

#### Insert(x):

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  - The other child of *N* will be a new leaf node containing *x*.
  - E.g., insert 011111: create N with index 2, insert it between nodes with indices 1 and 4 on the path to the leaf



Tries

## **Compressed Tries: Operations**

- Insert(x):
  - If the search ends at an internal node, we find the key corresponding to that internal node and proceed in a similar way to the previous case.
    - E.g., insert 0100: create N with index 3, insert it between nodes with indices 1 and 4 on the path to the leaf



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#### **Compressed Tries: Operations**

- Insert(x):
  - If the search ends at an internal node, we find the key corresponding to that internal node and proceed in a similar way to the previous case.
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- $\bullet\,$  To represent Strings over any fixed alphabet  $\Sigma\,$
- Any node will have at most  $|\Sigma|$  children
- Example: A trie holding strings {bear, bell, ben, soul, soup}





## **Multiway Tries**

- Allow strings that are prefixes of other strings: Append a special end-of-word character, say \$, to all keys
- Example: A trie holding strings {bear, bell, be, so, soul, soup}





# Multiway Tries

• Compressed multi-way tries

Tries

 Example: A compressed trie holding strings {bear, bell, be, so, soul, soup}



## Pattern Matching

- Search for a the first occurrence of a **pattern** *P* in a large body of **text** *T*.
  - Example:

- If *P* does not occur in *T*, return FAIL
- Applications:
  - Information Retrieval (text editors, search engines)
  - Bioinformatics
  - Data Mining



- A suffix of T: a substring T[i..n-1] of T for some  $0 \le i \le n-1$ 
  - Build a compressed trie that stores all suffixes of text T
  - Insert suffixes in decreasing order of length
  - If a suffix is a prefix of another suffix, we do not insert it
  - Store two indexes I, r on each node v (both internal nodes and leaves) where node v corresponds to substring T[1..r]



## Suffix Trees: Pattern Matching

To search for pattern P of length m:

- Similar to Search in compressed trie with the difference that we are looking for a prefix match rather than a complete match
  - If we reach a leaf with a corresponding string length less than *m*, then search is unsuccessful (e.g., search for "abana")
  - Otherwise, we reach a node v (leaf or internal) with a corresponding string length of at least m. Then it suffices to check the first m characters of that string to see if there indeed is a match (e.g., search for "anab")





# String Data Structures Summary

• If you need to store a dictionary of multiple strings, use a compressed Patricia tree for better search, insert, delete time.



# String Data Structures Summary

- If you need to store a dictionary of multiple strings, use a compressed Patricia tree for better search, insert, delete time.
- If you need to store a text T to support pattern-matching queries, maintain a Suffix tree of T.