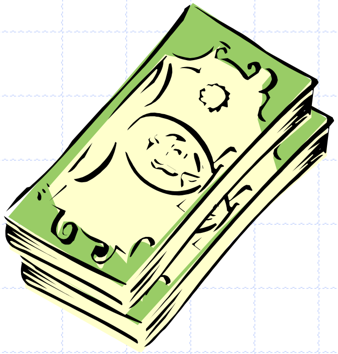
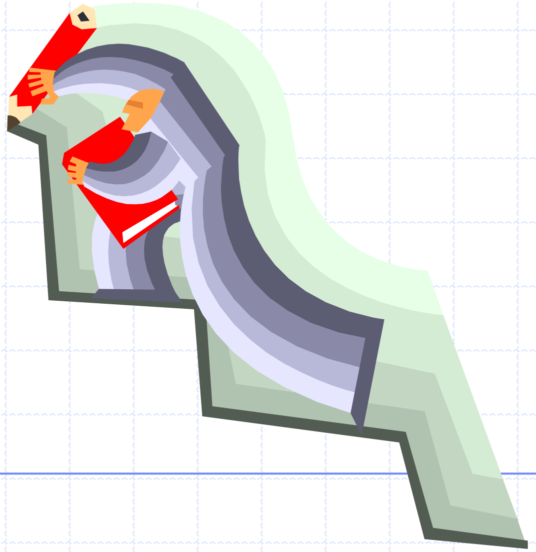
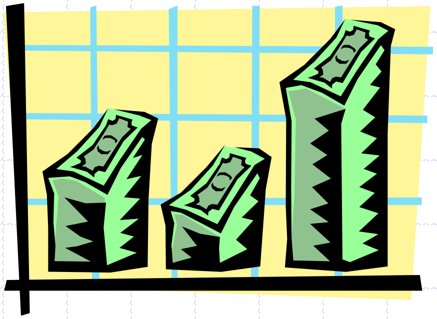
The Greedy Method, Text Compression, and Tries

Sections 12.4 and 12.5





The Greedy Method Technique



- **The greedy method** is a general algorithm design paradigm, built on the following elements:
  - **configurations**: different choices, collections, or values to find
  - **objective function**: a score assigned to configurations, which we want to either maximize or minimize
- It works best when applied to problems with the **greedy-choice** property:
  - a globally-optimal solution can always be found by a series of local improvements from a starting configuration.

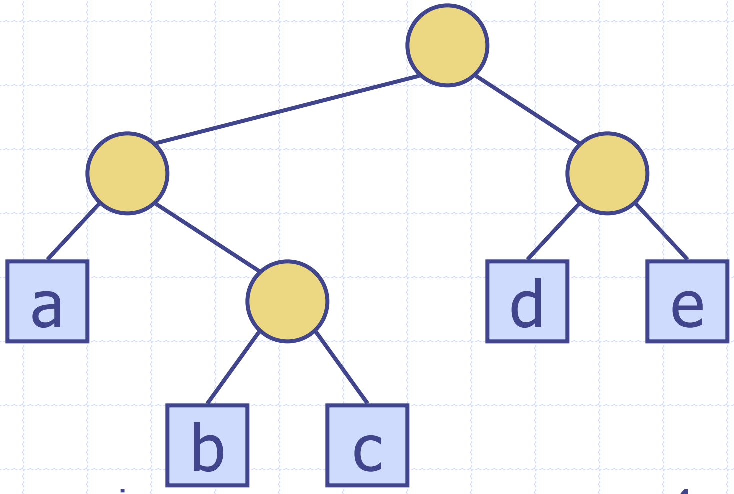
Text Compression

- Given a string X, efficiently encode X into a smaller string Y
  - Saves memory and/or bandwidth
- A good approach: **Huffman encoding**
  - Compute frequency f(c) for each character c.
  - Encode high-frequency characters with short code words
  - No code word is a prefix for another code
  - Use an optimal encoding tree to determine the code words

Encoding Tree Example

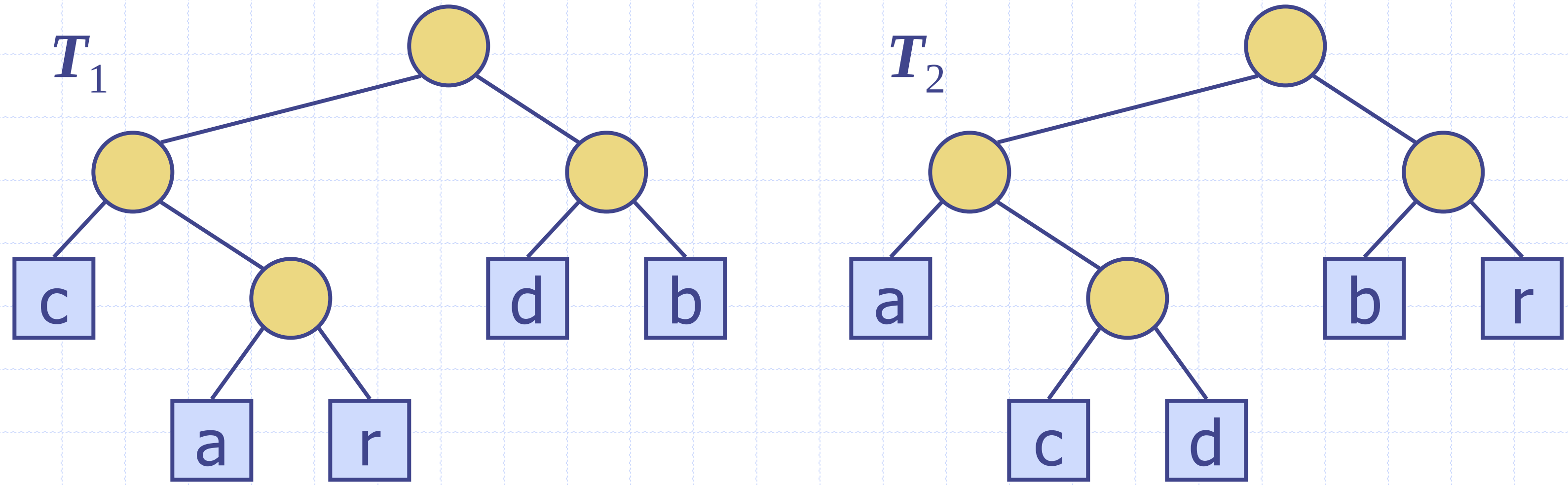
- A **code** is a mapping of each character of an alphabet to a binary code-word
- A **prefix code** is a binary code such that no code-word is the prefix of another code-word
- An **encoding tree** represents a prefix code
  - Each external node stores a character
  - The code word of a character is given by the path from the root to the external node storing the character (0 for a left child and 1 for a right child)

00	010	011	10	11
a	b	c	d	e



Encoding Tree Optimization

- Given a text string X, we want to find a prefix code for the characters of X that yields a small encoding for X
  - Frequent characters should have short code-words
  - Rare characters should have long code-words
- Example
  - X = abracadabra
  - T_1 encodes X into 29 bits
  - T_2 encodes X into 24 bits



Huffman's Algorithm

- Given a string X, Huffman's algorithm construct a prefix code the minimizes the size of the encoding of X
- It runs in time $O(n + d \log d)$, where n is the size of X and d is the number of distinct characters of X
- A heap-based priority queue is used as an auxiliary structure

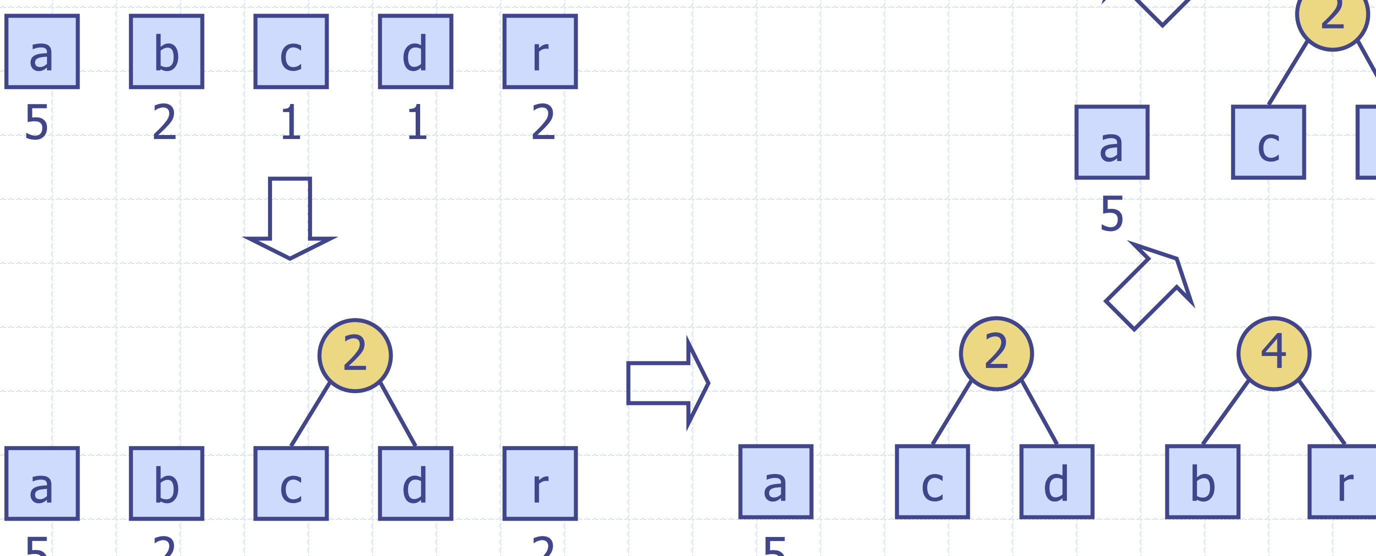
Algorithm *HuffmanEncoding*(X)
  Input string X of size n
  Output optimal encoding tree for X
  $C \leftarrow$ *distinctCharacters*(X)
  computeFrequencies(C, X)
  $Q \leftarrow$ new empty heap
  for all $c \in C$
    $T \leftarrow$ new single-node tree storing c
    Q.insert(*getFrequency*(c), T)
  while *Q.size*() > 1
    $f_1 \leftarrow$ *Q.minKey*()
    $T_1 \leftarrow$ *Q.removeMin*()
    $f_2 \leftarrow$ *Q.minKey*()
    $T_2 \leftarrow$ *Q.removeMin*()
    $T \leftarrow$ *join*(T_1, T_2)
    Q.insert($f_1 + f_2$, T)
  return *Q.removeMin*()

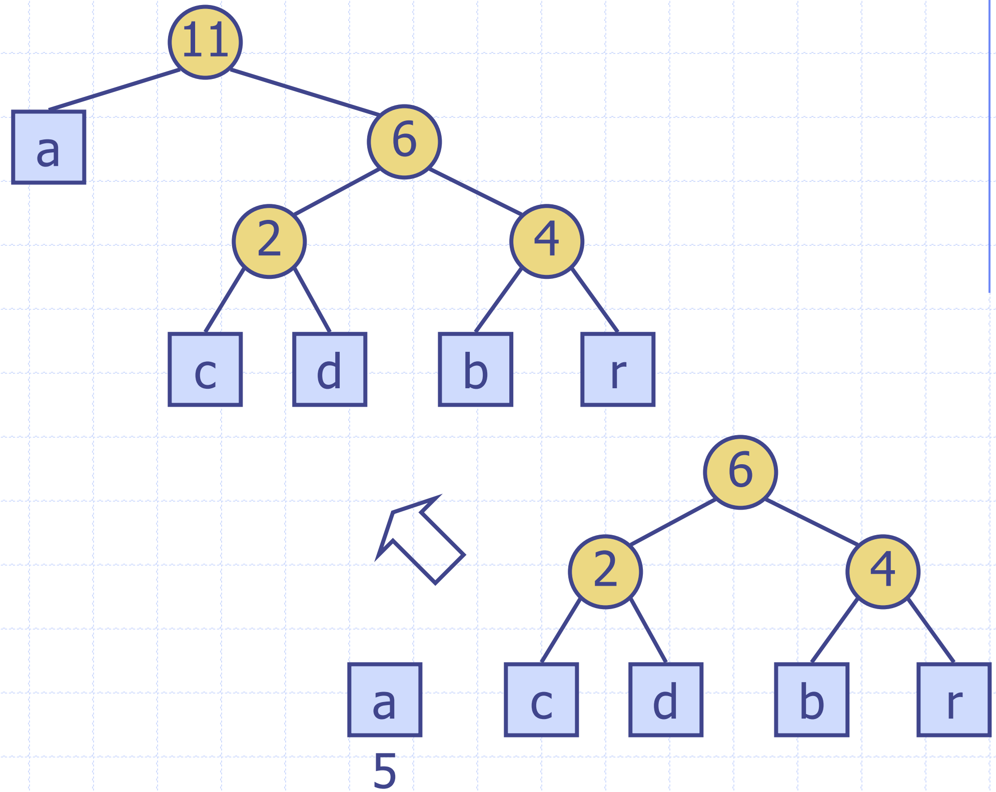
Example

X = abracadabra

Frequencies

a	b	c	d	r
5	2	1	1	2

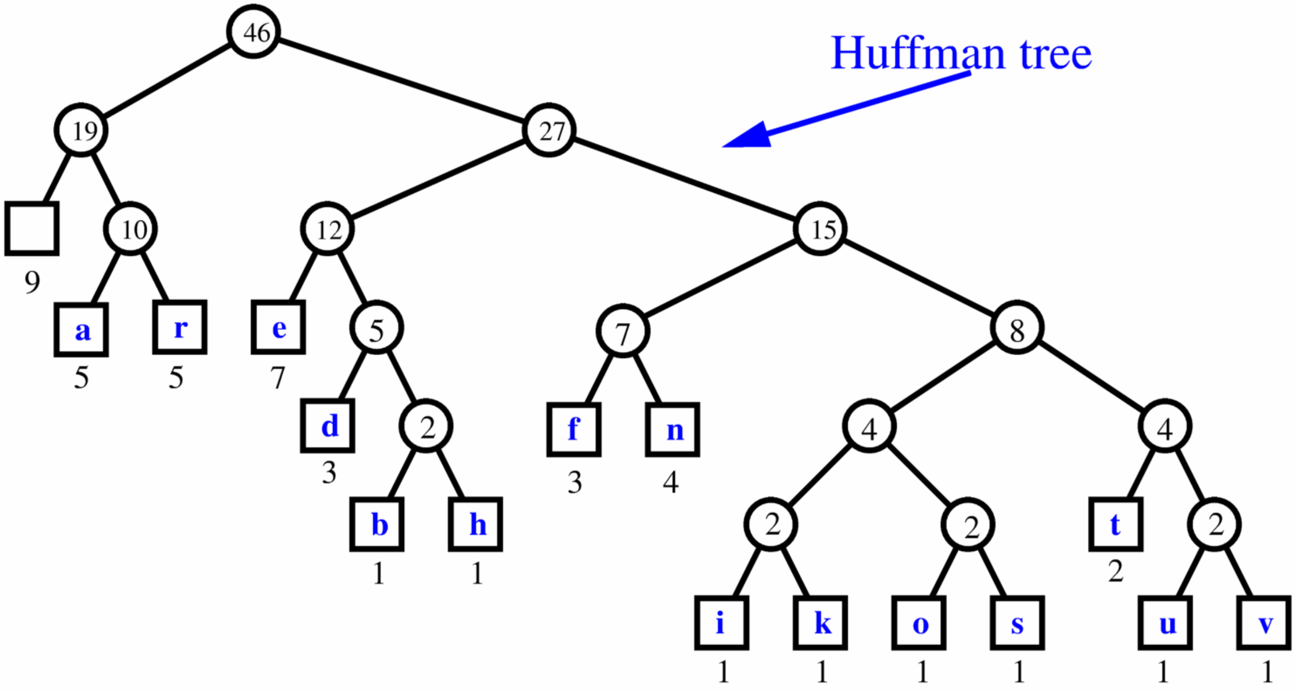




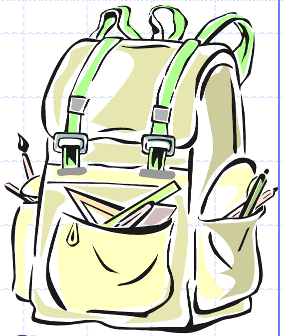
Extended Huffman Tree Example

String: **a fast runner need never be afraid of the dark**

Character		a	b	d	e	f	h	i	k	n	o	r	s	t	u	v
Frequency	9	5	1	3	7	3	1	1	1	4	1	5	1	2	1	1



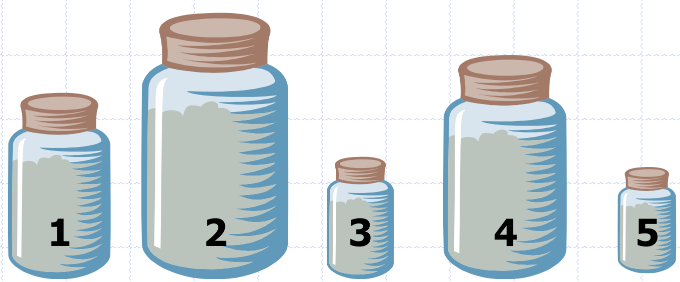
The Fractional Knapsack Problem (not in book)



- Given: A set S of n items, with each item i having
  - b_i - a positive benefit
  - w_i - a positive weight
- Goal: Choose items with maximum total benefit but with weight at most W.
- If we are allowed to take fractional amounts, then this is the **fractional knapsack problem**.
  - In this case, we let $x_i \leq w_i$ denote the amount we take of item i
  - Objective: maximize $$\sum_{i \in S} b_i (x_i / w_i)$$
  - Constraint: $$\sum_{i \in S} x_i \leq W$$

Example

- Given: A set S of n items, with each item i having
  - b_i - a positive benefit
  - w_i - a positive weight
- Goal: Choose items with maximum total benefit but with weight at most W.



Items:	1	2	3	4	5
Weight:	4 ml	8 ml	2 ml	6 ml	1 ml
Benefit:	$12	$32	$40	$30	$50
Value: ($ per ml)	3	4	20	5	50

"knapsack"

10 ml

Solution:
- 1 ml of 5
- 2 ml of 3
- 6 ml of 4
- 1 ml of 2

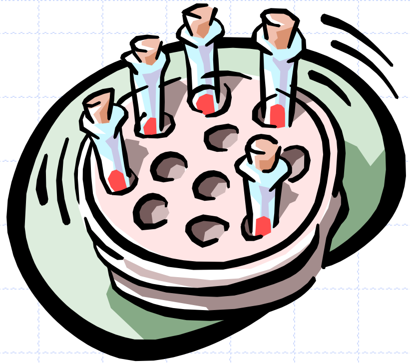
The Fractional Knapsack Algorithm

- Greedy choice: Keep taking item with highest value (benefit to weight ratio)
  - Since $\sum_{i \in S} b_i (x_i / w_i) = \sum_{i \in S} (b_i / w_i) x_i$
  - Run time: O(n log n). Why?
- Correctness: Suppose there is a better solution
  - there is an item i with higher value than a chosen item j, but $x_i < w_i$, $x_j > 0$ and $v_i < v_j$
  - If we substitute some i with j, we get a better solution
  - How much of i: $\min\{w_i - x_i, x_j\}$
  - Thus, there is no better solution than the greedy one

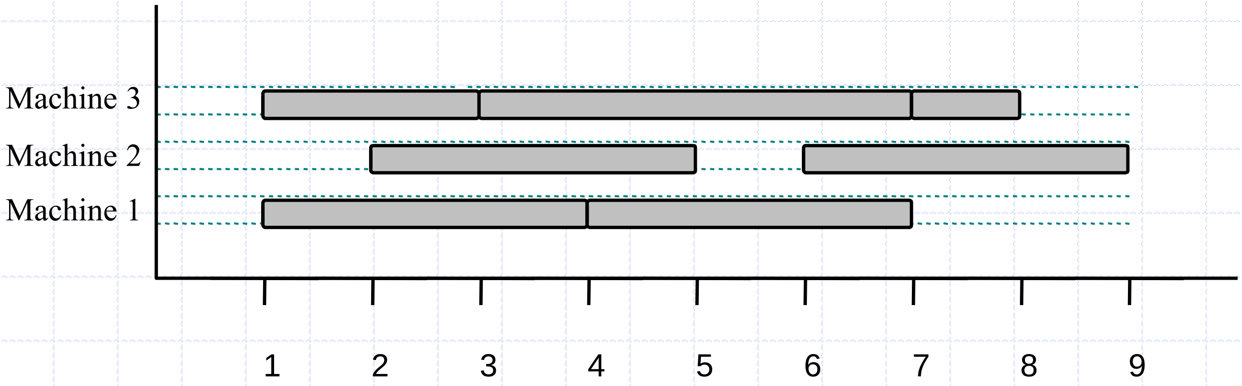
Algorithm *fractionalKnapsack*(*S*, *W*)
    Input: set *S* of items w/ benefit b_i and weight w_i; max. weight W
    Output: amount x_i of each item i to maximize benefit w/ weight at most W

```
for each item i in S
    x_i ← 0
    v_i ← b_i / w_i          {value}
w ← 0                        {total weight}
while w < W
    remove item i w/ highest v_i
    x_i ← min{w_i , W - w}
    w ← w + min{w_i , W - w}
```

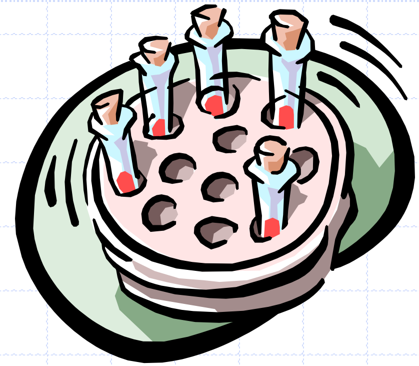
Task Scheduling (not in book)



- Given: a set T of n tasks, each having:
  - A start time, s_i
  - A finish time, f_i (where $s_i < f_i$)
- Goal: Perform all the tasks using a minimum number of "machines."



Task Scheduling Algorithm



- Greedy choice: consider tasks by their start time and use as few machines as possible with this order.
  - Run time: O(n log n). Why?
- Correctness: Suppose there is a better schedule.
  - We can use k-1 machines
  - The algorithm uses k
  - Let i be first task scheduled on machine k
  - Task i must conflict with k-1 other tasks
  - But that means there is no non-conflicting schedule using k-1 machines

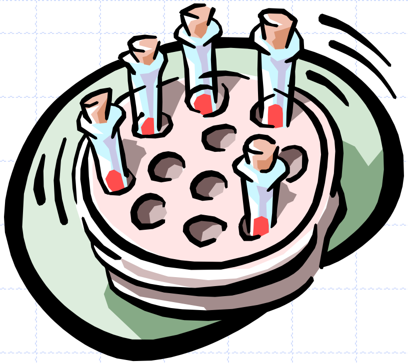
Algorithm ***taskSchedule*(*T*)**

Input: set T of tasks w/ start time s_i and finish time f_i

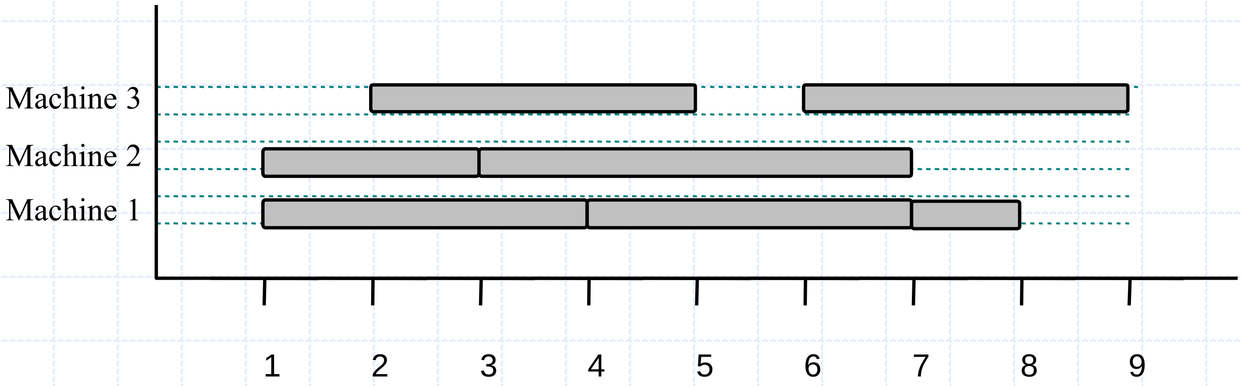
Output: non-conflicting schedule with minimum number of machines

```
m ← 0                {no. of machines}
while T is not empty
    remove task i w/ smallest s_i
    if there's a machine j for i then
        schedule i on machine j
    else
        m ← m + 1
        schedule i on machine m
```

Example



- Given: a set T of n tasks, each having:
  - A start time, s_i
  - A finish time, f_i (where $s_i < f_i$)
  - [1,4], [1,3], [2,5], [3,7], [4,7], [6,9], [7,8] (ordered by start)
- Goal: Perform all tasks on min. number of machines



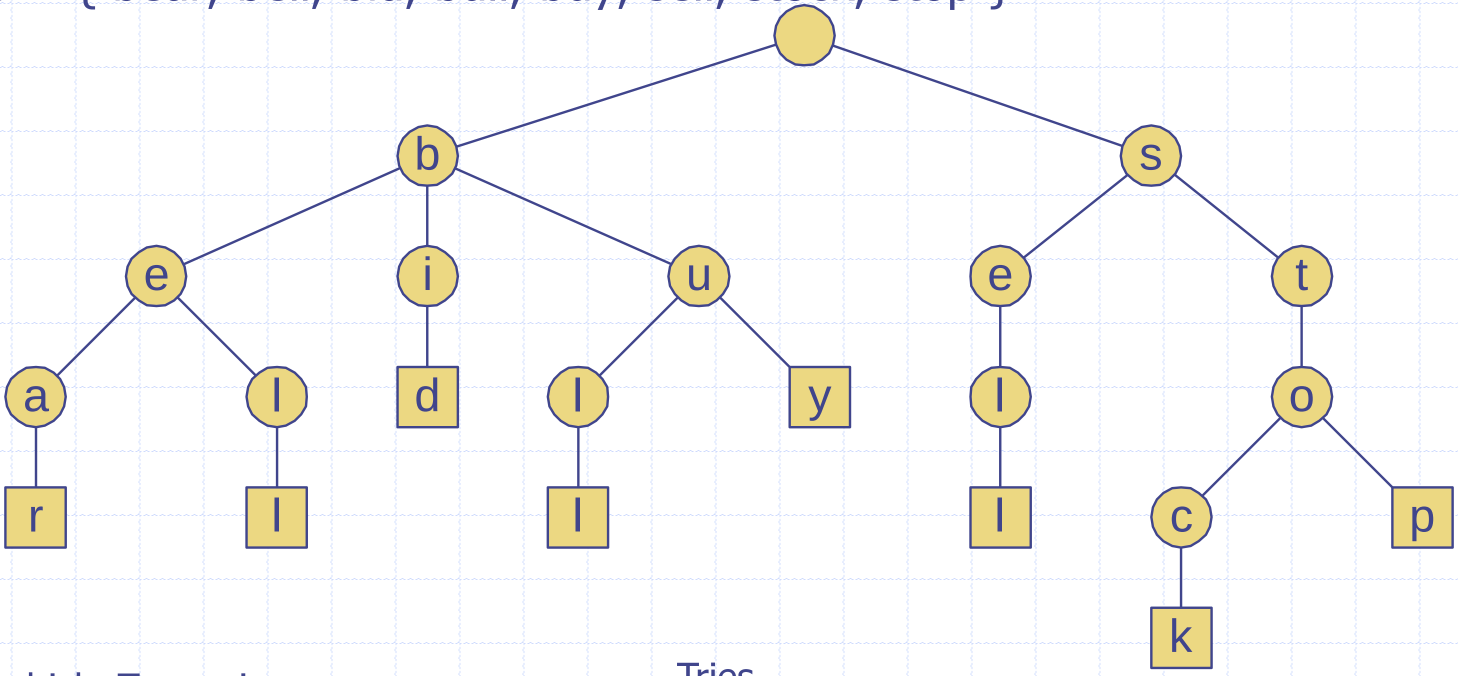
Preprocessing Strings

- Preprocessing the pattern speeds up pattern matching queries
  - After preprocessing the pattern, KMP's algorithm performs pattern matching in time proportional to the text size
- If the text is large, immutable and searched for often (e.g., works by Shakespeare), we may want to preprocess the text instead of the pattern
- A trie is a compact data structure for representing a set of strings, such as all the words in a text
  - A trie supports pattern matching queries in time proportional to the pattern size

Standard Tries

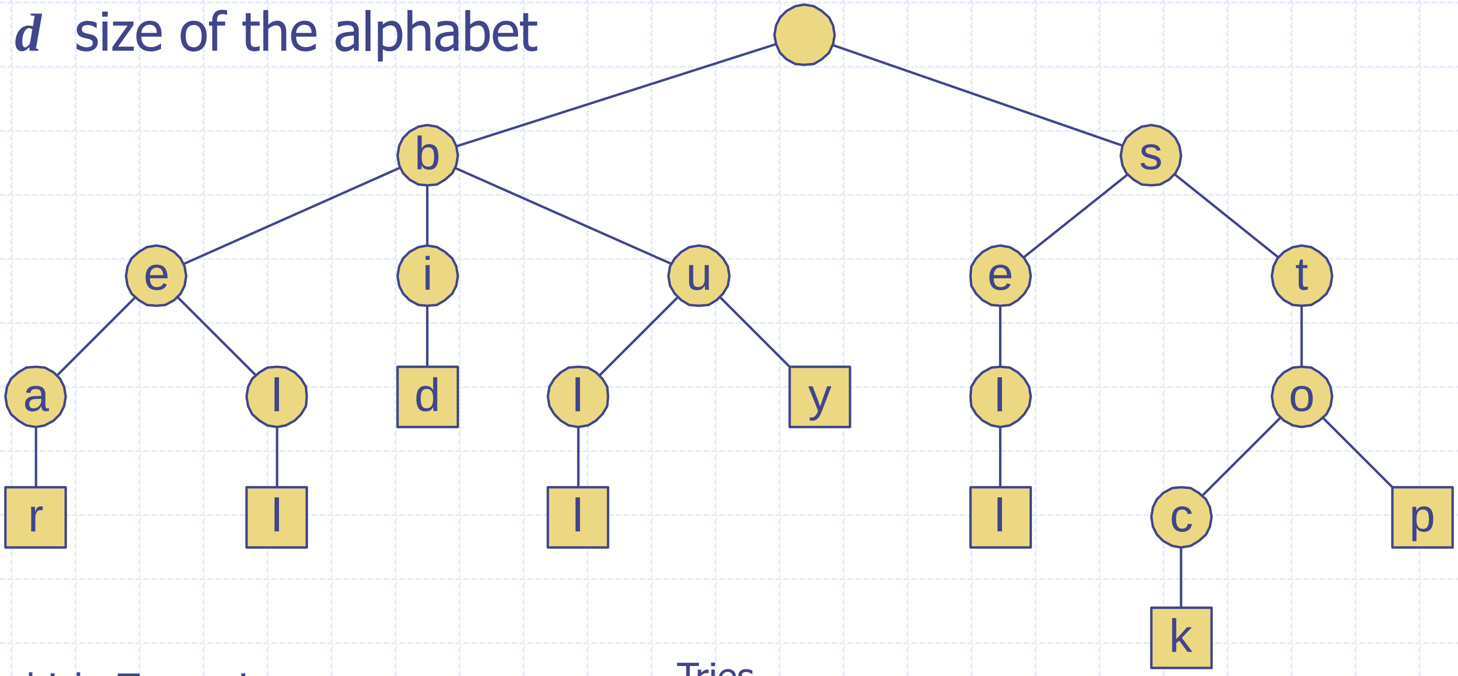
- The standard trie for a set of strings S is an ordered tree such that:
  - Each node but the root is labeled with a character
  - The children of a node are alphabetically ordered
  - The paths from the external nodes to the root yield the strings of S
- Example: standard trie for the set of strings

  S = { bear, bell, bid, bull, buy, sell, stock, stop }



Analysis of Standard Tries

- A standard trie uses $O(n)$ space and supports searches, insertions and deletions in time $O(dm)$, where:
  - n total size of the strings in S
  - m size of the string parameter of the operation
  - d size of the alphabet



Word Matching with a Trie

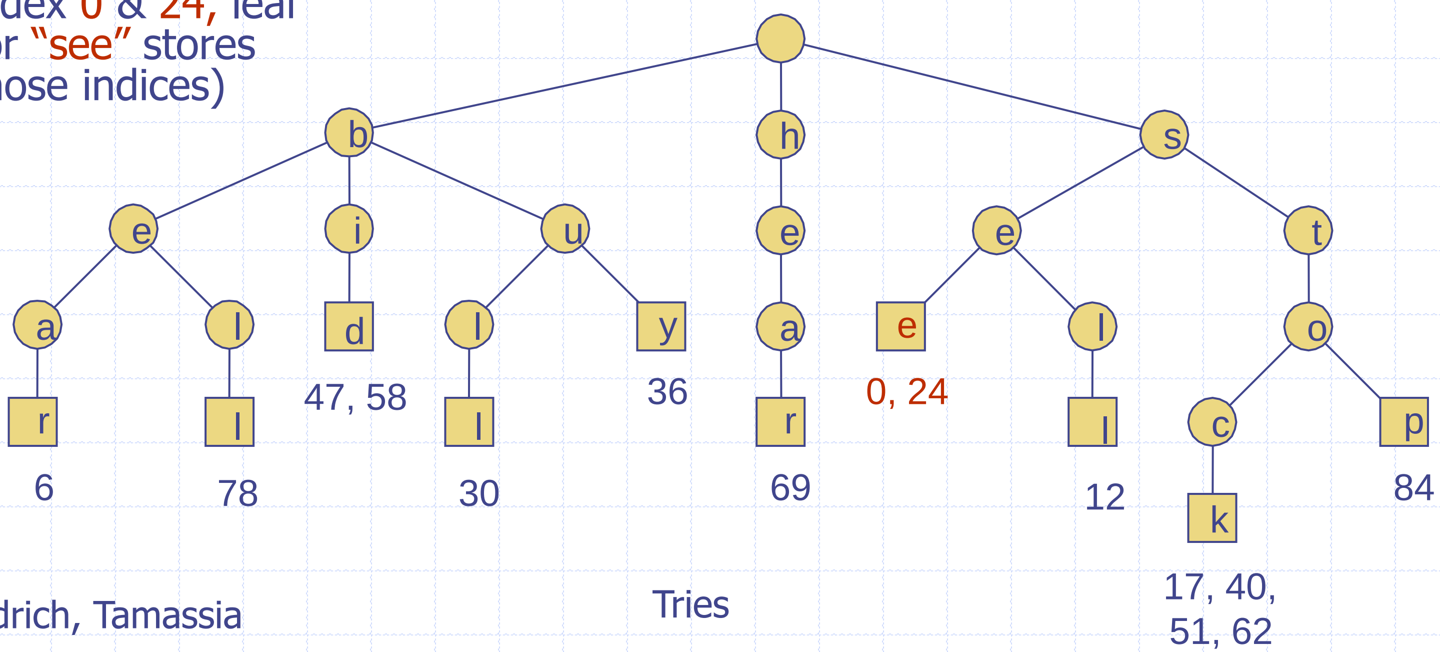
- insert the words of the text into trie
- Each leaf is associated w/ one particular word
- leaf stores indices where associated word begins ("see" starts at index 0 & 24, leaf for "see" stores those indices)

s	e	e		a		b	e	a	r	?		s	e	l	l		s	t	o	c	k	!	
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23

s	e	e		a		b	u	l	l	?		b	u	y		s	t	o	c	k	!	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46

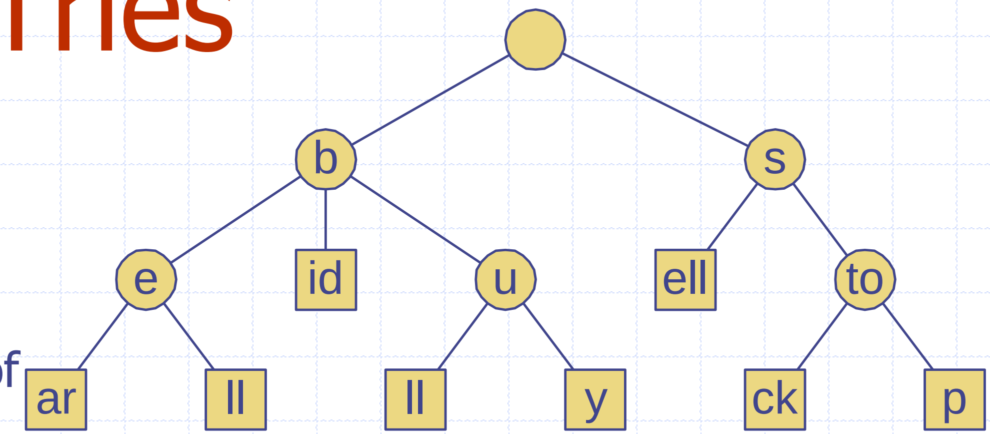
b	i	d		s	t	o	c	k	!		b	i	d		s	t	o	c	k	!	
47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68

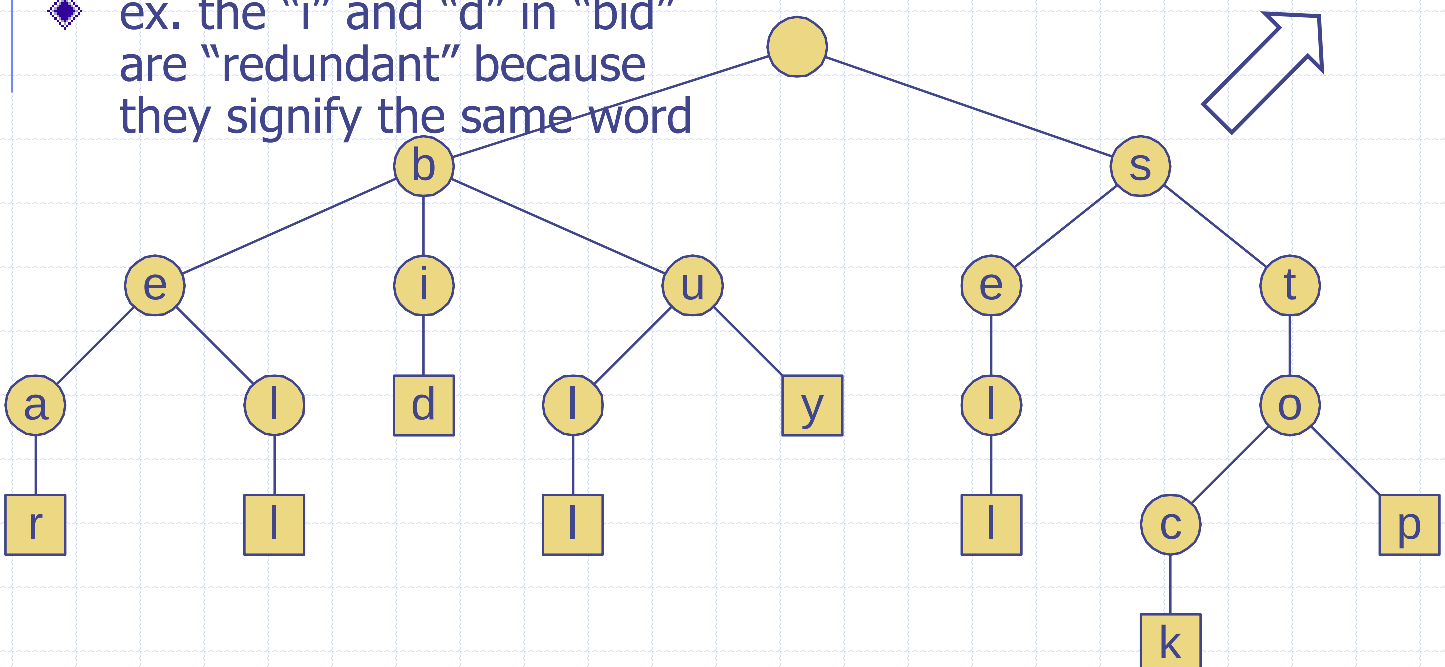
h	e	a	r		t	h	e		b	e	l	l	?		s	t	o	p	!
69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88



Compressed Tries

- A compressed trie has internal nodes of degree at least two
- It is obtained from standard trie by compressing chains of "redundant" nodes
- ex. the "i" and "d" in "bid" are "redundant" because they signify the same word

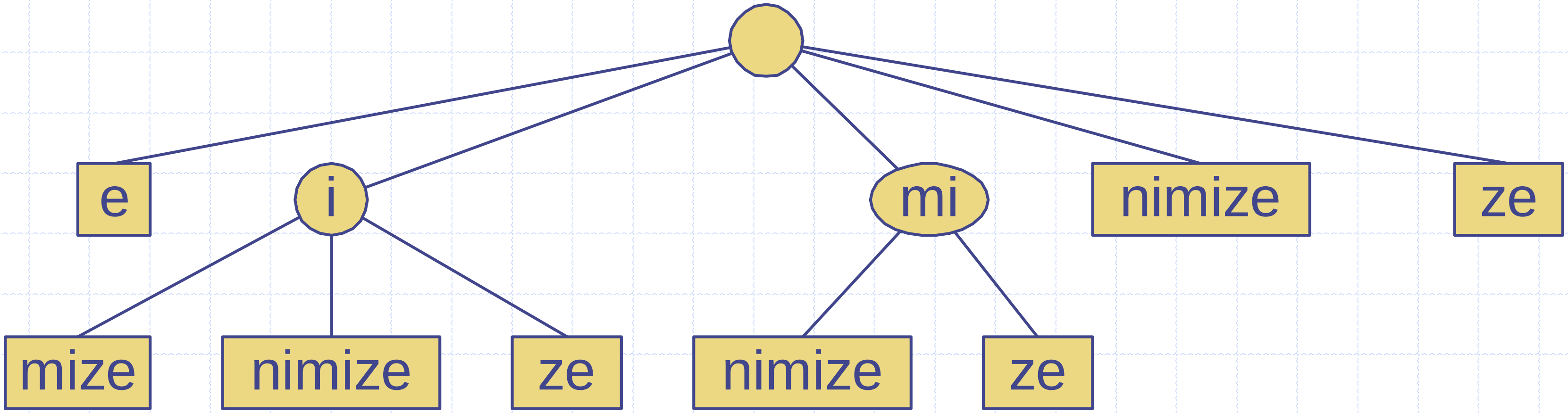




Suffix Trie

- The suffix trie of a string X is the compressed trie of all the suffixes of X

m	i	n	i	m	i	z	e
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7



Analysis of Suffix Tries

- Compact representation of the suffix trie for a string X of size n from an alphabet of size d
  - Uses $O(n)$ space
  - Supports arbitrary pattern matching queries in X in $O(dm)$ time, where m is the size of the pattern
  - Can be constructed in $O(n)$ time