

## Compression and Git

A new object in the repository each time a changed file is committed.

Get crowded as a result.

So, it *compresses* each object.

And then (such as when sending or receiving from another machine) it packs objects together into a single file: a "packfile."

When sticking the files together, uses a technique called *delta compression*.

## Delta Compression (II)

Two versions

V1

My eyes are fully open to my awful

I shall go at once to Roderick and

make him an oration. I shall tell him

I shall tell him I've recovered my

forgotten moral senses,

and don't give twopence halfpenny

for any consequences.

V2

My eyes are fully open to my awful situation.

I shall go at once to Roderick and make him an oration.

I shall tell him I've recovered my forgotten moral senses,

and don't give twopence halfpenny for any consequences.

V1

lines from V2]

V2

My eyes are fully open to my awful situation.

I shall go at once to Roderick and make him an oration.

I shall tell him I've recovered my forgotten moral senses,

and don't give twopence halfpenny for any consequences.

## Lecture #39: Compression

This presentation is largely taken from CS61B lectures by

## Delta Compression

There will be many versions of a file in a Git repository: and previous edits of it, each in different commits.

How do we keep track explicitly of which file came from where, and in general:

How is a file split into two, or two are spliced together?

How do we know that files with same name and (roughly) same size in a repository are probably versions of the same file.

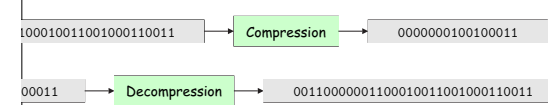
When changes happen, store one of them as a pointer to the other, and make changes.

## Compression and Decompression

A compression algorithm converts a stream of symbols into another, more compact form.

It is *lossless* if the algorithm is *invertible* (no information is lost).

The smallest symbol is the bit:



How do we apply this? We replaced the 8-bit ASCII bit sequences for digits with a single character. For example, the single character '0' is encoded as 0x30=0b00110000 (*binary-coded decimal*).

How do we store bit sequences *codewords*, which we associate with the original, uncompressed text.

Can we get more than 50% compression with English text.

## Two Unix Compression Programs

```
lect37.pic.in # The GNU version of ZIP
lect37.pic.in # Another compression program
*.pic*

Size
(bytes)
ls61b cs61b 31065 Apr 27 23:36 lect37.pic.in
ls61b cs61b 10026 Apr 27 23:36 lect37.pic.in.bz2 # Roughly 1/3 size
ls61b cs61b 10270 Apr 27 23:36 lect37.pic.in.gz
lect37.pdf
*.pdf*
ls61b cs61b 124665 Mar 30 13:46 lect37.pdf
ls61b cs61b 101125 Mar 30 13:46 lect37.pdf.gz # Roughly 81% size
lect37.pic.in.gz > lect37.pic.in.ungzip # Uncompress
pic.in lect37.pic.in.ungzip
# No difference from original (lossless)
lect37.pic.in.gz > lect37.pic.in.gz
*.pic*gz
ls61b cs61b 10270 Apr 27 23:36 lect37.pic.in.gz
ls61b cs61b 10293 Apr 28 00:16 lect37.pic.in.gz
```

## Prefix Free Codes

needs pauses between codewords to prevent ambiguities.

—•••••—•••••

ATH, BABE, or BATH.

is that Morse code allows many codewords to be *prefixes* of others, so that it's difficult to know when you have come to the end.

so to devise *prefix-free codes*, in which no codeword is a prefix of another.

ways knows when a codeword ends.

## Prefix-Free Examples

Encoding A

1
01
001
0001
00001
000001

Encoding B

space	111
E	010
T	1000
A	1010
O	1011
I	1100
...	

"I ATE" is unambiguously

00100101 in Encoding A, or

101000010 in Encoding B.

structures might you use to...

: HashMap or array Decode?

## Shannon-Fano Coding

frequency	Encoding
0.35	
0.17	
0.17	
0.16	
0.15	



encies of all characters in text to be compressed.

ed characters into two groups of roughly equal frequency.

group with leading 0, right group with leading 1.

all groups are of size 1.

## Example: Morse Code

A	• —	U	• • • —
B	• — • • •	V	• • • — •
C	• — • — • •	W	• — • —
D	• — • •	X	• — • • —
E	•	Y	• — • — • —
F	• • — • •	Z	• — • — • •
G	• — • — •		
H	• • • •		
I	• • •	0	— — — — —
J	• • — — —	1	• — — — — —
K	• — • — •	2	• • — — — —
L	• — • • •	3	• • • — — —
M	• — • —	4	• • • • —
N	• — •	5	• • • • •
O	• — — —	6	• — • • • •
P	• — • — •	7	• — • • • • •
Q	• — • — • •	8	• — • — • • •
R	• — • • •	9	• — • — • — •
S	• • • •		
T	• —		

ple to transmit.  
three symbols:  
and pause.  
tween codewords.

## Prefix-Free Examples

Encoding A

1
01
001
0001
00001
000001

Encoding B

space	111
E	010
T	1000
A	1010
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## Prefix-Free Examples

Encoding A

1
01
001
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00001
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Encoding B

space	111
E	010
T	1000
A	1010
O	1011
I	1100
...	

"I ATE" is unambiguously

00100101 in Encoding A, or

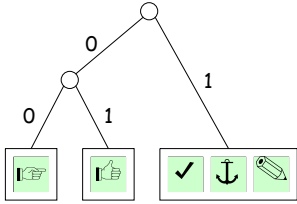
101000010 in Encoding B.

structures might you use to...

: HashMap or array Decode? Ans: Trie

### Shannon-Fano Coding

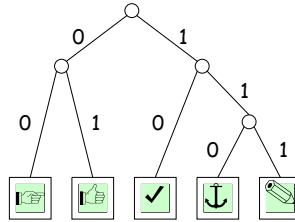
frequency	Encoding
0.35	00
0.17	01
0.17	1...
0.16	1...
0.15	1...



encies of all characters in text to be compressed.  
 ed characters into two groups of roughly equal frequency.  
 group with leading 0, right group with leading 1.  
 all groups are of size 1.

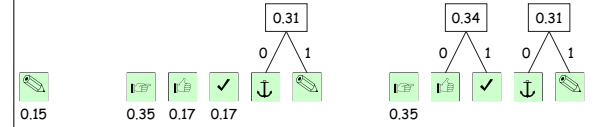
### Shannon-Fano Coding

frequency	Encoding
0.35	00
0.17	01
0.17	10
0.16	110
0.15	111



encies of all characters in text to be compressed.  
 ed characters into two groups of roughly equal frequency.  
 group with leading 0, right group with leading 1.  
 all groups are of size 1.

### Huffman Coding



bol in a node labeled with the symbol's relative frequency

ollowing until there is just one node:

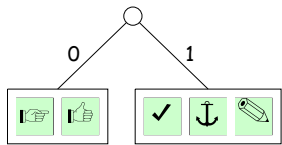
he two nodes with smallest frequencies as children of a  
 e node whose frequency is the sum of those of the two  
 ng combined.

dge to the left child be labeled '0' and to the right be

g tree shows the encoding for each symbol: concatenate  
 els on the path from the root to the symbol.

### Shannon-Fano Coding

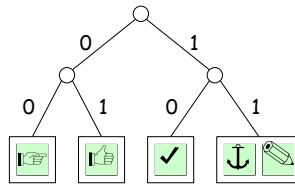
frequency	Encoding
0.35	0...
0.17	0...
0.17	1...
0.16	1...
0.15	1...



encies of all characters in text to be compressed.  
 ed characters into two groups of roughly equal frequency.  
 group with leading 0, right group with leading 1.  
 all groups are of size 1.

### Shannon-Fano Coding

frequency	Encoding
0.35	00
0.17	01
0.17	10
0.16	11...
0.15	11...



encies of all characters in text to be compressed.  
 ed characters into two groups of roughly equal frequency.  
 group with leading 0, right group with leading 1.  
 all groups are of size 1.

### Can We Do Better?

encoding of symbols to codewords that are bitstrings  
 r a particular text if it encodes the text in the fewest

o coding is good, but not optimal.

solution was found by an MIT graduate student, David  
 a class taught by Fano. The students were given the  
 king the final or solving this problem (i.e., finding the  
 a proof of optimality).

called *Huffman coding*.

Fano assigned a problem he hadn't been able to solve.  
 o that occasionally.

article.



### LZW Step 3

abcdeabcdefgabcdefg

match in the table for remaining input is 'b', so output

to the table with a new code.


$C(B) = 0x616162$

### LZW Step 5

abcdeabcdefgabcdefg

match in the table for remaining input is now 'c', so

to the table with a new code.


$C(B) = 0x6161628163$

### LZW Step 6

abcdeabcdefgabcdefg

match in the table for remaining input is now 'abc', so

to the table with a new code.


$C(B) = 0x616162816383$

### LZW Step 2

abcdeabcdefgabcdefg

match in the table for remaining input is still 'a', so

to the table with a new code.


$C(B) = 0x6161$

### LZW Step 4

abcdeabcdefgabcdefg

match in the table for remaining input is now 'ab', so  
(half as many bits as 'ab').

to the table with a new code.


$C(B) = 0x61616281$

### LZW Step 6

abcdeabcdefgabcdefg

match in the table for remaining input is now '??', so

to the table with a new code.


$C(B) = 0x6161628163??$

## LZW Step 7

abcdeabcdefabcdefgabcde

match in the table for remaining input is now 'd', so

to the table with a new code.

$C(B) = 0x61616281638364$

- What's next?
- What is the complete encoding? (When reviewing, try to figure it out before looking at the next slide.)

## Decompression

h different input creates a different table, it would need to provide the generated table in order to decode

y, though, we don't!

t, starting with the same initial table we did before, x00-0x7f already assigned, we're given

$C(B) = 0x616162816383$

find B.

t starts with aab. What's next?

## LZW Decompression, Step 1

281638364

in the table, so add it to B.

previous codeword yet, so don't add anything to the

B = a

## LZW Step 7

abcdeabcdefabcdefgabcde

match in the table for remaining input is now 'd', so

to the table with a new code.

$C(B) = 0x61616281638364$

## LZW Final State

abcdeabcdefabcdefgabcde (200 bits)

Code	String
0x87	abcde
0x88	ea
0x89	abcdef
0x8a	fa
0x8b	abcdefg
0x8c	ga
0x8d	abcdefgh

$C(B) = 0x616162816383648565876689678b68$  (120 bits)

How might you represent this table to allow easily est prefix at each step?

## constructing the Coding Table (I)

reconstruct the table as we process each codeword in

an "the symbols encoded by codeword  $X_i$ ," and let  $Y_k$  ter  $k$  of string  $Y$ .

codeword,  $X_i$  in  $C(B)$ , add  $S(X_i)$  to our result.

e decoded two consecutive codewords,  $X_1$  and  $X_2$ , add a d that maps to  $S(X_1) + S(X_2)_0$

apitulate a step in the compression operation that created first place.

from left to right, the table will (almost) always already napping we need for the next codeword.

### LZW Decompression, Step 3

281638364

in the table, so add it to B.

codewords— $S(0x61)$ ='a' and  $S(0x62)$ ='b'—so add 'ab' to a new codeword.


B = aab

### LZW Decompression, Step 5

81638364

in the table, so add it to B.

codewords— $S(0x81)$ ='ab' and  $S(0x63)$ ='c'—so add 'abc' as a new codeword.


B = aababc

### LZW Decompression, Step 6

81638364

bc' in the table, so add it to B.

codewords— $S(0x63)$ ='c' and  $S(0x83)$ ='abc'—so add 'ca' as a new codeword.


B = aababcabc

### LZW Decompression, Step 2

281638364

in the table, so add it to B.

codewords— $S(0x61)$ ='a' twice—so add 'aa' to the table as a new codeword.


B = aa

### LZW Decompression, Step 4

81638364

bc' in the table, so add it to B.

codewords— $S(0x62)$ ='b' and  $S(0x81)$ ='ab'—so add 'ba' to a new codeword.


B = aabab

### LZW Decompression, Step 6

81638364

? in the table, so add it to B.

codewords— $S(???)=???$  and  $S(???)=???$ —so add ??? to a new codeword.


B = aababc???

## constructing the Coding Table (II)

On this slide, I said "... the table will (almost) always already have the mapping we need..."

Usually, there are cases where it doesn't.

For example, string B='cdcdcdc' as an example.

When we code it, we end up with



$C(B) = 0x63648082$

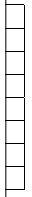
0x82 causes trouble...

## Tricky Decompression, Step 2

0x82

is not in the table, so add it to B.

Previous codewords— $S(0x63)='c'$  and  $S(0x64)='d'$ —so add 'cd' to the table as a new codeword

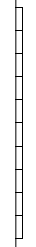


B = cd

## Tricky Decompression, Step 4

0x82

is not yet in the table. What now?



B = cdcd???

What we could look ahead while coding, but can only look back when decoding.

Figure out what 0x82 is going to be by looking back.

## LZW Decompression, Step 7

0x816383 0x64

0x64 is in the table, so add it to B.

Previous codewords— $S(0x83)='abc'$  and  $S(0x64)='d'$ —so add 'abcd' to the table as a new codeword.



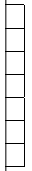
B = aababcabcd

## Tricky Decompression, Step 1

0x82

is not in the table, so add it to B.

Previous codeword yet, so don't add anything to the table.



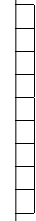
B = c

## Tricky Decompression, Step 3

0x82

0x82 is in the table, so add it to B.

Previous codewords— $S(0x64)='d'$  and  $S(0x80)='cd'$ —so add 'dc' to the table as a new codeword



B = cdcd



## LZW Algorithm

named for its inventors: Lempel, Ziv, and Welch. It was used at one time, but because of patent issues became unpopular (especially among open-source folks). The patent expired in 2003 and 2004. It is used in the .gif files, some PDF files, the BSD Unix compress utility, and elsewhere. Numerous other (and better) algorithms (such as those in LZ77 and LZ78) have replaced it. The algorithm here is considerably simplified. It uses fixed-length (8-bit) codewords, but the full algorithm uses variable-length codewords using (!) Huffman coding to optimize the compression. The algorithm clears the table from time to time to get rid of old codewords.

## Some Thoughts

Why does a compressed text doesn't result in much compression. Why is it impossible to keep compressing a text? You'd be able to compress any number of different messages. A program that takes no input and produces an output can be thought of as a function of that output. The following question: Given a bitstream, what is the shortest program that can produce it? For a specific bitstream, there is a specific answer! This is the concept, known as Kolmogorov Complexity.

## Git

Git uses a different scheme from LZW for compression: a combination of LZ77 and Huffman coding. It is more like delta compression, but within the same text. For example, the text "two Mississippi" can be compressed to "two <11,7>". The <11,7> is intended to mean "the next 11 characters come from the table that ends 7 characters before this point." The symbols to the alphabet to represent these (length, offset) are Huffman encoded the result.

## Decompression, Step 4 (Second Try)

82  
to be figured out).  
The encoded S(0x80)="cd" and now have S(0x82)=Z, so will update the table as S(0x82).  
With S(0x80) and therefore Z<sub>0</sub> must be 'c'.  
S(0x82) = S(0x80)+Z<sub>0</sub> = 'cdc'.

B = cdcdc

## Some Thoughts

Why does a compressed text doesn't result in much compression. Why is it impossible to keep compressing a text? A program that takes no input and produces an output can be thought of as a function of that output. The following question: Given a bitstream, what is the shortest program that can produce it? For a specific bitstream, there is a specific answer! This is the concept, known as Kolmogorov Complexity.

## More Thoughts

It's weird that one can compress much at all. For example, 8000-character ASCII text (8000 bits), and suppose we compress it by 50%. There are 2<sup>8000</sup> distinct messages in 8000 bits, but only 2<sup>4000</sup> possible 4000 bits. No matter what one's scheme, one can encode only 2<sup>-4000</sup> of 8000-bit messages by 50%! Yet we do it all the time. Real-world texts have a great deal of redundancy (aka low *information entropy*). High entropy—such as random bits, previously compressed or encrypted texts—are nearly incompressible.

## Wrapping Up

pression saves space (and bandwidth) by exploiting redundancy

l Shannon-Fano coding represent individual symbols of  
h shorter codewords.

imilar codes represents multiple symbols with shorter

heir codewords to the text being compressed.

ession both uses redundancy and exploits the fact that  
umers of compressed data (like humans) can't really use  
nation that could be encoded.

## Lossy Compression

plications, like compressing video and audio streams, it  
ecessary to be able to reproduce the exact stream.

efore get more compression by throwing away some

ere is a limit to what human senses respond to.

we don't hear high frequencies, or see tiny color variations.

ormats like JPEG, MP3, or MP4 use *lossy compression*  
uct output that is (hopefully) imperceptibly different  
ginal at large savings in size and bandwidth.

more of this in EE120 and other courses.