

# Fingerprinting for String Matching

Lecture 11

Feb 20, 2019

# Fingerprinting

Source: [Wikipedia](#)

Process of mapping a large data item to a much shorter bit string, called its fingerprint.

Fingerprints uniquely identifies data *“for all practical purposes”*.

Typically used to avoid comparison and transmission of bulky data.  
Eg: Web browser can store/fetch file fingerprints to check if it is changed.

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Hash functions are an example of fingerprinting.

## Use of fingerprinting for designing fast algorithms

### String equality

Given two strings  $x$  and  $y$  determine if  $x = y$  with very little communication.

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Given a text  $T$  of length  $m$  and pattern  $P$  of length  $n$ ,  $m \gg n$ , find all occurrences of  $P$  in  $T$ .

# Outline

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### Karp-Rabin Randomized Algorithm

It involves:

- Sampling a prime
- String equality via *mod p* arithmetic
- Rabin's fingerprinting scheme – rolling hash

# Part I

## Sampling a Prime



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## Checking if $p$ is prime

- Agrawal-Kayal-Saxena primality test: deterministic but slow
- Miller-Rabin randomized primality test: fast but randomized outputs 'prime' when it is not *with very low probability*.

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## Proof.

Event  $A$  : a prime is picked in a round.  $\Pr[A] = \pi(x)/x$ .

Event  $B$  : number (prime)  $p^*$  is picked.  $\Pr[B] = 1/x$ .

$\Pr[A \cap B] = \Pr[B] = 1/x$ . **Why?** Because  $B \subset A$ .

$$\Pr[B|A] = \frac{\Pr[A \cap B]}{\Pr[A]} = \frac{\Pr[B]}{\Pr[A]} = \frac{1/x}{\pi(x)/x} = \frac{1}{\pi(x)}$$



# Sampling a prime: Expected number of samples

## Procedure

- 1 Sample a number  $p$  uniformly at random from  $\{1, \dots, x\}$ .
- 2 If  $p$  is a prime, then output  $p$ . Else go to Step (1).

## Running time in expectation

**Q:** How many samples in expectation before termination?

**A:**  $x/\pi(x)$ . Exercise.

# How many primes between 0 and $x$

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- $y \sim \{1, \dots, x\}$  u.a.r., then  $y$  is a prime w.p.  $\frac{\pi(x)}{x} > \frac{1}{\lg x}$ .
- If we want  $k \geq 4$  primes then  $x \geq 2k \lg k$  suffices.

$$\pi(x) \geq \pi(2k \lg k) = \frac{2k \lg k}{\lg 2 + \lg k + \lg \lg k} \geq \frac{k(2 \lg k)}{2 \lg k} = k$$

# Part II

## String Equality

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  - If  $x = y$ , then  $\Pr[\text{Bob says equal}] = 1$ .
  - If  $x \neq y$ , then  $\Pr[\text{Bob says un-equal}] = 0.9999$ .



# N versus $\log N$

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How many binary strings of length  $N$  are there?  $2^N$  Information theoretically no deterministic protocol can send less than  $N$  bits but randomization with smaller error allows one to get  $O(\log N)$  bits.

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$$\lg N = 38$$



# Universal Hashing?

**Question:** Can we use universal hashing? Alice sends  $h(x)$  to Bob and Bob checks if  $h(x) = h(y)$ . If range of  $h$  is  $[m]$  and  $h$  is universal then  $\Pr[h(x) = h(y)] \leq 1/m$  if  $x \neq y$ . Can choose  $m$  sufficiently large to make this small. Only need to send  $O(\log m)$  bits?

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- **Scenario 1:** Both Alice and Bob know  $h$  a priori
  - This means Alice cannot pick randomness specifically for each new  $x$ . Will violate randomized guarantee if used repeatedly.
- **Scenario 2;** Alice has to send  $h$  also to Bob
  - Consider scheme using primes. Universe  $\mathcal{U}$  is set of all  $2^N$  strings implies  $p > 2^N$  and  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}_p$ . Alice needs to send  $p, a, b$  which is  $\Omega(N)$  bits!

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## Procedure

Define  $h_p(x) = x \bmod p$

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## Lemma

If  $x = y$  then Bob always says equal.

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## Lemma

If  $x \neq y$  then,  $\Pr[\text{Bob says equal}] \leq 1/5$  (error probability).



# String Equality: Randomized Algorithm

$x, y$  :  $N$ -bit strings.

(Recall) If  $M = \lceil 2(sN) \lg sN \rceil$ , then  $sN$  primes in  $\{1, \dots, M\}$ .

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## Question.

Let  $x = 6 = 2 * 3$ . If we draw a  $p$  u.a.r. from  $\{2, 3, 5, 7\}$ , then what is the probability that  $x \bmod p = 0$ ?

- (A) 0.
- (B) 1.
- (C)  $1/4$ .
- (D)  $1/2$ .
- (E) none of the above.

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Now, let  $y = 21$ . What is the probability that  $(y - x) \bmod p = 15 \bmod p = 0$ ?

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Error probability

$x, y$   $N$ -bit string,  $M = \lceil 2(sN) \lg sN \rceil$ , and  $h_p(x) = x \bmod p$

## Lemma

If  $x \neq y$  then,  $\Pr[\text{Bob says equal}] = \Pr[h_p(x) = h_p(y)] \leq 1/s$

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Second approach will send  $10(2 \lg (10N \lg 5N)) \leq 1280$  bits.

# Verifying inequality

**Question:** Algorithm is Monte Carlo. Suppose  $x \neq y$ . Can Alice and Bob find with high probability an index  $i$  such that  $x_i \neq y_i$  and verify it? Assuming here that Alice and Bob can communicate over multiple rounds adaptively.

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**Exercise:** Show how Alice and Bob can do this with  $O(\log^2 N)$  bits of communication. *Hint:* Use binary search.

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**Exercise:** Show how Alice and Bob can do this with  $O(\log^2 N)$  bits of communication. *Hint:* Use binary search.

Using above find a Las Vegas algorithm that communicates  $O(\log N)$  bits in expectation and  $O(N)$  bits in the worst case but is always correct.

# Multiple strings

We want to check equality between several pairs of strings  $(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_k, y_k)$  where all strings are  $N$ -bits long.

Suppose we pick random prime  $p$  and use hash function  $h_p$  to check equality of all pairs. Will it work? What range should  $p$  be chosen from to ensure that **all** of the answers are correct with probability at least  $(1 - \delta)$  for some given parameter  $\delta$ ?

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Use union bound to figure out how large  $s$  should be.

## Part III

# Karp-Rabin Pattern Matching Algorithm

# Pattern Matching

Given a string  $T$  of length  $m$  and pattern  $P$  of length  $n$ , s.t.  
 $m \gg n$ ,

- find whether  $P$  is a substring of  $T$
- more generally, find all positions where  $P$  matches with  $T$ .

## Example

$T$ =abracadabra,  $P$ =ab.



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$O(mn)$  run-time.

# Using Fingerprinting

Pick a prime  $p$  u.a.r. from  $\{1, \dots, M\}$ .  $h_p(x) = x \bmod p$ .

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Do we need to recompute fingerprints from scratch for each  $i$ ?

Let  $a$  and  $b$  be (non-negative) integers.

$$(a + b) \bmod p = ((a \bmod p) + (b \bmod p)) \bmod p$$



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$$(a \cdot b) \bmod p = ((a \bmod p) \cdot (b \bmod p)) \bmod p$$

# Rolling Hash

$x = T[i \dots i + n - 1]$  and  $x' = T[i + 1, i + n]$ .

Let  $x = x_1x_2 \dots x_n$  and  $x' = x'_1x'_2 \dots x'_n$

## Example

$x = 1011001$ , and  $x' = 0110010$  or  $x' = 0110011$ .

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$$\begin{aligned}h_p(x') &= x' \bmod p \\ &= (2(x \bmod p) - x_1(2^n \bmod p) + x'_n) \bmod p \\ &= (2h_p(x) - x_1h_p(2^n) + x'_n) \bmod p\end{aligned}$$

# Karp-Rabin Algorithm

$p$  : a random prime from  $\{1, \dots, M\}$ .

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*If match at any position  $i$  then  $i \in S$ . In otherwords if  $T[i, i + n - 1] = P$ , then  $i \in S$ .*

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Can it contain unmatched positions? YES!

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Can it contain unmatched positions? YES! With what probability?

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$\Pr[S \text{ contains an index } i, \text{ while there is no match at } i]$

Set  $M = \lceil 2(sn) \lg sn \rceil$ . Given  $x \neq y$ ,  $\Pr[h_p(x) = h_p(y)] \leq 1/s$ .

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- $\Pr[S \text{ contains an incorrect index}] \leq m/s$  (Union bound).
- To ensure  $S$  is correct with at least **0.99** probability, we need

$$1 - \frac{m}{s} \geq 0.99 \Rightarrow \frac{m}{s} \leq \frac{1}{100} \Rightarrow s \geq 100m$$

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64-bit arithmetic is doable on laptops!



# Deterministic Pattern Matching

$O(n + m)$  (linear time) deterministic algorithms are known

- Boyer-Moore algorithm
- Knuth-Morris-Pratt (KMP) algorithm

Why randomization?

- generalizes to settings (two-dimensional settings) where standard algorithms do not
- generalizes to multiple string pattern matchings easily