# Beyond Data Structures 

## Outline for Today

- Bits and Bytes
- Representing things with 0s and 1s.
- Data Compression
- Reducing transmission requirements.
- Prefix-Free Codes
- A clever space-saving trick.
- Huffman Coding
- Finding good prefix-free codes.


## Bits and Bytes

## $19^{\text {th }}$ Century Data Transmission



2,000 Miles




| A | $\bullet-$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| B | $-\bullet \bullet \bullet$ |
| C | $-\bullet \bullet$ |
| D | $-\bullet \bullet$ |
| E | $\bullet$ |
| F | $\bullet \bullet-\bullet$ |
| G | $--\bullet$ |


| $H$ | $\bullet \bullet \bullet$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| I | $\bullet \bullet$ |
| $J$ | $\bullet---$ |
| K | $-\bullet-$ |
| L | $\bullet-\bullet \bullet$ |
| $M$ | -- |
| $N$ | $-\bullet$ |


| 0 | --- |
| :---: | :---: |
| P | $\bullet--\bullet$ |
| Q | $--\bullet-$ |
| R | $\bullet-\bullet$ |
| S | $\bullet \bullet \cdot$ |
| T | - |
| U | $\bullet \bullet-$ |


| V | $\bullet \bullet \bullet-$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| $W$ | $\bullet--$ |
| X | $-\bullet \bullet-$ |
| Y | $-\bullet--$ |
| $Z$ | $--\bullet \bullet$ |



| A | $\bullet-$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| B | $-\bullet \bullet \bullet$ |
| C | $-\bullet \bullet \bullet$ |
| D | $-\bullet \bullet$ |
| E | $\bullet$ |
| F | $\bullet \bullet-\bullet$ |
| G | $-\cdots \bullet$ |


| $H$ | $\bullet \bullet \bullet$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| I | $\bullet \bullet$ |
| $J$ | $\bullet---$ |
| K | $-\bullet-$ |
| L | $\bullet-\bullet \bullet$ |
| $M$ | -- |
| $N$ | $-\bullet$ |


| 0 | --- |
| :---: | :---: |
| P | $\bullet--\bullet$ |
| Q | $--\bullet-$ |
| R | $\bullet-\bullet$ |
| S | $\bullet \bullet \cdot$ |
| T | - |
| U | $\bullet \bullet-$ |


| V | $\bullet \bullet \bullet-$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| $W$ | $\bullet--$ |
| X | $-\bullet \bullet-$ |
| Y | $-\bullet--$ |
| $Z$ | $--\bullet \bullet$ |



| A | $\bullet-$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| B | $-\bullet \bullet \bullet$ |
| C | $-\bullet \bullet$ |
| D | $-\bullet \bullet$ |
| E | $\bullet$ |
| F | $\bullet \bullet-\bullet$ |
| G | $--\bullet$ |


| $H$ | $\bullet \bullet \bullet$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| I | $\bullet \bullet$ |
| $J$ | $\bullet---$ |
| K | $-\bullet-$ |
| L | $\bullet-\bullet \bullet$ |
| $M$ | -- |
| $N$ | $-\bullet$ |


| 0 | --- |
| :---: | :---: |
| P | $\bullet--\bullet$ |
| Q | $--\bullet-$ |
| R | $\bullet-\bullet$ |
| S | $\bullet \bullet \cdot$ |
| T | - |
| U | $\bullet \bullet-$ |


| V | $\bullet \bullet \bullet-$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| $W$ | $\bullet--$ |
| X | $-\bullet \bullet-$ |
| Y | $-\bullet--$ |
| $Z$ | $--\bullet \bullet$ |



| A | $\bullet-$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| B | $-\bullet \bullet \bullet$ |
| C | $-\bullet \bullet \bullet$ |
| D | $-\bullet \bullet$ |
| E | $\bullet$ |
| F | $\bullet \bullet-\bullet$ |
| G | $--\bullet$ |


| H | $\bullet \bullet \bullet$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| I | $\bullet \bullet$ |
| J | $\bullet---$ |
| K | $-\bullet-$ |
| L | $\bullet-\bullet \bullet$ |
| M | -- |
| $N$ | $-\bullet$ |


| 0 | --- |
| :---: | :---: |
| P | $\bullet--\bullet$ |
| Q | $--\bullet-$ |
| R | $\bullet-\bullet$ |
| S | $\bullet \bullet \cdot$ |
| T | - |
| U | $\bullet \bullet-$ |


| V | $\bullet \bullet \bullet-$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| $W$ | $\bullet--$ |
| X | $-\bullet \bullet-$ |
| Y | $-\bullet--$ |
| $Z$ | $--\bullet \bullet$ |


| A | -- | H | -••• | 0 | --- | V | -••- |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| B | -••• | I | - • | P | ---• | W | --- |
| C | -•-• | J | ---- | Q | --•- | X | -••- |
| D | -•• | K | -•- | R | --• | Y | -•-- |
| E | - | L | $\bullet$-•• | S | -•• | Z | --•• |
| F | -•-• | M | -- | T | - |  |  |
| G | --• | N | -• | U | -•- |  |  |

What is the title of this slide?
Formulate a hypothesis!

| A | - - | H | - ••• | 0 | --- | V | - ••- |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| B | -••• | I | - - | P | ---• | W | --- |
| C | -•-• | J | ---- | Q | --• - | $X$ | -••- |
| D | -•• | K | -•- | R | - - - | Y | -•-- |
| E | $\bullet$ | L | $\bullet$ - •• | S | - - - | Z | --•• |
| F | $\bullet \bullet-\bullet$ | M | -- | T | - |  |  |
| G | --• | N | -• | U | - - - |  |  |

What is the title of this slide?
Discuss with your neighbors!

| $D$ | $I$ | $K$ | $D$ | $I$ | $K$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $-\bullet \bullet$ | $\bullet \bullet$ | $-\bullet-$ | $-\bullet \bullet$ | $\bullet \bullet$ | $-\bullet-$ |


| A | $\bullet-$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| B | $-\cdots \cdot$ |
| C | $-\bullet-\bullet$ |
| D | $-\cdots$ |
| E | $\bullet$ |
| F | $\cdots \cdot-$ |
| G | $--\bullet$ |


| H | $\cdots \cdots$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| I | $\bullet \cdot$ |
| J | $\bullet--$ |
| K | $\cdots-$ |
| L | $\bullet-\bullet$ |
| M | -- |
| N | $-\bullet$ |


| 0 | --- |
| :---: | :---: |
| P | $\bullet--$ |
| Q | $--\cdot$ |
| R | $\bullet-\bullet$ |
| S | $\bullet \cdot$ |
| T | - |
| U | $\bullet-$ |


| V | $\bullet \bullet \bullet-$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| $W$ | $\bullet--$ |
| X | $-\bullet \bullet-$ |
| Y | $-\bullet--$ |
| $Z$ | $--\bullet \bullet$ |

## $20^{\text {th }}$ Century Data Transmission

## It's All Bits and Bytes

- Digital data is stored as sequences of 0 s and 1 s .
- They're usually encoded by magnetic orientation on small ( 10 nm !) metal particles or by trapping electrons in nanoscale gates.
- A single 0 or 1 is called a bit.
- A group of eight bits is called a byte.

00000000, 00000001, 00000010, 00000011, 00000100, 00000101, ...

- There are $2^{8}=256$ different bytes.
- Great practice: Write a function to list all of them!


## Representing Text

- We think of strings as being made of characters representing letters, numbers, emojis, etc.
- Internally to the computer, everything is just a series of bits.
- To bridge the gap, we need to agree on some way of representing characters as sequences of bits.
- Idea: Assign each character a sequence of bits called a code.


## ASCII

- Early (American) computers needed some standard way to send output to their (physical!) printers.
- Since there were fewer than 256 different characters to print (1960's America!), each character was assigned a one-byte value.
- This initial code was called ASCII. It still lives on in a modified form as UTF-8, which you saw on Assignment 2.
- For example, the letter A is represented by the byte 01000001 (65). You can still see this in C++:

$$
\text { cout << int('A') << endl; // Prints } 65
$$

## 01001000010001010100000101000100

- Here's a small segment from the ASCII encodings for characters.
- What is the title of this slide?

Formulate a hypothesis!
character code

A 01000001
B 01000010
C 01000011
D 01000100
E 01000101
F 01000110
G 01000111
H 01001000

## 01001000010001010100000101000100

- Here's a small segment from the ASCII encodings for characters.
- What is the title of this slide?

Chat with your neighbors!
character code

A 01000001
B 01000010
C 01000011
D 01000100
E 01000101
F 01000110
G 01000111
H 01001000

## 01001000010001010100000101000100

- Here's a small segment from the ASCII encodings for characters.
- What is the title of this slide?

| character |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| A | code |
| A | 01000001 |
| B | 01000010 |
| C | 01000011 |
| D | 01000100 |
| E | 01000101 |
| F | 01000110 |
| G | 01000111 |
| H | 01001000 |

## H

## 010001010100000101000100

- Here's a small segment from the ASCII encodings for characters.
- What is the title of this slide?
character code

A 01000001
B 01000010
C 01000011
D 01000100
E 01000101
F 01000110
G 01000111
H 01001000

## H <br> 010001010100000101000100

- Here's a small segment from the ASCII encodings for characters.
- What is the title of this slide?
character code

A 01000001
B 01000010
C 01000011
D 01000100
E 01000101
F 01000110
G 01000111
H 01001000

## H

## E

- Here's a small segment from the ASCII encodings for characters.
- What is the title of this slide?
character code

A 01000001
B 01000010
C 01000011
D 01000100
E 01000101
F 01000110
G 01000111
H 01001000

## H

## E

0100000101000100

- Here's a small segment from the ASCII encodings for characters.
- What is the title of this slide?
character code

A 01000001
B 01000010
C 01000011
D 01000100
E 01000101
F 01000110
G 01000111
H 01001000

E
A
01000100

- Here's a small segment from the ASCII encodings for characters.
- What is the title of this slide?
character code

A 01000001
B 01000010
C 01000011
D 01000100
E 01000101
F 01000110
G 01000111
H 01001000

E
A
01000100

- Here's a small segment from the ASCII encodings for characters.
- What is the title of this slide?
character code

A 01000001
B 01000010
C 01000011
D 01000100
E 01000101
F 01000110
G 01000111
H 01001000

- Here's a small segment from the ASCII encodings for characters.
- What is the title of this slide?
character code

A 01000001
B 01000010
C 01000011
D 01000100
E 01000101
F 01000110
G 01000111
H 01001000

## An Observation

- In ASCII, every character has exactly the same number of bits in it.
- Any message with $n$ characters will use up exactly $8 n$ bits.
- Space for CS106BLECTURE: 104 bits.
- Space for COPYRIGHTABLE: 104 bits.
- Question: Can we reduce the number of bits needed to encode text?


## KIRK'S DIKDIK



## A Different Encoding

- ASCII uses one byte per character. There are 256 possible bytes.
- If we're specifically writing the string KIRK'S DIKDIK, which has only seven different characters, using full bytes is wasteful.
- Here's a three-bit encoding we can use to represent the letters in KIRK'S DIKDIK.

| character | code |
| :---: | :---: |
| K | 000 |
| I | 001 |
| R | 010 |
| I | 011 |
| S | 100 |
| U | 101 |
| D | 110 |

- This uses $37.5 \%$ as much space as what ASCII uses.

| 000 | 001 | 010 | 000 | 011 | 100 | 101 | 110 | 001 | 000 | 110 | 001 | 000 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| K | I | R | K | ' | S | u | D | I | K | D | I | K |

## Where We're Going

- Storing data using the ASCII encoding is portable across systems, but is not ideal in terms of space usage.
- Building custom codes for specific strings might let us save space.
- Idea: Use this approach to build a compression algorithm to reduce the amount of space needed to store text.


## The Key Idea

- If we can find a way to
give all characters a bit pattern,
that both the sender and receiver know about, and
that can be decoded uniquely,
then we can represent the same piece of text in multiple different ways.
- Goal: Find a way to do this that uses less space than the standard ASCII representation.


## Exploiting Redundancy

- Not all letters have the same frequency in KIRK'S DIKDIK.
- Here's the frequencies of each letter.
- So far, we've given each letter codes of the same length.
- Key Question: Can we give shorter encodings

| character | frequency |
| :---: | :---: |
| K | $\mathbf{4}$ |
| I | $\mathbf{3}$ |
| D | $\mathbf{2}$ |
| R | $\mathbf{1}$ |
| I | $\mathbf{1}$ |
| S | $\mathbf{1}$ |
| U | $\mathbf{1}$ | to more common characters?

## A First Attempt

| character | code |
| :---: | :---: |
| K | $\mathbf{0}$ |
| I | $\mathbf{1}$ |
| D | 00 |
| R | $\mathbf{0 1}$ |
| I | 10 |
| S | 11 |
| $\mathbf{H}$ | $\mathbf{1 0 0}$ |

01010101110000100010

| 0 | 1 | 01 | 0 | 10 | 11 | 100 | 00 | 1 | 0 | 00 | 1 | 0 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| K | I | R | K | $\mathbf{I}$ | S | u | D | I | K | D | I | K |

## A First Attempt

| character | code |
| :---: | :---: |
| K | $\mathbf{0}$ |
| I | $\mathbf{1}$ |
| D | 00 |
| R | 01 |
| I | 10 |
| S | 11 |
| L | 100 |

## A First Attempt

| character | code |
| :---: | :---: |
| K | $\mathbf{0}$ |
| I | $\mathbf{1}$ |
| D | 00 |
| R | 01 |
| I | 10 |
| S | 11 |
| H | 100 |

01010101110000100010

| 0 | 1 | 01 | 0 | 10 | 11 | 100 | 00 | 1 | 0 | 00 | 1 | 0 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| K | I | R | K | $\mathbf{I}$ | S | u | D | I | K | D | I | K |

## A First Attempt

| character | code |
| :---: | :---: |
| K | $\mathbf{0}$ |
| I | $\mathbf{1}$ |
| $\mathbf{D}$ | $\mathbf{0 0}$ |
| R | $\mathbf{0 1}$ |
| I | 10 |
| $\mathbf{S}$ | 11 |
| $\mathbf{H}$ | $\mathbf{1 0 0}$ |

01010101110000100010

| 01 | 01 | 01 | 01 | 1 | 10 | 0 | 00 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 10 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathbf{R}$ | $\mathbf{R}$ | $\mathbf{R}$ | $\mathbf{R}$ | $\mathbf{I}$ | $\mathbf{I}$ | K | D | $\mathbf{I}$ | K | K | $\mathbf{I}$ |

## A First Attempt

| character | code |
| :---: | :---: |
| K | $\mathbf{0}$ |
| I | $\mathbf{1}$ |
| D | 00 |
| R | 01 |
| I | 10 |
| S | 11 |
| H | 100 |



| 01 | 01 | 01 | 01 | 1 | 10 | 0 | 00 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 10 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathbf{R}$ | $\mathbf{R}$ | $\mathbf{R}$ | $\mathbf{R}$ | $\mathbf{I}$ | $\mathbf{I}$ | K | D | $\mathbf{I}$ | K | K | $\mathbf{1}$ |

## The Problem

- If we use a different number of bits for each letter, we can't necessarily uniquely determine the boundaries between letters.
- We need an encoding that makes it possible to determine where one character stops and the next starts.
- Is this possible? If so, how?


## Prefix-Free Codes

- A prefix-free code is an encoding system in which no code is a prefix of another code.
- Here's a sample prefix code for the letters in KIRK'S DIKDIK.


## Prefix-Free Codes

| character | code |
| :---: | :---: |
| K | $\mathbf{1 0}$ |
| I | $\mathbf{0 1}$ |
| D | $\mathbf{1 1 1}$ |
| R | $\mathbf{0 0 1}$ |
| I | 000 |
| S | 1101 |
| $\mathbf{H}$ | $\mathbf{1 1 0 0}$ |

## Prefix-Free Codes

| character | code |
| :---: | :---: |
| K | $\mathbf{1 0}$ |
| I | $\mathbf{0 1}$ |
| D | $\mathbf{1 1 1}$ |
| R | 001 |
| I | 000 |
| S | 1101 |
| H | $\mathbf{1 1 0 0}$ |


| 10 | 01 | 001 | 10 | 000 | 11011100 | 111 | 01 | 10 | 111 | 01 | 10 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| K | $\mathbf{I}$ | R | K | I | S | u | D | I | K | D | I | K |

## Prefix-Free Codes

| character | code |
| :---: | :---: |
| K | 10 |
| I | $\mathbf{0 1}$ |
| D | $\mathbf{1 1 1}$ |
| R | 001 |
| I | 000 |
| S | 1101 |
| U | $\mathbf{1 1 0 0}$ |

1001001100001101110011101101110110

| 10 | 01 | 001 | 10 | 000 | 11011100 | 111 | 01 | 10 | 111 | 01 | 10 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| K | $\mathbf{I}$ | R | K | I | S | u | D | I | K | D | I | K |

## Prefix-Free Codes

| character | code |
| :---: | :---: |
| K | 10 |
| I | 01 |
| D | 111 |
| R | 001 |
| I | 000 |
| S | 1101 |
| u | 1100 |

1001001100001101110011101101110110

## Prefix-Free Codes

| character | code |
| :---: | :---: |
| K | 10 |
| I | 01 |
| D | 111 |
| R | 001 |
| I | 000 |
| S | 1101 |
| L | 1100 |

1001001100001101110011101101110110

## Prefix-Free Codes

| character | code |
| :---: | :---: |
| K | 10 |
| I | 01 |
| D | 111 |
| R | 001 |
| I | 000 |
| S | 1101 |
| $\mathbf{L}$ | 1100 |

## Prefix-Free Codes

| character | code |
| :---: | :---: |
| K | 10 |
| I | 01 |
| D | 111 |
| R | 001 |
| I | 000 |
| S | 1101 |
| $\mathbf{L}$ | 1100 |

## Prefix-Free Codes

| character | code |
| :---: | :---: |
| K | $\mathbf{1 0}$ |
| I | $\mathbf{0 1}$ |
| D | $\mathbf{1 1 1}$ |
| R | 001 |
| I | 000 |
| S | 1101 |
| H | $\mathbf{1 1 0 0}$ |

$\underline{1001001100001101110011101101110110 ~}$

10
K

## Prefix-Free Codes

| character | code |
| :---: | :---: |
| K | $\mathbf{1 0}$ |
| I | $\mathbf{0 1}$ |
| D | $\mathbf{1 1 1}$ |
| R | 001 |
| I | 000 |
| S | 1101 |
| H | $\mathbf{1 1 0 0}$ |

1001001100001101110011101101110110

10
K

## Prefix-Free Codes

| character | code |
| :---: | :---: |
| K | $\mathbf{1 0}$ |
| I | $\mathbf{0 1}$ |
| D | $\mathbf{1 1 1}$ |
| R | 001 |
| I | 000 |
| S | 1101 |
| H | $\mathbf{1 1 0 0}$ |

$10 \underline{1001100001101110011101101110110}$

10
K

## Prefix-Free Codes

| character | code |
| :---: | :---: |
| K | $\mathbf{1 0}$ |
| I | $\mathbf{0 1}$ |
| D | $\mathbf{1 1 1}$ |
| R | 001 |
| I | 000 |
| S | 1101 |
| H | $\mathbf{1 1 0 0}$ |

$10 \underline{01001100001101110011101101110110}$

10
K

## Prefix-Free Codes

| character |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| K | code |
| I | $\mathbf{0 1}$ |
| D | $\mathbf{1 1 1}$ |
| R | $\mathbf{0 0 1}$ |
| I | 000 |
| S | $\mathbf{1 1 0 1}$ |
| $\mathbf{H}$ | $\mathbf{1 1 0 0}$ |

$10 \underline{01001100001101110011101101110110}$

| 10 | 01 |
| :---: | :---: |
| K | I |

## Prefix-Free Codes

| character |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| K | code |
| I | $\mathbf{0 1}$ |
| D | $\mathbf{1 1 1}$ |
| R | $\mathbf{0 0 1}$ |
| I | 000 |
| S | $\mathbf{1 1 0 1}$ |
| $\mathbf{H}$ | $\mathbf{1 1 0 0}$ |

1001001100001101110011101101110110

| 10 | 01 |
| :---: | :---: |
| K | I |

## Prefix-Free Codes

| character | code |
| :---: | :---: |
| K | 10 |
| I | 01 |
| D | $\mathbf{1 1 1}$ |
| R | 001 |
| I | 000 |
| S | 1101 |
| L | 1100 |

1001001100001101110011101101110110

| 10 | 01 |
| :---: | :---: |
| K | I |

## Prefix-Free Codes

| character |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| K | code |
| I | $\mathbf{0 1}$ |
| D | $\mathbf{1 1 1}$ |
| R | $\mathbf{0 0 1}$ |
| I | 000 |
| S | $\mathbf{1 1 0 1}$ |
| $\mathbf{H}$ | $\mathbf{1 1 0 0}$ |

1001001100001101110011101101110110

| 10 | 01 |
| :---: | :---: |
| K | I |

## Prefix-Free Codes

| character |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| K | code |
| I | $\mathbf{0 1}$ |
| D | $\mathbf{1 1 1}$ |
| R | $\mathbf{0 0 1}$ |
| I | 000 |
| S | $\mathbf{1 1 0 1}$ |
| $\mathbf{H}$ | $\mathbf{1 1 0 0}$ |

1001001100001101110011101101110110

| 10 | 01 |
| :---: | :---: |
| K | I |

## Prefix-Free Codes

| character |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| K | code |
| I | $\mathbf{0 1}$ |
| D | $\mathbf{1 1 1}$ |
| R | $\mathbf{0 0 1}$ |
| I | 000 |
| S | $\mathbf{1 1 0 1}$ |
| $\mathbf{H}$ | $\mathbf{1 1 0 0}$ |

1001001100001101110011101101110110

| 10 | 01 | 001 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| K | I | R |

## Prefix-Free Codes

| character |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| K | code |
| I | $\mathbf{0 1}$ |
| D | $\mathbf{1 1 1}$ |
| R | $\mathbf{0 0 1}$ |
| I | 000 |
| S | $\mathbf{1 1 0 1}$ |
| $\mathbf{H}$ | $\mathbf{1 1 0 0}$ |

1001001100001101110011101101110110

| 10 | 01 | 001 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| K | I | R |

## Prefix-Free Codes

- Using this prefix code, we can represent KIRK'S DIKDIK as the sequence

1001001100001101110011101101110110

- This uses just 34 bits, compared to our initial 104. Wow!
- But where did this code come from? How could you come up with codes like this for other strings?

| K | 10 |
| :---: | :---: |
| I | 01 |
| D | 111 |
| R | 001 |
| ' | 000 |
| S | 1101 |
| U | 1100 |

## 1001001100001101110011101101110110

character code

| K | 1111110 |
| :---: | :---: |
| I | 111110 |
| D | 11110 |
| R | 1110 |
| I | 110 |
| S | 10 |
| U | 0 |

## How do you find a "good" prefix-free code?

The Main Insight

| character | code |
| :---: | :---: |
| K | 000 |
| I | 001 |
| D | 010 |
| R | 011 |
| I | 100 |
| S | 101 |
| L | 110 |



This special type of binary tree is called a coding tree.

| character | code |
| :---: | :---: |
| K | 000 |
| I | 001 |
| D | 010 |
| R | 011 |
| I | 100 |
| S | 101 |
| L | 110 |




## 101000001



Formulate a hypothesis!

## 101000001



Chat with your neighbors!

## $101000001$



## $101000001$



## $101000001$



## $101000001$



## $101000001$



## $101000001$



## $101000001$



## $101000001$



## S 000001



## S 000001



## S 000001



## S 000001



## S 000001



## S 000001



## S 000001



## S 000001



## S 000001



## S K 001



## S K 001



## S K 001



## S K 001



## S K 001



## S K 001



## S K 001



## S K 001



## S K 001


S K I

S K I


## Coding Trees

- Not all binary trees will work as coding trees.
- Why is the one to the right not a valid coding tree?


Formulate a hypothesis!

## Coding Trees

- Not all binary trees will work as coding trees.
- Why is the one to the right not a valid coding tree?


Discuss with your neighbors!

## Coding Trees

- Not all binary trees will work as coding trees.
- Why is the one to the right not a valid coding tree?
- Answer: It doesn't give a prefix-free code. The code for $A$ is a prefix
 for the codes for $C$ and $D$, and the code for $B$ is a prefix of the codes for $E$ and $F$.


## Coding Trees

- A coding tree is valid if all the letters are stored at the leaves, with internal nodes just doing the routing.
- Goal: Find the best coding tree for a string.


How do we find the best coding tree for a piece of text?

## Time-Out for Announcements!

## Assignment 9

- Assignment 8 was due today at 10:30AM.
- Feel free to use the grace period if you need to and submit tomorrow at 10:30AM.
- If you'll need more time than that, email Neel and me and ask for an extension. It's okay. We understand.
- Assignment 9 goes out today.
- Implement the techniques from this lecture!
- See how much space-saving is available!
- YEAH Hours run today at 5:30PM; check EdStem for the Zoom link.


## Extra Credit Practice Final Exam

- We've posted a practice final exam on Gradescope.
- If you submit answers to all of the problems - regardless of whether those answers are working solutions or just a blank text file - we'll give you a bonus point on the final exam.
- The deadline to submit is next Friday, March $11^{\text {th }}$ at 10:30AM, right when the final exam goes out.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& ー \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet-\quad-\bullet \bullet-\bullet-\quad-\quad ー ー ー \\
& \text {-・ー・ ••• ・ーーーー ーーーーー - •••・ー・•・ー・ー・ーー }
\end{aligned}
$$

How do we find the best coding tree for a piece of text?

## Huffman Coding

## 3

2
character frequency

| K | 4 |
| :---: | :---: |
| I | 3 |
| D | 2 |
| R | 1 |
| I | 1 |
| S | 1 |
| L | 1 |

Right now, we have all the leaves of the tree. We now need to build the tree around them.

## 4

3
2
1
1
K
I
D R

S
$\square$
$\stackrel{-}{1}$



2


2




















K

5
4

$5$



11












| character | code |
| :---: | :---: |
| K | 10 |
| I | 01 |
| D | 111 |
| R | 001 |
| I | 000 |
| S | 1101 |
| u | 1100 |



## Huffman Coding

- Create a priority queue that holds partial trees.
- Create one leaf node per distinct character in the input string. The weight of that leaf is the frequency of the character. Add each to the priority queue.
- While there are two or more trees in the priority queue:
- Dequeue the two lowest-priority trees.
- Combine them together to form a new tree whose weight is the sum of the weights of the two trees.
- Add that tree back to the priority queue.

An Important Detail

## Prefix-Free Codes

| character | code |
| :---: | :---: |
| K | $\mathbf{1 0}$ |
| I | $\mathbf{0 1}$ |
| D | $\mathbf{1 1 1}$ |
| R | $\mathbf{0 0 1}$ |
| I | 000 |
| S | 1101 |
| $\mathbf{H}$ | $\mathbf{1 1 0 0}$ |

## Prefix-Free Codes

| character | code |
| :---: | :---: |
| K | $\mathbf{1 0}$ |
| I | $\mathbf{0 1}$ |
| D | $\mathbf{1 1 1}$ |
| R | 001 |
| I | 000 |
| S | 1101 |
| H | $\mathbf{1 1 0 0}$ |


| 10 | 01 | 001 | 10 | 000 | 11011100 | 111 | 01 | 10 | 111 | 01 | 10 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| K | $\mathbf{I}$ | R | K | I | S | u | D | I | K | D | I | K |

## Prefix-Free Codes

| character | code |
| :---: | :---: |
| K | 10 |
| I | $\mathbf{0 1}$ |
| D | $\mathbf{1 1 1}$ |
| R | 001 |
| I | 000 |
| S | 1101 |
| U | $\mathbf{1 1 0 0}$ |

1001001100001101110011101101110110

| 10 | 01 | 001 | 10 | 000 | 11011100 | 111 | 01 | 10 | 111 | 01 | 10 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| K | $\mathbf{I}$ | R | K | I | S | u | D | I | K | D | I | K |

## Prefix-Free Codes

| character | code |
| :---: | :---: |
| K | 10 |
| I | 01 |
| D | 111 |
| R | 001 |
| I | 000 |
| S | 1101 |
| u | 1100 |

1001001100001101110011101101110110

## Prefix-Free Codes

## Prefix-Free Codes



## Transmitting the Tree

- In order to decompress the text, we have to remember what encoding we used!
- Idea: Prefix the compressed data with a header containing information to rebuild the tree.

Encoding Tree 110111001011101111000100110101011110...

- This might increase the total file size!
- Theorem: There is no compression algorithm that can always compress all inputs.
- Proof: Take CS103!


## Summary of Huffman Coding

- Prefix-free codes can be modeled as binary trees with characters in the leaves.
- Huffman coding assembles an encoding tree by repeatedly combining the lowestfrequency trees together until only one tree remains.
- We need to send the encoding table with the compressed message for it to be decoded, which can increase file sizes.


## More to Explore

- Kolmogorov Complexity
- What's the theoretical limit to compression techniques?
- Adaptive Coding Techniques
- Can you change your encoding system as you go?
- Shannon Entropy
- A mathematical bound on Huffman coding.
- Binary Tries
- Other applications of trees like these!


## Next Time

- Graphs
- Representing networks of all sorts.
- Graph Searches
- A new perspective on some earlier ideas.


## Appendix: UTF-8

## Beyond ASCII

- ASCII was invented in 1960s America, when the main concern was storing English text.
- It's completely inadequate for storing the rich breadth of characters that actually get used across the whole world in the 2020s.
- What are we using now?


## Unicode

- Unicode is a system for representing glyphs and symbols from all languages and disciplines.
- One of the most common encodings is UTF-8, which uses sequences of bytes to represent any one individual character.
- The basic idea:
- UTF-8 is a prefix code, so less common characters like and $\bar{\xi}$ 而 use more bits than common characters like e and 你.
- UTF-8 encodings are always a full multiple of 8 bits long, making it easier for computers to work one byte at a time.
- UTF-8 is backwards-compatible with ASCII, so any text encoded with ASCII is also valid UTF-8.


## UTF-8

## Option 1

## 0ddddddd

Option 2
110ddddd 10dddddd
Option 3
1110dddd 10dddddd 10dddddd
Option 4
11110ddd 10dddddd 10dddddd 10dddddd

## UTF-8

## 11110000100111111001010110001100

## UTF-8

## 11110000100111111001010110001100

## UTF-8

## 11110000100111111001010110001100 11110000100111111001010110001100

## UTF-8

## 11110000100111111001010110001100 $1111000010 \underline{0111111001010110001100}$

## UTF-8

## 11110000100111111001010110001100 11110000100111111001010110001100

## 0000011111010101001100

## UTF-8

## 11110000100111111001010110001100 11110000100111111001010110001100

## 0000011111010101001100

