

Edit distance

středa 8. října 2025 20:53

$\Sigma \dots$ alphabet

$$x, y \in \Sigma^*$$

edit distance of x & y : $ED(x, y) = \#$ of insertions/deletions/substitutions needed to transform x into y .

variants: • $HAM(x, y) = \#$ of substitutions needed to transform x to y

• $INSDEL(x, y) = \#$ of insertions/deletions needed to transform x into y .

Ex: $x = TEACHER$
 $y = CHEATER$

$$ED(x, y) = 4$$

$$HAM(x, y) = 5$$

$$INSDEL(x, y) = 6$$

$$x = 010101 \dots 1$$

$$y = 101010 \dots 0$$

$$ED(x, y) = 2$$

$$HAM(x, y) = n$$

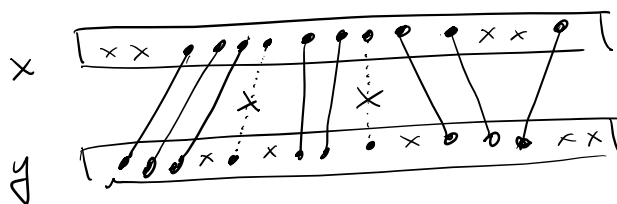
$$INSDEL(x, y) = 2$$

$$n = |x| = |y|$$

Further variants: weighted ED, copy/move block

↳ different substitutions have different cost
 insertions/deletions

Alignment/matching:



matching equal symbols is the optimal alignment

Prop.: $ED(x, y) = \min_i ED(x_1 \dots x_{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor}, y_1 \dots y_i) + ED(x_{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 1} \dots x_n, y_{i+1} \dots y_n)$

$$x = x_1 \dots x_n$$

$$y = y_1 \dots y_n$$

$$x_{i..j} = \epsilon \text{ for } i > j$$

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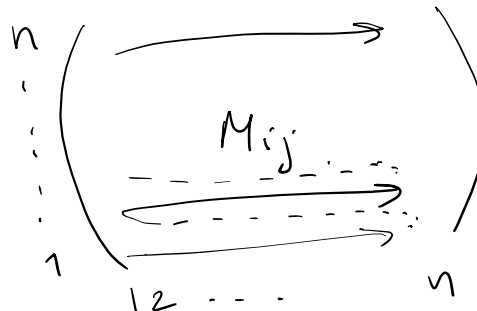
$$2) \text{ED}(u_x, u_y) = \text{ED}(x, y) = \text{ED}(x_u, y_u)$$

→ time $O(n^5)$... $\forall i \leq j, k \leq l$ compute $\text{ED}(x_{i..j}, y_{k..l})$.

Prop: $\text{ED}(x_{1..i}, y_{1..j}) = \min \begin{cases} 1 + \text{ED}(x_{1..i-1}, y_{1..j}) & \text{del } x_i \\ 1 + \text{ED}(x_{1..i}, y_{1..j-1}) & \text{del } y_j \\ 1 + \text{ED}(x_{1..i-1}, y_{1..j-1}) & x_i \neq y_j \\ \text{ED}(x_{1..i-1}, y_{1..j-1}) & x_i = y_j \end{cases}$

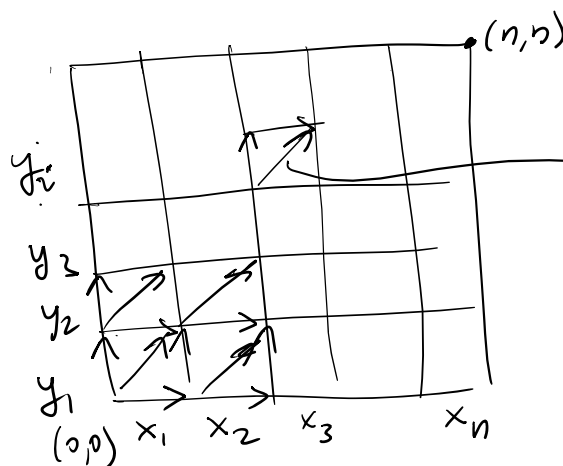
→ alg for $\text{ED}(x, y)$: for $j = 0$ to n , for $i = 0$ to n compute $\text{ED}(x_{1..i}, y_{1..j})$

Edit distance matrix M : $n \times n$ matrix



$$M_{ij} = \text{ED}(x_{1..i}, y_{1..j})$$

Edit distance graph $G_{x,y}$:



$(n+1) \times (n+1)$ grid

cost of edge: diag. $\nearrow$

$(i-1, j-1) \rightarrow (i, j)$

$$\text{is } \begin{cases} 1 & x_i \neq y_j \\ 0 & x_i = y_j \end{cases}$$

→ horizontal ↑ vertical cost 1.

any path from $(0,0)$ to (n,n) corresponds to a sequence of operations:

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horizontal edge ... delete x_i

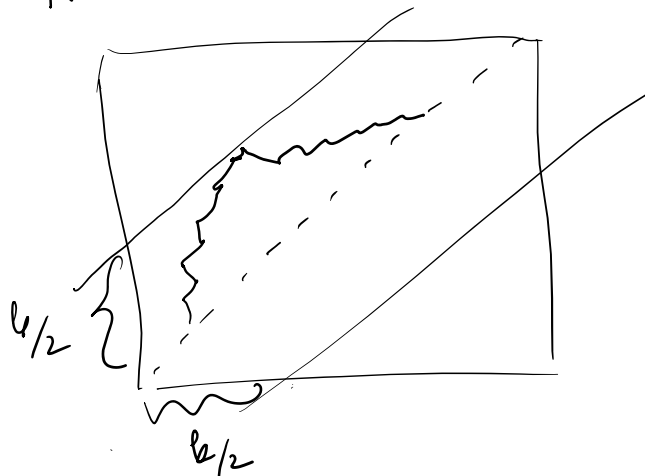
vertical edge ... delete y_j

diagonal edge ... match/substitute x_i to y_j

Prop: $ED(x,y) = \text{cost of shortest path from } (0,0) \text{ to } (n,n)$.

$$k = \text{dist} ED(x,y)$$

• alg for $ED(x,y)$ in time $O(n \cdot k)$:



cost at least k to reach diagonal
 $= \frac{k}{2}$ or $\frac{k}{2}$
 (and back)

for $k = 1, 2, 4, \dots, 2^i \dots$ check shortest path between $(0,0)$ & (n,n) restricted to diagonals $-k, \dots, k$.

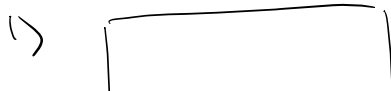
$O(n \cdot k)$ size graph

Prop: For $v \in V(G_{x,y})$, let cost $c_v = \text{distance of } v \text{ from } (0,0)$.

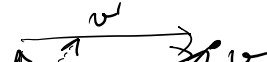
1) $\forall u, v$: u & v connected by an edge $\rightarrow |c_u - c_v| \leq 1$

2) $\forall u, v$: if u  connected by a diagonal edge $\rightarrow c_u \leq c_v$.

Pf:

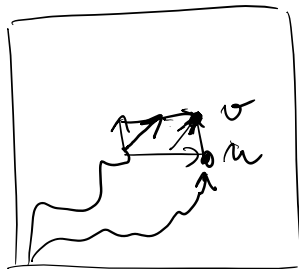


For contradiction.
 2) take u, v with smallest $c_u > c_v$

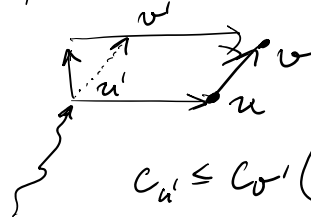


15:

1)



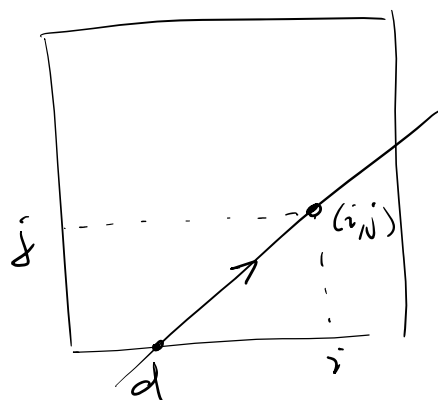
2) take u, v with smaller c_u ...



$c_u \leq c_v$ (otherwise u, v are not minimal)

$\Rightarrow c_u \leq c_v$. X

$\rightarrow$ cost of vertices is monotone non-decreasing along each diagonal

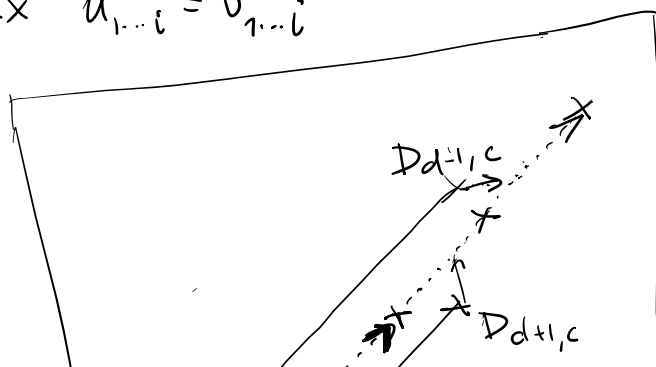


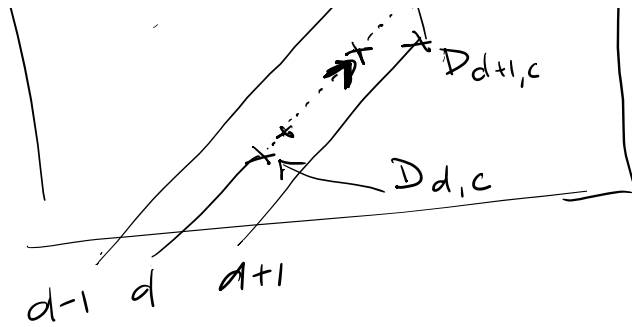
diagonal
 $d = i - j$

$d \in [-k, k]$, define $D_{d,c} = \text{furthermost } j \text{ s.t. } C_{(j+d, j)} \leq c$.

$$(*) \quad D_{d, c+1} = \min \begin{cases} 1 + \text{LCP}(x_{d+1+D_{d,c}} \dots n, y_{1+D_{d,c}} \dots n) \\ \text{LCP}(x_{d+D_{d-1,c}} \dots n, y_{D_{d-1,c}} \dots n) \\ 1 + \text{LCP}(x_{d+1+D_{d+1,c}} \dots n, y_{D_{d+1,c}} \dots n) \end{cases}$$

$$\text{LCP}(u, v) = \max_i u_{1 \dots i} = v_{1 \dots i}$$





→ alg for $ED(x, y)$: compute $D_{d,c}$ for $d \in [-k, k]$
 using (*) $c \in \{0 \dots k\}$
 check if we reach (n, n)
 (i.e. $D_{0,k} \geq n$.)

→ $O(k^2)$ LCP queries for suffixes of x & y .

• Claim: in time $O(n)$ we can preprocess x & y so that
 LCP queries on suffixes of x & y can
 be answered in time $\tilde{O}(1)$.

• $\tilde{O}(1) = \text{poly-log}(n)$. (probabilistic preprocessing, all queries
 will be answered correctly w. prob $\geq 1 - \frac{1}{n}$.)

Karp - Rabin fingerprint:

prime $p \approx n^{10}$, $\text{GF}_p \dots$ Finite Field of size p
 (=computing mod p)

for $x, y \in \text{GF}_p$ pick $g \in \text{GF}_p \setminus \{0\}$ at random.

Prepare three arrays: $\text{GF} [g^1 | g^2 | \dots | g^n]$

$F_x []$

$$F_x[l] \quad | \quad \text{_____}$$

$$F_y[l] \quad | \quad \text{_____}$$

$$F_x[l] = \sum_{i=1}^l x_i \cdot g^i \quad F_y[l] = \sum_{i=1}^l y_i \cdot g^i$$

to check $x_{i+1} \dots i+l = y_{j+1} \dots j+l$

test whether
$$g^{j-i} \cdot (F_y[j+l] - F_y[j]) = \quad (**)$$

$$= F_x[i+l] - F_x[i]$$

→ use binary search to find maximum l s.t.

$$x_i \dots x_{i+l} = y_j \dots y_{j+l}$$

to answer $LCP(x_{i..n}, y_{j..n})$. □

Prop: if $x_{i+1} \dots i+l = y_{j+1} \dots j+l$ then $(**)$ is always true.
 if $x_{i+1} \dots i+l \neq y_{j+1} \dots j+l$ then $(**)$ w.p.
 $\leq \frac{n}{p} = \frac{1}{n^9}$.

(two distinct polynomials
 of degree $\leq n$ agree on at most
 n points) ↗

By union bound over choices of i, j, l

the probability that $(**)$ gives correct answer
 for all substrings of x & $y \geq 1 - \frac{n^2}{n^9} \geq 1 - \frac{1}{n}$.

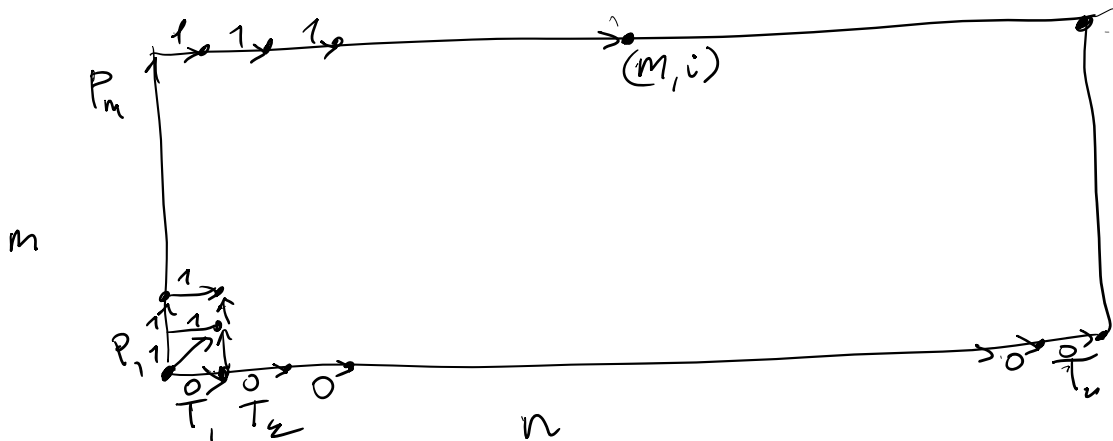
(in this case the binary search always
 finds correct LCP value.)

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Approximate Pattern Matching upto k -edits

pattern P , text T $|P|=m$ & $|T|=n$

Goal: Find all $i \in [n]$ st. $\min_{j < i} \text{ED}(P, T_{j..i}) \leq k$



Take the ED graph of P & T and give 0 cost to the bottom horizontal edges

Claim: cost of $(0,0) \rightarrow (m,i) = \min_j \text{ED}(P, T_{j..i})$

→ want to find all points (m,i) where the cost $\leq k$.

Solution: For each diagonal in the graph determine the farthest point reachable for cost $\leq k$.
 - use the same algorithm as for the $(m+k^2)$ ED algorithm

→ for each of the n diagonals, needs to make $3k$ LCP queries

→ $\tilde{O}(n \cdot k)$ time to execute the algorithm.

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