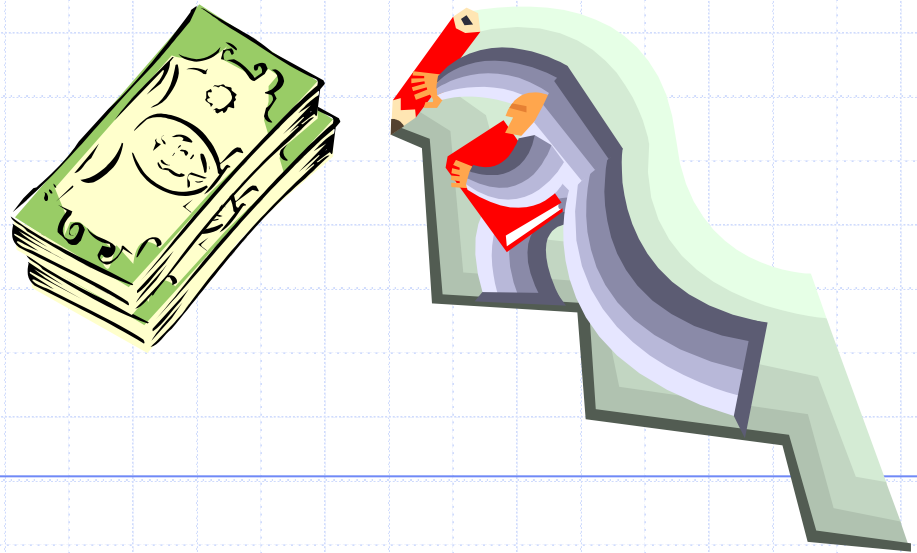
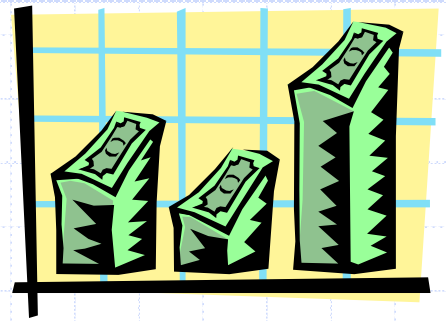


# The Greedy Method and Text Compression



# 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.

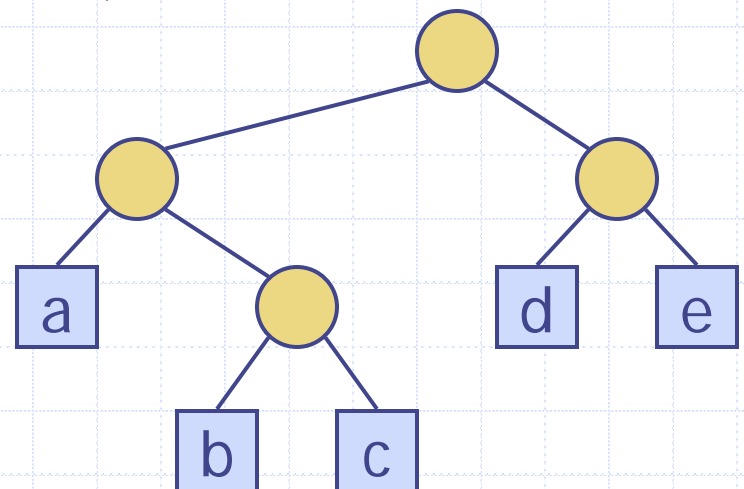
# Text Compression

- ◆ 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

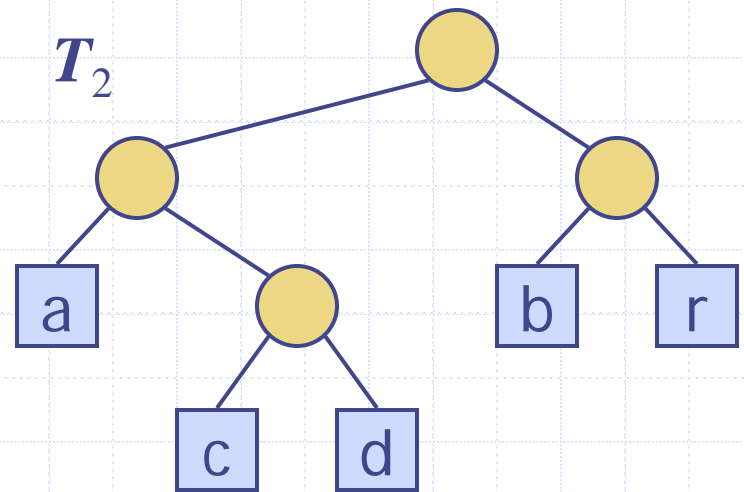
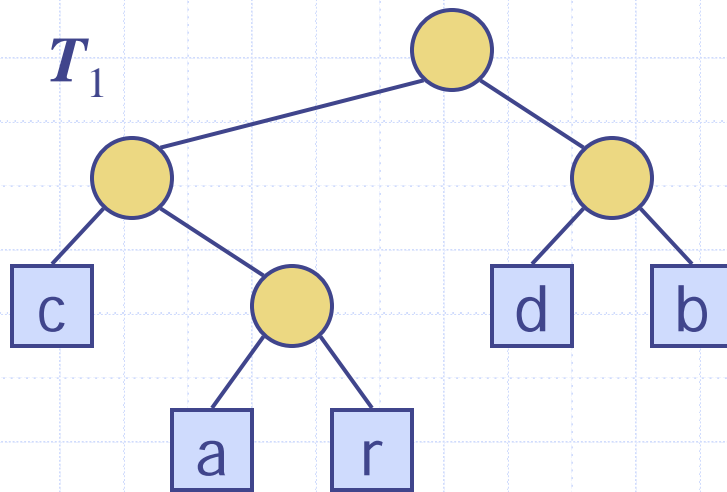
- ◆ A **code** is a mapping of each character of an alphabet to a binary code-word
- ◆ A **prefix code** is a binary code such that no code-word is the prefix of another code-word
- ◆ An **encoding tree** represents a prefix code
  - Each external node stores a character
  - The code word of a character 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 long code-words
  - Rare characters should have short code-words
- ◆ Example
  - $X = \text{abracadabra}$
  - $T_1$  encodes  $X$  into 29 bits
  - $T_2$  encodes  $X$  into 24 bits



# Huffman's Algorithm

- ◆ Given a string  $X$ , Huffman's algorithm constructs a prefix code that 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 trie for  $X$

$C \leftarrow \text{distinctCharacters}(X)$

$\text{computeFrequencies}(C, X)$

$Q \leftarrow$  new empty heap

**for all**  $c \in C$

$T \leftarrow$  new single-node tree storing  $c$

$Q.\text{insert}(\text{getFrequency}(c), T)$

**while**  $Q.\text{size}() > 1$

$f_1 \leftarrow Q.\text{minKey}()$

$T_1 \leftarrow Q.\text{removeMin}()$

$f_2 \leftarrow Q.\text{minKey}()$

$T_2 \leftarrow Q.\text{removeMin}()$

$T \leftarrow \text{join}(T_1, T_2)$

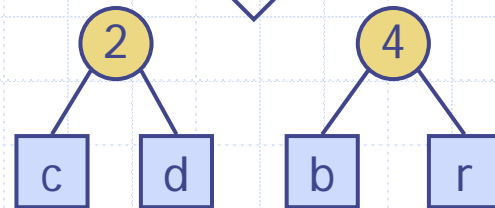
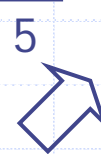
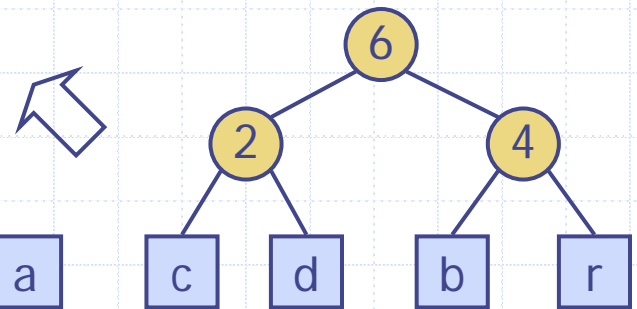
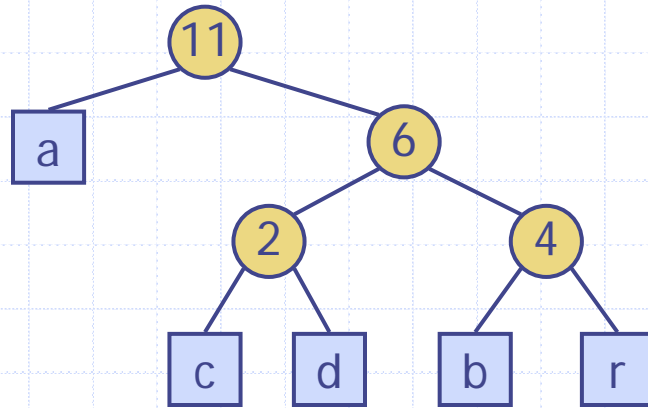
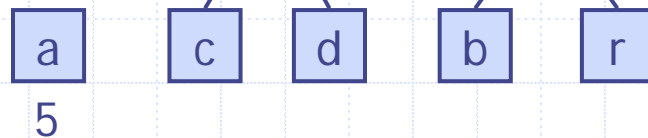
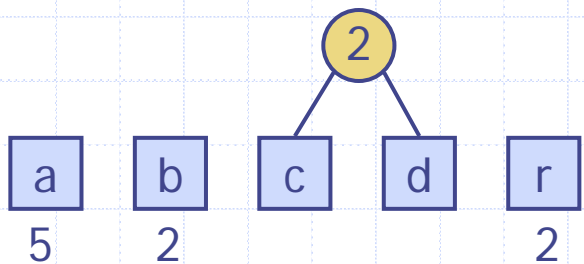
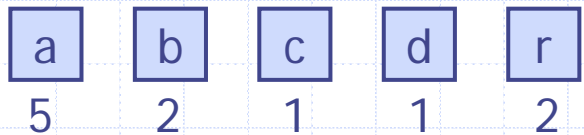
$Q.\text{insert}(f_1 + f_2, T)$

**return**  $Q.\text{removeMin}()$

# Example

$X = \text{abracadabra}$   
Frequencies

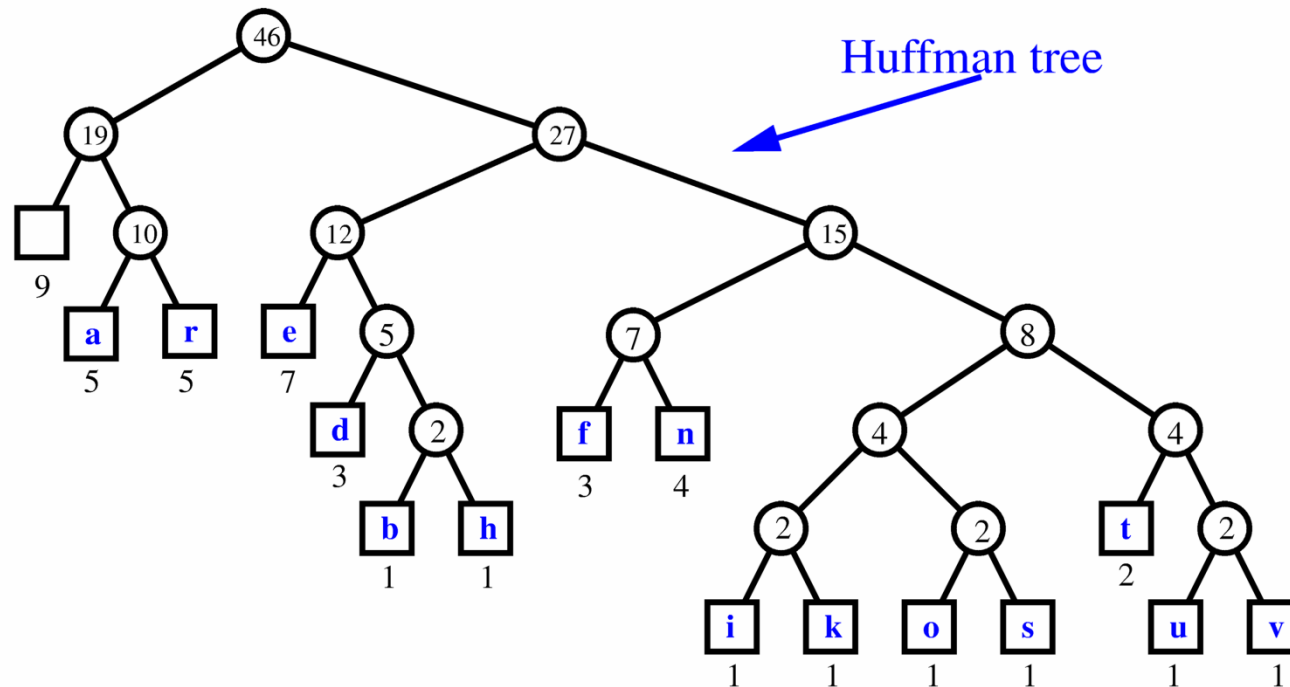
a	b	c	d	r
5	2	1	1	2



# Extended Huffman Tree Example

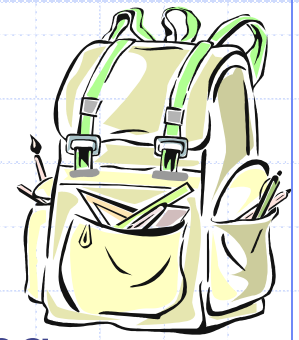
String: **a fast runner need never be afraid of the dark**

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  $x_i$  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:					
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  $S$**

$x_i \leftarrow 0$

$v_i \leftarrow b_i / w_i$  {value}

$w \leftarrow 0$  {total weight}

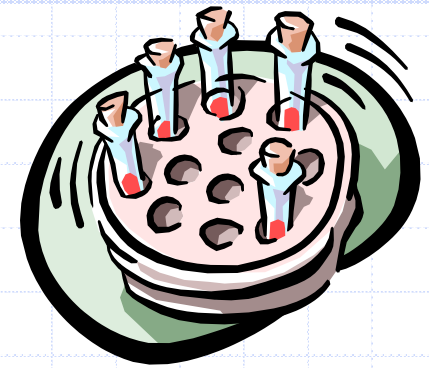
**while  $w < W$**

*remove item  $i$  w/ highest  $v_i$*

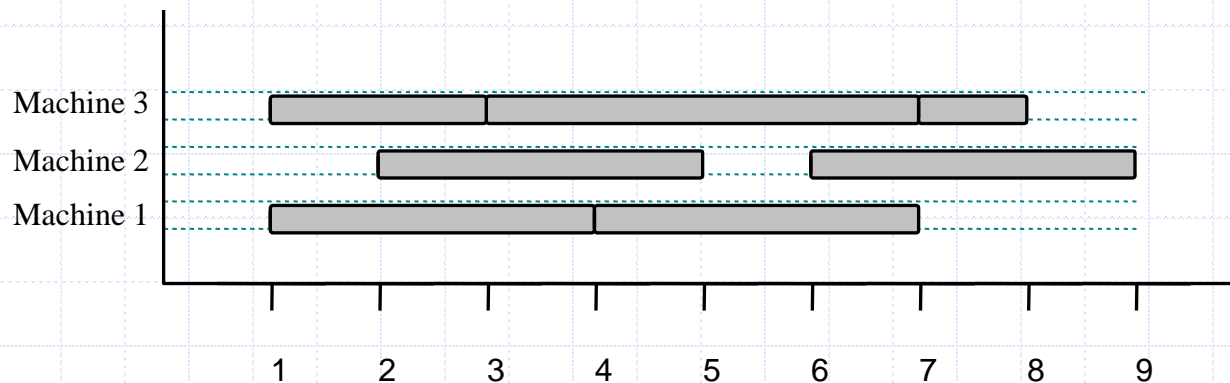
$x_i \leftarrow \min\{w_i, W - w\}$

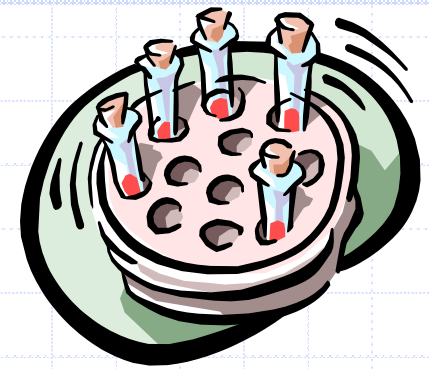
$w \leftarrow w + \min\{w_i, W - w\}$

# 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  $k$
  - Machine  $i$  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

$m \leftarrow 0$  {no. of machines}

**while**  $T$  is not empty

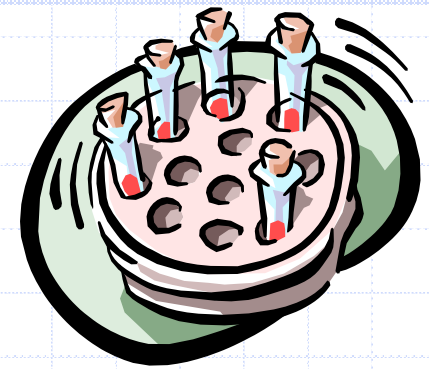
*remove task  $i$  w/ smallest  $s_i$*

**if** *there's a machine  $j$  for  $i$*  **then**  
        *schedule  $i$  on machine  $j$*

**else**

$m \leftarrow m + 1$

*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

