

The String Matching Algorithm Research Tool

Simone Faro, Thierry Lecroq, Stefano Borzi, Simone Di Mauro
and Alessandro Maggio

Dipartimento di Matematica e Informatica, Università di Catania, Italy
LITIS, University of Rouen, France

Prague Stringology Conference
29 – 31 August 2016 – Prague, Czech Republic



Exact String Matching

Problem

Searching for all exact occurrences of a pattern x ($|x| = m$) in a text y ($|y| = n$)

Solutions (KMP, BM, ...)

Preprocessing of the pattern and use of a sliding window

String Matching Algorithms Research Tool

- implemented in the C programming language
- repository of implemented algorithms and text corpora
- framework to evaluate the performances of algorithms
- possibility of easily plug new algorithms

State of the Art

- many algorithms
- Hume and Sunday framework, 1991
- Charras and Lecroq ESMAJ, PSCW'98
- some surveys: Faro and Lecroq, PSC'11

Implemented algorithms

120 algorithms (300 variants)

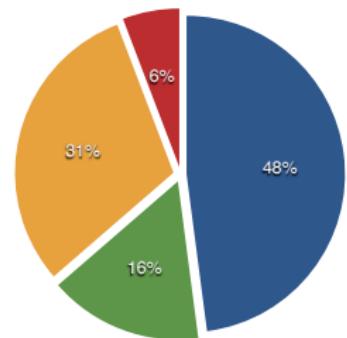
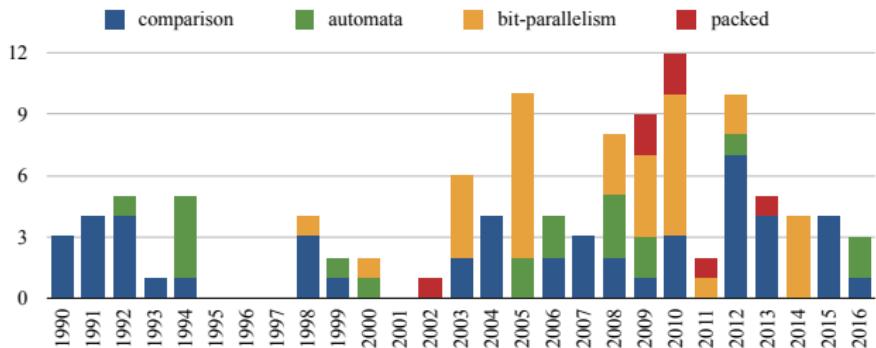
- classical
- most efficient
- hardware aware
- more in:

S. Faro

Exact online string matching bibliography

CoRR, abs/1605.05067, 2016

Implemented algorithms



Text Corpora

- 2 English texts (6.1 MB, 94 characters)
- 7 Italian texts (5 MB, 120 characters)
- 7 French texts (6.6 MB, 119 characters)
- 5 Chinese texts (6.6 MB, 160 characters)
- *E. coli* (4.4 MB, 4 characters)
- a set of protein sequences (3.1 MB, 20 characters)
- a set of midi sequences (2.7 MB, 117 characters)
- $\text{rand}\sigma$ random texts over an alphabet of size σ , uniform distribution,
 $\sigma \in \{2, 4, 8, 16, 32, 64, 128, 256\}$
- one can easily add a new corpus

Running experiments

One can easily:

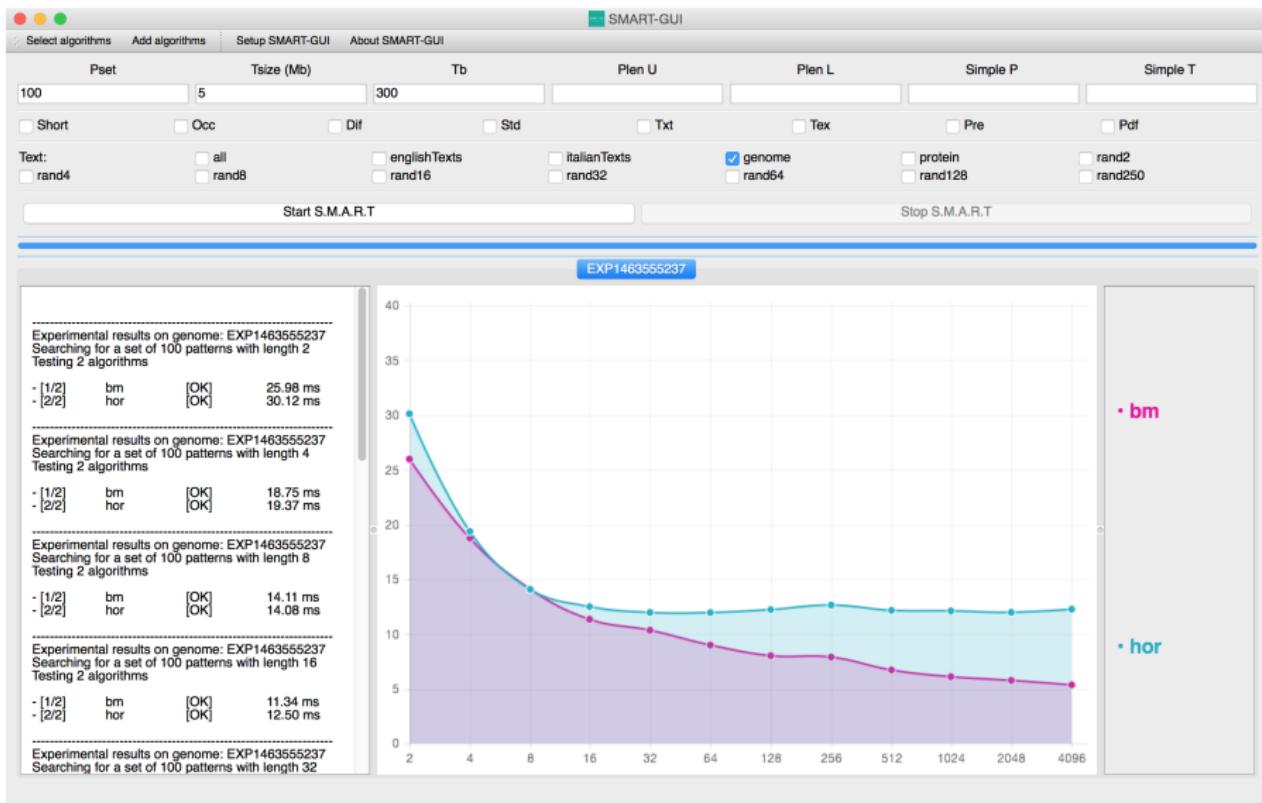
- select/unselect algorithms
- launch smart with different parameters
- plug your own algorithms

Outputs

- simple text
- \LaTeX
- xml
- html
- php

GUI

- implemented in C++
- Qt WebKit



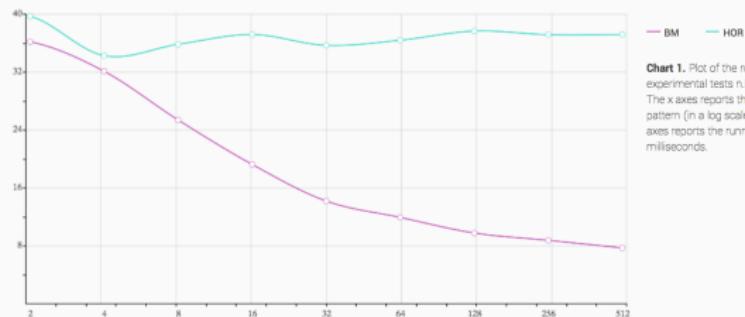
Report of Experimental Results

Test Code EXP1463554145
 Date 2016/05/18 08:49:06
 Text rand2 (alphabet : 2 - size : 5242880 bytes)

	2	4	8	16	32	64	128	256	512
BM	36.20	32.12	25.39	19.25	14.19	11.93	9.77	8.76	7.71
HDR	39.74	34.27	35.85	37.20	35.70	36.41	37.68	37.18	37.20

Table 1. Running times of experimental tests n.EXP1463554145. Each time value is the mean of 100 runs. Running times are in milliseconds.

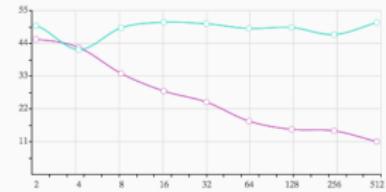
Average Running Times



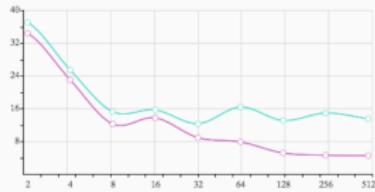
BM HDR

Chart 1. Plot of the running times of experimental tests n.EXP1463554145. The x axes reports the length of the pattern (in a log scale) while the y axes reports the running time in milliseconds.

Worst Running Times



Best Running Times



Experiments

Efficiency

- mean of running times over a large set of runs
- includes preprocessing

Stability

standard deviation of running times

Flexibility

ability of an algorithm to perform well in different situations

Conclusion

- available at <http://www.dmi.unict.it/~faro/smart/> and <https://github.com/smart-tool>
- already used in different studies
- must take into account 128-bit machines

Thank you for your attention!