

# **Prefix normal words, binary jumbled pattern matching, and bubble languages**

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Frank Ruskey, and Joe Sawada

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# How marrying two topics can lead to an explosion of results

## Outline

- def 1: prefix normal words
- motivation: binary jumbled pattern matching
- def 2: bubble languages
- the marriage
- ↵ generation algorithm, enumeration results, testing algorithm, experimental results, new insights, and, and, and ...

# Prefix Normal Words

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Fici, L. (DLT 2011)

## Definition

A binary word  $w$  is **prefix normal** (w.r.t. 1) if  $\forall 1 \leq k \leq |w|$ , no substring of length  $k$  has more 1s than the prefix of length  $k$ .

## Example

$$w = 10111001001111110010$$

$$w' = 11101001011001010010$$

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$\mathcal{L}_{\text{PN}}$  = all prefix normal words.

Exists canonical prefix normal **form** of  $w$ :  $\text{PNF}_1(w)$ .

## Binary Jumbled Pattern Matching (BJPM)

Does  $w = \mathbf{10100110110001110010}$  have a substring of length 11 containing exactly 5 ones? (Online: easy. Indexed: ?)

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(PSC'09, LSD/LAW, FUN 2010, IPL 2010, JDA 2012, ToCS 2012, IJFCS 2012, CPM'12, IPL 2013 × 2, SPIRE'12, ESA'13 × 2, SPIRE'13, arxiv 2014 × 3)

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Interval property  $\rightsquigarrow$  linear size index:

Fix length  $k$  of substrings: no. 1s builds an interval.

Ex:  $k = 4 : 1, 2, 3$  ones.

For each  $k$ , store max and min no. of 1s.

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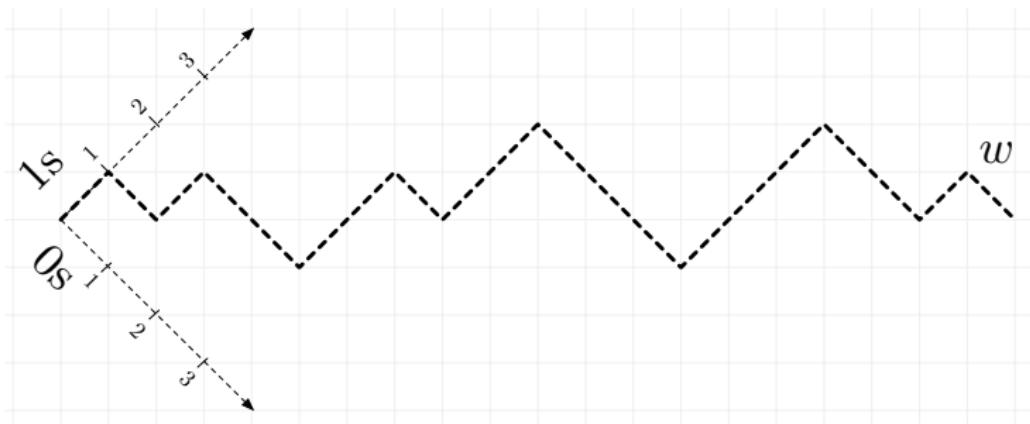
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Research problem:

Compute this index efficiently.

## BJPM with prefix normal forms

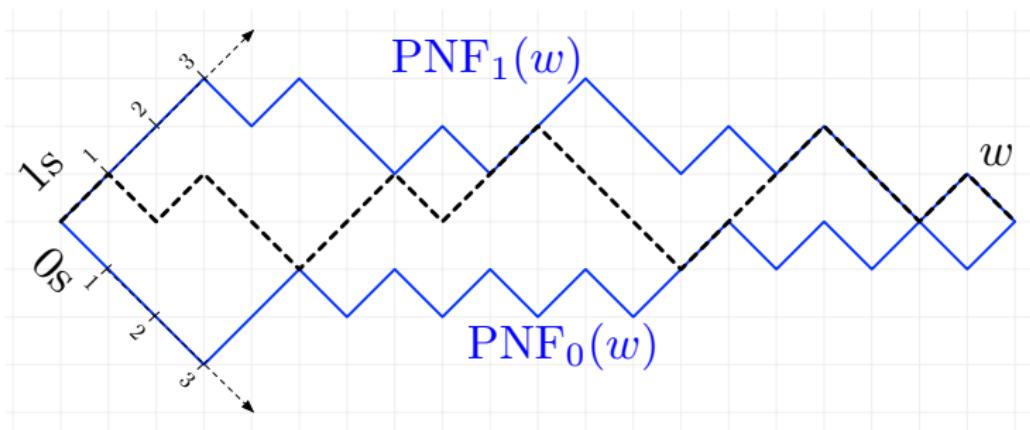
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$$\nearrow = 1, \searrow = 0,$$

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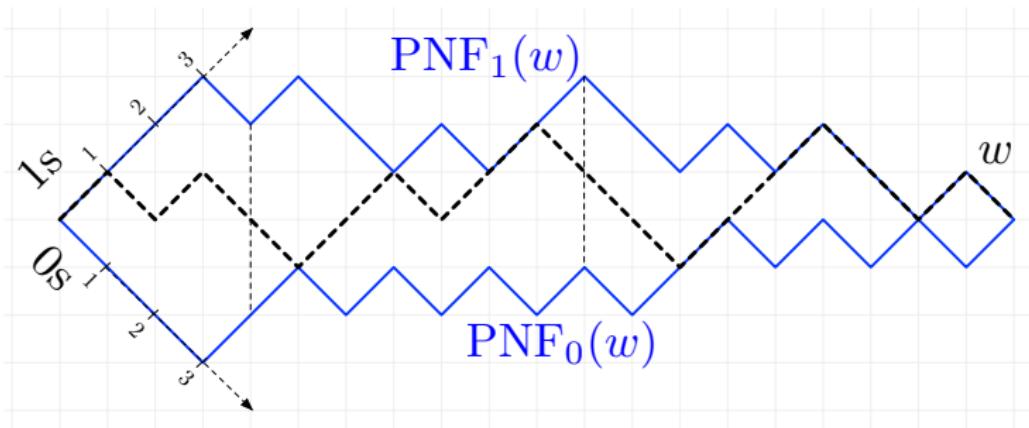
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$\nearrow = 1$ ,  $\searrow = 0$ , Blue: prefix normal forms of  $w$

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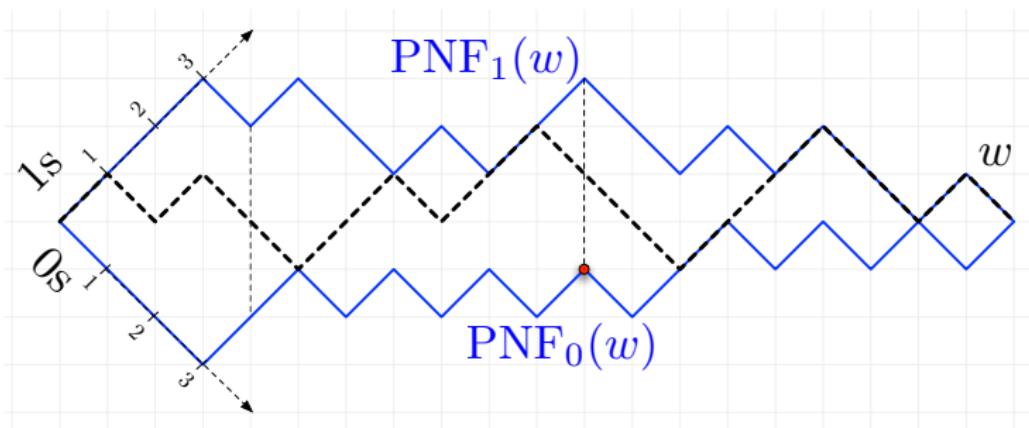
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## BJPM with prefix normal forms

Does  $w = 10100110110001110010$  have a substring of length 11 containing exactly 5 ones? YES



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## BJPM with prefix normal forms

Does  $w = \mathbf{10100110110001110010}$  have a substring of length 11 containing exactly 5 ones? **YES**

no. 1s in  $\text{pref}(\text{PNF}_1(w), 11) \geq 5 \geq$  no. 1s in  $\text{pref}(\text{PNF}_0(w), 11)$

Thus, fast computation of PNFs yields fast solution to BJPM.

# Bubble Languages

# Bubble languages

Ruskey, Sawada, Williams (JCombTh.A, 2012)

Sawada, Williams (EIJComb. 2012)

## Definition

A binary language  $\mathcal{L}$  is called **bubble** if, for all  $w \in \mathcal{L}$ , exchanging the first 01 with 10, results in another word in  $\mathcal{L}$ .

## Example

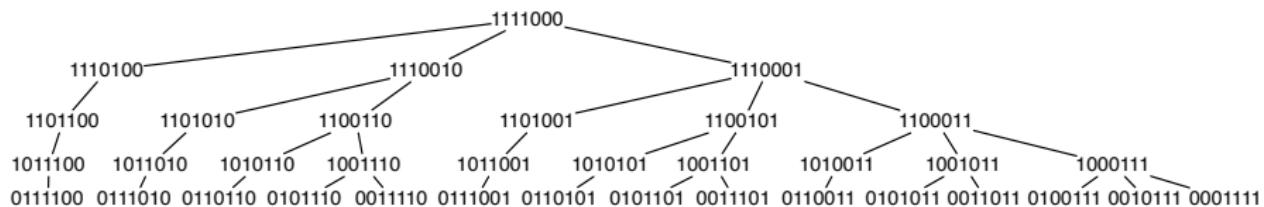
- $\{1001, 1010, 1100, 1000, 0000\}$  – YES
- $\{1001, 1010\}$  – NO

## Theorem

$\mathcal{L}_{PN}$  is a bubble language.

# An alternative characterization of bubble languages

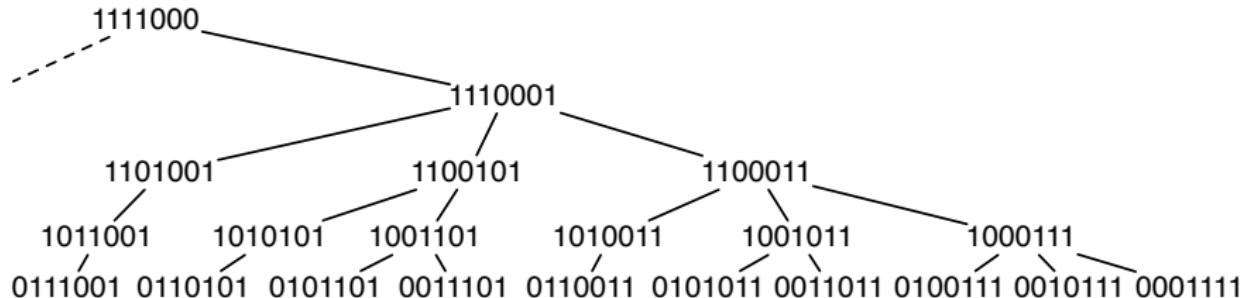
The **bubble tree**  $T_d^n$  on all strings of length  $n$  with  $d$  ones:



$v = 1^s 0^t \gamma$ , children of  $v$ :  $1^{s-1} 0^i 1 0^{t-i} \gamma$ , for  $i = 1, \dots, t$ .

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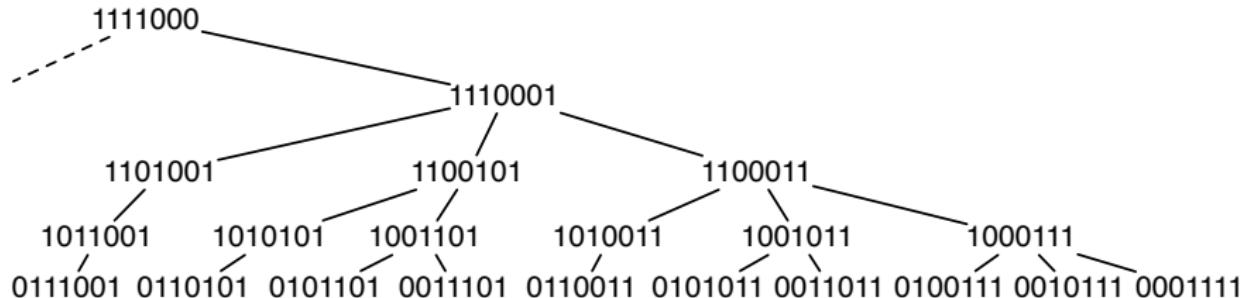
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## Observation

A language is **bubble** iff it is left- and up-closed in  $T_d^n$ , for all  $n, d$ .

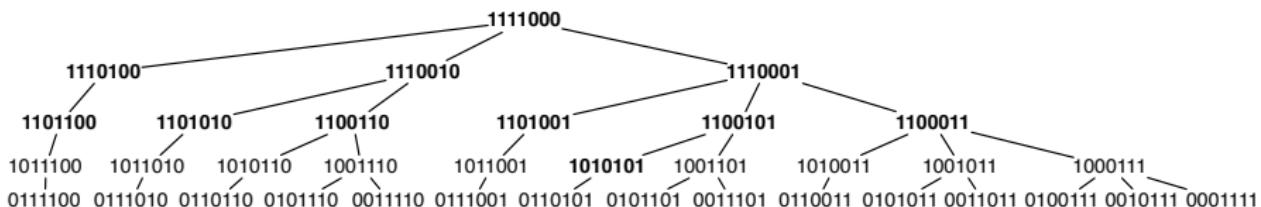
## Bubble miracles

Let  $\mathcal{L}$  be a bubble language.

- (Fixed-density subsets of)  $\mathcal{L}$  are subtrees in the  $T_d^n$ 's
- Traversal of these subtrees = generation algorithm for  $\mathcal{L}$ .  
(enumeration, listing)
- post-order yields a Gray code for  $\mathcal{L}$  (**cool-lex order**)
- Need only: For  $w \in \mathcal{L}$ , which is the **rightmost** child still in  $\mathcal{L}$ ?  
(**Oracle** for  $\mathcal{L}$ )
- If Oracle in time  $O(f(n) \cdot k)$ , where  $k =$  rightmost child, then  
generation algorithm in  $O(f(n))$  **amortized** time per word.

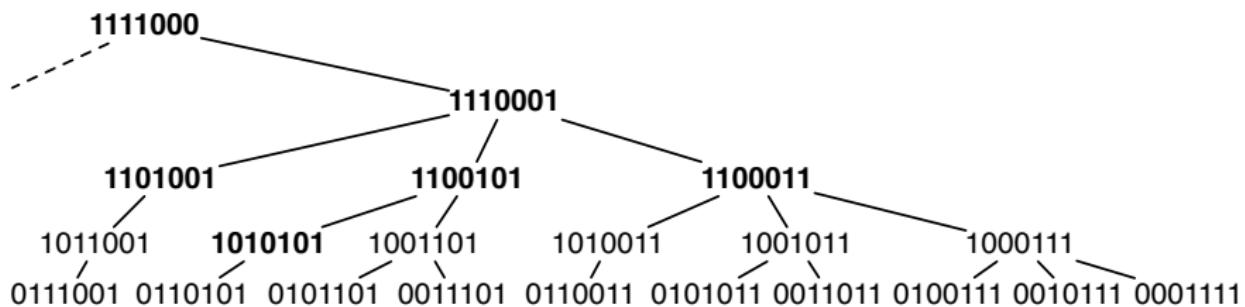
# **Prefix Normal Words and Bubble Languages**

## $\mathcal{L}_{\text{PN}}$ in the bubble tree



For every node in  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{PN}}$ , we need to decide which is **rightmost** child in  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{PN}}$ .

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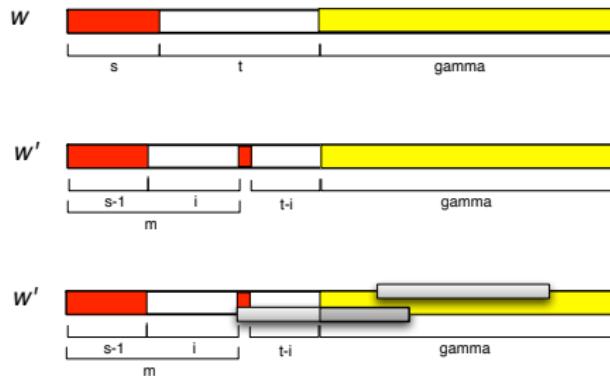
# Oracle for $\mathcal{L}_{PN}$

## Theorem

Let  $w \in \mathcal{L}_{PN}$  and  $w'$  one of its children. Then it can be decided in linear time whether  $w' \in \mathcal{L}_{PN}$ .

(using some additional data structure, linear time+space)

## Proof



## Bubble miracles for prefix normal words

- Efficient generation algorithm for  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{PN}}$ : **amortized linear time** per word  
**conjectured  $O(\log n)$**
- Best previous:  $O(2^n n^2)$  time; very substantial improvement  
(no. pn-words grows much slower than  $2^n$ )
- **Gray code** for  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{PN}}$
- **enumeration results** (experiments)—not possible before!
- many **new insights** from the bubble property, the generation algorithm, the new representation of prefix normal words
- and, and, and ...

# THANK YOU!

<http://arxiv.org/abs/1401.6346>

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