

## UNIT 7B

### Data Representation: Compression

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## Hash Tables in Ruby

- Last week we looked at hash tables as a means of determining whether a key is in a list in  $O(1)$  time.
- We can generalize this idea to associate a key with a value.
- Examples:
  - Employee name  $\Rightarrow$  Employee number
  - Product code  $\Rightarrow$  Price
  - Name in contacts list  $\Rightarrow$  Email address

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## Hash Tables in Ruby

```
>> h = Hash.new  
=>{}
```

```
>> h["Mercedes"] = 50000  
50000
```

```
>> h["Bentley"] = 120000  
120000
```

## Hash Tables in Ruby

```
>> h  
{ "Mercedes" => 50000,  
  "Bentley" => 120000 }
```

```
>> h["Mercedes"]  
=>50000
```

## Hash Tables in Ruby

```
>> h2 = {:apple => :red,  
         :banana => :yellow,  
         :cherry => :red}
```

```
>> h2[:banana]
```

```
⇒:yellow
```

```
>> h2.invert
```

```
⇒{:red => :cherry,  
   :yellow => :banana}
```

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## Alternative Constructor Syntax

```
>> h3 = {1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6}  
=> {5=>6, 1=>2, 3=>4}
```

```
>> h3.size
```

```
⇒3
```

```
>> h3[:woof]
```

```
⇒nil
```

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## Fixed-Width Encoding

- In a fixed-width encoding scheme, each character is given a binary code with the same number of bits.
  - Example:  
Standard ASCII is a fixed width encoding scheme, where each character is encoded with 7 bits.  
This gives us  $2^7 = 128$  different codes for characters.

## Fixed-Width Encoding

- Given a character set with  $n$  characters, what is the minimum number of bits needed for a fixed-width encoding of these characters?
  - Since a fixed width of  $k$  bits gives us  $n$  unique codes to use for characters, where  $n = 2^k$ .
  - So given  $n$  characters, the number of bits needed is given by  $k = \lceil \log_2 n \rceil$ . (We use the ceiling function since  $\log_2 n$  may not be an integer.)
  - Example: To encode just the alphabet A-Z using a fixed-width encoding, we would need  $\lceil \log_2 26 \rceil = 5$  bits:  
e.g. A => 00000, B => 00001, C => 00010, ..., Z => 11001.

## Using Fixed-Width Encoding

- If we have a fixed-width encoding scheme using  $n$  bits for a character set and we want to transmit or store a file with  $m$  characters, we would need  $mn$  bits to store the entire file.
- Can we do better?
  - If we assign fewer bits to more frequent characters, and more bits to less frequent characters, then the overall length of the message might be shorter.

## Huffman Coding

- We can use an encoding scheme named after David A. Huffman to compress our text without losing any information.
- Based on the idea that some characters occur more frequently than others.
- Huffman codes are not fixed-width.



# The Hawaiian Alphabet



- The Hawaiian alphabet consists of 13 characters.
  - ' is the okina which sometimes occurs between vowels (e.g. **KAMA' AINA** )
- The table to the right shows each character along with its relative frequency in Hawaiian words.

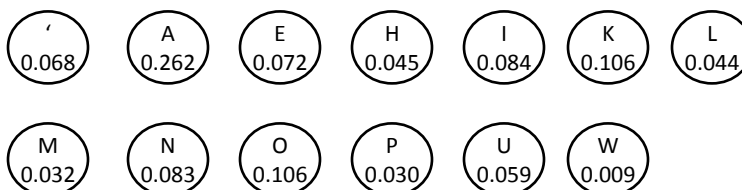
'	0.068
A	0.262
E	0.072
H	0.045
I	0.084
K	0.106
L	0.044
M	0.032
N	0.083
O	0.106
P	0.030
U	0.059
W	0.009

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# The Huffman Tree

- We use a tree structure to develop the unique binary code for each letter.
- Start with each letter/frequency as its own node:

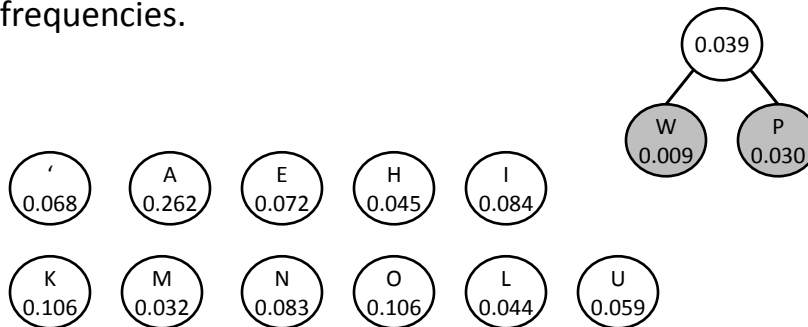


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# The Huffman Tree

- Combine lowest two frequency nodes into a tree with a new parent with the sum of their frequencies.

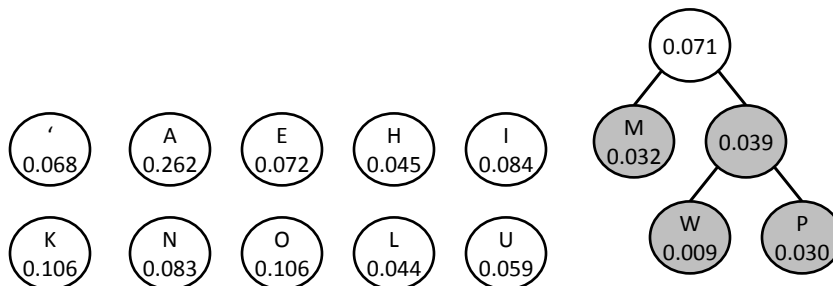


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# The Huffman Tree

- Combine lowest two frequency nodes (including the new node we just created) into a tree with a new parent with the sum of their frequencies.

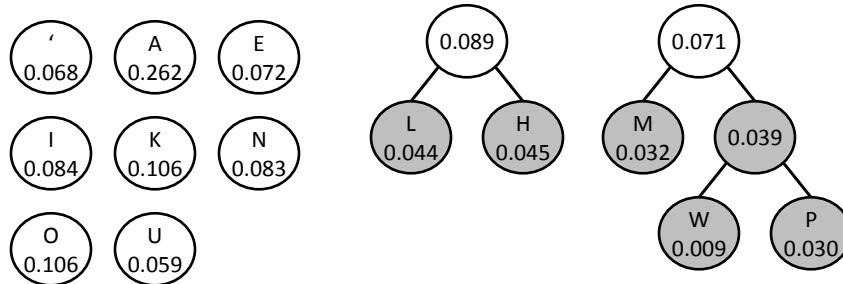


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# The Huffman Tree

- Combine lowest two frequency nodes (including the new node we just created) into a tree with a new parent with the sum of their frequencies.

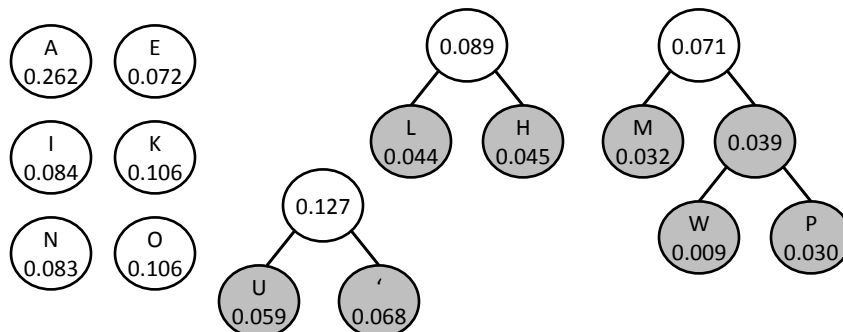


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# The Huffman Tree

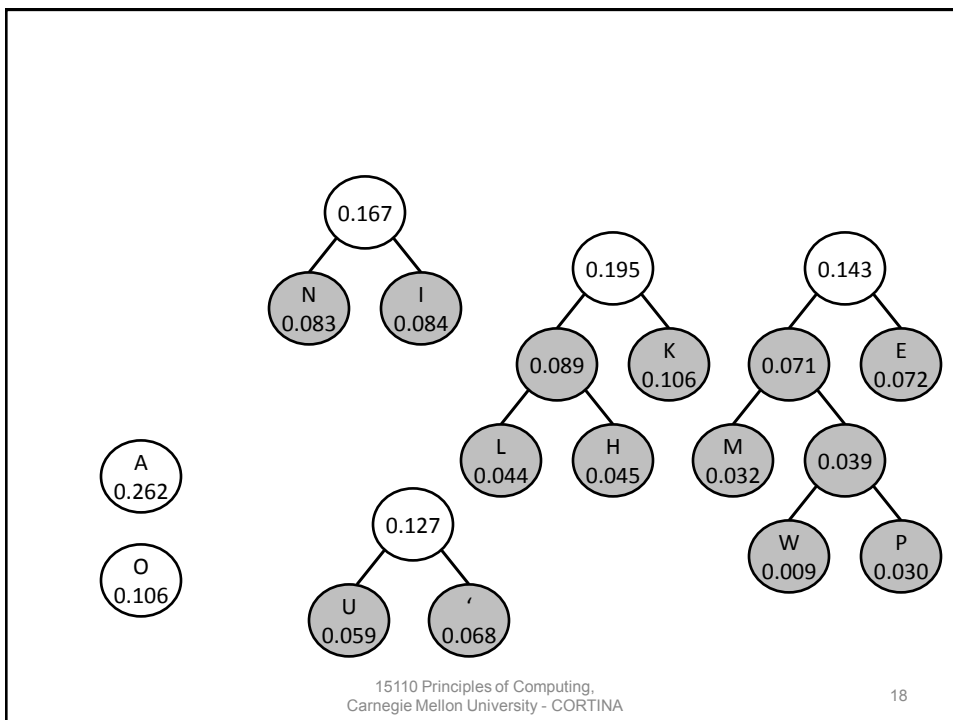
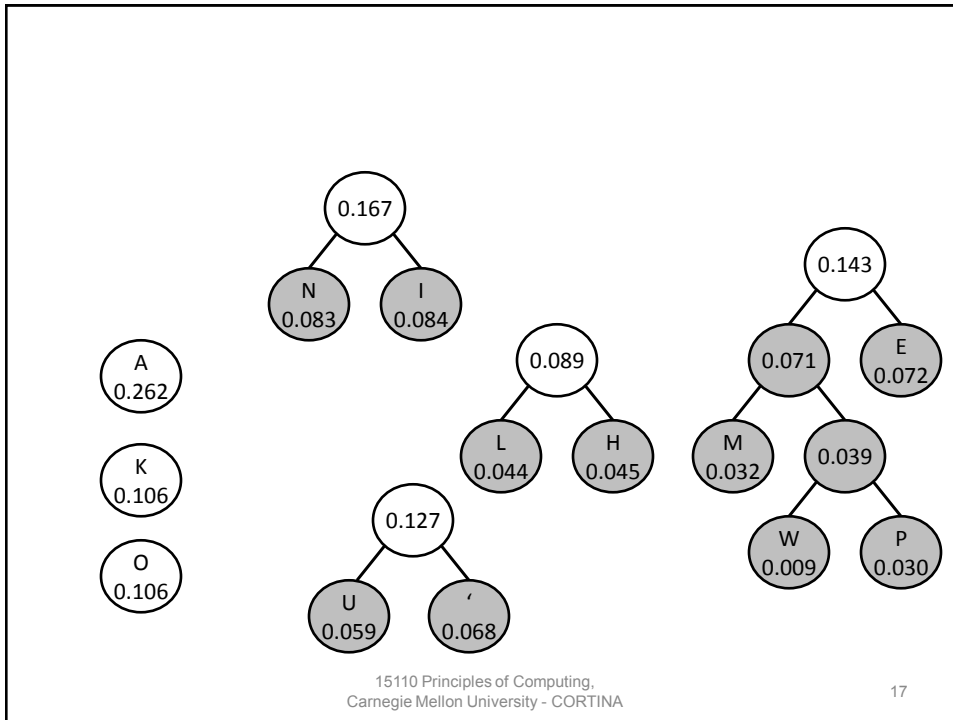
- Combine lowest two frequency nodes (including the new node we just created) into a tree with a new parent with the sum of their frequencies...



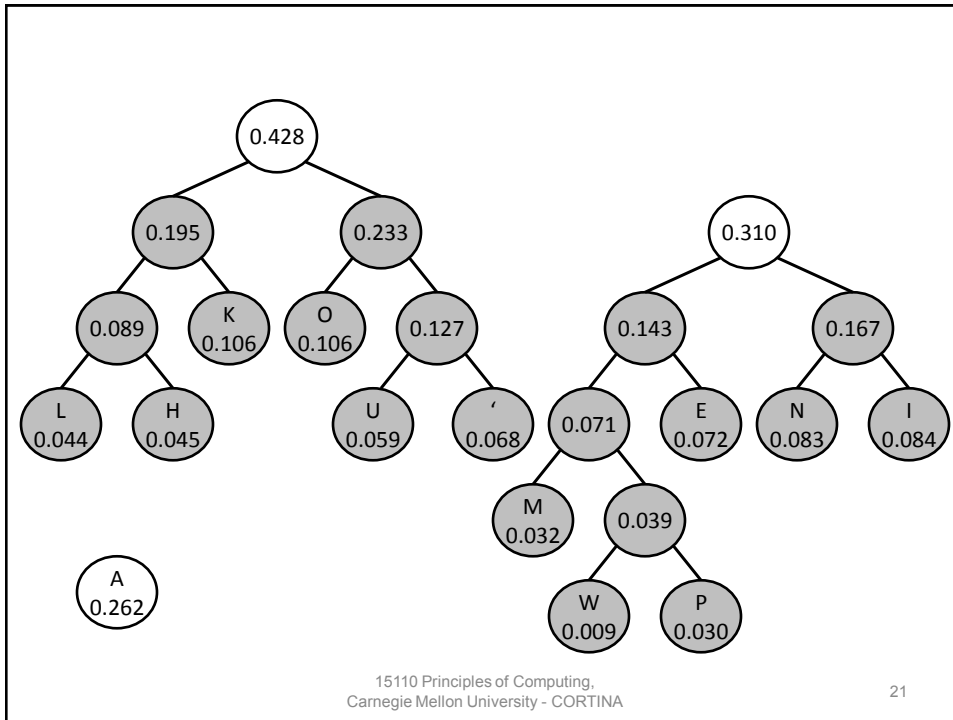
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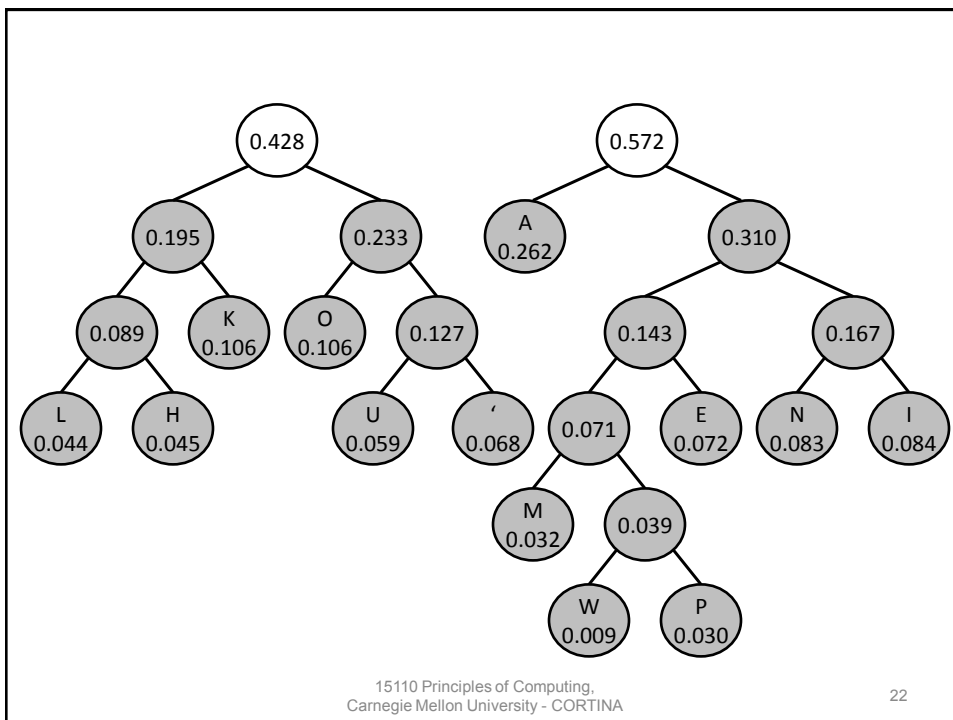




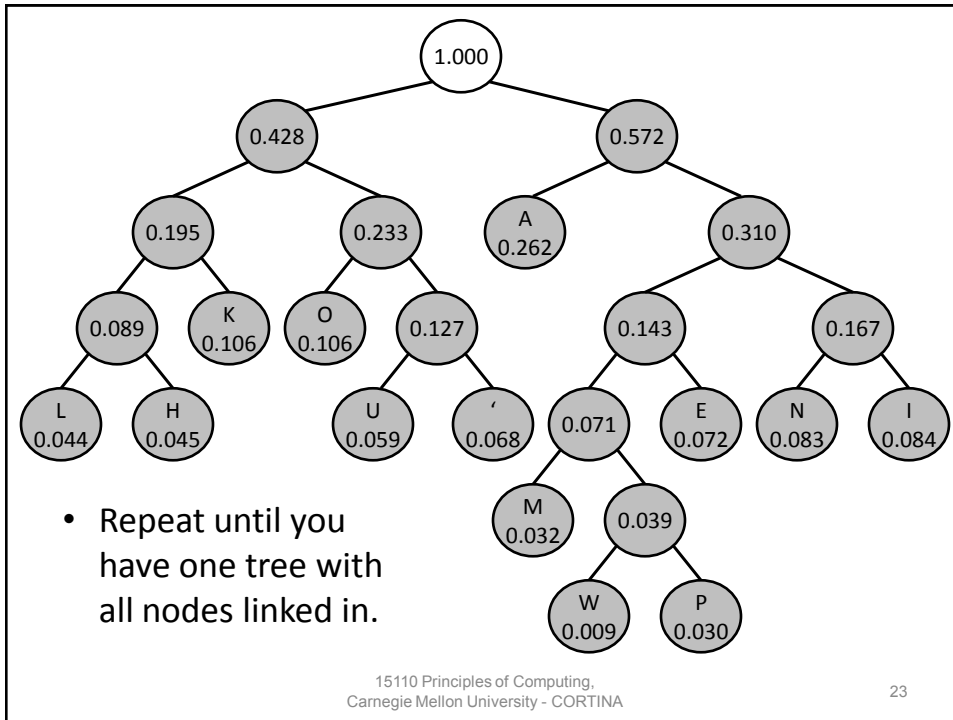




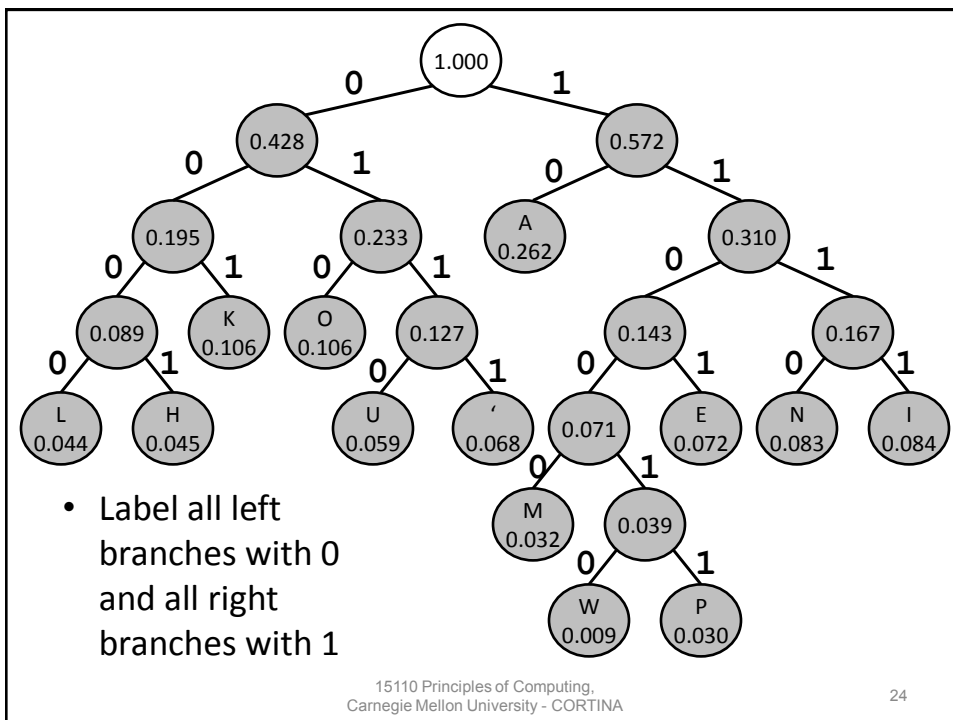
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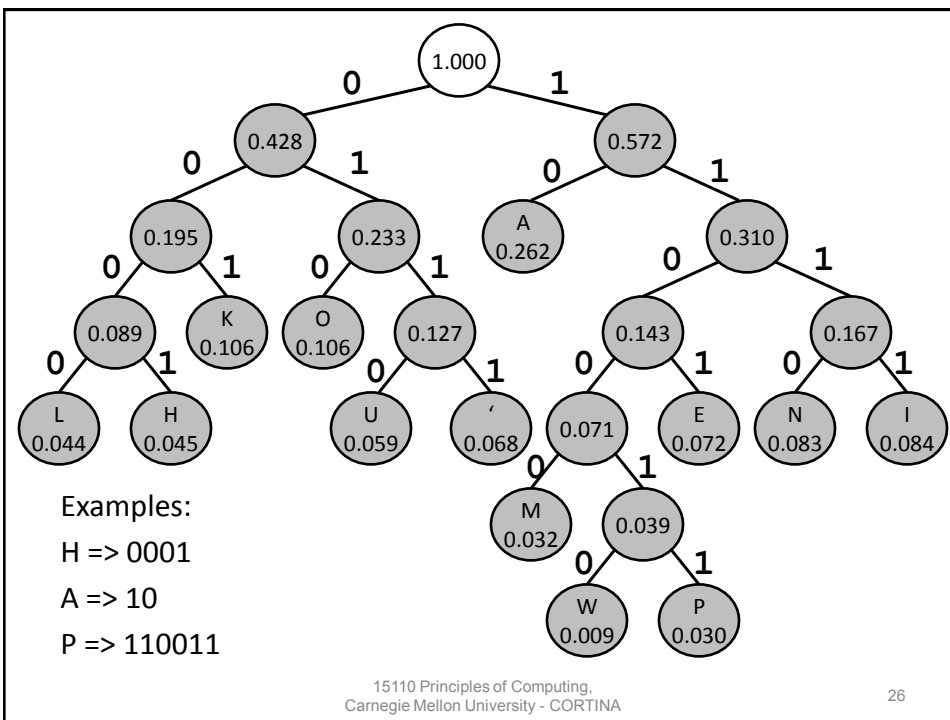
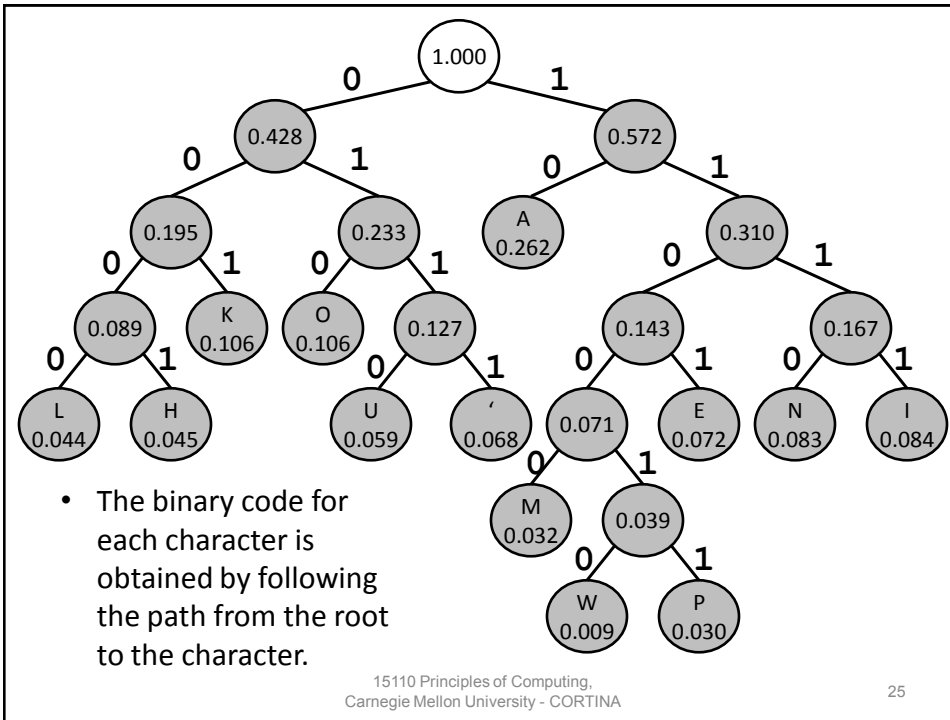
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## Fixed Width vs. Huffman Coding

'	0000	'	0111	
A	0001	A	10	
E	0010	E	1101	<u>ALOHA</u>
H	0011	H	0001	
I	0100	I	1111	<b>Fixed Width:</b>
K	0101	K	001	0001 0110 1001 0011 0001
L	0110	L	0000	<b>20 bits</b>
M	0111	M	11000	
N	1000	N	1110	
O	1001	O	010	<b>Huffman Code:</b>
P	1010	P	110011	10 0000 010 0001 10
U	1011	U	0110	<b>15 bits</b>
W	1100	W	110010	

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## Variable Length Codes

- In a fixed-width code, the boundaries between letters are fixed in advance:  
**0001 0110 1001 0011 0001**
- With a variable-length code, the boundaries are determined by the letters themselves.
  - No letter's code can be a prefix of another letter.
  - Example: since A is "10", no other letter's code can begin with "10". All the remaining codes begin with "00", "01", or "11".

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## Programming the Huffman Tree

- Let's write Ruby code to produce a Huffman encoding of an alphabet.
- At each step we need to find the two nodes with the lowest frequency scores.
- This will be easy if nodes are kept in a list that is sorted by score value.
- Solution: use a **priority queue**.

## Priority Queues

**NOTE:** For this unit, you will need RubyLabs set up and you will need to include BitLab (see p. 167)

- A priority queue (PQ) is like an array that is sorted.  
`pq = PriorityQueue.new`  
`=> []`
- To add element into the priority queue in its correct position, we use the `<<` operator:  
`pq << "peach"`  
`pq << "apple"`  
`pq << "banana"`  
`=> ["apple", "banana", "peach"]`

## Priority Queues (cont'd)

- To remove the first element from the priority queue, we will use the `shift` method:

```
fruit1 = pq.shift
=> "apple"
pq
=> ["banana", "peach"]
fruit2 = pq.shift
=> "banana"
pq
=> ["peach"]
```

## Tree Nodes

- We can store all of the node data into a 2-dimensional array:  

```
table = [ ["'", 0.068], ["A", 0.262],
          ["E", 0.072], ["H", 0.045], ["I", 0.084],
          ["K", 0.106], ["L", 0.044], ["M", 0.032],
          ["N", 0.083], ["O", 0.106], ["P", 0.030],
          ["U", 0.059], ["W", 0.009] ]
```
- A tree node consists of two values, the character and its frequency. Making one of the tree nodes:  

```
char = table[2].first      # "E"
freq = table[2].last       # 0.072
node = Node.new(char, freq)
```



## Building a PQ of Single Nodes

```
def make_pq(table)
  pq = PriorityQueue.new
  for item in table do
    char = item.first
    freq = item.last
    node = Node.new(char, freq)
    pq << node
  end
  return pq
end
```

Remember: each item  
in the table is a  
2-element array with  
a character and a  
frequency.

## Building our Priority Queue

```
pq = make_pq(table)
=> [( W: 0.009 ), ( P: 0.030 ),
    ( M: 0.032 ), ( L: 0.044 ),
    ( H: 0.045 ), ( U: 0.059 ),
    ( ' : 0.068 ), ( E: 0.072 ),
    ( N: 0.083 ), ( I: 0.084 ),
    ( K: 0.106 ), ( O: 0.106 ),
    ( A: 0.262 )]
```

This is our priority queue  
showing the 13 nodes  
in sorted order based on  
frequency.

## Building a Huffman Tree

(Slightly different than book version fig 7.9)

```
def build_tree(pq)
  while pq.length > 1
    node1 = pq.shift
    node2 = pq.shift
    pq << Node.combine(node1, node2)
  end
  return pq.first
end
```

Creates a new node  
with node1 as its left child  
and node2 as its right child

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## Building our Huffman Tree

```
tree = build_tree(pq)
=> ( 1.000 ( 0.428 ( 0.195 ( 0.089
  ( L: 0.044 ) ( H: 0.045 ) ) ( K: 0.106 ) )
  ( 0.233 ( O: 0.106 ) ( 0.127 ( U: 0.059 )
    ( ': 0.068 ) ) ) ) ( 0.572 ( A: 0.262 )
    ( 0.310 ( 0.143 ( 0.071 ( M: 0.032 )
      ( 0.039 ( W: 0.009 ) ( P: 0.030 ) ) )
      ( E: 0.072 ) ) ( 0.167 ( N: 0.083 )
        ( I: 0.084 ) ) ) ) ) )
```

This is just our Huffman tree  
expressed using recursively nested  
parenthetical components:  
( root ( left ) ( right ) )

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## Assigning Codes, Encoding & Decoding

```
ht = assign_codes(tree)
```

from BitLab

takes a Huffman tree and  
returns a hash table that  
maps each letter to its  
binary code

```
ht["W"]
```

```
=> 110010
```

```
ht["A"]
```

```
=> 10
```

Note the [ ] syntax.

This returns the code  
associated with the  
character from the  
hash table.

```
msg = encode("ALOHA", tree)
```

```
=> 100000010000110
```

```
decode(msg, tree)
```

```
=> "ALOHA"
```

from BitLab

encode and decode functions