# Order Statistic Problems on Suffixes 

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- Generic multi-selection: $\mathcal{R} \subset\{1,2, \ldots, n\}$.


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- ... but results can be easily extended to multidimensional objects, like strings and vectors, and the lexicographical order.
- Not so easy when the input objects are the suffixes of a sequence $T$.
- In all cases, the comparison model is considered: the input objects (or for the cases of strings, vectors and suffixes, the elements they are made of) can only be compared.



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- classic example of divide et impera approach.


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- We represent $T[n+1]$ with $\bullet$.



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Natural question:
Are the complexities of Suffix Sorting and Suffix Selection the same?


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- ... same sequence $T$ but only a fraction of the $n$ suffixes would be considered in the sub-problems.
- However, we will use the selection algorithm in [Blum et al, JCSS 7, 1973] as a basic tool for suffix selection.


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For each phase $t$ we have the following.

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Our knowledge about the $k$-th smallest suffix is increased during Phase Transitions.


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The computation ends when a phase transition leaves us with only one active suffix.

Suffix selection, first attempt

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- we tried to enlarge by just one element the extent of each active suffix
- while completely ignoring the emerging of collisions.

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$k=10, l_{5}=8$, Phase 5

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- Therefore, the prospective extents of any two active suffixes can be compared in $O$ (1) time.

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- To compare two subsequences in $\mathcal{F}_{t}$ we can just use their pairs.

Suffix selection, second attempt: exploiting collisions


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Now we want the active suffix with the prosp ext. of rank $\left(k-l_{5}\right)=2 \ldots$
... exploiting the collisions in $\mathcal{A}_{5}$, we find it in just one Phase Transition.

Suffix selection, second attempt: exploiting collisions
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- The complexity of the second algorithm is $O(n \log n)$ in the worst case.
- Let us group the phases into macro-phases $m_{0}, m_{1}, \ldots, m_{w}$ such that, for any $m_{i}$ and any phase $t \in m_{i}$, we have that

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- For any phase $t$, the extents of the active suffixes do not overlap...
- ... and phase $t$ has at most $n / \sigma_{t}$ active suffixes.
- Therefore, the cost of each macro-phase is $O(n)$ and the final $O(n \log n)$ bound follows immediately.



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We need one last step:

## We have to be able to reuse the work done on inactive suffixes.



## Suffix selection, third attempt: reusing inactive suffixes

The first two solutions have one aspect in common:

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The challenge now is to avoid these multiple accesses.


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- This is a particularly lucky example... in the general case the exploiting of collisions of active suffixes and the reuse of the extents of inactive suffixes do not play along so nicely, as we will see.



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- ... but any of those accesses to $c$ can be charged on an active suffix becoming inactive during the current phase transition.



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If we can solve this problem then
The comparison of any two prospective extents of phase \(t\) is reduced to one lcp query and one element comparison.


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We can use [Kasai, et al, CPM 2001] and [Harel, Tarjan, SICOMP 13, 1984].


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- We only need to preserve the length of the longest common prefix of any two suffixes of \(G\).


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Finally, let's deal with the forward suffixes.
The forward suffix of a suffix \(T_{j}\) is the inactive suffix starting within the extent of \(T_{j}\) or right after it whose extent goes the farthest from the right end of \(T_{j}\) 's extent.

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Therefore:
To maintain the forward suffixes, we have to solve a Dynamic Range Maximum Query problem


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Query structure that can be
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- The structure exploits the following crucial fact:

> Both the integer values stored in the structure and the length of the query intervals are \(O\left(\log ^{2} n\right)\).


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Therefore,
The total cost for maintaining the forward suffixes during both early and late phases is \(O(n)\).

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- ... and still aren't, since we don't have matching lower bounds for the new upper bounds.


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Worst case scenario for Duval's algorithm:
\begin{tabular}{|l|l|l|l|l|l|l|l|l|l|l|l|l|l|l|l|l|l|}
\hline 9 & 1 & 9 & 2 & 9 & 3 & 9 & 4 & 9 & 5 & 9 & 6 & 9 & 7 & 9 & 8 & 9 & 9 \\
\hline
\end{tabular}


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- Obviously, we still move \(m\) (the current \(m\) cannot be the maximum suffix)...
- ... but we move e too and we keep an uncertainty area within which the current maximum suffix starts (but we don't know where exactly).


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Unfortunately,

> this approach does not seem to work with uncertainty areas larger than two positions

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- and find where the current maximum suffix actually starts.
- But the time we waited in uncertainty allows us to save comparisons in the final count.

Unfortunately,
this approach does not seem to work with uncertainty areas larger than two positions

But this is enough to deal with Duval's worst case scenarios

with less than \(\frac{4}{3} n\) comparisons.```

