

Palindromic factorization of rich words

Josef Rukavicka

Department of Mathematics,
Faculty of Nuclear Sciences and Physical Engineering,
Czech Technical University in Prague

December 2022

Finite and Infinite Words, Palindromes

\mathcal{A} - alphabet with q letters, where q is finite.

Finite and Infinite Words, Palindromes

\mathcal{A} - *alphabet* with q letters, where q is finite.

A *finite word* of length n is a sequence $u_1 u_2 \cdots u_n$ with $u_i \in \mathcal{A}$. An *infinite word* is a sequence $u_1 u_2 \cdots$ with $u_i \in \mathcal{A}$. A *word* means both finite and infinite word. The *empty word* is denoted by ϵ .

Finite and Infinite Words, Palindromes

\mathcal{A} - *alphabet* with q letters, where q is finite.

A *finite word* of length n is a sequence $u_1 u_2 \cdots u_n$ with $u_i \in \mathcal{A}$. An *infinite word* is a sequence $u_1 u_2 \cdots$ with $u_i \in \mathcal{A}$. A *word* means both finite and infinite word. The *empty word* is denoted by ϵ .

Suppose $u \in \mathcal{A}^n$, $u = u_1 u_2 \dots u_n$, where $u_i \in \mathcal{A}$.

We define the *reversal* $u^R = u_n u_{n-1} \cdots u_1$.

If $u = u^R$ then u is called a *palindrome*.

We define that ϵ is a palindrome.

Finite and Infinite Words, Palindromes

\mathcal{A} - *alphabet* with q letters, where q is finite.

A *finite word* of length n is a sequence $u_1 u_2 \cdots u_n$ with $u_i \in \mathcal{A}$. An *infinite word* is a sequence $u_1 u_2 \cdots$ with $u_i \in \mathcal{A}$. A *word* means both finite and infinite word. The *empty word* is denoted by ϵ .

Suppose $u \in \mathcal{A}^n$, $u = u_1 u_2 \dots u_n$, where $u_i \in \mathcal{A}$.

We define the *reversal* $u^R = u_n u_{n-1} \cdots u_1$.

If $u = u^R$ then u is called a *palindrome*.

We define that ϵ is a palindrome.

Example

Examples of palindromes: level, noon.

Rich words

Given words u, v , we say that v is a *factor* of u if there are words p, s such that $u = pvs$.

Rich words

Given words u, v , we say that v is a *factor* of u if there are words p, s such that $u = pvs$.

A *palindromic factor* is a factor that is also a palindrome.

Rich words

Given words u, v , we say that v is a *factor* of u if there are words p, s such that $u = pvs$.

A *palindromic factor* is a factor that is also a palindrome.

A word u of length n is called *rich* if u has $n + 1$ distinct palindromic factors. An infinite word w is rich if every finite factor of w is rich.

Rich words

Given words u, v , we say that v is a *factor* of u if there are words p, s such that $u = pvs$.

A *palindromic factor* is a factor that is also a palindrome.

A word u of length n is called *rich* if u has $n + 1$ distinct palindromic factors. An infinite word w is rich if every finite factor of w is rich.

Example

$w = 1001101$

Palindromic factors of w : ϵ (empty word), 1, 0, 00, 1001, 11, 0110, 101.

Properties Rich words I

A finite word w of length n contains at most $n + 1$ distinct palindromic factors.

Properties Rich words I

A finite word w of length n contains at most $n + 1$ distinct palindromic factors.

Every factor of a rich word is also rich.

Properties Rich words I

A finite word w of length n contains at most $n + 1$ distinct palindromic factors.

Every factor of a rich word is also rich.

The longest palindromic suffix of a rich word w has exactly one occurrence in w (we say that the longest palindromic suffix of w is *unioccurrent* in w).

Properties Rich words I

A finite word w of length n contains at most $n + 1$ distinct palindromic factors.

Every factor of a rich word is also rich.

The longest palindromic suffix of a rich word w has exactly one occurrence in w (we say that the longest palindromic suffix of w is *unioccurrent* in w).

[Droubay, X., Justin, J., Pirillo, G.: Episturmian words and some constructions of de Luca and Rauzy. Theor. Comput. Sci. 255, 539–553 (2001)]

Properties Rich words II

Given a word w and a factor r of w . We call the factor r a *complete return* to u in w if r contains exactly two occurrences of u , one as a prefix and one as a suffix.

Properties Rich words II

Given a word w and a factor r of w . We call the factor r a *complete return* to u in w if r contains exactly two occurrences of u , one as a prefix and one as a suffix.

A characteristic property of rich words is that all complete returns to any palindromic factor u in w are palindromes.

Properties Rich words II

Given a word w and a factor r of w . We call the factor r a *complete return* to u in w if r contains exactly two occurrences of u , one as a prefix and one as a suffix.

A characteristic property of rich words is that all complete returns to any palindromic factor u in w are palindromes.

[A. Glen, J. Justin, S. Widmer, and L. Q. Zamboni, Palindromic richness, Eur. J. Combin., 30 (2009), pp. 510–531.]

Properties Rich words III

A factor r of a rich word w is uniquely determined by its longest palindromic prefix and its longest palindromic suffix.

[M. Bucci, A. De Luca, A. Glen, and L. Q. Zamboni, A new characteristic property of rich words, Theor. Comput. Sci., 410 (2009), pp. 2860–2863.]

Properties Rich words III

A factor r of a rich word w is uniquely determined by its longest palindromic prefix and its longest palindromic suffix.

[M. Bucci, A. De Luca, A. Glen, and L. Q. Zamboni, A new characteristic property of rich words, Theor. Comput. Sci., 410 (2009), pp. 2860–2863.]

Example

There is no rich word containing both 010110110 and 01011110110 as factors.

Enumeration of Rich Words - Lower and Upper bounds I

J. Vesti gives a recursive lower bound on the number of rich words of length n , and an upper bound on the number of binary rich words.

Enumeration of Rich Words - Lower and Upper bounds I

J. Vesti gives a recursive lower bound on the number of rich words of length n , and an upper bound on the number of binary rich words.

J. VESTI, *Extensions of rich words*, Theor. Comput. Sci., 548 (2014), pp. 14–24.

Enumeration of Rich Words - Lower and Upper bounds I

J. Vesti gives a recursive lower bound on the number of rich words of length n , and an upper bound on the number of binary rich words.

J. VESTI, *Extensions of rich words*, Theor. Comput. Sci., 548 (2014), pp. 14–24.

Let $R(n)$ denote the number of rich words of length over a given finite alphabet.

Enumeration of Rich Words - Lower and Upper bounds I

J. Vesti gives a recursive lower bound on the number of rich words of length n , and an upper bound on the number of binary rich words.

J. VESTI, *Extensions of rich words*, Theor. Comput. Sci., 548 (2014), pp. 14–24.

Let $R(n)$ denote the number of rich words of length over a given finite alphabet.

C. Guo, J. Shallit and A.M. Shur constructed for each n a large set of rich words of length n . Their construction gives, currently, the best lower bound on the number of binary rich words, namely $R(n) \geq \frac{C\sqrt{n}}{p(n)}$, where $p(n)$ is a polynomial and the constant $C \approx 37$.

Enumeration of Rich Words - Lower and Upper bounds II

C. Guo, J. Shallit and A.M. Shur used the calculation performed by M. Rubinchik to provide an exponential upper bound for binary rich words $R(n) \leq c1.605^n$, where c is some constant.

Enumeration of Rich Words - Lower and Upper bounds II

C. Guo, J. Shallit and A.M. Shur used the calculation performed by M. Rubinchik to provide an exponential upper bound for binary rich words $R(n) \leq c1.605^n$, where c is some constant.

Guo, Shallit and Shur conjectured that the number of rich words grows slightly slower than $n^{\sqrt{n}}$.

Enumeration of Rich Words - Lower and Upper bounds II

C. Guo, J. Shallit and A.M. Shur used the calculation performed by M. Rubinchik to provide an exponential upper bound for binary rich words $R(n) \leq c1.605^n$, where c is some constant.

Guo, Shallit and Shur conjectured that the number of rich words grows slightly slower than $n^{\sqrt{n}}$.

C. GUO, J. SHALLIT, AND A. M. SHUR, *Palindromic rich words and run-length encodings*, Inform. Process. Lett., 116 (2016), pp. 735–738.

Palindromic length

A *palindromic length* $PL(v)$ of a finite word v is the minimal number of palindromes whose concatenation is equal to v .

Palindromic length

A *palindromic length* $PL(v)$ of a finite word v is the minimal number of palindromes whose concatenation is equal to v .

It was conjectured in 2013 that for every aperiodic infinite word x , the palindromic length of its factors is not bounded.

Palindromic length

A *palindromic length* $PL(v)$ of a finite word v is the minimal number of palindromes whose concatenation is equal to v .

It was conjectured in 2013 that for every aperiodic infinite word x , the palindromic length of its factors is not bounded.

A. FRID, S. PUZYNINA, AND L. ZAMBONI, *On palindromic factorization of words*, Adv. Appl. Math., 50 (2013), pp. 737–748.

On the Number of Rich Words

J. RUKAVICKA, *On the number of rich words*, Developments in Language Theory: 21st International Conference, DLT 2017, Liège, Belgium, August 7-11, 2017, Proceedings, Springer International Publishing, ISBN:978-3-319-62809-7, available at https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-62809-7_26, (2017), pp. 345–352.

On the Number of Rich Words

Lemma

Let w be a rich word. There exist distinct non-empty palindromes w_1, w_2, \dots, w_p such that

$$w = w_p w_{p-1} \cdots w_2 w_1 \text{ and } w_i \text{ is the longest palindromic suffix of } w_p w_{p-1} \cdots w_i \text{ for } i = 1, 2, \dots, p. \quad (1)$$

On the Number of Rich Words

Lemma

Let w be a rich word. There exist distinct non-empty palindromes w_1, w_2, \dots, w_p such that

$$w = w_p w_{p-1} \cdots w_2 w_1 \text{ and } w_i \text{ is the longest palindromic suffix of } w_p w_{p-1} \cdots w_i \text{ for } i = 1, 2, \dots, p. \quad (1)$$

Definition

We define UPS-factorization (Unioccurrent Palindromic Suffix factorization) to be the factorization of a rich word w into the form (1).

On the Number of Rich Words

Lemma

Let w be a rich word. There exist distinct non-empty palindromes w_1, w_2, \dots, w_p such that

$$w = w_p w_{p-1} \cdots w_2 w_1 \text{ and } w_i \text{ is the longest palindromic suffix of } w_p w_{p-1} \cdots w_i \text{ for } i = 1, 2, \dots, p. \quad (1)$$

Definition

We define UPS-factorization (Unioccurrent Palindromic Suffix factorization) to be the factorization of a rich word w into the form (1).

In general, for non-rich words, UPS-factorization does not need to exist.

On the Number of Rich Words

Theorem

There is a constant $c > 1$ such that for any rich word w of length n the number p of palindromes in the UPS-factorization of $w = w_p w_{p-1} \cdots w_2 w_1$ satisfies

$$p \leq c \frac{n}{\ln n}. \quad (2)$$

On the Number of Rich Words

Theorem

There is a constant $c > 1$ such that for any rich word w of length n the number p of palindromes in the UPS-factorization of $w = w_p w_{p-1} \cdots w_2 w_1$ satisfies

$$p \leq c \frac{n}{\ln n}. \quad (2)$$

The theorem says that a rich word w is concatenated from a “small” number of palindromes. “Small” means that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{c \frac{n}{\ln n}}{n} = 0$.

On the Number of Rich Words

Realize that $\sum_{i=1}^t iq^{\lceil \frac{i}{2} \rceil}$ is the length of the word, which is constructed as a concatenation of all palindromes of length $\leq t$.

On the Number of Rich Words

Realize that $\sum_{i=1}^t iq^{\lceil \frac{i}{2} \rceil}$ is the length of the word, which is constructed as a concatenation of all palindromes of length $\leq t$.

Lemma

Let $q, n, t \in \mathbb{N}$ such that

$$\sum_{i=1}^t iq^{\lceil \frac{i}{2} \rceil} \geq n. \quad (3)$$

The number p of palindromes in the UPS-factorization $w = w_p w_{p-1} \cdots w_2 w_1$ of any rich word w with $n = |w|$ satisfies

$$p \leq \sum_{i=1}^t q^{\lceil \frac{i}{2} \rceil}. \quad (4)$$

On the Number of Rich Words

Let us define

$$\kappa_n = \left\lceil c \frac{n}{\ln n} \right\rceil,$$

where c is the constant from the previous Theorem and $n \geq 2$.

On the Number of Rich Words

Let us define

$$\kappa_n = \left\lceil c \frac{n}{\ln n} \right\rceil,$$

where c is the constant from the previous Theorem and $n \geq 2$.

Theorem

If $n \geq 2$, then

$$R(n) \leq \sum_{p=1}^{\kappa_n} \sum_{\substack{n_1+n_2+\dots+n_p=n \\ n_1, n_2, \dots, n_p \geq 1}} R\left(\left\lceil \frac{n_1}{2} \right\rceil\right) R\left(\left\lceil \frac{n_2}{2} \right\rceil\right) \dots R\left(\left\lceil \frac{n_p}{2} \right\rceil\right). \quad (5)$$

On the Number of Rich Words

Theorem

Let $R(n)$ denote the number of rich words of length n over an alphabet with q letters. We have $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[n]{R(n)} = 1$.

An Upper Bound for Palindromic and Factor Complexity of Rich Words

RUKAVICKA, JOSEF, *Upper bound for palindromic and factor complexity of rich words*, RAIRO-Theor. Inf. Appl., 55 (2021) Article No. 1.

An Upper Bound for Palindromic and Factor Complexity of Rich Words

Let $F(w, n)$ be the set of factors of length n of the word w and let $F_p(w, n) \subseteq F(w, n)$ be the set of palindromic factors.

An Upper Bound for Palindromic and Factor Complexity of Rich Words

Let $F(w, n)$ be the set of factors of length n of the word w and let $F_p(w, n) \subseteq F(w, n)$ be the set of palindromic factors.

Given a palindrome u and $a, b \in A$, where $a \neq b$. We call the word aub a u -switch.

An Upper Bound for Palindromic and Factor Complexity of Rich Words

Let $F(w, n)$ be the set of factors of length n of the word w and let $F_p(w, n) \subseteq F(w, n)$ be the set of palindromic factors.

Given a palindrome u and $a, b \in A$, where $a \neq b$. We call the word aub a u -switch.

Theorem

If $xux, yuy \in F_p(w, |u| + 2)$, where $x, y \in A$ and $x \neq y$, then w contains a u -switch, formally there is $aub \in F(w, |u| + 2)$.

An Upper Bound for Palindromic and Factor Complexity of Rich Words

Let R denote the set of rich words (both finite and infinite). Let $F(w) = \bigcup_{j \geq 0} F(w, j)$ and $F_p(w) = \bigcup_{j \geq 0} F_p(w, j)$. Let $lpps(w)$ be the longest proper palindromic suffix of the word w .

An Upper Bound for Palindromic and Factor Complexity of Rich Words

Let R denote the set of rich words (both finite and infinite). Let $F(w) = \bigcup_{j \geq 0} F(w, j)$ and $F_p(w) = \bigcup_{j \geq 0} F_p(w, j)$. Let $lpps(w)$ be the longest proper palindromic suffix of the word w .

Theorem

Let $w \in R$, $u, v \in F_p(w)$, $lpps(u) = lpps(v)$, $a, b \in A$ and $a \neq b$. Then $aub, avb \in F(w)$ implies that $u = v$.

An Upper Bound for Palindromic and Factor Complexity of Rich Words

We prove a quasi-polynomial upper bound for the palindromic and factor complexity of rich words. Let $\delta = \frac{3}{2(\ln 3 - \ln 2)}$.

Theorem

If $w \in RW \cup RW^\infty$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}_1$, then

$$|F(w, n)| \leq (4q^2 n)^{\delta \ln 2n+2}.$$

Palindromic factorization of rich words

RUKAVICKA, JOSEF, *Palindromic factorization of rich words*, Discrete Applied Mathematics, Volume 316, 2022, Pages 95-102.

Palindromic factorization of rich words

RUKAVICKA, JOSEF, *Palindromic factorization of rich words*, Discrete Applied Mathematics, Volume 316, 2022, Pages 95-102.

Let $LUF(w) = p$ be *the length of UPS-factorization of w* .

Palindromic factorization of rich words

RUKAVICKA, JOSEF, *Palindromic factorization of rich words*, Discrete Applied Mathematics, Volume 316, 2022, Pages 95-102.

Let $LUF(w) = p$ be the length of UPS-factorization of w .

Theorem

For a given finite alphabet \mathcal{A} , there are real positive constants μ, κ such that, if w is a finite nonempty rich word over the alphabet \mathcal{A} and $n = |w|$, then

$$LUF(w) \leq \mu \frac{n}{e^{\kappa \sqrt{\ln n}}}.$$

Palindromic factorization of rich words

We conjecture that:

For a given finite alphabet \mathcal{A} , there is a positive real constant λ such that, if w is a finite nonempty rich word over the alphabet \mathcal{A} and $n = |w|$, then $LUF(w) \leq \lambda\sqrt{n}$.

Palindromic factorization of rich words

We conjecture that:

For a given finite alphabet \mathcal{A} , there is a positive real constant λ such that, if w is a finite nonempty rich word over the alphabet \mathcal{A} and $n = |w|$, then $LUF(w) \leq \lambda\sqrt{n}$.

Let $c_2 = \delta(\ln 4 + 2 \ln q) + \delta + \delta \ln 2 + 2$. Let $g \in \mathbb{R}^+$ and $g < 1$. Let $\alpha = \sqrt{\frac{1}{c_2}}$ and let $\beta = \frac{-1-g}{2c_2}$. Let c_1 be a real constant such that $c_1 > e^{(\delta \ln 2 + 2)(\ln 4 + 2 \ln q)}$ and $c_1 e^{\beta + g\beta + c_2\beta^2} > 1$. It means that

$$c_1 > \max\{e^{(\delta \ln 2 + 2)(\ln 4 + 2 \ln q)}, e^{-(\beta + g\beta + c_2\beta^2)}\}.$$

The constant g , where $0 < g < 1$, can be chosen arbitrarily.

Palindromic factorization of rich words

From Theorem 12

Corollary

If $w \in RW \cup RW^\infty$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}_1$, then we have that

$$|F(w, n)| \leq c_1 n^{c_2 \ln n}.$$

Palindromic factorization of rich words

The sum $\sum_{i=1}^k i \lfloor c_1 i^{c_2 \ln i} \rfloor$ has the following interpretation: It is the length of the word w which is concatenation of $\lfloor c_1 i^{c_2 \ln i} \rfloor$ words of length i for $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$.

Palindromic factorization of rich words

The sum $\sum_{i=1}^k i \lfloor c_1 i^{c_2 \ln i} \rfloor$ has the following interpretation: It is the length of the word w which is concatenation of $\lfloor c_1 i^{c_2 \ln i} \rfloor$ words of length i for $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$.

Lemma

There is $k_0 \in \mathbb{N}_1$ such that for $k \geq k_0$, we have that

$$\sum_{i=1}^k i \lfloor c_1 i^{c_2 \ln i} \rfloor \geq k^g (k - k^g) c_1 (k - k^g)^{c_2 \ln(k - k^g)} - \frac{k(k+1)}{2}.$$

Palindromic factorization of rich words

Lemma

If $n \in \mathbb{N}_1$, $\sigma : \mathbb{N}_1 \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_1$, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sigma(n) = \infty$, and $k_n = e^{\sigma(n)}$, then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{k_n^g (k_n - k_n^g) c_1 (k_n - k_n^g)^{c_2 \ln(k_n - k_n^g)} - \frac{k_n(k_n+1)}{2}}{e^{(1+g)\sigma(n)} c_1 e^{c_2(\sigma(n))^2}} = 1.$$

Palindromic factorization of rich words

Lemma

If $n \in \mathbb{N}_1$, $\sigma : \mathbb{N}_1 \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_1$, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sigma(n) = \infty$, and $k_n = e^{\sigma(n)}$, then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{k_n^g (k_n - k_n^g) c_1 (k_n - k_n^g)^{c_2 \ln(k_n - k_n^g)} - \frac{k_n(k_n+1)}{2}}{e^{(1+g)\sigma(n)} c_1 e^{c_2(\sigma(n))^2}} = 1.$$

Corollary

If $\sigma(n) = \alpha\sqrt{\ln n} + \beta$ and $k_n = e^{\sigma(n)}$, then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{\lfloor k_n \rfloor} i \lfloor c_1 i^{c_2 \ln i} \rfloor}{n} \geq c_1 e^{\beta+g\beta+c_2\beta^2} > 1.$$

Palindromic factorization of rich words

Let $\gamma = \beta + \ln c_1 + c_2\beta^2$.

Lemma

If $n \in \mathbb{N}_1$ and $\sigma(n) = \alpha\sqrt{\ln n} + \beta$, then

$$\sum_{i=1}^{\lfloor e^{\sigma(n)} \rfloor} c_1 i^{c_2 \ln i} \leq e^{\gamma} \frac{n}{e^{g\alpha\sqrt{\ln n}}}.$$

Palindromic factorization of rich words

Lemma

If $\bar{t}, t \in \mathbb{N}_1$, $\bar{t} > t$, $\bar{\omega}, \omega : \mathbb{N}_1 \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_1$, $\bar{\omega}(i) \leq \omega(i)$ for every $i \in \mathbb{N}_1$, and

$$\sum_{i=1}^{\bar{t}} \bar{\omega}(i) > \sum_{i=1}^t \omega(i),$$

then

$$\sum_{i=1}^{\bar{t}} i\bar{\omega}(i) > \sum_{i=1}^t i\omega(i).$$

Palindromic factorization of rich words

Let $\overline{\Omega}, \Omega \subset \mathcal{A}^+$ be two finite sets. Let $\overline{\omega}(i) = |\overline{\Omega} \cap \mathcal{A}^i|$ and $\omega(i) = |\Omega \cap \mathcal{A}^i|$. Let $\overline{w}, w \in \mathcal{A}^+$ be words that are a concatenation of all words from $\overline{\Omega}, \Omega$ respectively. The previous Lemma implies that: if $|\overline{\Omega}| > |\Omega|$ and $\overline{\omega}(i) \leq \omega(i)$, then $|\overline{w}| > |w|$.

Palindromic factorization of rich words

Let $\overline{\Omega}, \Omega \subset \mathcal{A}^+$ be two finite sets. Let $\overline{\omega}(i) = |\overline{\Omega} \cap \mathcal{A}^i|$ and $\omega(i) = |\Omega \cap \mathcal{A}^i|$. Let $\overline{w}, w \in \mathcal{A}^+$ be words that are a concatenation of all words from $\overline{\Omega}, \Omega$ respectively. The previous Lemma implies that: if $|\overline{\Omega}| > |\Omega|$ and $\overline{\omega}(i) \leq \omega(i)$, then $|\overline{w}| > |w|$.

Theorem

If $w \in RW \cap \mathcal{A}^+$, $n = |w|$, $t \in \mathbb{N}_1$, and

$$\sum_{i=1}^t i \lfloor c_1 i^{c_2 \ln i} \rfloor \geq n,$$

then

$$LUF(w) \leq \sum_{i=1}^t c_1 i^{c_2 \ln i}.$$

Rich words - Open question

- Improving of the upper bound for the number of rich words. Using our result for palindromic complexity, we expect to prove that $R(n) \leq q^{c(q)\frac{n}{2\sqrt{\ln n}}}$, where $n > 1$, $q > 1$ and $c(q)$ is a constant depending on q .

Rich words - Open question

- Improving of the upper bound for the number of rich words. Using our result for palindromic complexity, we expect to prove that $R(n) \leq q^{c(q)\frac{n}{2\sqrt{\ln n}}}$, where $n > 1$, $q > 1$ and $c(q)$ is a constant depending on q .
- Is there a polynomial upper bound for the palindromic complexity of rich words: $F(w, n) \leq n^{c(q)}$, where $n > 1$.

Thank you