Mechanized Operational Semantics

J Strother Moore Department of Computer Sciences University of Texas at Austin

Marktoberdorf Summer School 2008

(Lecture 4: Boyer-Moore Fast String Searching)

The Problem

One of the classic problems in computing is *string* searching: find the first occurrence of one character string ("the *pattern*") in another ("the *text*").

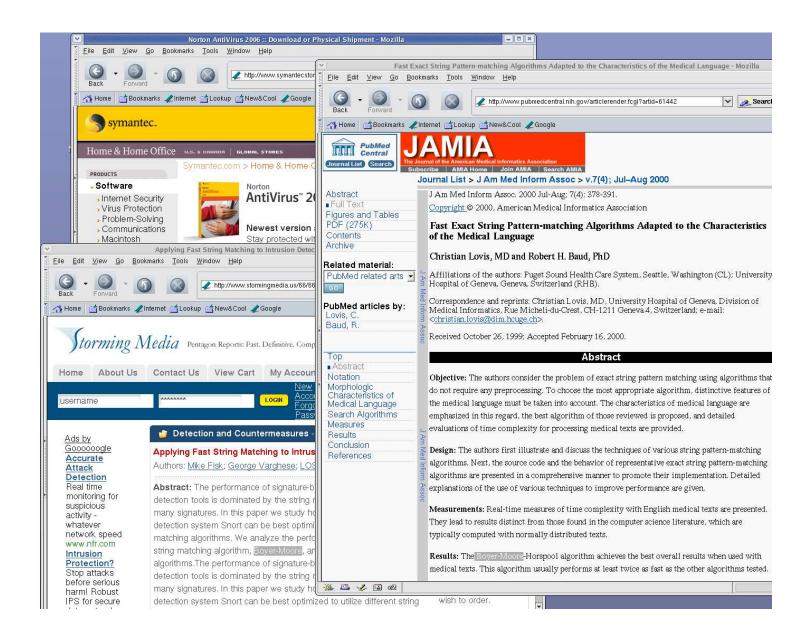
Generally, the text is *very* large (e.g., gigabytes) but the patterns are relatively small.

Examples

Find the word "comedy" in this NY Times article:

Fred Armisen's office at "Saturday Night Live" is deceptively small, barely big enough to fit a desk, a couch, and an iPod. The glorified closet, the subject of a running joke on the comedy show, now in its 31st season, can simultaneously house a wisecracking ...

A A A CGG A GA A CTTGG A A TCCTGTGTCC A A A A A A A A A A A GC A GG A A GA GA GCGTGT A GA A A C TGAAGCTGAAGTGGAAAAAAAAAAGTCGCCAGCACCTACTGTGGAGACCAGAAAGGAAAA TTGCCTTCTGCCAAAAAAAAAAGTACCTCCCGCCTAGAAGAGAGTTTAGAAATCACCAAA A A A A A A T A G A G A G T C C C A A A A T G T T C G G A A T A C T C A G A A A A A A A A T C T T A G T C A G T G C T CACTCAGAGGGACCGGGTATTTAAAAAAAACCTAGACCAGATGCAGCAGGTACAAATTAA TCAATCCCAAAAAAAAAAAAGACCTTCTACCCTTCCAAAAAATGATAGTTGTCTGCAATCCAAA TGCCGGGCAAAAAGTTCCACGTAAAAAAAAAAAAAGGAAATGGGAATGTTCTCCCT TCCTACCTAGTTTTGAAAAAAAAGGATGGATGTGGGTCACCTGCTCACGTTCTCCAAAAA A ATTCA ACTGA A A A A CACA AGTCATACCTTCCTGTTTTATTTGCA A A A A A A A A TTTTTCA A ACCCCACGGCAACAACGACAGTATCAAAAAAAACAACTTCATTTGACATTCTGCTATATT AATGCTCTATGTGGAAAAAAAAACCATCAAGTTGTGCCTTTTTTCAAAGAAATCCATGCA



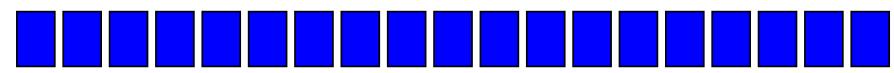
Variants of the problem allow *wildcards* in the pattern and/or the text. *Exact* matching is when no wildcards are allowed.

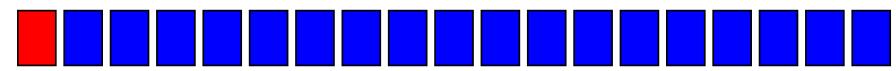
We describe the fastest sequential algorithm for solving the exact string searching problem. The algorithm is called the *Boyer-Moore fast string searching algorithm*.

Example

Find the word "comedy" in this NY Times article:

Fred Armisen's office at "Saturday Night Live" is deceptively small, barely big enough to fit a desk, a couch, and an iPod. The glorified closet, the subject of a running joke on the comedy show, now in its 31st season, can simultaneously house a wisecracking . . .





COMEDY JOHNSON

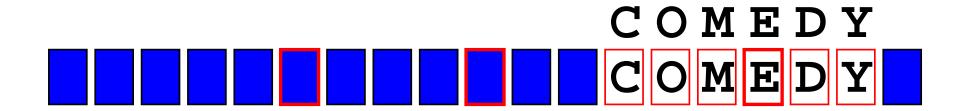
COMEDY OHIOLES

COMEDY JOKE ON THE COMEDY

COMEDY JOKE ON THE COMEDY

COMEDY COMEDY

COMEDY JOKE ON THE COMEDY

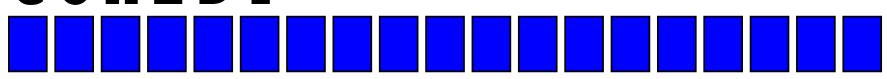


JOKE ON THE COMEDY

Key Property: The longer the pattern, the faster the search!

Pre-Computing the Skip Distance

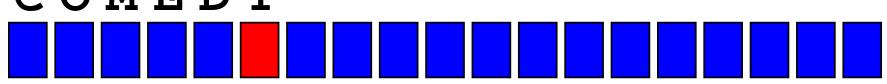
This is a 1-dimensional array, skip[c], as big as the alphabet.



JOKE ON THE COMEDY

skip[c]:

A 6 F 6 K 6 P 6 U 6 Q 6 B 6 V 6 G 6 L 6 C 5 М З R 6 W 6 Н 6 D 1 I 6 N 6 S 6 X 6 E 2 J 6 0 4 T 6 ΥO Z 6

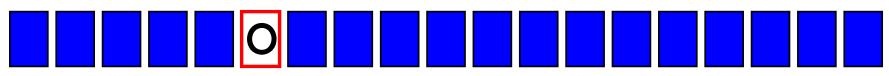


JOKE ON THE COMEDY

	_								
Α	6	F	6	K	6	P	6	U	6
В	6	G	6	L	6	Q	6	V	6
С	5	Н	6	M	3	R	6	W	6
D	1	Ι	6	N	6	S	6	X	6
E	2	J	6	0	4	T	6	Y	0
								Z	6

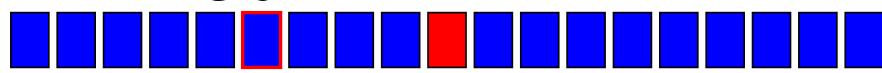
JOKE ON THE COMEDY

	_								
Α	6	F	6	K	6	P	6	U	6
В	6	G	6	L	6	Q	6	V	6
C	5	Н	6	M	3	R	6	W	6
D	1	Ι	6	N	6	S	6	X	6
E	2	J	6	0	4	T	6	Y	0
								Z	6



JOKE ON THE COMEDY

	_								
Α	6	F	6	K	6	P	6	U	6
В	6	G	6	L	6	Q	6	V	6
С	5	Н	6	M	3	R	6	W	6
D	1	Ι	6	N	6	S	6	X	6
E	2	J	6	0	4	T	6	Y	0
								Z	6



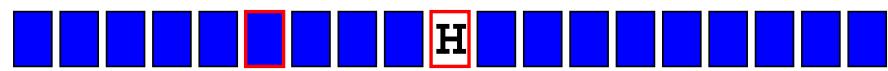
JOKE ON THE COMEDY

	-								
Α	6	F	6	K	6	P	6	U	6
В	6	G	6	L	6	Q	6	V	6
С	5	Н	6	M	3	R	6	W	6
D	1	Ι	6	N	6	S	6	X	6
E	2	J	6	0	4	T	6	Y	0
								Z	6



JOKE ON THE COMEDY

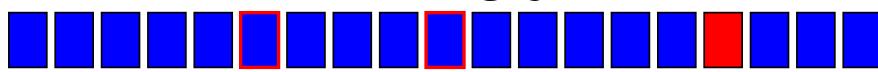
Α	6	F	6	K	6	P	6	U	6
В	6	G	6	L	6	Q	6	V	6
С	5	Н	6	M	3	R	6	W	6
D	1	I	6	N	6	S	6	X	6
E	2	J	6	0	4	T	6	Y	0
								Z	6



JOKE ON THE COMEDY

skip[c]:

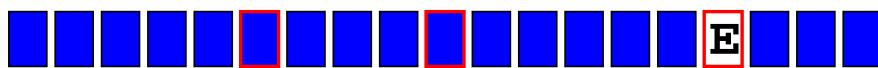
A 6 F 6 K 6 P 6 U 6 Q 6 B 6 G 6 V 6 L 6 C 5 М З R 6 W 6 Н 6 D 1 I 6 N 6 S 6 X 6 E 2 J 6 0 4 T 6 ΥO Z 6



JOKE ON THE COMEDY

skip[c]:

A 6 F 6 K 6 P 6 U 6 B 6 G 6 V 6 L 6 Q 6 C 5 М З R 6 W 6 Н 6 D 1 I 6 N 6 S 6 X 6 E 2 J 6 0 4 T 6 ΥO Z 6



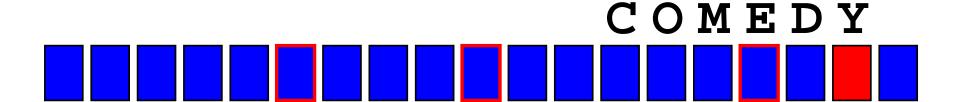
JOKE ON THE COMEDY

	_								
Α	6	F	6	K	6	P	6	U	6
В	6	G	6	L	6	Q	6	V	6
С	5	Н	6	M	3	R	6	W	6
D	1	Ι	6	N	6	S	6	X	6
E	2	J	6	0	4	T	6	Y	0
								Z	6



JOKE ON THE COMEDY

	_								
Α	6	F	6	K	6	P	6	U	6
В	6	G	6	L	6	Q	6	V	6
С	5	Н	6	M	3	R	6	W	6
D	1	Ι	6	N	6	S	6	X	6
E	2	J	6	0	4	T	6	Y	0
								Z	6



JOKE ON THE COMEDY

	-								
Α	6	F	6	K	6	P	6	U	6
В	6	G	6	L	6	Q	6	V	6
С	5	Н	6	M	3	R	6	W	6
D	1	Ι	6	N	6	S	6	X	6
E	2	J	6	0	4	T	6	Y	0
								Z	6

COMEDY COMEDY

JOKE ON THE COMEDY

	-								
Α	6	F	6	K	6	P	6	U	6
В	6	G	6	L	6	Q	6	V	6
С	5	Н	6	M	3	R	6	W	6
D	1	Ι	6	N	6	S	6	X	6
E	2	J	6	0	4	T	6	Y	0
								Z	6

Slide 2 to match the discovered character.

```
pat: NONPARTIPULAR

txt: -----PAR------
```

```
pat: NONPARTIPULAR

txt: -----PAR------
```

```
pat: NONPARTIPULAR

txt: -----PAR------
```

Slide 7 to match the discovered substring!

```
j |pat|
pat: NONPARTIPULAR
txt: -----
dt: txt[i] pat[j+1] ... pat[|pat|]
```

 $dt: txt[i] pat[j+1] \dots pat[|pat|]$ dt can be computed given txt[i] and index j in pat! There are only $|\alpha| \times |pat|$ combinations, where $|\alpha|$ is the alphabet size.

The Skip Distance – Delta

Given pat, the skip can be pre-computed for every combination of character read, c, and pattern index, j, by finding how far we must slide to find the last occurrence of dt in pat.

pat: NONPARTIPULAR

txt: -----PAR------

```
pat: BC-ABC-BBC-CBC

txt: -----BBC------
```

```
pat: BC-ABC-BBC-CBC

txt: -----BBC-------
```

pat: BC-ABC-BBC-CBC

txt: -----ABC------

```
pat: BC-ABC-BBC-CBC

txt: -----ABC-------
```

```
pat: BC-ABC-BBC-CBC

txt: ------
|
```

```
pat: EE-ABC-BBC-CBC

txt: ------
|
```

The Delta Array

delta[c,j] is an array of size $|\alpha| \times |pat|$ that gives the skip distance when a mismatch occurs after comparing c from txt to pat[j].

The Algorithm

```
fast(pat, txt)

If pat = ""
    then
    If txt = ""
    then return Not-Found;
    else return 0; end;
end;
```

preprocess pat to produce delta;

```
j := |pat| - 1; i := j;
```

```
while (0 \leq j \wedge i < |txt|)
 do
 If pat[j] = txt[i]
     then
    i := i - 1;
    j := j - 1;
     else
    i := i + delta[txt[i], j];
    j := |pat| - 1;
     end;
```

```
If (j < 0) then return i+1; else return \mathit{Not-Found}; end; end;
```

Performance

How does the algorithm perform?

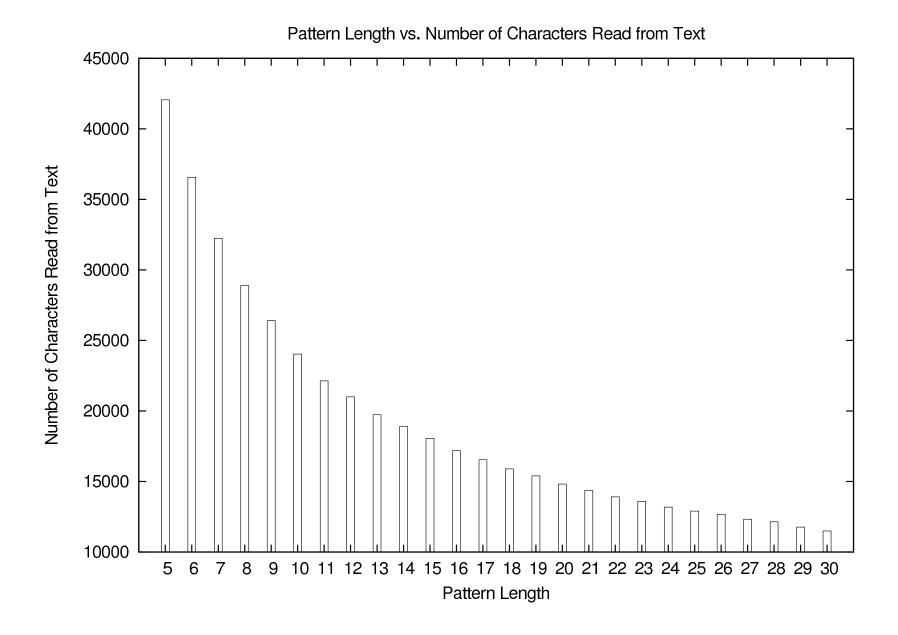
This depends on the size of the alphabet. We only have data on English text right now.

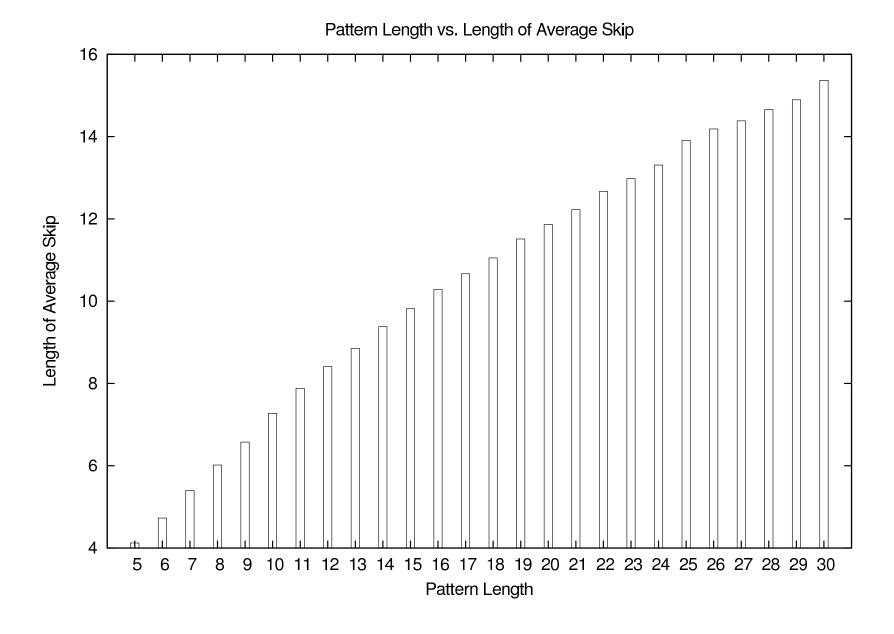
In our test:

txt: English text of length 177,985.

pat: 100 randomly chosen patterns of length 5 – 30, chosen from another English text and filtered so they do not occur in the search text.

The naive string searching algorithm would look at all 177,985 characters of the search text. In fact, it would look at some characters more than once.





Goal

Prove the correctness of an M1 program for the Boyer-Moore fast string searching algorithm.

We will not code the preprocessing in M1.

We will write code for the Boyer-Moore algorithm that assumes that the contents of a certain local contains a 2-dimensional delta array.

We will initialize the array variable with ACL2 code, not M1 code.

We will proceed as previously advised:

- Step 1: prove that the code implements the algorithm
- Step 2: prove that the algorithm implements the spec

We'll do Step 2 first. It's always the hardest.

Caveat

In this talk I will ignore hypotheses and distracting arithmetic details.

The ACL2 proof scripts provide the complete details.

The Obviously Correct Algorithm

```
(defun matchp (pat j txt i)
  (cond ((not (natp j)) nil)
        ((>= j (length pat)) t)
        ((>= i (length txt)) nil)
        ((equal (char pat j)
                (char txt i))
         (matchp pat (+ 1 j)
                 txt (+ 1 i)))
        (t nil)))
```

The Obviously Correct Algorithm

```
(defun matchp (pat j txt i)
  (cond
        ((>= j (length pat)) t)
        ((>= i (length txt)) nil)
        ((equal (char pat j)
                 (char txt i))
         (matchp pat (+ 1 j)
                 txt (+ 1 i)))
        (t nil)))
```

The Fast Algorithm

```
(defun fast-loop (pat j txt i)
  (cond
   ((< j 0) (+ 1 i))
   ((<= (length txt) i) nil)</pre>
   ((equal (char pat j) (char txt i))
    (fast-loop pat (- j 1) txt (- i 1)))
   (t (fast-loop pat
                  (- (length pat) 1)
                  txt
                  (+ i (delta (char txt i)
                               j pat)))))
```

```
(defun fast-loop (pat j txt i)
  (declare
   (xargs:measure (measure pat j txt i)
          :well-founded-relation l<))</pre>
  (cond ...
   ((equal (char pat j) (char txt i))
    (fast-loop pat (- j 1) txt (- i 1)))
   (t (fast-loop pat
                  (- (length pat) 1)
                  txt
                  (+ i (delta (char txt i)
                              j pat))))))
```

Note Above:

In this formalization of the algorithm, we do not pre-compute delta but instead compute the skip distance as a function of the char from txt, the index j in pat, and pat.

The M1 code will use a 2-dimensional array initialized by an ACL2 function.

We will prove the ACL2 preprocessing correct.

But at the algorithmic level, we needn't think about arrays.

```
(defun fast (pat txt)
  (if (equal pat "")
      (if (equal txt "")
          nil
        0)
    (fast-loop pat
               (- (length pat) 1)
               txt
               (- (length pat) 1)))
```

"Pre-Processing"

```
(defun delta (v j pat)
(let* ((pat~ (coerce pat 'list))
        (dt (cons v (nthcdr (+ j 1) pat~))))
  (+ (- (len pat~) 1)
      (- (find-pmatchp dt pat~ (- j 1)))))
(defun find-pmatchp (dt pat~ j)
 (cond ((pmatchp dt pat j) j)
        (t (find-pmatchp dt pat~ (- j 1)))))
```

pat: BC-ABC-BBC-CBC

dt: BBC

pmatchp: BBC

pat: BC-ABC-BBC-CBC

dt: ABC

pmatchp: ABC

pat: BC-ABC-BBC-CBC

dt: GBC

pmatchp: GBC

Goal

Observation 1 – List Counterparts

Every string processing function has a list processing counterpart.

```
(char str i) = (nth i (coerce str 'list))
```

Observation 1 – List Counterparts

Observation 1 – List Counterparts

Observation 2 – Matching is Equality

```
(defun matchp (pat j txt i)
  (cond ((>= j (length pat)) t)
        ((>= i (length txt)) nil)
        ((equal (char pat j) (char txt i))
         (matchp pat (+ 1 j) txt (+ 1 i)))
        (t nil)))
         abcUVW
pat:
       xxxxxUVWxxxxx
txt:
```

Observation 2 – Matching is Equality

```
(equal (matchp pat j txt i)
       (equal (firstn (len (nthcdr j pat~))
                       (nthcdr i txt~))
              (nthcdr j pat~)))
         abcUVW
pat:
txt: xxxxxUVWxxxxx
            i
```

Observation 3 – Destructor Elimination

```
(append (firstn n x) (nthcdr n x)) = x So to prove: \psi(\mathbf{x}, \text{ (firstn n x), (nthcdr n x))} it is sufficient to prove \psi(\text{(append a b), a, b)}
```

Goal

The Crux

```
(implies
  (equal (firstn (len (nthcdr (+ 1 j) pat~))
                 (nthcdr (+ 1 i) txt~))
         (nthcdr (+ 1 j) pat~))
  (equal
   (correct-loop pat txt
    (+ i (- (find-pmatchp
             (cons (car (nthcdr i txt~))
                   (nthcdr j (cdr pat~)))
            pat~ (+ -1 j)))))
   (correct-loop pat txt (+ i (- j)))))
```

Decomposition

The crux is to prove that correct-loop can skip ahead in big steps (like fast does).

But we can decompose this into two parts.

Decomposition

- (a) correct-loop can skip ahead if there are no matches in the region skipped
- (b) there are no matches in the region skipped by find-pmatchp

Summary of Step 2

A total of 9 definitions and lemmas are proved to establish

Step 1

```
(defconst *m1-boyer-moore-program*
; Allocation of locals
; pat 0
; j 1
; txt 2
; i 3
; pmax 4 = (length pat)
; tmax 5 = (length txt)
; array 6 = (preprocess pat)
; c 7 = temp - last char read from txt
   (load 0) ; 0 (load pat)
   (push "") ; 1 (push "")
```

```
(ifane loop)
    (ifane 5)
                       2
    (load 2)
                             (load txt)
    (push "")
                       4
                             (push "")
    (ifane 40)
                             (ifane win)
                       5
    (goto 43)
                       6
                             (goto lose)
; loop:
    (load 1)
                             (load j)
                       7
                             (iflt win))
    (iflt 37)
                       8
    (load 5)
                             (load tmax)
                       9
    (load 3)
                             (load i)
                    ; 10
    (sub)
                    ; 11
                             (sub)
    (ifle 37)
                             (ifle lose)
                    ; 12
    (load 0)
                    ; 13
                             (load pat)
    (load 1)
                    ; 14
                             (load j)
                             (aload)
    (aload)
                    ; 15
    (load 2)
                    ; 16
                             (load txt)
                    ; 17
    (load 3)
                             (load i)
                    ; 18
    (aload)
                             (aload)
    (store 7)
                    ; 19
                             (store v)
```

```
; 20
    (load 7)
                            (load v)
   (sub)
                    ; 21
                            (sub)
                    ; 22
                            (ifne skip)
    (ifne 10)
    (load 1)
                            (load j)
                    ; 23
    (push 1)
                            (push 1)
                    ; 24
   (sub)
                    ; 25
                            (sub)
   (store 1)
                    ; 26
                            (store j)
   (load 3)
                    ; 27
                            (load i)
   (push 1)
                            (push 1)
                    ; 28
   (sub)
                            (sub)
                    ; 29
                    ; 30
   (store 3)
                            (store i)
    (goto -24)
                            (goto loop)
                    ; 31
; skip:
                            (load i)
    (load 3)
                    ; 32
                            (load array)
   (load 6)
                    ; 33
    (load 7)
                    ; 34
                            (load v)
                    ; 35
   (aload)
                            (aload)
   (load 1)
                            (load j)
                   ; 36
                            (aload)
    (aload)
                    ; 37
```

```
(add)
                    ; 38
                            (add)
    (store 3)
                    ; 39
                            (store i)
    (load 4)
                    ; 40
                            (load pmax)
    (push 1)
                    ; 41
                            (push 1)
    (sub)
                            (sub)
                    ; 42
    (store 1)
                    ; 43
                            (store j)
    (goto -37)
                    ; 44
                            (goto loop)
; win:
    (load 3)
                            (load i)
                    ; 45
    (push 1)
                            (push 1)
                    ; 46
                    ; 47
    (add)
                            (add)
                            (return)
    (return)
                    ; 48
: lose:
    (push nil)
                            (push nil)
                 ; 49
    (return) )
                            (return))
                    ; 50
```

The Schedule

How do we define the schedule for such a complicated piece of code?

The Schedule

```
(defun m1-boyer-moore-loop-sched (pat j txt i)
  (cond
   ((< j 0) (repeat 0 6))
   ((<= (length txt) i) (repeat 0 8))
   ((equal (char-code (char pat j))
           (char-code (char txt i)))
    (append (repeat 0 25)
            (m1-boyer-moore-loop-sched pat (- j 1)
                                        txt (- i 1))))
   (t (append (repeat 0 29)
              (m1-boyer-moore-loop-sched
                pat (- (length pat) 1)
                txt (+ i (delta (char txt i) j pat)))))
```

The Schedule

```
(defun m1-boyer-moore-loop-sched (pat j txt i)
  (cond
   ((< j 0) (repeat 0 6))
   ((<= (length txt) i) (repeat 0 8))
   ((equal (char-code (char pat j))
           (char-code (char txt i)))
    (append (repeat 0 25)
            (m1-boyer-moore-loop-sched pat (- j 1)
                                        txt (- i 1))))
   (t (append (repeat 0 29)
              (m1-boyer-moore-loop-sched
                pat (- (length pat) 1)
                txt (+ i (delta (char txt i) j pat))))))
```

```
(defun m1-boyer-moore-sched (pat txt)
  (if (equal pat "")
      (if (equal txt "")
          (repeat 0 9)
        (repeat 0 10))
    (append (repeat 0 3)
            (m1-boyer-moore-loop-sched
              pat (- (length pat) 1)
              txt (- (length pat) 1))))
```

The Schedule

Defining the schedule is trivial if you have verified the algorithm.

They have identical recursive structure and justification.

```
(defthm m1-boyer-moore-is-fast
  (implies
   (and (stringp pat) (stringp txt))
   (equal (top (stack
                (run (m1-boyer-moore-sched pat txt)
                      (make-state 0
                       (list pat (- (length pat) 1)
                             txt (- (length pat) 1)
                             (length pat) (length txt)
                             (preprocess pat)
                             0)
                      nil *m1-boyer-moore-program*))))
          (fast pat txt))))
```

```
(defthm m1-boyer-moore-halts
  (implies
   (and (stringp pat) (stringp txt))
   (haltedp
    (run (m1-boyer-moore-sched pat txt)
         (make-state 0
                      (list pat (- (length pat) 1)
                            txt (- (length pat) 1)
                            (length pat) (length txt)
                            (preprocess pat)
                            0)
                     nil *m1-boyer-moore-program*)))))
```

Main Theorem

Given

and

```
(defthm m1-boyer-moore-is-fast
  (implies
   (and (stringp pat) (stringp txt))
   (equal (top (stack
                (run (m1-boyer-moore-sched pat txt)
                      (make-state 0
                       (list pat (- (length pat) 1)
                             txt (- (length pat) 1)
                             (length pat) (length txt)
                             (preprocess pat)
                             0)
                      nil *m1-boyer-moore-program*))))
          (fast pat txt))))
```

it is trivial to show:

```
(defthm m1-boyer-moore-is-correct
  (implies
   (and (stringp pat) (stringp txt))
   (equal (top (stack
                (run (m1-boyer-moore-sched pat txt)
                      (make-state 0
                      (list pat (- (length pat) 1)
                             txt (- (length pat) 1)
                             (length pat) (length txt)
                             (preprocess pat)
                             0)
                      nil *m1-boyer-moore-program*))))
          (correct pat txt))))
```

Demo 1

Conclusion

Mechanized operational (interpretive) semantics

- are entirely within a logical framework and so permit logical analysis of programs by traditional formal proofs, without introduction of meta-logical transformers (VCGs)
- are generally *executable*
- are easily related to implementations
- allow derivation of language properties

- may allow derivation of intensional properties (e.g., how many steps a program takes to terminate)
- allow verification of system hierarchies (multiple layers of abstraction can be formalized and related within the proof system)

Thank You