

Finding the Maximum Suffix with Fewer Comparisons

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Abstract

It is shown how to compute the lexicographically maximum suffix of a string of $n \geq 2$ characters over a totally ordered alphabet using at most $(4/3)n - 5/3$ three-way character comparisons. The best previous bound, which has stood unchallenged for more than 25 years, is $(3/2)n - O(1)$ comparisons.