

# Tiling Periodicity

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The string  $S$  has a **full period** if

$$S = W^k = W \dots W$$

Equivalently,

$$\forall 1 \leq i < i + p \leq n : s_i = s_{i+p}$$

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Not in the classical sense. But...

# Outline of the Talk

- 1 Notion of Tiling Periodicity
- 2 Properties of Tiling Periodicity
- 3 Finding Tiling Periods of Minimal Size
- 4 Conclusions and Future Work

# Notion of Tiling Periodicity

# Motivating Examples

A A B B A A B B C C D D C C D D

The string above is not periodic, but the red **structure**

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is a kind of period, since we can cover initial string by **four parallel copies** of it:

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The simplest example:

A A B B



# Formal Definition

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A tiling string  $S$  is called the **tiling period** of (ordinary) string  $T$  if we can cover  $T$  by parallel copies of  $S$  satisfying the following:

- All defined (visible) letters of  $S$ -copies match the text letters
- Every text letter covered by **exactly one** defined (visible) letter

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- New structural properties of texts  
Conjecture: tiling periodicity is not expressible in word equations
- Relations to multidimensional periodicity
- Pattern discovery. At least my talk is in “pattern discovery” session :-)



# Partial Order on Tilers

**Definition:** a tiler  $S$  is **smaller** than a tiler  $Q$  iff  $Q$  can be splitted into several parallel copies of  $S$  satisfying the following:

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is less than

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# Primitive Tiling Period Conjecture

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**Reformulation:** Any two tiling periods have a common tiling “subperiod”

Surprisingly, the conjecture is wrong! Look at the (minimal known) counterexample:

A A A A A A A A B A A B B A A B A A A A A A A

and

A A A A A A A A B A A B B A A B A A A A A A A

# Properties of Tiling Periodicity

# How Many Tiling Periods? (1/2)

**Bodini & Rivals** (CPM'06) studied number of tilings  $L(n)$  of **unary** word of length  $n$ :

- $L(1) = 1$ , for every  $n > 1$

$$L(n) = 1 + \sum_{d|n, d \neq n} L(d)$$

- $L(36) = 52$

# How Many Tiling Periods? (2/2)

**Our result:**

## Theorem

There is one-to-one correspondence between tiling of unary word of length  $n$  and factorizations  $n = n_1 \cdot \dots \cdot n_k$  where  $n_2, \dots, n_k \geq 2$

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## Theorem

Take any pair of tiling period and classical period. Then they have a common “tiling subperiod”



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## Reformulation

Any primitive tiling period of string  $T$  is also a tiling period of any classical period of  $T$

# Finding Tiling Periods of Minimal Size

# Auxiliary Definition: Multi-Period

A word has **multi-period**  $(a, b)$  iff  $a|b$  and for every  $k$  a  $[kb + 1, (k + 1)b]$  block has the full period  $a$

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**Definition:** multi-period  $(a, b)$  is **embedded** into another one  $a', b'$  iff  $b|a'$

# Tiling Period and “his” Multi-Periods

## Multi-Period Lemma

Every tiling period corresponds to some sequence of embedded multi-periods  $(a_1, b_1) \dots (a_k, b_k)$ . The size of period is equal  $n \prod_{i=1}^k \frac{a_i}{b_i}$

# Preprocessing Step

## Preprocessing Lemma

There is  $\mathcal{O}(n \log n \log \log n)$  preprocessing of the text such every query “is  $(a, b)$  a multi-period” can be answered in  $\mathcal{O}(\log n)$  time

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**Trick:** Karp-Miller-Rosenberg algorithm



# Finding Tiling Periods of Minimal Size

## Theorem

There is  $\mathcal{O}(n \log n \log \log n)$  algorithm for finding a tiling period of minimal size

# Conclusions and Future Work

# Directions for Further Research

- Whether all primitive tiling periods have the same number of visible letters?
- How often strings are tiling periodic?
- Introduce **not full** tiling periods. How to find the one of minimal size?
- Find natural sources of tiling periodicity

# Summary

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- **Result 3:** there is bijection between tiling periods of unary words and length factorizations

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- **Result 1:** the primitive tiling period is not necessary unique
- **Result 2:** tiling periods live “inside” classical
- **Result 3:** there is bijection between tiling periods of unary words and length factorizations
- **Result 4:**  $\mathcal{O}(n \log n \log \log n)$  algorithm for tiling periods of minimal size



# Last Slide

Search “**Lifshits**” or visit <http://logic.pdmi.ras.ru/~yura/>



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Thank you for your attention! Questions?