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The heaviest induced ancestors problem revisited. (English) [Zbl 07286746](#)

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Summary: We revisit the heaviest induced ancestors problem, which has several interesting applications in string matching. Let \mathcal{T}_1 and \mathcal{T}_2 be two weighted trees, where the weight $W(u)$ of a node u in either of the two trees is more than the weight of u 's parent. Additionally, the leaves in both trees are labeled and the labeling of the leaves in \mathcal{T}_2 is a permutation of those in \mathcal{T}_1 . A node $x \in \mathcal{T}_1$ and a node $y \in \mathcal{T}_2$ are induced, iff their subtree have at least one common leaf label. A heaviest induced ancestor query $\text{HIA}(u_1, u_2)$ is: given a node $u_1 \in \mathcal{T}_1$ and a node $u_2 \in \mathcal{T}_2$, output the pair (u_1^*, u_2^*) of induced nodes with the highest combined weight $W(u_1^*) + W(u_2^*)$, such that u_1^* is an ancestor of u_1 and u_2^* is an ancestor of u_2 . Let n be the number of nodes in both trees combined and $\varepsilon > 0$ be an arbitrarily small constant. *T. Gagie et al.* [“Heaviest induced ancestors and longest common substring”, Preprint, [arXiv:1305.3164](#)] introduced this problem and proposed three solutions with the following space-time trade-offs:

- an $O(n \log^2 n)$ -word data structure with $O(\log n \log \log n)$ query time
- an $O(n \log n)$ -word data structure with $O(\log^2 n)$ query time
- an $O(n)$ -word data structure with $O(\log^{3+\varepsilon} n)$ query time.

In this paper, we revisit this problem and present new data structures, with improved bounds. Our results are as follows.

- an $O(n \log n)$ -word data structure with $O(\log n \log \log n)$ query time
- an $O(n)$ -word data structure with $O(\frac{\log^2 n}{\log \log n})$ query time.

As a corollary, we also improve the LZ compressed index of Gagie et al. [loc. cit.] for answering longest common substring (LCS) queries. Additionally, we show that the LCS after one edit problem of size n [*A. Amir et al.*, *Algorithmica* 82, No. 12, 3707–3743 (2020; [Zbl 07272778](#))] can also be reduced to the heaviest induced ancestors problem over two trees of n nodes in total. This yields a straightforward improvement over its current solution of $O(n \log^3 n)$ space and $O(\log^3 n)$ query time.

For the entire collection see [[Zbl 1390.68025](#)].

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