	a	b	a	b	c	a	b	a	b	c	a	b	c

Prefix

-1
0   a
0   ab
0   abc
-1 abca
2   abcab

Prefix table

a b c a b
-1 0 0 0 1

function compressString(inputString):
```
function compressString(inputString):
    if inputString is empty:
        return ""

    compressedString := ""
    charCount := 1

    for i from 1 to length(inputString) - 1:
        if inputString[i] == inputString[i - 1]:
            charCount := charCount + 1
        else:
            compressedString := compressedString + inputString[i - 1] + toString(charCount)
            charCount := 1

    compressedString := compressedString + inputString[length(inputString) - 1] + toString(charCount)

    if length(compressedString) < length(inputString):
        return compressedString
    else:
        return inputString
```