

# 2184. Check if an Original String Exists Given Two Encoded Strings

## Difficulty : Hard

<https://leetcode.com/problems/check-if-an-original-string-exists-given-two-encoded-strings>

An original string, consisting of lowercase English letters, can be encoded by the following steps:

- Arbitrarily **split** it into a **sequence** of some number of **non-empty** substrings.
- Arbitrarily choose some elements (possibly none) of the sequence, and **replace** each with **its length** (as a numeric string).
- **Concatenate** the sequence as the encoded string.

For example, **one way** to encode an original string "abcdefghijklnop" might be:

- Split it as a sequence: ["ab", "cdefghijklmn", "o", "p"].
- Choose the second and third elements to be replaced by their lengths, respectively. The sequence becomes ["ab", "12", "1", "p"].
- Concatenate the elements of the sequence to get the encoded string: "ab121p".

Given two encoded strings  $s_1$  and  $s_2$ , consisting of lowercase English letters and digits 1-9 (inclusive), return `true` *if there exists an original string that could be encoded as **both**  $s_1$  and  $s_2$ . Otherwise, return false.*

**Note:** The test cases are generated such that the number of consecutive digits in  $s_1$  and  $s_2$  does not exceed 3.

### Example 1:

**Input:**  $s_1$  = "internationalization",  $s_2$  = "i18n"

**Output:** true

**Explanation:** It is possible that "internationalization" was the original string.

```
- "internationalization"
-> Split:      ["internationalization"]
-> Do not replace any element
-> Concatenate: "internationalization", which is s1.
- "internationalization"
-> Split:      ["i", "nternationalizatio", "n"]
-> Replace:     ["i", "18", "n"]
-> Concatenate: "i18n", which is s2
```

### Example 2:

**Input:**  $s_1$  = "l123e",  $s_2$  = "44"

**Output:** true

**Explanation:** It is possible that "leetcode" was the original string.

```
- "leetcode"
-> Split:      ["l", "e", "et", "cod", "e"]
-> Replace:     ["l", "1", "2", "3", "e"]
-> Concatenate: "l123e", which is s1.
- "leetcode"
-> Split:      ["leet", "code"]
-> Replace:     ["4", "4"]
-> Concatenate: "44", which is s2.
```

### Example 3:

**Input:**  $s_1$  = "a5b",  $s_2$  = "c5b"

**Output:** false

**Explanation:** It is impossible.

- The original string encoded as  $s_1$  must start with the letter 'a'.
- The original string encoded as  $s_2$  must start with the letter 'c'.

### Constraints:

- $1 \leq s_1.length, s_2.length \leq 40$
- $s_1$  and  $s_2$  consist of digits 1-9 (inclusive), and lowercase English letters only.

- The number of consecutive digits in  $s_1$  and  $s_2$  does not exceed 3.