

10. Regular Expression Matching

Difficulty : Hard

<https://leetcode.com/problems/regular-expression-matching>

Given an input string s and a pattern p , implement regular expression matching with support for $'.'$ and $'*'$ where:

- $'.'$ Matches any single character.
- $'*'$ Matches zero or more of the preceding element.

The matching should cover the **entire** input string (not partial).

Example 1:

Input: $s = "aa"$, $p = "a"$

Output: false

Explanation: "a" does not match the entire string "aa".

Example 2:

Input: $s = "aa"$, $p = "a*"$

Output: true

Explanation: '*' means zero or more of the preceding element, 'a'. Therefore, by repeating 'a' once, it becomes "aa".

Example 3:

Input: $s = "ab"$, $p = ".*"$

Output: true

Explanation: ".*" means "zero or more (*) of any character (.)".

Constraints:

- $1 \leq s.length \leq 20$
- $1 \leq p.length \leq 20$
- s contains only lowercase English letters.
- p contains only lowercase English letters, $'.'$, and $'*'$.
- It is guaranteed for each appearance of the character $'*'$, there will be a previous valid character to match.