125. Valid Palindrome

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- **Two pointers** + string

Description

Given a string, determine if it is a palindrome, considering only alphanumeric characters and ignoring cases.

For example,

`"A man, a plan, a canal: Panama"` is a palindrome.

`"race a car"` is *not* a palindrome.

Note:

Have you consider that the string might be empty? This is a good question to ask during an interview.

For the purpose of this problem, we define empty string as valid palindrome.

1. Thought line

2. Two pointers + string

```cpp
class Solution {
public:
    bool isPalindrome(string s) {
        if (s.size()<=1) return true;
        int a = 0, b = s.size()-1;

        while (a<b){
            while(!isalnum(s[a]) && a+1<=b)
                ++a;
            while(!isalnum(s[b]) && a<=b-1)
                --b;
            if (tolower(s[a]) == tolower(s[b])){
                ++a, --b;
            }
            else return false;
        }
        return true;
    }
};
```