

2020-04-18 - Handout – String Algorithms

Q1. Longest Substring Without Repeating Characters

Link: <https://leetcode.com/problems/longest-substring-without-repeating-characters/>

Given a string, find the length of the **longest substring** without repeating characters.

Example 1:

Input: "abcabcbb"

Output: 3

Explanation: The answer is "abc", with the length of 3.

Example 2:

Input: "bbbbbb"

Output: 1

Explanation: The answer is "b", with the length of 1.

Q2. Generate Parentheses

Link: <https://leetcode.com/problems/generate-parentheses/>

Given n pairs of parentheses, write a function to generate all combinations of well-formed parentheses. For example, given $n = 3$, a solution set is:

For example, given $n = 3$, a solution set is:

```
[  
  "((()))",  
  "(()())",  
  "()(())",  
  "()()()",  
  "()()()" ]
```

Q3. Word Ladder

Link: <https://leetcode.com/problems/word-ladder/>

Given two words (*beginWord* and *endWord*), and a dictionary's word list, find the length of shortest transformation sequence from *beginWord* to *endWord*, such that:

1. Only one letter can be changed at a time.
2. Each transformed word must exist in the word list.

Note:

- Return 0 if there is no such transformation sequence.
- All words have the same length.
- All words contain only lowercase alphabetic characters.
- You may assume no duplicates in the word list.
- You may assume *beginWord* and *endWord* are non-empty and are not the same.

Example 1:

Input:

```
beginWord = "hit",
endWord = "cog",
wordList = ["hot","dot","dog","lot","log","cog"]
```

Output: 5

Explanation: As one shortest transformation is "hit" -> "hot" -> "dot" -> "dog" -> "cog", return its length 5.

Q4. Similar String Groups

Link: <https://leetcode.com/problems/similar-string-groups/>

Two strings *X* and *Y* are similar if we can swap two letters (in different positions) of *X*, so that it equals *Y*. Also two strings *X* and *Y* are similar if they are equal.

For example, "tars" and "rats" are similar (swapping at positions 0 and 2), and "rats" and "arts" are similar, but "star" is not similar to "tars", "rats", or "arts".

Together, these form two connected groups by similarity: {"tars", "rats", "arts"} and {"star"}. Notice that "tars" and "arts" are in the same group even though they are not similar. Formally, each group is such that a word is in the group if and only if it is similar to at least one other word in the group.

We are given a list *A* of strings. Every string in *A* is an anagram of every other string in *A*. How many groups are there?

Example 1:

Input: A = ["tars", "rats", "arts", "star"]

Output: 2

Constraints:

- $1 \leq A.length \leq 2000$
- $1 \leq A[i].length \leq 1000$
- $A.length * A[i].length \leq 20000$
- All words in *A* consist of lowercase letters only.
- All words in *A* have the same length and are anagrams of each other.

- The judging time limit has been increased for this question.