



Index of first occurrence

Given two strings `needle` and `haystack`, return the index of the first occurrence of `needle` in `haystack`, or `-1` if `needle` is not part of `haystack`.

Example 1:

Input: `haystack = "sadbutsad"`, `needle = "sad"`

Output: 0

Explanation: "sad" occurs at index 0 and 6.

The first occurrence is at index 0, so we return 0.

Example 2:

Input: `haystack = "leetcode"`, `needle = "leeto"`

Output: -1

Explanation: "leeto" did not occur in "leetcode", so we return -1.

We will use the two pointer approach for this like we have with most of our easy problems so our two pointers are given to us in the question `needle` and `haystack` so lets define them as `h` and `n`.

```
# h is the index of the haystack
# n is the index of the needle
h = 0
n = 0
```

next we will define a while loop to keep running whilst our pointer `h` is less than our `haystack` array.

```
# iterate through the haystack
while h < len(haystack):
```

next our if statement just has a condition if to say if haystack and needle are the same we will enter a while loop with three conditions.

1. `n` is less than the length of the needle
2. `h` and `n` is less than the length of the length of the haystack
3. haystack of `h` and `n` = `needle[n]`

then we will increase `n`

```
if haystack[h] == needle[0]:
    # iterate through the needle
    # while n is less than the length of needle
    # and h+n is less than the length of haystack
    # and the current element of haystack is equal to the current element o
    # increment n by one
    while n < len(needle) and h + n < len(haystack) and haystack[h + n] ==
        n += 1
```

we will then have another condition to say if `n` is equal to the length of the needle than return `h`

```
# if n is equal to the length of needle
    if n == len(needle):
        return h
```

than in the initial while loop we are always increasing h until we reach the end of the hay stack

```
# increment h by one
    h += 1
```

Complete solution

```
class Solution:
    def strStr(self, haystack: str, needle: str) → int:
        # Check if needle is empty
        if not needle:
            return 0

        # Check if needle is longer than haystack
        if needle not in haystack:
            return -1

        # h is the index of the haystack
        # n is the index of the needle
        h = 0
        n = 0
        # iterate through the haystack
        while h < len(haystack):
            # if the current element of haystack is equal to the first element of needle
```

```

if haystack[h] == needle[0]:
    # iterate through the needle
    # while n is less than the length of needle
    # and h+n is less than the length of haystack
    # and the current element of haystack is equal to the current element o
    # increment n by one
    while n < len(needle) and h + n < len(haystack) and haystack[h + n] ==
        n += 1

    # if n is equal to the length of needle
    if n == len(needle):
        return h

    # increment h by one
    h += 1

return -1

```

feel free to change the `haystack` and `needle` variables to get different values.

```

# Example usage
if __name__ == "__main__":
    # Create an instance of the Solution class
    solution = Solution()

    # Example input
    haystack = "hello" #change
    needle = "ll" #change

    # Call the strStr method
    index = solution.strStr(haystack, needle)

```

```
# Print the result  
print("Index of first occurrence of needle in haystack:", index)
```