

Rotate String

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🔽 Platform	LeetCode
🔗 difficulty	Easy
# Serial	796
≡ tags	String Manipulation
🗨 language	C++
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🔗 link	https://leetcode.com/problems/rotate-string/description/
☑ Completion	✓

Intuition

The problem requires checking if one string (`goal`) is a rotation of another string (`s`). The key insight is that if `goal` is indeed a rotation of `s`, then it should appear as a substring within the concatenation of `s` with itself (`s + s`). This approach leverages the properties of string rotation effectively.

Approach

1. Check if the lengths of `s` and `goal` are equal. If not, return `false` immediately because strings of different lengths cannot be rotations of each other.
2. Concatenate `s` with itself to form a new string (`s + s`).
3. Check if `goal` appears as a substring in this concatenated string using the `find()` function.
4. If `goal` is found as a substring, return `true`; otherwise, return `false`.

Complexity

Time Complexity:

- **$O(n)$** : Where `n` is the length of the string `s`. Concatenation takes $O(n)$, and the `find()` function takes $O(n)$ for a substring search.

Space Complexity:

- **$O(n)$** : The space complexity is $O(n)$ due to the concatenated string `s + s`, which is double the size of `s`.

Code

```
class Solution {
public:
    bool rotateString(string s, string goal) {
        return (s.size() == goal.size()) && (s + s).find(goal) != -1;
    }
};
```