

557. Reverse Words in a String III

Question :

Given a string `s`, reverse the order of characters in each word within a sentence while still preserving whitespace and the initial word order.

Constraints :

- $1 \leq s.length \leq 5 \times 10^4$
 - `s` contains printable ASCII characters.
 - `s` does not contain any leading or trailing spaces.
 - There is at least one word in `s`.
 - All the words in `sss` are separated by a single space.
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Inputs :

- `s`: A string containing words separated by single spaces.

Outputs :

- The string `sss`, with each word reversed while preserving whitespace and word order.
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Example 1 :

Input:

`s = "Let's take LeetCode contest"`

Output:

`"s'teL ekat edoCteeL tsetnoc"`

Example 2 :

Input:

`s = "Mr Ding"`

Output:

"rM gniD"

Algorithm :

1. Define a helper function **reverse** to reverse a segment of the string **s** between indices **start** and **end**.
 2. Initialize two pointers, **start** and **end**, to track the beginning and end of each word.
 3. Traverse the string:
 - When encountering a space (' ') or the end of the string ('\0'), reverse the word between **start** and **end-1**.
 - Update **start** to the position after the current space and continue traversing.
 4. Return the modified string **s**.
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Code :

```
#include <string.h>
```

```
void reverse(char* s, int start, int end) {  
    char temp;  
    while (start <= end) {  
        temp = s[start];  
        s[start] = s[end];  
        s[end] = temp;  
        start++;  
        end--;  
    }  
}
```

```
char* reverseWords(char* s) {  
    int start = 0, end = 0;  
  
    if (strlen(s) < 2) return s;  
  
    int len = strlen(s);  
  
    while (end <= len) {  
        if (s[end] == ' ' || s[end] == '\0') {
```

```
        reverse(s, start, end - 1);
        start = end + 1;
    }
    end++;
}
return s;
}
```

Time Complexity :

- $O(n)$: The string is traversed once to locate words, and each word is reversed in $O(m)$, where m is the word length. The overall complexity is linear with respect to the string length n .

Space Complexity :

- $O(1)$: The reversal is done in place without requiring additional memory.
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Edge Cases :

1. Single word input:
 - Example: $s = \text{"word"} \rightarrow \text{Output: "drow"}$.
2. Multiple spaces between words: (not applicable here, as per constraints).
3. String with only one character:
 - Example: $s = \text{"a"} \rightarrow \text{Output: "a"}$.
4. Longest input: Handle up to 5×10^4 characters efficiently.