1554. Strings Differ by One Character `Premium`

Given a list of strings `dict` where all the strings are of the same length.

Return `true` if there are 2 strings that only differ by 1 character in the same index, otherwise return `false`.

Example 1:

```
Input: dict = ["abcd","acbd", "aacd"]
Output: true
Explanation: Strings "abcd" and "aacd" differ only by one character in the index 1.
```

Example 2:

```
Input: dict = ["ab","cd","yz"]
Output: false
```

Example 3:

```
Input: dict = ["abcd","cccc","abyd","abab"]
Output: true
```

Constraints:

- The number of characters in `dict <= 10^5`
- `dict[i].length == dict[j].length`
- `dict[i]` should be unique.
- `dict[i]` contains only lowercase English letters.

Follow up: Could you solve this problem in `O(n * m)` where n is the length of `dict` and `m` is the length of each string.

Seen this question in a real interview before?   1/5

Yes   No

Accepted **25.3K** | Submissions **61K** | Acceptance Rate **41.5%**

🏷 Topics

Hash Table   String   Rolling Hash   Hash Function

📑 Companies

0 - 6 months

Airbnb 2

💡 Hint 1

BruteForce, check all pairs and verify if they differ in one character. O(n^2 * m) where n is the number of words and m is the length of each string.

💡 Hint 2

O(m^2 * n), Use hashset, to insert all possible combinations adding a character "*". For example: If dict[i] = "abc", insert ("*bc", "a*c" and "ab*").

☰ Similar Questions

Count Words Obtained After Adding a Letter   Medium

💬 Discussion (5)