

## Alternative Homework 4: String Search

*Note.* This is a parody of CMU and MIT OCW content. The original assignments and related materials can be retrieved from <https://bit.ly/3i1vnHB>, <https://bit.ly/31k7uVI>, <https://bit.ly/37Wgyl4>.

### Question 1.

Knuth-Morris-Pratt string search algorithm makes use of a DFA (Deterministic Finite Automaton) to keep track of the longest feasible prefix of  $S$  that has been matched so far in the input text  $T$ . The transitions between the states in this DFA automaton can be represented using the *prefix function* or the `memo[i]` table, where  $i \in \{0, \dots, \ell - 1\}$ .

These concepts are defined in Section 1 of <https://bit.ly/3fXWnWT>.

Assume that somebody wants to build a DFA automaton that reads text  $T$  once from left to right.  $S$ he searches for either one of the two strings: either  $S_1 = 1110111101$  or  $S_2 = 10101$  (after the first match of either  $S_1$  or  $S_2$  is found, the automaton reaches its final accepting state and stops).

How many states would that DFA have, and what data structure (instead of the table `memo[i]`) can be used to encode the transitions in this DFA?

**Question 2.** Suppose you are given a searchable text  $T[0..n - 1]$  of length  $n$ , consisting of symbols **a** and **b**. Suppose further that you are given a pattern string  $S[0..\ell - 1]$  of length  $\ell$  much smaller than  $n$ , consisting of symbols **a**, **b**, and **\***, representing a pattern to be found in the original text  $T$ . The symbol **\*** is a “wild card” symbol, which matches a single symbol, either **a** or **b**. The other symbols must match exactly. The problem is to output a sorted list  $M$  of valid “match positions”, which are positions  $j$  in  $S$  such that pattern  $P$  matches the substring  $S[j..j + \ell - 1]$ . For example, if  $T = ababbab$  and  $S = ab*$ , then the output should be  $[0, 2]$ .

Consider an equivalent of Knuth-Morris-Pratt algorithm that reads the searchable text  $T$  once from left to right and (upon every mismatch between the text  $T$  and pattern  $S$ ) shifts the pattern  $S$  forward by the smallest feasible amount. We want to search for the pattern  $S = 11 * 0111 * 01$ .

(A) Write the pseudocode for this modified KMP algorithm.

(B) Fill in the table of shifts (also called *prefix function* or `memo[i]`) describing the shifts, if the  $T$  does not match the search pattern  $S = 11 * 0111 * 01$  at some position.

This is a parody of Problem 2.1, see p.1 in <https://bit.ly/2XKX5AB>.

### Question 3.

Consider the following prehashing function converting strings  $S$  of length  $\ell$  into integer “keys”:

$$k(S) = (S[0] \cdot b^{\ell-1} + S[1] \cdot b^{\ell-2} + \dots + S[\ell - 1]) \bmod q. \quad (1)$$

Here  $b$  (called the “number base”) is a number larger than the alphabet size used for  $S$ .

The same prehashing function can be applied to a substring of a longer text  $T$  (processing exactly  $\ell$  consecutive symbols):

$$\begin{aligned} k(T[i..i + \ell - 1]) &= \\ &= (S[i] \cdot b^{\ell-1} + S[i + 1] \cdot b^{\ell-2} + \dots + T[i + \ell - 1]) \bmod q, \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

Consider also the following hashing function (See *multiplication method* in <https://bit.ly/2V8UfDF>)

$$h(k) = [(a \cdot k) \bmod 2^w] \gg (w - r), \quad (3)$$

In this expression:

- $\gg$  denotes the bitwise “shift right” operator,
- $2^r = m$  is the hash table size,
- $w$  is the bit-length of a “machine word” (choose whatever is convenient; regardless of the hardware architecture).
- $a$  is an odd integer between  $2^{w-1}$  and  $2^w$ .

Our goal is to use the hashing method:

$$h(k(T[i..i + \ell - 1]))$$

in the Rabin-Karp string search. We want to find patterns  $S$  (of length  $\ell \leq 100$  symbols) in a long text  $T$ . Both  $S$  and  $T$  are written in ASCII, using its 128 symbol alphabet.

(A) How would you compute the `r.append(c)` and `r.skip(c)` operations in the rolling hash ADT, if the prehashing and hashing are implemented using the expressions (1), (2) and (3).

The Rolling Hash abstract datatype (ADT) and Rabin-Karp algorithm are explained in <https://bit.ly/2BxpNMu> (starting from 38:00).

(B) Write the time complexity of the overall Rabin-Karp algorithm using  $O(\dots)$  (the Big-O notation) for this hashing method. Denote the length of the text  $T$  by  $n = |T|$ , and the length of the search pattern  $S$  by  $\ell = |S|$ .

*Note.* This was inspired by Problem 4-1 from <https://bit.ly/3dyNtgK>.