

# Lecture #19

## String Matching (2)

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Algorithm

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# In This Lecture

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## □ We previously study the following

- String matching problem
  - Let's match a pattern  $P$  of length  $m$  in a document  $A$  of length  $n$
- Naïve algorithm
  - Takes  $O(mn)$  time
- Rabin-Karp algorithm
  - Takes  $O(m + Fn)$  time where  $F$  is # of that fingerprints are hit
  - Average case time:  $O(n)$
  - Worst case time:  $O(mn)$

## □ More efficient algorithm for string matching

- Automata algorithm

# Outline

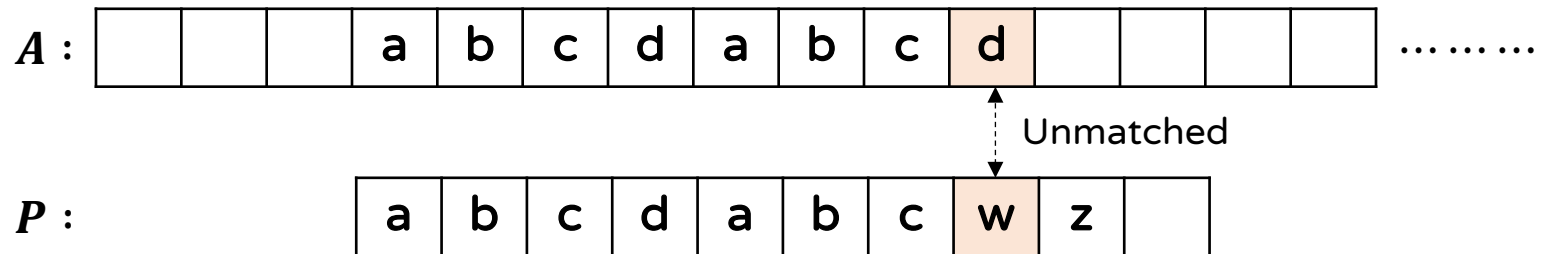
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- Intuition for automata algorithm
- String matching automata
- Search phase in automata algorithm
- Automata construction phase

# Intuition of Automata Algorithm

## □ How can we improve the naïve algorithm?

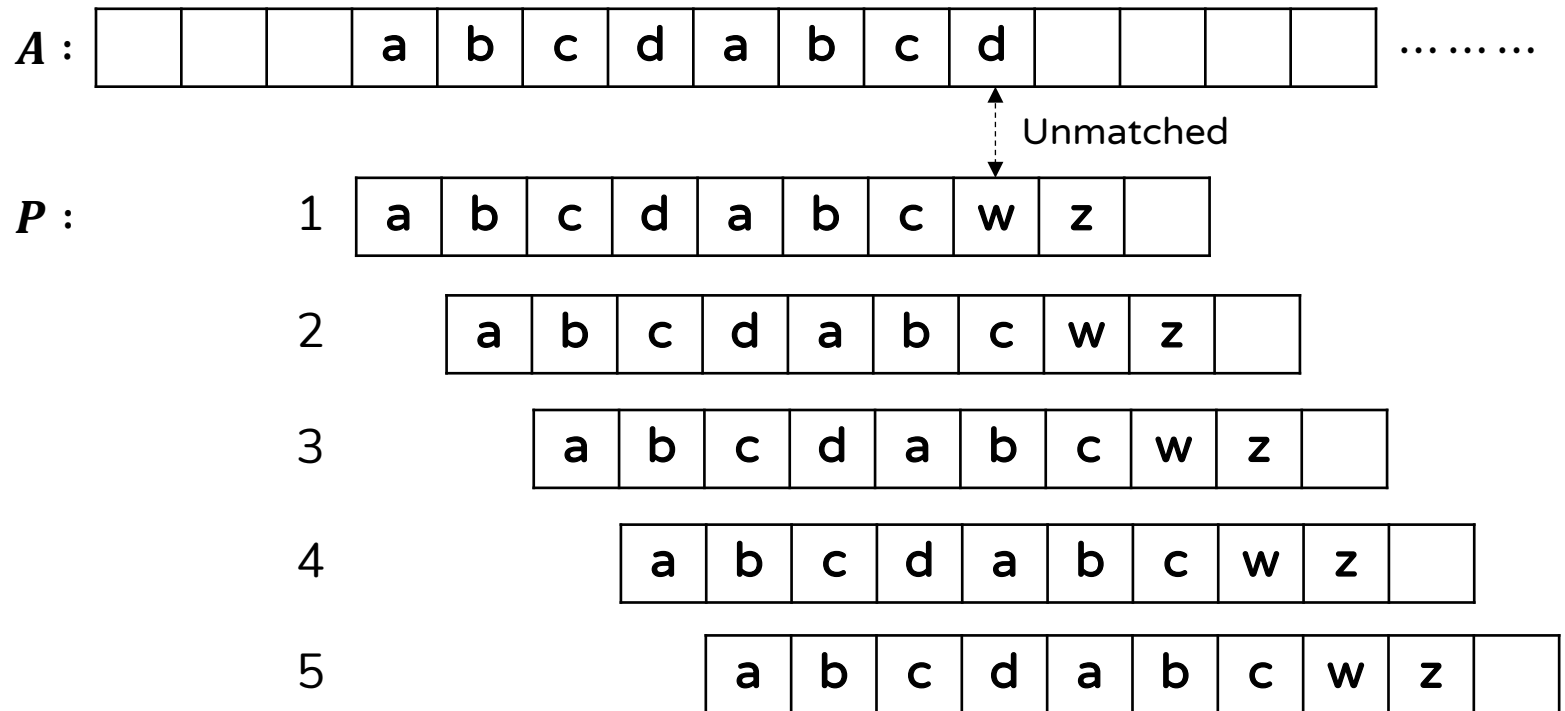
- Consider the following situation where ***P*** is not matched with the sub-string of ***A***



# Intuition of Automata Algorithm

## □ How can we improve the naïve algorithm?

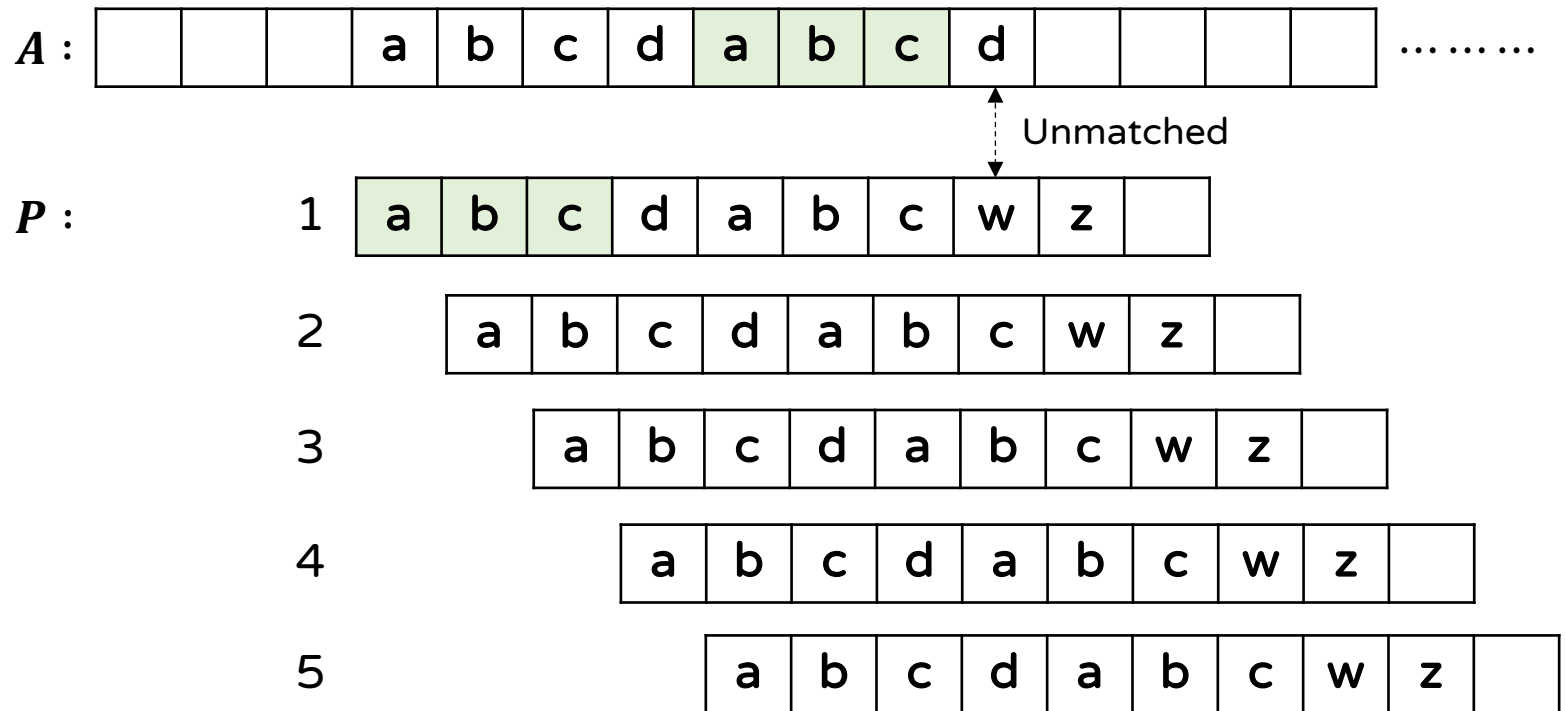
- Then, the naïve algorithm keeps searching next as the following:



# Intuition of Automata Algorithm

## □ How can we improve the naïve algorithm?

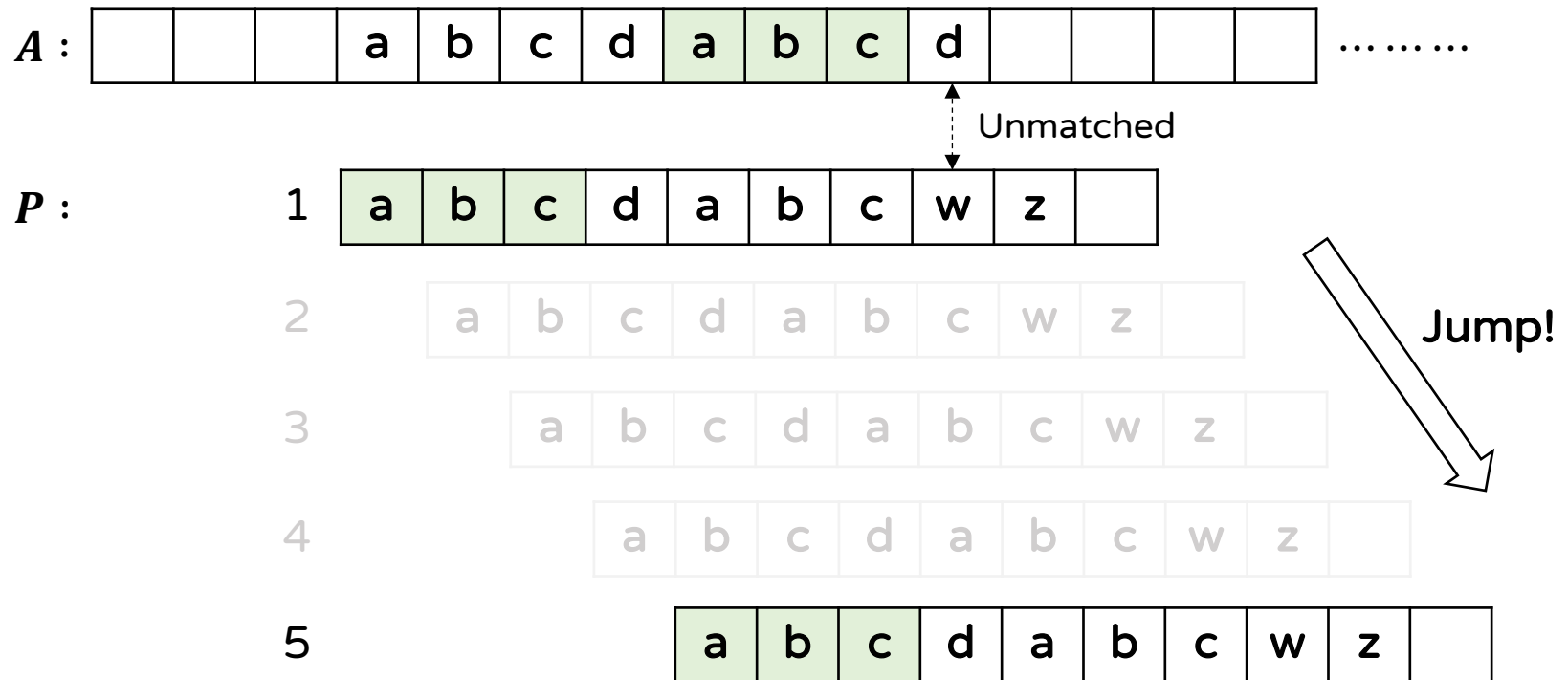
- Note that the front (**prefix**) of  $P$  can be partially matched with the rear (**suffix**) of the sub-string of  $A$ .



# Intuition of Automata Algorithm

## □ How can we improve the naïve algorithm?

- Using this information, we can skip Steps 2, 3, & 4 and jump to Step 5!



# Outline

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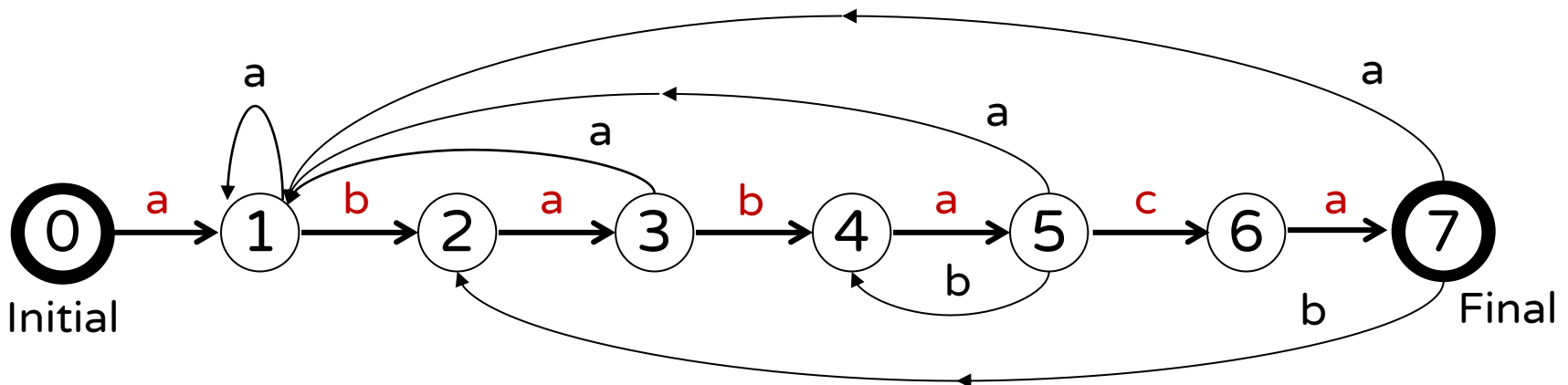
- ❑ Intuition for automata algorithm
- ❑ String matching automata
- ❑ Search phase in automata algorithm
- ❑ Table construction phase in automata algorithm



# String Matching Automata (1)

## □ A directed graph represents procedures of matching a pattern string

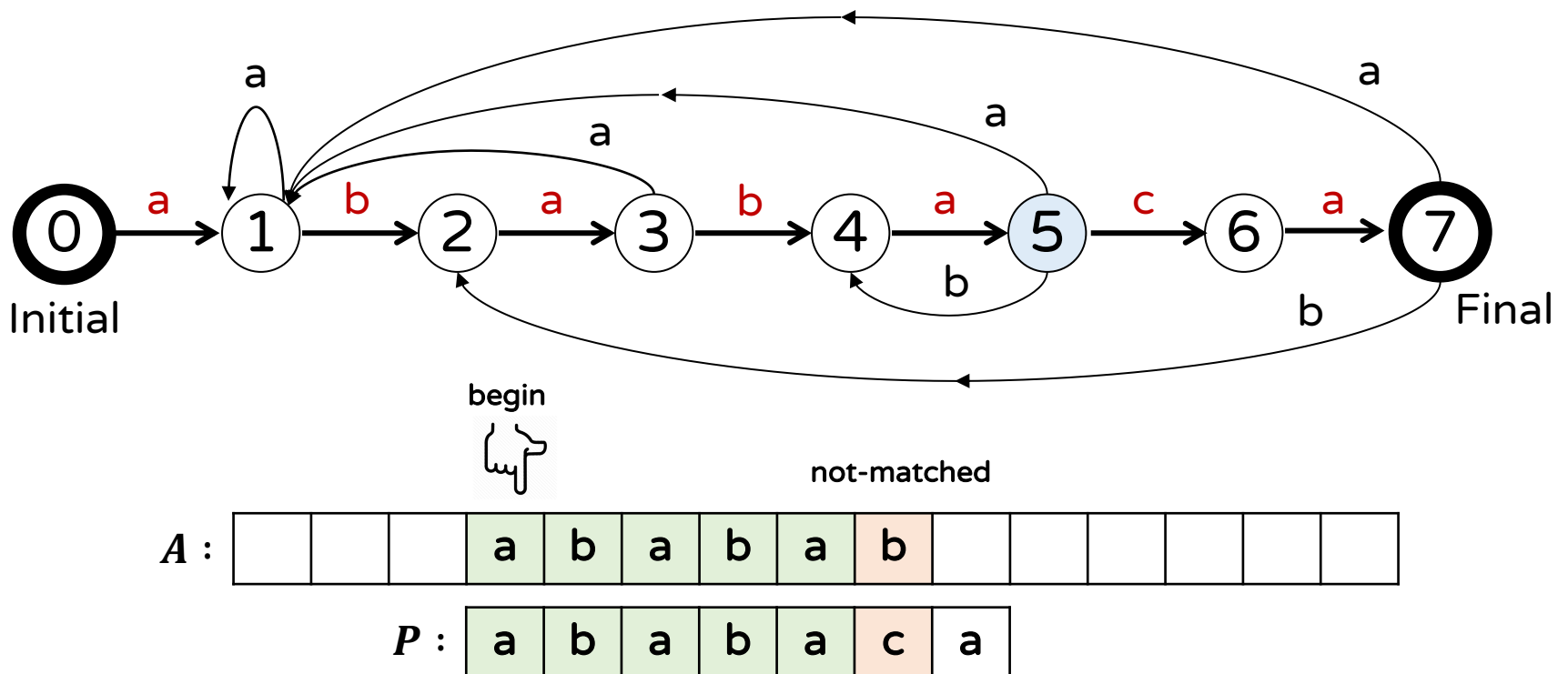
- A node is a state while matching the pattern.
- An edge is a transition from state to state given a label.
  - For other labels not given in the edge, go back to State 0.
- Example of an automata of pattern “ababaca”
  - **State 0:** nothing is matched & **Final state:** “ababaca” is matched
  - **State 1:** “a” is matched & **State 3:** “aba” is matched



# String Matching Automata (2)

## □ Automata knows how to handle “not-matched”

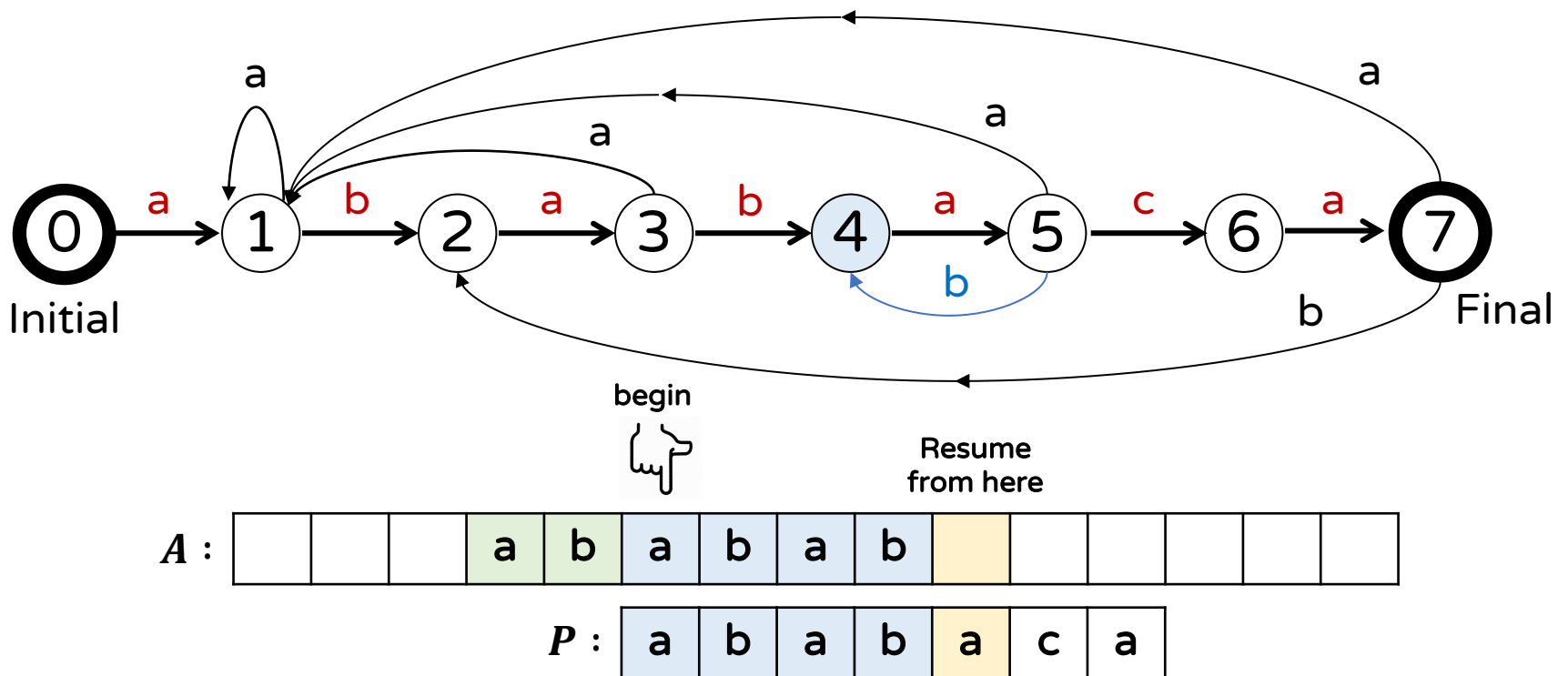
- Do not need to do match from scratch (can jump!)
- For example, suppose we are currently at State 5 for the pattern “ababaca”, and the next  $A[i]$  is “b”



# String Matching Automata (3)

## □ Automata knows how to handle “not-matched”

- Do not need to do match from scratch
- By going back State 4 with “b”, we can resume matching after “abab”!



# Automata Algorithm

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## □ Phases of Automata Algorithm

- Automata construction phase
  - Construct the automata from the pattern string  $P$
- Search phase
  - Match the pattern  $P$  over the document string  $A$  with the automata
- For convenience, let's first check the searching phase assuming a valid automata is given
- After then, let's check how to construct the automata

# Outline

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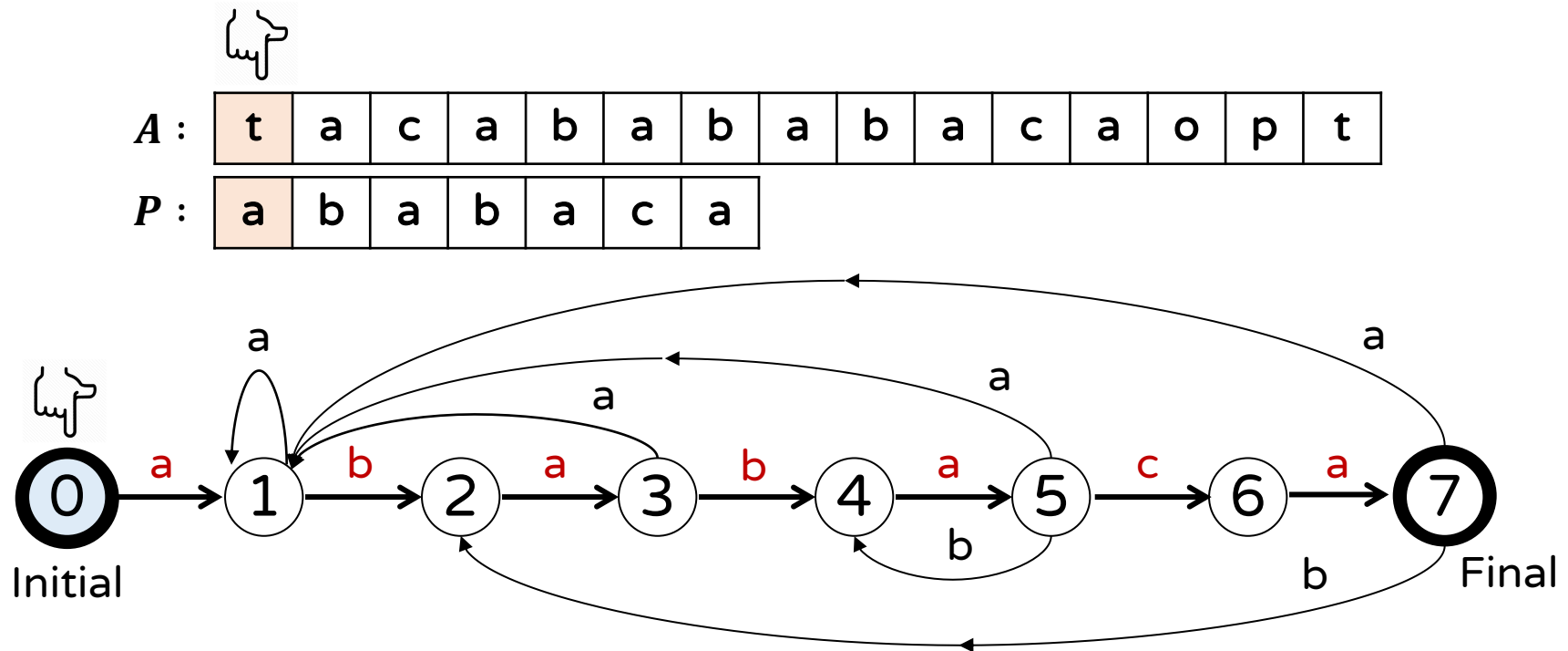
- ❑ Intuition for automata algorithm
- ❑ String matching automata
- ❑ Search phase with automata
- ❑ Automata construction phase

# Search Phase with Automata (1)

## Initially, start at $A[1]$ and State 0

- No edge with label “t” at State 0  $\Rightarrow$  Move to State 0

Input pattern:  
“ababaca”

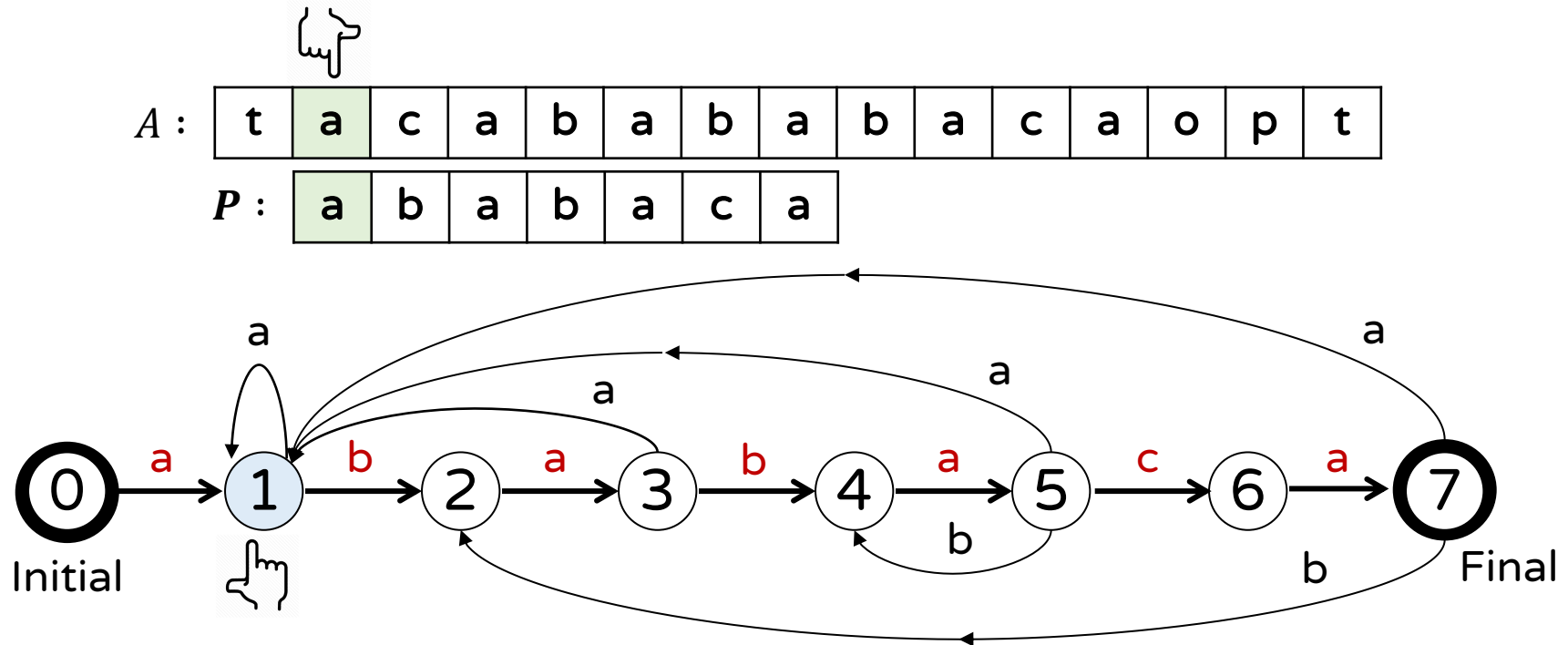


# Search Phase with Automata (2)

□ Given label “a” at State 0, move to State 1

- Meaning “a” is matched

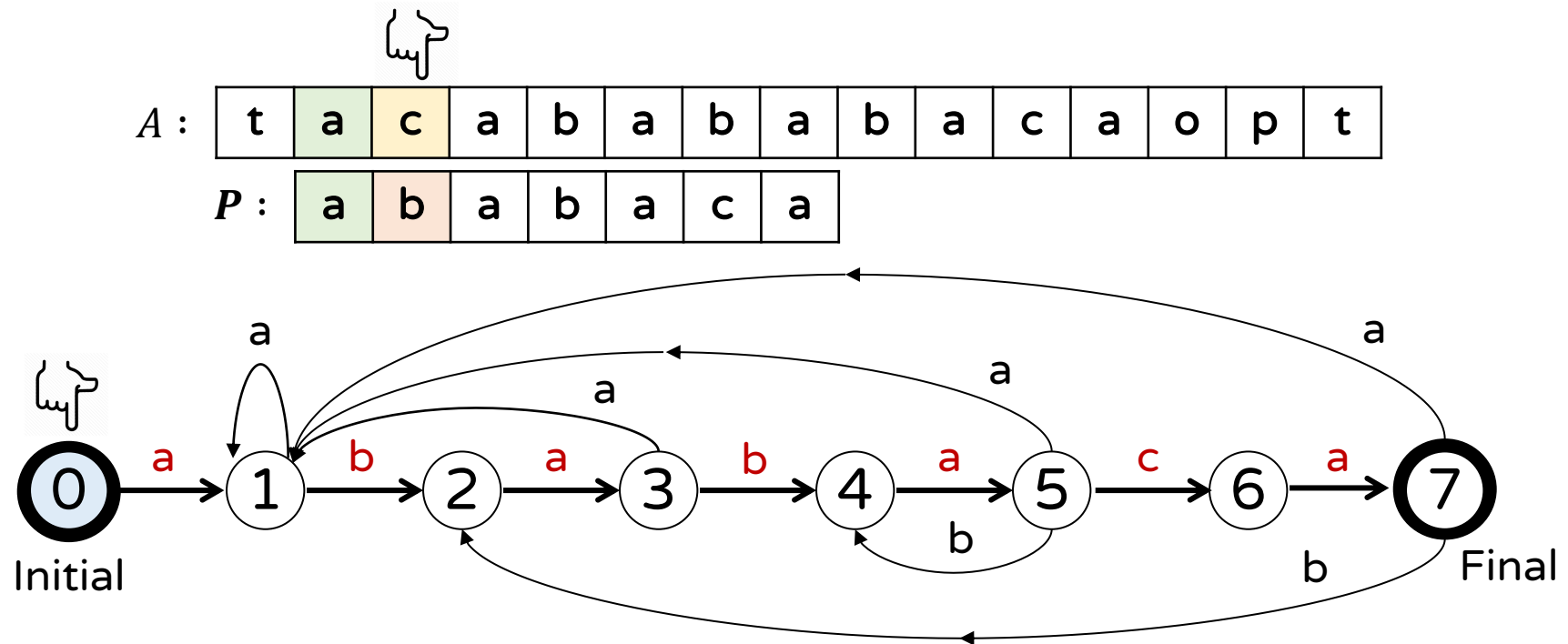
Input pattern:  
“ababaca”



# Search Phase with Automata (3)

❑ No edge with label “c” at State 1, go back to State 0

Input pattern:  
“ababaca”



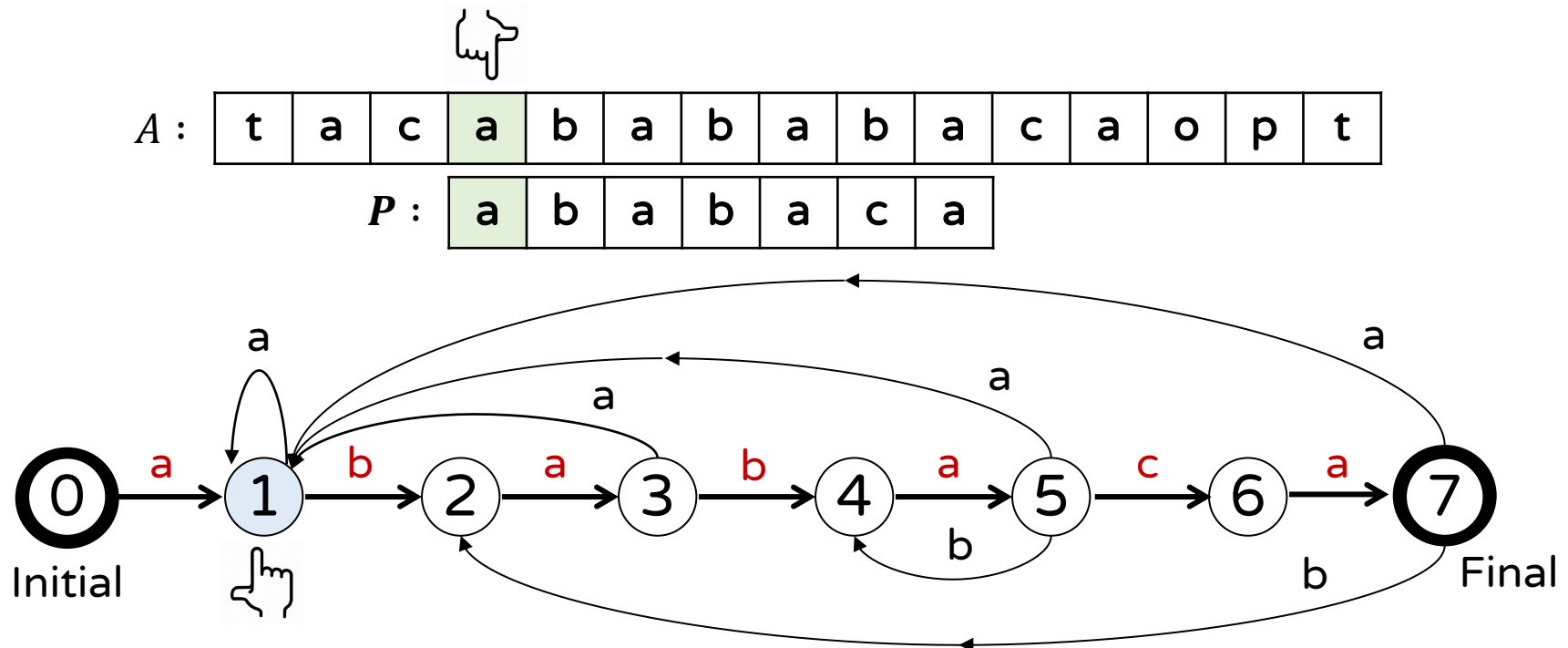


# Search Phase with Automata (4)

□ Given label “a” at State 0, move to State 1

- Meaning “a” is matched

Input pattern:  
“**a**babaca”

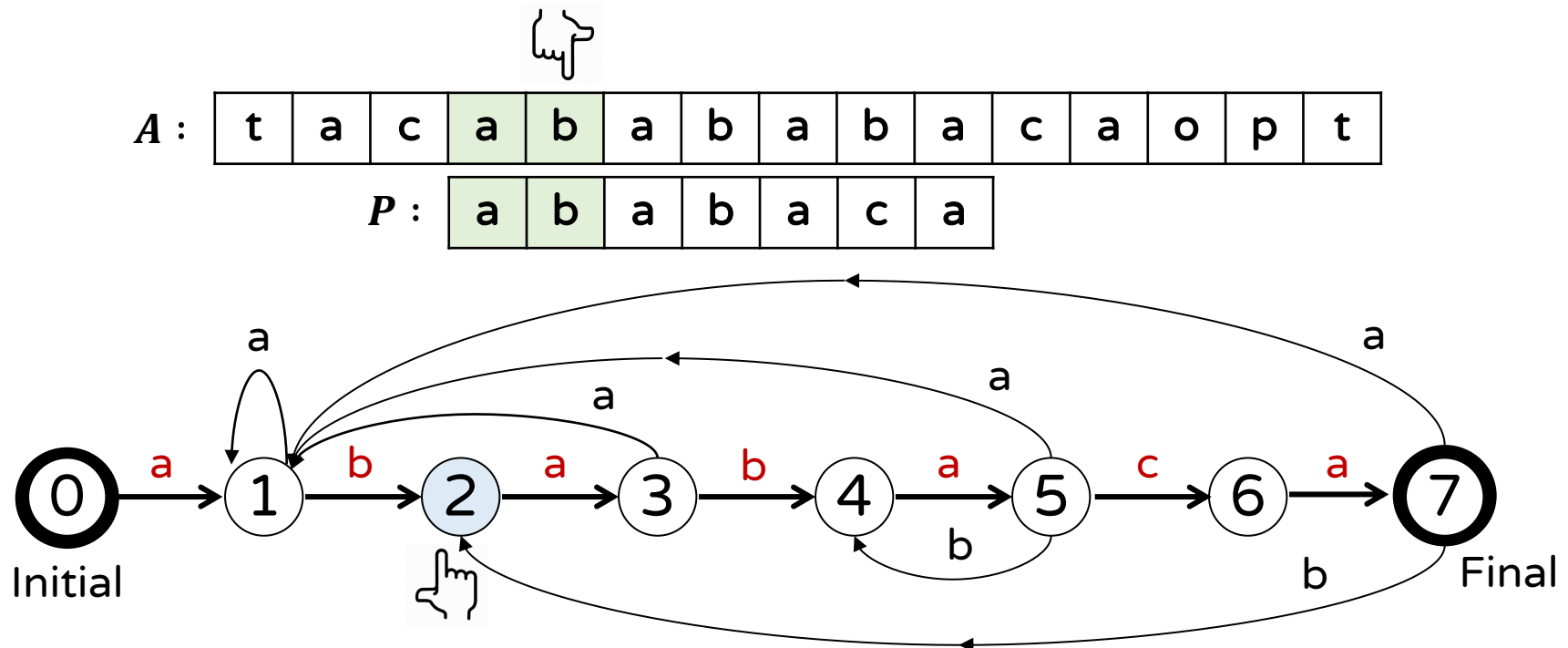


# Search Phase with Automata (5)

□ Given label “b” at State 1, move to State 2

- Meaning “ab” is matched

Input pattern:  
“ababaca”

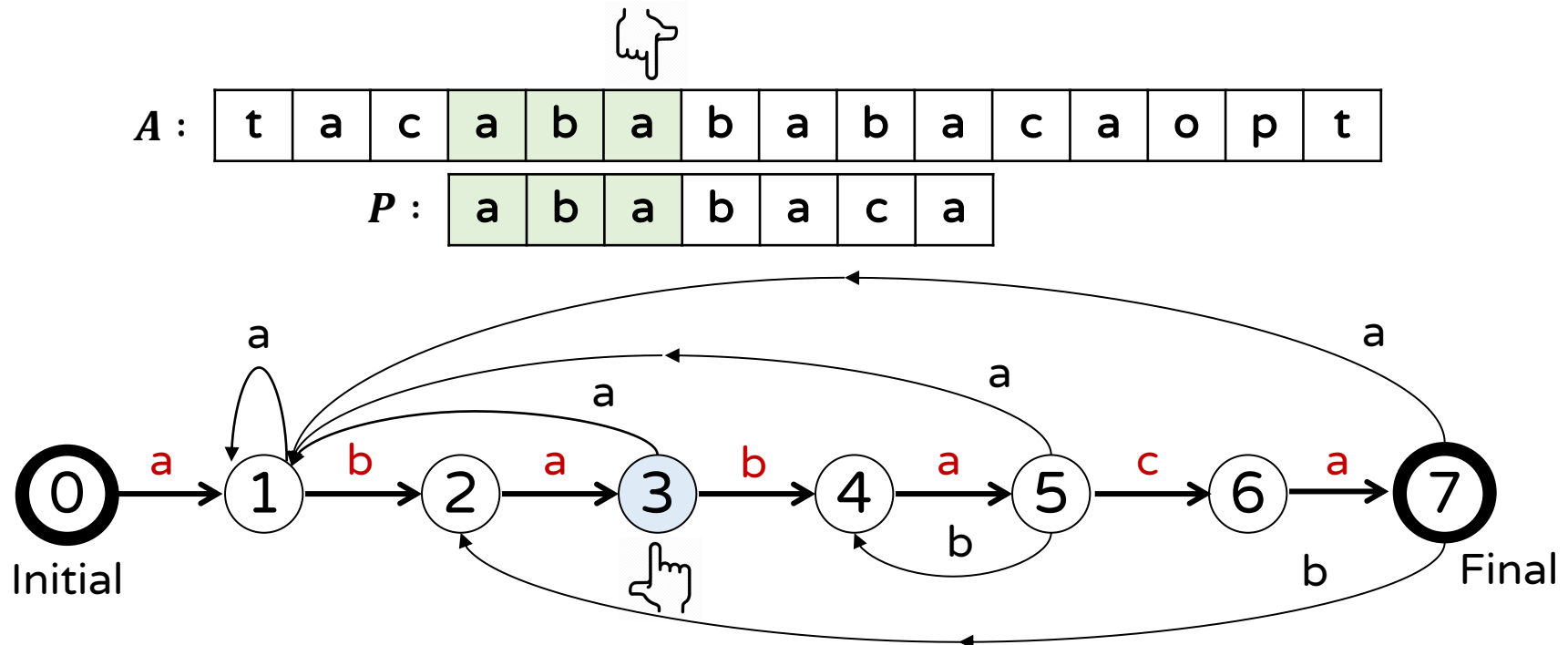


# Search Phase with Automata (6)

□ Given label “a” at State 2, move to State 3

- Meaning “aba” is matched

Input pattern:  
“**aba**baca”

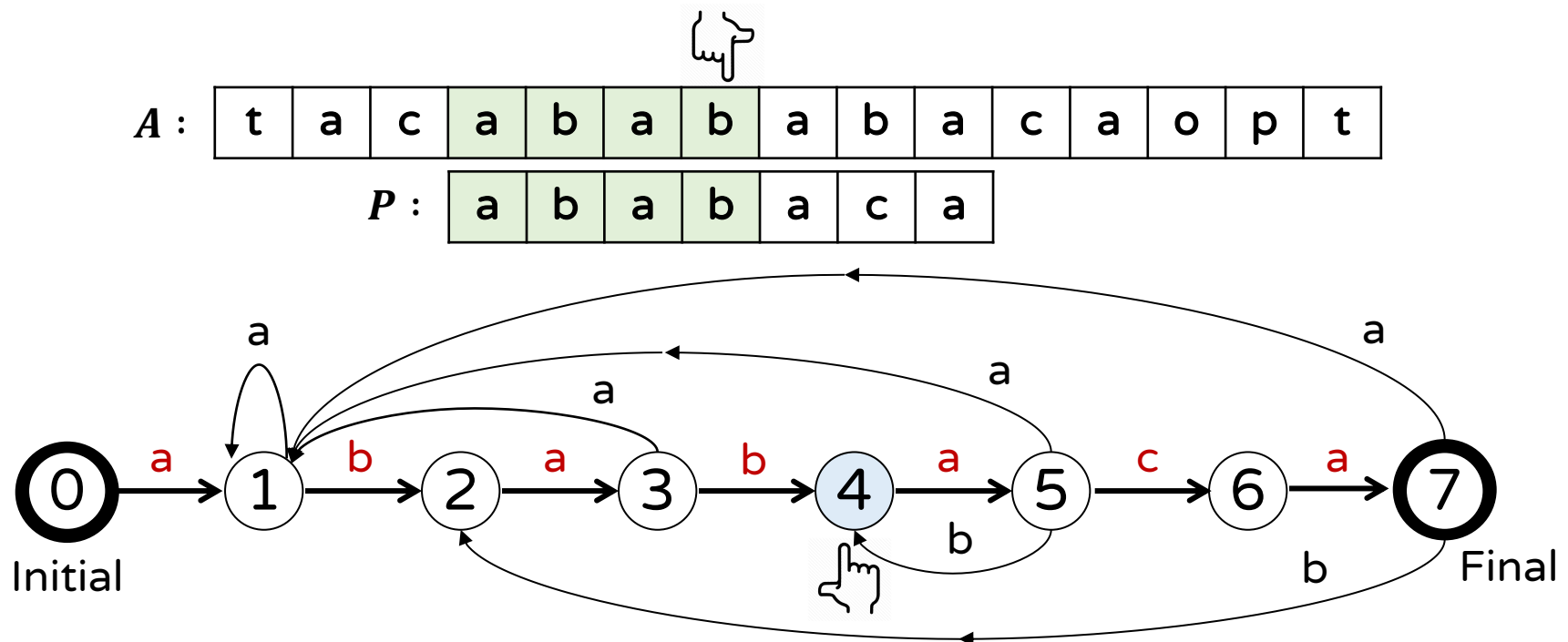


# Search Phase with Automata (7)

□ Given label “b” at State 3, move to State 4

- Meaning “abab” is matched

Input pattern:  
“ababaca”

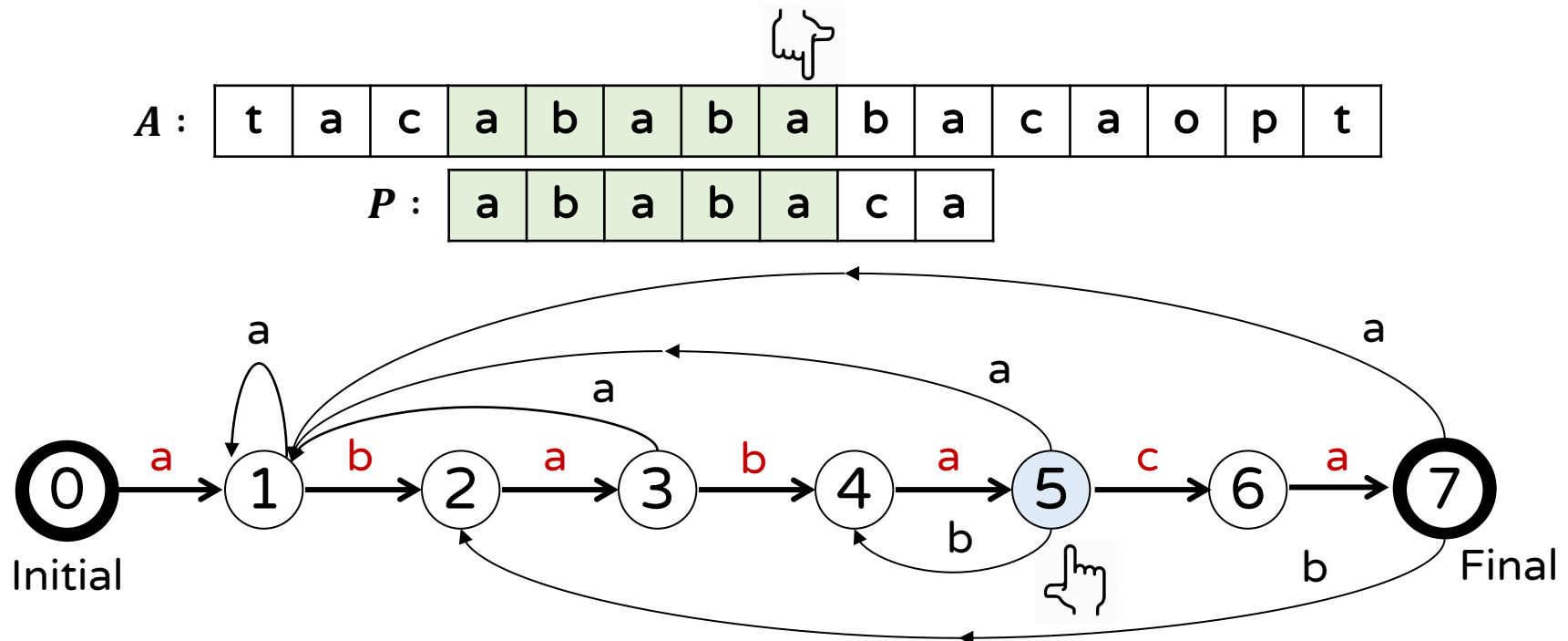


# Search Phase with Automata (8)

□ Given label “a” at State 4, move to State 5

- Meaning “ababa” is matched

Input pattern:  
“**abab**aca”

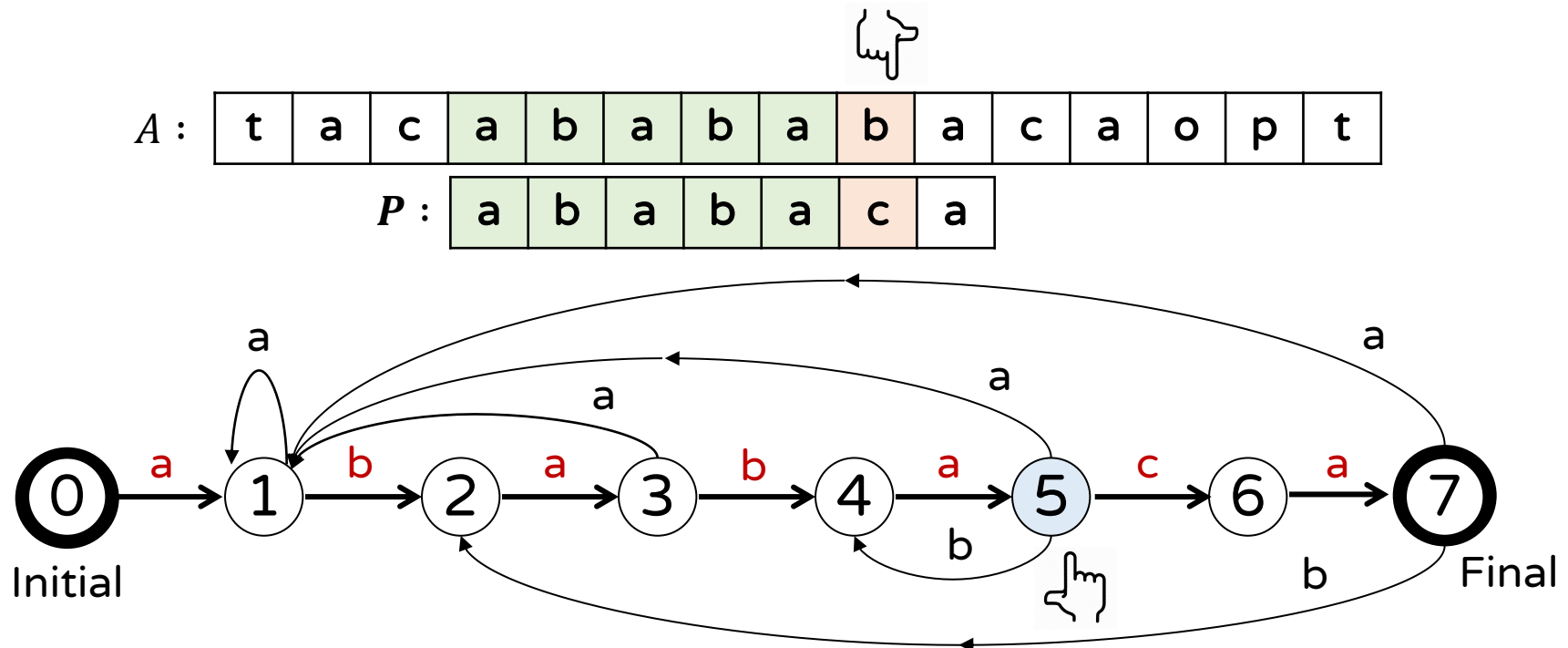


# Search Phase with Automata (9)

## □ Now “b” is given at State 5

- Meaning not-matched event occurs here!

Input pattern:  
“ababaca”

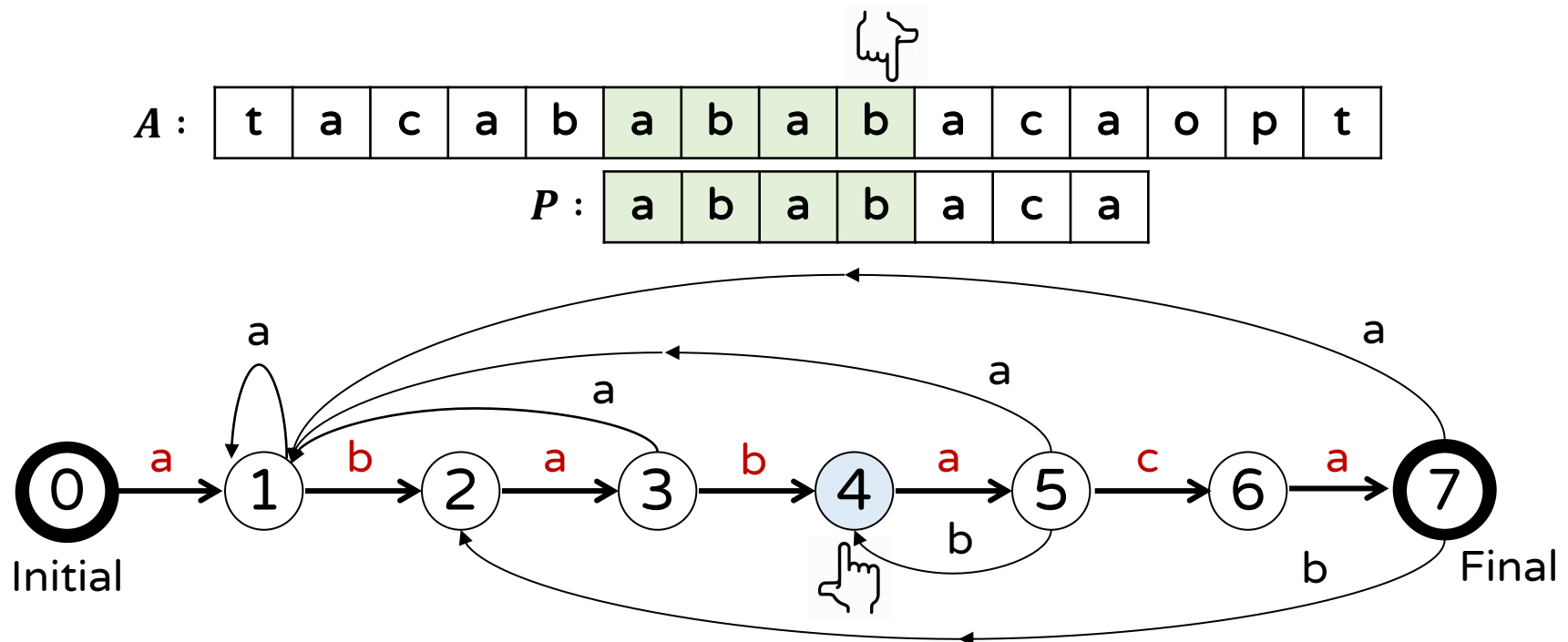


# Search Phase with Automata (10)

□ Then, move to State 4 given label “b”

- Going back State 4 means we can resume from “abab”

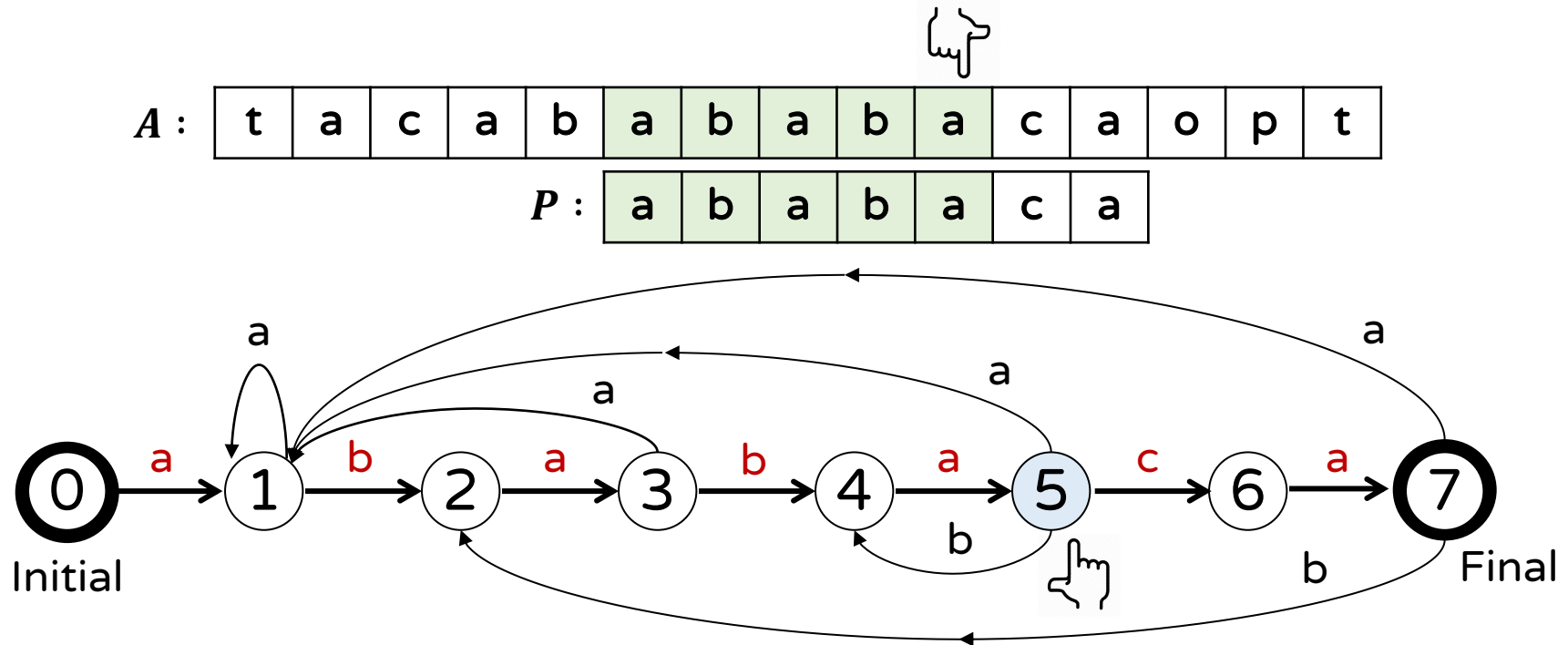
Input pattern:  
“**ab**abaca”



# Search Phase with Automata (11)

□ Given label “a” at State 4, move to State 5

Input pattern:  
“ababaca”

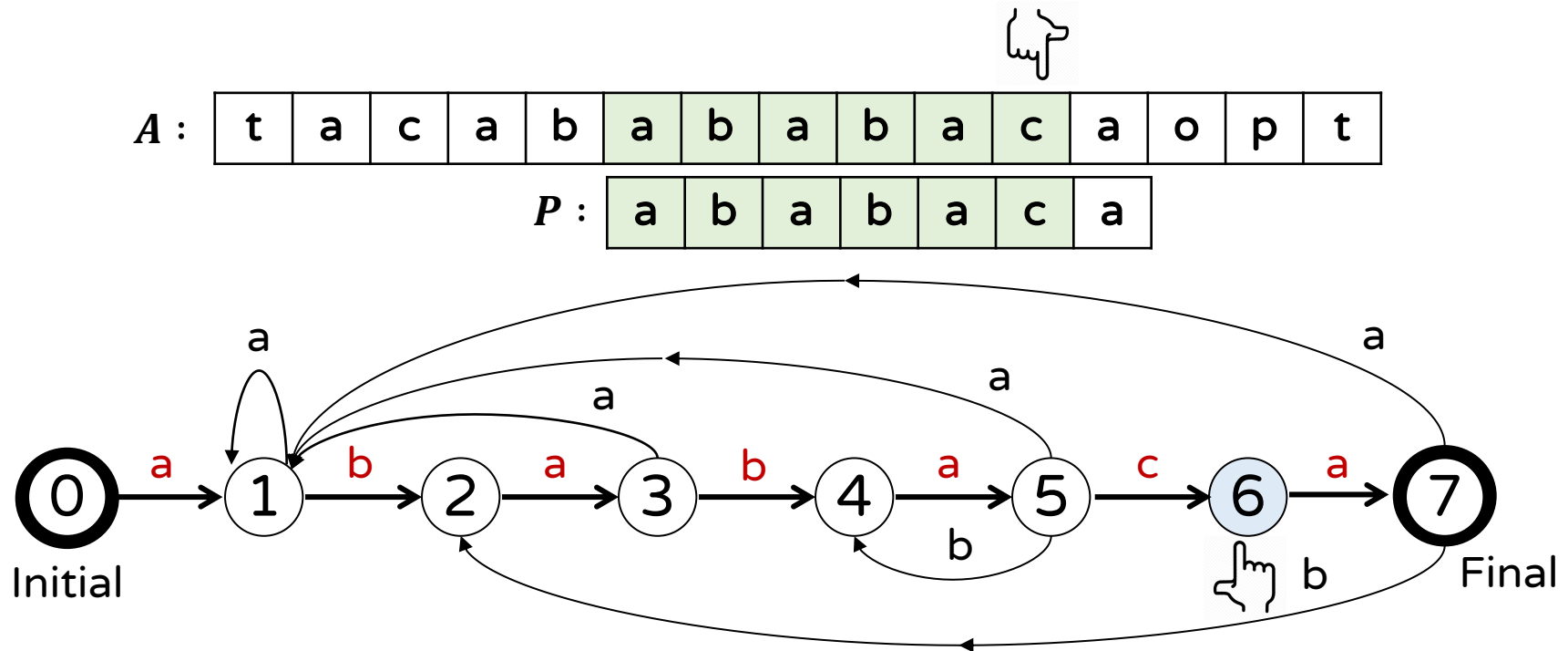




# Search Phase with Automata (12)

□ Given label “c” at State 5, move to State 6

Input pattern:  
“ababaca”

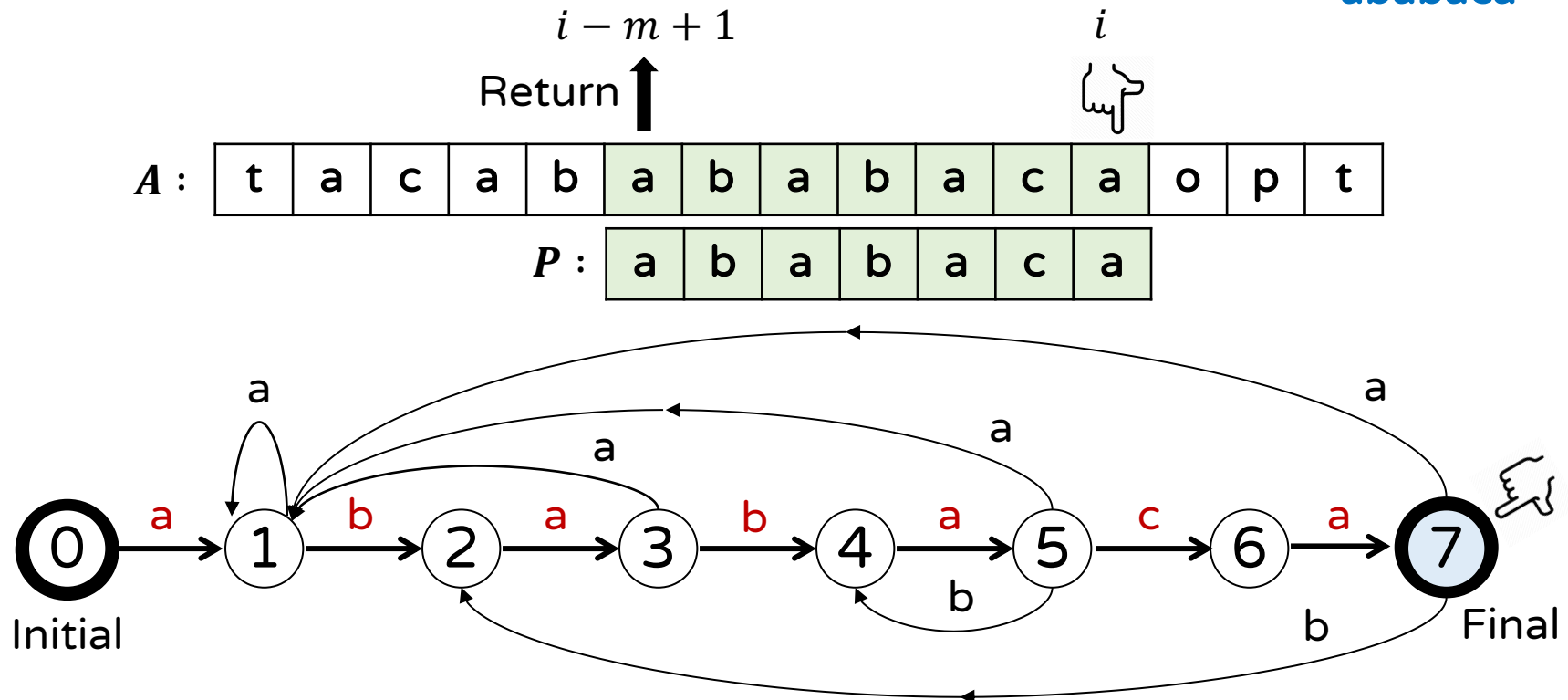


# Search Phase with Automata (13)

□ Given label “a” at State 6, move to State 7

- At the final state, the pattern is matched!

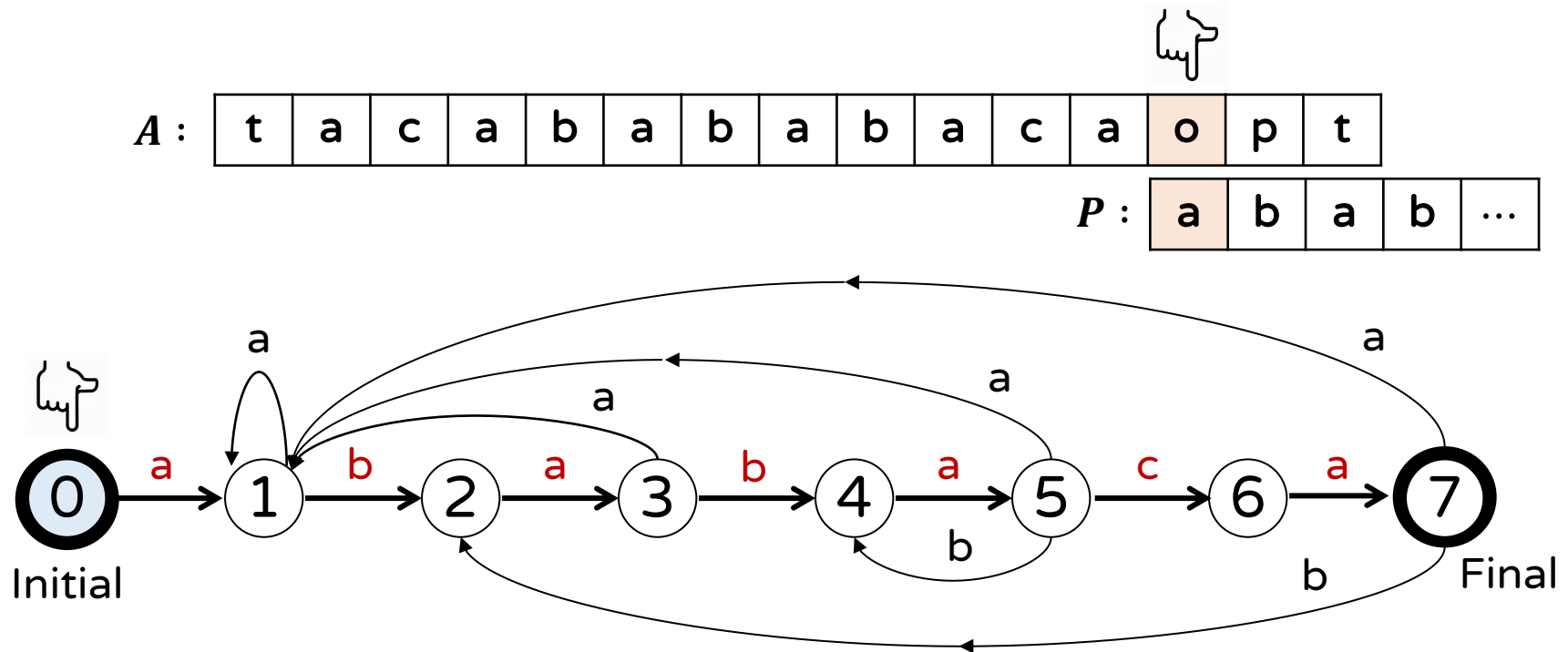
Input pattern:  
“ababaca”



# Search Phase with Automata (14)

□ Repeat until checking all characters in *A*

Input pattern:  
“ababaca”

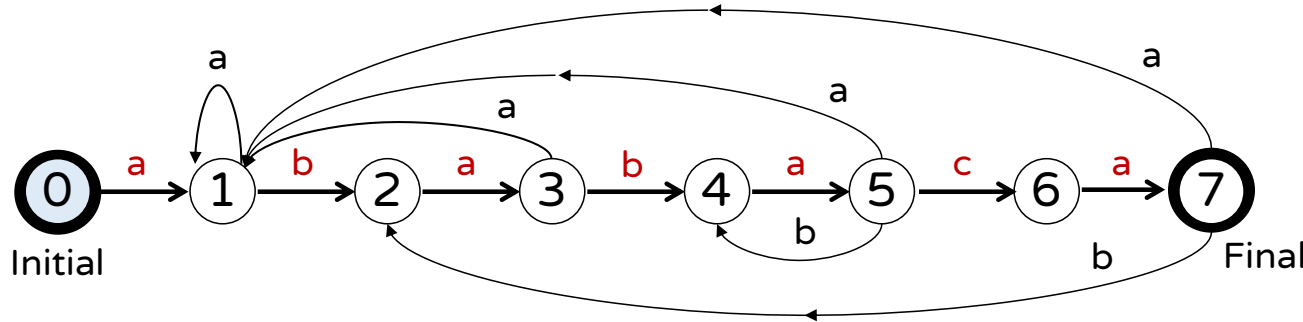


# Search Phase with Automata

## □ How to represent the automata?

- The automata is represented by 2D-array called  $T$ 
  - Rows indicate states, and columns indicates characters
  - $\Sigma = \{a, b, c\}$  is the set of unit characters

$P = [\text{ababaca}]$



$T$	a	b	c
0	1	0	0
1	1	2	0
2	3	0	0
3	1	4	0
4	5	0	0
5	1	4	6
6	7	0	0
7	1	2	0

# Search Phase with Automata

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## □ Pseudocode of search phase

```
def automata-search( $A$ ,  $T$ ):  
     $s \leftarrow 0$       # state  
    for  $i \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$ :  
         $c \leftarrow A[i]$   
        if  $c \notin \Sigma$ :  $s \leftarrow 0$   
        else:       $s \leftarrow T[s][c]$     # get the next state  
        if  $s$  is at the final state ( $=m$ ):  
            output “there is a matching at  $A[i - m + 1]$ ”
```

- $A$  is a document string (length  $n$ )
- $T$  is a table for the automata of pattern  $P$  (length  $m$ )

## □ Time and space complexities

- Time complexity:  $O(n)$  due to repeating the loop  $n$  times
- Space complexity:  $O(|\Sigma|m + n)$ 
  - Input space:  $O(m + n)$  for  $A$  and  $P$
  - Extra space:  $O(|\Sigma|m)$  for  $T$

# Outline

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- ❑ Intuition for automata algorithm
- ❑ String matching automata
- ❑ Search phase with automata
- ❑ Automata construction phase

# Overview

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## □ How to construct the automata from a pattern?

- Given the automata, searching is very fast ( $O(n)$  time)
- We cover an easier version for constructing the automata
  - It takes  $O(|\Sigma|m^3)$  time, but easy-to-understand the key intuition
  - There is a more efficient version taking  $O(|\Sigma|m)$  time, but it is out-of-scope (due to time limit – see [\[link\]](#) if interested)
- To understand the algorithm, we first need to check the definition of **prefix** and **suffix** of a string

# Prefix and Suffix

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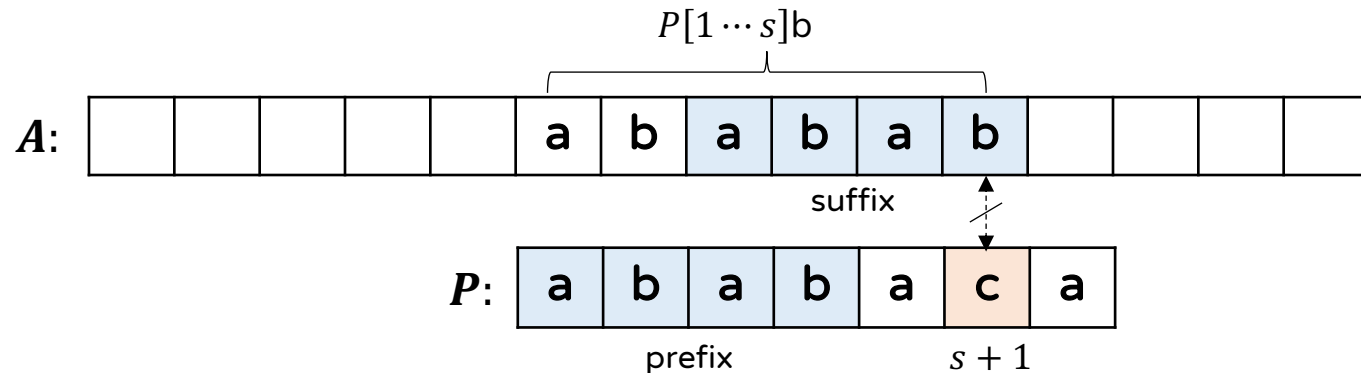
- **Prefix:**  $p$  is a prefix of a string  $t$  if there exists a string  $s$  such that  $t = ps$ 
  - **Proper prefix** is one of prefixes excluding the original string  $t$
  - e.g., “A”, “AB” are proper prefixes of “ABC”
  
- **Suffix:**  $s$  is a suffix of a string  $t$  if there exists a string  $p$  such that  $t = ps$ 
  - Proper suffix is one of suffixes excluding the original string  $t$
  - e.g., “C”, “BC” are proper suffixes of “ABC”



# Intuition of Automata Construction

## □ Consider the following case:

- It fails matching at  $s + 1$ , meaning  $P[1 \cdots s]$  is matched



- Which part can be re-useable in the above result?
  - We can use the longest proper prefix of “ $P[1 \cdots s]b$ ” that is also a suffix of the sub-string of *A* (or “ $P[1 \cdots s]b$ ”).
  - Let’s call it “**longest prefix-suffix (LPS)**” of “ $P[1 \cdots s]b$ ”
    - Given label “b”, the next state is the state of “abab” obtained from the above LPS.
  - **Thus, the automata is constructed from the LPS information.**

# Automata Construction Phase (1)

## □ Main idea of the construction phase

- Try all possible prefixes starting from the longest possible that can be also a suffix of “ $P[1 \cdots s]x$ ” for each  $x \in \Sigma$

```
def construct-automata( $P, \Sigma$ ):  
    initialize  $T$   
    for  $s \leftarrow 0$  to  $m$ :  
        for  $x \in \Sigma$ :  
             $T[s][x] \leftarrow \text{get\_next\_state}(P, s, x)$   
    return  $T$ 
```

```
def get_next_state( $P, s, x$ ):  
    if  $s < m$  and  $P[s+1]$  is  $x$ :  
        return  $s+1$   
    else:  
        # check if proper prefix of “ $X = P[1 \cdots s]x$ ”  
        # is a suffix from largest to smallest  
         $X \leftarrow P[1 \cdots s] + x$   
        for len  $\leftarrow s$  downto 1:  
             $p' \leftarrow \text{get\_prefix}(X, \text{len})$   
             $s' \leftarrow \text{get\_suffix}(X, \text{len})$   
            if  $p'$  is  $s'$ :  
                return len  
    return 0    # when nothing is found
```

- Time complexity
  - $O(|\Sigma|m^3)$

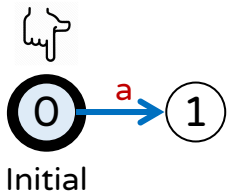
# Automata Construction Phase (1)

## □ Example of $P = \text{"ababaca"}$

- When  $s = 0$ , find the LPS of " $P[1 \cdots 0]x$ " = " $x$ " for  $x \in \{a, b, c\}$

```
def get_next_state( $P$ ,  $s$ ,  $x$ ):  
    if  $s < m$  and  $P[s+1]$  is  $x$ :  
        return  $s+1$   $\leftarrow \text{"a"}$   
    else:  
         $X \leftarrow P[1 \cdots s] + x$   
        for len  $\leftarrow s$  downto 1:  
             $p' \leftarrow \text{get\_prefix}(X, \text{len})$   
             $s' \leftarrow \text{get\_suffix}(X, \text{len})$   
            if  $p'$  is  $s'$ :  
                return len  
    return 0  $\leftarrow \text{"b"}$  and  $\text{"c"}$   
    # when nothing is found
```

$T$	a	b	c
0	1	0	0
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			

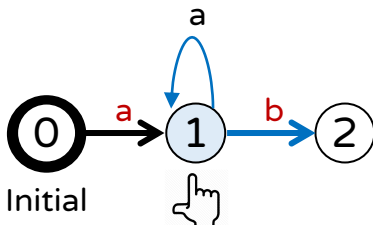


# Automata Construction Phase (2)

## □ Example of $P = \text{"ababaca"}$

- When  $s = 1$ , find the LPS of " $P[1 \dots 1]x$ " for  $x \in \{a, b, c\}$

```
def get_next_state( $P$ ,  $s$ ,  $x$ ):  
    if  $s < m$  and  $P[s+1]$  is  $x$ :  
        return  $s+1$   $\Leftarrow \text{"ab"}$   
    else:  
         $X \leftarrow P[1 \dots s] + x$   
        for len  $\leftarrow s$  downto 1:  
             $p' \leftarrow \text{get\_prefix}(X, \text{len})$   $\Leftarrow \text{"aa"}$   
             $s' \leftarrow \text{get\_suffix}(X, \text{len})$   
            if  $p'$  is  $s'$ :  
                return len  
        return 0  $\Leftarrow \text{"ac"}$  # when nothing is found
```



$T$	a	b	c
0	1	0	0
1	1	2	0
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			

# Automata Construction Phase (3)

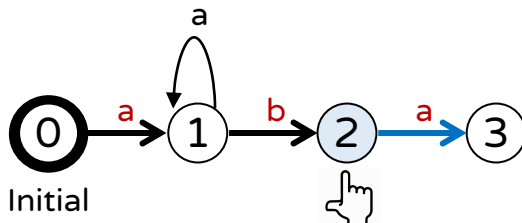
## □ Example of $P = \text{“ababaca”}$

- When  $s = 2$ , find the LPS of “ $P[1 \cdots 2]x$ ” for  $x \in \{a, b, c\}$

```
def get_next_state( $P$ ,  $s$ ,  $x$ ):  
    if  $s < m$  and  $P[s+1]$  is  $x$ :  
        return  $s+1$   
    else:  
         $X \leftarrow P[1 \cdots s] + x$   
        for len  $\leftarrow s$  downto 1:  
             $p' \leftarrow \text{get\_prefix}(X, \text{len})$   
             $s' \leftarrow \text{get\_suffix}(X, \text{len})$   
            if  $p'$  is  $s'$ :  
                return len  
    return 0    # when nothing is found
```

$\leftarrow \text{“ab}a\text{”}$

$\leftarrow \text{“ab}b\text{”}$  and “abc”



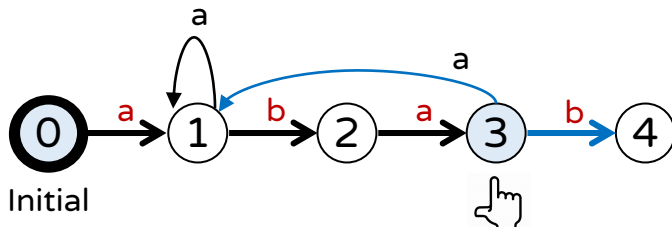
$T$	a	b	c
0	1	0	0
1	1	2	0
2	3	0	0
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			

# Automata Construction Phase (4)

## □ Example of $P = \text{"ababaca"}$

- When  $s = 3$ , find the LPS of " $P[1 \dots 3]x$ " for  $x \in \{a, b, c\}$

```
def get_next_state( $P$ ,  $s$ ,  $x$ ):  
    if  $s < m$  and  $P[s+1]$  is  $x$ :  
        return  $s+1$                                  $\leftarrow \text{"abab"}  
    else:  
         $X \leftarrow P[1 \dots s] + x$   
        for len  $\leftarrow s$  downto 1:  
             $p' \leftarrow \text{get\_prefix}(X, \text{len})$            $\leftarrow \text{"aba"}  
             $s' \leftarrow \text{get\_suffix}(X, \text{len})$   
            if  $p'$  is  $s'$ :  
                return len  
        return 0    # when nothing is found           $\leftarrow \text{"abac"}$$$ 
```



$T$	a	b	c
0	1	0	0
1	1	2	0
2	3	0	0
3	1	4	0
4			
5			
6			
7			

# Automata Construction Phase (5)

## □ Example of $P = \text{“ababaca”}$

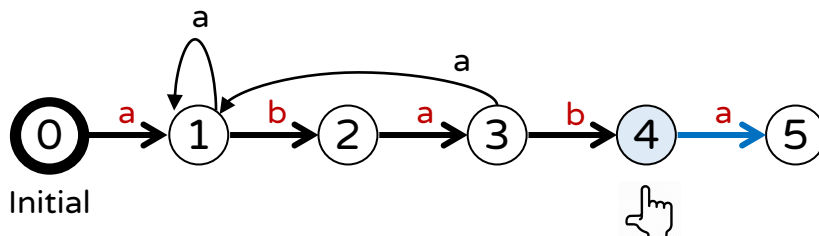
- When  $s = 4$ , find the LPS of “ $P[1 \cdots 4]x$ ” for  $x \in \{a, b, c\}$

```
def get_next_state( $P$ ,  $s$ ,  $x$ ):  
    if  $s < m$  and  $P[s+1]$  is  $x$ :  
        return  $s+1$   
    else:  
         $X \leftarrow P[1 \cdots s] + x$   
        for len  $\leftarrow s$  downto 1:  
             $p' \leftarrow \text{get\_prefix}(X, \text{len})$   
             $s' \leftarrow \text{get\_suffix}(X, \text{len})$   
            if  $p'$  is  $s'$ :  
                return len  
    return 0    # when nothing is found
```

$\leftarrow \text{“ababa”}$

$\leftarrow \text{“ababb”}$  and  $\text{“ababc”}$

$T$	a	b	c
0	1	0	0
1	1	2	0
2	3	0	0
3	1	4	0
4	5	0	0
5			
6			
7			



# Automata Construction Phase (6)

## □ Example of $P = \text{"ababaca"}$

- When  $s = 5$ , find the LPS of " $P[1 \dots 5]x$ " for  $x \in \{a, b, c\}$

```
def get_next_state( $P$ ,  $s$ ,  $x$ ):  
    if  $s < m$  and  $P[s+1]$  is  $x$ :  
        return  $s+1$ 
```

```
    else:
```

```
         $X \leftarrow P[1 \dots s] + x$ 
```

```
        for len  $\leftarrow s$  downto 1:
```

```
             $p' \leftarrow \text{get\_prefix}(X, \text{len})$ 
```

```
             $s' \leftarrow \text{get\_suffix}(X, \text{len})$ 
```

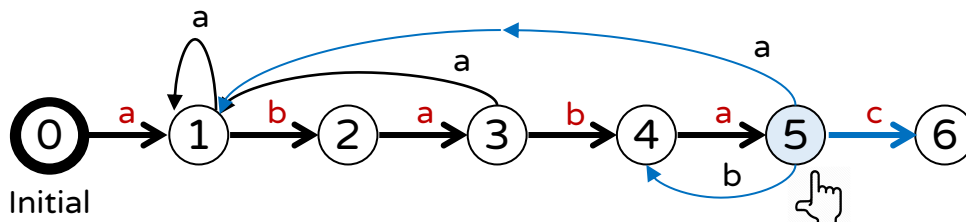
```
            if  $p'$  is  $s'$ :
```

```
                return len
```

```
    return 0    # when nothing is found
```

$\leftarrow \text{"ababac"}$

$\leftarrow \text{"ababaa" \& "ababab"}$



$T$	a	b	c
0	1	0	0
1	1	2	0
2	3	0	0
3	1	4	0
4	5	0	0
5	1	4	6
6			
7			



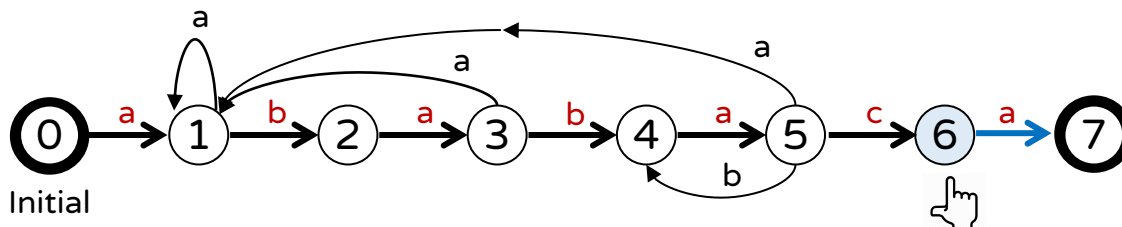
# Automata Construction Phase (7)

## □ Example of $P = \text{"ababaca"}$

- When  $s = 6$ , find the LPS of " $P[1 \dots 6]x$ " for  $x \in \{a, b, c\}$

```
def get_next_state( $P$ ,  $s$ ,  $x$ ):  
    if  $s < m$  and  $P[s+1]$  is  $x$ :  
        return  $s+1$   
    else:  
         $X \leftarrow P[1 \dots s] + x$   
        for len  $\leftarrow s$  downto 1:  
             $p' \leftarrow \text{get\_prefix}(X, \text{len})$   
             $s' \leftarrow \text{get\_suffix}(X, \text{len})$   
            if  $p'$  is  $s'$ :  
                return len  
    return 0    # when nothing is found
```

$\Leftarrow \text{"ababaca"} \quad \Leftarrow \text{"ababac"} \text{ \& "ababac"}$



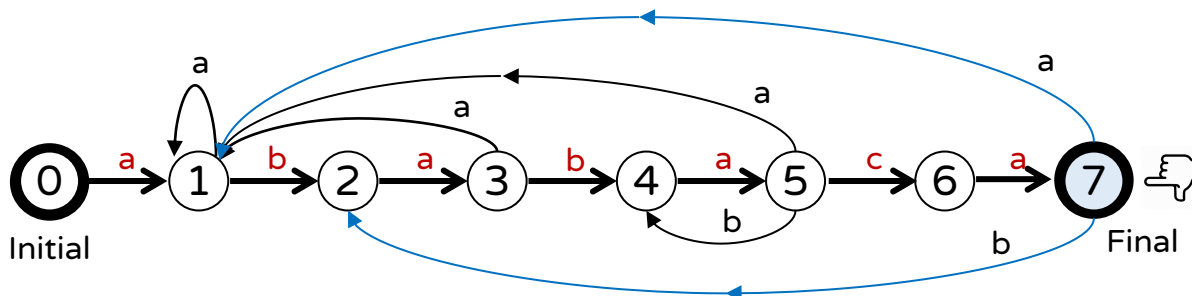
$T$	a	b	c
0	1	0	0
1	1	2	0
2	3	0	0
3	1	4	0
4	5	0	0
5	1	4	6
6	7	0	0
7			

# Automata Construction Phase (8)

## □ Example of $P = \text{"ababaca"}$

- When  $s = 7$ , find the LPS of " $P[1 \dots 7]x$ " for  $x \in \{a, b, c\}$

```
def get_next_state( $P$ ,  $s$ ,  $x$ ):  
    if  $s < m$  and  $P[s+1]$  is  $x$ :  
        return  $s+1$   
    else:  
         $X \leftarrow P[1 \dots s] + x$   
        for len  $\leftarrow s$  downto 1:  
             $p' \leftarrow \text{get\_prefix}(X, \text{len})$   
             $s' \leftarrow \text{get\_suffix}(X, \text{len})$   $\leftarrow \text{"ababaca"} + x$   
            if  $p'$  is  $s'$ :  
                return len  
        return 0 # when nothing is found
```



$T$	a	b	c
0	1	0	0
1	1	2	0
2	3	0	0
3	1	4	0
4	5	0	0
5	1	4	6
6	7	0	0
7	1	2	0

# What You Need To Know

## □ String automata algorithm

- Do not need to do match from scratch when not matched
- Automata knows where we jump when not matched, which is constructed by longest prefix-suffix information
  - Searching takes  $O(n)$  time, and constructing takes  $O(|\Sigma|m^3)$  time

Algorithm	Time			Space	
	Preprocessing	Searching	Total	Input	Extra
Naïve	$O(1)$	$O(mn)$	$O(mn)$	$O(m + n)$	$O(1)$
Rabin-Karp	$O(m)$	$O(n + Fm)$	$O(n + Fm)$		$O(1)$
Automata	$O( \Sigma m^3)$	$O(n)$	$O( \Sigma m^3 + n)$		$O( \Sigma m)$

\* Rabin-karp's search phase shows  $O(n)$  average-case time and  $O(mn)$  worst-case time

\* Automata can be constructed in  $O(|\Sigma|m)$  time using [the optimized version](#)

# In Next Lecture

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□ Can we do string matching faster than automata?

- Yes! KMP algorithm does!

Thank You