

Leetcode 5. Longest Palindromic Substring

#String #Dynamic Programming



Problem Description

Given a string s , return
the longest palindromic substring in s

[DEF] A string is **palindrome** if it reads the
same forward and backward.

hello
return "ll"

Example 1:

Input: $s = \text{"babad"}$

Output: "bab"

Explanation: "aba" is also a valid answer.

Example 2:

Input: $s = \text{"cbbd"}$

Output: "bb"

Palindrome

ABCD CBA \longleftrightarrow ABCDCBA
Reversing

Not Palindrome

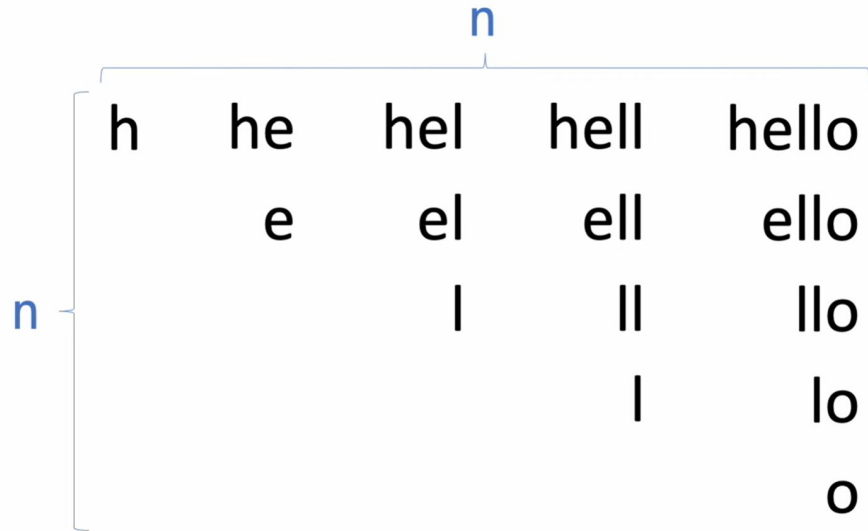
ABDA \nleftrightarrow AD BA
Reversing

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Brute Force Solution

Step 1. Calculate the length of every possible substring

hello
return "ll"



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Brute Force Solution

Step 2. Check if the substring is palindrome.

How?

→ Check the center of substring and work our way outwards, checking at each step to see if the characters match.

← →
a b c d c b a

← →
a b c c b a

↓ ↓
ello

↓ ↓
~~ello~~

1

Brute Force Solution

Step 1. Calculate the length of every possible substring

Step 2. Check if the substring is palindrome.

Time Complexity?

- Each check runs in $O(n)$ time
- Must do this for each substring generated $\rightarrow O(n^2)$ time

$\rightarrow O(n^3)$ time!



Code Solution

```
class Solution:
    def longestPalindrome_bruteforce(self, s: str) -> str:
        if not s or len(s) == 1:
            return s

        def isPalindrome(sub: str) -> bool:
            return sub == sub[::-1]

        longest_palindrome = ""
        for i in range(len(s)):
            for j in range(i, len(s)):
                sub = s[i:j+1]
                if isPalindrome(sub) and len(sub) > len(longest_palindrome):
                    longest_palindrome = sub
        return longest_palindrome
```

2 Improved Solution with Time Complexity of $O(n)$

abcdedcfa abcdedcfa abcdedcfa

Key point: **We can check ALL substrings with the SAME center in a single pass**

Visiting every center: $O(n)$

Checking palindrome $O(n)$

-> Overall $O(n^2)$ time complexity.

2 Improved Solution with Time Complexity of $O(n)$

Q. How many different centers could the string have?

If $\text{len}(s)$ is even:

abcdcba
↑↑↑↑↑↑

The center could lie between any 2 characters

If $\text{len}(s)$ is odd:

↓↓↓↓↓↓↓
abcdcba

Any of the characters could be the center

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Improved Solution with Time Complexity of $O(n)$

```
def expand(l, r): # center of the indices
    while l >= 0 and r < len(s) and s[r] == s[l]:
        r += 1
        l -= 1
    return s[l+1:r] # return the chars inside the bound
```



Code Solution

```
def longestPalindrome(self, s: str) -> str:
    def expand(l, r): # center of the indices
        while l >= 0 and r < len(s) and s[r] == s[l]:
            r += 1
            l -= 1
        return s[l+1:r] # return the chars inside the bound

    result = ""
    for i in range(len(s)):
        sub1 = expand(i, i)
        if len(sub1) > len(result):
            result = sub1
        sub2 = expand(i, i+1)
        if len(sub2) > len(result):
            result = sub2
    return result
```

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Manacher's Algorithm

Finding all sub-palindromes in $O(N)$ **Key IDEA:**

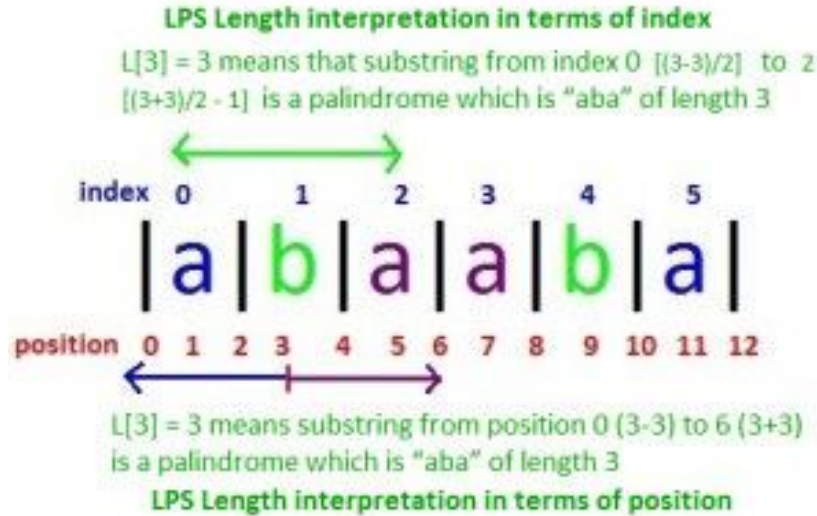
Note that left and right side of the center positions are symmetric. (bc the string is palindromic)
 We need to calculate at each longest palindromic substring at $2*N + 1$ pos from left to right

If there is a palindrome of some length L centered at any position P , then we may not need to compare all characters in left and right side at position $P+1$

We already calculated LPS at positions before P and they can help to avoid some of the comparisons after position P .

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Manacher's Algorithm

Finding all sub-palindromes in $O(N)$ 

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \dots s_{l+1} \dots \underbrace{s_{j-d_{\text{odd}}[j]+1} \dots s_j \dots s_{j+d_{\text{odd}}[j]-1}}_{\text{palindrome}} \dots \underbrace{s_{i-d_{\text{odd}}[j]+1} \dots s_i \dots s_{i+d_{\text{odd}}[j]-1}}_{\text{palindrome}} \dots s_{r-1} \dots \\
 \underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\text{palindrome}}
 \end{array}$$

감사합니다!

THANK YOU