

1554. Strings Differ by One Character

Medium👍 123🗨 2💖 Add to List🔖 Share

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`  $\leq 10^5$
  - `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.

Accepted5,380Submissions8,199

Seen this question in a real interview before?

YesNo

Companies👤

0 ~ 6 months6 months ~ 1 year1 year ~ 2 years

Facebook2

Related Topics

Hash TableStringRolling HashHash Function

Hide 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.

Hide Hint 2

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

```
1 class Solution {
2     public boolean differByOne(String[] dict) {
3     }
4 }
5
```