

# String Matching Algorithms

## ⇒ Naive String Matching Algorithm

Problem: Assume that  
 text is an array  $T[1 \dots n]$   
 Pattern is an array  $P[1 \dots m]$   
 Length  $(m) \leq$  Length  $(n)$

- Elements of  $P$  and  $T$  are characters drawn from finite alphabet set  $\Sigma$ .

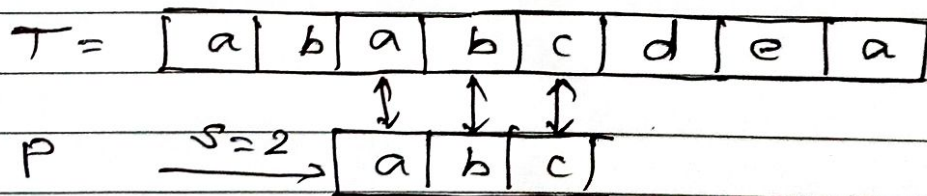
eg.  $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$  or  $\Sigma = \{a, \dots, z\}$

To find: To find, valid shift 's' in given text 'T' so that pattern 'P' gets matched.

If No match, shift 's' is invalid.

- P occurs with shift s in T if  $0 \leq s \leq n-m$  and  $T[s+1 \dots s+m] = P[1 \dots m]$

E.g.



→ Algorithm finds all valid shifts using a loop that checks condition

$$P[1 \dots m] = T[s+1 \dots s+m]$$

for each of the  $(n-m+1)$  possible values of  $s$ .

⇒ Algorithm Naive-String-Matcher( $T, P$ )

{

1.  $n = T.length$

2.  $m = P.length$

3. for  $s = 0$  to  $n - m$ :

4.     if ( $P[1 \dots m] == T[s+1 \dots s+m]$ )

5.         Print "Pattern occurs with shift"  
           Print  $s$ .

}

⇒ Analysis:

→ Worst Case Scenario

Line 3 - for loop will check each possible shift.

It will run  $(n - m + 1)$  time

Line 4 - It will check for all  $m$  characters in pattern

∴ Complexity =  $O((n - m + 1)m)$



Example:

$T = [a | c | a | a | b | c]$

$P = [a | a | b]$

$$n = 6$$

$$m = 3$$

$$\therefore s = n - m$$

$$= 6 - 3 = 3$$

$s = 0$        $\begin{array}{c} \checkmark \quad \times \\ [a | a | b] \end{array}$       Invalid

$s = 1$        $\longrightarrow \begin{array}{c} \times \\ [a | a | b] \end{array}$       Invalid

$s = 2$        $\longrightarrow \begin{array}{c} \checkmark \quad \checkmark \quad \checkmark \\ [a | a | b] \end{array}$       Valid shift

$s = 3$        $\longrightarrow \begin{array}{c} \checkmark \quad \times \\ [a | a | b] \end{array}$       Invalid.