

Isomorphic Strings

Question:

<https://leetcode.com/problems/isomorphic-strings/>

Given two strings s and t , determine if they are isomorphic.

Two strings s and t are isomorphic if the characters in s can be replaced to get t .

All occurrences of a character must be replaced with another character while preserving the order of characters. No two characters may map to the same character, but a character may map to itself.

Example 1:

Input: $s = \text{"egg"}, t = \text{"add"}$

Output: true

Example 3:

Input: $s = \text{"paper"}, t = \text{"title"}$

Output: true

Approach 1:

My first approach was to use a hashmap to check occurrences,

$\{e:a, g:d\}$

but the problem I encountered was that I could only map one-way.

So in order to map both-ways, I used 2 hashmaps.

$\{e:a, g:d\}$

$\{a:e, d:g\}$

Now we check for similar mapping in both the hashmaps simultaneously.

Solution 1:

```
if len(s)!=len(t):
    return False
d1={}
d2={}
for i in range(len(s)):
    if s[i] in d1:
        if d1[s[i]]!=t[i]:
            return False
    if t[i] in d2:
        if d2[t[i]]!=s[i]:
            return False
    d1[s[i]]=t[i]
    d2[t[i]]=s[i]
return True
```

Approach 2:

If we can map alphabets to numbers then we can find an encoding which should be same for both the strings.

Ex: PAPER will be 01023 and TITLE will also be 01023

Since both strings have the same encoded string hence they are isomorphic.

Another ex: FOO will 011 while BAR will be 012.

Since they are not equal hence they are not isomorphic.

Solution 2:

```
def isIsomorphic(self, s: str, t: str) -> bool:
    return self.encoding(s)==self.encoding(t)
```

```
def encoding(self,s):
```

```
d={}
encoded=[]
for c in s:
    if c not in d:
        d[c]=len(d)
    encoded+= [d[c]]
return encoded
```