

## A Program to check if strings are rotations of each other or not

Given a string s1 and a string s2, write a snippet to say whether s2 is a rotation of s1 using only one call to strstr routine?

(eg given s1 = ABCD and s2 = CDAB, return true, given s1 = ABCD, and s2 = ACBD , return false)

**Algorithm:** areRotations(str1, str2)

1. Create a temp string and store concatenation of str1 to str1 in temp.

```
temp = str1.str1
```

2. If str2 is a substring of temp then str1 and str2 are rotations of each other.

Example:

```
str1 = "ABACD"
```

```
str2 = "CDABA"
```

```
temp = str1.str1 = "ABACDABACD"
```

Since str2 is a substring of temp, str1 and str2 are rotations of each other.

**Implementation:**

```
# include <stdio.h>
```

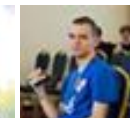
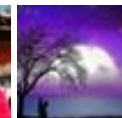
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```
# include <string.h>
# include <stdlib.h>
```

```
/* Function checks if passed strings (str1 and str2)
are rotations of each other */
int areRotations(char *str1, char *str2)
{
    int size1    = strlen(str1);
    int size2    = strlen(str2);
    char *temp;
    void *ptr;

    /* Check if sizes of two strings are same */
    if (size1 != size2)
        return 0;

    /* Create a temp string with value str1.str1 */
    temp = (char *)malloc(sizeof(char)*(size1*2 + 1));
    temp[0] = '\0';
    strcat(temp, str1);
    strcat(temp, str1);

    /* Now check if str2 is a substring of temp */
    ptr = strstr(temp, str2);

    free(temp); // Free dynamically allocated memory

    /* strstr returns NULL if the second string is NOT a
    substring of first string */
    if (ptr != NULL)
        return 1;
    else
        return 0;
}

/* Driver program to test areRotations */
int main()
{
    char *str1 = "AACD";
    char *str2 = "ACDA";

    if (areRotations(str1, str2))
        printf("Strings are rotations of each other");
    else
        printf("Strings are not rotations of each other");

    getchar();
}
```



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```
    return 0;  
}
```

Output:

Strings are rotations of each other

#### Library Functions Used:

strstr:

strstr finds a sub-string within a string.

Prototype: char \* strstr(const char \*s1, const char \*s2);

See <http://www.lix.polytechnique.fr/Labo/Leo.Liberti/public/computing/prog/c/C/MAN/strstr.htm> for more details

strcat:

strncat concatenate two strings

Prototype: char \*strcat(char \*dest, const char \*src);

See <http://www.lix.polytechnique.fr/Labo/Leo.Liberti/public/computing/prog/c/C/MAN/strcat.htm> for more details

**Time Complexity:** Time complexity of this problem depends on the implementation of strstr function.

If implementation of strstr is done using KMP matcher then complexity of the above program is  $(-)(n1 + n2)$  where  $n1$  and  $n2$  are lengths of strings. KMP matcher takes  $(-)(n)$  time to find a substring in a string of length  $n$  where length of substring is assumed to be smaller than the string.

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**Guest** · 4 days ago

```
#include<stdio.h>
```

```
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```
#include<stdlib.h>
```

```
#include<string.h>
```

```
#include<stdbool.h>
```

```
bool Rotable(char* str1,char* str2)
```

```
{
```

```
int i=0,x=0,z=0;
```

```
int flag=0;
```

```
char temp;
```

```
temp=str2[0];
```

see more

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**sourabh** · 2 months ago

I dont understand the logic here we are appending two strings and then find wl concatenated string . Will it not always be contained in the temp?

^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**Sourabh** → sourabh · 2 months ago

sorry my bad its concatenating the first string twice

Neha I think that is what it should return as,  
in...

Find depth of the deepest odd level leaf node · 2  
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Sorry my bad its concatenating the first string twice.

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**jugal** • 5 months ago

s1 = "ABAB" & s2 = "ABAB".

is s2 a rotation of s1??

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**Swagato Mondal** • 8 months ago

This code doesn't work for a input as first string-"ABACD",second string-"CDA" returns true

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**Ashish** → Swagato Mondal • 3 months ago

not wrong.. concatenation of ABACD to itself is ABACDABACD, which

.

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**pavansrinivas** → Swagato Mondal • 7 months ago

No the solution is correct as we first check the lengths of two strings...

4 ^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**Vivek Venkatesh** • 10 months ago

This can be done with a space complexity of O(1).

Also I believe I handled the special case of repeating characters.

```
boolean isRotationWith(String input, String input2) {  
  
    if(input.length() != input2.length()) {  
        // Two Strings can be a rotation only if they  
        return false;  
    }  
}
```

```

    }
    else {
        boolean found = false;
        int i;
        int foundAt = 0;
        for(i=0;i<input.length();i++) {

            /*AIM: Find the position of 1st chara
            *

```

[see more](#)

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**Jitendra.BITS** • 10 months ago

Is it advisable to use library functions like strlen, strcat, strcmp, strstr in the int  
Or should we implement these functions themselves?

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**Abhishek Kumar** → Jitendra.BITS • 21 days ago

i also have same doubt bro...:/

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**GeeksforGeeks** • 10 months ago

By convention a string is called rotation of itself. If you n times rotate a string, y  
number of characters in the string.

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**Abirami Ramalingam** • 10 months ago

@geeksforgeeks :if str1=abc and str2=abc, these two are not rotation of each  
they are substring of each other.

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**GeeksforGeeks** · 11 months ago

Thanks for pointing this out. We have updated the code.

^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**Harris Siddiqui** · 11 months ago

arre matlab roshan babu keher dha rahe ho aajkal to bilkul :D

^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**Roshan Jindani** · 11 months ago

it should be `temp = (char *) malloc( sizeof(char) * ( size1 * 2 + 1 );`.  
not `temp = (char *) malloc( sizeof(char) * size1 * 2 + 1 );`.

^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**oqardZ** · 11 months ago

Hi,

code given above has two problems with it:

1)

Line

`temp = (char *) malloc( sizeof(char) * size1 * 2 + 1 );`

should actually be

`temp = (char *) malloc( sizeof(char) * ( size1 * 2 + 1 ) );`

2)

You have a memory leak. After call to `strstr`, next line should be:

`free( temp );`

^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**GeeksforGeeks** → oqardZ · 11 months ago

Thanks for pointing this out. We have updated the code. Keep it up!



^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**oqardZ** ↗ [GeeksforGeeks](#) • 11 months ago

Hi, please take a moment and re-check malloc line. You have n

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**GeeksforGeeks** ↗ [oqardZ](#) • 11 months ago

Thanks, corrected!

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**Tanusri** • 11 months ago

I have tried to cover different cases-

```
#include
```

```
#include
```

```
#include
```

```
#include
```

```
bool rotate(char *s1,char *s2)
```

```
{
```

```
if(strlen(s1)!=strlen(s2))
```

```
return 0;
```

```
int j=0,i=0;
```

```
int bitmap[26]={0};
```

```
while(i< strlen(s2))
```

```
{
```

```
bitmap[s2[i]-65]=bitmap[s2[i]-65]+1;
```

```
i++;
```

---

see more

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**rohit** · a year ago

@geeksforgeek:you also need to check `strlen(s1)==strlen(s2)`...eg-:ABCD,CD

^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**gags** · a year ago

[sourcecode language="java"]

```
public static boolean isRotated(String original, String rotated) {  
    if (original == null || rotated == null)  
        return false;  
    if (original.length() != rotated.length())  
        return false;  
    int len = original.length();  
    for (int i = 0; i < len; i++) {  
        if (rotated.charAt(i) == original.charAt(0)) {  
            if (check(original, rotated, i))  
                return true;  
        }  
    }  
    return false;  
}
```

```
private static boolean check(String original, String rotated, int start) {  
    int end = start - 1;
```

[see more](#)

^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**abhishek08aug** · a year ago

```
#include<stdio.h>  
#include<stdlib.h>  
#include<string.h>
```

```
#define NO_OF_CHARS 256
```

```
#define NO_OF_CHARS 256
```

```
int are_rotations(char * str1, char * str2) {  
    int size1=strlen(str1);  
    int size2=strlen(str2);  
  
    if(size1!=size2) {  
        return 0;  
    }  
    char * temp=(char *)malloc(sizeof(char)*size1*2+1);  
    strcat(temp, str1);  
    strcat(temp, str1);  
  
    return strstr(temp, str2);  
}
```

[see more](#)

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**Ramasubramani** • a year ago

Awesome Logic.

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**arun** • a year ago

awesome logic

```
/* Paste your code here (You may delete these lines if not writing c
```

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**radhakrishna** • 3 years ago

traverse array from 0 to n-1 for str1 and from n-1 to 0 for str2 (both at once)

keep xoring str1 and str2 elements till u get 0

```
if index resulted reaches boundary not rotated string
else {
compare rest of elements and if all same print rotated
}
```

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**joker** → radhakrishna • 2 years ago

@radhakrishna

your algo won't work. try it on some case's which have even number re

eg. AA , BB

now xoring will give 0. but they are not rotation of each other.

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**Don** • 3 years ago

```
if(length(string1) length(string2))
return false;
```

```
for i = 0:length(string1)
if(string1[i] == string2[0])
break;
```

```
for j=0:length(string2)
i++;
if(string1[j] string2[i%length(string2)])
return false;
```

```
return true;
```

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**Don** → Don • 3 years ago

Darn html! here it is again:

```

if(length(string1) != length(string2))
return false;

for i = 0:length(string1)
if(string1[i] == string2[0])
break;

for j=0:length(string2)
i++;
if(string1[j] != string2[i%length(string2)])
return false;

return true;

```

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**atul** → Don • 2 years ago

it will fails for following test case :-

```

char str1[]="ABCDA";
char str2[]="AABCD";

```

```

/* Paste your code here (You may delete these lines if

```

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**Swapna** • 3 years ago

```

#include
#include

```

```

using namespace std;

```

```

int recurse(char *s1 , char *s2, char *s2_orig) {
if(*s1 == "")
return 1;

```

```

return 1;
if(*s1 == *s2)
{
s1 += 1;
if(*(s2 + 1) == "")
s2 = s2_orig;
else
s2 += 1;
return recurse(s1, s2, s2_orig);
}
return 0;
}

```

[see more](#)

^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**zoso** · 3 years ago

```

#include<conio.h>
#include<stdio.h>
#include<string.h>
int rot(char *s1, char *s2)
{
    int n1=strlen(s1),i=0,j=0;
    if(strlen(s2)!=n1)
        return 0;
    else
    {
        while(s1[i])
        {
            int k=i;
            while(s1[k]==s2[j]&&(k!=(i+n1-1)%n1))

```

```
{  
    k=(k+1)%n1;  
}
```

[see more](#)

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**zoso** → zoso • 3 years ago

one thing missed is that in rot() the inner while loop will have a j=0 stat

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**Sunil** • 3 years ago

Awesome logic :) i m loving geeksforgeeks portal

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**rams** • 3 years ago

```
void Prefix(char P[],int Pre[])  
{  
    int k=0,q;  
    int m=strlen(P);  
    Pre[0]=0;  
  
    for(q=1; q<m & & P[k]!=P[q])  
        k=Pre[k];  
    if(P[k]==P[q])  
        k++;  
    Pre[q]=k;  
}  
}
```

```
int KMP(char T[],char P[])
```

[see more](#)

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priyadarshi • 3 years ago

```
int are_rotations(char *s1,char *s2)
{
    int len,i,j,k;
    if(strlen(s1)!=strlen(s2))
        return 0;
    len=strlen(s1);
    for(i=0;i<len;i++)
    {
        if(s2[i]==s1[0])
        {
            for(j=1,k=i+1;j<len;j++,k=(k+1)%len)
            {
                if(s1[j]!=s2[k])
                    break;
            }
            if(j==len)
                return 1;
        }
    }
    return 0;
}

/*this program runs in O(n) in best case, when all elements are distinct
& the strings are rotations of each other, but the time reduces to O(1)
otherwise.*/
```

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**Algoseekar** · 3 years ago

@GeeksForGeeks,Sandeep,...Its  $O(n^2)$  Solution can you let me know how w

^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**aimless** → Algoseekar · 3 years ago

if you want  $O(n)$  then don't go for strstr

->have an array of chars say arr[256] - i am not considering DOUBLE

->initialize with zero.

->when you read one string for every occurrence increment arr[str1[i]]-

->for second char decrement arr[str[i]]--

->if string length is same you shall meet a situation when you will have already zero. report it. else at the end every element will be zero.

^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**donbosio** · 3 years ago

@geeks:in the comments u wrote that strstr() returns null if second is a subst

^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**Sandeep** → donbosio · 3 years ago

@donbosio: Thanks for pointing this out. I have corrected the typo.

^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**Ritesh** · 3 years ago

if str1 = "abc"

and str2 = "cba"

will it work?

^ | v · Reply · Share ›



**Srish** → Ritesh · 3 years ago

@Ritesh:

Yes it should work perfectly fine in that case, "abc" and "cba" are not rotations of each other. "cba" will not be found in "abcabc" so it will return 0. "abc" and "cab" infact would return 1.

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**geeksforgeeks** • 4 years ago

@manoj: Your solution may not work for strings with duplicate characters. For following strings but they are rotations of each other.

s = "ACAB"

t = "ABAC"

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**manoj** • 4 years ago

Forgot to mention that when first string finishes, start it again from 0th index.

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**manoj** • 4 years ago

following would work without temp string and strstr function.

s = "ABACD"

t = "CDABA"

1. start from s and t
2. compare first counter at 'A' of s and second at 'C' of t
3. if equal, increment both, else increment first only.
4. if at any point they do not match after first match, then return false, else true

This is  $O(m+n)$  time and no space algorithm.

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**mohitk** → manoj • a year ago

^ Really nice optimization by manoj.

Memory time optimization by Manoj.

Changes the algorithm to  $O(1)$  space, while maintaining  $O(n)$  time.

code for the same, hope I have covered everything:

```
public boolean isRotation(String s1, String s2)
{
    // If 2nd string is null
    if (s2 == null)
        return true;

    // If 1st string is null or the strings have unequal length
    if (s1 == null || (s1.length() != s2.length()))
        return false;

    int i = 0, j = 0;
    boolean first_flg = false;
```

[see more](#)

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**hsg** → manoj • 4 years ago

this will not work for string1: ABACD  
and String 2 : ACDAB  
even though its a rotation.

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



**Sergey** → hsg • 3 years ago

No, it works perfectly. And why it should not?

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**abc** → Sergey • 2 years ago

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in case to work for

String1:ABACD

String2:ACDAB

we must work out such that if there is any mismatch of  
be set as 0.

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