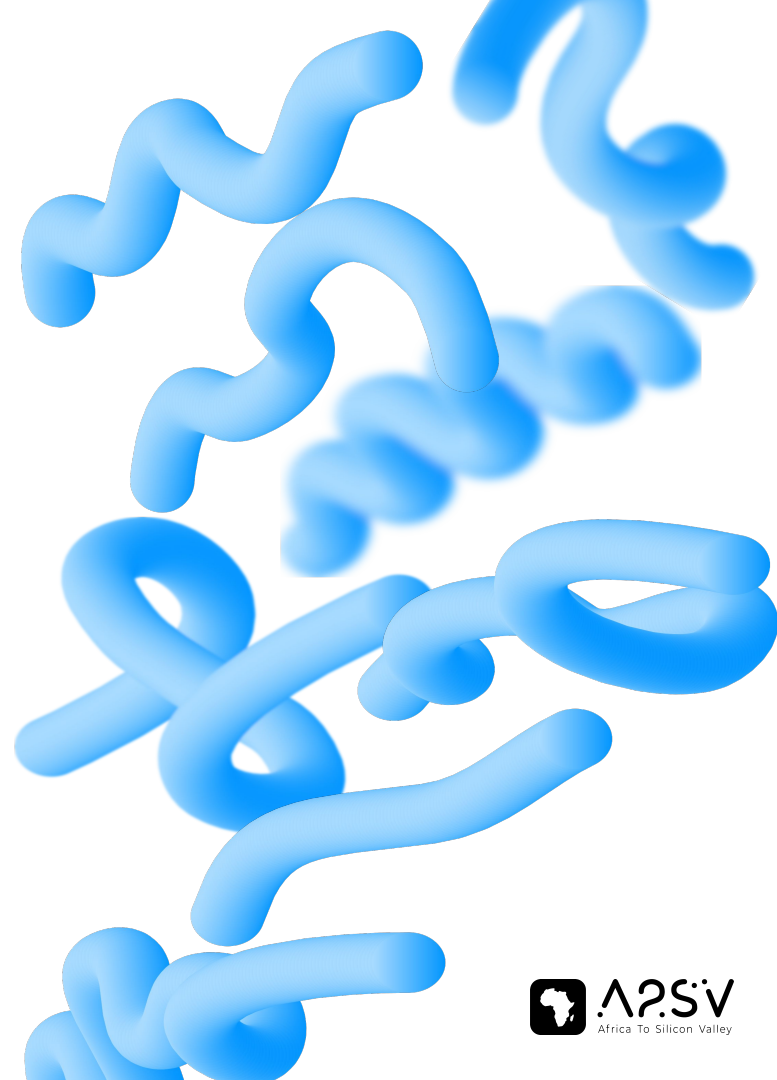


# Advanced String Algorithms

Substring search



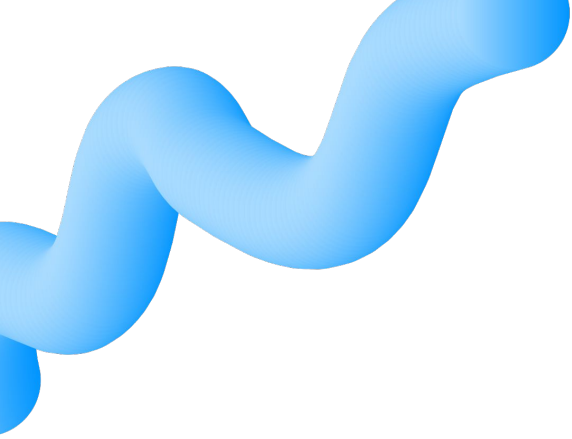
# Lecture Outline

- Prerequisites
- Substring Search (The Naive Way)
- Rabin-Karp Algorithm
- Knuth-Morris-Pratt Algorithm
- Applications of Rabin-Karp and Knuth-Morris-Pratt Algorithm
- Additional String Algorithms
- Quote of the Day

# Pre-requisites

- Math II
- String manipulation in Python
- Time and Space complexity analysis





# What is a substring search?



# Naive Method





String : a b c d a b c d f

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Pattern : a b c d f

1 2 3 4 5



String : a b c d a b c d f

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Pattern : a b c d f

1 2 3 4 5



String : a b c d a b c d f



1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Pattern : a b c d f



1 2 3 4 5





String : a b c d a b c d f

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Pattern : a b c d f

1 2 3 4 5



String : a b c d a b c d f

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Pattern : a b c d f

1 2 3 4 5



String : a b c d a b c d f

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✗ i

Pattern : a b c d f

1 2 3 4 5

✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✗ j



Okay, let's try again






String : a b c d a b c d f

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Pattern : a b c d f

1 2 3 4 5



String : a b c d a b c d f

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Pattern : a b c d f

1 2 3 4 5



**Failed yet again.**  
**AGAIN !**





String : a b c d a b c d f

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Pattern : a b c d f

1 2 3 4 5





String : a b c d a b c d f

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

~~x~~ i

Pattern : a b c d f

1 2 3 4 5



AGAINNN !!!





String : a b c d a b c d f

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Pattern : a b c d f

1 2 3 4 5



String : a b c d a b c d f

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Pattern : a b c d f

1 2 3 4 5



Hmm :/





Again ?





String : a b c d a b c d f

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Pattern : a b c d f

1 2 3 4 5



String : a b c d a b c d f

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Pattern : a b c d f

1 2 3 4 5





String : a b c d a b c d f

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Pattern : a b c d f

1 2 3 4 5



String : a b c d a b c d f

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Pattern : a b c d f

1 2 3 4 5



String : a b c d a b c d f

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Pattern : a b c d f

1 2 3 4 5



String : a b c d a b c d f i

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Pattern : a b c d f j

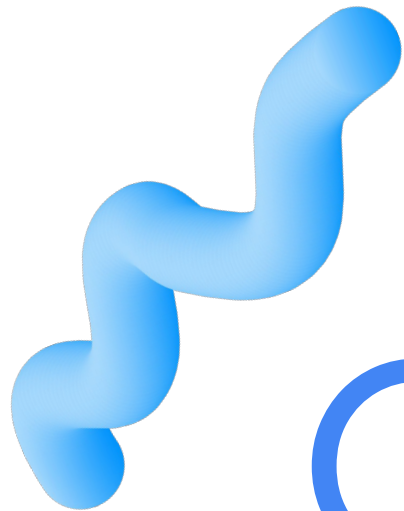
1 2 3 4 5



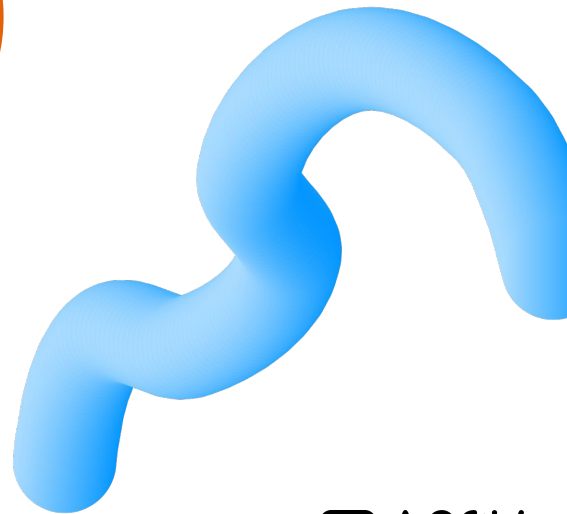


Okay we got somewhere, but how long  
did it take us ?





$O(n * m)$





# Practice Problem

Find the index of the first occurrence in a string







```
class Solution:
```

```
    def strStr(self, haystack: str, needle: str) -> int:
```

```
        if len(needle) > len(haystack):
```

```
            return -1
```

```
        i = j = 0
```

```
        while i < len(haystack):
```

```
            ans = i
```

```
            while i < len(haystack) and haystack[i] == needle[j]:
```

```
                i += 1
```

```
                j += 1
```

```
            if j == len(needle):
```

```
                return ans
```

```
            i = ans + 1
```

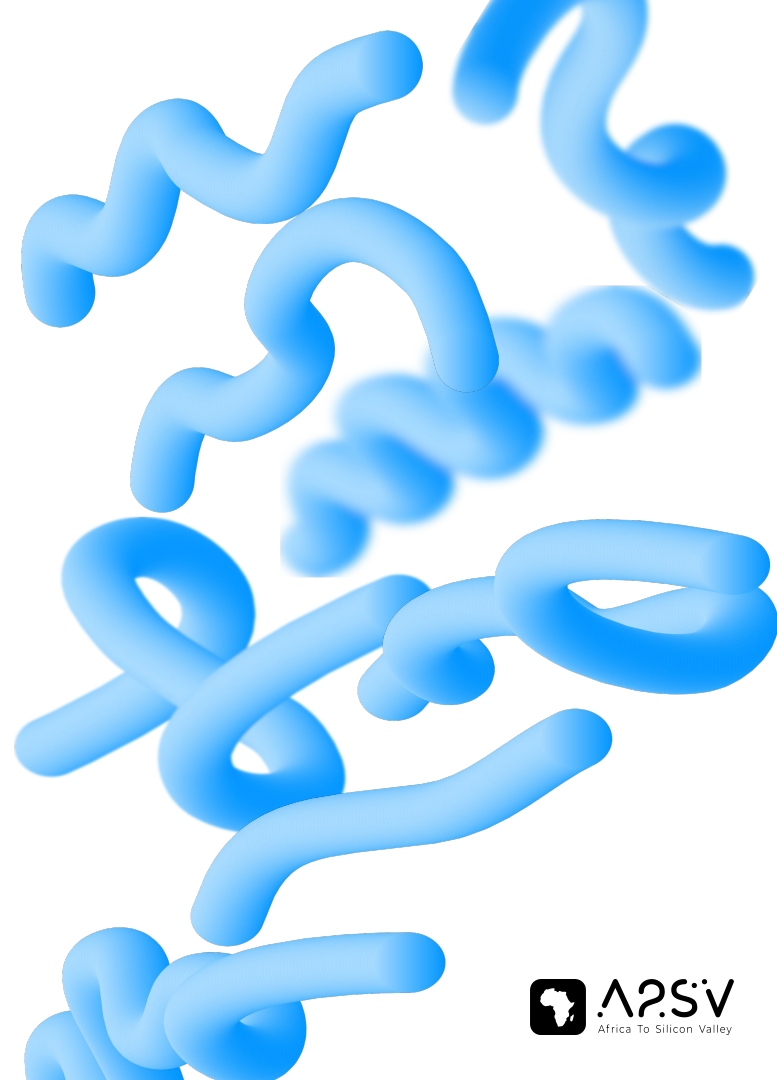
```
            j = 0
```

```
        return -1
```



# Rabin-Karp Algorithm

Average  $O(n + m)$  Time





# What is Hashing ?





Why do we need to  
encode strings ?





# Encoding Strings

For **s** = “**ab**cad”,

let's start thinking in base alphabets.




# Encoding Strings

For **s** = “**a**bc**a**d”,

$$\text{'a'} * 26^4 + \text{'b'} * 26^3 + \text{'c'} * 26^2 + \text{'a'} * 26^1 + \text{'d'} * 26^0$$



**We need to find some values to  
represent each of the above letters.  
Any ideas ?**



# Encoding Strings

`a` = 0

`b` = 1

`c` = 2

`d` = 3

.

.

`z` = 25





This will result in an edge case if we represent strings this way

$$\text{"aaa"} \Rightarrow 0 * 26^2 + 0 * 26^1 + 0 * 26^0 = 0$$

$$\text{"aa"} \Rightarrow 0 * 26^1 + 0 * 26^0 = 0$$



## There are two ways to fix this problem

1. Encode the length in the hash (messy)
2. Don't use 0, encode (alphabet + 1) size



# Operations on Hashes



## Operation: addLast

let  $a = 26 + 1$

“abc” + “x” = ?

“abc”  $\Rightarrow (1 * a^2 + 2 * a^1 + 3 * a^0)$

“x”  $\Rightarrow (24 * a^0)$

“abc” + “x”  $\Rightarrow (1 * a^2 + 2 * a^1 + 3 * a^0) * a + (24 * a^0)$

“abcx”  $\Rightarrow 1 * a^3 + 2 * a^2 + 3 * a^1 + 24 * a^0$  ✓

## Operation: pollFirst

let  $a = 26 + 1$

“abcx” = let’s try to remove the ‘a’ ?

$$\text{“abcx”} \Rightarrow 1 * a^3 + 2 * a^2 + 3 * a^1 + 24 * a^0$$

$$\text{“bcx”} \Rightarrow (1 * a^3 + 2 * a^2 + 3 * a^1 + 24 * a^0) - (1 * a^3)$$

$$\text{“bcx”} \Rightarrow 2 * a^2 + 3 * a^1 + 24 * a^0 \quad \checkmark$$



**For Rabin-Karp, the above two operations suffice for most cases**



## Operation: addFirst

let  $a = 26 + 1$

“x” + “abc” = ?

“x”  $\Rightarrow (24 * a^0)$

“abc”  $\Rightarrow (1 * a^2 + 2 * a^1 + 3 * a^0)$

“xabc”  $\Rightarrow (24 * a^0) * a^3 + (1 * a^2 + 2 * a^1 + 3 * a^0)$  ✓

## Operation: pollLast

let  $a = 26 + 1$


“abcx” = let’s try to remove the ‘x’ ?

$$\text{“abcx”} \Rightarrow 1 * a^3 + 2 * a^2 + 3 * a^1 + 24 * a^0$$


$$\text{“abc”} \Rightarrow ((1 * a^3 + 2 * a^2 + 3 * a^1 + 24 * a^0) - (24 * a^0)) / a$$

$$\text{“abc”} \Rightarrow 1 * a^2 + 2 * a^1 + 3 * a^0 \quad \checkmark$$





Most of the time, the **hash values** are very **large numbers**  
hence we need to use them **under mod**.





Therefore, the **last operation** is **trickier** than we made it look like; since it involves knowing **division under mod**





**TIP:** Precompute all  $a^k$





**TIP:** Pick a Prime number for modulus.

Typically,  $10^{9+7}$

(Fermat's Little theorem)



# Why Choose a Prime Modulus in Rabin-Karp?

- **Reduces Hash Collisions:** Primes ensure a uniform distribution of hash values.
- **Prevents Overflow:** Large prime modulus like  $10^{**9} + 7$  keeps hash values within limits.
- **Fermat's Little Theorem:** Enables efficient calculation of modular inverses for rolling hashes.



**TIP:** Use multiple primes to decrease  
the chance of collisions





# Rabin-Karp: Demonstration

String: abacdabazxywp

pattern: abaz

# Rabin-Karp: Demonstration

pattern: abaz

String: abacdabazxywp



$$(1 * a^3 + 2 * a^2 + 1 * a^1 + 3 * a^0)$$

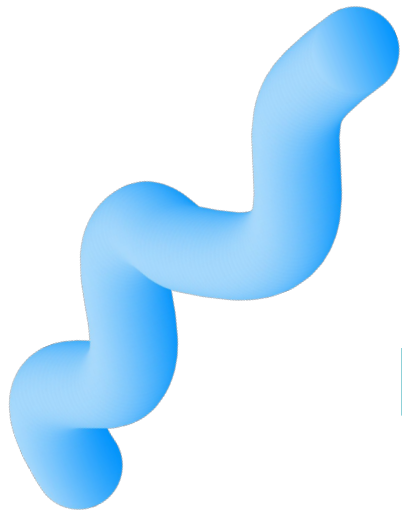


# Rabin-Karp: Demonstration

pattern: abaz

String: abacdabazxywp

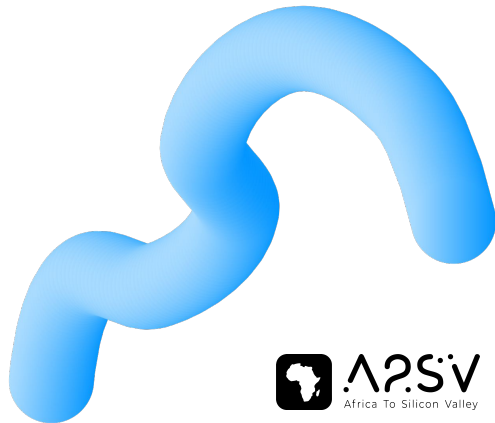




# Practice Problem



Find the index of the first occurrence in a string





```
class Solution:
    def strStr(self, haystack: str, needle: str) -> int:
        MOD = 10**9 + 7
        base = 27

        def convert(char):
            return ord(char) - 96

        def add_last(Hash, char):
            return (Hash * base + convert(char)) % MOD

        def poll_first(Hash, char, base_power):
            return (Hash - convert(char) * base_power) % MOD
```





```
N1, N2 = len(haystack), len(needle)
```

```
if N1 < N2:
```

```
    return -1
```

```
# Precompute base powers mod MOD
```

```
base_powers = [1] * (N2 + 1)
```

```
for i in range(1, N2 + 1):
```

```
    base_powers[i] = (base_powers[i - 1] * base) % MOD
```

```
target = window_hash = 0
```

```
# Calculate the hash of the needle and the initial window in haystack
```

```
for char in needle:
```

```
    target = add_last(target, char)
```

```
for i in range(N2):
```

```
    window_hash = add_last(window_hash, haystack[i])
```





```
if window_hash == target:
    # Verify the actual substring matches
    if haystack[:N2] == needle:
        return 0

# Slide the window over the haystack
for right in range(N2, N1):
    left = right - N2
    window_hash = add_last(window_hash, haystack[right])
    window_hash = poll_first(window_hash, haystack[left], base_powers[N2])
    if window_hash == target:
        # Verify the actual substring matches
        if haystack[left+1:right+1] == needle:
            return right - N2 + 1

return -1
```





**Note:** If you have to do things under mod given your constraints, a hash match doesn't necessarily mean you found the string.




**Note:** You have to do a string equality check just to be sure.



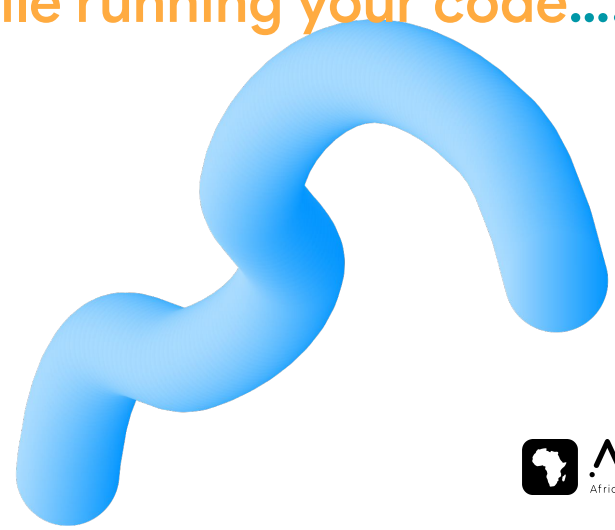
Most people don't feel **confident** after writing a probabilistic algorithm such as **Rabin-Karp**,







but the way you should see it is, if you can bring down the probability of your algorithm **getting it wrong** less than the probability of the **hardware failing while running your code....**





you should be able to **submit** and be able to sleep at  
night.



# Knuth–Morris–Pratt algorithm

Guaranteed  $O(n + m)$  Time



**This algorithm was invented by Donald Knuth, Von Pratt  
and independently by James Morris**





**Key Idea :** Take advantage of the **successful comparisons** we make between the **string** and the **pattern**.





## Example

**S** = adsgwadsdsgwadsgz

**P** = dsgwadsgz

## Example

S = adsgwadsdsgwadsgz

P = ds gwadsgz

## Example

S = adsgwadsdsgwadsgz

P = dsgwadsgz





# Example

S = adsgwadsdsgwadsgz

P = dsgwadsgz

# Example

S = adsgwadsgwadsgz

P = dsgwadsgz



# Example

S = adsgwadsgwadsgz

P = dsgwadsgz

# Example

S = adsgwadsdsgwadsgz

P = dsgwadsgz

## Example

S = adsgwadsdsgwadsgz

P = dsgwadsgz

## Example

S = adsgwadsdsgwadsgz

P = dsgwadsgz

## Example

S = adsgwadsdsgwadsgz

P = dsgwadsgz



The KMP algorithm wants to avoid going back in the string **S** and revert our progress in matching the pattern.








So it looks for a suffix that is also a prefix in the matched substring before the mismatch

dsgwads



We know the substring `ds` exists in our string **S** before the mismatch. Due to this fact, the algorithm finds out how far it needs to go back in the string **P** to continue matching without reverting the progress that was made



In our example, we will jump back to `g` in the string P  
and we will not go back in our string S.

dsgwads

# Example

S = adsgwaddsdsgwadsgz

P = dsgwadsgz



Since we don't have any suffix that is prefix in the substring `ds`, we will now go back to the beginning in P

# Example

S = adsgwadsdsgwadsgz

P = dsgwadsgz

## Example

S = adsgwadsdsgwadsgz

P = dsgwadsgz

## Example

S = adsgwadsdsgwadsgz

P = dsgwadsgz



## Example

S = adsgwadsdsgwadsgz

P = dsgwadsgz



The algorithm mainly has two parts to achieve this efficiently.

1. Preprocessing
2. Matching

# 1. Preprocessing

## Some vocabularies first :)

**Prefix:** Substring of a string that starts from the beginning of the string. Empty string ("") is a prefix of every string.

- "", "a", "ab", "aba", "abac", "abaca", "abacab" are prefix of "abacab"
- "", "a", "ab", "aba", "abab", "ababa", "ababab", "abababa" are prefix of "abababa"

**Suffix:** Substring of a string that ends at the end of the string. Empty string ("") is a suffix of every string.

- "abacab", "bacab", "acab", "cab", "ab", "b", "" are suffix of "abacab"
- "abababa", "bababa", "ababa", "baba", "aba", "ba", "a", "" are suffix of "abababa"

# 1. Preprocessing

**Proper Prefix:** Prefix that is not equal to the string itself.

- "", "a", "ab", "aba", "abac", "abaca" are proper prefix of "abacab"
- "", "a", "ab", "aba", "abab", "ababa", "ababab" are proper prefix of "abababa"

**Proper Suffix:** Suffix that is not equal to the string itself.

- "bacab", "acab", "cab", "ab", "b", "" are proper suffix of "abacab"
- "bababa", "ababa", "baba", "aba", "ba", "a", "" are proper suffix of "abababa"

**Border:** Substring of a string that is both proper prefix and proper suffix. The length of the border is often called the *Width of the Border*. Although, the term *Width* is rarely used.

- "", "ab" are borders of "abacab"
- "", "aba", "ababa" are borders of "abababa"

# 1. Preprocessing

**longest\_border:** Array that stores the length of *Longest Proper Prefix that is also a Suffix* of every prefix of `string`. More precisely, `longest_border[i]` is the length of the longest border of the `string[0...i]`

# 1. Preprocessing

The **Longest Border Array (LPS,  $\pi$ -table, or Prefix Table)** is used in multiple algorithms. The naïve approach to build it is of  $O(m^3)$  by adhering to the mathematical formula and searching for the longest proper prefix that is also a suffix, for every index.

```
for i = 1 to m-1  
  
  for k = 0 to i  
  
    if needle[0..k-1] == needle[i-(k-1)..i]  
  
      longest_border[i] = k
```

However, we can follow the **greedy approach**, and can build it in **linear time**.

# 1. Preprocessing

d s g w a d s g z

LPS

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

**LPS[i]** = where to start matching in **P** after a mismatch at **i + 1**.

In other words, the length of the longest proper prefix that is a suffix in  $P[0...i]$

# 1. Preprocessing

i j  
d s g w a d s g z

LPS

0								
---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--



# 1. Preprocessing

<sup>i</sup>  
d s <sup>j</sup> g w a d s g z

LPS

0	0							
---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

# 1. Preprocessing

<sup>i</sup>  
d s g w <sup>j</sup> a d s g z

LPS

0	0	0						
---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--

# 1. Preprocessing

i j  
d s g w a d s g z

LPS

0	0	0	0					
---	---	---	---	--	--	--	--	--

# 1. Preprocessing

<sup>i</sup>  
d s g w a <sup>j</sup> d s g z

LPS

0	0	0	0	0	1			
---	---	---	---	---	---	--	--	--

# 1. Preprocessing

<sup>i</sup>  
d s g w a d s g z  
<sup>j</sup>

LPS

0	0	0	0	0	1	2		
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	--	--

# 1. Preprocessing

d s g **i** w a d s g **j** z

LPS

0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Now that **w** and **z** don't match, **i** becomes  $LPS[i - 1]$ .  
This is because if we don't have a border of three, we want to try out less wider borders before going back to zero.

# 1. Preprocessing

a a a **i** c a a a **j**

LPS

0	1	2	0	1	2	3	
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	--

Here you can see, that **c** and **a**, don't much and we can't have a border of 4, but we clearly have a border of 3. That is why, we need to switch to  $i = \text{LPS}[i - 1]$  and then compare. Here  $\text{LPS}[i - 1] = 2$ .

# 1. Preprocessing

a a a **i** c a a **j** a

LPS

0	1	2	0	1	2	3	3
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

And since **a** matches with **a**,  $LPS[j] = LPS[i] + 1$



# 1. Practice: write the stub code for generating LPS table

```
def KMP_part_one(p : str) -> list:  
    # todo
```

```
assert KMP_part_one('aaacaaaa') == [0, 1, 2, 0, 1, 2, 3, 3]
```

```
assert KMP_part_one('dsgwadsgz') == [0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 2, 3, 0]
```


# Implementation

```
def KMP_part_one(p : str) -> list:
    m = len(p)
    i , j = 0, 1
    LPS = [0 for _ in range(m)]
    while j < m:
        if p[i] == p[j]:
            LPS[j] = i + 1
            i += 1
            j += 1
        else:
            if i == 0:
                j += 1
            else:
                i = LPS[i - 1]

    return LPS
```



What is the **time complexity** of building  
the **LPS** table this way?



Interestingly enough it's **linear**.  
 $O(\text{length of the pattern})$

# Why $O(M)$ ?

- The total length of all "drops" (rollbacks in  $i$  ( $\text{prevLPS}$ )) is bounded by  $M$ , meaning no position is revisited unnecessarily.
- Even when  $i$  ( $\text{prevLPS}$ ) drops after a mismatch, it cannot drop more than the interval already covered by  $j$  since the last time  $i$  was 0.

## 2. Matching

d s g w a d s g z

LPS

0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

i

S = adsgwadsgwadsgz

j

## 2. Matching

d s g w a d s g z

LPS

0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

i

S = adsgwadsgwadsgz

j

## 2. Matching

d s g w a d s g z

LPS

0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

i

S = adsgwadsgwadsgz

j



## 2. Matching

d s g w a d s g z

LPS

0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

i

S = a ds gwadsgwadsgz

j

## 2. Matching

d s g w a d s g z

LPS

0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

i

S = a ds gwadsgwz

j

## 2. Matching

d s g w a d s g z

LPS

0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

i

S = a adsgwad sdsgwadsgz

j

## 2. Matching

d s g w a d s g z

LPS

0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

i

S = a adsgwad sdsgwadsgz

j

## 2. Matching

d s g w a d s g z

LPS

0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

i

S = a adsgwadsdsgwadsgz

j

## 2. Matching

d s g w a d s g z

LPS

0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

i

S = adsgwads dsgwadsgz

j

$i = \text{LPS}[i - 1]$

## 2. Matching

d s g w a d s g z

LPS

0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

i

S = adsgwaddssgwadsgz

j

$i = \text{LPS}[i - 1]$

## 2. Matching

d s g w a d s g z

LPS

0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

i

S = adsgwadsgswadsgz

j



## 2. Matching

d s g w a d s g z

LPS

0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

i

S = adsgwaddsgwadsgz

j

## 2. Matching

d s g w a d s g z

LPS

0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

i

S = adsgwadsdsgwadsgz

j

## 2. Matching

d s g w a d s g z

LPS

0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

i

S = adsgwaddsgwadsgz

j

## 2. Matching

d s g w a d s g z

LPS

0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

i

S = adsgwadsdsgwadsgz

j

## 2. Matching

d s g w a d s g z

LPS

0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

i

S = adsgwadsdsgwadsgz

j

## 2. Matching

d s g w a d s g z

LPS

0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

i

S = adsgwadsdsgwadsgz

j

## 2. Matching

d s g w a d s g z

LPS

0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

i

S = adsgwadsdsgwadsgz

j

## 2. Matching

d s g w a d s g z

LPS

0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

i

S = adsgwadsdsgwadsgz

j



## 2. Matching

d s g w a d s g z

LPS

0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

S = adsgwadsdsgwadsgz

MATCH

# Implementation

```
class Solution:
    def strStr(self, haystack: str, needle: str) -> int:
        LPS = KMP_part_one(needle)
        i, j = 0, 0
        while j < n:
            if needle[i] == haystack[j]:
                i += 1
                j += 1
            else:
                if i == 0:
                    j += 1
                else:
                    i = LPS[i - 1]
            if i >= m:
                return j - m

        return -1
```



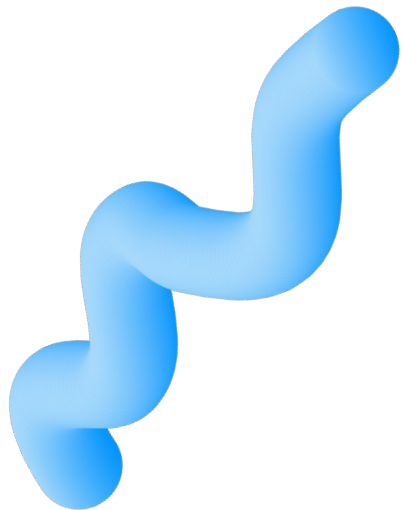
What is the **time complexity** of this  
**Matching** process?





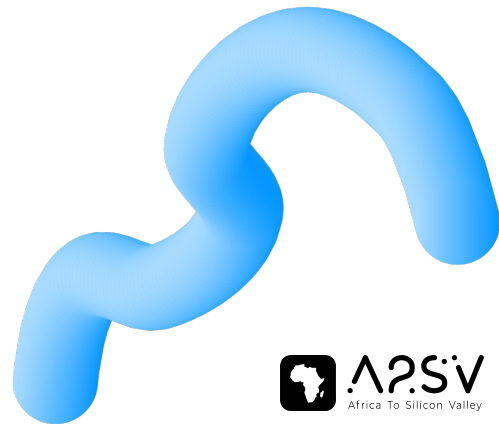
Once again it's **linear**.  
 $O(\text{length of the text})$

**Hint:** Notice the behavior of the pointers during the construction of the **LPS** array and compare it with the way the pointers move during the pattern **matching** process



# Practice Problem

## Rotate String





# Efficiency of the KMP algorithm

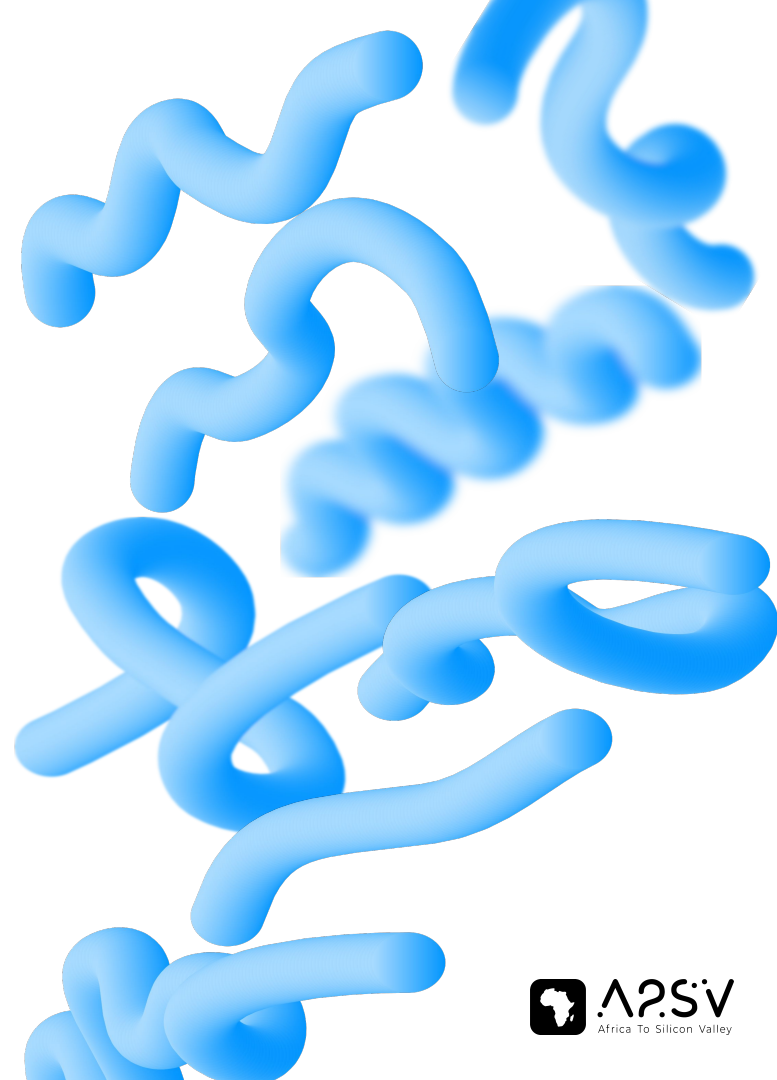
- Since the two portions of the algorithm have, respectively, complexities of  $O(m)$  and  $O(n)$ , the complexity of the overall algorithm is  $O(m + n)$ .
- These complexities are the same, no matter how many repetitive patterns are in P or S.



# Applications of RK and KMP

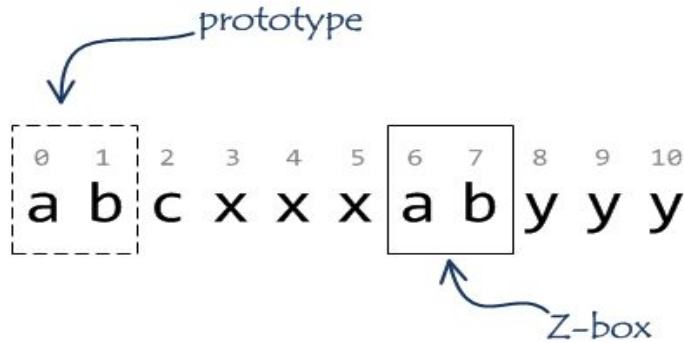
- Spell Checker
- Plagiarism Detection
- Text Editors
- Spam Filters
- Digital Forensics
- Matching DNA Sequences
- Intrusion Detection
- Search Engines
- Bioinformatics and Cheminformatics
- Information Retrieval System
- Language Syntax Checker

# Additional String Algorithms



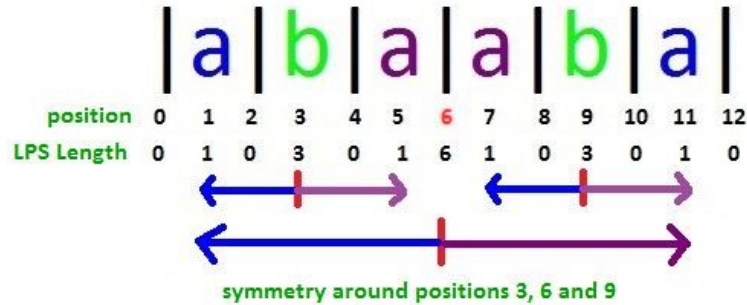


# Z Algorithm



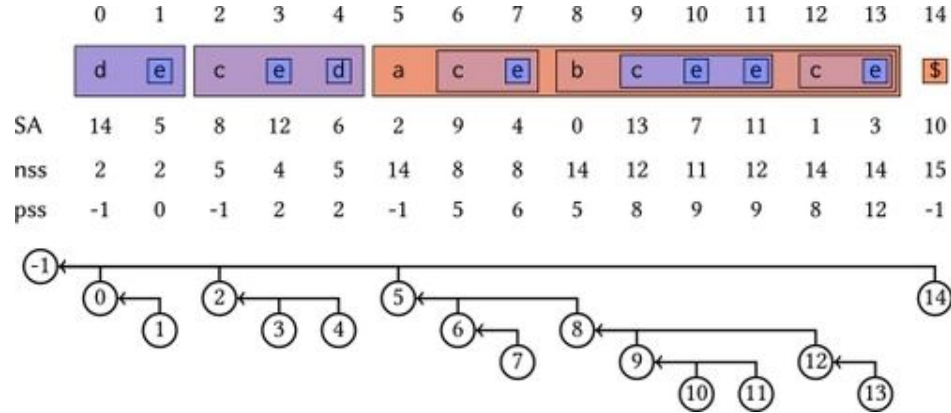
- Highly resembles KMP but **simpler** and **versatile**.
- Mostly used to find
  - **Periodicity** of a string
  - **All Occurrences** of a substring
- Relatively great at handling **multiple patterns**

# Manacher's Algorithm



- is used to find the **longest palindromic substring** in a given string in **linear time**.
- can be used to count all pairs  $(i, j)$  such that substring  $s[i..j]$  is a palindrome in **linear time**.

# Suffix Array



- Efficiently solve **pattern matching**, **lexicographic order** problems, and **LCP** (Longest Common Prefix) queries.
- Applications:** Fast substring queries, string compression, DNA sequence alignment.


# Practice Problems

- [Repeated String Match](#)
- [Longest Happy Prefix](#)
- [Maximum Length of Repeated Subarray](#)
- [Repeated DNA Sequences](#)
- [Permutation in String](#)
- [Find Substring with a given hash value](#)
- [Division + LCP \(easy version\)](#)





# Resources

- [Pattern Search with the Knuth-Morris-Pratt \(KMP\) algorithm](#)
  - [Prefix function. Knuth-Morris-Pratt algorithm](#)
  - [Knuth-Morris-Pratt \(KMP\) Pattern Matching Substring Search - First Occurrence Of Substring](#)
  - [Algorithms live : Rolling hash and bloom filters](#)
  - [String Searching | USACO GUIDE](#)
- 



## Quote of the day



“It is not enough to be in the right place at the right time. You should also have an open mind at the right time.”

— Paul Erdős