Algorithms

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5.3 SUBSTRING SEARCH

introduction

brute force

Knuth-Morris-Pratt

Boyer-Moore

Rabin-Karp

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000	Find & Replace
	Simple Advanced
Find:	search
	scarch
Replace:	
Replace	e All Replace Replace & Find Previous Next



Computer forensics. Search memory or disk for signatures, e.g., all URLs or RSA keys that the user has entered.



http://citp.princeton.edu/memory



Identify patterns indicative of spam.

- PROFITS
- LOSE WE1GHT
- herbal Viagra
- There is no catch.
- This is a one-time mailing.
- This message is sent in compliance with spam regulations.







Screen scraping. Extract relevant data from web page.

Ex. Find string delimited by and after first occurrence of pattern Last Trade:.



http://finance.yahoo.com/q?s=goog

```
Last Trade:

<big><b>452.92</b></big>

Trade Class= "yfnc_tablehead1"
width= "48%">
Trade Time:
```

Java library. The indexOf() method in Java's string library returns the index of the first occurrence of a given string, starting at a given offset.

```
public class StockQuote
{
   public static void main(String[] args)
   {
      String name = "http://finance.yahoo.com/g?s=";
      In in = new In(name + args[0]);
      String text = in.readAll();
      int start = text.indexOf("Last Trade:", 0);
      int from = text.index0f("<b>", start);
      int to = text.indexOf("</b>", from);
      String price = text.substring(from + 3, to);
      StdOut.println(price);
}
               % java StockQuote goog
               582.93
               % java StockQuote msft
               24.84
```

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Brute-force substring search

Check for pattern starting at each text position.



Brute-force substring search: Java implementation

Check for pattern starting at each text position.

i	j	i+j	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
			А	В	Α	С	Α	D	Α	В	R	А	С
4	3	7					А	D	А	С	R		
5	0	5						Α	D	А	С	R	

Brute-force substring search: worst case

Brute-force algorithm can be slow if text and pattern are repetitive.

i	j	i+j	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
		txt→	A	А	А	А	А	А	А	А	А	В		
0	4	4	А	А	А	А	B	←	pat					
1	4	5		А	А	А	А	В						
2	4	6			А	А	А	А	В					
3	4	7				А	А	А	А	В				
4	4	8					А	А	А	А	В			
5	5	10						Α	А	А	А	В		
									↑ match					

Worst case. $\sim MN$ char compares.

Backup

In many applications, we want to avoid backup in text stream.

- Treat input as stream of data.
- Abstract model: standard input.





Brute-force algorithm needs backup for every mismatch.



Approach 1. Maintain buffer of last *M* characters.Approach 2. Stay tuned.

Brute-force substring search: alternate implementation

Same sequence of char compares as previous implementation.

- i points to end of sequence of already-matched chars in text.
- j stores # of already-matched chars (end of sequence in pattern).

	i	j	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
			А	В	А	С	А	D	А	В	R	А	С
	7	3					А	D	А	С	R		
	5	0						А	D	А	С	R	
р	public static int search(String pat, String txt)												

Brute-force is not always good enough.

Practical challenge. Avoid backup in text stream. - often no room or time to save text

Now is the time for all people to come to the aid of their party. Now is the time for all good people to come to the aid of their party. Now is the time for many good people to come to the aid of their party. Now is the time for all good people to come to the aid of their party. Now is the time for a lot of good people to come to the aid of their party. Now is the time for all of the good people to come to the aid of their party. Now is the time for all good people to come to the aid of their party. Now is the time for each good person to come to the aid of their party. Now is the time for all good people to come to the aid of their party. Now is the time for all good Republicans to come to the aid of their party. Now is the time for all good people to come to the aid of their party. Now is the time for many or all good people to come to the aid of their party. Now is the time for all good people to come to the aid of their party. Now is the time for all good Democrats to come to the aid of their party. Now is the time for all people to come to the aid of their party. Now is the time for all good people to come to the aid of their party. Now is the time for many good people to come to the aid of their party. Now is the time for all good people to come to the aid of their party. Now is the time for a lot of good people to come to the aid of their party. Now is the time for all of the good people to come to the aid of their party. Now is the time for all good people to come to the aid of their attack at dawn party. Now is the time for each person to come to the aid of their party. Now is the time for all good people to come to the aid of their party. Now is the time for all good Republicans to come to the aid of their party. Now is the time for all good people to come to the aid of their party. Now is the time for many or all good people to come to the aid of their party. Now is the time for all good people to come to the aid of their party. Now is the time for all good Democrats to come to the aid of their party.

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Knuth-Morris-Pratt substring search

Intuition. Suppose we are searching in text for pattern BAAAAAAAAA.

- Suppose we match 5 chars in pattern, with mismatch on 6th char.
- We know previous 6 chars in text are BAAAAB.
- Don't need to back up text pointer!

assuming { A, B } alphabet



Knuth-Morris-Pratt algorithm. Clever method to always avoid backup. (!)

DFA is abstract string-searching machine.

- Finite number of states (including start and halt).
- Exactly one transition for each char in alphabet.
- Accept if sequence of transitions leads to halt state.



A A B A C A A B A B A C A A









Interpretation of Knuth-Morris-Pratt DFA

- Q. What is interpretation of DFA state after reading in txt[i]?
- A. State = number of characters in pattern that have been matched.

length of longest prefix of pat[]
that is a suffix of txt[0..i]





Knuth-Morris-Pratt substring search: Java implementation

Key differences from brute-force implementation.

- Need to precompute dfa[][] from pattern.
- Text pointer i never decrements.

Running time.

- Simulate DFA on text: at most N character accesses.
- Build DFA: how to do efficiently? [warning: tricky algorithm ahead]

Knuth-Morris-Pratt substring search: Java implementation

Key differences from brute-force implementation.

- Need to precompute dfa[][] from pattern.
- Text pointer i never decrements.
- Could use input stream.





Knuth-Morris-Pratt construction demo

Include one state for each character in pattern (plus accept state).





Constructing the DFA for KMP substring search for ABABAC



		0	1	2	3	4	5
pat.charAt	(j)	A	В	А	В	А	С
						5	1
dfa[][j]	В	0	2	0	4	0	4
	С	0	0	0	0	0	6

Constructing the DFA for KMP substring search for A B A B A C



How to build DFA from pattern?

Include one state for each character in pattern (plus accept state).





How to build DFA from pattern?



Mismatch transition. If in state j and next char c != pat.charAt(j), then the last j-1 characters of input are pat[1..j-1], followed by c.

To compute dfa[c][j]: Simulate pat[1..j-1] on DFA and take transition c. Running time. Seems to require *j* steps. still under construction (!)





How to build DFA from pattern?

Mismatch transition. If in state j and next char c != pat.charAt(j), then the last j-1 characters of input are pat[1..j-1], followed by c.

To compute dfa[c][j]: Simulate pat[1..j-1] on DFA and take transition c. Running time. Takes only constant time if we maintain state X.

state X



Knuth-Morris-Pratt construction demo (in linear time)

Include one state for each character in pattern (plus accept state).





Constructing the DFA for KMP substring search for A B A B A C



Knuth-Morris-Pratt construction demo (in linear time)

		0	1	2	3	4	5
pat.charAt							С
						5	1
dfa[][j]	В	0	2	0	4	0	4
	С	0	0	0	0	0	6

Constructing the DFA for KMP substring search for A B A B A C



For each state j:

- Copy dfa[][X] to dfa[][j] for mismatch case.
- Set dfa[pat.charAt(j)][j] to j+1 for match case.
- Update x.



Running time. *M* character accesses (but space/time proportional to *R M*).

Proposition. KMP substring search accesses no more than M + N chars to search for a pattern of length M in a text of length N.

Pf. Each pattern char accessed once when constructing the DFA; each text char accessed once (in the worst case) when simulating the DFA.

Proposition. KMP constructs dfa[][] in time and space proportional to *R M*.

Larger alphabets. Improved version of KMP constructs nfa[] in time and space proportional to *M*.


Knuth-Morris-Pratt: brief history

- Independently discovered by two theoreticians and a hacker.
 - Knuth: inspired by esoteric theorem, discovered linear algorithm
 - Pratt: made running time independent of alphabet size
 - Morris: built a text editor for the CDC 6400 computer
- Theory meets practice.

SIAM J. COMPUT. Vol. 6, No. 2, June 1977

FAST PATTERN MATCHING IN STRINGS*

DONALD E. KNUTH[†], JAMES H. MORRIS, JR.[‡] AND VAUGHAN R. PRATT¶

Abstract. An algorithm is presented which finds all occurrences of one given string within another, in running time proportional to the sum of the lengths of the strings. The constant of proportionality is low enough to make this algorithm of practical use, and the procedure can also be extended to deal with some more general pattern-matching problems. A theoretical application of the algorithm shows that the set of concatenations of even palindromes, i.e., the language $\{\alpha \alpha^R\}^*$, can be recognized in linear time. Other algorithms which run even faster on the average are also considered.



Don Knuth



Jim Morris



Vaughan Pratt

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J. Strother Moore

Intuition.

- Scan characters in pattern from right to left.
- Can skip as many as *M* text chars when finding one not in the pattern.



Q. How much to skip?

Case 1. Mismatch character not in pattern.



mismatch character 'T' not in pattern: increment i one character beyond 'T'

Q. How much to skip?

Case 2a. Mismatch character in pattern.



mismatch character 'N' in pattern: align text 'N' with rightmost pattern 'N'

Q. How much to skip?

Case 2b. Mismatch character in pattern (but heuristic no help).



mismatch character 'E' in pattern: align text 'E' with rightmost pattern 'E'?

Q. How much to skip?

Case 2b. Mismatch character in pattern (but heuristic no help).



mismatch character 'E' in pattern: increment i by 1

Q. How much to skip?

 A. Precompute index of rightmost occurrence of character c in pattern (-1 if character not in pattern).

```
right = new int[R];
for (int c = 0; c < R; c++)
   right[c] = -1;
for (int j = 0; j < M; j++)
   right[pat.charAt(j)] = j;
```

		Ν	Е	Е	D	L	Е	
С		0	1	2	3	4	5	right[c]
А	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1
В	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1
С	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1
D	-1	-1	-1	-1	3	3	3	3
Е	-1	-1		2	2	2	5	5
			-					-1
L	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	4	4	4
М	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1
Ν	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
								-1

Boyer-Moore skip table computation

```
public int search(String txt)
 {
    int N = txt.length();
    int M = pat.length();
    int skip;
    for (int i = 0; i \le N-M; i += skip)
       skip = 0;
       for (int j = M-1; j \ge 0; j--)
                                                       compute
       {
                                                       skip value
          if (pat.charAt(j) != txt.charAt(i+j))
           {
              skip = Math.max(1, j - right[txt.charAt(i+j)]);
              break;
                                   in case other term is nonpositive
           }
       if (skip == 0) return i; \leftarrow match
    }
    return N;
}
```

Boyer-Moore: analysis

Property. Substring search with the Boyer-Moore mismatched character heuristic takes about $\sim N/M$ character compares to search for a pattern of length *M* in a text of length *N*. sublinear!

Worst-case. Can be as bad as $\sim MN$.

i :	skip	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
	txt-	→ B	В	В	В	В	В	В	В	В	В	
0	0	Α	В	В	В	В	◄	pat				
1	1		Α	В	В	В	В					
2	1			Α	В	В	В	В				
3	1				Α	В	В	В	В			
4	1					Α	В	В	В	В		
5	1						Α	В	В	В	В	

Boyer-Moore variant. Can improve worst case to $\sim 3 N$ character compares by adding a KMP-like rule to guard against repetitive patterns.

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Michael Rabin, Turing Award '76 Dick Karp, Turing Award '85

Basic idea = modular hashing.

- Compute a hash of pattern characters 0 to *M* 1.
- For each *i*, compute a hash of text characters *i* to M + i 1.
- If pattern hash = text substring hash, check for a match.

	ра	t.c	har	At(i)											
i	0	1	2	3	4											
	2	6	5	3	5	%	997	=	613							
						t>	kt.c	har	At((i)						
i	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	3	1	4	1	5	9	2	6	5	3	5	8	9	7	9	3
0	3	1	4	1	5	%	997	=	508							
1		1	4	1	5	9	%	997	7 =	201	1					
2			4	1	5	9	2	%	997	′ =	71	5				
3				1	5	9	2	6	%	997	7 =	971	L			
4					5	9	2	6	5	%	997	7 =	442	2		
5						9	2	6	5	3	%	997	7 =	929	9	match ⁄
6 ←	– ret	urn	i =	6			2	6	5	3	5	%	997	7 =	61	3

Modular hash function. Using the notation t_i for txt.charAt(i), we wish to compute

$$x_i = t_i R^{M-1} + t_{i+1} R^{M-2} + \dots + t_{i+M-1} R^0 \pmod{Q}$$

Intuition. *M*-digit, base-*R* integer, modulo *Q*.

Horner's method. Linear-time method to evaluate degree-*M* polynomial.

	р	at	.cha	ırAt	:()	
i	0	1	2	3	4	
	2	6	5	3	5	
0	2	%	997	′ =	2	RQ
1	2	6	%	997	7 =	(2*10 + 6) % 997 = 26
2	2	6	5	%	997	7 = (26*10 + 5) % 997 = 265
3	2	6	5	3	%	997 = (265*10 + 3) % 997 = 659
4	2	6	5	3	5	% 997 = (659*10 + 5) % 997 = <mark>61</mark>

```
// Compute hash for M-digit key
private long hash(String key, int M)
{
    long h = 0;
    for (int j = 0; j < M; j++)
        h = (R * h + key.charAt(j)) % Q;
    return h;
}</pre>
```

Challenge. How to efficiently compute x_{i+1} given that we know x_i .

$$x_i = t_i R^{M-1} + t_{i+1} R^{M-2} + \dots + t_{i+M-1} R^0$$

$$x_{i+1} = t_{i+1} R^{M-1} + t_{i+2} R^{M-2} + \dots + t_{i+M} R^{0}$$

Key property. Can update hash function in constant time!

$$x_{i+1} = (x_i - t_i R^{M-1}) R + t_{i+M}$$

$$\uparrow \qquad \uparrow \qquad \uparrow \qquad \uparrow$$
current subtract multiply add new
value leading digit by radix trailing digit (can precompute R^{M-1})

i	2	3	4	5	6	7
current value 1	4	1	5	9	2	6 5 > text
new value	4	1	5	9	2	
	4	1	5	9	2	current value
-	4	0	0	0	0	
		1	5	9	2	subtract leading digit
			*	1	0	multiply by radix
	1	5	9	2	0	
				+	6	add new trailing digit
	1	5	9	2	6	new value

i 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15
3 1 4 1 5 9 2 6 5 3 5 8 9 7 9 3
0 3 % 997 = 3
1 3 1 % 997 =
$$(3^{\pm}10 + 1)$$
 % 997 = 31
2 3 1 4 % 997 = $(3^{\pm}10 + 1)$ % 997 = 314
3 3 1 4 1 % 997 = $(31^{\pm}10 + 4)$ % 997 = 150
4 3 1 4 1 5 % 997 = $(150^{\pm}10 + 5)$ % 997 = 508 ^{RM} ^R
5 1 4 1 5 9 % 997 = $((508 + 3^{\pm}(997 - 30))^{\pm}10 + 9)$ % 997 = 201
6 4 1 5 9 2 % 997 = $((201 + 1^{\pm}(997 - 30))^{\pm}10 + 2)$ % 997 = 971
8 5 9 2 6 5 % 997 = $((971 + 1^{\pm}(997 - 30))^{\pm}10 + 5)$ % 997 = 442 match
9 9 2 6 5 3 % 997 = $((442 + 5^{\pm}(997 - 30))^{\pm}10 + 3)$ % 997 = 929
10 \leftarrow return i-M+1 = 6 2 6 5 % 997 = $((929 + 9^{\pm}(997 - 30))^{\pm}10 + 5)$ % 997 = 613

Rabin-Karp: Java implementation



Rabin-Karp: Java implementation (continued)

Monte Carlo version. Return match if hash match.

```
public int search(String txt)
                                                 check for hash collision
{
                                               using rolling hash function
    int N = txt.length();
    int txtHash = hash(txt, M);
    if (patHash == txtHash) return 0;
    for (int i = M; i < N; i++)
    {
        txtHash = (txtHash + Q - RM*txt.charAt(i-M) % Q) % Q;
        txtHash = (txtHash*R + txt.charAt(i)) % Q;
        if (patHash == txtHash) return i - M + 1;
    }
    return N;
}
```

Las Vegas version. Check for substring match if hash match; continue search if false collision.

Theory. If *Q* is a sufficiently large random prime (about MN^2), then the probability of a false collision is about 1/N.

Practice. Choose Q to be a large prime (but not so large to cause overflow). Under reasonable assumptions, probability of a collision is about 1/Q.

Monte Carlo version.

- Always runs in linear time.
- Extremely likely to return correct answer (but not always!).

Las Vegas version.

- Always returns correct answer.
- Extremely likely to run in linear time (but worst case is *MN*).



Rabin-Karp fingerprint search

Advantages.

- Extends to 2d patterns.
- Extends to finding multiple patterns.

Disadvantages.

- Arithmetic ops slower than char compares.
- Las Vegas version requires backup.
- Poor worst-case guarantee.

Q. How would you extend Rabin-Karp to efficiently search for any one of *P* possible patterns in a text of length N?



Cost of searching for an *M*-character pattern in an *N*-character text.

algorithm	version	operatio	n count	backup	correct?	extra	
algorithm	version	guarantee	typical	in input?	conect:	space	
brute force	_	MN	1.1 N	yes	yes	1	
Vouth Mourie Ductt	full DFA (Algorithm 5.6)	2 N	1.1 N	по	yes	MR	
Knuth-Morris-Pratt	mismatch transitions only	3 N	1.1 N	no	yes	M	
	full algorithm	3 N	N/M	yes	yes	R	
Boyer-Moore	mismatched char heuristic only (Algorithm 5.7)	MN	N/M	yes	yes	R	
Rabin-Karp [†]	Monte Carlo (Algorithm 5.8)	MN N/M yes 7N 7N no	no	yes †	1		
	Las Vegas	$7N^{\dagger}$	7 N	yes	yes	1	

† probabilisitic guarantee, with uniform hash function

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