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# String Matching What's behind Ctrl+F? 

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## Outline

## 4 String Matching

4.1 Introduction
4.2 Brute Force
4.3 String Matching with Finite Automata
4.4 The Knuth-Morris-Pratt algorithm
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# 4.1 Introduction 

## Ubiquitous strings

string $=$ sequence of characters

- universal data type for ... everything!
- natural language texts
- programs (source code)
- websites
- XML documents
- DNA sequences
- bitstrings
- ... a computer's memory $\rightsquigarrow$ ultimately any data is a string
$\rightsquigarrow$ many different tasks and algorithms
- This unit: finding (exact) occurrences of a pattern text.
- $\mathrm{Ctrl}+\mathrm{F}$
- grep
- computer forensics (e.g. find signature of file on disk)
- virus scanner
- basis for many advanced applications


## Notations

- alphabet $\Sigma$ : finite set of allowed characters; $\sigma=|\Sigma| \quad$ "a string over alphabet $\Sigma$ "
- letters (Latin, Greek, Arabic, Cyrillic, Asian scripts, ...)
- "what you can type on a keyboard", Unicode characters
- $\{0,1\}$; nucleotides $\{A, C, G, T\} ; \ldots$
comprehensive standard character set including emoji and all known symbols
- $\Sigma^{n}=\Sigma \times \cdots \times \Sigma$ : strings of length $n \in \mathbb{N}_{0}$ ( $n$-tuples)
- $\Sigma^{\star}=\bigcup_{n \geq 0} \Sigma^{n}$ : set of all (finite) strings over $\Sigma$
- $\Sigma^{+}=\bigcup_{n \geq 1} \Sigma^{n}$ : set of all (finite) nonempty strings over $\Sigma$
- $\varepsilon \in \Sigma^{0}$ : the empty string (same for all alphabets)
- for $S \in \Sigma^{n}$, write $S[i]$ (other sources: $\left.S_{i}\right)$ for $i$ th character $\quad(0 \leq i<n)$
- for $S, T \in \Sigma^{\star}$, write $S T=S \cdot T$ for concatenation of $S$ and $T$
- for $S \in \Sigma^{n}$, write $S[i . . j]$ or $S_{i, j}$ for the substring $S[i] \cdot S[i+1] \cdots S[j] \quad(0 \leq i \leq j<n)$
- $S[0 . . j]$ is a prefix of $S$; $S[i . . n-1]$ is a suffix of $S$
- $S[i . . j)=S[i . . j-1]$ (endpoint exclusive) $\rightsquigarrow S=S[0 . . n)$


## String matching - Definition

Search for a string (pattern) in a large body of text

- Input:
- $T \in \Sigma^{n}$ : The text (haystack) being searched within
- $P \in \Sigma^{m}$ : The pattern (needle) being searched for; typically $n \gg m$
- Output:
- the first occurrence (match) of $P$ in $T: \min \{i \in[0 . . n-m): T[i . . i+m)=P\}$
- or NO_MATCH if there is no such $i$ (" $P$ does not occur in $T$ ")
- Variant: Find all occurrences of $P$ in $T$.
$\rightsquigarrow$ Can do that iteratively (update $T$ to $T[i+1 . . n$ ) after match at $i$ )
- Example:
- T = "Where is he?"
- $P_{1}=$ "he" $\rightsquigarrow i=1$
- $P_{2}=$ "who" $\leadsto$ NO_MATCH
- string matching is implemented in Java in String.index0f


### 4.2 Brute Force

## Abstract idea of algorithms

Pattern matching algorithms consist of guesses and checks:

- A guess is a position $i$ such that $P$ might start at $T[i]$. Possible guesses (initially) are $0 \leq i \leq n-m$.
- A check of a guess is a pair $(i, j)$ where we compare $T[i+j]$ to $P[j]$.
- Note: need all $m$ checks to verify a single correct guess $i$, but it may take (many) fewer checks to recognize an incorrect guess.
- Cost measure: \#character comparisons = \#checks
$\rightsquigarrow \operatorname{cost} \leq n \cdot m \quad$ (number of possible checks)


## Brute-force method

${ }^{1}$ procedure bruteForceSM(T[0..n), $\left.P[0 . . m)\right)$
for $i:=0, \ldots, n-m-1$ do for $j:=0, \ldots, m-1$ do
if $T[i+j] \neq P[j]$ then break inner loop if $j==m$ then return $i$
return NO_MATCH

- try all guesses $i$
- check each guess (left to right); stop early on mismatch
- essentially the implementation in Java!
- Example:
$T=$ abbbababbab
$P=\mathrm{abba}$
$\rightsquigarrow 15$ char cmps (vs $n \cdot m=44$ ) not too bad!

| a | b | b | b | a | b | a | b | b | a | b |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| a | b | b | a |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | a |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | a |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | a |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | a | b | b |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | a |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | a | b | b | a |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## Brute-force method - Discussion

$\leftrightarrow$
Brute-force method can be good enough

- typically works well for natural language text
- also for random stringsbut: can be as bad as it gets!

|  | $a$ | $a$ | $a$ | $a$ | $a$ | $a$ | $a$ | $a$ | $a$ | $a$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | a | a | b |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | a | a | a | b |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | a | a | a | b |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | a | a | a | b |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | a | a | a | b |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | a | a | a | b |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | a | a | a | b |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | a | a | a | b |

- Worst possible input: $P=a^{m-1} b$, $T=a^{n}$
- Worst-case performance: $(n-m+1) \cdot m$
$\rightsquigarrow$ for $m \leq n / 2$ that is $\Theta(m n)$
- Bad input: lots of self-similarity in $T$ ! $\rightsquigarrow$ can we exploit that?
- brute force does 'obviously' stupid repetitive comparisons $\rightsquigarrow$ can we avoid that?


## Roadmap

- Approach 1 (this week): Use preprocessing on the pattern $P$ to eliminate guesses (avoid 'obvious' redundant work)
- Deterministic finite automata (DFA)
- Knuth-Morris-Pratt algorithm
- Boyer-Moore algorithm
- Rabin-Karp algorithm
- Approach 2 ( $\rightsquigarrow$ Unit 6): Do preprocessing on the text $T$

Can find matches in time independent of text size(!)

- inverted indices
- Suffix trees
- Suffix arrays
4.3 String Matching with Finite Automata


## Theoretical Computer Science to the rescue!

- string matching $=$ deciding whether $T \in \Sigma^{\star} \cdot P \cdot \Sigma^{\star}$
- $\Sigma^{\star} \cdot P \cdot \Sigma^{\star}$ is regular formal language
$\rightsquigarrow \exists$ deterministic finite automaton (DFA) to recognize $\Sigma^{\star} \cdot P \cdot \Sigma^{\star}$
$\rightsquigarrow$ can check for occurrence of $P$ in $|T|=n$ steps!



## Job done!



WTF!?

We are not quite done yet.

- (Problem 0: programmer might not know automata and formal languages ...)
- Problem 1: existence alone does not give an algorithm!
- Problem 2: automaton could be very big!


## String matching with DFA

- Assume first, we already have a deterministic automaton
- How does string matching work?


## Example:

$T=$ aabacaababacaa
$P=$ ababaca


| text: |  | a | a | b | a | c | a | a | b | a | b | a | c | a | a |
| ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| state: | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 7 |

## String matching DFA - Intuition

Why does this work?

- Main insight:

| State $q$ means: |
| :---: |
| "we have seen $P[0 . . q$ ) until here |
| (but not any longer prefix of $P$ )" |



- If the next text character $c$ does not match, we know:
(i) text seen so far ends with $P[0 \ldots q) \cdot c$
(ii) $P[0 \ldots q) \cdot c$ is not a prefix of $P$
(iii) without reading $c, P[0 . . q)$ was the longest prefix of $P$ that ends here.
$\rightsquigarrow$ New longest matched prefix will be (weakly) shorter than $q$
$\rightsquigarrow$ All information about the text needed to determine it is contained in $P[0 \ldots q) \cdot c$ !


## NFA instead of DFA?

It remains to construct the DFA.

- trivial part:

- that actually is a nondeterministic finite automaton (NFA) for $\Sigma^{\star} P \Sigma^{\star}$
$\rightsquigarrow$ We could use the NFA directly for string matching:
- at any point in time, we are in a set of states
- accept when one of them is final state


## Example:

| text: |  | a | a | b | a | c | a | a | b | a | b | a | c | a | a |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| state: | 0 | 0,1 | 0,1 | 0,2 | $0,1,3$ | 0 | 0,1 | 0,1 | 0,2 | $0,1,3$ | $0,2,4$ | $0,1,3,5$ | 0,6 | $0,1,7$ | $0,1,7$ |

But maintaining a whole set makes this slow ...

## Computing DFA directly

## You have an NFA and want a DFA?

Simply apply the power-set construction (and maybe DFA minimization)!

The powerset method has exponential state blow up!
I guess I might as well use brute force ...


这:
Ingenious algorithm by Knuth, Morris, and Pratt:
construct DFA inductively:
Suppose we add character $P[j]$ to automaton $A_{j-1}$ for $P[0 . . j-1]$

- add new state and matching transition $\rightsquigarrow$ easy
- for each $c \neq P[j]$, we need $\delta(j, c)$ (transition from ( () when reading $c$ )
- $\delta(j, c)=$ length of the longest prefix of $P[0 . . j) c$ that is a suffix of $P[1 . . j) c$
$=$ state of automaton after reading $P[1 . . j) c$
$\leq j \rightsquigarrow$ can use known automaton $A_{j-1}$ for that!
$\rightsquigarrow$ can directly compute $A_{j}$ from $A_{j-1}$ !
seems to require simulating automata $m \cdot \sigma$ times


## Computing DFA efficiently

- KMP's second insight: simulations in one step differ only in last symbol
$\rightsquigarrow$ simply maintain state $x$, the state after reading $P[1 . . j-1]$.
- copy its transitions
- update $x$ by following transitions for $P[j]$

Demo: Algorithms videos of Sedgewick and Wayne

https://cuvids.io/app/video/194/watch

## String matching with DFA - Discussion

- Time:
- Matching: $n$ table lookups for DFA transitions
- building DFA: $\Theta(m \sigma)$ time (constant time per transition edge).
$\rightsquigarrow \Theta(m \sigma+n)$ time for string matching.
- Space:
- $\Theta(m \sigma)$ space for transition matrix.

0
fast matching time actually: hard to beat!
total time asymptotically optimal for small alphabet (for $\sigma=O(n / m)$ )
substantial space overhead, in particular for large alphabets

### 4.4 The Knuth-Morris-Pratt algorithm

## Failure Links

- Recall: String matching with is DFA fast, but needs table of $m \times \sigma$ transitions.
- in fast DFA construction, we used that all simulations differ only by last symbol
$\rightsquigarrow$ KMP's third insight: do this last step of simulation from state $x$ during matching! ... but how?
- Answer: Use a new type of transition, the failure links
- Use this transition (only) if no other one fits.
- $\times$ does not consume a character. $\rightsquigarrow$ might follow several failure links

$\rightsquigarrow$ Computations are deterministic (but automaton is not a real DFA.)


## Failure link automaton - Example

Example: $T=$ abababaaaca, $P=$ ababaca



$q:$| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 3,4 | 5 | $3,1,0,1$ | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

(after reading this character)

## The Knuth-Morris-Pratt Algorithm

```
procedure \(\operatorname{KMP}(T[0 . . n-1], P[0 . . m-1])\)
    fail \([0 . . m]:=\) failureLinks \((P)\)
    \(i:=0 / /\) current position in \(T\)
    \(q:=0 / /\) current state of KMP automaton
    while \(i<n\) do
        if \(T[i]==P[q]\) then
        if \(q==m-1\) then
            return \(i-q / /\) occurrence found
        else
            \(i:=i+1 ; q:=q+1\)
        else // i.e. \(T[i] \neq P[q]\)
        if \(q \geq 1\) then
            \(q:=\) fail \([q] / /\) follow one \(\times\)
            else
            \(i:=i+1\)
    end while
    return NO_MATCH
```

- only need single array fail for failure links
- (procedure failureLinks later)

Analysis: (matching part)

- always have fail $[j]<j$ for $j \geq 1$
$\rightsquigarrow$ in each iteration
- either advance position in text ( $i:=i+1$ )
- or shift pattern forward (guess $i-j$ )
- each can happen at most $n$ times
$\rightsquigarrow \leq 2 n$ symbol comparisons!


## Computing failure links

- failure links point to error state $x$ (from DFA construction)
$\rightsquigarrow$ run same algorithm, but store $\operatorname{fail}[j]:=x$ instead of copying all transitions

```
\({ }^{1}\) procedure failureLinks( \(\left.P[0 . . m-1]\right)\)
```

```
fail[0] := 0
```

fail[0] := 0
$x:=0$
$x:=0$
for $j:=1, \ldots, m-1$ do
for $j:=1, \ldots, m-1$ do
fail[ $j]:=x$
fail[ $j]:=x$
// update failure state using failure links
// update failure state using failure links
while $P[x] \neq P[j]$
while $P[x] \neq P[j]$
if $x==0$ then
if $x==0$ then
$x:=-1$; break
$x:=-1$; break
$x:=$ fail $[x]$
$x:=$ fail $[x]$
$x:=x+1$

```
        \(x:=x+1\)
```


## Analysis:

- $m$ iterations of for loop
- while loop always decrements $x$
- $x$ is incremented only once per iteration of for loop
$\rightsquigarrow \leq m$ iterations of while loop in total
$\rightsquigarrow \leq 2 m$ symbol comparisons


## Knuth-Morris-Pratt - Discussion

- Time:
- $\leq 2 n+2 m=O(n+m)$ character comparisons
- clearly must at least read both $T$ and $P$
$\rightsquigarrow$ KMP has optimal worst-case complexity!
- Space:
- $\Theta(m)$ space for failure links
$\Omega$
total time asymptotically optimal (for any alphabet size)
reasonable extra space


## The KMP prefix function

- It turns out that the failure links are useful beyond KMP
- a slight variation is more widely used: (for historic reasons) the (KMP) prefix function $F:[1 . . m-1] \rightarrow[0 . . m-1]$ :
$F[j]$ is the length of the longest prefix of $P[0 . . j]$ that is a suffix of $P[1 . . j]$.
- Can show: fail $[j]=F[j-1]$ for $j \geq 1$, and hence

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { fail }[j]=\text { length of the } \\
& \text { longest prefix of } P[0 . . j) \\
& \text { that is a suffix of } P[1 . . j) \text {. }
\end{aligned}
$$

### 4.5 Beyond Optimal? The Boyer-Moore Algorithm

## Motivation

- KMP is an optimal algorithm, isn't it? What else could we hope for?
- KMP is "only" optimal in the worst-case (and up to constant factors)
- how many comparisons do we need for the following instance?
$T$ = aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa, $P=$ xxxxx
- there are no matches
- we can certify the correctness of that output with only 4 comparisons:

| a | a | a | a | a | a | a | a | a | a | a | a | a | a | a | a |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | x |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | x |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | x |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | x |

$\rightsquigarrow$ We did not even read most text characters!

## Boyer-Moore Algorithm

- Let's check guesses from right to left!
- If we are lucky, we can eliminate several shifts in one shot!
must avoid (excessive) redundant checks, e.g., for $T=a^{n}, P=b a^{m-1}$
$\rightsquigarrow$ New rules:
- Bad character jumps: Upon mismatch at $T[i]=c$ :
- If $P$ does not contain $c$, shift $P$ entirely past $i$ !
- Otherwise, shift $P$ to align the last occurrence of $c$ in $P$ with $T[i]$.
- Good suffix jumps:

Upon a mismatch, shift so that the already matched suffix of $P$ aligns with a previous occurrence of that suffix (or part of it) in $P$.
(Details follow; ideas similar to KMP failure links)
$\rightsquigarrow$ two possible shifts (next guesses); use larger jump.

## Boyer-Moore Algorithm - Code

```
procedure boyerMoore (T[0..n - 1], \(P[0 . . m-1])\)
    \(\lambda:=\) computeLastOccurrences \((P)\)
    \(\gamma:=\) computeGoodSuffixes \((P)\)
    \(i:=0\) // current guess
    while \(i \leq n-m\)
    \(j:=m-1 / /\) next position in \(P\) to check
    while \(j \geq 0 \wedge P[j]==T[i+j]\) do
        \(j:=j-1\)
    if \(j==-1\) then
        return \(i\)
        else
        \(i:=i+\max \{j-\lambda[T[i+j]], \gamma[j]\}\)
    return NO MATCH
```

- $\lambda$ and $\gamma$ explained below
- shift forward is larger of two heuristics
- shift is always positive (see below)


## Bad character examples


$\rightsquigarrow 6$ characters not looked at

$\rightsquigarrow 4$ characters not looked at

## Last-Occurrence Function

- Preprocess pattern $P$ and alphabet $\Sigma$
- last-occurrence function $\lambda[c]$ defined as
- the largest index $i$ such that $P[i]=c$ or
- -1 if no such index exists
- Example: $P=$ moore

| $c$ | m | o | r | e | all others |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\lambda[c]$ | 0 | 2 | 3 | 4 | -1 |



$$
\begin{aligned}
i & =0, j=4, T[i+j]=r, \lambda[r]=3 \\
& \rightsquigarrow \operatorname{shift} \text { by } j-\lambda[T[i+j]]=1
\end{aligned}
$$

- $\lambda$ easily computed in $O(m+|\Sigma|)$ time.
- store as array $\lambda[0 . . \sigma-1]$.


## Good suffix examples

1. $P=\operatorname{sells}_{\mathrm{H}}$ shells

| S | h | e | i | $l$ | a | u | S | e | $l$ | $l$ | S | - | S | h | e | $l$ | $l$ | S |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | h | e | 1 | 1 | S |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | (e) | ( 1 ) | ( 1 ) | (s) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

2. $P=$ odetofood

| i | $l$ | i | k | e | f | 0 | 0 | d | f | r | 0 | m | m | e | X | i | C | 0 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | 0 | f | 0 | 0 | d |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | (0) | (d) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

- Crucial ingredient: longest suffix of $P[j+1 . . m-1]$ that occurs earlier in $P$.
- 2 cases (as illustrated above)

1. complete suffix occurs in $P \rightsquigarrow$ characters left of suffix are not known to match
2. part of suffix occurs at beginning of $P$

## Good suffix jumps

- Precompute good suffix jumps $\gamma[0 . . m-1]$ :
- For $0 \leq j<m, \gamma[j]$ stores shift if search failed at $P[j]$
- At this point, had $T[i+j+1 . . i+m-1]=P[j+1 . . m-1]$, but $T[i] \neq P[j]$
$\rightsquigarrow \gamma[j]$ is the shift $m-1-\ell$ for the largest $\ell$ such that
- $P[j+1 \ldots m-1]$ is a suffix of $P[0 \ldots \ell]$ and $P[j] \neq P[\ell-m+j+1]$

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $h$ | $e$ | $l$ | $l$ | $s$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\times$ | $(e)$ | $(l)$ | $(l)$ | $(s)$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

-OR-

- $P[0 \ldots \ell]$ is a suffix of $P[j+1, \ldots, m-1]$

|  |  |  |  | 0 | $f$ | 0 | 0 | $d$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $(0)$ | $(d)$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

- Computable (similar to KMP failure function) in $\Theta(m)$ time.
- Note: You do not need to know how to find the values $\gamma[j]$ for the exam, but you should be able to find the next guess on examples.


## Boyer-Moore algorithm - Discussion

Worst-case running time $\in O(n+m+|\Sigma|)$ if $P$ does not occur in $T$.
(follows from not at all obvious analysis!)
q
As given, worst-case running time $\Theta(n m)$ if we want to report all occurrences

- To avoid that, have to keep track of implied matches. (tricky because they can be in the "middle" of $P$ )
- Note: KMP reports all matches in $O(n+m)$ without modifications!

3
On typical English text, Boyer Moore probes only approx. $25 \%$ of the characters in $T$ !
$\rightsquigarrow$ Faster than KMP on English text.
3
requires moderate extra space $\Theta(m+\sigma)$

### 4.6 The Rabin-Karp Algorithm

## Space - The final frontier

- Knuth-Morris-Pratt has great worst case and real-time guarantees
- Boyer-Moore has great typical behavior
- What else to hope for?
- All require $\Omega(m)$ extra space; can be substantial for large patterns!
- Can we avoid that?


## Rabin-Karp Fingerprint Algorithm - Idea

Idea: use hashing (but without explicit hash tables)

- Precompute \& store only hash of pattern
- Compute hash for each guess
- If hashes agree, check characterwise

Example: (treat (sub)strings as decimal numbers)

$$
\begin{aligned}
& P=59265 \\
& T=3141592653589793238
\end{aligned}
$$

Hash function: $h(x)=x \bmod 97$
$\rightsquigarrow h(P)=95$.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& h(14159)=94 \\
& h(41592)=76 \\
& h(15926)=18 \\
& h(59262)=95
\end{aligned}
$$

## Rabin-Karp Fingerprint Algorithm - First Attempt

${ }_{1}$ procedure rabinKarpSimplistic( $\left.T[0 . . n-1], P[0 . . m-1]\right)$
$M$ := suitable prime number
$h_{P}:=$ computeHash $\left.(P[0 . . m-1)], M\right)$
for $i:=0, \ldots, n-m$ do
$h_{T}:=\operatorname{computeHash}(T[i . . i+m-1], M)$
if $h_{T}==h_{P}$ then
if $T[i . . i+m-1]==P / / m$ comparisons
then return $i$
return NO_MATCH

- never misses a match since $h\left(S_{1}\right) \neq h\left(S_{2}\right)$ implies $S_{1} \neq S_{2} \sqrt{ }$
- $h(T[k . . k+m-1])$ depends on $m$ characters $\rightsquigarrow$ naive computation takes $\Theta(m)$ time
$\rightsquigarrow$ Running time is $\Theta(m n)$ for search miss $\ldots$ can we improve this?


## Rabin-Karp Fingerprint Algorithm - Fast Rehash

- Crucial insight: We can update hashes in constant time.
- Use previous hash to compute next hash
- O(1) time per hash, except first one


## Example:

- Pre-compute: $10000 \bmod 97=9$
- Previous hash: $41592 \bmod 97=76$
- Next hash: $15926 \bmod 97=? ?$


## Observation:

$$
\begin{aligned}
15926 \bmod 97 & =(41592-(4 \cdot 10000)) \cdot 10+6 \\
& =(76-(4 \cdot 9)) \cdot 10+6 \\
& =406 \bmod 97 \\
& \bmod 97 \\
& =18
\end{aligned}
$$

## Rabin-Karp Fingerprint Algorithm - Code

- use a convenient radix $R \geq \sigma \quad\left(R=10\right.$ in our examples; $R=2^{k}$ is faster $)$
- Choose modulus $M$ at random to be huge prime (randomization against worst-case inputs)
- all numbers remain $\leq 2 R^{2} \rightsquigarrow O(1)$ time arithmetic on word-RAM

```
procedure rabinKarp(T[0..n - 1], P[0..m - 1],R)
    M := suitable prime number
    hP}:= computeHash(P[0..m-1)],M
    h}\mp@subsup{h}{T}{}:= computeHash(T[0..m - 1],M
    s:= R R 
    for }i:=0,\ldots,n-m\mathrm{ do
        if }\mp@subsup{h}{T}{}==\mp@subsup{h}{P}{}\mathrm{ then
            if T[i..i+m-1]=P
                    return }
        if }i<n-m\mathrm{ then
            h}\mp@subsup{h}{T}{}:=((\mp@subsup{h}{T}{}-T[i]\cdots)\cdotR+T[i+m])\operatorname{mod}
    return NO_MATCH
```


## Rabin-Karp - Discussion

0 Expected running time is $O(m+n)$
中
$\Theta(m n)$ worst-case;
but this is very unlikely
$\leftrightarrow$
Extends to 2D patterns and other generalizations
1 Only constant extra space!

## String Matching Conclusion

|  | Brute- <br> Force | DFA | KMP | BM | RK | Suffix <br> trees* |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Preproc. <br> time | - | $O(m\|\Sigma\|)$ | $O(m)$ | $O(m+\sigma)$ | $O(m)$ | $O(n)$ |
| Search <br> time | $O(n m)$ | $O(n)$ | $O(n)$ | $O(n)$ <br> (often better) | $O(n+m)$ <br> (expected) | $O(m)$ |
| Extra <br> space | - | $O(m\|\Sigma\|)$ | $O(m)$ | $O(m+\sigma)$ | $O(1)$ | $O(n)$ |

* (see Unit 6)

