

String Algorithms

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1 Notation

If S is the string ‘abcdefghijkl’ then,

- $S[0]$ is ‘a’ and $S[5]$ is ‘f’.
- $S[0 : 5]$ is ‘abcdef’.
- $S[0 : 5)$ is ‘abcde’.
- $S(0 : 5]$ is ‘bcdef’.
- $S(0 : 5)$ is ‘bcde’.
- $S[5 : 0]$ is “.
- $S(0 : 0)$ is “.
- $S[:]$ is ‘abcdefghijkl’.
- $S(:)$ is ‘bcdefghijk’.
- $S[1 :]$ is ‘bcdefghijkl’.
- $S[: 5]$ is ‘abcdef’.
- $S(0 :]$ is ‘bcdefghijkl’.
- $S[: 5)$ is ‘abcde’.

2 Matching

Given $S[0 : n)$ find the minimum i for which $S[i : i + m) = P[0 : m)$.

2.1 Brute Force

```
for i = 0, 1, ..., n - m + 1:  
    found ← true  
    for j = 0, 1, ..., m - 1:  
        if P[j] ≠ S[i + j]:  
            found ← false  
            break  
    if found = true, terminate; P was found at position i.  
Terminate; P was not found in S.
```

2.2 Finite State Machine

Constructing the failure function:

```
f(0) ← 0  
f(1) ← 0  
for i = 2, 3, ..., m:  
    j ← f(i - 1)  
    while j > 0 and P[j] ≠ P[i - 1]:
```

```

 $j \leftarrow f(j)$ 
if  $j = 0$  and  $P[0] \neq P[i - 1]$ :
     $f(i) \leftarrow 0$ 
else:
     $f(i) \leftarrow j + 1$ 

```

Simulating the machine:

```

if  $m = 0$ , terminate;  $P$  occurs at position 0 in  $S$ .
if  $n = 0$ , terminate;  $P$  does not occur in  $S$ .
 $i \leftarrow 0$ 
 $s \leftarrow 0$ 
do:
    if  $S[i] = P[s]$ :
         $s \leftarrow s + 1$ 
        if  $s = m$ , terminate;  $P$  occurs at position  $i - m + 1$  in  $S$ .
         $i \leftarrow i + 1$ 
    else if  $s = 0$ :
         $i \leftarrow i + 1$ 
    else:
         $s = f(s)$ 
while  $i < n$ 
Terminate;  $P$  does not occur in  $S$ .

```

3 Longest Common Subsequence

4 Recursive

```

function lcs( $A, B$ ):
    if  $A = ''$  or  $B = ''$ :
        return 0
    else if  $A[0] = B[0]$ :
        return  $1 + \text{lcs}(A[1:], B[1:])$ 
    else:
        return  $\max(\text{lcs}(A[1:], B), \text{lcs}(A, B[1:]))$ 

```

5 Dynamic Programming

```

function lcs( $A, B$ ):
    if  $\text{length}(B) < \text{length}(A)$ :
         $A \leftrightarrow B$ 
     $m \leftarrow \text{length}(A)$ 
     $n \leftarrow \text{length}(B)$ 
     $r_1, r_2$  are arrays of size  $m + 1$ 
    for  $i = n, n - 1, \dots, 0$ :
        for  $j = m, m - 1, \dots, 0$ :
            if  $j = m$  or  $i = n$ :
                 $r_1[j] \leftarrow 0$ 
            else if  $A[j] = B[i]$ :
                 $r_1[j] = 1 + r_2[j + 1]$ 
            else:
                 $r_1[j] = \max(r_1[j + 1], r_2[j])$ 
     $r_1 \leftrightarrow r_2$ 
    return  $r_1[0]$ 

```