

Topic 9: KMP,  
AC Automata

# Strings

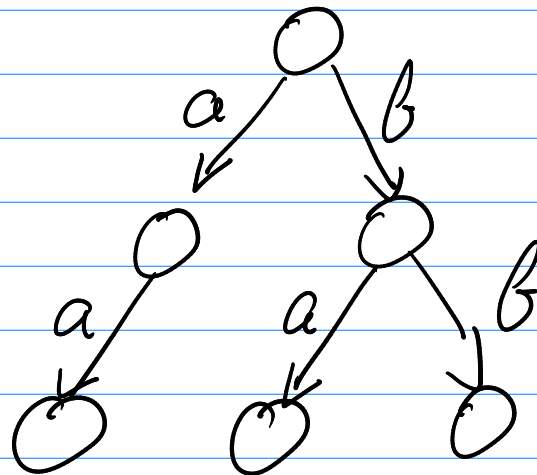
(See CS585 for theory)

- Rolling Hash (80% of the times)
- Automata (Trie, KMP, AC)

10% of the time

Automata

Tree is an automata

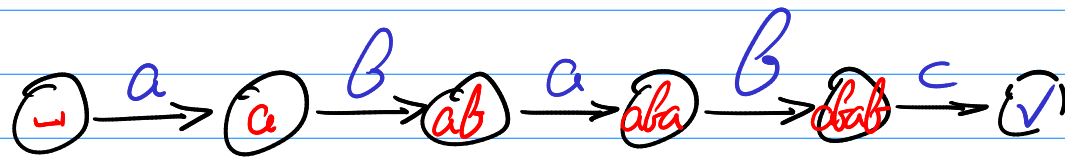


Tip of Your Tongue

# KMP (String Matching)

$S = ababc$        $T = ab(ababc)$

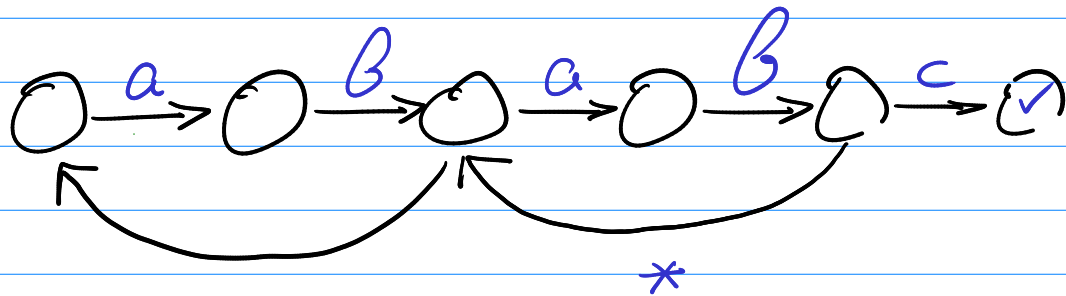
Automata-based approach



Question: What do we do if  $S$  does not match?

# KMP (String Matching)

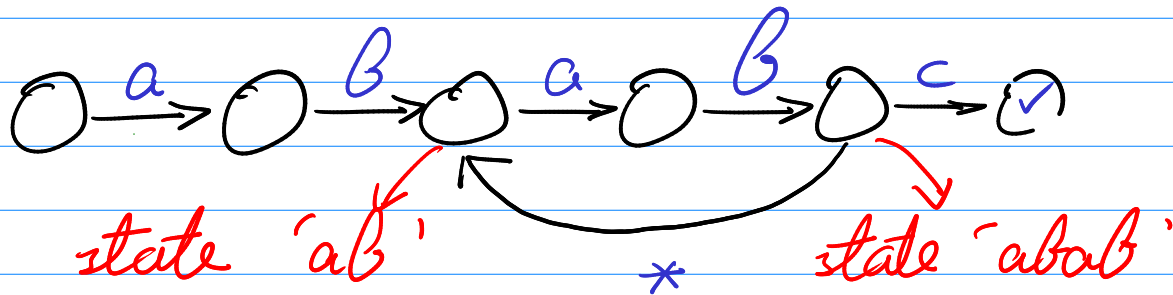
$S = ababc$        $T = abababc$



Fail link: fall back to a previous state without consuming the character.

# KMP (String Matching)

$S = ababc$        $T = abababc$



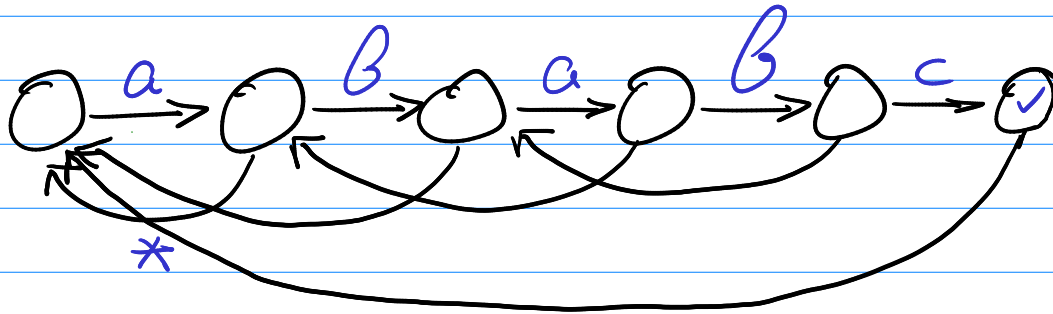
Fail Link: fall back to a previous state without consuming the character.

(Any string with suffix abab also has suffix ab.)

(state abab contains state ab as a suffix)

# KMP (String Matching)

$S = ababc$        $T = abababc$



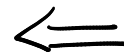
Fail link: fall back to a previous state without consuming the character.

Compute  $\text{fail}['abab']$  from  $\text{fail}['aba'] = 'a'$

state  $abab$

state  $aba$

contains  $ab$



contains  $a$

(as a suffix)



# KMP (String Matching)

Compute  $\text{fail}[\text{abab}]$  from  $\text{fail}[\text{aba}] = \text{a}$

state  $i$  state  $\text{aba} \text{b} \leftarrow s[i]$  state  $\text{aba}$  state  $(i-1)$   
contains  $\text{ab} \leftarrow s[j+1]$  contains  $\text{a} \rightarrow \text{state } j$

iff state  $(i-1)$  contains state  $j$  as a suffix,  
and  $s[i] = s[j+1]$ , then state  $i$  contains  
state  $(j+1)$  as a suffix.

State  $i$  contains  $\text{fail}[i]$ ,  $\text{fail}[\text{fail}[i]]$ , ... as a suffix.

$k \leftarrow \text{fail}[i-1]$

while  $k$  is not head

if  $(s[k+1] = s[i])$  break else  $k = \text{fail}[k]$

if  $(s[k+1] = s[i])$   $\text{fail}[i] = k+1$

else  $\text{fail}[i] = \text{head}$ .

# KMP (String Matching)

$k \leftarrow \text{fail}[i-1]$

while  $k$  is not head

if ( $s[k+1] = s[i]$ ) break else  $k = \text{fail}[k]$

if ( $s[k+1] = s[i]$ )  $\text{fail}[i] = k+1$

else  $\text{fail}[i] = \text{head}$ .

## Complexity?

Observe that whenever the while loop runs,  $\text{fail}$  must decrease.

$\text{fail}$  only increase  $n$  times  $\Rightarrow O(n)$

Constant Optimization: Compute all edges explicitly

$go[i][c] \leftarrow go[\text{fail}[i]][c]$  (slightly faster than falling back every time)

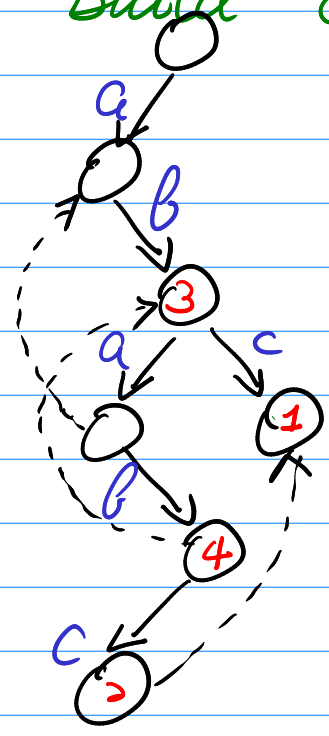
Compress Words

AC Automata (Multi String Matching)

$S_1 = abc$     $S_2 = abalc$     $T = abababc$

$S_3 = ab$     $S_4 = abab$

Very Easy: Build KMP on a trie!



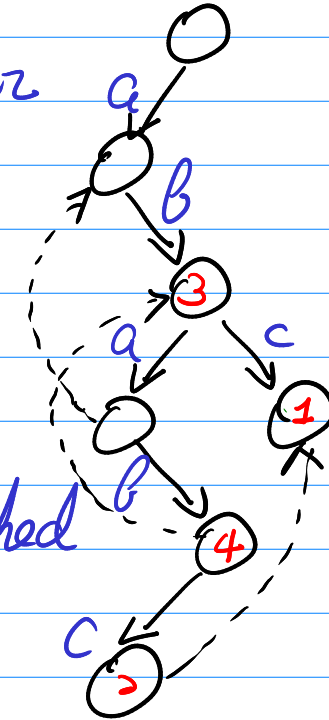
Intuitively every fail reduces height of the position so complexity stays the same.

# AC Automata (Multi String Matching)

**Caveat 1:** One string may appear multiple times in the node.

e.g. 'ab' matches both on 3 and on 4.

In general, fail[i] is also matched in position i.  
(etc.)



**Caveat 2:** Large constant & TLE.

(Precompute go[i][char] if necessary)

Indie Album.