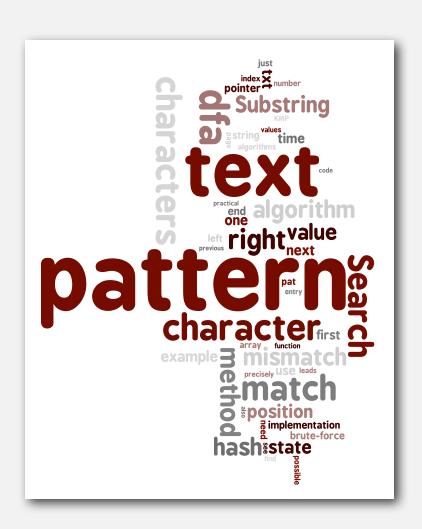
5.3 Substring Search



- brute force
- **▶ Knuth-Morris-Pratt**
- Boyer-Moore
- **▶** Rabin-Karp

Substring search

Goal. Find pattern of length M in a text of length N.





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

Applications

- Parsers.
- Spam filters.
- Digital libraries.
- Screen scrapers.
- Word processors.
- · Web search engines.
- Electronic surveillance.
- Natural language processing.
- Computational molecular biology.
- FBIs Digital Collection System 3000.
- Feature detection in digitized images.
- ..









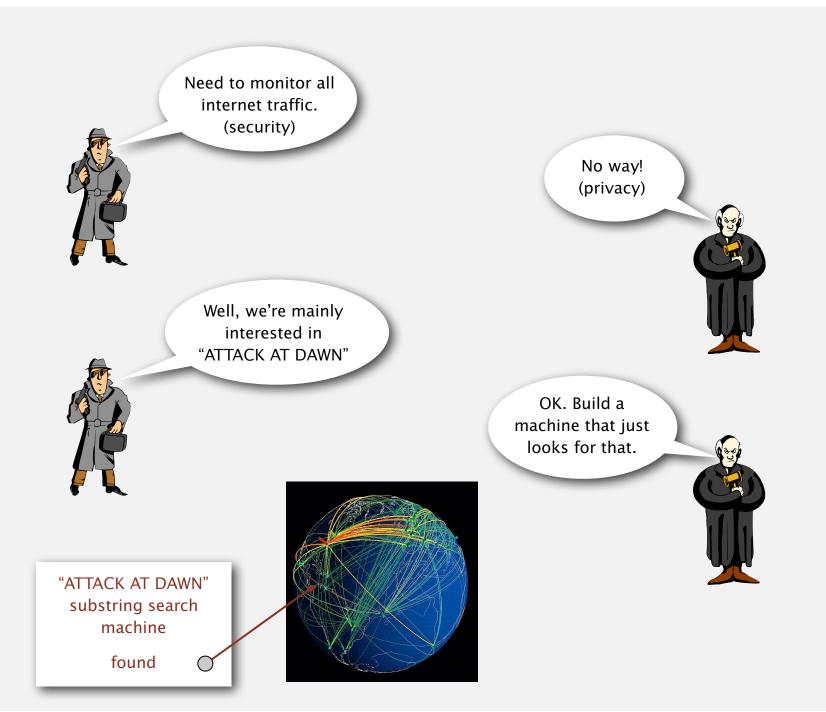
Application: spam filtering

Identify patterns indicative of spam.

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



Application: electronic surveillance



Application: screen scraping

Goal. 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:
```

Screen scraping: Java implementation

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.

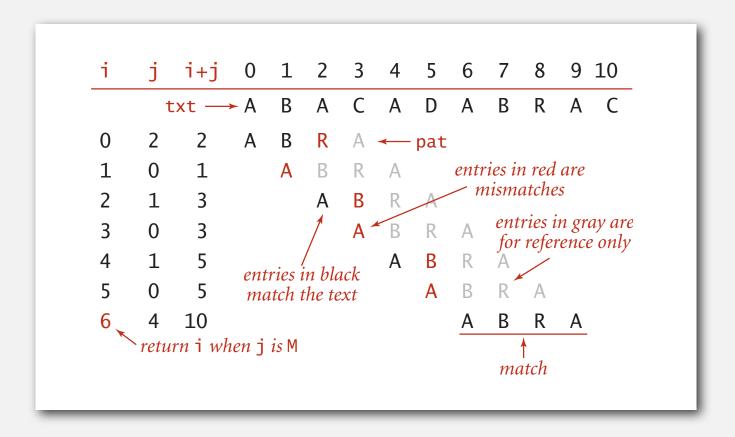
```
public class StockQuote
   public static void main(String[] args)
      String name = "http://finance.yahoo.com/q?s=";
      In in = new In(name + args[0]);
      String text = in.readAll();
      int start = text.indexOf("Last Trade:", 0);
      int from = text.indexOf("<b>", start);
      int to = text.indexOf("</b>", from);
      String price = text.substring(from + 3, to);
      StdOut.println(price);
               % java StockQuote goog
                564.35
               % java StockQuote msft
               26.04
```

brute force

- Knuth-Morris-Pratt
- ▶ Boyer-Moore
- ▶ Rabin-Karp

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 = 4, j = 3

O 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

A B A C A D A B R A C

A D A C R
```

```
public static int search(String pat, String txt)
  int M = pat.length();
  int N = txt.length();
  for (int i = 0; i \le N - M; i++)
     int j;
     for (j = 0; j < M; j++)
       if (txt.charAt(i+j) != pat.charAt(j))
         break;
     return N; — not found
```

Brute-force substring search: worst case

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

Worst case. $\sim MN$ char compares.

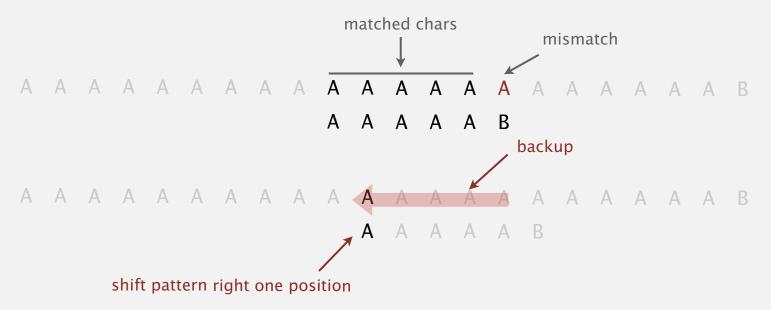
Backup

In typical 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 size M (build backup into standard input). 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 number of already-matched chars (end of sequence in pattern).

Algorithmic challenges in substring search

Brute-force is often not good enough.

Theoretical challenge. Linear-time guarantee. — fundamental algorithmic problem

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.

brute force

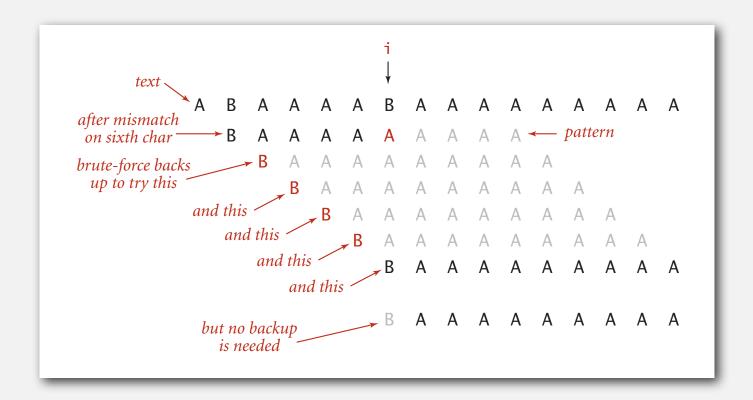
- **▶** Knuth-Morris-Pratt
- Boyer-Moore
- ▶ Rabin-Karp

Knuth-Morris-Pratt substring search

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

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

assuming { A, B } alphabet



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

Deterministic finite state automaton (DFA)

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.

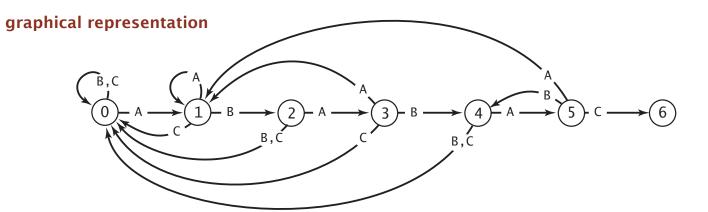


	j	0	1	2	3	4	5
<pre>pat.charAt(</pre>							С
	Α	1	1	3	1	5	1
dfa[][j]	В	0	2	0	4	0	4
dfa[][j]	C	0	0	0	0	0	6

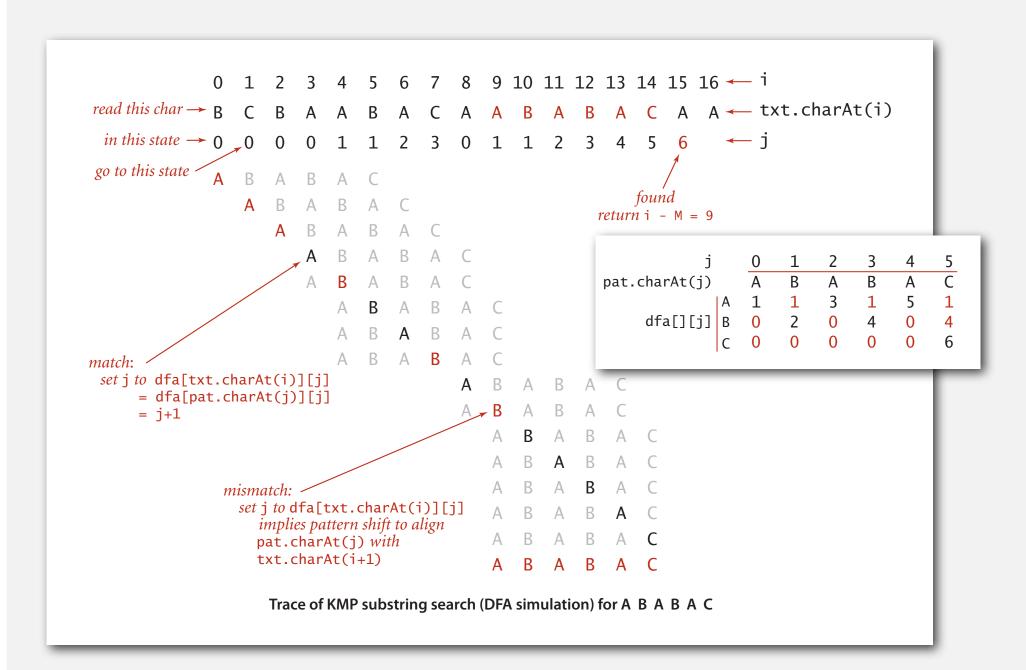
If in state j reading char c:

if j is 6 halt and accept

else move to state dfa[c][j]



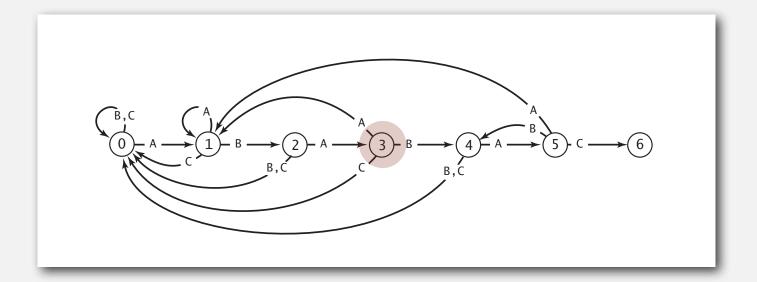
KMP substring search: trace



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])

Ex. DFA is in state 3 after reading in character txt[6].



KMP search: Java implementation

Key differences from brute-force implementation.

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

Running time.

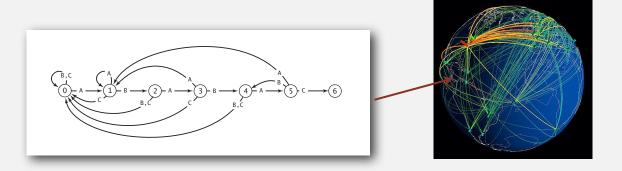
- Simulate DFA on text: at most N character accesses.
- Build DFA: how to do efficiently? [warning: tricky algorithm ahead]

KMP search: Java implementation

Key differences from brute-force implementation.

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

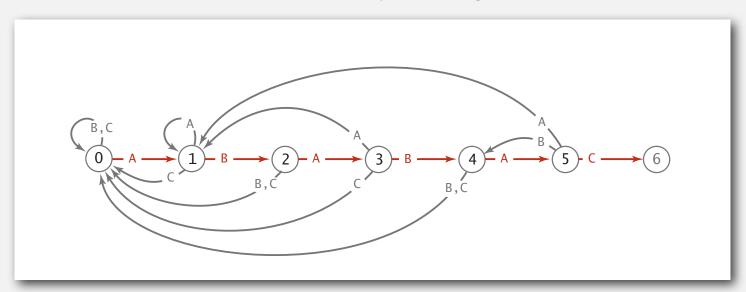
```
public int search(In in)
{
   int i, j;
   for (i = 0, j = 0; !in.isEmpty() && j < M; i++)
        j = dfa[in.readChar()][j];
   if (j == M) return i - M;
   else       return NOT_FOUND;
}</pre>
```



How to build DFA from pattern?

Match transition. If in state j and next char c == pat.charAt(j),
then go to state j+1.

first j characters of pattern
now first j+1 characters of
pattern have been matched
next char matches



How to build DFA from pattern?

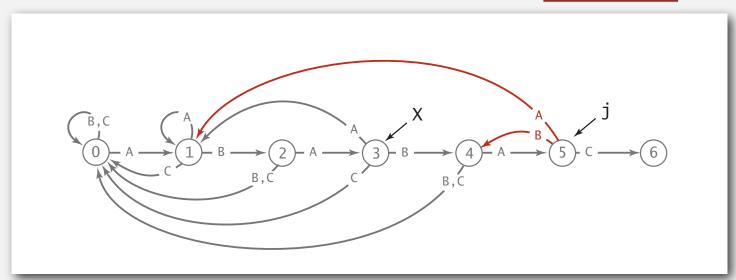
Mismatch transition. If in state j and next char c != pat.charAt(j), then the last j characters of input are pat[1..j-1], followed by c.

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 (!)

 E_X . dfa['A'][5] = 1; dfa['B'][5] = 4

simulate BABA (state X); simulate BABA (state X); take transition 'A' take transition 'B'

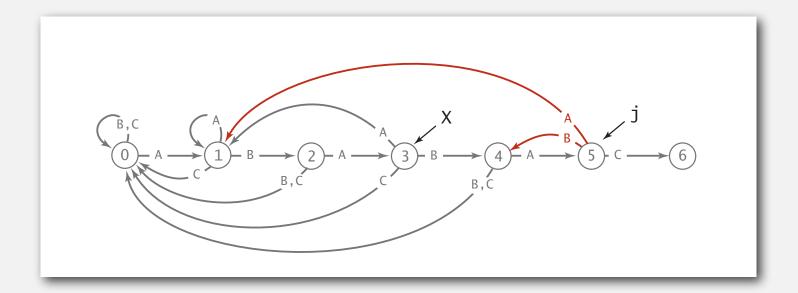


How to build DFA from pattern?

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

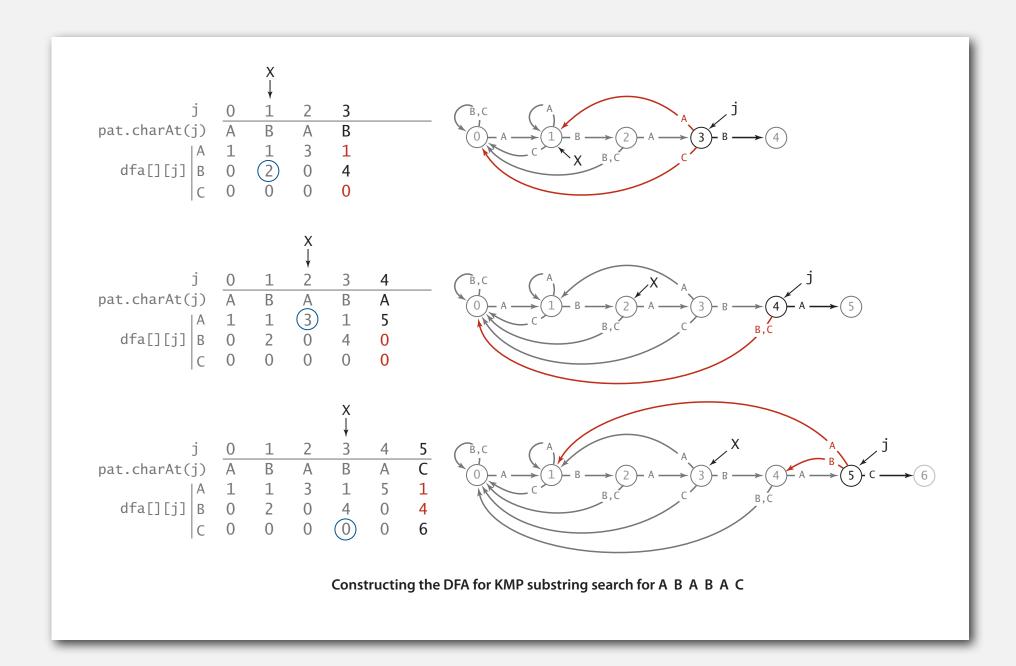
To compute dfa[c][j]: Simulate pat[1..j-1] on DFA and take transition c. Running time. Takes only constant time if we know state X. (!)

EX.
$$dfa['A'][5] = 1$$
; $dfa['B'][5] = 4$; $X' = 0$
from state X, from state X, from state X, take transition 'A' take transition 'B' take transition 'C' $= dfa['A'][X]$ $= dfa['B'][X]$ $= dfa['C'][X]$



Constructing the DFA for KMP substring search: example

Constructing the DFA for KMP substring search: example



Constructing the DFA for KMP substring search: Java implementation

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 proportional to RM).

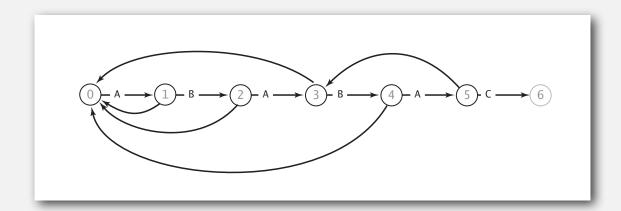
KMP substring search analysis

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 afa[][] in time and space proportional to RM.

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-time 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



lim Morris



Vaughan Pratt

- brute force
- Knuth-Morris-Pratt
- ▶ Boyer-Moore
- Rabin-Karp





Robert Boyer J. Strother Moore

Intuition.

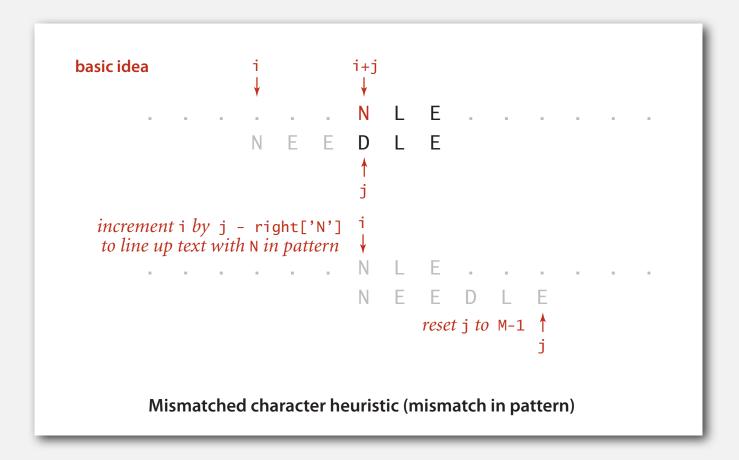
- Scan characters in pattern from right to left.
- Can skip M text chars when finding one not in the pattern.

- Q. How much to skip?
- A. Compute right[c] = rightmost occurrence of character c in pat.

```
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;</pre>
```

```
0 1 2 3 4 5 right[c]
B -1 -1 -1 -1 -1 -1 -1
 -1 -1 -1 -1 -1 -1
E -1 -1 1 2 2 2 5
                       -1
   -1 -1 -1 -1 4 4
 -1 -1 -1 -1 -1 -1
 -1 0 0 0 0 0
     Boyer-Moore skip table computation
```

- Q. How much to skip?
- A. Compute right[c] = rightmost occurrence of character c in pat.



- Q. How much to skip?
- A. Compute right[c] = rightmost occurrence of character c in pat.

```
i i+j

V

N E E D L E

increment i by j+1

increment i by j+1

N E E D L E

reset j to M-1

j

Mismatched character heuristic (mismatch not in pattern)
```

Character not in pattern? Set right[c] to -1.

- Q. How much to skip?
- A. Compute right[c] = rightmost occurrence of character c in pat.

```
lining up text with rightmost E
   would shift pattern left
  so increment i by 1
                               reset j to M-1
```

Heuristic no help? Increment i and reset j to M-1

Boyer-Moore: Java implementation

```
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 >= 0; j--)
                                                                    compute skip value
         if (pat.charAt(j) != txt.charAt(i+j))
            skip = Math.max(1, j - right[txt.charAt(i+j)]);
            break;
      if (skip == 0) return i;
                                                                    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 $\sim MN$.

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

- brute force
- Knuth-Morris-Pratt
- Boyer-Moore
- **▶** Rabin-Karp



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

Rabin-Karp fingerprint search

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.

```
pat.charAt(i)
    0 1 2 3 4
    2 6 5 3 5 % 997 = 613
                   txt.charAt(i)
    0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15
    3 1 4 1 5 % 997 = 508
       1 4 1 5 9 % 997 = 201
          4 1 5 9 2 % 997 = 715
             1 \quad 5 \quad 9 \quad 2 \quad 6 \quad \% \quad 997 = 971
                5 9 2 6 5 % 997 = 442
                                             match
                  9 2 6 5 3 % 997 = 929
6 ← return i = 6
                     2 6 5 3 5 % 997 = 613
```

Efficiently computing the hash function

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.

Computing the hash value for the pattern with Horner's method

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

Efficiently computing the hash function

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!

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

shift subtract add new left leftmost digit rightmost digit

Rabin-Karp substring search example

```
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
    3 % 997 = 3
    3 \quad 1 \quad \% \quad 997 = (3*10 + 1) \ \% \quad 997 = 31
    3 \quad 1 \quad 4 \quad \% \quad 997 = (31*10 + 4) \ \% \quad 997 = 314
    3 \quad 1 \quad 4 \quad 1 \quad \% \quad 997 = (314*10 + 1) \ \% \quad 997 = 150
    3 1 4 1 5 % 997 = (150*10 + 5) % 997 = 508/RM/R
       1 4 1 5 9 % 997 = ((508 + 3*(997 - 30))*10 + 9) % 997 = 201
          4 1 5 9 2 % 997 = ((201 + 1*(997 - 30))*10 + 2) % 997 = 715
 6
             1 5 9 2 6 \% 997 = ((715 + 4*(997 - 30))*10 + 6) \% 997 = 971
                5 \ 9 \ 2 \ 6 \ 5 \ \% \ 997 = ((971 + 1*(997 - 30))*10 + 5) \% \ 997 = 442
 8
                                                                                 match
                   9 2 6 5 3 \% 997 = ((442 + 5*(997 - 30))*10 + 3) \% 997 = 929
```

Rabin-Karp: Java implementation

```
public class RabinKarp
  private int patHash;  // pattern hash value
  private int M;  // pattern length
  private int Q;
                        // modulus
  private int R;
                         // radix
  public RabinKarp(String pat) {
     M = pat.length();
     R = 256;
                                                         a large prime (but not so
     Q = largeRandomPrime();
                                                         large to cause int overflow)
     RM = 1;
                                                         precompute R<sup>M</sup> - 1 (mod Q)
     for (int i = 1; i <= M-1; i++)
        RM = (R * RM) % Q;
     patHash = hash(pat, M);
   private int hash(String key, int M)
   { /* as before */ }
   public int search(String txt)
   { /* see next slide */ }
```

Rabin-Karp: Java implementation (continued)

Monte Carlo version. Return match if hash match.

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

Rabin-Karp analysis

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 as 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.
- Poor worst-case guarantee.
- Requires backup.

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

Substring search cost summary

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

algorithm	version	operation count		backup	correct?	extra	
aigontiiii	version	guarantee	typical	in input?	correct:	space	
brute force	_	MN	1.1 N	yes	yes	1	
Knuth-Morris-Pratt	full DFA (Algorithm 5.6)	2N	1.1 <i>N</i>	no	yes	MR	
	mismatch transitions only	3N	1.1 <i>N</i>	no	yes	M	
Boyer-Moore	full algorithm	3N	N/M	yes	yes	R	
	mismatched char heuristic only (Algorithm 5.7)	MN	N/M	yes	yes	R	
Rabin-Karp [†]	Monte Carlo (Algorithm 5.8)	7 N	7 N	no	yes [†]	1	
	Las Vegas	7 N [†]	7 N	yes	yes	1	

[†] probabilisitic guarantee, with uniform hash function