

# Pattern Matching

- Let  $\Sigma$  be a set of alphabets.
- We are given a text  $T \in \Sigma^n$  & a pattern  $P \in \Sigma^m$ ;  $m \leq n$ .  
Qn: Does P appear in T?

- Eg. T: a <sup>1</sup>a b a c a a b a a a b  
P:  
a a b a a  
1 m

- Defn: Pattern matches Text at a location  $i$  if:

for  $k=1$  to  $m$ ,  $P[k] = T[i-m+k]$ ;

Easy: All occurrences of the pattern can be computed in  $O(mn)$  time.

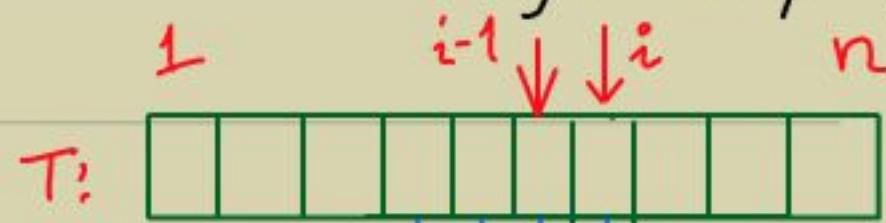
- Qn: Is there a sub-quadratic time algorithm for pattern matching?

— What if we remember "some pattern" as we move along in  $T$ ?

**Collaboration:** a bit like dynamic prog.

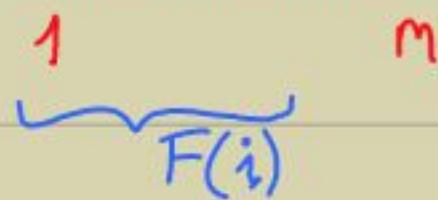
—  $F(i)$  := longest

prefix of  $P$  that is matched at  $i$ .



$T:$

$P:$



—  $f(i)$  :=  $|F(i)|$ .

▷  $f(i) = m \Leftrightarrow P \text{ matches } T \text{ at } i$ .

Claim 1:  $f(i) \leq f(i-1) + 1$ .

Pf: Prefix of  $F(i)$  lower bounds  $f(i-1)$ .  $\square$

Claim 2: Nonempty  $F(i)$  looks like  $X \circ T[i]$

s.t.  $X$  is both a prefix & suffix of  $F(i-1)$ .

Pf:

- $X$  lower bounds  $F(i-1)$ ; thus,  $X$  is a prefix of  $F(i-1)$ .  $T: \overbrace{\quad \quad \quad}^{i-1} \downarrow \downarrow i$
- $X$  matches  $F(i-1)$  at end.  $F(i-1) \quad \quad \quad P$   
 $F(i) \quad \quad \quad P$

$\square$

- Idea to build  $F(i)$  from  $F(i-1)$ :
  - For a string  $s$ , let  $\pi(s)$  be the longest proper prefix of  $s$  that is also a suffix of  $s$ . By  $T[i]$
  - Check whether:  $F(i-1)$  extends to  $F(i)$ ?
    - else 1)  $\pi(F(i-1))$  extends to  $F(i)$ ?
    - else 2)  $\pi(\pi(F(i-1)))$  .. " .. ?
    - else 3)  $\pi^3(F(i-1))$  .. .. .. ?
    - else .....

- We need  $\pi$  for  $P_k := P[1..k]$ , for every  $k \in [m]$ . (call the length,  $\pi(k)$ )

- Eg.  $P = abababca$

$$\begin{aligned}\pi(1) &= 0, \quad \pi(2) = 0, \quad \pi(3) = 1, \quad \pi(4) = 2, \\ \pi(5) &= 3, \quad \pi(6) = 4, \quad \pi(7) = 0, \quad \pi(8) = 1.\end{aligned}$$

▷  $\pi(\cdot)$  increases by at most one. But, it may decrease by an arbitrary amount.

Pf:  $\pi(k+1) \setminus P[k+1]$  lower bounds  $\pi(k)$ .

□

as a lookup array

⇒ Given  $F(i-1)$  &  $\pi$ -function, one can easily compute  $F(i)$ .

- This is the idea of KMP-algorithm:  
(Knuth-Morris-Pratt '77)

```
Compute-f(i) { // given f(i-1) & π()
    k ← f(i-1);
    while ( P[k+1] ≠ T[i] & k > 0 )
        k ← π(k); // π() is given
    if ( P[k+1] = T[i] )
        f(i) ← k+1;
    else f(i) ← 0;
    return f(i);
}
```

```
PatternMatch ( P[1...m], T[1..n] ) {
    f(0) ← 0;
    for ( i = 1 to n )
        if ( m = Compute-f(i) ) OUTPUT i;
    OUTPUT EOF; // list of i's ends
}
```

- Analyzing KMP-algorithm:

Claim: Cost of  $i$ -th iteration is  $O(2 + f(i-1) - f(i))$ .

Pf: • Case 1:  $[f(i) = f(i-1) + 1]$  In this case  
Compute- $f(i)$  takes  $O(1)$  time.

• Case 2:  $[f(i) \leq f(i-1)]$  Compute- $f(i)$  takes  
 $\leq f(i-1) - f(i) + 1$  calls to  $\pi(\cdot)$  to return  $f(i)$ .

$\pi$   
lookup array

□

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^n (\text{cost in } i\text{-th iteration}) \leq O(n).$$

- Qn: How do we compute the fn.  $\pi$ ?

Claim:  $\pi(\cdot)$  on  $P[1..m]$  is  $O(m)$ -time computable.

Pf: • Note that given  $\pi(1), \dots, \pi(k-1)$ , we can compute  
 $\pi(k)$  by a process similar to Compute- $f(i)$ .

• Exercise: Analyze like in the claim above.

□

Theorem [KMP'77]: Pattern Matching in linear-time.