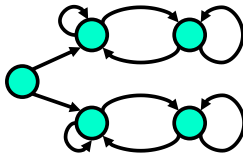


## String Matching - I



J. Morris



D. Knuth

## Algorithms on Strings

- Pattern Matching
- Wild-card Matching
- Compute a distance between two strings
- Compute a longest substring
- Compute a cheapest tree connecting all given strings
- Compute a shortest superstring of all strings

## Pattern Matching

Let  $T$  be a string of length  $N$  over a finite alphabet  $\Sigma$  and  $P$  be a string of length  $M$  over  $\Sigma$

In a pattern matching problem we search for all occurrences of a pattern  $P$  in a text  $T$ .

## Brute-Force Algorithm

It runs in time  $O(nm)$

Example of worst case:

- $T = aaa \dots ah$
- $P = aaah$
- may occur in images and DNA sequences
- unlikely in English text

## Deterministic Finite Automaton

A finite automaton  $M$  is defined as a 5-tuple  
 $M = (\Sigma, Q, q_0, A, \delta)$

- $\Sigma$  is the alphabet
- $Q$  is the set of states
- $q_0 \in Q$  is the start state
- $A \subseteq Q$  is the set of accept states
- $\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q$  is the transition function
- $L(M)$  = the language of machine  $M$   
 = set of all strings machine  $M$  accepts

$$M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$$

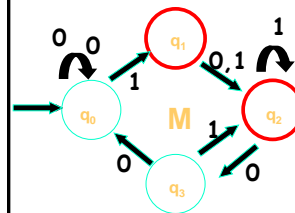
$$Q = \{q_0, q_1, q_2, q_3\}$$

$$\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q \text{ transition function}$$

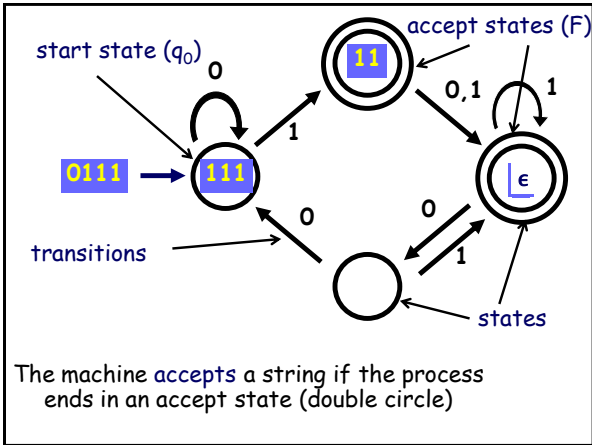
$$\Sigma = \{0,1\}$$

$$q_0 \in Q \text{ is start state}$$


$$A = \{q_1, q_2\} \subseteq Q \text{ accept states}$$



$\delta$	0	1
$q_0$	$q_0$	$q_1$
$q_1$	$q_2$	$q_2$
$q_2$	$q_3$	$q_2$
$q_3$	$q_0$	$q_2$



### The Knuth-Morris-Pratt Algorithm (1976)



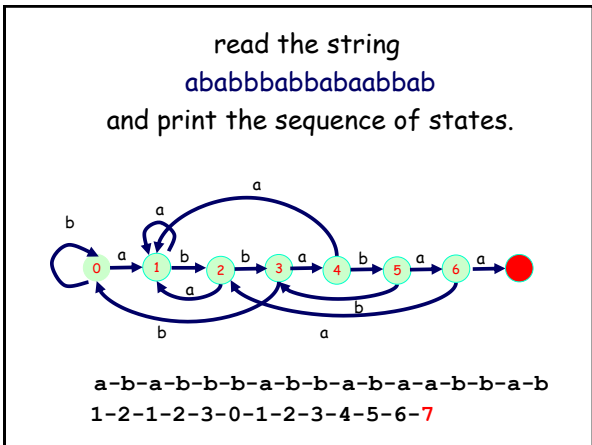
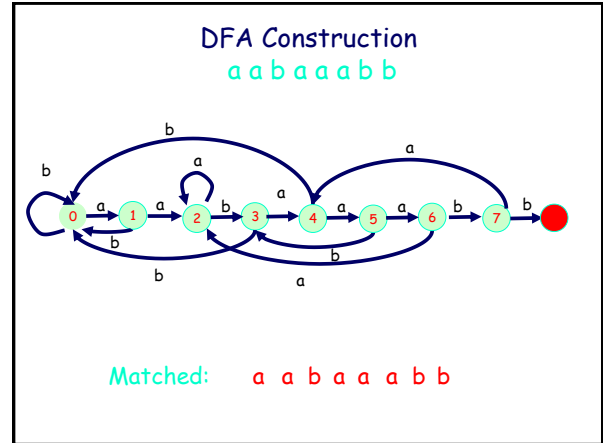
Build DFA from pattern  
Run DFA on multiple texts

### Build DFA from pattern


The alphabet is {a, b}.  
The pattern is a a b a a a b b.

To create a DFA we consider all prefixes  $\epsilon$ , a, aa, aab, aaba, aabaa, aabaaa, aabaaab, aabaaabb

These prefixes are states. The initial state is  $\epsilon$  (empty string). The pattern is the accept state.



### The Knuth-Morris-Pratt Algorithm (1976)

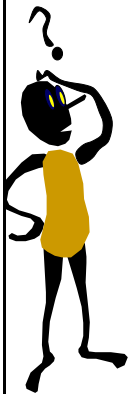


1970 Cook published a paper about a possibility of existence of such algorithm

Knuth and Pratt developed an algorithm

Morris discovered the same algorithm

## Building a DFA



What is the worst-case runtime of building a DFA?

$O(M^3 \Sigma)$

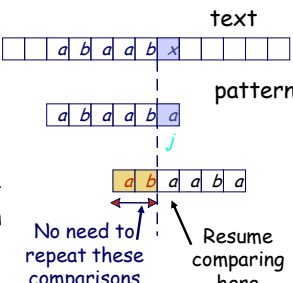
$M = \text{pattern.length}();$   
 $\Sigma = \text{alphabet.size}();$

KMP eliminates the need to compute the entire transition function.

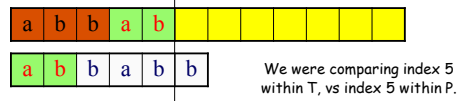
## The KMP Algorithm - Motivation

Algorithm compares the pattern to the text in **left-to-right**, but shifts the pattern more intelligently than the brute-force algorithm.

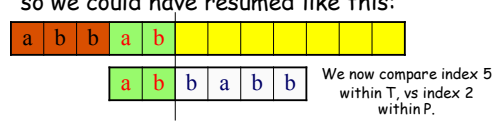
When a mismatch occurs, what is the **most** we can shift the pattern so as to avoid redundant comparisons?



KMP would say, "but we already had seen this"



"so we could have resumed like this:"



So when a match fails, KMP tells us that we should stay at the **SAME** index within T as we were before, and we just change our index within P (we move back within W).

we need to go back as far as possible in order to guarantee that we don't miss anything.



It would be dangerous to move back to



We could miss something!

So we need to take the **LONGEST** suffix of P which is a prefix of P



## KMP

How much can a string overlap with itself at each position?

a	b	a	b	b
0	0	1	2	0

Compute the length of the longest prefix of P that is a proper suffix of P.

It determines where to go whenever there is a mismatch in the next letter.

## Matching

a	b	a	b	b
0	0	1	2	0

a b a b a b b a b b a b a b b  
a b a b b

### KMP

a	b	a	b	b
0	0	1	2	0

a b a b a b b a b b a b a b a b b  
a b a b b

### KMP

a	b	a	b	b
0	0	1	2	0

a b a b a b b a b b a b a b a b b  
a b a b b

### KMP

a	b	a	b	b
0	0	1	2	0

a b a b a b b a b b a b a b a b b  
a b a b b

### KMP

a	b	a	b	b
0	0	1	2	0

a b a b a b b a b b a b a b a b b  
a b a b b  
Mismatch

### KMP

a	b	a	b	b
0	0	1	2	0

a b a b a b b a b b a b a b a b b  
a b a b b

### The KMP Algorithm Implementation



## Failure Function

$\pi[k] = \max(j < k \mid \text{pattern}[j] \text{ is a suffix of } \text{pattern}[k])$

$\pi[k]$  is called a failure function, since it represents only backward transitions, in other words, it determines where to go whenever there is a mismatch in the next letter.

"aabaaab",  $\pi = \{0, 1, 0, 1, 2, 3\}$

## Failure Function

```
int[] pi = new int[pattern.length()];
int x = 0;
for(int p = 1; p < pattern.length(); p++)
{
    while(x > 0 &&
        pattern.charAt(x) != pattern.charAt(p))
        x = pi[x-1];

    if(pattern.charAt(x) == pattern.charAt(p)) x++;
    pi[p] = x;
}
```

## Matching

```
x = 0;
for(int k = 0; k < text.length(); k++)
{
    while(x > 0 &&
        pattern.charAt(x) != text.charAt(k))
        x = pi[x-1];

    if(pattern.charAt(x) == text.charAt(k)) x++;

    if(x == pattern.length()) return true;
}
```

## The KMP Algorithm

**Theorem:**  
At most  $2N$  comparisons  
in total



## Applications

### DNA matching:

DNA consists of small molecules called nucleotides. There are four of them Adenine, Cytosine, Guanine and Thymine. Therefore, {A, C, G, T} creates an alphabet.

### Protein matching:

Proteins are composed of amino acids. There are basically 20 amino acids. Hence, a protein can be represented as a string over 20 letters.