Exercises

1 [w] **String Matching Automaton** Construct the string-matching automaton for the pattern P = abcaba and run the matching algorithm on both on the text string T = aaabcababcabbaabcabaab.

2 KMP Solve

- **2.1** [w] Compute the prefix function π for the pattern P = abcaba and draw the corresponding automaton with failure links. Run the matching algorithm on the text string T = aaabcababcabbaabcabaab.
- **2.2** [w] Compute the prefix function π for the pattern ababbabbabbabbabbabbabbabb when the alphabet is $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ and draw the corresponding automaton with failure links.
- **2.3** Explain how to determine the occurrences of pattern P in the text T by examining the π function for the string P\$T, where \$ is a new character not in the alphabet.
- **3 String matching with gaps** In *string matching with gaps* the pattern *P* can contain a *gap character* \star that can match *any* string (of arbitrary length even length zero). An example of such a string is $P = ab \star ac \star a$, which occurs in the text T = bababacbcca in two ways:

or

There are no gap characters in the text—only in the pattern.

Give an algorithm to find an occurrence of a pattern P containing gap characters in a text T in time O(n+m). That is, preprocessing time + matching time should be O(n+m).

4 Christmas songs (exam 2015) You are putting together a set of Christmas songs that will be handed out at the Christmas party. The Dean has declared that every song must contain the sentence "Merry_Christmas_Dear_Dean", where "_" denotes a blank space. E.g. the song:

```
We_wish_you_a_Merry_Christmas_
We_wish_you_a_Merry_Christmas_
We_wish_you_a_Merry_Christmas_
Dear_Dean_
Dear_Dean
```

contains one occurrence of of the sentence "Merry, Christmas, Dear, Dean" (line breaks are disregarded).

Formally, you are given a set S of songs S_1, \ldots, S_k and a sentence P. Song S_i contains n_i characters and P contains m characters. Let $n = \sum_{i=1}^k n_i$ denote the total number of characters in the songs. All the strings are over an alphabet of size O(1). Describe an algorithm that returns all the songs that contain P. Analyze the asymptotic running time of your algorithm. Remember to argue that your algorithm is correct.

5 Cyclic strings A cyclic string of length *n* is a string in which character *n* is considered to precede character 1. *Example:* The strings rc, arc, arca and carcar are all substrings of the cyclic string car.

Give an algorithm to determine whether a string P_1 is a substring of a *cyclic* string P_2 . Analyze the asymptotic running time of your algorithm. Remember to argue, that your algorithm is correct.

6 Preprocessing of the string matching automaton We can use the KMP algorithm to construct the string matching automaton. This follows from the following fact:

$$\delta(q, a) = \delta(\pi[q], a) \text{ if } q = m \text{ or } P[q+1] \neq a$$
 (*)

- **6.1** Use (*) to give an efficient algorithm for computing the transition function δ for the string-matching automaton corresponding to a given pattern P. Your algorithm should run in time $O(m|\Sigma|)$.
- **6.2** [*] Prove (*).