

Calculating Password Strength

No. of passwords

<http://asecuritysite.com>

Author: Prof Bill Buchanan

Bob



Alice



Eve



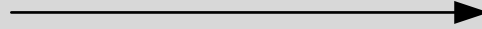
Trent



Character set

Number of
characters

freddy



Fr3d%yI970

Password strength

Bruce force
speed

Avoidance of
dictionary
attacks

5-character
password ->
characters to power
of 5

[a-z]	26 characters	11,881,376
[a-zA-z]	52 characters	380,204,032
[a-zA-z0-9]	62 characters	916,132,832
[a-zA-z0-9! @#\$%^&*() +_]	74 characters	2,219,006,624

fredy	frEdY	fr3dY	fr3d!
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5-character
password

aaaaa

aaaab



26^5 Passwords = 11,881,376

1million passwords per second

$T_{\max} = 26^5 / 1e6 = 11.88$ seconds

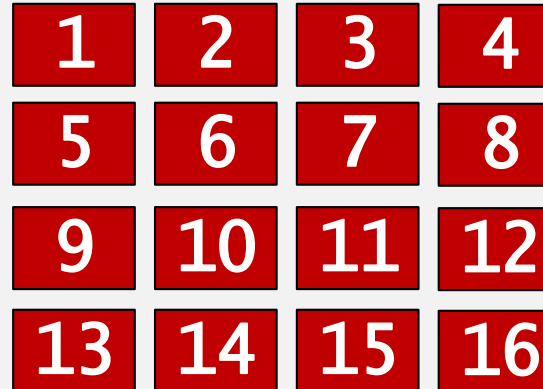
1

ZZZZW

ZZZZX

ZZZZy

ZZZZZ



Parallel
processing

$T_{\max} = 26^5 / 1e6 / 16 = 0.74$ seconds

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