



# ARABIC TO ROMAN NUMERAL

Comparing Algorithms

# JUST TO REPEAT...

- Simple Algorithm
- 1 = I, 5 = V but 4 is IV
- X = 10 but 9 is IX
- L = 50 but 40 = XL
- 100 = C but 90 = XC
- We stop here :)

# A FIRST APPROACH

```
function roman(number) {
  let result = "";
  while (number >= 100) {
    result += "C";
    number -= 100;
  }
  if (number >= 90) {
    result += "XC";
    number -= 90;
  }
  while (number >= 50) {
    result += "L";
    number -= 50;
  }
  if (number >= 40) {
    result += "XL";
    number -= 40;
  }
  while (number >= 10) {
    result += "X";
    number -= 10;
  }
  if (number >= 9) {
    result += "IX";
    number -= 9;
  }
  while (number >= 5) {
    result += "V";
    number -= 5;
  }
  if (number >= 4) {
    result += "IV";
    number -= 4;
  }
  while (number >= 1) {
    result += "I";
    number -= 1;
  }
  return result;
}
```

## Evaluation

- Very verbose
- Many (visual) repetitions
- Simple to understand – we will get back to this!
- It actually works

# WE CAN DO BETTER

---

```
function roman(number) {
  let result = "";
  while (number >= 100) {
    result += "C";
    number -= 100;
  }
  if (number >= 90) {
    result += "XC";
    number -= 90;
  }
  while (number >= 50) {
    result += "L";
    number -= 50;
  }
  if (number >= 40) {
    result += "XL";
    number -= 40;
  }
  while (number >= 10) {
    result += "X";
    number -= 10;
  }
  if (number >= 9) {
    result += "IX";
    number -= 9;
  }
  while (number >= 5) {
    result += "V";
    number -= 5;
  }
  if (number >= 4) {
    result += "IV";
    number -= 4;
  }
  while (number >= 1) {
    result += "I";
    number -= 1;
  }
  return result;
}
```

## Progress

- Making similar things the same

# WE CAN DO BETTER

---

```
function roman(number) {  
  let result = "";  
  while (number >= 100) {  
    result += "C";  
    number -= 100;  
  }  
  while (number >= 90) {  
    result += "XC";  
    number -= 90;  
  }  
  while (number >= 50) {  
    result += "L";  
    number -= 50;  
  }  
  while (number >= 40) {  
    result += "XL";  
    number -= 40;  
  }  
  while (number >= 10) {  
    result += "X";  
    number -= 10;  
  }  
  while (number >= 9) {  
    result += "IX";  
    number -= 9;  
  }  
  while (number >= 5) {  
    result += "V";  
    number -= 5;  
  }  
  while (number >= 4) {  
    result += "IV";  
    number -= 4;  
  }  
  while (number >= 1) {  
    result += "I";  
    number -= 1;  
  }  
  return result;  
}
```

## Progress

- Making similar things the same

# WE CAN DO BETTER

```
function roman(number) {
  let result = "";
  const map = [
    {arabic:100, roman:"C"},
    {arabic:90, roman:"XC"},
    {arabic:50, roman:"L"},
    {arabic:40, roman:"XL"},
    {arabic:10, roman:"X"},
    {arabic:9, roman:"IX"},
    {arabic:5, roman:"V"},
    {arabic:4, roman:"IV"},
    {arabic:1, roman:"I"},
  ];
  while (number >= 100) {
    result += "C";
    number -= 100;
  }
  while (number >= 90) {
    result += "XC";
    number -= 90;
  }
  while (number >= 50) {
    result += "L";
    number -= 50;
  }
  while (number >= 40) {
    result += "XL";
    number -= 40;
  }
  while (number >= 10) {
    result += "X";
    number -= 10;
  }
  while (number >= 9) {
    result += "IX";
    number -= 9;
  }
  while (number >= 5) {
    result += "V";
    number -= 5;
  }
  while (number >= 4) {
    result += "IV";
    number -= 4;
  }
  while (number >= 1) {
    result += "I";
    number -= 1;
  }
  return result;
}
```

## Progress

- Making similar things the same
- Defining the pattern map

# WE CAN DO BETTER

```
function roman(number) {
  let result = "";
  const map = [
    {arabic:100, roman:"C"}, {arabic:90, roman:"XC"},
    {arabic:50, roman:"L"}, {arabic:40, roman:"XL"},
    {arabic:10, roman:"X"}, {arabic:9, roman:"IX"},
    {arabic:5, roman:"V"}, {arabic:4, roman:"IV"},
    {arabic:1, roman:"I"},
  ];
  while (number >= 100) {
    result += "C";
    number -= 100;
  }
  while (number >= 90) {
    result += "XC";
    number -= 90;
  }
  while (number >= 50) {
    result += "L";
    number -= 50;
  }
  while (number >= 40) {
    result += "XL";
    number -= 40;
  }
  while (number >= 10) {
    result += "X";
    number -= 10;
  }
  while (number >= 9) {
    result += "IX";
    number -= 9;
  }
  while (number >= 5) {
    result += "V";
    number -= 5;
  }
  while (number >= 4) {
    result += "IV";
    number -= 4;
  }
  while (number >= 1) {
    result += "I";
    number -= 1;
  }
  return result;
}
```

Data Drives your Code!

## Progress

- Making similar things the same
- Defining the pattern map, and align it

# WE CAN DO BETTER

---

```
function roman(number) {
  let result = "";
  const map = [
    {arabic:100, roman:"C"}, {arabic:90, roman:"XC"},
    {arabic:50,  roman:"L"}, {arabic:40, roman:"XL"},
    {arabic:10,  roman:"X"}, {arabic:9,  roman:"IX"},
    {arabic:5,   roman:"V"}, {arabic:4,  roman:"IV"},
    {arabic:1,   roman:"I"},
  ];
  for (const conversion in map) {
    while (number >= conversion.arabic) {
      result += conversion.roman;
      number -= conversion.arabic;
    }
  }
  return result;
}
```

## Progress

- Making similar things the same
- Defining the pattern map, and align it
- Replace all cases with one loop



# WE CAN DO BETTER

```
function roman(number) {
  let result = "";
  const map = [
    {arabic:100, roman:"C"}, {arabic:90, roman:"XC"},
    {arabic:50,  roman:"L"}, {arabic:40, roman:"XL"},
    {arabic:10,  roman:"X"}, {arabic:9,  roman:"IX"},
    {arabic:5,   roman:"V"}, {arabic:4,  roman:"IV"},
    {arabic:1,   roman:"I"},
  ];
  for (const conversion of map) {
    while (number >= conversion.arabic) {
      result += conversion.roman;
      number -= conversion.arabic;
    }
  }
  return result;
}
```

## Progress

- Making similar things the same
- Defining the pattern map, and align it
- Replace all cases with one loop
- Replace the “for in” loop with “for of”, because you will always pick the wrong one the first time around.

# WE CAN DO BETTER

```
function roman(number) {  
  let result = "";  
  const map = [  
    {arabic:100, roman:"C"}, {arabic:90, roman:"XC"},  
    {arabic:50,  roman:"L"}, {arabic:40, roman:"XL"},  
    {arabic:10,  roman:"X"}, {arabic:9,  roman:"IX"},  
    {arabic:5,   roman:"V"}, {arabic:4,  roman:"IV"},  
    {arabic:1,   roman:"I"},  
  ];  
  for (const conversion of map) {  
    while (number >= conversion.arabic) {  
      result += conversion.roman;  
      number -= conversion.arabic;  
    }  
  }  
  return result;  
}
```

## Evaulation

- Less verbose
  - *Objectively shorter*
- Less visual repetitions
  - *I would argue, it has only the required visual repetitions*
- It still works
- Is it still simple to understand?

# WE CAN DO EVEN BETTER

---

```
function roman(number) {  
  let result = "";  
  const map = [  
    {arabic:100, roman:"C"}, {arabic:90, roman:"XC"},  
    {arabic:50,  roman:"L"}, {arabic:40, roman:"XL"},  
    {arabic:10,  roman:"X"}, {arabic:9,  roman:"IX"},  
    {arabic:5,   roman:"V"}, {arabic:4,  roman:"IV"},  
    {arabic:1,   roman:"I"},  
  ];  
  for (const conversion of map) {  
    while (number >= conversion.arabic) {  
      result += conversion.roman;  
      number -= conversion.arabic;  
    }  
  }  
  return result;  
}
```

Progress

# WE CAN DO EVEN BETTER

```
function roman(number) {
  let result = "";
  const map = [
    {arabic:100, roman:"C"}, {arabic:90, roman:"XC"},
    {arabic:50,  roman:"L"}, {arabic:40, roman:"XL"},
    {arabic:10,  roman:"X"}, {arabic:9,  roman:"IX"},
    {arabic:5,   roman:"V"}, {arabic:4,  roman:"IV"},
    {arabic:1,   roman:"I"},
  ];
  for (const conversion of map) {
    /*
      while (number >= conversion.arabic) {
        result += conversion.roman;
        number -= conversion.arabic;
      }
    */
  }
  return result;
}
```

## Progress

- We can get rid of the inner loop

# WE CAN DO EVEN BETTER

```
function roman(number) {
  let result = "";
  const map = [
    {arabic:100, roman:"C"}, {arabic:90, roman:"XC"},
    {arabic:50,  roman:"L"}, {arabic:40, roman:"XL"},
    {arabic:10,  roman:"X"}, {arabic:9,  roman:"IX"},
    {arabic:5,   roman:"V"}, {arabic:4,  roman:"IV"},
    {arabic:1,   roman:"I"},
  ];
  for (const conversion of map) {
    result += conversion.roman.repeat(number / conversion.arabic);
    /*
    while (number >= conversion.arabic) {
      result += conversion.roman;
      number -= conversion.arabic;
    }
    */
  }
  return result;
}
```

## Progress

- We can get rid of the inner loop
- We append roman numerals repeatedly, so just do that – how many times? “As many as fit” = division

# WE CAN DO EVEN BETTER

```
function roman(number) {
  let result = "";
  const map = [
    {arabic:100, roman:"C"}, {arabic:90, roman:"XC"},
    {arabic:50,  roman:"L"}, {arabic:40, roman:"XL"},
    {arabic:10,  roman:"X"}, {arabic:9,  roman:"IX"},
    {arabic:5,   roman:"V"}, {arabic:4,  roman:"IV"},
    {arabic:1,   roman:"I"},
  ];
  for (const conversion of map) {
    result += conversion.roman.repeat(number / conversion.arabic);
    number %= conversion.arabic;
    /*
    while (number >= conversion.arabic) {
      result += conversion.roman;
      number -= conversion.arabic;
    }
    */
  }
  return result;
}
```

## Progress

- We can get rid of the inner loop
- We append roman numerals repeatedly, so just do that – how many times? “As many as fit” = division
- We reduce the number on each step by “as many as fit” but keep the rest = modulo

# WE CAN DO EVEN BETTER

```
function roman(number) {  
  let result = "";  
  const map = [  
    {arabic:100, roman:"C"}, {arabic:90, roman:"XC"},  
    {arabic:50,  roman:"L"}, {arabic:40, roman:"XL"},  
    {arabic:10,  roman:"X"}, {arabic:9,  roman:"IX"},  
    {arabic:5,   roman:"V"}, {arabic:4,  roman:"IV"},  
    {arabic:1,   roman:"I"},  
  ];  
  for (const conversion of map) {  
    result += conversion.roman.repeat(number / conversion.arabic);  
    number %= conversion.arabic;  
  }  
  return result;  
}
```

## Progress

- We can get rid of the inner loop
- We append roman numerals repeatedly, so just do that – how many times? “As many as fit” = division
- We reduce the number on each step by “as many as fit” but keep the rest = modulo

# WE CAN DO EVEN BETTER

```
function roman(number) {  
  let result = "";  
  const map = [  
    {arabic:100, roman:"C"}, {arabic:90, roman:"XC"},  
    {arabic:50,  roman:"L"}, {arabic:40, roman:"XL"},  
    {arabic:10,  roman:"X"}, {arabic:9,  roman:"IX"},  
    {arabic:5,   roman:"V"}, {arabic:4,  roman:"IV"},  
    {arabic:1,   roman:"I"},  
  ];  
  for (const conversion of map) {  
    result += conversion.roman.repeat(number / conversion.arabic);  
    number %= conversion.arabic;  
  }  
  return result;  
}
```

## Evaluation

- Simplified the complexity by removing one loop...
- ...by adding mathematical complexity.
- Is it still simple to understand? Is it understandable at all?
- Could you explain this algorithm to a child?



# WHAT ABOUT RECURSION?

---

# WHAT ABOUT RECURSION?

---

```
const map = [  
  {arabic:100, roman:"C"}, {arabic:90, roman:"XC"},  
  {arabic:50,  roman:"L"}, {arabic:40, roman:"XL"},  
  {arabic:10,  roman:"X"}, {arabic:9,  roman:"IX"},  
  {arabic:5,   roman:"V"}, {arabic:4,   roman:"IV"},  
  {arabic:1,   roman:"I"},  
];
```

# WHAT ABOUT RECURSION?

---

```
const map = [  
  {arabic:100, roman:"C"}, {arabic:90, roman:"XC"},  
  {arabic:50,  roman:"L"}, {arabic:40, roman:"XL"},  
  {arabic:10,  roman:"X"}, {arabic:9,  roman:"IX"},  
  {arabic:5,   roman:"V"}, {arabic:4,  roman:"IV"},  
  {arabic:1,   roman:"I"},  
];  
  
function roman(number, result = "") {  
  if (number === 0) {  
    return result;  
  }  
}
```

# WHAT ABOUT RECURSION?

---

```
const map = [
  {arabic:100, roman:"C"}, {arabic:90, roman:"XC"},
  {arabic:50,  roman:"L"}, {arabic:40, roman:"XL"},
  {arabic:10,  roman:"X"}, {arabic:9,  roman:"IX"},
  {arabic:5,   roman:"V"}, {arabic:4,  roman:"IV"},
  {arabic:1,   roman:"I"},
];

function roman(number, result = "") {
  if (number === 0) {
    return result;
  }
  for (const conversion of map) {
    if (number >= conversion.arabic) {
      return roman(
        number - conversion.arabic,
        result + conversion.roman
      );
    }
  }
}
```

# WHAT ABOUT RECURSION?

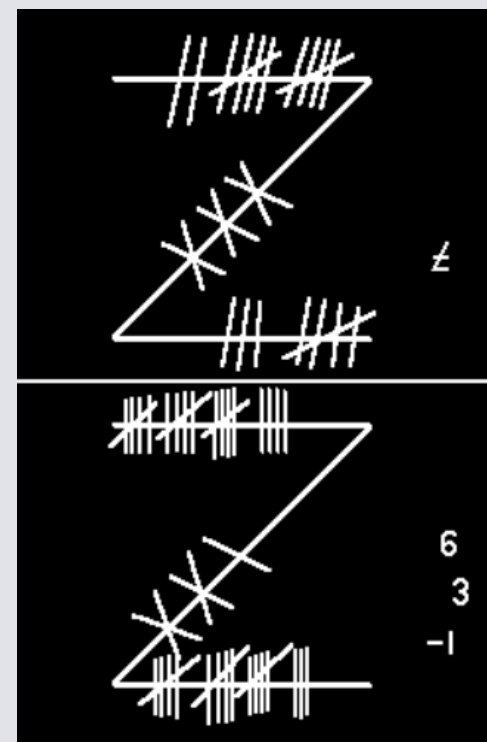
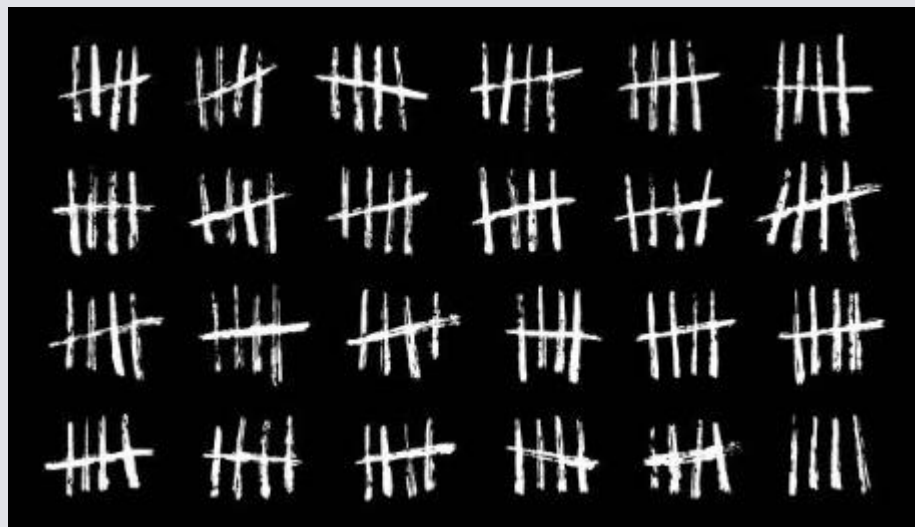
```
const map = [
  {arabic:100, roman:"C"}, {arabic:90, roman:"XC"},
  {arabic:50,  roman:"L"}, {arabic:40, roman:"XL"},
  {arabic:10,  roman:"X"}, {arabic:9,  roman:"IX"},
  {arabic:5,   roman:"V"}, {arabic:4,   roman:"IV"},
  {arabic:1,   roman:"I"},
];

function roman(number, result = "") {
  if (number === 0) {
    return result;
  }
  for (const conversion of map) {
    if (number >= conversion.arabic) {
      return roman(
        number - conversion.arabic,
        result + conversion.roman
      );
    }
  }
}
```

## Evaluation

- Simplified the “complex” mathematical operation for the “cost” of recursion.
- Is it still simple to understand? Is it understandable at all?
- Could you explain this algorithm to a child?

# LET'S START FROM SCRATCH



# LET'S START FROM SCRATCH

---

```
function roman(number) {  
  return "";  
}
```

## Progress

- What is a roman number?

# LET'S START FROM SCRATCH

```
function roman(number) {  
  return "I".repeat(number);  
}
```

```
/*  
roman(42);'IIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIII'  
roman(99);'IIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIII...'  
*/
```

## Progress

- What is a roman number? Just the number of strokes on the wall!



# LET'S START FROM SCRATCH

---

```
function roman(number) {  
  return "I".repeat(number)  
    .replaceAll("IIIII", "V");  
}  
  
/*  
roman(42); 'VVVVVVVII'  
roman(99); 'VVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVIIIII'  
*/
```

## Progress

- What is a roman number? Just the number of strokes on the wall!
- To simplify, replace 5 consecutive strokes with a “V”

# LET'S START FROM SCRATCH

---

```
function roman(number) {  
  return "I".repeat(number)  
    .replaceAll("IIIII", "V").replace("IIII", "IV");  
}  
  
/*  
roman(42); 'VVVVVVVII'  
roman(99); 'VVVVVVVVVVVVVVVVIV'  
*/
```

## Progress

- What is a roman number? Just the number of strokes on the wall!
- To simplify, replace 5 consecutive strokes with a “V”
  - *Special case: write “IV” instead of “IIII”*

# LET'S START FROM SCRATCH

---

```
function roman(number) {  
  return "I".repeat(number)  
    .replaceAll("IIIII", "V").replace("IIII", "IV")  
    .replaceAll("VV", "X");  
}  
  
/*  
roman(42); 'XXXII'  
roman(99); 'XXXXXXXXXIV'  
*/
```

## Progress

- What is a roman number? Just the number of strokes on the wall!
- To simplify, replace 5 consecutive strokes with a “V”
  - *Special case: write “IV” instead of “IIII”*
- To simplify, replace 2 consecutive “V” with a “X”

# LET'S START FROM SCRATCH

---

```
function roman(number) {  
  return "I".repeat(number)  
    .replaceAll("IIIII", "V").replace("IIII", "IV")  
    .replaceAll("VV", "X").replace("VIV", "IX");  
}  
  
/*  
roman(42); 'XXXII'  
roman(99); 'LXXXVIIIIX'  
*/
```

## Progress

- What is a roman number? Just the number of strokes on the wall!
- To simplify, replace 5 consecutive strokes with a “V”
  - *Special case: write “IV” instead of “IIII”*
- To simplify, replace 2 consecutive “V” with a “X”
  - *Special case: write “IX” instead of “VIV”*

# LET'S START FROM SCRATCH

---

```
function roman(number) {  
  return "I".repeat(number)  
    .replaceAll("IIIII", "V").replace("IIII", "IV")  
    .replaceAll("VV", "X").replace("VIV", "IX")  
    .replaceAll("XXXXX", "L").replace("XXXX", "XL")  
    .replaceAll("LL", "C").replace("LXL", "XC");  
}  
  
/*  
roman(42); 'XLII'  
roman(99); 'XCIX'  
*/
```

## Progress

- What is a roman number? Just the number of strokes on the wall!
- To simplify, replace 5 consecutive strokes with a “V”
  - *Special case: write “IV” instead of “IIII”*
- To simplify, replace 2 consecutive “V” with a “X”
  - *Special case: write “IX” instead of “VIV”*
- ... And so on!

# LET'S START FROM SCRATCH

---

```
function roman(number) {  
  return "I".repeat(number)  
    .replaceAll("IIIII", "V").replace("IIII", "IV")  
    .replaceAll("VV", "X").replace("VIV", "IX")  
    .replaceAll("XXXXX", "L").replace("XXXX", "XL")  
    .replaceAll("LL", "C").replace("LXL", "XC");  
}
```

## Evaulation

- No complex mathematical operations, no loops (hidden in repeat / replace), just simple operations
- Again simple to understand
- You could explain this algorithm to a child!

# LET'S START FROM SCRATCH

---

```
function roman(number) {
  const map = [
    {search: "IIIII", replace: "V"}, {search: "IIII", replace: "IV"},
    {search: "VV", replace: "X"}, {search: "VIV", replace: "IX"},
    {search: "XXXXX", replace: "L"}, {search: "XXXX", replace: "XL"},
    {search: "LL", replace: "C"}, {search: "LXL", replace: "XC"},
  ];
  let result = "I".repeat(number);
  for (const conversion of map) {
    result = result.replaceAll(conversion.search, conversion.replace);
  }
  return result;
}
```

## Evaulation

- No complex mathematical operations, no loops (hidden in repeat / replace), just simple operations
- Again simple to understand
- You could explain this algorithm to a child!
- You could continue to refactor...

# LET'S START FROM SCRATCH

---

```
function roman(number) {
  const map = [
    {search: "IIIII", replace: "V"}, {search: "IIII", replace: "IV"},
    {search: "VV", replace: "X"}, {search: "VIV", replace: "IX"},
    {search: "XXXXX", replace: "L"}, {search: "XXXX", replace: "XL"},
    {search: "LL", replace: "C"}, {search: "LXL", replace: "XC"},
  ];
  const init = "I".repeat(number);
  return map.reduce(function (result, conversion) {
    return result.replaceAll(conversion.search, conversion.replace);
  }, init);
}
```

## Evaulation

- No complex mathematical operations, no loops (hidden in repeat / replace), just simple operations
- Again simple to understand
- You could explain this algorithm to a child!
- You could continue to refactor...



# COMPARISON

## WHICH SOLUTION WOULD YOU PREFER?

```
function roman(number) {
  let result = "";
  while (number >= 100) {
    result += "C";
    number -= 100;
  }
  if (number >= 90) {
    result += "XC";
    number -= 90;
  }
  while (number >= 50) {
    result += "L";
    number -= 50;
  }
  if (number >= 40) {
    result += "XL";
    number -= 40;
  }
  while (number >= 10) {
    result += "X";
    number -= 10;
  }
  if (number >= 9) {
    result += "IX";
    number -= 9;
  }
  while (number >= 5) {
    result += "V";
    number -= 5;
  }
  if (number >= 4) {
    result += "IV";
    number -= 4;
  }
  while (number >= 1) {
    result += "I";
    number -= 1;
  }
  return result;
}
```

```
function romanBetter(number) {
  let result = "";
  const map = [
    {arabic:100, roman:"C"}, {arabic:90, roman:"XC"},
    {arabic:50,  roman:"L"}, {arabic:40, roman:"XL"},
    {arabic:10,  roman:"X"}, {arabic:9,  roman:"IX"},
    {arabic:5,   roman:"V"}, {arabic:4,   roman:"IV"},
    {arabic:1,   roman:"I"},
  ];
  for (const conversion of map) {
    result += conversion.roman.repeat(number / conversion.arabic);
    number %= conversion.arabic;
  }
  return result;
}
```

```
function romanSimple(number) {
  return "I".repeat(number)
    .replaceAll("IIIII", "V").replace("IIII", "IV")
    .replaceAll("VV", "X").replace("VIV", "IX")
    .replaceAll("XXXXX", "L").replace("XXXX", "XL")
    .replaceAll("LL", "C").replace("LXL", "XC");
}
```

```
function romanSimpleAndMaybeBetter(number) {
  const map = [
    {search: "IIIII", replace: "V"}, {search: "IIII", replace: "IV"},
    {search: "VV", replace: "X"}, {search: "VIV", replace: "IX"},
    {search: "XXXXX", replace: "L"}, {search: "XXXX", replace: "XL"},
    {search: "LL", replace: "C"}, {search: "LXL", replace: "XC"},
  ];
  const init = "I".repeat(number);
  return map.reduce(function (result, conversion) {
    return result.replaceAll(conversion.search, conversion.replace);
  }, init);
}
```

# SUMMARY

- All algorithms work and result in the same behaviour.
- It is not trivial to design elegant and easy-to-understand and optimal and extendable and refactorable and testable and ... algorithms.
  - *Spikes from XP can help*
  - *And a lot of practice – the patterns \*will\* repeat!*
- Try to explain your algorithm “to a child”
  - *...in your head*
  - *...or use the most-childish colleague as substitute.*
- Sometimes you will need advanced concepts, sometimes there is an easier way.

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Shamelessly stolen and copied from **StackOverflow** and multiple talks from **Kevlin Henney**, just google him, he's worth your time.

"All problems in computer science can be solved by another level of indirection."

- David Wheeler

"...except for the problem of too many layers of indirection."

- Kevlin Henney

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