# 2315. Count Asterisks

## Description

You are given a string s, where every **two** consecutive vertical bars 'I' are grouped into a **pair**. In other words, the 1 st and 2 nd 'I' make a pair, the 3 rd and 4 th 'I' make a pair, and so forth.

Return the number of '\*' in s, excluding the '\*' between each pair of '!'.

Note that each 'I' will belong to exactly one pair.

### **Example 1:**

```
Input: s = "l|*e*et|c**o|*de|"
Output: 2
Explanation: The considered characters are underlined: "l|*e*et|c**o|*de|".
The characters between the first and second '|' are excluded from the answer.
Also, the characters between the third and fourth '|' are excluded from the answer.
There are 2 asterisks considered. Therefore, we return 2.
```

#### Example 2:

```
Input: s = "iamprogrammer"
Output: 0
Explanation: In this example, there are no asterisks in s. Therefore, we return 0.
```

#### **Example 3:**

```
Input: s = "yo|uar|e**|b|e***au|tifu|l"
Output: 5
Explanation: The considered characters are underlined: "yo|uar|e**|b|e***au|tifu|l". There are 5 asterisks considered. Therefore, we return 5.
```

#### **Constraints:**

- 1 <= s.length <= 1000
- s consists of lowercase English letters, vertical bars 'I', and asterisks '\*'.
- s contains an even number of vertical bars 'I'.