2055. Plates Between Candles

Description

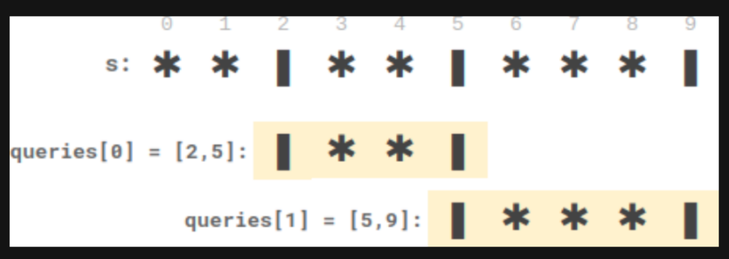
There is a long table with a line of plates and candles arranged on top of it. You are given a **0-indexed** string `s` consisting of characters `'*'` and `'|'` only, where a `'*'` represents a **plate** and a `'|'` represents a **candle**.

You are also given a **0-indexed** 2D integer array `queries` where `queries[i] = [left_i, right_i]` denotes the **substring** `s[left_i...right_i]` (**inclusive**). For each query, you need to find the **number** of plates **between candles** that are **in the substring**. A plate is considered **between candles** if there is at least one candle to its left **and** at least one candle to its right **in the substring**.

- For example, `s = "||**||**|*"`, and a query `[3, 8]` denotes the substring `"*||**|"`. The number of plates between candles in this substring is `2`, as each of the two plates has at least one candle **in the substring** to its left **and** right.

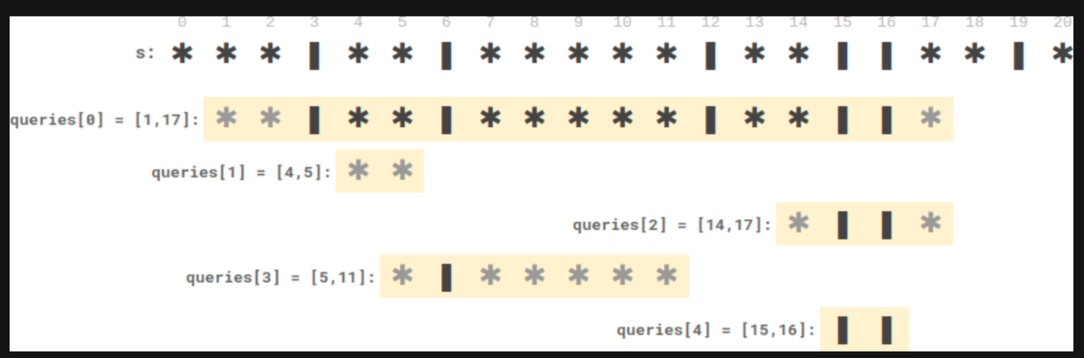
Return *an integer array* `answer` *where* `answer[i]` *is the answer to the* `i^th` *query*.

Example 1:




```
Input: s = "**|**|***|", queries = [[2,5],[5,9]]
Output: [2,3]
Explanation:
- queries[0] has two plates between candles.
- queries[1] has three plates between candles.
```

Example 2:




```
Input: s = "***|**|*****|**||**|*", queries = [[1,17],[4,5],[14,17],[5,11],[15,16]]
Output: [9,0,0,0,0]
Explanation:
- queries[0] has nine plates between candles.
- The other queries have zero plates between candles.
```

Constraints:

- `3 <= s.length <= 10^5`
- `s` consists of `'*'` and `'|'` characters.
- `1 <= queries.length <= 10^5`
- `queries[i].length == 2`
- `0 <= left_i <= right_i < s.length`