2220. Minimum Bit Flips to Convert Number

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A **bit flip** of a number `x` is choosing a bit in the binary representation of `x` and **flipping** it from either `0` to `1` or `1` to `0`.

- For example, for `x = 7`, the binary representation is `111` and we may choose any bit (including any leading zeros not shown) and flip it. We can flip the first bit from the right to get `110`, flip the second bit from the right to get `101`, flip the fifth bit from the right (a leading zero) to get `10111`, etc.

Given two integers `start` and `goal`, return *the **minimum** number of **bit flips** to convert* `start` *to* `goal`.

User Accepted:	7970
User Tried:	8275
Total Accepted:	8246
Total Submissions:	10687
Difficulty:	Easy

Example 1:

```
Input: start = 10, goal = 7
Output: 3
Explanation: The binary representation of 10 and 7 are 1010 and 0111 respectively. We can convert 10 to 7 in 3 steps:
- Flip the first bit from the right: 1010 -> 1011.
- Flip the third bit from the right: 1011 -> 1111.
- Flip the fourth bit from the right: 1111 -> 0111.
It can be shown we cannot convert 10 to 7 in less than 3 steps. Hence, we return 3.
```

Example 2:

```
Input: start = 3, goal = 4
Output: 3
Explanation: The binary representation of 3 and 4 are 011 and 100 respectively. We can convert 3 to 4 in 3 steps:
- Flip the first bit from the right: 011 -> 010.
- Flip the second bit from the right: 010 -> 000.
- Flip the third bit from the right: 000 -> 100.
It can be shown we cannot convert 3 to 4 in less than 3 steps. Hence, we return 3.
```

Constraints:

- `0 <= start, goal <= 10^9`

Discuss (https://leetcode.com/problems/minimum-bit-flips-to-convert-number/discuss)

Java

```java
class Solution {
    public int minBitFlips( int start, int goal ) {

        int counter = 0;
        String s = Integer.toBinaryString(start);
        String g = Integer.toBinaryString(goal);

        int maxLength = Math.max(s.length(), g.length());
        String format = "%" + maxLength + "s";

        String new1 = String.format(format, s).replace(' ', '0');
        String new2 = String.format(format, g).replace(' ', '0');

        for(int i = 0 ; i < maxLength; i++){
            if(new1.charAt(i) != new2.charAt(i))
                counter++;
        }

        return counter;

    }
}
```

Custom Testcase Use Example Testcases

Run Code Submit