

## Online - 7 (A1/A2) Divide and Conquer

Duration: 40 minutes

You are given a string  $s$  consisting of lowercase letters. An **adjacent inverted pair** is defined as a pair of consecutive characters  $(s[i], s[i+1])$  such that  $s[i] > s[i+1]$ . Your task is to count the total number of adjacent inverted pairs in the string.

You must solve this problem using a **divide-and-conquer** approach. Assess the time complexity.

Input	Output
abcfrx	0
abdcba <b>x</b> awer	5

**Explanation:** For the 2nd case, the pairs are “dc”, “cb”, “ba”, “xa”, and “we”.