

23. You are given a string s . $s[i]$ is either a lowercase English letter or '?'. For a string t having length m containing only lowercase English letters, we define the function $\text{cost}(i)$ for an index i as the number of characters equal to $t[i]$ that appeared before it, i.e. in the range $[0, i - 1]$. The value of t is the sum of $\text{cost}(i)$ for all indices i . For example, for the string $t = \text{"aab"}$:

$\text{cost}(0) = 0$

$\text{cost}(1) = 1$

$\text{cost}(2) = 0$

Hence, the value of "aab" is $0 + 1 + 0 = 1$. Your task is to replace all occurrences of '?' in s with any lowercase English letter so at the value of s is minimized.

Code:

```
def minimize_string_value(s):
    from collections import Counter
    import string

    n = len(s)

    count = Counter()

    s_list = list(s)

    for i in range(n):
        if s_list[i] == '?':
            min_char = min(string.ascii_lowercase, key=lambda c: count[c])
            s_list[i] = min_char
            count[min_char] += 1
        else:
            count[s_list[i]] += 1

    return ''.join(s_list)

s = "a?b??c"
result = minimize_string_value(s)
print(result)
```

Output:

```
abbc dc
```

Time Complexity:

- $T(n) = O(n)$