

1055. Shortest Way to Form String Premium

Solved ●

Medium  Topics  Companies  Hint

A **subsequence** of a string is a new string that is formed from the original string by deleting some (can be none) of the characters without disturbing the relative positions of the remaining characters. (i.e., "ace" is a subsequence of "abcde" while "aec" is not).

Given two strings `source` and `target`, return *the minimum number of **subsequences** of `source` such that their concatenation equals `target`*. If the task is impossible, return `-1`.

Example 1:

Input: `source = "abc", target = "abcbc"`**Output:** 2**Explanation:** The target "abcbc" can be formed by "abc" and "bc", which are subsequences of source "abc".

Example 2:

Input: `source = "abc", target = "acdbc"`**Output:** -1**Explanation:** The target string cannot be constructed from the subsequences of source string due to the character "d" in target string.

Example 3:

Input: `source = "xyz", target = "xzyxz"`**Output:** 3**Explanation:** The target string can be constructed as follows "xz" + "y" + "xz".

Constraints:

- `1 <= source.length, target.length <= 1000`
- `source` and `target` consist of lowercase English letters.

Seen this question in a real interview before? 1/4

Yes No

Accepted **87.3K** Submissions **145.4K** Acceptance Rate **60.0%**Topics Companies Hint 1 Hint 2 Hint 3 Hint 4 

Similar Questions



Discussion (8)



Copyright © 2024 LeetCode All rights reserved