

**2.Medium\05.Count\_the\_number\_of\_substrings\_with\_k\_unique\_characters.cpp**

```
1  /*Given a string of lowercase alphabets, count all possible substrings (not necessarily
   distinct) that have exactly k distinct characters.
2
3  Example 1:
4
5  Input:
6  S = "aba", K = 2
7  Output:
8  3
9  Explanation:
10 The substrings are:
11 "ab", "ba" and "aba".
12
13 Example 2:
14
15 Input:
16 S = "abaaca", K = 1
17 Output:
18 7
19 Explanation:
20 The substrings are:
21 "a", "b", "a", "aa", "a", "c", "a".
22
23 Approach:
24 1. We can solve this problem using the sliding window technique.
25 2. Initialize a variable ans to keep track of the count of substrings with exactly k distinct
   characters.
26 3. Create an unordered_map mp to store the count of characters in the current window.
27 4. Initialize two pointers i and j to mark the start and end of the window, both initially
   pointing to the start of the string.
28 5. Iterate j from the start to the end of the string:
29     - Increment the count of the current character s[j] in mp.
30     - If the number of distinct characters in mp exceeds k, move the start pointer i towards
   the right until the number of distinct characters becomes k again.
31     - Update the ans by adding the length of the current window (j - i + 1) to it.
32 6. Return the value of ans.
33
34 Code:*/
35
36 long long int substrAtmostK(string s, int k) {
37     long long int ans = 0;
38     unordered_map<char, int> mp;
39     int i = 0;
40     for (int j = 0; j < s.size(); j++) {
41         mp[s[j]]++;
42
43         while (mp.size() > k) {
44             mp[s[i]]--;
45             if (mp[s[i]] == 0)
46                 mp.erase(s[i]);
47             i++;
48         }
```

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49 |  
50 |         ans += j - i + 1;  
51 |     }  
52 |     return ans;  
53 | }  
54 |  
55 | long long int substrCount(string s, int k) {  
56 |     long long int atmostk = substrAtmostK(s, k);  
57 |     long long int atmostk_1 = substrAtmostK(s, k - 1);  
58 |     return atmostk - atmostk_1;  
59 | }  
60 |  
61 | /*Time Complexity: O(N), where N is the length of the input string.  
62 | Space Complexity: O(K), where K is the number of distinct characters.*/  
63 |  
64 |
```