

1653. Minimum Deletions to Make String Balanced

You are given a string `S` consisting only of characters `'a'` and `'b'`.

You can delete any number of characters in `S` to make `S` **balanced**. `S` is **balanced** if there is no pair of indices `(i, j)` such that `i < j` and `s[i] = 'b'` and `s[j] = 'a'`.

Return the *minimum* number of deletions needed to make `S` **balanced**.

Example 1:

Input: `s = "aababbab"`

Output: 2

Explanation: You can either:

Delete the characters at 0-indexed positions 2 and 6 ("aababbab" -> "aaabbb"), or

Delete the characters at 0-indexed positions 3 and 6 ("aababbab" -> "aabbbb").

Example 2:

Input: `s = "bbaaaaabb"`

Output: 2

Explanation: The only solution is to delete the first two characters.

Constraints:

- `1 <= s.length <= 105`
- `s[i]` is `'a'` or `'b'`.

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/*

Brute force

Time complexity: $O(2n)=O(n)$

Extra space complexity: $O(n)$

*/

typedef std::vector<int> vi;

class Solution {

public:

int minimumDeletions(std::string s) {

int n=s.size();

vi suff_a_in_right(n,0);

for(int i=n-2;i>=0;--i){

suff_a_in_right[i]+=(s[i+1]=='a')?suff_a_in_right[i+1]+1:suff_a_in_right[i+1];

}

int b_in_left=0,ans=INT_MAX;

for(int i=0;i<n;++i){

ans=std::min(ans,b_in_left+suff_a_in_right[i]);

if(s[i]=='b') b_in_left++;

}

return ans;

}

};

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```
/*  
    Brute force: optimize space  
    Time complexity:  $O(2n)=O(n)$   
    Extra space complexity:  $O(1)$   
*/  
typedef std::vector<int> vi;  
  
class Solution {  
public:  
    int minimumDeletions(std::string s) {  
        int n=s.size();  
  
        int total_a=0;  
        for(auto& c: s){  
            if(c=='a') total_a++;  
        }  
  
        int b_in_left=0,a_in_left=0,ans=INT_MAX;  
  
        for(int i=0;i<n;++i){  
            if(s[i]=='a') a_in_left++;  
            ans=std::min(ans,b_in_left+(total_a-a_in_left));  
            if(s[i]=='b') b_in_left++;  
        }  
  
        return ans;  
    }  
};
```