

➤ Please use Python 3.8 to complete this task

You are given a string  $S$  consisting of  $N$  lowercase English letters. In how many ways can we split  $S$  into two non-empty parts, such that in at least one part the letter 'x' and the letter 'y' occur the same number of times?

Write a function:

```
def solution(S):
```

That, given a string  $S$  of length  $N$ , returns the number of splits  $S$  satisfying the condition above.

Example:

1. Given  $S = \text{'ayxbx'}$ , the function should return 3. There are four possible splits of  $S$ :  $\text{'a/yxbx'}$ ,  $\text{'ay/xbx'}$ ,  $\text{'ayx/bx'}$  and  $\text{'ayxb/x'}$ . Only  $\text{'ay/xbx'}$  does not meet this condition therefore the answer is 3. Note that in  $\text{'a/yxbx'}$  the left part has 0 occurrences of 'x' and 'y', so it counts as a correct split.
2. Given  $S = \text{'xzzzy'}$ , the function should return 0.
3. Given  $\text{'toyxmy'}$ , the function should return 5.
4. Given  $S = \text{'apple'}$ , the function should return 4.

Write an efficient algorithm for the following assumptions:

- $N$  is an integer with the range  $[2 - 200,000]$
- String  $S$  consists of only lowercase letters (a-z)