

6009. Minimum Number of Steps to Make Two Strings Anagram II

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You are given two strings s and t . In one step, you can append **any character** to either s or t .

Return the *minimum number of steps* to make s and t **anagrams** of each other.

An **anagram** of a string is a string that contains the same characters with a different (or the same) ordering.

Example 1:

Input: $s = \text{"leetcode"}, t = \text{"coats"}$

Output: 7

Explanation:

– In 2 steps, we can append the letters in "as" onto $s = \text{"leetcode"}$, forming $s = \text{"leetcodeas"}$
– In 5 steps, we can append the letters in "leede" onto $t = \text{"coats"}$, forming $t = \text{"coatsleede"}$
"leetcodeas" and "coatsleede" are now anagrams of each other.
We used a total of $2 + 5 = 7$ steps.
It can be shown that there is no way to make them anagrams of each other with less than 7 steps.

Example 2:

Input: $s = \text{"night"}, t = \text{"thing"}$

Output: 0

Explanation: The given strings are already anagrams of each other. Thus, we do not need any further steps.

Constraints:

- $1 \leq s.length, t.length \leq 2 * 10^5$
- s and t consist of lowercase English letters.

JavaScript



```
1 const counter = (a_or_s) => { let m = new Map(); for (const x of a_or_s) m.set(x, m.get(x) + 1 || 1); return m; };
2
3 const minSteps = (s, t) => {
4   let ms = counter(s), mt = counter(t), res = 0;
5   for (const [c, occ] of ms) {
6     if (mt.has(c)) {
7       let tocc = mt.get(c);
8       res += Math.abs(occ - tocc);
9     } else {
10      res += occ;
11    }
12  }
13  for (const [c, occ] of mt) {
14    if (ms.has(c)) {
15      // let socc = ms.get(c);
16      // res += Math.abs(occ - socc);
17    } else {
18      res += occ;
19    }
20  }
21  return res;
22 };
```

☐ Custom Testcase

☒ Use Example Testcases

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