

1578: Minimum time to make rope colorful

string = "a a b a a"

where each character represent a color (balloon)

time = "1 2 3 4 1" (Time required to remove balloon of each position.)

- Remove balloon in such a way that no balloons of same color are adjacent to each other. (In minimum time.)

balloons = "abaabccccccaa"

After removing the balloons = "ababca"

~~Only~~ No same color balloon in adjacent position.

a b a a b c c c c c c c a a

only one 'a' will remain we have to remove every 'c' except the one which takes the most time to remove.

Algorithm

- Sum the total time needed whenever adjacent elements are equal.
- Subtract the balloon with maximum time from the total time.
- Do it for all such occurrences (In above example, 3 occurrences)
- Get the total time from all such occurrences.