

Me: Suppose you have a list of file names, called `file_list`. Write a python program that constructs a dictionary counting the total number of occurrences of each character across all of the files.

ChatGPT:

Here is an example of how you might write a Python program to count the number of occurrences of each character in a list of files:

```
import collections

# Initialize an empty dictionary to store the character counts
char_counts = {}

# Iterate through the list of file names
for filename in file_list:
    # Open the file for reading
    with open(filename, "r") as file:
        # Read the contents of the file into a string
        contents = file.read()
        # Iterate through the characters in the string
        for char in contents:
            # If the character is not in the dictionary yet, add it
            # with a count of 1
            if char not in char_counts:
                char_counts[char] = 1
            # If the character is already in the dictionary, increment
            # its count by 1
            else:
                char_counts[char] += 1

# Use the Counter class from the collections module to sort the
# dictionary by value in descending order
sorted_char_counts = collections.Counter(char_counts).most_common()

# Print the sorted character counts
for char, count in sorted_char_counts:
    print(f"{char}: {count}")
```