

## 451. Sort Characters By Frequency

ex i/p  $\rightarrow$  "tree"

o/p  $\rightarrow$  "eetr" or "eert"

i/p  $\rightarrow$  "cccaaa"

o/p  $\rightarrow$  "aaaccc" or "cccaaa"

i/p  $\rightarrow$  "Aabb"

o/p  $\rightarrow$  "bbaA" or "bbAa"

### Approach - 1

Do @ whatever question is saying.

(i) sort based on frequency  
 $\downarrow$

first get frequency of every character.

$\downarrow$   
Then sort the string based on the frequency using comparator  $f^r$ .

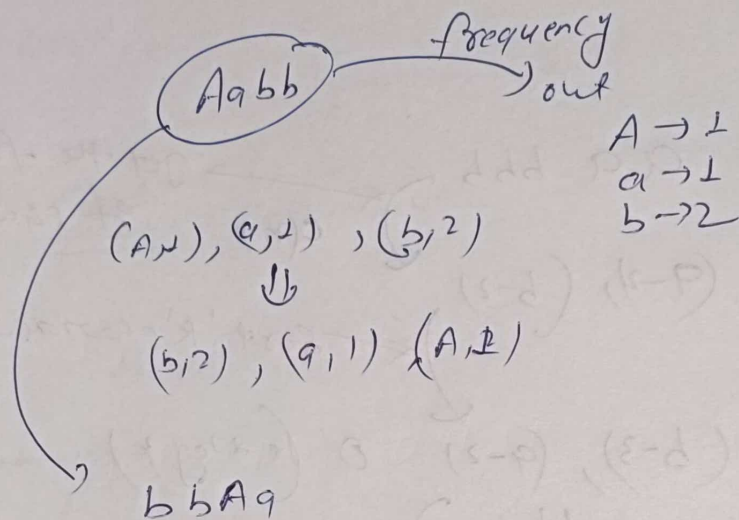
$$T.C. = O(n \log n)$$

$$S.C. = O(\log n)$$

$\rightarrow$  while sorting heap space

## Approach-2

In previous approach what we are doing is



We are sorting the entire string i.e. sorting of string length  $n$ .

But we have only lower, upper case & digits in string i.e.

$26 + 26 + 10 \Rightarrow K$  ← we have only  $K$  distinct characters.

So rather than sorting  $n$  length string sort only  $K$  characters.

How

ex → str = "aabb" →  $n = 5$

↓  
 $a = 2, b = 3$

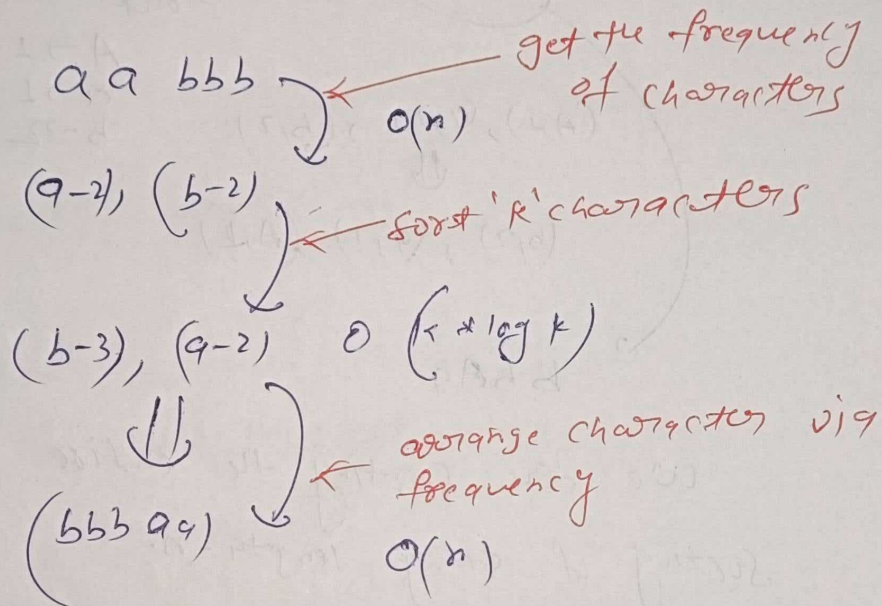
↘  $K = 2$  sort only this two characters



after sorting  $k$  distinct character,

$(b-3), (a-2)$

i.e.



$$\boxed{\begin{aligned} \text{T.C.} &= O(n + k \log k) \\ \text{S.C.} &= O(n) \end{aligned}}$$

Approach-3

So far we are optimizing the sorting itself

$$(n \log n) \longrightarrow (k \log k) \text{ \& if}$$

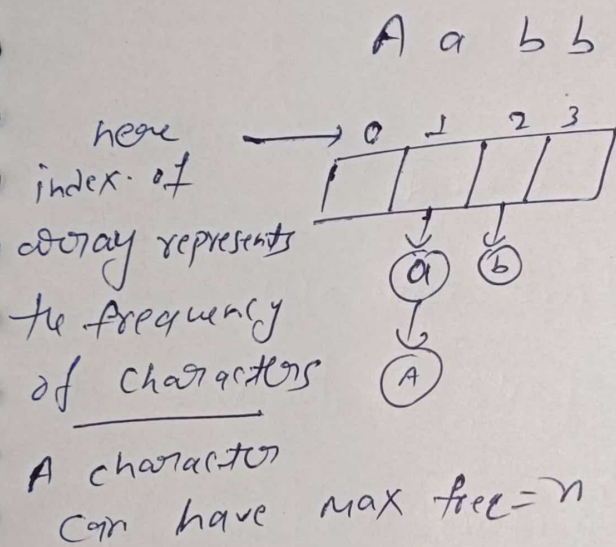
we want more optimization then we have to optimize the sorting bcz  $O(n)$  comes



bcz we have to travel the string.

to optimizing the sorting we can use bucket sort.

Bucket Sort ← use a sorting algorithm which not use the sorting time complexity.



→ after this travel this array from back bcz max frequency character lies in back & append that character with their freq no. in string.

b b a A

If, problem is asked like you have to sort the same frequency character based on their ASCII value then you have to sort the every index of bucket array.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{T.C.} &= O(n \log n) \\ \text{S.C.} &= O(n) \end{aligned}$$