Problem 3675: Minimum Operations to Transform String

Problem Information

Difficulty: Medium
Acceptance Rate: 60.82%
Paid Only: No
Tags: String, Greedy

Problem Description

You are given a string `s` consisting only of lowercase English letters.

You can perform the following operation any number of times (including zero):

* Choose any character `c` in the string and replace **every** occurrence of `c` with the **next** lowercase letter in the English alphabet.

Return the **minimum** number of operations required to transform `s` into a string consisting of **only** `'a'` characters.

Note: Consider the alphabet as circular, thus `'a'` comes after `'z'`.

Example 1:

Input: s = "yz"

Output: 2

Explanation:

* Change `'y'` to `'z'` to get `"zz"`. * Change `'z'` to `'a'` to get `"aa"`. * Thus, the answer is 2.

Example 2:

Input: s = "a"

Output: 0

Explanation:

* The string `"a"` only consists of `'a'`■■■■■■■ characters. Thus, the answer is 0.

Constraints:

* `1 <= s.length <= 5 * 105` * `s` consists only of lowercase English letters.

Code Snippets

C++:

```cpp
class Solution {
public:
    int minOperations(string s) {

    }
};
```

Java:

```java
class Solution {
    public int minOperations(String s) {

    }
}
```

Python3:

```python
class Solution:
    def minOperations(self, s: str) -> int:
```