

# Problem 1182: Shortest Distance to Target Color

## Problem Information

**Difficulty:** Medium

**Acceptance Rate:** 56.44%

**Paid Only:** Yes

**Tags:** Array, Binary Search, Dynamic Programming

## Problem Description

You are given an array `colors`, in which there are three colors: `'1'`, `'2'` and `'3'`.

You are also given some queries. Each query consists of two integers `i` and `c`, return the shortest distance between the given index `i` and the target color `c`. If there is no solution return `-1`.

**Example 1:**

**Input:** `colors = [1,1,2,1,3,2,2,3,3]`, `queries = [[1,3],[2,2],[6,1]]` **Output:** `[3,0,3]`

**Explanation:** The nearest 3 from index 1 is at index 4 (3 steps away). The nearest 2 from index 2 is at index 2 itself (0 steps away). The nearest 1 from index 6 is at index 3 (3 steps away).

**Example 2:**

**Input:** `colors = [1,2]`, `queries = [[0,3]]` **Output:** `[-1]` **Explanation:** There is no 3 in the array.

**Constraints:**

`1 <= colors.length <= 5*10^4` `1 <= colors[i] <= 3` `1 <= queries.length <= 5*10^4` `queries[i].length == 2` `0 <= queries[i][0] < colors.length` `1 <= queries[i][1] <= 3`

## Code Snippets

### C++:

```
class Solution {  
public:  
    vector<int> shortestDistanceColor(vector<int>& colors, vector<vector<int>>&  
    queries) {  
  
    }  
};
```

### Java:

```
class Solution {  
    public List<Integer> shortestDistanceColor(int[] colors, int[][] queries) {  
  
    }  
}
```

### Python3:

```
class Solution:  
    def shortestDistanceColor(self, colors: List[int], queries: List[List[int]])  
    -> List[int]:
```