

Problem 2260: Minimum Consecutive Cards to Pick Up

Problem Information

Difficulty: Medium

Acceptance Rate: 53.22%

Paid Only: No

Tags: Array, Hash Table, Sliding Window

Problem Description

You are given an integer array `cards` where `cards[i]` represents the **value** of the `i`th card. A pair of cards are **matching** if the cards have the **same** value.

Return **the minimum** number of **consecutive** cards you have to pick up to have a pair of **matching** cards among the picked cards. If it is impossible to have matching cards, return `-1`.

Example 1:

Input: `cards = [3,4,2,3,4,7]` **Output:** `4` **Explanation:** We can pick up the cards `[3,4,2,3]` which contain a matching pair of cards with value 3. Note that picking up the cards `[4,2,3,4]` is also optimal.

Example 2:

Input: `cards = [1,0,5,3]` **Output:** `-1` **Explanation:** There is no way to pick up a set of consecutive cards that contain a pair of matching cards.

Constraints:

`1 <= cards.length <= 105` `0 <= cards[i] <= 106`

Code Snippets

C++:

```
class Solution {  
public:  
    int minimumCardPickup(vector<int>& cards) {  
  
    }  
};
```

Java:

```
class Solution {  
    public int minimumCardPickup(int[] cards) {  
  
    }  
}
```

Python3:

```
class Solution:  
    def minimumCardPickup(self, cards: List[int]) -> int:
```