

# Problem 2315: Count Asterisks

## Problem Information

**Difficulty:** Easy

**Acceptance Rate:** 83.09%

**Paid Only:** No

**Tags:** String

## Problem Description

You are given a string `s`, where every \*\*two\*\* consecutive vertical bars `'|'` are grouped into a \*\*pair\*\*. In other words, the 1st and 2nd `'|'` make a pair, the 3rd and 4th `'|'` make a pair, and so forth.

Return \_the number of\_ `'\*'` \_in\_ `s` \_,\_ \*\*excluding\*\* the \_`'\*'`\_ between each pair of\_ `'|'`.

\*\*Note\*\* that each `'|'` will belong to \*\*exactly\*\* one pair.

\*\*Example 1:\*\*

\*\*Input:\*\* s = "I|\*e\*et|c\*\*o|\*de|" \*\*Output:\*\* 2 \*\*Explanation:\*\* The considered characters are underlined: "I|\*e\*et|c\*\*o|\*de|". The characters between the first and second `'|'` are excluded from the answer. Also, the characters between the third and fourth `'|'` are excluded from the answer. There are 2 asterisks considered. Therefore, we return 2.

\*\*Example 2:\*\*

\*\*Input:\*\* s = "iamprogrammer" \*\*Output:\*\* 0 \*\*Explanation:\*\* In this example, there are no asterisks in s. Therefore, we return 0.

\*\*Example 3:\*\*

\*\*Input:\*\* s = "yo|uar|e\*\*|b|e\*\*\*au|tifull|" \*\*Output:\*\* 5 \*\*Explanation:\*\* The considered characters are underlined: "yo|uar|e\*\*|b|e\*\*\*au|tifull|". There are 5 asterisks considered. Therefore, we return 5.

**\*\*Constraints:\*\***

\* `1 <= s.length <= 1000` \* `s` consists of lowercase English letters, vertical bars `'|'`, and asterisks `'\*'`. \* `s` contains an **even** number of vertical bars `'|'`.

## Code Snippets

**C++:**

```
class Solution {
public:
    int countAsterisks(string s) {
        }
    };
}
```

**Java:**

```
class Solution {
    public int countAsterisks(String s) {
        }
    }
}
```

**Python3:**

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