# 

# Sherlock and the Valid String ★

Problem Submissions Leaderboard Editorial 🖰

Sherlock considers a string to be valid if all characters of the string appear the same number of times. It is also valid if he can remove just 1 character at 1 index in the string, and the remaining characters will occur the same number of times. Given a string 8, determine if it is valid. If so, return YES, otherwise return NO.

#### Example

## s = abc

This is a valid string because frequencies are  $\{a:1,b:1,c:1\}$ .

#### s = abcc

This is a valid string because we can remove one  $m{c}$  and have  $m{1}$  of each character in the remaining string.

## s = abccc

This string is not valid as we can only remove 1 occurrence of c. That leaves character frequencies of  $\{a:1,b:1,c:2\}$ .

## **Function Description**

Complete the isValid function in the editor below.

isValid has the following parameter(s):

string s: a string

#### Returns

string: either YES or NO

# Input Format

A single string 8.

# Constraints

- $1 \le |s| \le 10^5$
- Each character  $s[i] \in ascii[a-z]$

# Sample Input 0

aabbcd

# Sample Output 0

NO

#### **Explanation 0**

Given s = "aabbcd", we would need to remove two characters, both c and d  $\rightarrow$  aabb or a and b  $\rightarrow$  abcd, to make it valid. We are limited to removing only one character, so s is invalid.

## Sample Input 1

aabbccddeefghi

# Sample Output 1

NO



```
Frequency counts for the letters are as follows:
{'a': 2, 'b': 2, 'c': 2, 'd': 2, 'e': 2, 'f': 1, 'g': 1, 'h': 1, 'ii': 1}

There are two ways to make the valid string:

• Remove 4 characters with a frequency of 1: {fghi}.

• Remove 5 characters of frequency 2: {abcde}.

Neither of these is an option.

Sample Input 2

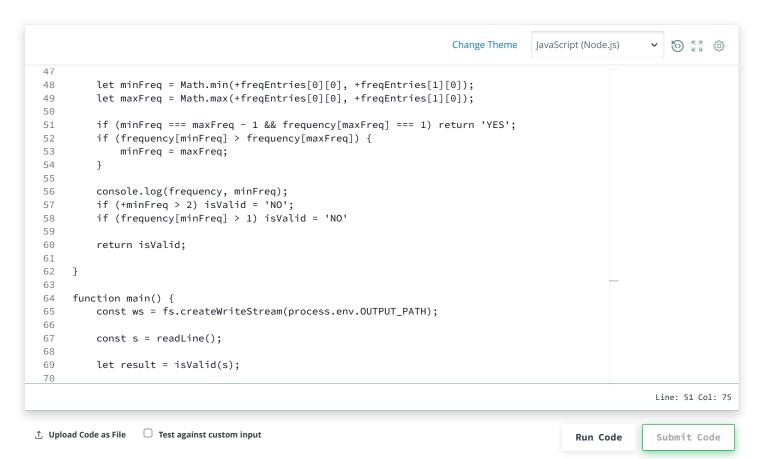
abcdefghhgfedecba

Sample Output 2

YES

Explanation 2

All characters occur twice except for e which occurs 3 times. We can delete one instance of e to have a valid string.
```



# **Congratulations!**

You have passed the sample test cases. Click the submit button to run your code against all the test cases.

```
⊗ Sample Test case 2
                              Your Output (stdout)
                                   NO
                              Expected Output
                                                                                                               Download
                                1 NO
                              Debug output
                                1 { '1': 2, '2': 2 } 1
```

Contest Calendar | Blog | Scoring | Environment | FAQ | About Us | Support | Careers | Terms Of Service | Privacy Policy | Request a Feature

