Problem List

Description | Accepted | Editorial | Solutions | Submissions

3696. Maximum Distance Between Unequal Words in Array I

Premium

Solved

Easy | Topics | Hint

You are given a string array `words`.

Find the **maximum distance** between two **distinct** indices `i` and `j` such that:

- `words[i] != words[j]`, and
- the distance is defined as `j - i + 1`.

Return the maximum distance among all such pairs. If no valid pair exists, return 0.

Example 1:

Input: `words = ["leetcode","leetcode","codeforces"]`

Output: 3

Explanation:

In this example, `words[0]` and `words[2]` are not equal, and they have the maximum distance `2 - 0 + 1 = 3`.

Example 2:

Input: `words = ["a","b","c","a","a"]`

Output: 4

Explanation:

In this example `words[1]` and `words[4]` have the largest distance of `4 - 1 + 1 = 4`.

Example 3:

Input: `words = ["z","z","z"]`

Output: `0`

Explanation:

In this example all the words are equal, thus the answer is 0.

Constraints:

- `1 <= words.length <= 100`
- `1 <= words[i].length <= 10`
- `words[i]` consists of lowercase English letters.

Seen this question in a real interview before? 1/5

Yes No

Accepted 704/838 | Acceptance Rate 84.0%

Topics

Hint 1

Discussion (0)

6 0 0 Online

Submit

Code

Python3 • Auto

```python
class Solution:
    def maxDistance(self, words: List[str]) -> int:

        max_distance = 0

        for i in range(0, len(words)-1):
            for j in range(i+1, len(words)):
                if words[i] != words[j]:
                    temp = j - i + 1

                    if temp > max_distance:
                        max_distance = temp

        return max_distance

```

Saved

Ln 12, Col 41

Testcase | Test Result

Accepted Runtime: 0 ms

Case 1 Case 2 Case 3

Input

words =
["leetcode","leetcode","codeforces"]

Output

3

Expected