

## 1182. Shortest Distance to Target Color

[My Submissions \(/contest/biweekly-contest-8/problems/shortest-distance-to-target-color/submissions/\)](/contest/biweekly-contest-8/problems/shortest-distance-to-target-color/submissions/)[Back to Contest \(/contest/biweekly-contest-8/\)](/contest/biweekly-contest-8/)

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`

**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.

User Accepted:	577
User Tried:	740
Total Accepted:	586
Total Submissions:	1362
Difficulty:	Medium

### Constraints:

- `1 <= colors.length <= 5*104`
- `1 <= colors[i] <= 3`
- `1 <= queries.length <= 5*104`
- `queries[i].length == 2`
- `0 <= queries[i][0] < colors.length`
- `1 <= queries[i][1] <= 3`

[Discuss \(https://leetcode.com/problems/shortest-distance-to-target-color/discuss\)](https://leetcode.com/problems/shortest-distance-to-target-color/discuss)

Python3



```
1 class Solution:
2     # 2032 ms, using bisect
3     def shortestDistanceColor(self, colors: List[int], queries: List[List[int]]) ->
4         List[int]:
5         D = collections.defaultdict(list)
6         for i, v in enumerate(colors):
```

```
6         D[v].append(i)
7     print(D)
8     ans = []
9     for i, v in queries:
10         if v not in D:
11             ans.append(-1)
12             continue
13         index = bisect.bisect(D[v], i)
14         temp1 = D[v][index] if index < len(D[v]) else float("inf")
15         temp2 = D[v][index - 1] if index > 0 else float("inf")
16         ans.append(min(abs(i - temp1), abs(i - temp2)))
17     return ans
18
19     # done in contest 2100 ms, search left and right, naive
20     def shortestDistanceColor1(self, colors: List[int], queries: List[List[int]]) ->
    List[int]:
21
22         def nearest_left(index, val):
23             for i in reversed(range(0, index + 1)):
24                 if colors[i] == val:
25                     return index - i
26             return -1
27
28         def nearest_right(index, val):
29             for i in range(index, len(colors)):
30                 if colors[i] == val:
31                     return i - index
32             return -1
33
34         ans = []
35         D = {}
36         for i, val in queries:
37             if (i, val) in D:
38                 ans.append(D[(i, val)])
39                 continue
40             left = nearest_left(i, val)
41             right = nearest_right(i, val)
42             if -1 in (left, right):
43                 rv = max(left, right)
44             else:
45                 rv = min(left, right)
46             ans.append(rv)
47             D[(i, val)] = rv
48     return ans
```

☐ Custom Testcase

Run Code

Submit