

Solution

First, we concatenate the input strings to create one string S . Now we want to obtain the answer iteratively; meaning that at first, we want to calculate the first character of the answer, then the second character, and so on.

In the process of calculating the i -th character, we will keep a DP array $dp[N][2]$, which $dp[j][0]$ is 1 if there is a way of achieving the first i characters of the answer by the first j characters of S . $dp[j][1]$ means if we can achieve the i first characters of the answer by the first j characters of S , and use character $S[j]$ too. To calculate the i -th character of the answer, we iterate from 'a' to 'z' to find out in which case we have an answer, and the first feasible character will be the i -th character.

Note that in order to calculate the DP array, we should consider that the total size of the answer has to be equal to k , and the remaining unused strings in $dp[j][x]$ have to satisfy the length condition.