# Reverse Shuffle Merge

HackerRank

Given a string, A, we define some operations on the string as follows:

a. reverse(A) denotes the string obtained by reversing string A. Example: reverse("abc") = "cba"

b. shuffle(A) denotes any string that's a permutation of string A. Example: shuffle("god")  $\in$  ['god', 'gdo', 'ogd', 'odg', 'dgo', 'dog']

c. merge(A1, A2) denotes any string that's obtained by interspersing the two strings  $A1 \otimes A2$ , maintaining the order of characters in both. For example,  $A1 = "abc" \otimes A2 = "def"$ , one possible result of merge(A1, A2) could be "abcdef", another could be "abdecf", another could be "adbecf" and so on.

Given a string s such that  $s \in merge(reverse(A), shuffle(A))$  for some string A, find the lexicographically smallest A.

For example, s = abab. We can split it into two strings of ab. The reverse is ba and we need to find a string to shuffle in to get abab. The middle two characters match our reverse string, leaving the a and b at the ends. Our shuffle string needs to be ab. Lexicographically ab < ba, so our answer is ab.

## **Function Description**

Complete the *reverseShuffleMerge* function in the editor below. It must return the lexicographically smallest string fitting the criteria.

reverseShuffleMerge has the following parameter(s):

• s: a string

## **Input Format**

A single line containing the string  $\boldsymbol{s}$ .

## Constraints

- *s* contains only lower-case English letters, *ascii[a-z]*
- $1 \leq |s| \leq 10000$

## **Output Format**

Find and return the string which is the lexicographically smallest valid A.

## Sample Input 0

eggegg

## Sample Output 0

egg

# **Explanation 0**

```
Split "eggegg" into strings of like character counts: "egg", "egg"
reverse("egg") = "gge"
shuffle("egg") can be "egg"
"eggegg" belongs to the merge of ("gge", "egg")
```

The merge is: *eggegg*.

'egg' < 'gge'

## Sample Input 1

abcdefgabcdefg

## Sample Output 1

agfedcb

## **Explanation 1**

Split the string into two strings with like characters: abcdefg and abcdefg. Reverse abcdefg = gfedcbaShuffle gfedcba can be bcdefgaMerge to abcdefgabcdefg

## Sample Input 2

aeiouuoiea

## Sample Output 2

aeiou

## **Explanation 2**

Split the string into groups of like characters: *aeiou* Reverse *aeiou* = *uoiea* These merge to *aeiouuoiea*