

TWO POINTERS (OUTSIDE IN)

No.	Problem Statement	Solution	Time complexity	Space complexity
1	Valid Palindrome			
	A phrase is a palindrome if, after converting all uppercase letters into lowercase letters and removing all non-alphanumeric characters, it reads the same forward and backward.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Left and Right pointers : l=0 and r=n-1 - tolower(): to convert it to small case and -isalnum(): to check if an alphabet or a number - Skip over non alphanumeric characters Else compare s[l] == s[r] 	O(N)	O(1)
2	Two Sum II (Input Array Is Sorted)			
	Given an array of integers nums and an integer target, return indices (index1 < index2) of the two numbers such that they add up to target. (You may not use the same element twice)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Left and Right pointers : l=0 and r=n-1 --> Only works if the array is sorted - while(l<r) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> curr_sum = numbers[l] + numbers[r]; if(curr_sum == target) return {l+1, r+1}; if(curr_sum > target) r--; // To reduce the sum else l++; 	O(N)	O(1)
3	3Sum			
	Given an integer array nums, return all the triplets {nums[i], nums[j], nums[k]} such that i != j, i != k, and j != k, and nums[i] + nums[j] + nums[k] == 0.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sort the array - We need to Find {a,b,c} such that a+b+c=0 - Traverse 'nums' array i: 0 --> n-1 - a = nums[i] & target = -1 * nums[i] - now, treat the problem as finding a pair {b,c} such that b + c = target 	O(N^2)	O(1)
4	Container With Most Water			
	Given an integer array 'height' of length n, where height[i] represents the height of verticle line at i. Find two lines that together with the x-axis form a container, such that the container contains the most water.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Left and Right pointers: l=0 and r=n-1 - while(l<r) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> temp = min(height[l], height[r]) * (r-l) if(height[l]<height[r]) l++ // Greedily move the pointer that points to the shorter line, which increases the possibility of finding a greater area in the next iteration. else r-- 	O(N)	O(1)
5	Trapping Rain Water			
	Given an integer array 'height' of length n, where height[i] represents the height at 'i'. The width of each bar is 1, compute how much water it can trap after raining.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Left and Right pointer s: l=0 and r=n-1 - max_l = height[l] // Maximum height encountered from the left - max_r = height[r] // Maximum height encountered from the right while(l<r) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> // max_l < max_r --> Water trapped depends on max_l if(max_l < max_r) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ans += max_l - height[l] l++ max_l = max(max_l, height[l]) else <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ans += max_r - height[r] r-- max_r = max(max_r, height[r]) // Imp that we do 'l++' first and then update max_l 	O(N)	O(1)