

Design Tic-Tac-Toe

Design a Tic-tac-toe game that is played between two players on an $n \times n$ grid.

You may assume the following rules:

1. A move is guaranteed to be valid and is placed on an empty block.
2. Once a winning condition is reached, no more moves is allowed.
3. A player who succeeds in placing n of their marks in a horizontal, vertical, or diagonal row wins the game.

Example:

Given $n = 3$, assume that player 1 is "X" and player 2 is "O" in the board.

```
TicTacToe toe = new TicTacToe(3);
```

```
toe.move(0, 0, 1); -> Returns 0 (no one wins)
```

```
|X| | |  
| | | | // Player 1 makes a move at (0, 0).  
| | | |
```

```
toe.move(0, 2, 2); -> Returns 0 (no one wins)
```

```
|X| |O|  
| | | | // Player 2 makes a move at (0, 2).  
| | | |
```

```
toe.move(2, 2, 1); -> Returns 0 (no one wins)
```

```
|X| |O|  
| | | | // Player 1 makes a move at (2, 2).  
| | |X|
```

```
toe.move(1, 1, 2); -> Returns 0 (no one wins)
```

```
|X| |O|  
| |O| | // Player 2 makes a move at (1, 1).  
| | |X|
```

```
toe.move(2, 0, 1); -> Returns 0 (no one wins)
```

```
|X| |O|  
| |O| | // Player 1 makes a move at (2, 0).  
|X| |X|
```

```
toe.move(1, 0, 2); -> Returns 0 (no one wins)
```

```
|X| |O|  
|O|O| | // Player 2 makes a move at (1, 0).  
|X| |X|
```

```
toe.move(2, 1, 1); -> Returns 1 (player 1 wins)
```

```
|X| |O|  
|O|O| | // Player 1 makes a move at (2, 1).  
|X|X|X|
```

Follow up:

Could you do better than $O(n^2)$ per `move()` operation?

1. Could you trade extra space such that `move()` operation can be done in $O(1)$?

2. You need two arrays: `int rows[n]`, `int cols[n]`, plus two variables: `diagonal`, `anti_diagonal`.

Solution 1

Initially, I had not read the Hint in the question and came up with an $O(n)$ solution. After reading the extremely helpful hint; a much easier approach became apparent. The key observation is that in order to win Tic-Tac-Toe you must have the entire row or column. Thus, we don't need to keep track of an entire n^2 board. We only need to keep a count for each row and column. If at any time a row or column matches the size of the board then that player has won.

To keep track of which player, I add one for Player1 and -1 for Player2. There are two additional variables to keep track of the count of the diagonals. Each time a player places a piece we just need to check the count of that row, column, diagonal and anti-diagonal.

Also see a very similar answer that I believe had beaten me to the punch. We came up with our solutions independently but they are very similar in principle. [Aeonaxx's soln](#)

```

public class TicTacToe {
private int[] rows;
private int[] cols;
private int diagonal;
private int antiDiagonal;

/** Initialize your data structure here. */
public TicTacToe(int n) {
    rows = new int[n];
    cols = new int[n];
}

/** Player {player} makes a move at ({row}, {col}).
    @param row The row of the board.
    @param col The column of the board.
    @param player The player, can be either 1 or 2.
    @return The current winning condition, can be either:
        0: No one wins.
        1: Player 1 wins.
        2: Player 2 wins. */
public int move(int row, int col, int player) {
    int toAdd = player == 1 ? 1 : -1;

    rows[row] += toAdd;
    cols[col] += toAdd;
    if (row == col)
    {
        diagonal += toAdd;
    }

    if (col == (cols.length - row - 1))
    {
        antiDiagonal += toAdd;
    }

    int size = rows.length;
    if (Math.abs(rows[row]) == size ||
        Math.abs(cols[col]) == size ||
        Math.abs(diagonal) == size ||
        Math.abs(antiDiagonal) == size)
    {
        return player;
    }

    return 0;
}
}

```

}

written by [bdwalker](#) original link [here](#)

Solution 2

```
class TicTacToe {
public:
    TicTacToe(int n) : sz(n) {
        rows.resize(n, 0), cols.resize(n, 0);
        diagonal = anti_diagonal = 0;
    }

    int move(int row, int col, int player) {
        if (player == 1) {
            ++rows[row], ++cols[col];
            if (row == col)
                ++diagonal;
            if (row == sz - 1 - col)
                ++anti_diagonal;
            if (rows[row] == sz || cols[col] == sz || diagonal == sz || anti_diagonal == sz)
                return 1;
        }
        else {
            --rows[row], --cols[col];
            if (row == col)
                --diagonal;
            if (row == sz - 1 - col)
                --anti_diagonal;
            if (rows[row] == -sz || cols[col] == -sz || diagonal == -sz || anti_diagonal == -sz)
                return 2;
        }
        return 0;
    }

private:
    vector<int> rows, cols;
    int diagonal, anti_diagonal;
    int sz;
};
```

written by [Aeonaxx](#) original link [here](#)

Solution 3

```
public class TicTacToe {

    private int[] rows;
    private int[] cols;
    private int size;
    private int diagonal;
    private int anti_diagonal;
    /** Initialize your data structure here. */
    public TicTacToe(int n) {
        size = n;
        rows = new int[n];
        cols = new int[n];
    }

    /** Player {player} makes a move at ({row}, {col}).
     * @param row The row of the board.
     * @param col The column of the board.
     * @param player The player, can be either 1 or 2.
     * @return The current winning condition, can be either:
     *         0: No one wins.
     *         1: Player 1 wins.
     *         2: Player 2 wins. */
    public int move(int row, int col, int player) {
        int add = player == 1 ? 1 : -1;
        if(col == row){
            diagonal += add;
        }
        if(col == size - 1 - row){
            anti_diagonal += add;
        }
        rows[row] += add;
        cols[col] += add;
        if(Math.abs(rows[row]) == size || Math.abs(cols[col]) == size || Math.abs(
diagonal) == size || Math.abs(anti_diagonal) == size){
            return player;
        }
        return 0;
    }
}
```

written by [lei11](#) original link [here](#)

From [Leetcode](#).