3488. Closest Equal Element Queries

Solved ●

Medium Topics Companies Hint

You are given a **circular** array `nums` and an array `queries`.

For each query `i`, you have to find the following:

- The **minimum** distance between the element at index `queries[i]` and **any** other index `j` in the **circular** array, where `nums[j] == nums[queries[i]]`. If no such index exists, the answer for that query should be -1.

Return an array `answer` of the **same** size as `queries`, where `answer[i]` represents the result for query `i`.

Example 1:

> **Input:** nums = [1,3,1,4,1,3,2], queries = [0,3,5]
>
> **Output:** [2,-1,3]
>
> **Explanation:**
>
> - Query 0: The element at `queries[0] = 0` is `nums[0] = 1`. The nearest index with the same value is 2, and the distance between them is 2.
> - Query 1: The element at `queries[1] = 3` is `nums[3] = 4`. No other index contains 4, so the result is -1.
> - Query 2: The element at `queries[2] = 5` is `nums[5] = 3`. The nearest index with the same value is 1, and the distance between them is 3 (following the circular path: `5 -> 6 -> 0 -> 1`).

Example 2:

> **Input:** nums = [1,2,3,4], queries = [0,1,2,3]
>
> **Output:** [-1,-1,-1,-1]
>
> **Explanation:**
>
> Each value in `nums` is unique, so no index shares the same value as the queried element. This results in -1 for all queries.

Constraints:

- `1 <= queries.length <= nums.length <= 10^5`
- `1 <= nums[i] <= 10^6`
- `0 <= queries[i] < nums.length`

Seen this question in a real interview before? 1/5

Yes No

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Hint 1

Hint 2

Discussion (32)