Bulb Switcher II

There is a room with n lights which are turned on initially and 4 buttons on the wall. After performing exactly m unknown operations towards buttons, you need to return how many different kinds of status of the n lights could be.

Suppose n lights are labeled as number [1, 2, 3 ..., n], function of these 4 buttons are given below:

- 1. Flip all the lights.
- 2. Flip lights with even numbers.
- 3. Flip lights with odd numbers.
- 4. Flip lights with (3k + 1) numbers, k = 0, 1, 2, ...

Example 1:

```
Input: n = 1, m = 1.
Output: 2
Explanation: Status can be: [on], [off]
```

Example 2:

```
Input: n = 2, m = 1.
Output: 3
Explanation: Status can be: [on, off], [off, on], [off, off]
```

Example 3:

```
Input: n = 3, m = 1.
Output: 4
Explanation: Status can be: [off, on, off], [on, off, on], [off, off, off], [off, on, on].
```

Note: n and m both fit in range [0, 1000].

Solution 1

We only need to consider special cases which $n \le 2$ and $m \le 3$. When $n \ge 2$ and $m \le 3$, the result is 8.

The four buttons:

- 1. Flip all the lights.
- 2. Flip lights with even numbers.
- 3. Flip lights with odd numbers.
- 4. Flip lights with (3k + 1) numbers, k = 0, 1, 2, ...

If we use button 1 and 2, it equals to use button 3. Similarly...

```
1 + 2 --> 3, 1 + 3 --> 2, 2 + 3 --> 1
So, there are only 8 cases.
All_on, 1, 2, 3, 4, 1+4, 2+4, 3+4
```

And we can get all the cases, when n>2 and m>=3.

```
class Solution {
    public int flipLights(int n, int m) {
        if(m==0) return 1;
        if(n==1) return 2;
        if(n==2&&m==1) return 3;
        if(n==2) return 4;
        if(m==1) return 4;
        if(m==2) return 7;
        if(m>=3) return 8;
        return 8;
    }
}
```

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Solution 2

When $n \le 1$, the solution is trial.

From the 4 types of operations,

```
    Flip all the lights.
    Flip lights with even numbers.
    Flip lights with odd numbers.
    Flip lights with (3k + 1) numbers, k = 0, 1, 2, ...
```

There are three important observations:

- 1. For any operation, only odd or even matters, i.e. o or 1. Two same operations equal no operation.
- 2. The first 3 operations can be reduced to 1 or 0 operation. For example, flip all + flip even = flip odd. So the result of the first 3 operations is the same as either 1 operation or original.
- 3. The solution for n > 3 is the same as n = 3. For example, 1 o o, I use o and 1 to represent off and on. The state of 2nd digit indicates even flip; The state of 3rd digit indicates odd flip; And the state difference of 1st and 3rd digits indicates 3k+1 flip.

In summary, the question can be simplified as $m \le 3$, $n \le 3$. I am sure you can figure out the rest easily.

```
class Solution {
public:
    int flipLights(int n, int m) {
        if (m == 0 || n == 0) return 1;
        if (n == 1) return 2;
        if (n == 2) return m == 1? 3:4;
        if (m == 1) return 4;
        return m == 2? 7:8;
    }
};
```

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Solution 3

Suppose we did f[0] of the first operation, f[1] of the second, f[2] of the third, and f[3] of the fourth, where sum(f) == m.

First, all these operations commute: doing operation A followed by operation B yields the same result as doing operation B followed by operation A. Also, doing operation A followed by operation A again is the same as doing nothing. So really, we only needed to know the residues cand[i] = f[i] % 2. There are only 16 different possibilities for the residues in total, so we can try them all.

We'll loop cand through all 16 possibilities (0, 0, 0, 0), (0, 0, 0, 1), ..., (1, 1, 1). A necessary and sufficient condition for cand to be valid is that sum(cand) % 2 == m % 2 and sum(cand) <= m, as only when these conditions are satisfied can we find some f with sum(f) == m and cand[i] = f[i] % 2.

Also, as the sequence of lights definitely repeats every 6 lights, we could replace n with min(n, 6). Actually, we could replace it with min(n, 3), as those lights are representative: that is, knowing the first 3 lights is enough to reconstruct what the next 3 lights will be. If the first 3 lights are X, Y, Z, then with a little effort we can prove the next 3 lights will be (X^Y^Z) , Z, Y.

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