169. Majority Element

Solved

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Given an array `nums` of size `n`, return *the majority element*.

The majority element is the element that appears more than `[n / 2]` times. You may assume that the majority element always exists in the array.

Example 1:

```
Input: nums = [3,2,3]
Output: 3
```

Example 2:

```
Input: nums = [2,2,1,1,1,2,2]
Output: 2
```

Constraints:

- `n == nums.length`
- `1 <= n <= 5 * 10^4`
- `-10^9 <= nums[i] <= 10^9`

1) Easy Solution

→ Create a hashmap for the counts

→ Iterate over nums

→ If num is in hashmap, increase its count by 1.

→ If num is not in hashmap, add it (with a count of 1).

Here's the hashmap after iterating over nums.

i = 0 1 2 3 4 5 6

nums = [2, 2, 1, 1, 1, 2, 2]

counts = { } // empty.

---

i = 0

counts = { 2:1 }

i = 1

counts = { 2:2 }

i = 2

counts = { 2:2, 1:1 }

i = 3

counts = { 2:2, 1:2 }

i = 4

counts = { 2:2, 1:3 }

i = 5

counts = { 2:3, 1:3 }

i = 6

counts = { 2:4, 1:3 }

↳ after for-loop, hashmap counts contains all nums and its counts

Final step is iterating over hashmap keys (1, 2) and getting the max count.

2) Ingenious Solution - Moore's Algorithm.

→ count = 0
→ majorityElement = 0

Iterate x over nums :

```
if count == 0
    majorityElement = x

if x == majorityElement :
    count++;
else:
    count--;
```

return majorityElement.

Example:

nums = [2, 2, 1, 1, 1, 2, 2]
(1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7)

count = ~~0~~ x ~~1~~ x ~~0~~ ~~1~~ 0 1.

majEl = ~~0~~ ~~2~~ ~~1~~ 2