

Given an integer array `nums` sorted in **non-decreasing order**, remove the duplicates **in-place** such that each unique element appears only **once**. The **relative order** of the elements should be kept the **same**. Then return *the number of unique elements in* `nums`.

Consider the number of unique elements of `nums` to be `k`, to get accepted, you need to do the following things:

- Change the array `nums` such that the first `k` elements of `nums` contain the unique elements in the order they were present in `nums` initially. The remaining elements of `nums` are not important as well as the size of `nums`.
- Return `k`.

Custom Judge:

The judge will test your solution with the following code:

```
int[] nums = [...]; // Input array

int[] expectedNums = [...]; // The expected answer with correct length

int k = removeDuplicates(nums); // Calls your implementation

assert k == expectedNums.length;

for (int i = 0; i < k; i++) {
    assert nums[i] == expectedNums[i];
}
```

If all assertions pass, then your solution will be **accepted**.

Example 1:

Input: nums = [1,1,2]

Output: 2, nums = [1,2, _]

Explanation: Your function should return k = 2, with the first two elements of nums being 1 and 2 respectively.

It does not matter what you leave beyond the returned k (hence they are underscores).

Example 2:

Input: nums = [0,0,1,1,1,2,2,3,3,4]

Output: 5, nums = [0,1,2,3,4, _, _, _, _, _]

Explanation: Your function should return k = 5, with the first five elements of nums being 0, 1, 2, 3, and 4 respectively.

It does not matter what you leave beyond the returned k (hence they are underscores).

Constraints:

- $1 \leq \text{nums.length} \leq 3 * 10^4$
- $-100 \leq \text{nums}[i] \leq 100$
- nums is sorted in **non-decreasing** order.

Approach:

The approach involves iterating through the sorted array `nums`, and for each unique element encountered, moving it to the next position in the array after the last unique element found, effectively removing duplicates in place.

Code:

```
class Solution {  
    public int removeDuplicates(int[] nums) {  
        if (nums.length == 0) return 0;  
  
        int i = 0;  
        for (int j = 1; j < nums.length; j++) {  
            if (nums[j] != nums[i]) {  
                i++;  
                nums[i] = nums[j];  
            }  
        }  
        return i + 1;  
    }  
}
```