

Have a better solution? Found a mistake? Please let us know

## Array of Array Products

Given an array of integers `arr`, write a function that returns another array at the same length where the value at each index `i` is the **product of all array values except `arr[i]`**.

Solve without using division and analyze the runtime and space complexity

Example: given the array [2, 7, 3, 4]

your function would return: [84, 24, 56, 42] (by calculating: [7\*3\*4, 2\*3\*4, 2\*7\*4, 2\*7\*3])

### Hints & Tips

- If your peer is stuck and can't think of anything, offer the brute force solution and ask how to improve it
- If your peer cannot improve the brute force solution, ask what part of the calculations is repetitive and can be re-used
- If still stuck, ask your peer to manually compute the solution to [1, 2, 3, 4, 5].  
it's [120, 60, 40, 30, 24] by calculating [2\*3\*4\*5, 1\*2\*4\*5, 1\*2\*3\*5, 1\*2\*3\*4]  
Can your peer think of something to re-use from looking at the numbers? What is the repeating pattern?
- If still stuck, ask your peer how to create these sequences: [2\*3\*4\*5, 1\*3\*4\*5, 1\*2\*4\*5, 1\*2\*3\*5, 1\*2\*3\*4] and its complement [2\*3\*4\*5, 1\*3\*4\*5, 1\*2\*4\*5, 1\*2\*3\*5, 1\*2\*3\*4]

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### Solution

A brute force approach would use two nested loops: for each index **i** in **arr** loop over **arr** while multiplying all other values and place the result on the **i<sup>th</sup>** element of the new array.

This would give us a runtime complexity of **O(n<sup>2</sup>)**. We can do better.

When we multiply all values of **arr** before and after each index, we get our answer — the product of all the integers except **arr[i]**.

```
function calcProductArray(arr):
    n = length(arr)
    productArr = []
    for i from 0 to n-1:
        productArr[i] = 1
    product = 1
    for i from 0 to n-1:
        productArr[i] *= product
        product *= arr[i]
    product = 1
    for i from n-1 to 0:
        productArr[i] *= product
        product *= arr[i]
    return productArr
```

Runtime Complexity: two passes through **arr** and constant time work for each value in it, bring us to linear **O(n)** runtime complexity.

Space Complexity: from using an additional array of length  $n$  to hold the products, we get a linear  $O(n)$  space complexity.

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