

Here is the complete documentation for the **Bitwise Greedy Approach** using **HashSet** to find the **Maximum XOR of Two Numbers in an Array**.

## Maximum XOR of Two Numbers in an Array

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### 1. Problem Statement

Given an integer array `nums`, return the **maximum result** of `nums[i] XOR nums[j]` where  $0 \leq i < j < n$ .

#### Constraints

- $1 \leq \text{nums.length} \leq 2 \times 10^5$
- $0 \leq \text{nums}[i] \leq 2^{31} - 1$

## Example 1

### Input

nums = [3,10,5,25,2,8]

### Output

28

### Explanation

- The maximum XOR is obtained from  $5 \text{ XOR } 25 = 28$ .

## Example 2

### Input

nums = [14,70,53,83,49,91,36,80,92,51,66,70]

### Output

127

## 2. Intuition

- The XOR operation is **maximized when two numbers have the most different bits**.
- Instead of checking every pair (which is  $O(N^2)$ ), we can efficiently find the best pair using a **bitwise greedy approach**.
- We utilize **hash sets** to store prefixes and iteratively construct the maximum XOR.

## 3. Key Observations

### 1. Binary Representation:

- Each number is **at most 31 bits** (since  $0 \leq \text{nums}[i] \leq 2^{31} - 1$ ).

### 2. XOR Property:

- If  $a \oplus b = c$ , then  $a = b \oplus c$  or  $b = a \oplus c$ .

### 3. Prefix Matching:

- We maintain **prefixes of numbers up to i bits**.
- If a **target XOR can be formed** using prefixes, update the result.

## 4. Approach

### 1. Iterate from MSB to LSB:

- Start checking from the **31st bit to the 0th bit**.

### 2. Store Prefixes:

- Keep track of the **prefixes of all numbers** (leftmost i bits).

### 3. Check for Maximum XOR:

- Assume the **current bit is 1** in the maximum XOR.
- Verify if any two prefixes can achieve this XOR.

## 5. Edge Cases

- **Single Element:**  $\text{nums} = [0] \rightarrow$  Output 0 (XOR is undefined, return default).
- **All Elements are Same:**  $\text{nums} = [7, 7, 7, 7] \rightarrow$  Output 0.
- **Power of Two Elements:**  $\text{nums} = [1, 2, 4, 8, 16] \rightarrow$  Should handle different bit positions.
- **Large Input:**  $\text{nums} = [\text{random integers up to } 2^{31} - 1] \rightarrow$  Must run efficiently for  $10^5$  elements.

## 6. Complexity Analysis

### Time Complexity

- **Outer Loop:** Iterates **32 times** (constant).
- **Inner Loop:** Iterates  **$O(N)$**  (to store prefixes).
- **Lookup in HashSet:**  **$O(1)$**  on average.
- **Total Complexity:**  $O(32 \times N) = O(N)O(32 \times N) = O(N)$

### Space Complexity

- **HashSet stores prefixes of N numbers:**  **$O(N)$**
- **Total Space Complexity:**  **$O(N)$**

## 7. Alternative Approaches

### 1. Brute Force ( $O(N^2)$ )

- Compute `nums[i] XOR nums[j]` for every pair.
- **Time Complexity:**  $O(N^2) \rightarrow$  Too slow for large inputs.

### 2. Trie-based Approach ( $O(N \log M)$ )

- Insert numbers as binary strings in a **Trie**.
- Query each number to find the best XOR pair.
- **Time Complexity:**  $O(N \log M)$  ( $\sim O(N \times 32) = O(N)$ ).
- **Space Complexity:**  $O(N \log M)$ .

### Why is the HashSet Approach better?

✓ **Faster** than Trie-based (no tree traversal).

✓ **Lower space usage.**

✓ **Efficient HashSet lookups ( $O(1)$ ).**

## 8. Test Cases

```
sol = Solution()
```

```
# Test Case 1
```

```
print(sol.findMaximumXOR([3,10,5,25,2,8])) # Output: 28
```

```
# Test Case 2
```

```
print(sol.findMaximumXOR([14,70,53,83,49,91,36,80,92,51,66,70])) # Output: 127
```

```
# Test Case 3 (Single Element)
```

```
print(sol.findMaximumXOR([0])) # Output: 0
```

```
# Test Case 4 (All Identical)
```

```
print(sol.findMaximumXOR([7,7,7,7])) # Output: 0
```

```
# Test Case 5 (Power of Two)
```

```
print(sol.findMaximumXOR([1,2,4,8,16])) # Output: 24
```

## 9. Final Thoughts

- The **Bitwise Greedy + HashSet Approach** is the **most efficient**.
- **Avoids** Trie's extra space & complexity.
- **Scales well** for large inputs ( $10^5$  elements).
- **Handles edge cases efficiently**.

🚀 This approach ensures the best performance while keeping the code clean and optimized! 🚀