

## \* Remove duplicates from a sorted array:-

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

O/p :- k=5, nums = [0, 1, 2, 3, 4, -, -, -, -, -]

→ Arrays will always be sorted in ascending order.

→ We have to do it in-place. So we cannot create a new arr.

## \* Two pointer approach

nums = 

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| [ | 0 | , | 0 | , | 1 | , | 1 | , | 1 | , | 2 | , | 2 | , | 3 | , | 3 | , | 4 | ] |

→ The input array has to be modified in place such that the first k elements are unique.

→ So, initially k=0 because we don't know how many duplicates are there in the array.

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| [ | 0 | , | 0 | , | 1 | , | 1 | , | 1 | , | 2 | , | 2 | , | 3 | , | 3 | , | 4 | ] |
|   | ↑ |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|   | k |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |

→ k represents the position of a unique element.

→ Since we don't know how many dups exists, we initialized k=0 which means that the first element is unique.

→ Now we need to iterate over the array from index 1 & compare with element at k.

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| [ | 0 | , | 0 | , | 1 | , | 1 | , | 1 | , | 2 | , | 2 | , | 3 | , | 3 | , | 4 | ] |
|   | ↑ |   | ↑ |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|   | k |   | i |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |

→ Here,  $\text{nums}[k] == \text{nums}[i]$ . So we have found a duplicate.

→ Ideally, the element next to k should be unique.

→ So we search for unique element & put it just next to k.

$$\begin{matrix} 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 \\ [0, & 0, & 1, & 1, & 1, & 2, & 2, & 3, & 3, & 4] \\ \uparrow & & \uparrow & & & & & & & & \\ k & & i & & & & & & & & \end{matrix}$$

→ Found unique, so putting it next to  $k$ .

$$\begin{matrix} 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 \\ [0, & 1, & 1, & 1, & 1, & 2, & 2, & 3, & 3, & 4] \\ \uparrow & \uparrow & & & & & & & & & \\ k & i & & & & & & & & & \end{matrix}$$

→ Initially  $k=0$  which represented that the  $0^{\text{th}}$  element is unique.

→ Now we have place 1 next to  $k$  on index 1.

→ This means that we have unique elements from index  $[0, 1]$ .

→ So, we point  $k$  to 1. & so on.

→ Thus, every unique element will be placed next to  $k$  &  $k$  will point to the updated unique element.

→ Once the loop is completed, we know that the elements from range  $[0, k]$  are unique.

→ Hence, we return  $(k+1)$  because 0-indexed array.

TC :-  $O(n)$

SC :-  $O(1)$

**Code** - [https://github.com/TheParthMaru/DSA/tree/main/leetcode/0026\\_Remove\\_dup\\_from\\_sorted\\_arr](https://github.com/TheParthMaru/DSA/tree/main/leetcode/0026_Remove_dup_from_sorted_arr)

**Problem** - <https://leetcode.com/problems/remove-duplicates-from-sorted-array/>