

Remove Elements

Similar concept. Take a hole variable. And try to fill the value over there which is not equal to val. Once filled take it forward by increasing it.

Remove Element

Given an integer array `nums` and an integer `val`, remove all occurrences of `val` in-place. The order of the elements may be changed. Then return the number of elements in `nums` which are not equal to `val`.

Consider the number of elements in `nums` which are not equal to `val` be `k`. To get accepted, you need to:

Modify `nums` such that the first `k` elements contain elements not equal to `val`.

The remaining elements beyond `k` do not matter.

Return `k`.

Examples:

Example 1:

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

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

```
Explanation: The first 2 elements should be 2. Underscores represent irrelevant values.
```

Example 2:

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

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

```
Explanation: The first 5 elements should be any order of [0,1,4,0,3].
```

Approach: Two Pointer Technique

Use pointer `x` to track where the next non-`val` element should go.

Traverse the array with index `i`.

If `nums[i] != val`, assign `nums[x] = nums[i]` and increment `x`.

Dry Run

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

`x = 0`

`i = 0 → nums[0] = 0 ≠ 2 → nums[0] = 0, x = 1`

`i = 1 → nums[1] = 1 ≠ 2 → nums[1] = 1, x = 2`

`i = 2 → nums[2] = 2 = 2 → skip`

`i = 3 → nums[3] = 2 = 2 → skip`

`i = 4 → nums[4] = 3 ≠ 2 → nums[2] = 3, x = 3`

`i = 5 → nums[5] = 0 ≠ 2 → nums[3] = 0, x = 4`

`i = 6 → nums[6] = 4 ≠ 2 → nums[4] = 4, x = 5`

`i = 7 → nums[7] = 2 = 2 → skip`

Result: `k = 5`, `nums = [0,1,3,0,4,...]`

Complexity

Time: $O(N)$

Space: $O(1)$

JavaScript

C++

C

Java

Python

```
var removeElement = function(nums, val) {
  let x = 0;
  for (let i = 0; i < nums.length; i++) {
    if (nums[i] !== val) {
      nums[x] = nums[i];
      x++;
    }
  }
  return x;
};
```