



Description Editorial Solutions Submissions

20. Valid Parentheses

Easy Topics Companies Hint

Given a string `s` containing just the characters `'('`, `')'`, `'{'`, `'}'`, `'['` and `']'`, determine if the input string is valid.

An input string is valid if:

1. Open brackets must be closed by the same type of brackets.
2. Open brackets must be closed in the correct order.
3. Every close bracket has a corresponding open bracket of the same type.

Example 1:

Input: `s = "()"`
Output: true

Example 2:

Input: `s = "()[]{}"`
Output: true

Example 3:

Input: `s = "(])"`
Output: false

Constraints:

- `1 <= s.length <= 104`
- `s` consists of parentheses only `'()' '[]' '{}'.`

Seen this question in a real interview before? 1/4

Yes No

22.6K 263

</> Code

Java ▾

```
1 class Solution {
2     public boolean isValid(String s) {
3         Stack<Character> stack = new Stack<>();
4         for (char c : s.toCharArray()) {
5             if (c == '(')
6                 stack.push(')');
7             else if (c == '{')
8                 stack.push('}');
9             else if (c == '[')
10                stack.push(']');
11            else {
12                if (stack.isEmpty()) return false;
13                if (stack.pop() != c) return false;
14            }
15        }
16        return stack.isEmpty();
17    }
18 }
19
20
21 // Stack<Character> stack=new Stack<>();
22 // for(int i=0; i<s.length(); i++ ){
23 //     char c = s.charAt(i);
24 //     if(c=='(' || c=='[' || c=='{') {
25 //         stack.push(c);
26 //         continue;
27 //     }
28 //     if(c==')') {
29 //         if(stack.empty()) return false;
30 //         if(stack.peek() != '(' ) return false;
31 //         stack.pop();
32 //     }
33 //     if(c==']') {
34 //         if(stack.empty()) return false;
35 //         if(stack.peek() != '[' ) return false;
36 //         stack.pop();
37 //     }
38 //     if(c=='}') {
39 //         if(stack.empty()) return false;
40 //         if(stack.peek() != '{' ) return false;
41 //         stack.pop();
42 //     }
43 //
44 // }
45 // return stack.empty();
```

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21. Merge Two Sorted Lists

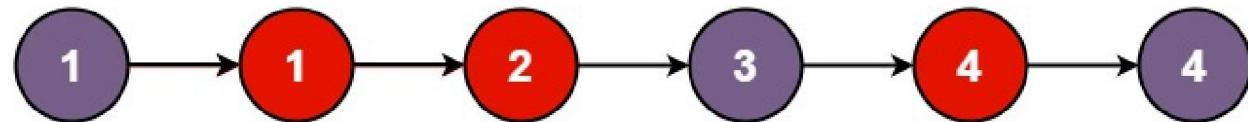
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You are given the heads of two sorted linked lists `list1` and `list2`.

Merge the two lists into one **sorted** list. The list should be made by splicing together the nodes of the first two lists.

Return *the head of the merged linked list*.

Example 1:



Input: `list1 = [1,2,4], list2 = [1,3,4]`

Output: `[1,1,2,3,4,4]`

Example 2:

Input: `list1 = [], list2 = []`

Output: `[]`

Example 3:

Input: `list1 = [], list2 = [0]`

Output: `[0]`

✍ 20.4K ⏺ 200 ⭐ ⏴ ⏵

<> Code

Java ▾ 🔒 Auto

```
1  /**
2   * Definition for singly-linked list.
3   */
4  public class ListNode {
5      int val;
6      ListNode next;
7      ListNode() {}
8      ListNode(int val) { this.val = val; }
9      ListNode(int val, ListNode next) { this.val = val; this.next = next; }
10     *
11 }
12 class Solution {
13     public ListNode mergeTwoLists(ListNode l1, ListNode l2) {
14         ListNode head = new ListNode(0);
15         ListNode cur = head;
16         while(l1!=null && l2!=null) {
17             if(l1.val<l2.val) {
18                 cur.next=l1;
19                 l1=l1.next;
20             } else {
21                 cur.next=l2;
22                 l2=l2.next;
23             }
24             cur=cur.next;
25         }
26         if(l1!=null)
27             cur.next=l1;
28         if(l2!=null)
29             cur.next=l2;
30         return head.next;
31     }
32 }
```

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22. Generate Parentheses

Medium Topics Companies

Given n pairs of parentheses, write a function to generate all combinations of well-formed parentheses.

Example 1:

Input: $n = 3$

Output: `["((()))","((())()),"((())()","(()(())","(()())()"]`

Example 2:

Input: $n = 1$

Output: `["()"]`

Constraints:

- $1 \leq n \leq 8$

Seen this question in a real interview before? 1/4

Yes No

Accepted 1.6M Submissions 2.2M Acceptance Rate 73.6%

Topics

Companies

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Discussion (63)

20K 63

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Java ▾ 🔒 Auto

```
1 class Solution {
2     public List<String> generateParenthesis(int n) {
3         List<String> ret = new ArrayList<>();
4         helper(0, 0, n, "", ret);
5         return ret;
6     }
7     public void helper(int open, int close, int max, String curStr, List<String> ret) {
8         if (open == max && close == max) {
9             ret.add(curStr);
10            return;
11        }
12        if (open < max) {
13            helper(open + 1, close, max, curStr + "(", ret);
14        }
15        if (open > close) {
16            helper(open, close + 1, max, curStr + ")", ret);
17        }
18    }
19 }
20 }
```

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23. Merge k Sorted Lists

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You are given an array of k linked-lists lists , each linked-list is sorted in ascending order.

Merge all the linked-lists into one sorted linked-list and return it.

Example 1:

Input: $\text{lists} = [[1,4,5],[1,3,4],[2,6]]$

Output: $[1,1,2,3,4,4,5,6]$

Explanation: The linked-lists are:

```
[  
    1->4->5,  
    1->3->4,  
    2->6  
]  
merging them into one sorted list:  
1->1->2->3->4->4->5->6
```

Example 2:

Input: $\text{lists} = []$

Output: $[]$

Example 3:

Input: $\text{lists} = [[]]$

Output: $[]$

Constraints:

- $k == \text{lists.length}$
- $0 \leq k \leq 10^4$
- $0 \leq \text{lists}[i].length \leq 500$
- $-10^4 \leq \text{list[i][j]} \leq 10^4$

18.6K 108

<> Code

Java ▾ 🔒 Auto

```
1  /**
2   * Definition for singly-linked list.
3   * public class ListNode {
4   *     int val;
5   *     ListNode next;
6   *     ListNode() {}
7   *     ListNode(int val) { this.val = val; }
8   *     ListNode(int val, ListNode next) { this.val = val; this.next = next; }
9   * }
10 */
11 class Solution {
12     public ListNode mergeKLists(ListNode[] lists) {
13         if(lists==null || lists.length==0) return null;
14
15         PriorityQueue<ListNode> pq=new PriorityQueue<>((x,y)->x.val-y.val);
16
17         ListNode head = new ListNode(0);
18         ListNode cur=head;
19
20         for(ListNode n : lists) if(n!=null) pq.offer(n);
21         while(!pq.isEmpty()) {
22             cur.next=pq.poll();
23             cur=cur.next;
24             if(cur.next!=null) pq.offer(cur.next);
25             cur.next=null;
26
27         }
28         return head.next;
29
30     }
31 }
```

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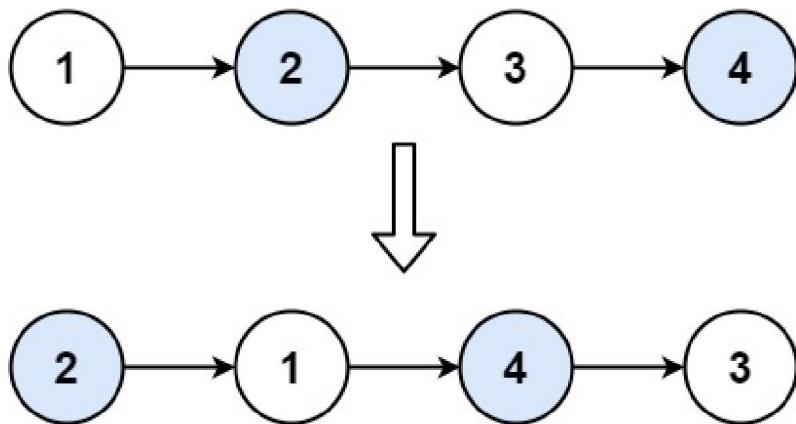
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24. Swap Nodes in Pairs

Medium Topics Companies

Given a linked list, swap every two adjacent nodes and return its head. You must solve the problem without modifying the list's nodes (i.e., only nodes themselves may be changed.)

Example 1:



Input: head = [1,2,3,4]

Output: [2,1,4,3]

Example 2:

Input: head = []

Output: []

Example 3:

Input: head = [1]

Output: [1]

Constraints:

- The number of nodes in the list is in the range [0, 100].
- $0 \leq \text{Node.val} \leq 100$

11.4K 60

<> Code

Java ▾ 🔒 Auto

```
1  /**
2   * Definition for singly-linked list.
3   * public class ListNode {
4   *     int val;
5   *     ListNode next;
6   *     ListNode() {}
7   *     ListNode(int val) { this.val = val; }
8   *     ListNode(int val, ListNode next) { this.val = val; this.next = next; }
9   * }
10 */
11 class Solution {
12     public ListNode swapPairs(ListNode head) {
13         ListNode newH = new ListNode(0);
14         newH.next=head;
15         ListNode n0=newH;
16         ListNode n1;
17         ListNode n2;
18         ListNode n3;
19         while(true) {
20             n1=n0.next; if(n1==null) return newH.next;
21             n2=n1.next; if(n2==null) return newH.next;
22             n3=n2.next;
23
24             n1.next=n3;
25             n2.next=n1;
26             n0.next=n2;
27
28             n0=n1;
29
30         } //end while
31
32     }
33 }
```

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25. Reverse Nodes in k-Group

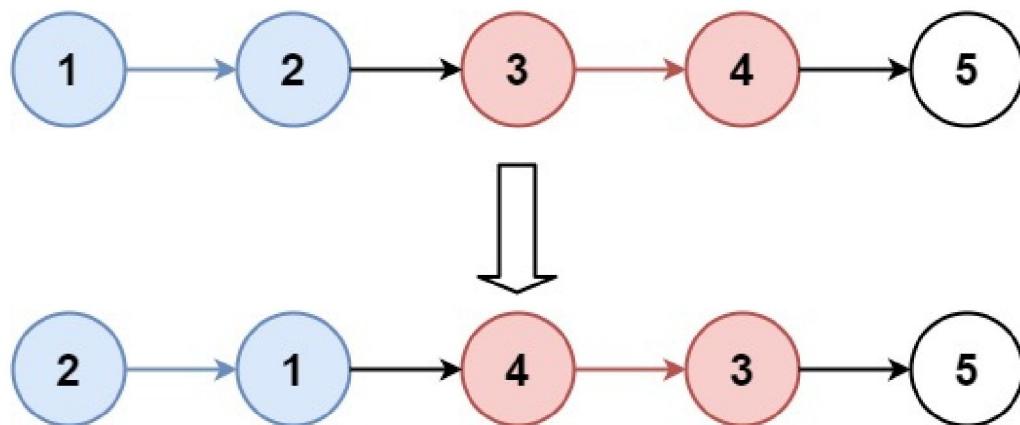
[Hard](#) [Topics](#) [Companies](#)

Given the `head` of a linked list, reverse the nodes of the list `k` at a time, and return *the modified list*.

`k` is a positive integer and is less than or equal to the length of the linked list. If the number of nodes is not a multiple of `k`, the nodes in the end, should remain as it is.

You may not alter the values in the list's nodes, only nodes themselves may be changed.

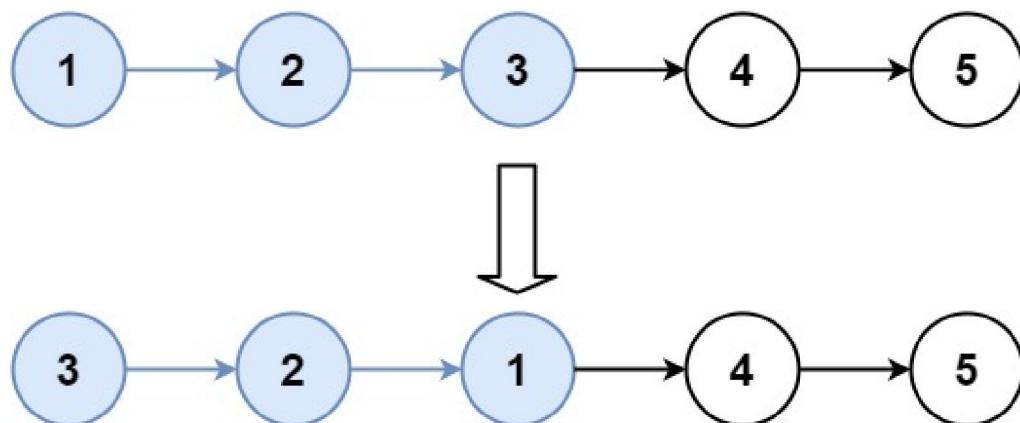
Example 1:



Input: head = [1,2,3,4,5], k = 2

Output: [2,1,4,3,5]

Example 2:

[12.8K](#)[69](#)

</> Code

Java ▾ 🔒 Auto

```
10  /*
11  class Solution {
12      public ListNode reverseKGroup(ListNode head, int k) {
13          if (head==null) return null;
14          ListNode last = head;
15          int cnt = 1;
16          while (cnt++ < k && last != null) {
17              last = last.next;
18          }
19          if (cnt < k || last ==null ) return head;
20          ListNode next = last.next;
21          last.next = null;
22
23          ListNode leftTail = reverse(head, last);
24          ListNode rightHead = reverseKGroup(next, k);
25          leftTail.next = rightHead;
26
27
28          return last;
29      }
30
31      // public ListNode reverse(ListNode head, ListNode last ) {
32      //     Stack<ListNode> stack = new Stack<>();
33      //     ListNode cur = head;
34      //     while (cur != last) {
35      //         stack.push(cur);
36      //         cur=cur.next;
37      //     }
38      //     while(!stack.empty()) {
39      //         ListNode t = stack.pop();
40      //         cur.next = t;
41      //         cur = t;
42      //     }
43      //     return cur;
44      // }
45      public ListNode reverse(ListNode head, ListNode last ) { //last is not used
46          ListNode pre = null;
47          last.next = null;
48          ListNode cur = head;
49          while (cur != null) {
50              ListNode next = cur.next;
51              cur.next = pre;
52              pre = cur;
53              cur = next;
54
55          }
56          return head;
57      }
58  }
```

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26. Remove Duplicates from Sorted Array

[Easy](#) [Topics](#) [Companies](#) [Hint](#)

Given an integer array `nums` sorted in **non-decreasing order**, remove the duplicates **in-place** such that each unique element appears **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 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 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]`

13.1K 365

</> Code

Java ▾ 🔒 Auto

```
1 class Solution {
2     public int removeDuplicates(int[] nums) {
3         if(nums.length<2) return nums.length;
4         int ret=1;
5         for(int i=1; i<nums.length; i++ ) {
6             if(nums[i]==nums[i-1])
7                 continue;
8             nums[ret++]=nums[i];
9         }
10        return ret;
11    }
12 }
13 }
```

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27. Remove Element

[Easy](#) [Topics](#) [Companies](#) [Hint](#)

Given an integer array `nums` and an integer `val`, remove all occurrences of `val` in `nums` **in-place**. The order of the elements 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 do the following t

- Change the array `nums` such that the first `k` elements of `nums` contain the elements which are not equal to `val`. The rem 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 val = ...; // Value to remove
int[] expectedNums = [...]; // The expected answer with correct length.
                            // It is sorted with no values equaling val.

int k = removeElement(nums, val); // Calls your implementation

assert k == expectedNums.length;
sort(nums, 0, k); // Sort the first k elements of nums
for (int i = 0; i < actualLength; i++) {
    assert nums[i] == expectedNums[i];
}
```

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

Example 1:

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

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

Explanation: Your function should return `k = 2`, with the first two elements of `nums` being. It does not matter what you leave beyond the returned `k` (hence they are underscores).

Example 2:

 1.5K  267   

</> Code

Java ▾ 🔒 Auto

```
1 class Solution {
2     public int removeElement(int[] nums, int val) {
3         int ret=0;
4         for(int i=0; i<nums.length; i++) {
5             if(nums[i]!=val) {
6                 nums[ret++]=nums[i];
7             }
8         }
9     } //end for
10    return ret;
11 }
12 }
```

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28. Find the Index of the First Occurrence in a String

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Given two strings `needle` and `haystack`, return the index of the first occurrence of `needle` in `haystack`, or `-1` if `needle` is not present in `haystack`.

Example 1:

Input: haystack = "sadbutsad", needle = "sad"

Output: 0

Explanation: "sad" occurs at index 0 and 6.

The first occurrence is at index 0, so we return 0.

Example 2:

Input: haystack = "leetcode", needle = "leeto"

Output: -1

Explanation: "leeto" did not occur in "leetcode", so we return -1.

Constraints:

- $1 \leq \text{haystack.length}, \text{needle.length} \leq 10^4$
- `haystack` and `needle` consist of only lowercase English characters.

Seen this question in a real interview before? 1/4

Yes No

Accepted 2.1M Submissions 5.1M Acceptance Rate 40.9%

[Topics](#)[Companies](#)

5.1K 164

</> Code

Java ▾ 🔒 Auto

```
1 class Solution {
2     public int strStr(String haystack, String needle) {
3         int lenh=haystack.length();
4         int lenn=needle.length();
5         for(int i=0; i+lenn<=lenh; i++) {
6             int j=0;
7             for(j=0; j<lenn; j++ ) {
8                 if(haystack.charAt(i+j)!=needle.charAt(j))
9                     break;
10            }
11            if(j==lenn)
12                return i;
13        }
14    } //end for
15    return -1;
16}
17}
18}
```

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29. Divide Two Integers

[Medium](#) [Topics](#) [Companies](#)

Given two integers `dividend` and `divisor`, divide two integers **without** using multiplication, division, and mod operator.

The integer division should truncate toward zero, which means losing its fractional part. For example, `8.345` would be truncated to `8`, and `-2.7335` would be truncated to `-2`.

Return *the quotient after dividing dividend by divisor*.

Note: Assume we are dealing with an environment that could only store integers within the **32-bit** signed integer range: $[-2^{31}, 2^{31} - 1]$. For this problem, if the quotient is **strictly greater than** $2^{31} - 1$, then return $2^{31} - 1$, and if the quotient is **strictly less than** -2^{31} , then return -2^{31} .

Example 1:

Input: dividend = 10, divisor = 3

Output: 3

Explanation: $10/3 = 3.33333\ldots$ which is truncated to 3.

Example 2:

Input: dividend = 7, divisor = -3

Output: -2

Explanation: $7/-3 = -2.33333\ldots$ which is truncated to -2.

Constraints:

- $-2^{31} \leq \text{dividend}, \text{divisor} \leq 2^{31} - 1$
- $\text{divisor} \neq 0$

Seen this question in a real interview before? 1/4

Yes No

 4.8K  164   

</> Code

Java ▾ 🔒 Auto

```
1 class Solution {
2     public int divide(int dividend, int divisor) {
3         if (dividend == Integer.MIN_VALUE && divisor == -1 )
4             return Integer.MAX_VALUE;
5         int sign = 1;
6         if (dividend < 0 && divisor > 0 || dividend > 0 && divisor < 0 )
7             sign = -1;
8         long ldividend = Math.abs((long)dividend);
9         long ldivisor = Math.abs((long)divisor);
10        if (ldividend < ldivisor) return 0;
11        long ret = 0;
12
13        while (ldividend >= ldivisor) {
14            long tmp = ldivisor;
15            int p = 1;
16            while (ldividend >= ( tmp << 1)) {
17                tmp = tmp << 1;
18                p = p << 1;
19            }
20            ret += p;
21            ldividend -= tmp;
22        }
23        if (sign < 0 )
24            ret=-ret;
25        return (int)ret;
26    }
27 }
28 }
```

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 Problem List < >   Run  Submit  

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30. Substring with Concatenation of All Words

Hard  Topics  Companies

You are given a string `s` and an array of strings `words`. All the strings of `words` are of **the same length**.

A **concatenated substring** in `s` is a substring that contains all the strings of any permutation of `words` concatenated.

- For example, if `words = ["ab", "cd", "ef"]`, then `"abcdef"`, `"abefcd"`, `"cdabef"`, `"cdefab"`, `"efabcd"`, and `"efcdab"` concatenated strings. `"acdbef"` is not a concatenated substring because it is not the concatenation of any permutation of `words`.

Return *the starting indices of all the concatenated substrings in `s`*. You can return the answer in **any order**.

Example 1:

Input: `s = "barfoothefoobarman"`, `words = ["foo", "bar"]`
Output: `[0, 9]`

Explanation: Since `words.length == 2` and `words[i].length == 3`, the concatenated substring of length 6.
The substring starting at 0 is "barfoo". It is the concatenation of `["bar", "foo"]` which is a permutation of `words`.
The substring starting at 9 is "foobar". It is the concatenation of `["foo", "bar"]` which is a permutation of `words`.
The output order does not matter. Returning `[9, 0]` is fine too.

Example 2:

Input: `s = "wordgoodgoodgoodbestword"`, `words = ["word", "good", "best", "word"]`
Output: `[]`

Explanation: Since `words.length == 4` and `words[i].length == 4`, the concatenated substring of length 16.
There is no substring of length 16 in `s` that is equal to the concatenation of any permutation of `words`.
We return an empty array.

Example 3:

Input: `s = "barfoofoobarthefoobarman"`, `words = ["bar", "foo", "the"]`
Output: `[6, 9, 12]`

Explanation: Since `words.length == 3` and `words[i].length == 3`, the concatenated substring of length 9.

 1.5K  66   

</> Code

Java ▾ 🔒 Auto

```
1  class Solution {
2      public List<Integer> findSubstring(String s, String[] words) {
3          List<Integer> ret=new ArrayList<>();
4          if(s.length()==0 || words.length==0) return ret;
5          Map<String, Integer> map = new HashMap<>();
6          for(String s1 : words) {
7              //map.computeIfAbsent(s1,0);
8              map.compute(s1,(x,y)->(y==null) ? 1 : y+1);
9          }
10         int n=s.length();
11         int m=words.length;
12         int l=words[0].length();
13         for(int i=0; i<=n-1*m; i++) {
14             Map<String, Integer> maptmp = new HashMap<>();
15             int j;
16             for( j=0; j<m; j++) {
17                 String stmp=s.substring(i+j*l, i+j*l+l);
18                 if(!map.containsKey(stmp)) break;
19                 maptmp.compute(stmp, (x,y)->(y==null)?1:y+1);
20                 if(maptmp.get(stmp)>map.get(stmp)) break;
21             }
22             if(j==m) ret.add(i);
23         }
24         return ret;
25     }
26 }
27 }
```

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31. Next Permutation

Medium Topics Companies

A **permutation** of an array of integers is an arrangement of its members into a sequence or linear order.

- For example, for `arr = [1,2,3]`, the following are all the permutations of `arr`: `[1,2,3]`, `[1,3,2]`, `[2, 1, 3]`, `[2, 3, 1]`, `[3,1,2]`, `[3,2,1]`.

The **next permutation** of an array of integers is the next lexicographically greater permutation of its integer. More formally, permutations of the array are sorted in one container according to their lexicographical order, then the **next permutation** of permutation that follows it in the sorted container. If such arrangement is not possible, the array must be rearranged as the last order (i.e., sorted in ascending order).

- For example, the next permutation of `arr = [1,2,3]` is `[1,3,2]`.
 - Similarly, the next permutation of `arr = [2,3,1]` is `[3,1,2]`.
 - While the next permutation of `arr = [3,2,1]` is `[1,2,3]` because `[3,2,1]` does not have a lexicographical larger rearrangement.

Given an array of integers `nums`, find the next permutation of `nums`.

The replacement must be **in place** and use only constant extra memory.

Example 1:

Input: nums = [1,2,3]
Output: [1,3,2]

Example 2:

Input: nums = [3,2,1]
Output: [1,2,3]

Example 3:

Input: nums = [1,1,5]
Output: [1,5,1]

Constantinople.

 17.3K 117

</> Code

Java ▾

```
1 class Solution {
2     public void nextPermutation(int[] nums) {
3         int i=nums.length-1;
4         //from right to left, find the 1st case where nums[i-1]<nums[i]
5         while(i>0 && nums[i-1]>=nums[i]) i--;
6         int left=i;
7         if(left>0) {
8             i=nums.length-1;
9             while(i>=left && nums[i]<=nums[left-1]) i--;
10            int t=nums[left-1];
11            nums[left-1]=nums[i];
12            nums[i]=t;
13        }
14        int right=nums.length-1;
15        //now, [left, right] are desc ordered, reverse them
16        while(left<right) {
17            int t=nums[left];
18            nums[left]=nums[right];
19            nums[right]=t;
20            left++;
21            right--;
22        }
23    }
24 }
25
26
27
28 // 如果从末尾往前看，数字逐渐变大，到了2时才减小的，然后再从后往前找第一个比2大的数字，是3，那么我们交换2和3，再把此时3后
29 // 一下即可，步骤如下：
30 // 1 2 7 4 3 1
31
32 // 1 2 7 4 3 1
33
34 // 1 3 7 4 2 1
35
36 // 1 3 1 2 4 7
```

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 Problem List < > 

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32. Longest Valid Parentheses

[Hard](#) [Topics](#) [Companies](#)

Given a string containing just the characters `'('` and `')'`, return *the length of the longest valid (well-formed) parentheses* [solution](#).

Example 1:

Input: `s = "(()"`
Output: 2
Explanation: The longest valid parentheses substring is `"()"`.

Example 2:

Input: `s = ")()())"`
Output: 4
Explanation: The longest valid parentheses substring is `"()()"`.

Example 3:

Input: `s = "("")"`
Output: 0

Constraints:

- `0 <= s.length <= 3 * 104`
- `s[i]` is `'('` or `')'`.

Seen this question in a real interview before? 1/4

Yes No

Accepted 670.7K Submissions 2M Acceptance Rate 33.4%

[Topics](#)

 11.9K  41   

Code

Java ▾ Auto

```
2     public int sol1(String s) {
3         Stack<Integer> stack = new Stack<>();
4         int start = 0;
5         int ret = 0;
6         for (int i = 0; i < s.length(); i++) {
7             char c = s.charAt(i);
8             if (c == '(') {
9                 stack.push(i);
10            } else if (c == ')') {
11                if (stack.empty()) {
12                    start = i + 1;
13                } else {
14                    stack.pop();
15                    if (stack.empty())
16                        ret = Math.max(ret, i - start + 1);
17                else
18                    ret = Math.max(ret, i - stack.peek());
19            }
20        }
21    }
22    return ret;
23 }
24
25 public int longestValidParentheses(String s) {
26     // return sol1(s);
27     return sol2(s);
28 }
29
30 public int sol2(String s) {
31     int maxans = 0;
32     Stack<Integer> stack = new Stack<>();
33     //the top of the stack is the last index that mismatch
34     stack.push(-1);
35     for (int i = 0; i < s.length(); i++) {
36         if (s.charAt(i) == '(') {
37             stack.push(i);
38             continue;
39         }
40         stack.pop();
41         //now it's ')'
42         if (stack.empty()) {
43             //current ')' mismatch, push the current index
44             stack.push(i);
45         } else {
46             maxans = Math.max(maxans, i - stack.peek());
47         }
48     }
49 }
50 return maxans.
```

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33. Search in Rotated Sorted Array

Medium Topics Companies

There is an integer array `nums` sorted in ascending order (with **distinct** values).

Prior to being passed to your function, `nums` is **possibly rotated** at an unknown pivot index `k` ($1 \leq k < \text{nums.length}$) such that the resulting array is `[nums[k], nums[k+1], ..., nums[n-1], nums[0], nums[1], ..., nums[k-1]]` (**0-indexed**). For example, `[0,1,2,4,5,6,7]` might be rotated at pivot index `3` and become `[4,5,6,7,0,1,2]`.

Given the array `nums` after the possible rotation and an integer `target`, return *the index of target if it is in nums, or -1 if target is not found*.

You must write an algorithm with $O(\log n)$ runtime complexity.

Example 1:

```
Input: nums = [4,5,6,7,0,1,2], target = 0
Output: 4
```

Example 2:

```
Input: nums = [4,5,6,7,0,1,2], target = 3
Output: -1
```

Example 3:

```
Input: nums = [1], target = 0
Output: -1
```

Constraints:

- $1 \leq \text{nums.length} \leq 5000$
- $-10^4 \leq \text{nums}[i] \leq 10^4$
- All values of `nums` are **unique**.
- `nums` is an ascending array that is possibly rotated.

24.8K 161

</> Code

Java ▾ 🔒 Auto

```
1 class Solution {
2     public int search(int[] nums, int target) {
3         int left=0;
4         int right=nums.length-1;
5         while(left<=right) {
6
7             int mid=(right-left)/2+left;
8             //System.out.println("before"+left + " "+mid + " "+right);
9             if(nums[mid]==target) return mid;
10            if(nums[mid]>=nums[left]) {
11                if(nums[mid]>target && target>=nums[left]) right=mid-1;
12                else left=mid+1;
13            }else {
14                if(nums[mid]<target && target<=nums[right]) left=mid+1;
15                else right=mid-1;
16            }
17            //System.out.println("after"+left + " "+right);
18       }//end while
19
20        return -1;
21    }
22 }
```

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 Testcase Test Result ×

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34. Find First and Last Position of Element in Sorted Array

Medium  Topics  Companies

Given an array of integers `nums` sorted in non-decreasing order, find the starting and ending position of a given `target` value.

If `target` is not found in the array, return `[-1, -1]`.

You must write an algorithm with $O(\log n)$ runtime complexity.

Example 1:

Input: `nums = [5,7,7,8,8,10]`, `target = 8`

Output: `[3,4]`

Example 2:

Input: `nums = [5,7,7,8,8,10]`, `target = 6`

Output: `[-1,-1]`

Example 3:

Input: `nums = []`, `target = 0`

Output: `[-1,-1]`

Constraints:

- $0 \leq \text{nums.length} \leq 10^5$
- $-10^9 \leq \text{nums}[i] \leq 10^9$
- `nums` is a non-decreasing array.
- $-10^9 \leq \text{target} \leq 10^9$

Seen this question in a real interview before? 1/4

Yes No

 19.4K  142   

</> Code

Java ▾ 🔒 Auto

```
1 class Solution {
2     public int[] searchRange(int[] nums, int target) {
3         int left=0; int right=nums.length-1;
4         int[] ret=new int[]{-1,-1};
5         if(nums.length==0)
6             return ret;
7         while(left<right) {
8             int mid=(left+right)/2;
9             if(nums[mid]<target)
10                 left=mid+1; //in case left==mid, always +1
11             else
12                 right=mid;
13         }
14
15         if(nums[left]!=target) return ret;
16
17         right=nums.length-1;
18         ret[0]=left;
19
20         while(left<right) {
21             int mid=(left+right)/2+1;
22             if(nums[mid]<=target)
23                 left=mid;
24             else
25                 right=mid-1;
26         }
27         ret[1]=right;
28
29         return ret;
30
31     }
32 }
```

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35. Search Insert Position

[Easy](#) [Topics](#) [Companies](#)

Given a sorted array of distinct integers and a target value, return the index if the target is found. If not, return the index where it would be inserted in order.

You must write an algorithm with $O(\log n)$ runtime complexity.

Example 1:

Input: nums = [1,3,5,6], target = 5
Output: 2

Example 2:

Input: nums = [1,3,5,6], target = 2
Output: 1

Example 3:

Input: nums = [1,3,5,6], target = 7
Output: 4

Constraints:

- $1 \leq \text{nums.length} \leq 10^4$
- $-10^4 \leq \text{nums}[i] \leq 10^4$
- `nums` contains **distinct** values sorted in **ascending** order.
- $-10^4 \leq \text{target} \leq 10^4$

Seen this question in a real interview before? 1/4

Yes No

15.1K 147

</> Code

Java ▾ 🔒 Auto

```
1 class Solution {
2     public int searchInsert(int[] nums, int target) {
3         int left=0; int right=nums.length-1;
4         while(left<=right) {
5             int mid=(left+right)/2;
6             if(nums[mid]==target)
7                 return mid;
8             if(nums[mid]<target)
9                 left=mid+1;
10            else
11                right=mid-1;
12        }
13    } //while
14    return left;
15 }
```

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36. Valid Sudoku

[Medium](#) [Topics](#) [Companies](#)

Determine if a 9×9 Sudoku board is valid. Only the filled cells need to be validated **according to the following rules**:

1. Each row must contain the digits $1-9$ without repetition.
2. Each column must contain the digits $1-9$ without repetition.
3. Each of the nine 3×3 sub-boxes of the grid must contain the digits $1-9$ without repetition.

Note:

- A Sudoku board (partially filled) could be valid but is not necessarily solvable.
- Only the filled cells need to be validated according to the mentioned rules.

Example 1:

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | 3 | | | 7 | | | | |
| 6 | | | 1 | 9 | 5 | | | |
| | 9 | 8 | | | | 6 | | |
| 8 | | | 6 | | | | | 3 |
| 4 | | 8 | | 3 | | | | 1 |
| 7 | | | 2 | | | | | 6 |
| | 6 | | | | 2 | 8 | | |
| | | 4 | 1 | 9 | | | | 5 |
| | | | 8 | | | 7 | 9 | |

Input: board =

```
[["5","3",".",".",".","7",".",".","."],  
 ["6",".",".","1","9","5",".",".","."],  
 [".","9","8",".",".",".","6","."],  
 [".",".","6",".",".",".","2","8"],  
 [".","8","1","9",".",".","5"],  
 [".",".","8","7","9",".","."],  
 [".",".",".","8","7","9",".","."]]
```

9.9K 89

</> Code

Java ▾

```
1 class Solution {
2
3     public boolean checkRow(char[][] board) {
4         for(int i=0; i<9; i++) {
5             boolean[] row=new boolean[9];
6
7             for(int j=0; j<9; j++) {
8                 if(board[i][j]!='.') {
9                     int val_r=board[i][j]-'1';
10
11                     if(row[val_r]) return false;
12                     else row[val_r]=true;
13                 }
14             }
15         } //for
16     }
17     return true;
18 }
19
20 public boolean checkCol(char[][] board) {
21     for(int i=0; i<9; i++) {
22         boolean[] col=new boolean[9];
23
24         for(int j=0; j<9; j++) {
25             if(board[j][i]!='.') {
26                 int val_c=board[j][i]-'1';
27                 if(col[val_c]) return false;
28                 else col[val_c]=true;
29             }
30         } //for
31     }
32     return true;
33 }
34
35 public boolean checkBox(char[][] board) {
36     for (int base_i=0; base_i<9; base_i+=3) {
37         for (int base_j=0; base_j<9; base_j+=3) {
38             boolean[] box=new boolean[9];
39             for (int i=0; i<3; i++) {
40                 for (int j=0; j<3; j++) {
41                     int x = base_i+i;
42                     int y=base_j+j;
43                     if(board[x][y]!='.') {
44                         int val = board[x][y]-'1';
45                         if(box[val]) return false;
46                         else box[val]=true;
47                     }
48                 }
49             }
50         }
51     }
52 }
```

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</> Code

Java ▾

```
35     public boolean checkBox(char[][] board) {
36         for (int base_i=0; base_i<9; base_i+=3) {
37             for (int base_j=0; base_j<9; base_j+=3) {
38                 boolean[] box=new boolean[9];
39                 for (int i=0; i<3; i++) {
40                     for (int j=0; j<3; j++) {
41                         int x = base_i+i;
42                         int y=base_j+j;
43                         if(board[x][y]!='.') {
44                             int val = board[x][y]-'1';
45                             if(box[val]) return false;
46                             else box[val]=true;
47                         }
48                     }
49                 }
50             }
51         }
52     }
53     return true;
54 }
55
56
57
58     public boolean sol3(char[][] board) {
59         return checkRow(board) && checkCol(board) && checkBox(board);
60     }
61     public boolean isValidSudoku(char[][] board) {
62         // return sol1(board);
63         return sol3(board);
64     }
65
66     public boolean sol1(char[][] board) {
67         for(int i=0; i<9; i++) {
68             boolean[] row=new boolean[9];
69             boolean[] col=new boolean[9];
70             boolean[] cell=new boolean[9];
71
72             int base_r=(i/3)*3;
73             int base_c=(i%3)*3;
74
75             for(int j=0; j<9; j++) {
76
77                 if(board[i][j]!='.') {
78                     int val_r=board[i][j]-'1';
79
80                     if(row[val_r]) return false;
81                     else row[val_r]=true;
82                 }
83             }
84         }
85     }
```

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Java ▾ 🔒 Auto

```
60     }
61     public boolean isValidSudoku(char[][] board) {
62         // return sol1(board);
63         return sol3(board);
64     }
65
66     public boolean sol1(char[][] board) {
67         for(int i=0; i<9; i++) {
68             boolean[] row=new boolean[9];
69             boolean[] col=new boolean[9];
70             boolean[] cell=new boolean[9];
71
72             int base_r=(i/3)*3;
73             int base_c=(i%3)*3;
74
75             for(int j=0; j<9; j++) {
76
77                 if(board[i][j]!='.') {
78                     int val_r=board[i][j]-'1';
79
80                     if(row[val_r]) return false;
81                     else row[val_r]=true;
82                 }
83
84                 if(board[j][i]!='.') {
85                     int val_c=board[j][i]-'1';
86                     if(col[val_c]) return false;
87                     else col[val_c]=true;
88                 }
89
90                 int r=base_r+j/3;
91                 int c=base_c+j%3;
92                 if(board[r][c]!='.') {
93                     int val_cell=board[r][c]-'1';
94                     if(cell[val_cell]) return false;
95                     else cell[val_cell] = true;
96                 }
97
98             }//for
99
100
101
102         }
103         return true;
104     }
105 }
106 }
107 }
```

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37. Sudoku Solver

Hard Topics Companies

Write a program to solve a Sudoku puzzle by filling the empty cells.

A sudoku solution must satisfy **all of the following rules**:

1. Each of the digits `1–9` must occur exactly once in each row.
2. Each of the digits `1–9` must occur exactly once in each column.
3. Each of the digits `1–9` must occur exactly once in each of the 9 `3x3` sub-boxes of the grid.

The `'.'` character indicates empty cells.

Example 1:

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | 3 | . | . | 7 | . | . | . | . |
| 6 | . | . | 1 | 9 | 5 | . | . | . |
| 9 | 8 | . | . | . | . | 6 | . | . |
| 8 | . | . | 6 | . | . | . | . | 3 |
| 4 | . | 8 | . | 3 | . | . | . | 1 |
| 7 | . | . | 2 | . | . | . | 6 | . |
| 6 | . | . | . | 2 | 8 | . | . | . |
| . | 4 | 1 | 9 | . | . | 5 | . | . |
| . | . | 8 | . | 7 | 9 | . | . | . |

Input: board = `[[5, "3", ". . .", ". . .", "7", ". . .", ". . .", ". . ."], [". . .", "6", ". . .", ". . .", ". . .", "1", "9", "5", ". . .", ". . ."], [". . .", "9", "8", ". . .", ". . .", "6", ". . ."], [". . .", "8", ". . .", ". . .", "6", ". . .", ". . .", ". . .", "3"], [". . .", "4", ". . .", ". . .", "8", ". . .", "3", ". . .", "1"], [". . .", "7", ". . .", ". . .", "2", ". . .", "6", ". . .", ". . ."], [". . .", "6", ". . .", ". . .", "2", "8", ". . ."], [". . .", "2", ". . .", "4", "1", "9", ". . .", ". . .", "5"], [". . .", "3", ". . .", "8", ". . .", "7", "9"]]`

Output: `[[5, "3", "4", "6", "7", "8", "9", "1", "2"], [". . .", "6", "7", "2", "1", "9", "5", "3", "4", "8"], [". . .", "1", "9", "8", "3", "4", "2", "5", "6", "7"], [". . .", "8", "5", "9", "7", "6", "1", "4", "2", "3"], [". . .", "4", "2", "6", "8", "5", "3", "7", "9", "1"], [". . .", "7", "1", "3", "9", "2", "4", "8", "5", "6"], [". . .", "9", "6", "1", "5", "3", "7", "2", "8", "4"], [". . .", "2", "8", "7", "4", "1", "9", "6", "3", "5]]`

</> Code

Java ▾ 🔒 Auto

```
1  class Solution {
2      public void solveSudoku(char[][] board) {
3          if(board==null || board.length!=9 || board[0].length!=9) return;
4          solve(board);
5      }
6      public boolean solve(char[][] board) {
7          for(int i=0; i<9; i++){
8              for(int j=0; j<9; j++) {
9                  if(board[i][j]=='.') {
10                     for(char c='1';c<='9';c++) {
11                         if(valid(board,i,j,c)) {
12                             board[i][j]=c;
13                             if(solve(board))
14                                 return true;
15                             else
16                             board[i][j]='.';
17                         }
18                     }
19                 }
20                 //no solution return false
21                 return false;
22             }//i,j
23         }
24     }
25 }
26     return true;
27 }
28 }
29 public boolean valid(char[][] board, int i, int j, char c) {
30     for(int n=0; n<9; n++)
31         if(board[i][n]==c) return false;
32     for(int n=0; n<9; n++)
33         if(board[n][j]==c) return false;
34     int left=(i/3)*3;
35     int right=left+2;
36     int top=(j/3)*3;
37     int bot=top+2;
38     for(int m=left; m<=right; m++ ) {
39         for(int n=top; n<=bot; n++){
40             if(board[m][n]==c) return false;
41         }
42     }
43     return true;
44 }
45
46
47 }
```

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38. Count and Say

Medium  Topics  Companies  Hint

The **count-and-say** sequence is a sequence of digit strings defined by the recursive formula:

- `countAndSay(1) = "1"`
- `countAndSay(n)` is the way you would "say" the digit string from `countAndSay(n-1)`, which is then converted into a different string.

To determine how you "say" a digit string, split it into the **minimal** number of substrings such that each substring contains exactly one unique digit. Then for each substring, say the number of digits, then say the digit. Finally, concatenate every said digit.

For example, the saying and conversion for digit string `"3322251"`:

"3322251"
two 3's, three 2's, one 5, and one 1
2 3 + 3 2 + 1 5 + 1 1
"23321511"

Given a positive integer `n`, return the `nth` term of the **count-and-say** sequence.

Example 1:

Input: `n = 1`
Output: `"1"`
Explanation: This is the base case.

Example 2:

Input: `n = 4`
Output: `"1211"`
Explanation:
`countAndSay(1) = "1"`
`countAndSay(2) = say "1" = one 1 = "11"`
`countAndSay(3) = say "11" = two 1's = "21"`

 3.6K  85   

Code

Java ▾ Auto

```
1 class Solution {
2     public String countAndSay(int n) {
3         String s="1";
4         int m=1;
5         while(m++<n) {
6             StringBuilder sb = new StringBuilder();
7             int i=1;
8             int cnt=1;
9             char c=s.charAt(0);
10            while(i<s.length()) {
11                if(s.charAt(i)!=c) {
12                    sb.append(Integer.toString(cnt));
13                    sb.append(c);
14                    cnt=1;
15                    c=s.charAt(i);
16                } else {
17                    cnt++;
18                }
19                i++;
20            }
21            sb.append(Integer.toString(cnt));
22            sb.append(c);
23
24            s=sb.toString();
25        }
26        return s;
27    }
28 }
```

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39. Combination Sum

[Medium](#) [Topics](#) [Companies](#)

Given an array of **distinct** integers `candidates` and a target integer `target`, return a list of all **unique combinations** of `candidates` where the chosen numbers sum to `target`. You may return the combinations in **any order**.

The **same** number may be chosen from `candidates` an **unlimited number of times**. Two combinations are unique if the **frequency** of at least one of the chosen numbers is different.

The test cases are generated such that the number of unique combinations that sum up to `target` is less than `150` combinations for the given input.

Example 1:

Input: candidates = [2,3,6,7], target = 7

Output: [[2,2,3],[7]]

Explanation:

2 and 3 are candidates, and $2 + 2 + 3 = 7$. Note that 2 can be used multiple times.

7 is a candidate, and $7 = 7$.

These are the only two combinations.

Example 2:

Input: candidates = [2,3,5], target = 8

Output: [[2,2,2,2],[2,3,3],[3,5]]

Example 3:

Input: candidates = [2], target = 1

Output: []

Constraints:

- $1 \leq \text{candidates.length} \leq 30$
- $2 \leq \text{candidates}[i] \leq 40$
- All elements of `candidates` are **distinct**.

17.8K 55

Code

Java ▾ Auto

```
1  class Solution {
2
3      public List<List<Integer>> combinationSum(int[] candidates, int target) {
4          List<List<Integer>> ret = new ArrayList<>();
5          //sorting for shortcut only
6          Arrays.sort(candidates);
7          helper(candidates, ret, new ArrayList<Integer>(), 0, target);
8          return ret;
9      }
10     public void helper(int[] candidates, List<List<Integer>> ret, List<Integer> curList, int start, int target)
11     {
12         if(target<0)
13             return;
14         if(target==0) {
15             ret.add(new ArrayList<Integer>(curList));
16         }
17         for(int i=start; i<candidates.length; i++)
18         {
19             if (candidates[i]>target) break; //shortcut
20             curList.add(candidates[i]);
21             //as you can repeat the same, so don't increase i as start
22             helper(candidates, ret, curList, i, target-candidates[i]);
23             curList.remove(curList.size()-1);
24         }
25     }
26 }
27 }
```

Saved to local

 Testcase > Test Result ×