

Sort array with 0s, 1s & 2s

[2 0 2 1 1 0 1 2 0 0]

↓

[0 0 0 0 1 1 1 2 2 2]

① Optimized approach

```
count0=0, count1=0, count2=0
for (i=0; i<n; i++) {
    if (nums[i]==0) count0++;
    else if (nums[i]==1) count1++;
    else count2++;
}
idx=0;
for (i=0; i<count0; i++) {
    nums[idx++] = 0;
}
for (i=0; i<count1; i++) {
    nums[idx++] = 1;
}
for (i=0; i<count2; i++) {
    nums[idx++] = 2;
}
```

② Most optimal / DNF (Dutch National Flag)

$O(n)$ TC with single pass

$O(1)$ SC

3 pointers \rightarrow low, mid, high

[2 0 2 1 1 0 1 2 0 0]

↑
mid
low

↑
high

0 0 0 0 1 1 1 2 2 2
0 l-1 l m-1 m h h+1 n-1

unsorted elements
→ gradually it will close up & atp it will be $m=h$ and there are no unsorted elements anymore

0s \rightarrow 0 to low-1
1s \rightarrow low to mid-1
2s \rightarrow high+1 to n-1
unsorted \rightarrow mid-high

now

A[mid]
↓
0 1 2
swap(A[l], A[m]) mid++ swap(A[h], A[m])
low++, mid++ high--

taking this example

0 0 0 0 1 1 1 0 1 2 2 0 2 2 2
0 l-1 l m-1 m h h+1 n-1

A[mid]=0 \Rightarrow swap(A[l], A[m])
low++, mid++

0 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 2 2 0 2 2 2
0 l-1 l m-1 m h h+1 n-1

A[mid]=1 \Rightarrow mid++

0 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 2 2 0 2 2 2
0 l-1 l m-1 m h h+1 n-1

A[mid]=2 \Rightarrow swap(A[h], A[m])
high--

Pseudo code

```
mid=0, high=n-1, low=0
while (mid <= high) {
    if (A[mid]==0) {
        swap(A[low], A[mid])
        mid++, low++
    }
    else if (A[mid]==1) mid++
    else {
        swap(A[mid], A[high])
        high--
    }
}
```

Dry run

2 0 2 1 1 0
↑↑ ↑
m l h

mid=2 \therefore swap mid & high
high--

0 0 2 1 1 2
↑↑ ↑
m l h

mid=0 \therefore swap mid & low
mid++, low++

0 0 2 1 1 2
↑↑ ↑
m l h

mid=0 \therefore swap mid & low
mid++, low++

0 0 2 1 1 2
↑ ↑ ↑
m l h

mid=2 \therefore swap h & m
high--

0 0 1 1 2 2
↑ ↑ ↑
m l h

mid=1 \therefore mid++

0 0 1 1 2 2
↑ ↑↑ ↑
l m h

mid=1 \therefore mid++

0 0 1 1 2 2
↑ ↑ ↑
l h m

now $m > h$ so exit loop
and we got sorted array