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15. 3Sum

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Topics

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Hint

```
Given an integer array nums, return all the triplets [nums[i], nums[j], nums[k]] such that i != j, i != k, and j != k, and nums[i] + nums[j] + nums[k] == 0.
```

Notice that the solution set must not contain duplicate triplets.

Example 1:

```
Input: nums = [-1,0,1,2,-1,-4]
Output: [[-1,-1,2],[-1,0,1]]
```

Explanation:

```
\begin{aligned} &\text{nums}[0] + \text{nums}[1] + \text{nums}[2] = (-1) + 0 + 1 = 0. \\ &\text{nums}[1] + \text{nums}[2] + \text{nums}[4] = 0 + 1 + (-1) = 0. \\ &\text{nums}[0] + \text{nums}[3] + \text{nums}[4] = (-1) + 2 + (-1) = 0. \end{aligned} The distinct triplets are [-1,0,1] and [-1,-1,2]. Notice that the order of the output and the order of the triplets does not matter.
```

Example 2:

Input: nums = [0,1,1]

Output: []

Explanation: The only possible triplet does not sum up to 0.

Example 3:

Input: nums = [0,0,0]

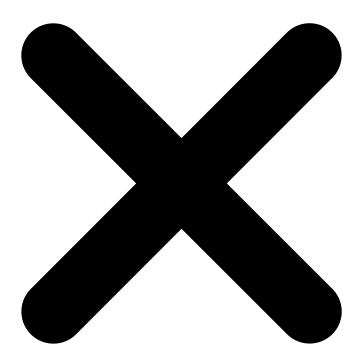
Output: [[0,0,0]]

Explanation: The only possible triplet sums up to 0.

Constraints:

• 3 <= nums.length <= 3000

• $-10^5 <= nums[i] <= 10^5$



Seen this question in a real interview before?

1/5

Yes

No

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Submissions
11.8M
Acceptance Rate
36.1%
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Hint 1
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So, we essentially need to find three numbers x , y , and z such that they add up to the given value. If we fix one of the numbers say x , we are left with the two-sum problem at hand!
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Hint 2
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For the two-sum problem, if we fix one of the numbers, say x, we have to scan the entire array to find the next number y, which is value - x where value is the input parameter. Can we change our array somehow so that this search becomes faster?
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Hint 3
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The second train of thought for two-sum is, without changing the array, can we use additional space somehow? Like maybe a hash map to speed up the search?
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Discussion (524)

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Discussion Rules
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1. Please don't post any solutions in this discussion.
2. The problem discussion is for asking questions about the problem or for sharing tips - anything except for solutions.
3. If you'd like to share your solution for feedback and ideas, please head to the solutions tab and post it there.
No comments yet.
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445 Online
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2
3
4
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class Solution {
<pre>public List<list<integer>> threeSum(int[] nums) {</list<integer></pre>
}
}

Saved

Ln 1, Col 1

nums =

[-1,0,1,2,-1,-4]

9

1

2

3

>

[-1,0,1,2,-1,-4]

[0,1,1]

[0,0,0]

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Source

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