

Week 2 Arrays Cheat Sheet – PDF

1 Tricky Transformations

Problem	Pattern	Trick	TC	SC
Next Permutation	Find first decreasing from end	Reverse suffix	$O(n)$	$O(1)$
Sort Colors	Dutch National Flag	Three pointers: low/mid/high	$O(n)$	$O(1)$
Set Mismatch	Cyclic sort	Place x at index x-1	$O(n)$	$O(1)$

2 2D Matrix Basics

Problem	Pattern	Trick	TC	SC
Set Matrix Zeroes	Use first row/col as marker	$O(1)$ space	$O(mn)$	$O(1)$
Spiral Matrix	Boundary traversal	top, bottom, left, right pointers	$O(mn)$	$O(1)$

3 Rotation & Merge

Problem	Pattern	Trick	TC	SC
Rotate Image	Transpose + reverse rows	In-place rotation	$O(n^2)$	$O(1)$
Merge Sorted Arrays	Two pointers from end	Avoid extra space	$O(n+m)$	$O(1)$

4 Greedy / Stock Problems

Problem	Pattern	Trick	TC	SC
Best Time to Buy/Sell	Track min price	$\text{maxProfit} = \max(\text{maxProfit}, \text{price}-\text{minPrice})$	$O(n)$	$O(1)$
Max Consecutive Ones	Sliding window	Expand/shrink for 0 flips	$O(n)$	$O(1)$

5 Advanced Patterns

Problem	Pattern	Trick	TC	SC
Sliding Window Maximum	Deque	Max at front	O(n)	O(n)
Longest Consecutive Sequence	HashSet	Only start at x-1 not in set	O(n)	O(n)
First Missing Positive	Cyclic sort	Place x at index x-1	O(n)	O(1)
Maximum Circular Subarray	Kadane + total-minKadane	max(normal, total-min)	O(n)	O(1)

Memory Sentences

1. Next Permutation → Find first decreasing → reverse suffix
2. Sort Colors / Set Mismatch → Cyclic sort / 3-pointer
3. Matrix → Use boundaries / markers
4. Stock / Sliding Window → Track min/max or window size
5. Circular subarray → max(normal, total-min)
6. First Missing Positive → Place each number at index = value-1