- Given an array of distinct numbers in range [0, n] return only number missing in array.

Since array can contain values [0...n] inclusive, since the array only has 'n' items, we know there is exactly one value missing within this range.

Ex.) Input: [3, 0, 2]
Output: 1

Approach # 1

1.) Sort array
2.) Iterating for loop starting @ 0 → n inclusive
When Iter does not match value, return Iter
3.) If all values match, it is n.

Time: O(n log n) (Debatable) Space: O(n)

Approach # 2

1.) Create a set, insert all items in input. O(n)
2.) Iterating for loop, check if iter exists in set O(n)
If not, iter is answer
3.) There will be a value not existing in set.

Time: O(n) Space: O(n)

Can we improve space?

To improve space, we have to utilize input

Input: [3, 0, 2]

[3, 0, 2]
[-3, 0, 2]
[-3, 0, -2]

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

[3 4 1 0]
[3 4 1 0]
[3 4 1 0]
[3 -4 1 0]
[-3 -4 1 0]

[4 0 1 3]
[4 0 1 3]
[-4 0 1 3]
[-4 0 1 -3]

1.) Iterate over each item in input
If input[i] < n then make input[input[i]] negative
This marks it as visited

2.) Iterate again. Find first value > 0. The index is answer.

3.) If none found, n is answer.

Time: O(n) Space: O(1)

Input: [9 6 4 2 3 5 7 0 1] Output: 8

X X X X X X X X Y

Another solution: [0, 2] [0, 1]

Pot. Sum: $\frac{n(n+1)}{2}$ 3 3

Act. Sum: accumulate(input, 0) 2 1

1.) Sum all numbers in input

2.) Get potential sum if all values are present

$$\frac{n(n+1)}{2}$$

3.) Potential Sum - Actual Sum = Answer