

# kintsugi-stack-dsa-cpp: PROBLEMS

"Talk is cheap. Show me the time complexity."

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## Array & Hashing

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## PreReqs

- Read Question Multiple times pls

```
// Read Question Multiple times pls
// Read Question Multiple times pls
```

```
// Read Question Multiple times pls
// return {};// No solution found, return an empty vector
// else, this error comes: Line 10: Char 5: error: non-void function
does not return a value in all control paths [-Werror,-Wreturn-type] 10 |
}^1 error generated.
```

- STL Lib & namespace std

```
// #include<bits/stdc++.h> // STL Lib
// using namespace std;
```

- Vector Array

```
// Vector Array
// a way to store and access the list of elements.
// dynamic array in C++ is std::vector
// Why It's Useful: You don't need to know the exact number of elements
```

```

you'll be storing ahead of time
// #include <vector> // lib
std::vector<int> arr1; // empty vector
std::vector<int> arr2={1,2,3}; // initialised vector
std::vector<int> arr3(5); // size =5, each element value=default
value=0
std::cout<<arr3[0]<<std::endl; //0 // Direct Access (0based)
std::vector<int> arr4(5,90); // size =5, each element value=90
std::cout<<arr4[0]<<std::endl; //90
std::cout<<arr4.size()<<std::endl; //0 // Get Length
arr4.push_back(5); // Append // btw each push in dynamic array is O(1)
std::cout<<arr4[5]<<std::endl; //5
for ( int i =0 ; i<arr2.size(); i++) { std::cout<<arr2[i]<<"      ";" } //
Vector array traversal
std::cout<<std::endl;
// std::vector it's just a dynamic array that you can access with
integer indices (like tempo[0], tempo[1], etc.). It doesn't have a .find()
method that takes a string, nor can you use a string inside the square
brackets [].
// The perfect tool for this is a std::unordered_map. It allows you to
store key-value pairs, which is exactly what you need: the sorted string as
the key and the list of anagrams as the value.

```

- Bucket/2D Vector

```

// std::vector<std::vector<int>> (Bucket/2D Vector)
// What It Is: This is simply a vector where each element is another
vector. You can visualize it as a 2D grid or a list of lists.
// Why It's Useful: It's great for grouping items into "buckets."
// For instance, you could have a main vector where the index
represents a frequency.
// The element at my_buckets[5] would then be a vector containing
all the numbers that appeared 5 times.
// This technique, often called Bucket Sort, is a powerful way to
organize data by a specific property (like frequency).
// Create a vector of 5 "buckets", where each bucket is an empty vector
of ints.
int num_buck =5 ;
vector < vector<int> > buckets(num_buck);
// Let's put numbers into buckets based on some property.
// For example, put numbers 10 and 11 into bucket 2.
buckets[2].push_back(10);
buckets[2].push_back(11);
// Put number 25 into bucket 4.
buckets[4].push_back(25);
// Now, let's see what's in bucket 2.
std::cout<< "Items in bucket 2: ";
for (int items: buckets[2]) // buckets[2], not buckets
{
    std::cout << items << " "; // Output: 10 11
}

```

```

    }
    std::cout << std::endl;
    // Items in bucket 2: 10 11

```

- For Loop

```

// For Loop
for ( int i=0; i<5; i++) std::cout<<i;
// 01234

```

- Range-Based for Loop

```

// Range-Based for Loop
// What It Is: A cleaner, more modern syntax for a for loop that
// iterates through all the elements of a container (like a vector or map)
// without needing to manage indices or iterators manually.
// Why It's Useful: It makes code much easier to read and write, and it
// reduces the chance of off-by-one errors with indices. You just declare a
// variable that will take the value of each element in the container, one by
// one.
vector<int> numbers = { 1,2,3 };
cout<< "nos:";
// => 'num' will take the value of each element in 'numbers'.
for (int num: numbers){
    cout<<num<<" "; // 1 2 3
}
cout<<endl;
// nos:1 2 3
// => It works with maps, too. 'const auto&' is efficient here.
unordered_map<char, int> meow = { {'a',3}, {'b',5} }; // "c" NO CHAR,
'c' YES CHAR
cout<< "nos:";
for ( const auto& pair : meow) {cout<<"{"<<pair.first<<","
<<pair.second<<""};" } // 'pair' is a key-value pair.
cout<<endl;
// nos:{b,5}{a,3}

```

- Hashset

```

// Hashset
std::unordered_set<int> hashSet;
hashSet.insert(1);
std::cout<<(
    hashSet.find(1)
    !=
    hashSet.end() // i.e if find give hashSet.end() ptr, then element

```

```

doesn't exist
) << std::endl; // true as 1 exists in hashset
// 1
// re-insert array elements in hashmap & checker while insertion:
number not existed in hashmap tip
// // given: vector<int>& nums
// unordered_set<int> hashbrown; // re-insert array elements in
hashmap
// for (int i=0; i<nums.size(); i++){
//     if ( hashbrown.find(nums[i]) != hashbrown.end() ) // checker
while insertion: number not existed in hashmap
//
//
//
// ( hashbrown.find(nums[i] ) only returns ptr, not index, tip

```

- Sorting

```

// Sorting
// #include <algorithm> // Required for std::sort

// Sorting a string
std::string word = "cab";
std::sort(word.begin(), word.end());
std::cout << "Sorted word: " << word << std::endl;
// Sorted word: abc

// std::sort with Reverse Iterators
std::vector<int> data = {40, 10, 50, 20, 30};

// 1. Sort in default ascending order
std::sort(data.begin(), data.end());
std::cout << "Ascending: ";
for (int x : data) std::cout << x << " "; // Output: 10 20 30 40 50
std::cout << std::endl;
// Ascending: 10 20 30 40 50

// 2. Sort in descending order using reverse iterators
sort(data.rbegin(), data.rend());
std::cout << "Descending: ";
for (int x : data) std::cout << x << " "; // Output: 50 40 30 20 10
std::cout << std::endl;
// Descending: 50 40 30 20 10

// Sorting in Vector
// (TC): O(nlogn) on average and in the worst case
// (SC): O(logn)
// std::sort sorts the vector in-place and does not return a sorted
vector. Its return type is void
std::vector<int> v1 = {1, 4, 2, 0};
std::cout << "v1: " << v1[0] << " " << v1[1] << " " << v1[2] << " " << v1[3]
<< std::endl;

```

```
// v1: 1 4 2 0
std::sort(v1.begin(), v1.end()); // asc default
std::cout<<"v1(sorted): "<<v1[0]<<" "<< v1[1] << " " << v1[2] << " " <<
v1[3] << std::endl;
// v1(sorted): 0 1 2 4
std::sort(v1.begin(), v1.end(), std::greater<int>()); // dsc
std::cout<<"v1(sorted dsc): "<<v1[0]<<" "<< v1[1] << " " << v1[2] << "
" << v1[3] << std::endl;
// v1(sorted dsc): 4 2 1 0
// - Downside of This STL Sort
//     - Differs from lang to lang
//     - good sort algos do O(nlogn)
//     - bad sort algos do O(n**2)
//     - uncertain of SC
//     - uncertain of TC
//     - lengthy at cases where STL is not available
```

- unordered sets

```
// unordered sets in c++ contains unique elements
// if we even insert duplicate, it will reject it
// we can make unord set with method to copy full the vector array,
rejecting the duplicates
v1.push_back(1);
v1.push_back(1);
std::unordered_set<int> hashSet2(v1.begin(), v1.end()); // TC: O(n) avg
tc, O(n**2) worst rare tc where glitches happen &SC: O(k) Avg, O(n) worst,
k is number of unique elements
std::cout<< hashSet2.size() << std::endl; // 4 // unique elements in
unord set
std::cout<< v1.size() << std::endl; // 6 // duplicates elements in vect
arr
```

- string equality

```
string s = "aba" ;
string t = "aab" ;
// string equality
cout<<
( s==t ) // SC: O(min(N,M)), TC: O(1)
<< endl; // 0
// cout<<s==t<< endl; // NO, always use explicit brackets to avoid
glitches
sort(s.begin(),s.end());
sort(t.begin(),t.end());
cout<<( s==t )<< endl; // 1
```

- Storing Character Frequencies

```

// Storing Character Frequencies
// Storing Character Frequencies Way 1: Dynamic Array/ Vector
vector<int> counts(26,0); // Creates a vector of size 26, with all
elements initialized to 0.
// Since the problem states the strings only contain lowercase English
letters, you don't need a flexible map. A simple array of size 26 is
faster.
// Here idx 0 -> 'a' -> 97
// 25 -> 'z' -> 122
char ch = 'a';
counts[ch-97]++;
counts[ch-97]++;
cout<<counts[0]<<endl; //2

// Storing Character Frequencies Way 2: Hashmap/ Unordered Map
unordered_map<char,int> freq_map;
freq_map['a']++;
// If 'a' isn't in the map, it's added with value 1.
// If it is, its value is incremented.
// it has capability of direct comparison
// freq_map == freq_map2 is valid
string text = "hello world";
unordered_map<char,int> char_freq;
for ( char c: text){
    char_freq[c]++;
}
int charindex = 2;
cout<< "Char "<<text[charindex]<<" comes "<<char_freq[text[charindex]]
<<" times\n";
// Char l comes 3 times

```

- Hashmap/ Unordered Map

```

// Hashmap/ Unordered Map
// This is the most powerful tool.
// An unordered_map (or hash map) is like a super-fast dictionary.
// You give it a key and it stores an associated value.
// Its superpower is checking if a key exists or retrieving its value
in an average of constant time, $O(1)$, which is incredibly fast.
// Why It's Useful: It provides incredibly fast lookups, insertions,
and deletions of elements. If you know the key, you can find its value
almost instantly, no matter how many items are in the map. This is perfect
for grouping items or counting frequencies.
// For a problem where you're looking for target - nums[i], a hash map
is perfect for instantly checking: "Have I seen the number I need before?"
unordered_map<string,int> std_scores;
std_scores["Bali"]=101;
std_scores["Bali"]=100;
cout<<std_scores["Bali"]<<endl;// 100

```

```

std::vector<int> nums1 = {3, 4, 5, 6, 4, 5, 4};
std::unordered_map<int,int> momos;

// Application : freq count for array containing duplicates, and index
find for array containing unique elements

// Application : freq count for array containing duplicates
for (int i: nums1)
// special iterator
// here i is not i , it's actually nums[i] of traditional for loop
// faster
// but can only use nums[i](value only), not i (index)

{
    momos[i]++;
// If num is not in the map, it's added. Then its count
is incremented.
}
// Fast Lookups in hashmap
int target =4;
if ( momos.find(target) != momos.end()){
    std::cout << target << "'s momo :" << momos[target] << std::endl ;
}
// 4's momo :3

// Application :index find for array containing unique elements
std::unordered_map<int,int> momos2;
for ( int i=0 ; i<nums1.size(); i++){
    momos2[nums1[i]]=i; // not momos2[nums[i]]++ as it dont make sense
    // or momos2.insert( { nums[i] , i } );
}

```

- Character Arithmetics

```

// Character Arithmetics
// char types are internally represented as numbers (like ASCII
values). This allows you to perform math on them
char c1 = 'a';
char c2 = 'b';
char c3 = 'c';
int i1 = (c3 - c1); //2
cout<<i1<<endl; //2
// ASCII Values
// 'a' = 97
// 'b' = 98
// 'y' = 121
// 'z' = 122
// 'A' = 65
// 'B' = 66
// 'Y' = 89
// 'Z' = 90

```

```

// Calculate the 0-based index for any character
char mychar = 'e';
int index = mychar - 'a';
std::cout << "The character '" << mychar << "' has an index of: " <<
index << std::endl;
// The character 'e' has an index of: 4

// General Looping tip
// for (int i=0; i<s.size(); i++){
//     counts[s[i]-97]++;
// }
// for (int i=0; i<s.size(); i++){
//     counts[t[i]-97]--;
// }
// // you can just put them in one loop na
// for (int i=0; i<s.size(); i++){
//     counts[s[i]-97]++;
//     counts[t[i]-97]--;
// }
// // You may forget this while focusing on knowledge

```

- Pair

```

// Pair
// you need to link two pieces of information together.
// For example, what if you need to sort the numbers but not lose their
original positions ?
// A std::pair is perfect for this. It holds exactly two items, which
you can access with .first and .second.
// #include <utility> // lib
std::pair<std::string, int> student1= {"Bali",101}; // {} way in cpp
std::pair<std::string, int> student2{"Bhati",100}; // classic way
auto student3 = std::make_pair("Bhaskar",100); // way of
std::make_pair() helper function ,This is useful because the compiler can
often figure out the types for you.
student1.second=100;
std::cout<<student1.first<<"\t"<<student1.second<<std::endl;// Bali
100

// Vector of Pairs
// value_index_pairs_vector
std::vector<std::pair<int,int>> pv ; // vector of value_index_pairs
std::vector<int> nums = {15, 8, 22, 5}; // random vect array, given in
problem
for (int i=0; i <nums.size(); i++){ // Store each number with its
original index
    pv.push_back( { nums[i] , i } );
    // push_back() method
    // , with to push pairs: push_back({})
    // & our case : push_back({value,index})
}

```

```
    std::sort(pv.begin(),pv.end()); // Sort the pairs. By default, it sorts
by the first element (the value).
    for (int i=0; i<pv.size(); i++){
        std::cout<<pv[i].first<<"<- "<<pv[i].second<<std::endl;
    }
// 5<-3
// 8<-1
// 15<-0
// 22<-2
```

- String

```
// String
// #include <string>
// String Concatenation
// std::to_string: A simple function that converts a number (like an
int) into its string representation.
// String Concatenation: The process of joining two or more strings
together to form a new, single string. In C++, this is easily done with the
+ or += operator
// Why They're Useful: You often need to build a string from different
pieces of data, including numbers. std::to_string allows you to seamlessly
integrate numbers into your strings.
    std::string greet = "Hello World";
    std::string name= "Bali";

// 1. String Concatenation using '+'
    std::string message = greet + ", I am " + name + " !!!";
    cout<<message<<endl;
// Hello World, I am Bali !!!

// 2. Using std::to_string
    int version = 5;
    string appname = " KintsugiDev.Studio ver." + to_string(version); // We
must convert the number '5' to a string before we can join it
    cout<< appname << endl;
// KintsugiDev.Studio ver.5

// 3. Building a key from parts using '+='
    std::string key = "";
    key+="user";
    key+=":";
    key+="Bali";
    key+",";
    key+="id";
    key+=":";
    key+=to_string(2022496);
    cout<<key<<endl;
// user:Bali,id:2022496
```

- priority\_queue (Heap)

```
// std::priority_queue (Heap)
// priority_queue is a container that organizes elements based on
priority.
// By default, it's a max-heap, meaning that whenever you look at the
top() element, it's always the largest one in the container.
// When you pop() an element, the largest one is removed.
// Why It's Useful: It's perfect for problems where you need to keep
track of the "top K" items without sorting the entire collection. For
example, you can maintain a priority queue of size k. As you process new
items, you can compare them to the smallest item in your "top K" set and
replace it if the new item is larger. This is much more efficient than
sorting everything.
// #include <queue>
// 1. Default priority_queue (Max-Heap)
priority_queue<int> max_heap;
max_heap.push(10);
max_heap.push(20);
max_heap.push(30);
// The top element is always the largest.
cout<< "Largest of max_heap :"<<max_heap.top()<<endl; //30
// Largest of max_heap :30
// 2. Min-Heap (keeps the smallest element at the top)
// You must provide extra template arguments to change its behavior.
priority_queue<int, vector<int>, greater<int>> min_heap;
min_heap.push(10);
min_heap.push(20);
min_heap.push(30);
// Now, the top element is always the smallest.
cout<< "Smallest of min_heap :"<<min_heap.top()<<endl; //10
// Smallest of min_heap :10
```

- typecasting(not parsing, parsing is dynamic translation)

```
vector<string> strs = {};// initialise too to avoid garbage
string s = "";// initialise too to avoid garbage

// To convert an int to a std::string, use
// std::string str = std::to_string(your_int);

// To convert a std::string to an int, use
// int num = std::stoi(your_str);.
```

- <https://leetcode.com/problems/concatenation-of-array/>

Google, Adobe, Facebook

---

## Ques

You are given an integer array `nums` of length `n`. Create an array `ans` of length `2n` where `ans[i] == nums[i]` and `ans[i + n] == nums[i]` for `0 <= i < n` (0-indexed).

Specifically, **ans is the concatenation of two nums arrays.**

Return the array `ans`.

Example 1:

```
Input: nums = [1,4,1,2]
```

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

Example 2:

```
Input: nums = [22,21,20,1]
```

```
Output: [22,21,20,1,22,21,20,1]
```

Constraints:

- `1 <= nums.length <= 1000.`
  - `1 <= nums[i] <= 1000`
- 

## Solutions

- Basically We have to make final array of 2x input array
- **We can't do just Vector Concatnation like strings**
- Solution 1
  - assume `nums` as input vector
  - `n` = size of vector
  - **make new arr1 of size 2n default 0**
  - for loop 0 to `n-1`
    - `arr1[i]= nums[i] ( insert 1 to n )`
  - for loop 0 to `n-1`
    - `arr1[i+n]=arr[i] ( insert n+1 to 2n )`
  - return `arr1`

```

// Solution 1
class Solution {
public:
    vector<int> getConcatenation(vector<int>& nums) {
        int n = nums.size();
        vector<int> ans(2*n);
        for (int i=0; i<n; i++){
            ans[i]= nums[i];
        }
        for (int i=0; i<n; i++){
            ans[n+i]= nums[i];
        }
        return ans;
    }
};

// Time complexity:
// O(n)
// Space complexity:
// O(n) for the output array.

```

- Solution 2

- **Iteration (One Pass): Same Insertion in New Array, but in 1 loop, 2ops per iteration**
- assume nums as input vector
- n = size of vector
- make new arr1 of size 2n default 0
- for loop 0 to n-1
  - arr1[i]= nums[i]
  - arr1[i+n]=arr[i]
- return arr1

```

// Solution 2
class Solution {
public:
    vector<int> getConcatenation(vector<int>& nums) {
        int n = nums.size();
        vector<int> ans(2*n);
        for (int i=0; i<n; i++){
            ans[i]= nums[i];
            ans[i+n]= ans[i];
            // ans[i] = ans[i + n] = nums[i]; // we can write this too !!!
        }
        return ans;
    }
};

// Time complexity:
// O(n)
// Space complexity:
// O(n) for the output array.

```

- Solution 3
  - just append in orginal array and return it
  - not making any new array ,saving space
  - assume nums as input vector
  - n = size of vector
  - for loop 0 to n-1
    - nums.push\_back(nums[i])
  - return nums
- btw each push in dynamic array is O(1)

```
// Solution 3
class Solution {
public:
    vector<int> getConcatenation(vector<int>& nums) {
        int n = nums.size();

        for (int i=0; i<n; i++){
            nums.push_back(nums[i]);
        }

        return nums;
    }
};

// Time complexity:
// O(n)
// Space complexity:
// O(n) for the output array.
```

- Solution 4 -- optimal
  - Iteration (Two Pass)
  - generic sol. with no. of times var, here =2
  - assume nums as input vector
  - n = size of vector
  - for loop 1 to times-1
    - for loop 0 to n-1
      - nums.push\_back(nums[i])
  - return nums
- btw each push in dynamic array is O(1)

```
// Solution 4
class Solution {
public:
    vector<int> getConcatenation(vector<int>& nums) {
        int n = nums.size();
        int times= 2;
```

```
        for (int j=1;j<times; j++)// j is 1 because ones occurence is
already here
    {
        for (int i=0; i<n; i++){
            nums.push_back(nums[i]);
        }
    }

    return nums;
}
};

// Time complexity:
// O(n)
// Space complexity:
// O(n) for the output array.
```

---

## 2 Contains Duplicate [Easy]

- <https://leetcode.com/problems/contains-duplicate/>

Airbnb, Amazon, Apple ,Microsoft, Tcs, Google, Yahoo, Oracle, Palantir-technologies, Adobe, Uber, Facebook, Bloomberg

---

### Ques

Given an integer array nums, return true if any value appears more than once in the array, otherwise return false.

Example 1:

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

```
Output: true
```

Example 2:

```
Input: nums = [1, 2, 3, 4]
```

```
Output: false
```

Constraints:

$1 \leq \text{nums.length} \leq 105$   $-109 \leq \text{nums}[i] \leq 109$

Recommended Time & Space Complexity You should aim for a solution with  $O(n)$  time and  $O(n)$  space, where  $n$  is the size of the input array.

Hint 1 A brute force solution would be to check every element against every other element in the array. This would be an  $O(n^2)$  solution. Can you think of a better way?

Hint 2 Is there a way to check if an element is a duplicate without comparing it to every other element? Maybe there's a data structure that is useful here.

Hint 3 We can use a hash data structure like a hash set or hash map to store elements we've already seen. This will allow us to check if an element is a duplicate in constant time.

---

## Solutions

- So in this ques array
  - if any any element occurrence >1 or **have duplicates**
    - **return true**
  - else
    - then the array have distinct elements
    - return false
- Solution 1 -- **brute force**
  - we are **checking each element to find it's same value by traversing each array eachtime**
  - given nums vect array
  - let n = nums vect array length
  - let counter = 0
  - if counter become more than 1 , i.e. item has multiple occurrence
  - for i 0->n-1
    - for j 0->n-1
      - if nums[i]==nums[j] ( not i==j )
      - counter++
      - **if counter>1**
        - **return true**
    - counter = 0 // reset counter for next elements turn
  - return false // at case where counter didnt inc from 1 , i.e. not even onces occurrence

```
// Solution 1
class Solution {
public:
    bool containsDuplicate(vector<int>& nums) {
        int n = nums.size();
        int counter = 0;
        for ( int i=0; i<n; i++){
            for ( int j=0; j<n; j++){
                if (nums[i]==nums[j]){
                    counter++;
                    if (counter> 1){
                        return true;
                    }
                }
            }
        }
    }
}
```

```

        }
    }
    counter=0;
}
return false;
}
};

// // Time & Space Complexity
// // Time complexity:
// // O(n**2)
// // Space complexity:
// // O(1)

```

- Solution 2 -- **optimal**

- hashset
- efficient tc O(n)
- directly checking if element's occurrence > 1
- using another ds hash set
- we are **inserting in hash set one by one & parallelly checking if incoming element already exists in hash set**, if it already exists, so it mean ; at that point of time its duplicate is incoming
  - so this hashset contain duplicates
  - return true and exit, no need to continue, we got our ans
- else try until any occurrence is duplicate
- if not true at any case and didn't exited earlier
  - return false
- **now only 1 loop**, which is even just insertion in ds is only req.
- thought:
  - i thought for an approach where we can remove that element in an array and still find if it's exist as duplicate or not.
  - NO
  - **this Solution similar acts , by not deleting it but checking during genesis of array**

```

// Solution 2
class Solution {
public:
    bool containsDuplicate(vector<int>& nums) {
        int n = nums.size();
        unordered_set<int> hashSet;
        for ( int i=0; i<n; i++){ // or // for (int num : nums) {
            if (hashSet.find(nums[i])!=hashSet.end()){ // or // if
                (find.count(num)) {
                    return true;
                }
            } else {
                hashSet.insert(nums[i]);
            }
        }
        return false;
    }
};

```

```
};

// Time & Space Complexity
// Time complexity:
// O(n)
// Space complexity:
// O(n)
```

- Solution 3

- **2 Pointer Approach & Sorting**
- **no need of new space**
- **sort the array**
- $O(n \log n)$
- then the duplicates would be adjacent to each other
- even even once 2 adjacent elements are same, then we got our duplicate array proof
- do **one loop** to just **check if  $\text{arr}[i] == \text{arr}[i+1]$** 
  - if true, return true
- if loops ends without returning true; then array is distinct
  - return false

```
// Solution 3
class Solution {
public:
    bool containsDuplicate(vector<int>& nums) {
        int n = nums.size(); // or just use the method in loop too
        sort(nums.begin(), nums.end());
        for (int i=0; i<n-1; i++){ // we took n-1 as to not going to case
            (where i=n-1 index(last index), i+1=n index(exceeding limit)), and now at
            i= n-2 (2nd last element index), then i+1 = n-1(last element index) :)
            if( nums[i]==nums[i+1]) return true;
        }
        return false;
    }
};

// Time & Space Complexity
// Time complexity:
// O(n log n)
// Space complexity:
// O(1) or O(n) depending on the sorting algorithm.
```

- Solution 4 -- **optimal**

- Hash Set Length
- we can just **make set of distinct elements and compare size of old array**, if same, then false, else true
- **unordered sets in c++ contains unique elements**
  - if we even insert duplicate, it will reject it
- we can make unord set with method to copy full the vector array, rejecting the duplicates
- if set size < vector size, it means that vec had duplicate elements

- return true
- else return false

```
// Solution 4
class Solution {
public:
    bool containsDuplicate(vector<int>& nums) {
        return (
            unordered_set<int>(nums.begin(), nums.end())
            .size()
            <
            nums.size()
        );
    }
};

// Time & Space Complexity
// Time complexity:
// O(n)
// Space complexity:
// O(n)
```

### 3 Valid Anagram [Easy]

- <https://leetcode.com/problems/valid-anagram>
- Expedia, Affirm, Docusign, Yahoo, Cisco, Servicenow, Goldman Sachs, Amazon, Microsoft, Oracle, Morgan Stanley, Uber, Spotify, Zulily, Google, Paypal, Snapchat, Apple, Goldman-sachs, Yelp, Facebook, Bloomberg

#### Ques

Given two strings s and t, return true if the two strings are anagrams of each other, otherwise return false.

An anagram is a string that contains the exact same characters as another string, but the order of the characters can be different.

Anagram : Multiple String Arrays where each have

1. Same Elements
2. Same Length
3. Different Order

Example 1:

Input: s = "racecar", t = "carrace"

Output: true

## Example 2:

```
Input: s = "jar", t = "jam"
```

```
Output: false
```

## Constraints:

```
s and t consist of lowercase English letters.
```

**Recommended Time & Space Complexity** You should aim for a solution with  $O(n + m)$  time and  $O(1)$  space, where  $n$  is the length of the string  $s$  and  $m$  is the length of the string  $t$ .

**Hint 1** A brute force solution would be to sort the given strings and check for their equality. This would be an  $O(n\log n + m\log m)$  solution. Though this solution is acceptable, can you think of a better way without sorting the given strings?

**Hint 2** By the definition of the anagram, we can rearrange the characters. Does the order of characters matter in both the strings? Then what matters?

**Hint 3** We can just consider maintaining the frequency of each character. We can do this by having two separate hash tables for the two strings. Then, we can check whether the frequency of each character in string  $s$  is equal to that in string  $t$  and vice versa.

---

## Solutions

- "anagram" has  $\{a:3, n:1, g:1, r:1, m:1\}$ , "nagaram" has same  $\{a:3, n:1, g:1, r:1, m:1\}$  thus anagram
- So basically if both string arrays have same elements despite any order, they are anagram
- thought:
  - so we have to check count of alphabets of both strings and compare
  - sounds like hashmap stuff
  - YES
- Solution 1
  - Sort Both String Arrays
  - check 1 if both lengths are equal or not
  - check 2 traverse and check each element of both arrays for equality
  - Downside of This STL Sort
    - Differs from lang to lang
    - good sort algos do  $O(n\log n)$
    - bad sort algos do  $O(n^{**}2)$
    - uncertain of SC
    - uncertain of TC
    - lengthy at cases where STL is not available

```

// Solution 1
class Solution {
public:
    bool isAnagram(string s, string t) {
        sort(s.begin(),s.end());
        sort(t.begin(),t.end());
        if (s.size() != t.size()) { return false; }
        for(int i=0; i<s.size(); i++){
            if (s[i]!=t[i]){
                return false;
            }
        }
        return true;
    }
};

// Time & Space Complexity
// Time complexity:
// O(nlogn+mlogm)
// Space complexity:
// O(1) or
// O(n+m) depending on the sorting algorithm.
// Where n is the length of string s and m is the length of string t.

```

- Solution 2
  - sort both s & t
  - return s==t ?

```

// Solution 2
class Solution {
public:
    bool isAnagram(string s, string t) {
        sort(s.begin(),s.end());
        sort(t.begin(),t.end());
        if (s.size() != t.size()) { return false; }
        return (s==t) ;
    }
};

// Time & Space Complexity
// Time complexity:
// O(nlogn+mlogm)
// Space complexity:
// O(1) or
// O(n+m) depending on the sorting algorithm.
// Where n is the length of string s and m is the length of string t.

```

- thought: Acc to ASCII, lets assume each char as a number bars
  - just add all ascii numbers as score 1 and score 2

- if they are same then the strings are anagrams
- NO, as  $1+4 = 2+3$
- Solution 3
  - The Hash Map Approach COUNTING
  - make char freq hashmap
  - traverse through str1 , inc freq. of freq hashmap
  - traverse through str1 , dec freq. of same freq hashmap
  - if both strs are anagrams, then second string traversal would cancel out all increasing of freq in freq hashmap

```
// Solution 3
class Solution{
public:
    bool isAnagram(string s, string t){
        if (s.size() != t.size()) { return false; }
        unordered_map<char, int> freq_map;
        for (int i=0; i<s.size(); i++){
            freq_map[s[i]]++;
        }
        for (int i=0; i<s.size(); i++){
            freq_map[t[i]]--;
        }
        for (int i=0; i<s.size(); i++){
            if(freq_map[s[i]]>0) {
                return false;
            }
        }
        return true;
    }
};

// Time & Space Complexity
// Time complexity:
// O(n+m)
// Space complexity:
// O(1) or O(k) since we have at most 26 different characters.
// The space is proportional to the number of unique characters, let's call it k
// Where n is the length of string s and m is the length of string t.
```

- Solution 4 -- optimal
  - The Array-as-Counter Approach
    - SAME "The Hash Map Approach COUNTING" as Array
  - make char freq array with index
  - it dont stores character like hashmaps, indexes play save some space
  - traverse through str1 , inc freq. of arr
  - traverse through str1 , dec freq. of same arr
  - if both strs are anagrams, then second string traversal would cancel out all increasing of freq in arr

```

// Solution 4
class Solution{
public:
    bool isAnagram(string s, string t){
        if (s.size() != t.size()) { return false; }
        vector<int> counts(26,0);
        for (int i=0; i<s.size(); i++){
            counts[s[i]-97]++;
        }
        for (int i=0; i<s.size(); i++){
            counts[t[i]-97]--;
        }
        // or merge them
        // for (int i = 0; i < s.length(); i++) {
        //     count[s[i] - 'a']++;
        //     count[t[i] - 'a']--;
        // }
        for (int i=0; i<s.size(); i++){
            if(counts[s[i]-97]>0) {
                return false;
            }
        }
        // or traverse like this
        // for (int val : count) {
        //     if (val != 0) {
        //         return false;
        //     }
        // }
        return true;
    }
};

// Time & Space Complexity
// Time complexity:
// O(n+m)
// Space complexity:
// O(1) since we have at most 26 different characters.
// Where n is the length of string s and m is the length of string t.

```

- Solution 5

- The Hash Map Approach COUNTING WAY 2
  - make char freq hashmap
  - traverse through str1 , inc freq. of freq hashmap
  - traverse through str1 , inc freq. of another freq hashmap2
  - return freq\_map == freq\_map2

```

// Solution 5
class Solution{
public:
    bool isAnagram(string s, string t){

```

```

        if (s.size() != t.size()) { return false; }
        unordered_map<char, int> freq_map;
        unordered_map<char, int> freq_map2;
        for (int i=0; i<s.size(); i++){
            freq_map[s[i]]++;
        }
        for (int i=0; i<t.size(); i++){
            freq_map2[t[i]]++;
        }

        return freq_map == freq_map2 ;
    }
};

// Time & Space Complexity
// Time complexity:
// O(n+m)
// Space complexity:
// O(1) since we have at most 26 different characters.
// Where n is the length of string s and m is the length of string t.

```

## 4 Two Sum [Easy]

- <https://leetcode.com/problems/two-sum>

Baidu, Airbnb, Netease, Cisco, Amazon, Aetion, Box, Mathworks, Zoom, Google, Cloudera, Intel, Indeed, Godaddy, Walmart Global Tech, Salesforce, Didi, Affirm, Vmware, Yandex, Microsoft, Adobe, Alibaba, Jpmorgan, Linkedin, Citadel, Emc, Groupon, Intuit, Twitter, Nvidia, Twilio, Valve, Expedia, Yahoo, Zoho, Bookingcom, Wish, Zillow, Morgan-stanley, Drawbridge, Paypal, Huawei, Dropbox, Radius, Zomato, Roblox, Accenture, Goldman-sachs, Lyft, Yelp, Splunk, Bloomberg, Samsung, Bytedance, Servicenow, Quora, Goldman Sachs, Blackrock, Ebay, Ge-digital, Oracle, Qualcomm, Tencent, Uber, Tableau, Spotify, Morgan Stanley, American Express, Sap, Ibm, Deutsche-bank, Snapchat, Dell, Apple, Visa, Works-applications, Facebook, Factset, Audible, Expedia, Affirm, Docusign, Yahoo, Cisco, Servicenow, Goldman Sachs, Amazon, Microsoft, Oracle, Morgan-stanley, Uber, Spotify, Zulily, Google, Paypal, Snapchat, Apple, Goldman-sachs, Yelp, Facebook, Bloomberg

### Ques

Given an array of integers nums and an integer target, return the indices i and j such that  $\text{nums}[i] + \text{nums}[j] == \text{target}$  and  $i \neq j$ .

You may assume that every input has exactly one pair of indices i and j that satisfy the condition.

Return the answer with the smaller index first.

Example 1:

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

```
Output: [0,1]
Explanation: nums[0] + nums[1] == 7, so we return [0, 1].
```

Example 2:

```
Input: nums = [4,5,6], target = 10
Output: [0,2]
```

Example 3:

```
Input: nums = [5,5], target = 10
Output: [0,1]
```

Constraints:

```
2 <= nums.length <= 1000
-10,000,000 <= nums[i] <= 10,000,000
-10,000,000 <= target <= 10,000,000
```

Recommended Time & Space Complexity You should aim for a solution with  $O(n)$  time and  $O(n)$  space, where  $n$  is the size of the input array.

Hint 1 A brute force solution would be to check every pair of numbers in the array. This would be an  $O(n^2)$  solution. Can you think of a better way? Maybe in terms of mathematical equation?

Hint 2 Given, We need to find indices  $i$  and  $j$  such that  $i \neq j$  and  $\text{nums}[i] + \text{nums}[j] == \text{target}$ . Can you rearrange the equation and try to fix any index to iterate on?

Hint 3 we can iterate through  $\text{nums}$  with index  $i$ . Let difference =  $\text{target} - \text{nums}[i]$  and check if difference exists in the hash map as we iterate through the array, else store the current element in the hashmap with its index and continue. We use a hashmap for  $O(1)$  lookups.

---

## Solutions

- so basically,
  - given
    - Array
    - target
  - to find
    - index  $i$  & index  $j$  of array
    - $\&& \text{arr}[i]+\text{arr}[j]=\text{target}$
    - $\&& i \neq j$

- Return the answer with the smaller index first.
- You may assume that every input has exactly one pair of indices i and j that satisfy the condition.
- Solution 1 -- brute force
  - loop 1 : i 0 to n-1
    - loop 2 : j i+1 to n-1
      - if arr[i]+arr[j]=target
        - return {i,j}
  - if not found ,return {}

```
// Solution 1
class Solution {
public:
    vector<int> twoSum(vector<int>& nums, int target) {
        for ( int i=0; i<nums.size(); i++){
            for ( int j=i+1; j<nums.size(); j++){
                if (nums[i]+nums[j] == target) { return {i,j} ; }
            }
        }
        return {};
    }
};

// Time & Space Complexity
// Time complexity:
// O(n**2)
// Space complexity:
// O(1)
```

- thought: let's just make checks of (`nums[i]+nums[nums.size()-i-1] == target`)
  - NO, as ans can be [0, 1]
- thought: `arr[i]+arr[j]=target`
  - `arr[j]=target-arr[i]`
  - we know target, if we just do hardwork to know `arr[i]` then, `arr[j]` will automatically come
  - YES, but then we can see `arr[j]` but need to extract index j
- thought: change the data stucture
  - hashset: NO, (`hashbrown.find(nums[i])`) only returns ptr, not index, tip
  - hashmap: YES, with < value, index >
  - pairs: YES, with < value, index >
  - YES
- Solution 2
  - Hash Map (Two Pass)
  - here we are finding i then j
    - `{i,hash_map[target-nums[i]]}`
  - make hashmap
    - where `hashmap[value]=index`
  - now loop traverse, first add all array elements with index nos. in hashmap
  - then another loop, to check

- if element's Right Side Complement exists
  - i.e. target - arr[i] exists
  - , i.e. arr[j] && target - arr[i] != arr[i] ( i.e. not point back to same element )
  - we are checking if the element 1's complement to sum the target exists to the RIGHT SIDE
  - i.e. element + Right Side Complement = target
- if YES, then return the i ,then j as {i,j}
- if nothing found, it didn't exist, return empty {}

```
// Solution 2
class Solution {
public:
    vector<int> twoSum(vector<int>& nums, int target) {
        unordered_map<int,int> momos;
        for ( int i = 0; i<nums.size(); i++ ) { momos[nums[i]]=i; }
        for ( int i = 0; i<nums.size(); i++ )
        {
            if ( momos.find(target-nums[i]) != momos.end() // or
momos.count(target-nums[i])
                && momos[target-nums[i]]!= i // to avoid the case of j = i
            )
            {
                return { i,momos[target-nums[i]] };
            }
            // or
            // int diff = target - nums[i];
            // if (momos.count(diff) && momos[diff] != i) {
            //     return {i, momos[diff]};
            // }
        }
        return {};
    }
};

// Time & Space Complexity
// Time complexity:
// O(n)
// Space complexity:
// O(n)
```

- Solution 3 -- optimal
  - Hash Map (One Pass)
  - Solution 2's Clever/Smart Way
  - One Pass
  - Free from Edge cases
  - here we are finding j then i
    - { hash\_map[target-nums[j]],j }
  - now in one loop,
    - first check
      - if element's Left Side Complement Exists

- i.e. Left Side Complement + Element = target
- now we are finding LEFT SIDE, not right side; because this time we are checking before insertion
  - i.e. there is no right side elements of selected element
  - if exists then return i,then j as {i,j}
  - else array element with index no. in hashmap
- if nothing found, it didn't exist, return empty {}
- here we already avoid the case of j = i

```
// Solution 3
class Solution {
public:
    vector<int> twoSum(vector<int>& nums, int target) {
        unordered_map<int,int> momos;
        for ( int j = 0; j<nums.size(); j++ ){
            if ( momos.find(target-nums[j]) != momos.end() )
            {
                return {momos[target-nums[j]] ,j}; // not {
j,momos[target-nums[j]]};
            }
            momos[nums[j]]=j; // not momos[nums[j]]++ as it dont make sense
            // or momos.insert( nums[j], j );
            // insertion should be second
            // else Let's say nums = [3, 2, 4] and target = 6
            // On the first loop (i=0, nums[0]=3), it calculates the
complement: 6 - 3 = 3.
            // Because you just added nums[0] to the map, the code
finds 3 in the map and incorrectly matches the element with itself,
returning {momos[3], 0} which is {0, 0}. This violates the i != j rule.
        }
        return {};
    }
};

// Time & Space Complexity
// Time complexity:
// O(n)
// Space complexity:
// O(n)
```

- thought: let's just sort the array and play first and last in one loop
  - NO, as we lost the indexes of array
  - thought: if we use value\_index\_pairs\_vector instead of vector array
    - our for loop checks pairs at symmetrical indices:
      - When i = 0, it checks the 1st smallest (pv[0]) and the 1st largest (pv[size-1]).
      - When i = 1, it checks the 2nd smallest (pv[1]) and the 2nd largest (pv[size-2]).
      - ...and so on.

- ```

// // // WRONG
// class Solution {
// public:
//     vector<int> twoSum(vector<int>& nums, int target) {
//         vector< pair<int,int> > pv;
//         for (int i=0; i< nums.size(); i++){
//             pv.push_back( {nums[i],i} );
//         }
//         sort(pv.begin(), pv.end());
//         for (int i=0 ; i<pv.size(); i++)
//             if (
//                 pv[i].first
//                 +
//                 pv[pv.size()-i-1].first
//                 ==
//                 target
//             )
//             {
//                 return (
//                     {
//                         pv[i].second
//                         ,
//                         pv[pv.size()-1-i].second
//                     }
//                 );
//             }
//         return {};
//     }
// };

```

- NO
  - The problem is that the correct pair isn't always symmetrical. The solution might be the 1st smallest and the 3rd largest

- Solution 4

- Sorting
- This is the two-pointer technique. I just need to put this logic into a while (`left < right`) loop. It's guaranteed to find the solution.
- thought: if we use `value_index_pairs_vector` instead of vector array. Let's go back to the sorted list and think again. I have one pointer at the start (`left`) and one at the end (`right`).
  - The Core Question: I have  $\text{sum} = \text{left\_value} + \text{right\_value}$ . How does this sum guide my next move?
  - Case 1:  $\text{sum} > \text{target}$ : The total is too big. To make it smaller, the only logical move is to decrease the larger number. So, I must move the right pointer inward (`right--`).
  - Case 2:  $\text{sum} < \text{target}$ : The total is too small. To make it bigger, the only logical move is to increase the smaller number. So, I must move the left pointer inward (`left++`).
- YES
- textbook-quality solution !!!

```

// Solution 4
class Solution {
public:
    vector<int> twoSum(vector<int>& nums, int target) {
        vector< pair<int,int> > pv;
        for (int i=0; i< nums.size(); i++){
            pv.push_back( {nums[i],i} );
        }
        sort(pv.begin(), pv.end());
        int i =0;
        int j = nums.size() -1;
        while (i<j){
            if ( pv[i].first + pv[j].first == target )
            {
                return { min(pv[i].second , pv[j].second) ,
max(pv[i].second , pv[j].second) } ;
                // NOT return ( { min(pv[i].second , pv[j].second) ,
max(pv[i].second , pv[j].second) } );
                // The syntax ( { ... } ) is not the standard way to return
a newly created vector. The compiler misinterprets it and complains that it
can't convert the result to a std::vector<int>
            }
            else if ( pv[i].first + pv[j].first < target ) { i++; }
            else if ( pv[i].first + pv[j].first > target ) { j--; }

        }

        return {};
    }
};

// Time & Space Complexity
// Time complexity:
// O(nlogn)
// Space complexity:
// O(n)

```

---

### ### 5 Group Anagrams [Medium]

- <https://leetcode.com/problems/group-anagrams/>

> Twilio, Salesforce, Affirm, DocuSign, Yahoo, Cisco, ServiceNow, BlackRock, Goldman Sachs, Ebay, VMware, TikTok, Booking.com, ElectronicArts, Amazon, Wish, Microsoft, Yandex, Oracle, Qualtrics, Bloomberg, Adobe, Alation, Uber, Nutanix, JPMorgan, Tesla, Mathworks, Zulily, Google, Hulu, IBM, Snapchat, Apple, Intuit, Visa, Goldman-Sachs, Yelp, Facebook, Walmart Global Tech

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**\*\*Ques\*\***

Given an array of strings `strs`, group all anagrams together into sublists. You may return the output in any order.

An anagram is a string that contains the exact same characters as another string, but the order of the characters can be different.

**Example 1:**

Input: `strs = ["eat", "tea", "tan", "ate", "nat", "bat"]`

Output: `[["bat"], ["nat", "tan"], ["ate", "eat", "tea"]]`

**Explanation:**

There is no string in `strs` that can be rearranged to form "bat". The strings "nat" and "tan" are anagrams as they can be rearranged to form each other. The strings "ate", "eat", and "tea" are anagrams as they can be rearranged to form each other.

**Example 2:**

Input: `strs = ["x"]`

Output: `[["x"]]`

**Example 3:**

Input: `strs = ["a"]`

Output: `[["a"]]`

**Constraints:**

`1 <= strs.length <= 1000` `0 <= strs[i].length <= 100` `strs[i]` consists of lowercase English letters.

**Recommended Time & Space Complexity**

You should aim for a solution with  $O(m * n)$  time and  $O(m)$  space, where  $m$  is the number of strings and  $n$  is the length of the longest string.

### Hint 1

A naive solution would be to sort each string and group them using a hash map. This would be an  $O(m * n \log n)$  solution. Though this solution is acceptable, can you think of a better way without sorting the strings?

### Hint 2

By the definition of an anagram, we only care about the frequency of each character in a string. How is this helpful in solving the problem?

### Hint 3

We can simply use an array of size  $O(26)$ , since the character set is a through z (26 continuous characters), to count the frequency of each character in a string. Then, we can use this array as the key in the hash map to group the strings.

---

### \*\*Solutions\*\*

- basically
  - given array of strs
  - return array of sublists of anagram string groups
- thought: You're trying to use a `std::vector` like a dictionary or a hash map, where you can look up a value using a string key.
  - NO
  - However, a `std::vector` in C++ doesn't work that way; it's just a dynamic array that you can access with integer indices (like `tempo[0]`, `tempo[1]`, etc.). It doesn't have a `.find()` method that takes a string, nor can you use a string inside the square brackets [].
  - thought: The perfect tool for this is a `std::unordered_map`. It allows you to store key-value pairs, which is exactly what you need: the sorted string as the key and the list of anagrams as the value.
    - YES
- Solution 1 -- brute force
  - Sorting
  - thought:
    - i grouped them based on id as identity of sorted string
    - so i need to do one sort operation each traversal to find id which is sorted str
  - YES
- make unord hashmap tempo
  - contain stuff as pairs {"abc", {"acb", "bac"}}
  - "abc"
  - {"acb", "bac"}
- traverse through array of strs
  - each element
  - sort it using sort stl
  - if sorted string exists in tempo
    - append the element in sorted pair
  - else
    - make pair of

```
- sorted element key
- empty array
- make new vector of vector of string fin
- traverse through tempo
- append second of pair into fin
- return fin
- TC
- for each str : n log n from sort
- for arra of m elements : m* n log n
```cpp
// Solution 1
class Solution {
public:
    vector<vector<string>> groupAnagrams(vector<string>& strs) {
        unordered_map< string, vector<string> > tempo;

        for ( int i=0 ; i<strs.size() ; i++){
            // one string iteration "string1" strs[i]
            string s = strs[i];
            sort(s.begin(),s.end()); // s is sorted strs[i]

            // Add the original string to the vector associated with the
            sorted key.
            // If the key doesn't exist, C++ creates it automatically!
            tempo[s].push_back(strs[i]);
            //     if ( tempo.find(s) != tempo.end ) // if s exist in tempo
            //     {
            //         // append strs[i] in tempo[s]
            tempo[s].push_back(strs[i])
            //             tempo[s].push_back(strs[i]);
            //         }
            //     else
            //     {
            //         // make new str,{} in tempo
            //         tempo[s].push_back(strs[i]);
            //     }
            }

            vector<vector<string>> fin;
            for ( auto const& pairs: tempo){ // eg: pair { "abc", {array of
anagrams} }
                fin.push_back(pairs.second);
            }
            return fin;
        }
    };
// Time & Space Complexity
// Time complexity:
// O(m*nlogn)
// Space complexity:
// O(m*n)
// Where
// m is the number of strings and
// n is the length of the longest string.
```

- Solution 2 -- optimal
  - Hash Map/Table
  - same working of Solution 1
  - but another ID
  - thought:
    - i grouped them based on id as identity
    - so i did earlier to do one sort operation each traversal to find id which is sorted str
    - is there any other way to make ids and group play??
    - idea: make an id
    - made of 0s and 1s of freq array of 26 alphabet & one separator
      - eg: abc => 1.1.1.0.0.0.....0
      - bca => 1.1.1.0.0.....0
        - same as abc, cab, bac etc.
    - YES, really like adj matrix
  - TC:
    - just using hashmap
    - just counting stuff
    - $O(m * n * 26)$ 
      - n is elements size
      - m is array size
      - 26 is Alphabets iteration

```
// Solution 2
class Solution {
public:
    vector<vector<string>> groupAnagrams(vector<string>& strs) {
        unordered_map< string, vector<string> > tempo;
        for ( const string& s : strs)
        {
            // Create a character count array for each string
            // An array of 26 integers, one for each letter 'a' through
            'z'.
            vector<int> freq(26,0);
            for (char c: s)
            {
                freq[c-'a']++;
            }
            // Build a unique key string from the count array.
            // For "eat": count['a'-'a']=1, count['e'-'a']=1, count['t'-
            'a']=1
            // Key might look like: "1.0.0.0.1.....1...."
            string _ID = "";
            for ( int i =0; i<26; i++)
            {
                _ID+= to_string(freq[i]);
                _ID+=".";// as a separator
            }
            tempo[_ID].push_back(s);
        }
    }
}
```

```
vector< vector<string>> fin={};
for (auto const& [key, val]: tempo)
{
    fin.push_back(val);
}
return fin;
};

// Time & Space Complexity
// Time complexity:
// O(m*n)
// Space complexity:
// O(m) extra space.
// O(m*n) space for the output list.
// Where
// m is the number of strings and
// n is the length of the longest string.
```

---

## 6 Top K Frequent Elements [Medium]

- <https://leetcode.com/problems/top-k-frequent-elements/>

Bytedance, Yahoo, Cisco, Vmware, Ebay, Pocket-gems, Amazon, Microsoft, Oracle, Adobe, Uber, Spotify, Google, Linkedin, Hulu, Snapchat, Apple, Goldman-sachs, Yelp, Facebook, Bloomberg

---

### Ques

Given an integer array nums and an integer k, return the k most frequent elements within the array.

The test cases are generated such that the answer is always unique.

You may return the output in any order.

Example 1:

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

Example 2:

```
Input: nums = [7,7], k = 1
Output: [7]
```

Constraints:

```
1 <= nums.length <= 10^4.  
-1000 <= nums[i] <= 1000  
1 <= k <= number of distinct elements in nums.
```

Recommended Time & Space Complexity You should aim for a solution with  $O(n)$  time and  $O(n)$  space, where  $n$  is the size of the input array.

Hint 1 A naive solution would be to count the frequency of each number and then sort the array based on each element's frequency. After that, we would select the top  $k$  frequent elements. This would be an  $O(n\log n)$  solution. Though this solution is acceptable, can you think of a better way?

Hint 2 Can you think of an algorithm which involves grouping numbers based on their frequency?

Hint 3 Use the bucket sort algorithm to create  $n$  buckets, grouping numbers based on their frequencies from 1 to  $n$ . Then, pick the top  $k$  numbers from the buckets, starting from  $n$  down to 1.

---

## Solutions

- this question seems to be easy
- but this is quite hard to solve once
- basically
  - Given an integer array `nums` and an integer `k`
  - return the  $k$  most frequent elements within the array.
  - The test cases are generated such that the answer is always unique.
- thought :
  - was blackout, full algo didn't came at first try
  - origin thinking was to make a map containing freq, element
  - sort them desc
  - make fin arr
  - and while  $k--$ 
    - append fin freq's element
  - return
  - NO
    - was beginner, other way too as iteration
  - Solution 1 came out of incapability of using just `unordered_map` or `vector` or `vector pair`
    - i tried here to use their synergy
    - YES
  - Will try this thought inspiration in Sol 2
    - YES
- Solution 1 -- optimal
  - Bucket Sort
  - Need to Revisit after Getting Grip

- thought: the "bucket" array, where the index represents the frequency (count) Advantage

eg:

```
[1,1,2,2,2,3,10]
- this is unbounded
  - i.e. maxelement of this array exceed size of array
  - i.e. any element 100000, 99999, etc. can be in this array
  - COUNT IS BTW TIMES OF OCCURENCE
- way 1 to store
  - i : [0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10] IDX
  - count : [0,2,3,1,0,0,0,0,0,0,1] VALUES
- way 2 to store -- optimal
  - count : [0,1,2,3,4,5,6] IDX
  - i : [[null],[10,3],[1],[2],X,X,X] VALUES
  - very much TC & SC Efficient
  - + new way to process
    - also even if array is big, still stop way 2 bucket till k ,
ignore after that
  - starting from reverse obv.
  - i.e. if k=2, so
    - 6,5,4 is out ,no data
    - process 3,2
    - ignore rest !!!
  - linear time
```

- The two-step process is the standard, efficient pattern.
- Use a map for what it's best at: fast lookups and counting.
- Use a vector for what it's best at: storing data in a sequence that can be sorted.
- make map named tempo
  - {{number,freq},{number,freq},{number,freq}}
  - Count the frequency of each number.
- make bucket vector tempo2
  - {{number,number,number},{number,number,number},{number,number,number}}
- here 0 index vector have 0 freq nos, 1 index nos have 1 freq nos, etc
- 0 would be {} obv
  - usage
- eg: buckets[5] = a list of all numbers that appeared exactly 5 times.
- eg: buckets[4] = a list of all numbers that appeared exactly 4 times.
- now traverse tempo
  - store tempo2[freq].push\_back(number)
- done
- now to just append to fin array and return fin
- actual\_size\_bucket = tempo2.size() -1
- travers tempo2 reverse order
  - You can't sort the buckets vector itself, because the frequency information is stored in its indices, not in the values it holds. Sorting it would scramble this crucial relationship.
  - so now
  - traverse i lastFreq -> 0 && fin<=k

- for nums in tempo[i]
  - fin.push\_back(nums)
- check if fin==k
  - The test cases are generated such that the answer is always unique
  - break
- else
  - continue
- return fin

```
// Solution 1
class Solution {
public:
    vector<int> topKFrequent(vector<int>& nums, int k) {
        unordered_map<int,int> tempo; // COUNT
        // 1 Count the frequency of each number.
        for ( const int i : nums )
        {
            tempo[i]++;
        }

        // The two-step process is the standard, efficient pattern.
        // Use a map for what it's best at: fast lookups and counting.
        // Use a vector for what it's best at: storing data in a sequence
        that can be sorted.

        // 2 Create buckets. The index is the frequency.
        // The size is nums.size() + 1 because a number can appear at most
        nums.size() times.
        vector<vector<int>> tempo2(nums.size() + 1); // FREQ
        // Connecting Frequency to Array Indexing To store the number 5 in
        our buckets vector, we need to place it at the index corresponding to its
        frequency. So, we need to access buckets[4].
        // Because C++ vectors are 0-indexed, to have a valid index at 4,
        the vector must have a size of at least 5 (to contain indices 0, 1, 2, 3,
        and 4).
        // Therefore, if the maximum possible frequency is nums.size(), the
        required size for the buckets vector is nums.size() + 1.
        for ( const auto& [key,value] : tempo ) // key,value are num, freq
        res.
        {
            tempo2[value].push_back(key);
        }

        // NO sort(tempo2.rbegin(),tempo2.rend());
        // You can't sort the buckets vector itself, because the frequency
        information is stored in its indices, not in the values it holds. Sorting
        it would scramble this crucial relationship.
        // You can't sort the buckets vector itself, because the frequency
        information is stored in its indices, not in the values it holds. Sorting
        it would scramble this crucial relationship.
        // The Role of the buckets Vector
```

```

        // Think of the buckets vector like a series of filing cabinet
        // drawers. The number on each drawer is the frequency (the index), and inside
        // the drawer are the numbers that appeared that many times.
        // eg: buckets[5] = a list of all numbers that appeared exactly
5 times.
        // eg: buckets[4] = a list of all numbers that appeared exactly
4 times.
    vector<int> fin;
    // 3 Iterate backwards from the highest possible frequency.
    // Add elements to the result until we have k elements.
    int actual_size_bucket = tempo2.size() -1;
    for ( int i = actual_size_bucket ; i >=0 && fin.size()<k ; --i )
    {
        for ( int num: tempo2[i]){
            fin.push_back(num);
            if ( fin.size() == k){
                break;
            }
        }
    }
    return fin;
}

};

// Time & Space Complexity
// Time complexity:
// O(n)
// Space complexity:
// O(n)

```

- Solution 2 -- brute force
- Sorting
  - Count frequencies
    - make unord map <int,int> freqMap
    - for nums in nums
      - freqMap num ++
      - it will inc freq of existing fre in freq map
      - or if new so make new freq
  - Convert to a vector of pairs { freq, number}
    - make vect of pairs freqVec
    - traverse map\_pair in freqMap
      - freqVec.push\_back { map\_pair.second, map\_pair.first } )
  - Sort the vector by frequency in descending order
    - use sort(freqVec.rbegin(), freqVec.rend())
  - Extract the top k elements
    - make fin which is vect int array
    - i 0->k-1
      - fin.push\_back freqVec [i] Second

- return fin

```
// Solution 2
class Solution {
public:
    vector<int> topKFrequent(vector<int>& nums, int k) {
        unordered_map<int,int> freqMap;
        for ( const int i : nums )
        {
            freqMap[i]++;
        }
        vector<pair<int,int>> freqVect;
        for ( const auto& [k,v]: freqMap){
            freqVect.push_back({v,k});
        }
        sort(freqVect.rbegin(),freqVect.rend());
        vector<int> fin;
        int idx=0;
        while(k--)
        {
            fin.push_back(freqVect[idx].second);
            idx++;
        }
        return fin;
    }
};

// Time & Space Complexity
// Time complexity:
// O(nlogn)
// Space complexity:
// O(n)
```

- Solution 3
  - Min-Heap
  - Need to Revisit After Getting grip on Heap
  - We don't really need to sort whole arr
  - We just need to find k freq. so extract k times too..
  - heap push O(n)
  - pop only k times O(klogn)
    - each pop O(logn)

```
// Solution 3
// Defines the 'Solution' class, which holds our function
class Solution {public:
// Declares the function 'topKFrequent' which takes a vector of integers
'nums'
// and an integer 'k', and returns a vector of integers.
    vector<int> topKFrequent(vector<int>& nums, int k) {
// 1. --- Frequency Counting ---
```

```
// Create an unordered_map (hash map) to store the frequency of each number.  
// The 'key' will be the number from 'nums', and the 'value' will be its count.  
    unordered_map<int,int> count;  
// Loop through each number ('num') in the input vector 'nums'.  
// Increment the count for the current 'num' in the map.  
// If 'num' is not in the map yet, it's automatically added with a count of 1.  
    for (int num: nums) {count[num]++;}  
  
// 2. --- Min-Heap for Top K ---  
  
// Create a min-heap (priority_queue). This is the clever part!  
// It stores pairs: {frequency, number}.  
// 'greater<...>' makes it a min-heap, meaning the pair with the *smallest* frequency will always be at the top.  
    priority_queue<pair<int,int> , vector<pair<int,int>>  
,greater<pair<int,int>>> hp; // heap  
// Loop through each 'entry' (a {number, frequency} pair) in our 'count' map.  
// Note: 'entry.first' is the number, 'entry.second' is its frequency.  
    for ( auto& i : count){  
  
        // Push the {frequency, number} pair onto the min-heap.  
        // We put frequency *first* so the heap sorts by frequency.  
        hp.push( {i.second,i.first} );  
  
        // This is the key optimization:  
        // If the heap's size exceeds 'k', we remove the smallest element.  
        // Since it's a min-heap, 'heap.pop()' removes the element with the *lowest frequency* currently in the heap.  
        if ( hp.size() > k ) {hp.pop();}  
    }  
  
    // After the loop, the heap contains exactly the 'k' elements with the highest frequencies.  
  
// 3. --- Final Result ---  
  
// Create a vector 'res' to store our final result.  
    vector<int> fin;  
  
// Loop 'k' times to extract all elements from the heap.  
// (Alternatively, you could use 'while (!heap.empty())')  
    for( int i = 0; i<k ; i++){  
  
        // Get the top element from the heap (which is a {frequency, number} pair).  
        // 'heap.top().second' accesses the 'number' part of the pair.  
        fin.push_back(hp.top().second);  
        // NO fin.push_back(hp.top().second());
```

```
// NO fin.push_back(hp.top.second());
// NO fin.push_back(hp.top.second);

// Remove the top element from the heap to access the next one.
    hp.pop();
}

// Return the 'res' vector containing the top k frequent numbers.
// Note: The order in 'res' isn't guaranteed (e.g., it might be
// from k-th most frequent to 1st most frequent), but the problem
// usually allows any order.
return fin;
}
};

// Time & Space Complexity
// Time complexity:
// O(nlogk)
// Space complexity:
// O(n+k)
// Where
// n is the length of the array and
// k is the number of top frequent elements.
```

---

## 7 Encode and Decode Strings [Medium]

- <https://neetcode.io/problems/string-encode-and-decode>
- <https://leetcode.com/problems/encode-and-decode-strings/>
- <https://www.lintcode.com/problem/659/>

Microsoft, Google, Linkedin, Square, Facebook, Twitter, Bloomberg, Amazon, Meta, Oracle, CrowdStrike, OpenAI, Snowflake

---

### Ques

Design an algorithm to encode a list of strings to a single string. The encoded string is then decoded back to the original list of strings.

Please implement encode and decode

Example 1:

```
Input: ["neet", "code", "love", "you"]
```

```
Output: ["neet", "code", "love", "you"]
```

Example 2:

```
Input: ["we", "say", ":", "yes"]
```

```
Output: ["we", "say", ":", "yes"]
```

Constraints:

```
0 <= strs.length < 100  
0 <= strs[i].length < 200  
strs[i] contains only UTF-8 characters.
```

**Recommended Time & Space Complexity** You should aim for a solution with  $O(m)$  time for each encode() and decode() call and  $O(m+n)$  space, where  $m$  is the sum of lengths of all the strings and  $n$  is the number of strings.

**Hint 1** A naive solution would be to use a non-ascii character as a delimiter. Can you think of a better way?

**Hint 2** Try to encode and decode the strings using a smart approach based on the lengths of each string. How can you differentiate between the lengths and any numbers that might be present in the strings?

**Hint 3** We can use an encoding approach where we start with a number representing the length of the string, followed by a separator character (let's use # for simplicity), and then the string itself. To decode, we read the number until we reach a #, then use that number to read the specified number of characters as the string.

---

## Solutions

- basically
  - design algo ques
  - we have to make 2 funcs
    - 1st convert list to strings
    - 2nd convert strings to list
- WRONG Solution 1 -- brute force
  - encoder
    - string s = ""
    - traverse list
      - append each element in s
      - with special unique separator "#" help identify element breaks in decoder
    - return s
  - decoder
    - list l = {}
    - string buffer = ""
    - traverse letter in string
      - if element == "#"
        - list.append (buffer)
        - buffer = "" // reset

- else
  - buffer += letter
- return l
- Problem
  - fails at case : ["we", "say", ":", "yes", "!@#\$%^&\*( )"]
  - our special character would be in input
  - if we do combination like "#HEHE", then character traversal would be pointless

```
// WRONG Solution 1
class Solution {
public:

    string encode(vector<string>& strs) {
        string s = ""; // initialise too to avoid garbage
        for ( auto element : strs ){
            s+=element;
            s+="#";
        }
        return s;
    }

    vector<string> decode(string s) {
        vector<string> strs = {};// initialise too to avoid garbage
        string buffer = "";
        for ( auto letter : s ){
            if (letter == '#'){ strs.push_back(buffer); buffer="";}
            else {buffer += letter;}
        }
        return strs;
    }
};
```

- Solution 2 -- brute force
  - tweaked solution 1
    - with special separator would be unique combination of letters MORE THAN 1 CHARACTER
    - eg : "#0#"
    - encoder
      - same as solution 1
      - but
        - "#0#" as separation
    - decoder
      - same as solution 1
      - but
        - 3 pointer run at same time
        - $i+2 < s.size()$  bound safety

- $s[i] == '#' \&& s[i+1] == '0' \&& s[i+2] == '#'$
- also append to buffer and  $i += 2$ 
  - to avoid insertion of #,0s of our special separator side
- Passed but, Potential Problem
  - fails at case where input is having same unique separator by chance

```
// Solution 2
class Solution {
public:

    string encode(vector<string>& strs) {
        string s = ""; // initialise too to avoid garbage
        for ( auto element : strs ){
            s+=element;
            s+="#0#";
        }
        return s;
    }

    vector<string> decode(string s) {
        vector<string> strs = {};// initialise too to avoid garbage
        string buffer = "";
        for ( int i = 0; i < s.size(); i++ ){
            if ( i+2<s.size()
                && ( s[i] == '#' && s[i+1] == '0' && s[i+2] == '#' ) )
            { strs.push_back(buffer); buffer="";
            i+=2;// nice move by me :)}
            else {buffer += s[i];}
        }
        return strs;
    }
};

// - Passed but, Potential Problem
// - fails at case where input is having same unique separator by chance
// Time & Space Complexity
// Time complexity: O(m) for each encode() and decode() function calls.
// Space complexity: O(m+n) for each encode() and decode() function calls.
// Where m is the sum of lengths of all the strings and n is the number of strings.
```

- Solution 3 -- Illegal
  - using hint 2
  - make a array storing frequencies of each string
  - and at decoder
    - index=0, seperate as in loop we could return to 0 , pointless stuff
    - traversing through array,
      - using its element as for range to traverse

- append to buffer
- and append to list
- buffer reset
- index++
- Why illegal ?
  - Breaks the Problem Contract
  - This solution is incorrect because it relies on shared state (a class member variable) to pass information from encode to decode

```
// Illegal Solution 3
class Solution {
public:
    vector<int> freq = {};

    string encode(vector<string>& strs) {
        string s = ""; // initialise too to avoid garbage
        for ( auto element : strs ){
            s+=element;
            freq.push_back(element.size());
        }
        return s;
    }

    vector<string> decode(string s) {
        vector<string> strs = {};// initialise too to avoid garbage
        string buffer = "";
        int index=0;
        for ( auto times : freq){
            for ( int i= 0; i< times; i++) {
                buffer+=s[index];
                index++;
            }
            strs.push_back(buffer);
            buffer="";
        }
        return strs;
    }
};
```

- Solution 4
  - thought
    - mix of all ways
    - ["neet","4#co#de2"] => "4#neet8#4#co#de2"
      - "4#neet"
      - '4' -> string size
      - '#' to notify that the number is freq
    - then at decoder traverse but
      - if

- s[i] == number
- && s[i+1] == '#'
  - buffer add
  - index inc
- NO
  - fails at case of '10#'
- 

```
// Solution 4
class Solution {
public:

    string encode(vector<string>& strs) {
        string s = "";
        for ( auto element : strs ) {
            s+=to_string(element.size()) + "#" + element;
        }
        return s;
    }

    vector<string> decode(string s) {
        vector<string> strs = {};// initialise too to avoid garbage
        string buffer = "";
        int start_idx = 0;
        int freq_buff = 0;
        int freq_check = 1; // 1 = true, 0 = false
        for ( int i = 0 ; i<s.size() ; i++){
            if ( freq_check==1 ){
                if ( s[i] == '#' ) {
                    int end_idx = i-1;
                    freq_buff = stoi( s.substr(start_idx, end_idx-start_idx+1)
);
                    freq_check = 0;
                }
            }
            else if ( freq_buff > 0){
                buffer+=s[i];
                freq_buff--;
            }
            else if ( freq_buff == 0){
                freq_check=1;
                strs.push_back(buffer);
                buffer="";
                start_idx=i;
            }
        }
        // --- THIS IS THE FIX ---
        // After the loop, the last word ("you") is still in the buffer.
        // Push it to the vector.
        strs.push_back(buffer);
        return strs;
    }
}
```

```
    }
};

// Time & Space Complexity
// Time complexity: O(m) for each encode() and decode() function calls.
// Space complexity: O(m+n) for each encode() and decode() function calls.
// Where
// m is the sum of lengths of all the strings and
// n is the number of strings.
```

- mid
- 

## Template

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### Topic

#### TotalCompanyTags

Total Company Tags

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#### PreReqs QuesNotes

- a

```
#include<bits/stdc++.h>
int main(){
    return 0;
}
```

---

#### Sr.No. Question [Easy/Medium/Hard]

- Link

Company Tags, Ctrl+Shift+Alt+ArrowKeys

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#### Ques

#### Content

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## Solutions

- Prompt for PreReqs of My Multiple Resources( courses, notes, papers)

You are an expert C++ tutor. Your goal is to teach me the necessary concepts to solve a specific coding problem, but without revealing the final answer's logic. I will provide you with both the problem description and the complete, working C++ solution. Based on this information, you must first identify all the core programming concepts, data structures, and C++ features used in the solution. Then, for each of these topics, you must explain it to me from a beginner's perspective. Each explanation should cover what the concept is, why it's useful in general, its basic C++ syntax, and a small, self-contained code snippet that demonstrates only that single concept in isolation. It is crucial that you do not explain the line-by-line logic of the solution I provided or combine your examples into the final answer. Your entire purpose is to give me the individual building blocks so that I can construct the final solution myself.

- Prompts for Notes of My Multiple Resources( courses, notes, papers)

Create super depth notes in Markdown (.md) format with 100% information preserved, no loss. Use simple grammar and keep everything clear, direct, and well-structured. using headings, subheadings, paragraphs, statements and code blocks when needed. Include every detail, definition, example, and step exactly from the source. transform the given content into clean, readable .md format.  
and no #, just nested - lines plaintext

## End-of-File

The [KintsugiStack](#) repository, authored by Kintsugi-Programmer, is less a comprehensive resource and more an Artifact of Continuous Research and Deep Inquiry into Computer Science and Software Engineering. It serves as a transparent ledger of the author's relentless pursuit of mastery, from the foundational algorithms to modern full-stack implementation.