# Leetcode

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## 1 General

#### 1.1 Interviewer Considerations

#### Notes:

- How did the candidate **analyze** the problem?
- Did the candidate miss any special or **edge** cases?
- Did the candidate approach the problem **methodically** and logically?
- Does the candidate have a strong foundation in basic computer science **concepts**?
- Did the candidate produce working code? Did the candidate test the code?
- Is the candidate's code clean and easy to read and maintain?
- Can the candidate **explain** their ideas clearly?

## 1.2 Steps for Success During the Technical Interview

### Summary:

#### 1. Clarify the question

- (a) Understand what the question is asking and gather example inputs and outputs.
- (b) Clarify constraints such as:
  - i. Can numbers be negative or repeated?
  - ii. Are values sorted or do we need to sort them?
  - iii. Can we assume input validity?
- (c) Asking clarifying questions shows communication skills and prevents missteps.

### 2. Design a solution

- (a) Avoid immediate coding; propose an initial approach and refine it.
- (b) Analyze the algorithm's time and space complexity.
- (c) Consider and address edge cases.
- (d) Think aloud to demonstrate logical reasoning and collaboration.
- (e) Discuss non-optimal ideas to show your thought process.

## 3. Write your code

- (a) Structure the solution using helper functions.
- (b) Confirm API details when uncertain.
- (c) Use your strongest programming language and full syntax.
- (d) Write complete, working code—not pseudocode.

### 4. Test your code

- (a) Validate your solution with 1–2 example test cases.
- (b) Walk through each line using inputs.
- (c) Do not assume correctness—prove it through testing.
- (d) Discuss any further optimizations and their trade-offs.

### 1.3 Common Mistakes to Avoid

## Warning:

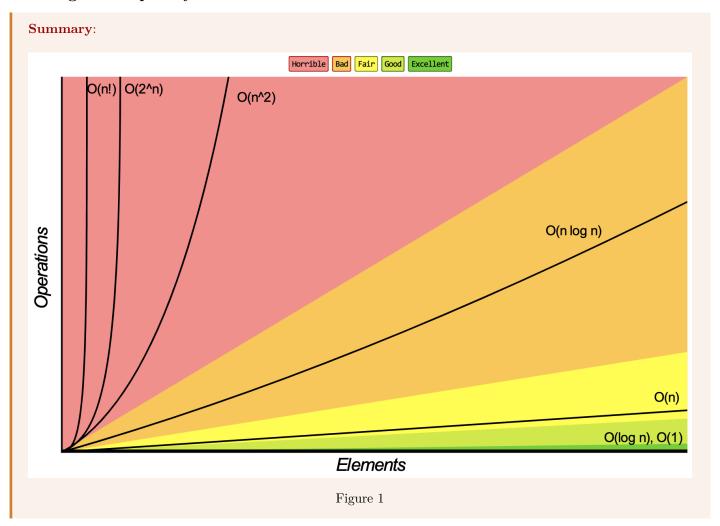
- 1. Starting to code without clarifying the problem.
- 2. Failing to write or discuss sample inputs and outputs.
- 3. Using pseudocode instead of fully functional code.
- 4. Misunderstanding the problem or optimizing prematurely.

## 1.4 Syntax

#### **Summary**:

- 1. dict.items()
  - Returns a view object that displays a list of a dictionary's key-value tuple pairs.
- 2. sorted(iterable, key=..., reverse=...)
  - iterable: The sequence or collection (e.g., list, dictionary view) to be sorted.
  - key=...: A function that extracts a comparison key from each element. Sorting is performed based on the result of this function.
    - key=lambda x: x[0]: Sort by the first element of each tuple.
    - key=lambda x: x[1]: Sort by the second element of each tuple.
  - reverse=...: A boolean value. If True, sorted in descending order; otherwise, sorted in ascending order (default is False).
- 3. collections.Counter(iterable)
  - Counts the frequency of each unique element in iterable and returns a dictionary-like object.
  - Arguments:
    - iterable: a sequence (e.g., list, string) or any iterable containing hashable elements.

# 1.5 Big-O Complexity Chart



# 1.6 Common Data Structure Operations

Data Structure	Time Co	mplexity							Space Complexity
	Average	•			Worst				Worst
	Access	Search	Insertion	Deletion	Access	Search	Insertion	Deletion	
Array	Θ(1)	Θ(n)	Θ(n)	Θ(n)	0(1)	0(n)	0(n)	0(n)	O(n)
Stack	Θ(n)	Θ(n)	Θ(1)	Θ(1)	0(n)	0(n)	0(1)	0(1)	0(n)
Queue	Θ(n)	Θ(n)	Θ(1)	Θ(1)	0(n)	0(n)	0(1)	0(1)	O(n)
Singly-Linked List	Θ(n)	Θ(n)	Θ(1)	Θ(1)	0(n)	0(n)	0(1)	0(1)	O(n)
Doubly-Linked List	Θ(n)	Θ(n)	Θ(1)	Θ(1)	0(n)	0(n)	0(1)	0(1)	O(n)
Skip List	$\Theta(\log(n))$	$\Theta(\log(n))$	Θ(log(n))	$\Theta(\log(n))$	0(n)	0(n)	0(n)	0(n)	O(n log(n))
Hash Table	N/A	Θ(1)	Θ(1)	Θ(1)	N/A	0(n)	0(n)	0(n)	<b>O(n)</b>
Binary Search Tree	$\Theta(\log(n))$	$\Theta(\log(n))$	$\Theta(\log(n))$	$\Theta(\log(n))$	0(n)	0(n)	0(n)	0(n)	<b>O(n)</b>
Cartesian Tree	N/A	$\Theta(\log(n))$	$\Theta(\log(n))$	$\Theta(\log(n))$	N/A	0(n)	0(n)	0(n)	<b>O(n)</b>
B-Tree	$\Theta(\log(n))$	$\Theta(\log(n))$	Θ(log(n))	$\Theta(\log(n))$	O(log(n))	O(log(n))	0(log(n))	O(log(n))	<b>O(n)</b>
Red-Black Tree	$\Theta(\log(n))$	$\Theta(\log(n))$	Θ(log(n))	$\Theta(\log(n))$	O(log(n))	0(log(n))	0(log(n))	0(log(n))	<b>O(n)</b>
Splay Tree	N/A	$\Theta(\log(n))$	$\Theta(\log(n))$	$\Theta(\log(n))$	N/A	0(log(n))	O(log(n))	O(log(n))	<b>O(n)</b>
AVL Tree	$\Theta(\log(n))$	Θ(log(n))	$\Theta(\log(n))$	Θ(log(n))	O(log(n))	0(log(n))	O(log(n))	O(log(n))	<b>O(n)</b>
KD Tree	$\Theta(\log(n))$	$\Theta(\log(n))$	Θ(log(n))	$\Theta(\log(n))$	<b>O(n)</b>	<b>O(n)</b>	0(n)	0(n)	0(n)

# 1.7 Array Sorting Algorithms

Summary:						
Algorithm	Time Co	mplexity	Space Complexity			
	Best	Average	Worst	Worst		
Quicksort	$\Omega(n \log(n))$	Θ(n log(n))	0(n^2)	O(log(n))		
Mergesort	$\Omega(n \log(n))$	Θ(n log(n))	O(n log(n))	O(n)		
Timsort	<u>Ω(n)</u>	Θ(n log(n))	O(n log(n))	O(n)		
Heapsort	$\Omega(n \log(n))$	Θ(n log(n))	O(n log(n))	0(1)		
Bubble Sort	<u>Ω(n)</u>	Θ(n^2)	0(n^2)	0(1)		
Insertion Sort	<u>Ω(n)</u>	Θ(n^2)	0(n^2)	0(1)		
Selection Sort	Ω(n^2)	Θ(n^2)	0(n^2)	0(1)		
Tree Sort	$\Omega(n \log(n))$	Θ(n log(n))	0(n^2)	0(n)		
Shell Sort	$\Omega(n \log(n))$	Θ(n(log(n))^2)	0(n(log(n))^2)	0(1)		
Bucket Sort	$\Omega(n+k)$	Θ(n+k)	0(n^2)	0(n)		
Radix Sort	$\Omega(nk)$	Θ(nk)	O(nk)	0(n+k)		
Counting Sort	$\Omega(n+k)$	Θ(n+k)	0(n+k)	0(k)		
Cubesort	<u>Ω(n)</u>	Θ(n log(n))	O(n log(n))	0(n)		
		Figure 3				

## 2 Arrays and Hashing

### 2.1 When to Use?

### **Summary**:

- To count frequencies in O(n) time.
- To check membership in constant time.
- To map keys to values (e.g., index, count, group).
- To group elements by shared features (e.g., anagrams).
- To detect duplicates efficiently.

## 2.2 Hashing

```
def solve_problem(nums):
      # Step 1: Initialize the hashmap (e.g., for frequency, index, or existence check)
      hashmap = \{\}
      # Step 2: Iterate over the array
      for i, num in enumerate(nums):
          # Step 3: Define your condition (e.g., check complement, existence, frequency)
          if some_condition_based_on_hashmap(num, hashmap):
              # Step 4: Return or process result as needed
              return result_based_on_condition
11
12
          # Step 5: Update the hashmap
13
          hashmap_update_logic(num, i, hashmap)
14
      # Step 6: Handle the case where the condition is never met
      return final_result_if_needed
  # Helper functions (replace with actual logic based on the problem)
19
  def some_condition_based_on_hashmap(num, hashmap):
20
      # Example: return (target - num) in hashmap
21
22
  def hashmap_update_logic(num, i, hashmap):
23
      # Example: hashmap[num] = i
```

### 2.3 Common Problems

### Summary:

Problem	Description:		
**347. Top K Frequent Elements	Given an integer array nums and an integer k, return the k most frequent elements.		

- Use a hashMap to count the frequency of each element.
- Sort the map by frequency and return the top k elements.

118. Pascal's Triangle Given an integer numRows, return the first numRows of Pascal's triangle.

- Initialize: res = [[1]].
- Loop from numRows 1:
  - Pad the PrevRow: Create dummy\_row by padding the last row in res with zeros at both ends.
  - Loop 2 from len(prevRow) + 1: For each position i, compute the value dummy\_row[i] + dummy\_row[i+1] and append it to the new row.

### **Summary**:

Problem Description:

73. Set Matrix Zeroes Given an m x n integer matrix, if an element is 0,

set its entire row and column to 0.

• Record Zero Positions: Iterate through all elements. If matrix[i][j] == 0, append [i, j] to list.

• Row/Column Zeroing: Set all elements in column col\_ind to zero and all elements in row row\_ind to zero using two helpers.

54. Spiral Matrix Given an m x n matrix, return all elements of the matrix in spiral order.

- Initialize: Create an empty list res, set boundaries: top, bottom, left, right, and current pos (i, j).
- Loop: While top <= bottom and left <= right. Use helper functions to achieve the following:
  - Traverse from left to right along the top row and adjust top bdy and check if top > bottom.
  - Traverse from top to bottom along the right column and adjust right bdy and check if left > right.
  - Traverse from right to left along the bottom row and adjust bottom bdy and check if top > bottom.
  - Traverse from bottom to top along the left column and adjust left bdy and check if left > right.

## 3 Two Pointers

## 3.1 When to Use?

## Summary:

- If we need to find a pair of elements that satisfy a condition.
- If we need to find a subarray that satisfies a condition.

## 3.2 Slow and Fast Pointers

## Algorithm:

1.

### 3.2.1 Common Problems

#### Summary.

Problem	Description:
15. 3Sum	Given an array of integers, return all the triplets $[nums[i], nums[j], nums[k]]$ s.t. $i != j$ , $i != k$ , and $j != k$ .
• Trick	ks:

## 3.3 Left and Right Pointers

- 1. Initialize two pointers. Some common choices:
  - $\bullet$  One at the front and one at the back of the array.
  - Both at the front of the array.
  - Both at the back of the array.

#### 3.3.1 Common Problems

Summary	
Summary	∕:

Problem	Description:		
15. 3Sum	Given an array of integers, return all the triplets $[nums[i], nums[j], nums[k]]$ s.t. $i != j$ , $i != k$ , and $j != k$ .		
• Tricks:			
125. Valid Palindrome	Given a string, determine if it is a palindrome, considering only alphanumeric characters and ignoring cases.		
lowercase.	or char in s if char.isalnum()) to remove non-alphanumeric and y not equal, return False. If equal move both pointers.		
167. Two Sum II - Input array is sorted	Given an array of integers that is already sorted in ascending order, find two numbers such that they add up to a target.		
• Use front and back pointers. If $>$ to	arget, move back pointer left. If $<$ target, move front pointer right.		
• Use front and back pointers. If > ta  11. Container With Most Water	Given n non-negative integers a1, a2,, an, where each represents a point at coordinate (i, ai).		
	Given n non-negative integers a1, a2,, an, where each represents		

- Set left = 0, right = len(height) 1 to have the width as large as possible.
- Initialize maxWater = 0.
- Water Area Calculation: Define helper function amtWater(height, left, right):
  - Compute height = min(height[left], height[right]).
  - Compute width = right left.
  - Return height \* width.
- Two-Pointer Strategy: While left <= right:
  - Compute area between left and right, update maxWater.
  - Move the pointer at the shorter line inward:
    - \* If height[left] <= height[right], increment left.
    - \* Else, decrement right.

### **Summary**:

Problem	Description:
42. Trapping Rain Water	Given n non-negative integers representing an elevation map where the width of each bar is 1, compute how much water it can trap after raining.

- Initialization: If height is empty, return 0.
  - Set two pointers: 1 = 0, r = len(height) 1.
  - Initialize leftMax = height[1], rightMax = height[r], res = 0.
- Two-Pointer Traversal: While 1 < r:
  - If leftMax < rightMax:</pre>
    - \* Increment 1. Update leftMax = max(leftMax, height[1]).
    - \* Accumulate water: res += leftMax height[1].
  - Else:
    - \* Decrement r. Update rightMax = max(rightMax, height[r]).
    - \* Accumulate water: res += rightMax height[r].
- Intuition:
  - Always move the pointer at the side with the smaller maximum, since the water trapped at that point depends on the limiting side.
  - The water accumulated for a column is determined by the height of the column minus the min of the maximum heights on both sides.

## 4 Sliding Window

## 4.1 Fixed Sliding Window

### **Summary**:

- Find a subarray/substring of a fixed size that satisfies a condition.
- Find the maximum or minimum of a subarray of a fixed size.

```
initialize window_sum = 0
initialize max_result (or other required value)

# Set up initial window
for i in range(0, k):
    window_sum += arr[i]

max_result = window_sum # Initialize result

# Slide the window
for i in range(k, n):
    window_sum += arr[i] - arr[i - k] # Add new element and remove 1st element of prev window
    max_result = max(max_result, window_sum) (or other computation)

return max_result (or other required value)
```

## 4.1.1 Common Problems

## Summary:

Problem	Description:	
643. Maximum Average Subarray I	Given an integer array nums and an integer k, return the maximum average value of a subarray of length k.	
• Follow template.		
567. Permutation in String	Given two strings s1 and s2, return true if s2 contains a permutation of s1, or false otherwise.	
than sum, get freq of chars. • Special Case: If len(s1) > len	rough s2 and update freqMap_window by adding new char and removing old $eq = 0$ ).	
219. Contains Duplicate II	Given an integer array nums and an integer $k$ , return true if there are two distinct indices $i$ and $j$ in the array such that nums $[i] == nums[j]$ and $abs(i - j) <= k$ .	
<ul> <li>Init: Follow template with wir</li> <li>Special Case: If len(nums) </li> <li>Initial window: Range(min(length))</li> </ul>		

## 4.2 Dynamic Sliding Window

### Summary:

• Find longest or shortest subarray/substring that satisfies a condition.

```
initialize left = 0
initialize window_state (sum, count, frequency map, etc.)
initialize min_or_max_result

for right in range(n):
    update window_state to include arr[right] # Expand the window

while window_state violates the condition:
    update min_or_max_result (if needed)
    update window_state to exclude arr[left] # Shrink the window
    move left pointer forward

return min_or_max_result
```

#### 4.2.1 Common Problems

Summary	,	
Summary	,	

Given an array where the ith element is the price of a stock on day i, find the maximum profit you can achieve. You may not engage in multiple transactions.
zed at 0, 1.  Exercise x profit. Move right pointer since we can still sell for a profit. Inter since we need to find a lower price to buy.  The end of the array.
Given a string s, find the length of the longest substring without repeating characters.
<pre>p of chars for window_state. er to right by 1 and adjust freqMap until current char is unique. of while with max_res = max(max_res, right - left + 1).</pre>
Given a string s that consists of only uppercase English letters, you can replace any letter with another letter.  Find the length of the longest substr containing the same letter after performing at most k replacements.
j

- Init: Follow template and use freqMap of chars for window\_state.
- While: If the number of replacements needed exceeds k, i.e.  $(r 1 + 1) \max_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \{x \in \mathbb{N} \}$ 
  - Move left pointer to right by 1 and adjust freqMap until the condition is satisfied.
- Change: Compare substring length outside of while with max\_res = max(max\_res, right left + 1).

**76. Minimum Window Substring	Given two strings s and t, return the minimum window substr
	of s such that every character in t (including duplicates) is
	included in the window. If there is no such substring, return ""

- Init: Set left = 0. Initialize count\_t as frequency map of t, count\_s for current window, and variables have = 0, required = len(count\_t), res = [-1, -1], and resLen = infty.
- For right in range(n): Expand window by adding s[right] to count\_s. If relevant char and frequency matches count\_t, increment have.
  - While have == required:
    - \* Update result if current window is smaller w/ coordinates res = [left, right] and length resLen = right left + 1.
  - \* Shrink window by \upsilon count\_s[s[left]]; if below count\_t, decrement have; increment left.
- Return: s[res[0]:res[1]+1] if valid window found, else empty string.

## Summary:

Problem	Description:
239. Sliding Window Maximum	Given an integer array nums and an integer k, return the maximum value in each sliding window of size k.
• Hi	

## 5 Binary Search

## Algorithm:

```
def binary_search(nums, target):
    left, right = 0, len(nums) - 1

while left <= right:
    mid = (left + right) // 2

if nums[mid] == target:
    return mid
elif nums[mid] < target:
    left = mid + 1
else:
    right = mid - 1

return -1</pre>
```

### 5.1 When to Use?

### Summary:

- Use when the input is **sorted** or can be **monotonically mapped**.
- Common for problems involving searching for a target, finding boundaries, or min/max constraints.
- Works on arrays, answer ranges, or implicit search spaces with  $\mathcal{O}(\log n)$  complexity.

#### 5.1.1 Common Problems

### Summary:

Problems	Description	
875. Koko Eating Bananas	Given an array of piles and an integer h, find the minimum eating speed k such that Koko can eat all bananas in h hours.	

- Use binary search to find the minimum  $k \le l = 0$ , r = max(piles) since k must be in this range.
- Check if k is valid by calculating the total hours needed to eat all bananas.
  - for p in piles total\_hours += math.ceil(p / k)
  - Compare total\_hours with h. If hours  $\leq$  h, update r = mid 1 and res = mid. Else update l = mid + 1.

\*\*153. Find Minimum in Rotated Sorted Array Given a rotated sorted array, find the minimum element.

- Initialize res = nums[0] as a candidate minimum.
- Set binary search bounds: 1 = 0, r = len(nums) 1.
- While 1 <= r:
  - If nums[1] < nums[r], subarray is sorted; update res = min(res, nums[1]) and break.
  - Compute midpoint m = (1 + r) // 2, update res = min(res, nums[m]).
  - If nums[m] >= nums[1], left half is sorted; search right: 1 = m + 1.
  - Else, pivot is in left half; search left: r = m 1.
- Return res as the minimum element.

**33. Search in Rotated Sorted Array	Given a rotated sorted array, search for a target value.  If found, return its index.
•	

## 6 Linked List

Summary: Data structure for storing objects in linear order.

• **Object:** Data and a pointer to the next object.

### 6.1 When to Use?

### **Summary**:

- Implement other DS: stacks, queues, hash tables.
- Dynamic memory allocation.

## 6.2 Singly Linked List

```
Algorithm:

class Node:
    def __init__(self, data):
        self.data = data # Value stored in the node
        self.next = None # Pointer to the next node

class SinglyLinkedList:
    def __init__(self,data):
        self.head = Node(data) # Head of the list

def operations(self):
    pass
```

## 6.3 Operations

## Summary:

Operation	Time Complexity (WC)
Search	O(n)
Insert	O(n)
Delete	O(n)
Access	O(n)

## 6.4 Doubly Linked List

```
Algorithm:

class Node:
    def __init__(self, data):
        self.data = data  # Value stored in the node
        self.next = None  # Pointer to the next node
        self.prev = None  # Pointer to the previous node

class DoublyLinkedList:
    def __init__(self,data):
        self.head = Node(data)  # Head of the list

def operations(self):
    pass
```

## 6.5 Operations

_						
S	111	m	m	12	r٦	<i>,</i> •
$\sim$	u	ш	111	ıcı.		

Operation	Time Complexity (WC)
Search	O(n)
Insert	O(n)
Delete	O(n)
Access	O(n)

## 6.6 Circular Linked List

```
class Node:
    def __init__(self, data):
        self.data = data # Value stored in the node
        self.next = None # Pointer to the next node

class CircularLinkedList:
    def __init__(self,data):
        self.head = Node(data) # Head of the list
        self.head.next = self.head # Point to itself

def operations(self):
    pass
```

## 6.7 Operations

Summary:		
	Operation	Time Complexity (WC)
	Search	O(n)
	Insert	O(n)
	Delete	O(n)
	Access	O(n)

### Summary:

### Problem Description:

19. Remove Nth Node From End of List Given a linked list, remove the Nth node from the end of the list.

- Idea: Use two pointers (slow and fast) to traverse the list by moving fast pointer N steps ahead.
  - Conditional: If fast is None, then this means N = length of list, therefore, remove head by returning head.next.
- Move both pointers until fast reaches the end.
  - Slow pointer will be at the node to be deleted, so store prev node and do appropriate adjustments.

### 2. Add Two Numbers

Given two non-empty linked lists representing two non-negative integers, add the two numbers and return a linked list.

- Initialize: Create a dummy node, use cur to traverse as cur = dummy.
  - Set next\_val = 0 to store carry between digit additions.
- Helper Function: add\_two\_nodes(n1, n2, next\_val)
  - Extract values: val1 = n1.val if n1 else 0, val2 = n2.val if n2 else 0.
  - Compute sum:
    - \* rem = (val1 + val2 + next\_val) % 10
    - \* next\_val = (val1 + val2 + next\_val) // 10.
  - Return updated carry and new node with value rem.
- Traversal Loop:
  - Continue while at least one of 11, 12 exists or next val != 0.
  - Call add\_two\_nodes(11, 12, next\_val) and link result to cur.next.
  - Advance cur, and move 11, 12 to their next nodes if they exist.

#### 23. Merge K Sorted Lists

Given an array of k linked lists, each list is sorted in ascending order. Merge all the lists into one sorted linked list and return it.

- Initialization: Create a min-heap heap to store tuples (node.val, list\_index, node).
  - Push the head of each non-empty list in lists into the heap.
  - Initialize dummy node dummy and pointer cur = dummy.
- Merge Process: While heap is not empty:
  - Pop the smallest element (min\_val, list\_ind, node) from the heap.
  - Append node to the result list using cur.next = node, then advance cur.
  - If node.next exists, push (node.next.val, list\_ind, node.next) into the heap.
- Return Result: return dummy.next (skipping dummy head).

### **Summary**:

### Problem Description:

287. Find the Duplicate Number Given an array of integers, find the duplicate number.

- Phase 1: Cycle Detection (Floyd's Tortoise and Hare)
  - Initialize two pointers: slow = 0, fast = 0.
  - Loop: Move slow = nums[slow], fast = nums[nums[fast]].
  - Continue until slow == fast, indicating an intersection point within the cycle.
- Phase 2: Cycle Entrance (Duplicate Finder)
  - Initialize a new pointer: slow2 = 0.
  - Loop: Move both slow = nums[slow] and slow2 = nums[slow2].
  - When slow == slow2, return the value at that index as the duplicate.
- Rationale:
  - Each number is a pointer to the next index; repeated values form a cycle.
  - Detecting the start of the cycle identifies the duplicate.

## 7 Stack and Queue

## 7.1 collections.deque

#### **Summary**:

from collections import deque

deque(iterable=None, maxlen=None)

- Creates a new deque object initialized with elements from iterable.
- Arguments: iterable: optional iterable of elements; maxlen: maximum number of elements.

d.append(x)

- Adds x to the right end of the deque.
- Arguments: x: element to append.

d.appendleft(x)

- Adds x to the left end of the deque.
- **Arguments:** x: element to append.

d.pop()

- Removes and returns the rightmost element.
- Raises: IndexError if deque is empty.

d.popleft()

- Removes and returns the leftmost element.
- Raises: IndexError if deque is empty.

d.extend(iterable)

- Appends elements from iterable to the right side.
- Arguments: iterable: iterable of elements to append.

d.extendleft(iterable)

- Appends elements from iterable to the left side (in reverse order).
- Arguments: iterable: iterable of elements to append.

d.rotate(n=1)

- Rotates the deque n steps to the right (left if negative).
- Arguments: n: number of steps to rotate.

d.clear()

- Removes all elements from the deque.
- **Postcondition:** deque is empty.

d.count(x)

- Counts occurrences of x in the deque.
- Arguments: x: element to count.

d.remove(value)

- Removes the first occurrence of value.
- Raises: ValueError if value is not present.

### 7.2 Stack

Summary: Data structure that follows Last-In-First-Out (LIFO) order for inserting and removing elements.

- Array or Linked List: Used to maintain the linear order of elements.
- Top Pointer: Points to the most recently inserted element.

#### 7.2.1 When to Use?

#### Summary:

- Function call management using a call stack.
- Reversing sequences or backtracking algorithms.
- Syntax parsing and expression evaluation.

### 7.2.2 Operations

### Summary:

Operation	Time Complexity (WC)
Push	O(1)
Pop	O(1)
Peek	O(1)
IsEmpty	O(1)

```
class Stack:
      def __init__(self):
          self.items = [] # Internal array to store elements
      def push(self, item):
          self.items.append(item) # Add item to top
      def pop(self):
          if not self.is_empty():
              return self.items.pop() # Remove and return top element
      def peek(self):
          if not self.is_empty():
13
              return self.items[-1] # Return top element without removing
14
      def is_empty(self):
16
          return len(self.items) == 0
17
```

#### 7.2.3 Common Problems

#### **Summary**:

## Problem Description

20. Valid Parentheses

Check if parentheses are balanced.

- Initialization:
  - Create an empty stack to track unmatched opening brackets.
  - Define a closeToOpen mapping from closing brackets to corresponding opening brackets.
- String Traversal:
  - For each character:
    - \* If it is a closing bracket:
      - · Check if the stack is non-empty and the top of the stack matches the corresponding opening bracket. If yes, pop the stack; otherwise, return False.
    - \* If it is an opening bracket, push it onto the stack.
- Final Check: Return True if the stack is empty (all brackets matched), else False.
- **Key Insight:** The stack ensures that brackets are matched in the correct type and order, guaranteeing validity through last-in, first-out (LIFO) behavior.

150. Evaluate Reverse Polish Notation Evaluate expression in postfix notation.

- Initialization: Create an empty stack to store intermediate operands and results.
- Token Traversal:
  - For each token in the input list:
    - \* If the token is an operator (+, -, \*, /):
      - · Pop the top two elements from the stack.
      - · Apply the operator in the correct order (note: for subtraction and division, order matters).
      - · Push the result back onto the stack.
    - \* If the token is a number:
      - · Convert it to an integer and push it onto the stack.
- Final Result: Return the top element of the stack, which contains the final evaluated value.
- **Key Insight:** Reverse Polish Notation (postfix notation) allows expressions to be evaluated using a stack without parentheses by always applying operations to the two most recent operands.

#### 22. Generate Parentheses

Generate all combinations of valid parentheses.

- Initialization: Create stack to build the current sequence and res list to store valid sequences.
- Recursive Backtracking: Define a recursive function backtrack(openN, closedN):
  - If both openN and closedN equal n, a complete valid sequence is formed. Append it to res.
  - If openN < n, add an opening bracket "(", recurse, then backtrack by removing it.
  - If closedN < openN, add a closing bracket ")", recurse, then backtrack by removing it.
- Initial Call: Start the recursion with openN = 0, closedN = 0.
- Return Result: Return the list res containing all valid combinations.
- **Key Insight:** Maintain the constraint that at any point, the number of closing brackets must not exceed the number of opening brackets to ensure sequence validity.

### Summary:

### Problem Description

739. Daily Temperatures Find days until a warmer temperature.

#### • Initialization:

- Create a result list res initialized with zeros, having the same length as temperatures.
- Create an empty stack to store pairs of (temperature, index).

#### • Array Traversal:

- Iterate through each temperature and its index:
  - \* While the stack is not empty and the current temperature is greater than the temperature at the top of the stack:
    - · Pop the stack, and for the popped index, set the result as the difference between the current index and the popped index.
  - \* Push the current temperature and index onto the stack.
- Return Result: Return the result list res, which contains the number of days to wait for a warmer temperature for each day.
- **Key Insight:** A monotonic decreasing stack is used to efficiently find, for each day, the next day with a higher temperature, achieving linear O(n) time complexity.

## 7.3 Queue

Summary: Data structure that follows First-In-First-Out (FIFO) order for inserting and removing elements.

- Array or Linked List: Used to store elements in sequence.
- Front and Rear Pointers: Track the ends for dequeue and enqueue operations.

### 7.3.1 When to Use?

### Summary:

- Scheduling processes in operating systems.
- Handling asynchronous data (e.g., IO Buffers, Event Queues).
- Breadth-First Search in graphs or trees.

### 7.3.2 Operations

### Summary:

Operation	Time Complexity (WC)
Enqueue	O(1)
Dequeue	O(n)
Peek	O(1)
IsEmpty	O(1)

```
class Queue:
      def __init__(self):
          self.items = [] # Internal array to store elements
      def enqueue(self, item):
          self.items.append(item) # Add item to the rear
      def dequeue(self):
          if not self.is_empty():
              return self.items.pop(0) # Remove and return the front element
11
      def peek(self):
12
13
          if not self.is_empty():
14
              return self.items[0] # Return front element without removing
      def is_empty(self):
16
          return len(self.items) == 0
```

## 8 Trees

## 8.1 Binary Search Tree (BST)

### Summary:

- A binary tree where for each node, left subtree values are smaller, and right subtree values are larger.
- Balanced vs. Unbalanced:

```
O(\log(n)) (balanced) \leq O(h) \leq O(n) (unbalanced)
```

```
class Node:
    def __init__(self, key):
        self.val = key
        self.left = None
        self.right = None

class BST:
    def __init__(self):
        self.root = None

def operations(self,_):
    pass
```

### 8.2 Operations

### Summary:

Operation	Time Complexity
Search	O(h)
Insert	O(h)
Delete	O(h)
Find Min/Max	O(h)
In-order Traversal	O(n)
Pre-order Traversal	O(n)
Post-order Traversal	O(n)
Level-order Traversal	O(n)

#### 8.2.1 Search

```
Algorithm:
```

```
def search(self, key):
    current = self.root
    while current:
        if key == current.val:
            return current
        elif key < current.val:
            current = current.left
        else:
            current = current.right
    return None
```

#### 8.2.2 Insert

```
Algorithm:
```

```
def insert(self, key):
    def _insert(node, key):
    if node is None:
        return TreeNode(key)
    if key < node.val:
        node.left = _insert(node.left, key)
    elif key > node.val:
        node.right = _insert(node.right, key)
    return node
    self.root = _insert(self.root, key)
```

### **8.2.3** Delete

```
Algorithm:
```

```
def delete(self, key):
    def _delete(node, key):
        if node is None:
            return None
        if key < node.val:
            node.left = _delete(node.left, key)
        elif key > node.val:
```

```
node.right = _delete(node.right, key)
          else:
               # Node with one child or no child
               if node.left is None:
11
                   return node.right
12
              elif node.right is None:
13
                   return node.left
              # Node with two children
15
              temp = self._find_min(node.right)
              node.val = temp.val
17
              node.right = _delete(node.right, temp.val)
18
          return node
      self.root = _delete(self.root, key)
```

#### **8.2.4** Find Min

```
Algorithm:

def find_min(self, node):
    while node.left is not None:
    node = node.left
    return node
```

### 8.2.5 Find Max

```
Algorithm:

def find_max(self, node):
    while node.right is not None:
        node = node.right
    return node
```

### 8.2.6 DFS In-order Traversal (Left $\rightarrow$ Root $\rightarrow$ Right)

**Definition**: Visit the left subtree, then the root, and finally the right subtree.

• Used for retrieving elements in sorted order from a BST.

```
def inorder(node):
    if node:
        inorder(node.left)
        print(node.val)
        inorder(node.right)
```

### 8.2.7 DFS Pre-order Traversal (Root $\rightarrow$ Left $\rightarrow$ Right)

Definition: Visit the root first, then the left subtree, and finally the right subtree.

• Useful for copying or serializing the tree.

### Algorithm:

```
def preorder(node):
    if node:
        print(node.val)
        preorder(node.left)
        preorder(node.right)
```

### 8.2.8 DFS Post-order Traversal (Left $\rightarrow$ Right $\rightarrow$ Root)

**Definition**: Visit the left subtree, then the right subtree, and finally the root.

• Useful for deleting or freeing nodes in memory.

### Algorithm:

```
def postorder(node):
    if node:
        postorder(node.left)
        postorder(node.right)
        print(node.val)
```

### 8.2.9 BFS Level-order Traversal (Top $\rightarrow$ Bottom, Left $\rightarrow$ Right)

Definition: Visit nodes level-level from top to bottom & left to right.

• Useful for finding shortest paths or visualizing layers of a tree.

```
from collections import deque
  def level_order(root):
      if not root:
          return
      queue = deque([root])
      while queue:
          node = queue.popleft()
          print(node.val)
11
          if node.left:
13
               queue.append(node.left)
14
          if node.right:
               queue.append(node.right)
15
```

#### 8.2.10 Common Problems

### **Summary**:

#### Problem

### Description:

\*\*226. Invert Binary Tree

Given a binary tree, invert it.

- Base Case: If root is None, return None.
- Swap Subtrees: Swap the left and right children of the current root.
- Recursive Inversion:
  - Recursively invert the left subtree by calling invertTree(root.left).
  - Recursively invert the right subtree by calling invertTree(root.right).
- Return Result: Return the current root after its subtrees have been inverted.

\*\*104. Maximum Depth of Binary Tree Given a binary tree, find its maximum depth.

- Recursive DFS:
  - Base Case: If root is None, return 0.
  - Recursive Depth Calculation:
    - \* Recursively compute the maximum depth of the left subtree by calling maxDepth(root.left).
    - \* Recursively compute the maximum depth of the right subtree by calling maxDepth(root.right).
  - Return Result: Return 1 plus the maximum of the left and right subtree depths.

\*\*543. Diameter of Binary Tree

Given a binary tree, find its diameter.

- Initialization: Initialize a variable res = 0 to store the maximum diameter found.
- Depth-First Search (DFS):
  - If root is None, return 0.
  - Recursively compute the left subtree depth by calling dfs(root.left).
  - Recursively compute the right subtree depth by calling dfs(root.right).
  - Update res as the maximum of its current value and left + right.
  - Return  $1 + \max(\text{left}, \text{right})$  to represent the height of the current subtree.
- Result:
  - Call dfs(root) to start the recursion from the root node.
  - Return the final value of res, which represents the diameter of the tree.

### 110. Balanced Binary Tree

Given a binary tree, check if it is height-balanced.

- Recursive Depth-First Search (DFS):
  - If root is None, return [True, 0] (tree is balanced with height 0).
  - Recursively check the left and right subtrees by calling dfs(root.left) and dfs(root.right).
  - A node is balanced if:
    - \* Both left and right subtrees are balanced.
    - \* The height difference between the left and right subtrees is at most 1.
  - Return a list [isBalanced, height], where:
    - \* isBalanced is a boolean indicating subtree balance.
    - \* height is  $1 + \max(\text{left height}, \text{right height})$ .
- Return Result: Return 1st element of the result from dfs(root), indicating whether entire tree is bal.

### Summary:

### Problem

### Description:

100. Same Tree

Given two binary trees, check if they are the same.

- Base Cases:
  - If both p and q are None, return True.
  - If only one of p or q is None, or their values differ, return False.
- Recursive Comparison:
  - Recursively check if the left subtrees p.left and q.left are identical.
  - Recursively check if the right subtrees p.right and q.right are identical.
  - Return True only if both left and right subtree comparisons return True.

235. Lowest Common Ancestor of a BST Given a BST and two nodes, find their lowest common ancestor.

- Initialization: Set cur to the root node of the tree.
- Iterative Traversal: While cur is not None:
  - If both p.val and q.val are greater than cur.val, move to cur.right.
  - Else if both p.val and q.val are less than cur.val, move to cur.left.
  - Otherwise, cur is the split point where paths to p and q diverge, and thus cur is the lowest common ancestor (LCA).
- Return Result: Return the node cur when the split point is found.

102. Binary Tree Level Order Traversal Given a binary tree, return its level order traversal.

- Initialization: Create an empty list res to store nodes level-by-level.
- Depth-First Search (DFS): Define a recursive function dfs(node, depth):
  - If node is None, return immediately.
  - If depth equals the length of res, append a new empty list for this depth level.
  - Append node.val to the corresponding depth list.
  - Recursively call dfs(node.left, depth + 1) and dfs(node.right, depth + 1).
- Return Result:
  - Call dfs(root, 0) to start traversal.
  - Return the list res containing all levels.

### 98. Validate Binary Search Tree

Given a binary tree, check if it is a valid BST.

- Initialization:
  - If root is None, return True.
  - Initialize a queue q with a tuple containing the root node and its valid range  $(-\infty, \infty)$ .
- Breadth-First Search (BFS) Traversal: While the queue is not empty:
  - Dequeue a node along with its valid value bounds (left, right).
  - If the node's value is not strictly between left and right, return False.
  - If the node has a left child, enqueue it with updated bounds (left, node.val).
  - If the node has a right child, enqueue it with updated bounds (node.val, right).
- Return Result: After completing traversal without violations, return True.

230. Kth Smallest Element in a BST

Given a BST and an integer k, find the kth smallest element.

- **Initialization:** Create an empty list **arr** to store node values in ascending order.
- Depth-First Search (DFS) In-Order Traversal: Define a recursive function dfs(node):
  - If node is None, return immediately.
  - Recursively call dfs(node.left) to visit the left subtree.
  - Append node.val to arr.
  - Recursively call dfs(node.right) to visit the right subtree.
- Return Result: DFS starting from the root, return arr[k-1], which is the  $k^{th}$  smallest element.

### 8.2.11 BST-based Sets and Maps

### Summary:

- BST Set: Stores unique values in sorted order. Supports insert, search, delete.
- BST Map: Associates keys with values, maintaining keys in sorted order.
- Can be implemented using self-balancing trees (e.g., AVL, Red-Black Tree) for O(log n) operations.
- Useful for range queries, floor/ceiling lookups, and ordered iteration.

```
class BSTSet:
       def __init__(self):
           self.root = None
      def add(self, val):
           self.root = insert_bst(self.root, val)
      def contains(self, val):
           return search_bst(self.root, val) is not None
       def remove(self, val):
           self.root = delete_bst(self.root, val)
  class BSTMap:
14
       def __init__(self):
15
           self.root = None
16
       def put(self, key, value):
18
           self.root = self._put(self.root, key, value)
20
       def _put(self, node, key, value):
21
           if not node:
               return TreeNode((key, value))
24
           if key < node.val[0]:</pre>
               node.left = self._put(node.left, key, value)
25
           elif key > node.val[0]:
26
               node.right = self._put(node.right, key, value)
27
           else:
28
               node.val = (key, value)
29
           return node
30
       def get(self, key):
           node = self.root
33
           while node:
34
               if key < node.val[0]:</pre>
35
                   node = node.left
37
               elif key > node.val[0]:
                   node = node.right
38
               else:
39
                   return node.val[1]
40
           return None
```

# 9 Heaps and Priority Queues

# 9.1 Heap

### Summary:

- A heap is a complete binary tree where each node follows the heap property:
  - Max heap: Largest key at root, where every parent node is **greater than or equal to** its children.
  - Min heap: Smallest key at root, where every parent node is less than or equal to its children.
- Balanced Tree:  $h = \log n$
- Indexing: Given a node at index i in the array, assuming 1-based indexing:
  - 1. **Parent:** parent(i) =  $\left\lfloor \frac{i}{2} \right\rfloor$
  - 2. **Left child:** leftchild(i) = 2i
  - 3. Right child: rightchild(i) = 2i + 1

# 9.2 Heapq

### Summary:

heapq.heapify(x)

- Transforms a list x into a valid min-heap in-place.
- Arguments: x: list to be heapified.

heapq.heappush(heap, item)

- Inserts item into heap while maintaining the heap invariant.
- Arguments: heap: list representing a heap; item: element to insert.

heapq.heappop(heap)

- Removes and returns the smallest element from the heap.
- **Arguments:** heap: non-empty list representing a valid heap.

heapq.heappushpop(heap, item)

- Pushes item onto the heap, then pops and returns the smallest element.
- Arguments: heap: valid heap; item: element to insert.

heapq.heapreplace(heap, item)

- Pops and returns the smallest element, then inserts item into the heap.
- Arguments: heap: non-empty valid heap; item: element to insert.

heapq.nlargest(n, iterable)

- Returns the n largest elements from iterable in descending order.
- **Arguments:** n: number of elements; iterable: list or other iterable.

heapq.nsmallest(n, iterable)

- Returns the n smallest elements from iterable in ascending order.
- **Arguments:** n: number of elements; iterable: list or other iterable.

#### Notes:

- In general, when pushing tuples to a heap in Python:
  - The first element determines the primary priority.
  - If equal, subsequent elements serve as tie-breakers.

```
class MinHeap:
      def __init__(self):
          self.heap = []
      def parent(self, i):
          return (i - 1) // 2
      def left(self, i):
          return 2 * i + 1
10
      def right(self, i):
11
          return 2 * i + 2
12
13
      def operations(self,_):
14
          pass
```

### 9.3 Operations

### Summary:

Operation	Time Complexity
Insert	$O(\log n)$
Extract Min	$O(\log n)$
Get Min	O(1)
Heapify	O(n)
Build Heap	O(n)
Search	O(n)
Delete	O(n)
Heap Sort	$O(n \log n)$

### 9.3.1 Insert

```
Algorithm:

def insert(self, key):
    self.heap.append(key)
    i = len(self.heap) - 1
    while i != 0 and self.heap[self.parent(i)] > self.heap[i]:
        self.heap[i], self.heap[self.parent(i)] = self.heap[self.parent(i)], self.heap[i]
    i = self.parent(i)
```

### 9.3.2 Heapify

Algorithm: Restores the heap property by moving a node down the tree to its correct position.

```
def heapify(self, i):
    smallest = i
    l = self.left(i)
    r = self.right(i)

if l < len(self.heap) and self.heap[l] < self.heap[smallest]:
    smallest = l
    if r < len(self.heap) and self.heap[r] < self.heap[smallest]:
    smallest = r

if smallest != i:
    self.heap[i], self.heap[smallest] = self.heap[smallest], self.heap[i]
    self.heapify(smallest)</pre>
```

### 9.3.3 Extract Min

```
Algorithm:
```

```
def extract_min(self):
    if not self.heap:
        return None
    if len(self.heap) == 1:
        return self.heap.pop()
    root = self.heap[0]
    self.heap[0] = self.heap.pop()
    self.heapify(0)
```

```
9 return root
```

#### 9.3.4 Get Min

```
Algorithm: Min-heap always has the smallest element at the root.

def get_min(self):
    return self.heap[0] if self.heap else None
```

### 9.3.5 Build Heap

```
Algorithm:

def build_heap(self, arr):
    self.heap = arr[:]
    for i in range(len(self.heap) // 2 - 1, -1, -1):
        self.heapify(i)
```

#### 9.3.6 Search

```
Algorithm:

def search(self, key):
return key in self.heap
```

### 9.3.7 Delete

```
Algorithm:
  def delete(self, key):
      try:
          index = self.heap.index(key)
          self.heap[index] = self.heap[-1]
          self.heap.pop()
          if index < len(self.heap):</pre>
               self.heapify(index)
              parent = self.parent(index)
              while index > 0 and self.heap[parent] > self.heap[index]:
                   self.heap[parent], self.heap[index] = self.heap[index], self.heap[parent]
11
                   index = parent
                   parent = self.parent(index)
      except ValueError:
          pass
```

### 9.3.8 Heap Sort

```
Algorithm:

def heap_sort(self):
    sorted_list = []
    original = self.heap[:]
    while self.heap:
        sorted_list.append(self.extract_min())
    self.heap = original
```

return sorted\_list

### 9.3.9 Common Problem

# **Summary**:

Problem	Description
621. Task Scheduler	Given a list of tasks and a cooldown period, find the least time to finish all tasks.

- Use Counter to count the frequency of each task.
- Use a max-heap to store tasks by frequency: (-freq, task).
- Use a queue to track cooldowns: (-freq, ready\_time).
- While either heap or queue is non-empty:
  - Increment time.
  - If heap is non-empty, pop task, decrement frequency, and if not 0, add to queue with time + n.
  - If the front of the queue is ready (ready\_time == time), pop and push it back into the heap.

# Summary:

Problem	Description
239. Sliding Window Maximum	Given an array and a window size, find the maximum in each sliding window.

### • Initialization:

- Create an empty max-heap heap using negated values: (-value, index).
- Fill the initial window with the first k elements.
- Append the maximum (top of the heap) to result: res.append(-heap[0][0]).

### • Sliding the Window:

- For each new index i, push (-nums[i], i) into the heap.
- Lazy Removal: While the top element's index is outside the window (heap[0][1] ≤ i k), remove it using heappop().
  - \* Heap may contain elements outside the current window, but they are ignored. Only care about root element.
- Append the current maximum to the result: res.append(-heap[0][0]).
- Return: The list res containing all sliding window maximums.

# 10 Graphs

# Summary:

Algorithm	Time Complexity	Space Complexity
BFS	O(V+E)	O(V)
DFS	O(V+E)	O(V)
Topological Sort (DFS)	O(V+E)	O(V)

# 10.1 Breadth-First Search (BFS)

### Summary:

- Use when exploring nodes layer-by-layer, typically in unweighted graphs or grids.
- Ideal for finding the shortest path, level order traversal, or minimum number of steps.
- Queue-based traversal ensures nodes are visited in order of increasing distance from the source.

```
from collections import deque

def bfs(start, graph):
    visited = set()
    queue = deque([start])
    visited.add(start)

while queue:
    node = queue.popleft() # FIFO (BFS)

for neighbor in graph[node]:
    if neighbor not in visited:
        visited.add(neighbor)
    queue.append(neighbor)
```

#### 10.1.1 Common Problems

#### Summary:

Problem	Description:
994. Rotting Oranges	Given a m x n grid of oranges, where $0 = \text{empty cell}$ , $1 = \text{fresh orange}$ , and $2 = \text{rotten orange}$ , and where fresh oranges rot if adjacent to a rotten orange, return the minimum time required for all oranges to become rotten.

#### • Initialization:

- Create a queue q to store coordinates of initially rotten oranges.
- Count total fresh oranges fresh = 0, and set time = 0.
- Traverse grid:
  - \* If grid[r][c] == 1, increment fresh.
  - \* If grid[r][c] == 2, append (r, c) to q.
- BFS Propagation: While fresh > 0 and q is not empty:
  - Go through all rotten oranges in q and check their neighbors to mark it as rotten.
  - Increment time after each level (i.e. after processing all rotten oranges at the current level).
- Return Result: If fresh == 0, return time; else return -1.

\*\*417. Pacific Atlantic Water Flow Given an m x n matrix of non-negative integers representing the height of each cell, return the coordinates of cells that can flow to both the Pacific & Atlantic oceans.

### • Initialization:

- Define ROWS, COLS as the dimensions of the input matrix.
- Define directions as the 4 possible adjacent moves (up, down, left, right).
- Create two 2D boolean matrices: pac and at1, indicating cells reachable by Pacific and Atlantic oceans.

#### • Construct Ocean Borders:

- Initialize Pacific ocean border with all top row and leftmost column coordinates.
- Initialize Atlantic ocean border with all bottom row and rightmost column coordinates.

#### • BFS Traversal Function:

- Perform breadth-first search (BFS) from all coordinates along each ocean's border.
- For each visited cell, enqueue adjacent cells that:
  - \* Are within bounds.
  - \* Are not yet marked as reachable.
  - \* Have equal or greater height (ensuring water can flow from neighbor to current).

#### • Mark Reachable Cells:

- Call bfs(pacific, pac) and bfs(atlantic, atl) to fill in reachable matrices.
- Collect Intersection Points: Iterate through all cells in the matrix.
  - If a cell is marked True in both pac and atl, append it to the result.
- Return: Return list of coordinates where water can flow to both oceans.

130. Surrounded Regions	Given a 2D board containing 'X' and 'O',
	capture all regions surrounded by 'X'.

- Border Traversal: Iterate through all border cells (first and last rows, first and last columns).
  - Enqueue all 'O's found on the border into the queue q.
- BFS Flood Fill:
  - For each 'O' in the queue, mark it and all connected 'O's as visited by changing them to temporary symbol '#'.
  - Only move to valid neighbors that are within bounds, are 'O', and unvisited.
- Final Transformation: Traverse the entire board.
  - Change all remaining 'O's (not connected to border) to 'X' and all temporary '#' markers back to 'O'.
- **Key Insight:** Only 'O's connected to the border should be preserved.

# 10.2 Depth-First Search (DFS)

### **Summary**:

- Use when traversing all nodes or paths in trees, graphs, or matrices.
- Ideal for problems involving backtracking, recursion, or exploring all connected components.
- Can be implemented recursively or iteratively with a stack.
- Maintain a visited set or matrix to avoid revisiting nodes.
- Useful for topological sorting, cycle detection, and pathfinding.

## Algorithm:

```
from collections import deque

def dfs(start, graph):
    visited = set()
    stack = deque([start])
    visited.add(start)

while stack:
    node = stack.pop() # LIFO (DFS)

for neighbor in graph[node]:
    if neighbor not in visited:
    visited.add(neighbor)
    stack.append(neighbor)
```

```
def dfs(node, visited):
    if node in visited:
        return

visited.add(node)

for neighbor in graph[node]:
    dfs(neighbor, visited)
```

#### 10.2.1 Common Problems

### **Summary**:

### Problem Description:

200. Number of Islands Given a 2D grid of '1's (land) and '0's (water), count the number of islands.

- Use DFS or BFS to explore all connected '1's and mark them as visited.
- Increment the island count for each unvisited '1'.

695. Max Area of Island Given a 2D grid of '1's (land) and '0's (water), find the maximum area of an island.

- Use DFS or BFS to explore all connected '1's and calculate the area.
- Keep track of the maximum area encountered during the traversal.
- 79. Word Search Given a 2D board and a word, check if the word exists in the grid.
  - Use DFS to explore all possible paths in the grid.
  - Mark cells as visited to avoid revisiting.
  - Backtrack if the current path does not lead to a solution.

Given a reference to a node in a connected undirected graph, return a deep copy of the graph.

- Initialization: Create a hash map oldToNew to store mappings from original nodes to their cloned nodes.
- DFS: Define dfs(node) to recursively clone the graph.
  - Base Case: If node already in oldToNew, return the cloned node.
  - Clone Creation: Create a new Node(node.val), store in oldToNew.
  - Neighbor Cloning: For each neigh in node.neighbors, recursively clone and append to copy.neighbors.
- Entry Point: Return dfs(node) if node is not None; otherwise return None.

# 10.3 Topological Sort

### **Summary:**

- Overview: Produces a total ordering from partial ordering.
- DAG: G = (V, E) must be a DAG to produce a valid topological sorting.
- $\bullet$  Given a DAG, create a linear (total) order out of the partial order  $\rightarrow$  "serialize" these events
  - **Intuition:** Arranges the vertices of a DAG in a linear order such that for every directed edge  $u \to v$ , vertex u appears before v.

```
from collections import defaultdict, deque
  def topological_sort(num_nodes, edges):
      # Build adjacency list and in-degree count
      graph = defaultdict(list)
      in_degree = [0] * num_nodes
      for u, v in edges:
          graph[u].append(v)
          in_degree[v] += 1
11
      # Start with all nodes that have in-degree 0
12
      queue = deque([i for i in range(num_nodes) if in_degree[i] == 0])
      topo_order = []
14
15
      while queue:
          node = queue.popleft()
          topo_order.append(node)
18
19
          for neighbor in graph[node]:
               in_degree[neighbor] -= 1
21
               if in_degree[neighbor] == 0:
22
                   queue.append(neighbor)
23
24
      # If not all nodes are processed, there is a cycle
25
      if len(topo_order) != num_nodes:
27
          return [] # or raise an error
28
      return topo_order
```

# 11 Sorting

Name	Space	Time (BC,AC,WC)	Prop. (In-place, Stable, D&C)
		Comparison Based	
Merge Sort	$\Theta(n)$	$\Theta(n \log n)$	I/P,S,DC
• DS: Auxilian	ry arrays		
Quick Sort — ©	$O(1), \Theta(\log n), \Theta(n)$	$\Theta(n \log n), \Theta(n \log n), \Theta(n^2)$	IP, Ş,DC
	l array (in-place) exity depends on	implementation.	
Heap Sort	$\Theta(1)$	$\Theta(n \log n)$	IP, Ş∕,⊅C
$-h = \log$	ber of elements in		
Bubble Sort	$\Theta(1)$	$\Theta(n),\Theta(n^2),\Theta(n^2)$	$\mathrm{IP,S,} \not\!$
• DS: Original	l array (in-place)		
Selection Sort	$\Theta(1)$	$\Theta(n^2)$	IP,Ş',⊅C
• DS: Original	l array (in-place)		
Insertion Sort	$\Theta(1)$	$\Theta(n), \Theta(n^2), \Theta(n^2)$	IP,S,⊅C
• DS: Original	l array (in-place)		
		Non-Comparison Based	
Counting Sort	$\Theta(n+k)$	$\Theta(n+k)$ if $k \gg O(n)$ , $\Theta(n)$ if $k \leq O(n)$	<b>₯</b> , S, <b>₯</b> C
• n: Size of arr	n: Elements are in	ntegers ranging from 0 to $k$ , $k$ ])	
Radix Sort	$\Theta(n+k)$	$\Theta(d\cdot(n+k))$	<b>№</b> , S, <b>Ø</b> C
• One pass ti	n: All elements had ime complexity: $d = d = O(1)$ , then orange image.	ave $\leq d$ -digits $O(n+k)$ (i.e. counting sort) $O(n)$ time complexity.	

# 11.1 Stable, In-place, and Divide and Conquer

```
Definition:
```

- Stable: Relative order of ties is maintained.
  - $\text{ e.g. } [2_a, 3, 2_b, 1] \rightarrow [1, 2_a, 2_b, 3]$
- In-place sorting: O(1) extra space.
- Lower bound on comparison-based sorting: No CBS algorithm on unrestricted range is better than  $\Omega(n \log n)$

# 11.2 Merge Sort

```
Algorithm:

def merge
```

```
def merge_sort(arr):
       if len(arr) <= 1:
           return arr
      # Divide
      mid = len(arr) // 2
      left = merge_sort(arr[:mid])
      right = merge_sort(arr[mid:])
       # Conquer: Merge two sorted halves
10
11
       return merge(left, right)
12
  def merge(left, right):
13
      result = []
14
       i = j = 0
       # Merge two sorted lists
17
       while i < len(left) and j < len(right):</pre>
18
           if left[i] <= right[j]:</pre>
19
               result.append(left[i])
20
               i += 1
21
           else:
               result.append(right[j])
23
24
               j += 1
       # Append remaining elements
26
      result.extend(left[i:])
27
      result.extend(right[j:])
28
      return result
```

# 11.3 Quick Sort

```
Algorithm:
```

```
def quick_sort(arr):
    if len(arr) <= 1:
        return arr

pivot = arr[len(arr) // 2] # Choose middle element as pivot
    left = [x for x in arr if x < pivot]
    middle = [x for x in arr if x == pivot]
    right = [x for x in arr if x > pivot]

# Recursively sort left and right, then concatenate
    return quick_sort(left) + middle + quick_sort(right)
```

# 12 Images

# 12.1 2D Convolution Operations

### Notes:

### 1. 1. Output Dimensions

The output height and width of a 2D convolution are given by:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{out\_height} = \left\lfloor \frac{\text{in\_height} + 2 \cdot \text{padding}_h - \text{effective\_kernel}_h}{\text{stride}_h} \right\rfloor + 1 \\ & \text{out\_width} = \left\lfloor \frac{\text{in\_width} + 2 \cdot \text{padding}_w - \text{effective\_kernel}_w}{\text{stride}_w} \right\rfloor + 1 \end{aligned}$$

### 2. 2. Effective Kernel Size (with Dilation)

The effective kernel size when dilation is applied:

$$\begin{split} & \text{effective\_kernel}_h = \text{kernel\_height} + (\text{kernel\_height} - 1) \cdot (\text{dilation}_h - 1) \\ & \text{effective\_kernel}_w = \text{kernel\_width} + (\text{kernel\_width} - 1) \cdot (\text{dilation}_w - 1) \end{split}$$

## 3. 3. Convolution Operation (Batch, Channel-aware)

The general convolution operation for a batch of input tensors is:

$$\text{output}[b, c_{\text{out}}, h_{\text{out}}, w_{\text{out}}] = \sum_{c_{\text{in}}} \sum_{k_h} \sum_{k_w} \left( \text{input}[b, c_{\text{in}}, h_{\text{in}} + k_h \cdot \text{dilation}_h, w_{\text{in}} + k_w \cdot \text{dilation}_w] \cdot \text{filter}[c_{\text{out}}, c_{\text{in}}, k_h, k_w] \right)$$

where:

$$h_{\rm in} = h_{\rm out} \cdot {\rm stride}_h, \quad w_{\rm in} = w_{\rm out} \cdot {\rm stride}_w$$

#### 12.2 Common Problems

### Summary:

Problem	Description
661. Image Smoother	Given an image represented by a 2D array, smooth the image by averaging the pixel values of each pixel and its neighbors.
• Loop through the	cols and rows of the image, then

- - $\sum_{\substack{x,y \in \text{neighbours} \\ \dots}} \operatorname{image}[x][y] = \sum_{x=i-1}^{i+1} \sum_{y=j-1}^{j+1} \operatorname{image}[x][y]$ - total sum for each pixel =

\* If x or y is out of bounds, ignore it.

$$- \text{ count} = \sum_{x=i-1}^{i+1} \sum_{y=j-1}^{j+1} 1$$

- average = total sum//count
- result[i][j] = average

832. Flipping an Image Given a binary matrix, flip the image horizontally and invert it.

- Loop through the rows of the image, then use .reverse() to flip the row horizontally.
- Double for loop to invert image (change 0 to 1 and 1 to 0).
- 48. Rotate Image Given an n x n 2D matrix, rotate the image 90 degrees clockwise.
  - Transpose the matrix (swap rows and columns) if i < j, then  $\text{matrix}[i][j] \stackrel{\text{swap}}{\Longleftrightarrow} \text{matrix}[j][i]$ .
  - Reverse each row.

\*\*835. Image Overlap Given two images represented by 2D arrays, find the maximum overlap between the two images.

- Try all possible translations of img1.
- For each translation, calculate the overlap with img2.