

80. Remove Duplicates from Sorted Array II

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Given an integer array `nums` sorted in **non-decreasing order**, remove some duplicates **in-place** such that each unique element appears **at most twice**. Since it is impossible to change the length of the array in some languages, you must instead have the result be placed in the **first part** of the array. Return `k` *after placing the final result in the first `k` slots of `nums`*.

Do **not** allocate extra space for another array. You must do this by **modifying the input array in-place** with $O(1)$ extra memory.

Custom Judge:

The judge will test your solution with the following code:

```
int[] nums = [...]; // Input array
int[] expectedNums = [...]; // The expected answer with correct length

int k = removeDuplicates(nums); // Calls your implementation

assert k == expectedNums.length;
for (int i = 0; i < k; i++) {
    assert nums[i] == expectedNums[i];
}
```

If all assertions pass, then your solution will be **accepted**.

Example 1:

Input: `nums = [1,1,1,2,2,3]`
Output: `5, nums = [1,1,2,2,3,_]`
Explanation: Your function should return `k = 5`, with the first five elements of `nums` being `1, 1, 2, 2, 3`. It does not matter what you leave beyond the returned `k` (hence they are underscores).

Example 2:

Input: `nums = [0,0,1,1,1,1,2,3,3]`
Output: `7, nums = [0,0,1,1,2,3,3,_,_]`
Explanation: Your function should return `k = 7`, with the first seven elements of `nums` being `0, 0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 3`. It does not matter what you leave beyond the returned `k` (hence they are underscores).

Constraints:

- `1 <= nums.length <= 3 * 104`
- `-104 <= nums[i] <= 104`
- `nums` is sorted in **non-decreasing** order.

Seen this question in a real interview before? 1/4

☒ Yes ☐ No

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