

Problem 969: Pancake Sorting

Problem Information

Difficulty: Medium

Acceptance Rate: 71.52%

Paid Only: No

Tags: Array, Two Pointers, Greedy, Sorting

Problem Description

Given an array of integers `arr`, sort the array by performing a series of **pancake flips**.

In one pancake flip we do the following steps:

* Choose an integer `k` where $1 \leq k \leq \text{arr.length}$. * Reverse the sub-array `arr[0...k-1]` (**0-indexed**).

For example, if `arr = [3,2,1,4]` and we performed a pancake flip choosing `k = 3`, we reverse the sub-array `[3,2,1]`, so `arr = [1,2,3,4]` after the pancake flip at `k = 3`.

Return an array of the `k`-values corresponding to a sequence of pancake flips that sort `arr`. Any valid answer that sorts the array within $10 * \text{arr.length}$ flips will be judged as correct.

Example 1:

Input: `arr = [3,2,4,1]` **Output:** `[4,2,4,3]` **Explanation:** We perform 4 pancake flips, with `k` values 4, 2, 4, and 3. Starting state: `arr = [3, 2, 4, 1]` After 1st flip (`k = 4`): `arr = [1, 4, 2, 3]` After 2nd flip (`k = 2`): `arr = [4, 1, 2, 3]` After 3rd flip (`k = 4`): `arr = [3, 2, 1, 4]` After 4th flip (`k = 3`): `arr = [1, 2, 3, 4]`, which is sorted.

Example 2:

Input: `arr = [1,2,3]` **Output:** `[]` **Explanation:** The input is already sorted, so there is no need to flip anything. Note that other answers, such as `[3, 3]`, would also be accepted.

****Constraints:****

* `1 <= arr.length <= 100` * `1 <= arr[i] <= arr.length` * All integers in `arr` are unique (i.e. `arr` is a permutation of the integers from `1` to `arr.length`).

Code Snippets

C++:

```
class Solution {
public:
    vector<int> pancakeSort(vector<int>& arr) {

    }
};
```

Java:

```
class Solution {
    public List<Integer> pancakeSort(int[] arr) {

    }
}
```

Python3:

```
class Solution:
    def pancakeSort(self, arr: List[int]) -> List[int]:
```