

# Problem 457: Circular Array Loop

## Problem Information

**Difficulty:** Medium

**Acceptance Rate:** 36.43%

**Paid Only:** No

**Tags:** Array, Hash Table, Two Pointers

## Problem Description

You are playing a game involving a **“circular”** array of non-zero integers `nums`. Each `nums[i]` denotes the number of indices forward/backward you must move if you are located at index `i`:

\* If `nums[i]` is positive, move `nums[i]` steps **“forward”**, and \* If `nums[i]` is negative, move `abs(nums[i])` steps **“backward”**.

Since the array is **“circular”**, you may assume that moving forward from the last element puts you on the first element, and moving backwards from the first element puts you on the last element.

A **“cycle”** in the array consists of a sequence of indices `seq` of length `k` where:

\* Following the movement rules above results in the repeating index sequence `seq[0] -> seq[1] -> ... -> seq[k - 1] -> seq[0] -> ...` \* Every `nums[seq[j]]` is either **“all positive”** or **“all negative”**. \* `k > 1`

Return `true` \_if there is a**“cycle”** in \_`nums` \_, or\_`false` \_otherwise\_.

**Example 1:**



**Input:** nums = [2,-1,1,2,2] **Output:** true **Explanation:** The graph shows how the indices are connected. White nodes are jumping forward, while red is jumping backward. We can see the cycle 0 --> 2 --> 3 --> 0 --> ..., and all of its nodes are white (jumping in the same

direction).

**Example 2:**



**Input:** nums = [-1,-2,-3,-4,-5,6] **Output:** false **Explanation:** The graph shows how the indices are connected. White nodes are jumping forward, while red is jumping backward. The only cycle is of size 1, so we return false.

**Example 3:**



**Input:** nums = [1,-1,5,1,4] **Output:** true **Explanation:** The graph shows how the indices are connected. White nodes are jumping forward, while red is jumping backward. We can see the cycle 0 --> 1 --> 0 --> ..., and while it is of size > 1, it has a node jumping forward and a node jumping backward, so **it is not a cycle**. We can see the cycle 3 --> 4 --> 3 --> ..., and all of its nodes are white (jumping in the same direction).

**Constraints:**

\* `1 <= nums.length <= 5000` \* `-1000 <= nums[i] <= 1000` \* `nums[i] != 0`

**Follow up:** Could you solve it in `O(n)` time complexity and `O(1)` extra space complexity?

## Code Snippets

**C++:**

```
class Solution {
public:
    bool circularArrayLoop(vector<int>& nums) {
        ...
    }
};
```

**Java:**

```
class Solution {  
    public boolean circularArrayLoop(int[] nums) {  
        }  
        }  
}
```

**Python3:**

```
class Solution:  
    def circularArrayLoop(self, nums: List[int]) -> bool:
```