

2024-03-09 - Handout – top 100 questions

Q1. Merge Sorted Array

You are given two integer arrays `nums1` and `nums2`, sorted in non-decreasing order, and two integers `m` and `n`, representing the number of elements in `nums1` and `nums2` respectively. Merge `nums1` and `nums2` into a single array sorted in non-decreasing order. The final sorted array should not be returned by the function, but instead be stored inside the array `nums1`. To accommodate this, `nums1` has a length of `m + n`, where the first `m` elements denote the elements that should be merged, and the last `n` elements are set to 0 and should be ignored. `nums2` has a length of `n`.

Example 1:

Input: `nums1 = [1,2,3,0,0,0]`, `m = 3`, `nums2 = [2,5,6]`, `n = 3`; Output: `[1,2,2,3,5,6]`

Q2. Valid Parentheses

Given a string `s` containing just the characters '(', ')', '{', '}', '[' and ']', determine if the input string is valid.

An input string is valid if:

Open brackets must be closed by the same type of brackets.

Open brackets must be closed in the correct order.

Every close bracket has a corresponding open bracket of the same type.

Example 1:

Input: `s = "()"`; Output: `true`

Q3. Lowest Common Ancestor of a Binary Tree

Given a binary tree, find the lowest common ancestor (LCA) of two given nodes in the tree.

According to the definition of LCA on Wikipedia: "The lowest common ancestor is defined between two nodes `p` and `q` as the lowest node in `T` that has both `p` and `q` as descendants (where we allow a node to be a descendant of itself)."

Example 1:

Input: `root = [3,5,1,6,2,0,8,null,null,7,4]`, `p = 5`, `q = 1`; Output: `3`

Q4. Binary Tree Maximum Path Sum

A path in a binary tree is a sequence of nodes where each pair of adjacent nodes in the sequence has an edge connecting them. A node can only appear in the sequence at most once. Note that the path does not need to pass through the root.

The path sum of a path is the sum of the node's values in the path.

Given the root of a binary tree, return the maximum path sum of any non-empty path.

Example 1:

Input: `root = [1,2,3]`; Output: `6`