

Grokking the Coding Interview: Patterns for Coding Questions



Pattern: Cyclic Sort



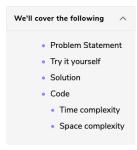
Pattern: In-place Reversal of a LinkedList



Pattern: Tree Breadth First Search



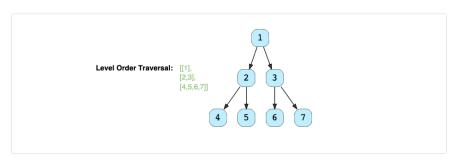
Binary Tree Level Order Traversal (easy)



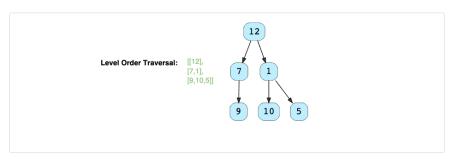
Problem Statement

Given a binary tree, populate an array to represent its level-by-level traversal. You should populate the values of all **nodes of each level from left to right** in separate sub-arrays.

Example 1:

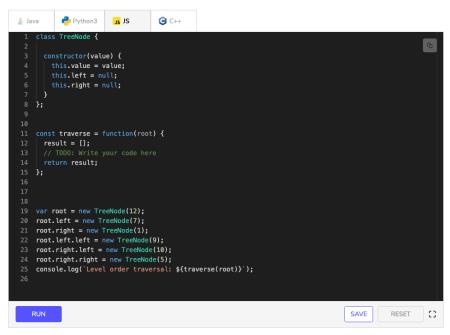


Example 2:



Try it yourself

Try solving this question here:



Level Averages in a Binary Tree (easy)

Minimum Depth of a Binary Tree (easy)

Level Order Successor (easy)

Connect Level Order Siblings (medium)

Problem Challenge 1

Solution Review: Problem Challenge 1

Problem Challenge 2

Solution Review: Problem Challenge 2

Pattern: Tree Depth First Search

Introduction

Binary Tree Path Sum (easy)

All Paths for a Sum (medium)

Sum of Path Numbers (medium)

Path With Given Sequence (medium)

Count Paths for a Sum (medium)

Problem Challenge 1

Solution Review: Problem Challenge 1

Problem Challenge 2

Solution Review: Problem Challenge 2

Pattern: Two Heaps

Introduction
Find the Median of a Number Stream (medium)
Sliding Window Median (hard)
Maximize Capital (hard)
Problem Challenge 1
Solution Review: Problem Challenge 1

Pattern: Subsets

Introduction Subsets (easy) Subsets With Duplicates (easy) Permutations (medium) String Permutations by changing case (medium) Balanced Parentheses (hard) Unique Generalized Abbreviations (hard) Problem Challenge 1 Solution Review: Problem Challenge 1 Problem Challenge 2 Solution Review: Problem Challenge 2 Problem Challenge 3 Solution Review: Problem

Pattern: Modified Binary Search

Challenge 3

Introduction
Order-agnostic Binary Search (easy)
Ceiling of a Number (medium)
Next Letter (medium)
Number Range (medium)
Search in a Sorted Infinite Array (medium)
Minimum Difference Element (medium)
Bitonic Array Maximum (easy)

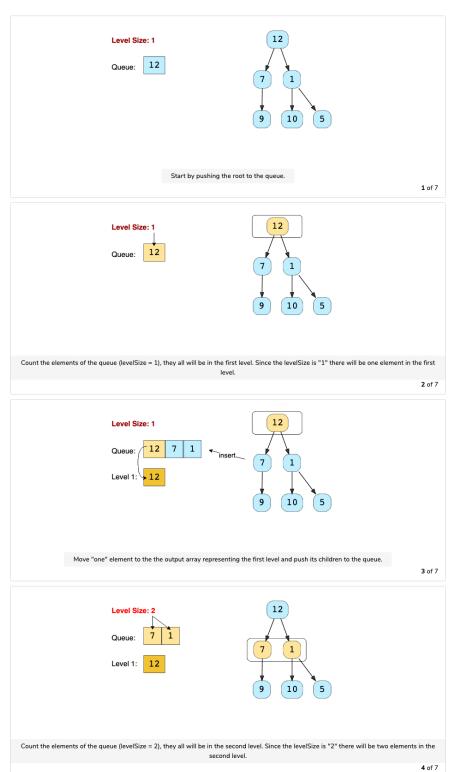
Solution

Since we need to traverse all nodes of each level before moving onto the next level, we can use the **Breadth** First Search (BFS) technique to solve this problem.

We can use a Queue to efficiently traverse in BFS fashion. Here are the steps of our algorithm:

- 2. Keep iterating until the queue is empty.
- 3. In each iteration, first count the elements in the queue (let's call it levelSize). We will have these many nodes in the current level.
- Next, remove levelSize nodes from the queue and push their value in an array to represent the current level.
- 5. After removing each node from the queue, insert both of its children into the queue.
- 6. If the queue is not empty, repeat from step 3 for the next level.

Let's take the example-2 mentioned above to visually represent our algorithm:





Pattern: Bitwise XOR

Introduction
Single Number (easy)
Two Single Numbers (medium)
Complement of Base 10 Number (medium)
Problem Challenge 1
Solution Review: Problem
Challenge 1

Pattern: Top 'K' Elements

Introduction Top 'K' Numbers (easy) Kth Smallest Number (easy) 'K' Closest Points to the Origin (easy) Connect Ropes (easy) Top 'K' Frequent Numbers (medium) Frequency Sort (medium) Kth Largest Number in a Stream (medium) 'K' Closest Numbers (medium) Maximum Distinct Elements (medium) Sum of Elements (medium) Rearrange String (hard) Problem Challenge 1 Solution Review: Problem Problem Challenge 2 Solution Review: Problem Challenge 2 Problem Challenge 3

Pattern: K-way merge

Challenge 3

Solution Review: Problem

Introduction

Merge K Sorted Lists (medium)

Kth Smallest Number in M Sorted Lists (Medium)

Kth Smallest Number in a Sorted Matrix (Hard)

Smallest Number Range (Hard)

Problem Challenge 1

Solution Review: Problem Challenge 1

Pattern: 0/1 Knapsack (Dynamic Programming)

Introduction

O/1 Knapsack (medium)

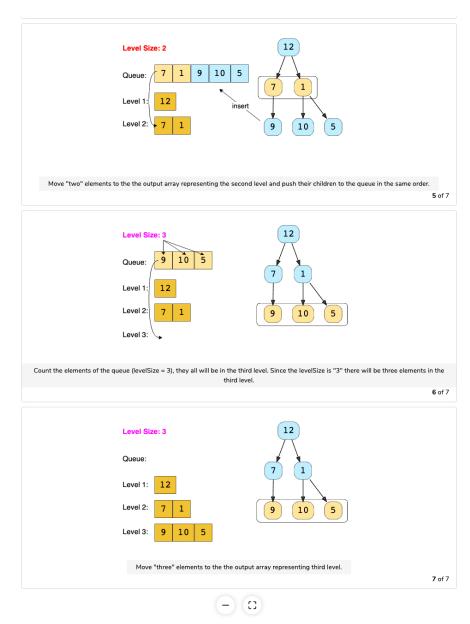
Equal Subset Sum Partition (medium)

Subset Sum (medium)

Minimum Subset Sum Difference (hard)

Problem Challenge 1

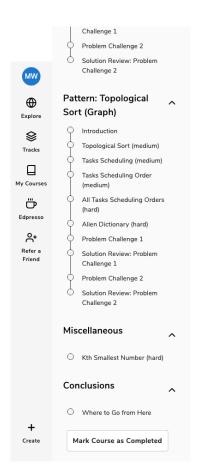
Solution Review: Problem



Code

Here is what our algorithm will look like:

```
Python3
                    G C++
          ue = require('./collections/deque'); //http://www.collectionsjs.c
class TreeNode {
 constructor(val) {
   this.right = null;
 result = [];
if (root === null) {
 const queue = new Deque();
 queue.push(root);
  while (queue.length > 0) {
   const levelSize = queue.length;
    for (i = 0; i < levelSize; i++) {</pre>
      currentNode = queue.shift();
      currentLevel.push(currentNode.val);
                                                                                   SAVE
                                                                                                      03
                                                                                              RESET
                                                                                                   Close
```



Output 4.1308

Level order traversal: 12,7,1,9,10,5

Time complexity

The time complexity of the above algorithm is O(N), where 'N' is the total number of nodes in the tree. This is due to the fact that we traverse each node once.

Space complexity

← Back

Introduction

The space complexity of the above algorithm will be O(N) as we need to return a list containing the level order traversal. We will also need O(N) space for the queue. Since we can have a maximum of N/2 nodes at any level (this could happen only at the lowest level), therefore we will need O(N) space to store them in the queue.

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