STRING

Problem – 3. Longest Substring Without Repeating Characters





leetcode.com/problems/longest-substring-without-repeating-characters

Problem Statement

 You are given a string and the goal is to find the longest substring without repeating characters

Example

Input: "abcdb"

Output: 4 (abcd since "b" is repeated)

Solution – 3. Longest Substring Without Repeating Characters





leetcode.com/problems/longest-substring-without-repeating-characters

Solution

- Use sliding window algorithm (left and right)
- Loop through the string
- Try to find if the current character is already added by using unordered set or bitmap
- If added, remove from the set alongside with others using left pointer
- If not, add to the unordered set or bitmap
- Maximum length will be right left + 1



LeetCode leetcode.com/problems/longest-substring-without-repeating-characters

Example

- String: abcbd. Our goal is to return 3 (abcbd)
- Initialize maxLength = 0
- Loop through the string

```
lteration 1: left = 0, right = 0, string[left] = 'a',
          bitmap = ['a'] ('a' is not in bitmap, add), maxLength = max(maxLength, right - left + 1) = 1
lteration 2: left = 0, right = 1, string[right] = 'b'
          bitmap = ['a','b'], maxLength = 2
lteration 3: left = 0, right = 2, string[right] = 'c'
          bitmap = ['a','b', 'c'], maxLength = 3
lteration 4: left = 0, right = 3, string[right] = 'b'
          bitmap = ['a','b','c','b']
          'b' is already in the bitmap. start "clearing" the character using left:
          Iteration 4a: left = 0, string[left] = 'a' is different from 'b', so remove 'a'
                      bitmap = ['b', 'c','b']
          Iteration 4b: left = 1, string[left] = 'b' is the same as the repeated one, remove
                       bitmap = [`c', 'b']
Iteration 5: left = 1, right = 4, string[right] = 'd'
            bitmap = ['c','b','d']
```

Code – 3. Longest Substring Without Repeating Characters

Code (unordered_set)

Use unordered_set when question requires unicode chars

```
int lengthOfLongestSubstring(string s) {
    int maxLength = 0;
    int left = 0, right = 0;
    // track the seen characters
    unordered set<char> seen;
    for (right = 0; right < s.size(); ++right) {</pre>
        char currentChar = s[right];
        // if currentChar is in the set, clean
        // the character and everything from left of it
        // basically, reset the longest substring
        while (seen.count(currentChar)) {
            char c = s[left];
            seen.erase(c);
            left++;
        // insert the current read character
        seen.insert(currentChar);
        // set max length
        maxLength = max(maxLength, right - left + 1);
    return maxLength;
```

Code – 3. Longest Substring Without Repeating Characters

Code (bitmap)

- Using bitset: create a bitmask with 128 bits where each bit represent a character
- Optimal solution for ASCII since ASCII size is 127 characters
- Unicode / UTF-8 can represent over 1.1 million characters, so use unordered_set approach instead

```
int lengthOfLongestSubstring(string s) {
    std::bitset<128> bitmask;
    uint32_t left = 0;
    uint32_t maxLength = 0;

for (uint32_t right = 0; right < s.length(); ++right) {
        uint32_t bitIndex = s[right];
        // if char is already in the bitmask, move left until we reset the bits
        while (bitmask.test(bitIndex)) {
            bitmask.reset(s[left]);
            ++left;
        }

        bitmask.set(bitIndex);
        maxLength = std::max(maxLength, right - left + 1);
    }
    return maxLength;
}</pre>
```





leetcode.com/problems/longest-repeating-character-replacement

Problem

- You are given a string s and an integer k
- You can replace one character by any other uppercase English character k times
- Return the longest substring with the same character
- Example:

Input:

$$s = "ABAB", k = 2$$

Output: 4

Replace the two 'A's with two 'B's or vice versa.

Problem – 424. Longest Repeating Character Replacement





leetcode.com/problems/longest-repeating-character-replacement

Solution

- Start with two pointers: left and right
- Keep track of the frequencies of each letter in a vector<int> since we know there are 26 characters
- Initialize maxFreq to keep track of the letter with maximum frequency
- Initialize maxLength to keep track of the maximum substring
- Go over the string, and for each iteration:
 - calculate the windowSize
 - calculate the maximum frequency
 - check how many replacements is needed. That is, windowSize maxFreq
 - if no replace can be done (k < replaces) then move left pointer to the right

Problem – 424. Longest Repeating Character Replacement

```
LeetCode
```

leetcode.com/problems/longest-repeating-character-replacement

```
Time: O(n) Space: O(1)
Code
int characterReplacement(string s, int k) {
   int left = 0;
   int maxLength = 0;
   int maxFreq = 0;
   vector<int> freq(26, 0);
   for (int right = 0; right < s.size(); ++right) {</pre>
        int index = s[right] - 'A';
        int windowSize = right - left + 1;
        // keep track of the frequencies
        freq[index]++;
        maxFreq = max(maxFreq, freq[index]);
        // check if the subwindow need to change
        int needReplace = windowSize - maxFreq;
        if (k < needReplace) {</pre>
            // need to move sub window
            int leftIndex = s[left] - 'A';
            freq[leftIndex]--;
            left++;
            windowSize = right - left + 1;
        maxLength = max(maxLength, windowSize);
   return maxLength;
```



leetcode.com/problems/minimum-window-substring

Problem

Solution - 76. Maximum Window Substring



leetcode.com/problems/minimum-window-substring

Solution

- Grow → first valid window: move right until the window has every required char (use a need table and a have table plus formed == distinctNeeded to know this)
- Prune ← from left: while the window is still valid, drop s[left] and advance left-stop as soon as removing a char would break validity
- Record current window length as a candidate answer.
- Resume growing right, repeating the grow → prune ← record cycle until right reaches the end.
- Two pointers only move forward

Code - 76. Maximum Window Substring



leetcode.com/problems/minimum-window-substring

Code Time: O(|s| + |t|) Space: O(k) where |s| means the size of "s" and |t| the size of "t". k is the number of distinct characters in k

```
string minWindow(string s, string t) {
   if (t.size() > s.size()) return "";
   // characters I need (t)
   unordered map<char, int> need;
   // current window
   unordered map<char, int> window;
   int left = 0;
   int right = 0;
   int start = 0;
   // number of valid characters
   int valid = 0:
   int minLength = INT MAX;
   // populate need
   // need['A'] = 1
   // need['B'] = 1
   // need['C'] = 1
   for (const auto& c : t) {
       need[c]++;
```

```
// traverse the string
  while (right < s.size()) {
    // current char
    char c = s[right];
    // increase right
    right++;

    // do we need this character?
    if (need.count(c)) {
        // add to the current window
        window[c]++;
        // have we reached the number of characters we need?
        // then increase valid. It doesn't matter if have more,
        // what matters is exactly the number
        if (window[c] == need[c]) {
            valid++;
        }
    }
}</pre>
```

Code - 76. Maximum Window Substring

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leetcode.com/problems/minimum-window-substring

Code (continue) Time: O(|s| + |t|) Space: O(k) where |s| means the size of "s" and |t| the size of "t". k is the number of distinct characters in k

// return

if (minLength == INT MAX) return "";

return s.substr(start, minLength);

```
// this will run once our window is now valid,
// meaning having all characters from need
// now we want to prune this beacuse we want the minimum
// window substring
while (valid == need.size()) {
    int windowSize = right - left;
    // minLength hold the global minimum substring
    // current valid windowSize is smaller, update it
    if (windowSize < minLength) {</pre>
        minLength = windowSize;
        // we need to keep track where the substring starts
        start = left:
    // prune substring
    // check if s[left] is needed
    // is the character I'm pruning, needed?
    char charToPrune = s[left];
    left++;
    if (need.count(charToPrune)) {
        // ok we need this character, and the amount we have is
        // exactly what we need (we don't have more to 'spare')
        if (window[charToPrune] == need[charToPrune]) {
            // invalidate. So break the while loop and
            // continue moving right
            valid--;
        // character is removed
        window[charToPrune]--;
```

Problem – 242. Valid Anagram





leetcode.com/problems/valid-anagram

Problem

- You are given two strings s and t
- Return true if t is an anagram of s

• Example:

t = word

s = dwor

Output: true

both have the same number of same characters



leetcode.com/problems/valid-anagram

Solution

- Initialize a vector of integers to keep track of the count of each letter
- Loop over s and increase the count of each character found
- Then, loop over t and decrease the count of each character found
- Finally, loop over the vector and if there is one count greater than 0, return false

Problem – 242. Valid Anagram

```
LeetCode
```

leetcode.com/problems/valid-anagram

```
bool isAnagram(string s, string t) {
    // count the number of characters in 's', store in a vector
    // go over the vector and check if it's empty
    vector<int> letters(26);
    for (const auto& c : s) {
        letters[c - 'a']++;
    }
    for (const auto& c : t) {
        letters[c - 'a']--;
    }
    for (const auto& c : letters) {
        if (c != 0) return false;
    }
    return true;
}
```

Problem – 49. Group Anagrams



```
LeetCode
```

leetcode.com/problems/group-anagrams

Problem

You are given an array of strings, Example:

```
strs = ["eat","tea","tan","ate","nat","bat"]
```

• Group the anagrams together:

```
[["bat"],["nat","tan"],["ate","eat","tea"]]
```

■ No anagram of "bat", where "nat" and "tan" are anagram so they're grouped together

Solution – 49. Group Anagrams



```
E LeetCode
```

leetcode.com/problems/group-anagrams

Solution

- Go over each word
- Sort the words

```
Example: ["eat","tea","tan","ate","nat","bat"]
After sorting: ["aet","aet","ant","aet","ant","abt"]
```

Add the words in their respective buckets using a hashtable unordered_map<string, vector<string>>

```
hash["aet"] = "eat", "tea", "ate"
hash["ant"] = "tan", "nat"
hash["abt"] = "bat"
```

Go over the bucket and add to the results

Code – 49. Group Anagrams

```
E LeetCode
```

leetcode.com/problems/group-anagrams

Code Time: O(n * k log k) Space: O(n * k) where n is the number of strings in strs and k is the maximum length of a string in strs

```
vector<vector<string>> groupAnagrams(vector<string>& strs) {
   // go over the strs
    // sort each of them, store it
    // ["eat","tea","tan","ate","nat","bat"]
    // ["aet", "aet", "ant", "aet", "ant", "abt"]
    // hash["aet"] = ["eat","tea","ate"]
    unordered map<string, vector<string>> hash;
    for (const auto& s : strs) {
        string key = s;
        sort(key.begin(), key.end());
        hash[key].push back(s);
    // go over this hash map and push to the final output
    vector<vector<string>> result;
    for (const auto& [k, v] : hash) {
        result.push back(v);
    return result;
```



LeetCode leetcode.com/problems/valid-parentheses

Problem Statement

- You are given a string containing only the characters '(', ')', '{', '}', '[' and ']'
- A valid input have closed brackets by its own type
- Example

()[] $\{\}$ \rightarrow valid

[]{}(\rightarrow invalid

 $\{()\} \rightarrow \text{valid}$

Solution - Valid Parentheses



leetcode.com/problems/valid-parentheses

Solution

- Loop through the string
- If open brackets ([{ push to a stack}
- If closed brackets:
 - pop the last added bracket
 - **check** if the **closed** bracket corresponds to the **popped** bracket
 - if not, return false
- after the loop, return true if the size of the stack is empty (all brackets closed)

Code – Valid Parentheses



LeetCode leetcode.com/problems/valid-parentheses

```
Code
          Time: O(n) Space: O(n)
bool isValid(string s) {
   // stack (LIFO)
   std::stack<char> brackets;
   // O(n)
   for (int i = 0; i < s.size(); ++i) {</pre>
        char bracket = s[i];
        if (bracket == '(' || bracket == '[' || bracket == '{'}) {
           brackets.push(bracket);
       } else {
           if (brackets.size() == 0) return false;
           char lastBracket = brackets.top();
           if (bracket == ')' && lastBracket != '(') return false;
           if (bracket == '}' && lastBracket != '{') return false;
           if (bracket == ']' && lastBracket != '[') return false;
           brackets.pop();
   // all brackets must be closed
   return brackets.size() == 0;
```



Problem

- You are given a string s
- Return **true** if it is a palindrome
- Note that the string may contain non-alphanumeric characters that should be ignored and uppercase/lowercase that must be considered the same

• Example:

input = "A man, a plan, a canal: Panama"
output = true

after removing non-alphanumeric characters (including spaces) and turning everything into lowercase (or uppsercase), the resulting string is a palindrome



Solution

Remove non-alphanumeric characters:

```
auto end = remove_if(s.begin(), s.end(), [](char& c) {
    return !isalnum();
});
s.erase(end, s.end();
remove_if logically moves everything to the end of the string and return the iterator. Then, erase remove from the result of the iterator to the end of the strong
```

Transform the string to lowercase:

```
transform(s.begin(), s.end(), s.begin(), [](char& c) {
    return tolower(c);
});

1st argument = beginning of string
2nd argument = end of the string
3rd argument = destination
4th argument = lambda function
```



Solution

Have two pointers:

```
left = 0
right = s.size() - 1
```

- Loop incrementing left and decrementing right, checking the characters from both sides
- If they differ, return false
- At the end, return true

```
LeetCode
```

```
Code Time: O(n) Space: O(1)
bool isPalindrome(string s) {
    // transform everything into lowercase:
    // transform(begin, end, output begin)
    transform(s.begin(), s.end(), s.begin(), [](char& c) {
            return tolower(c);
            });
    // remove_if move everything that matches in the lambda
    // to the end of
    auto end = remove_if(s.begin(), s.end(), [](char& c) {
            return !isalnum(c);
            });
    s.erase(end, s.end());
    int left = 0;
    int right = s.size() - 1;
    while (left <= right) {</pre>
        if (s[left] != s[right]) return false;
       left++;
        right--;
    return true;
```

Problem – Minimum Number of Increments on Subarrays



leetcode.com/problems/minimum-number-of-increments-on-subarrays-to-form-a-target-array

Problem Statement

- You are given an array of integers initialized with zeros (e.g. [0,0,0,0])
- The goal is to reach some target (e.g. [1, 2, 2, 3])
- The valid operations is to increment a subarray by one
- The output is the total number of operations In this case:
 - $[1,1,1,1] \rightarrow$ increment the subarray starting from 0 to total size
 - [1,2,2,2] → increment the subarray starting from 1 to total size
 - [1,2,2,3] → increment the subarray starting and ending from the last element

Output: 3 (total number of operations)

Solution – Minimum Number of Increments on Subarrays



leetcode.com/problems/minimum-number-of-increments-on-subarrays-to-form-a-target-array

Solution

Take this example:

```
target = [1000, 1, 1000]
```

- Initialize total number of operations totalOp = target[0] = 1000
- Loop through the array, compare the first element with the previous:

```
target[1] > target[0] \rightarrow 1 > 1000 \rightarrow do nothing, totalOp is still 1000
```

■ $target[2] > target[1] \rightarrow 1000 > 1$ \rightarrow add the difference to totalOp:

```
difference = 1000 - 1 = 999
totalOp = 1000 + 999 = 1999
```

- This is the number of operations needed, equivalent to:
 - add 1 to each element: [1,1,1]
 - add 999 to the subarray [0,0]
 - add 999 to the subarray [2,2]

Code – Minimum Number of Increments on Subarrays

LeetCode

leetcode.com/problems/minimum-number-of-increments-on-subarrays-to-form-a-target-array

Code

```
int minNumberOperations(vector<int>& target) {
    int totalOp = target[0];
    for (int i = 1; i < target.size(); ++i) {
        // can't reuse
        if (target[i - 1] < target[i]) {
            totalOp += target[i] - target[i - 1];
        }
    }
    return totalOp;
}</pre>
```

Code (2) - Minimum Number of Increments on Subarrays



leetcode.com/problems/minimum-number-of-increments-on-subarrays-to-form-a-target-array

Code (optimized)



leetcode.com/problems/rotated-digits

Problem

- You are a given a number n
- From the range between 1 to n, find "good" numbers
- A good number must meet 2 requirements:
 - 1. Be still valid after flipping: You physically "rotate" this number by 180 degrees, flip the number upside-down 2. The number can be either valid or invalid. For example, flipping 8 is still 8, flipping 6 becomes 9, but flipping 3, becomes 8 which is invalid.
 - 2. Be a different digit after flipping. If you flip 1, it is still a valid number but it is the same number (1), so it is not good. However, 16 is valid because it becomes a different number: 19
- Return the the number of good numbers between 1 and n





leetcode.com/problems/rotated-digits

Solution

- The simplest and readable approach:
- Create a function to check if a number is good or not
- Go over the range (1,n) and check every number. If it is good, count as a valid
- Inside the function to check:
- Extract digit by digit from the number (digit = num % 10)
- Check if the digit is valid (a.k.a "flippable"). In other words, return false if it is 3, 4 or 7.
- Now check the second condition (same number). So keep a bool "changed", if you find a number that "changes", mark changed as true. The numbers are 2, 5, 6 and 9, since when they flip they become different numbers
- Return "changed"

Problem – 788. Rotated Digits

E LeetCode

leetcode.com/problems/rotated-digits

Code Time: O(n log n) Space: O(1)

For each number, we examine each of its digits:

• A number i has $log_{10}(i)$ digits \rightarrow in worst case: O(log n) per number

```
int rotatedDigits(int n) {
    int count = 0;
    for (int i = 1; i <= n; ++i) {
        if (isGood(i)) count++;
    return count;
bool isGood(int num) {
    bool changed = false;
    while (num > 0) {
        int digit = num % 10;
       if (digit == 3 || digit == 4 || digit == 7) return false;
       if (digit == 2 || digit == 5 || digit == 6 || digit == 9)
changed = true;
        num /= 10;
    return changed;
```



leetcode.com/problems/ransom-note

Problem

- You are given two strings: magazine and ransomNote
- Return true if ransomNote can be constructed by using letters from magazine
- A letter cannot be reused
- Example:

```
ransomNote = "aa", magazine = "ab"
```

Output: false (a letter from magazine cannot be used twice)

ransomNote = "aa", magazine = "aab"

Output: true

Solution - 383. Ransom Note





leetcode.com/problems/ransom-note

Solution

- Initialize an array with 26 characters (total letters in the English alphabet)
- Go over magazine string and count each character
- Go over ransomNote string and decrease each character
- If you get a negative number, return false

```
LeetCode
```

leetcode.com/problems/ransom-note

```
Code Time: O(n + m) Space: O(k) where n is the length of magazine and m the length of ransomNote, and k is the number of unique characters in magazine
```

```
bool canConstruct(string ransomNote, string magazine) {
   int count[26] = {0};
   for (const char& c : magazine) {
      count[c - 'a']++;
   }
   for (const char& c : ransomNote) {
      if (--count[c - 'a'] < 0) return false;
   }
   return true;
}</pre>
```

Problem – 8. String to Integer (atoi)





leetcode.com/problems/string-to-integer-atoi

Problem

- You are given a string s
- Implement myAtoi(string s) using the following rules:
- Skip leading whitespace
- Determine sign (+ or -)
- Convert digits until non-digit or end of string
- Clamp result to 32-bit signed integer range [-2³¹, 2³¹ -1]



leetcode.com/problems/string-to-integer-atoi

Solution

- Initialize an index i
- Position i to skip white spaces
- Check the sign and set a variable sign = -1 or 1
- Go over the remaining of the string and use the following:

```
digit = digit * 10 + s[i] - '0'
```

Important: use long long for the result and check overflows:

```
if (sign == 1 && result > INT_MAX) return INT_MAX;
if (sign == -1 && -result < INT_MIN) return INT_MIN;</pre>
```

Problem – 8. String to Integer (atoi)

LeetCode

leetcode.com/problems/string-to-integer-atoi

Code Time: O(n) Space: O(1)

```
int myAtoi(string s) {
   int i = 0;
   int n = s.size();
   // skip leading whitespace
   while (i < n && s[i] == ' ') i++;
   // some sanity check
   if (i == n) return 0;
   // check the sign
   int sign = 1;
   if (s[i] == '-') {
        sign = -1;
       i++;
   } else if (s[i] == '+') {
       // keep sign = 1
       i++;
   // convert
   long long result = 0;
   while (i < n && isdigit(s[i])) {</pre>
       result = result * 10 + s[i] - '0';
       if (sign == 1 && result > INT MAX) return INT MAX;
       if (sign == -1 && -result < INT_MIN) return INT_MIN;</pre>
        ++i;
   return result * sign;
```

Problem – 71. Simplify Path





leetcode.com/problems/simplify-path

Problem

- You are given
- **2**



leetcode.com/problems/simplify-path

Solution

- ′
- **2**

Code – 71. Simplify Path

E LeetCode

leetcode.com/problems/simplify-path

Code Time: O(n) Space: O(k) where n is the length if path and k is the number of valid folders in the simplified path

```
string simplifyPath(string path) {
   stringstream ss(path);
    string part;
   vector<string> folders;
    while(getline(ss, part, '/')) {
       if (part == "." || part.empty()) continue;
       if (part == "..") {
           if (!folders.empty())
               folders.pop back();
       } else {
           folders.push_back(part);
    string result;
    for (const auto& s : folders) {
        result += "/" + s;
    return result.empty() ? "/" : result;
```