

## 38. Merge Sorted Arrays Without Extra Space

### 88. Merge Sorted Array

Easy    10155    958    Add to List    Share

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]`

Explanation: The arrays we are merging are `[1,2,3]` and `[2,5,6]`.

The result of the merge is `[1,2,2,3,5,6]` with the underlined elements coming from `nums1`.

#### Example 2:

Input: `nums1 = [1]`, `m = 1`, `nums2 = []`, `n = 0`

Output: `[1]`

Explanation: The arrays we are merging are `[1]` and `[]`.  
The result of the merge is `[1]`.

$$\text{arr1}[] = \{1 \ 3 \ 5 \ 7\}$$

$$\text{arr2}[] = \{0 \ 2 \ 6 \ 8 \ 9\}$$

$$\text{Merged version} \Rightarrow \{0 \ 1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 5 \ 6 \ 7 \ 8 \ 9\}$$

#### 1) Brute Force Approach :

- Create a 3<sup>rd</sup> Array , and use two pointer

$$\text{arr1}[] = \{1 \ 3 \ 5 \ 7\}$$
  
$$\underline{\quad} \underline{\quad} \underline{\quad} \underline{\quad}$$

$$\text{arr2}[] = \{0 \ 2 \ 6 \ 8 \ 9\}$$
  
$$\underline{\quad} \underline{\quad} \underline{\quad} \underline{\quad}$$

- move them to 3<sup>rd</sup> array according to the smaller

element

index	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
arr1[ ]:	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

So fill the 3<sup>rd</sup> index you take to arr1[ ]  
and rest in the arr2[ ].

for the arr2[ ] index  $\Rightarrow$  index - length of 1<sup>st</sup> array

$$4 - 4 = 0$$

so arr2[ ]  $5 - 4 = 1$

$$\begin{array}{cccccc} 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 - 4 = 1 \\ \{ 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 \} & 6 - 4 = 2 \\ & & & & 7 - 4 = 3 \\ & & & & 8 - 4 = 4 \end{array}$$

problem is extra array.

```

7 * class Solution{
8     public:
9         //Function to merge the arrays.
10        void merge(long long arr1[], long long arr2[], int n, int m)
11    {
12        long long arr3[n + m];
13        int left = 0;
14        int right = 0;
15        int index = 0;
16        while(left < n && right < m){
17            if(arr1[left] <= arr2[right]){
18                arr3[index] = arr1[left];
19                left++, index++;
20            } else {
21                arr3[index] = arr2[right];
22                right++, index++;
23            }
24        }
25        while(left < n){
26            arr3[index++] = arr1[left++];
27        }
28        while(right < m){
29            arr3[index++] = arr2[right++];
30        }
31        //put every element back
32        for(int i = 0; i < n + m; i++){
33            if(i < n) arr1[i] = arr3[i];
34            else arr2[i - n] = arr3[i];
35        }
36    }
37}
38
39}
40 };

```

$$T.C \Rightarrow O(n+m) + O(n+m) \quad S.C \Rightarrow O(n+m)$$

## 2) Optimal solution - I

$$\text{arr1}[] = \{1, 3, 5, 7\} \quad \text{arr2}[] = \{0, 2, 6, 8, 9\}$$

↑                                  ↑

- Always start with the largest element in arr1[]
- Always start with the smallest element in arr2[]
- And then compare them and check if it's in

correct place if not then do it

$$\{ 1 \ 3 \ 5 \ 0 \}$$

$$\{ 7 \ 2 \ 6 \ 8 \ 9 \}$$

$$\{ 1 \ 3 \ 2 \ 0 \}$$

$$\{ 7 \ 5 \ 6 \ 8 \ 9 \}$$

this is the moment you realize  $\text{arr1}[j] < \text{arr2}[j]$

$$3 < 6$$

$$\{ 1 \ 3 \ 2 \ 0 \}$$

$$\{ 7 \ 5 \ 6 \ 8 \ 9 \}$$

- Somehow managed to put everything on the left and right but they are not in the correct order.

- So we can sort it now

$$\{ 0 \ 1 \ 2 \ 3 \}$$

$$\{ 5 \ 6 \ 7 \ 8 \ 9 \}$$

Code Editor

Compiler: C++ (g++ 5.4) | Average Time: 20m | Start Timer

```

1 // } Driver Code Ends
2 class Solution{
3     public:
4         //Function to merge the arrays.
5         void merge(long long arr1[], long long arr2[], int n, int m)
6         {
7             int left = n - 1;
8             int right = 0;
9             while(left >= 0 && right < m){
10                 if(arr1[left] > arr2[right]){
11                     swap(arr1[left], arr2[right]);
12                     left--;
13                     right++;
14                 } else {
15                     break;
16                 }
17             }
18             sort(arr1, arr1 + n);
19             sort(arr2, arr2 + m);
20         }
21     };
22
23
24
25

```

$$T.C \Rightarrow O(\min(n, m)) + O(n \log n) + O(m \log m)$$

3) Optimal - 2 (Gap Method  $\rightarrow$  Shell Sort)

$$\text{arr1}[] = \{1, 3, 5, 7\} \quad \text{arr2}[] = \{0, 2, 6, 8, 9\}$$

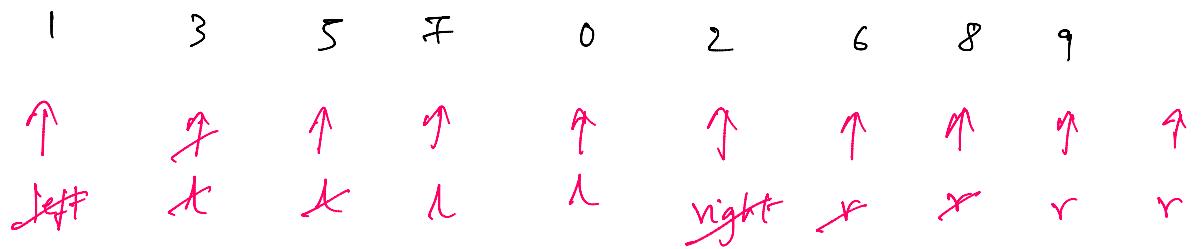
size of 1<sup>st</sup> arr + size of 2<sup>nd</sup> arr

2

$$n=4, m=5$$

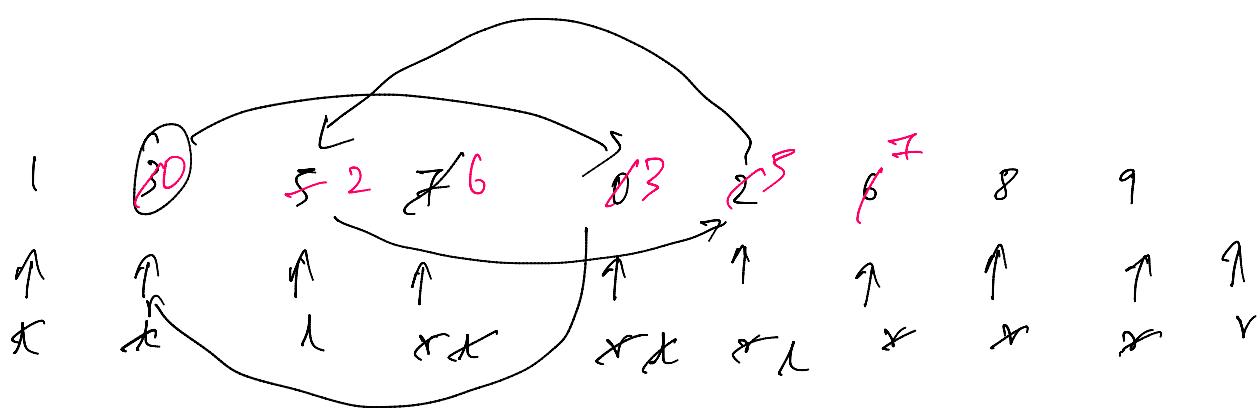
$$= \frac{4+5}{2} = 4.5 \approx 5 \text{ (real value)}$$

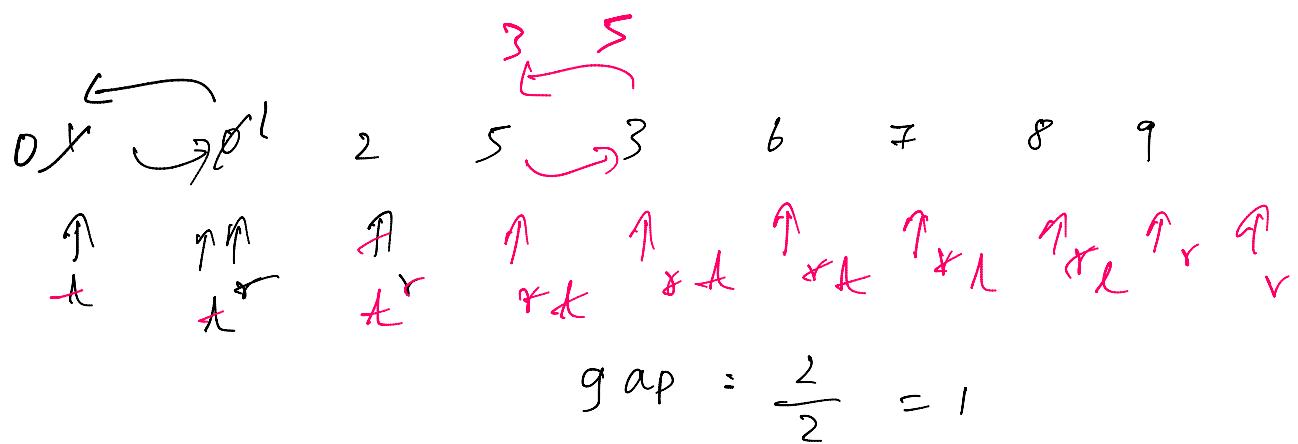
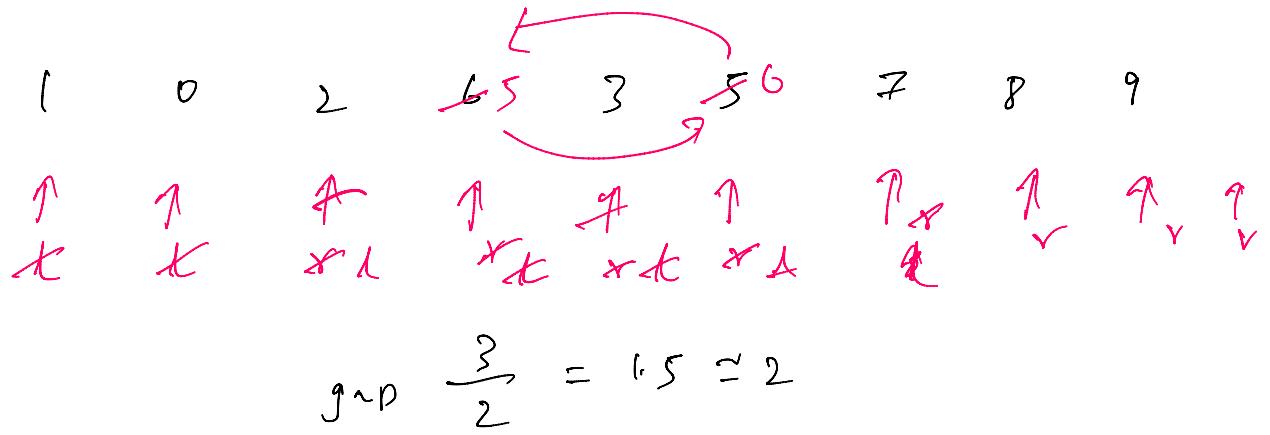
$$\text{gap} = 5$$



- keep left at  $1^{st}$  place and right '5' distance from it
- Now start comparing.
- The moment right goes out of the boundary you stop and restart by reducing the value of gap by division of 2

$$\frac{5}{2} = 2.5 \approx 3$$





0 1 2 3 5 6 7 8 9

Once  $gap \leq 1$  stop it.

$T.C \Rightarrow O(\log_2(n+m) \times o(n+m))$

$S.C \Rightarrow O(1)$