Problem Solving Structured Approach

1. Arrays

• Sliding Window:

- o Maximum sum subarray of size K (e.g., LeetCode 53)
- Longest substring without repeating characters (e.g., LeetCode 3)

Two Pointers:

- o Remove duplicates (e.g., LeetCode 26)
- o Pair sum (e.g., LeetCode 167)

• Binary Search:

- o Find min in rotated sorted array (e.g., LeetCode 153)
- Search in rotated sorted array (e.g., LeetCode 33)

Sorting and Greedy:

- Meeting rooms (e.g., LeetCode 252)
- o Minimum moves to equal array elements (e.g., LeetCode 453)

• Prefix Sum:

- o Subarray sum equals K (e.g., LeetCode 560)
- Product of array except self (e.g., LeetCode 238)

2. Strings

• Two Pointers:

- Valid palindrome (e.g., LeetCode 125)
- Reverse vowels of a string (e.g., LeetCode 345)

• Sliding Window:

- Longest substring with at most K distinct characters (e.g., LeetCode 340)
- o Minimum window substring (e.g., LeetCode 76)

• Dynamic Programming:

- Longest palindromic substring (e.g., LeetCode 5)
- Edit distance (e.g., LeetCode 72)

• Hashing:

- o Group anagrams (e.g., LeetCode 49)
- Longest substring without repeating characters (e.g., LeetCode 3)

Backtracking:

- o Generate parentheses (e.g., LeetCode 22)
- Word search (e.g., LeetCode 79)

3. Recursion and Backtracking

• Subset Generation:

- Subsets (e.g., LeetCode 78)
- o Permutations (e.g., LeetCode 46)

• Combination Generation:

- o Combination sum (e.g., LeetCode 39)
- o Letter combinations of a phone number (e.g., LeetCode 17)

• Sudoku/Constraint Problems:

- Sudoku solver (e.g., LeetCode 37)
- o N-Queens problem (e.g., LeetCode 51)

• Recursive Backtracking:

- o Word search (e.g., LeetCode 79)
- o Rat in a maze (classic problem)

4. Stacks

• Monotonic Stack:

- o Next greater element (e.g., LeetCode 496)
- Largest rectangle in histogram (e.g., LeetCode 84)

• Balanced Parentheses:

- o Valid parentheses (e.g., LeetCode 20)
- o Minimum add to make parentheses valid (e.g., LeetCode 921)

• Infix/Postfix Expressions:

- Evaluate reverse polish notation (e.g., LeetCode 150)
- Convert infix to postfix (classic problem)

• Stack for Tracking Indices:

- o Daily temperatures (e.g., LeetCode 739)
- Stock span problem (classic problem)

5. Queues

• Sliding Window:

Maximum of each sliding window (e.g., LeetCode 239)

BFS Traversal:

- Level order traversal (e.g., LeetCode 102)
- Shortest path in binary matrix (e.g., LeetCode 1091)

Deque for Double-Ended Processing:

o Sliding window maximum (optimized, e.g., LeetCode 239)

• Circular Queue:

o Implement circular queue (e.g., LeetCode 622)

6. Priority Queues

• Top K Elements:

- o K closest points (e.g., LeetCode 973)
- K largest elements (e.g., LeetCode 215)

• Sliding Window Maximum:

Maximum of each sliding window (e.g., LeetCode 239)

• Sorting with Heaps:

- Sort characters by frequency (e.g., LeetCode 451)
- Reorganize string (e.g., LeetCode 767)

7. Linked Lists

Two Pointers:

Remove N-th node from end (e.g., LeetCode 19)

• Reversal:

- Reverse a linked list (e.g., LeetCode 206)
- Reverse nodes in k-group (e.g., LeetCode 25)

• Cycle Detection:

- o Detect cycle (e.g., LeetCode 141)
- Find cycle start (e.g., LeetCode 142)

Merge:

- Merge two sorted lists (e.g., LeetCode 21)
- Merge K sorted lists (e.g., LeetCode 23)

8. Trees

• DFS/BFS Traversals:

- o Preorder traversal (e.g., LeetCode 144)
- Level-order traversal (e.g., LeetCode 102)

Recursion:

- o Maximum depth of binary tree (e.g., LeetCode 104)
- o Path sum (e.g., LeetCode 112)

• Binary Search Tree (BST):

- o Validate BST (e.g., LeetCode 98)
- Lowest common ancestor (e.g., LeetCode 235)

• Backtracking on Trees:

- o All root-to-leaf paths (e.g., LeetCode 257)
- Flatten binary tree (e.g., LeetCode 114)

9. Dynamic Programming (DP)

• 0/1 Knapsack:

- o Subset sum (e.g., LeetCode 416)
- o Partition equal subset sum (e.g., LeetCode 416)

• Memoization:

- Fibonacci sequence (e.g., classic problem)
- Climbing stairs (e.g., LeetCode 70)

• Matrix DP:

- o Unique paths (e.g., LeetCode 62)
- Minimum path sum (e.g., LeetCode 64)

• Sequence DP:

- o Longest increasing subsequence (e.g., LeetCode 300)
- o Longest common subsequence (e.g., LeetCode 1143)

• Subarray/Subsequence DP:

- Maximum sum subarray (e.g., LeetCode 53)
- o Palindromic subsequences (e.g., LeetCode 1312)

10. Intervals

• Merge Intervals:

- Merge intervals (e.g., LeetCode 56)
- Insert interval (e.g., LeetCode 57)

• Sorting + Greedy:

- o Non-overlapping intervals (e.g., LeetCode 435)
- o Meeting rooms II (e.g., LeetCode 253)

• Two Pointers:

o Employee free time (e.g., LeetCode 759)

11. Bit Manipulation

• Bitwise Operations:

- Single number (e.g., LeetCode 136)
- Counting bits (e.g., LeetCode 338)

Masking:

Subset sum problems (custom problems)

XOR Patterns:

Missing number (e.g., LeetCode 268)

12. Graphs

• BFS/DFS:

- Connected components in a graph (e.g., LeetCode 200)
- o Shortest path in an unweighted graph (e.g., LeetCode 1091)

• Topological Sort:

- o Course schedule (e.g., LeetCode 207)
- o Alien dictionary (e.g., LeetCode 269)

• Dijkstra's Algorithm:

o Network delay time (e.g., LeetCode 743)

• Union-Find:

- Number of connected components (e.g., LeetCode 323)
- o Redundant connection (e.g., LeetCode 684)