

50 FAQ DSA Problems Cheat sheet

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1. Introduction

This document outlines 50 carefully selected Data Structures and Algorithms (DSA) problems that are essential for cracking interviews at top companies offering salaries in the range of 7-15 LPA. These problems cover various topics, ensuring a comprehensive preparation.

2. Array Problems

1. Find the Largest Sum Contiguous Subarray (Kadane's Algorithm)
 - o Example: Input: [-2, 1, -3, 4, -1, 2, 1, -5, 4] Output: 6 (Subarray: [4, -1, 2, 1])
 2. Rotate an Array by K Steps
 - o Example: Input: nums = [1,2,3,4,5,6,7], k = 3 Output: [5,6,7,1,2,3,4]
 3. Merge Intervals
 - o Example: Input: [[1,3],[2,6],[8,10],[15,18]] Output: [[1,6],[8,10],[15,18]]
 4. Find the Duplicate Number
 - o Example: Input: [1,3,4,2,2] Output: 2
 5. Maximum Product Subarray
 - o Example: Input: [2,3,-2,4] Output: 6
 6. Find the Missing and Repeating Number
 - o Example: Input: n = 5, arr[] = {1, 3, 3, 5, 4} Output: Missing = 2, Repeating = 3
 7. Subarray with Given Sum
 - o Example: Input: arr = [1,2,3,7,5], sum = 12 Output: [2,4]
 8. Longest Consecutive Sequence
 - o Example: Input: [100,4,200,1,3,2] Output: 4
 9. Trapping Rain Water
 - o Example: Input: [0,1,0,2,1,0,1,3,2,1,2,1] Output: 6
 10. Next Permutation
 - o Example: Input: [1,2,3] Output: [1,3,2]
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3. String Problems

11. Longest Palindromic Substring
 - Example: Input: "babad" Output: "bab" or "aba"
 12. ReverseWords in a String
 - Example: Input: "the sky is blue" Output: "blue is sky the"
 13. Longest Common Prefix
 - Example: Input: ["flower", "flow", "flight"] Output: "fl"
 14. Group Anagrams
 - Example: Input: ["eat", "tea", "tan", "ate", "nat", "bat"] Output:
[["bat"], ["nat", "tan"], ["ate", "eat", "tea"]]
 15. Check for Valid Parentheses
 - Example: Input: "()[]{}" Output: true
 16. Implement Atoi
 - Example: Input: "42" Output: 42
 17. String to Integer Conversion
 - Example: Input: "-123" Output: -123
 18. Longest Repeating Subsequence
 - Example: Input: "AABEBCDD" Output: "ABD"
 19. KMP Algorithm for Pattern Searching
 - Example: Text: "abxabcabcaby", Pattern: "abcaby" Output: 6
 20. Minimum Window Substring
 - Example: Input: s = "ADOBE CODE BANC", t = "ABC" Output: "BANC"
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4. Linked List Problems

21. Reverse a Linked List

- Example: Input: 1 -> 2 -> 3 -> 4 -> 5 Output: 5 -> 4 -> 3 -> 2 -> 1

22. Detect and Remove a Loop in a Linked List

- Example: Input: Linked List with a loop Output: Loop removed

23. Merge Two Sorted Linked Lists

- Example: Input: 1 -> 2 -> 4, 1 -> 3 -> 4 Output: 1 -> 1 -> 2 -> 3 -> 4 -> 4

24. Flatten a Multilevel Doubly Linked List

- Example: Input: Nested Linked List Output: Single Flattened List

25. Find the Intersection Point of Two Linked Lists

- Example: Input: List A: 4 -> 1 -> 8 -> 4 -> 5, List B: 5 -> 0 -> 1 -> 8 -> 4 -> 5 Output: 8

26. Remove N-th Node from the End of the List

- Example: Input: 1 -> 2 -> 3 -> 4 -> 5, n = 2 Output: 1 -> 2 -> 3 -> 5

27. Add Two Numbers Represented by Linked Lists

- Example: Input: 7 -> 5 -> 9, 8 -> 4 Output: 5 -> 0 -> 0 -> 1

28. Clone a Linked List with Random Pointers

- Example: Input: Original List with random pointers Output: Cloned List

29. Sort a Linked List

- Example: Input: 4 -> 2 -> 1 -> 3 Output: 1 -> 2 -> 3 -> 4

30. Check if a Linked List is Palindrome

- Example: Input: 1 -> 2 -> 2 -> 1 Output: true
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5. Stack and Queue Problems

31. Implement Stack Using Queues

- Example: Operations: Push, Pop, Top Output: Mimic Stack behavior

32. Implement Queue Using Stacks

- Example: Operations: Enqueue, Dequeue Output: Mimic Queue behavior

33. Next Greater Element

- Example: Input: [4,5,2,25] Output: [5,25,25,-1]

34. LRU Cache Implementation

- Example: Operations: Set, Get Output: Cache results

35. MinStack

- Example: Operations: Push, Pop, Top, GetMin Output: Min value of stack

36. Evaluate Reverse Polish Notation

- Example: Input: ["2","1","+","3","*"] Output: 9

37. Circular Queue Implementation

- Example: Operations on Circular Queue Output: Maintain FIFO order

38. Sliding Window Maximum

- Example: Input: nums = [1,3,-1,-3,5,3,6,7], k = 3 Output: [3,3,5,5,6,7]

39. Celebrity Problem

- Example: Input: Matrix representing acquaintances Output: Celebrity index

40. Largest Rectangle in Histogram

- Example: Input: [2,1,5,6,2,3] Output: 10
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6. Binary Tree and Binary Search Tree Problems

41. Inorder, Preorder, Postorder Traversals

- Example: Input: Binary Tree Output: Various traversal orders

42. Level Order Traversal

- Example: Input: Binary Tree Output: Level order traversal as a list

43. Diameter of a Binary Tree

- Example: Input: Binary Tree Output: Diameter of the tree

44. Lowest Common Ancestor in a Binary Tree

- Example: Input: Binary Tree, Two Nodes Output: Lowest common ancestor

45. Validate a Binary Search Tree

- Example: Input: Binary Tree Output: True if it's a BST

46. Serialize and Deserialize a Binary Tree

- Example: Input: Binary Tree Output: Serialized and Deserialized tree

47. Zigzag Level Order Traversal

- Example: Input: Binary Tree Output: Zigzag traversal order

48. Kth Smallest Element in a BST

- Example: Input: BST, $k = 3$ Output: 3rd smallest element

49. Maximum Path Sum in a Binary Tree

- Example: Input: Binary Tree Output: Maximum path sum

50. Construct a Binary Tree from Preorder and Inorder Traversal

- Example: Input: Preorder and Inorder arrays Output: Constructed Binary Tree
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7. Graph Problems

1. Breadth-First Search (BFS)
 - Example: Input: Graph and a starting node Output: BFS traversal
 2. Depth-First Search (DFS)
 - Example: Input: Graph and a starting node Output: DFS traversal
 3. Detect Cycle in a Directed Graph
 - Example: Input: Directed graph Output: True/False if cycle exists
 4. Detect Cycle in an Undirected Graph
 - Example: Input: Undirected graph Output: True/False if cycle exists
 5. Dijkstra's Shortest Path Algorithm
 - Example: Input: Graph, source node Output: Shortest distances from source
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8. Dynamic Programming Problems

1. 0/1 Knapsack Problem
 - Example: Input: Weights, Values, Capacity Output: Maximum value possible
2. Longest Increasing Subsequence
 - Example: Input: [10,9,2,5,3,7,101,18] Output: 4
3. Longest Common Subsequence
 - Example: Input: "abcde", "ace" Output: "ace"
4. Edit Distance
 - Example: Input: Words "horse", "ros" Output: 3
5. Partition Equal Subset Sum
 - Example: Input: [1,5,11,5] Output: true (Partition exists)

9. Searching and Sorting Problems

1. *Binary Search*
 - *Example*: Input: arr = [1, 3, 5, 7, 9], target = 5 Output: 2 (Index of the target)
2. *Merge Sort*
 - *Example*: Input: [5, 2, 9, 1, 5, 6] Output: [1, 2, 5, 5, 6, 9]
3. *Quick Sort*
 - *Example*: Input: [10, 7, 8, 9, 1, 5] Output: [1, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10]
4. *Find First and Last Position of an Element in a Sorted Array*
 - *Example*: Input: nums = [5,7,7,8,8,10], target = 8 Output: [3,4]
5. *Kth Smallest Element*
 - *Example*: Input: arr = [7, 10, 4, 3, 20, 15], k = 3 Output: 7
6. *Search in Rotated Sorted Array*
 - *Example*: Input: nums = [4,5,6,7,0,1,2], target = 0 Output: 4

7. ***Count Inversions in an Array***
 - ***Example***: Input: [8, 4, 2, 1] Output: 6
8. ***Heap Sort***
 - ***Example***: Input: [12, 11, 13, 5, 6, 7] Output: [5, 6, 7, 11, 12, 13]
9. ***Counting Sort***
 - ***Example***: Input: [4, 2, 2, 8, 3, 3, 1] Output: [1, 2, 2, 3, 3, 4, 8]
10. ***Radix Sort***
 - ***Example***: Input: [170, 45, 75, 90, 802, 24, 2, 66] Output: [2, 24, 45, 66, 75, 90, 170, 802]

10. Backtracking Problems

1. ***N-Queens Problem***
 - ***Example***: Input: n = 4 Output: All arrangements of 4 queens on a 4x4 chessboard.
2. ***Sudoku Solver***
 - ***Example***: Input: Partially filled 9x9 board Output: Completed board.
3. ***Word Search***
 - ***Example***: Input: board = [["A", "B", "C", "E"], ["S", "F", "C", "S"], ["A", "D", "E", "E"]], word = "ABCCED" Output: true
4. ***Permutations of a String***
 - ***Example***: Input: "ABC" Output: ["ABC", "ACB", "BAC", "BCA", "CAB", "CBA"]
5. ***Subsets***
 - ***Example***: Input: nums = [1,2,3] Output: [[],[1],[2],[1,2],[3],[1,3],[2,3],[1,2,3]]
6. ***Combination Sum***
 - ***Example***: Input: candidates = [2,3,6,7], target = 7 Output: [[7],[2,2,3]]
7. ***Rat in a Maze***
 - ***Example***: Input: A maze grid Output: All possible paths from start to finish.
8. ***Palindrome Partitioning***
 - ***Example***: Input: "aab" Output: [["a", "a", "b"], ["aa", "b"]]
9. ***Knight's Tour Problem***
 - ***Example***: Input: n = 8 Output: Sequence of moves for a knight to visit all cells of an 8x8 board exactly once.
10. ***Solve the M-Coloring Problem***
 - ***Example***: Input: Graph and m colors Output: Possible coloring of graph nodes.

11. Greedy Algorithm Problems

1. *Activity Selection Problem*

- *Example*: Input: Start times = [1, 3, 0, 5, 8, 5], End times = [2, 4, 6, 7, 9, 9] Output: Maximum number of non-overlapping activities.

2. *Fractional Knapsack Problem*

- *Example*: Input: Weights and values of items, capacity Output: Maximum value in the knapsack.

3. *Huffman Encoding*

- *Example*: Input: Characters and frequencies Output: Huffman tree and codes.

4. *Minimum Spanning Tree (Prim's Algorithm)*

- *Example*: Input: Graph Output: MST and its weight.

5. *Minimum Spanning Tree (Kruskal's Algorithm)*

- *Example*: Input: Graph Output: MST and its weight.

6. *Job Sequencing Problem*

- *Example*: Input: Jobs with deadlines and profits Output: Maximum profit sequence of jobs.

7. *Greedy Coloring of a Graph*

- *Example*: Input: Graph Output: Minimum number of colors needed to color the graph.

8. *Optimal File Merge Pattern*

- *Example*: Input: File sizes [20, 30, 10, 5] Output: Minimum cost to merge files.

9. *Dijkstra's Shortest Path Algorithm*

- *Example*: Input: Graph, source Output: Shortest paths to all nodes.

10. *Gas Station Problem*

- *Example*: Input: Gas = [1,2,3,4,5], Cost = [3,4,5,1,2] Output: 3 (Index to start the circuit).