Backtracking 2

Agenda

- Print paths in staircase problem
- Print all paths from source to destination
- Shortest path in matrix with puddles

Question 1

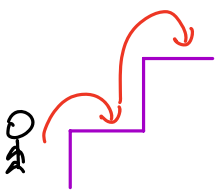
You are climbing a staircase and it takes N steps to reach the top.

Each time, you can take either 1 or 2 steps.

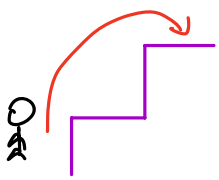
In how many distinct ways you can climb.

Return all distinct ways in lexographical order.

N = 2

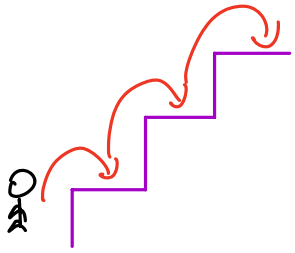


[1, 1]

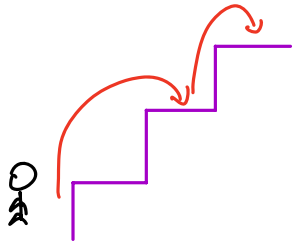


[2]

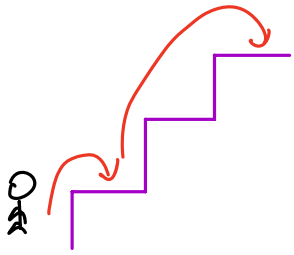
N=3



[1,1,1]



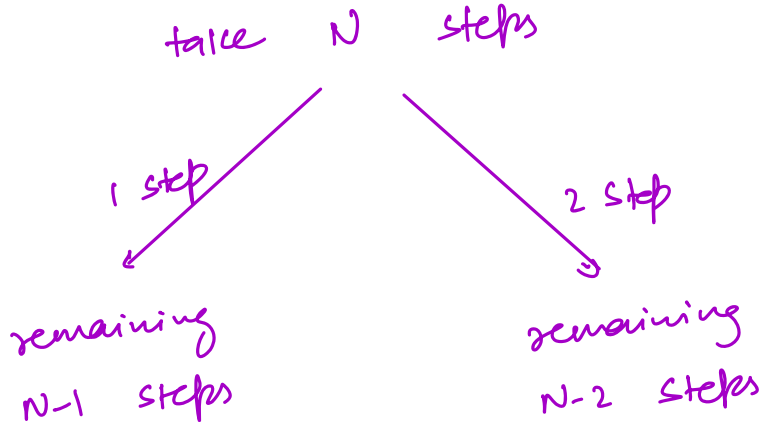
[2,1]



[1,2]

o/p: [[1,1,1], [1,2], [2,1]]

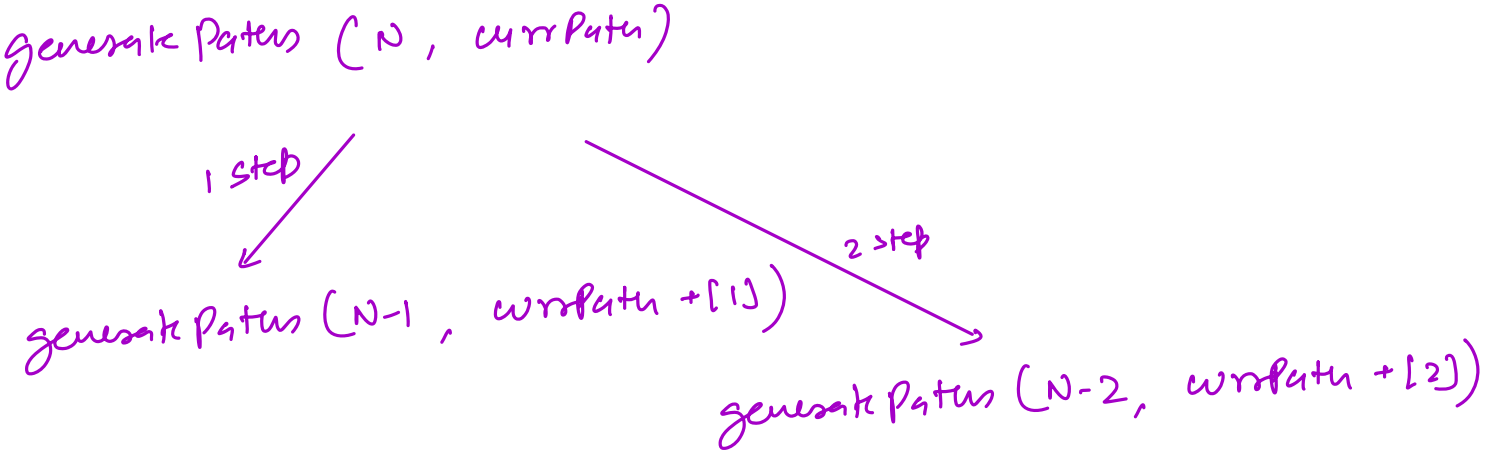
Solution



if N becomes 0, we have reached top and store the current in answer.

How to keep lexographically sorted?

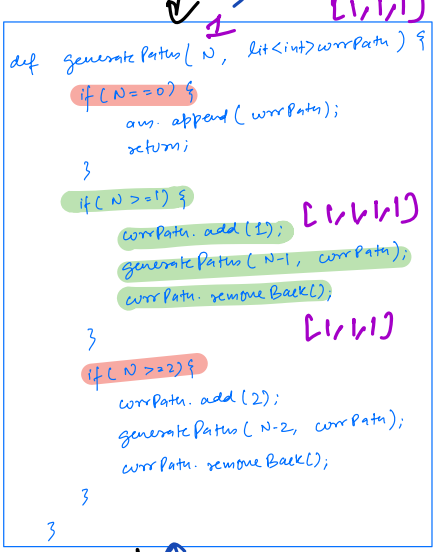
→ always choose step 1 befor step 2.

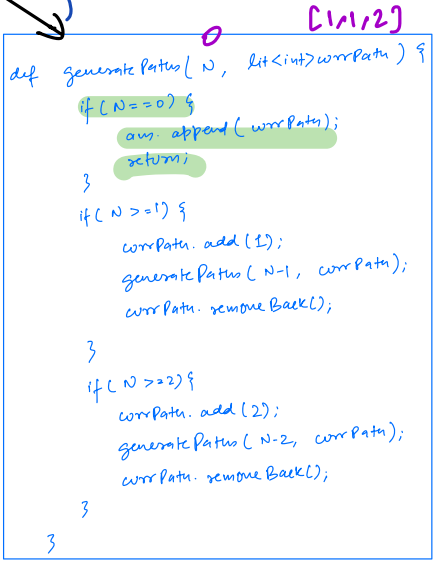


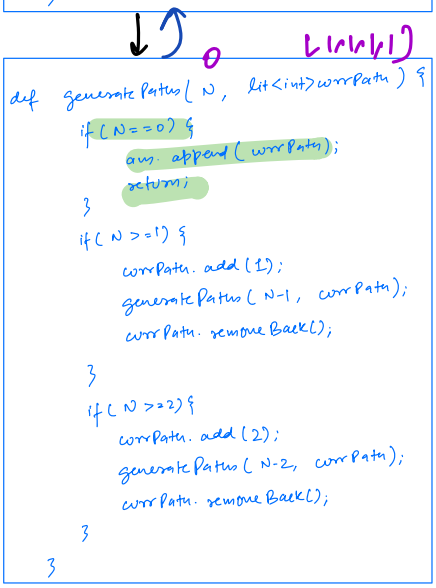
Code

```
List< List<int>>  ans;

def generatePaths( N,  list<int> currPath ) {
    if ( N == 0 ) {
        ans. append ( currPath );
        return;
    }
    if ( N >= 1 ) {
        currPath. add ( 1 );
        generatePaths ( N-1,  currPath );
        currPath. removeBack();

    }
    if ( N >= 2 ) {
        currPath. add ( 2 );
        generatePaths ( N-2,  currPath );
        currPath. removeBack();
    }
```


3
4
[]
def generatePaths(N , list<int>currPath) {
if(N==0) {
ans. append(currPath);
return;
}
if(N >=1) {
currPath. add (1);
generatePaths (N-1 , currPath);
currPath. removeBack();
}
if(N >=2) {
currPath. add (2);
generatePaths (N-2, currPath);
currPath. removeBack();
}
}
[1]
[2]
[]
2
[2]
[2,1]
[2]
[2,2]
[2]
N=0 , [2,2]
3
[1]
[1,1]
[1]
[1,2]
[1]
2
[2,1]
[2,1]
[2,1,1]
[2,1]
N=0 , [2,1,1]
[1,1]
[1,1,1]
[1,1]
[1,1,2]
[1,1]
1
[1,2]
[1,2,1]
[1,2]
N=0 , [1,2,1]







ans = [[1,1,1,1], [1,1,2], [1,2,1], [2,1,1], [2,2]]

TC : $O(2^N)$

SC = $O(N)$

Question 2

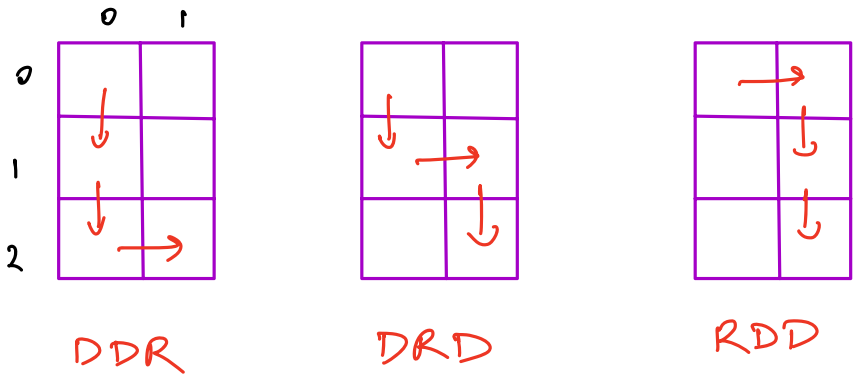
You are given a rectangular board of N×M.

Print all possible paths from top-left to bottom-right corner of board.

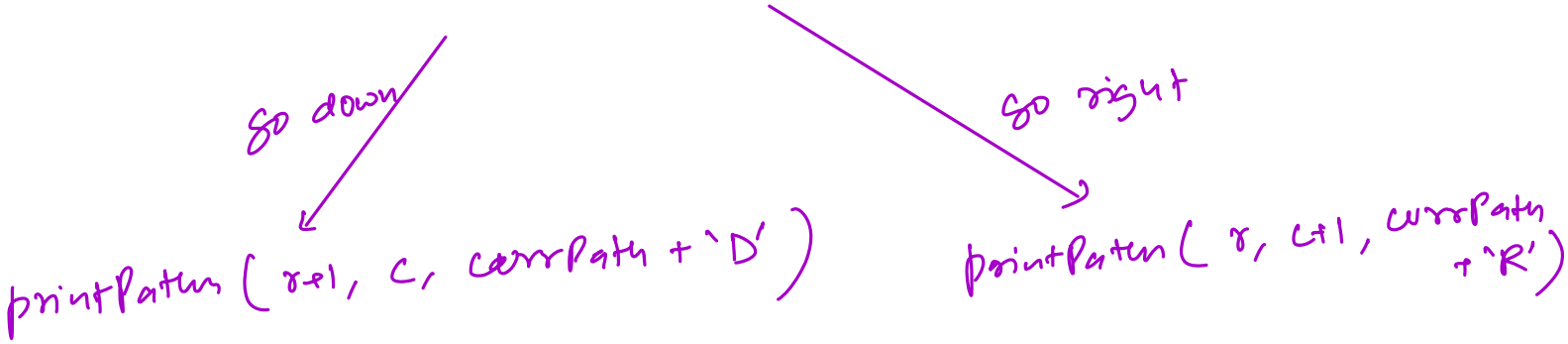
You can only move down (D) or right (R)

Print all paths in lexographical order.

N=3, M=2



printPaths (r, c, currPath)



Code

```
list<String> ans

def printPaths(r, c, N, M, currPath) {
    if(r == N-1 && c == M-1){
        ans.add(currPath);
        return;
    }
    if(r < N-1){
        printPaths(r+1, c, N, M, currPath + "D");
    }
    if(c < M-1){
        printPaths(r, c+1, N, M, currPath + "R");
    }
}
```

no need to remove back since we are not updating currPath

$TC = 2^{\text{path length}}$

path length = # rows + # cols

$N + M$

$TC = O(2^{N+M})$

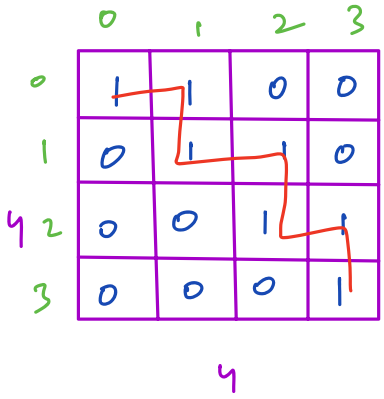
$SC = O(N+M)$

Question 3

Given N*M matrix with 0 or 1 values.

find the shortest path from a given source to a given destination.

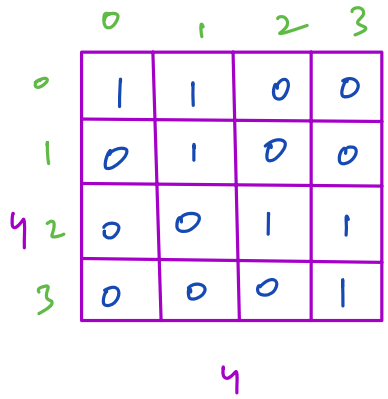
A cell with value 0 is a hurdle. The path can only be created with cells of value 1.



start = (0,0)

end = (3,3)

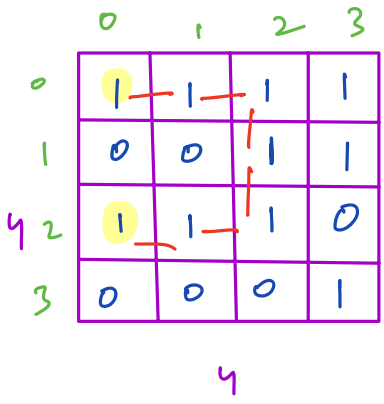
path length = 6



start = (0,0)

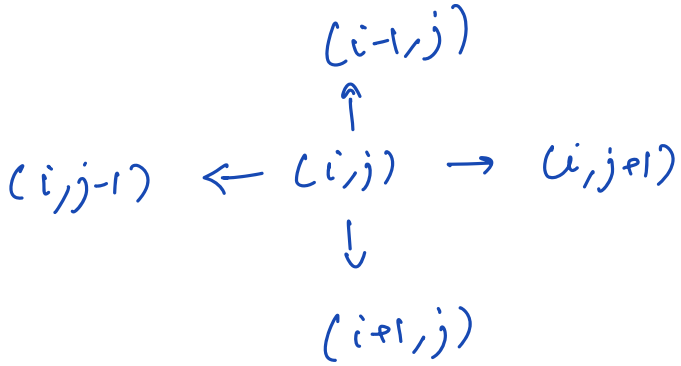
end = (3,3)

path length = -1



Solution :

1. Start from given source cell and explore all four possible paths.
2. Check if destination is reached or not.
3. Backtrack if not reached
4. Keep track of cells visited.



if you are at cell[i][j], then you can go to cell[i+1][j] iff

cell[i+1][j] == 1 && i+1 < N

i < N-1

code

```
row[] = {-1, 1, 0, 0}      // 0  1  2  3
col[] = {0, 0, 1, -1}
int ans = INT_MAX

def explorPath(A, visited, i, j, p, q, pathlength) {
    if (i == p && j == q) {
        ans = min(ans, pathlength)
        return;
    }
    for (K = 0 to 3) {
        ni = i + row[K]
        nj = j + col[K]
        if( ni >= 0 && ni < N && nj >= 0 && nj < M
            && A[ni][nj] == 1 && NOT visited[ni][nj] ){
            visited[ni][nj] = true
            explorPath(A, visited, ni, nj, p, q, pathlength + 1)
```

source

destination

visited[ni][nj] = false

}

}

}

if (ans == INT_MAX)

ans = -1

$TC = O(4^{N \times M})$

$SC = O(N \times M)$