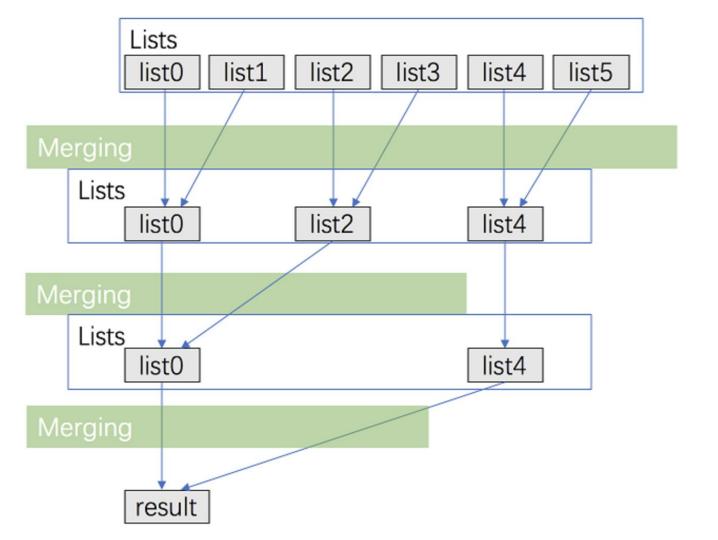
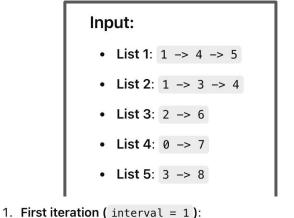


- Time complexity : O(kN) where ${\bf k}$ is the number of linked lists.
 - \circ Almost every selection of node in final linked costs O(k) (k-1 times comparison).
 - \circ There are N nodes in the final linked list.





- Merge List 1 and List 2: 1 -> 1 -> 3 -> 4 -> 4 -> 5 Merge List 3 and List 4: 0 -> 2 -> 6 -> 7
 - · List 5 remains unchanged.
- After iteration:
- lists[0] = 1 -> 1 -> 3 -> 4 -> 4 -> 5 • lists[1] = 1 -> 3 -> 4
- lists[2] = 0 -> 2 -> 6 -> 7
- lists[4] = 3 -> 8
- lists[3] = 3 -> 8

- 2. Second iteration (interval = 2):
 - Merge List 0 and List 2: 0 -> 1 -> 1 -> 2 -> 3 -> 4 -> 4 -> 5 -> 6 -> 7
- List 5 remains unchanged.
- After iteration:
- lists[0] = 0 -> 1 -> 1 -> 2 -> 3 -> 4 -> 4 -> 5 -> 6 -> 7
 - lists[1] = 1 -> 3 -> 4

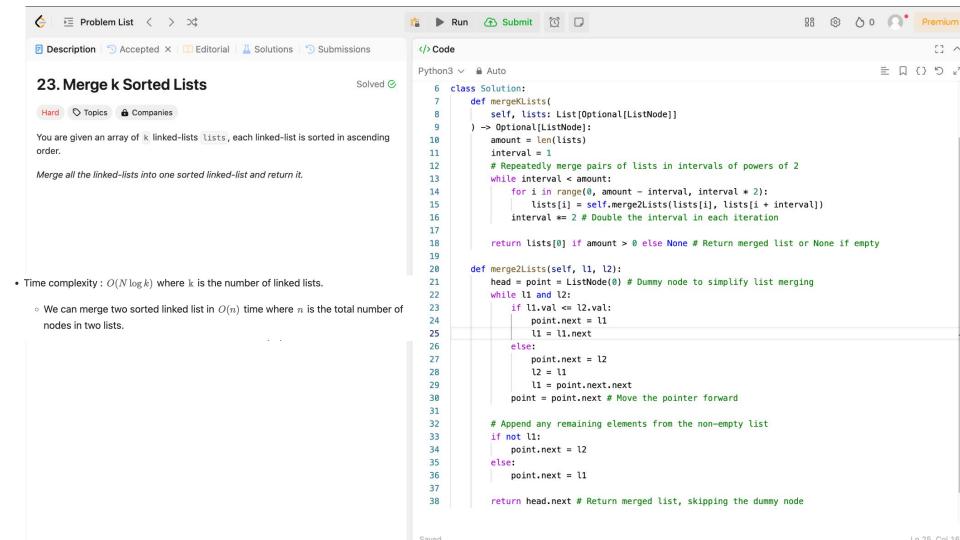
• lists[2] = 0 -> 2 -> 6 -> 7

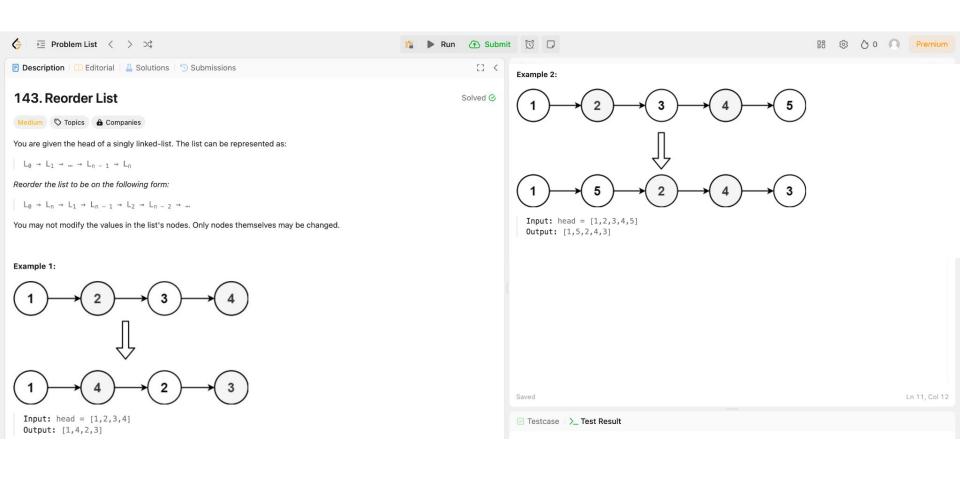
- lists[3] = 3 -> 8
- lists[4] = 3 -> 8

3. Third iteration (interval = 4):

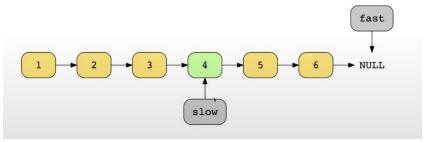
Final result:

- Merge List 0 and List 4: 0 -> 1 -> 1 -> 2 -> 3 -> 4 -> 4 -> 5 -> 6 -> 7 -> 8
- lists[0] = 0 -> 1 -> 1 -> 2 -> 3 -> 4 -> 4 -> 5 -> 6 -> 7 -> 8

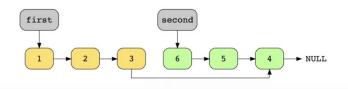




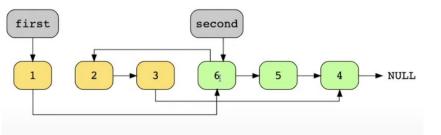
1. Find the middle of the linked list using the fast and slow pointers



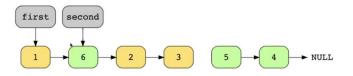
2. Reverse the second half of the linked list using in-place reversal



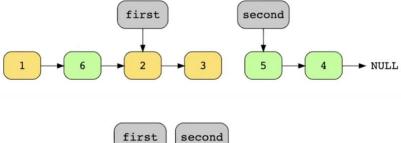
3. Point first.next at second and second.next at first.next

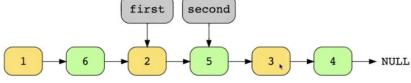


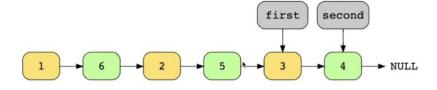
4. After first iteration

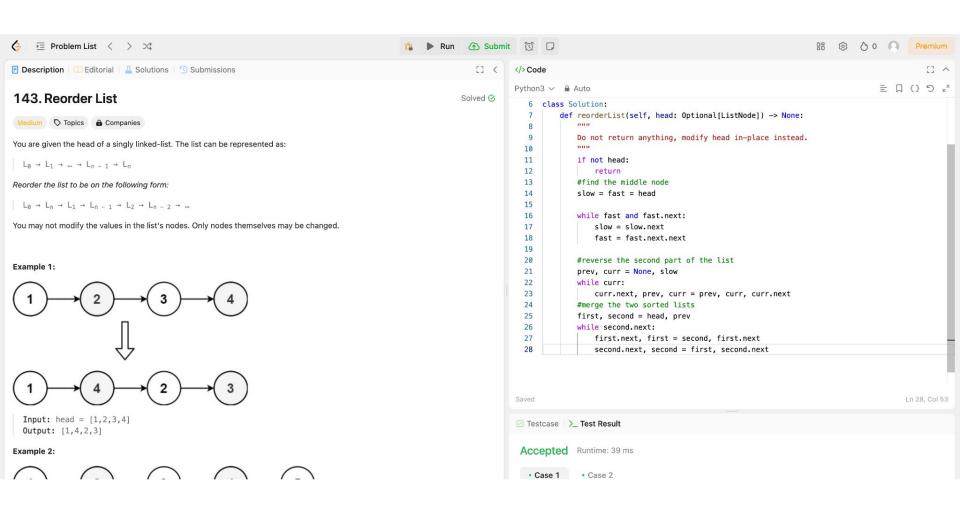


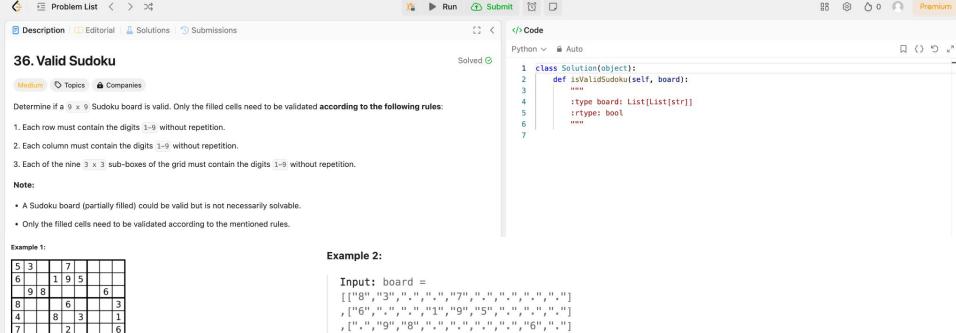
5. Move first and second forward











,["8",".",".","6",".",".",".","3"

,["4",".",".","8",".","3",".",".","1"

,["7",".",".",".","2",".",".",".","6"] ,[".","6",".",".",".",".","2","8","."]

,[".",".",".","4","1","9",".",".","5"]

Output: false

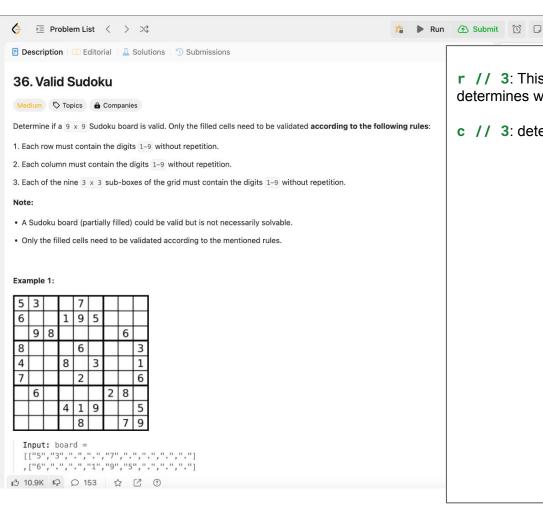
,[".",".",".","8",".",","7","9"]]

there are two 8's in the top left 3x3 sub-box, it is invalid.

Explanation: Same as Example 1, except with the 5 in the top left corner being modified to 8. Since

Output: true

,[".",".",".","4","1","9",".",".","5"] ,[".",".",".",".","8",".",".","7","9"]]



r // **3**: This part divides the row index r by 3 using integer division. It determines which of the three rows of 3x3 boxes the cell is in.

O O Premium

c // 3: determines which of the three columns of 3x3 boxes the cell is in

