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100. Same Tree [\(/problems/same-tree/\)](/problems/same-tree/)

March 7, 2019 | 104K views

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Given two binary trees, write a function to check if they are the same or not.

Two binary trees are considered the same if they are structurally identical and the nodes have the same value.

Example 1:

Input:

1	1
/ \	/ \
2 3	2 3
[1,2,3],	[1,2,3]

Output: true

Example 2:

Input:

1	1
/	\
2	2
[1,2],	[1,null,2]

Output: false

Example 3:

Input:

```

      1       1
     /\     /\
    2  1    1  2

    [1,2,1], [1,1,2]
  
```

Output: false

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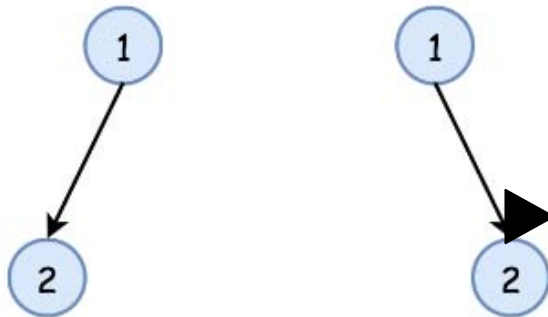
Solution

Approach 1: Recursion

Intuition

The simplest strategy here is to use recursion. Check if `p` and `q` nodes are not `None`, and their values are equal. If all checks are OK, do the same for the child nodes recursively.

Implementation



Java

Python

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```
1 class Solution:
2     def isSameTree(self, p, q):
3         """
4         :type p: TreeNode
5         :type q: TreeNode
6         :rtype: bool
7         """
8         # p and q are both None
9         if not p and not q:
10             return True
11         # one of p and q is None
12         if not q or not p:
13             return False
14         if p.val != q.val:
15             return False
16         return self.isSameTree(p.right, q.right) and \
17             self.isSameTree(p.left, q.left)
```

Complexity Analysis

- Time complexity : $\mathcal{O}(N)$, where N is a number of nodes in the tree, since one visits each node exactly once.
- Space complexity : $\mathcal{O}(\log(N))$ in the best case of completely balanced tree and $\mathcal{O}(N)$ in the worst case of completely unbalanced tree, to keep a recursion stack.

Approach 2: Iteration

Intuition

Start from the root and then at each iteration pop the current node out of the deque. Then do the same checks as in the approach 1 :

- p and q are not `None` ,
- $p.val$ is equal to $q.val$,

and if checks are OK, push the child nodes.

Implementation

Java

Python

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```
1 from collections import deque
2 class Solution:
3     def isSameTree(self, p, q):
4         """
5         :type p: TreeNode
6         :type q: TreeNode
7         :rtype: bool
8         """
9         def check(p, q):
10             # if both are None
11             if not p and not q:
12                 return True
13             # one of p and q is None
14             if not q or not p:
15                 return False
16             if p.val != q.val:
17                 return False
18             return True
19
20         deq = deque([(p, q)])
21         while deq:
22             p, q = deq.popleft()
23             if not check(p, q):
24                 return False
25
26             if p:
27                 deq.append((p.left, q.left))
28                 deq.append((p.right, q.right))
29
30         return True
```

Complexity Analysis

- Time complexity : $\mathcal{O}(N)$ since each node is visited exactly once.
- Space complexity : $\mathcal{O}(\log(N))$ in the best case of completely balanced tree and $\mathcal{O}(N)$ in the worst case of completely unbalanced tree, to keep a deque.

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(/none0)

none0 (/none0) ★ 321 ⌚ June 6, 2019 7:21 PM

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An easier and intuitive iterative solution (beats 100% both):

The idea is to store both the root values in a queue, and later dequeue both two compare them.

```
class Solution {
```

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(/kevinhynes)

kevinhynes (/kevinhynes) ★ 295 ⌚ June 28, 2019 9:02 AM

Many comments here are questioning the space complexity of the iterative approach, and I agree this should be reviewed by the experts. I believe the space complexity is dependent on using an iterative DFS (stack) vs BFS (queue). Here's what I think, with code samples/test cases below:

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(/mengmengli100)

mengmengli100 (/mengmengli100) ★ 22 ⌚ April 19, 2019 9:49 PM

A question regards the space complexity of the iterative solution:
Why is $O(\log(N))$ in the best case? I thought it was also $O(N)$.

I tried myself and found that the ArrayDeque "deqP" always keeps $N/2$'s items in the best case of completely balanced tree. Because in every while loop, we remove one item from and add two items (left and right) into deqP.

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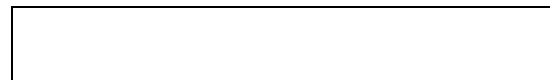
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(/terrible_whiteboard)

terrible_whiteboard (/terrible_whiteboard) ★ 629 ⌚ May 19, 2020 8:51 AM

I made a video if anyone is having trouble understanding the solution (clickable link) <https://youtu.be/G9wwY-cmuiE> (<https://youtu.be/G9wwY-cmuiE>)



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(/lxnn)

lxnn (/lxnn) ★ 286 ⌚ October 3, 2019 8:24 PM

It isn't necessary to use a queue in the iterative implementation. In fact the two solutions are the same except that we use the call stack in one and make our own stack in the other.

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(/mohanmunisifreddy)

mohanmunisifreddy (/mohanmunisifreddy) ★ 6 🕒 July 22, 2019 7:46 PM

```
class Solution {
public boolean isSameTree(TreeNode p, TreeNode q) {
    if(p==null || q==null) return p==q;
    return p.val==q.val && isSameTree(p.left, q.left) && isSameTree(p.right, q.right);
}
```

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(/shadow2654)

shAdow2654 (/shadow2654) ★ 12 🕒 October 2, 2019 9:45 AM

Can anyone please explain the space complexity in both the recursive and iterative case please!!!

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(/jamesjj78)

JAMESJJ78 (/jamesjj78) ★ 207 🕒 April 10, 2019 10:15 AM

Yessirr

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(/marinebattery)

Marinebattery (/marinebattery) ★ 3 🕒 March 22, 2019 11:36 AM

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(/chenmengjie)

chenmengjie (/chenmengjie) ★ 2 🕒 March 28, 2019 12:09 PM

great

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