




# Backtracking

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**Expert** at codeforces (1817)  
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# Today's plan

- ✓ Print subsequence ✓
- ✓ How to count using backtracking?  *trick*
  - ✓ Count subsequence with given sum
  - ✓ Count paths in a matrix
- Rat in a maze
  - Print one answer
  - Print all answers
- N Queens

3 weeks



2

today's  
class  
backtracking

live  
problem  
solving



# # subsequences

an  $\rightarrow [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]$

subarray

$\rightarrow$  contiguous

Eg. 2, 3, 4  
2, 3

\*subsequence

$\rightarrow$  non contiguous

$\rightarrow$  order

Eg. 2, 3, 5  
1, 5

eg. 4, 3  
subset

$\rightarrow$  Anything  
from the  
array  
in any  
order

# # printing subsequence

↳ print all subsequences of an array

an  $\Rightarrow [2, 3, 7]$

all the  
subsequences

$[]$

$[2]$

$[3]$

$[7]$

$[2, 3]$

$[3, 7]$

$[2, 7]$

$[2, 3, 7]$

ind  
an  $\rightarrow [2, 3, 7]$   
0 1 2

ind\*

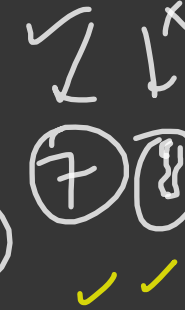
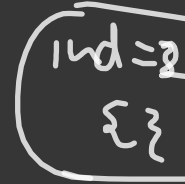
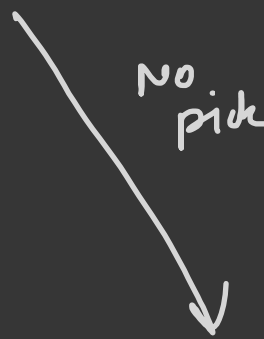
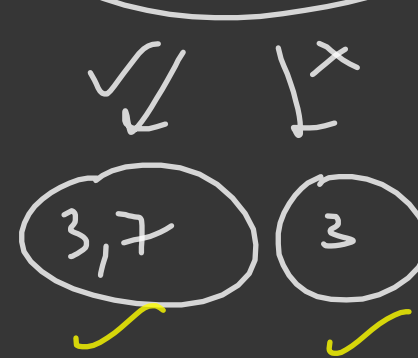
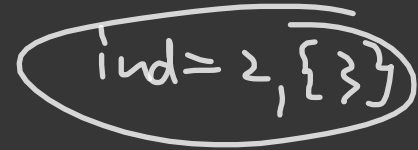
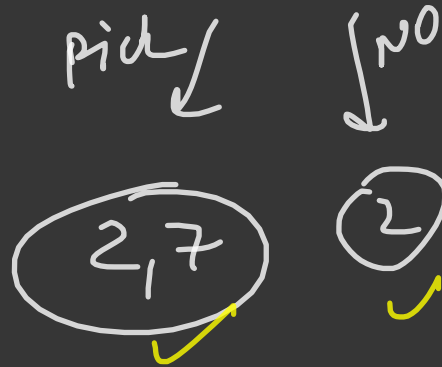
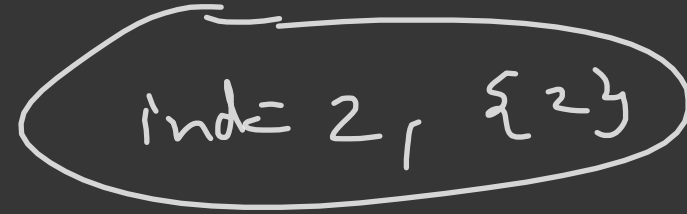
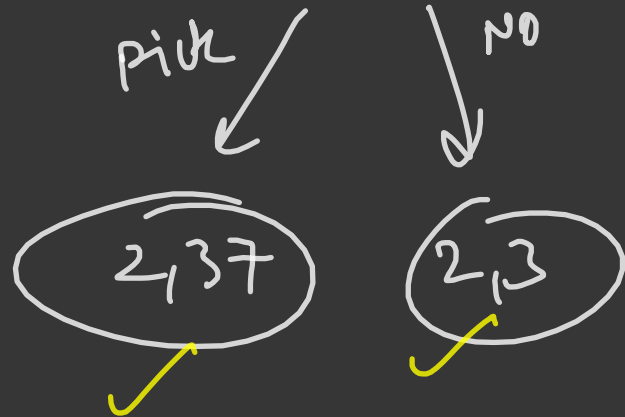
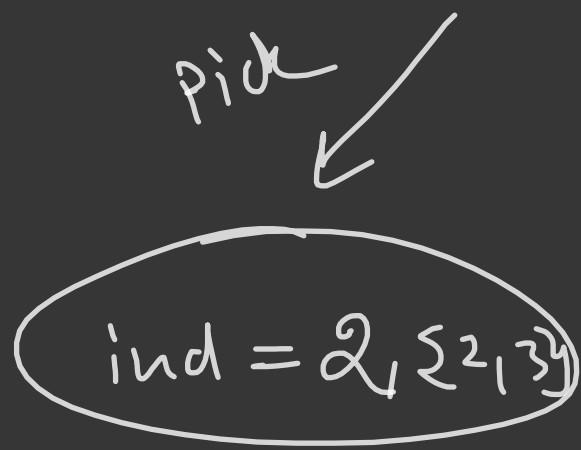
$\rightarrow$  ind = 0, {}

~~pick~~

not pick

$\rightarrow$  ind = 1, {2}

ind = 1, {}



ind  
↓ ↓  
pick   not pick  
✓

```
void function (int ind, vector<int> &vec) {  
    if (ind == n) {  
        print(vec);  
        return;  
    }
```

pick ← {  
 vec.push-back(arr[ind]);  
 function(ind+1, vec);  
 vec.pop-back();  
}



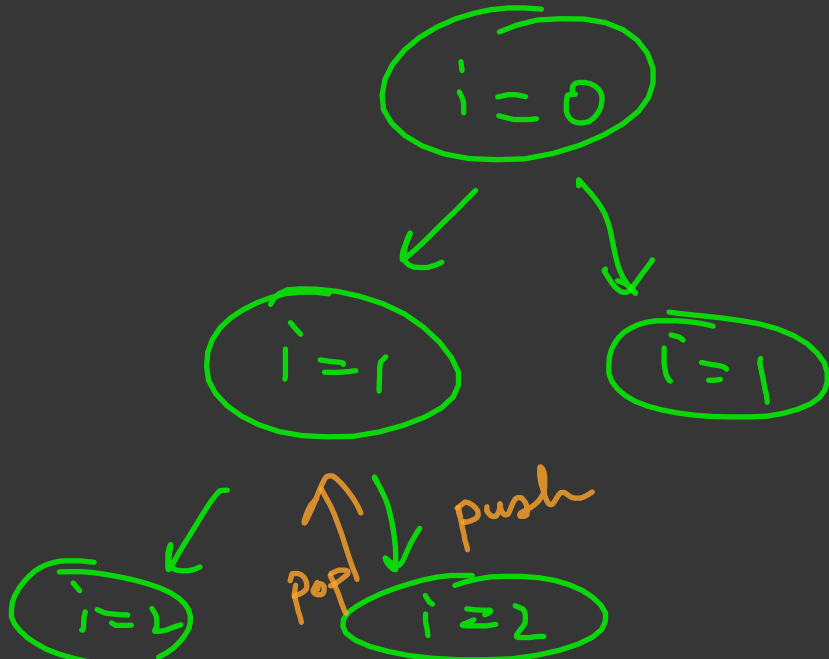
not pick  $\leftarrow$  [function(ind+1, vec), ]  
}

an  $\rightarrow$  [2, 3]

vec  $\rightarrow$  [ ]

[ ]

[2]

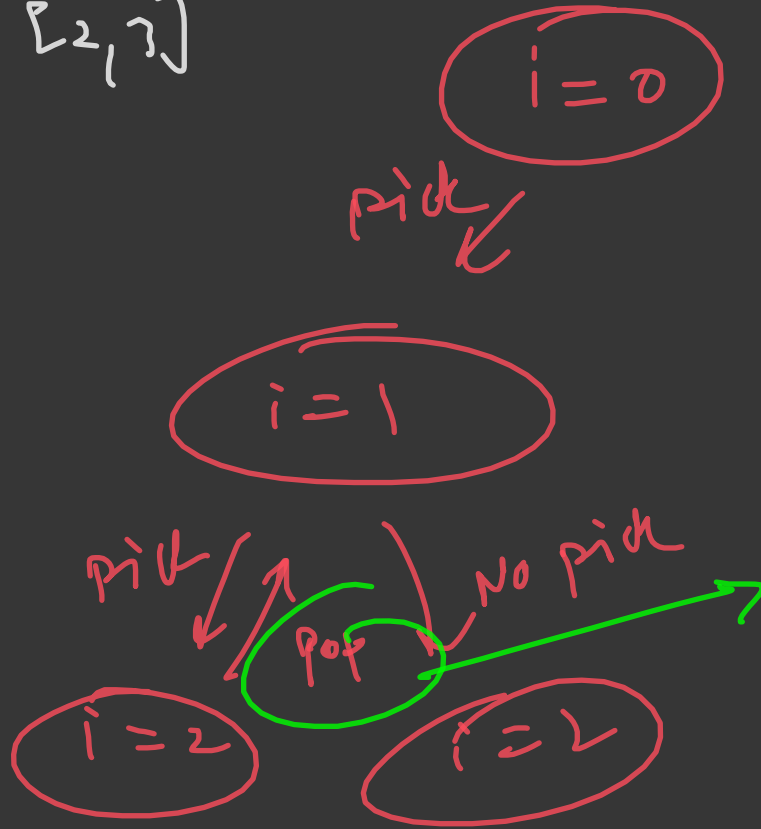


arr  $\rightarrow [2, 3]$

vector  $\rightarrow [2]$

2, 3

2



Backtracking step

before making  
a call at  $i=1$   
 $\hookrightarrow [2]$

Backtracking

→ pick something, do the work,  
then pop (backtrack to the <sup>prev</sup> state)

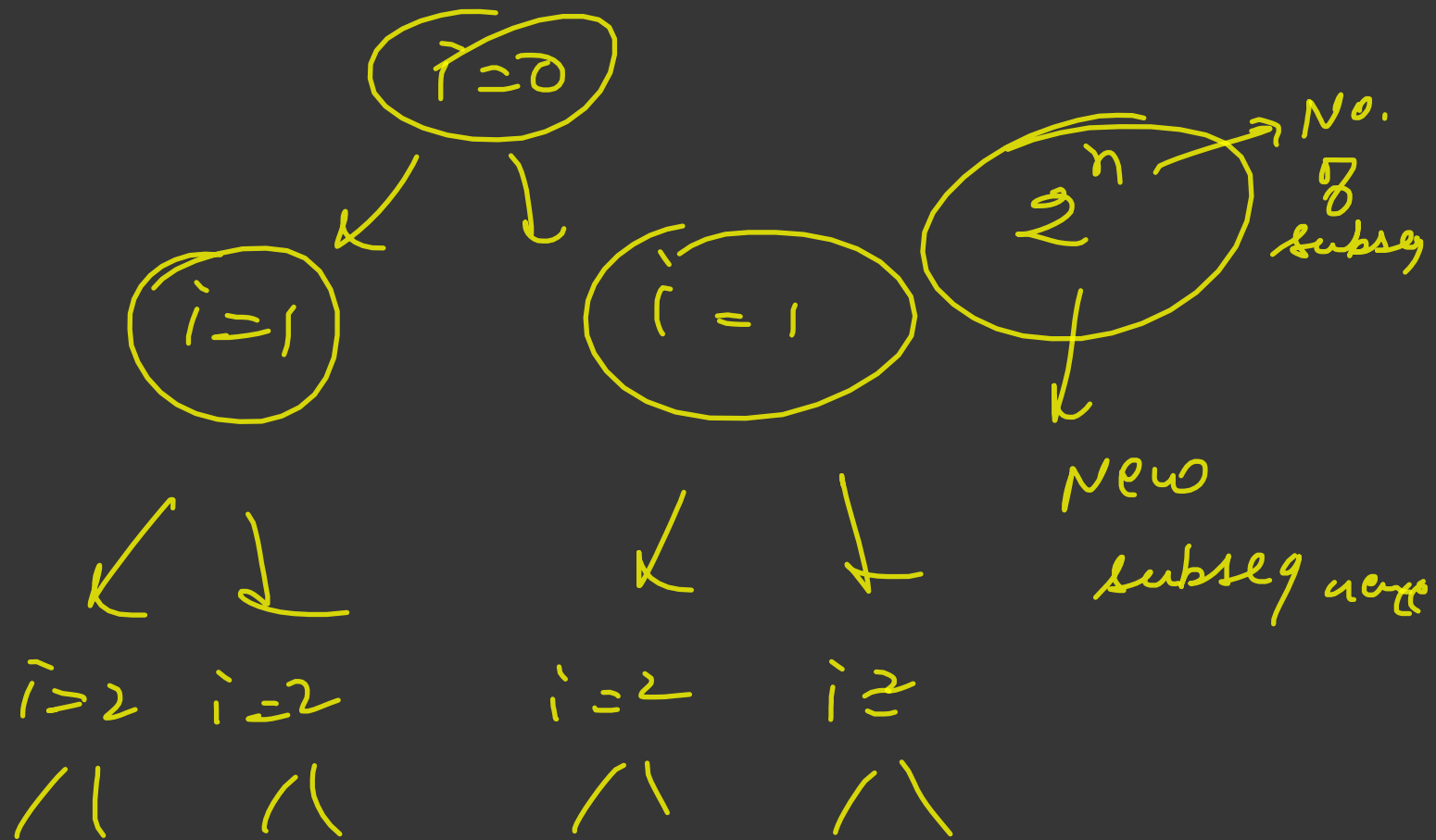
recursion

→ trying all  
ways

n index  $\left. \begin{array}{l} \rightarrow \text{pick} \\ \rightarrow \text{no pick} \end{array} \right\} 2 \text{ options}$

$2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \dots 2$   
n times

$\rightarrow (2^n)$  final outputs



space

↓

$O(n)$



$2^n$  nodes

$$2^n \times n \rightarrow$$

$$> 10^8 \text{ for } n=30$$

$\rightarrow$  Hic

Ⓢ How to count using backtracking?

Q count subsequences with sum = S

```
int generat() {
```

```
    if (i == n) {
```

```
        if (sum == target) {
```

```
            return 1;
```

```
        }
```

new  
Base  
case



```
    return 0,  
}
```

```
    int pick = generate(i+1, sum + arr[i])
```

```
    int no_pick = generate(i+1, sum);
```

```
    return pick + no_pick;  
}
```

arr  $\rightarrow$  [2, 3]

target  $\Rightarrow$

$\rightarrow 0+1$

$\rightarrow$  (2)

$i=0, s=0$

✓  
 $\swarrow \nearrow$   
0

✗  
 $\swarrow \nearrow$   
 $0 \neq 1$

$i=1, s=2$

$i=1, s=0$

recursion stack  
0

$\swarrow \nearrow$

$i=2, s=5$

$\swarrow \nearrow$   
0

$i=2, s=2$

✓  
 $\swarrow \nearrow$   
1 0

$i=2, s=3$

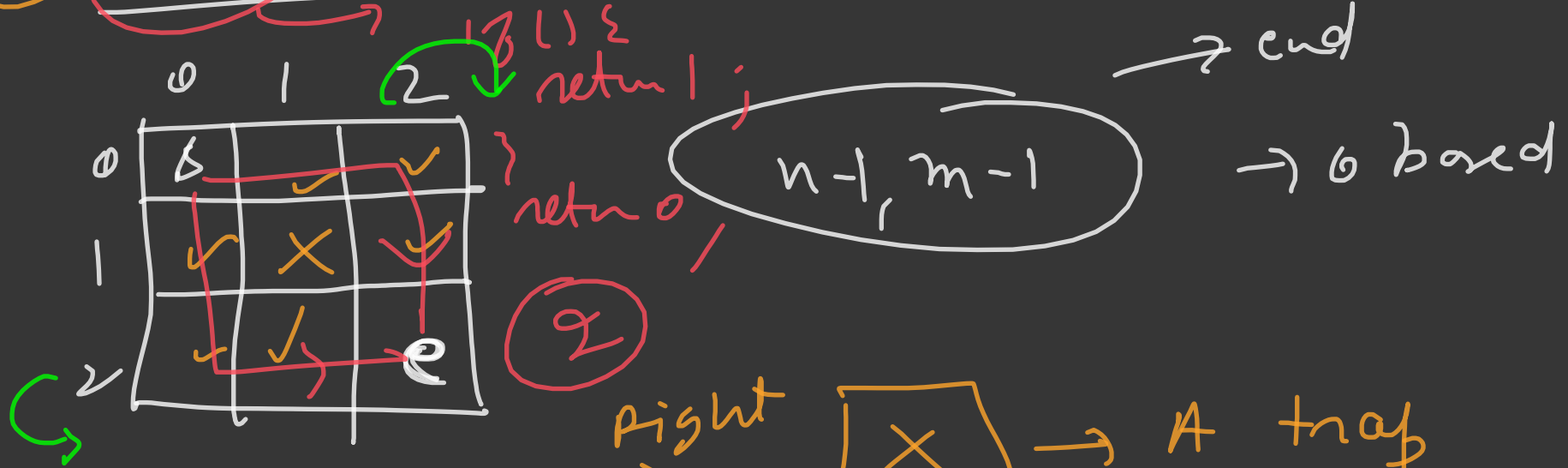
✗  
 $\swarrow \nearrow$   
0

$i=2, s=0$

(2<sup>n</sup>)

(n)  $\rightarrow$  rec

# # count paths in a matrix



s, e are safe

Right  $\rightarrow$  A trap  
Down  $\rightarrow$  safe

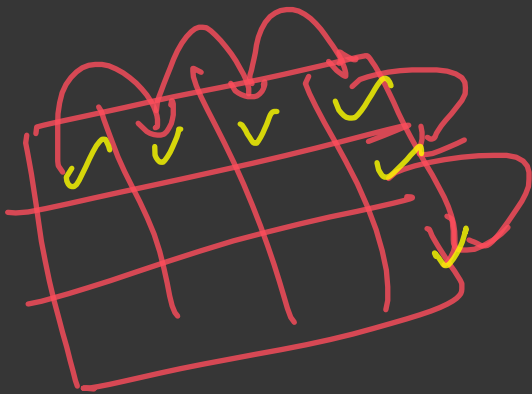




$\tau_c \rightarrow 2$   $(n \times m)$

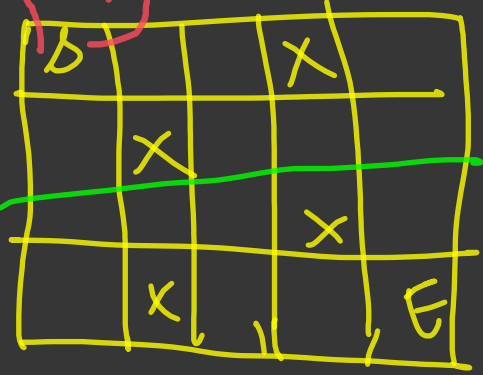
$$\Delta C \rightarrow \eta \times m$$

2xM



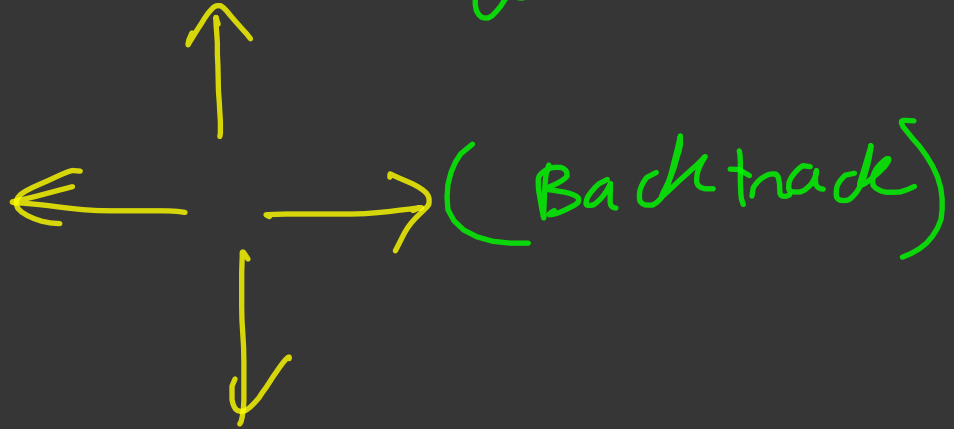
$2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2$   $n+m$  nm times

(#) Rat in a maze

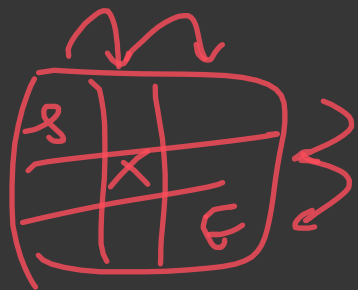
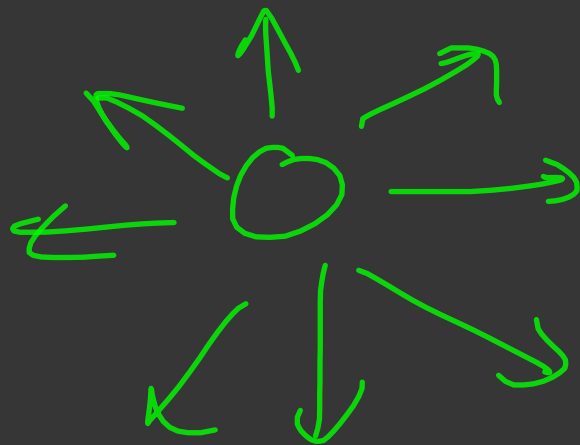
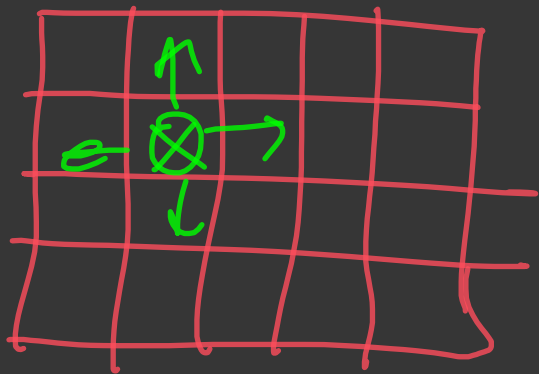


$(i, j) \rightarrow \text{trap}$

work



you cannot  
visit a block  
more than once



RRDD  
DDRR

















