

Basics of Python

Challenges

March 16, 2023

1. Given an array of integers `nums` and an integer `target`, return indices of the two numbers such that they add up to `target`.
input: `nums = [2,7,11,15]`, `target = 9`
Output: `[0,1]`
Explanation: Because `nums[0] + nums[1] == 9`, we return `[0, 1]`.
2. Write a function to find the longest common prefix string amongst an array of strings assuming that there is atleast one common prefix.
input: `strs = ["flower","flow","flight"]`
Output: `"fl"`
3. You are climbing a staircase. It takes `n` steps to reach the top. Each time you can either climb 1 or 2 steps. In how many distinct ways can you climb to the top?
input: `n = 2`
Output: `2`
Explanation: There are two ways to climb to the top.
 1. 1 step + 1 step
 2. 2 steps
4. You are given an array `prices` where `prices[i]` is the price of a given stock on the `i`th day. You want to maximize your profit by choosing a single day to buy one stock and choosing a different day in the future to sell that stock. Return the maximum profit you can achieve from this transaction. If you cannot achieve any profit, return 0.
input: `prices = [7,1,5,3,6,4]`
Output: `5`
Explanation: Buy on day 2 (price = 1) and sell on day 5 (price = 6), profit = 6-1 = 5. Note that buying on day 2 and selling on day 1 is not allowed because you must buy before you sell.
5. Given an integer array `nums`, find the subarray with the largest sum for a given subarray size and return its sum.
input: `nums = [-2,1,-3,4,-1,2,1,-5,4]` subarray size = 4
Output: `6`
Explanation: The subarray `[4,-1,2,1]` has the largest sum 6.
6. Given an integer `numRows`, return the first `numRows` of Pascal's triangle.
input: `numRows = 5`
Output: `[[1],[1,1],[1,2,1],[1,3,3,1],[1,4,6,4,1]]`
7. Given an array `nums` with `n` objects colored red, white, or blue, sort them in-place so that objects of the same color are adjacent, with the colors in the order red, white, and blue. We will use the integers 0, 1, and 2 to represent the color red, white, and blue, respectively. You must solve this problem without using the library's sort function.
input: `nums = [2,0,2,1,1,0]`
Output: `[0,0,1,1,2,2]`

8. Given an array of integers `nums` containing $n + 1$ integers where each integer is in the range $[1, n]$ inclusive. There is only one repeated number in `nums`, return this repeated number. You must solve the problem without modifying the array `nums`.
input: `nums = [1,3,4,2,2]` **Output:** 2
9. You are given two integer arrays `nums1` and `nums2`, sorted in non-decreasing order, and two integers `m` and `n`, representing the number of elements in `nums1` and `nums2` respectively. Merge `nums1` and `nums2` into a single array sorted in non-decreasing order. Do not use any in-built python functions.
input: `nums1 = [1,2,3,0,0,0]`, `m = 3`, `nums2 = [2,5,6]`, `n = 3`
Output: `[1,2,2,3,5,6]`
Explanation: The arrays we are merging are `[1,2,3]` and `[2,5,6]`. The result of the merge is `[1,2,2,3,5,6]` with the underlined elements coming from `nums1`.
10. Given an array `nums` of size `n`, return the majority element. The majority element is the element that appears more than $n/2$ times. You may assume that the majority element always exists in the array.
input: `nums = [2,2,1,1,1,2,2]` **Output:** 2