

Analysis of Algorithms: Data Cleanup Algorithms

Garrett Dancik, PhD

Fall 2021

Course Notes: <https://gdancik.github.io>

What do we mean by Data Cleanup?

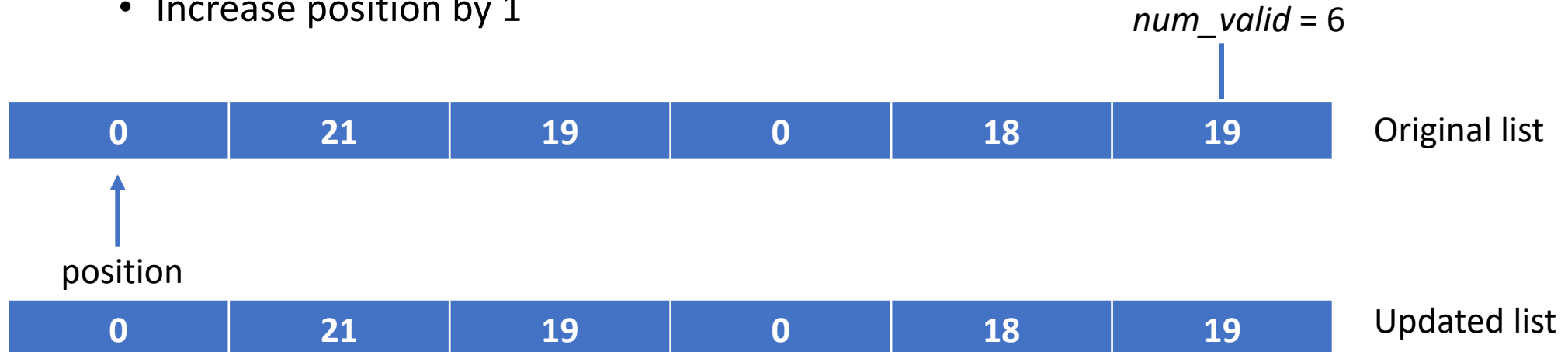
- If data contains invalid or missing values, those invalid values should be removed.
 - In a survey, a student does not enter their age (or enters an invalid one)
 - In a survey, a student does not enter their GPA (or enters an invalid one)
- We will assume that missing / invalid values are recorded as 0
- Example data:

0	21	19	0	18	19
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- In this case, we want a list containing only the numbers: 21, 19, 18, and 19

Shuffle-left algorithm

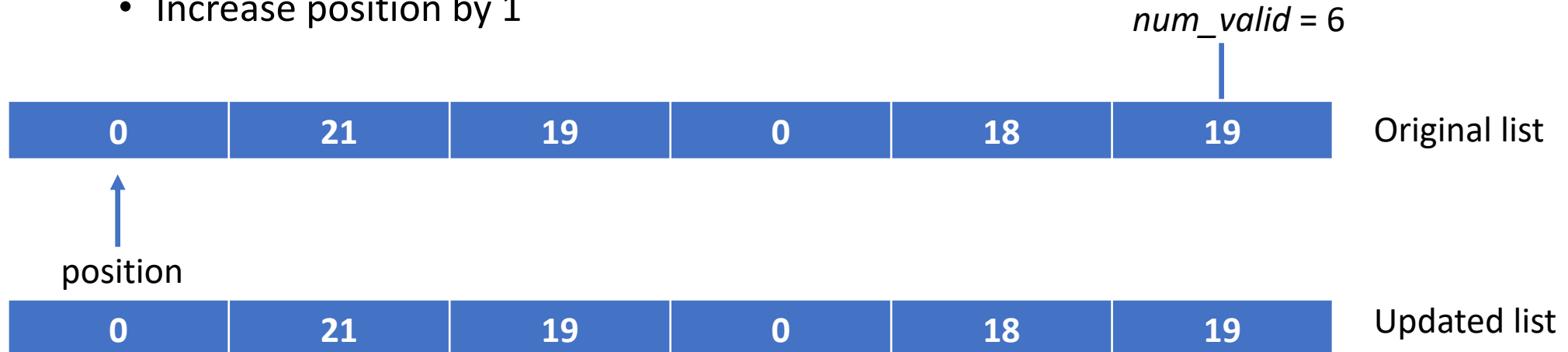
- While *position* \leq *num_valid* :
 - If *num*[*position*] is invalid, e.g., 0 :
 - All valid numbers to the right of *num* are shifted 1 position to the left
 - Decrease *num_valid* by 1
 - Else:
 - Increase *position* by 1



Since the first number is 0, we shift all other numbers one position to the left

Shuffle-left algorithm

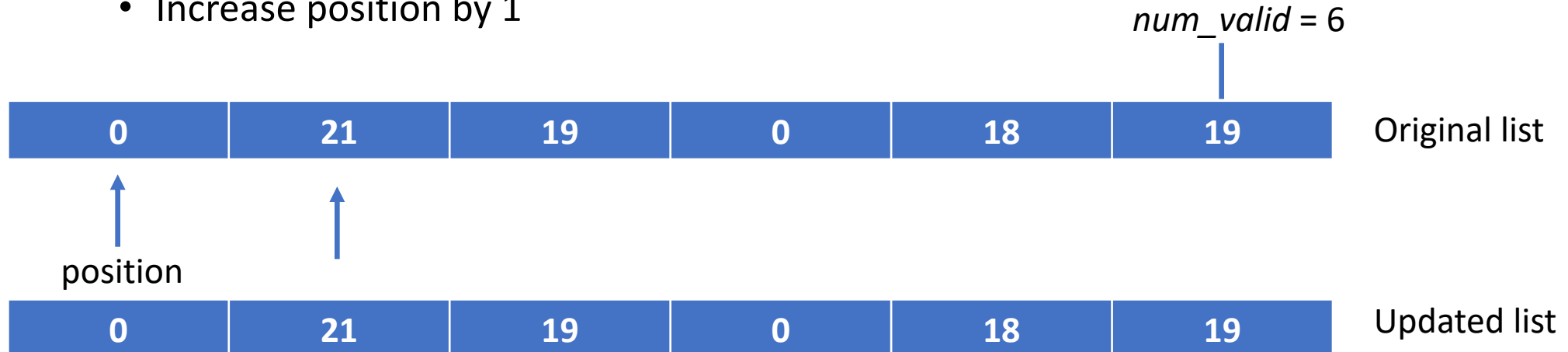
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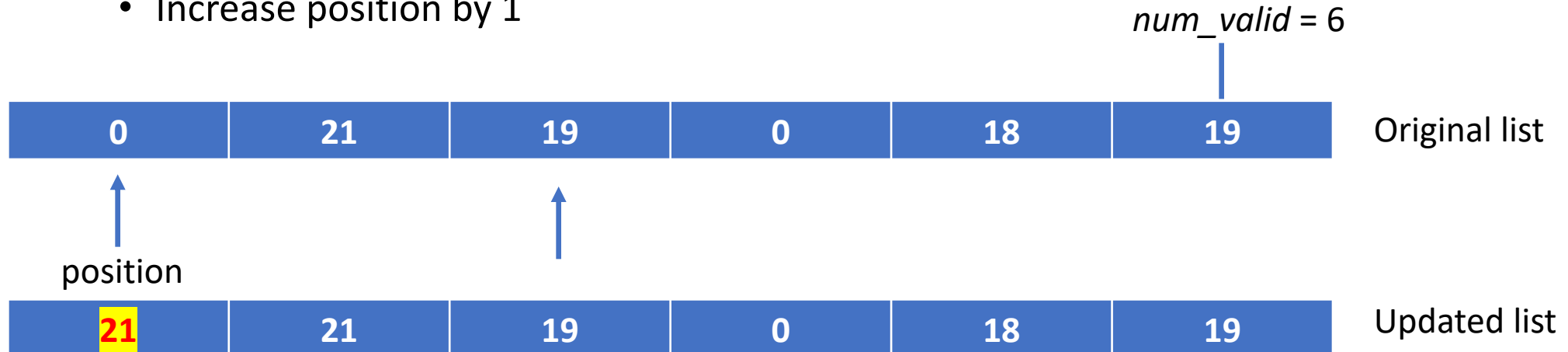
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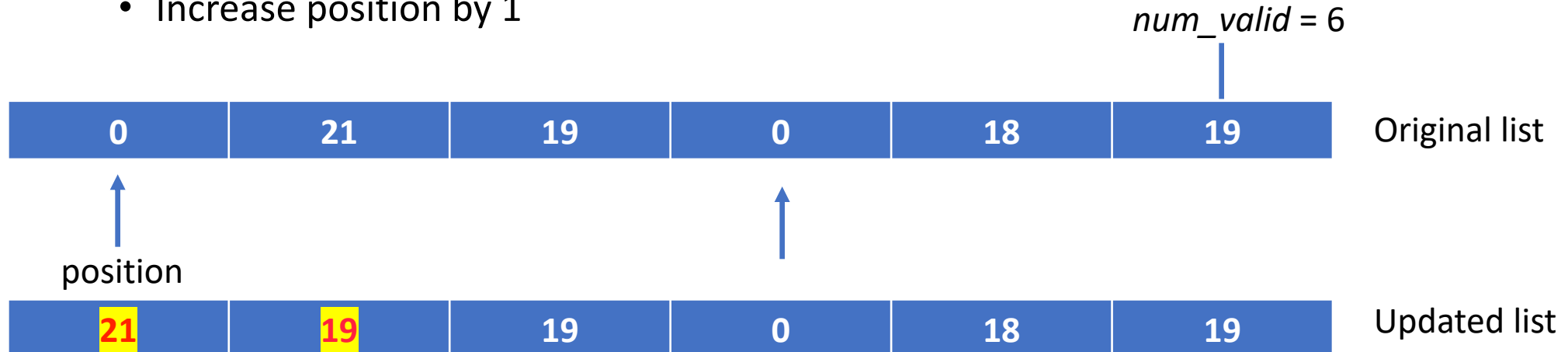
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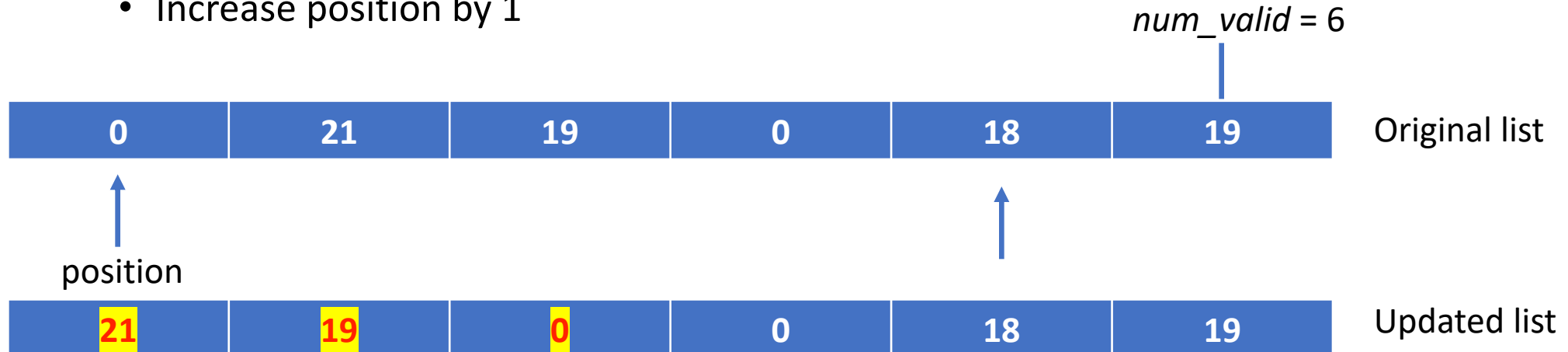
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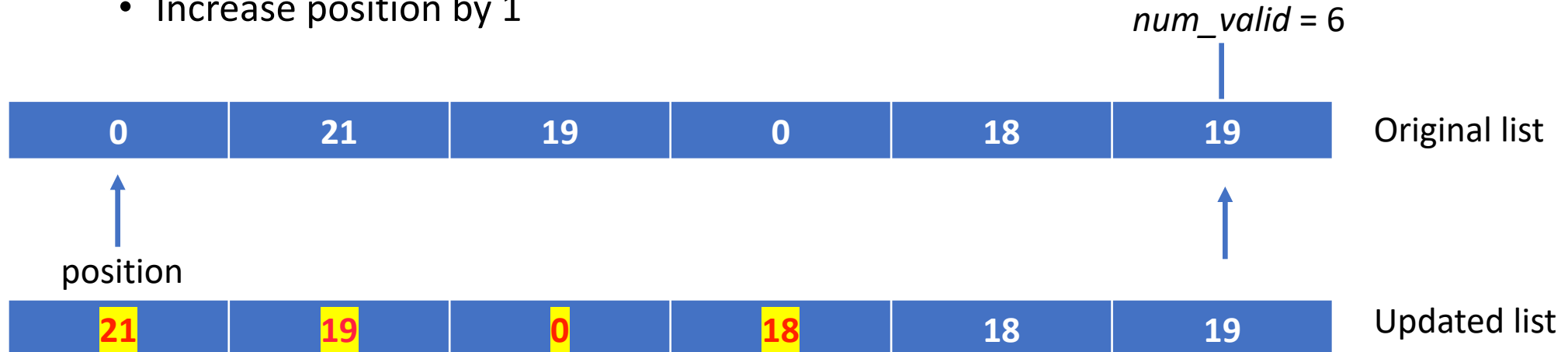
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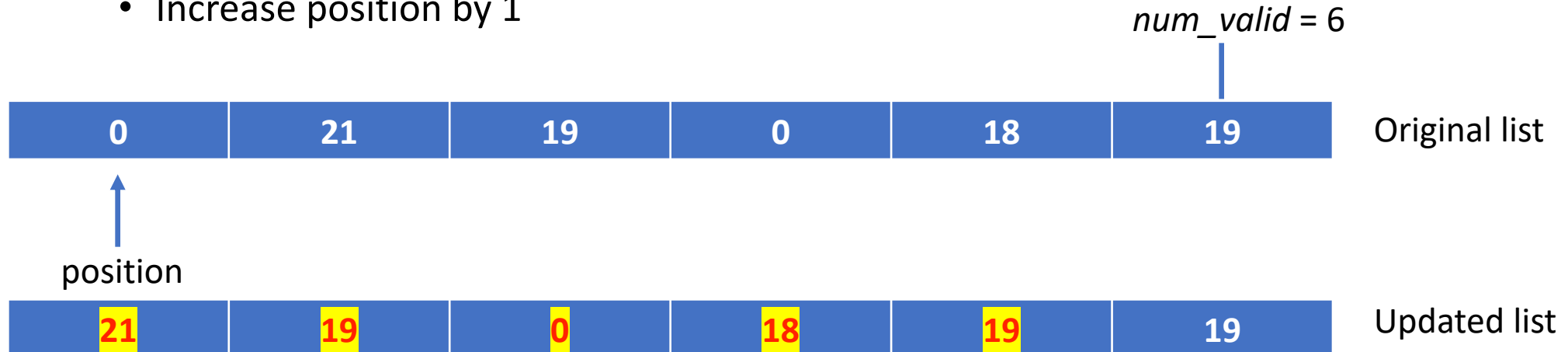
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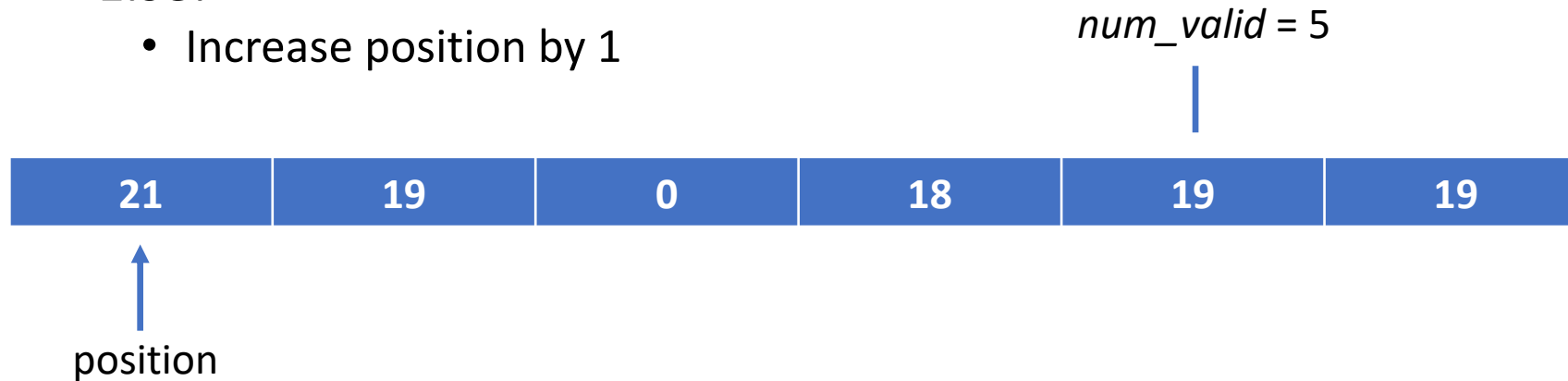
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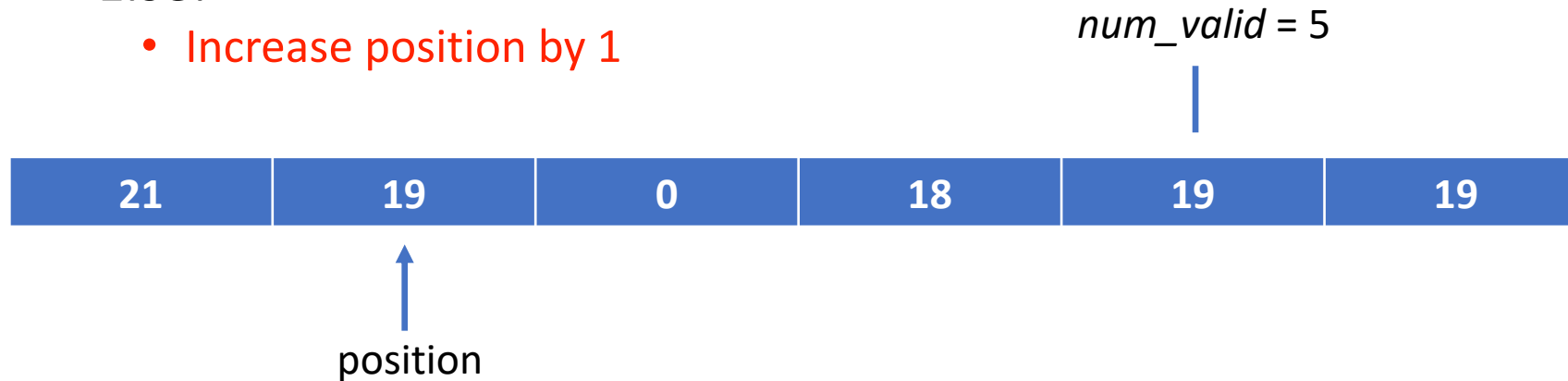
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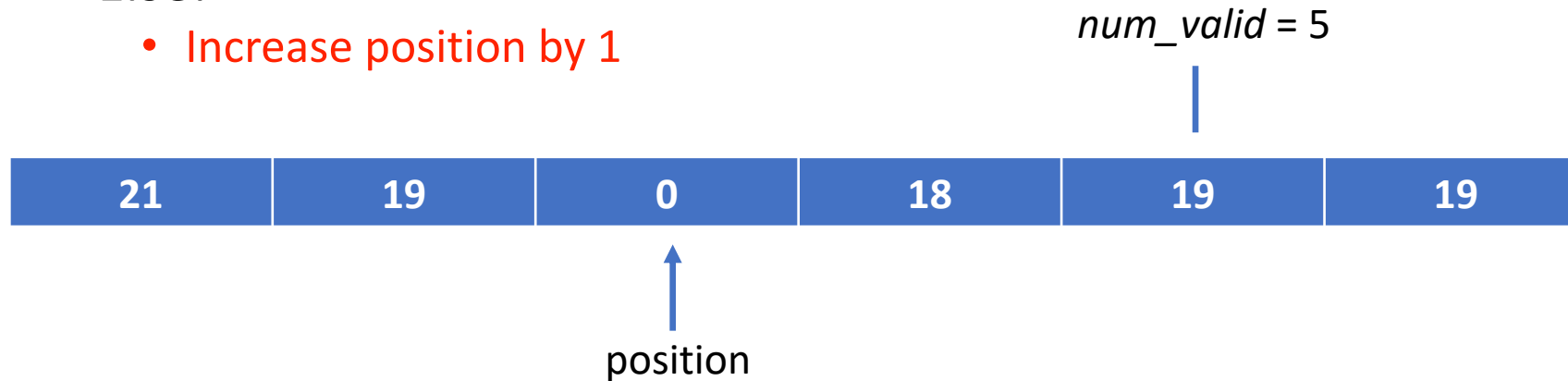
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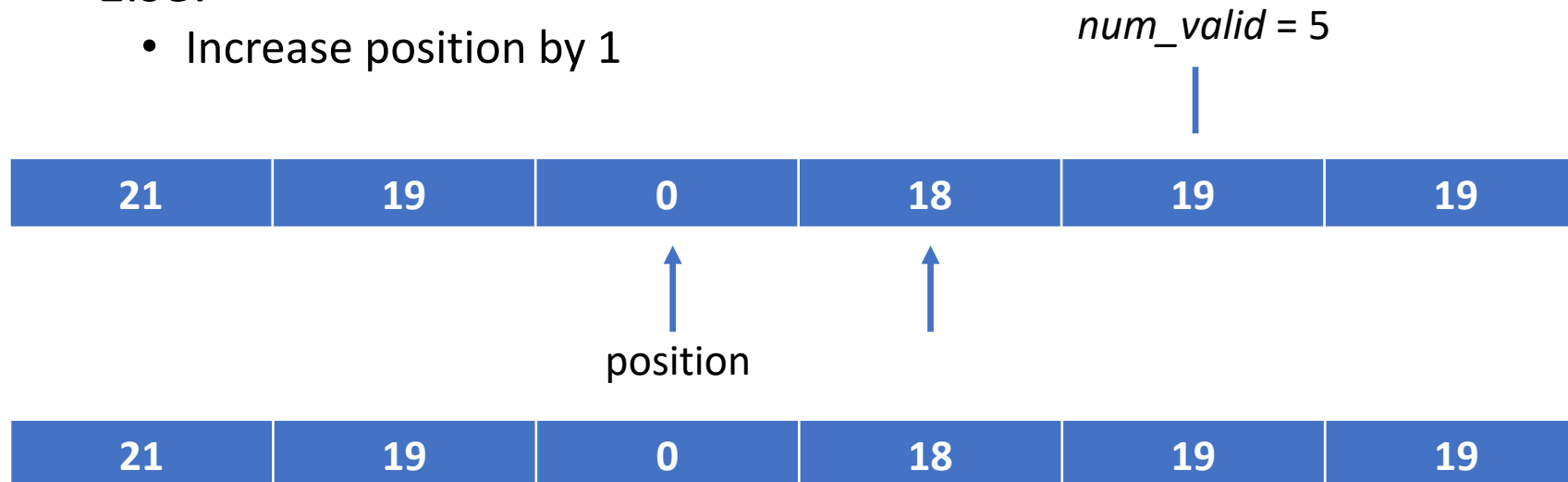
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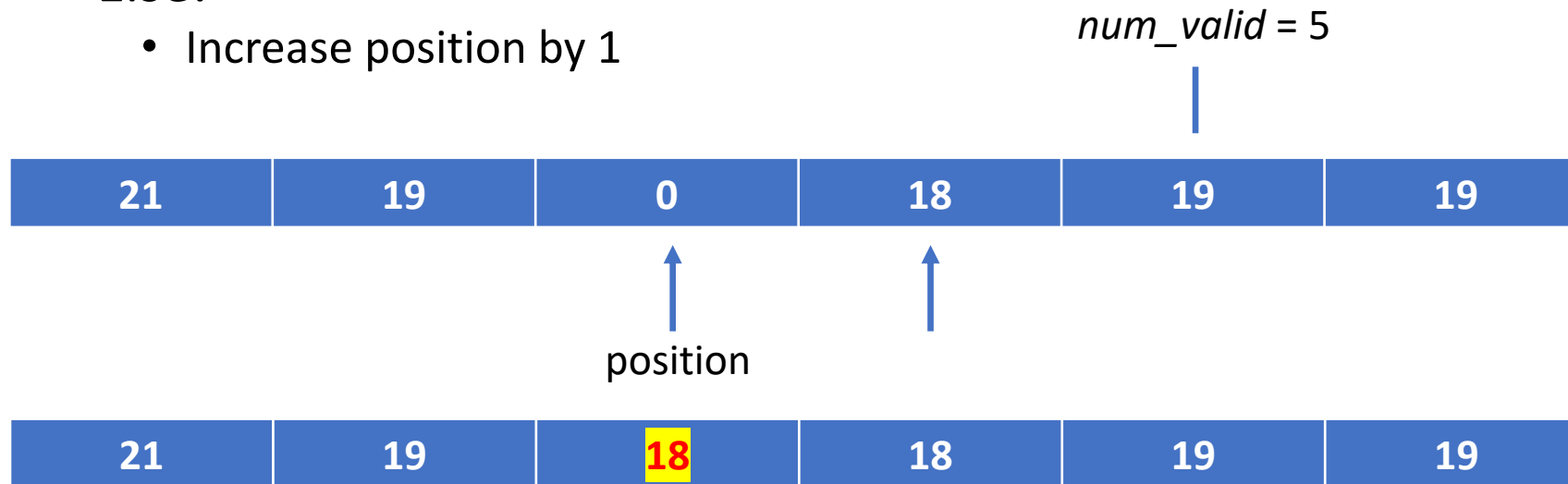
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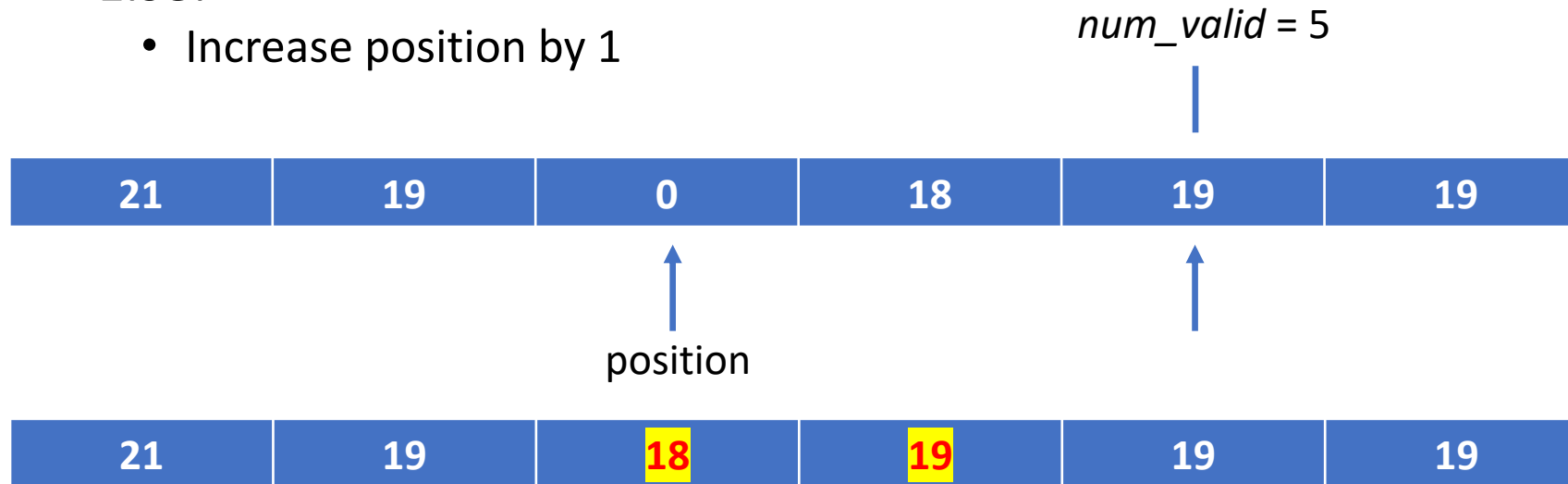
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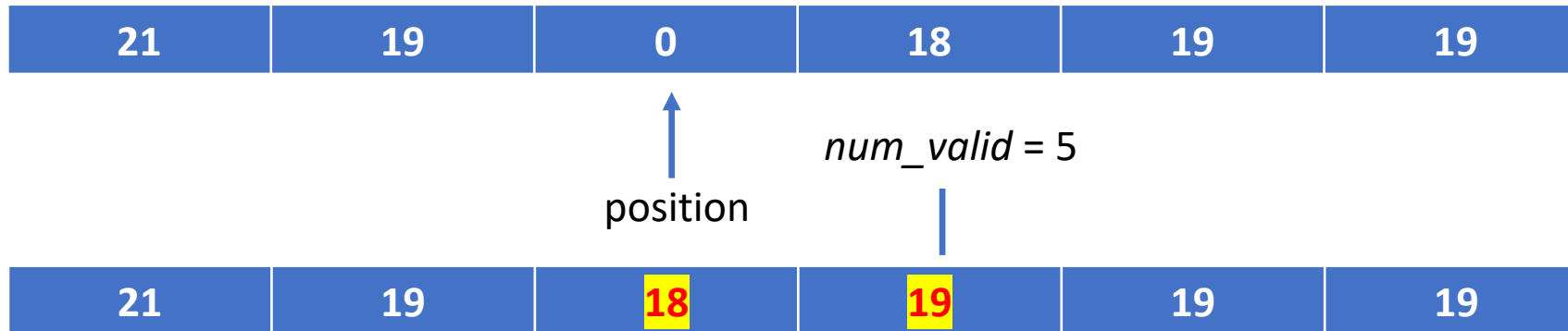
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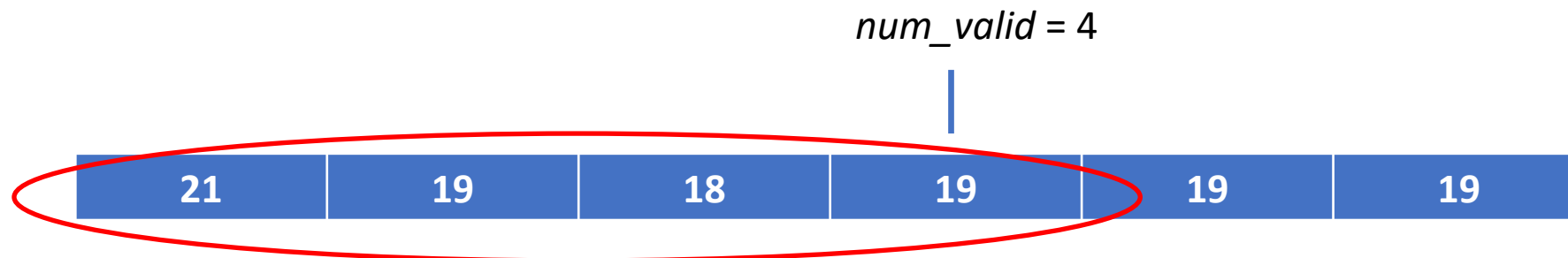
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 - All valid numbers to the right of *num* are shifted 1 position to the left
 - Decrease *num_valid* by 1
 - Else:
 - Increase *position* by 1
- The final list, containing 4 valid items, is below:



Shuffle-left algorithm:

- While *position* \leq *num_valid* :
 - If *num*[*position*] is invalid, e.g., 0 :
 - All valid numbers to the right of *num* are shifted 1 position to the left
 - Decrease *num_valid* by 1
 - Else:
 - Increase *position* by 1
- Running time (**best case**)
 - If *no* numbers are invalid, then the *while* loop is executed *n* times, where *n* is the initial size of the list, and the only other operations are the comparison in the *if* statement, and *position* is increased by 1. The running time is $\theta(n)$. This is the best case.

Shuffle-left algorithm:

- While *position* \leq *num_valid* :
 - If *num*[*position*] is invalid, e.g., 0 :
 - All valid numbers to the right of *num* are shifted 1 position to the left
 - Decrease *num_valid* by 1
 - Else:
 - Increase *position* by 1
- Running time (**worst case**):
 - If *all* the numbers are invalid, then for all *n* passes through the list, *n* - 1 copies (shifts) are made. This is a worst case.
 - The total number of operations in the loop is (ignoring comparisons):
 - For the first position: *n* + 1 operations: *n* - 1 copies, plus 2 to increase *num_valid* and *position*
 - For the second position: *n* operations, *n* - 2 copies, plus 2 to increase *num_valid* and *position*
 - The total number of operations is the sum of 1 through *n* + 1 which equals
 - $n(n+1)/2 + 1 \rightarrow \theta(n^2)$

Shuffle-left algorithm:

- While *position* \leq *num_valid* :
 - If *num*[*position*] is invalid, e.g., 0 :
 - All valid numbers to the right of *num* are shifted 1 position to the left
 - Decrease *num_valid* by 1
 - Else:
 - Increase *position* by 1
- Running time:
 - Best case (all entries are valid) is $\theta(n)$
 - Worst case (all entries are invalid) is $\theta(n^2)$
 - Average case is also $\theta(n^2)$
- Space:
 - n (all cases – best, worst, and average) (n is required for the original list, plus a few additional variables)

Copy-over algorithm

- Find the total number of valid elements in the list, and store in *num_valid*
- Create an empty list, called *copyNum*, of length *num_valid*
- Set *index* to 0
- For each *num* in the original list:
 - If *num* is valid
 - Assign *num* to *copyNum[index]*
 - Increase *index* by 1

0	21	19	0	18	19
---	----	----	---	----	----

Copy-over algorithm

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-	-	-	-
---	---	---	---

num_valid = 4

Copy-over algorithm

- Find the total number of valid elements in the list, and store in *num_valid*
- Create an empty list, called *copyNum*, of length *num_valid*
- **Set *index* to 0**
- **For each *num* in the original list:**
 - If *num* is valid
 - Assign *num* to *copyNum[index]*
 - Increase *index* by 1

0	21	19	0	18	19
---	----	----	---	----	----

X

-	-	-	-
---	---	---	---

num_valid = 4

Index = 0

Copy-over algorithm

- Find the total number of valid elements in the list, and store in *num_valid*
- Create an empty list, called *copyNum*, of length *num_valid*
- Set *index* to 0
- For each *num* in the original list:
 - If *num* is valid
 - Assign *num* to *copyNum[index]*
 - Increase *index* by 1

0	21	19	0	18	19
---	----	----	---	----	----



21	-	-	-
----	---	---	---

num_valid = 4

Index = 1

Copy-over algorithm

- Find the total number of valid elements in the list, and store in *num_valid*
- Create an empty list, called *copyNum*, of length *num_valid*
- Set *index* to 0
- For each *num* in the original list:
 - If *num* is valid
 - Assign *num* to *copyNum[index]*
 - Increase *index* by 1

0	21	19	0	18	19
---	----	----	---	----	----



21	19	-	-
----	----	---	---

num_valid = 4

Index = 2

Copy-over algorithm

- Find the total number of valid elements in the list, and store in *num_valid*
- Create an empty list, called *copyNum*, of length *num_valid*
- Set *index* to 0
- For each *num* in the original list:
 - If *num* is valid
 - Assign *num* to *copyNum[index]*
 - Increase *index* by 1

0	21	19	0	18	19
---	----	----	---	----	----

X

21	19	-	-
----	----	---	---

num_valid = 4

Index = 2

Copy-over algorithm

- Find the total number of valid elements in the list, and store in *num_valid*
- Create an empty list, called *copyNum*, of length *num_valid*
- Set *index* to 0
- For each *num* in the original list:
 - If *num* is valid
 - Assign *num* to *copyNum[index]*
 - Increase *index* by 1

0	21	19	0	18	19
---	----	----	---	----	----

21	19	18	-
----	----	----	---

num_valid = 4

Index = 3

Copy-over algorithm

- Find the total number of valid elements in the list, and store in *num_valid*
- Create an empty list, called *copyNum*, of length *num_valid*
- Set *index* to 0
- For each *num* in the original list:
 - If *num* is valid
 - Assign *num* to *copyNum[index]*
 - Increase *index* by 1



num_valid = 4

Index = 4

Copy-over algorithm

- Find the total number of valid elements in the list, and store in *num_valid*
- Create an empty list, called *copyNum*, of length *num_valid*
- Set *index* to 0
- For each *num* in the original list:
 - If *num* is valid
 - Assign *num* to *copyNum[index]*
 - Increase *index* by 1
- Running time:
 - The first step is order n , since we need to iterate through all elements in the list to count the number of valid elements. For each element, there is a constant number of operations. (More details for this step are required, but this likely would use a *for* loop).
 - The main work then occurs in the *for* loop on the 4th line, which is also order n . For each element, we either copy it or not, and this is also a constant number of operations for each of the n elements.
 - The running time is $\theta(n)$, in the best, worst, and average cases.

Copy-over algorithm

- Find the total number of valid elements in the list, and store in *num_valid*
- Create an empty list, called *copyNum*, of length *num_valid*
- Set *index* to 0
- For each *num* in the original list:
 - If *num* is valid
 - Assign *num* to *copyNum[index]*
 - Increase *index* by 1
- Space (depends on the number of valid elements):
 - Best case: if there are *no* valid elements, then the space only requires the original list, which is n (we ignore a few additional variables)
 - Worst case: if *all* the elements are valid, we create an additional copy of the original list. The space requirements are $2n$.
 - Average case: this depends on the expected number of valid/invalid items, and will be between n and $2n$. If the number of valid items is equally likely to be between $0, 1, 2, \dots, n$, then the average space requirement is $1.5n$.

Converging pointers algorithm

- We keep a *left* and *right* index
 - Set *left* to 0 and *right* to $n - 1$ (index of the last element)
 - Set *num_valid* to the length of the *numbers* list
 - While *left* < *right*
 - If *number[left]* is valid :
 - Increase *left* by 1
 - Else (*number[left]* is not valid) :
 - Copy *number[right]* to *number[left]*
 - Decrease *num_valid* by 1
 - Decrease *right* by 1
 - If *number[left]* is not valid :
 - Decrease *num_valid* by 1
- ← Correction: this is *after* the *while* loop.

Converging pointers example



num_valid = 6

Item at *left* is 0, so we copy from *right* to *left*, and decrease *right* and *num_valid* by 1.

Converging pointers example



num_valid = 5

Item at *left* is not 0, so we increase *left* by 1

Converging pointers example



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Converging pointers example



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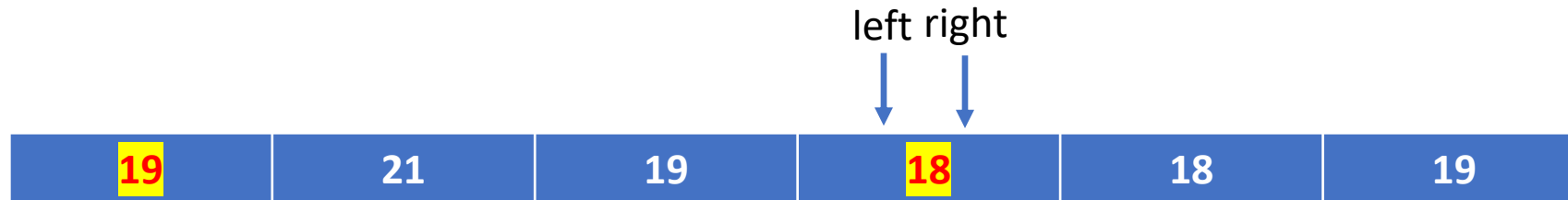
Converging pointers example



num_valid = 5

Item at *left* is 0, so we copy from *right* to *left*, and decrease *right* and *num_valid* by 1.

Converging pointers example



num_valid = 4

Item at *left* is not 0 (if it was, we would decrease *num_valid*).

Once *left* is equal to *right*, we are done

Converging pointers algorithm

- While $left < right$
 - If $number[left]$ is valid :
 - Increase $left$ by 1
 - Else ($number[left]$ is not valid) :
 - Copy $number[right]$ to $number[left]$
 - Decrease num_valid by 1
 - Decrease $right$ by 1
 - If $number[left]$ is not valid :
 - Decrease num_valid by 1
- ← Correction: this is *after* the *while* loop.
- Running time:
 - The main work occurs in the *while* loop. The loop always increases $left$ or decreases $right$, until $left$ and $right$ are the same. This can only happen n times. All other operations inside the loop are constant, so the running time is $\theta(n)$, which is true for the best, worst, and average cases.
 - Space: n (we need space only for the original list, as well as a few additional terms). This is the most space efficient algorithm

Data Cleanup Algorithms

	Shuffle-left		Copy over		Converging Pointers	
	Time	Space	Time	Space	Time	Space
Best	$\theta(n)$	n	$\theta(n)$	n	$\theta(n)$	n
Worst	$\theta(n^2)$	n	$\theta(n)$	$2n$	$\theta(n)$	n
Average	$\theta(n^2)$	n	$\theta(n)$	$(n, 2n)$	$\theta(n)$	n

- Which algorithm is the *best*?