after sorting according to width in increasing order (if two envelopes have the same width, sorting according to height in decreasing order). then we only need to compute LIS in 1D (with strict <). there's an $O(n \log \log n)$ time algorithm [2] for computing LIS of a permutation with n numbers, and it's easy to wlog assume the heights are distinct. computing LIS needs $\Theta(n \log n)$ in the comparison based model [1].

References

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