

Introduction to Segment Trees

Course: <https://unacademy.com/a/i-p-c-intermediate-track>

tanujkhattar@

Objective

- Point Update and Range Query problem
- Introduction to Segment Trees
 - Discuss via examples ↵
 - Build ↵
 - Query ↵
 - Update ↵
- Sparse Segment Trees ↵
 - Definition ↵
 - Update ✓
 - Query ✓
- Conclusion

Point Updates and Range Queries

les * les

1010

1s 2s

les

- Given an array A of N elements, support two types of operations:
 - Point Update: Given i, x set A[i] = x. ✓ Set
 - Range Query: Given [L, R] return Sum(A[i]), L ≤ i ≤ R. [L, R]

* Arrays

Point Update % $O(1)$ ✓

Range Query % $O(N)$ ✓

} $\Rightarrow O(\log N)$

* Prefix Sums

Point Update % $O(N)$ \rightarrow Recompute the whole PS.

Range Query % $O(1)$ ✓ $PS[R] - PS[L-1]$

Introduction to Segment Trees

A:

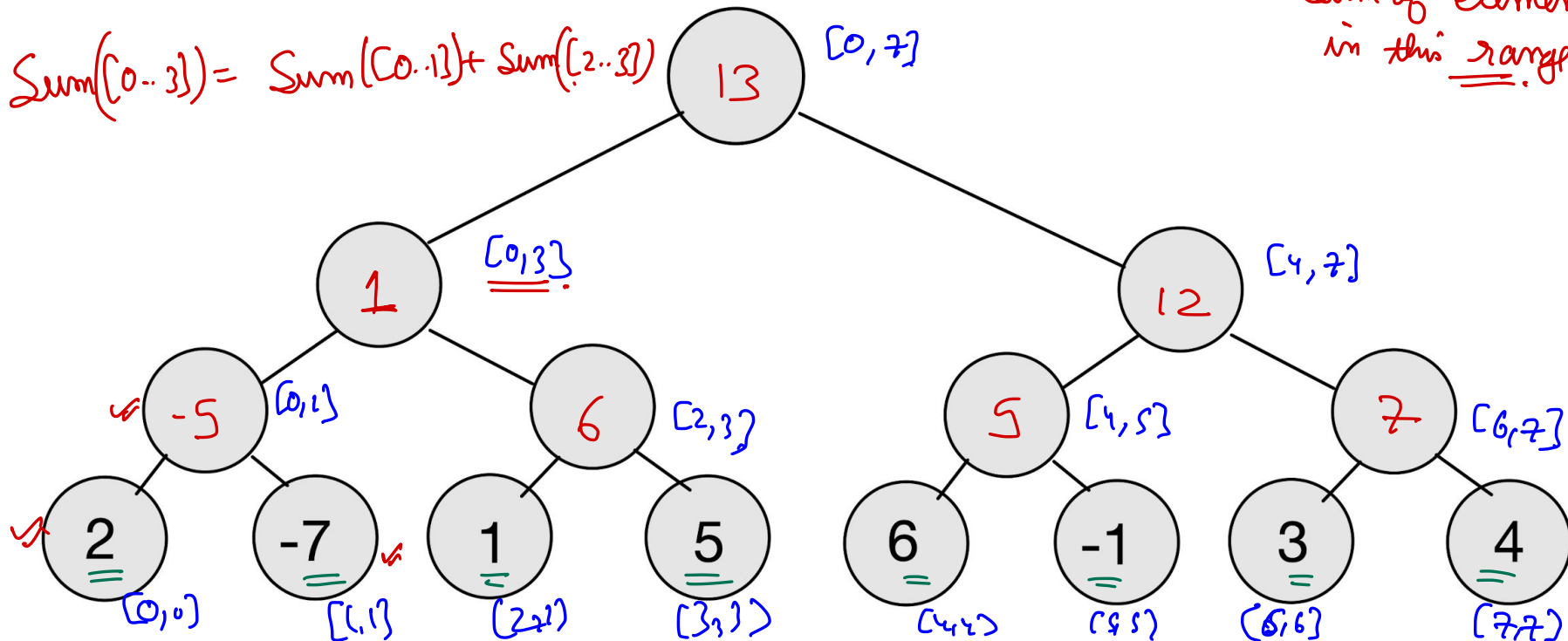
2	-7	1	5	6	-1	3	4
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- A binary tree with each leaf corresponding to an element in the array.
- Every internal node represents a range in the original array.

Range Sum.

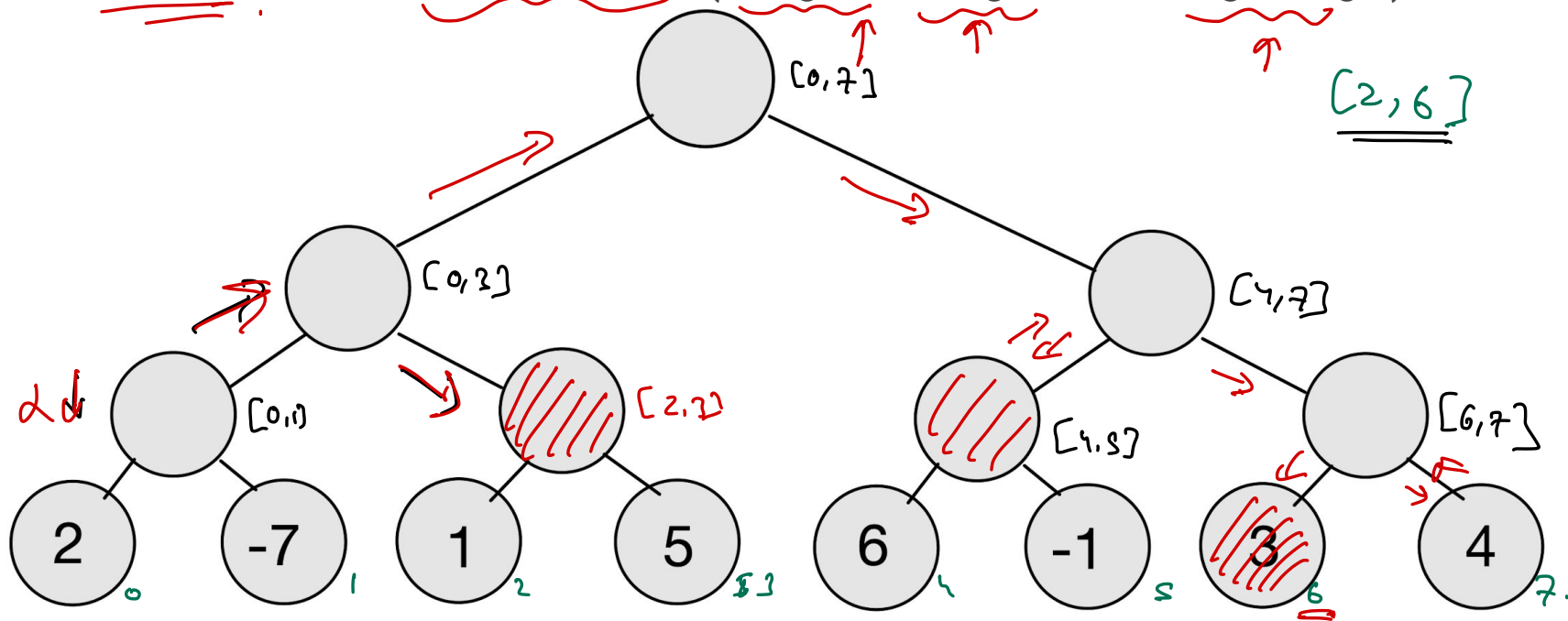


Sum of elements in this range.



Introduction to Segment Trees (eg: sum)

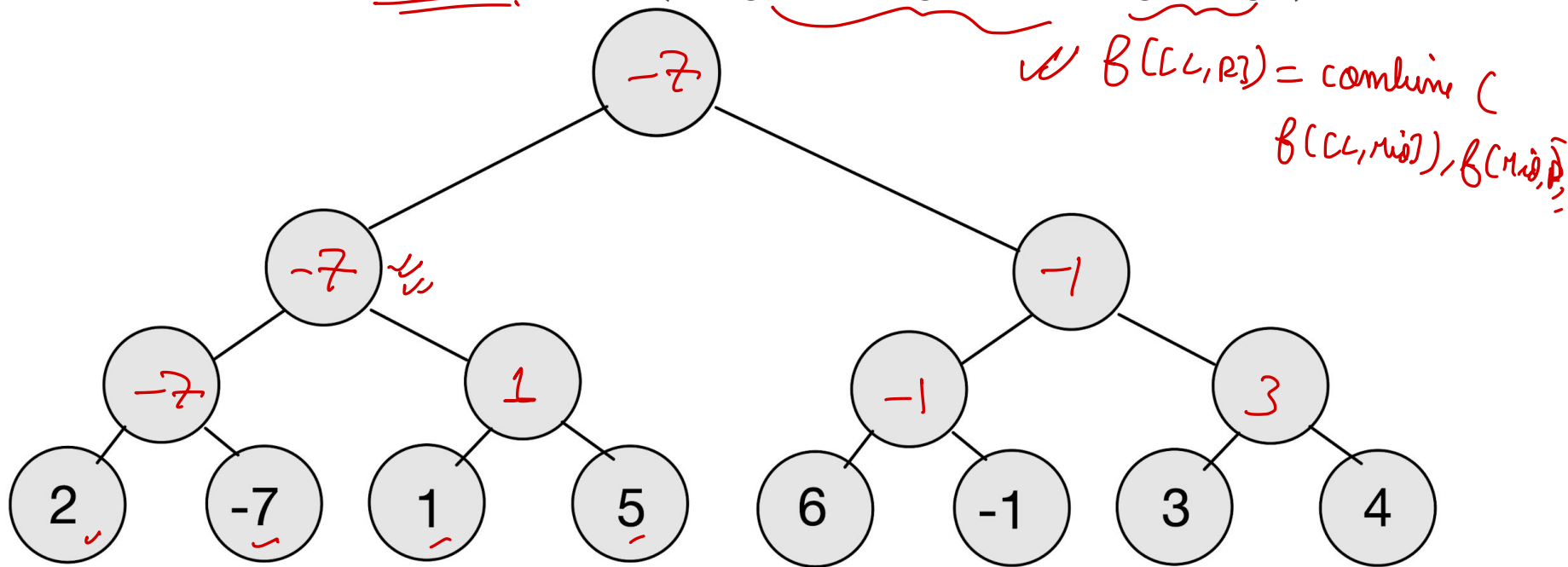
- Every internal node should store the “answer” for the range.
- Any range [L, R] can be broken down into at most $\log N$ ranges.
- Final answer = CombineAnswer(Range_1, Range_2, ..., Range_ $\log N$)



Introduction to Segment Trees (eg: min)

→ Every internal node will min of the range

- Every internal node should store the “answer” for the range.
- Any range $[L, R]$ can be broken down into at most $\log N$ ranges.
- Final answer = CombineAnswer(Range_1, Range_2, ..., Range_LogN)



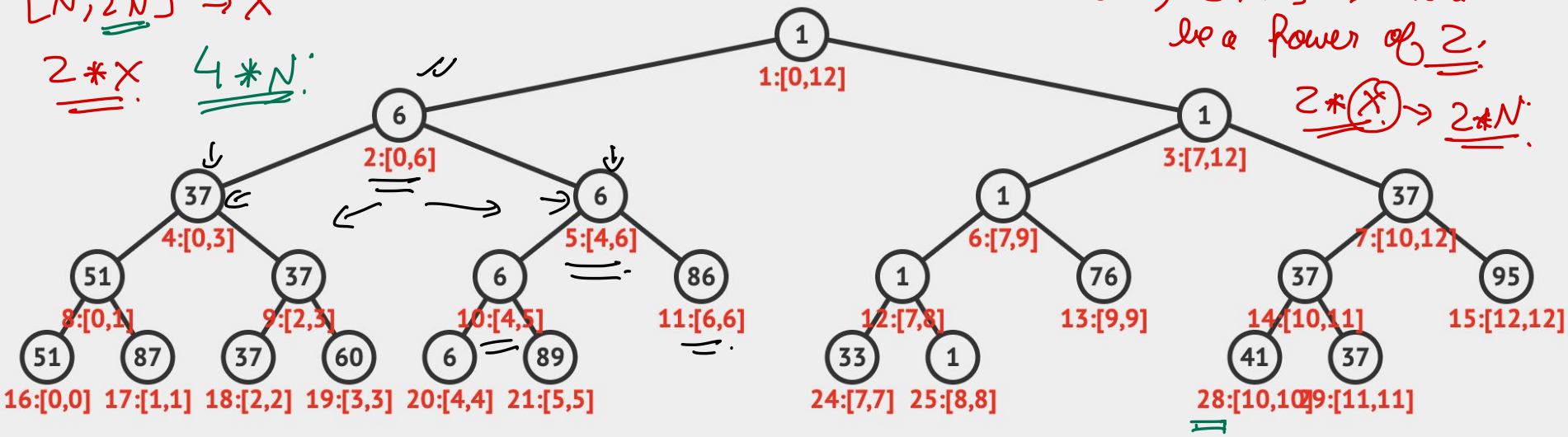
Introduction to Segment Trees

- See <https://visualgo.net/en/segmenttree> for more visualisations.
- Q: What is the tightest upper bound on number of nodes in a Segment Tree over array of length N ?
A) N B) $2 * N$ C) $4 * N$ D) N^2

A complete Binary has $N-1$ internal nodes for N leaf nodes.

$[N, 2N] \rightarrow X$
 $2 * X$ $4 * N$

$[N, 2 * N] \rightarrow$ There will be a power of 2.
 $2 * (X) \rightarrow 2 * N$



Build

- Takes $O(N)$ time because ST has $O(N)$ nodes and each node is visited once.

```
int ST[4 * N], A[N];  
#define lc (x << 1) → left child  
#define rc (x << 1) | 1 → Right child  
void build(int x = 1, int l = 1, int r = N + 1) {  
    if (l == r - 1) return void(ST[x] = A[l]);  
    int mid = (l + r) / 2;  
    build(lc, l, mid);  
    build(rc, mid, r);  
    ST[x] = combine(ST[lc], ST[rc]);  
}
```

$[l, r) \leftarrow x$

2^x

2^{x+1}

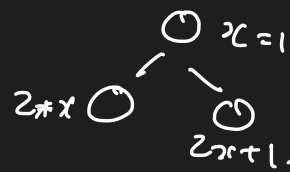
$x \in [l, r)$

$lc \in [l, mid)$

$rc \in [mid, r)$

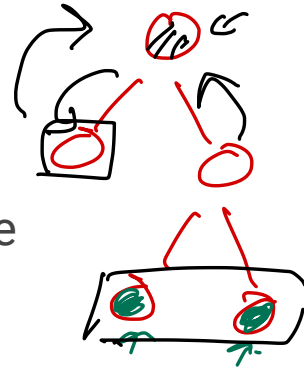
$[5, 6)$

$+$



Query

$\underline{\underline{RightAns}} \Rightarrow \min(\text{Left an}, \text{RightAns})$



- Start with the root node, and for every node check whether the range represented by this node lies completely within the Query Range
- If yes, return the answer stored at this node.
- If no, recursively fetch the answer from left and right child of the node, combine and return the complete answer.
- Claim:** The query runs in $O(\log N)$ time.

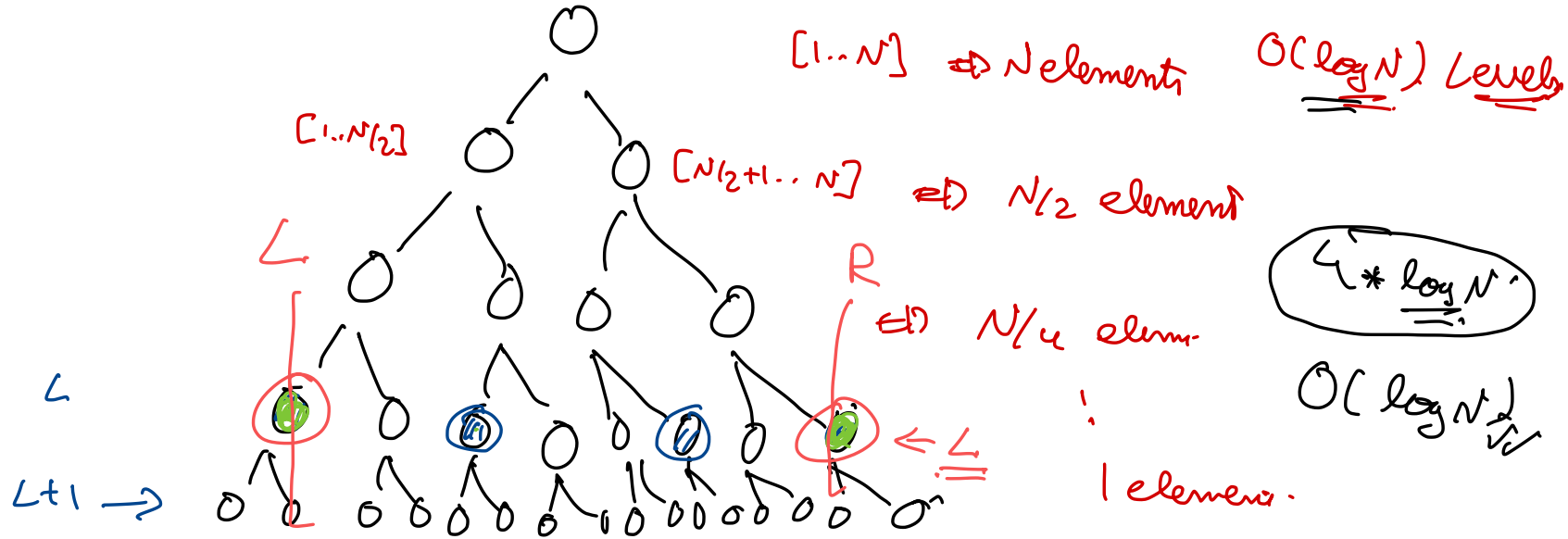
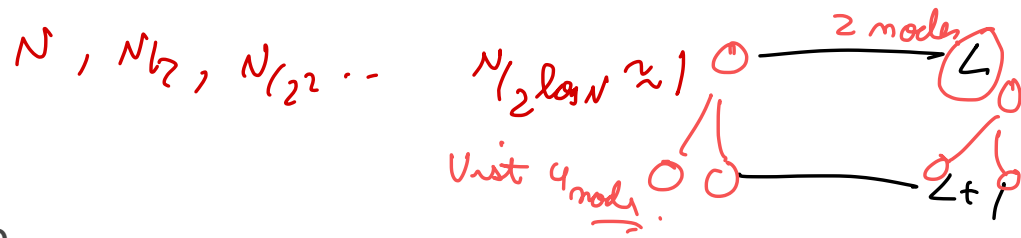
```
int query(int L, int R, int x = 1, int l = 1, int r = N - 1) {
1) if (l >= R || r <= L) return 0; // If no intersection, return 0
2) if (l >= L && r <= R) return ST[x]; // ✓
3) int mid = (l + r) / 2;
   return combine(query(L, R, lc, l, mid), query(L, R, rc, mid, r));
}
```

→ + / min / max. → return 0 will change.

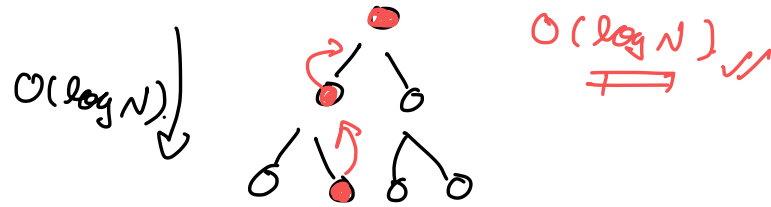
Query Complexi

Claim: The query runs in $O(\log N)$ time.

Proof: The Segment tree has $O(\log N)$ levels and at every level, we expand at most 2 nodes (leftmost and rightmost). Therefore, we visit at most 4 nodes at any level. Since time spent per node is $O(1)$, total time is $O(\log N)$.



Point Update ✓✓



- Takes $O(\log N)$ time since only nodes lying on a path from root to affected leaf will get affected. Hence no. of affected nodes are only $O(\log N)$.

```
void point_update(int pos, int val, int x = 1, int l = 1, int r = N - 1) {  
    1) if (pos < l || pos >= r) return; ✓  
    2) if (l == r - 1) { Have you already reached a leaf node? .  
        ST[x] = val;  
        A[pos] = val;  
        return;  
    }  
    2) int mid = (l + r) / 2;  
    update(pos, val, lc, l, mid); ✓  
    update(pos, val, rc, mid, r); ✓  
    ST[x] = combine(ST[lc], ST[rc]);  
} ✓
```

Sparse Segment Trees

- Let A be an empty array of $1e9$ ($[1, 1e9]$) elements, initially all 0. Let there be Q ($\leq 1e5$) queries of the form:
 - Point Update: Given pos, v - set $A[pos] = v$ ($1 \leq pos \leq 1e9$)
 - Range Query: Given $[L, R]$ - return $\text{Sum}(A[i], L \leq i \leq R)$.

Way-1 Coordinate Compression (Offline)

- Since number of distinct positions (updated or queried) is bounded by the input size ($2 * Q$), we can read all queries offline and map the integers to range $[1, 2e5]$
- Works only if processing the queries offline is allowed.

Way-2: Sparse Segment Trees

- Allocate the segment tree nodes only when needed (i.e. during a point update).
- During a Query, if a child doesn't exist, the range represented by that child is 0.
- Need total $Q \log(\text{MAX})$ nodes in the tree, where MAX is the size of the range.

Way-2: Sparse Segment Trees

```
int L[Q * LOGN], R[Q * LOGN], ST[Q * LOGN], blen;
// sparse segtree. range sum, initially 0
int update(int pos, int add, int l, int r, int id) {
    if (pos < l || pos >= r) return id;
    if (!id) id = ++blen;
    if (l == r - 1) {
        ST[id] += add;
        return id;
    }
    int m = l + (r - l) / 2;
    L[id] = update(pos, add, l, m, L[id]);
    R[id] = update(pos, add, m, r, R[id]);
    ST[id] = combine(ST[L[id]], ST[R[id]]);
    return id;
}
```

Conclusion

- There are many more variations in segment trees.
 - Lazy Segment Trees for range updates
 - Merge Sort Trees
 - 2D Segment Trees.
 - Persistent Segment Trees
 - Etc.
- Segment trees are really powerful and are one of the most used DS in Competitive Programming.