3507. Minimum Pair Removal to Sort Array I

Solved

Easy Topics Hint

Given an array `nums`, you can perform the following operation any number of times:

- Select the **adjacent** pair with the **minimum** sum in `nums`. If multiple such pairs exist, choose the leftmost one.
- Replace the pair with their sum.

Return the **minimum number of operations** needed to make the array **non-decreasing**.

An array is said to be **non-decreasing** if each element is greater than or equal to its previous element (if it exists).

Example 1:

> **Input:** nums = [5,2,3,1]
>
> **Output:** 2
>
> **Explanation:**
>
> - The pair `(3,1)` has the minimum sum of 4. After replacement, `nums = [5,2,4]`.
> - The pair `(2,4)` has the minimum sum of 6. After replacement, `nums = [5,6]`.
>
> The array `nums` became non-decreasing in two operations.

Example 2:

> **Input:** nums = [1,2,2]
>
> **Output:** 0
>
> **Explanation:**
>
> The array `nums` is already sorted.

Constraints:

- `1 <= nums.length <= 50`
- `-1000 <= nums[i] <= 1000`

Seen this question in a real interview before? 1/5

Yes No

Accepted 32.696/58.4K | Acceptance Rate 56.0%

Topics

Hint 1

Discussion (42)