

Andrew's Algorithm Solutions

Thursday, July 9, 2015

LeetCode OJ - Jump Game II

Problem:

Please find the problem [here](#).

Solution:

This is an extension of the previous problem, the ideas are similar, but different.

Last time we see a structure that if a position is reachable, then all the previous positions are also reachable, now we extend the concept to numbers of steps.

The key observation here is. If a position is reachable with minimum k steps, then all previous positions are reachable with k steps or less. The structure would look like this.

Loading [Contrib]/a11y/accessibility-menu.js

	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
[Min Steps]	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2

If we can fill this array, then we are done, because we can simply read off the minimum number of steps to reach the end.

Just like the last problem, we would want to keep track of horizon. But there are now multiple horizons, with respect to different number of steps, and the horizons changes in time, so let start by tracing them.

Step = 0											
Horizon = 0											
[Positions]	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	A, B
[Jump Steps]	7	8	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
[Min Steps]	0	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
[Wall]	0	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?

We do not need to jump at all if we are already at the end (i.e. the array has length 1) - this is trivial. We put a 'wall' at the position 0, meaning if we move beyond position 0, then we have to jump.

As usual, we keep track of the horizon. After reading the first element, we know we can maximally go to position 7, we update the state as follow.

Step = 1											
Horizon = 7											
[Positions]	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	A, B
[Jump Steps]	7	8	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
[Min Steps]	0	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
[Wall]	0	?	?	?	?	?	?	1	?	?	?

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We move beyond a wall, so we have to increase our step. We know if we ever move beyond position 7, we have to increase the step. We are now at position 8, what's next?

```
Step = 1
Horizon = 9
[Positions] 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, A, B
[Jump Steps] 7, 8, 9, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0
[Min Steps] 0 ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?
[Wall] 0 ? ? ? ? ? ? 1 ? 2 ? ?
```

Since we know at position 1 we can jump to position 9, and it currently take just one step to get to position 1, so we know (for now) that if we go beyond position 9, then it will take more than two steps, that's why we put a wall there, as usual, we update the horizon, **but not step**, since we have not crossed any wall.

Next we see 9, this **change** things because we know we can reach position B in step 2, in an other words, the wall at position 9 is obsolete, and we will **move** the wall.

```
Step = 1
Horizon = B
[Positions] 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, A, B
[Jump Steps] 7, 8, 9, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0
[Min Steps] 0 ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?
[Wall] 0 ? ? ? ? ? ? 1 ? ? ? 2
```

So that's it. We can keep iterating until we reach a wall, increase the step, and move on. The key idea is that moving a wall can be done in constant time if we know where the original wall is - this is done in the code using `wall_positions`.

As an after thought. I might be able to just keep track of two walls (the current wall - which moving beyond it will increase step, and the next wall (which is basically the current horizon).

But since the judge like my code, and I am lazy, maybe next time (or never ... which is the usual case :p)

Code:

```
#include "stdafx.h"

// https://leetcode.com/problems/jump-game-ii/

#include "LEET_JUMP_GAME_II.h"
#include <map>
#include <iostream>
#include <vector>
#include <algorithm>

using namespace std;

namespace _LEET_JUMP_GAME_II
{
    class Solution {
    public:
        int jump(vector<int>& nums)
        {
            if (nums.size() == 1)
            {
                return 0;
            }

            unsigned int horizon = 0;
```

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► [December](#) (5)

► [November](#) (8)

► [October](#) (5)

► [September](#) (34)

► [August](#) (29)

▼ [July](#) (36)

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```

    unsigned int steps = 0;
    vector<unsigned int> walls;
    vector<unsigned int> walls_positions;
    walls.resize(nums.size());
    walls_positions.resize(nums.size());
    for (unsigned int i = 0; i < nums.size(); i++)
    {
        walls[i] = -1;
        walls_positions[i] = -1; // int.max is a good value for not exist
    }
    walls[0] = 0;
    walls_positions[0] = 0;

    for (unsigned int i = 0; i < nums.size(); i++)
    {
        if (i != 0)
        {
            if (walls[i - 1] != -1)
            {
                steps = walls[i - 1] + 1;
            }
        }
        if (i > horizon)
        {
            return -1;
        }
        if (i + nums[i] > horizon)
        {
            unsigned int proposed_wall_position = i + nums[i];
            if (proposed_wall_position >= walls.size())
            {
                proposed_wall_position = walls.size() - 1;
            }
            if (walls_positions[steps + 1] != -1)
            {
                walls[walls_positions[steps + 1]] = -1;
            }
            walls[proposed_wall_position] = steps + 1;
            walls_positions[steps + 1] = proposed_wall_position;
            horizon = proposed_wall_position;
        }
    }

    return steps;
};
}

using namespace _LEET_JUMP_GAME_II;

int LEET_JUMP_GAME_II()
{
    Solution solution;
    int case1Array[] = { 7, 8, 9, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0 };
    int case2Array[] = { 9, 7, 9, 4, 8, 1, 6, 1, 5, 6, 2, 1, 7, 9, 0 };
    vector<int> case1 = vector<int>(case1Array, case1Array + _countof(case1Array));
    vector<int> case2 = vector<int>(case2Array, case2Array + _countof(case2Array));
    cout << solution.jump(case1) << endl;
}

```

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```
cout << solution.jump(case2) << endl;  
return 0;  
}
```

Posted by [Andrew Au](#) at 8:22 AM



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