

Program Structures and Algorithms
Spring 2024

NAME: Ting Guo

NUID: 002834835

GITHUB LINK: <https://github.com/Nangongnuanshan/INFO6205>

Task: Assignment 2

Explation:

Quadratic: As stated in the code comments, this approach divides the solution-space into N sub-spaces where each sub-space corresponds to a fixed value for the middle index of the three values. Each sub-space is then solved by expanding the scope of the other two indices outwards from the starting point.

We need to solve two problems to ensure that this method is correct.

First, make sure that the sum of the three numbers found by this method is 0.

That's easy. We know j is the index of the middle value. $i < j < k$. $i = 0$, $k = \text{length} - 1$. We just need

make sure $a[i] + a[j] + a[k] == 0$.

```
while (i < j && j < k) {
    int sum = a[i] + a[j] + a[k];
    if (sum == 0) {
        triples.add(new Triple(a[i], a[j], a[k]));
        i++;
        k--;
    }
}
```

Second, make sure we would not lose any answer.

First, use for() to make sure we use each element in `int[] a` as the middle value

```
for (int i = 0; i < length; i++) triples.addAll(getTriples(i));
```

Second, when we choose a j , make sure we find each i and k and check $a[i] + a[j] + a[k] == 0$

```
} else if (sum < 0) {
    i++;
    while (i < j && a[i] == a[i - 1]) i++;
} else {
    k--;
    while (j < k && a[k] == a[k + 1]) k--;
}
```

QuadraticWithCalipers: Same as Quadratic. The only different from Quadratic is that we use the first element instead of the middle one, which means we know the minimum in three. What we need change is that $\text{left} = i$, $\text{right} = \text{length} - 1$. (in this code, the first element is i) and $\text{while}(\text{left} < \text{right})$. We need to find two numbers from A to B , so that the sum of them is $-i$. We use $\text{left}++$ and $\text{right}--$ to make sure we will not skip any element.

```

while (left < right) {
    Triple triple = new Triple(a[i], a[left], a[right]);
    int sum = function.apply(triple);
    if (sum == 0) {
        triples.add(triple);
        left++;
        right--;
    }
}

```

The reason that left starts at $i+1$ is $left > i$, and because i starts at 0, we can make sure that We have checked all combinations ($left < i+1$). When $left < i+1$, we can see left as i and i as left, we will know we have check this combination.

Timing observations:

The screenshot shows an IDE with a project named 'INFO6205' and a package 'edu.neu.coe.info6205.threesum'. The project contains several classes, including 'PerformanceTest', 'ThreeSumCubic', 'ThreeSumQuadratic', and 'ThreeSumQuadraticWithCalipers'. The 'PerformanceTest' class is open, showing a method 'testThreeSumQuadratic' that uses a stopwatch to measure the execution time of the 'ThreeSumQuadratic' class for different input sizes (N = 100, 200, 400, 800, 1600). The output of the test is displayed in the console, showing the execution time for each input size and the total execution time for each input size.

N	Cubic	Quadrithmic	Quadratic	QuadraticWithCalipers
100	11ms	3ms	2ms	5ms
200	16ms	3ms	2ms	2ms
400	37ms	11ms	7ms	4ms
800	281ms	27ms	17ms	20ms
1600	1368ms	76ms	46ms	47ms

Process finished with exit code 0

Unit Test Screenshots:

