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Question 3

From this problem, we can use dynamic programming in the question.

Subproblems: First, we can assume that $H = [h_1, h_2, h_3 \dots h_n]$ and $h_i < h_{i+1}$. We can solve this problem by considering the subproblem $\text{sum}[x][y]$ for $0 \leq x \leq n$ and $0 \leq y \leq k$ which means the number of arrangements where x people are placed in the queue and the annoyance value is y .

Recurrence: $\text{sum}[x][y] = \sum_{z=\max(y-x+1, 0)}^y \text{sum}[x-1][z]$.

In simple terms, for every person added to the queue (i people in the queue for ease of description), there are a total of $i+1$ scenarios, and each arrangement must yield a different annoyance value.

For example, adding h_3 to $[h_1, h_2]$ with a current annoyance value of 1, and arranging h_3 into the queue with a total of 3 scenarios, the resulting new annoyance value could be 1($[h_3, h_1, h_2]$), 2($[h_1, h_3, h_2]$), 3($[h_1, h_2, h_3]$).

At this point the number of newly generated number of arrangements is inherited from previous number.

Thus, the number of queue scenarios with annoyance value j when person i is added is equal to the total number of scenarios when person $i-1$ is added with annoyance value less than or equal to j and not less than $j-i+1$ (ensure accessibility).

Base case: $\text{sum}[i][0] = 1$ and $\text{sum}[i][j] = 0$ for $0 \leq i \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq k$.

Final answer: At the end of the algorithm we get $\text{sum}[n][k]$ which is the number of arrangements of the queue resulting in a total annoyance of exactly k .

Time complexity: $0 \leq x \leq n$, $0 \leq y \leq k$. So, we need to compute nk times.

Every time we need $O(1)$. So, the overall time complexity is $O(nk)$.