

735 Asteroid Collision

Intuition

这一题brute force是 $O(N^2)$, 你需要对每一个asteroid进行simulation, 和当前asteroid所有右边的asteroids进行判定, 是否会因为collision而消失。但input range $\sim 10^4$ 决定了最优答案必定是 $O(N)$ 解, 不可能是 $O(N^2)$ 。这题有点类似的是monotonic stack, 但不一定需要单调性。

这题的solution array, 必然符合如下的条件:

- **case1**: 空集 []
- **case2**: 全是往左走的asteroids [-100,-20,-1]
- **case3**: 全是往右走的asteroid [2,3,4,]
- **case4**: 两边都有的走的asteroid [-100,-20,-1,2,3,4,]

对于第三种case, 一定不存在正负穿插的情况, 且negative asteroid必然在positive asteroid左边, 不然会相撞然后相消。

!!! note 你可以用反证法枚举几个

- [2,-10] reduces to [-10]
- [2,3,-1] reduces to [2,3]
- [2,1,-2] reduces to []

根据此, 我们可以得到solution array规律

Negative asteroids

Positive asteroids



Then we just need to think how to achieve this goal. Let's assume we need two auxillary data structure to store negative asteroids and positive asteroids, respectively

- **negative asteroids**: 一个auxillary数据结构, 存储所有打遍天下无敌的negative asteroid. 无敌的定义是for a negative asteroid `asteroids[i]`, 左边没有比它能打的positive asteroid, 用array即可。
- **positive asteroids**: 暂时存储还没有被打败的asteroid.

Approach 1 Stack

- **Time Complexity**: $O(N)$, 每个asteroid最多1进1出, $O(2N)$ reduces to $O(N)$
- **Space Complexity**: $O(N)$

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class Solution:
    def asteroidCollision(self, asteroids: List[int]) -> List[int]:
        """
        Key:
            - Two asteroids moving in the same direction will never meet.

        All elements in the solution array must follow the pattern below:
            [-100,-99, .... , 10,20,101]
        反证法, 如果我们存在
            [101,-99] 一定会有一个碎, --> [101]

        Goal:
            - 每一个negative asteroid的使命是打碎在它左边的所有比他小的positive
asteriod
            - kinda like monotonic stack
        """

        stack = [] # where positive asteroids lives, temporarily
        res = [] # where negative asteroid lives

        for a in asteroids:
            if a > 0:
                stack.append(a)
            else:
                while stack and stack[-1] < abs(a):
                    stack.pop()

                # Victory: 这个negative asteroid已经杀完了所有的positive
asteriods
                if not stack:
                    res.append(a)
                # Tie: 这个negative asteroid没办法杀完所有的positive asteroid,
碰到了一样强的positive asteroid. 这俩asteriod同归于尽
                elif stack[-1] == abs(a):
                    stack.pop()
                else:
                    # Loss: 这个negative asteroid没办法杀完所有的positive
asteriod, 碰到了比他更强的positive asteroid, 死了(不保存)
                    pass
        res += stack
        return res

```