

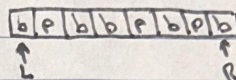
Hw 4 pg.1

1) Let A be an array of n babies and hence all elements are distinct each baby has brown or purple hair. Design a one-pass, in place, linear time alg. to sort. Brown hair followed by purple. Only use 2 ptr's.

a) Tell what constraints are we put on these 2 ptr's

b) Write down thought process.

c) Write in pseudo-code.



Alg.

def sortbabies (babies)

leftPtr = 0 # left ptr starts front of array

rightPtr = length(babies) - 1 # right ptr starts back

While (leftPtr < rightPtr) # until ptr's cross (limit to 1 pass)

 While (babies[leftPtr] == brown) # move left until purple found
 and leftPtr < len(babies) or until end array

 leftPtr++

 While (babies[rightPtr] == purple) # do same but opposite
 and rightPtr > leftPtr for right

 rightPtr--

 if (leftPtr < rightPtr) # as long as ptr's haven't crossed we swap

 Swap (babies[leftPtr], babies[rightPtr])

Return babies

a) The constraints we put on the two ptr's are that they can't cross each other (ruin one-pass constraint & linear time constraint) and can't go outside of the array bounds (create new memory). Additionally they can't be used to write new memory (in-place constraint)

b) My thought process started by figuring out how to only do one pass on the array. As long as I did this keeping linear time and not using new memory would be easy. I figured I could loop through and stop my ptr's when a swap could happen as long as my ptr's checked position (not crossed) and didn't leave array. Thus I made a nested loop that did one pass and checked the given criteria every loop.