

CS 577 - HOMEWORK 2

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Algorithm 3:

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Input: A list  $A$  of  $n$  positive integers where  $n \geq 0$

Output: The number of students who can see the canteen.

1: Procedure  $\text{whoCanSee}(A[1, \dots, n])$

2: return  $\text{Foo}(A[1, \dots, n], 0)$

Input: An array  $A$  of positive integers of length  $n \geq 0$ .

An integer  $t \geq 0$

Output: The number of students who can see the canteen.

3: Procedure  $\text{Foo}(A[1, \dots, n], t)$

4:     if  $n=0$  then

5:         return 0

6:     else

7:          $h \leftarrow A[1]$

8:         if  $h > t$  then

9:             return  $1 + \text{Foo}(A[2, \dots, n], h)$

10:         else

11:             return  $\text{Foo}(A[2, \dots, n], t)$

PROOF

Let  $A[1, \dots, n]$  and  $t$  be valid inputs to  $\text{Foo}$ , and consider the complexity measure  $M(A[1, \dots, n], t) = n$ .

For  $A$  to be valid,  $n \geq 0$ , and hence  $M(A[1, \dots, n], t) \geq 0$ .

Now we are going to use structural induction, to prove that for all positive integers  $m$ , the program is correct on all valid inputs  $A, t$  with  $M(A, t) \leq m$ .

BASE CASE  $m=0$

Since  $n=0$ , the line contains 0 students, and on line 5, the algorithm returns 0.

This is the correct output, because 0 students in the given input array can see the canteen.

(\*)



INDUCTIVE STEP

INDUCTIVE HYPOTHESIS: we assume that for some integer  $n \geq 1$ , the algorithm is correct for valid inputs  $A'$  and  $t'$ , with  $M(A', t') \leq n-1$ .

Now, consider the valid input  $A$  and  $t$  with  $M(A, t) = n$ .

(\*) Input  $t$  represents the maximum height seen in the entire array  $A$ . If  $t=0$ , we conclude that there are no students in line (Student heights must be positive integers).

### CASE 1 $h > t$

On line 7,  $h$  is assigned  $A[i]$ . Since the first student's height  $h$  is greater than the current maximum height, we may conclude that the student can see the canteen. On line 9 we make a recursive call with inputs  $A[2, \dots, n]$  and  $h$ . Since  $h > t$ , and  $t \geq 0$  based on our input specification,  $h \geq 0$  and is a valid input. Since length of  $A$  is  $n-1$ , and  $n > 0$  and an integer, we know that  $n-1 \geq 0$  and is an integer. Thus list  $A[2, \dots, n]$  is a valid input, and  $\mu(A[2, \dots, n], h) = n-1$  which makes  $\mu(A[2, \dots, n], h) < n$ . By the I.H., the algorithm correctly returns the number of students who can see the canteen, in the subset of  $A[2, \dots, n]$ . This value is added with 1 to account for  $A[i]$ , which sums to the correct return value.

### CASE 2 $h \leq t$

Since the first student's height  $A[i]$  is less than the current maximum height  $t$ , we know that the student cannot see the canteen. On line 11, we make a recursive call with inputs  $A[2, \dots, n]$  and  $t$ . Since  $t$  remains unchanged, and based on input specification  $t \geq 0$  and is an integer, we conclude that  $t$  is a valid input. Since the length of input  $A$  is  $n-1$ , and we know that  $n \geq 1$  (base case not entered), we may conclude that  $n-1 \geq 0$ , and is an integer. Thus, the input list  $A$  is of valid length  $n-1$ , and is a valid input. The measure of complexity  $\mu(A[2, \dots, n], t) = n-1$  at this point, which is less than  $\mu(A[1, \dots, n], t) = n$ . Because  $\mu(A[2, \dots, n], t) < \mu(A[1, \dots, n], t)$ , we observe that the complexity measure decreases on each recursive step. By I.H., we know that  $\text{Foo}(A[2, \dots, n], t)$  will return the number of remaining students in subset  $A$ , who can see the canteen. Furthermore, since the first student cannot see the canteen, this is the correct output.

Hence, by induction, the algorithm is correct on all valid inputs  $A$  and  $t$ . ■