

Tasks summary

Task	Time spent	Score
<div>MinAvgTwoSlice</div> <div>Python</div> <div></div>	3 min	100%

Total score

100%

Tasks Details

Medium

1. MinAvgTwoSlice

Find the minimal average of any slice containing at least two elements.

Task Score

Correctness

Performance

100%

100%

100%

Task description

A non-empty array A consisting of N integers is given. A pair of integers (P, Q), such that  $0 \leq P < Q < N$ , is called a *slice* of array A (notice that the slice contains at least two elements). The *average* of a slice (P, Q) is the sum of  $A[P] + A[P + 1] + \dots + A[Q]$  divided by the length of the slice. To be precise, the average equals  $(A[P] + A[P + 1] + \dots + A[Q]) / (Q - P + 1)$ .

For example, array A such that:

A[0] = 4  
A[1] = 2  
A[2] = 2  
A[3] = 5  
A[4] = 1  
A[5] = 5  
A[6] = 8

contains the following example slices:

- slice (1, 2), whose average is  $(2 + 2) / 2 = 2$ ;
- slice (3, 4), whose average is  $(5 + 1) / 2 = 3$ ;
- slice (1, 4), whose average is  $(2 + 2 + 5 + 1) / 4 = 2.5$ .

The goal is to find the starting position of a slice whose average is minimal.

Write a function:

def solution(A)

that, given a non-empty array A consisting of N integers, returns the starting position of the slice with the minimal average. If there is more than one slice with a minimal average, you should return the smallest starting position of such a slice.

For example, given array A such that:

A[0] = 4  
A[1] = 2  
A[2] = 2  
A[3] = 5  
A[4] = 1  
A[5] = 5  
A[6] = 8

the function should return 1, as explained above.

Write an **efficient** algorithm for the following assumptions:

- N is an integer within the range [2..100,000];
- each element of array A is an integer within the range [-10,000..10,000].

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Solution

Programming language used:

Python

Total time used:

3 minutes

Effective time used:

3 minutes

Notes:

not defined yet

Task timeline

11:24:32

11:27:23

Code: 11:27:23 UTC, py, final, score: 100

[show code in pop-up](#)

```
1 # you can write to stdout for debugging purposes, e.g.
2 # print("this is a debug message")
3
4 def solution(A):
5     # write your code in Python 3.6
6     N = len(A)
7     if N == 2:
8         return 0
9     P = 0
10    Q = 1
11    sum_ = A[P]+A[Q]
12    min_ = sum_/2
13    pmin = P
14    while True:
15        if Q < N-1:
16            if (sum_+A[Q+1]) / (Q-P+1) < min_:
17                Q += 1
18                sum_ += A[Q]
19                tmp = min_
20                min_ = min(min_, sum_ / (Q-P+1))
21                if tmp > min_:
22                    pmin = P
23            else:
24                if P < N-2:
25                    P += 1
26                    Q = P+1
27                    sum_ = A[P]+A[Q]
28                    tmp = min_
29                    min_ = min(min_, sum_/2)
30                    if tmp > min_:
31                        pmin = P
32                else:
33                    break
34        else:
35            if P < N-2:
36                if P < Q-1:
37                    P += 1
38                    sum_ -= A[P-1]
39                    tmp = min_
40                    min_ = min(min_, sum_ / (Q-P+1))
41                    if tmp > min_:
42                        pmin = P
43                else:
44                    P += 1
45                    Q = P+1
46                    sum_ = A[P]+A[Q]
47                    tmp = min_
48                    min_ = min(min_, sum_/2)
49                    if tmp > min_:
50                        pmin = P
51            else:
52                break
53
54    return pmin
```

Analysis summary

The solution obtained perfect score.

Analysis

Detected time complexity: **O(N)**

expand all

Example tests

▶ example

example test

OK

expand all

Correctness tests

▶ double\_quadruple

two or four elements

OK

▶ simple1

simple test, the best slice has length 3

OK

▶ simple2

simple test, the best slice has length 3

OK

▶ small\_random

random, length = 100

OK

▶ medium\_range

increasing, decreasing (legth = ~100) and small functional

OK

expand all

Performance tests

▶ medium\_random

random, N = ~700

OK

▶ large\_ones

numbers from -1 to 1, N = ~100,000

OK

▶ large\_random

random, N = ~100,000

OK

▶ extreme\_values

all maximal values, N = ~100,000

OK

▶ large\_sequence

many sequences, N = ~100,000

OK