

# COMP3121 Assignment1 - Q3

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## **Answer**

First sort array  $A$  in  $O(n \log n)$  by merge sort. Then use binary search in  $A$  to find the first element that less or equal to  $L$ ; if it hits  $L$ , check if the preceding element is equal to  $L$ ; if it equals  $L$ , continue binary search until the first element equal to  $L$  is found. Then use the same strategy to find the first element that is greater than  $U$  or the last element equals to  $U$ . The difference of the two elements' index plus one is the result for a query. As each binary search takes  $O(\log n)$ , the searching process takes  $O(n \log n)$  overall.