

LeetCode 1502: Can Make Arithmetic Progression From Sequence

Arlie

Problem

Given an array of numbers *arr*, return *true* if the array can be rearranged to form an arithmetic progression. Otherwise, return *false*.

Difficulty: *Easy*

Terminology

A sequence of numbers is called an arithmetic progression if the difference between any two consecutive elements is the same.

Solution

The information we are given in the *terminology* section allows us to form a base on how to solve this problem. We know that given two consecutive elements their difference d is the same for each two consecutive elements. We also know that a sequence is **sorted**. These two facts almost solve the problem for us. First, we must sort the array, then we must find the difference between first two numbers, then for each number after the second number, check its difference with the number behind it, if the difference is different to the first calculated, then it is **not an arithmetic progression** and return *false*. Otherwise return *true*. # Code

```
1 def canMakeArithmeticProgression(arr: list[int]) -> bool:
2     arr.sort()
3     diff = arr[1]-arr[0]
4     for i in range(2,len(arr)):
5         if arr[i]-arr[i-1] != diff:
6             return False
7     return True
```

Analysis

Time Complexity

The most costly operation here is sorting the list which takes $\mathcal{O}(n \log n)$ time hence our time complexity is:

$$\mathcal{O}(n \log n)$$

Space Complexity

We do not create any other data structures to solve this problem hence we get a space complexity of:

$$\mathcal{O}(1)$$