

# Segment trees

## Need of segment trees

Let us take an example of returning and updating the sum of the subarray  $a[i....j]$  of an array of size  $n$ .

Example

5	3	2	4	1	8	6	10
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Query: Output the sum from  $i=1$  to  $i=5$ .

Update: Update the element at  $i^{\text{th}}$  index. Example: put  $a[4] = 13$ .

## Approach 1

For query: Iterate from  $i=1$  to  $i=5$  and calculate the sum.

Time complexity:  $O(n)$

For update: Update the  $i^{\text{th}}$  index, simply put  $a[i] = \text{updated\_element}$

Query	Update
$O(n)$	$O(1)$

## Approach 2 (Prefix Sum Approach)

Build the prefix sum array

Given array:

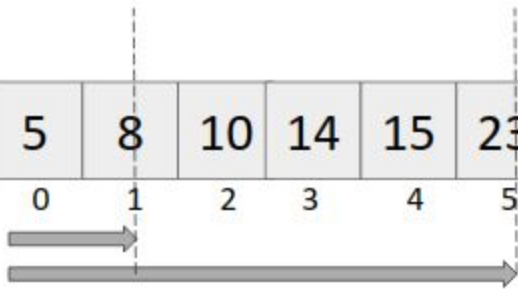
5	3	2	4	1	8	6	10
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Prefix sum array:

5	8	10	14	15	23	29	39
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

For query: Output sum from i to j ( $0 \leq i \leq j < n$ ) (say  $i=1$  to  $i=5$ )

5	8	10	14	15	23	29	39
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7



$$\text{Sum}[i \dots j] = \begin{cases} \text{pref}[j] - \text{pref}[i-1] & \text{if } i \neq 0 \\ \text{pref}[j] & \text{if } i = 0 \end{cases}$$

Time complexity:  $O(1)$

For update: Put  $a[i] = \text{updated\_value}$

To update in the prefix array, we need to change all  $\text{pref}[i_1]$   $\{i_1 \geq i\}$

Example: Update the 4th indexed element to 13.

Original Array becomes:

5	3	2	4	<b>13</b>	8	6	10
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Prefix sum array becomes:

5	8	10	14	27	35	41	51
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Time complexity:  $O(n)$

Time complexity of this approach

Query	Update
$O(1)$	$O(n)$

If we want both the operations to be in reasonable time, we use segment trees.

Time Complexity comparison table

Approach	Query	Update
Approach 1	$O(n)$	$O(1)$
Approach 2	$O(1)$	$O(n)$
Segment tree	$O(\log(n))$	$O(\log(n))$

Requirement of  $\log(n)$  time complexity: Many a times, number of queries and number of updates are of the order of  $10^5$ - $10^6$ , we will get tle if we use Approach 1 or Approach 2.

## Segment tree construction

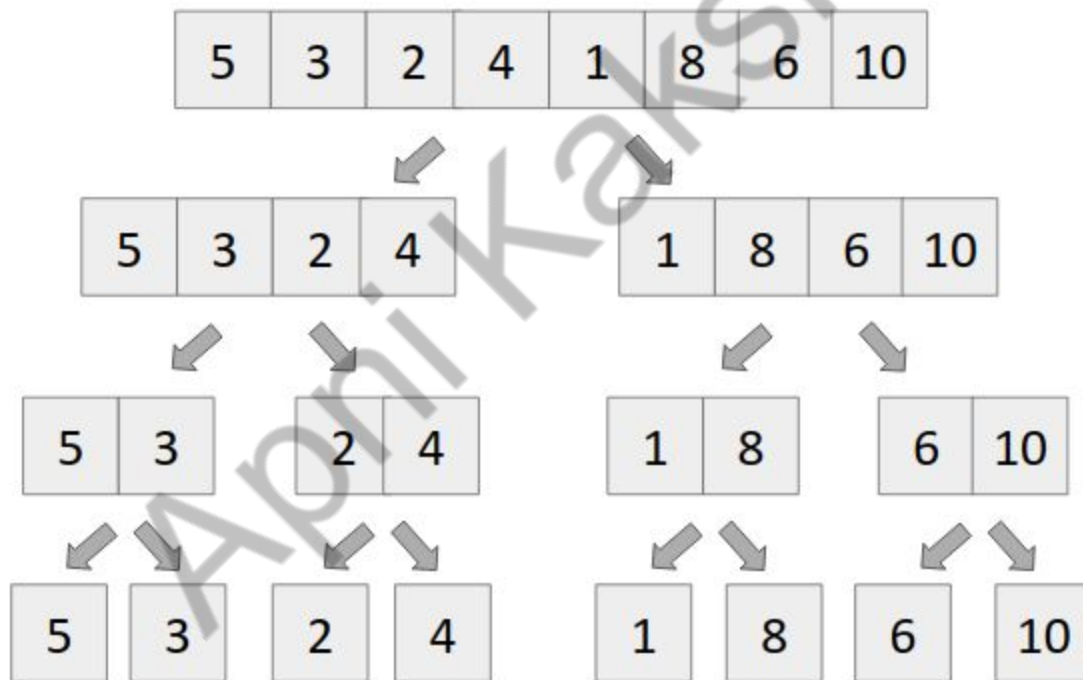
Given array:

5	3	2	4	1	8	6	10
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

### Power of number 2 in programming

1. Binary Representation of numbers - All operations be it sum / subtraction/ product, all are accomplished in  $O(1)$ .
2. Division of array (Divide and conquer)

We can divide the above array as



Number of nodes =  $n + n/2 + n/4 + \dots + 2 + 1$  , which is geometric progression

Let number of terms in the above G.P. be  $x$ , which denotes the height of the segment tree.

We know,

$$ar^{x-1} = n$$

putting  $a = 1$ ,  $r = 2$ , we get

$$(2)^{x-1} = n$$

$$\log_2(2^{x-1}) = \log_2 n$$

$$x = 1 + \log_2 n$$

Number of nodes =  $1 + 2 + 4 + \dots + n/4 + n/2 + n$ .

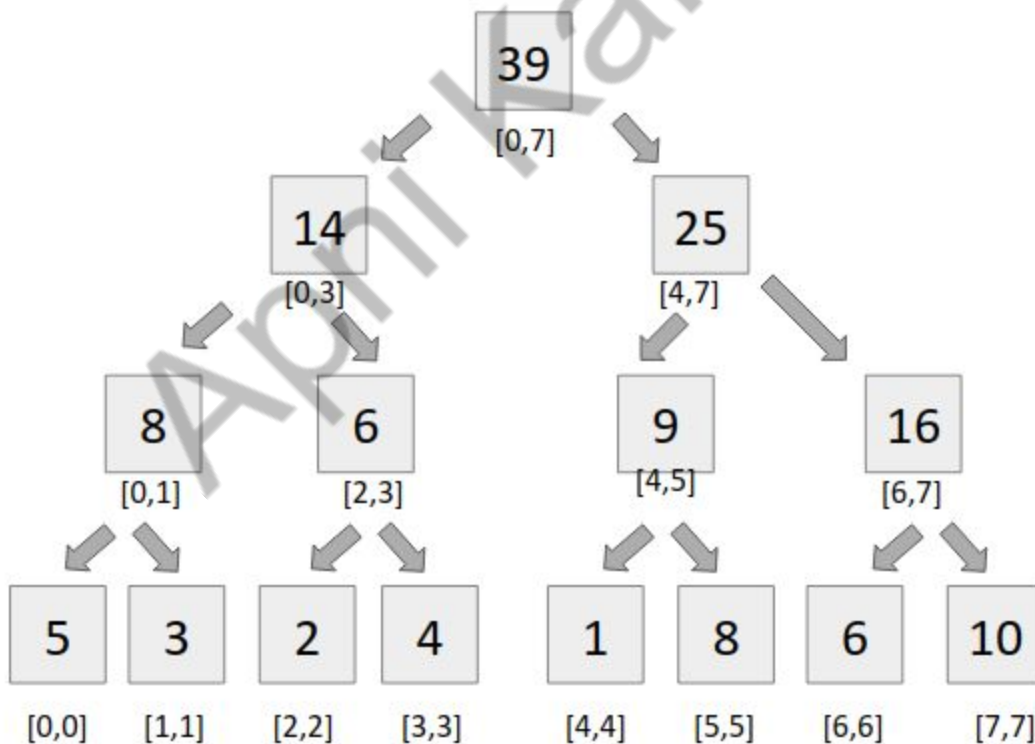
$$= 1((2)^{1+\log(n)} - 1) / 2-1$$

$$= 2 \cdot 2^{\log(n)} - 1$$

$$= 2n-1$$

For safety, we make segment tree of size  $4 \cdot n$ .

**Structure of segment tree**



## Building a segment tree

It is very simple to build a segment tree, we use divide and conquer approach to build the segment tree.

Code:

```
int tree[4*N];
int a[N];

void build(int node, int st, int en)
{
    if(st == en)
    {
        tree[node] = a[st];
        return;
    }

    int mid = (st+en)/2;
    build(2*node, st, mid);
    build(2*node+1, mid+1, en);

    tree[node] = tree[2*node] + tree[2*node+1];
}
```

## Query

For query, we see two types of segments

- Complete overlapping segments - When our st and en lies completely in the range  $[l, r]$ , it is called complete overlapping segment.
- Partial overlapping segments - When our st and en does not lie completely in the range  $[l, r]$ , it is called partial overlapping segment.

Code:

```
int query(int node, int st, int en, int l, int r)
{
    if(st > r || en < l)
        return 0; // may change according to the conditions

    if(l <= st && en <= r)
        return tree[node];

    int mid = (st + en) / 2;

    int q1 = query(2 * node, st, mid, l, r);
    int q2 = query(2 * node + 1, mid + 1, en, l, r);

    return q1 + q2;
}
```

## Update

Updating an element in the segment tree is very similar to binary search.

We find out mid, and compare our index with mid and two conditions arise

1.  $Idx \leq mid$ , then we recursively call the left child of the tree's node.
2.  $Idx > mid$ , then we recursively call the right child of the tree's node.

Code:

```
void update(int node, int st, int en, int idx, int val)
{
    if(st == en)
    {
        a[st] = val;
        tree[node] = val;
        return;
    }

    int mid = (st+en)/2;

    if(idx<=mid)
        update(2*node, st, mid, idx, val);
    else
        update(2*node+1, mid+1, en, idx, val);

    tree[node] = tree[2*node] + tree[2*node+1];
}
```