

(1) (15 points) Let X_1, X_2, \dots, X_k be k independent random variables taking values in the range $\{0, 1, \dots, n-1\}$. Their sum $X = X_1 + \dots + X_k$ takes values in the range $\{0, \dots, k(n-1)\}$. Suppose we are given an input that specifies:

1. **the distribution of each X_i** , expressed in the form of a two-dimensional array P such that $P[i, j]$ denotes the probability that $X_i = j$.
2. **an interval $[a, b]$** , such that $0 \leq a \leq b \leq k(n-1)$.

Given this data, we are interested in computing the probability that $a \leq X \leq b$.

(1a) (5 points) Design a dynamic programming algorithm that computes, for every pair i, j , the quantity $q_{ij} = \Pr(X_1 + \dots + X_i = j)$, and then outputs the sum $\sum_{j=a}^b q_{kj}$.

You may omit the proof of correctness, but you should analyze the running time of this dynamic programming algorithm.

(1b) (10 points) Design an algorithm that computes $\Pr(a \leq X \leq b)$ in time $O(kn \log(k) \log(kn))$.

For this part of the problem, include both the running time analysis and the proof of correctness.

HINT: If Y and Z are independent random variables taking values in $\{0, 1, \dots, n-1\}$, show that the probability distribution of their sum $Y+Z$ can be computed as the convolution of two vectors representing the probability distributions of Y and of Z .

Solution. First we prove the fact stated in the hint.

Lemma 1. Suppose Y and Z are independent random variables taking values in $\{0, 1, \dots, n-1\}$. Let $y = (y_0, y_1, \dots, y_{n-1})$ and $z = (z_0, z_1, \dots, z_{n-1})$ denote vectors representing the probability distributions of Y and Z ; in other words for $0 \leq i < n$,

$$y_i = \Pr(Y = i), \quad z_i = \Pr(Z = i).$$

Then the probability distribution of $Y + Z$ is represented by the convolution $y * z$; in other words for $0 \leq j < 2n-1$,

$$\Pr(Y + Z = j) = \sum_{i=0}^j y_i z_{j-i}.$$

Proof. The event that $Y + Z = j$ is the union of the disjoint events $\mathcal{E}_{ij} = \{Y = i, Z = j - i\}$ where i ranges from 0 to j . Hence

$$\Pr(Y + Z = j) = \sum_{i=0}^j \Pr(\mathcal{E}_{ij}) = \sum_{i=0}^j \Pr(Y = i) \cdot \Pr(Z = j - i) = \sum_{i=0}^j y_i z_{j-i}$$

where the second equation is due to the independence of Y and Z , and the third equation follows from the definition of the vectors y and z . \square

(1a) The dynamic programming algorithm is as follows. The correctness of the dynamic programming algorithm is proven by induction on i . The induction hypothesis is that for $0 \leq j \leq k(n-1)$, the dynamic

Initialize $Q[0, 0] = 1$ and $Q[0, j] = 0$ for $j = 1, 2, \dots, k(n-1)$.

for $i = 1, \dots, k$ **do**

for $j = 0, \dots, k(n-1)$ **do**

$Q[i, j] = \sum_{\ell=0}^j Q[i-1, \ell] \cdot P[i, j-\ell]$

end for

end for

Return $Q[k, a] + Q[k, a+1] + \dots + Q[k, b]$.

programming table entry $Q[i, j]$ is equal to the probability q_{ij} defined in the problem statement. The induction step is an application of Lemma 1.

The running time is $O(k^3 n^2)$ because the dynamic programming table has $O(k^2 n)$ entries, and computing one entry involves calculating a sum of $O(kn)$ terms, where each term of the sum can be calculated in $O(1)$ time.

(1b) We first present an algorithm with running time $O(k^2 n \log(kn))$ and then explain how to improve the running time to $O(k n \log(k) \log(kn))$.

The idea of the $O(k^2 n \log(kn))$ algorithm is to replace the inner loop over j in the dynamic programming algorithm with the fast convolution algorithm from Section 5.6 of the textbook. Each loop iteration

Let $d = 1 + k(n-1)$.

Initialize d -dimensional vector $Q_0 = (1, 0, \dots, 0)$.

for $i = 1, \dots, k$ **do**

 Let P_i denote the d -dimensional vector $(P[i, 0], P[i, 1], \dots, P[i, n-1], 0, 0, \dots, 0)$.

 Let $Q_i = Q_{i-1} * P_i$. Compute Q_i using the fast convolution algorithm based on the FFT.

end for

Return $Q_k[a] + Q_k[a+1] + \dots + Q_k[b]$.

requires computing the convolution of two d -dimensional vectors, hence it runs in $O(d \log d)$ time. The total running time is therefore $O(kd \log d)$; substituting $d = O(kn)$ this implies a running time bound of $O(k^2 n \log(kn))$.

To improve the running time to $O(kn \log(k) \log(kn))$, we replace the loop over $i = 1, \dots, k$ with a divide-and-conquer strategy that partitions the variables X_1, \dots, X_k into two equal-sized groups, computes the distribution of the sum in each group, and merges the two distributions using the fast convolution algorithm. The benefit of this divide-and-conquer strategy is that near the bottom of the “recursion tree”, e.g. when computing the distribution of the sum $X_1 + X_2$, we are convolving vectors whose dimensionality is much less than kn , which results in some running time savings.

Let 2^ℓ denote the smallest power of 2 greater than or equal to k .

for $i = 1, \dots, 2^\ell$ **do**

if $i \leq k$ **then**

 Let $R_{i,0}$ denote the n -dimensional vector $(P[i, 0], P[i, 1], \dots, P[i, n-1])$

else

 Let $R_{i,0} = (1, 0, \dots, 0)$.

end if

end for

for $j = 1, 2, \dots, \ell$ **do**

for $i = 1, 2, \dots, 2^{\ell-j}$ **do**

 Compute $R_{i,j} = R_{2i-1,j-1} * R_{2i,j-1}$ using the fast convolution algorithm based on the FFT.

end for

end for

Return $R_{1,\ell}[a] + R_{1,\ell}[a+1] + \dots + R_{1,\ell}[b]$.

The correctness of the algorithm follows immediately from the following lemma.

Lemma 2. For $0 \leq j \leq \ell$ and $1 \leq i \leq 2^{\ell-j}$, let W_{ij} denote the random variable

$$W_{ij} = \sum_{2^j(i-1) < m \leq \min\{k, 2^j i\}} X_m.$$

The vector $R_{i,j}$ computed by the algorithm is $(2^j n)$ -dimensional and it encodes the probability distribution of W_{ij} .

Proof. The proof is by induction on j . In the base case $j = 0$ the sum defining the variable W_{i0} either consists of a single term X_i , if $1 \leq i \leq k$, or it is an empty sum if $i > k$. Hence $W_{i0} = X_i$ if $i \leq k$ and $W_{i0} = 0$ if $i > k$, and in both cases the distribution of W_{i0} is correctly encoded by the n -dimensional vector $R_{i,0}$. This finishes the base case.

For the induction step, the induction hypothesis asserts that each of the vectors $R_{2i-1,j-1}$ and $R_{2i,j-1}$ is $(2^{j-1}n)$ -dimensional so their convolution is a vector of dimension $2 \cdot 2^{j-1}n = 2^j n$, as claimed. Applying Lemma 1 along with the induction hypothesis, we find that the vector $R_{i,j}$ encodes the probability distribution of the random variable

$$\begin{aligned} W_{2i-1,j-1} + W_{2i,j-1} &= \left(\sum_{2^{j-1}(2i-2) < m \leq 2^{j-1}(2i-1)} X_m \right) + \left(\sum_{2^{j-1}(2i-1) < m \leq 2^{j-1}(2i)} X_m \right) \\ &= \sum_{2^{j-1}(2i-2) < m \leq 2^{j-1}(2i)} X_m \\ &= \sum_{2^j(i-1) < m \leq 2^j i} X_m = W_{i,j} \end{aligned}$$

as claimed. □

Finally, to analyze the running time of the algorithm, note that in outer loop iteration j , we perform $2^{\ell-j}$ convolution operations on vectors of dimension $2^j n$. The running time of one such convolution is

$$O(2^j n \log(2^j n)) \leq O(2^j n \log(kn))$$

since $2^j < 2k$. The running time of $2^{\ell-j}$ such convolutions is therefore $O(2^\ell n \log(kn)) = O(kn \log(kn))$, where we have used the fact that $k \leq 2^\ell < 2k$. Finally, observing that the number of iterations of the

outer loop is $\lceil \log_2(k) \rceil$, we obtain a running time bound of $O(kn \log(k) \log(kn))$ for all of the outer loop iterations combined. The initialization step and the final step of summing $R_{1,\ell}[a] + R_{1,\ell}[a+1] + \dots + R_{1,\ell}[b]$ both take $O(kn)$ time, which does not affect the asymptotic running time bound.

(2) (15 points) Given as input a list of n points $L = \{(a_1, b_1), \dots, (a_n, b_n)\}$ on the real plane, your task is to compute the largest rectangle (in terms of area) that can be formed by selecting two points from L , one representing the bottom-left vertex of the rectangle and the other representing the top-right vertex. For simplicity, assume that all the a_i 's and b_i 's are distinct real numbers.

(2a) (3 points) Define two lists of points BL and TR in the following way:

$$BL = \{(a_i, b_i) \in L : \text{for any } j \neq i, \text{ either } a_i < a_j \text{ or } b_i < b_j\}$$

and

$$TR = \{(a_i, b_i) \in L : \text{for any } j \neq i, \text{ either } a_i > a_j \text{ or } b_i > b_j\}.$$

Prove that there exists a rectangle with largest area (using points from L) that has its bottom-left vertex in BL and top-right vertex in TR . Provide an $O(n \log n)$ time algorithm to compute BL and TR . You must output each of the two lists BL and TR by sorting them according to the x -coordinates of the points (in increasing order). **You don't have to provide proof of correctness of your algorithms. You do have to analyze run-time of the algorithms you provide.**

(2b) (2 points) Let (a_i, b_i) and (a_j, b_j) be points in BL such that $a_i < a_j$. Further, let (a_k, b_k) and (a_ℓ, b_ℓ) be points in TR such that $a_k < a_\ell$. Define $\Delta_{e,f}$ to be the area of the rectangle using (a_e, b_e) as the bottom-left vertex and (a_f, b_f) as the top-right vertex, where $e \in \{i, j\}$ and $f \in \{k, \ell\}$. Prove that $\Delta_{i,k} + \Delta_{j,\ell} > \Delta_{i,\ell} + \Delta_{j,k}$.

(2c) (10 points) Design an algorithm that runs in time $O(n \log n)$ to compute the largest rectangle (in terms of area) that can be formed by selecting the bottom-left vertex from BL and the top-right vertex from TR . The output of the algorithm should be the area of the largest rectangle.

Solution. We will use the following notation for convenience: we will say the rectangle formed by (i, j) to mean the rectangle formed by the points (a_i, b_i) and (a_j, b_j) as the bottom-left and top-right vertices, respectively (whenever the rectangle is well defined).

(2a) Let (i, j) form an optimal rectangle. Suppose if possible $(a_i, b_i) \notin BL$. Thus there exists (a_k, b_k) such that $a_i > a_k$ and $b_i > b_k$. The area of rectangle formed by (k, j) is $(a_j - a_k)(b_j - b_k)$. Using the fact that $a_i > a_k$ and $b_i > b_k$, it follows that $(a_j - a_k)(b_j - b_k) > (a_j - a_i)(b_j - b_i)$. Noticing that the quantity on the right in the inequality is the area of the rectangle (i, j) , it contradicts the optimality of (i, j) . Thus, (a_i, b_i) must be in BL . A similar argument shows that $(a_j, b_j) \in TR$. We use the following algorithm to compute BL .

Algorithm 1 computeBL

Sort L in increasing order of the x -coordinate. Let L_x denote this sorted list.
 $y_{min} \leftarrow 0, BL \leftarrow \emptyset$.
for i from 1 to n **do**
 Let (a, b) be the i 'th point in L_x .
 if $b \leq y_{min}$ **then**
 $BL \leftarrow BL \cup \{(a, b)\}$
 end if
 $y_{min} = \min(y_{min}, b)$
end for
Output BL .

Algorithm 2 computeTR

Sort L in decreasing order of the x -coordinate. Let L_x denote this sorted list.
 $y_{max} \leftarrow 0, TR \leftarrow \emptyset$.
for i from 1 to n **do**
 Let (a, b) be the i 'th point in L_x .
 if $b \geq y_{max}$ **then**
 $BL \leftarrow BL \cup \{(a, b)\}$
 end if
 $y_{max} = \max(y_{max}, b)$
end for
Output TR after sorting it in increasing order of x -coordinates.

The sorting step to produce L_x requires $O(n \log n)$ time. Further, each iteration of the loop takes $O(1)$ time. Thus the above algorithm runs in time $O(n \log n)$.

An identical argument also shows that the following algorithm runs in time $O(n \log n)$.

Proof of correctness is not required for HW submission. We supply it here for completeness. We prove the correctness of the algorithm computeBL by using induction on the loop counter i . Let $L_{x,i}$ denote the first i points in the list L_i . Further let BL_i be the set BL at the end of iteration i and $y_{max,i}$ be the value of y_{max} at the end of the i 'th iteration. The following is our induction hypothesis: For $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$,

$$BL_i = \{(a, b) \in L_{x,i} : \text{for any } (c, d) \in (L_{x,i} \setminus \{(a, b)\}), \text{ either } a < c \text{ or } b < d\} \text{ and}$$

$$y_{min,i} = \min\{b : \text{for some } a \in \mathbb{R}, (a, b) \in L_{x,i}\}$$

The base case for $i = 1$ is direct from the fact that L_x is sorted in increasing order of x -coordinates (the assertion about $y_{max,1}$ is trivial since there is just 1 point). Now suppose the induction hypothesis is true for $i - 1$, and we will prove it for i , where $i > 1$. Suppose the i 'th point in L_x is (a, b) . We start by observing that $BL_{i-1} \subseteq BL_i$. This follows since $L_{x,i} = L_{x,i-1} \cup \{(a, b)\}$ and that a is larger than the x -coordinate of any point in $L_{x,i-1}$.

Now consider the case when (a, b) is included in BL_i . Then it must be that $b < y_{min,i-1}$, i.e., the y -coordinate of (a, b) is smaller than any the y -coordinate of any point appearing before (a, b) in L_x . Thus, it follows that $(a, b) \in BL_i$, and hence BL_i satisfies the induction hypothesis. The case when (a, b) is not included in BL_i implies that there is some $(c, d) \in L_{x,i-1}$ such that $d < b$. But since $c < a$, it follows from definition that $(a, b) \notin BL_i$. This completes the inductive proof in this case as well.

Finally, observe the induction hypothesis with $i = n$ implies that the output indeed computes BL .

We state the algorithm to compute TR but don't include the proof of correctness since it is almost identical to the above argument.

(2b) Note that since (a_i, b_i) and (a_j, b_j) are both points in BL and $a_i < a_j$, it must be that $b_i > b_j$. Similarly, since (a_k, b_k) and (a_ℓ, b_ℓ) are both points in TR and $a_k < a_\ell$ it must be that $b_k > b_\ell$. We have $\Delta_{e,f} = (a_f - a_e)(b_f - b_e)$, where $e \in \{i, j\}$ and $f \in \{k, \ell\}$. Plugging this in, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_{i,k} + \Delta_{j,\ell} - \Delta_{i,\ell} - \Delta_{j,k} &= (a_k - a_i)(b_k - b_i) + (a_\ell - a_j)(b_\ell - b_j) \\ &\quad - (a_\ell - a_i)(b_\ell - b_i) - (a_j - a_k)(b_j - b_k) \\ &= (a_\ell - a_k)(b_i - b_j) + (a_j - a_i)(b_k - b_\ell) \quad (\text{using algebraic manipulations}) \\ &> 0, \end{aligned}$$

where the last inequality follows using the facts that $a_\ell > a_k, b_i > b_j, a_j > a_i$ and $b_k > b_\ell$.

(2c) We will use a divide-and-conquer strategy to design the algorithm. The crucial observation is the following: Let BL and TR denote the lists computed above (recall that they are sorted according to the lists are sorted in increasing order of their x-coordinates), and let q, r denote their respective lengths. We introduce some notation: let (c_i, d_i) denote the i 'th point in BL and (e_i, f_i) denote the i 'th point in the list TR . Further, for $1 \leq i \leq q$, define $m(i)$ to be the value in $\{1, \dots, r\}$ which maximizes the area of the rectangle formed by (c_i, d_i) as the bottom-left vertex and $(e_{m(i)}, f_{m(i)})$ as the top-right vertex. The following simple claim lets us develop a divide-and-conquer strategy.

Claim 1 For $1 \leq i < j \leq q$, $m(i) \leq m(j)$.

Proof Suppose if possible that $m(i) > m(j)$. It follows that by **(2b)** that $\Delta_{i,m(i)} + \Delta_{j,m(j)} < \Delta_{i,m(j)} + \Delta_{j,m(i)}$. Thus at least one of the inequalities hold: (i) $\Delta_{i,m(i)} < \Delta_{i,m(j)}$, (ii) $\Delta_{j,m(j)} < \Delta_{j,m(i)}$, which contradicts the definition of $m(\cdot)$. \square

The divide-and-conquer strategy is the following: Let $MaxArea((i, j), (k, \ell))$ be a function that takes two lists that computes the optimal rectangle with the bottom-left vertex in the range $[i, j]$ in BL and top-right vertex in the range $[k, \ell]$ in TR . To compute $MaxArea(BL, TR)$, first compute $m(w)$ for $w = \lfloor \frac{i+j}{2} \rfloor$. Output the max of $MaxArea((i, w), (k, m(w)))$ and $MaxArea((w+1, j), (m(w), \ell))$.

We now provide pseudocode for the above strategy. We assume that BL is a list of size q and TR is a list of size r .

Algorithm 3 $MaxArea((i, j), (k, \ell))$

if $i = j$ or $i + 1 = j$ **then**

 Output the max-area rectangle by brute-force (i.e, going over all possible pairs).

else

$w \leftarrow \lfloor \frac{i+j}{2} \rfloor$.

 Compute $m(w)$.

 Output the maximum of $MaxArea((i, w), (k, m(w)))$ and $MaxArea((w+1, j), (m(w), \ell))$.

end if

Algorithm 4 $Largest - Rect(BL, TR)$

 Output $MaxArea((1, q), (1, r))$

We now analyze the run time of $MaxArea((i, j), (k, \ell))$, which we denote by $T(\alpha, \beta)$, where $\alpha = j - i + 1, \beta = \ell - k + 1$. We observe that $m(w)$ is some number in the range k, \dots, ℓ and can be computed in time $O(\beta)$. Thus, $T(\alpha, \beta) = T(\lfloor \frac{\alpha}{2} \rfloor, \gamma) + T(\lceil \frac{\alpha}{2} \rceil, \beta - \gamma) + O(\alpha + \beta)$, for some $\gamma \in \{1, \dots, \beta\}$, which can be solved to get $T(\alpha, \beta) = O((\alpha + \beta) \log \alpha)$. Thus the running time of $Largest - Rect(BL, TR)$ is $O((q + r) \log q)$, which gives us an $O(n \log n)$ time algorithm (since $q, r \leq n$).

The proof of correctness of $MaxArea((i, j), (k, \ell))$ follows by an inductive argument on the quantity $\alpha + \beta$, where $\alpha = j - i + 1, \beta = \ell - k + 1$. The base case of $\alpha + \beta = 2$ is direct, since it must be that $i = j$

and $k = \ell$. We now assume the correctness of the algorithm for all valid inputs $(i', j'), (k', \ell')$ such that $(j' - i') + (\ell' - k') < \alpha + \beta$, and prove correctness for all inputs $(i, j), (k, \ell)$ such that $(j - i) + (\ell - k) = \alpha + \beta$. By inductive hypothesis, it follows that $MaxArea((i, w), (k, m(w)))$ output the largest rectangle formed with the bottom-left vertex in the range $[i, w]$ in BL and the top-right vertex in the range $[k, m(w)]$ in TR . Similarly, $MaxArea((w + 1, j), (m(w) + 1, \ell))$ output the largest rectangle formed with the bottom-left vertex in the range $[w + 1, j]$ in BL and the top-right vertex in the range $[m(w) + 1, \ell]$ in TR . It now follows as a direct application of Claim 1 that the largest rectangle formed with the bottom-left vertex in the range $[i, j]$ in BL and the top-right vertex in the range $[k, \ell]$ in TR must be formed by either (i) the bottom-left vertex in the range $[i, w]$ in BL and the top-right vertex in the range $[k, m(w)]$ in TR , or (ii) the bottom-left vertex in the range $[w + 1, j]$ in BL and the top-right vertex in the range $[m(w) + 1, \ell]$. The correctness of our algorithm is now direct.