

713. Subarray product less than k

I/P: nums = [10, 5, 2, 6], k = 100

O/P: 8

Explanation: The 8 subarrays that have product less than 100 are:

[10], [5], [2], [6], [10, 5], [5, 2], [2, 6], [5, 2, 6]

Note that [10, 5, 2] is not included as the product of 100 is not strictly less than k.

I/P: nums = [10, 5, 2, 6], k = 100

we list all subarrays and check their product:

Single elements:

$$[10] \rightarrow 10 < 100$$

$$[5] \rightarrow 5 < 100$$

$$[2] \rightarrow 2 < 100$$

$$[6] \rightarrow 6 < 100$$

Two elements:

$$[10, 5] \rightarrow 50 < 100$$

$$[5, 2] \rightarrow 10 < 100$$

$$[2, 6] \rightarrow 12 < 100$$

Three elements:

$$[10, 5, 2] \rightarrow 100 \times$$

$$[5, 2, 6] \rightarrow 60 < 100$$

Four elements:

$$[10, 5, 2, 6] \rightarrow 600 \times$$

Total valid subarrays = 8.

Brute force:

```
class solution {  
    public int numSubarrayProductLessThanK (int []  
        nums, int k) {
```

```
        if (k <= 1) return 0;
```

```
        int count = 0;
```

```
        int n = nums.length;
```

```
        for (int start = 0; start < n; start++) {
```

```
            int product = 1;
```

```
            for (int end = start; end < n; end++) {
```

```
                product = product * nums[end];
```

```
                if (product < k) {
```

```
                    count++;
```

```
                } else {
```

```
                    break;
```

```
                }
```

```
            }
```

```
        }
```

```
        return count;
```

```
    }
```

```
}
```

Time $\rightarrow O(n^2)$

Optimal solution (sliding / two pointers);

1. use two pointers: left and right
2. Multiply as you move right
3. If product becomes $\geq k \rightarrow$ divide by $\text{nums}[\text{left}]$ and move left forward
4. Every time product $< k \rightarrow$ add $(\text{right} - \text{left} + 1)$ to count.

class Solution {

public int numSubarrayProductLessThanK (int []
nums, int k) {

if (k <= 1) return 0;

int left = 0;

int product = 1;

int count = 0;

for (int right = 0; right < nums.length; right++) {

product *= nums[right];

while (product >= k) {

product /= nums[left];

left ++;

}

count += right - left + 1;

}

return count;

}

}

Time $\rightarrow O(n)$ space $\rightarrow O(1)$.