HackerRank Prepare > Interview Preparation Kits > 3 Months Preparation Kit > Week 4 > Picking Numbers

Given an array of integers, find the longest subarray where the absolute difference between any two elements is less than or equal to 1.

Example

```
a = [1, 1, 2, 2, 4, 4, 5, 5, 5]
```

There are two subarrays meeting the criterion: [1,1,2,2] and [4,4,5,5,5]. The maximum length subarray has f 5 elements.

Function Description

Complete the pickingNumbers function in the editor below.

pickingNumbers has the following parameter(s):

• int a[n]: an array of integers

Return

• int: the length of the longest subarray that meets the criterion

Input Format

The first line contains a single integer $m{n}$, the size of the array $m{a}$.

The second line contains $m{n}$ space-separated integers, each an $m{a}[m{i}]$.

Constraints

- $2 \le n \le 100$
- 0 < a[i] < 100
- The answer will be ≥ 2 .

```
# Complete the 'pickingNumbers' function below.
      # The function is expected to return an INTEGER.
     # The function accepts INTEGER_ARRAY a as parameter.

√ def pickingNumbers(a):
         # Write your code here
         # to note: in this question, subarray doesn't mean a solid subarray
         # the creater of this question should have mentioned that
         # I have written the solution that should work for a solid subarray, and that's why I'm sorting the array
         # This increases the time complexity from O(n) to O(n\log(n)) -.-
         a.sort()
          result = -1
          (cur_max, cur_min, cur_len) = (a[0], a[0], 1)
          for ele in a[1:]:
              if (abs(ele-cur_max)<=1) and (abs(ele-cur_min)<=1):</pre>
                 cur_len += 1
                 cur_max = max(cur_max, ele)
                 cur_min = min(cur_min, ele)
                 if cur_len >= 2:
                     result = max(result, cur_len)
             else:
                 cur_len = 1
                 cur_max = ele
                 cur_min = ele
          return result
                                                                                                                   Line: 57 Col: 5
                                                                                                                    Submit Code
                                                                                                       Run Code

↑ Upload Code as File

                       Test against custom input
 Congratulations
                                                                                                              Next Challenge
  You solved this challenge. Would you like to challenge your friends? f in
⊘ Test case 0
                       Compiler Message
                        Success
⊘ Test case 1
                                                                                                                      Download
                       Input (stdin)
6
4 6 5 3 3 1
Download
                       Expected Output
                          3
```