

# Interview Problems

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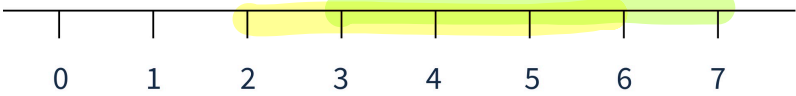



Notes





# Merge Overlapping Intervals

$I_1$        $I_2$       merged-interval

$(2, 6) \ (3, 7) \rightarrow$ 

 $[2, 7]$

$(2, 8) \ (4, 6) \rightarrow$ 

 $[2, 8]$

$(3, 7) \ (4, 10) \rightarrow$ 

 $[3, 10]$

$(3, 6) \ (6, 10) \rightarrow$ 

 $[3, 10]$

$(2, 5) \ (8, 10) \rightarrow$  ✗

$(5, 8) \ (1, 3) \rightarrow$  ✗

$(6, 10)$        $(3, 5)$   
 $s_1 \ e_1$        $s_2 \ e_2$

$[3, 8]$      $[5, 12]$      $\rightarrow$     3-12

$[6, 10]$      $[8, 15]$      $\rightarrow$      $[6, 15]$

$(6, 10)$        $(3, 7)$   
 $s_1 \ e_1$        $s_2 \ e_2$



&lt;/&gt; Code

$s_1, e_1, s_2, e_2$  (given)  
 $\underbrace{\hspace{1cm}}_{I_1} \quad \underbrace{\hspace{1cm}}_{I_2}$

$\underline{6}, \underline{10} \quad \underline{3}, \underline{7}$   
 $s_1 \ e_1 \quad s_2 \ e_2$

```
if ( s2 > e1 || s1 > e2 ) {  
    intervals are not overlapping  
}  
else {  
    // intervals will overlap  
    merged interval  $\rightarrow \min(s_1, s_2), \max(e_1, e_2)$   
}
```



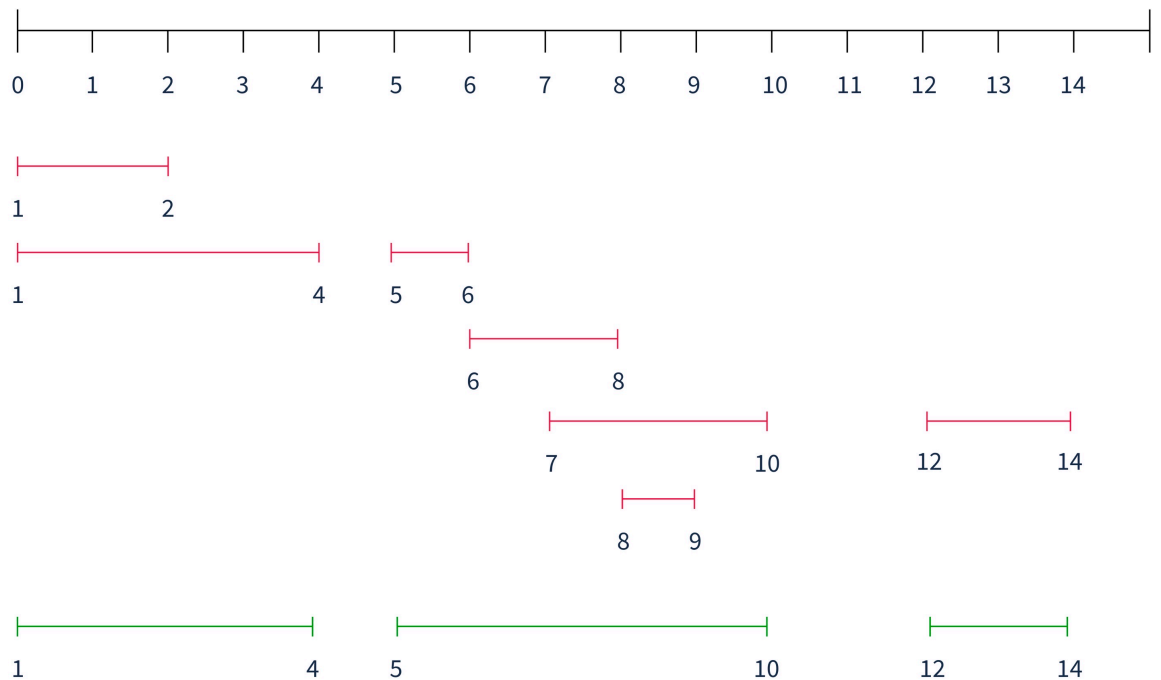
**< Question > :** Given a sorted list of overlapping intervals, sorted based on start-time, Merge all overlapping intervals and return the sorted list of non-overlapping intervals.

$$1 \leq N \leq 10^5$$

$N = 7$

Intervals

1	2
1	4
5	6
6	8
7	10
8	9
12	14



Quiz →  $[[1, 10], [2, 3], [4, 5], [9, 12]]$

Handwritten blue annotations show the merging process:

- An arrow from  $[2, 3]$  to  $[1, 10]$ .
- An arrow from  $[4, 5]$  to  $[1, 10]$ .
- An arrow from  $[9, 12]$  to  $[1, 10]$ .
- The final result is  $[1, 12]$ .



Example :

Intervals[ N ]  $\rightarrow$  [ (0, 2) , (1, 4) , (5, 6) , (6, 8) , (7, 10) , (8, 9) , (12, 14) ]

$l = 12, r = 14$

ans = [ (0, 4) , (5, 10) , (12, 14) ]

[ (1, 1) , (2, 2) , (3, 3) ]

$l = 3, r = 3$

ans = [ (1, 1) , (2, 2) , (3, 3) ]

</> Code

$l \rightarrow arr[0][0], \quad r \rightarrow arr[0][1], \quad list < pair > ans;$

for(  $i \rightarrow 1$  to  $n$  ) {

if(  $arr[i][0] \leq r$  ) { //overlapping

{  
     $r = \text{Max}(r, arr[i][1]);$

else {

    ans.insert( l, r );

$l = arr[i][0];$

$r = arr[i][1];$

}

ans.insert( l, r );

return ans;

[ T.C  $\rightarrow O(N)$   
S.C  $\rightarrow O(1)$  ]

Practical Scenario (maintenance of site when no users are active)

data -  $(9, 11)$ ,  $(14, 16)$ ,  $(15, 20)$

↓

$(9, 11)$        $(14, 20)$        $(15, 20)$

↓                      ↓                      ↓

9 hours              3 hours              4 hours



**< Question > :** Given N non-overlapping intervals sorted based on start-time. Given a new interval. Merge this with existing intervals, if possible and return final non-overlapping intervals.

$$([1, 3], [4, 7], [10, 14], [18, 19], [21, 24], [27, 30], [32, 35], [40, 50])$$

$$[10, 24]$$

ans  $[1, 3], [4, 7], [10, 24], [27, 30], [32, 35], [40, 50]$

Resultant Intervals  $\rightarrow$

N = 5

I = (12, 22)

Intervals()  $\rightarrow [ (1, 5), (8, 10), (11, 14), (15, 20), (21, 24) ]$

$[11, 24]$

Resultant Intervals  $\rightarrow [ (1, 5), (8, 10), (11, 24) ]$

↑  
ans.



Quiz →

$$\text{arr} \rightarrow \left( [\cancel{1}, \cancel{5}], [\cancel{6}, \cancel{10}], [12, 15] \right)$$

$$I \rightarrow [4, 7]$$

$$[1, 10]$$

---

resultant  
intervals  $\Rightarrow [1, 10], [12, 15]$



Code. →

$l = I.start$  ,  $r = I.end$

list < pair > ans;

for(  $i \rightarrow 0$  to  $n$  ) {

if(  $arr[i][0] < l$  ) { //no-overlap

{  
ans.insert(  $arr[i][0], arr[i][1]$  );  
}

else if(  $arr[i][0] > r$  ) { //no overlap

ans.insert(  $l, r$  );

for(  $j \Rightarrow i$  to  $n$  ) {

{  
ans.insert(  $arr[j][0], arr[j][1]$  );  
}

return ans;

}

else {

//overlap

$l = \min( l, arr[i][0] );$

$r = \max( r, arr[i][1] );$

}

}

ans.insert(  $l, r$  );

return ans;

$T.C \rightarrow O(N)$   
 $S.C \rightarrow O(1)$



↓  
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, - - - - -

$$-10^9 \leq \text{amplitude} \leq 10^9$$

$$1 \leq n \leq 10^6$$

*Example 5 :*     `arr[4] : [ 1 2 3 4 ]`     *ans = 5*

Quiz  $\rightarrow$   $[5, 3, 1, -1, -2, -4, 7, 2]$  ans = 4

BF Approach →

Approach →  
For every natural no's, search in array by iterating on all the elements.

$$\left[ \begin{array}{l} T.L \rightarrow O(N^2) \\ S.L \rightarrow O(1) \end{array} \right]$$



## Idea -2

Sorting $arr[] \rightarrow [9 \ 2 \ 6 \ 4 \ 1 \ -8 \ 3]$ 

↓ Apply sorting

 $[-8 \ 1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 4 \ 6 \ 9]$  $T.C \rightarrow O(N \log N)$  $S.C \rightarrow$  depends on inbuilt sorting algo.

Expected  $T.C \rightarrow O(N)$ ,  $S.C \rightarrow O(1)$

 $arr[N] \rightarrow [ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ ]$ 

if all elements  
from 1 to  $N$  are  
present

$N+1$

otherwise

any  $\rightarrow$  any number from  
1 to  $N$

range of  $arr = [1, N+1]$

How do you mark the presence?

$$\text{arr}[7] \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} -8, & -1, & -4, & -2, & 6, & -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

ans = 5.

$$\begin{array}{lcl}
 & \text{prev} & \text{id} \\
 1 & \longrightarrow & 0 \\
 2 & \longrightarrow & 1 \\
 3 & \longrightarrow & 2 \\
 4 & \longrightarrow & 3 \\
 5 & \longrightarrow & 4 \\
 & \uparrow & \\
 \text{val} & \longrightarrow & \text{val} - 1
 \end{array}$$

What if -ve elements are also there in array?

arr[]  $\rightarrow$   $[-8, -1, -4, -2, 6, 5, 1, 3]$

↓ -ve elements → replace with  $n+2$

and

~~10~~ ~~-10~~ ~~10~~ ~~-6~~ ~~-5~~ ~~1~~ ~~3~~

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

$\{-10, 10, -10, 10, -6, -5, 1, 3\}$

ans = 2



&lt;/&gt; Code

```
for( i → 0 to N ) {  
    if ( arr[i] ≤ 0 ) {  
        arr[i] = N+2;  
    }  
}
```

```
for( i → 0 to N ) {  
    val = abs(arr[i]);  
    if( val ≥ 1 && val ≤ N ) {  
        arr[val-1] = -1 * abs(arr[val-1]);  
    }  
}
```

```
for( i → 0 to N-1 ) {  
    if ( arr[i] > 0 ) {  
        return i+1;  
    }  
}  
return N+1;
```

T.C →  $O(N)$   
S.C →  $O(1)$

[-1, -2, -6, -5, -4, -3]  
0 1 2 3 4 5

arr →  $\begin{bmatrix} 6 & 2 & 4 & 2 & -5 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$

① →  $\begin{bmatrix} \cancel{6} & \cancel{2} & \cancel{4} & \cancel{2} & \cancel{-5} & \cancel{3} & \cancel{4} \\ 6 & -2 & -4 & -2 & 9 & -3 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$

ans = 1

$O(N^2)$

↓

$O(N \log N)$

↓

$O(N)$  with hashset/hasmap

↓

$\underline{O(N)}$  &  $\underline{O(1)}$   
F.C. S.C.

modify the array