

ESO207A

Assignment 1

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Q1 (a)

Algorithm 1 Count Inversions - Divide and Conquer

Input: An array A of size n

Output: Sorted (ascending) version of array A

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1:  $B[i] \leftarrow 0$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ 
2: return INVERSIONCOUNT( $A, B, 1, n$ )
3: function INVERSIONCOUNT( $A, B, start, end$ )
4:    $count \leftarrow 0$ 
5:   if  $start < end$  then
6:      $mid \leftarrow \lfloor (start + end)/2 \rfloor$ 
7:      $count +=$  INVERSIONCOUNT( $A, B, start, mid$ )           ▷ count inversions in left subarray
8:      $count +=$  INVERSIONCOUNT( $A, B, mid + 1, end$ )         ▷ count inversions in right subarray
9:      $count +=$  MERGEANDCOUNT( $A, B, start, mid, end$ )       ▷ count cross-inversions
10:  end if
11:  return  $count$ 
12: end function
13: function MERGEANDCOUNT( $A, B, start, mid, end$ )
14:    $p \leftarrow start$ 
15:    $q \leftarrow mid + 1$ 
16:    $r \leftarrow start$ 
17:    $count \leftarrow 0$ 
18:   while  $p \leq mid$  and  $q \leq end$  do
19:     if  $A[p] \leq A[q]$  then
20:        $B[r] \leftarrow A[p]$ 
21:        $r += 1$ 
22:        $p += 1$ 
23:     else
24:        $B[r] \leftarrow A[q]$ 
25:        $count += mid - p + 1$ 
26:        $r += 1$ 
27:        $q += 1$ 
28:     end if
29:   end while
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30:  while  $p \leq mid$  do
31:       $B[r] \leftarrow A[p]$ 
32:       $r += 1$ 
33:       $p += 1$ 
34:  end while
35:  while  $q \leq end$  do
36:       $B[r] \leftarrow A[q]$ 
37:       $r += 1$ 
38:       $q += 1$ 
39:  end while
40:  while  $start \leq i \leq end$  do ▷ copy sorted sequence to original array
41:       $A[i] \leftarrow B[i]$ 
42:       $i += 1$ 
43:  end while
44:  return  $count$ 
45: end function

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Q1 (b)

Definition 1

Given an array $A[start : end]$, a pair (i, j) for $start \leq i < j \leq end$ is an *inversion* if $A[i] > A[j]$.

Definition 2

Given $start \leq p < q \leq end$, the boolean $S(p, q)$ is true if $A[p] > A[q]$, and false otherwise.

Details and Correctness of INVERSIONCOUNT:

If $start \geq end$, the number of inversions = 0 (one or no elements in the array). Otherwise, divide the array into two parts, $A[start : mid]$ and $A[mid + 1 : end]$, where $mid = \lfloor (start + end)/2 \rfloor$. Any inversion (i, j) in $A[start : end]$ is of one of the three following types:

1. $i < j \leq mid$, which implies (i, j) is an inversion in $A[start : mid]$. Let such inversions belong to the set I_1 . (Line 7)
2. $mid + 1 \leq i < j$, which implies (i, j) is an inversion in $A[mid + 1 : end]$. Let such inversions belong to the set I_2 . (Line 8)
3. $i \leq mid < j$ - these are *cross inversions*, let them belong to the set C . (Line 9)

Clearly, we need to return $|I_1| + |I_2| + |C|$. Suppose we have computed (recursively) the number of inversions in these two arrays as $|I_1|$ and $|I_2|$ respectively. The MERGEANDCOUNT function (line 13) merges the two sorted¹ sub-arrays, while counting the cross-inversions.

Details and Correctness of MERGEANDCOUNT:

Two pointers p and q are initialized to $start$ and $mid + 1$ respectively (Lines 14-15), which are incremented within the respective sub-arrays as the algorithm proceeds. Moreover, $A[start : mid]$ and $A[mid + 1 : end]$ are sorted. The array B is used to collect elements from $A[start : mid]$ and

¹If $A[start : mid]$ and $A[mid + 1 : end]$ are sorted, the number of cross inversions can be calculated in $O(n)$ time, where $n = end - start + 1$

$A[mid + 1 : end]$ such that $B[start : end]$ is sorted. (Lines 20, 24, 31, 36). B 's elements are later copied onto A in Lines 40-43.

Lemma A

The number of cross-inversions between $A[start : mid]$ and $A[mid + 1 : end]$ is the same as that between $\text{sorted}(A[start : mid])$ and $\text{sorted}(A[mid + 1 : end])$.²

Proof

Let (i, j) be a cross-inversion, i.e. $i \leq mid < j$ and $A[i] > A[j]$. After sorting $A[start : mid]$ and $A[mid + 1 : end]$ separately, let $i \mapsto i'$ and $j \mapsto j'$. $A[i'] > A[j']$ holds. Moreover, $i' \leq mid$ and $j' > mid$. This implies $i' \leq j'$ and $A[i'] > A[j']$, i.e. (i', j') is a cross-inversion. ■

Lemma B

For some $q = q'$, let $S(p, q)$ be true for the first time when $p = p'$, i.e. $A[p'] > A[q']$. Then, $I_C(q') = \{(p^*, q') : p^* \geq p'\}$ is the set of all cross-inversions involving q' .

Proof

Since $A[start : mid]$ is sorted, $A[p^*] > A[q'] \forall p^* \geq p'$, and so all such (p^*, q') are inversions. To show that this is the complete set of inversions involving q' , consider some $p'' < p'$. Since the pointer p is currently at $p' > p''$, at some earlier stage the algorithm must have compared $A[p'']$ and $A[q']$, where $q'' \leq q'$ - and found that $A[p''] \leq A[q'']$, i.e. $S(p'', q'')$ was false. Since $A[mid + 1 : end]$ is sorted, this implies $A[p''] \leq A[q']$. As a result, $\forall p'' < p'$, (p'', q') is not an inversion. Hence, $I_C(q') = \{(p^*, q') : p^* \geq p'\}$ is the set of all cross-inversions involving q' .³ ■

Correctness of Cross-Inversion Count

Consider the while loop in MERGEANDCOUNT (Lines 18-29). If $S(p, q)$ is false, *count* is not incremented. Else, if $S(p, q)$ is true, *count* is incremented by $mid - p + 1$ (follows from Lemma B), which exactly corresponds to $|I_C(q)|$ defined earlier.

Correctness of Merge

Consider the while loops in MERGEANDCOUNT (Lines 18-39). We define the following loop invariants:⁴

1. ϕ_1 : $B[start : r - 1]$ is sorted.
2. ϕ_2 : $B[start : r - 1]$ is a permutation of $A[start : p - 1] \cup A[mid + 1 : q - 1]$ ⁵
3. ϕ_3 :
 - (a) $B[start : r - 1] \leq A[p], A[q]$ if $p \leq mid$ and $q \leq end$

² $\text{sorted}(A[l : l'])$ refers to the permutation of $A[l : l']$ wherein $A[i] \leq A[j] \forall i < j \leq l'$.

³Note that $C = \bigcup_{q'=mid+1}^{end} I_C(q')$

⁴In particular, we show that (i) $B[start : end]$ is sorted after completion of MERGEANDCOUNT, i.e. $A[start : mid]$ and $A[mid + 1 : end]$ are merged correctly, and (ii) *count* = number of inversions *seen so far*

⁵Slight abuse of notation. This does not account for repeated elements. However, the generalization is fairly straightforward, and a sketch of the same has been provided in the appendix.

- (b) $B[start : r - 1] \leq A[p]$ if $p \leq mid$ and $q > end$
- (c) $B[start : r - 1] \leq A[q]$ if $p > mid$ and $q \leq end$
- 4. ϕ_4 : $start \leq p \leq mid + 1$, $mid + 1 \leq q \leq end + 1$, and $r = p + q - mid - 1$
- 5. ϕ_5 : $count$ = number of *cross-inversions* corresponding to the indices in the interval $\mathcal{Q}(q) = [mid + 1, q]$ ⁶

INVARIANCE OF ϕ_1 -

Before entering the while loop (Line 18), $r = start$ and $B[start : r - 1]$ is empty, hence the claim ϕ_1 is vacuously true. Assume ϕ_1 holds before a particular iteration of the loop, when $(p, q, r) = (p', q', r')$.

- If $S(p, q)$ is false, $B[r'] = A[p']$ and $(p, r) = (p' + 1, r' + 1)$. We show that $B[r' - 1] \leq B[r']$:
 - If $B[r' - 1] = A[p' - 1]$, then $B[r' - 1] \leq A[p'] = B[r']$ as $A[start : mid]$ is sorted.
 - If $B[r' - 1] = A[q' - 1]$, then $S(p', q' - 1)$ is true and $A[p'] > A[q' - 1]$. As a result, $B[r' - 1] < A[p'] = B[r']$.
- If $S(p, q)$ is true, $B[r'] = A[q']$ and $(q, r) = (q' + 1, r' + 1)$. We show that $B[r' - 1] \leq B[r']$:
 - If $B[r' - 1] = A[q' - 1]$, then $B[r' - 1] \leq A[q'] = B[r']$ as $A[mid + 1 : end]$ is sorted.
 - If $B[r' - 1] = A[p' - 1]$, then $S(p' - 1, q')$ is false and $A[p' - 1] \leq A[q']$. As a result, $B[r' - 1] \leq A[q'] = B[r']$.

As $B[r' - 1] \leq B[r']$, $B[start : r']$ is sorted, ϕ_1 continues to hold after the iteration as well. Note that when $p = mid + 1$ or $q = end + 1$ (one of the two sorted sub-arrays exhausted), we exit the loop on Lines 18-29 and simply copy the elements of the remaining array onto B (Lines 30-39). Finally $(p, q, r) = (mid + 1, end + 1, end + 1)$, and $B[start : end]$ is sorted. ■

INVARIANCE OF ϕ_2 -

Before entering the while loop (Line 18), $r = start$ and $B[start : r - 1]$ is empty, hence the claim ϕ_2 is vacuously true. Assume ϕ_2 holds before a particular iteration of the loop, when $(p, q, r) = (p', q', r')$.

- If $S(p, q)$ is false, $B[r'] = A[p']$ and $(p, r) = (p' + 1, r' + 1)$. Clearly, $B[start : r']$ is a permutation of $A[start : p'] \cup A[mid + 1 : q' - 1]$.
- If $S(p, q)$ is true, $B[r'] = A[q']$ and $(q, r) = (q' + 1, r' + 1)$. Clearly, $B[start : r']$ is a permutation of $A[start : p' - 1] \cup A[mid + 1 : q']$.

ϕ_2 continues to hold after the iteration as well. Finally $(p, q, r) = (mid + 1, end + 1, end + 1)$ and $B[start : end]$ is a permutation of $A[start : mid] \cup A[mid + 1 : end]$, as required. ■

INVARIANCE OF ϕ_3 -

Before entering the while loop (Line 18), $r = start$ and $B[start : r - 1]$ is empty, hence the claim ϕ_3 is vacuously true. Assume ϕ_3 holds before a particular iteration of the loop, when $(p, q, r) = (p', q', r')$. We shall prove the three cases separately:

1. $B[start : r' - 1] \leq A[p'], A[q']$ if $p' \leq mid$ and $q' \leq end$ holds to begin with.
 - If $S(p, q)$ is false, $B[r'] = A[p']$ and $(p, r) = (p' + 1, r' + 1)$. Since $A[start : mid]$ is sorted, $B[r'] = A[p'] \leq A[p' + 1]$. So, $B[start : r'] \leq A[p' + 1], A[q']$ holds.

⁶When $q = end + 1$, we're done.

- If $S(p, q)$ is true, $B[r'] = A[q']$ and $(q, r) = (q' + 1, r' + 1)$. Since $A[mid + 1 : end]$ is sorted, $B[r'] = A[q'] \leq A[q' + 1]$. So, $B[start : r'] \leq A[p']$, $A[q' + 1]$ holds.
- 2. $B[start : r' - 1] \leq A[p']$ if $p' \leq mid$ and $q' > end$ holds to begin with (loop in Lines 30-34 is being executed). After the iteration, $(p, r) = (p' + 1, r' + 1)$ and $B[r'] = A[p'] \leq A[p' + 1]$ as $A[start : mid]$ is sorted. So, $B[start : r'] \leq A[p' + 1]$ holds.
- 3. $B[start : r - 1] \leq A[q]$ if $p > mid$ and $q \leq end$ holds to begin with (loop in Lines 35-39 is being executed). After the iteration, $(q, r) = (q' + 1, r' + 1)$ and $B[r'] = A[q'] \leq A[q' + 1]$ as $A[mid + 1 : end]$ is sorted. So, $B[start : r'] \leq A[q' + 1]$ holds.

ϕ_3 continues to hold after the iteration as well. ■

INVARIANCE OF ϕ_4 -

Before entering the while loop (Line 18), $(p, q, r) = (start, mid + 1, start)$. Also, $p + q - mid - 1 = start = r$. So, $start \leq p \leq mid + 1$, $mid + 1 \leq q \leq end + 1$, and $r = p + q - mid - 1$ are clearly true. Assume ϕ_4 holds before a particular iteration of the loop, when $(p, q, r) = (p', q', r')$. After the iteration, we have one of the following cases:

- $(p, r) = (p' + 1, r' + 1)$
 $r' = p' + q' - mid - 1 \iff (r' + 1) = (p' + 1) + q' - mid - 1$. Additionally, the loop condition guarantees that $p' \leq mid$, so that $p' + 1 \leq mid + 1$. $start \leq p' + 1 \leq mid + 1$ is satisfied.
- $(q, r) = (q' + 1, r' + 1)$
 $r' = p' + q' - mid - 1 \iff (r' + 1) = p' + (q' + 1) - mid - 1$. Additionally, the loop condition guarantees that $q' \leq end$, so that $q' + 1 \leq end + 1$. $mid + 1 \leq q' + 1 \leq end + 1$ is satisfied.

The operations on (p, q, r) in Lines 30-39 are a proper subset of those in lines 18-29, so the above proof suffices. ϕ_4 continues to hold after the iteration as well. ■

INVARIANCE OF ϕ_5 - Before entering the while loop (Line 18), $(p, q, r) = (start, mid + 1, start)$. The interval $\mathcal{Q}(q)$ is empty, and $count = 0$. Assume ϕ_5 holds before a particular iteration of the loop, when $(p, q, r) = (p', q', r')$. After the iteration, we have one of the following cases:

- If $S(p, q)$ is false, q is unchanged. ϕ_5 continues to hold.
- If $S(p, q)$ is true, $q = q' + 1$ and $count$ is incremented by $mid - p + 1$. Correctness of this step, and hence the invariance of ϕ_5 follow from Lemma B proved earlier.

ϕ_5 continues to hold after the iteration as well. Lastly, when $q = end + 1$, $count = \text{number of cross-inversions}$ corresponding to the indices in the interval $\mathcal{Q}(q) = [mid + 1, end + 1)$, as desired.

This completes the proof. ■

Time Complexity Analysis

Consider Lines 7-9 in the function INVERSIONCOUNT. The input array is of size $n = end - start + 1$. Clearly, the size of the left subarray $\lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil$ and that of the right subarray is $\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor$. Let us first prove a lemma, which will be helpful in deducing the time complexity of this algorithm.

Lemma C:

If $T(n)$ satisfies the following recurrence, then $T(n) \leq n \lceil \log n \rceil \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ (all logarithms have base 2)

$$T(n) \leq \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n = 1 \\ T(\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor) + T(\lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil) + n & \text{if } n > 1 \end{cases}$$

Proof of Lemma C:

(Strong induction on n)

The base case ($n = 1$) is satisfied. Define $a = \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor$ and $b = \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil$ (notice that $a + b = n$). Also, it is worth noting that $\log b \leq \lceil \log n \rceil - 1$ (proof shown below)

$$\begin{aligned} b &= \lceil n/2 \rceil \\ &\leq \lceil 2^{\lceil \log n \rceil - 1} \rceil \\ &= 2^{\lceil \log n \rceil - 1} \end{aligned}$$

$$\log b \leq \lceil \log n \rceil - 1$$

Induction Step: Assume Lemma C holds for $1, 2, \dots, n - 1$.

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &\leq T(a) + T(b) + n \\ &\leq a \lceil \log a \rceil + b \lceil \log b \rceil + n \\ &\leq a \lceil \log b \rceil + b \lceil \log b \rceil + n \\ &= n \lceil \log b \rceil + n \\ &\leq n(\lceil \log n \rceil - 1) + n \\ &= n(\lceil \log n \rceil - 1) + n \\ &= n \log n \end{aligned}$$

■

Proposition:

The INVERSIONCOUNT algorithm counts the number of inversions in a permutation of size n in $O(n \log n)$ time.

Proof:

The worst case running time $T(n)$ satisfies the recurrence:

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} O(1) & \text{if } n = 1 \\ T(\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor) + T(\lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil) + O(n) & \text{if } n > 1 \end{cases}$$

The above piece-wise definition of $T(n)$ is motivated by the following observations:

- The problem is *divided* into two halves (Lines 7-8) of sizes $\lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil$ and $\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor$.
- *Combining* solutions to the two halves takes $O(n)$ time - as p and q visit all elements in $A[start : mid]$ and $A[mid + 1 : end]$ exactly once. All other operations take constant time.

The solution of the above-mentioned recurrence, and hence the proof of this proposition follow from Lemma C.

■

Appendix

1. About Notation in ϕ_2

ϕ_2 is defined as - “ $B[start : r - 1]$ is a permutation of $A[start : p - 1] \cup A[mid + 1 : q - 1]$ ”.

As set notation prohibits us from working with multiple instances of the same element, the loop invariant ϕ_2 really only works for arrays with all distinct elements. However, we can easily get around this problem by defining a **new ordering** over the elements of the array, as follows:

1. If $A[i] > A[j]$, then $A[i]$ is **greater than** $A[j]$.
2. If $A[i] < A[j]$, then $A[i]$ is **less than** $A[j]$.
3. If $A[i] = A[j]$, then:
 - If $i = j$, then $A[i]$ is **equal to** $A[j]$.
 - If $i < j$, then $A[i]$ is **less than** $A[j]$.
 - If $i > j$, then $A[i]$ is **greater than** $A[j]$.

It is easy to see that this *new ordering* is in fact *consistent*.