

RANGE MINIMA PROBLEM

Problem: Given an array A storing n numbers and two integers i and j , compute the minima in range i to j in array A .

Algorithm:

Let A be the input array. In this algorithm we are taking $n/\log(n)$ tiny data structures each of which storing $O(\log(n))$ values. Let that tiny data structure be B . Let k be the index of any element in A . Each of this tiny data structure stores values corresponding to a particular k . This k are $0, \log(n), 2\log(n), 3\log(n), \dots$ and so on upto a multiple of $\log(n)$ just less than n . Each data structure is storing minima from k to $2^0\log(n), (2^1)\log(n), (2^2)\log(n), \dots$ and so on.

Now for a given i and j we need to find minima. Let k be the index in A which is just greater than i and multiple of $\log(n)$. Let l be the index in A which is just less than j and multiple of $\log(n)$. So, we first we find minima from range k to l . To achieve this we select an number x such that j lies between $k + 2^x(\log(n))$ (say m) and $k + 2^{x+1}(\log(n))$ for some x and an element q such that $q = l - 2^x(\log(n))$.

So we have minima from k to m stored in our tiny data structure as $m - k$ and k is multiple of power-of-two multiplied by $\log(n)$. We also have a minima from q to l as again $l - q$ is a multiple of $\log(n)$ and so is the q . We now compare this two minima to get the minimal in range k to l . Now we compare this minimal with all the elements in range i to k and l to j to get the minima in the range i to j .

Algorithm 1 computes range minima in range i to j on the basis of above discussion.

Data: Input will be an array $A[0..n-1]$ and i and j . However, the algorithm will use additional two dimensional array $B[0..n/(\log(n))][0..\log(n)]$ and variables $minima$, k and l, m and q .

Result: The range minima in the range i to j .

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1  $k \leftarrow$  Entry-Stored-in-B-Just-greater-than( $i$ )  $l \leftarrow$  Entry-stored-in-B-just-less-than( $j$ )  $m \leftarrow$ 
  (Power-of-two)* $\log(n)$  which is just less-than( $l$ )  $q \leftarrow l - ((\text{Power-of-two}) * \log(n))$  which is
  just less-than( $l$ ) if  $B[k][m] \leq B[q][l]$  then
2   |  $minima \leftarrow B[k][m]$ 
3 else
4   |  $minima \leftarrow B[q][l]$ 
5 end
6 for  $index \leftarrow i$  to  $k$  do
7   | if  $A[index] \leq minima$  then
8     |  $minima \leftarrow A[index]$ ;
9   | end
10 end
11 for  $index \leftarrow (l + 1)$  to  $j$  do
12   | if  $A[index] \leq minima$  then
13     |  $minima \leftarrow A[index]$ 
14   | end
15 end
16 Output  $minima$ .
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Algorithm 1: Algorithm for finding Range-Minima

Proving correctness of the algorithm:

We need to prove that Algorithm 1 is correct. It follows from the discussion that it suffices if we can show that lemma given below is true.

Lemma 1. *Range minima is indeed the minimum of elements $A[itok], B[k][m], B[q][l], A[ltoj]$.*

Proof. To prove the above lemma it is sufficient to prove that we are finding correct minima in the range k to l as rest of the part is brute force and involves simple comparisons. Since k is selected such that it is a multiple of $\log(n)$ we have information k in our tiny data structure B . Similarly we have information for l . m is defined as sum of a l and a multiple of $\log(n)$ hence we have its information in B . For similar reasons information of q is also present in B . Now since q is selected such that it lies between k and m and we have minima stored in B for range k to m and also for q to l . Minimum of these two minima is the minima between k to l . So, it proves that we have correct minima for whole range i to j .

□

Analysis of Time and Space complexity the Algorithm

Algorithm 1 first calculates the k which is the entry just greater than i and stored in B this takes $O(\log(n))$ time as maximum distance between i and k can be $\log(n)$ due to structure of our tiny data structures. Next it calculates l which again requires $O(\log(n))$ time as difference of j and l can be at most $\log(n)$. Thereafter it spends a total time of $O(1)$ to calculate minima between k and l . After that it spends a total of $O(\log(n))$ time in the two “for” loops for brute force part. So, the overall time complexity of the Algorithm is $O(\log(n))$.

The algorithm uses an additional matrix B of size $(n/\log(n)) * (\log(n))$ in addition to a few variables. Hence, the algorithm uses $O(n)$ extra space.