

Problem 528: Random Pick with Weight

Problem Information

Difficulty: Medium

Acceptance Rate: 48.74%

Paid Only: No

Tags: Array, Math, Binary Search, Prefix Sum, Randomized

Problem Description

You are given a **0-indexed** array of positive integers `w` where `w[i]` describes the **weight** of the `ith` index.

You need to implement the function `pickIndex()`, which **randomly** picks an index in the range `[0, w.length - 1]` (**inclusive**) and returns it. The **probability** of picking an index `i` is `w[i] / sum(w)`.

* For example, if `w = [1, 3]`, the probability of picking index `0` is `1 / (1 + 3) = 0.25` (i.e., `25%`), and the probability of picking index `1` is `3 / (1 + 3) = 0.75` (i.e., `75%`).

Example 1:

Input ["Solution", "pickIndex"] [[[1]]]
Output [null,0]
Explanation Solution solution = new Solution([1]); solution.pickIndex(); // return 0. The only option is to return 0 since there is only one element in w.

Example 2:

Input ["Solution", "pickIndex", "pickIndex", "pickIndex", "pickIndex", "pickIndex"] [[[1,3]],[],[],[],[],[]]
Output [null,1,1,1,1,0]
Explanation Solution solution = new Solution([1, 3]); solution.pickIndex(); // return 1. It is returning the second element (index = 1) that has a probability of 3/4. solution.pickIndex(); // return 1 solution.pickIndex(); // return 1 solution.pickIndex(); // return 1 solution.pickIndex(); // return 0. It is returning the first element (index = 0) that has a probability of 1/4. Since this is a randomization problem, multiple answers are allowed. All of the following outputs can be considered correct: [null,1,1,1,1,0] [null,1,1,1,1,1] [null,1,1,1,0,0] [null,1,1,1,0,1] [null,1,0,1,0,0] and so on.

****Constraints:****

* `1 <= w.length <= 104` * `1 <= w[i] <= 105` * `pickIndex` will be called at most `104` times.

Code Snippets

C++:

```
class Solution {
public:
    Solution(vector<int>& w) {

    }

    int pickIndex() {

    }
};

/***
* Your Solution object will be instantiated and called as such:
* Solution* obj = new Solution(w);
* int param_1 = obj->pickIndex();
*/

```

Java:

```
class Solution {

    public Solution(int[] w) {

    }

    public int pickIndex() {

    }
};

/***
* Your Solution object will be instantiated and called as such:
* Solution obj = new Solution(w);
*/

```

```
* int param_1 = obj.pickIndex();
*/
```

Python3:

```
class Solution:

    def __init__(self, w: List[int]):

        def pickIndex(self) -> int:

            # Your Solution object will be instantiated and called as such:
            # obj = Solution(w)
            # param_1 = obj.pickIndex()
```