

1. Introduction to the judge environment
2. Prefix sum/precomputation technique

## Sample Problem: Even Pairs

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- ▶ second line: a sequence  $x_0, \dots, x_{n-1} \in \{0, 1\}$

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- ▶ second line: a sequence  $x_0, \dots, x_{n-1} \in \{0, 1\}$

**Output:** a single line containing the number of pairs  $0 \leq i \leq j < n$  such that

$$x_i + \dots + x_j$$

is even.

## First Approach

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- ▶ running time is  $\Theta(n^3)$
- ▶ this type of analysis is **very important** in this course.

## Second Approach

Observation:

$$\begin{aligned}x_i + \cdots + x_j &= \sum_{a=0}^j x_a - \sum_{b=0}^{i-1} x_b \\&= S_j - S_{i-1}\end{aligned}$$

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**Running time:**  $\Theta(n)$

### Technique: Partial sums/Precomputing

- ▶ Precomputing partial sums allows computing the sum of the elements in an interval in **constant time**.
- ▶ More generally, precomputing certain values can speed up the running time of an algorithm.

# Judge Feedback

Besides **CORRECT**, **TIMELIMIT**, and **WRONG-ANSWER**, the judge can give the following feedback:

**ASSERTION-FAILURE** SIGABRT: memory screw-up or assertion failure

**SEGMENTATION-FAULT** SIGSEGV: memory screw-up (e.g. out-of-bounds)

**RUN-ERROR** nonzero exit status

**FORBIDDEN** bad syscall or other safety

The forum is your main tool for discussing ideas and getting help. Use it.

Of course, you will only learn if you first try to solve the problems **on your own**.

# Forum: How To Ask Questions

1. Apply spoiler warnings

## Example

**SPOILER<<<**

Set this text to have a **white foreground**. It will then be invisible unless marked. The <<< ... >>> exploit a bug in the email plugin to also remove the text in plain-text email.

**>>>**

# Forum: How To Ask Questions

1. Apply spoiler warnings
2. Describe the problem, not your guesses or summaries

## Example

**Bad** When I compile, it tells me it cannot find it.

**Good** When I run `g++ -o foo foo.cpp`, I get  
`bash: $'g++\302\240-o': command not found`

# Forum: How To Ask Questions

1. Apply spoiler warnings
2. Describe the problem, not your guesses or summaries
3. Code: describe what fails and what you expect instead

## Example

**Bad** The code below doesn't work. Help?

**Good** I am trying to solve Problem 1. I tried strategy **something**. My code is below. For some reason, when running it on the provided test case it emits **no solution** instead of **1**. What am I doing wrong?

# Forum: How To Ask Questions

1. Apply spoiler warnings
2. Describe the problem, not your guesses or summaries
3. Code: describe what fails and what you expect instead
4. Code: post **minimal** examples

## Example

**Bad** When I call `.foo()` on a **vector**, it segfaults. Bug!

**Good** I am trying to **something**. The code is below. I get a segfault in the line that calls `.foo()`, but if I remove that line the program continues. What am I doing wrong?



## Forum: How To Ask Questions

1. Apply spoiler warnings
2. Describe the problem, not your guesses or summaries
3. Code: describe what fails and what you expect instead
4. Code: post **minimal** examples
5. Don't rush to claim that you have found a bug

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- ▶ Objected Oriented Programming in C++

STL (Standard Template Library) is part of the C++ standard library. It is important that you know:

- ▶ how to do I/O using `<iostream>`,
- ▶ how and when to use which container: `vector`, `set`, `map`, `stack`, `queue`, and `priority_queue`,
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**IMPORTANT!** Read the 'Introduction to C++' document and familiarise yourselves with the concepts within.

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- ▶ Next Monday at 17:00, we have the first **Problem of The Week!**