

Maximum Sum Subarray of Size K

Σ SR Score	35284
🔗 Link	https://www.educative.io/courses/grokking-the-coding-interview/JPKr0kqLGNP
📅 Last Reviewed	@March 25, 2022
# Time	4
# Score	4
≡ DS	arrays
≡ Algo	sliding window
▼ Stated	easy
▼ Perceived	easy
▼ List	DONE
☑ Needs Review	☑
☑ Repeat Offender	☐
☑ Confident	☐
Σ C_Date	17242
Σ C_Solution	2
Σ C_Time	400
▼ Frequency	

▼ Problem Statement

Problem Statement

Given an array of positive numbers and a positive number 'k,' find the **maximum sum of any contiguous subarray of size 'k'**.

Example 1:

Input: [2, 1, 5, 1, 3, 2], k=3

Output: 9

Explanation: Subarray with maximum sum is [5, 1, 3].

Example 2:

Input: [2, 3, 4, 1, 5], k=2

Output: 7

Explanation: Subarray with maximum sum is [3, 4].

▼ Intuition

- this is the type of sliding window problem where the window size is given & fixed → *k*
- so instead of doing double for loops to go thru every combination of *k* length subarray, we can have two pointers which always create a window of *k* numbers
- we then add to a sum variable until the window size hits *k* for the first time
- then once *windowSize == k*, we move the *windowStart* pointer each iteration to shrink the subarray & move the *windowEnd* pointer up by 1 to grow the subarray back to size *k*
- each time the *windowSize == k*, we compare our current running sum against a *maxSum* variable which is ultimately what we will return at the end
 - this first happens when the subarray size reaches *k*, and every single loop iteration thereafter since we are maintaining the subarray size to be *k* by manipulating the *windowStart* & *windowEnd* pointers

▼ Time & Space Considerations

- Time: $O(2n) \rightarrow O(n)$
 - technically *windowEnd* pointer iterates thru end of array and *windowStart* iterates thru $\text{len}(\text{arr}) - 3$, so it's like $O(2n - 3)$
- Space: $O(1)$





- fixed # of variables created; doesn't depend on input size of arr

▼ Review Notes

- ▼ [3/2/22]
 - had no idea how to do it, looked at full solution
- ▼ [3/25/22]
 - can't recall, but def went better than first go-round
- ▼ [4/5/22]
 - got optimal solution in ~5 min
 - had to refresh for a sec abt how sliding window worked
 - fumbled around with whether the question was asking for the maxSum or max length of window... which doesn't make sense since the problem is based around a fixed window size k
 - still, overall encouraging that you got the basic idea down after not revisiting for a bit

▼ Tracking

Scores

 Date	 Time	 Score	 Notes
@April 5, 2022	5	5	Untitled
@March 25, 2022	2	2	Untitled
@March 2, 2022	1	1	Untitled

▼ Solutions

```
# Attempt 3: 4/5/22
#time: O(n)
#space: O(1)
def max_sub_array_of_size_k(k, arr):
    windowStart = sum = maxSum = 0
    for windowEnd in range(len(arr)):
        sum += arr[windowEnd]
        if windowEnd >= k - 1:
            maxSum = max(maxSum, sum)
            sum -= arr[windowStart]
            windowStart += 1


    return maxSum
# -----
# Attempt 2: 3/25/22
# time: O(n)
# space: O(1)
# filled in retrospect, can't recall but def better than first time
def max_sub_array_of_size_k(k, arr):
    maxSum = currSum = windowStart = 0
    for windowEnd in range(len(arr)):
        num = arr[windowEnd]
        currSum += num
        if windowEnd >= k - 1:
            maxSum = max(maxSum, currSum)
            leftNum = arr[windowStart]
            currSum -= leftNum
            windowStart += 1

    return maxSum
# -----
# Attempt 1: 3/2/22
# time: O(n)
# space: O(1)
# had no idea, looked at solution
def max_sub_array_of_size_k(k, arr):
    max_sum = sum = window_start = 0
    for window_end in range(len(arr)):
        sum += arr[window_end]
        if window_end >= k - 1:
            max_sum = max(max_sum, sum)
            sum -= arr[window_start]
            window_start += 1

    return max_sum
```


▼ Resources

Maximum Sum Subarray of Size K (easy) - Grokking the Coding Interview: Patterns for Coding Questions

 <https://www.educative.io/courses/grokking-the-coding-interview/JPKr0kqLGNP>

▼ GitHub

GCI-master-list/Pattern 1 - Sliding Window/Maximum Sum Subarray of Size K at main · psdev30/GCI-master-list
Contribute to psdev30/GCI-master-list development by creating an account on GitHub.

 <https://github.com/psdev30/GCI-master-list/tree/main/Pattern%201%20-%20Sliding%20Window/Maximum%20Sum%20Subarray%20of%20Size%20K>