

Range Minimum and Lowest Common Ancestor Queries

Slides by Solon P. Pissis

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Given an array $A[1 \dots n]$, preprocess A so that a minimum of any fragment $A[i \dots j]$ can be computed efficiently:

$$\text{RMQ}_A(i, j) = \arg \min A[k]$$

with $1 \leq i \leq k \leq j \leq n$.

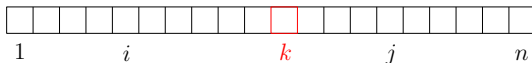
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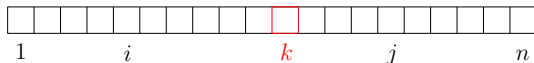
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Answering any query in $O(1)$ time is trivial if we allow $O(n^2)$ time and space preprocessing.

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For all $k = 0, 1, \dots, \log n$ construct:

$$B_k[i] = \min\{A[i], A[i+1], \dots, A[i+2^k-1]\}.$$

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How? $B_0[i] = A[i]$ and $B_{k+1}[i] = \min\{B_k[i], B_k[i+2^k]\}$, for all i .

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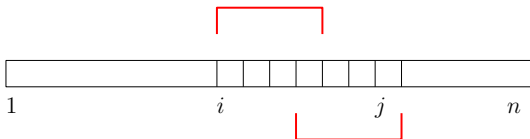
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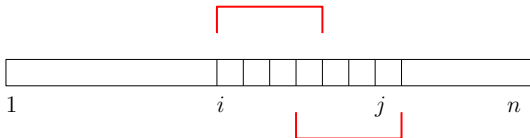
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Return $\min\{B_k[i], B_k[j - 2^k + 1]\}$ in $O(1)$ time!

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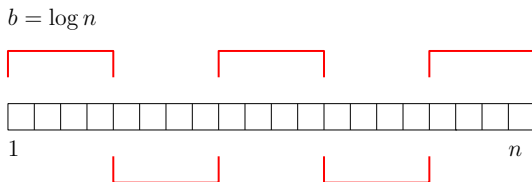
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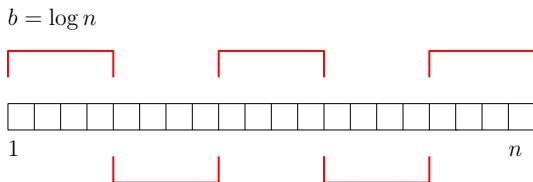
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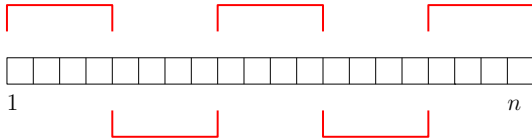
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Decompose array A into blocks of length $b = \log n$.

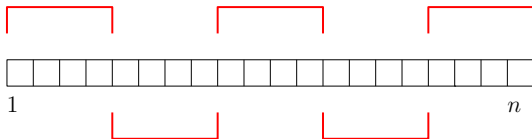
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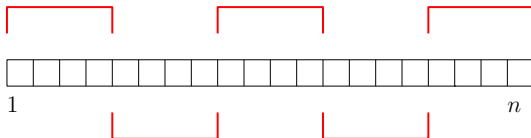


- Construct a new array A' :

$$A'[i] = \min\{A[i \cdot b + 1], A[i \cdot b + 2], \dots, A[(i + 1) \cdot b]\}.$$

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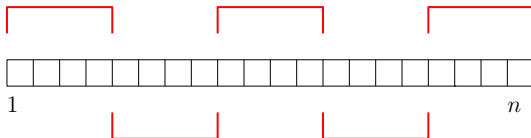
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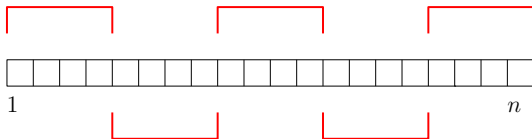
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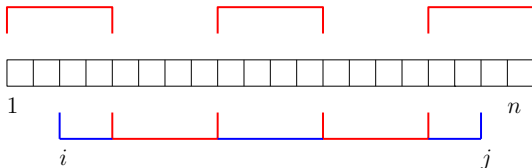
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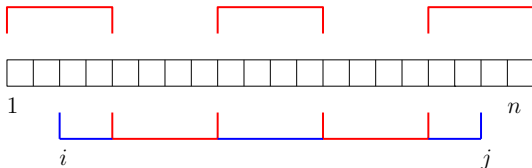
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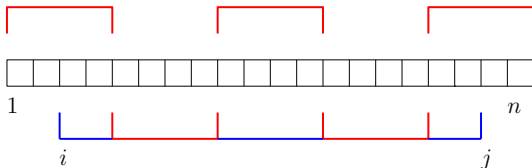
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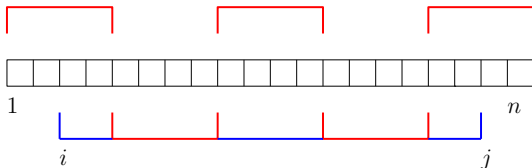
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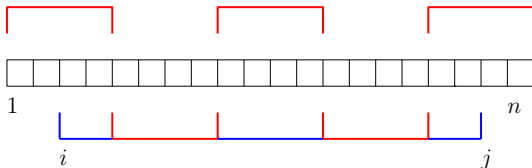
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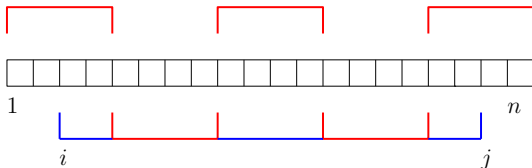
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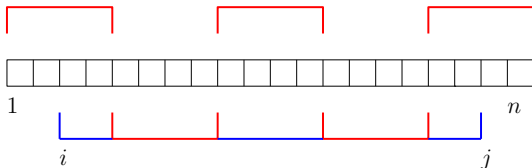


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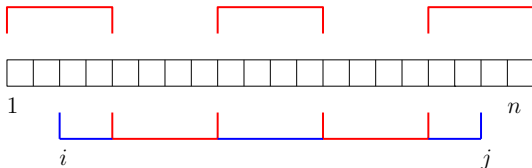


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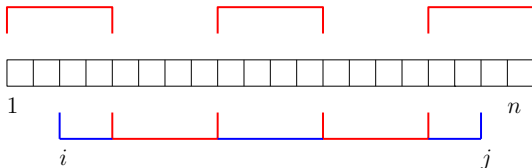


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Solution: Naïve search in block gives $O(\log n)$ -time queries!

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- ▶ We will then explain why this restricted case is sufficient!

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Observation: If two arrays $X[1 \dots k]$, $Y[1 \dots k]$ differ by some fixed value at each position; i.e. there is a c such that $X[i] = Y[i] + c$ for every i , then all RMQ answers will be the same for X and Y .

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- ▶ Precompute and store all answers!

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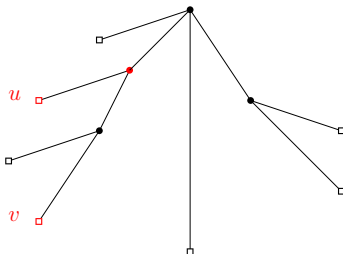
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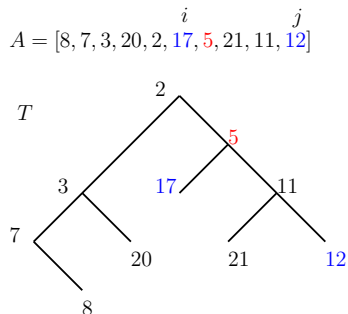
Querying:

Linear-Time Reduction: RMQ to LCA

Given array A we can build the **Cartesian tree** T of A :

- ▶ The root is a minimum element.
- ▶ Removing this element splits the array into two.
- ▶ Recurse on the two subarrays.

Querying:



Linear-Time Reduction: LCA to RMQ

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Given a rooted tree T on n nodes we construct:

Linear-Time Reduction: LCA to RMQ

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Linear-Time Reduction: LCA to RMQ

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Linear-Time Reduction: LCA to RMQ

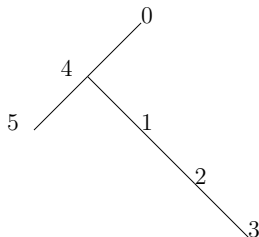
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- ▶ $R[i] = \min\{j : E[j] = i\}$ (first occurrence of $E[i]$ in the tour).

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$R = [1, 5, 6, 7, 2, 3]$

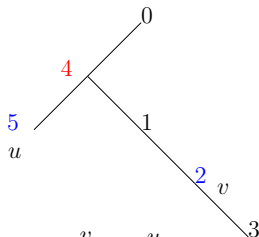
$L = [0, 1, 2, 1, 2, 3, 4, 3, 2, 1, 0]$

$E = [0, 4, 5, 4, 1, 2, 3, 2, 1, 4, 0]$

Linear-Time Reduction: LCA to RMQ

Querying:

- ▶ $\text{LCA}(u, v)$ is translated to $E[\text{RMQ}_L(R[u], R[v])]$.
- ▶ $\text{LCA}(5, 2)$ is
 $E[\text{RMQ}_L(R[u], R[v])] = E[\text{RMQ}_L(3, 6)] = E[4] = 4.$



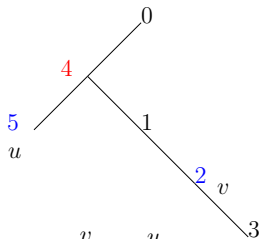
$$R = [1, 5, 6, 7, 2, 3]$$

$$L = [0, 1, 2, \color{red}{1}, 2, 3, 4, 3, 2, 1, 0]$$

$i \qquad j$

$$E = [0, 4, 5, \color{red}{4}, 1, 2, 3, 2, 1, 4, 0]$$

Linear-Time Reduction: LCA to RMQ



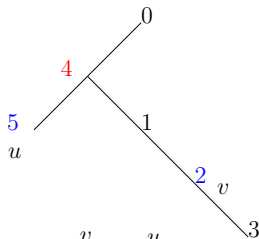
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Any observation about array L ?

Linear-Time Reduction: LCA to RMQ



$$R = [1, 5, 6, 7, 2, 3]$$

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$i \qquad j$

$$E = [0, 4, 5, \textcolor{red}{4}, 1, 2, 3, 2, 1, 4, 0]$$

Any observation about array L ?

Yes: $|L[i + 1] - L[i]| = 1$.

$O(n)$ time and space and $O(1)$ -time queries

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- ▶ **The reduction leads to a restricted RMQ problem.**

$O(n)$ time and space and $O(1)$ -time queries

Let's put things together:

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- ▶ Solve it and we are done!

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Theorem (Bender and Farach-Colton, LATIN 2000)

The RMQ problem can be solved in $O(1)$ time after $O(n)$ time and space preprocessing.

$O(n)$ time and space and $O(1)$ -time queries

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Theorem (Bender and Farach-Colton, LATIN 2000)

The LCA problem can be solved in $O(1)$ time after $O(n)$ time and space preprocessing.

Lecture by P. Charalampopoulos. I slightly edited the slides, so I am responsible for any errors in them.