

# INF280: Competitive programming

Advanced datastructure algorithms

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# Sliding windows

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Typical examples using a list  $i_1, \dots, i_N$  and an integer  $K$

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## Naive algorithm

Two (or three!) nested loops, recomputing from scratch for each position  $j$ .

# Sliding window techniques to improve efficiency

## Sliding window idea

Optimize away nested loops!

**Example: fixed width (e.g. maintaining sum of  $K$  elements)**

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17	37	42	5	23	89	45	71	43	2	45	74	28	44	98
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-17   
+89

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**Example: fixed width (e.g. maintaining sum of  $K$  elements)**

A diagram illustrating a sliding window. It consists of two horizontal bars. The top bar is blue and is labeled '+45' at its right end. The bottom bar is green and is labeled '-37' at its left end. The blue bar is positioned above the green bar, and they overlap.

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**Example: variable width (e.g. biggest total less than 100)**

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## General idea

Maintain a double ended queue where:

- you add on the right to grow
- remove on the left to shrink
- maintain some computation over the window content

Works with **monotone** criteria for windows!

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# Advanced technique for sliding window

## The deque trick to maintain min and max

Maintain the (ordered) list of elements that might become min/max.

**Example: maintaining min of 5 elements)**

17	37	42	5	23	89	45	71	43	2	35	74	28	44	98
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## Updates

- Add on the right: remove everything bigger
- Remove on the left: remove when min



# Advanced technique for sliding window

## The deque trick to maintain min and max

Maintain the (ordered) list of elements that might become min/max.

### Example: maintaining min of 5 elements)

Candidate mins: 5, 23

17	37	42	5	23	89	45	71	43	2	35	74	28	44	98
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Candidate mins: 5, 23, 45

17	37	42	5	23	89	45	71	43	2	35	74	28	44	98
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Candidate mins: 2

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Candidate mins: 2, 35, 74

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Also works with a set... with a  $O(\log(n))$  penalty.

## Prefix sums

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# Structure to compute sums in $O(1)$

## Input

A list of elements  $v_1 \dots v_n$  over a group

## Query

Compute  $q(i, j) = \sum_{i \leq l < j} v_l$

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## Solution

Precompute  $T[i] = \sum_{l < i} v_l$ ,  $q(i, j) = T[j] - T[i]$

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Works in  $d$  dimensions!