



香港電腦奧林匹克競賽  
Hong Kong Olympiad in Informatics

# J263 - Spot-Check Debugging

Daniel Hsieh {QwertyPi}

2026-02-14

## Background

Problem idea by kctung

Preparation by \_\_declspec, gasbug

## Problem Restatement

- Bob needs to debug  $L$  lines of code with  $N$  buggy sections
- Each day he checks lines at offsets  $t, t+S, t+2S, \dots$  (step size  $S$ )
- Once he locates a buggy line  $X$ , he correct lines  $X, X-1, \dots$  until a correct line
- The starting offsets for each day are  $T[1], T[2], \dots, T[P], T[1], \dots$
- Answer  $Q$  queries: for each day  $D$ , how many lines are debugged?

## Subtasks

Task	Attempts	Max	Mean	Std Dev	Subtasks					
J263 - Spot-Check Debugging	73	100	15.78	18.248	10: 54	8: 25	13: 13	19: 9	22: 2	28: 1

First (and only) solved by **wy\_24215** (Yang Chun Kit) at **2hr 59m 27s**

## Subtask Constraints

Subtask	Points	Constraints
1	10	$L \leq 100$ $D_Q \leq 100$
2	8	$P = 1$ $U[i] = V[i]$ for $1 \leq i \leq N$
3	13	$P = 1$ $V[i] - U[i] + 1 \leq S$ for $1 \leq i \leq N$
4	19	$P = 1$
5	22	$N = 1$
6	28	No additional constraints

## Subtask 1 (10%): $L \leq 100$ , $D[Q] \leq 100$

Store correctness of every line and simulate

Complexity:  $O(L)$  per day,  $O(D[Q])$  days

Expected score: 10 (Cumulative: 10)

## Subtask 2 (8%): $P = 1$ , $U[i] = V[i]$

- Buggy sections are single lines
- Same starting offset every day
- Compute the number of lines that matches the only offset (mod  $S$ )
- For each query day, check if enough complete cycles have passed

Complexity:  $O(N + Q)$

Expected score: 8 (Cumulative: 18)

## Subtask 3 (13%): $P = 1, V[i] - U[i] + 1 \leq S$

- Small buggy section size
- Same starting offset every day
- Key insight: Each section can only be debugged once
- Precompute: For every section, whether it will be hit (how?) and if so, the number of lines fixed
- Store the hit sections in an array and answer queries by indexing it

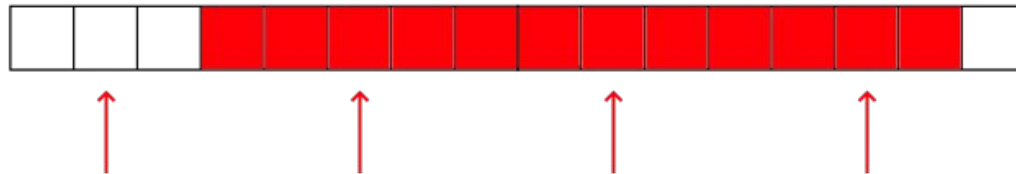
Complexity:  $O(N + Q)$

Expected score: 21 (Cumulative: 31)



## Subtask 4 (19%): $P = 1$

- Same starting offset
- Observation: When we fix a new section, the first day we might fix any number of lines, but from the second day onwards we only fix  $S$  lines until we can't fix any lines in the section anymore
- E.g.  $S=4$ ,  $T[1]=2$ : for the red buggy section, we fix 3 lines, then 4 lines, then 4 lines, then leave this section.



## Subtask 4 (19%): $P = 1$

- Fast forwarding
- Iterate on the days
- Track current section index being debugged
- To fast forward  $d$  days, simply progress through each section by the previous observation until we run out of days

Complexity:  $O(N + Q)$  (won't visit the same section twice)

Expected score: 40 (Cumulative: 50)

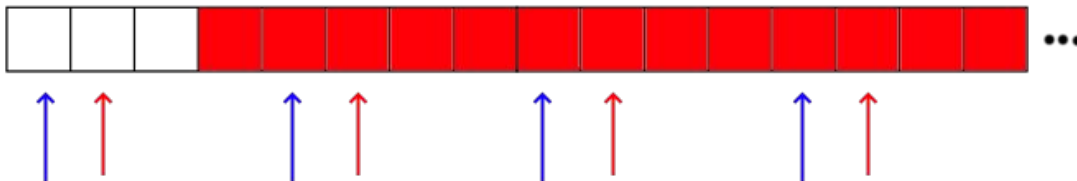
## Subtask 5 (22%): $N = 1$ (single buggy section)

Stronger Observation: consider each  $P$  days as a cycle. The number of lines fixed in each cycle is constant per day in cycle, except the first one.

Furthermore, except the first cycle, the total number of lines fixed is a multiple of  $S$ .

E.g. if  $D[1]=2$  (red),  $D[2]=1$  (blue),  $S=4$ , then

- 1st cycle: R fixes 3 lines, B fixes 3 lines
- 2nd cycle: R fixes 1 line, B fixes 3 lines (total = 4 is a multiple of  $S$ )
- ...



## Subtask 5 (22%): $N = 1$ (single buggy section)

- Calculate the lines fixed for the first cycle
- Do it again for the cycles from the second one onward
- Calculate the number of full cycles and handle the ending case carefully in  $O(P)$

Time complexity:  $O(P+Q)$

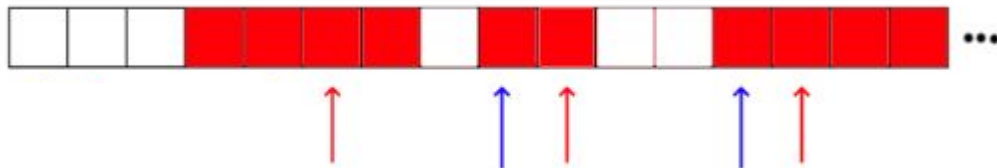
Expected score: 62 (Cumulative: 72)

## Full Solution

Notation: Consider the  $j$ -th cycle (of each  $P$  days). Let the index of the section debugged on the  $i$ -th day in the cycle be  $F_j[i]$ .

E.g. Red =  $D[1] = 2$ , Blue =  $D[2] = 1$ :

- $F_1 = [1, 2]$
- $F_2 = [2, 3]$
- ...



## Full Solution

We can do simulation.

- When we simulate day  $i$  in the  $j$ -th cycle, we set  $F_j[i] := F_{j-1}[i]$  initially, and increase it until we hit a buggy section that needs debugging.

However, this is too slow. We can speed up by looking at two cases:

1. We debug the same section for every day in the cycle, i.e.  $F_j[1] = \dots = F_j[P]$ .  
→ Use subtask 5 to speed up in  $O(P)$ .
2. We don't debug the same section. This happens at most  $O(N)$  times, since the  $\min(F_j)$ -th section will not be debugged anymore after the next cycle.

## Full Solution

> If we don't debug the same section among all days in the cycle  $j$ , the  $\min(F_j)$ -th section will not be debugged anymore after the next cycle.

### Why? (Proof Sketch)

- Consider the section size of the  $\min(F_j)$ -th section after the  $j$ -th cycle
- It must be  $< S$
- Otherwise, we will debug the same section in cycle  $j$  (why?)

## Full Solution

So for each day in query, compute the respective  $F$  array by fast forwarding + simulation.

- Fast forwarding at most  $O(N+Q)$  times, each time just  $O(1)$
- Simulation at most  $O(N)$  times, each time amortised  $O(P)$
- Overall time complexity:  $O(N*P+Q)$

Expected score: 100



## Implementation Note

- Since the modulo operation should be involved, it is easier to code if indices are 0-based
- So on day  $i$ :
  - starting offset =  $T[i \% P]$
  - only lines  $j$  where  $j \% S == T[i \% P]$  are checked