

1877. Minimize Maximum Pair sum in Array

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Maximum Pair Sum - if we have Pairs (1,5), (2,3) and (4,4) the Maximum Pair Sum = $(6, 5+8) = 8$.

We have given array of even length n pair up elements into $n/2$ such that:

- Each element of array is in exactly one pair.
- Maximum Pair Sum is minimized.

Return the minimized Maximum Pair Sum.

Ex: $nums = [3, 5, 2, 3]$, output = 7

Pairs = (3,3) and (5,2)

max $(3+3, 5+2) = 7$

more ex:-

Ex: $[3, 5, 2, 3]$, output = 7

Possible Pairs = $[3, 5], [2, 3]$

$\begin{matrix} 8 & 5 & \rightarrow & 8 \\ \downarrow & & & \\ 3 & 3 & , & 5 & 2 \\ 6 & 7 & = & 7 \end{matrix}$

Ex:- $[3, 5, 4, 2, 4, 6]$, output = 8

$\begin{matrix} (3, 5) & , & (4, 2) & , & (4, 6) \\ 8 & & 7 & & 10 \rightarrow 10 \end{matrix}$

$\begin{matrix} (3, 4) & & (5, 2) & & (4, 6) \\ 7 & & 7 & & 10 = 10 \end{matrix}$

$\begin{matrix} (6, 2) & & (4, 4) & & (5, 3) \\ 8 & & 8 & & 8 \rightarrow 8 \end{matrix}$

Goal: make largest pair-sum as small as possible. How max can be minimized.

↳ If we select the larger no. with smaller one then only we can get the balanced sum.

Approach: we sort array and then take pair as one from start and one from end. it will work.

$nums = [3, 5, 4, 2, 4, 6]$

sort $\rightarrow [2, 3, 4, 4, 5, 6]$

$\begin{matrix} (2, 6) & & (3, 5) & & (4, 4) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \text{X} & & \text{X} & & \text{X} \end{matrix} \rightarrow \max(8, 8, 8) = 8$

$nums = [3, 5, 2, 3]$

sort $\rightarrow [2, 3, 3, 5]$

$\begin{matrix} (2, 5) & & (3, 3) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \text{X} & & \text{X} \end{matrix} \rightarrow \max(7, 6) = 7$

```
int minPairSum(vector<int> &nums) {
    sort(nums.begin(), nums.end());
    left = 0, right = n-1;
    int maxi = 0;
    while (left < right) {
        maxi = max(maxi, nums[left] + nums[right]);
        left++;
        right--;
    }
    return maxi;
}
```

Time Complexity $\sim O(n \log n)$
sorting + traverse

If we have given
"Minimize Maximum"
"Maximize minimum"
keyword in problem
then use "Binary Search".