2386. Find the K-Sum of an Array Sorting Heap (Priority Queue) Hard

Leetcode Link

# In this problem, you receive an array of integers called nums and a positive integer k. The goal is to figure out the kth largest sum of a

Problem Description

items, while maintaining the order of the remaining items. Additionally, it's important to note that the empty subsequence (a sequence with no elements) has a sum of 0, and this should be considered when determining the K-Sum. The challenge then lies in efficiently finding the K-Sum because as the array grows with more elements, the number of subsequences that can be generated increases exponentially.

subsequence within this array. A subsequence is a sequence that can be derived from the array by removing some or none of the

Intuition To arrive at the solution, consider the nature of subsequences and the sums they generate. If the array contains positive numbers only, the largest subsequence sum is the sum of the entire array, and the smallest would be 0 (the empty subsequence). However, negative numbers complicate this because including a negative number in a subsequence can reduce the sum, so it may not always

is because the highest K-Sum, specifically the 1st K-Sum, will not include any of the negative numbers (assuming we're only dealing with positive or non-positive numbers now).

be beneficial to include all positive numbers in a subsequence.

The intuition behind the solution involves two key insights:

2. A Priority Queue to Find the K-th Sum: After transforming all negative numbers into positive, we can sort the array. We then use a min-heap (priority queue) to systematically generate the sums of subsequences. By doing this, we ensure that we keep track of the smallest sums we can pop from the heap until we reach the kth smallest. We consider two operations with the heap: either we add the next number in the sorted array to the current sum (expanding the subsequence by one), or we replace the last

added number with the next number (changing the last element of the subsequence), but only if it's not the first element in the

1. Max Sum with Positive Numbers: First, we calculate the maximum possible sum of the array as if all numbers were positive. This

subsequence (to avoid duplicates). These steps allow us to cleverly sidestep the brute-force approach of generating every possible subsequence and its sum, which would be impractical for larger arrays. Solution Approach The solution approach utilizes several algorithms and data structures to efficiently find the K-Sum of the array.

1. Dealing with Max Sum: We initialize a variable mx with 0 to store the maximum sum. We iterate over nums and check each value. If the value is positive, we add it to mx. If it is negative (or non-positive, to be more general), it means including this value in our subsequence would decrease the sum. So, we take the absolute value of that number and then include it in the array nums,

effectively transforming the array to contain only non-negative numbers. Later, we sort this transformed array, which is crucial

# 2. Priority Queue (Min-Heap): A priority queue is implemented using a min-heap to keep track of the smallest sums that could lead

for the priority queue operations.

to use any number from nums).

to the K-Sum when combined with the subsequent elements in the array. We use this to efficiently get the kth smallest sum. The heap is initialized with a tuple containing 0 (the sum of the empty subsequence) and 0 (the index indicating we haven't started

- 3. Heap Operation to Find K-th Largest Sum: For each k-1 iterations (since we're trying to find the kth largest, we do one less), we pop the smallest sum from the heap. For each popped sum, which comes as a tuple (sum, index), we check if index is less than the length of nums. If it is, we push a new tuple onto the heap: the current sum s plus the number at the current index nums [1], and increment the index by 1. This operation represents expanding the subsequence to include the nums [i]. 4. Avoiding Duplication: If the index i is not zero, we push yet another tuple onto the heap which accounts for swapping the last
- number of the subsequence with the current number at index i of nums. The calculation is s + nums[i] nums[i-1], and the index is incremented by 1. This operation is crucial because it effectively generates sums that include the current number, but not the previous, preventing overcounting and ensuring that all subsequences considered are unique. 5. Retrieve the K-th Largest Sum: After performing the for-loop of k-1 iterations, the heap's smallest sum is the kth largest subsequence sum because all smaller sums have been popped off the heap already.

6. Calculating the Final Answer: Since mx represents the largest sum we could possibly make without negative numbers, and h [0]

[0] contains the smallest sum at the kth position, subtracting h[0] [0] from mx gives us the actual value of the kth largest

In summary, the implementation cleverly leverages a heap to simulate the process of generating subsequence sums and smartly

subsequence sum, even when considering the original array with its negative numbers.

navigates the subsequence space to find the K-Sum efficiently without generating all possible subsequences.

Consider the array nums = [3, -1, 2] and k = 2. The task is to find the 2nd largest sum of a subsequence within this array. 1. Dealing with Max Sum: First, we initialize mx with 0. After iterating over nums, we will transform it into [3, 1, 2] as we convert the negative number to a positive by taking the absolute value. The mx will now be the sum of this array, which is 6.

and the starting index. 3. Heap Operation to Find 2nd Largest Sum: Now, we will perform k - 1 iterations over the heap to find the 2nd largest sum:

2. Priority Queue (Min-Heap): Initialize a min-heap that starts with the tuple (0, 0), indicating the sum of the empty subsequence

Pop the top of the heap which is (0, 0) and since index is less than the length of nums, push (0 + nums [0], 0 + 1) which is

Now the heap contains (1, 2) and (3, 1). We pop the smallest sum again, which is (1, 2), and since index is less than the

# length of nums, we push (1 + nums[2], 2 + 1) which is (3, 3) into the heap. 4. Avoiding Duplication: There isn't any duplication avoidance necessary in this example since there are no numbers in nums to

Python Solution

class Solution:

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Example Walkthrough

follow nums [2].

def kthLargestSum(self, nums: List[int], k: int) -> int:

# Calculate the sum of positive elements, and make all elements positive

# Create a min-heap to store the sums and their corresponding indexes

# Push the next sum which includes the nums[index]

heappush(min\_heap, (current\_sum + nums[index], index + 1))

# The k-th largest sum is the max\_sum minus the smallest sum in the heap

# Avoid duplicating the first element of the sorted nums array

heappush(min\_heap, (current\_sum + nums[index] - nums[index - 1], index + 1))

# Pop and push the next two sums to the heap (k-1) times

current\_sum, index = heappop(min\_heap)

heap's top sum, which equals 6 - 3 = 3.

from heapq import heappush, heappop

 $min_heap = [(0, 0)]$ 

for \_ in range(k - 1):

nums.sort() # Sort the array

if index < len(nums):</pre>

return max\_sum - min\_heap[0][0]

if (currentIndex > 0) {

return maxSumPositives - minHeap.peek().getKey();

// Define pair type with long long and int for use in priority queue

const addToMinHeap = (sum: number, index: number): void => {

let parent = Math.floor((current - 1) / 2);

if (minHeap[current][0] < minHeap[parent][0]) {</pre>

// Function to extract the smallest element from the min-heap

// Percolate down to maintain heap invariant

let leftChild = current \* 2 + 1;

let rightChild = current \* 2 + 2;

smallestChild = leftChild;

smallestChild = rightChild;

let smallestChild = current;

const extractFromMinHeap = (): [number, number] => {

[minHeap[current], minHeap[parent]] = [minHeap[parent], minHeap[current]];

if (leftChild < minHeap.length && minHeap[leftChild][0] < minHeap[smallestChild][0]) {</pre>

if (rightChild < minHeap.length && minHeap[rightChild][0] < minHeap[smallestChild][0]) {</pre>

// Percolate up to maintain heap invariant

minHeap.push([sum, index]);

while (current > 0) {

break;

} else {

let current = minHeap.length - 1;

current = parent;

const smallest = minHeap[0];

if (minHeap.length > 0) {

let current = 0;

while (true) {

const lastElement = minHeap.pop()!;

minHeap[0] = lastElement;

max\_sum = 0

(3, 1) and (0 + nums[1], 1 + 1) which is (1, 2) into the heap.

Let's use a small example to illustrate the solution approach.

5. Retrieve the 2nd Largest Sum: After k - 1 iterations, our heap contains (3, 1) and (3, 3). The smallest sum at the top of the heap is (3, 1), which represents the 2nd largest subsequence sum.

The 2nd largest sum of a subsequence in the array  $\begin{bmatrix} 3 & -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$  is 3. This sum can be obtained from the subsequence  $\begin{bmatrix} 3 \end{bmatrix}$  or  $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ 3) in the original array before we transformed the negative numbers into positive.

6. Calculating the Final Answer: mx is 6, and the kth smallest sum from our heap is 3. So, the 2nd largest subsequence sum is mx -

for index, value in enumerate(nums): if value > 0: max\_sum += value 9 10 else: nums[index] = -value 11

# Calculate the sum by swapping out the previous element (thus maintaining the count of elements in current sum)

## 31 32 # Note: The code assumes the existence of `List` imported from `typing` module. # If not present, add: from typing import List 34

```
Java Solution
   import java.util.PriorityQueue;
2 import java.util.Comparator;
  import java.util.Arrays;
   import javafx.util.Pair; // Make sure to import the correct package for the Pair class based on the development environment
   class Solution {
       public long kSum(int[] nums, int k) {
           // Initialize variable to store the sum of positive numbers.
           long maxSumPositives = 0;
           int length = nums.length;
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           // Convert negative numbers to positive and sum all positive numbers.
           for (int i = 0; i < length; ++i) {
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               if (nums[i] > 0) {
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                   maxSumPositives += nums[i];
               } else {
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                   nums[i] = -nums[i];
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           // Sort the modified array in non-decreasing order.
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           Arrays.sort(nums);
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           // Use a priority queue to keep track of the sum-pairs efficiently.
           PriorityQueue<Pair<Long, Integer>> minHeap = new PriorityQueue<>(Comparator.comparing(Pair::getKey));
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           minHeap.offer(new Pair<>(0L, 0)); // Offer initial pair of (sum=0, index=0).
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           // Loop until we find the kth smallest sum.
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           while (--k > 0) {
               Pair<Long, Integer> currentPair = minHeap.poll(); // Poll the smallest sum pair.
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               long currentSum = currentPair.getKey();
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               int currentIndex = currentPair.getValue();
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               // If there is a next index, offer new pairs into the priority queue.
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               if (currentIndex < length) {</pre>
                   minHeap.offer(new Pair<>(currentSum + nums[currentIndex], currentIndex + 1));
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                   // Avoid duplicate sums by checking if currentIndex is greater than 0.
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minHeap.offer(new Pair<>(currentSum + nums[currentIndex] - nums[currentIndex - 1], currentIndex + 1));

// Return the maximum sum of positives minus the k-th smallest sum (the top element in the queue).

## class Solution { 10 public: 11 12

C++ Solution

#include <vector>

#include <algorithm>

using namespace std;

using PairLLInt = pair<long long, int>;

2 #include <queue>

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long long kSum(vector<int>& nums, int k) {
             long long maxSumNonNegatives = 0; // To store the sum of non-negative numbers
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             int size = nums.size();
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             // Convert negative numbers to positive and calculate maxSumNonNegatives
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             for (int i = 0; i < size; ++i) {
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                 if (nums[i] > 0) {
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                     maxSumNonNegatives += nums[i];
                 } else {
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                     nums[i] = -nums[i];
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             // Sort nums to utilize the non-decreasing property in generating sums
 23
             sort(nums.begin(), nums.end());
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 25
             // Min-heap to store the smallest sums and their indices
 26
             priority_queue<PairLLInt, vector<PairLLInt>, greater<PairLLInt>> minHeap;
 27
             minHeap.push({0, 0}); // Initial pair
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             // Generate the first k-1 sums
             while (--k) {
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                 auto [sum, idx] = minHeap.top();
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                 minHeap.pop();
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                 if (idx < size) {</pre>
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                     minHeap.push({sum + nums[idx], idx + 1});
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                     // Avoid duplicates by checking if the current sum results from
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                     // a combination of previous numbers
 38
                     if (idx > 0) {
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                         minHeap.push({sum + nums[idx] - nums[idx - 1], idx + 1});
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             // k-th sum is the smallest sum which is the difference
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             // between maxSumNonNegatives and the top element of min-heap
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             return maxSumNonNegatives - minHeap.top().first;
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    };
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Typescript Solution
     function kSum(nums: number[], k: number): number {
         let maxSumNonNegatives: number = 0; // Store the sum of non-negative numbers
         let size: number = nums.length;
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         // Convert negative numbers to positive and calculate maxSumNonNegatives
         for (let i = 0; i < size; ++i) {
             if (nums[i] > 0) {
                 maxSumNonNegatives += nums[i];
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             } else {
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                 nums[i] = -nums[i];
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         // Sort nums to utilize its non-decreasing property in generating sums
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         nums.sort((a, b) \Rightarrow a - b);
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         // Define the priority queue to store the smallest sums and their indices
         let minHeap: Array<[number, number]> = [];
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         // Function to add elements to the min-heap
```

### 54 if (smallestChild !== current) { 55 56 [minHeap[current], minHeap[smallestChild]] = [minHeap[smallestChild], minHeap[current]]; 57 current = smallestChild; 58 } else { 59 break;

while (--k) {

// Usage example:

Time Complexity

90 // const k: number = 2;

};

return smallest;

if (idx < size) {

addToMinHeap(0, 0); // Initial element

const [sum, idx] = extractFromMinHeap();

addToMinHeap(sum + nums[idx], idx + 1);

// k-th sum is the smallest sum which is the difference

const [smallestSum, ] = extractFromMinHeap();

return maxSumNonNegatives - smallestSum;

// between maxSumNonNegatives and the top element of min-heap

// a combination of previous numbers

// Avoid duplicates by checking if the current sum is from

91 // console.log(kSum(nums, k)); // Call the kSum function with the example parameters

addToMinHeap(sum + nums[idx] - nums[idx - 1], idx + 1);

// Generate the first k-1 sums

if (idx > 0) {

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};

Time and Space Complexity

// const nums: number[] = [1, 2, 3];

2. Heap Operations: The function performs a series of heap operations, namely heappop and heappush, within a loop that runs k -1 times. Each heap operation can be done in 0(log k) time. However, in the worst-case scenario, there can be up to 2\*(k-1)

n is the length of nums. Sorting the modified nums list takes 0(n log n) time.

The time complexity of the kSum function involves several components:

Thus, the total time complexity is  $0(\max(n \log n, (k-1) * \log(k)))$ .

The space complexity of the kSum function consists of:

elements in the heap, as for each pop operation, potentially two elements are pushed back. This leads to a time complexity of O((k-1) \* log(k)) for all heap operations.

1. Initialization and Sorting: Initializing mx and converting negative numbers in the nums list to positive ones takes O(n) time where

Space Complexity

1. Heap Space: The heap can contain up to 2\*(k-1) elements in the worst-case scenario, which contributes 0(k) space

Combining these operations, the overall time complexity is determined by  $0(n \log n + (k - 1) * \log(k))$ . Since the heap

operations depend on k, the larger of n  $\log n$  and  $(k - 1) * \log(k)$  will dominate the time complexity.

complexity. 2. Other Variables: The space used by variables mx, s, and i, is 0(1).

Therefore, the total space complexity of the function is O(k) since this is the term that grows with the input size and dominates the space complexity.