

Binary Search in 2D Arrays

* Searching in Matrices :-

Lets take a 2D Array (or Matrix)

	0	1	2	
rows →	0	18	9	12
	1	36	-4	91
	2	44	33	16

↓ columns

target = 91

← unsorted

NOTE: We have already learned "HOW TO TRAVERSE IN 2D ARRAYS".

>>> Initially: row = 0, col = 0

check: $9_0, 18 = 91 \Rightarrow \boxed{\text{No}} \Rightarrow \text{col}++$

Now, row = 0, col = 1

check: $9_0, 9 = 91 \Rightarrow \boxed{\text{No}} \Rightarrow \text{col}++$

Now, row = 0, col = 2

check: $9_0, 12 = 91 \Rightarrow \boxed{\text{No}} \Rightarrow \text{loop over} \Rightarrow \text{row}++$

Now, row = 1, col = 0

check: $9_1, 36 = 91 \Rightarrow \boxed{\text{No}} \Rightarrow \text{col}++$

row = 1, col = 1

check: $9_1, -4 = 91 \Rightarrow \boxed{\text{No}} \Rightarrow \text{col}++$

row = 1, col = 2

check: $9_1, 91 = 91 \Rightarrow \boxed{\text{Yes}} \Rightarrow \text{Ans found}$

So, Ans = [1, 2]

↑ ↑
row column

* Worst case Time Complexity

$O(N^2)$ → if the matrix is of size $N \times N$

$O(N \times M)$ → if the matrix is of size $N \times M$
(Here, N = no. of rows, M = no. of columns)

* Searching in a matrix which is sorted in row-wise and column-wise manner :-

Let's take a matrix in which every row and every column is sorted :-

→ rows	0	10	20	30	40
	1	15	25	35	45
	2	28	29	37	49
	3	33	34	38	50

↓ columns

target = 37

← sorted Matrix (row & column-wise)

>>> There are 3 cases

Case 1: if element == target
⇒ ans found

Case 2: if element < target
⇒ row++

Case 3: if element > target
⇒ col--

	0	1	2	3
0	10	20	30	40
1	15	25	35	45
2	28	29	37	49
3	33	34	38	50

Lower bound

Upper bound
(this last column)

target = 37

⇒ Start checking from last column :-

- Since, $40 > 37 \Rightarrow$ all the elements in this last column is greater than target element (i.e, 37). Because, the matrix is sorted row & column-wise.
 \Rightarrow So, col-- (ignore the last column)

⇒ Now, our Matrix is -

	0	1	2
0	10	20	30
1	15	25	35
2	28	29	37
3	33	34	38

⇒ checking in 0th row:

- Since, $30 < 37 \Rightarrow$ Means, all the left-hand side ^{elements} of ~~that~~ 30 in row 0 is smaller than 30 (as matrix is sorted ^{in row-wise}), So, obviously that elements are smaller than target element (i.e 37).
 \Rightarrow So, row++ (ignore 0th row)

⇒ Now, our matrix is:

15	25	35
28	29	37
33	34	38

>>> checking in 1st row :-

- Since, $35 < 37 \Rightarrow$ All the left-side elements of 35 is smaller than 37 (As matrix is sorted) means \rightarrow That elements are also smaller than target element (i.e., 37)

\Rightarrow So, $\boxed{\text{row}++}$ (Ignore 1st row)

\Rightarrow Now, our matrix becomes:

28	29	37
33	34	38

>>> checking in 2nd row :-

Since, $\boxed{37 == \text{target}}$ \Rightarrow Ans found at $[2, 2]$

* NOTE : we keep running the loop till row is less than length of matrix and column is greater, equal to zero(0).

* Time Complexity = $O(N)$

* Space Complexity = $O(1)$ // constant

Remember : In these type of Matrices problem, try to reduce the search space. i.e., eliminating the rows and columns.

* Searching in a Sorted Matrix :-

Let's take a sorted matrix —

	0	1	2	3
0	1	2	3	4
1	5	6	7	8
2	9	10	11	12
3	13	14	15	16

↓ columns

→ rows

sorted matrix

* Approach
Take middle row/column and perform binary search on it
Then we have 3 cases

• There are 3 cases :-

case 1: If element == target
// ans

case 2: If element > target
// ignore rows after it (below rows)

case 3: If element < target
// ignore above rows

>>> Let's take target = 3

$$\text{mid}(\text{col}) = \frac{0+3}{2} = 1$$

Now, find mid of that column 1
(i.e., Perform binary search on mid. column)

$$\text{mid}(\text{col}_1) = \frac{0+3}{2} = 1$$

i.e., element 6

	0	1	2	3
0	1	2	3	4
1	5	6	7	8
2	9	10	11	12
3	13	14	15	16

mid(col)

Now, check the above mentioned cases —

Here, $6 > 3$ i.e. case 2: element > target

⇒ So, ignore rows below it

Explanation

We know

These elements are greater than 6 (becoz, the matrix is sorted)

mid column

	1	2	3	
0	1	2	3	4
1	5	6	7	8
2	9	10	11	12
3	13	14	15	16

// ignore these rows

So, obviously all these nos. are also greater than target (i.e. 3). So, ignore below rows.

Now, Matrix becomes →

mid-col

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8

case

>>> In the end, 2 rows are remaining
Then —

① check whether the mid column you are at contains the answer
if not then —

② consider the 4 parts and perform simple binary search in each parts.

mid-col

Part 1	1	2	3	4	Part 2
Part 3	5	6	7	8	Part 4

* Time Complexity = $O(\log(N) + \log(M))$
↑ search across rows ↑ search across columns