

# **Experiment 6.3**

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### Aim:

**Problem:** Top K Frequent Elements

**Problem statement:** Given an integer array nums and an integer k, return the k most

frequent elements. You may return the answer in any order.

Example 1:

Input: nums = [1,1,1,2,2,3], k = 2

Output: [1,2] Example 2:

Input: nums = [1], k = 1

Output: [1]

## Algorithm:

## 1. Count the Frequency of Each Element:

- Create an unordered\_map to store the frequency of each element in the array nums.
- o Iterate through each element in nums and update its frequency in the map.

#### 2. Use a Min-Heap to Store the Top K Frequent Elements:

- Create a min-heap (priority queue) that stores pairs of (frequency, element). The heap will help us efficiently track the top k frequent elements.
- The heap is implemented as a min-heap using greater<pair<int, int>> so that
  the element with the smallest frequency is at the top.

### 3. **Push Elements into the Min-Heap**:

- o For each element and its frequency in the frequency map:
  - Push the pair (frequency, element) into the min-heap.
  - If the size of the heap exceeds k, pop the element with the smallest frequency. This ensures that the heap only stores the k most frequent elements.

#### 4. Extract the K Most Frequent Elements:

- o Create a **result** vector to store the top k frequent elements.
- While the heap is not empty, pop the top element (which contains the most frequent elements) and push the element (second value of the pair) into the result vector.

#### 5. Reverse the Result:

 Since the heap stores elements in increasing order of frequency, the result vector will have the elements in reverse order of their frequencies. o Reverse the result vector to place the most frequent elements first.

#### 6. Return the Result:

• Return the result vector containing the top k most frequent elements.

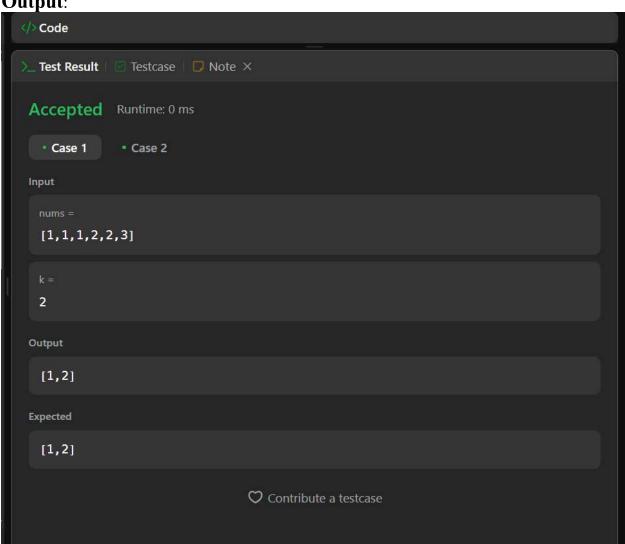
#### Code:

```
#include <iostream>
#include <vector>
#include <unordered_map>
#include <queue>
using namespace std;
class Solution {
public:
  vector<int> topKFrequent(vector<int>& nums, int k) {
    // Step 1: Count the frequency of each element in the array
    unordered_map<int, int> frequencyMap;
    for (int num: nums) {
       frequencyMap[num]++;
    }
    // Step 2: Use a min-heap to store the top k frequent elements
    // Min-heap stores pairs of (frequency, element)
     priority_queue<pair<int, int>, vector<pair<int, int>>, greater<pair<int, int>>>
   minHeap;
    // Step 3: Push the elements into the heap
    for (auto& entry: frequencyMap) {
       minHeap.push({entry.second, entry.first});
       // If the heap size exceeds k, remove the element with the smallest frequency
       if (minHeap.size() > k) {
         minHeap.pop();
       }
    }
    // Step 4: Extract the k most frequent elements from the heap
    vector<int> result;
    while (!minHeap.empty()) {
       result.push_back(minHeap.top().second);
       minHeap.pop();
    }
```

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```
// Since the heap stores elements in increasing order of frequency, reverse the result
     reverse(result.begin(), result.end());
     return result;
  }
};
```

**Output:** 





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