

786. K-th Smallest Prime Fraction

[Description](#)[Hints](#)[Submissions](#)[Discuss](#)[Solution](#)

A sorted list A contains 1, plus some number of primes. Then, for every $p < q$ in the list, we consider the fraction p/q .

What is the K-th smallest fraction considered? Return your answer as an array of ints, where $\text{answer}[0] = p$ and $\text{answer}[1] = q$.

Examples:

Input: A = [1, 2, 3, 5], K = 3

Output: [2, 5]

Explanation:

The fractions to be considered in sorted order are:

1/5, 1/3, 2/5, 1/2, 3/5, 2/3.

The third fraction is 2/5.

Input: A = [1, 7], K = 1

Output: [1, 7]

Note:

- A will have length between 2 and 2000.
 - Each $A[i]$ will be between 1 and 30000.
 - K will be between 1 and $A.length * (A.length + 1) / 2$.
-

Seen this question in a real interview before?

- Difficulty:Hard
- Total Accepted:657
- Total Submissions:2.7K
- Contributor:[awice](#)
-
- [Subscribe](#) to see which companies asked this question.

This solution probably doesn't have the best runtime but it's really simple and easy to understand.

Says if the list is [1, 7, 23, 29, 47], we can easily have this table of relationships

1/47	< 1/29	< 1/23	< 1/7
7/47	< 7/29	< 7/23	
23/47	< 23/29		

So now the problem becomes “find the kth smallest element of (n-1) sorted list”

Following is my implementation using PriorityQueue, running time is $\Theta(n \log n)$ $O(\max(n,k) * \log n)$, space is $O(n)$:

```
//java
public int[] kthSmallestPrimeFraction(int[] a, int k) {
    int n = a.length;
    // 0: numerator idx, 1: denominator idx
    PriorityQueue<int[]> pq = new PriorityQueue<>(new Comparator<int[]>() {
        @Override
        public int compare(int[] o1, int[] o2) {
            int s1 = a[o1[0]] * a[o2[1]];
            int s2 = a[o2[0]] * a[o1[1]];
            return s1 - s2;
        }
    });
    for (int i = 0; i < n-1; i++) {
        pq.add(new int[]{i, n-1});
    }
    for (int i = 0; i < k-1; i++) {
        int[] pop = pq.remove();
        int ni = pop[0];
        int di = pop[1];
        if (pop[1] - 1 > pop[0]) {
            pop[1]--;
            pq.add(pop);
        }
    }
    int[] peek = pq.peek();
    return new int[]{a[peek[0]], a[peek[1]]};
}
```

```
//c++
#include<stdio.h>
#include<iostream>
#include<vector>
#include<algorithm>
#include<limits.h>
#include<queue>
using namespace std;
vector<int> Global_A;
struct compare_func
{
    bool operator()(pair<int,int> &a, pair<int,int> &b)
    {
        int s1 = Global_A[a.first]*Global_A[b.second];
        int s2 = Global_A[b.first]*Global_A[a.second];
        return s1>s2;
    }
};
```

```

vector<int> kthSmallestPrimeFraction(vector<int>& A, int K) {
    Global_A = A;
    int n = A.size();
    priority_queue<pair<int,int>,vector<pair<int,int>>,compare_func>
pq;
    for(int i=0;i<n-1;++i)
    {
        pair<int,int> elem = {i,n-1};
        pq.push(elem);
    }
    for(int i=0;i<K-1;i++)
    {
        pair<int,int> elem = pq.top();
        pq.pop();
        int x = elem.first;
        int y = elem.second;
        if(x+1<y)
        {
            y--;
            pair<int,int> elemnew = {x,y};
            pq.push(elemnew);
        }
    }
    pair<int,int> elem = pq.top();
    vector<int> res;
    res.push_back(A[elem.first]);
    res.push_back(A[elem.second]);
    return res;
}

int main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
    vector<int> A = {1, 2, 3, 5};int K = 3;
    vector<int> ans = kthSmallestPrimeFraction(A,K);
    for(auto elem : ans) cout << elem << endl;
    return 0;
}

```