

378. Kth Smallest Element in a Sorted Matrix

Question Editorial Solution

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- Total Accepted: **6953**
- Total Submissions: **16990**
- Difficulty: **Medium**

Given a $n \times n$ matrix where each of the rows and columns are sorted in ascending order, find the kth smallest element in the matrix.

Note that it is the kth smallest element in the sorted order, not the kth distinct element.

Example:

matrix = [

[1, 5, 9],

[10, 11, 13],

[12, 13, 15]

],

k = 8, return 13.

Note:

You may assume k is always valid, $1 \leq k \leq n^2$.

```
class Solution {
public:
```

```
    int kthSmallest(vector<vector<int>>& matrix, int k) {
        int n = matrix.size();
        int le = matrix[0][0];
        int ri = matrix[n-1][n-1];
        int pos, mid;
        mid = 0;
        while(le < ri)
        {
            mid = (le + ri) >> 1;
            int num = 0;
            for(int i = 0; i < n; i++)
            {
                pos = upper_bound(matrix[i].begin(), matrix[i].end(), mid) - matrix[i].begin();
                num += pos;
            }
            if(num >= k)
            {
                ri = mid;
            }
            else
            {
                le = mid + 1;
            }
        }
    }
};
```

```
        }  
    }  
    return le;  
}  
  
};
```