

Array Selector

Problem Overview

This assignment focuses on implementing the methods of a class much like `java.util.Arrays`. The `Selector.java` file defines a class with static methods designed to provide useful functionality on arrays, with the common theme of *selecting* values in an array with particular properties. Each method of `Selector` is clearly specified, is independent of the other methods in the class, and is designed to provide relatively simple functionality. So, this is a great context in which to practice systematic, disciplined development and test-based verification.

The Selector class

You must correctly implement all the method bodies of the provided `Selector` class. Your implementation must adhere **exactly** to the API of the `Selector` class, as described in the provided source code comments and as described below.

```
public final class Selector {  
    public static int  min(int[] a)  
    public static int  max(int[] a)  
    public static int  kmin(int[] a, int k)  
    public static int  kmax(int[] a, int k)  
    public static int[] range(int[] a, int low, int high)  
    public static int  ceiling(int[] a, int key)  
    public static int  floor(int[] a, int key)  
}
```

A brief description of each method is provided below, along with examples of its use. **Refer to the `Selector.java` source code file for the complete specification of each method's required behavior.**

The min method

This method selects the minimum value from a given array. Examples:

a[]	min(a)
[2, 8, 7, 3, 4]	2
[5, 9, 1, 7, 3]	1
[8, 7, 6, 5, 4]	4

a[]	min(a)
[8, 2, 8, 7, 3, 3, 4]	2

The max method

This method selects the maximum value from a given array. Examples:

a[]	max(a)
[2, 8, 7, 3, 4]	8
[5, 9, 1, 7, 3]	9
[8, 7, 6, 5, 4]	8
[8, 2, 8, 7, 3, 3, 4]	8

The kmin method

This method selects the k-th minimum (smallest) value from a given array. A value is the k-th minimum if and only if there are exactly k - 1 distinct values strictly less than it in the array. Note that $kmin(a, 1) == min(a)$ and $kmin(a, a.length()) == max(a)$. Examples:

a[]	k	kmin(a, k)
[2, 8, 7, 3, 4]	1	2
[5, 9, 1, 7, 3]	3	5
[8, 7, 6, 5, 4]	5	8
[8, 2, 8, 7, 3, 3, 4]	3	4

The kmax method

This method selects the k-th maximum (largest) value from a given array. A value is the k-th maximum if and only if there are exactly k - 1 distinct values strictly greater than it in the array. Note that $kmax(a, 1) == max(a)$ and $kmax(a, a.length()) == min(a)$. Examples:

a[]	k	kmax(a, k)
[2, 8, 7, 3, 4]	1	8

a[]	k	kmax(a, k)
[5, 9, 1, 7, 3]	3	5
[8, 7, 6, 5, 4]	5	4
[8, 2, 8, 7, 3, 3, 4]	3	4

The range method

This method selects all values from a given array that are greater than or equal to low and less than or equal to high.

a[]	low	high	range(a, low, hi
[2, 8, 7, 3, 4]	1	5	[2, 3, 4]
[5, 9, 1, 7, 3]	3	5	[5, 3]
[8, 7, 6, 5, 4]	4	8	[8, 7, 6, 5, 4]
[8, 2, 8, 7, 3, 3, 4]	3	7	[7, 3, 3, 4]

The floor method

This method selects from a given array the largest value that is less than or equal to key. Examples:

a[]	key	floor(a, key)
[2, 8, 7, 3, 4]	6	4
[5, 9, 1, 7, 3]	1	1
[8, 7, 6, 5, 4]	9	8
[8, 2, 8, 7, 3, 3, 4]	5	4

The ceiling method

This method selects from a given array the smallest value that is greater than or equal to key. Examples:

a[]	key	ceiling(a, key)
[2, 8, 7, 3, 4]	1	2
[5, 9, 1, 7, 3]	7	7
[8, 7, 6, 5, 4]	0	4
[8, 2, 8, 7, 3, 3, 4]	5	7

Notes and Other Requirements

- The Selector.java source code file is provided in the startercode folder in Vocareum. You can download Selector.java from Vocareum and work on your local machine.
- The comments provided in Selector.java describe the required behavior of each method.
- The constructor of the Selector class has been written for you and it must not be changed in any way.
- You may add any number of private methods that you like, but you may not add any public method or constructor, nor may you change the signature of any public method or constructor.
- You must not add any fields, either public or private, to the Selector class.
- The java.util.Arrays class has been imported for you. You are free to delete this import statement if you do not use any methods from the Arrays class in your solutions.
- You may not add any other import statement, and you may not use another resource from the java.util package. The penalty for violating this constraint will be a deduction of points up to 50% of the total points available on the assignment.
- You may not use sorting in any method, except for kmin and kmax. The penalty for violating this constraint will be a deduction of points up to 50% of the total points available on the assignment.
- You do not have to use sorting in kmin and kmax, but doing so makes the solution more straightforward. If you choose to use sorting in these two methods, I suggest that you use the sort(int[]) method from the java.util.Arrays class.