

## K-th Smallest Prime Fraction

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 `answer[0] = p` and `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  $A.length * (A.length + 1) / 2$ .

## Solution 1

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
29/47
```

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

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

```
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]]};
}
```

written by [itsleo](#) original link [here](#)

## Solution 2

```
def kthSmallestPrimeFraction(self, A, K):
    class Row(int):
        def __getitem__(self, j):
            return float(self) / A[j], [int(self), A[j]]
    return self.kthSmallest(map(Row, A), K)[1]

# copy&paste old solution from https://discuss.leetcode.com/topic/53126/o-n-from-paper-yes-o-rows
def kthSmallest(self, matrix, k):
    ...
```

It's  $O(n)$  where  $n$  is the size of  $A$ . Reusing my old  $O(n)$  solution for “Kth Smallest Element in a Sorted Matrix” again, similar to how I did it for “Find K-th Smallest Pair Distance”. I build a virtual sorted matrix of entries  $p/q$ ,  $[p, q]$ , get the K-th smallest entry, and extract and return its  $[p, q]$ . For example, for  $A = [1, 2, 5, 7]$  my fractions matrix looks like this:

	7	5	2	1
1	1/7	1/5	1/2	1/1
2	2/7	2/5	2/2	2/1
5	5/7	5/5	5/2	5/1
7	7/7	7/5	7/2	7/1

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## Solution 3

Basically, I first use binary search to find a estimation. Then use the estimation and predefined error to search for the precise result.

The running time is  $O(C \cdot n \log n) + O(n)$  where  $C$  is a constant depending on the error.

I don't know the best way figure out the value of best error, but  $1e-9$  works for all tests cases.

```
class Solution {

    private static final double err = 1e-9;

    private int smaller(double [] A, double val) {
        int cnt = 0;
        // fix q as A[j], binary search p as A[i]
        for (int j = 1; j < A.length; ++j) {
            // find the last element that is smaller than val
            int lo = 0;
            int hi = j - 1;
            while (lo < hi) {
                int mid = (lo + hi + 1) / 2;
                if (A[mid] / A[j] < val) {
                    lo = mid;
                } else {
                    hi = mid - 1;
                }
            }
            if (lo == hi) {
                cnt += ((A[lo] / A[j] < val) ? lo + 1 : lo);
            }
        }
        return cnt;
    }

    public int[] kthSmallestPrimeFraction(int[] AA, int K) {
        // binary search the value
        double [] A = new double [AA.length];
        Set<Integer> nums = new HashSet<>();
        for (int i = 0; i < A.length; ++i) {
            A[i] = AA[i];
            nums.add(AA[i]);
        }
        double lo = 1.0 / 30000;
        double hi = 29999.0 / 30000;
        while (hi - lo > err) {
            double mid = (lo + hi) / 2;
            int cnt = smaller(A, mid); // how many fractions smaller than mid
            if (cnt > K - 1) {
                hi = mid;
            } else {
                lo = mid;
            }
        }

        for (int i = 0; i < A.length; ++i) {
```

```
        // search for each possible q (A[i])
        int p = (int)Math.round(lo * A[i]);
        if (p < A[i] && nums.contains(p) && Math.abs(p/A[i] - lo) < err) {
            return new int[] {p, AA[i]};
        }
    }
    // unreachable
    assert(false);
    return null;
}
}
```

written by [zhewang711](#) original link [here](#)

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