Binary Search in a 2D Matrix

The goal is to search for a target value in a row-wise and column-wise sorted matrix. In such a matrix:

- Each row is sorted in ascending order.
- Each column is sorted in ascending order.

Approach: Optimized Search

- 1. Start at the **top-right corner** of the matrix:
 - Advantages:
 - You can move left if the current value is greater than the target.
 - You can move down if the current value is less than the target.
- 2. Compare the value at the current position with the target:
 - o If the value equals the target, return true (or the position).
 - o If the value is greater than the target, move left (col--).
 - o If the value is less than the target, move down (row++).
- 3. Stop when the indices go out of bounds (row \geq m or col < 0).

Algorithm

```
1. Start at the top-right corner: (row = 0, col = n - 1).
2. While row < m and col >= 0:
 a. If matrix[row][col] == target, return true.
 b. If matrix[row][col] > target, move left: col--.
 c. If matrix[row][col] < target, move down: row++.
3. If the loop ends, return false (target not found).
C++ implementation
#include <iostream>
#include <vector>
using namespace std;
bool searchMatrix(const vector<vector<int>>& matrix, int target) {
  int m = matrix.size(), n = matrix[0].size();
  int row = 0, col = n - 1; // Start at the top-right corner
  while (row < m && col >= 0) {
    if (matrix[row][col] == target) {
       return true;
    } else if (matrix[row][col] > target) {
       col--; // Move left
    } else {
       row++; // Move down
    }
  }
  return false; // Target not found
}
int main() {
  int m, n, target;
  cin >> m >> n;
```

```
vector<vector<int>> matrix(m, vector<int>(n));
  for (int i = 0; i < m; i++) {
    for (int j = 0; j < n; j++) {
       cin >> matrix[i][j];
    }
  }
  cin >> target;
  if (searchMatrix(matrix, target)) {
     cout << "Target found in the matrix." << endl;
  } else {
     cout << "Target not found in the matrix." << endl;
  }
  return 0;
}
Java
import java.util.Scanner;
public class SearchIn2DMatrix {
  public static boolean searchMatrix(int[][] matrix, int target) {
     int m = matrix.length, n = matrix[0].length;
     int row = 0, col = n - 1; // Start at the top-right corner
     while (row < m && col >= 0) {
       if (matrix[row][col] == target) {
         return true;
       } else if (matrix[row][col] > target) {
         col--; // Move left
       } else {
         row++; // Move down
       }
     return false; // Target not found
  }
  public static void main(String[] args) {
     Scanner sc = new Scanner(System.in);
     int m = sc.nextInt();
     int n = sc.nextInt();
     int[][] matrix = new int[m][n];
```

```
for (int i = 0; i < m; i++) {
      for (int j = 0; j < n; j++) {
         matrix[i][j] = sc.nextInt();
      }
    }
    int target = sc.nextInt();
    if (searchMatrix(matrix, target)) {
      System.out.println("Target found in the matrix.");
      System.out.println("Target not found in the matrix.");
    }
    sc.close();
  }
}
Example Input/Output
Input 1:
CopyEdit
3 4
14711
25812
36916
5
Output:
CopyEdit
Target found in the matrix.
Explanation:
```

Input 2:

CopyEdit

3 4

14711

25812

36916

10

Output:

Target not found in the matrix.

Complexity

1. **Time Complexity**: O(m+n)

• The target 5 is located at (1, 1).

- o At most, m+n moves are made (either down or left).
- 2. Space Complexity: O(1)
 - o Only a few variables are used.