



LeetCode 973 – K Closest Points to Origin

✓ Problem Statement:

You are given an array of `points` where `points[i] = [xi, yi]` represents a point on the X-Y plane, and an integer `k`.

Return the `k` closest points to the origin `(0, 0)` using **Euclidean distance**.

Distance formula:

$$\text{Distance} = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$$

Since square root preserves order, we can compare just $x^2 + y^2$

🧠 Thought Process:

1. **Goal:** Find the `k` points closest to the origin.
2. We don't need actual distance (no `sqrt`), only **relative comparison**, so we use $x^2 + y^2$.
3. For every point, calculate its distance from the origin.
4. Use a **max-heap** to keep the `k` smallest distances.
5. If heap size > `k`, pop the point with the **largest distance**.
6. In the end, extract all points from the heap and return them.

✓ Code):

```
class Solution {
public:
    typedef pair<int,vector<int>> pi;
```

```

vector<vector<int>> kClosest(vector<vector<int>>& points, int k) {
    priority_queue<pi> pq;
    for(vector<int> v:points){
        int x = v[0];
        int y = v[1];
        int distance = x*x + y*y;
        pq.push({distance,v});
        if(pq.size()>k){
            pq.pop();
        }
    }
    vector<vector<int>> ans;
    while(pq.size()>0){
        ans.push_back(pq.top().second);
        pq.pop();
    }
    return ans;
}
};

```

Dry Run:

Input: `points = [[1,3], [-2,2]]` , `k = 1`

1. Point [1, 3]:

- Distance = $1^2 + 3^2 = 10$
- Heap = `[[10, [1,3]]]`

2. Point [-2, 2]:

- Distance = $(-2)^2 + 2^2 = 8$
- Heap = `[[10, [1,3]], [8, [-2,2]]]`
- Heap size > k → pop max → remove `[1,3]`

Final heap = `[[8, [-2,2]]]`

Return `[-2,2]` 

Time Complexity:

- **Heap operations:** For n points, each `push` / `pop` in heap of size k takes $O(\log k)$
- **Overall traversal:** $O(n * \log k)$
- **Result collection (k elements):** $O(k)$

Total: $O(n * \log k)$

Space Complexity:

- Heap stores at most k elements $\rightarrow O(k)$
 - Answer vector stores k elements $\rightarrow O(k)$
 - **Total:** $O(k)$
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