

# First Negative Number in Every Window of Size **k**

## Problem Statement (Based on Your Code)

Given an array of integers (may contain negative values), and a window size **k**, you need to print the **first negative number** in every window of size **k**.

## Your Code


```
#include<iostream>
#include<vector>
using namespace std;



int main() {
    int arr[] = {2,-3,4,4,-7,-1,4,-2,6};
    int n = sizeof(arr)/sizeof(arr[0]); // 

|   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 |

 Number of elements in array
    int k = 3; // 

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|---|---|---|

 Window size
    int p = -1; //  Index of first negative in current window

    //  Step 1: Initialize the first window
    for(int i=0; i<k; i++) {
        if(arr[i] < 0) {
            p = i; //  Found first negative in first window
            break;
        }
    }

    vector<int> ans(n-k+1, 0); // 

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

 Output vector to store first negatives

    int i = 1; // Left pointer of window
    int j = i + k - 1; // Right pointer of window
```

```

// ✅ First window answer
ans[0] = (p != -1) ? arr[p] : 0;

// 🔄 Step 2: Slide the window
while(j < n) {
    if(p >= i) {
        // ✅ The negative number is still in the window
        ans[i] = arr[p];
    } else {
        // 🔄 Negative number has moved out — find new one
        p = -1;
        for(int x = i; x <= j; x++) {
            if(arr[x] < 0) {
                p = x;
                break;
            }
        }
        ans[i] = (p != -1) ? arr[p] : 0;
    }
    i++;
    j++;
}








// 🖨️ Print original array
for(int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
    cout << arr[i] << " ";
}
cout << endl;

// 🖨️ Print result
for(int i = 0; i < n - k + 1; i++) {
    cout << ans[i] << " ";
}

```

```
return 0;  
}
```

## Logic Breakdown

Step	What Happens
	First loop finds first negative in the <b>first window</b>
	<code>p</code> stores the index of that negative number
	Window starts sliding using two pointers <code>i</code> and <code>j</code>
	If <code>p</code> (the last known negative) is still in the window, use it
	If not, loop through the new window to find the first negative again
	Store result in the <code>ans</code> vector
	Print original array and result array

## Example Trace

Given:

```
arr = {2, -3, 4, 4, -7, -1, 4, -2, 6}  
k = 3
```

**Sliding Windows:**

Window	First Negative
[2, -3, 4]	-3
[-3, 4, 4]	-3
[4, 4, -7]	-7
[4, -7, -1]	-7
[-7, -1, 4]	-7
[-1, 4, -2]	-1
[4, -2, 6]	-2

So, output will be:

-3 -3 -7 -7 -7 -1 -2

## 🧠 Time Complexity

Operation	Complexity
Initial window check	$O(k)$
Sliding windows	Worst case $O(n*k)$ (when re-scanning window)
Overall	$O(n*k)$ worst, but usually faster in practice

🔄 **Optimization Tip:** You can reduce time to  $O(n)$  using a `deque` for storing indices of negative numbers, but your method is still correct and clean! 100

## 🏁 Final Output:

Original Array: 2 -3 4 4 -7 -1 4 -2 6

Answer: -3 -3 -7 -7 -7 -1 -2

## ✅ Summary (Emoji Style)

Step	Task	Emoji Summary
📅 Init	Check first window for negative	🔍
🕒 Track	Use index <code>p</code> to remember first negative	📌
🔄 Slide	Move window one step, update <code>p</code> if needed	⏮️🔄
📄 Store	Save first negative in result array	📝
🖨️ Print	Print original and output arrays	📤