

US # MEDIUM + # META # AMAZON

23. Merge k Sorted Lists

Hard 18.6K 670

Companies

You are given an array of k linked-lists `lists`, each linked-list is sorted in ascending order. Merge all the linked-lists into one sorted linked-list and return it.

Example 1:

Input: lists = [[1,4,5],[1,3,4],[2,6]]

Output: [1,1,2,3,4,4,5,6]

Explanation: The linked-lists are:

1 → 4 → 5, ✓
1 → 3 → 4, ✓
2 → 6 ✓

merging them into one sorted list:
1 → 1 → 2 → 3 → 4 → 4 → 5 → 6

Example 2:

Input: lists = []

Output: []

Example 3:

Input: lists = [[]]

Output: []

```
public class MergeSortedList {
    // O(n log n) O(n)
    public ListNode mergeKLists(ListNode[] lists) {
        PriorityQueue<ListNode> heap = new PriorityQueue<>((a, b) -> a.val - b.val);
        for(ListNode node : lists){
            if(node != null)
                heap.add(node);
        }
        ListNode head = new ListNode(0);
        ListNode current = head;
        while(!heap.isEmpty()){
            ListNode node = heap.poll();
            current.next = node;
            current = current.next;
            if (node.next != null)
                heap.add(node.next);
        }
        return head.next;
    }

    public static void printList(ListNode node) {
        while (node != null) {
            System.out.print(node.val + " ");
            node = node.next;
        }
        System.out.println();
    }

    public static void main(String[] args) {
        MergeSortedList merger = new MergeSortedList();
        ListNode[] lists = new ListNode[3]; // Example initialization
        lists[0] = new ListNode(1, new ListNode(4, new ListNode(5)));
        lists[1] = new ListNode(1, new ListNode(3, new ListNode(4)));
        lists[2] = new ListNode(2, new ListNode(6));
        ListNode mergedList = merger.mergeKLists(lists);
        printList(mergedList);
    }
}
```

1 4 5
1 3 4
2 6
1 → 4 → 5
1 → 3 → 4
2 → 6
4 5

1 4 5
1 3 4
2 6
4 5

List Node[] lists

1 → 4 → 5
1 → 3 → 4
2 → 6

minHeap

1 → 4 → 5
1 → 3 → 4
2 → 6
4 → 5
6
4
5
5 → 4 → 5
3 → 4
2 → 6
1 → 3 → 4
head → 1 → 4 → 5

return
head.next

