



SEARCH PROBLEM

PROGRAMMING TECHNIQUES

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INTRODUCTION

- This problem is very popular
- Inputs of the problem are the information needed and output is *optimized solution* satisfying *constraint condition*
- Two methods of searching are linear and binary
- Search problem includes:
 - Search space/solution space
 - Constraint condition
- Solution space may include:
 - Explicit: only choose and check
 - Implicit: must create to continue processing

INTRODUCTION

- The process of choosing solutions includes following steps:
 - Step 0: create candidate solution (if not)
 - Step 1: check if candidate solution satisfies constrain condition or not
 - Step 2: Among the candidate solutions satisfying constrain condition, there are some standards to choose the best one
- Example: Find the even biggest number in array a with n whole distinct numbers ($n > 0$)
 - Search space: n elements
 - Constraint condition: even number
 - Standard: biggest

LINEAR SEARCH (IN 1D ARRAY)

- Problem 1: Let a be an array of n integers. Write a function finding a value of the biggest element

1	<code>int FindMaxValue(int a[], int n){</code>
2	<code>int res = a[0];</code>
3	<code>for(int i = 1; i < n; i++){</code>
4	<code>if(a[i] > res) res = a[i];</code>
5	<code>}</code>
6	<code>return res;</code>
7	<code>}</code>

- Cost: Loop array $a \subseteq O(n)$
- Search space: n elements
- Standard: biggest

LINEAR SEARCH (IN 1D ARRAY)

- Problem 2: Let a be an array of n integers and number x . Write a function finding the first position of appearance of x

1	<code>int Find(int a[], int n, int x){</code>	<code>int Find(int a[], int n, int x){</code>
2	<code>int i = 0;</code>	<code>int i = 0;</code>
3	<code>while((i < n) && (a[i] != x))</code>	<code>a[n] = x;</code>
4	<code>i++;</code>	<code>while(a[i] != x) i++;</code>
5	<code>if(i < n) return i;</code>	<code>if(i < n) return i;</code>
6	<code>return -1;</code>	<code>return -1;</code>
7	<code>}</code>	<code>}</code>

- Cost: the luckiest is loop 1 time-looping. The average is $n/2$ -looping and the worst is n -looping $\equiv O(n)$
- Search space: $\{0, n - 1\}$
- Constrain condition: value equal to x
- Standard: the element with the smallest index

LINEAR SEARCH (IN 1D ARRAY)

- Problem 3: Let a be an array of n integers. Write a function finding the position of the smallest square number

1	<code>bool iSquare(int number){</code>	8	<code>if(iSquare(a[i]) && (idx==-1 a[i]<lc){</code>
2	<code>int i = (int)sqrt((float)number);</code>	9	<code>lc = a[i];</code>
3	<code>return (i*i == number);</code>	10	<code>idx = i;</code>
4	<code>}</code>	11	<code>}</code>
5	<code>int IdxOfMinSquareNumber(int a[], int n){</code>	12	<code>}</code>
6	<code>int idx = -1, lc = 0;</code>	13	<code>return idx;</code>
7	<code>for(int i = 0; i < n; i++){</code>	14	<code>}</code>

- Cost: loop n elements $\Rightarrow O(n)$
- Search space: $\{0, n - 1\}$
- Constrain condition: square number
- Standard: the smallest element

LINEAR SEARCH (IN 1D ARRAY)

- Problem 4: Let a be an array of n positive integers. Write a function finding the position of the biggest prime number

1	<code>bool isPrime(int number){</code>	8	<code>int idxOfMaxPrime(int a[], int n){</code>
2	<code>if(number < 2) return false;</code>	9	<code>int idx = -1, lc = 0;</code>
3	<code>int n = (int)sqrt(number);</code>	10	<code>for(int i = 0; i < n; i++){</code>
4	<code>for(int i = 2; i <= n; i++)</code>	11	<code>if(isPrime(a[i]) && a[i] > lc){</code>
5	<code>if(number % i == 0) return false;</code>	12	<code>lc = a[i]; idx = i;</code>
6	<code>return true;</code>	13	<code>}</code>
7	<code>}</code>	14	<code>}return idx;}</code>

- Cost: loop n elements $\underline{=} O(n)$
- Search space: $\{0, n - 1\}$
- Constrain condition: prime number
- Standard: the biggest

LINEAR SEARCH (IN 1D STRUCTURAL ARRAY)

- Problem 5: Let sp be an array of n products. Each product has: Code, product name and price. Write a function finding the highest price in the list

1	<code>#define MAX 100</code>	8	<code>float findMaxPrice(PRODUCT sp[], int n){</code>
2	<code>struct PRODUCT</code>	9	<code>float maxPrice = 0;</code>
3	<code>{</code>	10	<code>for(int i = 0; i < n; i++)</code>
4	<code>int id;</code>	11	<code>if(maxPrice < sp[i].Price)</code>
5	<code>char name[MAX + 1];</code>	12	<code>maxPrice = sp[i].Price;</code>
6	<code>float price;</code>	13	<code>return maxPrice;</code>
7	<code>};</code>	14	<code>}</code>

- Cost: loop n elements $\underline{=} O(n)$
- Search space: $\{0, n - 1\}$
- Standard: the highest price

LINEAR SEARCH (IN 1D STRUCTURAL ARRAY)

- Problem 6: Let sp be an array of n products. Each product has: Code, product name and price. Write a function finding the product name with lowest price in the list

1	<code>float findProduct(PRODUCT sp[], int n, char* strQuery, char* strProductName){</code>
2	<code>strcpy(strProductName, "");</code>
3	<code>int idx = -1; float minP = 0;</code>
4	<code>for(int i = 0; i < n; i++)</code>
5	<code>if(strstr(sp[i].Name, strQuery) != NULL && (idx == -1 minP > sp[i].Price)){</code>
6	<code>idx = i; minP = sp[i].Price;</code>
7	<code>}</code>
8	<code>if(idx != -1) strcpy(strProductName, sp[idx].Name);</code>
9	<code>}</code>

- Cost: loop n elements $\subseteq O(n)$
- Search space: $\{0, n - 1\}$
- Constrain condition: exist product name needed
- Standard: the highest price

LINEAR SEARCH (IN STRUCTURAL VECTOR)

- Problem 7: Let *plist* be an array of n songs. Each song includes: name, singer, genre and points. Write a function choosing the songs with the highest point

1	<code>struct SONG</code>	8	<code>vector<SONG> FindBestSong(vector<SONG>& pList){</code>
2	<code>{</code>	9	<code>vector<SONG> res; float bestR = 0;</code>
3	<code>string name;</code>	10	<code>for(int i = 0; i < pList.size(); i++)</code>
4	<code>string Artist;</code>	11	<code>if(bestR < pList[i].Rating)</code>
5	<code>string Genre;</code>	12	<code>bestR = pList[i].Rating;</code>
6	<code>float Rating;</code>	13	<code>for(i = 0; i < pList.size(); i++)</code>
7	<code>};</code>	14	<code>if(bestR == pList[i].Rating)</code>
Note: <code>string</code> in <code>struct</code> Following declarations are valid <code>SONG s;</code> Or <code>SONG* s = new SONG();</code>		15	<code>res.push_back(pList[i]);</code>
		16	<code>return res;</code>
		17	<code>}</code>

- Cost: loop n elements $\subseteq O(n)$
- Search space: $\{0, n - 1\}$
- Standard: the highest price

LINEAR SEARCH (IN LINKED LIST)

- Problem 8: Let a linked list of products. Each product includes: code, name and price. Write a function finding the highest price in the linked list

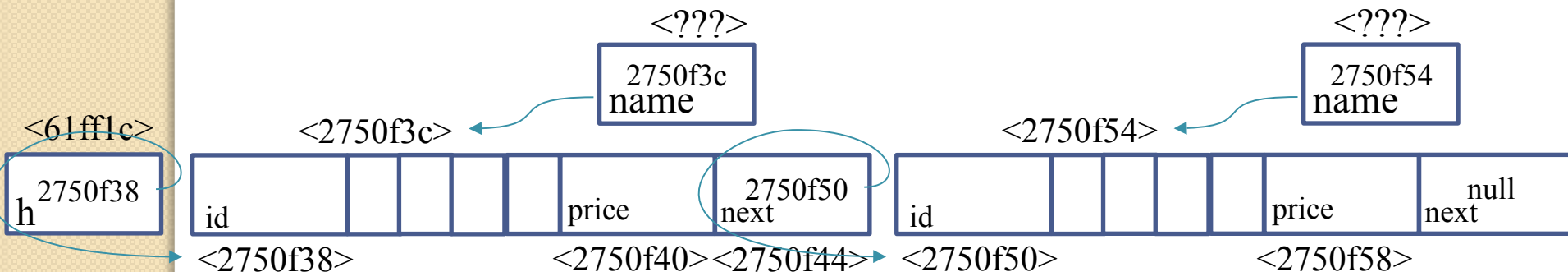
1	<code>struct PRODUCT</code>	8	<code>float findMaxPrice(PRODUCT* sp){</code>
2	<code>{</code>	9	<code>PRODUCT* p = sp; float maxPrice = 0;</code>
3	<code>int id;</code>	10	<code>while(p){</code>
4	<code>char name[4];</code>	11	<code>if(maxPrice < sp->price)</code>
5	<code>float price;</code>	12	<code>maxPrice = sp->price;</code>
6	<code>PRODUCT* next;</code>	13	<code>p = p->next;</code>
7	<code>};</code>	14	<code>}</code>
		15	<code>return maxPrice;</code>
		16	<code>}</code>

- Cost: loop n elements $\Rightarrow O(n)$
- Search space: $\{0, n - 1\}$
- Standard: the highest price

LINEAR SEARCH (IN LINKED LIST)

- Problem 8: review the structure PRODUCT

1	<code>struct PRODUCT</code>	8	<code>void main()</code>
2	<code>{</code>	9	<code>{</code>
3	<code>int id;</code>	10	<code>PRODUCT* h = new PRODUCT;</code>
4	<code>char name[4];</code>	11	<code>h->next = new PRODUCT;</code>
5	<code>float price;</code>	12	<code>h->next->next = NULL;</code>
6	<code>PRODUCT* next;</code>	13	<code>//cout<<...</code>
7	<code>};</code>	14	<code>};</code>



LINEAR SEARCH (IN LINKED LIST)

- Problem 9: Let a linked list of students. Each student includes: code, name, faculty and GPA. Write a function counting a number of students with GPA in $[\text{min}, \text{max}]$

1	#define DEPT 50	10	float count(STUDENT* s, char* strDept, float min, float max){
2	#define NAME 100	11	STUDENT* t = s; int c = 0;
3	struct STUDENT{	12	while(t){
4	int ID;	13	if(strcmp(t->strDept, strDept) == 0)
5	char strDept[DEPT+1];	14	if(t->GPA >= min && t->GPA <= max) c++;
6	char strName[NAME+1];	15	t = t->next;
7	float GPA;	16	}
8	STUDENT* next;	17	return c;
9	};	18	}

- Cost: loop n elements $\underline{=} O(n)$
- Constrain condition: exist the faculty name needed
- Search space: $\{0, n - 1\}$
- Standard: in $[\text{min}, \text{max}]$

LINEAR SEARCH (IN HIERARCHICAL STRUCTURE)

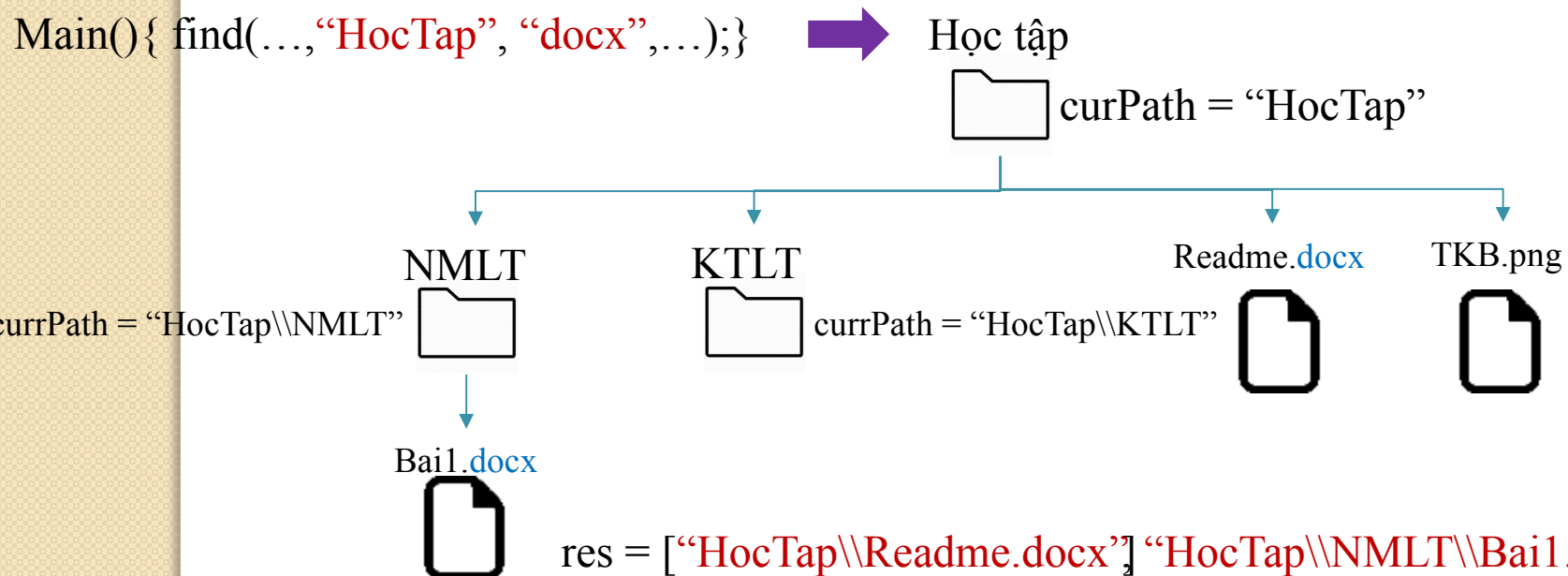
- Problem 10: Counting a number of files with the size bigger or equal to minSize in the given directory

1	<code>struct File{</code>	10	<code>int count(const Folder& f, int minSize){</code>
2	<code>string Name;</code>	11	<code>int i, c = 0, nFiles = f.Files.size(), nFolders = f.Folders.size();</code>
3	<code>int Size;</code>	12	<code>for(i = 0; i < nFiles; i++)</code>
4	<code>}</code>	13	<code>if(f.Files[i].Size >= minSize)</code>
5	<code>struct Folder{</code>	14	<code>c++;</code>
6	<code>string Name;</code>	15	<code>for(i = 0; i < nFolders; i++)</code>
7	<code>vector<Folder> Folders;</code>	16	<code>c+=count(f.Folders[i], minSize);</code>
8	<code>vector<File> Files;</code>	17	<code>return c;</code>
9	<code>};</code>	18	<code>}</code>

- Cost: loop n files $\Rightarrow O(n)$
- Search space: multi-branch tree
- Standard: bigger or equal to minSize

LINEAR SEARCH (IN HIERARCHICAL STRUCTURE)

- Problem 11: Search all the files with the name containing a given string strPat. Result is a list of names (including file paths) of the files just found
 - Cost: loop n files $\underline{=} O(n)$
 - Search space: multi-branch tree
 - Standard: file with the name needed



LINEAR SEARCH (IN HIERARCHICAL STRUCTURE)

- Problem 11: Search all the files with the name containing a given string strPat. Result is a list of names (including file paths) of the files just found

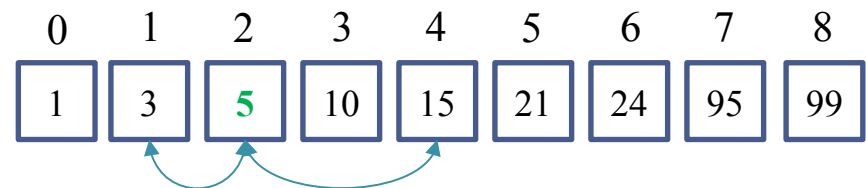
1	<code>void find(const Folder& f, string strCurrentPath, string strPat, vector<string>& res){</code>
2	<code>int i, nFiles = f.Files.size(), nFolders = f.Folders.size();</code>
3	<code>string strFilePathName, strNewPath;</code>
4	<code>for(i = 0; i < nFiles; i++)</code>
5	<code>if(f.Files[i].Name.find(strPat, 0) != string::npos){</code>
6	<code>strFilePathName = strCurrentPath + “\\” + f.Files[i].Name;</code>
7	<code>res.push_back(strFilePathName);</code>
8	<code>}</code>
9	<code>for(i = 0; i < nFolders; i++)</code>
10	<code>find(f.Folders[i], strCurrentPath + “\\” + f.Folders[i].Name, strPat, res);</code>
11	<code>}</code>

- Cost: loop n files $\Leftarrow O(n)$
- Search space: multi-branch tree
- Standard: file with the name needed

BINARY SEARCH (IN 1D ARRAY)

- Problem 12: Let a be an array of n increasing integers. Write a function determining the position of the element having x value.
 - If $x > a[i] \Rightarrow x$ in $[i + 1, n - 1]$
 - If $x < a[i] \Rightarrow x$ in $[0, i - 1]$

1	<code>void BinarySearch(int a[], int x, int n){</code>
2	<code>int from = 0, to = n - 1, mid;</code>
3	<code>while(from <= to){</code>
4	<code>mid = (from + to)/2;</code>
5	<code>if(a[mid] == x) return mid;</code>
6	<code>else{</code>
7	<code>if(a[mid] > x) to = mid - 1;</code>
8	<code>else from = mid + 1;</code>
9	<code>}} return -1;}</code>



BINARY SEARCH (IN 1D ARRAY)

- Problem 13: Let a be an array of n decreasing positive integers. Write a function determining the position of the biggest element smaller than x (for example $x = 20$)

1	<code>int findMaxValue(int a[], int x, int n){</code>
2	<code>if(n == 0) return 0;</code>
3	<code>int from = 0, to = n - 1, mid;</code>
4	<code>while(from < to){</code>
5	<code>mid = (from + to)/2;</code>
6	<code>if(a[mid] > x) from = mid + 1;</code>
7	<code>else to = mid;</code>
8	<code>}</code>
9	<code>if(a[from] <= x) return a[from];</code>
10	<code>return 0;</code>
11	<code>}</code>

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
80	55	46	24	21	15	10	9
> 20			> 20	< 20			

BINARY SEARCH (IN 1D ARRAY)

- Problem 14: Let a be an array of n increasing integers. Write a function inserting x into array, such that maintaining the increasing order

1	<code>void BinaryInsert(vector<int>& a, int x){</code>
2	<code>int from = 0, to = a.size() - 1, mid;</code>
3	<code>while(from <= to){</code>
4	<code>mid = (from + to)/2;</code>
5	<code>if(a[mid] < x) from = mid + 1;</code>
6	<code>else to = mid - 1;</code>
7	<code>}</code>
8	<code>a.insert(a.begin + from, x);</code>
9	<code>}</code>

from = 0 to = 5 mid = 3

0	1	2	3	4	5
1	3	5	5	11	99

x = 99

BINARY SEARCH (IN 1D ARRAY)

- Problem 15: Let a be an *unimodal* array with n integer elements. Write a function finding the biggest element

1	<code>int BinarySearchMax(int a[], int n){</code>
2	<code>int from = 0, to = n - 1, mid;</code>
3	<code>while(from < to){</code>
4	<code>mid = (from + to)/2;</code>
5	<code>if(a[mid] < a[mid + 1]) from = mid + 1;</code>
6	<code>else to = mid;</code>
7	<code>}</code>
8	<code>return a[from];</code>
9	<code>}</code>

from = 0 to = 6 mid = 3

0	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	4	8	9	7	6	2

BINARY SEARCH (IN 1D STRUCTURAL ARRAY)

- Problem 16: Any library has the books with the names following the alphabetically increasing order. Write a function determining the position of the book needed

1	<code>struct</code> POSITION{	10	POSITION BinarySearch (vector<BOOK> &Lst, <code>string</code> strTitle){
2	<code>int</code> BookShelf, Level;	11	POSITION res; res.BookShelf = res.Level = -1; <code>int</code> n = Lst.size();
3	};	12	<code>if</code> (n == 0) <code>return</code> res;
4	<code>struct</code> BOOK{	13	<code>int</code> from = 0, to = n – 1, mid;
5	<code>string</code> Title;	14	<code>while</code> (from <= to){
6	<code>string</code> Authors;	15	mid = (from + to)/2;
7	<code>string</code> Publisher;	16	<code>if</code> (Lst[mid].Title == strTitle) <code>return</code> Lst[mid].Position;
8	POSITION Position;	17	<code>else</code> {
9	};	18	<code>if</code> (Lst[mid].Title > strTitle) to = mid – 1;
		19	<code>else</code> from = mid + 1;
		20	}
		21	} <code>return</code> res;
		22	}

BINARY SEARCH (IN 1D STRUCTURAL ARRAY)

- Problem 17: write a function determining the camera's name with the highest price not exceeding *maxPrice*. The camera's information includes name, manufacturer and price

1	<code>struct CAMERA{</code>	6	<code>void findCam(CAMERA lst[], int n, float maxPrice, char* strName){</code>
2	<code>char ProductName[50];</code>	7	<code>strcpy(strName, "");</code>
3	<code>char Manufacturer[50];</code>	8	<code>if(n == 0) return;</code>
4	<code>float Price;</code>	9	<code>int from = 0, to = n - 1, mid;</code>
5	<code>};</code>	10	<code>while(from < to){</code>
		11	<code>mid = (from + to)/2;</code>
		12	<code>if(lst[mid].Price > maxPrice) to = mid - 1;</code>
		13	<code>else from = mid;</code>
		14	<code>}</code>
		15	<code>if(lst[from].Price <= maxPrice) strcpy(strName, lst[from].ProductName);</code>
		16	<code>}</code>

BINARY SEARCH (IN 1D STRUCTURAL ARRAY)

- Problem 18: Write a function adding a record into the contact, such that all records follow the rule of Name alphabetically increasing

1	<code>struct CONTACT{</code>	6	<code>void binaryInsert(vector<CONTACT>& lst, CONTACT newContact){</code>
2	<code>string Name;</code>	7	<code>int from = 0, to = lst.size() - 1, mid;</code>
3	<code>string PhoneNumber;</code>	8	<code>while(from <= to){</code>
4	<code>string EmailAddress;</code>	9	<code>mid = (from + to)/2;</code>
5	<code>};</code>	10	<code>if(lst[mid].Name < newContact.Name) from = mid + 1;</code>
		11	<code>else to = mid - 1;</code>
		12	<code>}</code>
		13	<code>lst.insert(lst.begin() + from, newContact);</code>
		14	<code>}</code>

BINARY SEARCH (IN 2D ARRAY)

- Problem 19: Let a be integer array ($m \leq n$). Array a has the numbers left-to-right increasing in each row. Write a function checking if array a contains the element with x value or not (for example $x = 14$).

1	<code>bool search2D(int** a, int m, int n, int x){</code>
2	<code>int from, to, mid;</code>
3	<code>for(int i = 0; i < m; i++){</code>
4	<code>from = 0; to = n - 1;</code>
5	<code>while(from <= to){</code>
6	<code>mid = (from + to)/2;</code>
7	<code>if(a[i][mid] == x) return true;</code>
8	<code>else{</code>
9	<code>if(a[i][mid] < x) from = mid + 1;</code>
10	<code>else to = mid - 1;</code>
11	<code>}}}</code>
12	<code>return false; }</code>

4	7	9	21	= loop $\log_2 4$
7	9	11	43	= loop $\log_2 4$
8	9	44	67	= loop $\log_2 4$
1	3	4	6	= loop $\log_2 4$
2	4	6	7	= loop $\log_2 4$
1	1	6	7	= loop $\log_2 4$

} $6\log_2 4$

BINARY SEARCH (IN 2D ARRAY)

- Problem 20: Let a be integer array ($m \times n$). Array a has the numbers left-to-right increasing in each row, and numbers bottom-to-up increasing in each column. Write a function checking if array a contains the element with x value or not (for example $x = 14$)

1	<code>bool search2D(int** a, int m, int n, int x){</code>
2	<code>int i = 0, j = 0;</code>
3	<code>while(i < m && j < n){</code>
4	<code>if(a[i][j] == x) return true;</code>
5	<code>else{</code>
6	<code>if(a[i][j] < x) j++;</code>
7	<code>else i++;</code>
8	<code>}</code>
9	<code>return false;</code>
10	<code>}</code>

		j				
		∞				
		0	1	2	3	4
i	0	7	12	16	20	95
	1	5	9	14	15	19
	2	3	5	7	9	11
	3	1	2	3	4	5

Loop cost $O(m + n)$