

We are given n which is the last client to an array
or $[1 \text{ to } n]$

find first bad one that causes everything else to be bad

given isBadVersion API \rightarrow returns true if bad
returns false if good

Example $n=5$

$[1, 2, 3, 4, 5]$

isBadVersion(5) \rightarrow True

isBadVersion(4) \rightarrow True

isBadVersion(3) \rightarrow False

\rightarrow return 4

$[1]$

isBadVersion \rightarrow True

return 1

while $n > 0$:

if isBadVersion:

$O(1)$ space

$n = n - 1$

else

$O(n)$ time

return $n+1$

return 1

Binary Search Solution

[1, 2, 3, 4, 5]

↑
L

↑
mid

↑
H

left = 1
right = n
result = n

while left <= right:

mid = left + right // 2

if isBadVersion(mid):

result = mid

right = mid - 1

else

left = mid + 1

return result

→ $O(\log n)$ time

$O(1)$ space