

1. find target on sorted array (Leet Code 704)

```
class Solution {
    public int search(int[] nums, int target) {

        return binarySearch(0, nums.length - 1, nums, target);

    }

    public int binarySearch(int left, int right, int[] nums, int target) {
        if (left > right) {
            return -1;
        }
        int middle = (right + left) / 2;
        if(nums[middle] == target) {
            return middle;
        }
        if(target < nums[middle]) {
            return binarySearch(left, middle - 1, nums, target);
        }
        return binarySearch(middle + 1, right, nums, target);

    }
}
```

Approach:

- **Divide the search space:** Use binary search on the sorted array by repeatedly halving the search range (left to right).
- **Find the middle element:** Calculate $middle = (left + right) / 2$.
- **Compare with target:**
 - If $nums[middle] == target$, return the index.
 - If $target < nums[middle]$, search the **left half** (left to middle - 1).
 - Otherwise, search the **right half** (middle + 1 to right).
- **Stop condition:** If $left > right$, the element doesn't exist in the array, return -1.

2. find target on sorted rotated array (Leet Code 33)

```
class Solution {
    public int search(int[] nums, int target) {
        int left = 0, right = nums.length - 1;

        while (left <= right) {
            int mid = (left + right) / 2;

            if (nums[mid] == target) {
                return mid;
            }

            if (nums[left] <= nums[mid]) {
                if (target >= nums[left] && target < nums[mid]) {
                    right = mid - 1;
                } else {
                    left = mid + 1;
                }
            }

            else {
                if (target > nums[mid] && target <= nums[right]) {
                    left = mid + 1;
                } else {
                    right = mid - 1;
                }
            }
        }

        return -1;
    }
}
```

Approach:

- **Binary search loop:** Start with left = 0, right = n-1 and calculate mid. If nums[mid] == target, return mid.
- **Check which half is sorted:**

If `nums[left] <= nums[mid]`, then **left half is sorted**.

Else, the **right half is sorted**.

- **Decide where target lies:**

If target is within the sorted half's range, shrink search space to that half.

Otherwise, search in the other half.

- **Continue until found or exhausted:**

Keep adjusting left and right until the target is found, otherwise return -1.

3. find minimum in rotated sorted array (Leet Code 153)

```
class Solution {  
  
    public int findMin(int[] nums) {  
  
        int low = 0, high = nums.length - 1;  
  
        while (low < high) {  
  
            int mid = low + (high - low) / 2;  
  
            if (nums[mid] > nums[high]) {  
  
                low = mid + 1;  
  
            } else {  
  
                high = mid;  
  
            }  
        }  
  
        return nums[low];  
    }  
}
```

Approach:

- **Check rotation:** If $\text{nums}[0] < \text{nums}[n-1]$, the array is not rotated \rightarrow return $\text{nums}[0]$.
- **Binary search idea:** Compare $\text{nums}[\text{mid}]$ with $\text{nums}[\text{high}]$ to decide which half has the minimum.
- **Move pointers:**
 - If $\text{nums}[\text{mid}] > \text{nums}[\text{high}]$, minimum lies in the **right half** $\rightarrow \text{low} = \text{mid} + 1$.
 - Else, minimum lies in the **left half (including mid)** $\rightarrow \text{high} = \text{mid}$.
- **Stop condition:** When $\text{low} == \text{high}$, that index is the minimum element.

4. median of two sorted array(Leet Code 4)

```
class Solution {

    public double findMedianSortedArrays(int[] nums1, int[] nums2) {

        if (nums1.length > nums2.length) {

            return findMedianSortedArrays(nums2, nums1);    }

        int m = nums1.length, n = nums2.length;

        int low = 0, high = m;

        while (low <= high) {

            int i = (low + high) / 2;

            int j = (m + n + 1) / 2 - i;

            int left1 = (i == 0) ? Integer.MIN_VALUE : nums1[i - 1];

            int right1 = (i == m) ? Integer.MAX_VALUE : nums1[i];

            int left2 = (j == 0) ? Integer.MIN_VALUE : nums2[j - 1];

            int right2 = (j == n) ? Integer.MAX_VALUE : nums2[j];

            if (left1 <= right2 && left2 <= right1) {

                if ((m + n) % 2 == 0) {

                    return (Math.max(left1, left2) + Math.min(right1, right2)) / 2.0;

                } else {
```

```

        return Math.max(left1, left2);

    }

    } else if (left1 > right2) {

        high = i - 1;

    } else {

        low = i + 1;

    }

    }

    return 0.0;

}

}

```

Approach:

- **Ensure nums1 is smaller** → Binary search on the smaller array to reduce complexity.
- **Partition both arrays:**
Pick an index i in `nums1`, and compute $j = (m + n + 1) / 2 - i$ in `nums2` so that left and right partitions together split the arrays in half.
- **Check validity of partition:**
 - If `nums1[i-1] <= nums2[j]` **and** `nums2[j-1] <= nums1[i]`, partition is correct.
 - Otherwise, adjust binary search:
 - If `nums1[i-1] > nums2[j]` → move left.
 - Else → move right.
- **Median calculation:**
 - If $(m+n)$ is odd → `max(leftPart)` is the median.
 - If $(m+n)$ is even → `median = (max(leftPart) + min(rightPart)) / 2`.