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Date

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Topic

Assignment : 4

Q. 1)

→ Write algorithm / function for ternary search

Algorithm :

ternarysearch (array, start, end, key)

Begin

if start <= end then

midfirst := start + (end - start) / 3

midsecond := midfirst + (end - start) / 3

if array [midfirst] = key then

return midfirst

if array [midsecond] = key then

return midsecond

if key < array [midfirst] then

call ternarysearch (array, start, midfirst - 1, key)

if key > array [midsecond] then

call ternarysearch (array, midfirst + 1, end, key)

else

call ternarysearch (array, midfirst + 1, midsecond - 1, key)

else

return invalid location

end.

Q.2) In binary search algorithm suggested to calculate the mid as
 $\text{beg} + (\text{end} - \text{beg})/2$ instead of $(\text{beg} + \text{end})/2$
Why it is so?

→ The very first finding middle index is:

$$\text{mid} = (\text{beg} + \text{end})/2$$

but there is problem with approach, what if value of beg or end or both is INT_MAX, it will cause integer overflow.
better way to calculate mid index is:

$$\text{mid} = \text{beg} + (\text{end} - \text{beg})/2$$

Let's try both methods in C program:

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <limits.h>
int main()
{
    int beg = INT_MAX, end = INT_MAX;
    printf("beg = %d\n", beg);
    printf("end = %d\n", end);

    // Method 1
    int mid1 = (beg + end)/2;
    printf("mid using (beg + end)/2 = %d\n", mid1);

    // Method 2
    int mid2 = beg + (end - beg)/2;
    printf("mid using beg + (end - beg)/2 = %d\n", mid2);
    return 0;
}
```

→ O/P:

$$\text{beg} = 2147483647$$

$$\text{end} = 2147483647$$

$$\text{mid using (beg + end)/2} = -1$$

$$\text{mid using beg + (end - beg)/2} = 2147483647$$