Homework 1

ECS 122A October 9, 2025

Problem 2

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Algorithm:
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i \leftarrow 1 while houses[i] == "keep going": i = i * 2 return bsearch(\frac{i}{2}, i)
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Runtime:

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The bounds of h will always be 2^k \le h \le 2^{k+1} where k = \lfloor log_2(h) \rfloor.
The range binary searched will be (2^{k+1} - 2^k), so the total runtime would be... log_2(2^{k+1} - 2^k) \le k + C \to O(log(h)).
```

This means the algorithm runs in O(log(h)) time.

Correctness:

Hypothesis: Returns the index to where houses will return "Party's here!" without making changes to houses.

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Base Case: h=1, the alg. returns 1. \checkmark Induction Step:
Assume: \forall i < h-1, it returns the house that has the Party.
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Now consider the case where our house is at h. The function considers some range [i,2i] where $i=\lfloor log_2(h)\rfloor$. We also know this will return the correct result as, we know h>=i and h<=2i. Meaning we have not throw out the correct h and do not have to consider any previous numbers. This proves that our algorithm with always find the correct h according to our hypothesis.