

Agenda

- What is Binary Search?
- Find an element in array
- Find first occurrence of element in array
- Unique Element
- Local Minima

Introduction to Searching

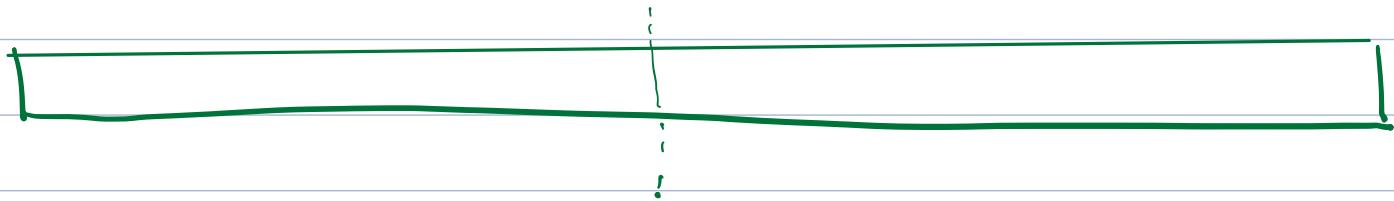
Target - what to search for

Search space - where to search

Searching in organised search space is easier:

- ① Dictionary
- ② Phone book

Binary Search



Divide search space into 2 parts and based on some condition, we repeatedly neglect one-half of search space



- ① Till we get ans
- ② No search space is left

At each step, search space is halved

1. Given a sorted array with distinct elements search index of an element k . If k is not present, return -1.

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
3 6 9 12 14 19 20 23 25 27

$K = 12$ ans = 3

$K = 13$ ans = -1

Brute Force : Linear search

Iterate entire array to check if k is present

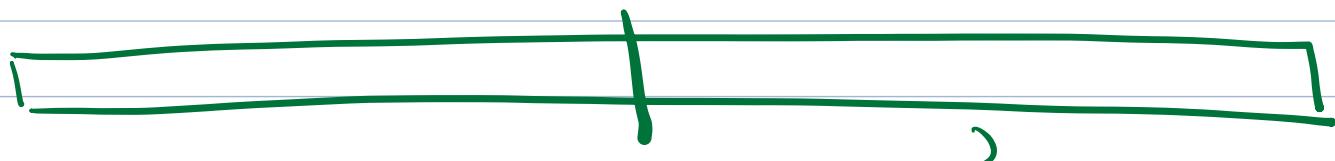
TC: O(N) SC: O(1)

Binary Search

Search space: Array (0 → N-1 idx)

Target: k

Condition:



$A[mid] == k$

return mid

else if ($A[mid] < k$)

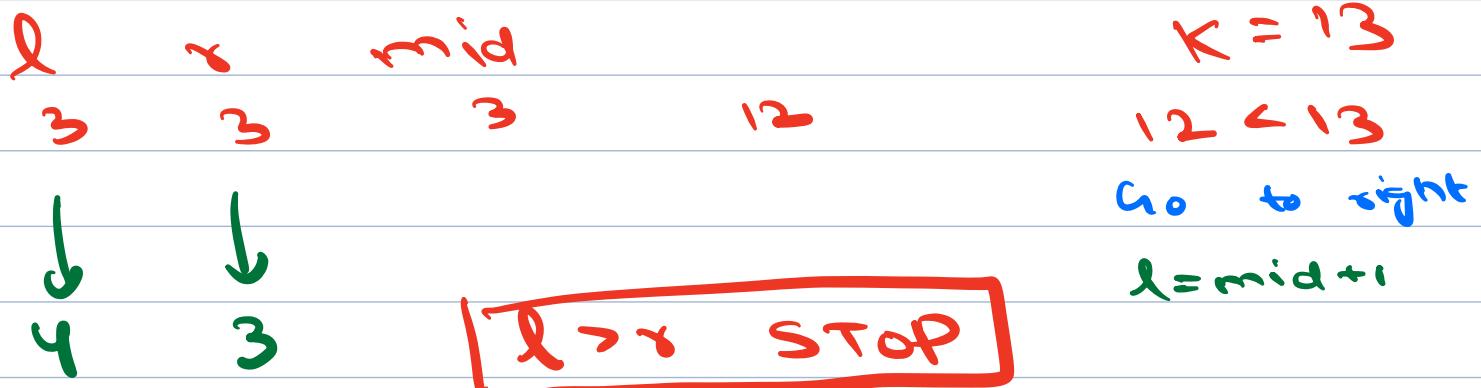
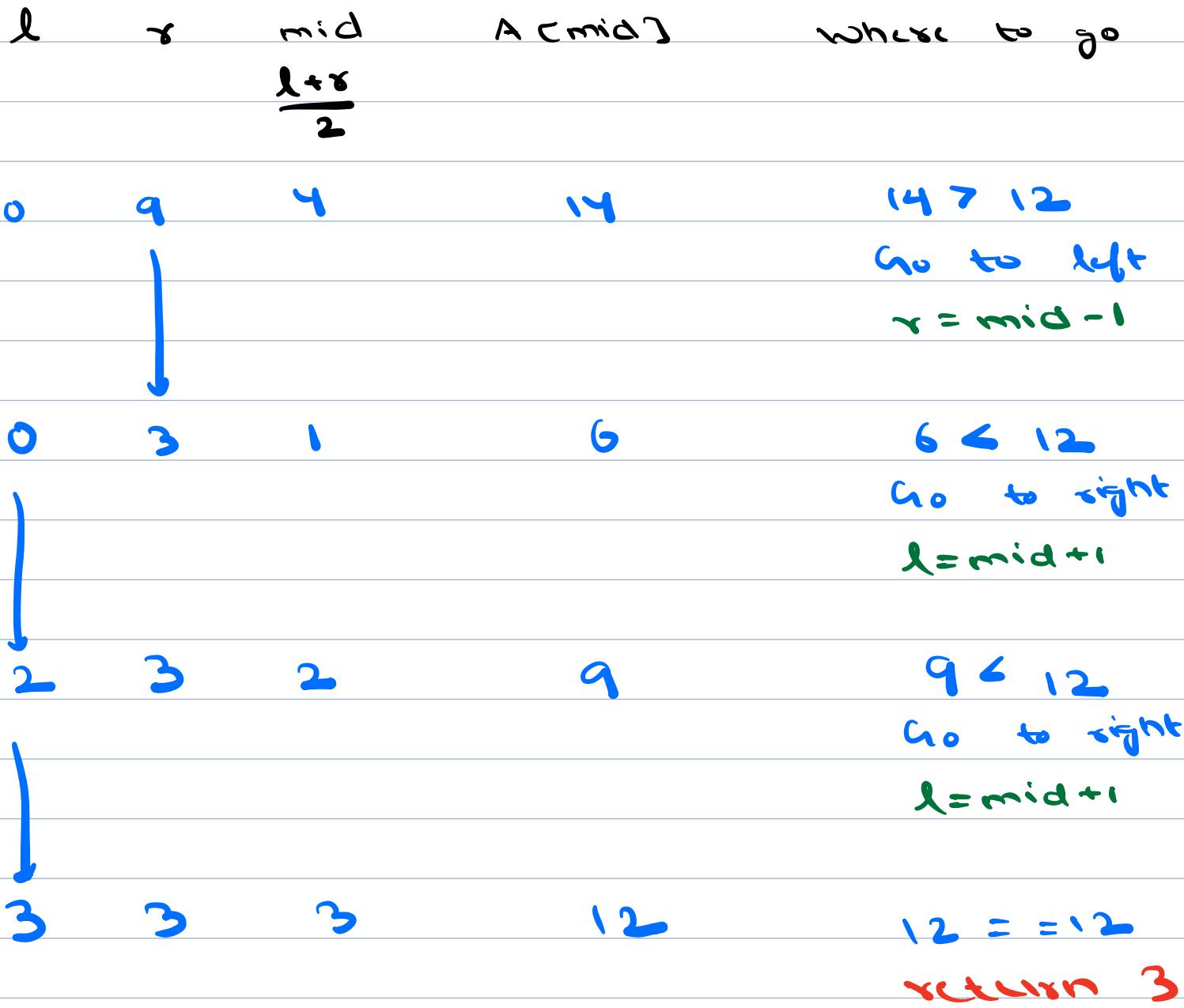
go to right

else

go to left

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
3 6 9 12 14 19 20 23 25 27

$$k = 12$$



```
int search(int a[], int N, int k) {
```

$$l = 0, r = N - 1$$

```
while (l <= r) {
```

$$\text{mid} = (l + r) / 2$$

```
if (a[mid] == k)
```

```
    return mid
```

```
else if (a[mid] < k) // right
```

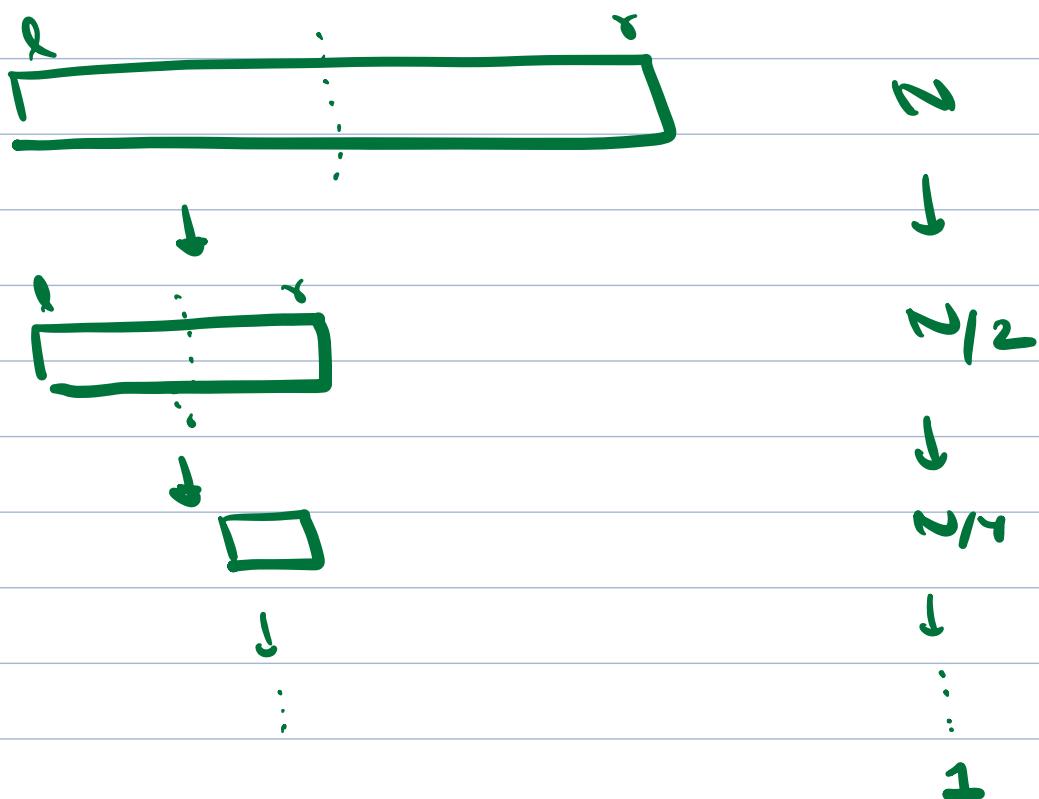
$$l = \text{mid} + 1$$

```
else // << a[mid] // left
```

$$r = \text{mid} - 1$$

```
return -1
```

TC: $O(\log_2 N)$
SC: $O(1)$



Best practice to compute Mid

Let's assume that we have a datatype dtype which has a range -100 to 100.

Array of length 100 \Rightarrow 0 to 99 indices

① $\text{dtype } l = 0, r = 99$

$$\text{dtype mid} = \frac{l+r}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{no right } l = \text{mid} + 1$$

② $l = 50, r = 99$

$$\text{mid} =$$

$$\text{mid} = \frac{l+r}{2} = \boxed{l + \frac{(r-l)}{2}}$$

$$l = 50, r = 99$$

2. All emails in your mailbox are sorted chronologically. can you find first email that you received in 2020?



ans = 6

sorted array of duplicates

Brute Force : Linear search from left to right and return idx / first time you find 2020

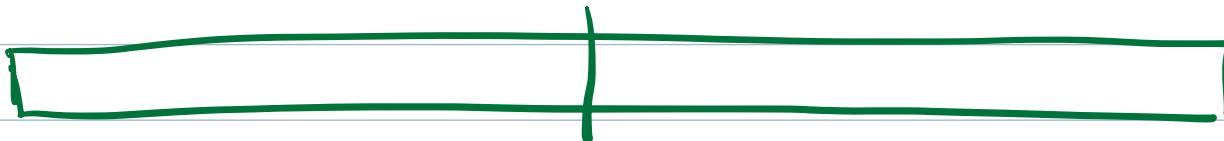
TC: O(N) SC: O(1)

Binary Search :

Search space : Array (0 → N-1 idx)

Target : First occurrence of 2020

Condition :



A[mid] == 2020

ans = mid

Search on left

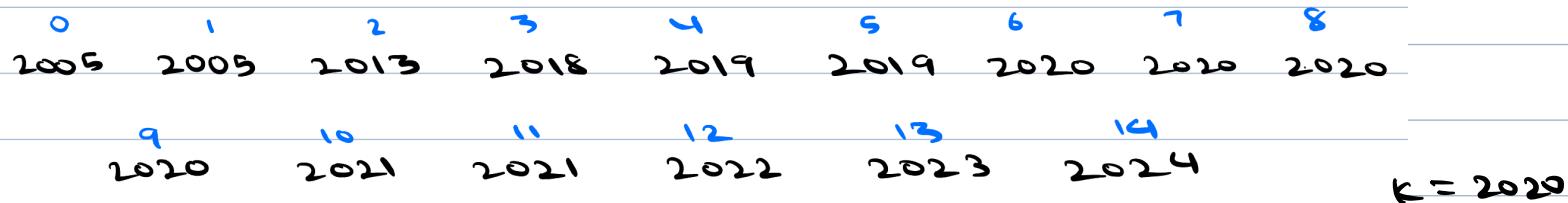
r = mid - 1

$A[\text{mid}] < 2020$

Right
 $\text{l} = \text{mid} + 1$

$A[\text{mid}] > 2020$

Left*
 $\text{r} = \text{mid} - 1$



l	r	mid	$A[\text{mid}]$	where to go	ans
					-1
9	14	11	2020	$2020 == 2020$	7
update ans					
Left, $\text{r} = \text{mid} - 1$					

0	14	7	2020	$2020 == 2020$	7
update ans					
Left, $\text{r} = \text{mid} - 1$					

0	6	3	2018	$2018 < 2020$	7
Right, $\text{l} = \text{mid} + 1$					

4	6	5	2019	$2019 < 2020$	7
Right, $\text{l} = \text{mid} + 1$					

6	6	6	2020	$2020 == 2020$	6
update ans					
Left, $\text{r} = \text{mid} - 1$					

6	6	6	2020	$2020 == 2020$	6
update ans					
Left, $\text{r} = \text{mid} - 1$					

6 5 $l > r$ end of search

ans = 6

int search (int a[], int N, int k) {

 l = 0, r = N - 1, ans = -1

 while (l <= r) {

 mid = (l + r) / 2

 if (a[mid] == k) {

 ans = mid

 r = mid - 1

// left

 else if (a[mid] < k) // right

 l = mid + 1

 else

 // a[mid] > k → left

 r = mid - 1

 return ans



N
N/2
...
1

TC : O(log₂ N)
SC : O(1)

Q : Find last occurrence of an element k

Q : Find freq or element in sorted arr

last occurrence - first occurrence + 1
idx idx

10 : 25

[https://notability.com/n/
0ObYmqKOh2vA9~zPNOZ7MR](https://notability.com/n/0ObYmqKOh2vA9~zPNOZ7MR)

3. Every element occurs twice except for 1,
find the unique element

NOTE: Duplicate elements are adjacent to each other but the array is not sorted

$A \Rightarrow$ 0 1 2 3 4 5 6
 8 8 5 5 6 2 2 ans = 6

BF: ① check every elem $A[i]$ with $A[i+1]$

$i = 0 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 4 \dots$

stop when $A[i] \neq A[i+1]$

unique elem $\rightarrow A[i]$

TC: O(N)

SC: O(1)

② XOR of array

Binary Search

Search space: Array (0 → N-1) idk

Target: Unique Element

Condition:



① $A[\text{mid}]$ is unique element

if ($A[\text{mid}] \neq A[\text{mid}-1]$ &
 $A[\text{mid}] \neq A[\text{mid}+1]$)

return $A[\text{mid}]$

② $A[\text{mid}]$ is not unique

Obs :

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4	4	2	2	3	3	5	5
<u> </u>							
E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
x	x	y	y	x	z	a	a
(green circles)		(green circles)		(green circles)		(green circles)	

First occurrence of an elem in a pair \rightarrow even id

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
4	4	2	2	10	3	3	5	5
<u> </u>								
E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E

Before unique elem, every duplicate's first occurrence \rightarrow even

After unique elem, every duplicate's first occurrence \rightarrow odd

①

$A[mid]$ is unique element

if ($A[mid] \neq A[mid-1]$ &
 $A[mid] \neq A[mid+1]$)
return $A[mid]$

②

if ($A[mid] == A[mid-1]$)
 $first = mid - 1$

else

$first = mid$

if ($first \% 2 == 0$) // Even

// before unique elem

go right, $l = mid + 1$

else

// odd

// after unique elem

go left, $r = mid - 1$

ans = 19

0 . 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14
3 3 1 1 8 8 10 10 19 6 6 2 2 4 4

l r mid isAns firstOcc where to go

0 14 7 x 6 → even Right
l = mid + 1

8 14 11 x 11 → odd Left
r = mid - 1

8 10 9 x 9 → odd Left
r = mid - 1

8 8 8 ✓ return A[8]
↓
19

```

int findUnique (int a[], int N) {
    int l=0, r=N-1
    while (l <= r) {
        if (-----)
            mid = (l+r)/2
        if ((mid==0 || A[mid] != A[mid-1]) &&
            (mid==N-1 || A[mid] != A[mid+1]))
            return A[mid]
        // Mid ele is a duplicate
        firstOccurrence = mid
        if (mid!=0 && A[mid] == A[mid-1])
            firstOccurrence = mid-1
        if (firstOccurrence % 2 == 0) {
            // Right
            l = mid + 1
        } else {
            // Left
            r = mid - 1
        }
    }
    return -1
}

```

$T.C.: O(\log_2 N)$
 $S.C.: O(1)$

ans = -1

0 . 2 3 4 5
4 4 2 2 8 8

l s 3:4 isAns?
0 5 2 x

5. Given an array of N distinct elements, find any local minima in the array.

Local Minima: A no. which is smaller than its adjacent neighbors.

A : 3 6 1 0 9 15 8

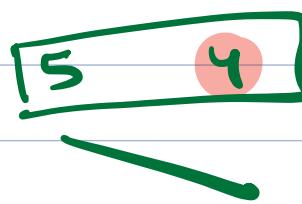
B : 21 20 19 17 15 9 7

C : 5 9 15 16 20 21

D : 3 0 8

E : 5 8 12 3

$n > 1$

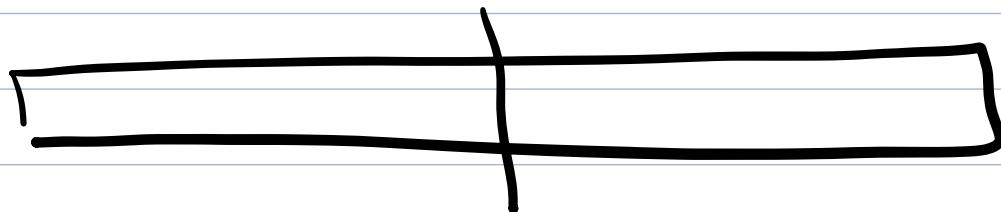
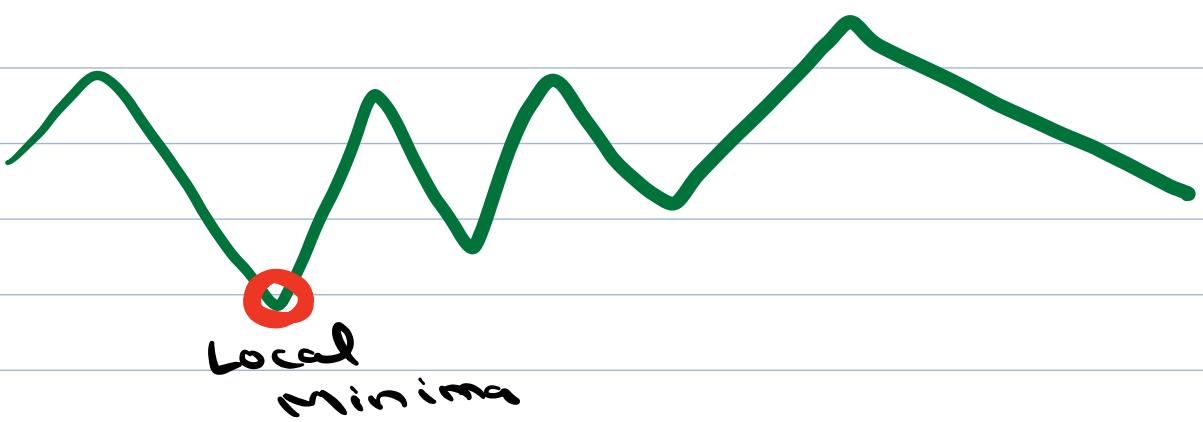


Local Minima
always
exist

$n = 1$ [5]

Classified from the interviewer/input
test cases

Target: Any local Minima
Search space: Array ($0 \rightarrow N-1$ "idx")



Case 3



Case 4



int

find Local Minima (int a[], int N)

l = 0, r = N - 1

while (l <= r) <

 mid = (l + r) / 2

 if ((mid == 0) || A[mid] < A[mid - 1])

 &

 ((mid == N - 1) || A[mid] < A[mid + 1]))

 return A[mid]

 if (mid != 0 && A[mid] > A[mid - 1]) <

 // Left

case
1

case
2 and
3

$r = \text{mid} - 1$

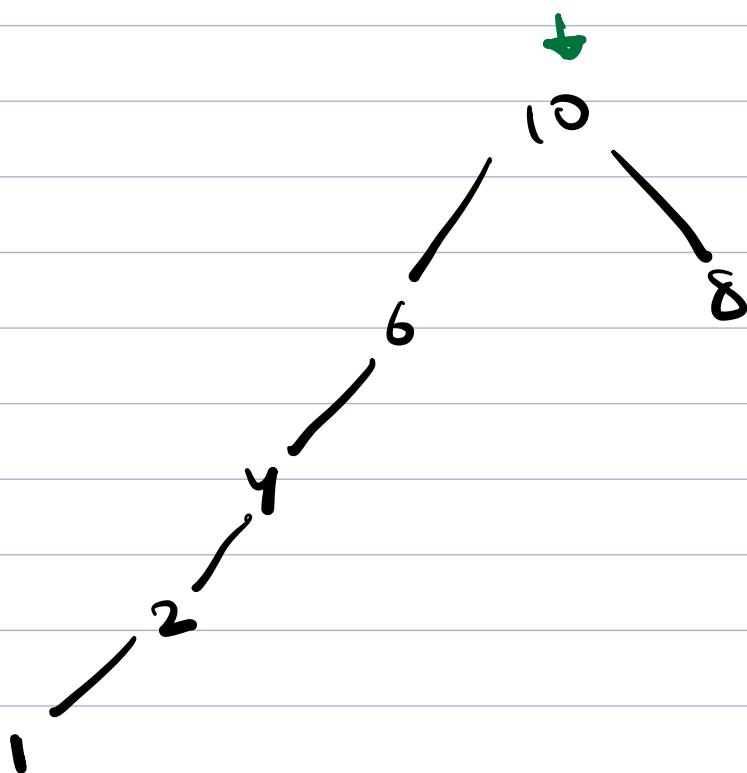
disc

Case 3

$l = \text{mid} - 1$ // right

TC: $O(\log_2 n)$

SC: $O(1)$



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