

Exercise 2: E-commerce Platform Search Function

Scenario:

1. Understand Asymptotic Notation:

- Big O Notation describes the upper bound of an algorithm's running time in terms of input size n .
- It helps analyze performance and scalability of algorithms.
- Best, Average, and Worst-case scenarios describe how an algorithm performs under different conditions.
- Linear Search: Best $O(1)$, Average $O(n)$, Worst $O(n)$
- Binary Search: Best $O(1)$, Average $O(\log n)$, Worst $O(\log n)$

2. Setup:

Create a class Product with attributes for searching: productId, productName, and category.

```
public class Product {
    private int productId;
    private String productName;
    private String category;

    public Product(int productId, String productName, String category) {
        this.productId = productId;
        this.productName = productName;
        this.category = category;
    }
    public int getProductId() { return productId; }
    public String getProductName() { return productName; }
    public String getCategory() { return category; }

    @Override
    public String toString() {
        return "Product[ID=" + productId + ", Name=" + productName + ", Category=" +
category + "]";
    }
}
```

3. Implementation:

Implement linear search and binary search algorithms.

Store products in an array for linear search and a sorted array for binary search.

```
public static Product linearSearch(Product[] products, String name) {  
    for (Product product : products) {  
        if (product.getProductName().equalsIgnoreCase(name)) {  
            return product;  
        }  
    }  
    return null;  
}
```

```
public static Product binarySearch(Product[] products, String name) {  
    int left = 0, right = products.length - 1;  
  
    while (left <= right) {  
        int mid = left + (right - left) / 2;  
        int cmp = products[mid].getProductName().compareToIgnoreCase(name);  
  
        if (cmp == 0) return products[mid];  
        else if (cmp < 0) left = mid + 1;  
        else right = mid - 1;  
    }  
  
    return null;  
}
```

```
public static void sortProductsByName(Product[] products) {  
    Arrays.sort(products, Comparator.comparing(Product::getProductName,  
String.CASE_INSENSITIVE_ORDER));  
}
```

4. Analysis:

- Linear Search: $O(n)$, easy but slow for large datasets.
- Binary Search: $O(\log n)$, fast but requires sorted array.

Conclusion:

Binary search is more suitable for large datasets where performance is critical.