

Strivers-A2Z-DSA-Sheet-main\02.Binary Search\1D Arrays\12.Find_single_element_in_sorted_array.cpp

```
1  /*
2  QUESTION:
3  You are given a sorted array consisting of only integers where every element appears exactly
  twice, except for one element which appears exactly once.
4
5  Return the single element that appears only once.
6
7  APPROACH:
8  Since the array is sorted and every element appears exactly twice except for one element, we
  can use binary search to find the single element.
9  1. Initialize low = 0 and high = nums.size()-1, where nums is the input array.
10 2. While low < high, calculate mid = low + (high - low) / 2.
11 3. Check if mid is an even index (mid % 2 == 0).
12    - If nums[mid] is equal to nums[mid + 1], it means the single element is on the right
  side, so update low = mid + 1.
13    - Otherwise, the single element is on the left side, so update high = mid.
14 4. If mid is an odd index (mid % 2 == 1).
15    - If nums[mid] is not equal to nums[mid + 1], it means the single element is on the right
  side, so update low = mid + 1.
16    - Otherwise, the single element is on the left side, so update high = mid.
17 5. After the loop ends, low will be pointing to the single element.
18 6. Return nums[low] as the result.
19
20 CODE:
21 */
22
23 int singleNonDuplicate(vector<int>& nums) {
24     int low = 0, high = nums.size() - 1;
25     while (low < high) {
26         int mid = low + (high - low) / 2;
27         if (mid % 2 == 0) {
28             if (nums[mid] == nums[mid + 1])
29                 low = mid + 1;
30             else
31                 high = mid;
32         } else {
33             if (nums[mid] != nums[mid + 1])
34                 low = mid + 1;
35             else
36                 high = mid;
37         }
38     }
39     return nums[low];
40 }
41
42 // TIME COMPLEXITY: O(log n)
43 // SPACE COMPLEXITY: O(1)
44
```