

QUESTION 1)

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

Answer::>

Exactly. There's no guarantee that $\text{beg} + \text{end}$ is representable; but in the second case the intermediate values, as well as the expected result, are no larger than end , so there is no danger of overflow.

The second form can also be used for affine types like pointers and other random-access iterators, which can be subtracted to give a distance, but not added together.