28/06/2021 Explore - LeetCode



A Binary Search Template II

Template #2:

```
Сору
C++
        Java
                Python
   int binarySearch(vector<int>& nums, int target){
 1
      if(nums.size() == 0)
        return -1:
 3
 4
 5
      int left = 0, right = nums.size();
      while(left < right){</pre>
        // Prevent (left + right) overflow
 8
        int mid = left + (right - left) / 2;
9
        if(nums[mid] == target){ return mid; }
10
        else if(nums[mid] < target) { left = mid + 1; }</pre>
11
        else { right = mid; }
12
13
14
      // Post-processing:
15
      // End Condition: left == right
16
      if(left != nums.size() && nums[left] == target) return left;
17
      return -1;
18 }
```

Template #2 is an advanced form of Binary Search. It is used to search for an element or condition which requires accessing the current index and its immediate right neighbor's index in the array.

Key Attributes:

- An advanced way to implement Binary Search.
- Search Condition needs to access element's immediate right neighbor
- Use element's right neighbor to determine if condition is met and decide whether to go left or right
- Gurantees Search Space is at least 2 in size at each step
- Post-processing required. Loop/Recursion ends when you have 1 element left. Need to assess if the remaining element meets the condition.

Distinguishing Syntax:

```
• Initial Condition: left = 0, right = length
```

• Termination: left == right

• Searching Left: right = mid

• Searching Right: left = mid+1