



1. Binary Search (Classic)

Description:

Given a **sorted array** and a **target element**, return its index if found, else return -1.

Example:

```
Input: arr = [1, 3, 5, 7, 9], target = 5
Output: 2

Java Code:

public class ClassicBinarySearch {
    public int binarySearch(int[] arr, int target) {
        int low = 0, high = arr.length - 1;

        while (low <= high) {
            int mid = low + (high - low) / 2;

            if (arr[mid] == target) return mid;
            else if (arr[mid] < target) low = mid + 1;
            else high = mid - 1;
        }

        return -1; // not found
    }
}</pre>
```

Time Complexity:

Time: O(log n)Space: O(1)

2. Count Occurrences of a Number in a Sorted Array

Description:

Given a sorted array, find how many times a target number occurs.





Example:

```
Input: arr = [2, 4, 4, 4, 6], target = 4
Output: 3
```

Java Code:

```
public class CountOccurrences {
    public int countOccurrences(int[] arr, int target) {
        int first = findFirst(arr, target);
        if (first == -1) return 0; // not found
        int last = findLast(arr, target);
        return last - first + 1;
    private int findFirst(int[] arr, int target) {
        int low = 0, high = arr.length - 1, result = -1;
        while (low <= high) {</pre>
            int mid = low + (high - low) / 2;
            if (arr[mid] == target) {
                result = mid;
                high = mid - 1; // go left
            } else if (arr[mid] < target) low = mid + 1;</pre>
            else high = mid - 1;
        return result;
    private int findLast(int[] arr, int target) {
        int low = 0, high = arr.length - 1, result = -1;
        while (low <= high) {</pre>
            int mid = low + (high - low) / 2;
            if (arr[mid] == target) {
                result = mid;
                low = mid + 1; // go right
            } else if (arr[mid] < target) low = mid + 1;</pre>
            else high = mid - 1;
        return result;
}
```

Time Complexity:

Time: O(log n)Space: O(1)





1. Find Peak Element in Mountain Array

Description:

A **mountain array** is defined as an array:

- Increasing up to a certain point (the peak)
- Then decreasing

Find the **index of the peak element** using binary search.

Example:

```
Input: [1, 3, 5, 7, 6, 4, 2]
Output: 3 // Peak = 7 at index 3
Input: [0, 2, 4, 6, 5, 3, 1]
Output: 3 // Peak = 6
```

Java Code:

```
public class PeakInMountainArray {
   public int peakIndexInMountainArray(int[] arr) {
     int low = 0, high = arr.length - 1;

   while (low < high) {
       int mid = low + (high - low) / 2;

     if (arr[mid] < arr[mid + 1]) {
          low = mid + 1; // Move right
       } else {
            high = mid; // Move left
       }
   }

   return low; // or high
}</pre>
```

Complexity:

Time: O(log n)Space: O(1)





2. Check if Array is Sorted and Rotated

Description:

Given an array, check if it is **sorted in increasing order** and then **rotated**. Rotation means that a part of the array is moved to the end while maintaining sorted order. e.g., [3, 4, 5, 1, 2] is a sorted-then-rotated array.

Example:

```
Input: [3, 4, 5, 1, 2]
Output: true

Input: [2, 1, 3, 4]
Output: false

Input: [1, 2, 3]
Output: true // it's a sorted array (rotation = 0)
```

Java Code:

```
public class CheckSortedAndRotated {
   public boolean check(int[] nums) {
      int count = 0;
      int n = nums.length;

      for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
            // Compare current with next, with wrapping using %n
            if (nums[i] > nums[(i + 1) % n]) {
                count++;
            }
            if (count > 1) return false; // More than one drop → Not sorted-rotated
      }

      return true;
    }
}
```

Logic:

- Traverse the array and count how many times nums[i] > nums[i+1]
- If it happens more than once \rightarrow it's not sorted and rotated

Complexity:

Time: O(n)Space: O(1)





1. Peak Element in an Array

Description:

A peak element is one that is strictly greater than its neighbors. You must return any one peak element's index using binary search (O(log n)).

The array may contain multiple peaks — any one is acceptable.

Example:

```
Input: [1, 2, 3, 1]
Output: 2 // 3 is a peak
Input: [1, 2, 1, 3, 5, 6, 4]
Output: 5 // 6 is a peak (can also return 1 for 2)
```

Java Code:

```
public class PeakElementFinder {
   public int findPeakElement(int[] nums) {
      int low = 0, high = nums.length - 1;

      while (low < high) {
        int mid = low + (high - low) / 2;

      if (nums[mid] > nums[mid + 1]) {
            // Peak is on the left including mid high = mid;
      } else {
            // Peak is on the right low = mid + 1;
      }
    }

    return low; // or high; both point to a peak
}
```

Logic:

- Use a binary search variant:
 - o If nums [mid] > nums [mid+1], then a peak lies to the left
 - o Else, a peak lies to the **right**





Complexity:

Time: O(log n)Space: O(1)

2. Search in Rotated Sorted Array

Description:

Given a rotated sorted array and a target value, return its index if found, otherwise return -1.

Example:

```
Input: nums = [4,5,6,7,0,1,2], target = 0
Output: 4
Input: nums = [4,5,6,7,0,1,2], target = 3
Output: -1
Java Code:
public class SearchInRotatedArray {
    public int search(int[] nums, int target) {
        int low = 0, high = nums.length - 1;
        while (low <= high) {
            int mid = low + (high - low) / 2;
            if (nums[mid] == target)
                 return mid;
             // Left half is sorted
            if (nums[low] <= nums[mid]) {</pre>
                 if (nums[low] <= target && target < nums[mid])</pre>
                     high = mid - 1;
                 else
                     low = mid + 1;
             // Right half is sorted
            else {
                 if (nums[mid] < target && target <= nums[high])</pre>
                     low = mid + 1;
                 else
                     high = mid - 1;
        return -1;
    } }
```

Time & Space Complexity:

Time: O(log n)Space: O(1)





1. Find First and Last Position of Element in Sorted Array

Description:

Given an array of integers nums sorted in non-decreasing order, find the starting and ending position of a given target value.

- If the target is not found, return [-1, -1].
- Your algorithm must run in $O(\log n)$ time.

Example:

```
Input: nums = [5,7,7,8,8,10], target = 8
Output: [3,4]

Input: nums = [5,7,7,8,8,10], target = 6
Output: [-1,-1]
```

Java Code:

```
public class FirstLastPosition {
    public int[] searchRange(int[] nums, int target) {
        int first = findIndex(nums, target, true);
        int last = findIndex(nums, target, false);
        return new int[]{first, last};
    private int findIndex(int[] nums, int target, boolean findFirst) {
        int low = 0, high = nums.length - 1, result = -1;
        while (low <= high) {
            int mid = low + (high - low) / 2;
            if (nums[mid] == target) {
                result = mid;
                if (findFirst) {
                    high = mid - 1; // Move left
                } else {
                    low = mid + 1; // Move right
                }
            } else if (nums[mid] < target) {</pre>
                low = mid + 1;
            } else {
                high = mid - 1;
        return result;
    }
}
```





2. Search Insert Position

Description:

Given a **sorted array** of distinct integers and a target value, return the index if the target is found. If not, return the index where it **would be inserted** in order.

• Must run in **O(log n)** time.

Example:

```
Input: nums = [1,3,5,6], target = 5
Output: 2

Input: nums = [1,3,5,6], target = 2
Output: 1

Input: nums = [1,3,5,6], target = 7
Output: 4
```

Java Code:

```
public class SearchInsertPosition {
   public int searchInsert(int[] nums, int target) {
      int low = 0, high = nums.length - 1;
      while (low <= high) {
        int mid = low + (high - low) / 2;
        if (nums[mid] == target) {
            return mid;
        } else if (nums[mid] < target) {
            low = mid + 1;
        } else {
            high = mid - 1;
        }
    }
    return low; // Insertion position
}</pre>
```