

## Binary Search:

\* It is performed in a sorted array like ascending or descending order.

\* It searches the element by finding the middle element in the range of indices.

## Algorithm:

① Find the middle element

② Check if target > middle element  $\Rightarrow$  search in right  
else search left

③ If the middle element == target element // Then that's the answer

④ If start > end, element not found.

Eg:- arr = [2, 4, 6, 9, 11, 12, 14, 20, 36, 48]  
      0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

target = 36      Step:- ①  $\frac{0+9}{2} = 4 \Rightarrow$  middle.  
                            ↓  
                    11

② ~~36 > 11~~  $\Rightarrow$

start = middle + 1  
end = end

$\frac{8+9}{2} = 8 \Rightarrow$  middle  
↓  
20

④ 36 == 36  
      answer  
      found.

⑤ 36 > 20  
start = mid + 1      end = end  
 $\frac{8+9}{2} = 8 \Rightarrow$  mid  
↓  
36

If target < middle

start = start, end = middle - 1, and find check mid.

Why we need Binary Search:

\* When we find the target as first middle element

, then it is a best case O(1).

\* For every comparison, the search range reduce by

$\frac{1}{2}$ . \* For every level the formula for time complexity  $N/2^k$

$k \rightarrow \text{level}$ ,  $N \rightarrow \text{size}$ .

$$* \frac{N}{2^k} = 1 \Rightarrow N = 2^k$$

$$\Rightarrow \log N = k \log 2$$

$$\Rightarrow k = \frac{\log N}{\log 2}$$

$$\Rightarrow k = \cancel{\log N / 2} \log_2 N$$

\* The worst case is  $O(\log_2 N)$

\* Let's take the array size is 1 million.

Linear Search

1 million

comparisons

Binary Search

20

comparisons

## Order agnostic Binary Search:

\* To check whether the array is sorted in ascending or descending.

if  $\text{start} > \text{end}$   $\Rightarrow$  descending

else  $\text{start} < \text{end}$   $\Rightarrow$  ascending

\* We are not checking first two elements because both some time the numbers will be same.