

Total Accepted: 134396    Total Submissions: 423660    Difficulty: Hard    Contributors: Admin

Suppose a sorted array is rotated at some pivot unknown to you beforehand.

(i.e., 0 1 2 4 5 6 7 might become 4 5 6 7 0 1 2).

You are given a target value to search. If found in the array return its index, otherwise return -1.

You may assume no duplicate exists in the array.

Hide Company Tags

LinkedIn (/company/linkedin/)

Bloomberg (/company/bloomberg/)

Uber (/company/uber/)

Facebook (/company/facebook/)

Microsoft (/company/microsoft/)

Hide Tags

Binary Search (/tag/binary-search/)

Array (/tag/array/)

Hide Similar Problems

(M) Search in Rotated Sorted Array II (/problems/search-in-rotated-sorted-array-ii/)

(M) Find Minimum in Rotated Sorted Array (/problems/find-minimum-in-rotated-sorted-array/)

Have you met this question in a real interview? 

Yes

No

Discuss (https://leetcode.com/discuss/questions/oj/search-in-rotated-sorted-array)

Pick One (/problems/random-one-question/)

C++

```
1 class Solution {
2 public:
3     // 6 binary search problems
4     // http://algorithmsandme.in/2015/04/binary-search-algorithm-and-related-problems/
5     /**
6      * If mid is equal to element we are looking for, return mid.
7      Case 1 :
8      1. If the lower half of the array is sorted.
9      2. Check if A[mid] >= A[start] Check if the element being looked for is greater than A[start] and less than A[mid]
10     3. Discard the upper array we have to look in lower array.
11     4. Else look in upper subarray.
12     Case 2 :
13     1. If lower array is not sorted that is A[mid] <= A[start]
14     2. If element is greater than A[mid] && less than A[end], look in upper sub array.
15     3. Else look in lower sub array.
16     */
17     int search(vector<int>& nums, int target) {
18         int lo = 0, hi = nums.size() - 1;
19         while(lo <= hi) {
20             int mid = (hi - lo) / 2 + lo;
21             if(nums[mid] == target) return mid;
22             if(nums[lo] <= nums[mid]) {
23                 if(nums[lo] <= target && target < nums[mid])
24                     hi = mid - 1; // if both side do -1 and +1, then lo <= hi
25                 else // if only one side do -1 or +1, then lo < hi
26                     lo = mid + 1;
27             } else {
28                 if(nums[mid] < target && target <= nums[hi]) {
29                     lo = mid + 1;
30                 } else {
31                     hi = mid - 1;
32                 }
33             }
34         }
35         return -1;
36     }
37
38     // Second time 11/29/2016
39     // Solution 1 Find the Min element first (rotation point first), then do standard binary_search
40     // int binary_search(vector<int>& nums, int lo, int hi, int target) {
41     //     while(lo <= hi) {
42     //         int mid = (hi - lo) / 2 + lo;
43     //         if (nums[mid] < target) {
44     //             lo = mid + 1;
45     //         } else if(nums[mid] > target) {
46     //             hi = mid - 1;
47     //         } else {
48     //             return mid;
49     //         }
50     //     }
51     //     return -1;
52     // }
53
54     // int search(vector<int>& nums, int target) {
55     //     int lo = 0, hi = nums.size() - 1;
56     //     while(nums[lo] > nums[hi]) {
57     //         int mid = (hi - lo) / 2 + lo;
58     //         if(nums[mid] > nums[hi]) {
59     //             lo = mid + 1;
60     //         } else {
61     //             hi = mid;
62     //         }
63     //     }
64     //     int minPos = lo;
65
66     //     int found = binary_search(nums, 0, minPos-1, target);
67     //     if(found != -1) {
68     //         return found;
```

```
69 //      } else {
70 //          return binary_search(nums, minPos, nums.size()-1, target);
71 //      }
72 //  }
73
74
75
76
77 // first time Leetcode so confusing
78 // need to do it again https://discuss.leetcode.com/topic/16580/java-ac-solution-using-once-binary-search
79 // If mid is equal to element we are looking for, return mid.
80 // Case 1 :
81 // 1. If the lower half of the array is sorted.
82 // 2. Check if A[mid] >= A[start] Check if the element being looked for is greater than A[start] and less than A[mid]
83 // 3. Discard the upper array we have to look in lower array.
84 // 4. Else look in upper subarray.
85 // Case 2 :
86 // 1. If lower array is not sorted that is A[mid] <= A[start]
87 // 2. If element is greater than A[mid] && less than A[end], look in upper sub array.
88 // 3. Else look in lower sub array.
89 // int search(vector<int>& nums, int target) {
90 //     int left = 0, right = nums.size()-1;
91 //     while(left <= right) {
92 //         int mid = (right - left) / 2 + left;
93 //         if (nums[mid] == target) return mid;
94 //         if(nums[left] <= nums[mid]) {
95 //             if(nums[left] <= target && target < nums[mid])
96 //                 right = mid - 1;
97 //             else
98 //                 left = mid + 1;
99 //         }
100 //         if(nums[mid] <= nums[right]) {
101 //             if(nums[mid] < target && target <= nums[right])
102 //                 left = mid + 1;
103 //             else
104 //                 right = mid - 1;
105 //         }
106 //     }
107 //     return -1;
108 // }
```

Custom Testcase ☐

Shortcut: Command + enter

Run Code

Submit Solution

Submission Result: Accepted (/submissions/detail/84262749/) ⓘ

More Details ➤ (/submissions/detail/84262749/)

Next challenges: (H) Dungeon Game (/problems/dungeon-game) (H) Split Array Largest Sum (/problems/split-array-largest-sum)

(M) Find All Duplicates in an Array (/problems/find-all-duplicates-in-an-array)

Share your acceptance!