

Problem: given a sorted integer array ~~and~~ check if any element appears at least $\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 1$ times in the array

Algorithm majorityElement

Input: An array A

Output: Yes if an element is the majority of A, no otherwise

if $(k-m) \geq (\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 1)$ then

return yes

fi

else then

return no

esle

End

Start
left:=1
right:=length of A
2 t := $\lfloor \frac{right+left}{2} \rfloor$
3 leftBinsch(A, t, left, right) start
4 m := $\lfloor \frac{right+left}{2} \rfloor$
5 if $(A[m] = t \wedge A[m-1] \neq t) \vee (A[m] = t \wedge left = m)$ then
6 return m fi
7 if $A[m] = t \vee A[m] > t$ then
8 return leftBinsch(A, t, left, m-1)
9 fi
10 else then
11 return leftBinsch(A, t, m+1, right)
12 else
13 end
14 rightBinsch(A, t, left, right) Start
15 if $A[m] = t \vee A[m] < t$ then
16 return rightBinsch(A, t, m+1, right) fi
17 else then
18 return rightBinsch(A, t, left, m-1)
19 else
20 if $(A[m] = t \wedge A[m+1] \neq t) \vee (A[m] = t \wedge m = right)$ then
21 return m fi end
22 m := leftBinsch(A, t, left, right)
23 m := rightBinsch(A, t, left, right)

Thm: `leftBinSrch` finds the leftmost target element. Proof by induction:

Hyp. let $P(n)$ be the assertion that `leftBinSrch` works for all inputs $\text{right-left+1} \leq n$.

Base Case: when $n = \text{left-right+1}$ meaning index m is returned as the algorithm works

Inductive Step: We assume `leftBinSrch` works as long as $\text{right-left+1} \leq k$ and must prove $\text{right-left+1} \leq k+1$ in 3 cases the leftmost target is found, $A[m] \neq A[m+1]$, $A[m] < t$

Case 1: leftmost target is found
as the function works m is returned

Case 2: $A[m] \neq A[m+1]$

t must lie between $A[\text{left}]$ and $A[m-1]$ thus $n = (m-1) \cdot \text{left} + s(\frac{\text{right-left}}{2} - 1) - \text{left} + 1$ if right-left is even then $n = \frac{\text{right-left}}{2} - 1 + 1 = \frac{\text{right-left}}{2} \leq \text{right-left+1}$. When odd $n = \frac{\text{right-left}}{2} - 1 + 1 = \frac{\text{right-left}}{2} \leq \text{right-left+1}$
 $\rightarrow \leq \text{right-left+1}$ and $\text{right-left+1} \leq k$. Then the recursive call is made on interval 0 to k and is correct by Hyp thus working on interval $k+1$.

Case 3: $A[m] < t$

This is symmetrical to case 2, thus $n = \text{right-(m+1)} + 1 = \text{right} - (\frac{\text{right-left}}{2} + 1) + 1$ if right-left is even then $n = \frac{\text{right}-\text{right-left}}{2} + 1 + 1 = \frac{\text{right-left}}{2} \leq \text{right-left+1}$. When odd $n = \frac{\text{right}-\text{right-left}}{2} + 1 + 1 = \frac{\text{right-left}}{2} \leq \text{right-left+1}$.
Then the recursive call is made on interval 0 to k and is correct by Hyp thus working on interval $k+1$.

\therefore As the inductive step works in all cases `leftBinSrch` works in all cases.

As well by the same math and nearly similar cases `rightBinSrch` also works

\therefore as both the leftmost and rightmost occurrences of t are captured we return yes if t is a majority element and no if otherwise.