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**Algorithm 3.1.27** Locate an element from a finite list of increasing integers by splitting the list into three search subspaces.

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1: procedure TERNARY SEARCH(term: integer;  $a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n$ : finite list
   of increasing integers; index = 0: integer)
2:   endpoint  $\leftarrow \lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor$ 
3:   if endpoint = 0 then                                 $\triangleright$  Bottom of recursion stack reached
4:     if term =  $a_0$  then
5:       return index
6:     else
7:       return index + 1
8:     end if
9:   else if term <  $a_{\text{endpoint}}$  then                         $\triangleright$  Recur into search partitions
10:    return TERNARY SEARCH(
                                   term,
                                    $a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{(\text{endpoint}-1)}$ ,
                                   index)
11:  else if  $a_{\text{endpoint}} \leq \text{term} < a_{(\text{endpoint} \times 2)}$  then
12:    return TERNARY SEARCH(
                                   term,
                                    $a_{\text{endpoint}}, a_{(\text{endpoint}+1)}, \dots, a_{(\text{endpoint} \times 2)-1}$ ,
                                   index + endpoint)
13:  else if  $a_{(\text{endpoint} \times 2)} \leq \text{term}$  then
14:    return TERNARY SEARCH(
                                   term,
                                    $a_{(\text{endpoint} \times 2)}, a_{(\text{endpoint} \times 2)+1}, \dots, a_n$ ,
                                   index + (endpoint  $\times$  2))
15:  else
16:    return 0                                                 $\triangleright$  The term was never in the list
17:  end if
18: end procedure

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