Input is an array or string
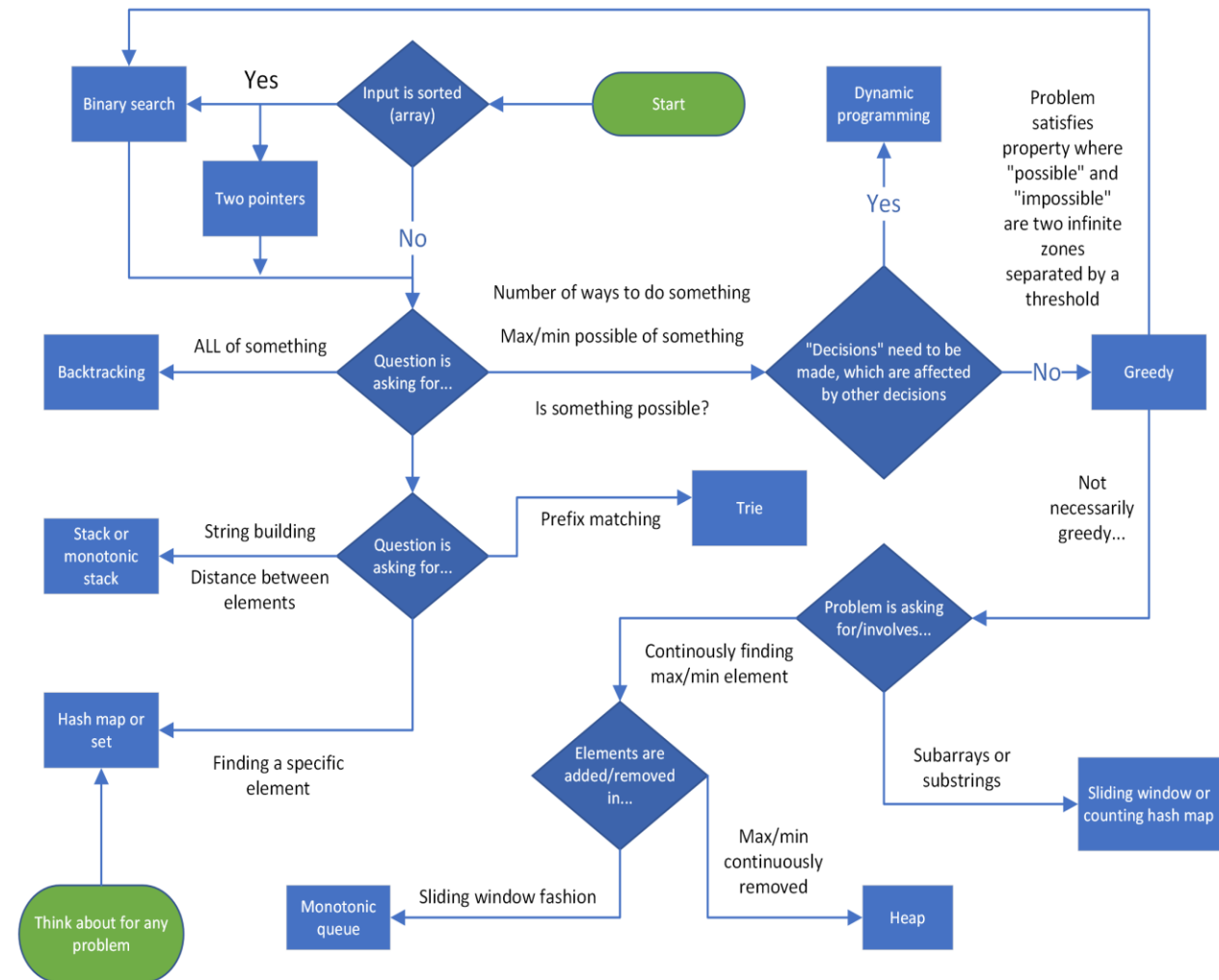
Input is sorted (array) → **Yes** → Binary search / Two pointers

Start

No ↓

Question is asking for...
- ALL of something → Backtracking
- Number of ways to do something
- Max/min possible of something
- Is something possible?

→ **"Decisions" need to be made, which are affected by other decisions**
- **Yes** ↑ → Dynamic programming
- **No** → Greedy

Problem satisfies property where "possible" and "impossible" are two infinite zones separated by a threshold

Question is asking for...
- String building → Stack or monotonic stack
- Distance between elements
- Prefix matching → Trie
- Finding a specific element → Hash map or set

Think about for any problem → Hash map or set

Problem is asking for/involves...
- Not necessarily greedy... (from Greedy)
- Continuously finding max/min element → **Elements are added/removed in...**
   - Sliding window fashion → Monotonic queue
   - Max/min continuously removed → Heap
- Subarrays or substrings → Sliding window or counting hash map

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Input is ...

Graph

Question wants shortest path/fewest steps
- **No** → DFS
- **Yes** ↓ → BFS

Tree - probably binary

Question involves looking at specific depths/levels
- **No** → DFS
- **Yes** → BFS

Linked List

Question involves
- Finding a node at specific location / Detecting cycles → Fast and slow pointer
- Reversing → "prev" pointer
- Return original head → "dummy" pointer