

# Recursion with Searching and Sorting

Binary Search

Quicksort

Linear search:

<http://www.cosc.canterbury.ac.nz/mukundan/dsal/LSearch.html>

Linear search:

<http://www.cosc.canterbury.ac.nz/mukundan/dsal/LSearch.html>

What could we change  
to get a better searching  
algorithm?

Linear search:

<http://www.cosc.canterbury.ac.nz/mukundan/dsal/LSearch.html>

Binary search:

<http://www.cosc.canterbury.ac.nz/mukundan/dsal/BSearch.html>

# Binary Search Algorithm

input: a sorted list of data

input: a value to find

output: index of location of value, or -1

set left to 0, right to listSize-1

while (left <= right):

    set mid to (left + ((right - left) / 2))

    if (item at mid) < (value to find):

        left = mid + 1

    otherwise if (item at mid) > (value to find):

        right = mid - 1

    otherwise:

        return mid

return -1

# Binary Search Algorithm

input: a sorted list of data

input: a value to find

output: index of location of value, or -1

set left to 0, right to listSize-1

while (left <= right):

    set mid to (left + ((right - left) / 2))

    if (item at mid) < (value to find):

        left = mid + 1

    otherwise if (item at mid) > (value to find):

        right = mid - 1

    otherwise:

        return mid

return -1

**This algorithm is iterative  
because we use a loop**

# Recursion

Functions calling  
themselves!

Passengers on the Tropical Paradise Railway (TPR) look forward to seeing dozens of colorful parrots from the train windows. Because of this, the railway takes a keen interest in the health of the local parrot population and decides to take a tally of the number of parrots in view of each train platform along the main line.

Each platform is staffed by a TPR who is certainly capable of counting parrots. Unfortunately, the job is complicated by the primitive telephone system. Each platform can call only its immediate neighbors.

How do we get the parrot total at the main line terminal?



**7**

**5**

**3**

**10**

**2**

**Art**

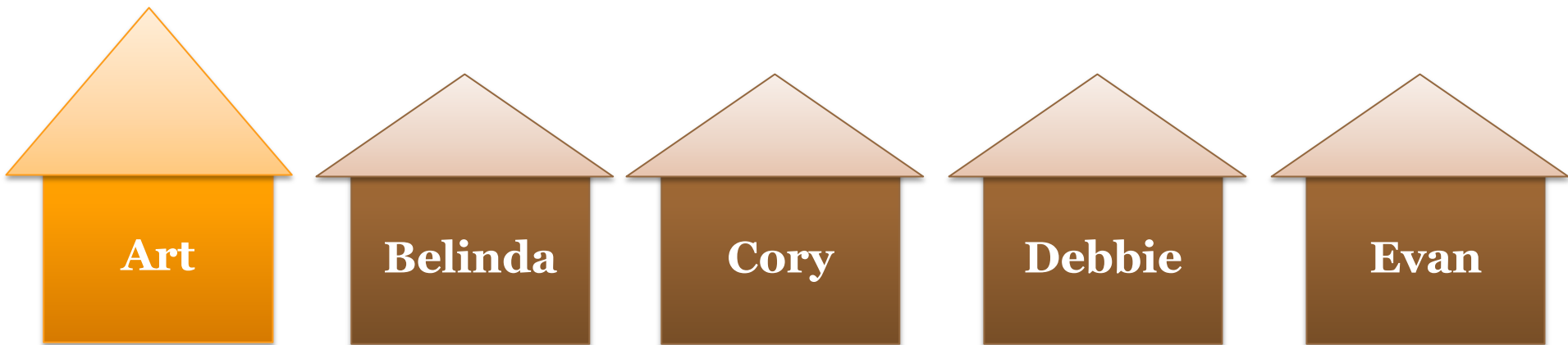
**Belinda**

**Cory**

**Debbie**

**Evan**

**Solution 1:** keep a running total of parrots as we go



7

5

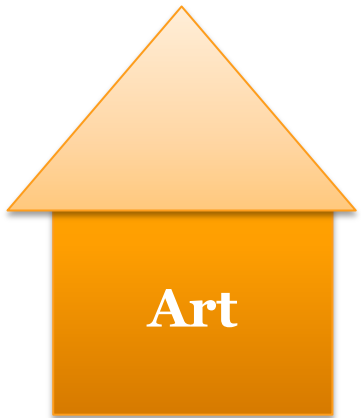
3

10

2

7

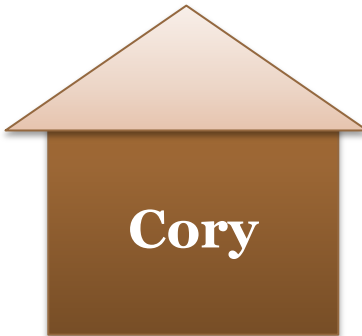
“7 parrots”



Art



Belinda



Cory



Debbie



Evan

**7**

**5**

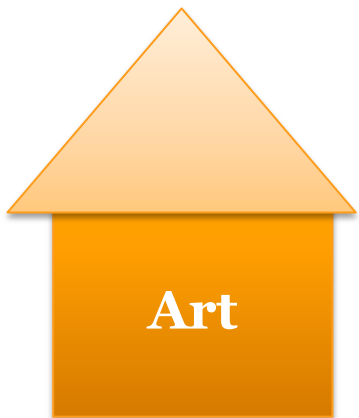
**3**

**10**

**2**

**12**

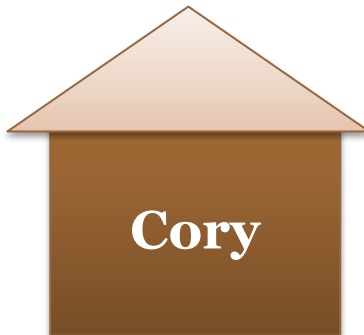
“12 parrots”



**Art**



**Belinda**



**Cory**



**Debbie**



**Evan**

**7**

**5**

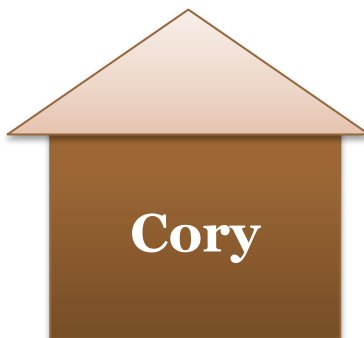
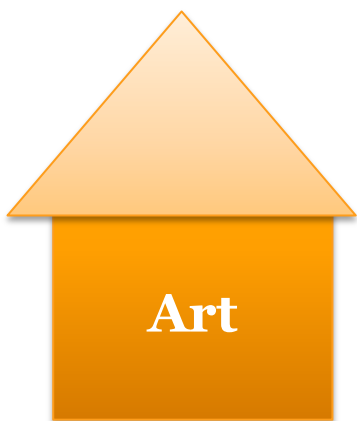
**3**

**10**

**2**

**15**

“15 parrots”



**7**

**5**

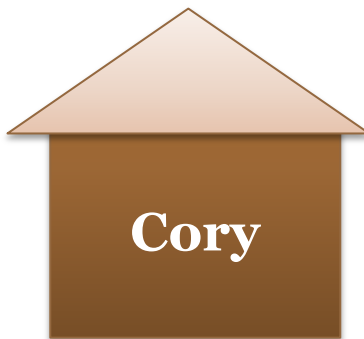
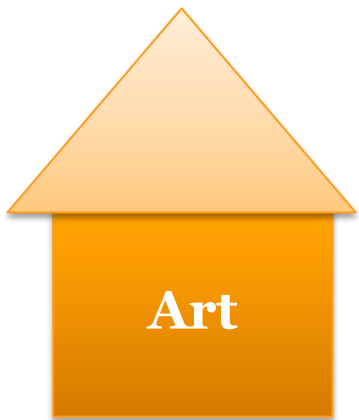
**3**

**10**

**2**

**25**

“25 parrots”



**7**

**5**

**3**

**10**

**2**

**27**

**Art**

**Belinda**

**Cory**

**Debbie**

**Evan**

**7**

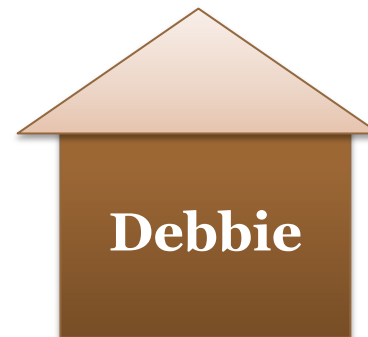
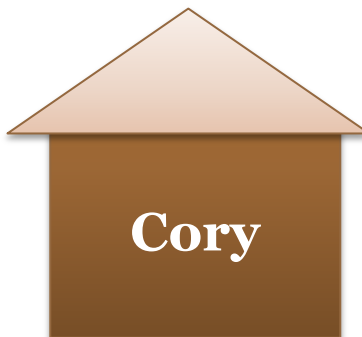
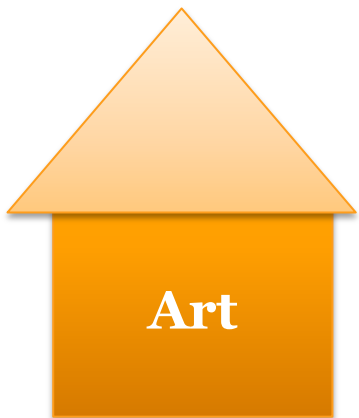
**5**

**3**

**10**

**2**

“total 27”





**7**

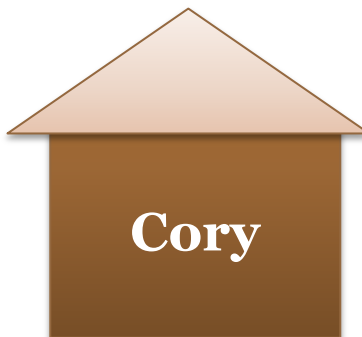
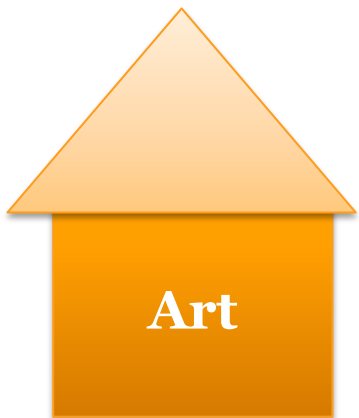
**5**

**3**

**10**

**2**

“total 27”



**7**

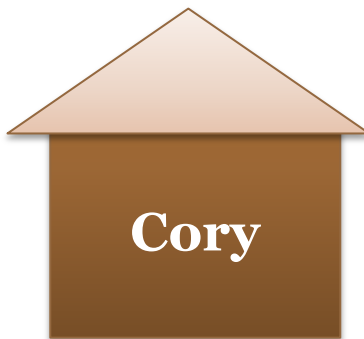
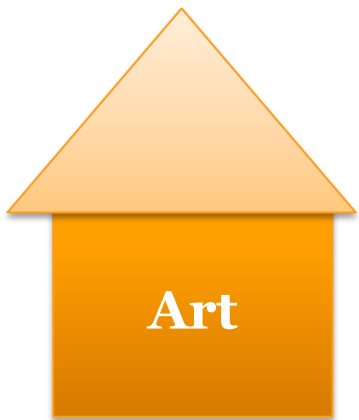
**5**

**3**

**10**

**2**

“total 27”



**Art**

**Belinda**

**Cory**

**Debbie**

**Evan**

**7**

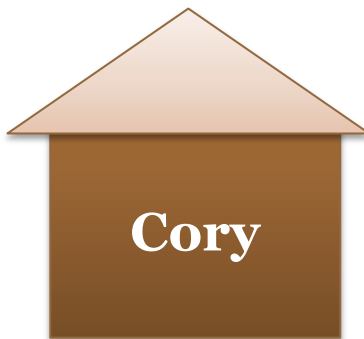
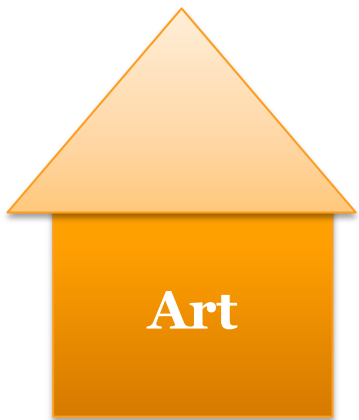
**5**

**3**

**10**

**2**

“total 27”



**7**

**5**

**3**

**10**

**2**

**27**

*Final answer!*

**Art**

**Belinda**

**Cory**

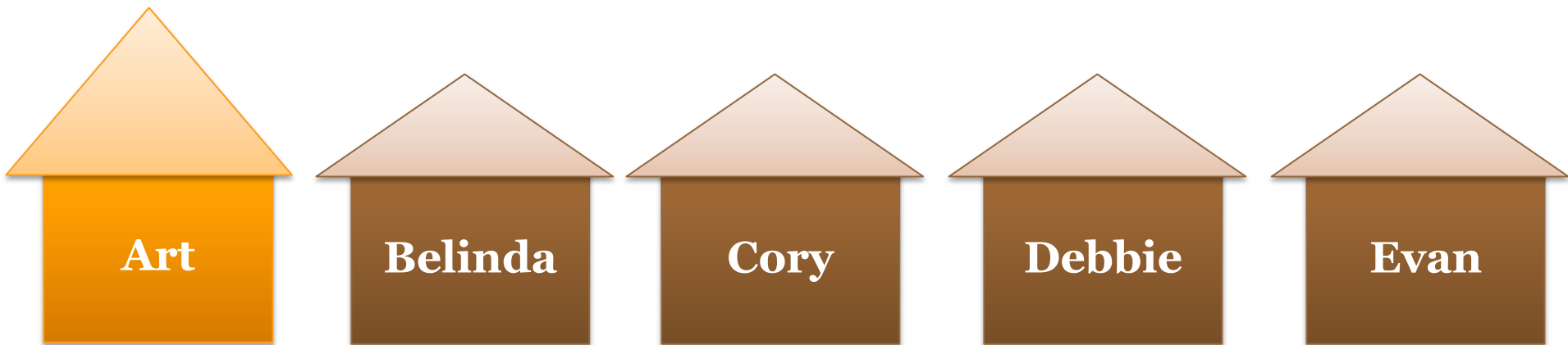
**Debbie**

**Evan**

## What did we do?

1. Count parrots at platform
2. Add value to the total given by previous station
3. Call the next station with the new total
4. Wait for the next station to return with the total, then pass that along to the previous station

**Solution 2:** sum the count from the other end



**7**

**5**

**3**

**10**

**2**

“what’s the total?”



**Art**

**Belinda**

**Cory**

**Debbie**

**Evan**

**7**

**5**

**3**

**10**

**2**

“what’s the total?”



**Art**

**Belinda**

**Cory**

**Debbie**

**Evan**



**7**

**5**

**3**

**10**

**2**

“what’s the total?”



**Art**

**Belinda**

**Cory**

**Debbie**

**Evan**

**7**

**5**

**3**

**10**

**2**

“what’s the total?”



**Art**

**Belinda**

**Cory**

**Debbie**

**Evan**

**7**

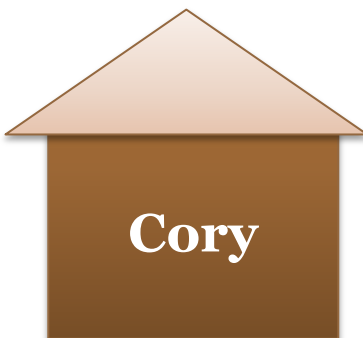
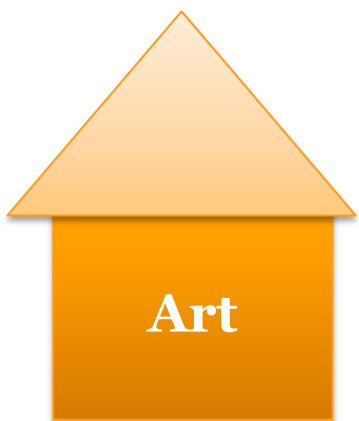
**5**

**3**

**10**

**2**

← “2 parrots” **2**



7

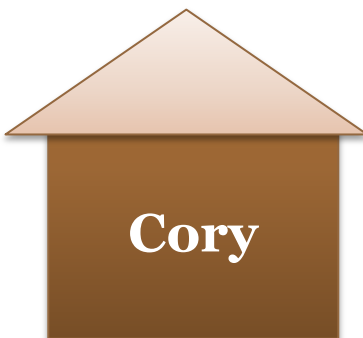
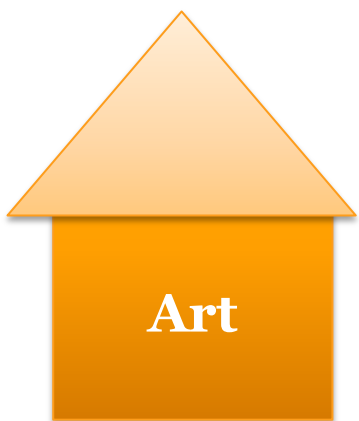
5

3

10

2

← “12 parrots”  
12



7

5

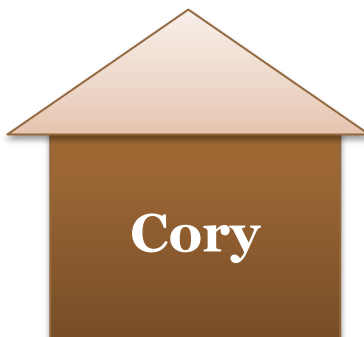
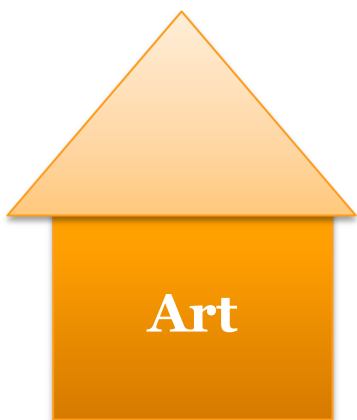
3

10

2

← "15 parrots"

15



7

5

3

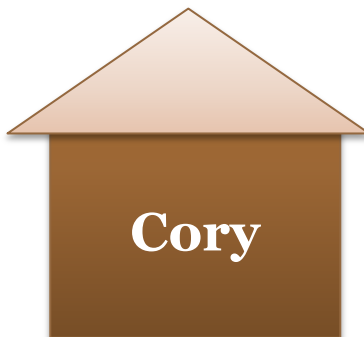
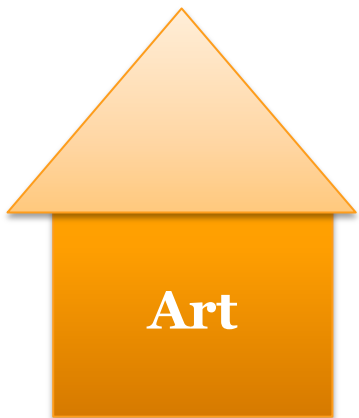
10

2

“20 parrots”



20



**7**

**5**

**3**

**10**

**2**

**27**

**Art**

**Belinda**

**Cory**

**Debbie**

**Evan**

**7**

**5**

**3**

**10**

**2**

**27**

*Final answer!*

**Art**

**Belinda**

**Cory**

**Debbie**

**Evan**



## What did we do?

1. Call next station.
2. Count the parrots at platform.
3. Add this count to the total given by the next station.
4. Pass resulting sum up to previous station.

## Solution 1

1. Count parrots at platform
2. Add value to the total given by previous station
3. Call the next station with the new total
4. Wait for the next station to return with the total, then pass that along to the previous station

## Solution 2

1. Call next station.
2. Count the parrots at platform.
3. Add this count to the total given by the next station.
4. Pass resulting sum up to previous station.

## Tail Recursion

### Solution 1

1. Count parrots at platform
2. Add value to the total given by previous station
- 3. Call the next station with the new total**
4. Wait for the next station to return with the total, then pass that along to the previous station

### Solution 2

1. Call next station.
2. Count the parrots at platform.
3. Add this count to the total given by the next station.
4. Pass resulting sum up to previous station.

## Tail Recursion

### Solution 1

1. Count parrots at platform
2. Add value to the total given by previous station
3. Call the next station with the new total
4. Wait for the next station to return with the total, then pass that along to the previous station

## Head Recursion

### Solution 2

- 1. Call next station.**
2. Count the parrots at platform.
3. Add this count to the total given by the next station.
4. Pass resulting sum up to previous station.

In each approach, who knows the total number of parrots (the final answer)?

What information is being passed to the recursive call in each approach?

### **Solution 1**

1. Count parrots at platform
2. Add value to the total given by previous station
3. Call the next station with the new total
4. Wait for the next station to return with the total, then pass that along to the previous station

### **Solution 2**

1. Call next station.
2. Count the parrots at platform.
3. Add this count to the total given by the next station.
4. Pass resulting sum up to previous station.

We will apply this style of recursion to binary searching...

### **Solution 1**

1. Count parrots at platform
2. Add value to the total given by previous station
3. Call the next station with the new total
4. Wait for the next station to return with the total, then pass that along to the previous station

### **Solution 2**

1. Call next station.
2. Count the parrots at platform.
3. Add this count to the total given by the next station.
4. Pass resulting sum up to previous station.

We'll check whether we've found the value, and recalculate the list bounds first...

1. Count parrots at platform
2. Add value to the total given by previous station
3. Call the next station with the new total
4. Wait for the next station to return with the total, then pass that along to the previous station

## Solution 2

1. Call next station.
2. Count the parrots at platform.
3. Add this count to the total given by the next station.
4. Pass resulting sum up to previous station.

...then we'll recurse,  
passing along the  
information we've  
gathered...

3. Call the next station with  
the new total

4. Wait for the next station  
to return with the total,  
then pass that along to  
the previous station

## Solution 2

1. Call next station.
2. Count the parrots at platform.
3. Add this count to the total given by the next station.
4. Pass resulting sum up to previous station.



## Solution 1

...and finally we'll wait for an answer to come back, which we'll just return to whoever called us

4. Wait for the next station to return with the total, then pass that along to the previous station

## Solution 2

1. Call next station.
2. Count the parrots at platform.
3. Add this count to the total given by the next station.
4. Pass resulting sum up to previous station.

# Recursive Binary Search Algorithm

input: a sorted list of data

input: a value to find

input: minIndex of list

input: maxIndex of list

output: index of location of value, or -1

```
if (maxIndex < minIndex):
```

```
    return -1
```

```
else:
```

```
    set mid to (minIndex + ((maxIndex - minIndex) / 2))
```

```
    if (item at mid) < (value to find):
```

```
        return binarySearch(list, value to find,  
                             mid+1, maxIndex)
```

```
    else if (item at mid) > (value to find):
```

```
        return binarySearch(list, value to find,  
                             minIndex, midIndex-1)
```

```
    else:
```

```
        return mid
```

# General Form of Recursion

1. Check if we're finished ("base case").
2. If not, break the problem into something smaller, and call the function again.

# General Recursive Version

For parrot counting, if we've reached the main terminal, we're done.

1. Check if we're finished ("base case").
2. If not, break the problem into something smaller, and call the function again.

# General Form of Recursion

1. Check if we're finished  
("base case").

2. If not, break the problem  
into something smaller, and  
call the function again.

Otherwise, find out the  
count of the terminals  
after the current terminal

# General Recursive Function

For binary search, if we found the value or searched the entire list, we're done.

1. Check if we're finished ("base case").

2. If not, break the problem into something smaller, and call the function again.

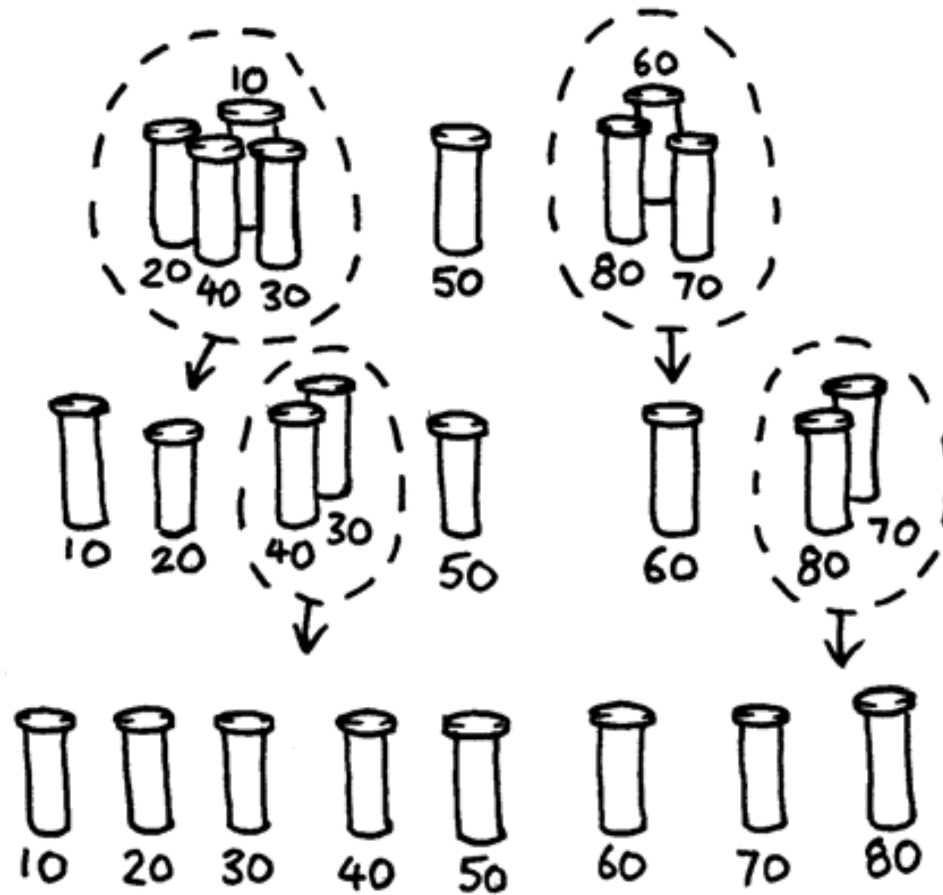
# General Form of Recursion

1. Check if we're finished ("base case").

2. If not, break the problem into something smaller, and call the function again.

Otherwise, keep searching in only the bottom or top half of the list, whichever the value can actually be in

# Quick Sort





# Quick Sort

<http://www.sorting-algorithms.com/quick-sort>

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cVMKXKoGu\\_Y](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cVMKXKoGu_Y)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FSyr8o8jjwM>

# Partition Algorithm

input: a list of data

input: leftIndex, rightIndex

output: index of pivot

set pivotIndex to random index between left and right

set pivotValue to value at pivotIndex

swap values at pivotIndex and rightIndex

set partitionIndex to leftIndex

for each value between leftIndex and rightIndex-1:

    if next list value < pivotValue:

        swap next list value and value at partitionIndex

        add 1 to partitionIndex

swap values at rightIndex and partitionIndex

return partitionIndex

# Partition Algorithm

input: a list of data  
input: leftIndex, rightIndex  
output: index of pivot

**Choose a random pivot  
value to sort list items  
around**

set pivotIndex to random index between left and right  
set pivotValue to value at pivotIndex

swap values at pivotIndex and rightIndex  
set partitionIndex to leftIndex

for each value between leftIndex and rightIndex-1:  
    if next list value < pivotValue:  
        swap next list value and value at partitionIndex  
        add 1 to partitionIndex

swap values at rightIndex and partitionIndex  
return partitionIndex

# Partition Algorithm

input: a list of data  
input: leftIndex, rightIndex  
output: index of pivot

set pivotIndex to rightIndex  
set pivotValue to value at pivotIndex

Temporarily put the pivot to the far right, since we don't know where it will be positioned after partitioning

swap values at pivotIndex and rightIndex  
set partitionIndex to leftIndex

for each value between leftIndex and rightIndex-1:  
    if next list value < pivotValue:  
        swap next list value and value at partitionIndex  
        add 1 to partitionIndex

swap values at rightIndex and partitionIndex  
return partitionIndex

# Partition Algorithm

input: a list of data  
input: leftIndex, rightIndex  
output: index of pivot

set pivotIndex to rightIndex  
set pivotValue to list[rightIndex]

Keep track of the last place we  
stored items that are smaller  
than the pivot

right

swap values at leftIndex and pivotIndex

set partitionIndex to leftIndex

for each value between leftIndex and rightIndex-1:  
    if next list value < pivotValue:  
        swap next list value and value at partitionIndex  
        add 1 to partitionIndex

swap values at rightIndex and partitionIndex  
return partitionIndex

# Partition Algorithm

input: a list of data  
input: leftIndex, rightIndex  
output: index of pivot

set pivotIndex to random index between left and right  
set pivotValue to value at pivotIndex

swap values at pivotIndex and leftIndex  
set partitionIndex to leftIndex

**Process every item in range  
before the pivot**

for each value between leftIndex and rightIndex-1:

    if next list value < pivotValue:

        swap next list value and value at partitionIndex

        add 1 to partitionIndex

swap values at rightIndex and partitionIndex

return partitionIndex

# Partition Algorithm

input: a list of data  
input: leftIndex, rightIndex  
output: index of pivot

set pivotIndex to random index between left and right  
set pivotValue to value at pivotIndex

swap values at pivotIndex and leftIndex  
set partitionIndex to leftIndex

**If the item is smaller than the pivot, we need to make sure it's with the other smaller items**

for each value between leftIndex and rightIndex - 1:

if next list value < pivotValue:  
    swap next list value and value at partitionIndex  
    add 1 to partitionIndex

swap values at rightIndex and partitionIndex  
return partitionIndex

# Partition Algorithm

input: a list of data

input: leftIndex, rightIndex

output: index of pivot

set pivotIndex to random index between left and right

set pivotValue to value at pivotIndex

swap values at pivotIndex and rightIndex

set partitionIndex to leftIndex

for each value before

if next list value

swap next value

add 1 to partitionIndex

**After the loop, everything  
smaller than the pivot is before  
lastStorageIndex, so put  
the pivot there**

index

swap values at rightIndex and partitionIndex

return partitionIndex



# Partition Algorithm

input: a list of data

input: leftIndex, rightIndex

output: index of pivot

set pivotIndex to random index between left and right

set pivotValue to value at pivotIndex

swap values at pivotIndex and rightIndex

set partitionIndex to leftIndex

for each value between leftIndex and rightIndex-1:

    if next list value < pivotValue

        swap next value and value at partitionIndex

        add 1 to partitionIndex

swap values at rightIndex and partitionIndex

return partitionIndex

**Finally, output the position of the pivot (could be anywhere in the range!)**

index

# Quick Sort Algorithm

input: a list of data

input: leftIndex

input: rightIndex

if leftIndex < rightIndex:

    set pivotIndex to result of  
        partition(list, leftIndex, rightIndex)

    quickSort(list, leftIndex, pivotIndex-1)

    quickSort(list, pivotIndex+1, rightIndex)

# Quick Sort Algorithm

```
input: a list of c  
input: leftIndex  
input: rightIndex
```

**Base case happens when this is  
false – it means we are done  
sorting!**

```
if leftIndex < rightIndex:
```

```
    set pivotIndex to result of  
        partition(list, leftIndex, rightIndex)
```

```
    quickSort(list, leftIndex, pivotIndex-1)  
    quickSort(list, pivotIndex+1, rightIndex)
```

# Quick Sort Algorithm

input: a list of data

input: leftIndex

input: rightIndex

if leftIndex < rightIndex

Otherwise, we break the problem into two pieces around a random pivot value...

set pivotIndex to result of  
partition(list, leftIndex, rightIndex)

quickSort(list, leftIndex, pivotIndex-1)

quickSort(list, pivotIndex+1, rightIndex)

# Quick Sort Algorithm

input: a list of data

input: leftIndex

input: rightIndex

if leftIndex < rightIndex:

    set pivotIndex to result of  
        partition(list, leftIndex, rightIndex)

    quickSort(list, leftIndex, pivotIndex-1)  
    quickSort(list, pivotIndex+1, rightIndex)

**...and recurse on the smaller-sized problems.**