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Diagram illustrating the process of finding the maximum value in a 2D array using a divide-and-conquer approach. The array is represented by a grid of yellow smiley faces on a black background, with red borders indicating the current search space.

The process starts with a 2x3 grid of smiley faces. The first step is to find the maximum in the first row (labeled "xMidMin*") and the maximum in the second row (labeled "xMax*"). The second row's maximum is found by comparing the first and second elements (labeled "xMidMin*"). The third step is to find the maximum in the first column (labeled "xMidMin*") and the maximum in the second column (labeled "xMax*"). The second column's maximum is found by comparing the first and second elements (labeled "xMidMin*"). The final step is to find the maximum in the first column (labeled "xMidMin*") and the maximum in the second column (labeled "xMax*"). The second column's maximum is found by comparing the first and second elements (labeled "xMidMin*").