

3. Given a *sorted* array of  $n$  distinct integers  $A[1, n]$ , you want to find out whether there is an index  $i$  for which  $A[i] = i$ . Give an algorithm that runs in time  $O(\log n)$  for this problem.

*Solution:*

```
Input: A sorted array  $A$ 
Result:  $i$  such that  $A[i] = i$ , if such an  $i$  exists
Let  $k = 1, j = n$ ;
while  $j - k > 1$  do
    Set  $\ell = \lfloor \frac{j+k}{2} \rfloor$ ;
    if  $A[\ell] = \ell$  then
        | Output  $\ell$ .
    else if  $A[\ell] > \ell$  then Set  $j = \ell$ ;
    ;
    else Set  $k = \ell$ ;
    ;
end
if  $A[k] = k$  then
    | Output  $k$ ;
else if  $A[j] = j$  then Output  $j$  ;
;
else Output “No such index”;
;
```

**Algorithm 2:** Binary Search

Analysis: If  $A[\ell] > \ell$ , then it must be the case that any index  $i$  with  $A[i] = i$  is in the interval  $[k, \ell]$ . Similarly, if  $A[\ell] < \ell$ , it must be the case that the index we want is in the interval  $[\ell, j]$ . Thus the above algorithm halves the size of the interval we are looking in, in each run of the while loop.

Runtime: The runtime satisfies:  $T(n) \leq T(n/2) + O(1)$ . Thus  $T(n) \leq O(\log n)$ .