

# Peak Finder

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**Problem: Find a peak if it exists.**

For a one dimensional array.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Position 2 is a peak only if  $B \geq A$  and  $B \geq C$

**Straight Forward Algorithm:**

Start from left 1, 2, .....,  $n/2$ , ....., n

Worst case :  $O(n)$

Remember, that the problem statement tells us to find "a" peak and not the greatest peak.  
So, whichever peak we encounter first that will be our answer to the problem.

**Divide and Conquer Algorithm:**

Start from  $n/2$ .

If  $a[n/2] < a[n/2-1]$ , then search in the left array.

else if  $a[n/2] < a[n/2+1]$ , then search in the right array.

else  $n/2$  is a peak

Worst Case :  $O(\log n)$