

Binary Search

~~Let~~ Let x be the target that we need to find

1. Compare x with the middle element of our array
2. If $x == \text{middle element}$
return middle index
else if $x > \text{middle element}$ search in right half
it means x lies in right half subarray
else if $x < \text{middle element}$
it means x lies in left half subarray so, search in left half

Example :-

$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & \text{low} & & \text{middle} & & & \text{high} \\ & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & & \downarrow \\ \text{array} = [& 2 & , & 8 & , & 7 & , & 6 & , & 5 & , & 4 &] \\ & 0 & & 1 & & 2 & & 3 & & 4 & & 5 \end{array}$

target = 8

$$\text{middle} = \frac{\text{low} + \text{high}}{2} = \frac{0 + 5}{2} = 2$$

our target is 8 and middle element is 7
that means target $>$ middle

So, we will find in right half

$\begin{array}{ccc} & \text{low} & \text{middle} & \text{high} \\ & \downarrow & \downarrow & \downarrow \\ [& 2 & , & 8 & , & 7 &] \\ & 0 & & 1 & & 2 \end{array}$

$$\text{middle} = \frac{\text{low} + \text{high}}{2} = \frac{0 + 2}{2} = 1$$

Now, target == middle element
we found element at index 1.

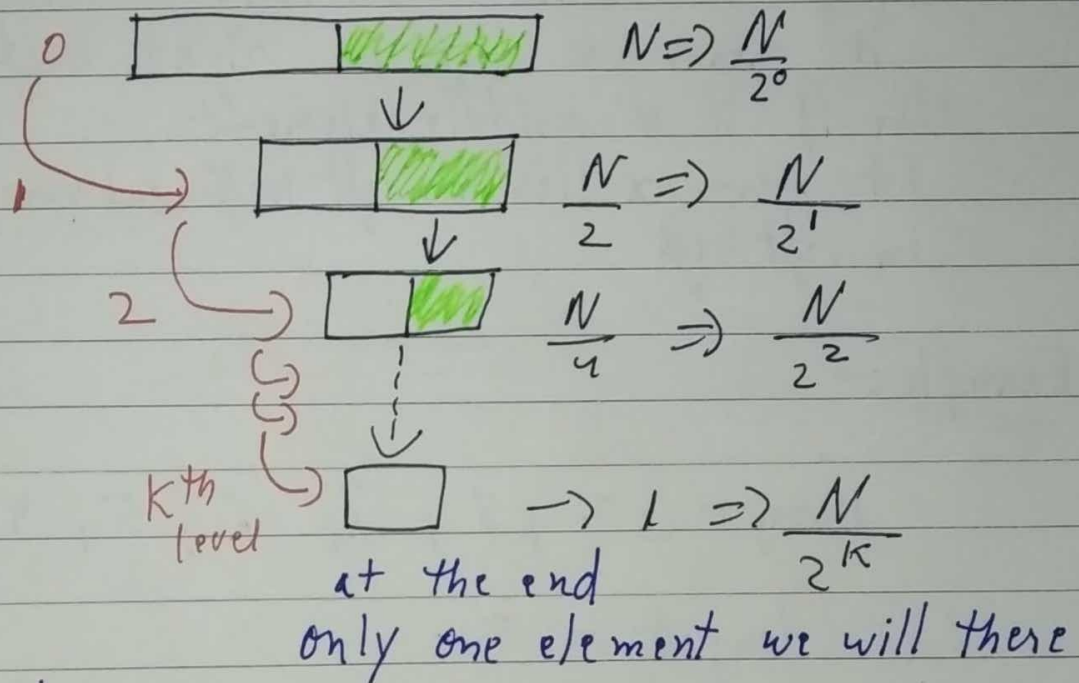
The
element
at index
2 is our
middle
element

Here, space in which we are searching is getting divided into two spaces

\Rightarrow Time Complexity:

Best case : $O(1)$

worst case : $O(\log n)$



$$\frac{N}{2^K} = 1$$

$$N = 2^K \Rightarrow \log(N) = \log(2^K)$$

$$\Rightarrow \log(N) = K \log(2)$$

$$K = \frac{\log(N)}{\log(2)}$$

$K = \log_2(N)$ is the size of array

total no. of comparisons

// Iterative

```
int Binary[ int A[], int n, int data)
{
```

```
    int low = 0;
```

```
    int high = n-1;
```

```
    while (low <= high)
```

```
    {
```

```
        mid = low + (high - low) / 2; // To avoid
        if (A[mid] == data)           // overflow
```

```
        return mid;
```

```
        else if (A[mid] < data)
```

```
            low = mid + 1;
```

```
        else high = mid - 1;
```

```
    }
```

```
    return -1;
```

```
}
```

// Recursive

```
int Binary( int A[], int low, int high, int data)
{
```

```
    int mid = low + (high - low) / 2;
```

```
    if (A[mid] == data)
```

```
        return mid;
```

```
    else if (A[mid] < data)
```

```
        return Binary(A, mid + 1, high, data);
```

```
    else
```

```
        return Binary(A, low, mid - 1, data);
```

```
    return -1;
```

```
}
```