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- Only way you can access these values is through queries to the databases: In a single **query**, you can specify a value  $k$  to one of the two databases, and the chosen database will return the  $k^{th}$  smallest value that it contains.
- Since queries are expensive, you would like to compute the median using as few queries as possible.
- *Give an algorithm that finds the median value using at most  $O(\log n)$  queries.*

## Answer :

- $A(i), B(i)$ :  $i^{th}$  smallest element of database A/B
- $A(k), B(k)$ : medians of database A/B ( $k = \left\lfloor \frac{1}{2} n \right\rfloor$ )

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(because  $A(i) < A(k)$  for all  $i < k$ )

$$B(k) > B(1) \dots\dots B(k-1)$$

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$\rightarrow B(k) > C(n)$  : median of merged db C ! Remember  $2k \geq n$

meaning:  $B(k)$  and other larger elements of B:  $B(k+1) \dots B(n)$  are greater than median of the merged database  $\Rightarrow$  no need to look at that part of DB B !

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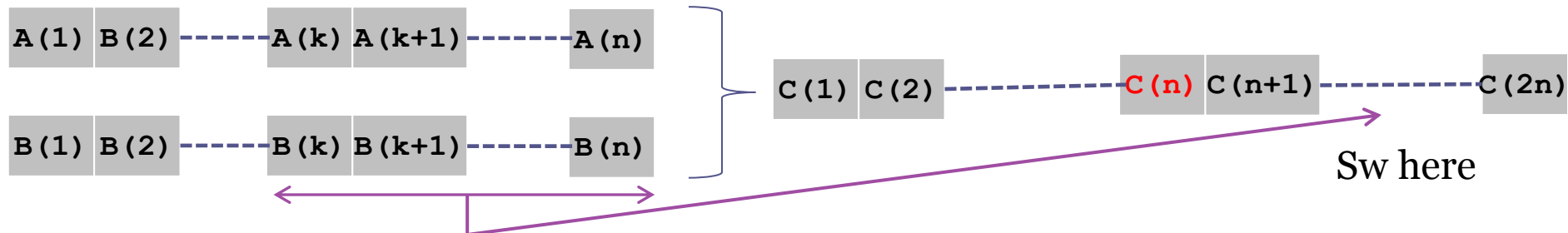
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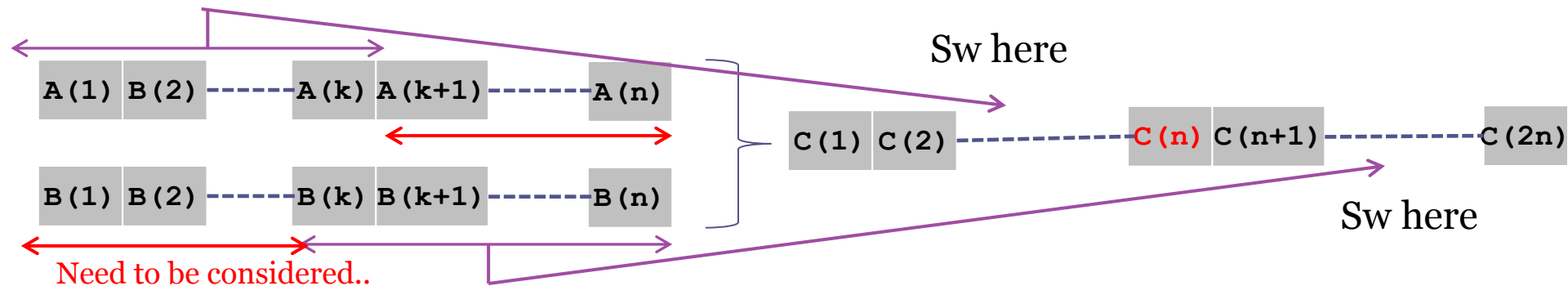
1.2  $A(k) < B(k) \rightarrow A(1) \dots A(k) < A(k+1) \dots A(n)$  (because  $A(i) < A(k)$  for all  $i < k$ )

$A(1) \dots A(k) < B(k+1) \dots B(n)$

$\rightarrow$  in merged database C,  $A(1) \dots (k)$  block  $<$  at least!  $(n - k - 1 + 1) + \left\lceil \frac{1}{2} n \right\rceil = n + 1$  , elements!

$\rightarrow A(1) \dots A(k) < C(n)$  : median of merged db C !

meaning:  $A(k)$  and other smaller elements of A:  $A(1) \dots A(k-1)$  are smaller than median of the merged database  $\Rightarrow$  **no need to look at that part of DB A !**



# Answer :

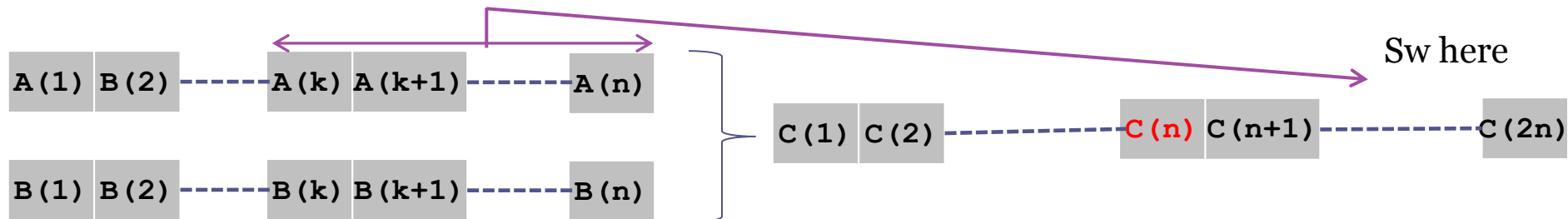
2.1  $A(k) > B(k) \rightarrow A(k) > B(1) \dots B(k)$  (because  $B(i) < B(k)$  for all  $i < k$ )

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# Answer :

2.2  $B(k) < A(k) \rightarrow B(1) \dots B(k) < B(k+1) \dots B(n)$  (because  $B(i) < B(k)$  for all  $i < k$ )

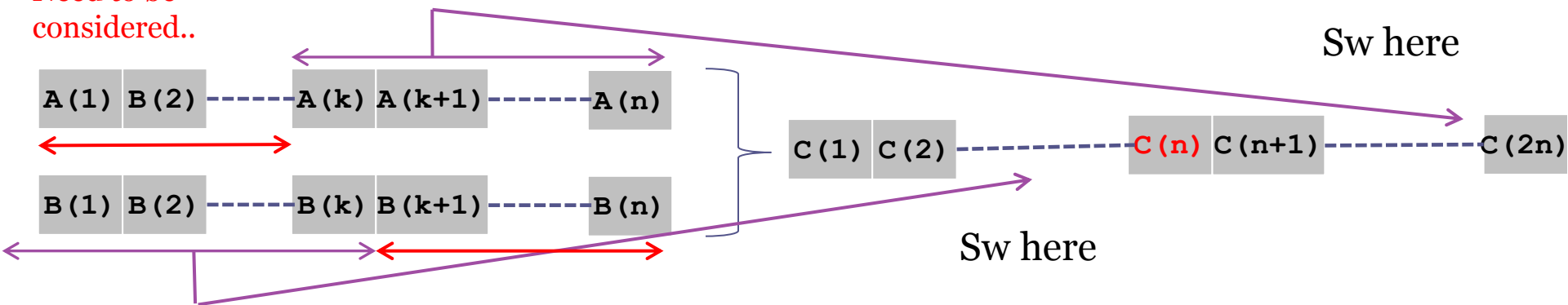
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meaning:  $B(k)$  and other smaller elements of B:  $B(1) \dots B(k-)$  are smaller than median of the merged database  $\Rightarrow$  no need to look at that part of DB B !

Need to be considered..



# Answer :

∴ remaining part to be considered: half of the original DBs!

Algorithm?

```
median (n, a, b)
  if (n = 1)
    return min ( A(a+k), B(b+k) )  // base case..
  k =  $\left\lfloor \frac{1}{2} n \right\rfloor$ 
  if ( A (a+k) < B (b+k) )
    return median ( k, a +  $\left\lfloor \frac{1}{2} n \right\rfloor$ , b )
  else
    return median ( k, a, b +  $\left\lfloor \frac{1}{2} n \right\rfloor$  )
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Call? median (n,o,o)

Complexity?

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Complexity?  $Q(n) = Q\left(\left\lfloor \frac{1}{2} n \right\rfloor + 2\right) \Rightarrow Q(n) = 2 \lceil \log n \rceil$

## Question:

- Suppose you're consulting for a bank about fraud detection,
- They have a collection of  $n$  bank cards suspecting of being used in fraud.
- Each card containing a magnetic stripe with some encrypted data, and it corresponds to a unique account in the bank. Each account can have many bank cards



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- 2 bank cards are **equivalent** if they correspond to the same account.
- Bank has a high-tech "equivalence tester" that takes two bank cards and, determines whether they are equivalent.

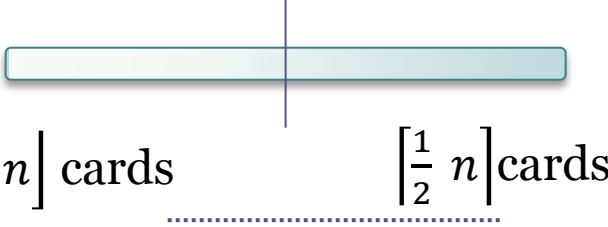
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- 2 bank cards are **equivalent** if they correspond to the same account.
- Bank has a high-tech "equivalence tester" that takes two bank cards and, determines whether they are equivalent.
- QUESTION: the collection of  $n$  cards, **is there a set of more than  $n/2$  of them that are all equivalent to one another?**
  - Only feasible operation: equivalence tester.
  - Show how to decide the answer to their question with only  $O(n \log n)$  invocations of the equivalence tester.

## Answer:

- *Equivalence classes:*  $e_1 \dots e_n$  ( cards are equivalent if their classes are same:  $e_i = e_j$  )
- *Question:* whether there exists any equivalence class with more than  $n/2$  members : i.e.: more than  $n/2$  cards have  $e_i = x$ .

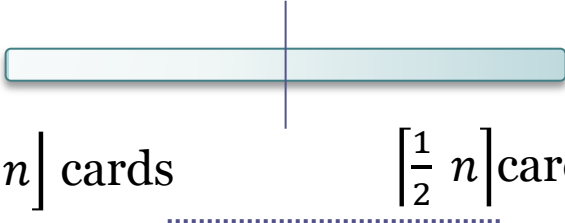
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- Division?  


$\left\lfloor \frac{1}{2} n \right\rfloor$  cards       $\left\lfloor \frac{1}{2} n \right\rfloor$  cards
- Look for? Equivalence class containing more than half of currently examined cards ....
- Base case: 2 cards ...

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- Division? 

- Look for? Equivalence class containing more than half of currently examined cards ....
- Base case: 2 cards ...
- **OBSERVATION:** If we have more than  $n/2$  cards of same equivalence class  $-x$  in whole set. Then at least one of the halves will have more than half of its cards equivalent to  $x$ .
- **BUT:** reverse is not always true  $\Rightarrow$  test other cards ...

# Algorithm:

- Running time??

If  $|S| = 1$  return one card

If  $|S| = 2$

test if equivalent

return either card if equivalent

$S_1$  : first half containing  $\left\lfloor \frac{1}{2} n \right\rfloor$  cards

$S_2$  : second half containing remaining cards

Call algorithm recursively for  $S_1$

If a card is returned:

test against all other cards

If no card with majority equivalence has yet been found

then call algorithm recursively for  $S_2$

If a card is returned:

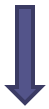
test against all other cards

Return a card from majority equivalence class if one is found

# Algorithm:

- Running time??
- 2 recursive calls,
- At most  $2n$  tests outside recursive calls.

$$T(n) \leq 2T(n/2) + 2n$$



$$T(n) = O(n \log n)$$

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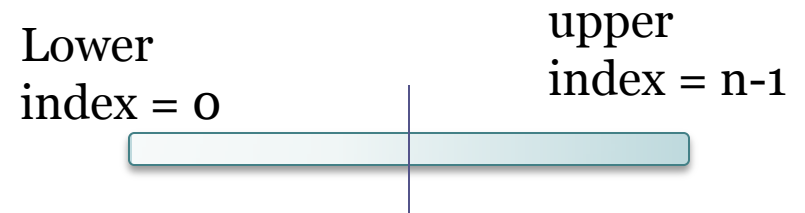
## Question:

- A: positive or negative integers of size  $n$ ,  
where  $A[1] < A[2] < A[3] \dots < A[n]$
- Write an algorithm to find an  $i$  such that  $A[i] = i$  provided that such  $i$  exists
- Make sure that its complexity is not  $O(n)$  !



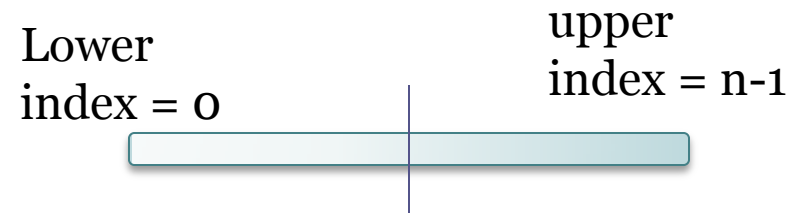
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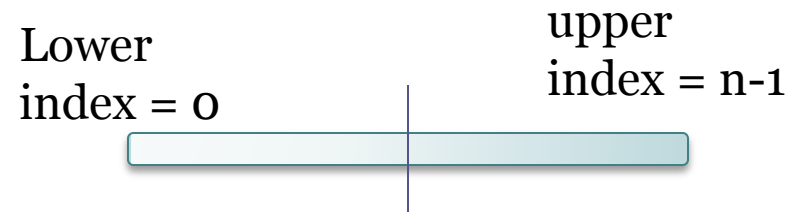
## Answer:

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- Again from middle,
- If  $A[i] < i \Rightarrow$

since  $A$  is sorted, all  $A[j] < j$  for  $j < i$

why? Need to subtract at least 1 from  $i$  (value) for each previous element, than its index (exactly one less than the latter one) still bigger than its value...  $\Rightarrow$  search for  $i$  in right portion!

- If  $A[i] > i \Rightarrow$



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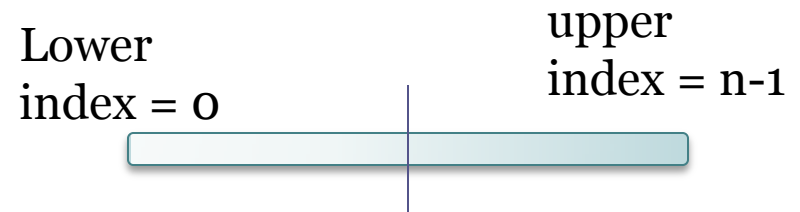
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why? Need to add 1 to each index for each next element, also at least 1 bigger because  $A$  is sorted, than its index is still smaller than its value...  $\Rightarrow$  search for  $i$  in left portion!



## Answer:

- Example

$A_0$	$A_1$	$A_2$	$A_3$	$A_4$	$A_5$	$A_6$	$A_7$	$A_8$
-1	0	1	2	3	5	7	9	10

- If  $A[i] < i \Rightarrow$



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- If  $A[i] > i \Rightarrow$



$A_5$   $A_6$   $A_7$   $A_8$

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search for  $i$  in left portion, found ..

# Algorithm:

- Running time??

```
lower ← 0
upper ← n
notFound ← true

while notFound
    i ← ⌊ $\frac{(lower+upper)}{2}$ ⌋
    if A[i] = i
        notFound ← false
    else
        if A[i] < i
            lower ← i + 1
        else
            upper ← i - 1
        endif
    endif
endwhile
print (i)
```



## Algorithm:

- Running time??
- At each iteration,  
divide current array by 2  
And continue with one of them ..!



$$T(n) = O(\log n)$$

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