

Searching I : Binary Search on Array

Search Space → e.g. Library

Target → e.g. Book

Condition → helps in finding target by reducing search space.

Binary Search → divide search space into 2 equal parts & keep neglecting one part based on condition.

organised data ⇒ think about
binary search

Question 1

Given a sorted array of distinct elements. find index of a given element k , if not present, return -1.

$A = [\overset{0}{3} \quad \overset{1}{6} \quad \overset{2}{9} \quad \overset{3}{12} \quad \overset{4}{14} \quad \overset{5}{19} \quad \overset{6}{20} \quad \overset{7}{23} \quad \overset{8}{25} \quad \overset{9}{27}]$

Bruteforce

for ($i = 0$ to $n-1$) {

if ($A[i] == K$)

return i

}

return -1

// linear search

$TC = O(N)$

$SC = O(1)$

Binary Search → 3 steps

//1. Define Search Space $[0, n-1]$ // index l to r

$l = 0, r = n-1$

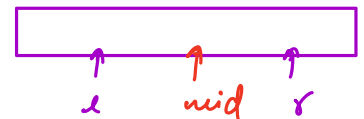
while ($l \leq r$) {

//2. check if middle element is answer?

$mid = (l+r)/2$

if ($A[mid] == K$)

return mid



//3. Decide whether to go left or right.

if ($K < A[mid]$)

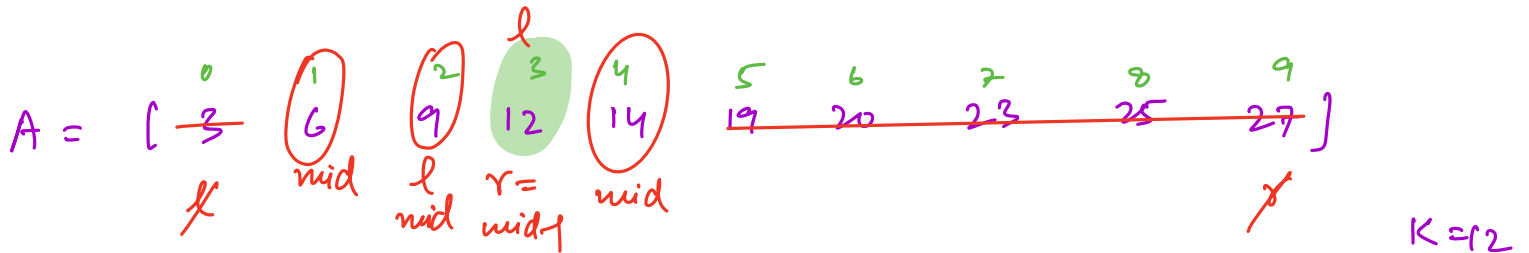
$r = mid - 1$

else

$$l = \text{mid} + 1$$

}

return -1



l	r	mid = (l+r)/2	
0	9	(0+9)/2 = 4	K < A[4] → go left
0	3	1	K > 6 → go right
2	3	2	K > 9 → go right
3	3	3	K = 12

TC

$$N \rightarrow N/2 \rightarrow N/4 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow 1 \rightarrow 0$$

↑
stop

$$\text{iterations} = \log_2 N$$

$$TC = O(\log N)$$

$$SC = O(1)$$

Best Practice

use used $mid = \frac{(l+r)}{2}$

assume $INT_MAX = 100$

$$l = 80, r = 90$$

$$\frac{(l+r)}{2} = \frac{(80+90)}{2} = \frac{170}{2}$$

overflow

$$\frac{(l+r)}{2} \Rightarrow l + \frac{l}{2} - l + \frac{r}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow l + \frac{r}{2} - \frac{l}{2} \Rightarrow l + \frac{(r-l)}{2}$$

$$l = 80, r = 90 \Rightarrow l + \frac{(r-l)}{2} \Rightarrow 80 + \frac{(90-80)}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow 80 + \frac{10}{2} = 80 + 5 = 85$$

Question

Given array of email years, return the index of first email of a given year.

$A = [$ ⁰2005 ¹2005 ²2013 ³2018 ⁴2018 ⁵2020 ⁶2020 ⁷2023 $]$

Given a sorted array, find first index of given element K .

$A = [-5, -5, -3, 0, 0, 0, 2, 5, 7, 7]$

Diagram illustrating the search process for $K=0$ in the array A . The array is sorted. The search space is defined by l (left) and r (right). The middle element mid is calculated. The search space is updated based on the comparison of K and $A[mid]$.

- Step 1: $l=0, r=9, mid=4$. $A[mid]=0$. Since $K=0$, the search space is updated to $l=mid$.
- Step 2: $l=4, r=9, mid=6$. $A[mid]=2$. Since $K < A[mid]$, the search space is updated to $r=mid-1$.
- Step 3: $l=4, r=5, mid=4$. $A[mid]=0$. Since $K=0$, the search space is updated to $l=mid$.
- Step 4: $l=4, r=4, mid=4$. $A[mid]=0$. Since $K=0$, the search space is updated to $l=mid$.

$K=0$ $ans=3$

$K=1$ $ans=-1$

11. Define Search Space $[0, n-1]$ // index l to r

$l=0, r=n-1$

while ($l \leq r$) {

12. Check if middle element is answer?

$mid = l + (r-l)/2$

if ($A[mid] == K$ && ($mid == 0$ || $A[mid-1] != K$))

return mid

13. Decide whether to go left or right.

if ($K \leq A[mid]$)

$r = mid - 1$

else

$l = mid + 1$

$K < mid \rightarrow$ go left

$K > mid \rightarrow$ go right

$K = mid \rightarrow$ go left

return -1

$$TC = O(\log N)$$

$$SC = O(1)$$

Question 3

Given an array where every element occurs twice except for 1 element that appears once.

Find the unique element. All equal pairs of elements are together. (unsorted but organized)

$A = [\overset{0}{8} \overset{1}{8} \overset{2}{2} \overset{3}{2} \overset{4}{\textcircled{6}} \overset{5}{5} \overset{6}{5}]$ $ans = 6$

Diagram notes: Arrows from index 4 point to indices 3 and 5 with the label "not equal".

Idea 1: $ans = \text{XOR of all elements}$

$$TC = O(N) \quad SC = O(1)$$

#1. Define Search Space $[0, n-1]$ & index l to r

$$l = 0, \quad r = n-1$$

while ($l \leq r$) {

#2. check if middle element is answer?

$$mid = l + (r - l) / 2$$

```

if ( (mid == 0 || A[mid-1] != A[mid]) ||
      (mid == n-1 || A[mid+1] != A[mid]) )
    return A[mid]

```

// 3. Decide whether to go left or right

$A = [\overset{1}{8} \overset{0}{8} \overset{1}{8} \overset{2}{2} \overset{3}{2} \overset{4}{6} \overset{5}{5} \overset{6}{5}]$
 even odd mid odd even

$8, 8 \rightarrow (0, 1)$

$2, 2 \rightarrow (2, 3)$

$5, 5 \rightarrow (5, 6)$

```

if ( mid == 0 || A[mid-1] != A[mid] ) { // (mid, mid+1) pair

```

```

    if ( mid % 2 == 0 ) // (even-odd) pair

```

```

        l = mid + 1

```

```

    else // (odd-even) pair

```

```

        r = mid - 1

```

```

}

```

```

else { // (mid-1, mid) pair

```

```

    if ( mid % 2 == 0 ) // (odd-even) pair

```

```

        r = mid - 1

```

else

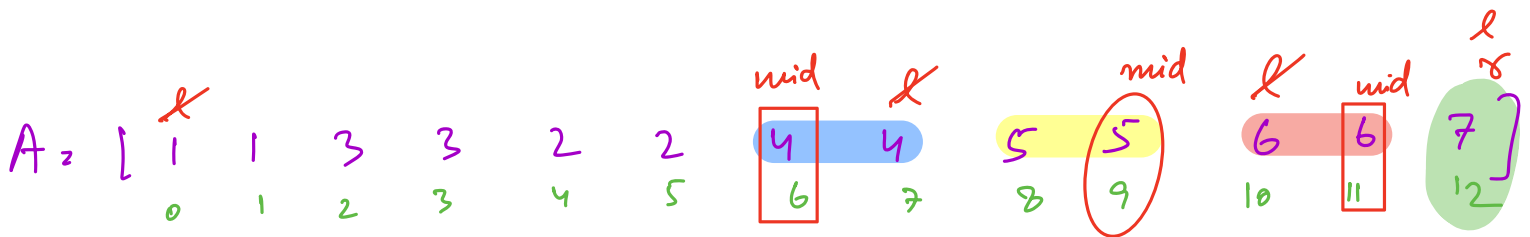
$$l = mid + 1$$

$$TC = O(\log N)$$

$$SC = O(1)$$

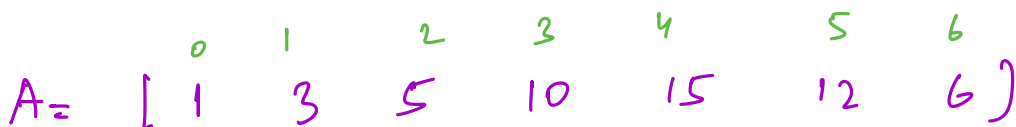
}

}

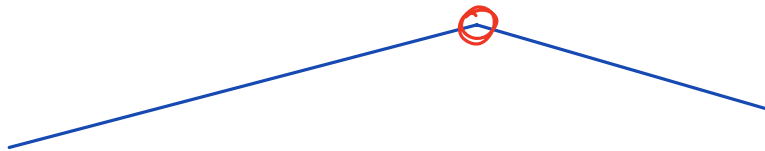


Question 4

Given an increasing-decreasing array. find the max element. (Peak element)



ans = 15



1. Define Search Space $[0, n-1]$ & index l to r

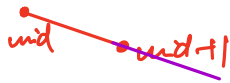
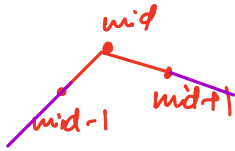
$$l = 0, \quad r = n - 1$$

while ($l \leq r$) {

//2. check if middle element is answer?

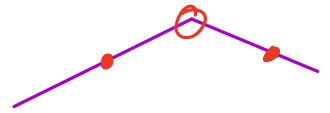
$$\text{mid} = l + (r - l) / 2$$

if((mid == 0 || A[mid-1] < A[mid]) &&
(mid == n-1 || A[mid+1] < A[mid]))
return A[mid]



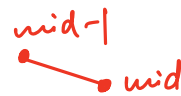
//3. Decide whether to go left or right

if(mid == 0 || A[mid-1] < A[mid])
l = mid + 1



else

$$r = \text{mid} - 1$$



}

$$TC = O(\log N)$$

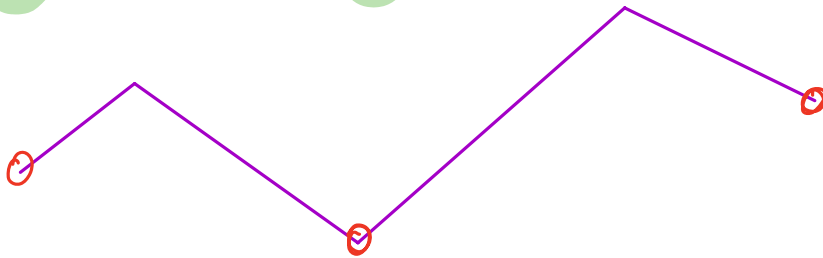
$$SC = O(1)$$

Question 5

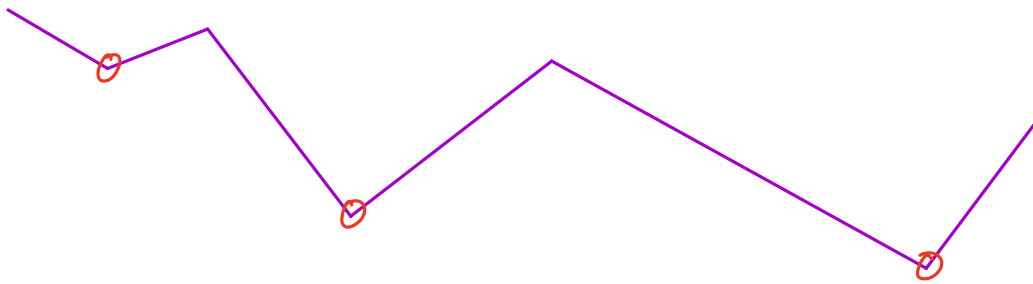
Given an array of **distinct elements**, find any one local minima. i.e.,

$$A[i-1] > A[i] < A[i+1]$$

$A = [\overset{0}{3} \overset{1}{6} \overset{2}{1} \overset{3}{0} \overset{4}{9} \overset{5}{15} \overset{6}{8}]$



$A = [9 \ 7 \ 8 \ 3 \ 5 \ 6 \ 2 \ 1 \ 0 \ 4]$



Bruteforce :

if, check if $A[i]$ is minima

$T(=O(N))$

$S(=O(1))$

Search in $T(=O(N))$?

Binary Search

#1. Define Search Space $[0, n-1]$ & index l to r

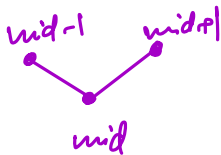
$l=0$, $r=n-1$

while ($l \leq r$) {

#2. Check if middle element is answer?

$mid = l + (r-l)/2$

if ($(mid == 0 \parallel A[mid-1] > A[mid]) \&\&$
 $(mid == n-1 \parallel A[mid+1] > A[mid])$)
return $A[mid]$



#3. Decide whether to go left or right

if ($mid == 0 \parallel A[mid-1] > A[mid]$) {

$l = mid + 1$

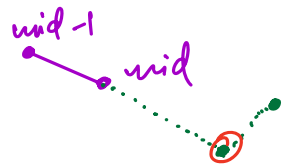
}

else {

$r = mid - 1$

}

}



$TC = O(\log N)$

$SC = O(1)$