

The logic behind the binary search. It is great to learn something new.

When we want to check if an element is in a list, like check if Will Smith is in our employee database by matching his SSN with traversal. But if we have a huge database, and his SSN is at very end, it will be a waste of time and the server resource. Binary search is a good way to solve this problem in sorted arrays: it is a classic algorithm in computer science like below.

list	11	20	35	47	58	60	73	89	99	105
index	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

We have a sorted random list with index below accordingly. Define lb (lower bound), hb(higher bound), and mid(middle) to represent the lowest, highest, and middle indexes of the list, we get:

```
lb = 0                # list[lb] = list[0] = 11
hb = len(list) - 1    # list[hb] = list[9] = 105
mid = (lb+hb) // 2     # take round down for even numbers of elements: list[mid] = 58
target = int(input('The targeted search to see if it is in list: '))    # assume = 99
```

Compare target with list[mid]: $99 > (list[4] = 58)$, then we can work on the mid to hb part only, with new lb of $lb = mid + 1 = 5$, and the new mid will be $(lb+hb) // 2 = 7$

list	11	20	35	47	58	60	73	89	99	105
index	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Compare target with list[mid]: $99 > (list[7] = 89)$ again, then we can work on the mid to hb part only, with new lb of $lb = mid + 1 = 8$, and the new mid will be $(lb+hb) // 2 = 8$

list	11	20	35	47	58	60	73	89	99	105
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Compare target with list[mid]: $99 == 99$, print target is in the list. If no same element found in list, print target not in list.

Codes for traversal and binary search in py document.