

## Divide and Conquer Algorithms: Binary Search

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### Problem Statement:

We have to determine whether a given element  $x$  is present in a sorted non-decreasing array  $A$  or not.

If  $x$  is present in the array  $A$ , binary search will provide us the index of  $x$  in the input array  $A$ . On the other hand, if the element is not present in the array  $A$ , then the return result will be  $-1$ .

$T(n) \leq$

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BINARYSEARCH ( $A, x, p, r$ )
1  if  $p == r$            → 1 time step
2    if  $x == A[p]$        → 1 time step
3      return  $p$           → 1 time step
4    else                 → 1 time step (Ox)
5      return  $-1$          → 1 time step (Ox)
6  else
7     $q = \lfloor \frac{p+r}{2} \rfloor$  → 1 timestep
8    if  $x \leq A[q]$        → 1 timestep
9      return BINARYSEARCH ( $A, x, p, q$ ) ≈  $\rightarrow T(\frac{n}{2})$  → ① division
10   else
11     return BINARYSEARCH ( $A, x, q + 1, r$ ) ≈  $\rightarrow T(\frac{n}{2})$  → ② conquer

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Base case  
(For one element)

D & C Steps  
① division  
② conquer

### Complexity Analysis of Binary Search (worst case)

$$T(1) = 1+1+1 = 3 - \text{time steps} \quad (\text{we can consider it as constant 'd'})$$

$T(n) = \text{Time for Division} + \text{Time for Conquer} + \text{Time for Combine}$

1 (consider some const)  
'C'  
 $T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)$

N.B.: No combine step in  
Binary Search

$$\Rightarrow T(n) = T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + C$$

using substitution method

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow T(n) &= T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + C \\ &= [T\left(\frac{n}{2^2}\right) + C] + C \\ &= T\left(\frac{n}{2^2}\right) + 2C \\ &= [T\left(\frac{n}{2^3}\right) + C] + 2C \\ &= T\left(\frac{n}{2^3}\right) + 3C \\ &\vdots \\ &= T\left(\frac{n}{2^k}\right) + KC \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Put } \frac{n}{2^k} = 1 \Rightarrow 2^k = n \Rightarrow k = \log_2 n$$

$$\Rightarrow T(n) = \cancel{d} + (\log_2 n)C$$

$$\Rightarrow T(n) = C \log_2 n + d$$

$$\Rightarrow T(n) \leq (C+d) \log_2 n$$

$$\Rightarrow T(n) \leq C \log_2 n$$

$$\Rightarrow T(n) \geq O(\log_2 n)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow T(n) &\geq C \log_2 n \\ \Rightarrow T(n) &\in \Omega(\log_2 n) \end{aligned}$$

$T(n)$  is  $\Theta(\log_2 n)$