



Binary Search

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The Problem

- Find an element in a **sorted** array.
 - Same principle is used to find solutions of $f(x)=0$ with f continuous and monotonic.
- Divide-and-conquer algorithm:
 - Divide: Check middle element.
 - Conquer: Recursively search **1** sub-array.
 - Combine: Trivial.
 - $T(n)=T(n/2)+\Theta(1)$.



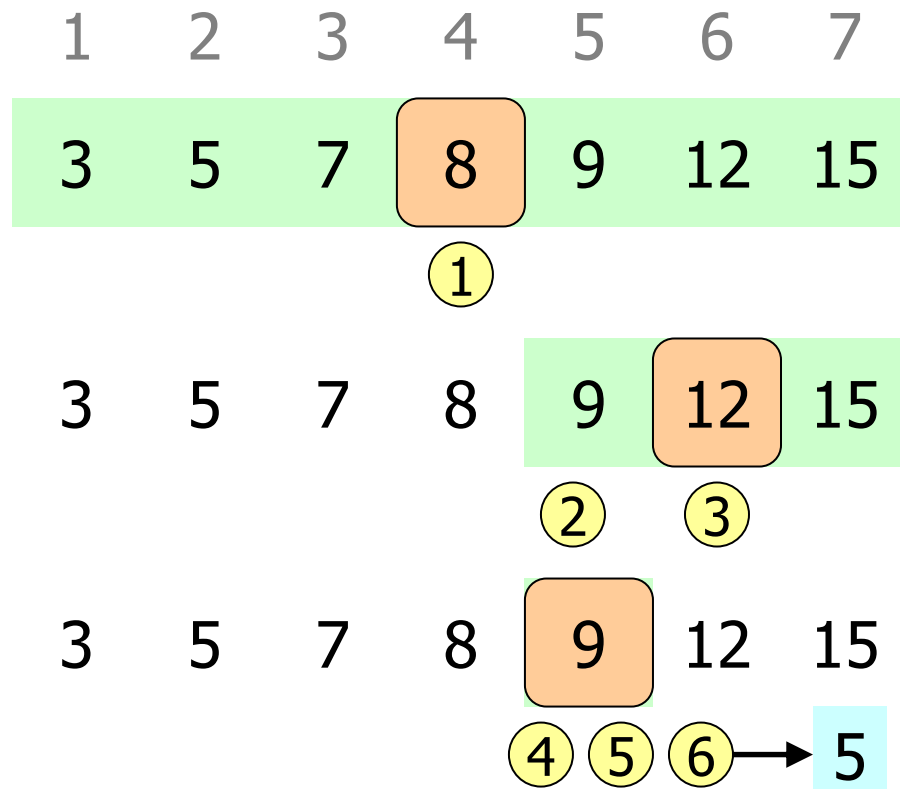
Algorithm

Iterative version of
the recursive algorithm:

```
binary_search(A,x):  
min = 1  
max = length(A)  
repeat  
    i = (min+max)/2  
    if A[i] == x then  
        return i  
    else if A[i] < x then  
        min = i+1  
    else  
        max = i-1  
    fi  
until min == max  
return -1
```

Example

Find 9.



```
binary_search(A,x):
```

```
min = 1
```

```
max = length(A)
```

```
repeat
```

```
① i = (min+max)/2 ③ ⑤
```

```
⑥ if A[i] == x then
```

```
    return i
```

```
    else if A[i] < x then
```

```
② min = i+1
```

```
    else
```

```
④ max = i-1
```

```
    fi
```

```
until min > max
```

```
return -1
```

Example

Find 10.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3	5	7	8	9	12	15

①

3	5	7	8	9	12	15
---	---	---	---	---	----	----

②

③

3	5	7	8	9	12	15
---	---	---	---	---	----	----

④ ⑤

3	5	7	8	9	12	15	⑥ ⑦	→ -1
---	---	---	---	---	----	----	-----	------

```
binary_search(A,x):
```

```
min = 1
```

```
max = length(A)
```

```
repeat
```

```
① i = (min+max)/2 ③ ⑤
```

```
if A[i] == x then
```

```
return i
```

```
else if A[i] < x then
```

```
② ⑥ min = i+1
```

```
else
```

```
④ max = i-1
```

```
fi
```

```
until min > max
```

```
return -1 ⑦
```



Recurrence

- $T(n) = T(n/2) + \Theta(1)$.

1 sub-problem of
size $n/2$.

Dividing (1) +
combining (0).

- Master method, case 2 $\Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta(\lg n)$.