

Structural Programming and Data Structures

Winter 2000

CMPUT 102: Searching

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Course Content

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction• Objects• Methods• Tracing Programs• Object State• Sharing resources• Selection• Repetition | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vectors• Testing/Debugging• Arrays• Searching• Files I/O• Sorting• Inheritance• Recursion |
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Objectives of Lecture 21

Searching

- Introduce two techniques for searching for an element in a collection;
- Learn sequential search algorithm;
- Learn the binary search algorithm for ordered collections.
- Learn how to evaluate the complexity of an algorithm and compare between algorithms.

Outline of Lecture 21



- Review the simple array examples
- Sequential search approach
- Complexity of sequential search
- Binary search approach
- Complexity of binary search
- Compare sequential search and binary search

Array Example

// Find the largest element in an array of ints

```
int markArray[] = {50, 37, 71, 99, 63};
int index;
int max;
index = 0;
max = markArray[index];
for (index = 1; index < markArray.length; index++)
    if (markArray[index] > max)
        max = markArray[index];
System.out.println(max);
```

markArray	
50	0
37	1
71	2
99	3
63	4

index=5

max	
99	

Array Example2

// Find the index of the largest element in an array of ints

```
int markArray[] = {50, 37, 71, 99, 63};
int index;
int indexOfMax;
index = 0;
indexOfMax = 0;
for (index = 1; index < markArray.length; index++)
    if (markArray[index] > markArray[indexOfMax])
        indexOfMax = index;
System.out.println(indexOfMax);
```

markArray	
50	0
37	1
71	2
99	3
63	4

index = 5

indexOfMax	
3	

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The Search Problem



- Given a container, find the index of a particular element, called the key.
- Technique applies for vectors, arrays, files, etc.
- Applications: information retrieval, database querying, etc.

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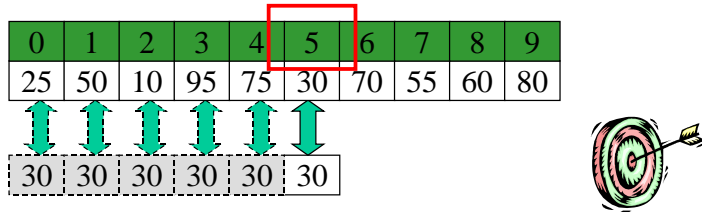
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
25	50	10	95	75	30	70	55	60	80

Element
sought for

Collection

Sequential Search

- Compare the key to each element in turn, until the correct element is found, and return its index.



Sequential Search Code

Compare all elements of the collection until we find the key.

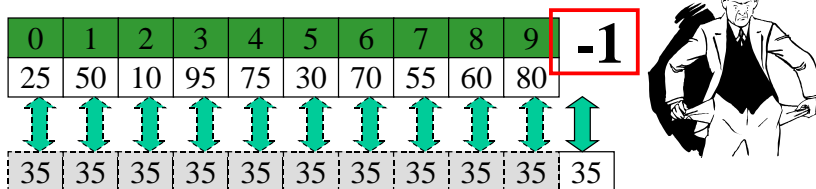
```

/* a sequential search code (first tentative) */
public static int sequential_search( int data[], int key ) {
    boolean found = false;
    int index = 0;

    while ( !found ) {
        if ( key == data[index] )
            found = true;
        else
            index = index + 1;
    }
    return index;
}
    
```

Element not found

- We must take into account that the key we are searching for may not be in the array.
- In this case we must return a special index, say -1.



Search Algorithm

INPUT: data: array of int; key: int;

OUTPUT: index : an int such that
 data[index] == key if key is in data,
 or -1 if key is not stored in data.

Method:

- index = 0; found=false;
- While (not found and index < data.length)
 check similarity data[index] and key
 index = index + 1
- if not found then index = -1;

```

/* a sequential search method */
public static int sequential_search( int data[], int key ) {
    boolean found = false;
    int index = 0;

    while ( !found && index < data.length ) {
        if ( key == data[index] )
            found = true;
        else
            index = index + 1;
    }

    if (!found) index = -1;
    return index;
}

```

Revised Sequential Search Code



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Complexity Analysis

- How efficient is this algorithm?
- In general if we have an algorithm that does something with n objects, we want to express the time efficiency of the algorithm as a function of n .
- Such an expression is called the **time complexity** of the algorithm.
- In the case of search, we can count the number of comparison operations between the key and the elements.

Worst, Best and Average cases

- In fact, we usually have multiple expressions:
 - the worst case complexity,
 - the best case complexity
 - the average case complexity.

Complexity of Sequential Search

- How many comparison operations are required for a sequential search of an n-element container?
- In the worst case → n.
- In the best case → 1.
- In the average case:

$$\frac{1+2+3+\dots+n}{n} = \frac{n(n+1)}{2n} = \frac{(n+1)}{2}$$
- In this case, we say the complexity of Search is in the order of n, denoted as $O(n)$.
- Can we improve this algorithm?



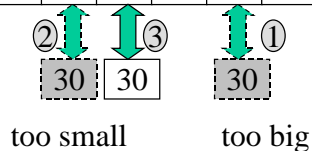
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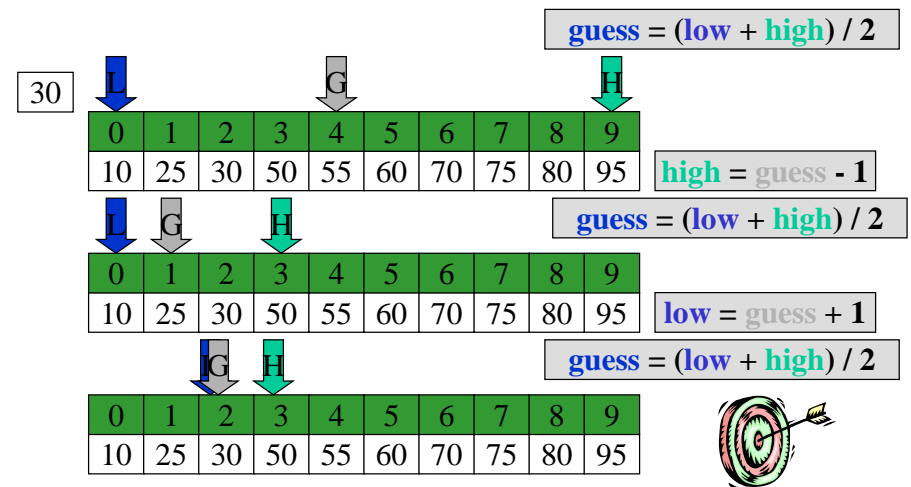
Binary Search

- If the elements are ordered, we can do better.
- Guess the middle and adjust accordingly.

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	25	30	50	55	60	70	75	80	95

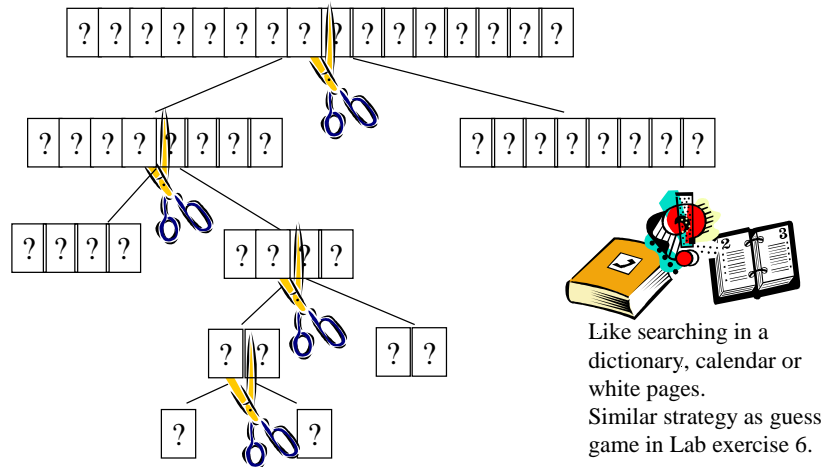


Binary Search Algorithm



Strategy of Binary Search:

Given an ordered array of integers, and a value of integer, search for the value in the array using an approach of **Divide and Conquer**.



Binary Search Code

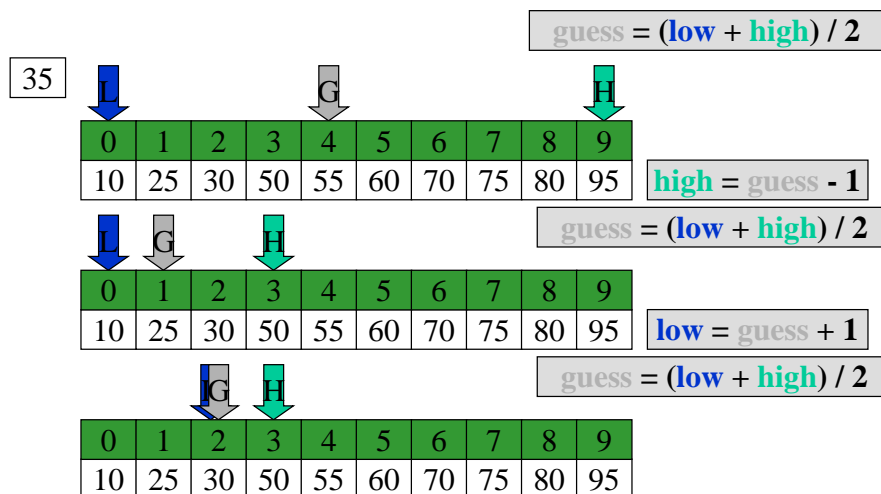
Divide in 2 between lower and upper bounds until we find the key.

/ a binary search code of ordered array (first tentative) */*

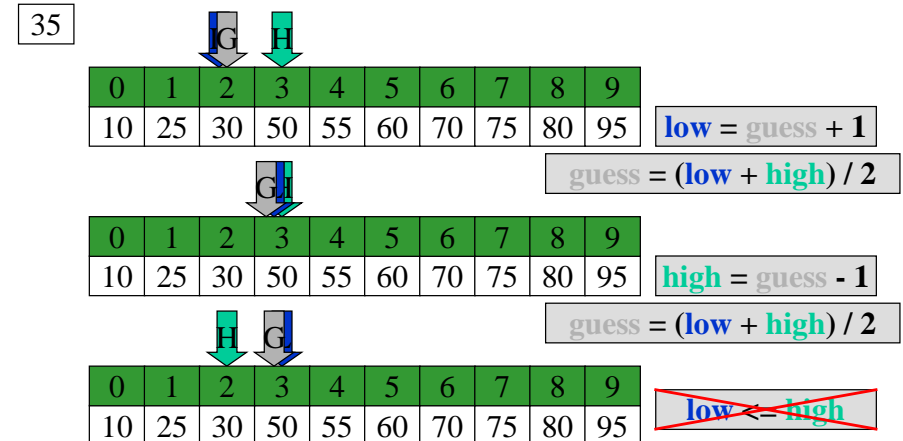
```
public static int binary_search( int data[], int key ) {
    boolean found = false;
    int guess; int low = 0; int high=data.length-1;

    while ( !found ) {
        guess = (high+low)/2;
        if ( key == data[guess] ) found = true;
        else if ( key < data[guess] ) high=guess-1;
        else low = guess+1;
    }
    return guess;
}
```

Element not found



Element not found (con't)



Binary Search Algorithm

INPUT: data: array of ordered int; key: int;
OUTPUT: index : an int such that
data[index] == key if key is in data,
or -1 if key is not stored in data.

Method:

1. lower = 0; upper = length;
2. While (not found && low <= upper)
index = (lower + upper) /2;
check similarity data[index] and key
if similar then found, otherwise
if key < data[index]
upper = index-1;
else lower = index +1;
3. If (data[index] != key) index = -1;

```
/* a binary search code of ordered array */  
public static int binary_search( int data[], int key ) {  
    boolean found = false;  
    int guess; int low = 0; int high=data.length-1;  
  
    while ( !found && low <= high) {  
        guess = (high+low)/2; ←  
        if ( key == data[guess] ) found = true;  
        else if (key < data[guess]) high=guess-1;  
        else low = guess+1;  
    }  
    if (! found) guess = -1;  
    return guess;  
}
```

**Revised Binary
Search Code**

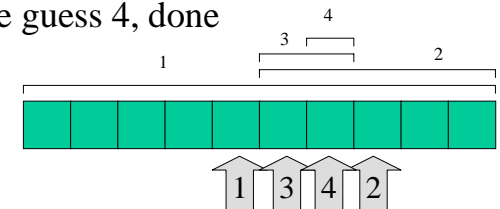
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Worst-case Binary Search

- Each time we guess, we divide the list in half:
- In the worst case:
 - 10 elements, make guess 1, then
 - 5 elements, make guess 2, then
 - 2 elements, make guess 3, then
 - 1 element, make guess 4, done



Sequential and Binary Search

- For average and worst case sequential search, it takes: $\frac{(n+1)}{2}$ and n .
- For average and worst case binary search, it takes: $\lfloor \log_2(n) \rfloor$ and $\lfloor \log_2(n) + 1 \rfloor$.

list size	Sequential average	Sequential worst	Binary average	Binary worst	Ratio
10	6	10	3	4	2
100	51	100	6	7	8
1000	501	1000	9	10	55
10000	5001	10000	13	14	384