

Lecture 6

Time Complexity of Recursive Algorithms

1. measure running time in terms of input
2. calculate Big-Oh of the function

Base case and recursive step

$$f(n) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } n = 0 \\ n \cdot f(n-1) & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

```
int fact(int n){  
    if(n==0)  
        return 1;  
    return n*fact(n-1);  
}
```

Recursive T(n)

```
int fact(int n){  
    if(n==1)  
        return 1;  
    return n*fact(n-1);  
}
```

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 2 & \text{if } n = 0 \\ T(n-1) + 4 & \text{if } n > 0 \end{cases}$$

How to get the closed form?

- expand $T(n)$
- observe progression

$$\begin{aligned}T(n) &= T(n-1) + 4 \\&= T(n-2) + 4 + 4 \\&= T(n-3) + 4 + 4 + 4 \\&= T(n-k) + 4 + 4 \text{ (k times)} \\&= 2 + 4 + 4 \dots (n \text{ times}) \\&= 2 + 4n\end{aligned}$$

$$T(n) = 2 + 4n$$

$$O(n)$$

1. obtain recursive $T(n)$
2. convert to closed form
3. obtain Big-Oh of $T(n)$

Searching for an Element

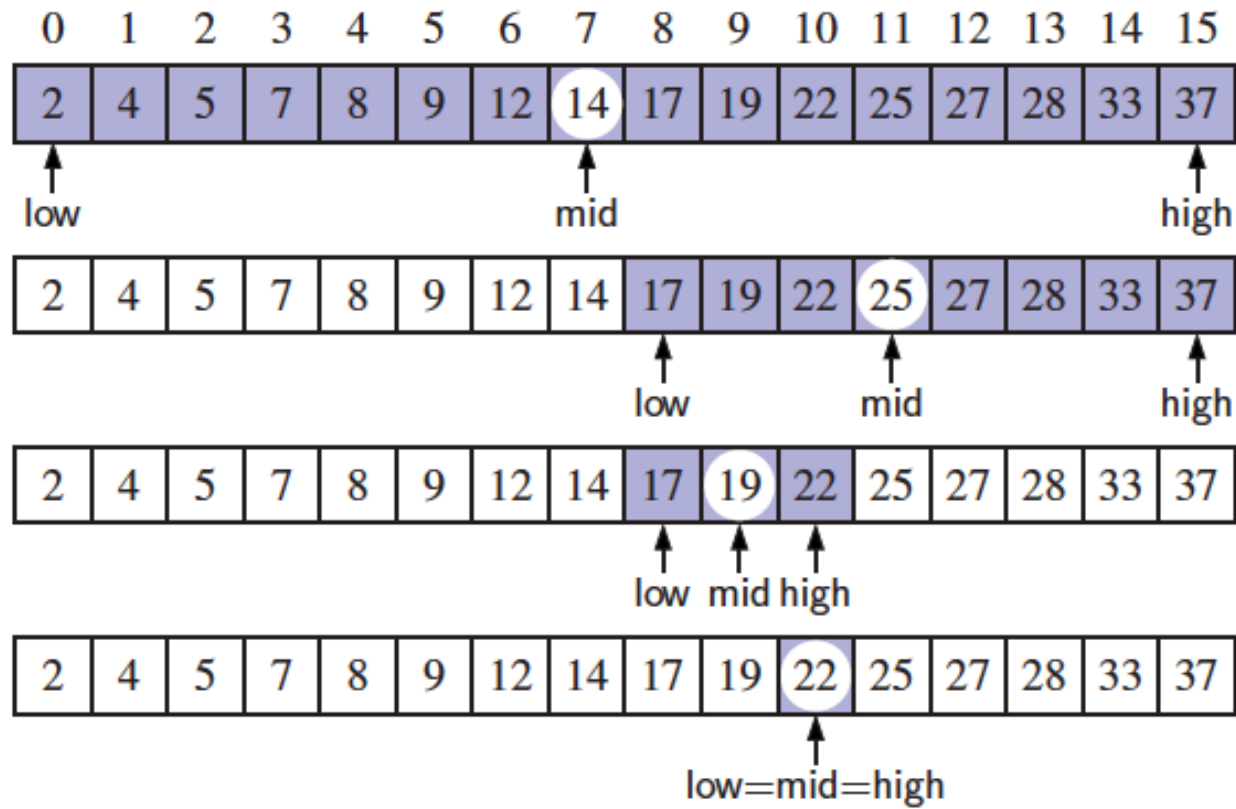
Problem: Search for an element
in a sorted array!

Naïve approach = $O(n)$

Can we do it faster?

Binary Search

```
bool binarySearch(int A[],int K, int low, int high) {  
    if (low == high)  
        return K==A[low];  
    else {  
        int mid = (low + high) / 2;  
        if (K == A[mid]) return true;  
        else if (K < A[mid])  
            return binarySearch(A, K, low, mid - 1);  
        else// (x >= A[mid])  
            return binarySearch(A, K, mid + 1, high);  
    }  
}
```



Time complexity?

```
int pow(int a, int n) {  
    if (n == 1)  
        return a;  
    return a*pow(a, n-1);  
}
```

**Exercise: write log n
algorithm for computing
powers!**

```
int pow(int a, int n) {  
    if (n == 1)  
        return a;  
    if (n % 2 == 0)  
        return pow(a*a, n/2);  
    return pow(a*a, n/2) * a;  
}
```