

Meta: strategies

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Finding the minimum x such that $f(x)$ is true (f monotonic)

```
// dernier 0 de predicat[l..r[ en supposant croissance
if (predicat(l))
    return l - 1;
while (r - l > 1) {
    int m = (l + r) / 2;
    if (predicat(m))
        r = m;
    else
        l = m;
}
return l;
```

Application: binary search on the answer

Finding the minimum x such that $v[x] \geq val$ (v sorted array)

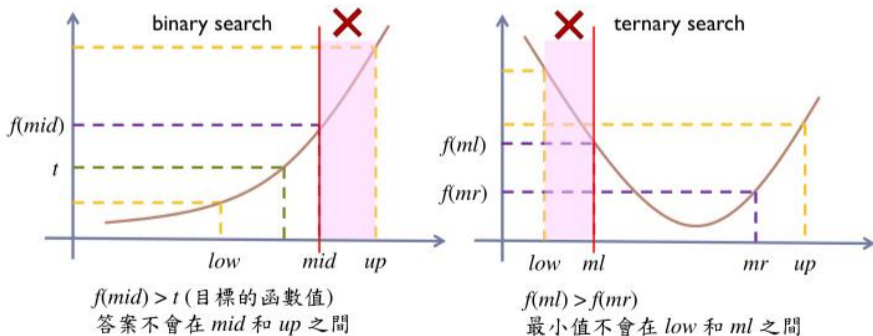
```
std::sort(v.begin(), v.end());  
// First element in [first, last) which is not less than val  
low = std::lower_bound(v.begin(), v.end(), val);  
low - v.begin();  
  
// First element in [first, last) which is greater than val  
up = std::upper_bound(v.begin(), v.end(), val);  
up - v.begin();
```

Example for $val = 20$

```
          | low = 3  
10 10 10 20 20 20 30 30  
                | up = 6
```

Finding the Minimum

- ▶ 給予 convex function f ，並已知 f 在 (low, up) 之間出現最小值，求值為何
- ▶ 像在具有單調性的函數上 binary search 的方式，不斷丟棄不可能存在答案的區間來逼進答案
 - ▶ ternary search 也是 divide and conquer



Finding the minimum of a convex function

```
//strictly increasing then strictly decreasing function f
double ternary_search(double l, double r) {
    double eps = 1e-9; //set the error limit here
    while (r - l > eps) {
        double m1 = l + (r - l) / 3;
        double m2 = r - (r - l) / 3;
        double f1 = f(m1); //evaluates the function at m1
        double f2 = f(m2) //evaluates the function at m2
        if (f1 > f2)
            l = m1;
        else
            r = m2;
    }
    return f(l); //return the maximum of f(x) in [l, r]
}
```

Enumeration

- ▶ All subsets of $\{1, \dots, n\}$
- ▶ All subsets of a subset
- ▶ All permutations
- ▶ All combinations
- ▶ All combinations such that adjacent combinations differ by one element
- ▶ All ways to put n identical objects into k labeled boxes
- ▶ All sets of positive integers that sum to N
- ▶ Backtracking: choose / explore / unchoose

References

- ▶ [Competitive Programmer's Handbook](#) book by Antti Laaksonen
- ▶ [Stanford course](#)
- ▶ [algo-en](#) by Donglai Fu