

# Data Structure and Algorithms

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## Binary Search

### 1. Leetcode 69: Sqrt(x)

Given a non-negative integer,  $x$ , return the square root of  $x$  rounded down to the nearest integer. The returned integer should be non-negative as well.

You may not use any built-in exponent function. For example, `x**0.5` in python.

Example:

```
Input: x=4
```

```
Output: 2
```

```
Input: x=8
```

```
Output: 2
```

Explanation: Square root of 4 is 2 and square root of 8 is 2.8284. But we need to round down to any fraction. Therefore, the square root of 8 is also 2.

### Solution:

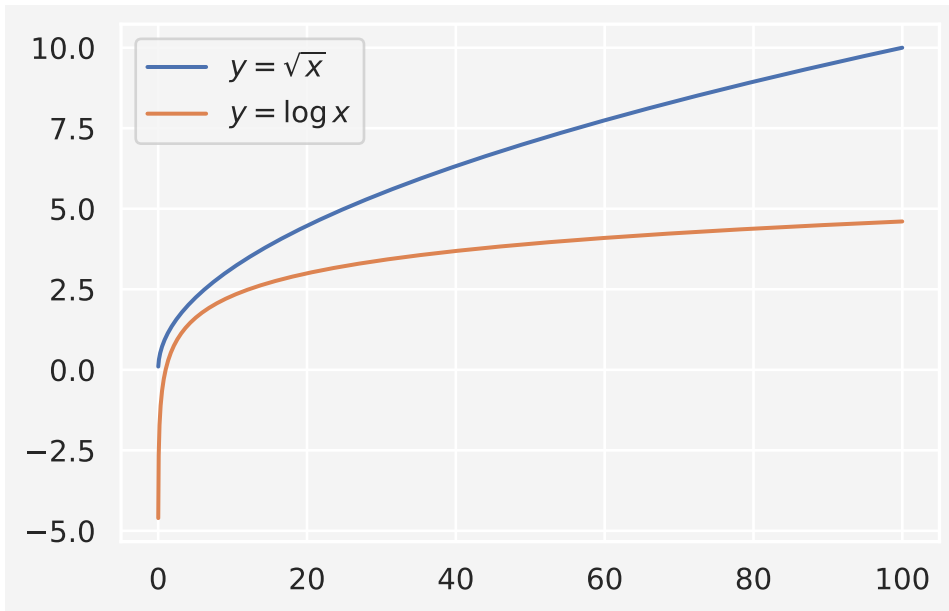
The square root of any number  $x \geq 0$  is less than or equal to  $x$ . The brute force solution to this would be  $\mathcal{O}(\sqrt{n})$ . Because, say  $x = 8$ , then

for  $i = 1$  to 8:

$$1^2 = 1 < 8$$

$$2^2 = 4 < 8$$

$$3^2 = 9 > 8$$



In contrast, if we explore binary search then the time complexity reduces to  $\mathcal{O}(\log n)$ . Say the square root is  $s$  which is the middle value in the range of 1 to  $x$ . Then if  $s^2 > x$ , we search for the root in the left half. Otherwise, if  $s^2 < x$  then we search the right side. However, when  $s^2 < x$ , then  $s$  is a possible candidate for the square root.

*Algorithm:*

1. set left value  $l = 0$ , right value  $r = x$
2. Compute the middle value  $m = l + (r - l)/2$
3. If  $m^2 > x$  then search the left side: set  $r = m - 1$
4. If  $m^2 < x$  then search the right side: set  $l = m + 1$

```
def square_root(x):
    l, r = 0, x
    sq = 0
    while l <= r:
        m = l + (r-l)//2
        if m**2 > x:
            r = m-1
        elif m**2 < x:
            l = m+1
            sq = m
        else:
```

```
    return m
    return sq

print(square_root(6))
```

2

2. item

3. item