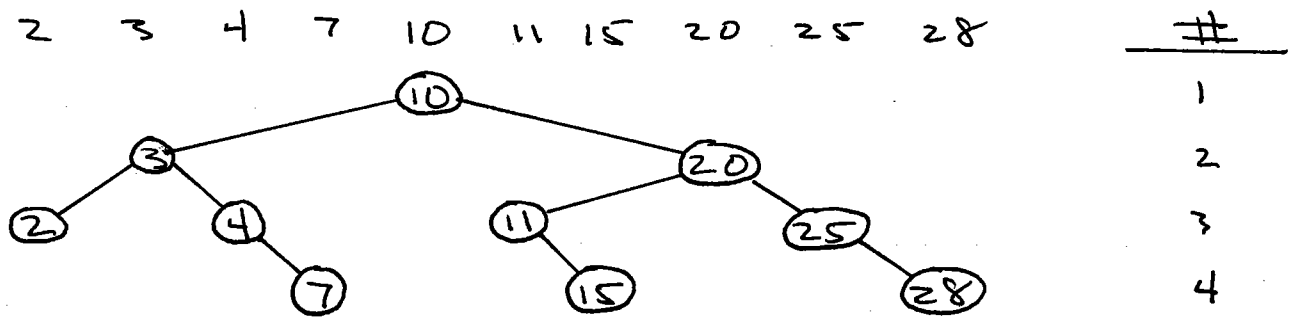


Ex.



AT A GLANCE WE SEE THAT AT WORST 4 COMPARISONS ARE PERFORMED, WHILE ON AVERAGE THERE ARE

$$\frac{1 \cdot 1 + 2 \cdot 2 + 4 \cdot 3 + 3 \cdot 4}{10} = 2.9$$

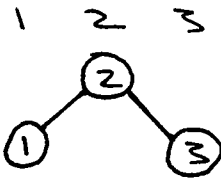
COMPARISONS. CLEARLY THERE IS AT BEST 1 COMPARISON FOR ANY LIST.

LET  $W(n)$  DENOTE THE WORST CASE NUMBER OF COMPARISONS PERFORMED ON A LIST OF LENGTH  $n$ . THE PREVIOUS EXAMPLE SHOWS THAT  $W(10) = 4$ .

WE WILL FIND A GENERAL FORMULA FOR  $W(n)$ . NOTE HOWEVER THAT  $W(n)$  DEPENDS ONLY ON  $n$ , AND NOT ON THE PARTICULAR NUMBERS IN THE LIST. WE THEREFORE ALWAYS TAKE THE LIST TO BE  $1, 2, 3, \dots, n$ .

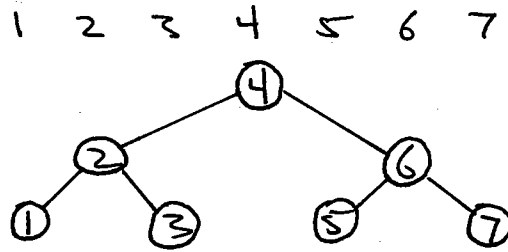
OBSERVE

$n=3$ :



$w(3) = 2$

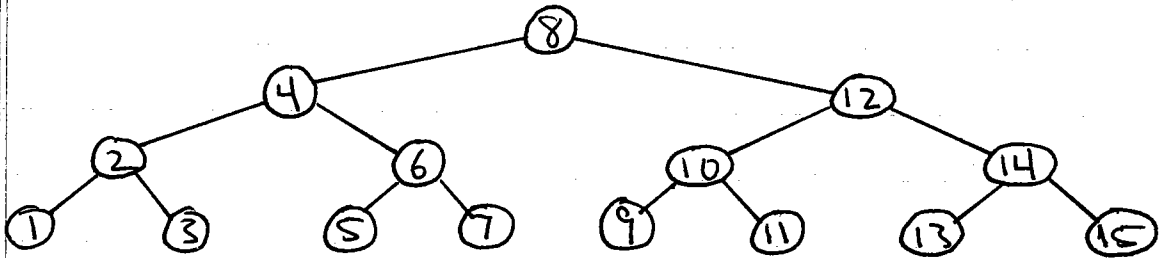
$n=7$ :



$w(7) = 3$

$n=15$ :  $w(15) = 4$

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15



OBSERVE THAT IF  $n = 2^k - 1$  THEN THE CORRESPONDING TREE IS COMPLETE (I.E. EACH NODE HAS DEGREE 0 OR 2), AND HAS DEPTH  $k$ , WHENCE  $w(n) = k$ .

THEOREM

IF  $2^{k-1} - 1 < n \leq 2^k - 1$ , THEN THE NUMBER OF COMPARISONS PERFORMED BY BINARY SEARCH ON ANY LIST OF LENGTH  $n$  IS AT WORST:

$w(n) = k$

WE WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS  $W(n)$  AS  
A FORMULA INVOLVING  $n$  ONLY, TO THIS  
END WE INTRODUCE LOGARITHMS

DEFN!

LET  $b > 1$ ,  $x > 0$ ; THEN  $\log_b(x)$  IS DEFINED  
TO BE THE POWER YOU MUST RAISE  $b$   
TO, TO GET  $x$ . i.e.

$$y = \log_b(x) \iff x = b^y$$

EX.  $\log_2 9 = 2$       SINCE  $3^2 = 9$   
 $\log_5 125 = 3$       "       $5^3 = 125$   
 $\log_{10}(10000) = 4$       "       $10^4 = 10000$   
 $\log_2(32) = 5$       "       $2^5 = 32$

THE NUMBER  $b$  IS CALLED THE BASE.  
CERTAIN BASES HAVE A SPECIAL NOTATION.

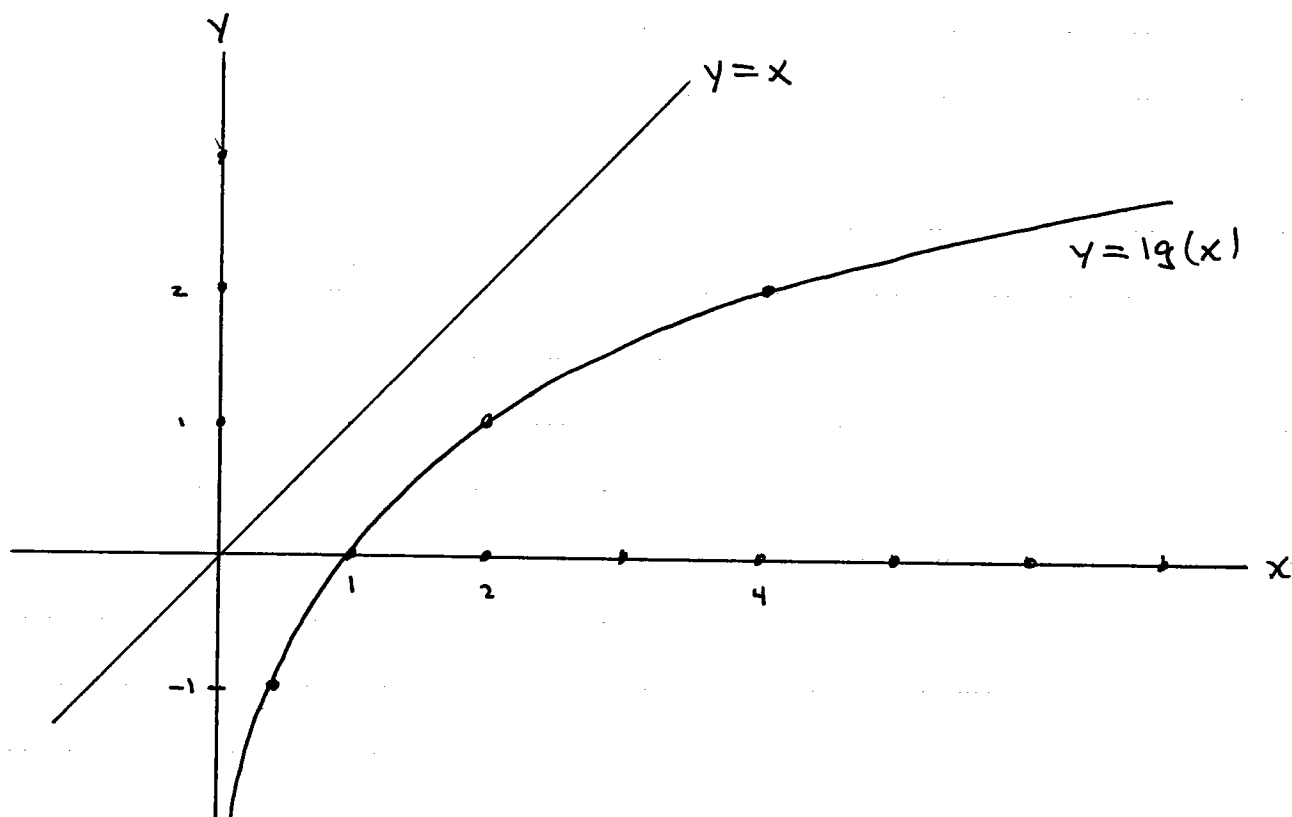
COMMON log OR NAPERIAN log:  $\log_{10}$  (WRITE  $\log$ )

NATURAL log:  $\log_e$  (WRITE  $\ln$ ) WHERE  
 $e = 2.71828\dots$

BINARY log:  $\log_2$  (WRITE  $\lg$ )

$\lg = \log_2$  IS MOST OFTEN USED IN  
COMPUTER SCIENCE.

Ex.  $\lg(1) = 0, \lg(2) = 1, \lg(4) = 2, \dots, \lg(2^k) = k$



OBSERVE THAT  $\lg(n) < n$  FOR ALL  $n > 0$ .  
 $\lg(n)$  GROWS VERY SLOWLY WITH  $n$ , AND  
 ANY ALGORITHM WHOSE RUNNING TIME IS  
 $\Theta(\lg(n))$  IS CONSIDERED VERY EFFICIENT.

RECALL THE PREVIOUS THEOREM :

$$2^{k-1} - 1 < n \leq 2^k - 1 \iff w(n) = k$$

TO FIND  $k$  AS A FUNCTION OF  $n$   
 WE MANIPULATE THE INEQUALITY

$$2^{k-1} < n+1 \leq 2^k$$

THEN APPLY  $\lg$  TO EACH TERM :

$$\lg(2^{k-1}) < \lg(n+1) \leq \lg(2^k)$$

$$\therefore k-1 < \lg(n+1) \leq k$$

THUS  $k = \lceil \lg(n+1) \rceil$ . AN EASY EXERCISE SHOWS THAT

$$\lceil \lg(n+1) \rceil = \lfloor \lg(n) \rfloor + 1$$

THUS THE WORST CASE NUMBER OF COMPARISONS FOR BINARY SEARCH IS

$$W(n) = \lfloor \lg(n) \rfloor + 1$$

A MOMENT'S THOUGHT SHOULD CONVINCE YOU THAT  $\lfloor \lg(n) \rfloor + 1 = \Theta(\lg(n))$

THUS BINARY SEARCH HAS RUNNING TIME  $\Theta(\lg(n))$ , WHICH IS SUPERIOR TO THE TIME  $\Theta(n)$  FOR SEQUENTIAL SEARCH.

### EXERCISE

LET  $n = 2^k - 1$ . FIND THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF COMPARISONS DONE BY BINARY SEARCH UNDER THE ASSUMPTION THAT TARGET IS IN THE LIST.

ANSWER:

$$A(n) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n i \cdot 2^{i-1}}{n} = \lg(n+1) - 1 + \frac{\lg(n+1)}{n}$$

↑
↑  
 EASY                      HARD

THUS THE AVERAGE RUNNING TIME FOR BINARY SEARCH IS ALSO  $\Theta(\lg(n))$ .

SUPPOSE WE HAVE AN UNSORTED LIST WE WISH TO SEARCH. WE COULD USE SEQUENTIAL SEARCH IN  $\Theta(n)$  TIME, OR WE COULD DO SELECTION SORT FOLLOWED BY BINARY SEARCH IN

$$\Theta(n^2 + \lg(n)) = \Theta(n^2)$$

TIME, WHICH IS APPARENTLY WORSE.

BUT OBSERVE THAT FOR MANY APPLICATIONS WE ONLY SORT ONCE, WHILE WE SEARCH MANY TIMES.

WHICH COMBINATION WE PREFER DEPENDS ON HOW MANY TIMES WE INTEND TO SEARCH.

