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Linear Search

Searching

Searching

- ❑ Searching is the process of finding the location of the specified element in a list.
- ❑ Searching in data structure refers to the process of finding the required information from a collection of items stored as elements in the computer memory. These sets of items are in different forms, such as an array, linked list, graph, or tree.

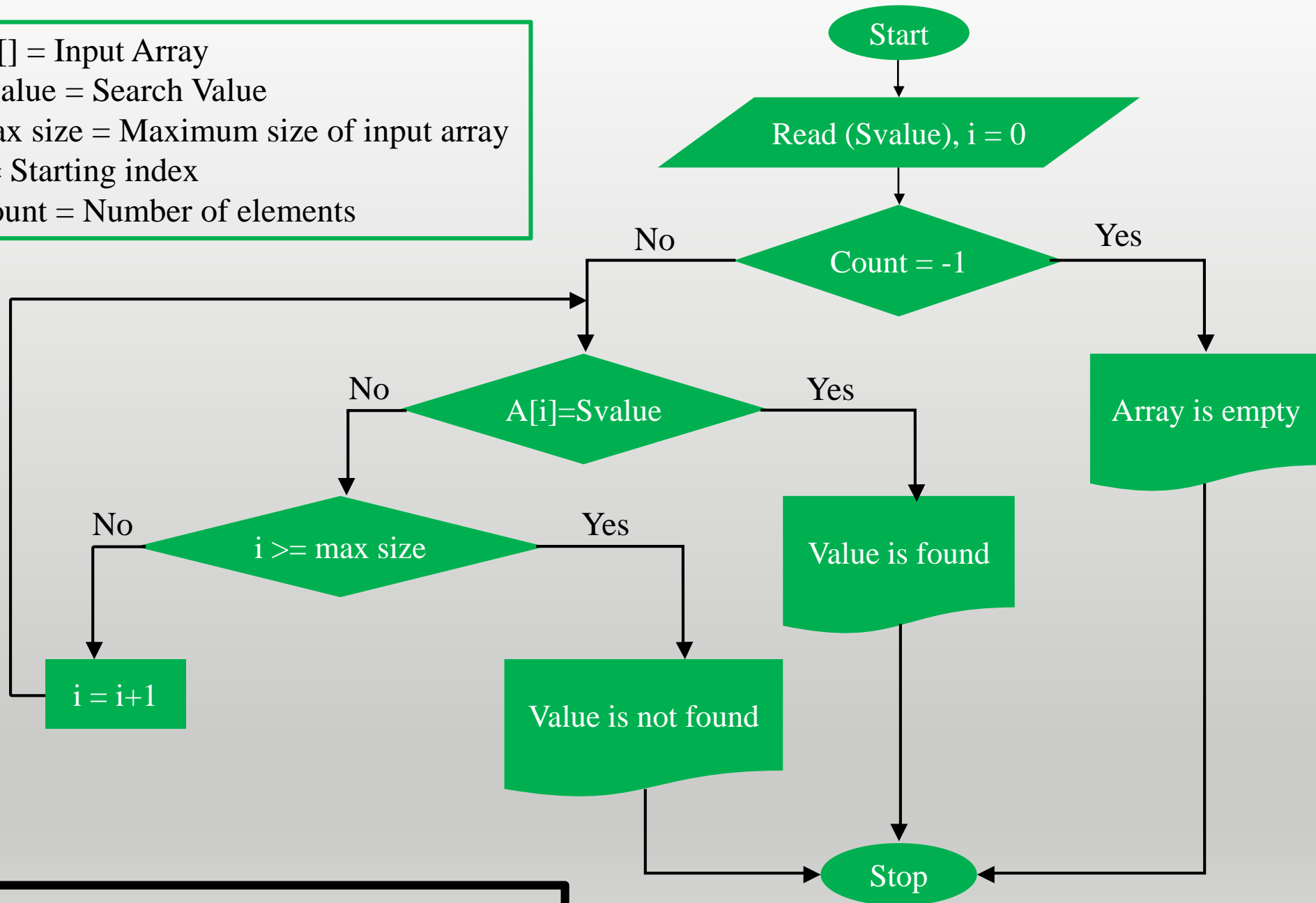
Searching

- Types of searching:
 - Array search
 - Linear search/Sequential search
 - Binary search/Interval search
 - Tree or graph search
 - BFS (Breadth First Search)
 - DFS (Depth First Search)

Linear Searching

- A **linear search or sequential search** is a method for finding an element within a list. **It sequentially checks each element of the list until a match is found or the whole list has been searched.**

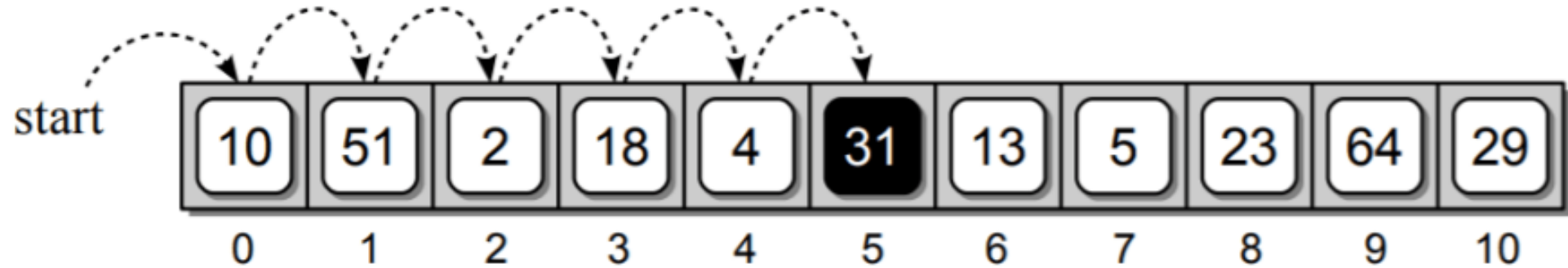
A [] = Input Array
Svalue = Search Value
max size = Maximum size of input array
i = Starting index
Count = Number of elements



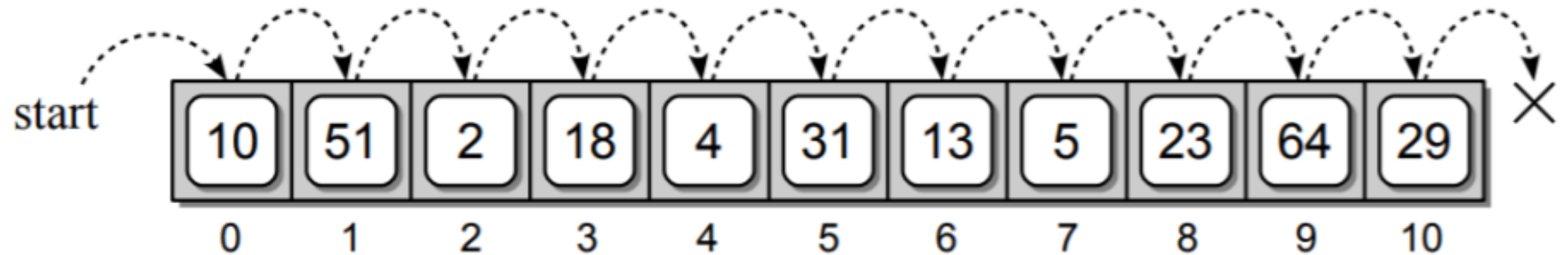
Flowchart of Linear Search

Linear Searching

(a) Searching for 31



(b) Searching for 8



Linear Searching Complexity

- **Worst-case complexity: $O(n)$** – This case occurs when the search element is not present in the array.
- **Best case complexity: $O(1)$** – This case occurs when the first element is the element to be searched.
- **Average complexity: $O(n)$** – This means when an element is present somewhere in the middle of the array.

Thank You

Any Question ?