

In this talk, we study the behaviour of selection algorithms that are based on dichotomy principles. On the entry formed by an ordered list L and a searched element $x \notin L$, they return the interval of the list L the element x belongs to. We focus here on the case of words, where dichotomy principles lead to a selection algorithm designed by Crochemore, Hancart and Lecroq, which appears to be “quasi-optimal”. We perform a probabilistic analysis of this algorithm that exhibits its quasi-optimality on average.