



# EE2331 Data Structures and Algorithms

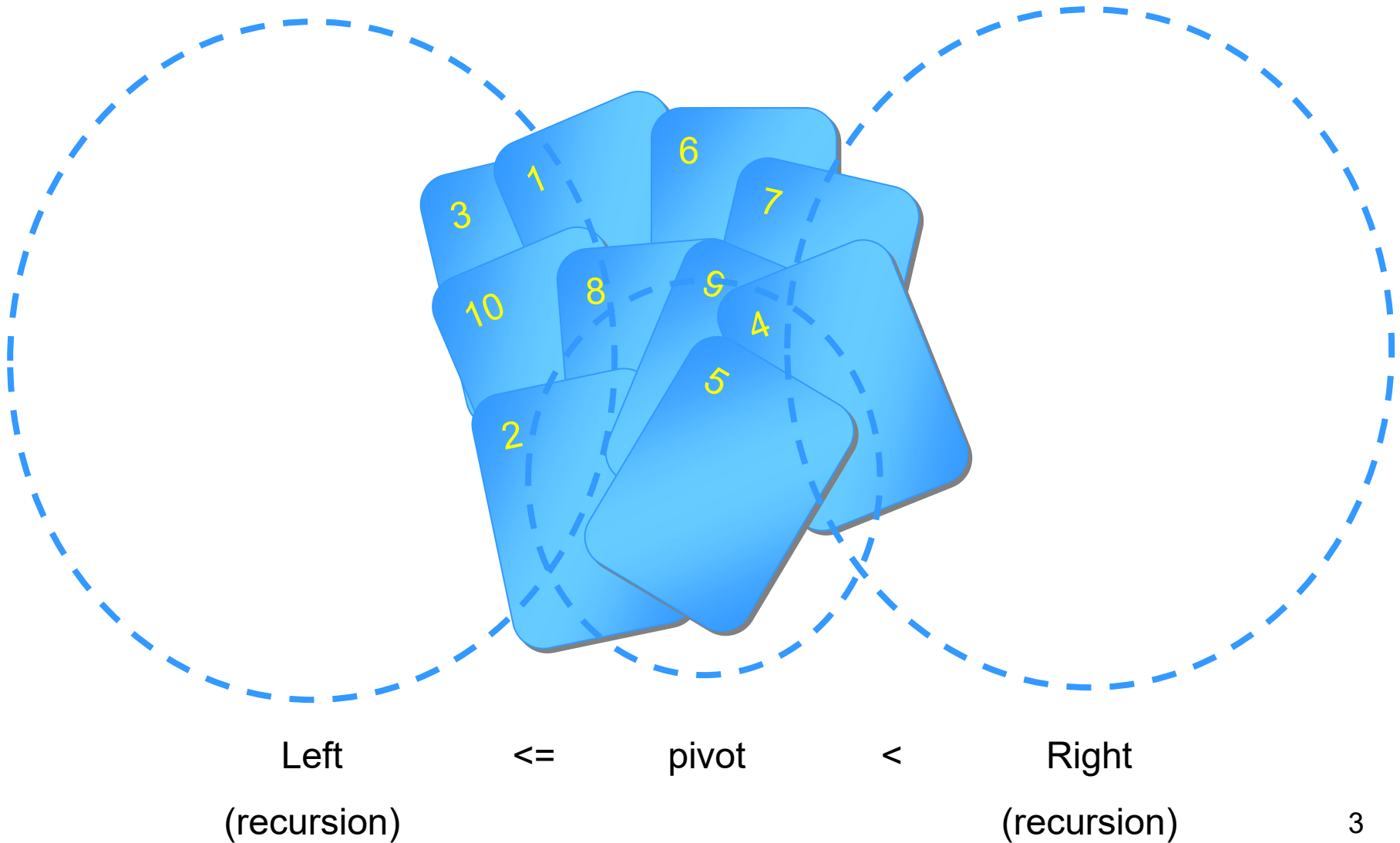
quick sort

# Quicksort

The fastest known comparison-based  
sorting algorithm

Divide-and-conquer algorithm

# Quicksort



# Basic algorithm of quicksort

- Step 1: choose a pivot
- Step 2: partition the input array into low and high subarrays (divide)
- Step 3: recursively sort low and high subarrays (conquer)

Low: elements  $\leq$  pivot

High: elements  $>$  pivot

# Example of partition

Input array: {13, 81, 92, 43, 65, 31, 57, 26, 75, 0}

Assume pivot = 65. Partition this array using the pivot 65:

{13 0 43 31 26 5} 65 {92 75 81}

65 is in its correct position in a fully sorted array.

In-class exercise:

Provide a strategy (algorithm) for partition. Use pseudocode or English.

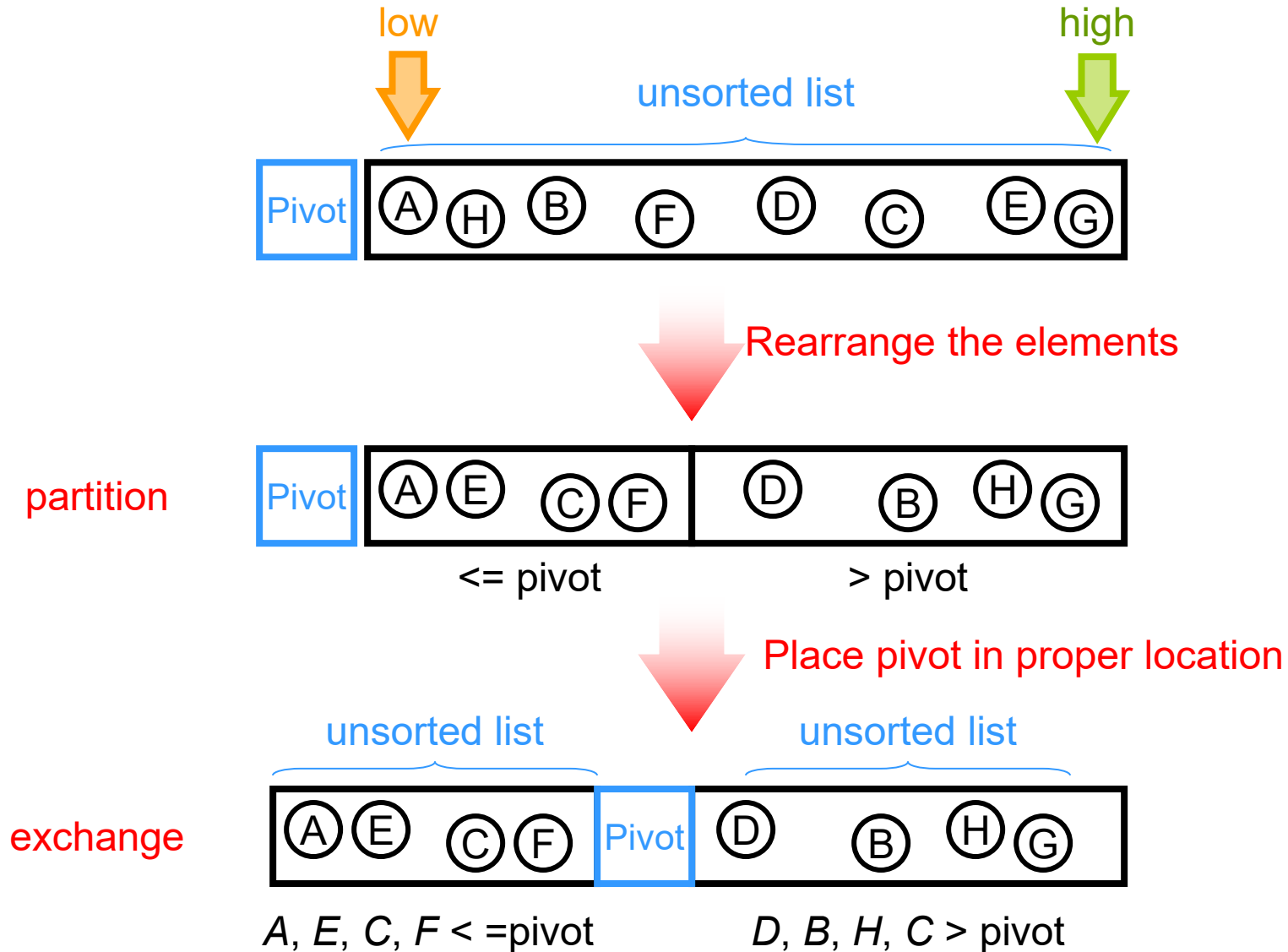
Input: an array (data[]) and a pivot (x).

Output: the array after partition

# Exchange and Partition

- A.K.A. *partition-exchange sort*
  - Step 1) Exchange, then Step 2) Partition
- If the list has one or no elements (**base case**)
  - Do nothing (as already sorted)
- If the list has two or more elements (assume non-duplicate)
  - Pick an element as the **pivot**
  - Place the elements **smaller** than the pivot **before** it and the elements **larger** than the pivot **after** it (in any order) (**by iteration**)
  - Sort the sublist before the pivot (**by recursion**)
  - Sort the sublist after the pivot (**by recursion**)

# The General Concept



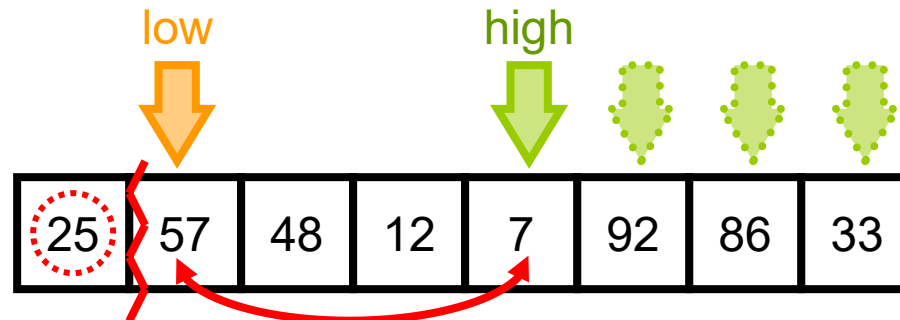
# Quicksort Example

Select the first element as pivot      Search for elements greater than pivot      Search for elements smaller than pivot

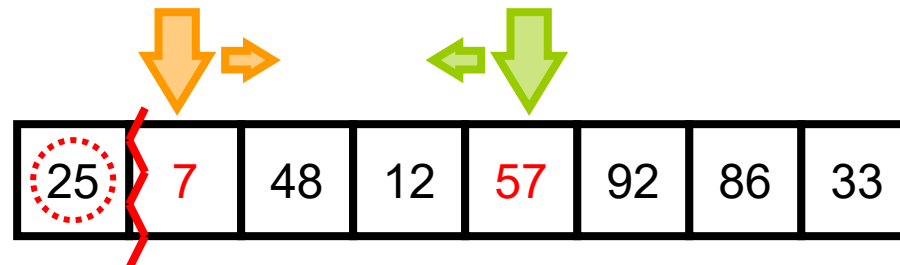
The original array:



exchange them

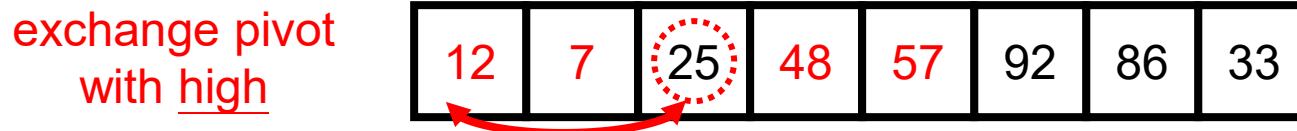
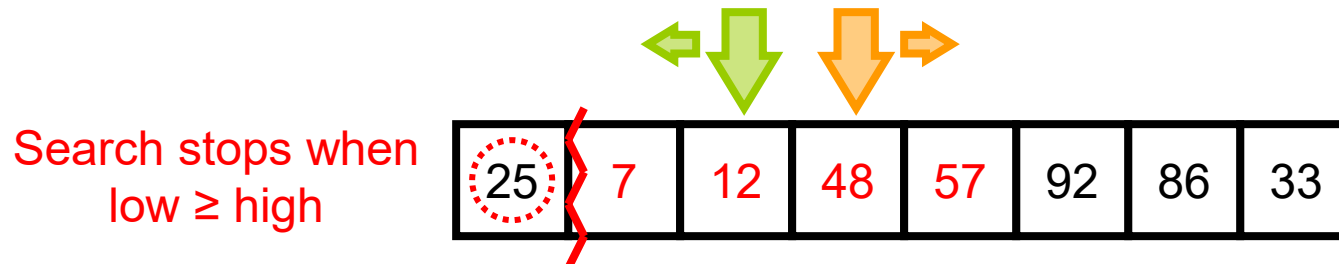
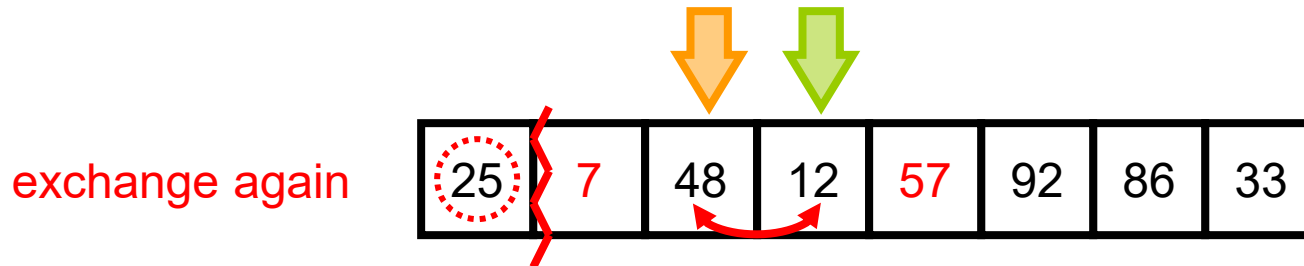
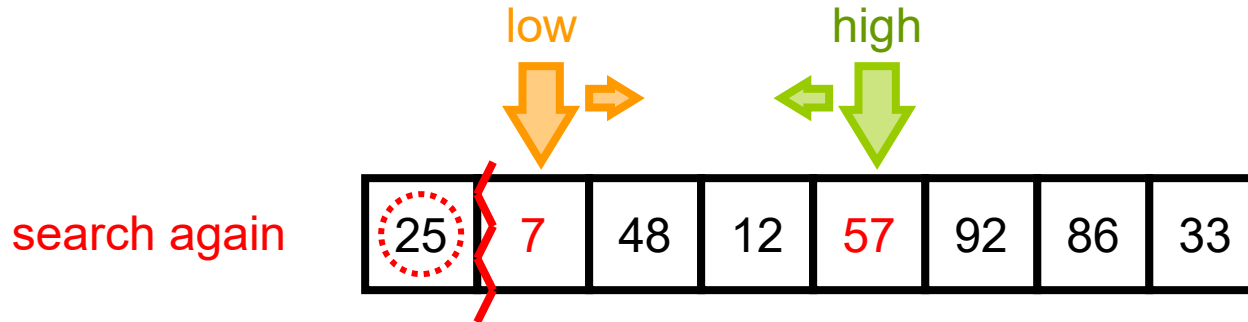


after exchange

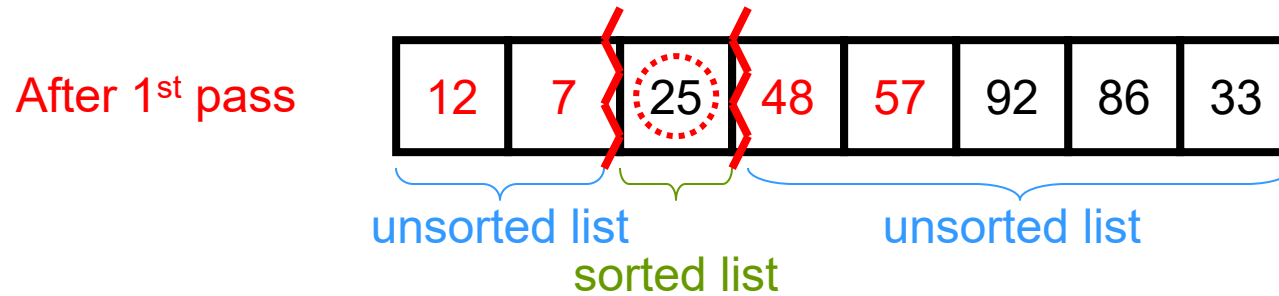




# Quicksort Example



# Quicksort Example



$\{12, 7\} < 25 \leq \{48, 57, 92, 86, 33\}$

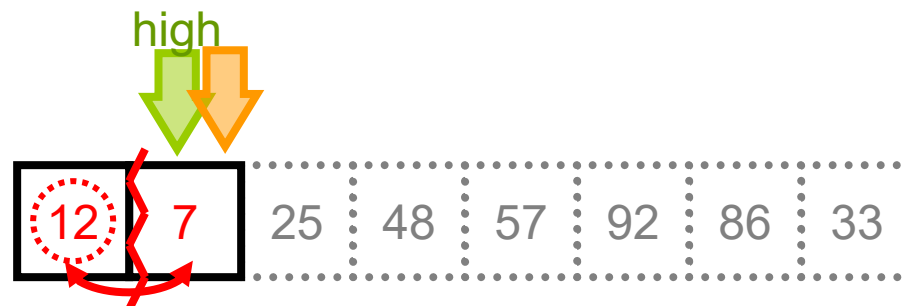
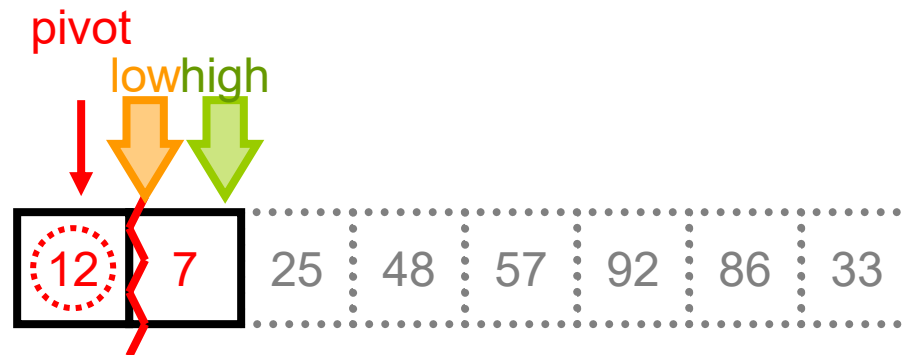
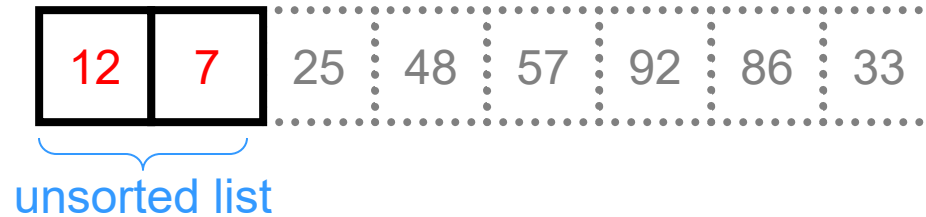
sort recursively

sort recursively

Diagram illustrating the recursive sorting process. The left subarray {12, 7} and the right subarray {48, 57, 92, 86, 33} are both labeled "sort recursively" with red arrows pointing to them.

# Sort the Left Sublist

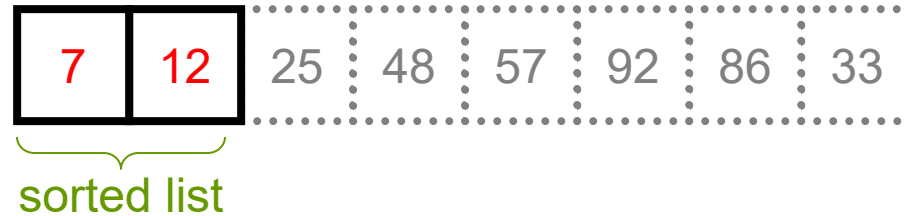
Sort the left sublist



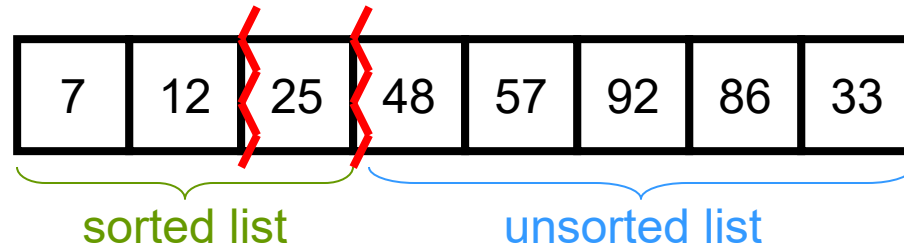
Because  $low == high$ , no searching is needed.

# Sort the Left Sublist

Exchange pivot  
with high



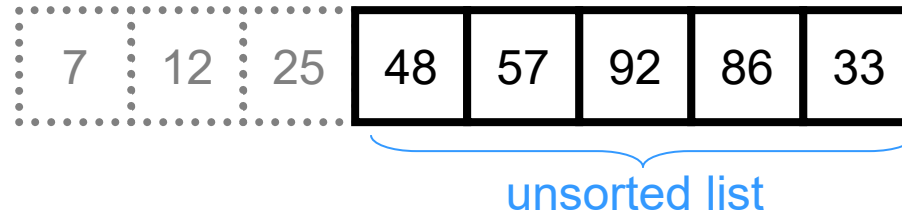
Combining the array



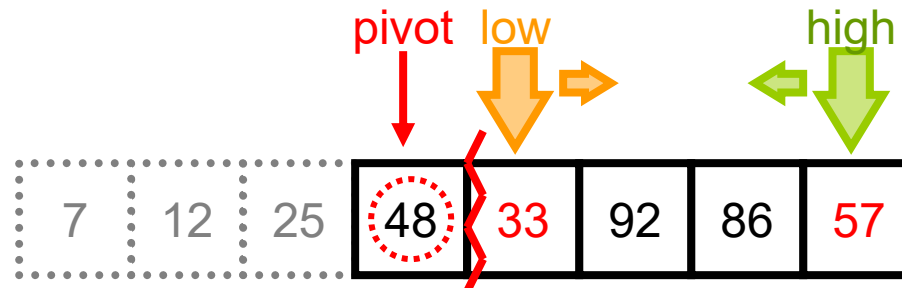
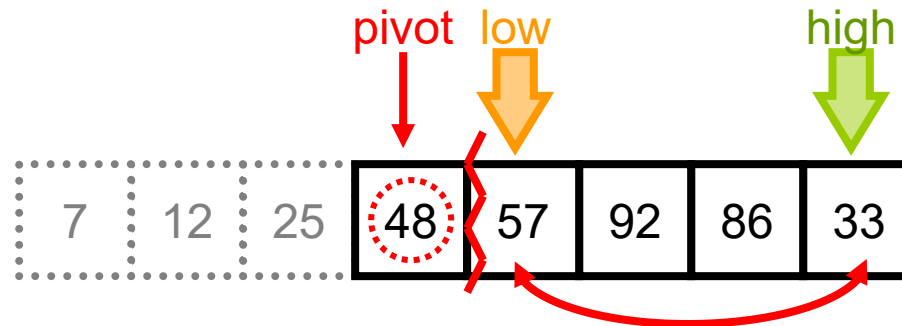
$$\{7, 12, 25\} \leq \{48, 57, 92, 86, 33\}$$

sort recursively

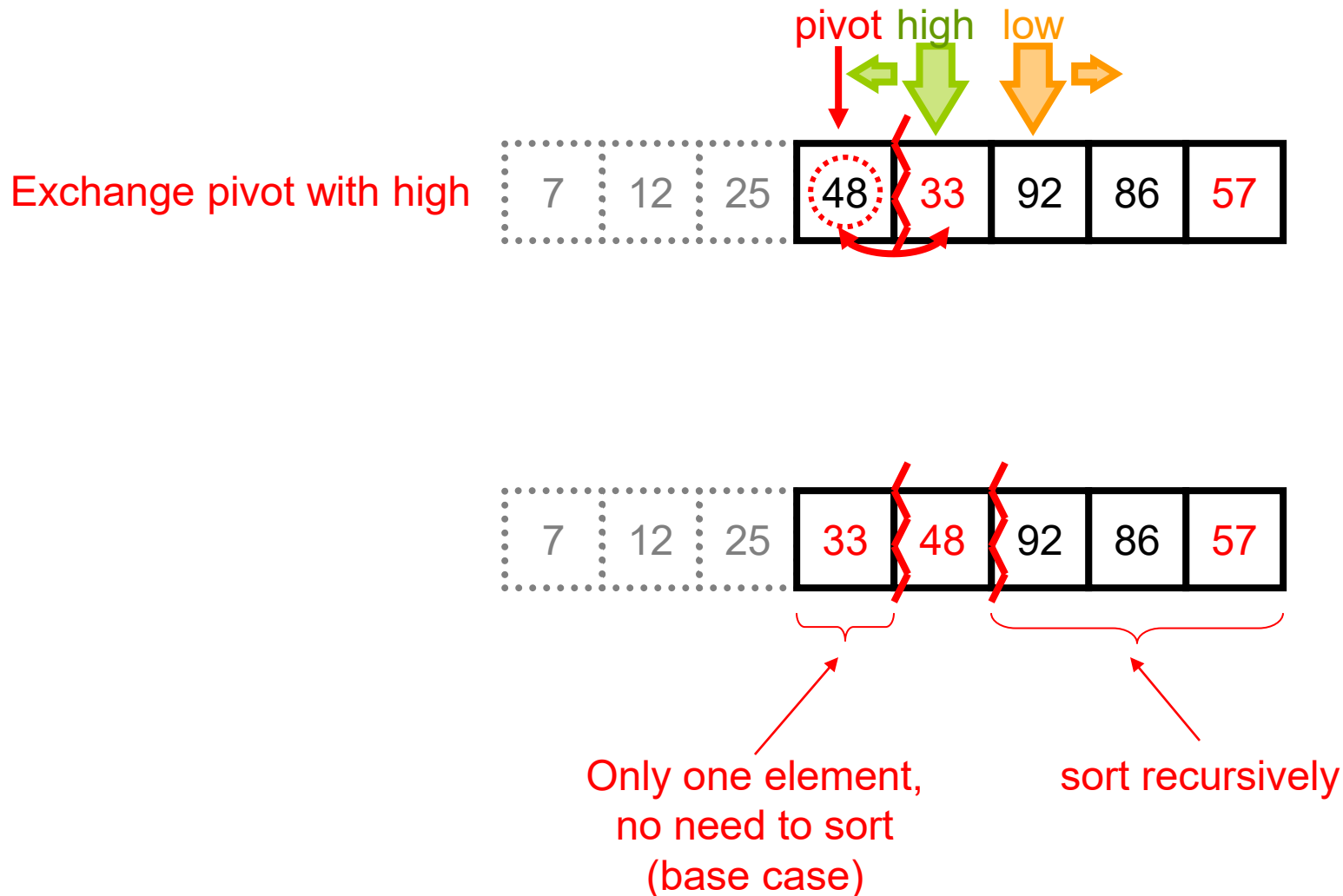
# Sort the Right Sublist



Search and exchange

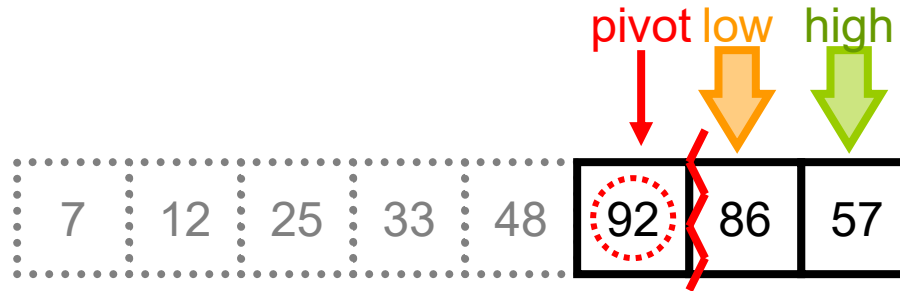


# Sort the Right Sublist

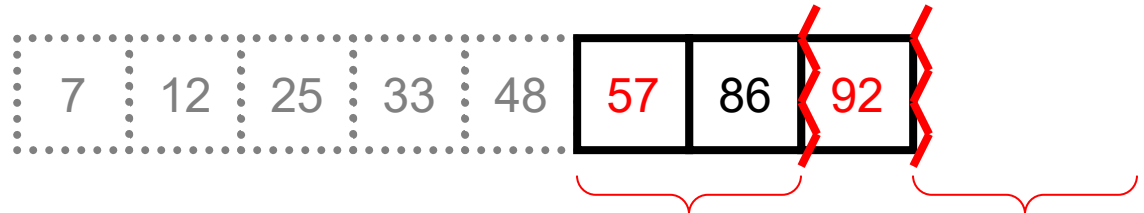
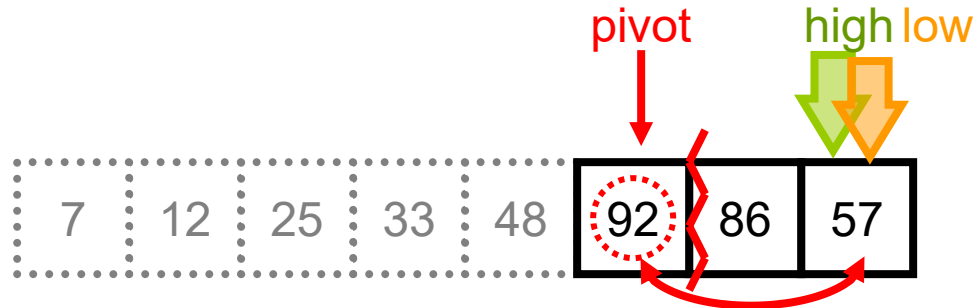


# Sort Another Right Sublist

Select the pivot, low and high before searching



Exchange pivot with high

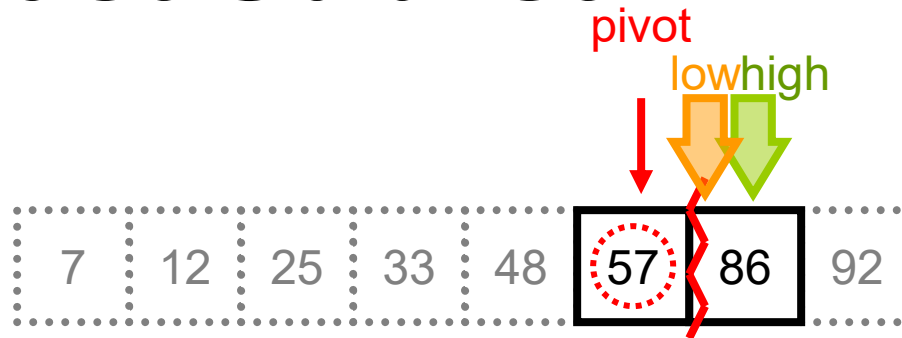


Sort this recursively

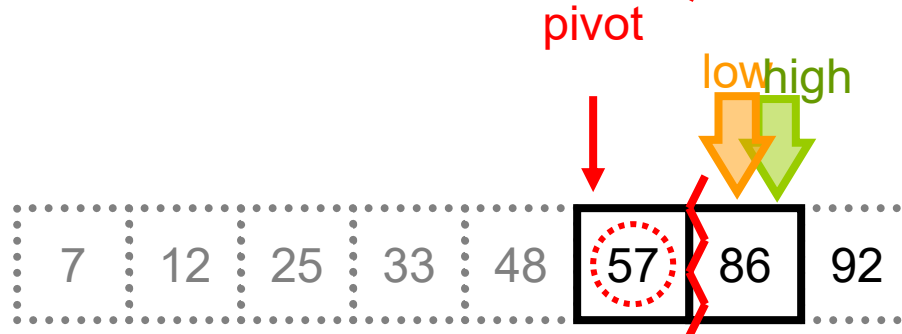
No need to sort  
(base case)

# Sort the Last Sublist

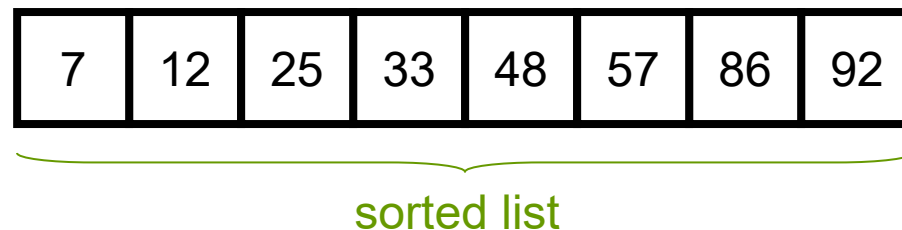
Select the pivot, low and high before searching



Low=high, no need to search.  $\text{Data}[\text{pivot}] < \text{data}[\text{high}]$ , no need to swap either

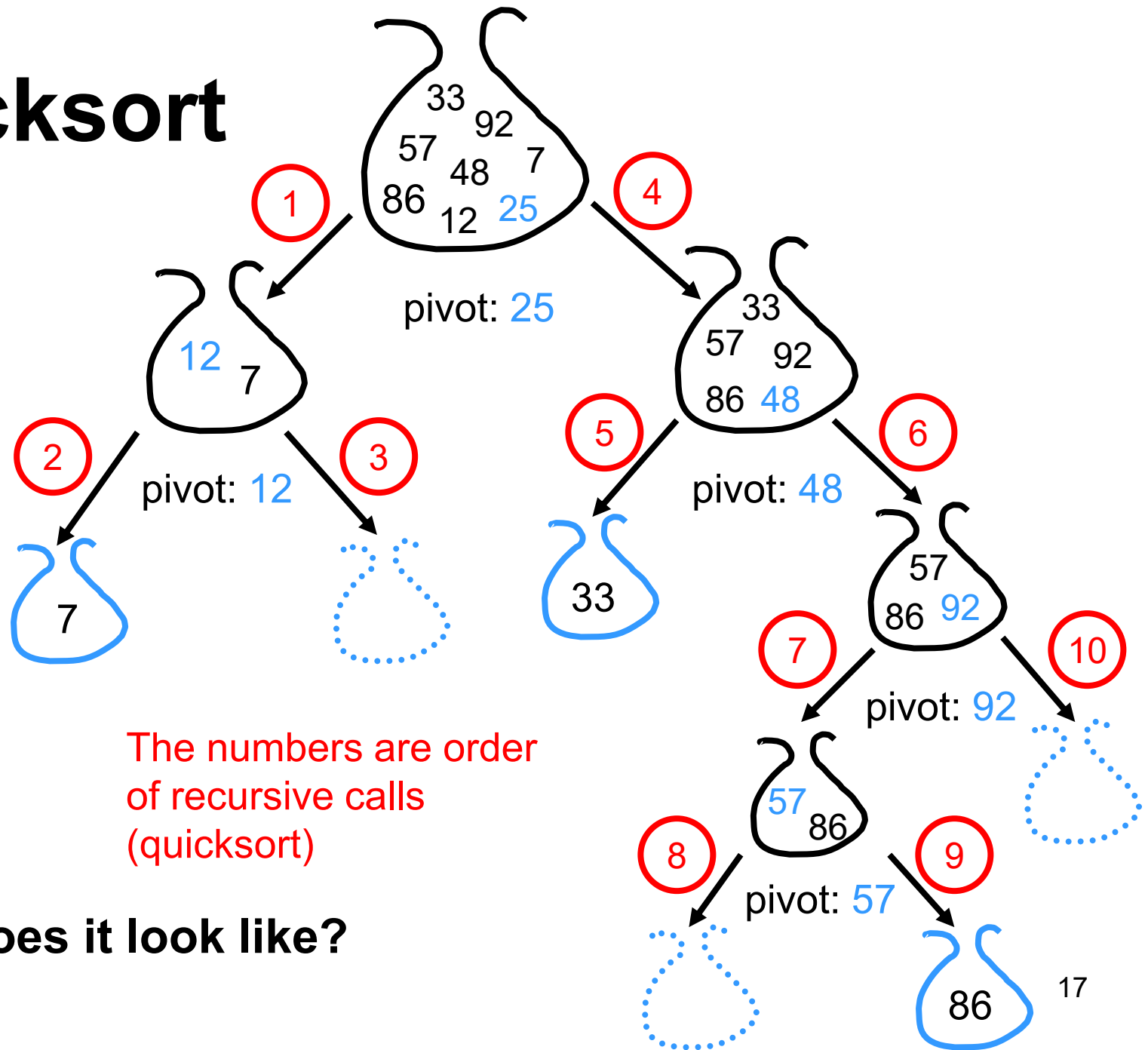


Finally, the list is sorted correctly





# Quicksort



What does it look like?

# Quicksort

- Divide-and-conquer sorting algorithm
- e.g. the unsorted array is  $\text{data}[p \dots r]$
- Divide Stage
  - **Exchange** and **partition** the array  $\text{data}[]$  into **three sub-arrays**:  $\text{data}[p \dots q-1]$ ,  $\text{data}[q]$  and  $\text{data}[q+1 \dots r]$  such that
  - All element in  $\text{data}[p \dots q-1]$  is less than or equal to  $\text{data}[q]$ , and
  - All element in  $\text{data}[q+1 \dots r]$  is greater than  $\text{data}[q]$

# Quicksort

## ■ Conquer Stage

- The two sub-arrays  $\text{data}[p \dots q-1]$  and  $\text{data}[q+1 \dots r]$  are sorted recursively

## ■ Combine Stage

- The sub-arrays are sorted **in place**
- No extra memory needed (except swapping)
- No work is need to combine them

# The Procedure

```
void quicksort(int data[], int p, int r) { // p: start, r: end index
    int pivot, low, high, q;
```

```
    if (p >= r) return; //base case
```

```
    pivot = p; //set first element as pivot
```

```
    low = p + 1;
```

```
    high = r;
```

```
    while (low < high) {
```

```
        while(data[low] <= data[pivot] && low < r) low++;
```

```
        while(data[high] > data[pivot] && high > p) high--;
```

```
        if (low < high) swap(data[low], data[high]);
```

```
    }
```

```
    if (data[pivot] > data[high]) //swap pivot with high
```

```
        swap(data[pivot], data[high]);
```

```
    q = high;
```

```
    quicksort(data, p, q-1);
```

```
    quicksort(data, q+1, r);
```

divide  
(exchange  
& partition)  
(iteration)

conquer  
(recursion)

```
}
```

In-class exercise:

Apply the quicksort algorithm to array {13, 26, 31, 43, 57}.

Show the content of the array in each step.

```
void quicksort(int data[], int p, int r) { // p: start, r: end index
    int pivot, low, high, q;

    if (p >= r) return; //base case

    pivot = p;           //set first element as pivot
    low = p + 1;
    high = r;

    while (low < high) {
        while(data[low] <= data[pivot] && low < r) low++;
        while(data[high] > data[pivot] && high > p) high--;
        if (low < high) swap(data[low], data[high]);
    }
    if (data[pivot] > data[high]) //swap pivot with high
        swap(data[pivot], data[high]);

    q = high;
    quicksort(data, p, q-1);
    quicksort(data, q+1, r);
}
```

# A “visualization” of quicksort

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3San3uKKHgg>

Question: is the above the same as our quicksort?

# Running time analysis

```
T(n) void quicksort(int data[], int p, int r) { // p: start, r: end index
      int pivot, low, high, q;

      1 if (p >= r) return; //base case

      {
        pivot = p; //set first element as pivot
        low = p + 1;
        high = r;

        while (low < high) {
          while(data[low] <= data[pivot] && low < r) low++;
          while(data[high] > data[pivot] && high > p) high--;
          if (low < high) swap(data[low], data[high]);
        }
        if (data[pivot] > data[high]) //swap pivot with high
          swap(data[pivot], data[high]);

        q = high;
        T(|low|) quicksort(data, p, q-1);
        T(|high|) quicksort(data, q+1, r);
      }
}
```

# Running time analysis

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 1, & n = 0 \text{ or } 1 \\ 1 + n + T(|\text{low}|) + T(|\text{high}|), & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

■ Best case analysis:

$$|\text{low}| = |\text{high}| = \frac{n}{2}$$

$$T(n) = 1 + n + T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) = 1 + n + 2T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)$$

Refer to the merge sort analysis:

$$T(n) = O(n \log_2 n)$$



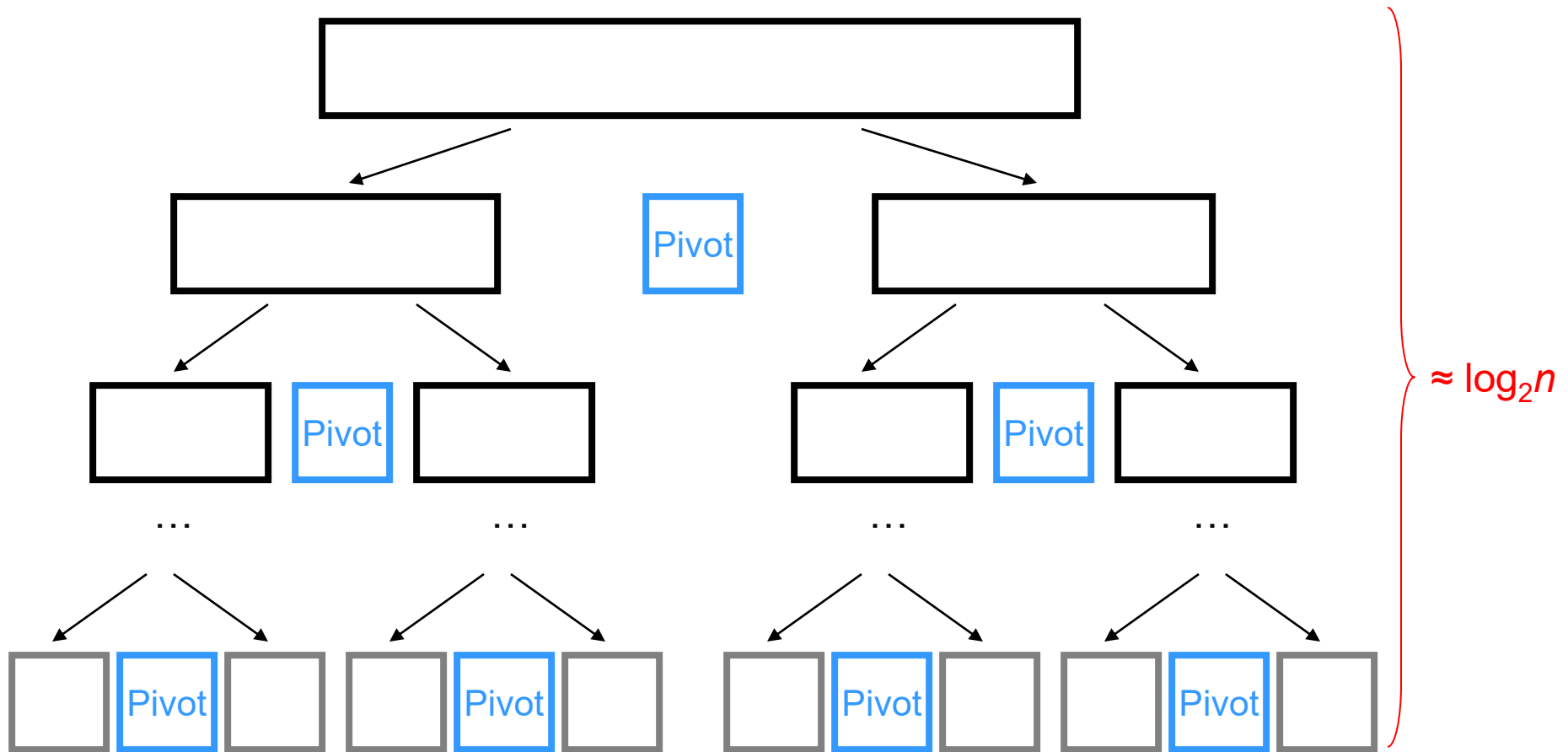
# Running time analysis

■ Worst case analysis:

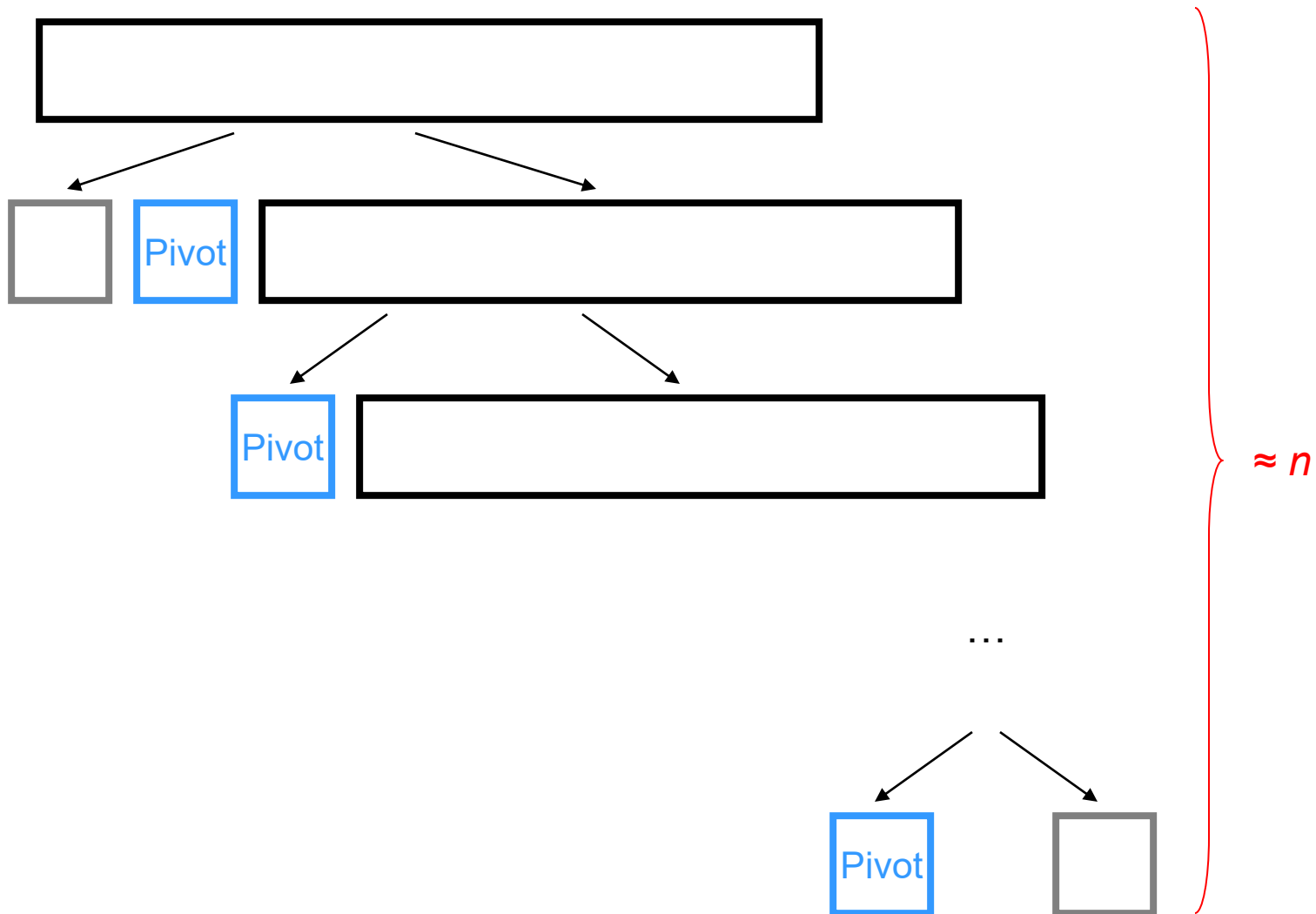
$$|\text{low}| = n - 1 \text{ or } |\text{high}| = n - 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= 1 + n + T(|\text{low}|) + T(|\text{high}|) \\ &= 1 + n + T(n - 1) + T(0) \\ &= T(n - 1) + n + 2 \\ &= T(n - 2) + n + 1 + n + 2 \\ &= \dots \dots \\ &= O(n^2) \end{aligned}$$

# A Good Pivot

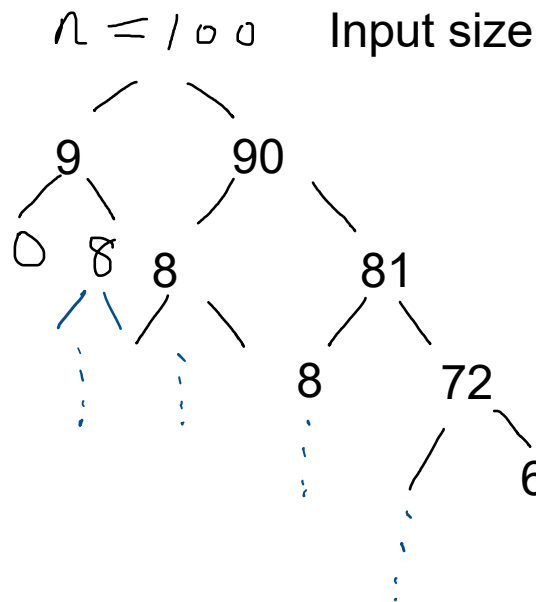


# A Bad Pivot



# Average (what if we are generally bad)

$$T(n) = n+1 + T(\underline{9/10} n) + T(\underline{1/10} n)$$



Height  
=?

$n$

$$n \cdot (9/10)^1$$

$$n \cdot (9/10)^2$$

$$n \cdot (9/10)^3$$

1

$$n \cdot (9/10)^k = 1?$$

$$k = \log_{10/9} n$$

$$\left(\frac{9}{10}\right)^0 \cdot n$$

$$\left(\frac{9}{10}\right)^1 \cdot n$$

$$\left(\frac{9}{10}\right)^2 \cdot n$$

$$\left(\frac{9}{10}\right)^3 \cdot n$$

$$\left(\frac{9}{10}\right)^k \cdot n = 1$$

$$k = \log_{\frac{10}{9}} n$$

28

$$T(n) = O(n \log_{10/9} n)$$

$$n \log_{10/9} n = O(n \log_2 n)$$

$$2^k = n \Rightarrow k = \log_2 n$$

$$\left(\frac{9}{10}\right)^k = \frac{1}{n}$$

$$\left(\frac{10}{9}\right)^k = n \Rightarrow k = \log_{\frac{10}{9}} n > \log_2 n$$

$n \log_{10/9} n = O(\log_2 n)$ , why? This can be proved following the definition of bigO notation (page 44, note 1). The proof is not very difficult but we won't require you to do this in this class.

In order to prove that  $n \log_{10/9} n = O(\log_2 n)$ , we need to find a constant  $C$  and  $n_0$  so that when  $n > n_0$ ,  $C n \log_2 n \geq n \log_{10/9} n$ . By solving this formula, it is not hard to find out  $C$ . You can try to solve this simple formula based on basic properties of log functions. For example,

$$\log_a b = \log_2 a / \log_2 b$$

# Complexity Analysis

- Partition
  - Low pointer moves to right, while high pointer moves to left
  - Total  $n - 1$  comparisons
  - $O(n)$ : linear time
- Exchange
  - Swapping nodes:  $O(1)$
- How many passes in total?
  - **The best case**
    - Ideally, the two sub-lists will be of equal size if the median is chosen as pivot in each pass
    - There will be about  $\log_2 n$  passes
    - So total **time complexity is  $O(n \cdot \log n)$**
  - **The worst case**
    - If one of the sub-arrays is always empty, or has only one element
    - Total no. of passes is about  $n$
    - Then quicksort takes  **$O(n^2)$**  time

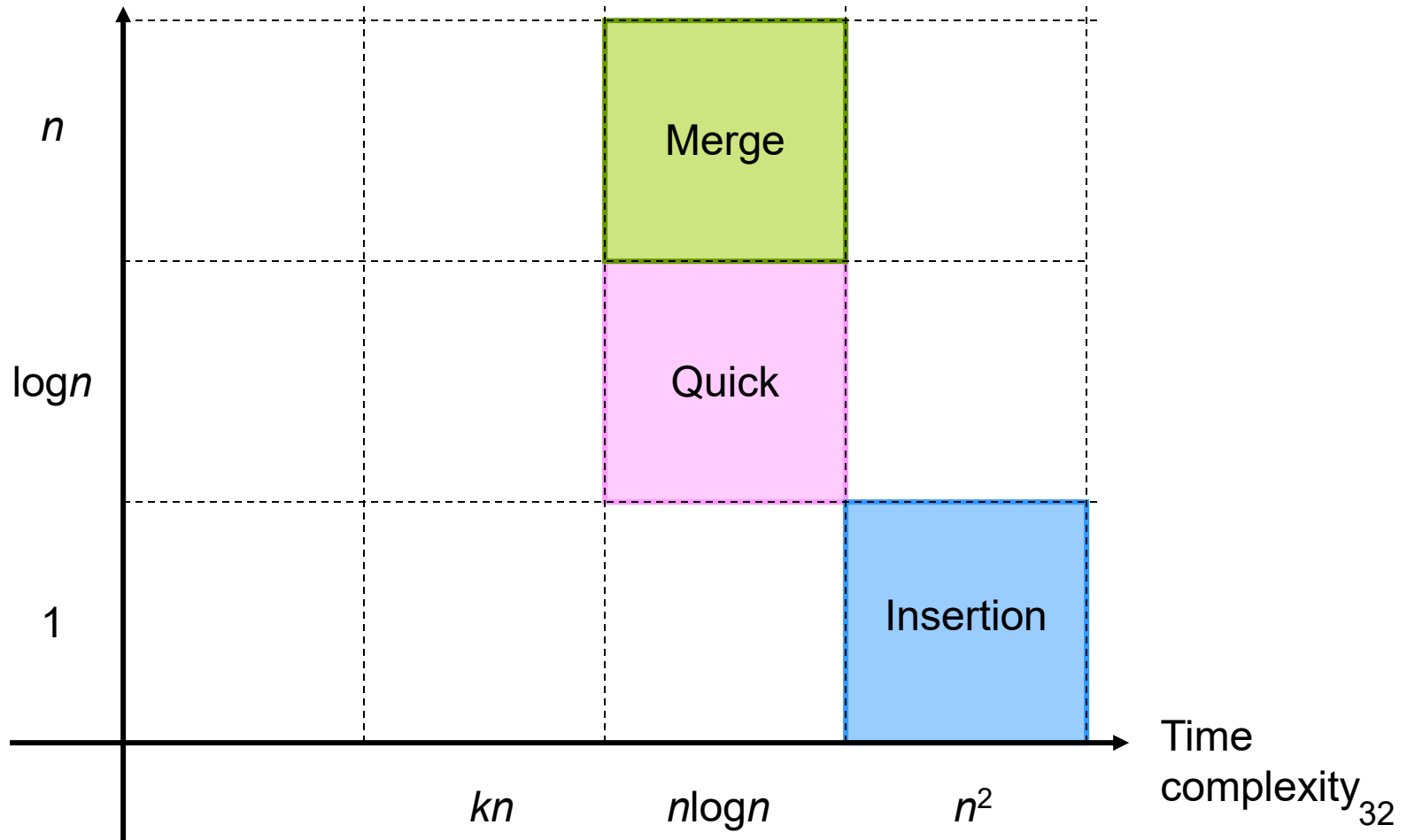
# Choosing a Good Pivot

- By choosing the pivot carefully, we can obtain  $O(n \cdot \log n)$  time in the average case
- The simplest (poor) version
  - Choose the first element as pivot
  - If the list is already sorted, the time complexity would be  $O(n^2)$
- Two better versions
  - Choose the pivot randomly in each pass, or
  - Select the median between first, last and middle element as pivot
  - These two solutions cannot completely avoid the worst case
  - It can also be shown that the average case complexity of quicksort is approximately equal to  $1.38 n \log_2 n$
- If the size of the array is large, quicksort is the fastest sorting method known today.

# Summary

The version of quicksort with in-place partitioning uses only constant additional space before making any recursive call. However, if it has made  $O(\log n)$  nested recursive calls, it needs to store a constant amount of information from each of them. Since the best case makes at most  $O(\log n)$  nested recursive calls, it uses  $O(\log n)$  space.

Space  
complexity





# C++ Standard Template Library

- For short: STL: contains many general-purpose, templated classes for commonly used data structures and algorithms
- We will focus on vector today. It is your job to learn “string” in STL.
- The vector is considered a *container* class: *hold other objects*.
  - A vector is a **dynamic array** designed to hold objects of any type
  - Can grow and shrink as needed, no need to use pointers to dynamically allocate memory

<https://cplusplus.com/reference/vector/vector/>

# When and how to use a vector?

- **When to Use a Vector?**
- A C++ vector should be used under the following circumstances:
  - When dealing with data elements that change consistently.
  - If the size of the data is not known before beginning, the vector won't require you to set the maximum size of the container.
- In order to use vector, you need to include the following **header file**:
  - `#include <vector>`
- The vector is part of the std namespace, so you need to qualify the name. This can be accomplished as shown here:
  - **using namespace std;**
  - `vector<int> myfirstVector;`
  - Or
  - `std::vector<int> myfirstVector;`

# Vector initialization

- `vector <data-type> name (items)`
  - E.g.
    - `vector<int> first;` `//empty array/vector of integers`
    - `vector<float> second;` `//empty array of float`
    - `vector<int> third (4, 100)` `//four ints with value 100`
    - `vector<int> fourth (third)` `// a copy of "third"`
- Once you define a vector, you can access its elements like an array
  - E.g. `third[0]=100`
- Iterators
  - **`vector:: begin()`**: it gives an iterator that points to the first element of the vector.
  - **`vector:: end()`**: it gives an iterator that points to the past-the-end element of the vector.

# Other commonly used functions

- **vector::push\_back():** This modifier pushes the elements from the back.
- **vector::insert():** For inserting new items to a vector at a specified location.
- **vector::pop\_back():** This modifier removes the vector elements from the back.
- **vector::erase():** It is used for removing a range of elements from the specified location.
- **vector::clear():** It removes all the vector elements.

# Example

```
#include <iostream>
#include <vector>

using namespace std;
int main()
{
    vector<int> nums;

    nums.assign(5, 1);

    cout << "Vector contents: ";
    for (int a = 0; a < nums.size(); a++)
        cout << nums[a] << " ";

    nums.push_back(2);
    int n = nums.size();
    cout << "\nLast element: " << nums[n - 1];

    nums.pop_back();

    cout << "\nVector contents: ";
    for (int a = 0; a < nums.size(); a++)
        cout << nums[a] << " ";

    nums.insert(nums.begin(), 7);

    cout << "\nFirst element: " << nums[0];

    nums.clear();
    cout << "\nSize after clear(): " << nums.size();
}
```

```
Vector contents: 1 1 1 1 1
Last element: 2
Vector contents: 1 1 1 1 1
First element: 7
Size after clear(): 0
```

# String in STL

- <https://cplusplus.com/reference/string/string/>
- `vector<string>`  
`stringArray`
- You can compare strings the member function `“string::compare”`. See the example on the right
- `“+”`: concatenate strings

```
#include <iostream>
//source: https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/comparing-two-strings-cpp/

using namespace std;

void compareFunction(string s1, string s2)
{
    // comparing both using inbuilt function
    int x = s1.compare(s2);

    if (x != 0) {
        cout << s1
              << " is not equal to "
              << s2 << endl;
        if (x > 0)
            cout << s1
                  << " is greater than "
                  << s2 << endl;
        else
            cout << s2
                  << " is greater than "
                  << s1 << endl;
    }
    else
        cout << s1 << " is equal to " << s2 << endl;
}

// Driver Code
int main()
{
    string s1("ABC");
    string s2("BCA");
    compareFunction(s1, s2);
    string s3("Sam");
    string s4("Sam");
    compareFunction(s3, s4);
    return 0;
}
```

# Example of string:+=

```
1 // string::operator+=
2 #include <iostream>
3 #include <string>
4
5 int main ()
6 {
7     std::string name ("John");
8     std::string family ("Smith");
9     name += " K. ";           // c-string
10    name += family;           // string
11    name += '\n';             // character
12
13    std::cout << name;
14    return 0;
15 }
```

Output:

John K. Smith

# A note about STL vector

- Relevant to the swap function in quicksort

```
// C++ program to demonstrate that when vectors
// are passed to functions without &, a copy is
// created.
#include<vector>
using namespace std;

// The vect here is a copy of vect in main()
void func(vector<int> vect)
{
    vect.push_back(30);
}

int main()
{
    vector<int> vect;
    vect.push_back(10);
    vect.push_back(20);

    func(vect);

    // vect remains unchanged after function
    // call
    for (int i=0; i<vect.size(); i++)
        cout << vect[i] << " ";

    return 0;
}
```

```
// C++ program to demonstrate how vectors
// can be passed by reference.
#include<vector>
using namespace std;

// The vect is passed by reference and changes
// made here reflect in main()
void func(vector<int> &vect)
{
    vect.push_back(30);
}

int main()
{
    vector<int> vect;
    vect.push_back(10);
    vect.push_back(20);

    func(vect);

    for (int i=0; i<vect.size(); i++)
        cout << vect[i] << " ";

    return 0;
}
```

Reference: <https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/passing-vector-function-cpp/>