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Sorting in  $O(N)$  time

**CS302**

**Data Structures**

**Section 10.4**

# How Fast Can We Sort?

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- Selection Sort, Bubble Sort, Insertion Sort:  $O(n^2)$
- Heap Sort, Merge sort:  $O(n \lg n)$
- Quicksort:  $O(n \lg n)$  - average
- What is common to all these algorithms?
  - Make **comparisons** between input elements

$$a_i < a_j, \quad a_i \leq a_j, \quad a_i = a_j, \quad a_i \geq a_j, \quad \text{or} \quad a_i > a_j$$

# Lower-Bound for Sorting

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- Theorem: To sort  $n$  elements, comparison sorts **must** make  $\Omega(n \lg n)$  comparisons in the worst case.

# Can we do better?

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- Linear sorting algorithms
  - Counting Sort
  - Radix Sort
  - Bucket sort
- Make certain assumptions about the data
- Linear sorts are NOT “comparison sorts”

# Counting Sort

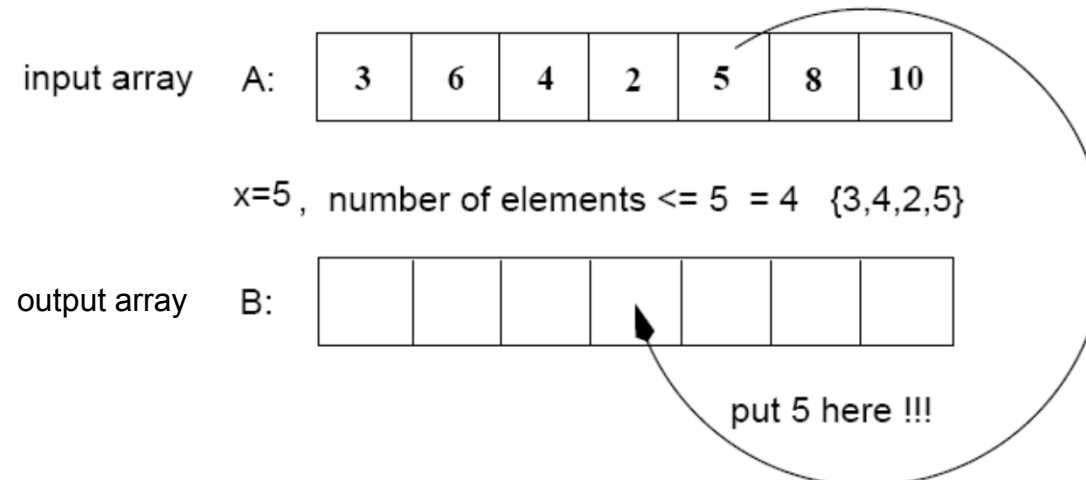
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- Assumptions:

- $n$  integers which are in the range  $[0 \dots r]$
- $r$  is in the order of  $n$ , that is,  $r = O(n)$

- Idea:

- For each element  $x$ , find the number of elements  $\leq x$
- Place  $x$  into its correct position in the output array



# Step 1

Find the number of times  $A[i]$  appears in  $A$ .

(i.e., frequencies)

input array A:

3	6	4	1	3	4	1	4
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allocate C

1	2	3	4	5	6
0	0	0	0	0	0

Allocate  $C[1..r]$  ( $r=6$ )

$i=1, A[1]=3$

1	2	3	4	5	6
0	0	1	0	0	0

$C[A[1]]=C[3]=1$  For  $1 \leq i \leq n, ++C[A[i]]$ ;

$i=2, A[2]=6$

1	2	3	4	5	6
0	0	1	0	0	1

$C[A[2]]=C[6]=1$

$i=3, A[3]=4$

1	2	3	4	5	6
0	0	1	1	0	1

$C[A[3]]=C[4]=1$

⋮

$i=8, A[8]=4$

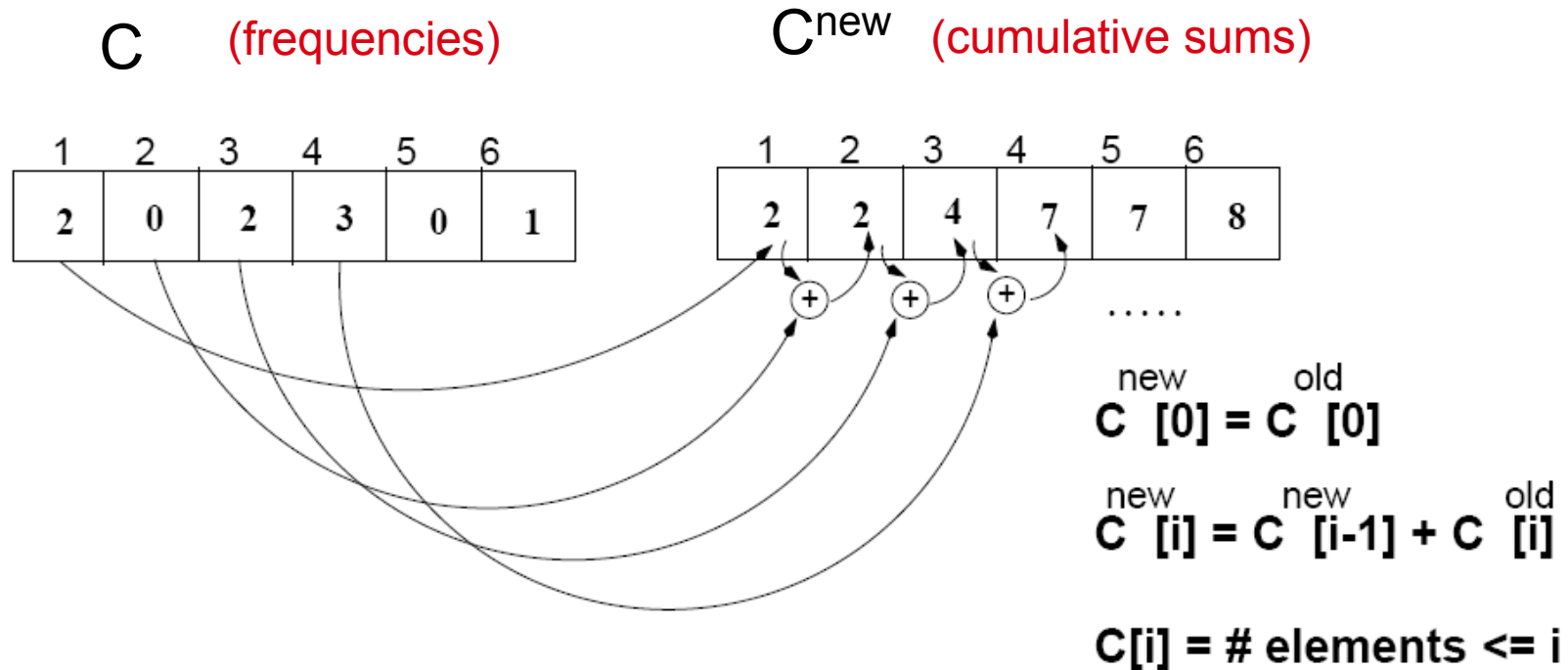
1	2	3	4	5	6
2	0	2	3	0	1

$C[A[8]]=C[4]=3$

$C[i]$  = number of times element  $i$  appears in  $A$

# Step 2

Find the number of elements  $\leq A[i]$ ,



# Algorithm

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- Start from the last element of A
- Place  $A[i]$  at its correct place in the output array
- Decrease  $C[A[i]]$  by one

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
A	2	5	3	0	2	3	0	3

	0	1	2	3	4	5
$C^{\text{new}}$	2	2	4	7	7	8



# Example

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	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
A	2	5	3	0	2	3	0	3

	0	1	2	3	4	5
C <sup>new</sup>	2	2	4	7	7	8

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
B							3	

	0	1	2	3	4	5
C <sup>new</sup>	2	2	4	6	7	8

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
B		0					3	

	0	1	2	3	4	5
C <sup>new</sup>	1	2	4	6	7	8

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
B		0				3	3	

	0	1	2	3	4	5
C <sup>new</sup>	1	2	4	5	7	8

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
B		0		2		3	3	

	0	1	2	3	4	5
C <sup>new</sup>	1	2	3	5	7	8

# Example (cont.)

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	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
A	2	5	3	0	2	3	0	3

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
B	0	0		2		3	3	
	0	1	2	3	4	5		
C	0	2	3	5	7	8		

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
B	0	0		2	3	3	3	5
	0	1	2	3	4	5		
C	0	2	3	4	7	7		

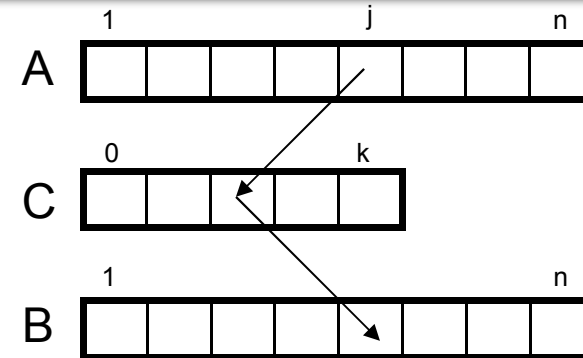
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
B	0	0		2	3	3	3	
	0	1	2	3	4	5		
C	0	2	3	4	7	8		

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
B	0	0	2	2	3	3	3	5

# COUNTING-SORT

*Alg.:* COUNTING-SORT(A, B, n, k)

1.       **for**  $i \leftarrow 0$  **to**  $r$
2.       **do**  $C[i] \leftarrow 0$
3.       **for**  $j \leftarrow 1$  **to**  $n$
4.       **do**  $C[A[j]] \leftarrow C[A[j]] + 1$
5.        $\triangleright C[i]$  contains the number of elements equal to  $i$
6.       **for**  $i \leftarrow 1$  **to**  $r$
7.       **do**  $C[i] \leftarrow C[i] + C[i-1]$
8.        $\triangleright C[i]$  contains the number of elements  $\leq i$
9.       **for**  $j \leftarrow n$  **downto**  $1$
10.      **do**  $B[C[A[j]]] \leftarrow A[j]$
11.       $C[A[j]] \leftarrow C[A[j]] - 1$



# Analysis of Counting Sort

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*Alg.:* COUNTING-SORT(A, B, n, k)

1.	<b>for</b> $i \leftarrow 0$ <b>to</b> $r$	}	$O(r)$
2.	<b>do</b> $C[i] \leftarrow 0$		
3.	<b>for</b> $j \leftarrow 1$ <b>to</b> $n$	}	$O(n)$
4.	<b>do</b> $C[A[j]] \leftarrow C[A[j]] + 1$		
5.	▷ $C[i]$ contains the number of elements equal to $i$		
6.	<b>for</b> $i \leftarrow 1$ <b>to</b> $r$	}	$O(r)$
7.	<b>do</b> $C[i] \leftarrow C[i] + C[i-1]$		
8.	▷ $C[i]$ contains the number of elements $\leq i$		
9.	<b>for</b> $j \leftarrow n$ <b>downto</b> $1$	}	$O(n)$
10.	<b>do</b> $B[C[A[j]]] \leftarrow A[j]$		
11.	$C[A[j]] \leftarrow C[A[j]] - 1$		

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Overall time:  $O(n + r)$

# Analysis of Counting Sort

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- Overall time:  $O(n + r)$
- In practice we use COUNTING sort when  $r = O(n)$   
 $\Rightarrow$  running time is  $O(n)$

# Radix Sort

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- Represents keys as  $d$ -digit numbers in some base- $k$

$$\text{key} = x_1x_2\dots x_d \quad \text{where } 0 \leq x_i \leq k-1$$

- Example:  $\text{key}=15$

$$\text{key}_{10} = 15, \quad d=2, \quad k=10 \quad \text{where } 0 \leq x_i \leq 9$$

$$\text{key}_2 = 1111, \quad d=4, \quad k=2 \quad \text{where } 0 \leq x_i \leq 1$$

# Radix Sort

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- Assumptions

$d=O(1)$  and  $k=O(n)$

- Sorting looks at one column at a time

- For a  $d$  digit number, sort the least significant digit first
- Continue sorting on the next least significant digit, until all digits have been sorted
- Requires only  $d$  passes through the list

326  
453  
608  
835  
751  
435  
704  
690

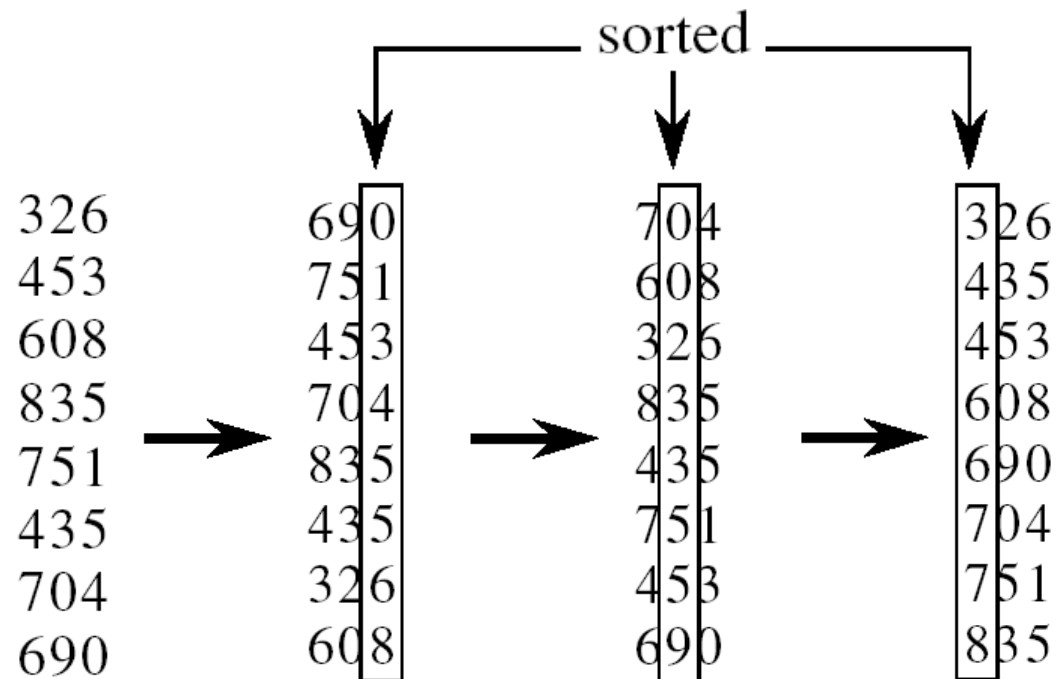
# RADIX-SORT

Alg.: RADIX-SORT( $A, d$ )

**for**  $i \leftarrow 1$  **to**  $d$

**do** use a **stable** sort to sort array  $A$  on digit  $i$

(stable sort: preserves order of identical elements)





# Analysis of Radix Sort

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- Given  $n$  numbers of  $d$  digits each, where each digit may take up to  $k$  possible values, RADIX-SORT correctly sorts the numbers in  $O(d(n+k))$ 
  - One pass of sorting per digit takes  $O(n+k)$  assuming that we use **counting sort**
  - There are  $d$  passes (for each digit)

# Analysis of Radix Sort

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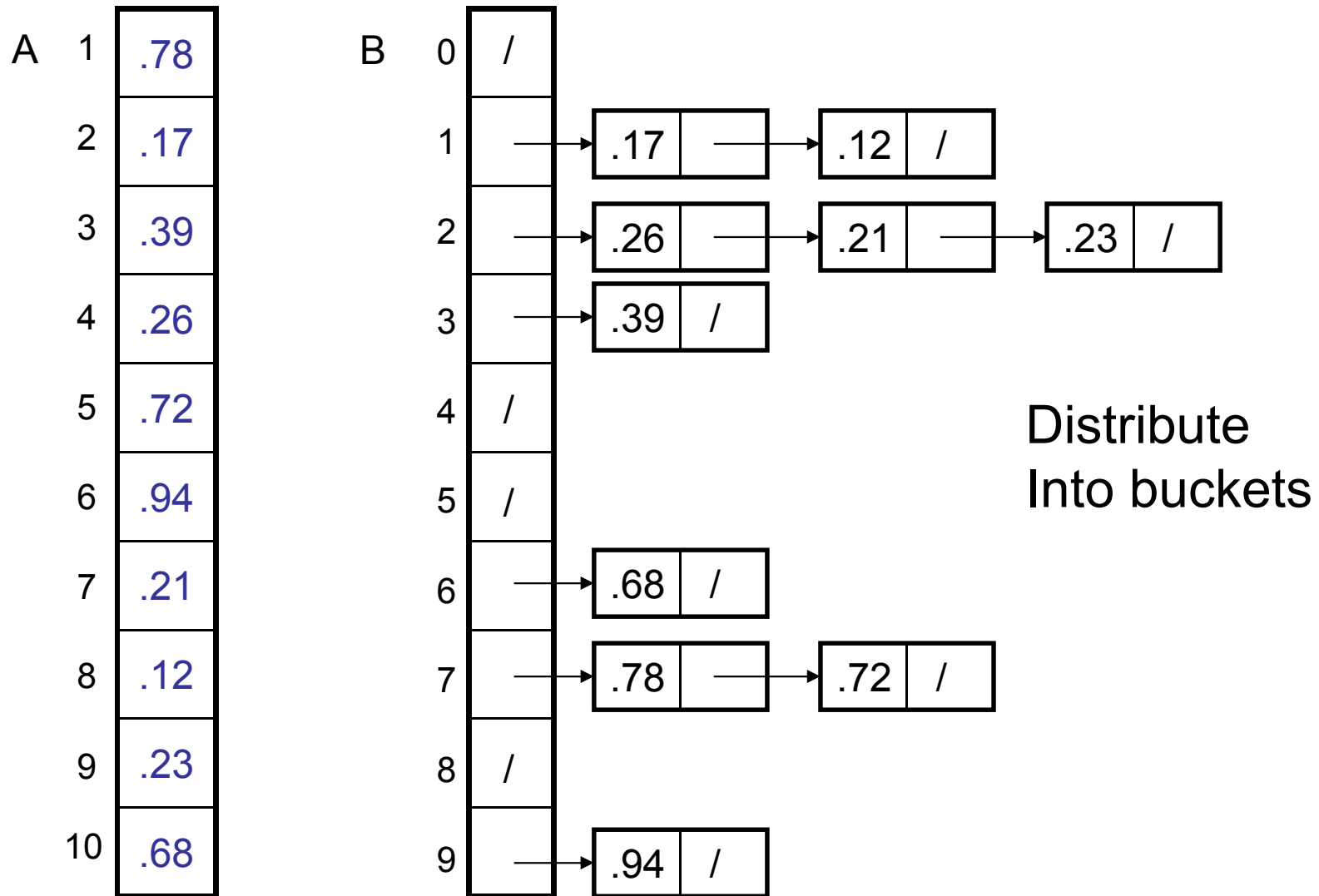
- Given  $n$  numbers of  $d$  digits each, where each digit may take up to  $k$  possible values, RADIX-SORT correctly sorts the numbers in  $O(d(n+k))$ 
  - Assuming  $d=O(1)$  and  $k=O(n)$ , running time is  $O(n)$

# Bucket Sort

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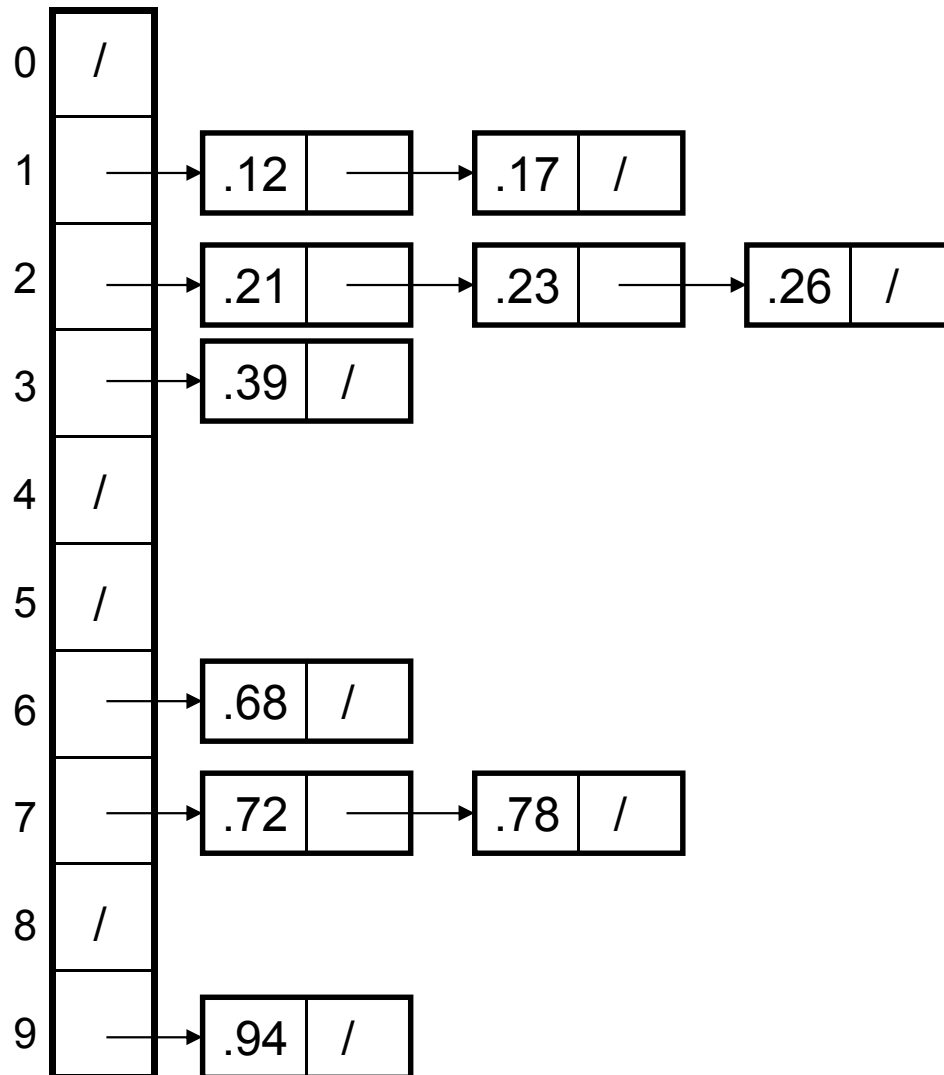
- **Assumption:**
  - the input is generated by a random process that distributes elements uniformly over  $[0, 1)$
- **Idea:**
  - Divide  $[0, 1)$  into  $k$  equal-sized buckets ( $k = \Theta(n)$ )
  - Distribute the  $n$  input values into the buckets
  - Sort each bucket (e.g., using quicksort)
  - Go through the buckets in order, listing elements in each one
- **Input:**  $A[1 \dots n]$ , where  $0 \leq A[i] < 1$  for all  $i$
- **Output:** elements  $A[i]$  sorted

# Example - Bucket Sort



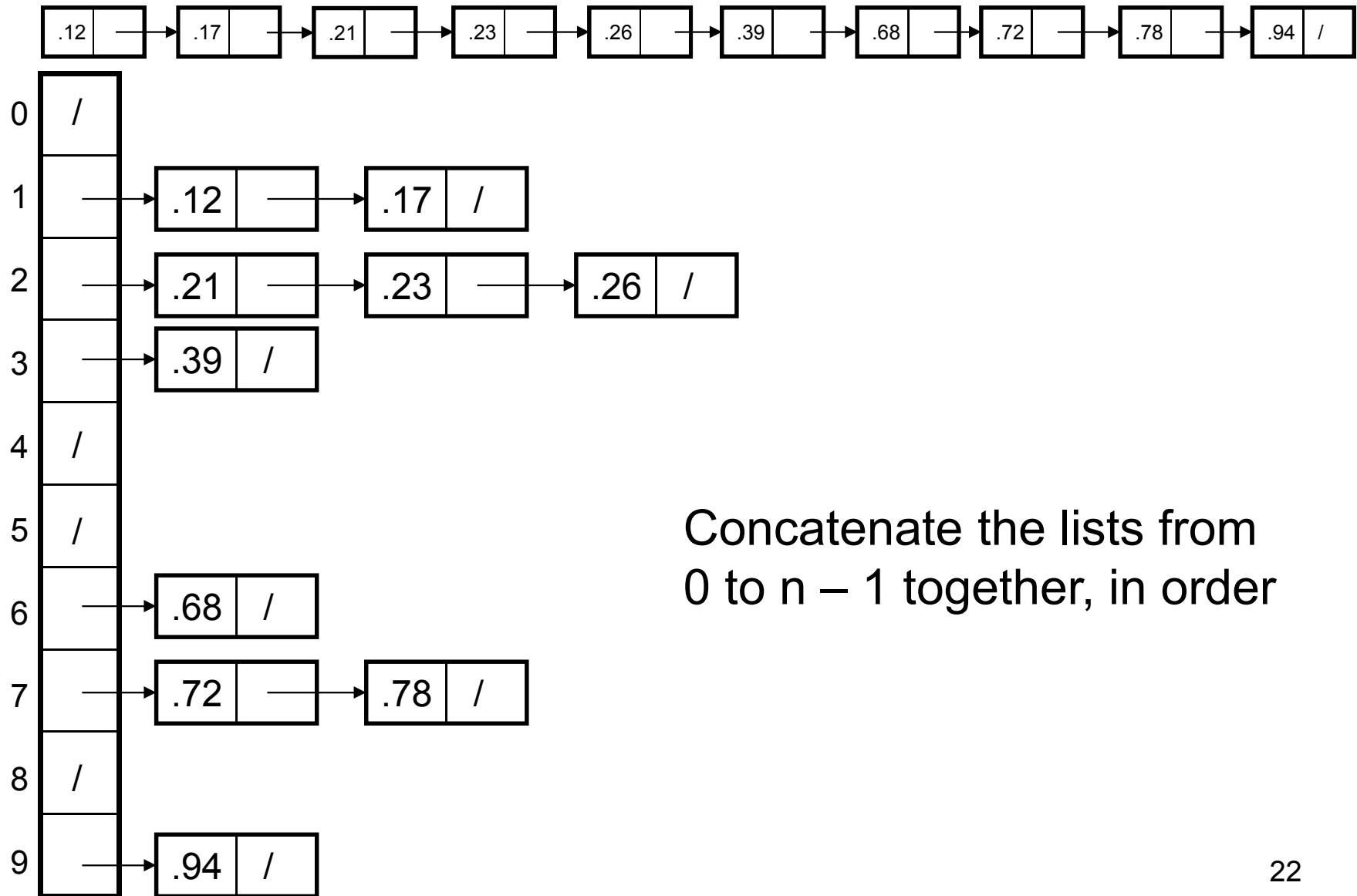
# Example - Bucket Sort

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Sort within each  
bucket

# Example - Bucket Sort



# Analysis of Bucket Sort

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*Alg.:* BUCKET-SORT( $A, n$ )

**for**  $i \leftarrow 1$  **to**  $n$

**do** insert  $A[i]$  into list  $B[\lfloor nA[i] \rfloor]$

$O(n)$

**for**  $i \leftarrow 0$  **to**  $k - 1$

**do** sort list  $B[i]$  with quicksort sort

$k O(n/k \log(n/k))$   
 $= O(n \log(n/k))$

concatenate lists  $B[0], B[1], \dots, B[n - 1]$

together in order

$O(k)$

**return** the concatenated lists

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$O(n)$  (if  $k = \Theta(n)$ )

# Radix Sort as a Bucket Sort

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- **Counting sort:** for integers with limited range
- **Radix sort:** when  $\log(N)$  is significantly larger than the number of digits  $K$
- **Bucket sort:** when the input is approximately uniformly distributed