

## Medians and Order Statistics

***$i$ -th order statistic of a set of  $n$  elements:  $i$ -th smallest element.***

minimum:  $i = 1$

median:  $i = \lfloor (n+1)/2 \rfloor$  or  $\lceil (n+1)/2 \rceil$

maximum:  $i = n$

### **The selection problem:**

(For simplicity, assume that all elements in the input set are distinct.)

Input:  $A[1..n]$  and  $i$

Output: the  $i$ -th order statistic of  $A$

### **9.1 Minimum (Maximum)**

Minimum( $A$ )

min  $\leftarrow A[1]$

**for**  $i \leftarrow 2$  **to**  $n$  **do**

**if**  $A[i] < \text{min}$  **then** min  $\leftarrow A[i]$

**return** min

- $T(n) = O(n)$  (exactly  $n-1$  comparisons)
- $n-1$  is optimal (every element loses at least once)

- Simultaneous minimum and maximum:

Step 1: Perform  $\lfloor n/2 \rfloor$  disjoint pairwise comparison.

Step 2: Find minimum among the set containing the smaller elements.

Step 3: Find maximum among the set containing the larger elements.

$T(n)$ : at most  $3\lfloor n/2 \rfloor$  comparisons.

### **9.2 Selection in expected linear time**

(divide & conquer, or prune-and-search)

Randomized-Select( $A, p, r, i$ )

**if**  $p=r$  **then return**  $A[p]$

$q \leftarrow \text{Randomized-Partition}(A, p, r)$

$k \leftarrow q - p + 1$

**if**  $i = k$  **then return**  $A[q]$

**elseif**  $i < k$

**then return** Randomized-Select( $A, p, q-1, i$ )

**else return** Randomized-Select( $A, q+1, r, i-k$ )

- Worst case:  $T(n) = O(n) + T(n-1)$   
 $= O(n^2)$ .

- Average case:

$$E(n) = O(n) + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{1 \leq k \leq n} E(\max\{k-1, n-k\})$$

$$= O(n) + \frac{2}{n} \sum_{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor \leq k \leq n-1} E(k)$$

$$= O(n)$$

(Prove it using substitution method by yourself.)

### 9.3 Selection in worst case linear time

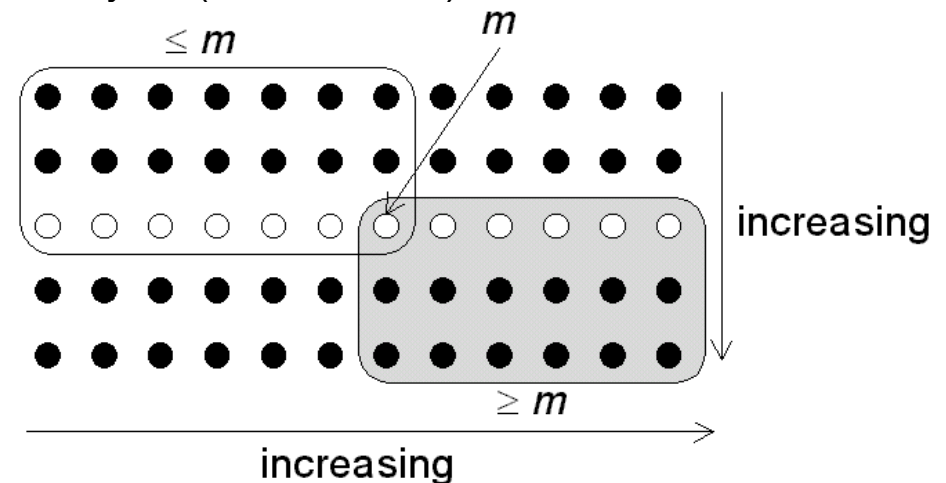
(D&C, or prune and search)

Select( $S, i$ )

1. Divide  $S$  into  $n/r$  subsequences of  $r$  integers ( $r \geq 5$ , odd, constant).
2. Sort every group. Let  $m_k$  be the median of the  $k$ -th subsequence.
3. Find the median  $m$  of  $m_k$ 's.
4. Partition  $S$  into three subsequences:  
 $S_1 = \{x | x < m\}$ ,  $S_2 = \{x | x = m\}$ ,  $S_3 = \{x | x > m\}$ .  
 Then, the  $i$ -th smallest element of  $S$  is located in one of the three subsequences.

5. if  $i \leq |S_1|$  then Select( $S_1, i$ )  
 elseif  $i \leq (|S_1| + |S_2|)$  then return  $m$   
 else Select( $S_3, i - (|S_1| + |S_2|)$ ).

- Analysis (Assume  $r=5$ )



At least one fourth of  $S$  is discard. ( $|S_1| \leq 3|S|/4$  and  $|S_3| \leq 3|S|/4$ )

Step	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
Time	--	$O(n)$	$T(n/5)$	$O(n)$	$T(3n/4)$

$$T(n) \leq T(n/5) + T(3n/4) + \Theta(n)$$

$$= O(n) \text{ (Prove it by substitution method.)}$$

**Homework:** Ex. 9.1-1, 9.3-3, 9.3-6, 9.3-7, 9.3-8, 9.3-9, Pro. 9-1, 9-2, 9-3. Read Ch10 ~ 12.