

# Sorting – Radix sorting – Example

Suppose we want to sort the following sequence with Radix sort

15	43	5	27	60	18	26	2
----	----	---	----	----	----	----	---

Binary encodings are given by

15 = 001111	43 = 101011	5 = 000101	27 = 011011
60 = 111100	18 = 010010	26 = 011010	2 = 000010

- items have bit positions 0, ..., 5, hence  $m=6$
- $b$  must be a factor of  $m$ , so let's choose  $b=2$

This means in Radix sort we have:

- $2^b=2^2=4$  buckets labelled 0, 1, 2, 3 (or equivalently 00, 01, 10, 11)  
and  $m/b = 3$  iterations are required

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An iteration of radix (after substituting **b** with **2**)

- items are distributed into **4 buckets** (a bucket is just a list)
- during the  **$i^{\text{th}}$**  iteration, an item is placed in a bucket corresponding to the integer represented by the bits in positions  **$2 \times i - 1, \dots, 2 \times (i - 1)$**
- buckets concatenated at the end of an iteration to give input sequence for the next iteration

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## First iteration of radix

- items are distributed into **4 buckets** (a bucket is just a list)
- during the **1<sup>st</sup>** iteration, an item is placed in a bucket corresponding to the integer represented by the bits in positions  **$2 \times 1 - 1, \dots, 2 \times (1 - 1)$**
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1st iteration:

bucket 00:

bucket 01:

bucket 10:

bucket 11:

new sequence:

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1st iteration:

bucket 00: 60

bucket 01: 5

bucket 10: 18 26 2

bucket 11: 15 43 27

new sequence: 60 5 18 26 2 15 43 27

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New sequence: 

60	5	18	26	2	15	43	27
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Binary encodings: 

60 = 111100	5 = 000101	18 = 010010	26 = 011010
2 = 000010	15 = 001111	43 = 101011	27 = 011011

## Second iteration of radix

- items are distributed into 4 buckets (a bucket is just a list)
- during the 2<sup>nd</sup> iteration, an item is placed in a bucket corresponding to the integer represented by the bits in positions  $2 \times 2 - 1, \dots, 2 \times (2 - 1)$
- buckets concatenated at the end of an iteration to give input sequence for the next iteration

# Sorting – Radix sorting – Example

New sequence: 

60	5	18	26	2	15	43	27
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2nd iteration: bucket 00: bucket 01: bucket 10: bucket 11: new sequence:
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## Third (and final) iteration of radix

- items are distributed into 4 buckets (a bucket is just a list)
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## Third (and final) iteration of radix

- items are distributed into 4 buckets (a bucket is just a list)
- during the 3<sup>rd</sup> iteration, an item is placed in a bucket corresponding to the integer represented by the bits in positions 5,...,4
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3rd iteration:
bucket 00:
bucket 01:
bucket 10:
bucket 11:
sorted sequence:

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