

CONCLUSIONS Rafał Stachowiak

EXERCISE I

Our knowledge of computational complexity confirms the reality about sorting algorithms.

In small arrays of data all methods' sorting time is similar, but when we increase the number of elements in the array, bubble sort is the slowest one.

According to complexity in worstcase scenario:

bubblesort(BS): n^2

countingsort(CS): n

shellsort(ShS): $n^{3/2}$ (fith function $y=2^i+1$ as gap finder according to wikipedia)

heapsort(HS): $n \log n$

$t(BS) > t(ShS) > t(HS) \gg t(CS)$

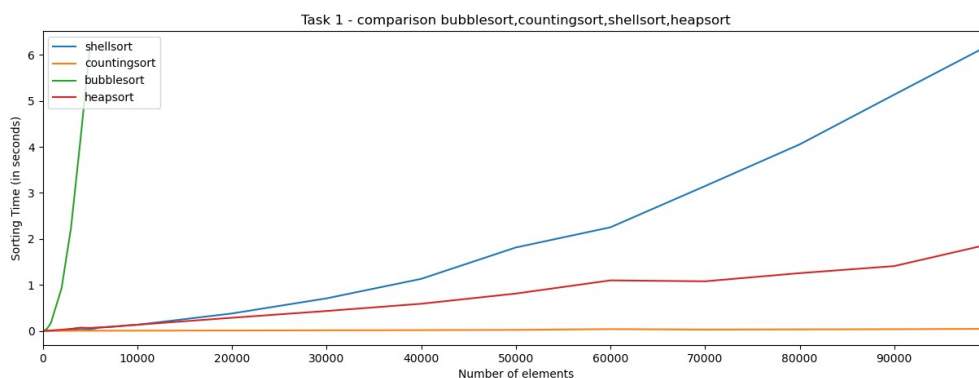
Memory activity:

Every method except CS is sorting in place. This can make us thinking that sorting not in place is faster but this is not true since there are different sorting methods e.g. merge sort which are not in place and have complexity $n \log n$ (comparable with heap sort).

What makes bubble sort so inefficient? Unnecessary comparisons. For $1e4$ elements it is almost $1e8$ comparisons.

Countingsort allocates a lot of memory though.

I have learnt from this exercise that I will not use bubble sort anymore in my life.



EXERCISE II

As we know the computational complexity of heapsort in the worst case scenario is $n \log n$, for quicksort is n^2 and for mergesort as in heapsort $n \log n$.

Heapsort is in this approach the slowest one and quicksort's execution time is the lowest. Quicksort sorts an array faster if elements are in in(de)creasing order than when they are distributed normally.

Quicksort is not a good choice if data set is in A-shape or in V-shape because then an algorithm exceeds recursion depth = 1000.

My personal opinion is that we should use quicksort in pre-sorted data because it is very efficient.

Median effect on Quicksort sorting time is an improvement to the quicksort algorithm where instead of taking

the middle value as pivot we are taking three elements from the array (often first last and middle one) and we are

getting median value as a pivot. This will give us a better partitioning but it will extend sorting time by computing

median value.

Here are the graphs showing the results:

