

Lecture-30

Radix Sort

1) Do following for each digit i where i varies from least significant digit to the most significant digit.

.....a) Sort input array using counting sort (or any stable sort) according to the i 'th digit.

Example:

Original, unsorted list:

170, 45, 75, 90, 802, 24, 2, 66

Sorting by least significant digit (1s place) gives: [*Notice that we keep 802 before 2, because 802 occurred before 2 in the original list, and similarly for pairs 170 & 90 and 45 & 75.]

170, 90, 802, 2, 24, 45, 75, 66

Sorting by next digit (10s place) gives: [*Notice that 802 again comes before 2 as 802 comes before 2 in the previous list.]

802, 2, 24, 45, 66, 170, 75, 90

Sorting by most significant digit (100s place) gives:

2, 24, 45, 66, 75, 90, 170, 802

What is the running time of Radix Sort?

Let there be d digits in input integers. Radix Sort takes $O(d*(n+b))$ time where b is the base for representing numbers, for example, for decimal system, b is 10. What is the value of d ? If k is the maximum possible value, then d would be $O(\log_b(k))$. So overall time complexity is $O((n+b) * \log_b(k))$. Which looks more than the time complexity of comparison based sorting algorithms for a large k . Let us first limit k . Let $k \leq n^c$ where c is a constant. In that case, the complexity becomes $O(n \log_b(n))$. But it still doesn't beat comparison based sorting algorithms.

Linear Search

Linear search is to check each element one by one in sequence. The following method `linearSearch()` searches a target in an array and returns the index of the target; if not found, it returns -1, which indicates an invalid index.

```
1  int linearSearch(int arr[], int target)
2  {
3      for (int i = 0; i < arr.length; i++)
4      {
5          if (arr[i] == target)
6              return i;
7      }
8      return -1;
9  }
```

Linear search loops through each element in the array; each loop body takes constant time. Therefore, it runs in linear time $O(n)$.

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Binary Search

For sorted arrays, *binary search* is more efficient than linear search. The process starts from the middle of the input array:

- If the target equals the element in the middle, return its index.
- If the target is larger than the element in the middle, search the right half.
- If the target is smaller, search the left half.

In the following `binarySearch()` method, the two index variables `first` and `last` indicates the searching boundary at each round.

```
1  int binarySearch(int arr[], int target)
2  {
3      int first = 0, last = arr.length - 1;
4
5      while (first <= last)
6      {
7          int mid = (first + last) / 2;
8          if (target == arr[mid])
9              return mid;
10         if (target > arr[mid])
11             first = mid + 1;
12         else
13             last = mid - 1;
14     }
15     return -1;
16 }
```

1 arr: {3, 9, 10, 27, 38, 43, 82}

2

3 target: 10

4 first: 0, last: 6, mid: 3, arr[mid]: 27 -- go left

5 first: 0, last: 2, mid: 1, arr[mid]: 9 -- go right

6 first: 2, last: 2, mid: 2, arr[mid]: 10 -- found

7

8 target: 40

9 first: 0, last: 6, mid: 3, arr[mid]: 27 -- go right

10 first: 4, last: 6, mid: 5, arr[mid]: 43 -- go left

11 first: 4, last: 4, mid: 4, arr[mid]: 38 -- go right

12 first: 5, last: 4 -- not found

Binary search divides the array in the middle at each round of the loop. Suppose the array has length n and the loop runs in t rounds, then we have $n * (1/2)^t = 1$ since at each round the array length is divided by 2. Thus $t = \log(n)$. At each round, the loop body takes constant time. Therefore, binary search runs in logarithmic time $O(\log n)$.

The following code implements binary search using recursion. To call the method, we need provide with the boundary indexes, for example,
`binarySearch(arr, 0, arr.length - 1, target);`

```
1
2  binarySearch(int arr[], int first, int last, int target)
3  {
4      if (first > last)
5          return -1;
6
7      int mid = (first + last) / 2;
8
9      if (target == arr[mid])
10         return mid;
11     if (target > arr[mid])
12         return binarySearch(arr, mid + 1, last, target);
13     // target < arr[mid]
14     return binarySearch(arr, first, mid - 1, target);
15 }
```