

Introduction to Algorithms

6.046J/18.401J/SMA5503

Lecture 6

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Order statistics

Select the i th smallest of n elements (the element with *rank* i).

- $i = 1$: *minimum*;
- $i = n$: *maximum*;
- $i = \lfloor (n+1)/2 \rfloor$ or $\lceil (n+1)/2 \rceil$: *median*.

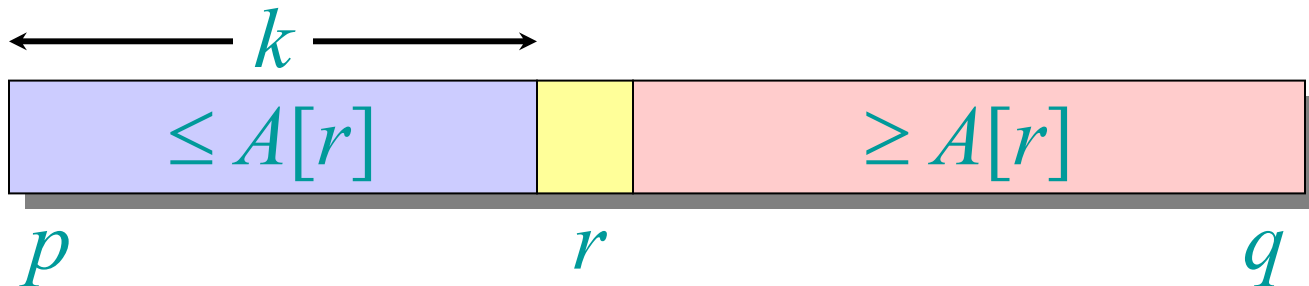
Naive algorithm: Sort and index i th element.

Worst-case running time = $\Theta(n \lg n) + \Theta(1)$
= $\Theta(n \lg n)$,

using merge sort or heapsort (*not* quicksort).

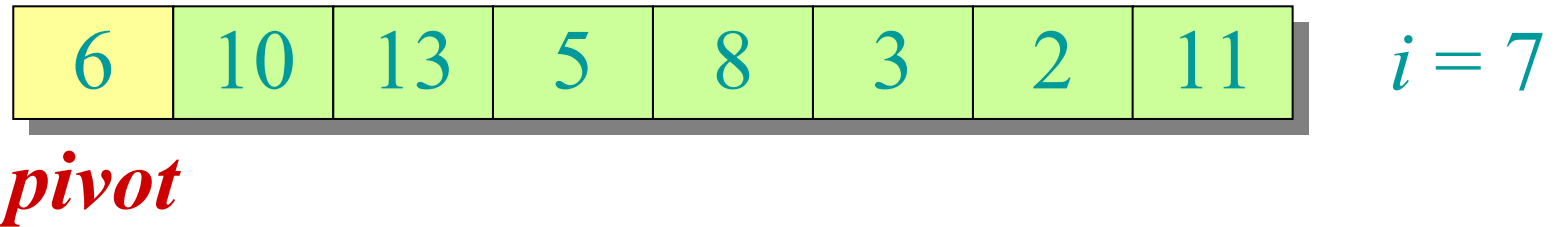
Randomized divide-and-conquer algorithm

RAND-SELECT(A, p, q, i) \triangleright i th smallest of $A[p..q]$
if $p = q$ **then return** $A[p]$
 $r \leftarrow$ **RAND-PARTITION**(A, p, q)
 $k \leftarrow r - p + 1$ $\triangleright k = \text{rank}(A[r])$
if $i = k$ **then return** $A[r]$
if $i < k$
 then return **RAND-SELECT**($A, p, r - 1, i$)
 else return **RAND-SELECT**($A, r + 1, q, i - k$)

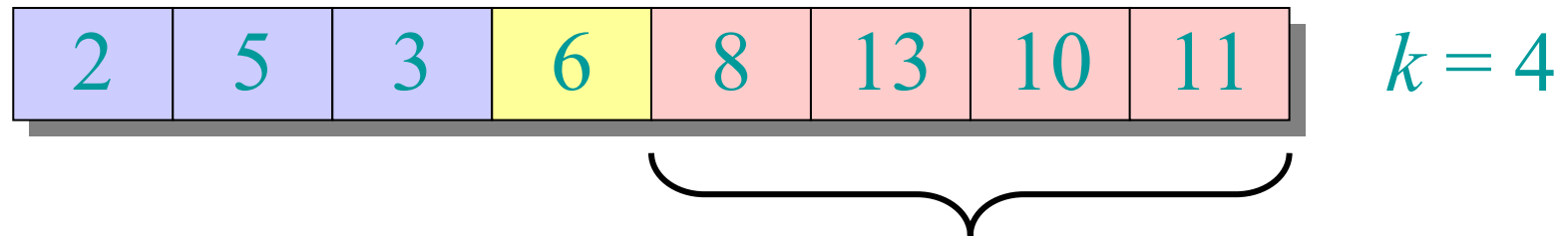


Example

Select the $i = 7$ th smallest:



Partition:



Select the $7 - 4 = 3$ rd smallest recursively.

Intuition for analysis

(All our analyses today assume that all elements are distinct.)

Lucky:

$$\begin{aligned}T(n) &= T(9n/10) + \Theta(n) \\ &= \Theta(n)\end{aligned}$$

$$n^{\log_{10/9} 1} = n^0 = 1$$

CASE 3

Unlucky:

$$\begin{aligned}T(n) &= T(n - 1) + \Theta(n) \\ &= \Theta(n^2)\end{aligned}$$

arithmetic series

Worse than sorting!

Analysis of expected time

The analysis follows that of randomized quicksort, but it's a little different.

Let $T(n)$ = the random variable for the running time of RAND-SELECT on an input of size n , assuming random numbers are independent.

For $k = 0, 1, \dots, n-1$, define the *indicator random variable*

$$X_k = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if PARTITION generates a } k : n-k-1 \text{ split,} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Analysis (continued)

To obtain an upper bound, assume that the i th element always falls in the larger side of the partition:

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} T(\max\{0, n-1\}) + \Theta(n) & \text{if } 0 : n-1 \text{ split,} \\ T(\max\{1, n-2\}) + \Theta(n) & \text{if } 1 : n-2 \text{ split,} \\ \vdots & \\ T(\max\{n-1, 0\}) + \Theta(n) & \text{if } n-1 : 0 \text{ split,} \end{cases}$$
$$= \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} X_k (T(\max\{k, n-k-1\}) + \Theta(n)).$$

Calculating expectation

$$E[T(n)] = E\left[\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} X_k (T(\max\{k, n-k-1\}) + \Theta(n))\right]$$

Take expectations of both sides.

Calculating expectation

$$\begin{aligned} E[T(n)] &= E\left[\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} X_k (T(\max\{k, n-k-1\}) + \Theta(n))\right] \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} E[X_k (T(\max\{k, n-k-1\}) + \Theta(n))] \end{aligned}$$

Linearity of expectation.

Calculating expectation

$$\begin{aligned} E[T(n)] &= E\left[\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} X_k (T(\max\{k, n-k-1\}) + \Theta(n))\right] \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} E[X_k (T(\max\{k, n-k-1\}) + \Theta(n))] \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} E[X_k] \cdot E[T(\max\{k, n-k-1\}) + \Theta(n)] \end{aligned}$$

Independence of X_k from other random choices.

Calculating expectation

$$\begin{aligned} E[T(n)] &= E\left[\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} X_k (T(\max\{k, n-k-1\}) + \Theta(n))\right] \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} E[X_k (T(\max\{k, n-k-1\}) + \Theta(n))] \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} E[X_k] \cdot E[T(\max\{k, n-k-1\}) + \Theta(n)] \\ &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} E[T(\max\{k, n-k-1\})] + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \Theta(n) \end{aligned}$$

Linearity of expectation; $E[X_k] = 1/n$.

Calculating expectation

$$\begin{aligned} E[T(n)] &= E\left[\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} X_k (T(\max\{k, n-k-1\}) + \Theta(n))\right] \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} E[X_k (T(\max\{k, n-k-1\}) + \Theta(n))] \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} E[X_k] \cdot E[T(\max\{k, n-k-1\}) + \Theta(n)] \\ &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} E[T(\max\{k, n-k-1\})] + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \Theta(n) \\ &\leq \frac{2}{n} \sum_{k=\lfloor n/2 \rfloor}^{n-1} E[T(k)] + \Theta(n) \end{aligned}$$

Upper terms
appear twice.

Hairy recurrence

(But not quite as hairy as the quicksort one.)

$$E[T(n)] = \frac{2}{n} \sum_{k=\lfloor n/2 \rfloor}^{n-1} E[T(k)] + \Theta(n)$$

Prove: $E[T(n)] \leq cn$ for constant $c > 0$.

- The constant c can be chosen large enough so that $E[T(n)] \leq cn$ for the base cases.

Use fact: $\sum_{k=\lfloor n/2 \rfloor}^{n-1} k \leq \frac{3}{8}n^2$ (exercise).

Substitution method

$$E[T(n)] \leq \frac{2}{n} \sum_{k=\lfloor n/2 \rfloor}^{n-1} ck + \Theta(n)$$

Substitute inductive hypothesis.

Substitution method

$$\begin{aligned} E[T(n)] &\leq \frac{2}{n} \sum_{k=\lfloor n/2 \rfloor}^{n-1} ck + \Theta(n) \\ &\leq \frac{2c}{n} \left(\frac{3}{8} n^2 \right) + \Theta(n) \end{aligned}$$

Use fact.

Substitution method

$$\begin{aligned} E[T(n)] &\leq \frac{2}{n} \sum_{k=\lfloor n/2 \rfloor}^{n-1} ck + \Theta(n) \\ &\leq \frac{2c}{n} \left(\frac{3}{8} n^2 \right) + \Theta(n) \\ &= cn - \left(\frac{cn}{4} - \Theta(n) \right) \end{aligned}$$

Express as *desired – residual*.

Substitution method

$$\begin{aligned} E[T(n)] &\leq \frac{2}{n} \sum_{k=\lfloor n/2 \rfloor}^{n-1} ck + \Theta(n) \\ &\leq \frac{2c}{n} \left(\frac{3}{8} n^2 \right) + \Theta(n) \\ &= cn - \left(\frac{cn}{4} - \Theta(n) \right) \\ &\leq cn, \end{aligned}$$

if c is chosen large enough so that $cn/4$ dominates the $\Theta(n)$.

Summary of randomized order-statistic selection

- Works fast: linear expected time.
- Excellent algorithm in practice.
- But, the worst case is *very* bad: $\Theta(n^2)$.

Q. Is there an algorithm that runs in linear time in the worst case?

A. Yes, due to Blum, Floyd, Pratt, Rivest, and Tarjan [1973].

IDEA: Generate a good pivot recursively.

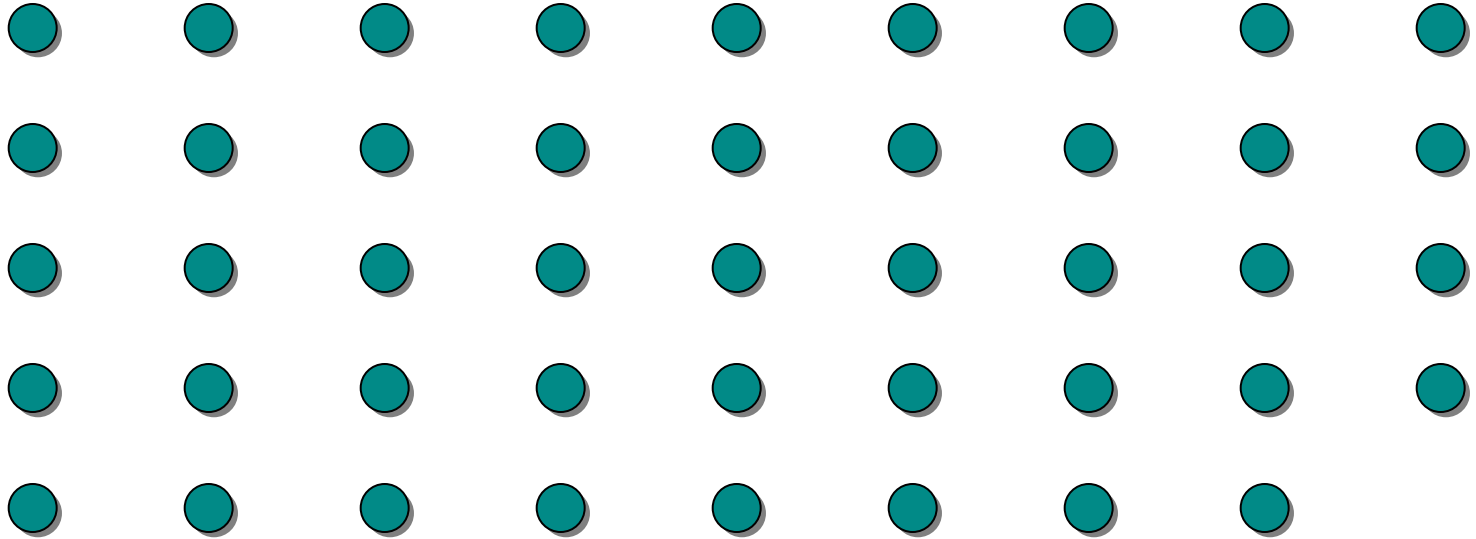
Worst-case linear-time order statistics

SELECT(i, n)

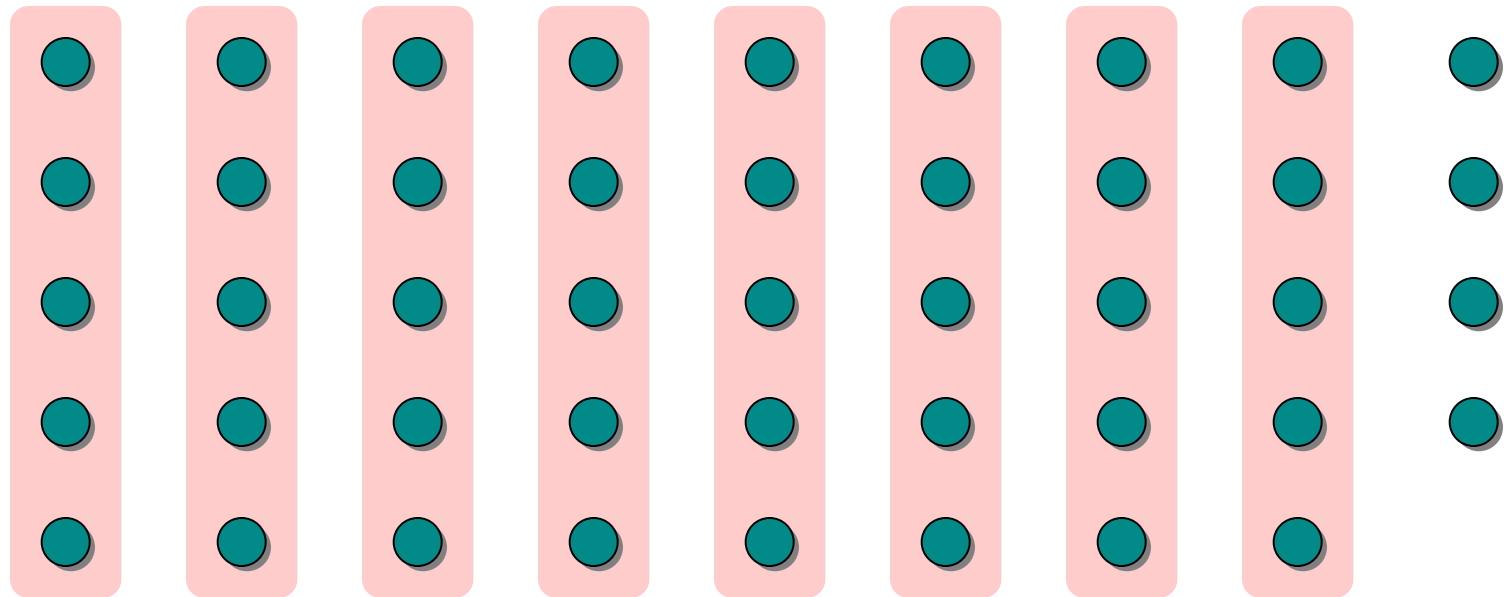
1. Divide the n elements into groups of 5. Find the median of each 5-element group by rote.
2. Recursively SELECT the median x of the $\lfloor n/5 \rfloor$ group medians to be the pivot.
3. Partition around the pivot x . Let $k = \text{rank}(x)$.
4. **if** $i = k$ **then return** x
 elseif $i < k$
 then recursively SELECT the i th
 smallest element in the lower part
 else recursively SELECT the $(i-k)$ th
 smallest element in the upper part

Same as
RAND-
SELECT

Choosing the pivot

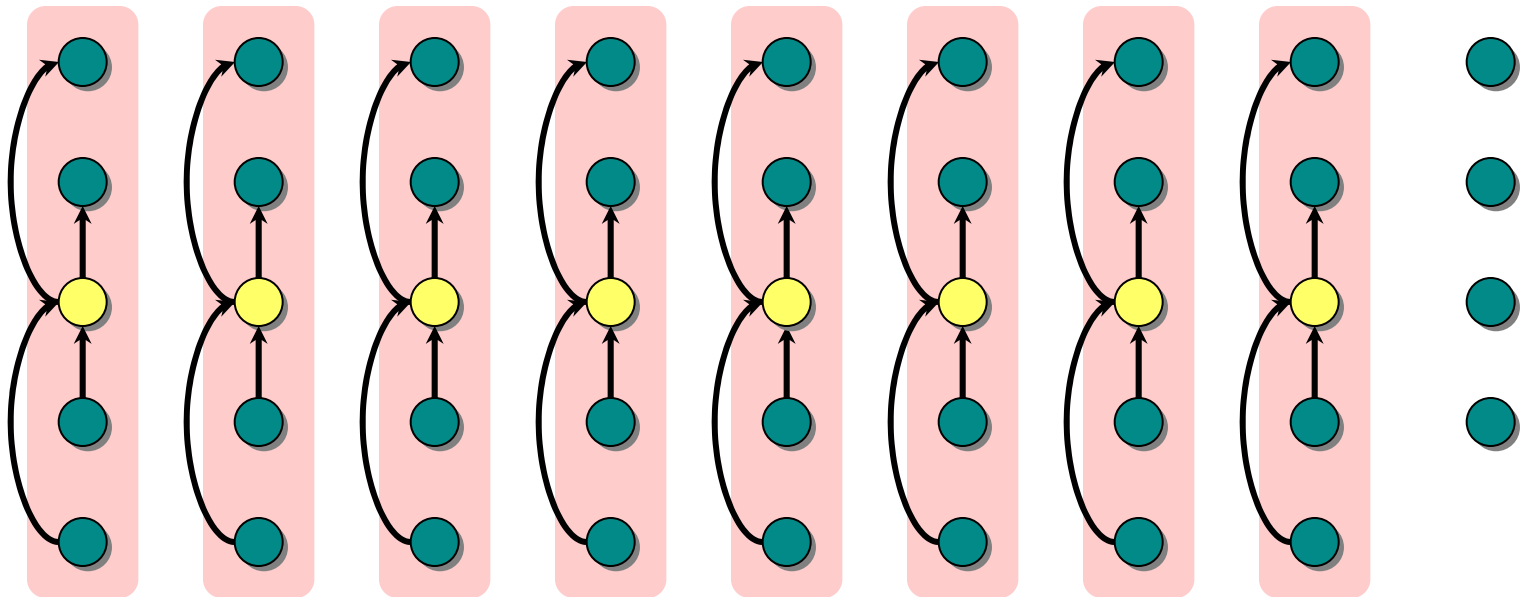


Choosing the pivot



1. Divide the n elements into groups of 5.

Choosing the pivot



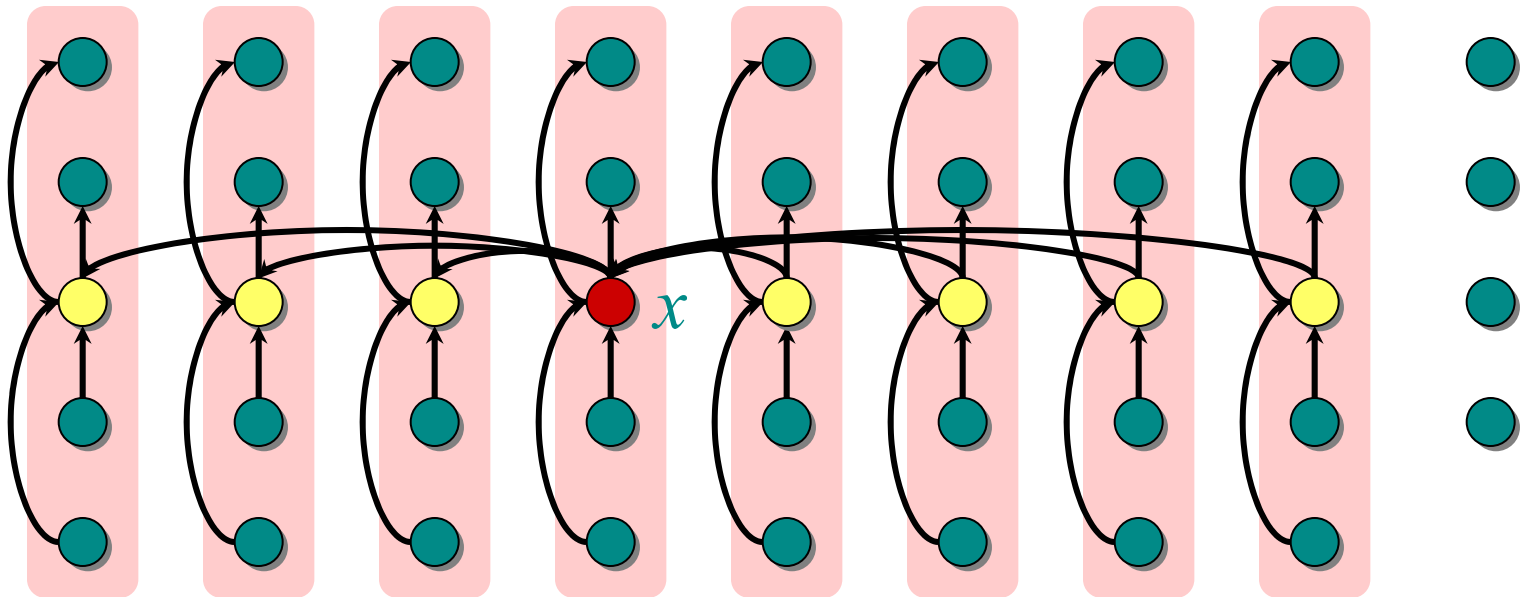
1. Divide the n elements into groups of 5. Find the median of each 5-element group by rote.

lesser



greater

Choosing the pivot



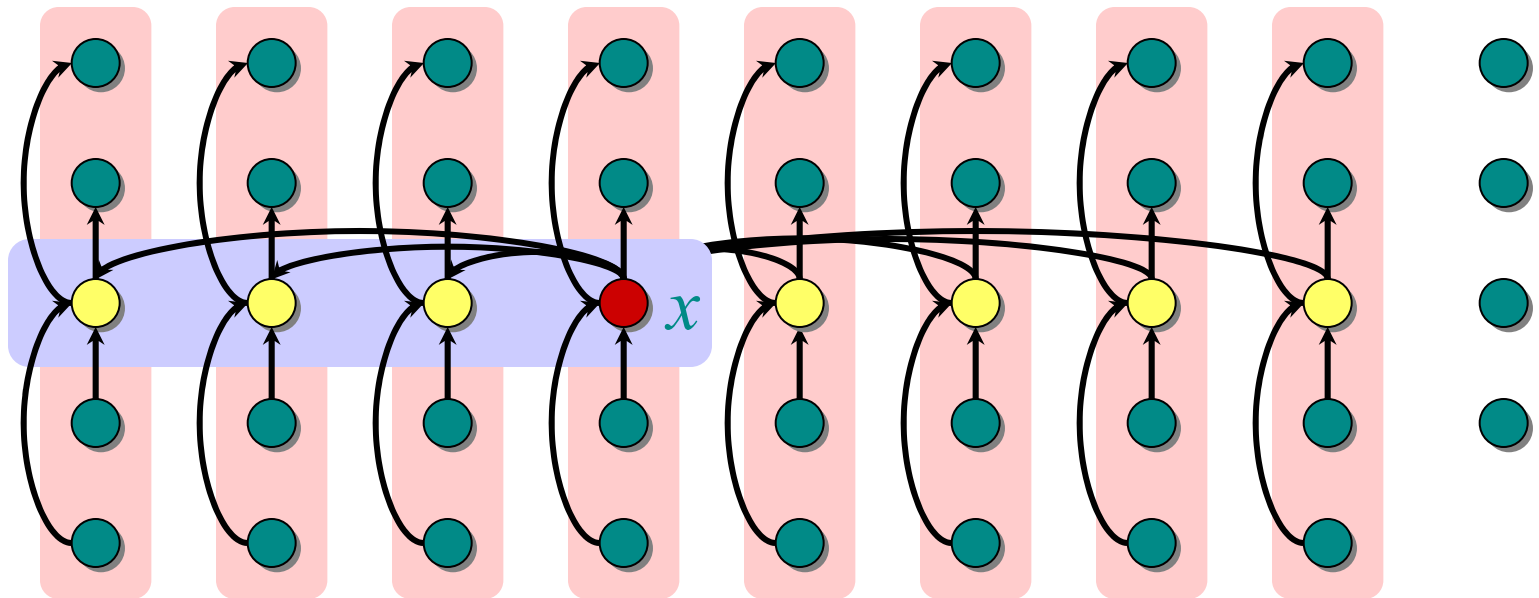
1. Divide the n elements into groups of 5. Find the median of each 5-element group by rote.
2. Recursively SELECT the median x of the $\lfloor n/5 \rfloor$ group medians to be the pivot.

lesser



greater

Analysis



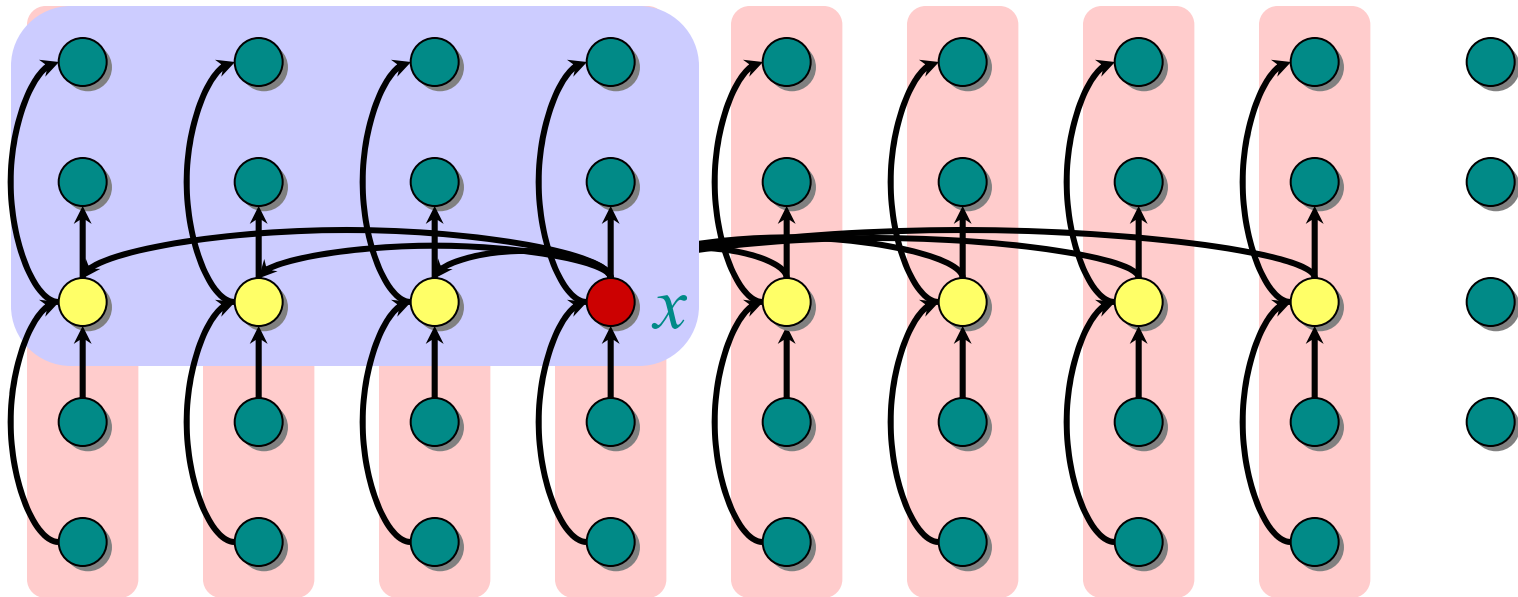
At least half the group medians are $\leq x$, which is at least $\lfloor \lfloor n/5 \rfloor / 2 \rfloor = \lfloor n/10 \rfloor$ group medians.

lesser



greater

Analysis (Assume all elements are distinct.)



At least half the group medians are $\leq x$, which is at least $\lfloor \lfloor n/5 \rfloor / 2 \rfloor = \lfloor n/10 \rfloor$ group medians.

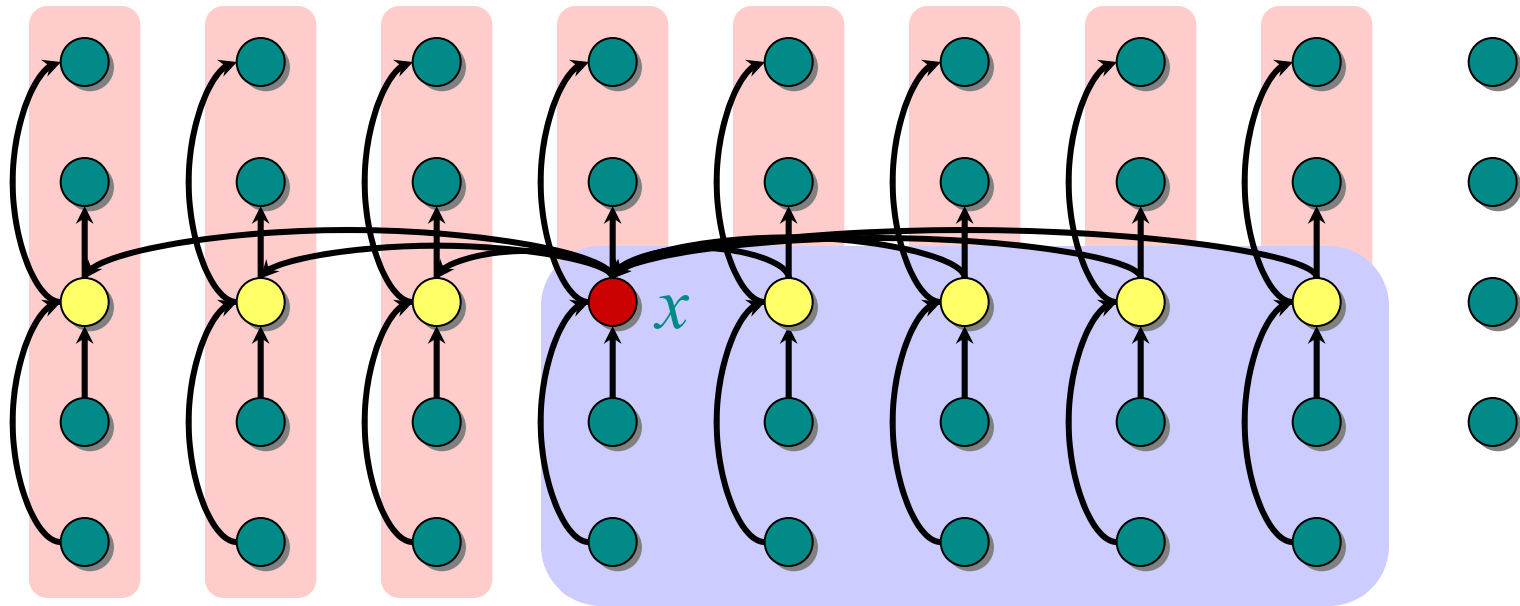
- Therefore, at least $3 \lfloor n/10 \rfloor$ elements are $\leq x$.

lesser



greater

Analysis (Assume all elements are distinct.)



At least half the group medians are $\leq x$, which is at least $\lfloor \lfloor n/5 \rfloor / 2 \rfloor = \lfloor n/10 \rfloor$ group medians.

- Therefore, at least $3\lfloor n/10 \rfloor$ elements are $\leq x$.
- Similarly, at least $3\lfloor n/10 \rfloor$ elements are $\geq x$.

lesser



greater

Minor simplification

- For $n \geq 50$, we have $3\lfloor n/10 \rfloor \geq n/4$.
- Therefore, for $n \geq 50$ the recursive call to SELECT in Step 4 is executed recursively on $\leq 3n/4$ elements.
- Thus, the recurrence for running time can assume that Step 4 takes time $T(3n/4)$ in the worst case.
- For $n < 50$, we know that the worst-case time is $T(n) = \Theta(1)$.

Developing the recurrence

<u>$T(n)$</u>	SELECT(i, n)
$\Theta(n)$	{ 1. Divide the n elements into groups of 5. Find the median of each 5-element group by rote.
$T(n/5)$	{ 2. Recursively SELECT the median x of the $\lfloor n/5 \rfloor$ group medians to be the pivot.
$\Theta(n)$	3. Partition around the pivot x . Let $k = \text{rank}(x)$.
$T(3n/4)$	{ 4. if $i = k$ then return x elseif $i < k$ then recursively SELECT the i th smallest element in the lower part else recursively SELECT the $(i-k)$ th smallest element in the upper part

Solving the recurrence

$$T(n) = T\left(\frac{1}{5}n\right) + T\left(\frac{3}{4}n\right) + \Theta(n)$$

Substitution:

$$T(n) \leq cn$$

$$T(n) \leq \frac{1}{5}cn + \frac{3}{4}cn + \Theta(n)$$

$$= \frac{19}{20}cn + \Theta(n)$$

$$= cn - \left(\frac{1}{20}cn - \Theta(n)\right)$$

$$\leq cn ,$$

if c is chosen large enough to handle both the $\Theta(n)$ and the initial conditions.

Conclusions

- Since the work at each level of recursion is a constant fraction ($19/20$) smaller, the work per level is a geometric series dominated by the linear work at the root.
- In practice, this algorithm runs slowly, because the constant in front of n is large.
- The randomized algorithm is far more practical.

Exercise: *Why not divide into groups of 3?*