

Chapter 18

Searching and Sorting

Chapter Scope

- Linear search and binary search algorithms
- Several sorting algorithms, including:
 - selection sort
 - insertion sort
 - bubble sort
 - quick sort
 - merge sort
- Complexity of the search and sort algorithms

Searching

- *Searching* is the process of finding a *target element* among a group of items (the *search pool*), or determining that it isn't there
- This requires repetitively comparing the target to candidates in the search pool
- An efficient search performs no more comparisons than it has to

Searching

- We'll define the algorithms such that they can search any set of objects, therefore we will search objects that implement the `Comparable` interface
- Recall that the `compareTo` method returns an integer that specifies the relationship between two objects:

`obj1.compareTo(obj2)`

- This call returns a number less than, equal to, or greater than 0 if `obj1` is less than, equal to, or greater than `obj2`, respectively

Generic Methods

- A class that works on a generic type must be instantiated
- Since our methods will be static, we'll define each method to be a *generic method*
- A generic method header contains the generic type before the return type of the method:

```
public static <T extends Comparable<T>> boolean  
    linearSearch(T[] data, int min, int max, T target)
```

Generic Methods

- The generic type can be used in the return type, the parameter list, and the method body

Generic Method

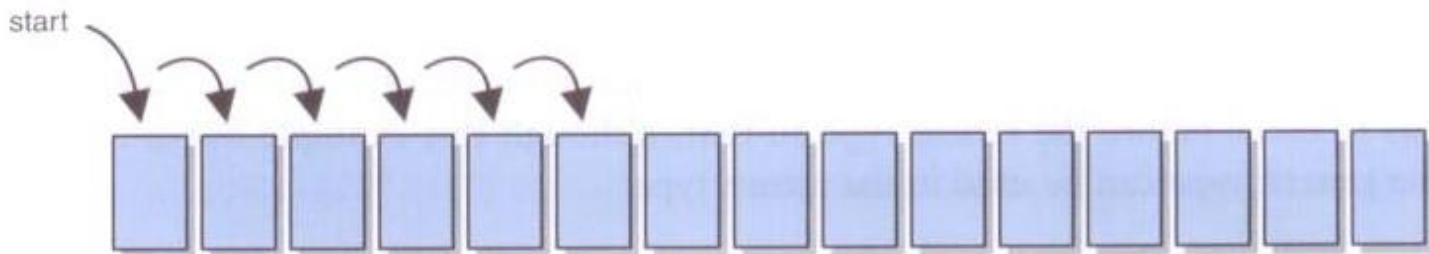
generic type parameter applies to this method

```
public static <T extends Comparable<T>> boolean  
    linearSearch(T[] data, int min, int max, T target)
```

generic type can be used in
method parameters and return type

Linear Search

- A *linear search* simply examines each item in the search pool, one at a time, until either the target is found or until the pool is exhausted
- This approach does not assume the items in the search pool are in any particular order



```

/**
 * Searches the specified array of objects using a linear search
 * algorithm.
 *
 * @param data    the array to be searched
 * @param min     the integer representation of the minimum value
 * @param max     the integer representation of the maximum value
 * @param target  the element being searched for
 * @return        true if the desired element is found
 */
public static <T>
    boolean linearSearch(T[] data, int min, int max, T target)
{
    int index = min;
    boolean found = false;

    while (!found && index <= max)
    {
        found = data[index].equals(target);
        index++;
    }

    return found;
}

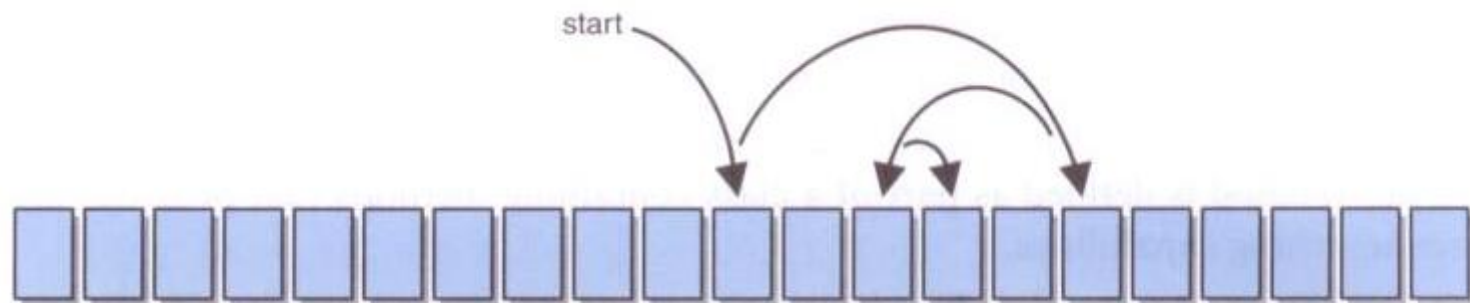
```


Binary Search

- If the search pool is sorted, then we can be more efficient than a linear search
- A *binary search* eliminates large parts of the search pool with each comparison
- Instead of starting the search at one end, we begin in the middle
- If the target isn't found, we know that if it is in the pool at all, it is in one half or the other
- We can then jump to the middle of that half, and continue similarly

Binary Search

- Each comparison in a binary search eliminates half of the viable candidates that remain in the search pool:



Binary Search

- For example, find the number 29 in the following sorted list of numbers:

8 15 22 29 36 54 55 61 70 73 88

- First, compare the target to the middle value 54
- We now know that if 29 is in the list, it is in the front half of the list
- With one comparison, we've eliminated half of the data
- Then compare to 22, eliminating another quarter of the data, etc.

Binary Search

- A binary search algorithm is often implemented recursively
- Each recursive call searches a smaller portion of the search pool
- The base case is when there are no more viable candidates
- At any point there may be two “middle” values, in which case the first is used

```

/**
 * Searches the specified array of objects using a binary search
 * algorithm.
 *
 * @param data    the array to be searched
 * @param min     the integer representation of the minimum value
 * @param max     the integer representation of the maximum value
 * @param target  the element being searched for
 * @return        true if the desired element is found
 */
public static <T extends Comparable<T>>
    boolean binarySearch(T[] data, int min, int max, T target)
{
    boolean found = false;
    int midpoint = (min + max) / 2;  // determine the midpoint

    if (data[midpoint].compareTo(target) == 0)
        found = true;

    else if (data[midpoint].compareTo(target) > 0)
    {
        if (min <= midpoint - 1)
            found = binarySearch(data, min, midpoint - 1, target);
    }

    else if (midpoint + 1 <= max)
        found = binarySearch(data, midpoint + 1, max, target);

    return found;
}

```

Comparing Search Algorithms

- The expected case for finding an element with a linear search is $n/2$, which is $O(n)$
- Worst case is also $O(n)$
- The worst case for binary search is $(\log_2 n) / 2$ comparisons
- Which makes binary search $O(\log n)$
- Keep in mind that for binary search to work, the elements must be already sorted

Sorting

- *Sorting* is the process of arranging a group of items into a defined order based on particular criteria
- Many sorting algorithms have been designed
- *Sequential sorts* require approximately n^2 comparisons to sort n elements
- *Logarithmic sorts* typically require $n \log_2 n$ comparisons to sort n elements
- Let's define a generic sorting problem that any of our sorting algorithms could help solve
- As with searching, we must be able to compare one element to another

```

/**
 * SortPhoneList driver for testing an object selection sort.
 *
 * @author Java Foundations
 * @version 4.0
 */
public class SortPhoneList
{
    /**
     * Creates an array of Contact objects, sorts them, then prints
     * them.
     */
    public static void main(String[] args)
    {
        Contact[] friends = new Contact[7];

        friends[0] = new Contact("John", "Smith", "610-555-7384");
        friends[1] = new Contact("Sarah", "Barnes", "215-555-3827");
        friends[2] = new Contact("Mark", "Riley", "733-555-2969");
        friends[3] = new Contact("Laura", "Getz", "663-555-3984");
        friends[4] = new Contact("Larry", "Smith", "464-555-3489");
        friends[5] = new Contact("Frank", "Phelps", "322-555-2284");
        friends[6] = new Contact("Marsha", "Grant", "243-555-2837");

        Sorting.insertionSort(friends);

        for (Contact friend : friends)
            System.out.println(friend);
    }
}

```



```

/**
 * Contact represents a phone contact.
 *
 * @author Java Foundations
 * @version 4.0
 */
public class Contact implements Comparable<Contact>
{
    private String firstName, lastName, phone;

    /**
     * Sets up this contact with the specified information.
     *
     * @param first      a string representation of a first name
     * @param last       a string representation of a last name
     * @param telephone a string representation of a phone number
     */
    public Contact(String first, String last, String telephone)
    {
        firstName = first;
        lastName = last;
        phone = telephone;
    }
}

```

```

/**
 * Returns a description of this contact as a string.
 *
 * @return a string representation of this contact
 */
public String toString()
{
    return lastName + ", " + firstName + "\t" + phone;
}

/**
 * Uses both last and first names to determine lexical ordering.
 *
 * @param other the contact to be compared to this contact
 * @return      the integer result of the comparison
 */
public int compareTo(Contact other)
{
    int result;

    if (lastName.equals(other.lastName))
        result = firstName.compareTo(other.firstName);
    else
        result = lastName.compareTo(other.lastName);

    return result;
}
}

```

Selection Sort

- *Selection sort* orders a list of values by repetitively putting a particular value into its final position
- More specifically:
 - find the smallest value in the list
 - switch it with the value in the first position
 - find the next smallest value in the list
 - switch it with the value in the second position
 - repeat until all values are in their proper places

Selection Sort

Scan right starting with 3.
1 is the smallest. Exchange 1 and 3.



Scan right starting with 9.
2 is the smallest. Exchange 9 and 2.



Scan right starting with 6.
3 is the smallest. Exchange 6 and 3.



Scan right starting with 6.
6 is the smallest. Exchange 6 and 6.



```

/**
 * Sorts the specified array of integers using the selection
 * sort algorithm.
 *
 * @param data the array to be sorted
 */
public static <T extends Comparable<T>>
    void selectionSort(T[] data)
{
    int min;
    T temp;

    for (int index = 0; index < data.length-1; index++)
    {
        min = index;
        for (int scan = index+1; scan < data.length; scan++)
            if (data[scan].compareTo(data[min])<0)
                min = scan;

        swap(data, min, index);
    }
}

```

```

/**
 * Swaps two elements in an array. Used by various sorting algorithms.
 *
 * @param data    the array in which the elements are swapped
 * @param index1  the index of the first element to be swapped
 * @param index2  the index of the second element to be swapped
 */
private static <T extends Comparable<T>>
    void swap(T[] data, int index1, int index2)
{
    T temp = data[index1];
    data[index1] = data[index2];
    data[index2] = temp;
}

```

Insertion Sort

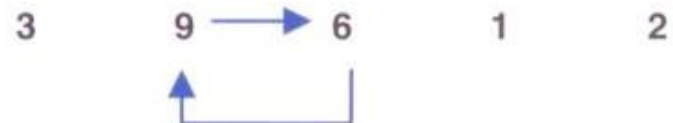
- *Insertion sort* orders a values by repetitively inserting a particular value into a sorted subset of the list
- More specifically:
 - consider the first item to be a sorted sublist of length 1
 - insert the second item into the sorted sublist, shifting the first item if needed
 - insert the third item into the sorted sublist, shifting the other items as needed
 - repeat until all values have been inserted into their proper positions

Insertion Sort

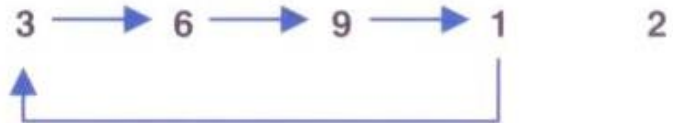
3 is sorted.
Shift nothing. Insert 9.



3 and 9 are sorted.
Shift 9 to the right. Insert 6.



3, 6, and 9 are sorted.
Shift 9, 6, and 3 to the right. Insert 1.



1, 3, 6, and 9 are sorted.
Shift 9, 6, and 3 to the right. Insert 2.




```

/**
 * Sorts the specified array of objects using an insertion
 * sort algorithm.
 *
 * @param data the array to be sorted
 */
public static <T extends Comparable<T>>
    void insertionSort(T[] data)
{
    for (int index = 1; index < data.length; index++)
    {
        T key = data[index];
        int position = index;

        // shift larger values to the right
        while (position > 0 && data[position-1].compareTo(key) > 0)
        {
            data[position] = data[position-1];
            position--;
        }

        data[position] = key;
    }
}

```

Bubble Sort

- *Bubble sort* orders a list of values by repetitively comparing neighboring elements and swapping their positions if necessary
- More specifically:
 - scan the list, exchanging adjacent elements if they are not in relative order; this bubbles the highest value to the top
 - scan the list again, bubbling up the second highest value
 - repeat until all elements have been placed in their proper order

```

/**
 * Sorts the specified array of objects using a bubble sort
 * algorithm.
 *
 * @param data the array to be sorted
 */
public static <T extends Comparable<T>>
    void bubbleSort(T[] data)
{
    int position, scan;
    T temp;

    for (position = data.length - 1; position >= 0; position--)
    {
        for (scan = 0; scan <= position - 1; scan++)
        {
            if (data[scan].compareTo(data[scan+1]) > 0)
                swap(data, scan, scan + 1);
        }
    }
}

```

Quick Sort

- *Quick sort* orders values by partitioning the list around one element, then sorting each partition
- More specifically:
 - choose one element in the list to be the partition element
 - organize the elements so that all elements less than the partition element are to the left and all greater are to the right
 - apply the quick sort algorithm (recursively) to both partitions

```
/**
 * Sorts the specified array of objects using the quick sort algorithm.
 *
 * @param data the array to be sorted
 */
public static <T extends Comparable<T>>
    void quickSort(T[] data)
{
    quickSort(data, 0, data.length - 1);
}
```

```

/**
 * Recursively sorts a range of objects in the specified array using the
 * quick sort algorithm.
 *
 * @param data the array to be sorted
 * @param min  the minimum index in the range to be sorted
 * @param max  the maximum index in the range to be sorted
 */
private static <T extends Comparable<T>>
    void quickSort(T[] data, int min, int max)
{
    if (min < max)
    {
        // create partitions
        int indexofpartition = partition(data, min, max);

        // sort the left partition (lower values)
        quickSort(data, min, indexofpartition - 1);

        // sort the right partition (higher values)
        quickSort(data, indexofpartition + 1, max);
    }
}

```

```

/**
 * Used by the quick sort algorithm to find the partition.
 *
 * @param data the array to be sorted
 * @param min  the minimum index in the range to be sorted
 * @param max  the maximum index in the range to be sorted
 */
private static <T extends Comparable<T>>
    int partition(T[] data, int min, int max)
{
    T partitionelement;
    int left, right;
    int middle = (min + max) / 2;

    // use the middle data value as the partition element
    partitionelement = data[middle];
    // move it out of the way for now
    swap(data, middle, min);

    left = min;
    right = max;

```

```

while (left < right)
{
    // search for an element that is > the partition element
    while (left < right && data[left].compareTo(partitionelement) <= 0)
        left++;

    // search for an element that is < the partition element
    while (data[right].compareTo(partitionelement) > 0)
        right--;

    // swap the elements
    if (left < right)
        swap(data, left, right);
}

// move the partition element into place
swap(data, min, right);

return right;
}

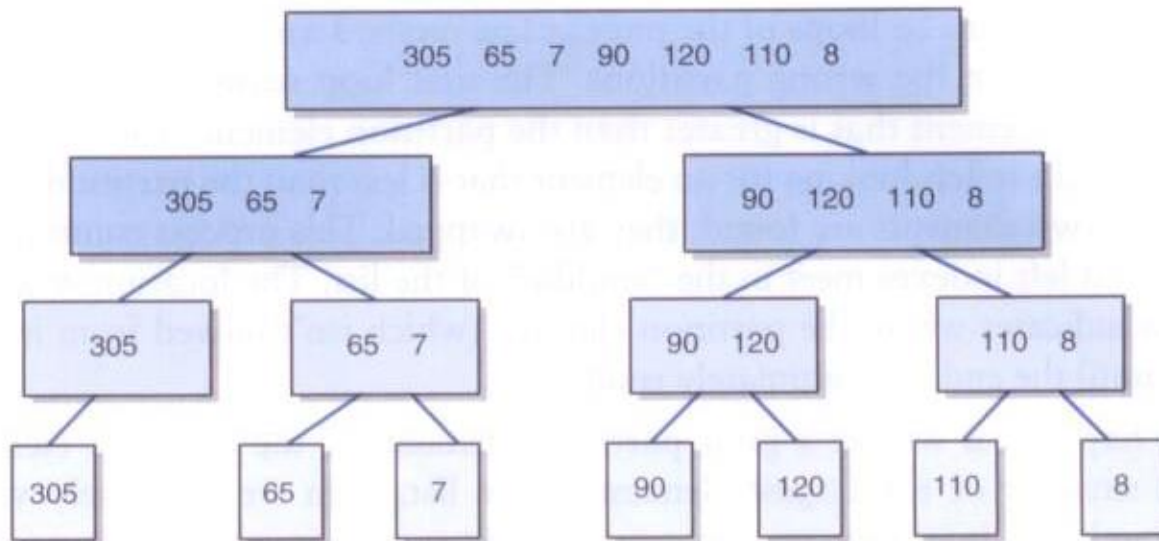
```


Merge Sort

- *Merge sort* orders values by recursively dividing the list in half until each sub-list has one element, then recombining
- More specifically:
 - divide the list into two roughly equal parts
 - recursively divide each part in half, continuing until a part contains only one element
 - merge the two parts into one sorted list
 - continue to merge parts as the recursion unfolds

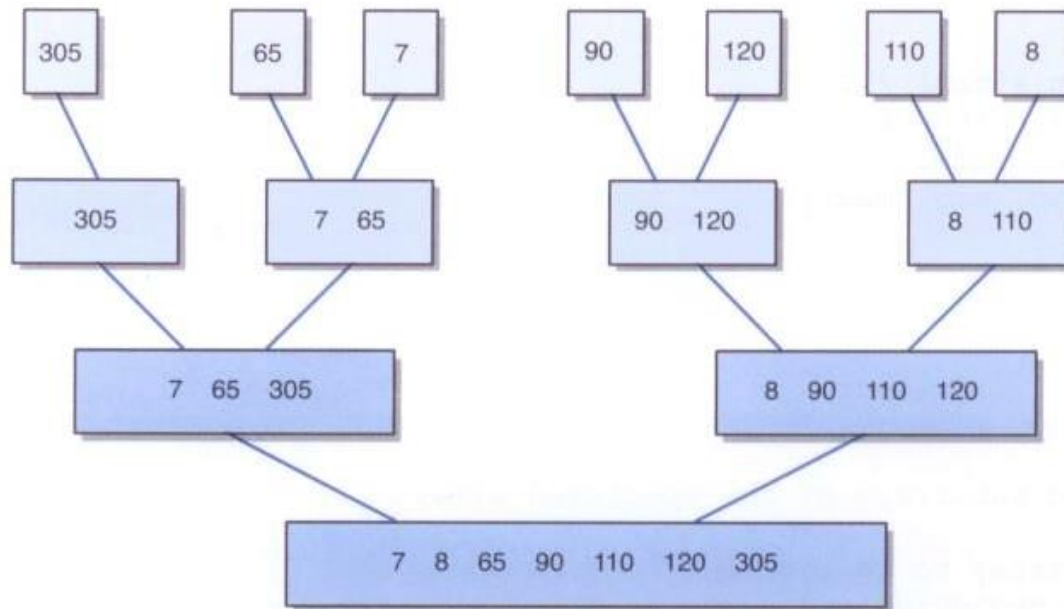
Merge Sort

- Dividing lists in half repeatedly:



Merge Sort

- Merging sorted elements



```

/**
 * Sorts the specified array of objects using the merge sort
 * algorithm.
 *
 * @param data the array to be sorted
 */
public static <T extends Comparable<T>>
    void mergeSort(T[] data)
{
    mergeSort(data, 0, data.length - 1);
}

/**
 * Recursively sorts a range of objects in the specified array using the
 * merge sort algorithm.
 *
 * @param data the array to be sorted
 * @param min the index of the first element
 * @param max the index of the last element
 */
private static <T extends Comparable<T>>
    void mergeSort(T[] data, int min, int max)
{
    if (min < max)
    {
        int mid = (min + max) / 2;
        mergeSort(data, min, mid);
        mergeSort(data, mid+1, max);
        merge(data, min, mid, max);
    }
}

```

```

/**
 * Merges two sorted subarrays of the specified array.
 *
 * @param data the array to be sorted
 * @param first the beginning index of the first subarray
 * @param mid the ending index fo the first subarray
 * @param last the ending index of the second subarray
 */
@SuppressWarnings("unchecked")
private static <T extends Comparable<T>>
    void merge(T[] data, int first, int mid, int last)
{
    T[] temp = (T[]) (new Comparable[data.length]);

    int first1 = first, last1 = mid; // endpoints of first subarray
    int first2 = mid+1, last2 = last; // endpoints of second subarray
    int index = first1; // next index open in temp array

    // Copy smaller item from each subarray into temp until one
    // of the subarrays is exhausted
    while (first1 <= last1 && first2 <= last2)
    {
        if (data[first1].compareTo(data[first2]) < 0)
        {
            temp[index] = data[first1];
            first1++;
        }
    }
}

```

```

        else
        {
            temp[index] = data[first2];
            first2++;
        }
        index++;
    }

    // Copy remaining elements from first subarray, if any
    while (first1 <= last1)
    {
        temp[index] = data[first1];
        first1++;
        index++;
    }

    // Copy remaining elements from second subarray, if any
    while (first2 <= last2)
    {
        temp[index] = data[first2];
        first2++;
        index++;
    }

    // Copy merged data into original array
    for (index = first; index <= last; index++)
        data[index] = temp[index];
}

```

Comparing Sorts

- Selection sort, insertion sort, and bubble sort use different techniques, but are all $O(n^2)$
- They are all based in a nested loop approach
- In quick sort, if the partition element divides the elements in half, each recursive call operates on about half the data
- The act of partitioning the elements at each level is $O(n)$
- The effort to sort the entire list is $O(n \log n)$
- It could deteriorate to $O(n^2)$ if the partition element is poorly chosen

Comparing Sorts

- Merge sort divides the list repeatedly in half, which results in the $O(\log n)$ portion
- The act of merging is $O(n)$
- So the efficiency of merge sort is $O(n \log n)$
- Selection, insertion, and bubble sorts are called *quadratic sorts*
- Quick sort and merge sort are called *logarithmic sorts*

Radix Sort

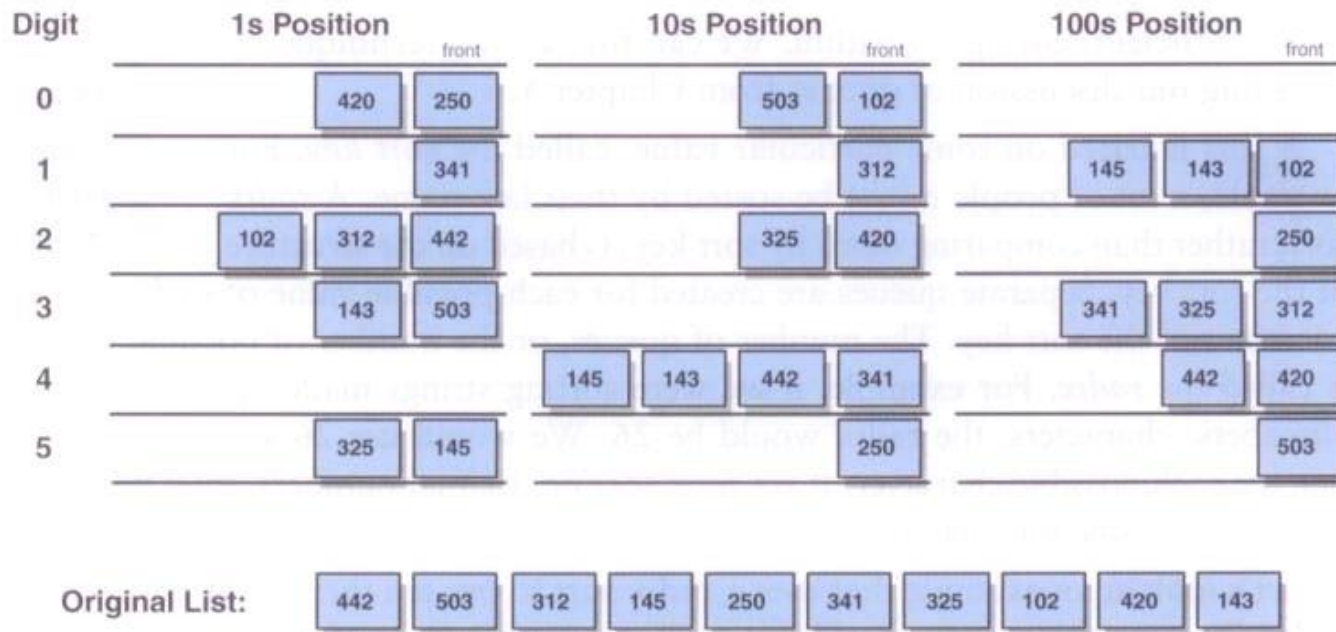
- Let's look at one other sorting algorithm, which only works when a *sort key* can be defined
- Separate queues are used to store elements based on the structure of the sort key
- For example, to sort decimal numbers, we'd use ten queues, one for each possible digit (0 – 9)
- To keep our example simpler, we'll restrict our values to the digits 0 - 5

Radix Sort

- The radix sort makes three passes through the data, for each position of our 3-digit numbers
- A value is put on the queue corresponding to that position's digit
- Once all three passes are finished, the data is sorted in each queue

Radix Sort

- An example using six queues to sort 10 three-digit numbers:



```

import java.util.*;

/**
 * RadixSort driver demonstrates the use of queues in the execution of a radix sort.
 *
 * @author Java Foundations
 * @version 4.0
 */
public class RadixSort
{
    /**
     * Performs a radix sort on a set of numeric values.
     */
    public static void main(String[] args)
    {
        int[] list = {7843, 4568, 8765, 6543, 7865, 4532, 9987, 3241,
                     6589, 6622, 1211};

        String temp;
        Integer numObj;
        int digit, num;

        Queue<Integer>[] digitQueues = (LinkedList<Integer>[])(new LinkedList[10]);
        for (int digitVal = 0; digitVal <= 9; digitVal++)
            digitQueues[digitVal] = (Queue<Integer>)(new LinkedList<Integer>());
    }
}

```

```

// sort the list
for (int position=0; position <= 3; position++)
{
    for (int scan=0; scan < list.length; scan++)
    {
        temp = String.valueOf(list[scan]);
        digit = Character.digit(temp.charAt(3-position), 10);
        digitQueues[digit].add(new Integer(list[scan]));
    }

    // gather numbers back into list
    num = 0;
    for (int digitVal = 0; digitVal <= 9; digitVal++)
    {
        while (!(digitQueues[digitVal].isEmpty()))
        {
            numObj = digitQueues[digitVal].remove();
            list[num] = numObj.intValue();
            num++;
        }
    }
}

// output the sorted list
for (int scan=0; scan < list.length; scan++)
    System.out.println(list[scan]);
}
}

```

Radix Sort

