



Chapter 2

Divide and Conquer



Objectives

- Describe the divide-and-conquer approach to solving problems
- Apply the divide-and-conquer approach to solve a problem
- Determine complexity analysis of divide and conquer algorithms

2.1 Binary Search

- We present a **recursive** . The steps are
If x equals the middle item, quit. Otherwise:
 1. **Divide** the array into two subarrays about half .
 - a) If x is **smaller** than the **middle** item, choose the **left** subarray.
 - b) If x is **larger** than the middle item, choose the **right** subarray.
 2. **Conquer** (solve) the subarray : whether x is in that subarray.
Unless the subarray is sufficiently small, use recursion to do this.
 3. Obtain the solution to the array from the solution to the subarray.



Binary search

Example:

10 12 13 14 18 20 25 27 30 35 40 45 47

Algorithm 2.1

Binary Search (Recursive)

- Problem: ... Inputs: ... Outputs: the location ...

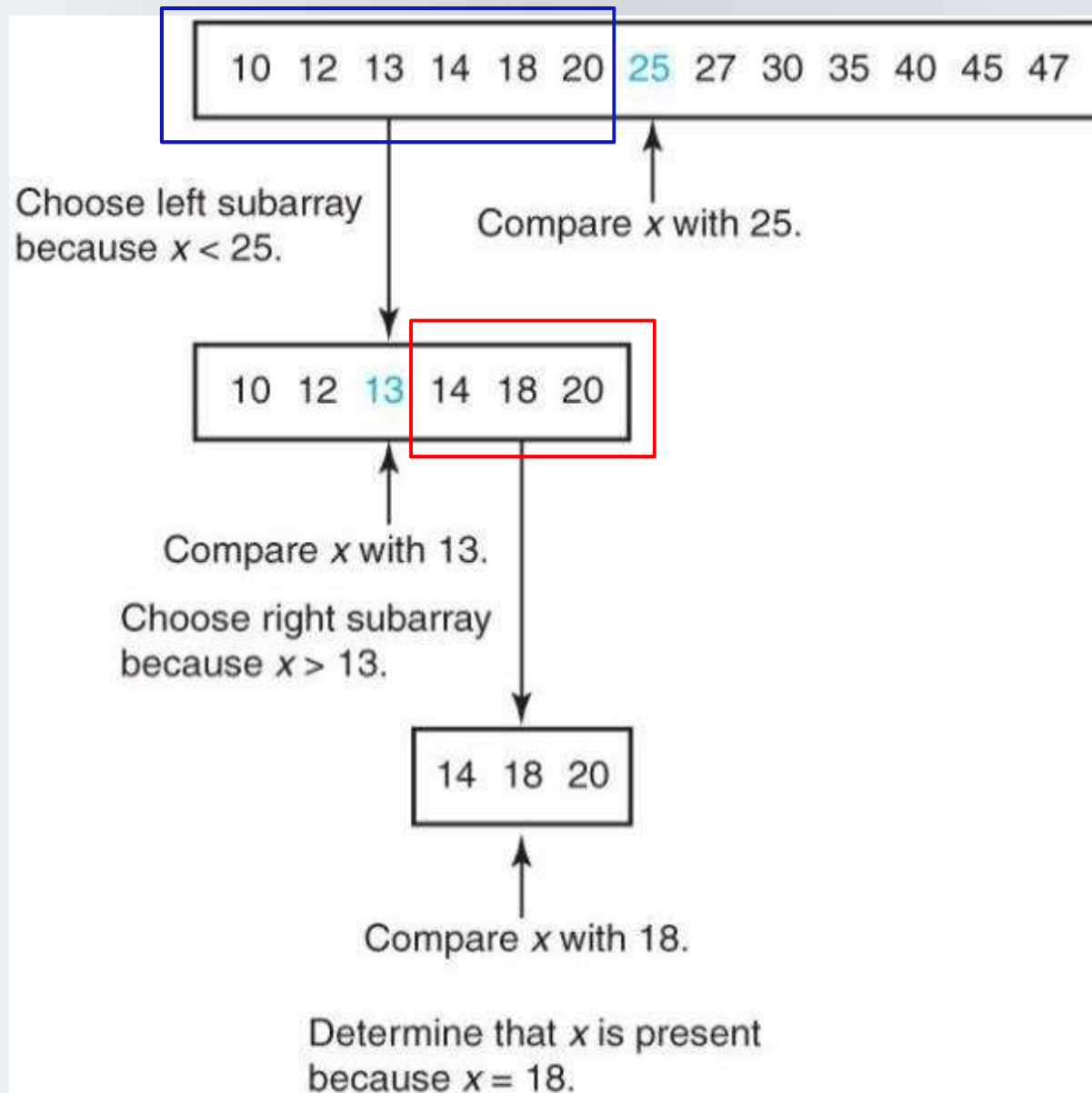
```
void location (index low, index high)
{
    index mid;
    if (low > high )
        return 0;
    else {
        mid =  $\lfloor (low + high) / 2 \rfloor$ ;
        if ( x == S [ mid ] ) return mid
        else if ( x < S [ mid ] ) return location (low, mid - 1);
        else
            return location ( mid + 1, high )
    }
}
```



- n, S, and x are **not** parameters to function location.
Because
 - they remain unchanged in each recursive call,
 - a new copy of any variable passed to the routine is made in each recursive call.
 - If a variable's value does **not change**, the copy is unnecessary.

n = 13 elements, search x=18

7



- **Tail-recursion** : no operations are done after the recursive call
- When a routine calls another routine, it is necessary to save the first routine's pending results by pushing them onto the stack of activation records and so on.
- When control is returned to a calling routine, its activation record is popped from the stack .
- The number of **activation records** pushed onto the stack is determined by the **depth** reached in the recursive calls.
- For Binary Search, the stack reaches a depth that in the worst case is about $\lg n + 1$.

Algorithm 1.5

Binary Search

Problem: Determine whether x is in the sorted array S of n keys.

Inputs: positive integer n , sorted (nondecreasing order) array of keys S indexed from 1 to n , a key x .

Outputs: *location*, the location of x in S (0 if x is not in S).

```

void binsearch (int n,
                const keytype S[],
                keytype x,
                index& location)
{
    index low, high, mid;

    low = 1; high = n;
    location = 0;
    while (low <= high && location == 0){
        mid = (low + high)/2;
        if (x == S[mid])
            location = mid;
        else if (x < S[mid])
            high = mid - 1;
        else
            low = mid + 1;
    }
}

```



Worst Case Complexity Analysis

- x is larger than all array items.
- n is a power of 2 and $x > S[n]$
- $W(n)$ = the number of comparisons in the recursive call
- $W(n) = W(n/2) + 1$ for $n > 1$ and n power of 2
- $W(1) = 1$
- Example B1 in Appendix B:
 - $W(n) = \lg n + 1$
- n not a power of 2 (exercise)
 - $W(n) = \lfloor \lg n \rfloor + 1 \in \theta(\lg n)$

- **Algorithm B.1 - Factorial**

- Problem: Determine $n! = n * (n - 1)!$ if $n \geq 1$.

$$0! = 1$$

- t_n : the number of multiplications done for a given value of n

$$t_n = t_{n-1} + 1$$

- *initial condition* : no multiplications when $n = 0 \rightarrow t_0 = 0$



$$t_1 = 1$$

$$t_2 = t_1 + 1 = 2$$

$$t_3 = 3$$

...

$$t_n = n$$

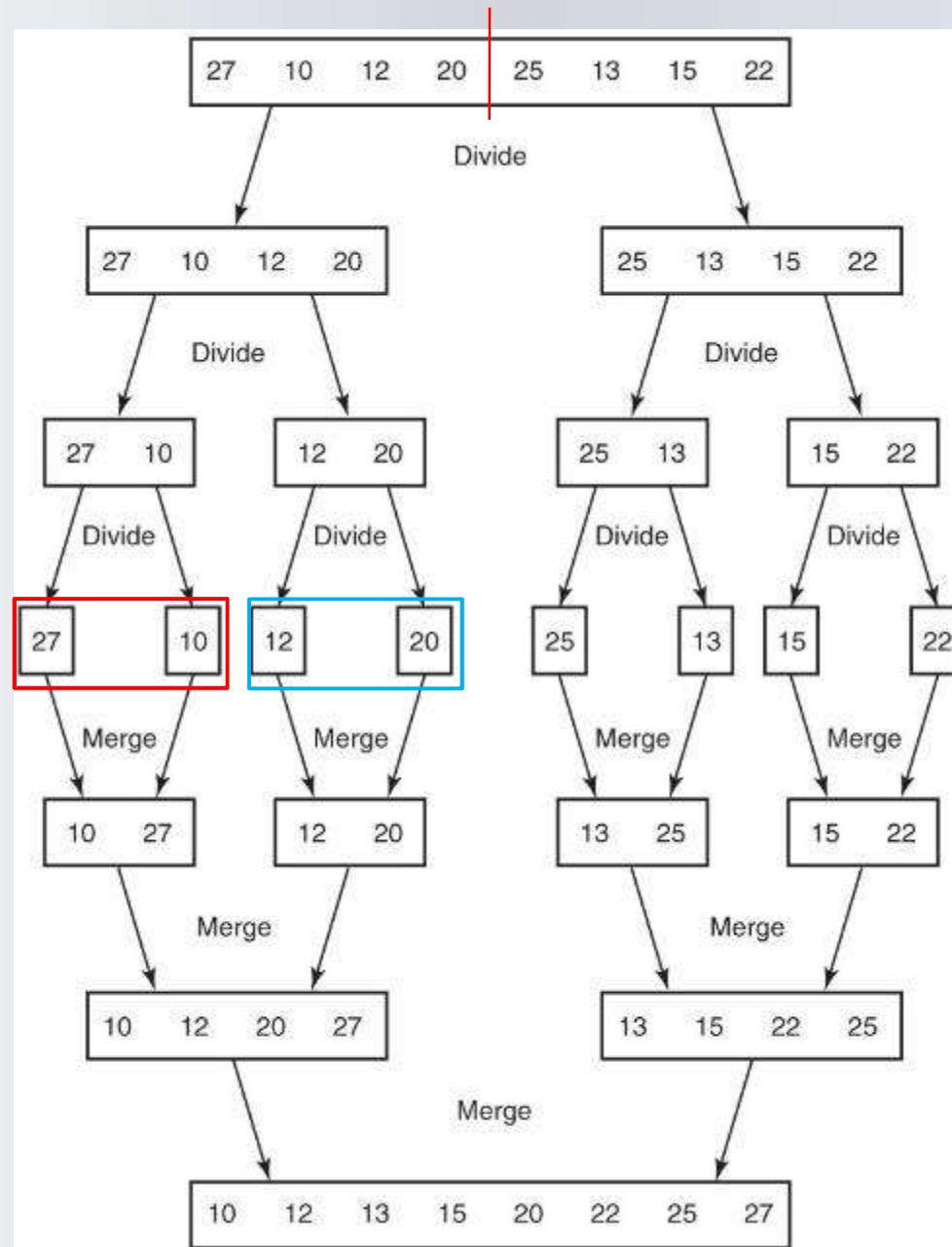
Proof by induction



2.2 Mergesort

- Sort an array S of size n (let n be a power of 2)
- *Divide* S into 2 sub-arrays of size $n/2$
- *Conquer* (solve) recursively sort each sub-array until array is sufficiently small (size 1)
- *Combine* merge the solutions to the sub-arrays into a single sorted array

Figure 2.2



Algorithm 2.2 - Mergesort

Problem: Sort n keys in nondecreasing sequence.

Inputs: +ve int n , array of keys S indexed from 1 to n .

Outputs: the sorted array S in nondec. order.

```
void mergesort (int n, keytype S [ ])
{
    if (n > 1) {
        const int h =  $\lfloor n / 2 \rfloor$ ; m = n - h;
        keytype U [1 .. h], V [1 .. m],
        copy S [ 1 ] through S [ h ] to U [1 ] through U [ h ];
        copy S [ h + 1 ] through S [ n ] to V [1 ] through V [ m ];
        mergesort ( h, U);
        mergesort ( m, V);
        merge ( h, m, U, V, S);
    }
}
```



Algorithm 2.3 - Merge

- Merges the two arrays **U** and **V** :
- **Input size**
 - h the number of items in U
 - m the number of items in V
- Outputs: the array S containing the keys in nondecreasing order.


```

void merge (int h, int m, const keytype U[],
            const keytype V[],
            keytype S[])
{
    index i, j, k;

    i = 1; j = 1; k = 1;
    while (i <= h && j <= m){
        if (U[i] < V[j]) {
            S[k] = U[i];
            i++;
        }
        else {
            S[k] = V[j];
            j++;
        }
        k++;
    }
    if (i > h)
        copy V[j] through V[m] to S[k] through S[h+m];
    else
        copy U[i] through U[h] to S[k] through S[h+m];
}

```

k	U	V	$S(\text{Result})$
1	10 12 20 27	13 15 22 25	10
2	10 12 20 27	13 15 22 25	10 12
3	10 12 20 27	13 15 22 25	10 12 13
4	10 12 20 27	13 15 22 25	10 12 13 15
5	10 12 20 27	13 15 22 25	10 12 13 15 20
6	10 12 20 27	13 15 22 25	10 12 13 15 20 22
7	10 12 20 27	13 15 22 25	10 12 13 15 20 22 25
—	10 12 20 27	13 15 22 25	10 12 13 15 20 22 25 27 \leftarrow Final values

Worse-Case Time Complexity (Merge)

- The number of comparisons depends on both h and m .
- **Basic operation**: the comparison of $U[i]$ with $V[j]$.
- **Input size**: h and m ,
- The worst case : when one of the indices— say, i - has reached its exit point $h + 1$ whereas the other index j has reached m , 1 less than its exit point.
- at which time the loop is exited because i equals $h + 1$.

Therefore,

$$W(h, m) = h + m - 1$$

Worst-Case Time Complexity Analysis- Mergesort

- $W(n)$ = time to sort U + time to sort V + time to merge
- $W(n) = W(h) + W(m) + h+m-1$
- First analysis assumes **n is a power of 2**
 - $h = \lfloor n/2 \rfloor = n/2$
 - $m = n - h = n - n/2 = n/2$
 - $h + m = n/2 + n/2 = n$
- $W(n) = W(n/2) + W(n/2) + n - 1$
 $= 2W(n/2) + n-1$ for $n > 1$ and n a power of 2
- $W(1) = 0$

$$W(n) = 2W(n/2) + n-1 \text{ for } n > 1 \text{ and } n \text{ a power of } 2$$
$$W(1) = 0$$

- See [Example B19](#) in Appendix B



Example B19 in Appendix B

$$W(n) = (\log_2 n)n - (n - 1) \in \theta(n \lg n)$$



- **n not** a power of 2
- $W(n) = W(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor) + W(\lceil n/2 \rceil) + n - 1$
- From Theorem B4: ($W(n)$ *eventually nondecreasing*, $n \lg n$ is smooth)
- $W(n) \in \Theta(n \lg n)$



EXERCISE

Solve

$$T(n) = 2T(n/2) + n, T(1)=1$$



$$\begin{aligned}T(n) &= 2T(n/2) + n = 2[2T(n/2^2) + n/2] + n \\&= 2^2T(n/2^2) + 2n = 2^2[2T(n/2^3) + n/2^2] + 2n \\&= 2^3T(n/2^3) + 3n\end{aligned}$$

...

$$= 2^kT(n/2^k) + kn$$

If $n=2^k$ then we have

$$\begin{aligned}T(n) &= nT(1) + (\log_2 n)n = n + n \log_2 n \\&= \Theta(n \log_2 n)\end{aligned}$$



- An **in-place** sort is a sorting algorithm that does not use any **extra space** beyond that needed to store the input.
- Algorithm 2.2 is not an in-place sort (it uses U and V)
- At the top level, the sum of the numbers of items in these two arrays is n .
- However, it is possible to reduce the amount of extra space to only one array containing n items. This is accomplished by doing much of the manipulation on the input array S .

Algorithm 2.4 – Mergesort2

Problem: Sort n keys in nondecreasing sequence.

Inputs: +ve int n , array of keys S indexed from 1 to n .

Outputs: the sorted array S in nondec. order.

```
void mergesort2 (index low, index high)
{
    index mid;

    if (low < high) {
        mid =  $\lfloor (low + high) / 2 \rfloor$ ;
        mergesort2(low, mid);
        mergesort2(mid + 1, high);
        merge2(low, mid, high);
    }
}
```



Algorithm 2.5 - Merge 2

- Problem: Merge the two sorted subarrays of S created in *Mergesort 2*.
- Inputs: indices low, mid, and high, and the subarray of S indexed from low to high. The keys in array slots from low to mid are already sorted in nondecreasing order, as are the keys in array slots from mid + 1 to high.
- Outputs: the subarray of S indexed from low to high containing the keys in nondecreasing order.

```

void merge2 (index low, index mid, index high)
{
    index i, j, k;
    keytype U[low..high]; // A local array needed for the
                          // merging
    i = low; j = mid + 1; k = low;
    while (i ≤ mid && j ≤ high){
        if (S[i] < S[j]){
            U[k] = S[i]; i++; }

        else{
            U[k] = S[j]; j++; }
        k++;
    }
    if (i > mid)
        move S[j] through S[high] to U[k] through U[high];
    else
        move S[i] through S[mid] to U[k] through U[high];
    move U[low] through U[high] to S[low] through S[high];
}

```




2.4 Quicksort

- Array recursively divided into two partitions and recursively sorted
- Division based on a **pivot**
- pivot divides the array into two sub-arrays
- All items $<$ pivot placed in sub-array **before** pivot
- All items \geq pivot placed in sub-array **after** pivot

Example 2.3

- Suppose the array contains these numbers in sequence:

Pivot item

 15 22 13 27 12 10 20 25

Pivot item

 13 12 10 15 22 27 20 25

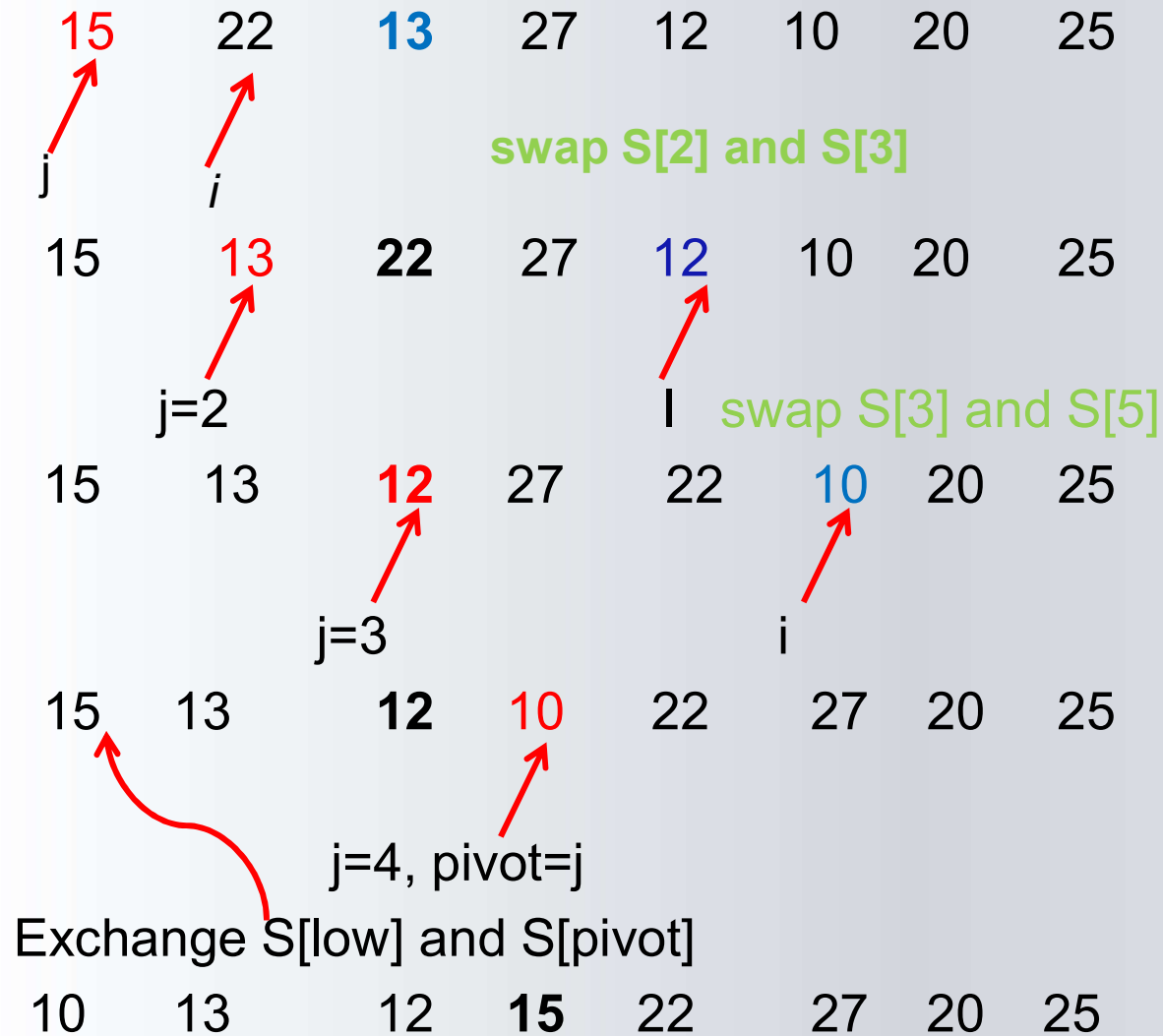
Sort the subarrays:

10 12 13 15 20 22 25 27

■ Algorithm 2.6 – Quicksort

- Problem: Sort n keys in nondecreasing order.
- Inputs: positive integer n , **array** of keys S indexed from 1 to n .
- Outputs: the array S containing the keys in nondecreasing

```
void quicksort(index low, index high)
{
    index pivotpoint;
    if (high > low){
        partition(low, high, pivotpoint);
        quicksort(low, pivotpoint - 1);
        quicksort(pivotpoint + 1, high);
    }
}
```



```

void partition (index low, index
high, index& pivot)
{
    index i,j; keytype pivotitem;
    pivotitem = S[low];
    j=low;
    for (i=low+1; i<=high; i++)
        if (S[i] < pivotitem){
            j++;
            swap S[i] and S[j];
        }
    pivot= j;
    swap S[low] and S[pivot];
}

```

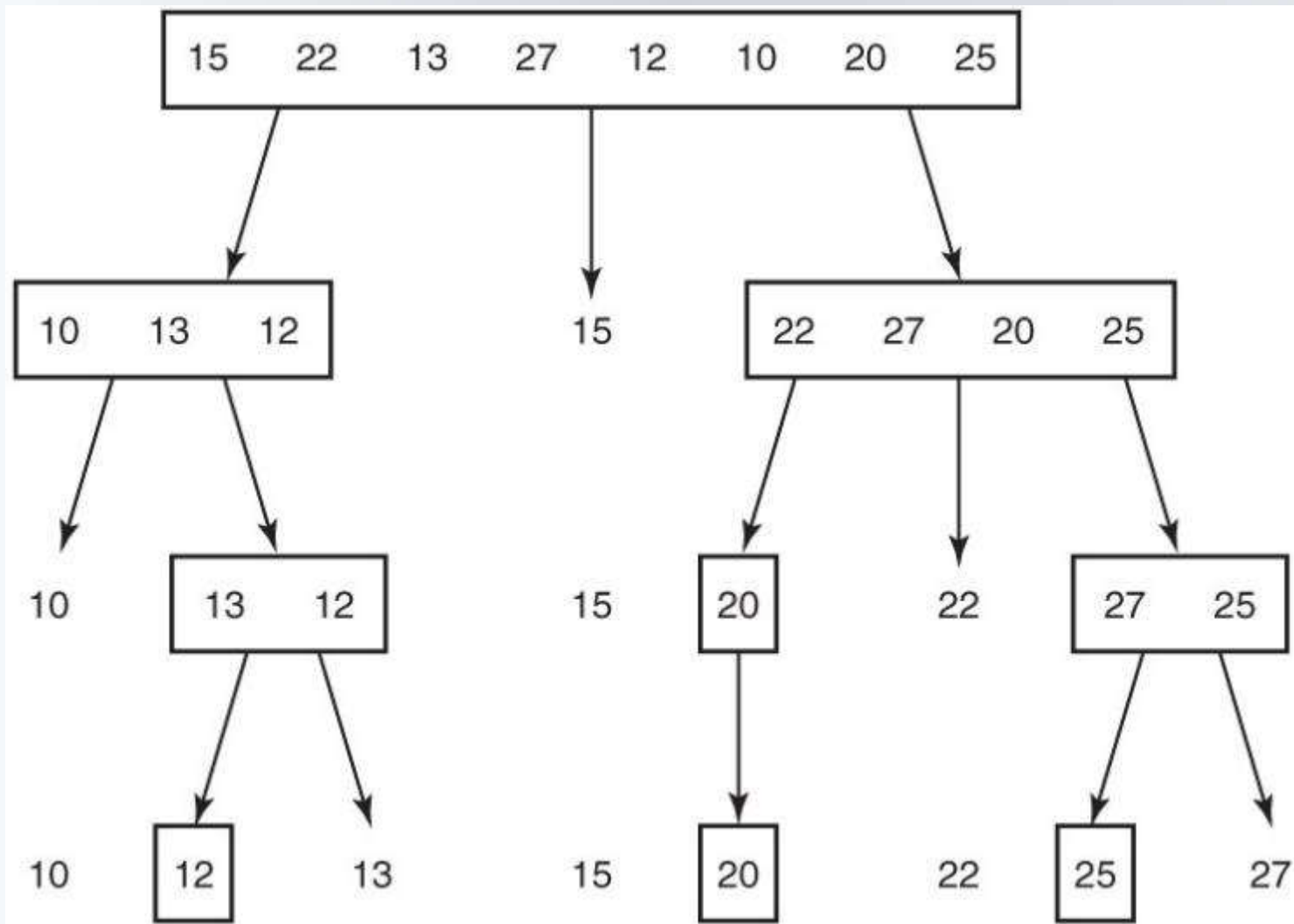

■ Algorithm 2.7 - Partition

- Problem: Partition the array *S* for Quicksort.
- Inputs: two indices, *low* and *high*, and the subarray of *S* [*low* ,*high*].
- Outputs: *pivotpoint*, the pivot point for the subarray *S* [*low* ,*high*].

void partition (index low, index high, index& pivot)

```
{
    index i,j; keytype pivotitem;
    pivotitem = S[low];
    j=low;
    for (i=low+1; i<=high; i++)
        if (S[i] < pivotitem){
            j++;
            swap S[i] and S[j];
        }
    pivot= j;
    swap S[low] and S[pivot];
}
```

Figure 2.3





Basic operation

- Comparison of $S[i]$ with pivot item
- Input size n



Every-Case Complexity Analysis of Partition

- Input size: $n = high - low + 1$, the number of items in the subarray.
- Because every item except the first is compared,
- $T(n) = n - 1$



Worst-Case Complexity Analysis of Quicksort

- Array is repeatedly sorted into an empty sub-array which is less than the pivot and a sub-array of $n-1$ containing items greater than pivot
- If there are k keys in the current sub-array, $k-1$ key comparisons are executed

Worst-Case Complexity Analysis of Quicksort

- the worst case occurs if the array is already sorted
- $T(n)$ is specified because analysis is for the every-case complexity for the class of instances **already sorted** in non-decreasing order

$T(n)$ = time to sort left sub-array + time to sort right sub-array + time to partition

$$T(n) = T(0) + T(n-1) + n - 1$$

$$T(n) = T(n - 1) + n - 1 \text{ for } n > 0$$

$$T(0) = 0$$

From B16

$$T(n) = n(n-1)/2$$



Worst Case

- Use induction to show it is the worst case
 $W(n) \leq n(n-1)/2$



Average-Case Time Complexity of Quicksort

- Value of pivotpoint is equally likely to be any of the numbers from 1 to n
- Average obtained is the average sorting time when every possible ordering is sorted the same number of times
- Let p be *the* value of *pivotpoint* returned by partition

$$A(n) = \sum_{p=1}^n \frac{1}{n} [A(p-1) + A(n-p)] + n - 1$$

$$A(n) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{p=1}^n [A(p-1) + A(n-p)] + n - 1$$

$$A(n) = \frac{2}{n} \sum_{p=1}^n A(p-1) + n - 1$$

Multiplying by n we have

$$nA(n) = 2 \sum_{p=1}^n A(p-1) + n(n-1). \quad (2.2)$$

Applying Equality 2.2 to $n-1$ gives

$$(n-1)A(n-1) = 2 \sum_{p=1}^{n-1} A(p-1) + (n-1)(n-2). \quad (2.3)$$

Subtracting Equality 2.3 from Equality 2.2 yields

$$nA(n) - (n-1)A(n-1) = 2A(n-1) + 2(n-1),$$

which simplifies to

$$\frac{A(n)}{n+1} = \frac{A(n-1)}{n} + \frac{2(n-1)}{n(n+1)}.$$

If we let

$$a_n = \frac{A(n)}{n+1},$$

we have the recurrence

$$a_n = a_{n-1} + \frac{2(n-1)}{n(n+1)} \quad \text{for } n > 0$$

$$a_0 = 0.$$

Like the recurrence in Example B.22 in [Appendix B](#), given by the approximate solution to this recurrence is

$$a_n \approx 2 \ln n,$$

which implies that

$$A(n) \approx (n+1) 2 \ln n = (n+1) 2 (\ln 2) (\lg n)$$

$$\approx 1.38 (n+1) \lg n \in \Theta(n \lg n).$$