

# Randomization

## Shared Channel

## Quick Select

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A deterministic algorithm never sends a message!

$n$  clients

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no feedback

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A randomized algorithm:

each client sends their message at each timestep with prob  $p$ .

How long before every client sends their message?

What is the probability that client  $i$  succeeds at time  $t$ ?

1. client  $i$  sends their message
2. no one else does

$S[i, t]$  is the event that client  $i$  succeeds at time  $t$

$A[j, t]$  is the event that client  $j$  sends at time  $t$ .

$$S[i, t] = A[i, t] \wedge \left( \bigcap_{j \neq i} \overline{A[j, t]} \right)$$

$$p(S[i, t]) = p(A[i, t]) \cdot \prod_{j \neq i} p(\overline{A[j, t]}) = p(1-p)^{n-1}$$

Maximize  $p(1-p)^{n-1}$

$$\frac{d}{dp} p(1-p)^{n-1} = 1 \cdot (1-p)^{n-1} - p(n-1)(1-p)^{n-2} = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Solve for } p: (1-p)^{n-1} &= p(n-1)(1-p)^{n-2} \\ 1-p &= p(n-1) = pn - p \\ pn &= 1 \\ p &= \frac{1}{n}.\end{aligned}$$

Best choice for  $p$  is  $\frac{1}{n}$

$$\Rightarrow S[i, t] = \frac{1}{n} \left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right)^{n-1}.$$

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$$\Rightarrow p(S[i, t]) = \frac{1}{n} \left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right)^{n-1}.$$

Fact

1.  $\left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right)^{n-1}$  converges monotonically from  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{1}{e}$ .
2.  $\left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right)^n$  converges monotonically from  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{e}$ .

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{en} \leq p(S[i, t]) \leq \frac{1}{2n}$$

Define  $F[i, t]$  to be the probability that client doesn't succeed in any round from  $1, 2, \dots, t$ .

$$F[i, t] = \overline{\bigcap_{r=1}^t S[i, r]}$$

$$p(F[i, t]) = \prod_{r=1}^t p(\overline{S[i, r]})$$

$$\leq \left(1 - \frac{1}{en}\right)^t$$

$$= \left(1 - \frac{1}{en}\right)^{\lceil en \rceil}$$

$$\leq \left(1 - \frac{1}{en}\right)^{en} \leq \frac{1}{e}$$

Want this to look like  
 $\left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right)^n \dots$

What if  $t = \lceil en \rceil$ ?

Define  $F[i, t]$  to be the probability that client doesn't succeed in any round from  $1, 2, \dots, t$ .

$$F[i, t] \leq \left(1 - \frac{1}{en}\right)^t$$

Want  $< f$

If  $t = x \cdot en$

$$= \left(1 - \frac{1}{en}\right)^{x \cdot en}$$

$$= \left[\left(1 - \frac{1}{en}\right)^{en}\right]^x$$

$$\leq \left(\frac{1}{e}\right)^x < \left(\frac{1}{e}\right)^{\ln\left(\frac{1}{f}\right)} = e^{-\ln\left(\frac{1}{f}\right)} = \left(\frac{1}{f}\right)^{-1} = f.$$

$\Rightarrow$  Go  $t = \ln\left(\frac{1}{f}\right) en$   
time steps then  
succeed w/ prob  
 $\geq 1 - f$ .

Set  $x = \ln\left(\frac{1}{f}\right)$   
✓



Define  $F_t = \bigcup_{i=1}^n F[i, t]$

Prob that any client hasn't succeeded in any round  $1, \dots, t$ .

Apply Union Bound:  $p(F_t) \leq \sum_{i=1}^n p(F[i, t])$   
 $= n p(F[1, t])$

If we want this to be less than  $f$ , want  $p(F[1, t]) < \frac{f}{n}$

If we want any particular  $O(i)$  success, go  $O(n \log n)$  time steps.

Set  $f' = \frac{f}{n}$  on last slide  
 $\Rightarrow$  If  $t = \ln\left(\frac{n}{f}\right)en$ , then  
 $p(F[1, t]) < \frac{f}{n} \Rightarrow p(F_t) < f$ .

# Selection

Input : array of  $n$  numbers,  $x_1, \dots, x_n$   
Output : the  $k$ th smallest.

Simple algorithm: sort, then return  $k$ th index  $O(n \log n)$

QuickSelect is a randomized algorithm w/  
expected  $O(n)$  runtime  
worst case  $O(n^2)$  runtime.

Idea: Choose a random pivot.

Use divide and conquer.

Only going to recurse on one side.



If  $k=4$ , then only need to look in the blue numbers.

# Random Variables / Expectation

Probability Space  $S$ .

A RV associates a value to each outcome.

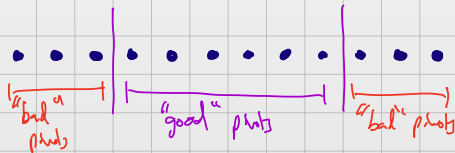
If  $X$  is a RV, its expected value is:

$$E\{X\} = \sum_{s \in S} p(s) X_s$$

Important Property :  $E[aX + bY] = aE\{X\} + bE\{Y\}$

What's the expected running time of Quick Select?

Define  $T[n, k]$  to be the expected runtime of  $k$ -QS.  
Define  $T[n]$  to be the max over  $k$ .

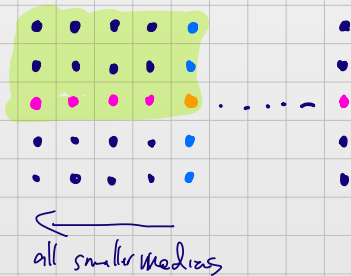


The idea is that good parts always reduce the problem size to  $\leq \frac{3}{4}n$ , regardless of  $k$ .

$$T[n] \leq n + \frac{1}{2}T\left[\frac{3}{4}n\right] + \frac{1}{2}T[n]$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2}T[n] \leq n + \frac{1}{2}T\left[\frac{3}{4}n\right] \Rightarrow T[n] \leq 2n + T\left[\frac{3}{4}n\right] \Rightarrow T[n] = O(n)$$

Quick Select in worst case  $O(n)$ .



Partitioned into groups of 5  
Find the median of each group.  
Find the median of medians  
(recursively).