

Week 3



Design and Analysis  
of Algorithms I

# QuickSort

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## Overview

Overview - 1

July 22, 18

24

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We had MergeSort algo. Now quick sort

# QuickSort

- Definitely a “greatest hit” algorithm
- Prevalent in practice
- Beautiful analysis
- $O(n \log n)$  time “on average”, works in place
- See course site for optional lecture notes

*constants on big-oh notations are small.*

*important* i.e., minimal extra memory needed

# The Sorting Problem

Input : array of  $n$  numbers, unsorted

3	8	2	5	1	4	7	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Output : Same numbers, sorted in increasing order

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Assume : all array entries distinct. (*No duplicates*).

Exercise : extend QuickSort to handle duplicate entries

# Partitioning Around a Pivot

Key Idea : **partition** array around a pivot element. *how to choose this element? later.*

- Pick element of array

3 | 8 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 7 | 6

*main idea: the meaning of partitioning*

- Rearrange array so that

- Left of pivot  $\Rightarrow$  less than pivot

- Right of pivot  $\Rightarrow$  greater than pivot

*Final position of sorted array*

2 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 7 | 4 | 5 | 8

< pivot

> pivot

*we don't put*

Note : puts pivot in its "rightful position".

*the elements before or after*

*the pivot in the right position*

# Two Cool Facts About Partition

1. Linear  $O(n)$  time, no extra memory  
[see next video] *and* *advantage* *or* *mergesort*
2. Reduces problem size

# QuickSort: High-Level Description

[ Hoare circa 1961 ]

QuickSort (array A, length n)

-If  $n=1$  return

- $p = \text{ChoosePivot}(A, n)$  (later).

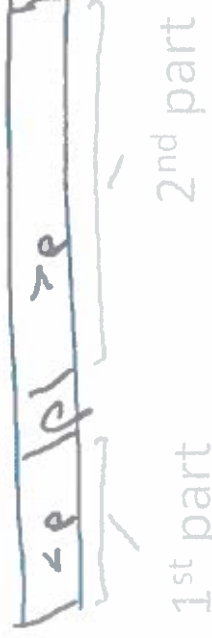
-Partition A around p

-Recursively sort 1<sup>st</sup> part

-Recursively sort 2<sup>nd</sup> part

Naive way is to choose the first element

[ currently unimplemented ]



(no merge step)

2 recursive calls: (the difference with MergeSort: we first split the array into pieces, recurse and then combine - here the recursive calls come last)

# Outline of QuickSort Videos

- The Partition subroutine
- Correctness proof [optional]
- Choosing a good pivot
- Randomized QuickSort
- Analysis
  - A Decomposition Principle
  - The Key Insight
  - Final Calculations







Design and Analysis  
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# QuickSort

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## The Partition Subroutine

Partition-1

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# Partitioning Around a Pivot

Key Idea : partition array around a pivot element.

-Pick element of array



-Rearrange array so that

- Left of pivot => less than pivot
- Right of pivot => greater than pivot



Note : puts pivot in its "rightful position".

*(in-place)*

# Two Cool Facts About Partition

1. Linear  $O(n)$  time, no extra memory  
[see next video]
2. Reduces problem size

*The question is how to implement the partitioning.*

Let's leave out the ~~part~~ fact that we want the "in-place" requirement

# The Easy Way Out

Partitioning subroutine in linear time.

Note: Using  $O(n)$  extra memory, easy to partition around pivot in  $O(n)$  time.

The idea is this:  
we start with  $(8)$ ,  
 $8 > \text{pivot}(3)$ , thus  
we put it at the  
end of the array.  
The  $(2) < \text{pivot}(3)$ , thus  
goes to the beginning  
of the array and so on.



pivot



additional array

$< 3$        $> 3$

this high level algo. is only valid for the case that the pivot is. (but we can use it for the general case too.)

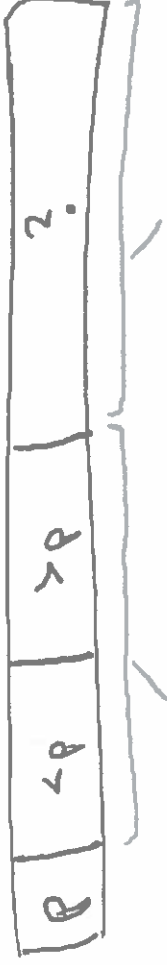
## In-Place Implementation

Assume: pivot = 1<sup>st</sup> element of array

[ if not, swap pivot <--> 1<sup>st</sup> element as preprocessing step ]

This means select the pivot in the middle and move it to the first place.

High - Level Idea :



(linear scan).  
(Already partitioned) (unpartitioned) (we have not seen.)

- Single scan through array  $O(n)$ .

- invariant : everything looked at so far is partitioned

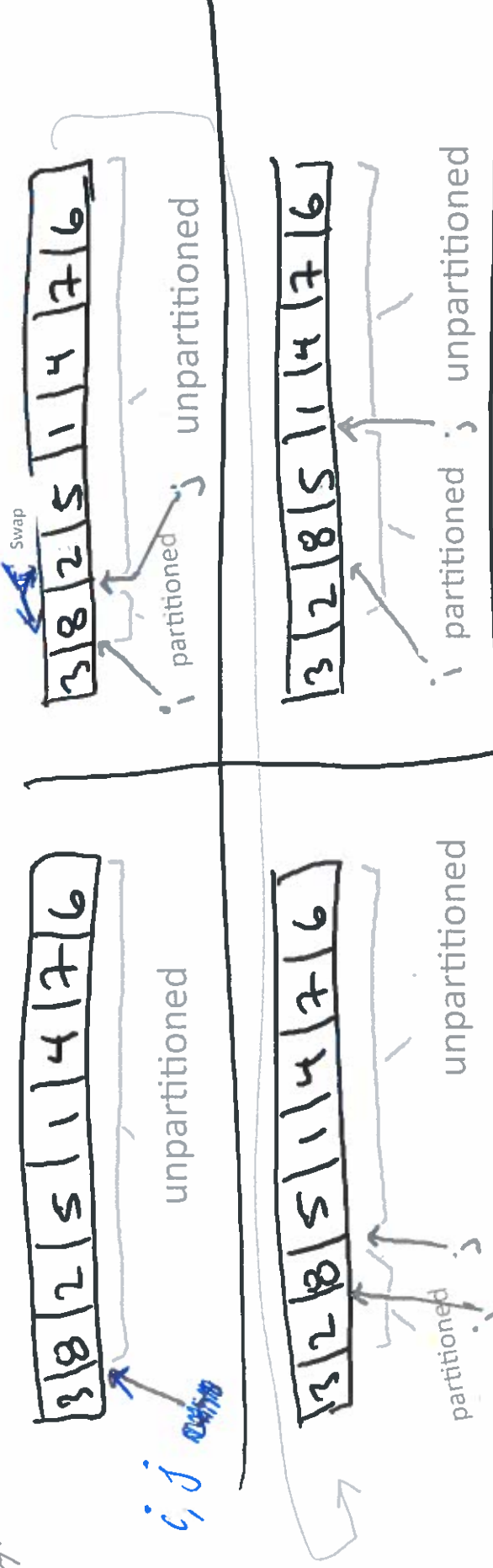
There are two boundaries that we need to keep track of.

in each step we advance  $j$ .

## Partition Example

step 0

step 1

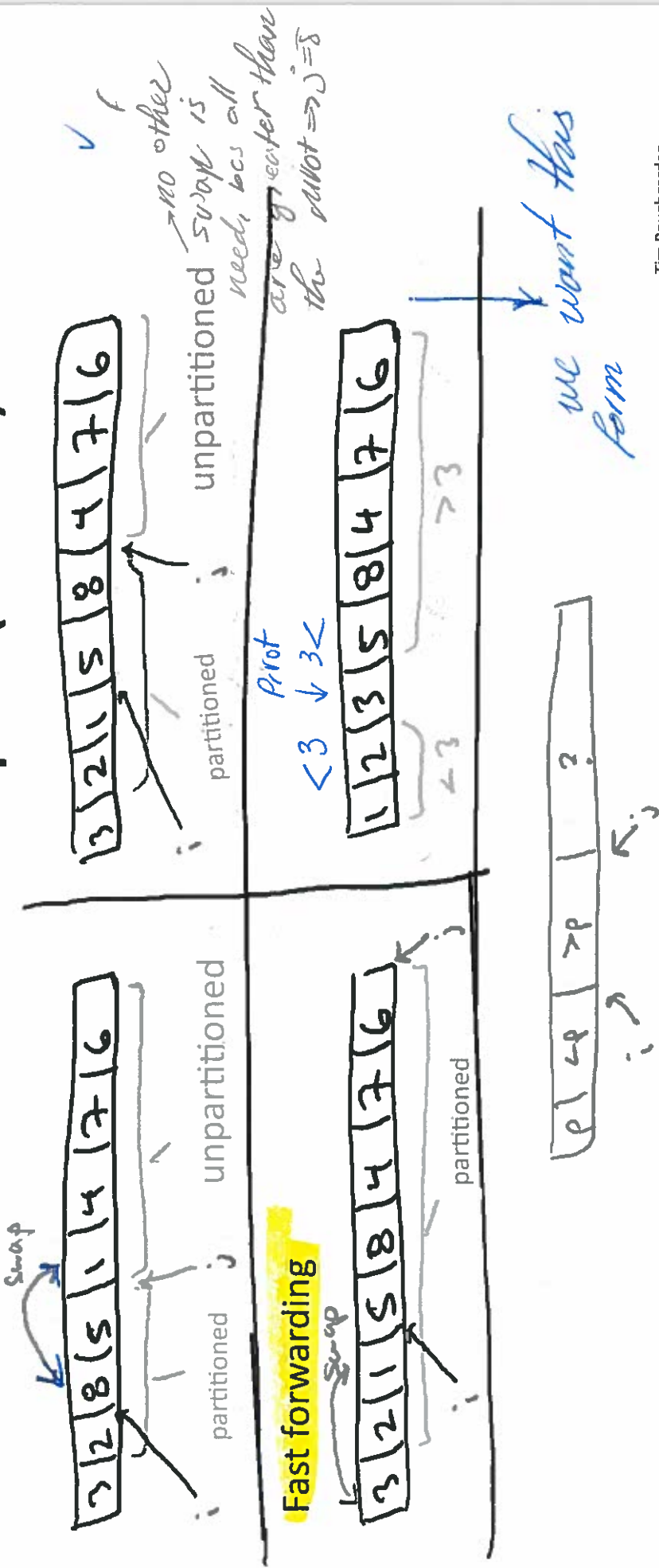


the boundary that we keep track of so far and the part we haven't looked at yet.

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② boundary amongst the no. we have seen, where the split is Lw  
the pivot  $< > - (i)$

# Partition Example (con'd)



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The partition is going to be called recursively, from a given sort array. At any point in the quick sort, we would be recursing on some subset of the original array.

Two array indices: leftmost index, rightmost index  
If  $A[l, 2, \dots, n]$ , then we want to partition  $A[l]$  to  $A[r]$ .

## Pseudocode for Partition

→ passed to subroutine

Partition ( $A[l, r]$ ) [input corresponds to  $A[l \dots r]$ ]

- $p := A[l]$  (first entry in the array, leftmost index)
- $i := l+1$  (just right of the pivot)
- for  $j = l+1$  to  $r$

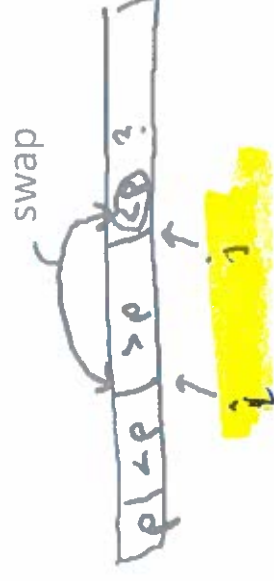
- if  $A[j] < p$

- swap  $A[j]$  and  $A[i]$

- $i := i+1$

- swap  $A[l]$  and  $A[i-1]$

what if the first entry after pivot is smaller than the pivot. (extra swap).



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not in the book

time 20:00 check



# Running Time

Running time =  $O(n)$ , where  $n = r - l + 1$  is the length of the input (sub) array.

Reason :  $O(1)$  work per array entry.

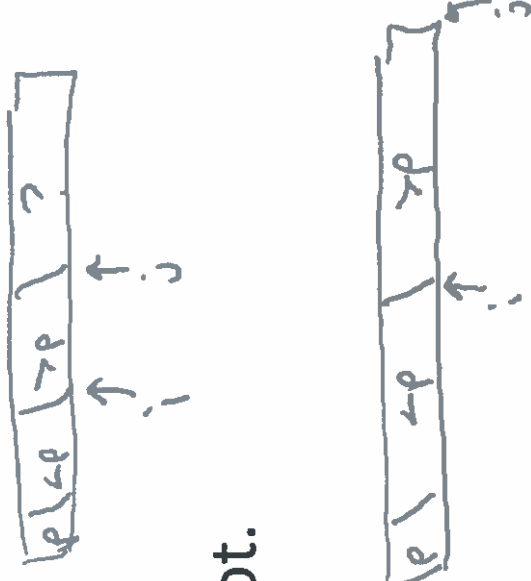
Also : clearly works in place (repeated swaps)

# Correctness

Claim : the for loop maintains the invariants :

1.  $A[i+1], \dots, A[i-1]$  are all less than the pivot
  2.  $A[j], \dots, A[j-1]$  are all greater than pivot.
- [ Exercise : check this, by induction. ]

Consequence : at end of for loop, have:  
 $\Rightarrow$  after final swap, array partitioned around pivot.



Q.E.D

*Appendix A of the book*



Design and Analysis  
of Algorithms I

*Proof by induction for divide and conquer, specifically for quicksort.*

# Quicksort

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## Proof of Correctness

*start*

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The ~~idea~~ format of proof by induction

# Induction Review

something that you say or write  
that you strongly believe

→ a little abstract

Let  $P(n)$  = assertion parameterized by positive integers  $n$ .

For us :  $P(n)$  is "Quick Sort correctly sorts every input array of length  $n$ "

How to prove  $P(n)$  for all  $n \geq 1$  by induction :

1. [base case] directly prove that  $P(1)$  holds.
2. [inductive step] for every  $n \geq 2$ , prove that:  
if  $P(k)$  holds for all  $k < n$ , then  $P(n)$  holds as well.

INDUCTIVE  
HYPOTHESIS

emp. you apply the inductive step  $(n-1)$  times and you got.

not in the book.

# Correctness of QuickSort

$P(n)$  = "QuickSort correctly sorts every input array of length  $n$ "

Claim :  $P(n)$  holds for every  $n \geq 1$  [no matter how pivot is chosen]

Proof by induction :

1. [base case] every input array of length 1 is already sorted. ✓  
Quick Sort returns the input array which is correct (so  $P(1)$  holds)
2. [inductive step] Fix  $n \geq 2$ . Fix some input array of length  $n$ .

Need to show : if  $P(k)$  holds for all  $k < n$ , then  $P(n)$  holds as well.

INDUCTIVE STEP

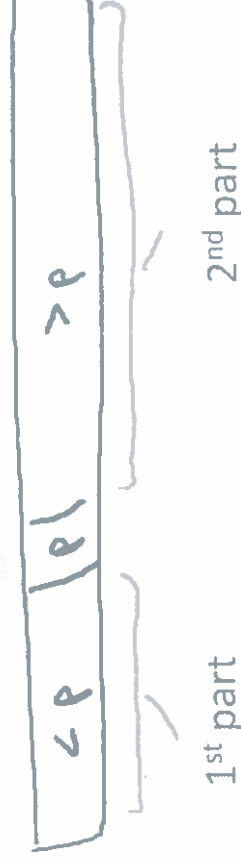
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correct-2

# Correctness of QuickSort (con'd)

Recall : QuickSort first partitions  $A$  around some pivot  $p$ .

*$k_1$  and  $k_2$  are at most  $n-1$*



Note :  $k_1, k_2 < n$

Note : pivot winds up in the correct position.

Let  $k_1, k_2$  = lengths of 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> parts of partitioned array.

Using  
 $P(k_1),$   
 $P(k_2)$

By inductive hypothesis : 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> parts get sorted correctly by recursive calls. So after recursive calls, entire array correctly sorted.



Design and Analysis  
of Algorithms I

# QuickSort

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## Choosing a Good Pivot

# QuickSort: High-Level Description

[ Hoare circa 1961 ]

QuickSort (array A, length n)

- If  $n=1$  return
- $p = \text{ChoosePivot}(A, n)$
- Partition A around p
- Recursively sort 1<sup>st</sup> part
- Recursively sort 2<sup>nd</sup> part

[ currently unimplemented ]





MergeSort is  $O(n \log n)$  is it any better.

# The Importance of the Pivot

Q : running time of QuickSort ?

A : depends on the quality of the pivot. *thus, we are not in the right position to discuss the running time, bec we don't have enough info. It depends on the pivot.*

**Imp:** what is a good pivot? a pivot that splits the domain into two equal size subproblem is great:

low quality: splits unequal size subproblems.

For the sorted array, essentially it does nothing - returns the same array.

This is the worst case in terms of performance.

Suppose we implement QuickSort so that ChoosePivot always selects the first element of the array. What is the running time of this algorithm on an input array that is already sorted?

Recurse on



☐ Not enough information to answer question

☐  $\theta(n)$

Reason:

☐  $\theta(n \log n)$

☐  $\theta(n^2)$

1<sup>st</sup>  $n/2$  terms are all at least  $n/2$

Runtime:  $\geq n + (n-1) + (n-2) + \dots + 1$   
 $= \theta(n^2)$

☒ Thus one of the recursive calls is vacuous.

For each subarray of length  $k$ , the recursive call is going to do  $k$  operations.

(running time)  
This is the best case scenario why that matters?

We want to know how good we may do using this method

This will draw a line in the sand.  $\rightarrow$  the average running time

cannot be better than the best case.

$\rightarrow$  what is the highest quality pivot.  $\rightarrow$  Give us two equal subproblems of size  $(n/2)$

Suppose we run QuickSort on some input, and, magically, every recursive call chooses the median element of its subarray as its pivot. What's the running time in this case?

☐ Not enough information to answer question

☐  $\Theta(n)$

Reason : Let  $T(n)$  = running time on arrays of size  $n$ .

☐  $\Theta(n \log n)$

Because pivot = median  
choosePivot  
partition

☐  $\Theta(n^2)$

only best median  $\rightarrow$

$$\text{Then : } T(n) \leq 2T(n/2) + \theta(n)$$

Similar to MergeSort

$$\Rightarrow T(n) = \theta(n \log n) \quad [\text{like MergeSort}]$$

master method.

$$2 \times 2 = 2^2$$

Print 2

# Random Pivots

Key Question : how to choose pivots ?

BIG IDEA : RANDOM PIVOTS!

That is : in every recursive call, choose the pivot randomly.

(each element equally likely)

Hope : a random pivot is "pretty good" "often enough".

Intuition : 1.) if always get a 25-75 split, good enough for  $O(n \log(n))$

running time. [this is a non-trivial exercise : prove via recursion tree]

2.) half of elements give a 25-75 split or better

Q : does this really work ? (Later)

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Assume that we have an array of 100 elements, and (1 ~ 100 itself as elements). Which numbers give us a 25-75 split? 26 ~ 75 anything in this range.

○ Two 50% of elements are good enough.  $\equiv$  Flip a coin. ○

next 3 videos are on the proof of quick sort.

# Average Running Time of QuickSort

QuickSort Theorem: for every input array of length  $n$ , the average running time of QuickSort (with random pivots) is  $O(n \log(n))$ .

*Proof: next videos.*

Note: holds for every input. [no assumptions on the data]

- recall our guiding principles!
- "average" is over random choices made by the algorithm (i.e., the pivot choices) ↓

means you run it many times, you get a different no.

run time

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$O(n \log n) < \dots < O(n^2)$  but on average the running time is the best case:  $O(n \log n)$ .





## Design and Analysis of Algorithms I

# QuickSort

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## Analysis I: A Decomposition Principle

In this lecture we want to show that the "average" running time of QuickSort is  $O(n \log n)$ .

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# Necessary Background

Assumption: you know and remember (finite) sample spaces, random variables, expectation, linearity of expectation. For review:

- [Probability Review I \(video\)](#)
- [Lehman-Leighton notes \(free PDF\)](#)
- [Wikibook on Discrete Probability](#)



remember the worst case is  $O(n^2)$ , best case  $O(n \log n)$

The running time is closer to the best case not to the worst case

# Average Running Time of QuickSort

we make no assumption on the data

QuickSort Theorem : for every input array of length  $n$ , the average running time of QuickSort (with random pivots) is  $O(n \log(n))$ .

Note : holds for every input. [no assumptions on the data]

- recall our guiding principles !
- “average” is over random choices made by the algorithm (i.e., the pivot choices)

# Preliminaries

Fix input array  $A$  of length  $n$

Sample Space  $\Omega$  = all possible outcomes of random choices in QuickSort (i.e., pivot sequences)

Key Random Variable: for  $\sigma \in \Omega$

$C(\sigma)$  = # of comparisons between two input elements made by QuickSort (given random choices  $\sigma$ )  $\equiv$  *in the algorithm  $A[\cdot]$*

Lemma: running time of QuickSort dominated by comparisons.

There exist constant c.s.t. for all

$$\sigma \in \Omega, RT(\sigma) \leq c \cdot C(\sigma)$$

(see notes)

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in the book (page 137)

Remaining goal:  $E[C] = O(n \log(n))$

*any pivot in the array.*

Running Time of QuickSort

*governs the average running time of the QS*

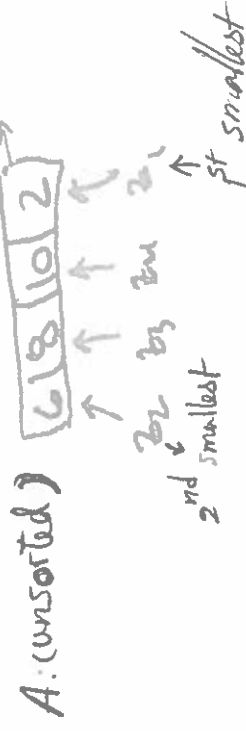
*this says that the overall running time of the QuickSort algorithm is only different by a constant from the comparisons.*

For two reasons ① random no. of recursions ② unequal subproblems.

## Building Blocks

Note can't apply Master Method [random, unbalanced subproblems]

but we do something similar  
 $[A = \text{final input array}]$  length  $n$



A decomposition theory

Notation:  $z_i = i^{\text{th}}$  smallest element of  $A$

$z_i$  is not the element in the  $i^{\text{th}}$  position of the input unsorted array.

For  $\sigma \in \Omega$ , indices  $i < j$      $i, j \in (1, \dots, n)$

$X_{ij}(\sigma)$  = # of times  $z_i, z_j$  get compared in QuickSort with pivot sequence  $\sigma$

given

Fix two elements of the input array. How many times can these two elements get compared with each other during the execution of QuickSort?

☐ 1

☒ 0 or 1

☐ 0, 1, or 2

☐ Any integer between 0 and  $n - 1$

Reason : two elements compared only when one is the pivot, which is excluded from future recursive calls.

Thus : each  $X_{ij}$  is an "indicator" (i.e., 0-1) random variable

*both cannot be pivots.*

(19) A. 27  
A. 21

# A Decomposition Approach

So:  $C(\sigma)$  = # of comparisons between input elements

$X_{ij}(\sigma)$  = # of comparisons between  $z_i$  and  $z_j$

Thus:  $\forall \sigma, C(\sigma) = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \sum_{j=i+1}^n X_{ij}(\sigma)$

By Linearity of Expectation:  $E[C] = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \sum_{j=i+1}^n E[X_{ij}]$  ← complicated ← simple

Since  $E[X_{ij}] = 0 \cdot \Pr[X_{ij} = 0] + 1 \cdot \Pr[X_{ij} = 1] = \Pr[X_{ij} = 1]$  ✓

Thus:  $E[C] = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \sum_{j=i+1}^n \Pr[z_i, z_j \text{ get compared}] (*)$

Next video

# A General Decomposition Principle

1. Identify random variable  $Y$  that you really care about

2. Express  $Y$  as sum of indicator random variables :

$$Y = \sum_{l=1}^m X_e$$

3. Apply Linearity of expectation :

$$E[Y] = \sum_{l=1}^m \Pr[X_e = 1]$$

“just” need to  
understand these!





Design and Analysis  
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# QuickSort

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## Analysis II: The Key Insight

Ana I - 1

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# Average Running Time of QuickSort

QuickSort Theorem : for every input array of length  $n$ , the average running time of QuickSort (with random pivots) is  $O(n \log(n))$ .

Note : holds for every input. [no assumptions on the data ]

- recall our guiding principles !
- “average” is over random choices made by the algorithm (i.e., the pivot choices )



# The Story So Far

$C(\sigma)$  = # of comparisons between input elements

$X_{ij}(\sigma)$  = # of comparisons between  $z_i$  and  $z_j$

$i^{\text{th}}, j^{\text{th}}$  smallest entries in array

$$\text{Recall: } E[C] = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \sum_{k=i+1}^n \Pr[X_{ik} = 1] = \Pr[z_i, z_k \text{ get compared}]$$

Key Claim : for all  $i < j$ ,  $\Pr[z_i, z_j \text{ get compared}] = 2/(j-i+1)$

for example the chance that  $z_3$  and  $z_7$  get compared

$$\text{is } \frac{2}{7-3+1} = \frac{2}{5} = 40\%$$

Choosing two (bad) no. from  $j-i+1$  numbers  $\Rightarrow Pr = \frac{2}{j-i+1}$

K

# Proof of Key Claim

$$\Pr[z_i, z_j \text{ get compared}] = \frac{2}{2/(j-i+1)}$$

Fix  $z_i, z_j$  with  $i < j$  <sup>total elements  $j-i+1$</sup>

Consider the set  $z_i, z_{i+1}, \dots, z_{j-1}, z_j$

if

pivot is bigger they go to left side and vice versa

Inductively : as long as none of these are chosen as a

pivot, all are passed to the same recursive call. until one of them is chosen

as a pivot.

Consider the first among  $z_i, z_{i+1}, \dots, z_{j-1}, z_j$  that gets chosen as a pivot.

- ✓ 1. If  $z_i$  or  $z_j$  gets chosen first, then  $z_i$  and  $z_j$  get compared
- ✓ 2. If one of  $z_{i+1}, \dots, z_{j-1}$  gets chosen first then  $z_i$  and  $z_j$  are never compared [split into different recursive calls]

KEY INSIGHT

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they only compared if one of them compared as pivot.

# Proof of Key Claim (con'd)

1.  $z_i$  or  $z_j$  gets chosen first  $\Rightarrow$  they get compared
2. one of  $z_{i+1}, \dots, z_{j-1}$  gets chosen first  $\Rightarrow z_i, z_j$  never compared

Note : Since pivots always chosen uniformly at random, each of  $z_i, z_{i+1}, \dots, z_{j-1}, z_j$  is equally likely to be the first

$$\Rightarrow \Pr[z_i, z_j \text{ get compared}] = \frac{2}{(j-i+1)} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Choices that lead to} \\ \text{case (1)} \\ \text{Total \# of choices} \end{array}$$

$$\underline{\text{So:}} \quad E[C] = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \sum_{j=i+1}^n \frac{2}{j-i+1} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{[Still need to show} \\ \text{this is } O(n \log(n)) \end{array}$$





Design and Analysis  
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## Analysis III: Final Calculations

Ana III - I

# Average Running Time of QuickSort

QuickSort Theorem : for every input array of length  $n$ , the average running time of QuickSort (with random pivots) is  $O(n \log(n))$

Note : holds for every input. [no assumptions on the data ]

- recall our guiding principles !
- “average” is over random choices made by the algorithm (i.e., pivot choices )

what is the upper bound? the best case is that the denominator is small.  
 so that we have the largest value. what is the smallest denominator? "2"  
 bcs  $j \geq i+1 \Rightarrow 2n - n(\frac{1}{2}) = O(n^2)$ .

## The Story So Far

$$E[C] = 2 \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{1}{j-i+1}$$

$\swarrow$   $\leq n$  choices for  $i$        $\swarrow$   $\theta(n^2)$  terms       $\rightarrow (*)$  How big can this be?

Note: for each fixed  $i$ , the inner sum is  $\checkmark$   $(n-i)$  terms.

$$\sum_{j=i+1}^n \frac{1}{j-i+1} = 1/2 + 1/3 + \dots + \frac{1}{n-i+1}$$

$$\sum_{k=2}^n \frac{1}{k}$$

Claim: this is  $\leq \ln(n)$

So  $E[C] \leq 2 \cdot n \cdot$

$$\leq 2 \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \sum_{j=i+1}^n \frac{1}{j-i+1}$$

inner sum  $\sum_{j=i+1}^n \frac{1}{j-i+1} = \sum_{k=2}^n \frac{1}{k}$  assume  $i=1$

$$\sum_{j=2}^n \frac{1}{j} = \frac{2(n-1)}{2} = n-1$$

# Completing the Proof

$$E[C] \leq 2 \cdot n \cdot \sum_{k=2}^n \frac{1}{k}$$

Claim  $\sum_{k=2}^n \frac{1}{k} \leq \ln n$

Proof of Claim

So  $\sum_{k=2}^n \frac{1}{k} \leq \int_1^n \frac{1}{x} dx$  ✓

$$= \ln x \Big|_1^n \quad \checkmark$$

$$= \ln n - \ln 1$$

$$= \ln n \quad \text{Q.E.D. (CLAIM)}$$

So:  $E[C] \leq 2n \ln n$

**Q.E.D.**





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# Probability Review

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## Part I



Design and Analysis  
of Algorithms I

Probability I - 1

*Topics in Discrete probability.*

# Topics Covered

*Discussing minimum cut  
in graph*

- Sample spaces
- Events
- Random variables
- Expectation
- Linearity of Expectation

See also:

- Lehman-Leighton notes (free PDF)
- Wikibook on Discrete Probability

# Concept #1 – Sample Spaces

Sample Space  $\Omega$  : “all possible outcomes”

[ in algorithms,  $\Omega$  is usually finite ]

*what is the probability of one outcome?*

Also : each outcome  $i \in \Omega$  has a probability  $p(i) >= 0$

Constraint :  $\sum_{i \in \Omega} p(i) = 1$

*equally likely :  $p(i) = \frac{1}{36}$*

Example #1 : Rolling 2 dice.  $\Omega = \{(1,1), (2,1), (3,1), \dots, (5,6), (6,6)\}$  *36 different outcomes.*

Example #2 : Choosing a random pivot in outer QuickSort call.

$\Omega = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, n\}$  (index of pivot) and  $p(i) = 1/n$  for all  $i \in \Omega$

*In quicksort we randomly choose our pivot.*

*very good*

## Concept #2 – Events

An event is a subset  $S \subseteq \Omega$

The probability of an event  $S$  is  $\sum_{i \in S} p(i)$

Consider the event (i.e., the subset of outcomes for which) “the sum of the two dice is 7”. What is the probability of this event?

$$S = \{(1,6), (2,5), (3,4), (4,3), (5,2), (6,1)\}$$

☐  $1/36$

$$\Pr[S] = 6/36 = 1/6$$

☐  $1/12$

☒  $1/6$

☐  $1/2$

Consider the event (i.e., the subset of outcomes for which) “the chosen pivot gives a 25-75 split of better”. What is the probability of this event?

*Event*

☐  $1/n$

☐  $1/4$

☒  $1/2$

☐  $3/4$

$S = \{(n/4+1)^{\text{th}} \text{ smallest element}, \dots, (3n/4)^{\text{th}} \text{ smallest element}\}$

$$\Pr[S] = (n/2)/n = 1/2$$

# Concept #2 – Events

An event is a subset

The probability of an event  $S$  is

Ex#1 : sum of dice = 7.  $S = \{(1,1), (2,1), (3,1), \dots, (5,6), (6,6)\}$   
 $\Pr[S] = 6/36 = 1/6$

Ex#2 : pivot gives 25-75 split or better.

$S = \{(n/4+1)^{\text{th}} \text{ smallest element}, \dots, (3n/4)^{\text{th}} \text{ smallest element}\}$   
 $\Pr[S] = (n/2)/n = 1/2$

# Concept #3 - Random Variables

A Random Variable  $X$  is a real-valued function

$$X : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

*$\mathbb{R}$   
↓ real-valued function*

Ex#1 : Sum of the two dice

Ex#2 : Size of subarray passed to 1<sup>st</sup> recursive call.



# Concept #4 - Expectation

Let  $X : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a random variable.

The expectation  $E[X]$  of  $X$  = average value of  $X$

$$= \sum_{i \in \Omega} \underbrace{X(i) \cdot p(i)}_{\text{weighted by the probability of that outcome}}$$

What is the expectation of the sum of two dice?

$$E[X] = \sum_{i \in \Omega} X(i) \cdot \underbrace{P(i)}_{\frac{1}{36}} = \frac{1}{36} \sum_{i \in \Omega} X(i) = \frac{1}{36} ( (1+1) + (1+2) + (1+3) + (1+4) + (1+5) + (1+6) + (2+1) + (2+2) + \dots + (2+6) )$$

☐ 6.5

☒ 7

☐ 7.5

☐ 8

= 7

Which of the following is closest to the expectation of the size of the subarray passed to the first recursive call in QuickSort?

☐  $n/4$

☐  $n/3$

☒  $n/2$

☐  $3n/4$

Let  $X$  = subarray size

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Then } E[X] &= (1/n)*0 + (1/n)*2 + \dots + (1/n)*(n-1) \\ &= \underline{\underline{(n-1)/2}}\end{aligned}$$

# Concept #4 - Expectation

Let  $X : \Omega \rightarrow \mathfrak{R}$  be a random variable.

The expectation  $E[X]$  of  $X$  = average value of  $X$

$$= \sum_{i \in \Omega} X(i) \cdot p(i)$$

Ex#1 : Sum of the two dice,  $E[X] = 7$

Ex#2 : Size of subarray passed to 1<sup>st</sup> recursive call.

$$E[X] = (n-1)/2$$

very important.

## Concept #5 – Linearity of Expectation

Claim [LIN EXP] : Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  be random variables defined on  $\Omega$ . Then :

$$E\left[\sum_{j=1}^n X_j\right] = \sum_{j=1}^n E[X_j]$$

Ex#1 : if  $X_1, X_2$  = the two dice, then

$$E[X_j] = (1/6)(1+2+3+4+5+6) = 3.5 \quad \checkmark$$

By LIN EXP :  $E[X_1 + X_2] = E[X_1] + E[X_2] = 3.5 + 3.5 = 7$

CRUCIALLY:

HOLDS EVEN WHEN

$X_j$ 's ARE NOT

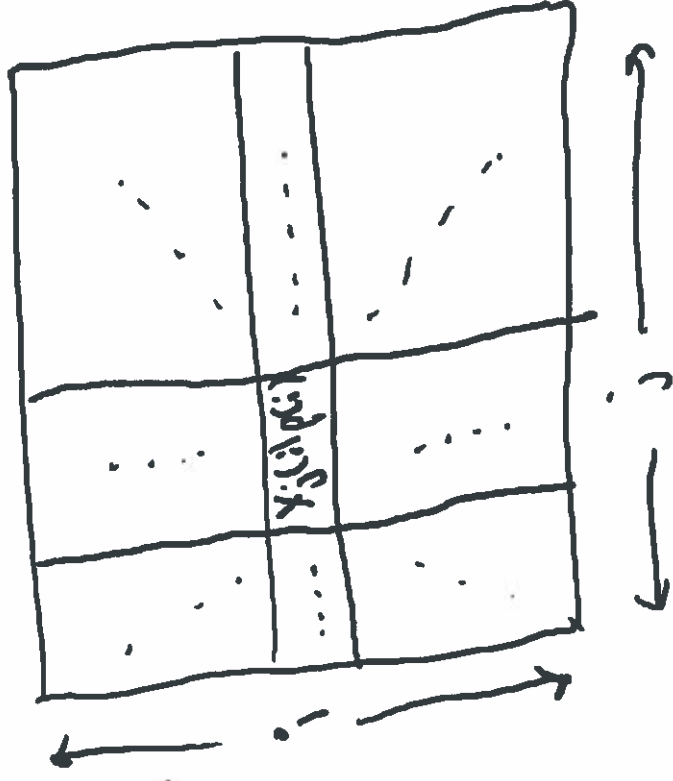
INDEPENDENT!

[WOULD FAIL IF  
REPLACE SUMS WITH  
PRODUCTS]

# Linearity of Expectation (Proof)

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{j=1}^n E[X_j] &= \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{i \in \Omega} X_j(i) p(i) \\
 &= \sum_{i \in \Omega} \sum_{j=1}^n X_j(i) p(i) \\
 &= \sum_{i \in \Omega} p(i) \sum_{j=1}^n X_j(i) \\
 &= E\left[\sum_{j=1}^n X_j\right]
 \end{aligned}$$

*why we can change the summation*



# Example: Load Balancing

Problem : need to assign  $n$  processes to  $n$  servers.

Proposed Solution : assign each process to a random server

Question : what is the expected number of processes assigned to a server ?

# Load Balancing Solution

Sample Space  $\Omega$  = all  $n^n$  assignments of processes to servers, each equally likely.

Let  $Y$  = total number of processes assigned to the first server.

Goal : compute  $E[Y]$

Let  $X_j = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } j\text{th process assigned to first server} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

“indicator random variable”



$$\text{Note } Y = \sum_{j=1}^n X_j$$



# Load Balancing Solution (con'd)

We have

$$\begin{aligned} E[Y] &= E\left[\sum_{j=1}^n X_j\right] \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^n E[X_j] \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^n (P_r[X_j = 0] \cdot 0 + P_r[X_j = 1] \cdot 1) \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{1}{n} = 1 \end{aligned}$$

$\xrightarrow{0}$

$\equiv 1/n$  (servers chosen uniformly at random)



July 26, 2018 30

# Probability Review

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## Part II



Design and Analysis  
of Algorithms I

# Topics Covered

- Conditional probability
- Independence of events and random variables

See also:

- Lehman-Leighton notes (free PDF)
- Wikibook on Discrete Probability

# Concept #1 – Sample Spaces

Sample Space  $\Omega$  : “all possible outcomes”  
[ in algorithms,  $\Omega$  is usually finite ]

Also : each outcome  $i \in \Omega$  has a probability  $p(i) \geq 0$

Constraint :  $\sum_{i \in \Omega} p(i) = 1$

An event is a subset  $S \subseteq \Omega$

The probability of an event  $S$  is  $\sum_{i \in S} p(i)$

Conditional Probability of an event given the second event.

## Concept #6 – Conditional Probability

Let  $X, Y \subseteq \Omega$  be events.



$X \cap Y$

Intersection of  $X$  and  $Y$ .

$X \cup Y$  Union of two sets.

Then

$$\Pr[X|Y] = \frac{\Pr[X \cap Y]}{\Pr[Y]}$$

("X given Y")



$$X = \{1,1, 1,2, 1,3, 1,4, 1,5, 1,6, 2,1, 2,2, 2,3, 2,4, 2,5, 2,6, 3,1, 3,2, 3,3, 3,4, 3,5, 3,6, 4,1, 4,2, 4,3, 4,4, 4,5, 4,6, 5,1, 5,2, 5,3, 5,4, 5,5, 5,6, 6,1, 6,2, 6,3, 6,4, 6,5, 6,6\}$$

$$P[X] = \frac{12}{36} = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$X \cap Y = \{(1,6), (6,1)\} \Rightarrow P[X \cap Y] = \frac{2}{36} = \frac{1}{18}$$

$$P[X|Y] = \frac{1/18}{1/6} = \frac{1}{3}$$

We don't care about  $P[X]$ .

Ter  
vel

Suppose you roll two fair dice. What is the probability that at least one die is a 1, given that the sum of the two dice is 7?

dice

2

$X$  = at least one die is a 1

$Y$  = sum of two dice = 7

$$= \{(1,6), (2,5), (3,4), (4,3), (5,2), (6,1)\}$$

$$\bigcirc \frac{1}{36}$$

$$\bigcirc \frac{1}{6}$$

$$\bigcirc \frac{1}{3}$$

$$\bigcirc \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow X \cap Y = \{(1,6), (6,1)\}$$

$$Pr[X|Y] = \frac{Pr[X \cap Y]}{Pr[Y]} = \frac{(2/36)}{(6/36)} = \frac{1}{3}$$

## Concept #7 – Independence (of Events)

Definition : Events  $X, Y \subseteq \Omega$  are independent if (and only if)  $Pr[X \cap Y] = Pr[X] \cdot Pr[Y]$

You check : this holds if and only if  $Pr[X | Y] = Pr[X]$

$$\iff Pr[Y | X] = Pr\{Y\}$$

WARNING : can be a very subtle concept.  
(intuition is often incorrect!)



# Independence (of Random Variables)

Definition : random variables  $A, B$  (both defined on  $\Omega$ ) are independent if and only if the events  $\Pr[A=a]$ ,  $\Pr[B=b]$  are independent for all  $a, b$ . [ $\Leftrightarrow \Pr[A=a \text{ and } B=b] = \Pr[A=a] \cdot \Pr[B=b]$ ]

Claim : if  $A, B$  are independent, then  $E[AB] = E[A] \cdot E[B]$

Proof : 
$$E[AB] = \sum_{a,b} (a \cdot b) \cdot \Pr[A=a \text{ and } B=b]$$

(Since  $A, B$  independent)

$$= \sum_{a,b} (a \cdot b) \cdot \Pr[A=a] \cdot \Pr[B=b]$$

$$E[A] \leftarrow \left( \sum_a a \cdot \Pr[A=a] \right)$$

$$\left( \sum_b b \cdot \Pr[B=b] \right)$$

$$\rightarrow E[B]$$

**Q.E.D.**

means  $X_1$  or  $X_2$  are either 0 or 1

## Example

$\nwarrow$  XOR = Exclusive OR

Let  $X_1, X_2 \in \{0, 1\}$  be random, and  $X_3 = X_1 \oplus X_2$

formally :  $\Omega = \{000, 101, 011, 110\}$ , each equally likely.

Claim :  $X_1$  and  $X_3$  are independent random variables (you check)

*bcs in the four possible outcome in the sample spaces we have all possible cases.*

Claim :  $X_1X_3$  and  $X_2$  are not independent random variables.

Proof : suffices to show that

$\Rightarrow$  great

$$E[X_1X_2X_3] \stackrel{=0}{=} E[X_1X_3]E[X_2]$$

Since  $X_1$  and  $X_3$  independent

$$\Rightarrow 1/2 = \sum 0 \cdot \frac{1}{2} + 1 \cdot \frac{1}{2}$$

$$= E[X_1]E[X_3] = 1/4$$

$$= \sum 0(1) + 0(1) + 0(1) + 0(1)$$

$$\frac{1}{8}$$

$$= 0$$

$X_1$	$X_2$	$X_1 \oplus X_2$
0	0	0
1	1	0
0	1	1
1	0	1