

Quicksort

- Divide and conquer
- Partitioning
- Worst-case analysis
- Intuition
- Randomized quicksort



Quicksort

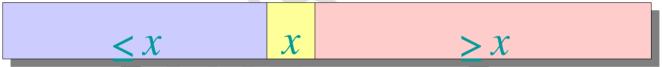
- Proposed by C.A.R. Hoare in 1962.
- Divide-and-conquer algorithm.
- Sorts "in place" (like insertion sort, but not like merge sort).
- Very practical (with tuning).



Divide and conquer

Quicksort an *n*-element array:

1. Divide: Partition the array into two subarrays around a pivot x such that elements in lower subarray $\le x \le$ elements in upper subarray.



- 2. Conquer: Recursively sort the two subarrays.
- 3. Combine: Trivial.

Key: Linear-time partitioning subroutine.

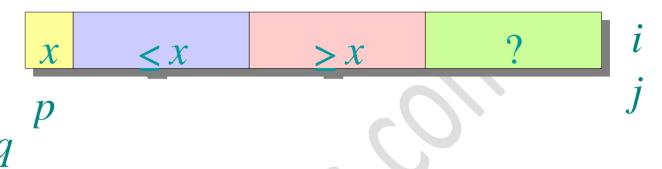


Partitioning subroutine

```
Partition(A, p, q) \triangleright A[p . . q] x \leftarrow A[p] \triangleright pivot =
   A[p] Running timeRunning time i \leftarrow p ==
    OO((nn)) forfor nn for j \leftarrow p+1 to q
       elements. do if A[j] \leq x
                then i \leftarrow i + 1
                      exchange A[i] \leftrightarrow A[j]
    exchange A[p] \leftrightarrow A[i] return
```

Invariant:

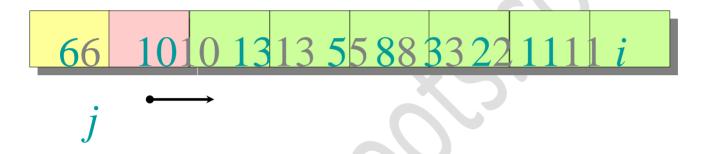




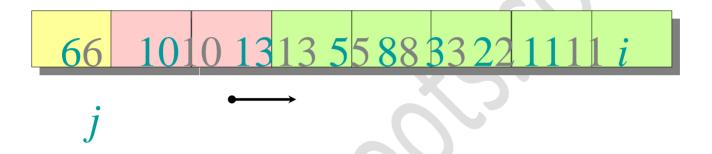


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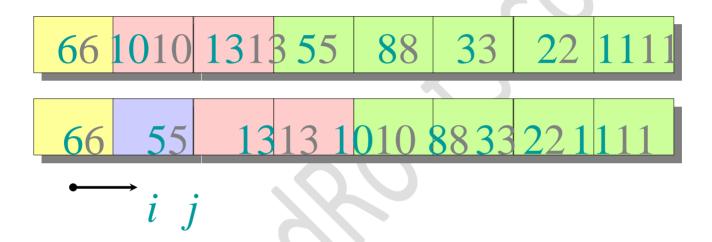






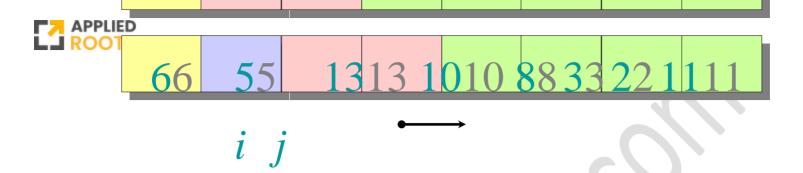


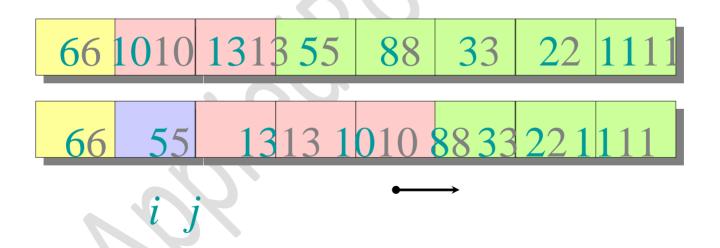




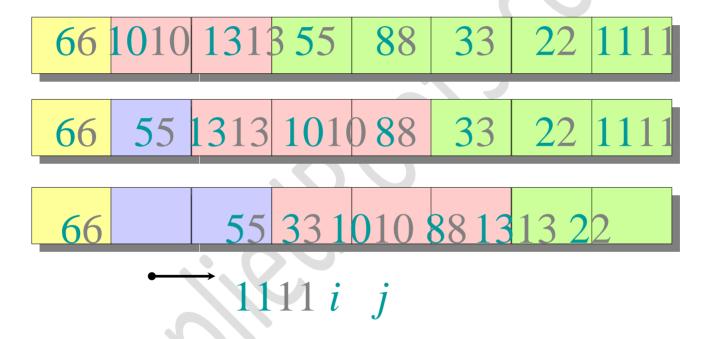
Example of partitioning

66 1010 1313 55 88 33 22 1111

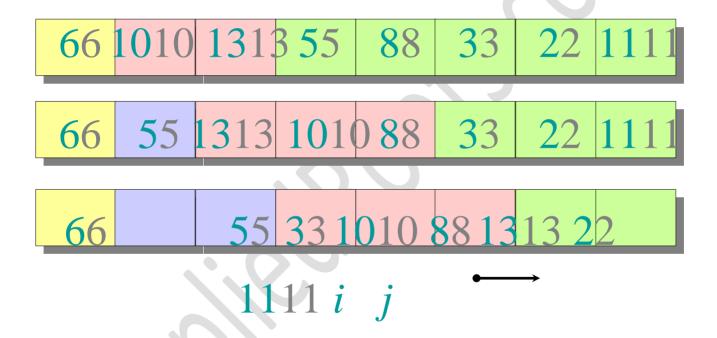




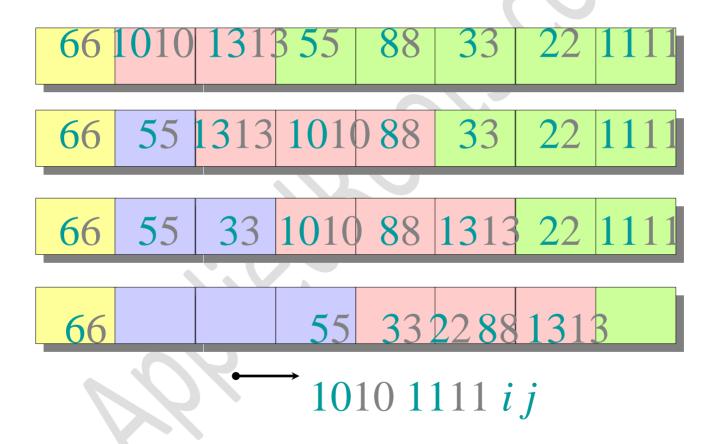




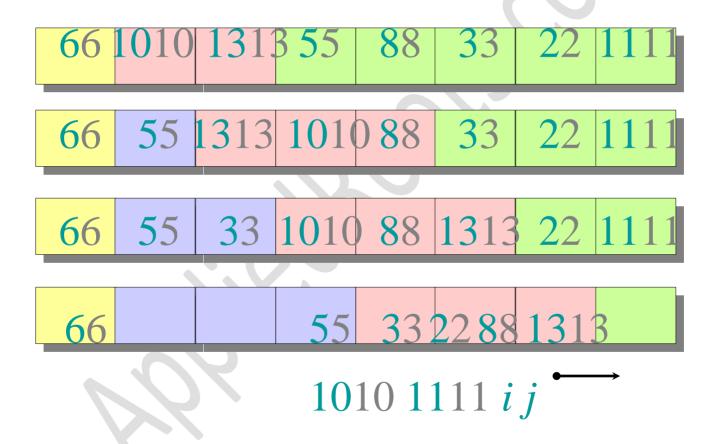




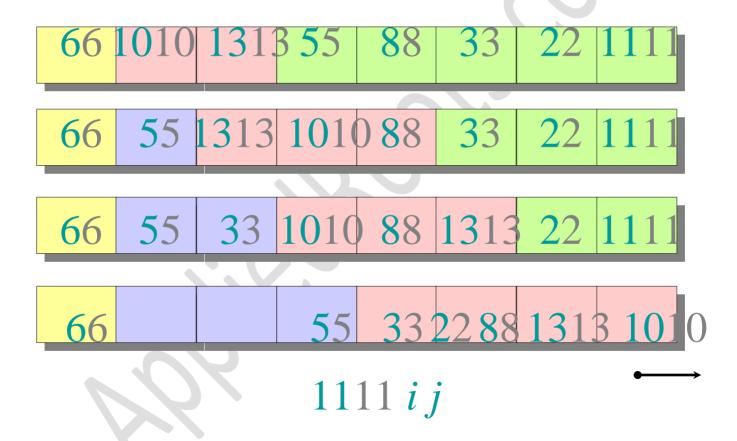




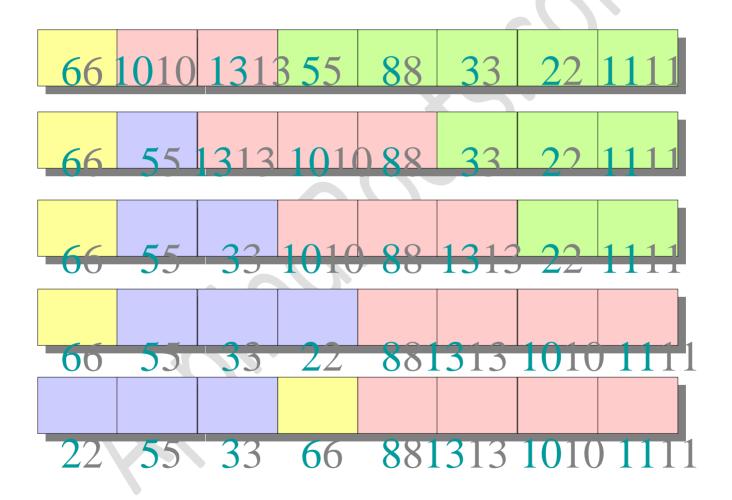












i

Pseudocode for quicksort

```
Quicksort(A, p, r)

if p < r

then q \leftarrow \text{Partition}(A, p, r)

Quicksort(A, p, q-1)

Quicksort(A, p, q-1)
```

Initial call: QUICKSORT(A, 1, n)



Analysis of quicksort

- Assume all input elements are distinct.
- In practice, there are better partitioning algorithms for when duplicate input elements may exist.
- Let T(n) = worst-case running time on an array of n elements.



Worst-case of quicksort

- Input sorted or reverse sorted.
- Partition around min or max element.
- One side of partition always has no elements.

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

$$= \Theta(1) + T(n-1) + \Theta(n)$$

$$= T(n-1) + \Theta(n)$$

$$= \Theta(n^2) \qquad (arithmetic series)$$



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



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



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



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

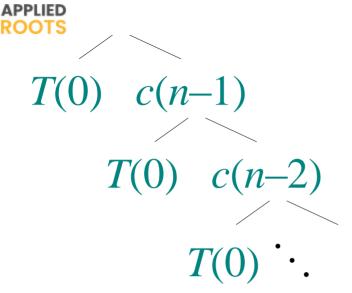
cn

$$T(0)$$
 $c(n-1)$
 $T(0)$ $T(n-2)$

Worst-case recursion tree

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

cn

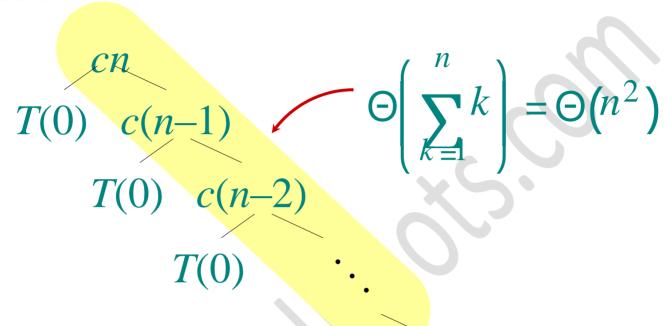


 $\Theta(1)$

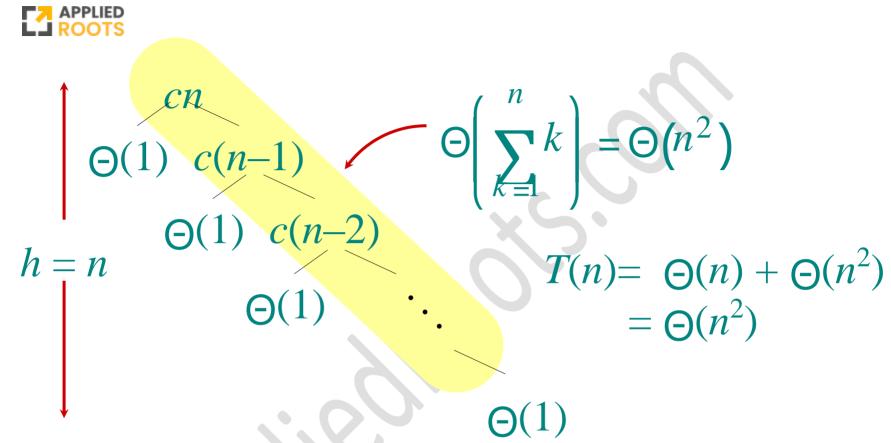
Worst-case recursion tree

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





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



Best-case analysis

(For intuition only!)

If we're lucky, Partition splits the array evenly:

$$T(n) = 2T(n/2) + \Theta(n)$$

= $\Theta(n \lg n)$ (same as merge sort)

What if the split is always 101:109?

$$T(n) = T\left(\frac{1}{10}n\right) + T\left(\frac{9}{10}n\right) + \Theta(n)$$

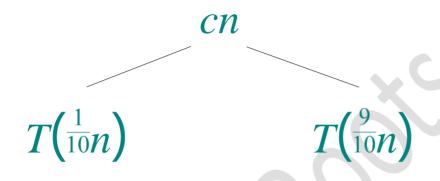
What is the solution to this recurrence?

Analysis of "almost-best" case

T(n)

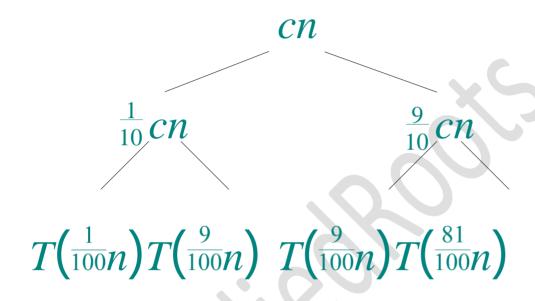


Analysis of "almost-best" case



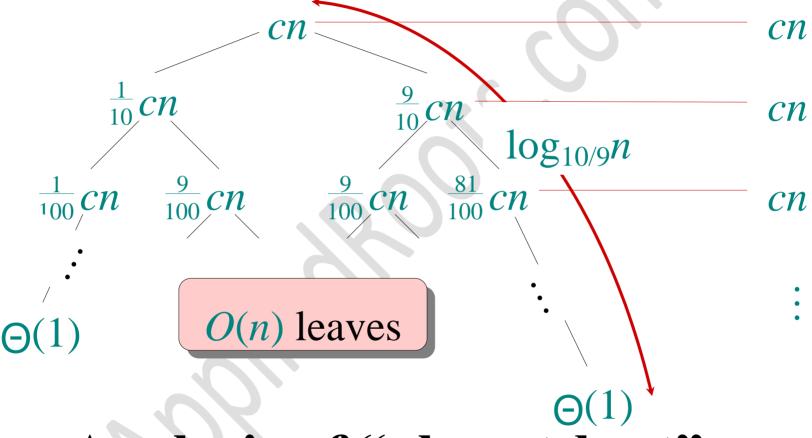


Analysis of "almost-best" case

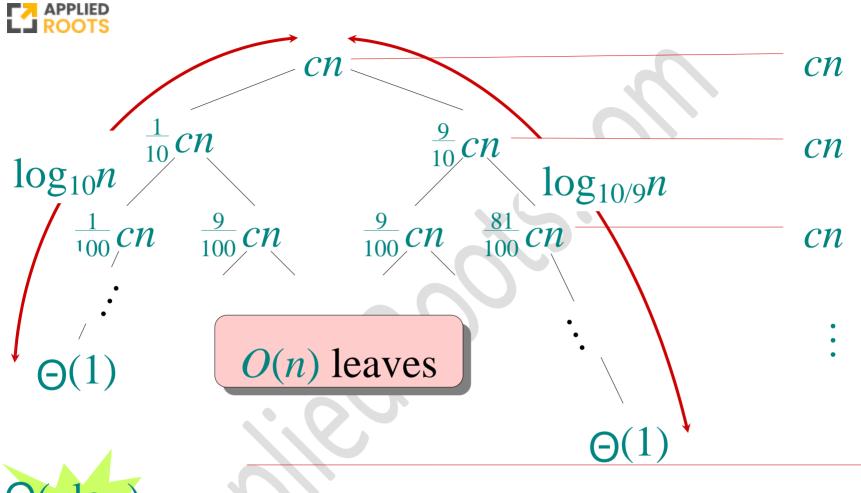




Analysis of "almost-best" case



Analysis of "almost-best" case



Θ(nlgn)
Lucky!

 $cn\log_{10}n \le T(n) \le cn\log_{10/9}n + O(n)$



More intuition

Suppose we alternate lucky, unlucky, lucky, unlucky, lucky, unlucky, lucky,

$$L(n) = 2U(n/2) + \Theta(n)$$
 lucky
 $U(n) = L(n-1) + \Theta(n)$ unlucky

Solving:

$$L(n) = 2(L(n/2 - 1) + \Theta(n/2)) + \Theta(n)$$

$$= 2L(n/2 - 1) + \Theta(n)$$

$$= \Theta(n \lg n) Lucky!$$



How can we make sure we are usually lucky?

Randomized quicksort

IDEA: Partition around a *random* element.

- Running time is independent of the input order.
- No assumptions need to be made about the input distribution.
- No specific input elicits the worst-case behavior.



• The worst case is determined only by the output of a random-number generator.

Randomized quicksort analysis

Let T(n) = the random variable for the running time of randomized quicksort on an input of size n, assuming random numbers are independent.

For k = 0, 1, ..., n-1, define the *indicator* random variable

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

 $E[X_k] = \Pr\{X_k = 1\} = 1/n$, since all splits are equally likely, assuming elements are distinct.

Analysis (continued)

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



$$T(n-1) + T(0) + \Theta(n)$$
 if $n-1 : 0$ split,

$$= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} X_k (T(k) + T(n-k-1) + \Theta(n))$$

Calculating expectation

$$[n-1]$$

$$E[T(n)] = E\left[\sum X_k \left(T(k) + T(n-k-1) + \Theta(n)\right)\right]$$

$$[k=0]$$



Take expectations of both sides.



Calculating expectation

Linearity of expectation.



Calculating expectation

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

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

$$- k - 1) + \Theta(n)$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^{k=0} -1$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} E X_k \cdot ET(k) + T(n - k - 1) + \Theta(n)$$



Independence of X_k from other random choices.

Calculating expectation

$$[n-1]$$

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

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

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

$$= \sum E X_{k} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ +T(n-k-1) + \Theta(n) \end{bmatrix} ET(k) + T(n-k-1) + \Theta(n)$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\$$

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

Calculating expectation

$$\lceil n-1 \rceil$$



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

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

$$- k - 1) + \Theta(n)$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \left[\right] \left[\right]$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} E X_k \cdot ET(k) + T(n-k-1) + \Theta(n)$$

$$1 \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \left[\right] 1 \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \left[\right]$$



$$= _ET(k) + _ET(n - k - 1) + _\Theta(n)^{n}_{k=0} = 0$$

$$n_{k=0 n-1}$$

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

$$n_{k=1}$$

Summations have identical terms.

Hairy recurrence

$$n-1$$

$$E[T(n)] = \frac{2\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} E[T(k)] + \Theta(n)$$

$$n_{k=2}$$



(The k = 0, 1 terms can be absorbed in the $\Theta(n)$.)

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

• Choose *a* large enough so that *anlgn* dominates E[T(n)] for sufficiently small $n \ge 2$.

$$n-1$$

Use fact:
$$\sum k \lg k \le \frac{1}{2}n^2$$
 $-\lg n - \lg n^2$ (exercise).

$$k=2$$



Substitution method

$$n-1$$

$$E[T(n)] \le \frac{2}{n} \sum_{k=2}^{n} ak \lg k + \Theta(n)$$

Substitute inductive hypothesis.



Substitution method

$$E[T(n)] \le \frac{2}{N} \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} ak \lg k + \Theta(n)$$

$$n_{k=2}$$

$$\le \frac{2a(|\underline{1}n2 \lg n - \underline{1}n2|) + \Theta(n) n}{|28|}$$

Use fact.



Substitution method

$$n-1$$

$$E[T(n)] \le \frac{2}{2} \sum_{n} ak \lg k + \Theta(n)$$

$$n_{k=2}$$

$$\le 2a(|\underline{1}n2 \lg n - \underline{1}n2)| + \Theta(n) n$$

$$\lfloor 2 8 \rfloor$$

$$= an \lg n - \left(\frac{an}{\Theta(n)} - \Theta(n) \right)$$



4

Express as desired – residual.

Substitution method

$$n-1$$

$$E[T(n)] \le \frac{2}{2} \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} ak \lg k + \Theta(n)$$

$$n_{k=2}$$

$$= \underline{2a}(|\underline{1}n2|gn - \underline{1}n2)|+\Theta(n) n$$

$$(28)$$



$$= an \lg n - \left| \frac{an}{-\Theta(n)} \right|$$

$$\left| 4 \right|$$

 $\leq anlgn$,

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

Quicksort in practice

• Quicksort is a great general-purpose sorting algorithm.



- Quicksort is typically over twice as fast as merge sort.
- Quicksort can benefit substantially from *code tuning*.
- Quicksort behaves well even with caching and virtual memory.