

Two classic sorting algorithms: mergesort and quicksort

Critical components in the world's computational infrastructure.

Full scientific understanding of their properties has enabled us to develop them into practical system sorts.

Quicksort honored as one of top 10 algorithms of 20 or in science and engineering.

Mergesort. [this lecture]

















Quicksort. [next lecture]



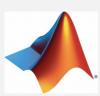




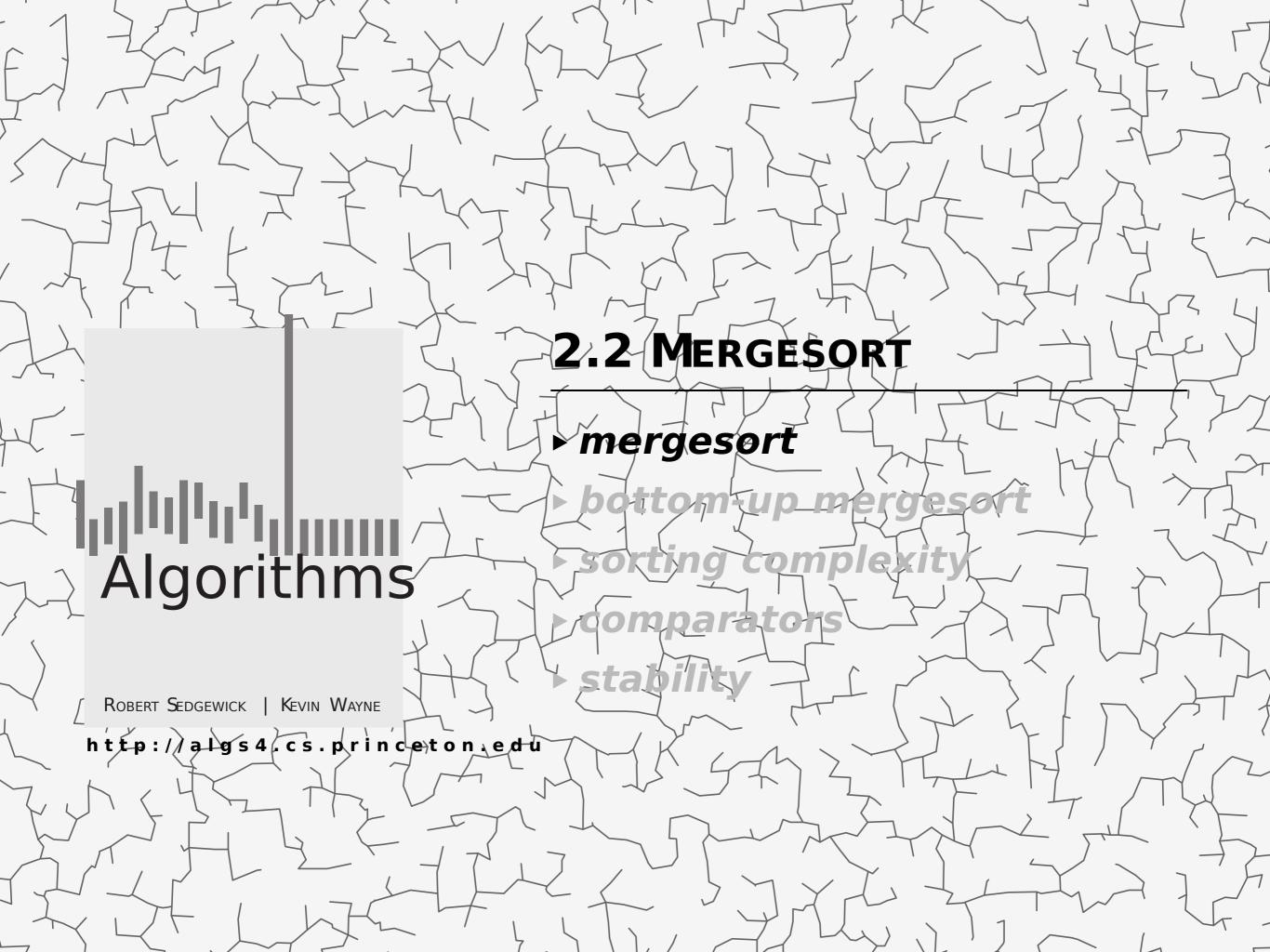












4/STR/ALG/DEF/1/A Mergesort

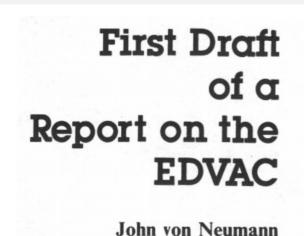
Basic plan.

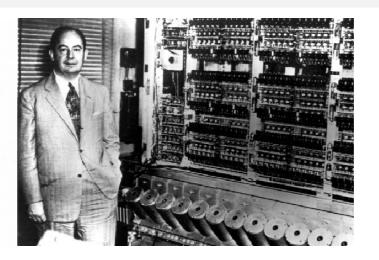
Divide array into two halves.

Recursively sort each half.

Merge two halves.

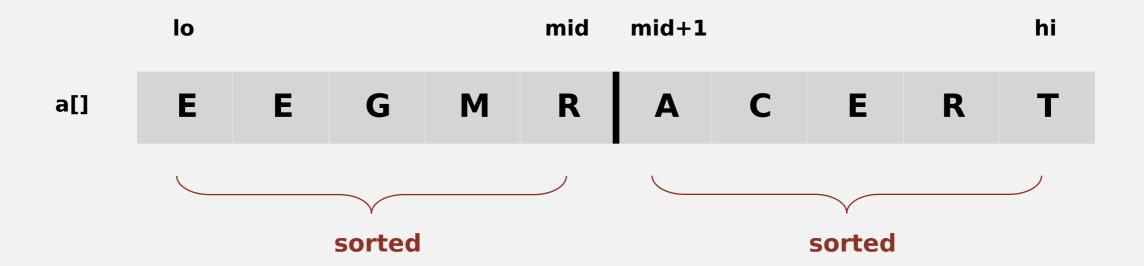
input M E R G E S O R T E X A M P L E sort left half E G M O R R S T E X A M P L E sort right half E G M O R R S A E E L M P T X merge result E E E E E G L M M O P R R S T X





Mergesort overview

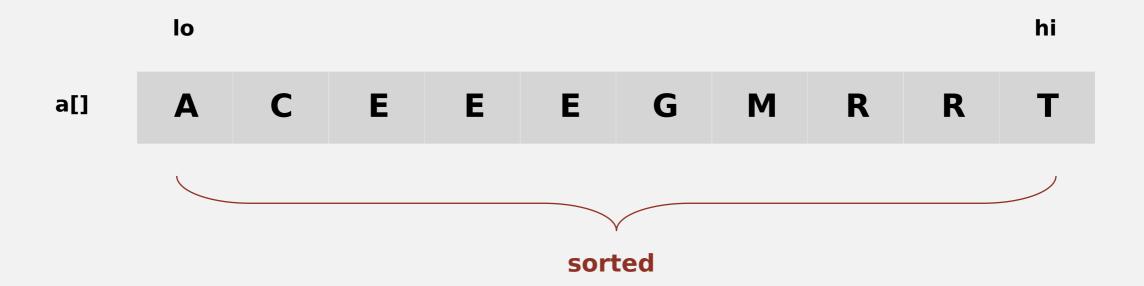
Goal. Given two sorted subarates to a [mid] and a [mid+1] to a [hi], replace with sorted subarates to a [hi].





Abstract in-place merge demo

Goal. Given two sorted subarates toa[mid] anda[mid+1]toa[hi], replace with sorted subarates toa[hi].



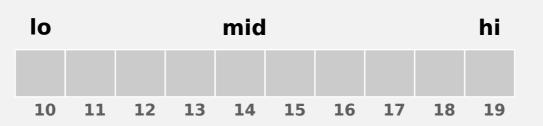
7/STR/ALG/DEO/1/A

Merging: Java implementation



Mergesort: Java implementation

```
public class Merge
 private static void merge(...)
  { /* as before */ }
 private static void sort(Comparable[] a, Comparable[] aux, int lo, int hi)
   if (hi <= lo) return;
   int mid = lo + (hi - lo) / 2;
   sort(a, aux, lo, mid);
   sort(a, aux, mid+1, hi);
   merge(a, aux, lo, mid, hi);
 public static void sort(Comparable[] a)
   Comparable[] aux = new Comparable[a.length];
   sort(a, aux, 0, a.length - 1);
```



9/EXP/ALG/VIS/3/A

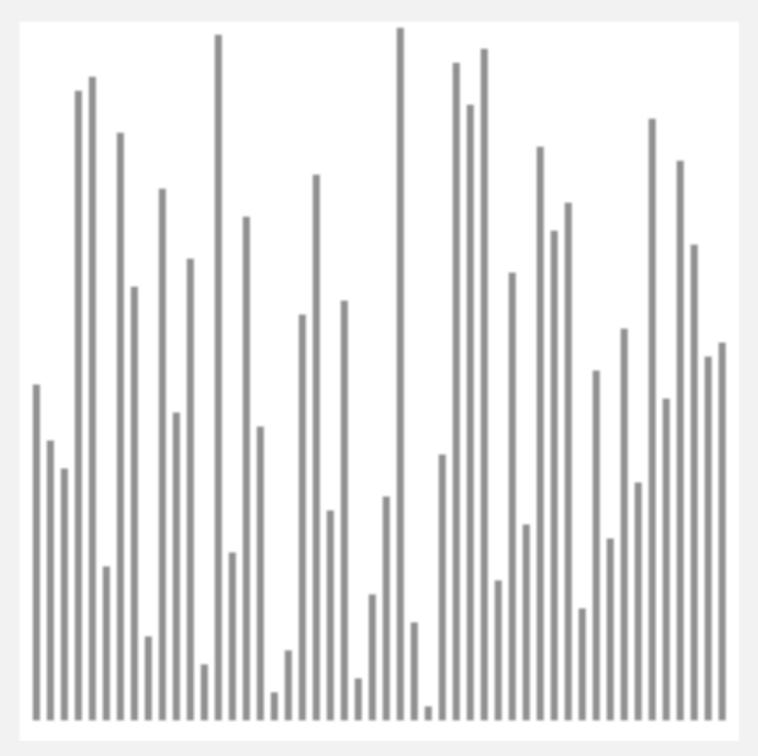
Mergesort: trace

```
a[]
                 0 102 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15
                 MERGES ORTEXAMPLE
   merge(a, aux, 0, 0, 1) E M R G
   merge(a, aux, \frac{2}{2}, \frac{3}{2}) E M G R E
  merge(a, aux, 0, 1, 3) E G M R E
   merge(a, aux, 4, 4, 5) E G M R
   merge(a, aux, 6, 6, 7) E G M R E S O R
  merge(a, aux, 4, 5, 7) E G
 merge(a, aux, 0, 3, 7) E E G M O R R S
   merge(a, aux, 8, 8, 9) E E
   merge(a, aux, 10, 10, 11) E E
  merge(a, aux, 8, 9, 11)
   merge(a, aux, 12, 12, 13) E E
   merge(a, aux, 14, 14, 15)
  merge(a, aux, 12, 13, 15)
merge(a, aux, 8, 11, 15) E E G M O R R S A E E L M P T X
merge(a, aux, 0, 7, 15)
                         AEEEGLMMOPRRSTX
                           Trace of merge results for top-down mergesort
```

result after recursive call

Mergesort: animation

50 random items

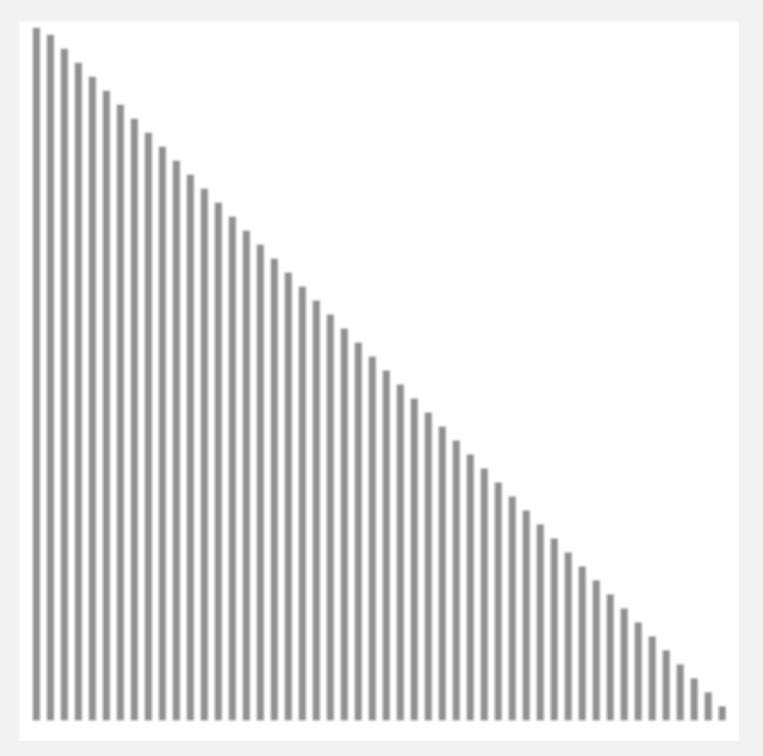






Mergesort: animation

50 reverse-sorted items







12/STR/ALG/COM/1/A

Mergesort: empirical analysis

Running time estimates:

Laptop executes **4.6** ompares/second. Supercomputer executes **2.6** ompares/second.

	ins	sertion sort	t {}N	mergesort (N log N)				
computer	thousand	million	billion	thousand	million	billion		
home	instant	2.8 hours	317 years	instant	1 second	18 min		
super	instant	1 second	1 week	instant	instant	instant		

Bottom line. Good algorithms are better than supercomputers.

Mergesort: number of compares

Proposition. Mergesort uses N compares to sort an array of length N.

Pf sketch. The number of comparts to mergesort an array of length N satisfies the recurrence:

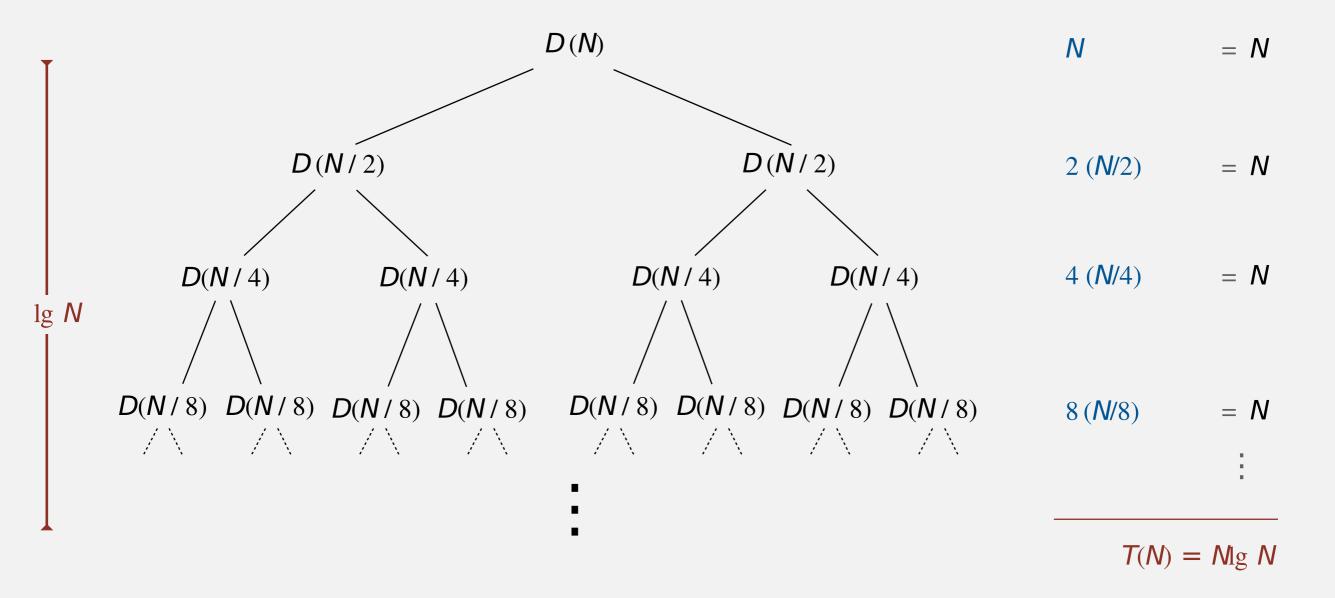
We solve the recurrence when N is a power of 2:result holds for all N (analysis cleaner in this case)

$$D(N) = 2D(N/2) + N$$
, for $N > 1$, with $D(1) = 0$.

Divide-and-conquer recurrence: proof by picture

Proposition. Df(N) satisfies D(N) = 2D(N/2) + N for N > 1, with D(1) = 0, then $D(N) = N \lg N$.

Pf 1. [assuming N is a power of 2]



14

Divide-and-conquer recurrence: proof by induction

Proposition. Df(N) satisfies D(N) = 2D(N/2) + N for N > 1, with D(1) = 0, then $D(N) = N \lg N$.

Pf 2. [assuming *N* is a power of 2]

Base caseN = 1.

Inductive hypothesis $(N) = N \lg N$.

Goal: show that $(2N) = (2N) \lg (2N)$.

$$D(2N) = 2 D(N) + 2N$$
= 2 N lg N + 2N
= 2 N (lg (2N) - 1) + 2N
= 2 N lg (2N)

given

inductive hypothesis

algebra

QED

16/STR/ALG/XPL/1/A

Mergesort: number of array accesses

Proposition. Mergesort uses $N \lg N$ array accesses to sort an array of length N.

Pf sketch. The number of array accesses esatisfies the recurrence:

```
A(N) \le A(\lceil N 2 \rceil) + A(\lfloor \lfloor N 2 \rfloor) + 6N \text{ for } N > 1, \text{ with } A(1) = 0.
```

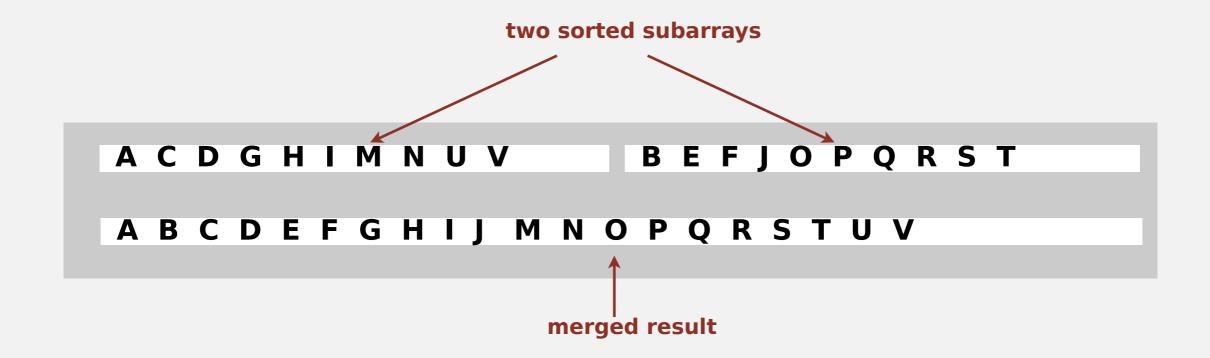
Key point. Any algorithm with the following structure to ketime:

Notable examples. FFT, hidden-line removal, Kendall-tau distance, ...

17/STR/COM/XPL/1/A

Mergesort analysis: memory

Proposition. Mergesort uses extra space proportional to N. **Pf.** The arrayux[] needs to be of length N for the last merge.



Def. A sorting algorithm is in-place if it usies N≤extra memory. Ex. Insertion sort, selection sort, shellsort.

Challenge 1 (not hard). Lesse array of length N instead of Challenge 2 (very hard). In-place merge. [Kronrod 1969]

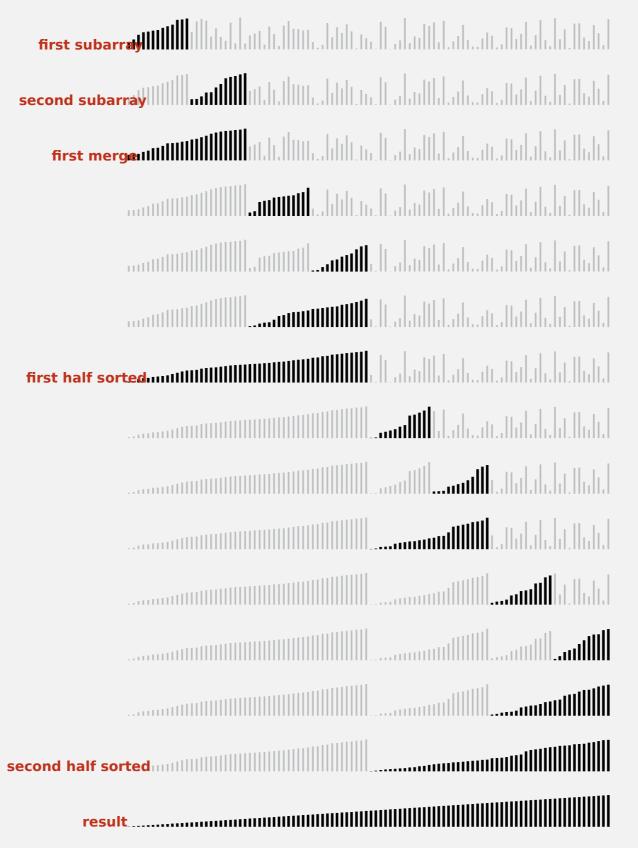
Mergesort: practical improvements

Use insertion sort for small subarrays.

Mergesort has too much overhead for tiny subarrays. Cutoff to insertion sort for \approx 10 items.

```
private static void sort(Comparable[] a, Comparable[] aux, int lo, int hi)
{
    if (hi <= lo + CUTOFF - 1)
    {
        Insertion.sort(a, lo, hi);
        return;
    }
    int mid = lo + (hi - lo) / 2;
    sort (a, aux, lo, mid);
    sort (a, aux, mid+1, hi);
    merge(a, aux, lo, mid, hi);
}</pre>
```

Mergesort with cutoff to insertion sort: visualization



Mergesort: practical improvements

Stop if already sorted.

Is largest item in first hælmallest item in second half? Helps for partially-ordered arrays.

```
ABCDEFGHIJ MNOPQRSTUV
ABCDEFGHIJMNOPQRSTUV
```

```
private static void sort(Comparable[] a, Comparable[] aux, int lo, int hi)
{
   if (hi <= lo) return;
   int mid = lo + (hi - lo) / 2;
   sort (a, aux, lo, mid);
   sort (a, aux, mid+1, hi);
   if (!less(a[mid+1], a[mid])) return;
   merge(a, aux, lo, mid, hi);
}</pre>
```

Eliminate the copy to the auxiliary array. Save time (but not space) by switching the role of the input and auxiliary array in each recursive

```
private static void merge(Comparable[] a, Comparable[] aux, int lo, int mid, int hi)
 int i = lo, j = mid+1;
 for (int k = lo; k \le hi; k++)
   if
        (i > mid) \qquad aux[k] = a[i++];
   else if (j > hi)  aux[k] = a[i++];
                                                                   merge from a[] toux[]
   else if (less(a[j], a[i])) aux[k] = a[j++];
                      aux[k] = a[i++];
   else
private static void sort(Comparable[] a, Comparable[] aux, int lo, int hi)
 if (hi <= lo) return;
 int mid = lo + (hi - lo) / 2;
                                                   assumes aux[] is initialize to a[] once,
 sort (aux, a, lo, mid);
                                                           before recursive calls
 sort (aux, a, mid+1, hi);
 merge(a, aux, lo, mid, hi);
```

Basic algorithm for sorting objects = mergesort.

Cutoff to insertion sort = 7.

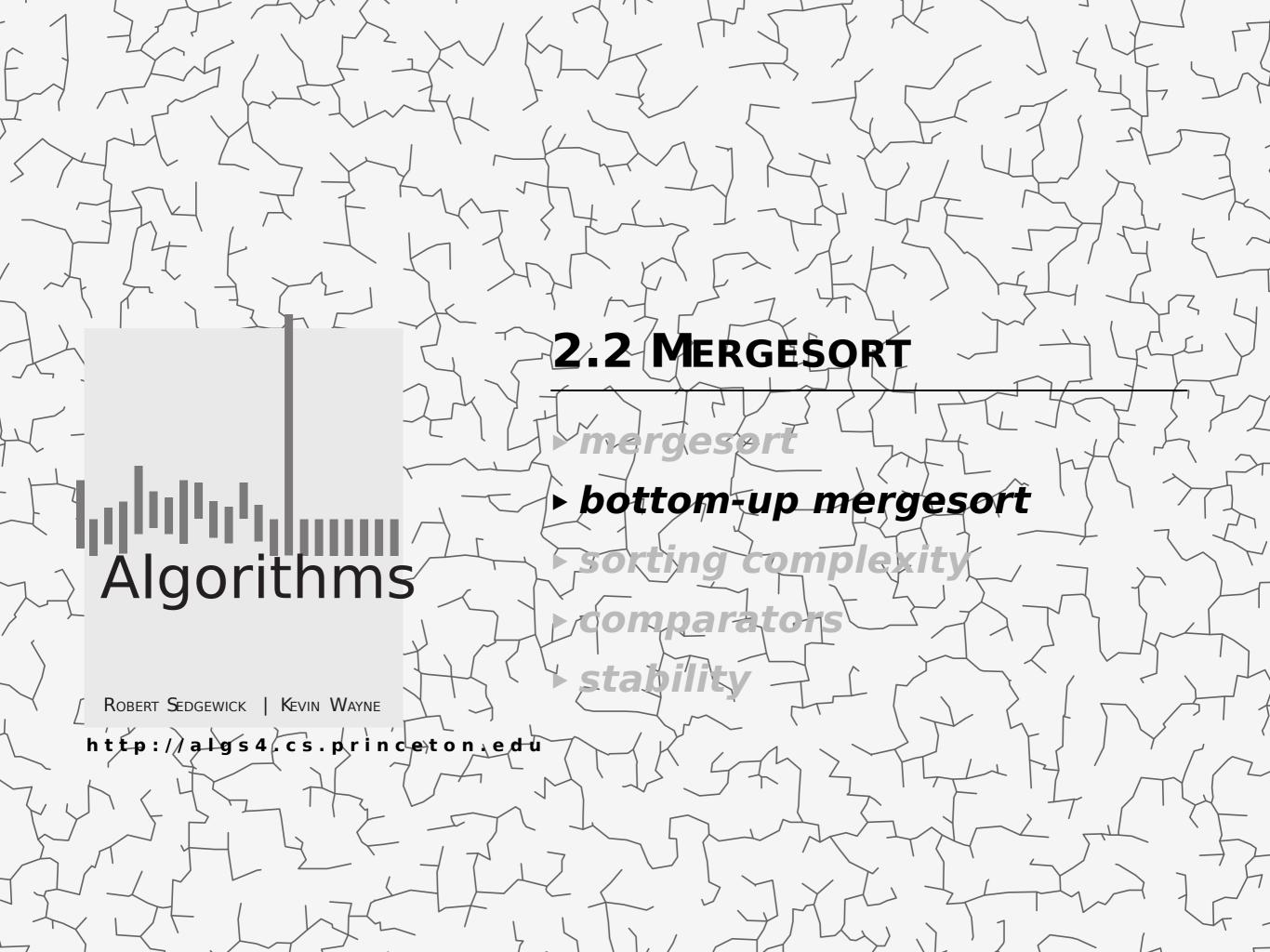
Stop-if-already-sorted test.

Eliminate-the-copy-to-the-auxiliary-array trick.

Arrays.sort(a)



http://www.java2s.com/Open-Source/Java/6.0-JDK-Modules/j2me/java/util/Arrays.java.html



Basic plan.

Pass through array, merging subarrays of size 1. Repeat for subarrays of size 2, 4, 8,

```
a[i]
                    0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15
                MERGESORTEXAMPLE
  merge(a, aux, 0, 0, 1) E M R G E S O R T E X A M P L E
  merge(a, aux, 2, 2, 3) E M G R E S O R T E X A M P L E
  merge(a, aux, 4, 4, 5) E M G R E S O R T E X A M P L E
  merge(a, aux, 6, 6, 7) E M G R E S O R T E X A M P L E
  merge(a, aux, 8, 8, 9) E M G R E S O R E T X A M P L E
  merge(a, aux, 10, 10, 11) EMGRESORETAXMPLE
  merge(a, aux, 12, 12, 13) E M G R E S O R E T A X M P L E
  merge(a, aux, 14, 14, 15) E M G R E S O R E T A X M P E L
    sz = 2
 merge(a, aux, 0, 1, 3) E G M R E S O R E T A X M P E L
 merge(a, aux, 4, 5, 7) E G M R E O R S E T A X M P E L
 merge(a, aux, 8, 9, 11) EGMREORSAETXMPEL
 merge(a, aux, 12, 13, 15) E G M R E O R S A E T X E L M P
  sz = 4
 merge(a, aux, 0, 3, 7) E E G M O R R S A E T X E L M P
 merge(a, aux, 8, 11, 15) E E G M O R R S A E E L M P T X
 sz = 8
                      AEEEGLMMOPRRSTX
merge(a, aux, 0, 7, 15)
```

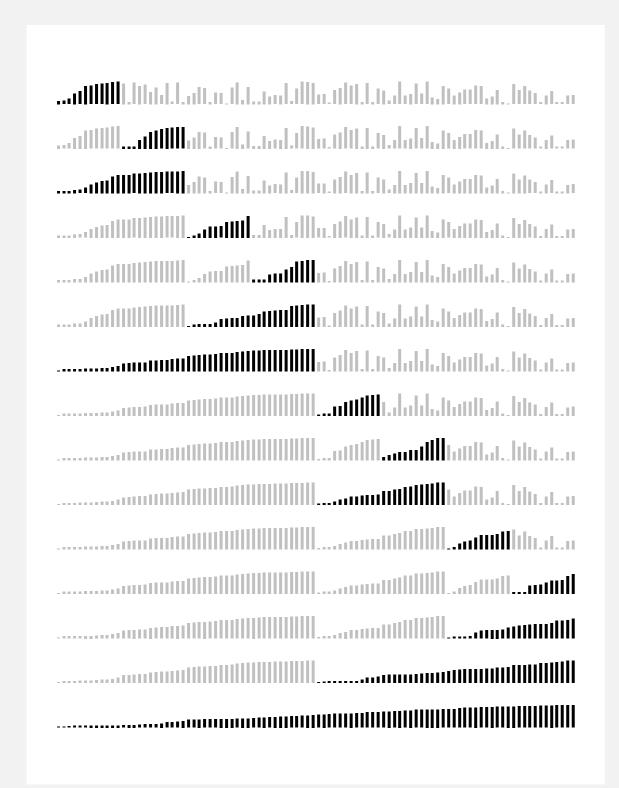
Bottom-up mergesort: Java implementation

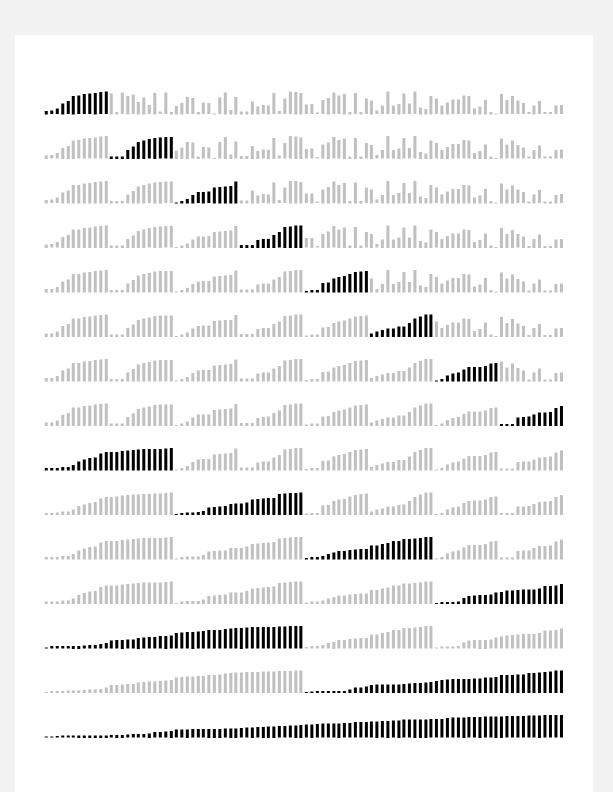
```
public class MergeBU
 private static void merge(...)
 { /* as before */ }
 public static void sort(Comparable[] a)
   int N = a.length;
   Comparable[] aux = new Comparable[N];
   for (int sz = 1; sz < N; sz = sz+sz)
     for (int lo = 0; lo < N-sz; lo += sz+sz)
       merge(a, aux, lo, lo+sz-1, Math.min(lo+sz+sz-1, N-1));
```

but about 10% slower than recursive, top-down mergesort on typical systems

Bottom line. Simple and non-recursive version of mergesort.

Mergesort: visualizations





Idea. Exploit pre-existing order by identifying naturally-occurring runs

input														
	1	5	10	16	3	4	23	9	13	2	7	8	12	14
first run														
	1	5	10	16	3	4	23	9	13	2	7	8	12	14
second run														
	1	5	10	16	3	4	23	9	13	2	7	8	12	14
merge two runs														
	1	3	4	5	10	16	23	9	13	2	7	8	12	14

Tradeoff. Fewer passes vs. extra compares per pass to identify runs.

28/STR/BKG/DEF/1/A

Timsort

Natural mergesort.

Use binary insertion sort to mak

A few more clever optimizations

Intro

This describes an adaptive, stable, natural mergeson timsort (hey, I earned it <wink>). It has supernatural kinds of partially ordered arrays (less than Ig(N!) co as few as N-1), yet as fast as Python's previous high hybrid on random arrays.

In a nutshell, the main routine marches over the array once, let a right, alternately identifying the next run, then merging it into the previous runs "intelligently". Everything else is complication for speed, and some hard-won measure of memory efficiency.

- - -

Consequence. Linear time on many arrays with pre-existing order. Now widely used. Python, Java 7, GNU Octave, Android,

The Zen of Python

Beautiful is better than ugly. **Explicit** is better than implicit. **Simple** is better than complex. **Complex** is better than complicated. **Flat** is better than nested. **Sparse** is better than dense. **Readability** counts. *Special cases* aren't special enough to break the rules.

Although **practicality** beats purity. *Errors* should never pass silently. Unless **explicitly** silenced. In the face of *ambiguity*, **refuse** the temptation to guess. There should be **one** — and preferably only one — obvious way to do it. Although that way may not be obvious at first unless you're Dutch. Now is better than never. Although never is **often** better than *right* now. If the implementation is hard to explain, it's a bad

is easy to explain, it may be a **good** idea. Namespaces are one *honking great* idea — let's do more of those!

idea. If the implementation

more of those! ob s'təl — səbi one honking great **Namespaces** are may be a good idea. is easy to explain, it idea. It the implementation

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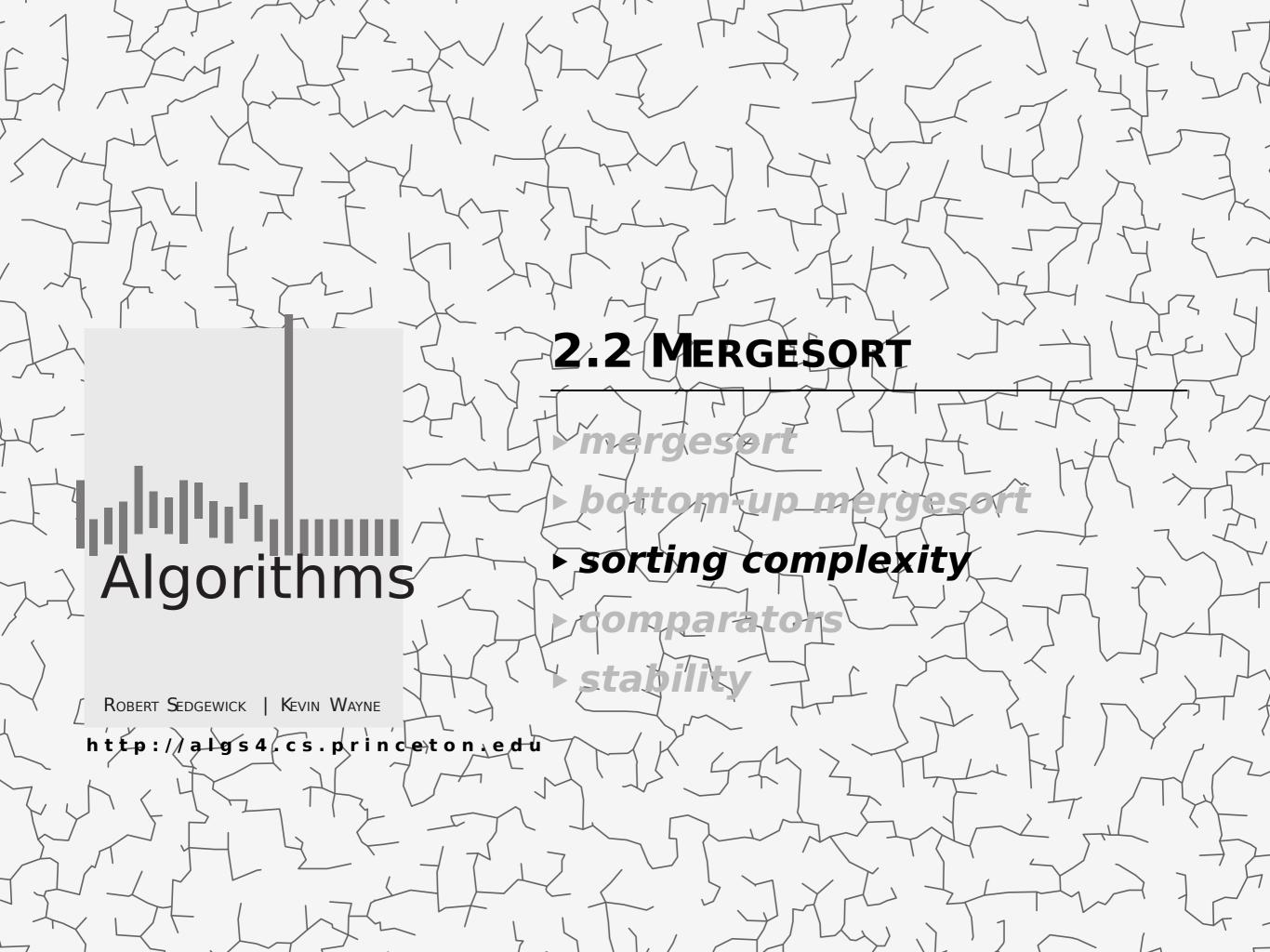
break the rules. special enough to **Keadability** counts. Special cases aren't nested. Sparse is better than dense. than complicated. Flat is better than is better than complex. **Complex** is better Explicit is better than implicit. Simple

Beautiful is better than ugly.



http://www.python.org/dev/peps/pep-0020/

http://westmarch.sjsoft.com/2012/11/zen-of-python-poster/



Complexity of sorting

Computational complexity. Framework to study efficiency of algorithm for solving a particular problem *X*.

Model of computation. Allowable operations.

Cost model. Operation count(s).

Upper bound. Cost guarantee provided by some algorithm for X.

Lower bound. Proven limit on cost guarantee of all algorithms for X.

Optimal algorithm. Algorithm with best possible cost guarantee for X.

lower bound ~ upper bound

Example: sorting.

Model of computation: decision tree.

only through compares
(e.g., Java Comparable framework)

can access information

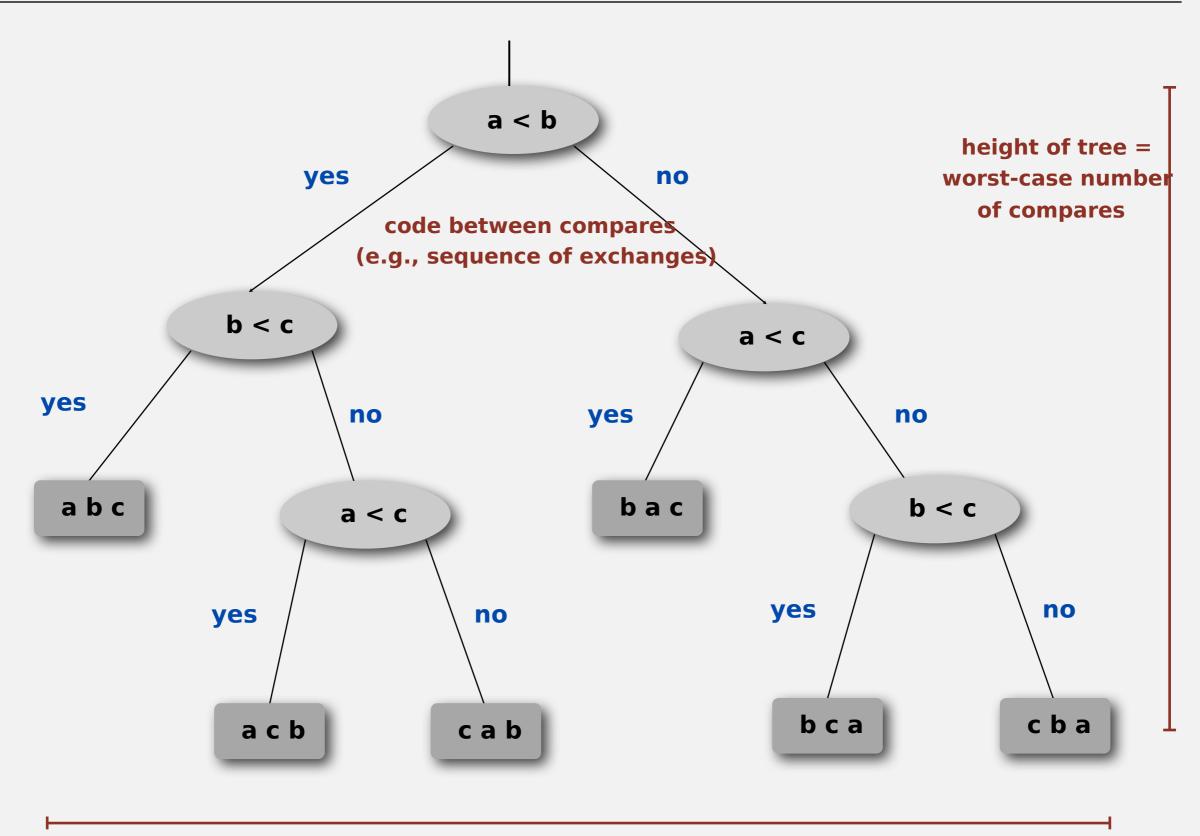
Cost model: # compares.

Upper bound $*N \lg N$ from mergesort.

Lower bound:

Optimal algorithm:

Decision tree (for 3 distinct keys a, b, and c)



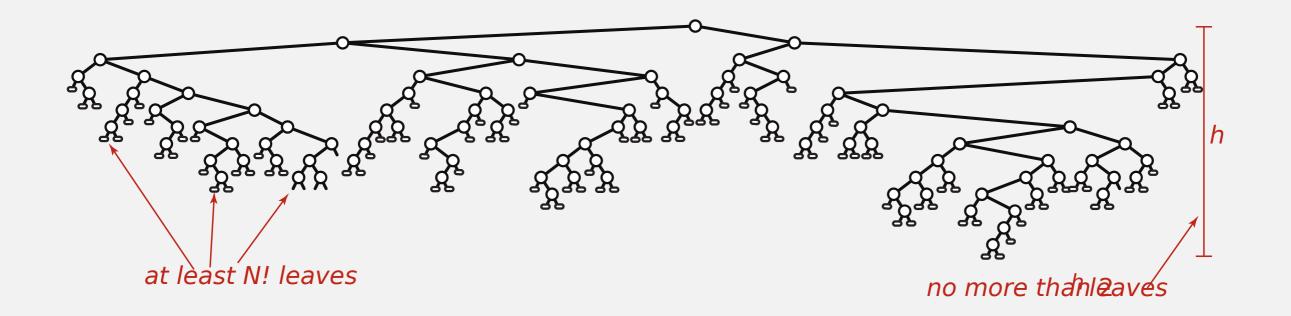
each leaf corresponds to one (and only one) ordering; (at least) one leaf for each possible ordering

Compare-based lower bound for sorting

Proposition. Any compare-based sorting algorithm must use at least $lg(N!) \sim N lg N$ compares in the worst-case.

Pf.

Assume array consists volistinct values through N. Worst case dictated by heligoft decision tree. Binary tree of height as at most leaves. N! different orderings \Rightarrow at leaves.

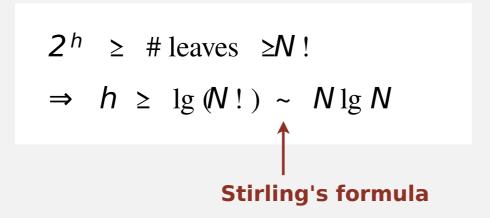


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Lower bound. Proven limit on cost guarantee of all algorithms for X.

Optimal algorithm. Algorithm with best possible cost guarantee for X.

Example: sorting.

Model of computation: decision tree.

Cost model: # compares.

Upper bound $*N \lg N$ from mergesort.

Lower bound: $N \lg N$.

Optimal algorithm = mergesort.

First goal of algorithm design: optimal algorithms.

Complexity results in context

Compares? Mergesort is optimal with respect to number compares.

Space? Mergesort is not optimal with respect to space usage.



Lessons. Use theory as a guide.

- Ex. Design sorting algorithm that guara/nt/des/ compares?
- Ex. Design sorting algorithm that is both time- and space-optimal?

Complexity results in context (continued)

Lower bound may not hold if the algorithm can take advantage of:

The initial order of the input.

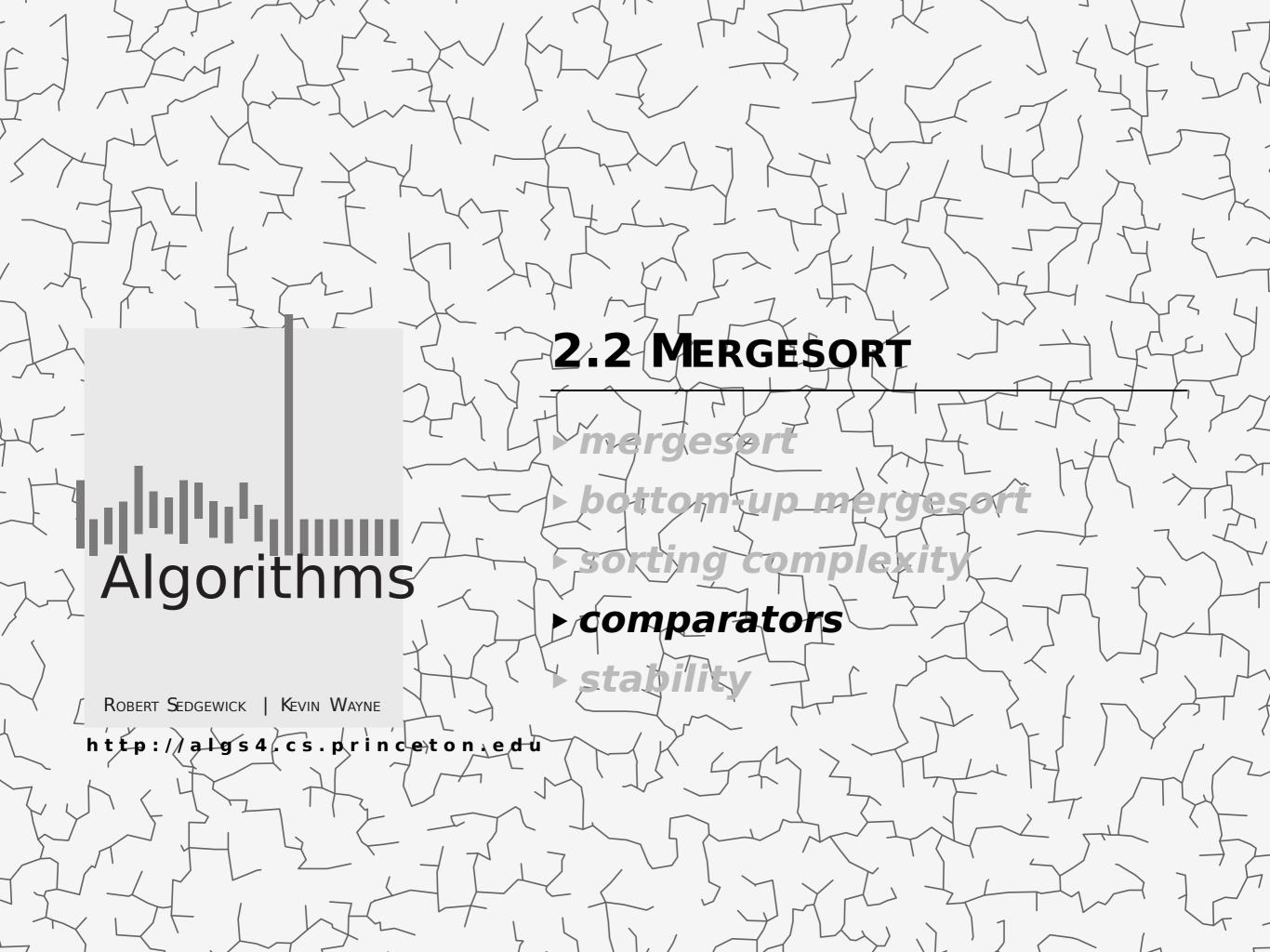
Ex: insert sort requires only a linear number of compares on partia sorted arrays.

The distribution of key values.

Ex: 3-way quicksort requires only a linear number of compares on arrays with a constant number of distinct keys. [stay tuned]

The representation of the keys.

Ex: radix sort requires no key compares — it accesses the data via character/digit compares.



39/STR/ALG/VIS/1/A

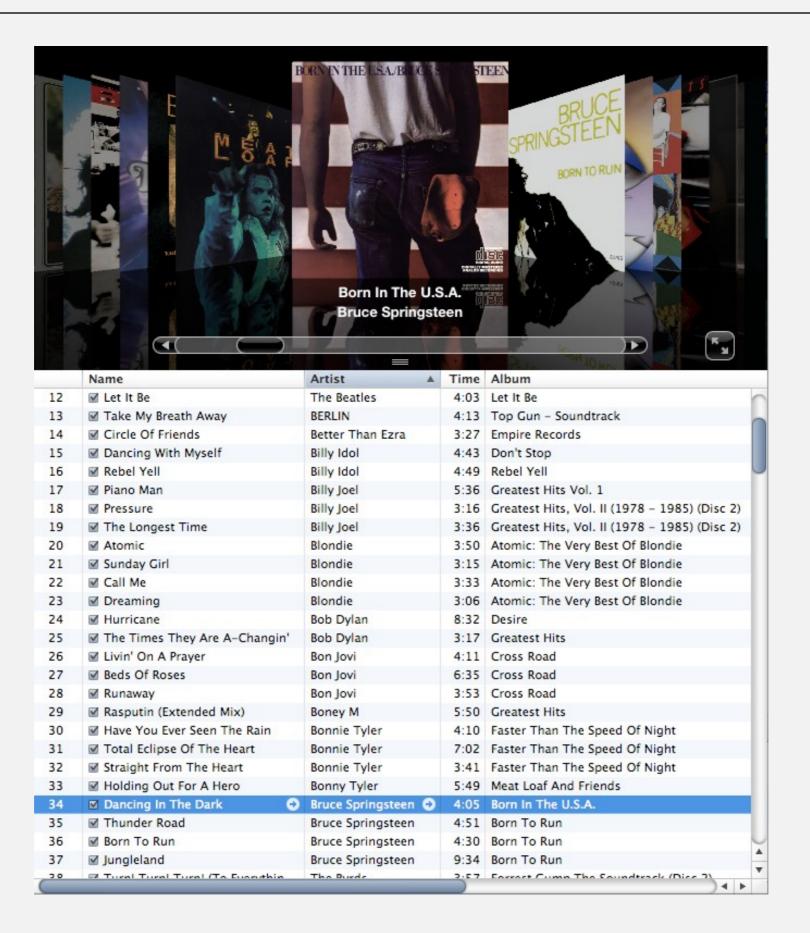
Sort countries by gold medals

Rank -	NOC +	Gold ≑	Silver +	Bronze \$	Total
1	United States (USA)	46	29	29	104
2	China (CHN)§	38	28	22	88
3	Great Britain (GBR)*	29	17	19	65
4	Russia (RUS)§	24	25	32	81
5	South Korea (KOR)	13	8	7	28
6	Germany (GER)	11	19	14	44
7	France (FRA)	11	11	12	34
8	Italy (ITA)	8	9	11	28
9	Hungary (HUN)§	8	4	6	18
10	Australia (AUS)	7	16	12	35

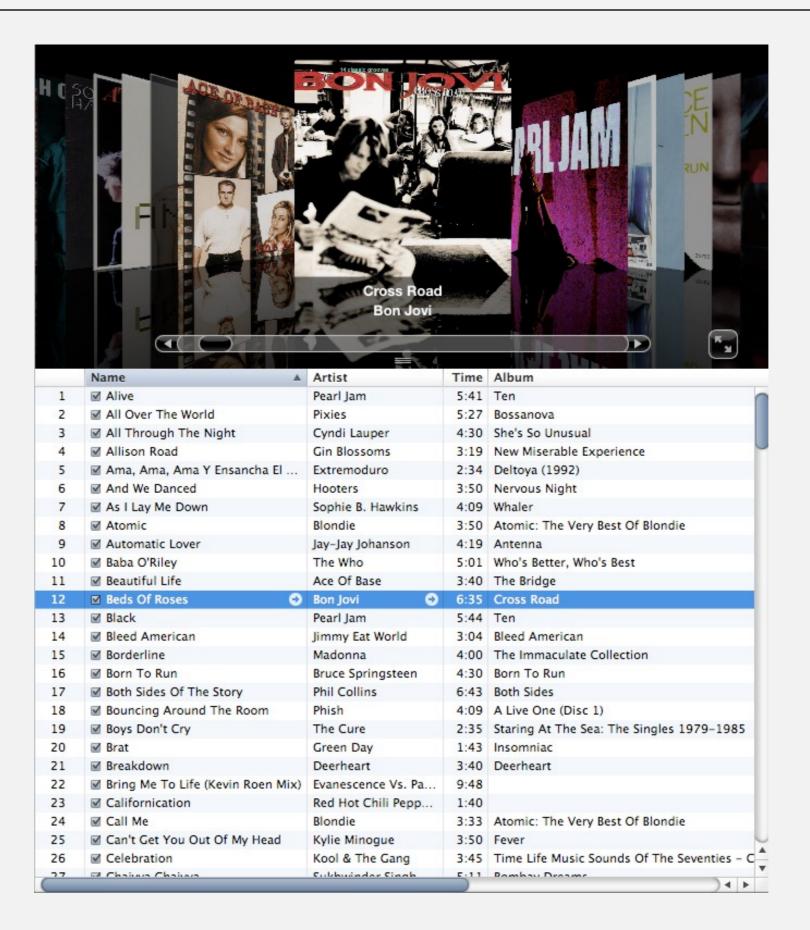
Sort countries by total medals

NOC \$	Gold ≑	Silver +	Bronze \$	Total ▼
United States (USA)	46	29	29	104
China (CHN)§	38	28	22	88
Russia (RUS)§	24	25	32	81
Great Britain (GBR)*	29	17	19	65
Germany (GER)	11	19	14	44
Japan (JPN)	7	14	17	38
Australia (AUS)	7	16	12	35
France (FRA)	11	11	12	34
South Korea (KOR)	13	8	7	28
Italy (ITA)	8	9	11	28

Sort music library by artist



Sort music library by song name



Comparablenterface: sort using a type's natural order.

```
public class Date implements Comparable<Date>
 private final int month, day, year;
 public Date(int m, int d, int y)
   month = m;
   day = d;
   year = y;
 public int compareTo(Date that)
                                                                natural order
   if (this.year < that.year ) return -1;</pre>
   if (this.year > that.year ) return +1;
   if (this.month < that.month) return -1;</pre>
   if (this.month > that.month) return +1;
   if (this.day < that.day ) return -1;</pre>
   if (this.day > that.day ) return +1;
   return 0;
```

Comparator interface

Comparatorinterface: sort using an alternate order.

```
public interface Comparator<Key>
int compare(Key v, Key w) compare keys v and w
```

Required property. Must be a total order.

string order	example		
natural order	Now is the time pre-1994 order for		
case insensitive	is Now the time digraphs ch and II and rr		
Spanish language	↓ café cafetero cuarto churro nube ñoño		
British phone book	McKinley Mackintosh		

To use with Java system sort:

Creat@omparatombject.

Pass as second argumentatoays.sort().

```
String[] a; uses natural order uses alternate order defined by Comparator String object ...

Arrays.sort(a); ...

Arrays.sort(a, String.CASE_INSENSITIVE_ORDER); ...

Arrays.sort(a, Collator.getInstance(new Locale("es"))); ...

Arrays.sort(a, new BritishPhoneBookOrder()); ...
```

Bottom line. Decouples the definition of the data type from the definition of what it means to compare two objects of that type.

To support comparators in our sort implementations:

UseObject instead ofomparable

PassComparatortosort() and less() and use it iness().

insertion sort using a Comparator

```
public static void sort(Object[] a, Comparator comparator)
{
  int N = a.length;
  for (int i = 0; i < N; i++)
    for (int j = i; j > 0 && less(comparator, a[j], a[j-1]); j--)
        exch(a, j, j-1);
}

private static boolean less(Comparator c, Object v, Object w)
{ return c.compare(v, w) < 0; }

private static void exch(Object[] a, int i, int j)
{ Object swap = a[i]; a[i] = a[j]; a[j] = swap; }</pre>
```

To implement a comparator:

Define a (nested) class that implements it has a to interface. Implement that implement that implement that implement that implement that implement implement that implement implements in the implement implements in the implement implements in the implement in t

```
public class Student
 private final String name;
 private final int section;
 public static class ByName implements Comparator<Student>
  public int compare(Student v, Student w)
   { return v.name.compareTo(w.name); }
 public static class BySection implements Comparator<Student>
   public int compare(Student v, Student w)
   { return v.section - w.section; }
                              since no danger of overflow
```

Comparator interface: implementing

To implement a comparator:

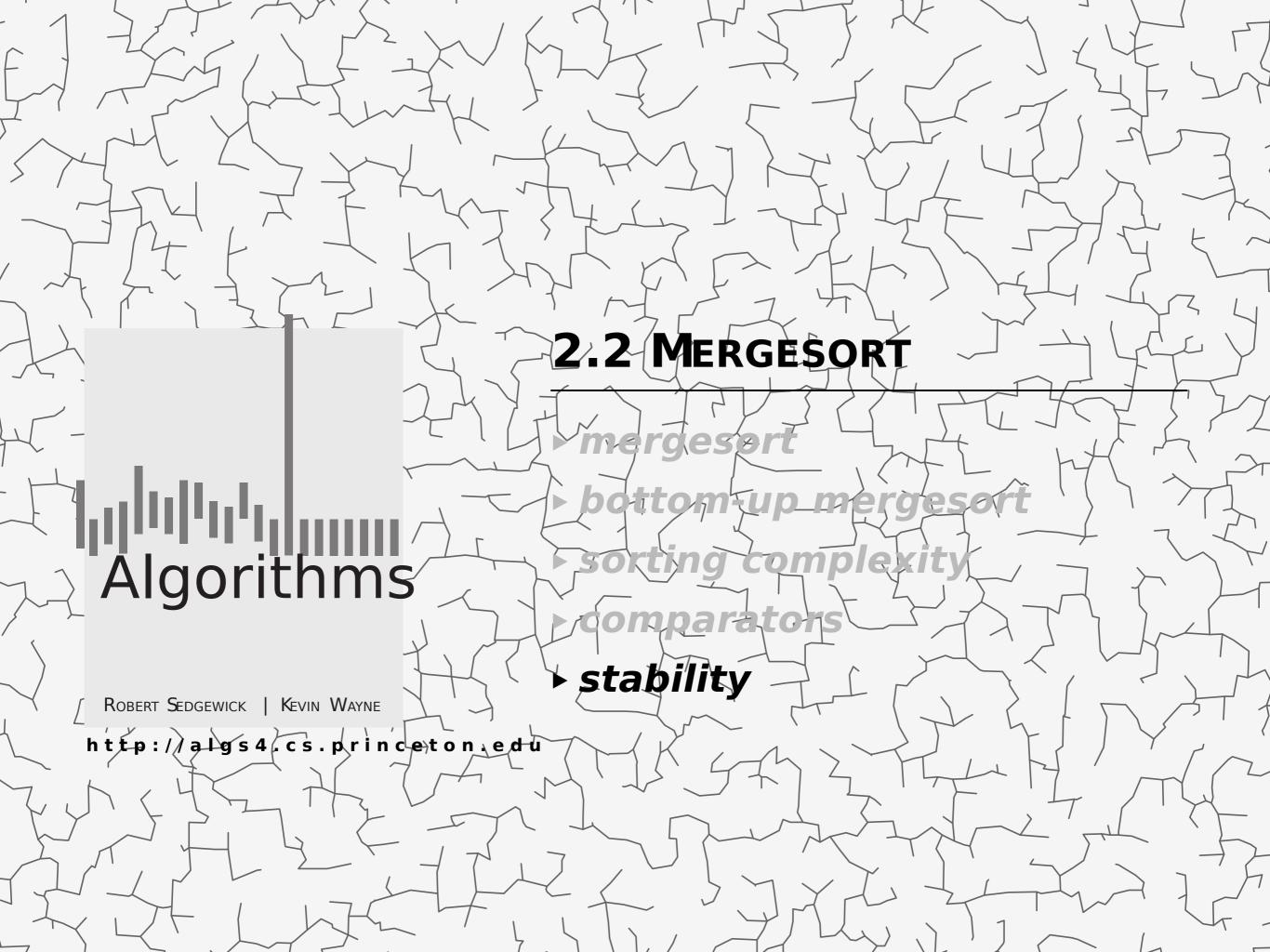
Define a (nested) class that implements it be atominterface. Implement the impare() method.

Arrays.sort(a, new Student.ByName());

Andrews	3	A	664-480-0023	097 Little
Battle	4	С	874-088-1212	121 Whitman
Chen	3	A	991-878-4944	308 Blair
Fox	3	A	884-232-5341	11 Dickinson
Furia	1	A	766-093-9873	101 Brown
Gazsi	4	В	766-093-9873	101 Brown
Kanaga	3	В	898-122-9643	22 Brown
Rohde	2	A	232-343-5555	343 Forbes

Arrays.sort(a, new Student.BySection());

Furia	1	A	766-093-9873	101 Brown
Rohde	2	A	232-343-5555	343 Forbes
Andrews	3	A	664-480-0023	097 Little
Chen	3	A	991-878-4944	308 Blair
Fox	3	A	884-232-5341	11 Dickinson
Kanaga	3	В	898-122-9643	22 Brown
Battle	4	С	874-088-1212	121 Whitman
Gazsi	4	В	766-093-9873	101 Brown



A typical application. First, sort by name; then sort by section.

Selection.sort(a, new Student.ByName());

Andrews	3	A	664-480-0023	097 Little
Battle	4	С	874-088-1212	121 Whitman
Chen	3	A	991-878-4944	308 Blair
Fox	3	A	884-232-5341	11 Dickinson
Furia	1	A	766-093-9873	101 Brown
Gazsi	4	В	766-093-9873	101 Brown
Kanaga	3	В	898-122-9643	22 Brown
Rohde	2	A	232-343-5555	343 Forbes

Selection.sort(a, new Student.BySection());

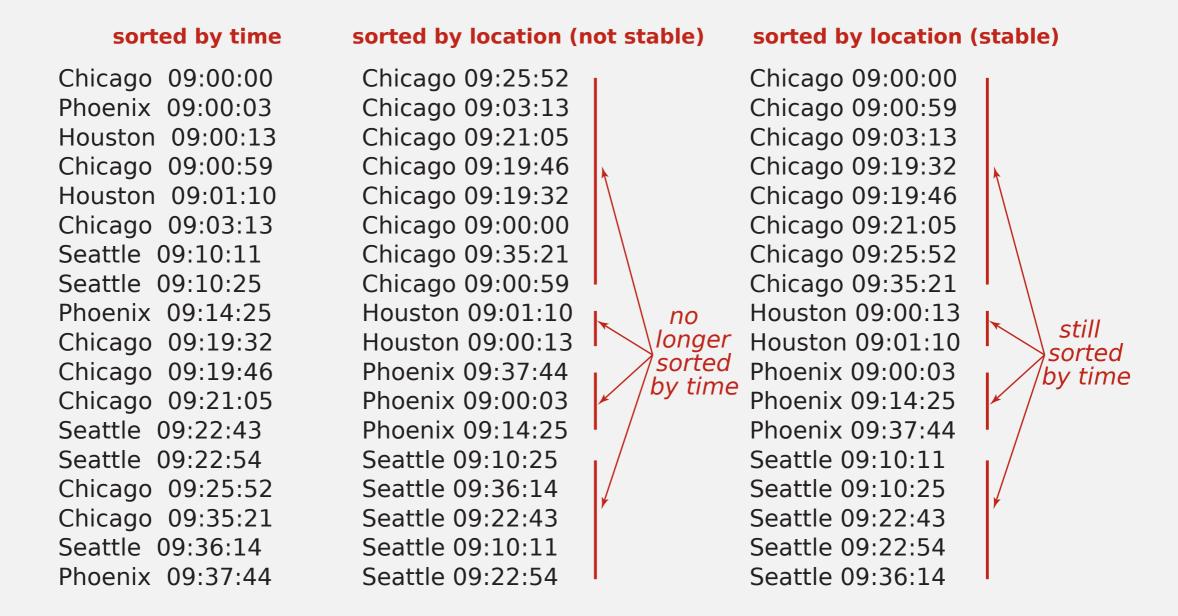
Furia	1	A	766-093-9873	101 Brown
Rohde	2	A	232-343-5555	343 Forbes
	3	A	991-878-4944	308 Blair
	3	A	884-232-5341	11 Dickinson
	3	A	664-480-0023	097 Little
	3	В	898-122-9643	22 Brown
Gazsi	4	В	766-093-9873	101 Brown
Battle	4	С	874-088-1212	121 Whitman

@#%&@! Students in section 3 no longer sorted by name.

A stable sort preserves the relative order of items with equal keys.

Q. Which sorts are stable?

A. Need to check algorithm (and implementation).



Stability when sorting on a second key

Stability: insertion sort

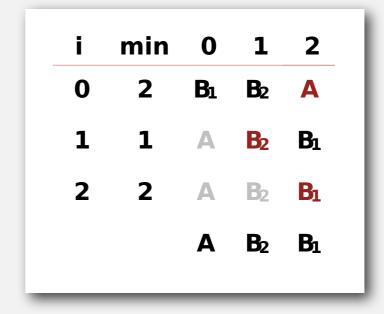
Proposition. Insertion sort is stable.

```
public class Insertion
  public static void sort(Comparable[] a)
     int N = a.length;
     for (int i = 0; i < N; i++)
        for (int j = i; j > 0 && less(a[j], a[j-1]); j--)
           exch(a, j, j-1);
                                           0 B<sub>1</sub> A<sub>1</sub> A<sub>2</sub> A<sub>3</sub> B<sub>2</sub>
                                    0
                                           O \quad A_1 \quad B_1 \quad A_2 \quad A_3 \quad B_2
                                            1 A_1 A_2 B_1 A_3 B_2
                                     3 \quad 2 \quad A_1 \quad A_2 \quad A_3 \quad B_1 \quad B_2
                                     4
                                            4 \quad A_1 \quad A_2 \quad A_3 \quad B_1 \quad B_2
                                                  A_1 A_2 A_3 B_1 B_2
```

Pf. Equal items never move past each other.

Proposition. Selection sort is not stable.

```
public class Selection
  public static void sort(Comparable[] a)
   int N = a.length;
   for (int i = 0; i < N; i++)
     int min = i;
     for (int j = i+1; j < N; j++)
       if (less(a[j], a[min]))
         min = j;
     exch(a, i, min);
```



Pf by counterexample. Long-distance exchange can move one equal it past another one.

Proposition. Shellsort sort is not stable.

```
public class Shell
     public static void sort(Comparable[] a)
       int N = a.length;
       int h = 1;
       while (h < N/3) h = 3*h + 1;
       while (h >= 1)
         for (int i = h; i < N; i++)
           for (int j = i; j > h && less(a[j], a[j-h]); <math>j -= h)
             exch(a, j, j-h);
         h = h/3;
                                                                             0 1
                                                                                      2 3 4
                                                                        h
                                                                             B_1 B_2 B_3 B_4 A_1
                                                                            A_1 B_2 B_3 B_4 B_1
                                                                            A_1 \quad B_2 \quad B_3 \quad B_4 \quad B_1
                                                                            A_1 \quad B_2 \quad B_3 \quad B_4 \quad B_1
Pf by counterexample. Long-distance excha
```

Proposition. Mergesort is stable.

```
public class Merge
 private static void merge(...)
 { /* as before */ }
 private static void sort(Comparable[] a, Comparable[] aux, int lo, int hi)
   if (hi <= lo) return;
   int mid = lo + (hi - lo) / 2;
   sort(a, aux, lo, mid);
   sort(a, aux, mid+1, hi);
   merge(a, aux, lo, mid, hi);
 public static void sort(Comparable[] a)
 { /* as before */ }
```

Pf. Suffices to verify that merge operation is stable.

Proposition. Merge operation is stable.

Pf. Takes from left subarray if equal keys.

57/STR/ALG/DEC/1/A Sorting summary

	inplace?	stable?	best	average	worst	remarks
selection	•		1/2 N ²	¹⁄2 N ²	½ N ²	N exchanges
insertion	✓	✓	N	1/4 N ²	½ N ²	use for smaN or partially ordered
shell	•		$N \log_3 N$?	$c N^{3/2}$	tight code; subquadratic
merge		✓	½ N lg N	N lg N	N lg N	$N \log N$ guarantee; stable
timsort		✓	N	N lg N	N lg N	improves mergesort when preexisting order
?	✓	✓	N	N lg N	N lg N	holy sorting grail