

Quicksort And Liner Time Sorts - Recitation 6

Quicksort, Countingsort, Radixsort And Bucketsort.

November 19, 2022

Till now we have quantified the algorithm performance against the worst case scenario. And we saw that according to that measure, in the comparisons model, one can not sort in less than $\Theta(n \log n)$ time. In this recitation we present two new main concepts that, in certain cases, achieve better analyses. The first one is the Expectation Complexity, By Letting the algorithm to behave undeterministically, we might obtain an algorithm that most of the time runs faster. Yet we will not succumb to get down the $\Theta(n \log n)$ lower bound, but we will have to use that concept in the pending of the course. The second concept is to restrict ourselves to deal only in particular type of inputs. For example We will see that if we suppose that the given array contains only integer in bounded domain then we can sort it in linear time.

0.1 Quicksort.

The quicksort algorithm is a good example for a **non-deterministic** algorithm that has a worst-case running time of $\Theta(n^2)$. Yet its expected running time is $\Theta(n \log n)$. Namely fix an array of n numbers, the runnings of Quicksort over that array might be different, each of them is a different event in probability space, and the running time of the algorithm is a random variable defined over that space. Saying that the algorithm has worst space complexity of $\Theta(n^2)$ means that there exist event in which it runs $\Theta(n^2)$ time with non-zero probability. But practically the interesting question is not the existence of such event but how likely that it happens. It turns out that expectation of the running time is actually $\Theta(n \log n)$.

What is the exactly reason that happens? By giving up on the algorithm behavior entirely we are going to turn the task of engineering bad input impossible.

Our study of quicksort is broken into four sections. Section 7.1 describes the algorithm and an important subroutine used by quicksort for partitioning. Because the behavior of quicksort is complex, we'll start with an intuitive discussion of its performance in Section 7.2 and analyze it precisely at the end of the chapter. Section 7.3 presents a randomized version of quicksort. When all elements are distinct, this randomized algorithm has a good expected running time and no particular input elicits its worst-case behavior. (See Problem 7-2 for the case in which elements may be equal.) Section 7.4 analyzes the randomized algorithm, showing that it runs in $\Theta(n^2)$ time in the worst case and, assuming distinct elements, in expected $O(n \log n)$ time.

randomized-partition(A, p, r)

```
1  $i \leftarrow \text{random}(p, r)$ 
2  $A_r \leftrightarrow A_i$ 
3 return Partition( $A, p, r$ )
```

randomized-quicksort (A, p, r)

```
1 if  $p < r$  then
2    $q \leftarrow \text{randomized-partition}(A, p, r)$ 
3   randomized-quicksort( $A, p, q - 1$ )
4   randomized-quicksort( $A, q + 1, r$ )
```