

## 5.1 Sorting and Randomized Algorithms

### Selection vs. Sorting

The selection problem is: Given an array  $A$  of  $n$  numbers, and  $0 \leq k \leq n$ , find the element in position  $k$  of the sorted array.

**Observation** : the  $k$ th largest element is the element at position  $n - k$ . Best heap-based algorithm had time cost  $\theta(n_k \log n)$

For median selection,  $k = n/2$ , giving cost  $\theta(n \log n)$ . This is the same cost as our best sorting algorithms.

### Crucial Subroutines

quick-select and the related algorithm quick-sort rely on two subroutines:

- **choose-pivot( $A$ )**: Choose an index  $i$  such that  $A[i]$  will make a good pivot (hopefully near the middle of the order).

```
1 choose-pivot1(A)
2 return 0
```

- **partition( $A, p$ )**: Using pivot  $A[p]$ , rearrange  $A$  so that all items  $\leq$  the pivot come first, followed by the pivot, followed by all items greater than the pivot.

```
1 partition(A, p)
2 A: array of size n, p: integer s.t. 0 <= p <= n
3 swap(A[0], A[p])
4 i <- 1, j <- n - 1
5 loop
6   while i < n and A[i] <= A[0] do
7     i <- i + 1
8   while j >= 0 and A[j] > A[0] do
9     j <- j - 1
10  if j < i then break
11  else swap(A[i], A[j])
12 end loop
13 swap(A[0], A[j])
14 return j
```

## Quick Select Algorithm

```

1 quick-select1(A, k )
2 A: array of size n, k: integers.t. 0 <= k < n
3   p <- choose-pivot1(A)
4   i <- partition(A, p)
5   if i=k then
6     return A[i]
7   else if i > k then
8     return quick-select1(A[0, 1, . . . , i - 1], k)
9   else if i < k then
10    return quick-select1(A[i + 1, i + 2, . . . , n - 1], k - i - 1)

```

## Analysis

**Worst-case analysis:** Recursive call could always have size  $n-1$

$$T(n) = cn + c(n-1) + c(n-2) + \dots + c \cdot 2 + d \in \theta(n^2)$$

**Best-case analysis:** First chosen pivot could be the  $k$ th element. No recursive calls; total cost is  $\theta(n)$

**Average case analysis :** Assume all  $n!$  permutations are likely. Average cost of sum for all permutations, divided by  $n!$

Define  $T(n, k)$  as average cost for selecting  $k$ th item from size- $n$  array :

$$T(n) = \max_{0 \leq k \leq n} T(n, k)$$

The cost is determined by  $i$ , the position of the pivot  $A[i]$ .

For more than half of the  $n!$  permutations,  $\frac{n}{4} \leq i \leq \frac{3n}{4}$ .

In this case, the recursive call will have length at most  $\frac{3n}{4}$ , for any  $k$ . The average cost is then given by:

$$T(n) \leq \begin{cases} cn + \frac{1}{2}(T(n) + T(3n/4)) & n \geq 2 \\ d, & n = 1 \end{cases}$$

Rearranging displays that  $T(n) \in O(n)$

### 5.1.1 Randomized Algorithms

A randomized algorithm is one which relies on some random numbers in addition to the input. The cost will depend on the input and the random numbers used.

## Expected Running Time

Define  $T(I, R)$  as the running time of the randomized algorithm for a particular input  $I$  and the sequence of random numbers  $R$ .

The expected running  $T^{(exp)}(I)$  of a randomized algorithm for a particular input  $I$  is the expected value for  $T(I, R)$ :

$$T^{(exp)}(I) = E[T(I, R)] = \sum_R T(I, R) \cdot Pr[R]$$

The worst case running time is then

$$T^{(exp)}(n) = \max_{size(i)=n} T^{(exp)}(I)$$

**Randomized Quick Select**

```
1 shuffle(A)
2 A: array of size n
3   for i <- 0 to n - 2 do
4     swap ( A[i], A[i + random(n-i)] )
```

Expected cost becomes the same as the average cost, which is  $\theta(n)$