

17. Sorting Algorithms :: Quick Sort :: Partitioning the Partitions

Once we have partitioned *list* into two sublists (by choosing the first element as the pivot):

$$list = \{\underline{2}, \underline{2}, \underline{3}, \underline{7}, \underline{5}, \underline{13}, \underline{11}, \underline{8}, \underline{6}, \underline{4}\}$$

what would happen if we partition each of these sublists in the same way?

$$list_L = \{2, 2, 3\}$$

$$list_R = \{7, 5, 13, 11, 8, 6, 4\}$$

17. Sorting Algorithms :: Quick Sort

Since partitioning does all of the work of actually moving the elements around to form the sorted list, the main quick sort method is very simple: we simply partition the input list and recursively quick sort the left and right sublists:

```
Method quickSort(In: List<T> list; In: fromIndex; In: toIndex)
-- The base case is reached when the list has only one element, i.e., when
-- fromIndex is greater than or equal to toIndex. In this case, we have a list
-- that is trivially sorted, so we have nothing to do.
If fromIndex ≥ toIndex Then Return
-- Otherwise, partition the list into a left half and a right half such that
-- all of the elements in the left half are less than the elements in the right
-- half.
partitionIndex ← partition(list, fromIndex, toIndex)
-- Recursively quick sort the left and right halves.
quickSort(list, fromIndex, partitionIndex)
quickSort(list, partitionIndex + 1, toIndex)
End Method quickSort
```

To quick sort an ArrayList we would call *quickSort()* this way:

```
ArrayList<Integer> list = new ArrayList<>();
// Integers are added to list...
quickSort(list, 0, list.size() - 1);
```