

Computação em Larga Escala

General Problems – Algorithmic analysis 3

António Rui Borges

Summary

- Sorting a sequence of integers
 - Rationale
 - Alternatives
 - Algorithm



The approach to be followed stems from the fact that it is less complex to sort a somewhat presorted sequence than a totally random one.

Thus, suppose the sequence of N values val, with $N = 2^k$ and $k \ge 1$, is such that both its halves, from 0 to N/2-1 and from N/2 to N-1, respectively, are already sorted. In order to sort the whole sequence one may use merge sorting.

Two alternatives are possible for sorting in ascending order

- both halves are sorted in ascending order (standard merge sorting)
- first half is sorted in ascending order and second half in descending order (*bitonic sorting*).

Another interesting feature of this approach is that the sorting of both halves is independent from one another and can be done in parallel.

Standard merge sorting

Example using an 8-valued sequence

```
1  5  6  9  2  4  7  8  --- initial situation
1  4  6  8  2  5  7  9  --- iteration 1 (4 CAPS): first 2 values positioned
1  2  5  7  4  6  8  9  --- iteration 2 (3 CAPS): another 2 values positioned
1  2  4  6  5  7  8  9  --- iteration 3 (2 CAPS): another 2 values positioned
1  2  4  5  6  7  8  9  --- iteration 4 (1 CAPS): last 2 values positioned
```

CAPS stands for *compare and possible swap the value* The merge operation costs N(N+2)/8 CAPS, when N is even.

Bitonic sorting

Example using an 8-valued sequence

```
4 6 8 9 7 5 2 1 --- initial situation

4 5 2 1 7 6 8 9 --- iteration 1 (4 CAPS)

2 1 4 5 7 6 8 9 --- iteration 2 (4 CAPS)

1 2 4 5 6 7 8 9 --- iteration 3 (4 CAPS)
```

CAPS stands for *compare and possible swap the value* The merge operation costs kN/2 CAPS, when N is even.