

Quicksort

Julián García

Sorting

Input:

A sequence of n elements

$$\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \rangle$$



Output:

A permutation of the input sequence

$$\langle a'_1, a'_2, \dots, a'_n \rangle$$

such that $a'_1 \leq a'_2 \leq \dots \leq a'_n$

do it efficiently.

Quicksort

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- Recursive
- Sorts in place (no extra arrays!).
- Popular: Top-10 algorithms 20th century (SIAM).

Quicksort strategy

Input:

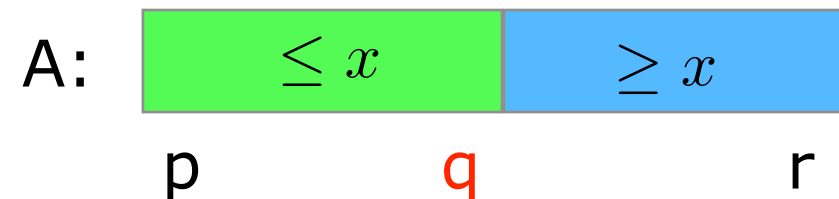


Quicksort strategy

Input:



Divide:



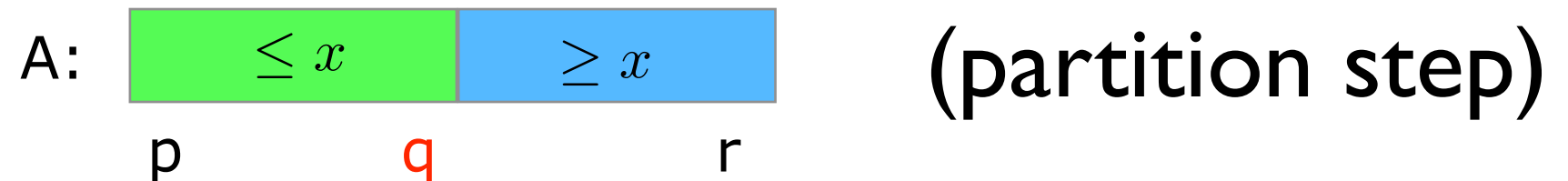
(partition step)

Quicksort strategy

Input:

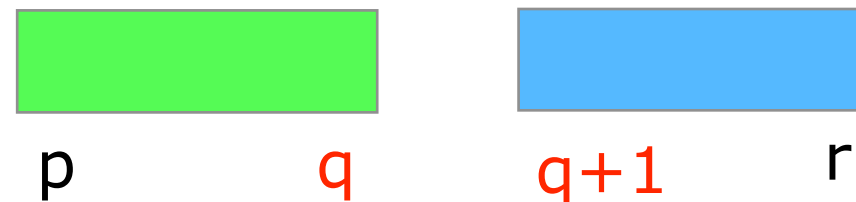


Divide:



Conquer:

Recursively solve two smaller problems.

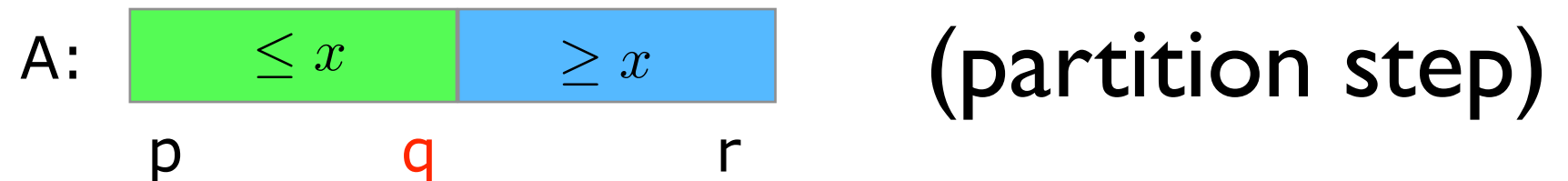


Quicksort strategy

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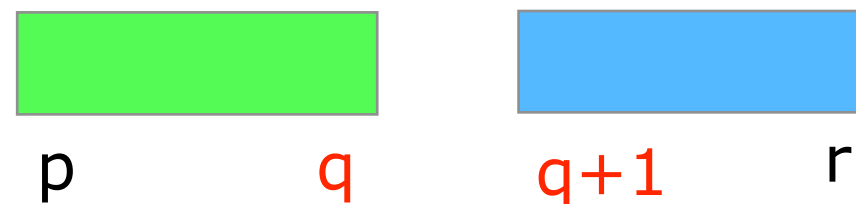


Divide:



Conquer:

Recursively solve two smaller problems.



Combine:

In-place! so we are done.

4	1	5	3	7	2	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

p

r



p

r



p

q

q+1

r

(partition step)



p

r



p

q

q+1

r

(partition step)

sort left





p

r



p

q

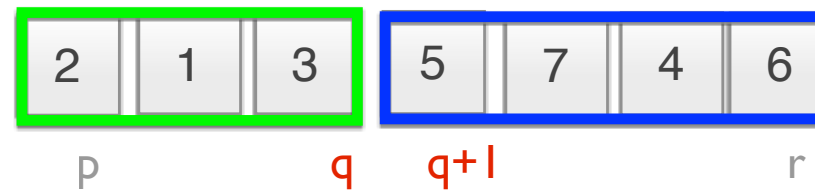
q+l

r

(partition step)

sort left





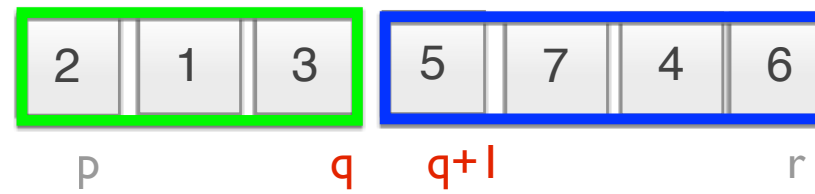
(partition step)

sort left



sort right





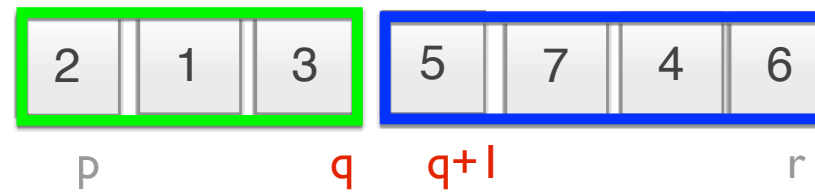
(partition step)

sort left



sort right





(partition step)

sort left



sort right



done!



QUICKSORT(A, p, r)

1 **if** $p < r$

2 $q = \text{PARTITION}(A, p, r)$

3 QUICKSORT(A, p, q)

4 QUICKSORT($A, q + 1, r$)



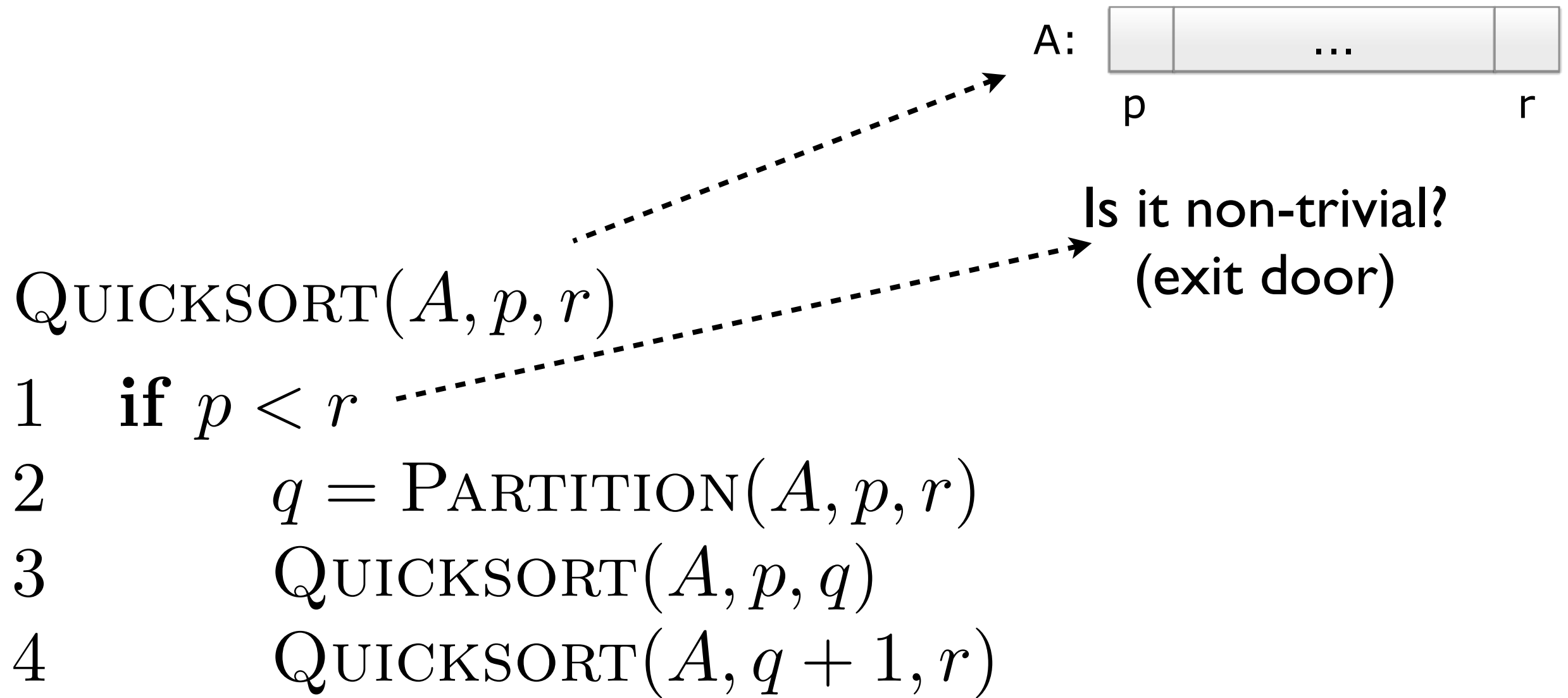
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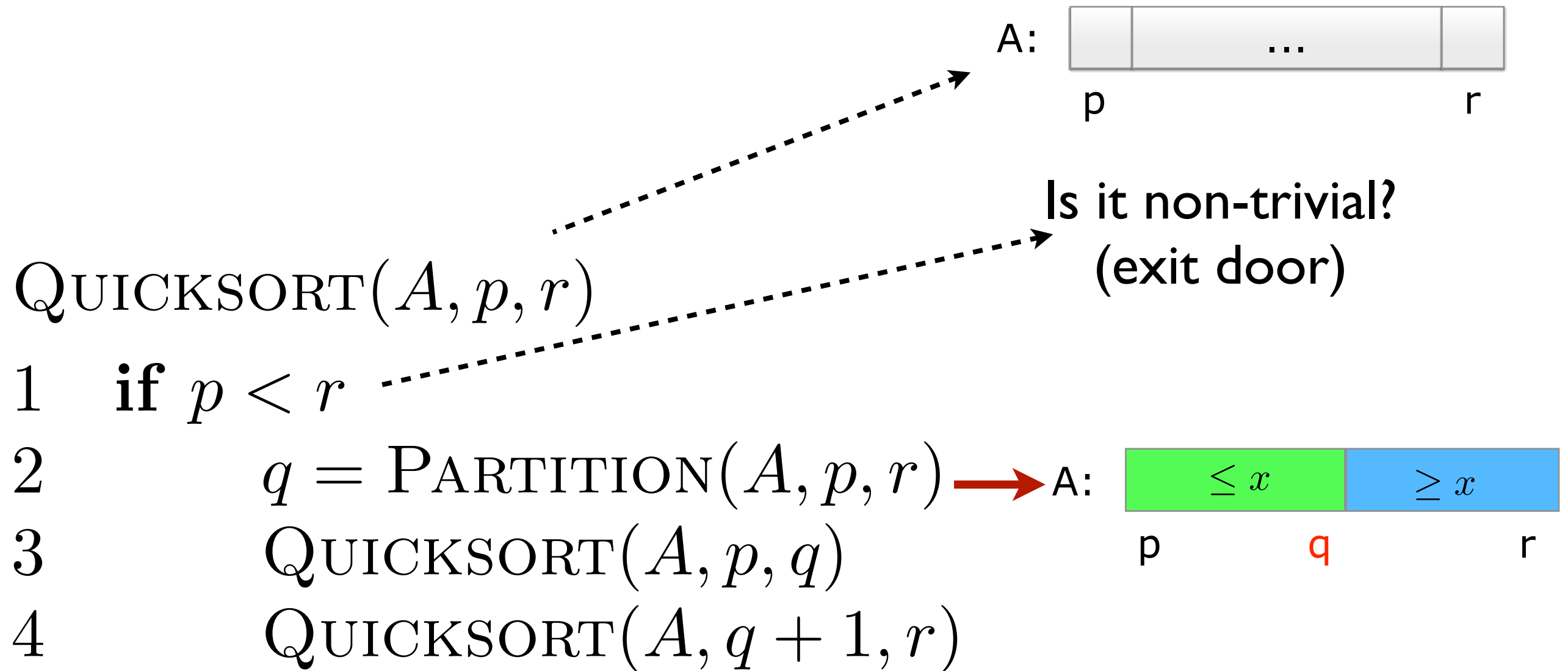
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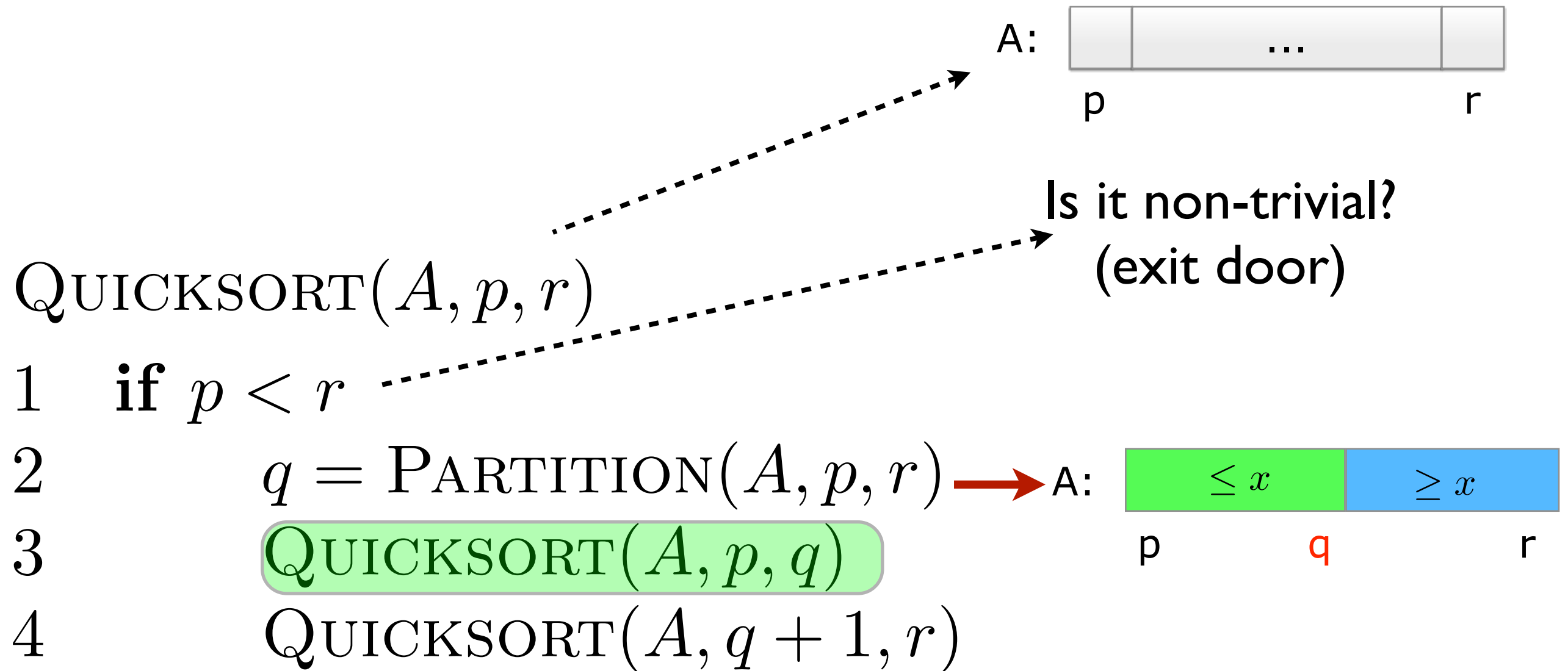
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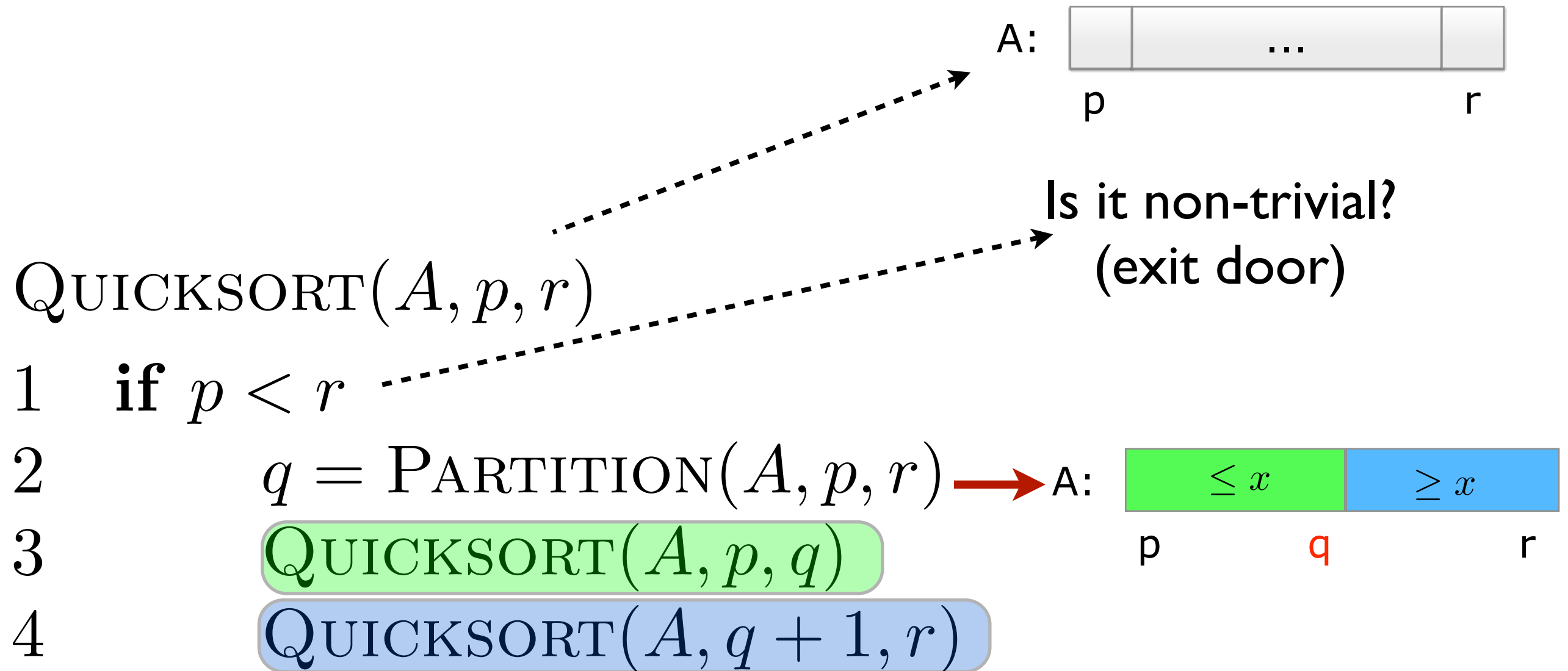
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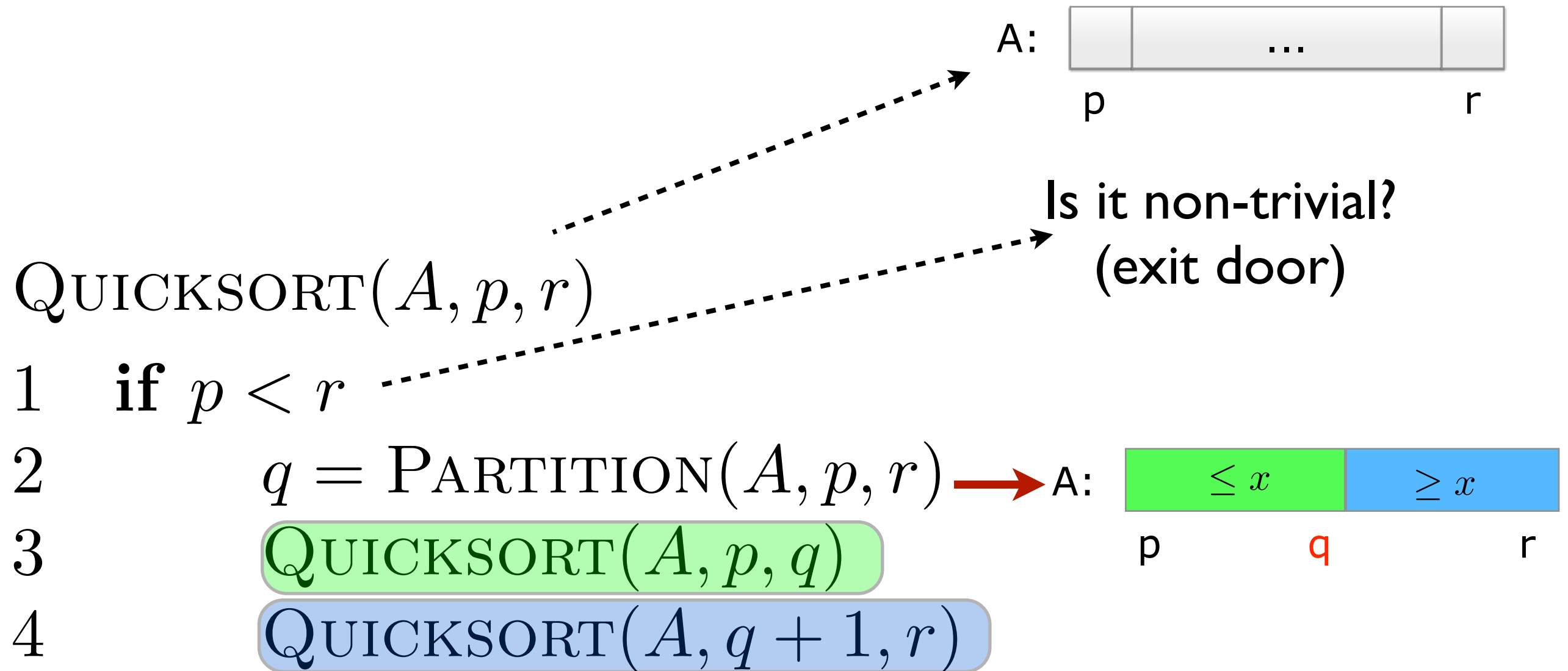
4 QUICKSORT($A, q + 1, r$)











partition really does all the work!

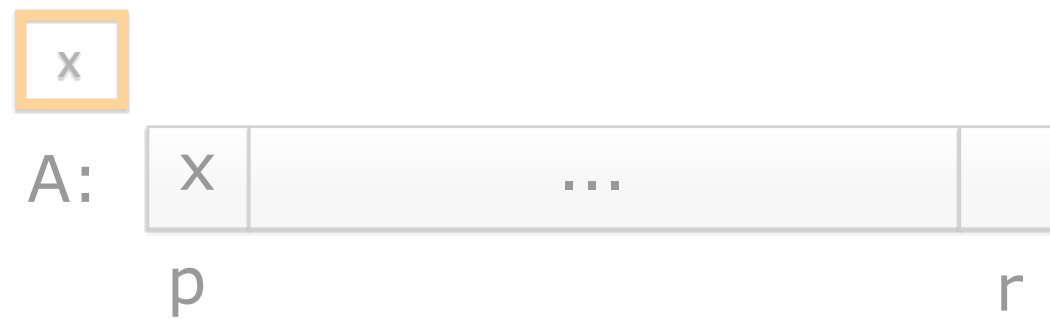
PARTITION(A, p, r)



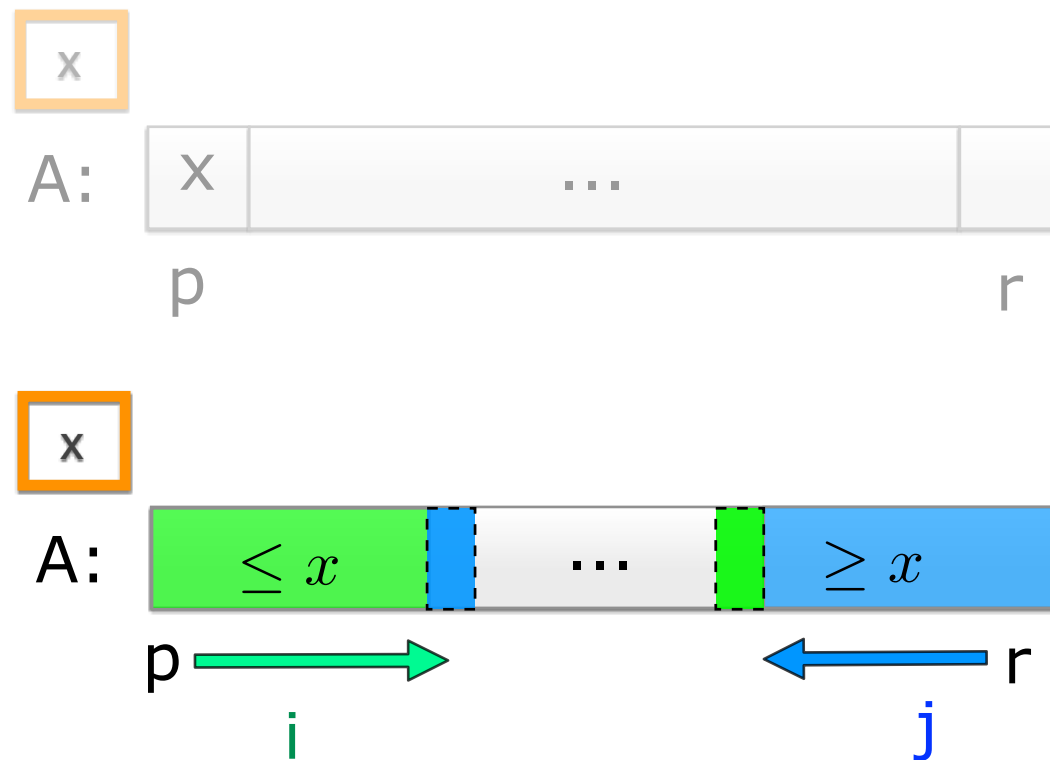
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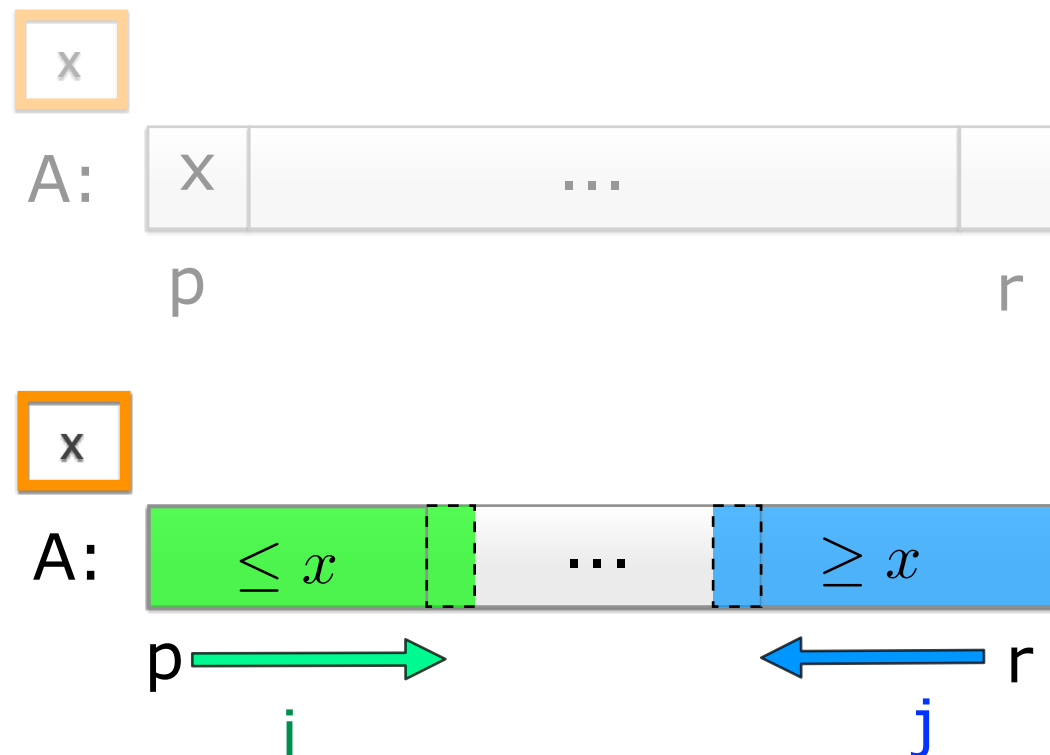
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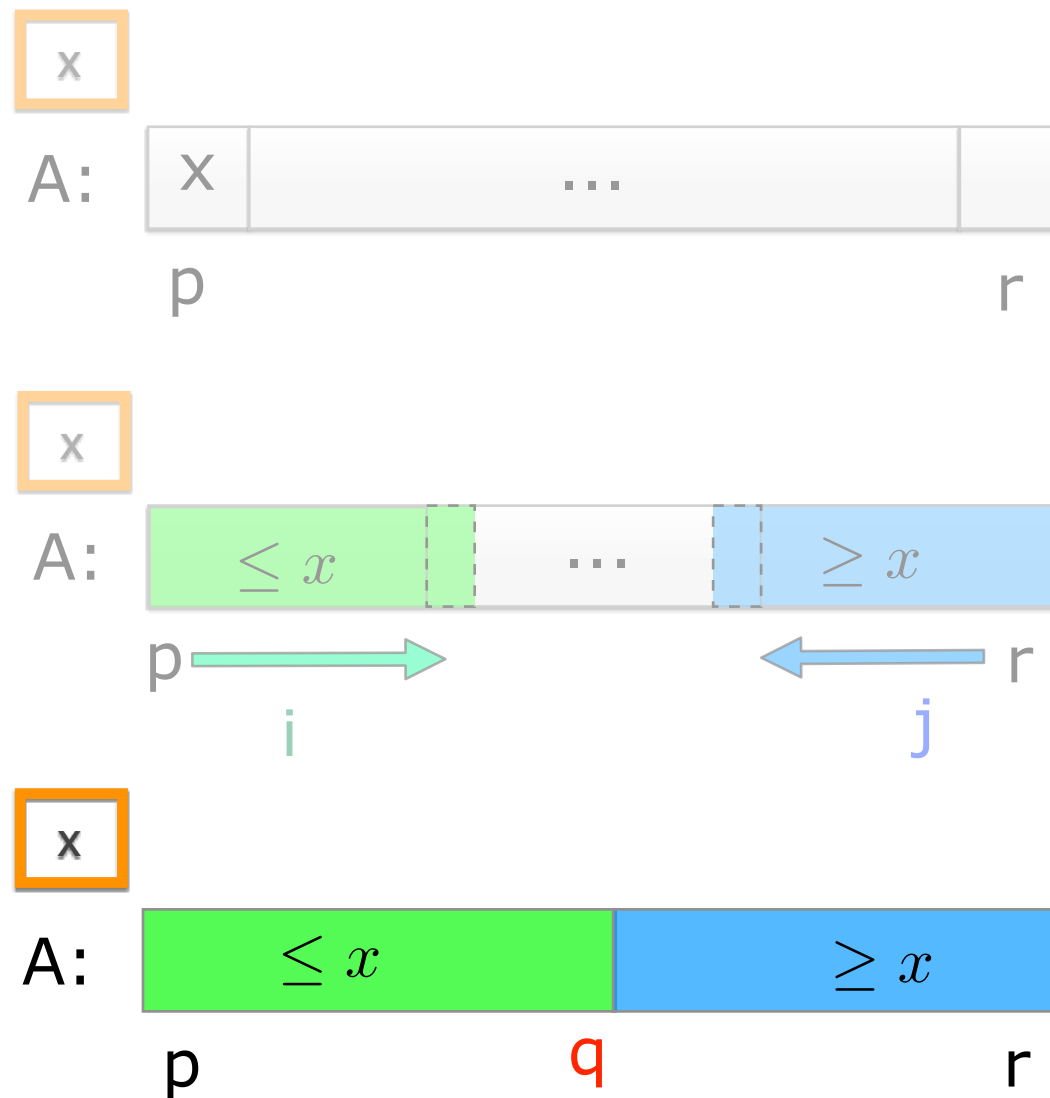
PARTITION(A, p, r)



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PARTITION(A, p, r)



p

r

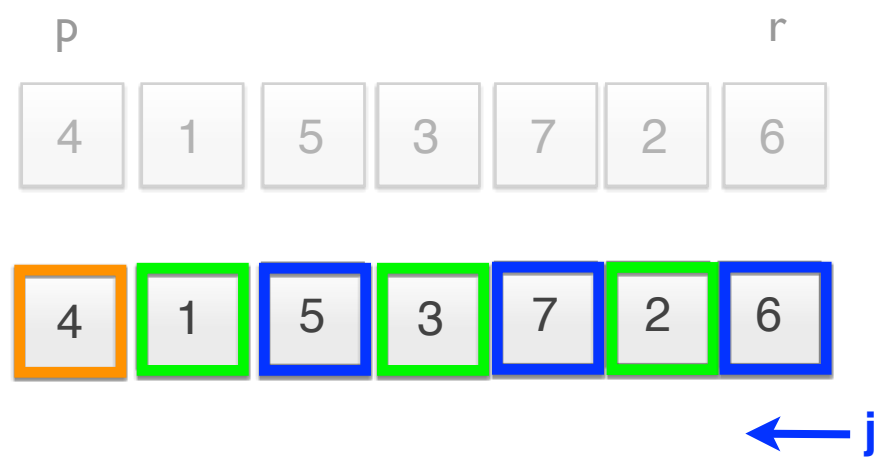
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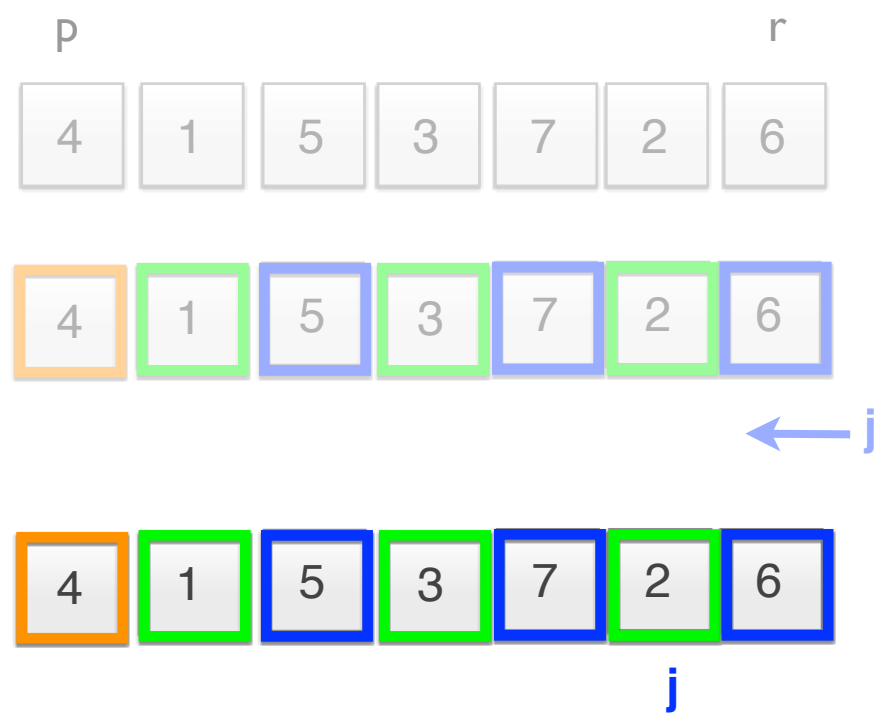
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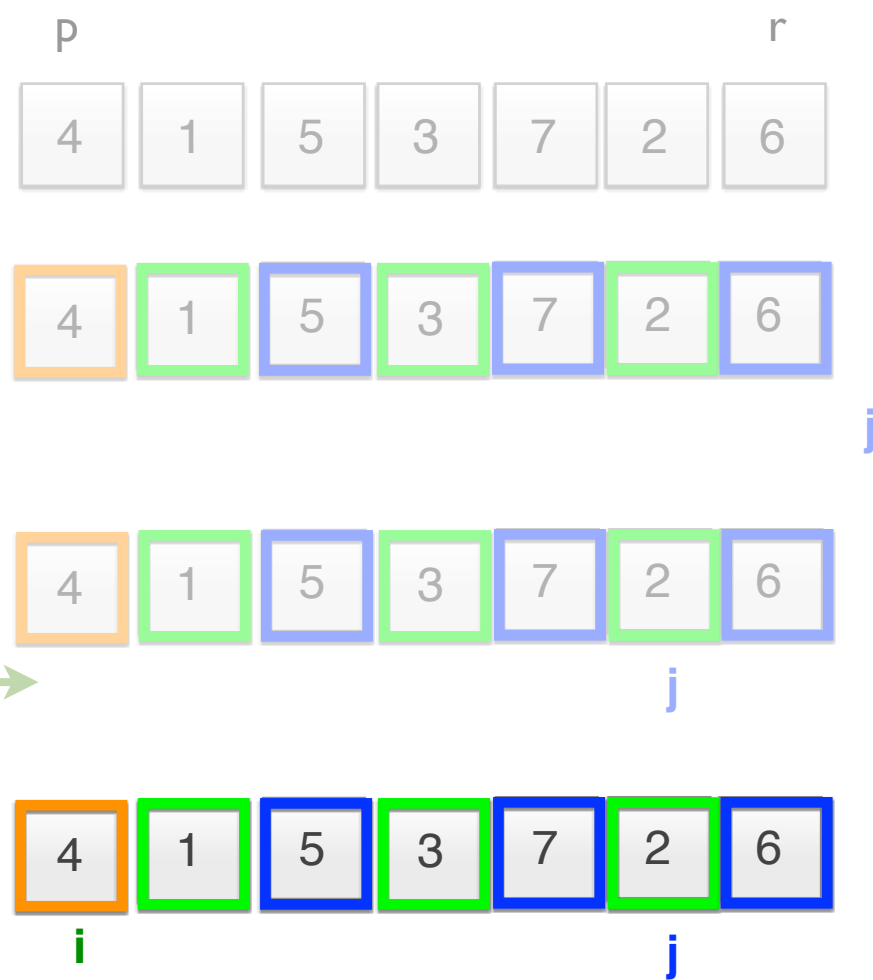
r

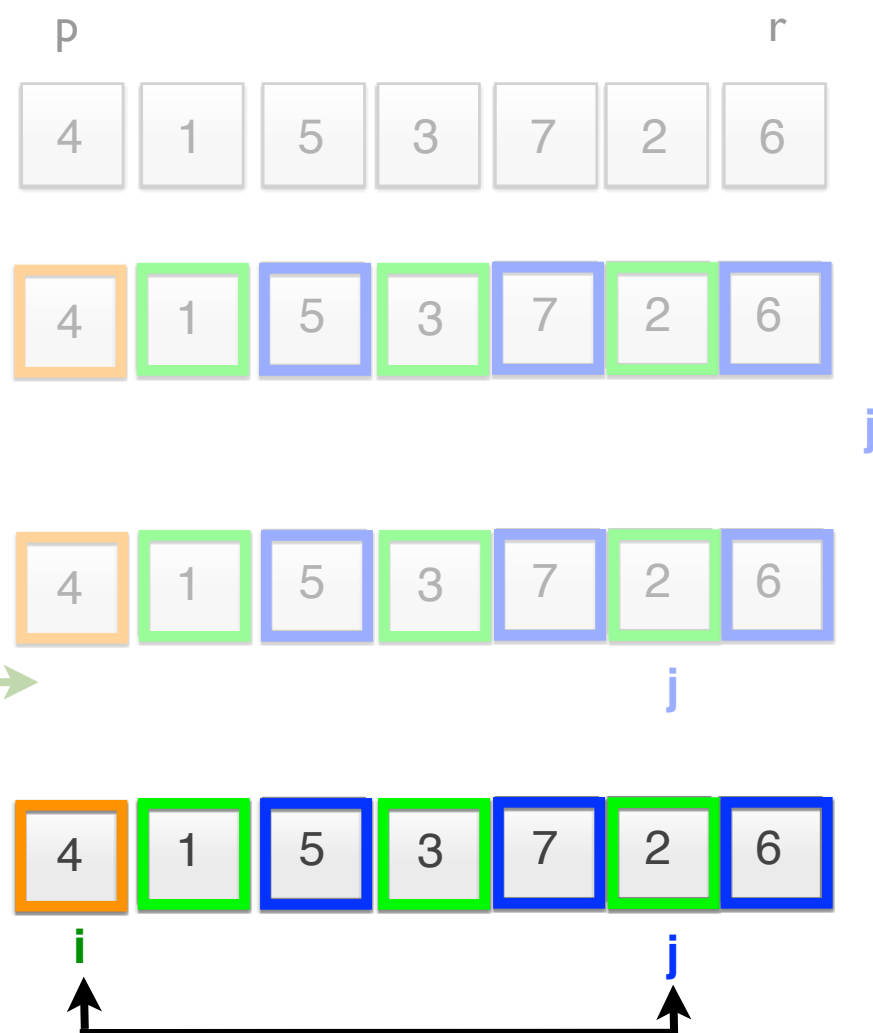


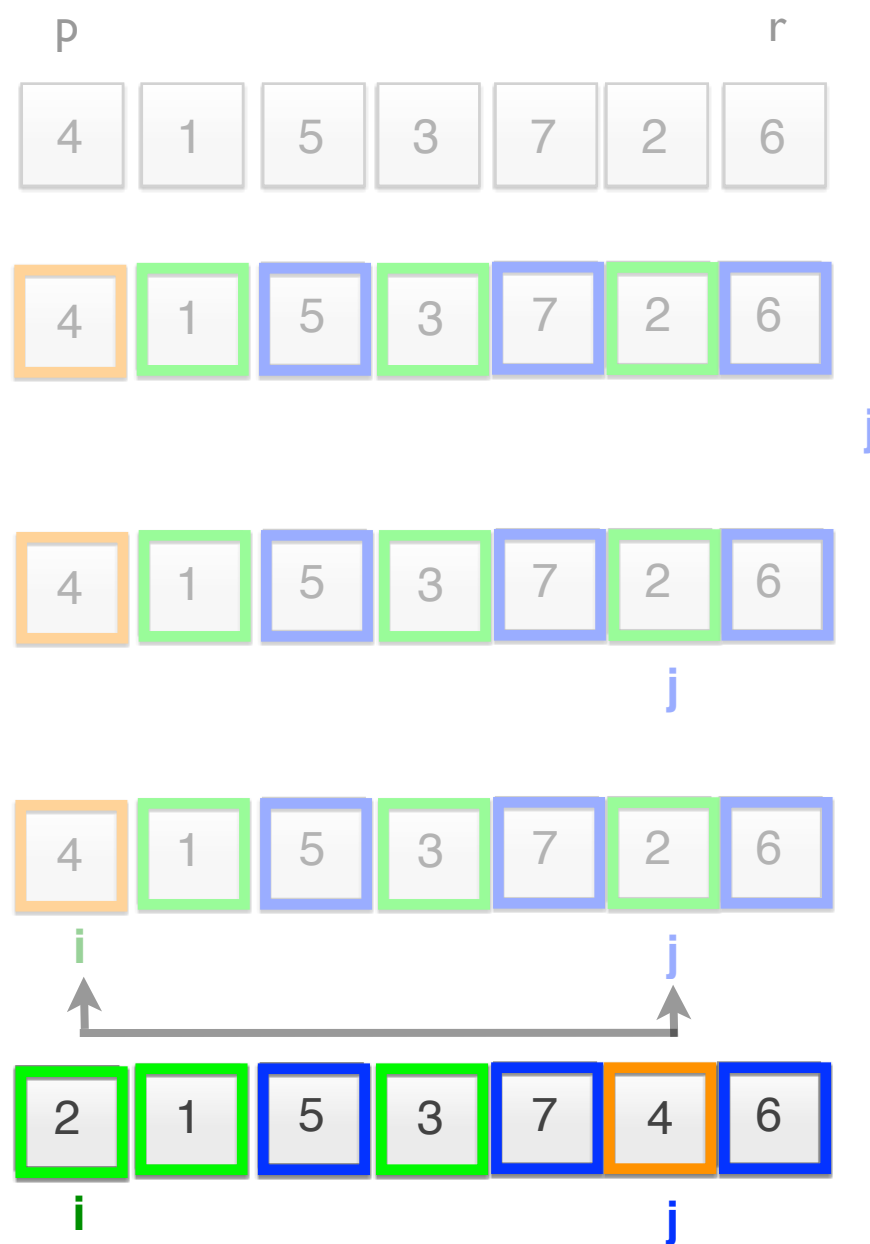
i →

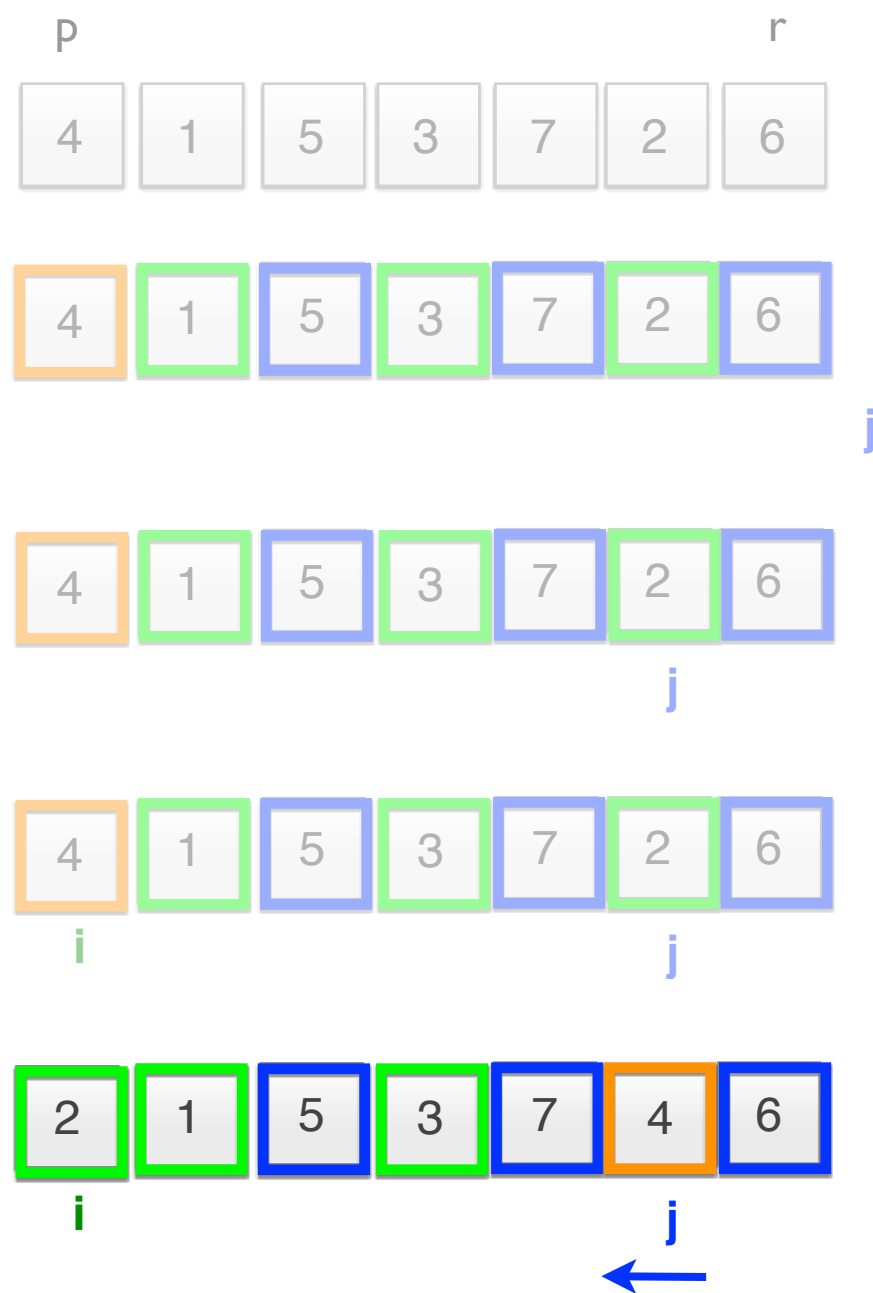
j

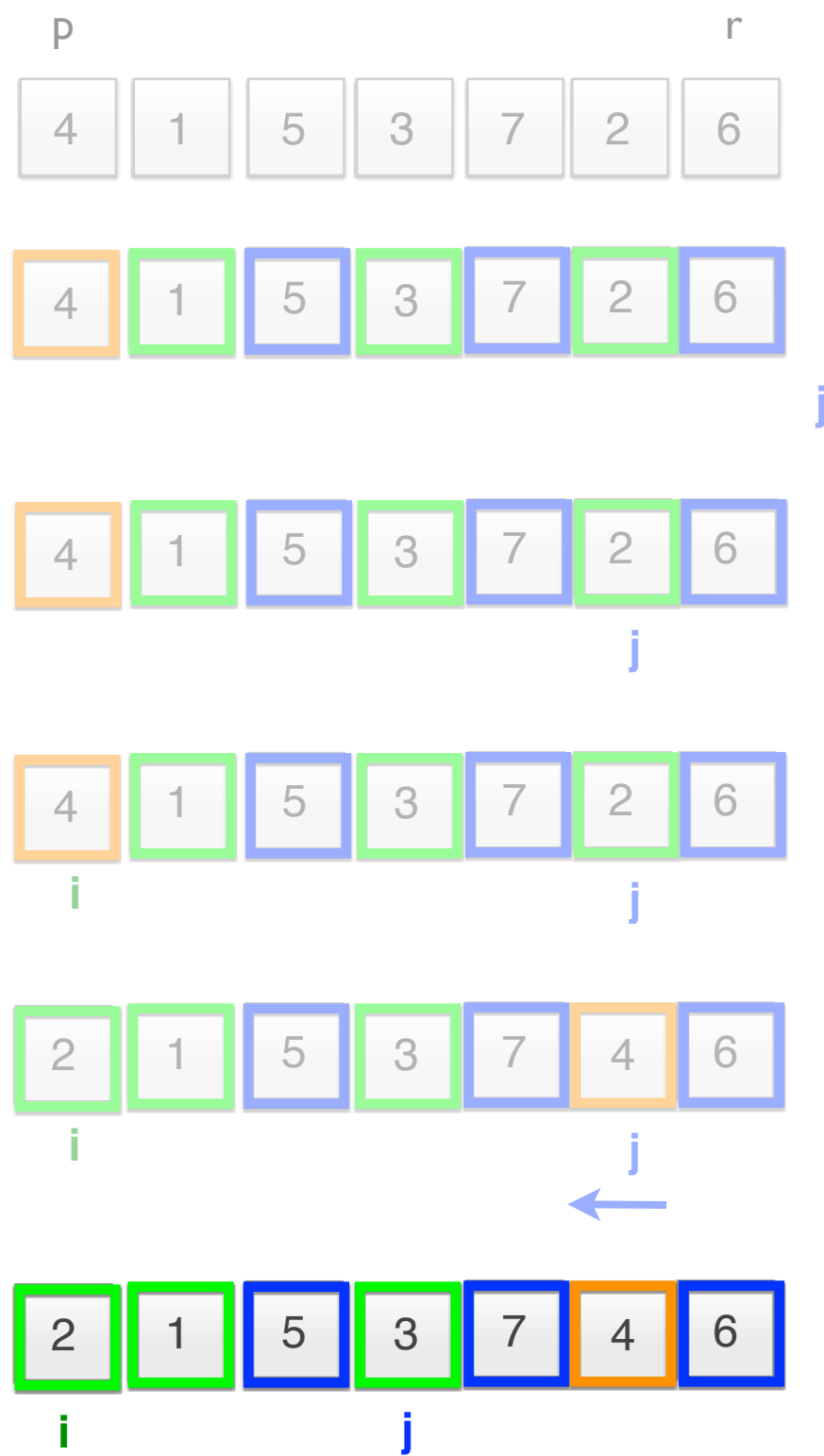


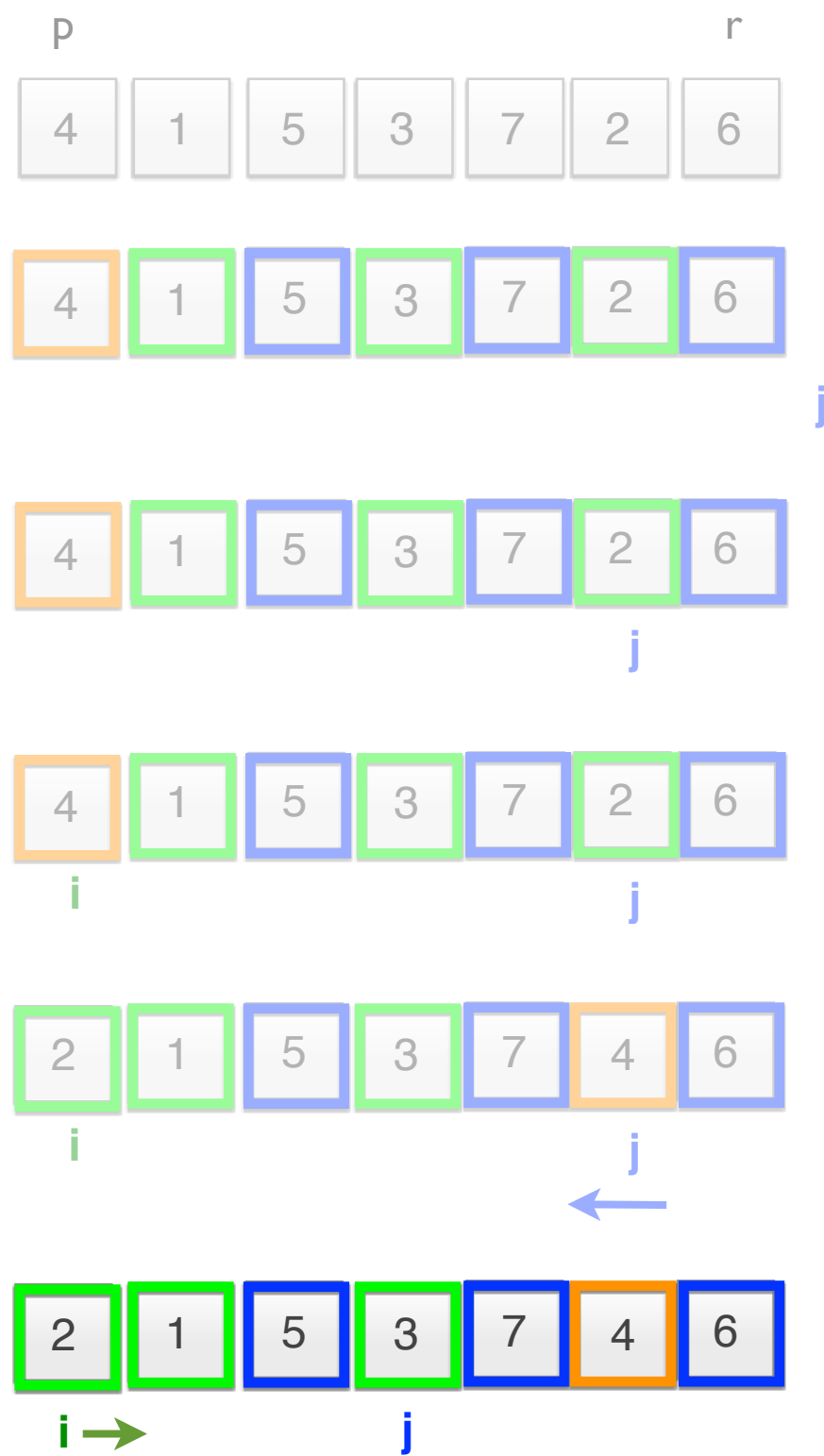


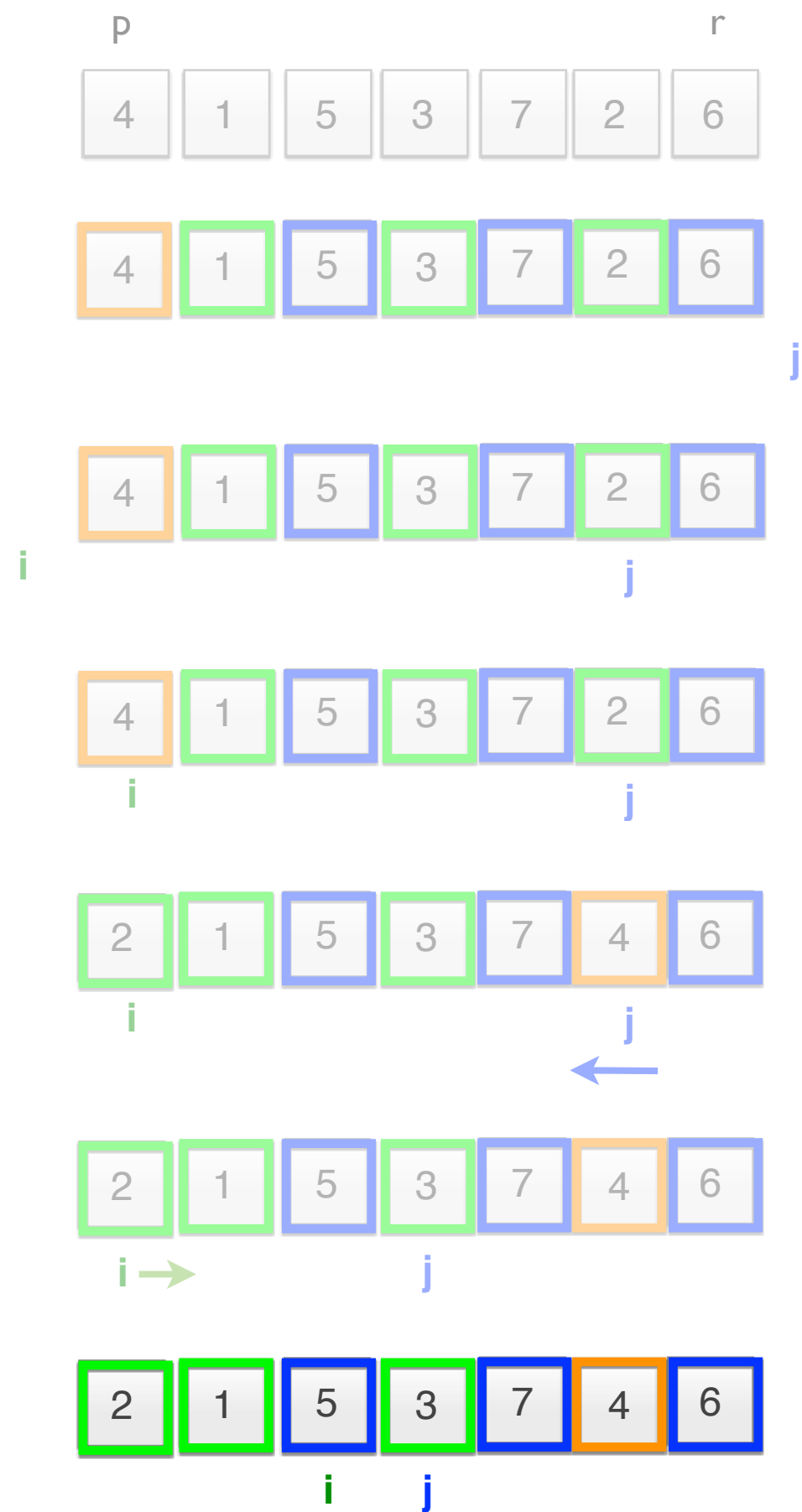


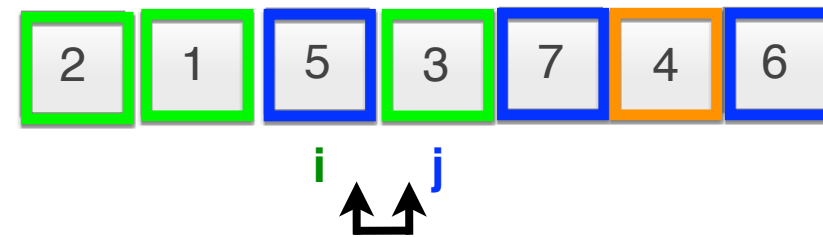
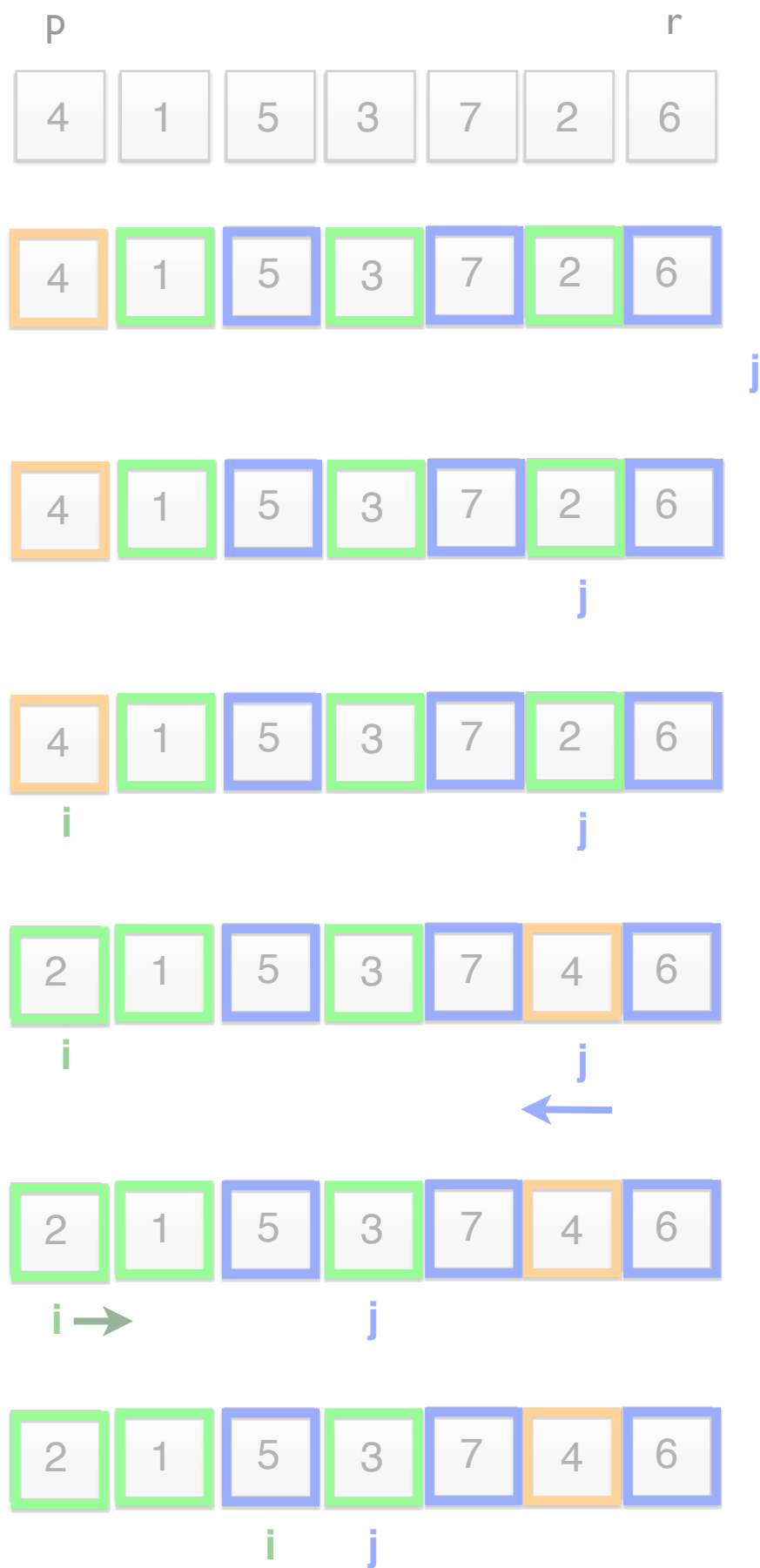


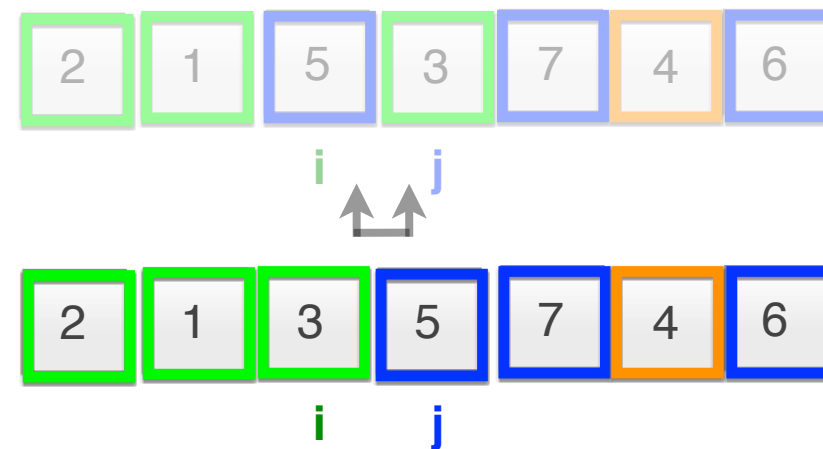
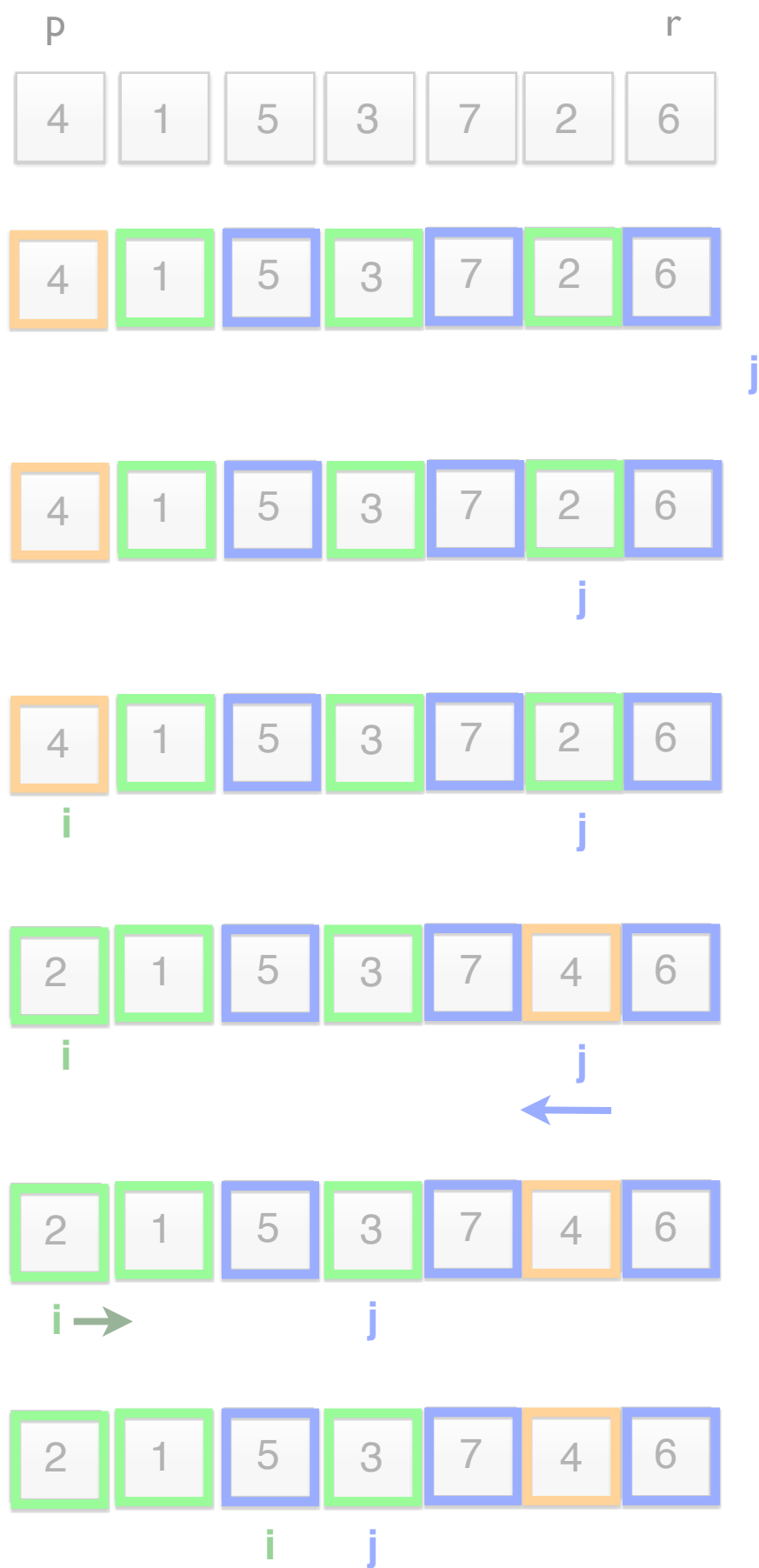


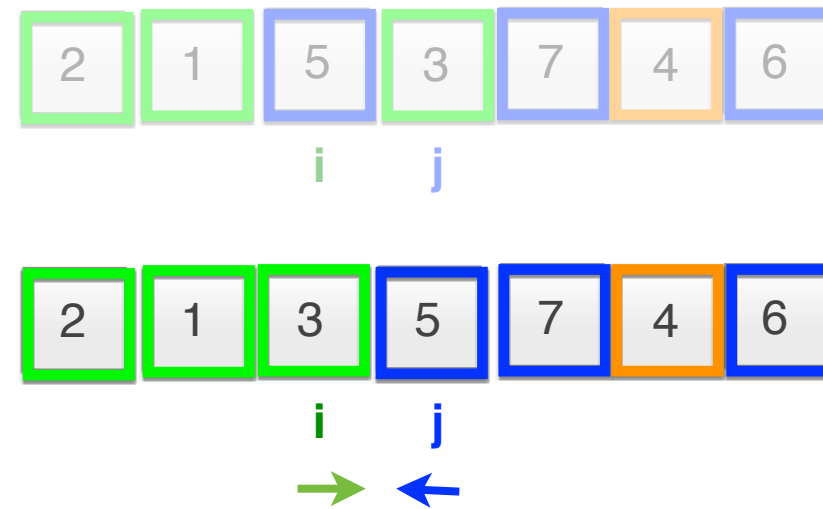
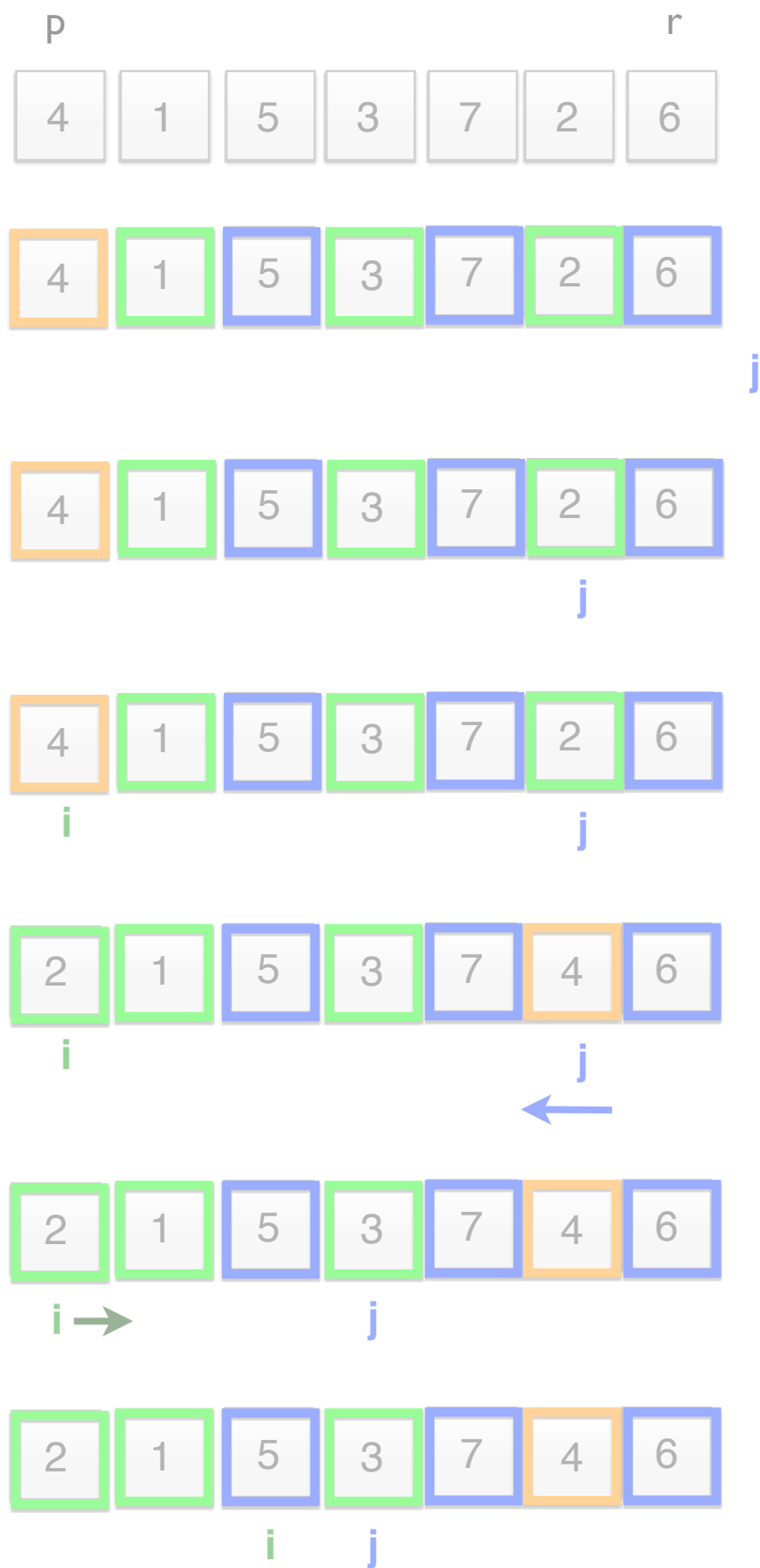


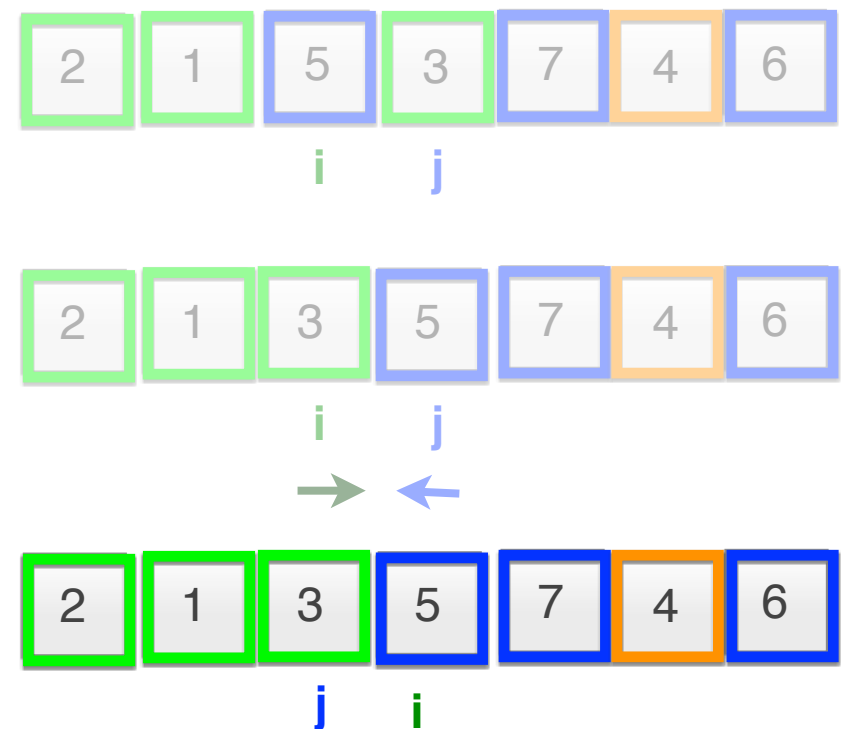
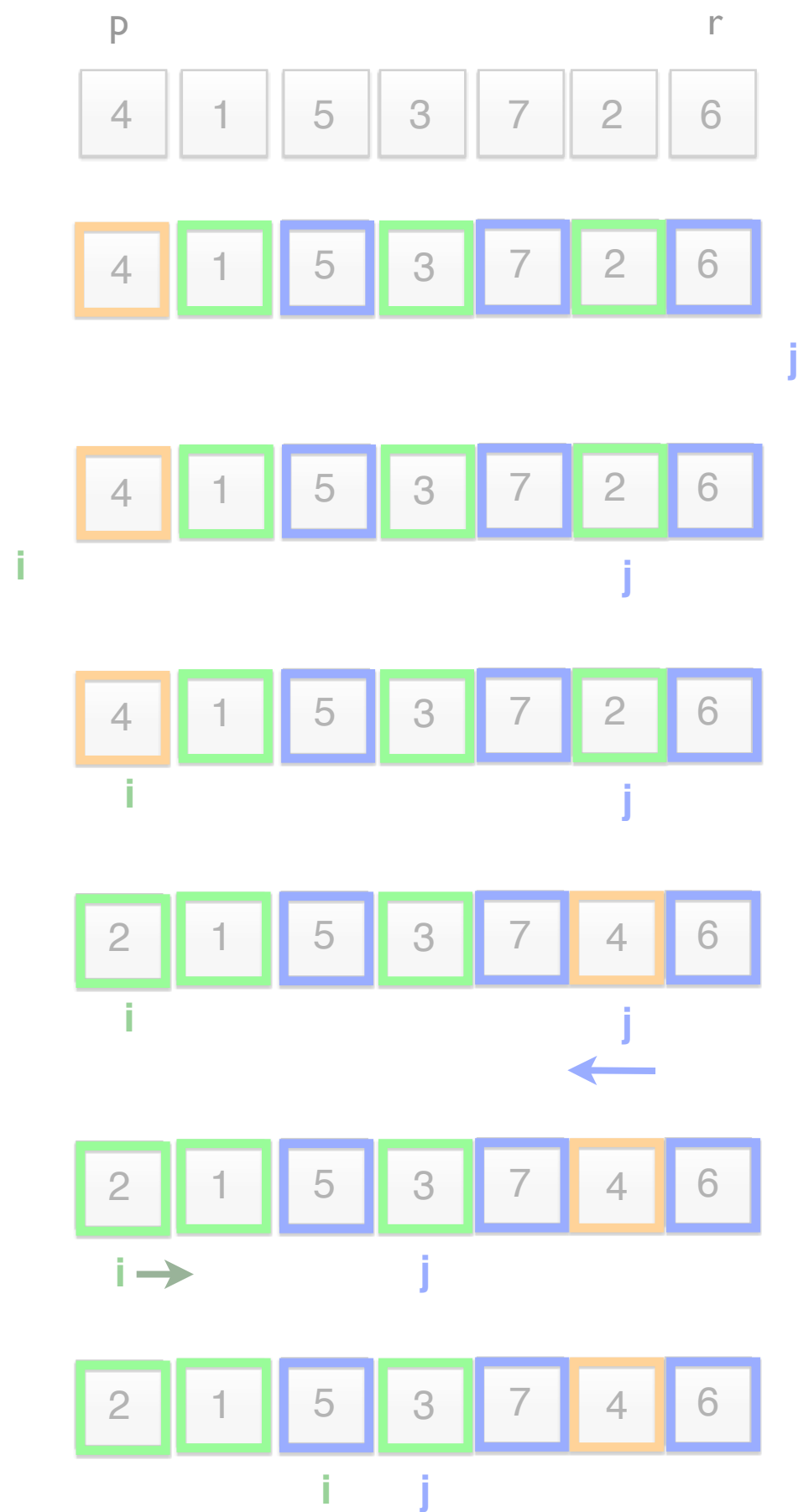


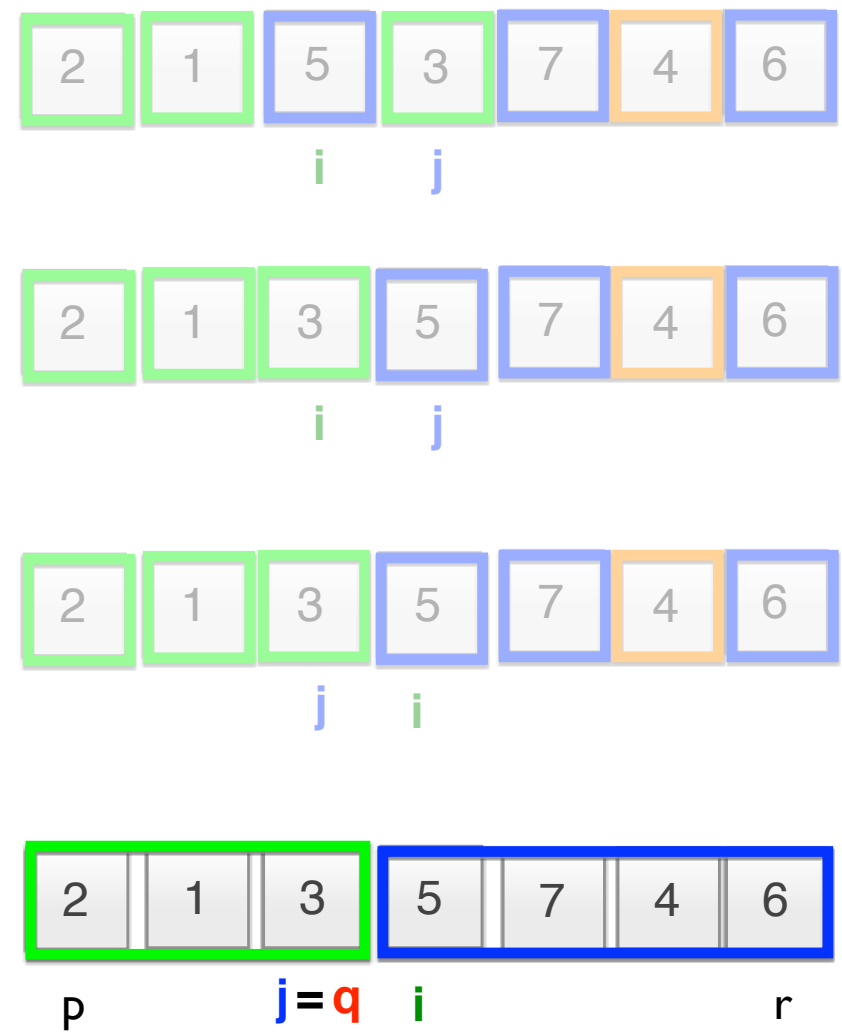
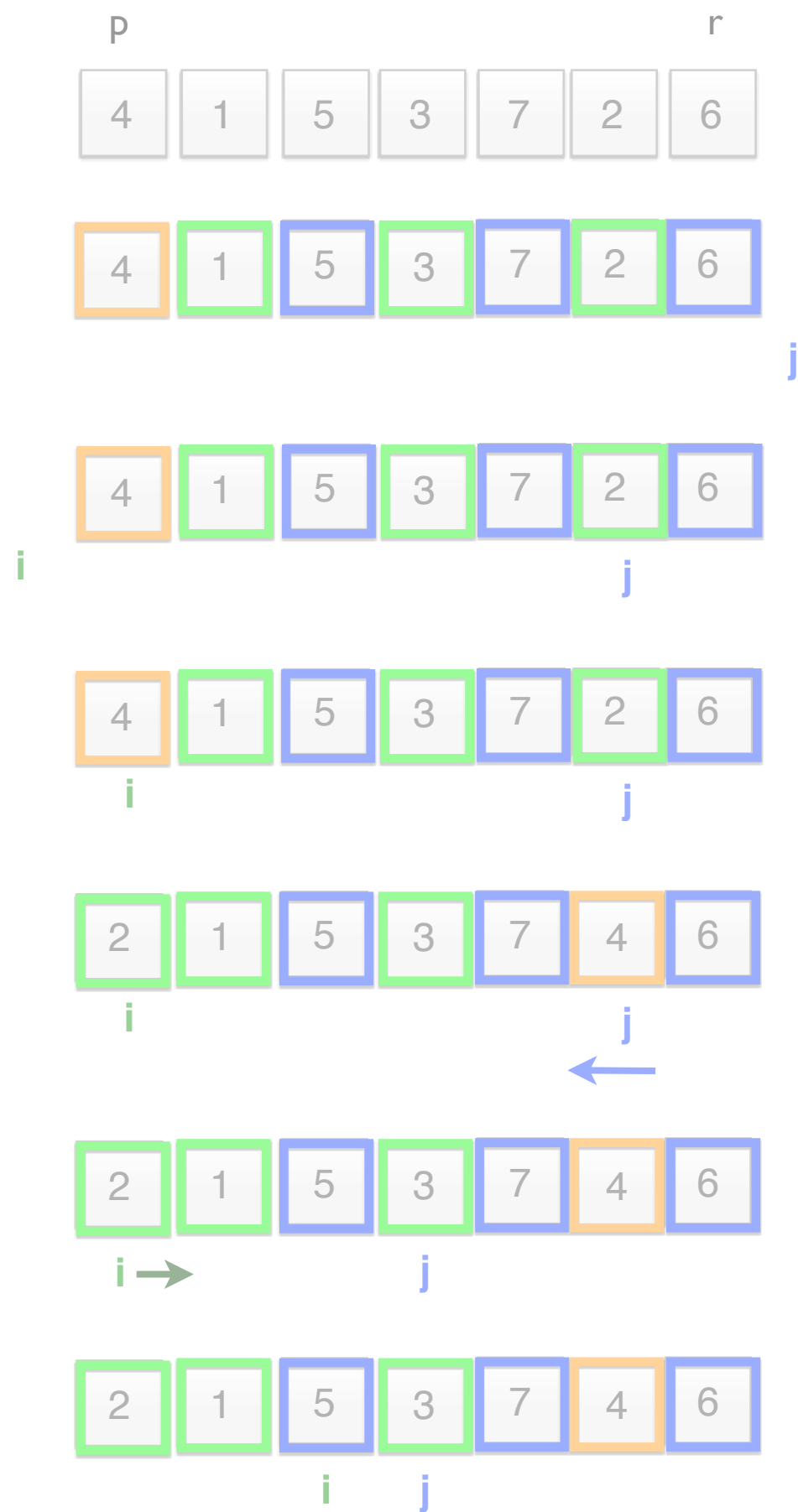


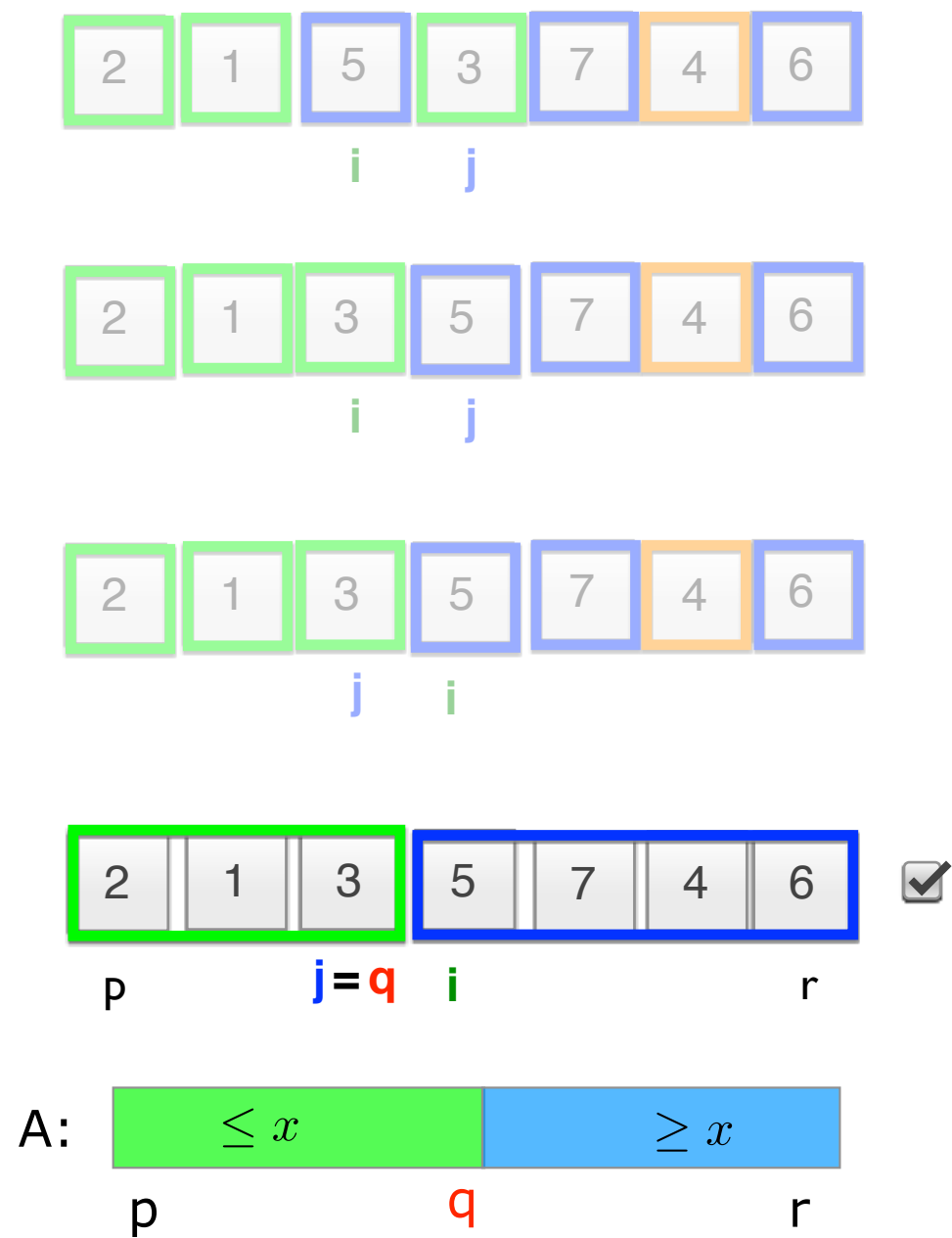
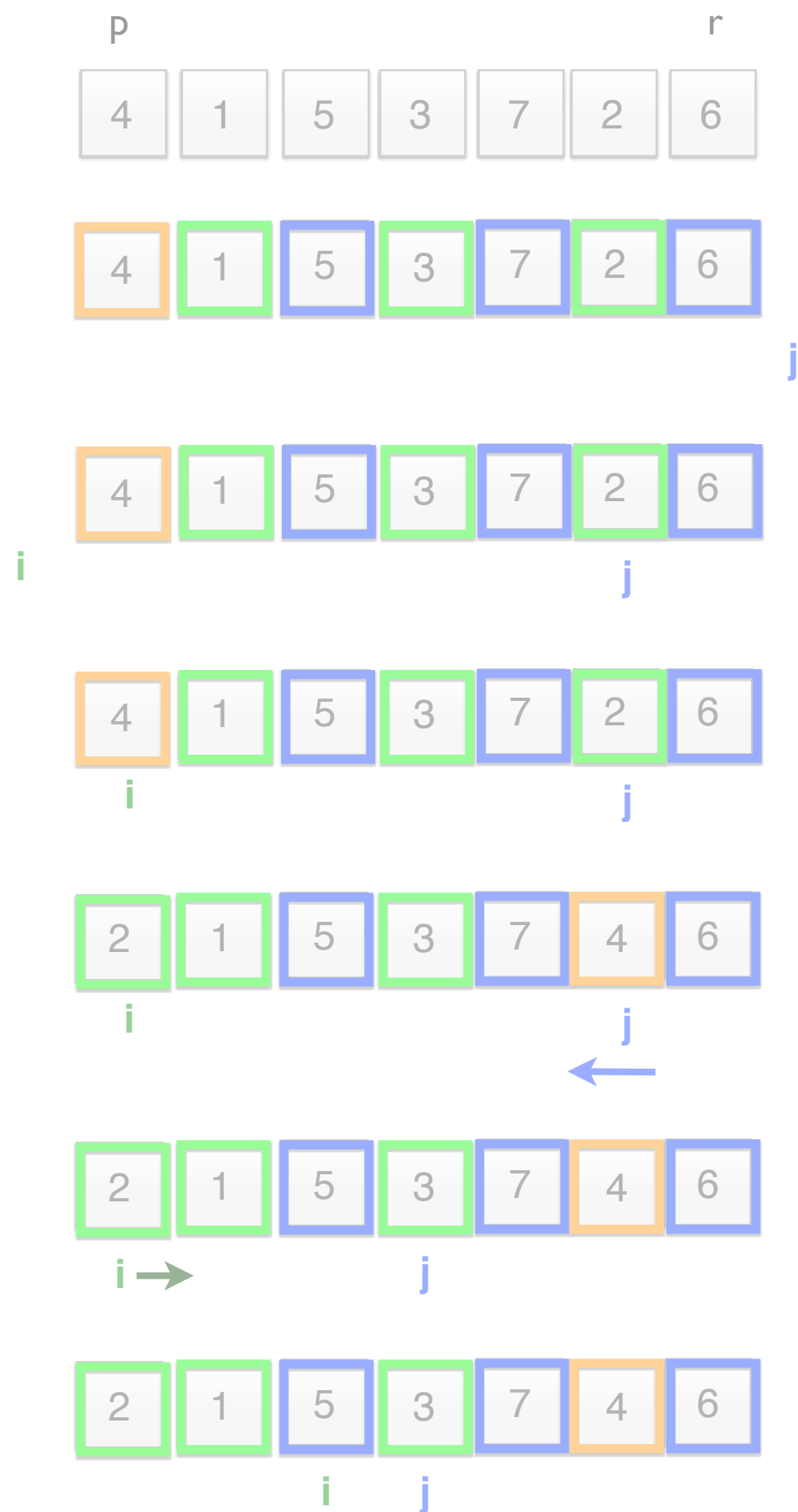
















PARTITION(A, p, r)

```
1   $x = A[p]$ 
2   $i = p - 1$ 
3   $j = r + 1$ 
4  while TRUE
5      repeat
6           $j = j - 1$ 
7      until  $A[j] \leq x$ 
8      repeat
9           $i = i + 1$ 
10     until  $A[i] \geq x$ 
11     if  $i < j$ 
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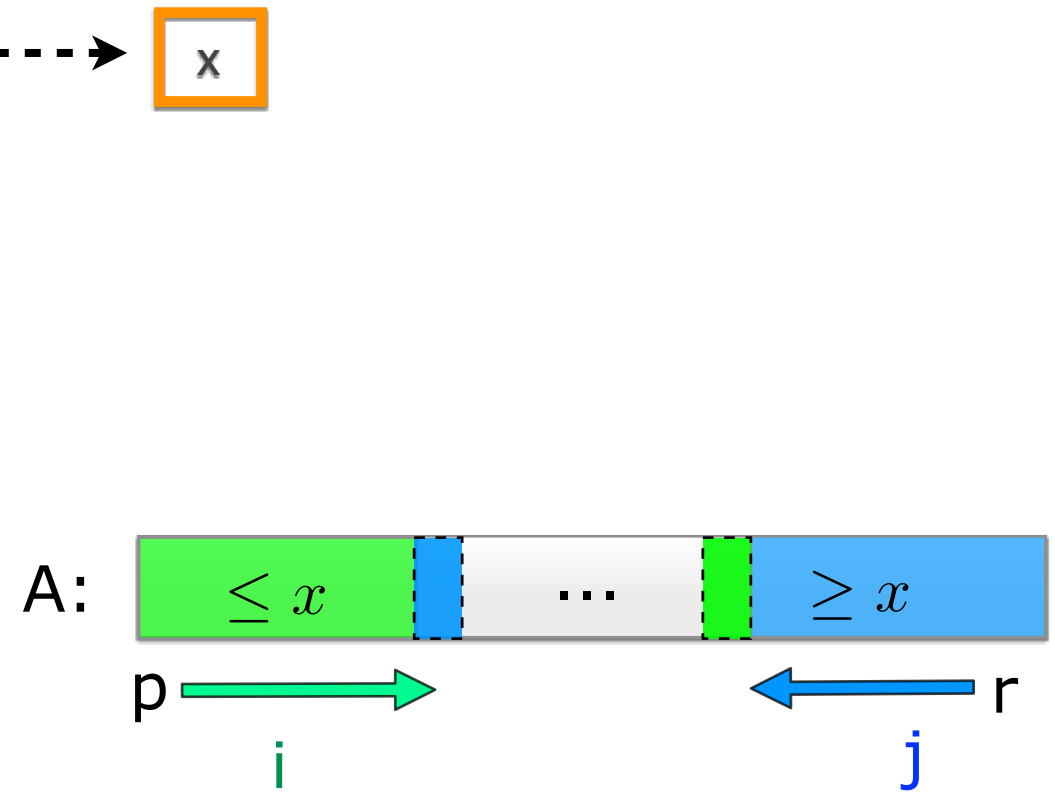
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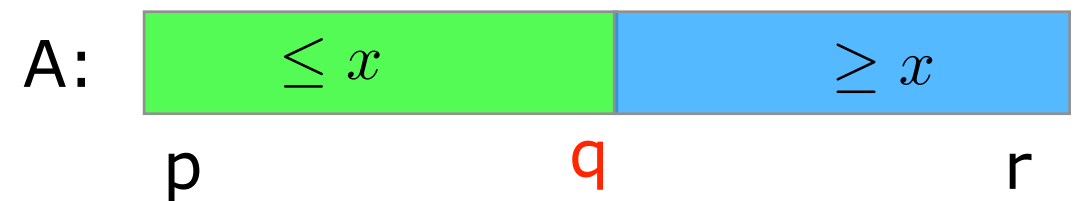
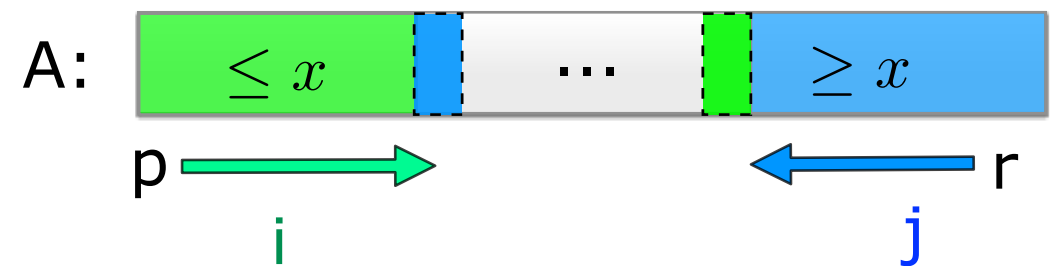
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x



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 - **Best case:** we partition in halves all along
 - **Worst case:** ordered list (partition sizes: 1, $n-1$)

Key points

- Several ways to do the **partition** (check lecture handout, experiment)
- **Number of comparisons** depends on the choice of the pivot, i.e., data.
 - **Best case:** we partition in halves all along
 - **Worst case:** ordered list (partition sizes: 1, $n-1$)
- The best case is to be expected. **On average quicksort is very efficient.**

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- Divide and conquer
 - Divide: Partition *in-place*
 - Conquer: Order each partition recursively
- Partition algorithms vary, and affect the process dramatically
- Efficient on average

Thank you.

More info: lecture handout

Literature:

- Leiserson, Charles E., Ronald L. Rivest, and Clifford Stein. ***Introduction to algorithms***. Edited by Thomas H. Cormen. The MIT press, 2001.
- Sedgewick, Robert. and Wayne, Kevin. ***Algorithms***. Pearson Education, 2011.

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