

# Divide and Conquer II

## Proof of Correctness

## Solving Recurrences

# Outline for Today

## Divide and Conquer II

- [Example] Integer multiplication (revisited)

- [Example] Find the Number (revisited)

- [Example] Mergesort

### Solving recurrences

- Recursion Tree method

- Iteration method

- Master method

- [Example] Median and selection

- Substitution method

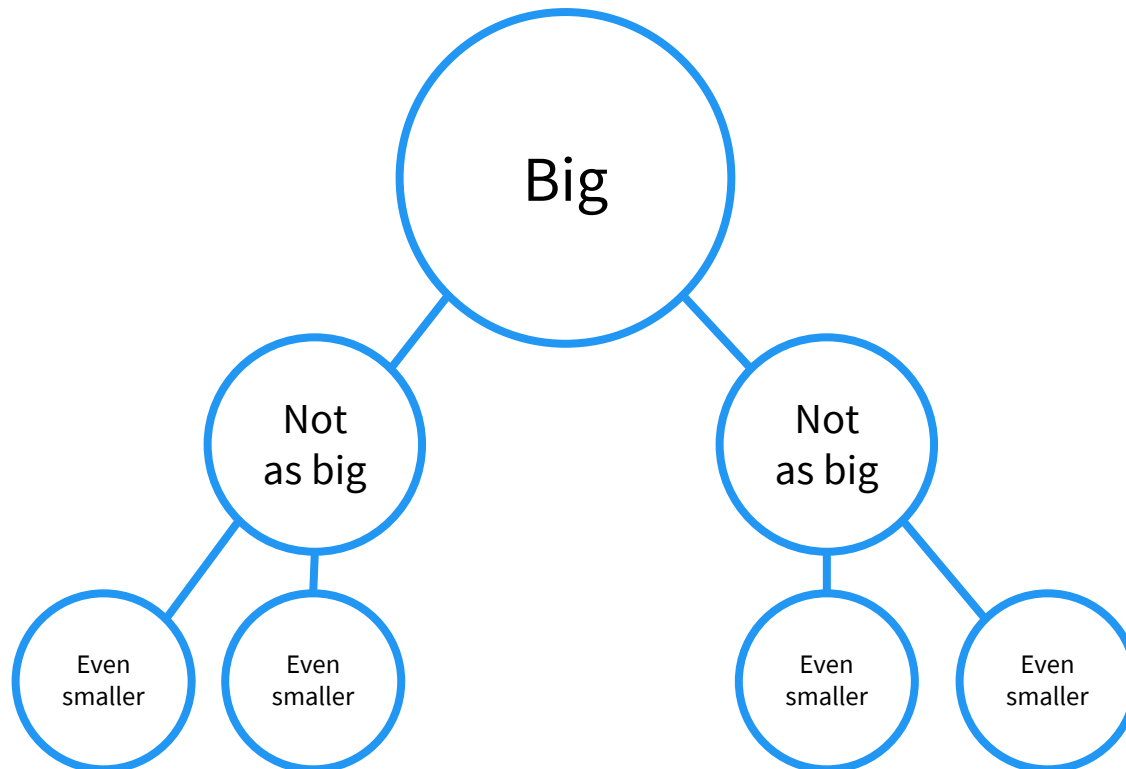
# Divide and Conquer

# Divide and Conquer

An algorithm design paradigm

**Divide:** break current problem into smaller sub-problems.

**Conquer:** solve the smaller sub-problems recursively and collect the results to solve the current problem.



# Integer Multiplication

- **Original large problem:** multiply two n-digit numbers
- **What are the subproblems?**

$$1234 \times 5678$$

$$= (12 \times 100 + 34) \times (56 \times 100 + 78)$$

$$= \underbrace{(12 \times 56)}_{\textcircled{1}} 100^2 + \underbrace{(12 \times 78)}_{\textcircled{2}} + \underbrace{(34 \times 56)}_{\textcircled{3}} 100 + \underbrace{(34 \times 78)}_{\textcircled{4}}$$

*One 4-digit problem*



*Four 2-digit sub-problems*

# Integer Multiplication

- **Original large problem:** multiply two n-digit numbers
- **What are the subproblems?** More generally:

$$\begin{aligned} & [x_1 x_2 \dots x_{n-1} x_n] \times [y_1 y_2 \dots y_{n-1} y_n] \\ &= (a \times 10^{n/2} + b) \times (c \times 10^{n/2} + d) \\ &= (\underbrace{a \times c}_1) 10^n + (\underbrace{a \times d + b \times c}_2) 10^{n/2} + (\underbrace{b \times d}_4) \end{aligned}$$

*One n-digit problem*  *Four n/2-digit sub-problems*

# Pseudo-Code

**algorithm** multiply(x, y, n):

x, y are n-digit numbers

**if** n == 1: **return** x·y

Base case: when x and y are 1-digit, we can directly return their product, e.g., by referencing the multiplication table

a, b, c, d are  
n/2-digit numbers

Rewrite x as  $a \cdot 10^{n/2} + b$

Rewrite y as  $c \cdot 10^{n/2} + d$

**set** ac = multiply(a, c, n/2)

**set** ad = multiply(a, d, n/2)

**set** bc = multiply(b, c, n/2)

**set** bd = multiply(b, d, n/2)

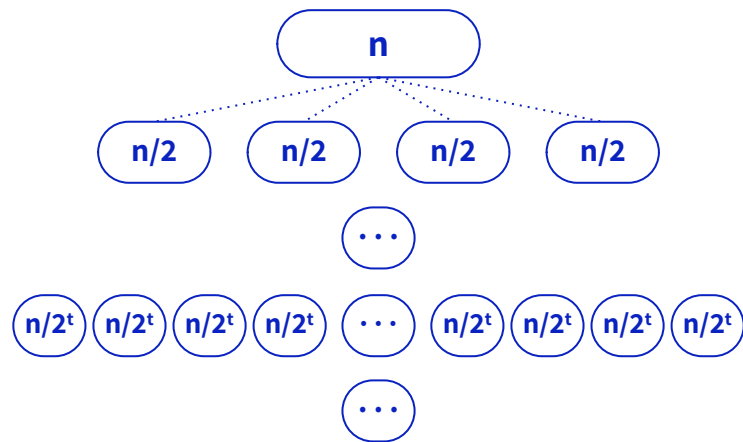
Call the algorithm recursively to get answers of the sub-problems

**return**  $ac \cdot 10^n + (ad+bc) \cdot 10^{n/2} + bd$

Add-up to get final answer

# How Efficient is the Algorithm?

**Question:** How many **basic operations** the algorithm needs to do in the **worst case**?



**Level 0:** 1 problem of size  $n$

$$1 \times c n = cn$$

**Level 1:**  $4^1$  problems of size  $n/2$

$$4 \times c n/2 = 2cn$$

**Level t:**  $4^t$  problems of size  $n/2^t$

$$4^t \times c n/2^t = 2^t cn$$

**Level  $\log_2 n$ :**  $n^2$  problems of size 1  $4^{\log_2 n} \times 1 = 2^{\log_2 n} \times cn$

$$(1 + 2 + 2^2 + 2^3 + \dots + 2^{\log_2 n})cn = 2cn^2 - cn = O(n^2)$$

**Computational Complexity:**  $O(n^2)$



# Reducing to Three Sub-Problems

These *three* subproblems give us everything we need to compute our desired quantities:

①

**ac**

②

**bd**

③

**(a+b)(c+d)**

(a+b) and (c+d) are  
both going to be  $n/2$ -  
digit numbers!



This means we still  
have half-sized  
subproblems!

Compute our final result by combining these three subproblems:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} ( & \text{ac} & ) 10^n & + & ( & \text{ad} & + & \text{bc} & ) 10^{n/2} & + & ( & \text{bd} & ) \\ & \text{①} & & & \text{③} & \text{①} & & \text{②} & & & \text{②} \end{array}$$

# Pseudo-Code

```
algorithm karatsuba_multiply(x, y, n):  
  if n == 1: return x·y
```

Rewrite  $x$  as  $a \cdot 10^{n/2} + b$

Rewrite  $y$  as  $c \cdot 10^{n/2} + d$

```
set ac    = multiply(a, c, n/2)  
set ad    = multiply(a, d, n/2)  
set abcd = multiply(a+b, c+d, n/2)
```

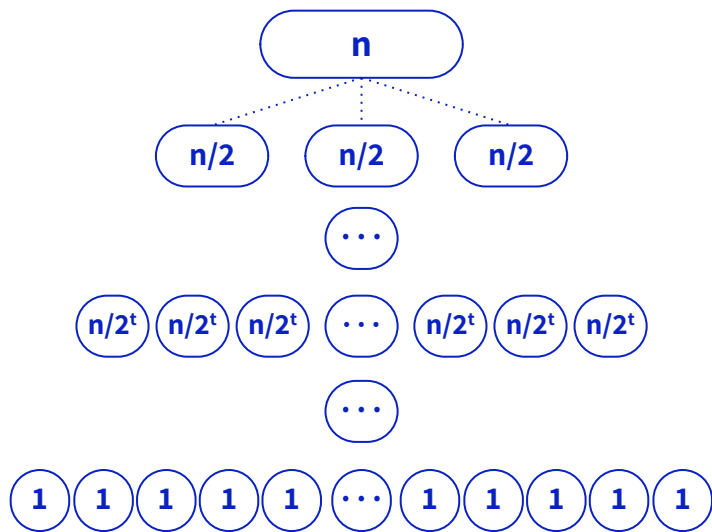
Only 3  $n/2$ -digit  
sub-problems

```
return ac ·  $10^n$  + (abcd - ac - bd) ·  $10^{n/2}$  + bd
```

Add-up to get  
final answer

# How Efficient is the Algorithm?

For the new algorithm, we replace branching factor of 4 to 3



**Level 0:**  $3^0$  problem of size  $n$

$$1 \times c n = cn$$

**Level 1:**  $3^1$  problems of size  $n/2$

$$3 \times c n/2 = (3/2)cn$$

**Level t:**  $3^t$  problems of size  $n/2^t$

$$3^t \times c n/2^t = (3/2)^t cn$$

**Level  $\log_2 n$ :**  $\underline{n^{1.6}}$  problems of size 1  $3^{\log_2 n} \times 1 = (3/2)^{\log_2 n} \times cn$

$$\left(1 + \frac{3}{2} + \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^3 + \dots + \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^{\log_2 n}\right) cn = 3cn^{\log_2 3} - 2cn$$

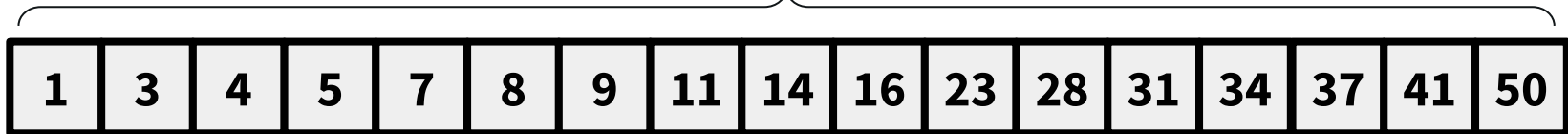
$$= \cancel{3cn^{1.6}} - \cancel{2cn} = O(n^{1.6})$$

Computational Complexity:  $O(n^{1.6})$

# Binary-Search is also D-n-C! (really?!)

**Question:** Given a sorted array  $A[0:n-1]$ , locate number  $x$  in the array.

$n$  numbers in total, i.e.,  $\text{length}(A)=n$



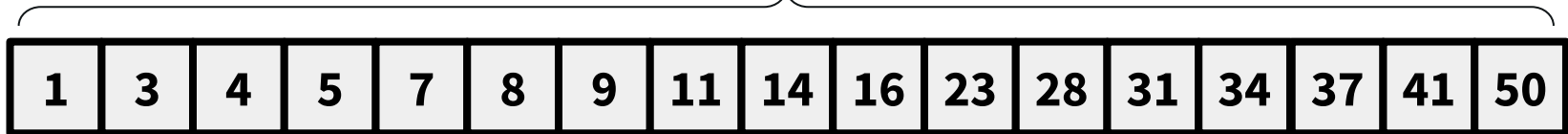
1	3	4	5	7	8	9	11	14	16	23	28	31	34	37	41	50
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

```
algorithm binary_search(A, x):
    set L = 0, R = n-1
    while L <= R:
        set i = L + [(R-L)/2]
        if A[i] == x: //one basic operation
            return i;
        else if A[i] < x:
            set L = i + 1;
        else if A[i] > x:
            set R = i - 1;
    return -1;
```

# A Recursive Version of the Algorithm

**Question:** Given a sorted array  $A[0:n-1]$ , locate number  $x$  in the array.

$n$  numbers in total, i.e.,  $\text{length}(A)=n$



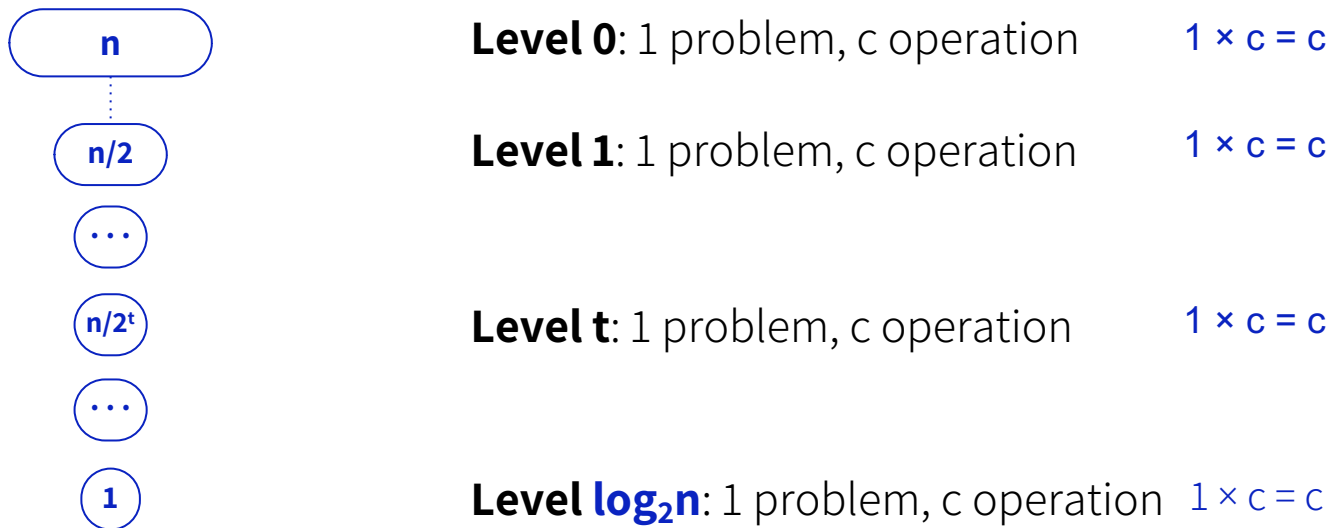
1	3	4	5	7	8	9	11	14	16	23	28	31	34	37	41	50
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

```
call binary_search(A, x, 0, n-1)
```

```
algorithm binary_search(A, x, L, R):  
    if L > R: //one basic operation  
        return -1;  
    set i = L + [(R-L)/2] //four basic operations  
    if A[i] == x: //one basic operation  
        return i;  
    if A[i] < x: //one basic operation  
        return binary_search(A, x, i+1, R);  
    if A[i] > x: //one basic operation  
        return binary_search(A, x, L, i-1);
```

# How Efficient is the Algorithm?

**Question:** How many **basic operations** the algorithm needs to do in the **worst case**?



- Why  $\log_2 n$  levels? Because if  $n/2^t = 1$ , we have  $t = \log_2 n$ 
  - i.e., you need to cut  $n$  in half  $\log_2 n$  times to get to size 1
- In each (sub-)problem, the number of basic operations is a constant  $c$

$$c + c + \dots + c = c \log_2 n = O(\log n)$$

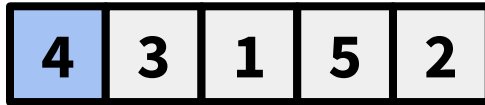
Computational Complexity:  $O(\log(n))$

**5-Minute Break**

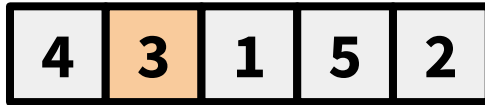
# Insertion Sort



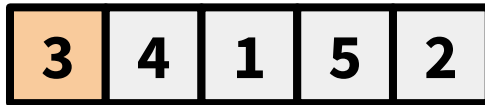
# Insertion sort



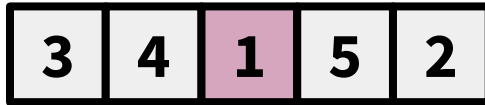
Let's sort an unsorted list of numbers **A**. The sublist **A[0:0]** is trivially sorted.



Look at the second element, **A[1]**.



Insert the element into a new position such that the sublist **A[0:1]** is sorted.



Now look at the third element, **A[2]**.



Insert it such that the sublist **A[0:2]** is sorted.

⋮



The entire array **A[0:4]** is sorted.

# Insertion sort

```
algorithm insertion_sort(list A):  
  for i = 0 to length(A)-1:  
    let cur_value = A[i]  
    let j = i - 1  
    while j ≥ 0 and A[j] > cur_value:  
      A[j+1] = A[j]  
      j = j - 1  
    A[j+1] = cur_value
```

# Insertion sort

- Question 1** How do we prove this algorithm always correctly sorts the input list?
- Question 2** How efficiently does this algorithm sort the input list?

# Proving Correctness

Algorithms often initialize, modify, or delete new data.

To prove an algorithm is correct, you have to prove it's correct for any input size  **$n$** .

However, input size  **$n$**  can be infinite, impossible to prove for each and all possible input size  **$n$** .

Use **Mathematical Induction!**

# Mathematical Induction

## Mathematical Induction:

We have a claim  $C(n)$ , we verify that  $C(0)$  is True, we then suppose that when  $n=k$ ,  $C(k)$  is true, and prove that when  $n=k+1$ ,  $C(k+1)$  will be true; then we can claim that  $C(n)$  is true for all possible  $n$ .

## Deciding the Invariant for Mathematical Induction:

The key to construct a valid proof using mathematical induction is to find a good **invariant**, i.e., a property that does not change during the algorithm.

This unchanging property is called an **invariant**.

# Invariant for Insertion Sort

```
algorithm insertion_sort(list A):  
  for i = 0 to length(A)-1:  
    let cur_value = A[i]  
    let j = i - 1  
    while j ≥ 0 and A[j] > cur_value:  
      A[j+1] = A[j]  
      j = j - 1  
    A[j+1] = cur_value
```

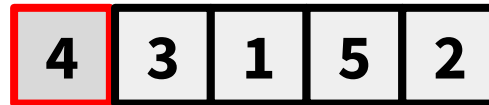
Algorithm takes care of each element of the array one by one, from the first to the last

# Invariant for Insertion Sort

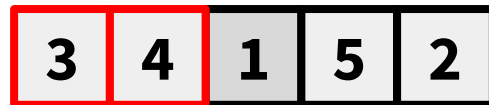
**Invariant** of the outer for-loop: By the end of iteration  $i$  of the outer for-loop, elements  $A[0:i]$  of the list are (always) sorted.

Sanity checks:

By the end of iteration 0 (i.e. the iteration when  $i = 0$ ), the first element  $A[0]$  of the list is sorted. True.



By the end of iteration 1 (i.e. the iteration when  $i = 1$ ), the elements  $A[0:1]$  of the list are sorted. True.



# Proving Correctness

Less formally (explain it to your co-worker) ...

By the end of the 0-th iteration, element  $A[0]$  of the array is sorted.

By construction, the  $i^{\text{th}}$  iteration puts element  $A[i]$  in the right place.

By the end of the final iteration ( $i = \text{length}(A)-1$ , aka the end of the algorithm), elements  $A[0, \text{length}(A)-1]$  are sorted, i.e., all elements are sorted.

More formally (rigorously) ...

**Outer invariant (for-loop):** By the end of iteration  $i$  of the outer for-loop, elements  $A[0, i]$  (boundary values included) of the list are sorted.

**Inner invariant (while-loop):** At the start of iteration  $j$  (i.e., by the end of iteration  $j+1$ ) of the inner while-loop,  $A[0:j, j+2:i]$  contains the same elements as the original sublist  $A[0:i-1]$ , still sorted, such that all of the values in the right sublist  $A[j+2:i]$  are greater than **cur\_value**.



# Proving Correctness

More formally (rigorously, prove using induction twice) ...

**Lemma:** If  $A[0:i-1]$  has already been sorted by the end of iteration  $i-1$  of the loop, then  $A[0:i]$  will be sorted by the end of iteration  $i$  of the loop.

Proof:

To prove this statement, we examine the inner loop invariant, by **induction**.

- The invariant holds at the start of the iteration  $j = i-1$  of the inner while-loop.  
To see why, notice that  $A[0:j, j+2:i]$  describes the same sublist as  $A[0:i-1, i+1:i]$  (since we initialized  $j$  to  $i-1$ ), which trivially contains the same elements as the original sublist  $A[0:i-1]$ , still sorted, since the right sublist  $A[i+1:i]$  is empty.
- Furthermore, since the right sublist is empty, all of its values are all vacuously greater than **cur\_value**.

```
algorithm insertion_sort(list A):  
  for i = 0 to length(A)-1:  
    let cur_value = A[i]  
    let j = i - 1  
    while j ≥ 0 and A[j] > cur_value:  
      A[j+1] = A[j]  
      j = j - 1  
    A[j+1] = cur_value
```

```

algorithm insertion_sort(list A):
  for i = 0 to length(A)-1:
    let cur_value = A[i]
    let j = i - 1
    while j ≥ 0 and A[j] > cur_value:
      A[j+1] = A[j]
      j = j - 1
    A[j+1] = cur_value

```

Proof of lemma, cont.:

Now, we will prove the inductive step. Suppose that the invariant holds at the start of an arbitrary iteration  $j = y$  (**inductive hypothesis**). We prove that it still holds by the end of iteration  $y$  (i.e., at the start of iteration  $j = y-1$ )

There are two cases of the while-loop condition to consider at the start of  $y$ :

- The condition returns True.

First,  $A[j]$  is copied to  $A[j+1]$ , as a result,  $A[j] = A[j+1]$ , i.e.,  $A[y] = A[y+1]$  (note that current  $j=y$ ). By inductive hypothesis, we have  $A[0:y, y+2:i]$  satisfies the invariant. As a result,  $A[0:y-1, y+1:i]$  also satisfies the invariant. As a result, at the start of iteration  $j=y-1$  (i.e.,  $y = j+1$ ),  $A[0:j, j+2:i]$  also satisfies the invariant, maintaining the invariant for the next iteration.

- The condition returns False.

The loop terminates. Since either (1)  $j$  is -1 or (2) **cur\_value** is greater than  $A[j]$ , then  $A[0:j], \text{cur\_value}$  must be sorted (recall the invariant guarantees that  $A[0:j]$  is sorted). Furthermore, since all of the values in the right sublist  $A[j+2:i]$  are sorted and greater than **cur\_value**, then  $A[0:j], \text{cur\_value}, A[j+2:i]$  must be sorted. Thus, at the termination of the loop,  $A[0:i]$  (the first  $i+1$  elements) is sorted. ■

# Proving Correctness

**Theorem:** Insertion sort sorts the input list.

**Proof:**

By the end of the 0-th iteration of the outer for-loop,  $A[0:0]$  (a single element) is trivially sorted.

By our lemma, if  $A[0:i-1]$  is sorted by the end of iteration  $i-1$  of the loop, then  $A[0:i]$  will be sorted by the end of iteration  $i$  of the loop.

The loop terminates by the end of iteration  $\text{length}(A)-1$ , which implies that  $A[0:\text{length}(A)-1]$  is sorted when the loop ends, which proves the theorem. ■

# Proving Correctness

Both the lemma and theorem follow a consistent format:

**Initialization:** The loop invariant starts out as true.

**Maintenance:** If the loop invariant is true at step  $i$ , then it's true at step  $i+1$ .

**Termination:** If the loop invariant is true at the end of the algorithm, this tells you something about what you're trying to prove.

# Insertion sort

## **Question 1**

How do we prove this algorithm always sorts the input list?

## **Question 2**

How efficiently does this algorithm sort the input list?

# Analyzing Runtime

```
algorithm insertion_sort(list A):  
  for i = 1 to length(A):  
    let cur_value = A[i]  
    let j = i - 1  
    while j > 0 and A[j] > cur_value:  
      A[j+1] = A[j]  
      j = j - 1  
    A[j+1] = cur_value
```

$O(n)$   
work per  
iteration

$O(n)$   
iterations

**Total work:  $O(n^2)$**

**5-Minute Break**

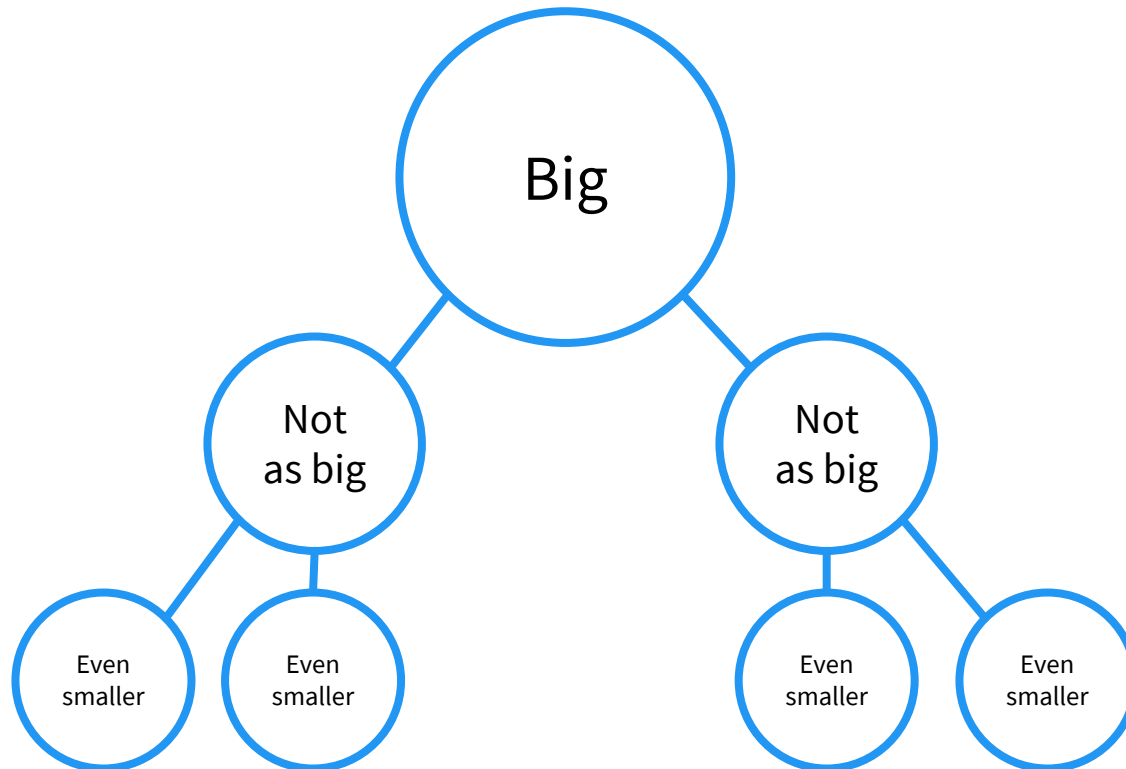
# Mergesort



# Divide and Conquer

**Divide:** break current problem into smaller problems.

**Conquer:** solve the smaller problems and collate the results to solve the current problem.



# Mergesort

Let's use divide and conquer to improve upon insertion sort!

4	8	1	5	3	2	6	7
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Let's sort an unsorted list of numbers **A**.

1	4	5	8	2	3	6	7
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Recursively sort each half, **A[0:3]** and **A[4:7]**, separately.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Merge the results from each half together.

# Mergesort

```
algorithm mergesort(list A):  
  if length(A) ≤ 1:  
    return A  
  let left = first half of A  
  let right = second half of A  
  return merge(  
    mergesort(left),  
    mergesort(right)  
  )
```

**Runtime:  $O(n \log n)$**

# Mergesort

```
algorithm merge(list A, list B):  
  let result = []  
  while both A and B are nonempty:  
    if head(A) <= head(B):  
      append head(A) to result  
      pop head(A) from A  
    else:  
      append head(B) to result  
      pop head(B) from B  
  append remaining elements in A to result  
  append remaining elements in B to result  
  return result
```

**Total work:**  $O(a+b)$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  are the lengths of lists  $A$  and  $B$ .

# Mergesort

- Question 1** How do we prove this algorithm always sorts the input list?
- Question 2** How efficiently does this algorithm sort the input list?

# Mergesort

**algorithm** mergesort(list A):

**if** length(A)  $\leq$  1:

    return A

**let** left = first half of A

**let** right = second half of A

**return** merge(  
    mergesort(left),  
    mergesort(right)  
  )

$\Theta(n)$  operations to  
split A into left and  
right lists

$\Theta(n)$  operations to  
merge two lists

$T(\lceil n/2 \rceil)$  operations to sort left list

$T(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor)$  operations to sort right list

Let  $T(n)$  be the number of basic operations of mergesort(A) when input size is  $n$ :

$$T(0) = T(1) = \Theta(1)$$

$$T(n) = T(\lceil n/2 \rceil) + T(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor) + \Theta(n)$$

# Analyzing Runtime

Here's our first **recurrence relation**,

$$T(0) = T(1) = \Theta(1)$$

$$T(n) = T(\lceil n/2 \rceil) + T(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor) + \Theta(n)$$

**Assumption 1:**  $n$  is a power of two.  Why is it ok to make this assumption?

$$~~T(0) = \Theta(1)~~$$

$$T(1) = \Theta(1) = c_1$$

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= T(\lceil n/2 \rceil) + T(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor) + \Theta(n) \\ &= 2T(n/2) + c_2n \end{aligned}$$

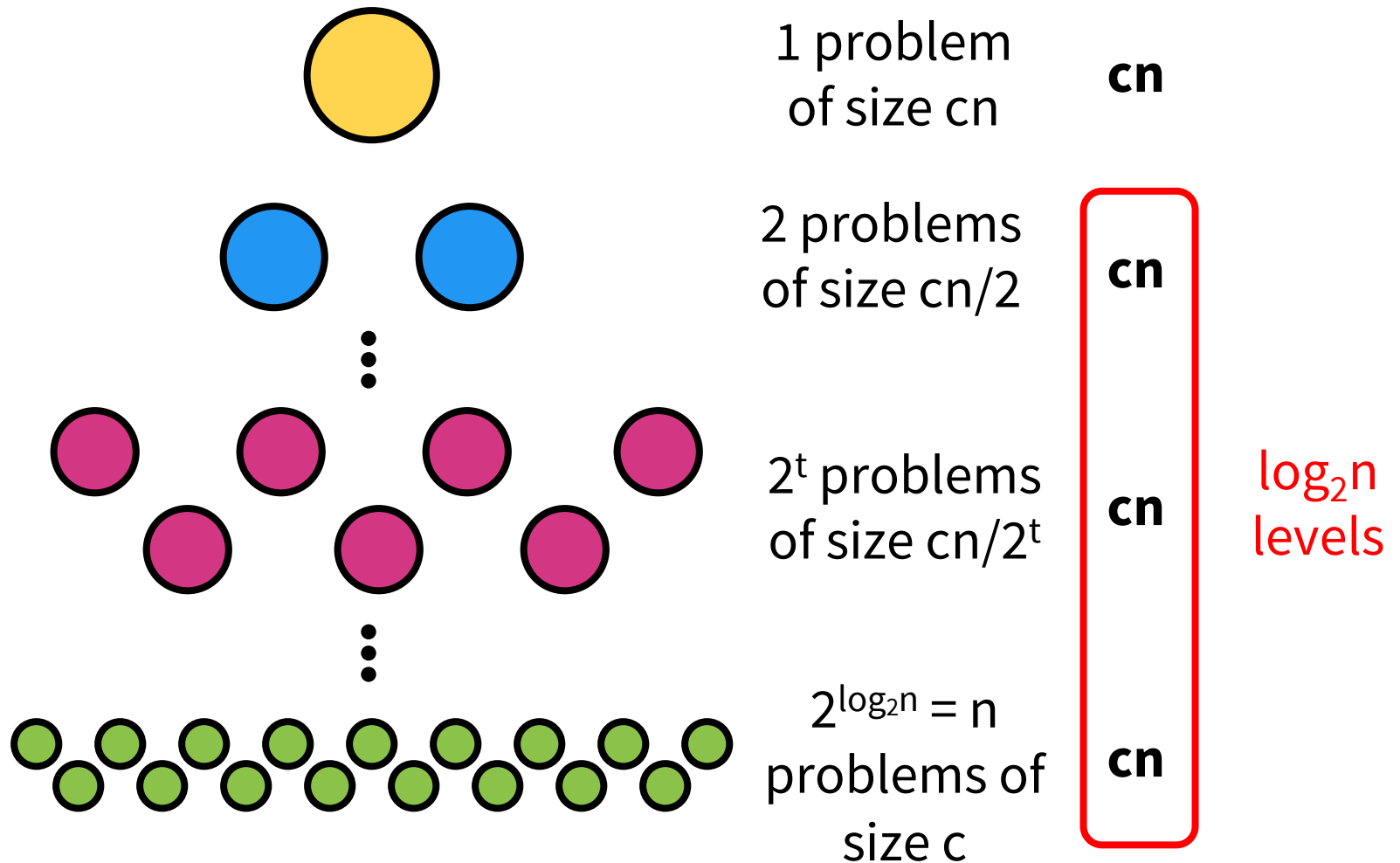
**Assumption 2:** Let  $c = \max\{c_1, c_2\}$

$$T(1) \leq c$$

$$T(n) \leq 2T(n/2) + cn$$



# Recursion Tree Method



**Total work:**  $cn \log_2 n + cn = O(n \log n)$



# Iteration Method

Recall, our recurrence relation:

$$T(1) \leq c$$

$$T(n) \leq 2T(n/2) + cn$$

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &\leq 2 \cdot T(n/2) + cn \\ &\leq 2 \cdot (2T(n/4) + cn/2) + cn \\ &= 4 \cdot T(n/4) + 2cn \\ &\leq 4 \cdot (2T(n/8) + cn/4) + 2cn \\ &= 8 \cdot T(n/8) + 3cn \\ &\dots \\ &\leq 2^k T(n/2^k) + kcn \end{aligned}$$

So  $k = \log_2 n$

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &\leq 2^k T(n/2^k) + kcn \\ &= 2^{\log_2 n} T(n/2^{\log_2 n}) + cn \log_2 n \\ &= nT(1) + cn \log_2 n \\ &\leq cn + cn \log_2 n \\ &= O(n \log n) \end{aligned}$$

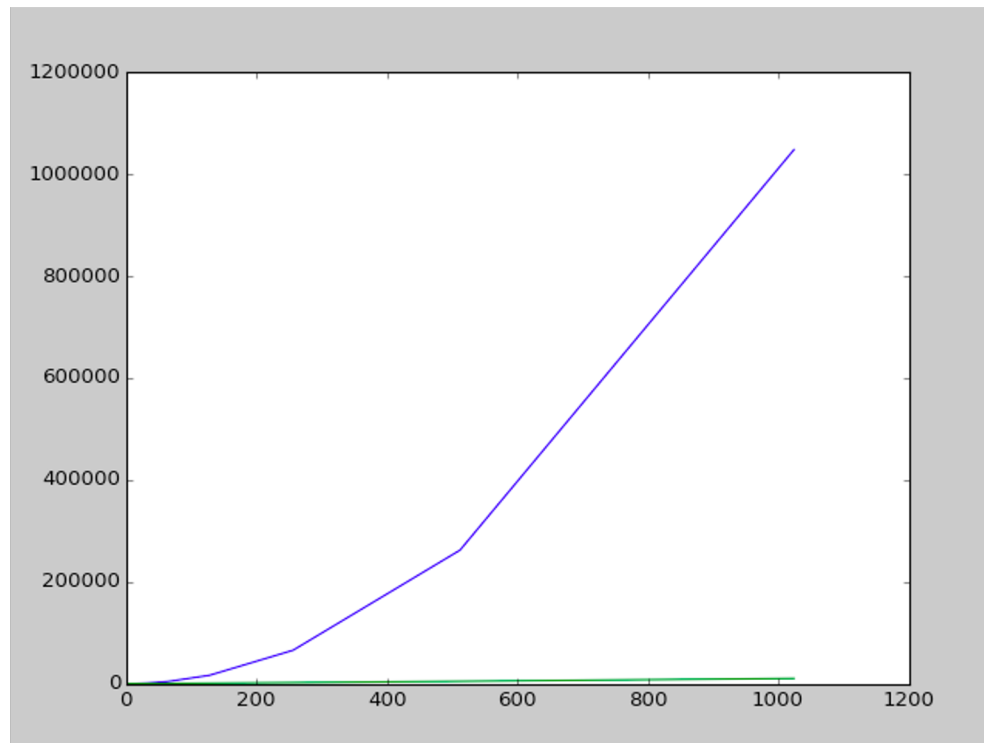
What is  $k$ ? It's the number of times to divide  $n$  by 2 to get 1.

# Analyzing Runtime

The best and worst-case runtime of mergesort is  $\Theta(n \log n)$ .

The worst-case runtime of `insertion_sort` was  $\Theta(n^2)$ .

**THIS IS A HUGE IMPROVEMENT!!**



# Solving Recurrences

# Solving Recurrences

We've seen four recursive algorithms, recursion relations:

`naive_recursive_multiply`

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= 4T(n/2) + O(n) \\ &= O(n^2) \end{aligned}$$

`karatsuba_multiply`

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= 3T(n/2) + O(n) \\ &= O(n^{\log_2 3}) = O(n^{1.6}) \end{aligned}$$

What's the pattern???

`mergesort`

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= 2T(n/2) + O(n) \\ &= O(n \log n) \end{aligned}$$

`binary_search`

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= T(n/2) + O(1) \\ &= O(\log n) \end{aligned}$$

# Master Method

Suppose  $T(n) = a \cdot T(n/b) + O(n^d)$ .

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} O(n^d \log n) & \text{if } a = b^d \\ O(n^d) & \text{if } a < b^d \\ O(n^{\log_b a}) & \text{if } a > b^d \end{cases}$$

where

$a$  is the number of subproblems,

$b$  is the factor by which the input size shrinks, and

$d$  parametrizes the runtime to create the subproblems and merge their solutions.

# Master Method

We've seen four recursive algorithms.

naive\_recursive\_multiply

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= 4T(n/2) + O(n) \\ &= O(n^2) \end{aligned}$$

$a = 4$

$b = 2$

$d = 1$

$$a > b^d \rightarrow O(n^{\log_b a})$$

Wouldn't change  
if  $d = 0$

karatsuba\_multiply

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= 3T(n/2) + O(n) \\ &= O(n^{\log_2 3}) = O(n^{1.6}) \end{aligned}$$

$a = 3$

$b = 2$

$d = 1$

$$a > b^d \rightarrow O(n^{\log_b a})$$

Wouldn't change  
if  $d = 0$

mergesort

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= 2T(n/2) + O(n) \\ &= O(n \log n) \end{aligned}$$

$a = 2$

$b = 2$

$d = 1$

$$a = b^d \rightarrow O(n^d \log n)$$

binary\_search

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= T(n/2) + O(1) \\ &= O(\log n) \end{aligned}$$

$a = 1$

$b = 2$

$d = 0$

$$a = b^d \rightarrow O(n^d \log n)$$

# Master Method

We can prove the Master Method by writing out a generic proof using a recursion tree.

- Draw out the tree.

- Determine the work per level.

- Sum across all levels.

The three cases of the Master Method correspond to whether the recurrence is top heavy, balanced, or bottom heavy.

**General proof of Master Method is one of our homework.**

# Solving Recurrences

So far, we've seen three approaches to solving recurrences.

- Recursion Tree Method

- Iteration Method

- Master Method



**5-Minute Break**

# Median and Selection

# Beyond Master Method

The Master Method only works **when the sub-problems are the same size**.

$$T(n) = a \cdot T(n/b) + O(n^d)$$

Here, we'll investigate a recursive algorithm that the Master Method can't solve.

# Select-k Algorithm

In the `select_k` algorithm, we will attempt to return the  $k^{\text{th}}$  smallest element of an unsorted list of values **A**.

41	23	11	5	22	4	3	14	52	20
8	7	3	2	6	1	0	4	9	5

`select_k(A,0) => 3`

`select_k(A,4) => 14`

`select_k(A,9) => 52`

`select_k(A,0) => min(A)`

`select_k(A,[n/2]-1) => median(A)`

`select_k(A,n-1) => max(A)`

# A Slower Select-k Algorithm

```
algorithm naive_select_k(list A, k):  
    A = mergesort(A)  
    return A[k]
```

**Runtime:**  $O(n \log n)$

# Select-k Algorithm

Main idea: choose a pivot, partition around it, and recurse.

Suppose we call `select_k(A, 3)`.

41	23	11	5	22	4	3	14	52	20
----	----	----	---	----	---	---	----	----	----

Randomly (for now) choose 22 to be the pivot.

11	5	4	3	14	20	22	41	23	52
----	---	---	---	----	----	----	----	----	----

Partition around 22, such that all values to its left are less than it and all values to its right are greater than it.



Recurse on this half since 22 occupies index 6 and  $3 < 6$ , calling `select_k(A, 3)`

# Select-k Algorithm

Main idea: choose a pivot, partition around it, and recurse.

Suppose we call `select_k(A, 3)`.

41	23	11	5	22	4	3	14	52	20
----	----	----	---	----	---	---	----	----	----



Randomly (for now) choose 22 to be the pivot.

11	5	4	3	14	20	22	41	23	52
----	---	---	---	----	----	----	----	----	----



Partition around 22, such that all values to its left are less than it and all values to its right are greater than it.

11	5	4	3	14	20	22	41	23	52
----	---	---	---	----	----	----	----	----	----



Randomly (for now) choose 4 to be the pivot.

Recurse on this half, calling `select_k(A[2:], 1)` since we want the value at index 1 in the right list.

3	4	11	5	14	20	22	41	23	52
---	---	----	---	----	----	----	----	----	----



Partition around 4.

# Select-k Algorithm

```
algorithm partition(list A, p):  
    L, R = []  
    for i = 0 to length(A)-1:  
        if i == p: continue  
        else if A[i] <= A[p]:  
            L.append(A[i])  
        else if A[i] > A[p]:  
            R.append(A[i])  
    return L, A[p], R
```

Runtime:  $O(n)$



# Select-k Algorithm

```
algorithm select_k(list A, k):  
    if length(A) == 1: return A[0]  
    p = random_choose_pivot(A)  
    L, A[p], R = partition(A, p)  
    if length(L) == k:  
        return A[p]  
    else if length(L) > k:  
        return select_k(L, k)  
    else if length(L) < k:  
        return select_k(R, k-length(L)-1)
```

**Runtime:  $O(n^2)$**



We'll talk about why  
this is the case later.

# Select-k Algorithm

- Question 1** How do we prove this algorithm always returns the  $k^{\text{th}}$  smallest element of **A**?
- Question 2** How efficiently does this algorithm return the  $k^{\text{th}}$  smallest element?

# Proving Correctness

Informally (explain it to your co-worker) ...

(Ignore the fact that there's no error-checking so `select_k(A, 10)` where `length(A) <= 10` breaks the algorithm.)

**Inductive hypothesis:** At the return of each recursive call of list size  $\leq n$ , `select_k(A, k)` returns the  $k^{\text{th}}$  smallest element of **A**.

**Initial state:** When `length(A) == 1`, then returning the only element is correct.

Suppose the inductive hypothesis holds for size  $\leq n$ . We want to show that it holds for  $n + 1$ . There are three cases:

- (1) `length(L) = k`: `A[p]` is the correct thing to return.
- (2) `length(L) > k`: the  $k^{\text{th}}$  smallest element of `L` is the correct thing to return.
- (3) `length(L) < k`: the  $(k - \text{length}(L) - 1)^{\text{st}}$  smallest element is the correct thing to return.

**By induction**, `select_k` is correct.

# Analyzing Runtime

Recall  $p = \text{random\_choose\_pivot}(A)$ .

Why is this algorithm  $O(n^2)$ ?

Computation complexity **measures the worst case**.

Suppose we called  $\text{select\_k}(A, 0)$ , i.e. we want the min element, and we get unlucky with our selected pivot.

We can fix this by **choosing our pivot more carefully**.

# Select-k Algorithm

```
algorithm smartly_choose_pivot(list A):  
    groups = split A into  $m = \lceil \text{length}(A)/5 \rceil$   
               groups, of size  $\leq 5$  each  
    candidate_pivots = []  
    for i = 0 to m-1:  
        p_i = median(groups[i]) #  $O(1)$   
        candidate_pivots.append(p_i)  
    A[p] = select_k(candidate_pivots,  $m/2$ )  
    return index_of(A[p])
```

Partition into  
 $m = n/5$  groups

For each group,  
select its median

Select the median  
of medians

# Select-k Algorithm

**algorithm** select\_k(list A, k):

If length is  
small, naïve  
select k directly

**if** length(A) ≤ 100:

    return naive\_select\_k(A, k)

Otherwise, choose  
pivot smartly and  
partition

p = smartly\_choose\_pivot(A)

L, A[p], R = partition(A, p)

**if** length(L) == k:

**return** A[p]

**else if** length(L) > k:

**return** select\_k(L, k)

**else if** length(L) < k:

**return** select\_k(R, k-length(L)-1)

Recursive calls

**Runtime:**  $O(n)$



But why? This is not  
obvious at all...

# Analyzing Runtime

Instead of `p = random_choose_pivot(A)`, now we have  
`p = smartly_choose_pivot(A)`.

Why is this algorithm  **$O(n)$** ?

Main idea: each of the arrays L and R are pretty balanced.  
Thus, while the **median of medians** might not be the actual median, it's pretty close.

# Analyzing Runtime

2	11	9	3	13	5	16	4	6	12	...	19	14
---	----	---	---	----	---	----	---	---	----	-----	----	----

at most 5 elements

2	5	17	8	22
11	16	23	18	19
9	4	10	15	14
3	6	7	1	
13	12	21	20	

$m = \lceil n/5 \rceil$  groups

Divide A into  $m = \lceil n/5 \rceil$  groups  
of at most 5 elements

Find the median of each of the groups  
(yellow) and recursively call `select_k` to  
find the median of these medians (pink).

2	5	17	8	22
11	16	23	18	19
9	4	10	15	14
3	6	7	1	
13	12	21	20	



# Analyzing Runtime

2	5	17	8	22
11	16	23	18	19
9	4	10	15	14
3	6	7	1	
13	12	21	20	

Clearly the median of medians (15) is not necessarily the actual median (12), but we claim that it's guaranteed to be pretty close.

# Analyzing Runtime

2	5	8	10	14
3	4	1	7	19
9	6	15	17	22
11	16	18	23	
13	12	20	21	

To see why, let's partition elements within each of the groups around the group's median, and partition the groups around the group with the median of medians.

# Analyzing Runtime

2	5	8	10	14
3	4	1	7	19
9	6	15	17	22
11	16	18	23	
13	12	20	21	

How many elements are smaller than the median of medians?

# Analyzing Runtime

2	5	8	10	14
3	4	1	7	19
9	6	15	17	22
11	16	18	23	
13	12	20	21	

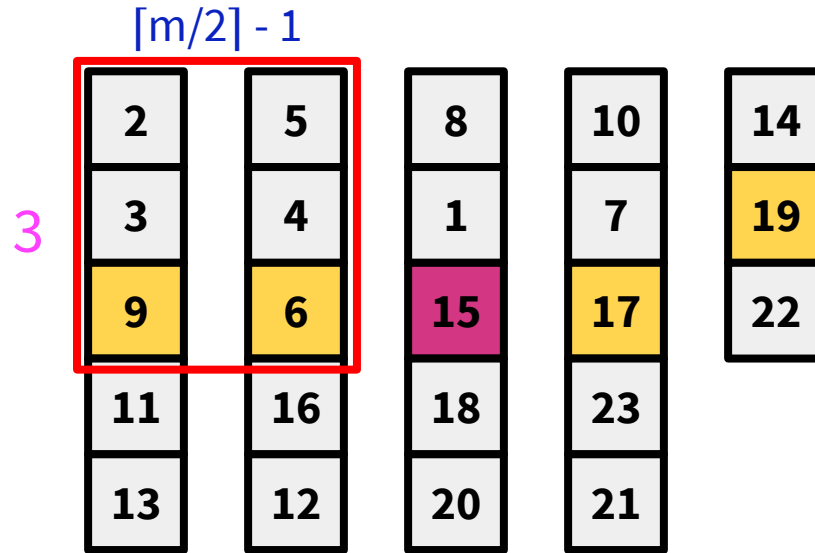
At least these guys (2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9): everything above and to the left. There might be more (1, 7, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14), but we are guaranteed that *at least* these guys will be smaller.

# Analyzing Runtime

2	5	8	10	14
3	4	1	7	19
9	6	15	17	22
11	16	18	23	
13	12	20	21	

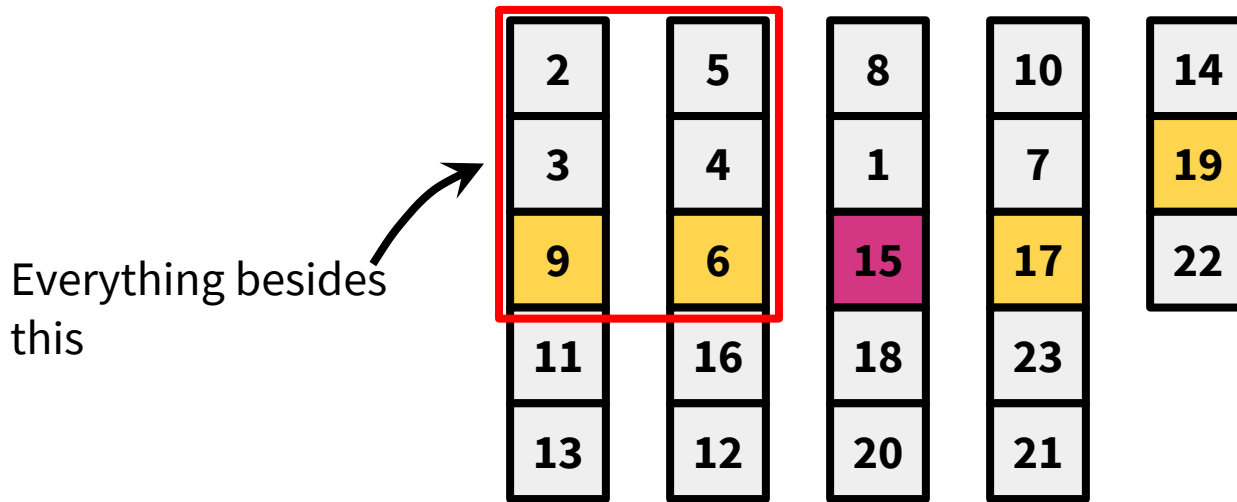
How many are there?

# Analyzing Runtime



At least  $3 \cdot (\lceil m/2 \rceil - 1)$

# Analyzing Runtime



How many elements are larger than the median of medians?

At most  $n - 1 - 3 \cdot (\lceil m/2 \rceil - 1) \leq 7n/10 + 2$ .

Because  $m = \lceil n/5 \rceil$

# Analyzing Runtime

We just showed that ...

$$3 \cdot (\lceil m/2 \rceil - 1) \leq |L|$$
$$|R| \leq 7n/10 + 2$$

`smartly_choose_pivot` will choose a pivot greater than **at least**  $3 \cdot (\lceil m/2 \rceil - 1)$  elements.

`smartly_choose_pivot` will choose a pivot less than **at most**  $7n/10 + 2$  elements.

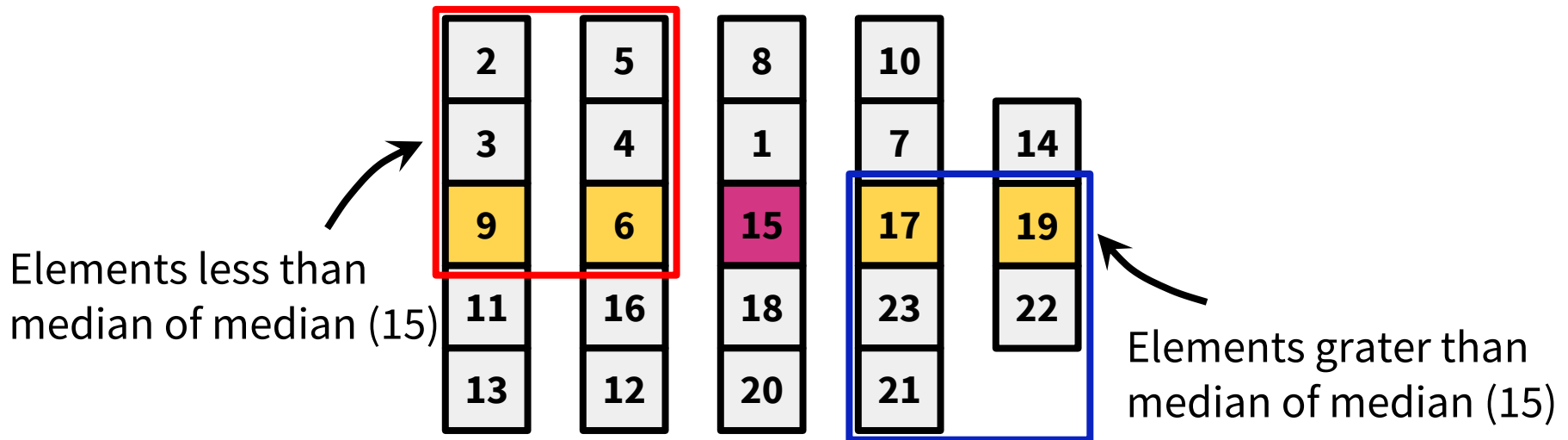


# Analyzing Runtime

We can just as easily show the inverse.

$$3 \cdot (\lceil m/2 \rceil - 1) \leq |L| \leq 7n/10 + 2$$

$$3 \cdot (\lceil m/2 \rceil - 1) \leq |R| \leq 7n/10 + 2$$



# Analyzing Runtime

What's the greatest number of elements that can be **smaller than p**?

`random_choose_pivot` might choose the largest element, so  $n-1$ .

`smartly_choose_pivot` will choose an element greater than **at most**  $7n/10 + 2$  elements.

What's the greatest number of elements that can be **larger than p**?

`random_choose_pivot` might choose the smallest element, so  $n-1$ .

`smartly_choose_pivot` will choose an element smaller than **at most**  $7n/10 + 2$  elements.

# Analyzing Runtime

$c_1 \cdot n = O(n)$  Partition into  $m=n/5$  groups  
 $c_2 \cdot m = c_2 \cdot n/5$  For each group, select its median  
 $= c_2 \cdot n = O(n)$   
 $T([n/5])$  Select the median of medians

```

algorithm smartly_choose_pivot(list A):
  groups = split A into m=[length(A)/5]
             groups, of size  $\leq 5$  each
  candidate_pivots = []
  for i = 0 to m-1:
    p_i = median(groups[i]) # O(1)
    candidate_pivots.append(p_i)
  A[p] = select_k(candidate_pivots, m/2)
  return index_of(A[p])
  
```

$O(n) + T([n/5])$

$c = O(1)$  If length is small, naïve select k directly  
 $O(n) + T([n/5])$  Otherwise, choose pivot smartly and partition  
 $T([7n/10 + 2])$  Recursive calls

```

algorithm select_k(list A, k):
  if length(A)  $\leq 100$ :
    return naive_select_k(A, k)
  p = smartly_choose_pivot(A)
  L, A[p], R = partition(A, p)
  if length(L) == k:
    return A[p]
  else if length(L) > k:
    return select_k(L, k)
  else if length(L) < k:
    return select_k(R, k-length(L)-1)
  
```

$T(n) = O(n) + T([n/5]) + T([7n/10 + 2])$

# Analyzing Runtime

**Recurrence relation:**  $T(n) \leq c \cdot n + T(\lceil n/5 \rceil) + T(\lceil 7n/10 + 2 \rceil)$ .

Partitioning, computing  $n/5$  medians  
Computing the median of  $n/5$  medians.  
Recurrence on L or R.

Recall that the Master Method only works when the sub-problems are the same size.

To prove this recurrence relation yields a runtime of  $O(n)$ , we will employ substitution method.

# Analyzing Runtime

**Theorem:**  $T(n) = O(n)$

**Proof:** We guess that for all  $n \geq 1$ ,  $T(n) \leq kn$  for some  $k$  that we will determine later; this means  $T(n) = O(n)$ .

We proceed by induction. **Initial State**, if  $1 \leq n \leq 100$ , then  $T(n) \leq c \leq kn$  will be true as long as we pick  $k \geq c$ .

**Induction assumption**, assume for some  $n \geq 100$ , the claim holds for all  $1 \leq n' < n$ , i.e.,  $T(n') \leq kn'$ . Note that  $1 \leq \lfloor n/5 \rfloor, \lfloor 7n/10 + 2 \rfloor < n$ . Then:

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &\leq T(\lfloor n/5 \rfloor) + T(\lfloor 7n/10 + 2 \rfloor) + cn \\ &\leq k \lfloor n/5 \rfloor + k \lfloor 7n/10 + 2 \rfloor + cn \\ &\leq k(n/5 + 1) + k(7n/10 + 2 + 1) + cn \\ &= 9kn/10 + 4k + cn \\ &= kn + (4k + cn - kn/10) \end{aligned}$$

Let  $4k + cn - kn/10 \leq 0$ , then  $k \geq 50c/3$ .

The initial state requires  $k \geq c$ , the induction state requires  $k \geq 50c/3$ , and Such  $k$  indeed exists! For example, if we pick  $k = 50c$ , then  $4k + cn - kn/10 \leq 0$  and  $T(n) \leq kn$  holds, completing the induction. ■

# Substitution Method

To use substitution method, proceed as follows:

Make a guess of the form of your answer (e.g.  $kn$ )

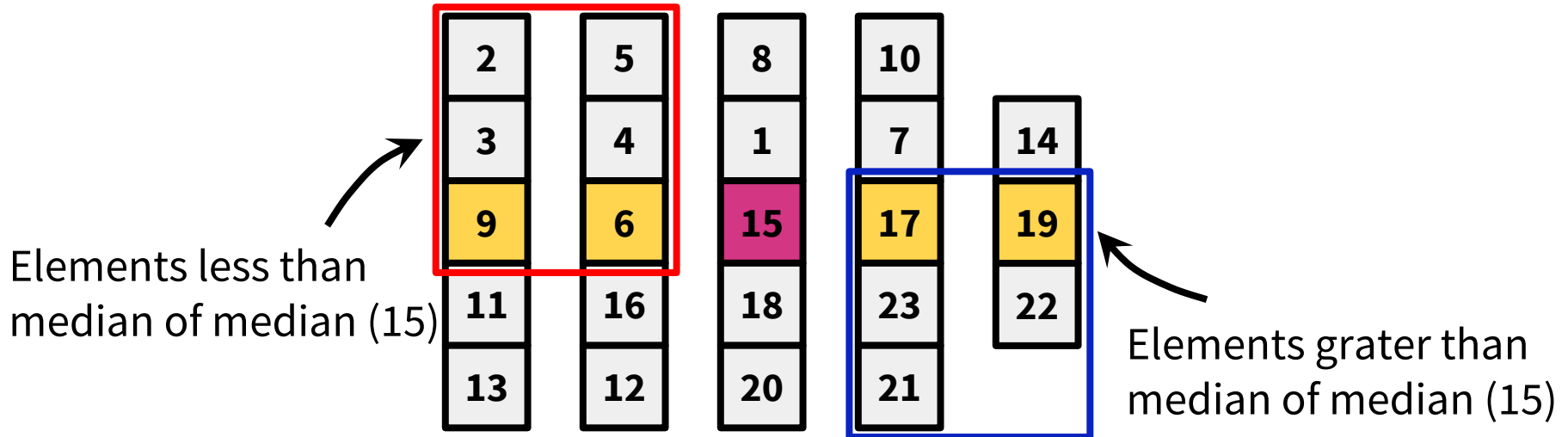
Proceed by induction to prove the bound holds, noting what constraints arise on your undetermined constants (e.g.  $k$ ).

If you induction succeeds, you will have values for your undetermined constants.

If the induction fails, then it doesn't necessarily imply that your guess fails to bound the recurrence. You may need to find tighter values for the numbers during your analysis.

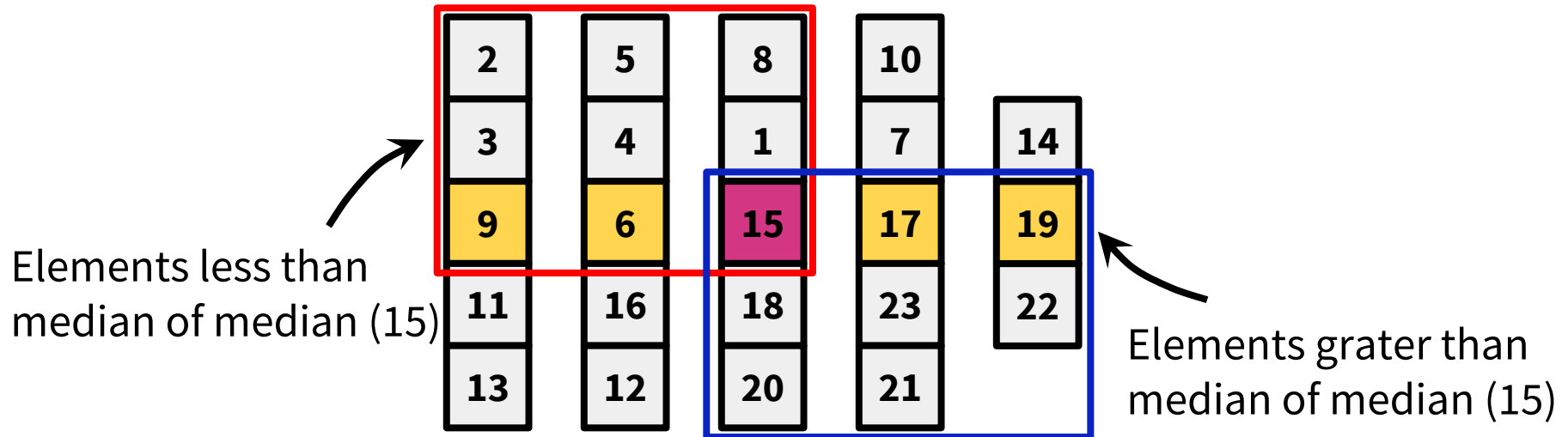
$$3 \cdot (\lceil m/2 \rceil - 1) \leq |L| \leq 7n/10 + 2$$

$$3 \cdot (\lceil m/2 \rceil - 1) \leq |R| \leq 7n/10 + 2$$



$$3 \cdot (\lceil m/2 \rceil - 1) \leq |L| \leq 7n/10 + 2$$

$$3 \cdot (\lceil m/2 \rceil - 1) \leq |R| \leq 7n/10 + 2$$



$$3 \cdot \lceil m/2 \rceil - 1 \leq |L| \leq 7n/10$$

$$3 \cdot \lceil m/2 \rceil - 1 \leq |R| \leq 7n/10$$

This may gives you tighter bounds for inductive proof.



# Summary

- Divide and Conquer: Binary Search, Integer Multiplication, Merge Sort, Select K.
- Providing Correctness: Insertion Sort, Select K.
- Solving Recurrences (when sub-problems have the same size): Recursion Tree Method, Iteration Method, Master Method.
- Solving Recurrences (when sub-problems have different size): Substitution method.

# Summary

- Divide and Conquer: Binary Search, Integer Multiplication, Merge Sort, Select K.
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