Sorting Algorithms

Discussion 13: April 19, 2017

1 Warm-up

Algorithm	Best-case	Worst-case	Stable
Selection Sort			
Insertion Sort			
Merge Sort			
Quicksort			
Heapsort			

- Give a best and worst case input for insertion sort.
- 1.2 Do you expect selection or insertion sort to run more quickly on a reverse list?
- 1.3 Give a worst case input for quicksort. Assume that we're always picking the left-most item as our pivot.

1.4 Why does Java's built-in Array.sort method use quicksort for int, long, char, or other primitive arrays, but merge sort for all Object arrays?

2 Inversions & Decisions

We have a list of N elements that should be sorted, but to our surprise we recently discovered that there are at most k pairs out of order, or k **inversions**, in the list. As a small example, the list { 0, 1, 2, 6, 4, 5, 3 } contains 5 inversions: (6,4), (6,5), (6,3), (4,3), (5,3).

2.1 Given a list of objects that is totally sorted except for $K < \log N$ randomly chosen elements that are out of place, choose the best sorting algorithm to solve the problem and give a tight asymptotic runtime bound.

2.2 What's the best sorting algorithm to apply on an array of *N* randomly distributed objects? Give a tight asymptotic runtime bound as well.

3 What's that sort?

Each of the following sequences represent an array being sorted at some intermediate step. Match each sample with one of the following sorting algorithms: insertion sort, selection sort, heap sort, merge sort, quicksort. The original array is below.

```
5103 9914 0608 3715 6035 2261 9797 7188 1163 4411
    5103 9914 0608 3715 2261 6035 7188 9797 1163 4411
                                                         Merge sort
    0608 2261 3715 5103 6035 7188 9797 9914 1163 4411
    0608 1163 5103 3715 6035 2261 9797 7188 9914 4411
                                                         Selection sort
    0608 1163 2261 3715 6035 5103 9797 7188 9914 4411
    9797 7188 5103 4411 6035 2261 0608 3715 1163 9914
(c)
                                                         Heap sort
    4411 3715 2261 0608 1163 5103 6035 7188 9797 9914
    5103 0608 3715 2261 1163 4411 6035 9914 9797 7188
                                                         Quicksort
    0608 2261 1163 3715 5103 4411 6035 9914 9797 7188
    0608 5103 9914 3715 6035 2261 9797 7188 1163 4411
                                                         Insertion sort
(e)
    0608 2261 3715 5103 6035 9914 9797 7188 1163 4411
```