

# WIA2005: Algorithm Design and Analysis

Lecture 5: Divide & Conquer Algorithm

Asmiza A. Sani

Semester 2, Session 2023/24

# Learning objectives

- The student will know and understand the following:
  - Algorithm design paradigm: Divide and Conquer
  - Merge sort
  - Quick sort

# Algorithm Design Paradigm

- When we are designing an algorithm, there are several high-level approach that can be taken to solve a certain class of problems.
- Common ones are:
  - Divide and conquer
    - Recursively breaking down a problem into 2 or more sub-problems of the same type.
    - No overlapping sub-problem.
  - Dynamic programming
    - Breaking down a problem into a collection of simpler problem.
    - Sub-problem must overlap.
  - Greedy algorithms
    - Making a locally optimal decision at each stage.
- Others:
  - Brute force
  - Backtracking

# The Divide and Conquer Design Paradigm

- The Divide and Conquer algorithm apply the concept of dividing problems into smaller sub-problem.
- The approach:
  1. *Divide* the problem (instance) into subproblems.
  2. *Conquer* the subproblems by solving them recursively.
  3. *Combine* subproblem solutions.

# Merge Sort Algorithm

- Merge sort is a sorting algorithm that follows the divide and conquer approach.
- The approach:
  1. *Divide*: Trivial.
  2. *Conquer*: Recursively sort 2 subarrays.
  3. *Combine*: Linear-time merge.

# Merge Sort Algorithm

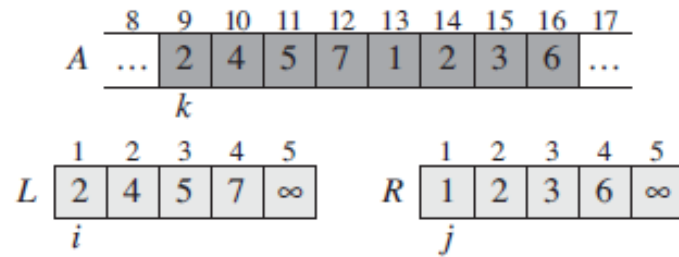
MERGE-SORT( $A, p, r$ )

```
1  if  $p < r$ 
2     $q = \lfloor (p + r) / 2 \rfloor$ 
3    MERGE-SORT( $A, p, q$ )
4    MERGE-SORT( $A, q + 1, r$ )
5    MERGE( $A, p, q, r$ )
```

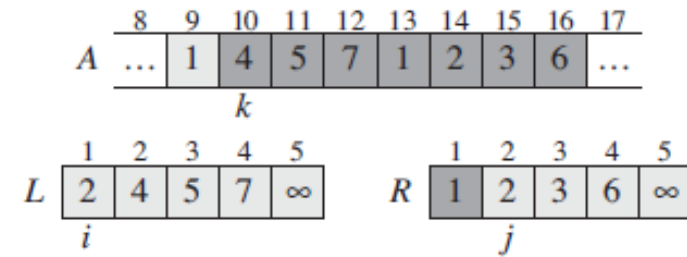
MERGE( $A, p, q, r$ )

```
1   $n_1 = q - p + 1$ 
2   $n_2 = r - q$ 
3  let  $L[1 \dots n_1 + 1]$  and  $R[1 \dots n_2 + 1]$  be new arrays
4  for  $i = 1$  to  $n_1$ 
5     $L[i] = A[p + i - 1]$ 
6  for  $j = 1$  to  $n_2$ 
7     $R[j] = A[q + j]$ 
8   $L[n_1 + 1] = \infty$ 
9   $R[n_2 + 1] = \infty$ 
10  $i = 1$ 
11  $j = 1$ 
12 for  $k = p$  to  $r$ 
13   if  $L[i] \leq R[j]$ 
14      $A[k] = L[i]$ 
15      $i = i + 1$ 
16   else  $A[k] = R[j]$ 
17      $j = j + 1$ 
```

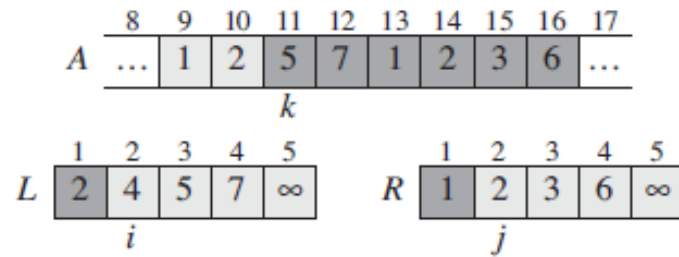
# Merge operation



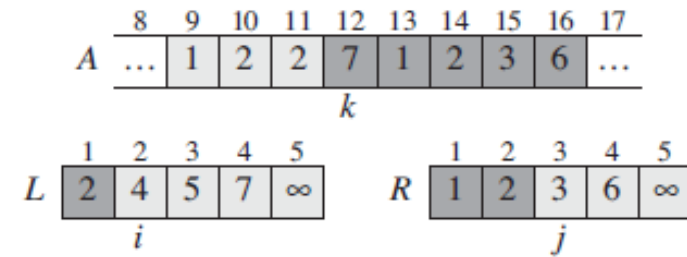
(a)



(b)

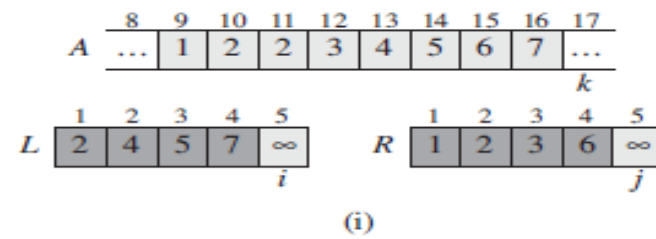
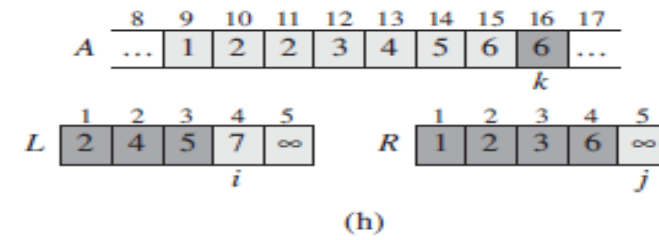
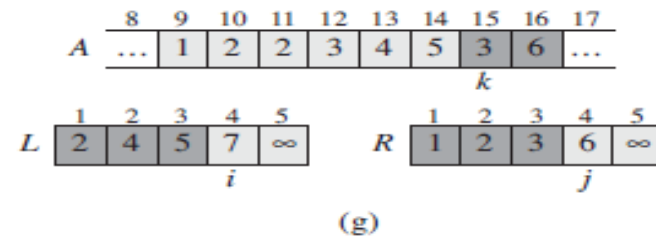
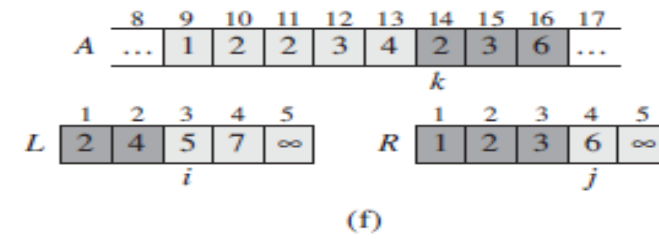
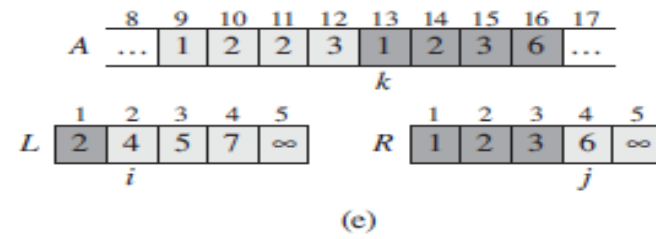


(c)



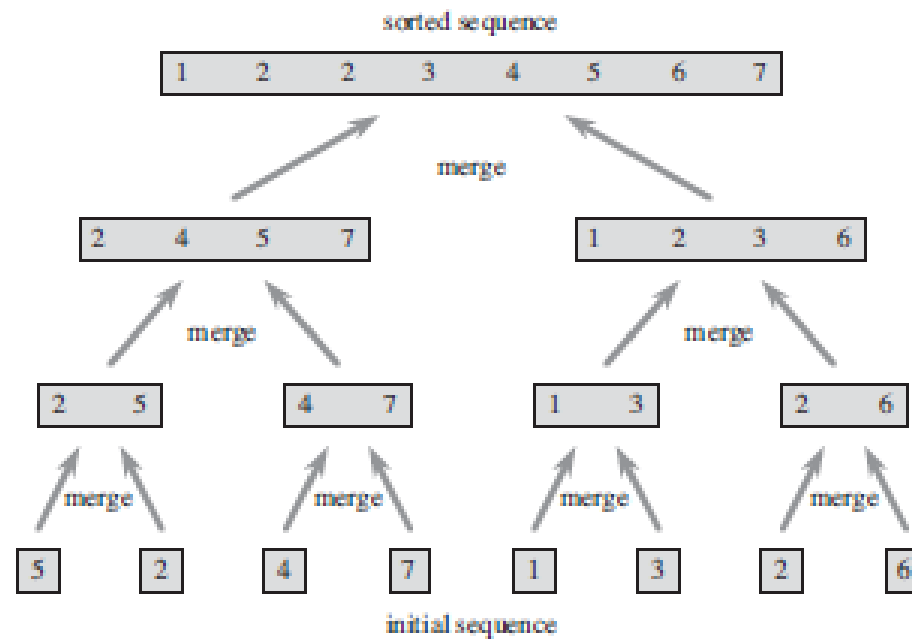
(d)

# Merge operation Cont..





# Merge Sort operation



# Running Time Complexity – Merge Sort

1. *Divide*: Trivial.
2. *Conquer*: Recursively sort 2 subarrays.
3. *Combine*: Linear-time merge.

- Recurrence relation:

$$T(n) = 2T(n/2) + \Theta(n)$$

*# subproblems*      *subproblem size*      *work dividing and combining*

What is running time complexity of Merge Sort?

# Running Time Complexity

1. *Divide*: Trivial.
2. *Conquer*: Recursively sort 2 subarrays.
3. *Combine*: Linear-time merge.

$$T(n) = 2T(n/2) + \Theta(n)$$

*# subproblems* → 2

*subproblem size* →  $n/2$

*work dividing and combining* →  $\Theta(n)$

Using Master  
Theorem

$$T(n) = \Theta(n \log n)$$

# Quicksort Algorithm

- Approach (Quicksort an  $n$ -element array):
  1. *Divide*: Partition the array into two subarrays around a *pivot*  $x$  such that *elements in lower subarray*  $\leq x \leq$  *elements in upper subarray*.
  2. *Conquer*: Recursively sort the two subarrays.
  3. *Combine*: Trivial.
- *Key*: Linear-time partitioning subroutine.

# Quicksort Algorithm

QUICKSORT( $A, p, r$ )

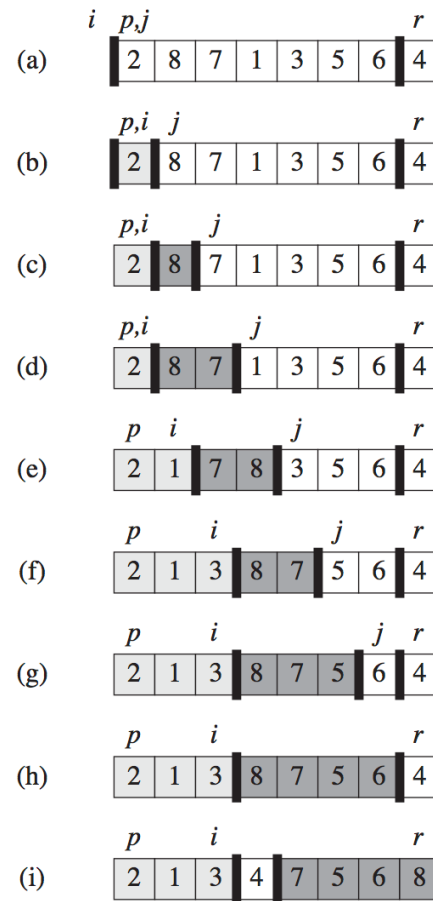
```
1  if  $p < r$ 
2       $q = \text{PARTITION}(A, p, r)$ 
3      QUICKSORT( $A, p, q - 1$ )
4      QUICKSORT( $A, q + 1, r$ )
```

PARTITION( $A, p, r$ )

```
1   $x = A[r]$ 
2   $i = p - 1$ 
3  for  $j = p$  to  $r - 1$ 
4      if  $A[j] \leq x$ 
5           $i = i + 1$ 
6          exchange  $A[i]$  with  $A[j]$ 
7  exchange  $A[i + 1]$  with  $A[r]$ 
8  return  $i + 1$ 
```

# Quicksort Algorithm

- Array entry  $A[r]$  becomes the pivot element  $x$ .
- Lightly shaded array elements are all in the first partition with values no greater than  $x$ .
- Heavily shaded elements are in the second partition with values greater than  $x$ .
- The unshaded elements have not yet been put in one of the first two partitions, and the final white element is the pivot  $x$ .



The initial array and variable settings. None of the elements have been placed in either of the first two partitions.

The value 2 is “swapped with itself” and put in the partition of smaller values

The values 8 and 7 are added to the partition of larger values.

The values 1 and 8 are swapped, and the smaller partition grows.

The values 3 and 7 are swapped, and the smaller partition grows.

The larger partition grows to include 5 and 6, and the loop terminates.

In lines 7–8, the pivot element is swapped so that it lies between the two partitions.

# Running Time Complexity

- Assume all input elements are distinct (else use the 3-way quicksort).
- In practice, there are better partitioning algorithms for when duplicate input elements may exist.

**Running time:  $T(n) = T(k) + T(n-k-1) + \Theta(n)$**

Running time depends on the input array and the partition strategy.

When will the worst-case behaviour happen in Quicksort?

# Worst Case of Quicksort

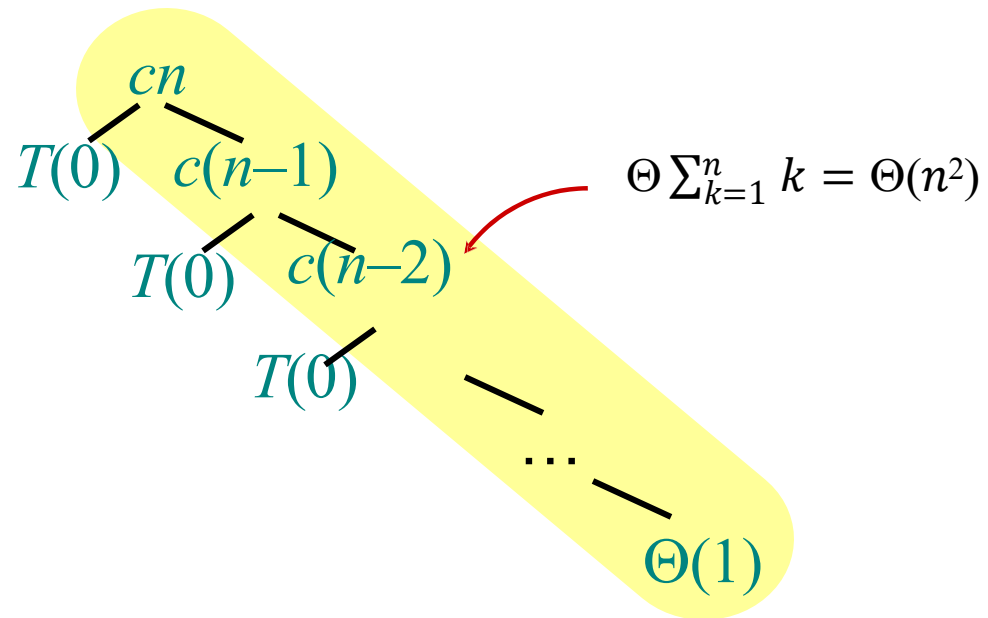
- Input sorted or reverse sorted.
- Partition around min or max element.
- One side of partition always has no elements.
- Using back-substitution method:

$$\begin{aligned}T(n) &= T(0) + T(n-1) + \Theta(n) \\&= \Theta(1) + T(n-1) + \Theta(n) \\&= T(n-1) + \Theta(n) \\&= \Theta(n^2)\end{aligned}\quad \text{—————} \quad \textcolor{red}{(arithmetic series)}$$



How will the Recursion Tree of  
Quicksort look like?

•  $T(n) = T(0) + T(n-1) + cn$



# Best-case analysis

- To see how Quicksort can ensure  $\Theta(n \log n)$  running time on any input, we need to understand what is the partition condition that guarantee this.
- If we're lucky, PARTITION splits the array evenly:

$$T(n) = 2T(n/2) + \Theta(n)$$

$$= \Theta(n \log n) \quad (\text{same as merge sort})$$

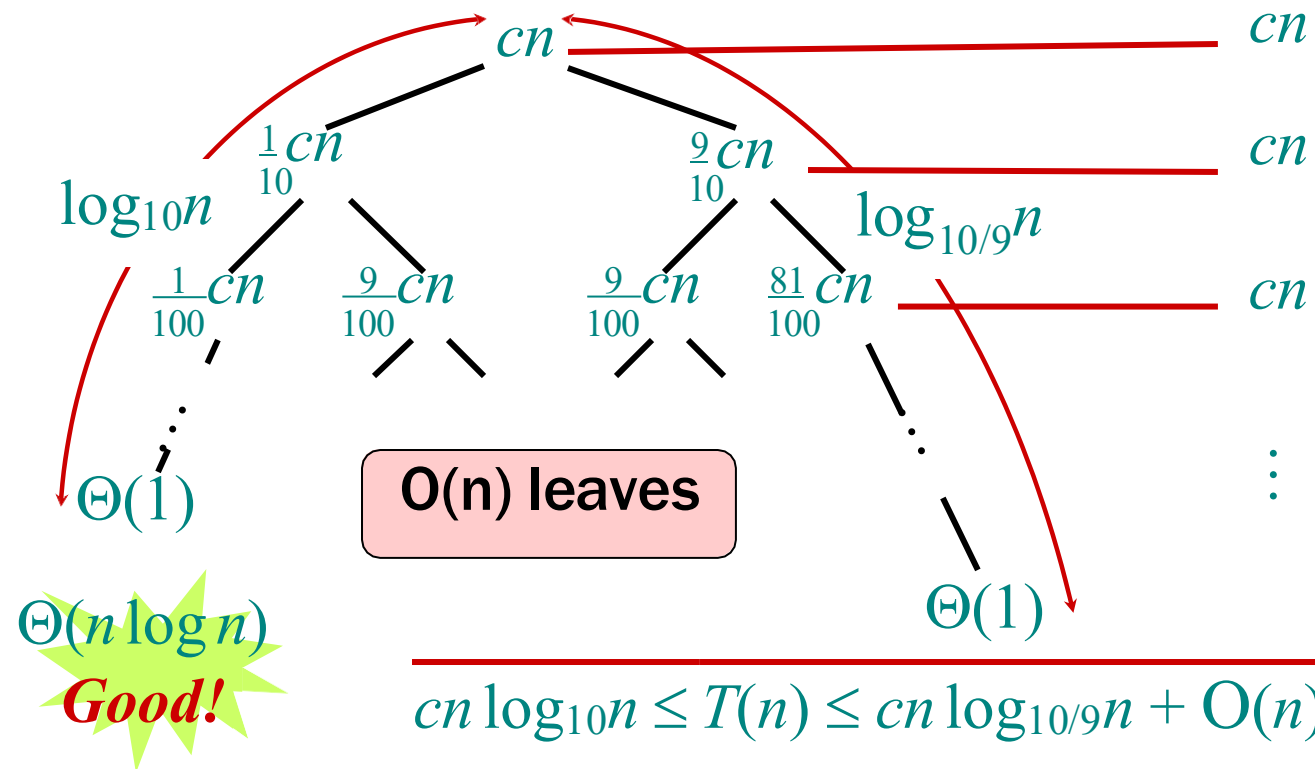
- But what if the split is always  $\frac{1}{10} : \frac{9}{10}$  Are we still going to get  $\Theta(n \log n)$

running time? Or we are reaching  $\Theta(n^2)$ ?

$$T(n) = T\left(\frac{1}{10}n\right) + T\left(\frac{9}{10}n\right) + \Theta(n)$$

What is the solution to this recurrence?

How will the Recursion Tree of Quicksort with  
 $\frac{1}{10} : \frac{9}{10}$  partition look like?



# More Intuition

- Here, we can further see, how Quicksort can still perform in  $\Theta(n \log n)$ .
- Suppose we have alternate Good, Not Good,.... partition each time:

$$G(n) = 2N(n/2) + \Theta(n) \quad \text{Good}$$

$$N(n) = G(n-1) + \Theta(n) \quad \text{Not Good}$$

- Solving:

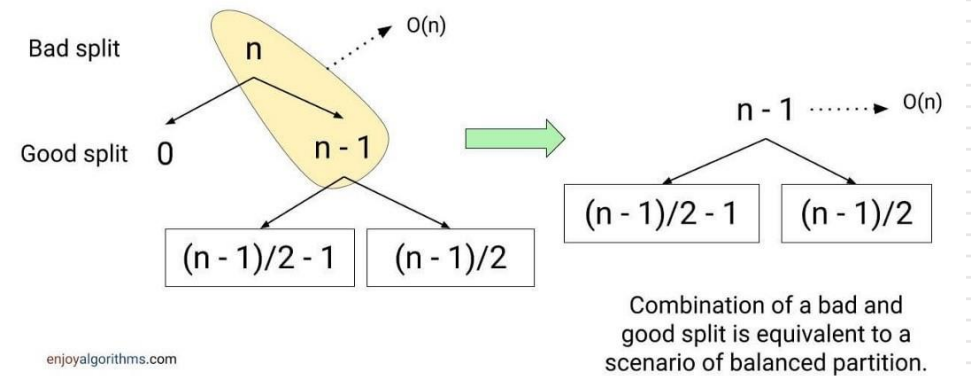
$$\begin{aligned} G(n) &= 2(G(n/2 - 1) + \Theta(n/2)) + \Theta(n) \\ &= 2G(n/2 - 1) + \Theta(n) \end{aligned}$$

$$= \Theta(n \log n)$$

**Good!**

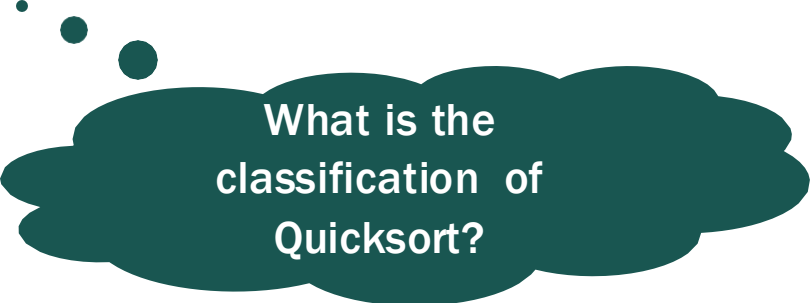
How can we make  
sure we are usually  
having a good  
partition?

Average case intuition of quick sort



# Randomized Quicksort

- To make sure that Quicksort will always have a lucky  $O(n \log n)$  running time:
  - IDEA: Partition around a random element.
    - Running time is independent of the input order.
    - No assumptions need to be made about the input distribution.
    - No specific input elicits the worst-case behaviour.
    - The worst case is determined only by the output of a random-number generator.



What is the  
classification of  
Quicksort?



**Additional common problem  
solve using divide and  
conquer approach**



# Binary Search Algorithm

- Find an element in a sorted array:
  1. *Divide*: Check middle element.
  2. *Conquer*: Recursively search **1** subarray.
  3. *Combine*: Trivial.

# Binary search

- Find an element in a sorted array:

1. *Divide*: Check middle element.
2. *Conquer*: Recursively search **1** subarray.
3. *Combine*: Trivial.

- *Example*: Find **9** in the following array A

|   |   |   |   |   |    |    |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|
| 3 | 5 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 12 | 15 |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|



# Binary search

- Find an element in a sorted array:

- 1. Divide:** Check middle element.
- 2. Conquer:** Recursively search **1** subarray.
- 3. Combine:** Trivial.

- Example:** Find **9** in the following array A

|   |   |   |   |   |    |    |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|
| 3 | 5 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 12 | 15 |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|

Check the middle element in the array and compare with the key.

# Binary search

- Find an element in a sorted array:

- 1. Divide:** Check middle element.
- 2. Conquer:** Recursively search **1** subarray.
- 3. Combine:** Trivial.

- Example:** Find **9** in the following array A

|   |   |   |   |   |    |    |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|
| 3 | 5 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 12 | 15 |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|

In this case, key is bigger than the middle element. Therefore, we can eliminate the lower subarray and repeat Step 1, which is check the middle element.

# Binary search

- Find an element in a sorted array:

- 1. Divide:** Check middle element.
- 2. Conquer:** Recursively search **1** subarray.
- 3. Combine:** Trivial.

- Example:** Find **9** in the following array A

|   |   |   |   |   |    |    |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|
| 3 | 5 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 12 | 15 |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|

Check the middle element in the subarray and compare with the key.

# Binary search

- Find an element in a sorted array:

- 1. Divide:** Check middle element.
- 2. Conquer:** Recursively search **1** subarray.
- 3. Combine:** Trivial.

- Example:** Find **9** in the following array A

|   |   |   |   |   |    |    |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|
| 3 | 5 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 12 | 15 |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|

In this case, key is smaller than the middle element. Therefore, we can eliminate the higher subarray and repeat Step 1, which is check the middle element.

# Binary search

- Find an element in a sorted array:

- 1. Divide:** Check middle element.
- 2. Conquer:** Recursively search **1** subarray.
- 3. Combine:** Trivial.

- Example:** Find **9** in the following array A



Found 9 in the array!

# Running time complexity

$$T(n) = 1 T(n/2) + \Theta(1)$$

*# subproblems*      *subproblem size*      *work dividing and combining*

Using Masters Theorem

$$T(n) = \Theta(\lg n)$$

# Powering a number

**Problem:** Compute  $a^n$ , where  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

**Naive algorithm:**  $\Theta(n)$ .

# Powering a number

**Problem:** Compute  $a^n$ , where  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

**Naive algorithm:**  $\Theta(n)$ .

**Divide-and-conquer algorithm:**

$$a^n = \begin{cases} a^{n/2} \cdot a^{n/2} & \text{if } n \text{ is even;} \\ a^{(n-1)/2} \cdot a^{(n-1)/2} \cdot a & \text{if } n \text{ is odd.} \end{cases}$$

$$T(n) = T(n/2) + \Theta(1) \Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta(\lg n).$$



# Fibonacci numbers

## Recursive definition:

$$F_n = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } n = 0; \\ 1 & \text{if } n = 1; \\ F_{n-1} + F_{n-2} & \text{if } n \geq 2. \end{cases}$$

0 1 1 2 3 5 8 13 21 34 L

# Computing Fibonacci numbers

## Bottom-up:

- Compute  $F_0, F_1, F_2, \dots, F_n$  in order, forming each number by summing the two previous.
- Running time:  $\Theta(n)$ .

## Naive recursive squaring:

$F_n = \phi^n / \sqrt{5}$  rounded to the nearest integer.

- Recursive squaring:  $\Theta(\lg n)$  time.
- This method is unreliable, since floating-point arithmetic is prone to round-off errors.

# Recursive squaring

**Theorem:** 
$$\begin{bmatrix} F_{n+1} & F_n \\ F_n & F_{n-1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^n .$$

**Algorithm:** Recursive squaring.

Time =  $\Theta(\lg n)$  .

*Proof of theorem.* (Induction on  $n$ .)

Base ( $n = 1$ ): 
$$\begin{bmatrix} F_2 & F_1 \\ F_1 & F_0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^1 .$$

## Recursive squaring

Inductive step ( $n \geq 2$ ):

$$\begin{aligned}\begin{bmatrix} F_{n+1} & F_n \\ F_n & F_{n-1} \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} F_n & F_{n-1} \\ F_{n-1} & F_{n-2} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^{n-1} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^n \quad \blacksquare\end{aligned}$$

# Matrix Multiplication

Suppose that we partition each of A, B, and C into four  $n/2 \times n/2$  matrices

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{pmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} B_{11} & B_{12} \\ B_{21} & B_{22} \end{pmatrix}, \quad C = \begin{pmatrix} C_{11} & C_{12} \\ C_{21} & C_{22} \end{pmatrix}, \quad (4.9)$$

so that we rewrite the equation  $C = A \cdot B$  as

$$\begin{pmatrix} C_{11} & C_{12} \\ C_{21} & C_{22} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} B_{11} & B_{12} \\ B_{21} & B_{22} \end{pmatrix}. \quad (4.10)$$

Equation (4.10) corresponds to the four equations

$$C_{11} = A_{11} \cdot B_{11} + A_{12} \cdot B_{21}, \quad (4.11)$$

$$C_{12} = A_{11} \cdot B_{12} + A_{12} \cdot B_{22}, \quad (4.12)$$

$$C_{21} = A_{21} \cdot B_{11} + A_{22} \cdot B_{21}, \quad (4.13)$$

$$C_{22} = A_{21} \cdot B_{12} + A_{22} \cdot B_{22}. \quad (4.14)$$

## Matrices simple algorithm

```
1   $n = A.rows$ 
2  let  $C$  be a new  $n \times n$  matrix
3  if  $n == 1$ 
4       $c_{11} = a_{11} \cdot b_{11}$ 
5  else partition  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  as in equations (4.9)
6       $C_{11} = \text{SQUARE-MATRIX-MULTIPLY-RECURSIVE}(A_{11}, B_{11})$ 
            $+ \text{SQUARE-MATRIX-MULTIPLY-RECURSIVE}(A_{12}, B_{21})$ 
7       $C_{12} = \text{SQUARE-MATRIX-MULTIPLY-RECURSIVE}(A_{11}, B_{12})$ 
            $+ \text{SQUARE-MATRIX-MULTIPLY-RECURSIVE}(A_{12}, B_{22})$ 
8       $C_{21} = \text{SQUARE-MATRIX-MULTIPLY-RECURSIVE}(A_{21}, B_{11})$ 
            $+ \text{SQUARE-MATRIX-MULTIPLY-RECURSIVE}(A_{22}, B_{21})$ 
9       $C_{22} = \text{SQUARE-MATRIX-MULTIPLY-RECURSIVE}(A_{21}, B_{12})$ 
            $+ \text{SQUARE-MATRIX-MULTIPLY-RECURSIVE}(A_{22}, B_{22})$ 
```

# Running time

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} \Theta(1) & \text{if } n = 1, \\ 8T(n/2) + \Theta(n^2) & \text{if } n > 1. \end{cases} \quad (4.17)$$

From master methods:

$$T(n) = \Theta(n^3).$$

# Reference

- MIT open courseware, Introduction to Algorithms, 2005.
- Cormen, Lieserson and Rivest, Introduction to Algorithms, Third Edition, MIT Press, 2009.



**We are also going to look at  
Heapsort today.**