# COMP 251: Algorithms & Data Structures

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## 1 Overview of Graph Theory

#### 1.1 Definitions

A graph G=(V,E) is a set V of vertices (a.k.a. nodes) and a set E of edges (denoting vertex pairs). We set n=|V|, and m=|E|. A graph is said to be undirected when for any edge  $(u,v) \in E$  there exists an edge  $(v,u) \in E$  for some nodes u, and v. A graph is said to be directed if it is not undirected. In other words, the edge set of a directed graph consists of ordered pairs where the edge set of an undirected graph consists of unordered pairs.

A walk is a set of vertices  $\{v_0, v_1, \ldots, v_\ell\}$  such that  $(v_i, v_{i+1}) \in E$ ,  $\forall 0 \le i \le \ell$ . A walk where  $v_0 = v_\ell$  is said to be a *circuit* or a *closed walk*. A circuit where every edge in the graph is used exactly once is known as an *Eulerian circuit*. A *cycle* is a walk  $\{v_0, v_1, \ldots, v_\ell\}$  such that every vertex is distinct except  $v_0 = v_\ell$ . A cycle where every vertex of the graph is used exactly once is known as a *Hamiltonian cycle*. A walk where every vertex is distinct is said to be a *path*.

A graph is said to be *connected* if for each  $u, v \in V$  there exists a walk from u to v. A graph is said to be *disconnected* id it is not connected. Each connected subgraph of a graph is called a *component*. A connected graph therefore has exactly one component.

A connected component with no cycles is called a *tree*. A graph whose components are all trees is said to be a *forrest*. A tree is said to be *spanning* if it contains every vertex in the graph. A vertex in a tree with at most one neighbour is called a *leaf*.

A matching is a set of vertex-disjoint edges i.e. each edge is incident to at most one other edge in a matching. A matching is said to be *perfect* if every vertex is incident to exactly one edge in the matching.

A *clique* is a set of pairwise adjacent vertices. In *independent set* (a.k.a. a *stable set*) is set of pairwise non-adjacent vertices.

A bipartite graph is a graph such that the vertex set V can be partitioned as  $V = X \cup Y$  where each edge has one node in X and the other node in Y. Note that X and Y are necessarily independent sets.

## 1.2 Some Theorems for Undirected Graphs

**Theorem:** (Handshaking Lemma) Let G = (V, E) be an undirected graph, let  $\Gamma(v) := \{u : (u, v) \in E\}$  be the set of neighbours of a node v, and let the degree  $\deg(v)$  of a vertex v equal the cardinality of  $\Gamma(v)$ . Then there are an even number of vertices with odd degree.

**Proof:** First note that since we're double-counting the number of pairs where

(v,e) is an edge incident to v

$$2 \cdot |E| = \sum_{v \in V} \deg(v)$$

Since the degree of a vertex is either even or odd, we can partition V into a set of odd-degree vertices  $\mathcal{O}$ , and a set of even-degree vertices  $\mathcal{E}$ . This gives us

$$\sum_{v \in V} \deg(v) = \sum_{v \in \mathcal{O}} \deg(v) + \sum_{v \in \mathcal{E}} \deg(v)$$

which implies

$$\sum_{v \in \mathcal{O}} \deg(v) = 2 \cdot |E| - \sum_{v \in \mathcal{E}} \deg(v)$$

since both the  $2\cdot |E|$  term is even (obvious) and the  $\sum_{v\in\mathcal{E}}\deg(v)$  term is even

(sum of even numbers) then the  $\sum_{v \in \mathcal{O}} \deg(v)$  term must also be even.

**Theorem:** (Euler's Theorem) If G is an undirected graph then G contains an Eulerian circuit if and only if every vertex has even degree.

**Proof:** Easy proof by induction

**Lemma:** A tree T with  $n \geq 2$  vertices has at least one leaf vertex.

**Proof:** Trees are connected so there exists no vertices with degree 0 when  $n \geq 2$ . Suppose each vertex has degree of at least 2. Then consider the longest path  $P \subseteq T$ ,  $P = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{\ell-1}, v_\ell\}$ . Since  $\deg(v_\ell) \geq 2$ ,  $\exists$  a neighbour (of  $v_\ell$ )  $x \in P$  with  $x \neq v_{\ell-1}$ . If  $x = v_{\ell+1}$  then P is not the longest path, a contradiction. Therefore, for P to be the longest path, x must be somewhere else in P, but this creates a cycle, another contradiction. Thus there must exist at least one node v such that  $0 < \deg(v) < 2$  – a leaf.

**Theorem:** A tree with n vertices has exactly n-1 edges.

**Proof:** Simple proof by induction.

Base case: A tree with one vertex trivially has 0 edges.

Induction Hypothesis: Assume any tree with n-1 vertices has n-2 edges. Inductive Step: Take a tree with  $n \geq 2$  vertices. By the previous lemma this tree contains a leaf vertex v. This implies that  $T \setminus \{v\}$  is a tree with n-1 vertices and by the induction hypothesis  $T \setminus \{v\}$  is a tree with n-2 edges, which implies that T is a tree with n-1 edges.

**Theorem:** (Hall's Theorem) Let  $G = (X \cup Y, E)$  with |X| = |Y| be a bipartite graph. G contains a perfect matching if and only if  $\forall B \subseteq X$ ,  $|\Gamma(B)| \ge |B|$  (Hall's condition).

**Proof:** Firstly, the  $(\Rightarrow)$  direction is fairly obvious. If  $B \subseteq X$  with  $\Gamma(B) < |B|$  then the graph can't have a perfect matching. The  $(\Leftarrow)$  direction is a bit trickier. Suppose Hall's condition is satisfied. Then, take the maximum cardinality

matching M is the graph. If M is perfect then we are done. Otherwise there must exist an unmached vertex  $b_0$ .

- Since Hall's condition holds, we have  $|\Gamma(\{b_0\})| \ge |\{b_0\}| = 1$  so  $b_0$  must have at least one neighbour  $s_0$ .
- Suppose  $s_0$  is matched in M to  $b_1$ .
- Since Hall's condition holds, we have  $|\Gamma(\{b_0, b_1\})| \ge |\{b_0, b_1\}| = 2$  so  $\{b_0, b_1\}$  must have at least one neighbour  $s_1 \ne s_0$ .
- Suppose  $s_1$  is matched in M to  $b_2$ .
- Since Hall's condition holds, we have  $|\Gamma(\{b_0, b_1, b_2\})| \ge |\{b_0, b_1, b_2\}| = 3$  so  $\{b_0, b_1, b_2\}$  must have at least one neighbour  $s_2 \notin \{s_0, s_1\}$ .

• ...

we repeat this argument as long as we can. Since the graph contains a finite number of vertices this process must terminate, but it can only terminate when we reach an unmatched node  $s_k$ . Using the edges we've formed in M we can create a path P from  $b_0$  to  $s_k$  that alternates between using non-matching edges and using matching edges. Swapping the matching edges with the non-matching edges gives us one more matching edge (as we have an odd number of edges.) This is still a valid matching as the internal nodes of P are still incident to exactly one matching edge. Also, the end nodes,  $b_0$  and  $s_k$  were previously unmatched but are now incident to exactly one edge in the new matching. Thus M isn't the maximum capacity matching – a contradiction.

## 1.3 """Data Structures""" for Representing Graphs

#### 1.3.1 Adjacency Matrices

For a graph, an adjacency matrix M is a matrix suxh that

- 1. There is a row for each vertex
- 2. There is a column for each vertex

3. The 
$$ij-th$$
 entry is defined as  $M_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1, (i,j) \in E \\ 0, (i,j) \notin E \end{cases}$ 

Note that in an undirected graph the matric is symmetric around the diagonal because  $(i, j) \equiv (j, i)$ . Of course this is not necessarily true of directed graphs.

#### 1.3.2 Adjacency Lists

An adjacency list of an undirected graph is such that for each vertex v of V we store a list of its neighbours. For a directed graph we have two lists: one in which we store the in-neighbours of v and one in which we store the out-neighbours of v.

### 1.3.3 Adjacency Matrices vs. Adjacency Lists

The main difference between the two is the amount of storage required to implement them.

- An adjacency matrix requires we store  $\Theta(n^2)$  numbers
- An adjacency list requires we store  $\Theta(m)$  numbers

In any graph  $m = O(n^2)$ . This means that for a sparse graph adjacency lists are highly favourable in terms of space complexity.

Verifying whether an edge exists, however, is much faster in an adjacency matrix – when using the array representation of a matrix it takes O(1) time, where verifying the existance of an edge takes  $O(\log n)$  time for an ordered adjacency list (using binary search), and O(n) time if the adjacency list is not ordered (using sequential search).

## 2 Divide & Conquer

A  $divide\ and\ conquer\ algorithm$  ideally breaks up a problem of size n into smaller sub-problems such that:

- ullet There are exactly a sub-problems
- Each sub-problem has a size of at most  $\frac{1}{b} \cdot n$
- Once solved, the solutions to the sub-problems must be combined in  $O(n^d)$  time to produce a solution to the original problem

Therefore the time-complexity of a divide and conquer algorithm satisfies a recurrence relation given by

$$T(n) = a \cdot T\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) + O(n^d)$$

#### 2.0.1 The Master Theorem

Lemma 1:  $\sum_{k=0}^{\ell} \tau^k = \frac{1-\tau^{\ell+1}}{1-\tau}$ , for any  $\tau \neq 1$ .

**Proof:** 

$$(1 - \tau) \sum_{k=0}^{\ell} \tau^k = \sum_{k=0}^{\ell} \tau^k - \sum_{k=1}^{\ell+1} \tau^k$$
$$= \tau^0 - \tau^{\ell+1}$$
$$= 1 - \tau^{\ell+1}$$
$$\sum_{k=0}^{\ell} \tau^k = \frac{1 - \tau^{\ell+1}}{1 - \tau}$$

**Lemma 2:**  $x^{\log_b y} = y^{\log_b x}$  for any base  $b \in \mathbb{R}$ .

**Proof:** From the power rule of logarithms we have

$$\log_b x \cdot \log_b y = \log_b \left( y^{\log_b x} \right)$$

similarily, we have

$$\log_b x \cdot \log_b y = \log_b \left( x^{\log_b y} \right)$$

therefore

$$\log_b\left(x^{\log_b y}\right) = \log_b\left(y^{\log_b x}\right)$$

thus

$$x^{\log_b y} = y^{\log_b x}$$

Theorem: (The Master Theorem) If a recurrence relation is of the form  $T(n) = a \cdot T\left(\frac{n}{b}\right) + O(n^d)$ , for constants a > 0, b > 1, and  $d \ge 0$ , then

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} O(n^d) & \text{, if } a < b^d \text{ [Case I]} \\ O(n^d \cdot \log n) & \text{, if } a = b^d \text{ [Case II]} \\ O(n^{\log_b a}) & \text{, if } a > b^d \text{ [Case III]} \end{cases}$$

**Proof:** By adding dummy numbers, we may assume that n is a power of b, i.e.  $n=b^{\ell}$ , for some  $\ell \in \mathbb{N}_0$ . Then

$$T(n) = n^d + a\left(\frac{n}{b}\right)^d + a^2\left(\frac{n}{b^2}\right)^d + \dots + a^\ell\left(\frac{n}{b^\ell}\right)^d$$

simlifying, we get

$$T(n) = n^d \left( 1 + \frac{a}{b^d} + \left( \frac{a}{b^d} \right)^2 + \dots + \left( \frac{a}{b^d} \right)^\ell \right)$$

we now have three cases:

Case I:  $\frac{a}{b^d} < 1$ Set  $\tau := \frac{a}{b^d}$  then we have

$$T(n) = n^d \sum_{k=0}^{\ell} \tau^k$$

applying lemma 1 we get

$$T(n) = n^d \left(\frac{1 - \tau^{\ell+1}}{1 - \tau}\right) \le n^d \left(\frac{1}{1 - \tau}\right)$$

but  $\frac{1}{1-\tau}$  is a constant so  $T(n) \le n^d$  and thus

$$T(n) = O(n^d)$$

Case II:  $\frac{a}{b^d} = 1$ Then we have that

$$T(n) = n^d (1 + 1 + 1^2 + \dots + 1^\ell) = n^d (\ell + 1)$$

but  $n = b^{\ell} \Rightarrow \ell = \log_b n$ , thus

$$T(n) = O(n^d \cdot \log n)$$

Case III: 
$$\frac{a}{b^d} > 1$$
  
Set  $\tau := \frac{a}{b^d}$  then we have

$$T(n) = n^d \sum_{k=0}^{\ell} \tau^k$$

applying lemma 1 we get

$$T(n) = n^d \left( \frac{\tau^{\ell+1} - 1}{\tau - 1} \right) \le n^d \left( \frac{\tau^{\ell+1}}{\tau - 1} \right)$$

but since  $\tau - 1$  is a constant we get

$$\begin{split} T(n) &= n^d O(\tau^{\ell+1}) \\ &= O(n^d \tau^{\ell+1}) \\ &= O(n^d \tau^\ell) \\ &= O\left(\left(\frac{a}{b^d}\right)^\ell n^d\right) \\ &= O\left(\left(\frac{n}{b^\ell}\right)^d a^\ell\right) \end{split}$$

but  $n = b^{\ell}$  so

$$T(n) = O(a^{\ell})$$

and  $\ell = \log_b a$  so

$$T(n) = O(a^{\log_b n})$$

and applying lemma 2 gives

$$T(n) = O(n^{\log_b a})$$

This completes the proof.

#### 2.1 MergeSort

MergeSort is an algorithm to sort n numbers into non-decreasing order.

```
\begin{aligned} \operatorname{MergeSort}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \\ & \text{if } n = 1 \\ & \text{return } x_1 \\ & \text{else} \\ & \text{return Merge}(\operatorname{MergeSort}(x_1, \dots, x_{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor}), \operatorname{MergeSort}(x_{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 1}, \dots, x_n)) \end{aligned}
```

Where the Merge function is a linear time algorithm combining two sorted lists (by comparing the first element in each list and moving the smaller element of the two into our new list.)

#### MergeSort is correct!

- It calls itself on smaller instances until the division process terminates when it reaches a base case where each list has size 1
- MergeSort works trivially on the base cases
- This sort of strong induction-type proof works for just about all divide and conquer algorithms

#### MergeSort is efficient!

• The recurrence relation that we can construct to model the running time of MergeSort is given by

$$T(n) = 2 \cdot T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + O(n)$$

as we break the problem into two sub-problems of size  $\frac{n}{2}$ , plus a linear time sub-routine to combine the solutions (Merge.)

- This recurrence relation is in the proper form to use the Master Theorem and indeed we're in its Case II.
- By the master theorem the running time of MergeSort is  $O(n \cdot \log n)$ .
- The running time can also be proved by unwinding the recurrence.

#### 2.2 Binary Search

BInary Search is an algorithm to search for whether a key k exists in a given sorted list.

```
BinarySearch(a_1, a_2, a_n; k)

while n > 0

if a_{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor} = k

return true

if a_{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor} > k

return BinarySearch(a_1, \dots, a_{\lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil - 1}; k)

if a_{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor} < k

return BinarySearch(a_{\lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil + 1}, \dots, a_n; k)

return false
```

#### Binary Search works!

• It works for the same strong induction argument as MergeSort

#### Binary Search is efficient!

• The recurrence relation that we can construct to model the running time of Binary Search is given by

$$T(n) = T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + O(1)$$

as we break the problem into one sub-problem of size  $\frac{n}{2}$ .

- This recurrence relation is case II of the master theorem.
- By the master theorem the running time of MergeSort is  $O(\log n)$ .
- Again, the running time can also be proved by unwinding the recurrence.

### 2.3 Fast Multiplication

In COMP 250 we found an  $O(n^2)$  algorithm to multiply 2 n-digit numbers (in any base). Let's try to do better using divide and conquer. Consider the example:

Let 
$$\mathbf{x} := x_n x_{n-1} \dots x_{\frac{n}{2}+1} x_{\frac{n}{2}} \dots x_2 x_1$$
  
Let  $\mathbf{y} := y_n y_{n-1} \dots y_{\frac{n}{2}+1} y_{\frac{n}{2}} \dots y_2 y_1$ 

Then 
$$\mathbf{x} = 10^{\frac{n}{2}}\mathbf{x}_L + \mathbf{x}_R$$
, where  $\mathbf{x}_L = x_n \dots x_{\frac{n}{2}+1}$ , and  $\mathbf{x}_R = x_{\frac{n}{2}} \dots x_1$   
Similarly  $\mathbf{y} = 10^{\frac{n}{2}}\mathbf{y}_L + \mathbf{y}_R$ , where  $\mathbf{y}_L = y_n \dots y_{\frac{n}{2}+1}$ , and  $\mathbf{y}_R = y_{\frac{n}{2}} \dots y_1$ 

Thus

$$\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{y} = (10^{\frac{n}{2}} \mathbf{x}_L + \mathbf{x}_R)(10^{\frac{n}{2}} \mathbf{y}_L + \mathbf{y}_R)$$
$$= 10^n \cdot \mathbf{x}_L \mathbf{y}_L + 10^{\frac{n}{2}} (\mathbf{x}_L \mathbf{y}_R + \mathbf{x}_R \mathbf{y}_L) + \mathbf{x}_R \mathbf{y}_R$$

So we've found a divide and conquer algorithm to multiply two n-digit numbers. Here we're breaking the problem down into four sub-problems of size  $\frac{n}{2}$ , with a few additions thrown in there (can be done in linear time). Therefore, the recurrence for this algorithm is given by

$$T(n) = 4 \cdot T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + O(n)$$

then, by the master theorem, the running time of this algorithm is  $O(n^2)$ . Hmmm. This isn't better. Well thanks to our good friend Carl "G-Money" Gauss, all is not lost. Gauss was studying the product of complex numbers

$$(a+bi)(c+di) = ac - bd + (bc + ad)i$$

which seemingly involved 4 multiplications, when he noticed that actually we can do it with only 3. Note that

$$(bc + ad) = (a+b)(c+d)$$

Now we can use this exact same trick but we'll replace the i with  $10^{\frac{n}{2}}$ . This gives

$$(\mathbf{x}_L\mathbf{y}_R + \mathbf{x}_R\mathbf{y}_L) = (\mathbf{x}_R + \mathbf{x}_L)(\mathbf{y}_R + \mathbf{y}_L) - \mathbf{x}_R\mathbf{y}_R - \mathbf{x}_L\mathbf{y}_L$$

So now we can break our problem into only 3 sub-problems! Our new recurrence is

 $T(n) = 3 \cdot T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + O(n)$ 

so finally, by the master theorem,  $T(n) = O(n^{\log_2 3}) \approx O(n^{1.59})$ 

## 2.4 Fast Matrix Multiplication

Let's try to efficiently multiply two  $n \times n$  matrices. Let

$$X := \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix}$$
, and  $Y := \begin{pmatrix} E & F \\ G & H \end{pmatrix}$ 

where X, and Y are two  $n \times n$  matrices and A, B, ... H are eight  $\frac{n}{2} \times \frac{n}{2}$  matrices. Then their product Z is given by

$$Z = \begin{pmatrix} AE + BG & AF + BH \\ CE + DG & CF + DH \end{pmatrix}$$

Therefore multiplying two  $n \times n$  matrices involves eight products of  $\frac{n}{2} \times \frac{n}{2}$  matrices, and  $n^2$  additions. Therefore the recurrence relation is given by

$$T(n) = 8 \cdot T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + O(n^2)$$

By the master theorem, this then takes  $O(n^3)$  time. That's ok but again, we can do better. To do better however, we need a little algebraic trick. To do this, we need to define 7 matrices,  $S_1, \ldots, S_7$  given by

$$S_1 = (B - D) \cdot (G + H)$$
  $S_2 = (A + D) \cdot (E + H)$   
 $S_3 = (A - C) \cdot (E + F)$   $S_4 = (A + B) \cdot H$   
 $S_5 = A \cdot (F - H)$   $S_6 = D \cdot (G - E)$   
 $S_7 = (C + D) \cdot E$ 

then the product of X, and Y is given by

$$Z = \begin{pmatrix} S_1 + S_2 - S_4 + S_6 & S_4 + S_5 \\ S_6 + S_7 & S_2 - S_3 + S_5 - S_7 \end{pmatrix}$$

This means that we only need to do 7 multiplications! Therefore our new recurrence is

 $T(n) = 7 \cdot T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + O(n^2)$ 

and thus by the master theorem  $T(n) = O(n^{\log_2 7}) \approx O(n^{2.81})$ 

### 2.5 Fast Exponentiation

Consider the following algorithm to quickly calculate  $x^n$ :

```
\begin{aligned} \operatorname{FastExp}(x,n) & \text{if } n = 1 \\ & \operatorname{return} \ x_1 \\ & \text{else if } n \text{ is even} \\ & \operatorname{return} \operatorname{FastExp}(x, \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor)^2 \\ & \text{else if } n \text{ is odd} \\ & \operatorname{return} \ x \cdot \operatorname{FastExp}(x, \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor)^2 \end{aligned}
```

Assuming that n is a power of two, we get that recurrence is given by

$$T(n) = T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + O(1)$$

and thus by the master theorem this algorithm has time complexity of  $O(\log n)$ .

#### 2.6 The Selection Problem

Suppose we're given a list of number and we want to find the  $k^{th}$  smallest number in that list. We can use the following divide and conquer algorithm:

```
\begin{aligned} \operatorname{Select}(\mathcal{S}, k) & \text{if } |\mathcal{S}| = 1 \\ & \operatorname{return} \ x_1 \\ & \text{else} \end{aligned} \operatorname{set} \ \mathcal{S}_L := \left\{ x_i \in \mathcal{S} : x_i < x_1 \right\} \\ & \text{set } \ \mathcal{S}_R := \left\{ x_i \in \mathcal{S} : x_i \geq x_1 \right\} \end{aligned} \operatorname{if} \ |\mathcal{S}_L| = k - 1 \\ & \operatorname{return} \ x_1 \\ & \text{else if } \ |\mathcal{S}_L| > k - 1 \\ & \operatorname{return} \ \operatorname{Select}(\mathcal{S}_L, k) \\ & \text{else if } \ |\mathcal{S}_L| < k - 1 \\ & \operatorname{return} \ \operatorname{Select}(\mathcal{S}_R, k - 1 - |\mathcal{S}_L|) \end{aligned}
```

Well.. this actually sucks because it runs in  $\Omega(n^2)$  time. Note that it would actually be faster to just sort the list and then pull the  $k^{th}$  element (this can of course be done in  $O(n \cdot \log n)$  time.) One idea that we can exploit to improve this is to use a random pivot rather than deterministically selecting  $x_1$  as a pivot.

We will define a good pivot to be such neither  $S_L$ , nor  $S_R$  contain more than  $\frac{3}{4}$  of

S, and a *bad pivot* to be otherwise. Note that by this definition the probability that a pivot will be either good or bad (respectively) is 0.5.

For randomized algorithms we're always interested in the *expected runtime* of the algorithm rather than the worst case runtime. The recurrence relation,  $\bar{T}(n)$ , for the expected runtime for the randomized version of the selection is then given by

 $\bar{T}(n) \le \frac{1}{2} \cdot \bar{T}\left(\frac{3n}{4}\right) + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \bar{T}(n) + O(n)$ 

where the  $\frac{1}{2} \cdot \bar{T}\left(\frac{3n}{4}\right)$  term represents the recursive call given a good pivot, and the  $\frac{1}{2} \cdot \bar{T}(n)$  term represents the recursive call on a bad pivot. It's less than or equal to because we will only ever use one of those terms at once but not both. We can clean this recurrence up a bit to find the expected runtime.

$$\bar{T}(n) \le \frac{1}{2} \cdot \bar{T}\left(\frac{3n}{4}\right) + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \bar{T}(n) + O(n)$$
$$\frac{1}{2} \cdot \bar{T}(n) \le \frac{1}{2} \cdot \bar{T}\left(\frac{3n}{4}\right) + O(n)$$
$$\bar{T}(n) \le \bar{T}\left(\frac{3n}{4}\right) + O(n)$$

Applying the master theorem to that recurrence gives  $\bar{T}(n) = O(n)$ 

This is good but let's try to do better, i.e. let's see if we can find a deterministic linear time algorithm. It turns out we can but it requires a little trick called the *median of medians*.

It's best to illustrate this concept with an example. Suppose we have a list,  $S = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$ , from which we want to find the median of medians. To do this we partition the list into  $\left\lceil \frac{n}{5} \right\rceil$  groups of cardinality 5. Denote each such group by  $G_1, \dots, G_{\left\lceil \frac{n}{5} \right\rceil}$  Then we'll sort each group and let  $z_i$  be the median of each group  $G_i$ . Let m be the median of the set  $\mathcal{Z} = \{z_1, \dots, z_{\left\lceil \frac{n}{5} \right\rceil}\}$ . Predictably, we call m the median of medians. This is significant because m will always be a good pivot. This is because there will always be at least  $\frac{3n}{10} - 1$  numbers in S less than m, and  $\frac{3n}{10} - 1$  numbers in S at least as large as m. Therefore  $|S_R| \leq \frac{7n}{10}$ , and  $|S_L| \leq \frac{7n}{10}$ .

Now that we have a deterministic way to guarntee we have a good pivot, all that's left is to bake it into a selection algorithm. Luckily, our algorithm won't vary too much since all we have to do is add a few steps at the beginning.

```
DetSelect(S, k)
        if |\mathcal{S}| = 1
                 return x_1
         else
                 partition S into \lceil \frac{n}{5} \rceil groups of 5
                 for j in range (1, \lceil \frac{n}{5} \rceil)
                        let z_j be the median of the group G_j.
                let \mathcal{Z} = \{z_1, \dots, z_{\lceil \frac{n}{5} \rceil}\}
                 \operatorname{set} m := \operatorname{DetSelect}(\mathcal{Z}, \lceil \frac{n}{10} \rceil)
                set S_L := \{x_i \in S : x_i < m\}
set S_R := \{x_i \in S : x_i \ge m\}
                 if |\mathcal{S}_L| = k - 1
                        return m
                 if |\mathcal{S}_L| > k-1
                        return DetSelect(S_L, k)
                 if |\mathcal{S}_L| < k-1
                        return DetSelect(S_R, k-1-|S_L|)
```

The recursive formula for the running time of this algorithm is

$$T(n) \le T\left(\frac{7n}{10}\right) + T\left(\frac{n}{5}\right) + O(n)$$

where the  $T\left(\frac{n}{5}\right)$  term is the time to find the median of medians, the  $T\left(\frac{7n}{10}\right)$  term is pivoting based on the median of medians. Unfortunately, this doesn't work with the master theorem and we can't simplify it down to a form that does (unlike with the randomized algorithm, we need both of the  $T(\dots)$  terms.) Since it doesn't work with the master theorem, we need to use the recusion tree method. From the recursion tree method, T(n) = O(n). So there it is.. a linear time deterministic algorithm to select the  $k^{th}$  smallest element from a list!

#### 2.7 The Closest Pair of Points in a Plane

3 Graph Algorithms

4 Greedy Algorithms

5 Dynamic Programming

## 6 Network Flows

## 7 Data Structures