

Lecture 7: Linear-Time Sorting

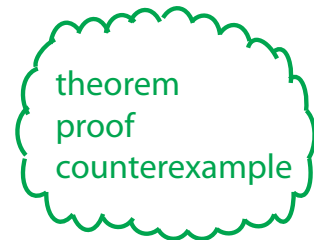
Lecture Overview

- Comparison model
- Lower bounds
 - searching: $\Omega(\lg n)$
 - sorting: $\Omega(n \lg n)$
- $O(n)$ sorting algorithms for small integers
 - counting sort
 - radix sort

Lower Bounds

Claim

- searching among n preprocessed items requires $\Omega(\lg n)$ time
 \implies binary search, AVL tree search optimal
- sorting n items requires $\Omega(n \lg n)$
 \implies mergesort, heap sort, AVL sort optimal



...in the comparison model

Comparison Model of Computation

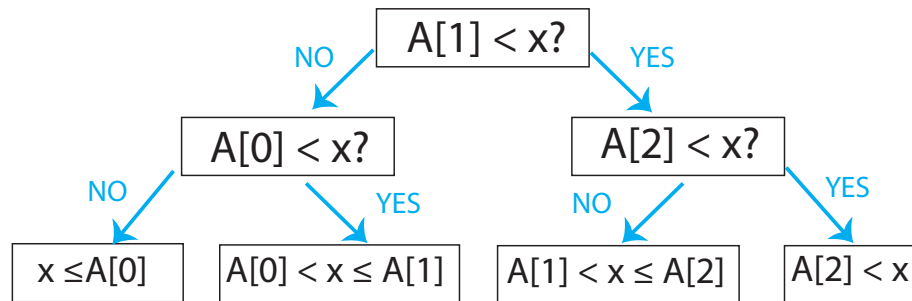
- input items are black boxes (ADTs)
- only support comparisons ($<$, $>$, \leq , etc.)
- time cost = # comparisons

Decision Tree

Any comparison algorithm can be viewed/specified as a tree of all possible comparison outcomes & resulting output, for a particular n :

- example, binary search for $n = 3$:

| A[0] | A[1] | A[2] |



Decision Tree Algorithm

- internal node = binary decision (comparison)
- leaf = output (algorithm is done) found answer
- root-to-leaf path = algorithm execution
- path length (depth) = running time
- height of tree = worst-case running time
= Deepest leaf (longest route of root to leaf)

In fact, binary decision tree model is more powerful than comparison model, and lower bounds extend to it

Search Lower Bound

- # leaves \geq # possible answers $\geq n$ (at least 1 per $A[i]$)
- decision tree is binary
- \Rightarrow height $\geq \lg \Theta(n) = \lg n \pm \Theta(1)$

Tree height worst case running time $\lg \Theta(1)$

Sorting Lower Bound

- leaf specifies answer as permutation: $A[3] \leq A[1] \leq A[9] \leq \dots$
- all $n!$ are possible answers

1) Decision Tree Binary

2) (Leaf : 가 ?

, 가 n!)

$n \lg(n)$!

- # leaves $\geq n!$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Rightarrow \text{height} &\geq \lg n! \\
 &= \lg(1 \cdot 2 \cdots (n-1) \cdot n) \\
 &= \lg 1 + \lg 2 + \cdots + \lg(n-1) + \lg n \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^n \lg i \\
 &\geq \sum_{i=n/2}^n \lg i = (\lg(n/2) + \lg(n/2+1) + \lg(n/2+2) + \dots) \\
 &\geq \sum_{i=n/2}^n \underbrace{\lg \frac{n}{2}}_{=\lg n - 1} \\
 &= \frac{n}{2} \lg n - \frac{n}{2} = \Omega(n \lg n)
 \end{aligned}$$

- in fact $\lg n! = n \lg n - O(n)$ via [Sterling's Formula](#):

$$n! \sim \sqrt{2\pi n} \left(\frac{n}{e}\right)^n \Rightarrow \lg n! \sim n \lg n - \underbrace{(\lg e)n + \frac{1}{2} \lg n + \frac{1}{2} \lg(2\pi)}_{O(n)}$$

Comparison Model ! RAM : linear time

Linear-time Sorting

If n keys are integers (fitting in a word) $\in 0, 1, \dots, k-1$, can do more than compare them

- \Rightarrow lower bounds don't apply
 - if $k = n^{O(1)}$, can sort in $O(n)$ time
 - OPEN: $O(n)$ time possible for all k ?
- 1) n is integer
 - 2) (non-negative)
 - 3) word =
 - 4)

For not too big k , can sort in linear time! :

counting sort radix sort!

Counting Sort

key, n 가 ...?

L = array of k empty lists
— linked or Python lists

for j in range n :
original counting sort $L[\text{key}(A[j])].\text{append}(A[j]) \rightarrow O(1)$
random access using integer key

list, output = []
for i in range k :
output.extend($L[i]$) $O(|L| + 1)$

$O(k)$
 $O(n)$
 $O(\sum_i (1 + |L[i]|)) = O(k + n)$

<original counting sort>
e.g.,) 3 5 7 5 5 3 6
(3,3) (5,5,5) (6) (7)

1) (= k)
2) 가

Time: $\Theta(n + k)$ — also $\Theta(n + k)$ space $k \geq n$ linear time $k \geq n$

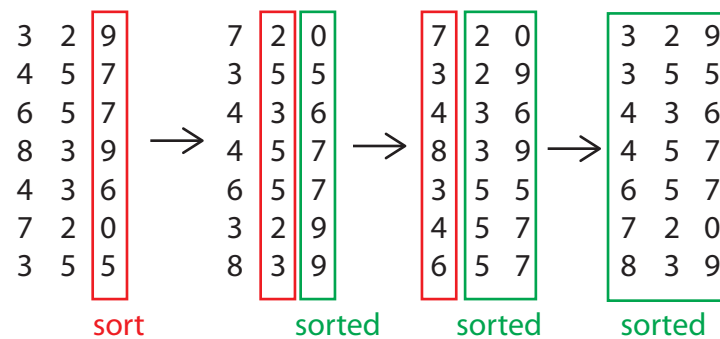
Intuition: Count key occurrences using RAM output <count> copies of each key in order ... but item is more than just a key

CLRS has cooler implementation of counting sort with counters, no lists — but time bound is the same

Radix Sort

- imagine each integer in base b integer column $- b$
 $\Rightarrow d = \log_b k$ digits $\in \{0, 1, \dots, b - 1\}$ maximum $k \geq n$, #digit = $\log_b(k)$
- sort (all n items) by least significant digit \rightarrow can extract in $O(1)$ time
 mod divide constant time
- ... d
- sort by most significant digit \rightarrow can extract in $O(1)$ time
 sort must be stable: preserve relative order of items with the same key
 \Rightarrow don't mess up previous sorting

For example:



- use counting sort for digit sort
 normal: $n + k$, $k \geq 0 \sim b - 1$
 $\Rightarrow \Theta(n + b)$ per digit
 $\Rightarrow \Theta((n + b)d) = \Theta((n + b) \log_b k)$ total time
 minimized when $b = n$ (b , n)
 $\Rightarrow \Theta(n \log_n k)$
 $= O(nc)$ if $k \leq n^c$

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