

# Lecture 04

## Divide and Conquer (quicksort)

CSE373: Design and Analysis of Algorithms

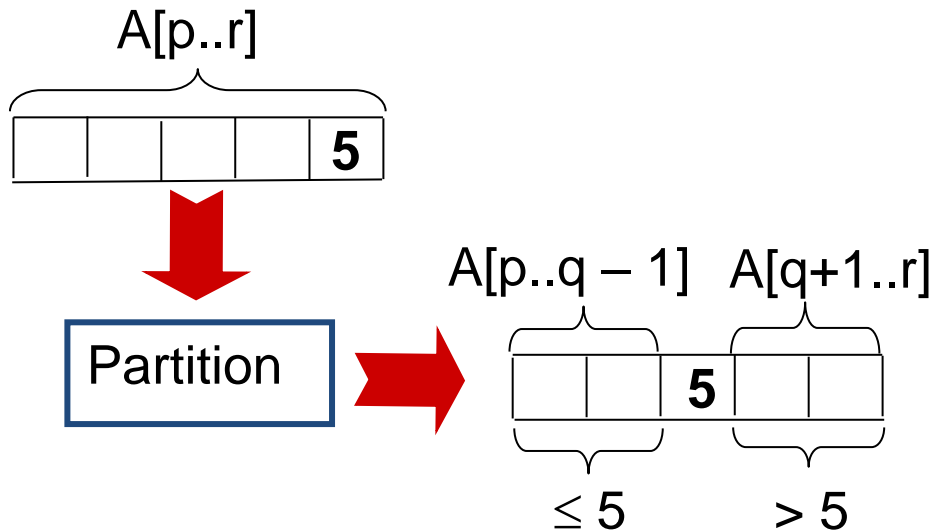
# Quicksort (Chapter 7)

- Follows the **divide-and-conquer** paradigm.
- **Divide: Partition** (separate) the array  $A[p..r]$  into two (possibly empty) subarrays  $A[p..q-1]$  and  $A[q+1..r]$ .
  - Each element in  $A[p..q-1] \leq A[q]$ .
  - $A[q] <$  each element in  $A[q+1..r]$ .
  - Index  $q$  is computed as part of the partitioning procedure.
- **Conquer:** Sort the two subarrays by recursive calls to quicksort.
- **Combine:** The subarrays are sorted in place – no work is needed to combine them.
- How do the divide and combine steps of quicksort compare with those of merge sort?

# Pseudocode

**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(A, p, r)**

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

# Example

**initially:**

p  
2 5 8 3 9 4 1 7 10 6  
i j r

**note:** pivot (x) = 6

**next iteration:**

2 5 8 3 9 4 1 7 10 6  
i j

**next iteration:**

2 5 8 3 9 4 1 7 10 6  
i j

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7. exchange  $A[i + 1]$  with  $A[r]$
8. **return**  $i + 1$

# Example (Continued)

next iteration:      2 5 3 8 9 4 1 7 10 6  
                         i      j

next iteration:      2 5 3 8 9 4 1 7 10 6  
                         i      j

next iteration:      2 5 3 4 9 8 1 7 10 6  
                         i      j

next iteration:      2 5 3 4 1 8 9 7 10 6  
                         i      j

next iteration:      2 5 3 4 1 8 9 7 10 6  
                         i      j

next iteration:      2 5 3 4 1 8 9 7 10 6  
                         i      j

after final swap:      2 5 3 4 1 6 9 7 10 8  
                         i      j

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**  $i + 1$

# Partitioning

- Select the **last element**  $A[r]$  in the subarray  $A[p..r]$  as the **pivot** – the element around which to partition.
- As the procedure executes, the array is partitioned into four (possibly empty) regions.
  1.  $A[p..i]$  — All entries in this region are  $\leq$  **pivot**.
  2.  $A[i+1..j-1]$  — All entries in this region are  $>$  **pivot**.
  3.  $A[r] = \text{pivot}$ .
  4.  $A[j..r-1]$  — Not known how they compare to **pivot**.

# Complexity of Partition

- $\text{PartitionTime}(n)$  is given by the number of iterations in the *for* loop.
- $\Theta(n) : n = r - p + 1$ .

PARTITION(A, p, r)

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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**  $i + 1$

# Algorithm Performance

Running time of quicksort depends on whether the partitioning is balanced or not.

- Best case: occurs when the recursion tree is always balanced
- Worst case: occurs when the recursion tree is always unbalanced
- Average case: computed by using expected value of running time assuming that the pivot elements are randomly distributed

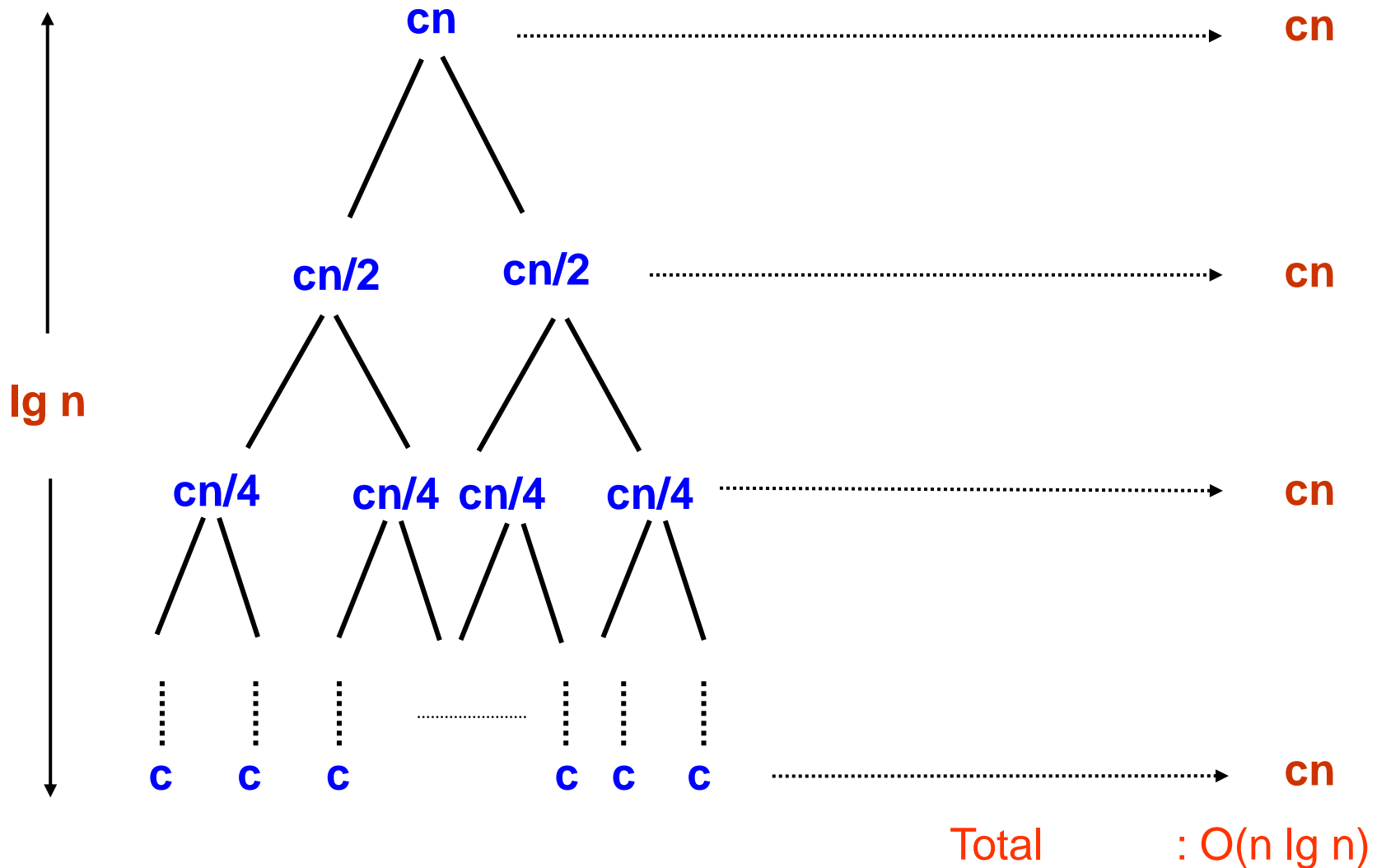


# Best-case Partitioning

- Size of each subproblem  $\approx n/2$ .
- Recurrence for running time
  - $T(n) \leq 2T(n/2) + \text{PartitionTime}(n)$   
 $= 2T(n/2) + \Theta(n)$ , just like MergeSort
- **$T(n) = \Theta(n \lg n)$ , like MergeSort**

```
QUICKSORT(A, p, r) //initial call: QuickSort(A,1,n) .... Takes T(n) time (let)
1.  if p < r then .....  $\Theta(1)$ 
2.      q = PARTITION(A, p, r); .....  $\Theta(n)$ 
3.      QUICKSORT (A, p, q - 1); .....  $T(n/2)$ 
4.      QUICKSORT (A, q + 1, r); .....  $T(n/2)$ 
```

# Recursion Tree for Best-case Partition



# Worst-case of quicksort

- **Worst-Case Partitioning (Unbalanced Partitions):**
  - Occurs when every call to partition results in the most unbalanced partition.
  - Partition is most unbalanced when
    - Subproblem 1 is of size  $n - 1$ , and subproblem 2 is of size 0 or vice versa.
    - $pivot \geq$  every element in  $A[p..r - 1]$  or  $pivot <$  every element in  $A[p..r - 1]$ .
  - Every call to partition is most unbalanced when
    - **Array  $A[1..n]$  is sorted or reverse sorted!**
    - One side of partition always has one element.

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

# Expected Running time of QuickSort

- We can show that the expected running time of QuickSort is  $O(n \lg n)$ , same as that of MergeSort.
- So, even though, the worst case running time of QuickSort is worse than that of MergeSort, its Average running time is comparable to that of MergeSort.
- For the sake of simplicity, we omit the mathematical details of the calculation of expected running time of QuickSort.
- In practice, QuickSort is much faster than MergeSort

# Randomized quicksort

How can we **ENSURE** that each element of A are equally likely to be the pivot?

**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 behavior.
- The worst case is determined only by the output of a random-number generator.

# Randomized quicksort

## Standard Problematic Algorithm :

QUICKSORT( $A, p, r$ )

**if**  $p < r$

**then**  $q \leftarrow \text{PARTITION}(A, p, r)$

      QUICKSORT( $A, p, q-1$ )

      QUICKSORT( $A, q+1, r$ )

**Initial call:** QUICKSORT( $A, 1, n$ )

# Randomized quicksort

RANDOMIZED-PARTITION ( $A, p, r$ )

- 1  $i \leftarrow \text{RANDOM}(p, r)$
- 2 exchange  $A[r] \leftrightarrow A[i]$
- 3 return PARTITION( $A, p, r$ )

RANDOMIZED-QUICKSORT ( $A, p, r$ )

- 1 if  $p < r$
- 2 then  $q \leftarrow \text{RANDOMIZED-PARTITION}(A, p, r)$   
RANDOMIZED-QUICKSORT ( $A, p, q-1$ )  
RANDOMIZED-QUICKSORT ( $A, q+1, r$ )

In practice, Randomized-QuickSort is much faster than QuickSort