

Faculty of Information Technology, Monash University

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

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FIT2004: Algorithms and Data Structures

Week 3: Quick Sort and its Analysis

These slides are prepared by [M. A. Cheema](#) and are based on the material developed by [Arun Konagurthu](#) and [Lloyd Allison](#).

Things to note/remember

- Assignment 1 due 23-Aug 23:59:00
- Assignment 2 released soon
 - Requires dynamic programming (taught in week 4) – don't miss the lecture
 - Deadline: 6-Sep-2019 23:59:00

Quick Sort and its Analysis

1. Algorithm and partitioning
2. Complexity Analysis
3. Improving Worst-case complexity
 - A. Quick Select
 - B. Quick Sort in $O(N \log N)$ worst-case

Quick Sort Idea

1. If list is length 1 or less, do nothing
2. Choose a pivot p
3. Put items $\leq p$ on the left, items $> p$ on the right
4. Quicksort the left and right parts of the list

Quicksort

- Choose a pivot p



Quicksort

- Choose a pivot p
- Partition the array in two sub-arrays w.r.t. p
 - LEFT \leftarrow elements smaller than or equal to p
 - RIGHT \leftarrow elements greater than p

2	8	7	1	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

2	1	3	4	8	7	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Pivot

X

In Sorted position

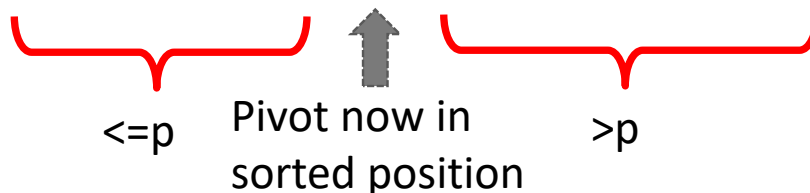
X

Others

X

Quicksort

- Choose a pivot p
- Partition the array in two sub-arrays w.r.t. p
 - LEFT \leftarrow elements smaller than or equal to p
 - RIGHT \leftarrow elements greater than p



Pivot X

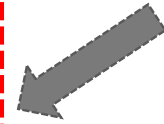
In Sorted position X

Others X

Quicksort

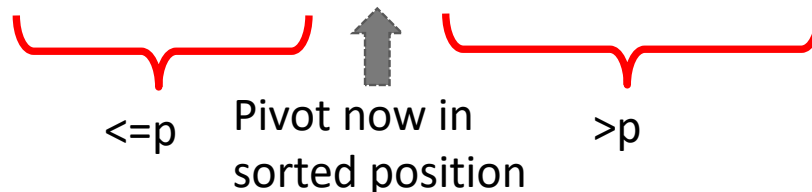
- Choose a pivot p
- Partition the array in two sub-arrays w.r.t. p
 - LEFT \leftarrow elements smaller than or equal to p
 - RIGHT \leftarrow elements greater than p

Partitioning



2	8	7	1	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

2	1	3	4	8	7	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



Pivot X

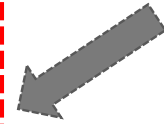
In Sorted position X

Others X

Quicksort

- Choose a pivot p
- Partition the array in two sub-arrays w.r.t. p
 - LEFT \leftarrow elements smaller than or equal to p
 - RIGHT \leftarrow elements greater than p
- Quicksort(LEFT)

Partitioning



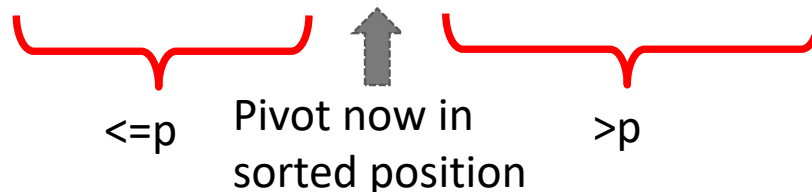
2	8	7	1	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Pivot X

2	1	3	4	8	7	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

In Sorted position X

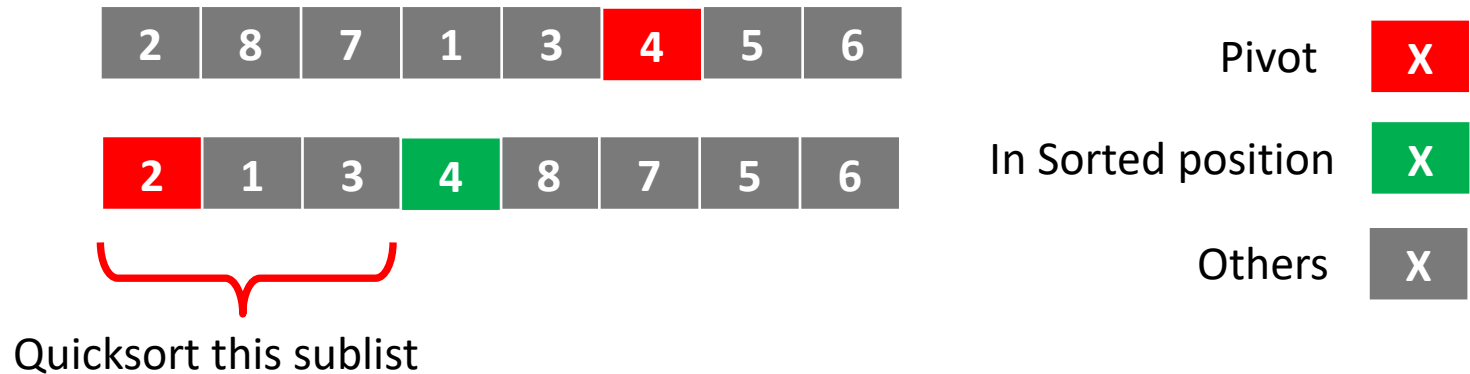
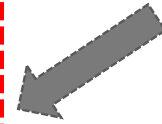
Others X



Quicksort

- Choose a pivot p
- Partition the array in two sub-arrays w.r.t. p
 - LEFT \leftarrow elements smaller than or equal to p
 - RIGHT \leftarrow elements greater than p
- Quicksort(LEFT)

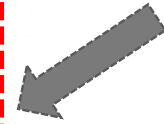
Partitioning



Quicksort

- Choose a pivot p
- Partition the array in two sub-arrays w.r.t. p
 - LEFT \leftarrow elements smaller than or equal to p
 - RIGHT \leftarrow elements greater than p
- Quicksort(LEFT)

Partitioning



2	8	7	1	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

1	2	3	4	8	7	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



Quicksort this sublist

Pivot

X

In Sorted position

X

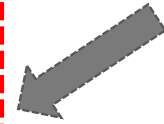
Others

X

Quicksort

- Choose a pivot p
- Partition the array in two sub-arrays w.r.t. p
 - LEFT \leftarrow elements smaller than or equal to p
 - RIGHT \leftarrow elements greater than p
- Quicksort(LEFT)

Partitioning



2	8	7	1	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

1	2	3	4	8	7	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



Quicksort this sublist

Pivot

X

In Sorted position

X

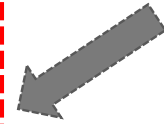
Others

X

Quicksort

- Choose a pivot p
- Partition the array in two sub-arrays w.r.t. p
 - LEFT \leftarrow elements smaller than or equal to p
 - RIGHT \leftarrow elements greater than p
- Quicksort(LEFT)

Partitioning



2	8	7	1	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

1	2	3	4	8	7	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Pivot

X

In Sorted position

X

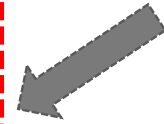
Others

X

Quicksort

- Choose a pivot p
- Partition the array in two sub-arrays w.r.t. p
 - LEFT \leftarrow elements smaller than or equal to p
 - RIGHT \leftarrow elements greater than p
- Quicksort(LEFT)
- Quicksort(RIGHT)

Partitioning



2	8	7	1	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

1	2	3	4	8	7	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



Quicksort this sublist

Pivot

X

In Sorted position

X

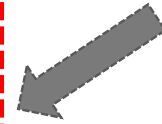
Others

X

Quicksort

- Choose a pivot p
- Partition the array in two sub-arrays w.r.t. p
 - LEFT \leftarrow elements smaller than or equal to p
 - RIGHT \leftarrow elements greater than p
- Quicksort(LEFT)
- Quicksort(RIGHT)

Partitioning



2	8	7	1	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

1	2	3	4	8	7	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Quicksort this sublist
(not shown in slides)

Pivot

X

In Sorted position

X

Others

X

Partitioning: An out-of-place version

- Initialize two lists LEFT and RIGHT
- For each element e (except pivot)
 - If $e \leq \text{pivot}$
 - ✦ Insert e in LEFT
 - If $e > \text{pivot}$
 - ✦ Insert e in RIGHT

2	8	7	1	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Partitioning: An out-of-place version

- Initialize two lists LEFT and RIGHT
- For each element e (except pivot)
 - If $e \leq \text{pivot}$
 - ✦ Insert e in LEFT
 - If $e > \text{pivot}$
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2	8	7	1	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

LEFT

RIGHT

Partitioning: An out-of-place version

- Initialize two lists LEFT and RIGHT
- For each element e (except pivot)
 - If $e \leq \text{pivot}$
 - ✦ Insert e in LEFT
 - If $e > \text{pivot}$
 - ✦ Insert e in RIGHT

2	8	7	1	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

LEFT

RIGHT

Partitioning: An out-of-place version

- Initialize two lists LEFT and RIGHT
- For each element e (except pivot)
 - If $e \leq \text{pivot}$
 - ✦ Insert e in LEFT
 - If $e > \text{pivot}$
 - ✦ Insert e in RIGHT



LEFT



RIGHT

Partitioning: An out-of-place version

- Initialize two lists LEFT and RIGHT
- For each element e (except pivot)
 - If $e \leq \text{pivot}$
 - ✦ Insert e in LEFT
 - If $e > \text{pivot}$
 - ✦ Insert e in RIGHT



LEFT



RIGHT

Partitioning: An out-of-place version

- Initialize two lists LEFT and RIGHT
- For each element e (except pivot)
 - If $e \leq \text{pivot}$
 - ✦ Insert e in LEFT
 - If $e > \text{pivot}$
 - ✦ Insert e in RIGHT



LEFT



RIGHT



Partitioning: An out-of-place version

- Initialize two lists LEFT and RIGHT
- For each element e (except pivot)
 - If $e \leq \text{pivot}$
 - ✦ Insert e in LEFT
 - If $e > \text{pivot}$
 - ✦ Insert e in RIGHT



LEFT



RIGHT



Partitioning: An out-of-place version

- Initialize two lists LEFT and RIGHT
- For each element e (except pivot)
 - If $e \leq \text{pivot}$
 - ✦ Insert e in LEFT
 - If $e > \text{pivot}$
 - ✦ Insert e in RIGHT



LEFT



RIGHT



Partitioning: An out-of-place version

- Initialize two lists LEFT and RIGHT
- For each element e (except pivot)
 - If $e \leq \text{pivot}$
 - ✦ Insert e in LEFT
 - If $e > \text{pivot}$
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Partitioning: An out-of-place version

- Initialize two lists LEFT and RIGHT
- For each element e (except pivot)
 - If $e \leq \text{pivot}$
 - ✦ Insert e in LEFT
 - If $e > \text{pivot}$
 - ✦ Insert e in RIGHT

2	8	7	1	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

LEFT

2	1
---	---

RIGHT

8	7
---	---

Partitioning: An out-of-place version

- Initialize two lists LEFT and RIGHT
- For each element e (except pivot)
 - If $e \leq \text{pivot}$
 - ✦ Insert e in LEFT
 - If $e > \text{pivot}$
 - ✦ Insert e in RIGHT

2	8	7	1	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

LEFT

2	1
---	---

RIGHT

8	7
---	---

Partitioning: An out-of-place version

- Initialize two lists LEFT and RIGHT
- For each element e (except pivot)
 - If $e \leq \text{pivot}$
 - ✦ Insert e in LEFT
 - If $e > \text{pivot}$
 - ✦ Insert e in RIGHT

2	8	7	1	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

LEFT

2	1	3
---	---	---

RIGHT

8	7
---	---

Partitioning: An out-of-place version

- Initialize two lists LEFT and RIGHT
- For each element e (except pivot)
 - If $e \leq \text{pivot}$
 - ✦ Insert e in LEFT
 - If $e > \text{pivot}$
 - ✦ Insert e in RIGHT

2	8	7	1	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

LEFT

2	1	3
---	---	---

RIGHT

8	7
---	---

Partitioning: An out-of-place version

- Initialize two lists LEFT and RIGHT
- For each element e (except pivot)
 - If $e \leq \text{pivot}$
 - ✦ Insert e in LEFT
 - If $e > \text{pivot}$
 - ✦ Insert e in RIGHT

2	8	7	1	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

LEFT

2	1	3
---	---	---

RIGHT

8	7	5
---	---	---

Partitioning: An out-of-place version

- Initialize two lists LEFT and RIGHT
- For each element e (except pivot)
 - If $e \leq \text{pivot}$
 - ✦ Insert e in LEFT
 - If $e > \text{pivot}$
 - ✦ Insert e in RIGHT

2	8	7	1	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

LEFT

2	1	3
---	---	---

RIGHT

8	7	5
---	---	---

Partitioning: An out-of-place version

- Initialize two lists LEFT and RIGHT
- For each element e (except pivot)
 - If $e \leq \text{pivot}$
 - ✦ Insert e in LEFT
 - If $e > \text{pivot}$
 - ✦ Insert e in RIGHT

2	8	7	1	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

LEFT

2	1	3
---	---	---

RIGHT

8	7	5	6
---	---	---	---

Partitioning: An out-of-place version

- Initialize two lists LEFT and RIGHT
- For each element e (except pivot)
 - If $e \leq \text{pivot}$
 - ✦ Insert e in LEFT
 - If $e > \text{pivot}$
 - ✦ Insert e in RIGHT
- Copy LEFT+ [pivot] + RIGHT over the input array

2	8	7	1	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

2	1	3	4	8	7	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

LEFT

RIGHT

Partitioning: An out-of-place version

- Initialize two lists LEFT and RIGHT
- For each element e (except pivot)
 - If $e \leq \text{pivot}$
 - ✦ Insert e in LEFT
 - If $e > \text{pivot}$
 - ✦ Insert e in RIGHT
- Copy LEFT+ [pivot] + RIGHT over the input array

2	1	3	4	8	7	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

LEFT

RIGHT

Partitioning: An out-of-place version

- Initialize two lists LEFT and RIGHT
- For each element e (except pivot)
 - If $e \leq \text{pivot}$
 - ✦ Insert e in LEFT
 - If $e > \text{pivot}$
 - ✦ Insert e in RIGHT
- Copy LEFT+ [pivot] + RIGHT over the input array

2	1	3	4	8	7	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

- Array is now correctly partitioned

Partitioning: An out-of-place version

- Initialize two lists LEFT and RIGHT
- For each element e (except pivot)
 - If $e \leq \text{pivot}$
 - ✦ Insert e in LEFT
 - If $e > \text{pivot}$
 - ✦ Insert e in RIGHT
- Copy LEFT+ [pivot] + RIGHT over the input array

2	1	3	4	8	7	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

- Array is now correctly partitioned
- Algorithm is clearly not in place

Partitioning: An out-of-place version

- Initialize two lists LEFT and RIGHT
- For each element e (except pivot)
 - If $e \leq \text{pivot}$
 - ✦ Insert e in LEFT
 - If $e > \text{pivot}$
 - ✦ Insert e in RIGHT
- Copy LEFT+ [pivot] + RIGHT over the input array

2	1	3	4	8	7	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

- Array is now correctly partitioned
- Algorithm is clearly not in place
- Is this algorithm stable?

Partitioning: An out-of-place version

- Initialize two lists LEFT and RIGHT
- For each element e (except pivot)
 - If $e \leq \text{pivot}$
 - ✦ Insert e in LEFT
 - If $e > \text{pivot}$
 - ✦ Insert e in RIGHT
- Copy LEFT+ [pivot] + RIGHT over the input array

2	1	3	4	8	7	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

- Array is now correctly partitioned
- **Algorithm is clearly not in place**
- Is this algorithm stable? No. Elements which are equal to the pivot end up on the left regardless

Partitioning: In place (Hoare's)

Swap pivot to the front (position 1)

2	8	6	4	1	7	3	5
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Partitioning: In place (Hoare's)

Swap pivot to the front (position 1)

$L_bad = 2$, $R_bad = N$

4	8	6	2	1	7	3	5
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Partitioning: In place (Hoare's)

Swap pivot to the front (position 1)

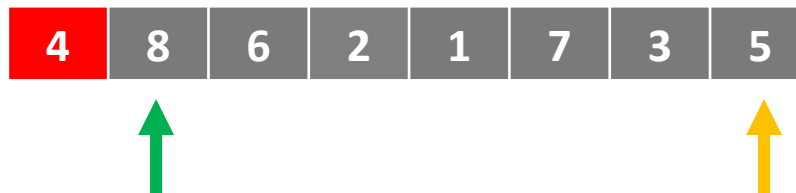
$L_bad = 2$, $R_bad = N$

Repeat until L_bad and R_bad cross

move L_bad right until we find a “bad” element, i.e. $>$ pivot

move R_bad left until we find a “bad” element, i.e. $<$ pivot

swap these elements



Partitioning: In place (Hoare's)

Swap pivot to the front (position 1)

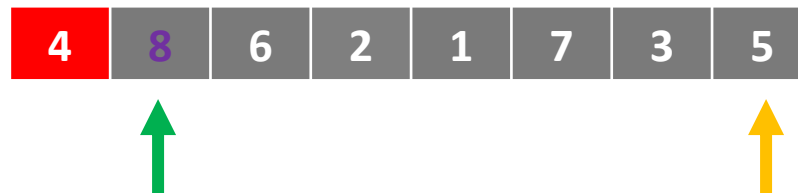
$L_bad = 2$, $R_bad = N$

Repeat until L_bad and R_bad cross

move L_bad right until we find a “bad” element, i.e. $>$ pivot

move R_bad left until we find a “bad” element, i.e. $<$ pivot

swap these elements



Partitioning: In place (Hoare's)

Swap pivot to the front (position 1)

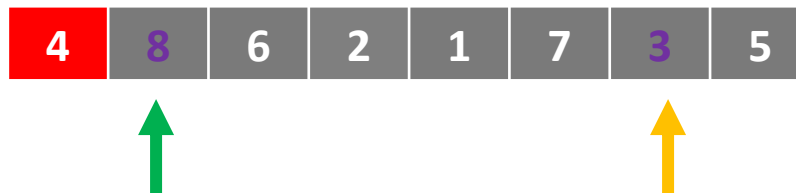
L_bad = 2, R_bad = N

Repeat until L_bad and R_bad cross

move L_bad right until we find a “bad” element, i.e. > pivot

move R_bad left until we find a “bad” element, i.e. < pivot

swap these elements



Partitioning: In place (Hoare's)

Swap pivot to the front (position 1)

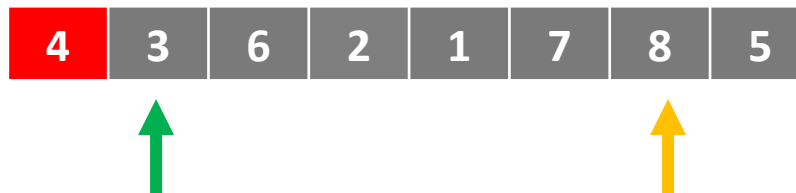
$L_bad = 2$, $R_bad = N$

Repeat until L_bad and R_bad cross

move L_bad right until we find a “bad” element, i.e. $>$ pivot

move R_bad left until we find a “bad” element, i.e. $<$ pivot

swap these elements



Partitioning: In place (Hoare's)

Swap pivot to the front (position 1)

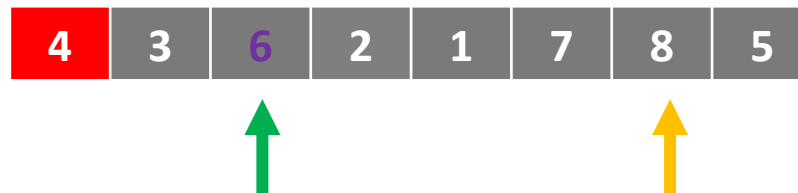
$L_bad = 2$, $R_bad = N$

Repeat until L_bad and R_bad cross

move L_bad right until we find a “bad” element, i.e. $>$ pivot

move R_bad left until we find a “bad” element, i.e. $<$ pivot

swap these elements



Partitioning: In place (Hoare's)

Swap pivot to the front (position 1)

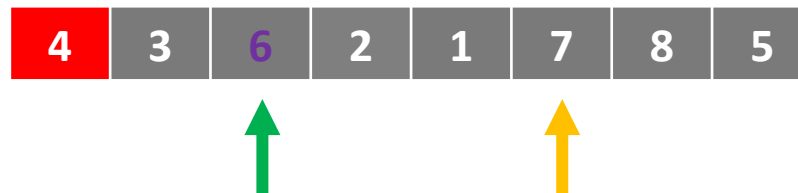
$L_bad = 2$, $R_bad = N$

Repeat until L_bad and R_bad cross

move L_bad right until we find a “bad” element, i.e. $>$ pivot

move R_bad left until we find a “bad” element, i.e. $<$ pivot

swap these elements



Partitioning: In place (Hoare's)

Swap pivot to the front (position 1)

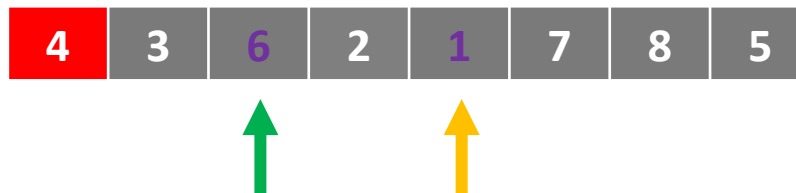
L_bad = 2, R_bad = N

Repeat until L_bad and R_bad cross

move L_bad right until we find a “bad” element, i.e. > pivot

move R_bad left until we find a “bad” element, i.e. < pivot

swap these elements



Partitioning: In place (Hoare's)

Swap pivot to the front (position 1)

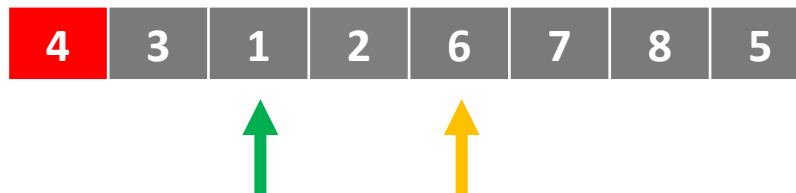
L_bad = 2, R_bad = N

Repeat until L_bad and R_bad cross

move L_bad right until we find a “bad” element, i.e. > pivot

move R_bad left until we find a “bad” element, i.e. < pivot

swap these elements



Partitioning: In place (Hoare's)

Swap pivot to the front (position 1)

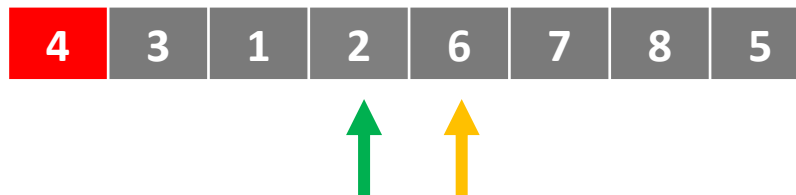
L_bad = 2, R_bad = N

Repeat until L_bad and R_bad cross

move L_bad right until we find a “bad” element, i.e. > pivot

move R_bad left until we find a “bad” element, i.e. < pivot

swap these elements



Partitioning: In place (Hoare's)

Swap pivot to the front (position 1)

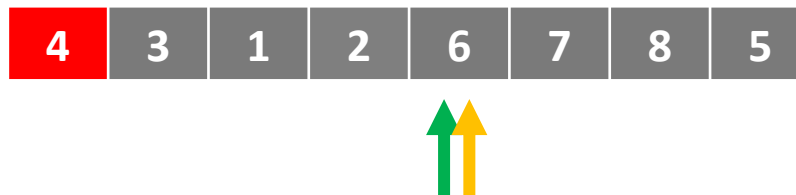
L_bad = 2, R_bad = N

Repeat until L_bad and R_bad cross

move L_bad right until we find a “bad” element, i.e. > pivot

move R_bad left until we find a “bad” element, i.e. < pivot

swap these elements



Partitioning: In place (Hoare's)

Swap pivot to the front (position 1)

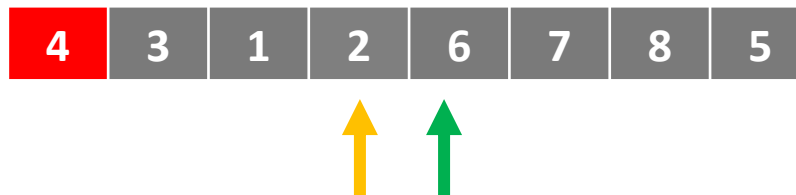
L_bad = 2, R_bad = N

Repeat until L_bad and R_bad cross

move L_bad right until we find a “bad” element, i.e. > pivot

move R_bad left until we find a “bad” element, i.e. < pivot

swap these elements



Partitioning: In place (Hoare's)

Swap pivot to the front (position 1)

L_bad = 2, R_bad = N

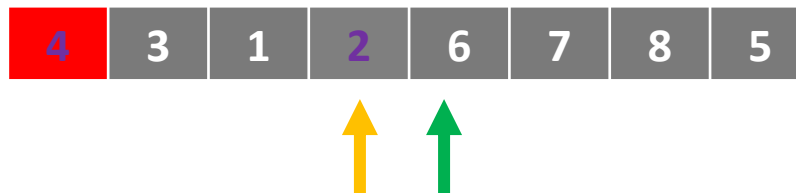
Repeat until L_bad and R_bad cross

move L_bad right until we find a “bad” element, i.e. > pivot

move R_bad left until we find a “bad” element, i.e. < pivot

swap these elements

swap pivot to R_bad



Partitioning: In place (Hoare's)

Swap pivot to the front (position 1)

L_bad = 2, R_bad = N

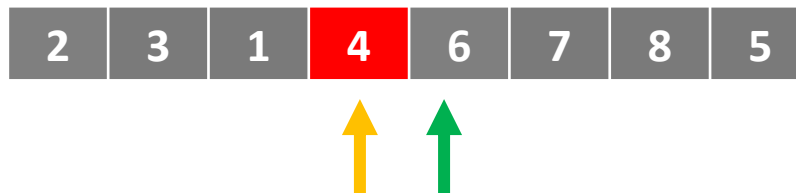
Repeat until L_bad and R_bad cross

move L_bad right until we find a “bad” element, i.e. > pivot

move R_bad left until we find a “bad” element, i.e. < pivot

swap these elements

swap pivot to R_bad

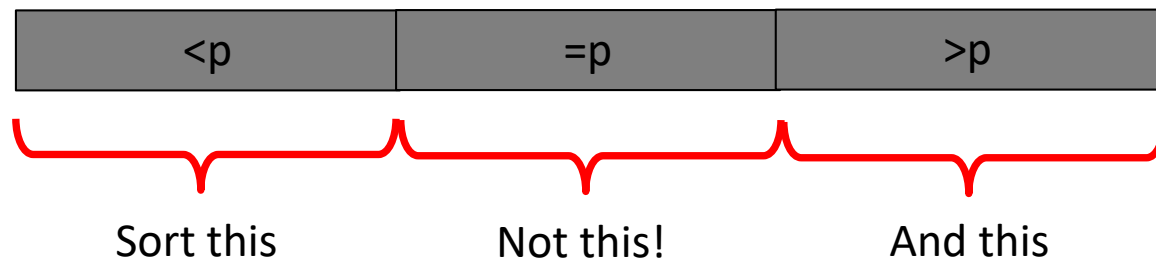


Partitioning: In place (Hoare's)

- Pros:
 - Each element only swapped once (except pivot)
 - Simple idea
 - Simple invariant (what is it?)
- Cons:
 - Very tricky to implement without bugs
 - ✦ Termination conditions
 - ✦ Edge cases
 - ✦ Off by one errors
 - Not stable
 - What about duplicates?

Partition and duplicates

- If the list has many duplicates, then sometimes...
- One will be chosen as the pivot
- All the others **should** go next to the pivot (and therefore not need to be moved any more)
- But the algorithms we have seen would require them to be sorted in the recursive calls!
- We want a partition method that does this:



Dutch National Flag Problem

- Given a list of elements and a function that maps them to red, white and blue
- Arrange the list to look like the dutch national flag



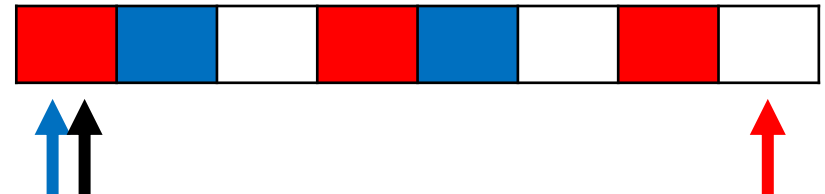
- This is equivalent to our problem
- Our function maps elements less than the pivot to blue, equal elements to white, and greater elements to red

Dutch National Flag Algorithm

boundary1=1,

j=1

boundary2 = n



Dutch National Flag Algorithm

boundary1=1,

j=1

boundary2 = n

While j <= boundary2

if array[j] is blue

swap array[boundary1], array[j]

boundary1 += 1

j += 1

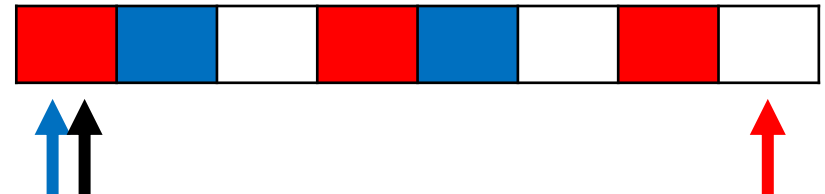
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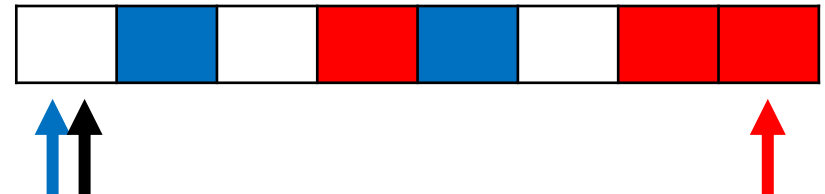
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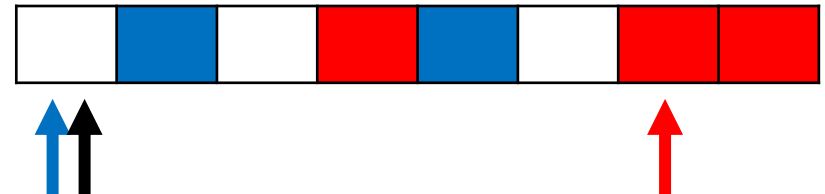
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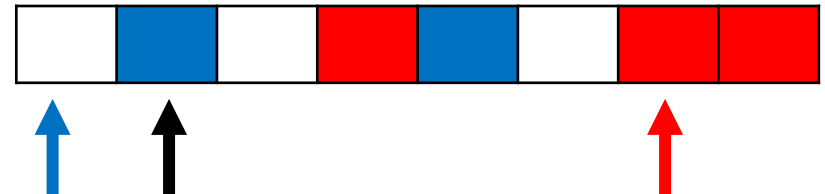
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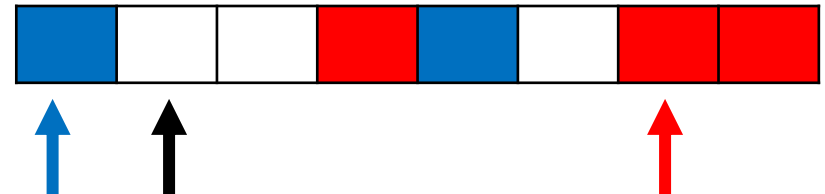
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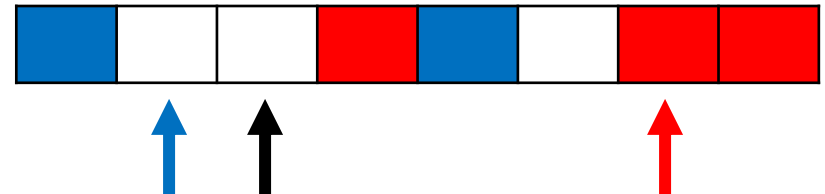
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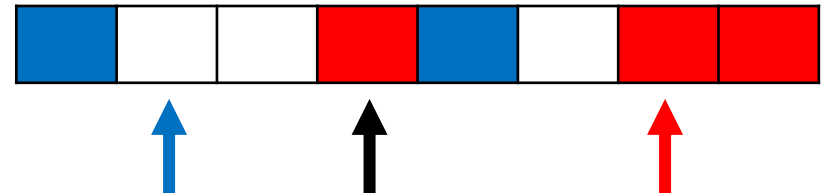
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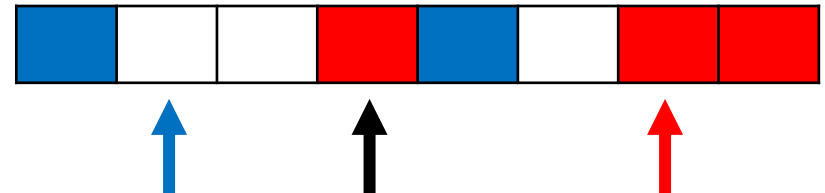
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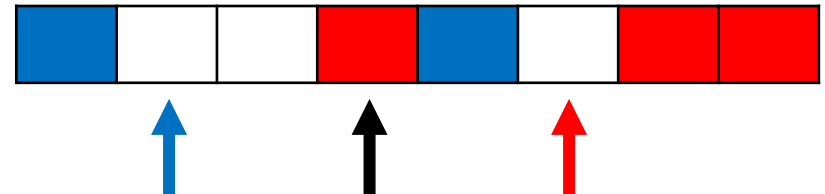
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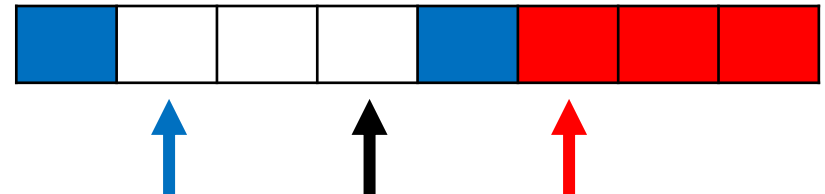
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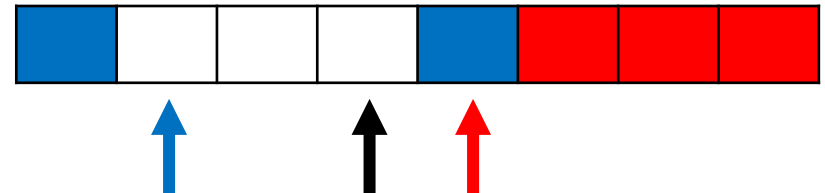
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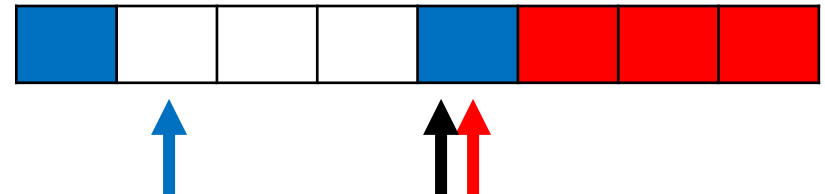
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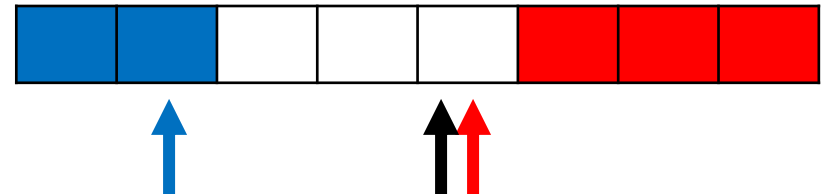
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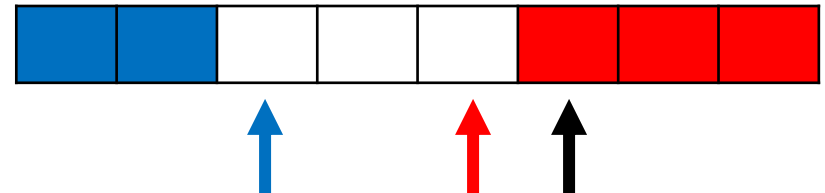
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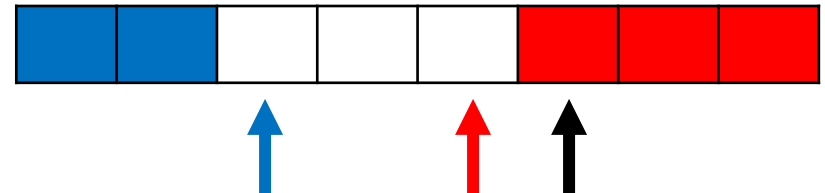
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Return boundary1, boundary2



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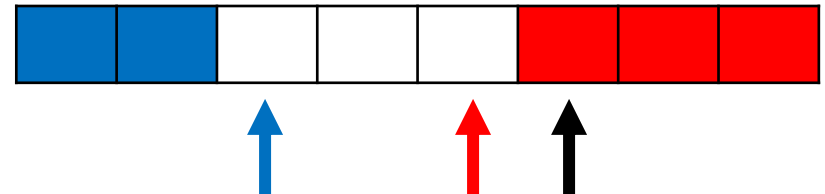
swap array[j], array[boundary2]

boundary2 -= 1

else

j += 1

Return boundary1, boundary2



Now quicksort the red and blue parts

Partitioning summary

- Lots to consider
- State of the art is more complex
- Objectives
 - Minimise swaps
 - Minimise work in recursive calls
 - Be in place
- How to make these stable? A question for the tute...

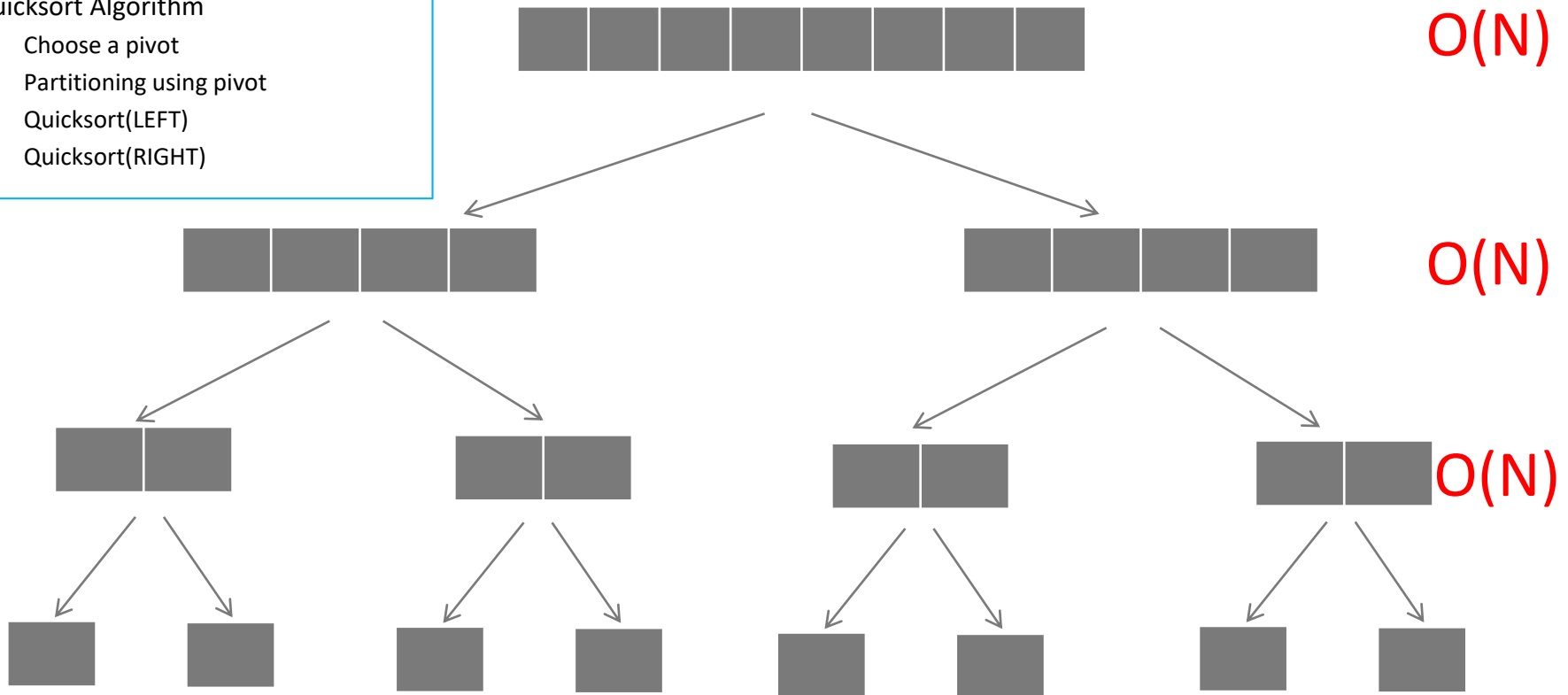
Quick Sort and its Analysis

1. Algorithm and partitioning
2. Complexity Analysis
3. Improving Worst-case complexity
 - A. Quick Select
 - B. Quick Sort in $O(N \log N)$ worst-case

Best-case time complexity

Quicksort Algorithm

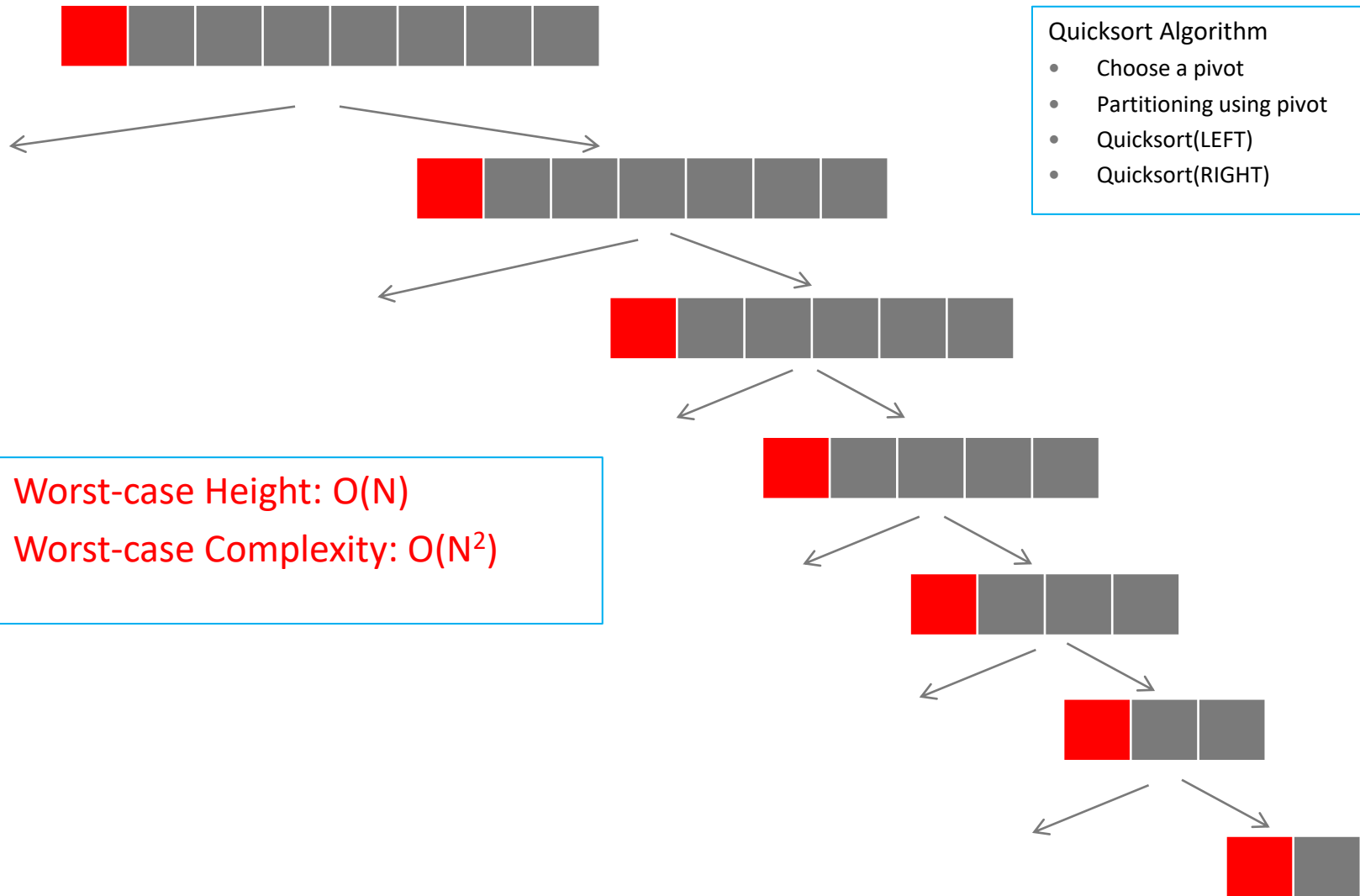
- Choose a pivot
- Partitioning using pivot
- Quicksort(LEFT)
- Quicksort(RIGHT)



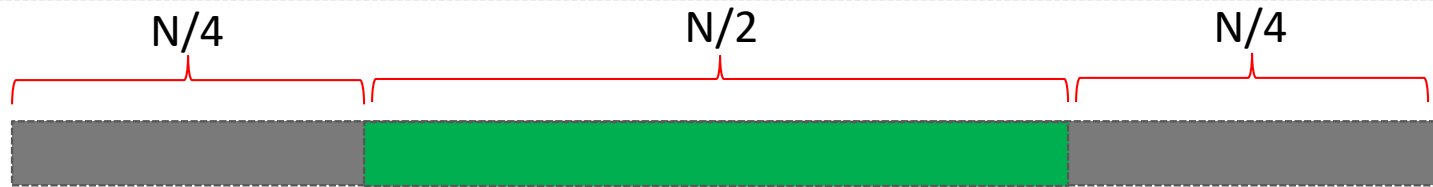
Best-case Height: $O(\log N)$
Best-case complexity: $O(N \log N)$

Important: Quicksort is not in-place even when in-place partitioning is used. Why?
Recursion depth is at least $O(\log N)$

Worst-case Time Complexity

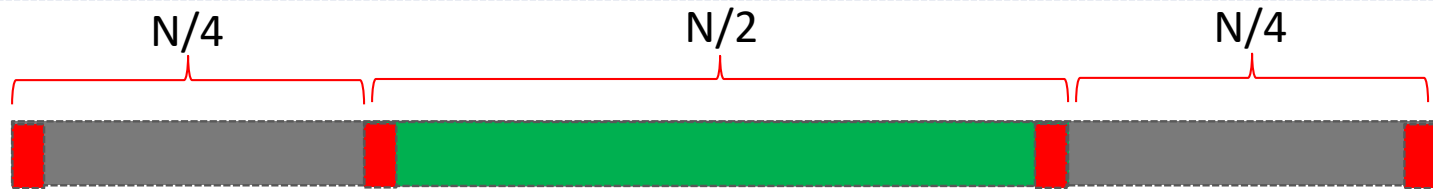


Average-case Time complexity



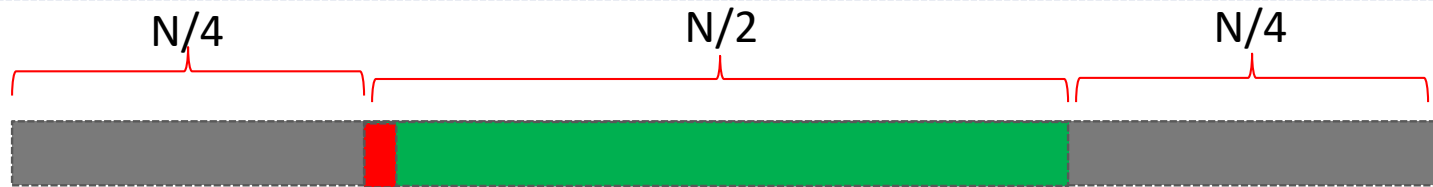
- After partitioning, pivot has 50% probability to be in the green sub-array and has 50% probability to be in one of the two grey sub-arrays.
 - i.e., on average, pivot will be in green half of the time and in grey half of the time

Average-case Time complexity

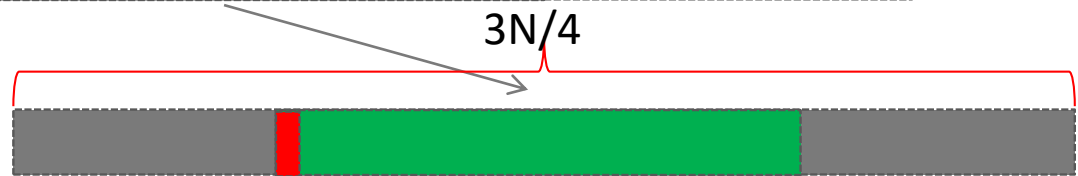


- If pivot is in grey sub-array
 - The worst-case (most unbalanced) partition sizes will be 1 and $N-1$
- If pivot is in green sub-array
 - The worst-case partition sizes will be $N/4$ and $3N/4$
- For the purpose of the following argument, we assume these one of these worst case scenarios always happen
- The complexity we obtain will therefore be **at least as bad** as the true complexity
- Let h be the height when pivot is **always** in green.

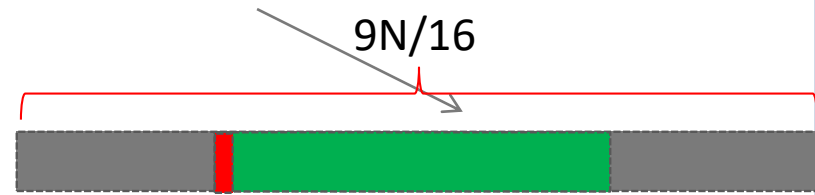
Height when pivot always in green



- Max height is on the $\frac{3N}{4}$ branch

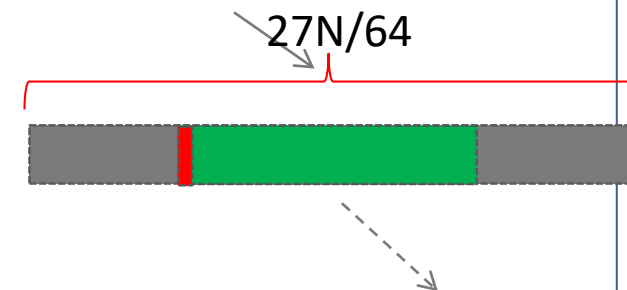


- Size of partition: $N, \frac{3N}{4}, \frac{9N}{16}, \dots \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^h N$

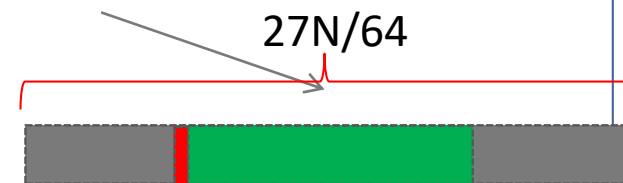
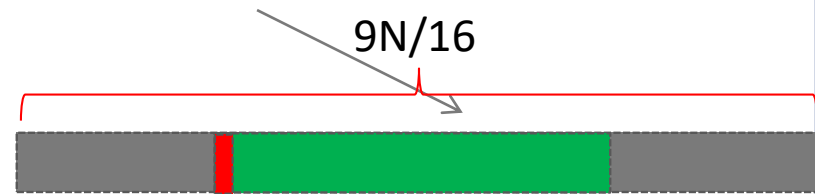
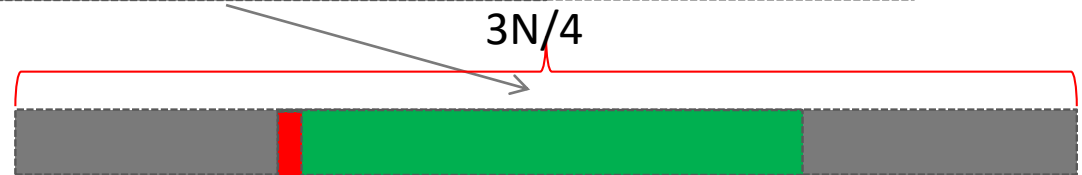
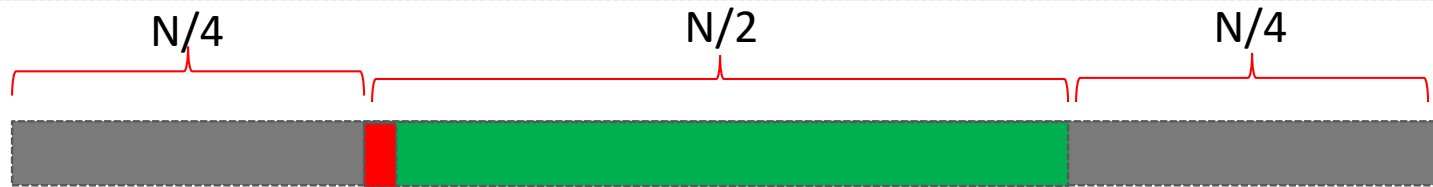


- Stops when size reaches 1

- $\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^h N = 1$

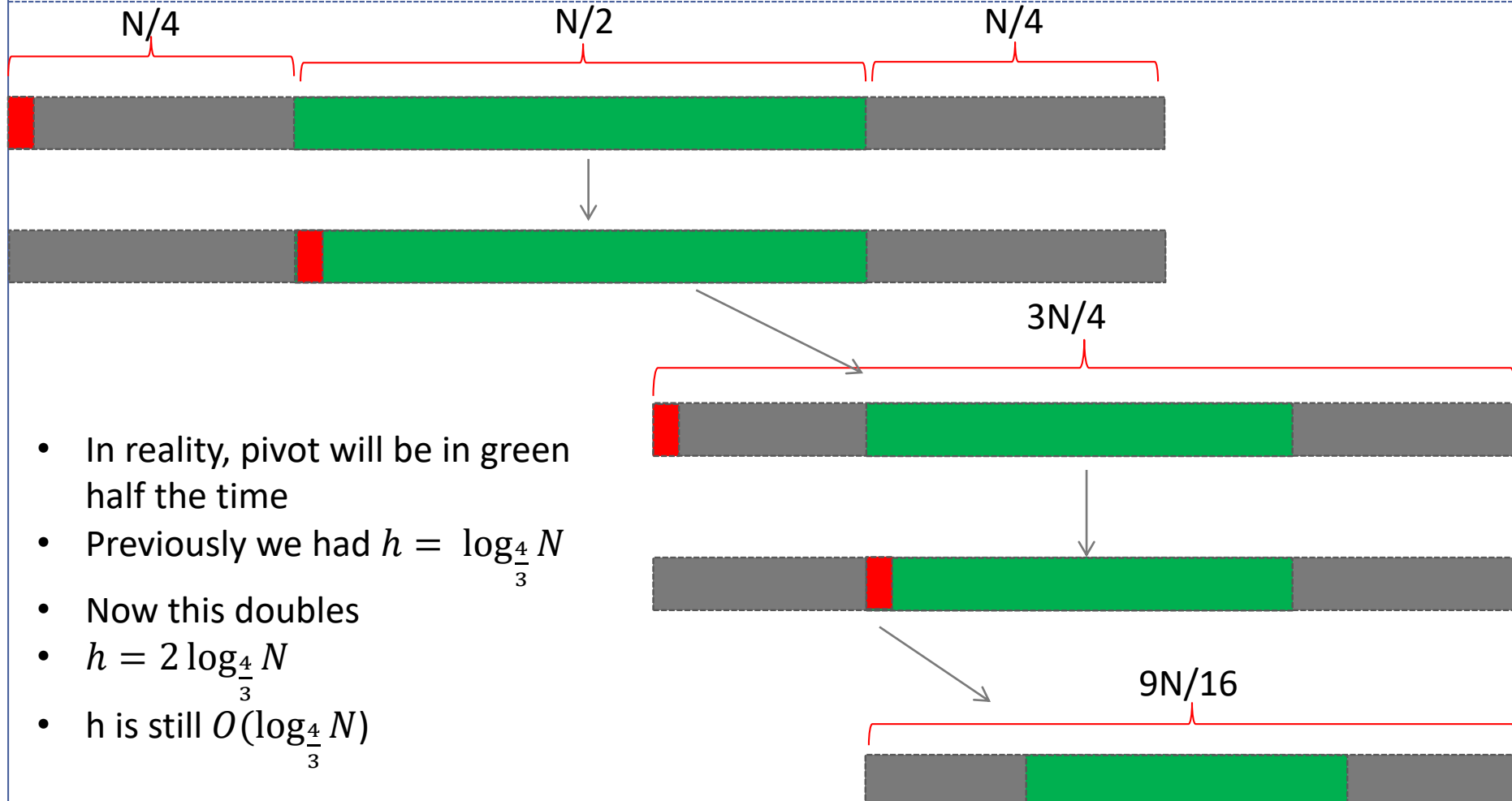


Height when pivot always in green



- $\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^h N = 1$
- $\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^h = \frac{1}{N}$
- $\left(\frac{4}{3}\right)^h = N$
- $h = \log_{\frac{4}{3}} N$

Average case



Average case Time complexity

- Therefore, height in average case is $O(\log N)$
- Like before, the cost at each level is $O(N)$
- The average case complexity is thus $O(N \log N)$

Does $O(\log_a N) = O(\log_b N)$ if a and b are constants?

Change of base rule:
$$\log_a N = \frac{\log_b N}{\log_b a}$$

So the base of the log doesn't matter for complexity (though it does in practice)

Best-case time complexity using recurrence

Recurrence relation:

$$T(1) = b$$

$$T(N) = c*N + T(N/2) + T(N/2) = 2*T(N/2) + c*N$$

Solution (exercise in last week):

$$O(N \log N)$$

Quicksort Algorithm

- Choose a pivot
- Partitioning using pivot
- Quicksort(LEFT)
- Quicksort(RIGHT)



Worst-case complexity using recurrence

Recurrence relation:

$$T(1) = b$$

$$T(N) = T(N-1) + c * N$$

Solution:

$$O(N^2)$$

Quicksort Algorithm

- Choose a pivot
- Partitioning using pivot
- Quicksort(LEFT)
- Quicksort(RIGHT)



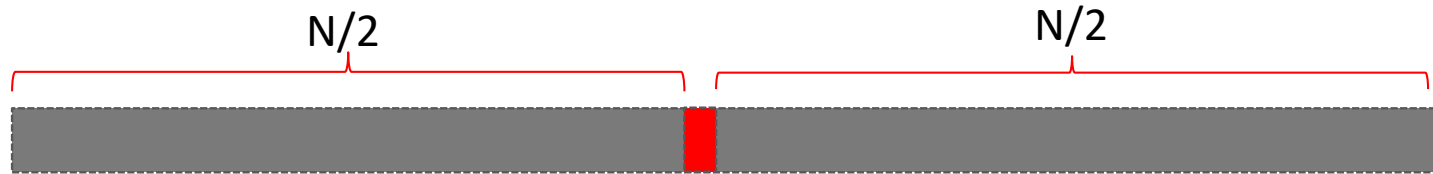
Break Time Problem (not examinable)

- There are 25 horses (who each run at some different fixed speed and never get tired)
- We want to find the 3 fastest
- We can race 5 horses at a time
- We cannot time the horses, only observe the order in which they finish
- How many races do we need?

Quick Sort and its Analysis

1. Algorithm
2. Complexity Analysis
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 - A. Quick Select
 - B. Quick Sort in $O(N \log N)$ worst-case

Quicksort with $O(N \log N)$ in worst-case



Idea:

- Don't choose pivot randomly!
 - Instead, always choose median as the pivot.
 - If we can find median in $O(N)$, the worst-case cost of quicksort would be?
 - ✦ $O(N \log N)$
- How do we choose median in $O(N)$?
- First, we take a detour and see algorithms to answer k-th order statistics

Quicksort Algorithm

- Choose **median** as a pivot
- Partitioning using pivot
- Quicksort(LEFT)
- Quicksort(RIGHT)

K-th Order Statistics

- **Problem:** Given an unsorted array, find k-th smallest element in the array
 - If $k=1$ (i.e., find the smallest), we can easily do this in $O(N)$ using the linear algorithm we saw in the last week.
- Median can be computed by setting k appropriately (e.g., $k = \text{len}(\text{array})/2$)
- For general k , how can we solve this efficiently?
 - Sort the elements and return k-th element – takes $O(N \log N)$
 - Can we do better?
 - ✦ Yes, Quick Select

Quick Sort and its Analysis

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Quick Select

- Choose a pivot p
- Partition the array in two sub-arrays w.r.t. p (same partitioning as in quicksort)
 - LEFT \leftarrow elements smaller than or equal to p
 - RIGHT \leftarrow elements greater than p
- If $\text{index}(\text{pivot}) == k$:
 - Return pivot
- If $k > \text{index}(\text{pivot})$:
 - QuickSelect(RIGHT)
- Else:
 - QuickSelect(LEFT)

Best-case time complexity?

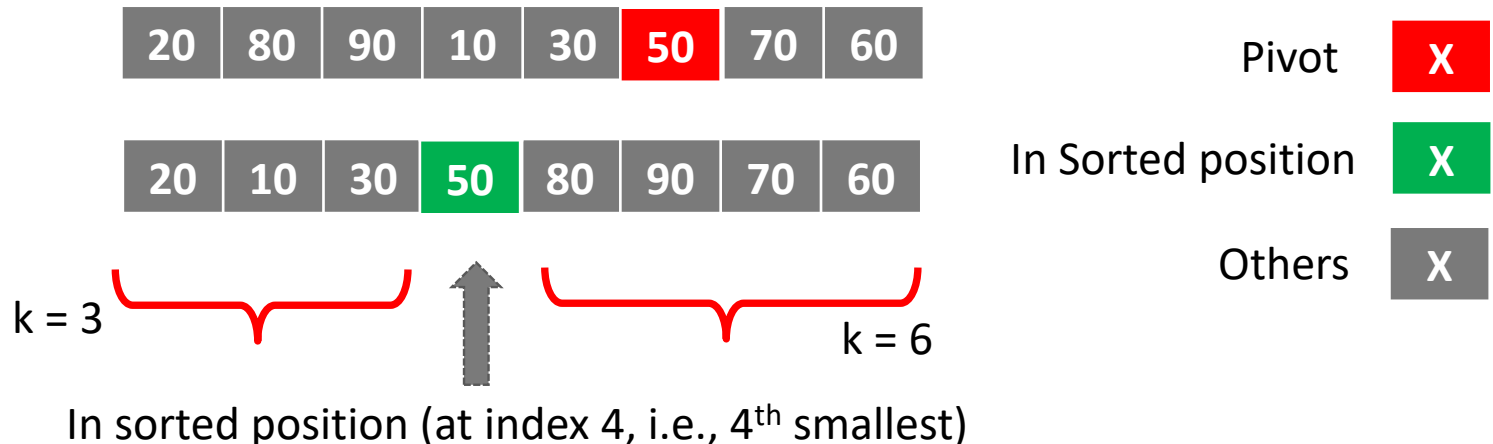
- $O(N)$

Worst-case time complexity?

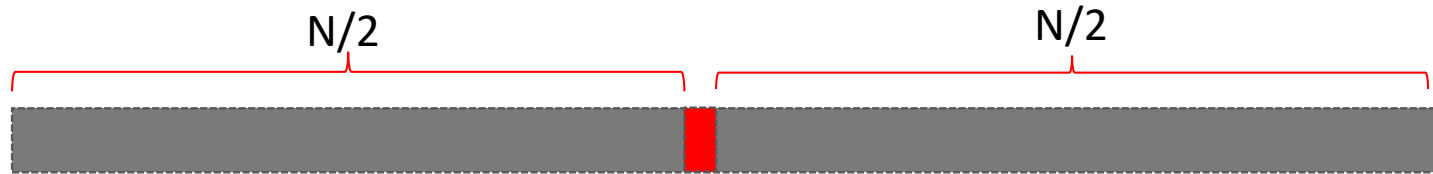
- $O(N^2)$

Average-case time complexity?

- $O(N)$ – same arguments as for quicksort



Quicksort with $O(N \log N)$ in worst-case



- Call **Quick Select** with $k=\text{len}(\text{array})/2$?
- The value returned by Quick Select will be median.
- Choose this as the pivot.
- What will be the best-case cost of such quick sort?
 - $O(N \log N)$
- What is the worst-case cost?

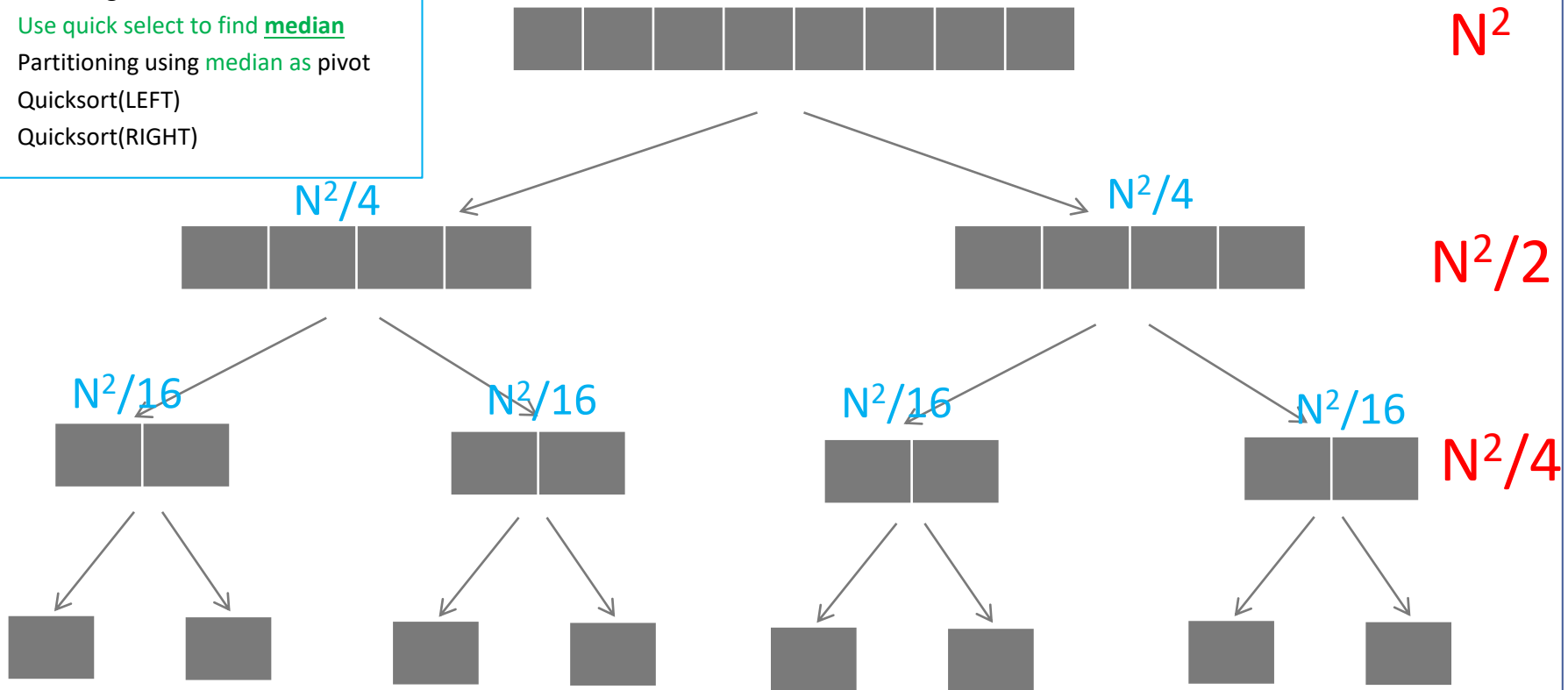
Quicksort Algorithm

- Use quick select to find median
- Partitioning using median as pivot
- Quicksort(LEFT)
- Quicksort(RIGHT)

Quick Sort Worst-case when using Quick Select to choose pivot

Quicksort Algorithm

- Use quick select to find **median**
- Partitioning using **median** as pivot
- Quicksort(LEFT)
- Quicksort(RIGHT)



Worst-case cost at level k : $N^2/2^k$

Total cost: $N^2 + N^2/2 + N^2/4 + \dots + 1 = N^2(1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \dots)$

$= O(N^2)$

Where are we?

- Trying to make quicksort $N \log(N)$ in the worst case
- Need to find median in $O(N)$
- We have an algorithm (quickselect) which finds median in $O(N)$ in the best case (and average case)...
- But it is $O(N^2)$ in the worst case (which would make quicksort **slower**)... sigh
- We want to make quickselect always take $O(N)$
- What do we need? A median pivot for **quickselect**!

Where are we?

- What do we need? A median pivot for **quickselect**!
- **But that is what quickselect is meant to do...**
- Sounds impossible – in order for quickselect to run in $O(N)$ we need to find a good (i.e. median) pivot in $O(N)$, but that was exactly the problem quickselect was meant to solve!
- The trick – relax definition of a “good pivot”
- A good pivot is anything which cuts the list into fixed fractions
- E.g. it would be enough to always cut it 70:30
- Even 99:1 would be ok for $N \log N$, but slower in practice, so the closer to 50:50 the better

Quick Sort and its Analysis

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Median of medians (not examinable)

1	15	10	10	7	20	8	19	11	2	12	16	12
12	20	5	8	2	6	19	1	15	4	13	20	2
15	17	10	14	13	7	15	7	11	10	16	18	10
7	2	15	4	20	16	18	1	8	17	16	6	17
7	8	16	18	19	20	12	10	11	1	19	13	5

Median of medians (not examinable)

- Sort groups of size five

Bigger

15	20	16	18	20	20	19	19	15	17	19	20	17
12	17	15	14	19	20	18	10	11	10	16	18	12
7	15	10	10	13	16	15	7	11	4	16	16	10
7	8	10	8	7	7	12	1	11	2	13	13	5
1	2	5	4	2	6	8	1	8	1	12	6	2

Smaller

Median of medians (not examinable)

Sort groups of size five

Find the medians

Bigger

15	20	16	18	20	20	19	19	15	17	19	20	17
12	17	15	14	19	20	18	10	11	10	16	18	12
7	15	10	10	13	16	15	7	11	4	16	16	10
7	8	10	8	7	7	12	1	11	2	13	13	5
1	2	5	4	2	6	8	1	8	1	12	6	2

Smaller

Median of medians (not examinable)

- Sort groups of size five
- Find the medians
- Find the median of those!
- (Note that the column **do not** actually get sorted, just shown here in sorted order for clarity)

Bigger

Smaller

Bigger

17	15	19	16	18	17	15	20	20	19	20	19	20
10	12	10	15	14	12	11	19	17	18	20	16	18
4	7	7	10	10	10	11	13	15	15	16	16	16
2	7	1	10	8	5	11	7	8	12	7	13	13
1	1	1	5	4	2	8	2	2	8	6	12	6

Smaller

Median of medians (not examinable)

- Median of medians is bigger than half the medians

Bigger

Smaller

Bigger

17	15	19	16	18	17	15	20	20	19	20	19	20
10	12	10	15	14	12	11	19	17	18	20	16	18
4	7	7	10	10	10	11	13	15	15	16	16	16
2	7	1	10	8	5	11	7	8	12	7	13	13
1	1	1	5	4	2	8	2	2	8	6	12	6

Smaller

Median of medians (not examinable)

- Median of medians is bigger than half the medians
- So it is bigger than all the red values as well

Bigger

Smaller

Bigger

17	15	19	16	18	17	15	20	20	19	20	19	20
10	12	10	15	14	12	11	19	17	18	20	16	18
4	7	7	10	10	10	11	13	15	15	16	16	16
2	7	1	10	8	5	11	7	8	12	7	13	13
1	1	1	5	4	2	8	2	2	8	6	12	6

Smaller

Median of medians (not examinable)

- Median of medians is smaller than half the medians

Bigger

Smaller

Bigger

17	15	19	16	18	17	15	20	20	19	20	19	20
10	12	10	15	14	12	11	19	17	18	20	16	18
4	7	7	10	10	10	11	13	15	15	16	16	16
2	7	1	10	8	5	11	7	8	12	7	13	13
1	1	1	5	4	2	8	2	2	8	6	12	6

Smaller

Median of medians (not examinable)

- Median of medians is smaller than half the medians
- So it is smaller than the green values as well

Bigger

Smaller	17	15	19	16	18	17	15	20	20	19	20	19	20
	10	12	10	15	14	12	11	19	17	18	20	16	18
	4	7	7	10	10	10	11	13	15	15	16	16	16
	2	7	1	10	8	5	11	7	8	12	7	13	13
	1	1	1	5	4	2	8	2	2	8	6	12	6
Smaller													
Bigger													

Median of medians (not examinable)

- Median of medians is greater than 30% and also less than 30%, so its in the middle 40%
- The worst split we can get using the MoM is 70:30!
- However, we did need to find the exact median of $n/5$ items... how?

Bigger

Smaller

Bigger

17	15	19	16	18	17	15	20	20	19	20	19	20
10	12	10	15	14	12	11	19	17	18	20	16	18
4	7	7	10	10	10	11	13	15	15	16	16	16
2	7	1	10	8	5	11	7	8	12	7	13	13
1	1	1	5	4	2	8	2	2	8	6	12	6

Smaller

Quicksort with $O(N \log N)$ in worst-case (not examinable)

Median_of_medians(list[1..n])

divide into sublists of size 5

medians = [median of each sublist]

use quickselect to find the median of **medians**

Quicksort with $O(N \log N)$ in worst-case (not examinable)

Median_of_medians(list[1..n])

if $n \leq 5$

 use insertion sort to find the median, and return it

divide into sublists of size 5

medians = [median of each sublist]

use quickselect to find the median of **medians**

Quicksort with $O(N \log N)$ in worst-case (not examinable)

Median_of_medians(list[1..n])

if $n \leq 5$

 use insertion sort to find the median, and return it

divide into sublists of size 5

medians = [median of each sublist]

return *quickselect*(medians, (len(medians)+1)/2)

Quicksort with $O(N \log N)$ in worst-case (not examinable)

Quickselect(list, lo, hi, k)

if lo > hi

return array[k]

pivot = **median_of_medians**(list, lo, hi, k)

mid = *partition*(array, lo, hi, pivot)

if mid > k

return *quickselect*(array, lo, mid-1, k)

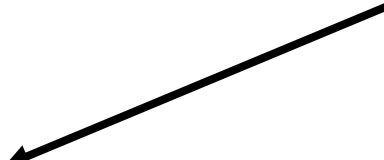
elif k > mid

return *quickselect*(array, mid+1, hi, k)

else

return array[k]

This call uses quickselect!
But with a weaker pivot



Quicksort with $O(N \log N)$ in worst-case (not examinable)

Quickselect(list, lo, hi, k)

if lo > hi

return array[k]

pivot = **median_of_medians**(list, lo, hi, k) (

mid = *partition*(array, lo, hi, pivot) **(70:30 pivot in worst)**

if mid > k

return *quickselect*(array, lo, mid-1, k) **(n/7 in worst)**

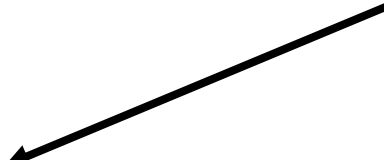
elif k > mid

return *quickselect*(array, mid+1, hi, k) **(n/7 in worst)**

else

return array[k]

This call uses quickselect!
But with a weaker pivot



Quicksort with $O(N \log N)$ in worst-case (not examinable)

Quickselect time complexity recurrence

$$T(n) = T\left(\frac{n}{5}\right) + T\left(\frac{7n}{10}\right) + an$$

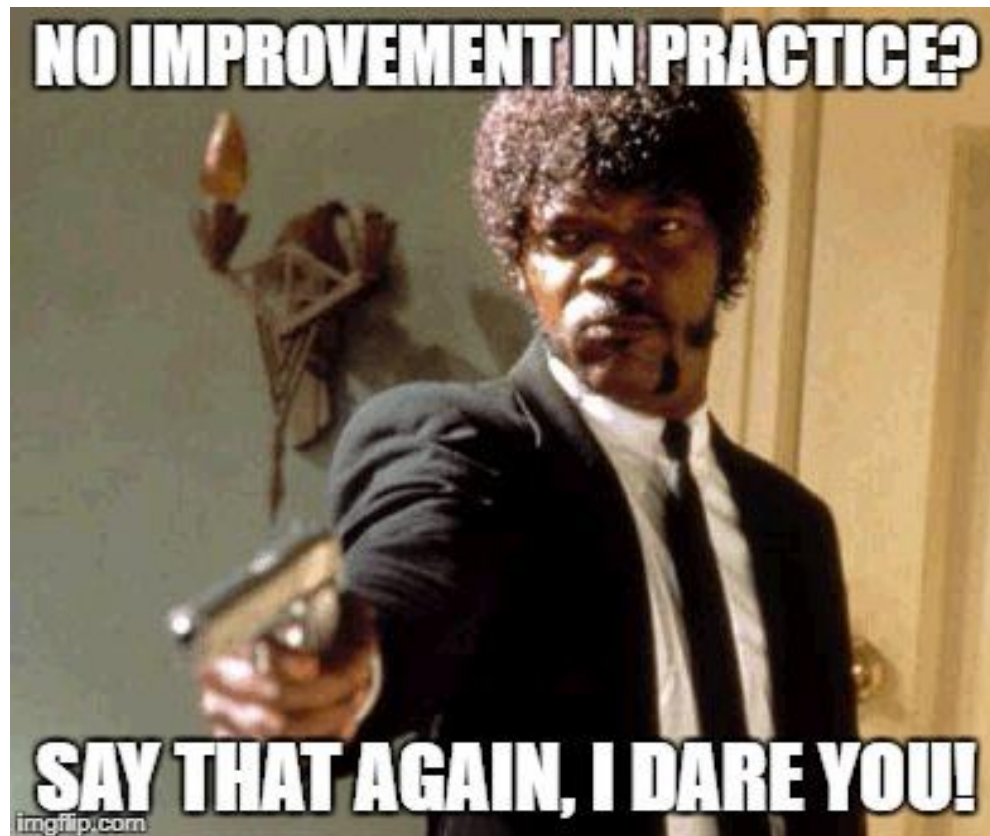
- $T\left(\frac{n}{5}\right)$ for recursing on the list of the medians of groups of 5 (inside the call to median of medians)
- $T\left(\frac{7n}{10}\right)$ for the main recursive call, which is guaranteed to have split the list at least 30:70 (because the pivot was selected by MoM)
- an for the linear time partition algorithm + time to find medians of groups of five

Solving this give linear time!

So armed with a linear time quickselect, we can now quicksort in $N \log N$ worst case...

Anticlimax (examinable)

- Although using “median of medians” reduces worst-case complexity to $O(N \log N)$, in practice choosing random pivots works better.
 - However, theoretical improvement in worst-case is quite satisfying.



Concluding Remarks

Summary

- Quicksort and its analysis. Quicksort can be made $O(N \log N)$ in worst-case which is mostly of theoretical interest but does not usually improve performance in practice.
- It is better to do a simple pivot selection which takes less time (like random selection)

Coming Up Next

- Dynamic Programming – (super important and powerful tool, **assignment 2 is all about dynamic programming**)

Things to do before next lecture

- Make sure you understand this lecture completely especially the (examinable) average-case complexity analysis of quicksort

Average-case complexity using recurrence (NOT EXAMINABLE)

Recurrence relation:

$$T(N) = ???$$

- For simplicity, assume partitioning costs $(N+1)$ operations
- Assume pivot is at index k

$$T_k(N) = (N+1) + T(N-k) + T(k-1)$$

- Average cost is the average for k being from 1 to N

$$T(N) = \frac{\sum_{k=1}^N T_k(N)}{N}$$

$$T(N) = (N+1) + \frac{\sum_{k=1}^N T(N-k) + T(k-1)}{N}$$

$$T(N) = (N+1) + \frac{2}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N T(k-1)$$

$T(N-1)$	$T(0)$
$T(N-2)$	$T(1)$
$T(N-3)$	$T(2)$
...	...
Quicksort Algorithm • Choose a pivot • Partitioning using pivot • Quicksort(LEFT) • Quicksort(RIGHT)	$T(N-3)$
	$T(N-2)$
	$T(N-1)$

$$\sum_{k=1}^N T(N-k) = \sum_{k=1}^N T(k-1)$$



Average-case complexity using recurrence
(NOT EXAMINABLE)

Recurrence relation:

$$T(1) = b$$

$$T(N) = (N + 1) + \frac{2}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N T(k - 1)$$

Multiplying N on both sides

$$N.T(N) = N(N + 1) + 2 \sum_{k=1}^N T(k - 1) \longrightarrow (A)$$

$$(N - 1).T(N - 1) = N(N - 1) + 2 \sum_{k=1}^{N-1} T(k - 1) \longrightarrow (B)$$

$$N.T(N) - (N - 1).T(N - 1) = 2N + 2T(N - 1)$$

(A) - (B)

$$N.T(N) = 2N + 2T(N - 1) + (N - 1).T(N - 1) = 2N + (N + 1).T(N - 1)$$

$$T(N) = 2 + \frac{N + 1}{N} T(N - 1)$$

Simplify

Divide both sides by N

Average-case complexity using recurrence
(NOT EXAMINABLE)

Recurrence relation:

$$T(1) = b \quad T(N) = 2 + \frac{N+1}{N} T(N-1) \longrightarrow (A)$$

Let's solve it:

$$T(N-1) = 2 + \frac{N}{N-1} T(N-2) \leftarrow \text{Cost for } T(N-1)$$

Replace $T(N-1)$ in (A)

$$T(N) = 2 + \frac{N+1}{N} \left(2 + \frac{N}{N-1} T(N-2) \right) = 2 + \frac{2(N+1)}{N} + \frac{N+1}{N-1} T(N-2) \longrightarrow (B)$$

$$T(N-2) = 2 + \frac{N-1}{N-2} T(N-3) \leftarrow \text{Cost for } T(N-2)$$

Replace $T(N-2)$ in (B)

$$T(N) = 2 + \frac{2(N+1)}{N} + \frac{2(N+1)}{N-1} + \frac{2(N+1)}{N-2} T(N-3)$$

$$T(N) = 2 + \frac{2(N+1)}{N} + \frac{2(N+1)}{N-1} + \frac{2(N+1)}{N-2} + \dots + \frac{2(N+1)}{N-k+2} + \frac{2(N+1)}{N-k+1} T(N-k)$$

See the pattern for k ?

Average-case complexity using recurrence (NOT EXAMINABLE)

Recurrence relation:

$$T(1) = b \quad T(N) = 2 + \frac{N+1}{N} T(N-1)$$

Let's solve it:

$$T(N) = 2 + \frac{2(N+1)}{N} + \frac{2(N+1)}{N-1} + \frac{2(N+1)}{N-2} + \dots + \frac{2(N+1)}{N-k+2} + \frac{2(N+1)}{N-k+1} T(N-k)$$

$$N-k=1 \rightarrow k=N-1$$

$$T(N) = 2 + \frac{2(N+1)}{N} + \frac{2(N+1)}{N-1} + \frac{2(N+1)}{N-2} + \dots + \frac{2(N+1)}{3} + \frac{2(N+1)}{2} T(1)$$

Simplify

$$T(N) = 2 + 2(N+1) \left(\frac{1}{N} + \frac{1}{N-1} + \frac{1}{N-2} + \dots + \frac{1}{3} \right) + b(N+1)$$

$$T(N) = 2 + b(N+1) + 2(N+1) \sum_{k=3}^N \frac{1}{k}$$

$$T(N) < 2 + b(N+1) + 2(N+1) \ln(N)$$

$$T(N) = O(N \log N)$$

