

Shylaja S S

Department of Computer Science & Engineering



Merge Sort

Major Slides Content: Anany Levitin

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Merge Sort - Idea

- Split array A[0..n-1] into about equal halves and make copies of each half in arrays B and C
- Sort arrays B and C recursively
- Merge sorted arrays B and C into array A as follows:
 - Repeat the following until no elements remain in one of the arrays:
 - compare the first elements in the remaining unprocessed portions of the arrays
 - copy the smaller of the two into A, while incrementing the index indicating the unprocessed portion of that array
 - Once all elements in one of the arrays are processed, copy the remaining unprocessed elements from the other array into A



Merge Sort - Algorithm

```
ALGORITHM Mergesort(A[0.. n-1])
//Sorts array A[0 .. n-1] by recursive mergesort
//Input: An array A[0.. n-1] of orderable elements
//Output: Array A[0 .. n-1] sorted in non decreasing order
if n > 1
  copy A[0 .. \lfloor n/2 \rfloor -1] to B[0 .. \lfloor n/2 \rfloor -1]
  copy A[\lfloor n/2 \rfloor .. n -1] to C[0..[\lfloor n/2 \rfloor -1]
  Mergesort(B[0..[n/2] - 1])
  Mergesort(C[0..[n/2]-1])
  Merge(B, C, A)
```

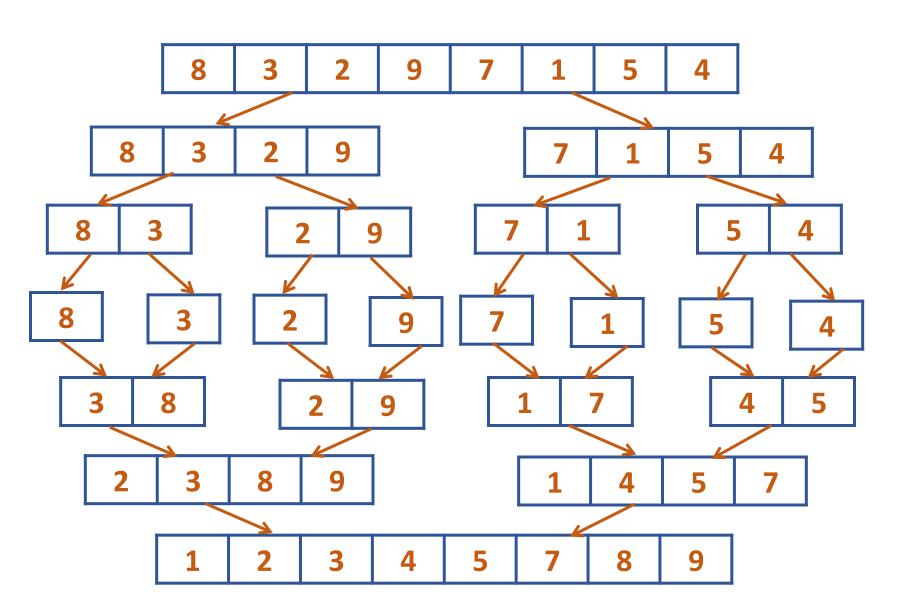


Merge Sort - Algorithm

```
ALGORITHM Merge(B[0..p-1], C[0..q-1], A[0..p+q-1])
//Merges two sorted arrays into one sorted array
//Input: Arrays B[0 .. p -1] and C[0 .. q -1] both sorted
//Output: Sorted array A[0.. p + q -1] of the elements of B and C
i \leftarrow 0; j \leftarrow 0; k \leftarrow 0
while i < p and j < q do
  if B[i] \leq C[i]
        A[k] \leftarrow B[i]; i \leftarrow i + 1
  else A[k] \leftarrowC[i]; i\leftarrow i + 1
  k←k+1
if i = p
  copy C[i .. q-1] to A[k .. p + q - 1]
else
  copy B[i .. p -1] to A[k .. p + q -1]
```



Merge Sort - Example





Merge Sort - Algorithm

 Assuming for simplicity that n is a power of 2, the recurrence relation for the number of key comparisons C(n) is:

$$C(n) = 2C(n/2) + C_{merge}(n)$$
 [for $n > 1$], $C(1) = 0$

• The number of key comparisons performed during the merging stage in the worst case is:

$$C_{\text{merge}}(n) = n - 1$$

Using the above equation:

$$C_{worst}(n) = 2C_{worst}(n/2) + n - 1$$
 [for $n > 1$], $C_{worst}(1) = 0$

Applying Master Theorem to the above equation:

$$C_{worst}(n) \in \Theta(n \log n)$$





THANK YOU

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shylaja.sharath@pes.edu