

## Sorting Introduction

CSE 326  
Data Structures  
Lecture 3

## Plan

- Look at three sorting algorithms in detail
  - › Insertion Sort
  - › Mergesort
  - › Quicksort

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## Sorting

- Input
  - › an array A of data records
  - › a key value in each data record
  - › a comparison function which imposes a consistent ordering on the keys
- Output
  - › reorganize the elements of A such that
    - For any i and j, if  $i < j$  then  $A[i] \leq A[j]$

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## Consistent Ordering

- The comparison function must provide a consistent *ordering* on the set of possible keys
  - › You can compare any two keys and get back an indication of  $a < b$ ,  $a > b$ , or  $a = b$  (tricotomny)
- The comparison functions must be consistent
  - If `compare(a,b)` says  $a < b$ , then `compare(b,a)` must say  $b > a$
  - If `compare(a,b)` says  $a = b$ , then `compare(b,a)` must say  $b = a$
  - If `compare(a,b)` says  $a = b$ , then `equals(a,b)` and `equals(b,a)` must say  $a = b$

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## Why Sort?

- Allows binary search of an N-element array in  $O(\log N)$  time
- Allows  $O(1)$  time access to  $k$ th largest element in the array for any  $k$
- Allows easy detection of any duplicates
- Sorting algorithms are among the most frequently used algorithms in computer science

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## Time

- How fast is the algorithm?
  - › The definition of a sorted array A says that for any  $i < j$ ,  $A[i] \leq A[j]$
  - › This means that you need to at least check on each element at the very minimum
    - which is  $O(N)$
  - › And you could end up checking each element against every other element
    - which is  $O(N^2)$
  - › The big question is: How close to  $O(N)$  can you get?

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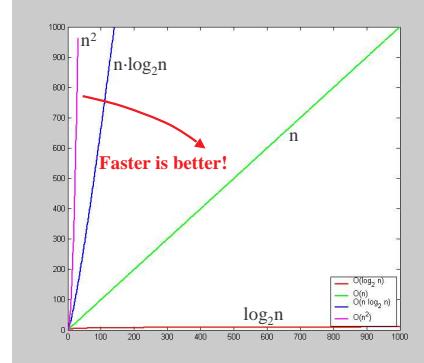
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## Space

- How much space does the sorting algorithm require in order to sort the collection of items?
  - › Is copying needed
  - › In-place sorting – no copying –  $O(1)$  additional space.
  - › External memory sorting – data so large that does not fit in memory

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## Insertion Sort

- What if first  $k$  elements of array are already sorted?
  - › 4, 7, 12, 5, 19, 16
- We can shift the tail of the sorted elements list down and then *insert* next element into proper position and we get  $k+1$  sorted elements
  - › 4, 5, 7, 12, 19, 16

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## Insertion Sort Psuedocode

- Sort( array A of length N )
  - › For  $i = 2 \dots N$ 
    - While  $A[i] > A[i-1]$  and  $i \geq 0$ 
      - Swap  $A[i]$  and  $A[i-1]$
      - $i = i - 1$

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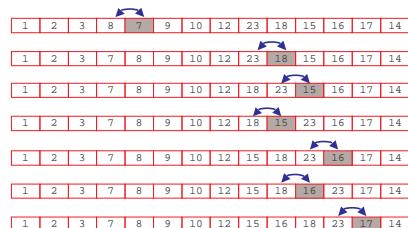
## Insertion Sort

```
InsertionSort(A[1..N]: integer array, N: integer)
{
    j, P, temp: integer ;
    for P = 2 to N {
        temp := A[P];
        j := P;
        while j > 1 and A[j-1] > temp do
            A[j] := A[j-1]; j := j-1;
            A[j]:= temp;
    }
}
• Is Insertion sort in-place?
• Running time = ?
```

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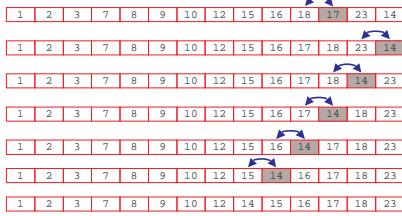
## Example



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## Example



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## Insertion Sort Characteristics

- In-place
- Running time
  - › Worst case is  $O(N^2)$ 
    - reverse order input
    - must copy every element every time
- Good sorting algorithm for almost sorted data
  - › Each item is close to where it belongs in sorted order.

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## More Analysis

- Best Case?
  - ›  $O(N)$
- Average Case? (assume no duplicates)
  - › How many inversions?
    - How many unordered pairs?  $N(N+1)/2$
    - Consider any A. Then pairs in  $A^R$  are inverted iff not inverted in A. So total number in A and  $A^R$  is  $N(N+1)/2$ . So average is  $N(N+1)/4$ .
  - › Swap removes exactly one inversion, so  $\Omega(N^2)$

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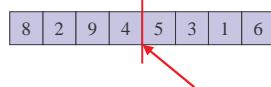
## “Divide and Conquer”

- Very important strategy in computer science:
  - › Divide problem into smaller parts
  - › Independently solve the parts
  - › Combine these solutions to get overall solution
- **Idea 1:** Divide array into two halves, recursively sort left and right halves, then merge two halves à known as **Mergesort**
- **Idea 2 :** Partition array into small items and large items, then recursively sort the two sets à known as **Quicksort**

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## Mergesort

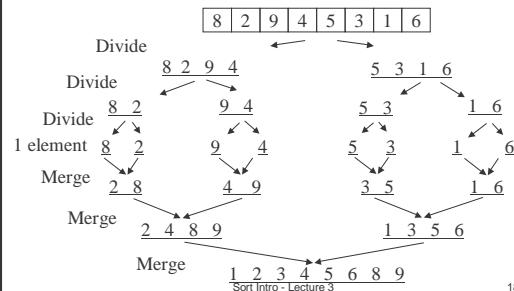


- Divide it in two at the midpoint
- Conquer each side in turn (by recursively sorting)
- Merge two halves together

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## Mergesort Example

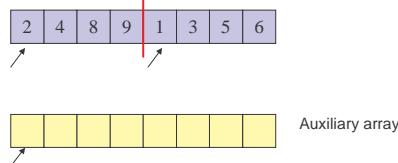


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## Auxiliary Array

- The merging requires an auxiliary array.

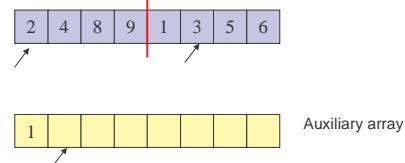


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## Auxiliary Array

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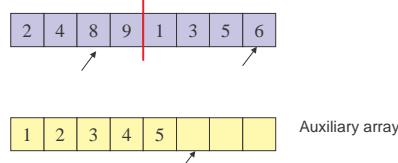


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## Auxiliary Array

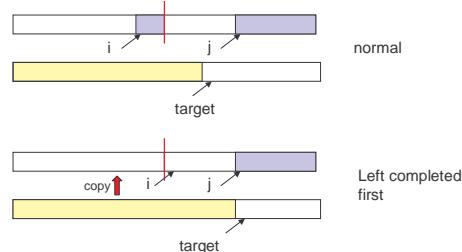
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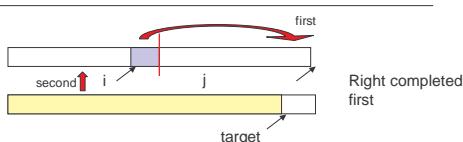
## Merging



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## Merging



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## Merging

```

Merge(A[], T[] : integer array, left, right : integer) : {
    mid, i, j, k, l, target : integer;
    mid := (right + left)/2;
    i := left; j := mid + 1; target := left;
    while i <= mid and j <= right do
        if A[i] <= A[j] then T[target] := A[i]; i := i + 1;
        else T[target] := A[j]; j := j + 1;
        target := target + 1;
    if i > mid then //left completed//
        for k := left to target-1 do A[k] := T[k];
    if j > right then //right completed//
        k := mid; l := right;
        while k >= i do A[k] := A[l]; k := k-1; l := l-1;
        for k := left to target-1 do A[k] := T[k];
}

```

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## Recursive Mergesort

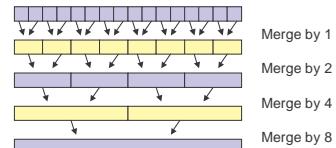
```
Mergesort(A[], T[] : integer array, left, right : integer) : {
    if left < right then
        mid := (left + right)/2;
        Mergesort(A,T,left,mid);
        Mergesort(A,T,mid+1,right);
        Merge(A,T,left,right);
    }

MainMergesort(A[1..n]: integer array, n : integer) : {
    T[1..n]: integer array;
    Mergesort(A,T,1,n);
}
```

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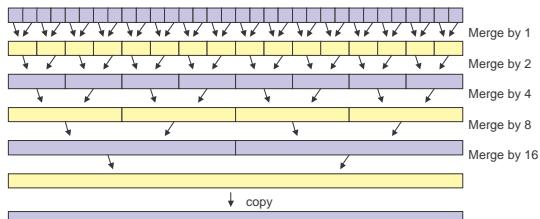
## Iterative Mergesort



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## Iterative Mergesort



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## Iterative pseudocode

- Sort(array A of length N)
  - › Let m = 2, let B be temp array of length N
  - › While m < N
    - For i = 1...N in increments of m
      - merge A[i...i+m/2] and A[i+m/2...i+m] into B[i...i+m]
    - Swap role of A and B
    - m=m\*2
  - › If needed, copy B back to A

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## Mergesort Analysis

- Let T(N) be the running time for an array of N elements
- Mergesort divides array in half and calls itself on the two halves. After returning, it merges both halves using a temporary array
- Each recursive call takes  $T(N/2)$  and merging takes  $O(N)$

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## Mergesort Recurrence Relation

- The recurrence relation for  $T(N)$  is:
  - ›  $T(1) \leq c$ 
    - base case: 1 element array à constant time
  - ›  $T(N) \leq 2T(N/2) + dN$ 
    - Sorting n elements takes
      - the time to sort the left half
      - plus the time to sort the right half
      - plus an  $O(N)$  time to merge the two halves
  - $T(N) = O(N \log N)$

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## Solving the Recurrence

$$\begin{aligned}
 T(n) &\leq 2T(n/2) + dn \quad \text{Assuming } n \text{ is a power of 2} \\
 &\leq 2(2T(n/4) + dn/2) + dn \\
 &= 4T(n/4) + 2dn \\
 &\leq 4(2T(n/8) + dn/4) + 2dn \\
 &= 8T(n/8) + 3dn \\
 &\vdots \\
 &\leq 2^k T(n/2^k) + kdn \\
 &= nT(1) + kdn \quad \text{if } n = 2^k \\
 &\leq cn + dn \log_2 n \\
 &= O(n \log n)
 \end{aligned}$$

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## Properties of Mergesort

- Not in-place
  - › Requires an auxiliary array
- Very few comparisons
- Iterative Mergesort reduces copying.

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## Quicksort

- Quicksort uses a divide and conquer strategy, but does not require the  $O(N)$  extra space that MergeSort does
  - › Partition array into left and right sub-arrays
    - the elements in left sub-array are all less than pivot
    - elements in right sub-array are all greater than pivot
  - › Recursively sort left and right sub-arrays
  - › Concatenate left and right sub-arrays in  $O(1)$  time

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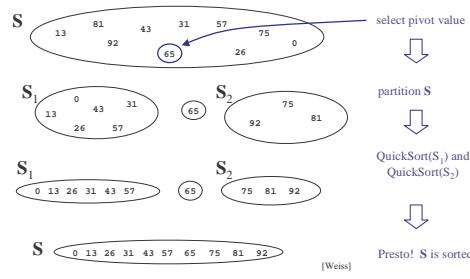
## “Four easy steps”

- To sort an array  $\mathbf{S}$ 
  - › If the number of elements in  $\mathbf{S}$  is 0 or 1, then return. The array is sorted.
  - › Pick an element  $v$  in  $\mathbf{S}$ . This is the **pivot** value.
  - › Partition  $\mathbf{S}-\{v\}$  into two disjoint subsets,  $\mathbf{S}_1 = \{\text{all values } x \leq v\}$ , and  $\mathbf{S}_2 = \{\text{all values } x \geq v\}$ .
  - › Return  $\text{QuickSort}(\mathbf{S}_1), v, \text{QuickSort}(\mathbf{S}_2)$

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## The steps of QuickSort



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## Details, details

- “The algorithm so far lacks quite a few of the details”
- Implementing the actual partitioning
- Picking the pivot
  - › want a value that will cause  $|\mathbf{S}_1|$  and  $|\mathbf{S}_2|$  to be non-zero, and close to equal in size if possible
- Dealing with cases where the element equals the pivot

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## Quicksort Partitioning

- Need to partition the array into left and right sub-arrays
  - › the elements in left sub-array are  $\leq$  pivot
  - › elements in right sub-array are  $\geq$  pivot
- How do the elements get to the correct partition?
  - › Choose an element from the array as the pivot
  - › Make one pass through the rest of the array and swap as needed to put elements in partitions

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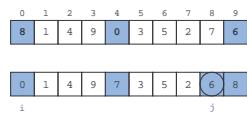
## Partitioning is done In-Place

- One implementation (there are others)
  - › median3 finds pivot and sorts left, center, right
  - › Swap pivot with next to last element
  - › Set pointers i and j to start and end of array
  - › Increment i until you hit element  $A[i] >$  pivot
  - › Decrement j until you hit element  $A[j] <$  pivot
  - › Swap  $A[i]$  and  $A[j]$
  - › Repeat until i and j cross
  - › Swap pivot ( $= A[N-2]$ ) with  $A[i]$

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## Example



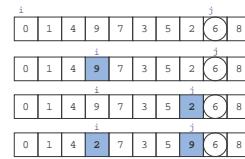
Choose the pivot as the median of three.

Place the pivot and the largest at the right  
and the smallest at the left

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## Example

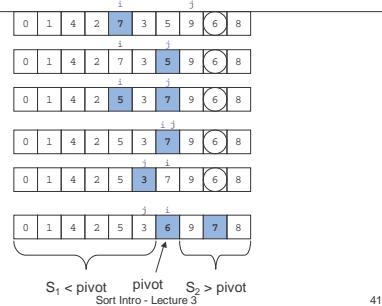


Move i to the right to be larger than pivot.  
Move j to the left to be smaller than pivot.  
Swap

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## Example



S<sub>1</sub> < pivot      pivot      S<sub>2</sub> > pivot

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## Recursive Quicksort

```
Quicksort(A[]): integer array, left,right : integer):
    pivotindex : integer;
    if left + CUTOFF ≤ right then
        pivot := median3(A,left,right);
        pivotindex := Partition(A,left,right-1,pivot);
        Quicksort(A, left, pivotindex - 1);
        Quicksort(A, pivotindex + 1, right);
    else
        Insertionsort(A,left,right);
    }
```

Don't use quicksort for small arrays.  
CUTOFF = 10 is reasonable.

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## Alternative Pivot Rules

- Choose  $A[\text{left}]$ 
  - › Fast, but may be too biased
- Choose  $A[\text{random}], \text{left} \leq \text{random} \leq \text{right}$ 
  - › Completely unbiased
  - › Will cause relatively even split, but slow
- Median of three,  $A[\text{left}], A[\text{right}], A[(\text{left}+\text{right})/2]$ 
  - › The standard, tends to be unbiased, and does a little sorting on the side.

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## Quicksort Best Case Performance

- Algorithm always chooses best pivot and splits sub-arrays in half at each recursion
  - ›  $T(0) = T(1) = O(1)$ 
    - constant time if 0 or 1 element
  - › For  $N > 1$ , 2 recursive calls plus linear time for partitioning
  - ›  $T(N) = 2T(N/2) + O(N)$ 
    - Same recurrence relation as Mergesort
  - ›  $T(N) = O(N \log N)$

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## Quicksort Worst Case Performance

- Algorithm always chooses the worst pivot – one sub-array is empty at each recursion
  - ›  $T(N) \leq a$  for  $N \leq C$
  - ›  $T(N) \leq T(N-1) + bN$
  - ›  $\leq T(N-2) + b(N-1) + bN$
  - ›  $\leq T(C) + b(C+1) + \dots + bN$
  - ›  $\leq a + b(C + C+1 + C+2 + \dots + N)$
  - ›  $T(N) = O(N^2)$
- Fortunately, *average case performance* is  $O(N \log N)$  (see text for proof)

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## Properties of Quicksort

- No iterative version (without using a stack).
- Pure quicksort not good for small arrays.
- “In-place”, but uses auxiliary storage because of recursive calls.
- $O(n \log n)$  average case performance, but  $O(n^2)$  worst case performance.

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## Folklore

- “Quicksort is the best in-memory sorting algorithm.”
- Truth
  - › Quicksort uses very few comparisons on average.
  - › Quicksort does have good performance in the memory hierarchy.
    - Small footprint
    - Good locality

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