

CSE 373: Sorting (Shellsort, Heapsort, and Mergesort)

Chapter 7



Drawback of Adjacent Swap Sorts

- Each swap only fixes a single inversion
- Thus, elements that are far out of place must be swapped with many values instead of being moved into place more directly:

4 5 7 8 9 2

• This is the motivation for Shellsort (*named after its inventor*, *Donald Shell*): try to move values to their general area quickly, then fix them up

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Shellsort

- Uses *p* phases
- The phases are characterized by an *increment* sequence of integers: h_1 , h_2 , h_3 , ..., h_p :
 - Typically, $h_i > h_{i+1}$
 - $-h_p = 1$ (last phase is insertion sort)
- In phase k, we compare and swap values that are h_k positions apart until they are sorted
- This essentially performs h_k independent insertion sorts in phase k

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Increment Sequences

- Designing increment sequences:
 - Running time is proportional to the number of increments, so we don't want too many
 - But just having one would give us insertion sort
- Worst-case running time:

 Σ_i (h_i (n/h_i)²): h_i insertion sorts of n/h_i elements each; (recall: insertion sort has worst-case of $O(n^2)$)

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Common Increment Sequences

• Shell's original sequence:

h = n/2, n/4, n/8, ..., 2, 1

- probably the most intuitive sequence
- but, it has a worst-case of $O(n^2)$
- Hibbard's sequence:

 $h = 2^k-1, ..., 15, 7, 3, 1$

- adjacent numbers are relatively prime
- leads to a worst-case of $O(n^{1.5})$

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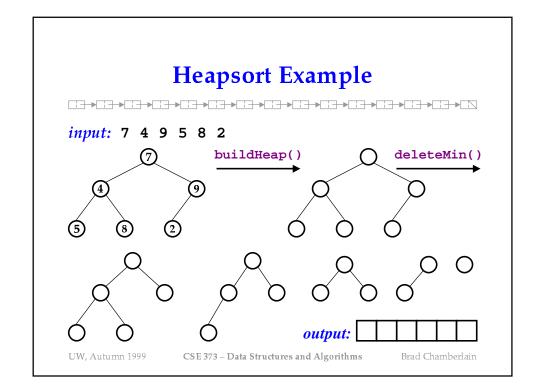
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Heapsort

- Naive algorithm:
 - Run **buildHeap()** on the input array
 - Call deleteMin() *n* times, storing the results in an output array
- Running Time?
- Disadvantage?
- How can we fix this?

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Improved Heapsort

- Use the heap's array to store the sorted values
- *Recall:* a *k*-element heap uses the first *k* positions of its implementing array
- Thus, whenever we delete an element from the heap, store it at the end of the array
- What does this give us?
- How to fix it?

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Treesort?

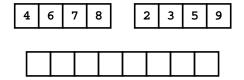
- BSTs can obviously be used to sort input
 - insert() all values
 - traverse tree in-order, copying to output array
- This is rarely done in practice (unless a tree is already being used to store the data)
 - asymptotically similar to Heapsort
 - *but* trees require more memory
 - and can't be done using only input array memory
 - might as well use Heapsort

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The Merge Operation

• Given two sorted lists, **merge()** combines them into a single sorted list:



• Running time of **merge()**?

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Mergesort

Elegant recursive sorting algorithm:

- if the input is one element, it's sorted; return
- otherwise, split the input into two equal-sized lists
- call Mergesort () recursively on each list
- merge() the sorted lists that are returned

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