# Merge Sort

#### Outline and Reading

- Divide-and-conquer paradigm, MergeSort (§4.1)
- Sets (§4.2); Generic Merging and set operations (§4.2.1)
  - Note: Sections 4.2.2 and 4.2.3 are Optional
- Quick-sort (§4.3)
- Analysis of quick-sort ((§4.3.1)
- ◆ A Lower Bound on Comparison-based Sorting (§4.4)
- QuickSort and Radix Sort (§4.5)
- In-place quick-sort (§4.8)
- Comparison of Sorting Algorithm (§4.6)
- Selection (§4.7)

#### Divide-and-Conquer

- Divide-and conquer is a general algorithm design paradigm:
  - Divide: divide the input data S in two disjoint subsets  $S_1$  and  $S_2$
  - Recur: solve the subproblems associated with S<sub>1</sub> and S<sub>2</sub>
  - Conquer: combine the solutions for  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  into a solution for S
- The base case for the recursion are subproblems of size 0 or 1

- Merge-sort is a sorting algorithm based on the divide-and-conquer paradigm
- Like heap-sort
  - It uses a comparator
  - It has *O*(*n* log *n*) running time
- Unlike heap-sort
  - It does not use an auxiliary priority queue
  - It accesses data in a sequential manner (suitable to sort data on a disk)

#### Merge-Sort

- Merge-sort on an input sequence S with n elements consists of three steps:
  - Divide: partition S into two sequences  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  of about n/2 elements each
  - Recur: recursively sort  $S_1$  and  $S_2$
  - Conquer: merge  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  into a unique sorted sequence

#### Algorithm mergeSort(S, C)

**Input** sequence *S* with *n* elements, comparator *C* 

Output sequence S sorted according to C

if 
$$S.size() > 1$$
  
 $(S_1, S_2) \leftarrow partition(S, n/2)$   
 $mergeSort(S_1, C)$   
 $mergeSort(S_2, C)$ 

$$S \leftarrow merge(S_1, S_2)$$

## Merging Two Sorted Sequences

- The conquer step of merge-sort consists of merging two sorted sequences A and B into a sorted sequence S containing the union of the elements of A and B
- Merging two sorted sequences, each with n/2 elements and implemented by means of a doubly linked list, takes
  O(n) time

```
Algorithm merge(A, B)
    Input sequences A and B with
        n/2 elements each
    Output sorted sequence of A \cup B
    S \leftarrow empty sequence
    while \neg A.isEmpty() \land \neg B.isEmpty()
       if A.first().element() < B.first().element()
           S.insertLast(A.remove(A.first()))
       else
           S.insertLast(B.remove(B.first()))
    while \neg A.isEmpty()
        S.insertLast(A.remove(A.first()))
    while \neg B.isEmpty()
       S.insertLast(B.remove(B.first()))
   return S
```

#### Merge-Sort Tree

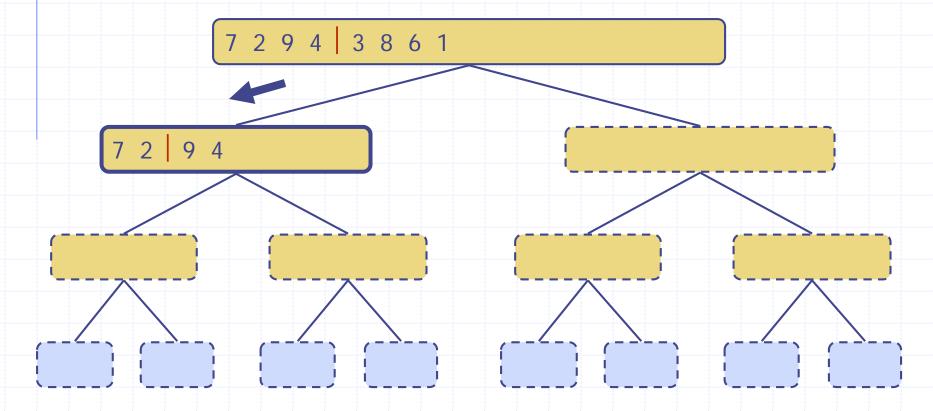
- An execution of merge-sort is depicted by a binary tree
  - each node represents a recursive call of merge-sort and stores
    - unsorted sequence before the execution and its partition
    - sorted sequence at the end of the execution
  - the root is the initial call
  - the leaves are calls on subsequences of size 0 or 1

## **Execution Example**

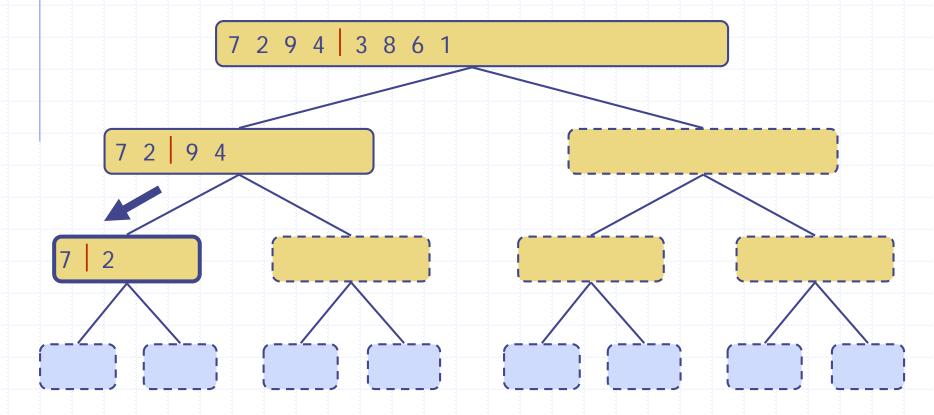
Partition

7 2 9 4 | 3 8 6 1

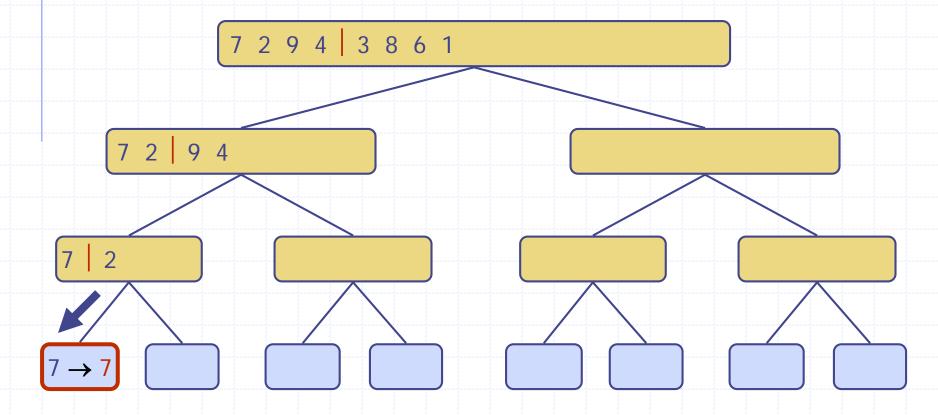
Recursive call, partition



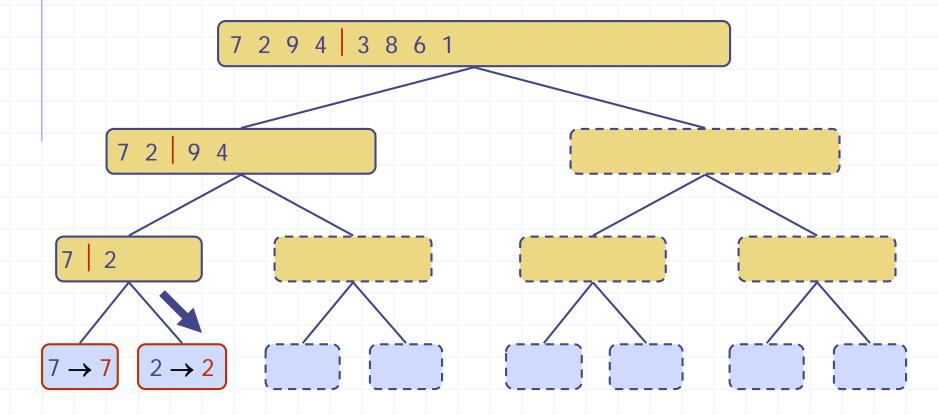
Recursive call, partition

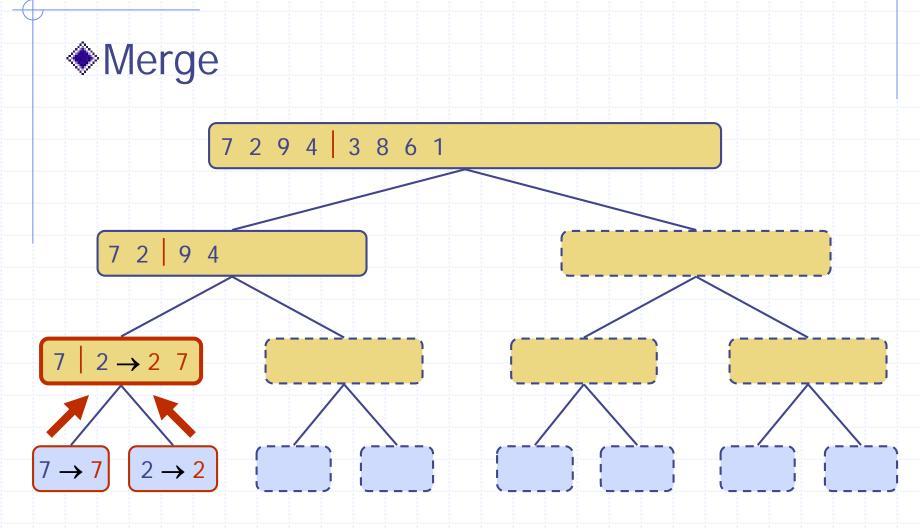


Recursive call, base case

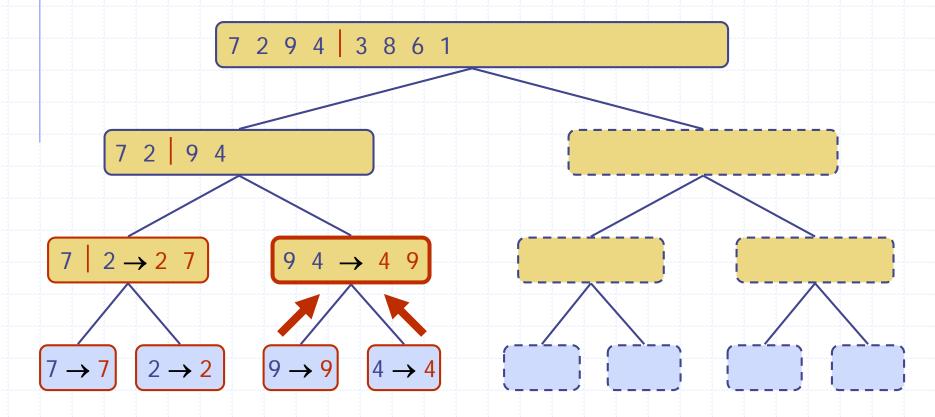


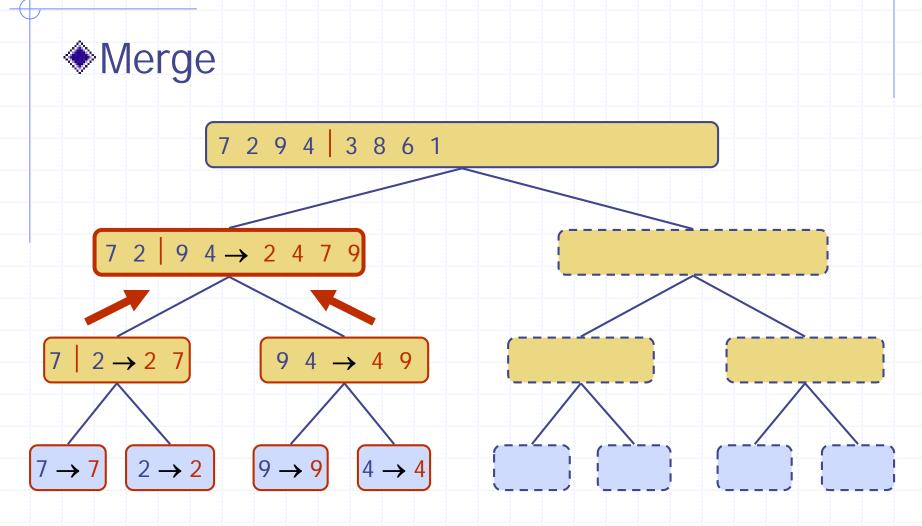
Recursive call, base case



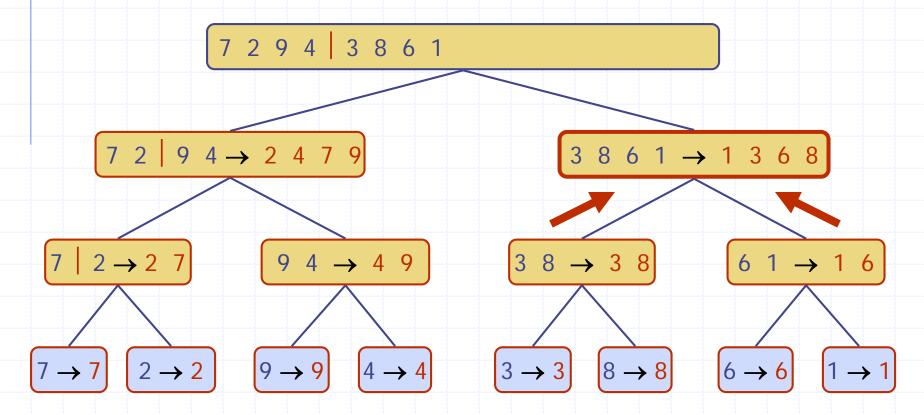


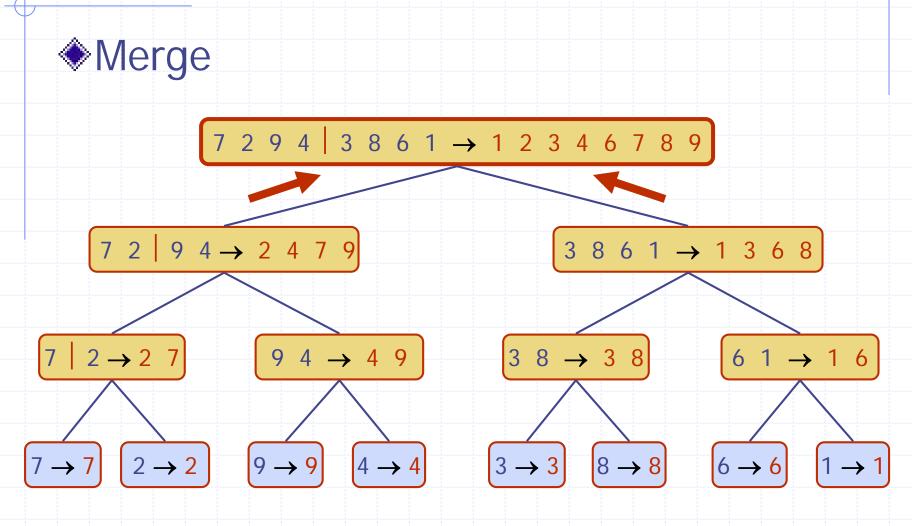
Recursive call, ..., base case, merge





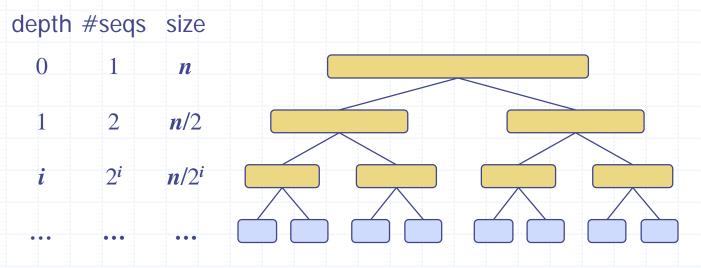
Recursive call, ..., merge, merge



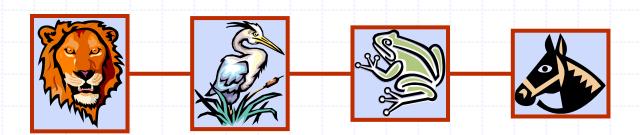


#### Analysis of Merge-Sort

- $\bullet$  The height h of the merge-sort tree is  $O(\log n)$ 
  - at each recursive call we divide in half the sequence,
- lacktriangle The overall amount or work done at the nodes of depth i is O(n)
  - we partition and merge  $2^i$  sequences of size  $n/2^i$
  - we make  $2^{i+1}$  recursive calls
- $\bullet$  Thus, the total running time of merge-sort is  $O(n \log n)$



#### Sets



#### Set Operations

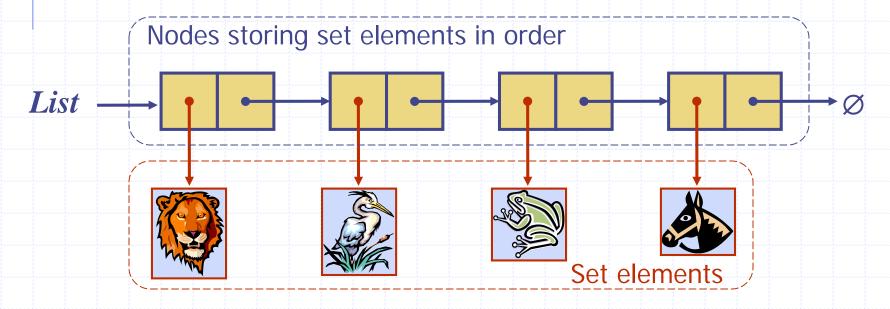
- We represent a set by the sorted sequence of its elements
- By specializing the auxliliary methods he generic merge algorithm can be used to perform basic set operations:
  - union
  - intersection
  - subtraction
- The running time of an operation on sets A and B should be at most  $O(n_A + n_B)$



- Set union:
  - aIsLess(a, S) S.insertFirst(a)
  - bIsLess(b, S)
    S.insertLast(b)
  - bothAreEqual(a, b, S)
    S. insertLast(a)
- Set intersection:
  - aIsLess(a, S) { do nothing }
  - bIsLess(b, S) { do nothing }
  - bothAreEqual(a, b, S)
    S. insertLast(a)

#### Storing a Set in a List

- We can implement a set with a list
- Elements are stored sorted according to some canonical ordering
- $\bullet$  The space used is O(n)



#### Generic Merging

- Generalized merge of two sorted listsA and B
- Template method genericMerge
- Auxiliary methods
  - alsLess
  - blsLess
  - bothAreEqual
- Runs in  $O(n_A + n_B)$ time provided the auxiliary methods run in O(1) time

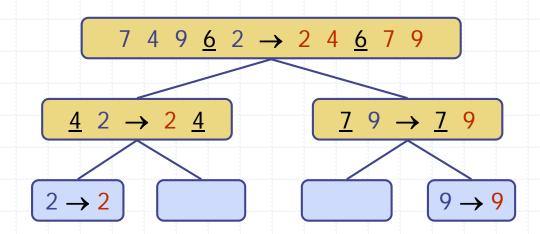
```
Algorithm genericMerge(A, B)
    S \leftarrow empty sequence
    while \neg A.isEmpty() \land \neg B.isEmpty()
        a \leftarrow A.first().element(); b \leftarrow B.first().element()
       if a < b
           alsLess(a, S); A.remove(A.first())
        else if b < a
           bIsLess(b, S); B.remove(B.first())
        else { b = a }
            bothAreEqual(a, b, S)
           A.remove(A.first()); B.remove(B.first())
    while \neg A.isEmpty()
        alsLess(a, S); A.remove(A.first())
    while \neg B.isEmpty()
        blsLess(b, S); B.remove(B.first())
   return S
```

# Using Generic Merge for Set Operations



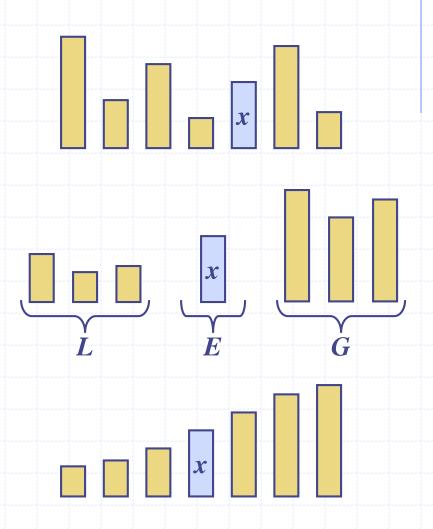
- Any of the set operations can be implemented using a generic merge
- For example:
  - For intersection: only copy elements that are duplicated in both list
  - For union: copy every element from both lists except for the duplicates
- All methods run in linear time.

#### **Quick-Sort**



#### Quick-Sort

- Quick-sort is a randomized sorting algorithm based on the divide-and-conquer paradigm:
  - Divide: pick a random element x (called pivot) and partition S into
    - L elements less than x
    - E elements equal x
    - G elements greater than x
  - Recur: sort L and G
  - Conquer: join L, E and G



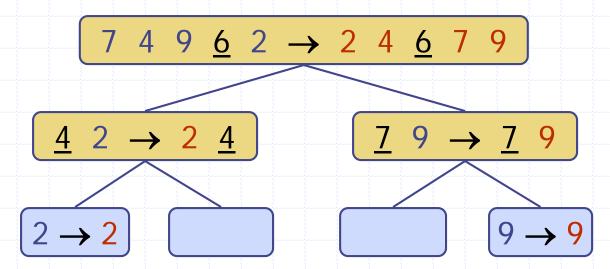
#### **Partition**

- We partition an input sequence as follows:
  - We remove, in turn, each element y from S and
  - We insert y into L, E or G, depending on the result of the comparison with the pivot x
- Each insertion and removal is at the beginning or at the end of a sequence, and hence takes O(1) time
- Thus, the partition step of quick-sort takes O(n) time

```
Algorithm partition(S, p)
    Input sequence S, position p of pivot
    Output subsequences L, E, G of the
        elements of S less than, equal to,
        or greater than the pivot, resp.
   L, E, G \leftarrow empty sequences
   x \leftarrow S.remove(p)
   while \neg S.isEmpty()
       y \leftarrow S.remove(S.first())
       if y < x
            L.insertLast(y)
        else if y = x
            E.insertLast(y)
        else \{y > x\}
            G.insertLast(y)
   return L, E, G
```

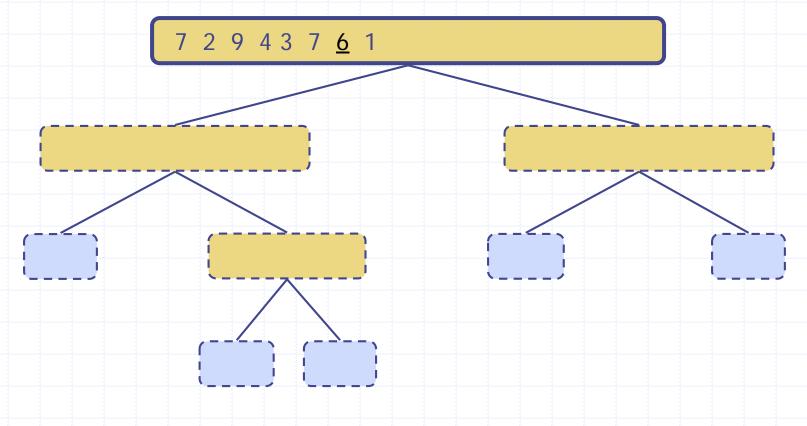
#### **Quick-Sort Tree**

- An execution of quick-sort is depicted by a binary tree
  - Each node represents a recursive call of quick-sort and stores
    - Unsorted sequence before the execution and its pivot
    - Sorted sequence at the end of the execution
  - The root is the initial call
  - The leaves are calls on subsequences of size 0 or 1

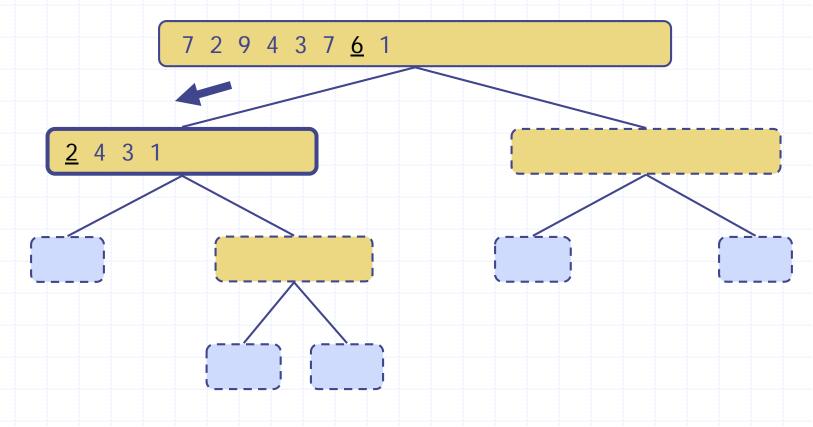


### **Execution Example**

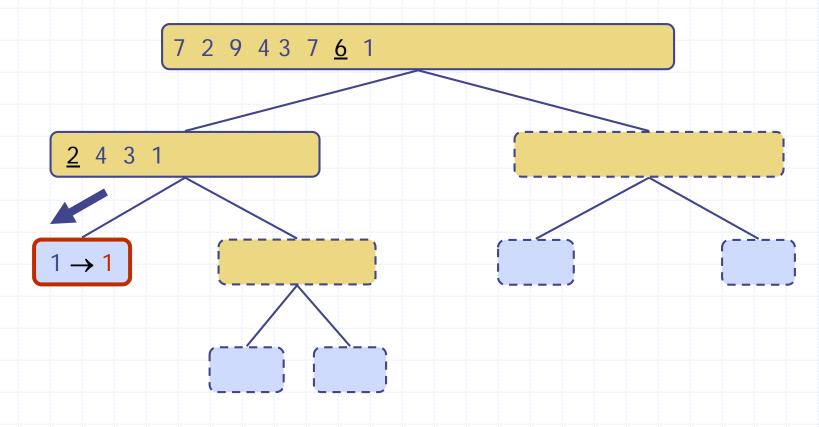
Pivot selection



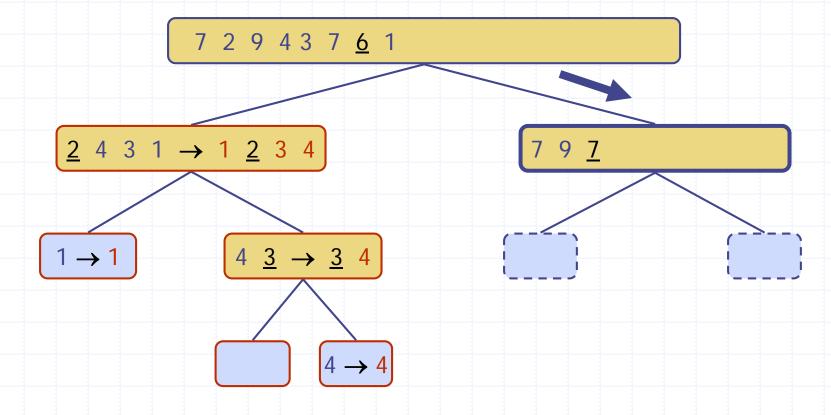
Partition, recursive call, pivot selection



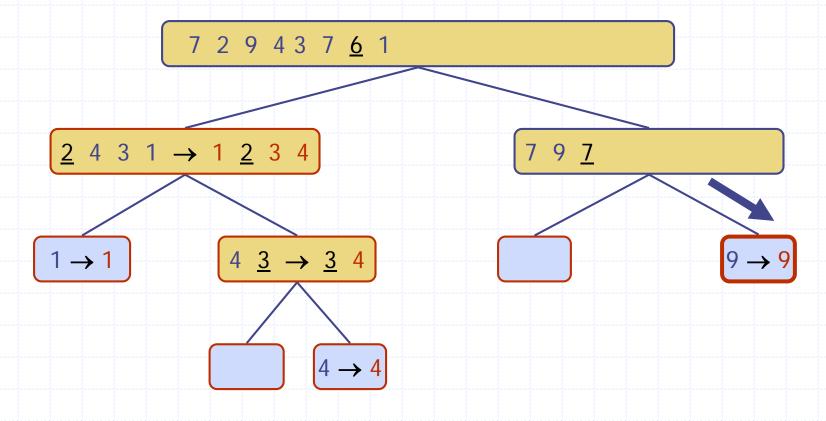
Partition, recursive call, base case



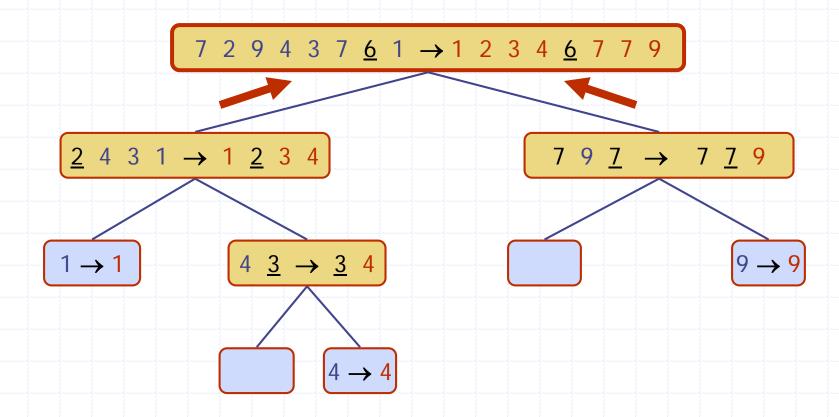
Recursive call, pivot selection



◆ Partition, ..., recursive call, base case



◆Join, join

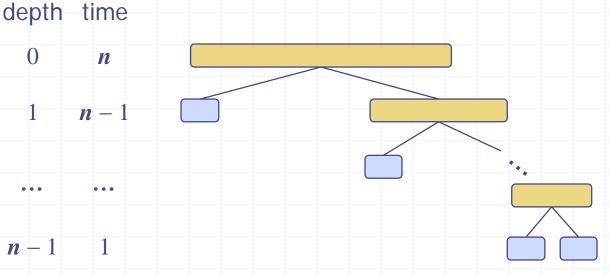


#### Worst-case Running Time

- The worst case for quick-sort occurs when the pivot is the unique minimum or maximum element
- $\bullet$  One of L and G has size n-1 and the other has size 0
- The running time is proportional to the sum

$$n + (n - 1) + \dots + 2 + 1$$

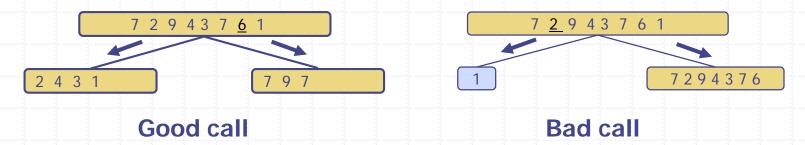
lacktriangle Thus, the worst-case running time of quick-sort is  $O(n^2)$ 



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#### **Expected Running Time**

- Consider a recursive call of quick-sort on a sequence of size s
  - Good call: the sizes of L and G are each less than 3s/4
  - **Bad call:** one of L and G has size greater than 3s/4

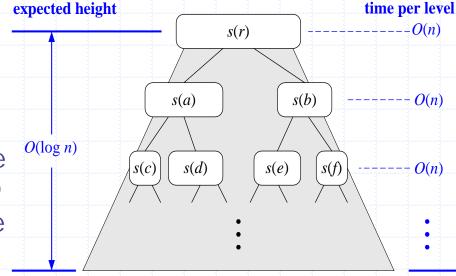


- ◆ A call is good with probability 1/2
  - 1/2 of the possible pivots cause good calls:



#### Expected Running Time, Part 2

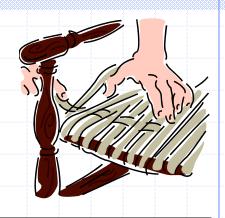
- Probabilistic Fact: The expected number of coin tosses required in order to get k heads is 2k
- $\bullet$  For a node of depth i, we expect
  - *i*/2 ancestors are good calls
  - The size of the input sequence for the current call is at most  $(3/4)^{i/2}n$
- Therefore, we have
  - For a node of depth  $2\log_{4/3}n$ , the expected input size is one
  - The expected height of the quick-sort tree is  $O(\log n)$
- The amount or work done at the nodes of the same depth is O(n)
- Thus, the expected running time of quick-sort is  $O(n \log n)$



total expected time:  $O(n \log n)$ 

#### In-Place Quick-Sort

- Quick-sort can be implemented to run in-place
- In the partition step, we use replace operations to rearrange the elements of the input sequence such that
  - the elements less than the pivot have rank less than h
  - the elements equal to the pivot have rank between h and k
  - the elements greater than the pivot have rank greater than k
- The recursive calls consider
  - elements with rank less than h
  - elements with rank greater
     than k



#### Algorithm inPlaceQuickSort(S, l, r)

Input sequence S, ranks l and r
Output sequence S with the elements of rank between l and r rearranged in increasing order

if  $l \ge r$ 

#### return

 $i \leftarrow$  a random integer between l and r  $x \leftarrow S.elemAtRank(i)$   $(h, k) \leftarrow inPlacePartition(x)$  inPlaceQuickSort(S, l, h - 1)inPlaceQuickSort(S, k + 1, r)

### In-Place Partitioning

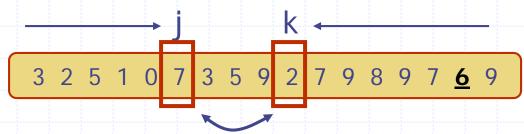


Perform the partition using two indices to split S into L and E U G (a similar method can split E U G into E and G).

3 2 5 1 0 7 3 5 9 2 7 9 8 9 7 <u>6</u> 9

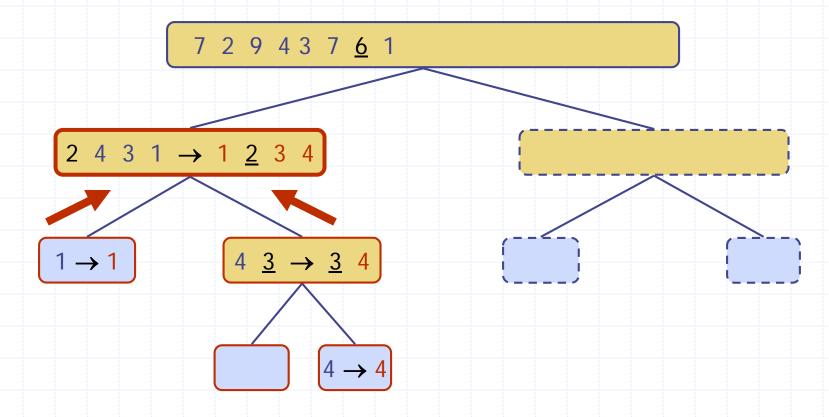
(pivot = 6)

- Repeat until j and k cross:
  - Scan j to the right until finding an element ≥ x.
  - Scan k to the left until finding an element < x.</p>
  - Swap elements at indices j and k



# Execution Example (cont.)

Recursive call, ..., base case, join

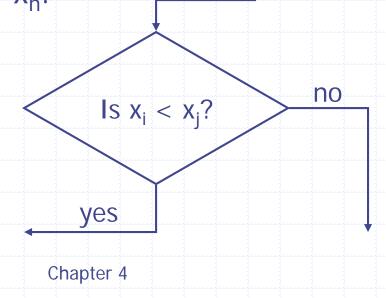


A Lower Bound on Comparison-based Sorting (§4.4)

# Comparison-Based Sorting

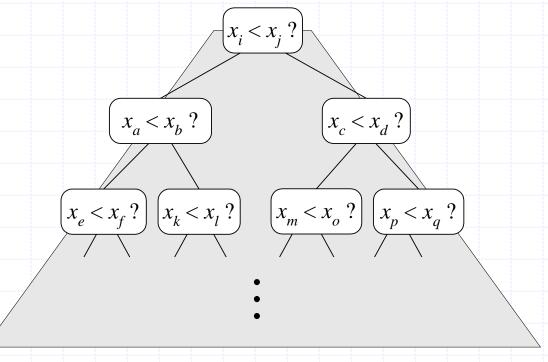


- Many sorting algorithms are comparison based.
  - They sort by making comparisons between pairs of objects
  - Examples: bubble-sort, selection-sort, insertion-sort, heap-sort, merge-sort, quick-sort, ...
- Let us therefore derive a lower bound on the running time of any algorithm that uses comparisons to sort n elements, x<sub>1</sub>, x<sub>2</sub>, ..., x<sub>n</sub>.



# Counting Comparisons

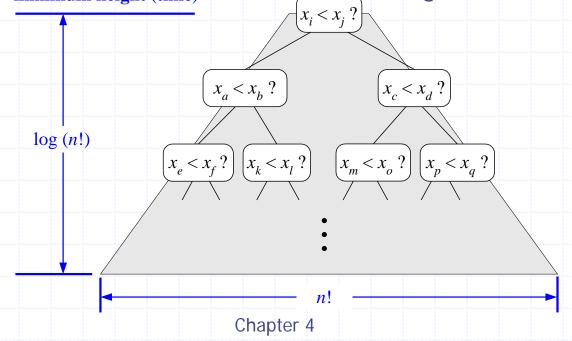
- Let us just count comparisons then.
- Each possible run of the algorithm corresponds to a root-to-leaf path in a decision tree



### Decision Tree Height

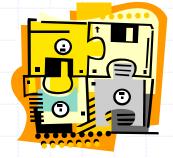
- The height of this decision tree is a lower bound on the running time
- Every possible input permutation must lead to a separate leaf output.
  - If not, some input ...4...5... would have same output ordering as ...5...4..., which would be wrong.

♦ Since the the the the the tensor of the the tensor of the the tensor of the tensor



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#### The Lower Bound

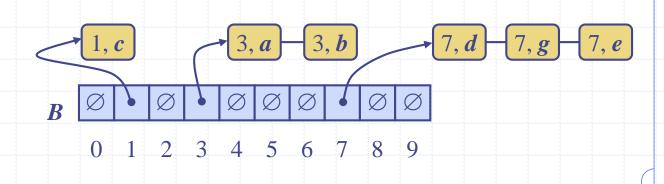


- Any comparison-based sorting algorithms takes at least log (n!) time
- Therefore, any such algorithm takes time at least

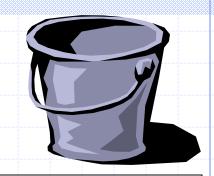
$$\log (n!) \ge \log \left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^{\frac{n}{2}} = (n/2)\log (n/2).$$

 $\bullet$  That is, any comparison-based sorting algorithm must run in  $\Omega(n \log n)$  time.

#### **Bucket-Sort and Radix-Sort**



# Bucket-Sort (§ 4.5.1)



- ◆ Let be S be a sequence of n (key, element) items with keys in the range [0, N – 1]
- Bucket-sort uses the keys as indices into an auxiliary array B of sequences (buckets)

Phase 1: Empty sequence S by moving each item (k, o) into its bucket B[k]

Phase 2: For i = 0, ..., N - 1, move the items of bucket B[i] to the end of sequence S

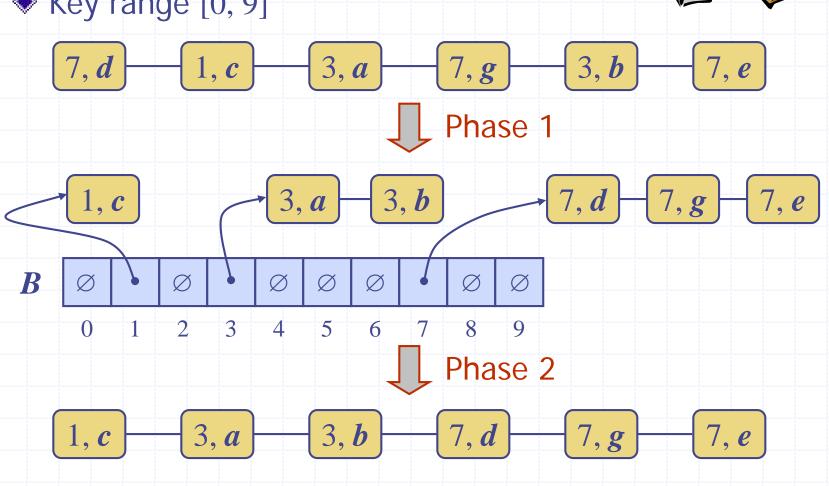
- Analysis:
  - Phase 1 takes O(n) time
  - Phase 2 takes O(n + N) time

Bucket-sort takes O(n + N) time

```
Algorithm bucketSort(S, N)
    Input sequence S of (key, element)
        items with keys in the range
        [0, N-1]
    Output sequence S sorted by
        increasing keys
    B \leftarrow array of N empty sequences
    while \neg S.isEmpty()
        f \leftarrow S.first()
        (k, o) \leftarrow S.remove(f)
        B[k].insertLast((k, o))
    for i \leftarrow 0 to N-1
        while \neg B[i].isEmpty()
             f \leftarrow B[i].first()
            (k, o) \leftarrow B[i].remove(f)
            S.insertLast((k, o))
```

### Example

**♦** Key range [0, 9]



Chapter 4

## Properties and Extensions



- Key-type Property
  - The keys are used as indices into an array and cannot be arbitrary objects
  - No external comparator
- Stable Sort Property
  - The relative order of any two items with the same key is preserved after the execution of the algorithm

#### **Extensions**

- Integer keys in the range [a, b]
  - Put item (k, o) into bucket B[k-a]
- String keys from a set D of possible strings, where D has constant size (e.g., names of the 50 U.S. states)
  - Sort D and compute the rank
     r(k) of each string k of D in the sorted sequence
  - Put item (k, o) into bucket B[r(k)]

# Lexicographic Order



- lacktriangle A *d*-tuple is a sequence of *d* keys  $(k_1, k_2, \ldots, k_d)$ , where key  $k_i$  is said to be the *i*-th dimension of the tuple
- Example:
  - The Cartesian coordinates of a point in space are a 3-tuple
- The lexicographic order of two d-tuples is recursively defined as follows

$$(x_1, x_2, ..., x_d) < (y_1, y_2, ..., y_d)$$

$$x_1 < y_1 \lor x_1 = y_1 \land (x_2, ..., x_d) < (y_2, ..., y_d)$$

I.e., the tuples are compared by the first dimension, then by the second dimension, etc.

## Lexicographic-Sort

- Let C<sub>i</sub> be the comparator that compares two tuples by their i-th dimension
- Let stableSort(S, C) be a stable sorting algorithm that uses comparator C
- Lexicographic-sort sorts a sequence of d-tuples in lexicographic order by executing d times algorithm stableSort, one per dimension
- Lexicographic-sort runs in O(dT(n)) time, where T(n) is the running time of stableSort

#### **Algorithm** *lexicographicSort*(S)

**Input** sequence *S* of *d*-tuples **Output** sequence *S* sorted in lexicographic order

for  $i \leftarrow d$  downto 1  $stableSort(S, C_i)$ 

#### Example:

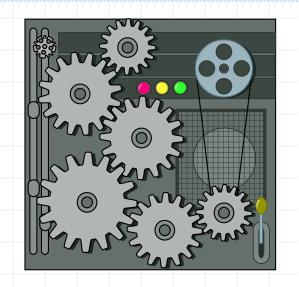
$$(2, 1, 4) (3, 2, 4) (5,1,5) (7,4,6) (2,4,6)$$

$$(2, 1, 4) (5, 1, 5) (3, 2, 4) (7, 4, 6) (2, 4, 6)$$

$$(2, 1, 4) (2,4,6) (3, 2, 4) (5,1,5) (7,4,6)$$

# Radix-Sort (§ 4.5.2)

- Radix-sort is a specialization of lexicographic-sort that uses bucket-sort as the stable sorting algorithm in each dimension
- Radix-sort is applicable to tuples where the keys in each dimension i are integers in the range [0, N − 1]
- Radix-sort runs in time O(d(n+N))



#### Algorithm *radixSort(S, N)*

**Input** sequence S of d-tuples such that  $(0, ..., 0) \le (x_1, ..., x_d)$  and  $(x_1, ..., x_d) \le (N-1, ..., N-1)$  for each tuple  $(x_1, ..., x_d)$  in S **Output** sequence S sorted in

for  $i \leftarrow d$  downto 1 bucketSort(S, N)

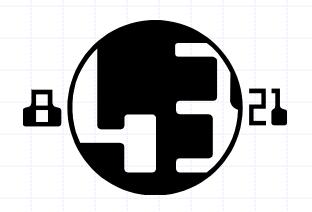
lexicographic order

# Radix-Sort for Binary Numbers

Consider a sequence of nb-bit integers

$$x = x_{b-1} \dots x_1 x_0$$

- We represent each element as a b-tuple of integers in the range [0, 1] and apply radix-sort with N = 2
- This application of the radix-sort algorithm runs in O(bn) time
- For example, we can sort a sequence of 32-bit integers in linear time



#### Algorithm *binaryRadixSort(S)*

**Input** sequence *S* of *b*-bit integers

Output sequence S sorted

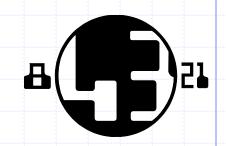
replace each element x of S with the item (0, x)

for 
$$i \leftarrow 0$$
 to  $b-1$ 

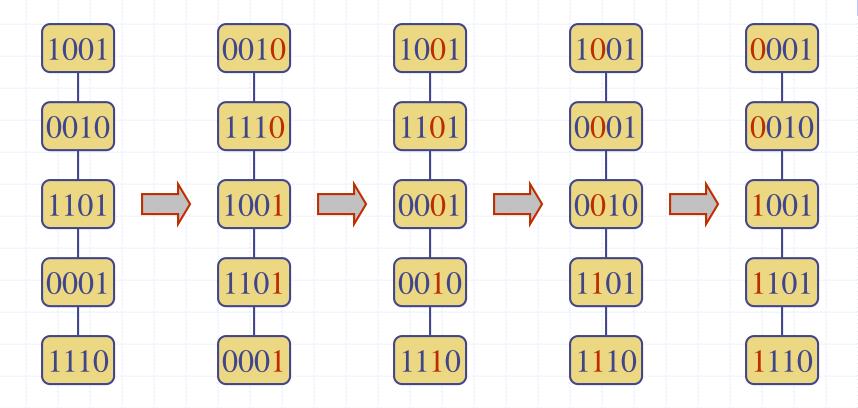
replace the key k of each item (k, x) of S with bit  $x_i$  of x

bucketSort(S, 2)

## Example



Sorting a sequence of 4-bit integers



Chapter 4

# Summary of Sorting Algorithms (§4.6)

Algorithm	Time	Notes
selection-sort	$O(n^2)$	<ul><li>♦ slow</li><li>♦ in-place</li><li>♦ for small data sets (&lt; 1K)</li></ul>
insertion-sort	$O(n^2)$	<ul><li>slow</li><li>in-place</li><li>for small data sets (&lt; 1K)</li></ul>
heap-sort	$O(n \log n)$	<ul><li>♦ fast</li><li>♦ in-place</li><li>♦ for large data sets (1K — 1M)</li></ul>
merge-sort	$O(n \log n)$	<ul><li>♦ fast</li><li>♦ sequential data access</li><li>♦ for huge data sets (&gt; 1M)</li></ul>

Selection (§4.7)



Chapter 4

#### The Selection Problem



- Given an integer k and n elements x<sub>1</sub>, x<sub>2</sub>, ..., x<sub>n</sub>, taken from a total order, find the k-th smallest element in this set.
- Of course, we can sort the set in O(n log n) time and then index the k-th element.

$$k=3$$
  $\begin{bmatrix} 7 & 4 & 9 & \underline{6} & 2 \rightarrow 2 & 4 & \underline{6} & 7 & 9 \end{bmatrix}$ 

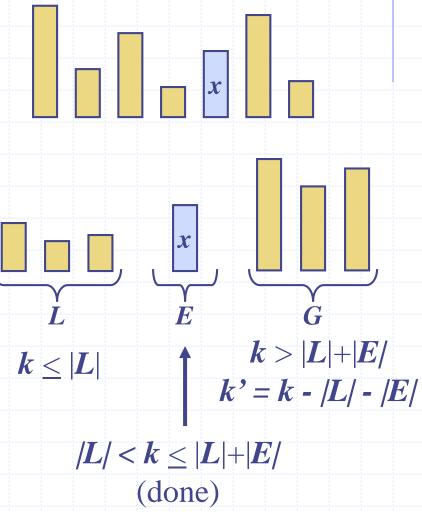
Can we solve the selection problem faster?

#### **Quick-Select**

Quick-select is a randomized selection algorithm based on the prune-and-search paradigm:



- L elements less than x
- E elements equal x
- G elements greater than x
- Search: depending on k, either answer is in E, or we need to recurse in either L or G



#### **Partition**

- We partition an input sequence as in the quick-sort algorithm:
  - We remove, in turn, each element y from S and
  - We insert y into L, E or G, depending on the result of the comparison with the pivot x
- Each insertion and removal is at the beginning or at the end of a sequence, and hence takes O(1) time
- Thus, the partition step of quick-select takes O(n) time

```
Algorithm partition(S, p)
    Input sequence S, position p of pivot
    Output subsequences L, E, G of the
        elements of S less than, equal to,
        or greater than the pivot, resp.
   L, E, G \leftarrow empty sequences
   x \leftarrow S.remove(p)
    while \neg S.isEmpty()
       y \leftarrow S.remove(S.first())
       if y < x
            L.insertLast(y)
        else if y = x
            E.insertLast(y)
       else \{y > x\}
            G.insertLast(y)
    return L, E, G
```

#### **Quick-Select Visualization**

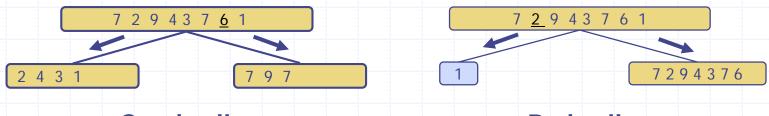
- An execution of quick-select can be visualized by a recursion path
  - Each node represents a recursive call of quick-select, and stores k and the remaining sequence

$$k=5$$
,  $S=(7\ 4\ 9\ \underline{3}\ 2\ 6\ 5\ 1\ 8)$ 
 $k=2$ ,  $S=(7\ 4\ 9\ 6\ 5)$ 
 $k=1$ ,  $S=(7\ 6\ \underline{5})$ 
Chapter 4

# **Expected Running Time**



- Consider a recursive call of quick-select on a sequence of size s
  - Good call: the sizes of L and G are each less than 3s/4
  - **Bad call:** one of L and G has size greater than 3s/4



Good call

**Bad call** 

- ◆ A call is good with probability 1/2
  - 1/2 of the possible pivots cause good calls:



# Expected Running Time, Part 2

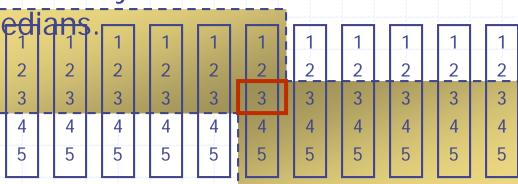


- Probabilistic Fact #1: The expected number of coin tosses required in order to get one head is two
- Probabilistic Fact #2: Expectation is a linear function:
  - $\bullet \quad E(X+Y)=E(X)+E(Y)$
  - $\bullet E(cX) = cE(X)$
- Let T(n) denote the expected running time of quick-select.
- ◆ By Fact #2,
  - $T(n) \le T(3n/4) + bn^*$  (expected # of calls before a good call)
- By Fact #1,
  - $T(n) \le T(3n/4) + 2bn$
- That is, T(n) is a geometric series:
  - $T(n) \le 2bn + 2b(3/4)n + 2b(3/4)^2n + 2b(3/4)^3n + \dots$
- ♦ So T(n) is O(n).
- We can solve the selection problem in O(n) expected time.

#### **Deterministic Selection**

- ◆ We can do selection in O(n) worst-case time.
- Main idea: recursively use the selection algorithm itself to find a good pivot for quick-select:
  - Divide S into n/5 sets of 5 each
  - Find a median in each set
  - Recursively find the median of the "baby"

Min size medians
for L 2 2



Min size for G