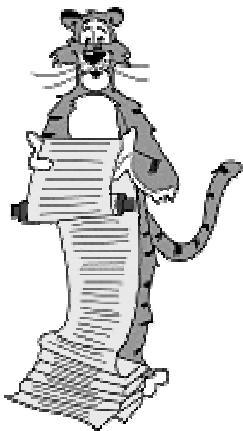


## Lecture T5: Analysis of Algorithm



A S O R T I N G E X A M P L E  
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A O R S T I N G E X A M P L E  
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A I O R S T H E X A M P L E  
A I H O R S T G E X A M P L E  
A G I N O R S T E X A M P L E  
A E G I N O R S T X A M P L E  
A A E G I N O R S T X A M P L E  
A A E G I M H O R S T X M P L E  
A A E G I M H O P R S T X L E  
A A E G I M H L M N O P R S T X E  
A A E G I L M N N O P R S T X  
A A E G I L M N N O P R S T X

## Overview

## Lecture T4:

- What is an algorithm?
    - Turing machine.
  - Is it possible, in principle, to write a program to solve any problem?
    - No. Halting problem and others are unsolvable.

## This Lecture:

- For many problems, there may be several competing algorithms.
    - Which one should I use?
  - Computational complexity:
    - Rigorous and useful framework for comparing algorithms and predicting performance.
  - Use sorting as a case study.

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## Linear Growth

## Grade school addition.

- Work is proportional to number of digits  $N$ .
  - Linear growth:  $k N$  for some constant  $k$ .

$$\begin{array}{r}
 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\
 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\
 + & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\
 \hline
 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1
 \end{array}$$

1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1
	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1
+	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1
1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0

N = 4

N = 8

- 2N** read operations
- 2N + 1** write operations
- N** odd parity operation
- N** majority operations

Quadratic Growth

## Grade school multiplication.

- Work is proportional to **square** of number of digits N.
  - Quadratic growth:  $k N^2$  for some constant k.

<b>N = 8</b>	<table border="1"> <tr><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>*</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>1</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>1</td></tr> </table>	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	*	0	1	1	1	1	0	1										1	1	0	1	0	1	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0		1	1	0	1	0	1	0		1	1	0	1	0	1	0		1	1	0	1	0	1	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0		1	0	1	0	0	0	1
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## Why Does It Matter?

Run time (nanoseconds)	$1.3 N^3$	$10 N^2$	$47 N \log_2 N$	$48 N$
Time to solve a problem of size	1000	1.3 seconds	10 msec	0.4 msec
	10,000	22 minutes	1 second	6 msec
	100,000	15 days	1.7 minutes	78 msec
	million	41 years	2.8 hours	0.94 seconds
	10 million	41 millennia	1.7 weeks	0.48 seconds
Max size problem solved in one	second	920	10,000	1 million
	minute	3,600	77,000	49 million
	hour	14,000	600,000	2.4 trillion
	day	41,000	2.9 million	50 trillion
N multiplied by 10, time multiplied by	1,000	100	10+	10

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## Orders of Magnitude

Seconds	Equivalent	Meters Per Second	Imperial Units	Example
1	1 second	$10^{-10}$	1.2 in / decade	Continental drift
10	10 seconds	$10^{-8}$	1 ft / year	Hair growing
$10^2$	1.7 minutes	$10^{-6}$	3.4 in / day	Glacier
$10^3$	17 minutes	$10^{-4}$	1.2 ft / hour	Gastro-intestinal tract
$10^4$	2.8 hours	$10^{-2}$	2 ft / minute	Ant
$10^5$	1.1 days	1	2.2 mi / hour	Human walk
$10^6$	1.6 weeks	$10^2$	220 mi / hour	Propeller airplane
$10^7$	3.8 months	$10^4$	370 mi / min	Space shuttle
$10^8$	3.1 years	$10^6$	620 mi / sec	Earth in galactic orbit
$10^{21}$	age of universe	$10^8$	62,000 mi / sec	1/3 speed of light
		Powers of 2	$2^{10}$	thousand
			$2^{20}$	million
			$2^{30}$	billion

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## Historical Quest for Speed

### Multiplication: $a \times b$ .

- Naïve: add a to itself b times.  $N 2^N$  steps
- Grade school.  $N^2$  steps
- Divide-and-conquer (Karatsuba, 1962).  $N^{1.58}$  steps
- Ingenuity (Schönhage and Strassen, 1971).  
 $N \log N \log \log N$  steps

$N = \# \text{ bits in binary representation of } a, b$

step = integer division

### Greatest common divisor: $\gcd(a, b)$ .

- Naïve: factor a and b, then find  $\gcd(a, b)$ .  $2^N$  steps
- Euclid (20 BCE):  $\gcd(a, b) = \gcd(b, a \bmod b)$ .  $N$  steps

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## Better Machines vs. Better Algorithms

### New machine.

- Costs \$\$\$ or more.
- Makes "everything" finish sooner.
- Incremental quantitative improvements (Moore's Law).
- May not help much with some problems.

### New algorithm.

- Costs \$ or less.
- Dramatic qualitative improvements possible! (million times faster)
- May make the difference, allowing specific problem to be solved.
- May not help much with some problems.

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## Impact of Better Algorithms

### Example 1: N-body-simulation.

- Simulate gravitational interactions among N bodies.
  - physicists want  $N = \# \text{ atoms in universe}$
- Brute force method:  $N^2$  steps.
- Appel (1981).  $N \log N$  steps, enables new research.



### Example 2: Discrete Fourier Transform (DFT).

- Breaks down waveforms (sound) into periodic components.
  - foundation of signal processing
  - CD players, JPEG, analyzing astronomical data, etc.
- Grade school method:  $N^2$  steps.
- Runge-König (1924), Cooley-Tukey (1965).  
FFT algorithm:  $N \log N$  steps, enables new technology.

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## Case Study: Sorting

### Sorting problem:

- Given N items, rearrange them so that they are in increasing order.
- Among most fundamental problems.

name
Hauser
Hong
Hsu
Hayes
Haskell
Hanley
Hornet
Hill



name
Hanley
Haskell
Hauser
Hayes
Hill
Hong
Hornet
Hsu

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## Case Study: Sorting

### Sorting problem:

- Given N items, rearrange them so that they are in increasing order.
- Among most fundamental problems.



### Insertion sort

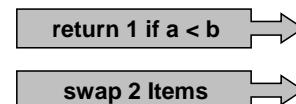
- Brute-force sorting solution.
- Move left-to-right through array.
- Exchange next element with larger elements to its left, one-by-one.

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## Generic Item to Be Sorted

### Define generic Item type to be sorted.

- Associated operations:
  - less, show, swap, rand
- Example: integers.



```
ITEM.h
typedef int Item;
int ITEMless(Item a, Item b);
void ITEMshow(Item a);
void ITEMswap(Item *pa, Item *pb);
int ITEMscan(Item *pa);
```

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## Item Implementation

### item.c

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include "ITEM.h"

int ITEMless(Item a, Item b) {
    return (a < b);
}

void ITEMswap(Item *pa, Item *pb) {
    Item t;
    t = *pa; *pa = *pb; *pb = t;
}

void ITEMshow(Item a) {
    printf("%d\n", a);
}

void ITEMscan(Item *pa) {
    return scanf("%d", pa);
}
```

swap integers – need  
to use pointers

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## Generic Sorting Program

### sort.c (see Sedgewick 6.1)

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include "Item.h"
#define N 2000000

int main(void) {
    int i, n = 0;
    Item a[N];

    while(ITEMscan(&a[n]) != EOF)
        n++;

    sort(a, 0, n-1);

    for (i = 0; i < n; i++)
        ITEMshow(a[i]);
    return 0;
}
```

Max number of  
items to sort.

Read input.

Call generic sort  
function.

Print results.

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## Insertion Sort Function

### insertionsort.c (see Sedgewick Program 6.1)

```
void insertionsort(Item a[], int left, int right) {
    int i, j;

    for (i = left + 1; i <= right; i++)
        for (j = i; j > left; j--)
            if (ITEMless(a[j], a[j-1]))
                ITEMswap(&a[j], &a[j-1]);
            else
                break;
}
```

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## Profiling Insertion Sort Empirically

Use lcc "profiling" capability.

- Automatically generates a file prof.out that has frequency counts for each instruction.
- Striking feature:  
– HUGE numbers!

### Unix

```
% lcc -b insertion.c item.c
% a.out < sort1000.txt
% bprint
```

### Insertion Sort prof.out

```
void insertionsort(Item a[], int left, int right) <1>{
    int i, j;
    for (<1>i = left + 1; <1000>i <= right; <999>i++)
        for (<999>j = i; <256320>j > left; <255321>j--)
            if (<256313>ITEMless(a[j], a[j-1]))
                <255321>ITEMswap(&a[j], &a[j-1]);
            else
                <992>break;
<1>}
```

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## Profiling Insertion Sort Analytically

### How long does insertion sort take?

- Depends on number of elements N to sort.
- Depends on specific input.
- Depends on how long compare and exchange operation takes.

### Worst case.

- Elements in reverse sorted order.
  - i<sup>th</sup> iteration requires i - 1 compare and exchange operations
    - total = 0 + 1 + 2 + . . . + N-1 = N(N-1) / 2



■ unsorted ■ active ■ sorted

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■ unsorted ■ active ■ sorted

## Profiling Insertion Sort Analytically

### How long does insertion sort take?

- Depends on number of elements N to sort.
- Depends on specific input.
- Depends on how long compare and exchange operation takes.

### Average case.

- Elements are randomly ordered.
  - i<sup>th</sup> iteration requires i / 2 comparison on average
    - total = 0 + 1/2 + 2/2 + . . . + (N-1)/2 = N(N-1) / 4
    - check with profile: 249,750 vs. 256,313



■ unsorted ■ active ■ sorted

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## Profiling Insertion Sort Analytically

### How long does insertion sort take?

- Depends on number of elements N to sort.
- Depends on specific input.
- Depends on how long compare and exchange operation takes.

### Best case.

- Elements in sorted order already.
  - i<sup>th</sup> iteration requires only 1 compare operation
    - total = 0 + 1 + 1 + . . . + 1 = N - 1



■ unsorted ■ active ■ sorted

18

■ unsorted ■ active ■ sorted

## Profiling Insertion Sort Analytically

### How long does insertion sort take?

- Depends on number of elements N to sort.
- Depends on specific input.
- Depends on how long compare and exchange operation takes.

Worst case: N(N - 1) / 2.

Best case: N - 1.

Average case: N(N - 1) / 4.

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## Estimating the Running Time

### Total run time:

- Sum over all instructions: frequency \* cost.

### Frequency:

- Determined by algorithm and input.
- Can use `lcc -b` (or analysis) to help estimate.

### Cost:

- Determined by compiler and machine.
- Could use `lcc -S` (plus manuals).

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## Estimating the Running Time

### Easier alternative.

- Analyze asymptotic growth.
- For medium N, run and measure time.  
For large N, use (i) and (ii) to predict time.



Donald Knuth

### Asymptotic growth rates.

- Estimate time as a function of input size.
  - $N, N \log N, N^2, N^3, 2^N, N!$
- Ignore lower order terms and leading coefficients.
  - Ex.  $6N^3 + 17N^2 + 56$  is proportional to  $N^3$

Insertion sort is quadratic. On arizona: 1 second for  $N = 10,000$ .

- How long for  $N = 100,000$ ? 100 seconds (100 times as long).
- $N = 1$  million? 2.78 hours (another factor of 100).
- $N = 1$  billion? 317 years (another factor of  $10^6$ ).

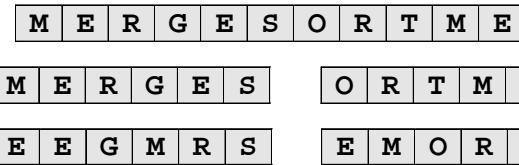
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## Sorting Case Study: mergesort

### Insertion sort (brute-force)

### Mergesort (divide-and-conquer)

- Divide array into two halves.
- Sort each half separately. How do we sort half size files?



divide

sort

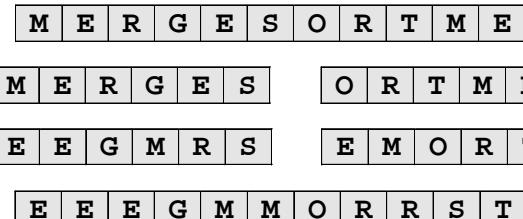
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## Sorting Case Study: mergesort

### Insertion sort (brute-force)

### Mergesort (divide-and-conquer)

- Divide array into two halves.
- Sort each half separately.
- Merge two halves to make sorted whole.



divide

sort

merge

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## Profiling Mergesort Analytically

### How long does mergesort take?

- Bottleneck = merging (and copying).
  - merging two files of size  $N/2$  requires  $N$  comparisons
- $T(N) = \text{comparisons to mergesort array of } N \text{ elements.}$

$$T(N) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } N = 1 \\ 2T(N/2) + N & \text{otherwise} \\ \text{sorting both halves} & \text{merging} \end{cases}$$

Unwind recurrence: (assume  $N = 2^k$ ).

$$\begin{aligned} T(N) &= 2 T(N/2) + N = 2(2 T(N/4) + N/2) + N \\ &= 4 T(N/4) + 2N = 4(2 T(N/8) + N/4) + 2N \\ &= 8 T(N/8) + 3N \\ &= 16 T(N/16) + 4N \\ &\dots \\ &= N T(1) + k N \\ &= 0 + N \log_2 N \end{aligned}$$

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## Profiling Mergesort Analytically

### How long does mergesort take?

- Bottleneck = merging (and copying).
  - merging two files of size  $N/2$  requires  $N$  comparisons
- $N \log_2 N$  comparisons to sort ANY array of  $N$  elements.
- even already sorted array!

### How much space?



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## Implementing Mergesort

### mergesort (see Sedgewick Program 8.3)

```
Item aux[MAXN]; ← uses scratch array

void mergesort(Item a[], int left, int right) {
    int mid = (right + left) / 2;
    if (right <= left)
        return;
    mergesort(a, left, mid);
    mergesort(a, mid + 1, right);
    merge(a, left, mid, right);
}
```

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## Implementing Mergesort

### merge (see Sedgewick Program 8.2)

```
void merge(Item a[], int left, int mid, int right) {
    int i, j, k;

    for (i = mid+1; i > left; i--)
        aux[i-1] = a[i-1];
    for (j = mid; j < right; j++)
        aux[right+mid-j] = a[j+1];

    for (k = left; k <= right; k++)
        if (ITEMless(aux[i], aux[j]))
            a[k] = aux[i++];
        else
            a[k] = aux[j--];
}
```

← copy to temporary array

← merge two sorted sequences

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## Profiling Mergesort Empirically

### Mergesort prof.out

```
void merge(Item a[], int left, int mid, int right) <999>{
    int i, j, k;
    for (<999>i = mid+1; <6043>i > left; <5044>i--)
        <5044>aux[i-1] = a[i-1];
    for (<999>j = mid; <5931>j < right; <4932>j++)
        <4932>aux[right+mid-j] = a[j+1];
    for (<999>k = left; <10975>k <= right; <9976>k++)
        if (<9976>ITEMless(aux[i], aux[j]))
            <4543>a[k] = aux[i++];
        else
            <5433>a[k] = aux[j--];
    <999>}
```

**# comparisons**  
 Theory ~  $N \log_2 N = 9,966$   
 Actual = 9,976

```
void mergesort(Item a[], int left, int right) <1999>{
    int mid = <1999>(right + left) / 2;
    if (<1999>right <= left)
        return <1000>;
    <999>mergesort(a, aux, left, mid);
    <999>mergesort(a, aux, mid+1, right);
    <999>merge(a, aux, left, mid, right);
    <1999>}
```

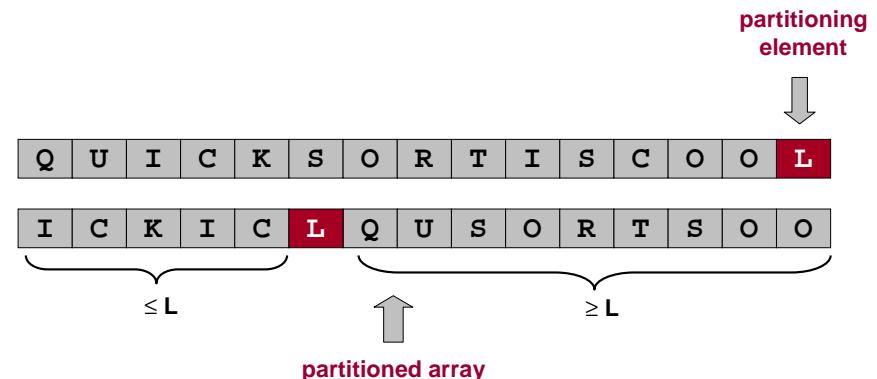
**Striking feature:**  
 no HUGE numbers!

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## Quicksort

### Quicksort.

- Partition array so that:
  - some partitioning element  $a[m]$  is in its final position
  - no larger element to the left of  $m$
  - no smaller element to the right of  $m$



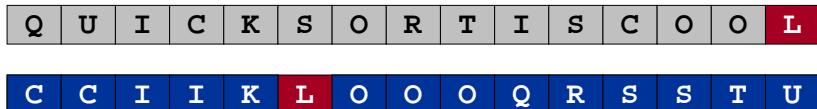
34

## Quicksort

### Quicksort.

- Partition array so that:
  - some partitioning element  $a[m]$  is in its final position
  - no larger element to the left of  $m$
  - no smaller element to the right of  $m$
- Sort each "half" recursively.

partitioning element



Sort each "half."

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## Sorting Case Study: quicksort

### Insertion sort (brute-force)

### Mergesort (divide-and-conquer)

### Quicksort (conquer-and-divide)

- Partition array so that:
  - some partitioning element  $a[m]$  is in its final position
  - no larger element to the left of  $m$
  - no smaller element to the right of  $m$
- Sort each "half" recursively.

### quicksort.c (see Sedgewick Program 7.1)

```
void quicksort(Item a[], int left, int right) {
    int m;
    if (right > left) {
        m = partition(a, left, right);
        quicksort(a, left, m - 1);
        quicksort(a, m + 1, right);
    }
}
```

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## Sorting Case Study: quicksort

Insertion sort (brute-force)

Mergesort (divide-and-conquer)

Quicksort (conquer-and-divide)

- Partition array so that:
  - some partitioning element  $a[m]$  is in its final position
  - no larger element to the left of  $m$
  - no smaller element to the right of  $m$
- Sort each "half" recursively.
- How do we partition efficiently?
  - $N - 1$  comparisons
  - easy with auxiliary array
  - better solution: use no extra space!



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## Implementing Partition

partition (see Sedgewick Program 7.2)

```
int partition(Item a[], int left, int right) {
    int i = left-1; /* left to right pointer */
    int j = right; /* right to left pointer */
    Item p = a[right]; /* partition element */

    while(1) {
        while (ITEMless(a[++i], p)) ← find element on left to swap
        ;
        while (ITEMless(p, a[--j])) ← look for element on right to
                                       swap, but don't run off end
            if (j == left)
                break;

        if (i >= j) ← pointers cross
            break;
        ITEMswap(&a[i], &a[j]);
    }

    ITEMswap(&a[i], &a[right]); ← swap partition
    return i; ← element
}
```

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## Profiling Quicksort Empirically

Quicksort prof.out

```
void quicksort(Item a[], int left, int right) <1337>{
    int p;
    if (<1337>right <= left)
        return<669>;
    <668>p = partition(a, left, right);
    <668>quicksort(a, left, p-1);
    <668>quicksort(a, p+1, right); ← Striking feature: no
                                     Huge numbers!
<1337>}
```

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## Profiling Quicksort Empirically

Quicksort prof.out (cont)

```
int partition(Item a[], int left, int right) <668>{
    int i = <668>left-1, j = <668>right;
    Item swap, p = <668>a[right];

    <668>while(<1678>(<1678>1) {
        while (<5708>ITEMless(a[++i], p))
            <3362>;
        while (<6664>ITEMless(p, a[--j]))
            if (<4495>j == left)
                <177>break;
            if (<2346>i >= j)
                <668>break;
        <1678>ITEMswap(&a[i], &a[j]);
    }
    <668>ITEMswap(&a[i], &a[right]);
    return <668>i;
<668>}
```

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## Profiling Quicksort Analytically

### Intuition.

- Assume all elements unique.
- Assume we always select median as partition element.
- $T(N) = \# \text{ comparisons}$ .

$$T(N) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } N = 1 \\ 2\overbrace{T(N/2)}^{\text{sorting both halves}} + \underbrace{N}_{\text{partitioning}} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

If  $N$  is a power of 2.  
 $\Rightarrow T(N) = N \log_2 N$



Can you find median in  $O(N)$  time?



Bob Tarjan, et al (1973)

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## Profiling Quicksort Analytically

### Partition on median element.



### Partition on rightmost element.



### Partition on random element.



### Check profile.

- $2N \log_e N$ : 13815 vs. 12372 (5708 + 6664).
- Running time for  $N = 100,000$  about 1.2 seconds.
- How long for  $N = 1$  million ?
  - slightly more than 10 times (about 12 seconds)

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## Sorting Analysis Summary

### Running time estimates:

- Home pc executes  $10^8$  comparisons/second.
- Supercomputer executes  $10^{12}$  comparisons/second.

Insertion Sort ( $N^2$ )

computer	thousand	million	billion
home	instant	2.8 hours	317 years
super	instant	1 second	1.6 weeks

Quicksort ( $N \lg N$ )

	thousand	million	billion
instant	0.3 sec	6 min	
instant	instant	instant	

Lesson: good algorithms are more powerful than supercomputers.

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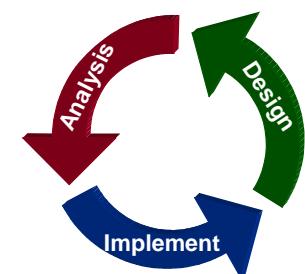
## Design, Analysis, and Implementation of Algorithms

### Algorithm.

- "Step-by-step recipe" used to solve a problem.
- Generally independent of programming language or machine on which it is to be executed.

### Design.

- Find a method to solve the problem.



### Analysis.

- Evaluate its effectiveness and predict theoretical performance.

### Implementation.

- Write actual code and test your theory.

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## Sorting Analysis Summary

Comparison of Different Sorting Algorithms

Attribute	insertion	quicksort	mergesort
<b>Worst case complexity</b>	$N^2$	$N^2$	$N \log_2 N$
<b>Best case complexity</b>	$N$	$N \log_2 N$	$N \log_2 N$
<b>Average case complexity</b>	$N^2$	$N \log_2 N$	$N \log_2 N$
<b>Already sorted</b>	$N$	$N^2$	$N \log_2 N$
<b>Reverse sorted</b>	$N^2$	$N^2$	$N \log_2 N$
<b>Space</b>	$N$	$N$	$2N$
<b>Stable</b>	yes	no	yes

Sorting algorithms have different performance characteristics.

- Other choices: BST sort, bubblesort, heapsort, shellsort, selection sort, shaker sort, radix sort, distribution sort, solitaire sort, hybrid methods.
- Which one should I use?



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## Computational Complexity

Framework to study efficiency of algorithms.

- Depends on machine model, average case, worst case.
- UPPER BOUND = algorithm to solve the problem.
- LOWER BOUND = proof that no algorithm can do better.
- OPTIMAL ALGORITHM: lower bound = upper bound.

Example: sorting.

- Measure costs in terms of comparisons.
- Upper bound =  $N \log_2 N$  (mergesort).
  - quicksort usually faster, but mergesort never slow
- Lower bound =  $N \log_2 N - N \log_2 e$   
(applies to any comparison-based algorithm).
  - Why?

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## Computational Complexity

Caveats.

- Worst or average case may be unrealistic.
- Costs ignored in analysis may dominate.
- Machine model may be restrictive.

Complexity studies provide:

- Starting point for practical implementations.
- Indication of approaches to be avoided.

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## Summary

How can I evaluate the performance of a proposed algorithm?

- Computational experiments.
- Complexity theory.

What if it's not fast enough?

- Use a faster computer.
  - performance improves incrementally
- Understand why.
- Discover a better algorithm.
  - performance can improve dramatically
  - not always easy / possible to develop better algorithm

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# Lecture T5: Extra Slides



## Average Case vs. Worst Case

### Worst-case analysis.

- Take running time of worst input of size N.
- Advantages:
  - performance guarantee
- Disadvantage:
  - pathological inputs can determine run time

### Average case analysis.

- Take average run time over all inputs of some class.
- Advantage:
  - can be more accurate measure of performance
- Disadvantage:
  - hard to quantify what input distributions will look like in practice
  - difficult to analyze for complicated algorithms, distributions
  - no performance guarantee

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## Profiling Quicksort Analytically

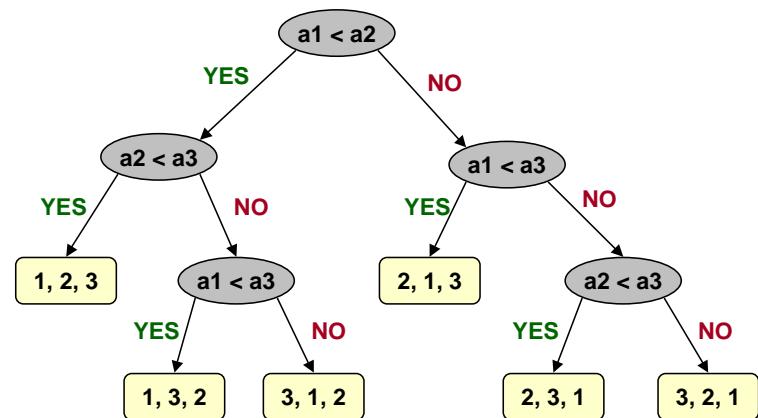
### Average case.

- Assume partition element chosen at random and all elements are unique.
- Denote  $i^{\text{th}}$  largest element by  $i$ .
- Probability that  $i$  and  $j$  (where  $j > i$ ) are compared =  $\frac{2}{j-i+1}$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Expected # of comparisons} &= \sum_{i < j} \frac{2}{j-i+1} = 2 \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=2}^i \frac{1}{j} \\ &\leq 2N \sum_{j=1}^N \frac{1}{j} \\ &\approx 2N \int_1^N \frac{1}{j} \\ &= 2N \ln N \end{aligned}$$

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## Comparison Based Sorting Lower Bound



Decision Tree of Program

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## Comparison Based Sorting Lower Bound

Lower bound =  $N \log_2 N$  (applies to any comparison-based algorithm).

- Worst case dictated by tree height  $h$ .
- $N!$  different orderings.
- One (or more) leaves corresponding to each ordering.
- Binary tree with  $N!$  leaves must have

$$\begin{aligned} h &\geq \log_2(N!) \\ &\geq \log_2(N/e)^N && \xleftarrow{\text{Stirling's formula}} \\ &= N \log_2 N - N \log_2 e \\ &= \Theta(N \log_2 N) \end{aligned}$$