Fundamental Algorithms

Chapter 2: Sorting

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Part I

Simple Sorts

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The Sorting Problem

Definition

Sorting is required to order a given sequence of elements, or more precisely:

Input : a sequence of *n* elements $\underline{a_1, a_2, \ldots, a_n}$

- **Output** : a permutation (reordering) a'_1, a'_2, \ldots, a'_n of the input sequence, such that $a'_1 \le a'_2 \le \cdots \le a'_n$.
- we will assume the elements a₁, a₂,..., a_n to be integers (or any element/data type on which a total order ≤ is defined)
- a sorting algorithm may output the permuted data or also the permuted set of indices

Insertion Sort

Idea: sorting by inserting

- successively generate ordered sequences of the first *j* numbers: j = 1, j = 2, ..., j = n
- in each step, $j \rightarrow j + 1$, one additional integer has to be inserted into an already ordered sequence

Data Structures:

- an array A[1..n] that contains the sequence a₁ (in A[1]), ..., a_n (in A[n]).
- numbers are sorted in place: output sequence will be stored in A itself (hence, content of A is changed)

<u>EII</u>

Insertion Sort – Implementation

```
InsertionSort(A:Array[1..n]) {
```

```
for j from 2 to n {
// insert A[j] into sequence A[1..j-1]
  key := A[i];
   i := i - 1; // initialize i for while loop
   while i>=1 and A[i]>key {
     A[i+1] := A[i];
     i := i-1:
  A[i+1] := key;
```

Correctness of InsertionSort

Loop invariant:

Before each iteration of the for-loop, the subarray A[1..j-1] consists of all elements originally in A[1..j-1], but in sorted order.

Initialization:

- loops starts with j=2; hence, A[1..j-1] consists of the element A[1] only
- A[1] contains only one element, A[1], and is therefore sorted.

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Loop invariant:

Before each iteration of the for-loop, the subarray A[1..j-1] consists of all elements originally in A[1..j-1], but in sorted order.

Maintenance:

- assume that the while loop works correctly (or prove this using an additional loop invariant):
 - after the while loop, i contains the largest index for which A[i] is smaller than the key
 - A[i+2..j] contains the (sorted) elements previously stored in A[i+1..j-1]; also: A[i+1] and all elements in A[i+2..j] are ≥ key
- the key value, A[j], is thus correctly inserted as element A[i+1] (overwrites the duplicate value A[i+1])
- after execution of the loop body, A[1..j] is sorted
- thus, before the next iteration (j:=j+1), A[1..j-1] is sorted

Correctness of InsertionSort

Loop invariant:

Before each iteration of the for-loop, the subarray A[1.j-1] consists of all elements originally in A[1..j-1], but in sorted order.

Termination:

- The for-loop terminates when j exceeds n (i.e., j=n+1)
- Thus, at termination, A[1 .. (n+1)-1] = A[1..n] is sorted and contains all original elements

```
InsertionSort(A:Array[1..n]) {
                                                     n-1 iterations
   for j from 2 to n {
      key := A[i];
       i := i - 1;
       while i>=1 and A[i]>key {
                                                        t_i iterations
          A[i+1] := A[i];
                                                        \rightarrow t_i comparisons
          i := i - 1:
                                                           A[i] > kev
      }
A[i+1] := key;
                                                    \Rightarrow \sum_{i=2}^{n} t_i comparisons
```

- counted number of comparisons: $T_{IS} = \sum_{i=0}^{n} t_i$
- where *t_j* is the number of iterations of the while loop (which is, of course, unknown)
- good estimate for the run time, if the comparison is the most expensive operation (note: replace "i>=1" by for loop)

Analysis

- what is the "best case"?
- what is the "worst case"?

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- good estimate for the run time, if the comparison is the most expensive operation (note: replace "i>=1" by for loop)

Analysis of the "best case":

- in the best case, $t_j = 1$ for all j
- happens only, if A[1..n] is already sorted

$$\Rightarrow T_{\rm IS}(n) = \sum_{j=2}^n 1 = \frac{n-1}{n-1} \in \Theta(n)$$

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- good estimate for the run time, if the comparison is the most expensive operation (note: replace "i>=1" by for loop)

Analysis of the "worst case":

- in the worst case, $t_j = \frac{j 1}{j 1}$ for all j
- happens, if A[1..n] is already sorted in opposite order

$$\Rightarrow T_{\rm IS}(n) = \sum_{j=2}^{n} (j-1) = \frac{1}{2} n(n-1) \in \Theta(n^2)$$

- counted number of comparisons: $T_{IS} = \sum_{i=2}^{n} t_i$
- where *t_j* is the number of iterations of the while loop (which is, of course, unknown)
- good estimate for the run time, if the comparison is the most expensive operation (note: replace "i>=1" by for loop)

Analysis of the "average case":

- best case analysis: $T_{IS}(n) \in \Theta(n)$
- worst case analysis: $T_{IS}(n) \in \Theta(n^2)$
- \Rightarrow What will be the "typical" (average, expected) case?

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Running Time and Complexity

"Run(ning)Time"

- the notation *T*(*n*) suggest a "time", such as run(ning) time of an algorithm, which depends on the input (size) *n*
- in practice: we need a precise model how long each operation of our programmes takes → very difficult on real hardware!
- we will therefore determine the number of operations that determine the run time, such as:
 - number of comparisons (sorting, e.g.)
 - number of arithmetic operations (Fibonacci, e.g.)
 - number of memory accesses

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"Complexity"

- characterises how the run time depends on the input (size), typically expressed in terms of the ⊖-notation
- "algorithm xyz has linear complexity" \rightarrow run time is $\Theta(n)$

Average Case Complexity

Definition (expected running time)

Let X(n) be the set of all possible input sequences of length n, and let $P: X(n) \rightarrow [0, 1]$ be a probability function such that P(x) is the probability that the input sequence is x. Then, we define

$$\overline{T}(n) = \sum_{x \in X(n)} P(x)T(x)$$

as the expected running time of the algorithm.

Comments:

- we require an exact probability distribution (for InsertionSort, we could assume that all possible sequences have the same probability)
- we need to be able to determine T(x) for any sequence x (usually much too laborious to determine)

Average Case Complexity of Insertion Sort

Heuristic estimate:

• we assume that we need $\frac{j}{2}$ steps in every iteration:

$$\Rightarrow \overline{T}_{\rm IS}(n) \stackrel{(?)}{\approx} \sum_{j=2}^{n} \frac{j}{2} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=2}^{n} j \in \Theta(n^2)$$

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• note: $\frac{j}{2}$ isn't even an integer . . .

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- note: $\frac{j}{2}$ isn't even an integer . . .
- Just considering the number of comparisons of the "average case" can lead to quite wrong results!

in general $E(T(n)) \neq T("E(n)")$

Bubble Sort

```
BubbleSort(A:Array[1..n]) {
    for i from 1 to n do {
        for j from n downto i+1 do {
            if A[j] < A[j-1]
            then exchange A[j] and A[j-1]
            }
        }
    }
}
```

Basic ideas:

- compare neighboring elements only
- exchange values if they are not in sorted order
- repeat until array is sorted (here: pessimistic loop choice)

Bubble Sort – Homework

Prove correctness of Bubble Sort:

- find invariant for i-loop
- find invariant for j-loop

Number of comparisons in Bubble Sort:

best/worst/average case?

Part II

Mergesort and Quicksort

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Mergesort

Basic Idea: divide and conquer

- Divide the problem into two (or more) subproblems:
 → split the array into two arrays of equal size
- Conquer the subproblems by solving them recursively:
 → sort both arrays using the sorting algorithm
- Combine the solutions of the subproblems:
 - \rightarrow merge the two sorted arrays to produce the entire sorted array

Combining Two Sorted Arrays: Merge

```
Merge (L:Array[1..p], R:Array[1..q], A:Array[1..n]) {
// merge the sorted arrays L and R into A (sorted)
// we presume that n=p+q
   i:=1; i:=1:
   for k from 1 to n do {
      if i > p
         then { A[k] := R[i]; i=i+1;  }
      else if i > q
         then { A[k]:=L[i]; i:=i+1; }
      else if L[i] < R[i]
         then { A[k]:=L[i]; i:=i+1; }
         else { A[k]:=R[j]; j:=j+1; }
```

Correctness and Run Time of Merge

Loop invariant:

Before each cycle of the for loop:

- A has the k-1 smallest elements of L and R already merged, (i.e. in sorted order and at indices 1, ..., k-1);
- L[i] and R[j] are the smallest elements of L and R that have not been copied to A yet

(i.e. L[1..i-1] and R[1..j-1] have been merged to A)

Run time:

$$T_{\mathsf{Merge}}(n) \in \Theta(n)$$

- for loop will be executed exactly n times
- each loop contains constant number of commands:
 - exactly 1 copy statement
 - exactly 1 increment statement
 - 1–3 comparisons

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MergeSort

```
MergeSort(A:Array[1..n]) {
   if n > 1 then {
      m := floor(n/2);
      create array L [1... m];
     for i from 1 to m do { L[i] := A[i];
      create array R[1...n-m];
      for i from 1 to n-m do { R[i] := A[m+i]; }
      MergeSort(L);
      MergeSort(R);
      Merge(L,R,A);
```

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Number of Comparisons in MergeSort

- Merge performs exactly n element copies on n elements
- Merge performs at most c · n comparisons on n elements
- MergeSort itself does not contain any comparisons between elements; all comparisons done in Merge
- ⇒ number of element-copy operations for the entire MergeSort algorithms can be specified by a recurrence (includes *n* copy operations for splitting the arrays):

$$C_{\text{MS}}(n) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n \le 1\\ C_{\text{MS}}\left(\left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor\right) + C_{\text{MS}}\left(n - \left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor\right) + 2n & \text{if } n \ge 2 \end{cases}$$

⇒ number of comparisons for the entire MergeSort algorithm:

$$T_{\rm MS}(n) \leq \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n \leq 1 \\ T_{\rm MS}\left(\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor\right) + T_{\rm MS}\left(n - \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor\right) + \frac{n}{cn} & \text{if } n \geq 2 \end{cases}$$

Number of Comparisons in MergeSort (2)

Assume $n = 2^k$, *c* constant:

$$T_{MS}(2^{k}) \leq T_{MS}\left(2^{k-1}\right) + T_{MS}\left(2^{k-1}\right) + c \cdot 2^{k}$$
$$\leq 2T_{MS}\left(2^{k-1}\right) + 2^{k}c$$

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$$\leq CT_{MS}(2^{k-1}) + 2^{k}c$$

$$\leq 2^{2}T_{MS}(2^{k-2}) + 2 \cdot 2^{k-1}c + 2^{k}c$$

$$\leq \dots$$

Number of Comparisons in MergeSort (2)

Assume $n = 2^k$, *c* constant:

$$T_{MS}(2^{k}) \leq T_{MS}(2^{k-1}) + T_{MS}(2^{k-1}) + c \cdot 2^{k}$$

$$\leq 2T_{MS}(2^{k-1}) + 2^{k}c$$

$$\leq 2^{2}T_{MS}(2^{k-2}) + 2 \cdot 2^{k-1}c + 2^{k}c$$

$$\leq \dots$$

$$\leq 2^{k}T_{MS}(2^{0}) + 2^{k-1} \cdot 2^{1}c + \dots + 2^{j} \cdot 2^{k-j}c$$

$$+ \dots + 2 \cdot 2^{k-1}c + 2^{k}c$$

$$\leq \sum_{j=1}^{k} 2^{k}c = ck \cdot 2^{k} = ca\log_{2} n \in O(n\log n)$$

 $n=2^k$

Quicksort

Basic Idea: divide and conquer

- **Divide** the input array A[p..r] into parts A[p..q] and A[q+1 .. r], such that every element in A[q+1 .. r] is larger than all elements in A[p .. q].
- Conquer: sort the two arrays A[p..q] and A[q+1 .. r]
- **Combine:** if the divide and conquer steps are performed in place, then no further combination step is required.

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- Conquer: sort the two arrays A[p..q] and A[q+1 .. r]
- **Combine:** if the divide and conquer steps are performed in place, then no further combination step is required.

Partitioning using a pivot element:

- all elements that are smaller than the pivot element should go into the "smaller" partition (A[p..q])
- all elements that are larger than the pivot element should go into the "larger" partition (A[q+1..r])

Partitioning the Array (Hoare's Algorithm)

```
Partition (A:Array[p..r]) : Integer {
  // x is the pivot (chosen as first element):
  x := A[p]:
  // partitions grow towards each other
  i := p-1; i := r+1; // (partition boundaries)
  while true do { // i < j: partitions haven't met yet
     // leave large elements in right partition
     do { i:=i-1; } while A[i]>x;
     // leave small elements in left partition
     do { i:=i+1; } while A[i]<x;
     // swap the two first "wrong" elements
     if i < i
     then exchange A[i] and A[i];
     else return i ;
```

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Time Complexity of Partition

How many statements are executed by the nested while loops?

Time Complexity of Partition

How many statements are executed by the nested while loops?

- · monitor increments/decrements of i and j
- after n := r p increments/decrements, i and j have the same value
- $\Rightarrow \Theta(n)$ comparisons with the pivot
- $\Rightarrow O(n)$ element exchanges

Hence: $T_{Part}(n) \in \Theta(n)$

Implementation of QuickSort

```
QuickSort (A:Array[p..r])
{
    if p>=r then return;
    // only proceed, if A has at least 2 elements:
    q := Partition (A);
    QuickSort (A[p..q]);
    QuickSort (A[q+1..r]);
}
```

Homework:

- prove correctness of Partition
- prove correctness of QuickSort

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Time Complexity of QuickSort

Best Case:

assume that all partitions are split exactly into two halves:

$$T_{\mathrm{QS}}^{\mathrm{best}}(n) = 2 T_{\mathrm{QS}}^{\mathrm{best}}\left(rac{n}{2}
ight) + \Theta(n)$$

analogous to MergeSort:

 $T_{\rm QS}^{\rm best}(n) \in \Theta(n \log n)$

Time Complexity of QuickSort

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ight) + \Theta(n)$$

analogous to MergeSort:

$$T_{\rm QS}^{\rm best}(n) \in \Theta(n \log n)$$

Worst Case:

Partition will always produce one partition with only 1 element:

$$T_{\text{QS}}^{\text{worst}}(n) = T_{\text{QS}}^{\text{worst}}(n-1) + T_{\text{QS}}^{\text{worst}}(1) + \Theta(n)$$

= $T_{\text{QS}}^{\text{worst}}(n-1) + \Theta(n) = T_{\text{QS}}^{\text{worst}}(n-2) + \Theta(n-1) + \Theta(n)$
= $\dots = \Theta(1) + \dots + \Theta(n-1) + \Theta(n) \in \Theta(n^2)$

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What happens if:

• A is already sorted?

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 \rightarrow partition sizes always 1 and n-1 $\Rightarrow \Theta(n^2)$

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- one partition has always at most a elements (for a fixed a)?

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 - \rightarrow partition sizes always 1 and n-1 $\Rightarrow \Theta(n^2)$
- one partition has always at most *a* elements (for a fixed *a*)? \rightarrow same complexity as $a = 1 \Rightarrow \Theta(n^2)$

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- one partition has always at most *a* elements (for a fixed *a*)?
 → same complexity as *a* = 1 ⇒ Θ(*n*²)
- partition sizes are always n(1 a) and na with 0 < a < 1?

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- one partition has always at most *a* elements (for a fixed *a*)?
 → same complexity as *a* = 1 ⇒ Θ(*n*²)
- partition sizes are always n(1 − a) and na with 0 < a < 1?
 → same complexity as best case ⇒ Θ(n log n)

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What happens if:

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- one partition has always at most *a* elements (for a fixed *a*)?
 → same complexity as *a* = 1 ⇒ Θ(*n*²)
- partition sizes are always n(1 a) and na with 0 < a < 1? \rightarrow same complexity as best case $\Rightarrow \Theta(n \log n)$

Questions:

- What happens in the "usual" case?
- Can we force the best case?

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Randomized QuickSort

```
RandPartition ( A: Array [p..r] ): Integer {
    // choose random integer i between p and r
    i := rand(p,r);
    // make A[i] the (new) Pivot element:
    exchange A[i] and A[p];
    // call Partition with new pivot element
    q := Partition (A);
    return q;
}
```

```
RandQuickSort ( A:Array [p..r] ) {
    if p >= r then return;
    q := RandPartition(A);
    RandQuickSort (A[p...q]);
    RandQuickSort (A[q+1 ..r]);
}
```

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Time Complexity of RandQuickSort

Best/Worst-case complexity?

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Best/Worst-case complexity?

- RandQuickSort may still produce the worst (or best) partition in each step
- worst case: ⊖(n²)
- best case: $\Theta(n \log n)$

Time Complexity of RandQuickSort

Best/Worst-case complexity?

- RandQuickSort may still produce the worst (or best) partition in each step
- worst case: $\Theta(n^2)$
- best case: $\Theta(n \log n)$

However:

- it is not determined which input sequence (sorted order, reverse order) will lead to worst case behavior (or best case behavior);
- any input sequence might lead to the worst case or the best case, depending on the random choice of pivot elements.

Thus: only the average-case complexity is of interest!

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Assumptions:

- we compute <u>T_{RQS} (A)</u>,
 - i.e., the expected run time of RandQuickSort for a given input A
- rand(p,r) will return uniformly distributed random numbers (all pivot elements have the same probability)
- all elements of A have different size: A[i] ≠ A[j]

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- we compute $\overline{T}_{RQS}(A)$,
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- all elements of A have different size: A[i] ≠ A[j]

Basic Idea:

- only count number of comparisons between elements of A
- let z_i be the *i*-th smallest element in A
- define

 $X_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & z_i \text{ is compared to } z_j \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

• random variable $T_{RQS}(A) = \sum_{i < j} X_{ij}$

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Expected Number of Comparisons:

$$ar{\mathcal{T}}_{\mathsf{RQS}}(\mathcal{A}) = \mathsf{E}\left[\sum\nolimits_{i < j} X_{ij}
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ight]$$

Expected Number of Comparisons:

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$$ar{F}_{\mathsf{RQS}}(A) = \mathsf{E}\left[\sum_{i < j} X_{ij}\right]$$

= $\sum_{i < j} \mathsf{E}\left[X_{ij}\right]$
= $\sum_{i < j} \mathsf{Pr}\left[z_i \text{ is compared to } z_j\right]$

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suppose an element between z_i and z_j is chosen as pivot before z_i or z_j are chosen as pivots; then z_j and z_j are never compared

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Suppose an element between z_i and z_j is chosen as pivot before z_i or z_j are chosen as pivots; then z_i and z_j are never compared if either z_i or z_j is chosen as the first pivot in the range z_i, \ldots, z_j , then z_i will be compared to z_j

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ight]$

- suppose an element between z_i and z_j is chosen as pivot before z_i or z_i are chosen as pivots; then z_i and z_j are never compared
- if either z_i or z_j is chosen as the first pivot in the range z_i, \ldots, z_j , then z_i will be compared to z_i
- this happens with probability

$$\frac{2}{j-i+1}$$

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Expected Number of Comparisons:

$$\bar{T}_{RQS}(A) = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \sum_{\substack{j=i+1\\j>i}}^{n} \frac{1}{j-i+1}$$

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$$\bar{T}_{RQS}(A) = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \sum_{j=i+1}^{n} \frac{1}{j-i+1}$$
$$= \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \sum_{k=2}^{n-i+1} \frac{1}{k}$$

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$$\bar{\mathcal{T}}_{\text{RQS}}(A) = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \sum_{j=i+1}^{n} \frac{1}{j-i+1}$$
$$= \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \sum_{k=2}^{n-i+1} \frac{1}{k}$$
$$\leq 2 \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{1}{k}$$

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Expected Number of Comparisons:

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$$= 2nH_n$$
$$= O(n \log n)$$

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Part III

Outlook: Optimality of Comparison Sorts

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Are Mergesort and Quicksort optimal?

Definition

Comparison sorts are sorting algorithms that use only comparisons (i.e. tests as $\leq, =, >, ...$) to determine the relative order of the elements.

Examples:

- InsertSort, BubbleSort
- MergeSort, (Randomised) Quicksort

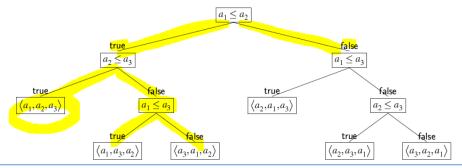
Question: Is $\overline{T(n)} \in \Theta(n \log n)$ the best we can get (in the worst/average case)?

Decision Trees

Definition

A **decision tree** is a binary tree in which each internal node is annotated by a comparison of two elements.

The leaves of the decision tree are annotated by the respective permutations that will put an input sequence into sorted order.



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Decision Trees – Properties

Each comparison sort can be represented by a decision tree:

- a path through the tree represents a sequence of comparisons
- sequence of comparisons depends on results of comparisons
- can be pretty complicated for Mergesort, Quicksort, ...
- A decision tree can be used as a comparison sort:
 - if every possible permutation is annotated to at least one leaf of the tree!
 - if (as a result) the decision tree has at least n! (distinct) leaves.

A Lower Complexity Bound for Comparison Sorts

- A binary tree of height h (h the length of the longest path) has at most 2^h leaves.
- To sort n elements, the decision tree needs n! leaves.

Theorem

Any decision tree that sorts *n* elements has height $\Omega(n \log n)$.

Proof:

 h comparisons in the worst case are equivalent to a decision tree of height h

 $\Leftrightarrow \quad \boxed{h \ge \log(n!)} \in \Omega(n \log n)$

 $\frac{n}{2}\log n$

• with h comparisons, we can sort n elements (at best), if

 $h \ge \log(n!) \ge \log(n!)$

because:

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n. N(1-1).

Optimality of Mergesort and Quicksort

Corollaries:

- MergeSort is an optimal comparison sort in the worst/average case
- QuickSort is an optimal comparison sort in the average case

Consequences and Alternatives:

- comparison sorts can be faster than MergeSort, but only by a constant factor
- comparison sorts can not be asymptotically faster
- sorting algorithms might be faster, if they can exploit additional information on the size of elements
- examples: BucketSort, CountingSort, RadixSort

Part IV

Bucket Sort – Sorting Beyond "Comparison Only"

Bucket Sort

Basic Ideas and Assumptions:

- pre-sort numbers in buckets that contain all numbers within a certain interval
- hope (assume) that input elements are evenly distributed and thus uniformly distributed to buckets
- sort buckets and concatenate them

Requires "Buckets":

- · can hold arbitrary numbers of elements
- can insert elements efficiently: in O(1) time
- can concatenate buckets efficiently: in O(1) time
- remark: linked lists will do

Implementation of BucketSort

```
BucketSort (A:Array[1..n]) {
```

```
Create Array B[0..n-1] of Buckets;
// assume all Buckets B[i] are empty at first
```

```
for i from 1 to n do {
    insert A[i] into Bucket B[floor(n * A[i])];
}
```

```
for i from 0 to n-1 do {
    sort Bucket B[i];
}
```

concatenate Buckets B[0], B[1], ..., B[n-1] into A

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Number of Operations of BucketSort

Operations:

- n operations to distribute n elements to buckets
- plus effort to sort all buckets

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Best Case:

• if each bucket gets 1 element, then $\Theta(n)$ operations are required

Worst Case:

• if one bucket gets all elements, then *T*(*n*) is determined by the sorting algorithm for the buckets

Bucketsort – Average Case Analysis

• probability that bucket *i* contains *k* elements:

$$P(n_i = k) = \binom{n}{k} \left(\frac{1}{n}\right)^k \left(\frac{1-1}{n}\right)^{n-k}$$

• expected mean and variance for such a distribution:

$$E[n_i] = n \cdot \frac{1}{n} = 1$$
 $\operatorname{Var}[n_i] = n \cdot \frac{1}{n} \left(1 - \frac{1}{n} \right) = \left(1 - \frac{1}{n} \right)$

- InsertionSort for buckets $\Rightarrow \leq cn^2 \in O(n_i^2)$ operations per bucket
- expected operations to sort one bucket:

$$\overline{T}(n_i) \leq \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \underline{P(n_i = k)} \cdot k^2 = cE[n_i^2]$$

Bucketsort – Average Case Analysis (2)

• theorem from statistics:

$$E[X^2] = E[X]^2 + \operatorname{Var}(X)$$

expected operations to sort one bucket:

$$\overline{T}(n_i) \leq cE[n_i^2] = c\left(E[n_i]^2 + \operatorname{Var}[n_i]\right) = c\left(1^2 + 1 - \frac{1}{n}\right) \in \Theta(1)$$

• expected operations to sort all buckets:

$$\overline{T}(n) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \overline{T}(n_i) \le c \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \left(2 - \frac{1}{n}\right) \in \Theta(n)$$

(note: expected value of the sum is the sum of expected values)

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