

COP 3502 3/5/26

Efficient Sorts	Avg Case	Worst Case
1) Merge Sort	$O(n \lg n)$	$O(n \lg n)$
2) Quick Sort	$O(n \lg n)$	$O(n^2)$

It's impossible to comparison sort faster than  $O(n \lg n)$ . [Prove any comparison sort  $\Omega(n \lg n)$ .]

### Merge Sort

8 3 1 7 | 2 6 4 5



} sort left, right  
each list  $n/2$

→ 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

$O(n)$  runtime

Merge of 2 lists sizes  $n, m$  is  $O(n+m)$  or  $O(\max(n, m))$

Intuitive way

int\* merge(int\* a, int len1, int\* b, int len2)

Merge implementation

void merge(int\* array, int low, int mid, int end)

\* can't do in place! MALLOC temp array size  $end - low + 1$ .

Because we allocate an extra array to do merge it's  $O(n)$  but w/a higher constant.

```
void mergeSort (int* array, int lowIdx, int highIdx) {  
    if (lowIdx >= highIdx) return; ✓  
    int mid = (lowIdx + highIdx) / 2; ✓  
    mergeSort (array, lowIdx, mid); ] #1  
    mergeSort (array, mid+1, highIdx); ] #2  
    merge (array, lowIdx, mid, highIdx); ]  
}
```

Let  $T(n)$  = run time of Merge Sort of  $n$  elems.

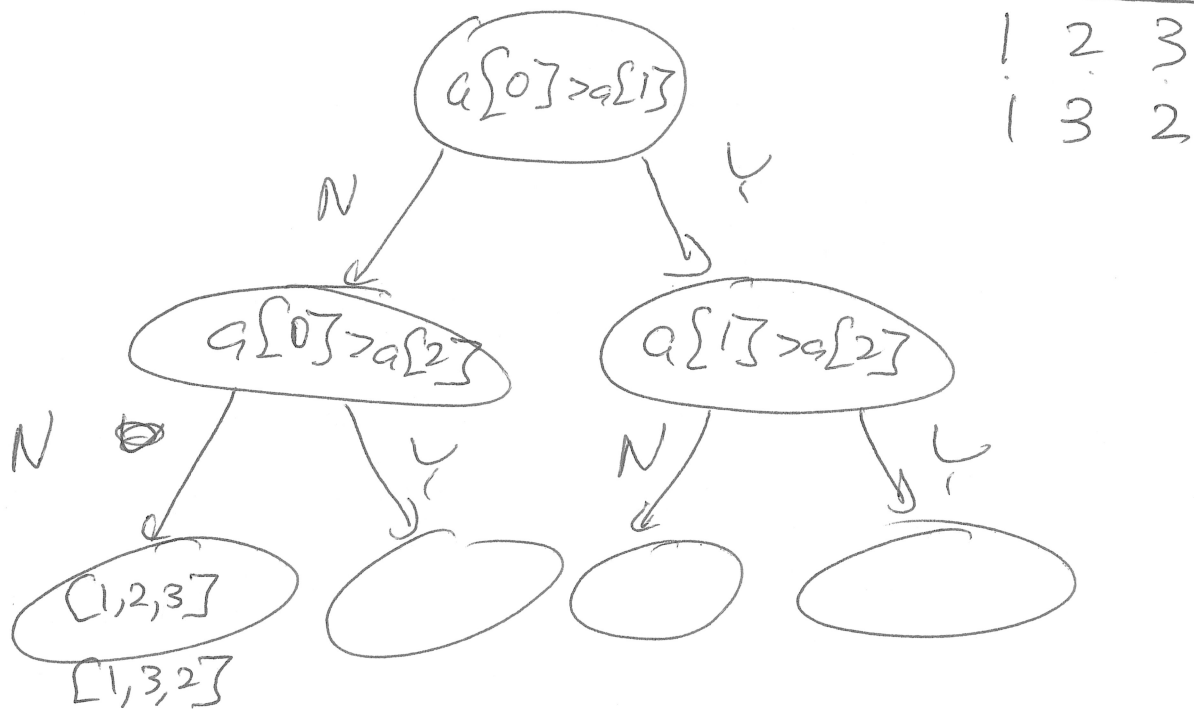
$$T(n) = T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + O(n)$$

$$T(n) = 2T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + O(n)$$

Master Thm:  $A=2, B=2, t_2=1$

$$B^k = A \quad 2^1 = 2 \quad \checkmark \quad \boxed{O(n \lg n)}$$

Proof  $O(n \lg n)$  is best we can do for comparison sorting



For any comparison sort w/c  $\leq k$  comparisons it could at most sort  $2^k$  different inputs

# of possible inputs =  $n!$

$$2^k \geq n!$$

$$\log_2 2^k \geq \log_2 n!$$

$$k \geq \log_2 n!$$

$$k \geq \log_2 \left(\frac{n}{e}\right)^n$$

$$k \geq n \log_2 \left(\frac{n}{e}\right) = n(\log_2 n - \log_2 e) = O(n \lg n)$$

Stirling's Approx to  $n!$

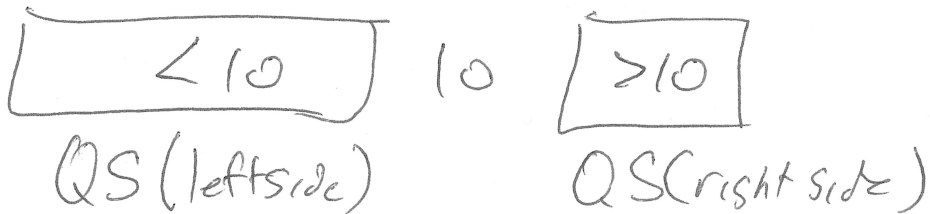
$$\sim \frac{\left(\frac{n}{e}\right)^n}{\sqrt{2\pi n}}$$



Merge Sort is awesome only drawback is Merge's copying into auxiliary array + copying back!

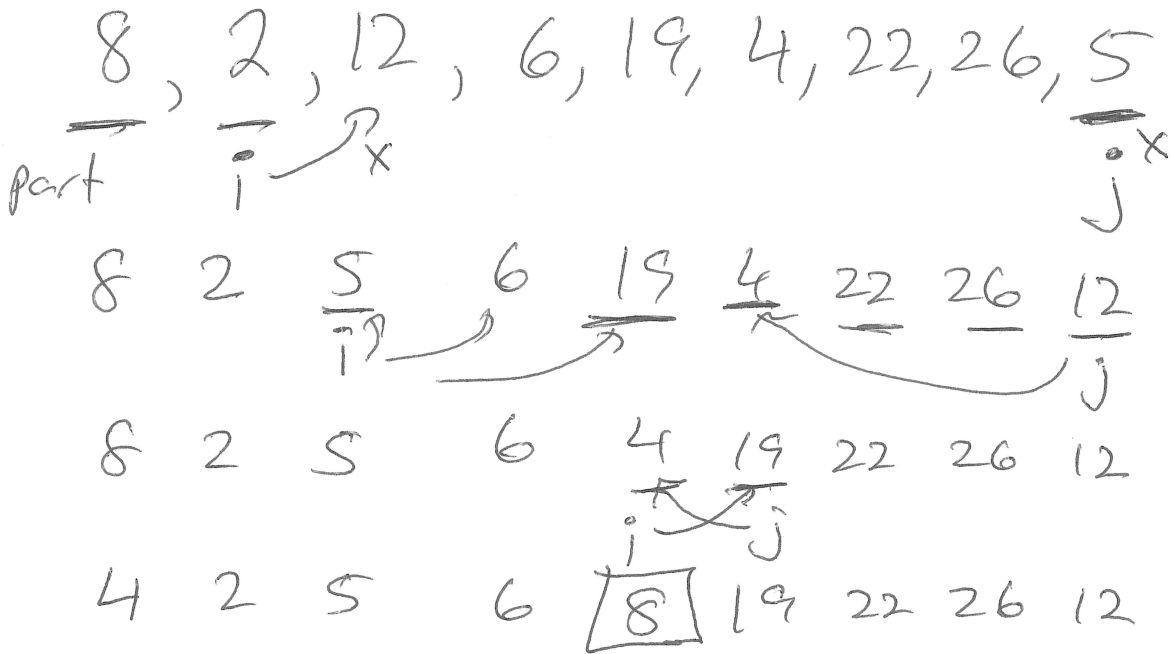
## Quick Sort

① Partition - pick a partition element (at random), then split rest of the elements into 2 groups  $< \text{part}$ ,  $> \text{part}$



```
void QS(int* array, int lowIdx, int highIdx) {  
    int mid = partition(array, lowIdx, highIdx);  
    QS(array, lowIdx, mid - 1);  
    QS(array, mid + 1, highIdx);  
}
```

# Partition Trace



## Run Time

Best Case

even split

$$T(n) = T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + O(n)$$

$$\rightarrow O(n \log n)$$

Worst Case

bad split

$$T(n) = \underbrace{T(n-1)}_{\text{Right Side}} + \underbrace{O(n)}_{\text{Partition}} \quad O(n^2)$$

AUG CASE ???

QS avg case

Assume each split of partition is equally likely

Q

Left	Right	prob
$n-1$	0	$1/n$
$n-2$	1	$1/n$
$n-3$	2	$1/n$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$
1	$n-2$	$1/n$
0	$n-1$	$1/n$

$$\tau(n) = \frac{1}{n} (\tau(n-1) + \tau(0)) + \frac{1}{n} (\tau(n-2) + \tau(1)) + \frac{1}{n} (\tau(n-3) + \tau(2)) + \dots + \frac{1}{n} (\tau(0) + \tau(n)) + O(n)$$

$$\rightarrow n\tau(n) = 2 \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \tau(i) + n^2$$

$$(n+1)\tau(n+1) = 2 \sum_{i=0}^n \tau(i) + (n+1)^2$$

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$$(n+1)\tau(n+1) - n\tau(n) = 2\tau(n) + (2n+1)$$

$$\frac{(n+1)\tau(n+1)}{(n+1)(n+2)} = \frac{(n+2)\tau(n)}{(n+1)(n+2)} + \frac{(2n+1)}{(n+1)(n+2)}$$

$$\frac{T(n+1)}{n+2} \approx \frac{T(n)}{n+1} + \frac{2}{n+2}$$

Let  $S(n) = \frac{T(n)}{n+1}$

$$\underline{S(n+1)} \approx S(n) + \frac{2}{n+2}$$

$$= S(n-1) + \frac{2}{n+1} + \frac{2}{n+2}$$

$$= S(n-2) + \frac{2}{n} + \frac{2}{n+1} + \frac{2}{n+2}$$

after  $k+1$   
iterations

$$= S(n-k) + \frac{2}{n-k+2} + \frac{2}{n-k+3} + \dots + \frac{2}{n+2}$$

$$S(0) = 0$$

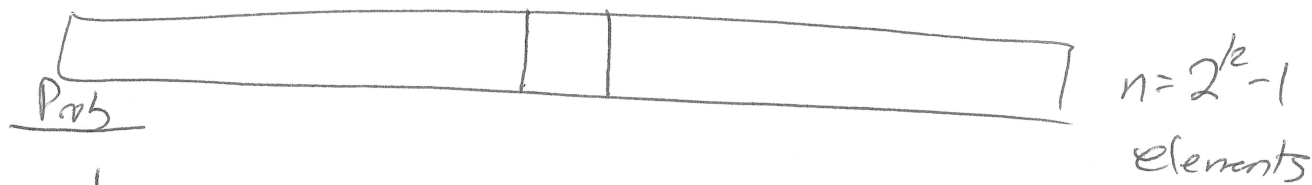
$$= S(0) + \frac{2}{2} + \frac{2}{3} + \dots + \frac{2}{n+2}$$

$$= \sum_{i=2}^{n+2} \frac{2}{i} \longrightarrow \approx H_{n+2}$$

$$S(n+1) = O(\lg n)$$

$$T(n+1) = (n+2)S(n+1) = \boxed{O(n \lg n)}$$

# Avg Case Binary Search



$$\frac{1}{n} \rightarrow 1 \text{ search}$$

$$\frac{2}{n} \rightarrow 2 \text{ searches}$$

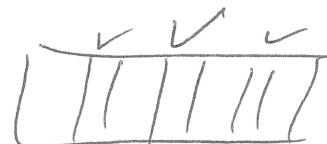
$$\frac{4}{n} \rightarrow 3 \text{ searches}$$

$$\frac{8}{n} \rightarrow 4 \text{ searches}$$

⋮

$$\frac{2^{k-1}}{2^k - 1} \rightarrow k \text{ searches}$$

$$k=3$$



$$S = 1 \times \frac{1}{n} + 2 \times \frac{2}{n} + 3 \times \frac{4}{n} + 4 \times \frac{8}{n} + \dots + k \times \frac{2^{k-1}}{2^k - 1}$$

$$S = \frac{1}{n} \left[ 1 \times 1 + 2 \times 2 + 3 \times 4 + 4 \times 8 + 5 \times 16 + \dots + k \cdot 2^{k-1} \right]$$

$$\text{Let } T = \frac{1 \times 1 + \underbrace{2 \times 2 + 3 \times 4 + \dots + k \cdot 2^{k-1}}_{1 \times 2 + 2 \times 4 + 3 \times 8 + \dots + (k-1) \cdot 2^{k-1} + k \cdot 2^k}}{2^k - 1}$$

$$T - 2T = 1 \times 1 + 1 \times 2 + 1 \times 4 + 1 \times 8 + \dots + 2^{k-1} - k \cdot 2^k$$

$$T = k \cdot 2^k - (1 + 2 + 4 + \dots + 2^{k-1})$$

$$T = k \cdot 2^k - 2^k - 1$$

$$T = 2^k(k-1) - 1$$

$$T = (n+1)(k-1) - 1$$

$$n = 2^k - 1$$

$$n+1 = 2^k$$

$$k = \log_2(n+1)$$

$$S = \frac{1}{n} \cdot T = \frac{1}{n} \cdot (n+1)(k-1) - 1$$

$$= \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right) (\log_2(n+1) - 1) - 1$$

$$= O(\lg n)$$