



Chapter 7

Randomization

Algorithm Theory
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Randomized Quicksort

Quicksort:



function Quick (S : sequence): sequence;

{returns the sorted sequence S }

begin

if $\#S \leq 1$ **then return** S

else { choose pivot element v in S ;

 partition S into S_ℓ with elements $< v$,

 and S_r with elements $> v$

return Quick(S_ℓ) v Quick(S_r)

end;

Randomized Quicksort Analysis

Randomized Quicksort: pick **uniform random** element as **pivot**

Running Time of sorting n elements:

- Let's just count the **number of comparisons**
- In the partitioning step, all $n - 1$ non-pivot elements have to be compared to the pivot

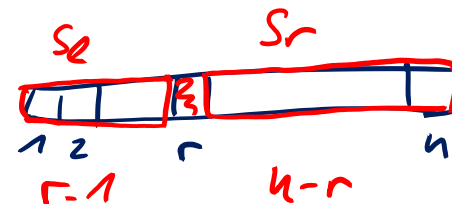
- **Number of comparisons:**

$$n - 1 + \underline{\text{\#comparisons in recursive calls}}$$

depends on partition \rightarrow random variable

- If **rank of pivot** is r :

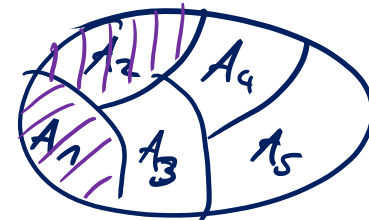
recursive calls with $r - 1$ and $n - r$ elements



Law of Total Expectation

- Given a **random variable** X and $X: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
- a set of events A_1, \dots, A_k that **partition** $\underline{\Omega}$
 - E.g., for a second **random variable** Y , we could have

$$A_i := \{\omega \in \Omega : Y(\omega) = i\}$$



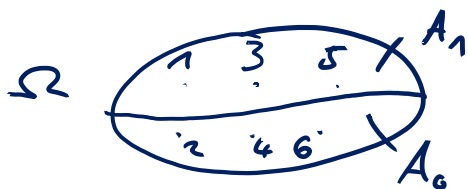
Law of Total Expectation

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = \sum_{i=1}^k \mathbb{P}(A_i) \cdot \mathbb{E}[X | A_i] = \sum_y \mathbb{P}(Y = y) \cdot \mathbb{E}[X | Y = y]$$

$Y: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
↓
 \mathbb{R}

Example:

- X : outcome of rolling a die $E[X] = 3.5$
- $A_0 = \{X \text{ is even}\}$, $A_1 = \{X \text{ is odd}\}$



$$E[X] = \mathbb{P}(A_0) E[X|A_0] + \mathbb{P}(A_1) E[X|A_1]$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \cdot 4 + \frac{1}{2} \cdot 3 = 3.5$$

Randomized Quicksort Analysis

Random variables:

$$C = n - 1 + C_\ell + C_r \Rightarrow E[C] = E[n - 1 + C_\ell + C_r]$$

- C : total number of comparisons (for a given array of length n)
- R : rank of first pivot
- C_ℓ, C_r : number of comparisons for the 2 recursive calls

$$E[C] = n - 1 + \underline{E[C_\ell]} + E[C_r]$$

Law of Total Expectation:

$$\begin{aligned}
 E[C] &= \sum_{r=1}^n \mathbb{P}(R = r) \cdot E[C | R = r] \\
 &= \sum_{r=1}^n \mathbb{P}(R = r) \cdot \underbrace{\left(n - 1 + \underbrace{E[C_\ell | R = r]}_{\substack{\# \text{ comparisons for} \\ \text{an array of length } r-1}} + \underbrace{E[C_r | R = r]}_{\substack{\# \text{ comparisons for} \\ \text{an array of length} \\ n-r}} \right)}_{=}
 \end{aligned}$$

Randomized Quicksort Analysis

We have seen that: $\mathbb{P}(R = r) = \frac{1}{n}$

$$\underbrace{\mathbb{E}[C]}_{T(n)} = \sum_{r=1}^n \mathbb{P}(R = r) \cdot (n - 1 + \underbrace{\mathbb{E}[C_\ell | R = r]}_{T(r-1)} + \underbrace{\mathbb{E}[C_r | R = r]}_{T(n-r)})$$

Define:

- **$T(n)$** : expected number of comparisons when sorting n elements

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[C] &= T(n) \\ \mathbb{E}[C_\ell | R = r] &= T(r - 1) \\ \mathbb{E}[C_r | R = r] &= T(n - r) \end{aligned}$$

Recursion:

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= \sum_{r=1}^n \frac{1}{n} \cdot (n - 1 + T(r - 1) + T(n - r)) \\ T(0) &= T(1) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Randomized Quicksort Analysis

Theorem: The expected number of comparisons when sorting n elements using randomized quicksort is $T(n) \leq 2n \ln n$.

Proof: *Induction on n*

$$T(n) = \sum_{r=1}^n \frac{1}{n} \cdot (n - 1 + T(r - 1) + T(n - r)), \quad \underline{T(0) = 0}$$

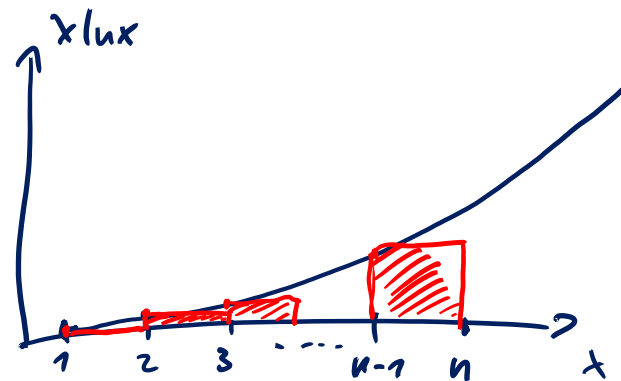
$$= n - 1 + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} (T(i) + T(n - i - 1))$$

$$\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} T(i) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} T(n - i - 1)$$

$$= n - 1 + \frac{2}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} T(i)$$

$$\stackrel{\text{i.H.}}{\leq} n - 1 + \frac{4}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} i \ln(i)$$

$$\leq n - 1 + \frac{4}{n} \int_1^n x \ln x \, dx$$



Randomized Quicksort Analysis

Theorem: The expected number of comparisons when sorting n elements using randomized quicksort is $T(n) \leq 2n \ln n$.

Proof:

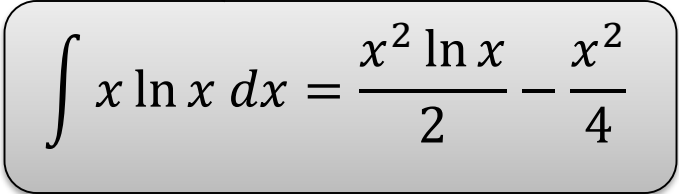
$$T(n) \leq n - 1 + \frac{4}{n} \cdot \int_1^n x \ln x \, dx$$

$$= n - 1 + \frac{4}{n} \left(\frac{n^2 \ln n}{2} - \frac{n^2}{4} + \frac{1}{4} \right)$$

$$= n - 1 + 2n \ln n - n + \frac{1}{n}$$

$$= 2n \ln n + \underbrace{\left(\frac{1}{n} - 1 \right)}_{\leq 0} \leq 2n \ln n$$

$$\mathbb{E}[C] \leq 2n \ln n$$

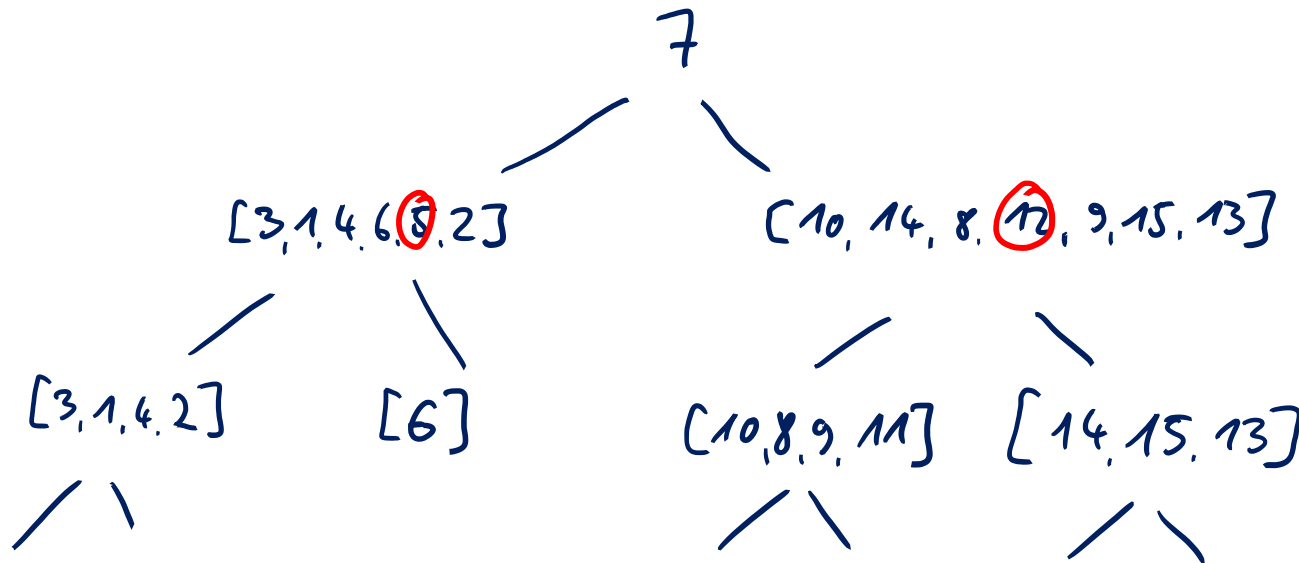


$$\int x \ln x \, dx = \frac{x^2 \ln x}{2} - \frac{x^2}{4}$$

Alternative Analysis

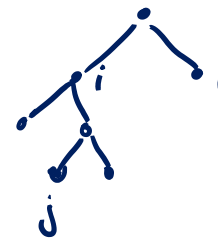
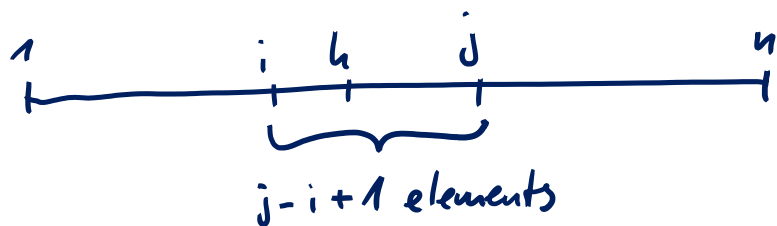
Array to sort: [7, 3, 1, 10, 14, 8, 12, 9, 4, 6, 5, 15, 2, 13, 11]

Viewing quicksort run as a **tree**:



Comparisons

- Comparisons are only between pivot and non-pivot elements
- Every element can only be the pivot once:
→ every 2 elements can only be compared once!
- W.l.o.g., assume that the elements to sort are 1, 2, ..., n
- Elements i and j are compared if and only if either i or j is a pivot before any element $h: i < h < j$ is chosen as pivot
 - i.e., iff i is an ancestor of j or j is an ancestor of i



$$\mathbb{P}(\text{comparison betw. } i \text{ and } j) = \frac{2}{j - i + 1}$$

Counting Comparisons

Random variable for every pair of elements (i, j) :

$$X_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if there is a comparison between } i \text{ and } j \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\mathbb{E}[X_{ij}] = P(X_{ij} = 1) = \frac{2}{j-i+1}$$

Number of comparisons: X

$$X = \sum_{i < j} X_{ij}$$

- What is $\mathbb{E}[X]$?

Randomized Quicksort Analysis

Theorem: The expected number of comparisons when sorting n elements using randomized quicksort is $T(n) \leq 2n \ln n$.

Proof:

- **Linearity of expectation:**

For all random variables X_1, \dots, X_n and all $a_1, \dots, a_n \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\sum_i^n a_i X_i \right] = \sum_i^n a_i \mathbb{E}[X_i].$$

$$X = \sum_{i < j} X_{ij}$$

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{i < j} X_{ij} \right] = \sum_{i < j} \mathbb{E}[X_{ij}] = \sum_{i < j} \frac{2}{j-i+1} = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \sum_{j=i+1}^n \frac{2}{j-i+1}$$

Randomized Quicksort Analysis

Theorem: The expected number of comparisons when sorting n elements using randomized quicksort is $T(n) \leq 2n \ln n$.

Proof:

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = 2 \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \sum_{j=i+1}^n \frac{1}{j-i+1} = 2 \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \sum_{k=2}^{n-i+1} \frac{1}{k}$$

$$\leq 2 \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \underbrace{\sum_{k=2}^n \frac{1}{k}}_{= H(n) - 1} \leq 2 \ln n$$

Harmonic series:

$$H(n) := \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{i}$$

$$H(n) \leq 1 + \ln n$$

$$\leq 2(n-1) \ln n \leq 2n \ln n$$

Quicksort: High Probability Bound

- We have seen that the number of comparisons of randomized quicksort is $O(n \log n)$ in expectation.
- Can we also show that the number of comparisons is $O(n \log n)$ with high probability? $1 - \frac{1}{n^c}$

- **Recall:**

On each recursion level, each pivot is compared once with each other element that is still in the same “part”

Counting Number of Comparisons

- We looked at 2 ways to count the number of comparisons
 - recursive characterization of the expected number
 - number of different pairs of values that are compared

Let's consider yet another way:

- Each comparison is between a pivot and a non-pivot
- How many times is a specific array element x compared as a non-pivot?

Value x is compared as a non-pivot to a pivot once in every recursion level until one of the following two conditions apply:

1. x is chosen as a pivot *# comparisons of x as non-pivot*
2. x is alone *= depth when x becomes pivot or alone*

Successful Recursion Level

$$K_1 = 4$$

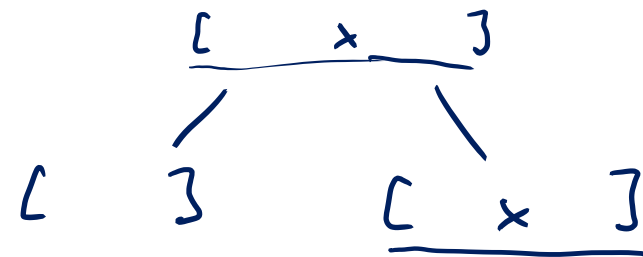


- Consider a specific recursion level ℓ
- Assume that at the beginning of recursion level ℓ , element x is in a sub-array of length K_ℓ that still needs to be sorted.
- If x has been chosen as a pivot before level ℓ , we set $K_\ell := 1$



Definition: We say that recursion level ℓ is successful for element x iff the following is true:

$$K_{\ell+1} = 1 \quad \text{or} \quad K_{\ell+1} \leq \frac{2}{3} \cdot K_\ell$$

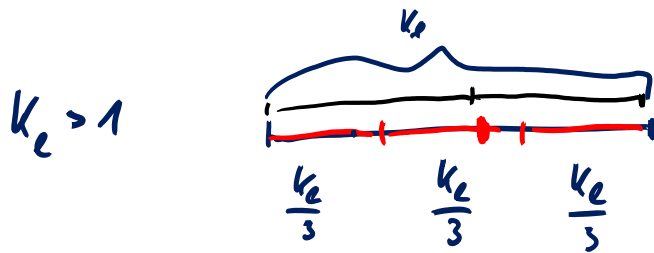


Successful Recursion Level

Lemma: For every recursion level ℓ and every array element x , it holds that level ℓ is successful for x with probability at least $1/3$, independently of what happens in other recursion levels.

Proof:

$$k_\ell = 1 \rightarrow k_{\ell+1} = 1 \quad \checkmark$$



If the pivot is in the middle part, both remaining arrays have size $\leq \frac{2}{3} k_\ell \Rightarrow k_{\ell+1} \leq \frac{2}{3} k_\ell$

Probability for this is $\geq \frac{1}{3}$

Number of Successful Recursion Levels

Lemma: If among the first ℓ recursion levels, at least $\log_{3/2}(n)$ are successful for element x , we have $K_{\ell+1} = 1$.

Proof:

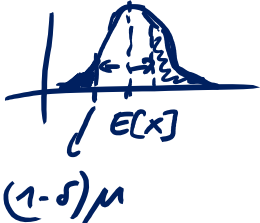
$$K_1 = n, \quad K_{i+1} \leq K_i \quad \text{If level } i \text{ is succ. : } K_{i+1} \leq \frac{2}{3} K_i$$

$$K_{\ell+1} \leq n \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{\# \text{succ. levels}} \leq n \underbrace{\left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{\log_{3/2} n}}_{= \frac{1}{n}} = 1$$

$$\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^{\log_{3/2} n} = n$$

$$\left(\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^{-1}\right)^{\log_{3/2} n} = \frac{1}{n}$$

Chernoff Bounds

- Let X_1, \dots, X_n be independent 0-1 random variables and define $p_i := \mathbb{P}(X_i = 1)$. *if $p_i = p$ for all i : $X \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$*
 - Consider the random variable $X = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$
 - We have $\mu := \mathbb{E}[X] = \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}[X_i] = \sum_{i=1}^n p_i$
- 

Chernoff Bound (Lower Tail): $\mathbb{P}(X < \frac{\mu}{2}) < e^{-\frac{\mu}{8}}$

$\delta < 1$

$$\forall \delta > 0: \mathbb{P}(X < (1 - \delta)\mu) < e^{-\delta^2 \mu / 2}$$

Chernoff Bound (Upper Tail):

$$\forall \delta > 0: \mathbb{P}(X > (1 + \delta)\mu) < \left(\frac{e^\delta}{(1 + \delta)^{1+\delta}} \right)^\mu < e^{-\delta^2 \mu / 3}$$

holds for $\delta \leq 1$

Chernoff Bounds, Example

Assume that a fair coin is flipped n times. What is the probability to have

1. less than $n/3$ heads?
2. more than $0.51n$ tails?
3. less than $n/2 - \sqrt{c \cdot n \ln n}$ tails?

Number of Comparisons for x

Lemma: For every array element x , with high probability, as a non-pivot, x is compared to a pivot at most $O(\log n)$ times.

Proof:

show: w.h.p. there are $\log_{3/2} n$ succ. rec. levels among the first $O(\log n)$ levels.

$$k \text{ rec. levels, } X_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{level } i \text{ is succ.} \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}, \quad X = \sum_{i=1}^k X_i, \quad E[X] = \frac{k}{3}$$

$$P(X_i = 1) = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$P(X < \frac{k}{6}) = P(X < (1 - \frac{1}{2}) \frac{k}{3}) < e^{-\frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{k}{3 \cdot 2}} = e^{-\frac{k}{36}} = \frac{1}{n^c}$$

$k = 36c \ln(n)$

Number of Comparisons for x

Lemma: For every array element x , with high probability, as a non-pivot, x is compared to a pivot at most $O(\log n)$ times.

Proof:

Number of Comparisons

Theorem: With high probability, the total number of comparisons is at most $O(\underline{n \log n})$.

Proof:

Last lemma + Union bound

probability that all elements are compared as non-pivot at most $O(\log n)$ times

is $\frac{1}{n^{c-1}}$