

## ALGORITHMS IN AI & DATA SCIENCE 1 (AKIDS 1)

# Sorting

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# Content

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- **Sorting**
- Merge Sort
- Quick Sort

# Sorting problem

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- How do we measure time complexity?
  - In terms of **number of elementary operations executed**
  - How does that number **depend on the input**? What is the **size of the problem**?
  - What about the operations that do not depend on the **size of the input**?
- Let us go back to the **sorting problem**...

## Sorting Problem

**Input:** A sequence of  $n$  numbers  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \rangle$

**(Desired) Output:** A permutation (reordering) of the input  $\langle a'_1, a'_2, \dots, a'_n \rangle$  such that

$$a'_1 \leq a'_2 \leq \dots \leq a'_n$$

# Why Sorting?

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- Sorting is considered to be the **most fundamental problem** in the study of algorithms
  - Some applications are basically directly expressible as sorting problems
    - E.g., Banks are legally obliged to issue checks in sorted order  
Companies must issue invoices in some order
  - Many algorithms use sorting as a component, i.e., a subroutine
  - There's a **wide variety of sorting algorithms**: they use **techniques and data structures** used in more complex algorithms too
    - Good starting point for „**algorithmic thinking**”
  - We can prove a **nontrivial lower-bound complexity for sorting**, and also know that the best sorting algorithms reach this bound asymptotically
    - This can be used to prove lower-bound complexity for more complex problems

# Keys and Records

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comparison

central elementary operation in all sorting algorithms

- All examples will sort **numbers**
  - How do we sort items of other data types?
  - We just need to define a comparison operator for other primitive types
    - E.g., strings can be converted into integers. **Q**: how?
- We typically sort more complex items („**records**”), with **key** being the numeric field of the record based on which we sort
  - The rest of the record is just moved together with the key



# Lower-bound complexity

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- A **lower bound** for a problem is the **worst-case running time of the best (most efficient) possible algorithm** that solves the problem
- Lower-bound for **sorting**?
- So far, we've seen only one sorting algorithm: **Insert(ion) sort**
  - Insert sort has the quadratic complexity, it's running time is in  **$O(n^2)$**
  - A sorting algorithm with **lower/better worst-case running time**?
  - A sorting algorithm of linear complexity: in  **$O(n)$** ?

# Insert sort

## Sorting Problem

**Input:** A sequence of  $n$  numbers  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \rangle$   
**(Desired) Output:** A permutation (reordering) of the input  $\langle a'_1, a'_2, \dots, a'_n \rangle$  such that  
$$a'_1 \leq a'_2 \leq \dots \leq a'_n$$

### Algorithm: **insert(ion) sort**

```
insert_sort(L) # L is a list of numbers
  for i = 1 to L.length - 1 # 0-indexing, first element is at index 0, last at len-1
    key = L[i]
    j = i-1
    while j > -1 and L[j] > key
      L[j+1] = L[j]
      j = j - 1
    L[j+1] = key
```



Image from *Cormen et al.*

# Insert sort: running time

## Algorithm: **insert(ion) sort**

```
insert_sort(L)
  for i = 1 to L.length - 1 # (n-1) * c1
    key = L[i] # (n-1) * c2
    j = i-1 # (n-1) * c3
    while j > -1 and L[j] > key #  $\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} c_4 * t_i$ 
      L[j+1] = L[j] #  $\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} c_5 * (t_i - 1)$ 
      j = j - 1 #  $\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} c_6 * (t_i - 1)$ 
    L[j+1] = key # (n-1) * c7
```

- Total running time **T(n)**

$$T(n) = (n-1) * (c_1 + c_2 + c_3 + c_7) + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} c_4 * t_i + (c_5 + c_6) * (t_i - 1)$$

- What is the **worst possible** scenario (largest possible running time)?

- If the input **L** is inversely sorted (from largest to smallest value)

- $t_i = i$  for each  $i$

- $\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} c_4 * t_i = (1 + 2 + \dots + (n-1)) * c_4 = \frac{(n-1)*n}{2} * c_4$

- $\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} c_5 * (t_i - 1) = (0 + 1 + \dots + (n-2)) * c_5 = \frac{(n-2)*(n-1)}{2} * c_5$

- $\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} c_6 * (t_i - 1) = (0 + 1 + \dots + (n-2)) * c_6 = \frac{(n-2)*(n-1)}{2} * c_6$



# Insert sort: running time

## Algorithm: **insert(ion) sort**

```
insert_sort(L)
  for i = 1 to L.length - 1 # (n-1) * c1
    key = L[i] # (n-1) * c2
    j = i-1 # (n-1) * c3
    while j > -1 and L[j] > key #  $\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} c_4 * t_i$ 
      L[j+1] = L[j] #  $\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} c_5 * (t_i - 1)$ 
      j = j - 1 #  $\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} c_6 * (t_i - 1)$ 
    L[j+1] = key # (n-1) * c7
```

- Total running time **T(n)**

$$T(n) = (n-1) * (c_1 + c_2 + c_3 + c_7) + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} c_4 * t_i + (c_5 + c_6) * (t_i - 1)$$

- What is the **worst possible** scenario (largest possible running time)?

- If the input **L** is inversely sorted (from largest to smallest value)

- $t_i = i$  for each  $i$

- $T(n) = (n-1) * (c_1 + c_2 + c_3 + c_7) + \frac{(n-1)*n}{2} * c_4 + \frac{(n-2)*(n-1)}{2} * (c_5 + c_6)$

- $T(n) = a*n^2 + b*n + c$

- This is a **quadratic function of n** →  **$O(n^2)$**

# Rates of growth and complexity

- Growth rates for some common complexity functions

- $\Theta(1)$  (constant)
- $\Theta(\log n)$  (logarithmic)
- $\Theta(n)$  (linear)
- $\Theta(n \log n)$  (loglinear)
- $\Theta(n^2)$  (quadratic complexity)
- $\Theta(n^3)$  (cubic complexity)
  - ...  $\Theta(n^k)$  for  $k \geq 0$  (polynomial)
- $\Theta(2^n)$  (exponential)
- $\Theta(n!)$  (factorial)

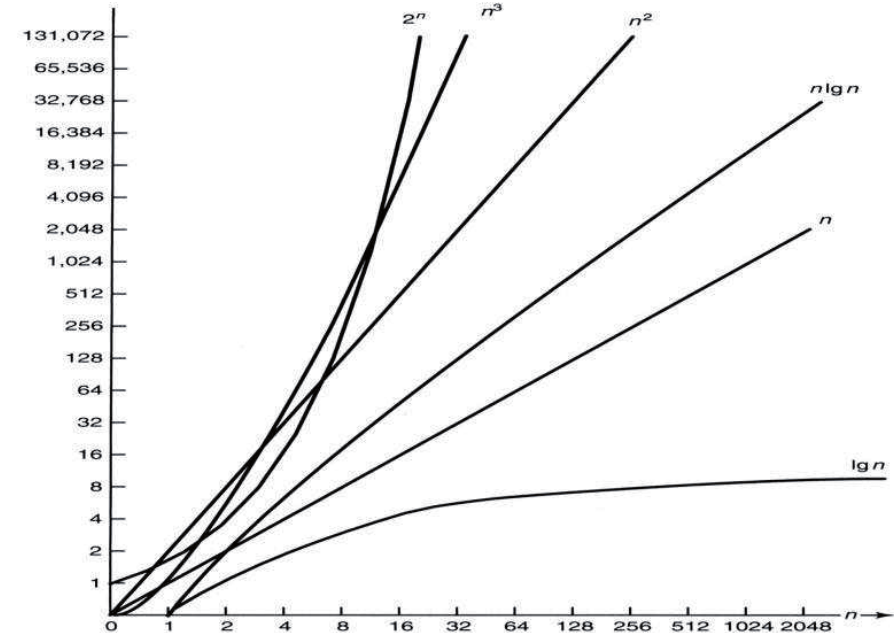


Image from <https://tinyurl.com/46c3cssy>

# Sorting algorithms

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- We will not only consider time complexity, but also **space complexity**
  - Space is normally **not an issue**, but to emphasize **space-time trade-off**
- **In-place** sorting
  - Algorithm that only needs to store a **constant number of elements** from the input array **outside of that array**
  - Is **insert(ion) sort** an in-place sorting algorithm?
    - How many elements are stored outside of the input array at any given time?
- When sorting **very large arrays**, „**in-place**” **sorting** becomes important

# Sorting and algorithm design techniques

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- When building algorithms, we often resort to some common **algorithm design techniques**

- **Insert sort:** sorting based on **incremental** approach

- Having sorted the subarray  $L[0:i-1]$

- We proceed to insert the  $i$ -th element into the correct place

- This yields the correct sorting for the subarray  $L[0:i]$

```
insert_sort(L)
  for i = 1 to L.length - 1
    key = L[i]
    j = i-1
    while j > -1 and L[j] > key
      L[j+1] = L[j]
      j = j - 1
    L[j+1] = key
```

# Sorting and algorithm design techniques

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- When building algorithms, we often resort to some common **algorithm design techniques**
- Sorting based on **divide-and-conquer** approach (**recursion!**)
- **Divide-and-conquer:**
  - **DIVIDE:** divide the problem into a number of subproblems that are instances of the same problem
  - **CONQUER:** solve the subproblems
    - if the size of the subproblem is small enough, solve it the straightforward way
    - If the size of the subproblem is still large, **DIVIDE** it further
  - **COMBINE:** create the solution to the problem by combining the solutions to the subproblems

# Content

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- Sorting
- Merge Sort
- Quick Sort

# Merge Sort

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**Merge Sort** implements the „**divide-and-conquer**” algorithm design

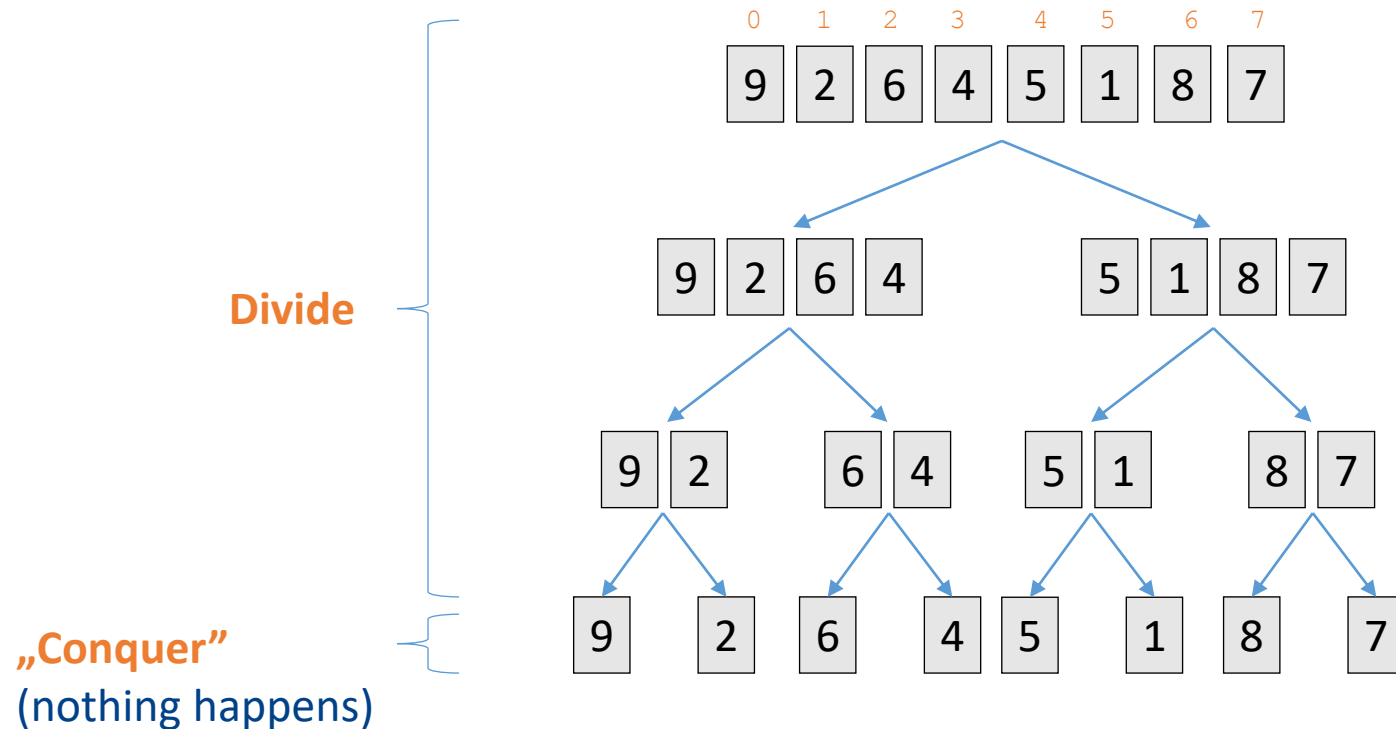
- **DIVIDE**: divide the  $n$ -element input array to be sorted into two subarrays of length  $n/2$  each
- **CONQUER**: sort each of the subarrays recursively (the recursion hits the „bottom” when the subarray to be sorted is of length **1**)
- **COMBINE**: Merge the sorted subarrays to produce the sorted array
  - Key is the **merge function** here, otherwise merge sort is a simple recursion

# Merge Sort: illustration

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**Divide** until reaching single-element subarrays

**Conquer:** trivial – „sort one-element arrays” (no real sorting)



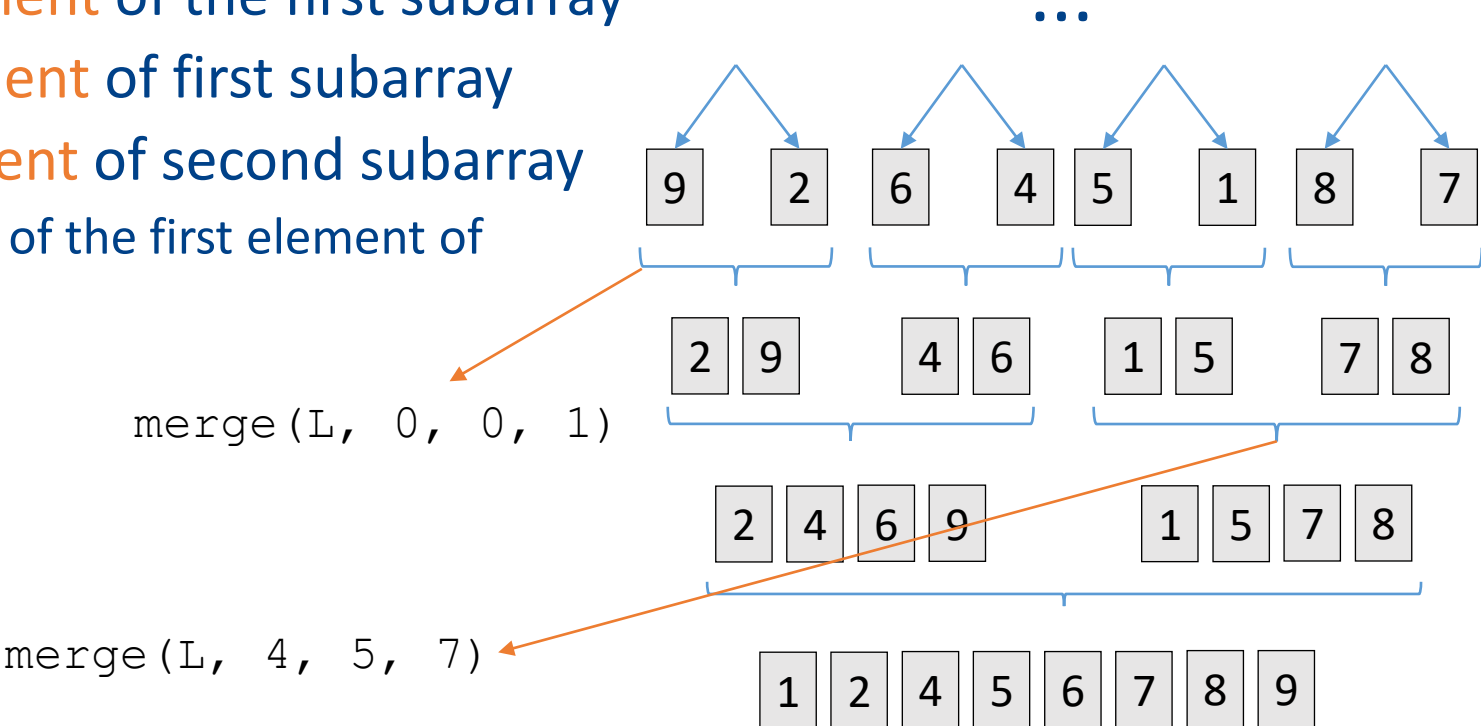


# Merge Sort: illustration

**Combine:** merge two **sorted** subarrays into a sorted array

We need to define the critical **merge (A, p, q, r)** function

- **A:** the input array
- **p:** index of **first element** of the first subarray
- **q:** index of **last element** of first subarray
- **r:** index of **last element** of second subarray
  - **Q:** what's the index of the first element of second subarray?



# Merge Sort: merge function

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```
merge(A, p, q, r)
    n_left = q - p + 1 # number of elements in the left subarray
    n_right = r - q # number of elements in the right subarray
    L = array[n_left] # create the left subarray
    R = array[n_right] # create the right subarray
    # copy the elements from the original array into subarrays
    for i = 0 to n_left - 1:
        L[i] = A[p + i]
    for j = 0 to n_right - 1:
        R[j] = A[q + 1 + j]
    # the real „merging“ starts now
    ind_l = 0
    ind_r = 0
    for k = p to r
        if ind_r > n_right - 1 or L[ind_l] ≤ R[ind_r]
            A[k] = L[ind_l]
            ind_l = ind_l + 1
        else
            A[k] = R[ind_r]
            ind_r = ind_r + 1
```

# Merge sort: merge function

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- What is the running time of the **merge** function?
- What is the „input size“  $n$ ?
  - Length of (sub)array under consideration:  $r - p + 1$
  - Consists of two subarrays
- If we ignore the constant runtime costs, we get

$$n/2 + n/2 + n = 2n = \mathbf{O(n)}$$

```
merge(A, p, q, r)
    n_left = q - p + 1
    n_right = r - q
    L = array[n_left]
    R = array[n_right]
    for i = 0 to n_left - 1: # runtime = n/2
        L[i] = A[p + i]
    for j = 0 to n_right - 1: # runtime = n/2
        R[j] = A[q + 1 + j]
    ind_l = 0
    ind_r = 0
    for k = p to r # runtime = n
        if ind_r > n_right - 1 or L[ind_l] ≤ R[ind_r]
            A[k] = L[ind_l]
            ind_l = ind_l + 1
        else
            A[k] = R[ind_r]
            ind_r = ind_r + 1
```

# Merge sort

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- Now that we have defined the merge function, let's see the whole **recursive merge sort** algorithm

```
merge_sort(A, p, r)
    n = r - p + 1
    if n % 2 == 1 # odd number of elements
        q = p + n//2 # a//b is integer division, 7//2 = 3
    else # even number of elements
        q = p + n/2 - 1

    merge_sort(A, p, q)
    merge_sort(A, q + 1, r)
    merge(A, p, q, r)
```

# Merge sort: runtime

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- Runtime of the `merge` function is  $2n = O(n)$
- Merge-sort on **1**-element array
  - Constant time (nothing actually),  $O(1)$
- When  $n > 1$ 
  - **DIVIDE**: just computes the middle of the subarray, constant time  $\rightarrow$ 
    - $D(n) = O(1)$
  - **CONQUER**: recursively sort two subproblems of size  $n/2$ 
    - $C(n) = 2 * T(n/2)$
  - **COMBINE** (`merge`): runtime of the `merge` function
    - $M(n) = O(n)$

```
merge_sort(A, p, r)
n = r - p + 1
if n % 2 == 1
    q = p + n//2
else
    q = p + n/2 - 1

merge_sort(A, p, q)
merge_sort(A, q + 1, r)
merge(A, p, q, r)
```

# Merge sort: runtime

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**DIVIDE:**  $D(n) = O(1)$

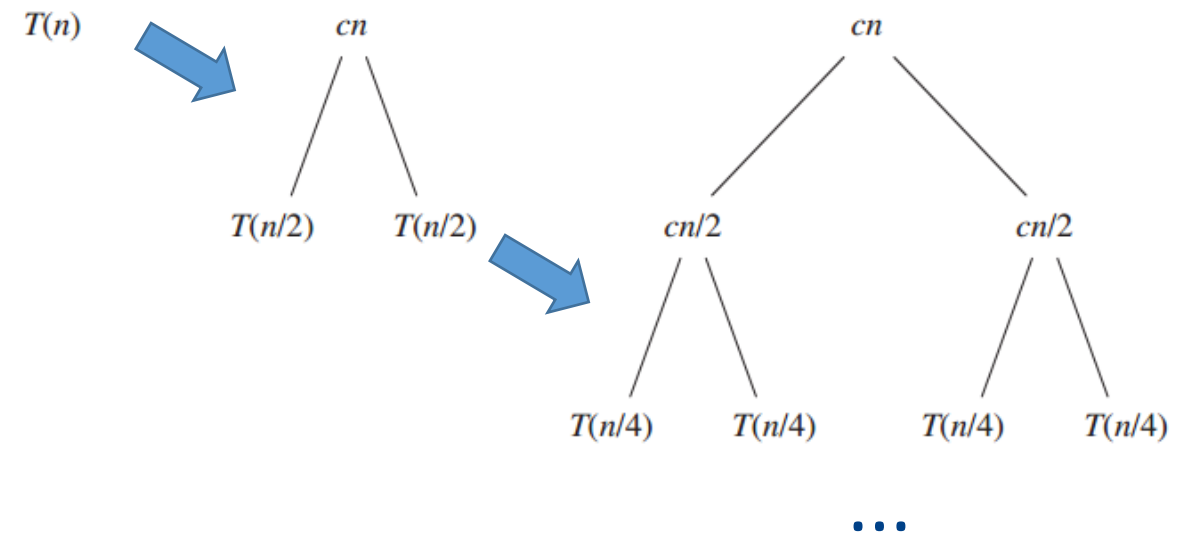
**CONQUER:**  $C(n) = 2 * T(n/2)$

**COMBINE (merge):**  $M(n) = O(n)$

- Summing  $D(n) + M(n)$  gives  $O(n) + O(1) = O(n)$
- So,  $T(n)$  for **merge sort** is
  - $O(1)$ , if  $n = 1$
  - $2 * T(n/2) + O(n)$ , if  $n > 1$  (recursively defined runtime)
- Or, removing the  $O$  notation, introducing the constants,  $T(n) =$ 
  - $c$ , if  $n = 1$
  - $2 * T(n/2) + c * n$ , if  $n > 1$

# Merge sort: runtime

- So,  $T(n)$  is
  - $c$ , if  $n = 1$
  - $2 * T(n/2) + c * n$ , if  $n > 1$
- Recursive runtime computation
  - $T(n/2) = 2 * T(n/4) + c * n/2$
  - $T(n/4) = 2 * T(n/8) + c * n/4$
  - ...
  - $T(n = 1) = c$



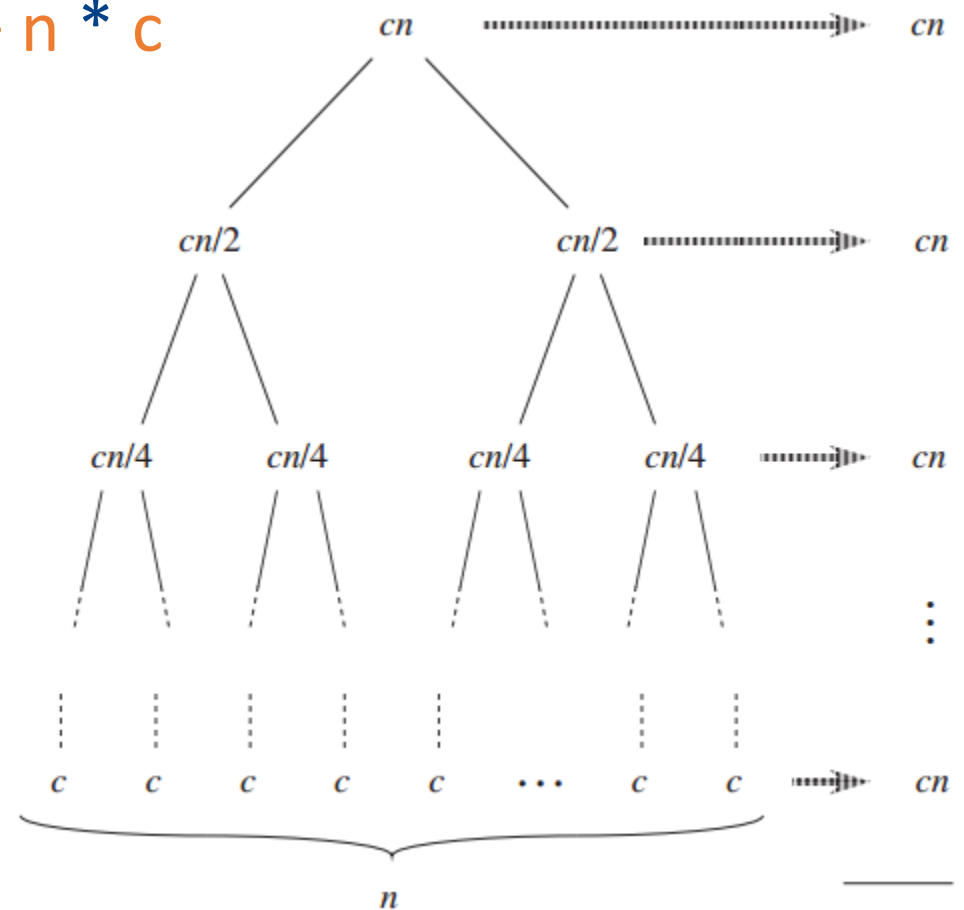
(Adapted) Image from Cormen et al.

# Merge sort: runtime

- $T(n) = c*n + 2*c*n/2 + 4*c*n/4 + \dots + n * c$   
 $= c*n + c*n + c*n + \dots + c*n$

How many times  
do we have  $c*n$ ?

- Depth of the tree =  $\log_2 n$
- $T(n) = c*n * \log_2 n = O(n \log n)$





# Merge sort: space complexity

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- **Q:** Is merge sort an „in place” sorting algorithm?
- How much **additional** memory does it need besides **A**?
  - Is that additional memory of constant size or depends on **n**?
- In `merge` function, we copy all elements into subarrays **L** and **R**
  - **L+R** have **n** elements
  - So total memory occupation is **2n**
- **Not in place** sorting
  - A problem only in case of extremely large arrays

```
merge(A, p, q, r)
    n_left = q - p + 1
    n_right = r - q
    L = array[n_left]
    R = array[n_right]
    for i = 0 to n_left - 1: # runtime - n/2
        L[i] = A[p + i]
    for j = 0 to n_right - 1: # runtime - n/2
        R[j] = A[q + 1 + j]
    ind_l = 0
    ind_r = 0
    for k = p to r # runtime - n
        if ind_r > n_right - 1 or L[ind_l] ≤ R[ind_r]
            A[k] = L[ind_l]
            ind_l = ind_l + 1
        else
            A[k] = R[ind_r]
            ind_r = ind_r + 1
```

# Content

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- Sorting
- Merge Sort
- Quick Sort

# Quick Sort

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**Quick sort** is another „divide-and-conquer” sorting algorithm

- Unlike merge sort, sorts the array **in place**
- **DIVIDE: central part of the algorithm**
  - Partition the array  $A[p, r]$  into two subarrays  $A[p, q-1]$  and  $A[q+1, r]$ , such that all elements of  $A[p, q-1]$  are smaller than  $A[q]$  and all elements of  $A[q+1, r]$  are larger than  $A[q]$
  - After sorting  $A[p, q-1]$  and  $A[q+1, r]$  (**recursively**) the whole array is **sorted**

```
quick_sort(A, p, r)
    q = partition(A, p, r)
    quick_sort(A, p, q - 1)
    quick_sort(A, q + 1, r)
```

# Quick sort: partition

```
partition(A, p, r)
```

```
    pivot = A[r]
```

```
    s = p - 1 # index of the last element smaller (or same) than pivot
```

```
    for i = p to r - 1:
```

```
        if A[i] ≤ pivot
```

```
            s = s + 1
```

```
            exchange(A[i], A[s])
```

```
exchange(A[s+1], A[r])
```

```
return s + 1
```

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9	2	6	7	5	1	8	4

```
    pivot = A[7] = 4
```

```
    s = 0 - 1 = -1
```

```
    #for loop, 1. iteration
```

```
    A[0] = 9 ≤ pivot = 4 → False
```

```
    #for loop, 2. iteration
```

```
    A[1] = 2 ≤ pivot = 4 → True
```

```
    s = s + 1 = 0
```

```
    exchange A[1], A[0] (2 and 9)
```

2	9	6	7	5	1	8	4
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

# Quick sort: partition

---

```
partition(A, p, r)
    pivot = A[r]
    s = p - 1 # index of the last element smaller (or same) than pivot
    for i = p to r - 1:
        if A[i] ≤ pivot
            s = s + 1
            exchange(A[i], A[s])
    exchange(A[s+1], A[r])
    return s + 1
```

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2	9	6	7	5	1	8	4

```
#for loop, 3. iteration
A[2] = 6 ≤ pivot = 4 → False
```

```
#for loop, 4. iteration
A[3] = 7 ≤ pivot = 4 → False
```

```
#for loop, 5. iteration
A[4] = 5 ≤ pivot = 4 → False
```

...

# Quick sort: partition

---

```
partition(A, p, r)
    pivot = A[r]
    s = p - 1 # index of the last element smaller (or same) than pivot
    for i = p to r - 1:
        if A[i] ≤ pivot
            s = s + 1
            exchange(A[i], A[s])
    exchange(A[s+1], A[r])
    return s + 1
```

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2	9	6	7	5	1	8	4

#for loop, 6. iteration  
 $A[5] = 1 \leq \text{pivot} = 4 \rightarrow \text{True}$

$s = s + 1 = 1$   
exchange  $A[1], A[5]$  (1 and 9)

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2	1	6	7	5	9	8	4

# Quick sort: partition

```
partition(A, p, r)
    pivot = A[r]
    s = p - 1 # index of the last element smaller (or same) than pivot
    for i = p to r - 1:
        if A[i] ≤ pivot
            s = s + 1
            exchange(A[i], A[s])
    exchange(A[s+1], A[r])
    return s + 1
```

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2	1	6	7	5	9	8	4

```
#for loop, 7. iteration
A[6] = 8 ≤ pivot = 4 → False
# for loop over, s = 1
```

```
exchange A[7] (pivot), A[s+1 = 2]
(6 and 4)
```

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2	1	4	7	5	9	8	6

```
return 2 (s+1)
quick_sort([2,1])
quick_sort([7, 5, 9, 8, 6])
```

# Quick sort: running time

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- The running time of the quick sort depends on whether the partitioning is (mostly) **balanced** or **unbalanced**
- If the partitioning is **balanced**, quick sort will have the running time of **a merge sort** (but with **in place** sorting!)
  - On average, partitioning will be balanced! **Q**: why?
  - So average runtime of quick sort is  **$O(n \cdot \log n)$** !
  - Not just that, the **constants in running time are lower** for quick sort
- **Worst case scenario**
  - Running time of quick sort will be  **$O(n^2)$** .
  - **Q**: why?

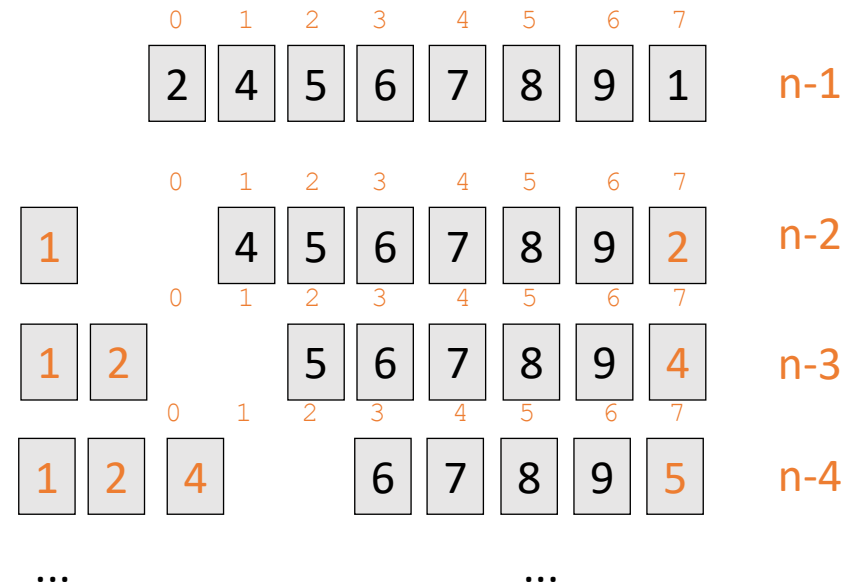


# Quick sort: worst running time

- If  $A[i] \leq \text{pivot}$  is never fulfilled
- So the partitions will be  $[\ ]$  and  $A[1\dots r]$
- **Q:** Can you think of a worst case example for quick sort?

- $T(n) = (n-1) + (n-2) + \dots + 2 + 1$   
 $= (n-1) * n / 2$   
 $= O(n^2)$

```
partition(A, p, r)
    pivot = A[r]
    s = p - 1
    for i = p to r - 1:
        if A[i] ≤ pivot
            s = s + 1
            exchange(A[i], A[s])
    exchange(A[s+1], A[r])
    return s + 1
```



# Questions?

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