

# CSE 250

## Data Structures

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**Day 13: Expected Runtime**

# Announcements

- WA2 due Sunday 10/1 @ 11:59PM
- Midterm #1 will be Monday 10/2 in class
  - Practice exams and WA1 answer key posted to the course website
  - See Piazza post for all the juicy details
  - Make sure you have AR appointments set up if necessary

# Recap - Merge Sort

**Divide:** Split the sequence in half

$$D(n) = \Theta(n) \text{ (can do in } \Theta(1)\text{)}$$

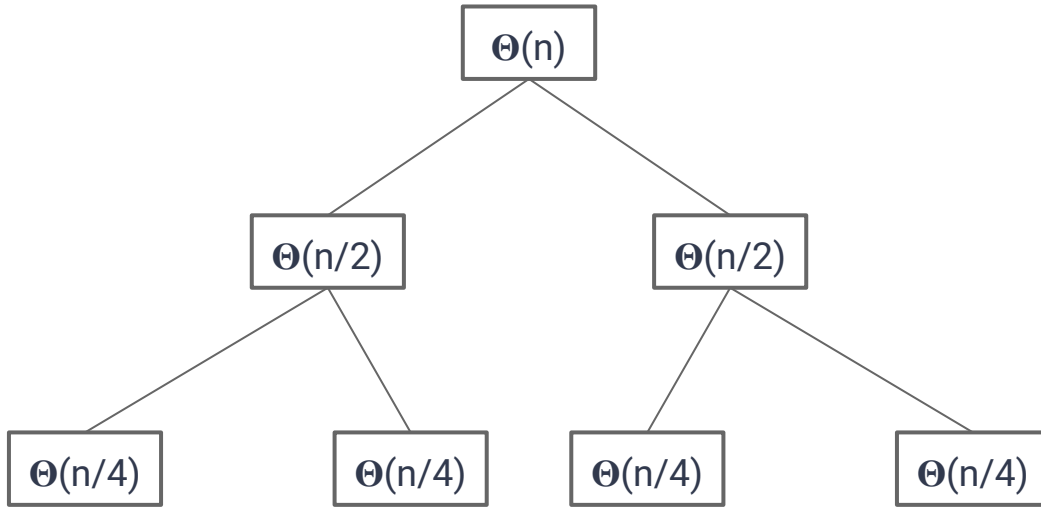
**Conquer:** Sort the left and right halves

$$a = 2, b = 2, c = 1$$

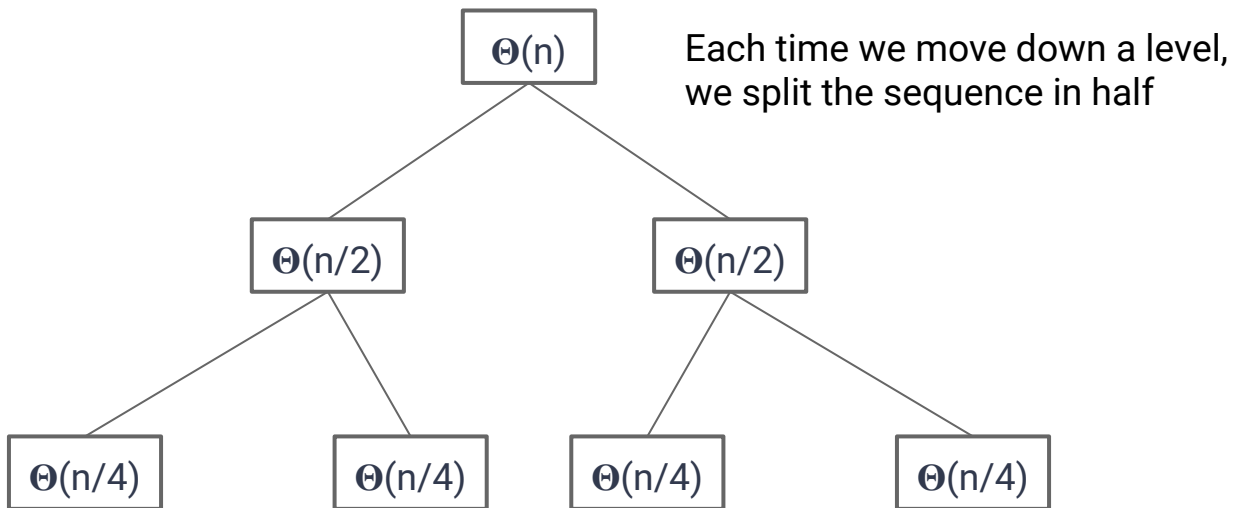
**Combine:** Merge halves together

$$C(n) = \Theta(n)$$

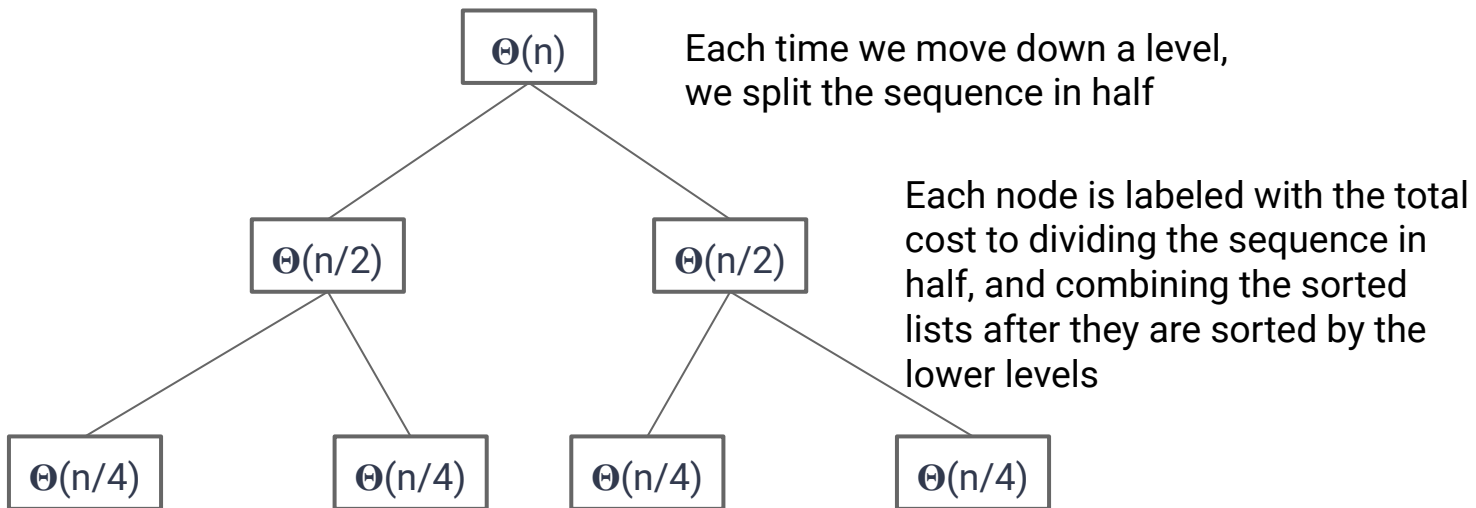
# Merge Sort: Intuition



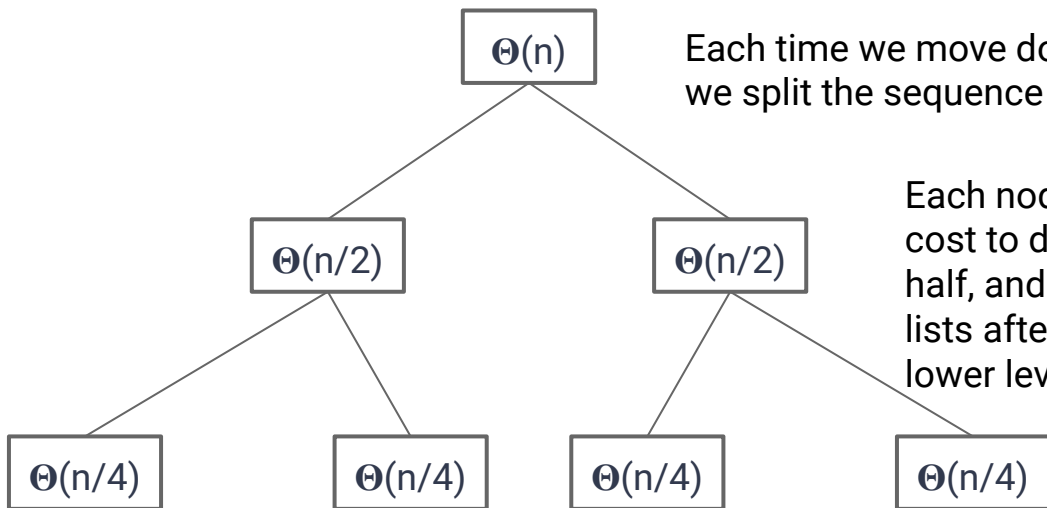
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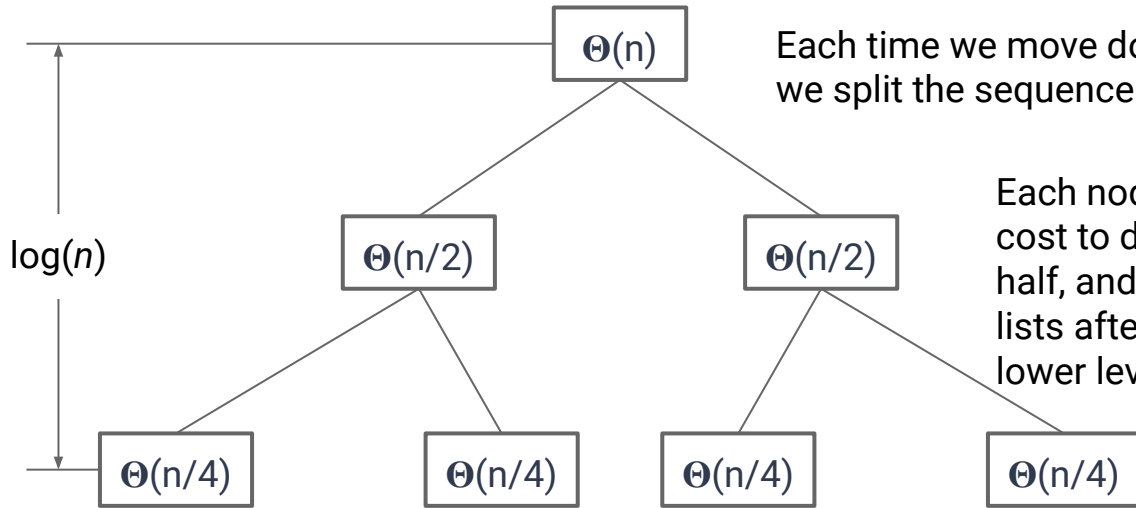
Each time we move down a level, we split the sequence in half

Each node is labeled with the total cost to dividing the sequence in half, and combining the sorted lists after they are sorted by the lower levels

Notice the total cost of each level is always  $\Theta(n)$

# Merge Sort: Intuition

Because we divide in half at each level, we have  $\log(n)$  levels



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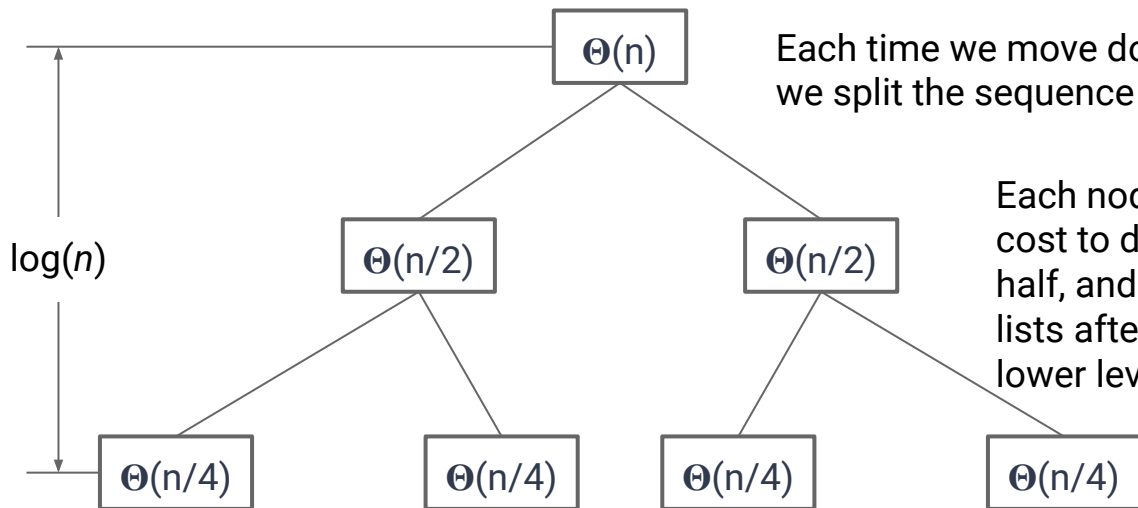
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**Hypothesis:** The cost of merge sort is  $n \log(n)$

Notice the total cost of each level is always  $\Theta(n)$

# Merge Sort: Proof by Induction

**Base Case:**  $T(1) \leq c \cdot 1 \log(1)$

$$c_0 \leq \theta$$

$$T(2) \leq c \cdot 2 \log(2)$$

True for any  $c > c_0 / 2$

# Merge Sort: Proof by Induction

**Assume:**  $T(n/2) \leq c (n/2) \log(n/2)$

**Show:**  $T(n) \leq cn \log(n)$

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$$\frac{c_1}{n \log(2)} + \frac{c_2}{\log(2)} \leq c$$

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$$c_1 + c_2 n \leq cn \log(2)$$

$$\frac{c_1}{n \log(2)} + \frac{c_2}{\log(2)} \leq c$$

Which is true for any

$$n_0 \geq \frac{c_1}{\log(2)} \quad \text{and} \quad c > \frac{c_2}{\log(2)} + 1$$

# Benefits of a Sorted List

So in  $O(n \log(n))$  we can sort a list using the merge sort algorithm...

But how does that benefit us?

# Binary vs Linear Search

Consider searching for a particular value in an **Array** (or **ArrayList**)...

How long does that search take?

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# Binary vs Linear Search

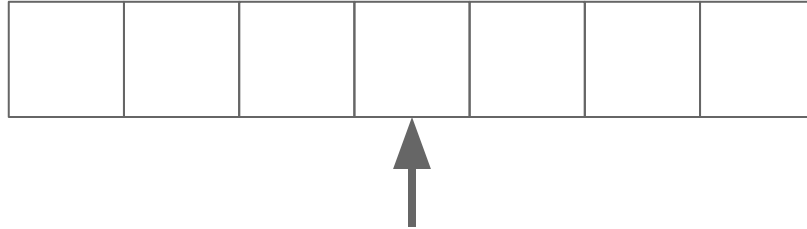
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What if our list is sorted? Can we do better?

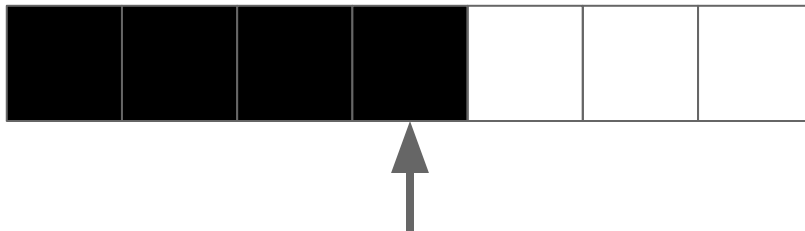
# Binary vs Linear Search



Check the middle element (which we can access in constant time)

# Binary vs Linear Search

We can ignore half the list

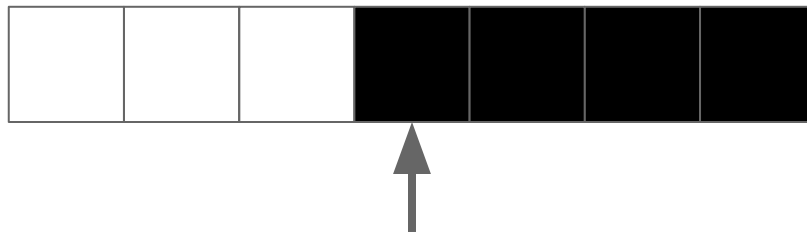


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If it is smaller than what we are looking for, then our target must be to the right (because our list is sorted)



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Repeat this process recursively with the remaining elements

What is the runtime to search in this fashion?  **$O(\log(n))$**

# Binary vs Linear Search

## Linear search:

- Removes one element from consideration each step,  $O(n)$
- Does not require list to be sorted
- Does not require constant time random access

## Binary search:

- Removes half of the elements from consideration each step,  $O(\log(n))$
- Requires list to be sorted
- Requires constant time random access

# Merge Sort

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**The combine step**

Can we put the work in the divide step instead?



# QuickSort

**Idea:** What if we divide our sequence around a particular value?

What value would we like to choose?

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What value would we like to choose? **Median**

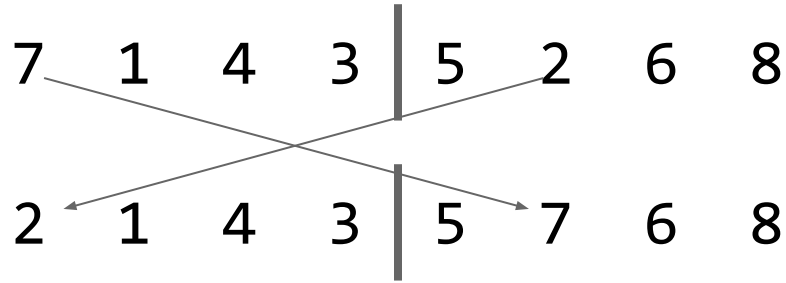
# QuickSort: Idealized Version

7 1 4 3 5 2 6 8

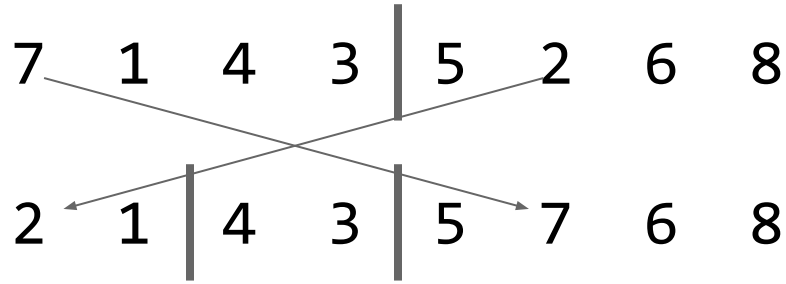
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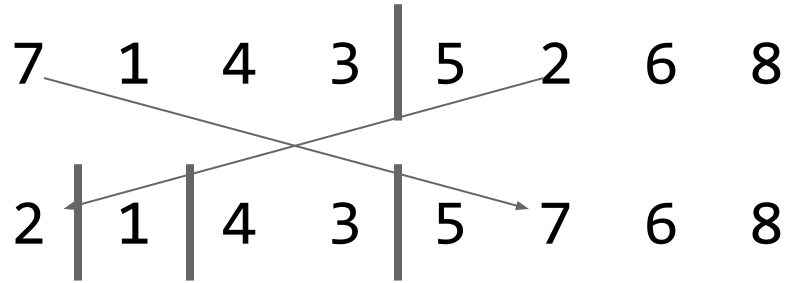
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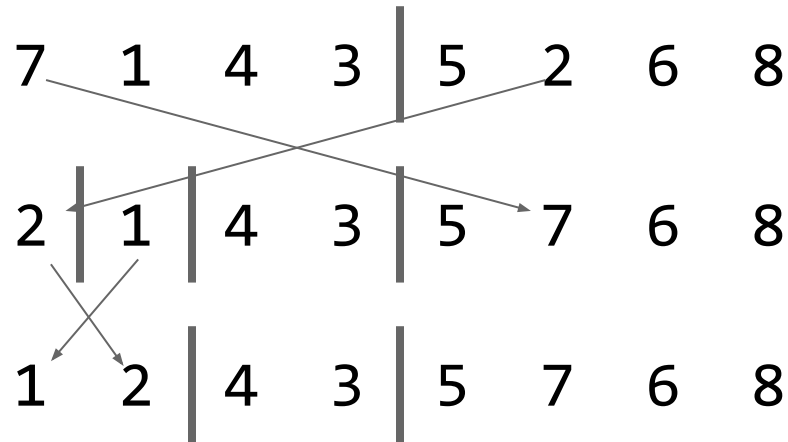
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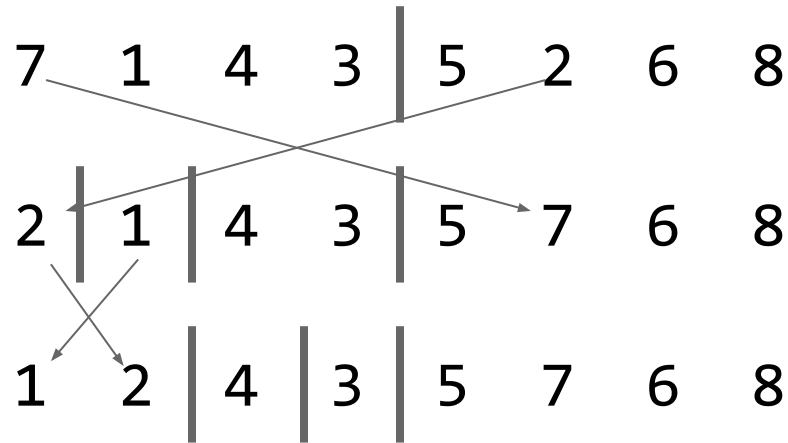


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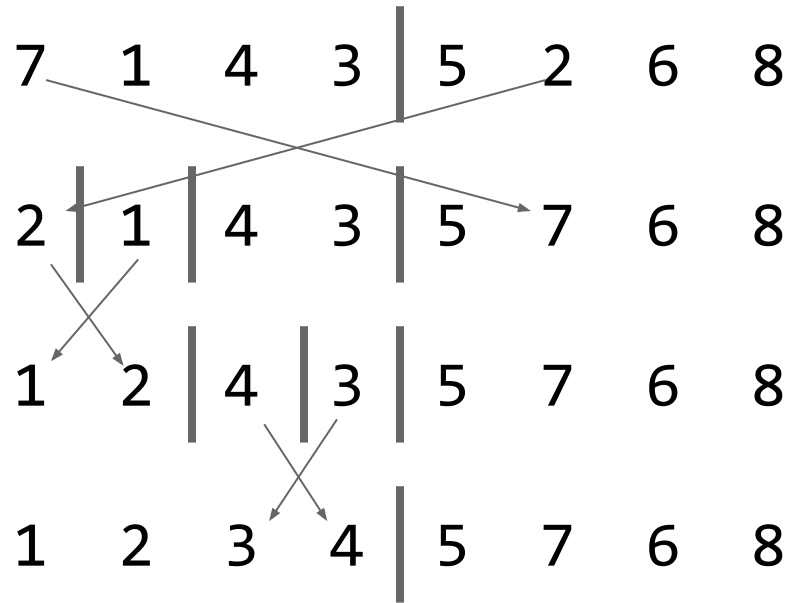




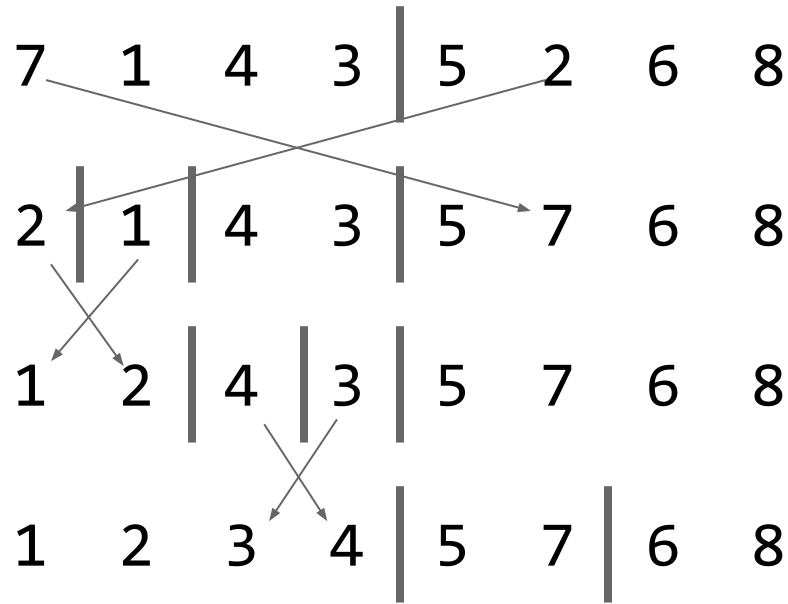
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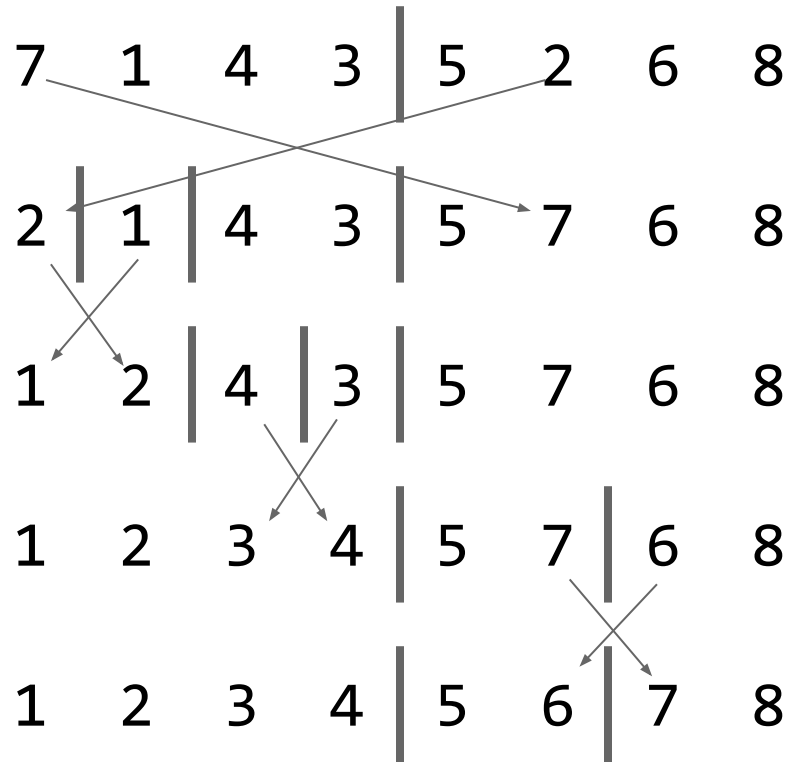
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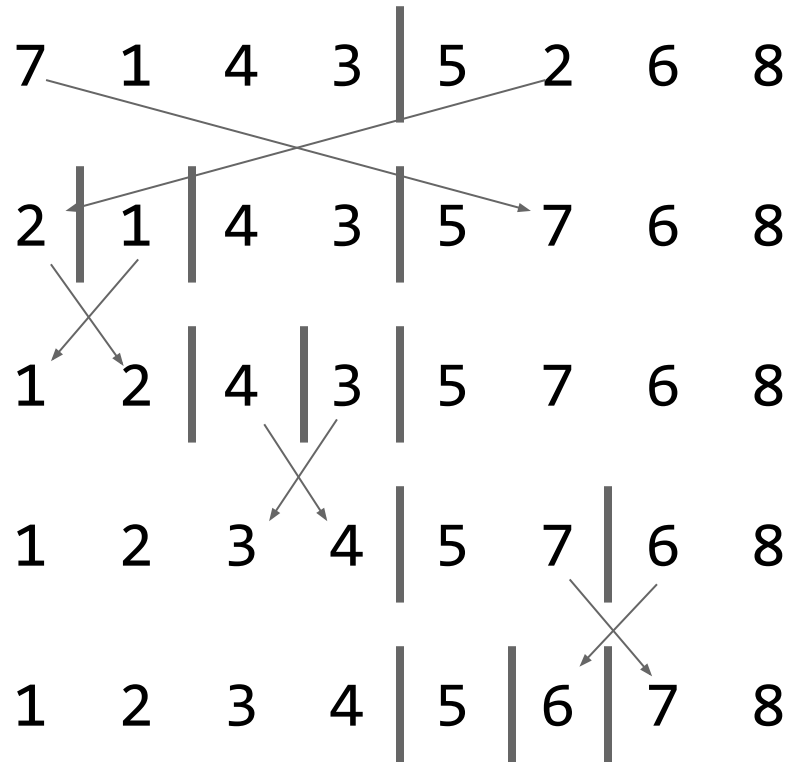
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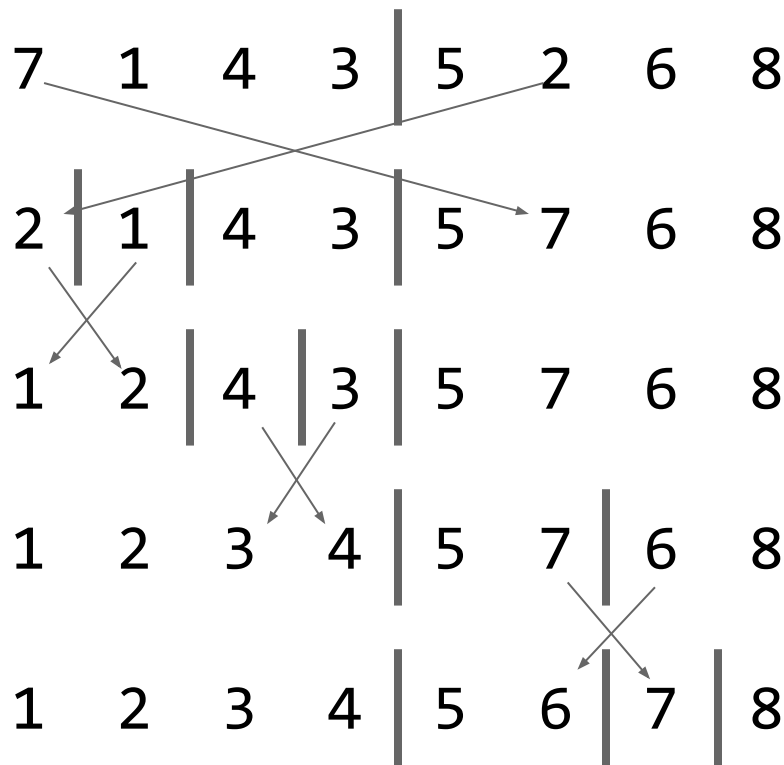
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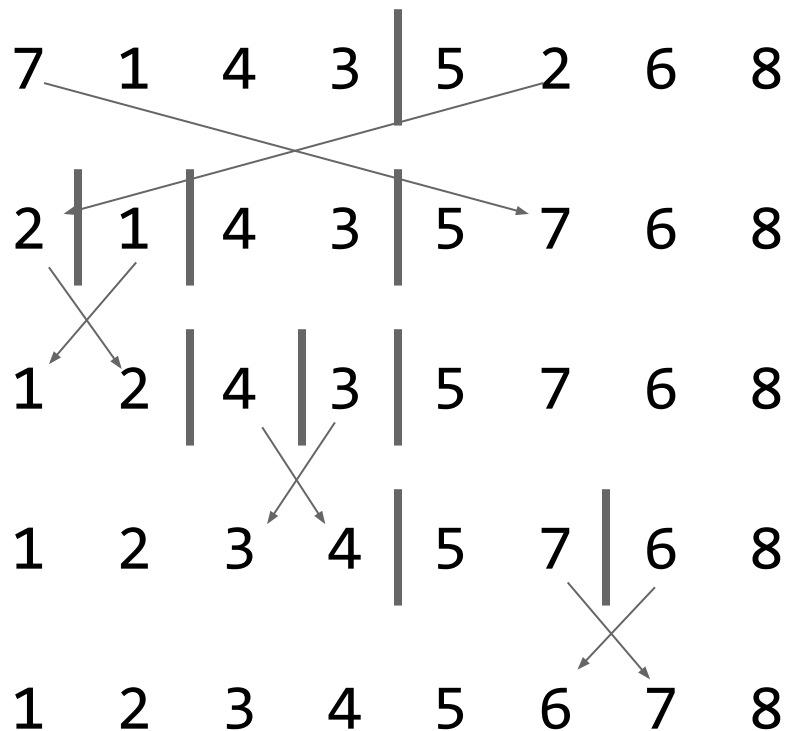
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# QuickSort: Idealized Algorithm

To sort an array of size  $n$ :

1. Pick a *pivot* value (median?)
2. Swap values until:
  - a. elements at  $[1, n/2)$  are  $\leq$  pivot
  - b. elements at  $[n/2, n)$  are  $>$  pivot
3. Recursively sort the lower half
4. Recursively sort the upper half



**Great! So...how do we find  
the median...?**

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the median...?

Finding the median takes  
 $O(n \log(n))$  for an unsorted array :(

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Imagine a world where we can obtain a pivot in  $O(1)$ .  
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Compare to Merge Sort:

$$T_{mergesort}(n) = \begin{cases} \Theta(1) & \text{if } n = 1 \\ 2 \cdot T(\frac{n}{2}) + \Theta(1) + \Theta(n) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

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So how can we pick a pivot value (in  $O(1)$  time)?

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**Idea:** Pick it randomly! On average, half the values will be lower.

# QuickSort: Attempt #2

To sort an array of size  $n$ :

1. Pick a value at random as the *pivot*
2. Swap values until the array is subdivided into:
  - a. *low*: array elements  $<$  *pivot*
  - b. *pivot*
  - c. *high*: array elements  $>$  *pivot*
3. Recursively sort *low*
4. Recursively sort *high*



# QuickSort: Runtime

What is the worst-case runtime?

# QuickSort: Worst-Case Scenario

What if we always pick the worst pivot?

[8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1]

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**Remember: This is called the unqualified runtime...we don't take any extra context into account**

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But what **can** we say about runtime?

# QuickSort

Let's say we pick Xth largest element for our pivot.

What is the runtime ( $T(n)$ )?

# QuickSort

Let's say we pick  $X$ th largest element for our pivot.

What is the runtime ( $T(n)$ )?

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} T(0) + T(n-1) + \Theta(n) & \text{if } X = 1 \\ T(1) + T(n-2) + \Theta(n) & \text{if } X = 2 \\ T(2) + T(n-3) + \Theta(n) & \text{if } X = 3 \\ \dots & \\ T(n-2) + T(1) + \Theta(n) & \text{if } X = n-1 \\ T(n-1) + T(0) + \Theta(n) & \text{if } X = n \end{array} \right.$$

# Probabilities

How likely are we to pick  $X = k$  for any specific  $k$ ?

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$$P[X = k] = 1/n$$









# Probability Theory (Great Class...)

If I roll a d6 (6-sided die)  $x$  times,  
what is the average roll over all possible outcomes?

# A single die roll

If I rolled a d6 1 time...

Roll	Probability	Outcome
	1/6	1
	1/6	2
	1/6	3
	1/6	4
	1/6	5
	1/6	6

# Expected Value

The **Expected Value** of a random variable (ie the number rolled on the d6) is the sum of all outcomes times the probability of that outcome

$$\sum_i Probability_i \cdot Contribution_i$$

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$$\sum_{i=1}^6 \frac{1}{6}i = \frac{1}{6} \cdot 1 + \frac{1}{6} \cdot 2 + \frac{1}{6} \cdot 3 + \frac{1}{6} \cdot 4 + \frac{1}{6} \cdot 5 + \frac{1}{6} \cdot 6 = 3.5$$

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We refer to the expected value of a random variable as  **$E[X]$**

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If  $X$  and  $Y$  are our dice rolls, then  $E[X+Y] = E[X] + E[Y] = 3.5 + 3.5 = 7$

# QuickSort Runtime

Now we can write our runtime function in terms of random variables:

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} \Theta(1) & \mathbf{if} \ n \leq 1 \\ T(0) + T(n-1) + \Theta(n) & \mathbf{if} \ n > 1 \wedge X = 1 \\ T(1) + T(n-2) + \Theta(n) & \mathbf{if} \ n > 1 \wedge X = 2 \\ T(2) + T(n-3) + \Theta(n) & \mathbf{if} \ n > 1 \wedge X = 3 \\ \dots & \\ T(n-2) + T(1) + \Theta(n) & \mathbf{if} \ n > 1 \wedge X = n-1 \\ T(n-1) + T(0) + \Theta(n) & \mathbf{if} \ n > 1 \wedge X = n \end{cases}$$

# QuickSort Runtime

...and convert it to the expected runtime over the variable  $X$

$$E[T(n)] = \begin{cases} \Theta(1) & \text{if } n \leq 1 \\ E[T(X-1) + T(n-X)] + \Theta(n) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

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This looks like the runtime of MergeSort, so now our hypothesis is that our Expected Runtime is  $n \log(n)$

# Back to Induction

**Hypothesis:**  $E[T(n)] \in O(n \log(n))$

# Base Case

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$$2c_0 + 2c_1 \leq 2c$$

True for any  $c \geq c_0 + c_1$

# Inductive Case

**Assume:**  $E[T(n')] \leq c (n' \log(n'))$  for **all**  $n' < n$

**Show:**  $E[T(n)] \leq c (n \log(n))$



# Inductive Case

**Assume:**  $E[T(n')] \leq c (n' \log(n'))$  for **all**  $n' < n$

**Show:**  $E[T(n)] \leq c (n \log(n))$

$$\frac{2}{n} \left( \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} E[T(i)] \right) + c_1 \leq cn \log(n)$$

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**Show:**  $E[T(n)] \leq c (n \log(n))$

$$\frac{2}{n} \left( \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} E[T(i)] \right) + c_1 \leq cn \log(n)$$

$$\frac{2}{n} \left( \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} ci \log(i) \right) + c_1 \leq cn \log(n)$$

# Inductive Case

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$$c_1 \leq c \log(n)$$

# QuickSort

So...is QuickSort  $O(n \log(n))$ ...?

**No!**

# What guarantees do you get?

## If $f(n)$ is a Tight Bound

The algorithm always runs in  $cf(n)$  steps

## If $f(n)$ is a Worst-Case Bound

The algorithm always runs in at most  $cf(n)$

## If $f(n)$ is an Amortized Worst-Case Bound

$n$  invocations of the algorithm **always** run in  $cnf(n)$  steps

## If $f(n)$ is an Average Bound

...we don't have any guarantees

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← Unqualified runtime

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