

6.006 Recitation 9 4 March 2009

QUICKSORT

C.A.R. Hoare. Quicksort. Computer Journal, 5(1): 10-15, 1962.

DIVIDE - AND - CONQUER

Divide: Partition $A[p..r]$ into two subarrays $B = A[p..q-1]$ and $C = A[q+1..r]$ s.t.
 $\forall i, p \leq i < q-1 \quad B[i] \leq A[q]$
 $\forall j, q+1 \leq j \leq r \quad A[j] > C[j]$



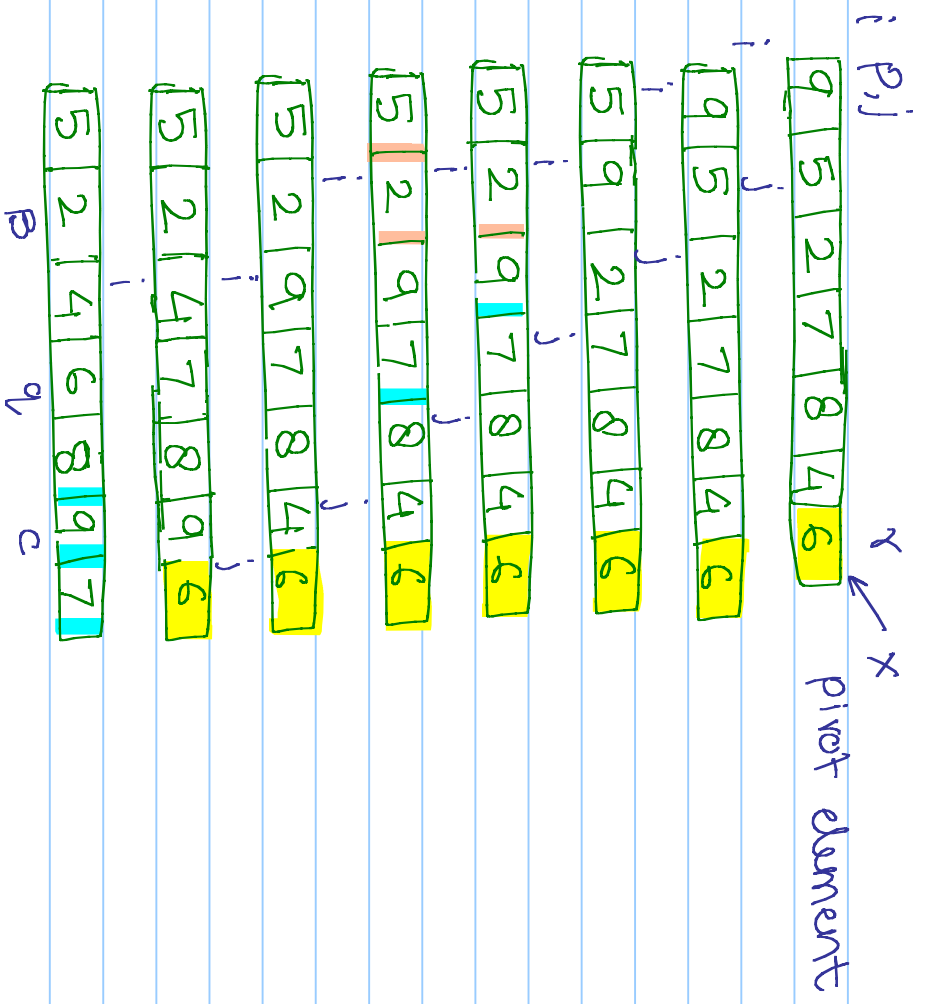
Conquer: Sort B and C recursively using quicksort

Combine: Not needed! A is sorted.

```
QUICKSORT (A, p, r) // A: array, p: start index, r: End Index
if p < r
    q = PARTITION (A, p, r) // q: index of A[r] pivot in sorted array A
    QUICKSORT (A, p, q-1) // call quicksort on B
    QUICKSORT (A, q+1, r) // on C
```

```
PARTITION (A, p, r)
x = A[r] // pivot element
i = p-1
for j = p to r-1
    if A[j] ≤ x
        i = i+1
        swap A[i] ↔ A[j]
swap A[i+1] ↔ A[r]
return i+1
```

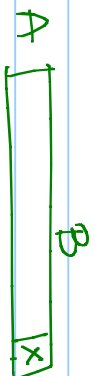
A



Performance

- * Worst - case Partitioning

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= T(n-1) + T(0) + \Theta(n) \\ &= n + n-1 + n-2 + \dots + 1 \\ &= \frac{n(n+1)}{2} \\ &= \Theta(n^2) \end{aligned}$$



P is minimum or maximum element

- * Best - case Partitioning

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &\leq 2T(n/2) + \Theta(n) \\ &= O(n \log n) \end{aligned}$$



* Balanced Partitioning

average case running time much closer to best case than the worst case.

Say, we always get $q-1$ split

$$T(n) \leq T\left(\frac{qn}{10}\right) + T\left(\frac{n}{10}\right) + cn$$

$$T(n) = O(n \log n)$$

Even with $q(q-1)$ split
 $O(n \log n)$

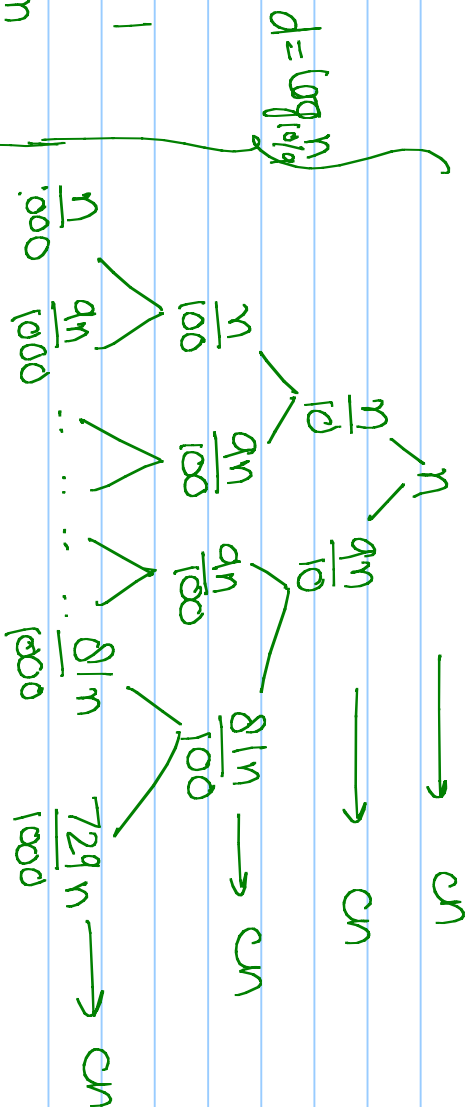
any split with constant

proportionality (independent of n)

$$\left(\frac{q}{10}\right)^d n = 1$$

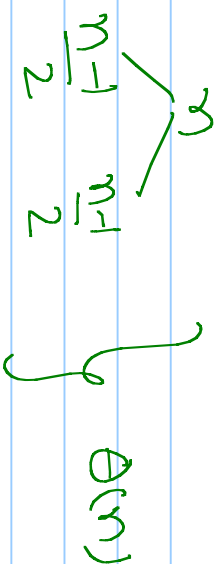
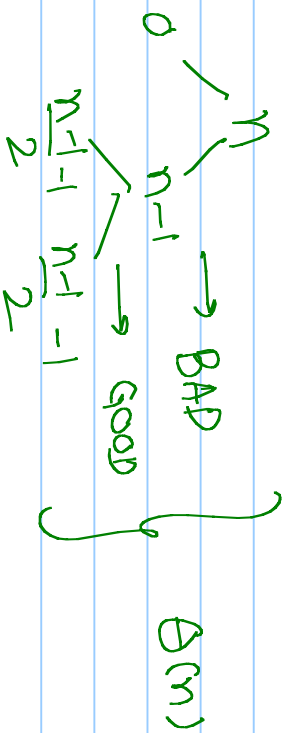
$$\left(\frac{10}{q}\right)^d = n$$

$$d = \log_{10/q} n$$



AVERAGE CASE

- Various kinds of inputs
- Ordering of values in A matters, not the values
- Previous analysis assume partition always occurs in same proportion (not very likely)
- Mix of good and BAD splits



likely complexity $\Theta(n \log n)$

RANDOMIZED QUICKSORT

```
RANDOMIZED - PARTITION(A, p, r)
    i = RANDOM(p, r)
    swap A[i] ↔ A[r]
    return PARTITION(A, p, r)
```

Choose the pivot node at random
(Extremely hard to select bad pivot +
node randomly all the time)!

Expected running time : $\Theta(n \log n)$ {not that hard to show}