CS61B Lectures #27–28

Today:

- Sorting algorithms: why?
- Insertion, Shell's, Heap, Merge sorts
- Quicksort
- Selection
- Distribution counting, radix sorts

Readings: Today: *DS(IJ)*, Chapter 8; Next topic: Chapter 9.

Purposes of Sorting

- Sorting supports searching
- Binary search standard example
- Also supports other kinds of search:
  - Are there two equal items in this set?
  - Are there two items in this set that both have the same value for property X?
  - What are my nearest neighbors?
- Used in numerous unexpected algorithms, such as convex hull (smallest convex polygon enclosing set of points).

Some Definitions

- A sort is a *permutation* (re-arrangement) of a sequence of elements that brings them into order, according to some *total order.* A total order, $\preceq$, is:
  - **Total:** $x \preceq y$ or $y \preceq x$ for all x, y.
  - **Reflexive:** $x \preceq x$;
  - **Antisymmetric:** $x \preceq y$ and $y \preceq x$ iff $x = y$.
  - **Transitive:** $x \preceq y$ and $y \preceq z$ implies $x \preceq z$.
- However, our orderings may allow unequal items to be equivalent:
  - E.g., can be two dictionary definitions for the same word: if entries sorted only by word, then sorting could put either entry first.
  - A sort that does not change the relative order of equivalent entries is called *stable.*

Classifications

- *Internal sorts* keep all data in primary memory
- *External sorts* process large amounts of data in batches, keeping what won't fit in secondary storage (in the old days, tapes).
- *Comparison-based* sorting assumes only thing we know about keys is order
- *Radix sorting* uses more information about key structure.
- *Insertion sorting* works by repeatedly inserting items at their appropriate positions in the sorted sequence being constructed.
- *Selection sorting* works by repeatedly selecting the next larger (smaller) item in order and adding it one end of the sorted sequence being constructed.

Sorting by Insertion

- Simple idea:
  - starting with empty sequence of outputs.
  - add each item from input, *inserting* into output sequence at right point.
- Very simple, good for small sets of data.
- With vector or linked list, time for find + insert of one item is at worst $\Theta(k)$, where k is # of outputs so far.
- So gives us $O(N^2)$ algorithm. Can we say more?

Inversions

- Can run in $\Theta(N)$ comparisons if already sorted.
- Consider a typical implementation for arrays:

```
for (int i = 1; i < A.length; i += 1) {
  int j;
  Object x = A[i];
  for (j = i-1; j >= 0; j -= 1) {
    if (A[j].compareTo (x) <= 0)  /* (1) */
      break;
    A[j+1] = A[j];
  }
  A[j+1] = x;
}
```

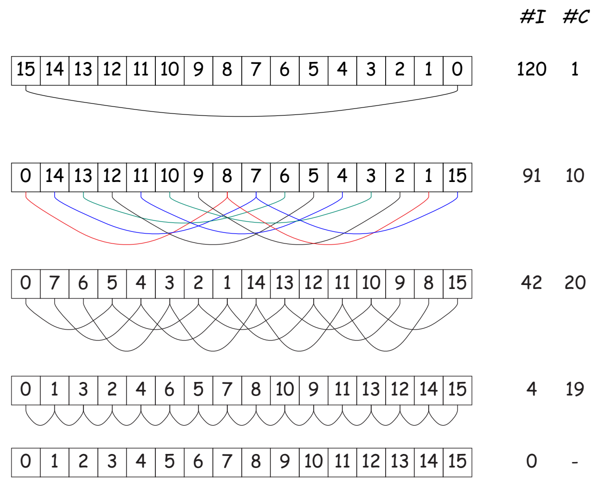
- #times (1) executes $\approx$ how far `x` must move.
- If all items within K of proper places, then takes $O(KN)$ operations.
- Thus good for any amount of *nearly sorted* data.
- One measure of unsortedness: # of *inversions:* pairs that are out of order (= 0 when sorted, $N(N-1)/2$ when reversed).
- Each step of `j` decreases inversions by 1.

Shell's sort

Idea: Improve insertion sort by first sorting *distant* elements:

- First sort subsequences of elements 2^k-1 apart:
  - sort items #$0,\ 2^k-1,\ 2(2^k-1),\ 3(2^k-1),\ \ldots$, then
  - sort items #$1,\ 1+2^k-1,\ 1+2(2^k-1),\ 1+3(2^k-1),\ \ldots$, then
  - sort items #$2,\ 2+2^k-1,\ 2+2(2^k-1),\ 2+3(2^k-1),\ \ldots$, then
  - *etc.*
  - sort items #$2^k-2,\ 2(2^k-1)-1,\ 3(2^k-1)-1,\ \ldots$,
  - Each time an item moves, can reduce #inversions by as much as 2^k+1.
- Now sort subsequences of elements $2^{k-1}-1$ apart:
  - sort items #$0,\ 2^{k-1}-1,\ 2(2^{k-1}-1),\ 3(2^{k-1}-1),\ \ldots$, then
  - sort items #$1,\ 1+2^{k-1}-1,\ 1+2(2^{k-1}-1),\ 1+3(2^{k-1}-1),\ \ldots$,
  - $\vdots$
- End at plain insertion sort ($2^0=1$ apart), but with most inversions gone.
- Sort is $\Theta(N^{1.5})$ (take CS170 for why!).

Example of Shell's Sort



I: Inversions left.
C: Comparisons needed to sort subsequences.

Sorting by Selection: Heapsort

Idea: Keep selecting smallest (or largest) element.

- Really bad idea on a simple list or vector.
- But we've already seen it in action: use heap.
- Gives $O(N \lg N)$ algorithm (N remove-first operations).
- Since we remove items from end of heap, we can use that area to accumulate result:

original:	19	0	-1	7	23	2	42	
heapified:	42	23	19	7	0	2	-1	
	23	7	19	-1	0	2		42
	19	7	2	-1	0		23	42
	7	0	2	-1		19	23	42
	2	0	-1		7	19	23	42
	0	-1		2	7	19	23	42
	-1		0	2	7	19	23	42

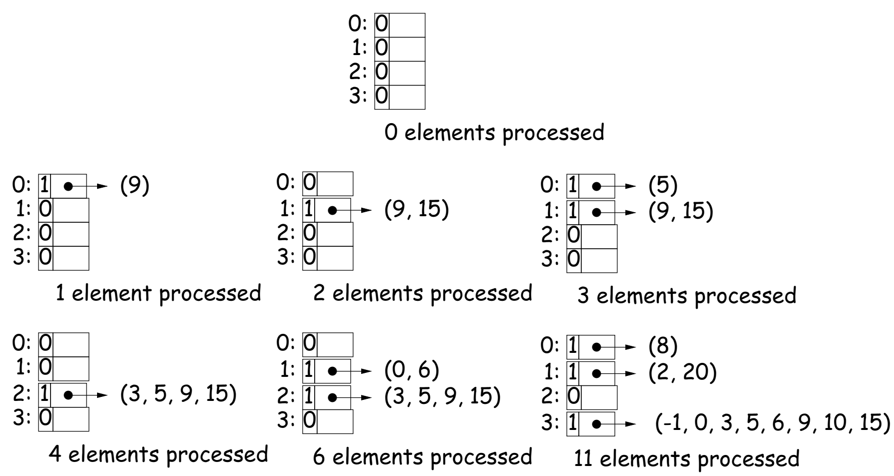
Merge Sorting

Idea: Divide data in 2 equal parts; recursively sort halves; merge results.

- Already seen analysis: $\Theta(N \lg N)$.
- Good for *external sorting:*
  - First break data into small enough chunks to fit in memory and sort.
  - Then repeatedly merge into bigger and bigger sequences.
  - Can merge K sequences of *arbitrary size* on secondary storage using $\Theta(K)$ storage.
- For internal sorting, can use *binomial comb* to orchestrate:

Illustration of Internal Merge Sort

L: (9, 15, 5, 3, 0, 6, 10, -1, 2, 20, 8)



Quicksort: Speed through Probability

Idea:

- *Partition* data into pieces: everything $>$ a *pivot* value at the high end of the sequence to be sorted, and everything $\leq$ on the low end.
- Repeat recursively on the high and low pieces.
- For speed, stop when pieces are "small enough" and do insertion sort on the whole thing.
- Reason: insertion sort has low constant factors. By design, no item will move out of its will move out of its piece [why?], so when pieces are small, #inversions is, too.
- Have to choose pivot well. E.g.: *median* of first, last and middle items of sequence.

Example of Quicksort

- In this example, we continue until pieces are size ≤ 4.
- Pivots for next step are starred. Arrange to move pivot to dividing line each time.
- Last step is insertion sort.

16 | 10 | 13 | 18 | -4 | -7 | 12 | -5 | 19 | 15 | 0 | 22 | 29 | 34 | -1*

-4 | -5 | -7 ‖ -1 ‖ 18 | 13 | 12 | 10 | 19 | 15 | 0 | 22 | 29 | 34 | 16*

-4 | -5 | -7 ‖ -1 ‖ 15 | 13 | 12* | 10 | 0 ‖ 16 ‖ 19* | 22 | 29 | 34 | 18

-4 | -5 | -7 ‖ -1 ‖ 10 | 0 ‖ 12 ‖ 15 | 13 ‖ 16 ‖ 18 ‖ 19 ‖ 29 | 34 | 22

- Now everything is "close to" right, so just do insertion sort:

-7 | -5 | -4 | -1 | 0 | 10 | 12 | 13 | 15 | 16 | 18 | 19 | 22 | 29 | 34

Performance of Quicksort

- Probabalistic time:
  - If choice of pivots good, divide data in two each time: $\Theta(N \lg N)$ with a good constant factor relative to merge or heap sort.
  - If choice of pivots bad, most items on one side each time: $\Theta(N^2)$.
  - $\Omega(N \lg N)$ in best case, so insertion sort better for nearly ordered input sets.
- Interesting point: randomly shuffling the data before sorting makes $\Omega(N^2)$ time *very* unlikely!

Quick Selection

The Selection Problem: for given k, find k^{th} smallest element in data.

- Obvious method: sort, select element #k, time $\Theta(N \lg N)$.
- If $k \leq$ some constant, can easily do in $\Theta(N)$ time:
  - Go through array, keep smallest k items.
- *Get probably* $\Theta(N)$ *time* for all k by adapting quicksort:
  - Partition around some pivot, p, as in quicksort, arrange that pivot ends up at dividing line.
  - Suppose that in the result, pivot is at index m, all elements $\leq$ pivot have indicies $\leq m$.
  - If $m = k$, you're done: p is answer.
  - If $m > k$, recursively select k^{th} from left half of sequence.
  - If $m < k$, recursively select $(k - m - 1)^{\text{th}}$ from right half of sequence.

Selection Example

Problem: Find just item #10 in the sorted version of array:

Initial contents:

51 | 60 | 21 | -4 | 37 | 4 | 49 | 10 | 40* | 59 | 0 | 13 | 2 | 39 | 11 | 46 | 31

0

Looking for #10 to left of pivot 40:

13 | 31 | 21 | -4 | 37 | 4* | 11 | 10 | 39 | 2 | 0 ‖ 40 ‖ 59 | 51 | 49 | 46 | 60

0

Looking for #6 to right of pivot 4:

-4 | 0 | 2 ‖ 4 ‖ 37 | 13 | 11 | 10 | 39 | 21 | 31* ‖ 40 ‖ 59 | 51 | 49 | 46 | 60

4

Looking for #1 to right of pivot 31:

-4 | 0 | 2 ‖ 4 ‖ 21 | 13 | 11 | 10 ‖ 31 ‖ 39 | 37 ‖ 40 ‖ 59 | 51 | 49 | 46 | 60

9

Just two elements; just sort and return #1:

-4 | 0 | 2 ‖ 4 ‖ 21 | 13 | 11 | 10 ‖ 31 ‖ 37 | 39 ‖ 40 ‖ 59 | 51 | 49 | 46 | 60

9

Result: 39

Selection Performance

- For this algorithm, if m roughly in middle each time, cost is

$$\begin{aligned} C(N) &= \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } N = 1, \\ N + C(N/2), & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \\ &= N + N/2 + \ldots + 1 \\ &= 2N - 1 \in \Theta(N) \end{aligned}$$

- But in worst case, get $\Theta(N^2)$, as for quicksort.
- By another, non-obvious algorithm, can get $\Theta(N)$ worst-case time for all k (take CS170).

Better than N lg N?

- Can prove that *if all you can do to keys is compare them* then sorting must take $\Omega(N \lg N)$.
- Basic idea: there are $N!$ possible ways the input data could be scrambled.
- Therefore, your program must be prepared to do $N!$ different combinations of move operations.
- Therefore, there must be $N!$ possible combinations of outcomes of all the **if** tests in your program (we're assuming that comparisons are 2-way).
- Since each **if** test goes two ways, number of possible different outcomes for k **if** tests is 2^k.
- Thus, need enough tests so that $2^k > N!$, which means $k \in \Omega(\lg N!)$.
- Using Stirling's approximation,

$$m! \in \sqrt{2\pi m}\left(\frac{m}{e}\right)^m \left(1 + \Theta\left(\frac{1}{m}\right)\right),$$

this tells us that

$$k \in \Omega(N \lg N).$$

Beyond Comparison: Distribution Counting

- But suppose can do more than compare keys?
- For example, how can we sort a set of N integer keys whose values range from 0 to kN, for some small constant k?
- One technique: *count* the number of items < 1, < 2, etc.
- If M_p =#items with value $< p$, then in sorted order, the j^{th} item with value p must be #$M_p + j$.
- Gives *linear-time* algorithm.

Distribution Counting Example

- Suppose all items are between 0 and 9 as in this example:

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

3	3	1	2	2	1	1	3	0	3	*Counts*
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
0	3	6	7	9	11	12	13	16	16	*Running sum*
<0	<1	<2	<3	<4	<5	<6	<7	<8	<9	

0	0	0	1	1	1	2	3	3	4	4	5	6	7	7	7	9	9	9
0			3			6			9		11	12	13			16		

- "Counts" line gives # occurrences of each key.
- "Running sum" gives cumulative count of keys $\leq$ each value...
- ...which tells us where to put each key:
- The first instance of key k goes into slot m, where m is the number of key instances that are $< k$.

Radix Sort

Idea: Sort keys *one character at a time.*

- Can use distribution counting for each digit.
- Can work either right to left (LSD radix sort) or left to right (MSD radix sort)
- LSD radix sort is venerable: used for punched cards.

Initial: set, cat, cad, con, bat, can, be, let, bet

Pass 1 (by char #2)

'␣'	'd'	'n'	't'
			bet
			let
			bat
		can	cat
be	cad	con	set

be, cad, con, can, set, cat, bat, let, bet

Pass 2 (by char #1)

'a'	'e'	'o'
bat	bet	
cat	let	
can	set	
cad	be	con

cad, can, cat, bat, be, set, let, bet, con

Pass 3 (by char #0)

'b'	'c'	'l'	's'
	con		
bet	cat		
be	can		
bat	cad	let	set

bat, be, bet, cad, can, cat, con, let, set

MSD Radix Sort

- A bit more complicated: must keep lists from each step separate
- But, can stop processing 1-element lists

A	posn
⋆ set, cat, cad, con, bat, can, be, let, bet	0
⋆ bat, be, bet / cat, cad, con, can / let / set	1
bat / ⋆ be, bet / cat, cad, con, can / let / set	2
bat / be / bet / ⋆ cat, cad, con, can / let / set	1
bat / be / bet / ⋆ cat, cad, can / con / let / set	2
bat / be / bet / cad / can / cat / con / let / set	

Performance of Radix Sort

- Radix sort takes $\Theta(B)$ time where B is *total size of the key data*.
- Have measured other sorts as function of #records.
- How to compare?
- To have N different records, must have keys at least $\Theta(\lg N)$ long [why?]
- Furthermore, comparison actually takes time $\Theta(K)$ where K is size of key in worst case [why?]
- So $N \lg N$ comparisons really means $N(\lg N)^2$ operations.
- While radix sort takes $B = N \lg N$ time.
- On the other hand, must work to get good constant factors with radix sort.

And Don't Forget Search Trees

Idea: A search tree is in sorted order, when read in inorder.

- Need *balance* to really use for sorting [next topic].
- Given balance, same performance as heapsort: N insertions in time $\lg N$ each, plus $\Theta(N)$ to traverse, gives

$$\Theta(N + N \lg N) = \Theta(N \lg N)$$

Summary

- Insertion sort: $\Theta(Nk)$ comparisons and moves, where k is maximum amount data is displaced from final position.
  - Good for small datasets or almost ordered data sets.
- Quicksort: $\Theta(N \lg N)$ with good constant factor if data is not pathological. Worst case $O(N^2)$.
- Merge sort: $\Theta(N \lg N)$ guaranteed. Good for external sorting.
- Heapsort, treesort with guaranteed balance: $\Theta(N \lg N)$ guaranteed.
- Radix sort, distribution sort: $\Theta(B)$ (number of bytes). Also good for external sorting.