

# Another Divide-Conquer Sort



$a[s]$

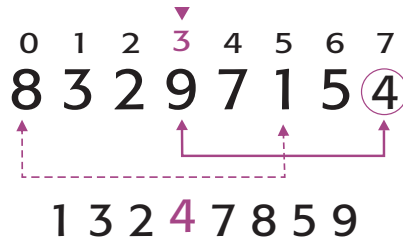
Unlike *mergesort* where we split list at mid-point, now pick split positions in a special way.

## Change split strategy

- ✎ Elements  $a[k < s] < a[s]$
- ✎ Elements  $a[k > s] > a[s]$

## Example

**Quiz**  
Using 4 as split element, what should be the split position (index)? **Hint:** 3 elements smaller.



### Therefore

- ✎ Elements  $a[k < 3] < 4$
- ✎ Elements  $a[k > 3] > 4$
- ✎  $a[3] = 4$  in sort position

# Divide-Conquer Sort Partition Around Pivot

- ⇒ Split index,  $s$
- ⇒ Pivot element

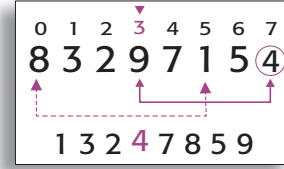
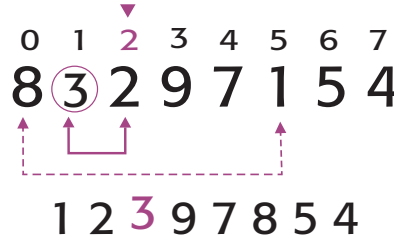
**Split index (position)**  
depends on choice of **pivot**  
element.



May pick any element to be  
pivot, choice determines  
where list is split.



A **partition** puts a key in  
sorted position, that's why  
it works well for the selec-  
tion problem when the  
desired key happens to be  
picked as pivot.



pivot element



$a[s]$

split index

## Can it be used to sort lists?

# Divide-Conquer Sort Sort Strategy

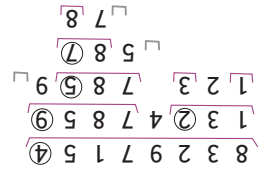
## To sort the whole list

Repeatedly partition left and right sub-lists around some pivot until each element is in sorted position

As convention, always choose pivot to be right-most element, stop if less than 2 elements, always sort left before right.

## Try by hand!

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



# Divide-Conquer Sort Quicksort

## Simply

Algorithm *quicksort*

Input Subarray  $a[l .. r]$  of keys indexed  $0 .. n - 1$

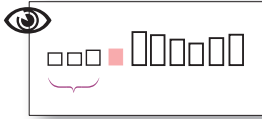
Output Sorted subarray in nondecreasing order

**Quiz**  
What is the smallest list  
which will be partitioned?

- 1: if  $l < r$  then
- 2:      $s \leftarrow \text{partition}(a[l .. r])$    ▷ around any element in subarray
- 3:      $\text{quicksort}(a[l .. s - 1])$
- 4:      $\text{quicksort}(a[s + 1 .. r])$

**Human insight not useful, any  
partition procedure will do**

# Divide-Conquer Sort A Partition Procedure



Keep smaller elements  
this side of list where  
they belong.

Note  $i$  stops short of  $j$  ( $i < j$ ),  
i.e., scan not done.

Note  $i$  skips ahead of  $j$  ( $i > j$ ),  
no more items to check,  
partition ends (note extra  
runaway  $j$  comp).

Exchange pivot with most  
distant larger than  $p$  (in this  
case: R).

skip smaller

$i \rightarrow$

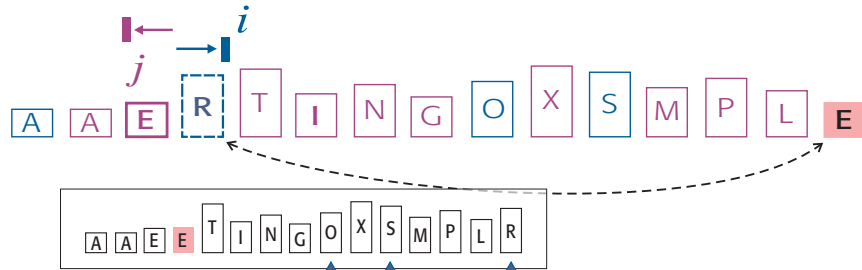


Reference: Robert Sedgwick, Algorithms in C, Addison-Wesley, 1990

skip larger

$\leftarrow j$

pivot (p)



# A Quicksort Algorithm

Both versions required  ⇨ **Hoare partition**  
⇨ **Sedgewick partition**

**Quiz**  
How many comps by Hoare to split a list of  $n$  elements?

**Quiz**  
Where would  $i, j$  start if pivot was chosen left-most instead of right?

skip smaller  
skip larger

**Quiz**  
Can Lomuto's partition be used to *quicksort*? Try it.

## Algorithm *quicksort2*

Reference: Robert Sedgewick, Algorithms in C, Addison-Wesley, 1990

```
1: if  $l < r$  then
2:    $p \leftarrow a[r], i \leftarrow l - 1, j \leftarrow r$ 
3:   loop
4:     while  $a[++i] < p$  do
5:     while  $a[--j] > p$  do
6:     if  $i \geq j$  then break
7:     swap  $a[i], a[j]$ 
8:     swap  $a[i], a[r]$ 
9:      $quicksort2(a[l .. i - 1])$ 
10:     $quicksort2(a[i + 1 .. r])$ 
```

## Algorithm *quicksort*

```
1: if  $l < r$  then
2:    $s \leftarrow partition(a[l .. r])$ 
3:    $quicksort(a[l .. s - 1])$ 
4:    $quicksort(s + 1 .. r)$ 
```

▷ select rightmost as pivot

▷ break condition Line 6

find misplaced front ▷ low index scan

find misplaced back ▷ high index scan

▷ quit scan if subarray done

▷ swap misplaced elements

▷ split point  $i$ , swap  $p$  in place



# A Quicksort Algorithm Example (cont.)

**Exercise** What's the total number of comparisons performed by the *quicksort*?  
**Hint:** write list reduction sequence.  
 Compare to bubble sort (from formula.)

**Quiz** What are indices of the left and right sub-arrays after a split at  $i=7$ ?

**Exercise** Complete the sort, use the visualization link in the course website (Ans. last slide, next lecture).

**Exercise** Trace recursive calls of the *quicksort* (show parameters for each).

|   | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   |   |   |   | i |   |   |   | j |
|   | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 8 | 5 | 9 |
| <span style="color: red;">▼</span><br>$s = 7$ | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 8 | 5 | 9 |
|   |   |   |   | i |   |   | j |   |
|   | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 8 | 5 | 9 |
| $s = ?$                                       | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 7 | 9 |

...