

## Session 19

# Strategy 2: Decrease-and-Conquer


---

### Lecture Summary

#### Variable-Size Decrease: Selection Problem

1. Motivation: the median value of a set of numbers
  2. Selection problem statement and order statistics
  3. Solution idea: a partition procedure
  4. Quickselect, examples
  5. Implementation notes, performance
- 

### Session Exercise

- P14. Code the quickselect algorithm. Check that your code calculates the median correctly in  Exercise 4.5–2. Hint: check results in Excel (use its built-in median function).

 Exercise 4.5 • 2, 3, 5 ✖ 13

---

### Reading List

 4.5

---

### Keywords

Order statistic, median [statistic], [list] partition, pivot, selection [problem]