

Recurrences, Closest Pair and Selection

Lecture 7

February 10, 2015

Part I

Recurrences

Solving Recurrences

Two general methods:

- 1 Recursion tree method: need to do sums
 - 1 elementary methods, geometric series
 - 2 integration
- 2 Guess and Verify
 - 1 guessing involves intuition, experience and trial & error
 - 2 verification is via induction

Recurrence: Example I

- 1 Consider $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + n/\lg n$.
- 2 Construct recursion tree, and observe pattern.
- 3 i th level has $n_i = 2^i$ nodes.
- 4 problem size at node of level i is $n/2^i$.
- 5 work at node of level i is $w_i = \frac{n}{2^i} / \lg \frac{n}{2^i}$.
- 6 Total work at i th level is $n_i \cdot w_i = 2^i \cdot \frac{n}{2^i} / \lg \frac{n}{2^i} = n / \lg \frac{n}{2^i}$
- 7 Summing over all levels $T(n) = \sum_{i=0}^{\lg n - 1} n_i \cdot w_i = \sum_{i=0}^{\lg n - 1} \frac{n}{\lg \frac{n}{2^i}} =$

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1 Consider...

2 What is the depth of recursion?

$$\sqrt{n}, \sqrt{\sqrt{n}}, \sqrt{\sqrt{\sqrt{n}}}, \dots, O(1).$$

3 Number of levels: $n^{2^{-L}} = 2$ means $L = \log \log n$.

4 Number of children at each level is 1, work at each node is 1

5 Thus, $T(n) = \sum_{i=0}^L 1 = \Theta(L) = \Theta(\log \log n)$.

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- 1 Consider $T(n) = \sqrt{n}T(\sqrt{n}) + n$.
- 2 Using recursion trees: number of levels $L = \log \log n$
- 3 Work at each level? Root is n , next level is $\sqrt{n} \times \sqrt{n} = n$, so on. Can check that each level is n .
- 4 Thus, $T(n) = \Theta(n \log \log n)$

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Recurrence: Example IV

- 1 Consider $T(n) = T(n/4) + T(3n/4) + n$.
- 2 Using recursion tree, we observe the tree has leaves at different levels (a *lop-sided* tree).
- 3 Total work in any level is at most n . Total work in any level without leaves is exactly n .
- 4 Highest leaf is at level $\log_4 n$ and lowest leaf is at level $\log_{4/3} n$
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Part II

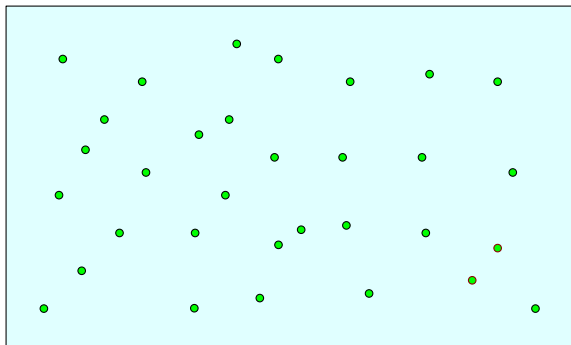
Closest Pair

7.1: The Problem

Closest Pair - the problem

Input Given a set S of n points on the plane

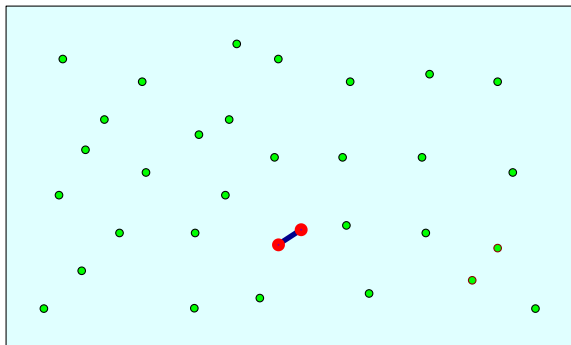
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Closest Pair - the problem

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Applications

- ① Basic primitive used in graphics, vision, molecular modelling
- ② Ideas used in solving nearest neighbor, Voronoi diagrams, Euclidean MST

7.2: Algorithmic Solution

Algorithm: Brute Force

- 1 Compute distance between every pair of points and find minimum.
- 2 Takes $O(n^2)$ time.
- 3 Can we do better?

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7.2.1: Special Case

Closest Pair: 1-d case

Input Given a set S of n points on a line

Goal Find $p, q \in S$ such that $d(p, q)$ is minimum

Algorithm

- 1 Sort points based on coordinate
- 2 Compute the distance between successive points, keeping track of the closest pair.

Running time $O(n \log n)$

- 1 Can we do this in better running time?
- 2 Can reduce Distinct Elements Problem (see lecture 1) to this problem in $O(n)$ time. Do you see how?

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Generalizing 1-d case

- 1 Can we generalize **1**-d algorithm to **2**-d?
- 2 Sort according to **x** or **y**-coordinate??
- 3 No easy generalization.

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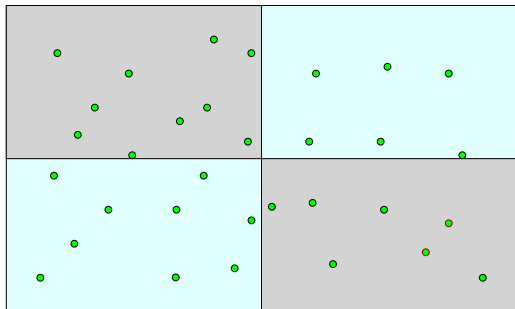
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7.2.2: Divide and Conquer

First Attempt

Divide and Conquer I

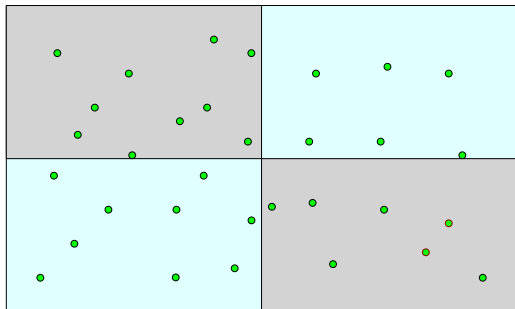
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- 2 Find closest pair in each quadrant recursively.
- 3 Combine solutions.
- 4 But... How to partition the points in a balanced way?



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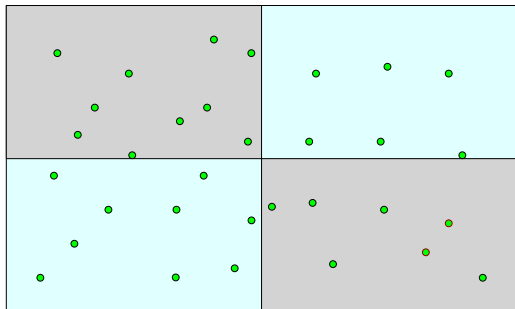
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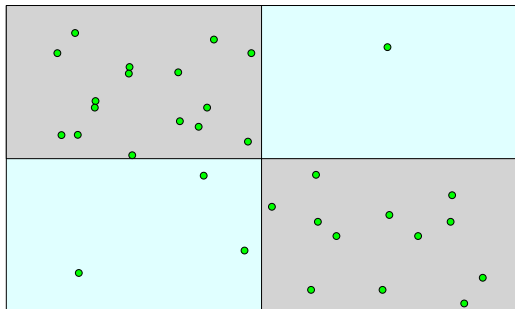
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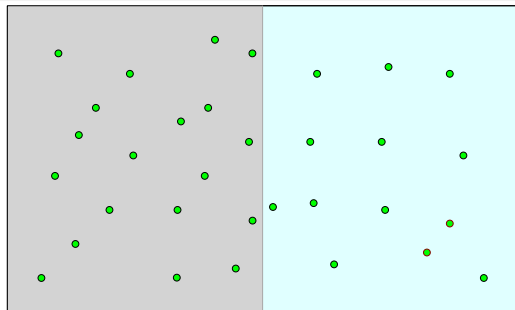
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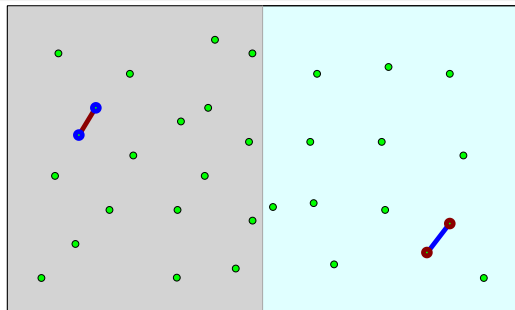
- 1 Divide the set of points into two equal parts via vertical line.
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- 4 Return the best pair among the above 3 solutions



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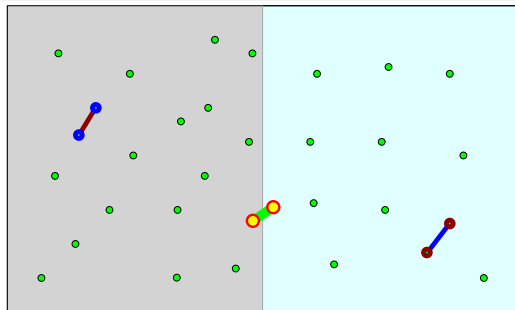
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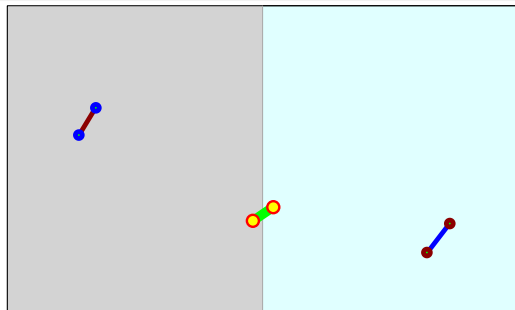
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7.2.3: Towards a fast solution

Divide and Conquer II

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 - 3 Find closest pair with one point in each half
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 - 2 How to find closest pair with points in different halves? $O(n^2)$ is trivial. Better?

Divide and Conquer II

- 1 Divide the set of points into two equal parts via vertical line
 - 2 Find closest pair in each half recursively
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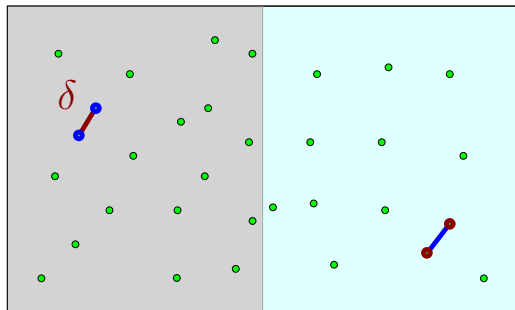
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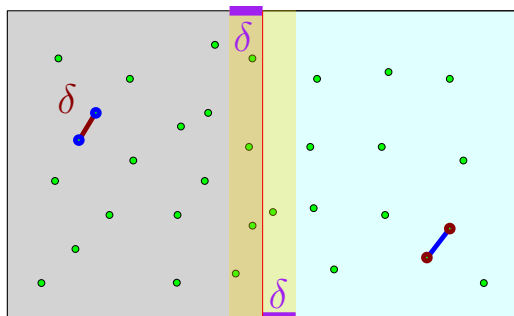
Combining Partial Solutions

- 1 Does it take $O(n^2)$ to combine solutions?
- 2 Let δ be the distance between closest pairs, where both points belong to the same half.

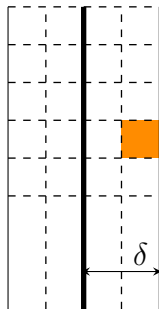


Combining Partial Solutions

- 1 Let δ be the distance between closest pairs, where both points belong to the same half.
- 2 Need to consider points within δ of dividing line



Sparsity of Band



Divide the band into square boxes of size $\delta/2$

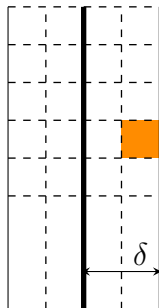
Lemma

Each box has at most one point

Proof.

If not, then there are a pair of points (both belonging to one half) that are at most $\sqrt{2}\delta/2 < \delta$ apart! □

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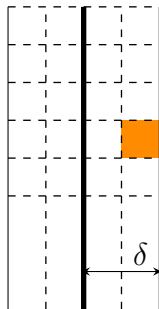
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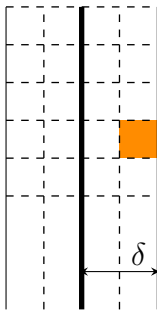
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Searching within the Band



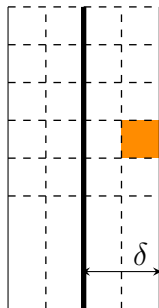
Lemma

Suppose a, b are both in the band
 $d(a, b) < \delta$ then a, b have at most two rows
of boxes between them.

Proof.

Each row of boxes has height $\delta/2$. If more
than two rows then $d(a, b) > 2 \cdot \delta/2!$ \square

Searching within the Band



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 $d(a, b) < \delta$ then a, b have at most two rows
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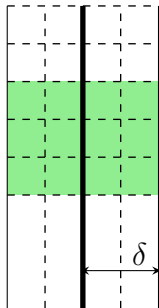
Proof.

Each row of boxes has height $\delta/2$. If more
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Searching within the Band

Corollary

Order points according to their y -coordinate. If p, q are such that $d(p, q) < \delta$ then p and q are within **11** positions in the sorted list.



Proof.

- 1 ≤ 2 points between them if p and q in same row.
- 2 ≤ 6 points between them if p and q in two consecutive rows.
- 3 ≤ 10 points between if p and q one row apart.
- 4 \implies More than ten points between them in the sorted y order than p and q are more than two rows apart.
- 5 $\implies d(p, q) > \delta$. A contradiction. ■

The Algorithm

ClosestPair(P):

1. Find vertical line L splits P into equal halves: P_1 and P_2
2. $\delta_1 \leftarrow \text{ClosestPair}(P_1)$.
3. $\delta_2 \leftarrow \text{ClosestPair}(P_2)$.
4. $\delta = \min(\delta_1, \delta_2)$
5. Delete points from P further than δ from L
6. Sort P based on y -coordinate into an array A
7. **for** $i = 1$ to $|A| - 1$ **do**
 for $j = i + 1$ to $\min\{i + 11, |A|\}$ **do**
 if ($\text{dist}(A[i], A[j]) < \delta$) update δ and closest pair

- 1 Step 1, involves sorting and scanning. Takes $O(n \log n)$ time.
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7.3: Running Time Analysis

Running Time

The running time of the algorithm is given by

$$T(n) \leq 2T(n/2) + O(n \log n)$$

Thus, $T(n) = O(n \log^2 n)$.

Improved Algorithm

Avoid repeated sorting of points in band: two options

- 1 Sort all points by y -coordinate and store the list. In conquer step use this to avoid sorting
- 2 Each recursive call returns a list of points sorted by their y -coordinates. Merge in conquer step in linear time.

Analysis: $T(n) \leq 2T(n/2) + O(n) = O(n \log n)$

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Part III

Selecting in Unsorted Lists

7.4: Quick Sort

Quick Sort

Quick Sort [Hoare]

- 1 Pick a pivot element from array
- 2 Split array into 3 subarrays: those smaller than pivot, those larger than pivot, and the pivot itself. Linear scan of array does it. Time is $O(n)$
- 3 Recursively sort the subarrays, and concatenate them.

Example:

- 1 array: 16, 12, 14, 20, 5, 3, 18, 19, 1
- 2 pivot: 16
- 3 split into 12, 14, 5, 3, 1 and 20, 19, 18 and recursively sort
- 4 put them together with pivot in middle

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- 4 put them together with pivot in middle

Time Analysis

- 1 Let k be the rank of the chosen pivot. Then,
$$T(n) = T(k - 1) + T(n - k) + O(n)$$
- 2 If $k = \lceil n/2 \rceil$ then $T(n) =$
$$T(\lceil n/2 \rceil - 1) + T(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor) + O(n) \leq 2T(n/2) + O(n).$$

Then, $T(n) = O(n \log n)$.
 - 1 Theoretically, median can be found in linear time.
- 3 Typically, pivot is the first or last element of array. Then,

$$T(n) = \max_{1 \leq k \leq n} (T(k - 1) + T(n - k) + O(n))$$

In the worst case $T(n) = T(n - 1) + O(n)$, which means $T(n) = O(n^2)$. Happens if array is already sorted and pivot is always first element.

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7.5: Selection

Problem - Selection

Input Unsorted array A of n integers

Goal Find the j th smallest number in A (*rank j* number)

Example

$A = \{4, 6, 2, 1, 5, 8, 7\}$ and $j = 4$. The j th smallest element is **5**.

Median: $j = \lfloor (n + 1)/2 \rfloor$

7.5.1: Naïve Algorithm

Algorithm 1

- 1 Sort the elements in A
- 2 Pick j th element in sorted order

Time taken = $O(n \log n)$

Do we need to sort? Is there an $O(n)$ time algorithm?

Algorithm 1

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Time taken = $O(n \log n)$

Do we need to sort? Is there an $O(n)$ time algorithm?

Algorithm II

If j is small or $n - j$ is small then

- 1 Find j smallest/largest elements in A in $O(jn)$ time. (How?)
- 2 Time to find median is $O(n^2)$.

7.5.2: Divide and Conquer

Divide and Conquer Approach

- 1 Pick a pivot element a from A
- 2 Partition A based on a .
 $A_{\text{less}} = \{x \in A \mid x \leq a\}$ and $A_{\text{greater}} = \{x \in A \mid x > a\}$
- 3 $|A_{\text{less}}| = j$: return a
- 4 $|A_{\text{less}}| > j$: recursively find j th smallest element in A_{less}
- 5 $|A_{\text{less}}| < j$: recursively find k th smallest element in A_{greater}
where $k = j - |A_{\text{less}}|$.

Time Analysis

① Steps:

- ① Partitioning step: $O(n)$ time to scan A
- ② How do we choose pivot? Recursive running time?

② Suppose we always choose pivot to be $A[1]$.

③ Say A is sorted in increasing order and $j = n$.

④ Exercise: show that algorithm takes $\Omega(n^2)$ time.

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A Better Pivot

- 1 Suppose: pivot ℓ th smallest element where $n/4 \leq \ell \leq 3n/4$.
- 2 That is pivot is *approximately* in the middle of A .
- 3 $\implies n/4 \leq |A_{\text{less}}| \leq 3n/4$ and $n/4 \leq |A_{\text{greater}}| \leq 3n/4$.
- 4 If we apply recursion,

$$T(n) \leq T(3n/4) + O(n)$$

Implies $T(n) = O(n)$!

- 5 How do we find such a pivot?
- 6 Randomly? This works!
Analysis a little bit later.
- 7 Can we choose pivot deterministically?

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Implies $T(n) = O(n)$!

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Analysis a little bit later.
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7.5.3: Median of Medians

Divide and Conquer Approach

A game of medians

Idea

- 1 Break input A into many subarrays: L_1, \dots, L_k .
- 2 Find median m_i in each subarray L_i .
- 3 Find the median x of the medians m_1, \dots, m_k .
- 4 Intuition: The median x should be close to being a good median of all the numbers in A .
- 5 Use x as pivot in previous algorithm.

But we have to be...

More specific...

- 1 Size of each group?
- 2 How to find median of medians?

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Choosing the pivot

A clash of medians

- 1 Partition array A into $\lceil n/5 \rceil$ lists of **5** items each.

$$L_1 = \{A[1], A[2], \dots, A[5]\}, L_2 = \{A[6], \dots, A[10]\},$$

$$\dots, L_i = \{A[5i + 1], \dots, A[5i + 5]\}, \dots,$$

$$L_{\lceil n/5 \rceil} = \{A[5\lceil n/5 \rceil - 4, \dots, A[n]\}.$$

- 2 For $i = 1, \dots, n/5$: compute median b_i of L_i
- 3 ...using brute-force in $O(1)$ time. Total $O(n)$ time
- 4 Let $B = \{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_{\lceil n/5 \rceil}\}$
- 5 Find median b of B

Lemma

Median of B is an approximate median of A . That is, if b is used a pivot to partition A , then $|A_{\text{less}}| \leq 7n/10 + 6$ and $|A_{\text{greater}}| \leq 7n/10 + 6$.

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Algorithm for Selection

A storm of medians

select(A , j):

Form lists $L_1, L_2, \dots, L_{\lceil n/5 \rceil}$, where $L_i = \{A[5i - 4], \dots, A[5i]\}$

Find median b_i of each L_i using brute-force

Find median b of $B = \{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_{\lceil n/5 \rceil}\}$

Partition A into A_{less} and A_{greater} using b as pivot

if ($|A_{\text{less}}| = j$) **return** b

else if ($|A_{\text{less}}| > j$)

return **select**(A_{less} , j)

else

return **select**(A_{greater} , $j - |A_{\text{less}}|$)

How do we find median of B ?

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How do we find median of B ? Recursively!

Running time of deterministic median selection

A dance with recurrences

$$T(n) = T(\lceil n/5 \rceil) + \max\{T(|A_{\text{less}}|), T(|A_{\text{greater}}|)\} + O(n)$$

From Lemma,

$$T(n) \leq T(\lceil n/5 \rceil) + T(\lfloor 7n/10 + 6 \rfloor) + O(n)$$

and

$$T(1) = 1$$

Exercise: show that $T(n) = O(n)$

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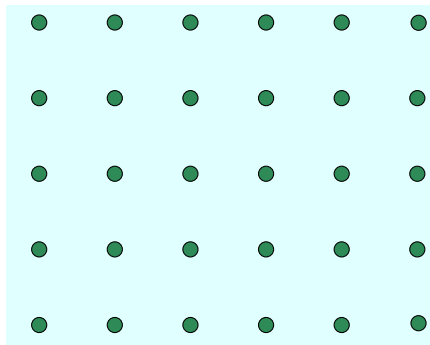
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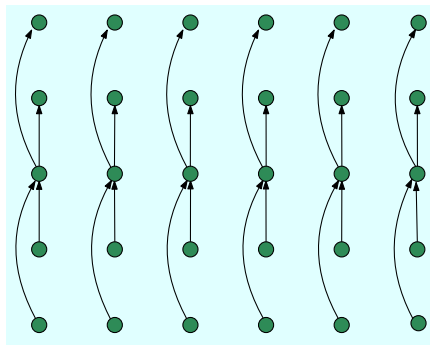
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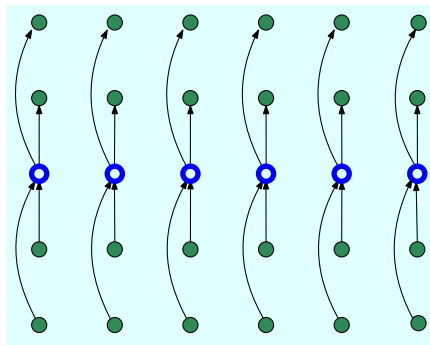
Median of Medians: The movie



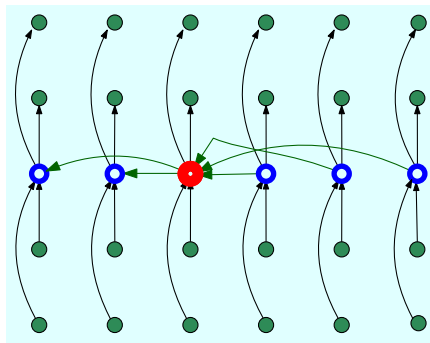
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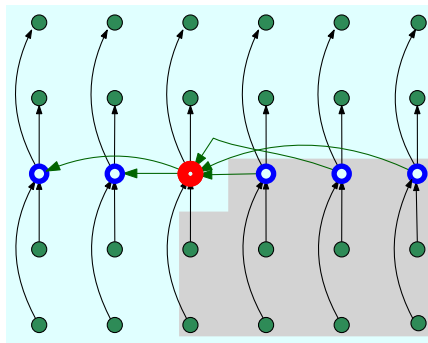
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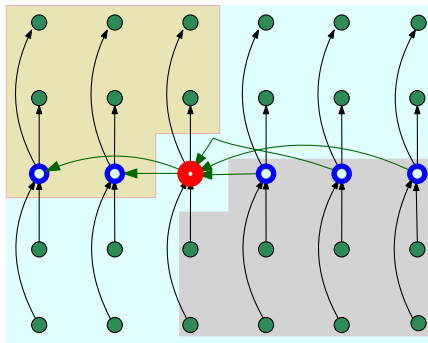
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Median of Medians: Proof of Lemma

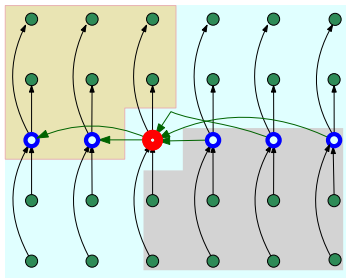


Figure: Shaded elements are all greater than b

Proposition

There are at least $3n/10 - 6$ elements greater than the median of medians b .

Proof.

At least half of the $\lceil n/5 \rceil$ groups have at least 3 elements larger than b , except for last group and the group containing b . So b is less than

$$3\left(\lceil (1/2)\lceil n/5 \rceil \rceil - 2\right) \geq 3n/10 - 6$$

□

Median of Medians: Proof of Lemma

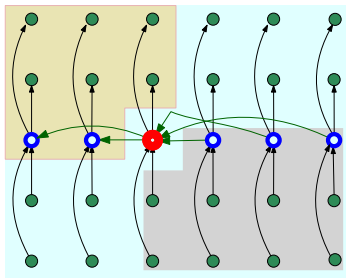


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Median of Medians: Proof of Lemma

Proposition

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Corollary

$$|A_{\text{less}}| \leq 7n/10 + 6.$$

Via symmetric argument,

Corollary

$$|A_{\text{greater}}| \leq 7n/10 + 6.$$

Questions to ponder

- ① Why did we choose lists of size **5**? Will lists of size **3** work?
- ② Write a recurrence to analyze the algorithm's running time if we choose a list of size k .

Median of Medians Algorithm

Due to:

M. Blum, R. Floyd, D. Knuth, V. Pratt, R. Rivest, and R. Tarjan.

“Time bounds for selection”.

Journal of Computer System Sciences (JCSS), 1973.

How many Turing Award winners in the author list?

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Takeaway Points

- 1 Recursion tree method and guess and verify are the most reliable methods to analyze recursions in algorithms.
- 2 Recursive algorithms naturally lead to recurrences.
- 3 Some times one can look for certain type of recursive algorithms (reverse engineering) by understanding recurrences and their behavior.

