

10. QUICK SORT

Quicksort is the other important sorting algorithm that is based on the divide-and-conquer approach. quicksort divides input elements according to their value. A partition is an arrangement of the array's elements so that all the elements to the left of some element $A[s]$ are less than or equal to $A[s]$, and all the elements to the right of $A[s]$ are greater than or equal to it:



Sort the two subarrays to the left and to the right of $A[s]$ independently. No work required to combine the solutions to the sub problems.

Here is pseudocode of quicksort: call *Quicksort*($A[0..n-1]$) where As a partition algorithm use the *Hoare Partition*.

ALGORITHM *Quicksort*($A[l..r]$)

//Sorts a subarray by quicksort

//Input: Subarray of array $A[0..n-1]$, defined by its left and right indices l and r

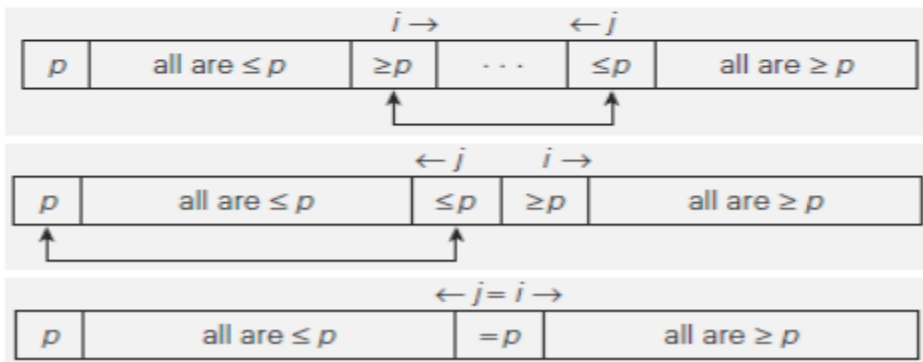
//Output: Subarray $A[l..r]$ sorted in non-decreasing order

if $l < r$

$s \leftarrow \text{Hoare Partition}(A[l..r])$ // s is a split position

Quicksort($A[l..s-1]$)

Quicksort($A[s+1..r]$)



ALGORITHM *Hoare Partition*($A[l..r]$)

//Partitions a subarray by Hoare's algorithm, using the first element as a pivot
 //Input: Subarray of array $A[0..n-1]$, defined by its left and right indices l and r ($l < r$)
 //Output: Partition of $A[l..r]$, with the split position returned as this function's value
 $p \leftarrow A[l]$
 $i \leftarrow l; j \leftarrow r + 1$
repeat
 repeat $i \leftarrow i + 1$ **until** $A[i] \geq p$
 repeat $j \leftarrow j - 1$ **until** $A[j] \leq p$
 swap($A[i], A[j]$)
until $i \geq j$
 swap($A[i], A[j]$) //undo last swap when $i \geq j$
 swap($A[l], A[j]$)
return j



0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	<i>i</i>						<i>j</i>
5	3	1	9	8	2	4	7
5	3	1	9	8	2	4	7
5	3	1	4	8	2	9	7
5	3	1	4	8	2	9	7
5	3	1	4	2	8	9	7
5	3	1	4	2	8	9	7
2	3	1	4	5	8	9	7
2	3	1	4				
2	3	1	4				
2	1	3	4				
2	1	3	4				
1	2	3	4				
1			4				
		3	4				
		3	4				
			4				
					8	9	7
					8	7	9
					8	7	9
					7	8	9
					7		9

FIGURE 2.11 Example of quicksort operation of Array with pivots shown in bold.

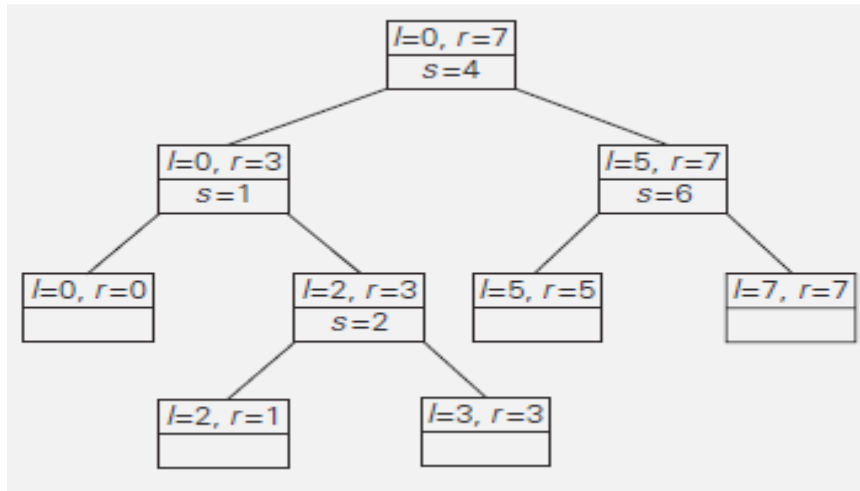


FIGURE 2.12 Tree of recursive calls to *Quicksort* with input values l and r of subarray bounds and split position s of a partition obtained.

The number of key comparisons in the best case satisfies the recurrence

$$C_{\text{best}}(n) = 2C_{\text{best}}(n/2) + n \text{ for } n > 1, \quad C_{\text{best}}(1) = 0.$$

By Master Theorem, $C_{\text{best}}(n) \in \Theta(n \log_2 n)$; solving it exactly for $n = 2^k$ yields $C_{\text{best}}(n) = n \log_2 n$. The total number of key comparisons made will be equal to

$$C_{\text{worst}}(n) = (n+1) + n + \dots + 3 = ((n+1)(n+2))/2 - 3 \in \Theta(n^2).$$

$$C_{\text{avg}}(n) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} [(n+1) + C_{\text{avg}}(s) + C_{\text{avg}}(n-1-s)] \quad \text{for } n > 1,$$

$$C_{\text{avg}}(0) = 0, \quad C_{\text{avg}}(1) = 0.$$

$$C_{\text{avg}}(n) \approx 2n \ln n \approx 1.39n \log_2 n.$$

