

**CMPS 2200 – Fall 2017**

***Randomized Algorithms, Quicksort  
and Randomized Selection***

**Carola Wenk**

Slides by Carola Wenk and Charles Leiserson

# Deterministic Algorithms

Runtime for deterministic algorithms with input size  $n$ :

- Best-case runtime
  - Attained by one input of size  $n$
- Worst-case runtime
  - Attained by one input of size  $n$
- Average runtime
  - Averaged **over all possible inputs** of size  $n$

# Deterministic Algorithms: Insertion Sort

```
for j=2 to n {  
    key = A[j]  
    // insert A[j] into sorted sequence A[1..j-1]  
    i=j-1  
    while(i>0 && A[i]>key) {  
        A[i+1]=A[i]  
        i--  
    }  
    A[i+1]=key  
}
```

- Best case runtime?
- Worst case runtime?

# Deterministic Algorithms: Insertion Sort

Best-case runtime:  $O(n)$ , input  $[1,2,3,\dots,n]$

→ Attained by one input of size  $n$

- Worst-case runtime:  $O(n^2)$ , input  $[n, n-1, \dots, 2, 1]$

→ Attained by one input of size  $n$

- Average runtime :  $O(n^2)$

→ Averaged **over all possible inputs** of size  $n$

- What kind of inputs are there?
- How many inputs are there?

# Average Runtime

- What kind of inputs are there?
  - Do  $[1, 2, \dots, n]$  and  $[5, 6, \dots, n+5]$  cause different behavior of Insertion Sort?
  - No. Therefore it suffices to only consider all permutations of  $[1, 2, \dots, n]$ .
- How many inputs are there?
  - There are  $n!$  different permutations of  $[1, 2, \dots, n]$

# Average Runtime

## Insertion Sort: $n=4$

```

for j=2 to n {
  key = A[j]
  // insert A[j] into sorted sequen
  i=j-1
  while(i>0 && A[i]>key){
    A[i+1]=A[i]
    i--
  }
  A[i+1]=key
}

```

- Inputs:  $4!=24$

[1,2,3,4] <b>0</b>	[4,1,2,3] <b>3</b>	[4,1,3,2] <b>4</b>	[4,3,2,1] <b>6</b>
[2,1,3,4] <b>1</b>	[1,4,2,3] <b>2</b>	[1,4,3,2] <b>3</b>	[3,4,2,1] <b>5</b>
[1,3,2,4] <b>1</b>	[1,2,4,3] <b>1</b>	[1,3,4,2] <b>2</b>	[3,2,4,1] <b>4</b>
[3,1,2,4] <b>2</b>	[4,2,1,3] <b>4</b>	[4,3,1,2] <b>5</b>	[4,2,3,1] <b>5</b>
[3,2,1,4] <b>3</b>	[2,1,4,3] <b>2</b>	[3,4,1,2] <b>4</b>	[2,4,3,1] <b>4</b>
[2,3,1,4] <b>2</b>	[2,4,1,3] <b>3</b>	[3,1,4,2] <b>3</b>	[2,3,4,1] <b>3</b>

- Runtime is proportional to:  $3 + \text{\#times in while loop}$
- Best:  $3+0$ , Worst:  $3+6=9$ , Average:  $3+72/24 = 6$

# Average Runtime:

## Insertion Sort

- The average runtime averages runtimes over all  $n!$  different input permutations
  - Disadvantage of considering average runtime:
    - There are still worst-case inputs that will have the worst-case runtime
    - Are all inputs really equally likely? That depends on the application
- ⇒ **Better:** Use a randomized algorithm

# Randomized Algorithm: Insertion Sort

- **Randomize the order of the input array:**
  - Either prior to calling insertion sort,
  - or during insertion sort (insert random element)
- This makes the runtime depend on a probabilistic experiment (sequence of numbers obtained from random number generator; or random input permutation)
  - ⇒ Runtime is a random variable (maps sequence of random numbers to runtimes)
- **Expected runtime** = expected value of runtime random variable



# Randomized Algorithm: Insertion Sort

- Runtime is independent of input order ([1,2,3,4] may have good or bad runtime, depending on sequence of random numbers)
  - No assumptions need to be made about input distribution
  - No one specific input elicits worst-case behavior
  - The worst case is determined only by the output of a random-number generator.
- ⇒ When possible use expected runtimes of randomized algorithms instead of average case analysis of deterministic algorithms

# Quicksort

- Proposed by C.A.R. Hoare in 1962.
- Divide-and-conquer algorithm.
- Sorts “in place” (like insertion sort, but not like merge sort).
- Very practical (with tuning).
- We are going to perform an expected runtime analysis on randomized quicksort

# Quicksort: Divide and conquer

Quicksort an  $n$ -element array:

- 1. Divide:** Partition the array into two subarrays around a **pivot**  $x$  such that elements in lower subarray  $\leq x \leq$  elements in upper subarray.



- 2. Conquer:** Recursively sort the two subarrays.
- 3. Combine:** Trivial.

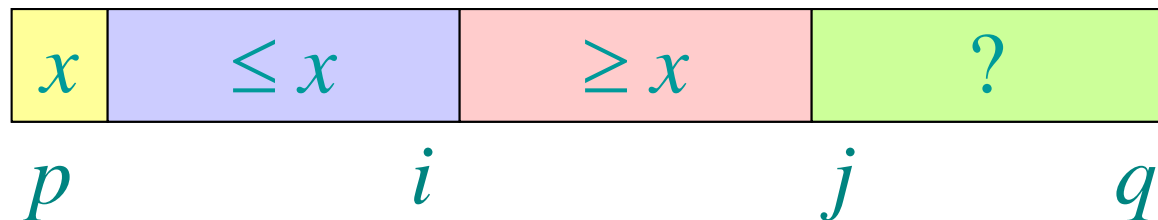
**Key:** *Linear-time partitioning subroutine.*

# Partitioning subroutine

```
PARTITION( $A, p, q$ )  $\triangleright A[p \dots q]$   
   $x \leftarrow A[p]$   $\triangleright$  pivot =  $A[p]$   
   $i \leftarrow p$   
  for  $j \leftarrow p + 1$  to  $q$   
    do if  $A[j] \leq x$   
      then  $i \leftarrow i + 1$   
           exchange  $A[i] \leftrightarrow A[j]$   
  exchange  $A[p] \leftrightarrow A[i]$   
  return  $i$ 
```

Running time  
=  $O(n)$  for  $n$   
elements.

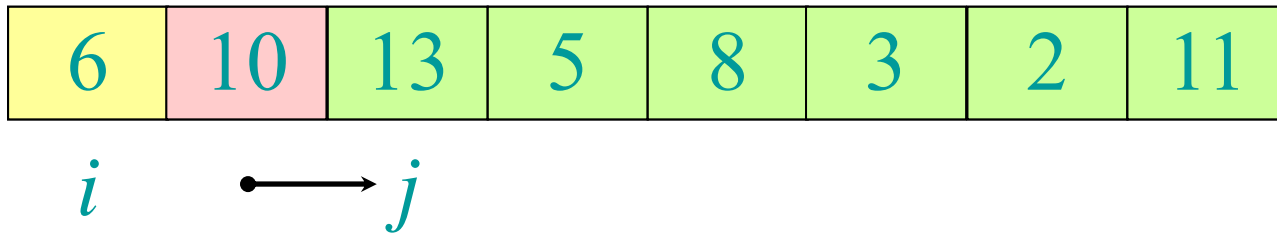
***Invariant:***



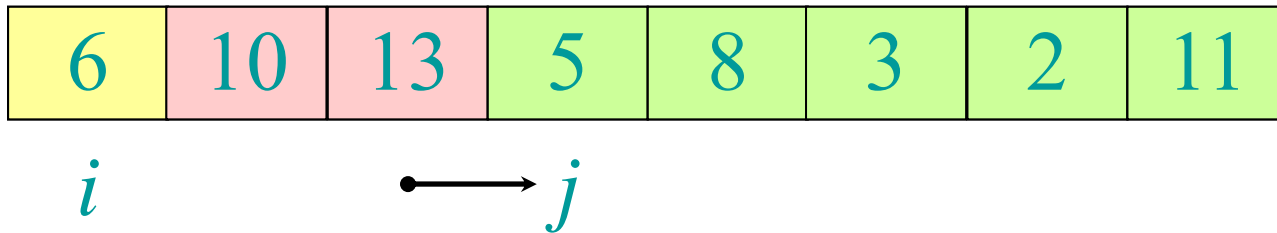
# Example of partitioning

6	10	13	5	8	3	2	11
<i>i</i>	<i>j</i>						

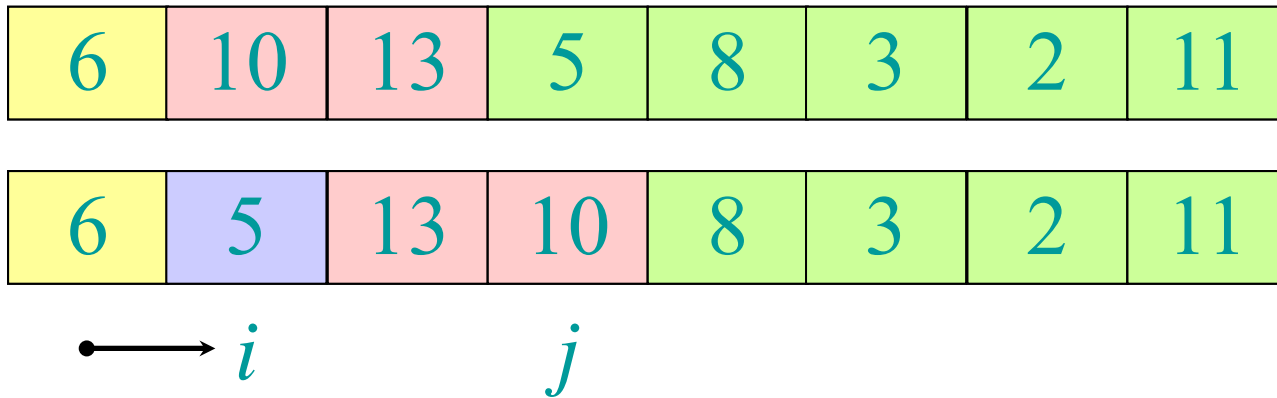
# Example of partitioning



# Example of partitioning

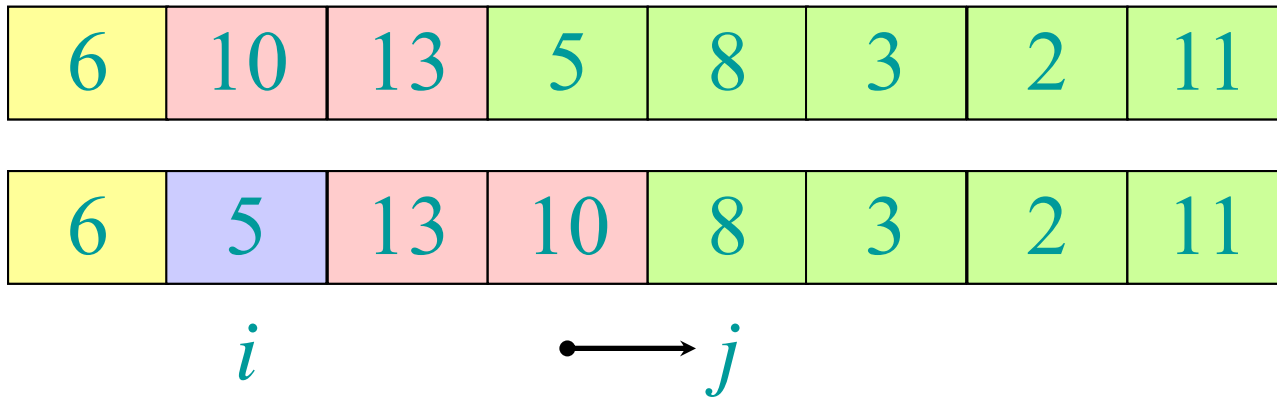


# Example of partitioning

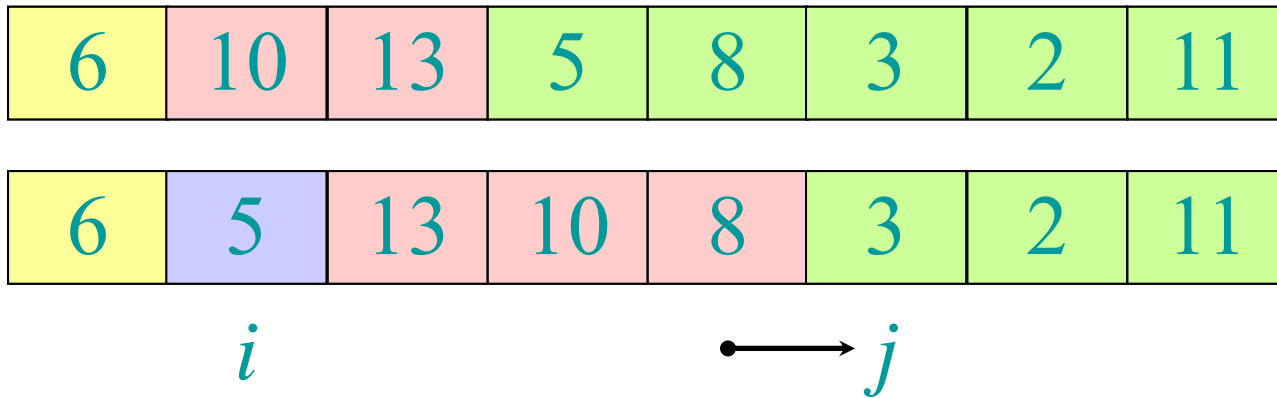




# Example of partitioning



# Example of partitioning



# Example of partitioning

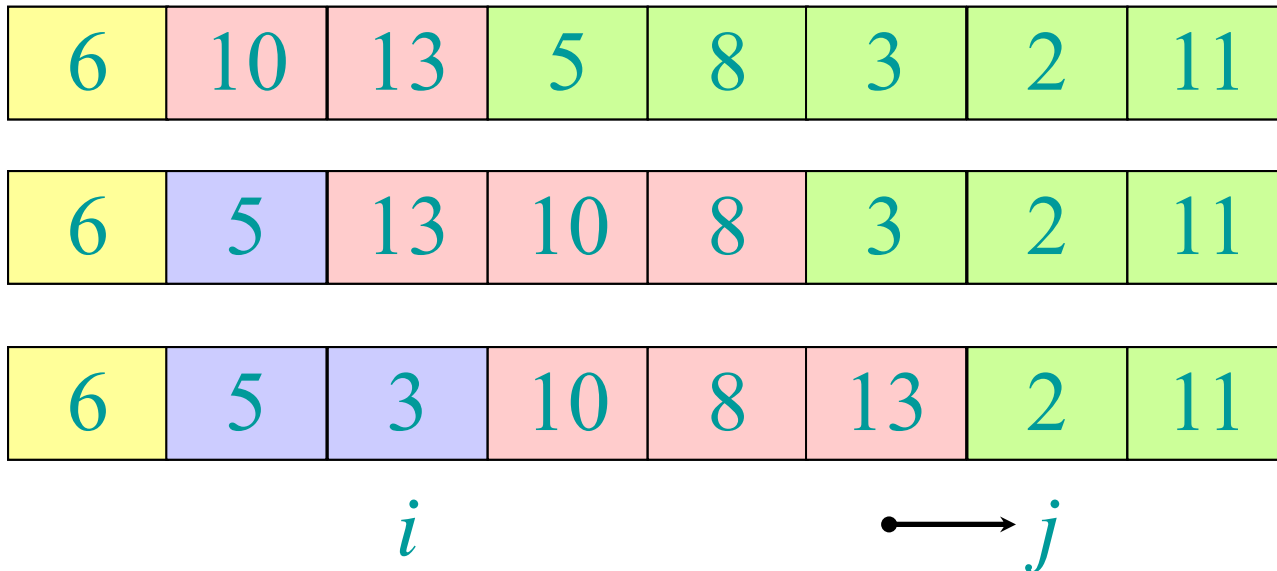
6	10	13	5	8	3	2	11
---	----	----	---	---	---	---	----

6	5	13	10	8	3	2	11
---	---	----	----	---	---	---	----

6	5	3	10	8	13	2	11
---	---	---	----	---	----	---	----

•  $\longrightarrow$   $i$   $j$

# Example of partitioning



# Example of partitioning

6	10	13	5	8	3	2	11
---	----	----	---	---	---	---	----

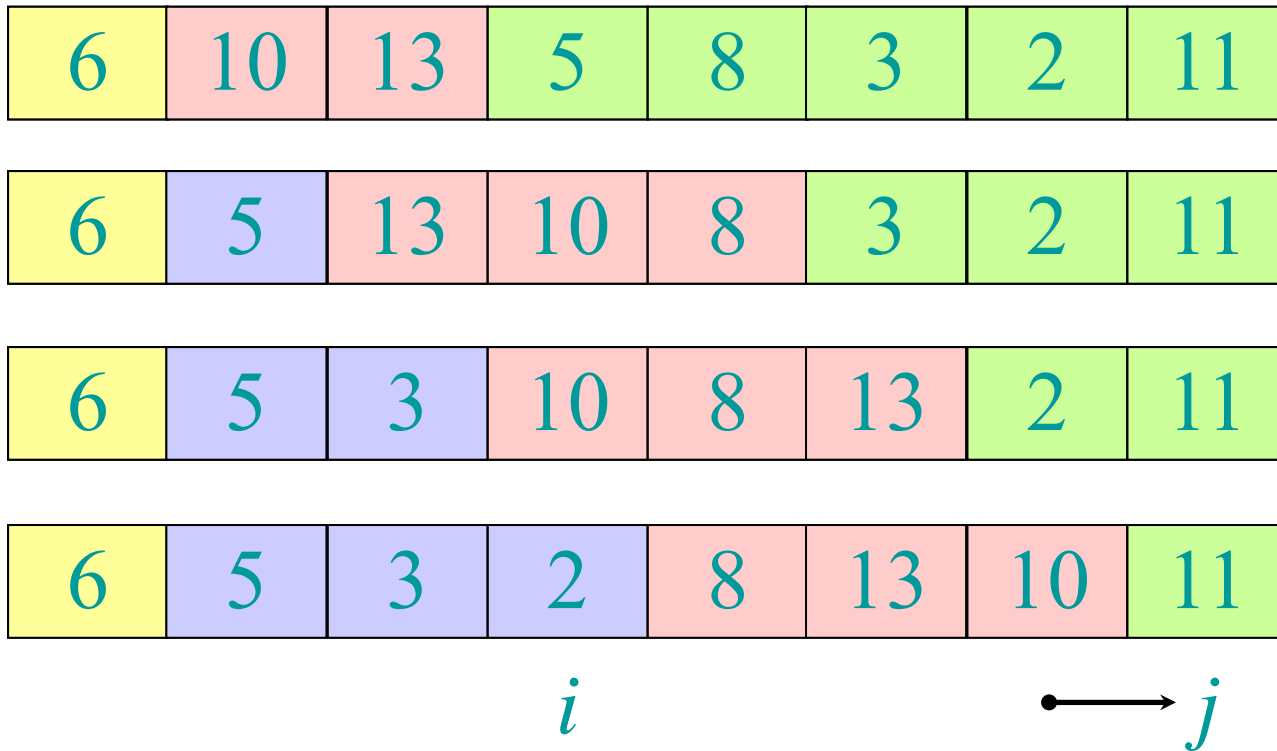
6	5	13	10	8	3	2	11
---	---	----	----	---	---	---	----

6	5	3	10	8	13	2	11
---	---	---	----	---	----	---	----

6	5	3	2	8	13	10	11
---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----

$\bullet \longrightarrow i$   $j$

# Example of partitioning



# Example of partitioning

6	10	13	5	8	3	2	11
---	----	----	---	---	---	---	----

6	5	13	10	8	3	2	11
---	---	----	----	---	---	---	----

6	5	3	10	8	13	2	11
---	---	---	----	---	----	---	----

6	5	3	2	8	13	10	11
---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----

$i$

$\longrightarrow j$

# Example of partitioning

6	10	13	5	8	3	2	11
---	----	----	---	---	---	---	----

6	5	13	10	8	3	2	11
---	---	----	----	---	---	---	----

6	5	3	10	8	13	2	11
---	---	---	----	---	----	---	----

6	5	3	2	8	13	10	11
---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----

2	5	3	6	8	13	10	11
---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----

$i$



# Pseudocode for quicksort

QUICKSORT( $A, p, r$ )

**if**  $p < r$

**then**  $q \leftarrow$  PARTITION( $A, p, r$ )

QUICKSORT( $A, p, q-1$ )

QUICKSORT( $A, q+1, r$ )

**Initial call:** QUICKSORT( $A, 1, n$ )

# Analysis of quicksort

- Assume all input elements are distinct.
- In practice, there are better partitioning algorithms for when duplicate input elements may exist.
- Let  $T(n)$  = worst-case running time on an array of  $n$  elements.

# Worst-case of quicksort

```
QUICKSORT( $A, p, r$ )  
  if  $p < r$   
    then  $q \leftarrow$  PARTITION( $A, p, r$ )  
         QUICKSORT( $A, p, q-1$ )  
         QUICKSORT( $A, q+1, r$ )
```

- Input sorted or reverse sorted.
- Partition around min or max element.
- One side of partition always has no elements.

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= T(0) + T(n-1) + \Theta(n) \\ &= \Theta(1) + T(n-1) + \Theta(n) \\ &= T(n-1) + \Theta(n) \\ &= \Theta(n^2) \quad (\textit{arithmetic series}) \end{aligned}$$

# Worst-case recursion tree

$$T(n) = T(0) + T(n-1) + cn$$

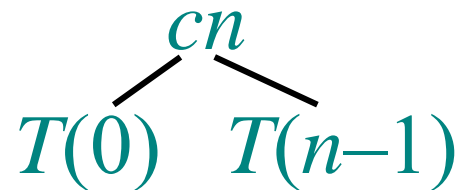
# Worst-case recursion tree

$$T(n) = T(0) + T(n-1) + cn$$

$T(n)$

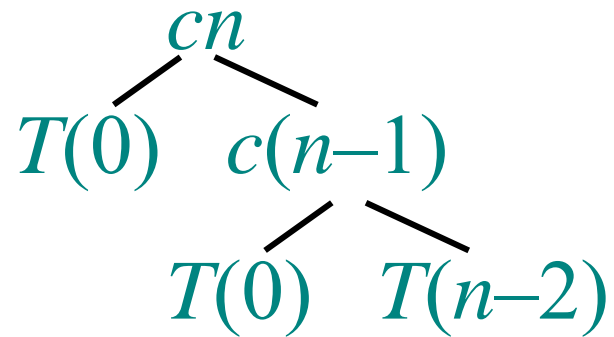
# Worst-case recursion tree

$$T(n) = T(0) + T(n-1) + cn$$



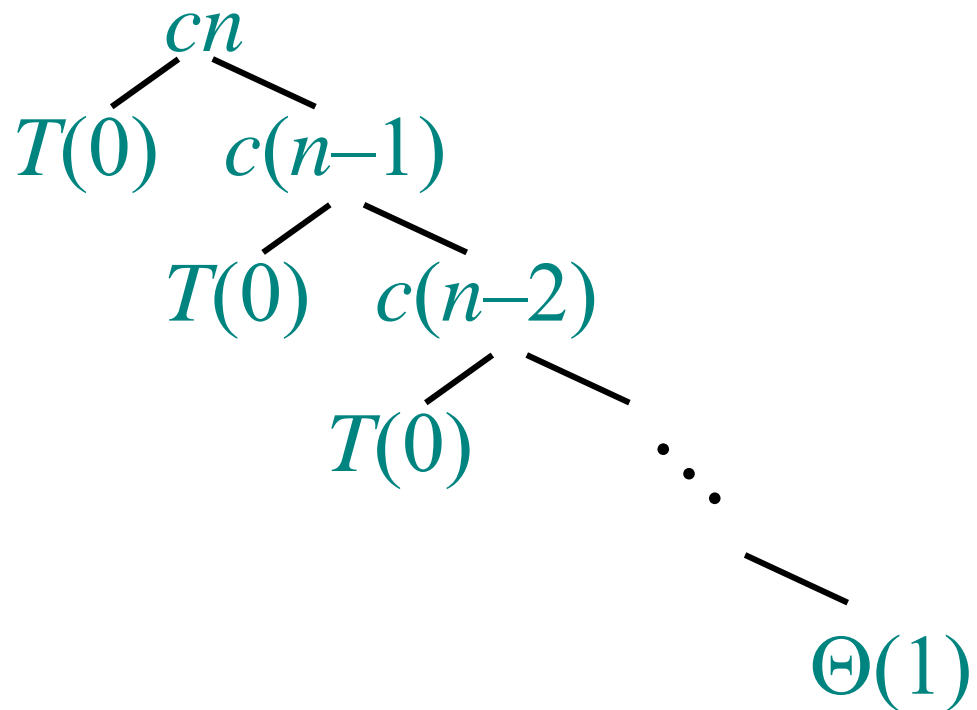
# Worst-case recursion tree

$$T(n) = T(0) + T(n-1) + cn$$



# Worst-case recursion tree

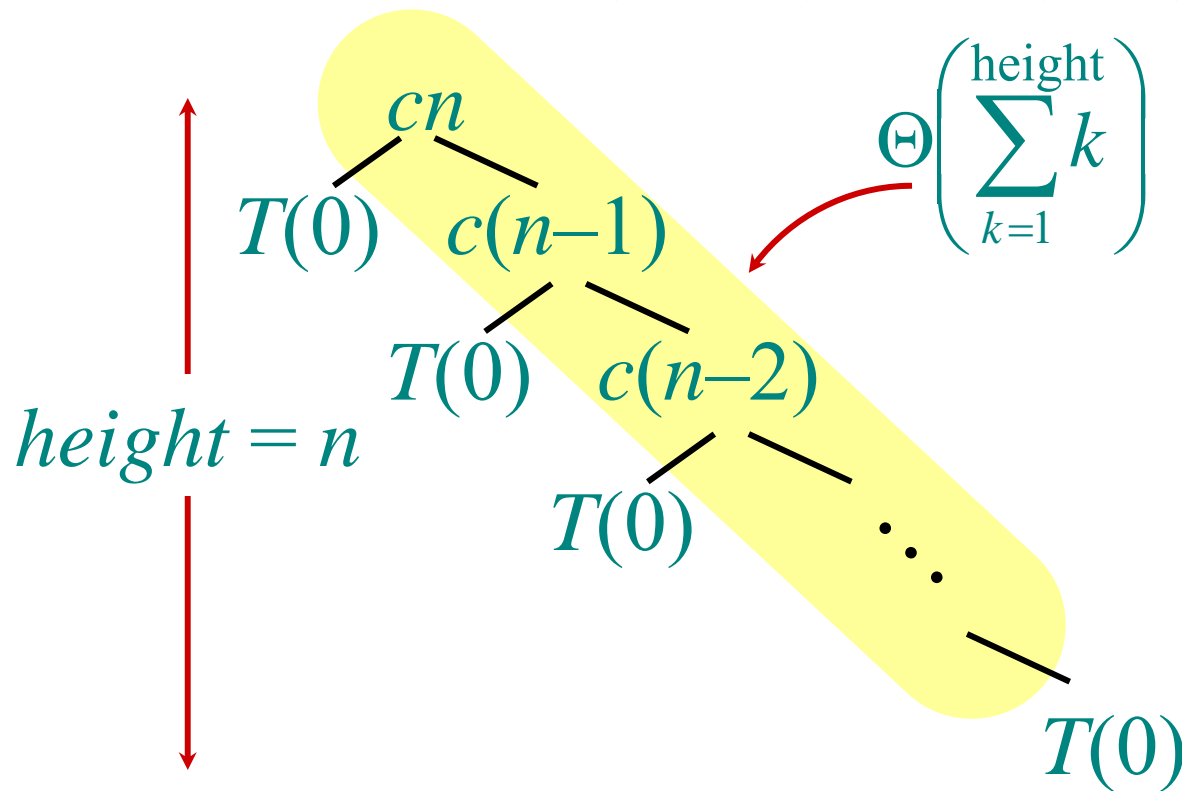
$$T(n) = T(0) + T(n-1) + cn$$





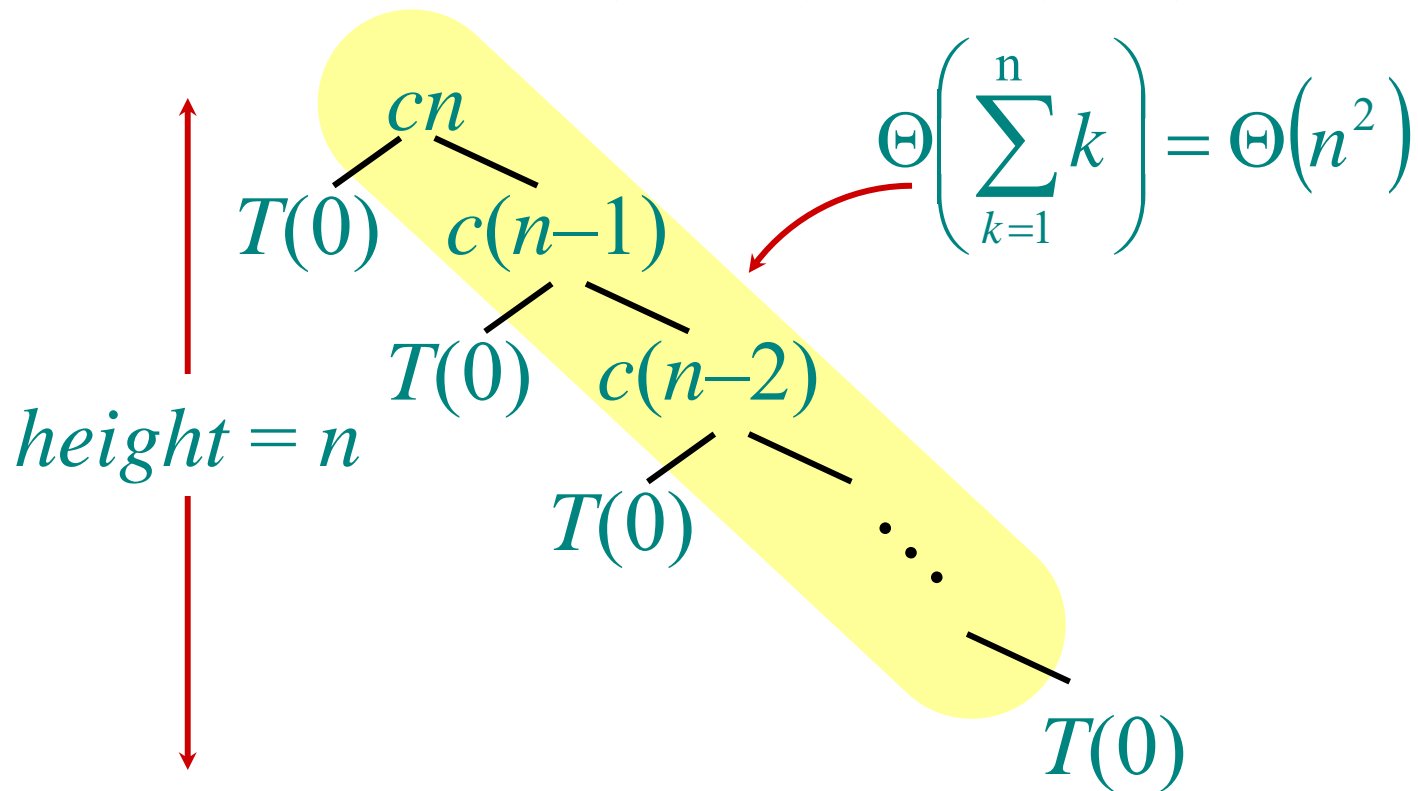
# Worst-case recursion tree

$$T(n) = T(0) + T(n-1) + cn$$



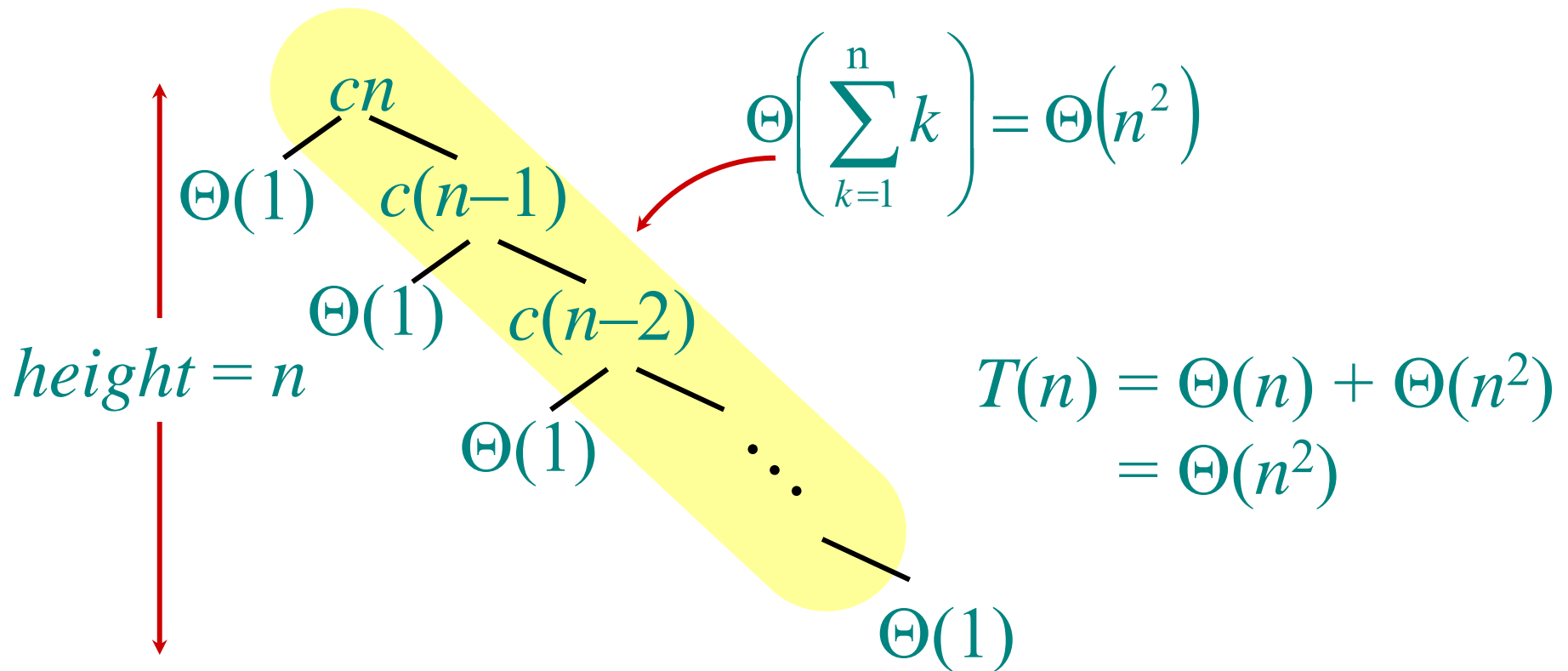
# Worst-case recursion tree

$$T(n) = T(0) + T(n-1) + cn$$



# Worst-case recursion tree

$$T(n) = T(0) + T(n-1) + cn$$



# Best-case analysis

*(For intuition only!)*

If we're lucky, PARTITION splits the array evenly:

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= 2T(n/2) + \Theta(n) \\ &= \Theta(n \log n) \quad (\text{same as merge sort}) \end{aligned}$$

What if the split is always  $\frac{1}{10} : \frac{9}{10}$ ?

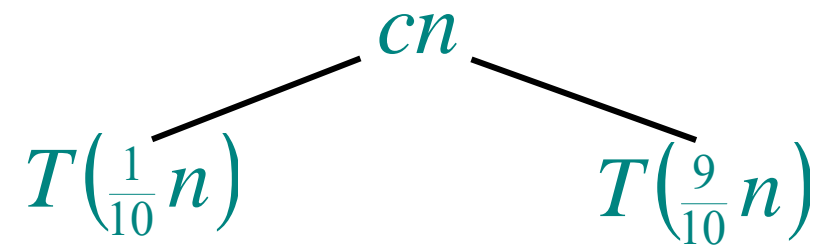
$$T(n) = T\left(\frac{1}{10}n\right) + T\left(\frac{9}{10}n\right) + \Theta(n)$$

What is the solution to this recurrence?

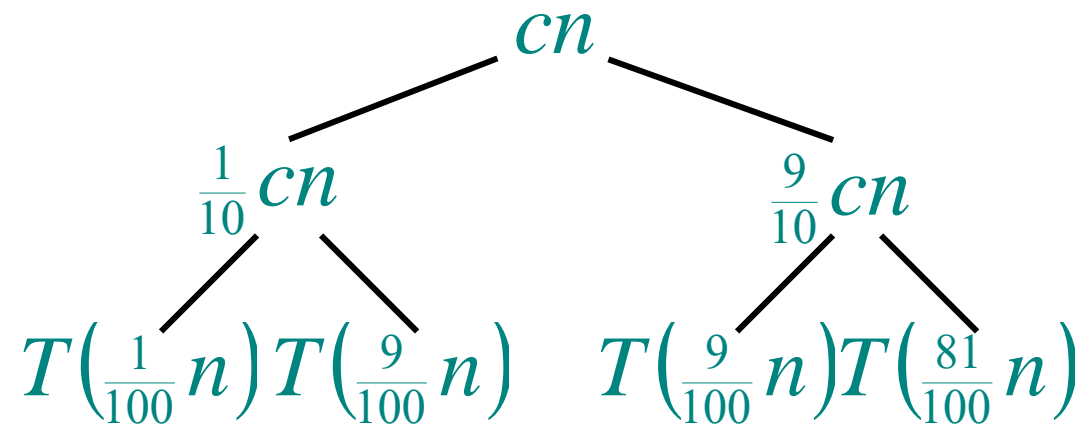
# Analysis of “almost-best” case

$$T(n)$$

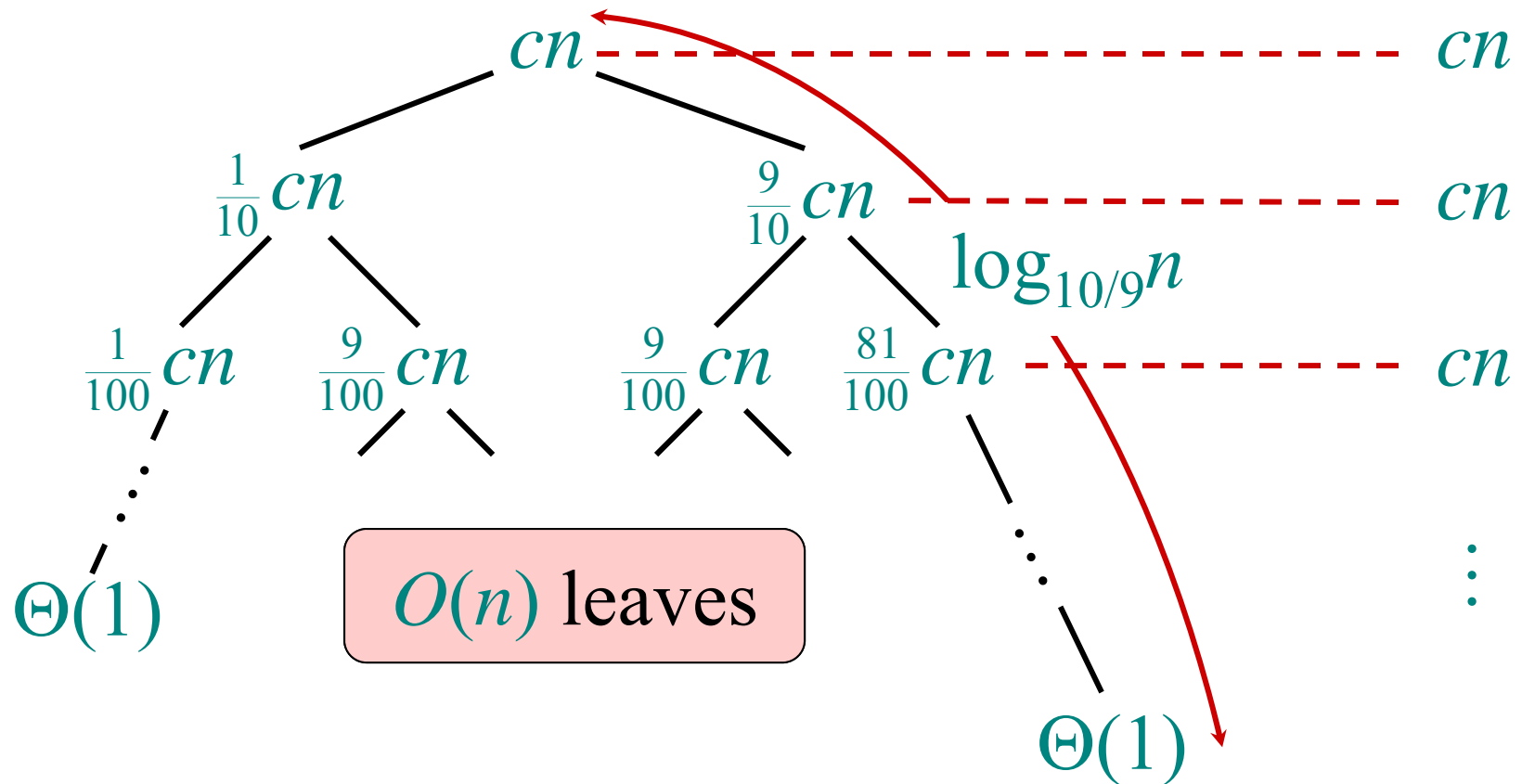
# Analysis of “almost-best” case



# Analysis of “almost-best” case

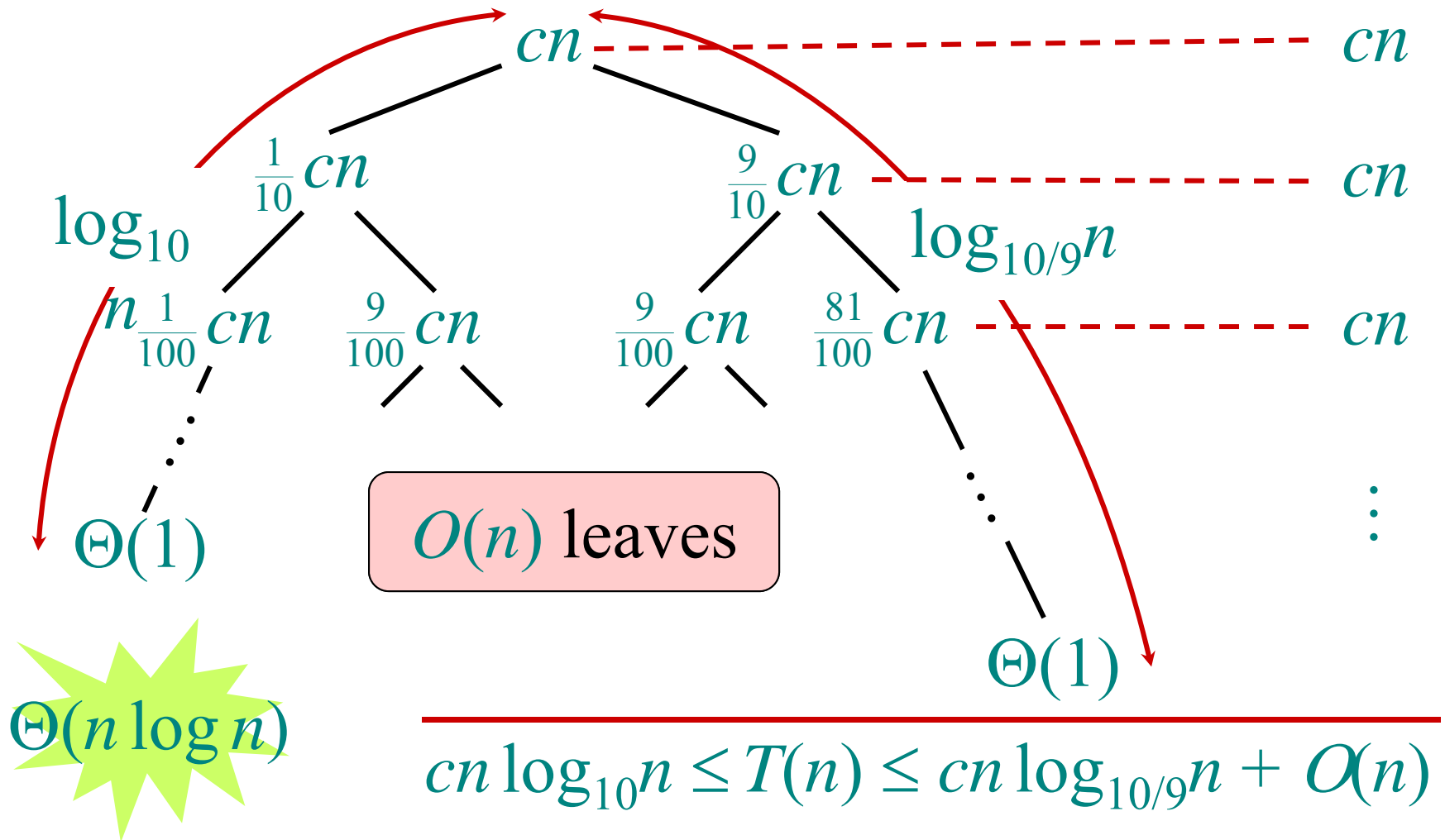


# Analysis of “almost-best” case





# Analysis of “almost-best” case



# Quicksort Runtimes

- Best case runtime  $T_{\text{best}}(n) \in O(n \log n)$
- Worst case runtime  $T_{\text{worst}}(n) \in O(n^2)$
- Worse than mergesort? Why is it called quicksort then?
- Its average runtime  $T_{\text{avg}}(n) \in O(n \log n)$
- Better even, the expected runtime of **randomized quicksort** is  $O(n \log n)$

# Average Runtime

The **average runtime**  $T_{\text{avg}}(n)$  for Quicksort is the average runtime over **all possible inputs** of length  $n$ .

- $T_{\text{avg}}(n)$  has to average the runtimes over all  $n!$  different input permutations.
  - There are still worst-case inputs that will have a  $O(n^2)$  runtime
- ⇒ **Better:** Use randomized quicksort

# Randomized quicksort

**IDEA:** Partition around a *random* element.

- Running time is independent of the input order. It depends only on the sequence  $s$  of random numbers.
- No assumptions need to be made about the input distribution.
- No specific input elicits the worst-case behavior.
- The worst case is determined only by the sequence  $s$  of random numbers.

# Quicksort in practice

- Quicksort is a great general-purpose sorting algorithm.
- Quicksort is typically over twice as fast as merge sort.
- Quicksort can benefit substantially from *code tuning*.
- Quicksort behaves well even with caching and virtual memory.

# Average Runtime vs. Expected Runtime

- Average runtime is averaged over all inputs of a deterministic algorithm.
- Expected runtime is the expected value of the runtime random variable of a randomized algorithm. It effectively “averages” over all sequences of random numbers.
- De facto both analyses are very similar. However in practice the randomized algorithm ensures that not one single input elicits worst case behavior.

# Order statistics

Select the  $i$ th smallest of  $n$  elements (the element with *rank*  $i$ ).

- $i = 1$ : *minimum*;
- $i = n$ : *maximum*;
- $i = \lfloor (n+1)/2 \rfloor$  or  $\lceil (n+1)/2 \rceil$ : *median*.

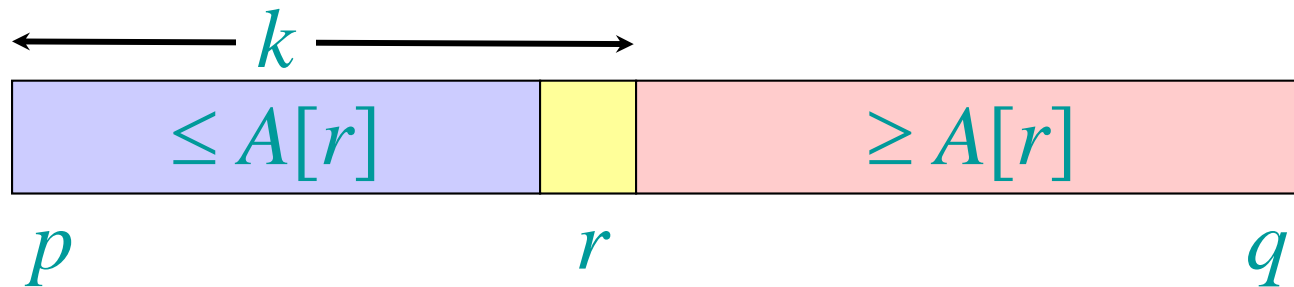
*Naive algorithm*: Sort and index  $i$ th element.

Worst-case running time =  $\Theta(n \log n + 1)$   
=  $\Theta(n \log n)$ ,

using merge sort (*not* quicksort).

# Randomized divide-and-conquer algorithm

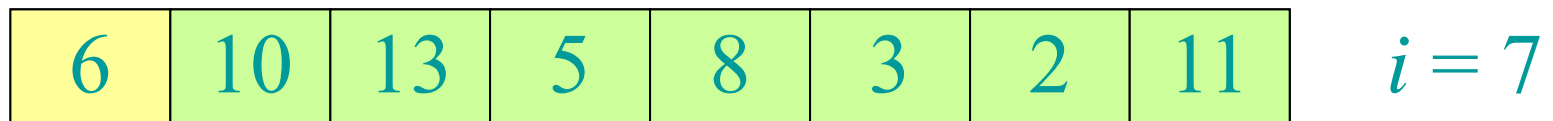
**RAND-SELECT**( $A, p, q, i$ )  $\triangleright$   $i$ -th smallest of  $A[p \dots q]$   
**if**  $p = q$  **then return**  $A[p]$   
 $r \leftarrow$  **RAND-PARTITION**( $A, p, q$ )  
 $k \leftarrow r - p + 1$   $\triangleright k = \text{rank}(A[r])$   
**if**  $i = k$  **then return**  $A[r]$   
**if**  $i < k$   
    **then return** **RAND-SELECT**( $A, p, r - 1, i$ )  
    **else return** **RAND-SELECT**( $A, r + 1, q, i - k$ )





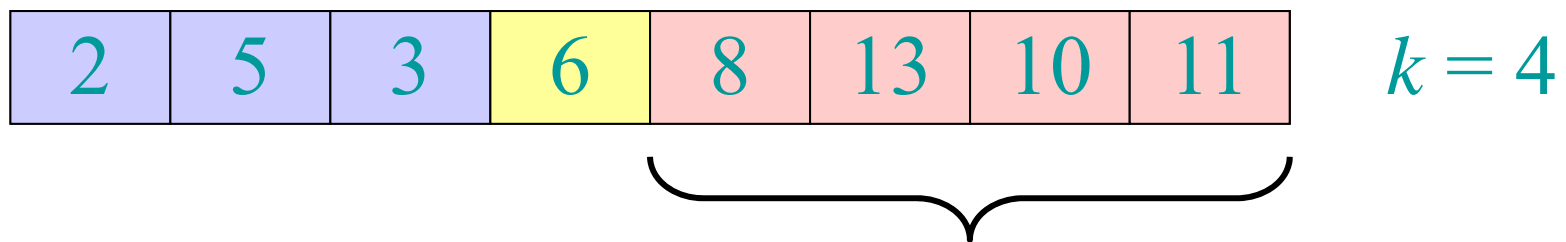
# Example

Select the  $i = 7$ th smallest:



*pivot*

Partition:



Select the  $7 - 4 = 3$ rd smallest recursively.

# Intuition for analysis

(All our analyses today assume that all elements are distinct.)

for RAND-PARTITION

**Lucky:**

$$\begin{aligned}T(n) &= T(3n/4) + dn \\ &= \Theta(n)\end{aligned}$$

$$n^{\log_{4/3} 1} = n^0 = 1$$

CASE 3

**Unlucky:**

$$\begin{aligned}T(n) &= T(n-1) + dn \\ &= \Theta(n^2)\end{aligned}$$

arithmetic series

***Worse than sorting!***

# Analysis of expected time

- Call a pivot *good* if its rank lies in  $[n/4, 3n/4]$ .
- How many good pivots are there?  $n/2$   
 $\Rightarrow$  A random pivot has 50% chance of being good.
- Let  $T(n,s)$  be the runtime random variable

time to reduce array size to  $\leq 3/4n$

$$T(n,s) \leq T(3n/4,s) + X(s) \cdot dn$$

#times it takes to  
find a good pivot

Runtime of partition

# Analysis of expected time

**Lemma:** A fair coin needs to be tossed an expected number of 2 times until the first “heads” is seen.

**Proof:** Let  $E(X)$  be the expected number of tosses until the first “heads” is seen.

- Need at least one toss, if it’s “heads” we are done.
- If it’s “tails” we need to repeat (probability  $\frac{1}{2}$ ).

$$\Rightarrow E(X) = 1 + \frac{1}{2} E(X)$$

$$\Rightarrow E(X) = 2$$



# Analysis of expected time

time to reduce array size to  $\leq 3/4n$

$$T(n,s) \leq T(3n/4,s) + X(s) \cdot dn$$

#times it takes to  
find a good pivot

Runtime of partition

$$\Rightarrow E(T(n,s)) \leq E(T(3n/4,s)) + E(X(s) \cdot dn)$$

$$\Rightarrow E(T(n,s)) \leq E(T(3n/4,s)) + E(X(s)) \cdot dn$$

$$\Rightarrow E(T(n,s)) \leq E(T(3n/4,s)) + 2 \cdot dn$$

$$\Rightarrow T_{exp}(n) \leq T_{exp}(3n/4) + \Theta(n)$$

$$\Rightarrow T_{exp}(n) \in \Theta(n)$$

*Linearity of  
expectation*

*Lemma*



# Summary of randomized order-statistic selection

- Works fast: linear expected time.
- Excellent algorithm in practice.
- But, the worst case is *very* bad:  $\Theta(n^2)$ .

**Q.** Is there an algorithm that runs in linear time in the worst case?

**A.** Yes, due to Blum, Floyd, Pratt, Rivest, and Tarjan [1973].

**IDEA:** Generate a good pivot recursively.

This algorithm has large constants though and therefore is not efficient in practice.