

Deterministic Selection

<https://cs.pomona.edu/classes/cs140/>

Selection Problem

Input: A set of n numbers and an integer i , with $1 \leq i \leq n$

Output: The element that is larger than exactly $i - 1$ other elements

- Known as the i^{th} order statistic or the i^{th} smallest number
- The minimum element is the 1^{st} order statistic ($i = 1$)
- The maximum element is the n^{th} order statistic ($i = n$)
- What is “ i ” for the median? (an expression base on n)
 - If n is even, then the medians are the $n/2$ and $n/2 + 1$ order statistics
 - If n is odd, then the median is the $(n + 1)/2$ order statistic

Selection Problem

Find the j^{th} smallest number in an array

We can reduce this to sorting:

- $O(n \lg n)$

We can use Quickselect (randomized selection):

- Best Case: $O(n)$
- Average Case: $O(n)$
- Worst Case: $O(n^2)$

Key Component of Quickselect: Partitioning



What if we are looking for the 5th order statistic?

- What is the fifth order statistic?
- Do we need to recursively look on both sides of the pivot?

Deterministic Selection

Works like Quicksort

Deterministically choose “good” pivot (*close* to a 50-50 split)

- The pivot is some value near to the median

Goal: select a pivot that is **guaranteed** to be pretty good

Key idea: find the **median of medians**

Deterministic Selection, Pivot Selection

- Break input into groups of size 5 ($n/5$ total groups)
- **Sort** each group
- Copy the $n/5$ medians (middle elements) from each group
- Recursively compute the median of medians
- Use the median of medians as the pivot
- Partition using this pivot
- Return
 - the pivot element, or
 - recursively search the left and right

You can call this
higher-level
pseudocode

FUNCTION DSelect(array, i)

Base 1 indexing (makes it easier to interpret indices)

n = array.length

Base Case

IF n == 1, **RETURN** A[1]

groups = CreateGroupsOfFive(array)

groups_sorted = SortGroupsOfFive(groups)

medians = GetMediansGroupsOfFive(groups_sorted)

Recursively find
median of medians

Get median of medians and call it the pivot

pivot = DSelect(medians, n/5/2)

left, right, pivot_index = Partition(array, pivot)

Partition

IF pivot_index == i, **RETURN** pivot

IF pivot_index < i, **RETURN** DSelect(left, i)

IF pivot_index > i, **RETURN** DSelect(right, i - pivot_index)

Recursion

n=20

CreateGroupsOfFive(array)



n=20

CreateGroupsOfFive(array)



SortGroupsOfFive(groups)



GetMediansGroupsOfFive(groups_sorted)

What is the median of medians?

FUNCTION DSelect(array, i)

Base 1 indexing

n = array.length

IF n == 1, **RETURN** A[1]

What is the running
time $T(n)$ of DSelect?

Base Case

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groups_sorted = SortGroupsOfFive(groups)

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Recursively find
median of medians

Get median of medians and call it the pivot

pivot = DSelect(medians, n/5/2)

left, right, pivot_index = Partition(array, pivot)

Partition

IF pivot_index == i, **RETURN** pivot

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IF pivot_index > i, **RETURN** DSelect(right, i - pivot_index)

Recursion

DSelect Running Time

Theorem:

- for every input array of length n , DSelect returns the i^{th} order statistic in $O(n)$

Seems impossible since (compared with quicksort) we've added

- another recursive call (to find the pivot) and
- a bunch of work to find the median of medians

T(n) **FUNCTION** DSelect(array, i)

Base 1 indexing

O(1)

n = array.length

IF n == 1, **RETURN** A[1]

Base Case

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medians = GetMediansGroupsOfFive(groups_sorted)

Get median of medians and call it the pivot

pivot = DSelect(medians, n/5/2)

**Recursively find
median of medians**

left, right, pivot_index = Partition(array, pivot)

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T(n)

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Get median of medians and call it the pivot

pivot = DSelect(medians, n/5/2)

Recursively find
median of medians

What must be the running
time of this work?

left, right, pivot_index = Partition(array, pivot)

Partition

IF pivot_index == i, RETURN pivot

IF pivot_index < i, RETURN DSelect(left, i)

IF pivot_index > i, RETURN DSelect(right, i - pivot_index)

Recursion

T(n)

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Get median of medians and call it the pivot

pivot = DSelect(medians, n/5/2)

Recursively find
median of medians

What must be the running
time of this work?

left, right, pivot_index = Partition(array, pivot)

Partition

IF pivot_index == i, RETURN pivot

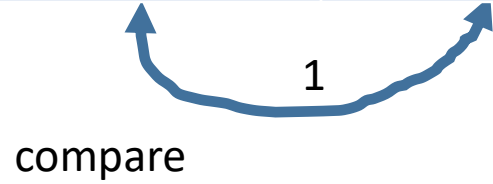
IF pivot_index < i, RETURN DSelect(left, i)

IF pivot_index > i, RETURN DSelect(right, i - pivot_index)

Recursion

Sorting 5 elements

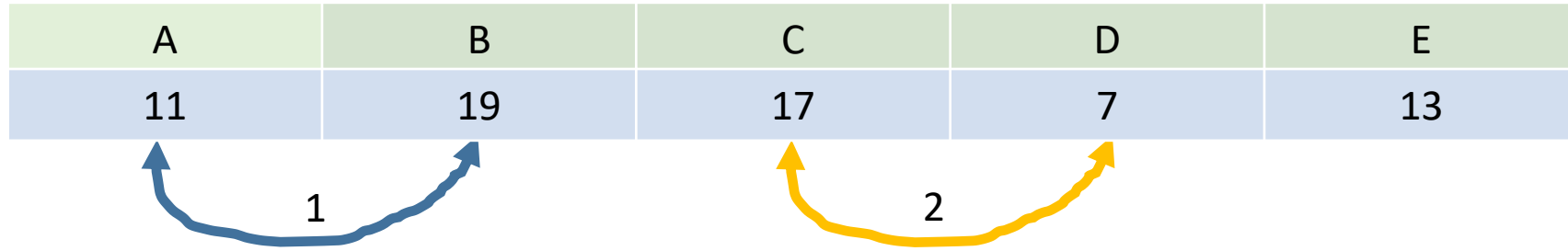
A	B	C	D	E
19	11	17	7	13



Steps:

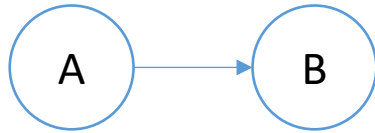
1. $A > B$
 - `Swap(A, B)`

Sorting 5 elements



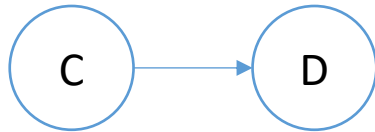
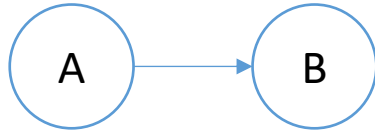
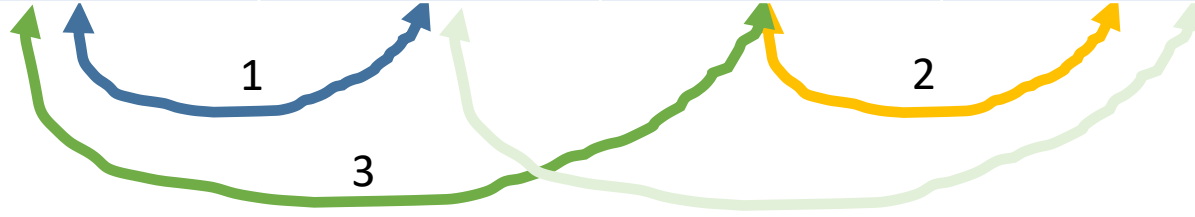
Steps:

1. $A > B$
 - $\text{Swap}(A, B)$
2. $C > D$
 - $\text{Swap}(C, D)$



Sorting 5 elements

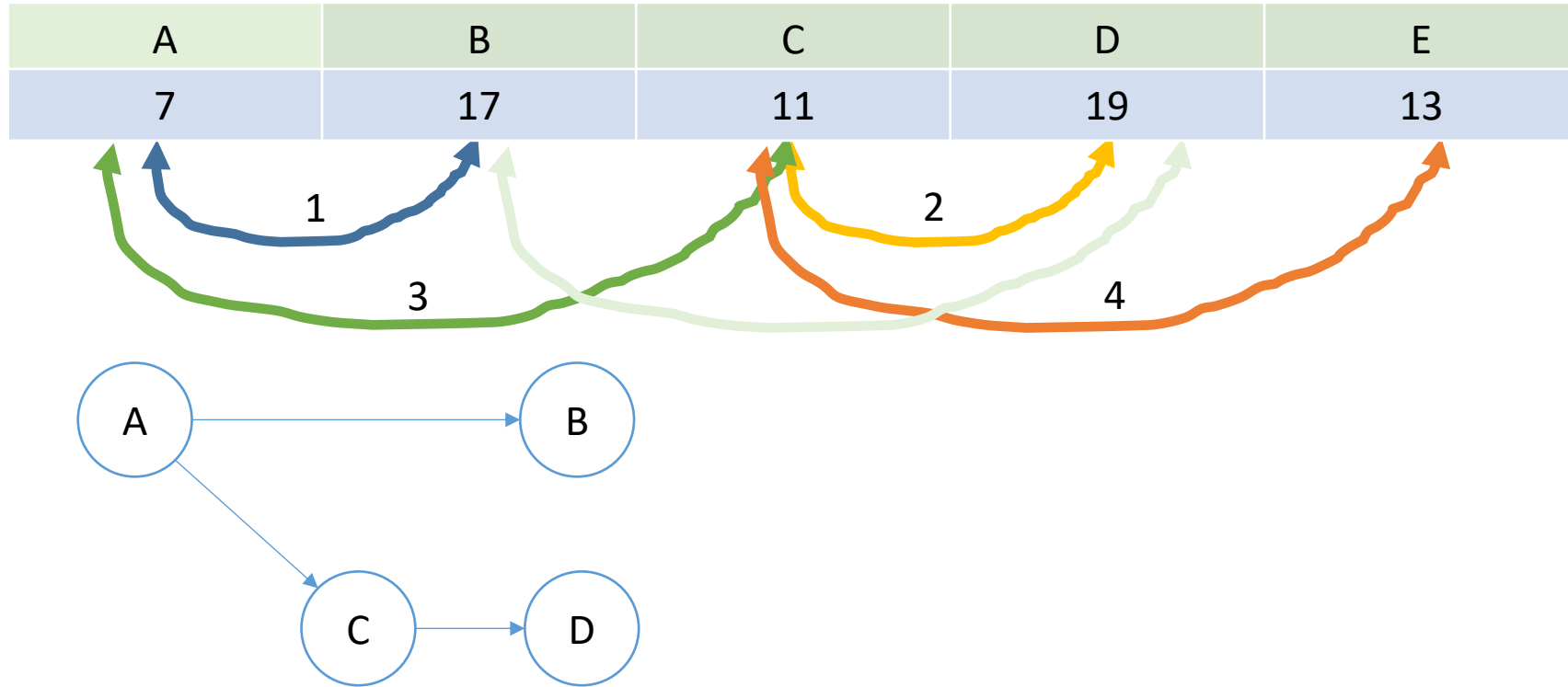
A	B	C	D	E
11	19	7	17	13



Steps:

1. $A > B$
 - `Swap(A, B)`
2. $C > D$
 - `Swap(C, D)`
3. $A > C$
 - `Swap(A, C)`
 - `Swap(B, D)`

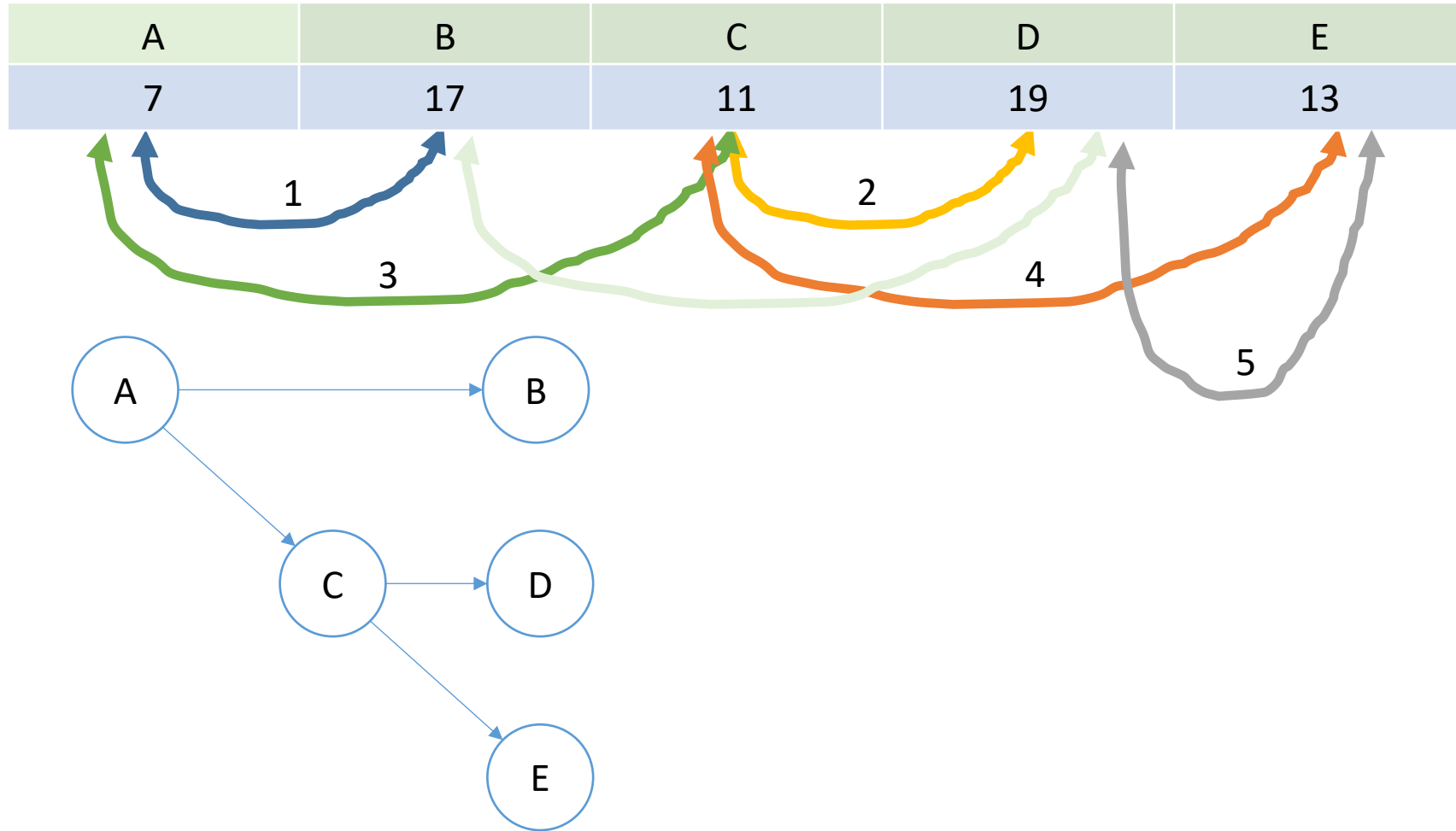
Sorting 5 elements



Steps:

1. $A > B$
 - $\text{Swap}(A, B)$
2. $C > D$
 - $\text{Swap}(C, D)$
3. $A > C$
 - $\text{Swap}(A, C)$
 - $\text{Swap}(B, D)$
4. E into A-C-D
5. E into A-C-D

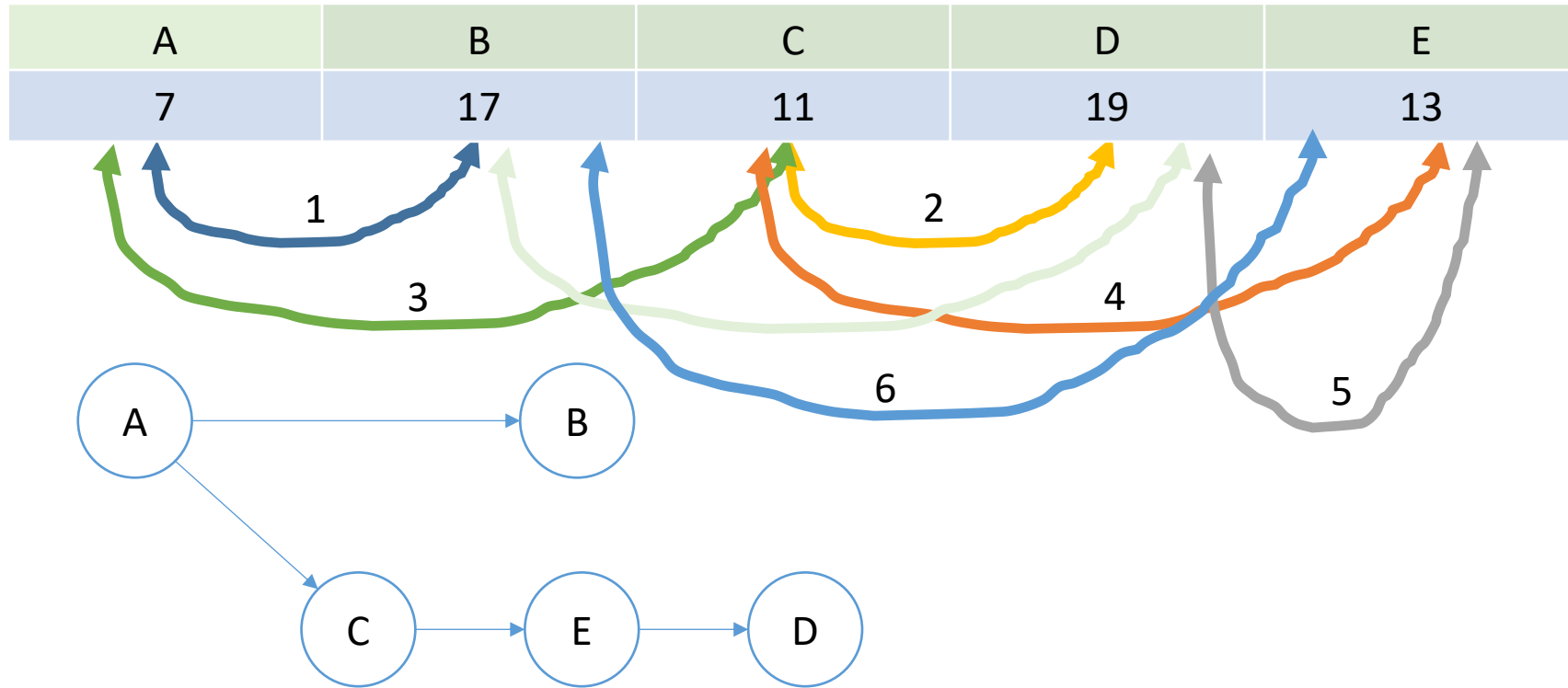
Sorting 5 elements



Steps:

1. $A > B$
 - $\text{Swap}(A, B)$
2. $C > D$
 - $\text{Swap}(C, D)$
3. $A > C$
 - $\text{Swap}(A, C)$
 - $\text{Swap}(B, D)$
4. E into A-C-D
5. E into A-C-D

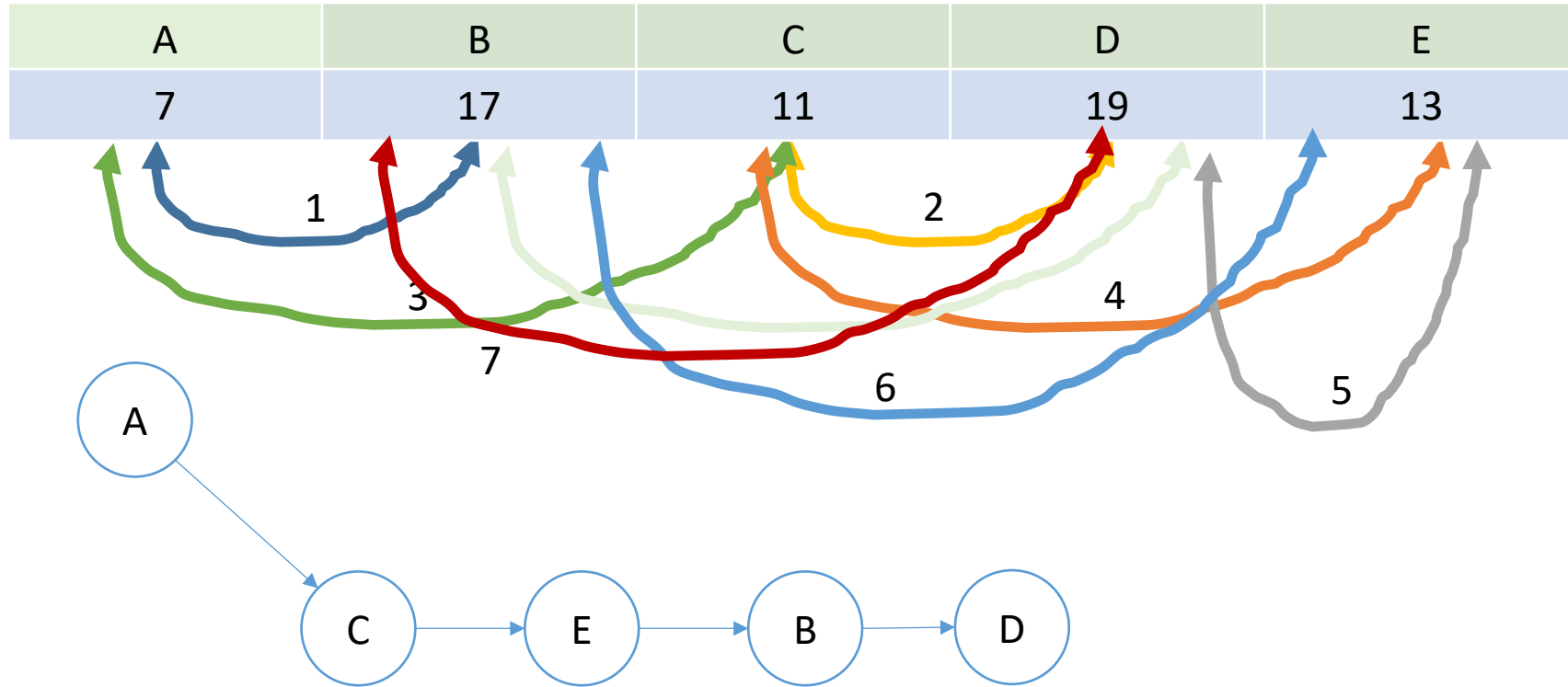
Sorting 5 elements



Steps:

1. $A > B$
 - $\text{Swap}(A, B)$
2. $C > D$
 - $\text{Swap}(C, D)$
3. $A > C$
 - $\text{Swap}(A, C)$
 - $\text{Swap}(B, D)$
4. E into A-C-D
5. E into A-C-D
6. B into C-E-D
7. B into C-E-D

Sorting 5 elements



Steps:

1. $A > B$
 - Swap(A, B)
2. $C > D$
 - Swap(C, D)
3. $A > C$
 - Swap(A, C)
 - Swap(B, D)
4. E into A-C-D
5. E into A-C-D
6. B into C-E-D
7. B into C-E-D

Return: [A, C, E, B, D]

At most 7 comparisons!

T(n) FUNCTION DSelect(array, i)

Base 1 indexing

O(1)

n = array.length
IF n == 1, RETURN A[1]

Base Case

O(n)

groups = CreateGroupsOfFive(array)
groups_sorted = SortGroupsOfFive(groups)
medians = GetMediansGroupsOfFive(groups_sorted)

**Recursively find
median of medians**

Get median of medians and call it the pivot
pivot = DSelect(medians, n/5/2)

left, right, pivot_index = Partition(array, pivot)

Partition

IF pivot_index == i, RETURN pivot
IF pivot_index < i, RETURN DSelect(left, i)
IF pivot_index > i, RETURN DSelect(right, i - pivot_index)

Recursion

T(n) FUNCTION DSelect(array, i)

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Base Case

O(n)

groups = CreateGroupsOfFive(array)
groups_sorted = SortGroupsOfFive(groups)
medians = GetMediansGroupsOfFive(groups_sorted)

Recursively find
median of medians

T(n/5)

Get median of medians and call it the pivot
pivot = DSelect(medians, n/5/2)

How can we denote this
recursive running time?

left, right, pivot_index = Partition(array, pivot)

Partition

IF pivot_index == i, RETURN pivot
IF pivot_index < i, RETURN DSelect(left, i)
IF pivot_index > i, RETURN DSelect(right, i - pivot_index)

Recursion

T(n) FUNCTION DSelect(array, i)

Base 1 indexing

O(1)

n = array.length
IF n == 1, RETURN A[1]

Base Case

O(n)

groups = CreateGroupsOfFive(array)
groups_sorted = SortGroupsOfFive(groups)
medians = GetMediansGroupsOfFive(groups_sorted)

Recursively find
median of medians

T(n/5)

Get median of medians and call it the pivot
pivot = DSelect(medians, n/5/2)

O(n)

left, right, pivot_index = Partition(array, pivot)

Partition

IF pivot_index == i, RETURN pivot
IF pivot_index < i, RETURN DSelect(left, i)
IF pivot_index > i, RETURN DSelect(right, i - pivot_index)

Recursion

T(n) FUNCTION DSelect(array, i)

Base 1 indexing

O(1)

n = array.length
IF n == 1, RETURN A[1]

Base Case

O(n)

groups = CreateGroupsOfFive(array)
groups_sorted = SortGroupsOfFive(groups)
medians = GetMediansGroupsOfFive(groups_sorted)

Recursively find
median of medians

T(n/5)

Get median of medians and call it the pivot
pivot = DSelect(medians, n/5/2)

O(n)

left, right, pivot_index = Partition(array, pivot)

Partition

T(?)

IF pivot_index == i, RETURN pivot
IF pivot_index < i, RETURN DSelect(left, i)
IF pivot_index > i, RETURN DSelect(right, i - pivot_index)

Recursion

DSelect Running Time

$T(n)$ = maximum # of operations required for input of length n

$$T(1) = O(1)$$

Finding a good pivot



$$T(n) \leq cn + T\left(\frac{n}{5}\right) + T(?)$$

Sorting,
partitioning,
copying, etc.



Recursively
searching one side



On what does the “?” depend?

DSelect Running Time

$T(n)$ = maximum # of operations required for input of length n

$$T(1) = O(1)$$

Finding a good pivot

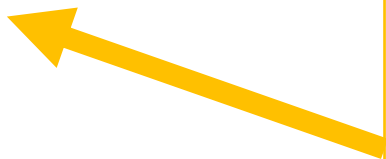


$$T(n) \leq cn + T\left(\frac{n}{5}\right) + T(?)$$

Sorting,
partitioning,
copying, etc.



Lemma:
the recursive search is
guaranteed to be on an
array of size $\leq 7n/10$



T(n) **FUNCTION** DSelect(array, i)

Base 1 indexing

O(1)

n = array.length
IF n == 1, **RETURN** A[1]

Base Case

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groups_sorted = SortGroupsOfFive(groups)
medians = GetMediansGroupsOfFive(groups_sorted)

Recursively find
median of medians

T(n/5)

Get median of medians and call it the pivot
pivot = DSelect(medians, n/5/2)

O(n)

left, right, pivot_index = Partition(array, pivot)

Partition

T(7n/10)

IF pivot_index == i, **RETURN** pivot
IF pivot_index < i, **RETURN** DSelect(left, i)
IF pivot_index > i, **RETURN** DSelect(right, i - pivot_index)

Recursion

Selecting the pivot

$$T(n) \leq cn + T\left(\frac{n}{5}\right) + T\left(\frac{7n}{10}\right)$$

- We can now replace the “?” with $7n/10$
- Let $k = n/5$ be the number of groups of size 5
- Let $x_i = i^{\text{th}}$ smallest element of the k medians
- So, the pivot is $x_{k/2}$ (the median of medians)
- Our goal is to show that:
 - $\leq 30\%$ of the input array is **smaller** than $x_{k/2}$
 - $\leq 30\%$ of the input array is **larger** than $x_{k/2}$

This means that we must search at most 70% ($7/10^{\text{ths}}$) of the remaining input

n=20

CreateGroupsOfFive(array)



SortGroupsOfFive(groups)



GetMediansGroupsOfFive(groups_sorted)

What is the median of medians?

n=20

CreateGroupsOfFive(array)



SortGroupsOfFive(groups)



GetMediansGroupsOfFive(groups_sorted)

What is the median of medians?

From where do we get 30%?

n=20

CreateGroupsOfFive(array)



SortGroupsOfFive(groups)



GetMediansGroupsOfFive(groups_sorted)

20	19	17	18
8	16	13	15
6	9	12	14
4	5	7	11
3	1	2	10

This is a just a diagram to show what we're looking at

Guaranteed bigger than (or equal to) (at least)
 $3/5$ of $1/2$ of the groups = 30%

$x_{k/2}$

20	19	17	18
8	16	13	15
6	9	12	14
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3	1	2	10

Guaranteed smaller than (or equal to) (at least)
3/5 of 1/2 of the groups = 30%

$x_{k/2}$

20	19	17	18
8	16	13	15
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Guaranteed **bigger** than (or equal to) (at least)

$3/5$ of $1/2$ of the groups = **30%**

Guaranteed **smaller** than (or equal to) (at least)

$3/5$ of $1/2$ of the groups = **30%**

$x_{k/2}$

20	19	17	18
8	16	13	15
6	9	12	14
4	5	7	11
3	1	2	10

So, we need to search either the
(at most) **upper** 70% of the array or the
(at most) **lower** 70% of the array.

$x_{k/2}$

20	19	17	18
8	16	13	15
6	9	12	14
4	5	7	11
3	1	2	10

Total Running Time

$$T(n) \leq cn + T\left(\frac{n}{5}\right) + T\left(\frac{7n}{10}\right)$$

- Can we use the master method?
- Not all subproblems are the same size
- We are going to use the substitution method

Guess and Check

$$T(n) \leq c_{DS}n + T\left(\frac{n}{5}\right) + T\left(\frac{7n}{10}\right)$$

Claim: $T(n) = O(n)$

$$c_{DS}n + T\left(\frac{n}{5}\right) + T\left(\frac{7n}{10}\right) \leq an \quad \forall n \geq n_0$$

Let $a = 10c_{DS}$, and $n_0 = 1$

Proof by induction

1. Base Case: $T(1) \leq a \cdot n = a \cdot 1 = 10c_{DS}$
2. Inductive Hypothesis: Assume $T(k) \leq ak$ for $k < n$
3. Induction Step

$$T(n) \leq c_{DS}n + T\left(\frac{n}{5}\right) + T\left(\frac{7n}{10}\right) \leq c_{DS}n + a\frac{n}{5} + a\frac{7n}{10} \leq an$$

$$T(n) \leq c_{DS}n + T\left(\frac{n}{5}\right) + T\left(\frac{7n}{10}\right) \leq c_{DS}n + a\frac{n}{5} + a\frac{7n}{10} \leq an$$

Let $a = 10c_{DS}$, and $n_0 = 1$

Selection

Randomized selection (**average** $O(n)$ runtime)

- Fast and practical
- All operations done in-place
- Small constant factors

Deterministic selection (**guaranteed** $O(n)$ runtime)

- Slower in practice
- Extra memory required
- Large constant factors (extra non-recursive work)