

جامعة طر ابلس - كلية تقنية المعلومات



### **ITGS301**

المحاضرة السابعة: 2 Lecture



# The divide and conquer approach

divide and conquer is perhaps the most commonly used algorithm design technique in computer science. faced with a big problem P , divide it into smaller problems, solve these sub-problems, and combine their solutions into a solution for P.



• *Divide:* the problem into a number of sub problems.

• *Conquer:* the sub problems by solving them recursively.

• *Combine:* the solutions to the sub problems into the solution for the original problem.



### Merge Sort

Merge sort is based on the *divide-and-conquer* paradigm.

- *Divide:* divide the n elements sequence to be stored into subsequences of n/2 element each.
- *Conquer:* sort the two subsequences recursively using merge sort.
- *Combine:* merge the two sorted subsequences to produce the sorted answer.



# 1. Divide Step

If a given array A has zero or one element, simply return; it is already sorted. Otherwise, split A[p ... r] into two sub arrays A[p ... q] and A[q + 1 ... r], each containing about half of the elements of A[p ... r]. That is, q is the halfway point of A[p ... r].

## 2. Conquer Step

Conquer by recursively sorting the two sub arrays A[p ... q] and A[q + 1 ... r].



### 3. Combine Step

Combine the elements back in A[p ... r] by merging the two sorted sub arrays A[p ... q] and A[q + 1 ... r] into a sorted sequence. To accomplish this step, we will define a procedure MERGE (A, p, q, r).



# Algorithm:

MERGE-SORT(A, p, r)

- 1. if p < r
- 2. then  $q \leftarrow (p + r)/2$
- 3. MERGE-SORT(A, p, q)
- 4. MERGE-SORT(A, q + 1, r)
- 5. MERGE(A, p, q, r)

Divide
Conquer
Conquer
Combine



NPUT: Array A and indices p, q, r such that  $p \le q \le r$  and subarray A[p ..q] is sorted and subarray A[q + 1 ..r] is sorted. By restrictions on p, q, r, neither subarray is empty.

OUTPUT: The two subarrays are merged into a single sorted subarray in A[p ..r].

The Pseudocode of the MERGE procedure is as follow:



### MERGE (A, p, q, r )

- 1. n1←q-p+1
- 2. n2←r-q
- 3. create arrays L[1..n1] and R[1..n2]
- 4. **For** i←1to n1
- 5. **Do**  $L[i] \leftarrow A[p+i-1]$
- 6. **For** j←1to n2
- 7. **Do**  $R[j] \leftarrow A[q + j]$
- 8. i←1
- 9. j←1
- 10. For  $k \leftarrow p$  to r
- 11. Do if L[i]  $\leq$  R[j]
- 12. Then  $A[k] \leftarrow L[i]$
- 13. i←i+1
- 14. Else
- 15.  $A[k] \leftarrow R[j]$ .
- 16. j←j+1



#### example:











### Analyzing Merge Sort

For simplicity, assume that n is a power of 2 so that each divide step yields two sub problems, both of size exactly n/2.

The base case occurs when n = 1.

When  $n \ge 2$ , time for merge sort steps:



**Divide**: Just compute q as the average of p and r, which takes constant time i.e.  $\Theta(1)$ .

*Conquer*: Recursively solve 2 sub problems, each of size n/2, which is 2T(n/2).

*Combine*: MERGE on an *n*-element sub array takes  $\Theta(n)$  time.

Summed together they give a function that is linear in n, which is  $\Theta(n)$ . Therefore, the recurrence for merge sort running time is

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} \Theta(1) & \text{if } n = 1 \\ 2T(n/2) + \Theta(n) & \text{if } n > 1 \end{cases}.$$





*Merge sort:* 
$$a = 2, b = 2 \implies n^{\log_b a} = n^{\log_2 2} = n$$
  
CASE 2  $\implies T(n) = \Theta(n \lg n)$ .





