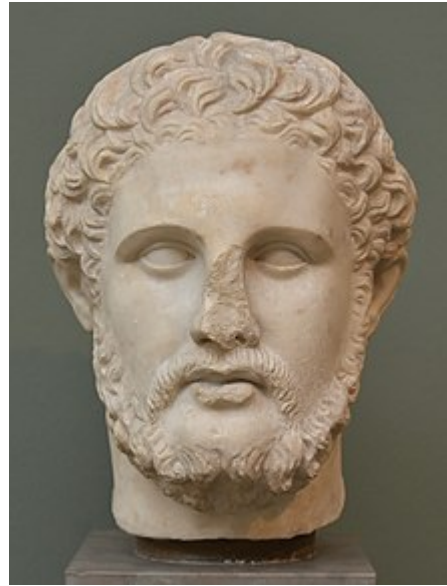


# Lecture 2: Divide And Conquer



Section 1

Instructor Tim LaRock

[larock.t@northeastern.edu](mailto:larock.t@northeastern.edu)

[bit.ly/cs3000syllabus](https://bit.ly/cs3000syllabus)

# Some business

No complaints about watching lectures via Canvas, going to keep doing it this way for now.

- Have fixed the layout so only the screen should be recorded
- Sharing screen directly from my iPad now, should go more smoothly (fingers crossed!)

Homework 1 to be released this evening; we will talk a bit about it at the end.

Decided against Discord/Slack, but also realized Canvas “discussions” are not full featured

- I will set up a Piazza instead (very sorry to do this late and add another thing!)

Student → TA assignment to come

# Today

Some common growth functions, plotted

Loop invariants, take 2

We break things off with BubbleSort (feat. bad memes)

Introduction to Divide and Conquer

Very brief LaTeX “demo”

# From last time: Asymptotes and Runtimes

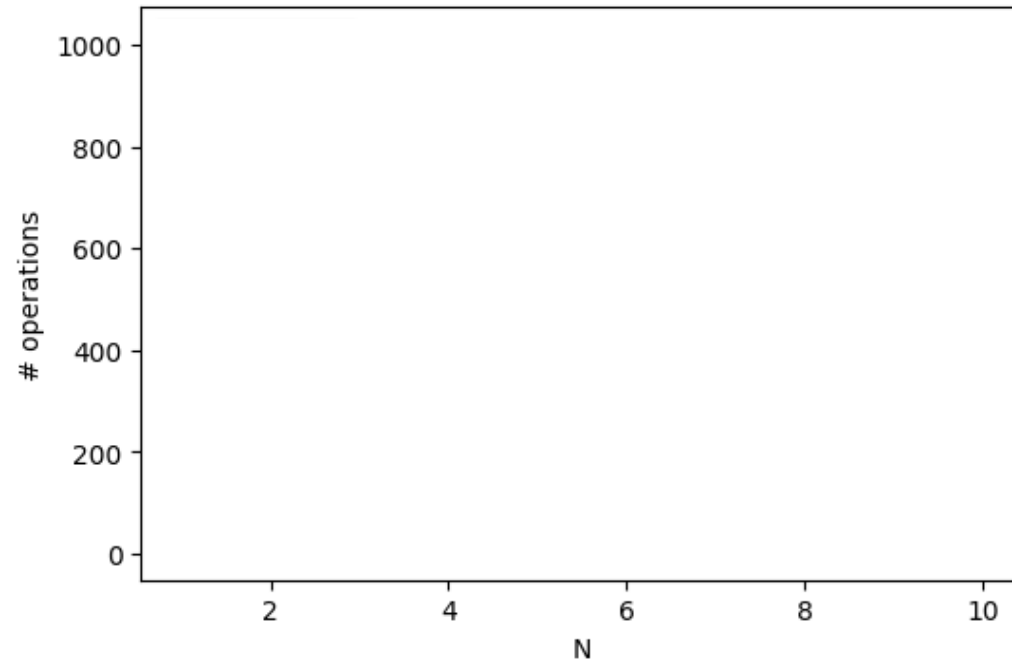
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What do asymptotes have to do with algorithms?

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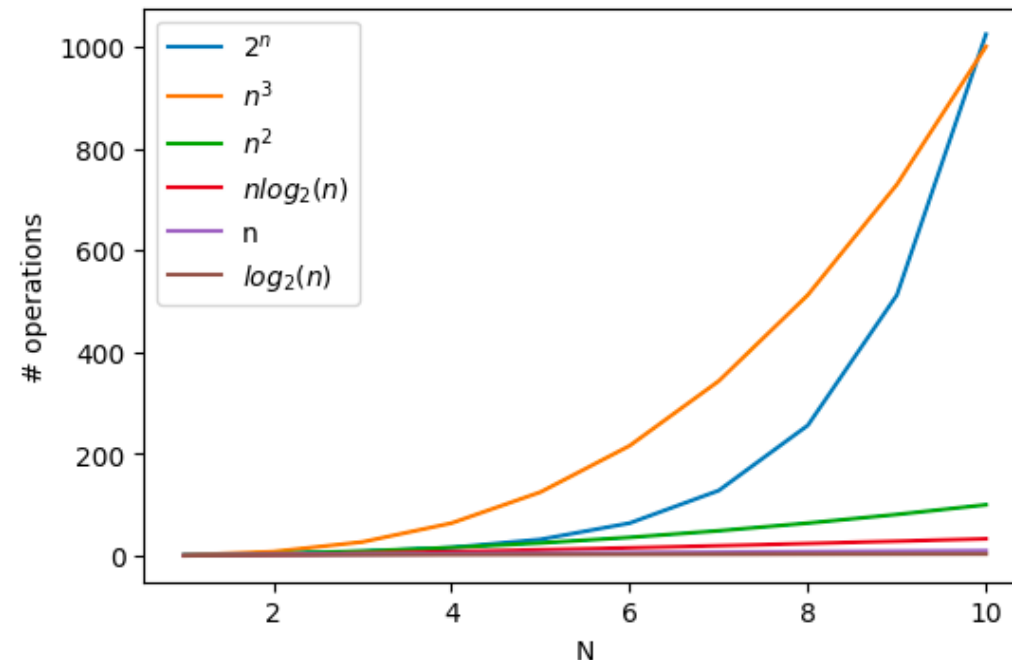
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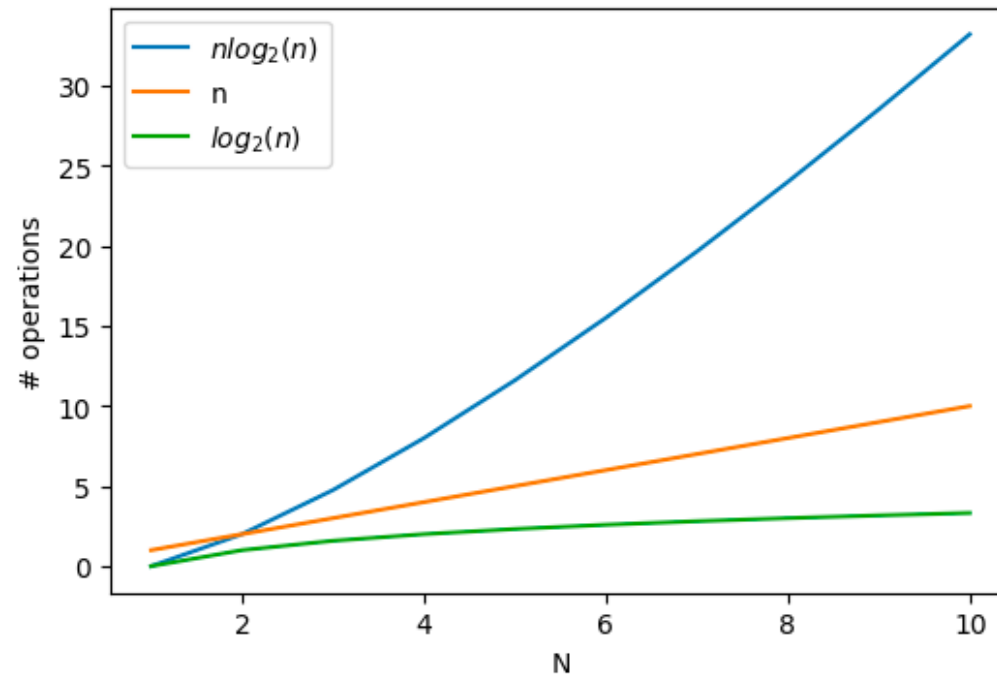
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What do asymptotes have to do with algorithms?



# From last time: Sorting

Sorting is extremely important to computer users and scientists!

A simple example: Finding the median of a set of numbers

Input:  $L$ , a list of  $N$  numbers

Output: The median of  $L$

Procedure:

1. Sort  $L$
2. If  $N$  is odd, return the number at  $L[\lfloor \frac{N}{2} \rfloor]$
3. If  $N$  is even, return the mean of the numbers at  $L[\lfloor \frac{N}{2} \rfloor]$  and  $L[\lfloor \frac{N}{2} \rfloor + 1]$



# From last time: Bubble Sort

Idea: Items “bubble up” to the top as they are sorted pairwise

```
Input: L, a list of N numbers
Output: L sorted in ascending order
Procedure:
    Let swapped = True
    while swapped = True:
        swapped = False
        for i from 1 to N-1:
            if L[i] > L[i+1]:
                Swap L[i] and L[i+1]
                swapped = True
```

# Loop Invariant Definition

A loop invariant is a formal statement about the relationship between variables in [an algorithm] which holds true just before the loop is ever run (**establishing the invariant**) and is true again at the bottom of the loop, each time through the loop (**maintaining the invariant**).

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Bubble sort loop invariant: After every iteration, the largest previously unsorted value is in its correct position.

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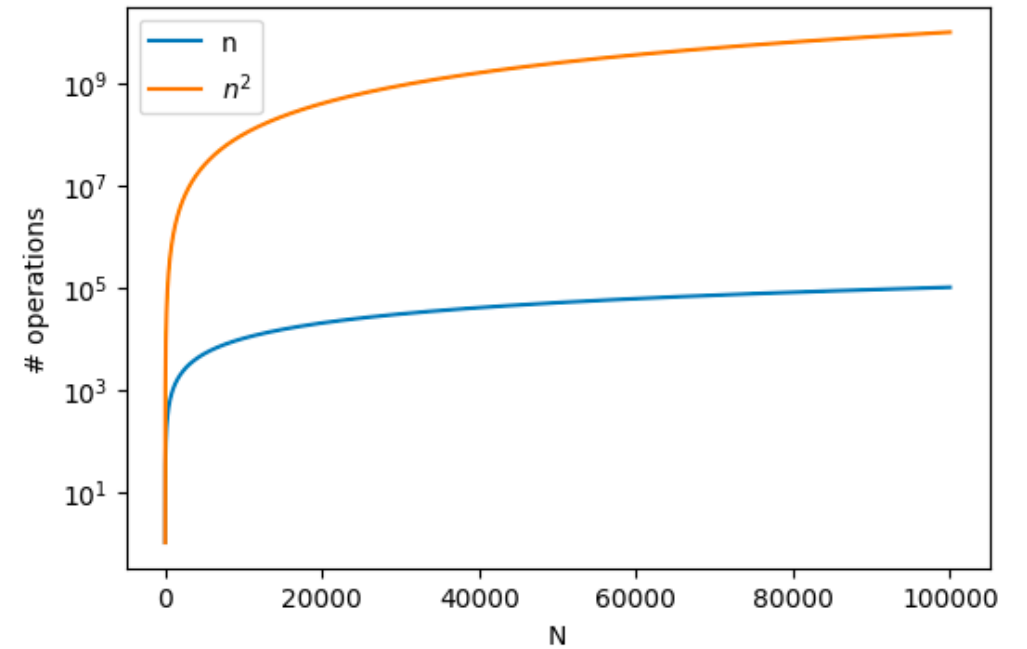
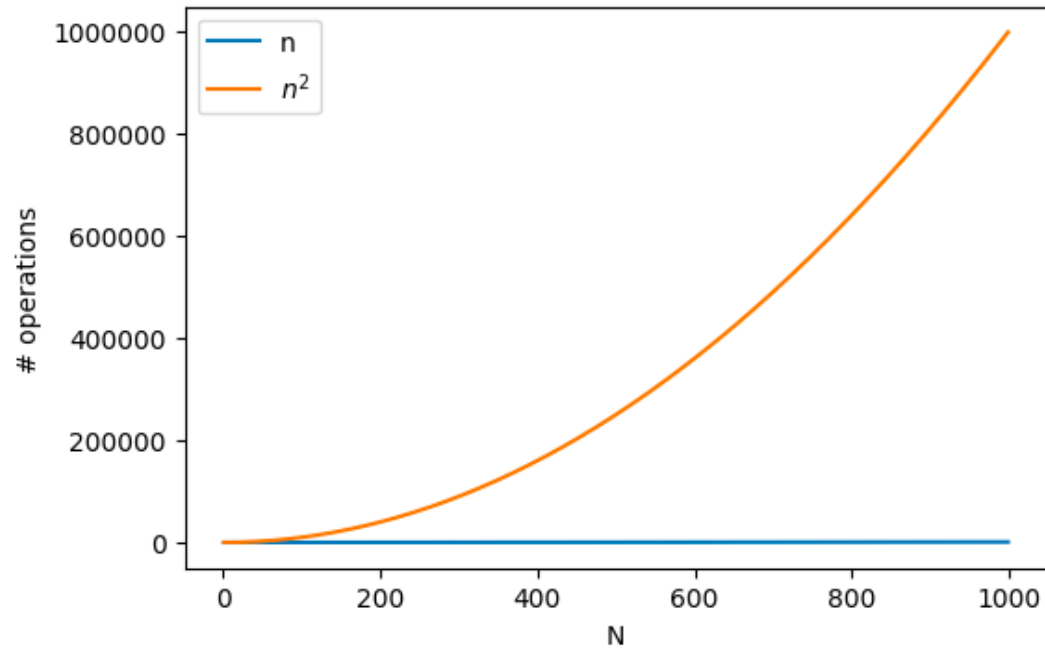
Bubble sort loop invariant: After every iteration, the largest previously unsorted value is in its correct position.

After  $m$  iterations of the while loop, the  $m$  largest values are in their correct positions.

After  $n$  iterations, all values are in their correct positions.

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# Dumping BubbleSort: $O(n^2)$ is just not practical!

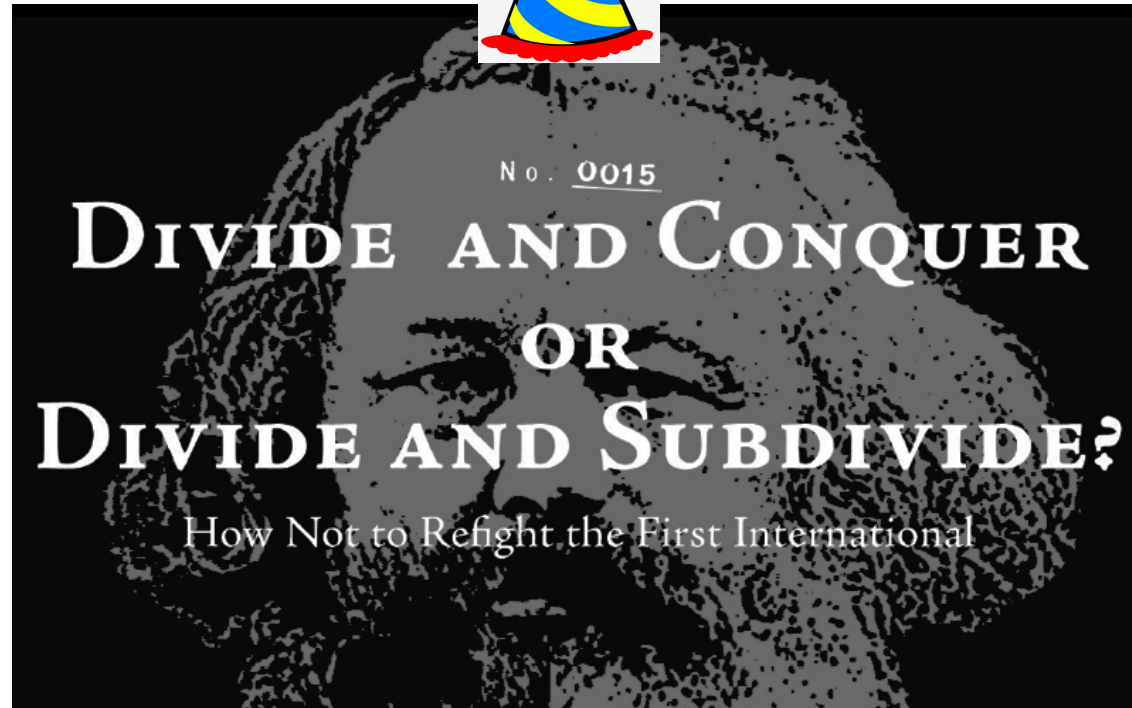




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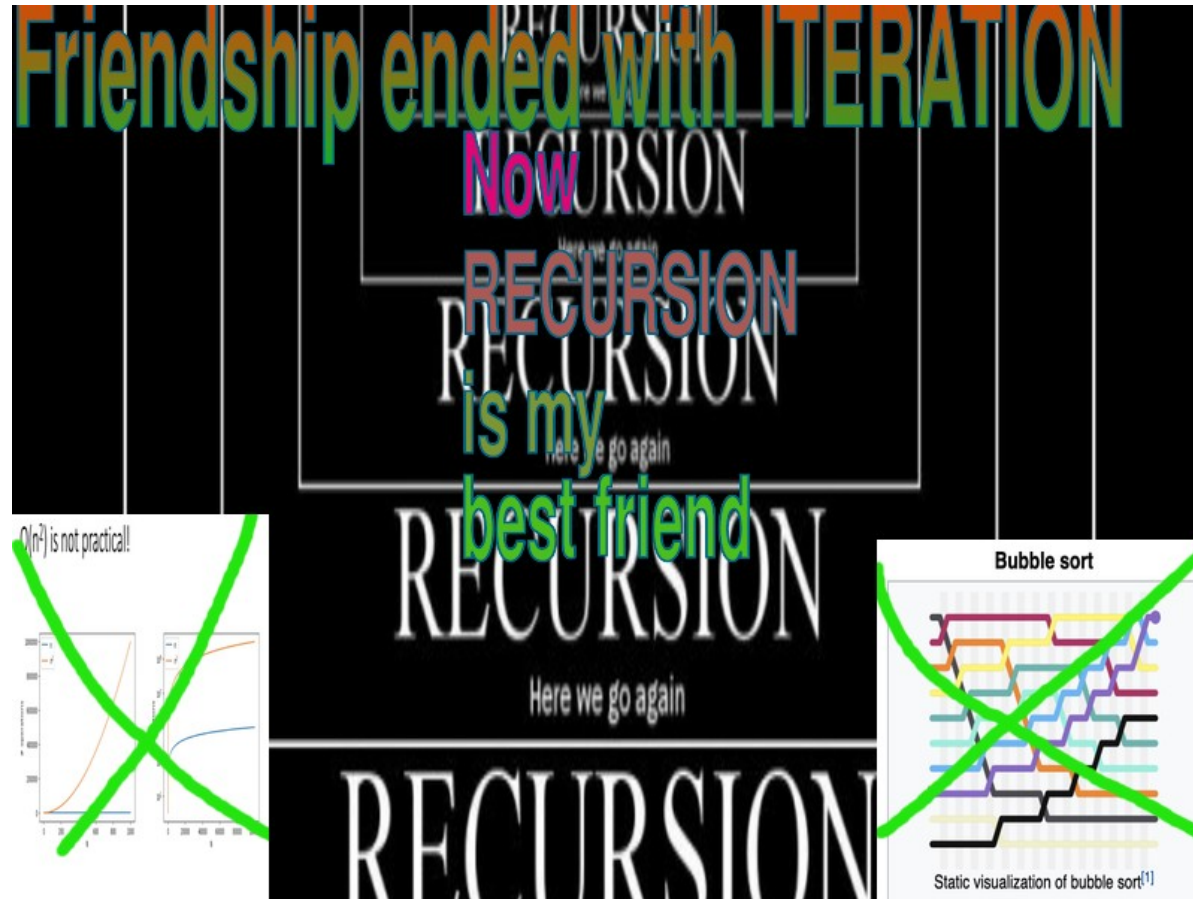


# Enter: Divide and Conquer



What if....

Instead of sorting the entire input at once (as in bubble sort)....



...we could break the problem into smaller pieces to be sorted separately?

# Merge Sort

Idea: Speed up sorting by splitting the input in half, sorting the smaller pieces separately, then merging the output.





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MERGESORT(A[1..n]):  
  if  $n > 1$   
     $m \leftarrow \lfloor n/2 \rfloor$   
    MERGESORT(A[1..m])    ⟨⟨Recurse!⟩⟩  
    MERGESORT(A[m+1..n]) ⟨⟨Recurse!⟩⟩  
    MERGE(A[1..n], m)
```

```
MERGE(A[1..n], m):  
   $i \leftarrow 1; j \leftarrow m + 1$   
  for  $k \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$   
    if  $j > n$   
       $B[k] \leftarrow A[i]; i \leftarrow i + 1$   
    else if  $i > m$   
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    else  
       $B[k] \leftarrow A[j]; j \leftarrow j + 1$   
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     $A[k] \leftarrow B[k]$ 
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# Merge Sort Example

MERGESORT( $A[1..n]$ ):

if  $n > 1$

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MERGESORT( $A[1..m]$ ) *⟨⟨Recurse!⟩⟩*

MERGESORT( $A[m+1..n]$ ) *⟨⟨Recurse!⟩⟩*

MERGE( $A[1..n], m$ )

5 3 6 2 2

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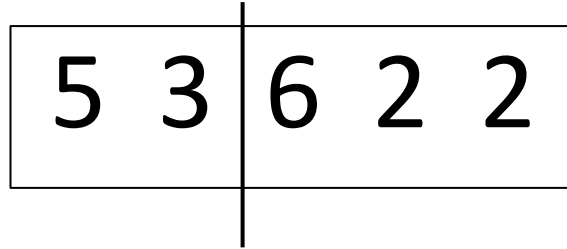
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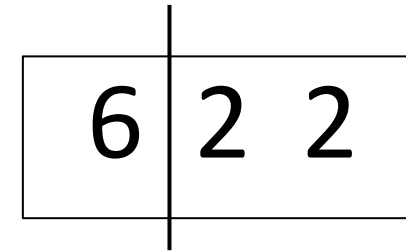
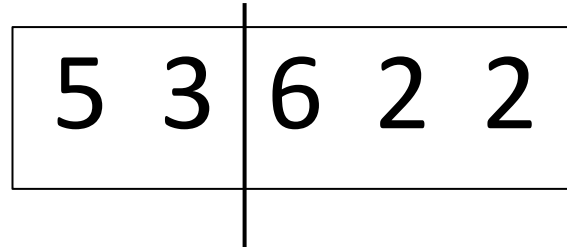
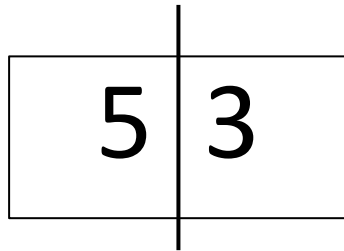
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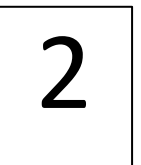
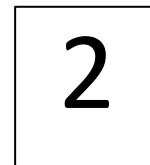
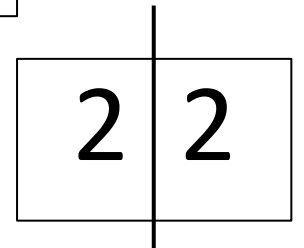
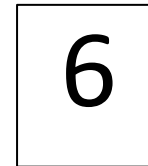
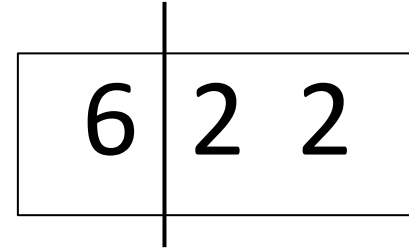
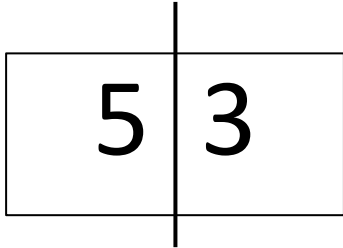
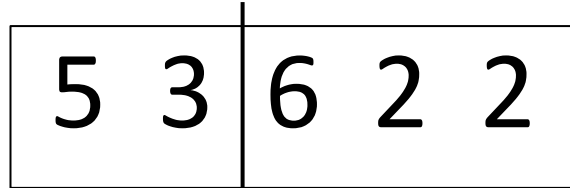
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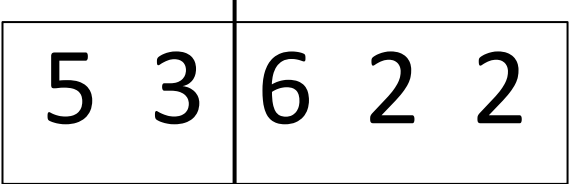
Bottom of recursion

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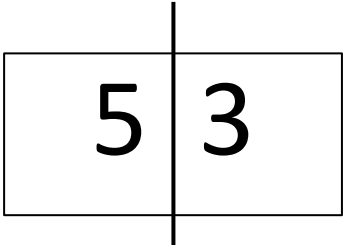
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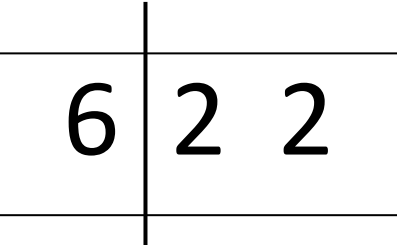
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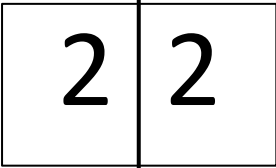
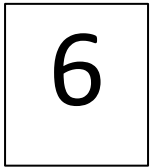
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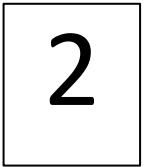
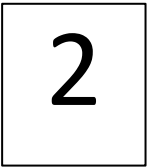
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# Merge Sort Example

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MERGE

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for  $k \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$

$A[k] \leftarrow B[k]$

# Proof of Correctness

We can show formally that the output of MergeSort is correct by using 2 *proofs by induction!*

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MERGESORT(A[1..n]):
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```
  if  $n > 1$ 
```

```
     $m \leftarrow \lfloor n/2 \rfloor$ 
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    MERGESORT(A[1..m])    ⟨⟨Recurse!⟩⟩
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```
    MERGE(A[1..n], m)
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MERGE(A[1..n], m):
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   $i \leftarrow 1; j \leftarrow m + 1$ 
```

```
  for  $k \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$ 
```

```
    if  $j > n$ 
```

```
       $B[k] \leftarrow A[i]; i \leftarrow i + 1$ 
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```
    else if  $i > m$ 
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       $B[k] \leftarrow A[j]; j \leftarrow j + 1$ 
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```

```
  for  $k \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$ 
```

```
     $A[k] \leftarrow B[k]$ 
```

# Proof by Induction Reminder

3 main steps to a proof by induction:

# Merge Sort: Proof of Correctness

First show that MERGE is correct, then MergeSort.

MERGE\_SORT( $A[1..n]$ ):

if  $n > 1$

$m \leftarrow \lfloor n/2 \rfloor$

    MERGE\_SORT( $A[1..m]$ )   *⟨⟨Recurse!⟩⟩*

    MERGE\_SORT( $A[m+1..n]$ ) *⟨⟨Recurse!⟩⟩*

    MERGE( $A[1..n], m$ )

MERGE( $A[1..n], m$ ):

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        else

$B[k] \leftarrow A[j]; j \leftarrow j + 1$

    for  $k \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$

$A[k] \leftarrow B[k]$

# Merge: Proof of Correctness

We will show that for all  $k$  from 0 to  $n$ , the last  $n-k-1$  iterations of the main loop correctly merge  $A[i..n]$  and  $A[j..m]$  into  $B[k..n]$ .

MERGE( $A[1..n], m$ ):

$i \leftarrow 1; j \leftarrow m + 1$

for  $k \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$

  if  $j > n$

$B[k] \leftarrow A[i]; i \leftarrow i + 1$

  else if  $i > m$

$B[k] \leftarrow A[j]; j \leftarrow j + 1$

  else if  $A[i] < A[j]$

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  else

$B[k] \leftarrow A[j]; j \leftarrow j + 1$

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Base case:



# Merge: Proof of Correctness

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$B[k] \leftarrow A[i]; i \leftarrow i + 1$

  else

$B[k] \leftarrow A[j]; j \leftarrow j + 1$

for  $k \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$

$A[k] \leftarrow B[k]$

Inductive Hypothesis:

# Merge: Proof of Correctness

We will show that for all  $k$  from 0 to  $n$ , the last  $n-k-1$  iterations of the main loop correctly merge  $A[i..n]$  and  $A[j..m]$  into  $B[k..n]$ .

MERGE( $A[1..n], m$ ):

$i \leftarrow 1; j \leftarrow m + 1$

for  $k \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$

  if  $j > n$

$B[k] \leftarrow A[i]; i \leftarrow i + 1$

  else if  $i > m$

$B[k] \leftarrow A[j]; j \leftarrow j + 1$

  else if  $A[i] < A[j]$

$B[k] \leftarrow A[i]; i \leftarrow i + 1$

  else

$B[k] \leftarrow A[j]; j \leftarrow j + 1$

for  $k \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$

$A[k] \leftarrow B[k]$

Proof:

# MergeSort: Proof of Correctness

Base Case:

MERGESORT( $A[1..n]$ ):

if  $n > 1$

$m \leftarrow \lfloor n/2 \rfloor$

MERGESORT( $A[1..m]$ ) *⟨⟨Recurse!⟩⟩*

MERGESORT( $A[m+1..n]$ ) *⟨⟨Recurse!⟩⟩*

MERGE( $A[1..n], m$ )

Inductive Hypothesis:

Proof:

# MergeSort: Runtime Analysis

```
MERGESORT(A[1..n]):
```

```
  if  $n > 1$ 
```

```
     $m \leftarrow \lfloor n/2 \rfloor$ 
```

```
    MERGESORT(A[1..m])    ⟨⟨Recurse!⟩⟩
```

```
    MERGESORT(A[m+1..n]) ⟨⟨Recurse!⟩⟩
```

```
    MERGE(A[1..n], m)
```

```
MERGE(A[1..n], m):
```

```
   $i \leftarrow 1; j \leftarrow m + 1$ 
```

```
  for  $k \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$ 
```

```
    if  $j > n$ 
```

```
       $B[k] \leftarrow A[i]; i \leftarrow i + 1$ 
```

```
    else if  $i > m$ 
```

```
       $B[k] \leftarrow A[j]; j \leftarrow j + 1$ 
```

```
    else if  $A[i] < A[j]$ 
```

```
       $B[k] \leftarrow A[i]; i \leftarrow i + 1$ 
```

```
    else
```

```
       $B[k] \leftarrow A[j]; j \leftarrow j + 1$ 
```

```
  for  $k \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$ 
```

```
     $A[k] \leftarrow B[k]$ 
```

Let's write down a *recurrence relation* that describes the runtime:

# Next Time

Recurrence Relations + Recurrence Trees

Formal Asymptotic Analysis

More Divide & Conquer

Suggested Readings:

Now: Brief LaTeX “demo”