

# Lecture 5: More Recursion

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

# Business

- Homework 1 due tonight!
  - Only turn in compiled PDF, no need for .tex file
  - Make sure you turn something in!
    - It is okay, even expected, if you aren't totally sure about some solutions. Do your best.
    - Remember that 1 homework grade is dropped
- Homework 2 will be released tomorrow and due next Monday at midnight Boston time
- Office hours: Please email ahead of time with topic!
- Reminder: Use Piazza for questions as much as possible
  - You can ask private questions to the instructors. This is preferable to email.

# Business 2: Exams

## Tentative Schedule for Exams:

Midterm 1: Release next **Weds 5/20 8pm** and due **Friday 5/22 8pm**

Midterm 2 (tentative): Same deal starting Wed June 4

Final Exam TBD (probably either June 17-19 or during finals week)

# Today

## More recursion examples

- Selection without sorting
- Binary Search
- Master Theorem for solving recurrence relations

# Finding the median without sorting

We motivated sorting with the median problem

Input:  $L$ , an array 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  $L[\lfloor \frac{N}{2} \rfloor + 1]$

Can we compute the median without sorting the whole list first?

# Selection without sorting

More general goal: Given unsorted array of integers  $A$ , how long to find the:

- Smallest number?
- Second smallest number?
- $k^{\text{th}}$  smallest number?
- Median?

A	11	3	5	6	8	2
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Idea: What if we break the input array into subarrays in a “smart” way so that only 1 subarray needs to be searched recursively?

Today: Smart recursion for an  $O(n)$  selection algorithm.

# QuickSelect: Selection without sorting

Idea: Break the input array into subarrays in a “smart” way so that only 1 subarray needs to be searched recursively

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```

Given A and p, return the array transformed so that all elements in the left half are less than A[p], the middle value is A[p], and all the elements in the right half are greater than A[p]

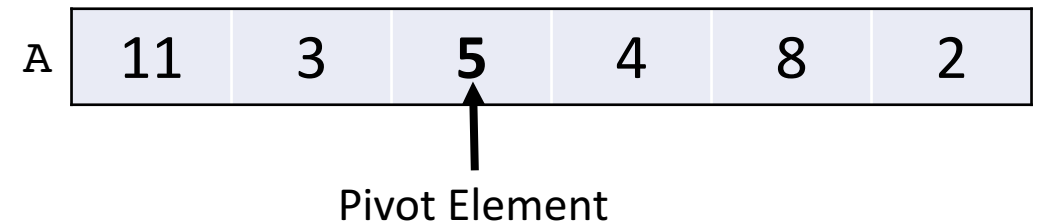
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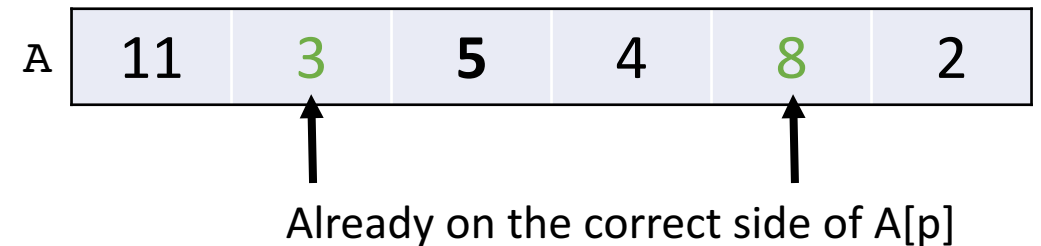


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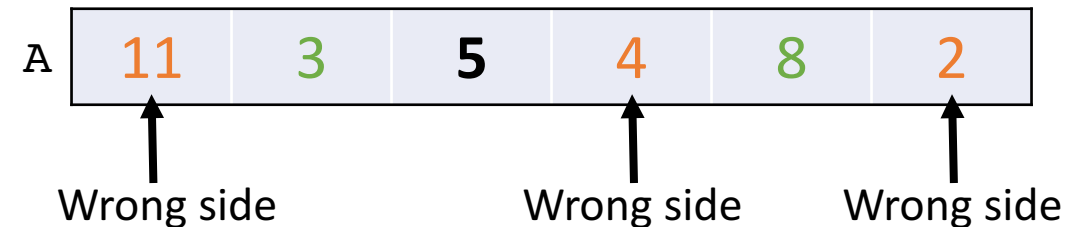


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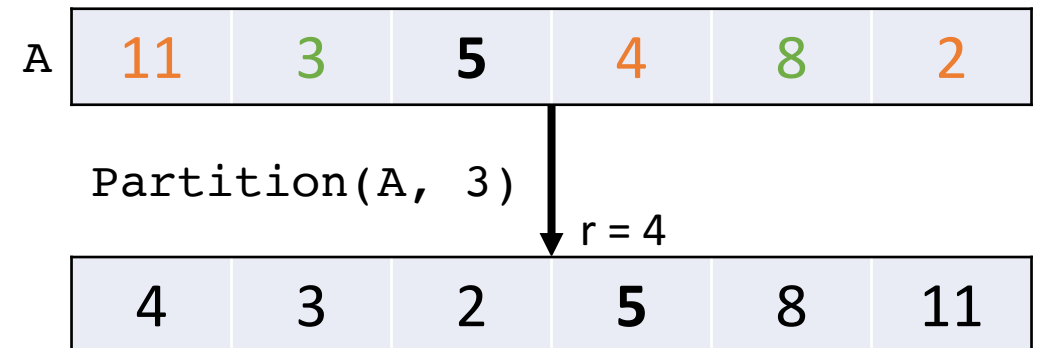


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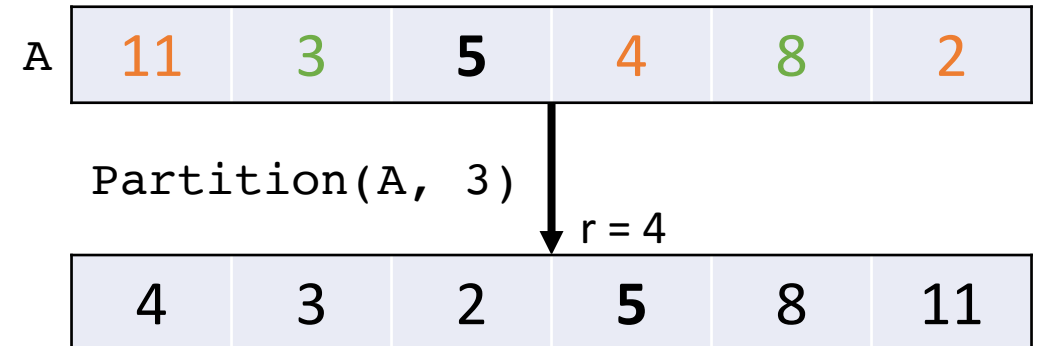


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Note: Partitioning does **not** sort the array!

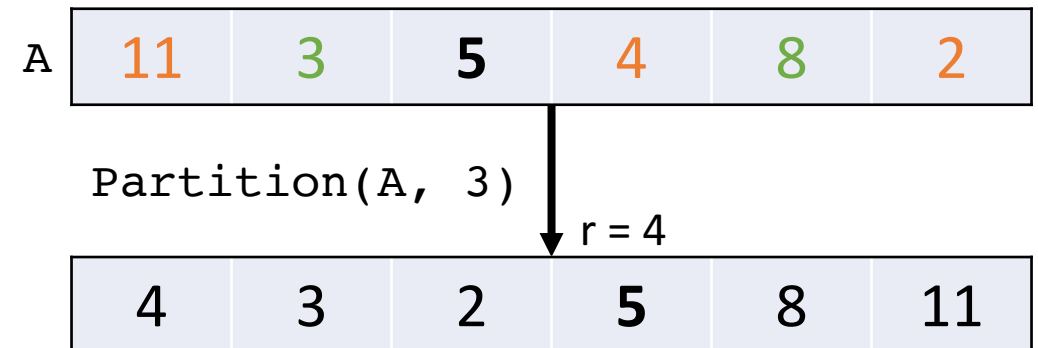
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**Key Observation:** If I want the 3<sup>rd</sup> smallest value in this example (4) this partitioning scheme guarantees it is in the left subarray!

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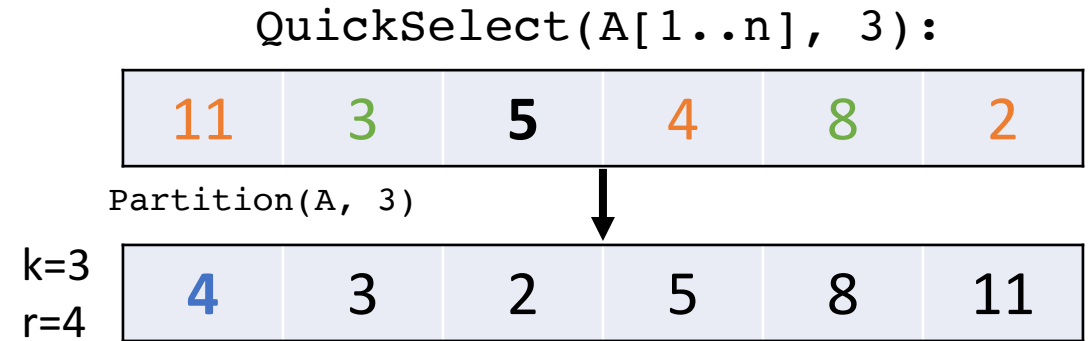


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Assume  $\text{Partition}(A, p)$  is correct and I will “randomly” choose pivots

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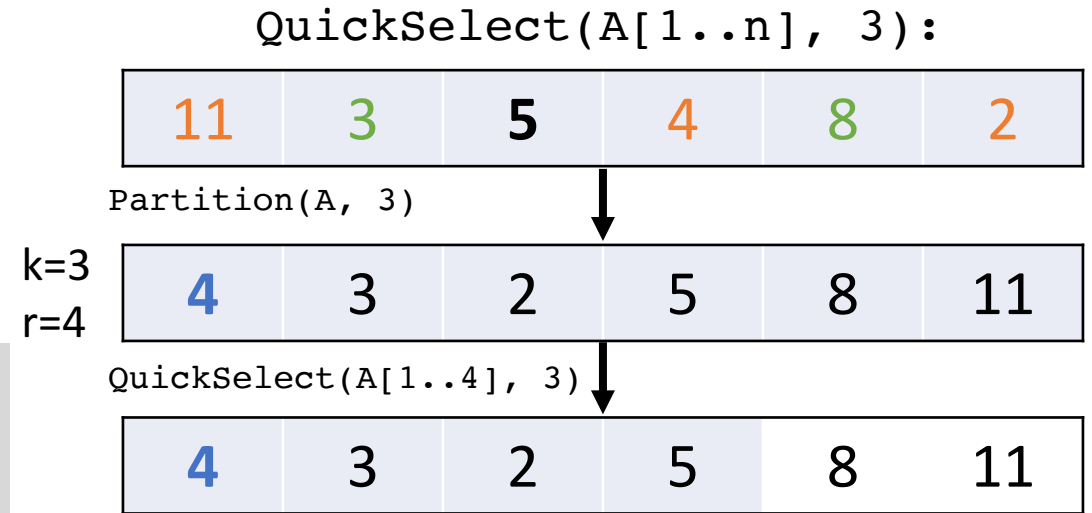




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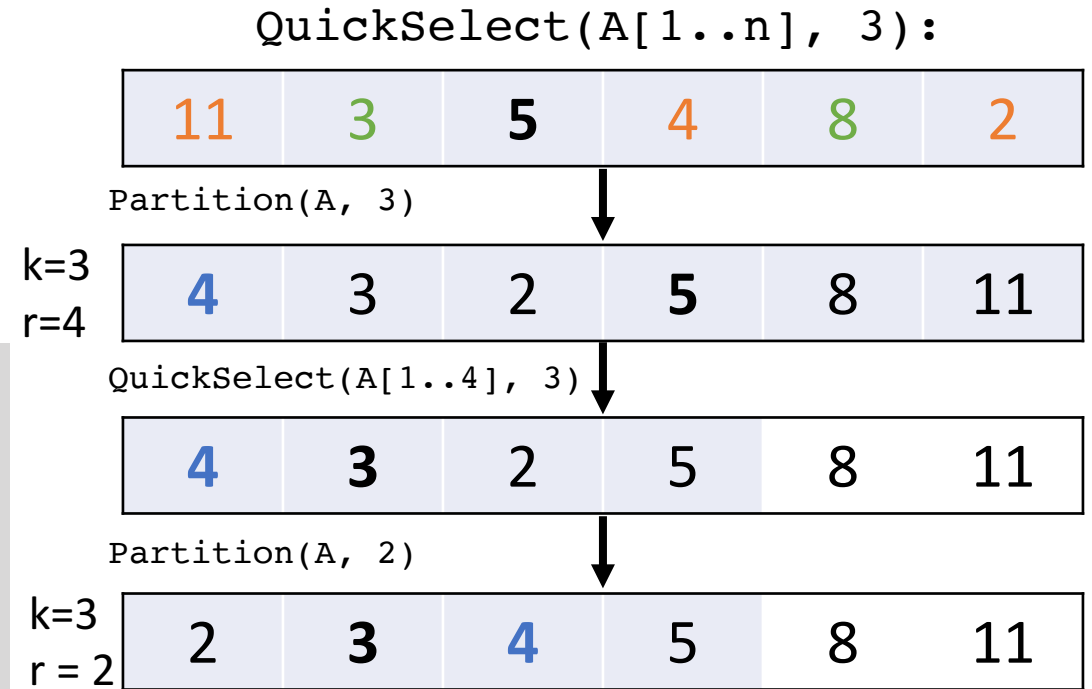
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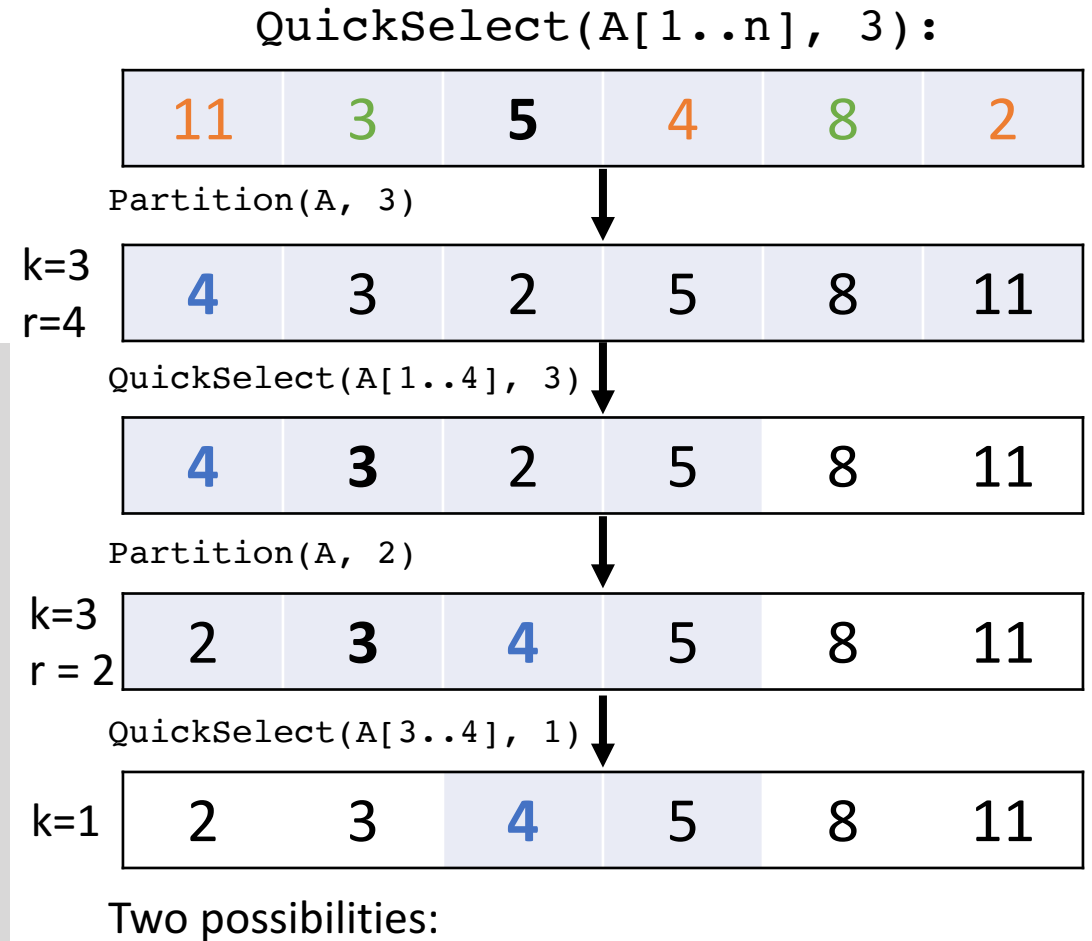
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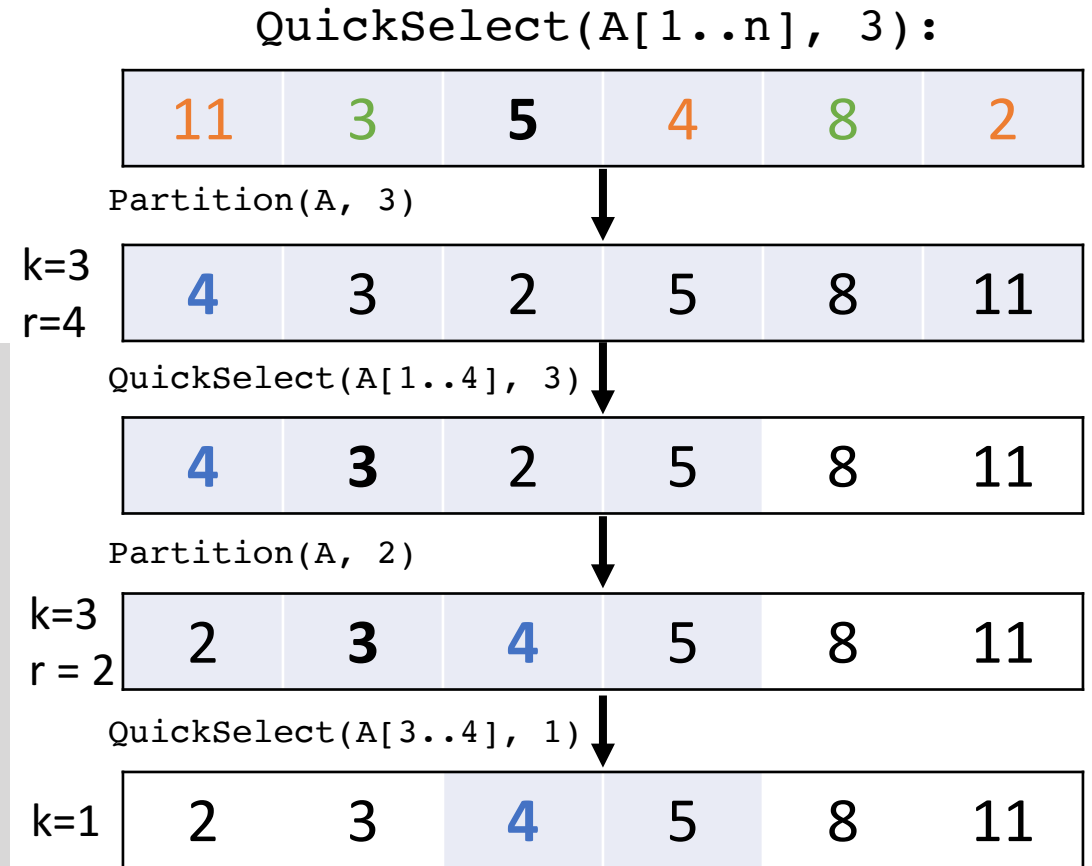
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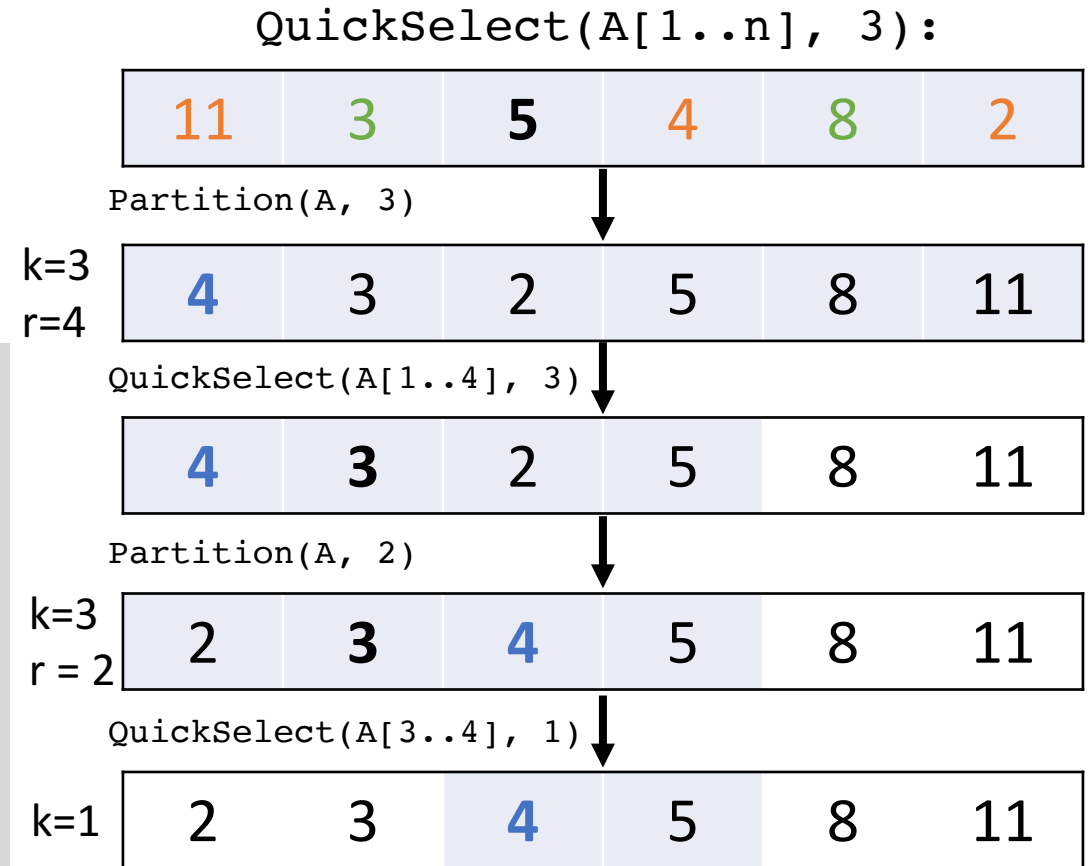
Two possibilities:

1. We pivot on 4 ( $r=1$ ), in which case  $r=k$  and we return  $A[1] = 4$

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Two possibilities:

1. We pivot on 4 ( $r=1$ ), in which case  $r=k$  and we return  $A[1] = 4$
2. We pivot on 5 ( $r=2$ ), in which case we recurse on just 4, meaning  $n=1$  and we return 4

# QuickSelect: Choosing pivot elements

Problem: How do we choose a “good” pivot element?

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- What happens if you choose the minimum value as the pivot? Or maximum value?
- Without assuming anything about the input array, it is difficult to pick a good pivot *a priori*!
- What is our goal for a “good pivot”?

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- What happens if you choose the minimum value as the pivot? Or maximum value?
- Without assuming anything about the input array, it is difficult to pick a good pivot *a priori*!
- What is our goal for a “good pivot”?
  - Close to the median!

# Median of Medians

Idea: Choose a pivot element by approximating the median.

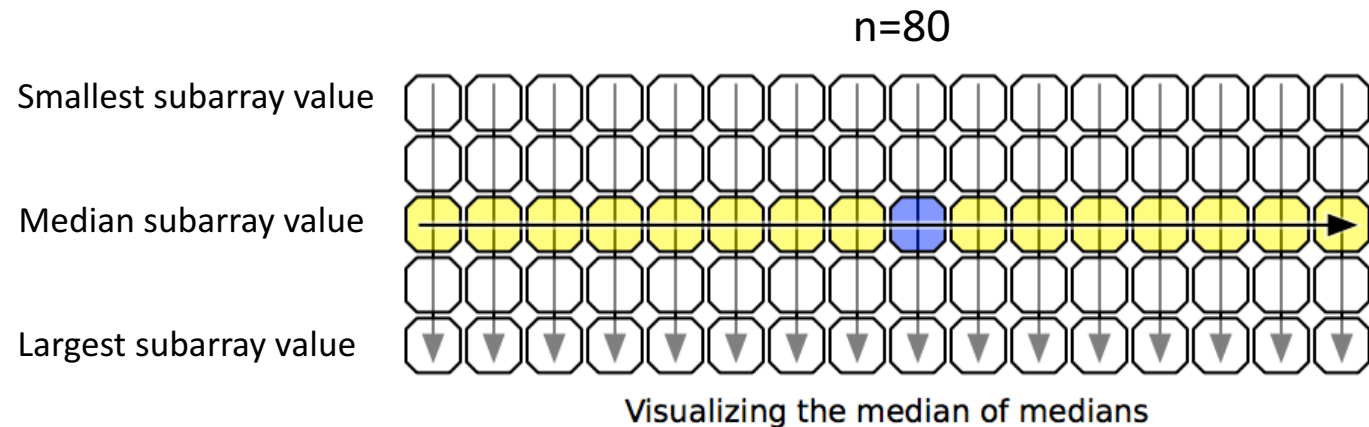
```
MOM(A[1..n]):  
  Let m ← ⌊ $\frac{n}{5}$ ⌋  
  For i in 1, ..., m:  
    Medians[i] = Median(A[5i-4..5i])  
  med ← MOMSelect(Medians[1..m], ⌊ $\frac{m}{2}$ ⌋)  
  return index of med in A
```

Break the input up into  $\left\lfloor \frac{n}{5} \right\rfloor$  subarrays, take the median of each, then find the median of those medians (MoM).



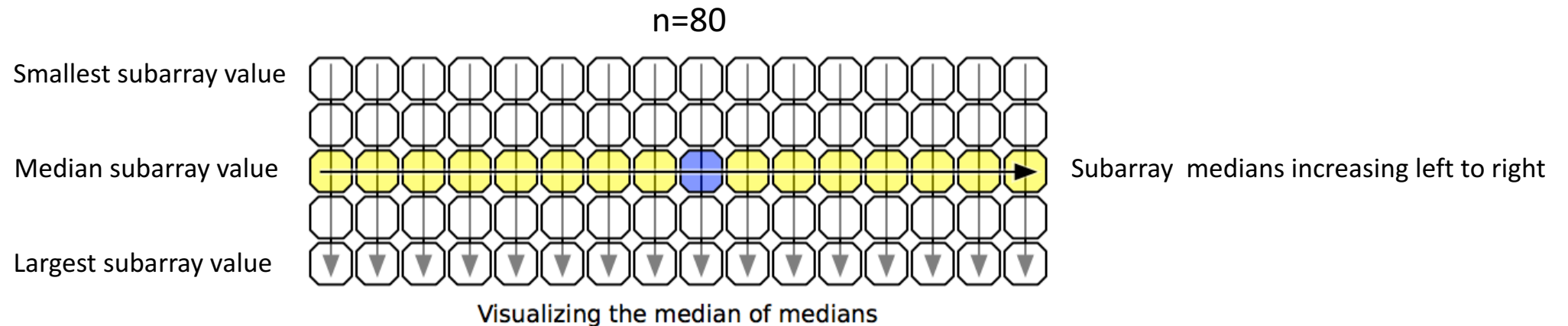
# Median of Medians

- **Claim:** For every  $A$  there are at least  $3n/10$  items that are smaller than  $\mathbf{MOM}(A)$  and at least  $3n/10$  items that are larger.



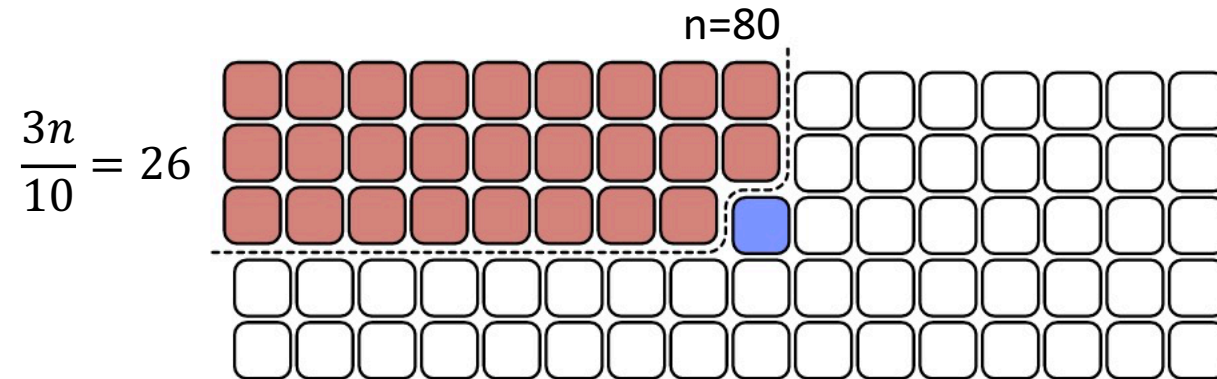
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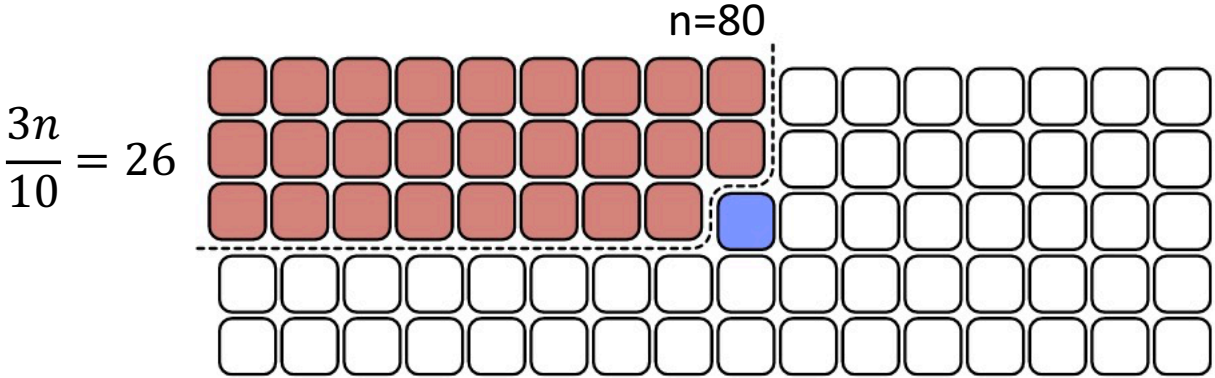
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- If  $k$  is smaller than  $\frac{3n}{10}$ , recurse on those items
- If  $k$  is larger than  $\frac{3n}{10}$ , recurse on the remaining

$$n - \frac{3n}{10} = \frac{7n}{10} \text{ items}$$

# MOMSelect

```
MOMSelect(A[1..n], k):  
  If n <= 25:  
    return median(A)  
  Else:  
    mom ← MOM(A[1..n])  
    r ← Partition(A, mom)  
  
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# MOMSelect Running Time

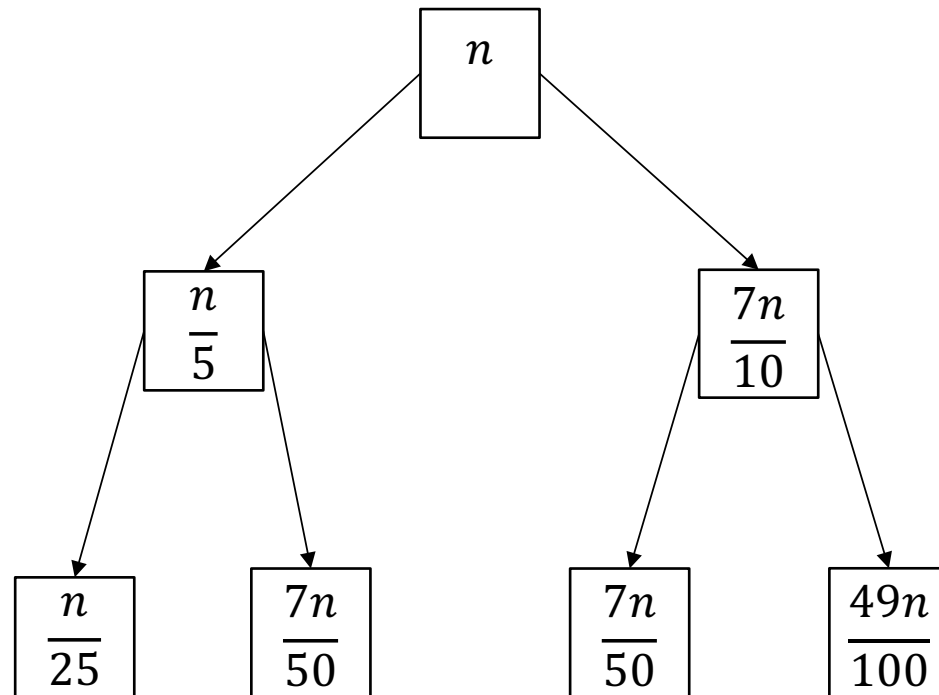
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```

What is a recurrence relation for  
MOMSelect?

$$T(n) = T(\text{Selection}) + T(\text{MOM}) + f(\text{ops per step})$$

# Recursion Tree

$$T(n) = T\left(\frac{7n}{10}\right) + T\left(\frac{n}{5}\right) + O(n)$$



Since the work at each level is decreasing exponentially, the  $O(n)$  term dominates!

# Proof by induction

$$T(n) = T\left(\frac{7n}{10}\right) + T\left(\frac{n}{5}\right) + O(n)$$

$$T(1) = 1$$

We want to show that

$$T\left(\frac{7n}{10}\right) + T\left(\frac{n}{5}\right) + O(n) \leq O(n), \text{ meaning}$$



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By induction, since  $\frac{1}{5}n < \frac{7}{10}n < n$ , we have

$$C \frac{7n}{10} + C \frac{n}{5} + n$$

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$$C \frac{7n}{10} + C \frac{n}{5} + n$$

Pulling out  $n$ , we get

$$n \left( C \frac{7}{10} + C \frac{1}{5} + 1 \right)$$

$$n \left( C \frac{9}{10} + 1 \right)$$

$$\leq Cn$$

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For which values of  $C$ ?

$$C \frac{9}{10} + 1 \leq C$$
$$9C + 10 \leq 10C$$
$$C \geq 10$$

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Pulling out  $n$ , we get

$$n \left( C \frac{7}{10} + C \frac{1}{5} + 1 \right)$$

$$n \left( C \frac{9}{10} + 1 \right)$$

$$\leq Cn \text{ (as long as } C \geq 10)$$

For which values of  $C$ ?

$$C \frac{9}{10} + 1 \leq C$$
$$9C + 10 \leq 10C$$
$$C \geq 10$$

# MOMSelect Wrap

- We can find the median of a list of numbers in  $O(n)$  time (faster than sorting) using divide and conquer approach
- Key: Selecting a good pivot with median-of-medians-of-five
- This technique also works for sorting (QuickSort) in  $O(n \log n)$

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    Else:  
      Return A[r]
```

# Switching gears: Searching



# Searching

Given a sorted array, what is the run time to find an element?

2	3	4	<b>5</b>	8	11
---	---	---	----------	---	----



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Can we do it faster?

# Binary Search

Idea: We can use the fact that the array is sorted to be smart about choosing the next subarray to search!

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    If(ℓ > r): return FALSE  
  
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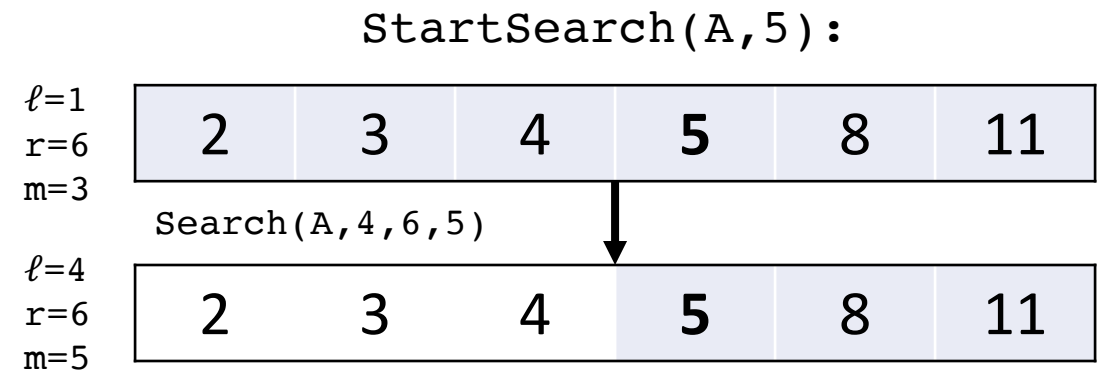
StartSearch(A, 5):

$\ell=1$	2	3	4	<b>5</b>	8	11
r=6						
m=3						

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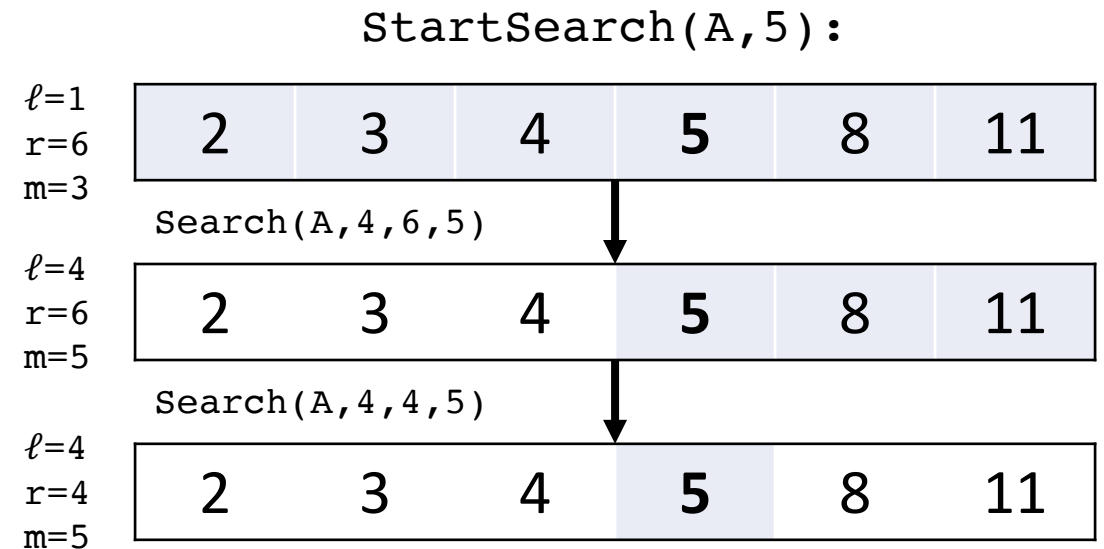
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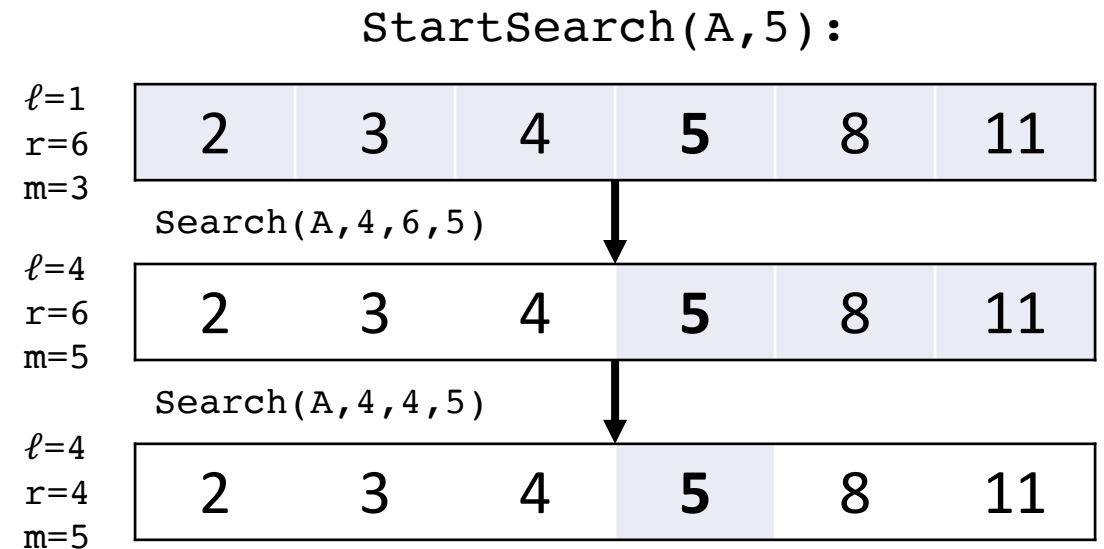
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Counterfactual:



return FALSE

# Binary Search Recurrence Relation

What does the recurrence relation look like for binary search?

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$$T(n) = T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + O(1)$$

We could use a recursion tree to get the running time, but there is also a more general result we can use...

# Master Theorem

- Recipe for recurrences of the form:

- $T(n) = a \cdot T(n/b) + Cn^d$

- Three cases:

- $\left(\frac{a}{b^d}\right) > 1 : T(n) = \Theta(n^{\log_b a})$

- $\left(\frac{a}{b^d}\right) = 1 : T(n) = \Theta(n^d \log n)$

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Note that the theorem does not apply to our MOMSelect recurrence:

$$T(n) = T\left(\frac{7n}{10}\right) + T\left(\frac{n}{5}\right) + O(n)$$

Binary Search:

$$T(n) = T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + O(1)$$

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So

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# Wrap up

Homework 1 due tonight

Homework 2 will be released at 8AM

Next time:

- Backtracking
- Fibonacci numbers
- Dynamic Programming

# Ask the Audience!

- Use the Master Theorem to Solve:

- $T(n) = 16 \cdot T\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) + n^2$

- $T(n) = 21 \cdot T\left(\frac{n}{5}\right) + n^2$

- $T(n) = 2 \cdot T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + 1$

- $T(n) = 1 \cdot T\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + 1$