Lecture: Analysis of Algorithms (CS483 - 001)

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Quicksort: Divide and Conquer

- Proposed by C. A. R. Hoare in 1962
- Implements the divide-and-conquer paradigm
- Is a very practical algorithm
- Sorts in place like insertion sort and heapsort
  1. Divide: Partition array into two subarrays around a *pivot* x s.t. values left $\leq$ x $\leq$ values right
  2. Conquer: Recursively sort the two subarrays
  3. Combine: Trivial

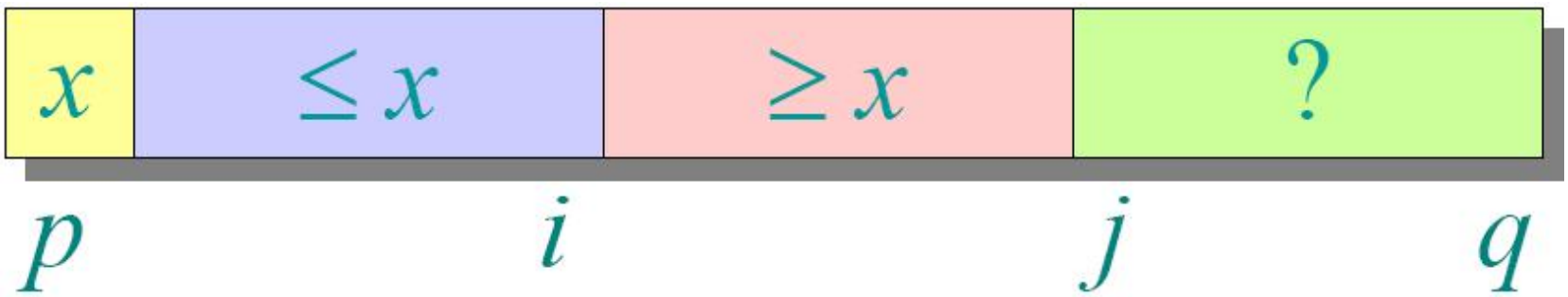
- **Key to speed: linear-time partitioning subroutine**

Quicksort: Partitioning Subroutine

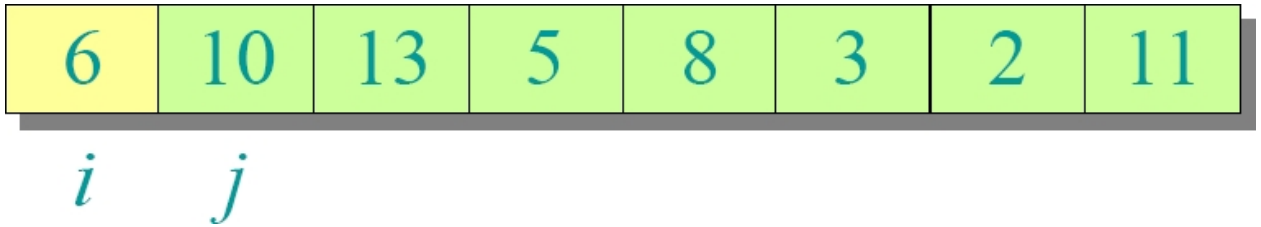
PARTITION(A, p, q)

1: $x \leftarrow A[p]$
2: $i \leftarrow p$
3: **for** $j \leftarrow p+1$ to q **do**
4: **if** $A[j] \leq x$ **then**
5: $i \leftarrow i+1$
6: swap$(A[i], A[j])$
7: **return** i

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



Partitioning: Trace



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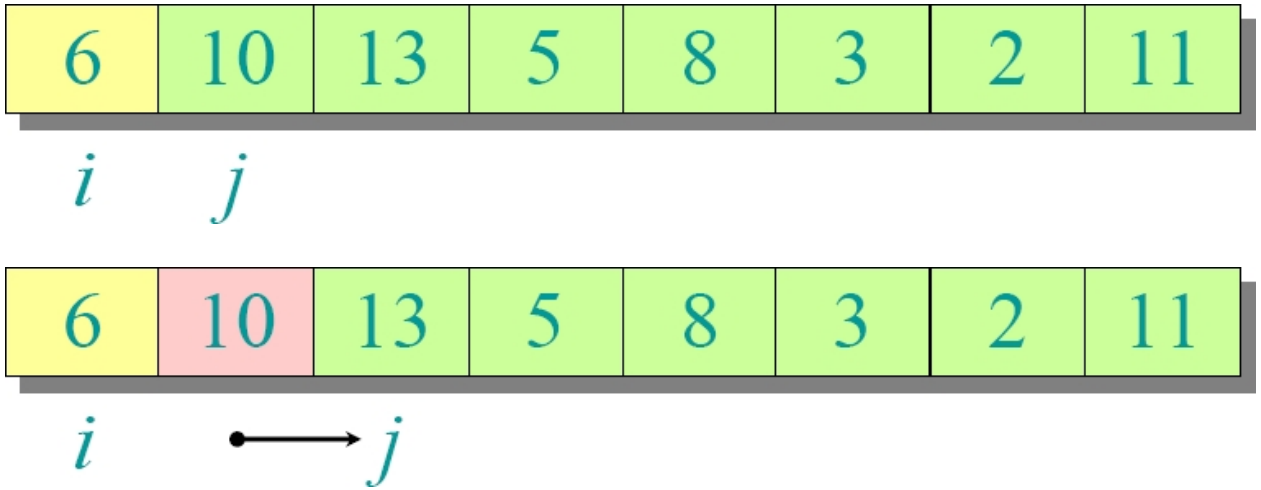

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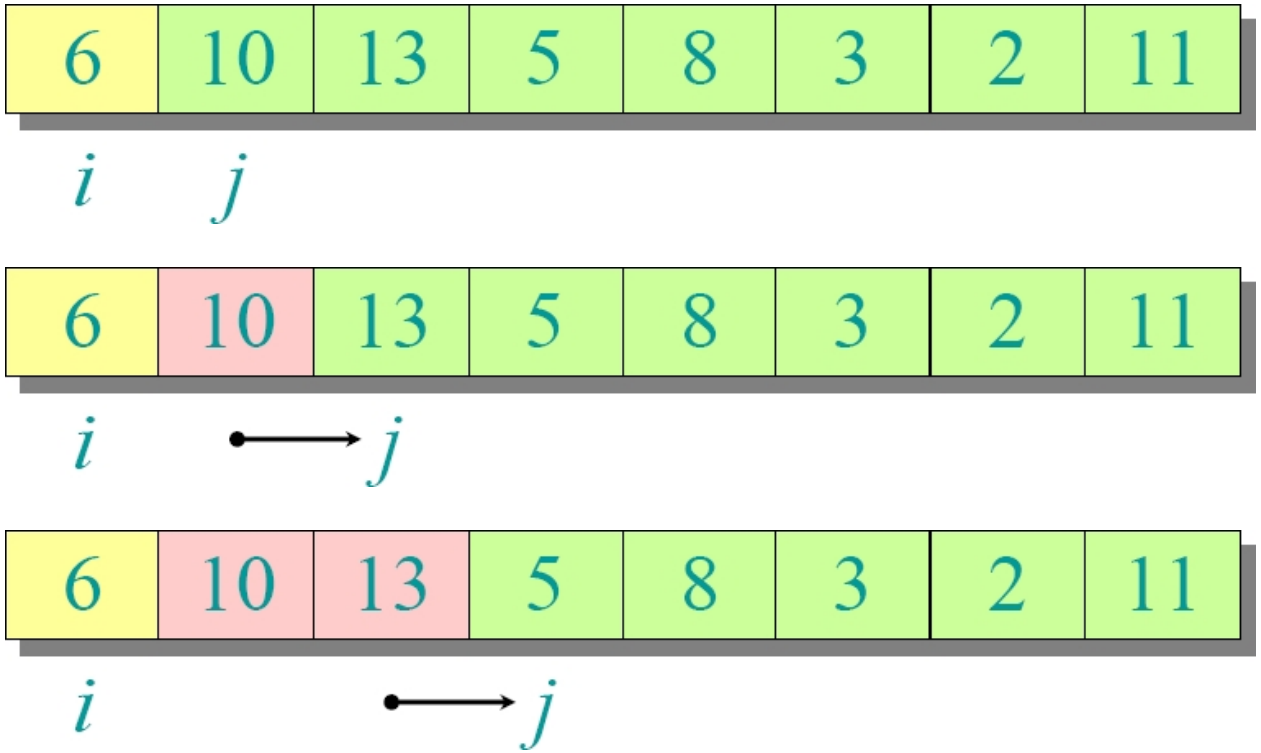

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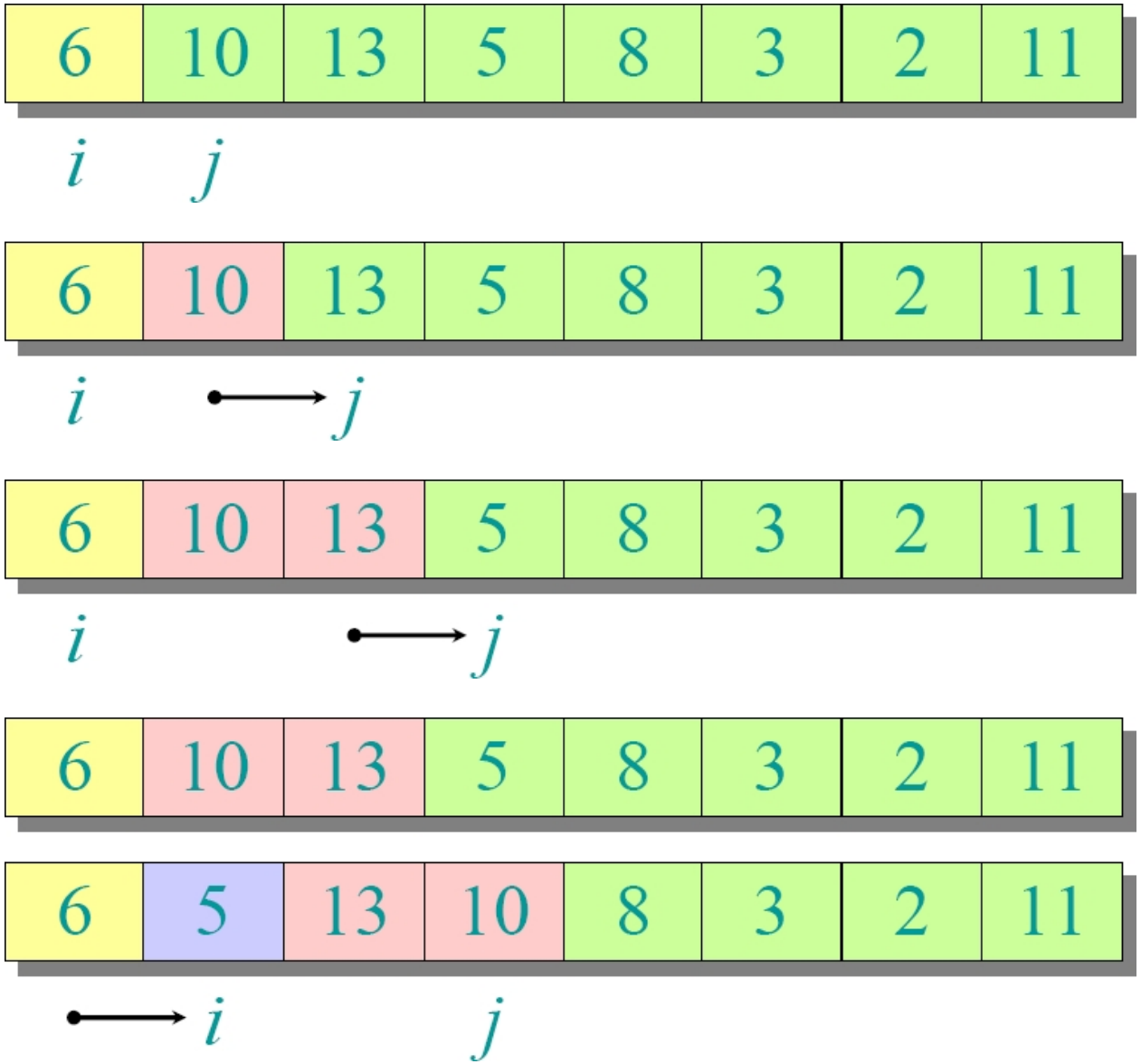

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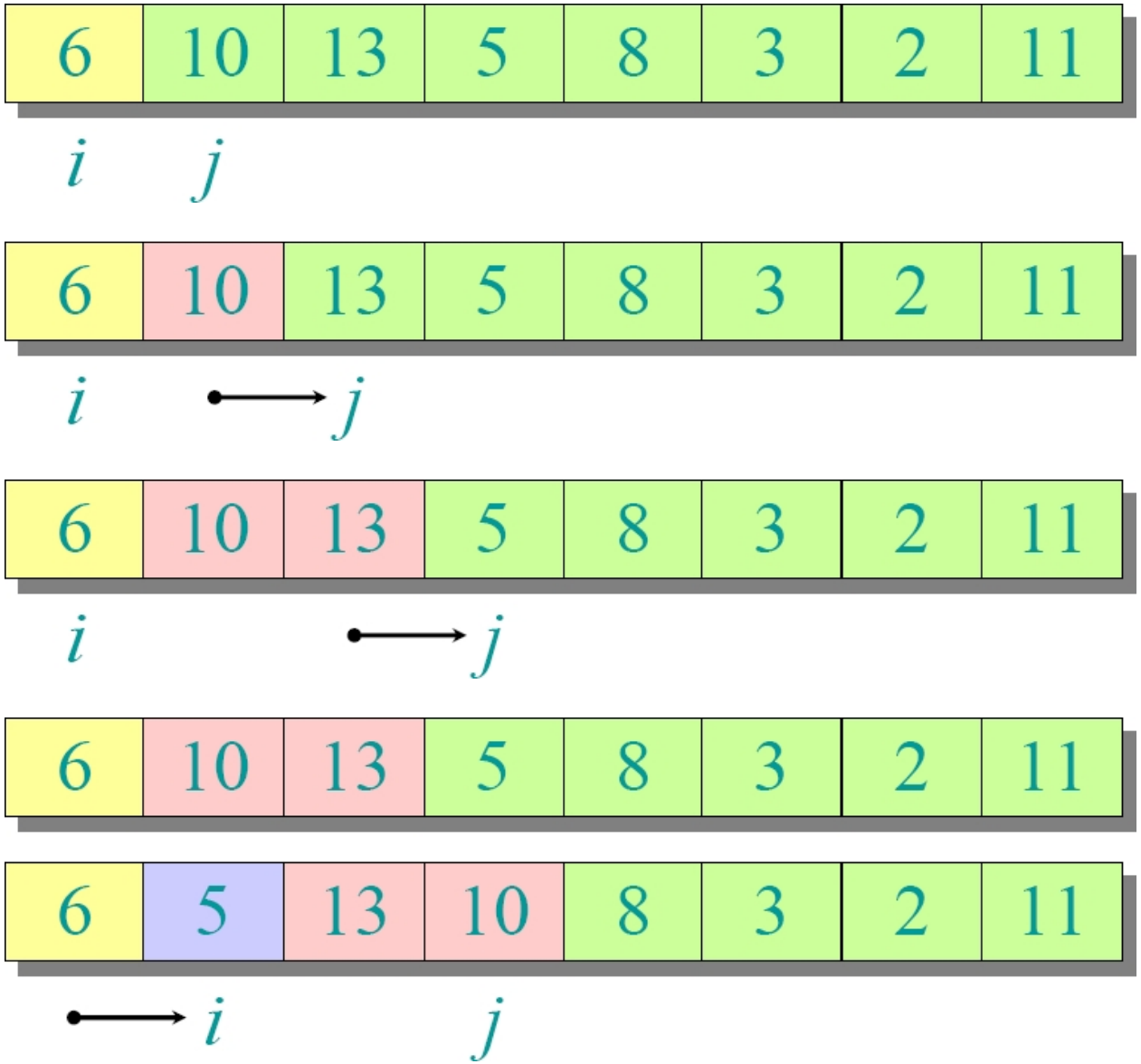

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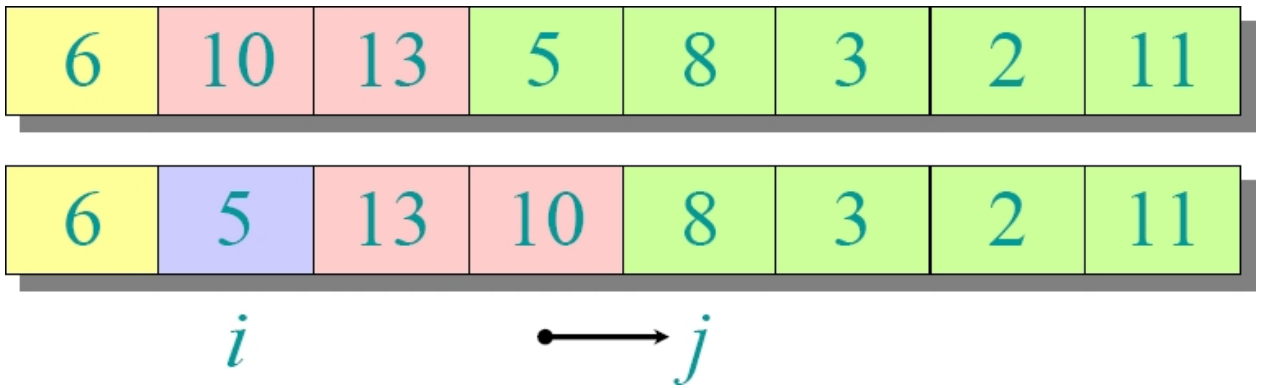

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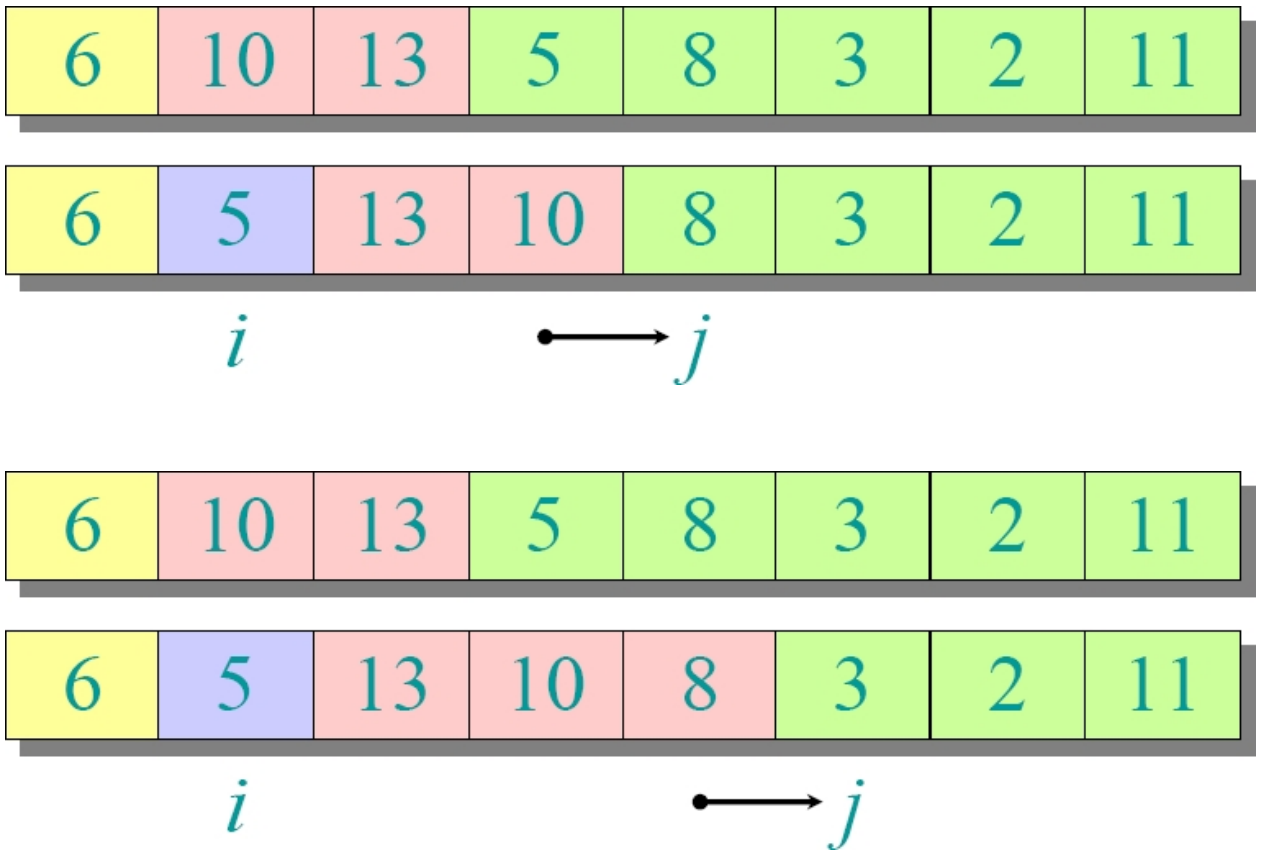

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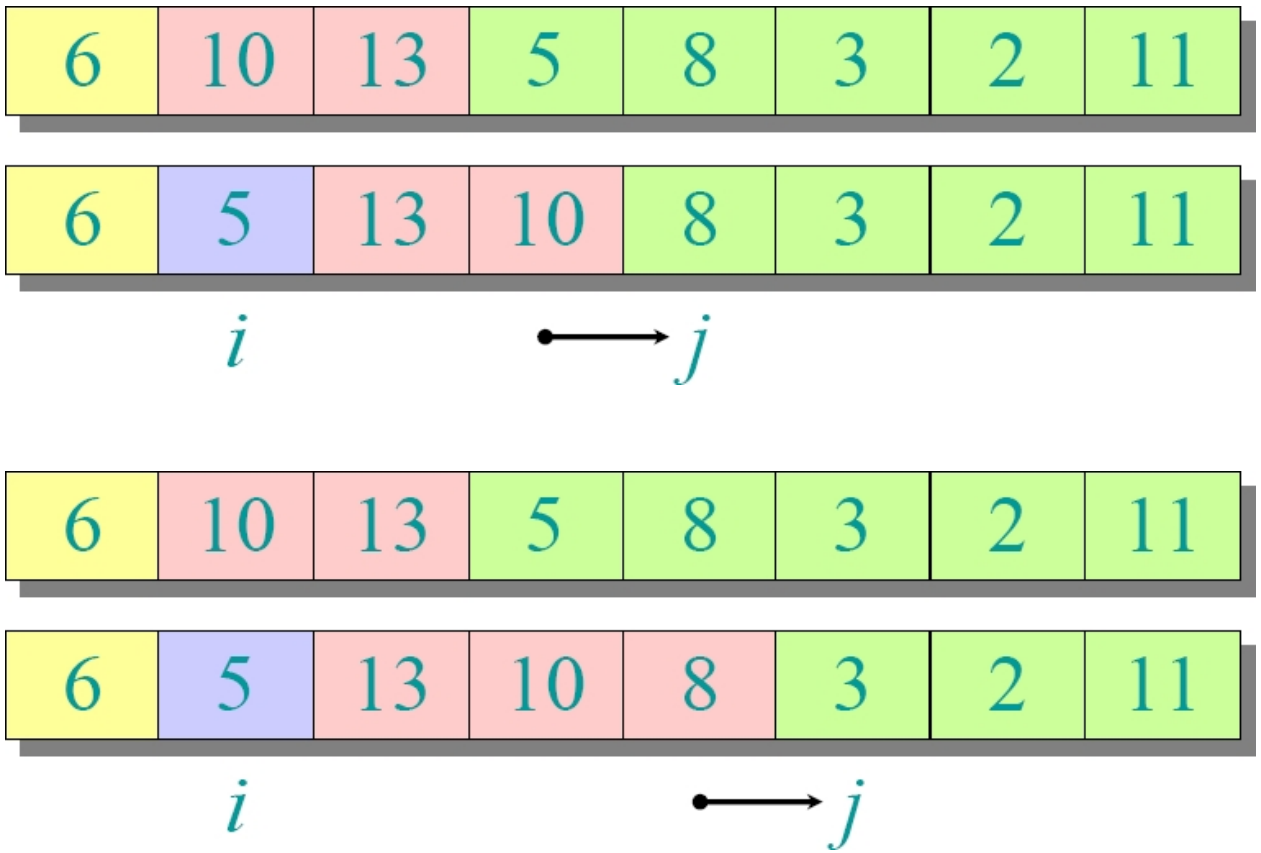

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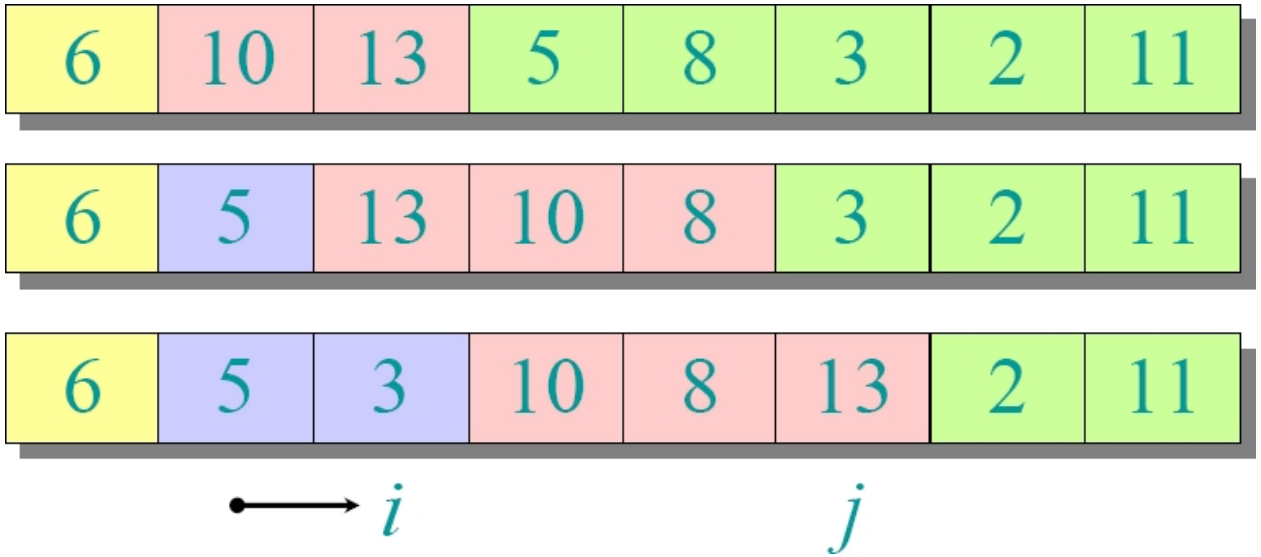

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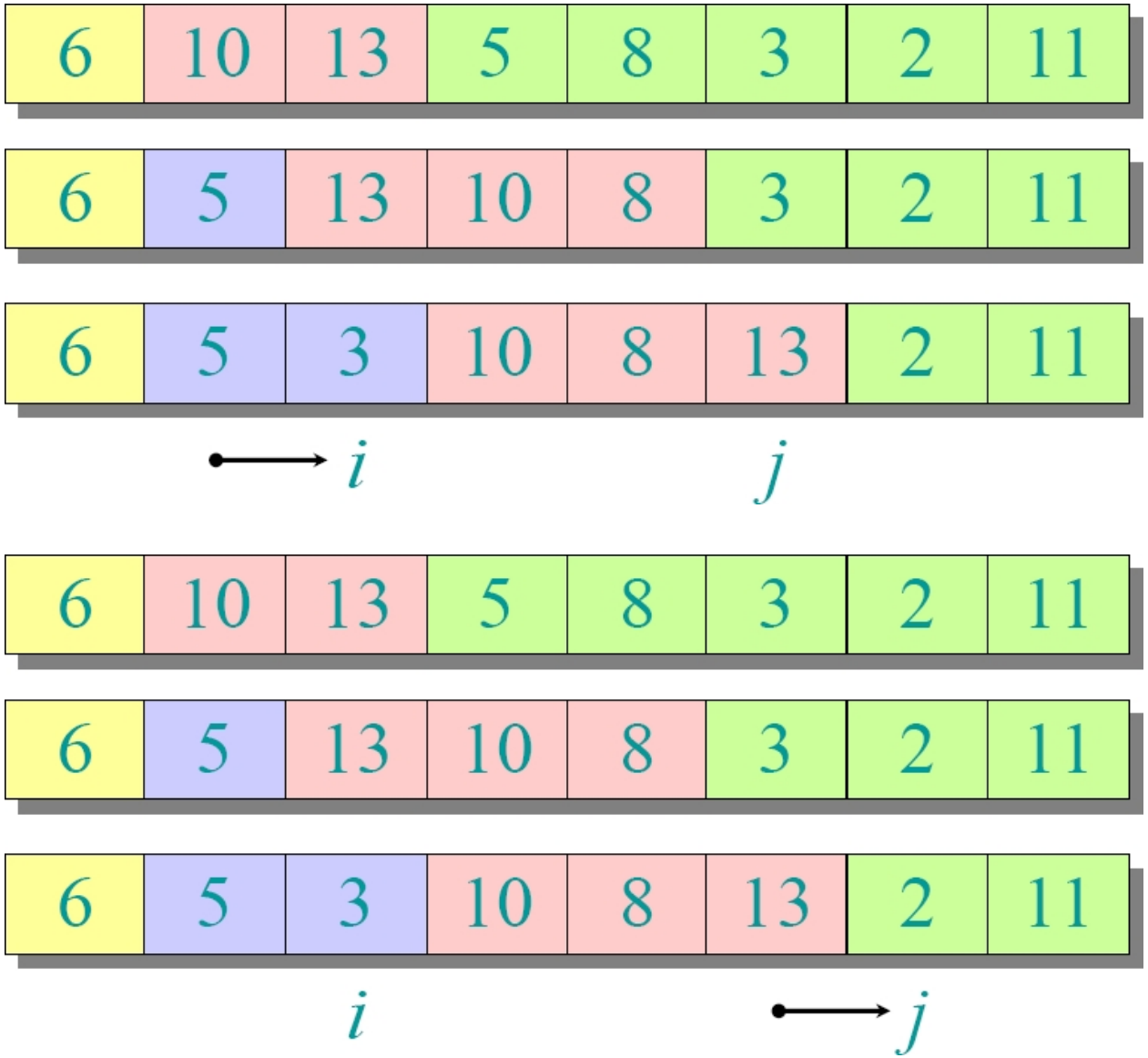

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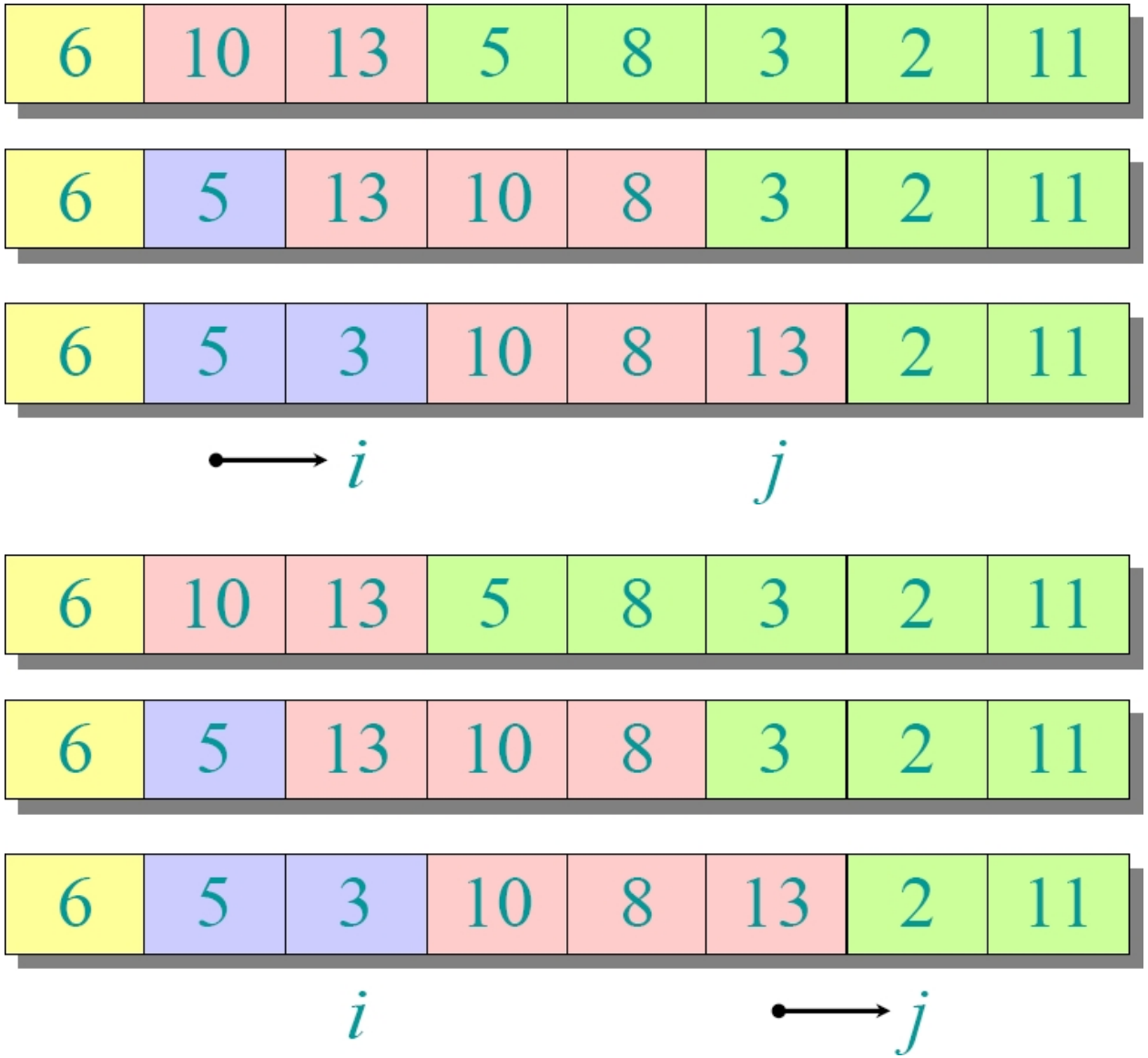

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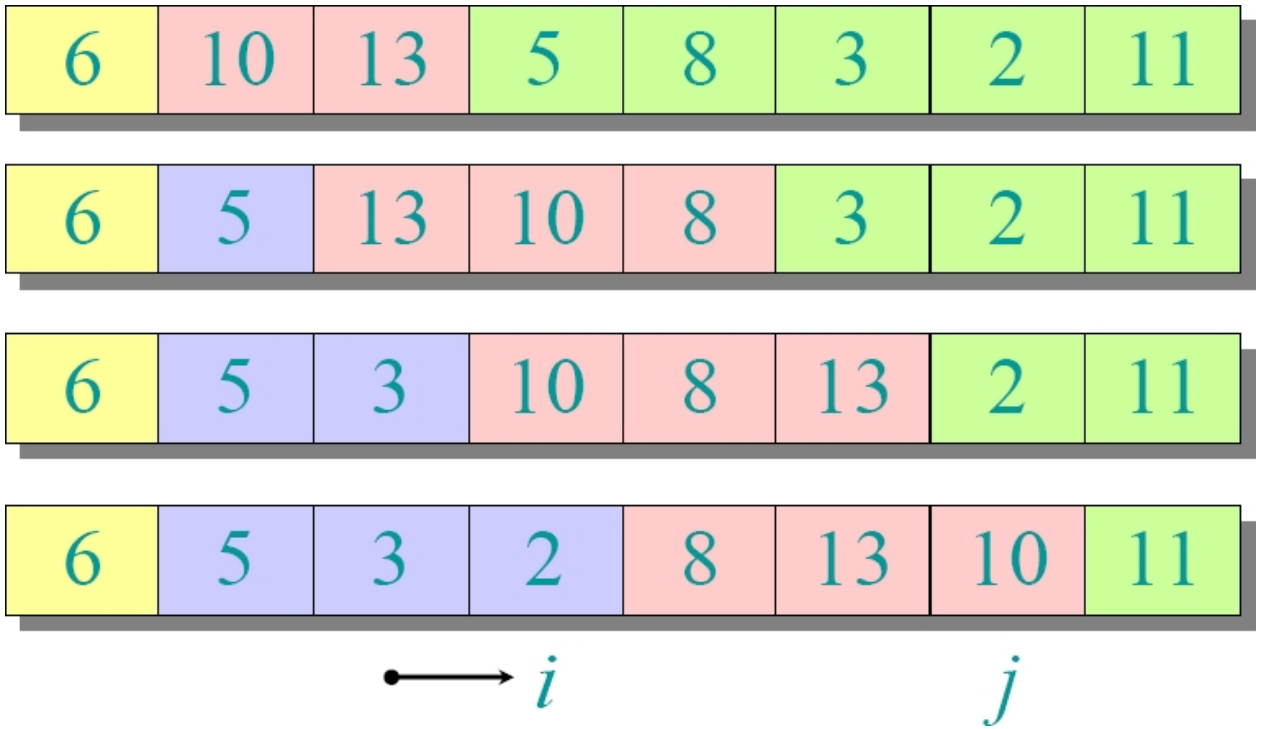

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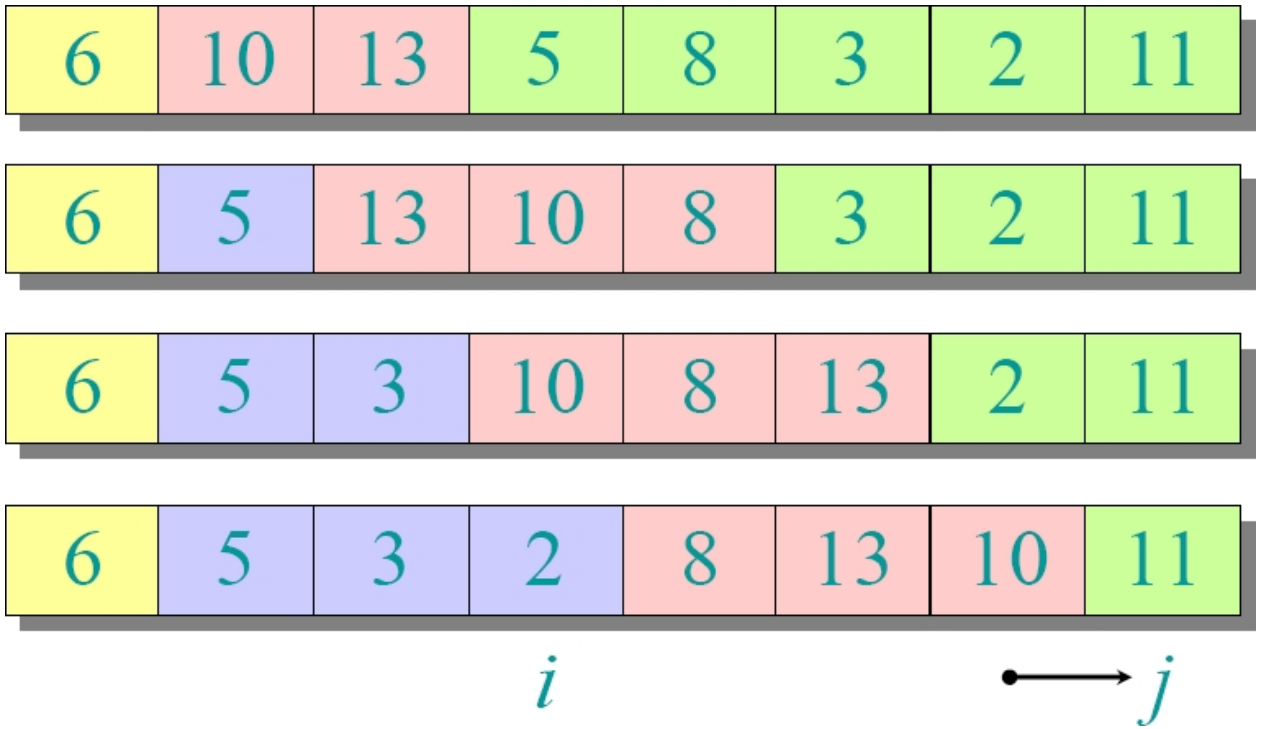

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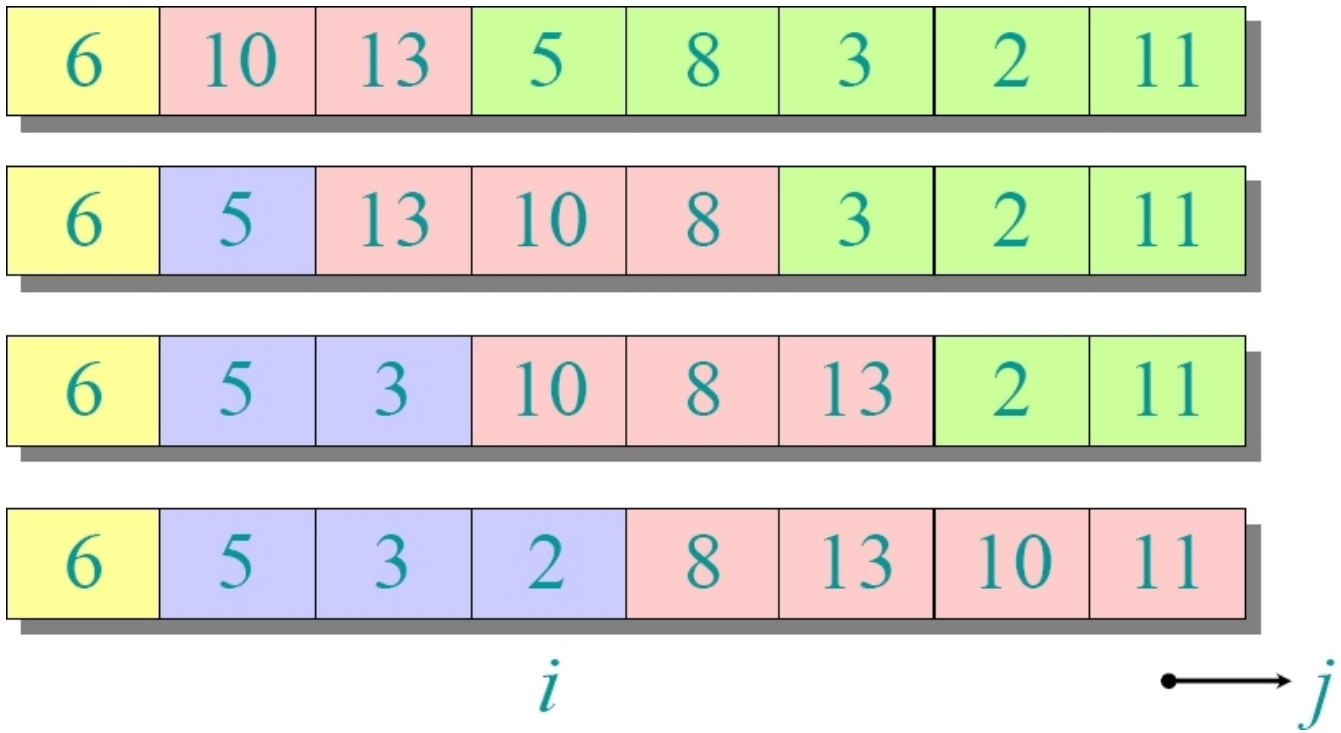


Quicksort: Pseudocode And Analysis

QUICKSORT(A, p, r)

1: **if** $p < r$ **then**
2: $q \leftarrow$ PARTITION(A, p, r)
3: QUICKSORT$(A, p, q-1)$
4: QUICKSORT$(A, q+1, r)$

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

Worst-case Time Analysis:

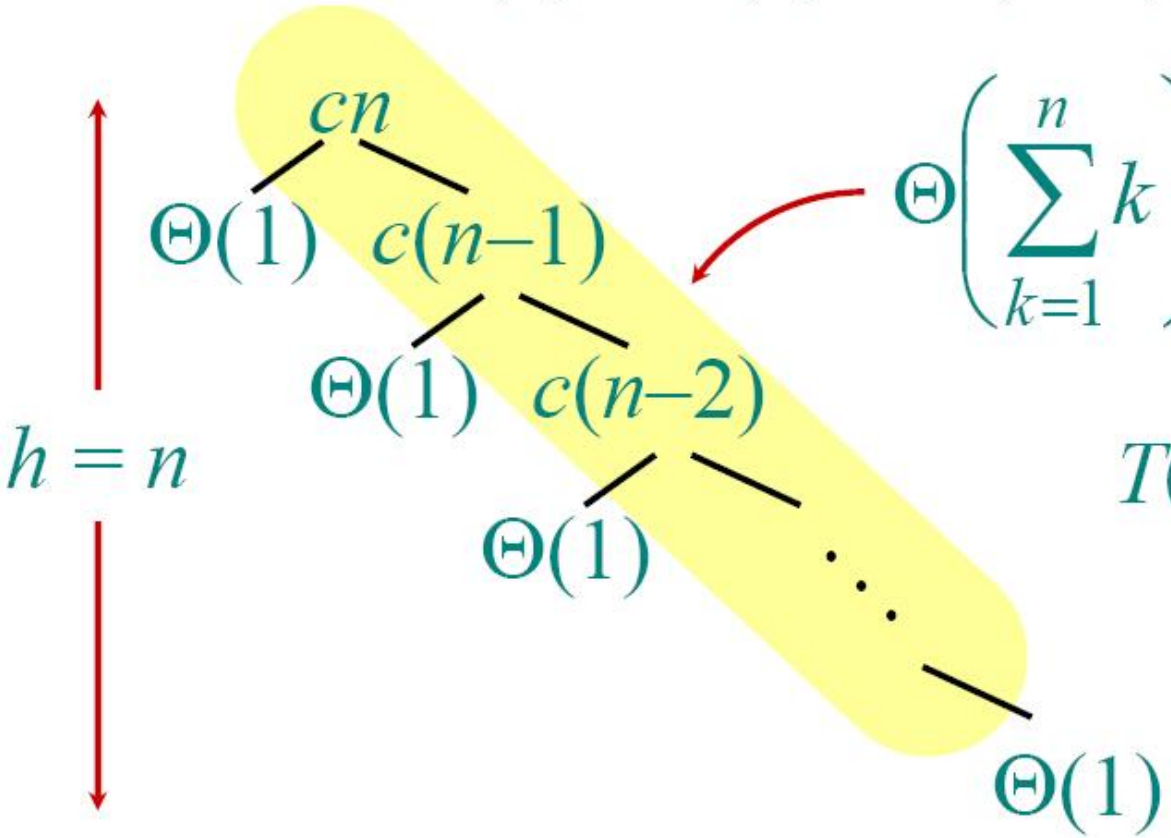
- Assume elements are distinct
- There are better algorithms for duplicate elements

- Let $T(n)$ be worst-case running time on n elements
- A is sorted/reverse sorted; partition around min/max element
- One side of partition always has no elements

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

Worst-case Recursion Tree

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



$$\Theta\left(\sum_{k=1}^{n} k\right) = \Theta(n^2)$$

$$T(n) = \Theta(n) + \Theta(n^2)$$
$$= \Theta(n^2)$$

Best-case (Lucky) Analysis for Intuition

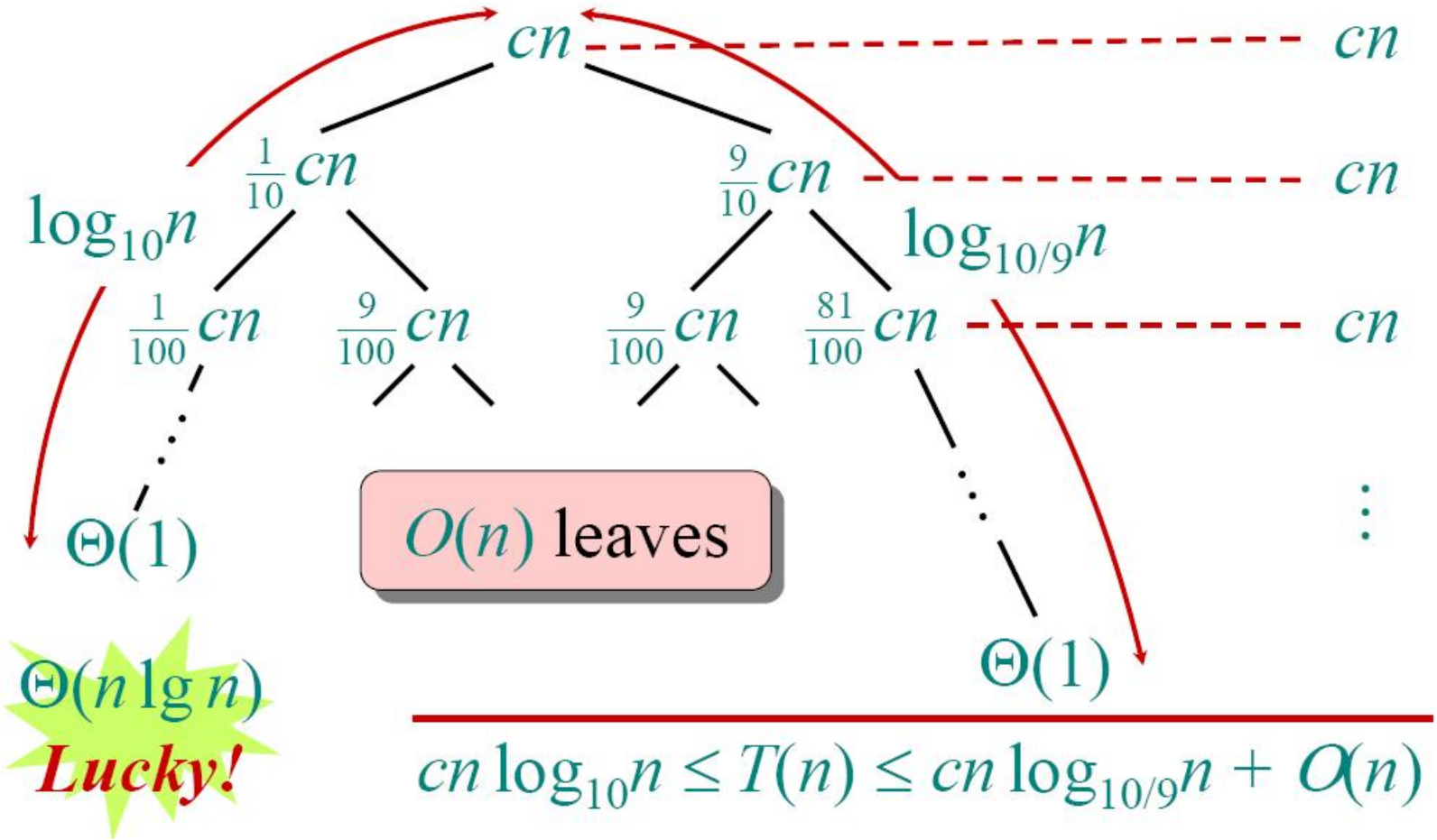
Best Case:

- If we are lucky, PARTITION splits the array evenly
- $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + \theta(n) = \theta(nlgn)$
- Let $L(n)$ denote the running time when we are lucky
- Versus $U(n)$ - the worst-case running time of $\theta(n^2)$

Almost Best Case:

- What if the split is not even?
- Say, it is $\frac{1}{10}:\frac{9}{10}$
- $T(n) = T(\frac{1}{10}n) + T(\frac{9}{10}n) + \theta(n)$
- What is the solution to this recurrence?

Analysis of "almost best"



More Intuition

- Suppose that QUICKSORT is alternately lucky, unlucky, lucky, unlucky, lucky, ...
- $$\begin{aligned} L(n) &= 2U(n/2) + \theta(n) \\ U(n) &= L(n-1) + \theta(n) \end{aligned}$$
- Solving further:
- $$\begin{aligned} L(n) &= 2(L(n/2 - 1/2) + \theta(n/2)) + \theta(n) \\ &= 2L(n/2 - 1/2) + \theta(n) \\ &= \theta(nlgn) \text{ - Lucky!!!} \end{aligned}$$
- How can we make sure QUICKSORT is *usually* lucky?

Randomized Quicksort

Basic Idea: Partition around a *random* element

- Running time is independent of input order
- No assumptions need to be made about the input distribution
- No specific input elicits the worst-case behavior
- The worst case is determined now only by the output of a random-number generator

Randomized Quicksort Analysis

- Let $T(n)$ be the random variable for the running time of randomized quicksort on an input of length n, assuming random numbers are independent
- So:

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} T(0) + T(n-1) + \theta(n) & \text{if } 0{:}n-1 \text{ split} \\ T(1) + T(n-2) + \theta(n) & \text{if } 1{:}n-2 \text{ split} \\ \dots & \\ T(n-1) + T(0) + \theta(n) & \text{if } n-1{:}0 \text{ split} \end{cases}$$

- Each of these $k : n-k-1$ partitions ($k \in \{0, 1, \dots, n-1\}$ is equally likely, assuming distinct elements)
- So: $E[T(n)] = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \{E[T(k)] + E[T(n-k-1)] + \theta(n)\}$

Randomized Quicksort Analysis Continued

Continuing:

$$
\begin{aligned}
E[T(n)] &= \tfrac{1}{n}\sum_{k=0}^{n-1}\{E[T(k)] + E[T(n-k-1)] + \theta(n)\} \\
&= \tfrac{1}{n}\sum_{k=0}^{n-1}\{E[T(k)] + E[T(n-k-1)]\} + \tfrac{1}{n}\sum_{k=0}^{n-1}\theta(n)\} \\
&= \tfrac{1}{n}\sum_{k=0}^{n-1}\{E[T(k)] + E[T(n-k-1)]\} + \tfrac{1}{n}\cdot n\cdot\theta(n)\} \\
&= \tfrac{1}{n}\sum_{k=0}^{n-1}\{E[T(k)] + E[T(n-k-1)]\} + \theta(n)\} \\
&= \tfrac{1}{n}\sum_{k=0}^{n-1}\{E[T(k)]\} + \tfrac{1}{n}\sum_{k=0}^{n-1}\{E[T(n-k-1)]\} + \theta(n) \\
&\quad \textit{summations have identical terms} \\
&= \tfrac{2}{n}\sum_{k=0}^{n-1}\{E[T(k)]\} + \theta(n)
\end{aligned}
$$

What do we do now?

Randomized Quicksort Analysis Continued

- The $k = 0, 1$ terms can be absorbed in the $\theta(n)$
- So: $E[T(n)] = \frac{2}{n}\sum_{k=2}^{n-1}\{E[T(k)]\} + \theta(n)$

- Guess: $E[T(n)] \in O(nlgn)$
- By induction, need to find $a > 0$ s.t. $E[T(n)] \leq a \cdot n \cdot lgn$
- Use the fact that $\sum_{k=2}^{n-1} k \cdot lgk \leq \frac{1}{2}n^2 \cdot lgn - \frac{1}{4}n^2$ (integration technique bounds this summation)

- Then, using the substitution/induction technique:

$$\begin{aligned} E[T(n)] &\leq \frac{2}{n}\sum_{k=2}^{n-1} a \cdot k \cdot lgk + \theta(n) \\ &= \frac{2a}{n}(\frac{1}{2}n^2 \cdot lgn - \frac{1}{4}n^2) + \theta(n) \\ &= a \cdot n \cdot lgn - (\frac{an}{2} - \theta(n)) \\ &\leq a \cdot n \cdot lgn \end{aligned}$$

- Note: a needs to be large enough so that $\frac{an}{2}$ dominates $\theta(n)$

Final Word on Quicksort

- Useful general-purpose algorithm
- Typically over twice as fast as mergesort
- Can benefit substantially from code tuning
- Behaves well even with caching and virtual memory