

# COMP251: Divide-and-Conquer (1)

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Based on (Kleinberg & Tardos, 2005) and slides by K. Wayne  
& Snoeyink

# Algorithm design techniques

	Greedy choice	Optimal Substructure	Recursion	Examples
Greedy	✓	✓	✓	Kruskall, Huffman, Dijkstra...
Dynamic Programming		✓	✓	Weighted interval scheduling, Bellman-Ford...
Divide-and-conquer			✓	MergeSort, Karatsuba...

# Outline

- **MergeSort**
  - Definition
  - Correctness
  - Complexity analysis
- **Integer multiplication**
  - “Naïve” recursive algorithm
  - Karatsuba

Objective: Designing a divide-and-conquer algorithm and characterizing its running time.

# Divide and Conquer

- Recursive in structure
  - **Divide** the problem into sub-problems that are similar to the original but smaller in size
  - **Conquer** the sub-problems by solving them **recursively**. If they are small enough, just solve them in a straightforward manner.
  - **Combine** the solutions to create a solution to the original problem

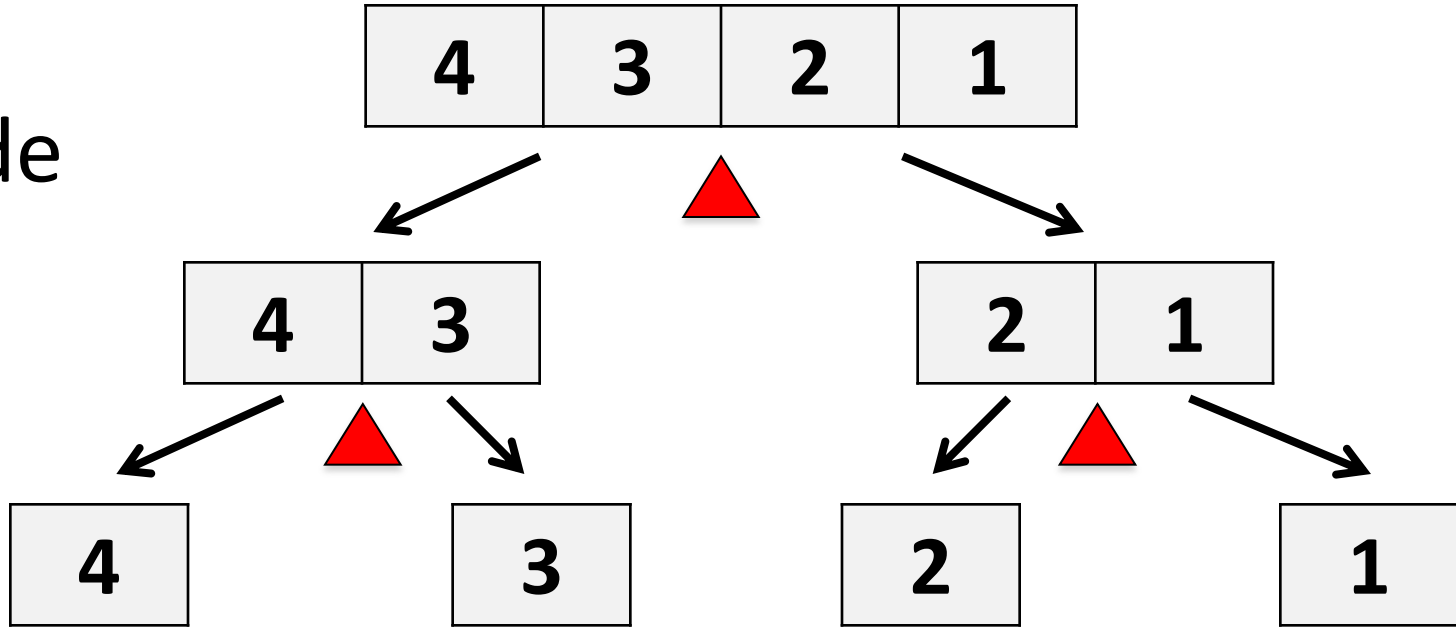
# An Example: Merge Sort

**Sorting Problem:** Sort a sequence of  $n$  elements into non-decreasing order.

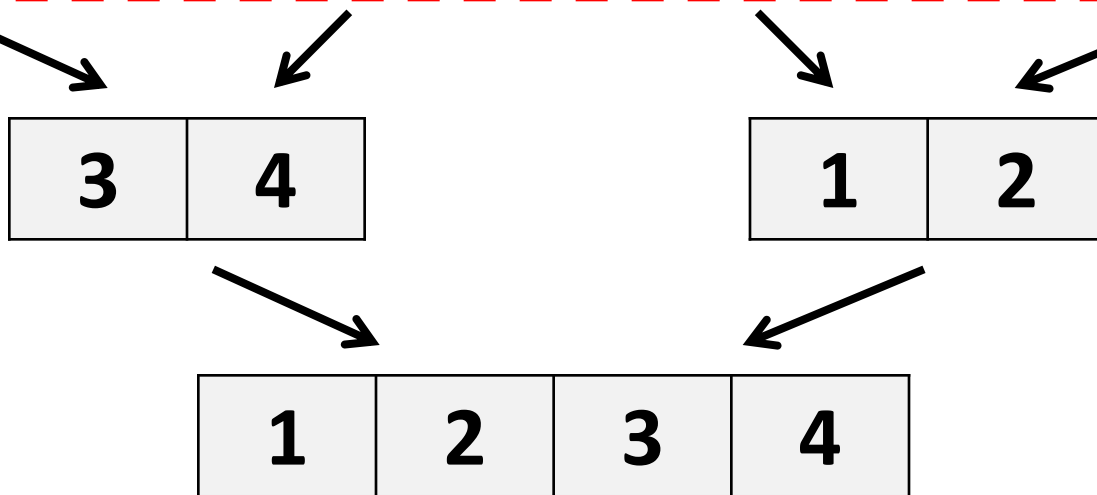
- ***Divide:*** Divide the  $n$ -element sequence to be sorted into two subsequences of  $n/2$  elements each
- ***Conquer:*** Sort the two subsequences recursively using merge sort.
- ***Combine:*** Merge the two sorted subsequences to produce the sorted answer.

# Merge Sort - Example

Divide



Merge



# Merge-Sort ( $A, p, r$ )

**INPUT:** a sequence of  $n$  numbers stored in array  $A$

**OUTPUT:** an ordered sequence of  $n$  numbers

```
MergeSort ( $A, p, r$ ) // sort  $A[p..r]$  by divide & conquer
1  if  $p < r$ 
2    then  $q \leftarrow \lfloor (p+r)/2 \rfloor$ 
3      MergeSort ( $A, p, q$ )
4      MergeSort ( $A, q+1, r$ )
5      Merge ( $A, p, q, r$ ) // merges  $A[p..q]$  with  $A[q+1..r]$ 
```

**Initial Call:** MergeSort( $A, 1, n$ )

# Procedure Merge

**Merge( $A, p, q, r$ )**

```
1.  $n_1 \leftarrow q - p + 1$ 
2.  $n_2 \leftarrow r - q$ 
3. for  $i \leftarrow 1$  to  $n_1$ 
4.   do  $L[i] \leftarrow A[p + i - 1]$ 
5. for  $j \leftarrow 1$  to  $n_2$ 
6.   do  $R[j] \leftarrow A[q + j]$ 
7.  $L[n_1 + 1] \leftarrow \infty$ 
8.  $R[n_2 + 1] \leftarrow \infty$ 
9.  $i \leftarrow 1$ 
10.  $j \leftarrow 1$ 
11. for  $k \leftarrow p$  to  $r$ 
12.   do if  $L[i] \leq R[j]$ 
13.     then  $A[k] \leftarrow L[i]$ 
14.          $i \leftarrow i + 1$ 
15.     else  $A[k] \leftarrow R[j]$ 
16.          $j \leftarrow j + 1$ 
```

**Input:** Array containing sorted subarrays  $A[p..q]$  and  $A[q+1..r]$ .

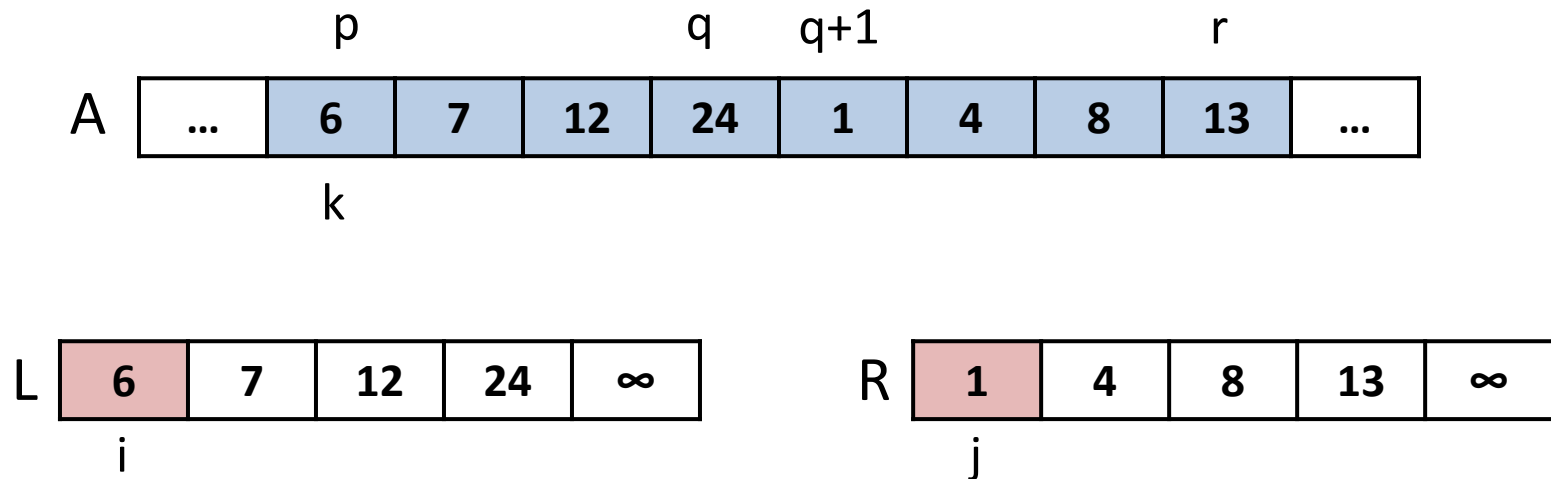
**Output:** Merged sorted subarray in  $A[p..r]$ .

**Sentinels**, to avoid having to check if either subarray is fully copied at **each step**.



# Merge (example)

Execution of a call to Merge(A,p,q,r):

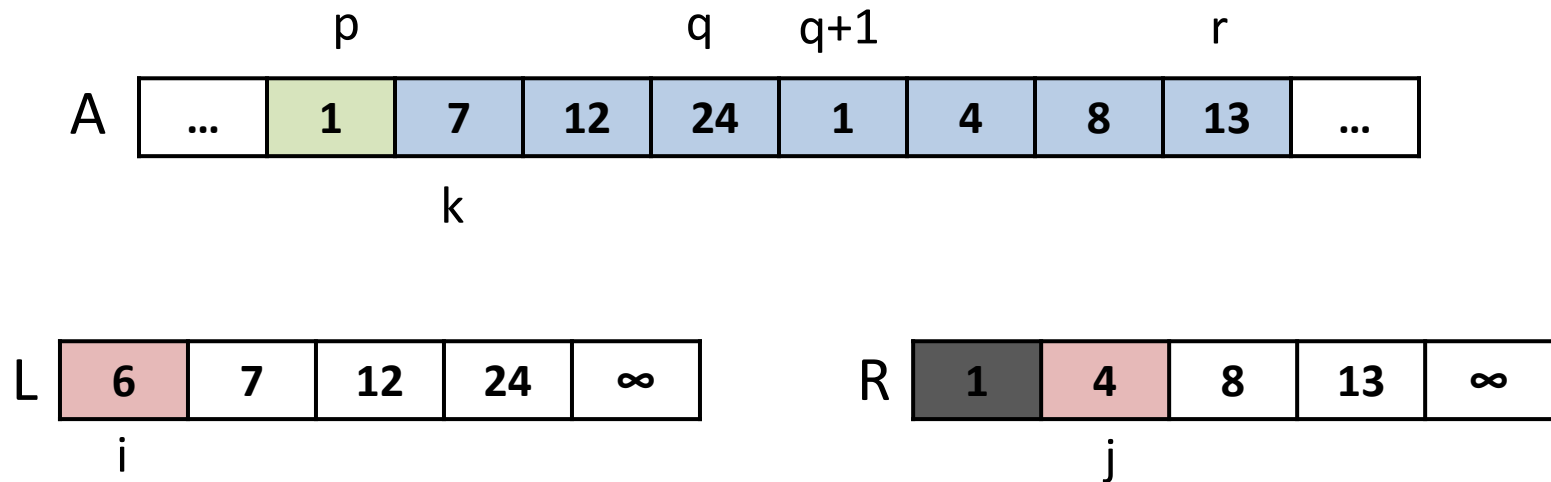


The first and second half of A[p,r] are already sorted.

Merge creates an array for each first and second halves.

# Merge (example)

Execution of a call to Merge(A,p,q,r):

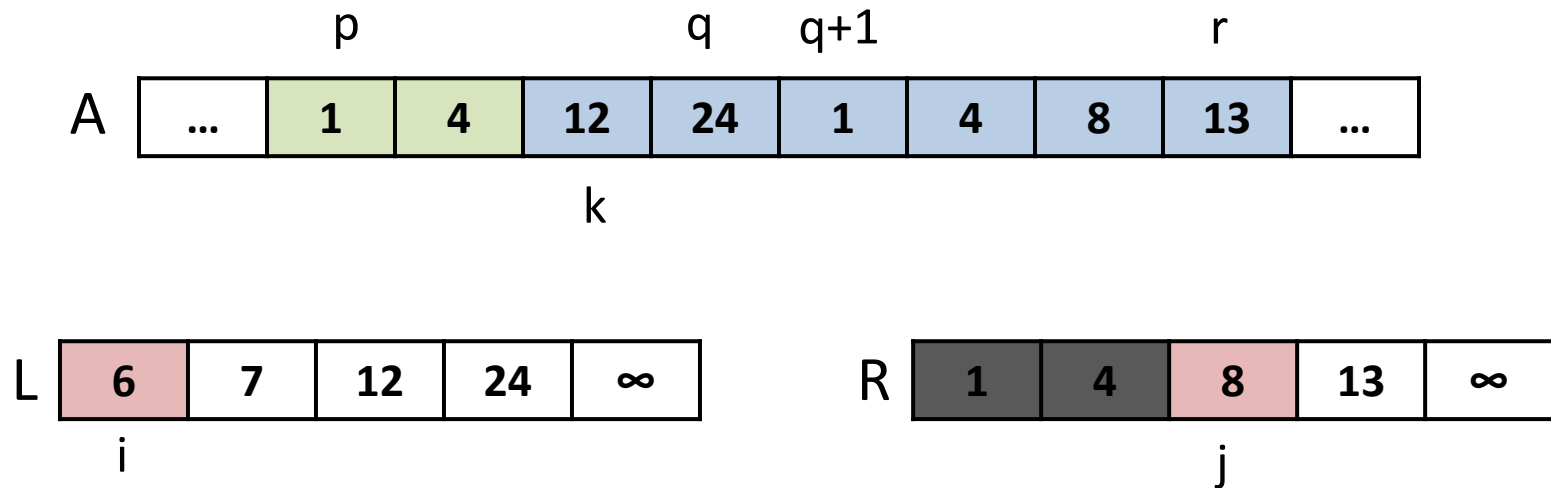


Pick the lowest value in L and R and place it at the lowest index not used yet (i.e., index k)

Note: We sort in-place

# Merge (example)

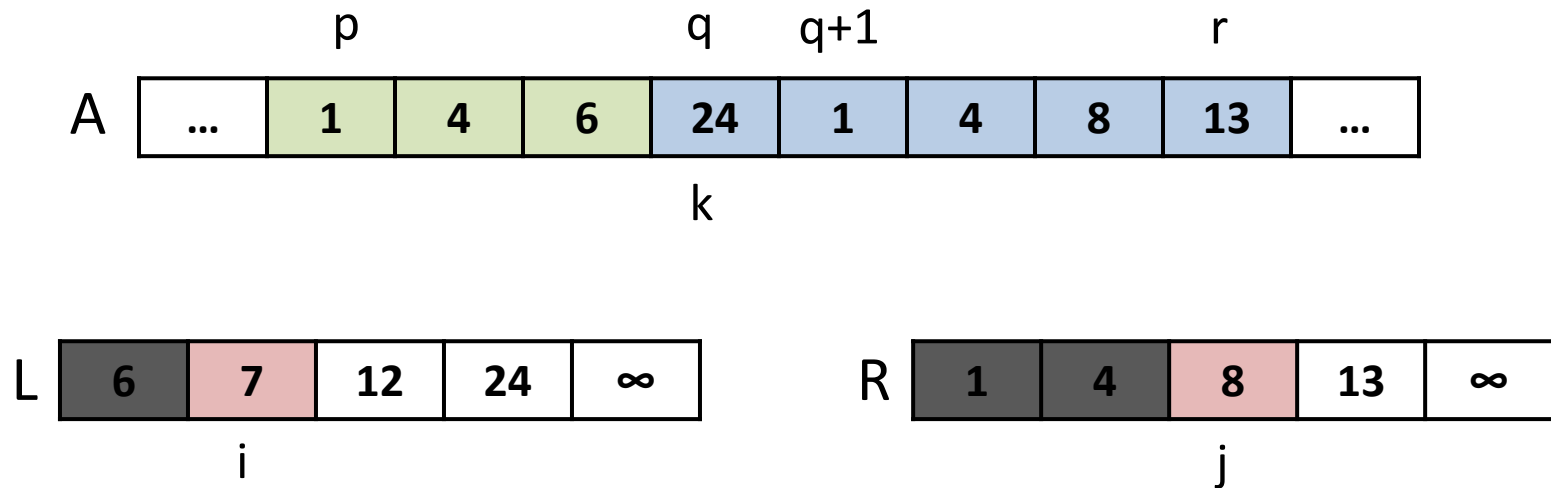
Execution of a call to Merge(A,p,q,r):



Iterate the same process

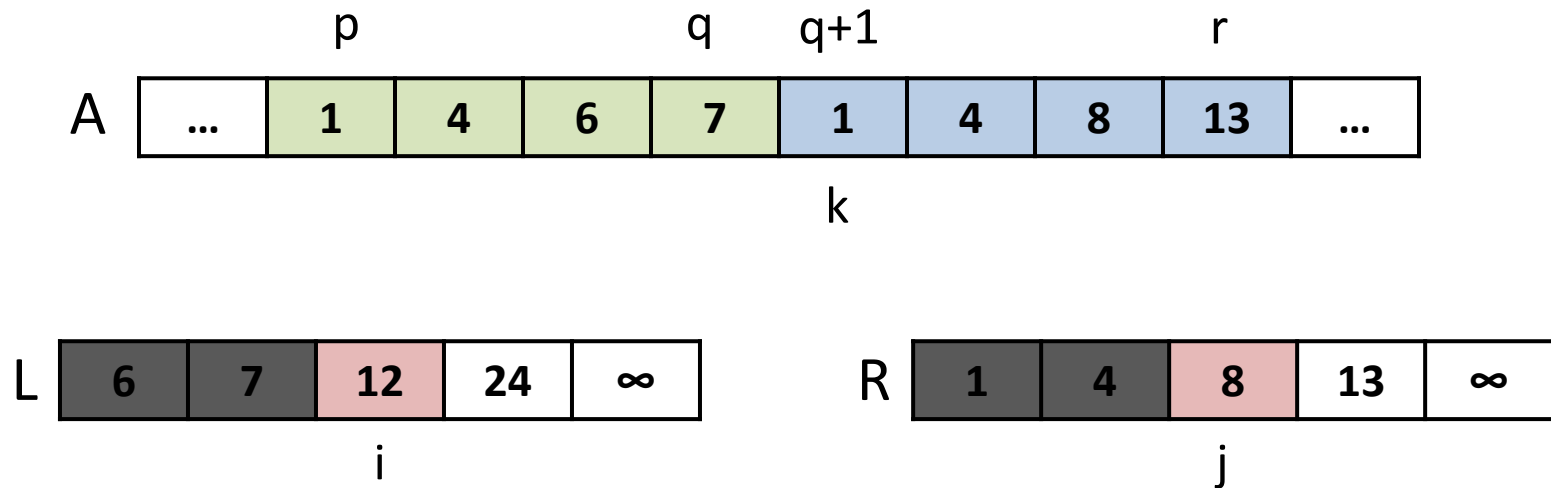
# Merge (example)

Execution of a call to Merge(A,p,q,r):



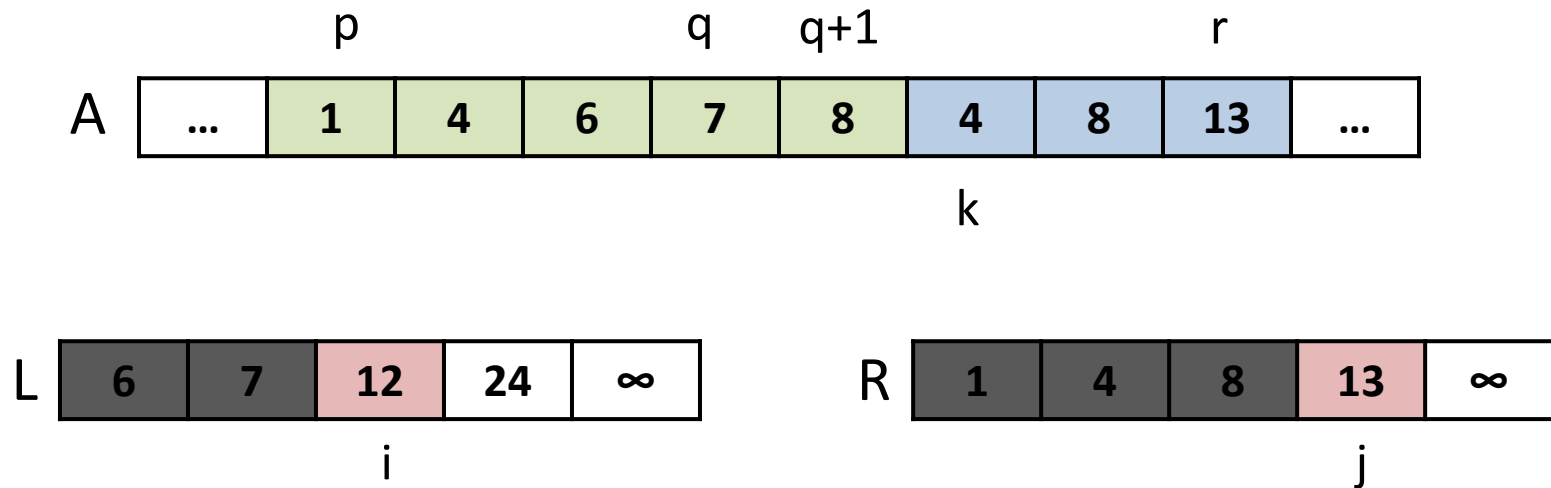
# Merge (example)

Execution of a call to Merge(A,p,q,r):



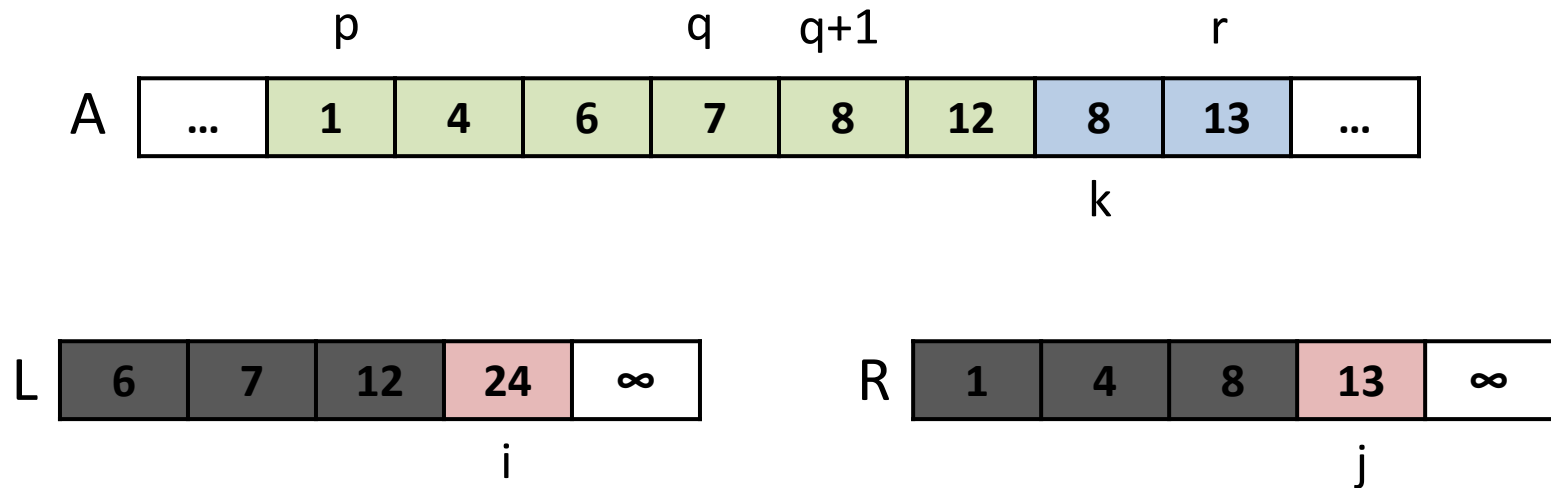
# Merge (example)

Execution of a call to Merge(A,p,q,r):



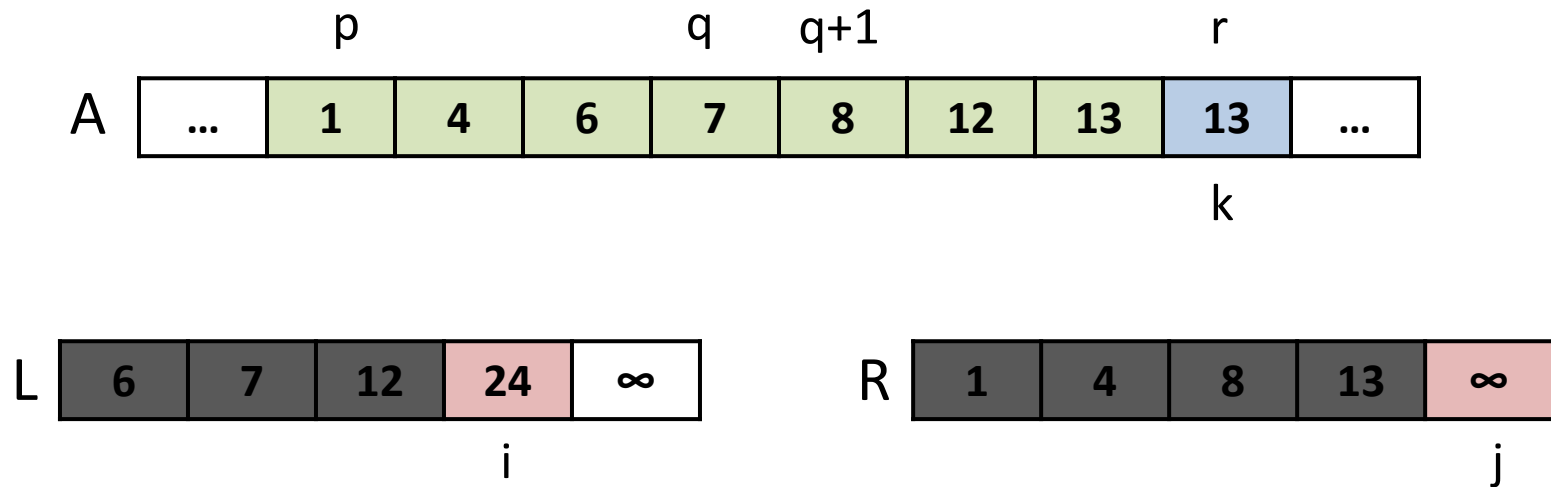
# Merge (example)

Execution of a call to Merge(A,p,q,r):



# Merge (example)

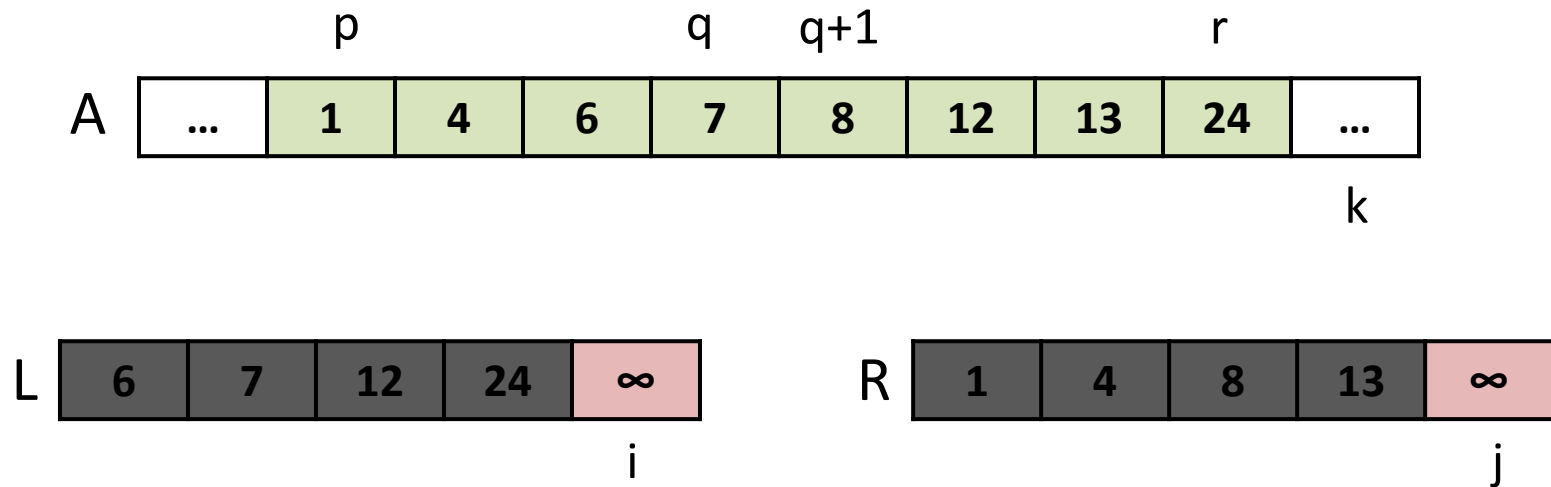
Execution of a call to Merge(A,p,q,r):





# Merge (example)

Execution of a call to Merge(A,p,q,r):



We stop when A[p,r] has been filled

# Correctness of Merge

## Merge( $A, p, q, r$ )

```
1.  $n_1 \leftarrow q - p + 1$ 
2.  $n_2 \leftarrow r - q$ 
3. for  $i \leftarrow 1$  to  $n_1$ 
4.   do  $L[i] \leftarrow A[p + i - 1]$ 
5. for  $j \leftarrow 1$  to  $n_2$ 
6.   do  $R[j] \leftarrow A[q + j]$ 
7.  $L[n_1 + 1] \leftarrow \infty$ 
8.  $R[n_2 + 1] \leftarrow \infty$ 
9.  $i \leftarrow 1$ 
10.  $j \leftarrow 1$ 
11. for  $k \leftarrow p$  to  $r$ 
12.   do if  $L[i] \leq R[j]$ 
13.     then  $A[k] \leftarrow L[i]$ 
14.        $i \leftarrow i + 1$ 
15.     else  $A[k] \leftarrow R[j]$ 
16.        $j \leftarrow j + 1$ 
```

## Loop Invariant property (main for loop)

- At the start of each iteration of the for loop, Subarray  $A[p..k - 1]$  contains the  $k - p$  smallest elements of  $L$  and  $R$  in sorted order.
- $L[i]$  and  $R[j]$  are the smallest elements of  $L$  and  $R$  that have not been copied back into  $A$ .

## Initialization:

### Before the first iteration:

- $A[p..k - 1]$  is empty.
- $i = j = 1$ .
- $L[1]$  and  $R[1]$  are the smallest elements of  $L$  and  $R$  not copied to  $A$ .

# Correctness of Merge

## Merge( $A, p, q, r$ )

```
1.   $n_1 \leftarrow q - p + 1$ 
2.   $n_2 \leftarrow r - q$ 
3.  for  $i \leftarrow 1$  to  $n_1$ 
4.    do  $L[i] \leftarrow A[p + i - 1]$ 
5.  for  $j \leftarrow 1$  to  $n_2$ 
6.    do  $R[j] \leftarrow A[q + j]$ 
7.   $L[n_1 + 1] \leftarrow \infty$ 
8.   $R[n_2 + 1] \leftarrow \infty$ 
9.   $i \leftarrow 1$ 
10.  $j \leftarrow 1$ 
11. for  $k \leftarrow p$  to  $r$ 
12.   do if  $L[i] \leq R[j]$ 
13.     then  $A[k] \leftarrow L[i]$ 
14.        $i \leftarrow i + 1$ 
15.   else  $A[k] \leftarrow R[j]$ 
16.      $j \leftarrow j + 1$ 
```

## Maintenance:

### Case 1: $L[i] \leq R[j]$

- By LI,  $A$  contains  $p - k$  smallest elements of  $L$  and  $R$  in sorted order.
- By LI,  $L[i]$  and  $R[j]$  are the smallest elements of  $L$  and  $R$  not yet copied into  $A$ .
- Line 13 results in  $A$  containing  $p - k + 1$  smallest elements (again in sorted order). Incrementing  $i$  and  $k$  reestablishes the LI for the next iteration.

### Case 2: Similar arguments with $L[i] > R[j]$

## Termination:

- On termination,  $k = r + 1$ .
- By LI,  $A$  contains  $r - p + 1$  smallest elements of  $L$  and  $R$  in sorted order.
- $L$  and  $R$  together contain  $r - p + 3$  elements including the two sentinels. So, all elements are sorted!

# Analysis of Merge Sort

- Running time  $T(n)$  of Merge Sort:
- Divide: computing the middle takes  $\Theta(1)$
- Conquer: solving 2 sub-problems takes  $2T(n/2)$
- Combine: merging  $n$  elements takes  $\Theta(n)$
- Total:

$$T(n) = \Theta(1) \quad \text{if } n = 1$$
$$T(n) = 2T(n/2) + \Theta(n) \quad \text{if } n > 1$$

**Solution:**  $T(n) = \Theta(n \lg n)$

We will describe two ways to prove it. Though, to make our task easier, we will assume that  $n$  is a power of 2.

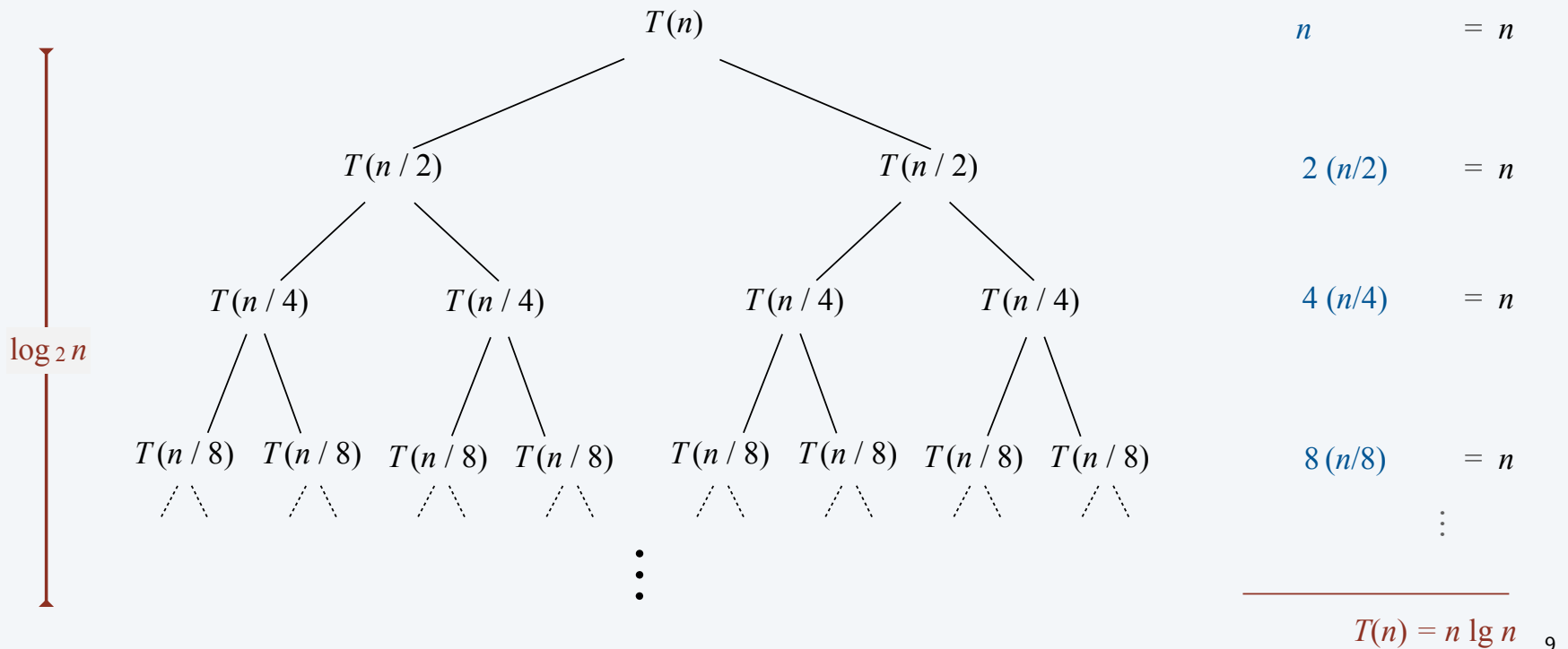
# Divide-and-conquer recurrence: proof by recursion tree

**Proposition.** If  $T(n)$  satisfies the following recurrence, then  $T(n) = n \log_2 n$ .

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n = 1 \\ 2T(n/2) + n & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

assuming  $n$  is a power of 2

Pf 1.



# Proof by induction

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**Proposition.** If  $T(n)$  satisfies the following recurrence, then  $T(n) = n \log_2 n$ .

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n = 1 \\ 2 T(n/2) + n & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

assuming  $n$   
is a power of 2

**Pf 2.** [by induction on  $n$ ]

- Base case: when  $n = 1$ ,  $T(1) = 0$ .
- Inductive hypothesis: assume  $T(n) = n \log_2 n$ .
- Goal: show that  $T(2n) = 2n \log_2 (2n)$ .

This is an example where the inductive hypothesis is used to prove  $T(2n)$  instead of  $T(n+1)$ .

$$\log(a \cdot b) = \log(a) + \log(b)$$

$$\begin{aligned} T(2n) &= 2 T(n) + 2n \\ &= 2 n \log_2 n + 2n \\ &= 2 n (\log_2 (2n) - 1) + 2n \\ &= 2 n \log_2 (2n). \quad \blacksquare \end{aligned}$$

# Arithmetic operations

Given 2 (binary) numbers, we want efficient algorithms to:

- Add 2 numbers
- **Multiply 2 numbers** (using divide-and-conquer!)

# Integer addition

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**Addition.** Given two  $n$ -bit integers  $a$  and  $b$ , compute  $a + b$ .

**Subtraction.** Given two  $n$ -bit integers  $a$  and  $b$ , compute  $a - b$ .

**Grade-school algorithm.**  $\Theta(n)$  bit operations.

	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	
		1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1
+		0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1
	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0

**Remark.** Grade-school addition and subtraction algorithms are asymptotically optimal.





# Divide-and-conquer multiplication

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To multiply two  $n$ -bit integers  $x$  and  $y$ :

- Divide  $x$  and  $y$  into low- and high-order bits.
- Multiply **four**  $\frac{1}{2}n$ -bit integers, recursively.
- Add and shift to obtain result.

$$m = \lceil n / 2 \rceil$$

$$a = \lfloor x / 2^m \rfloor \quad b = x \bmod 2^m$$

$$c = \lfloor y / 2^m \rfloor \quad d = y \bmod 2^m$$

← use bit shifting  
to compute 4 terms

$$\underbrace{(2^m a + b)}_x \underbrace{(2^m c + d)}_y = \overset{\textcircled{1}}{2^{2m} ac} + \overset{\textcircled{2}}{2^m (bc + ad)} + \overset{\textcircled{3}}{bd}$$

Ex.  $x = 10001101$     $y = 11100001$

$\underbrace{\quad\quad\quad}_a$     $\underbrace{\quad\quad\quad}_b$     $\underbrace{\quad\quad\quad}_c$     $\underbrace{\quad\quad\quad}_d$

# Divide-and-conquer multiplication

---

**MULTIPLY**( $x, y, n$ )

---

**IF** ( $n = 1$ )

**RETURN**  $x \times y$ .

**ELSE**

$m \leftarrow \lceil n / 2 \rceil$ .

$a \leftarrow \lfloor x / 2^m \rfloor$ ;  $b \leftarrow x \bmod 2^m$ .

$c \leftarrow \lfloor y / 2^m \rfloor$ ;  $d \leftarrow y \bmod 2^m$ .

$e \leftarrow \text{MULTIPLY}(a, c, m)$ .

$f \leftarrow \text{MULTIPLY}(b, d, m)$ .

$g \leftarrow \text{MULTIPLY}(b, c, m)$ .

$h \leftarrow \text{MULTIPLY}(a, d, m)$ .

**RETURN**  $2^{2m} e + 2^m (g + h) + f$ .

---

# Divide-and-conquer multiplication analysis

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**Proposition.** The divide-and-conquer multiplication algorithm requires  $\Theta(n^2)$  bit operations to multiply two  $n$ -bit integers.

**Pf.** Apply case 1 of the master theorem to the recurrence:

$$T(n) = \underbrace{4T(n/2)}_{\text{recursive calls}} + \underbrace{\Theta(n)}_{\text{add, shift}} \Rightarrow T(n) = \Theta(n^2)$$

Next  
class!

# Karatsuba trick

---

To compute middle term  $bc + ad$ , use identity:

$$bc + ad = ac + bd - (a - b)(c - d)$$

$$m = \lceil n / 2 \rceil$$

$$a = \lfloor x / 2^m \rfloor \quad b = x \bmod 2^m$$

$$c = \lfloor y / 2^m \rfloor \quad d = y \bmod 2^m$$

middle term  
↓

$$(2^m a + b)(2^m c + d) = 2^{2m} ac + 2^m (bc + ad) + bd$$

$$= 2^{2m} ac + 2^m (ac + bd - (a - b)(c - d)) + bd$$

1

1

3

2

3



**Bottom line.** Only three multiplication of  $n/2$ -bit integers.

# Karatsuba multiplication

---

**KARATSUBA-MULTIPLY**( $x, y, n$ )

---

**IF** ( $n = 1$ )

**RETURN**  $x \times y$ .

**ELSE**

$m \leftarrow \lceil n / 2 \rceil$ .

$a \leftarrow \lfloor x / 2^m \rfloor$ ;  $b \leftarrow x \bmod 2^m$ .

$c \leftarrow \lfloor y / 2^m \rfloor$ ;  $d \leftarrow y \bmod 2^m$ .

$e \leftarrow \text{KARATSUBA-MULTIPLY}(a, c, m)$ .

$f \leftarrow \text{KARATSUBA-MULTIPLY}(b, d, m)$ .

$g \leftarrow \text{KARATSUBA-MULTIPLY}(a - b, c - d, m)$ .

**RETURN**  $2^{2m} e + 2^m (e + f - g) + f$ .

---

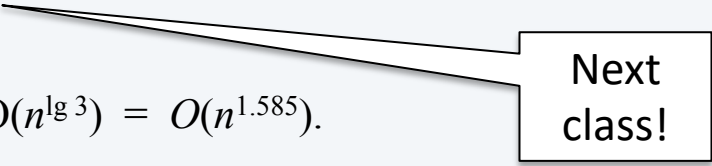
# Karatsuba analysis

---

**Proposition.** Karatsuba's algorithm requires  $O(n^{1.585})$  bit operations to multiply two  $n$ -bit integers.

**Pf.** Apply case 1 of the master theorem to the recurrence:

$$T(n) = 3 T(n/2) + \Theta(n) \quad \Rightarrow \quad T(n) = \Theta(n^{\lg 3}) = O(n^{1.585}).$$



Next  
class!

**Practice.** Faster than grade-school algorithm for about 320-640 bits.

# Integer arithmetic reductions

---

**Integer multiplication.** Given two  $n$ -bit integers, compute their product.

problem	arithmetic	running time
integer multiplication	$a \times b$	$\Theta(M(n))$
integer division	$a / b, a \bmod b$	$\Theta(M(n))$
integer square	$a^2$	$\Theta(M(n))$
integer square root	$\lfloor \sqrt{a} \rfloor$	$\Theta(M(n))$

**integer arithmetic problems with the same complexity as integer multiplication**



# History of asymptotic complexity of integer multiplication

year	algorithm	order of growth
?	brute force	$\Theta(n^2)$
1962	Karatsuba-Ofman	$\Theta(n^{1.585})$
1963	Toom-3, Toom-4	$\Theta(n^{1.465}), \Theta(n^{1.404})$
1966	Toom-Cook	$\Theta(n^{1+\epsilon})$
1971	Schönhage–Strassen	$\Theta(n \log n \log \log n)$
2007	Fürer	$n \log n 2^{O(\log^* n)}$
?	?	$\Theta(n)$

These results  
have even  
been improved  
since 2007...

number of bit operations to multiply two  $n$ -bit integers

used in Maple, Mathematica, gcc, cryptography, ...

**Remark.** GNU Multiple Precision Library uses one of five different algorithm depending on size of operands.

