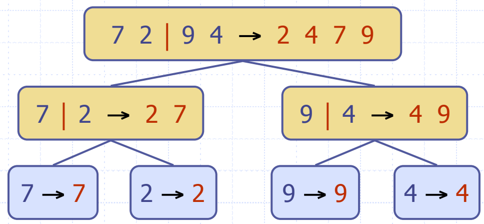
Presentation for use with the textbook Data Structures and Algorithms in Java, 6th edition, by M. T. Goodrich, R. Tamassia, and M. H. Goldwasser, Wiley, 2014

Merge Sort



Divide-and-Conquer

- Divide-and conquer is a general algorithm design paradigm:
  - Divide: divide the input data S in two disjoint subsets S_1 and S_2
  - Recur: solve the subproblems associated with S_1 and S_2
  - Conquer: combine the solutions for S_1 and S_2 into a solution for S
- The base case for the recursion are subproblems of size 0 or 1
- Merge-sort is a sorting algorithm based on the divide-and-conquer paradigm
- Like heap-sort
  - It has $O(n \log n)$ running time
- Unlike heap-sort
  - It does not use an auxiliary priority queue
  - It accesses data in a sequential manner (suitable to sort data on a disk)

Merge-Sort

- Merge-sort on an input sequence S with n elements consists of three steps:
  - Divide: partition S into two sequences S_1 and S_2 of about $n/2$ elements each
  - Recur: recursively sort S_1 and S_2
  - Conquer: merge S_1 and S_2 into a unique sorted sequence

Algorithm *mergeSort*(S)
  Input sequence S with n elements
  Output sequence S sorted according to C
  if $S.size() > 1$
    $(S_1, S_2) \leftarrow partition(S, n/2)$
    $mergeSort(S_1)$
    $mergeSort(S_2)$
    $S \leftarrow merge(S_1, S_2)$

Merging Two Sorted Sequences

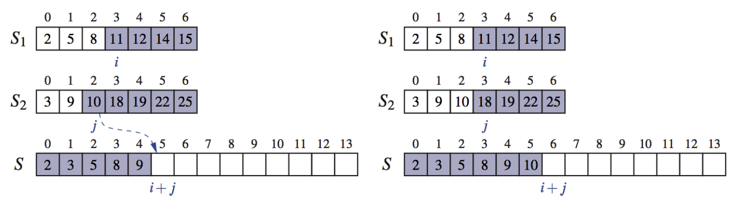
- The conquer step of merge-sort consists of merging two sorted sequences A and B into a sorted sequence S containing the union of the elements of A and B
- Merging two sorted sequences, each with $n/2$ elements and implemented by means of a doubly linked list, takes $O(n)$ time

Algorithm *merge*(A, B)
  Input sequences A and B with $n/2$ elements each
  Output sorted sequence of $A \cup B$

  $S \leftarrow$ empty sequence
  while $\neg A.isEmpty() \land \neg B.isEmpty()$
    if $A.first().element() < B.first().element()$
      $S.addLast(A.remove(A.first()))$
    else
      $S.addLast(B.remove(B.first()))$
  while $\neg A.isEmpty()$
    $S.addLast(A.remove(A.first()))$
  while $\neg B.isEmpty()$
    $S.addLast(B.remove(B.first()))$
  return S

Java Merge Implementation

```
/** Merge contents of arrays S1 and S2 into properly sized array S. */
public static <K> void merge(K[ ] S1, K[ ] S2, K[ ] S, Comparator<K> comp) {
  int i = 0, j = 0;
  while (i + j < S.length) {
    if (j == S2.length || (i < S1.length && comp.compare(S1[i], S2[j]) < 0))
      S[i+j] = S1[i++];                    // copy ith element of S1 and increment i
    else
      S[i+j] = S2[j++];                    // copy jth element of S2 and increment j
  }
}
```

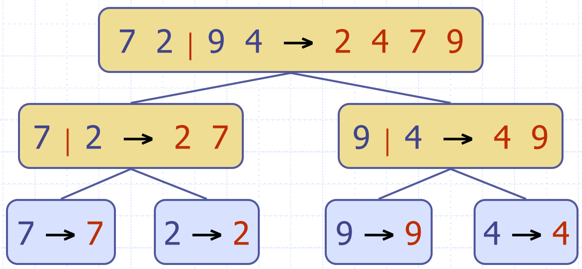


Java Merge-Sort Implementation

```
/** Merge-sort contents of array S. */
public static <K> void mergeSort(K[ ] S, Comparator<K> comp) {
  int n = S.length;
  if (n < 2) return;                              // array is trivially sorted
  // divide
  int mid = n/2;
  K[ ] S1 = Arrays.copyOfRange(S, 0, mid);        // copy of first half
  K[ ] S2 = Arrays.copyOfRange(S, mid, n);        // copy of second half
  // conquer (with recursion)
  mergeSort(S1, comp);                            // sort copy of first half
  mergeSort(S2, comp);                            // sort copy of second half
  // merge results
  merge(S1, S2, S, comp);               // merge sorted halves back into original
}
```

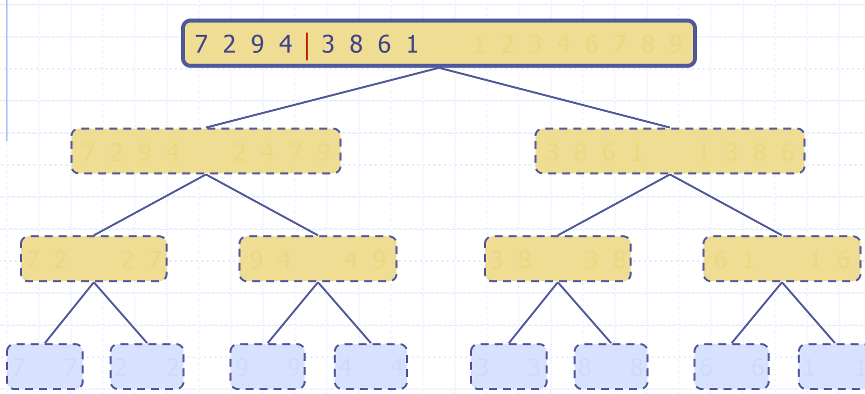

Merge-Sort Tree

- An execution of merge-sort is depicted by a binary tree
  - each node represents a recursive call of merge-sort and stores
    - unsorted sequence before the execution and its partition
    - sorted sequence at the end of the execution
  - the root is the initial call
  - the leaves are calls on subsequences of size 0 or 1



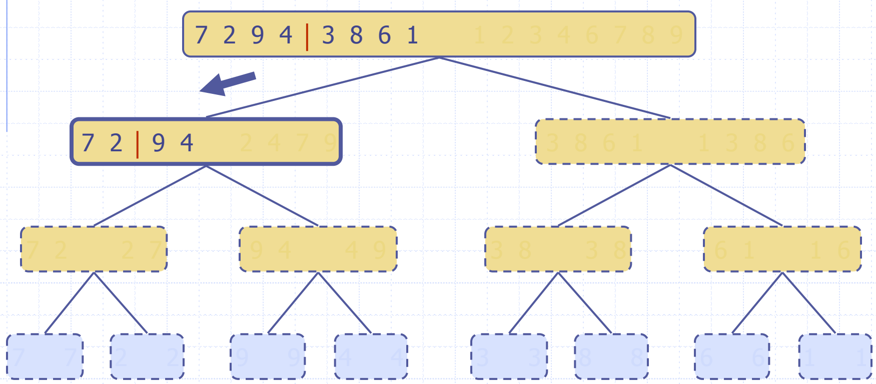
Execution Example

- Partition



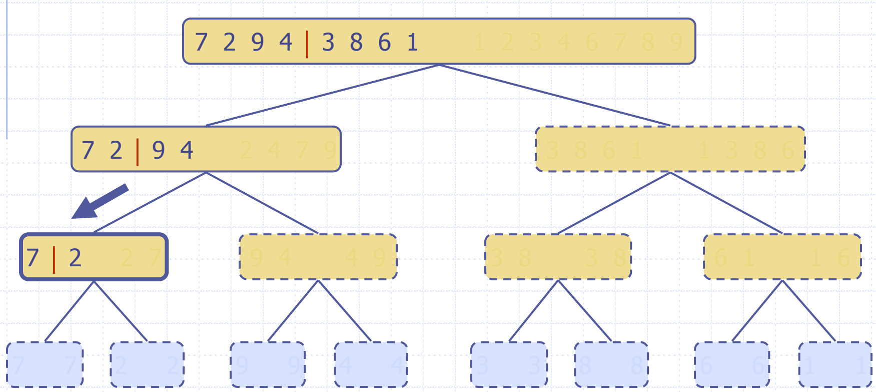
Execution Example (cont.)

- Recursive call, partition



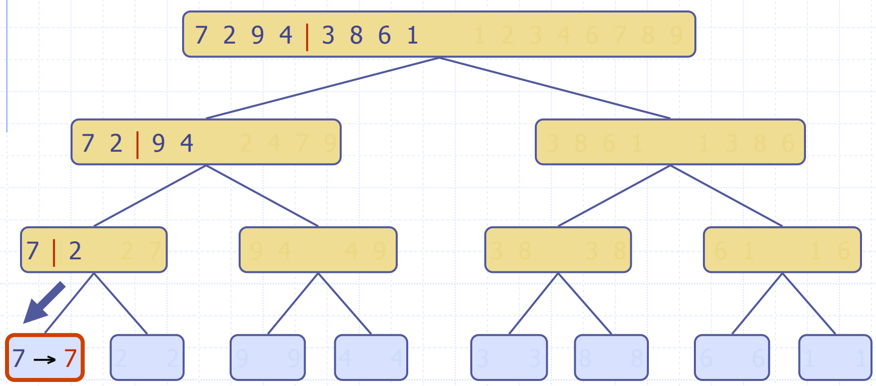
Execution Example (cont.)

- Recursive call, partition



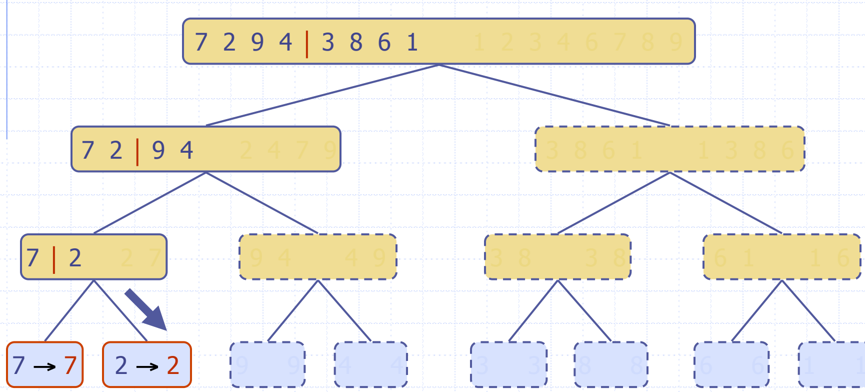
Execution Example (cont.)

- Recursive call, base case



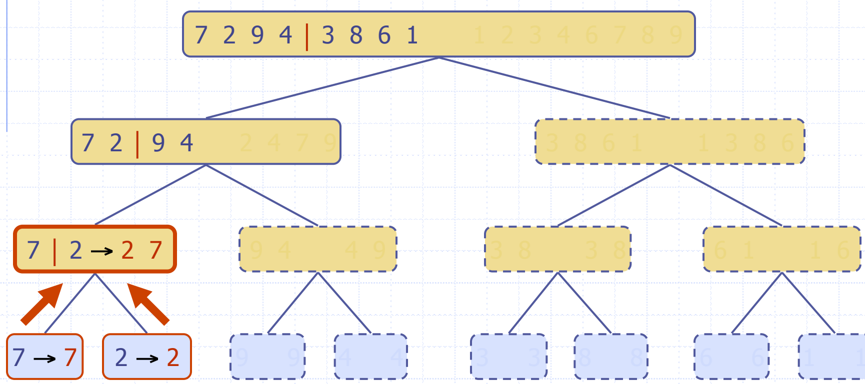
Execution Example (cont.)

- Recursive call, base case



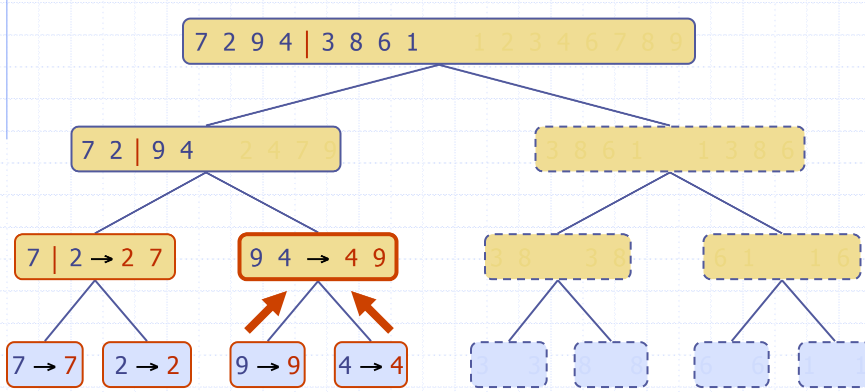
Execution Example (cont.)

- Merge



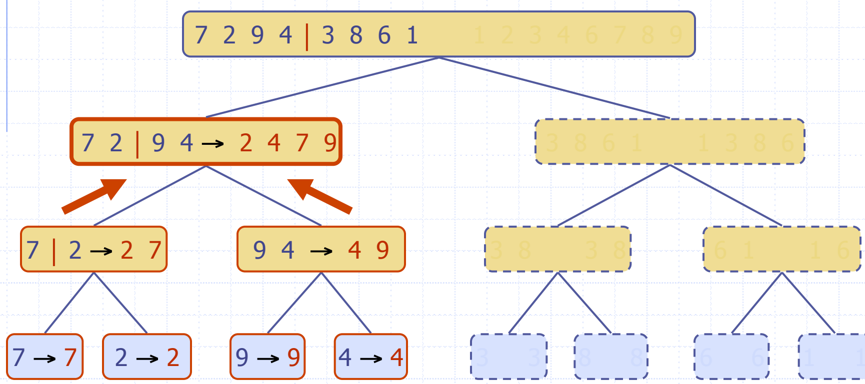
Execution Example (cont.)

- Recursive call, …, base case, merge



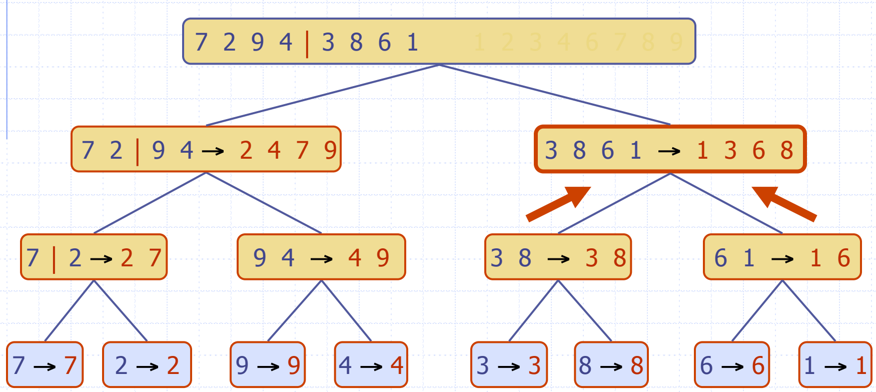
Execution Example (cont.)

- Merge



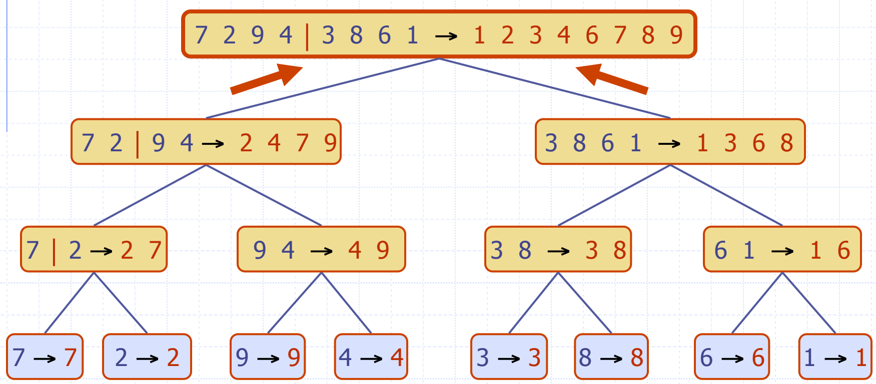
Execution Example (cont.)

- Recursive call, …, merge, merge



Execution Example (cont.)

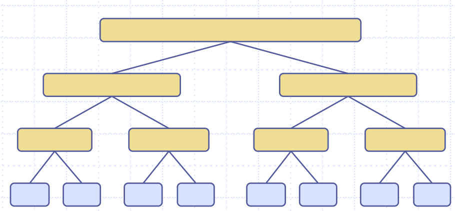
- Merge



Analysis of Merge-Sort

- The height h of the merge-sort tree is $O(\log n)$
  - at each recursive call we divide in half the sequence,
- The overall amount or work done at the nodes of depth i is $O(n)$
  - we partition and merge 2^i sequences of size $n/2^i$
  - we make 2^{i+1} recursive calls
- Thus, the total running time of merge-sort is $O(n \log n)$

depth	#seqs	size
0	1	n
1	2	$n/2$
i	2^i	$n/2^i$
…	…	…



Summary of Sorting Algorithms

Algorithm	Time	Notes
selection-sort	$O(n^2)$	▪ slow ▪ in-place ▪ for small data sets (< 1K)
insertion-sort	$O(n^2)$	▪ slow ▪ in-place ▪ for small data sets (< 1K)
heap-sort	$O(n \log n)$	▪ fast ▪ in-place ▪ for large data sets (1K — 1M)
merge-sort	$O(n \log n)$	▪ fast ▪ sequential data access ▪ for huge data sets (> 1M)

