

R**O**_{**A**}**D****S** **T**_{**R**}**I****X**

R_{**A**}**D****I****X** **S****O****R****T**



Radix Sort

- Unlike other sorting methods, radix sort considers the structure of the keys
- Assume keys are represented in a base M number system ($M = \text{radix}$), i.e., if $M = 2$, the keys are represented in binary

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & & 8 & 4 & 2 & 1 & \text{weight} \\
 9 = & \boxed{1} & \boxed{0} & \boxed{0} & \boxed{1} & & (b = 4) \\
 & & 3 & 2 & 1 & 0 & \text{bit \#}
 \end{array}$$

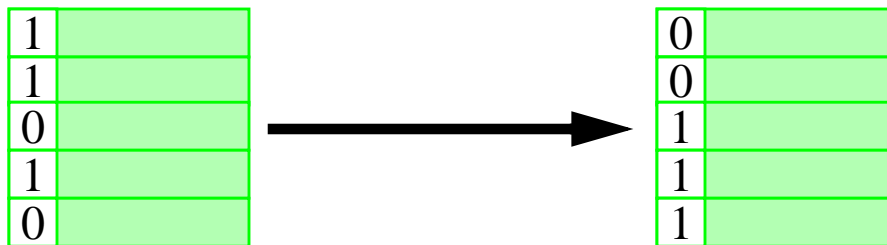
- Sorting is done by comparing bits in the same position
- Extension to keys that are alphanumeric strings



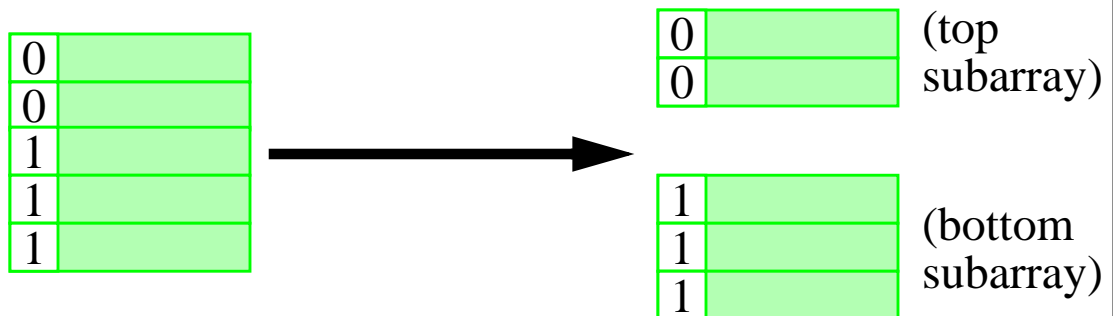
Radix Exchange Sort

Examine bits from *left* to *right*:

1. Sort array with respect to leftmost bit



2. Partition array



3. Recursion

- recursively sort top subarray, ignoring leftmost bit
- recursively sort bottom subarray, ignoring leftmost bit

Time: $O(b N)$



Radix Exchange Sort

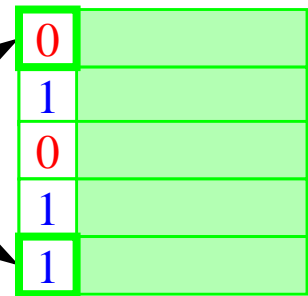
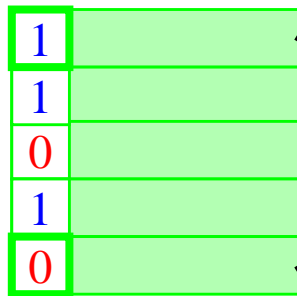
How do we do the sort from the previous page?
Same idea as partition in Quicksort.

repeat

scan top-down to find key starting with 1;
scan bottom-up to find key starting with 0;
exchange keys;

until scan indices cross;

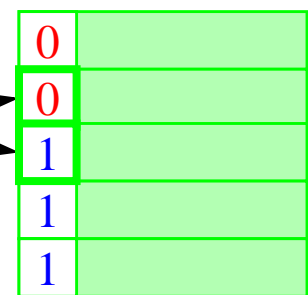
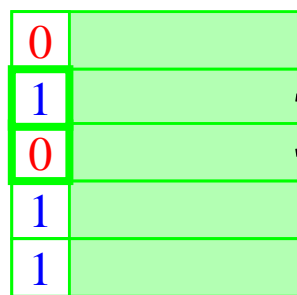
scan from top



first
exchange

scan from bottom

scan from top



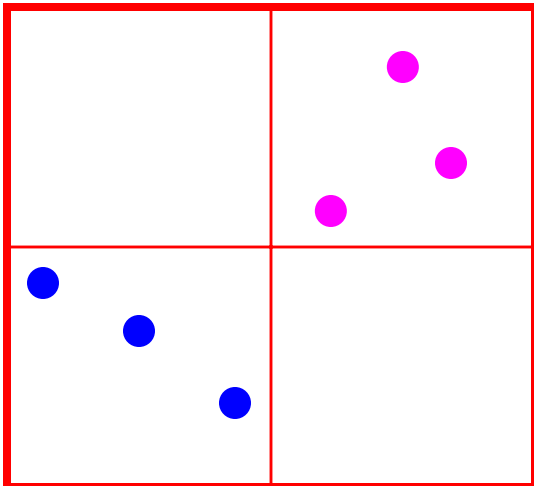
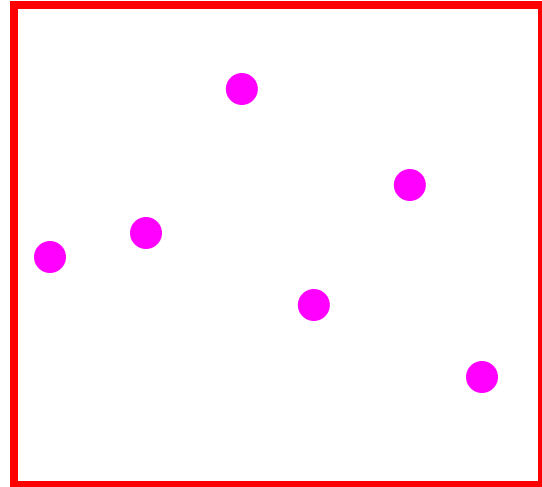
second
exchange

scan from bottom



Radix Exchange Sort

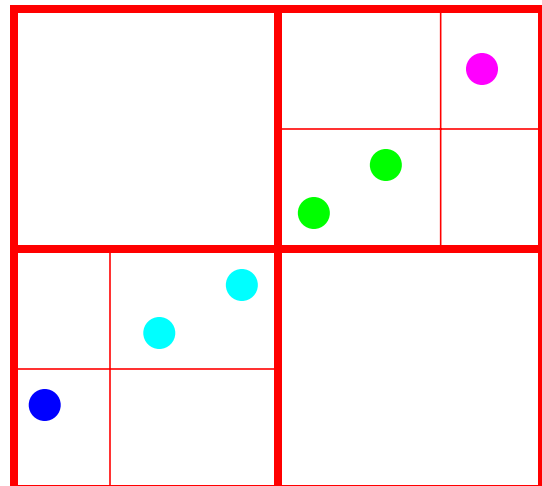
array before sort



2^{b-1}

array after sort
on leftmost bit

array after recursive
sort on second from
leftmost bit



Radix Exchange Sort vs. Quicksort

Similarities

- both partition array
- both recursively sort sub-arrays

Differences

- *Method of partitioning*
 - radix exchange divides array based on greater than or less than 2^{b-1}
 - quicksort partitions based on greater than or less than some element of the array
- *Time complexity*
 - Radix exchange $O(bN)$
 - Quicksort average case $O(N \log N)$
 - Quicksort worst case $O(N^2)$



Straight Radix Sort

Examines bits from *right* to *left*

for $k := 0$ **to** $b-1$

sort the array in a *stable* way,

looking only at bit k

First,
sort
these

Next, sort
these digits

Last, sort
these.

0	1	0
0	0	0
1	0	1
0	0	1
1	1	1
0	1	1
1	0	0
1	1	0

0	1	0
0	0	0
1	0	0
1	1	0
1	0	1
0	0	1
1	1	1
0	1	1

0	0	0
1	0	0
1	0	1
0	0	1
0	1	0
1	1	0
1	1	1
0	1	1

0	0	0
0	0	1
0	1	0
0	1	1
1	0	0
1	0	1
1	1	0
1	1	1

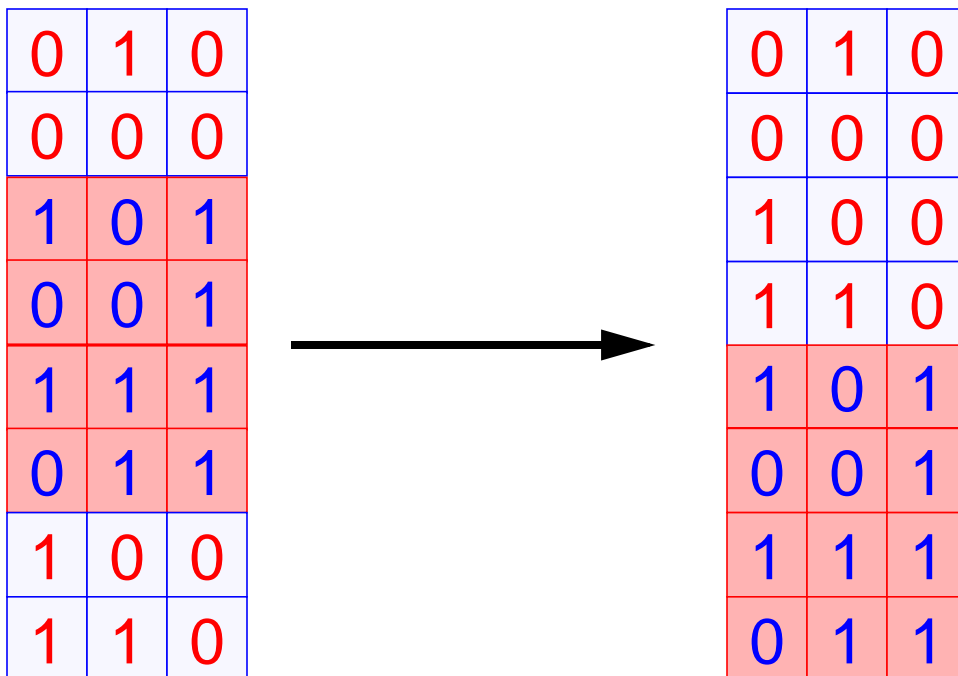
Note order of these bits after sort.



I forgot what it means to “sort in a stable way”!!!

In a stable sort, the initial relative order of equal keys is unchanged.

For example, observe the first step of the sort from the previous page:



Note that the relative order of those keys ending with 0 is unchanged, and the same is true for elements ending in 1



The Algorithm is Correct (right?)

- We show that any two keys are in the correct relative order at the end of the algorithm
- Given two keys, let k be the leftmost bit-position where they differ

0	1	0	1	1
---	---	---	---	---

0	1	1	0	1
---	---	---	---	---

k

- At step k the two keys are put in the correct relative order
- Because of stability, the successive steps do not change the relative order of the two keys



For Instance,

Consider a sort on an array with these two keys:

0	1	0	1	1
---	---	---	---	---

0	1	1	0	1
---	---	---	---	---

k

0	1	1	0	1
0	1	0	1	1

It makes no difference what order they are in when the sort begins.

0	1	0	1	1
0	1	1	0	1

When the sort visits bit k , the keys are put in the correct relative order.

0	1	0	1	1
0	1	1	0	1

Because the sort is stable, the order of the two keys will not be changed when bits $> k$ are compared.



Radix sorting can be applied to decimal numbers

First, sort these digits

Next, sort these digits

Last, sort these.

0	3	2
2	2	4
0	1	6
0	1	5
0	3	1
1	6	9
1	2	3
2	5	2

0	3	1
0	3	2
2	5	2
1	2	3
2	2	4
0	1	5
0	1	6
1	6	9

0	1	5
0	1	6
1	2	3
2	2	4
0	3	1
0	3	2
2	5	2
1	6	9

0	1	5
0	1	6
0	3	1
0	3	2
1	2	3
1	6	9
2	2	4
2	5	2

Note order of these bits after sort.

Voila!



Straight Radix Sort

Time Complexity

for $k := 0$ **to** $b-1$
 sort the array in a *stable* way,
 looking only at bit k

Suppose we can perform the stable sort above in $O(N)$ time. The total time complexity would be

$O(bN)$.

As you might have guessed, we can perform a stable sort based on the keys' k^{th} digit in $O(N)$ time.

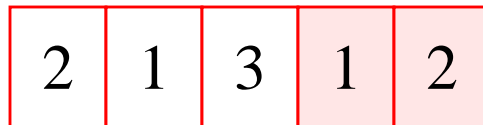
The method, you ask? Why it's **Bucket Sort**, of course.



Bucket Sort

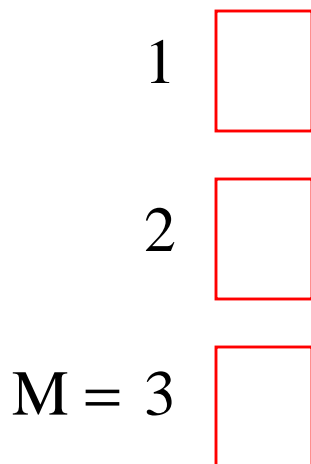
- N numbers
- Each number $\in \{1, 2, 3, \dots, M\}$
- Stable
- Time: $O(N + M)$

For example, $M = 3$ and our array is:



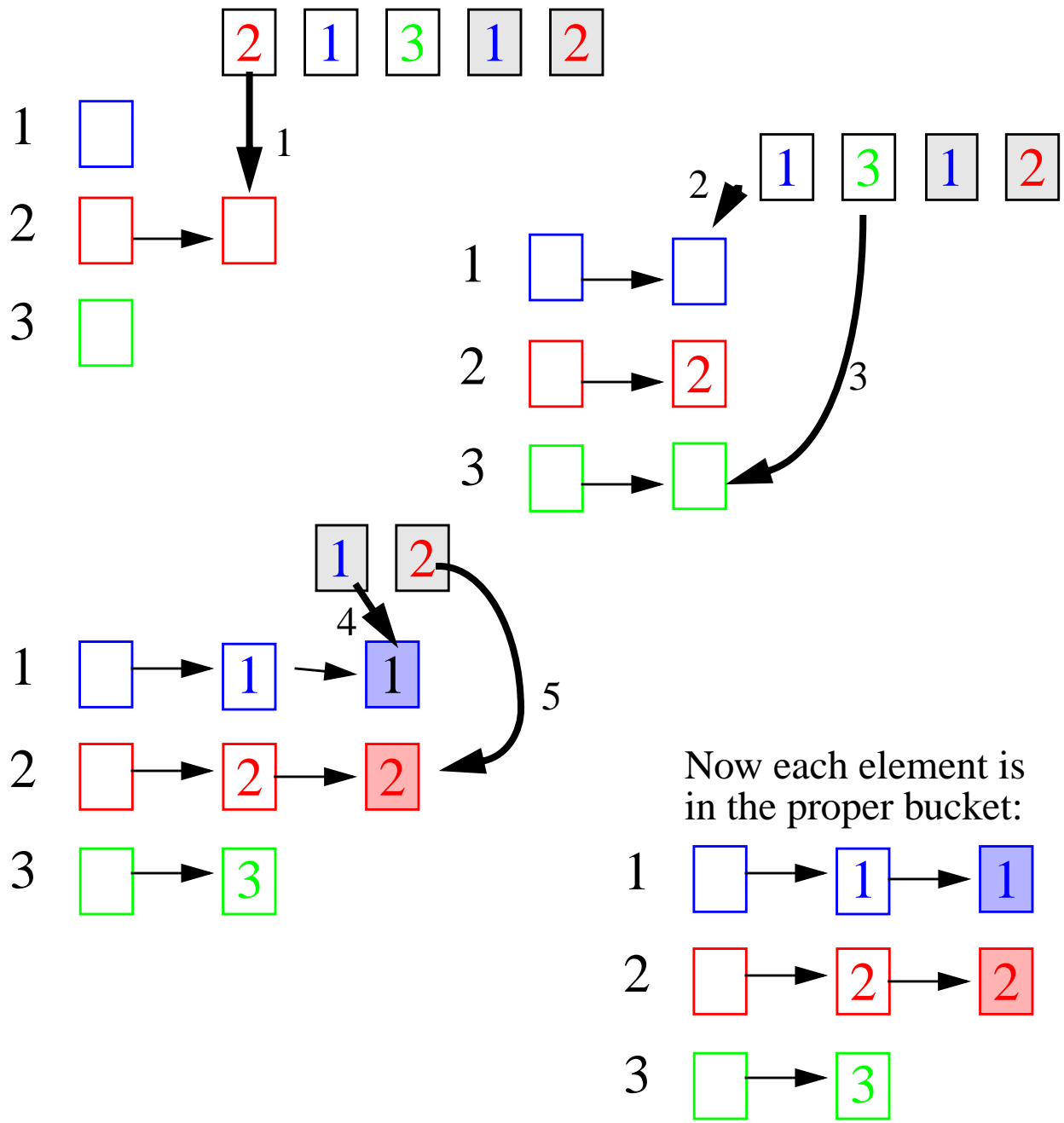
(note that there are two “2”s and two “1”s)

First, we create M “buckets”



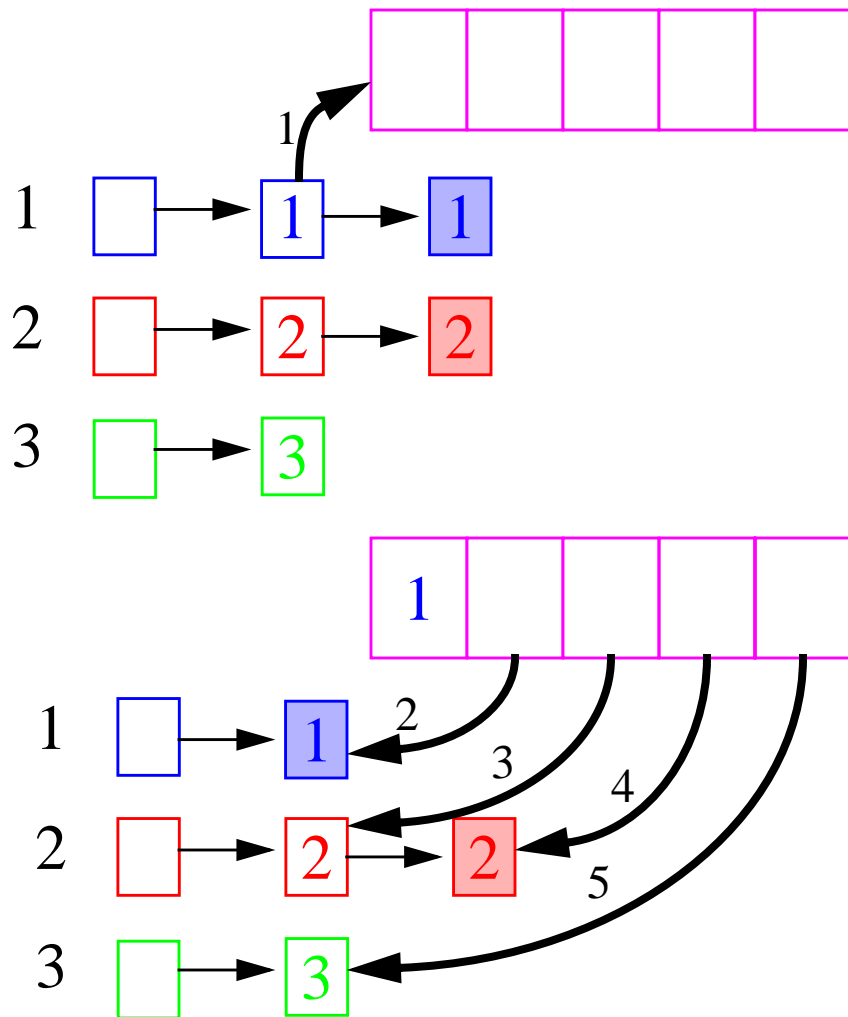
Bucket Sort

Each element of the array is put in one of the M “buckets”



Bucket Sort

Now, pull the elements from the buckets into the array



At last, the sorted array (sorted in a stable way):

