

Problem 1. Suppose that the splits at every level of quicksort are in the proportion $1 - \alpha$ to α , where $0 < \alpha \leq 1/2$ is a constant. Write the recurrence equation. Show that the minimum depth of a leaf in the recursion tree is $-\lg n / \lg \alpha$ and the maximum depth is approximately $-\lg n / \lg(1 - \alpha)$.

Problem 2. In class we did different cases of Quicksort algorithm for various splits of the input data based on a choice of the pivot. For this problem we are going to assume that a pivot is selected such that data is partitioned in the ratio of 2 to 1 every time. The partition routine would remain the same as used in class and so would the number of comparisons in it. Answer the following questions:

- (a) Write the recurrence equation, and the base case.
- (b) What is the height of the recursion tree?
- (c) Solve the recurrence equation using an appropriate method. Justify your method.
- (d) Verify the base case.

Problem 3. Suppose I want to find the k -th largest number in an array of size n . I could sort the array and look at the k -th value from the end. This could be an $O(n \lg n)$ runtime algorithm. We would like to improve it. Write an algorithm in English or in pseudo-code to find the k -th largest value in $O(k \lg n)$ runtime for large k . As an example, the 3rd largest value in, $A = [4, 2, 3, 1, 6, 8]$, is 4.

Note: For smaller values of k , the runtime is obviously linear. For this problem we are seeking the runtime when k is closer to n than to 1, such that, $1 \ll k \leq n$.