

Tutorial 03 - Sorting & Average Case  
CS 240E Winter 2022  
University of Waterloo  
Monday, January 24, 2022

1. **Partially Sorted:**

Let  $0 < \epsilon < 1$ . Suppose that we have an array  $A$  of  $n$  items such that the first  $n - n^\epsilon$  items are sorted. Describe an  $O(n)$  time algorithm to sort  $A$ .

2. **String Comparison:**

Let  $A$  and  $B$  be two bitstrings of length  $n$  (modelled here as arrays where each entry is 0 or 1). A *string-compare* tests whether  $A$  is smaller, larger, or the same as  $B$  and works as follows:

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**Algorithm 1:** *str-cmp*( $A, B, n$ )

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1 for ( $i = 0; i < n; i++$ ) do
2   if ( $A[i] < B[i]$ ) then return "A is smaller"
3   if ( $A[i] > B[i]$ ) then return "A is bigger"
4 return "They are equal"
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Show that the average-case run-time of *str-cmp* is in  $O(1)$ . You may use without proof that  $\sum_{i \geq 0} \frac{i}{2^i} \in O(1)$ .

3. **Fraction Select:**

Let  $L$  denote a sorted array of  $n$  distinct integers that are pairwise coprime. Given  $L$  and an integer  $k$  between 1 and  $\frac{n(n-1)}{2}$ , write a function that produces a pair  $(i, j)$ , with  $i < j$ , such that  $\frac{L[i]}{L[j]}$  is the  $k$ -th smallest fraction that can be made from elements in  $L$ . The algorithm should run in  $O(k \log k)$  time.