Lecture: Analysis of Algorithms (CS483 - 001)

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Spring 2017

Order Statistics

Some Order Statistics We Know

Select the ith smallest of n elements (the element with rank i):

- $i = 1$: minimum
- $i = n$: maximum
- $i = (n+1)/2$: median

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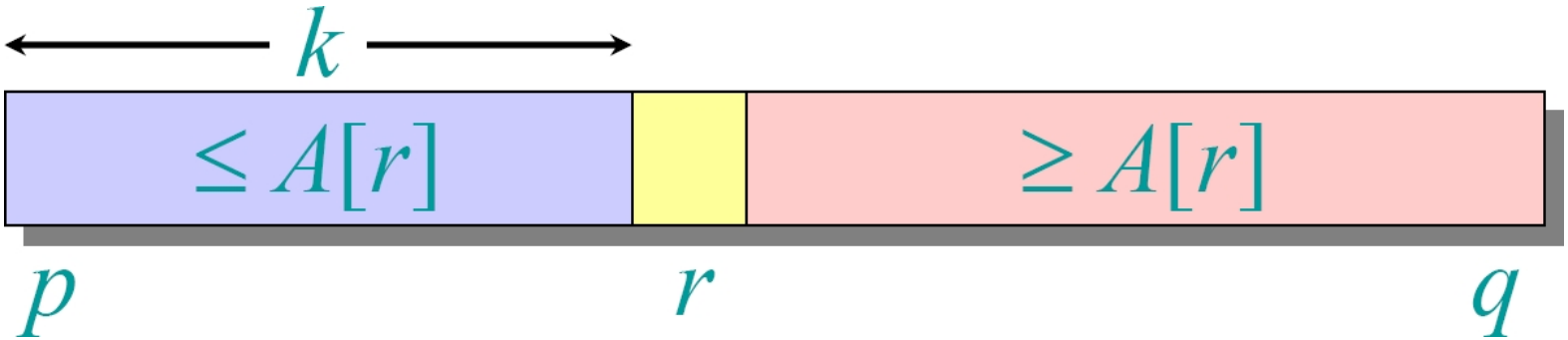
Randomized Divide and Conquer Algorithm

RAND-SELECT(array A, p, q, i) $\triangleright i^{\text{th}}$ smallest of $A[p \ldots q]$

```
if p = q then
    return A[p]
r ← RAND-PARTITION(A, p, q)
k ← r − p + 1    ▷ k = rank(A[r])
if i = k then
    return A[r]
if i < k then
    return RAND-SELECT(A, p, r − 1, i)
else return RAND-SELECT(A, r + 1, q, i − k)
```



Randomized Select: Trace

Select the $i = 7^{\text{th}}$ smallest element from the array below:

6	10	13	5	8	3	2	11

$i = 7$

pivot

Partition:

2	5	3	6	8	13	10	11

$k = 4$

Now select the $7 - 4 = 3^{\text{rd}}$ smallest element recursively.

Randomized Select: Running Time Analysis

- Analysis follows closely that of quicksort
- For simplicity, we will assume that all elements are distinct
- We will first gain intuition through lucky/unlucky scenarios

Lucky: [assume a 1 : 9 partition after RAND-PARTITION]

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= T(9n/10) + \theta(n) && n^{log_{10/9}(1)} = n^0 = 1 \\ &= \theta(n) && \text{CASE 3 of master theorem} \end{aligned}$$

Unlucky: [assume one side of the partitioned array is empty]

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= T(n-1) + \theta(n) && \text{arithmetic series} \\ &= \theta(n^2) && \text{worse than sorting!!!} \end{aligned}$$

Randomized Select: Analysis of Expected Time

- Analysis similar to randomized quicksort
- Let $T(n)$ be the random variable for the running time of RAND-SELECT on an input of size n, assuming random numbers are independent
- To obtain upper bound, assume the ith smallest element always falls on the larger side of the partition:

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} T(max\{0, n-1\}) + \theta(n) & \text{if } 0{:}n-1 \text{ split} \\ T(max\{1, n-2\}) + \theta(n) & \text{if } 1{:}n-2 \text{ split} \\ \dots & \\ T(max\{n-1, 0\}) + \theta(n) & \text{if } n-1{:}0 \text{ split} \end{cases}$$

- Summing up we have:

$$E[T(n)] = \frac{1}{n}\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} E[T(max\{k, n-k-1\}) + \theta(n)]$$

Randomized Select: Those pesky expectations...

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&\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad \textit{get } \theta(n) \textit{ outside} \\
&= \frac{2}{n}\sum_{k=\lfloor n/2 \rfloor}^{n-1} E[T(k)] + \theta(n) \\
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So: $E[T(n)] \leq cn - (\frac{cn}{4} - \theta(n)) \leq cn$ if $\frac{cn}{4} - \theta(n) \geq 0$

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Randomized Select: Summary

- Works fast in the average case: linear expected time
- Very simple and fast algorithm in practice
- *But,* worst-case behavior is $\theta(n^2)$
- **Question:** Is there an algorithm that runs in linear time even in the worst case?
- **Answer:** Yes - in 1973, Blum, Floyd, Pratt, and Rivest designed such an algorithm
- **Basic Idea:** Generate good pivots recursively to guarantee a good split

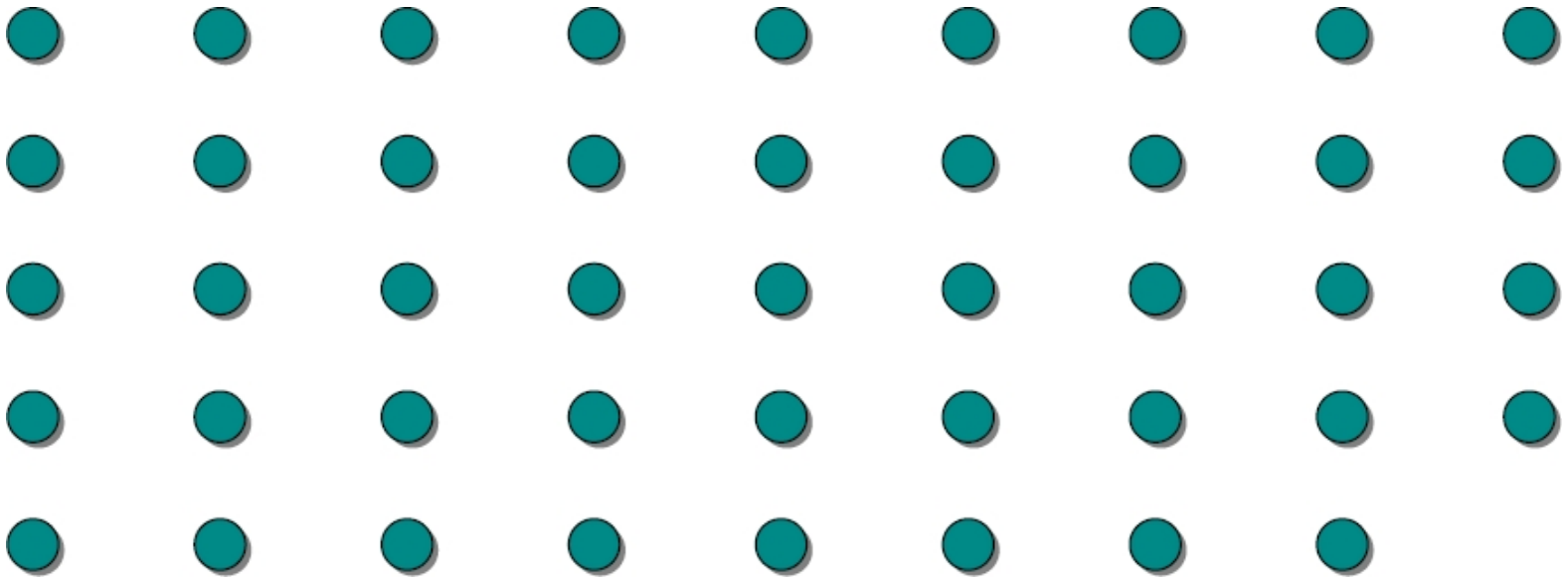
Worst-case Linear-time Order Statistics

SELECT(i,n)

1: Divide the n elements into groups of 5. Find the median of each 5-element group by rote.
2: Recursively SELECT the median x of the $\lfloor n/5 \rfloor$ group medians to be the pivot
3: Partition around the pivot. Let $k = rank(x)$
4: **if** $i = k$ **then**
5: **return** x
6: **if** $i < k$ **then**
7: recursively SELECT i^{th} smallest element in lower part
8: **if** $i > k$ **then**
9: recursively SELECT $(i - k)^{\text{th}}$ smallest element in upper part

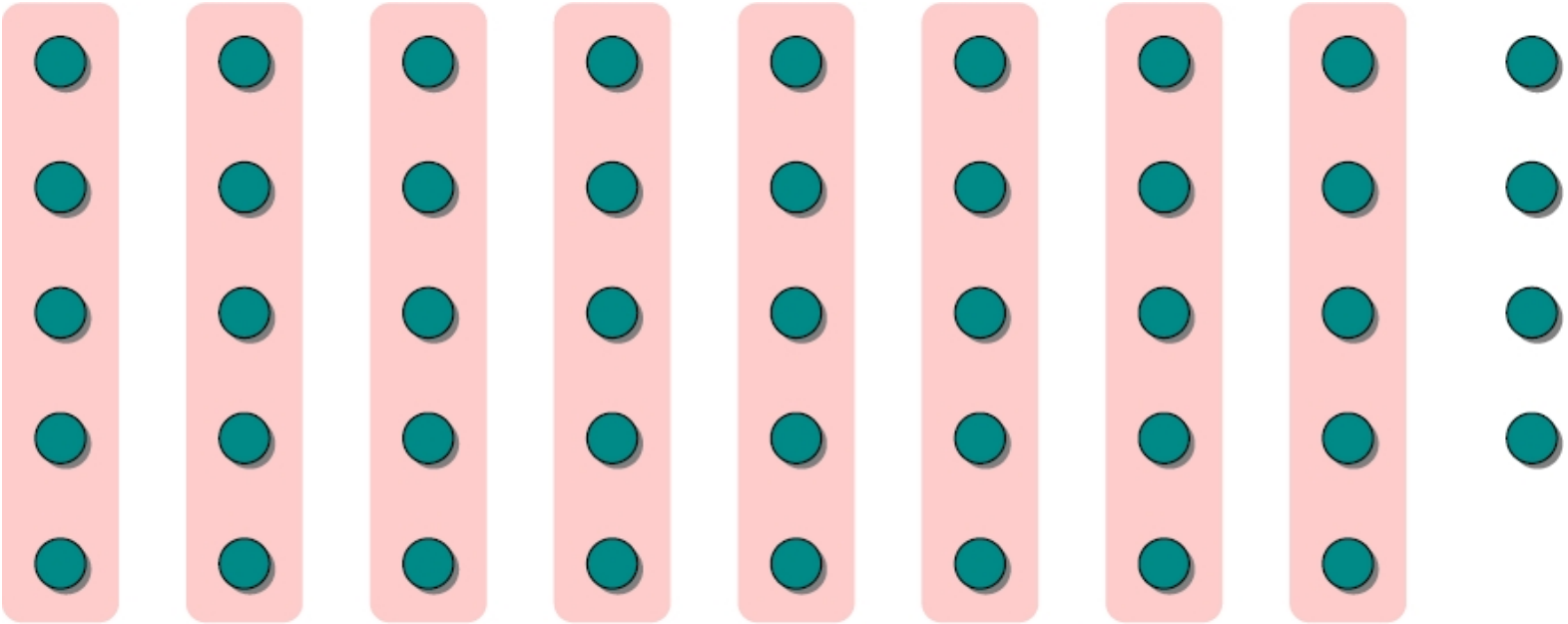
Note: lines 3.-9. are the same as in RAND-SELECT

SELECT: Choosing the Pivot



Here is the input: n elements.

SELECT: Choosing the Pivot



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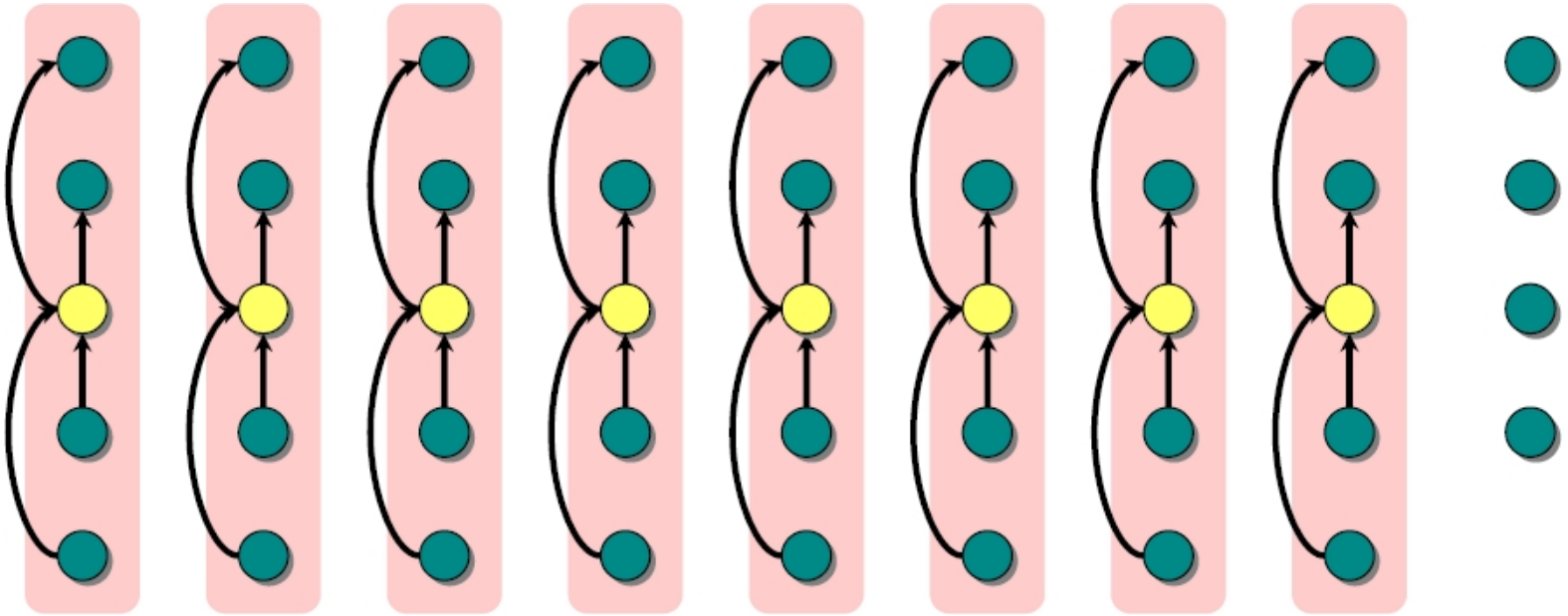

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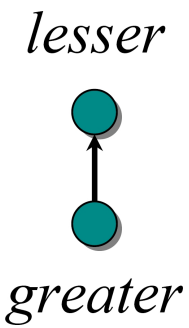

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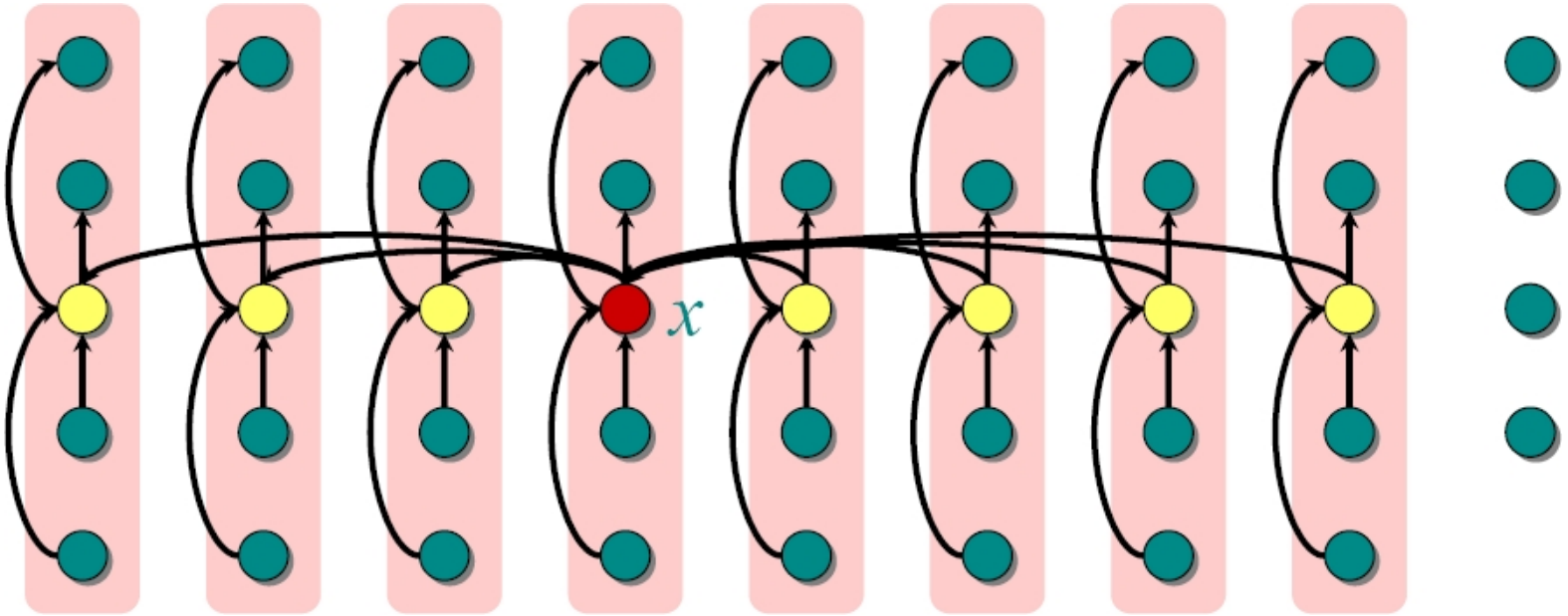

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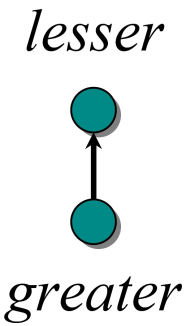
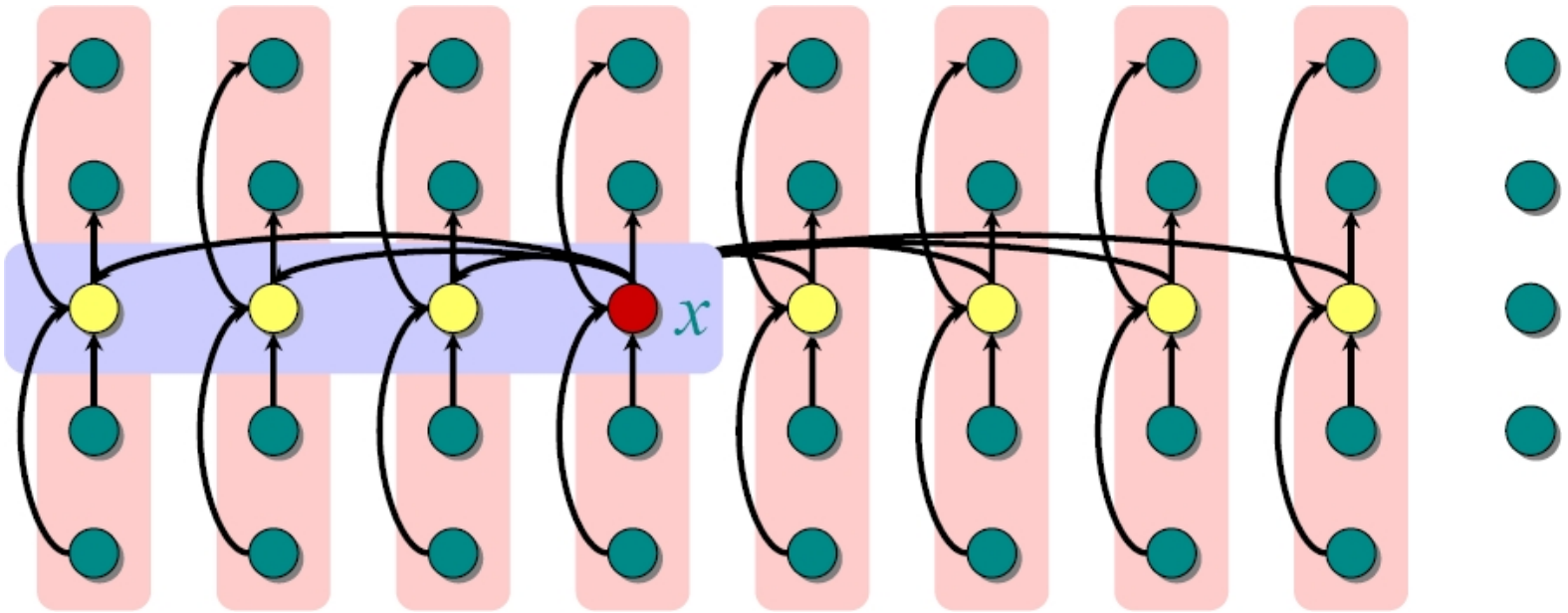
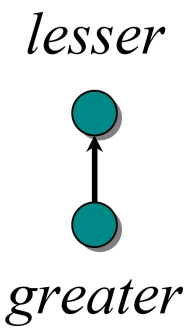


Select: Running Time Analysis



At least half of the group medians are $\leq x$,
which is at least $\lfloor \lfloor n/5 \rfloor / 2 \rfloor = \lfloor n/10 \rfloor$ elements.



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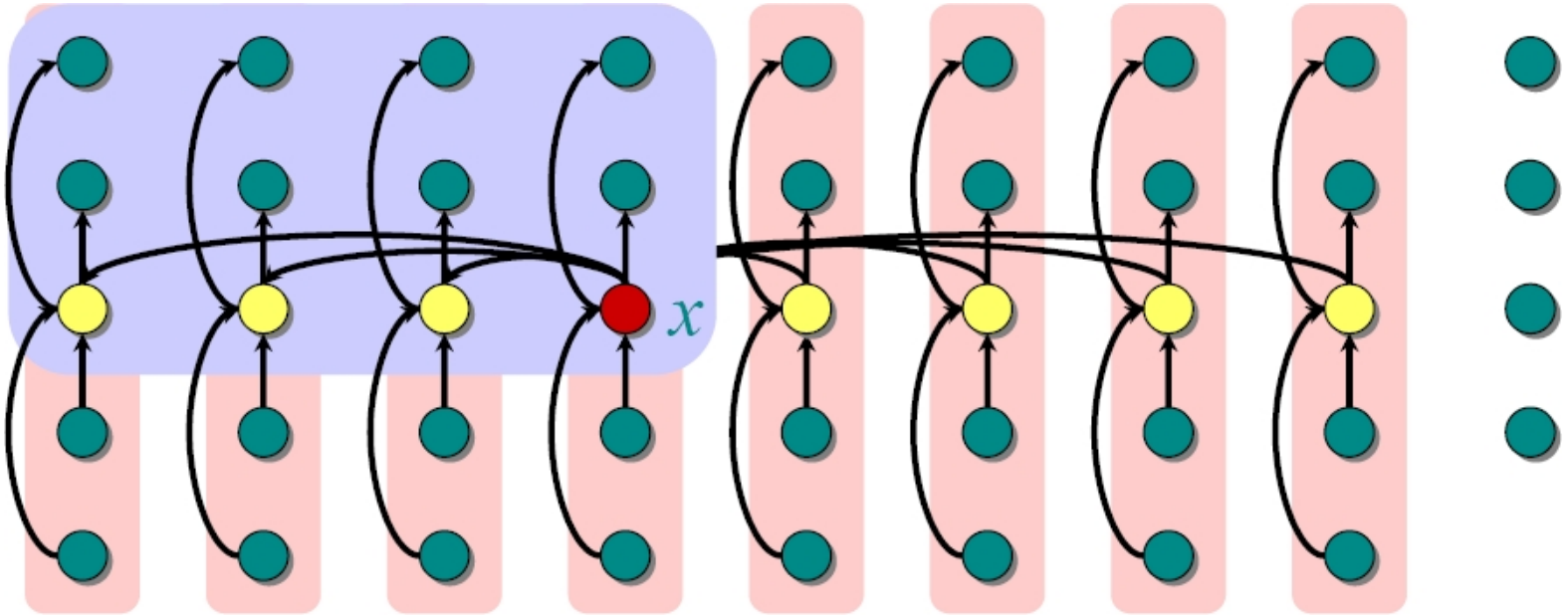

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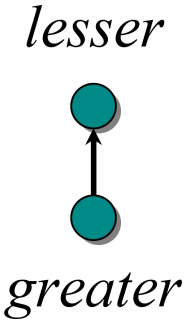

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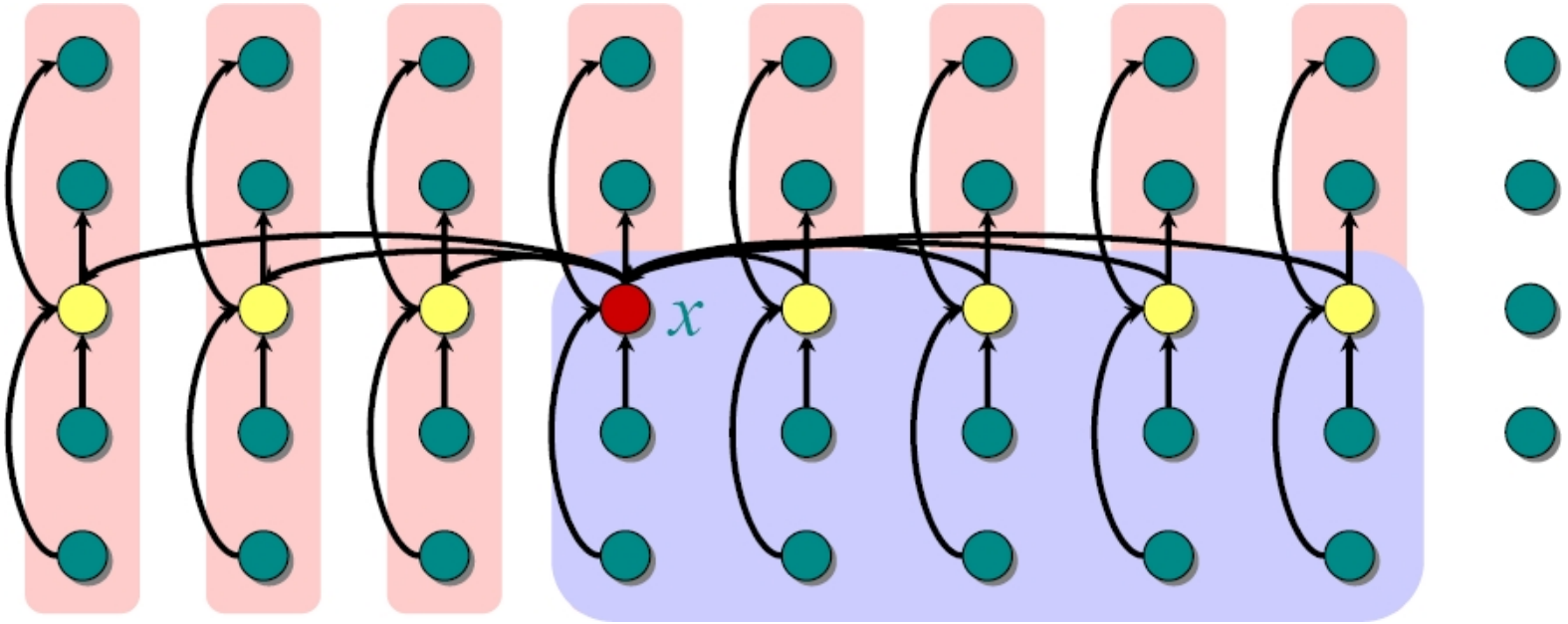

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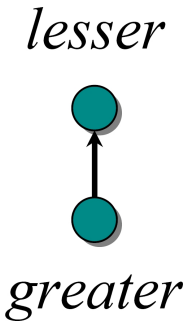
- Similarly, at least $3\lfloor n/10 \rfloor$ elements are $\geq$ x



Select: Running Time Analysis

- For $n \geq 50$, we have $3\lfloor n/10 \rfloor \geq n/4$. So, the call to SELECT in lines 4 and on is executed recursively on at most $3n/4$ elements
- The recurrence for the running time can assume that lines 4 and on takes $T(3n/4)$ in the worst case
- For $n < 50$, we know that the worst-case time is $T(n) \in \theta(1)$

The recurrence is: $T(n) = T(n/5) + \theta(n) + T(3n/4)$

Breakdown:

- **Line 1**: $\theta(n)$
- **Line 2:** $T(n/5)$
- **Line 3:** $\theta(n)$
- **Lines $\geq$ 4:** $T(3n/4)$

Substitution:

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &\leq \tfrac{1}{5}c \cdot n + \tfrac{3}{4}c \cdot n + \theta(n) \\ &= \tfrac{19}{20}c \cdot n + \theta(n) \\ &= c \cdot n - (\tfrac{1}{20}c \cdot n - \theta(n)) \\ &\leq c \cdot n \end{aligned}$$

if c is large enough to dominate $\theta(n)$

Order Statistics: Conclusions

- Since the work at each level of recursion is a constant fraction (19/20) smaller, the work per level is a geometric series dominated by the linear work at the root
- In practice, this algorithm runs slowly, because the constant in front of n is large
- The randomized algorithm is far more practical and simpler to implement
- **Exercise:** Why not divide into groups of 3?