

Sorting

Jing Liu

TDB & LMB, Uppsala University
Programming of Parallel Computers, Feb 2016



Sorting

- most commonly used, and well studied.
- compare based
 - ★ compare-exchange.
- non-compare based
- lower bound of any any comparison-based sort of n numbers is $\Theta(n \log n)$.





Bubble/sinking sort

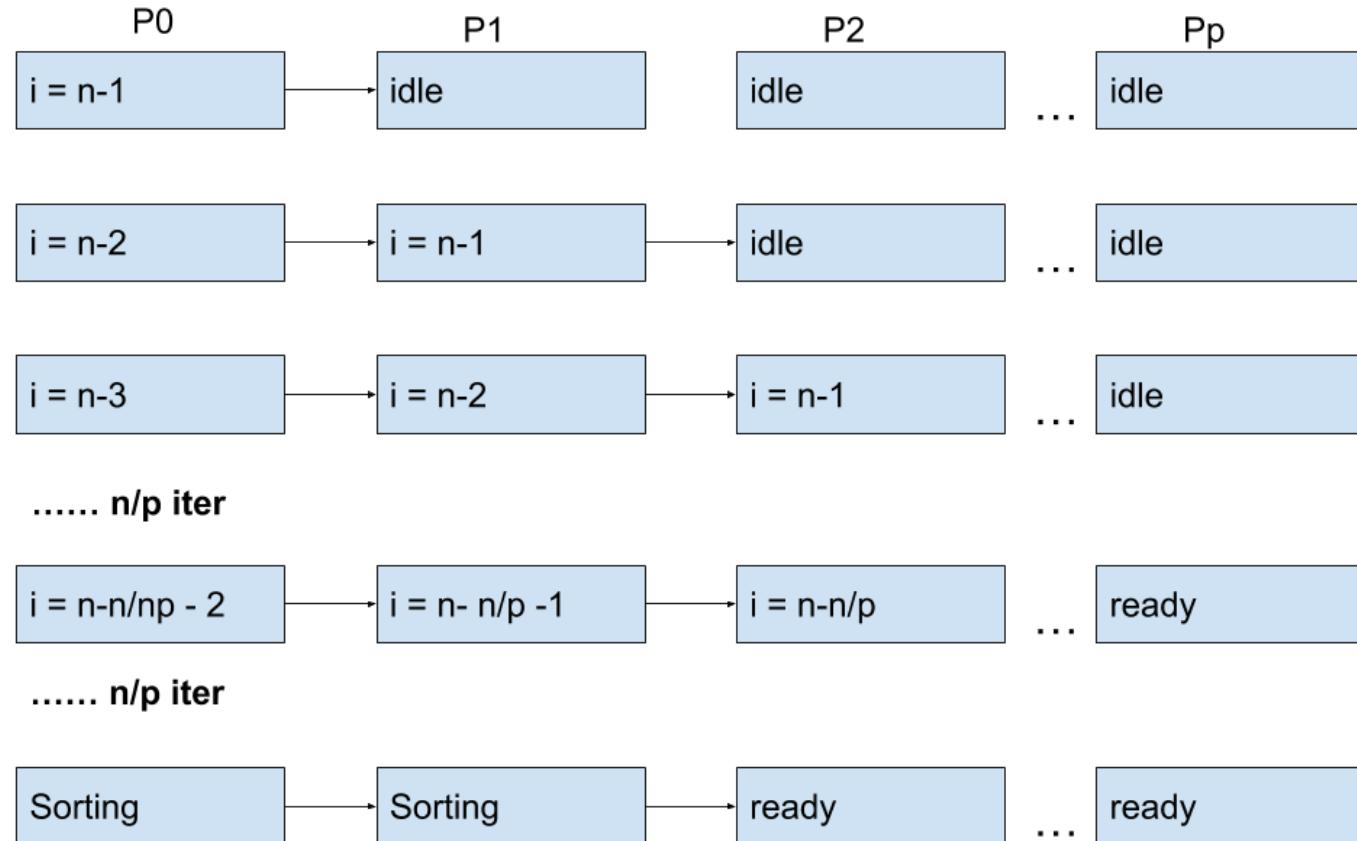
```
for i = n-1 down to 1
    for j = 1 to increase to i
        compare_exchange(aj ,aj+1)
    end for
end for
```

Worst case performance	$O(n^2)$
Best case performance	$O(n)$
Average case performance	$O(n^2)$



Bubble/sinking sort

- In case of array is distributed





Bubble/sinking sort

- Bubble /sinking sort pipeline
 - ✿ Load balance?
 - idling?
 - startup time?
 - last processor get ready first?
 - ✿ communication?
 - In each iteration, n times

Worst case performance

$O(n^2)$



Odd-even sort

■ Two phases

- ★ Odd: C/E elements only with odd indices with their right neighbor
- ★ Even: C/E elements only with even indices with their right neighbor

★ Work within each phase is perfectly parallel!

★ n-times

Worst case performance

$O(n^2)$

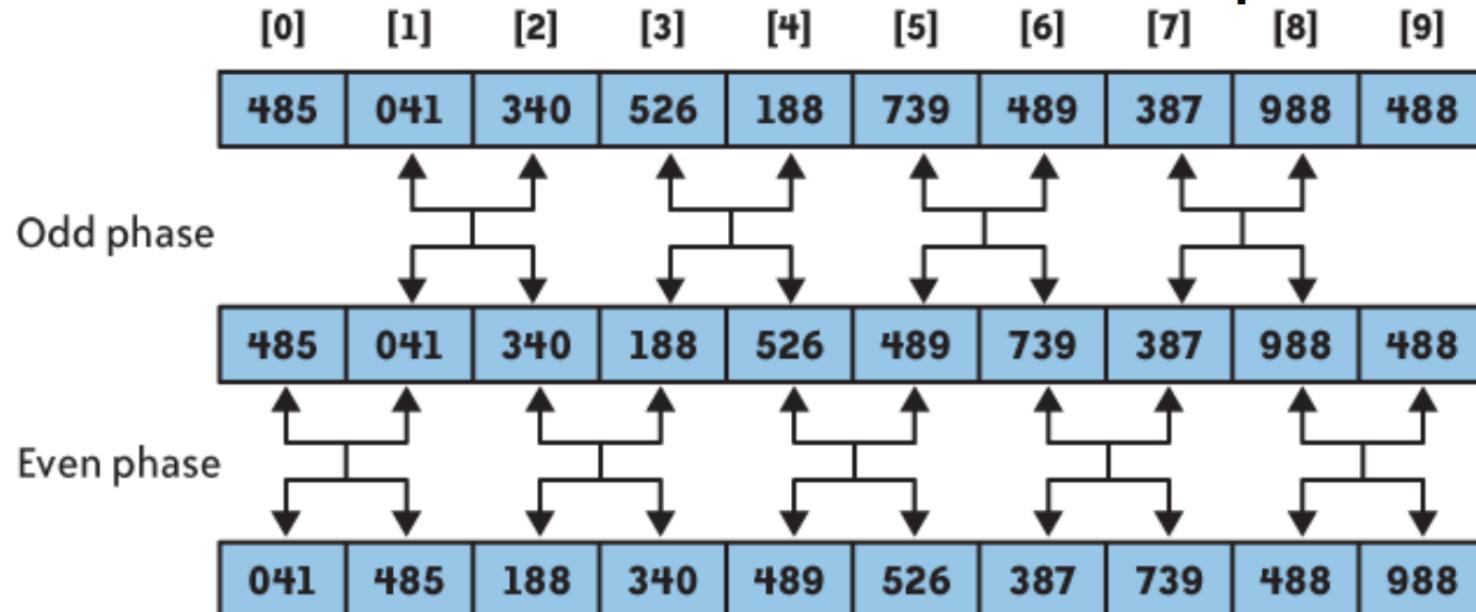
Best case performance

$O(n)$



Odd-even sort

Alternate between odd and even phases





Odd-even sort

- n-times
- perfect parallel loops

```
template <class T>
void OddEvenSort (T a[], int n)
{
    for (int i = 0 ; i < n ; i++)
    {
        if (i & 1) // 'i' is odd
        {
            for (int j = 2 ; j < n ; j += 2)
            {
                if (a[j] < a[j-1])
                    swap (a[j-1], a[j]) ;
            }
        }
        else
        {
            for (int j = 1 ; j < n ; j += 2)
            {
                if (a[j] < a[j-1])
                    swap (a[j-1], a[j]) ;
            }
        }
    }
}
```



Parallel Odd-even sort

- Divide data equally
- All processors sort locally.
- Two phases
 - ✿ Even: Processor with EVEN id merge data with next processor (to the right)
 - ✿ Odd: Processor with Odd id merge data with next processor (to the right)
 - ✿ P steps, or abort when no changes



Parallel Odd-even sort

■ Problems:

- ✳ load imbalance: only half processors are working in each step
- ✳ Unnecessary communication: Data moved back and forth
- ✳ slow



Quick sort

Worst case performance	$O(n^2)$
Best case performance	$O(n \log n)$ (simple partition) or $O(n)$ (three-way partition and equal keys)
Average case performance	$O(n \log n)$

- In sequential (Recursive algorithm)
 - ★ Select a pivot (which one?)
 - ★ Divide data into two lists according to the pivot element (smaller/ larger)
 - ★ Sort the lists independently with Quicksort (call the quick sort function again)
 - ★ Quicksort (pivot , list)



Quick sort in parallel

■ Naïve method

- ★ Start with one processor and all data
- ★ In each split employ a new processor for the other part
- ★ After $\log_2 P$ steps sort locally with each processors

- ★ Different pivot makes different, try different pivot selection strategy on LAB.



Quick sort in parallel

■ An improved parallel quick sort

- Divide data equally and sort locally
- Select pivot (the median) and broadcast within processor set
- In each processor divide data according to pivot
- Divide the processors into 2 sets, and exchange data pairwise between processors in the two sets such that the processors in one set gets data smaller than pivot and the other get larger ones
- Merge data and keep data sorted
- repeat 2~5 $\log_2 P$ steps



Quick sort in parallel

■ Problems:

- ★ Complex algorithm
- ★ Selection of pivot is important, a bad selection can lead to load imbalance.

→ How to choose the pivot?

Quick sort in parallel

- ★ Selecting Pivot -- medians
 - 8 processor
 - step1: select median in P0
 - step2: select median in P0, P4
 - step3: select median in P0,P2,P4,P6

- ★ How about if the data is almost sorted?

Quick sort in parallel

- Selecting Pivot – median of medians with respect to each processor set
 - Select medians from P0 ~ P7
 - Select the median of these medians for each processor set
- What if all medians are bad? either too high or too low?

Quick sort in parallel

- Selecting Pivot -- means
8 processor
 - step1: select mean in P0
 - step2: select mean in P0, P4
 - step3: select mean in P0,P2,P4,P6
- ★ How about if the data is not uniform?

Quick sort in parallel

- Selecting Pivot -- means
8 processor
 - step1: select mean in P0
 - step2: select mean in P0, P4
 - step3: select mean in P0,P2,P4,P6
- ★ How about if the data is not uniform?



Quick sort in parallel

- Selecting Pivot – Select medians at once
- For all steps in Quick sort, we need $P-1$ pivots, and we will select them at once
 - ✿ Each process select L evenly distributed elements within its data.
 - ✿ Sort all selected elements ($L * P$) globally
 - ✿ Choose $P-1$ evenly distributed elements as pivots and broadcast

Good if P or L is big enough, but expensive.

Quick sort in parallel

- Selecting Pivot – Statistical expectation values for the medians.
 - ✳ If the distribution is known, eg: normal, uniform.



Bucket sort

Algorithm:

- ★ Define k-buckets in the interval [min, max], and filter the elements into the buckets
- ★ Assign the buckets into processors
- ★ Sort the buckets locally in each processor (parallel)

- ★ Problem: 1) Large serial section in filtering.
2) Load imbalance, difficult to create buckets with equal number of elements

Worst case performance

$O(n^2)$

Best case performance

$\Omega(n + k)$

Average case performance

$\Theta(n + k)$



Bucket sort

■ How to do filtering?

- ★ Assume equal sized buckets in the interval $[min, max]$, and the unsorted list is a

$$b = \left\lfloor \frac{a[i] - min}{max - min} * nbuckets \right\rfloor - 1$$

- ★ Linear time, independent of nbuckets



read more

- sorting https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sorting_algorithm

- $O(n^2)$, $O(\log n)$

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Big_O_notation