## Problem solving.

How do you sort a set of objects?

## Problem solving.

How do you sort a set of objects?
In high school.

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How do you sort a set of objects?
In high school. Before you came to Berkeley.

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How do you sort a set of objects?
In high school. Before you came to Berkeley.
How would you sort by yourself?

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In high school. Before you came to Berkeley.
How would you sort by yourself?
Talk to your neighbor!

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How do you sort a set of objects?
In high school. Before you came to Berkeley.
How would you sort by yourself?
Talk to your neighbor!
How would you sort with two of you?
Do some work splitting up?
Do some work putting together?
Talk to your neighbor.

## By yourself: $O\left(n^{2}\right)$

Pick the largest one,
set it aside, sort the rest, and put the largest last.

## By yourself: $O\left(n^{2}\right)$

Pick the largest one, set it aside, sort the rest, and put the largest last.
Choose the largest one: $O(n)$.

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Pick the largest one,
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Choose the largest one: $O(n)$.
Do this $n$ times.

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$O\left(n^{2}\right)$.

## Two of you: divide and conquer.

Split the objects in half.

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Each of you sort.

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Each of you sort.
Merge the sorted piles.

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Divide and conquer.

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Split the objects into a larger and smaller group.

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Split the objects into a larger and smaller group.
One sorts the larger one, the other the small one.

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Split the objects into a larger and smaller group.
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Put together.

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Put together.
Divide and conquer.

You are already problem solvers!

## What's the point of all this?

You are already problem solvers!
We are giving tools to be more precise ...

## What's the point of all this?

You are already problem solvers!
We are giving tools to be more precise ... and powerful (with recursion and programming and algorithms.)

## More divide and conquer: mergesort.

Sort items in $n$ elt array: $A=\left[a_{1}, \ldots, a_{n}\right]$,

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Sort items in $n$ elt array: $A=\left[a_{1}, \ldots, a_{n}\right]$, E.g., $A=[5,6,7,9,10,2,3 \ldots]$.

## Mergesort(A)

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if (length(A) >1)
    return
            (merge (mergesort (a[1],...,a[n/2]),
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How to merge?

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Choose lowest from two lists,

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How to merge?
Choose lowest from two lists, cross out, repeat.
Sorted SubArray 1: $3,7,8,10,11, \ldots$
Sorted Subarray 2: $4,5,9,19,20, \ldots$

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Choose lowest from two lists, cross out, repeat.
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Sorted Subarray 2: $\$, 5,9,19,20, \ldots$ 3,4, ,

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## Mergesort: running time analysis

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Apply Masters:
$a=2, b=2, d=1$

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Apply Masters:
$a=2, b=2, d=1 \Longrightarrow \log _{2} 2=1$

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Apply Masters:
$a=2, b=2, d=1 \Longrightarrow \log _{2} 2=1 \quad \Longrightarrow T(n)=O(n \log n)$.

## Check it out...

Iterative Mergesort: Bottom up, use of queues.

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Make each element into list and put lists in queue.

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$\square$

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Make each element into list and put lists in queue.

$$
\begin{array}{|l|l|ll}
\hline 8 & 3 & 5 & 9 \\
\cdots
\end{array}
$$

Merge first two lists, put in queue (at end).

$$
\begin{array}{|l|lll}
5 & 9 & \cdots & 3,8 \\
\hline
\end{array}
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3,8

Rinse.

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Rinse. Repeat.


And next pass through queue...

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Rinse. Repeat.

| $\ldots$. . . | 3,8 | 5,9 |
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And next pass through queue...

| $\ldots$ | $3,5,8,9$ |
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Each pass through queue: each element touched once.

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Each pass through queue: each element touched once. $O(n)$ time.

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Each pass through queue: each element touched once. $O(n)$ time. Each pass halves number of lists.

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Each pass through queue: each element touched once. $O(n)$ time. Each pass halves number of lists.
$\Longrightarrow O(\log n)$ passes

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$$
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\hline 5 & 9 & \cdots & 3,8 \\
\hline
\end{array}
$$

Rinse. Repeat.

| $\ldots \ldots$ | 3,8 | 5,9 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |

And next pass through queue...

| $\ldots \ldots$ | $3,5,8,9$ |
| :--- | ---: |

Each pass through queue: each element touched once. $O(n)$ time. Each pass halves number of lists.
$\Longrightarrow O(\log n)$ passes $\Longrightarrow O(n \log n)$ time

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A research area: "bit complexity" versus "word complexity".

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$O(n \log n)$ time.

## Median finding.

Find the median element of a set of elements: $a_{1}, \ldots, a_{n}$.
Median is value, $v$, where $\frac{n}{2}$ elts are less than $v$ (if $n$ is odd.)
Versus Average?
Average household income (2004): \$70,700
Median household income (2004): \$43,200
Why so different? Bill Gates and Jeff Bezos. The 1\%, perhaps.
Why use average?
Find average? Compute $\frac{\Sigma_{i} a_{i}}{n}$.
$O(n)$ time.
Compute median? Sort to get $s_{1}, \ldots s_{n}$. Output element $s_{n / 2+1}$.
$O(n \log n)$ time.
Better algorithm?

## Solve a harder Problem: Selection.

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For a set of $n$ items $S$.

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Example.
$k=7$ for items $\{11,48,5,21,2,15,17,19,15\}$

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Output?

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Output?
(A) 19
(B) 15
(C) 21

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$k=7$ for items $\{11,48,5,21,2,15,17,19,15\}$
Output?
(A) 19
(B) 15
(C) 21
????

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For a set of $n$ items $S$.
Select $k$ th smallest element.
Median: select $\lfloor n / 2\rfloor+1$ elt. Select $(k, S): \quad k=7$

$$
S: 11,48,5,21,2,15,17,19,15
$$

## Solve a harder Problem: Selection.

For a set of $n$ items $S$.
Select $k$ th smallest element.
Median: select $\lfloor n / 2\rfloor+1$ elt.

Select $(k, S)$ : $\quad k=7$
Base Case: $k=1$ and $|S|=1$, return elt.
Choose rand. pivot elt $b$ from $A$.
$S: 11,48,5,21,2,15,17,19,15$
$v=15$

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For a set of $n$ items $S$.
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$S: 11,48,5,21,2,15,17,19,15$
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Form $S_{L}$ containing all elts $<v$

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Base Case: $k=1$ and $|S|=1$, return elt.
Choose rand. pivot elt $b$ from $A$.
Form $S_{L}$ containing all elts $<v$
$S: 11,48,5,21,2,15,17,19,15$
$v=15$
$S_{L}: 11,5,2$

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Base Case: $k=1$ and $|S|=1$, return elt.
Choose rand. pivot elt $b$ from $A$.
Form $S_{L}$ containing all elts $<v$
$S: 11,48,5,21,2,15,17,19,15$
$v=15$
Form $S_{v}$ containing all elts $=v$

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Select $(k, S): \quad k=7$
Base Case: $k=1$ and $|S|=1$, return elt.
Choose rand. pivot elt $b$ from $A$.
Form $S_{L}$ containing all elts $<v$
Form $S_{v}$ containing all elts $=v$
$S: 11,48,5,21,2,15,17,19,15$

$$
v=15
$$

$S_{L}: 11,5,2$
$S_{v}: 15,15$

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Choose rand. pivot elt $b$ from $A$.
Form $S_{L}$ containing all elts $<v$
Form $S_{v}$ containing all elts $=v$
Form $S_{R}$ containing all elts $>v$

$$
S: 11,48,5,21,2,15,17,19,15
$$

$$
v=15
$$

$$
S_{L}: 11,5,2
$$

$$
S_{v}: 15,15
$$

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Form $S_{v}$ containing all elts $=v$
Form $S_{R}$ containing all elts $>v$
$S: 11,48,5,21,2,15,17,19,15$

$$
v=15
$$

$S_{L}: 11,5,2$
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$S_{R}: 48,21,17,19$

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Base Case: $k=1$ and $|S|=1$, return elt.
Choose rand. pivot elt $b$ from $A$.
Form $S_{L}$ containing all elts $<v$
Form $S_{v}$ containing all elts $=v$
Form $S_{R}$ containing all elts $>v$

$$
\text { If } k \leq\left|S_{L}\right| \text {, Select }\left(k, S_{L}\right)
$$

$S: 11,48,5,21,2,15,17,19,15$
$v=15$
$S_{L}: 11,5,2$
$S_{v}: 15,15$
$S_{R}: 48,21,17,19$
$7 \leq 3 ?$

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For a set of $n$ items $S$.
Select $k$ th smallest element.
Median: select $\lfloor n / 2\rfloor+1$ elt.

| Select $(k, S):$ | $k=7$ |
| :--- | :---: |
| Base Case: $k=1$ and $\|S\|=1$, return elt. | $S: 11,48,5,21,2,15,17,19,15$ |
| Choose rand. pivot elt $b$ from $A$. | $v=15$ |
| Form $S_{L}$ containing all elts $<v$ | $S_{L}: 11,5,2$ |
| Form $S_{V}$ containing all elts $=v$ | $S_{V}: 15,15$ |
| Form $S_{R}$ containing all elts $>v$ | $S_{R}: 48,21,17,19$ |
| If $k \leq\left\|S_{L}\right\|$, Select $\left(k, S_{L}\right)$. | $7 \leq 3$ ? |
| elseif $k \leq\left\|S_{L}\right\|+\left\|S_{v}\right\|$, return $v$. | $7 \leq 5$ ? |

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| :--- | :---: |
| Base Case: $k=1$ and $\|S\|=1$, return elt. | $S: 11,48,5,21,2,15,17,19,15$ |
| Choose rand. pivot elt $b$ from $A$. | $v=15$ |
| Form $S_{L}$ containing all elts $<v$ | $S_{L}: 11,5,2$ |
| Form $S_{V}$ containing all elts $=v$ | $S_{V}: 15,15$ |
| Form $S_{R}$ containing all elts $>v$ | $S_{R}: 48,21,17,19$ |
|  |  |
| If $k \leq\left\|S_{L}\right\|$, Select $\left(k, S_{L}\right)$. | $7 \leq 3$ ? |
| elseif $k \leq\left\|S_{L}\right\|+\left\|S_{V}\right\|$, return $v$. | $7 \leq 5$ ? |
| else Select $\left(k-\left\|S_{L}\right\|-\left\|S_{v}\right\|, S_{R}\right)$ |  |

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Select $k$ th smallest element.
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| Select $(k, S):$ | $k=7$ |
| :--- | :---: |
| Base Case: $k=1$ and $\|S\|=1$, return elt. | $S: 11,48,5,21,2,15,17,19,15$ |
| Choose rand. pivot elt $b$ from $A$. | $v=15$ |
| Form $S_{L}$ containing all elts $<v$ | $S_{L}: 11,5,2$ |
| Form $S_{V}$ containing all elts $=v$ | $S_{V}: 15,15$ |
| Form $S_{R}$ containing all elts $>v$ | $S_{R}: 48,21,17,19$ |
|  |  |
| If $k \leq\left\|S_{L}\right\|$, Select $\left(k, S_{L}\right)$. | $7 \leq 3$ ? |
| elseif $k \leq\left\|S_{L}\right\|+\left\|S_{V}\right\|$, return $v$. | $7 \leq 5$ ? |
| else Select $\left(k-\left\|S_{L}\right\|-\left\|S_{V}\right\|, S_{R}\right)$ | Select $(2,[48,21,17,19])$ |

## Solve a harder Problem: Selection.

For a set of $n$ items $S$.
Select $k$ th smallest element.
Median: select $\lfloor n / 2\rfloor+1$ elt.

```
Select(k,S): }\quadk=
\[
S: 11,48,5,21,2,15,17,19,15
\]
    Base Case: }k=1\mathrm{ and |S| = 1, return elt.
    Choose rand. pivot elt b from A.
    Form }\mp@subsup{S}{L}{}\mathrm{ containing all elts <v
Form Sv
Form }\mp@subsup{S}{R}{}\mathrm{ containing all elts >v
    If }k\leq|\mp@subsup{S}{L}{}|,\operatorname{Select}(k,\mp@subsup{S}{L}{})\mathrm{ .
    elseif k\leq |SL|+|\mp@subsup{S}{V}{}|, return v.
    else Select(k-|SL| - |Sv|, SR)
S:11,48,5,21,2,15,17,19,15
v=15
    SL:11,5,2
\(v=15\)
\(S_{L}: 11,5,2\)
\(S_{V}: 15,15\)
\(S_{R}: 48,21,17,19\)
\[
S_{v}: 15,15
\]
\[
S_{R}: 48,21,17,19
\]
\[
\begin{aligned}
& \text { If } k \leq\left|S_{L}\right| \text {, Select }\left(k, S_{L}\right) \text {. } \\
& \text { elseif } k \leq\left|S_{L}\right|+\left|S_{V}\right| \text {, return } v \text {. } \\
& \text { else Select }\left(k-\left|S_{L}\right|-\left|S_{V}\right|, S_{R}\right)
\end{aligned}
\]
```

Will eventually return 19, which is 7th element of list.

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For a set of $n$ items $S$.
Select $k$ th smallest element.
Median: select $\lfloor n / 2\rfloor+1$ elt.

```
Select(k,S): }\quadk=
    Base Case: }k=1\mathrm{ and |S| = 1, return elt.
    Choose rand. pivot elt b from A.
    Form }\mp@subsup{S}{L}{}\mathrm{ containing all elts <v
Form Sv
Form }\mp@subsup{S}{R}{}\mathrm{ containing all elts >v
If }k\leq|\mp@subsup{S}{L}{}|,\operatorname{Select}(k,\mp@subsup{S}{L}{})\mathrm{ .
elseif }k\leq|\mp@subsup{S}{L}{}|+|\mp@subsup{S}{v}{}|\mathrm{ , return v.
else Select(k- |SL| - |Sv|, SR)
S:11,48,5,21,2,15,17,19,15
v=15
SL:11,5,2
\(v=15\)
\(S_{L}: 11,5,2\)
\(S_{V}: 15,15\)
\(S_{R}: 48,21,17,19\)
7\leq3?
S
SR:48,21,17,19
```

Will eventually return 19 , which is 7 th element of list.
Correctness:

## Solve a harder Problem: Selection.

For a set of $n$ items $S$.
Select $k$ th smallest element.
Median: select $\lfloor n / 2\rfloor+1$ elt.

```
Select(k,S): }\quadk=7\quadS:11,48,5,21,2,15,17,19,1
    Base Case: }k=1\mathrm{ and }|S|=1\mathrm{ , return elt.
    Choose rand. pivot elt b from A.
    Form SL containing all elts <v
Form Sv
Form }\mp@subsup{S}{R}{}\mathrm{ containing all elts >v
    If }k\leq|\mp@subsup{S}{L}{}|,\operatorname{Select}(k,\mp@subsup{S}{L}{})\mathrm{ .
    elseif k\leq |SL|+|\mp@subsup{S}{V}{}|, return v.
    else Select(k- |SL|-|\mp@subsup{S}{V}{}|,\mp@subsup{S}{R}{})
v=15
SL:11,5,2
\[
\begin{gathered}
v=15 \\
S_{L}: 11,5,2 \\
S_{V}: 15,15 \\
S_{R}: 48,21,17,19
\end{gathered}
\]
\[
\begin{aligned}
& \text { If } k \leq\left|S_{L}\right| \text {, Select }\left(k, S_{L}\right) \text {. } \\
& \text { elseif } k \leq\left|S_{L}\right|+\left|S_{V}\right| \text {, return } v . \\
& \text { else Select }\left(k-\left|S_{L}\right|-\left|S_{V}\right|, S_{R}\right)
\end{aligned}
\]
```

Will eventually return 19 , which is 7 th element of list.
Correctness: Induction.
Idea: Subroutine returns correct answer,

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    Base Case: }k=1\mathrm{ and }|S|=1\mathrm{ , return elt.
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If }k\leq|\mp@subsup{S}{L}{}|,\operatorname{Select}(k,\mp@subsup{S}{L}{})\mathrm{ .
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else Select(k- |SL| - |Sv|, SR)
S:11,48,5,21,2,15,17,19,15
v=15
SL:11,5,2
\(v=15\)
\(S_{L}: 11,5,2\)
\(S_{V}: 15,15\)
\(S_{R}: 48,21,17,19\)
    7\leq 3?
7\leq5?
S
SR:48,21,17,19
```

Will eventually return 19, which is 7th element of list.
Correctness: Induction. Idea: Subroutine returns correct answer, and

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\(v=15\)
\(S_{L}: 11,5,2\)
\(S_{V}: 15,15\)
\(S_{R}: 48,21,17,19\)
    7\leq 3?
7\leq5?
S
SR:48,21,17,19
```

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elseif }k\leq|\mp@subsup{S}{L}{}|+|\mp@subsup{S}{v}{}|\mathrm{ , return v.
else Select(k- |SL| - |Sv|, SR)
S:11,48,5,21,2,15,17,19,15
v=15
SL:11,5,2
\(v=15\)
\(S_{L}: 11,5,2\)
\(S_{V}: 15,15\)
\(S_{R}: 48,21,17,19\)
    7\leq 3?
7\leq5?
S
SR:48,21,17,19
```

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elseif }k\leq|\mp@subsup{S}{L}{}|+|\mp@subsup{S}{v}{}|\mathrm{ , return v.
else Select(k- |SL| - |Sv|, SR)
S:11,48,5,21,2,15,17,19,15
v=15
SL:11,5,2
\(v=15\)
\(S_{L}: 11,5,2\)
\(S_{V}: 15,15\)
\(S_{R}: 48,21,17,19\)
    7\leq 3?
7\leq5?
S
SR:48,21,17,19
```

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S:11,48,5,21,2,15,17,19,15
v=15
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\(v=15\)
\(S_{L}: 11,5,2\)
\(S_{V}: 15,15\)
\(S_{R}: 48,21,17,19\)
    7\leq 3?
7\leq5?
S
SR:48,21,17,19
```

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Median: select $\lfloor n / 2\rfloor+1$ elt.

| Select $(k, S):$ | $k=7$ |
| :--- | :---: |
| Base Case: $k=1$ and $\|S\|=1$, return elt. | $S: 11,48,5,21,2,15,17,19,15$ |
| Choose rand. pivot elt $b$ from $A$. | $v=15$ |
| Form $S_{L}$ containing all elts $<v$ | $S_{L}: 11,5,2$ |
| Form $S_{V}$ containing all elts $=v$ | $S_{V}: 15,15$ |
| Form $S_{R}$ containing all elts $>v$ | $S_{R}: 48,21,17,19$ |
|  |  |
| If $k \leq\left\|S_{L}\right\|$, Select $\left(k, S_{L}\right)$. | $7 \leq 3$ ? |
| elseif $k \leq\left\|S_{L}\right\|+\left\|S_{V}\right\|$, return $v$. | $7 \leq 5$ ? |
| else Select $\left(k-\left\|S_{L}\right\|-\left\|S_{v}\right\|, S_{R}\right)$ | Select $(2,[48,21,17,19])$ |

Will eventually return 19 , which is 7 th element of list.
Correctness: Induction. Idea: Subroutine returns correct answer, and so will I !
Base case is good.

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| Form $S_{R}$ containing all elts $>v$ | $S_{R}: 48,21,17,19$ |
|  |  |
| If $k \leq\left\|S_{L}\right\|$, Select $\left(k, S_{L}\right)$. | $7 \leq 3$ ? |
| elseif $k \leq\left\|S_{L}\right\|+\left\|S_{V}\right\|$, return $v$. | $7 \leq 5$ ? |
| else Select $\left(k-\left\|S_{L}\right\|-\left\|S_{V}\right\|, S_{R}\right)$ | Select $(2,[48,21,17,19])$ |

Will eventually return 19 , which is 7 th element of list.
Correctness: Induction.
Idea: Subroutine returns correct answer, and so will I !
Base case is good. Subroutine calls

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For a set of $n$ items $S$.
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| Base Case: $k=1$ and $\|S\|=1$, return elt. | $S: 11,48,5,21,2,15,17,19,15$ |
| Choose rand. pivot elt $b$ from $A$. | $v=15$ |
| Form $S_{L}$ containing all elts $<v$ | $S_{L}: 11,5,2$ |
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|  |  |
| If $k \leq\left\|S_{L}\right\|$, Select $\left(k, S_{L}\right)$. | $7 \leq 3$ ? |
| elseif $k \leq\left\|S_{L}\right\|+\left\|S_{V}\right\|$, return $v$. | $7 \leq 5$ ? |
| else Select $\left(k-\left\|S_{L}\right\|-\left\|S_{V}\right\|, S_{R}\right)$ | Select $(2,[48,21,17,19])$ |

Will eventually return 19 , which is 7 th element of list.
Correctness: Induction.
Idea: Subroutine returns correct answer, and so will I !
Base case is good. Subroutine calls ..by design.

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Expected Time of algorithm on $n$ elements.

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$X$ - number of iterations for group to be small enough.
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## One method: amortized analysis.

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