



Algorithm Engineering für grundlegende Datenstrukturen und Algorithmen

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Was sind die **schnellsten implementierten Algorithmen**
für das 1×1 der Algorithmik:
Listen, Sortieren, Prioritätslisten, Sortierte Listen, Hashtabellen,
Graphenalgorithmen?



Nützliche Vorkenntnisse

- Informatik I/II
- Algorithmentechnik (gleichzeitig hören vermutlich OK)
- etwa Rechnerarchitektur (oder Ct lesen ;-)
- passive Kenntnisse von C/C++

Vertiefungsgebiet: Algorithmik



Material

- Folien
- wissenschaftliche Aufsätze. Siehe Vorlesungshomepage
- Basiskenntnisse: Algorithmenlehrbücher, z.B. Cormen Leiserson Rivest???, Mehlhorn, Sedgewick, sowie ein Manuskript zu einem neuen Lehrbuch
- Mehlhorn Näher: The LEDA Platform of Combinatorial and Geometric Computing. Gut für die fortgeschrittenen Papiere.



Überblick

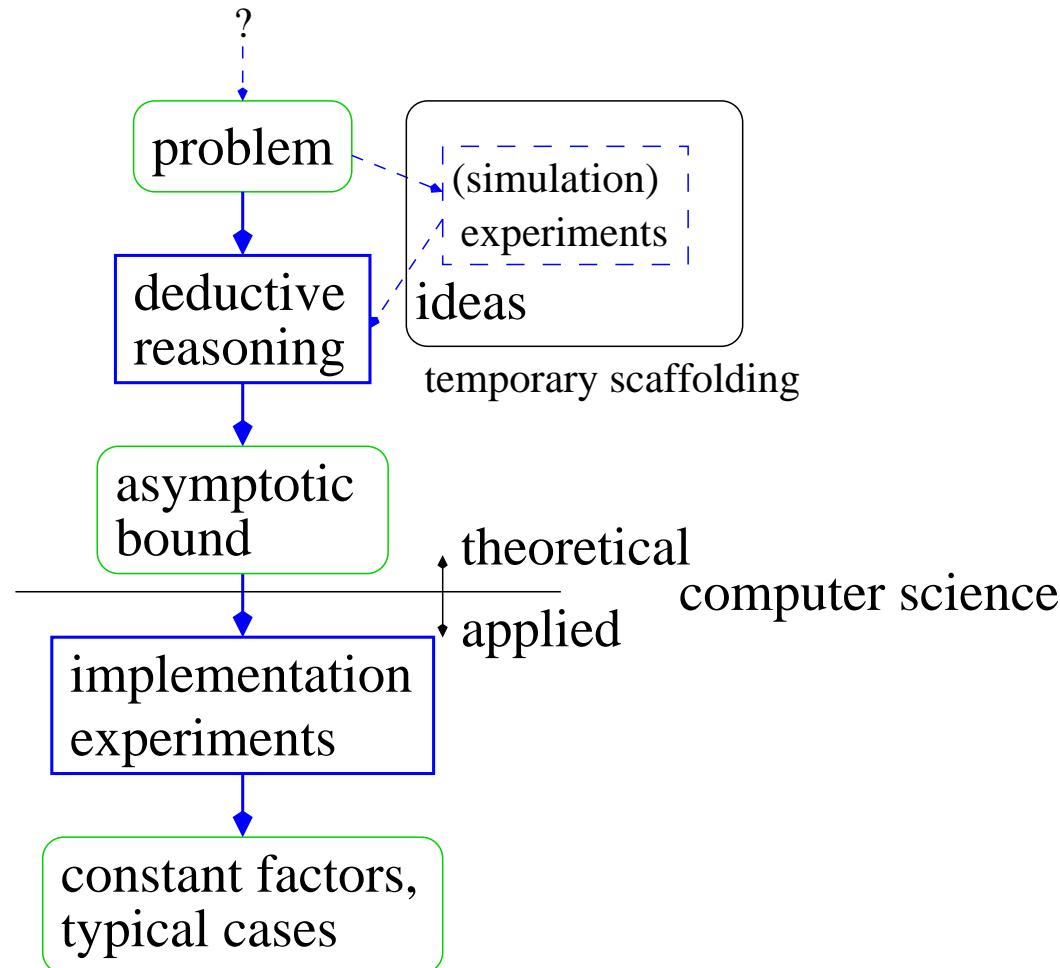
- Was ist Algorithm Engineering, Modelle, ...
- Erste Schritte: Arrays, verkettete Listen, Stacks, FIFOs, ...
- Sortieren rauf und runter
- Prioritätslisten
- Sortierte Listen
- Hashtabellen
- Minimale Spannbäume
- Kürzeste Wege
- Ausgewählte fortgeschrittene Algorithmen, z.B. maximale Flüsse

Methodik: in Exkursen



The Traditional Theoretical View?

A Waterfall Model of Algorithmics

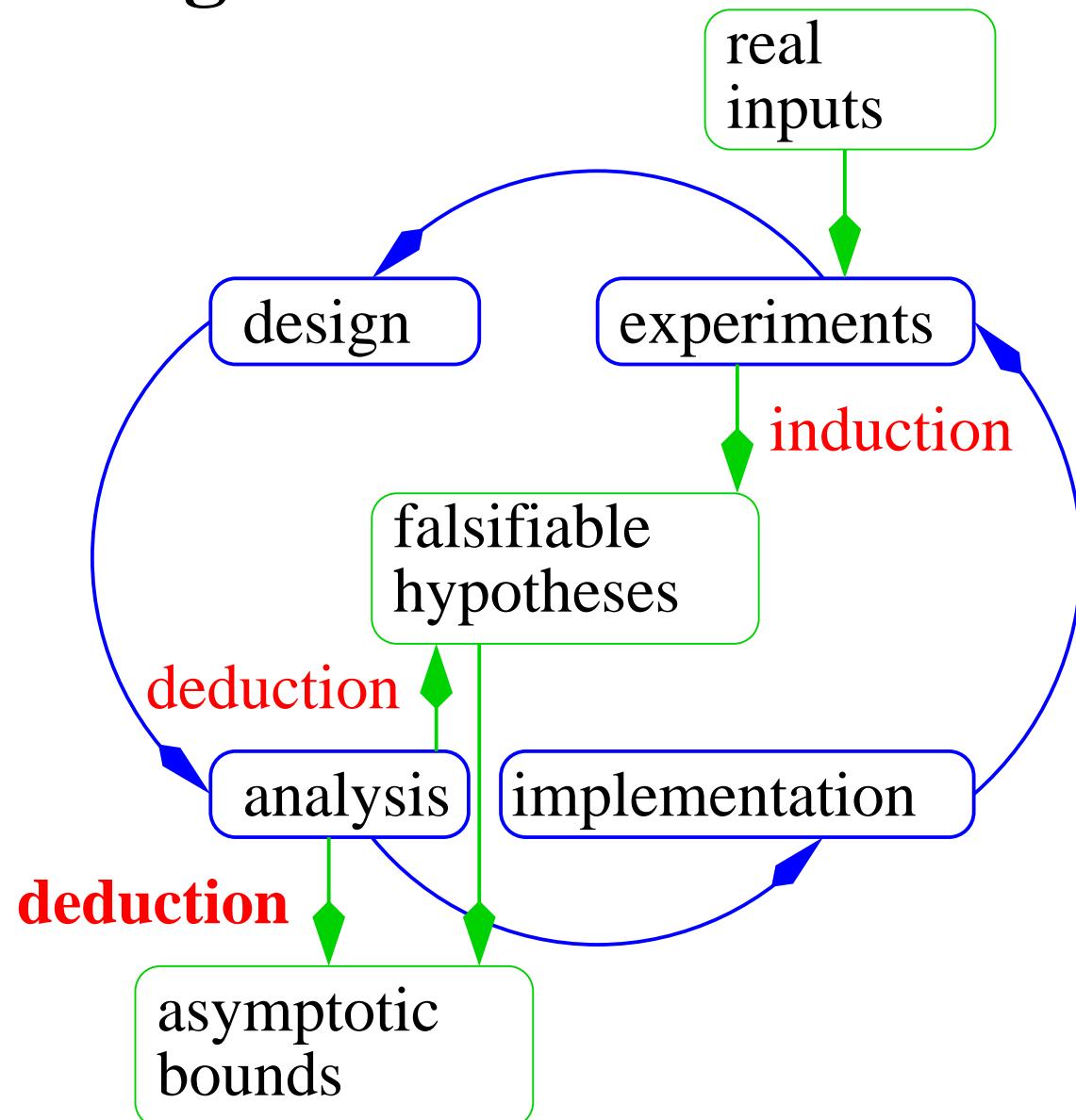




Algorithm Engineering

Scientific Method

The model
of natural science
[Popper 1934]





Goals

- Theory meets technology —
machine models must cope with
technological developments
- Faster transfer of algorithmic result into applications
- Bridge existing gaps





Symptoms of Gaps

theory	↔	practice
simple		problem model
simple		
complex		
advanced		real
worst case		FOR simple
asymptotical		arrays,...
		real inputs
		constant factors



Why Bridge Gaps?

- With growing problems size asymptotics will eventually win
- Worst case bounds
 - ~~ performance guarantees
 - ~~ quality, real time properties
- Theory in the natural science means:
Theory explains reality



Warum diese Vorlesung?

- Jeder Informatiker kennt einige Lehrbuchalgorithmen
~~> wir können gleich mit Algorithm Engineering loslegen
- Viele Anwendungen profitieren
- Es ist frappierend, dass es hier noch Neuland gibt
- Basis für Studien- Diplomarbeiten



Was diese Vorlesung nicht ist:

Keine wiedergekäute Algorithmentechnik o.Ä.

- Grundvorlesungen “vereinfachen” die Wahrheit oft
- z.T. fortgeschrittene Algorithmen
- steilere Lernkurve
- Implementierungsdetails
- Betonung von Messergebnissen



Was diese Vorlesung nicht ist:

Keine Theorievorlesung

- keine (wenig?) Beweise
- Reale Leistung vor Asymptotik



Was diese Vorlesung nicht ist:

Keine Implementierungsvorlesung

- Etwas Algorithmenanalyse,...
- Wenig Software Engineering
- Keine Implementierungsübungen (aber, stay tuned für ein Praktikum)

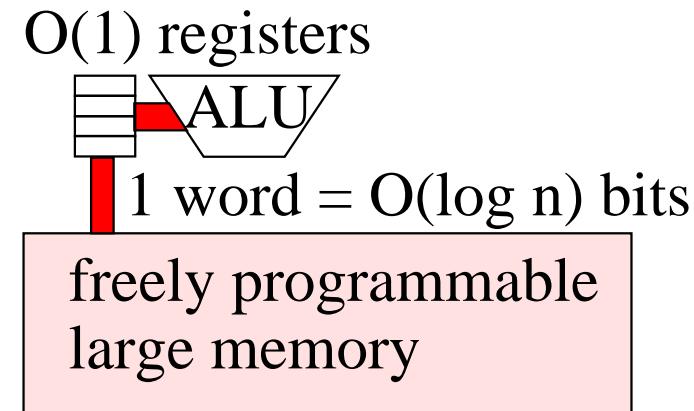


Exkurs: Maschinenmodelle

RAM/von Neumann Modell

Analyse: zähle Maschinenbefehle —
load, store, Arithmetik, Branch, . . .

- Einfach
- Sehr erfolgreich
- zunehmend unrealistisch
 - weil reale Hardware
 - immer komplexer wird

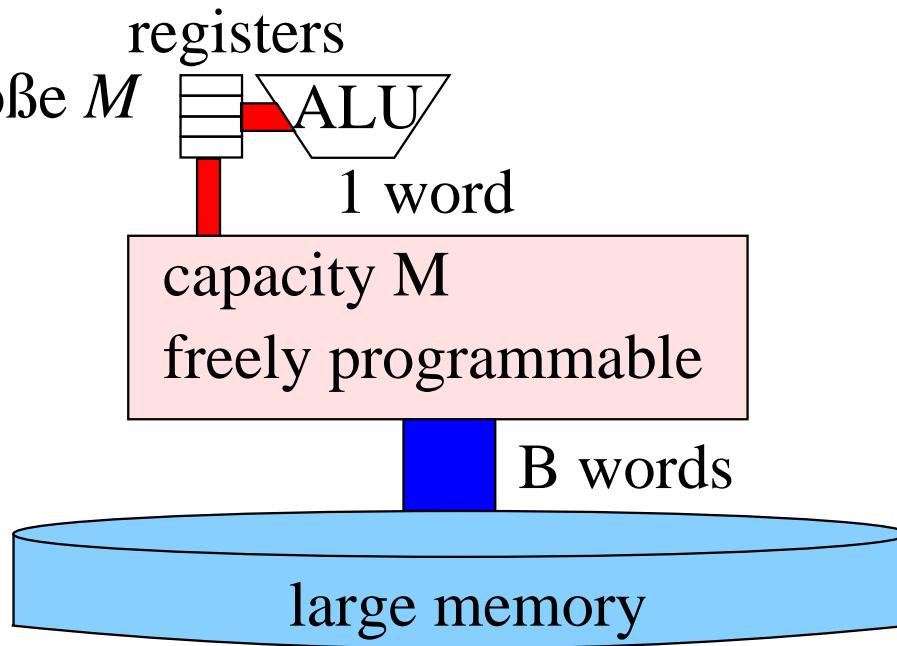




Das Sekundärspeichermodell

M : Schneller Speicher der Größe M

B : Blockgröße



Analyse: zähle (**nur?**) Blockzugriffe (I/Os)

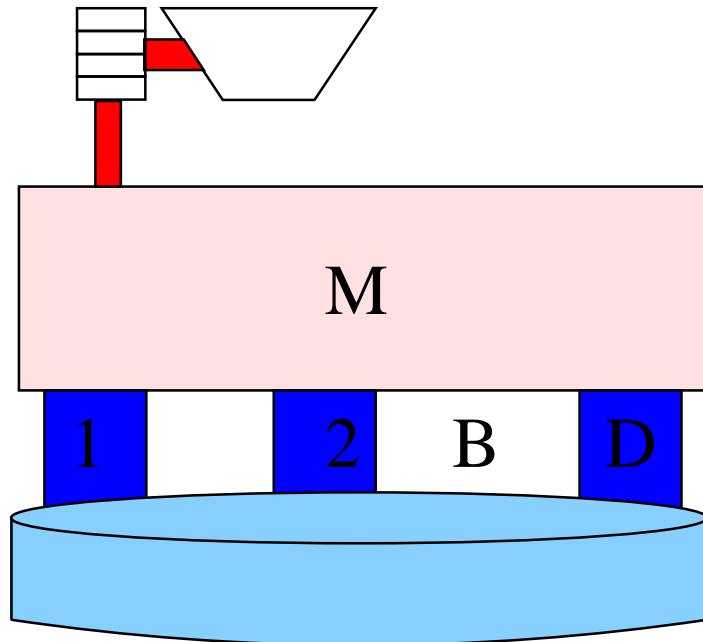


Interpretationen des Sekundärspeichermodells

	Externspeicher	Caches
großer Speicher	Platte(n)	Hauptspeicher
M	Hauptspeicher	ein cache level
B	Plattenblock (MBytes!)	Cache Block (16–256) Byte
Ggf. auch zwei cache levels.		

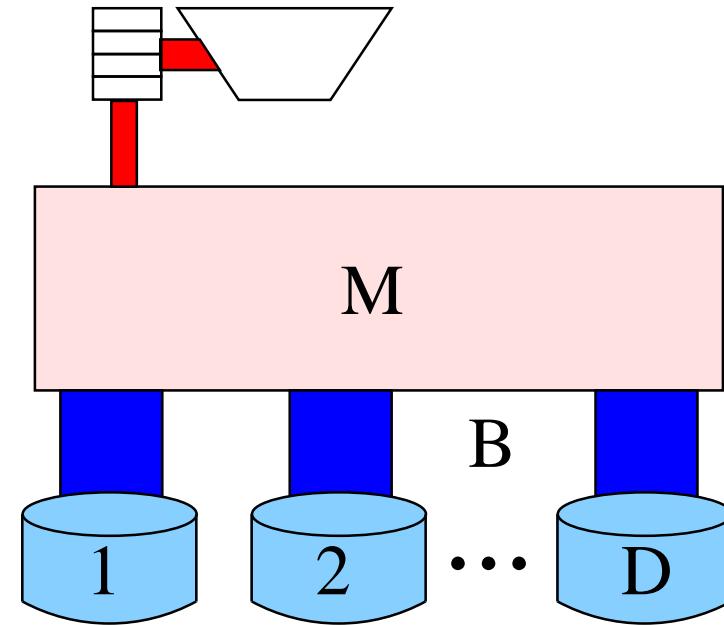


Parallele Platten



Mehrkopfmodell

[Aggarwal Vitter 88]



unabhängige Platten

[Vitter Shriver 94]



Mehr Modellaspekte

- Instruktionsparallelismus (Superscalar, VLIW, EPIC,SIMD,...)
- Pipelining
- Was kostet branch misprediction?
- Multilevel Caches (gegenwärtig 2–3 levels) ↪ “cache oblivious algorithms”
- Parallele Prozessoren, Multithreading
- Kommunikationsnetzwerke
- ...



1 Arrays, Verkettete Listen und abgeleitete Datenstrukturen

Bounded Arrays

Eingebaute Datenstruktur.

Größe muss von Anfang an bekannt sein



Unbounded Array

z.B. `std::vector`

`pushBack`: Element anhängen

`popBack`: Letztes Element löschen

Idee: verdopple wenn der Platz ausgeht
halbiere wenn Platz verschwendet wird

Wenn man das **richtig** macht, brauchen

n `pushBack/popBack` Operationen Zeit $O(n)$

Algorithme: `pushBack/popBack` haben konstante **amortisierte**
Komplexität Was kann man falsch machen?

Doppelt verkettete Listen



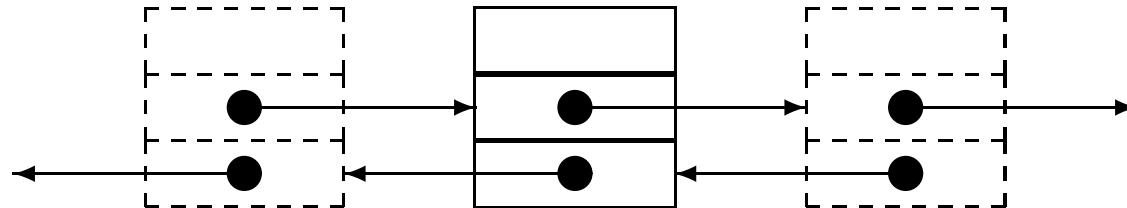


Class Item of Element // one link in a doubly linked list

e : Element

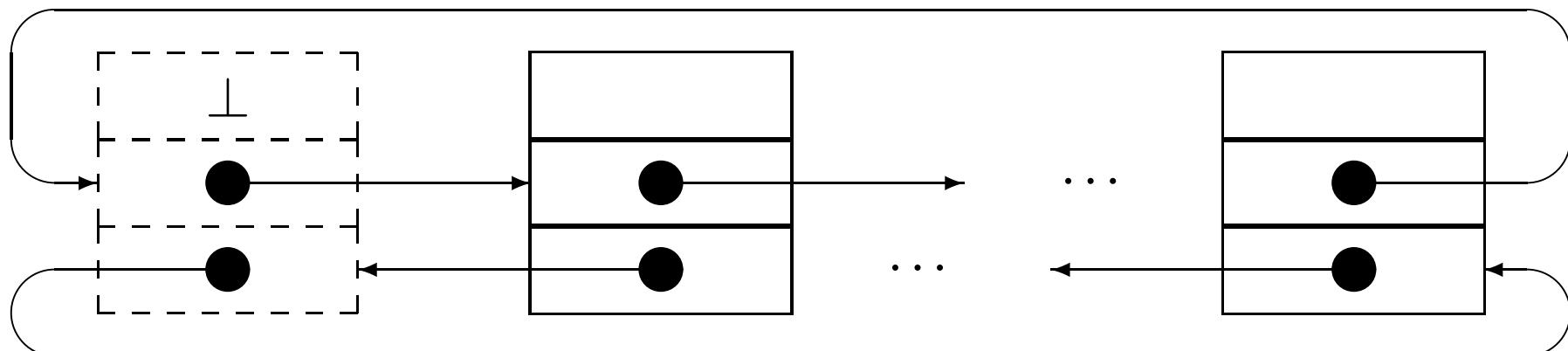
next : Handle //

prev : Handle



invariant next→prev=prev→next=**this**

Trick: Use a dummy header





Procedure splice(a,b,t : Handle)

assert b is not before a $\wedge t \notin \langle a, \dots, b \rangle$

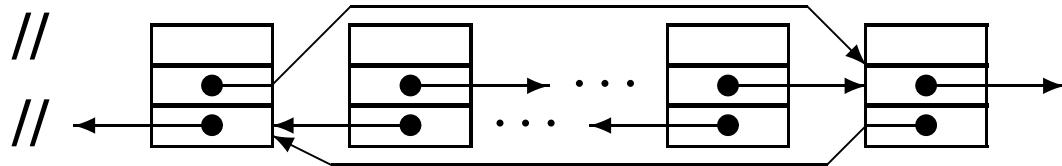
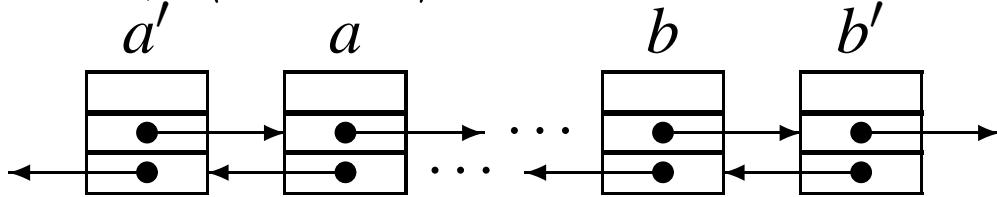
//Cut out $\langle a, \dots, b \rangle$

$a' := a \rightarrow \text{prev}$

$b' := b \rightarrow \text{next}$

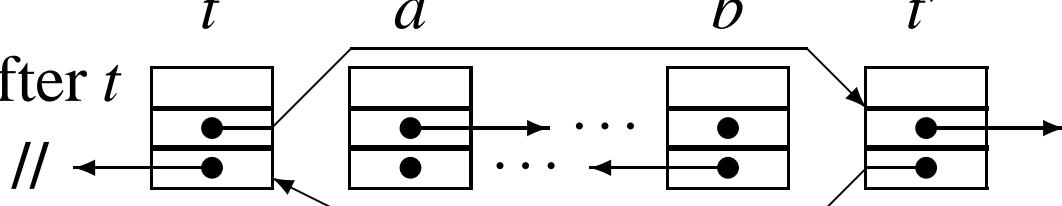
$a' \rightarrow \text{next} := b'$

$b' \rightarrow \text{prev} := a'$



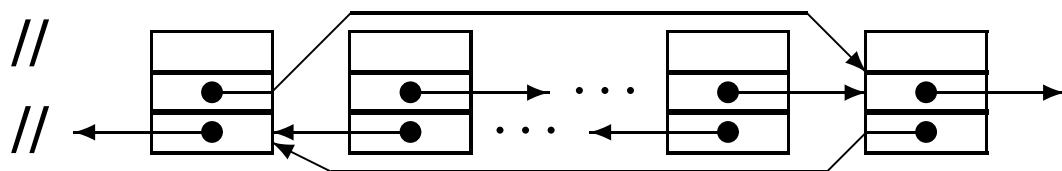
//insert $\langle a, \dots, b \rangle$ after t

$t' := t \rightarrow \text{next}$



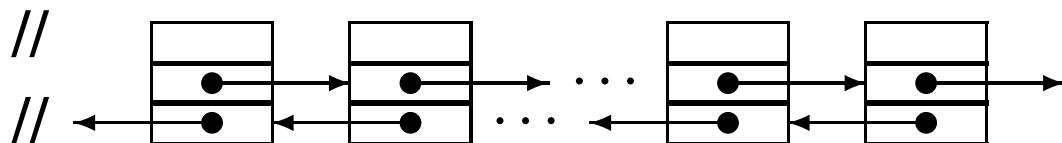
$b \rightarrow \text{next} := t'$

$a \rightarrow \text{prev} := t$



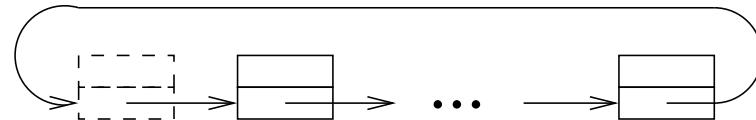
$t \rightarrow \text{next} := a$

$t' \rightarrow \text{prev} := b$





Einfach verkettete Listen



Vergleich mit doppelt verketteten Listen

- Weniger Speicherplatz
- Platz ist oft auch Zeit
- Eingeschränkter z.B. kein delete
- Merkwürdige Benutzerschnittstelle, z.B. deleteAfter



Speicherverwaltung für Listen

- kann leicht 90 % der Zeit kosten!
- Lieber Elemente zwischen (Free)lists herschieben als echte mallocs
- Alloziere viele Items gleichzeitig
- Am Ende alles freigeben?
- Speichere „parasitär“. z.B. Graphen:
Knotenarray. Jeder Knoten speichert ein ListItem
 - ~~ Partition der Knoten kann als verkettete Listen gespeichert werden
 - ~~ MST, shortest Path

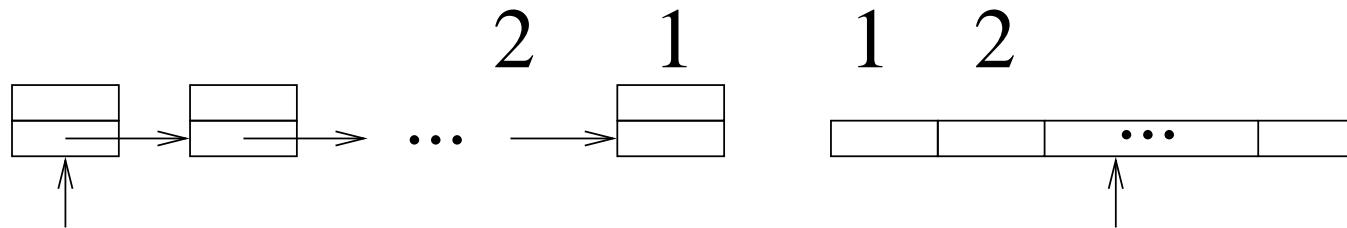
Challenge: garbage collection, viele Datentypen

~~ auch ein Software Engineering Problem

hier nicht



Beispiel: Stack



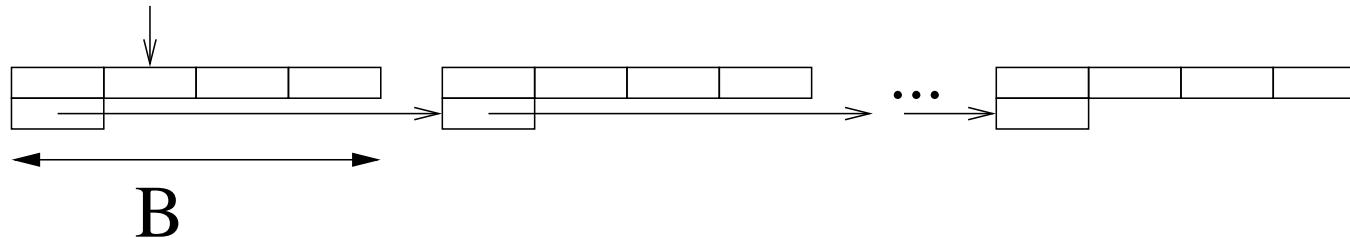
	SList	B-Array	U-Array
dynamisch	+	-	+
Platzverschwendungen	pointer freigeben?	zu gro/3?	zu gro/3?
Zeitverschwendungen	cache miss	+	umkopieren
worst case time	(+)	+	-

Wars das?

Hat jede Implementierung gravierende Schwächen?



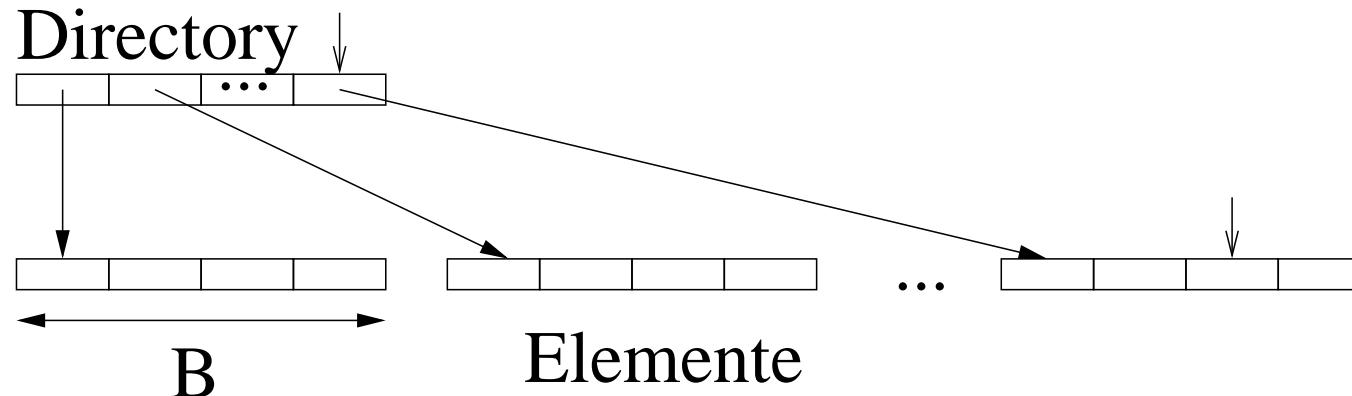
The Best From Both Worlds



	hybrid
dynamisch	+
Platzverschwendung	$n/B + B$
Zeitverschwendung	+
worst case time	+



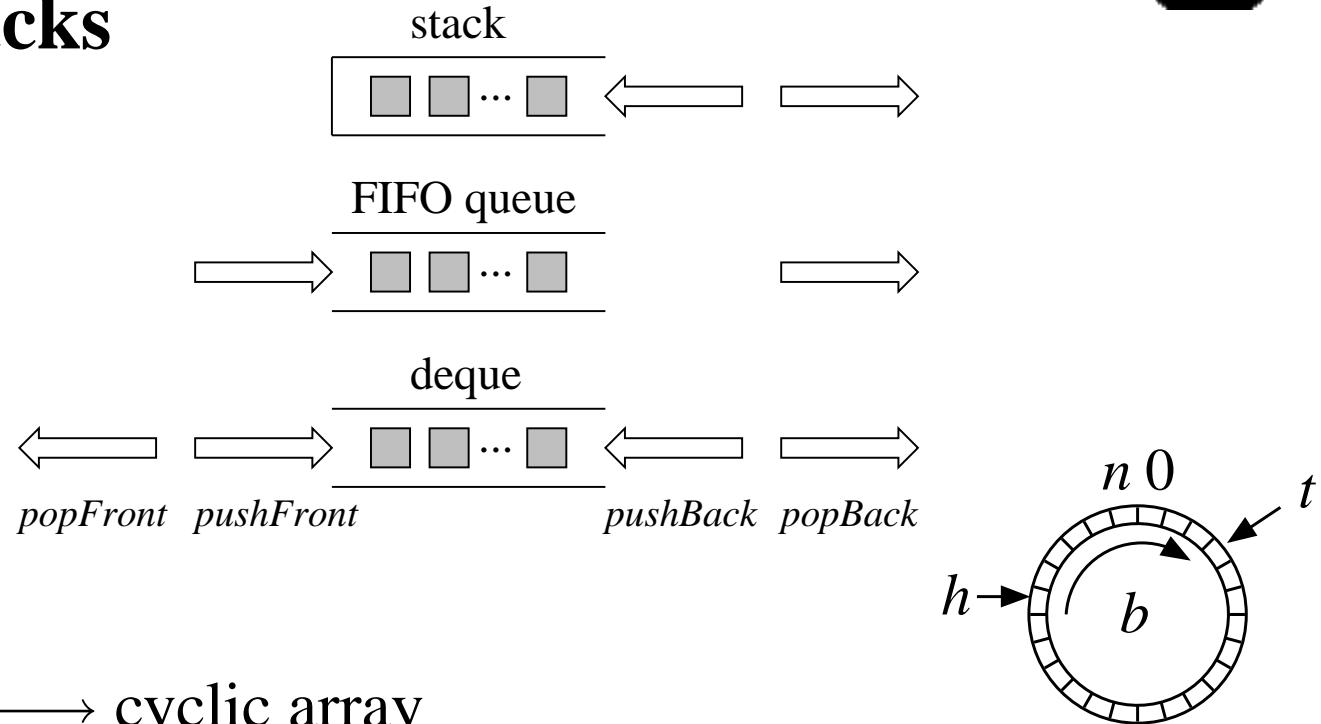
Eine Variante



- Reallozierung im top level \rightsquigarrow nicht worst case konstante Zeit
- + Indizierter Zugriff auf $S[i]$ in konstanter Zeit



Beyond Stacks



FIFO: BArray \longrightarrow cyclic array

Aufgabe: Ein Array, das “[i]” in konstanter Zeit und einfügen/löschen von Elementen in Zeit $O(\sqrt{n})$ unterstützt

Aufgabe: Ein externer Stack, der n push/pop Operationen mit $O(n/B)$ I/Os unterstützt



Aufgabe: Tabelle für hybride Datenstrukturen vervollständigen

Operation	List	SList	UArray	CArray	explanation of ‘*’
[.]	n	n	1	1	
.	1^*	1^*	1	1	not with inter-list splice
first	1	1	1	1	
last	1	1	1	1	
insert	1	1^*	n	n	insertAfter only
remove	1	1^*	n	n	removeAfter only
pushBack	1	1	1^*	1^*	amortized
pushFront	1	1	n	1^*	amortized
popBack	1	n	1^*	1^*	amortized
popFront	1	1	n	1^*	amortized
concat	1	1	n	n	
splice	1	1	n	n	
findNext,...	n	n	n^*	n^*	cache efficient



Was fehlt?

Fakten Fakten Fakten

Messungen für

- Verschiedene Implementierungsvarianten
- Verschiedene Architekturen
- Verschiedene Eingabegrößen
- Auswirkungen auf reale Anwendungen
- Kurven dazu
- Interpretation, ggf. Theoriebildung

Aufgabe: Array durchlaufen versus zufällig allozierte verkettete
Liste

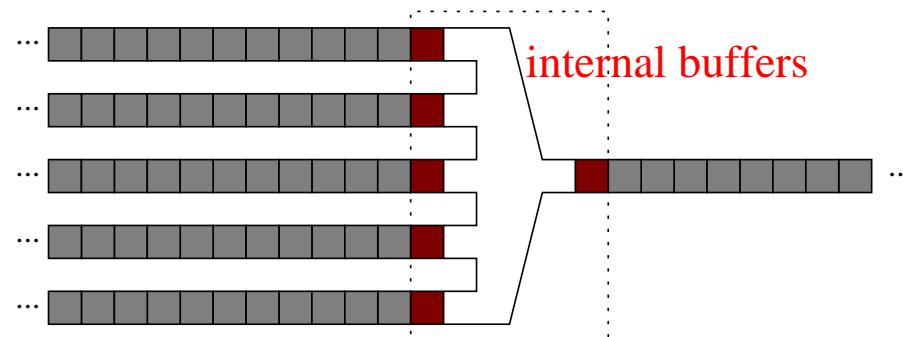
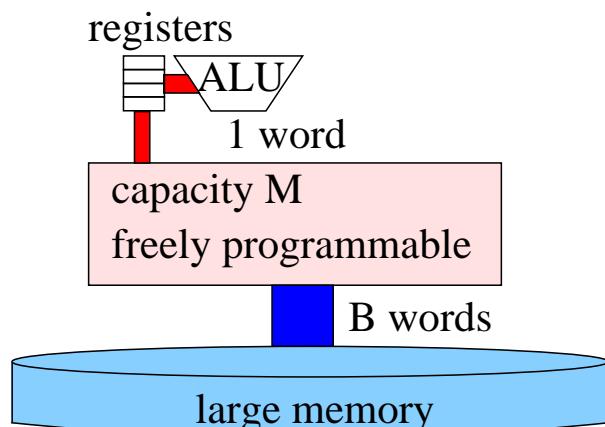


Sorting by Multiway Merging

- Sort $\lceil n/M \rceil$ runs with M elements each $2n/B$ I/Os
 - Merge M/B runs at a time $2n/B$ I/Os
 - until only one run is left $\times \left\lceil \log_{M/B} \frac{n}{M} \right\rceil$ merge phases
-

In total

$$\text{sort}(n) := \frac{2n}{B} \left(1 + \left\lceil \log_{M/B} \frac{n}{M} \right\rceil \right) \text{ I/Os}$$





Procedure twoPassSort($M : \mathbb{N}$; a : external Array [0.. $n - 1$] of Element)

b : external Array [0.. $n - 1$] of Element // auxiliary storage

 formRuns(M, a, b)

 mergeRuns(M, b, a)

//Sort runs of size M from f writing sorted runs to t

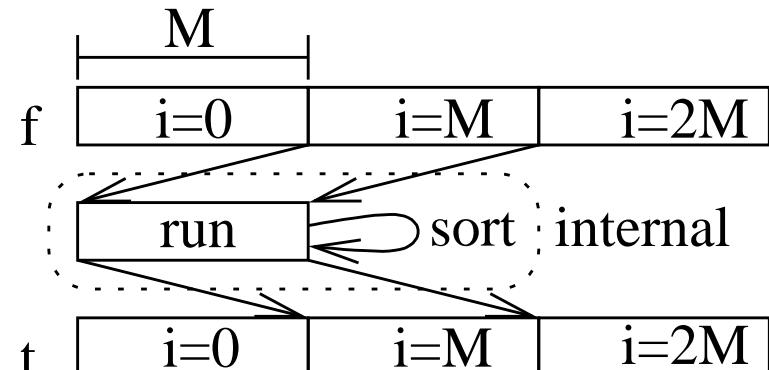
Procedure formRuns($M : \mathbb{N}$; f, t : external Array [0.. $n - 1$] of Element)

for $i := 0$ **to** $n - 1$ **step** M **do**

 run := $f[i..i + M - 1]$

 sort(run)

$t[i..i + M - 1] := run$





//Merge n elements from f to t where f stores sorted runs of size L

Procedure mergeRuns($L : \mathbb{N}$; f, t : external **Array** $[0..n - 1]$ of Element)

$k := \lceil n/L \rceil$ // Number of runs

next : PriorityQueue of Key $\times \mathbb{N}$

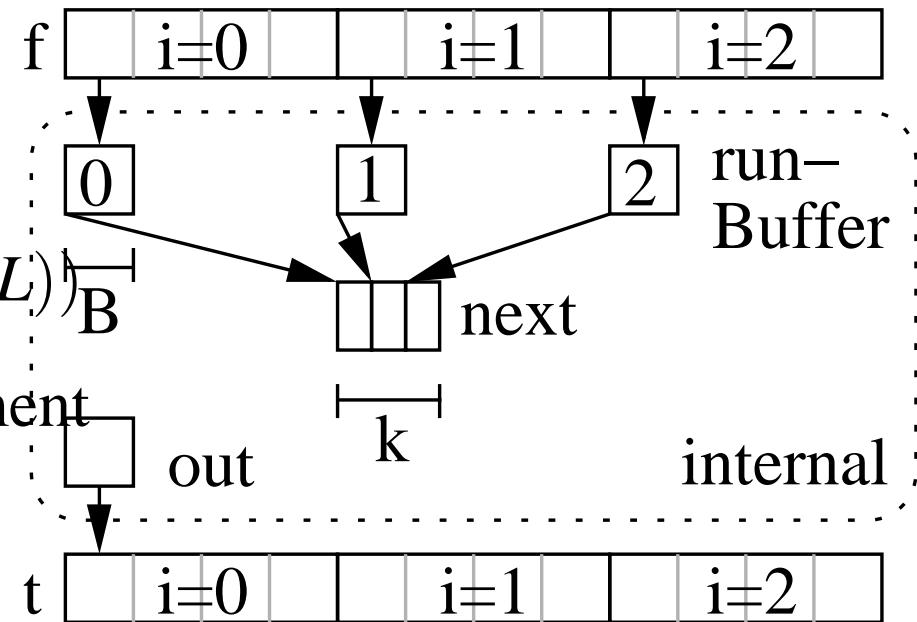
runBuffer := **Array** $[0..k - 1][0..B - 1]$ of Element

for $i := 0$ **to** $k - 1$ **do**

runBuffer $[i] := f[iM..iM + B - 1]$

next.insert(
key(runBuffer $[i][0]), iL))$

out : **Array** $[0..B - 1]$ of Element





// k -way merging

for $i := 0$ **to** $n - 1$ **step** B **do**

for $j := 0$ **to** $B - 1$ **do**

$(x, \ell) := \text{next.deleteMin}$

$\text{out}[j] := \text{runBuffer}[\ell \text{ div } L][\ell \text{ mod } B]$

$\ell++$

if $\ell \text{ mod } B = 0$ **then** // New input block

if $\ell \text{ mod } L = 0 \vee \ell = n$ **then**

$\text{runBuffer}[\ell \text{ div } L][0] := \infty$ // sentinel for exhausted ru

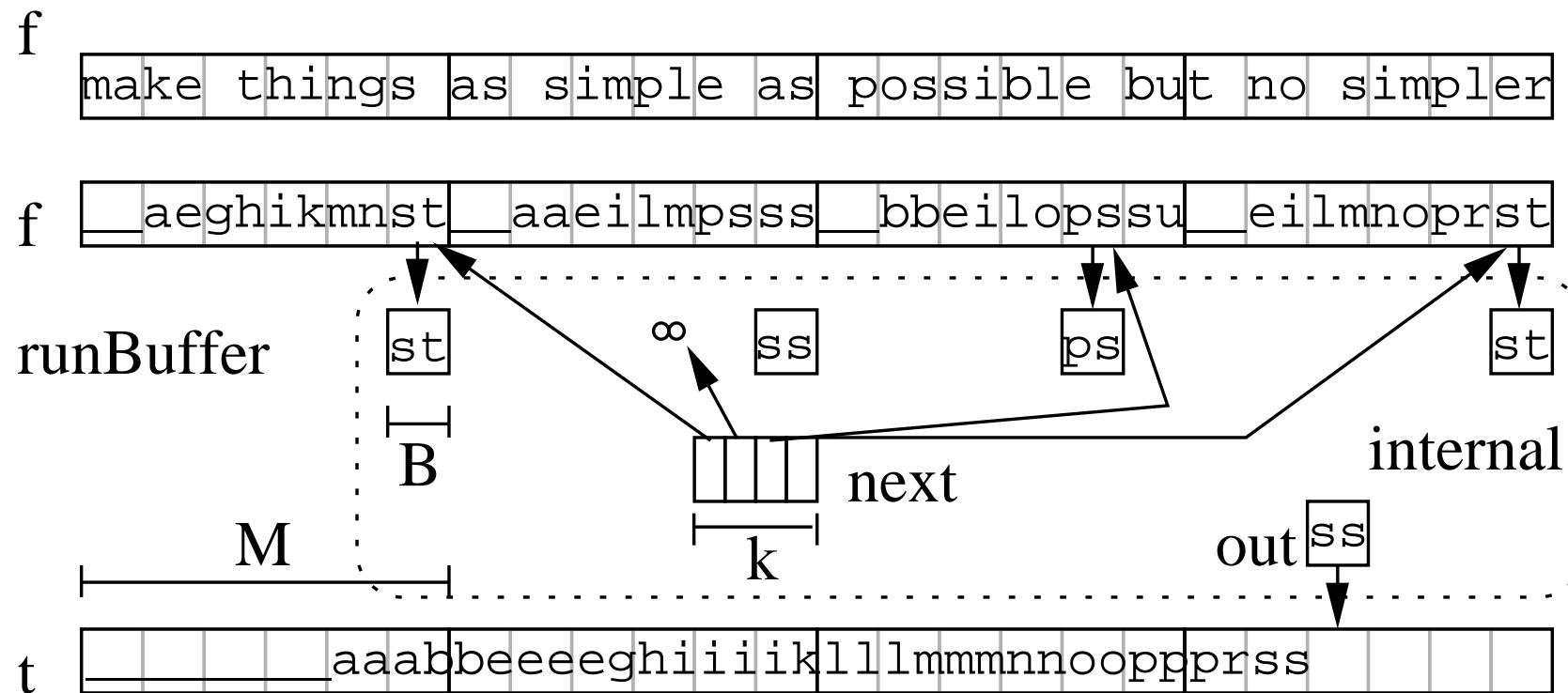
else $\text{runBuffer}[\ell \text{ div } L] := f[\ell.. \ell + B - 1]$ // refill buffer

$\text{next.insert}((\text{runBuffer}[\ell \text{ div } L][0], \ell))$

 write out to $t[i..i + B - 1]$ // One output step



Example, $B = 2$, run size = 6





2 Super Scalar Sample Sort

Comparison Based Sorting

Large data sets (thousands to millions)

Theory: Lots of algorithms with $n \log n + O(n)$ comparisons

Practice: Quicksort

- + $n \log n + O(n)$ expected comparisons
using sample based pivot selection
- + sufficiently cache efficient
 $O\left(\frac{n}{B} \log n\right)$ cache misses on all levels
- + Simple
- + Compiler writers are aware of it

Can we nevertheless beat quicksort?



Quicksort

Function quickSort(s : Sequence of Element) : Sequence of Element

if $|s| \leq 1$ **then return** s // base case

pick $p \in s$ uniformly at random // pivot key

$a := \langle e \in s : e < p \rangle$

$b := \langle e \in s : e = p \rangle$

$c := \langle e \in s : e > p \rangle$

return concatenate(quickSort(a), b , quickSort(c))

$\leq 1.4n \log n$ erwartete (3-Wege)-Vergleiche

→ $n \log n$ wenn pivot = median eines $\omega(1)$ random sample



Engineering Quicksort

- array
- 2-Wege-Vergleiche
- **sentinels** für innere Schleife
- inplace swaps
- Rekursion auf **kleinere** Teilproblemgröße
→ $O(\log n)$ zusätzlichen Platz
- **Rekursionsabbruch** für kleine (20–100) Eingaben, insertion sort
(**nicht** ein großer insertion sort)



```

Procedure qSort( $a$  : Array of Element;  $\ell, r : \mathbb{N}$ ) // Sort  $a[\ell..r]$ 
  while  $r - \ell \geq n_0$  do // Use divide-and-conquer
     $j := \text{pickPivotPos}(a, \ell, r)$ 
    swap( $a[\ell], a[j]$ ) // Helps to establish the invariant
     $p := a[\ell]$ 
     $i := \ell; j := r$ 
    repeat //  $a: \ell \quad i \rightarrow \leftarrow j \quad r$ 
      while  $a[i] < p$  do  $i++$  // Scan over elements (A)
      while  $a[j] > p$  do  $j--$  // on the correct side (B)
      if  $i \leq j$  then swap( $a[i], a[j]$ );  $i++$ ;  $j--$ 
    until  $i > j$  // Done partitioning
    if  $i < \frac{\ell+r}{2}$  then qSort( $a, \ell, j$ );  $\ell := j + 1$ 
    else qSort( $a, i, r$ ) ;  $r := i - 1$ 
  insertionSort( $a[\ell..r]$ ) // faster for small  $r - \ell$ 

```



Previous Work

Integer Keys

- + Can be $2 - 3$ times faster than quicksort
- Naive ones are cache inefficient and **slower** than quicksort
- Simple ones are **distribution** dependent.

Cache efficient sorting

k-ary merge sort

[Nyberg et al. 94, Arge et al. 04, Ranade et al. 00, Brodal et al. 04]

- + Factor $\log k$ less cache faults
- Only $\approx 20\%$ speedup, and only for large inputs



Sample Sort

Function sampleSort($e = \langle e_1, \dots, e_n \rangle, k$)

if n/k is “small” **then return** smallSort(e)

let $\langle S_1, \dots, S_{ak-1} \rangle$ denote a random **sample** of e

sort S

$\langle s_0, s_1, s_2, \dots, s_{k-1}, s_k \rangle :=$

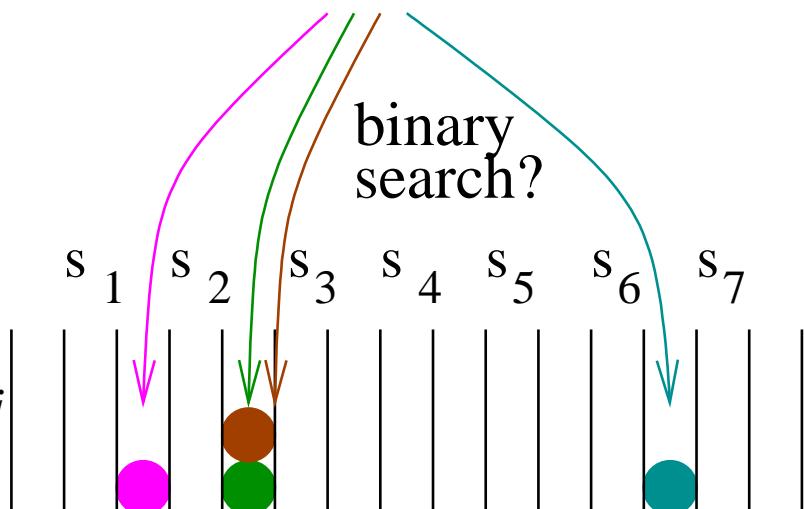
$\langle -\infty, S_a, S_{2a}, \dots, S_{(k-1)a}, \infty \rangle$

for $i := 1$ **to** n **do**

find $j \in \{1, \dots, k\}$

such that $s_{j-1} < e_i \leq s_j$

place e_i in bucket b_j



return concatenate(**sampleSort**(b_1), ..., **sampleSort**(b_k)) **buckets**



Why Sample Sort?

- traditionally: **parallelizable** on coarse grained machines
- + Cache efficient \approx merge sort
- **Binary search** not much faster than merging
- complicated **memory management**

Super Scalar Sample Sort

- Binary search \longrightarrow **implicit search tree**
- Eliminate all conditional **branches**
- \rightsquigarrow Exploit **instruction parallelism**
- \rightsquigarrow **Cache efficiency** comes to bear
- “steal” memory management from **radix sort**



Classifying Elements

$t := \langle s_{k/2}, s_{k/4}, s_{3k/4}, s_{k/8}, s_{3k/8}, s_{5k/8}, s_{7k/8}, \dots \rangle$

for $i := 1$ **to** n **do**

$j := 1$

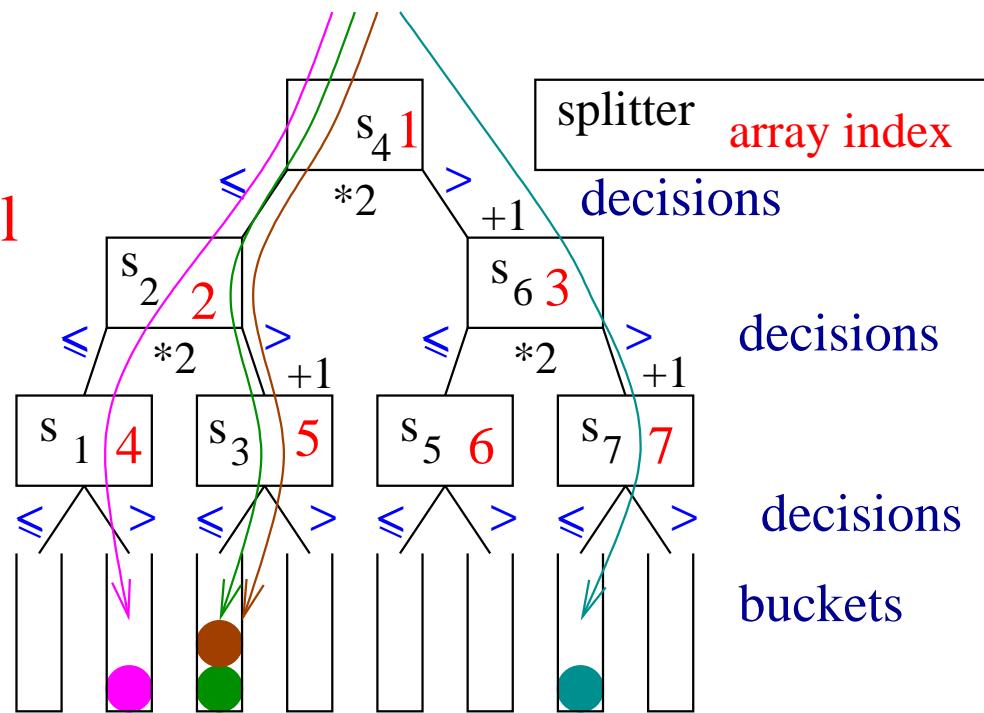
repeat $\log k$ times //unroll

$j := 2j + (a_i > t_j)$

$j := j - k + 1$

$|b_j|++$

$o(i) := j$ //oracle



Now the compiler should:

- use predicated instructions
- interleave for loop iterations (unrolling \vee software pipelining)



Predication

Hardware mechanism that allows instructions to be
conditionally executed

- Boolean predicate registers (1–64) hold condition codes
- predicate registers p are additional inputs of predicated instructions I
- At runtime, I is executed if and only if p is true
 - + Avoids branch misprediction penalty
 - + More flexible instruction scheduling
 - Switched off instructions still take time
 - Longer opcodes
 - Complicated hardware design



Example (IA-64)

Translation of: **if (r1 > 2) r3 := r3 + 4**

With a **conditional branch**:

```
    cmp.gt p6,p7=r1,r2  
(p7) br.cond .label  
        add r3=4,r3  
.label:
```

Via **predication**:

```
    cmp.gt p6,p7=r1,r2  
(p6) add r3=4,r3
```

Other Current Architectures:

Conditional moves only

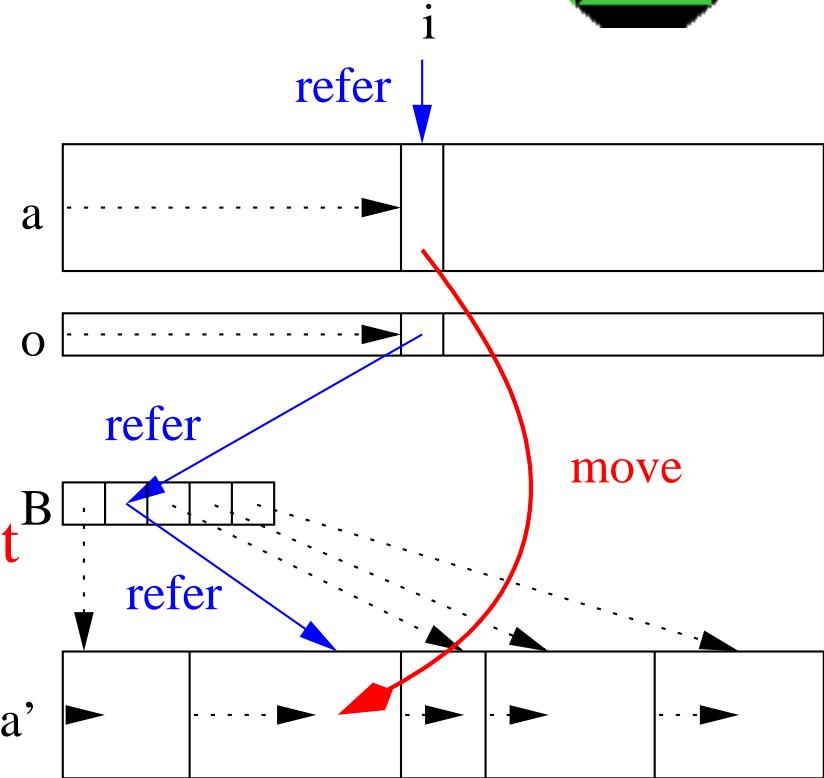


Distributing Elements

```
for  $i := 1$  to  $n$  do  $a'[B[o(i)]++ := a_i$ 
```

Why Oracles?

- simplifies **memory management**
- no **overflow tests** or re-copying
- simplifies software **pipelining**
- separates **computation** and **memory access** aspects
- small** (n bytes)
- sequential, predictable** memory access
- can be **hidden** using prefetching / write buffering





Aufgabe

Wie implementiert man **4-Wege Mischen** (8-Wege-Mischen) mit

- $2n$** Speicherzugriffen und
- $2n$** ($3n$) Vergleichen
- auf einer Maschine mit **8** (16) Registern?

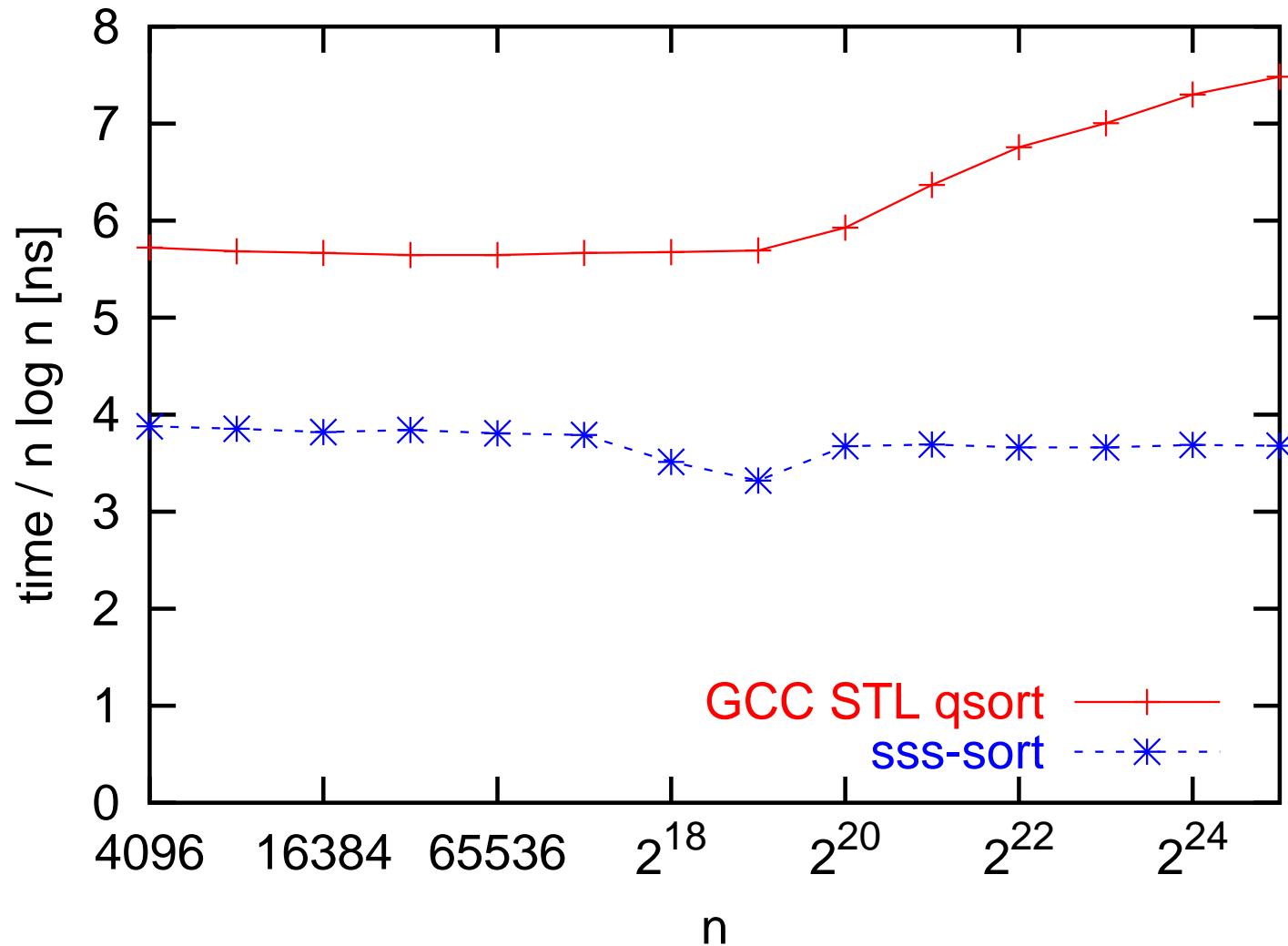


Experiments: 1.4 GHz Itanium 2

- **restrict** keyword from ANSI/ISO C99
to indicate nonaliasing
- Intel's C++ compiler v8.0 uses **predicated instructions** automatically
- Profiling gives 9% speedup
- $k = 256$ splitters
- Use `stl::sort` from g++ ($n \leq 1000$)!
- insertion sort for $n \leq 100$
- Random 32 bit integers in $[0, 10^9]$

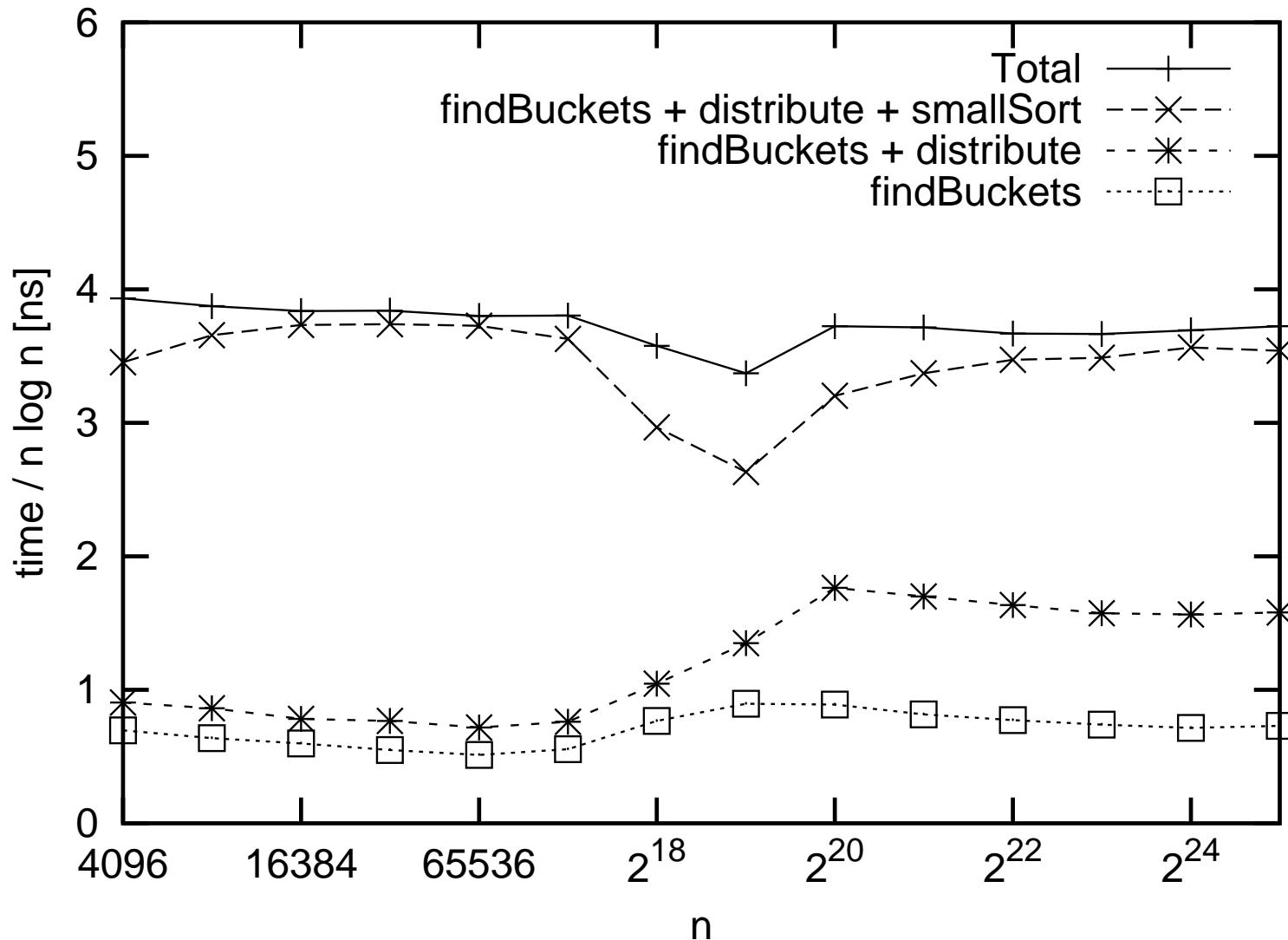


Comparison with Quicksort





Breakdown of Execution Time



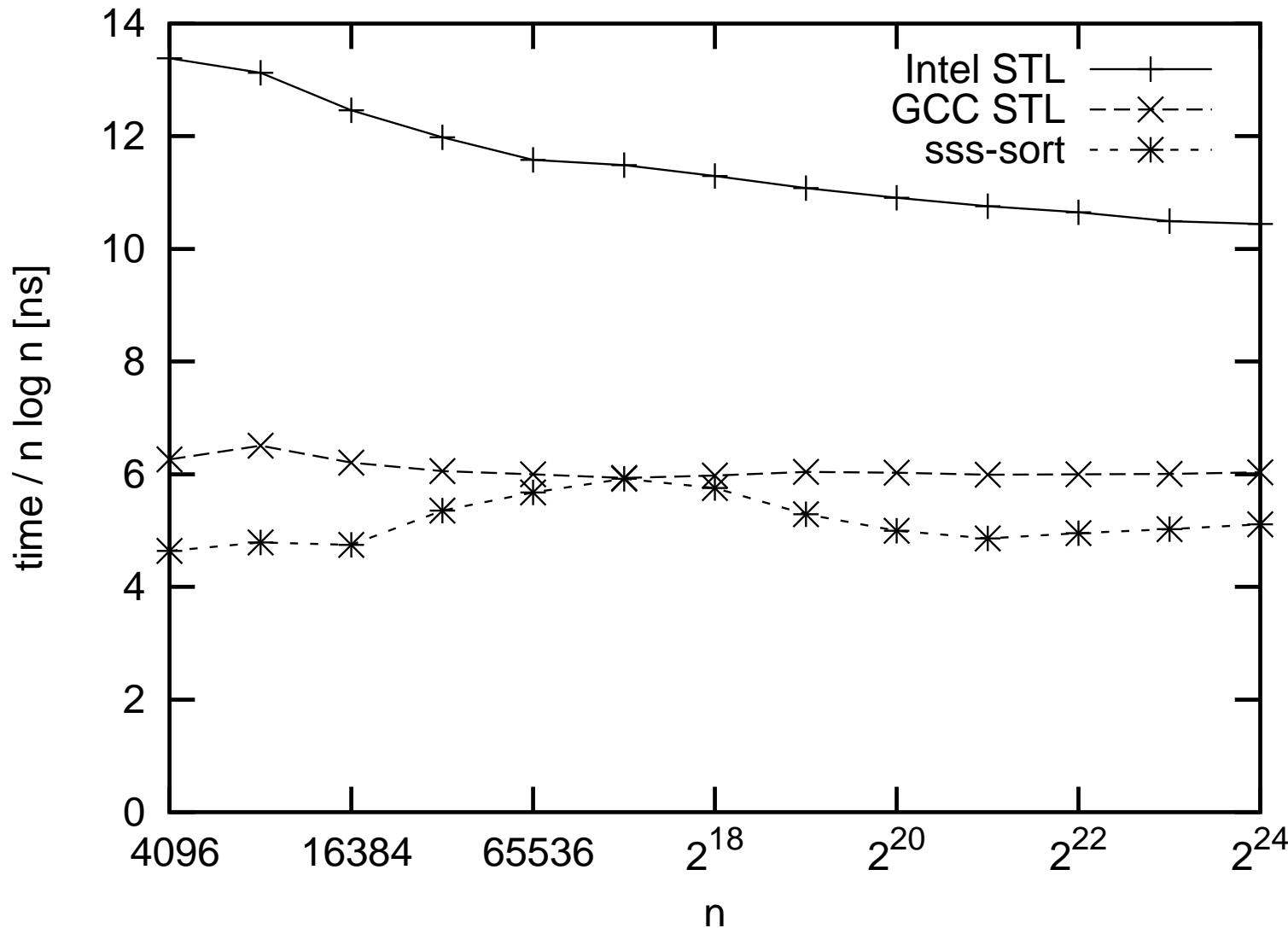


A More Detailed View

	instr.	cycles	dynamic IPC small n	dynamic IPC $n = 2^{25}$
findBuckets, 1 × outer loop	63	11	5.4	4.5
distribute, one element	14	4	3.5	0.8



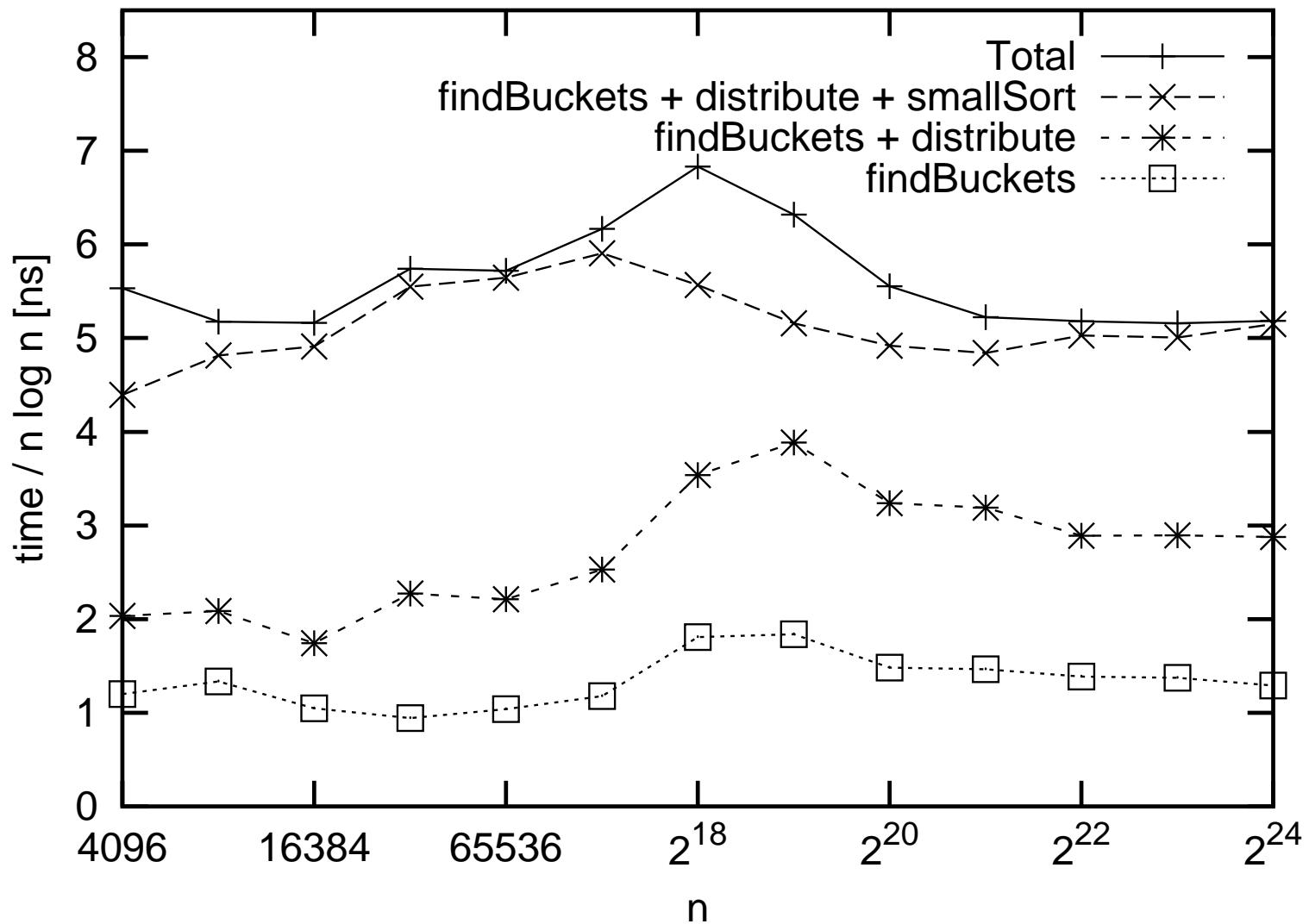
Comparison with Quicksort Pentium 4



Problems: few **registers**, one **condition code** only, **compiler** needs “help”



Breakdown of Execution Time Pentium 4





Analysis

	mem. acc.	branches	data dep.	I/Os	registers	instructions
<i>k</i> -way distribution:						
sss-sort	$n \log k$	$O(1)$	$O(n)$	$3.5n/B$	$3 \times \text{unroll}$	$O(\log k)$
quicksort $\log k$ lvs.	$2n \log k$	$n \log k$	$O(n \log k)$	$2\frac{n}{B} \log k$	4	$O(1)$
<i>k</i> -way merging:						
memory	$n \log k$	$n \log k$	$O(n \log k)$	$2n/B$	7	$O(\log k)$
register	$2n$	$n \log k$	$O(n \log k)$	$2n/B$	k	$O(k)$
funnel $k'^{\log_{k'} k}$	$2n \log_{k'} k$	$n \log k$	$O(n \log k)$	$2n/B$	$2k' + 2$	$O(k')$



Conclusions

- sss-sort up to **twice** as fast as quicksort on Itanium
- comparisons \neq conditional branches
- algorithm analysis is not just instructions and caches



Kritik I

Warum nur zufällige Schlüssel?

Antwort I

Sample sort ist kaum von der Verteilung der Eingabe abhängig



Kritik I'

Aber was wenn es viele gleiche Schlüssel gibt?

Die landen alle in einem Bucket

Antwort I'

Its not a bug its a feature:

Sei $s_i = s_{i+1} = \dots = s_j$ Indikator für häufigen Schlüssel!

Setze $s_i := \min \{x \in Key : x < s_i\}$,

(optional: streiche s_{i+2}, \dots, s_j)

Nun muss bucket $i + 1$ nicht mehr sortiert werden!

todo: implementieren



Kritik II

Quicksort ist inplace

Antwort II

Benutze hybride Listen-Array Repräsentation von Folgen
braucht $O(\sqrt{kn})$ extra Platz für k -way sample sort



Kritik II'

Ich will aber Arrays für Ein- und Ausgabe

Antwort II'

Inplace Konvertierung

Eingabe: einfach

Ausgabe: tricky. Aufgabe: grobe Idee entwickeln. Hinweis:

Permutation von Blöcken. Jede Permutation besteht aus einem Produkt zyklischer Permutationen. Inplace zyklische Permutation ist einfach



Future Work

- high level fine-tuning, e.g., clever choice of k
- other architectures, e.g., Opteron, **PowerPC**
- almost **in-place** implementation
- **multilevel** cache-aware or cache-oblivious generalization
(oracles help)

Studienarbeit, (Diplomarbeit), Hiwi-Job?

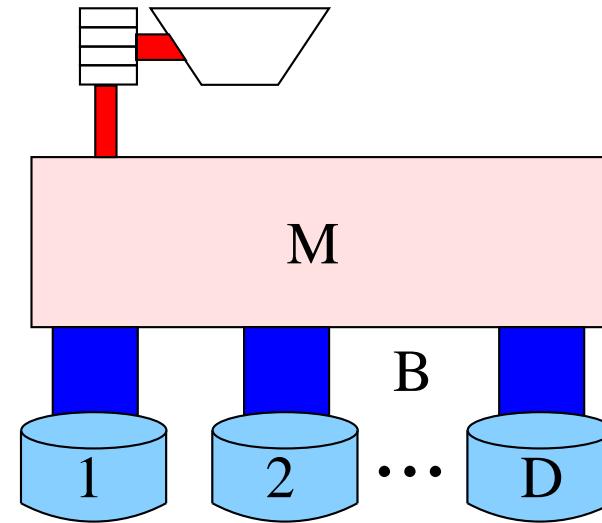
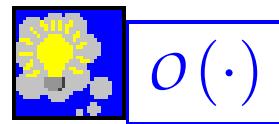


3 Sorting with Parallel Disks

I/O Step := Access to a single physical block per disk

Theory: Balance Sort [Nodine Vitter 93].

Deterministic, complex
asymptotically optimal



Multiway merging

“Usually” factor 10? less I/Os.

Not asymptotically optimal.

42%

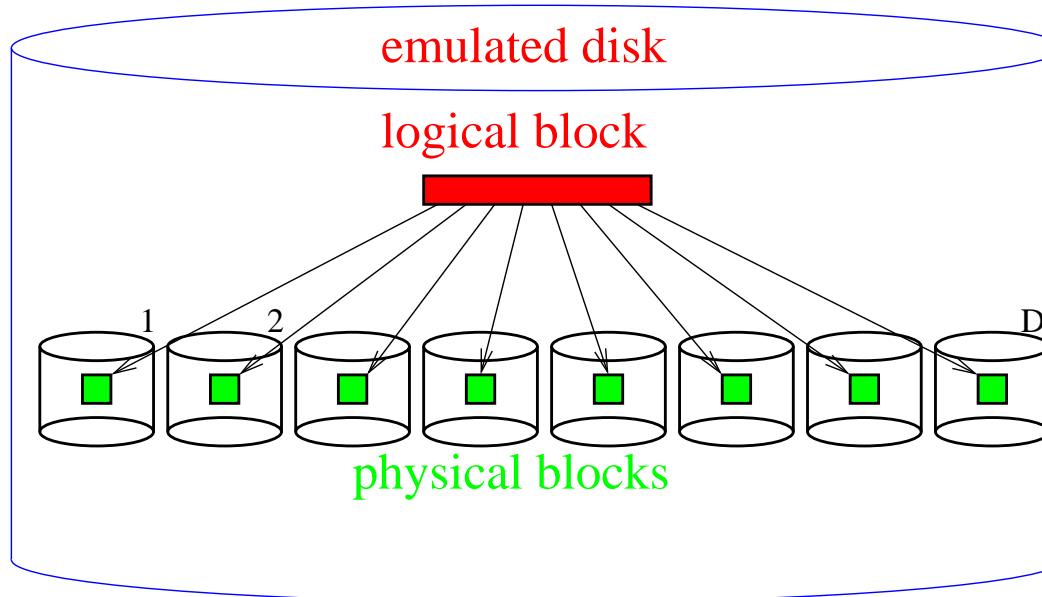
independent disks

[Vitter Shriver 94]

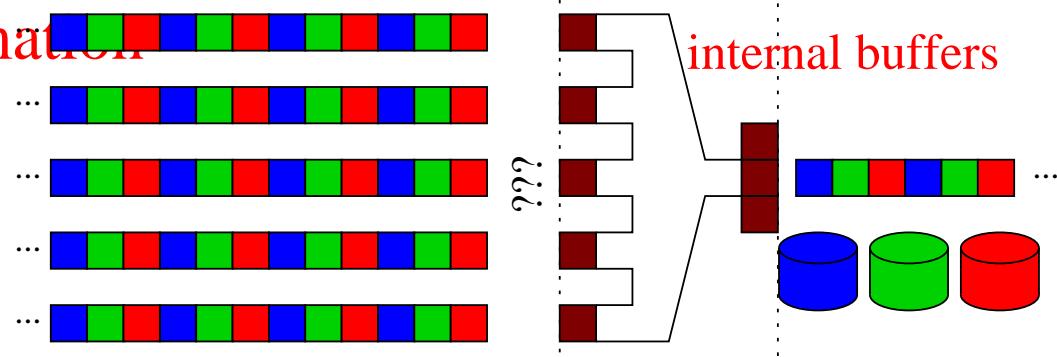
Basic Approach: Improve Multiway Merging



Striping



That takes care of **run formation**
and writing the **output**



But what about **merging**?



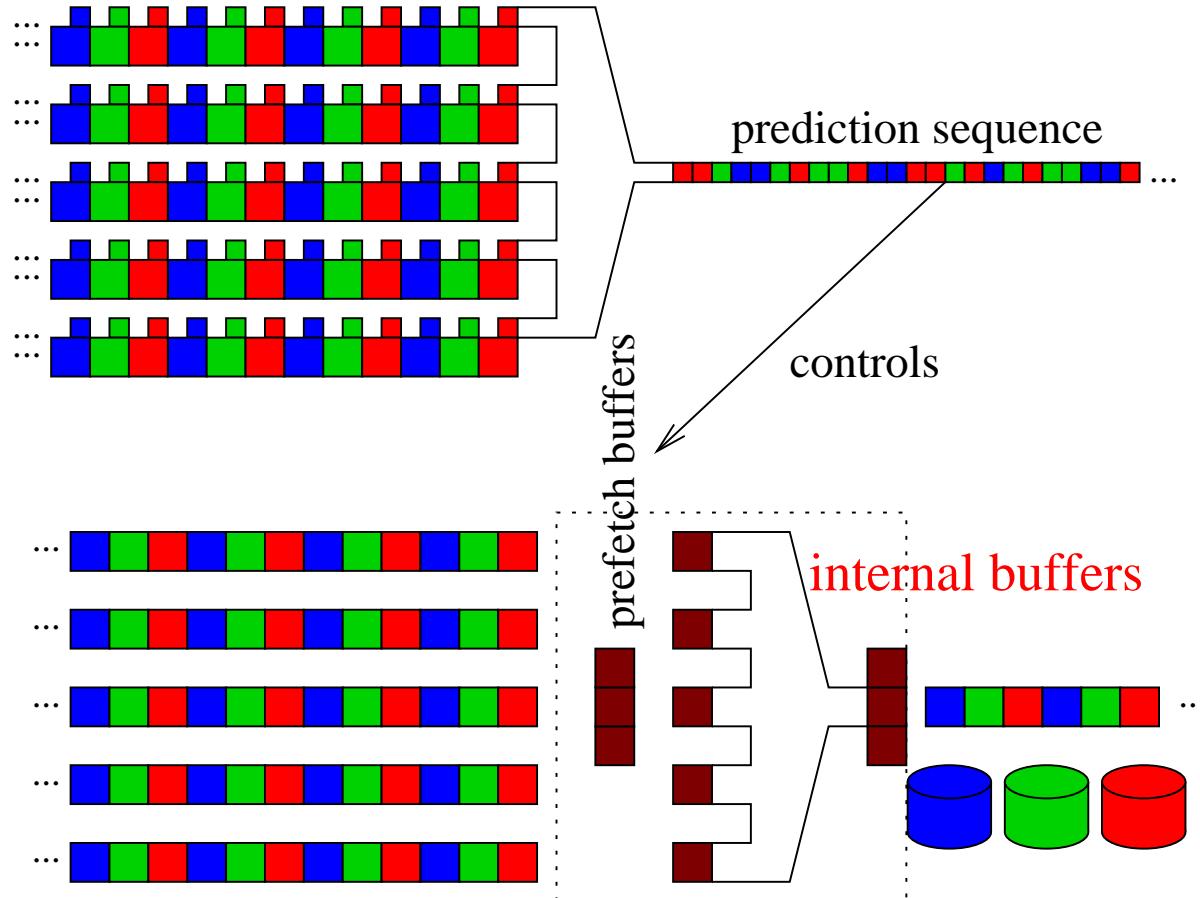
Prediction

[Folklore, Knuth]

Smallest Element
of each block
triggers fetch.

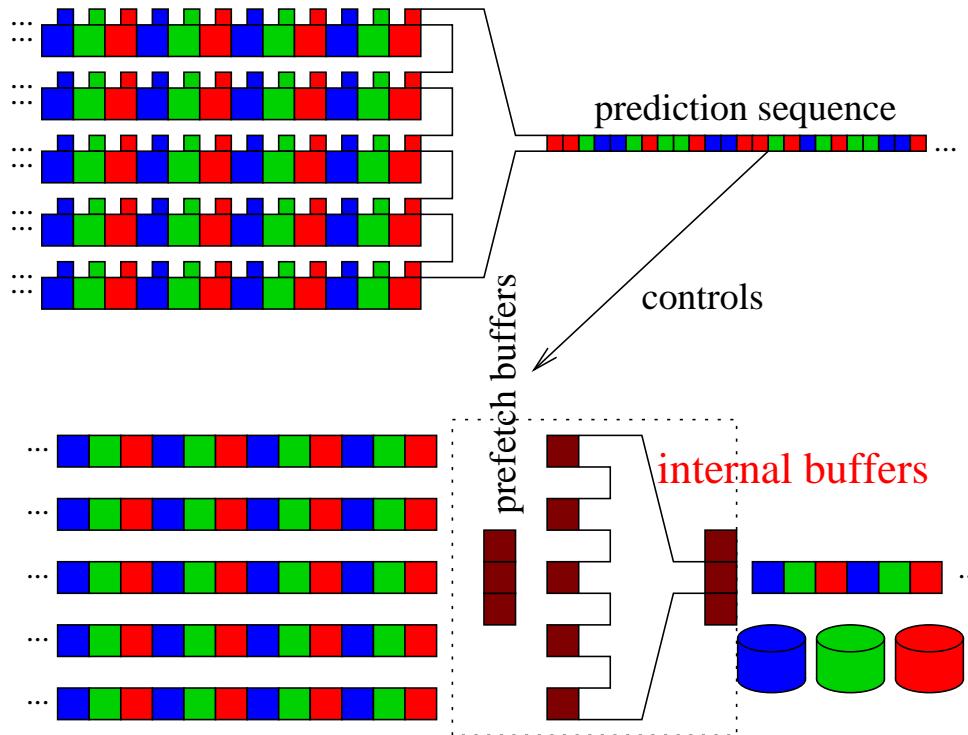
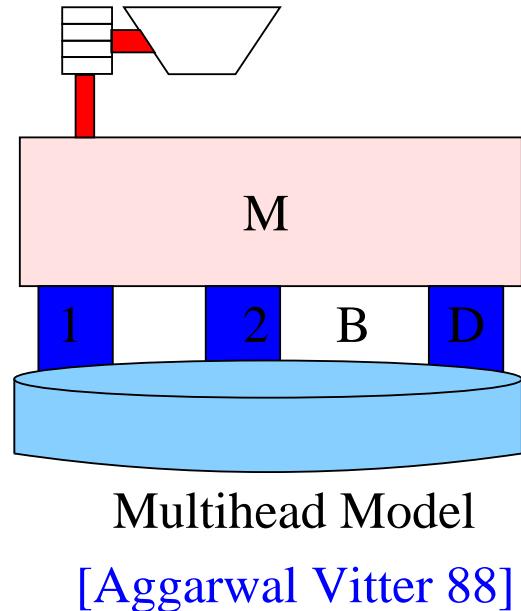
Prefetch buffers

allow parallel access
of next blocks





Warmup: Multihead Model

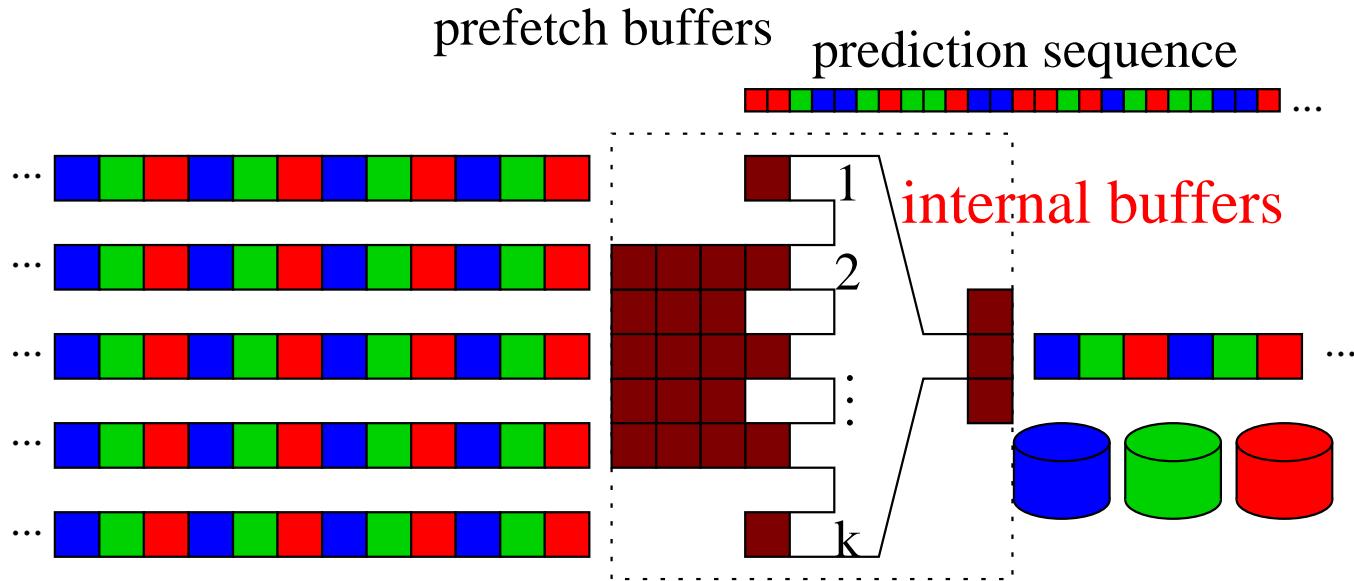


D prefetch buffers yield an optimal algorithm

$$\text{sort}(n) := \frac{2n}{DB} \left(1 + \left\lceil \log_{M/B} \frac{n}{M} \right\rceil \right) \text{ I/Os}$$



Bigger Prefetch Buffer



$Dk \rightsquigarrow$ good **deterministic** performance

$O(D)$ would yield an optimal algorithm.

Possible?

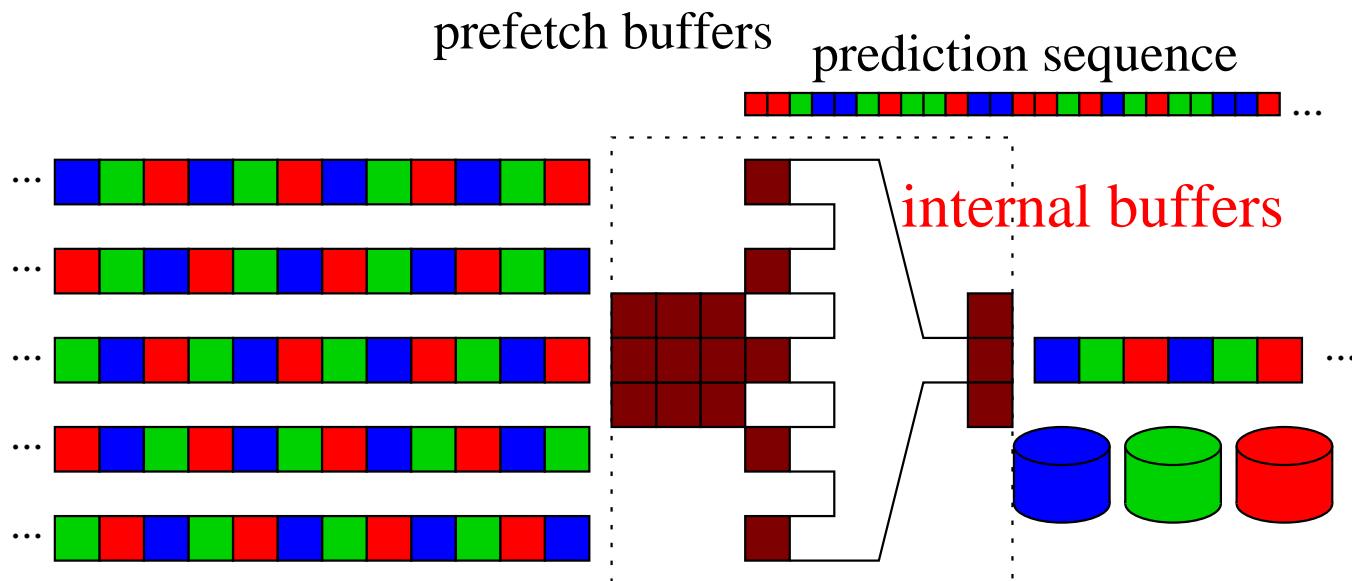


Randomized Cycling

[Vitter Hutchinson 01]

Block i of stripe j goes to disk $\pi_j(i)$ for a **random permutation**

π_j

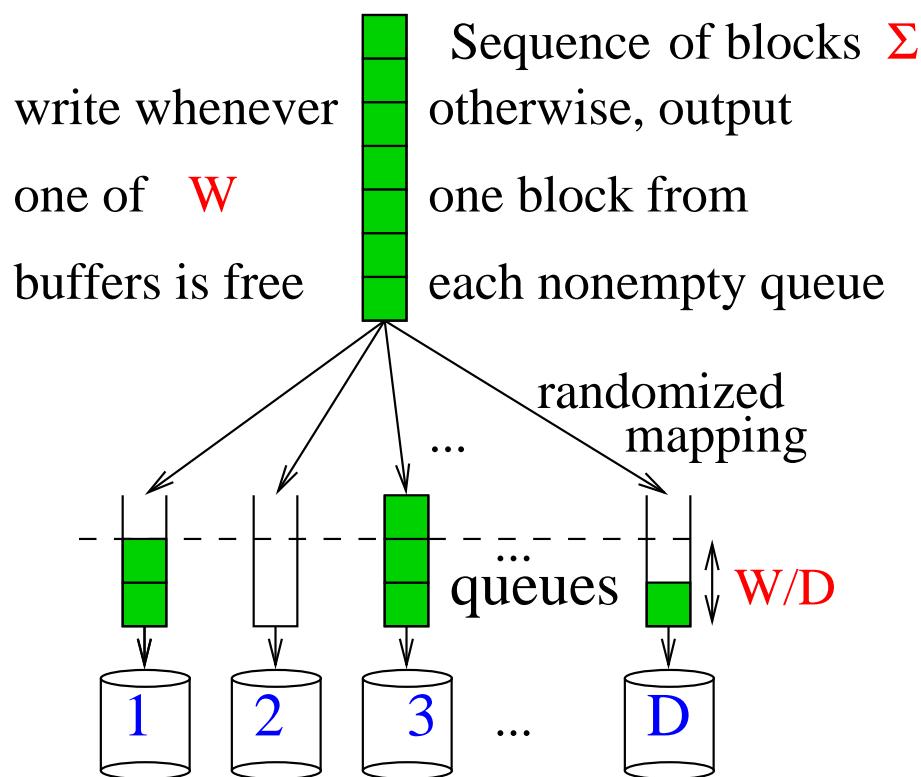


Good for **naive prefetching** and $\Omega(D \log D)$ buffers



Buffered Writing

[Sanders-Egner-Korst SODA00, Hutchinson Sanders Vitter
ESA 01]



Theorem:
Buffered Writing
is optimal

...

But
how good is optimal?

Theorem: Randomized cycling achieves **efficiency**
 $1 - o(D/W)$.



Analysis: **negative association** of random variables,
application of **queueing theory** to a “throttled” Alg.



Optimal Offline Prefetching

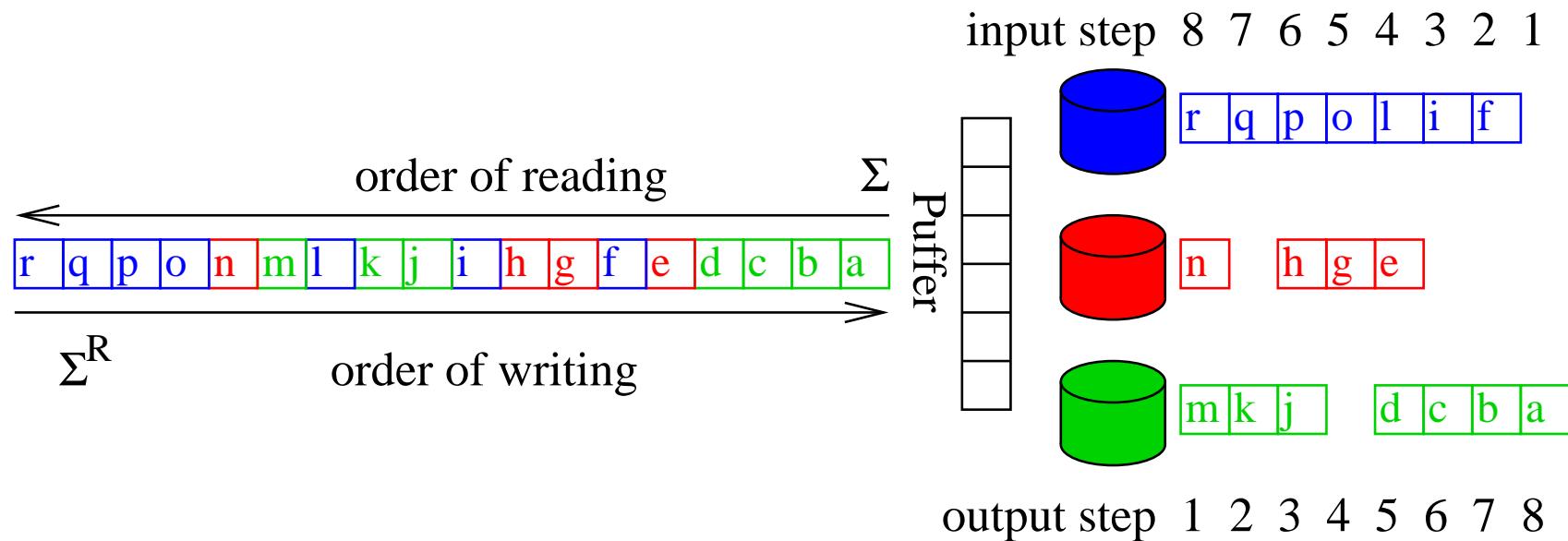
Theorem:

For buffer size W :

\exists (offline) **prefetching** schedule for Σ with T input steps

1

\exists (online) write schedule for Σ^R with T output steps





Optimal Offline Prefetching

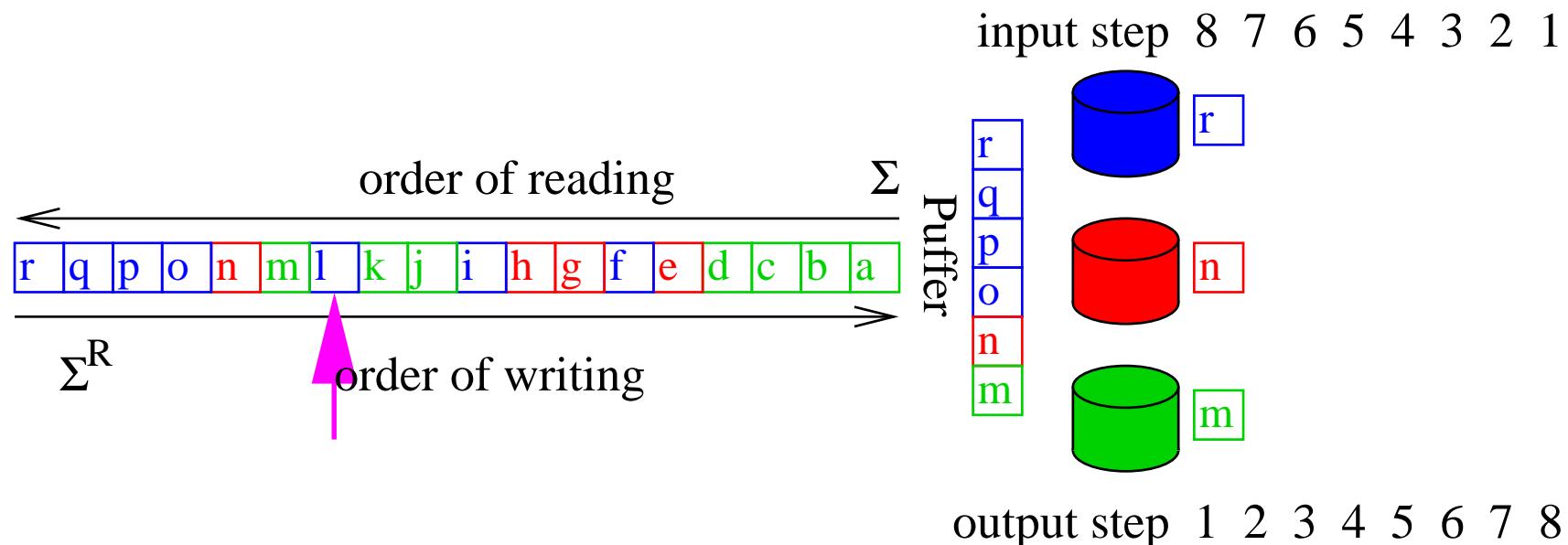
Theorem:

For buffer size W :

\exists (offline) **prefetching** schedule for Σ with T input steps

\Leftrightarrow

\exists (online) **write** schedule for Σ^R with T output steps





Optimal Offline Prefetching

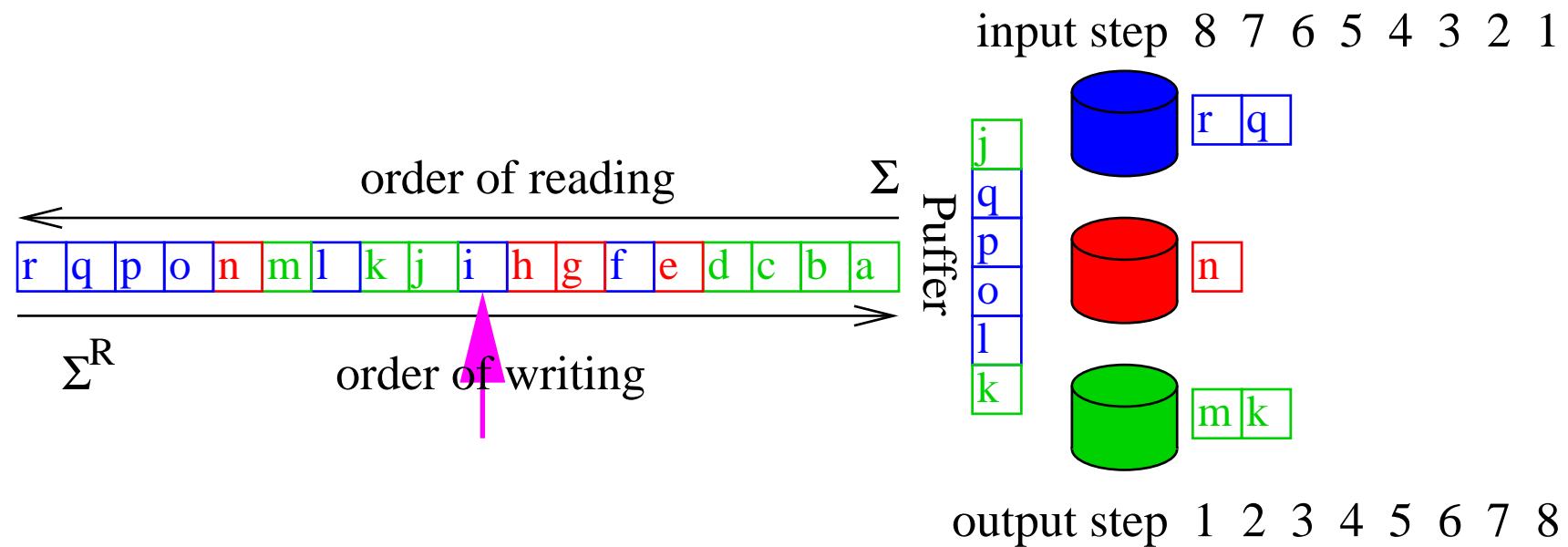
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Optimal Offline Prefetching

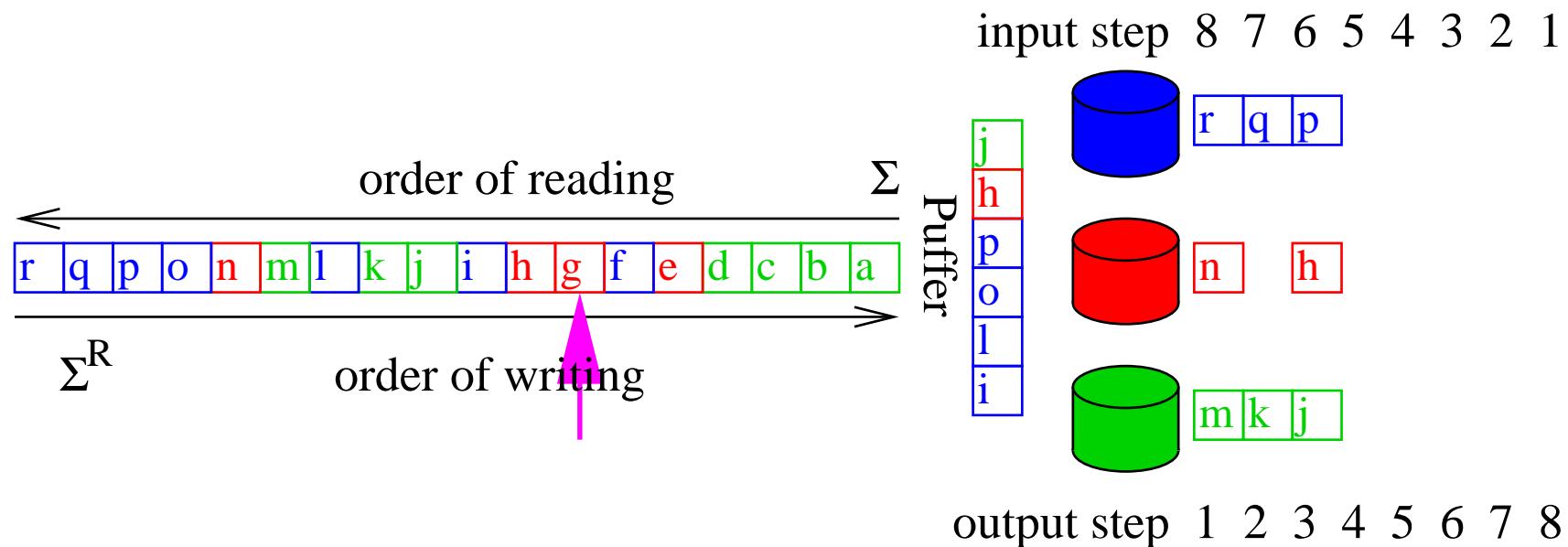
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\Leftrightarrow

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Optimal Offline Prefetching

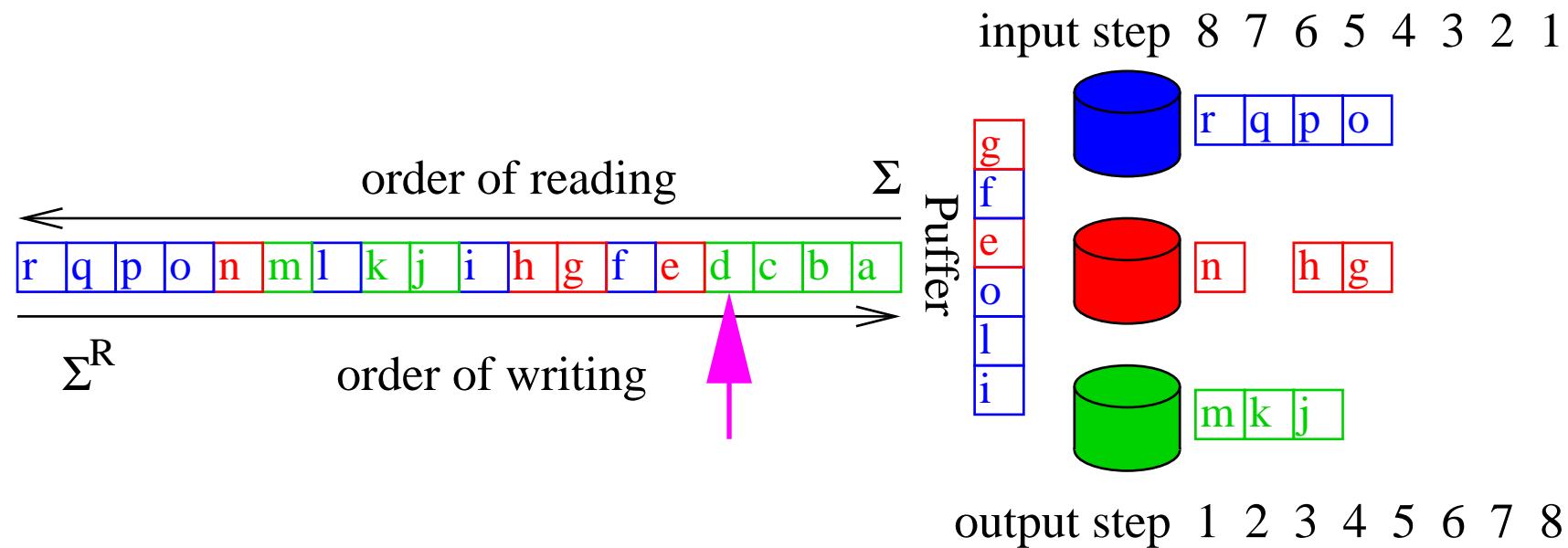
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Optimal Offline Prefetching

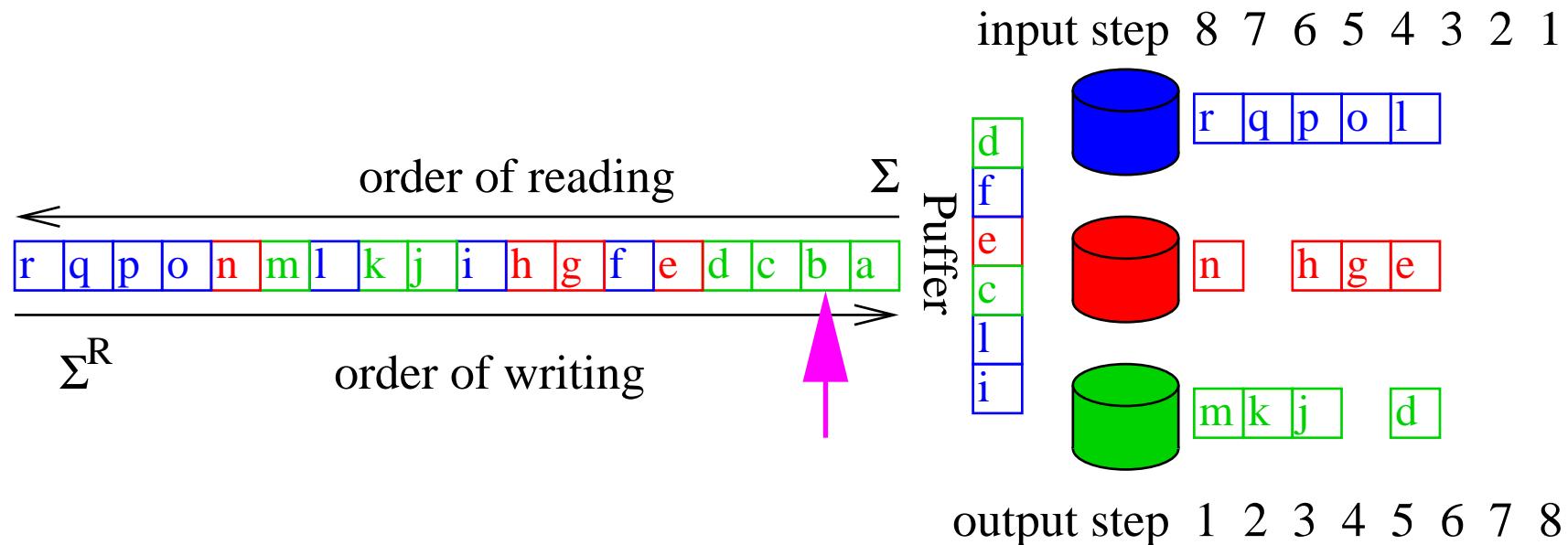
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Optimal Offline Prefetching

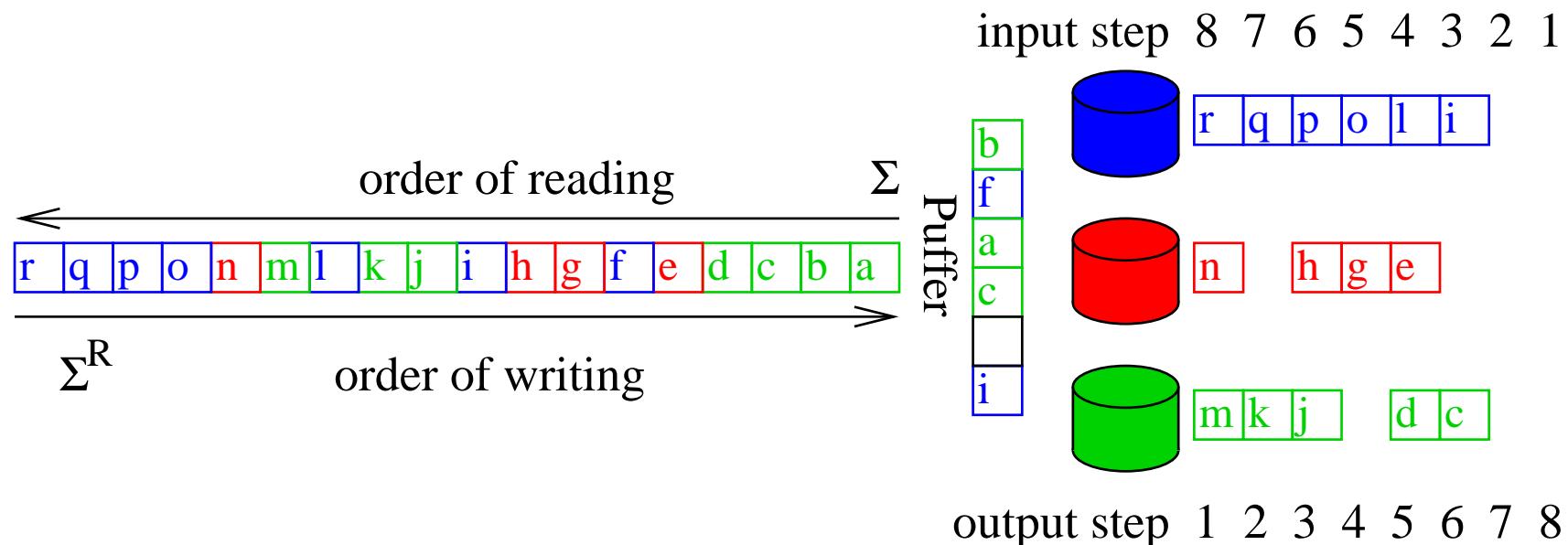
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Optimal Offline Prefetching

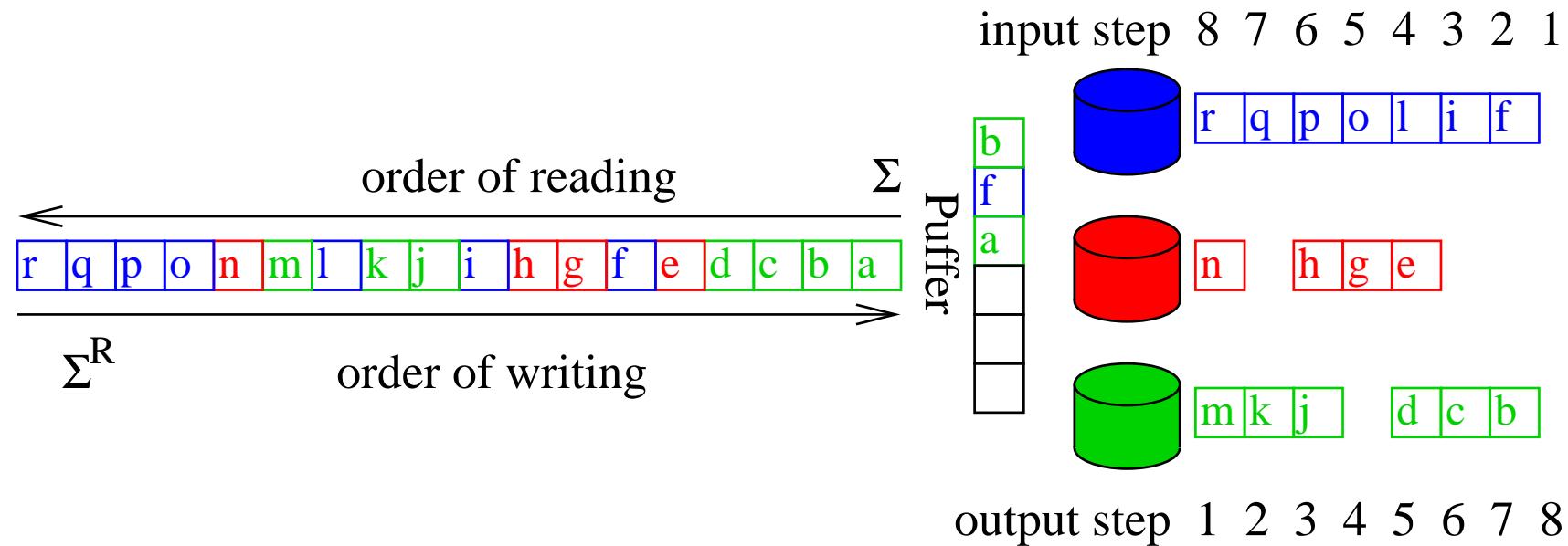
Theorem:

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Optimal Offline Prefetching

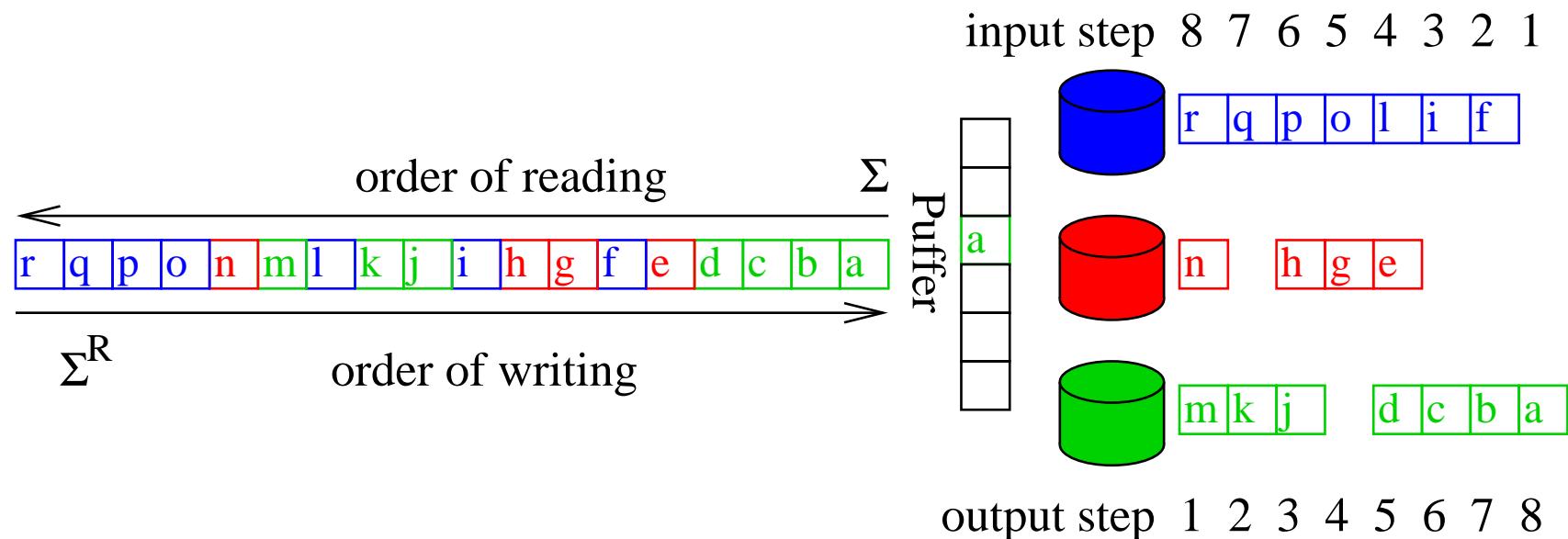
Theorem:

For buffer size W :

\exists (offline) **prefetching** schedule for Σ with T input steps

1

\exists (online) write schedule for Σ^R with T output steps





Synthesis

Multiway merging

+ prediction [60s Folklore]

+optimal (randomized) writing [Sanders Egner Korst SODA 2000]

+randomized cycling [Vitter Hutchinson 2001]

+optimal prefetching [Hutchinson Sanders Vitter ESA 2002]

$\rightsquigarrow (1 + o(1)) \cdot \text{sort}(n)$ I/Os

\rightsquigarrow “answers” question in [Knuth 98]; difficulty 48 on a 1..50 scale.



We are not done yet!

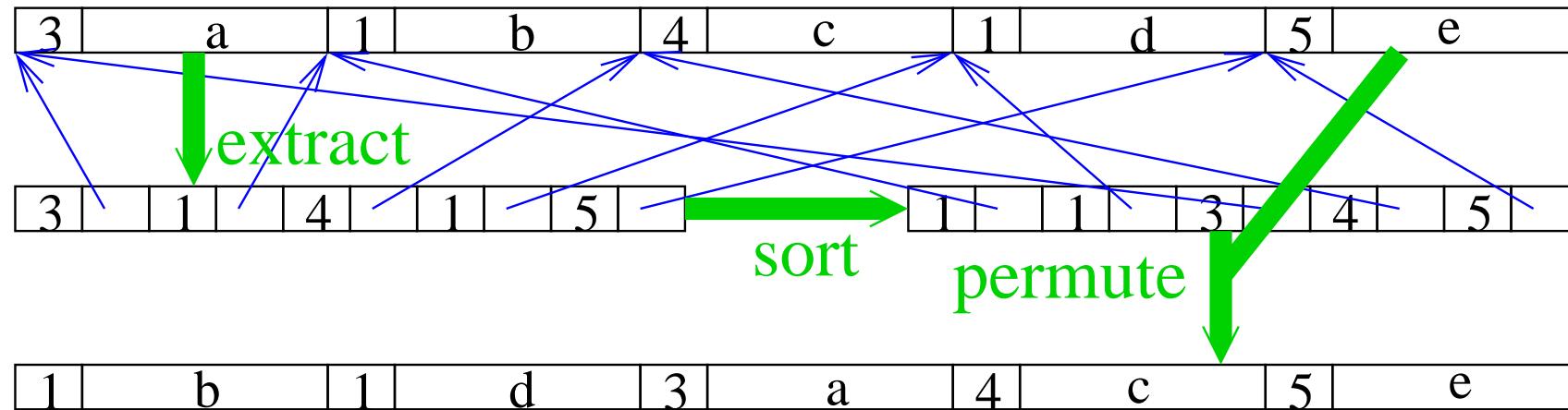
- Internal work
- Overlapping I/O and computation
- Reasonable hardware
- Interfacing with the Operating System
- Parameter Tuning
- Software engineering
- Pipelining



Key Sorting

The **I/O bandwidth** of our machine is about $1/3$ of its **main memory bandwidth**

~~> If key size \ll element size
sort key pointer pairs to save memory bandwidth during run formation





Tournament Trees for Multiway Merging

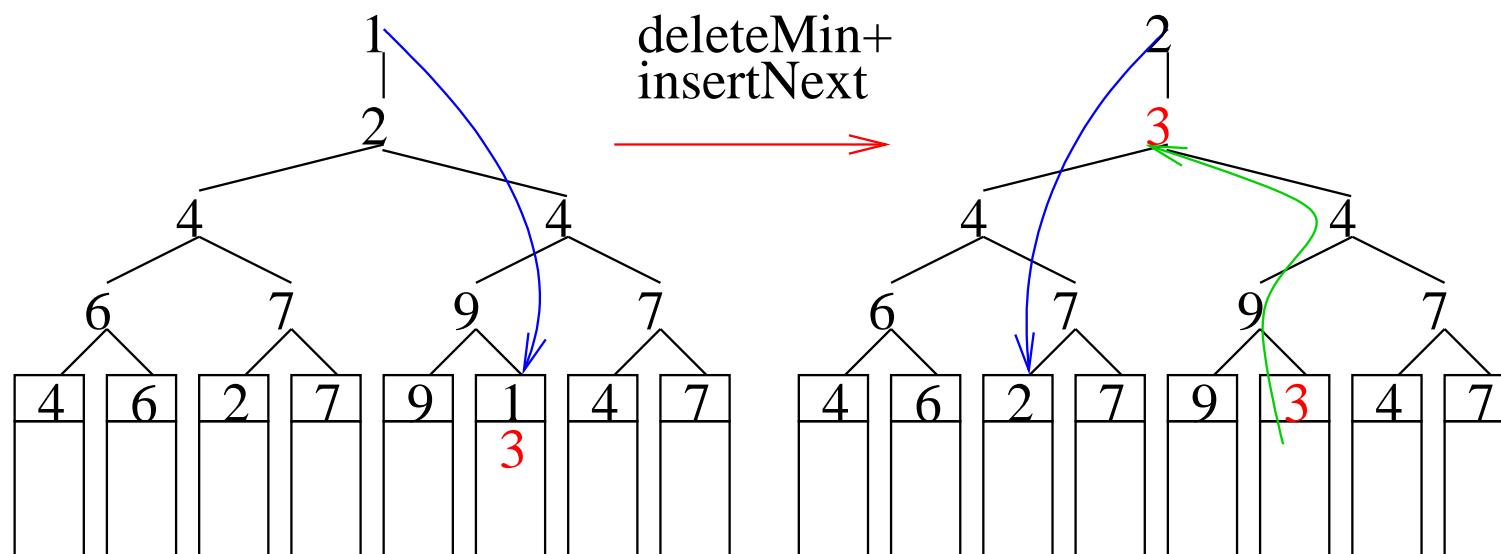
Assume $k = 2^K$ runs

K level complete binary tree

Leaves: smallest current element of each run

Internal nodes: loser of a competition for being smallest

Above root: global winner





Why Tournament Trees

- Exactly $\log k$ element comparisons
- Implicit layout in an array \rightsquigarrow simple index arithmetics (shifts)
- Predictable load instructions and index computations
(Unrollable) inner loop:

```
for (int i=(winnerIndex+kReg)>>1; i>0; i>>=1) {  
    currentPos = entry + i;  
    currentKey = currentPos->key;  
    if (currentKey < winnerKey) {  
        currentIndex      = currentPos->index;  
        currentPos->key   = winnerKey;  
        currentPos->index = winnerIndex;  
        winnerKey         = currentKey;  
        winnerIndex       = currentIndex; } }
```



Overlapping I/O and Computation

- One thread for each disk (or asynchronous I/O)
- Possibly additional threads
- Blocks filled with elements are passed **by references** between different buffers

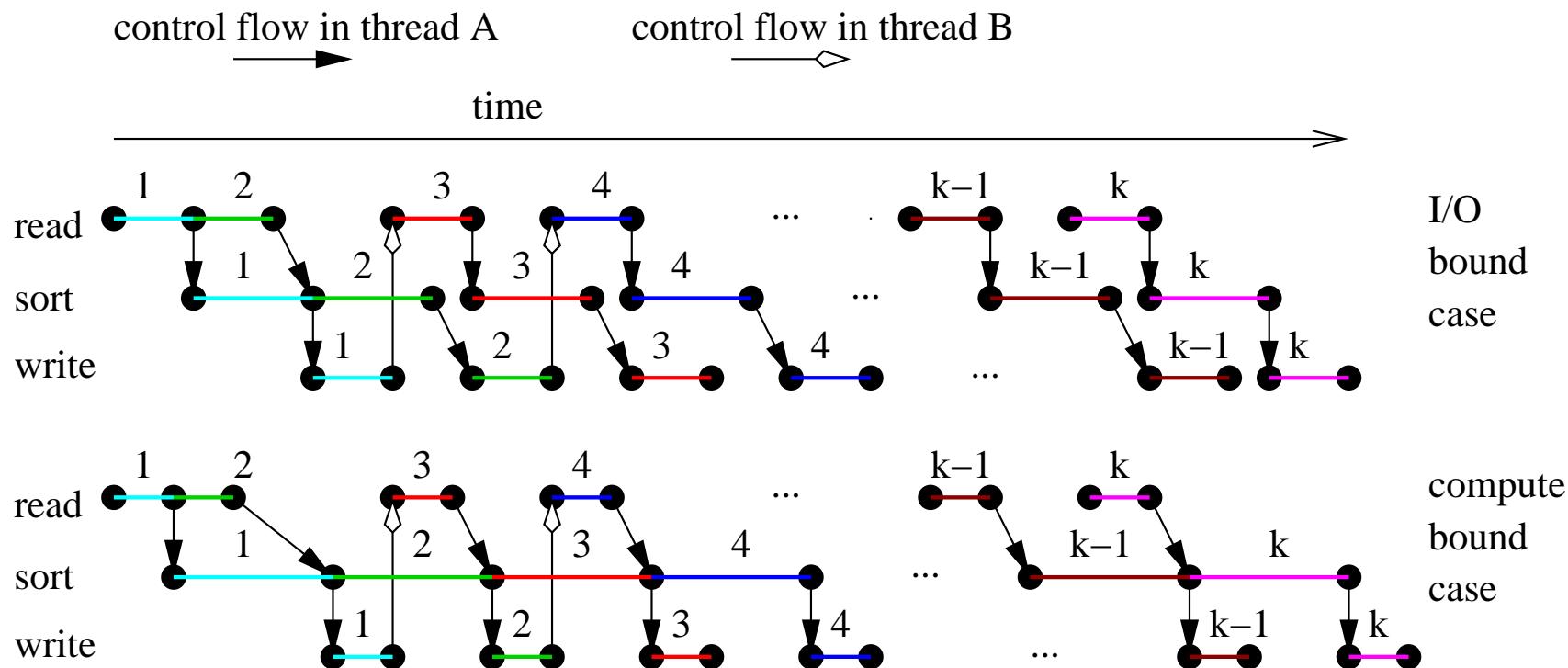


Overlapping During Run Formation

First post **read** requests for runs 1 and 2

Thread A: Loop { wait-**read** i ; sort i ; post-**write** i };

Thread B: Loop { wait-**write** i ; post-**read** $i+2$ };





Overlapping During Merging

$$\boxed{1^{B-1}2} \boxed{3^{B-1}4} \boxed{5^{B-1}6} \dots$$

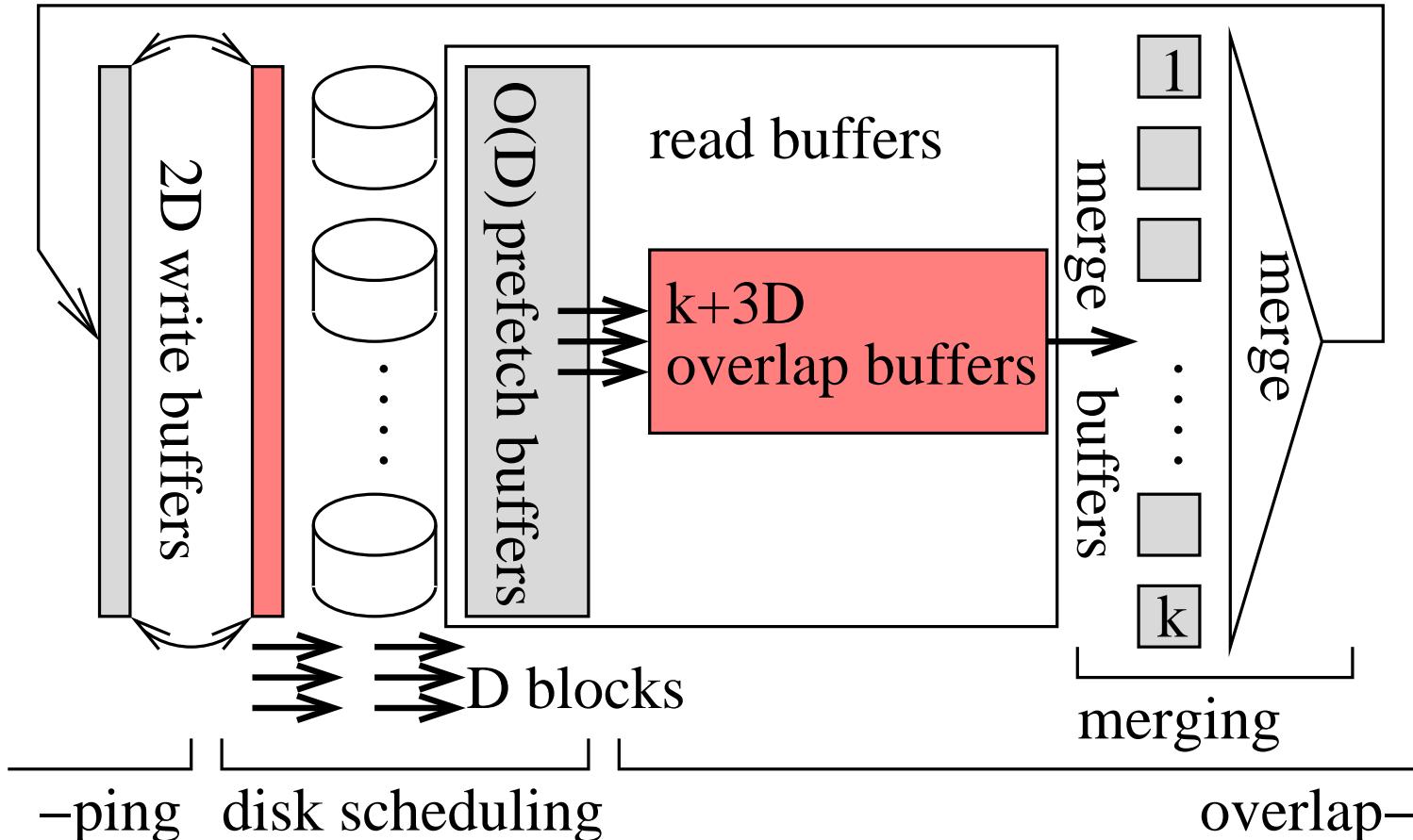
Bad example:

...

$$\boxed{1^{B-1}2} \boxed{3^{B-1}4} \boxed{5^{B-1}6} \dots$$



Overlapping During Merging



I/O Threads: Writing has **priority** over reading



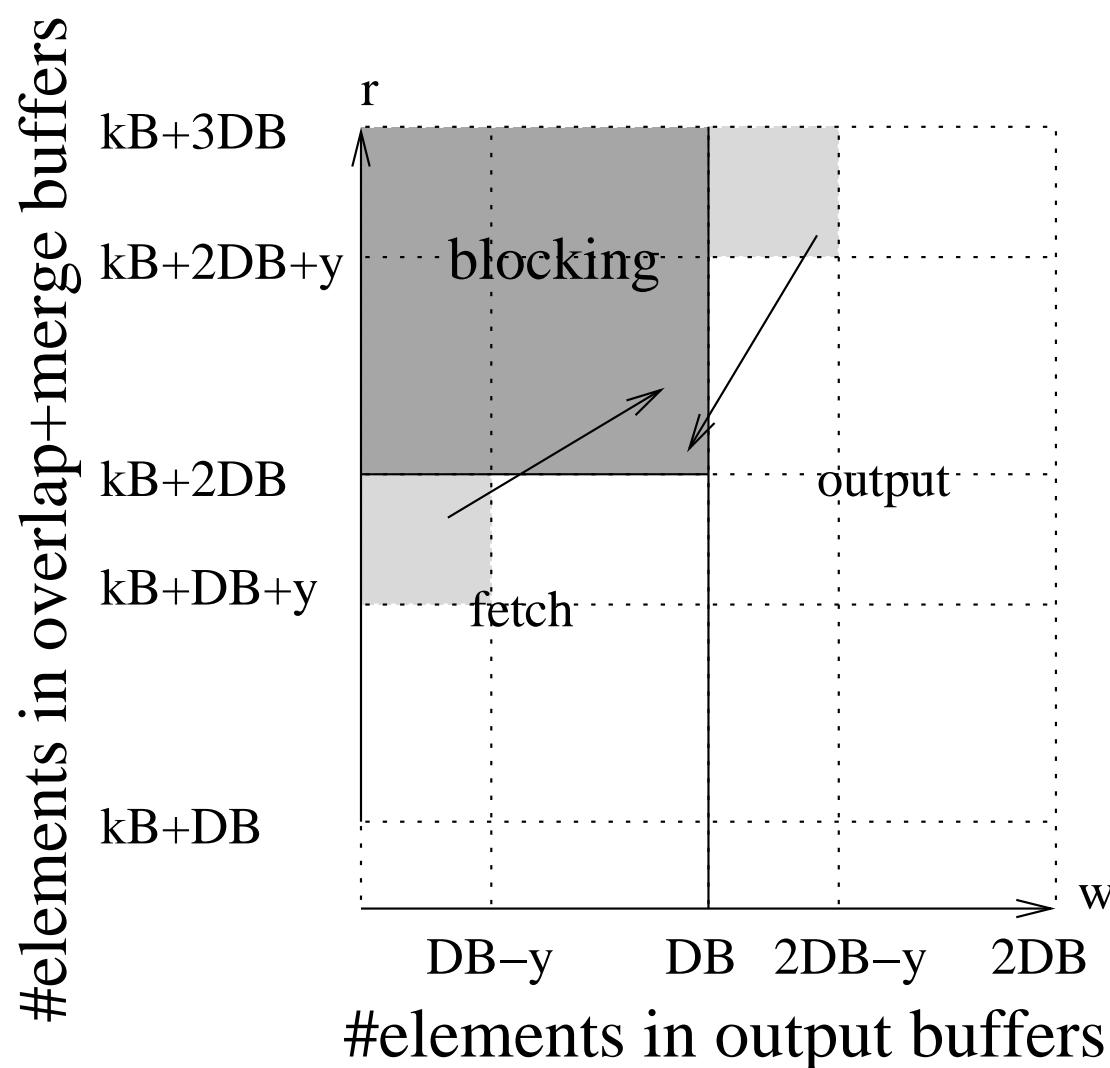
I/O bound case: The I/O thread never blocks

$y = \#$ of elements
merged during
one I/O step.

I/O bound \rightsquigarrow

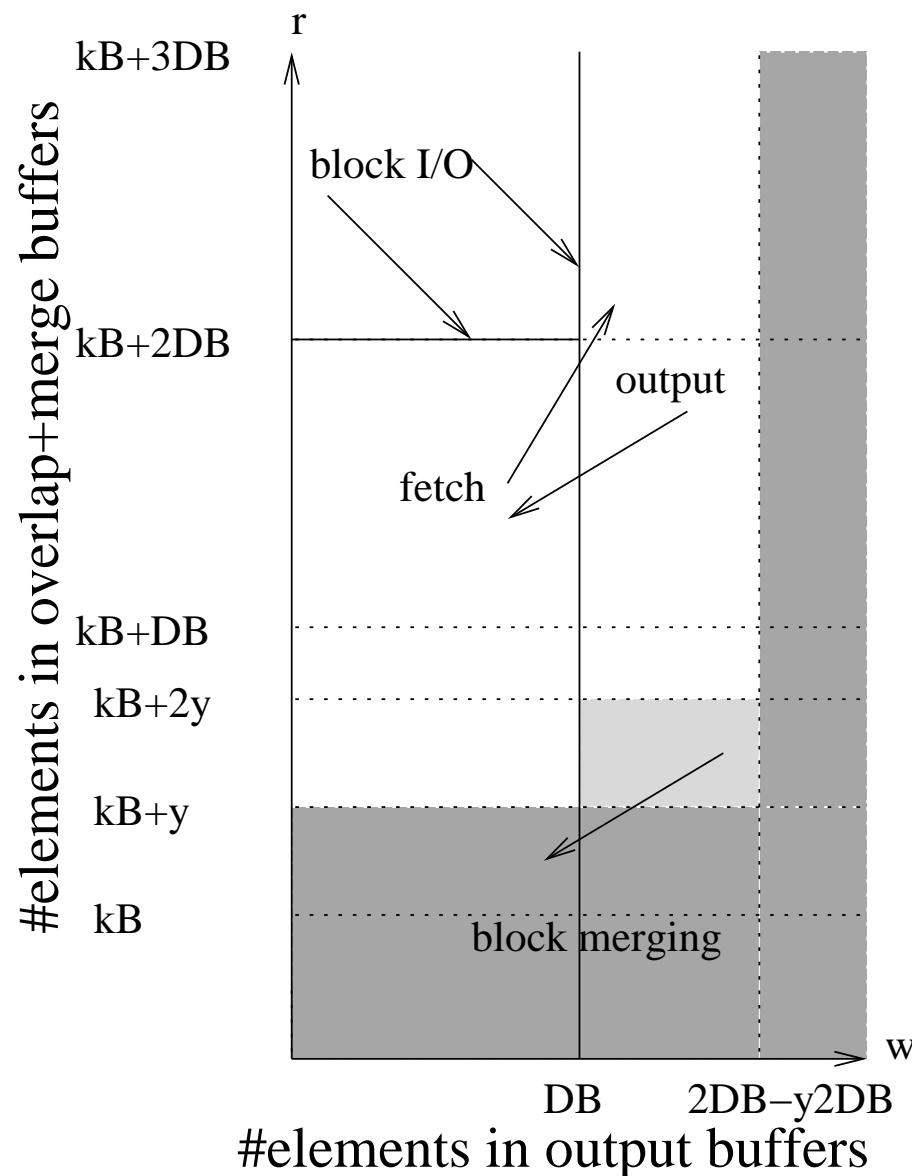
$$y > \frac{DB}{2}$$

$$y \leq DB$$





Compute bound case: The merging thread never blocks





Hardware (mid 2002)

Linux

$(2 \times 2\text{GHz Xeon} \times 2 \text{ Threads})^{400 \times 64 \text{ Mb/s}}$

Several 66 MHz PCI-buses

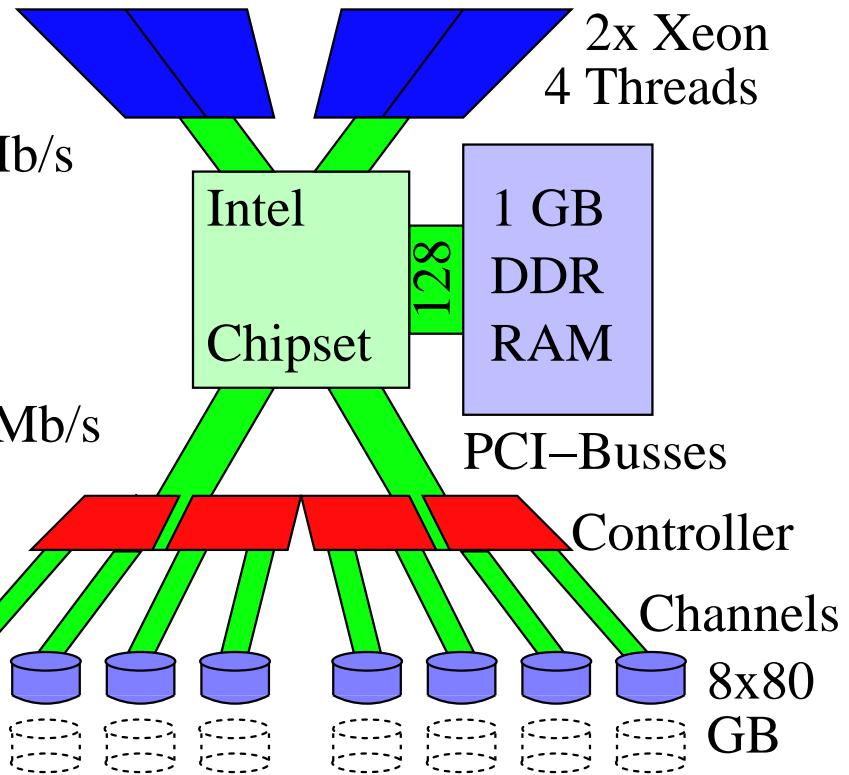
(SuperMicro P4DPE3)

Several fast IDE controllers $2 \times 64 \times 66 \text{ Mb/s}$

$(4 \times \text{Promise Ultra100 TX2})^{4 \times 2 \times 100 \text{ MB/s}}$

Many fast IDE disks

$(8 \times \text{IBM IC35L080AVVA07})^{8 \times 45 \text{ MB/s}}$



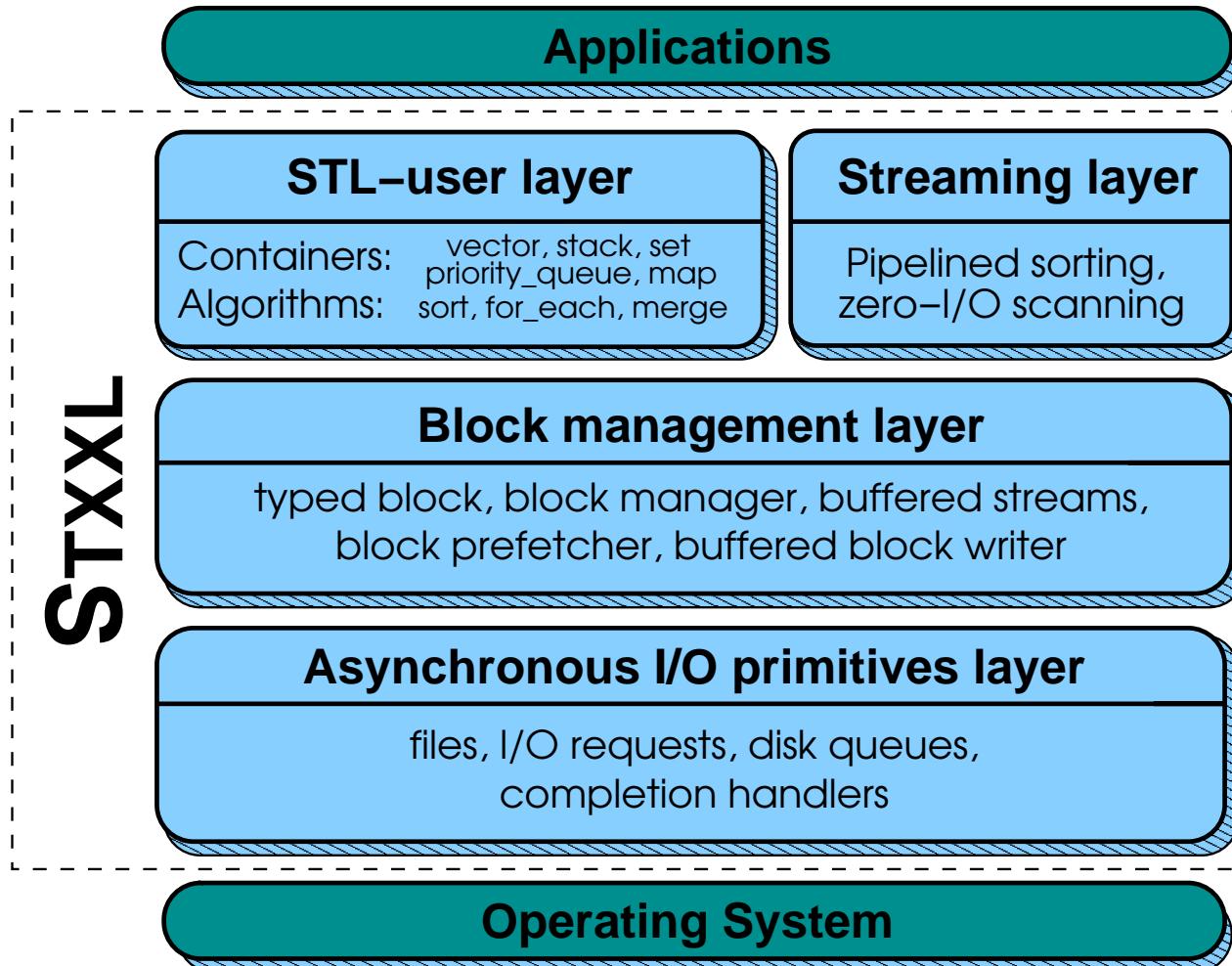
cost effective I/O-bandwidth

(real 360 MB/s for $\approx 3000 \text{ €}$)



Software Interface

Goals: **efficient + simple + compatible**





Default Measurement Parameters

$t :=$ number of available buffer blocks

Input Size: 16 GByte

Element Size: 128 Byte

Keys: Random 32 bit integers

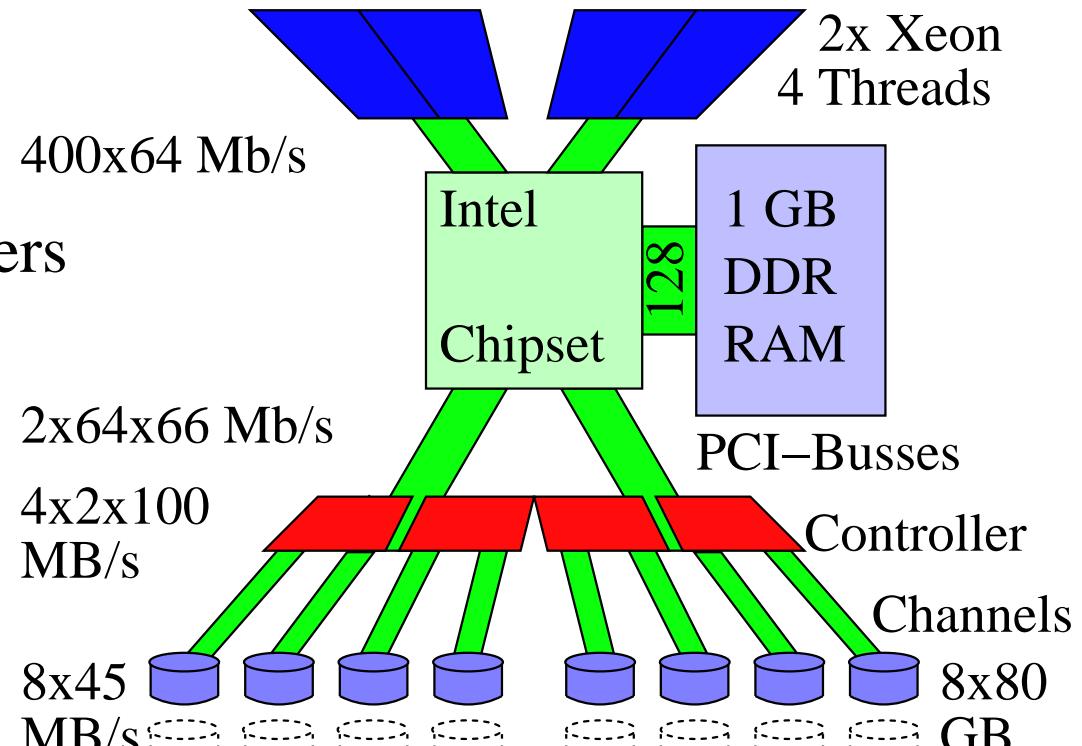
Run Size: 256 MByte

Block size B : 2 MByte

Compiler: g++ 3.2 -O6

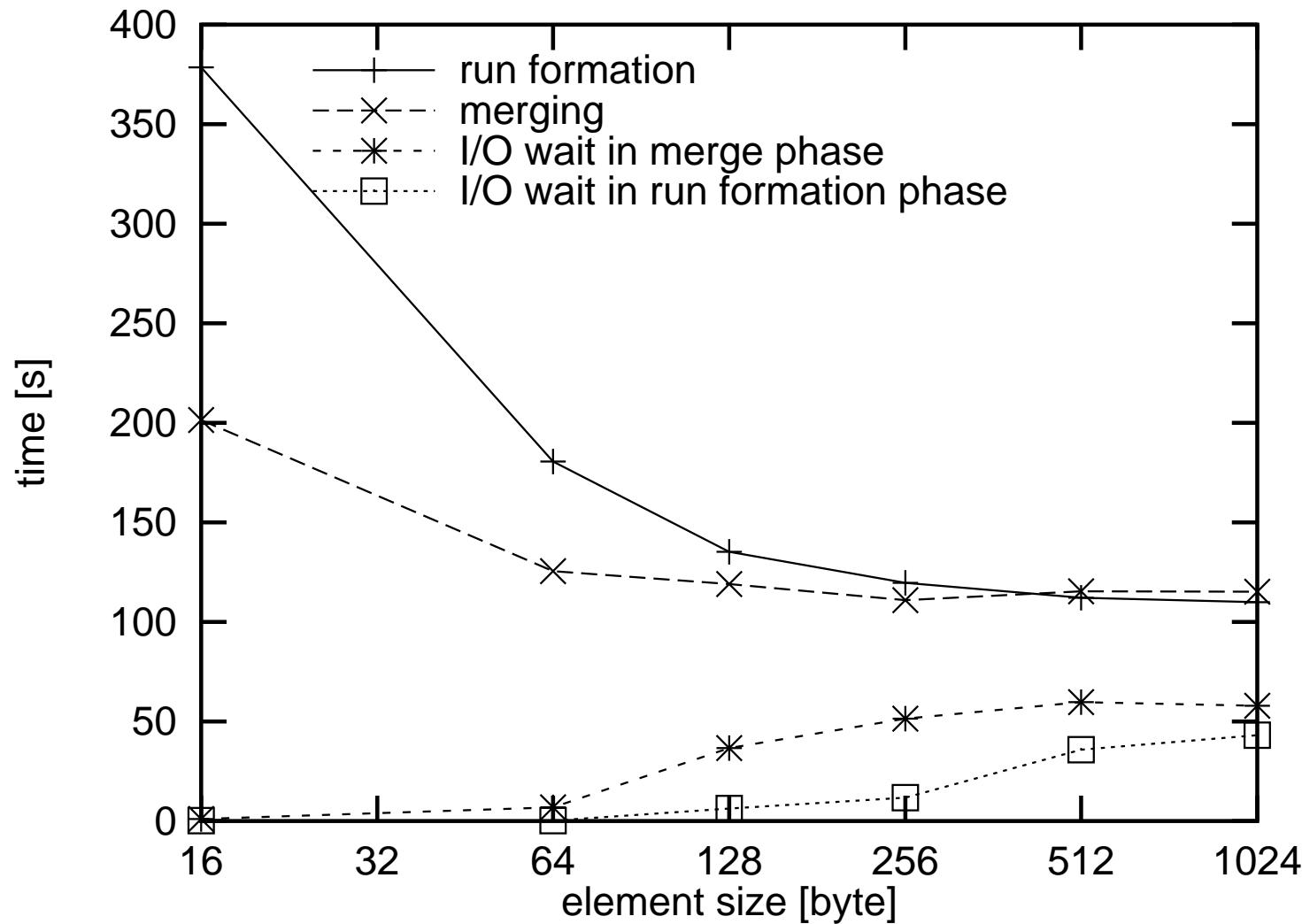
Write Buffers: $\max(t/4, 2D)$

Prefetch Buffers: $2D + \frac{3}{10}(t - w - 2D)$





Element sizes (16 GByte, 8 disks)

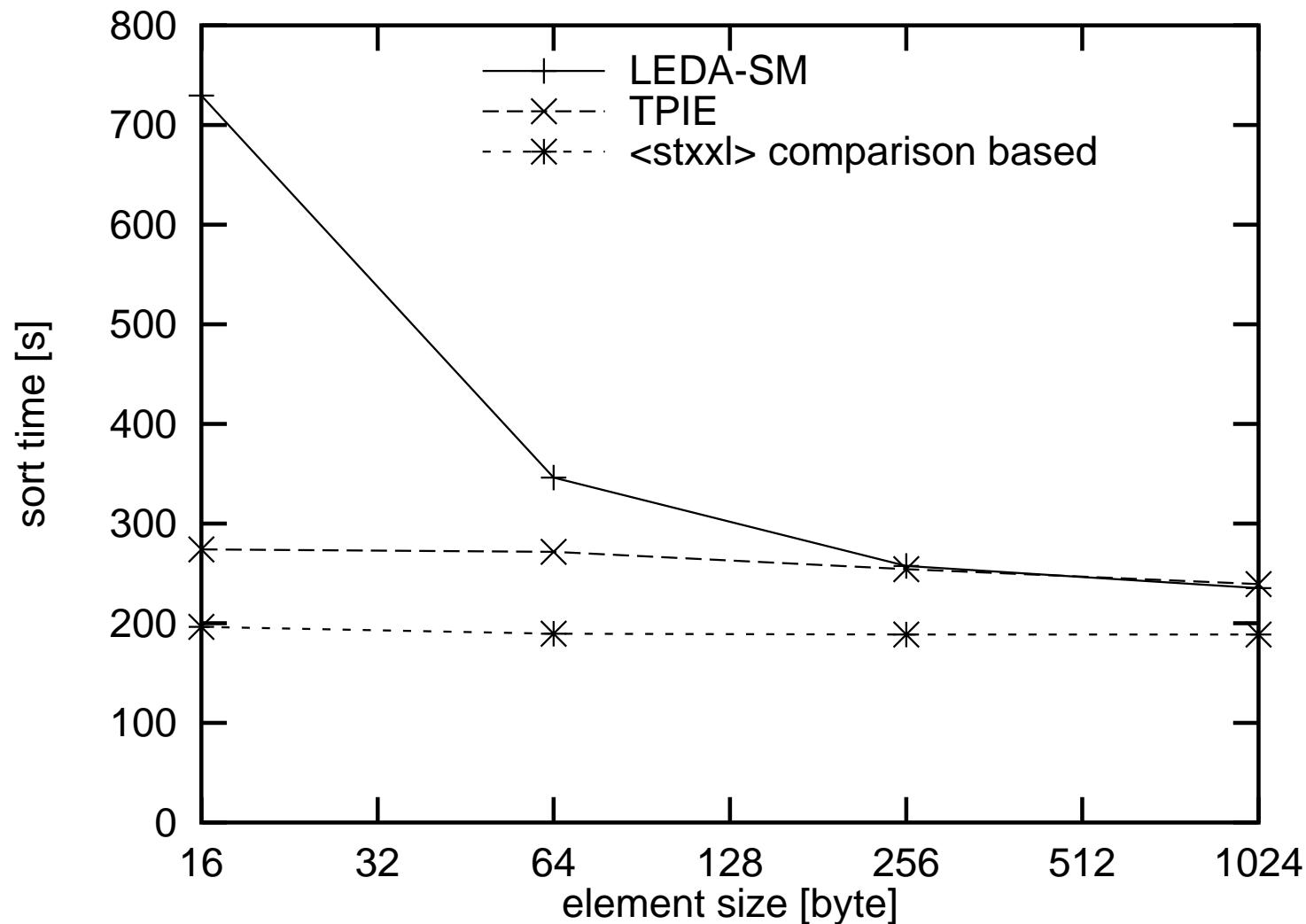


parallel disks \rightsquigarrow bandwidth “for free” \rightsquigarrow internal work, overlapping are relev



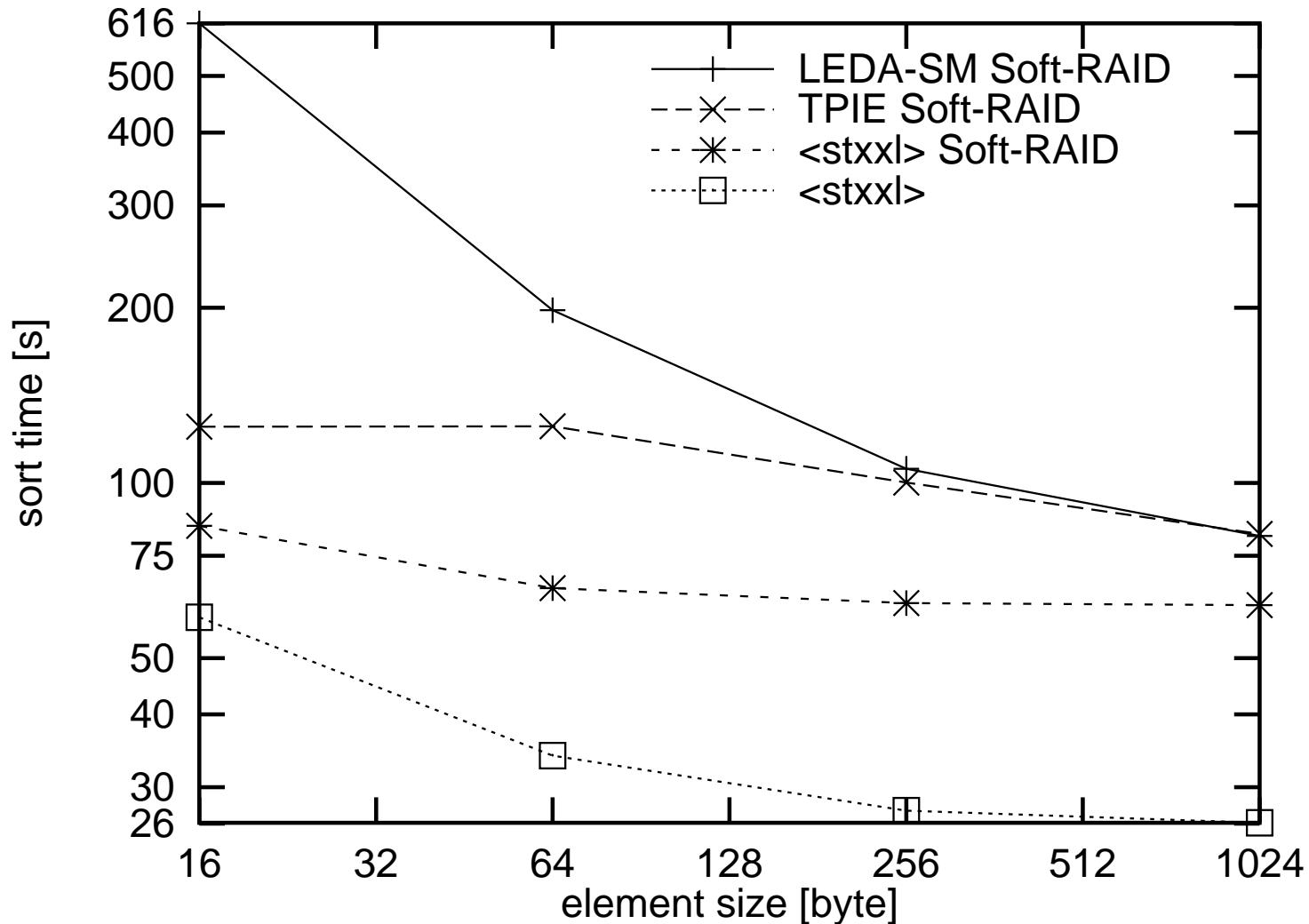
Earlier Academic Implementations

Single Disk, **at most 2 GByte**, old measurements use **artificial M**



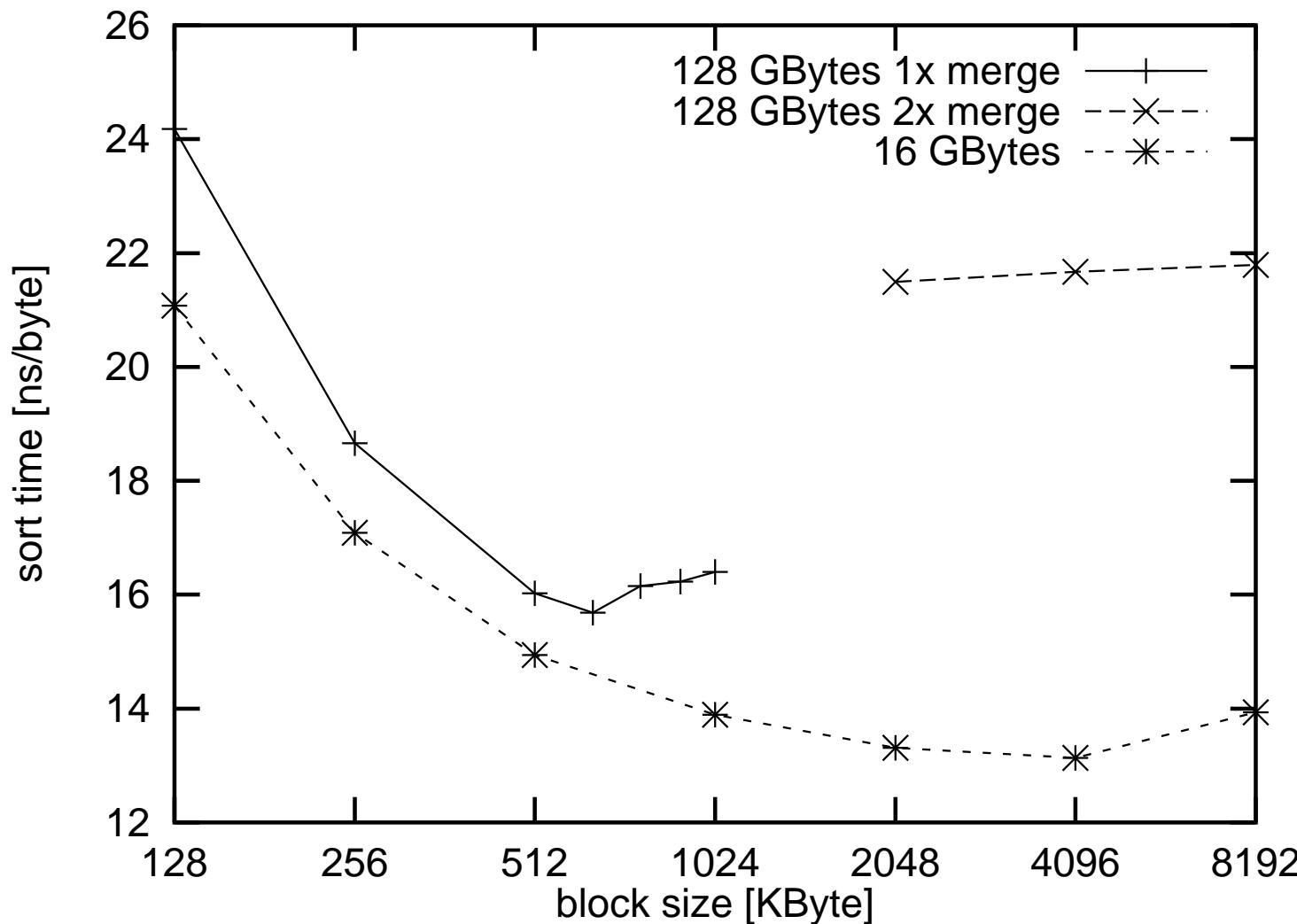


Earlier Academic Implementations: Multiple Disks





What are good block sizes (8 disks)?

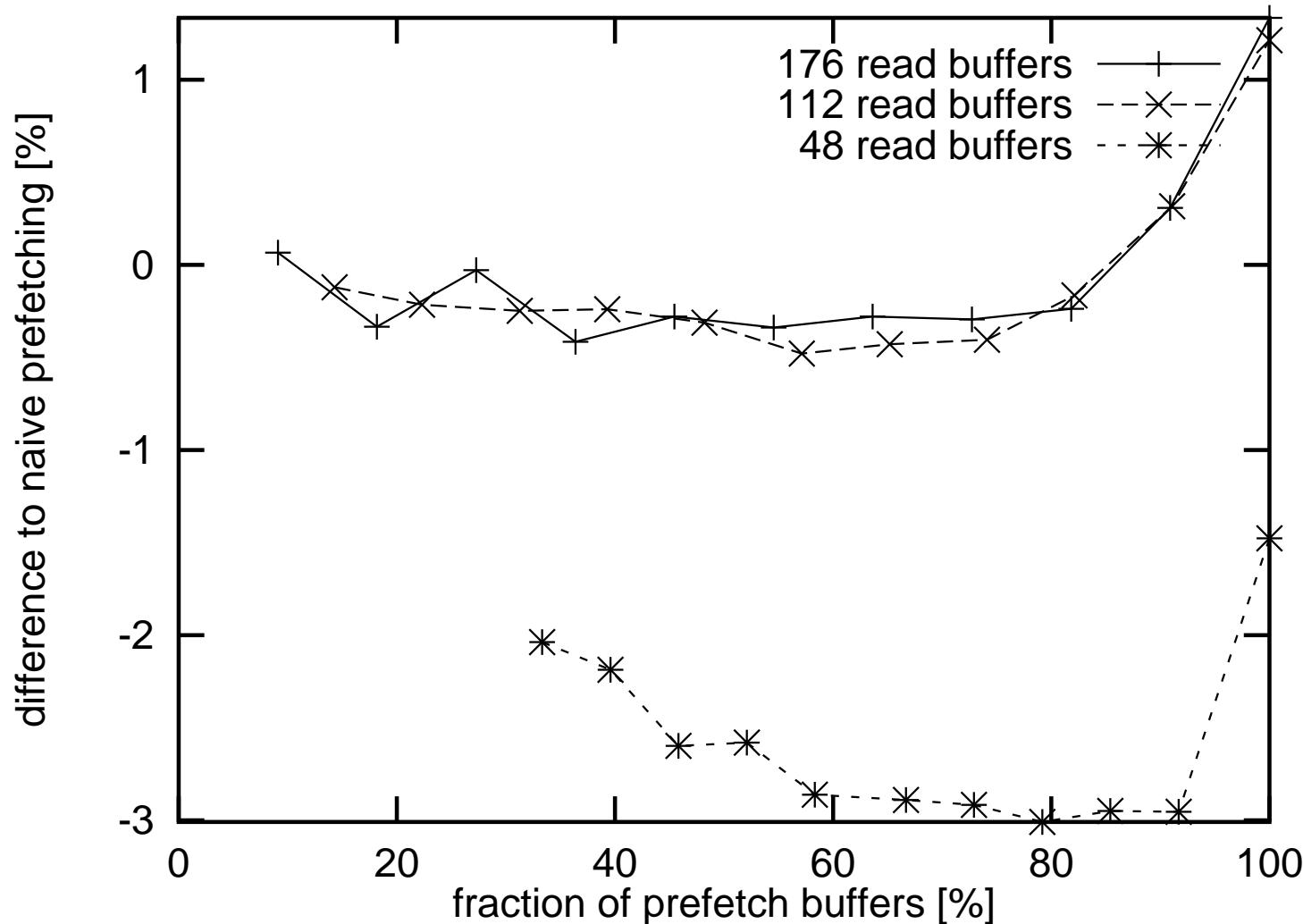


B is **not** a technology constant



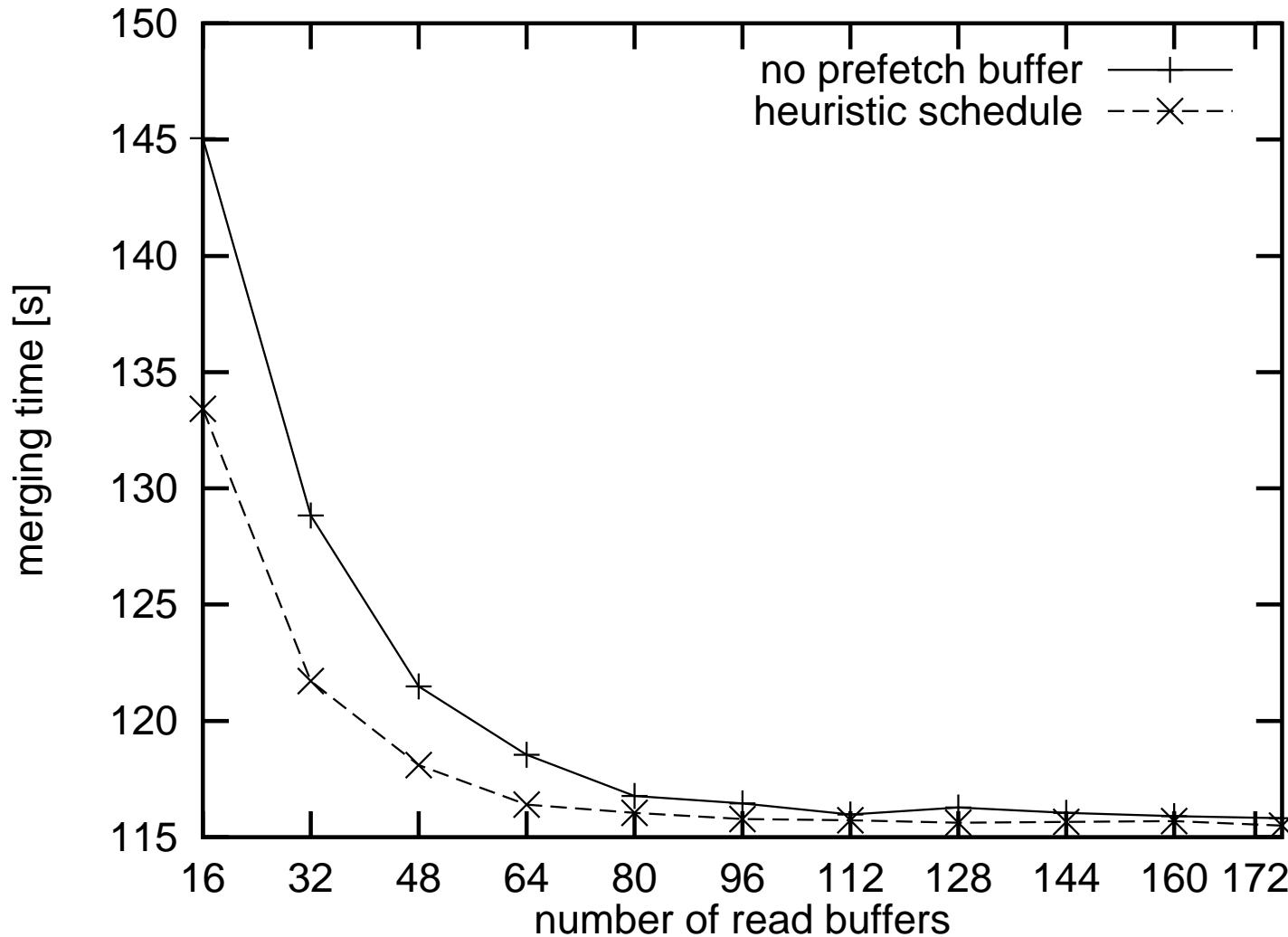
Optimal Versus Naive Prefetching

Total merge time



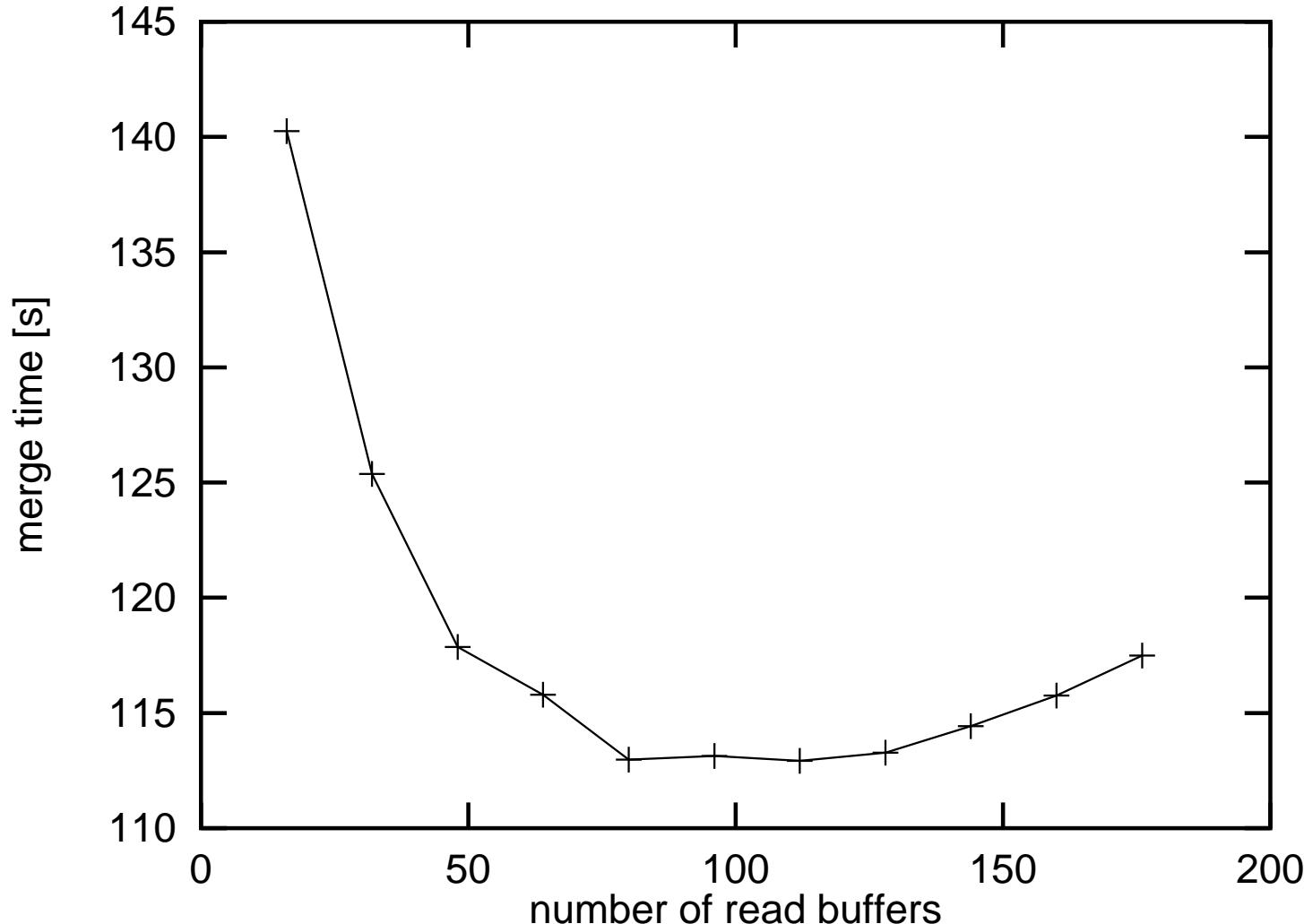


Impact of Prefetch and Overlap Buffers



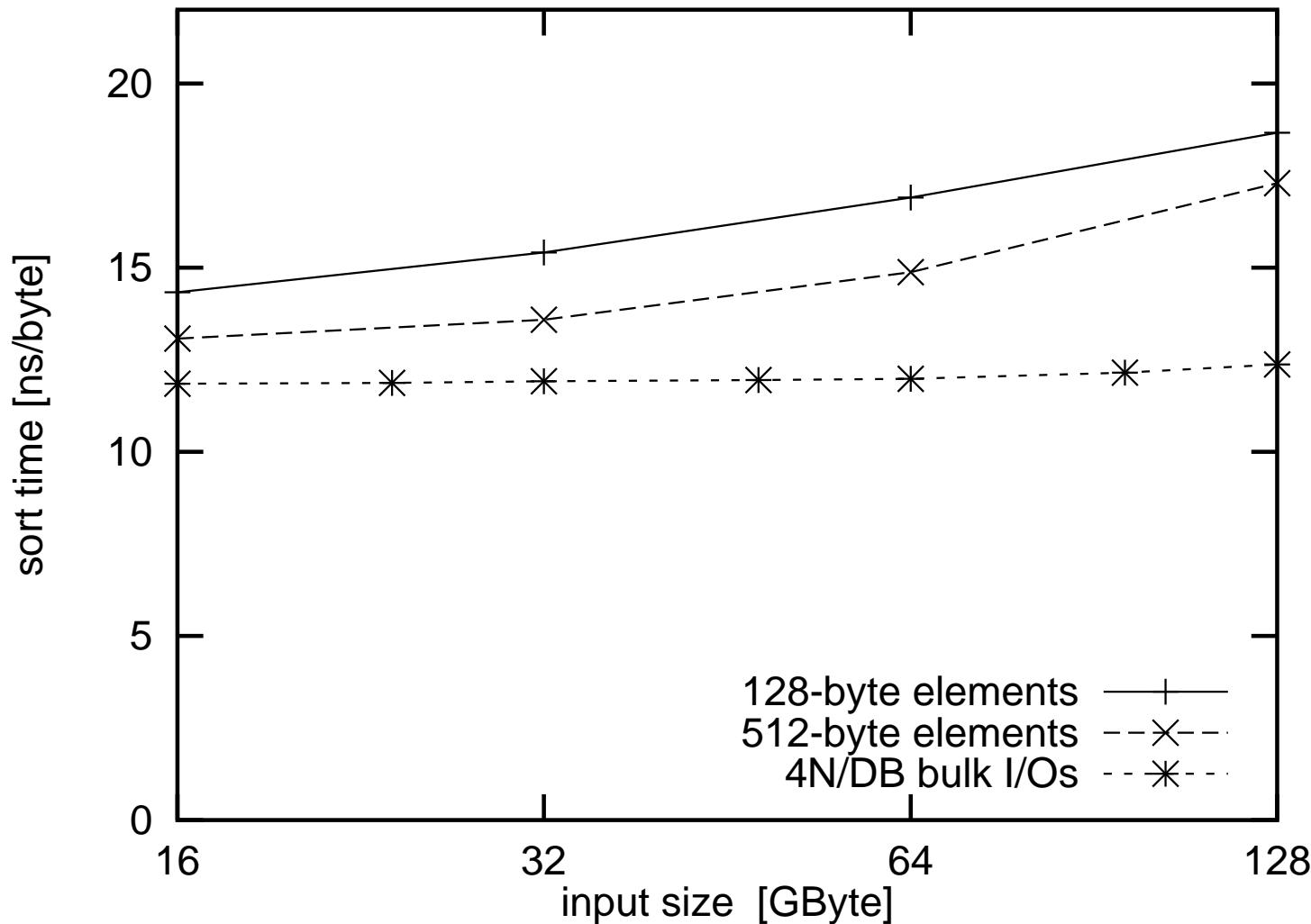


Tradeoff: Write Buffer Size Versus Read Buffer Size





Scalability





Discussion

- Theory and practice harmonize
- No expensive server hardware necessary (SCSI,...)
- No need to work with artificial M
- No 2/4 GByte limits
- Faster than academic implementations
- (Must be) as fast as commercial implementations but with performance guarantees
- Blocks are much larger than often assumed. Not a technology constant
- Parallel disks \rightsquigarrow
bandwidth “for free” \rightsquigarrow don’t neglect internal costs



More Parallel Disk Sorting?

Pipelining: Input does not come from disk but from a logical input stream. Output goes to a logical output stream
~~ only half the I/Os for sorting
~~ often no I/Os for scanning todo: better overlapping

Parallelism: This is the only way to go for **really many** disks

Tuning and Special Cases: ssssort, permutations, balance work between merging and run formation?...

Longer Runs: not done with guaranteed overlapping, fast internal sorting !

Distribution Sorting: Better for seeks etc.?

Inplace Sorting: Could also be faster



Determinism: A practical and theoretically efficient algorithm?



Procedure formLongRuns

$q, q' : \text{PriorityQueue}$

for $i := 1$ **to** M **do** $q.\text{insert}(\text{readElement})$

invariant $|q| + |q'| = M$

loop

while $q \neq \emptyset$

$\text{writeElement}(e := q.\text{deleteMin})$

if input exhausted **then** break outer loop

if $e' := \text{readElement} < e$ **then** $q'.\text{insert}(e')$

else $q.\text{insert}(e')$

$q := q'; \quad q' := \emptyset$

output q in sorted order; output q' in sorted order

Knuth: average run length $2M$

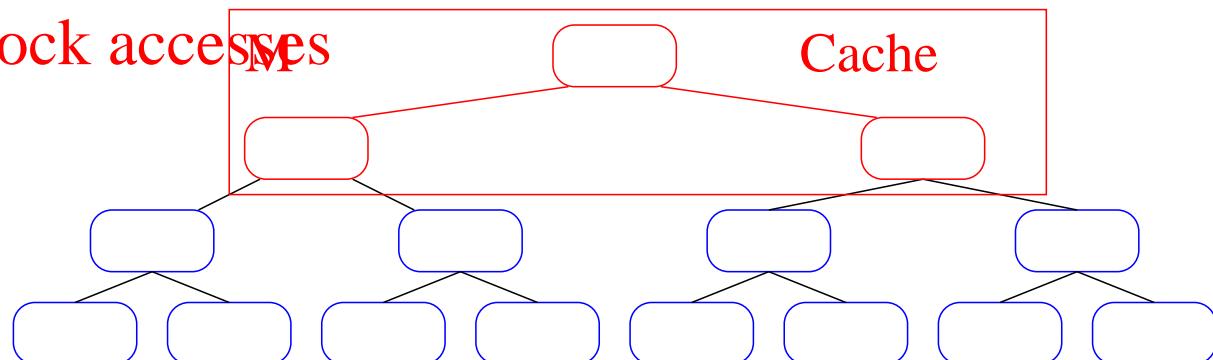
todo: cache-effiziente Implementierung



4 Priority Queues (`insert`, `deleteMin`)

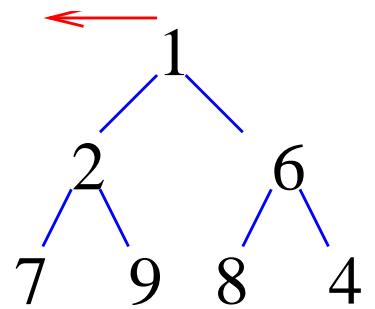
Binary Heaps best comparison based “flat memory” algorithm

- + On average **constant** time for **insertion**
- + On average $\log n + o(1)$ key comparisons per delete-Min using the “bottom-up” heuristics [Wegener 93].
- $\approx 2\log(n/M)$ block accesses per delete-Min





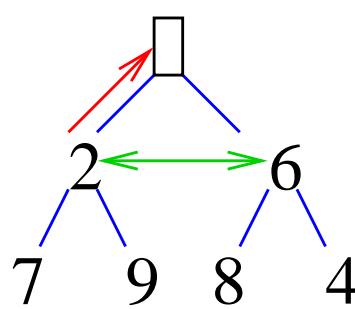
Bottom Up Heuristics



delete Min

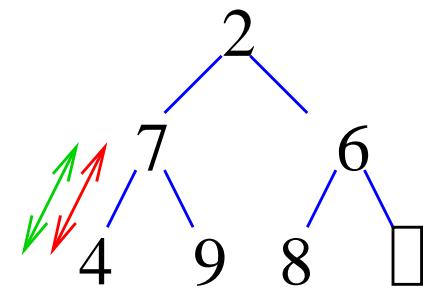
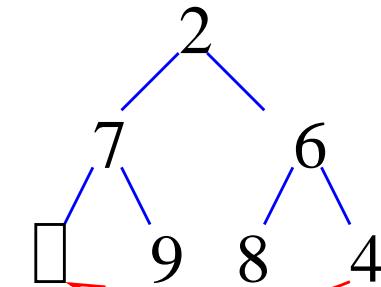
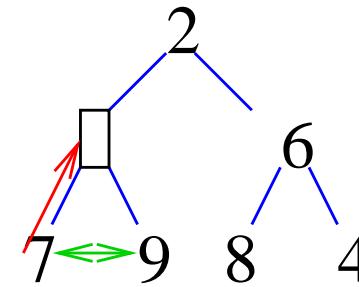
$O(1)$

compare **swap** **move**



sift down hole

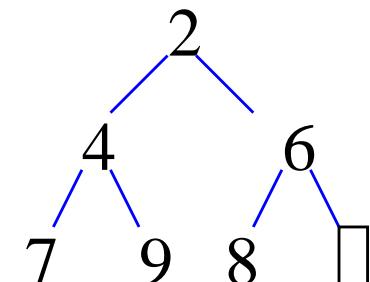
$\log(n)$



Factor two faster
than naive implementation

sift up

$O(1)$
average





Der Wettbewerber fit gemacht:

```
int i=1, m=2, t = a[1];
m += (m != n && a[m] > a[m + 1]);
if (t > a[m]) {
    do { a[i] = a[m];
          i      = m;
          m      = 2*i;
          if (m > n) break;
          m += (m != n && a[m] > a[m + 1]);
    } while (t > a[m]);
    a[i] = t;
}
```

Keine signifikanten Leistungsunterschiede auf meiner Maschine
(heapsort von random integers)



Vergleich

Speicherzugriffe: $O(1)$ weniger als top down $O(\log n)$ worst case. bei effizienter Implementierung

Elementvergleiche: $\approx \log n$ weniger für bottom up (average case) aber die sind leicht vorhersagbar

Aufgabe: siftDown mit worst case $\log n + O(\log \log n)$
Elementvergleichen



Heapkonstruktion

Procedure buildHeapBackwards

for $i := \lfloor n/2 \rfloor$ **downto** 1 **do** siftDown(i)

Procedure buildHeapRecursive($i : \mathbb{N}$)

if $4i \leq n$ **then**

 buildHeapRecursive($2i$)

 buildHeapRecursive($2i + 1$)

 siftDown(i)

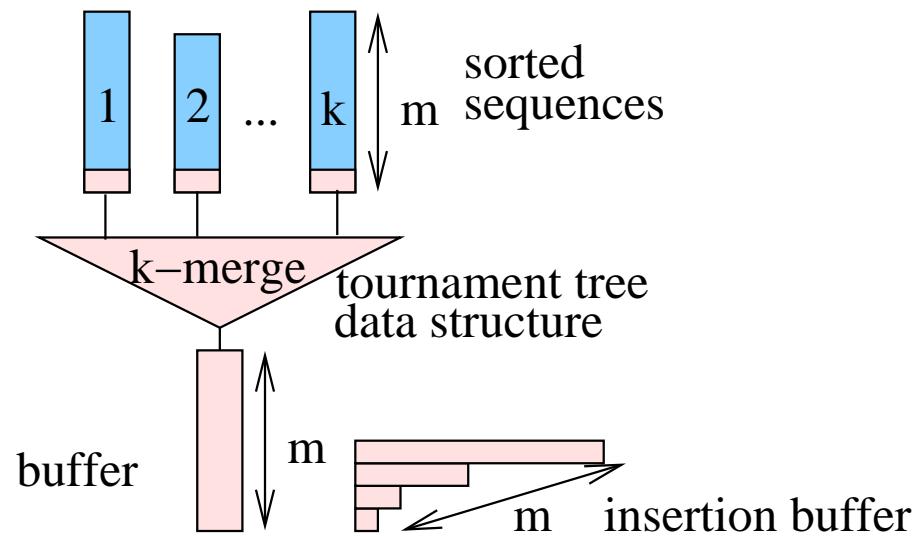
Rekursive Funktion für große Eingaben $2 \times$ schneller!

(Rekursion abrollen für 2 unterste Ebenen)

Aufgabe: Erklärung



Medium Size Queues ($km \ll M^2/B$ Insertions)



Insert: Initially into **insertion buffer**.

Overflow —→

sort; merge with **deletion buffer**; write out largest elements.

Delete-Min: Take minimum of insertion and deletion buffer.

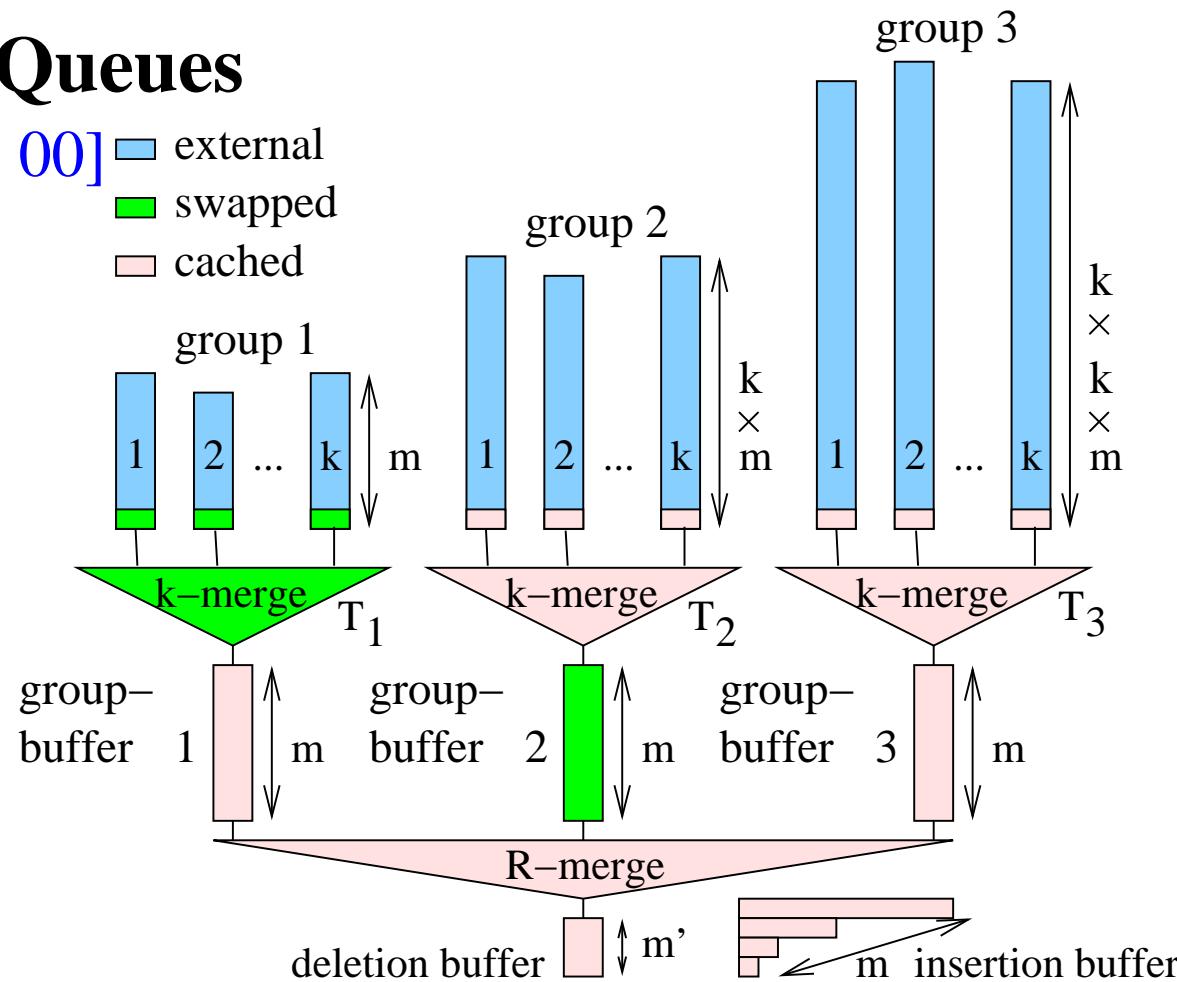
Refill deletion buffer if necessary.



Large Queues

[Sanders 00]

- external
- swapped
- cached



insert: group full \longrightarrow merge group; shift into next group.

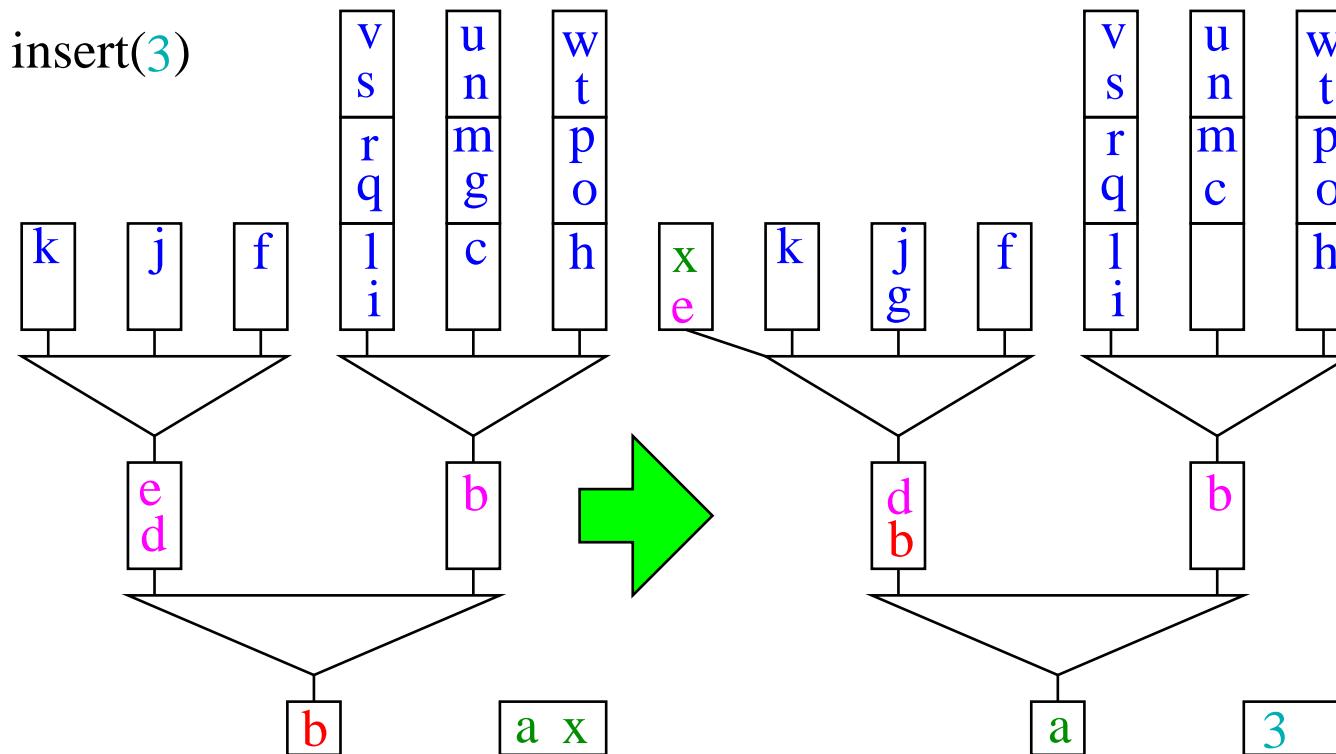
merge invalid group buffers and move them into group 1.

Delete-Min: Refill. $m' \ll m$. nothing else



Example

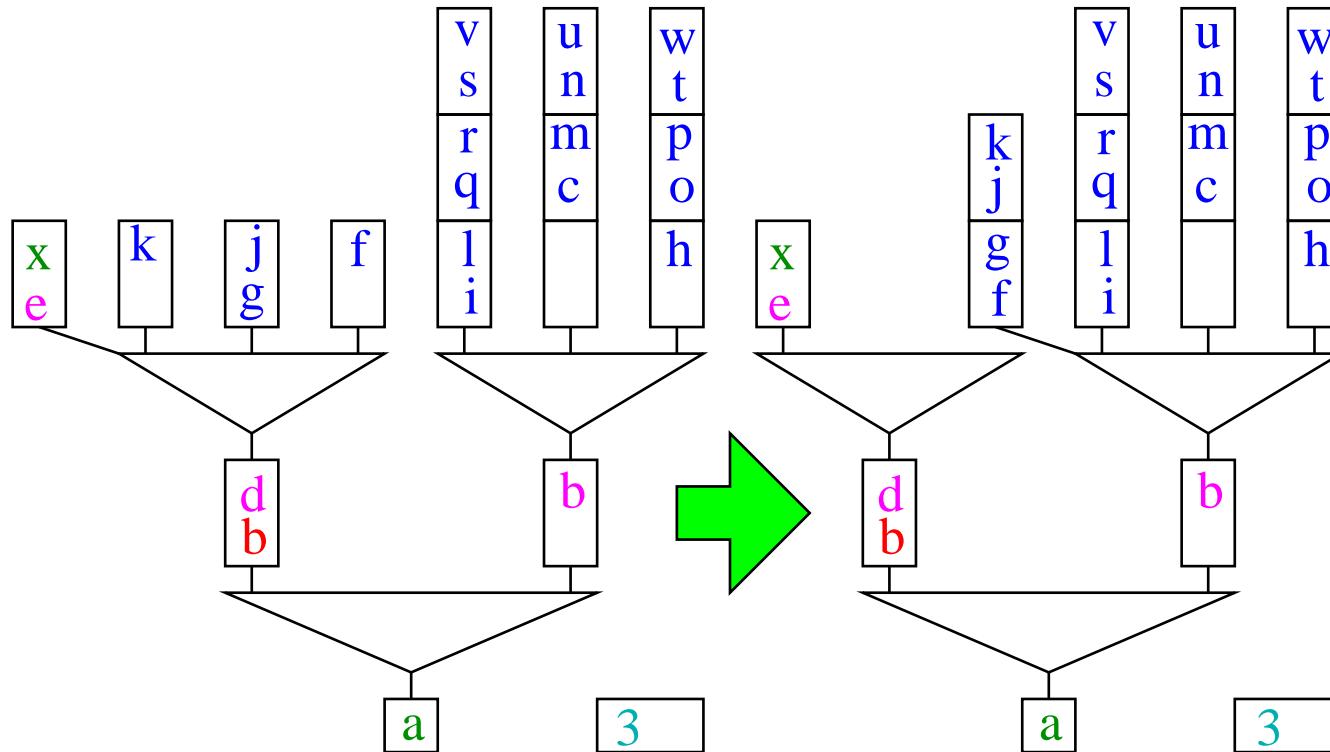
Merge insertion buffer, deletion buffer, and leftmost group buffer





Example

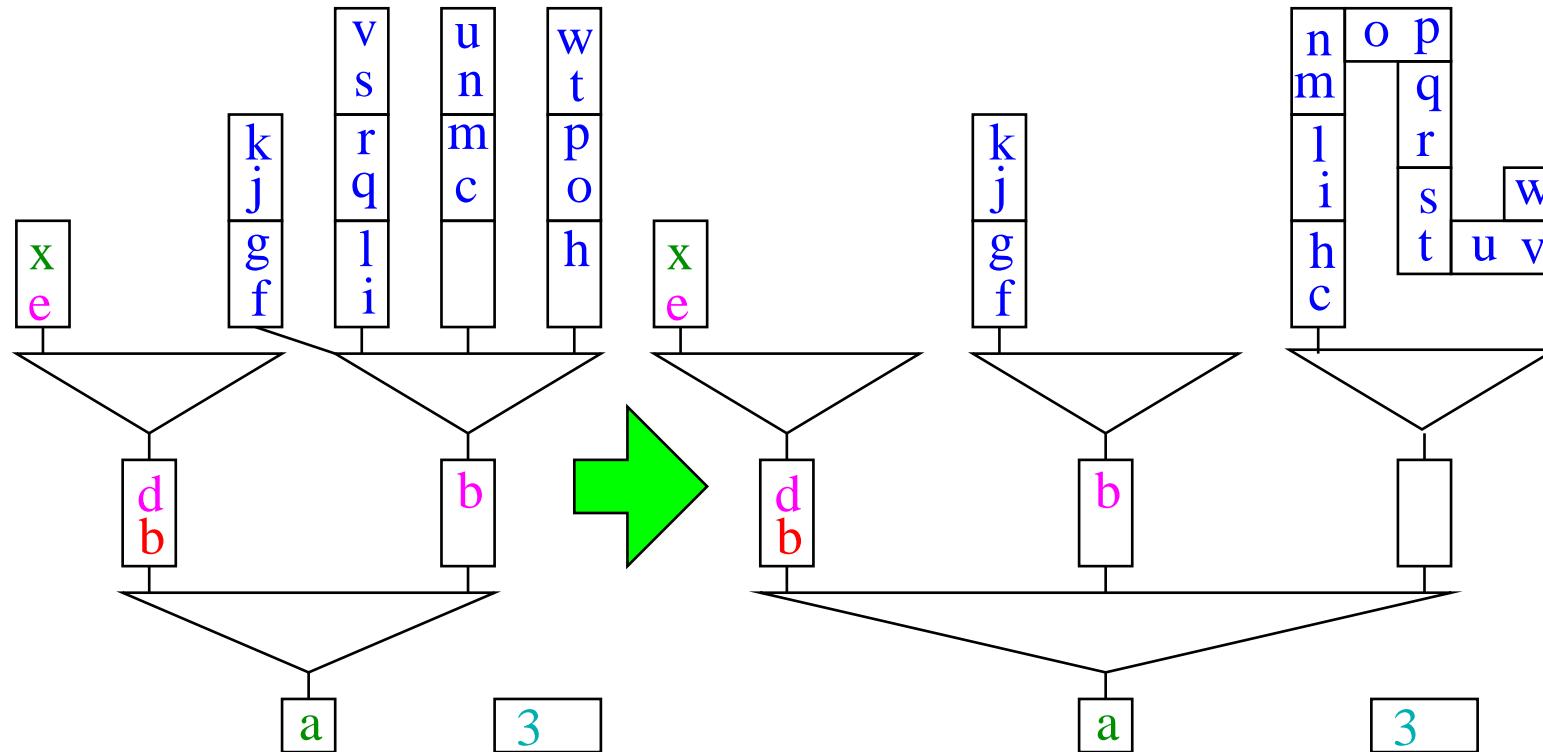
Merge group 1





Example

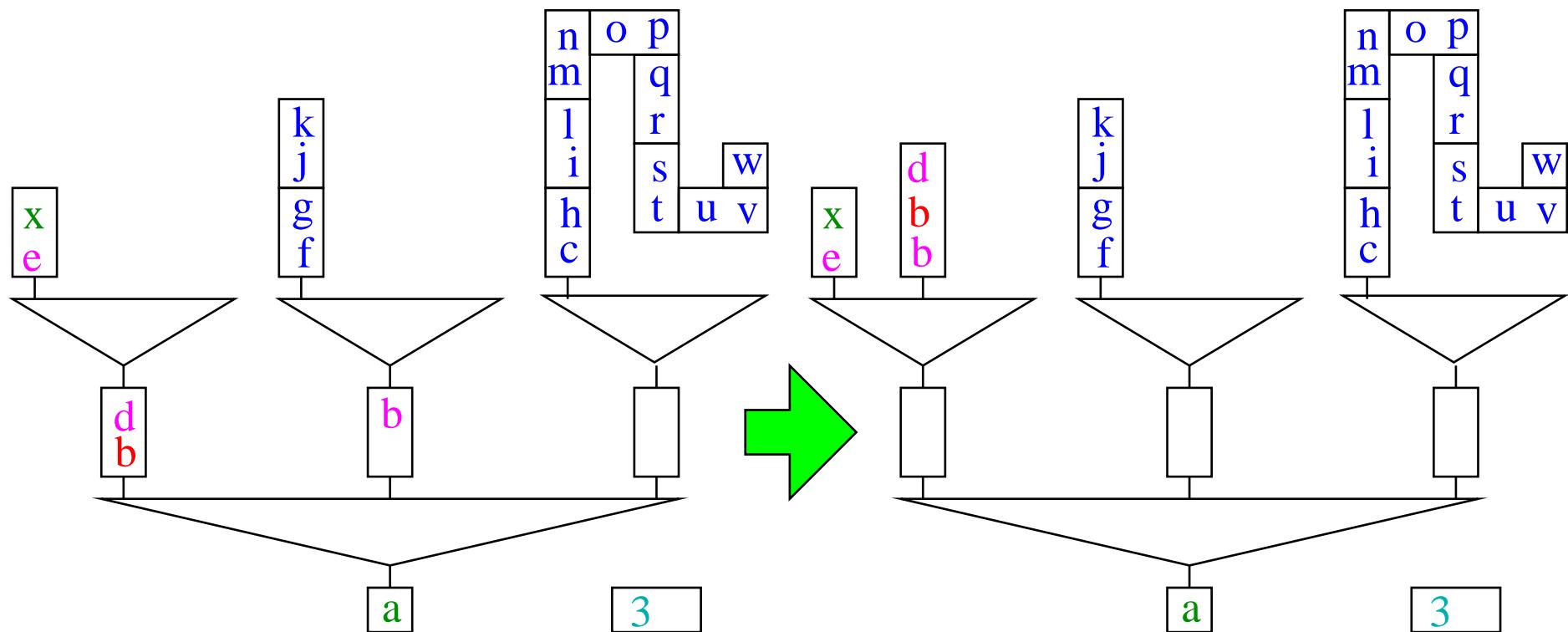
Merge group 2





Example

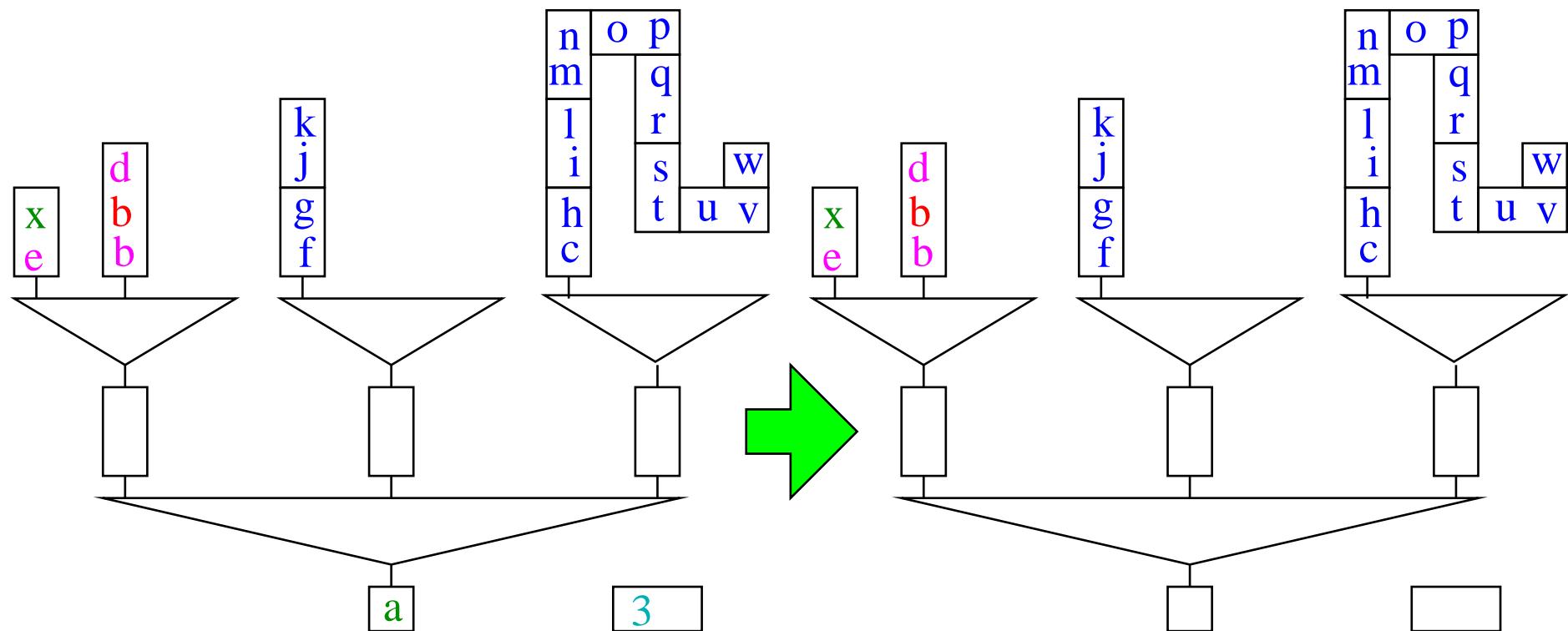
Merge group buffers





Example

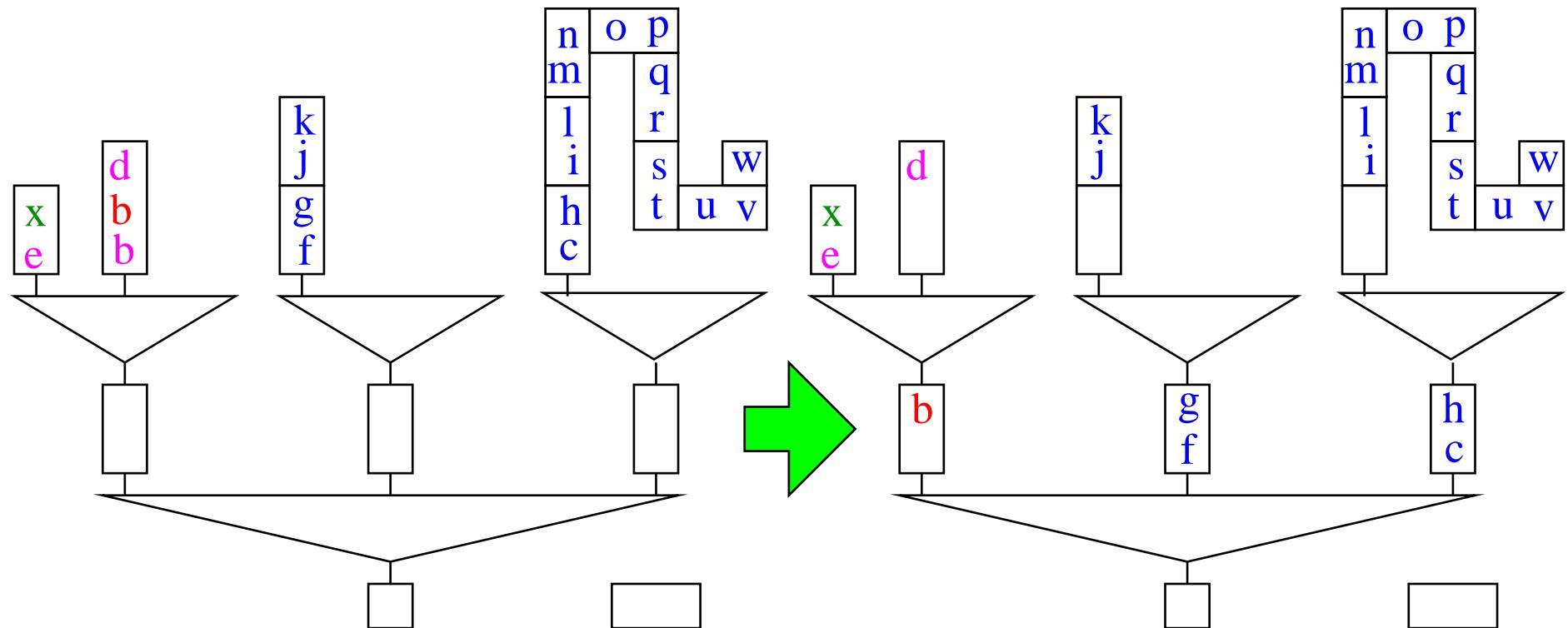
DeleteMin \rightsquigarrow 3; DeleteMin \rightsquigarrow a;





Example

DeleteMin \rightsquigarrow b



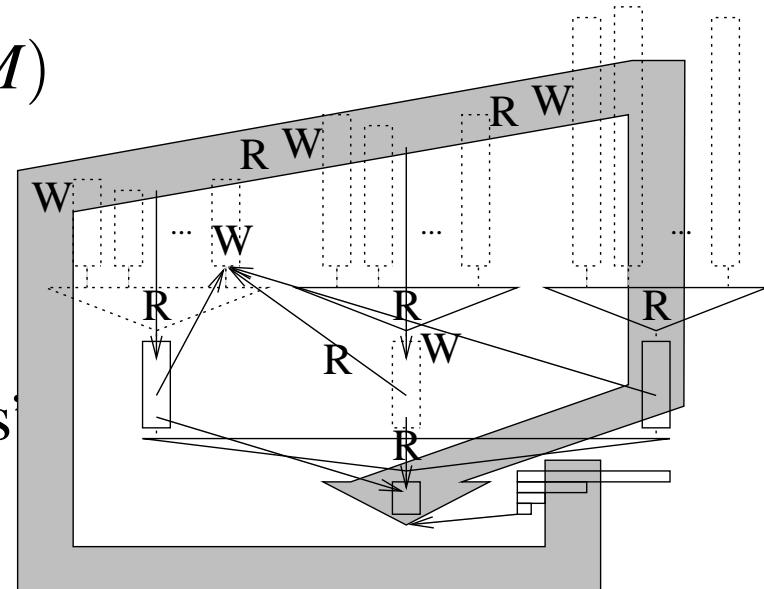


Analysis

- I insertions, buffer sizes $m = \Theta(M)$
- merging degree $k = \Theta(M/B)$

block accesses: $\text{sort}(I) + \text{“small terms”}$

key comparisons: $I \log I + \text{“small terms”}$
(on average)



Other (similar, earlier) [Arge 95, Brodal-Katajainen 98, Brengel et al. 99, Fadel et al. 97] data structures spend a factor ≥ 3 more I/Os to replace I by queue size.



Implementation Details

- Fast routines for 2–4 way merging keeping smallest elements in **registers**
- Use sentinels to avoid special case treatments (empty sequences, ...)
- Currently heap sort for sorting the insertion buffer
- $k \neq M/B$: multiple levels, limited associativity, TLB



Experiments

Keys: random 32 bit integers

Associated information: 32 dummy bits

Deletion buffer size: 32 **Near optimal**

Group buffer size: 256 : performance on

Compiler flags: Highly optimizing, nothing advanced

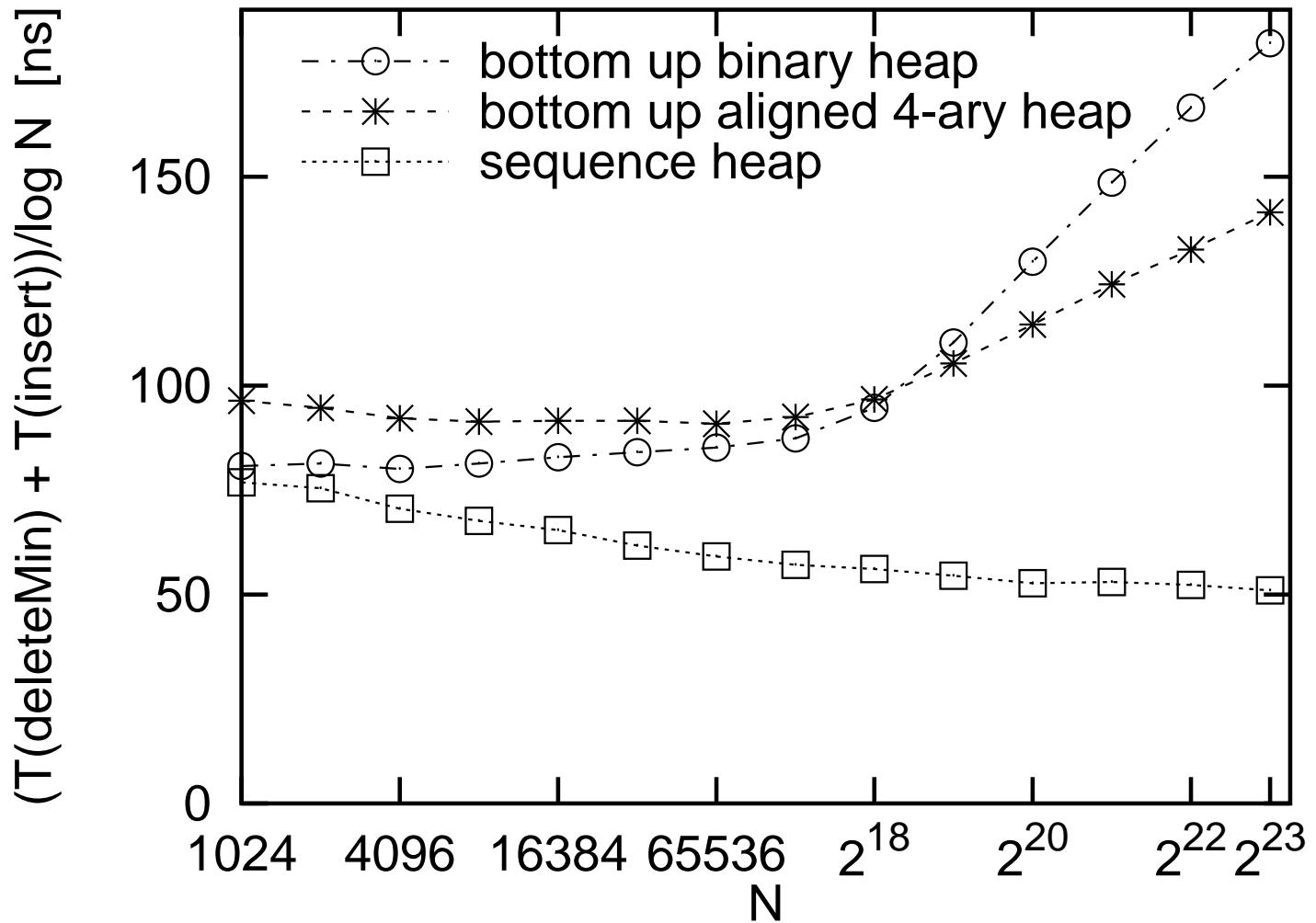
Operation Sequence:

$(\text{Insert-DeleteMin-Insert})^N (\text{DeleteMin-Insert-DeleteMin})^N$

Near optimal performance on all machines tried!

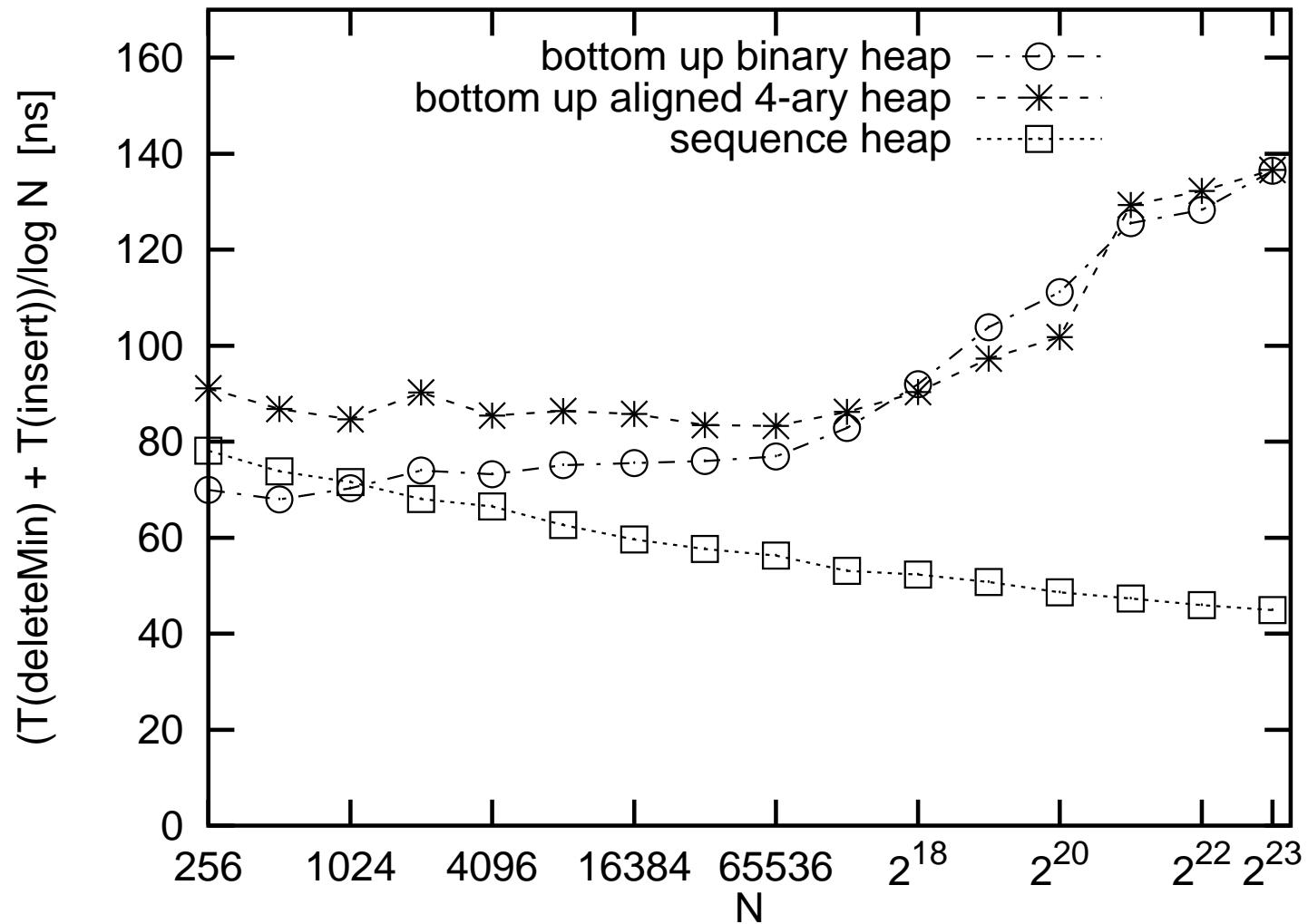


MIPS R10000, 180 MHz



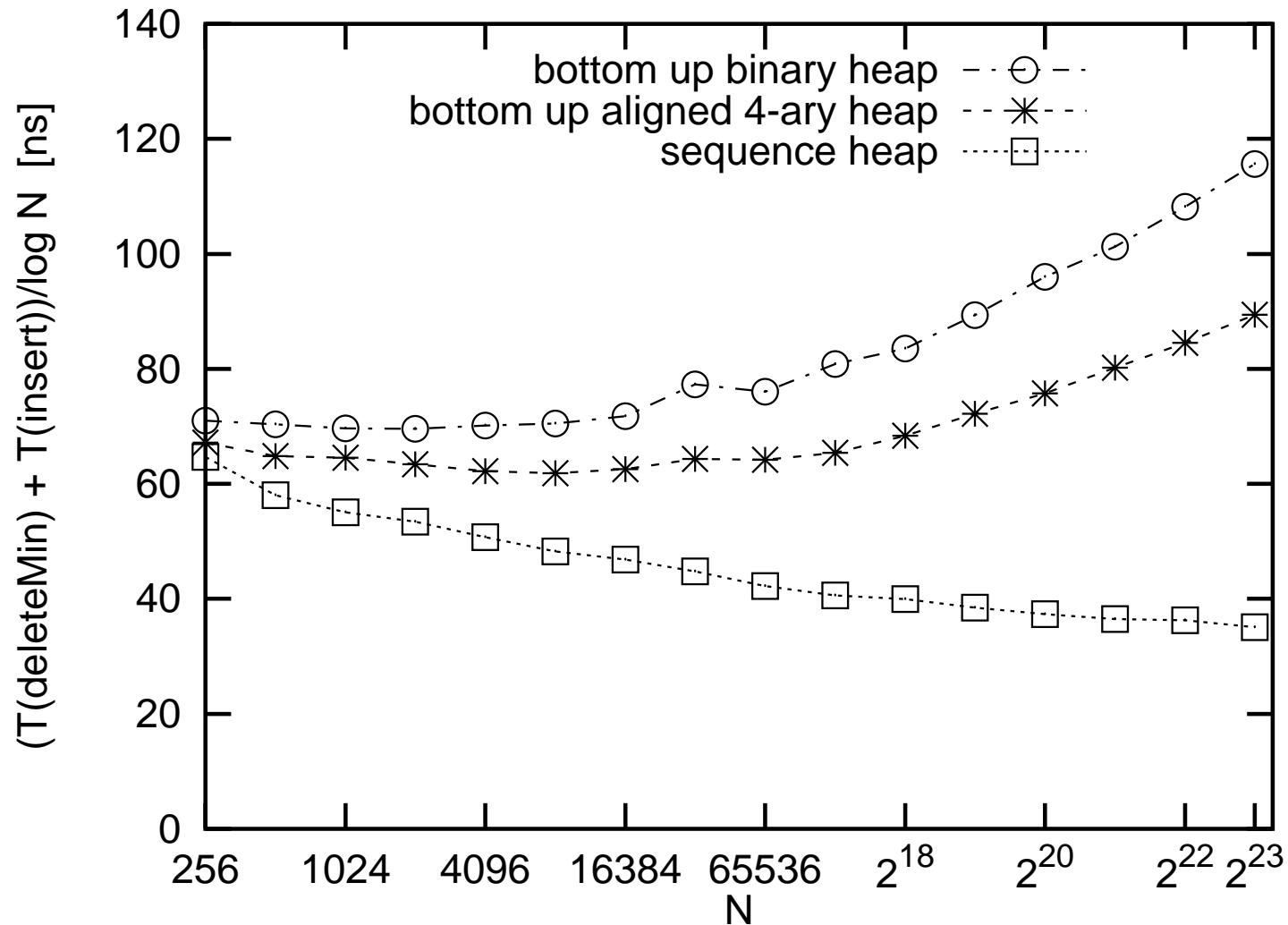


Ultra-SparcIIi, 300 MHz



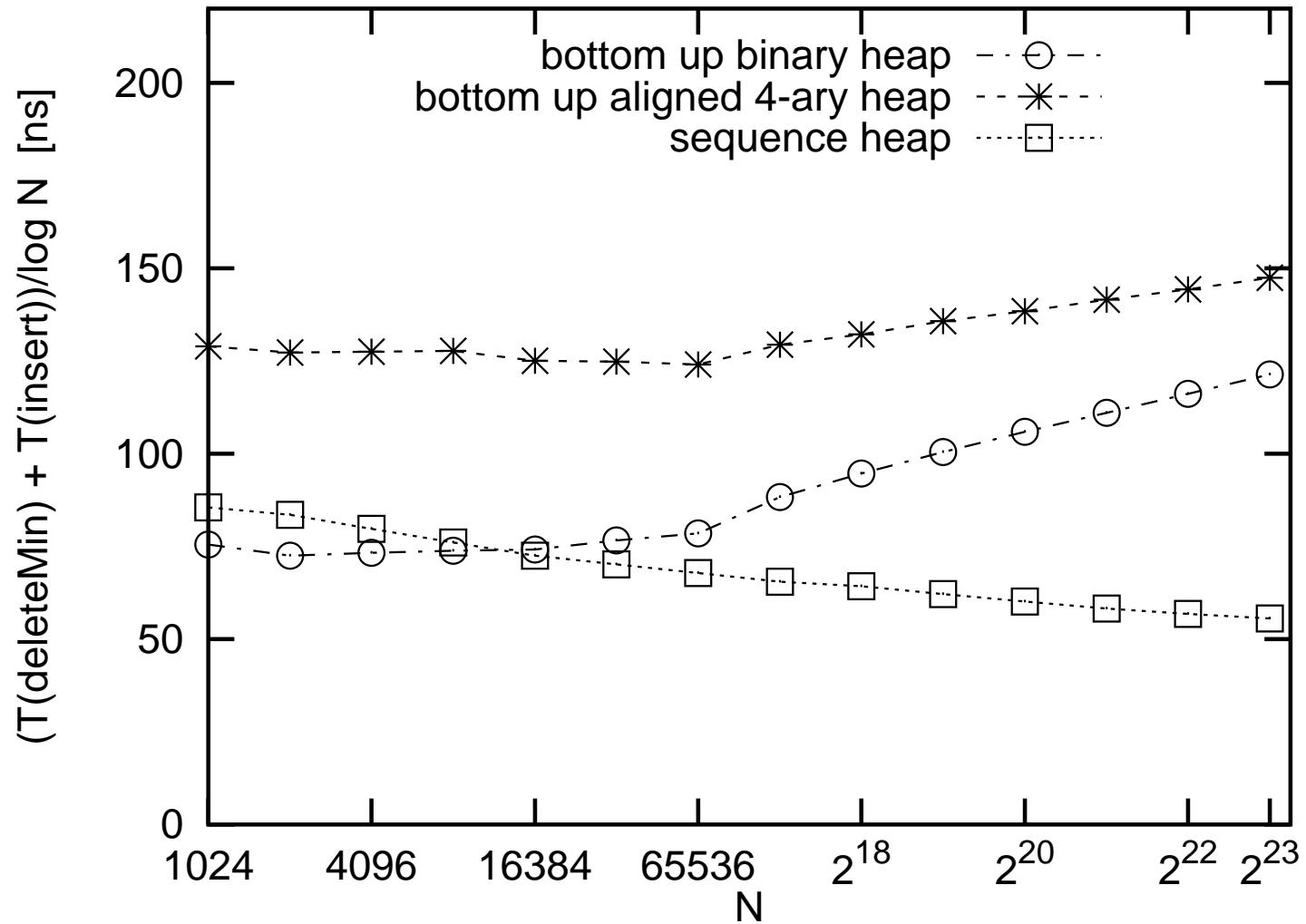


Alpha-21164, 533 MHz



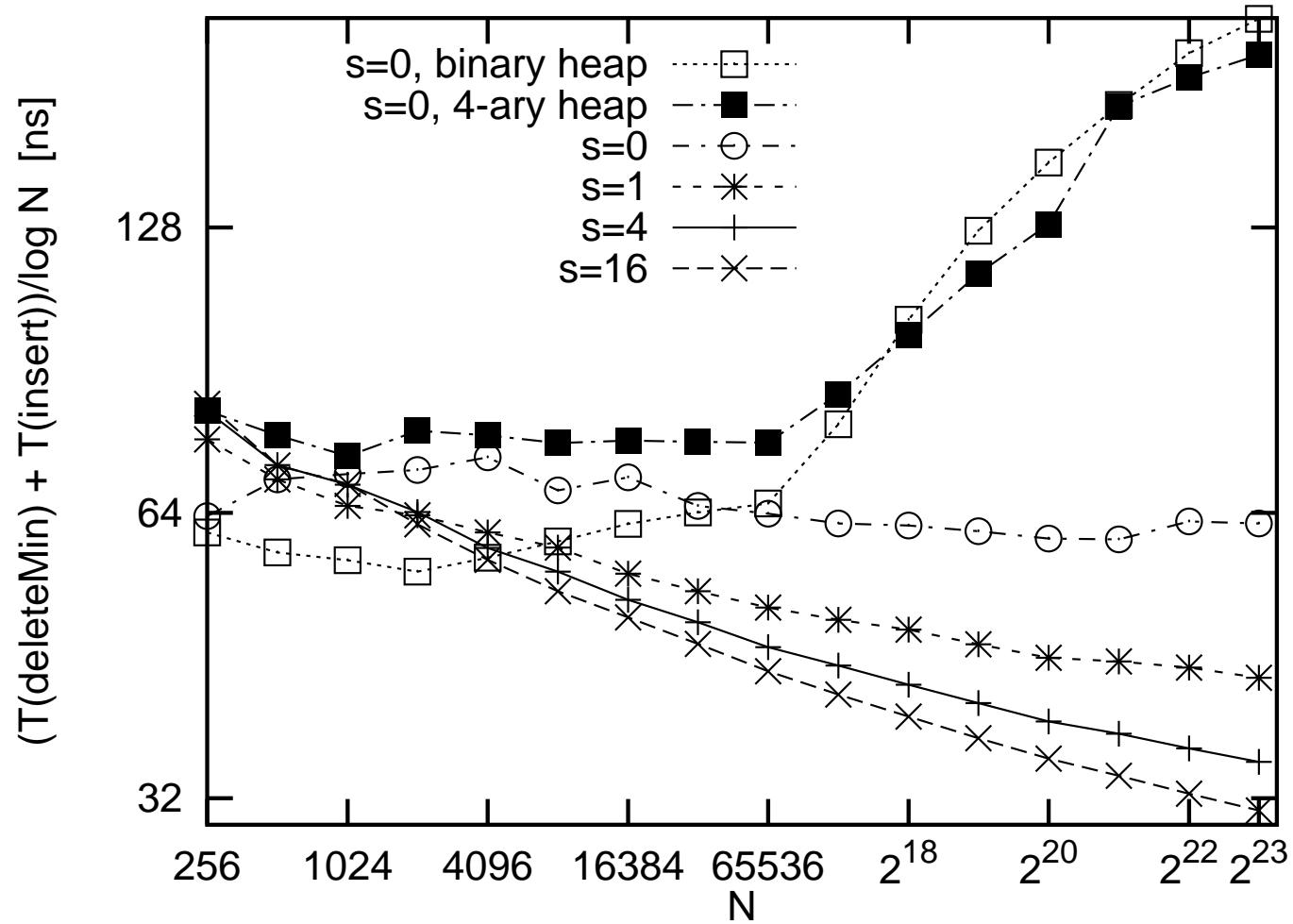


Pentium II, 300 MHz





$(\text{insert } (\text{deleteMin insert})^s)^N$
 $(\text{deleteMin } (\text{insert deleteMin})^s)^N$





Methodological Lessons

If you want to compare **small** constant factors in **execution time**:

- Reproducibility** demands publication of source codes
(4-ary heaps, old study in Pascal)
- Highly **tuned codes in particular** for the competitors
(binary heaps have factor 2 between good and naive implementation).

How do you compare two mediocre implementations?

- Careful choice/description of **inputs**
- Use multiple different hardware **platforms**
- Augment with **theory** (e.g., comparisons, data dependencies, cache faults, locality effects ...)



Open Problems

- Integrate into **STL**
- Dependence on **size** rather than number of insertions
- Parallel disks
- Space efficient implementation
- Multi-level cache aware or cache-oblivious variants



5 Adressable Priority Queues

Procedure build($\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}\}$) $M := \{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$

Function size **return** $|M|$

Procedure insert($e\}$) $M := M \cup \{e\}$

Function min **return** $\min M$

Function deleteMin $e := \min M;$ $M := M \setminus \{e\};$ **return** e

Function remove($h : \text{Handle}\}$) $e := h;$ $M := M \setminus \{e\};$ **return** e

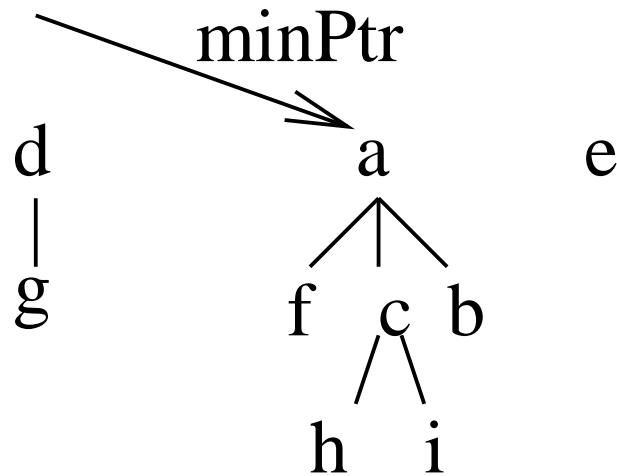
Procedure decreaseKey($h : \text{Handle}, k : \text{Key}\}$) **assert** $\text{key}(h) \geq k;$ $\text{key}(h) := k$

Procedure merge($M'\}$) $M := M \cup M'$



Basic Data Structure

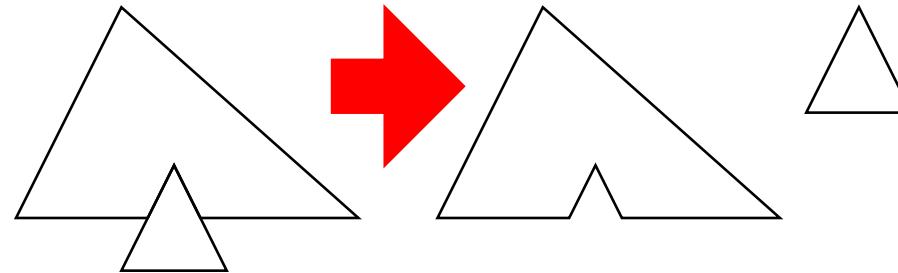
A forest of heap-ordered trees



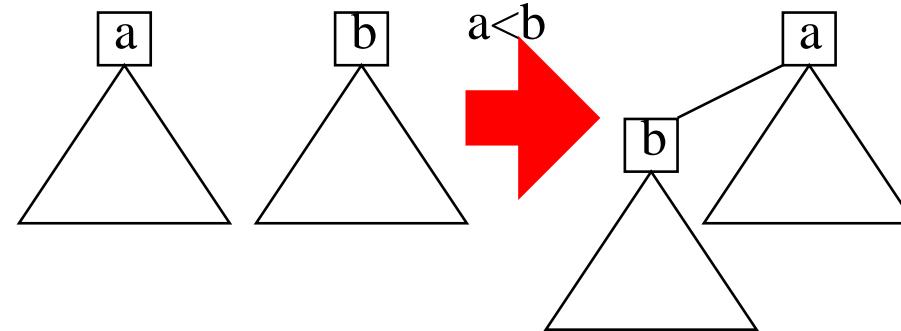


Manipulating Forests

Cut:



Link:





Pairing Heaps

Procedure insertItem(h : Handle)

 newTree(h)

Procedure newTree(h : Handle)

 forest:= forest $\cup \{i\}$

if $e < \min$ **then** minPtr:= i



Pairing Heaps

Procedure decreaseKey(h : Handle, k : Key)

 key(h) := k

if h is not a root **then** cut(h)



Pairing Heaps

Function deleteMin : Handle

$m := \text{minPtr}$

$\text{forest} := \text{forest} \setminus \{m\}$

foreach child h of m **do** newTree(h)

Perform a pairwise link of the tree roots in forest

return m



Pairing Heaps

```
Procedure merge( $o$  : AdressablePQ)
    if minPtr >  $o$ .minPtr then minPtr:=  $o$ .minPtr
    forest:= forest  $\cup$   $o$ .forest
     $o$ .forest:=  $\emptyset$ 
```



Fibonacci Heaps (A sample from the Zoo)

Ranks: initially zero, increases for root of a link

Union by rank: Only link roots of equal rank

Mark nodes that lost a child

Cascading cuts: cut marked nodes (i.e., lost two childs)

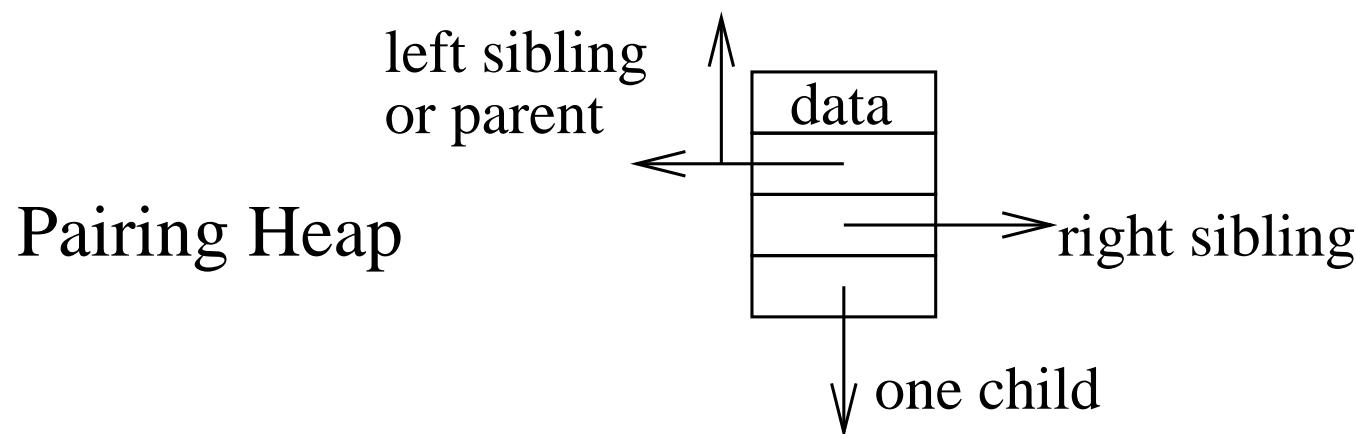
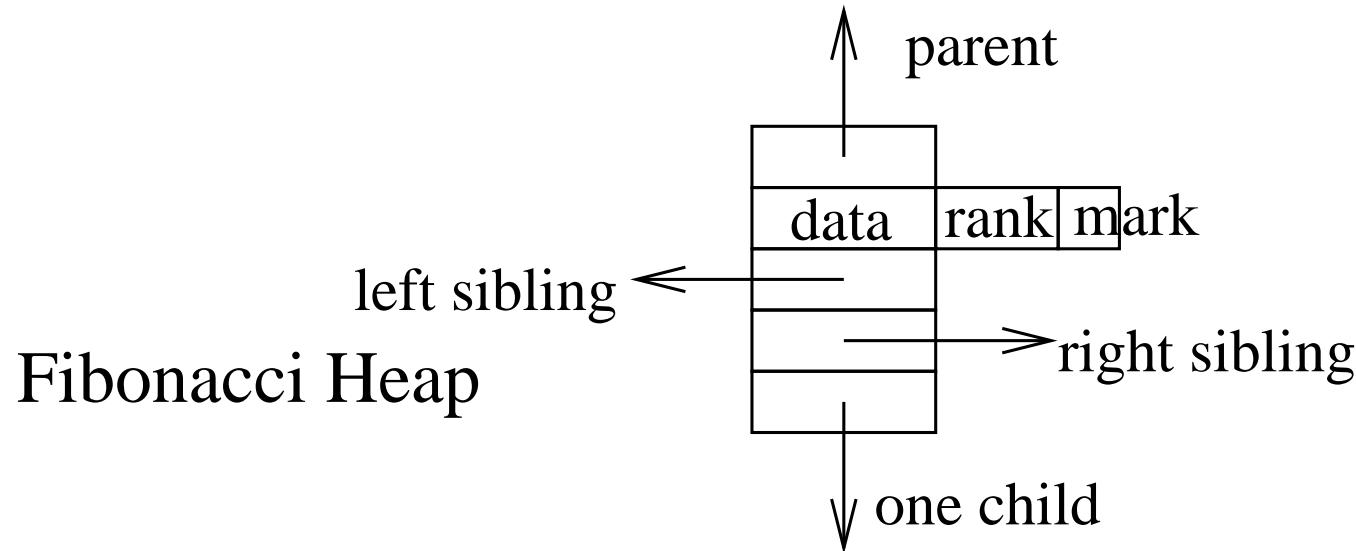
Amortized complexity: $O(\log n)$ for `deleteMin`

$O(1)$ for all other operations





Representing the Tree Items





Addressable Priority Queues: Todo

- No recent comparison of efficient implementations
- No tight analysis of pairing heaps
- No implementation of compromises, e.g., thin heaps
[Kaplan Tarjan 99] (three pointers, no mark, slightly more complicated balancing)
- No implementation of worst case efficient variants
- Study implementation tricks: two pointers per item?
sentinels,...
- (Almost) nothing known for memory hierarchies



6 van Emde-Boas Search Trees

- Store set M of $K = 2^k$ -bit integers.

later: associated information

- $K = 1$ or $|M| = 1$: store directly

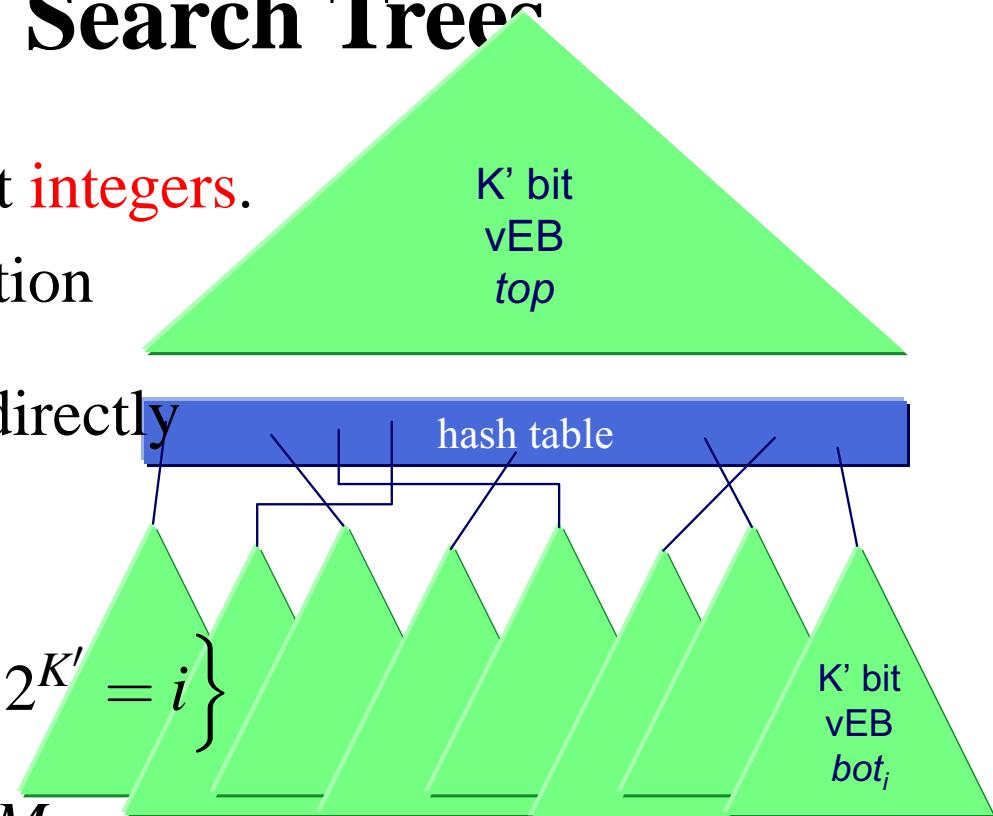
- $K' := K/2$

- $M_i := \{x \bmod 2^{K'} : x \text{ div } 2^{K'} = i\}$

- root points to nonempty M_i -s

- top $t = \{i : M_i \neq \emptyset\}$

- insert, delete, search in $O(\log K)$ time





Comparison with Comparison Based Search Trees

Ideally: $\log n \rightsquigarrow \log \log n$

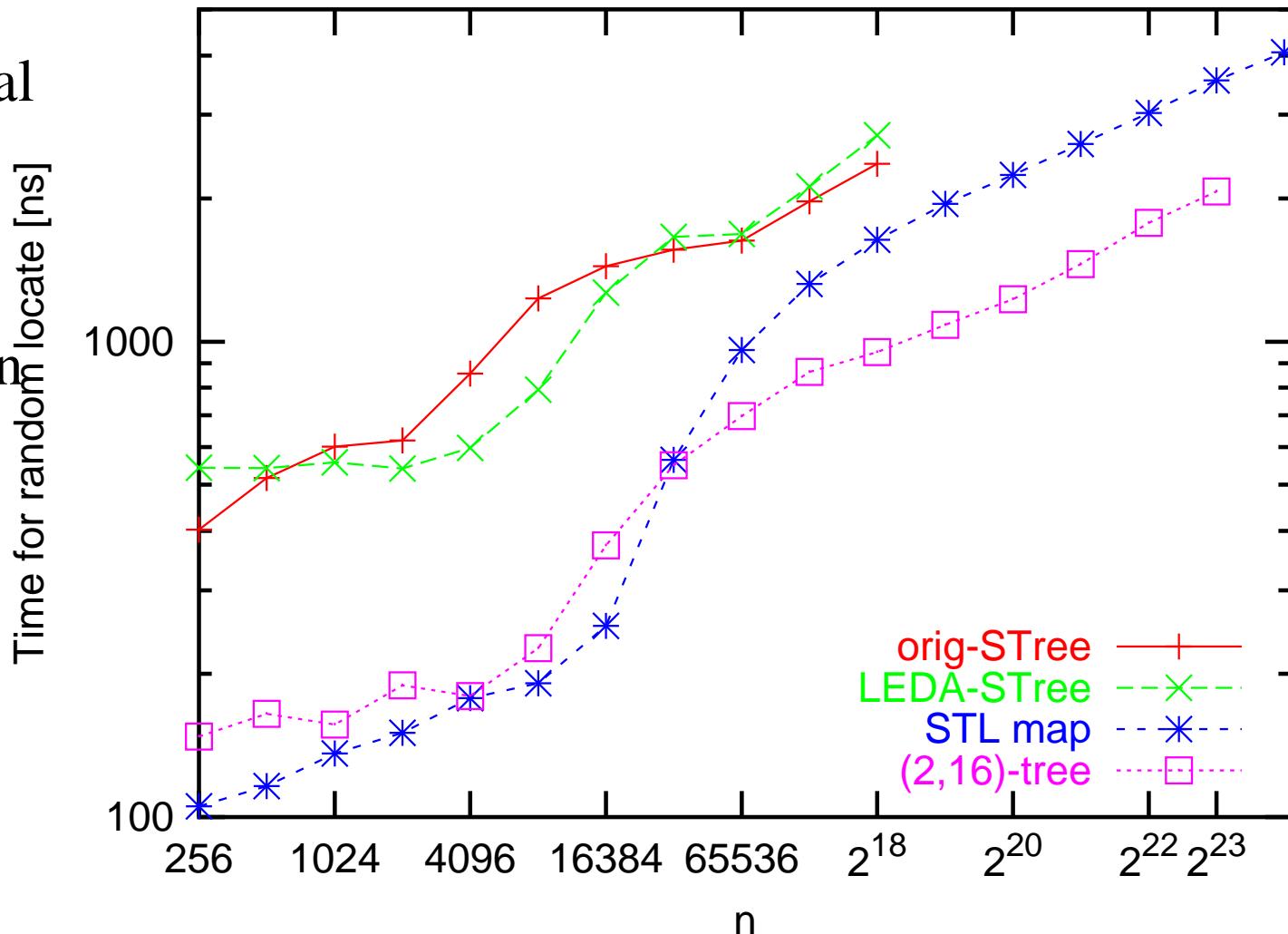
Problems:

Many special

case tests

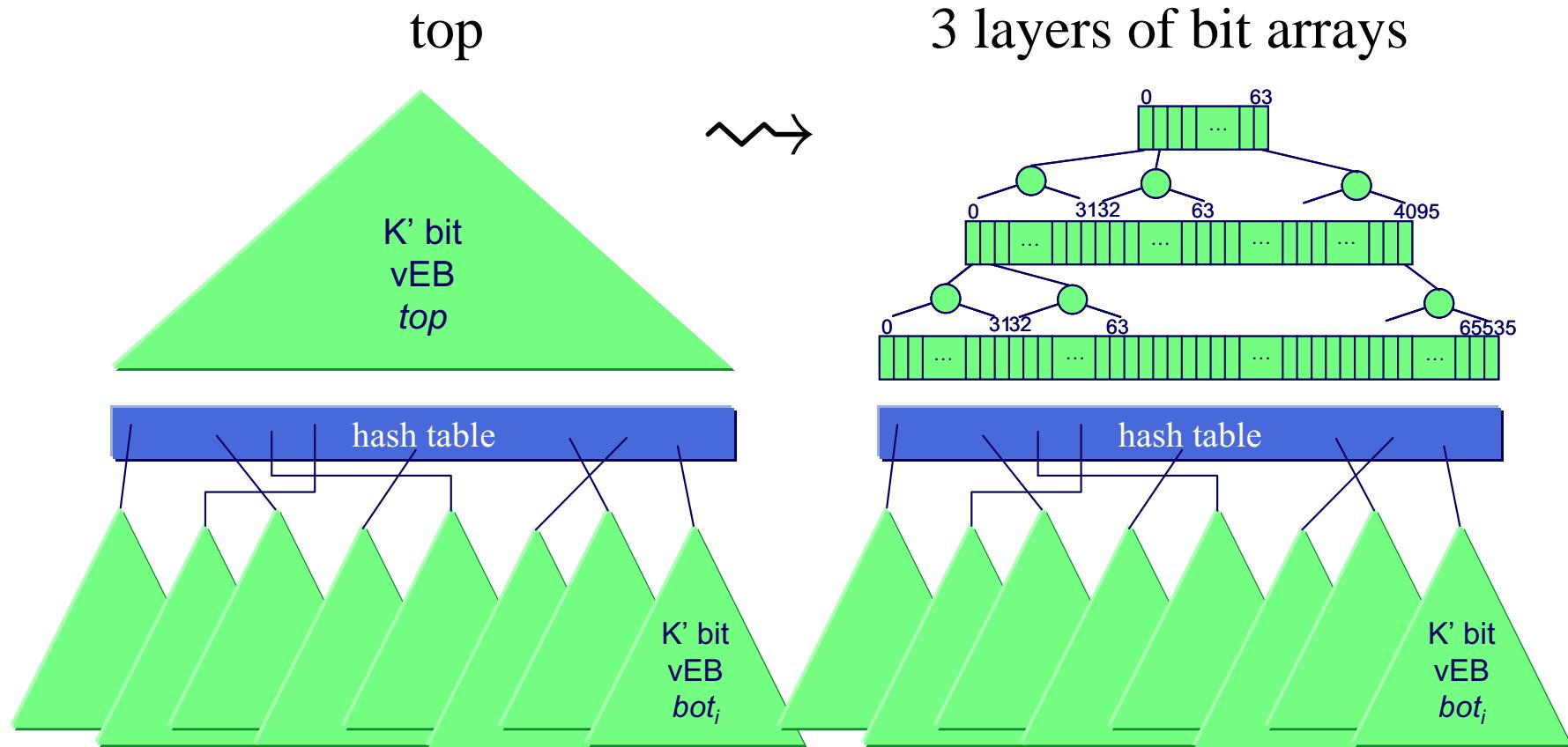
High space

consumption





Efficient 32 bit Implementation





Layers of Bit Arrays

$$t^1[i] = 1 \text{ iff } M_i \neq \emptyset$$

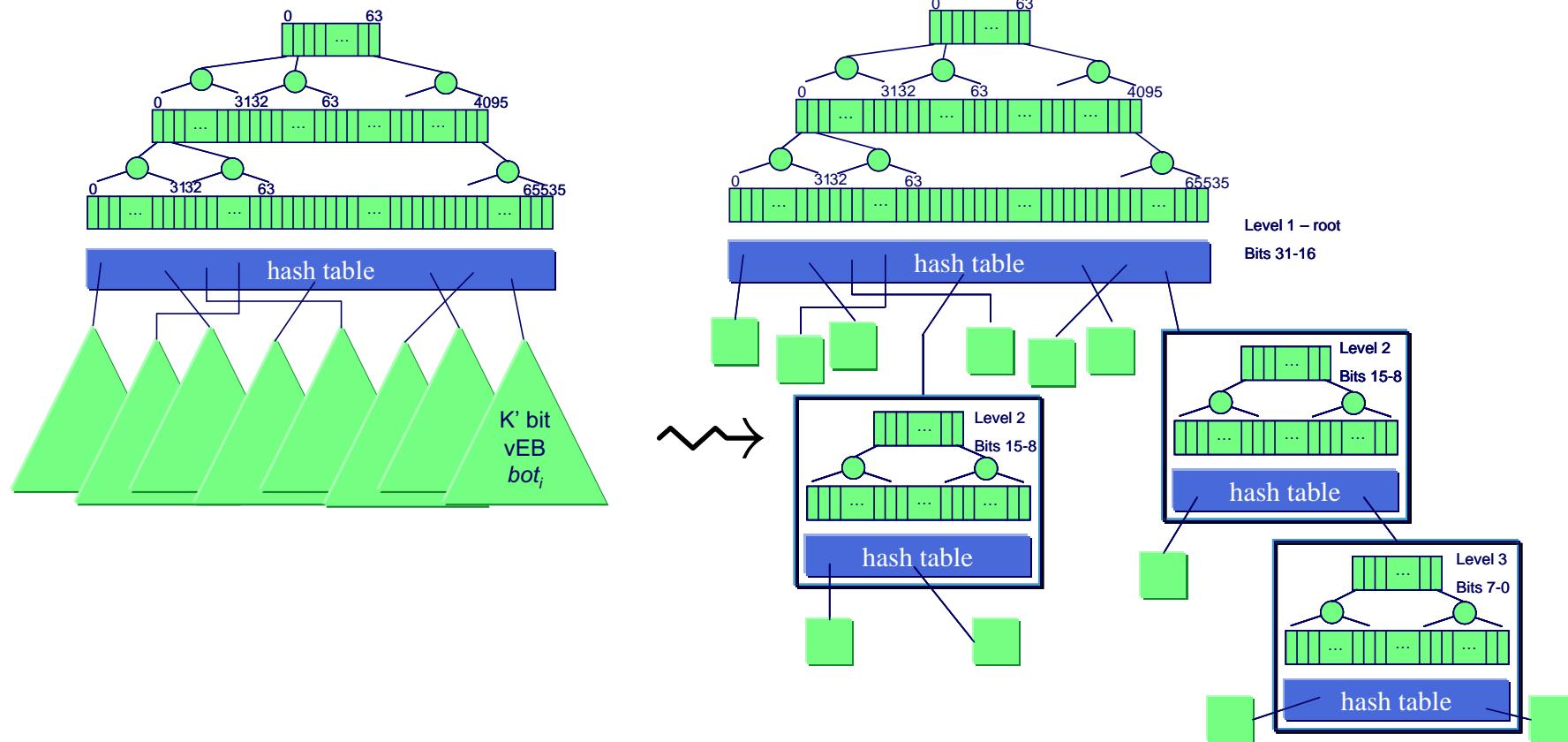
$$t^2[i] = t^1[32i] \vee t^1[32i+1] \vee \cdots \vee t^1[32i+31]$$

$$t^3[i] = t^2[32i] \vee t^2[32i+1] \vee \cdots \vee t^2[32i+31]$$



Efficient 32 bit Implementation

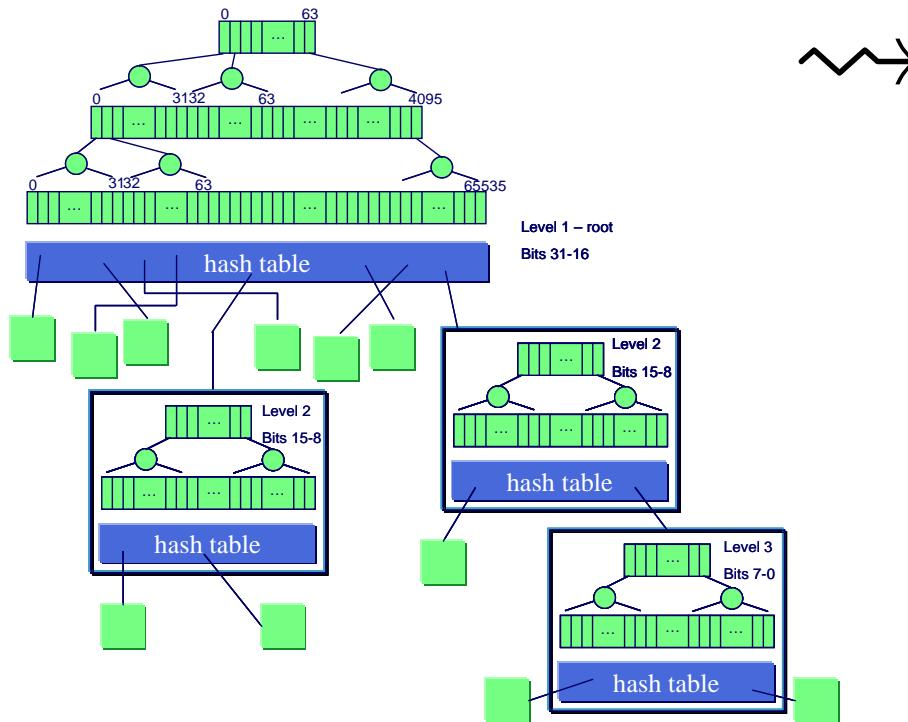
Break recursion after 3 layers



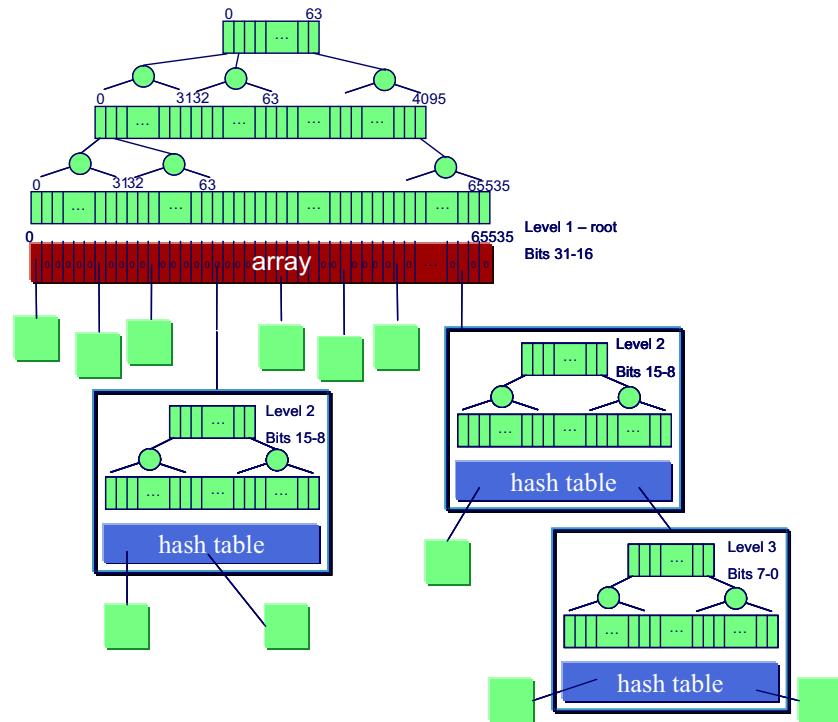


Efficient 32 bit Implementation

root hash table



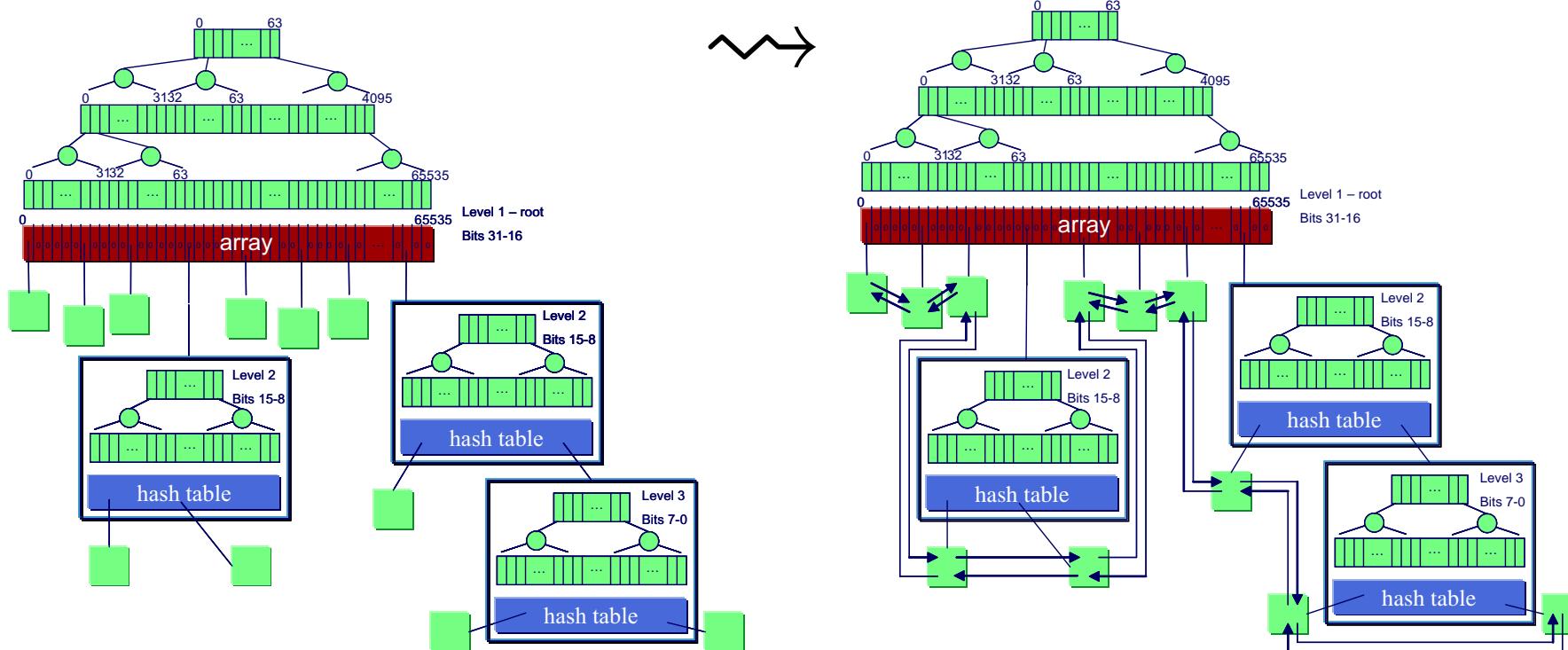
root array





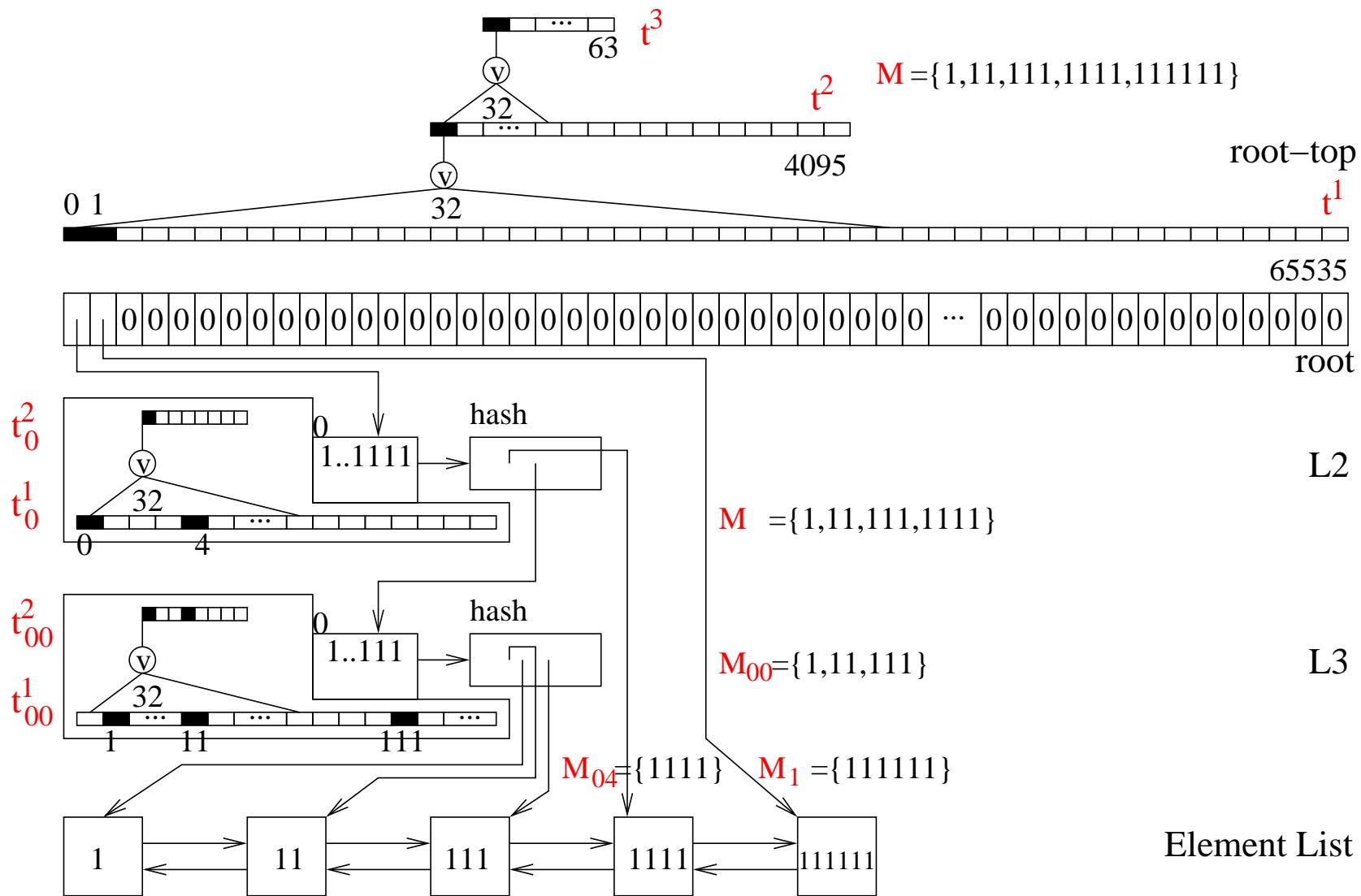
Efficient 32 bit Implementation

Sorted doubly linked lists for associated information and range queries





Example





Locate High Level

//return handle of $\min x \in M : y \leq x$

Function **locate**($y : \mathbb{N}$) : ElementHandle

if $y > \max M$ **then return** ∞

$i := y[16..31]$ // Level 1

if $r[i] = \text{nil} \vee y > \max M_i$ **then return** $\min M_{t^1}.locate(i)$

if $M_i = \{x\}$ **then return** x

$j := y[8..15]$ // Level 2

if $r_i[j] = \text{nil} \vee y > \max M_{ij}$ **then return** $\min M_{i,t^1_i}.locate(j)$

if $M_{ij} = \{x\}$ **then return** x

return $r_{ij}[t^1_{ij}.locate(y[0..7])]$ // Level 3



Locate in Bit Arrays

//find the smallest $j \geq i$ such that $t^k[j] = 1$

Method `locate`(i) for a bit array t^k consisting of n bit words

// $n = 32$ for $t^1, t^2, t_i^1, t_{ij}^1$; $n = 64$ for t^3 ; $n = 8$ for t_i^2, t_{ij}^2

assert some bit in t^k to the right of i is nonzero

$j := i \text{ div } n$ // which word?

$a := t^k[nj..nj+n-1]$

set $a[(i \bmod n) + 1..n-1]$ to zero // $n-1 \cdots i \bmod n \cdots 0$

if $a = 0$ **then**

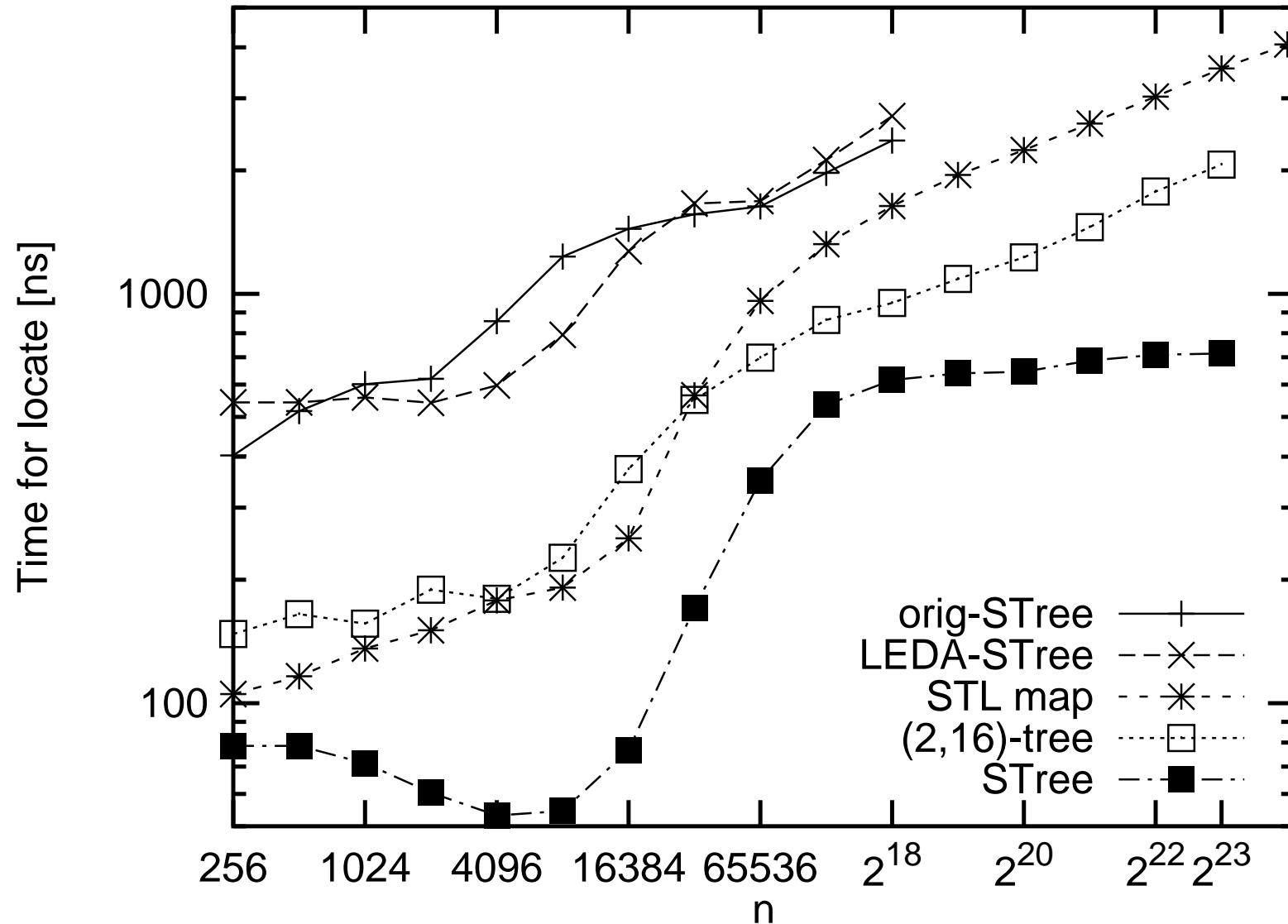
$j := t^{k+1}.\text{locate}(j)$

$a := t^k[nj..nj+n-1]$

return $nj + \text{msbPos}(a)$ // e.g. floating point conversion

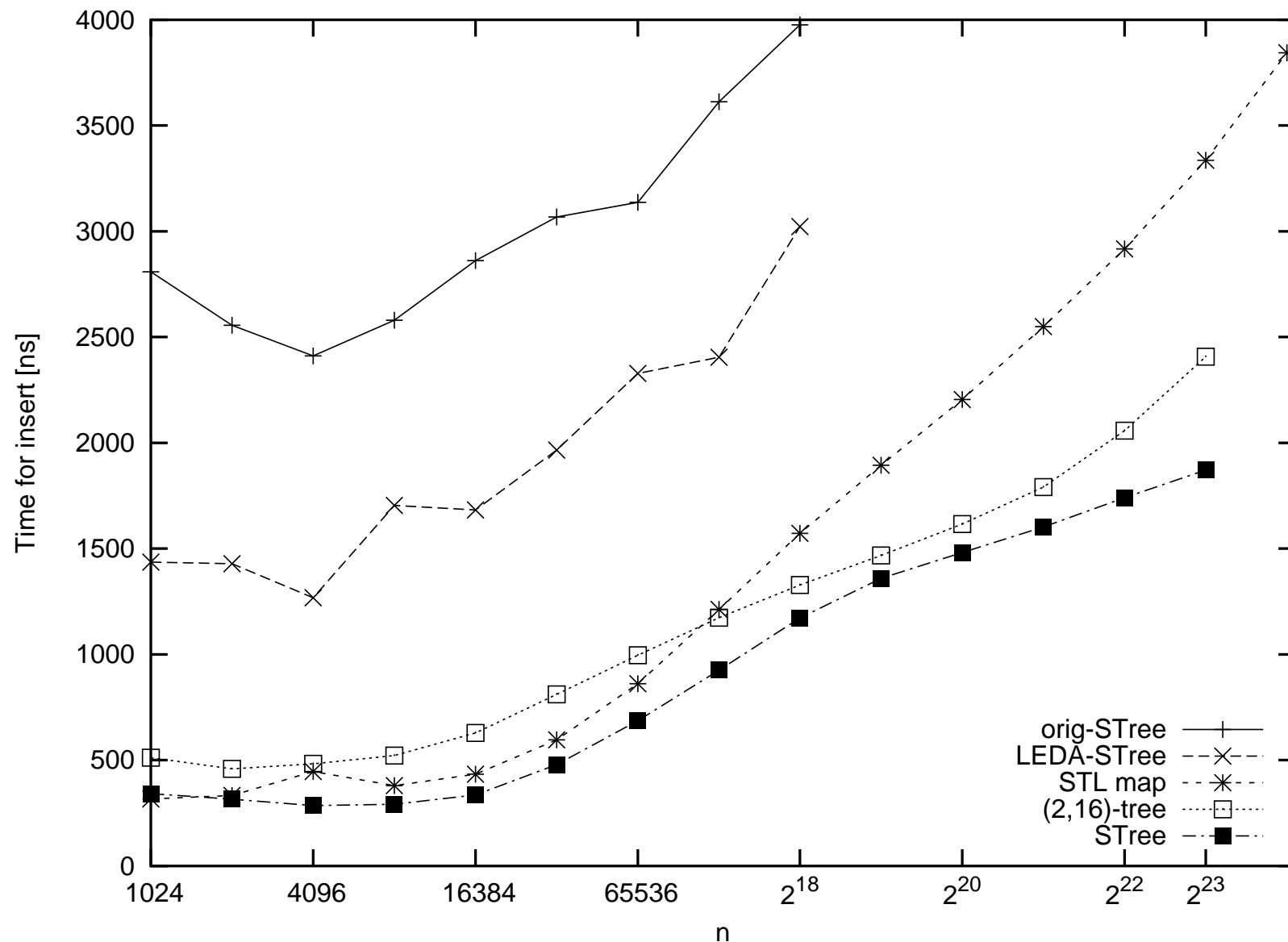


Random Locate



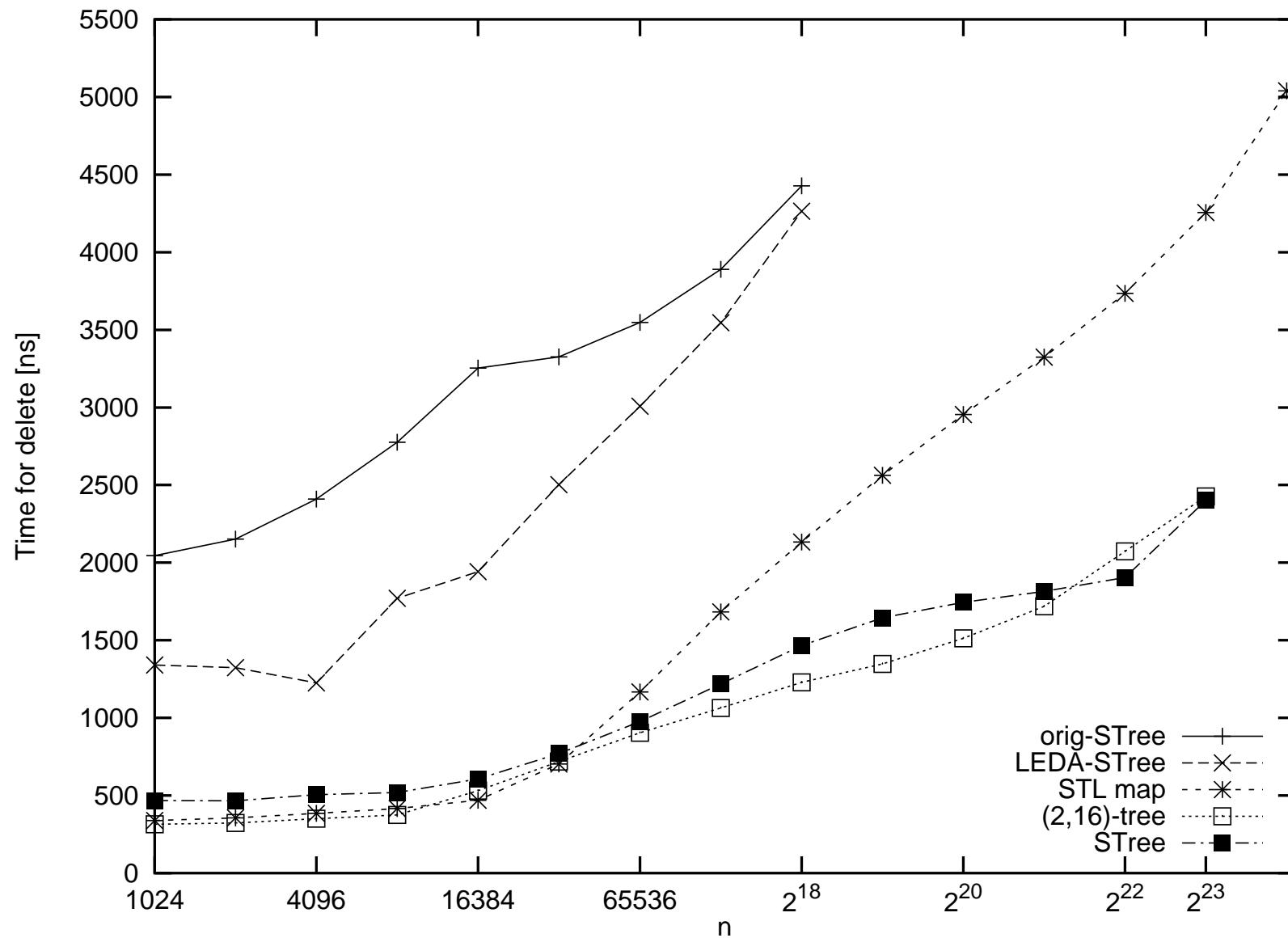


Random Insert





Delete Random Elements





Open Problems

- Measurement for “worst case” inputs
- Measure Performance for realistic inputs
 - IP lookup etc.
 - Best first heuristics like, e.g., bin packing
- More space efficient implementation
- (A few) more bits



7 Hashing

“to hash” \approx “to bring into complete disorder”

paradoxically, this helps us to find things
more easily!

store set $M \subseteq \text{Element}$.

$\text{key}(e)$ is unique for $e \in M$.

support dictionary operations in $O(1)$ time

$M.\text{insert}(e : \text{Element})$: $M := M \cup \{e\}$

$M.\text{remove}(k : \text{Key})$: $M := M \setminus \{e\}, e = k$

$M.\text{find}(k : \text{Key})$: return $e \in M$ with $e = k$; \perp if none present

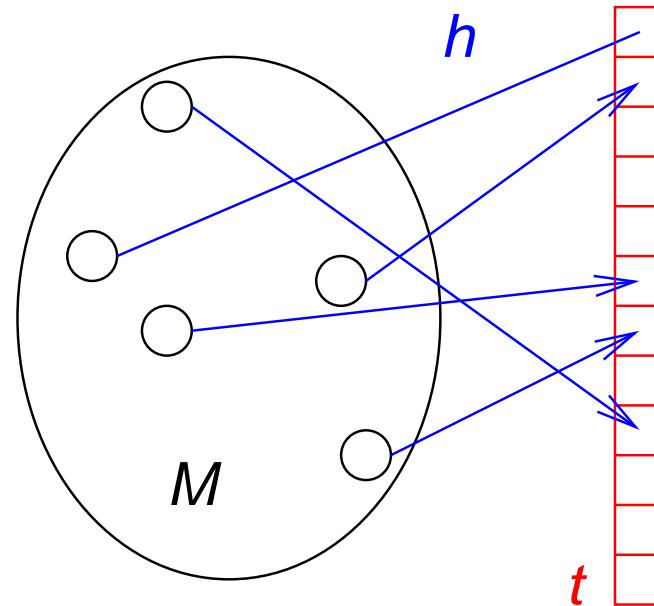
(Convention: key is *implicit*), e.g. $e = k$ iff $\text{key}(e) = k$)





An (Over)optimistic approach

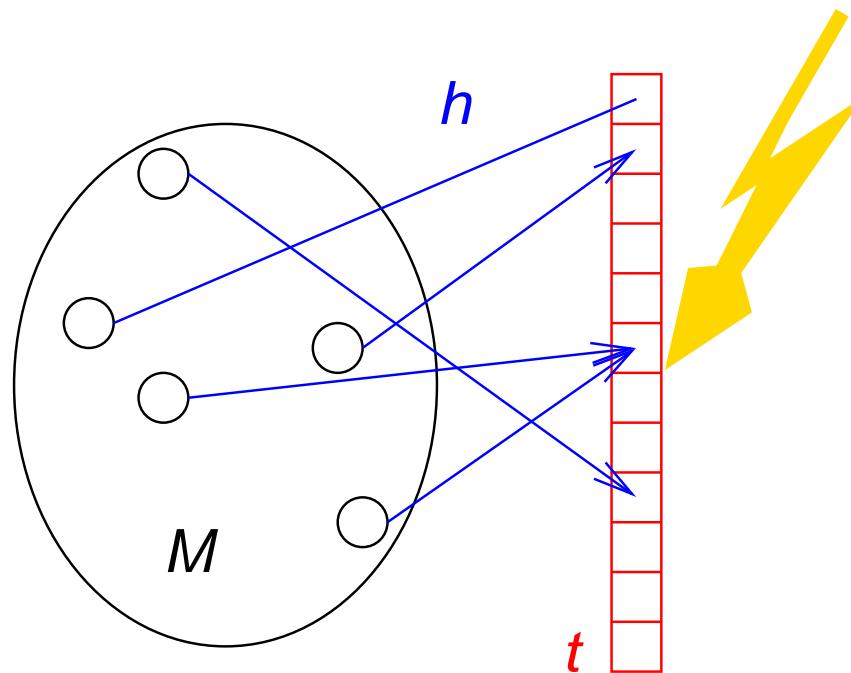
A (perfect) hash function h maps elements of M to unique entries of table $t[0..m - 1]$, i.e., $t[h(\text{key}(e))] = e$





Collisions

perfect hash functions are difficult to obtain



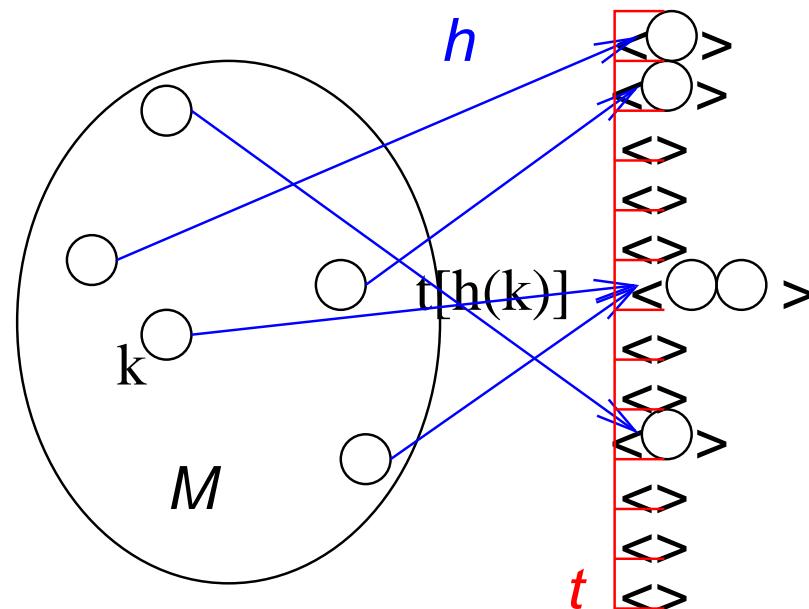
Example: Birthday Paradox



Collision Resolution

for example by **closed hashing**

entries: elements \rightsquigarrow **sequences** of elements





Hashing with Chaining

Implement sequences in closed hashing by singly linked lists

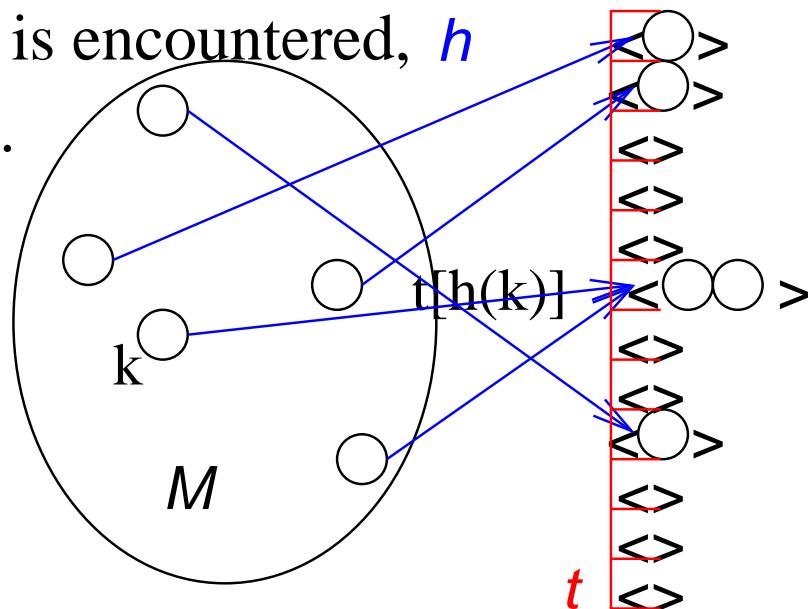
insert(e): Insert e at the beginning of $t[h(e)]$. **constant time**

remove(k): Scan through $t[h(k)]$. If an element e with $h(e) = k$ is encountered, remove it and return.

find(k): Scan through $t[h(k)]$.

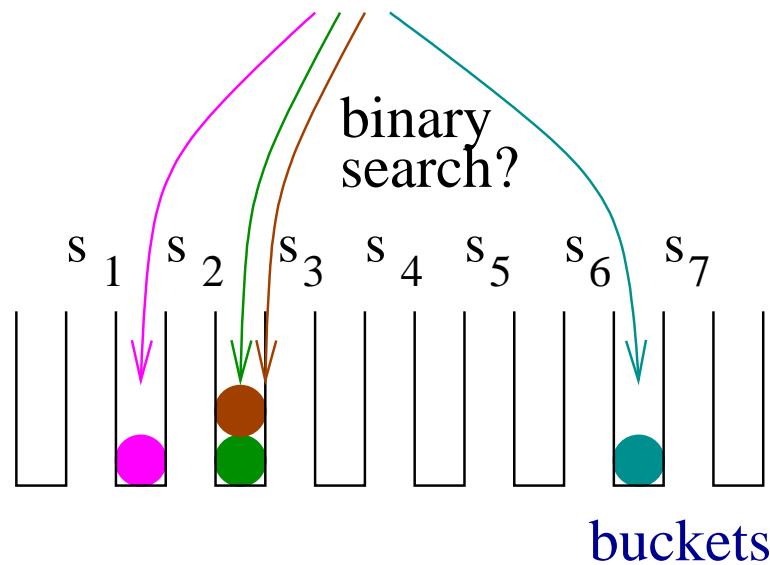
If an element e with $h(e) = k$ is encountered, **h**
return it. Otherwise, return \perp .

$O(|M|)$ worst case time for
remove and find





A Review of Probability



sample space Ω

events: subsets of Ω

p_x = probability of $x \in \Omega$

$\mathbb{P}[\mathcal{E}] = \sum_{x \in E} p_x$

random variable $X_0 : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

Example from hashing
random hash functions $\{0..m-1\}^{\text{Key}}$

$$\mathcal{E}_{42} = \{h \in \Omega : h(4) = h(2)\}$$

uniform distr. $p_h = m^{-|\text{Key}|}$

$$\mathbb{P}[\mathcal{E}_{42}] = \frac{1}{m}$$

$$X = |\{e \in M : h(e) = 0\}|.$$



expectation $E[X_0] = \sum_{y \in \Omega} p_y X(y)$ $E[X] = \frac{|M|}{m}$ (*)

Linearity of Expectation: $E[X + Y] = E[X] + E[Y]$

Proof of (*):

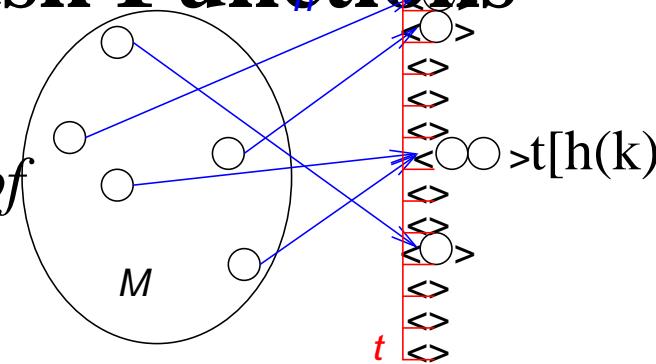
Consider the 0-1 RV $X_e = 1$ if $h(e) = 0$ for $e \in M$ and $X_e = 0$ else.

$$E[X_0] = E\left[\sum_{e \in M} X_e\right] = \sum_{e \in M} E[X_e] = \sum_{e \in M} \mathbb{P}[X_e = 1] = |M| \cdot \frac{1}{m}$$



Analysis for Random Hash Functions

Satz 1. *The expected execution time of $\text{remove}(k)$ and $\text{find}(k)$ is $O(1)$ if $|M| = O(m)$.*



Proof. Constant time plus the time for scanning $t[h(k)]$.

$$X := |t[h(k)]| = |\{e \in M : h(e) = h(k)\}|.$$

Consider the 0-1 RV $X_e = 1$ if $h(e) = h(k)$ for $e \in M$ and $X_e = 0$ else.

$$\begin{aligned} E[X] &= E\left[\sum_{e \in M} X_e\right] = \sum_{e \in M} E[X_e] = \sum_{e \in M} \mathbb{P}[X_e = 1] = \frac{|M|}{m} \\ &= O(1) \end{aligned}$$

This is independent of the input set M . □



Universal Hashing

Idea: use only certain “easy” hash functions

Definition:

$\mathcal{U} \subseteq \{0..m-1\}^{\text{Key}}$ is *universal*

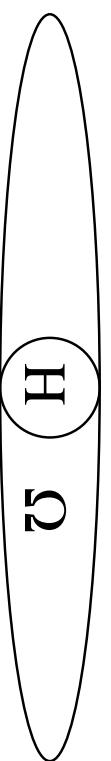
if for all x, y in Key with $x \neq y$ and random $h \in \mathcal{U}$,

$$\mathbb{P}[h(x) = h(y)] = \frac{1}{m} .$$

Satz 2. *Theorem 1 also applies to universal families of hash functions.*

Proof. For $\Omega = \mathcal{U}$ we still have $\mathbb{P}[X_e = 1] = \frac{1}{m}$.

The rest is as before. □





A Simple Universal Family

Assume m is prime, $\text{Key} \subseteq \{0, \dots, m-1\}^k$

Satz 3. For $\mathbf{a} = (a_1, \dots, a_k) \in \{0, \dots, m-1\}^k$ define

$$h_{\mathbf{a}}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{x} \bmod m, \quad H^{\cdot} = \left\{ h_{\mathbf{a}} : \mathbf{a} \in \{0..m-1\}^k \right\}.$$

H^{\cdot} is a universal family of hash functions

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} x_1 & x_2 & x_3 & \\ * & * & * & \\ a_1 & a_2 & a_3 & \end{array} \right) \bmod m = h_{\mathbf{a}}(\mathbf{x})$$



Proof. Consider $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_k)$, $\mathbf{y} = (y_1, \dots, y_k)$ with $x_j \neq y_j$ count \mathbf{a} -s with $h_{\mathbf{a}}(\mathbf{x}) = h_{\mathbf{a}}(\mathbf{y})$.

For each choice of a_i s, $i \neq j$, \exists exactly one a_j with

$h_{\mathbf{a}}(\mathbf{x}) = h_{\mathbf{a}}(\mathbf{y})$:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{1 \leq i \leq k} a_i x_i &\equiv \sum_{1 \leq i \leq k} a_i y_i (\text{ mod } m) \\ \Leftrightarrow a_j(x_j - y_j) &\equiv \sum_{i \neq j, 1 \leq i \leq k} a_i(y_i - x_i) (\text{ mod } m) \\ \Leftrightarrow a_j &\equiv (x_j - y_j)^{-1} \sum_{i \neq j, 1 \leq i \leq k} a_i(y_i - x_i) (\text{ mod } m) \end{aligned}$$

m^{k-1} ways to choose the a_i with $i \neq j$.

m^k is total number of \mathbf{a} s, i.e.,



$$\mathbb{P}[h_{\mathbf{a}}(x) = h_{\mathbf{a}}(\mathbf{y})] = \frac{m^{k-1}}{m^k} = \frac{1}{m}.$$

□



Bit Based Universal Families

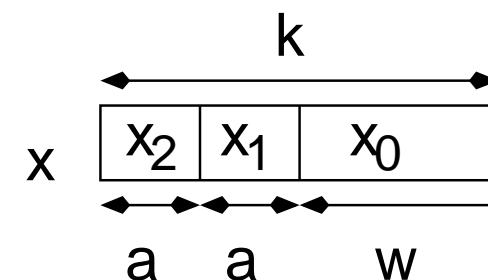
Let $m = 2^w$, Key = $\{0, 1\}^k$

Bit-Matrix Multiplication: $H^\oplus = \left\{ h_{\mathbf{M}} : \mathbf{M} \in \{0, 1\}^{w \times k} \right\}$

where $h_{\mathbf{M}}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{M}\mathbf{x}$ (arithmetics mod 2, i.e., xor, and)

Table Lookup: $H^{\oplus[]}_{} = \left\{ h_{(t_1, \dots, t_b)}^{\oplus[]} : t_i \in \{0..m - 1\}^{\{0..w-1\}} \right\}$

where $h_{(t_1, \dots, t_b)}^{\oplus[]}((x_0, x_1, \dots, x_b)) = x_0 \oplus \bigoplus_{i=1}^b t_i[x_i]$





Hashing with Linear Probing

Open hashing: go back to original idea.

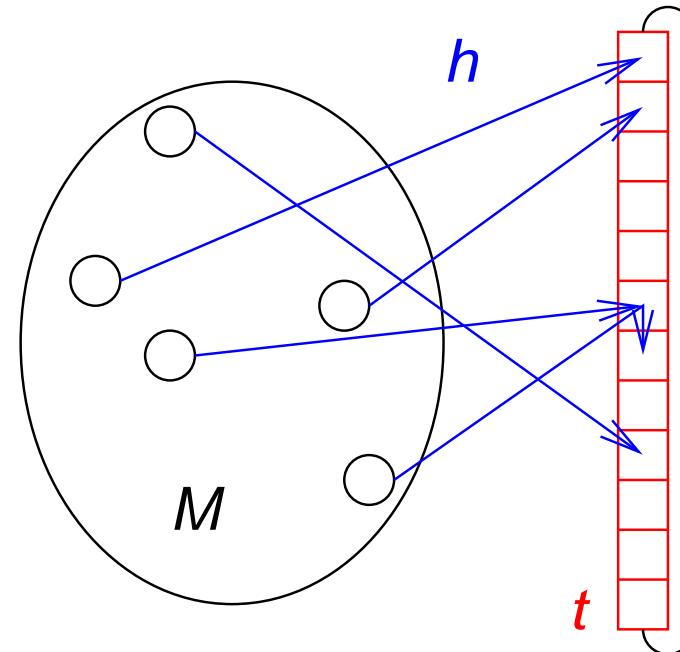
Elements are directly stored in the table.

Collisions are resolved by finding other entries.

linear probing: search for next free place by scanning the table.

Wrap around at the end.

- simple
- space efficient
- cache efficient





The Easy Part

Class BoundedLinearProbing($m, m' : \mathbb{N}; h : \text{Key} \rightarrow 0..m - 1$)

$t = [\perp, \dots, \perp] : \text{Array } [0..m+m'-1] \text{ of Element}$

invariant $\forall i : t[i] \neq \perp : \forall j \in \{h(t[i])..i-1\} : t[j] \neq \perp$

Procedure insert($e : \text{Element}$)

for $i := h(e)$ **to** ∞ **while** $t[i] \neq \perp$ **do** ;

assert $i < m + m' - 1$

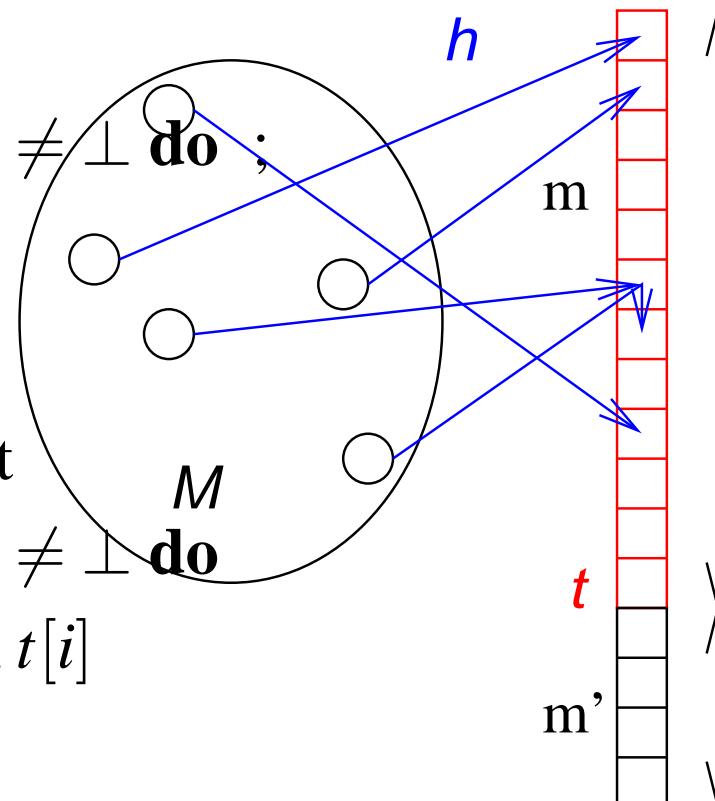
$t[i] := e$

Function find($k : \text{Key}$) : Element

for $i := h(e)$ **to** ∞ **while** $t[i] \neq \perp$ **do**

if $t[i] = k$ **then return** $t[i]$

return \perp





Remove

example: $t = [\dots, \frac{x}{h(z)}, y, z, \dots]$, remove(x)

invariant $\forall i : t[i] \neq \perp : \forall j \in \{h(t[i])..i-1\} : t[i] \neq \perp$

Procedure **remove**(k : Key)

for $i := h(k)$ **to** ∞ **while** $k \neq t[i]$ **do** // search k

if $t[i] = \perp$ **then return** // nothing to do

//we plan for a hole at *i*.

for $j := i + 1$ **to** ∞ **while** $t[j] \neq \perp$ **do**

//Establish invariant for $t[j]$.

if $h(t[j]) \leq i$ **then**

$t[i] := t[j]$ // Overwrite removed element

i := *j* // move planned hole

$t[i] := \perp$ // erase freed entry



More Hashing Issues

- High probability and **worst case** guarantees
 - ~~ more requirements on the hash functions
- Hashing as a means of load balancing in parallel systems,
e.g., storage servers
 - Different disk sizes and speeds
 - Adding disks / replacing failed disks without much copying

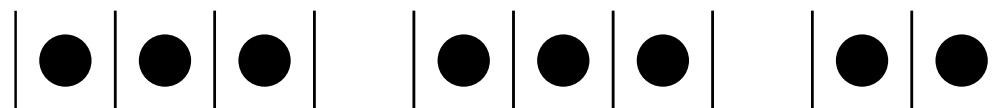


Space Efficient Hashing with Worst Case Constant Access Time

Represent a set of n elements (with associated information) using space $(1 + \varepsilon)n$.

Support operations **insert**, **delete**, **lookup**, (doall) efficiently.

Assume a truly random hash function h

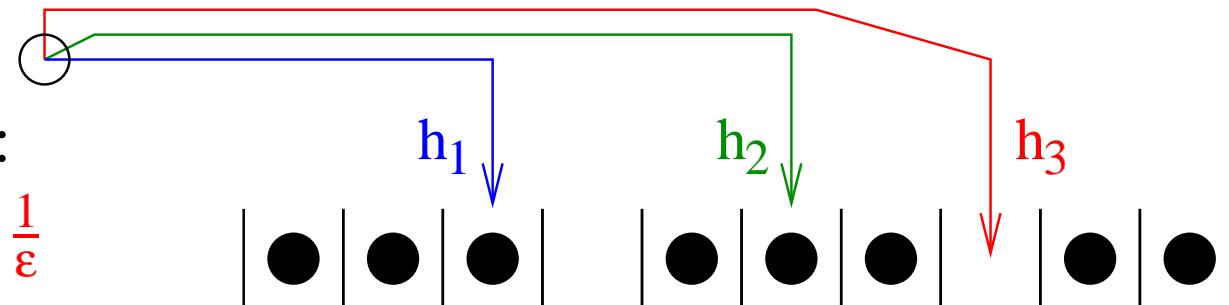




Related Work

Uniform hashing:

Expected time $\approx \frac{1}{\varepsilon}$

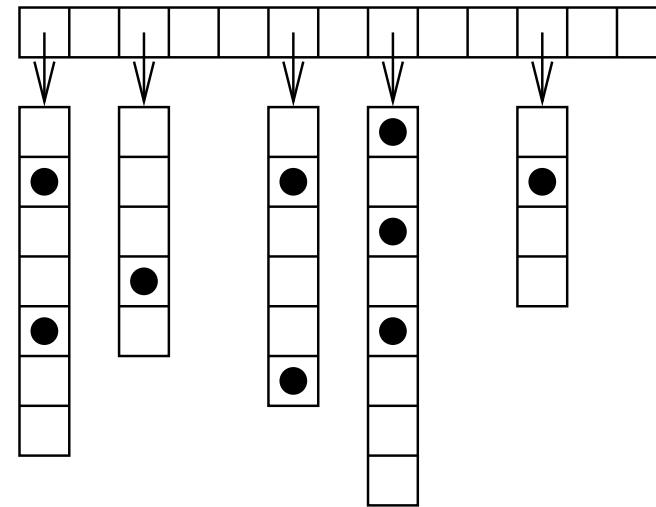


Dynamic Perfect Hashing,

[Dietzfelbinger et al. 94]

Worst case constant time

for lookup but ε is not small.



Approaching the Information Theoretic Lower Bound:

[Brodnik Munro 99,Raman Rao 02]

Space $(1 + o(1)) \times$ lower bound without associated information

[Pagh 01] static case.



Cuckoo Hashing

[Pagh Rodler 01] Table of size 2^{10}

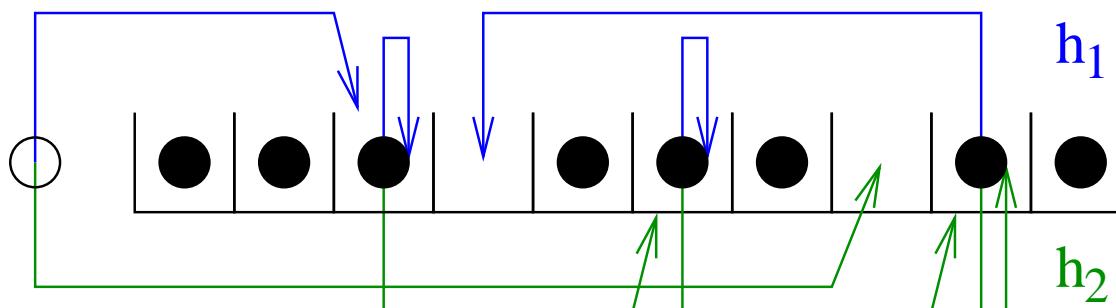
Two choices for each element.

Insert moves elements;
rebuild if necessary.



Very fast lookup and insert.

Expected constant insertion time.





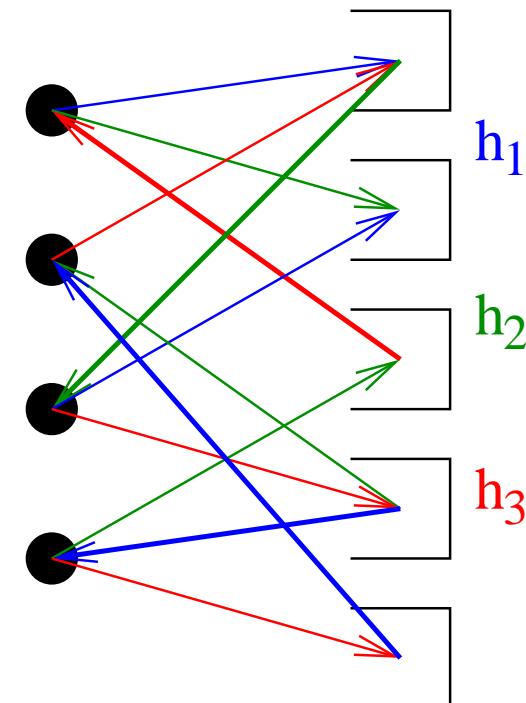
d -ary Cuckoo Hashing

d choices for each element.

Worst case d probes for delete and lookup.

Task: maintain perfect matching
in the bipartite graph

(L = Elements, R = Cells, E = Choices),
e.g., insert by BFS of random walk.





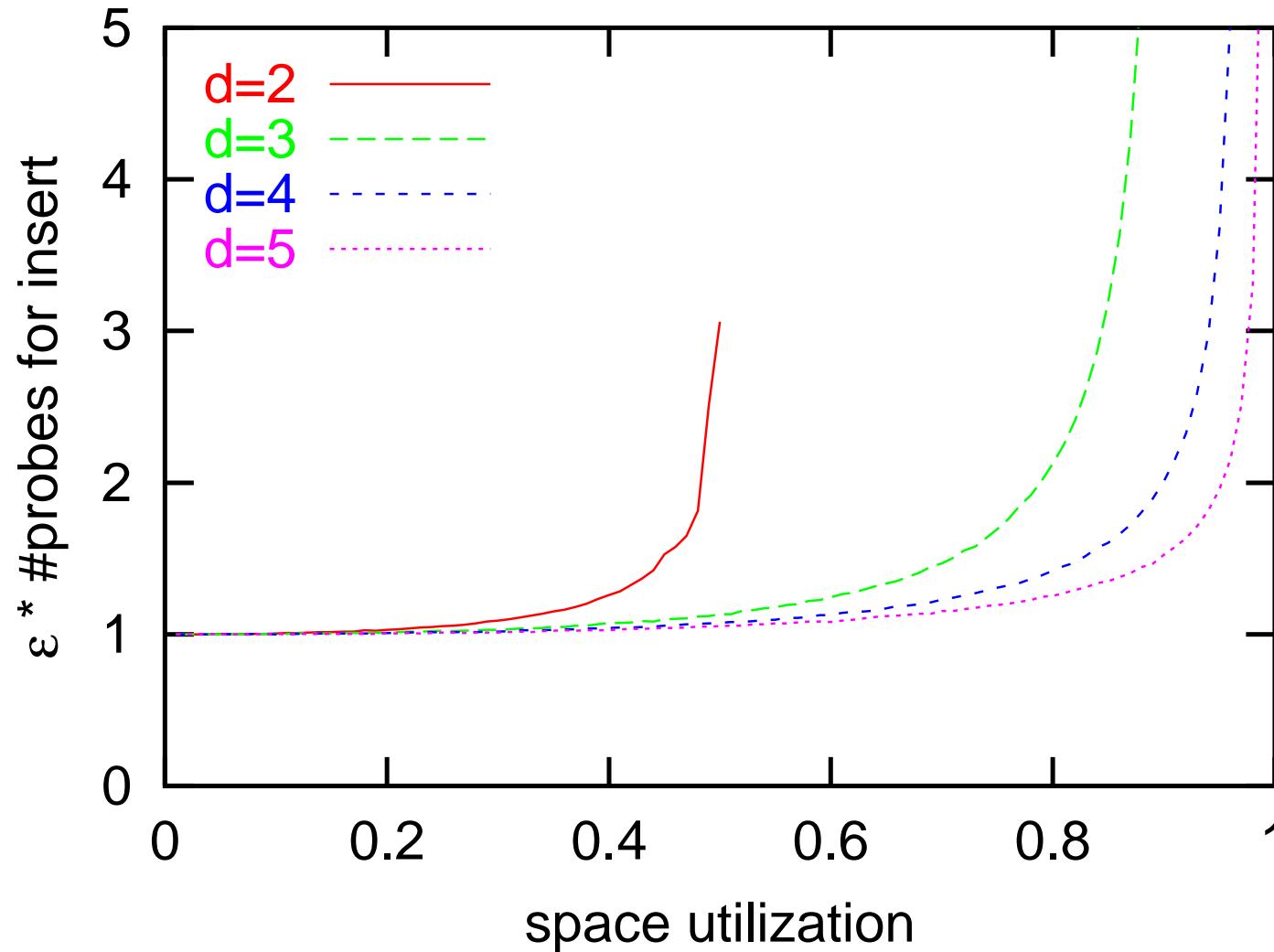
Tradeoff: Space \leftrightarrow Lookup/Deletion Time

Lookup and Delete: $d = O(\log \frac{1}{\varepsilon})$ probes

Insert: $\left(\frac{1}{\varepsilon}\right)^{O(\log(1/\varepsilon))}$, (experiments) $\longrightarrow O(1/\varepsilon)$?



Experiments





Open Questions and Further Results

- Tight analysis of **insertion**
- Two choices with d slots each [Dietzfelbinger et al.]
~~ cache efficiency

Good Implementation?

- Automatic rehash
- Always **correct**



8 Minimum Spanning Trees

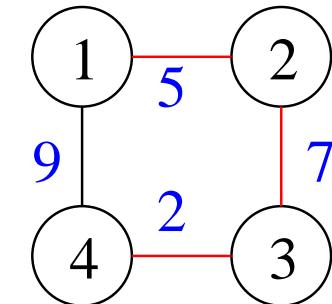
undirected Graph $G = (V, E)$.

nodes V , $n = |V|$, e.g., $V = \{1, \dots, n\}$

edges $e \in E$, $m = |E|$, two-element subsets of V .

edge weight $c(e)$, $c(e) \in \mathbb{R}_+$.

G is **connected**, i.e., \exists path between any two nodes.



Find a tree (V, T) with **minimum** weight $\sum_{e \in T} c(e)$ that connects all nodes.



MST: Overview

- Basics: Edge property and cycle property
- Jarník-Prim Algorithm
- Kruskals Algorithm
- Some tricks and comparison
- Advanced algorithms using the cycle property
- External MST

Applications: Clustering; subroutine in combinatorial optimization, e.g., Held-Karp lower bound for TSP. Challenging real world instances???

Anyway: almost ideal “fruit fly” problem



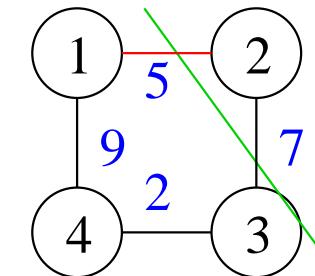
Selecting and Discarding MST Edges

The Cut Property

For any $S \subset V$ consider the cut edges

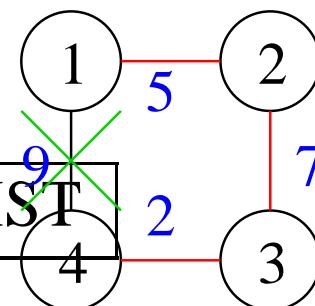
$$C = \{\{u, v\} \in E : u \in S, v \in V \setminus S\}$$

The **lightest** edge in a C can be used in an MST.



The Cycle Property

The **heaviest** edge on a cycle is not needed for an MST





The Jarník-Prim Algorithm [Jarník 1930, Prim 1957]

Idea: grow a tree

$T := \emptyset$

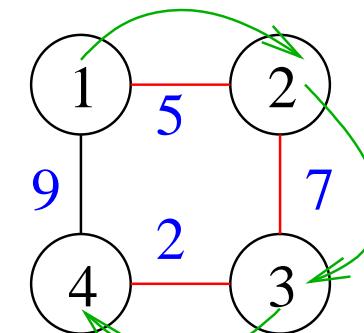
$S := \{s\}$ for arbitrary start node s

repeat $n - 1$ times

 find (u, v) fulfilling the **cut property** for S

$S := S \cup \{v\}$

$T := T \cup \{(u, v)\}$





Implementation Using Priority Queues

Function jpMST(V, E, w) : Set of Edge

dist = $[\infty, \dots, \infty]$: **Array** [1.. n] // $\text{dist}[v]$ is distance of v from the tree

pred : **Array of Edge** // $\text{pred}[v]$ is shortest edge between S and v

q : **PriorityQueue of Node** with **dist[·]** as priority

$\text{dist}[s] := 0$; q.insert(s) for any $s \in V$

for $i := 1$ **to** $n - 1$ **do do**

$u := q.\text{deleteMin}()$ // new node for S

$\text{dist}[u] := 0$

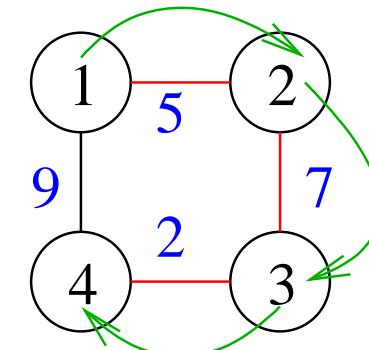
foreach $(u, v) \in E$ **do**

if $c((u, v)) < \text{dist}[v]$ **then**

$\text{dist}[v] := c((u, v)); \text{pred}[v] := (u, v)$

if $v \in q$ **then** $q.\text{decreaseKey}(v)$ **else** $q.\text{insert}(v)$

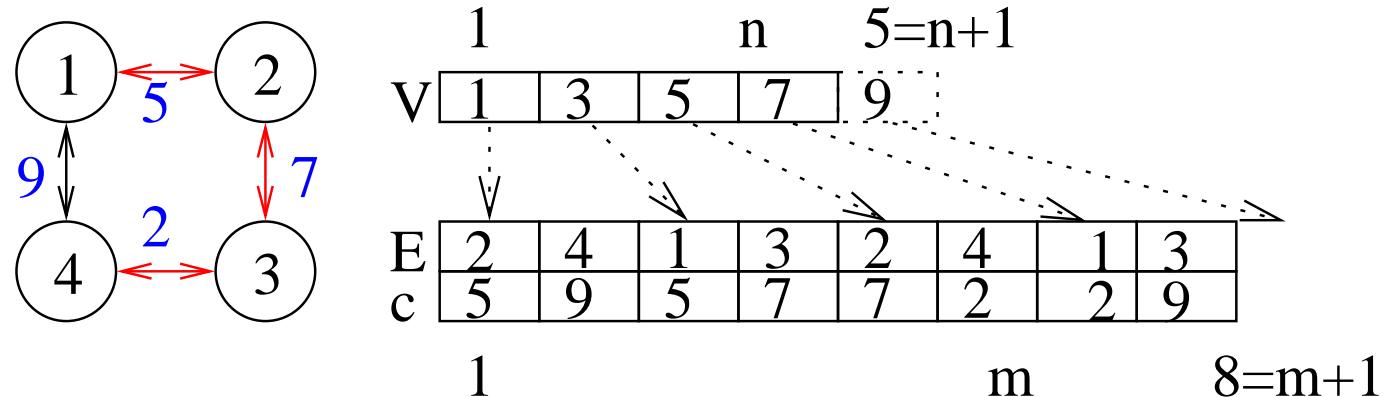
return { $\text{pred}[v] : v \in V \setminus \{s\}$ }





Graph Representation for Jarník-Prim

We need node → incident edges



- + fast (cache efficient)
- + more compact than linked lists
- difficult to change
- Edges are stored twice



Analysis

- $O(m + n)$ time outside priority queue
- n `deleteMin` (time $O(n \log n)$)
- $O(m)$ `decreaseKey` (time $O(1)$ amortized)
~~~  $O(m + n \log n)$  using **Fibonacci Heaps**

practical implementation using simpler **pairing heaps**.

But analysis is still partly **open!**



## Kruskal's Algorithm [1956]

```
 $T := \emptyset$                                 // subforest of the MST
foreach  $(u, v) \in E$  in ascending order of weight do
    if  $u$  and  $v$  are in different subtrees of  $T$  then
         $T := T \cup \{(u, v)\}$                 // Join two subtrees
return  $T$ 
```



## The Union-Find Data Structure

**Class** UnionFind( $n : \mathbb{N}$ ) // Maintain a partition of  $1..n$

**parent** =  $[n+1, \dots, n+1] : \text{Array } [1..n]$  of  $1..n + \lceil \log n \rceil$

**Function** **find**( $i : 1..n$ ) :  $1..n$

**if** **parent**[ $i$ ] >  $n$  **then return**  $i$

**else**  $i' := \text{find}(\text{parent}[i])$

**parent**[ $i$ ] :=  $i'$

**return**  $i'$

**Procedure** **link**( $i, j : 1..n$ )

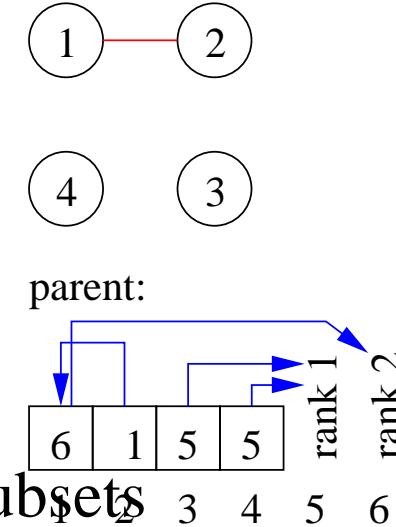
**assert**  $i$  and  $j$  are leaders of different subsets

**if** **parent**[ $i$ ] < **parent**[ $j$ ] **then** **parent**[ $i$ ] :=  $j$

**else if** **parent**[ $i$ ] > **parent**[ $j$ ] **then** **parent**[ $j$ ] :=  $i$

**else** **parent**[ $j$ ] :=  $i$ ; **parent**[ $i$ ]++ // next generation

**Procedure** **union**( $i, j$ ) **if** **find**( $i$ ) ≠ **find**( $j$ ) **then** **link**(**find**( $i$ ), **find**( $j$ ))





# Kruskal Using Union Find

$T : \text{UnionFind}(n)$

sort  $E$  in ascending order of weight

$\text{kruskal}(E)$

**Procedure**  $\text{kruskal}(E)$

**foreach**  $(u, v) \in E$  **do**

$u' := T.\text{find}(u)$

$v' := T.\text{find}(v)$

**if**  $u' \neq v'$  **then**

            output  $(u, v)$

$T.\text{link}(u', v')$



## Graph Representation for Kruskal

Just an edge sequence (array) !

- + very fast (cache efficient)
- + Edges are stored only once
- ↝ more compact than adjacency array



## Analysis

$O(\text{sort}(m) + m\alpha(m, n)) = O(m \log m)$  where  $\alpha$  is the inverse Ackermann function



## Kruskal versus Jarník-Prim I

- Kruskal wins for very sparse graphs
- Prim seems to win for denser graphs
- Switching point is **unclear**
  - How is the input **represented**?
  - How many **decreaseKeys** are performed by JP?  
(average case:  $n \log \frac{m}{n}$  [Noshita 85])
  - Experimental studies are quite **old** [?],  
use **slow graph representation** for both algs,  
and **artificial inputs**



# Better Version For Dense Graphs ?

```
Procedure quickKruskal( $E$  : Sequence of Edge)
    if  $m \leq \beta n$  then kruskal( $E$ )           // for some constant  $\beta$ 
    else
        pick a pivot  $p \in E$ 
         $E_{\leq} := \langle e \in E : e \leq p \rangle$           // partitioning a la
         $E_{>} := \langle e \in E : e > p \rangle$           // quicksort
        quickKruskal( $E_{\leq}$ )
         $E'_{>} := \text{filter}(E_{>})$ 
        quickKruskal( $E'_{>}$ )
```

## Function filter( $E$ )

```
make sure that leader[i] gives the leader of node  $i$  //  $O(n)!$ 
return  $\langle (u, v) \in E : \text{leader}[u] \neq \text{leader}[v] \rangle$ 
```



## 8.1 Attempted Average-Case Analysis

Assume different random edge weights, arbitrary graphs

Assume pivot  $p$  has median weight

Let  $T(m)$  denote the expected execution time for  $m$  edges

$m \leq \beta n$ :  $O(n \log n)$

Partitioning, Filtering:  $O(m + n)$

$m > \beta n$ :  $T(m) = \Omega(m) + T(m/2) + T(2n)$  [Chan 98]

Solves to  $O\left(m + n \log(n) \cdot \log \frac{m}{n}\right) \leq O(m + n \log(n) \cdot \log \log n)$

Open Problem: I know of no graph family with  
 $T(n) = \omega(m + n \log(n))$



## Kruskal versus Jarník-Prim II

Things are even less clear.

Kruskal may be better even for dense graphs

Experiments would be interesting.

Even for artificial graphs.



## 8.2 Filtering by Sampling Rather Than Sorting

$R :=$  random sample of  $r$  edges from  $E$

$F := \text{MST}(R)$  // Wlog assume that  $F$  spans  $V$

$L := \emptyset$  // “light edges” with respect to  $R$

**foreach**  $e \in E$  **do** // Filter

$C :=$  the unique cycle in  $\{e\} \cup F$

**if**  $e$  is not heaviest in  $C$  **then**

$L := L \cup \{e\}$

**return**  $\text{MST}((L \cup F))$



### 8.2.1 Analysis

[Chan 98, KKK 95]

Observation:  $e \in L$  only if  $e \in \text{MST}(R \cup \{e\})$ .

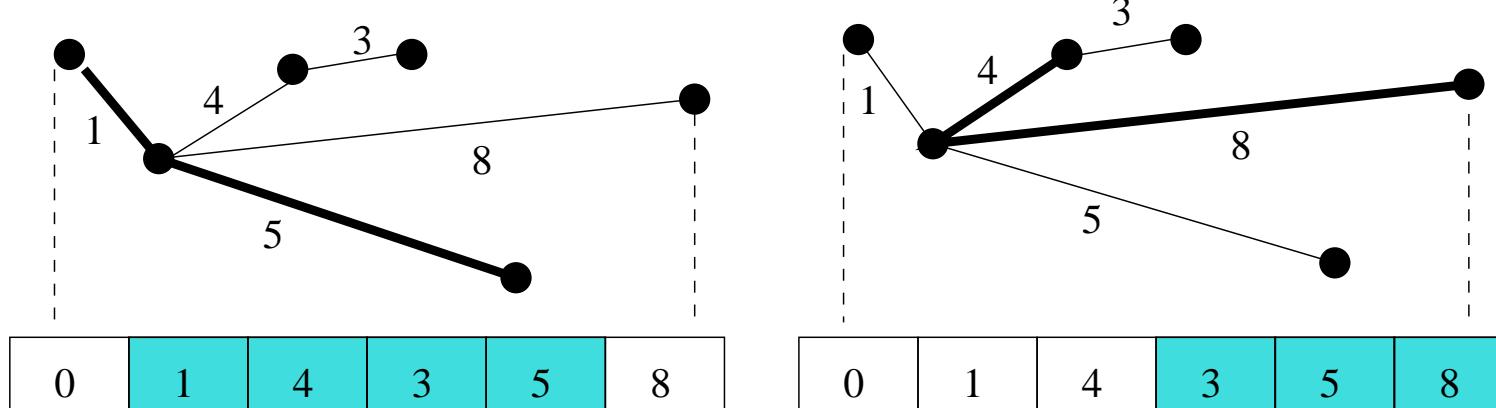
(Otherwise  $e$  could replace some heavier edge in  $F$ ).

**Lemma 4.**  $E[|L \cup F|] \leq \frac{mn}{r}$



## MST Verification by Interval Maxima

- Number the nodes by the order they were added to the MST by Prim's algorithm.
- $w_i$  = weight of the edge that inserted node  $i$ .
- Largest weight on path( $u, v$ ) =  $\max\{w_j \mid u < j \leq v\}$ .





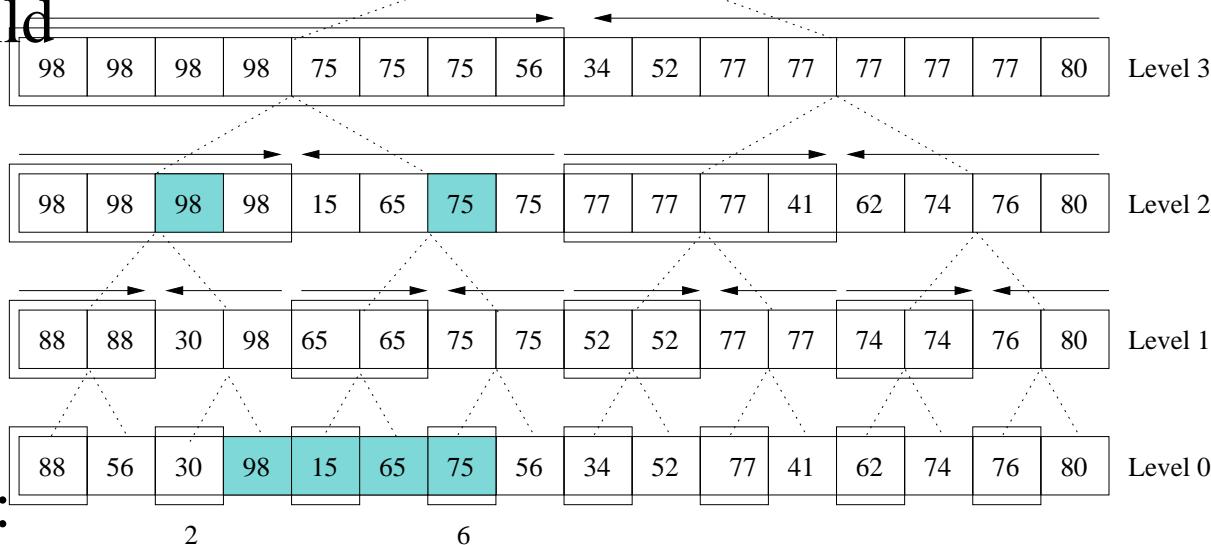
## Interval Maxima

Preprocessing: build

$n \log n$  size array

PreSuf.

To find  $\max a[i..j]$ :



- Find the level of the LCA:  $\ell = \lfloor \log_2(i \oplus j) \rfloor$ .
- Return  $\max(\text{PreSuf}[\ell][i], \text{PreSuf}[\ell][j])$ .
- Example:  $2 \oplus 6 = 010 \oplus 110 = 100: \ell = 2$



## A Simple Filter Based Algorithm

Choose  $r = \sqrt{mn}$ .

We get expected time

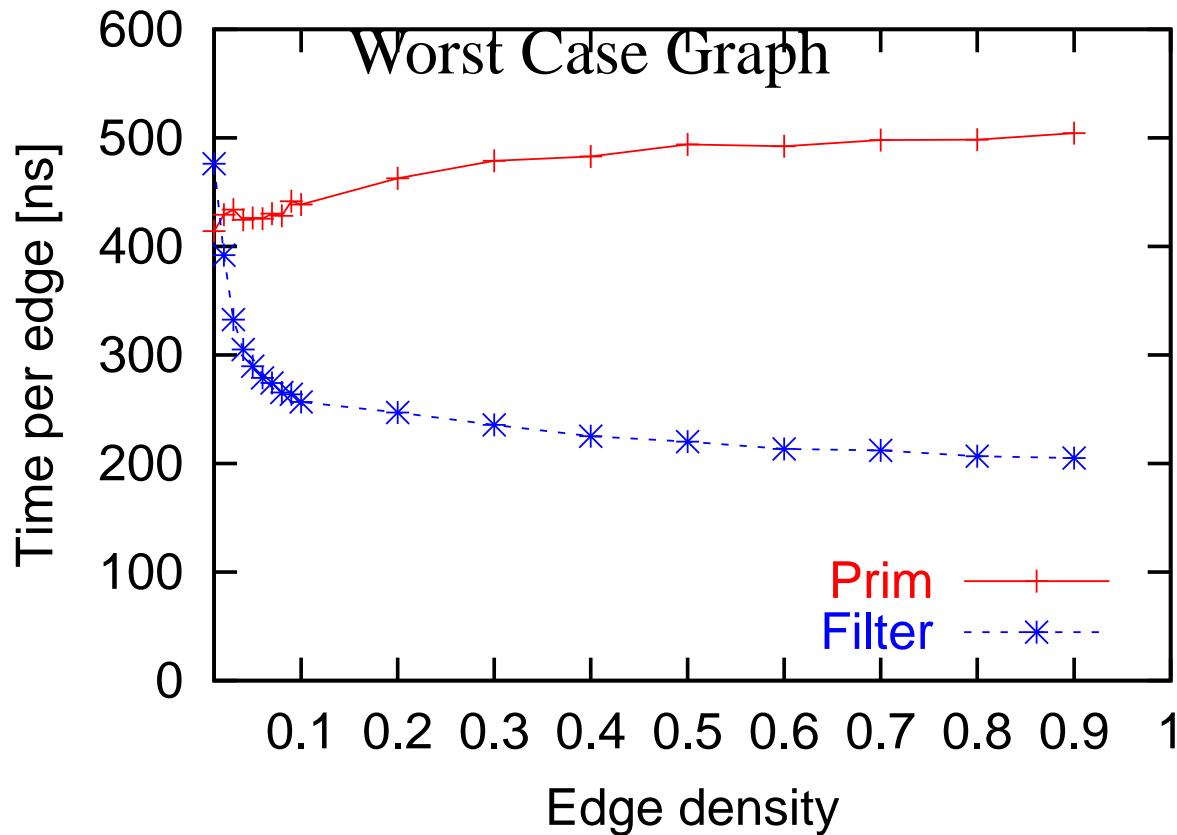
$$T_{\text{Prim}}(\sqrt{mn}) + O(n \log n + m) + T_{\text{Prim}}\left(\frac{mn}{\sqrt{mn}}\right) = O(n \log n + m)$$

The constant factor in front of the  $m$  is very small.



## Results

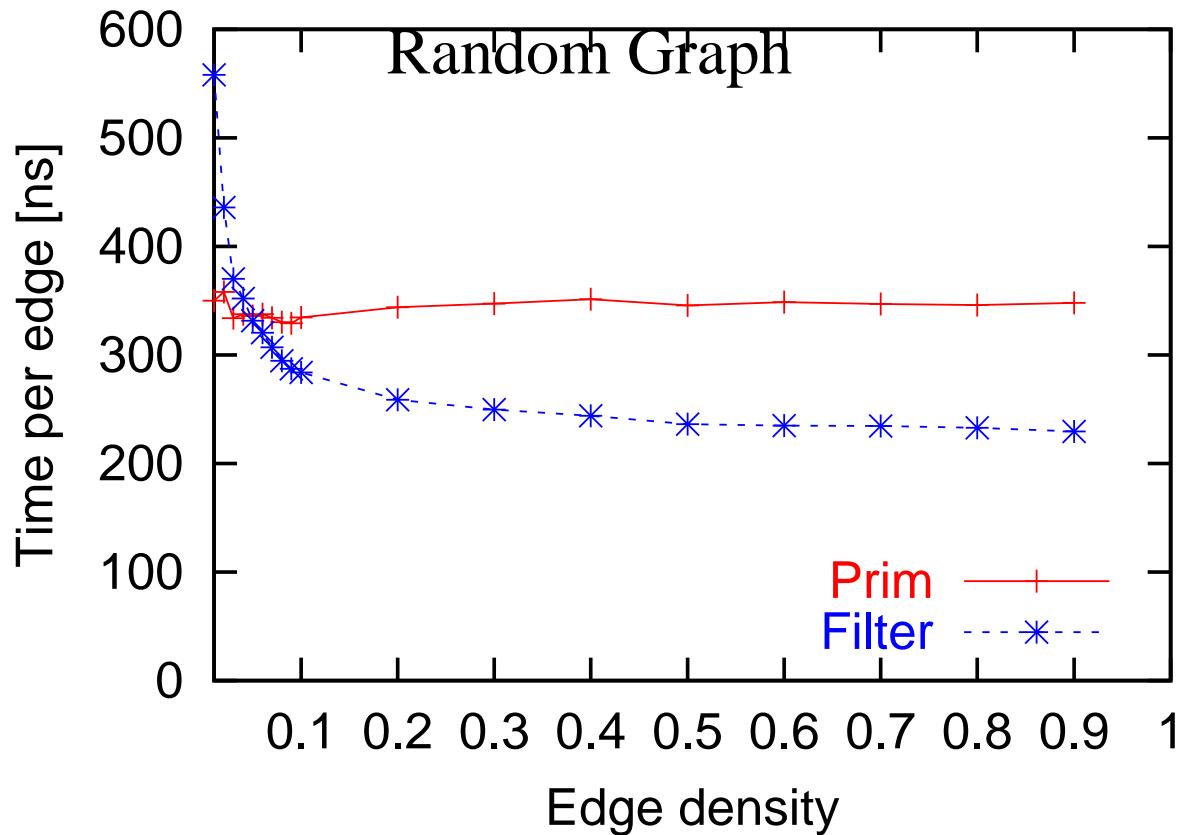
10 000 nodes, SUN-Fire-15000, 900 MHz UltraSPARC-III+





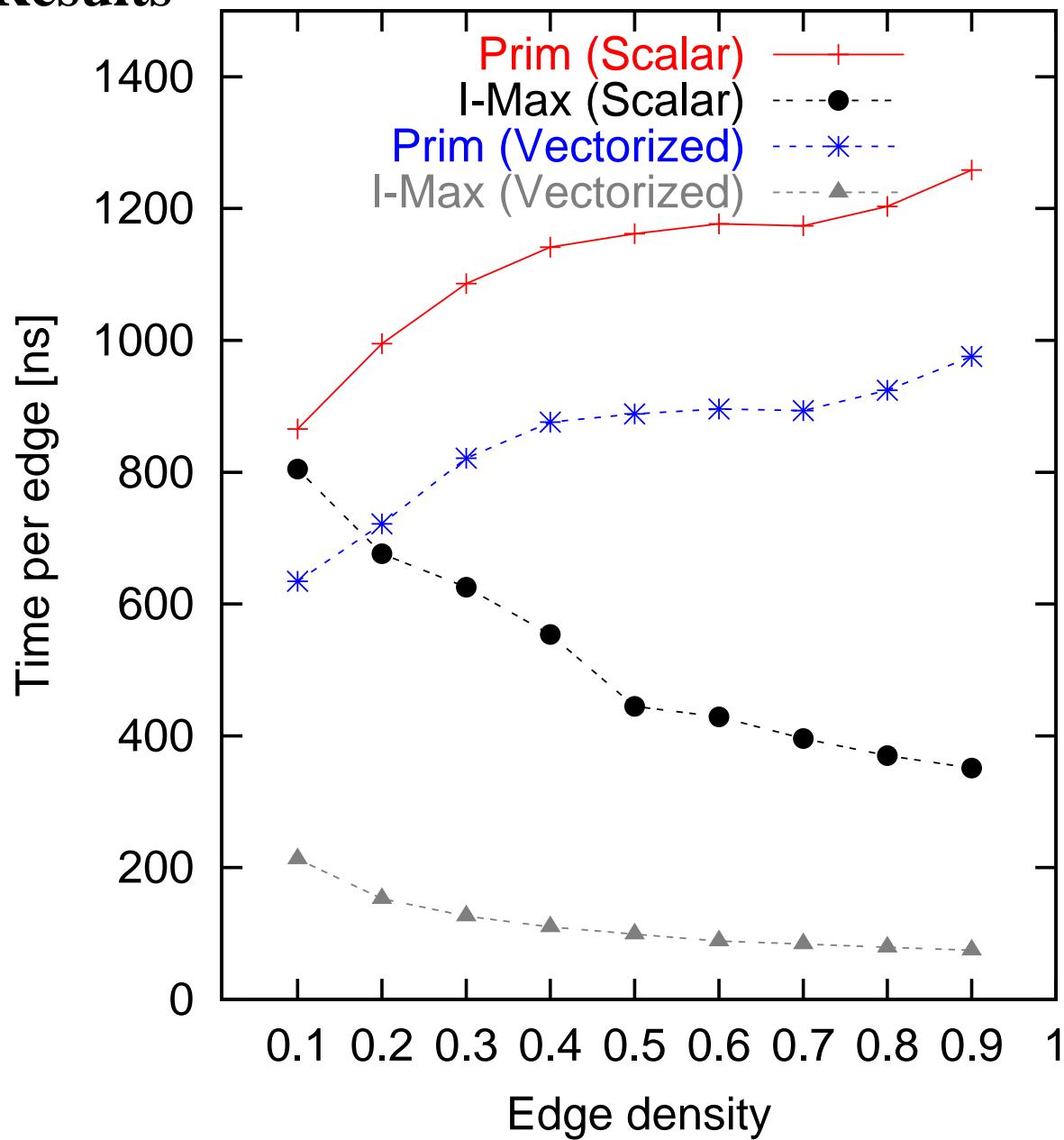
## Results

10 000 nodes, SUN-Fire-15000, 900 MHz UltraSPARC-III+





## Results



10 000 nodes,  
NEC SX-5  
Vector Machine  
“worst case”



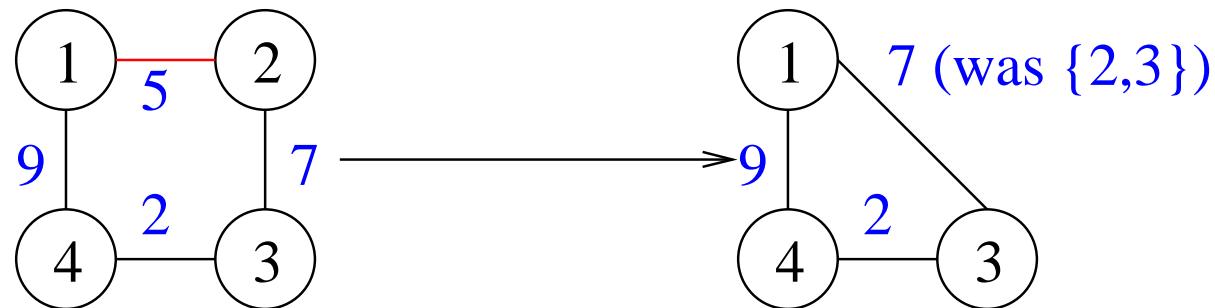
# Edge Contraction

Let  $\{u, v\}$  denote an MST edge.

Eliminate  $v$ :

**forall**  $(w, v) \in E$  **do**

$E := E \setminus (w, v) \cup \{(w, u)\}$  // but remember original terminals





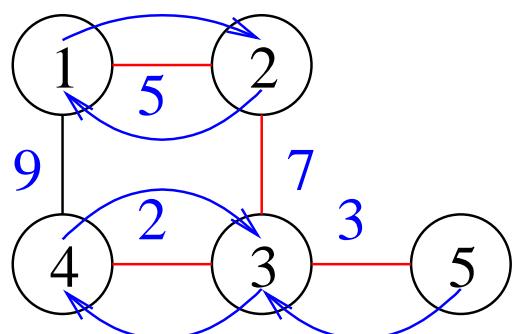
## Boruvka's Node Reduction Algorithm

For each edge find the lightest incident edge.

Include them into the MST (cut property)  
contract these edges,

Time  $O(m)$

At least halves the number of remaining nodes





## 8.3 Simpler and Faster Node Reduction

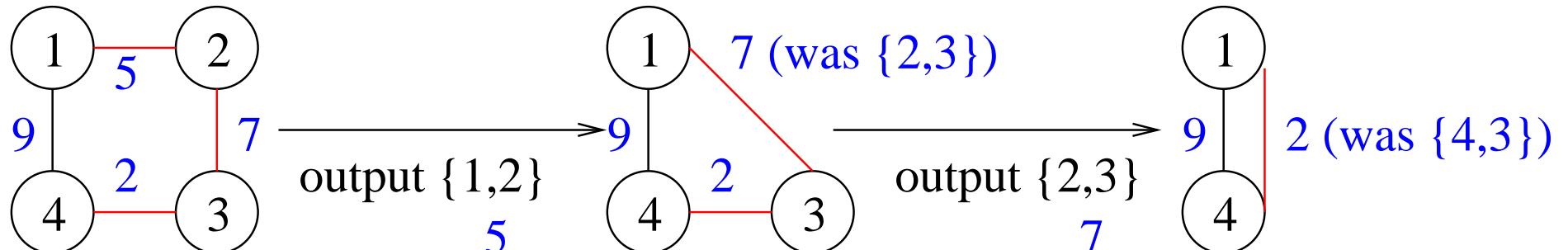
**for**  $i := n$  **downto**  $n' + 1$  **do**

pick a random node  $v$

find the **lightest** edge  $(u, v)$  out of  $v$  and output it  
contract  $(u, v)$

$$\mathbb{E}[\text{degree}(v)] \leq 2m/i$$

$$\sum_{n' < i \leq n} \frac{2m}{i} = 2m \left( \sum_{0 < i \leq n} \frac{1}{i} - \sum_{0 < i \leq n'} \frac{1}{i} \right) \approx 2m(\ln n - \ln n') = 2m \ln \frac{n}{n'}$$





## 8.4 Randomized Linear Time Algorithm

1. Factor 8 node reduction ( $3 \times$  Boruvka or sweep algorithm)

$$O(m+n).$$

2.  $R \Leftarrow m/2$  random edges.  $O(m+n).$

3.  $F \Leftarrow MST(R)$  [Recursively].

4. Find light edges  $L$  (edge reduction).  $O(m+n)$

$$E[|L|] \leq \frac{mn/8}{m/2} = n/4.$$

5.  $T \Leftarrow MST(L \cup F)$  [Recursively].

$$T(n,m) \leq T(n/8, m/2) + T(n/8, n/4) + c(n+m)$$

$T(n,m) \leq 2c(n+m)$  fulfills this recurrence.



## 8.5 External MSTs

### Semiexternal Algorithms

Assume  $n \leq M - 2B$ :

run **Kruskal's algorithm** using external sorting



## Streaming MSTs

If  $M$  is yet a bit larger we can even do it with  $m/B$  I/Os:

```
 $T := \emptyset$                                 // current approximation of MST
while there are any unprocessed edges do
    load any  $\Theta(M)$  unprocessed edges  $E'$ 
     $T := \text{MST}(T \cup E')$                   // for any internal MST alg.
```

Corollary: we can do it with linear expected internal work

Disadvantages to Kruskal:

Slower in practice

Smaller max.  $n$

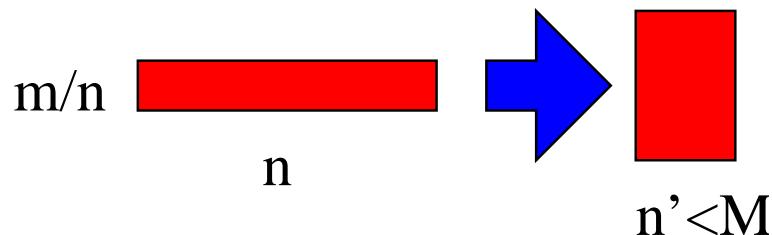


# General External MST

**while**  $n > M - 2B$  **do**

    perform some node reduction

use semi-external Kruskal



Theory:  $O(\text{sort}(m))$  expected I/Os by externalizing the linear time algorithm.

(i.e., node reduction + edge reduction)



# External Implementation I: Sweeping

$\pi$ : random permutation  $V \rightarrow V$

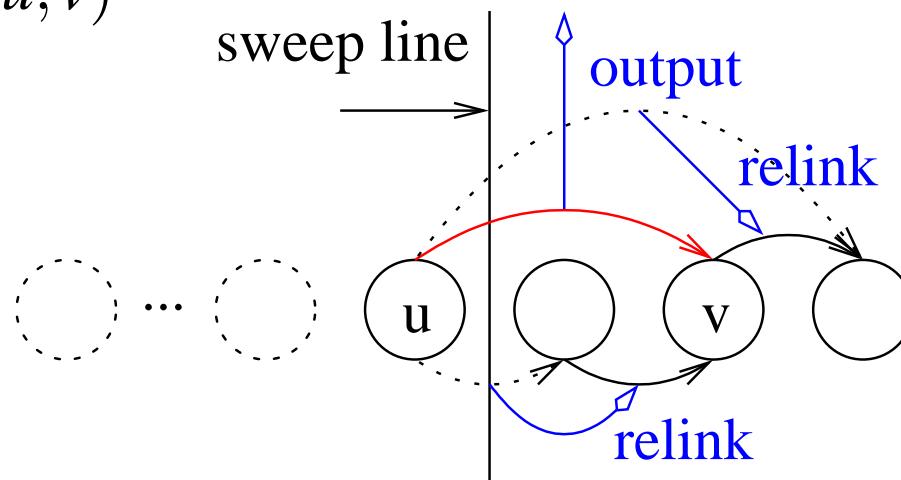
sort edges  $(u, v)$  by  $\min(\pi(u), \pi(v))$

**for**  $i := n$  **downto**  $n' + 1$  **do**

    pick the node  $v$  with  $\pi(v) = i$

    find the **lightest** edge  $(u, v)$  out of  $v$  and output it

    contract  $(u, v)$



Problem: how to implement relinking?



## Relinking Using Priority Queues

$Q$ : priority queue // Order: **max node**, then **min edge weight**

**foreach**  $(\{u, v\}, c) \in E$  **do**  $Q.insert((\{\pi(u), \pi(v)\}, c, \{u, v\}))$

current :=  $n + 1$

**loop**

$(\{u, v\}, c, \{u_0, v_0\}) := Q.deleteMin()$

**if** current  $\neq \max \{u, v\}$  **then**

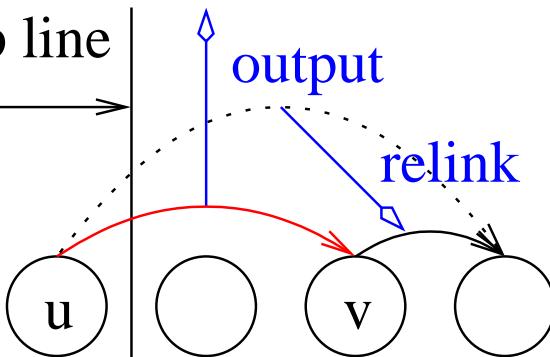
**if** current =  $M + 1$  **then return** sweep line

output  $\{u_0, v_0\}, c$

current :=  $\max \{u, v\}$

connect :=  $\min \{u, v\}$

**else**  $Q.insert((\min \{u, v\}, connect), c, \{u_0, v_0\}))$



$\approx \text{sort}(10m \ln \frac{n}{M})$  I/Os with opt. priority queues

[Sanders 00]

Problem: Compute bound



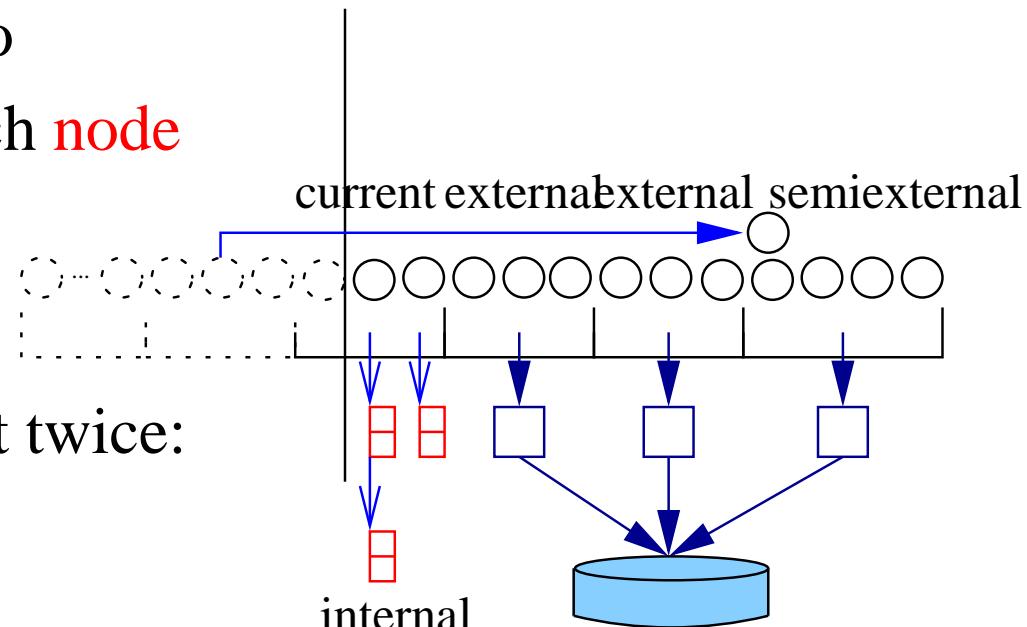
# Sweeping with linear internal work

- Assume  $m = O(M^2/B)$
- $k = \Theta(M/B)$  external buckets with  $n/k$  nodes each
- $M$  nodes for last “semieexternal” bucket
- split **current** bucket into  
**internal** buckets for each **node**

Sweeping:

Scan current internal bucket twice:

1. Find minimum
2. Relink



New external bucket: scan and put in **internal** buckets

Large degree nodes: move to **semieexternal** bucket

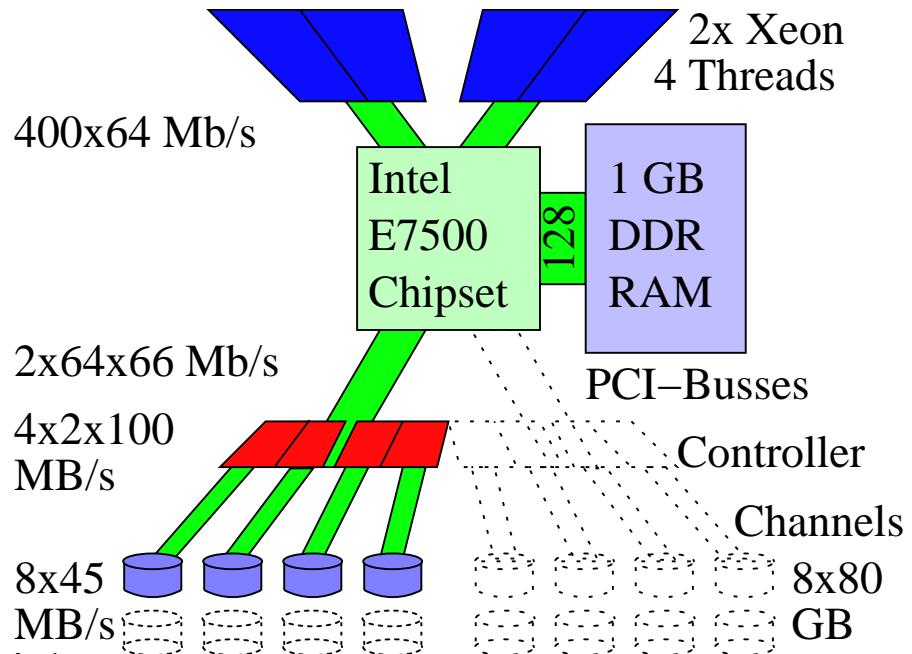


# Experiments

Instances from “classical” MST study [Moret Shapiro 1994]

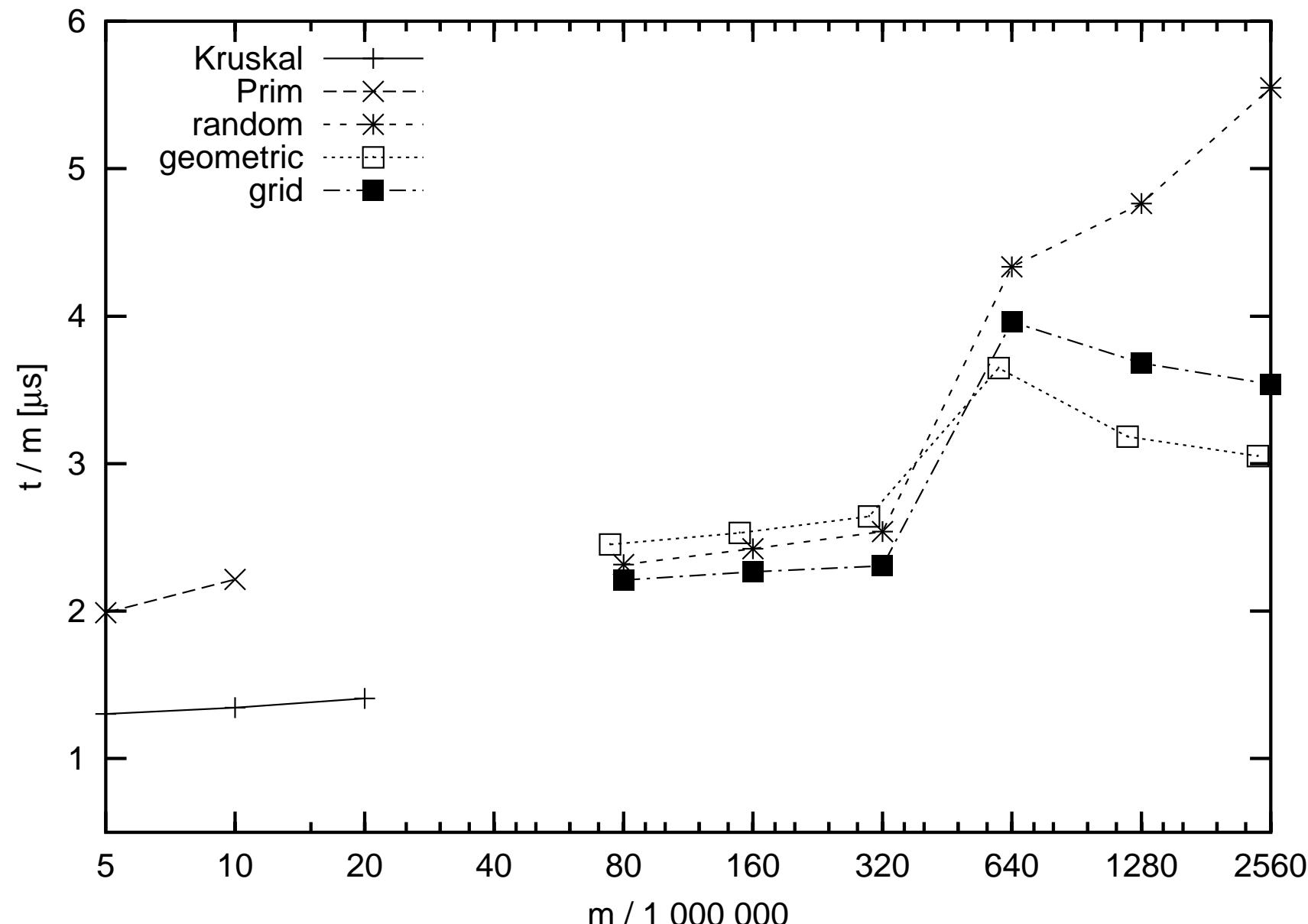
- sparse random graphs
- random geometric graphs
- grids
- $O(\text{sort}(m))$  I/Os  
for planar graphs by  
**removing parallel edges!**

Other instances are rather dense  
or designed to fool specific algorithms.



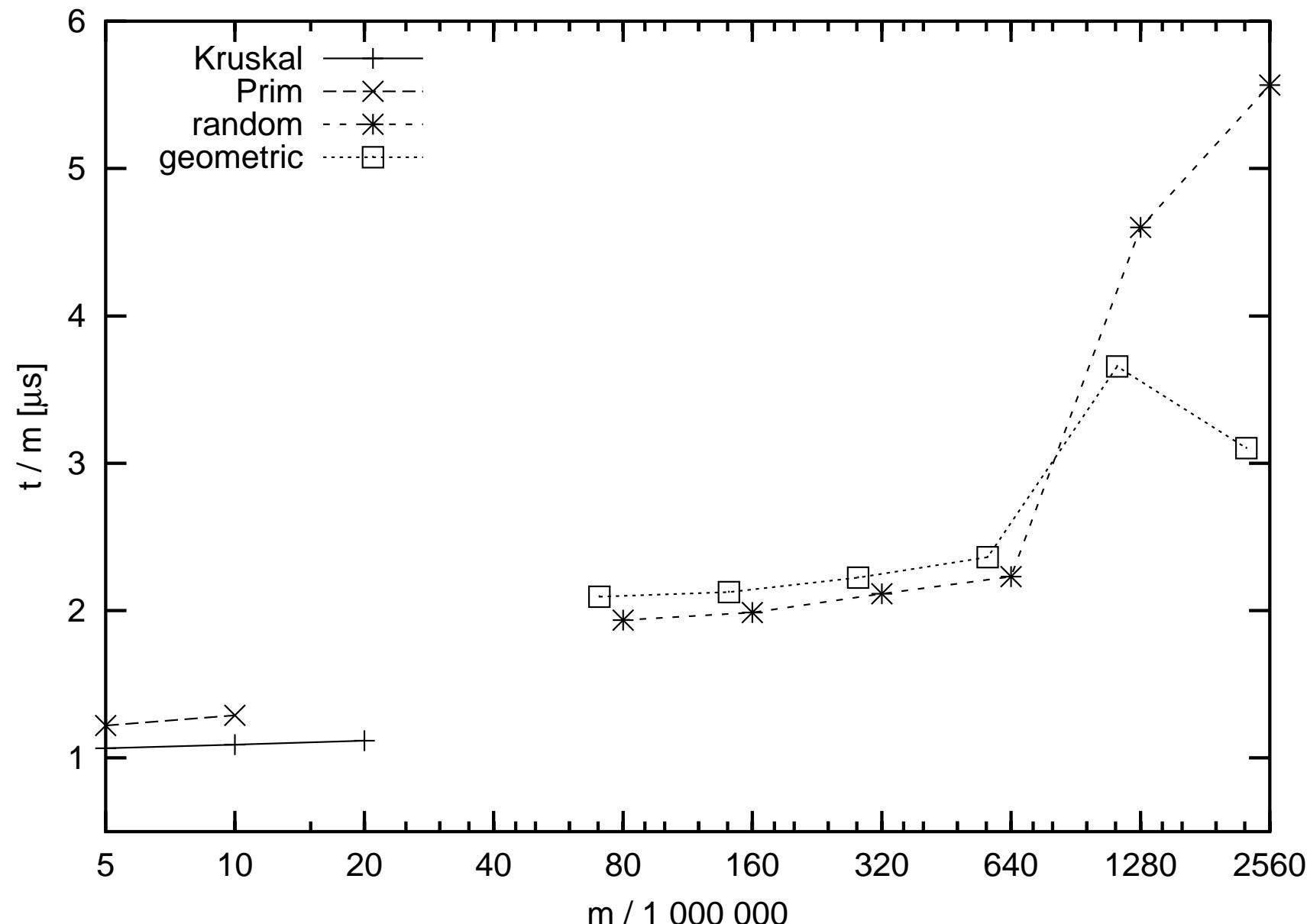


$m \approx 2n$



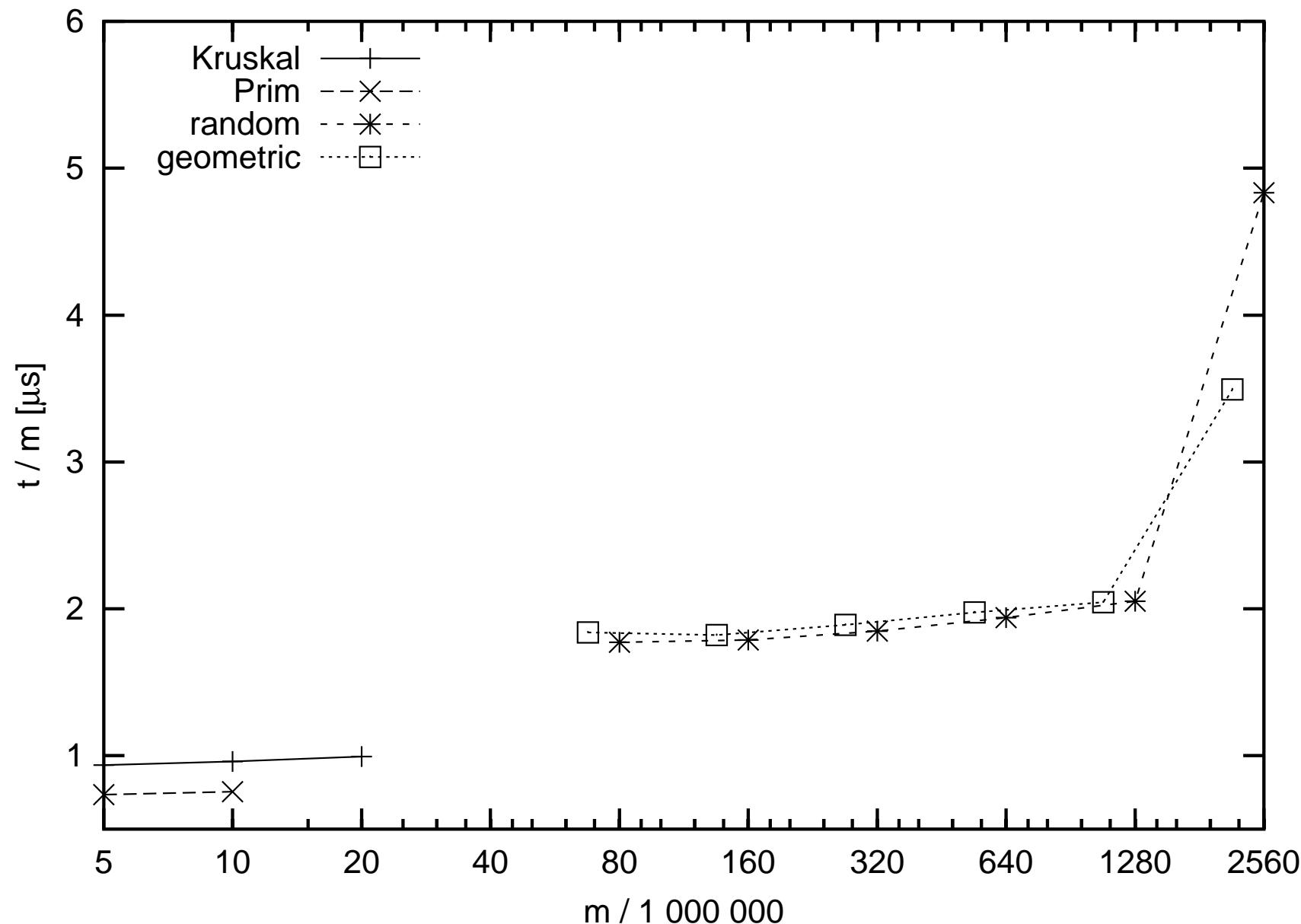


$m \approx 4n$





$m \approx 8n$





## MST Summary

- Edge reduction helps for very dense, “hard” graphs
- A fast and simple **node reduction** algorithm
  - ~~ 4× less I/Os than previous algorithms
- Refined semiexternal MST, use as **base case**
- Simple pseudo random permutations (no I/Os)
- A fast **implementation**
- Experiments with huge graphs (up to  $n = 4 \cdot 10^9$  nodes)

External MST is feasible



# Open Problems

- New experiments for (improved) Kruskal versus Jarník-Prim
- Realistic (huge) inputs
- Parallel external algorithms
- Implementations for other graph problems



# Conclusions

- Even fundamental, “simple” algorithmic problems still raise interesting questions
- Implementation and experiments are important and were neglected by parts of the algorithms community
- **Theory** an (at least) equally important, essential component of the algorithm design process



# More Algorithm Engineering on Graphs

- Count triangles in very large graphs. Interesting as a measure of clusteredness. (Cooperation with AG Wagner)
- External BFS (Master thesis Deepak Ajwani)
- Maximum flows: Is the theoretical best algorithm any good? (Jein)
- Approximate max. weighted matching (Studienarbeit Jens Maue)



# Maximal Flows

**Theory:**  $\mathcal{O}(m\Lambda \log(n^2/m) \log U)$  binary blocking flow-algorithm mit  $\Lambda = \min\{m^{1/2}, n^{2/3}\}$  [Goldberg-Rao-97].

Problem: best case  $\approx$  worst case

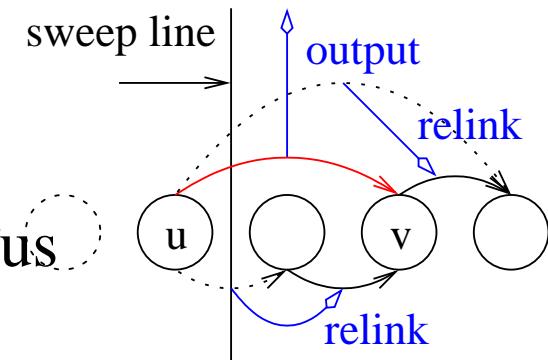
[Hagerup Sanders Träff WAE 98]:

- Implementable generalization
- best case  $\ll$  worst case
- best algorithms for some “difficult” instances



# Ergebnis

- Einfach extern implementierbar
- $n' = M \rightsquigarrow$  semiexterner Kruskal Algorithmus
- Insgesamt  $O\left(\text{sort}(m \ln \frac{n}{m})\right)$  erwartete I/Os
- Für realistische Eingaben mindestens **4× bisher** als bisher bekannte Algorithmen
- Implementierung in <stxxl> mit bis zu **96 GByte** großen Graphen läuft „über Nacht“





# Presenting Data from Experiments in Algorithmics

## Restrictions

- black and white  $\rightsquigarrow$  easy and cheap printing
- 2D (stay tuned)
- no animation
- no realism desired



# Not here

- ensuring reproducibility
- describing the setup
- finding sources of measurement errors
- reducing measurement errors (averaging, median, unloaded machine...)
- measurements in the **creative** phase of experimental algorithmics.



# The Starting Point

- (Several) Algorithm(s)
- A few quantities to be measured: time, space, solution quality, comparisons, cache faults,... There may also be **measurement errors**.
- An unlimited number of potential inputs.  $\rightsquigarrow$  condense to a few characteristic ones (size,  $|V|$ ,  $|E|$ , ... or problem instances from applications)

Usually there is not a lack but an **abundance** of data  $\neq$  many other sciences



# The Process

Waterfall model?

1. Design
2. Measurement
3. Interpretation

Perhaps the paper should at least look like that.



# The Process

- Eventually stop asking questions (Advisors/Referees listen !)
- build measurement tools
- automate (re)measurements
- Choice of Experiments driven by risk and opportunity
- Distinguish mode

**explorative:** many different parameter settings, interactive,  
short turnaround times

**consolidating:** many large instances, standardized  
measurement conditions, batch mode, many machines



# Of Risks and Opportunities

Example: Hypothesis = my algorithm is the best

**big risk:** untried main competitor

**small risk:** tuning of a subroutine that takes 20 % of the time.

**big opportunity:** use algorithm for a new application

~~ new input instances



# Basic Principles

- Minimize nondata ink  
(form follows function, not a beauty contest,...)
- Letter size  $\approx$  surrounding text
- Avoid clutter and overwhelming complexity
- Avoid boredom (too little data per  $m^2$ ).
- Make the conclusions evident



# Tables

- + easy
- easy  $\rightsquigarrow$  overuse
- + accurate values ( $\neq$  3D)
- + more compact than bar chart
- + good for unrelated instances (e.g. solution quality)
- boring
- no visual processing

rule of thumb that “tables usually outperform a graph for small data sets of 20 numbers or less” [Tufte 83]

Curves in main paper, tables in appendix?



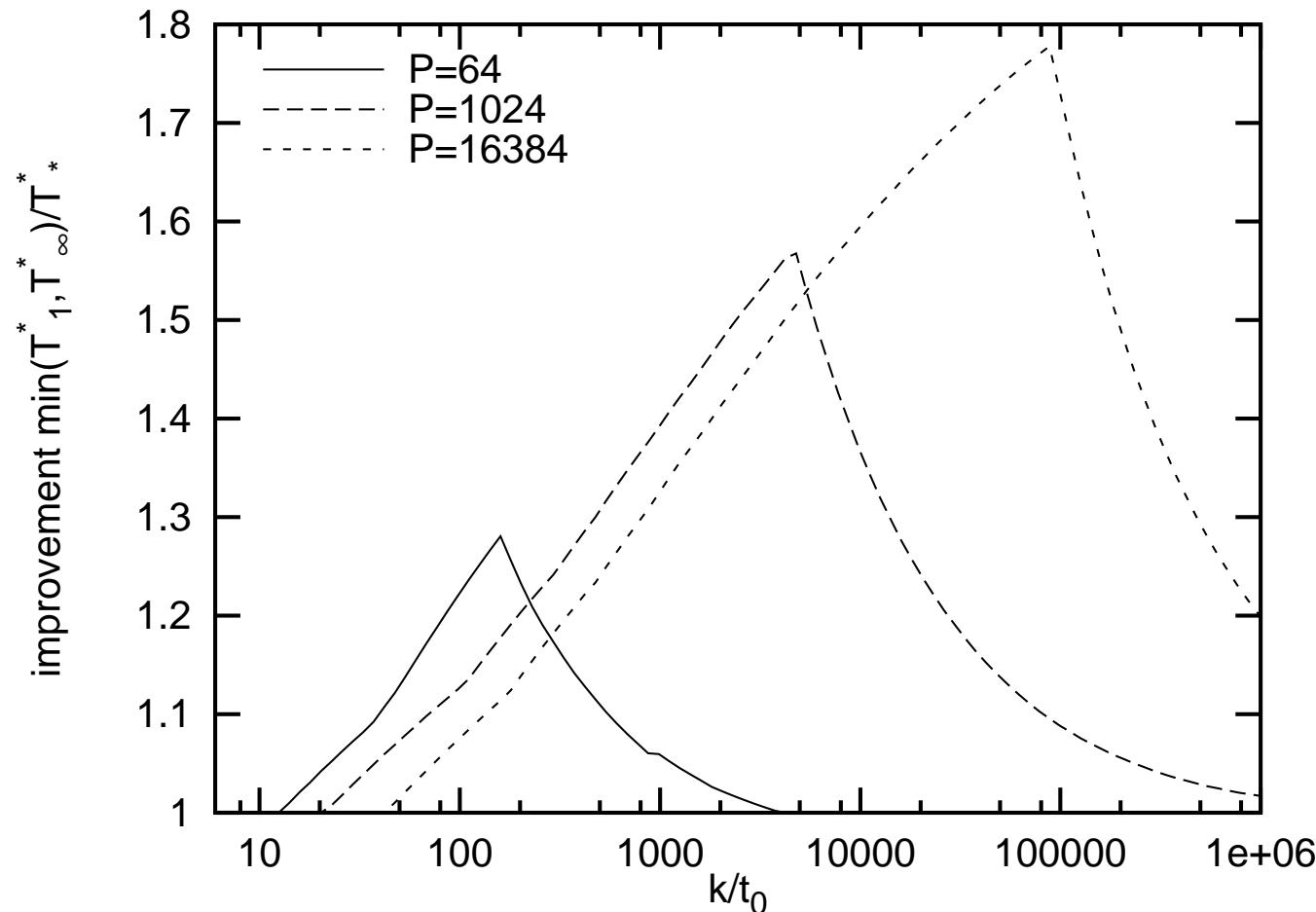
# 2D Figures

default:  $x = \text{input size}$ ,  $y = f(\text{execution time})$



# $x$ Axis

Choose unit to eliminate a parameter?

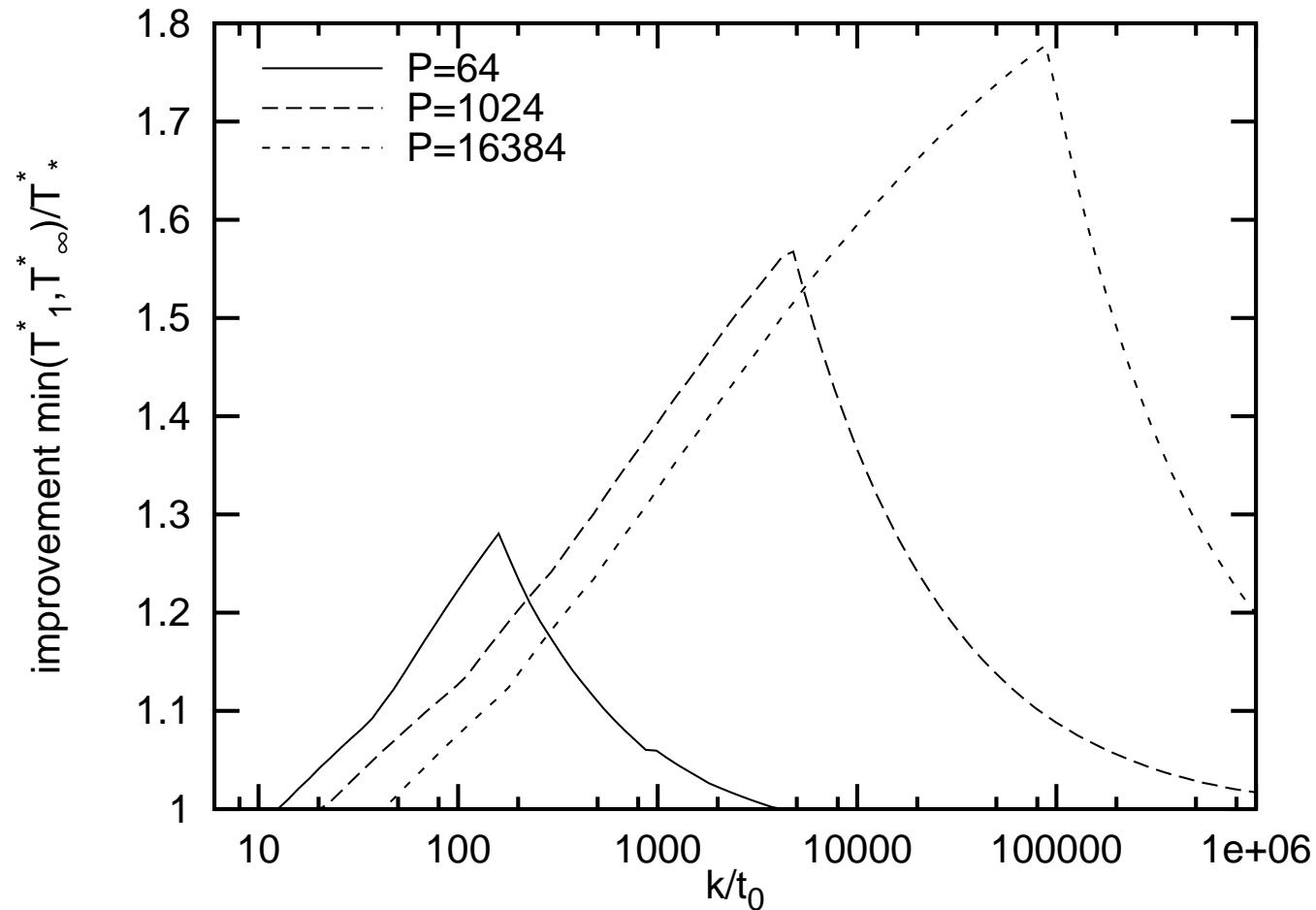


length  $k$  fractional tree broadcasting. latency  $t_0 + k$



# $x$ Axis

logarithmic scale?

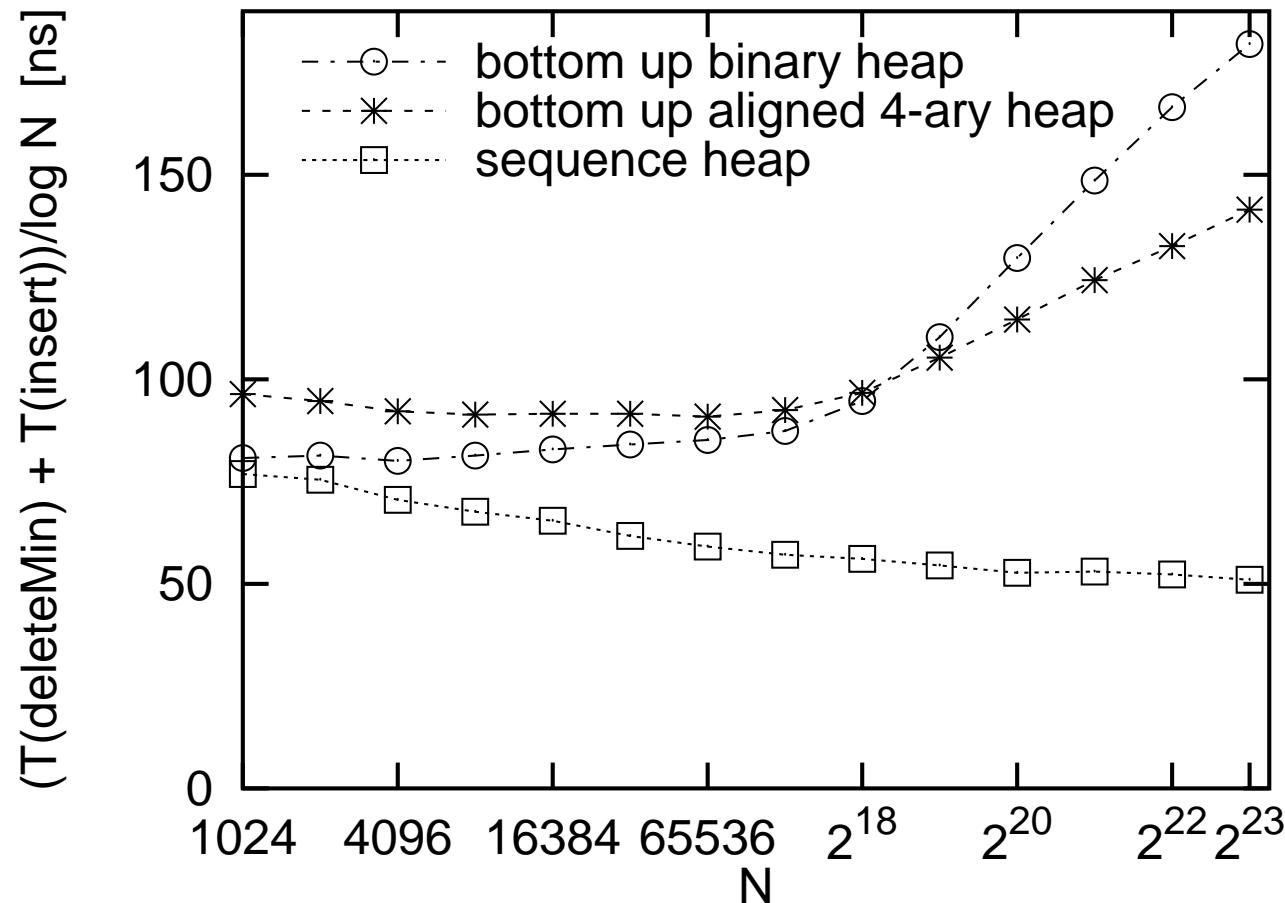


yes if  $x$  range is wide



# $x$ Axis

logarithmic scale, powers of two (or  $\sqrt{2}$ )



with tic marks, (plus a few small ones)



# gnuplot

```
set xlabel "N"
set ylabel "(time per operation)/log N [ns]"
set xtics (256, 1024, 4096, 16384, 65536, "2^{18}") 262144
set size 0.66, 0.33
set logscale x 2
set data style linespoints
set key left
set terminal postscript portrait enhanced 10
set output "r10000timenew.eps"
plot [1024:1000000][0:220]\
    "h2r10000new.log" using 1:3 title "bottom up binary heap" with linespoints
    "h4r10000new.log" using 1:3 title "bottom up aligned 4-ary heap" with linespoints
    "knr10000new.log" using 1:3 title "sequence heap" with linespoints
```



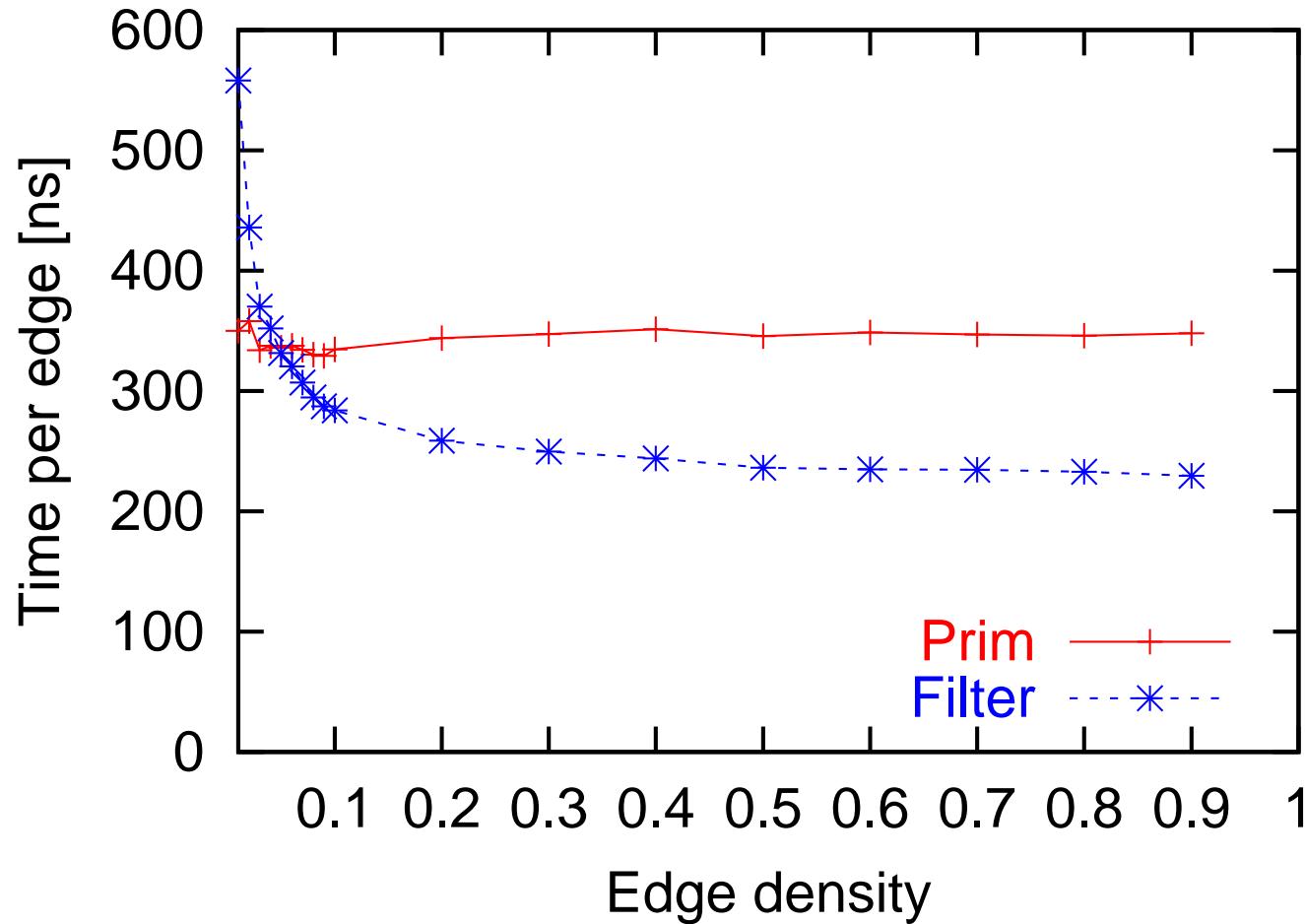
# Data File

256 703.125 87.8906  
512 729.167 81.0185  
1024 768.229 76.8229  
2048 830.078 75.4616  
4096 846.354 70.5295  
8192 878.906 67.6082  
16384 915.527 65.3948  
32768 925.7 61.7133  
65536 946.045 59.1278  
131072 971.476 57.1457  
262144 1009.62 56.0902  
524288 1035.69 54.51  
1048576 1055.08 52.7541  
2097152 1113.73 53.0349  
4194304 1150.29 52.2859  
8388608 1172.62 50.9836



# $x$ Axis

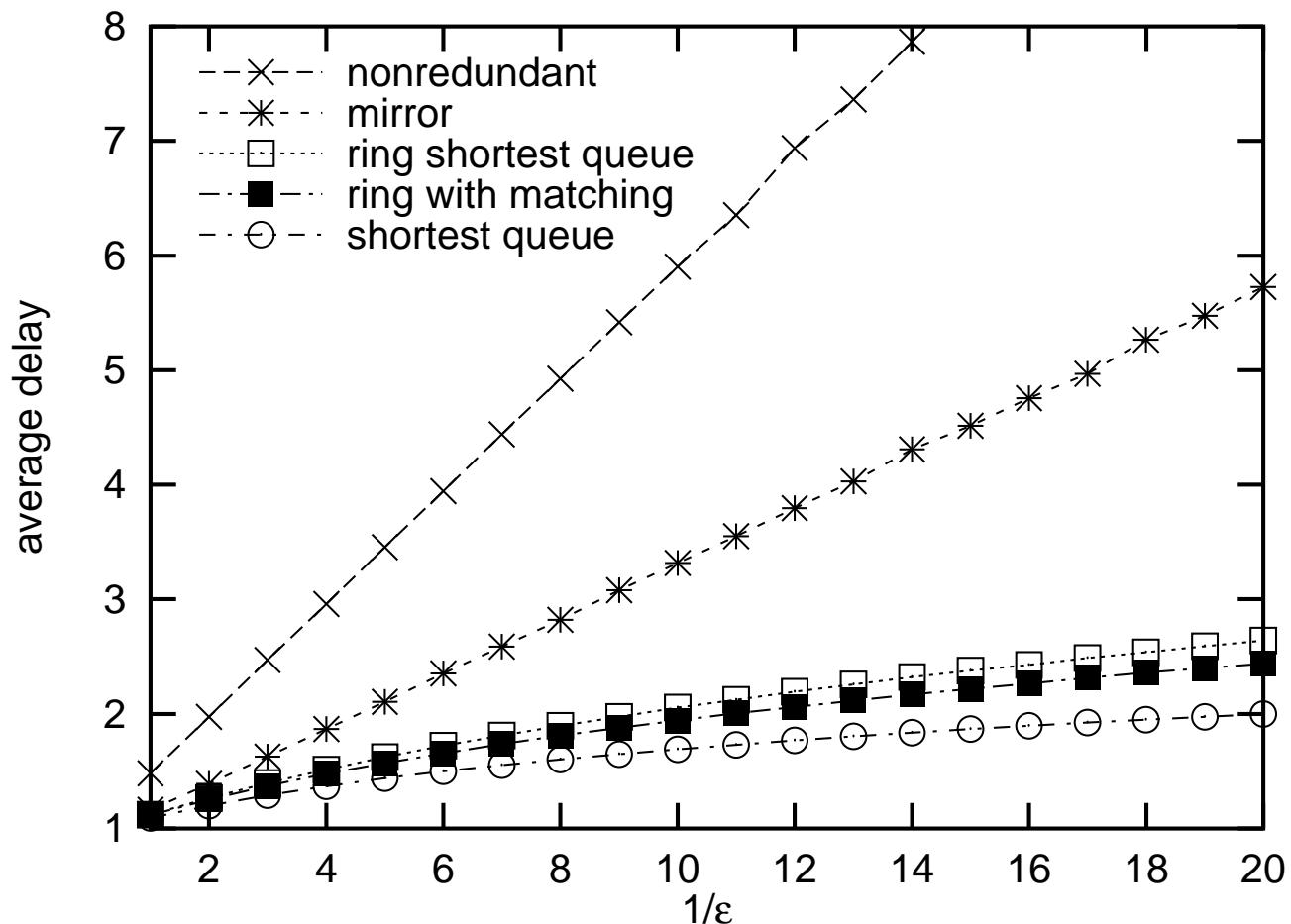
linear scale for ratios or small ranges (#processor, ...)





# $x$ Axis

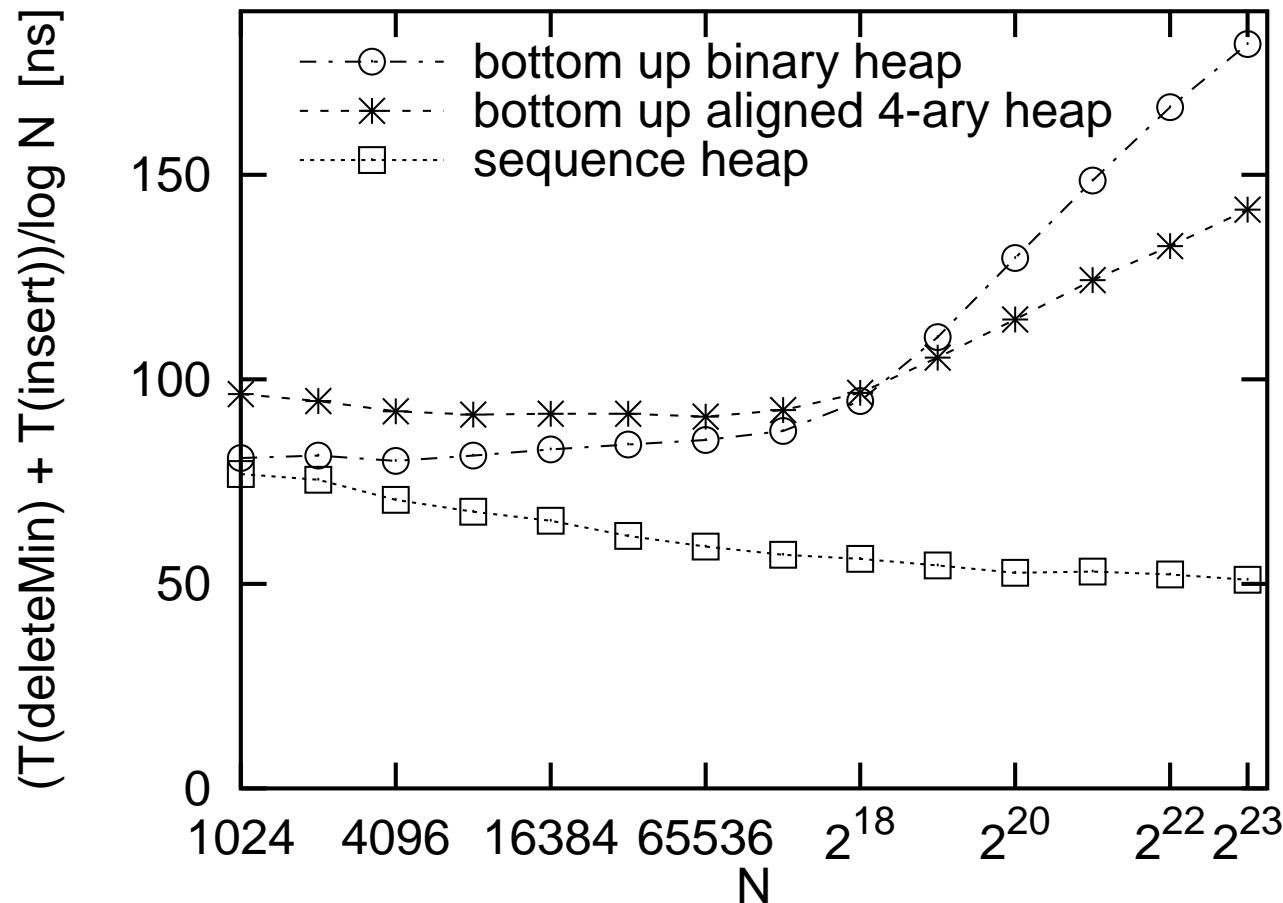
An exotic scale: arrival rate  $1 - \varepsilon$  of saturation point





# y Axis

Avoid log scale ! scale such that theory gives  $\approx$  horizontal lines

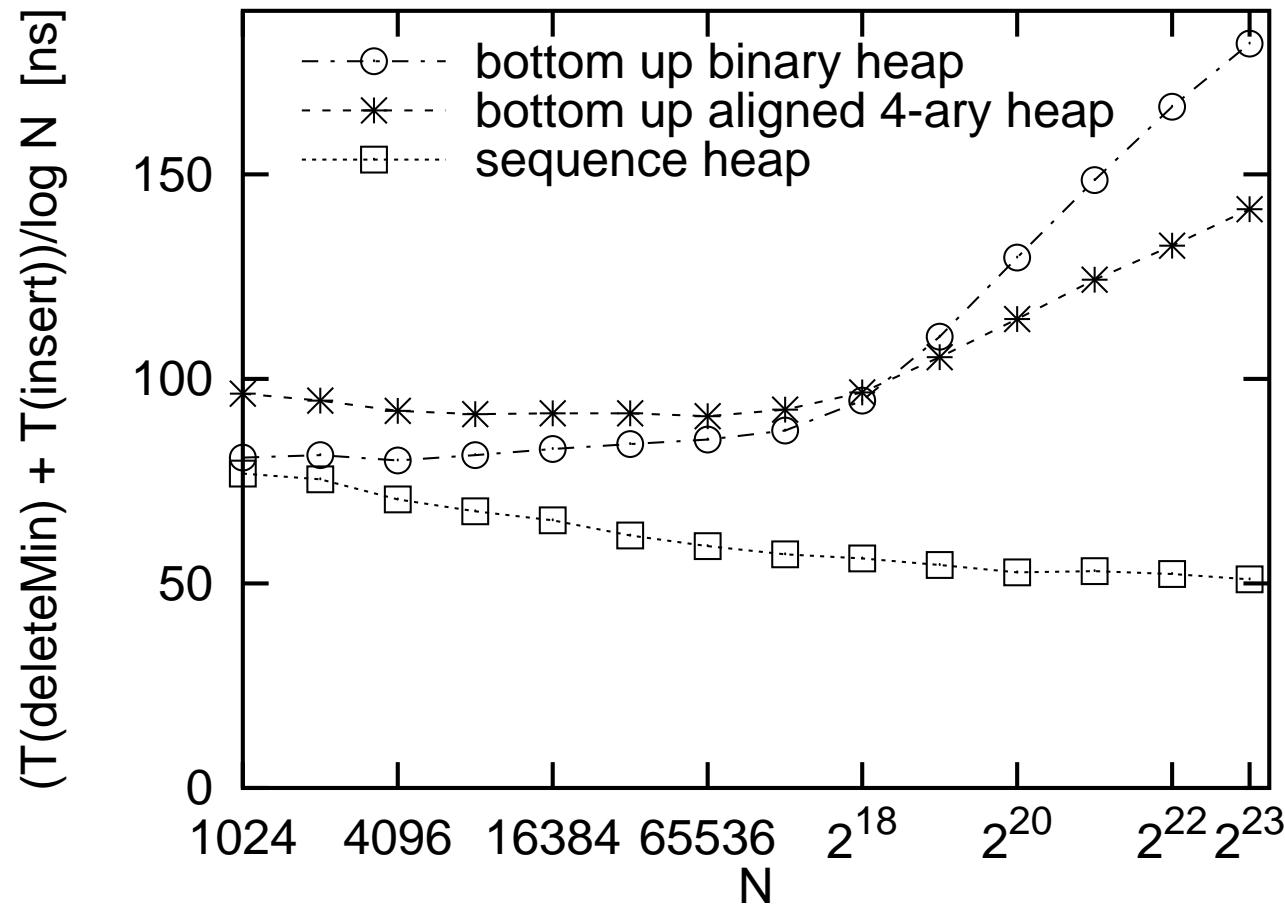


but give easy interpretation of the scaling function



# y Axis

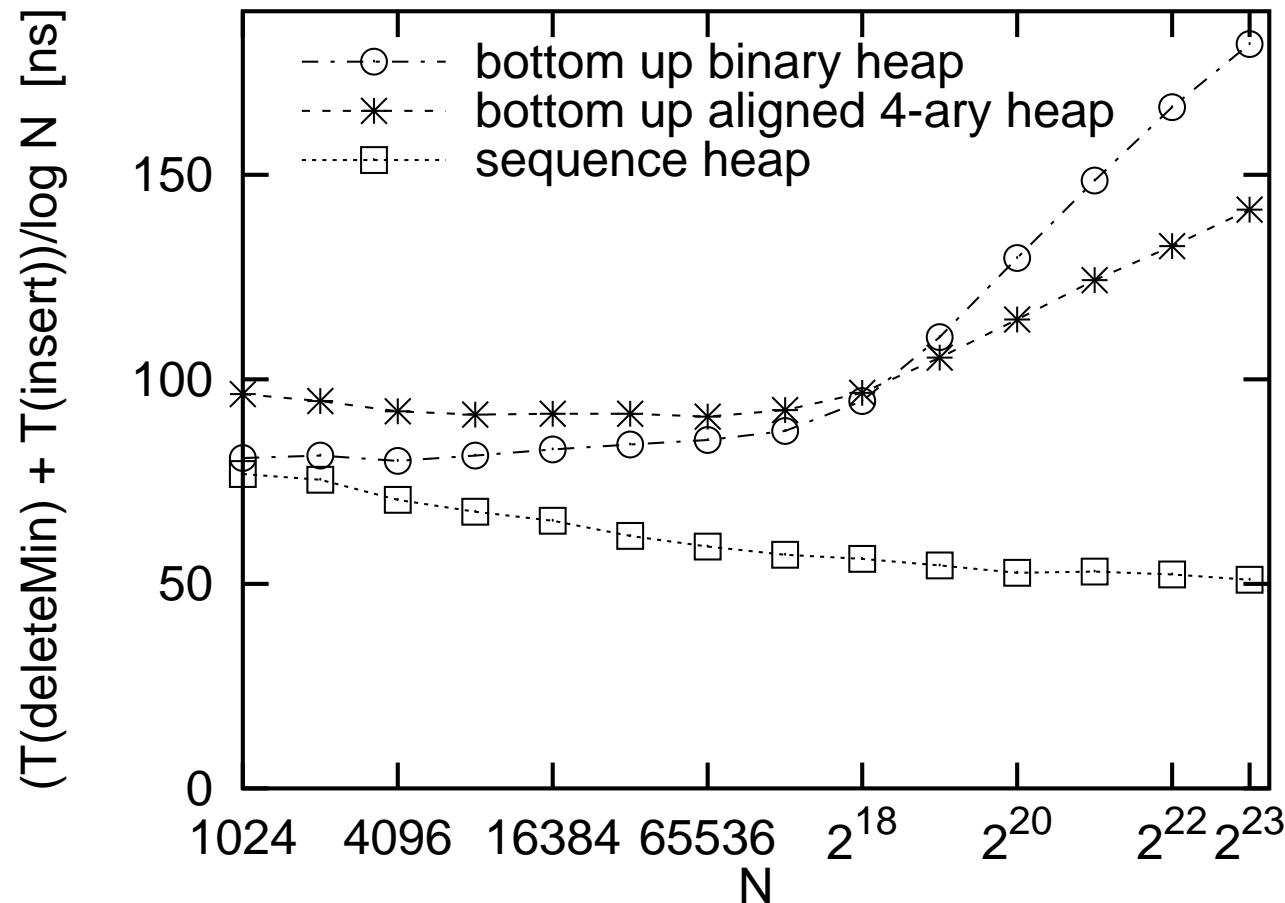
give units





# y Axis

start from 0 **if** this does not waste too much space

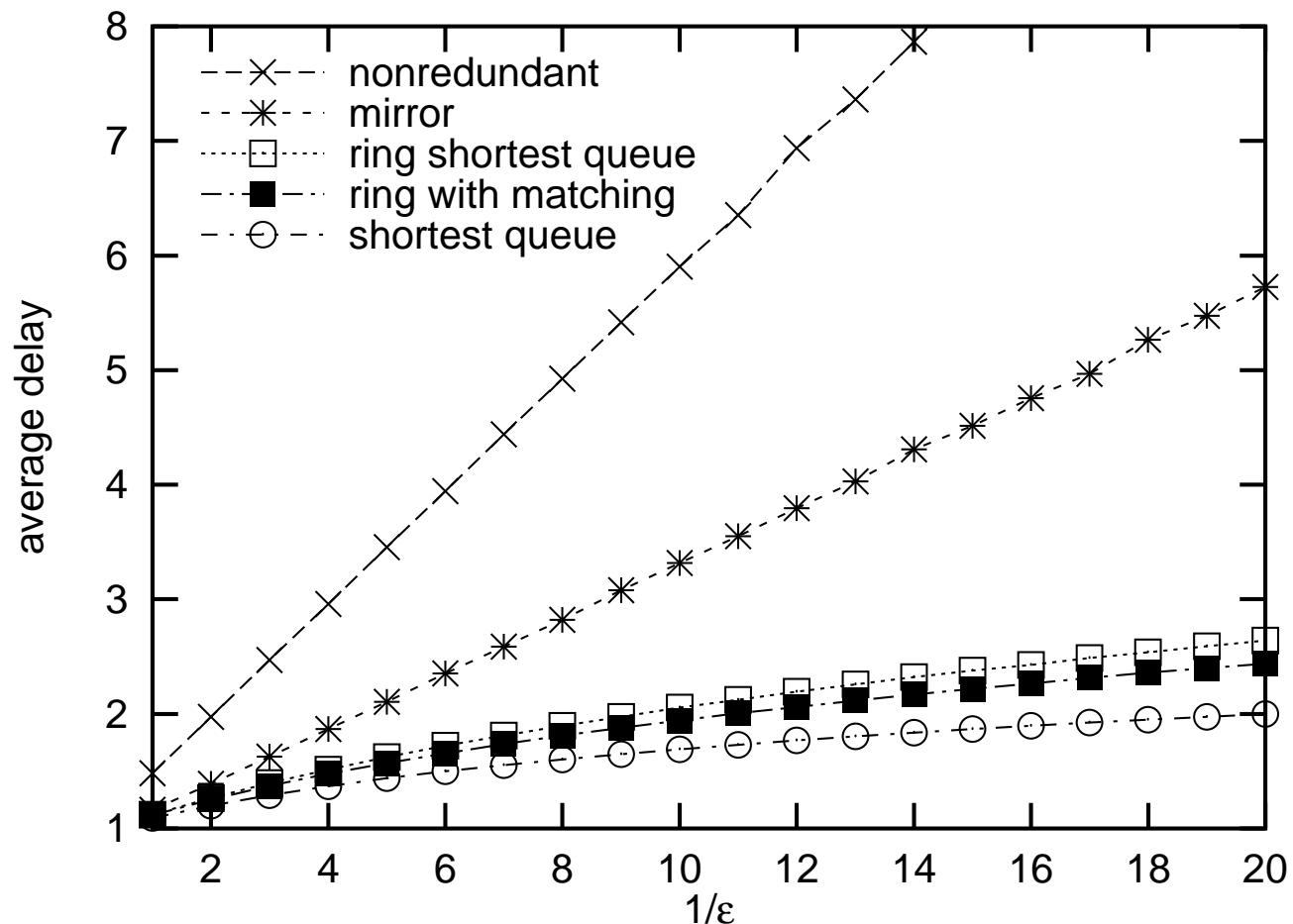


you may assume readers to be out of Kindergarten



# $y$ Axis

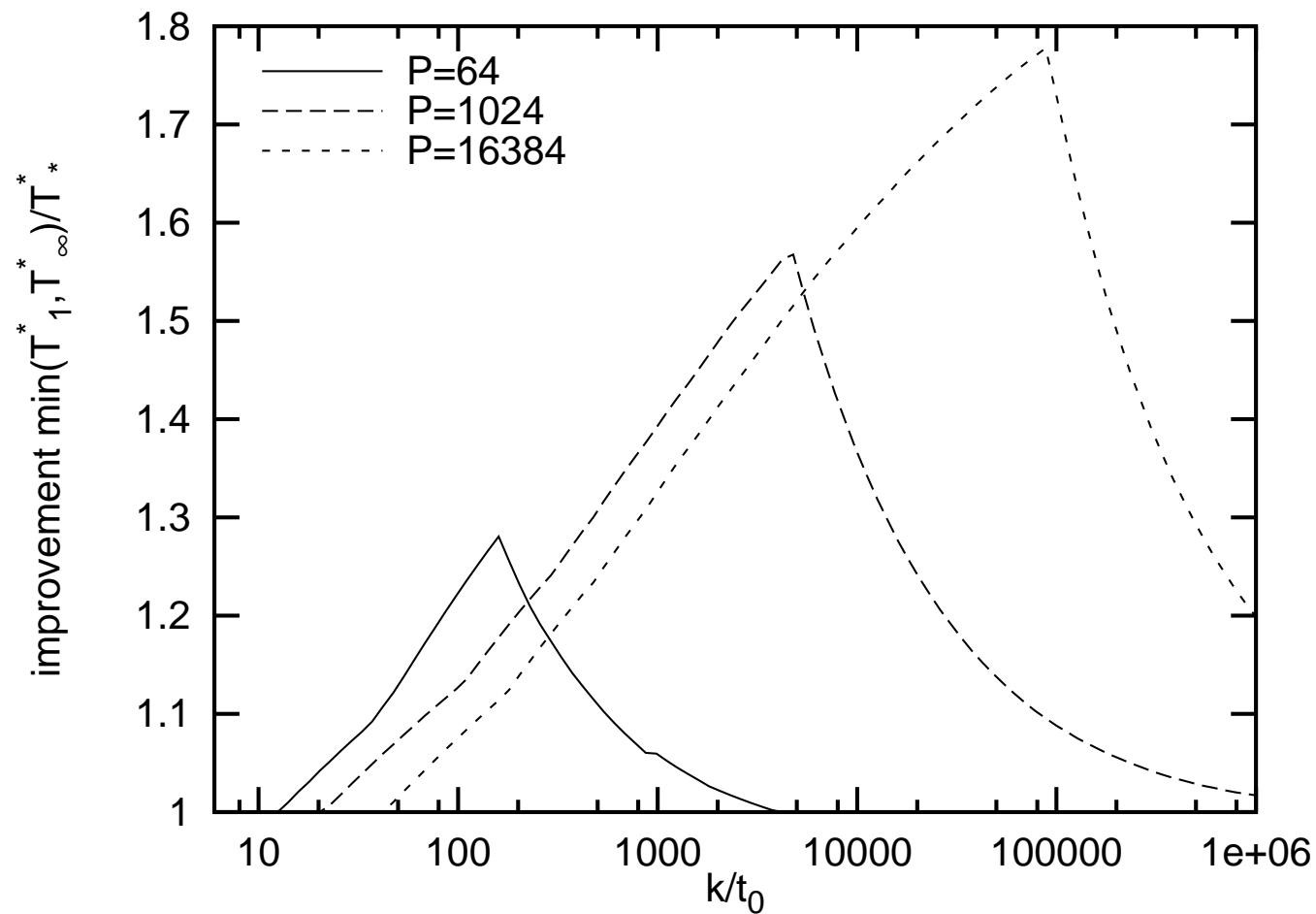
clip outclassed algorithms





# y Axis

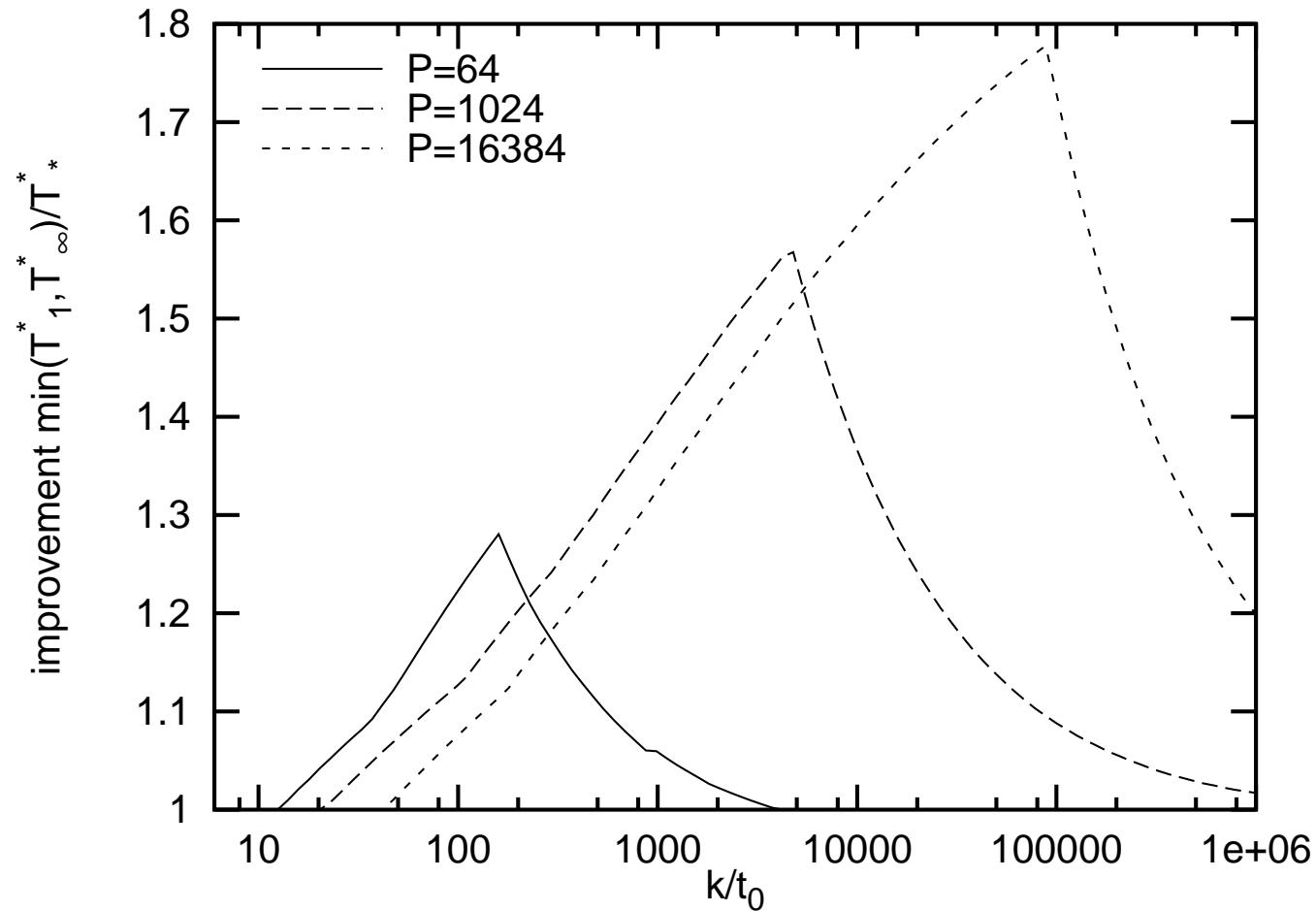
vertical size: weighted average of the slants of the line segments  
in the figure should be about  $45^\circ$  [Cleveland 94]





# y Axis

graph a bit wider than high, e.g., golden ratio [Tufte 83]





# Multiple Curves

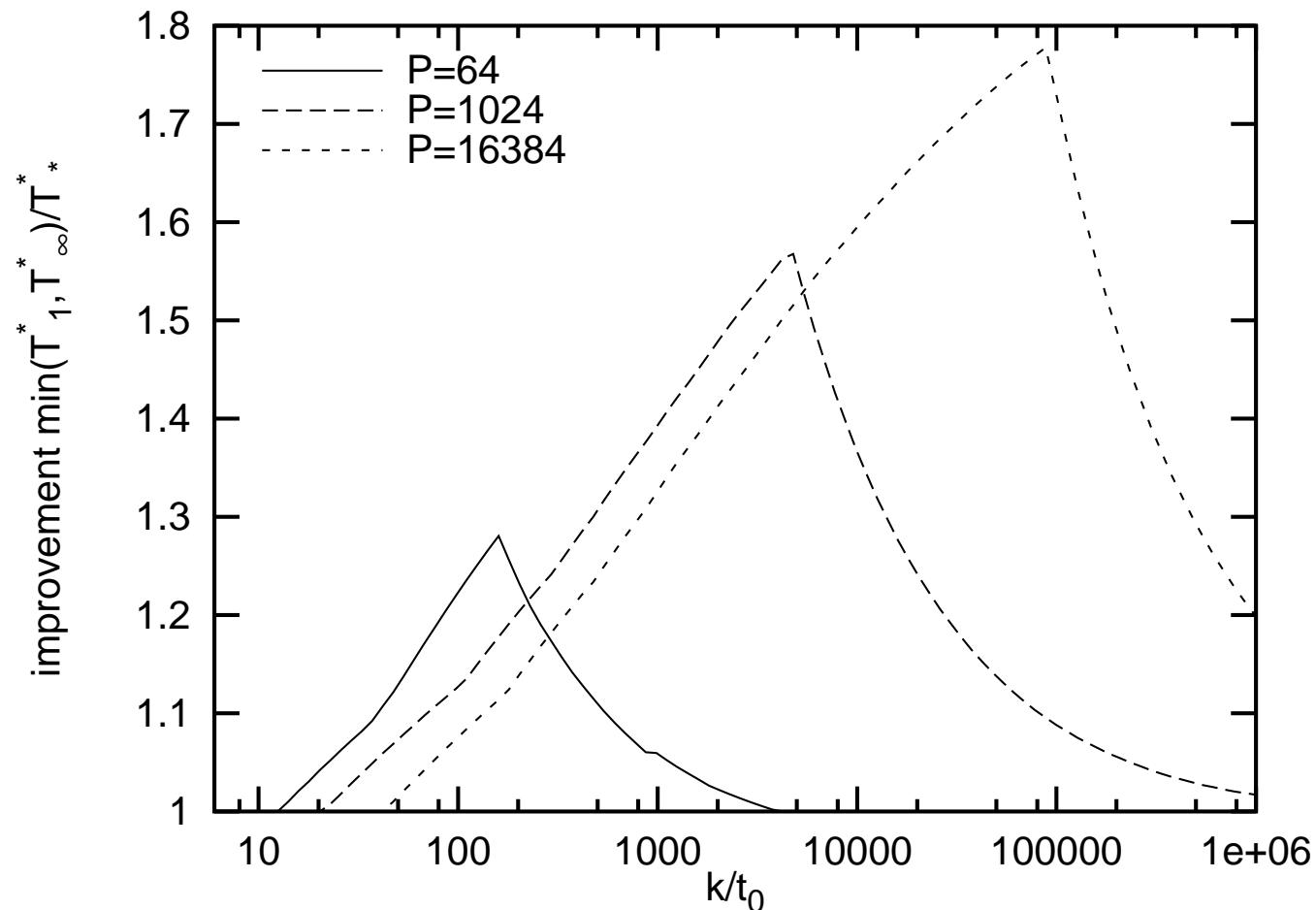
- + high information density
- + better than 3D (reading off values)
- Easily overdone

$\leq 7$  smooth curves



# Reducing the Number of Curves

use ratios





# Reducing the Number of Curves

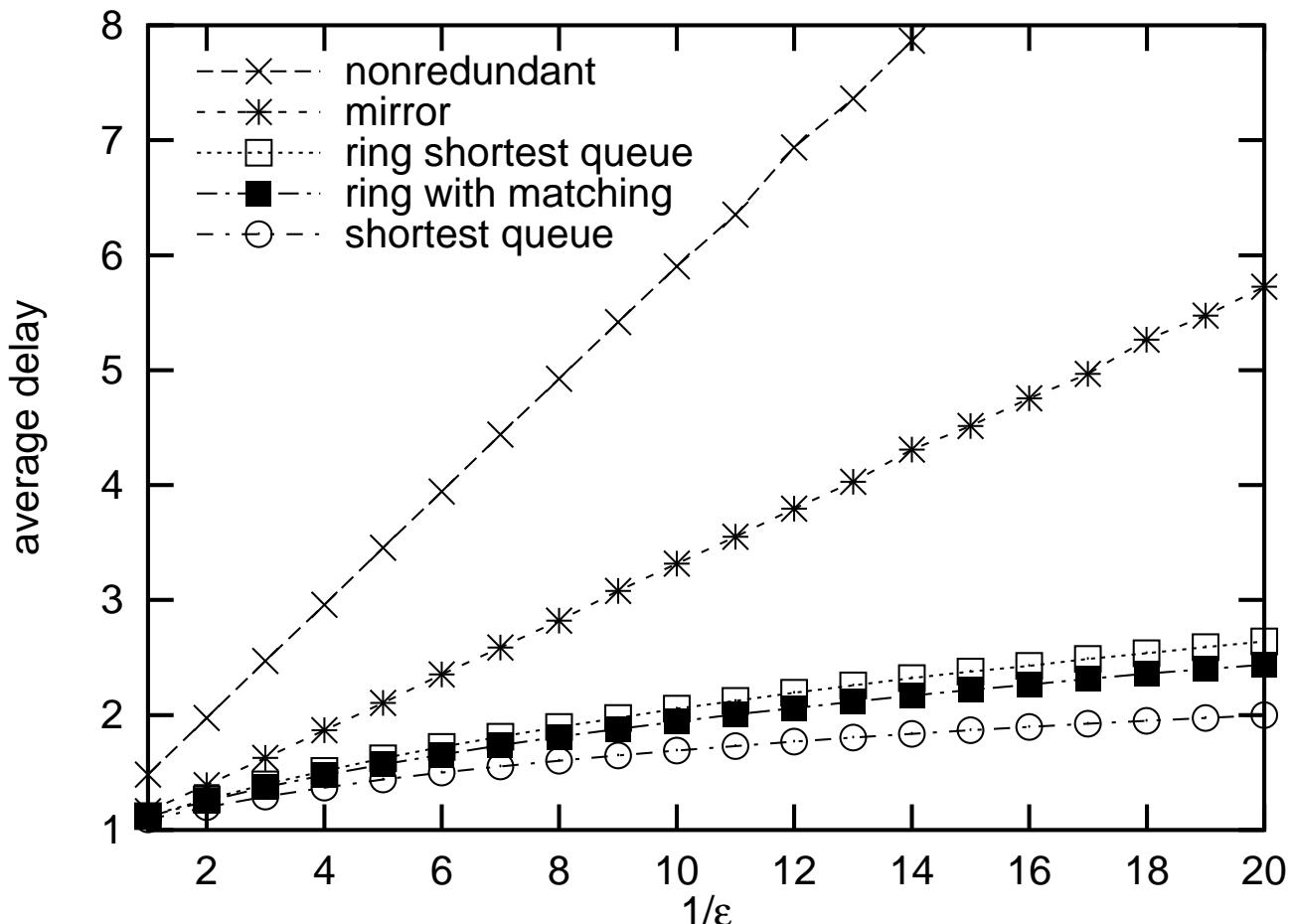
omit curves

- outclassed algorithms (for case shown)
- equivalent algorithms (for case shown)



# Reducing the Number of Curves

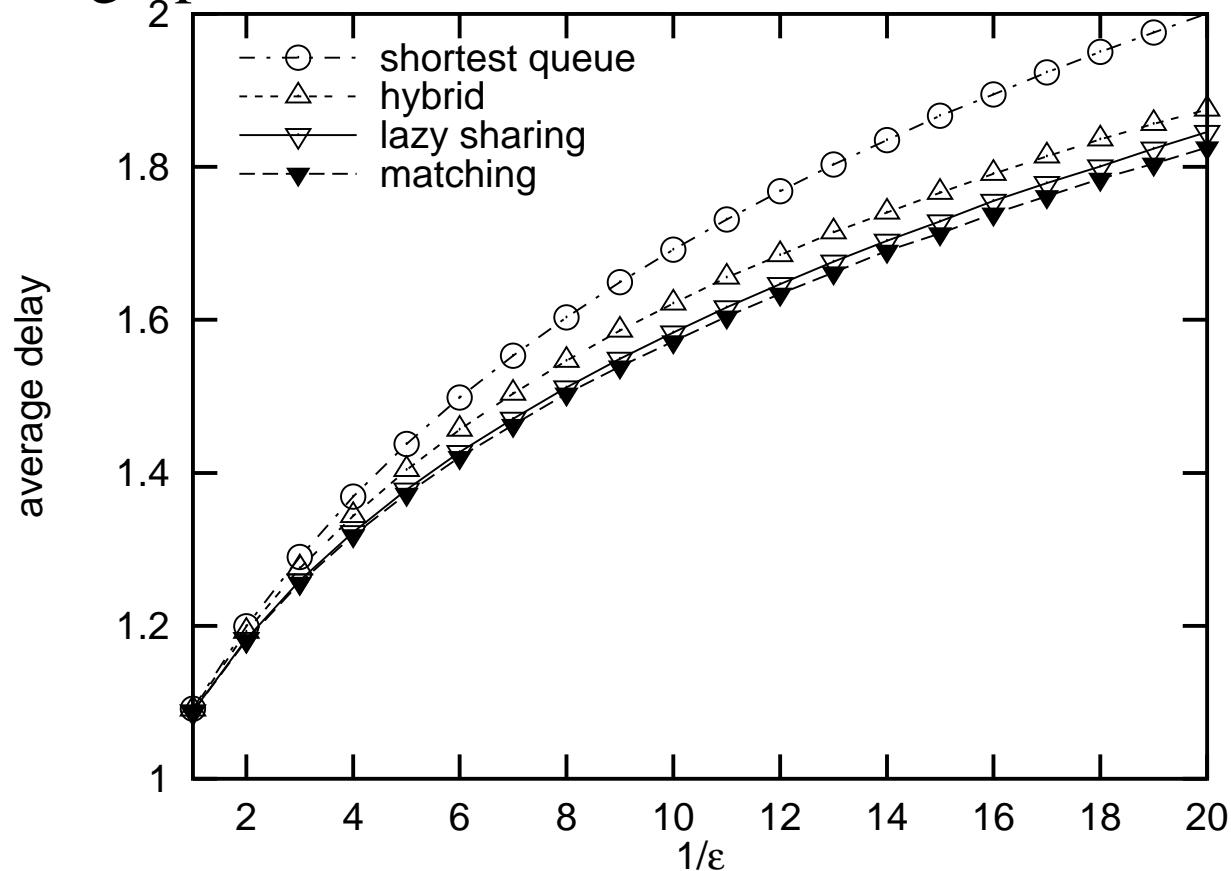
split into two graphs





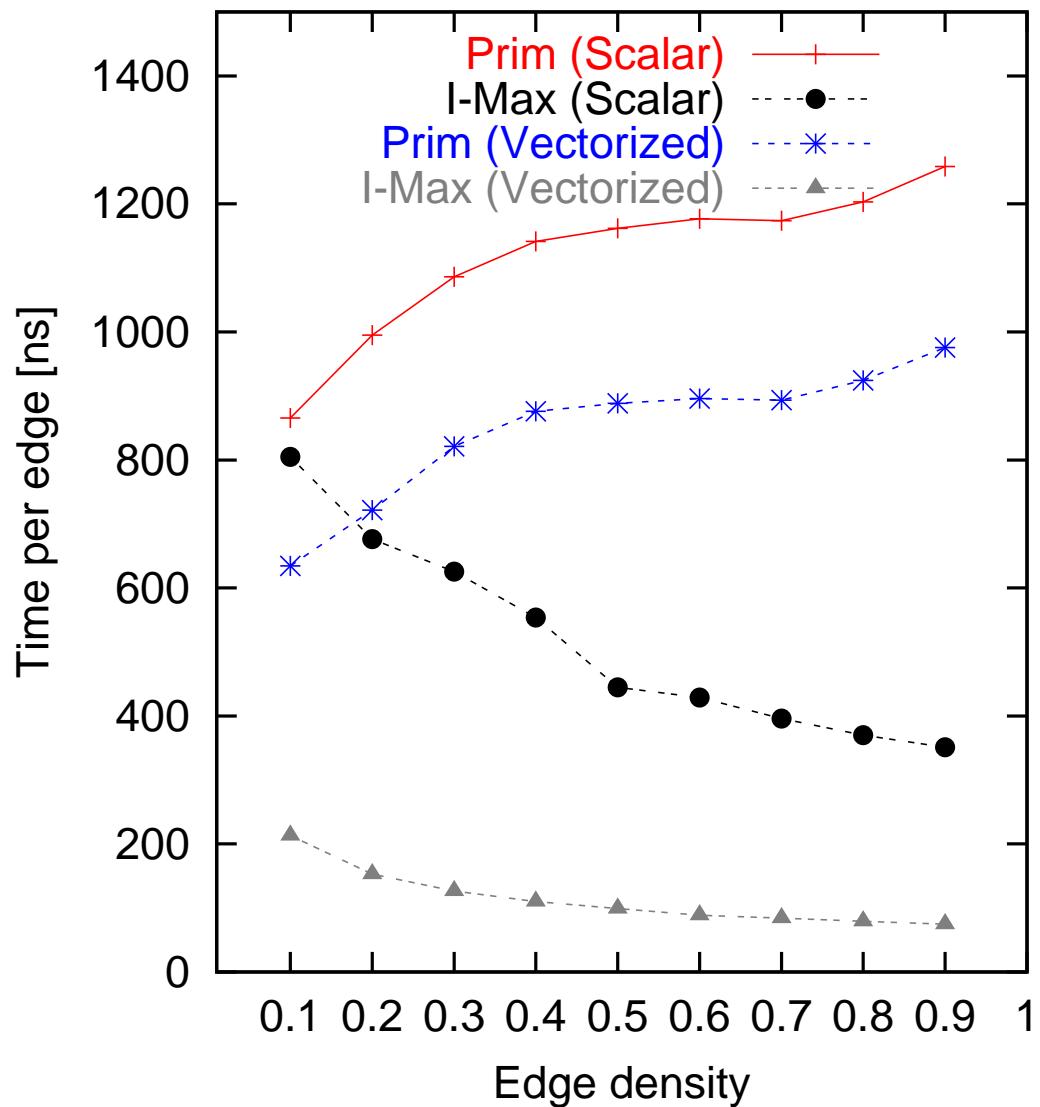
# Reducing the Number of Curves

split into two graphs



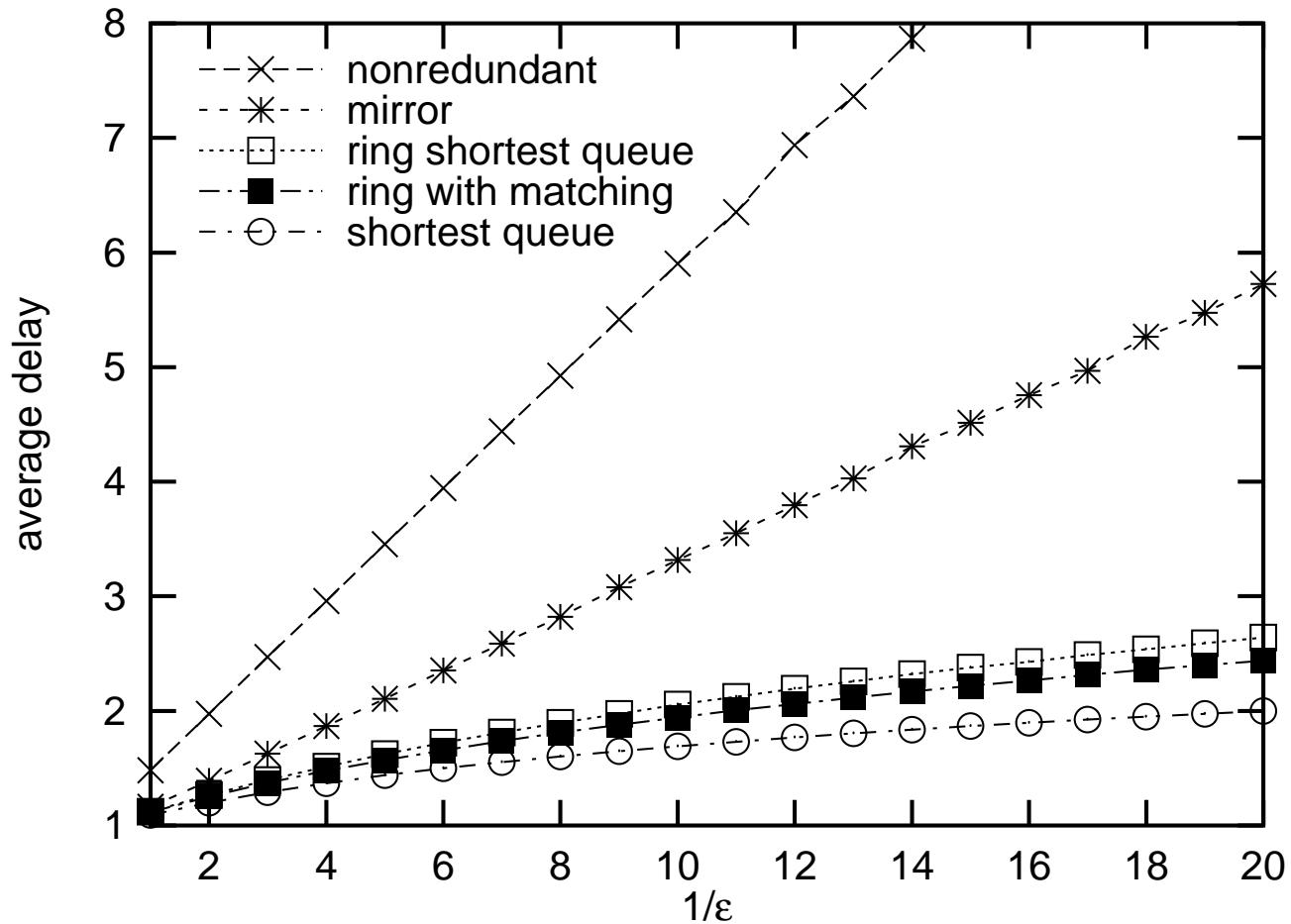


# Keeping Curves apart: log y scale



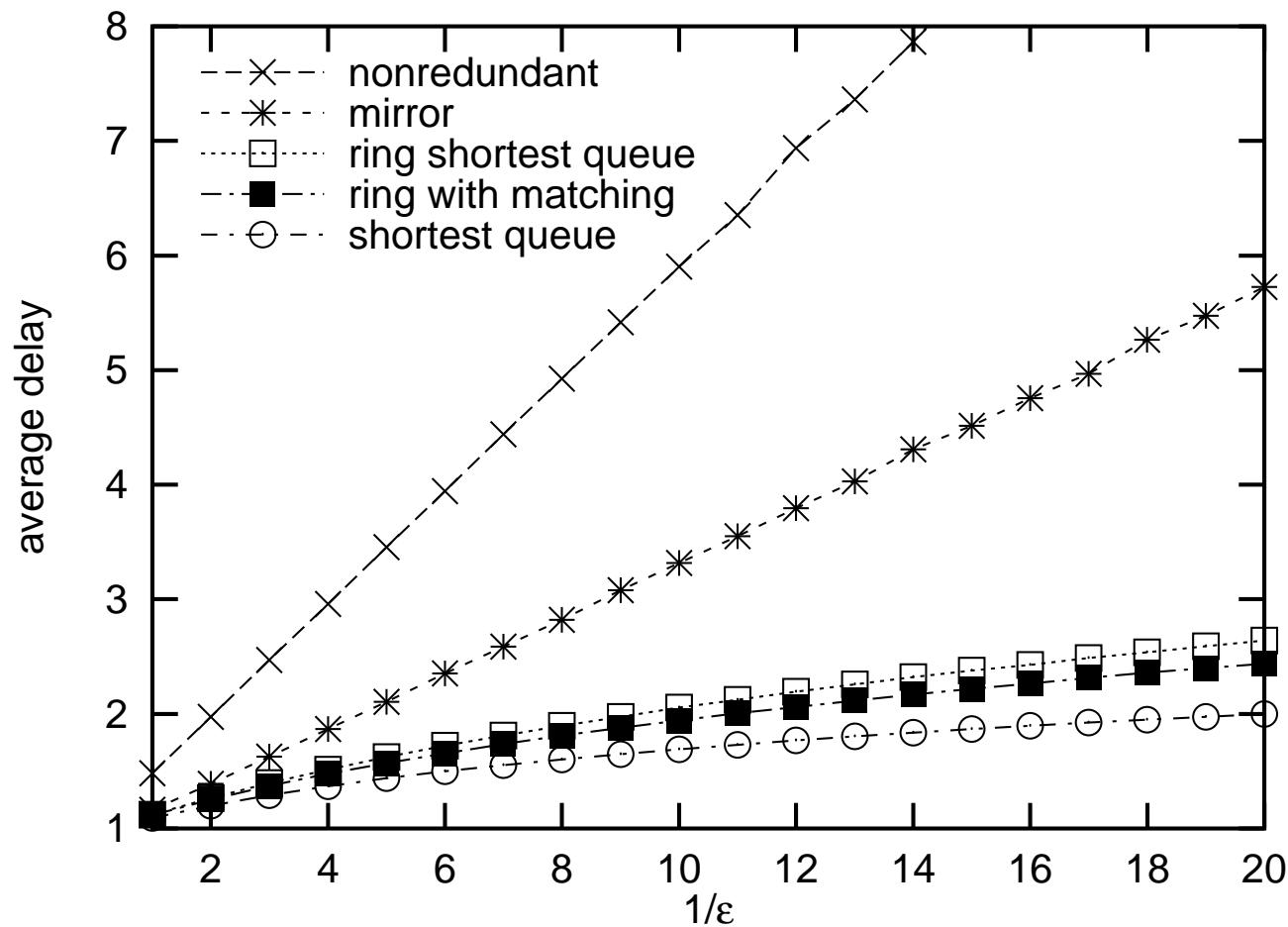


# Keeping Curves apart: smoothing





# Keys

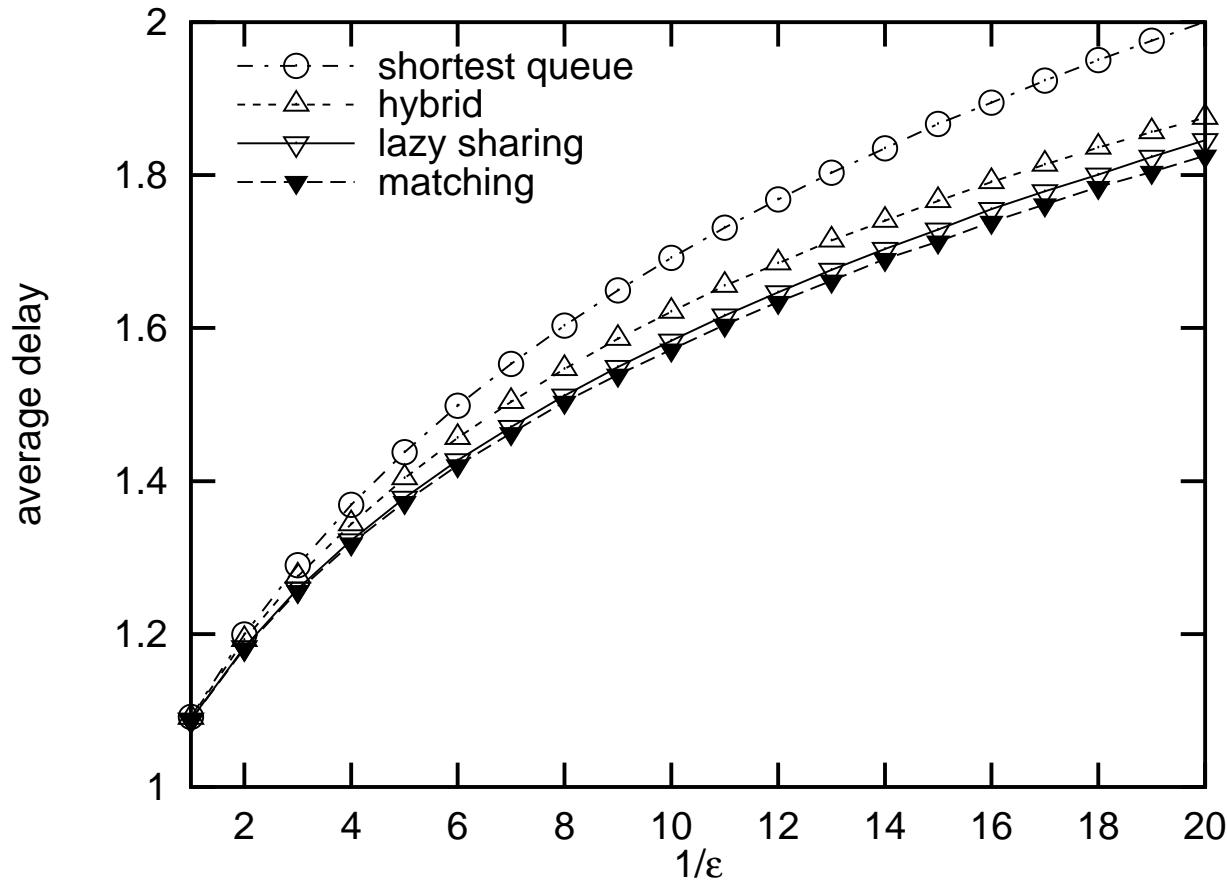


same order as curves



# Keys

place in white space



consistent in different figures



# Todsünden

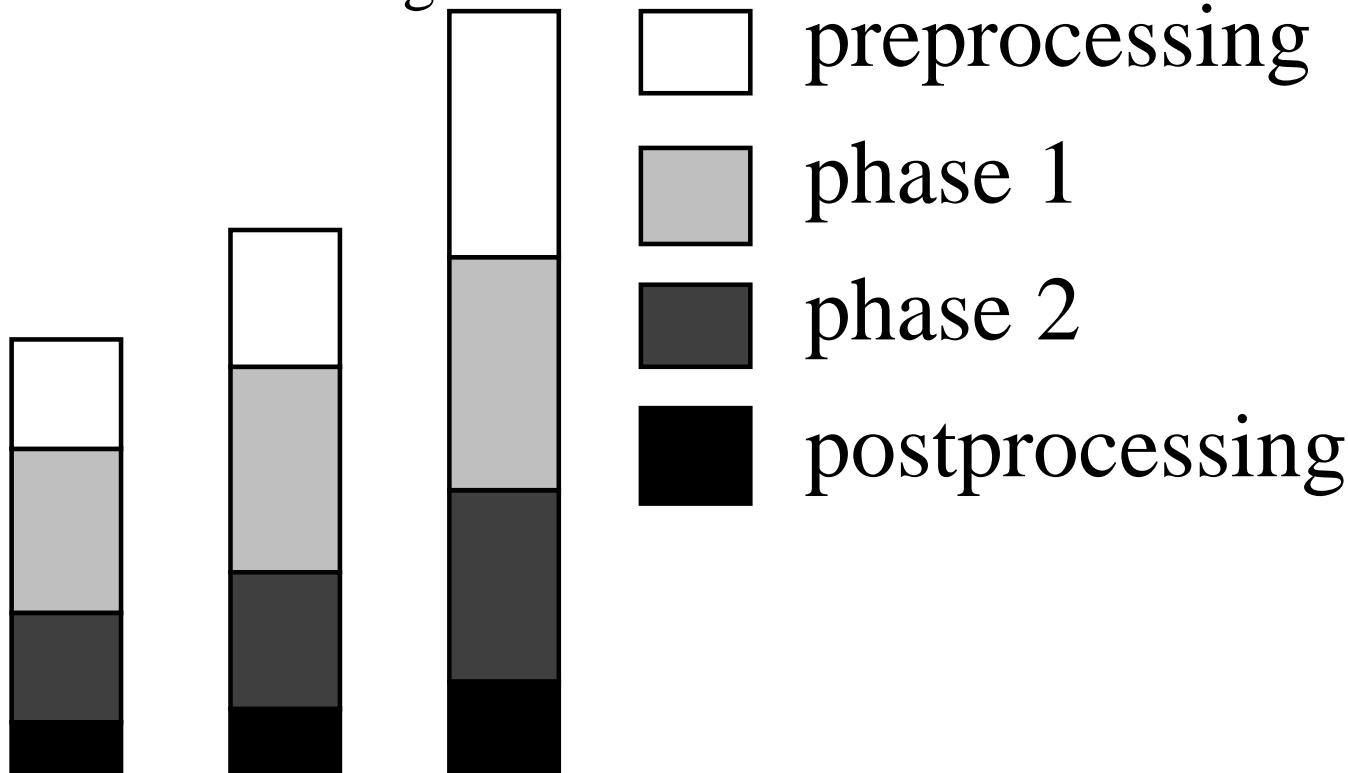
1. forget explaining the **axes**
2. **connecting unrelated** points by lines
3. mindless use/overinterpretation of **double-log plot**
4. cryptic **abbreviations**
5. microscopic **lettering**
6. excessive **complexity**
7. **pie charts**





# Arranging Instances

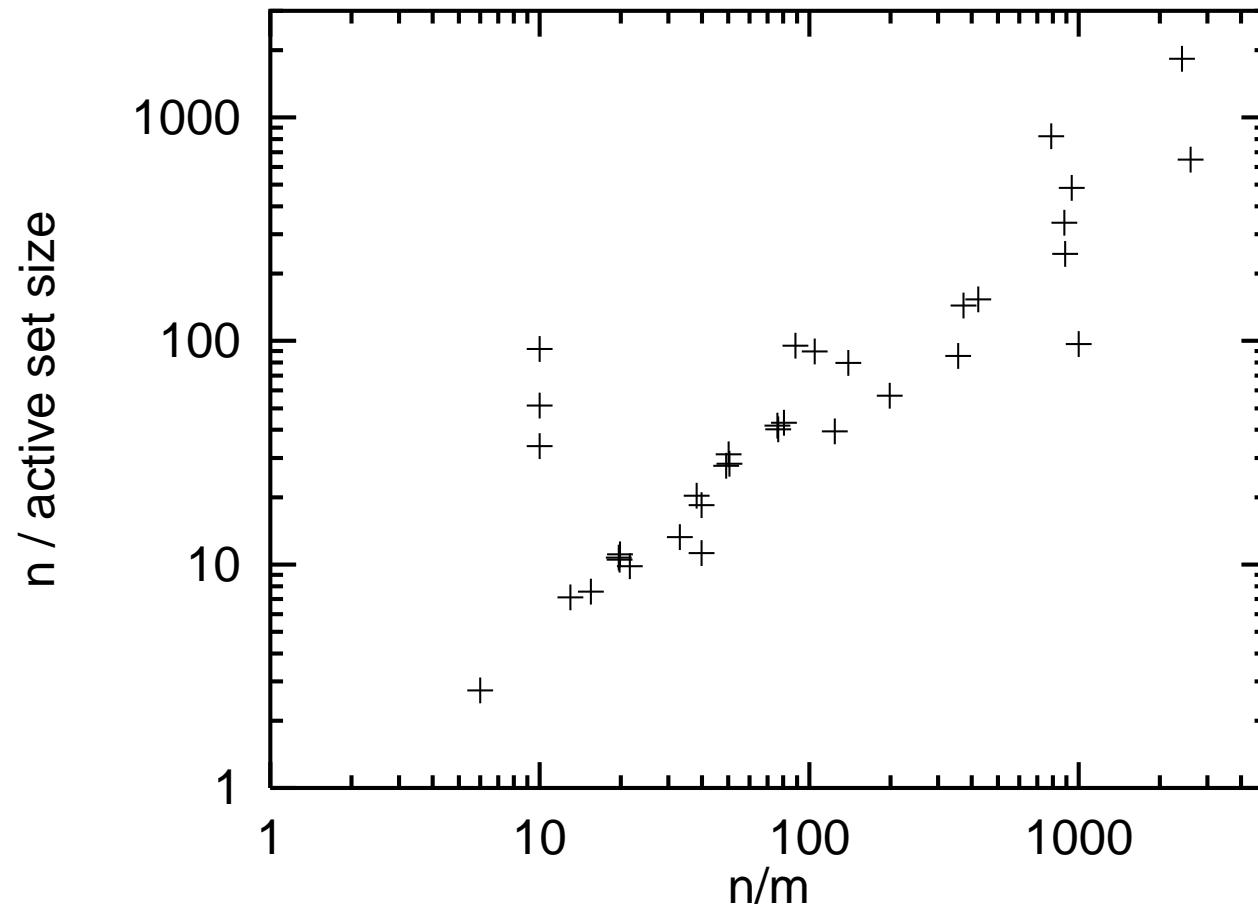
- bar charts
- stack components of execution time
- careful with shading





# Arranging Instances

scatter plots





# Measurements and Connections

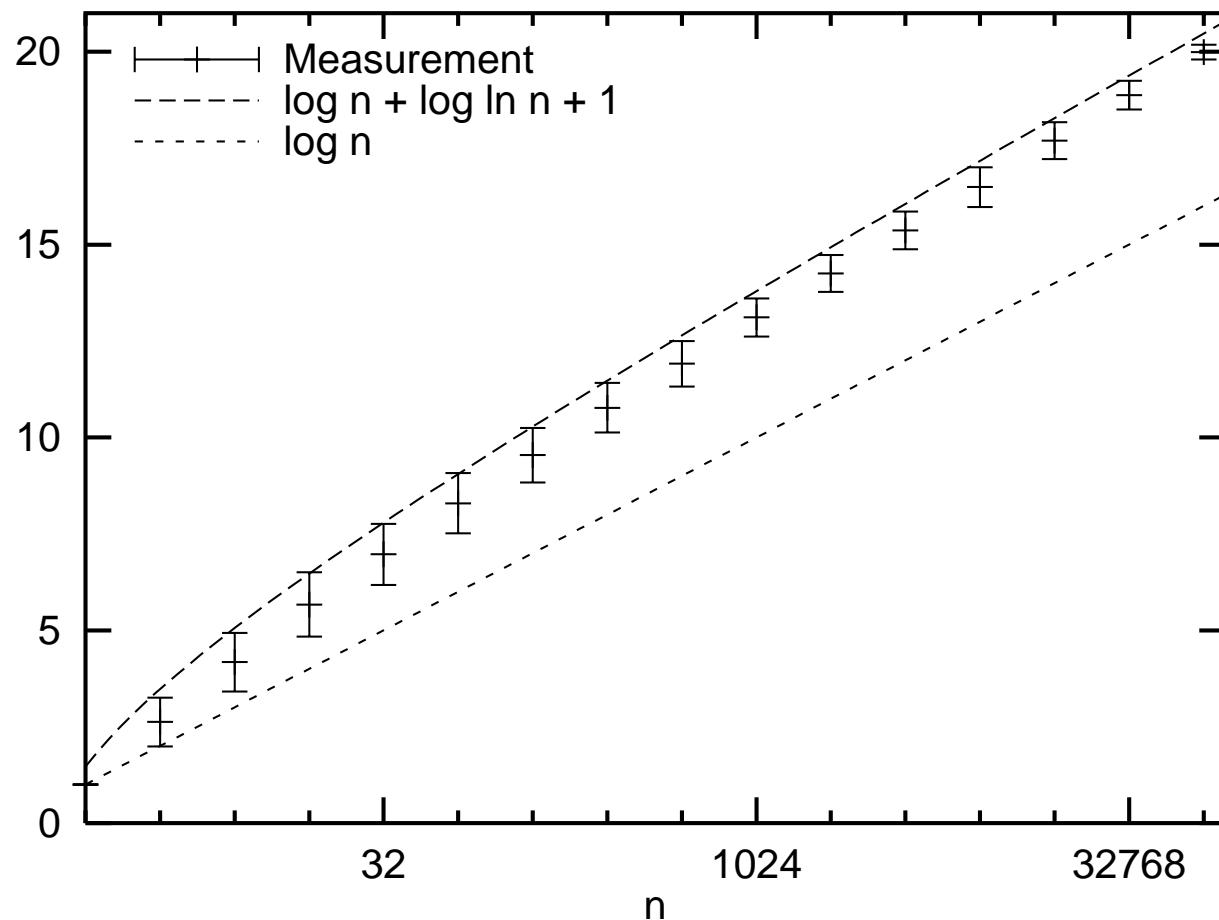
- straight line between points do not imply claim of linear interpolation
- different with higher order curves
- no points imply an even stronger claim. Good for very dense smooth measurements.



# Grids and Ticks

- Avoid grids or make it light gray
- usually round numbers for tic marks!
- sometimes plot important values on the axis

usually avoidable for randomized algorithms.  $\text{median} \neq \text{average}, \dots$



errors may **not** be of statistical nature!



# 3D

- you cannot read off absolute values
- interesting parts may be hidden
- only one surface
- + good impression of shape



# Caption

**what** is displayed

**how** has the date been obtained

surrounding text has more.



# Check List

- Should the experimental setup from the exploratory phase be redesigned to increase conciseness or accuracy?
- What parameters should be varied? What variables should be measured? How are parameters chosen that cannot be varied?
- Can tables be converted into curves, bar charts, scatter plots or any other useful graphics?
- Should tables be added in an appendix or on a web page?
- Should a 3D-plot be replaced by collections of 2D-curves?
- Can we reduce the number of curves to be displayed?
- How many figures are needed?



- Scale the  $x$ -axis to make  $y$ -values independent of some parameters?
- Should the  $x$ -axis have a logarithmic scale? If so, do the  $x$ -values used for measuring have the same basis as the tick marks?
- Should the  $x$ -axis be transformed to magnify interesting subranges?
- Is the range of  $x$ -values adequate?
- Do we have measurements for the right  $x$ -values, i.e., nowhere too dense or too sparse?
- Should the  $y$ -axis be transformed to make the interesting part of the data more visible?
- Should the  $y$ -axis have a logarithmic scale?



- Is it misleading to start the  $y$ -range at the smallest measured value?
- Clip the range of  $y$ -values to exclude useless parts of curves?
- Can we use banking to  $45^\circ$ ?
- Are all curves sufficiently well separated?
- Can noise be reduced using more accurate measurements?
- Are error bars needed? If so, what should they indicate?  
Remember that measurement errors are usually *not* random variables.
- Use points to indicate for which  $x$ -values actual data is available.
- Connect points belonging to the same curve.



- Only use splines for connecting points if interpolation is sensible.
- Do not connect points belonging to unrelated problem instances.
- Use different point and line styles for different curves.
- Use the same styles for corresponding curves in different graphs.
- Place labels defining point and line styles in the right order and without concealing the curves.
- Captions should make figures self contained.
- Give enough information to make experiments reproducible.