

# Merging and Merge-sort in a Single Hop Radio Network\*

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**Abstract.** We present two merging algorithms on a single-channel single-hop radio network without collision detection. The simpler of these algorithms merges two sorted sequences of length  $n$  in time  $4n$  with energetic cost for each station  $\approx \lg n$ . The energetic cost of broadcasting is constant. This yields the merge-sort for  $n$  elements in time  $2n \lg n$ , where the energetic cost for each station is  $\frac{1}{2} \lg^2 n + \frac{7}{2} \lg n$  (the energetic cost of broadcasting is only  $2 \lg n$ ), which seems to be suitable for practical applications due to its simplicity and low constants. We also present algorithm for merging in time  $O(n \lg^* n)$  with energetic cost  $O(\lg^* n)$ .

## 1 Introduction

A *radio network* consists of processing units (called *stations*) which communicate with each other by broadcasting radio messages. There are two important complexity measures of the radio network algorithms: *time* and *energy consumption*. Most of energy is consumed by broadcasting and listening to messages. The stations are often powered by batteries. If a single station fails due to battery exhaustion, then the whole task performed by the network may also fail. Therefore we want to implement algorithms in such a way that the maximal energy used by a single station is minimized. There are many problems concerning self-organization of the network (such as leader election and initialization [8], [5], [6]) that are nontrivial even in the single-hop networks. We may also need to process or organize data distributed among the stations (for example some measurements made by the stations). Some of the typical examples of such problems are finding minimum, maximum, median [10], average value [7], or sorting [11].

We consider a network of  $n$  numbered stations  $s_1, \dots, s_n$  communicating through a single radio channel. Each station  $s_i$  knows the value  $n$ , its own number  $i$  and stores a single key in its variable  $key[s_i]$ . We want to sort the keys within the network. (The keys are *sorted* if, for each pair of stations, the station with a lower number holds the lower key.) All stations are synchronized. Time is divided into *slots*. Within a single time slot a single message can be broadcast. We consider *single-hop* network: Message broadcast by any station can be received by any other station. A single message contains

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$O(\max\{B, \lg n\})$  bits, where  $B$  is the number of bits of a single key. (Typically  $B = \Theta(\lg n)$ .) Broadcasting and listening in a single time slot requires a unit of *energetic cost*. Each station has limited memory. It can contain a constant number of words of  $O(\max\{B, \lg n\})$  bits each. By *energetic cost of the algorithm* we mean the maximal energy dissipated by a single station. We do not assume the existence of the “wake up mechanism” with a low power paging channel, as described in [10], [11]. Each station predicts its next time slot for listening or broadcasting using only its internal clock and state.

There exists an algorithm [9] that sorts  $n$  elements in time  $O(n)$  with energetic cost of broadcasting  $O(1)$ . However the energetic cost of listening in this algorithm is  $\Theta(n)$ . A comparator network can also be transformed into algorithm for single-hop networks: each comparator is simulated in two consecutive time slots, when two endpoints of the comparator exchange their values. The time of such algorithm (in single channel) is two times the number of comparators, and the energetic cost is not greater than two times the depth of the network. Thus the AKS sorting network [1] can be transformed into (impractical) sorting algorithm with time  $O(n \lg n)$  and energetic cost  $O(\lg n)$  and the Batcher networks [2] can be transformed into sorting algorithms with time  $O(n \lg^2 n)$  and energetic cost  $O(\lg^2 n)$ . However, in radio network, a single message can be listened by many stations and the messages may contain other information besides the keys. Singh and Prasanna [10], [11] proposed algorithm sorting in time  $O(n \lg n)$  with energetic cost  $O(\lg n)$  by implementing quick-sort and selecting the median as the partitioning element in each recursive call with energetically balanced implementation of asymptotically optimal selection algorithm [3]. It is sophisticated and the constants involved are large (although not as large as in the AKS network) (see simulation results in [11]).

## 1.1 Result

We present two merging procedures. The first one merges two sequences of length  $n$  in time  $O(n)$  with energetic cost of listening  $O(\lg n)$  and of broadcasting  $O(1)$ . It can be used for implementation of sorting in time  $O(n \lg n)$  and energetic cost of listening  $O(\lg^2 n)$  and of broadcasting  $O(\lg n)$  based on the classical merge-sort algorithm (see [4]). Although the asymptotic energetic cost of listening for sorting is worse than that obtained by Singh and Prasanna, it seems to be more suitable for practical implementations due to the low constants and simplicity. The energetic cost of broadcasting in merging is only  $O(1)$  and in merge-sort is  $O(\lg n)$ . This is important since in practice broadcasting requires more energy than listening. The second presented merging algorithm works in time  $O(n \lg^* n)$  with energetic cost of listening and broadcasting  $O(\lg^* n)$ . To the knowledge of the author it is not known whether there exists merging algorithm with asymptotically lower energetic cost or whether there is any non-constant lower bound for energetic cost of merging. This algorithm can also be used for merge-sorting in time  $O(n \lg n \lg^* n)$  with energetic cost  $O(\lg n \lg^* n)$ . Implementations of the simulations of these algorithms can be found at [12].

**Theorem 1.** *There exist algorithms that merge two sorted sequences of length  $m$  on a single hop radio network without collision detection:*

- in time  $4m$  with energetic cost of listening  $\lceil \lg(m+1) \rceil + 1$  and of broadcasting 2.
- in time  $O(m \lg^* m)$  with energetic cost of listening and broadcasting  $O(\lg^* m)$

## 2 Merging

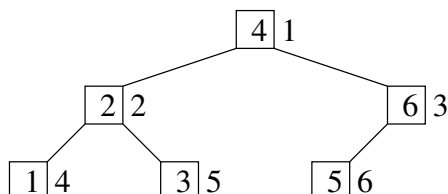


Fig. 1. Tree  $T_6$ . Right to the nodes are their *preorder* indexes.

For simplicity of description we assume that all the keys are pairwise distinct. Let  $T_m$  denote a balanced binary tree consisting of the nodes  $1, \dots, m$ : If  $m = 2^k - 1$ , for some integer  $k > 0$ , then  $T_m$  is a complete binary tree. If  $m = 2^k - 1 - l$ , for some positive integer  $l < 2^{k-1}$ , then the  $l$  rightmost leaves are missing. The nodes are placed in  $T_m$  in the *inorder* order (i.e. for each node  $x$  the nodes in its left subtree are less than  $x$  and the nodes in its right subtree are greater than  $x$ ). By  $l(m, x)$  (respectively  $r(m, x)$ ), for  $1 \leq x \leq m$ , we denote the left (respectively right) child of node  $x$  in  $T_m$ . (A non-existing child is represented by *NIL*.) By  $p(m, x)$  we denote the index of node  $x$  in  $T_m$  in *preorder* ordering. (I.e. the *preorder* index of the root is 1, then the nodes on the second level are indexed from left to right, then on the third level, and so on.) We also assume that  $p(m, \text{NIL}) = \text{NIL}$ . An example of  $T_m$  for  $m = 6$  is given in Figure 1. Note that the height (number of levels) of  $T_m$  is  $\min\{k : 2^k - 1 \geq m\} = \lceil \lg(m+1) \rceil$  (where “lg” denotes “ $\log_2$ ”). For  $m \geq 1$ , we define a sequence  $h(m, 0), h(m, 1), \dots$  as follows:

$$h(m, i) = \begin{cases} m & \text{if } i = 0 \\ \lceil \lg(h(m, i-1) + 1) \rceil & \text{if } i \geq 1 \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

Let  $l^*(m) = \min\{i : h(m, i) \leq 2\}$ . Note that  $l^*(m) = O(\lg^* m)$ . (Note also, that  $l^*(m) \leq 4$ , for  $m \leq 2^{127} - 1$ .) The functions  $l(m, x)$ ,  $r(m, x)$ ,  $p(m, x)$ ,  $h(m, i)$  and  $l^*(m)$  can be computed internally by each station.

We want to merge two sorted sequences of keys stored in stations  $\langle a_1, \dots, a_m \rangle$  and  $\langle b_1, \dots, b_m \rangle$  into a single sorted sequence of length  $2m$  stored in  $\langle a_1, \dots, a_m, b_1, \dots, b_m \rangle$ . Procedure **RANK** (see Algorithm 1) computes the rank of each element of the first sequence in the second sequence. (By the *rank* of  $a_i$  in  $\langle b_1, \dots, b_m \rangle$  we mean the number of elements  $b_j$  with  $\text{key}[b_j] < \text{key}[a_i]$ .) The result of **RANK** for each  $a_i$  is in  $\text{rank}[a_i]$ . Note that it is a parallel implementation of the classical bisection algorithm, where each station  $a_i$  predicts when its next bisecting key will be broadcast by some  $b_j$ . The bisecting keys are broadcast in appropriate order, since in *preorder* each key is preceded by all the keys from the higher levels of  $T_m$ . The time of **RANK** is  $m$  slots. The

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procedure Rank( $\langle a_1, \dots, a_m \rangle, \langle b_1, \dots, b_m \rangle$ )
Each station  $a_i$  does:  $timer[a_i] \leftarrow 1; rank[a_i] \leftarrow 0;$ 
for time slot  $d \leftarrow 1$  to  $m$  do
    let  $x$  be such that  $p(m, x) = d;$  (*  $d$  is preorder index of  $x$  *)
    station  $b_x$  broadcasts  $\langle k \rangle,$  where  $k = key[b_x];$ 
    each station  $a_j$  with  $timer[a_j] = d$  listens and does:
    if  $key[a_j] < k$  then
         $timer[a_j] \leftarrow p(m, l(m, x));$  (* preorder index of left child of  $x$  *)
    else
         $timer[a_j] \leftarrow p(m, r(m, x));$  (* preorder index of right child of  $x$  *)
         $rank[a_j] \leftarrow x;$ 

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**Algorithm 1:** Procedure Rank

energetic cost of broadcasting is 1. (Each  $b_i$  broadcasts once.) The energetic cost of listening is  $\lceil \lg(m+1) \rceil$ , since each  $a_i$  listens at most once at each level of  $T_m$ . Rank can be used for merging two sorted sequences as in the procedure Merge (Algorithm 2). The time of Merge( $\langle a_1, \dots, a_m \rangle, \langle b_1, \dots, b_m \rangle$ ) is  $4m$ . The energetic cost of listen-

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procedure Merge( $\langle a_1, \dots, a_m \rangle, \langle b_1, \dots, b_m \rangle$ )
Rank( $\langle a_1, \dots, a_m \rangle, \langle b_1, \dots, b_m \rangle$ );
Rank( $\langle b_1, \dots, b_m \rangle, \langle a_1, \dots, a_m \rangle$ );
All stations  $a_i$  and  $b_i$  do:  $idx[a_i] \leftarrow i + rank[a_i]; idx[b_i] \leftarrow i + rank[b_i];$ 
(* for  $1 \leq i \leq m$  let  $c_i = a_i$  and  $c_{m+i} = b_i$  *)
for time slot  $t \leftarrow 1$  to  $2m$  do
    station  $c_t$  with  $idx[c_t] = t$  broadcasts  $\langle k \rangle,$  where  $k = key[c_t];$ 
    station  $c_t$  listens and does:  $new[c_t] \leftarrow k;$ 
Each station  $c_i$  does:  $key[c_i] \leftarrow new[c_i];$ 

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**Algorithm 2:** Procedure Merge.

ing is  $\lceil \lg(m+1) \rceil + 1$ . (Each station listens at most  $\lceil \lg(m+1) \rceil$  times in one of the Rank procedures and once in the “for” loop.) The energetic cost of broadcasting is 2: Each station broadcasts at most twice (in one of the Rank procedures and in the “for” loop). Thus the total energetic cost is  $\lceil \lg(m+1) \rceil + 3$ . (This could be compared to the time  $\approx 2 \cdot m \lg m$  and energetic cost  $\approx 2 \lg m$  of merging procedures obtained by the transformation of Batchmer merging comparator networks [2].) Note that the algorithm is correct: The key  $key[a_i]$  is preceded by  $idx[a_i] - 1 = i - 1 + rank[a_i]$  keys in the sorted sequence of keys from both sequences. (The same holds for each  $key[b_i]$ .) Since the keys are pairwise distinct, no two elements  $c_i$  have the same  $idx[c_i]$  and there are no transmission collisions in the “for” loop.

## 2.1 Reducing the asymptotic energetic cost of merging to $O(\lg^* m)$

We reduce the asymptotic energetic cost of listening. Instead of computing the ranks of each  $a_i$  in  $\langle b_1, \dots, b_m \rangle$ , we first compute the ranks of some stations  $b_j$  (*b-splitters*)

in  $\langle a_1, \dots, a_m \rangle$ . The  $b$ -splitters split the sequence  $\langle b_1, \dots, b_m \rangle$  into blocks ( $b$ -blocks) of size  $h(m, 1)$ . The energetic cost of computing the rank of each  $b$ -splitter is balanced among all stations in its  $b$ -block. Then the stations  $a_1, \dots, a_m$  are grouped so that the stations of each group are ranked in separate  $b$ -block. Then we split  $\langle a_1, \dots, a_m \rangle$  into  $a$ -blocks of size  $h(m, 2)$  which compute the rank of their  $a$ -splitters (it is enough, to find the rank of  $a$ -splitter in its corresponding  $b$ -block) and regroup the stations  $b_1, \dots, b_m$  into separate  $a$ -blocks. We iterate this procedure while the sizes of the blocks decrease rapidly. We define an auxiliary procedure **Regroup** (see Algorithm 3). Let  $g(m, i) = \lceil \frac{m}{h(m, i)} \rceil$  and  $\alpha(m, i, j, k) = (j - 1) \cdot h(m, i) + k$ . By  $c_{i,j,k}$  and  $d_{i-1,j,k}$  we denote the stations from  $\{a_1, \dots, a_m\}$  and  $\{b_1, \dots, b_m\}$  as follows. For  $1 \leq k \leq h(m, i)$ :

$$c_{i,j,k} = \begin{cases} a_{\alpha(m, i, j, k)} & \text{if } \alpha(m, i, j, k) \leq m, \\ b_{\alpha(m, i, j, k) - m} & \text{if } \alpha(m, i, j, k) > m. \end{cases}$$

For  $1 \leq k \leq h(m, i - 1)$ : for  $\alpha(m, i - 1, j, k) \leq m$ , let  $d_{i-1,j,k} = b_{\alpha(m, i-1, j, k)}$  and, for  $\alpha(m, i - 1, j, k) > m$ ,  $d_{i,j,k}$  does not exist (it is treated as if  $\text{key}[d_{i,j,k}] = +\infty$ ).

For  $1 \leq j \leq g(m, i)$ ,  $c_{i,j,1}$  is  $j$ th  $a$ -splitter and, for  $k > 1$ ,  $c_{i,j,k}$  is a slave of  $c_{i,j,1}$ . For parameter  $i > 1$ , we assume that the stations  $a_1, \dots, a_m$  are grouped between the  $b$ -splitters  $d_{i-1,1,1}, \dots, d_{i-1, g(m, i-1), 1}$  as follows. For any  $a_l$  and  $j = \text{group}[a_l]$ :

- If  $1 \leq j \leq g(m, i - 1) - 1$  then  $\text{key}[d_{i-1, j, 1}] < \text{key}[a_l] < \text{key}[d_{i-1, j+1, 1}]$ .
- If  $j = 0$  then  $\text{key}[a_l] < \text{key}[b_1]$ . (Note that  $b_1 = d_{i-1, 1, 1}$ )
- If  $j = g(m, i - 1)$ , then  $\text{key}[a_l] > \text{key}[d_{i-1, g(m, i-1), 1}]$ .

Note that, for parameter  $i = 1$ , we do not have any assumptions. In this case  $g(m, i - 1) = 1$  and each  $a_l$  has  $\text{group}[a_l] = 1$ . The task of **Regroup** is grouping of the stations  $b_1, \dots, b_m$  between the splitters  $c_{i,1,1}, \dots, c_{i, g(m, i), 1}$ .

We divide the code into fragments (*phases*) and analyze each phase separately. Each station has a *clock* variable  $t$ , that is increased after each time slot. In **Phase 1** the rank of each splitter  $c_{i,j,1}$  in  $\langle b_1, \dots, b_m \rangle$  is computed. Each splitter  $d_{i-1, j', 1}$  together with its slaves forms a binary tree  $T_{h(m, i-1)}$ . These trees are scanned level by level: first all the nodes of all the trees at level 1 (i.e. roots), then all the nodes of all the trees at level 2, and so on. The number of levels (the height of  $T_{h(m, i-1)}$ ) is  $h(m, i)$ . To compute the rank of  $c_{i,j,1}$  we have to consider only the tree corresponding to  $\text{group}[c_{i,j,1}]$ . At level  $l$  each station listens at most once and corrects its *rank'* and *timer*. (The new value of *timer* is either *NIL* or *preorder* index of some  $b_{i'}$  on the next level.) Between the levels  $l$  and  $l + 1$ , after all stations  $b_{i'}$  on level  $l$  in all the trees have broadcast their messages, the collected informations and the task of further computation is transferred from each  $c_{i,j,l}$  to the next slave  $c_{i,j,l+1}$ . The time slot of this transfer is known in advance, since the size of each level is known. The time of **Phase 1** is  $O(m)$  since the number of all stations  $c_{i,j,k}$  and  $d_{i-1, j', k'}$  is  $O(m)$  and in each time slot a different one of them broadcasts. The energetic cost is  $O(1)$ , since each  $c_{i,j,k}$  listens once and broadcasts once and each  $d_{i-1, j', k'}$  broadcasts once. After **Phase 1** each  $c_{i,j, h(m, i)}$  stores in  $\text{rank}'[c_{i,j, h(m, i)}]$  the rank of  $c_{i,j,1}$  in  $\langle b_1, \dots, b_m \rangle$ . (The value  $\text{rank}'[c_{i,j,1}]$  is deliberately initiated to 0 at the beginning of **Phase 1**: If  $i > 1$  and  $\text{group}[c_{i,j,1}] \geq 1$  then  $\text{key}[c_{i,j,1}]$  is compared to at least one lesser key, since  $\text{key}[d_{i-1, \text{group}[c_{i,j,1}], 1}] < \text{key}[c_{i,j,1}]$ . If  $i = 1$  or  $\text{group}[c_{i,j,1}] = 0$ , this ensures that we do not start with too large

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procedure Regroup( $i, \langle a_1, \dots, a_m \rangle, \langle b_1, \dots, b_m \rangle$ )
(* Phase 1 *)
Each station  $c_{i,j,1}$  does: begin
  |  $group'[c_{i,j,1}] \leftarrow group[c_{i,j,1}]; key'[c_{i,j,1}] \leftarrow key[c_{i,j,1}]; timer[c_{i,j,1}] \leftarrow 1;$ 
  |  $rank'[c_{i,j,1}] \leftarrow 0;$ 
end
for  $l \leftarrow 1$  to  $h(m, i)$  do
  | (*  $l$  denotes level in  $T_{h(m, i-1)}$  *)
  | for  $v \leftarrow 2^{l-1}$  to  $\min\{2^l - 1, h(m, i - 1)\}$  do
  | | (*  $v$  - preorder index on level  $l$  *)
  | | let  $x$  be such that  $p(h(m, i - 1), x) = v;$ 
  | | for  $g \leftarrow 1$  to  $g(m, i - 1)$  do
  | | |  $d_{i-1,g,x}$  (if exists) broadcasts  $\langle k' \rangle$ , where  $k' = key[d_{i-1,g,x}];$ 
  | | | Each  $c_{i,j,l}$  with  $group'[c_{i,j,l}] = g$  and  $timer[c_{i,j,l}] = v$  listens and does:
  | | | if there was no message or  $key'[c_{i,j,l}] < k'$  then
  | | | |  $timer[c_{i,j,l}] \leftarrow p(h(m, i - 1), l(h(m, i - 1), x));$ 
  | | | else
  | | | |  $timer[c_{i,j,l}] \leftarrow p(h(m, i - 1), r(h(m, i - 1), x));$ 
  | | | |  $rank'[c_{i,j,l}] \leftarrow \alpha(m, i - 1, g, x);$  (* index of  $d_{i-1,g,x}$  *)
  | | | all stations increase clock  $t;$ 
  | | if  $l < h(m, i)$  then
  | | | (* not last level - TRANSFER TO THE NEXT SLAVES *)
  | | | for  $j \leftarrow 1$  to  $g(m, i)$  do
  | | | |  $c_{i,j,l}$  broadcasts  $\langle t', r', g, k' \rangle$  where  $t' = timer[c_{i,j,l}], r' = rank'[c_{i,j,l},$ 
  | | | |  $g = group'[c_{i,j,l}],$  and  $k' = key'[c_{i,j,l}];$ 
  | | | |  $c_{i,j,l+1}$  listens and does: begin
  | | | | |  $timer[c_{i,j,l+1}] \leftarrow t'; rank'[c_{i,j,l+1}] \leftarrow r'; group'[c_{i,j,l+1}] \leftarrow g;$ 
  | | | | |  $key'[c_{i,j,l+1}] \leftarrow k';$ 
  | | | | end
  | | | | all stations increase clock  $t;$ 
  | (* Phase 2 *)
  | Each station  $c_{i,j,1}$  does:  $winner[c_{i,j,1}] \leftarrow TRUE;$ 
  | for  $j \leftarrow 1$  to  $g(m, i)$  do
  | |  $c_{i,j,h(m,i)}$  broadcasts  $\langle r' \rangle$  where  $r' = rank'[c_{i,j,h(m,i)}];$ 
  | |  $c_{i,j,1}$  and (if  $j > 1$ )  $c_{i,j-1,1}$  listen;
  | |  $c_{i,j,1}$  does  $rank[c_{i,j,1}] \leftarrow r';$ 
  | |  $c_{i,j-1,1}$  (if exists) does: if  $rank[c_{i,j-1,1}] = r'$  then  $winner[c_{i,j-1,1}] \leftarrow FALSE;$ 
  | | all stations increase clock  $t;$ 
  | (* Phase 3 *)
  | Each station  $b_l$  does: if  $l = 1$  then  $group[b_l] \leftarrow 0$  else  $group[b_l] \leftarrow NIL;$ 
  | for  $l \leftarrow 1$  to  $m$  do
  | | if exists  $c_{i,j,1}$  with  $winner[c_{i,j,1}] = TRUE$  and  $rank[c_{i,j,1}] = l - 1$  then
  | | |  $c_{i,j,1}$  broadcasts  $\langle j \rangle;$ 
  | | |  $b_l$  listens and does: if there was a message then  $b_l$  does  $group[b_l] \leftarrow j;$ 
  | | | all stations increase clock  $t;$ 
  | (* Phase 4 *)
  | for  $l \leftarrow 1$  to  $m - 1$  do
  | |  $b_l$  broadcasts  $\langle g \rangle$  where  $g = group[b_l];$ 
  | | if  $group[b_{l+1}] = NIL$  then  $b_{l+1}$  listens and does:  $group[b_{l+1}] \leftarrow g;$ 
  | | all stations increase clock  $t;$ 

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**Algorithm 3:** Procedure Regroup.

$rank'[c_{i,j,1}]$ .) In Phase 2 each splitter  $c_{i,j,1}$  learns its rank and computes Boolean value  $winner[c_{i,j,1}]$ . A splitter  $c_{i,j,1}$  is a *winner* if it is the last splitter with given  $rank$ . Time of Phase 2 is  $g(m, i)$  and energetic cost is  $O(1)$ . In Phase 3 each winner  $c_{i,j,1}$  informs its successor  $b'$  in  $\langle b_1, \dots, b_m \rangle$  about its block number  $j$  (i.e. new group number for  $b'$ ). The uninformed stations  $b_l$  with  $l > 1$  end up with  $group[b_l] = NIL$ . ( $b_1$  ends up with  $group[b_1] = 0$  or higher.) The time of Phase 3 is  $m$  and energetic cost is  $O(1)$ . In Phase 4 each  $b_l$  with  $group[b_l] = NIL$  learns its proper group number from its predecessor. After Phase 4 each station  $b_l$  with  $group[b_l] = j$ , knows that it is ranked somewhere between  $c_{i,j,1}$  and  $c_{i,j+1,1}$ . The time of Phase 4 is  $m - 1$  and energetic cost is  $O(1)$ . The time of Regroup is  $O(m)$  and the energetic cost is  $O(1)$ , since the time of each phase is  $O(m)$  and energetic cost of each phase is  $O(1)$ .

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procedure Rank'( $\langle a_1, \dots, a_m \rangle, \langle b_1, \dots, b_m \rangle$ )
if  $m \geq 2$  then
    Each  $a_i$  does:  $group[a_i] \leftarrow 1$ ;
    for  $i \leftarrow 1$  to  $\lceil l^*(m)/2 \rceil + 1$  do
        Regroup( $2i - 1, \langle a_1, \dots, a_m \rangle, \langle b_1, \dots, b_m \rangle$ );
        Regroup( $2i, \langle b_1, \dots, b_m \rangle, \langle a_1, \dots, a_m \rangle$ );
        (* RANK EACH  $b_j$  IN  $\langle a_1, \dots, a_m \rangle$  *)
        Each station  $b_j$  does:  $rank[b_j] \leftarrow 0$ ;
        for  $i \leftarrow 1$  to  $m$  do
             $a_i$  broadcasts  $\langle k \rangle$ , where  $k = key[a_i]$ ;
            each  $b_j$  with  $group[b_j] = \lceil i/2 \rceil$  listens and does:
            if  $k' < key[b_j]$  then  $rank[b_j] \leftarrow i$ ;
            all stations increase clock  $t$ ;
        DO SYMMETRICAL RANKING OF EACH  $a_j$  IN  $\langle b_1, \dots, b_m \rangle$ 
    else  $a_1$  and  $b_1$  simply compare-exchange their keys

```

**Algorithm 4:** Procedure Rank'.

We apply Regroup in the procedure Rank' (Algorithm 4) that ranks two sorted sequences of length  $m$  in each other in time  $O(m \lg^* m)$  with energetic cost  $O(\lg^* m)$ . Note that in the last iteration of the first “for” loop we have  $h(m, 2i - 1) = h(m, 2i) = 2$ . Thus we only need to rank each element in a block of size 2 of the other sequence. The number of iterations of the first “for” loop is  $O(\lg^* m)$ , and hence the time of it is  $O(m \lg^* m)$  and the energetic cost is  $O(\lg^* m)$ . The time of the remaining part is  $O(m)$  and energetic cost is  $O(1)$ . By replacing both invocations of Rank in Merge by a single Rank'( $\langle a_1, \dots, a_m \rangle, \langle b_1, \dots, b_m \rangle$ ), we obtain an algorithm merging in time  $O(m \lg^* m)$  with energetic cost (of both listening and broadcasting)  $O(\lg^* m)$ .

### 3 Merge-sort

For simplicity, we assume that  $n = 2^k$  for some positive integer  $k$ . The stations  $c_1, \dots, c_n$  contain initially unsorted sequence of keys  $\langle key[c_1], \dots, key[c_n] \rangle$ . Merge-Sort (Algorithm 5) sorts the sequence stored in the network. Assume that we apply the first of the

```

procedure Merge-Sort( $\langle c_1, \dots, c_n \rangle$ )
if  $m > 1$  then
    Merge-Sort( $\langle c_1, \dots, c_{n/2} \rangle$ )
    Merge-Sort( $\langle c_{n/2+1}, \dots, c_n \rangle$ )
    Merge( $\langle c_1, \dots, c_{n/2} \rangle, \langle c_{n/2+1}, \dots, c_n \rangle$ )

```

**Algorithm 5:** Procedure Merge-Sort.

described merging algorithms. The time for merging two sequences of length  $n/2$  is  $4n/2 = 2n$ . On the next level of recursion we have to merge two pairs of sequences of length  $n/4$  in time  $2 \cdot 4n/4 = 2n$ . And so on. The number of levels is  $\lg n$ , thus the total sorting time is  $2n \lg n$ . The energetic cost is  $\sum_{l=0}^{k-1} (\lceil \lg(2^l + 1) \rceil + 3) = \frac{1}{2} \lg^2 n + \frac{7}{2} \lg n$ . For example, for  $n = 2^{13} = 8192$ , the bounds on time and energetic cost are 212992 and 130, respectively. If we apply the second merging algorithm, then the time of Merge-sort is  $O(n \lg n \lg^* n)$  and the energetic cost of listening and broadcasting is  $O(\lg n \lg^* n)$ .

*Remark:* The presented algorithms can be parallelized and accelerated  $\Omega(k)$  times if we use  $k$  channels instead of one, where  $k$  is  $O(\sqrt{n})$ .

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