```
def merge(l1, l2):
    if l1 == []:
        return(l2)
    elif l2 == []:
        return(l1)
    elif l1[0] < l2[0]:    # could use <=
        return([l1[0]] + merge(l1[1:], l2))
    else:
        return([l2[0]] + merge(l1, l2[1:]))
```

Mergesort DIVIDE & CONQUER

What if we divide more intelligently?

Suppose we can identify median value in l

Split as

< median 1/2 → sort l_1

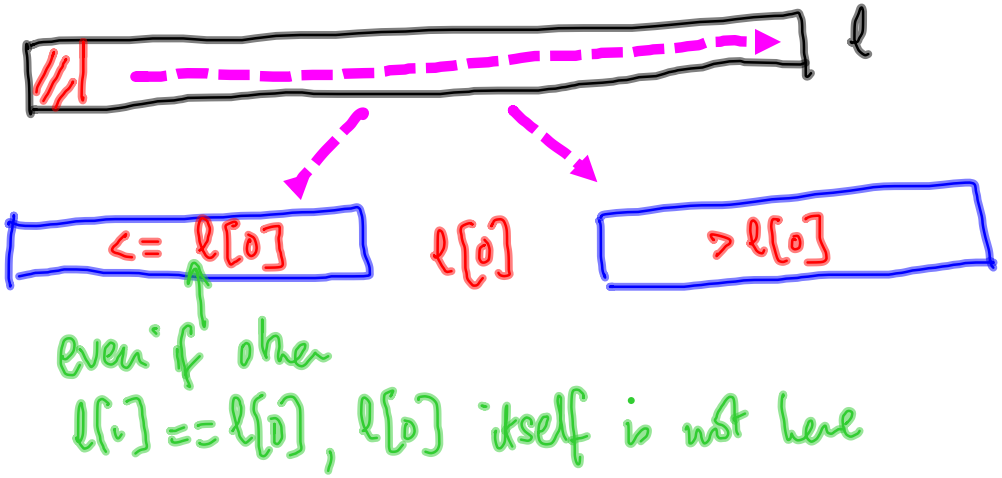
median [median]

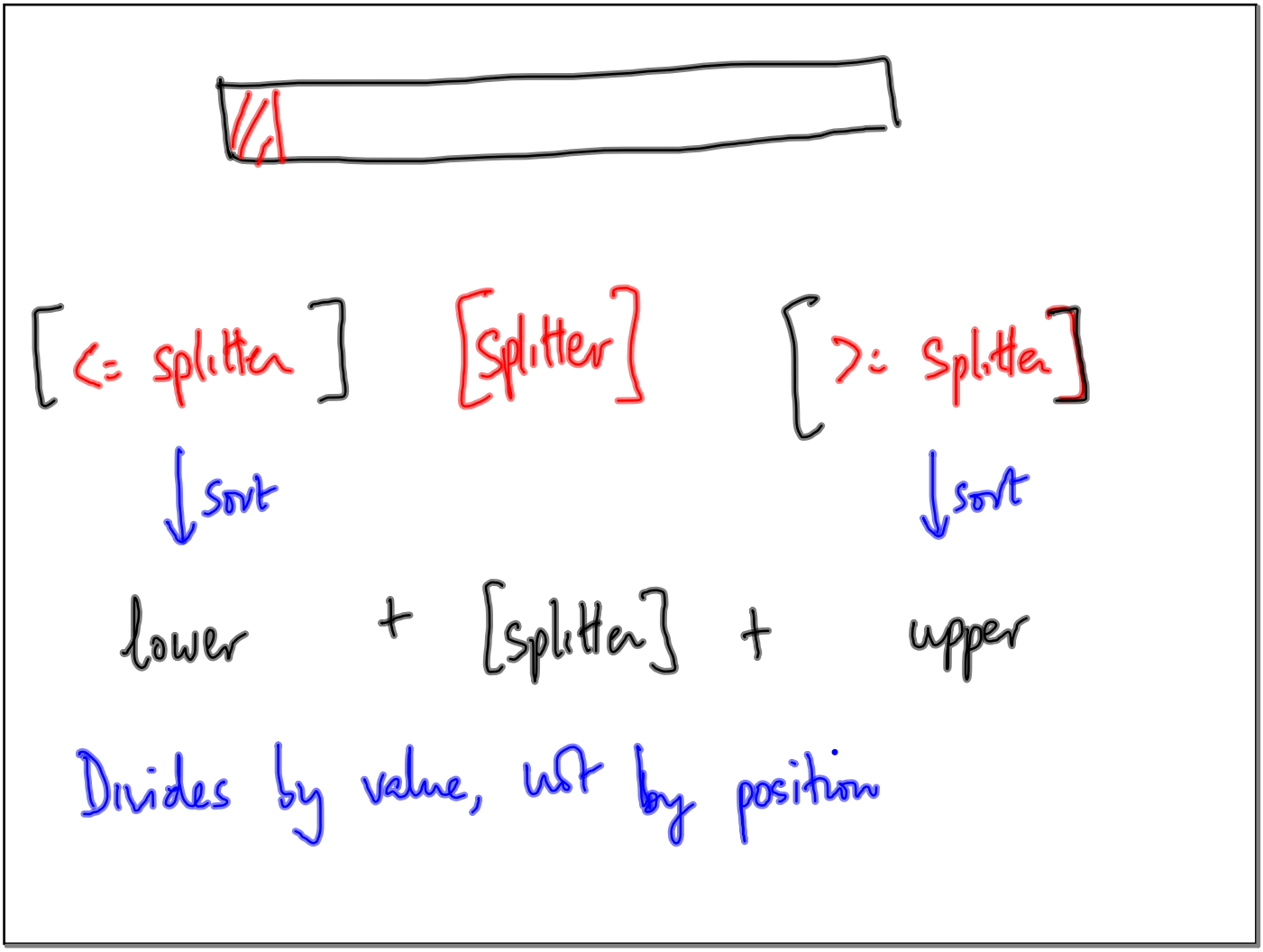
> median 1/2 → sort l_2

Identifying median is "equivalent" to sorting!

Instead pick a "random" value to split the list

Always pick l[0] to split.




<= splitter
[splitter]
>= splitter
sort
sort
lower + [splitter] + upper
Divides by value, not by position

Mergesort

$$T(n) = 2T(n/2) + n$$

New sort

Splitter may be smallest / largest value in list

$$T(n) = T(n-1) + n$$ Worst Case!

$$\Rightarrow T(n) = O(n^2)$$

New algorithm: Quicksort C.A.R. Hoare

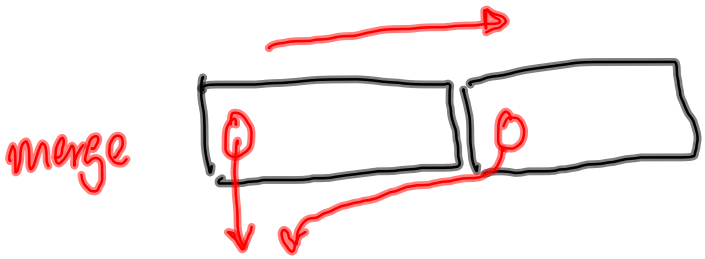
On the average, Quicksort is $O(n \log n)$

Alternatively

If we choose splitter position randomly (uniformly from 0.. length-1) each time, expected running time is $O(n \log n)$

Space Complexity

Mergesort require separate list to merge



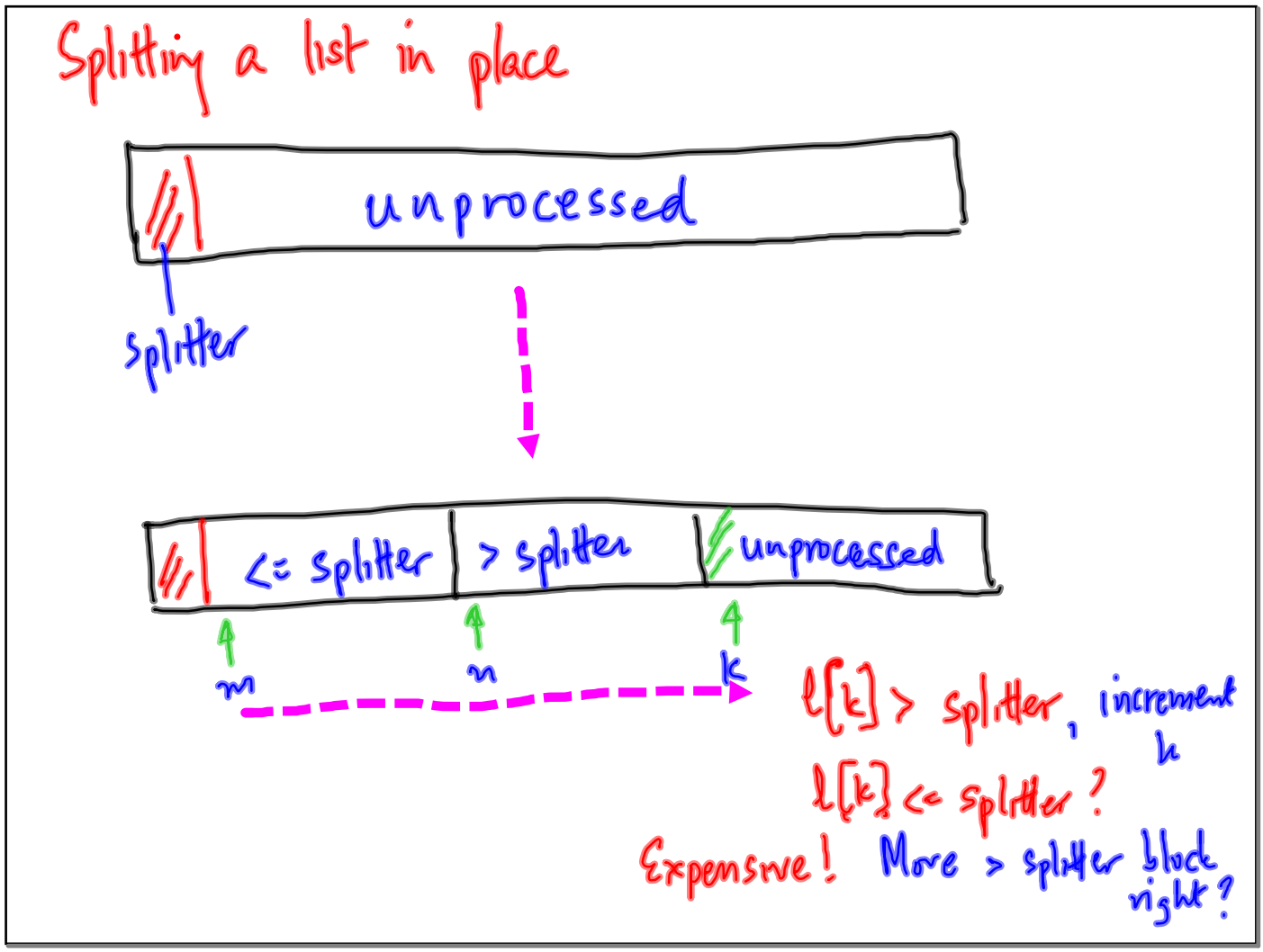
Quicksort

Inductive implementation has same problem

Space to create <= splitter

> splitter

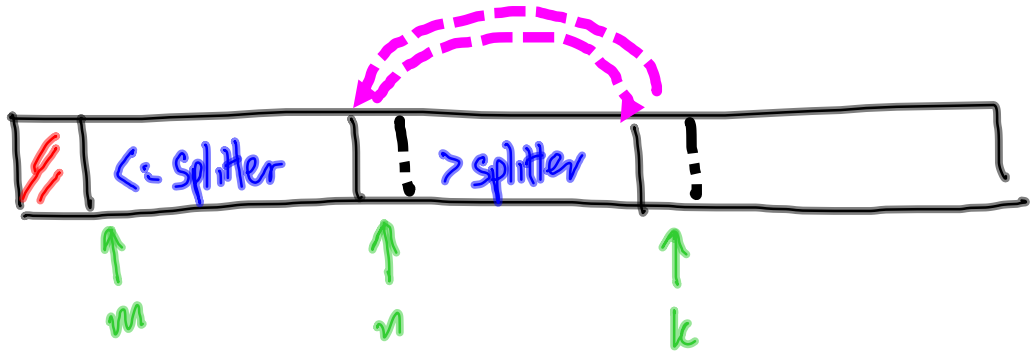
Can split more intelligently


Splitting a list in place
unprocessed
splitter
<= splitter
> splitter
unprocessed
m
n
k
l[k] > splitter, increment k
l[k] <= splitter ?
Expensive! More > splitter block right?

Observation:

Need not preserve original list order in

<= splitter and > splitter



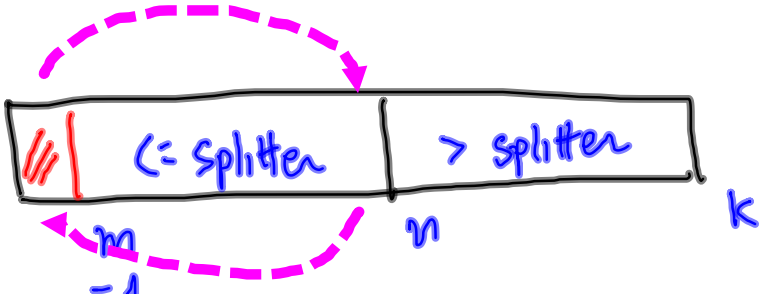
l[k] <= splitter Exchange l[n], l[k]

$(l[n], l[k]) = (l[k], l[n])$ # swap

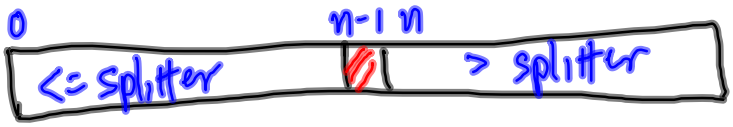
$n = n+1$ # proceed

$k = k+1$

At the end:

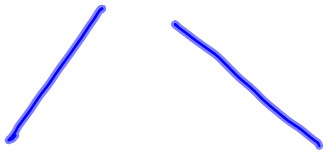


Swap splitter $(l[0])$ with $l[n-1]$



Modify quicksort to sort a segment l[left:right]

Initially sort l[0:len(l)]



sort l[0:n-1] sort l[n:]

Instructive exercise: Code this version of quicksort in Python

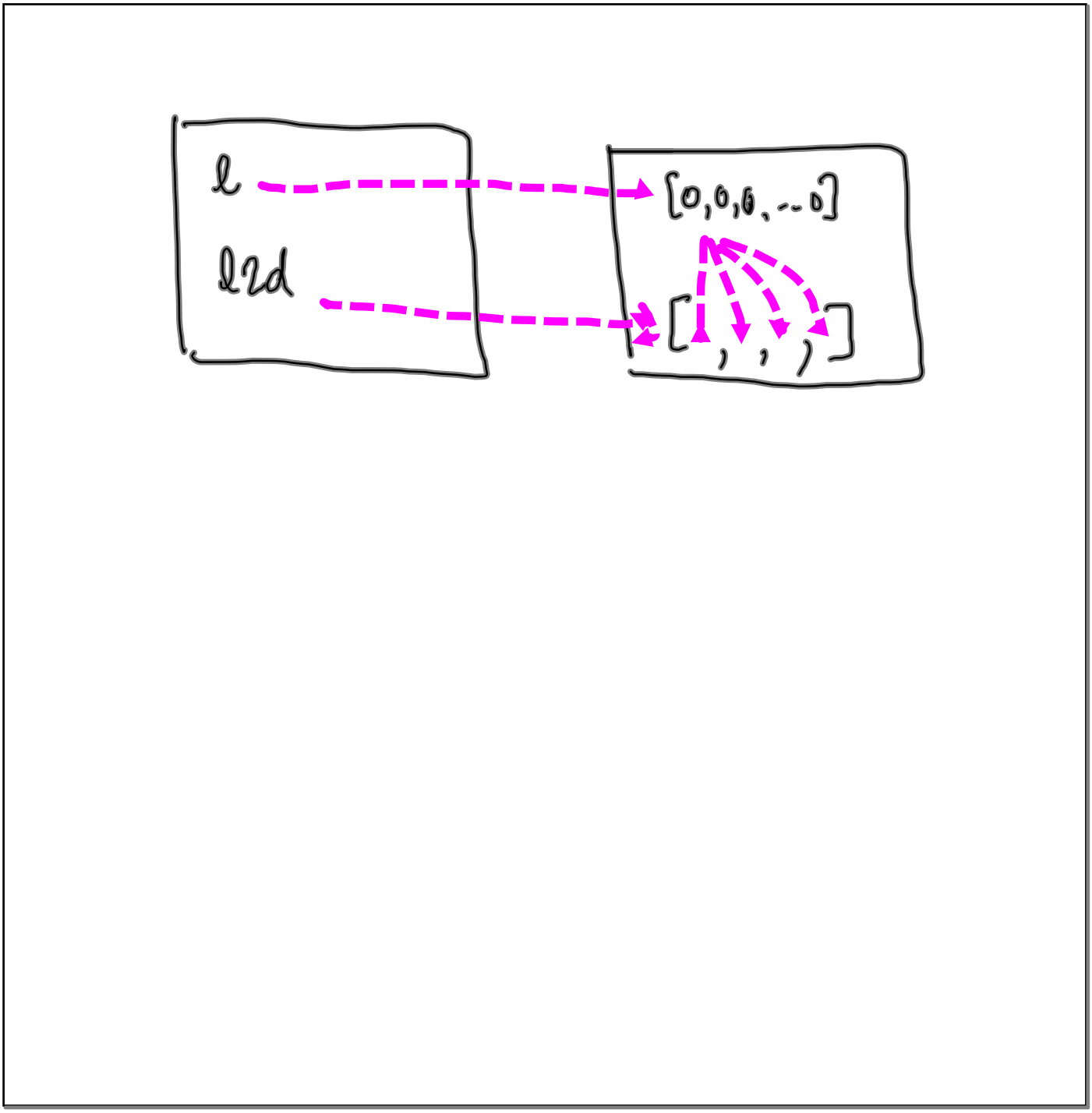
2 dimensional arrays

Creating a list of k zero's

```
l = [0] * k
```

Creating a 2d array with m rows of k zeros

```
l2d = [l] * m
```


l
l2d
[0,0,0,...0]
[, , ,]