2000 Paper 10 Question 6

Data Structures and Algorithms

Describe an efficient algorithm based on Quicksort that will find the element of a set that would be at position k if the elements were sorted. [6 marks]

Describe another algorithm that will find the same element, but with a guaranteed worst case time of O(n). [7 marks]

Give a rough estimate of the number of comparisons each of your methods would perform when k = 50, operating on a set of 100 random 32-bit integers. [7 marks]