
WEEK FOURTEEN

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ALGORITHMS

- Approach to solving a computational problem
- Algorithms must be:
 - Finite: must terminate eventually
 - Correct: must solve the problem every time
 - Deterministic: made of concrete, computer-executable steps, and produce the same output every time
- Good algorithms are:
 - Bug-free
 - Secure
 - Fast
 - Don't hog memory

SEARCH ALGORITHMS

- Linear search
 - Step through items one-by-one until the desired item is located
- Binary search
 - Requires a sorted list
 - Split the list in half, check if the value is greater than or less than the central pivot
 - If greater, move to the right side of the list and repeat
 - If less than, move to the left side of the list and repeat

SORTING ALGORITHMS

- Selection sort
 - Remove the min/max item from an unsorted list and add (swap) it to the beginning/end of a new sorted list
- Insertion sort
 - Take each element, in position order, and move it into the appropriate sorted location in a ‘new’ sorted list
- Bubble sort
 - Sort in multiple passes
 - In each pass, successively swap neighboring elements if they are in the wrong natural order
 - Continue passes until all elements are fully ordered

Selection

7 3 2 6 9 5 2
2 3 2 6 9 5 7
2 2 3 6 9 5 7
2 2 3 6 9 5 7
2 2 3 5 9 6 7
2 2 3 5 6 9 7
2 2 3 5 6 7 9

7 3 2 6 9 5 2
7 3 2 6 2 5 9
5 3 2 6 2 7 9
5 3 2 2 6 7 9
2 3 2 5 6 7 9
2 2 3 5 6 7 9
2 2 3 5 6 7 9

Insertion

7 3 2 6 9 5 2

7 3 2 6 9 5 2

3 7 2 6 9 5 2

2 3 7 6 9 5 2

2 3 6 7 9 5 2

2 3 6 7 9 5 2

2 3 5 6 7 9 2

2 2 3 5 6 7 9

7 3 2 6 9 5 2

7 3 2 6 9 5 2

7 3 2 6 9 2 5

7 3 2 6 2 5 9

7 3 2 2 5 6 9

7 2 2 3 5 6 9

2 2 3 5 6 7 9

Bubble Sort

★

2 3 2 6 9 5 2

3 2 2 6 9 5 2

3 2 2 6 9 5 2

3 2 6 7 9 5 2

3 2 6 7 9 5 2

3 2 6 7 5 9 2

★ 3 2 6 7 5 2 9

2 3 6 7 5 2 9

2 3 6 7 5 2 9

2 3 6 7 5 2 9

2 3 6 5 7 2 9

2 3 6 5 2 7 9

★ 2 3 6 5 2 7 9

2 3 6 5 2 7 9

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2 2 3 5 6 7 9

2 2 3 5 6 7 9

2 2 3 5 6 7 9

2 2 3 5 6 7 9

2 2 3 5 6 7 9

2 2 3 5 6 7 9

2 2 3 5 6 7 9

Selection

2 8 3 5 9 6 4
2 8 3 5 9 6 4
2 3 8 5 9 6 4
2 3 4 5 9 6 8
2 3 4 5 9 6 8,
2 3 4 5 6 9 8
2 3 4 5 6 8 9

Insertion

2 8 3 5 9 6 4
2 8 3 5 9 6 4
2 8 3 5 9 6 4
2 8 3 5 9 6 4
2 3 8 5 9 6 4
2 3 8 5 9 6 4
2 3 5 8 9 6 4
2 3 5 8 9 6 4
2 3 5 6 8 9 4
2 3 4 5 6 8 9

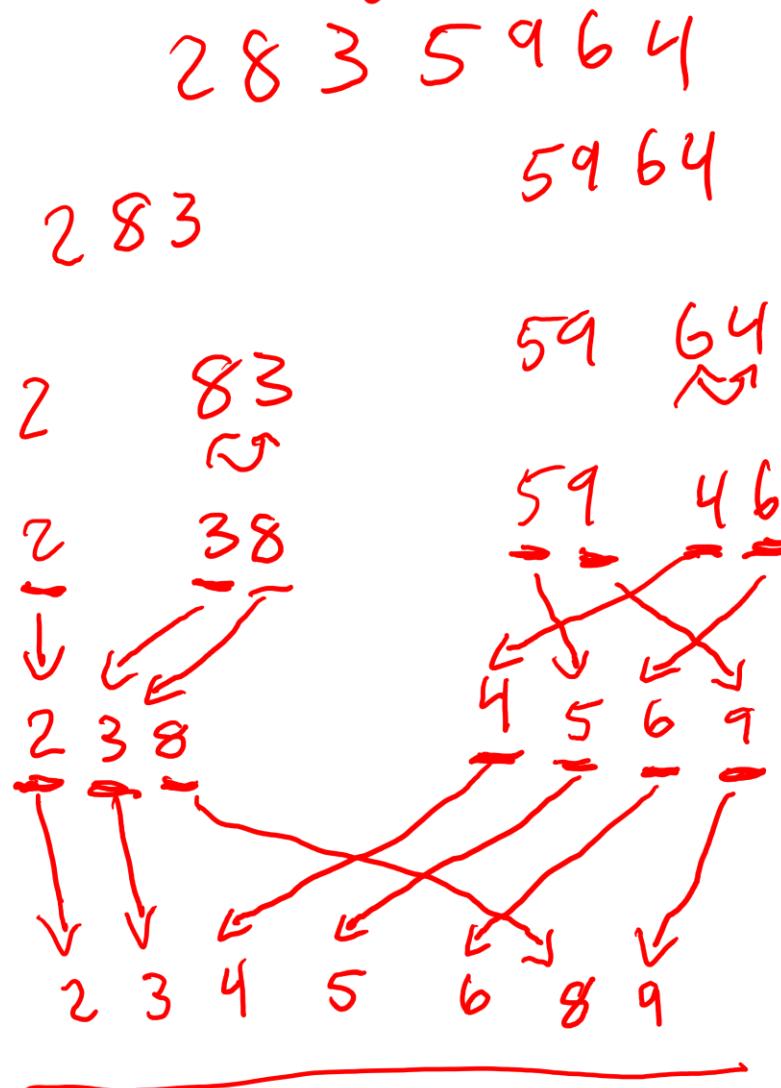
Bubble

Pass

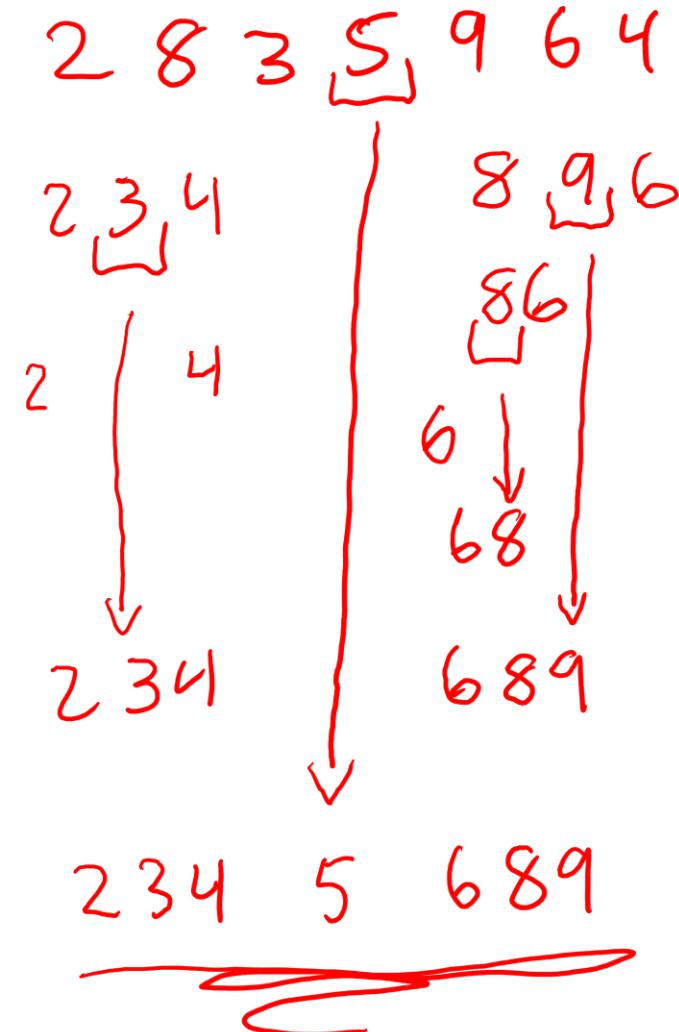
1
2835964
2835964
2385964
2358964
2358964
2358694
2358649
2358649
2358649
2356849
2356489

2354689
2345689

Merge



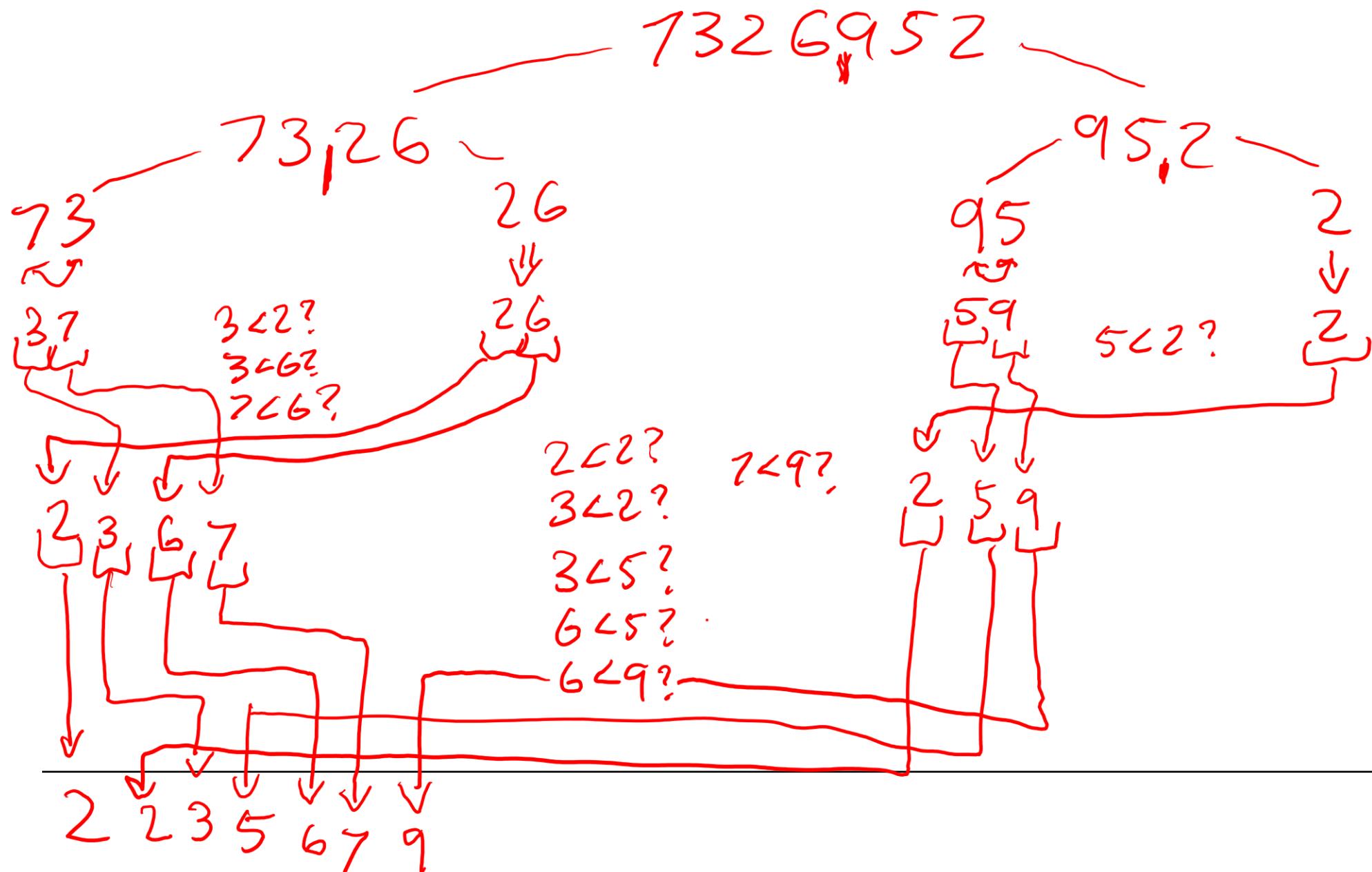
Quick



SORTING ALGORITHMS CONTINUED

- Merge sort
 - Usually done recursively
 - Divide array into two halves
 - As base case, sort the two remaining values
 - Upon exiting the recursive call, poll items from each half in order
- Quick sort
 - Pick a pivot
 - Reposition items so all items less than pivot will appear to its left and all greater items will appear on the right
 - Continue on smaller and smaller portions until the list is sorted

Merge Sort



Quick Sort (central pivot)

7 3 2 6 9 5 2

first value
>> pivot

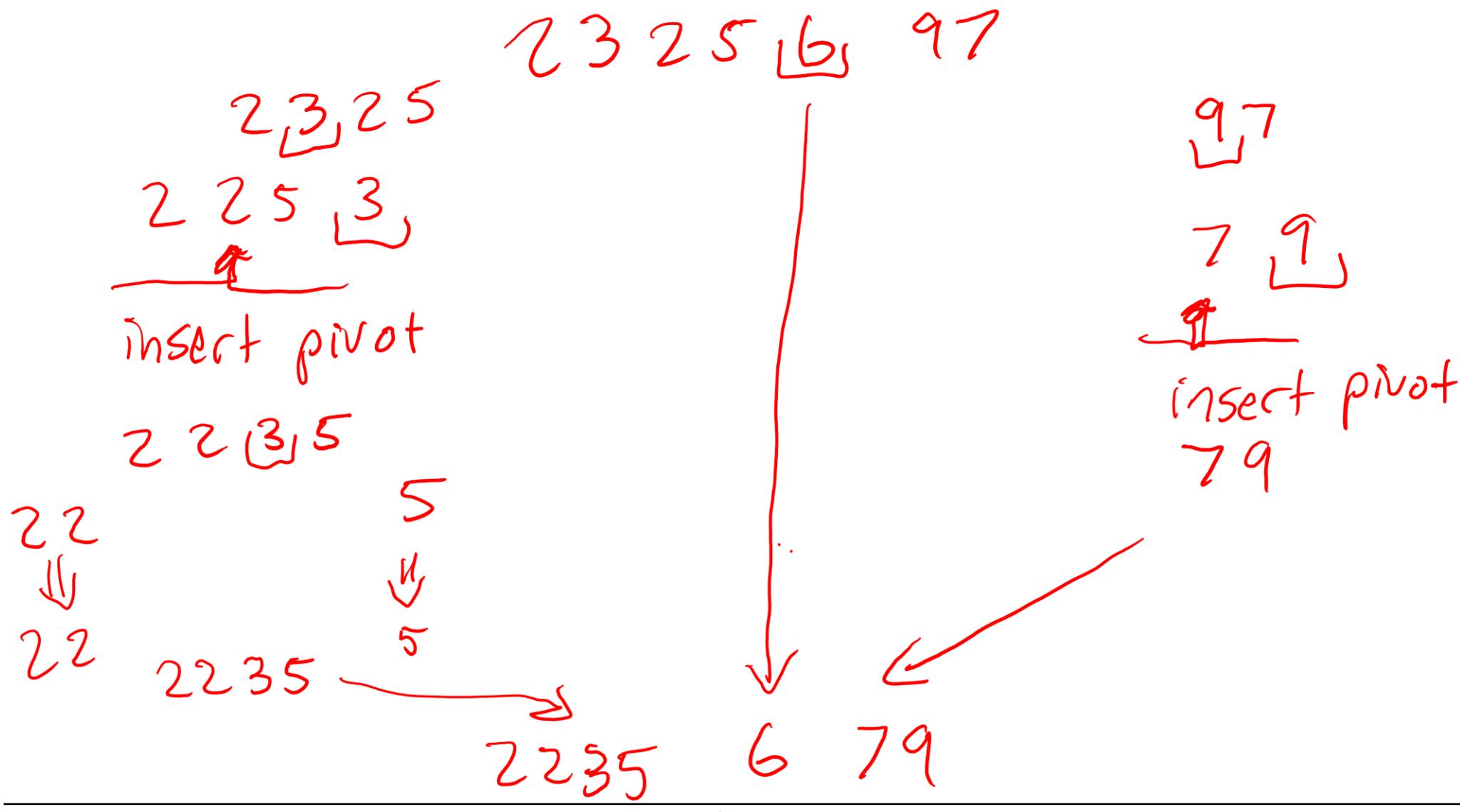
7 3 2 9 5 2 6
↑ Swap ↑ first value
< pivot

2 3 2 9 5 7 6
next value > pivot ↑ next value < pivot
swap

2 3 2 5 9 7 6
↑ ↑
Insert pivot

2 3 2 5 6 9 7

Quick Sort Continued



Quicksort (first pivot)

3 2 6 9 5 2

3

3 2 6 9 5 2
↑ pivot ↑ swap ↑ < pivot

3 2 6 2 5 9

↑↑↑

insert pivot

3 2 6 2 5 7 9 → 9

3 2 6 2 5
↑↑
swap

3 2 2 6 5
a ↑

2 2 3 5 6

2 2 2 3 6 5
← 6 5
2 2 5 6

2 2 3 5 6 7 9

BIG-O

- How long an algorithm takes to run in relation to the input
- Function can be simplified by:
 - Removing any constant coefficients
 - Removing all but the highest order term
- Example:
 - $5^n + 7n^2 + 3$ becomes...
 - 5^n

COMMON RATES OF GROWTH (BY MAGNITUDE)

- $O(1)$ – constant
- $O(\log n)$ – logarithmic
- $O(n)$ – linear
- $O(n * \log n)$ – log-linear
- $O(n^c)$ – polynomial
 - $O(n^2)$ – quadratic
 - $O(n^3)$ – cubic
 - Etc.
- $O(c^n)$ – exponential
 - $O(2^n)$
 - $O(3^n)$
 - Etc.
- $O(n!)$ – factorial

<https://www.desmos.com/calculator/jpskgp3y7a>

SORTING ALGORITHMS AND THEIR COMPLEXITY

- Selection • $O(n^2)$
 - Insertion • $O(n^2)$
 - Bubble • $O(n^2)$
 - Merge • $O(n \log(n))$
 - Quick • $O(n^2)$