

## Element Uniqueness

- given single sequence  $S$  with  $n$  elements and asked if they're distinct
- first solution uses iterative algorithm

def unique1(S):

```

for j in range(len(S)):
    for k in range(j+1, len(S)):
        if S[j] == S[k]:
            return False
return True

```

→ solves element uniqueness by looping thru distinct pairs of indices  $j < k$   
 → uses 2 nested for loops, where first iter of outer loop has  $n-1$  iterations of inner loop, and second iter of outer loop causes  $n-2$  iters of inner loop

→ thus, worst case is  $(n-1) + (n-2) + \dots + 2 + 1$   
 which is  $O(n^2)$

## Sorting as Problem-Solving Tool

- by sorting the sequence, we are guaranteed that any duplicates will be next to each other
- thus, we only need to do a single pass

def unique2(S):

```

temp = sorted(S)
for j in range(1, len(temp)):
    if S[j-1] == S[j]:
        return False
return True

```

→ worst case runs at  $O(n \log n)$   
 → once data is sorted, the loop runs in  $O(n)$  time, so the entire algorithm runs in  $O(n \log n)$

## Justification Techniques

- By Example: to justify, we only need to produce one counterexample to prove it's false
- Contrapositive: to prove using the opposite
  - if  $p$  is true, then  $q$  is true → if  $q$  is not true,  $p$  is not true
- Contradiction: establish a statement  $q$  is true by first supposing that  $q$  is false and showing this assumption leads to a contradiction