Class 6: Sorting Algorithms

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Sorting Algorithms

Recursion

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- ▶ O(n) notation
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 - eg. How many comparisons do I need to sort a list of n items?
 - ► Consider only the term with the highest order of n.
- Check the best case, the average case and the worst case.

Insertion Sort

- ▶ Start with the element in the second position.
- ► Insert it to the appropriate position among the numbers to its left.
 - ▶ Check whether it is greater than the last element to its left.
 - ▶ If not, check the second to last element to its left.
- ▶ Continue with the element in the third position.

Selection Sort

- ► Go over the unsorted list to find the minimum and place it as your first element of your sorted list.
- Repeat.

Bubble Sort

- Compare swap stage
 - ▶ Compare the first two elements and swap them if necessary.
 - Compare the second and third elements and swap them if necessary.
 - Repeat until the end of the list.
- ▶ If you did any swaps in the first stage, repeat it with the first n-1 elements.
- Repeat.

Merge Sort

- Divide the list into sublists each with one element.
- Merge the sublists to create new sublists each with two elements.
- Repeat until you have a single list

Recursion

- Function calls itself.
- You need to know:
 - the base case
 - when to call the function
 - when to stop