

# Bubble Sort

(A Taste of Algorithms: Definition, Design, and Analysis)

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# Bubble Sort

- 1 The Sorting Problem
- 2 Bubble Sort
- 3 Analysis of Bubble Sort

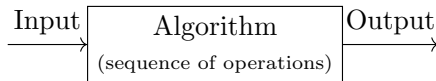
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# Algorithms

What is an algorithm?

What is computation?



Correctness!

**Definiteness:** precisely defined operations

**Finiteness:** termination

**Effectiveness:** a reasonable model; basic operations

■ for sorting: compare, swap

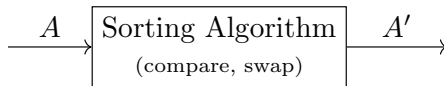
# Sorting

The sorting problem:

**Input:** A sequence of  $n$  integers  $A: a_1 a_2 \cdots a_n$ .

**Output:** A permutation  $A': a'_1 a'_2 \cdots a'_n$  of  $A$  *s.t.*  
 $a'_1 \leq a'_2 \leq \cdots \leq a'_n$  (non-decreasing order).

$$3 \quad 1 \quad 4 \quad 2 \quad \Longrightarrow \quad 1 \quad 2 \quad 3 \quad 4$$

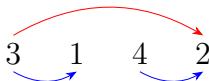


# Inversions

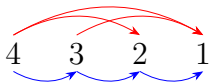
$$A = a_1 \quad a_2 \quad \cdots \quad a_i \quad \cdots \quad a_j \quad \cdots \quad a_n.$$

If  $i < j$  and  $a_i > a_j$ , then  $(a_i, a_j)$  is an **inversion**.

Adjacent inversion:  $(a_i, a_{i+1})$



$$\begin{aligned} \# \text{inversions} &= 3 \\ \# \text{adjacent inversions} &= 2 \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned} \# \text{inversions} &= 3 + 2 + 1 = 6 \\ \# \text{adjacent inversions} &= 3 \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned} \# \text{inversions} &= 0 \\ \# \text{adjacent inversions} &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

# Inversions

**Theorem:**  $A$  is sorted  $\iff A$  has no adjacent inversions.

$A$  is sorted  $\implies A$  has no adjacent inversions.

$A$  has no adjacent inversions  $\implies \forall i \in [1, n-1] : a_i \leq a_{i+1}$   
 $\implies A$  is sorted.

# Bubble Sort

- 1 The Sorting Problem
- 2 **Bubble Sort**
- 3 Analysis of Bubble Sort



# Bubble Sort: Basic Idea

Basic idea: to eliminate all adjacent inversions

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```
1: repeat
2:   pick any  $i$                                 ▷ Definiteness!
3:   if  $a_i > a_{i+1}$  then
4:     SWAP( $a_i, a_{i+1}$ )
5: until no adjacent inversions                ▷ Finiteness! Definiteness!
```

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Finiteness  $\implies$  Correctness.

<b>Theorem:</b> $A$ is sorted $\iff A$ has no adjacent inversions.
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# Bubble Sort: Definiteness

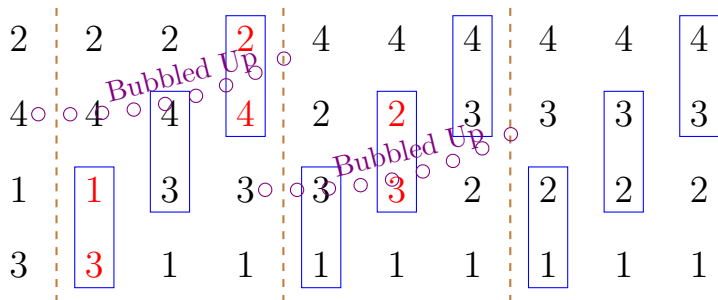
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```
1: procedure BUBBLESORT( $A : a_1 \ a_2 \ \cdots \ a_n$ )
2:   repeat
3:      $\text{swapped} \leftarrow \text{false}$ 
4:     for  $i \leftarrow 1 : n - 1$  do
5:       if  $a_i > a_{i+1}$  then
6:         SWAP( $a_i, a_{i+1}$ )
7:          $\text{swapped} \leftarrow \text{true}$ 
8:   until  $\text{no adjacent inversionsswapped} = \text{false}$ 
```

---

▷ Pick  $i$

# Bubble Sort: Example



After each “**for**” loop, one more element is bubbled up to its final position.

# Optimizing Bubble Sort (I)<sup>1</sup>

After each “**for**” loop, one more element is bubbled up to its final position.

---

```

1: procedure BUBBLESORT( $A : a_1 \ a_2 \ \cdots \ a_n$ )
2:    $n \leftarrow \text{len}(A)$ 
3:   repeat
4:     swapped  $\leftarrow$  false
5:     for  $i \leftarrow 1 : n - 1$  do
6:       if  $a_i > a_{i+1}$  then
7:         SWAP( $a_i, a_{i+1}$ )
8:         swapped  $\leftarrow$  true
9:      $n \leftarrow n - 1$ 
10:  until swapped = false
  
```

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▷ One maximal bubbles up

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<sup>1</sup>See Appendix for “Optimizing Bubble Sort (II)”.

# Bubble Sort: Finiteness

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```

1: procedure BUBBLESORT( $A : a_1 \ a_2 \ \cdots \ a_n$ )
2:   repeat
3:     swapped  $\leftarrow$  false
4:     for  $i \leftarrow 1 : n - 1$  do           ▷ Pick  $i$ 
5:       if  $a_i > a_{i+1}$  then
6:         SWAP( $a_i, a_{i+1}$ )
7:         swapped  $\leftarrow$  true
8:   until swapped = false           ▷ No swaps

```

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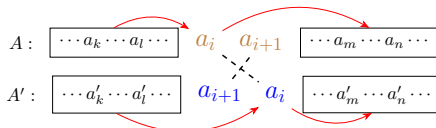
The inner “**for**” loops:

- 1)  $\exists$  loop : no swaps  $\implies$  swapped = false  $\implies$  terminates
- 2)  $\forall$  loop : has swaps      **Impossible!**

# Bubble Sort: Finiteness

Fact: total #inversions is finite.

Effects of  $\text{SWAP}(a_i, a_{i+1})$  on #inversions<sup>2</sup>:



$-1 : (a_i, a_{i+1})$

$+0$  : relative order between any other two elements does not change!

$\langle a_k, a_l \rangle, \langle a_m, a_n \rangle, \langle a_k, a_i \rangle, \langle a_i, a_m \rangle$

Lemma:  $\text{SWAP}(a_i, a_{i+1}) \implies -1$  inversion

<sup>2</sup>Not on #adjacent inversions! Think about it.

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# Time Complexity of Bubble Sort

- Finiteness is NOT enough  $\implies$  Quantifying finiteness
- Time on real computers varies  $\implies$  #Ops on our model:

$|C|$  : #Comparisons (**if**  $a_i > a_{i+1}$ )

$|S|$  : #Swaps (SWAP( $a_i, a_{i+1}$ ))

- Different inputs  $\implies |C|$  and  $|S|$  vary:
  - Best-case, worst-case, and average-case analysis



# Best-case and Worst-case Analysis

Best-case:  $1 \ 2 \ \cdots \ n$

Best-case:  
non-decreasingly sorted

Worst-case:  
non-increasingly sorted

$$|C| = (\min : n - 1, \quad \max : \frac{n^2 - n}{2});$$

$$|S| = (\min : 0, \quad \max : \frac{n^2 - n}{2}).$$

Worst-case:  $n \ n - 1 \ \cdots \ 1$

# $|S|$ : #Swaps (Average-case Analysis)<sup>3</sup>

Assumptions on inputs:

1. The input is a random permutation (“average input”)
2. All numbers are different (for simplicity)

**Lemma:**  $\text{SWAP}(a_i, a_{i+1}) \implies -1 \text{ inversion}$

$$|S| = \mathbb{E}(\text{\#inversions})$$

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<sup>3</sup>An exercise: what is  $|C|$  (#Comparisons) in average?

# $|S| : \# \text{Swaps}$ (Average Analysis)

$$I_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & (a_i, a_j) \text{ is an inversion} \\ 0 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$

$$X = \sum_{1 \leq i < n} \sum_{i < j \leq n} I_{ij} \quad (\# \text{inversions})$$

$$\mathbb{E}(X) = \mathbb{E}\left(\sum_i \sum_{j>i} I_{ij}\right) = \sum_i \sum_{j>i} \mathbb{E}(I_{ij}) \quad (\text{linearity of expectation})$$

$$\mathbb{E}(I_{ij}) = \mathbb{P}\{I_{ij} = 1\} = \frac{1}{2} \quad (a_i \neq a_j; \text{half: } a_i < a_j, \text{half: } a_i > a_j)$$

$$\mathbb{E}(X) = \sum_i \sum_{i < j} \frac{1}{2} = \binom{n}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} = \frac{n(n-1)}{4} = O(n^2)$$

# Faster Algorithms

*It took a good deal of work to analyze the bubble sort; and although [...], the results are disappointing since they tell us that **the bubble sort isn't really very good at all.***

— Donald E. Knuth

faster:  $O(n^2) \rightarrow O(n \lg n)$ ?

... and faster:  $O(n \lg n) \rightarrow O(n)$ ?





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# Bubble Sort

## 4 Appendix

# Bubble Sort: Correctness

**Finiteness**  $\implies \exists \text{ loop : no swaps}$   
 $\implies A$  has no adjacent inversions any more  
 $\implies A$  is already sorted.

# Bubble Sort: Correctness

---

```

1: procedure BUBBLESORT( $A : a_1 \ a_2 \ \cdots \ a_n$ )
2:   repeat
3:     swapped  $\leftarrow$  false
4:     for  $i \leftarrow 1 : n - 1$  do       $\triangleright$  Loop invariant?
5:       if  $a_i > a_{i+1}$  then           $\triangleright$  CAS
6:         SWAP( $a_i, a_{i+1}$ )
7:       swapped  $\leftarrow$  true
8:   until swapped = false

```

---

## Loop invariant:

Before the  $k$ -th ( $k \geq 1$ ) “**for**” loop,  $a_{n-(k-1)} \cdots a_n$

- (1) consists of the largest  $(k - 1)$  elements
- (2) in sorted order.

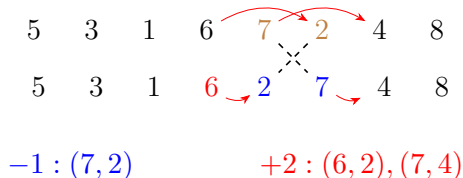
Correctness: Initialization + Maintenance + Termination



# Bubble Sort: Finiteness

Idea: well-founded relation over  $\mathbf{N}$

Effects of  $\text{SWAP}(a_i, a_{i+1})$  on adjacent inversions:



# Optimizing Bubble Sort (II)

Idea: After each “**for**” loop, all elements after “**lsp**” are settled.

---

```

1: procedure BUBBLESORT( $A : a_1 \ a_2 \ \cdots \ a_n$ )
2:   repeat
3:     swapped  $\leftarrow$  false
4:     lsp  $\leftarrow$  0                                 $\triangleright$  lsp: the last swap position
5:     for  $i \leftarrow 1 : n - 1$  do
6:       if  $a_i > a_{i+1}$  then
7:         SWAP( $a_i, a_{i+1}$ )
8:         swapped  $\leftarrow$  true
9:         lsp  $\leftarrow$  i                                 $\triangleright$  Update lsp
10:     $n \leftarrow$  lsp                                 $\triangleright$  Elements after lsp are sorted
11:  until swapped = false lsp = 0

```

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