

# LEK2: Analysing Algorithms: Insertion sort, RAM, Notations, Complexity.

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## Insertion Sort

Strategy:

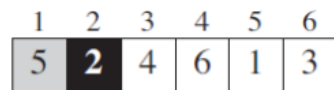
- Start with an “empty hand,” say left hand.
- Insert a card in the correct position of left hand, where the numbers are already sorted.
- Continue until all cards are inserted/sorted.

```
INPUT:  $A[1..n]$  – an array of integers,  $n > 0$   
OUTPUT: a permutation of  $A$  such that  $A[1] \leq A[2] \leq \dots \leq A[n]$ 
```

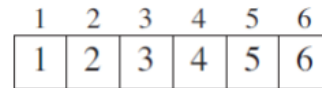
```
for  $j = 2$  to  $n$   
     $key = A[j]$   
    // Insert  $A[j]$  into the sorted  $A[1..j-1]$ .  
     $i = j - 1$   
    while  $i > 0$  and  $A[i] > key$   
         $A[i+1] = A[i]$   
         $i--$   
     $A[i+1] = key$ 
```

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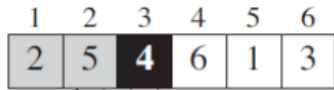
Example: 5, 2, 4, 6, 1, 3



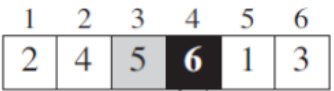
$j=2, i=1 \dots 1$



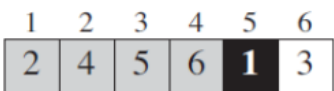
$j=7$ , which is greater than  $n$ .  
Done!



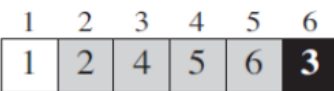
$j=3, i=2 \dots 1$



$j=4, i=3 \dots 1$



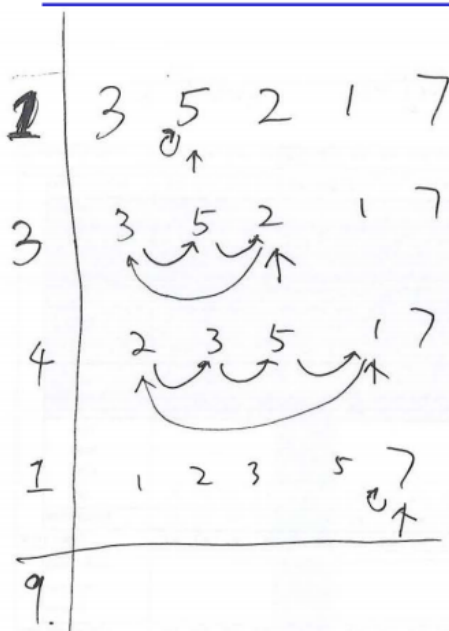
$j=5, i=4 \dots 1$



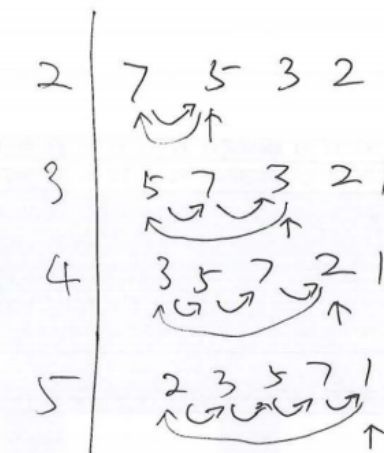
$j=6, i=5 \dots 1$

**INPUT:**  $A[1..n]$  – an array of integers  
**OUTPUT:** a permutation of  $A$  such that  $A[1] \leq A[2] \leq \dots \leq A[n]$

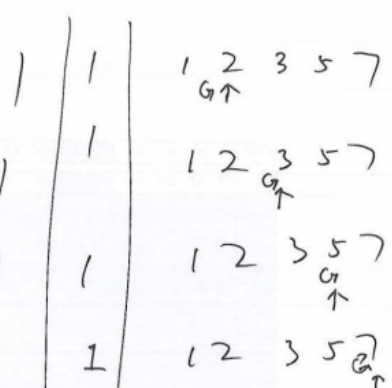
```
for j = 2 to n
    key = A[j]
    // Insert A[j] into the sorted A[1..j-1].
    i = j - 1
    while i > 0 and A[i] > key
        A[i + 1] = A[i]
        i --
    A[i + 1] = key
```



**Average case**



**Worst case**



**Best case**

## Analysing the insertion sort

- How fast is insertion sort? absolute vs. relative speeds?
  - Absolute speeds depend on specific computers.
  - Relative speeds do not depend on specific computers.
  - In this course, we care about the relative speed.
  - The relationship between the running time and input size.
    - $T(n)$ : running time being a function of input size  $n$ .

## The RAM model

- Instructions
  - Primitive or atomic operations.
  - Each takes constant time, depending on the machine.
  - Instructions are executed one after another.
- We consider instructions commonly found in real computers.
  - Arithmetic (add, subtract, multiply, etc.)
  - Data movement (assignment)
  - Control (branch, subroutine call, return)
  - Comparison
- Data types – integers, characters, and floats

## Analysis of Insertion Sort

**INPUT:**  $A[1..n]$  – an array of integers  
**OUTPUT:** a permutation of  $A$  such that  $A[1] \leq A[2] \leq \dots \leq A[n]$

```

1. for j = 2 to n
2.   key = A[j]
3.   // Insert A[j] into the sorted A[1..j-1].
4.   i = j - 1
5.   while i > 0 and A[i] > key
6.     A[i+1] = A[i]
7.     i--
8.   A[i+1] = key
  
```

Cost of each instruction	How many times of each instruction will be executed.
cost	times
$c_1$	$n$
$c_2$	$n-1$
$c_3=0$	$n-1$
$c_4$	$n-1$
$c_5$	$\sum_{j=2}^n t_j$
$c_6$	$\sum_{j=2}^n (t_j - 1)$
$c_7$	$\sum_{j=2}^n (t_j - 1)$
$c_8$	$n-1$

Loop header executes one more time than the loop body does.

- $t_j$  is the number of times of the **while** loop test in line 5 is executed for a specific value of  $j$ .
  - $t_j$  is the number of elements in  $A[1..j-1]$  which need to be checked in the  $j$ -th iteration of the for loop in line 5.
- $t_j$  may be different for different  $j$ .
- $t_j$  may be different for different input instances, e.g., best case or worst case

## Run time of insertion sort

$$T(n) = c_1n + c_2(n-1) + c_4(n-1) + c_5 \sum_{j=2}^n t_j + c_6 \sum_{j=2}^n (t_j - 1) + c_7 \sum_{j=2}^n (t_j - 1) + c_8(n-1).$$

Must represent  $t_j$  in terms of  $n$ .

**Best case:  $t_j=1$**

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= c_1n + c_2(n-1) + c_4(n-1) + c_5(n-1) + c_8(n-1) \\ &= (c_1 + c_2 + c_4 + c_5 + c_8)n - (c_2 + c_4 + c_5 + c_8). \end{aligned}$$

**$T(n)=a*n+b$**

where  $a$  and  $b$  are **constants**.

Thus, we have a **linear** algorithm.



CLRS, Page 1146, Eq. A.1

**Worst case:  $t_j=j$**

$$\sum_{k=1}^n k = \frac{1}{2}n(n+1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= c_1n + c_2(n-1) + c_4(n-1) + c_5 \left( \frac{n(n+1)}{2} - 1 \right) \\ &\quad + c_6 \left( \frac{n(n-1)}{2} \right) + c_7 \left( \frac{n(n-1)}{2} \right) + c_8(n-1) \\ &= \left( \frac{c_5}{2} + \frac{c_6}{2} + \frac{c_7}{2} \right) n^2 + \left( c_1 + c_2 + c_4 + \frac{c_5}{2} - \frac{c_6}{2} - \frac{c_7}{2} + c_8 \right) n \\ &\quad - (c_2 + c_4 + c_5 + c_8). \end{aligned}$$

**$T(n)=c*n^2+d*n+e$ , where  $c$ ,  $d$ , and  $e$  are **constants**.**

Thus, a **quadratic** algorithm.

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### Best/Worst/Average Case

- Suppose algorithm  $P$  accepts  $k$  different input instances of size  $n$ . Let  $T_i(n)$  be the time complexity of  $P$  on the  $i$ -th input instance, for  $1 \leq i \leq k$ , and  $p_i$  being the probability that this instance occurs.
- Worst case time complexity:  $W(n) = \max_{1 \leq i \leq k} T_i(n)$ 
  - The **maximum** running time over all  $k$  inputs of size  $n$
  - It is the most interesting/important!
- Average case time complexity:  $A(n) = \sum_{1 \leq i \leq k} p_i T_i(n)$ 
  - The **expected** running time over all  $k$  inputs of size  $n$
  - Need assumptions about statistical distributions of input instances.
  - E.g., uniform distribution that each instance is equally likely.
- Best case time complexity:  $B(n) = \min_{1 \leq i \leq k} T_i(n)$ 
  - The **minimum** running time over all  $k$  inputs of size  $n$

- Can be cheating

## Compare Algorithms' Efficiencies

Look at how fast  $T(n)$  grows as  $n$  grows to a very large number (to the limit). This is called **Asymptotic Complexity**.

## Asymptotic Analysis

- This is the BIG IDEA of algorithmic analysis.
- Goal: to simplify analysis of running time by getting rid of “details”, which may be affected by specific implementation and hardware.
  - “rounding” for numbers:  $1,000,001 \approx 1,000,000$
  - “rounding” for functions:  $3n^2 \approx n^2$
- Basic idea of asymptotic analysis - capturing the essence
  - Ignore machine-dependent constants.
  - Look at the growth of the running time with the size of the input in the limit, instead of the actual running time.
  - Asymptotically more efficient algorithms are best for all but very small inputs.

## Theta notation $\Theta$

- “Engineering way” of manipulating  $\Theta$  notation.
  - Ignore its leading constant
    - $T(n) = 1000 * n^5 = \Theta * (n^5)$
  - Drop its lower order terms
    - $T(n) = n^5 + n^3 + \lg n = \Theta(n^5)$
- How to identify lower order terms?
  - Constant < poly-logarithm < polynomial < exponential
  - $c \lg^k n \ n^a \ b^n$
- $T(n) = 23n^5 + 12n^4 + 2n^3 + 5n^2 + n + 4096$ 
  - $T(n) = \Theta(n^5)$
- $T(n) = 50n \lg n + \lg^{10000} n$ 
  - $T(n) = \Theta(n \lg n)$
- $T(n) = 8n^2 \lg n + 5n^2 + n$ 
  - $T(n) = \Theta(n^2 \lg n)$

## Theta notation $\Theta$

- Mathematical definition
  - $\Theta(g(n))$  is a set of functions  $\{f(n)\}$ .
  - $\Theta(g(n)) = \{f(n) : \text{there exists positive constants } c_1, c_2, \text{ and } n_0, \text{ s.t. } 0 \leq c_1 g(n) \leq f(n) \leq c_2 g(n) \text{ for all } n \geq n_0\}$ .
- $f(n) = \Theta(g(n))$  means  $f(n) \in \Theta(g(n))$

- Asymptotically tight bound
- $f(n)$  is equal to  $g(n)$  within a constant factor.

## Big-O Notation $O$

- Mathematical definition
  - $O(g(n))$  is a set of functions.
  - $O(g(n)) = \{f(n) : \text{there exists positive constants } c, \text{ and } n_0, \text{ s.t. } 0 \leq f(n) \leq cg(n) \text{ for all } n \geq n_0\}$ .
- $f(n) = O(g(n))$  means  $f(n) \in O(g(n))$
- Asymptotically upper bound.
- $f(n)$  grows asymptotically slower than  $g(n)$ .
- Used for worst-case analysis.

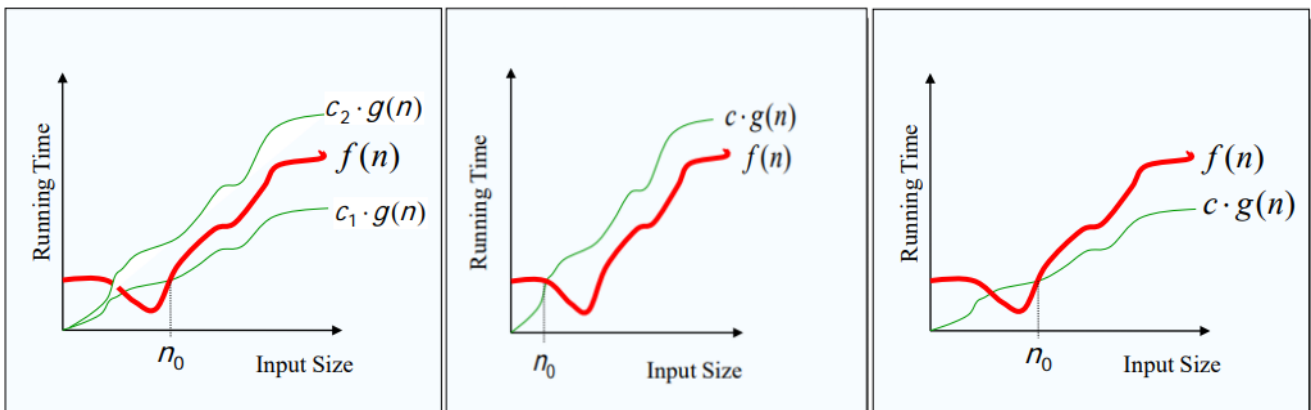
## Big-Omega Notation $\Omega$

- Mathematical definition
  - $\Omega(g(n))$  is a set of functions.
  - $\Omega(g(n)) = \{f(n) : \text{there exists positive constants } c, \text{ and } n_0, \text{ s.t. } 0 \leq cg(n) \leq f(n) \text{ for all } n \geq n_0\}$ .
- $f(n) = \Omega(g(n))$  means  $f(n) \in \Omega(g(n))$
- Asymptotically lower bound.
- $f(n)$  grows asymptotically faster than  $g(n)$ .
- Used for best-case analysis.

$\Theta$

$O$

$\Omega$



## Common Time Complexities

**BETTER**



**WORSE**

•  $\theta(1)$  constant time

•  $\theta(\log n)$  log time

•  $\theta(n)$  linear time

•  $\theta(n \log n)$  log linear time

*Feasible algorithms. Very often,  $O(n \log n)$  is good enough.*

•  $\theta(n^2)$  quadratic time

•  $\theta(n^3)$  cubic time

*Polynomial time complexities really depend on the input size ( $n$  cannot be too big)*

•  $\theta(2^n)$  exponential time

*Infeasible!!!*

## Two concepts (Complexity)

- Concrete complexity vs. abstract complexity
  - Concrete complexity refers to the results from the complexity analysis using the RAM model, including many details.
  - Abstract complexity refers to the results from the asymptotic analysis, i.e., using the theta, Big-O, and Big-Omega notation.
- Example, insertion sort
  - Concrete complexity

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) = & c_1 n + c_2(n-1) + c_4(n-1) + c_5 \sum_{j=2}^n t_j + c_6 \sum_{j=2}^n (t_j - 1) \\ & + c_7 \sum_{j=2}^n (t_j - 1) + c_8(n-1) . \end{aligned}$$

- Abstract complexity (above ex.)
  - Worst case, average case:  $\Theta(n^2)$
  - Best case:  $\Theta(n)$
- Another example, exercise from Lecture 1, CLRS, 1.2-2.
  - Insertion sort needs  $8n^2$  steps vs. merge sort needs  $64n \lg n$  steps.
  - Concrete complexity:  $8n^2$  vs.  $64n \lg n$
  - Abstract complexity:  $\Theta(n^2)$  vs.  $\Theta(n \lg n)$