

Basic Sorts

Insertion Sort

Theorem 0.1

At iteration j , everything before index j is sorted. "Insert" the item at index j into the sorted array from 0 to $j - 1$ by swapping leftwards.

For insertion sort, we basically create a sub array starting from the front of the main array that is always sorted. Then for each element, we place it into its correct location in the sorted subarray.

Note 0.1

For **stability**, do not swap items with the same value!

Example:

(2, 4, 6, 8, 6)

When at the second 6, we will swap it with 8, instead of 6 in order to maintain stability.

Another note: In insertion sort, before the last iteration, it is possible that none of the items are in their final position.

Theorem 0.2

Time Complexity

Best: Already sorted: $O(n)$

- This is because we still need to look at every data item to make sure everything is in order.

Worst: Reverse sorted order: $O(n^2)$

- Each element needs to be swapped all the way to the front (aka moving it the maximum distance).

Selection Sort

Theorem 0.3

For each index in the array, find the largest/smallest item in the unsorted part of the array, and then place it into that position repeatedly until sorted.

In this case, each element is being placed into its final spot in the array. This is different from selection sort where we can't guarantee anything is in its correct spot until the end.

Time Complexity**Best:** $O(n^2)$ **Worst:** $O(n^2)$