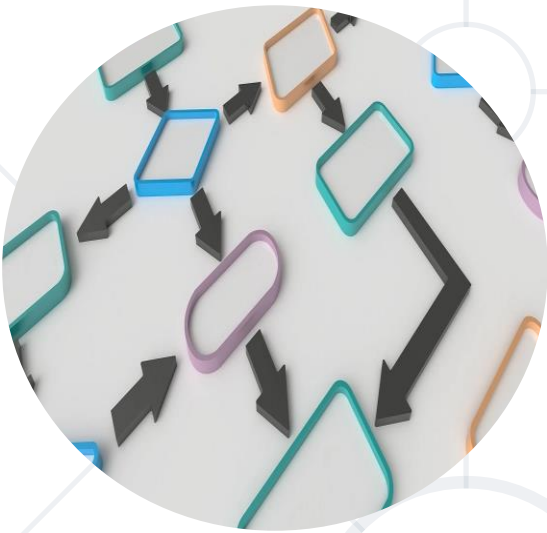


Algorithms Introduction



SoftUni Team
Technical Trainers



SoftUni



Software University

<https://softuni.bg>

sli.do

#python-advanced

Table of Contents

1. Algorithmic Complexity
2. Recursion and Recursive Algorithms
3. Brute-Force Algorithms
4. Greedy Algorithms and Greedy Failure Cases
5. Searching Algorithms
 - Linear Search and Binary Search
6. Simple Sorting Algorithms
 - Selection Sort
 - Bubble Sort
 - Insertion Sort



A background network diagram consisting of a grid of light gray lines intersecting at various points. At these intersections, there are several circles of different sizes, some solid light gray and some hollow, creating a web-like structure.

$O(n)$

Algorithmic Complexity
Asymptotic Notation

- Why should we **analyze algorithms**?
 - Predict the **resources** the algorithm will need
 - Computational time (**CPU** consumption)
 - Memory space (**RAM** consumption)
 - Communication **bandwidth** consumption
 - **Hard disk** operations

- Calculate maximum steps to find the result

```
def get_operations_count(n):  
    counter = 0  
  
    for i in range(n):  
        for j in range(n):  
            counter += 1  
  
    return counter
```

Solution:

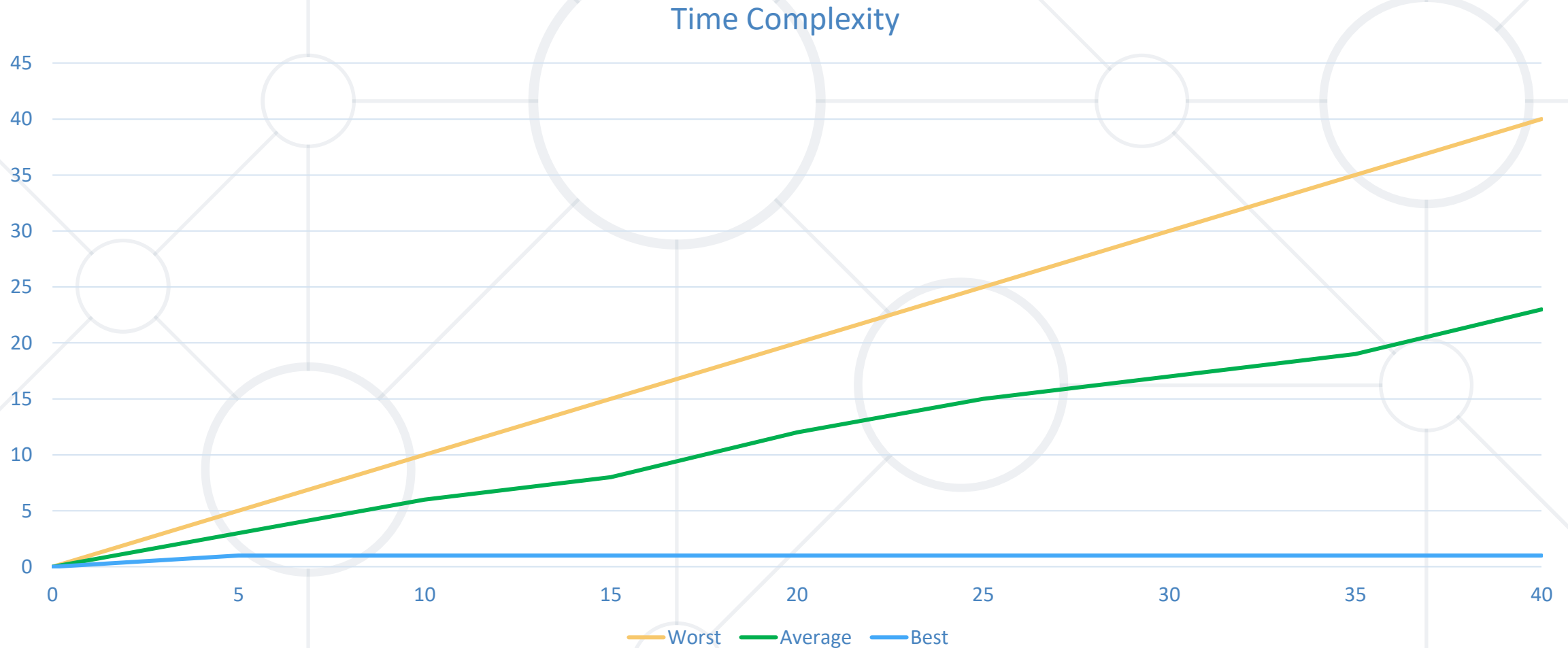
$$T(n) = 3(n^2) + 3n + 3$$

- The input(**n**) of the function is the main source of steps growth

- Some parts of the equation **grow much faster** than others
 - $T(n) = 3(n^2) + 3n + 3$
 - We can **ignore** some part of this equation
 - Higher terms **dominate** lower terms – $n > 2$, $n^2 > n$, $n^3 > n^2$
 - Multiplicative constants can be **omitted** – $12n \rightarrow n$, $2n^2 \rightarrow n^2$
- The previous solution becomes $\approx n^2$

- **Worst-case**
 - An **upper** bound on the running time
- **Average-case**
 - **Average** running time
- **Best-case**
 - The **lower** bound on the running time (the optimal case)

- Therefore, we need to measure **all** the possibilities:



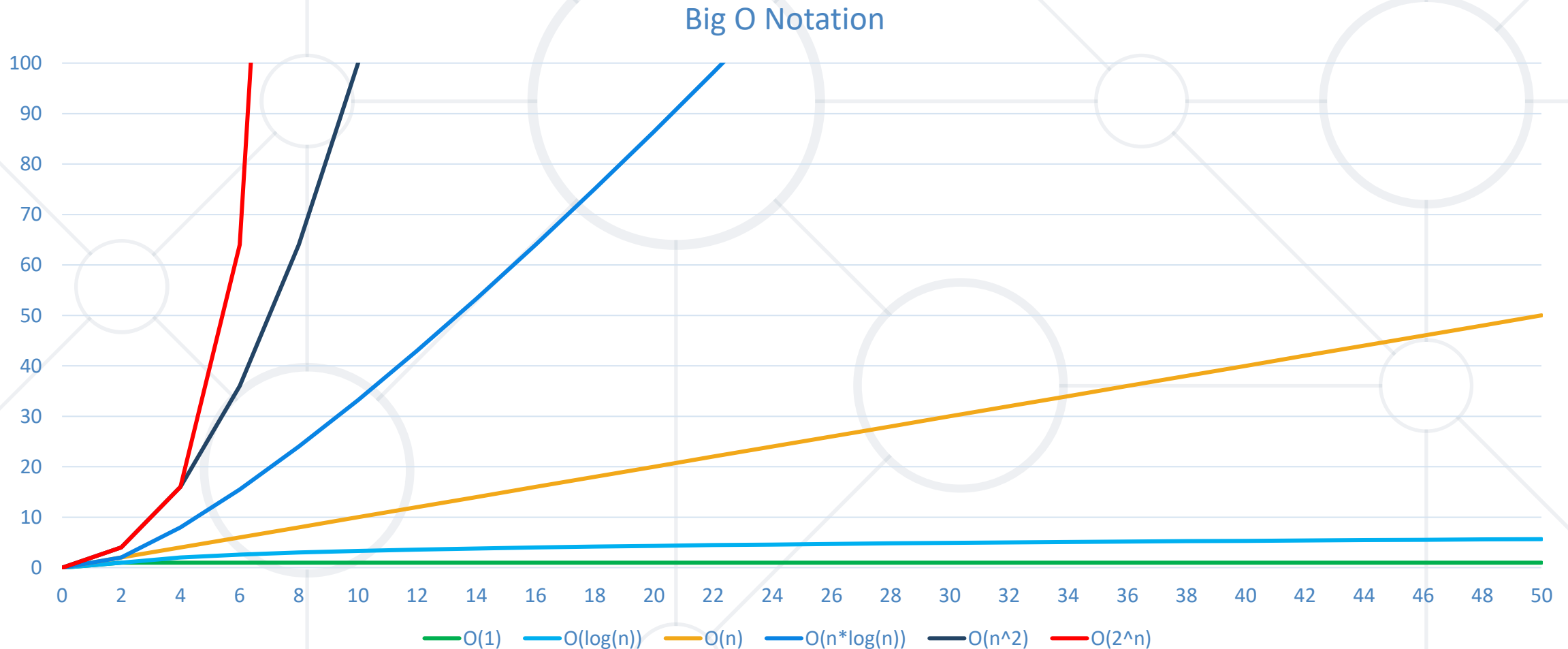
- From the previous chart we can deduce:
 - For smaller size of the input (n) we **don't care much for the runtime**
 - So we measure the time as n approaches **infinity**
 - If an algorithm **must scale**, it **should compute** the result within a **finite and practical time**
 - We're concerned about the **order of an algorithm's complexity**, not the actual time in terms of **milliseconds**

Asymptotic notations

- Descriptions that allow us to examine an algorithm's running time
- There are **three** common asymptotic notations:
 - Big **O** – $O(f(n))$
 - Big **Theta** – $\Theta(f(n))$
 - Big **Omega** – $\Omega(f(n))$



- Below are some examples of **common algorithmic** grow:



Typical Complexities

Complexity	Notation	Description
constant	$O(1)$	$n = 1\ 000 \rightarrow 1\text{-}2$ operations
logarithmic	$O(\log n)$	$n = 1\ 000 \rightarrow 10$ operations
linear	$O(n)$	$n = 1\ 000 \rightarrow 1\ 000$ operations
linearithmic	$O(n \cdot \log n)$	$n = 1\ 000 \rightarrow 10\ 000$ operations
quadratic	$O(n^2)$	$n = 1\ 000 \rightarrow 1\ 000\ 000$ operations
cubic	$O(n^3)$	$n = 1\ 000 \rightarrow 1\ 000\ 000\ 000$ operations
exponential	$O(n^n)$	$n = 10 \rightarrow 10\ 000\ 000\ 000$ operations



Recursion

What is Recursion?

- **Method** of solving a problem where the solution depends on solutions to smaller instances of the same problem
- A common **computer programming tactic** is to **divide** a problem into **sub-problems** of the same type as the original, **solve** those sub-problems, and **combine** the **results**



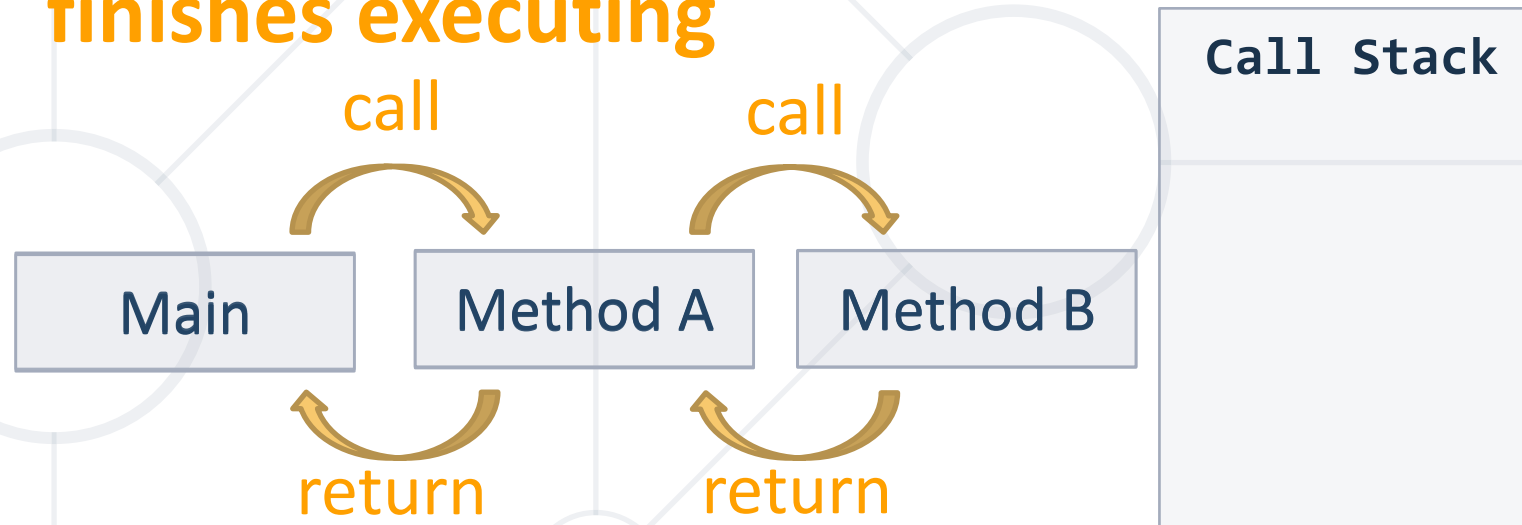
What is Recursion?

- A function or a method that **calls itself one or more** times until a specified **condition is met**
 - After the recursive call the rest code is processed **from the last** one called **to the first**

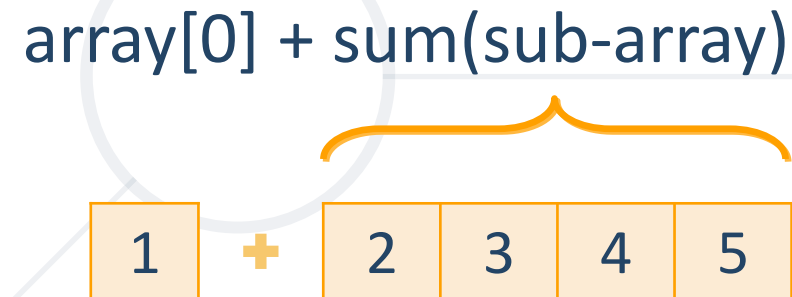


Call Stack

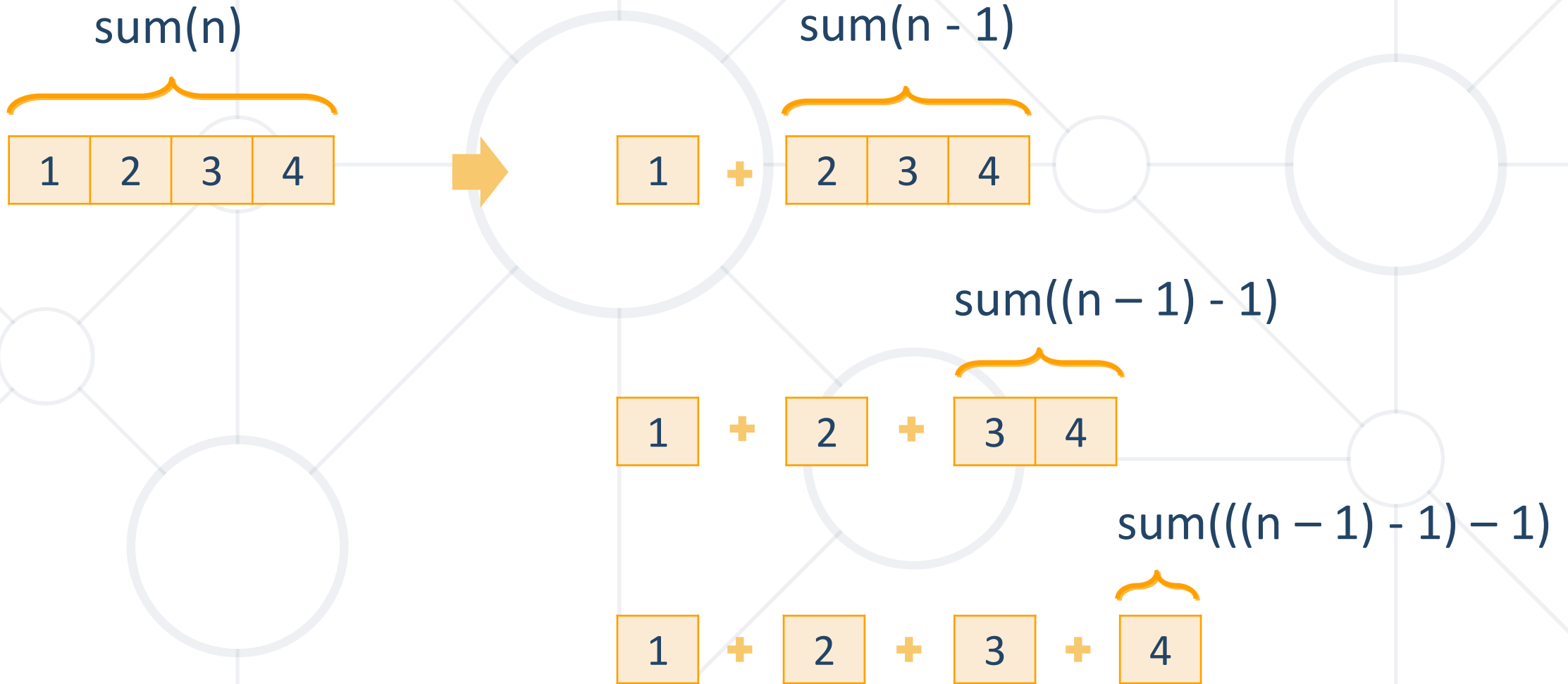
- "The stack" is a small **fixed-size** chunk of memory (e.g. 1MB)
- Keeps track of **the point** to which each active subroutine should **return control** when it **finishes executing**



- Problem solving technique (In CS)
 - Involves a **function calling itself**
 - The function should have a **base case**
 - **Each step** of the recursion should **move towards** the **base case**



Array Sum – Example



Problem: Recursive Array Sum

- Create a **recursive method** that
 - Finds the sum of all numbers stored in an **array**
 - Read numbers from the console

1 2 3 4 → 10

-1 0 1 → 0

Solution: Recursive Array Sum

```
def calc_sum(numbers, idx):  
    if idx == len(numbers) - 1:  
        return numbers[idx]  
  
    return numbers[idx] + calc_sum(numbers, idx + 1)
```

Base case

Recursive call

Problem: Recursive Factorial

- Create a **recursive method** that calculates **$n!$**
 - Read **n** from the console

5 → 120

10 → 3628800

Recursive Factorial – Example

- Recursive definition of **n!** (n factorial):

$$\begin{aligned} n! &= n * (n-1)! \text{ for } n > 0 \\ 0! &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$3! = 3 * 2!$$

$$2! = 2 * 1!$$

$$1! = 1 * 0!$$

$$0! = 1$$

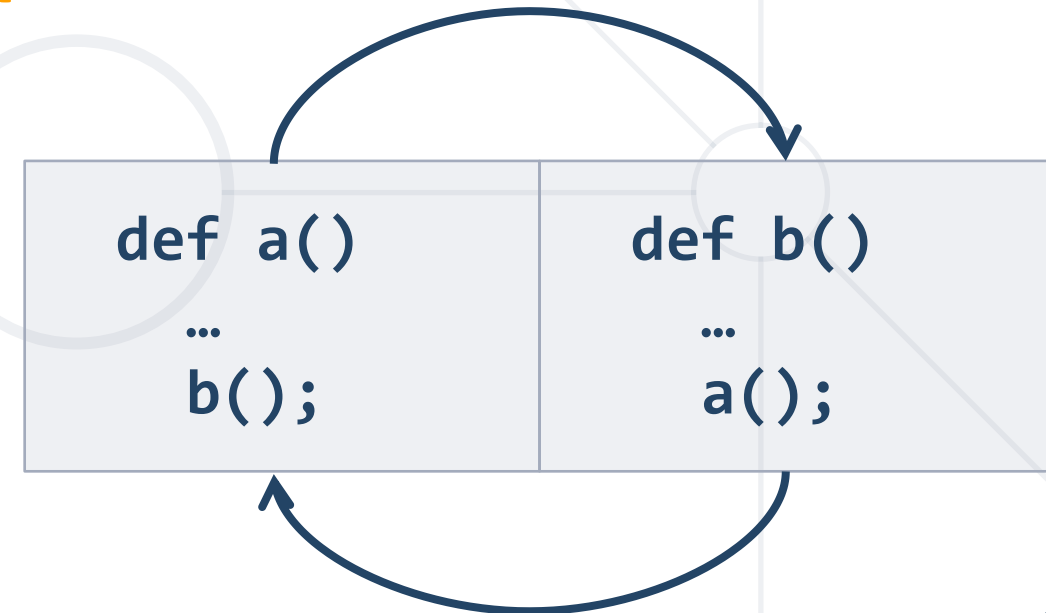
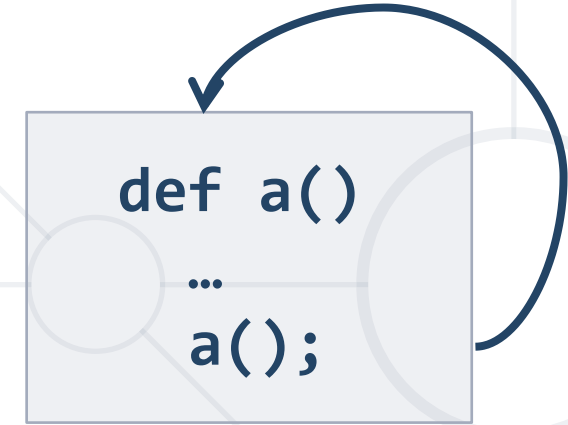
Solution: Recursive Factorial

```
def get_factorial(num):  
    if num == 0:  
        return 1  
  
    return num * get_factorial(num - 1)
```

Base case

Recursive call

- **Direct recursion**
 - A method directly calls itself
- **Indirect recursion**
 - Method **A** calls **B**, method **B** calls **A**
 - Or even **A** → **B** → **C** → **A**



- Recursive methods have **three** parts:
 - **Pre-actions** (before calling the recursion)
 - **Recursive calls** (step-in)
 - **Post-actions** (after returning from recursion)

```
def recursion()  
    # Pre-actions  
    recursion()  
    # Post-actions
```

Problem: Recursive Drawing

- Create a **recursive method** that draws the following figure

5



```
*****  
*****  
***  
**  
*  
#  
##  
###  
####  
#####  
#####
```

Pre-Actions and Post-Actions – Example

```
def print_figure(n):  
    if n <= 0:  
        return  
  
    # TODO: Pre-action: print n asterisks  
  
    # Recursive call  
    print_figure(n - 1)  
  
    # TODO: Post-action: print n hashtags
```

Performance: Recursion vs. Iteration

- Recursive calls are **slower**
- Parameters and return values **travel** through the stack
- Good for branching problems

```
def fact(n):  
    if n == 0:  
        return 1  
    return n * fact(n - 1)
```

- No function call **cost**
- Creates **local** variables
- Good for linear problems (no branching)

```
def fact(n):  
    result = 1  
    for i in range(1, n + 1):  
        result *= i  
    return result
```





Brute-Force Algorithms

- Trying all possible combinations
- Picking the best solution
- Usually slow and inefficient

00000

Brute-Force Algorithms

00000

Brute-Force Algorithms

0 0 0 0 1

Brute-Force Algorithms

00002

9 9 9 9 9

$10 \times 10 \times 10 \times 10 \times 10 = 100,000$ combinations



Greedy Algorithms

Greedy Algorithms

- Used for solving optimization problems
- Usually more efficient than the other algorithms
- Can produce a **non-optimal** (incorrect) result
- Pick the **best local** solution
 - The optimum for a **current** position and point of view
- Greedy algorithms assume that always choosing a **local** optimum leads to the **global** optimum



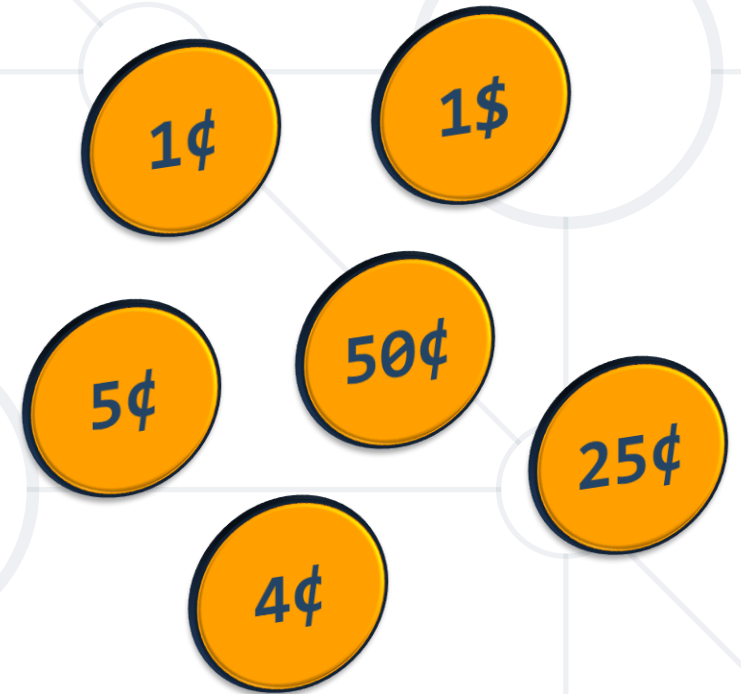
Optimization Problems

- Finding the best solution from all possible solutions
- Examples:
 - Find the **shortest** path from Sofia to Varna
 - Find the **maximum increasing subsequence**
 - Find the shortest route that visits each city and returns to the origin city

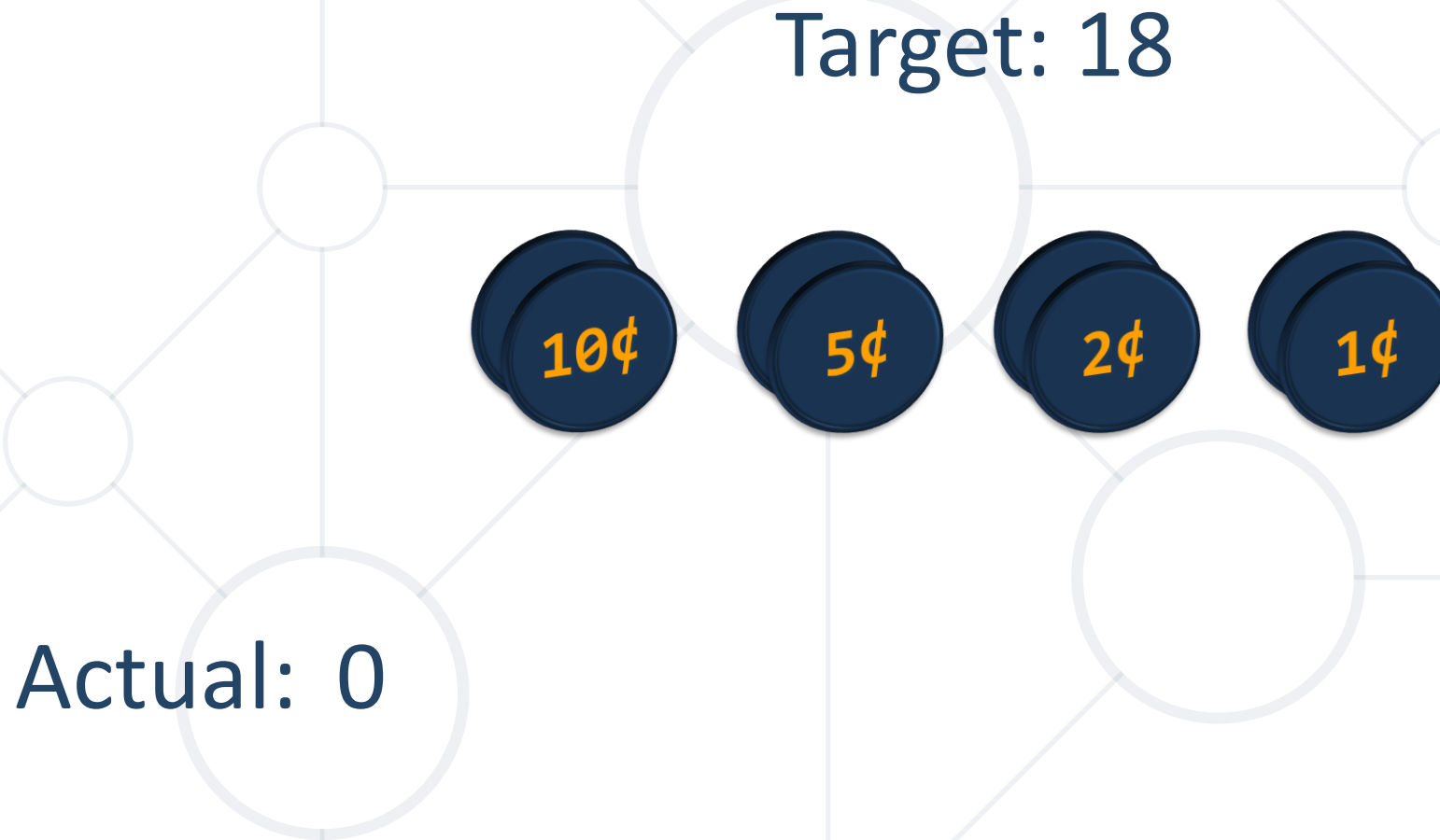


Problem: Sum of Coins

- Write a program, which gathers a sum of money, using the least possible number of coins
- Consider the US **currency coins**
 - **0.01, 0.02, 0.05, 0.10**
- **Greedy algorithm** for "Sum of Coins":
 - Take the largest coin while possible
 - Then take the second largest
 - etc.



Sum of Coins Visualization



Sum of Coins Visualization



Sum of Coins Visualization



Sum of Coins Visualization



Sum of Coins Visualization





Greedy Failure Cases

Sum of Coins Failure Visualization



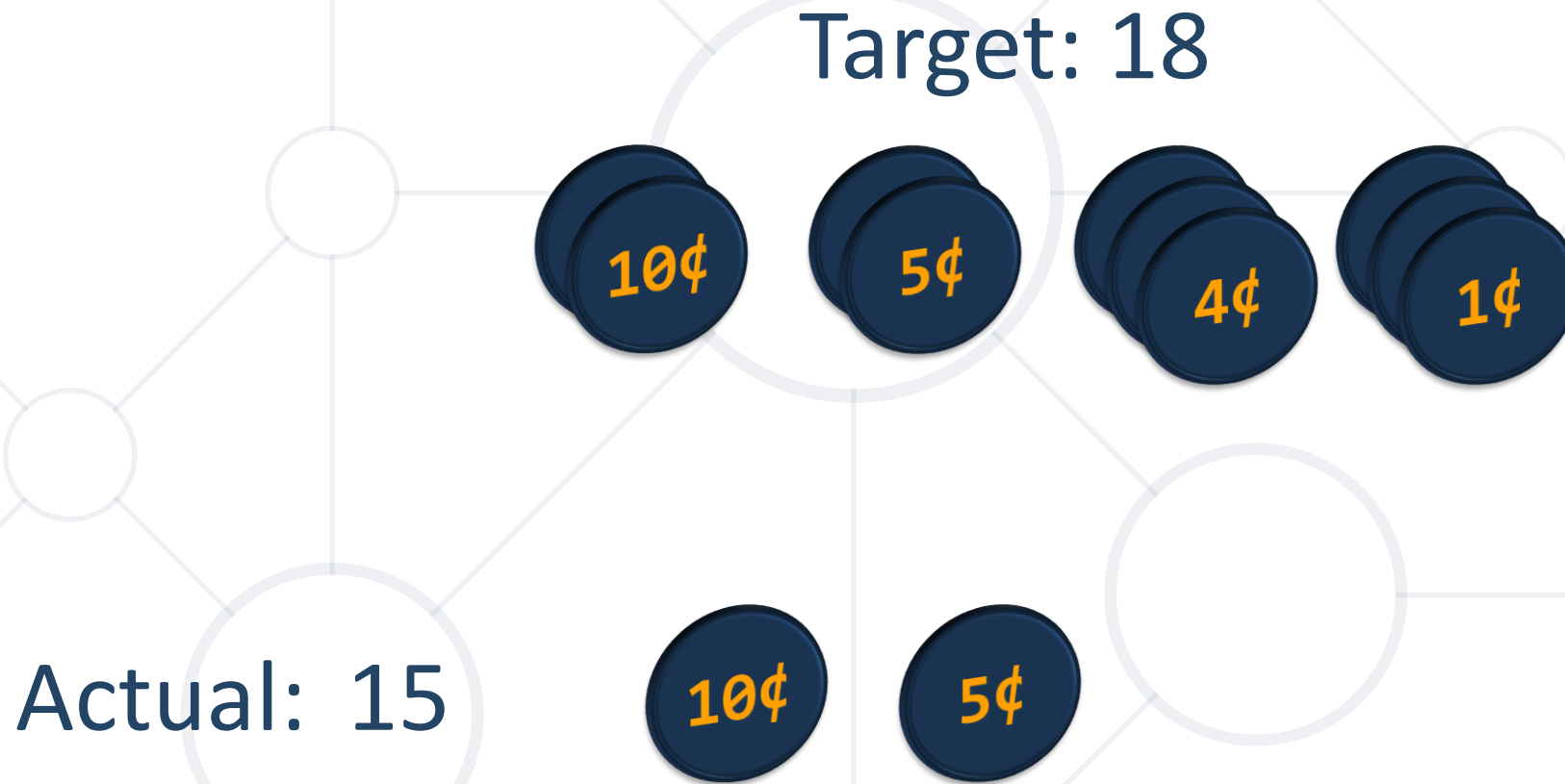
Sum of Coins Failure Visualization



Sum of Coins Failure Visualization



Sum of Coins Failure Visualization



Sum of Coins Failure Visualization



Sum of Coins Failure Visualization



Sum of Coins Failure Visualization



Sum of Coins Failure Visualization



Solution: Sum of Coins

```
def choose_coins(coins, target_sum):  
    coins.sort(reverse=True)  
    index = 0  
    used_coins = {}  
  
    while target_sum != 0 and index < len(coins):  
        # Next slide  
  
coin_input = input("Coins: ")  
coins = list(map(int, coin_input.split(", ")))  
target_sum = int(input("Sum: "))  
print(choose_coins(coins, target_sum))
```

Solution: Sum of Coins

```
while target_sum != 0 and index < len(coins):
    count_coins = target_sum // coins[index]
    target_sum %= coins[index]
    if count_coins > 0:
        used_coins[coins[index]] = count_coins
    index += 1

if target_sum != 0:
    return "Error"
else:
    # Sum found
```

Problem: Set Cover

- Write a program that finds the smallest subset of **S**, the union of which = **U** (if it exists)
- You will be given a **set** of integers **U** called "**the Universe**"
- And a set **S** of **n** integer sets whose union = **U**

Universe: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

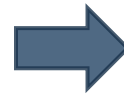
Number of sets: 4

1

2, 4

5

3



Sets to take (4):

{ 2, 4 }

{ 1 }

{ 5 }

{ 3 }

Solution: Set Cover

```
def set_cover(universe, sets):  
    universe_set = set(universe)  
    chosen_sets = []  
  
    while universe_set:  
        // Next slide  
  
    return chosen_sets  
  
universe_input = input("Universe: ")  
num_sets = int(input("Number of sets: "))
```

```
while universe_set:
    best_set = max(sets, key=lambda s: len(universe_
set.intersection(s)))
    chosen_sets.append(best_set)
    universe_set -= set(best_set)

return chosen_sets
```

```
result = set_cover(universe, sets)

for i in range(len(result)):
    result[i] = sorted(result[i])

print("\nSets to take ({}):".format(len(result)))

for s in result:
    print("{", ", ".join(map(str, s)), "}")
```



Searching Algorithms

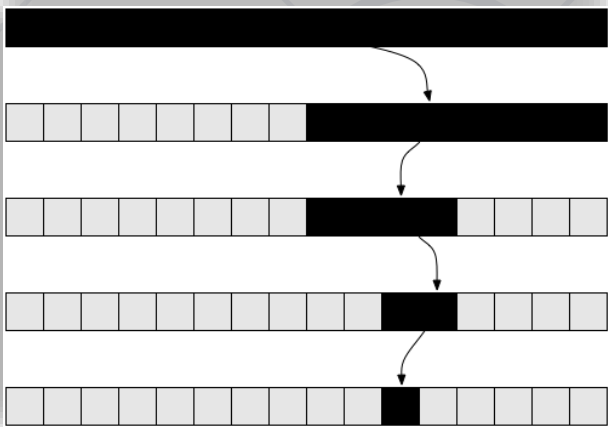
Linear and Binary Search

- **Search algorithm** - an algorithm for finding an item with specified properties among a collection of items
- Different types of searching algorithms:
 - For sub-structures of a given structure
 - A graph, a string, a finite group
 - Search for the **min / max** of a function, etc.

- **Linear search** finds a particular value in a list
 - Checking every one of the elements
 - One at a time, in sequence
 - Until the desired one is found
- Worst & average performance: **$O(n)$**

```
for each item in the list:  
    if that item has the desired value,  
        return the item's location  
return nothing
```

- Binary search finds an item within an ordered data structure
- At each step, compare the input with the middle element
 - The algorithm repeats its action to the left or right sub-structure
- Average performance: $O(\log(n))$
- See the visualization



Binary Search (Iterative)

```
def binary_search(numbers, target):  
    left = 0  
    right = len(numbers) - 1  
    while left <= right:  
        mid_idx = (left + right) // 2  
        mid_el = numbers[mid_idx]  
        if mid_el == target:  
            return mid_idx  
        if mid_el < target:  
            left = mid_idx + 1  
        else:  
            right = mid_idx - 1  
    return -1
```




Simple Sorting Algorithms

Selection, Bubble and Insertion Sort

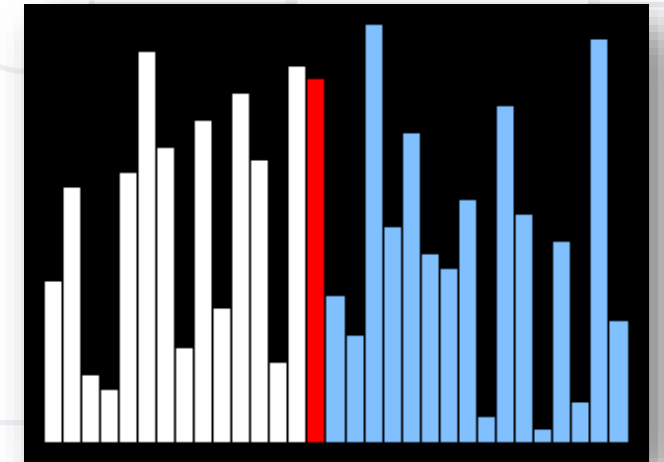
What is a Sorting Algorithm?

- **Sorting algorithm**

- An algorithm that rearranges elements in a list
 - In non-decreasing order
- Elements must be **comparable**

- More formally

- The **input** is a sequence / list of elements
- The **output** is a rearrangement / **permutation** of elements
 - In non-decreasing order

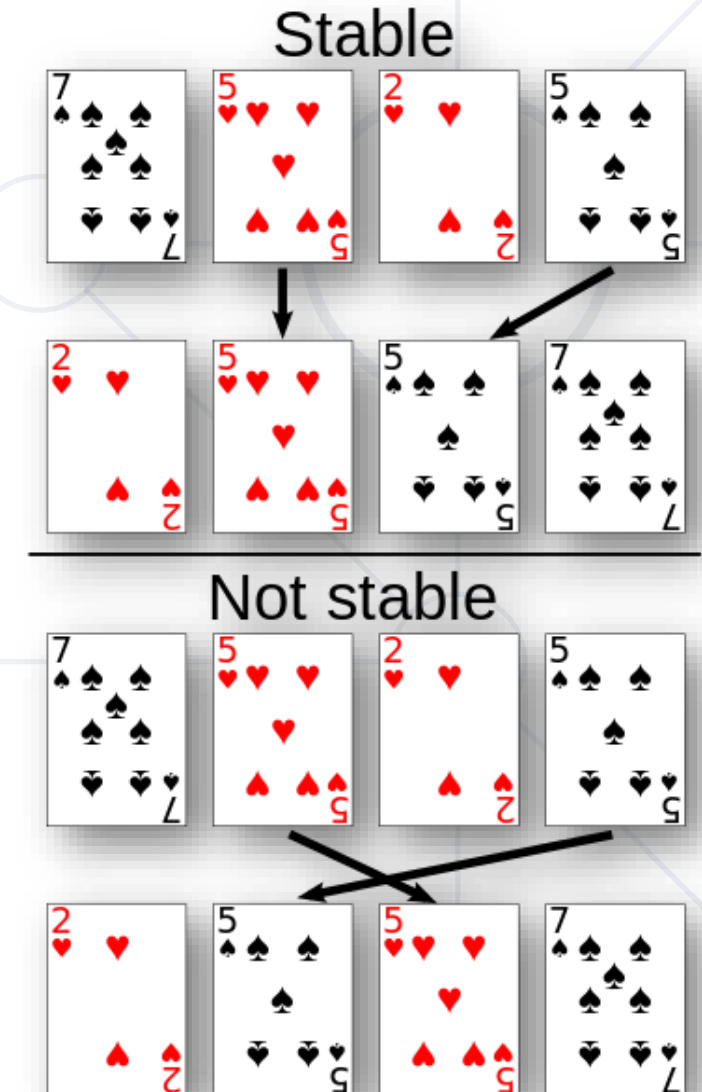


- Efficient sorting algorithms are important for:
 - Producing human-readable output
 - Canonicalizing data – making data uniquely arranged
 - In conjunction with other algorithms, like binary searching
- Example of sorting:



- Sorting algorithms are often classified by:
 - Computational **complexity** and memory usage
 - Worst, average and best-case behavior
 - **Recursive** / non-recursive
 - **Stability** – stable / unstable
 - **Comparison-based** sort / non-comparison based

- **Stable** sorting algorithms
 - Maintain the order of equal elements
 - If two items compare as equal, their relative order is preserved
- **Unstable** sorting algorithms
 - Rearrange the equal elements in unpredictable order
- Often **different elements** have the **same key** used for equality comparing

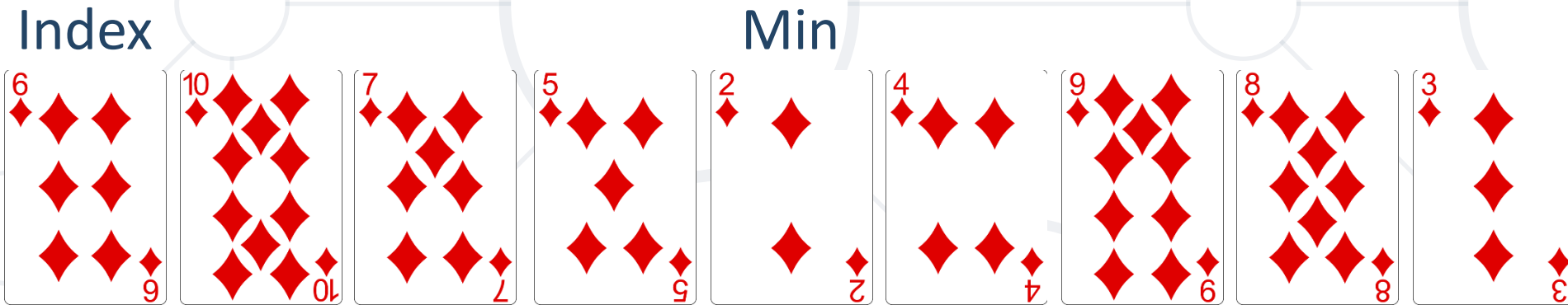


Selection Sort

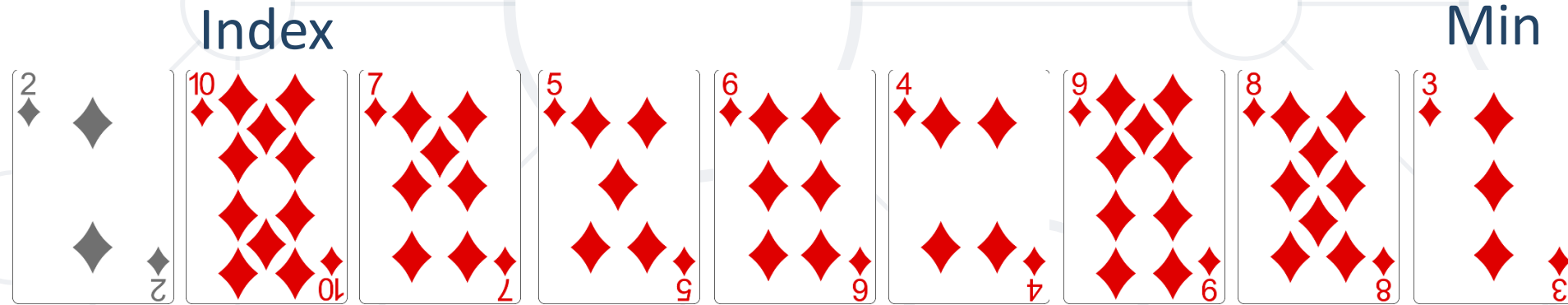
- **Selection sort** – simple, but inefficient algorithm
 - Swap the first with the min element on the right, then the second, etc.
 - Memory: **$O(1)$**
 - Time: **$O(n^2)$**
 - Stable: No
 - Method: Selection



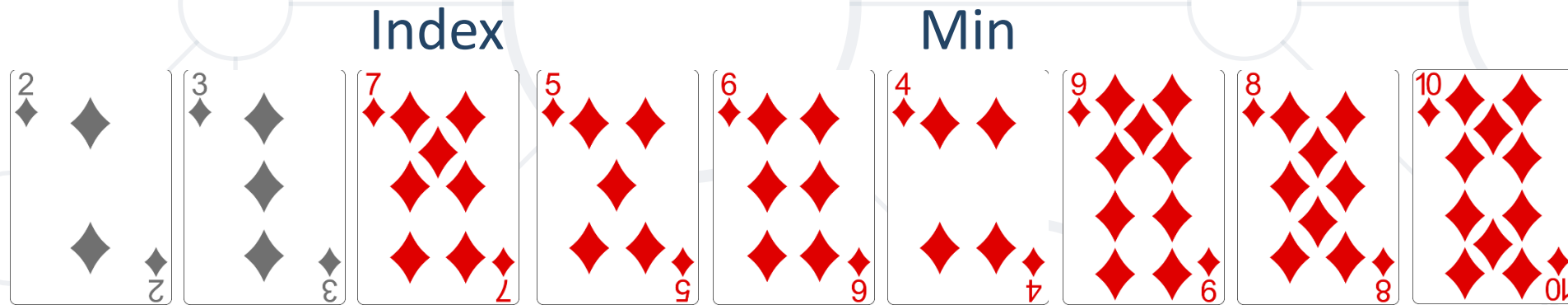
Selection Sort Visualization



Selection Sort Visualization



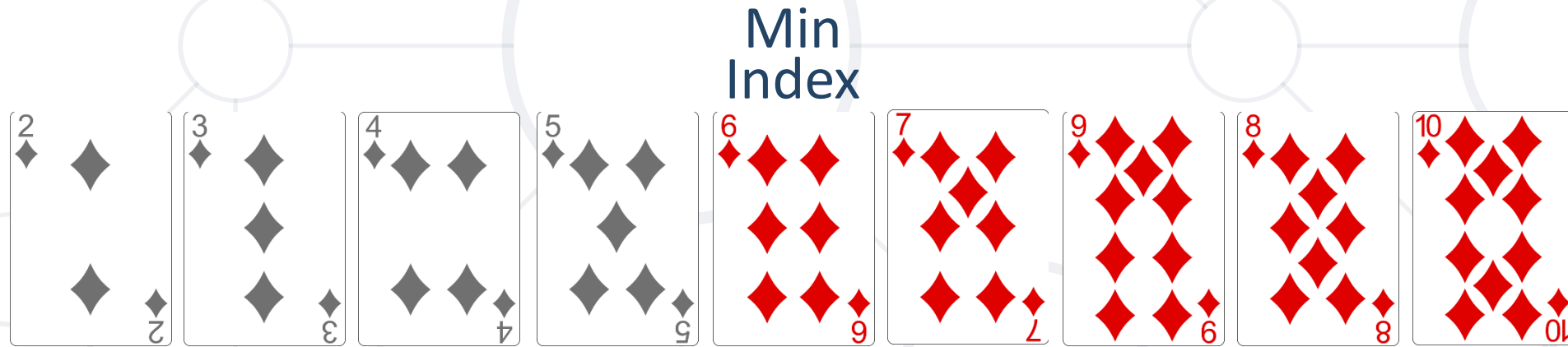
Selection Sort Visualization



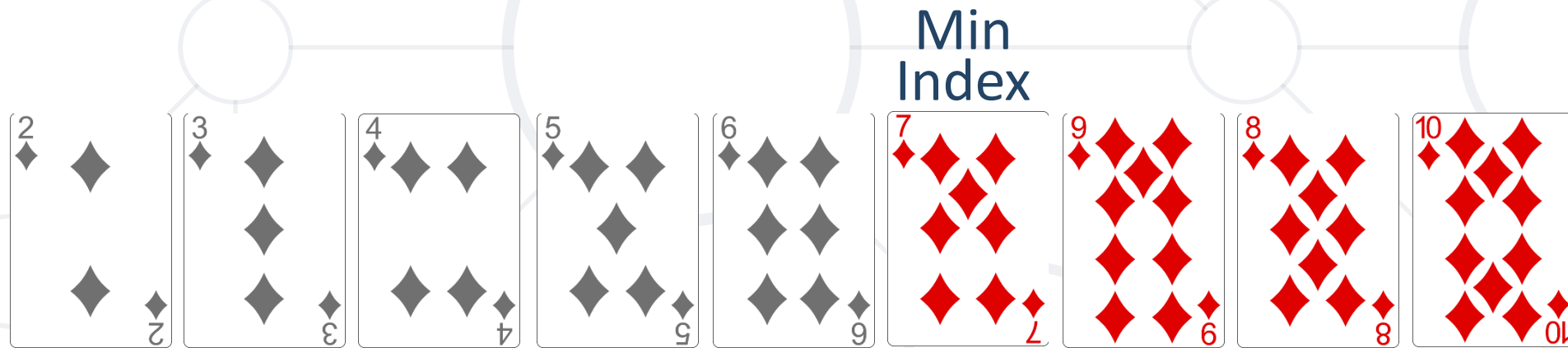
Selection Sort Visualization



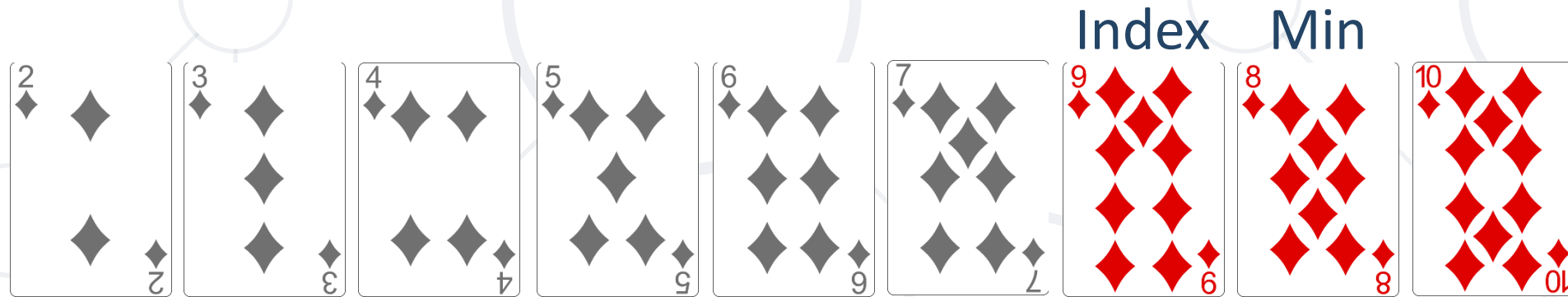
Selection Sort Visualization



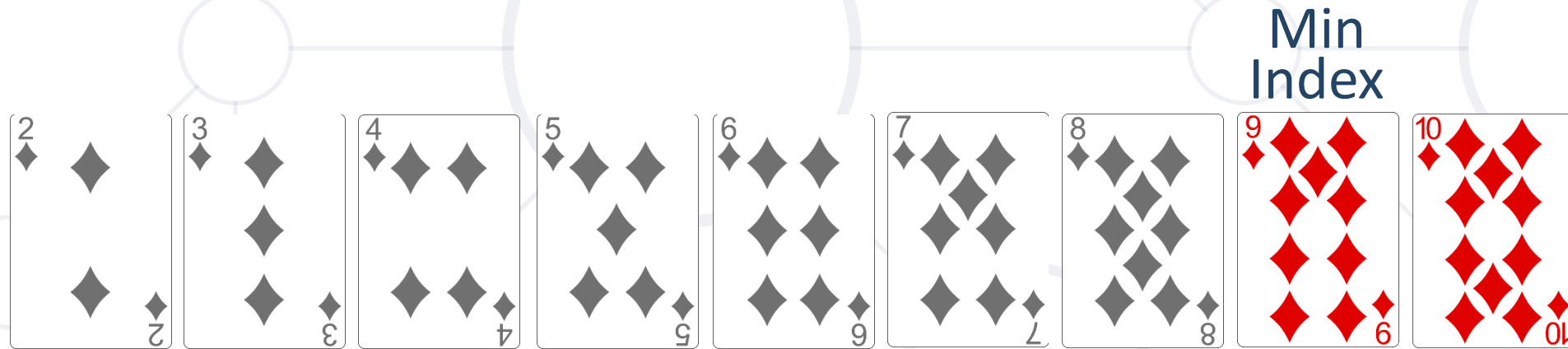
Selection Sort Visualization



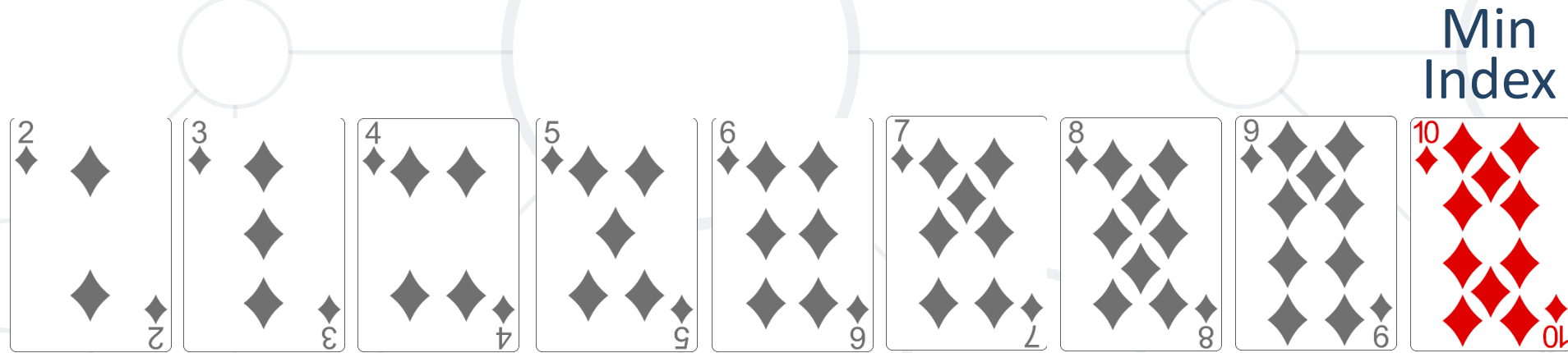
Selection Sort Visualization



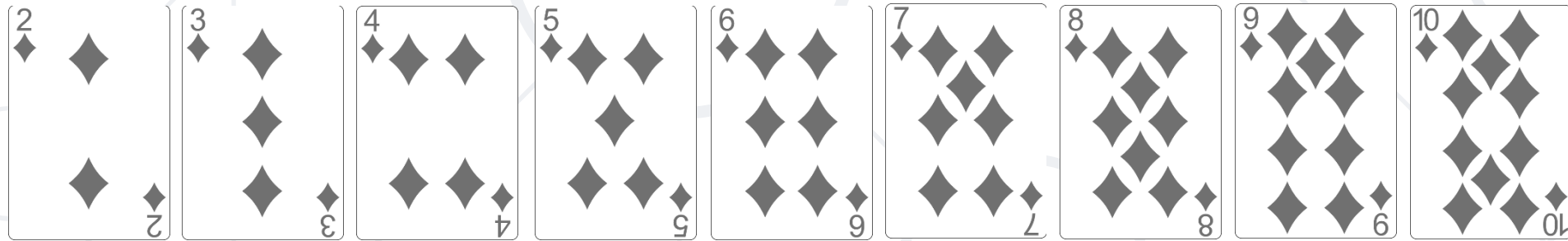
Selection Sort Visualization



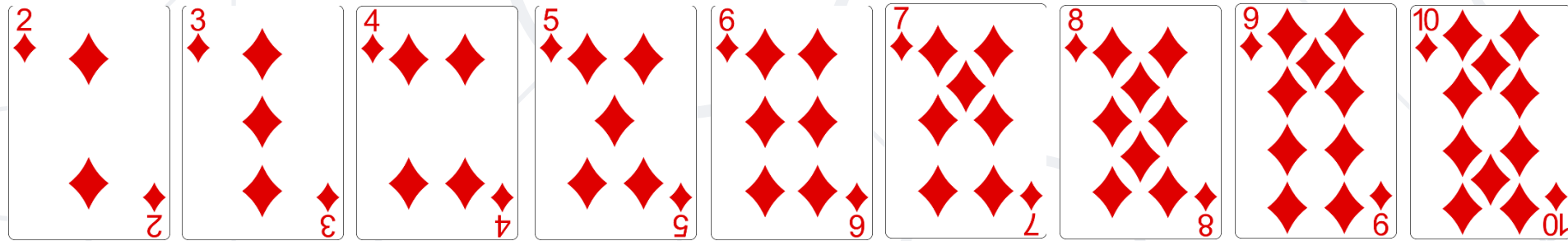
Selection Sort Visualization



Selection Sort Visualization



Selection Sort Visualization



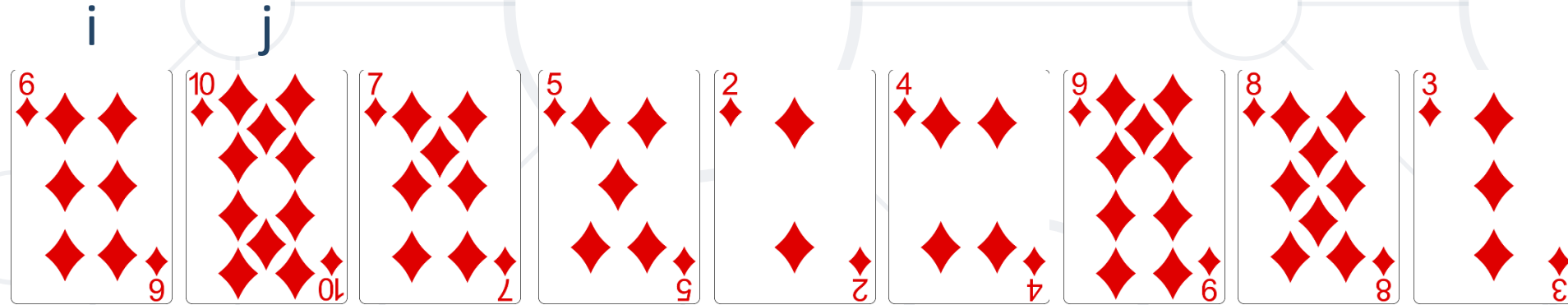
```
def selection_sort(nums):  
    for idx in range(len(nums)):  
        min_idx = idx  
        for curr_idx in range(idx + 1, len(nums)):  
            if nums[curr_idx] < nums[min_idx]:  
                min_idx = curr_idx  
  
        nums[idx], nums[min_idx] = nums[min_idx], nums[idx]
```

Bubble Sort

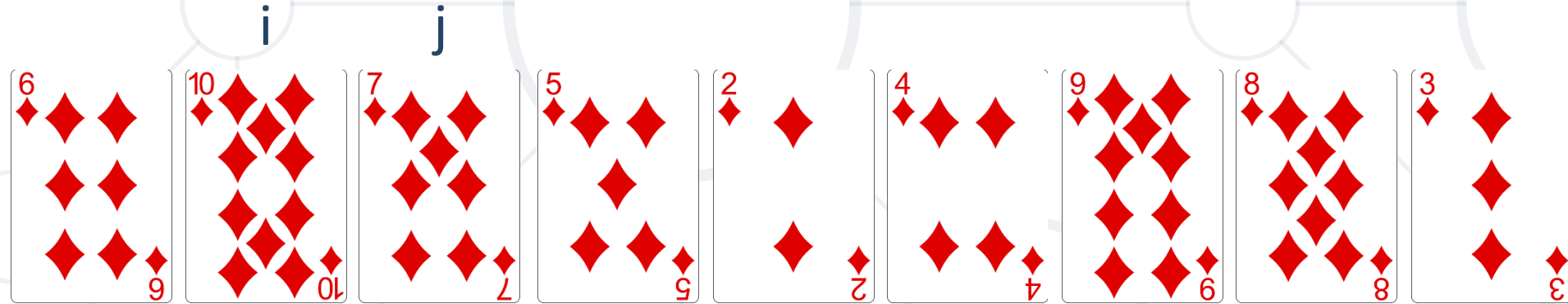
- **Bubble sort** – simple, but inefficient algorithm
- Swaps to neighbor elements when not in order until sorted
 - Memory: **$O(1)$**
 - Time: **$O(n^2)$**
 - Stable: Yes
 - Method: Exchanging



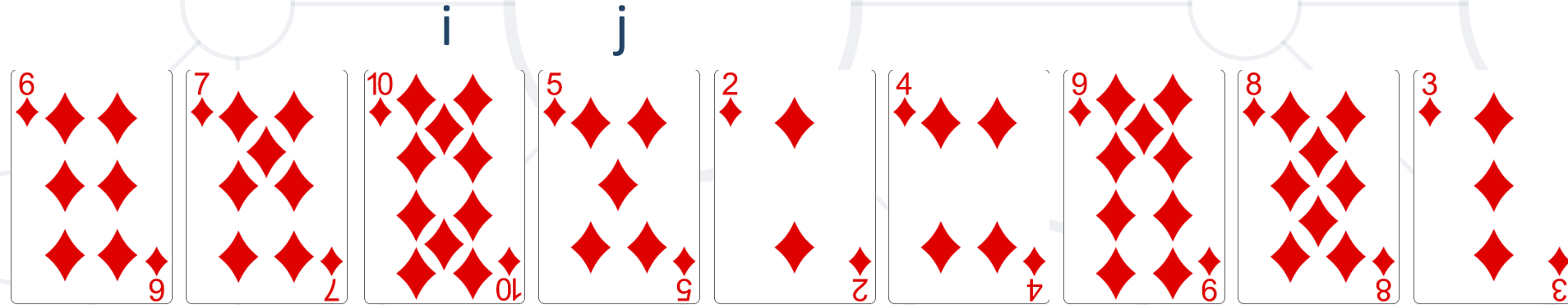
Bubble Sort Visualization



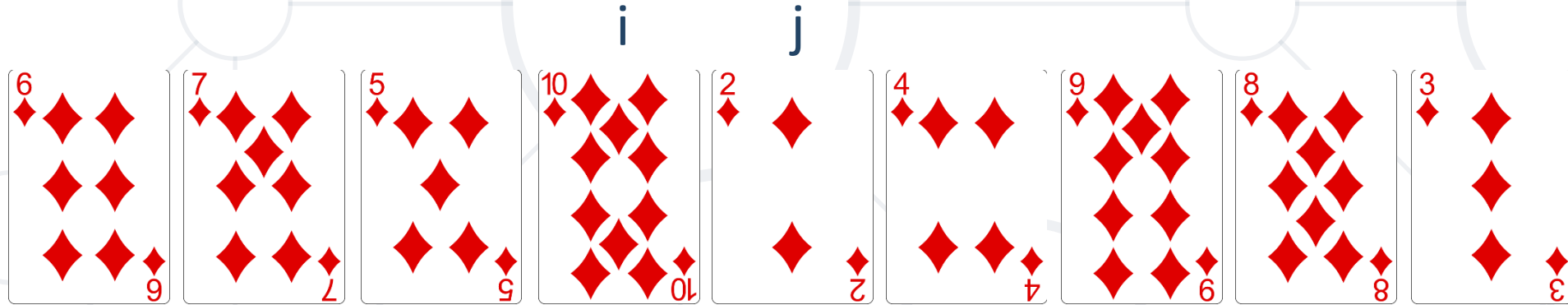
Bubble Sort Visualization



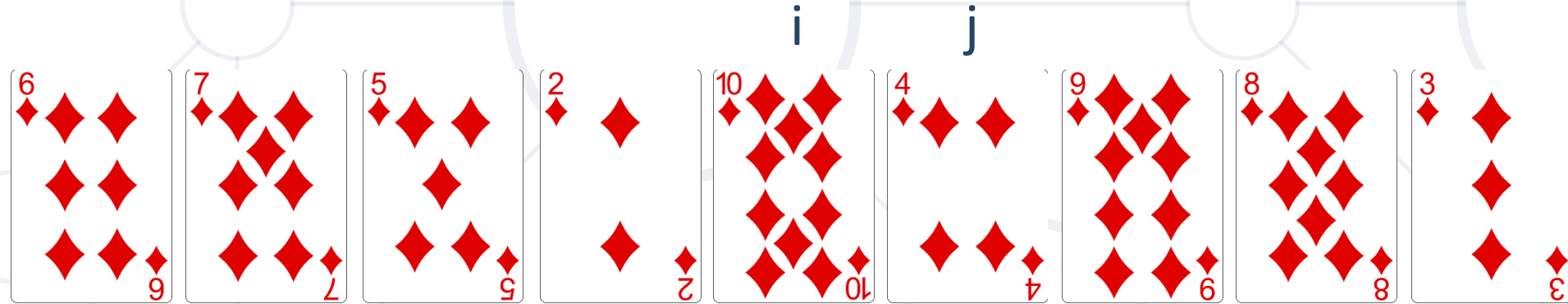
Bubble Sort Visualization



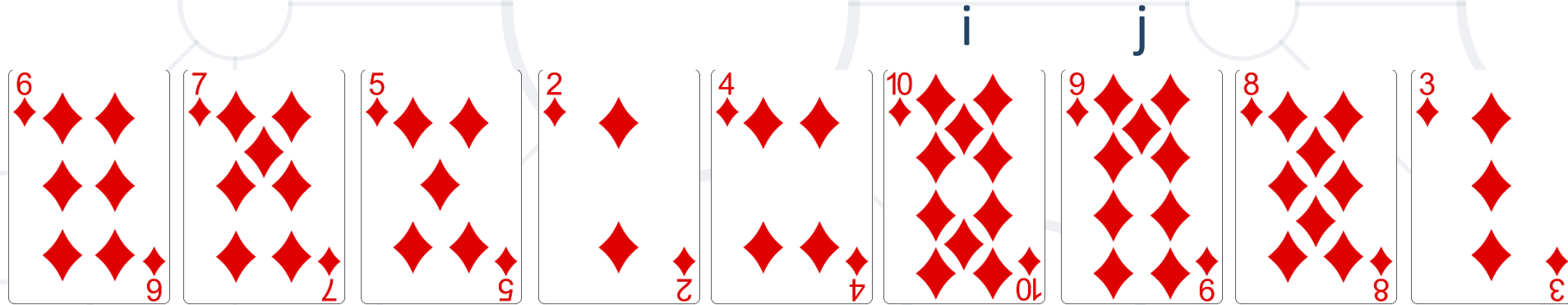
Bubble Sort Visualization



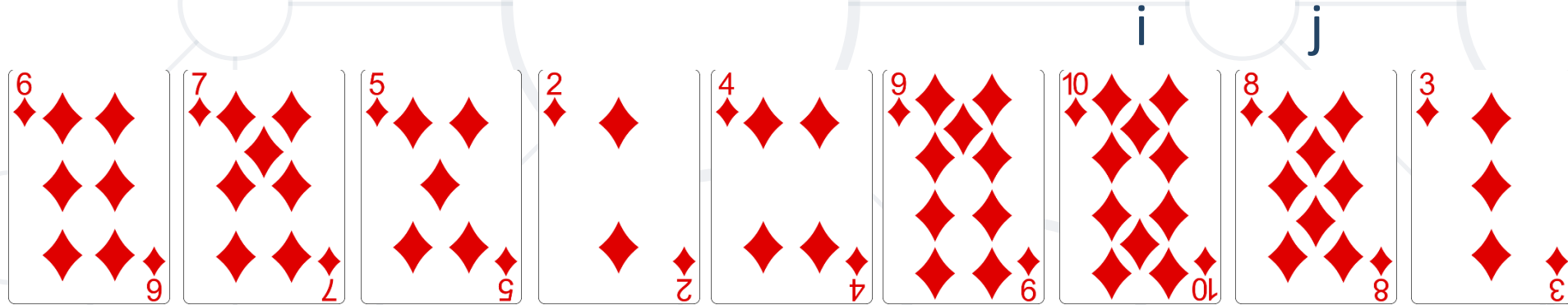
Bubble Sort Visualization



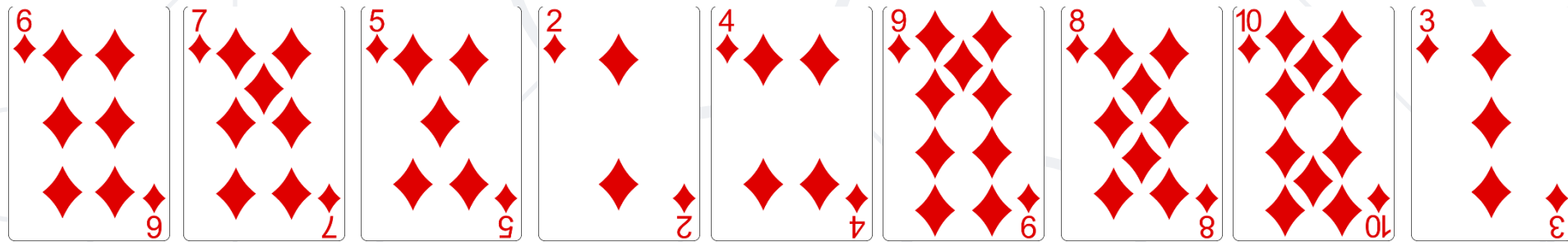
Bubble Sort Visualization



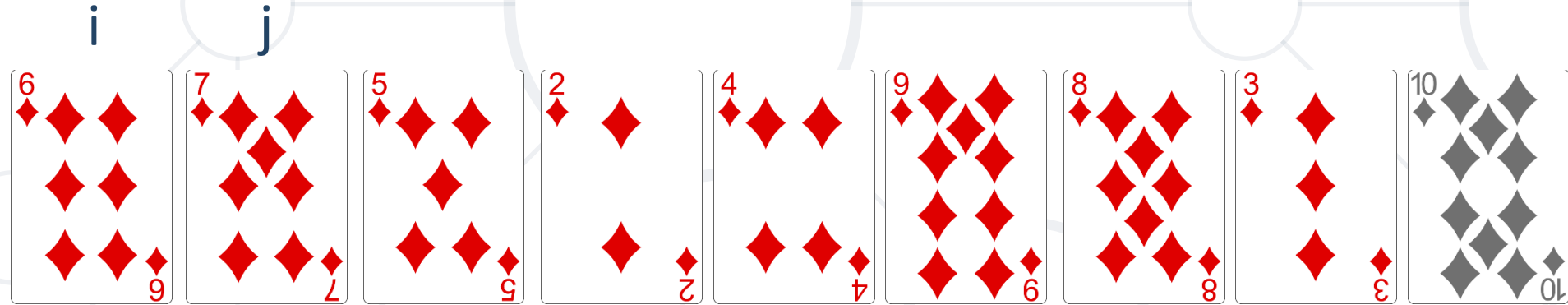
Bubble Sort Visualization



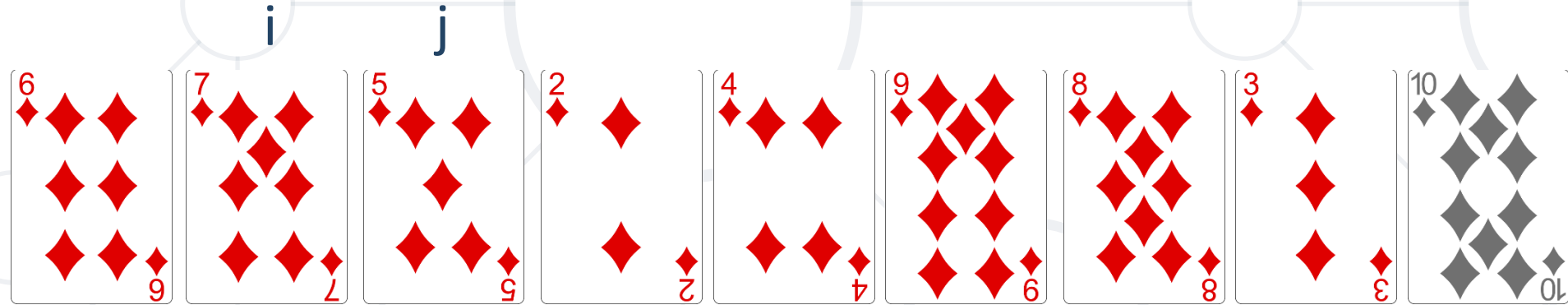
Bubble Sort Visualization



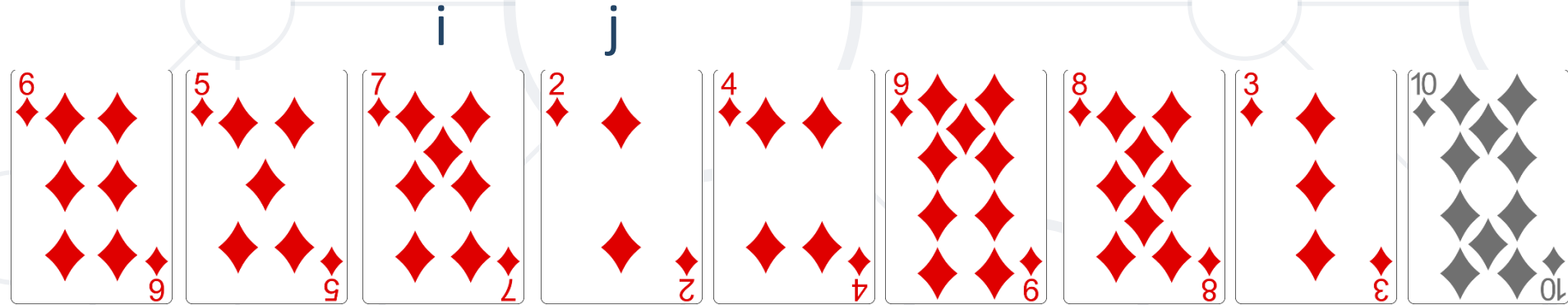
Bubble Sort Visualization



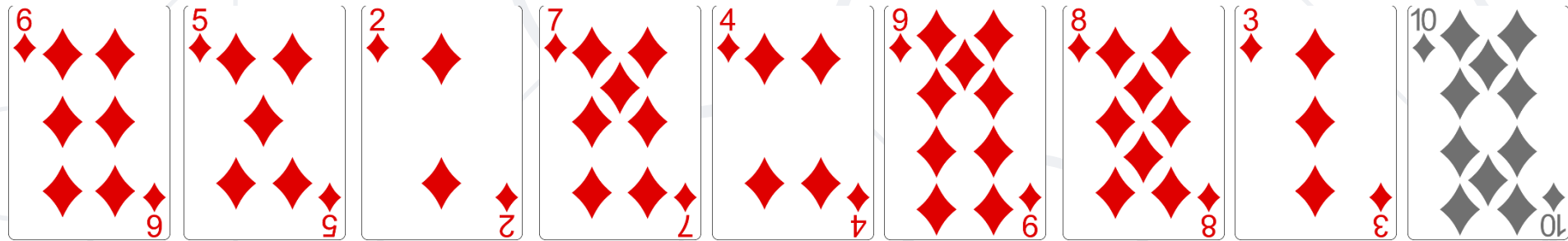
Bubble Sort Visualization



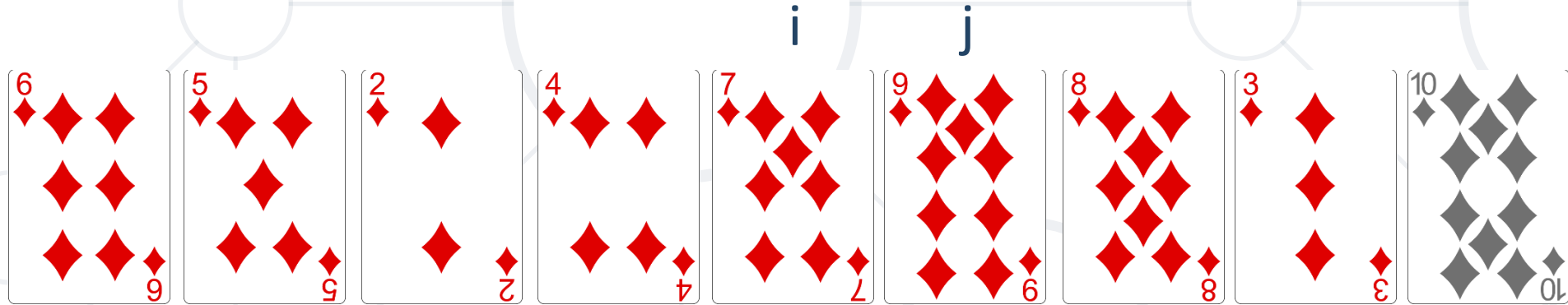
Bubble Sort Visualization



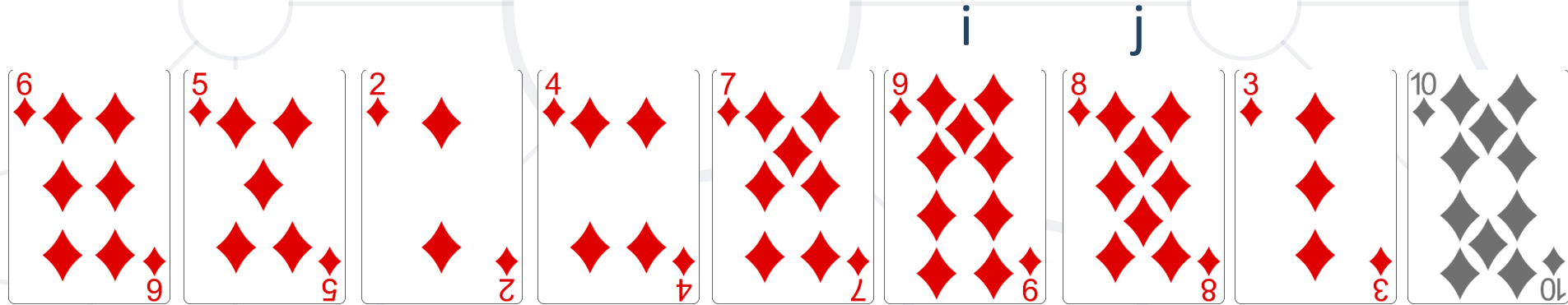
Bubble Sort Visualization



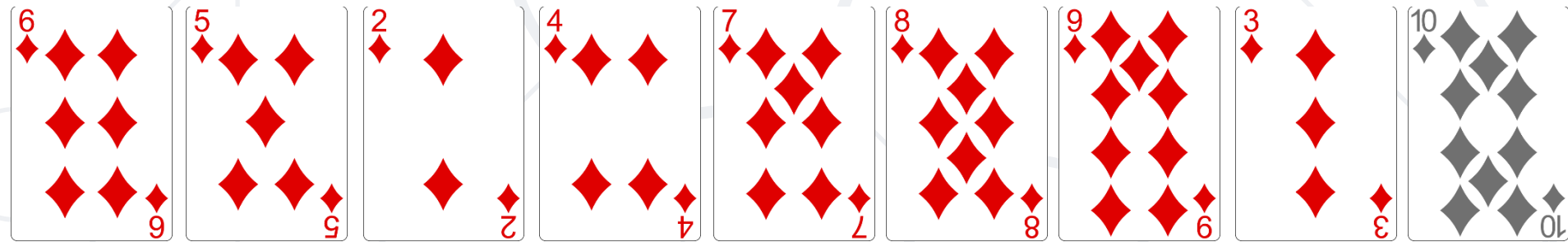
Bubble Sort Visualization



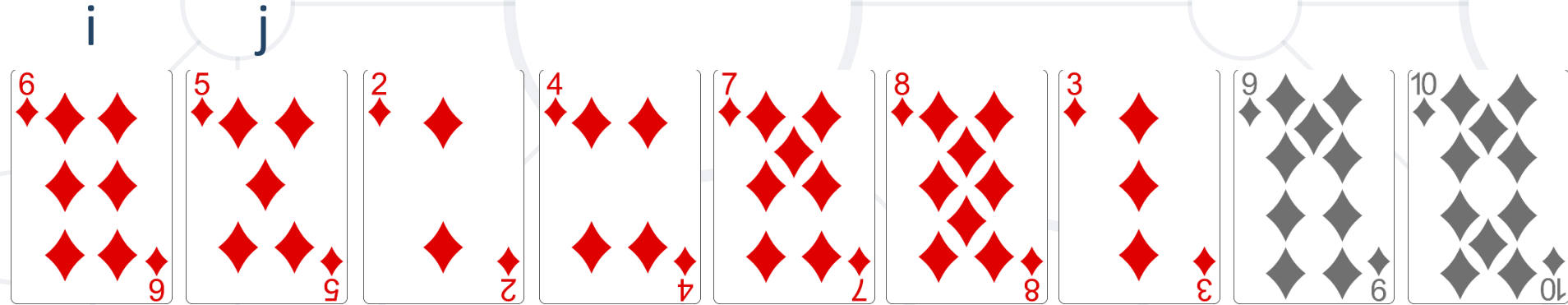
Bubble Sort Visualization



Bubble Sort Visualization



Bubble Sort Visualization



Bubble Sort

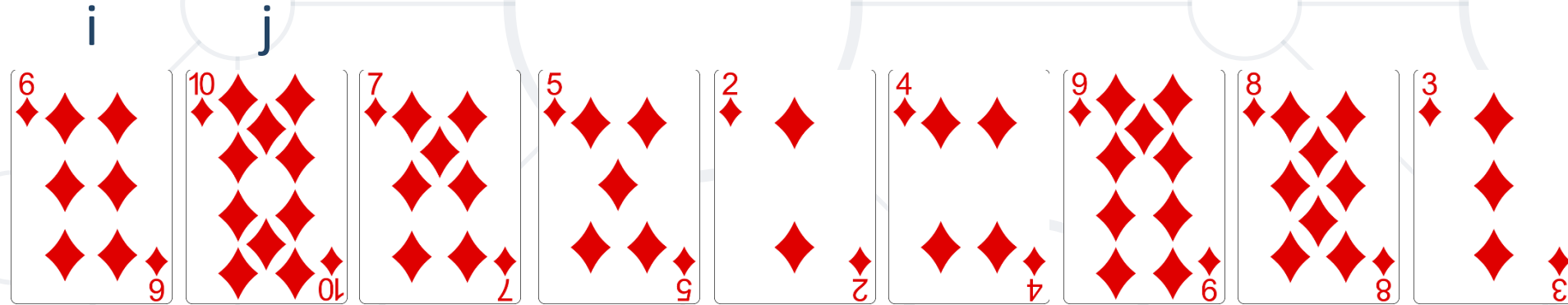
```
def bubble_sort(nums):  
    is_sorted = False  
    i = 0  
  
    while not is_sorted:  
        is_sorted = True  
        for j in range(1, len(nums) - i):  
            if nums[j - 1] > nums[j]:  
                nums[j], nums[j - 1] = nums[j - 1], nums[j]  
                is_sorted = False  
        i += 1
```

Comparison of Sorting Algorithms

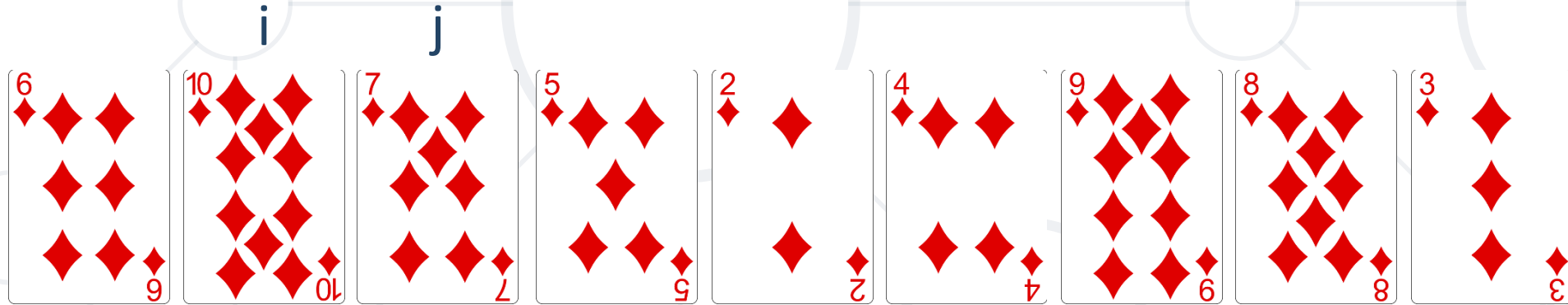
Name	Best	Average	Worst	Memory	Stable	Method
Selection	n^2	n^2	n^2	1	No	Selection
Bubble	n	n^2	n^2	1	Yes	Exchanging

- **Insertion Sort** – simple, but inefficient algorithm
 - Move the first unsorted element left to its place
 - Memory: **$O(1)$**
 - Time: **$O(n^2)$**
 - Stable: **Yes**
 - Method: **Insertion**

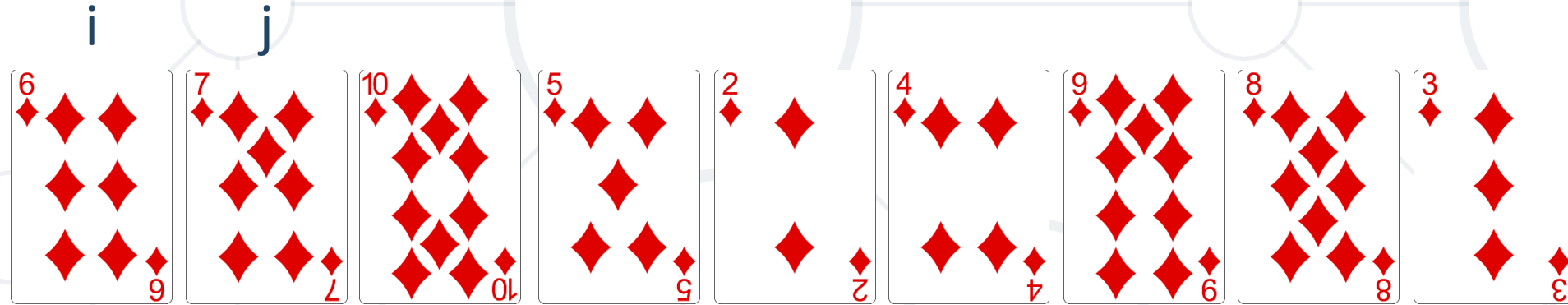
Insertion Sort Visualization



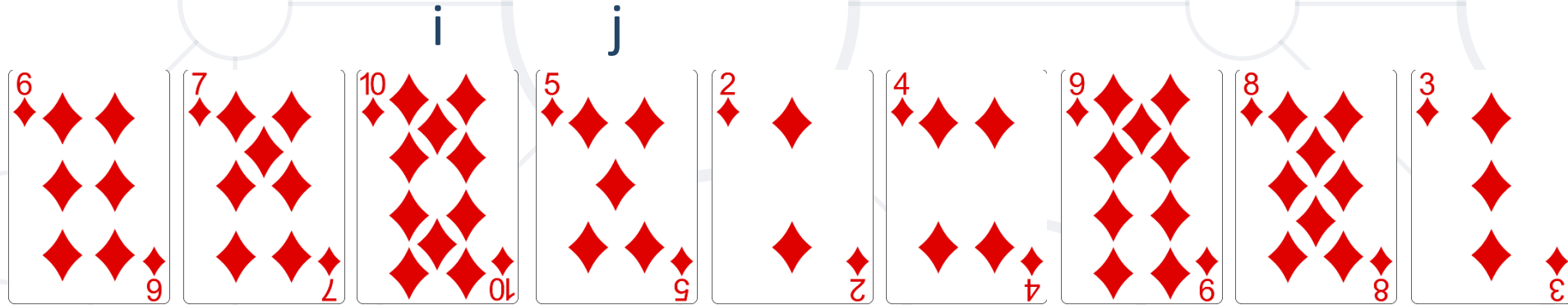
Insertion Sort Visualization



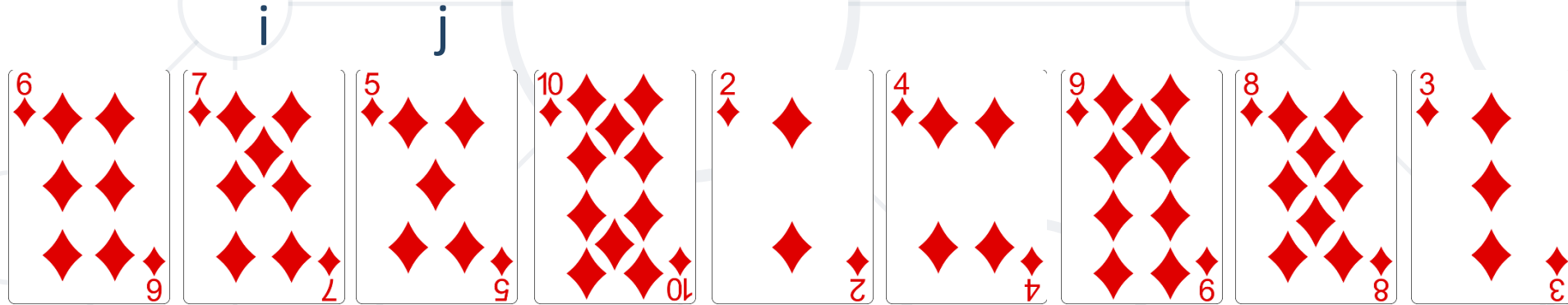
Insertion Sort Visualization



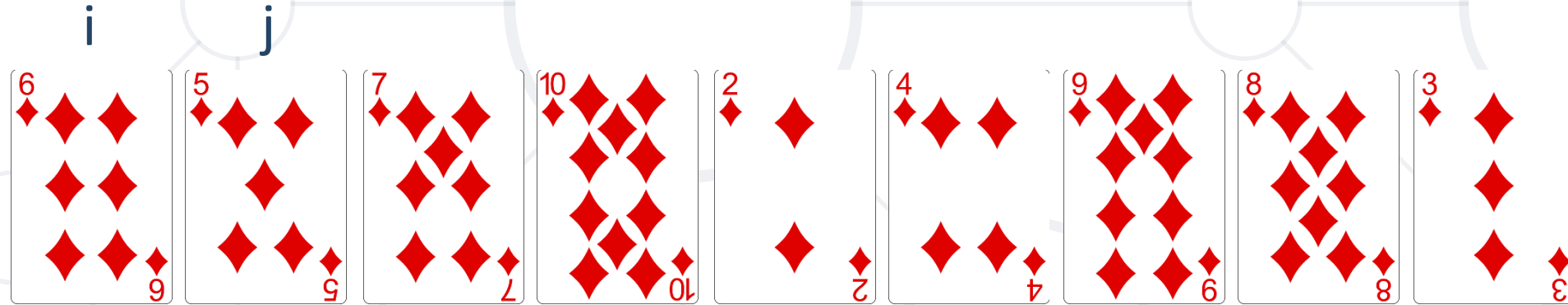
Insertion Sort Visualization



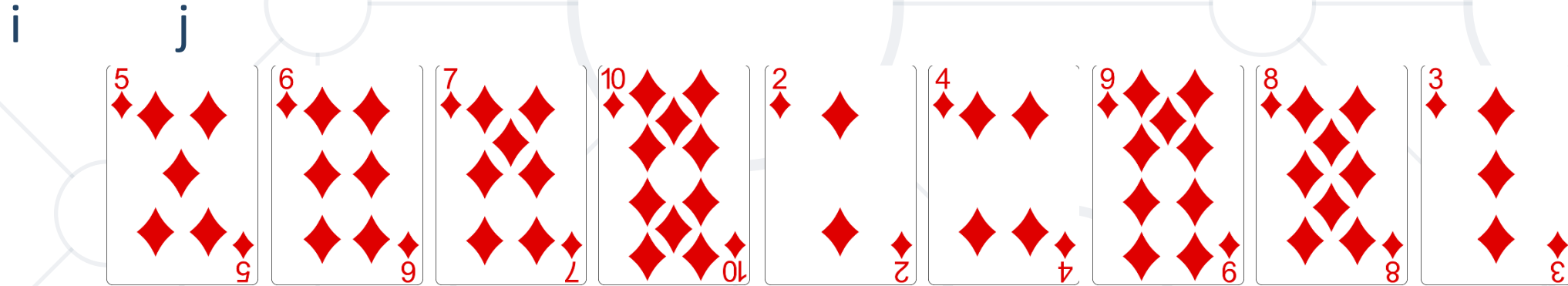
Insertion Sort Visualization



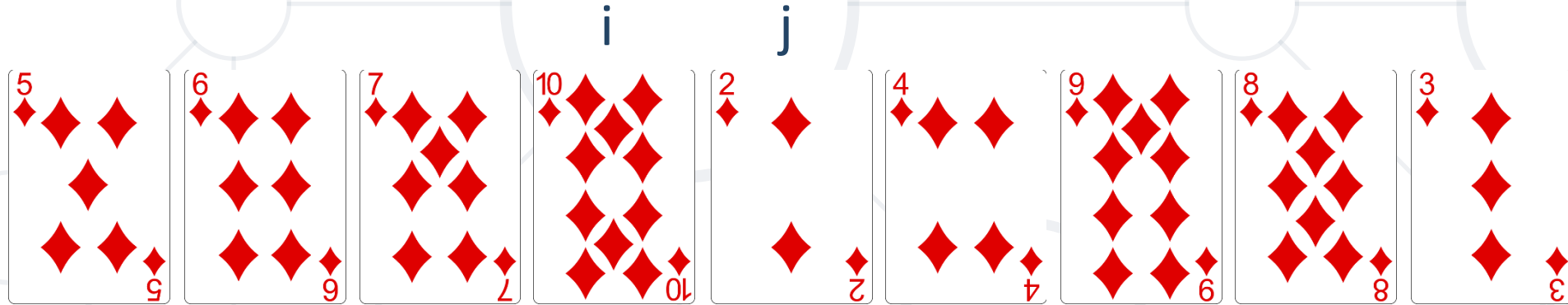
Insertion Sort Visualization



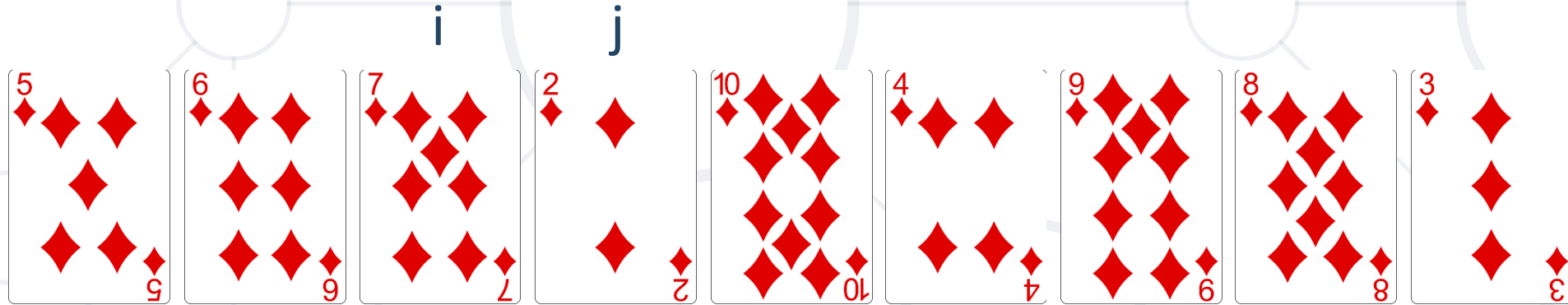
Insertion Sort Visualization



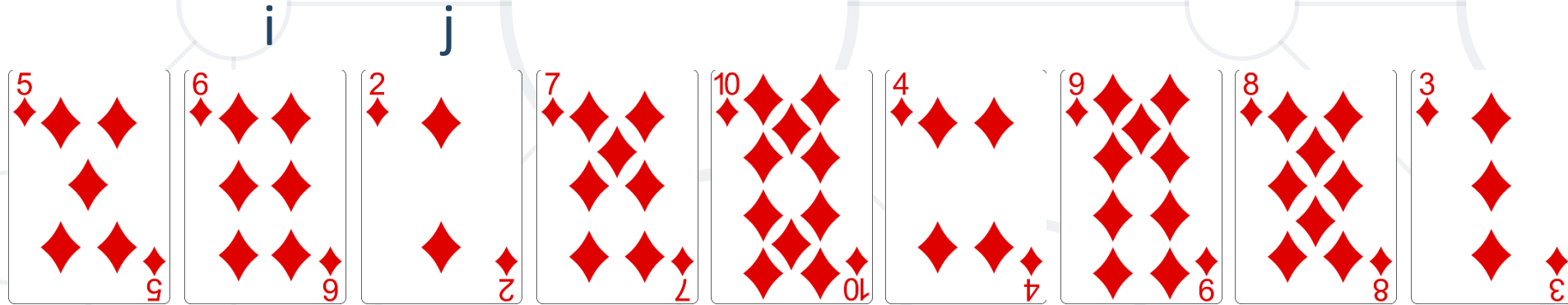
Insertion Sort Visualization



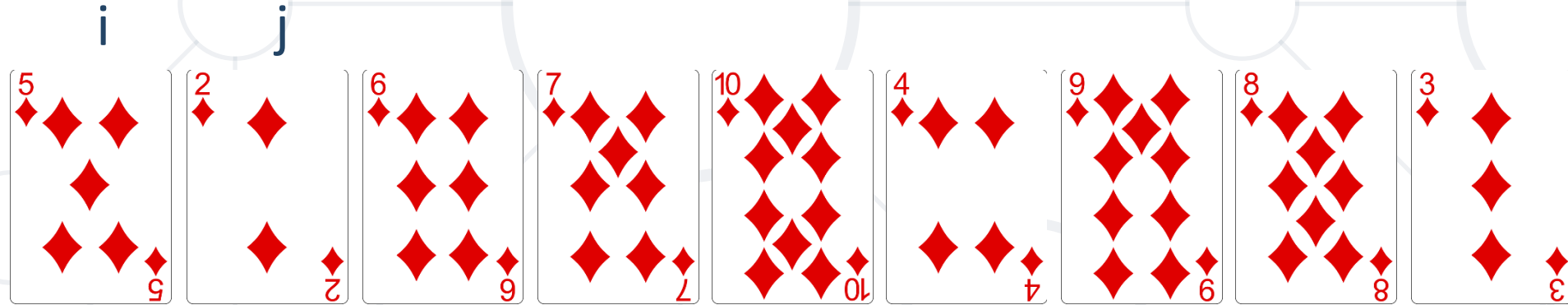
Insertion Sort Visualization



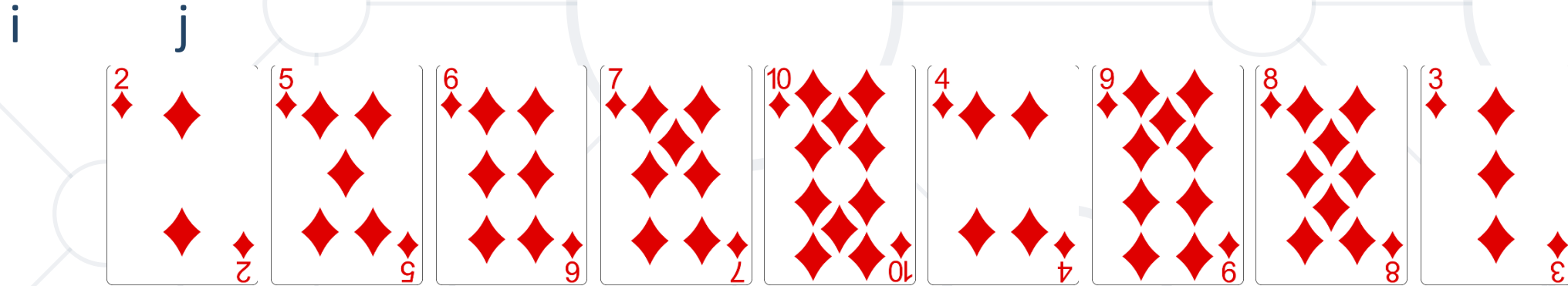
Insertion Sort Visualization



Insertion Sort Visualization



Insertion Sort Visualization



Insertion Sort

```
def insertion_sort(nums):  
    for i in range(1, len(nums)):  
        for j in range(i, 0, -1):  
            if nums[j] < nums[j - 1]:  
                nums[j], nums[j - 1] = nums[j - 1], nums[j]  
    return nums
```

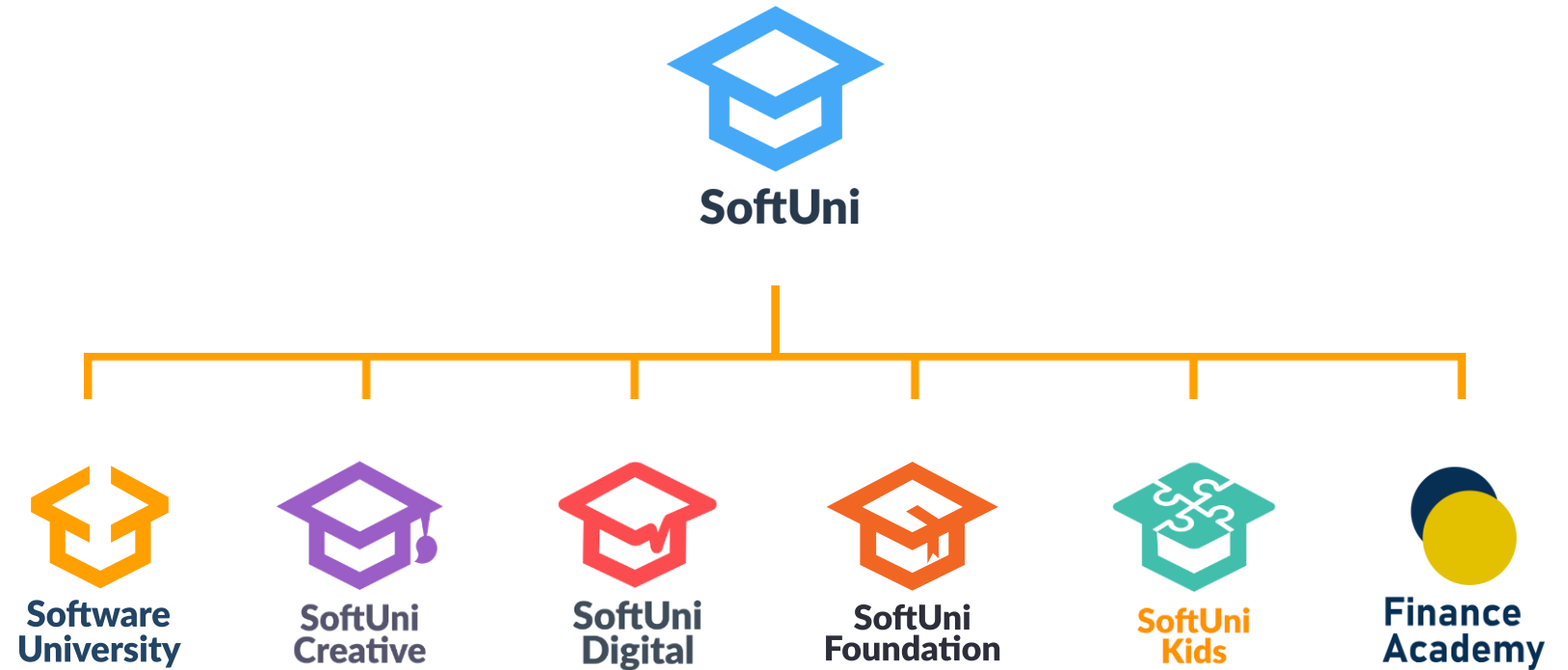
Comparison of Sorting Algorithms

Name	Best	Average	Worst	Memory	Stable	Method
Selection	n^2	n^2	n^2	1	No	Selection
Bubble	n	n^2	n^2	1	Yes	Exchanging
Insertion	n	n^2	n^2	1	Yes	Insertion

- **Algorithmic Complexity**
- **Recursion** - a function calls itself
- **Brute-Force** - trying all the possible solutions
- **Greedy** - picking a locally optimal solution
- **Searching** algorithms:
 - Binary Search, Linear Search
- **Sorting** algorithms:
 - Selection sort, Bubble sort, Insertion sort



Questions?



SoftUni Diamond Partners



- Software University – High-Quality Education, Profession and Job for Software Developers
 - softuni.bg
- Software University Foundation
 - softuni.foundation
- Software University @ Facebook
 - facebook.com/SoftwareUniversity
- Software University Forums
 - forum.softuni.bg



- This course (slides, examples, demos, exercises, homework, documents, videos and other assets) is **copyrighted content**
- Unauthorized copy, reproduction or use is illegal
- © SoftUni – <https://about.softuni.bg/>
- © Software University – <https://softuni.bg>

