



Why are these lines shaped more similarly than they are in the initially increasing case? What about this input case has such a dramatic impact on insertion sort's performance?

When the values in the list are sorted in decreasing order, insertion sort can no longer take advantage of partial ordering since there is none. This means that insertion sort will have to take the maximum number of steps per value in the list, thus performing similar to selection sort.

Selection sort performs the same as always $O(n^2)$ because it searches all the remaining unsorted values for the new minimum then adds it to the sorted list.