

Iterative Quadratic Sorting Algorithms

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$O(n^2)$

Outline

- Insertion sorting
- Bubble/exchange Sorting
- Selection sorting
- Shell sorting

Insertion Sort

Sorting algorithm that builds the final sorted **array** (or list) one item at a time by **comparisons**



Insertion Sort

- Start with one card in your hand,
- **Pick** the next card and insert it into its proper **sorted** order,
- Repeat previous step for all cards.

1st card



2nd card



3rd card



4th card



Insertion Sort

Let **N** integers be stored in an array **A** whose indices range from $i=0$ and $r=N-1$.

Conceptually array **A** consists of **2 subarrays**:

- **the left one**: already sorted
- **the right one**: not yet sorted

Initially the left subarray contains **1 item**, the right subarray contains **N-1** items.

An array with just **1 item** is sorted by definition.

1st card

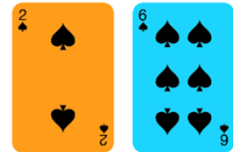


Approach

Incremental paradigm:

- At each step, we expand the **already sorted** left subarray inserting an item taken from the still **unsorted right subarray**
- Insertion must guarantee that the left subarray remains **sorted** after inserting the item (*invariance of the sorting property*)
- **termination:** all items have been **properly inserted**, the **left subarray** contains **N** items, the **right subarray** is **empty**

2nd card



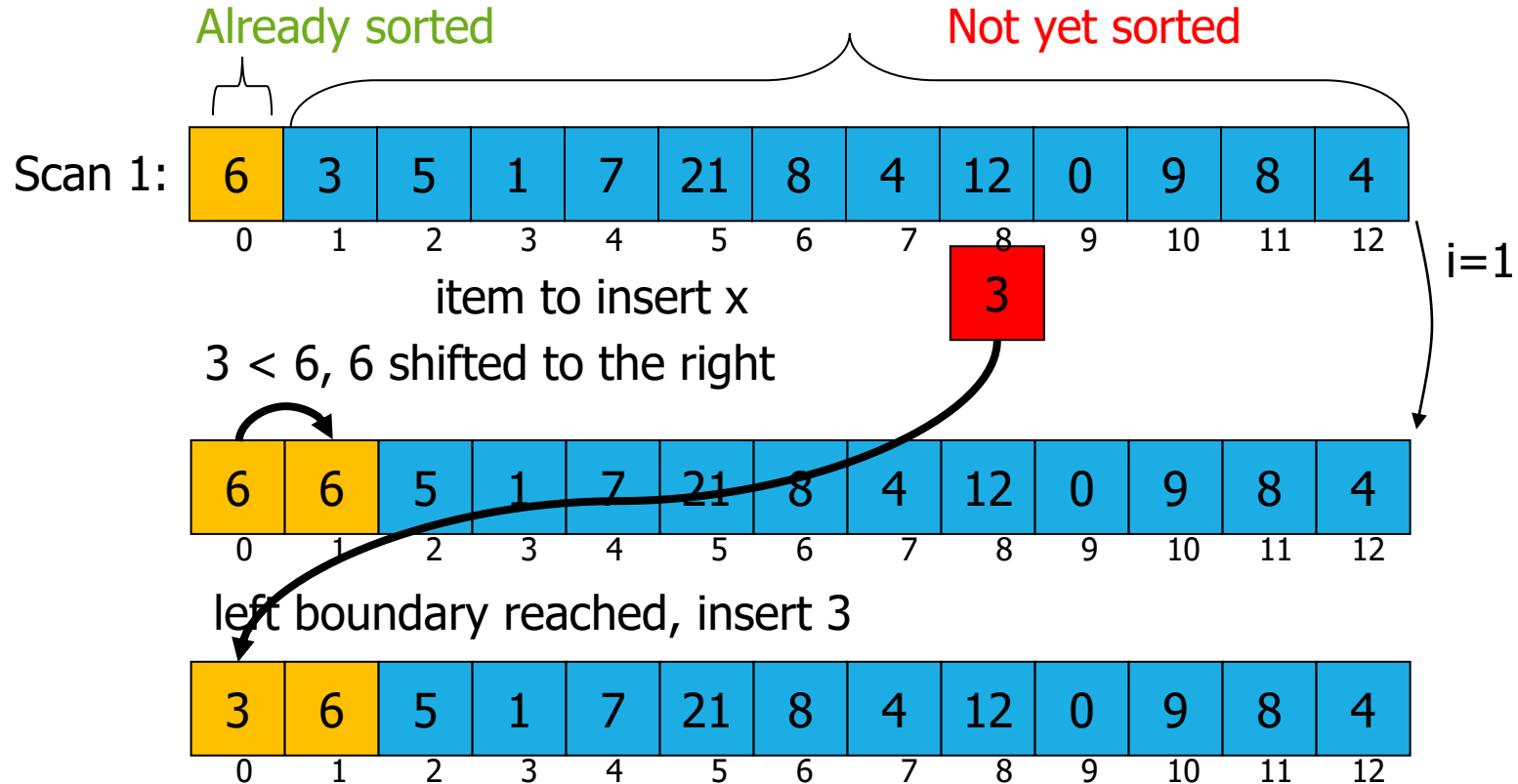
Step i : sorted insertion

At step i item $x = A_i$ is stored at the correct position in the **left subarray**:

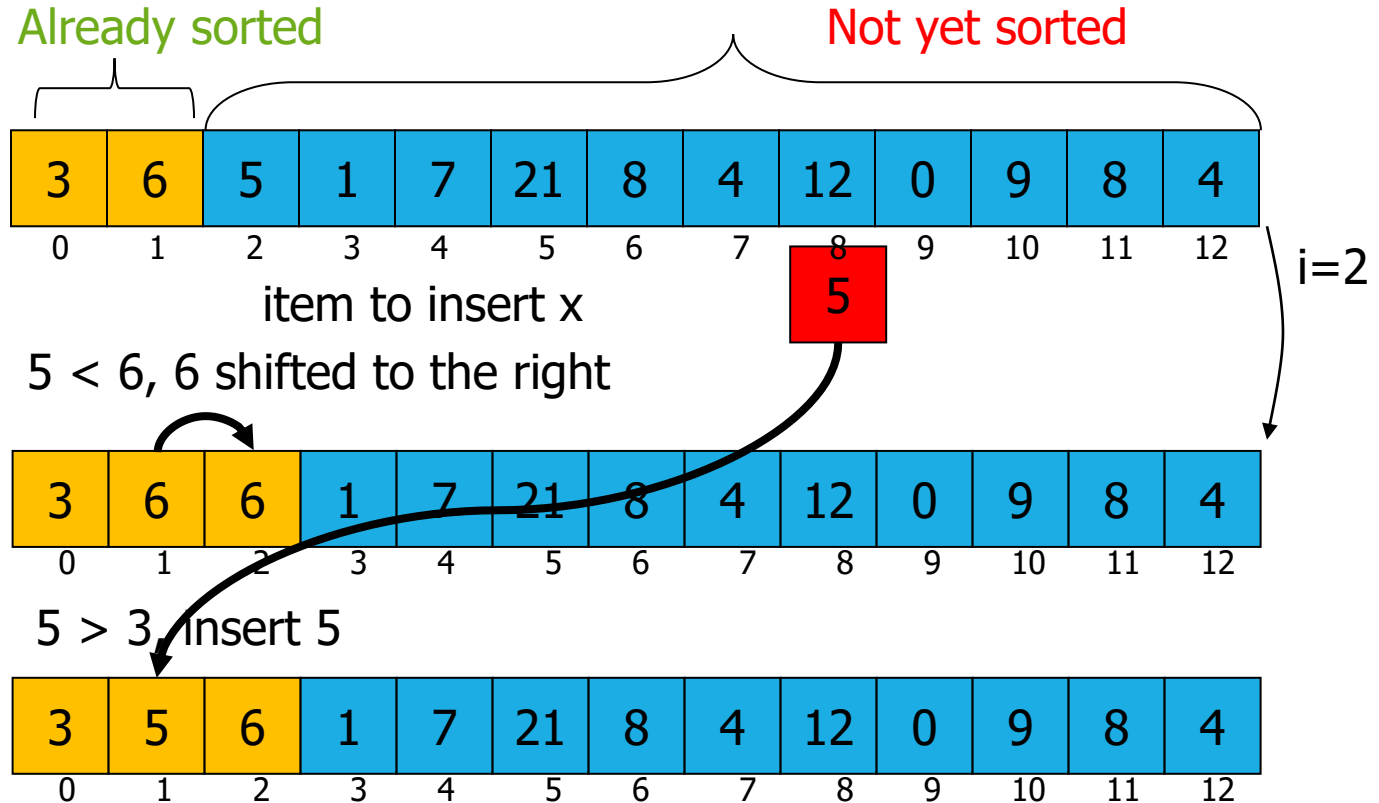
- the **left subarray** (**already sorted** and ranging from A_{i-1} down to A_0) is **scanned** until an item is found such that $A_j > A_i$
- during the scan, items in the range from A_j to A_{i-1} are **shifted to the right** by **1** position

When the **loop** terminates, the correct position for inserting A_i has been found

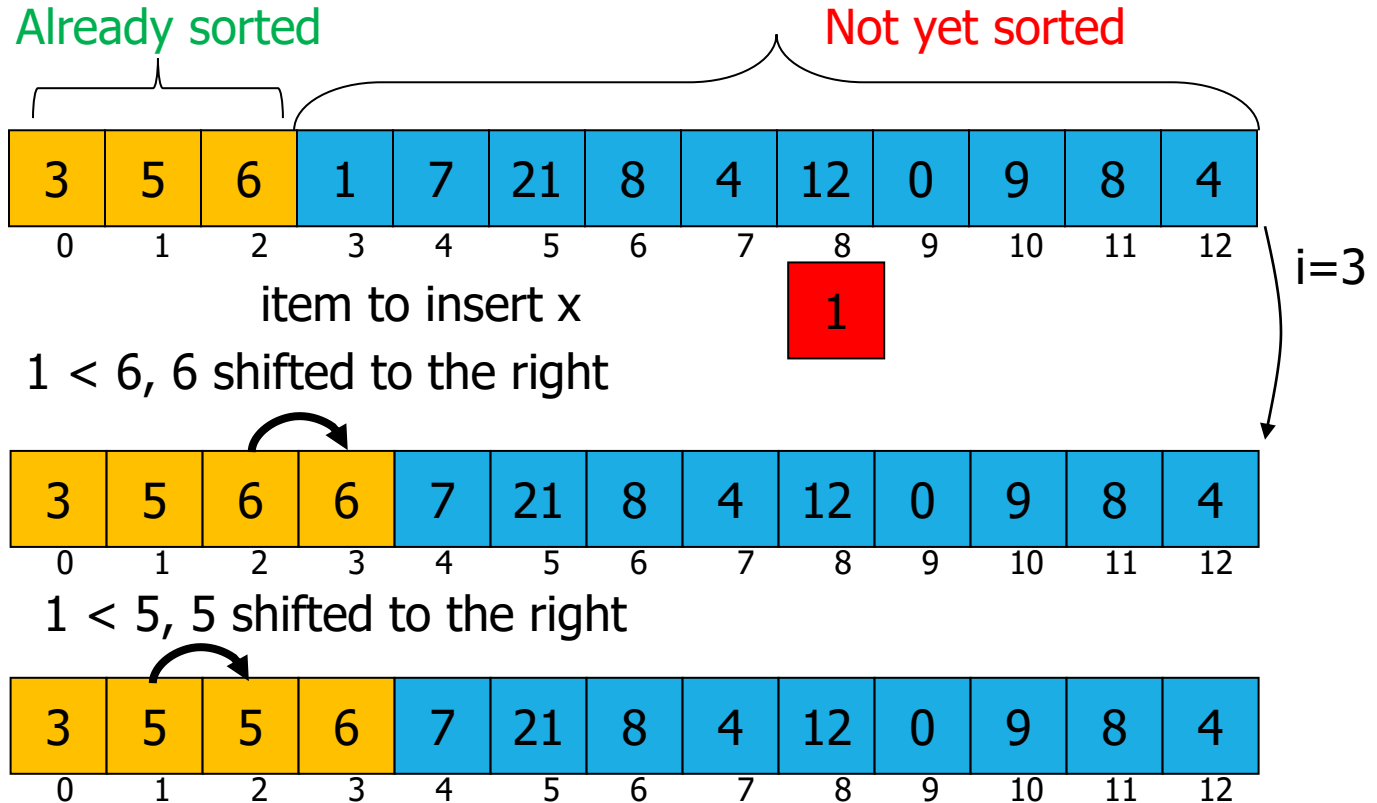
Example



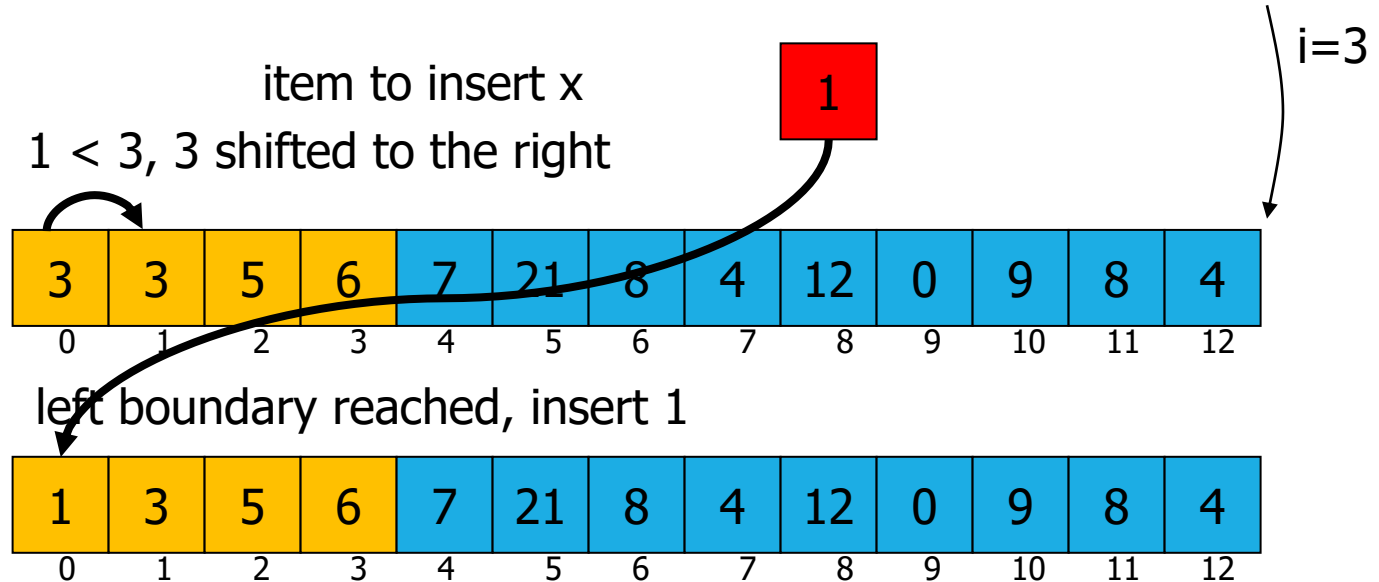
Example



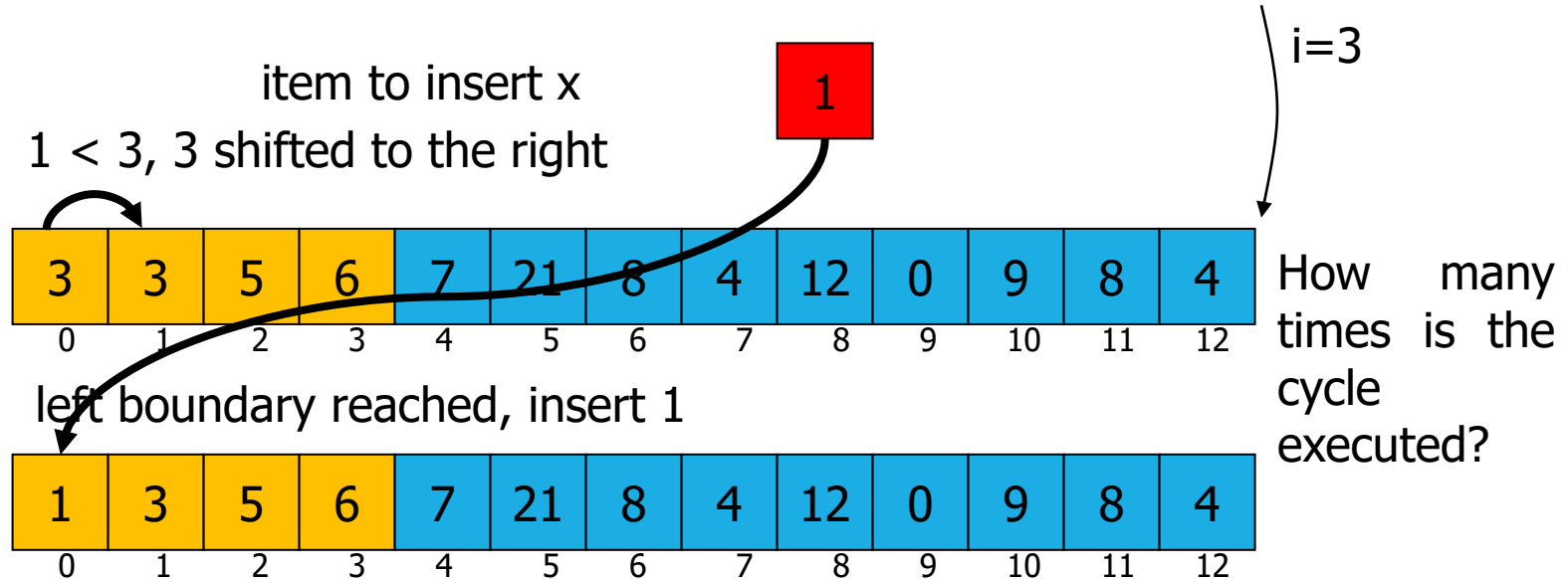
Example



Example



Example



Example

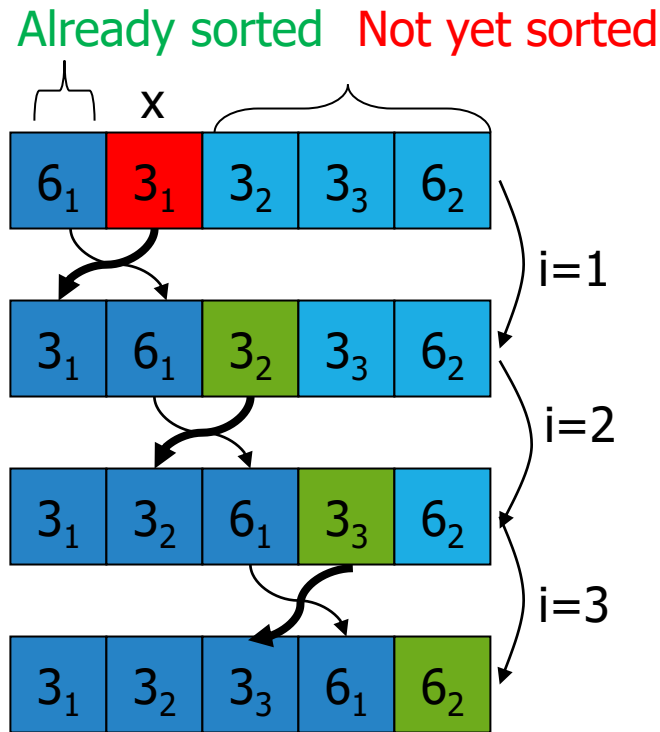
Example of functions implementing the insertion sorting algorithm

```
void InsertionSort(int A[], int N)
{
    int i, j, l=0, r=N-1, x;
    for (i = l+1; i <= r; i++) {
        x = A[i];
        j = i - 1;
        while (j >= l && x < A[j]){
            A[j+1] = A[j];
            j--;
        }
        A[j+1] = x;
    }
}
```

Is insertion sorting an algorithm or a procedure?

Insertion sort Features

- **in place:** used only array A and variable x
- **stable:** if the item to insert is a duplicate key, it can't jump over to the left a previous occurrence of the same key



Complexity Analysis of Insertion sort

Worst-case asymptotic analysis:

- Based on each **step** of the statements used
- Based on the high-level behaviour of the statements used

to estimate:

- The number of **comparisons**
- The number of **swaps**

Detailed Analysis of the # of comparisons

Assumption:

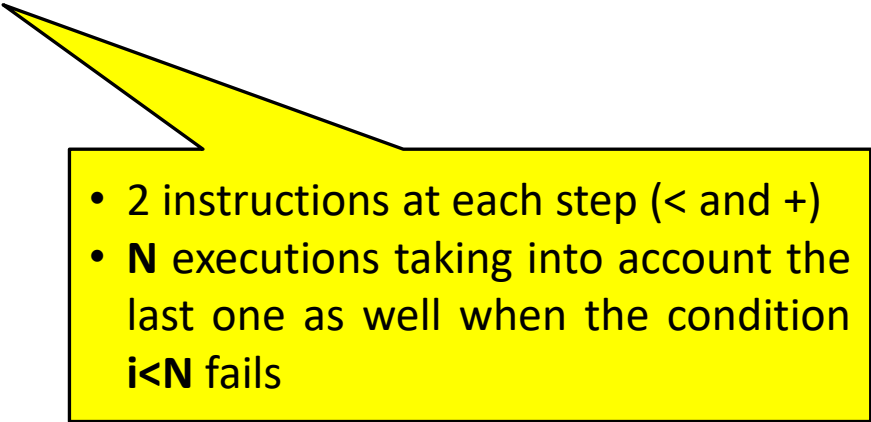
- All instructions have unit cost
- i starts from **1** and increases to **$N-1$** (for simplicity no use of l and r)

instructions

```
for(i=1; i<N; i++) {
```

executions

2N

- 
- 2 instructions at each step ($<$ and $+$)
 - **N** executions taking into account the last one as well when the condition $i < N$ fails

Detailed Analysis of the # of comparisons

instructions

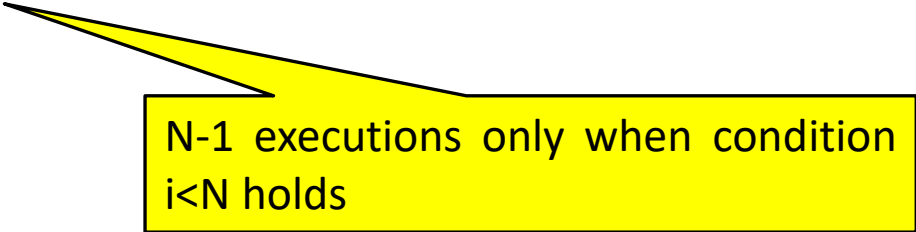
```
for(i=1; i<N; i++) {  
    x = A[i];  
    j = i-1;
```

executions

2N

N-1

N-1



N-1 executions only when condition $i < N$ holds

Detailed Analysis of the # of comparisons

instructions

```
for(i=1; i<N; i++) {  
    x = A[i];  
    j = i-1;  
    while (j>=0 && x<A[j]){
```

executions

2N

N-1

N-1

$2\sum_{j=2}^N j$

- 2 instructions at each step (\geq and $<$)
- N-1 executions of the loop in the worst case (array already sorted in descending order)
- j operations at each loop execution taking into account as well the last one when condition $j \geq 0$ fails

Detailed Analysis of the # of comparisons

instructions

```
for(i=1; i<N; i++) {  
    x = A[i];  
    j = i-1;  
    while (j>=0 && x<A[j]){  
        A[j+1] = A[j];  
        j--;  
    }  
}
```

executions

2N

N-1

N-1

$2\sum_{j=2}^N j$

$\sum_{j=2}^N (j-1)$

$\sum_{j=2}^N (j-1)$

- N-1 executions of the loop in the worst case (array already sorted in descending order)
- j-1 operations at each loop execution only when the loop condition holds

Detailed Analysis of the # of comparisons

instructions

```
for(i=1; i<N; i++) {  
    x = A[i];  
    j = i-1;  
    while (j>=0 && x<A[j]){  
        A[j+1] = A[j];  
        j--;  
    }  
    A[j+1] = x;  
}
```

executions

2N

N-1

N-1

$2\sum_{j=2}^N j$

$\sum_{j=2}^N (j-1)$

$\sum_{j=2}^N (j-1)$

N - 1

N-1 executions only when condition $i < N$ holds

Detailed Analysis of the # of comparisons

Thus:

$$T(N) = 2N + (N-1) + (N-1) + 2\sum_{j=2}^N j + \sum_{j=2}^N (j-1) + \sum_{j=2}^N (j-1) + (N-1)$$

Recalling that:

$$\sum_{j=2}^N j = 2+3+\dots+N = N(N+1)/2 - 1$$

$$\sum_{j=2}^N (j-1) = N(N-1)/2$$

$$T(N) = 2N + 3(N-1) + 2(N(N+1)/2 - 1) + 2(N(N-1)/2) = 2N^2 + 6N - 6$$

$T(N) = O(N^2)$: the number of comparisons in the worst case grows quadratically.

High-level Complexity Analysis

Two nested loops:

- **Outer loop:** $N-1$ executions
- **Inner loop in the **worst case**:** i executions at the i -th iteration of the outer loop

Complexity:

$$\begin{aligned} T(N) &= 1+2+3+ \dots + (N-2)+(N-1) \\ &= \sum_{1 \leq i < N} i = N(N-1)/2 \end{aligned}$$

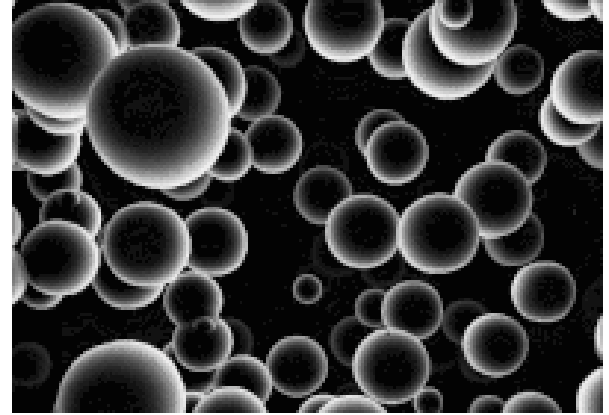
$T(N)$ grows quadratically with N .

Finite arithmetic progression with ratio 1
(Gauss, end of XVII cent.)

$T(N) = O(N^2)$: the number of comparisons and of swaps grows quadratically.

Bubble/Exchange sort

Also known as ***sinking sort***. It is a sorting algorithm that is used to sort the elements in **an ascending order**. It uses less storage space.



Bubble/Exchange sort

Let N integers be stored in an array A whose indices range from $l=0$ and $r=N-1$. Conceptually array A consists of 2 subarrays:

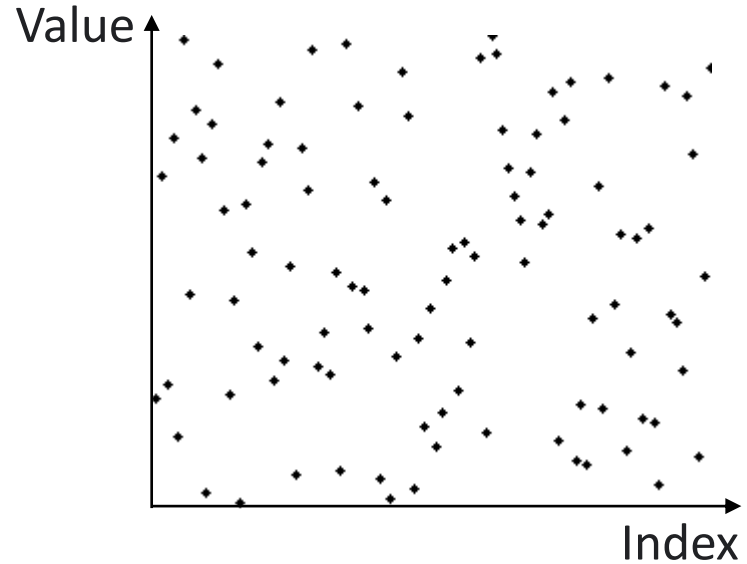
- the **right one**: **already sorted**
- the **left one**: **not yet sorted**

Initially the **right subarray** is empty, the left one contains N items.

The basic operation is a comparison between adjacent items of array A ($A[j]$ and $A[j+1]$), swapping them if $A[j] > A[j+1]$.

Bubble/Exchange sort

6 5 3 1 8 7 2 4



Approach

Incremental paradigm:

- At each **step** expand the **already sorted right subarray** by **inserting** an item taken from the **not yet sorted** left subarray
- Insertion must guarantee that the **right subarray remains sorted** after insertion (*invariance of the sorting property*)
- At iteration i insert the **largest item** of the **left subarray** ($A_l \dots A_{r-i+1}$) into the **leftmost position** of the **right subarray** $A[r-i+1]$. **The sorted right subarray grows** by **1** in size to the left, dually the unsorted left one **decreases** in size by **1**
- **Termination:** all items have been properly inserted, the **right subarray** contains **N** items, the **left one** is empty.

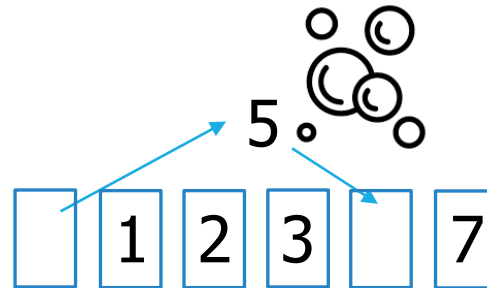
6 5 3 1 8 7 2 4

Step i : identifying the maximum

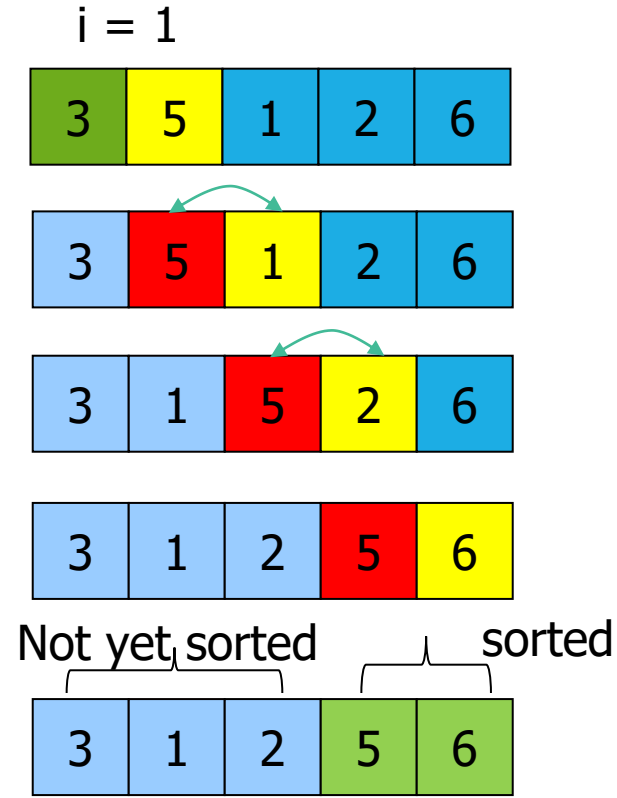
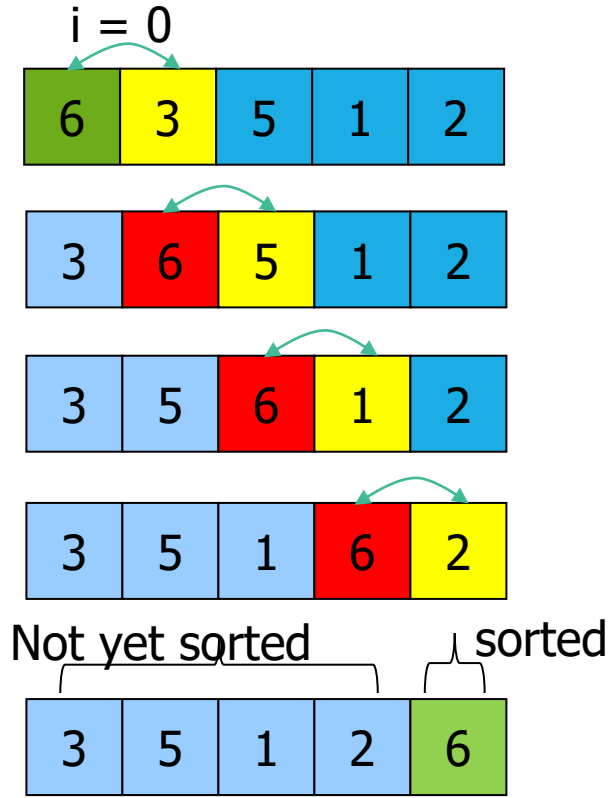
Identification of the **largest item** in the left subarray at step i

- scan the left subarray **comparing** item pairs $A[j]$ and $A[j+1]$ and **swapping them** if $A[j] > A[j+1]$.

When the **loop** ends, the largest item has «**floated**» like a «**bubble**» to the correct position at the **leftmost** location of the **sorted** right subarray.



Example



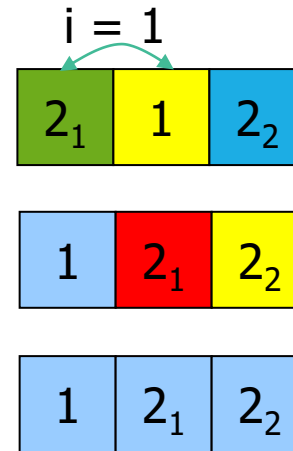
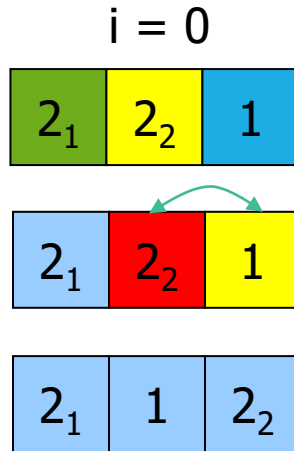
Example of functions implementing the bubble sorting algorithm

```
void BubbleSort(int A[], int N){  
    int i, j, l=0, r=N-1;  
    int temp;  
    for (i = l; i < r; i++) {  
        for (j = l; j < r - i + 1; j++)  
            if (A[j] > A[j+1])  
            {  
                temp = A[j];  
                A[j] = A[j+1];  
                A[j+1] = temp;  
            }  
    }  
    return;  
}
```

$i-l$ is the size of the
already sorted right
subarray

Bubble/Exchange sort Features

- **in place:** used only array **A** and variable **temp**
- **stable:** if there are several duplicate keys the rightmost one takes the rightmost position and no other identical key jumps over it to the right:



High-level Complexity Analysis

Two nested loops:

- **Outer loop:** **always** executed **N-1** times
- **Inner loop:** at the **i-th** iteration executed **always** **N-1-i** times

$$T(N) = (N-1) + (N-2) + \dots + 2 + 1$$

$$= \sum_{1 \leq i < N} i = N(N-1)/2$$

$$T(N) = \Theta(N^2).$$

Finite arithmetic progression with ratio 1 (Gauss, end of XVII cent.)


- **Number of swaps** in the worst case: $O(N^2)$: a swap doesn't necessarily occur
- **Number of comparisons** in the worst case: $\Theta(N^2)$: a comparison always takes place

Optimization

- Use a **flag** to mark whether there has been **swaps**. Execution **continues** only if there have been **swaps**
- The **outer loop** is executed **at most** **N-1** times
- The **inner loop** at the **i-th** iteration is executed **always** **N-1-i** times
- Number of comparisons in the worst case: $O(N^2)$: a comparison doesn't necessarily take place
- **Average case complexity is improved**, no change in worst case complexity.



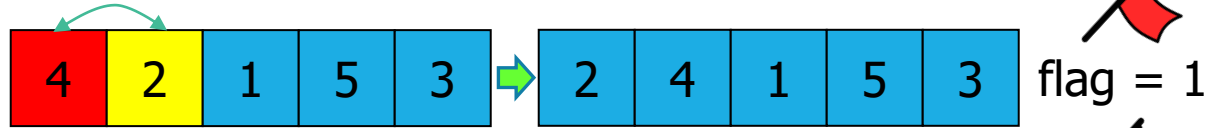
Example

flag = 1 

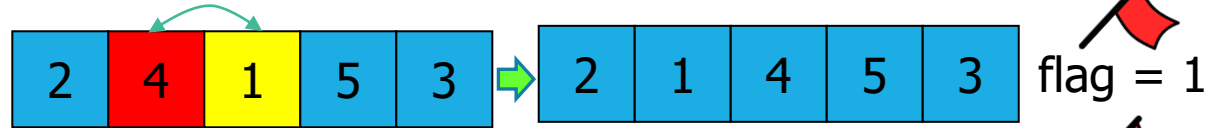
i = 0 outer loop executed

flag = 0

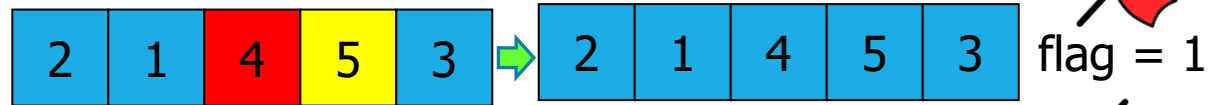
j = 0 inner loop executed



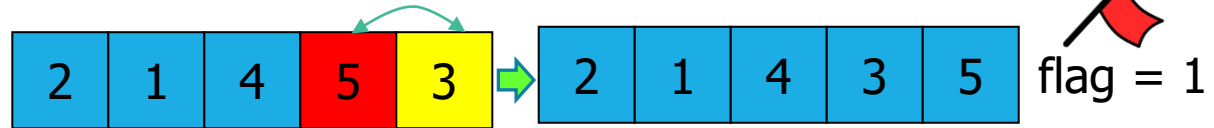
j = 1 inner loop executed



j = 2 inner loop executed



j = 3 inner loop executed

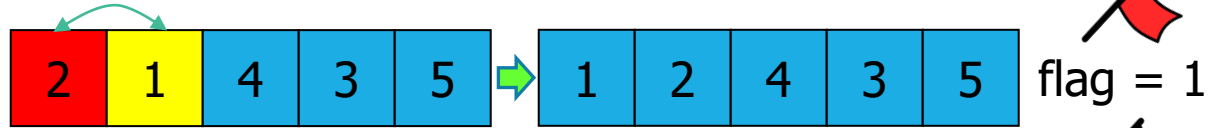


Example

i = 1 outer loop executed

flag = 0

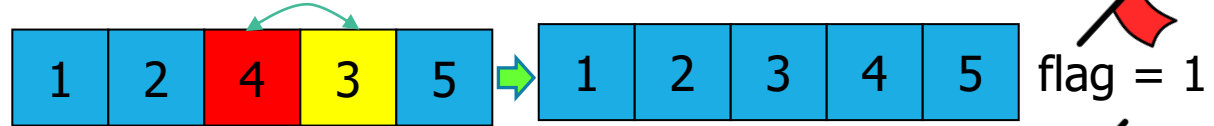
j = 0 inner loop executed



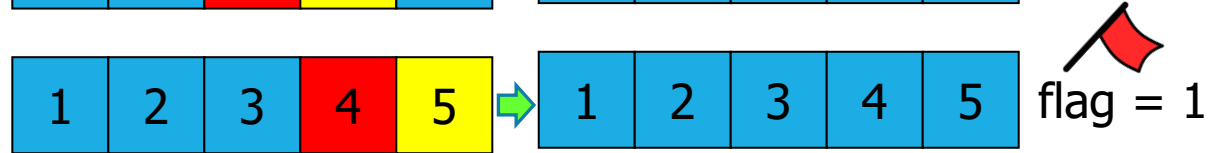
j = 1 inner loop executed



j = 2 inner loop executed



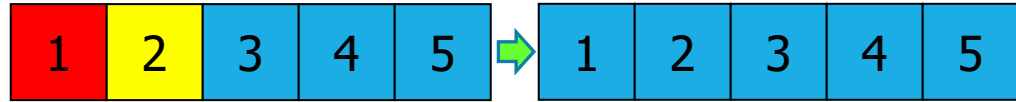
j = 3 inner loop executed



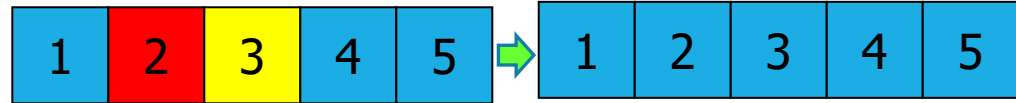
i = 2 outer loop executed

flag = 0

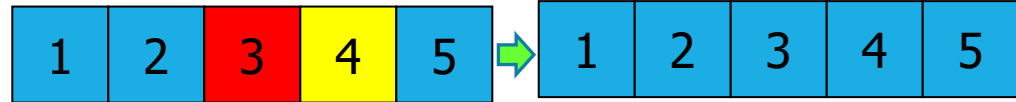
j = 0 inner loop executed



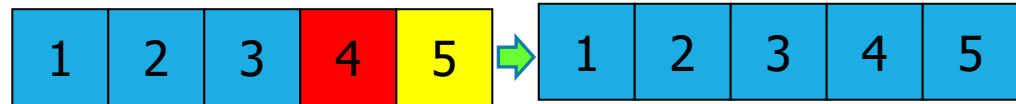
j = 1 inner loop executed



j = 2 inner loop executed





j = 3 inner loop executed



i = 3 but **flag = 0** as there has been **no swaps**, outer loop not executed

Example of functions implementing the optimized bubble sorting algorithm

```
void OptBubbleSort(int A[], int N) {  
    int i, j, l=0, r=N-1, flag=1;  
    int temp;  
    for (i = l; i < r && flag==1; i++)  
    {  
        flag = 0;   
        for (j = l; j < r - i + 1; j++) {  
            if (A[j] > A[j+1])  
            {  
                flag = 1;   
                temp = A[j];  
                A[j] = A[j+1];  
                A[j+1] = temp;  
            }  
        }  
    }  
    return;  
}
```

Question?

Whats the best way to sort one million 32-bit integers?

Question?

Former [Google](#) CEO [Eric Schmidt](#) asked [Barack Obama](#) during an interview:

Whats the best way to sort one million 32-bit integers?

Question?

Former Google CEO Eric Schmidt asked Barack Obama during an interview:

Whats the best way to sort one million 32-bit integers?

Obama paused for a moment and replied:

"I think the bubble sort would be the wrong way to go"

The Internet Sort

It's just a ***bubble sort***, but perform every comparison by searching the internet. For example, “*Which is greater – 0.211 or 0.75?*”.

Selection sort

It is a **simple** and **efficient** sorting algorithm that works by repeatedly selecting the **smallest (or largest) element** from the **unsorted** portion of the list and moving it to the **sorted portion** of the list.



Selection sort

Let N integers be stored in an array A whose indices range from $l=0$ and $r=N-1$.

Conceptually array A consists of 2 subarrays:

- **Left subarray:** already sorted
- **Right subarray:** not yet sorted

Initially the **left subarray is empty**, the right one contains N items.

Approach

Incremental paradigm:

- At each step **expand** the **already sorted** left subarray inserting an item taken from the **not yet sorted** right subarray
- Insertion must guarantee that the **left subarray remains sorted** after insertion (*invariance of the sorting property*). This is guaranteed by identifying the **smallest item** in the right subarray ($A_i \dots A_r$) and assigning it to $A[i]$. The **sorted** left subarray **grows** by **1** in size to the right, dually the **not yet sorted** right one **decreases** in size by **1**
- **Termination:** all items have been properly inserted, the left subarray contains **N** items, the **right one is empty**.

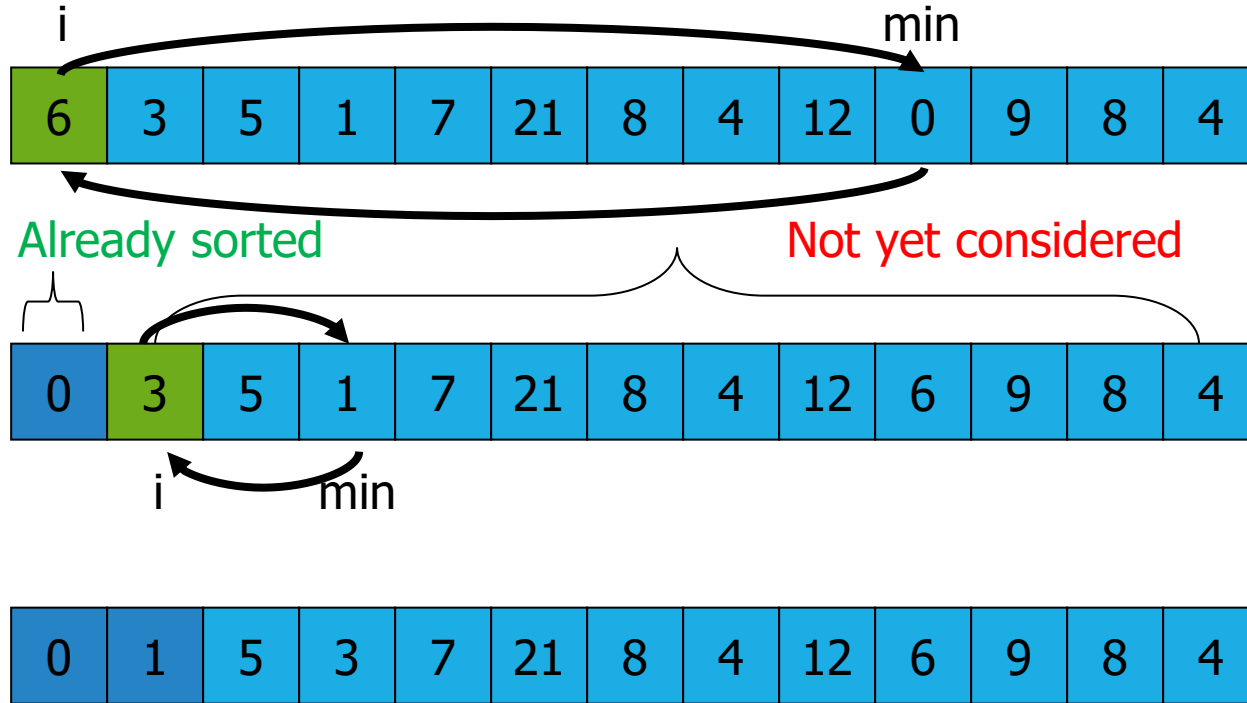
Step i : identifying the minimum

Identification of **the smallest item** of the right subarray at the **i -th** step:

- Scan the **right subarray**, assuming that the smallest item is in **$A[i]$** and updating the smallest item at each comparison with the following items

When the **loop** ends, the smallest item has been identified by means of its position (***index in A***) and **swapped** with **$A[i]$** .

Example



Example of function implementing the selection sorting algorithm

```
void selectionSort(int A[], int N) {  
    int i, j, l=0, r=N-1, min;  
    int temp;  
    for (i = l; i < r; i++) {  
        min = i;  
        for (j = i+1; j <= r; j++)  
            if (A[j] < A[min])  
                min = j;  
        if (min != i) {  
            temp = A[i];  
            A[i] = A[min];  
            A[min] = temp;  
        }  
    }  
    return;  
}
```

Selection sort Features

- **in place:** only array **A** and variable **temp** are used
- **non stable:** a swap of 2 «far away» items may allow a **duplicate key** to jump to the left of a previous identical key:



High-level Complexity Analysis

Two nested loops:

- **Outer loop:** **always** executed **N-1** times
- **Inner loop:** at the **i-th** iteration **always** executed **N-1-i** times

$$T(N) = (N-1) + (N-2) + \dots + 2 + 1$$

$$= \sum_{1 \leq i < N} i = N(N-1)/2$$

$$T(n) = \Theta(N^2).$$

Finite arithmetic progression with ratio 1
(Gauss, end of XVII cent.)

- **Number of swaps in the worst case:** $O(N)$: it may happen to always swap the current item with the current smallest one, but this occurs at most **N** times
- **Number of comparisons in the worst case:** $\Theta(N^2)$: comparisons always occur
- **The algorithm is quadratic**, as complexity depends on the **number of comparisons**, not on the **number of swaps**.

Quick summary

Big O of Sorting Algorithms

Algorithm	Time Complexity (Best)	Time Complexity (Average)	Time Complexity (Worst)	Space Complexity
Bubble Sort	$O(n)$	$O(n^2)$	$O(n^2)$	$O(1)$
Insertion Sort	$O(n)$	$O(n^2)$	$O(n^2)$	$O(1)$
Selection Sort	$O(n^2)$	$O(n^2)$	$O(n^2)$	$O(1)$

Shell sort (Shell, 1959)



Donald Shell

D. L. Shell. 1959. "A high-speed sorting procedure". Commun. ACM 2, 7 (July 1959), 30-32.



Shell sort (Shell, 1959)

It is a **generalized** version of the insertion sort algorithm. It first sorts elements that are **far apart** from each other and successively **reduces** the interval between the elements to be sorted.

Limit of Insertion sort: only adjacent items are compared and possibly swapped.

Shell sort approach:

- Compare and possibly swap items at distance **h**
- Define a decreasing sequence of integers **h** that end at 1. The last step is Insertion sort.



D. L. Shell. 1959. "A high-speed sorting procedure". Commun. ACM 2, 7 (July 1959), 30-32.

Linear Sequences

- Finite set of consecutive items. Each item is uniquely associated to an index

$$a_0, a_1, \dots, a_i, \dots, a_{n-1}$$

- A predecessor/successor relationship is defined on pairs of consecutive items:

$$a_{i+1} = \text{succ}(a_i)$$

$$a_i = \text{pred}(a_{i+1})$$

- **Storage and access:**

- **Array:** contiguous data in memory with direct access:
 - Given index i , it is possible to access item a_i without scanning the linear sequence
 - Cost of access doesn't depend on the position of the item in the linear sequence, thus it is $O(1)$
- **list:** non contiguous data in memory with sequential access. Topic of the second year course.

Subarrays and Subsequences

Given a linear sequence of N integers stored in array A

$$A = (a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{N-1})$$

- a **subsequence** of A of length k ($k \leq N$) is any tuple Y of k items of A with **increasing and not necessarily contiguous indices** i_0, i_1, \dots, i_{k-1}
- a **subarray** of A of length k ($k \leq N$) is any tuple Y of k items of A with **increasing and contiguous indices** i_0, i_1, \dots, i_{k-1} .

Example

A

6	3	5	1	7	21	8	4	12	0	9	8	4
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

A

6	3	5	1	7	21	8	4	12	0	9	8	4
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

Subarray of **A** with **k**=4 items with increasing and contiguous indices i_4, i_5, i_6, i_7

A

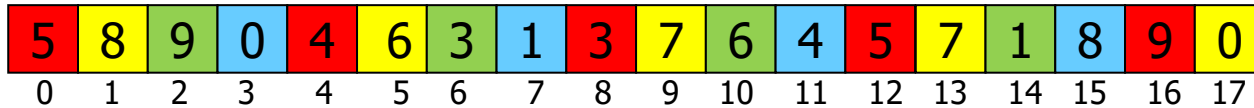
6	3	5	1	7	21	8	4	12	0	9	8	4
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

Subsequence of **A** with **k**=4 items
with increasing and non contiguous indices i_1, i_4, i_6, i_{11}

Subsequences in Shell sort

Shell sort works with **subsequences** composed by array items whose indices at distance **h** from each other.

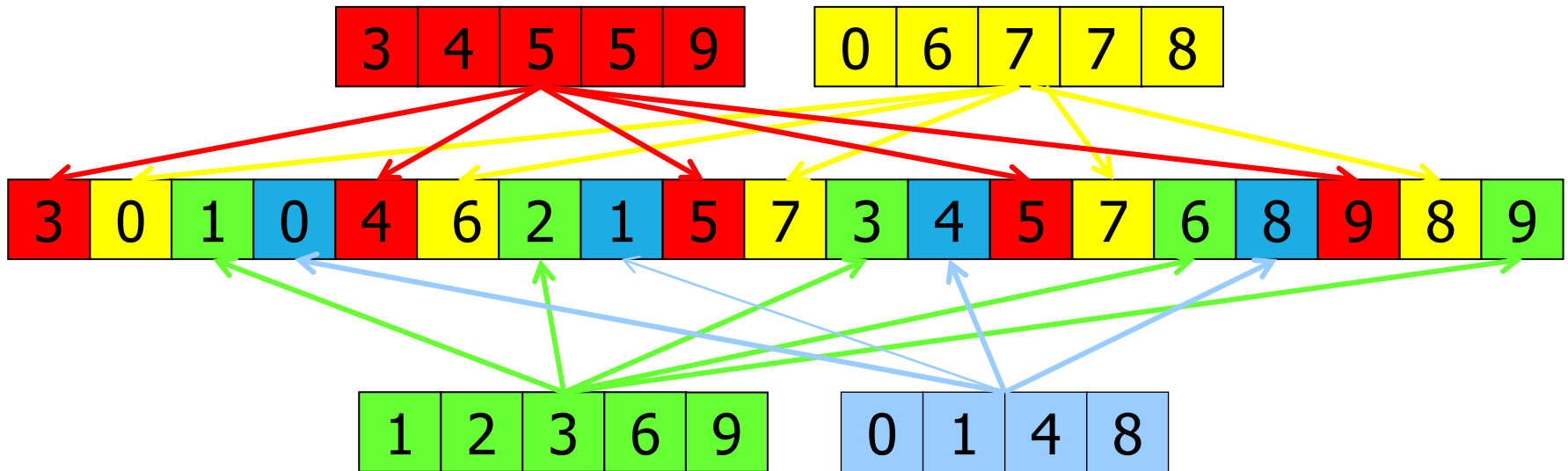
Example: **h**=4



Subsequences in Shell sort

If the **subsequences** containing items at distance **h** are sorted, the array is **h-sorted**.

Example: **h=4**



Subsequences in Shell sort

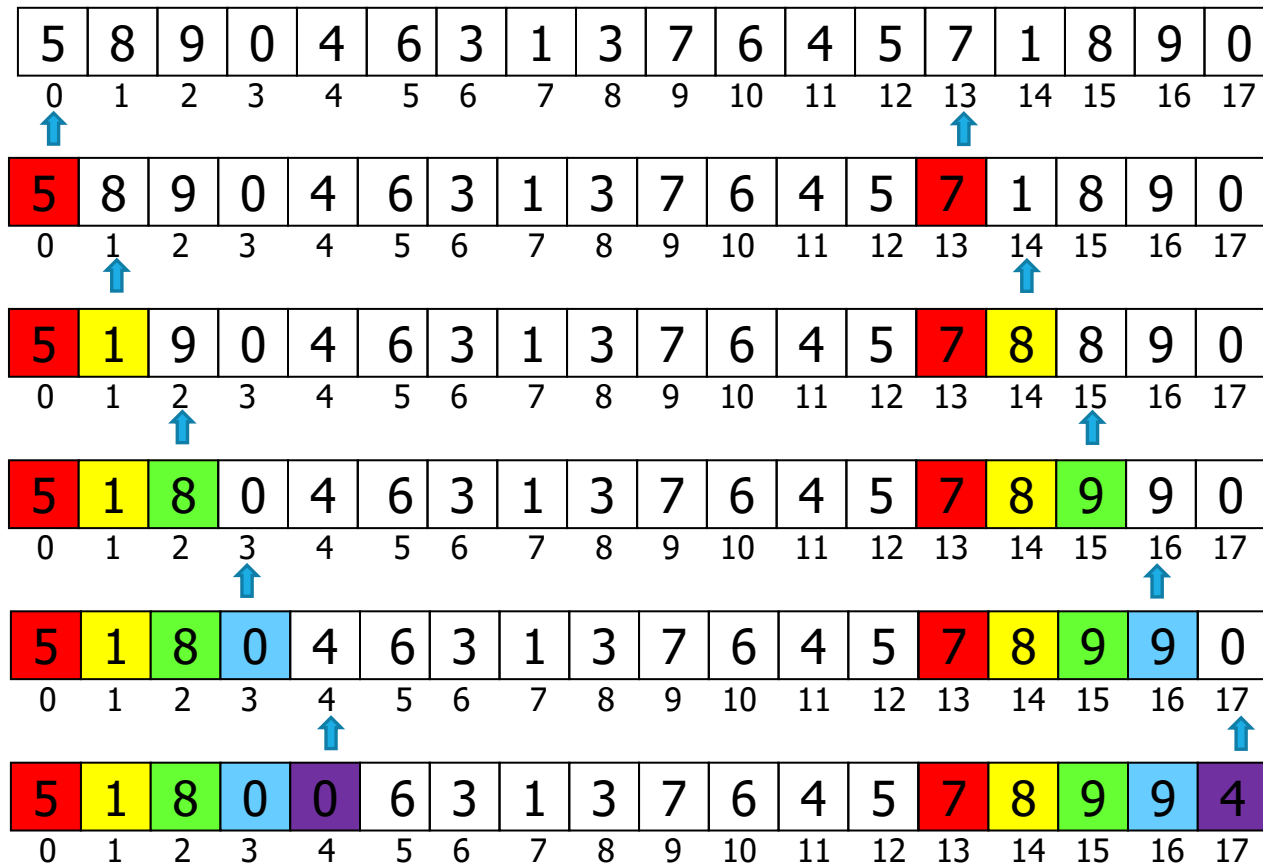
For each **subsequence** apply Insertion sort. The items of the **subsequence** are the items at distance **h** from the current one.

```
for i = l+h; i <= r; i++) {  
    j = i; x = A[i];  
    while (j >= l+h && x < A[j-h]) {  
        A[j] = A[j-h];  
        j -= h;  
    }  
    A[j] = x;  
}
```

Example

sequence h : 13, 4, 1

Step 1: $h=13$

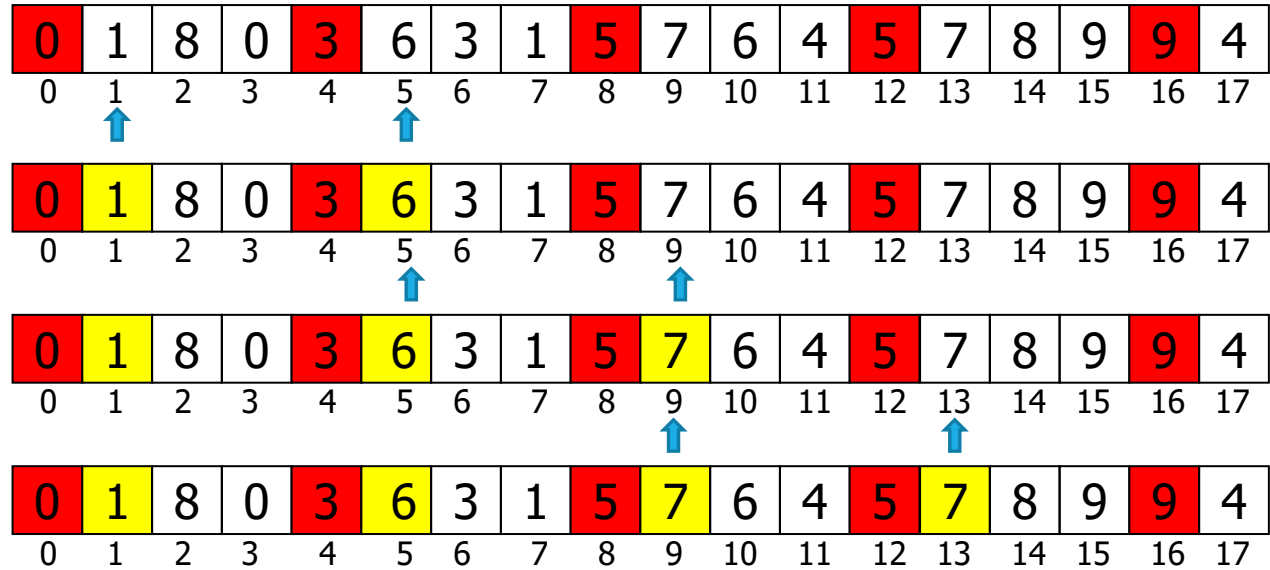


sequence h: 13, 4, 1

5	1	8	0	0	6	3	1	3	7	6	4	5	7	8	9	9	4
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
				↑													
0	1	8	0	5	6	3	1	3	7	6	4	5	7	8	9	9	4
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
				↑													
0	1	8	0	3	6	3	1	5	7	6	4	5	7	8	9	9	4
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
								↑					↑				
0	1	8	0	3	6	3	1	5	7	6	4	5	7	8	9	9	4
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
												↑					↑
0	1	8	0	3	6	3	1	5	7	6	4	5	7	8	9	9	4
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
																↑	
0	1	8	0	3	6	3	1	5	7	6	4	5	7	8	9	9	4
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17

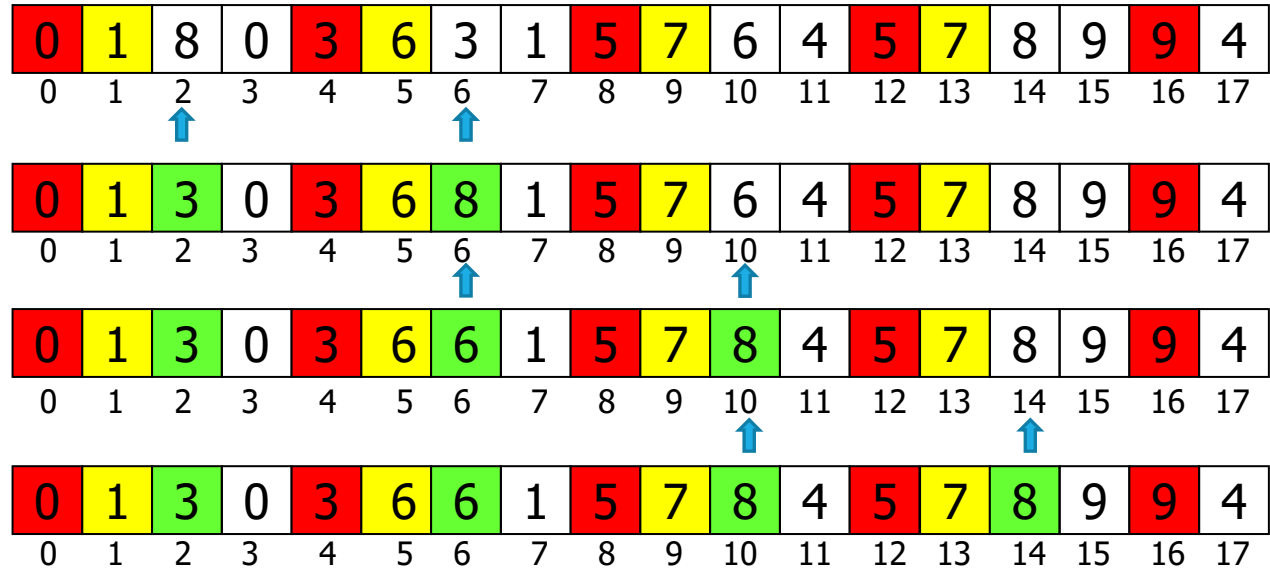
Step 2: $h=4$

sequence h: 13, 4, 1



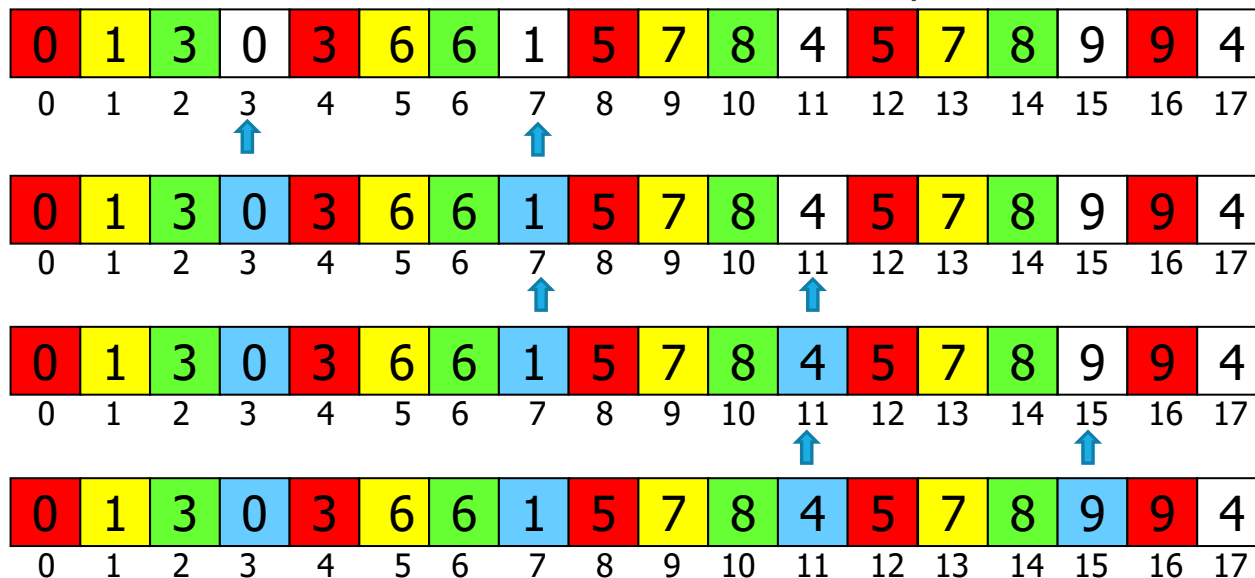
Step 2: $h=4$

sequence h: 13, 4, 1



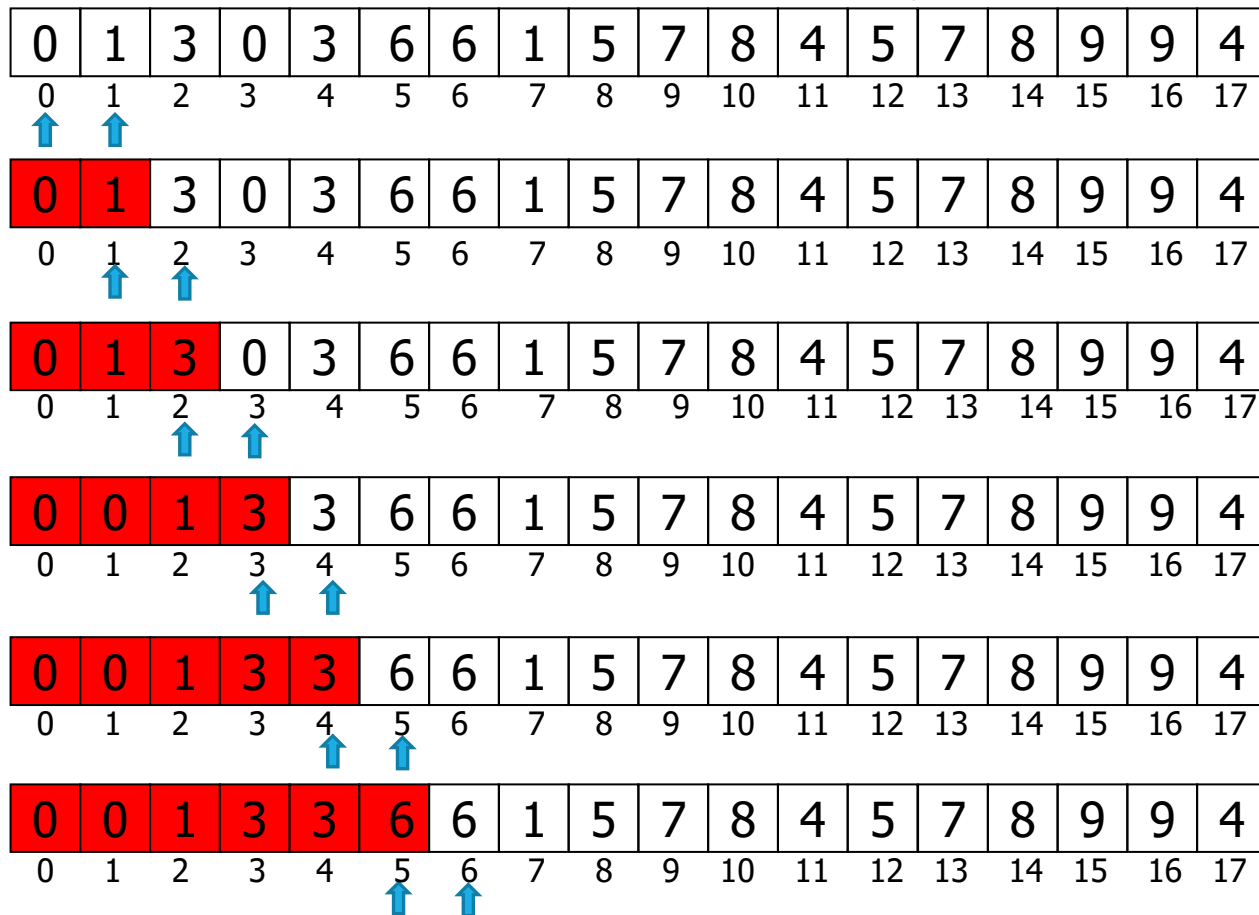
Step 2: $h=4$

sequence h: 13, 4, 1



Step 2: $h=4$

sequence h: 13, 4, 1



Step 3: $h=1$

sequence h: 13, 4, 1

0	0	1	3	3	6	6	1	5	7	8	4	5	7	8	9	9	4
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17



0	0	1	1	3	3	6	6	5	7	8	4	5	7	8	9	9	4
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17



0	0	1	1	3	3	5	6	6	7	8	4	5	7	8	9	9	4
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17



0	0	1	1	3	3	5	6	6	7	8	4	5	7	8	9	9	4
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17



0	0	1	1	3	3	5	6	6	7	8	4	5	7	8	9	9	4
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17

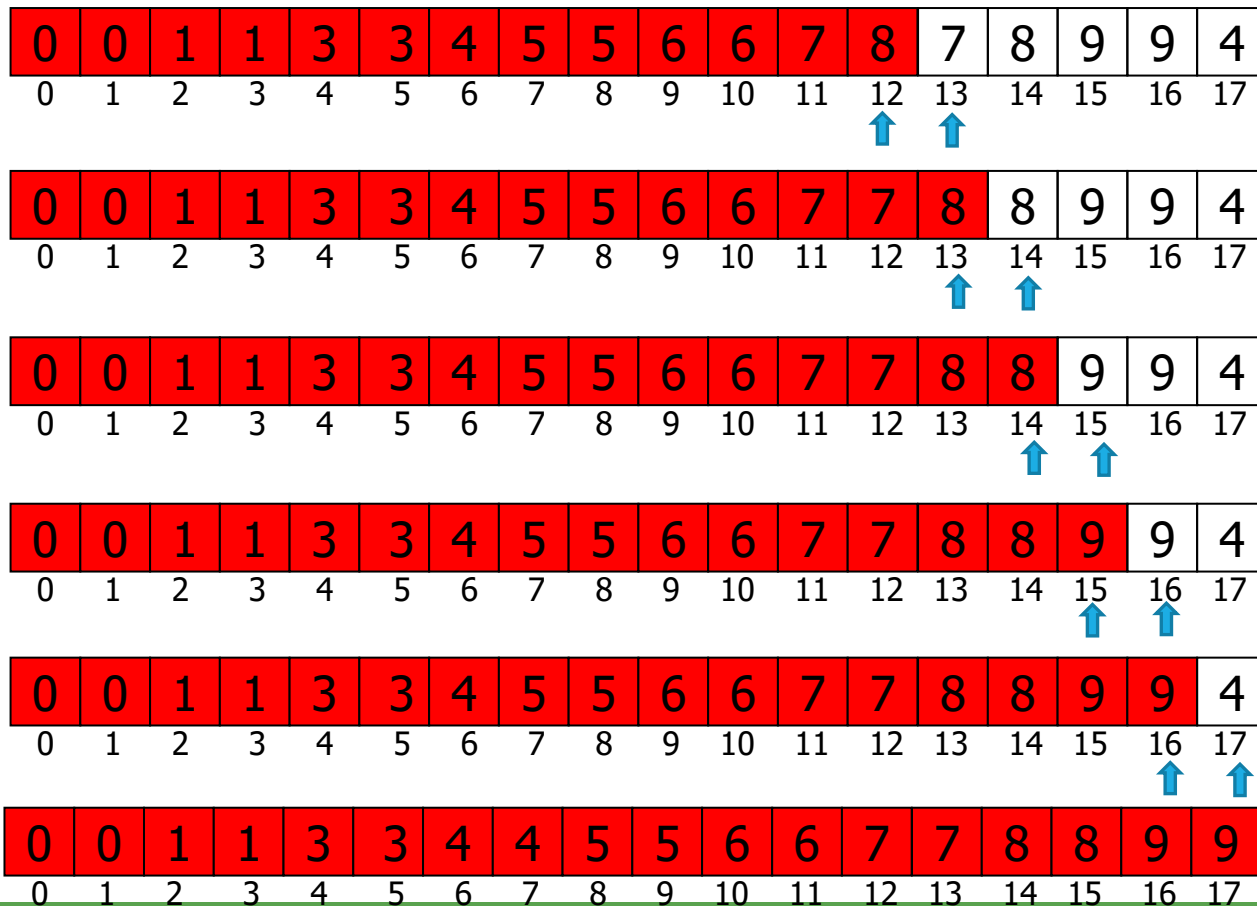


0	0	1	1	3	3	4	5	6	6	7	8	5	7	8	9	9	4
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17



Step 3: $h=1$

sequence h: 13, 4, 1



Step 3: $h=1$

Sequences

- **Shell's sequence (1959)** $h_i = 2^{i-1}$

$h_1 = 1, h_2 = 2, h_3 = 4, h_4 = 8, h_5 = 16, \dots$

- **Hibbard's sequence (1963):** $h_i = 2^i - 1$

$h_1 = 1, h_2 = 3, h_3 = 7, h_4 = 15, h_5 = 31, \dots$

- **Pratt's sequence (1971):**

1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 12, 16, ..., $2^p 3^q, \dots$

- **Knuth's (1973):** initially $h_0=0$ then $h_i = 3h_{i-1}+1$

$h_1 = 1, h_2 = 4, h_3 = 13, h_4 = 40, h_5 = 121, \dots$

- **Sedgewick's sequence (1986):**

1, 5, 19, 41, 109, 209, 505, 929, 2161, 3905, ...

Hibbard, T. N. (1963). An empirical study of minimal storage sorting. Communications of the ACM, 6(5), 206-213.

Pratt, V. R. (1972). Shellsort and sorting networks (Vol. 72, No. 260). C. S. Department, Stanford University.

```

void shellSort(int A[], int N) {
    int i, j, x, l=0, r=N-1, h=1;
    while (h <= N/3)
        h = 3*h+1;
    while(h >= 1) {
        for (i = l + h; i <= r; i++) {
            j = i;
            x = A[i];
            while(j >= l + h && x < A[j-h]) {
                A[j] = A[j-h];
                j -=h;
            }
            A[j] = x;
        }
        h = h/3;
    }
}

```

Knuth's sequence

Shell sort Features

- **in place:** apart from array **A** only variable **x** is used
- **non stable:** a **swap between** «distant» items **can force a duplicate key** to jump to the left of a previous occurrence:

2_1	2_2	2_3	2_4	2_5	0
-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	---



0	2_1	2_3	2_4	2_5	2_2
---	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------

High-level Complexity Analysis

- With **Shell's sequence**: 1 2 4 8 16 ... $T(N) = O(N^2)$
- With **Hibbard's sequence**: 1 3 7 15 31 ... $T(N) = O(N^{3/2})$
- With **Pratt's sequence**: 1 2 3 4 6 8 9 12 ... $T(N) = O(N \log^2 N)$
- With **Knuth's sequence**: 1 4 13 40 121 ... $T(n) = O(N^{3/2})$
- With **Sedgewick's sequence**: 1, 5, 19, 41, 109, 209, ... $T(N) = O(N^{4/3})$