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## 4.2 ALGORITHMS

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- ▶ *sequential search*
- ▶ *binary search*
- ▶ *insertion sort*
- ▶ *mergesort*



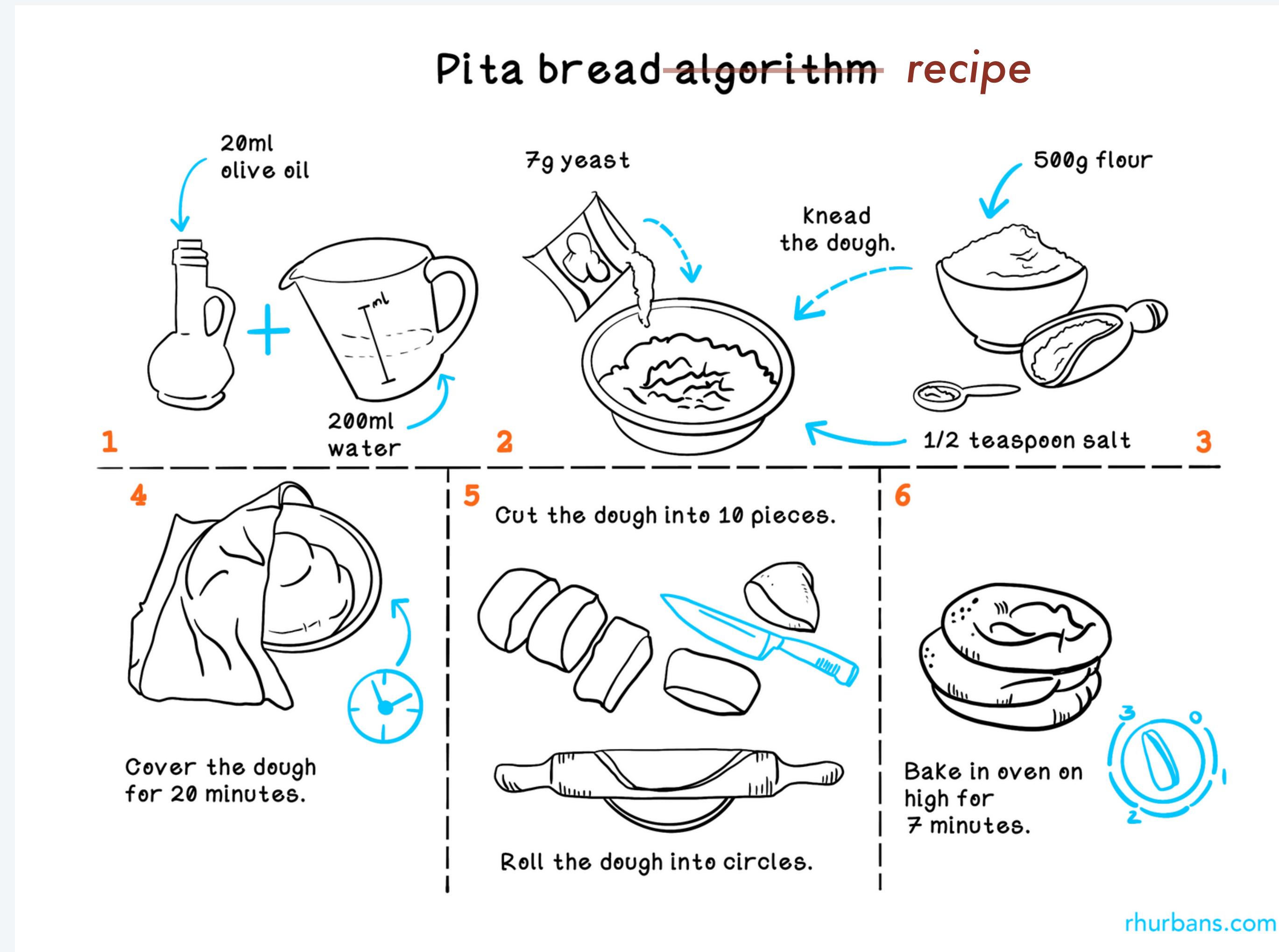
# Algorithms



# Algorithms



Intuition. An **algorithm** is like a recipe. ← *but unambiguous and mechanically executable*



# Algorithms

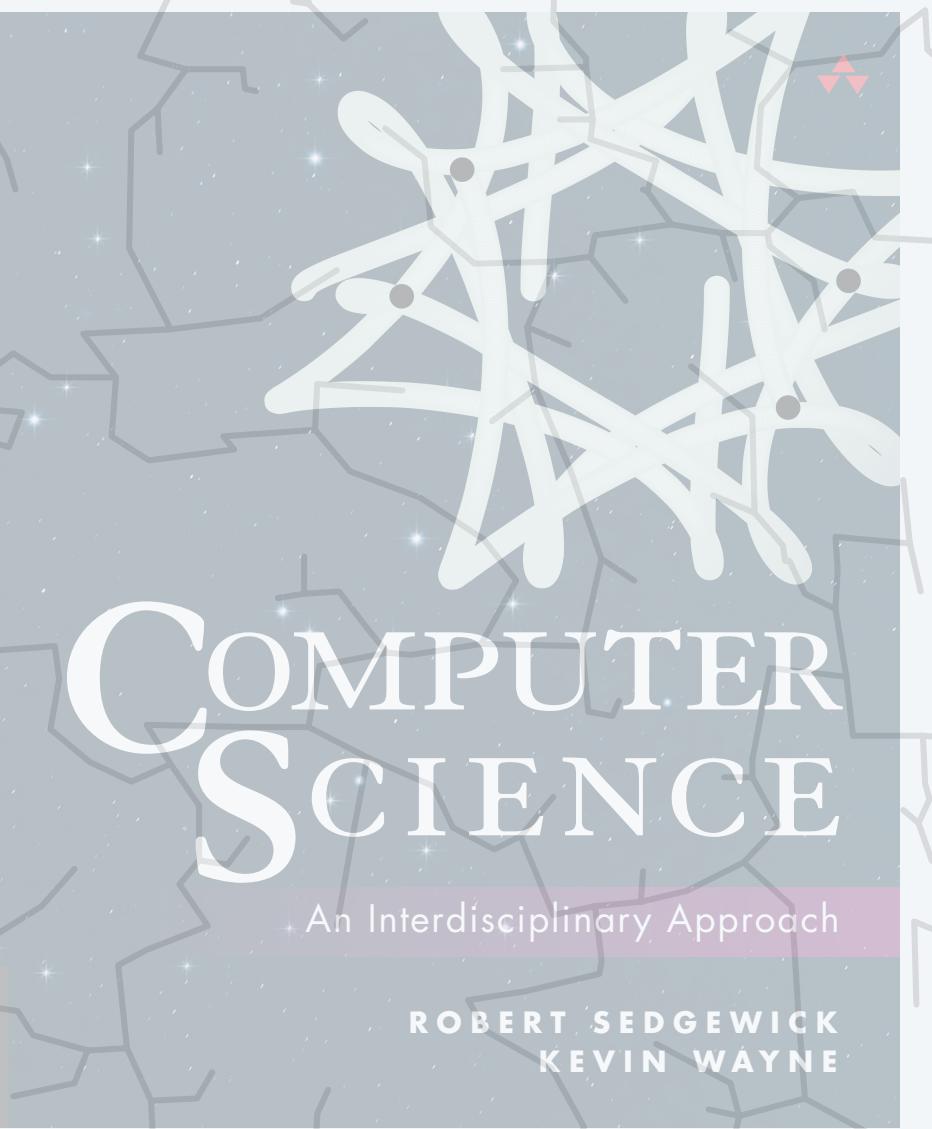


**Algorithm.** Step-by-step procedure for solving a problem.

- Takes input; produces output.
- Unambiguous and mechanically executable (e.g., in Java).

*formalized by  
Turing machines  
(stay tuned)*

category	famous algorithms
historic	<i>Euclid's gcd algorithm, gradient descent, Newton's method</i>
sorting and searching	<i>binary search, insertion sort, mergesort</i> ← <i>today's lecture</i>
graphs	<i>DFS, BFS, Dijkstra, Kruskal, Ford–Fulkerson</i>
linear algebra	<i>Gaussian elimination, simplex method, QR method, PageRank</i>
scientific computing	<i>Smith–Waterman, Metropolis–Hastings, k-means, FFT</i>
machine learning	<i>A*-search, multiplicative weights, neural network, transformer</i>



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## 4.2 ALGORITHMS

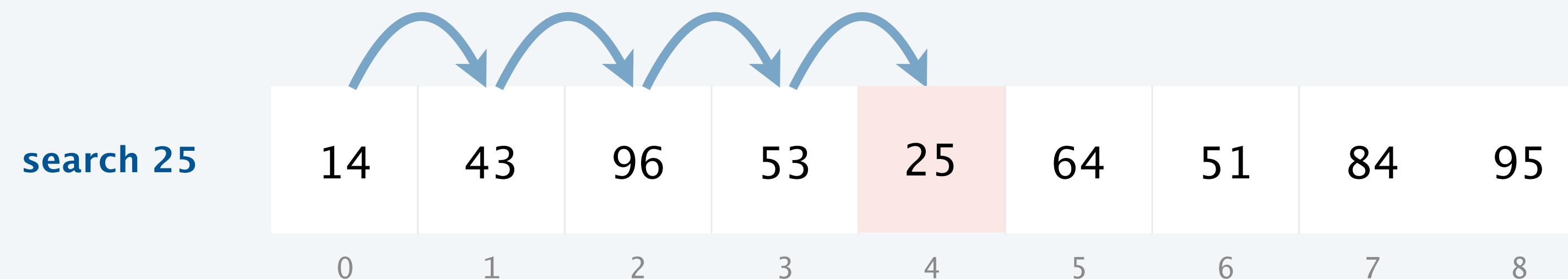
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- ▶ ***sequential search***
- ▶ ***binary search***
- ▶ ***insertion sort***
- ▶ ***mergesort***

# Sequential search

**Problem.** Given an **array** of  $n$  elements and a **search key**, find index of search key in array.

**Sequential search.** Check each element in array until match is found.



```
public static int sequentialSearch(String[] a, String key) {  
    int n = a.length;  
    for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {  
        if (a[i].equals(key)) return i;  
    }  
    return -1; ← return -1 to indicate  
} ← key is not in array
```

*we'll write code with  
String keys*



In the worst case, how many equality tests (or array accesses) does sequential search make to search for a key in an array of length  $n$ ?

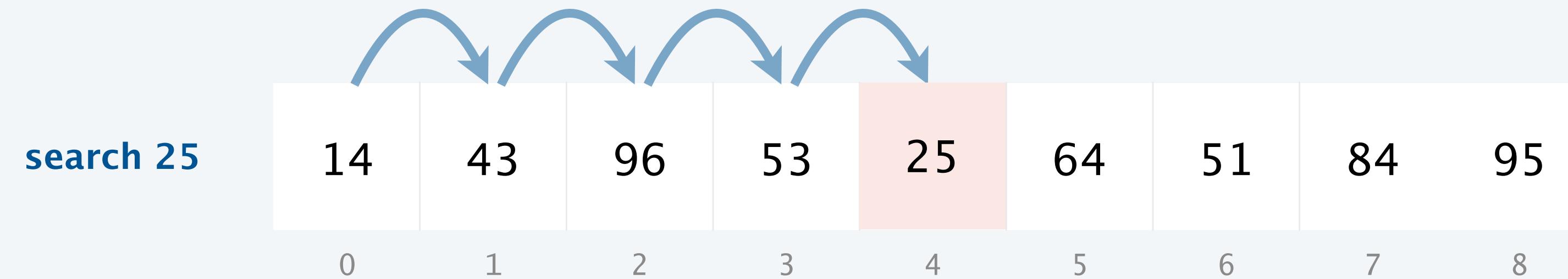
- A.  $\Theta(1)$
- B.  $\Theta(\log n)$
- C.  $\Theta(n)$
- D.  $\Theta(n^2)$

# Sequential search

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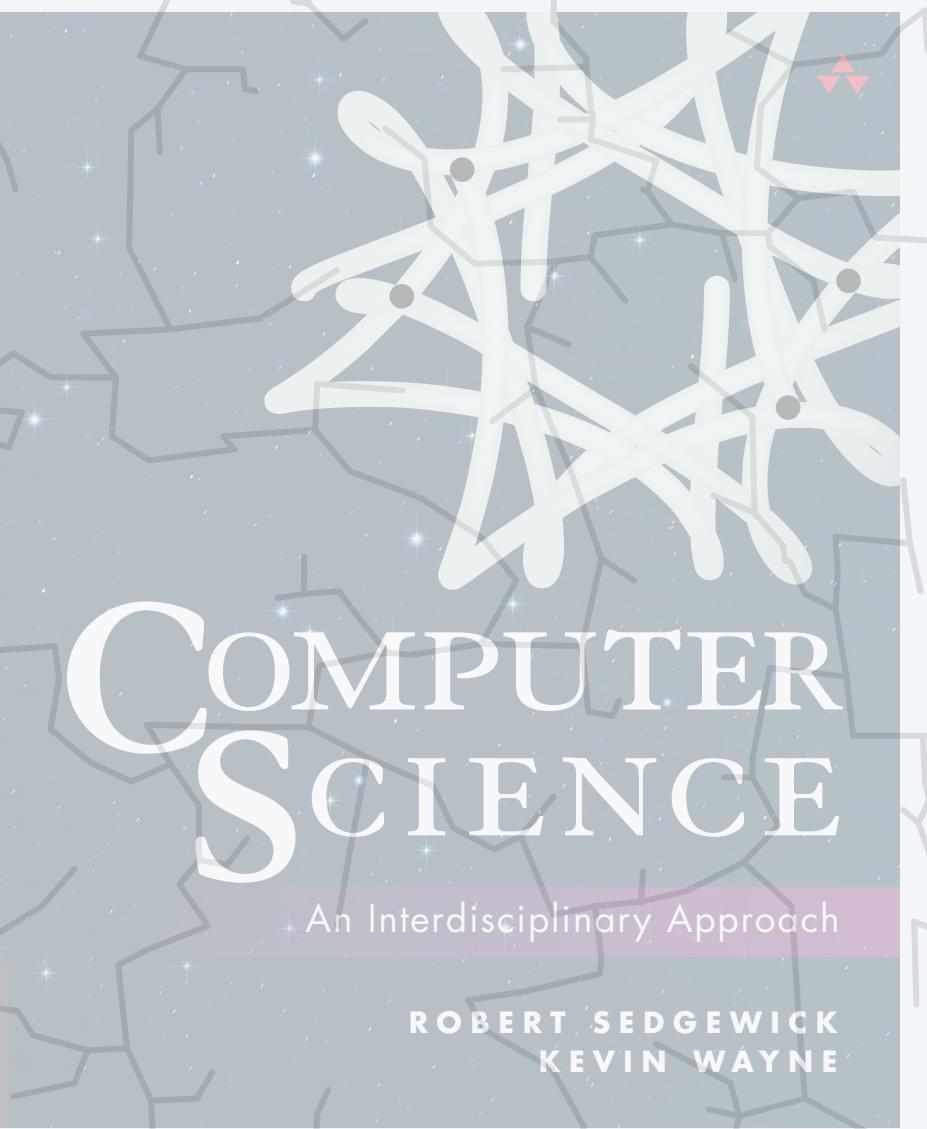
**Problem.** Given an array of  $n$  elements and a search key, find index of search key in array.

**Sequential search (linear search).** Check each element in array until match is found.



**Cost model.** Equality tests (or array accesses).

**Performance.** Sequential search solves the problem using  $\leq n$  equality tests.



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## 4.2 ALGORITHMS

---

- ▶ *sequential search*
- ▶ **binary search**
- ▶ *insertion sort*
- ▶ *mergesort*



# Binary search

**Problem.** Given a **sorted array** of  $n$  elements and a **search key**, find index of search key in array.

**Binary search.** Compare search key with middle element.

- Too small, go left.
- Too big, go right.
- Equal, found.

**sorted array**

10	13	14	25	33	43	51	53	64	72	84	93	95	96	97
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
↑														↑

*lo*

*hi*

## Binary search: Java implementation

---

Invariant. If key appears in array  $a[]$ , then  $a[lo] \leq \text{key} \leq a[hi]$ .

```
public static int binarySearch(String[] a, String key) {  
    int lo = 0, hi = a.length - 1;  
    while (lo <= hi) {  
        int mid = lo + (hi - lo) / 2; ←  
        int compare = key.compareTo(a[mid]); ←  
        if (compare < 0) hi = mid - 1;  
        else if (compare > 0) lo = mid + 1;  
        else return mid;  
    }  
    return -1;  
}
```

*essentially equivalent to  
 $mid = (lo + hi) / 2$   
(but avoids arithmetic overflow)*

*return zero (if equal),  
negative integer (if less),  
positive integer (if greater)*



In the worst case, how many compares (or array accesses) does binary search make to search for a key in a sorted array of length  $n$ ?

- A.  $\Theta(1)$
- B.  $\Theta(\log n)$
- C.  $\Theta(n)$
- D.  $\Theta(n^2)$

## Binary search: analysis

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**Problem.** Given a **sorted array** of  $n$  elements and a **search key**, find index of search key in array.

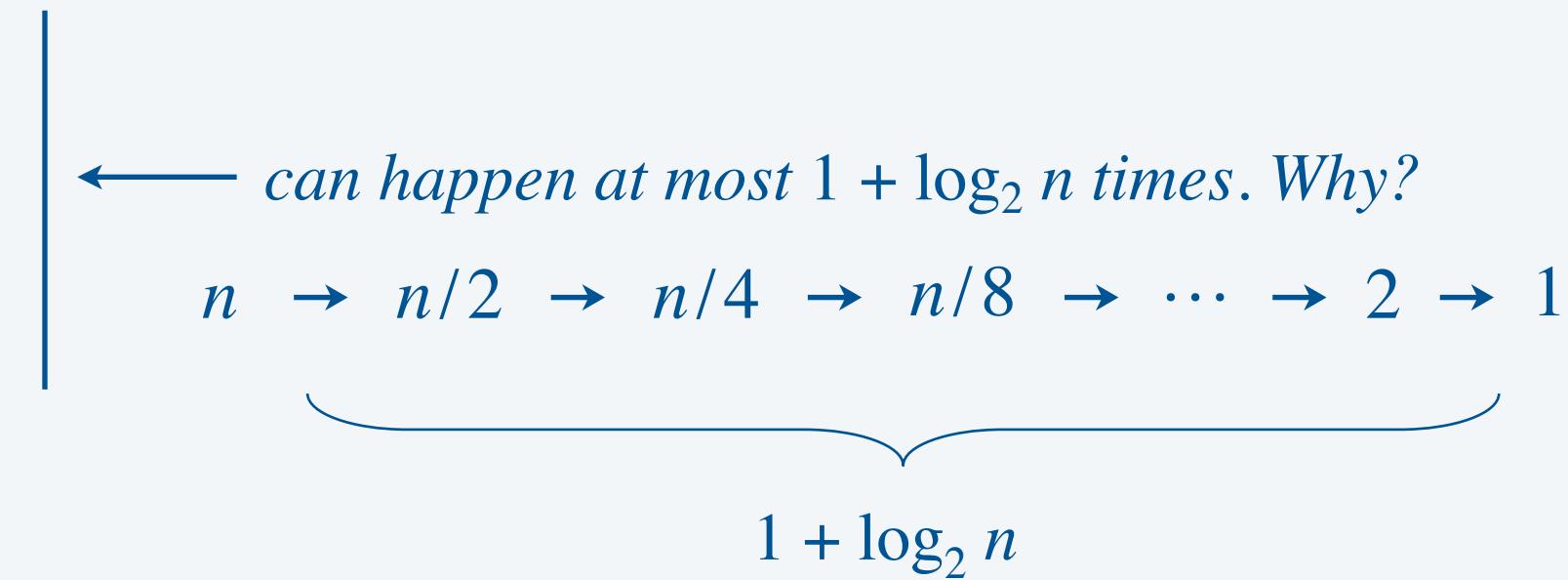
**Proposition.** Binary search solves problem using  $\leq 1 + \log_2 n$  compares.

**Pf.**

- Each iteration of `while` loop:
  - calls `compareTo()` once
  - decreases the length of remaining subarray by at least a factor of 2



*slightly better than 2x,  
due to elimination of a[mid] from subarray  
(or early termination of while loop)*



# Sequential search vs. binary search: empirical analysis

Running time and energy estimates (approximate):

- CPU core executes  $10^8$  compares/second.
- CPU core consumes 18 watts power.

Resources required. [on array of length  $n = 10^9$ ]

queries/hour	CPU cores	power
thousand	2.78	50 watts
million	2.78 thousand	50 kilowatts
billion	2.78 million	50 megawatts

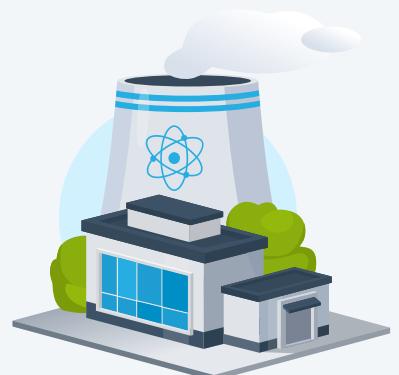
**sequential search  $\Theta(n)$**

queries/hour	CPU cores	power
million	—	—
billion	0.083	1.5 watts
trillion	83	1.5 kilowatts

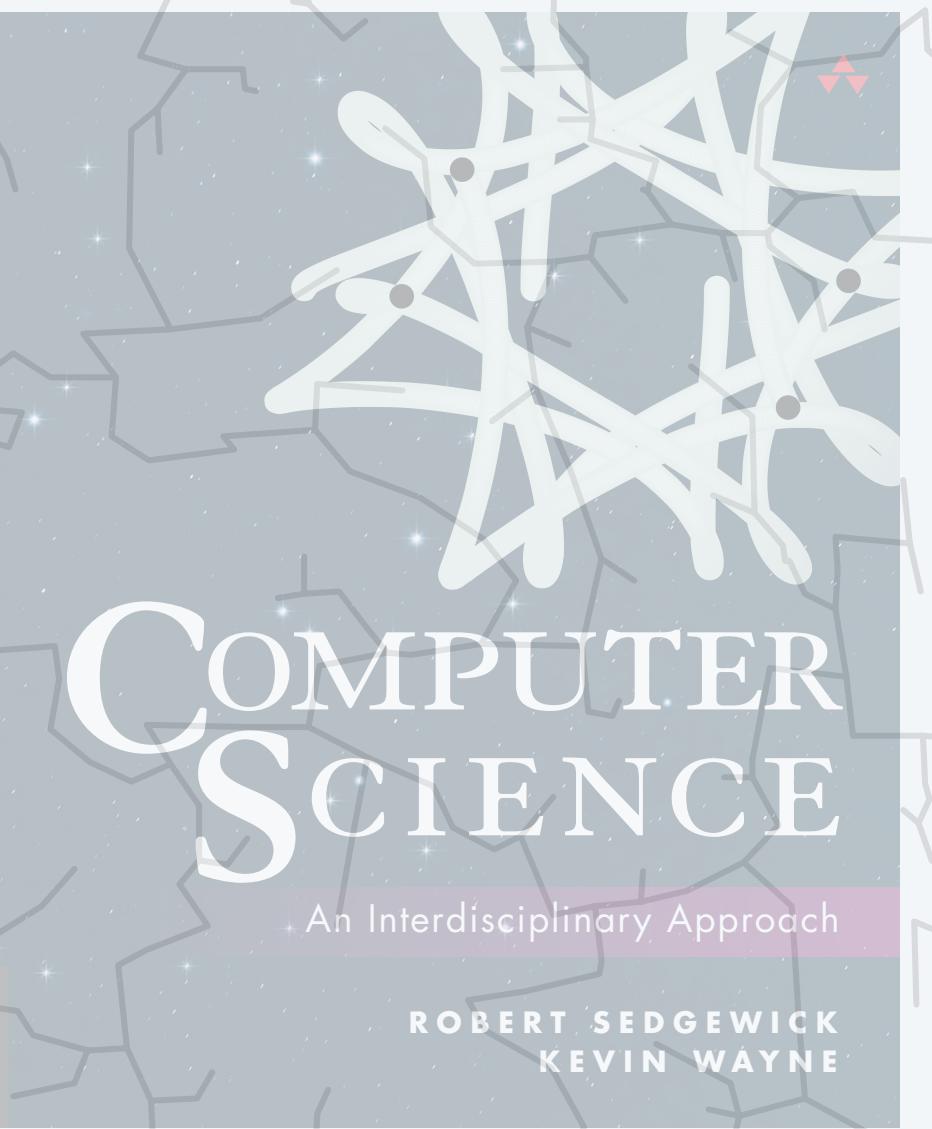
**binary search  $\Theta(\log n)$**

Bottom line. Great algorithms can replace server farms. ←

500K ChatGPT  
queries per hour  
(≈ 1 gigawatt)



about 33M times more efficient  
( $10^9$  vs.  $\log_2 10^9$ )



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## 4.2 ALGORITHMS

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- ▶ *binary search*
- ▶ *insertion sort*
- ▶ *mergesort*

# Sorting problem

Problem. Given an array of  $n$  elements, rearrange in ascending order by key.

element →

Last	First	House	Year
<b>Longbottom</b>	Neville	Gryffindor	1998
<b>Weasley</b>	Ron	Gryffindor	1998
<b>Abbott</b>	Hannah	Hufflepuff	1998
<b>Potter</b>	Harry	Gryffindor	1998
<b>Chang</b>	Cho	Ravenclaw	1997
<b>Granger</b>	Hermione	Gryffindor	1998
<b>Malfoy</b>	Draco	Slytherin	1998
<b>Diggory</b>	Cedric	Hufflepuff	1996
<b>Weasley</b>	Ginny	Gryffindor	1999
<b>Parkinson</b>	Pansy	Slytherin	1998

key →



sorting hat

# Sorting problem

**Problem.** Given an array of  $n$  elements, rearrange in ascending order by key.

Last ▾	First	House	Year
<b>Abbott</b>	Hannah	Hufflepuff	1998
<b>Chang</b>	Cho	Ravenclaw	1997
<b>Granger</b>	Hermione	Gryffindor	1998
<b>Diggory</b>	Cedric	Hufflepuff	1996
<b>Longbottom</b>	Neville	Gryffindor	1998
<b>Malfoy</b>	Draco	Slytherin	1998
<b>Parkinson</b>	Pansy	Slytherin	1998
<b>Potter</b>	Harry	Gryffindor	1998
<b>Weasley</b>	Ron	Gryffindor	1998
<b>Weasley</b>	Ginny	Gryffindor	1999

*key* →

*element* →

*sorted by key*



sorting hat

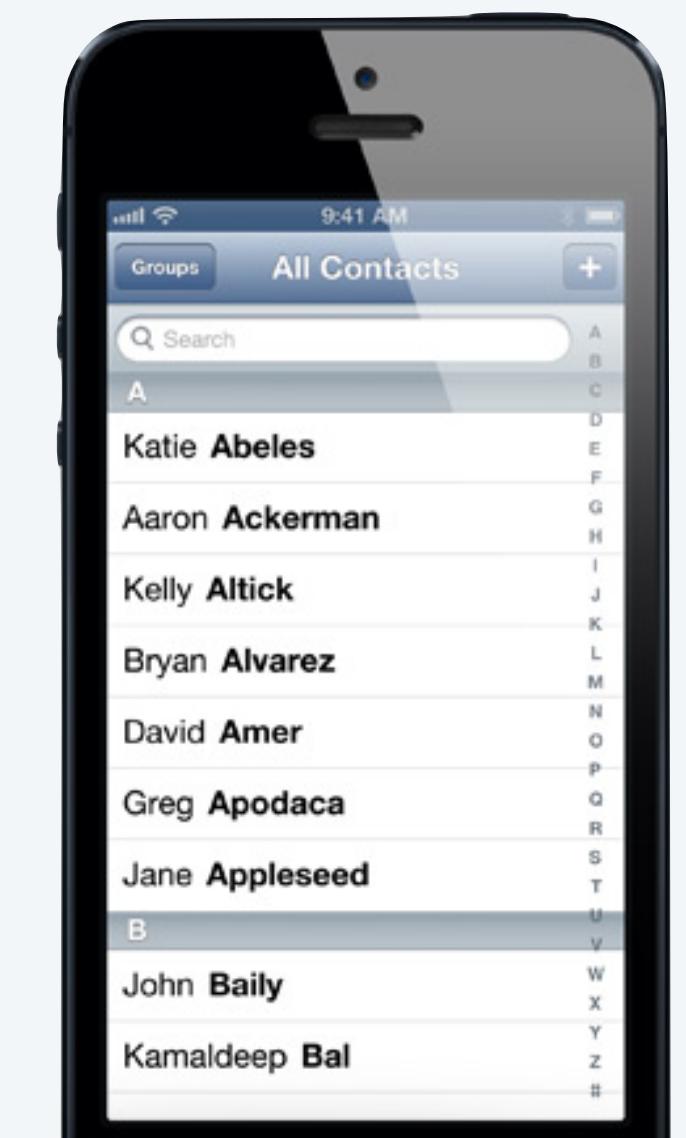
# Sorting applications

International Departures				
Flight No	Destination	Time	Gate	Remarks
CX7183	Berlin	7:50	A-11	Gate closing
QF3474	London	7:50	A-12	Gate closing
BA372	Paris	7:55	B-10	Boarding
AY6554	New York	8:00	C-33	Boarding
KL3160	San Francisco	8:00	F-15	Boarding
BA8903	Manchester	8:05	B-12	Gate lounge open
BA710	Los Angeles	8:10	C-12	Check-in open
QF3371	Hong Kong	8:15	F-10	Check-in open
MA4866	Barcelona	8:15	F-12	Check-in at kiosks
CX7221	Copenhagen	8:20	G-32	Check-in at kiosks

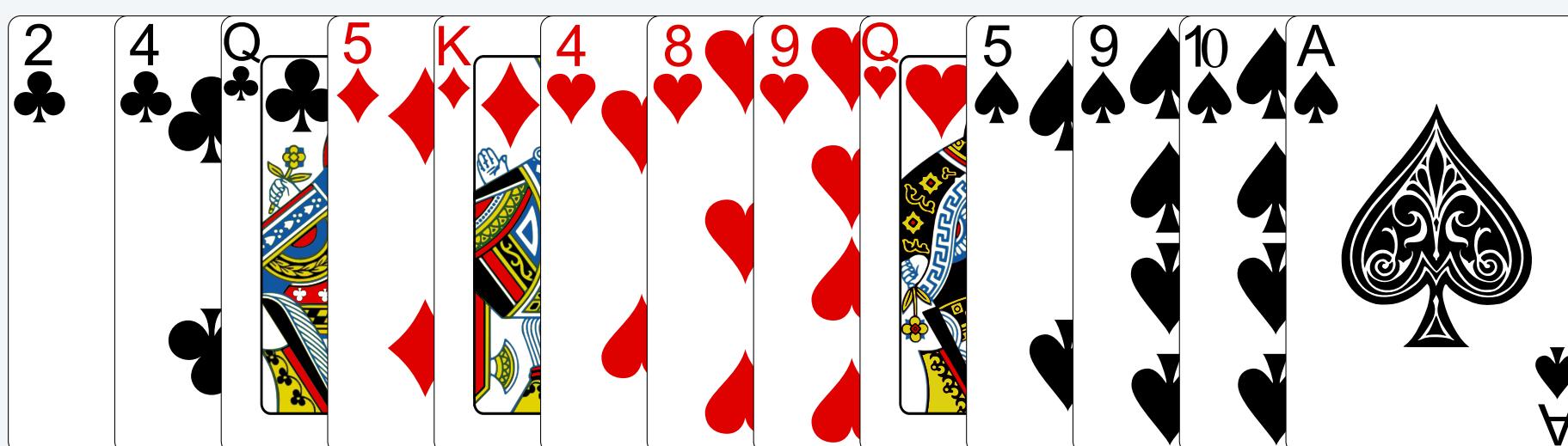
chronological order

No.	Video name	Views (billions)
1.	"Baby Shark Dance" <sup>[3]</sup>	10.15
2.	"Despacito" <sup>[6]</sup>	7.73
3.	"Johny Johny Yes Papa" <sup>[12]</sup>	6.15
4.	"Shape of You" <sup>[13]</sup>	5.61
5.	"See You Again" <sup>[15]</sup>	5.41

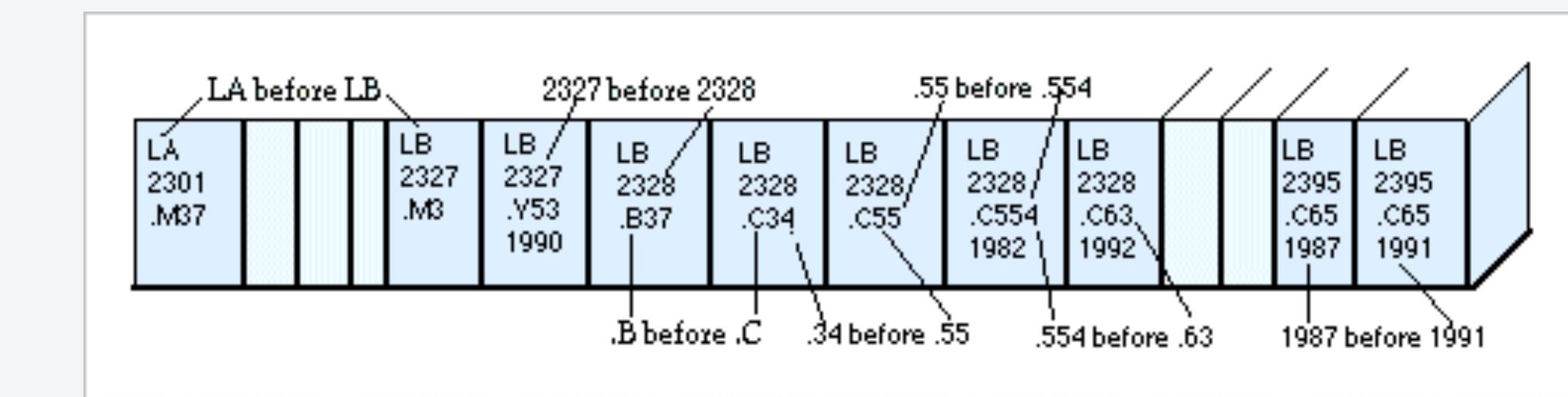
numerical order (descending)



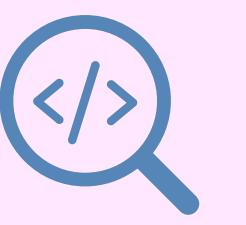
alphabetical order



suit and rank order



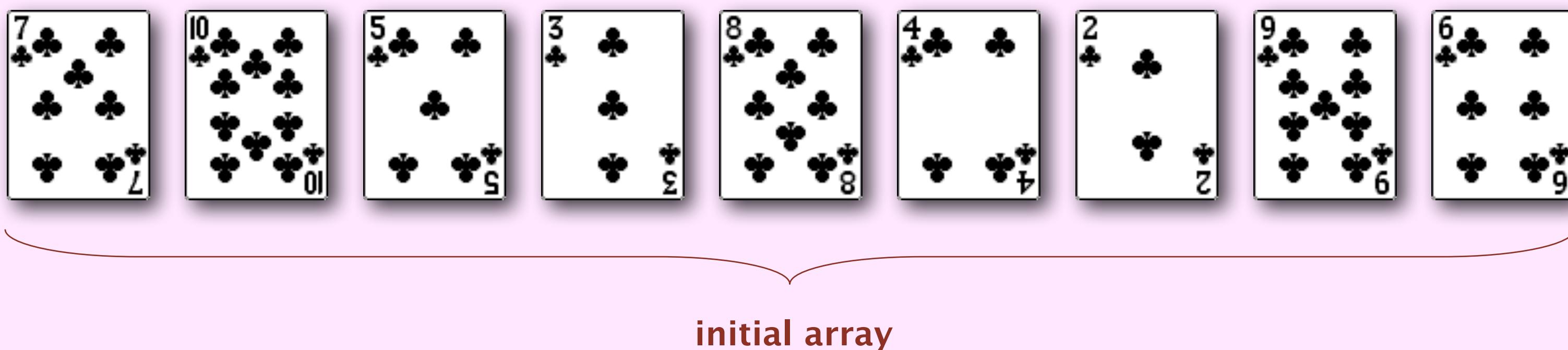
Library of Congress order



## Insertion sort demo

Algorithm. For each index  $i = 0$  to  $n - 1$  :

- Let  $x$  be the element at index  $i$ .
- Repeatedly exchange  $x$  with each larger element to its immediate left.



## Insertion sort demo (Romanian folk dance)



Algorithm. For each index  $i = 0$  to  $n - 1$  :

- Let  $x$  be the element at index  $i$ .
- Repeatedly exchange  $x$  with each larger element to its left.



# Insertion sort

---

**Algorithm.** For each index  $i = 0$  to  $n - 1$  :

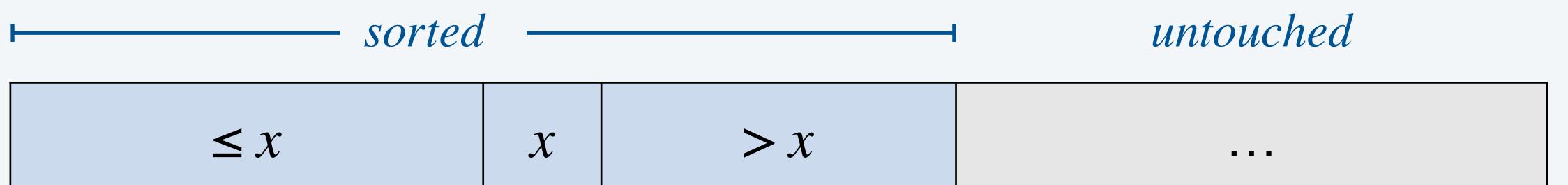
- Let  $x$  be the element at index  $i$ .
- Repeatedly exchange  $x$  with each larger element to its left.

**Invariants.**

**before iteration i**



**after iteration i**



## Insertion sort: Java implementation

---

```
public class Insertion {  
  
    public static void sort(String[] a) {  
        int n = a.length;  
        for (int i = 0; i < n; i++)  
            for (int j = i; j > 0; j--)  
                if (less(a[j], a[j-1]))  
                    exch(a, j, j-1);  
                else break; ← breaks out of  
innermost loop  
    }  
  
    private static boolean less(String v, String w) {  
        return v.compareTo(w) < 0;  
    }  
  
    private static void exch(String[] a, int i, int j) {  
        String temp = a[i];  
        a[i] = a[j];  
        a[j] = temp;  
    }  
}
```



How many compares to insertion sort an array of  $n$  distinct keys in reverse order?

- A.  $\Theta(1)$
- B.  $\Theta(\log n)$
- C.  $\Theta(n)$
- D.  $\Theta(n^2)$

## Insertion sort: analysis

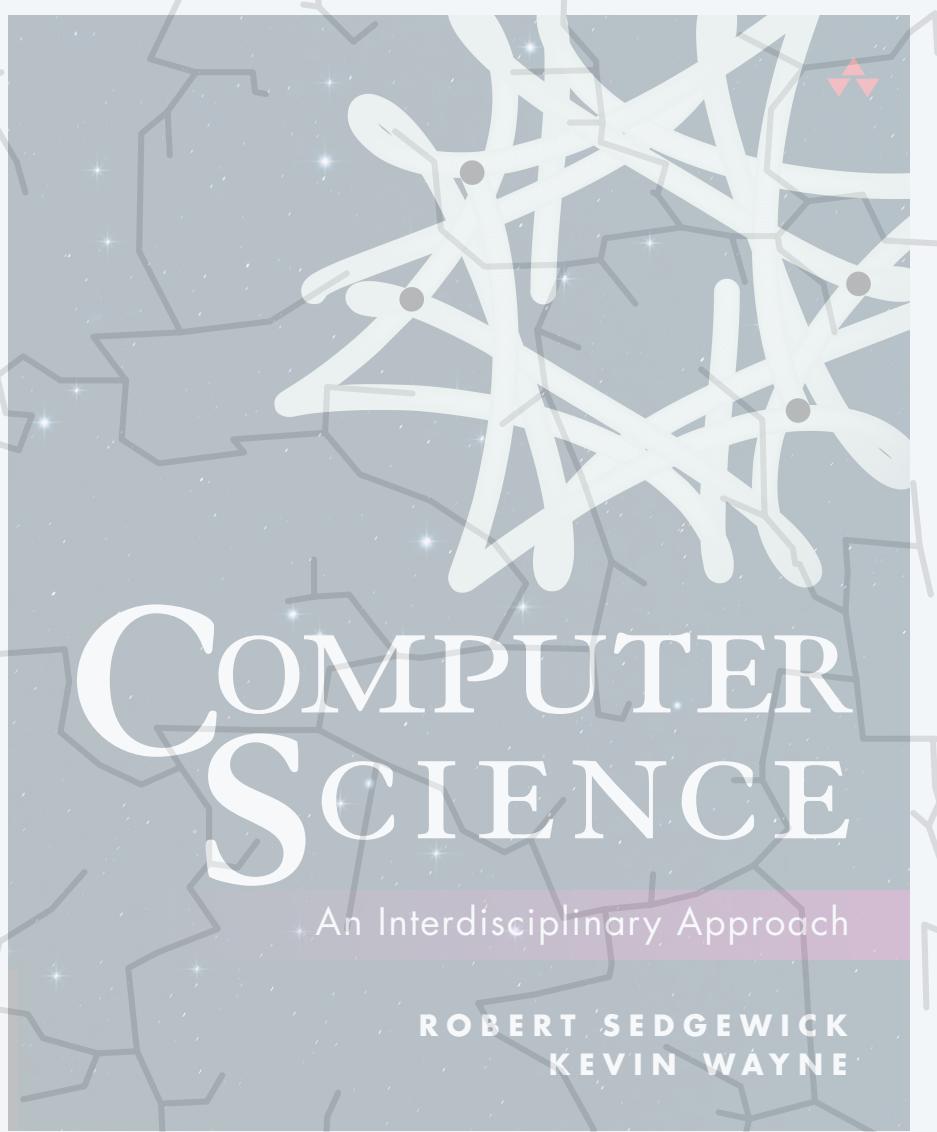
---

Sorting cost model. Number of compares (or array accesses).

Proposition. Insertion sort never makes more than  $\sim \frac{1}{2} n^2$  compares to sort an array of length  $n$ .

Pf.

- The worst case is a reverse-sorted array of  $n$  distinct keys.
- In iteration  $i$ , insertion sort makes  $i$  compares.
- Total number of compares =  $0 + 1 + 2 + \dots + (n-1) = \frac{1}{2} n(n-1)$ .



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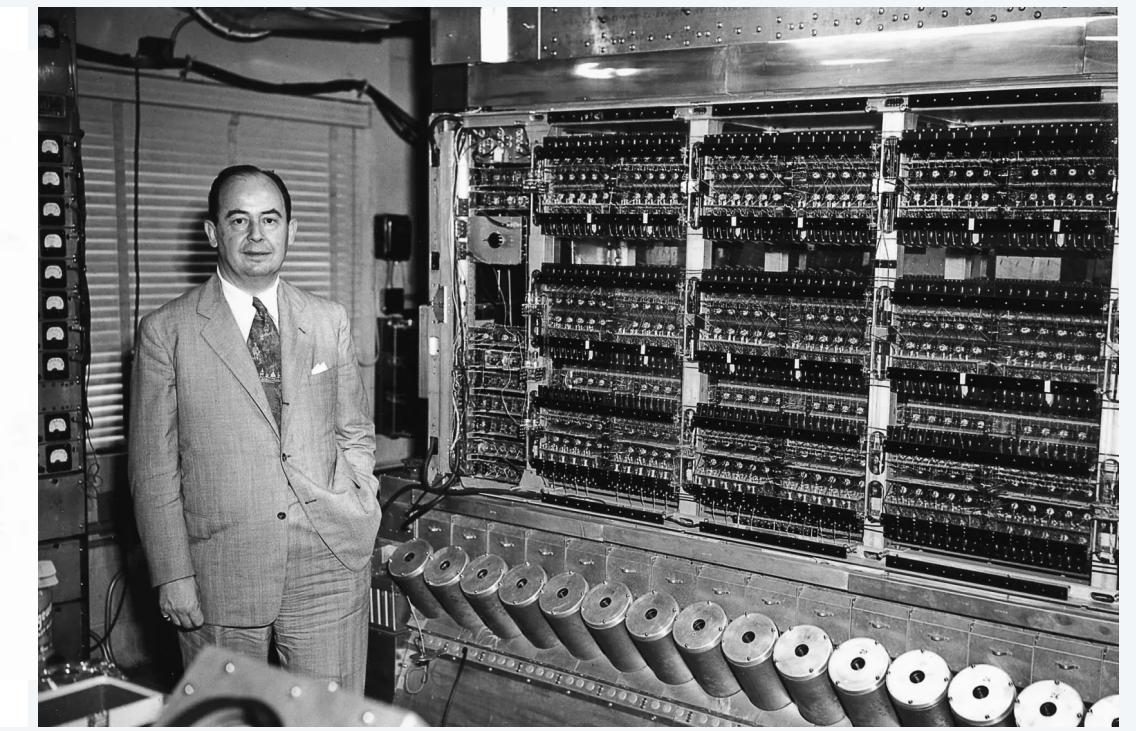
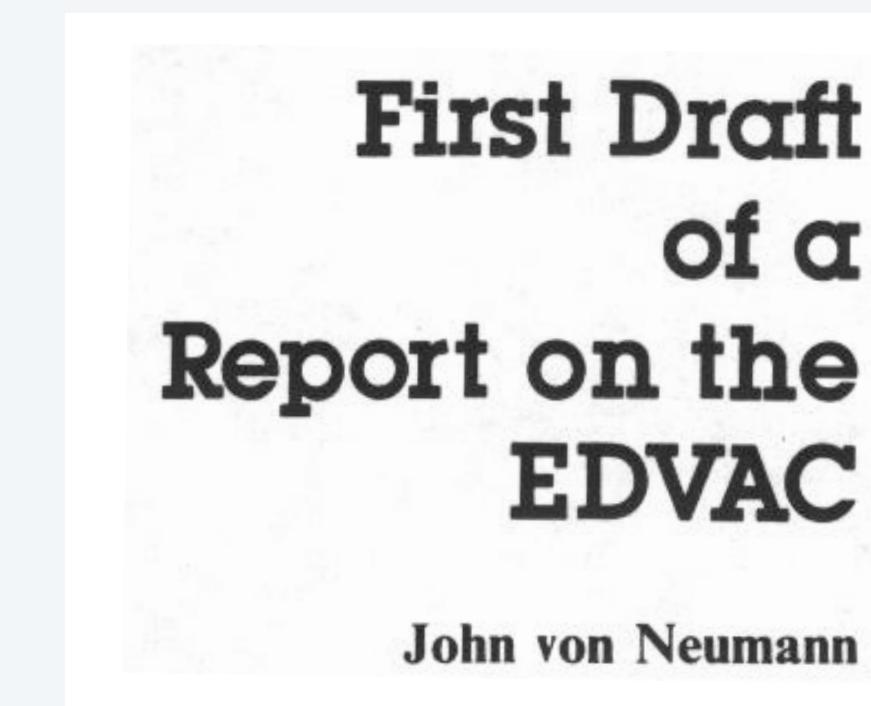
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- ▶ *sequential search*
- ▶ *binary search*
- ▶ *insertion sort*
- ▶ ***mergesort***

# Mergesort overview

## Basic plan.

- Divide array into two halves.
- Recursively sort left half.
- Recursively sort right half.
- **Merge** two sorted halves.

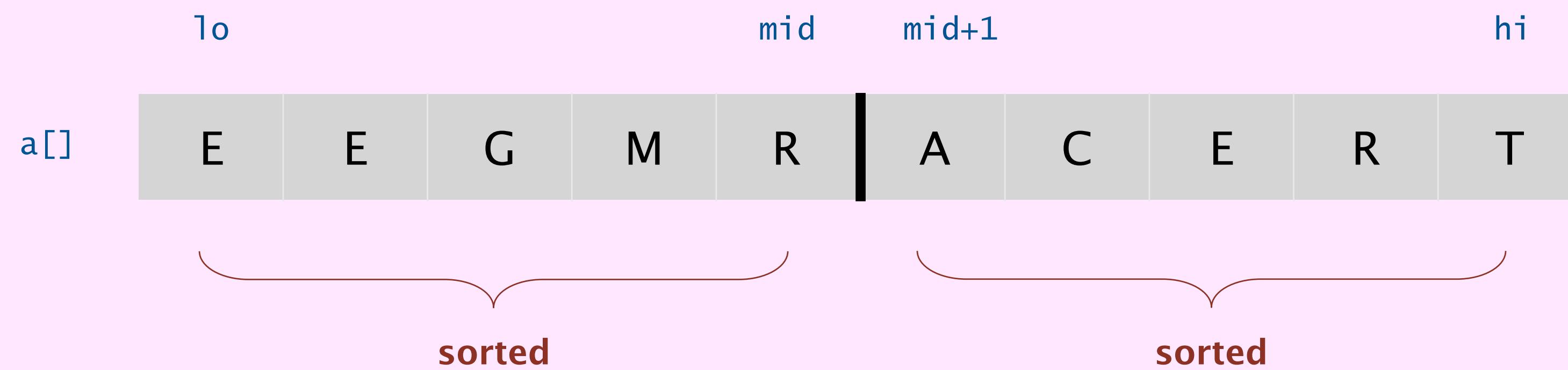


input	M	E	R	G	E	S	O	R	T	E	X	A	M	P	L	E
sort left half	E	E	G	M	O	R	R	S	T	E	X	A	M	P	L	E
sort right half	E	E	G	M	O	R	R	S	A	E	E	L	M	P	T	X
merge results	A	E	E	E	E	G	L	M	M	O	P	R	R	S	T	X



# Abstract in-place merge demo

Goal. Given two sorted subarrays  $a[lo]$  to  $a[mid]$  and  $a[mid+1]$  to  $a[hi]$ ,  
replace with sorted subarray  $a[lo]$  to  $a[hi]$ .



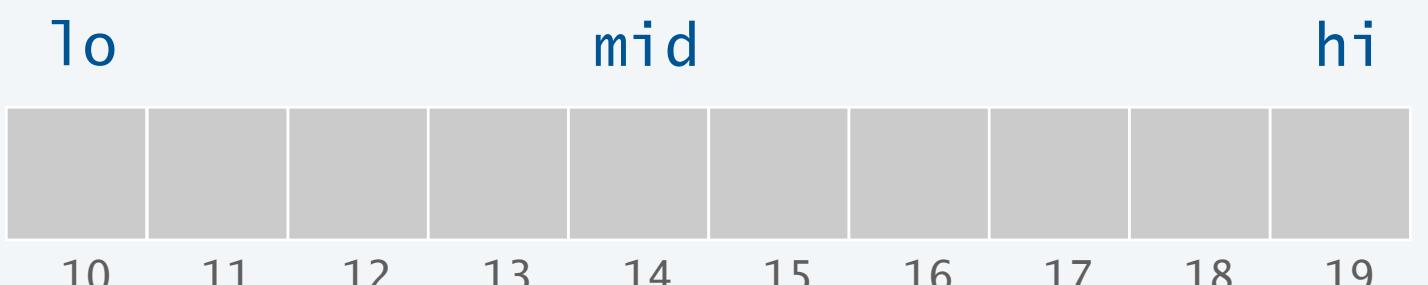
## Merging: Java implementation

```
private static void merge(String[] a, String[] aux, int lo, int mid, int hi) {  
    for (int k = lo; k <= hi; k++)    copy  
        aux[k] = a[k];  
  
    int i = lo, j = mid+1;                      merge  
    for (int k = lo; k <= hi; k++) {  
        if      (i > mid)                  a[k] = aux[j++];  
        else if (j > hi)                  a[k] = aux[i++];  
        else if (less(aux[j], aux[i]))   a[k] = aux[j++];  
        else                            a[k] = aux[i++];  
    }  
}
```



# Mergesort: Java implementation

```
public class Merge {  
    private static void merge(...) {  
        /* as before */  
    }  
  
    private static void sort(String[] a, String[] aux, int lo, int hi) {  
        if (hi <= lo) return;  
        int mid = lo + (hi - lo) / 2;  
        sort(a, aux, lo, mid);  
        sort(a, aux, mid+1, hi);  
        merge(a, aux, lo, mid, hi);  
    }  
  
    public static void sort(String[] a) {  
        String[] aux = new String[a.length];  
        sort(a, aux, 0, a.length - 1);  
    }  
}
```



## Mergesort: trace

	a[]																
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
merge(a, aux, 0, 0, 1)	M	E	R	G	E	S	O	R	T	E	X	A	M	P	L	E	
merge(a, aux, 2, 2, 3)	E	M	G	R	E	S	O	R	T	E	X	A	M	P	L	E	
merge(a, aux, 0, 1, 3)	E	G	M	R	E	S	O	R	T	E	X	A	M	P	L	E	
merge(a, aux, 4, 4, 5)	E	G	M	R	E	S	O	R	T	E	X	A	M	P	L	E	
merge(a, aux, 6, 6, 7)	E	G	M	R	E	S	O	R	T	E	X	A	M	P	L	E	
merge(a, aux, 4, 5, 7)	E	G	M	R	E	O	R	S	T	E	X	A	M	P	L	E	
merge(a, aux, 0, 3, 7)	E	E	G	M	O	R	R	S	T	E	X	A	M	P	L	E	
merge(a, aux, 8, 8, 9)	E	E	G	M	O	R	R	S	E	T	X	A	M	P	L	E	
merge(a, aux, 10, 10, 11)	E	E	G	M	O	R	R	S	E	T	A	X	M	P	L	E	
merge(a, aux, 8, 9, 11)	E	E	G	M	O	R	R	S	A	E	T	X	M	P	L	E	
merge(a, aux, 12, 12, 13)	E	E	G	M	O	R	R	S	A	E	T	X	M	P	L	E	
merge(a, aux, 14, 14, 15)	E	E	G	M	O	R	R	S	A	E	T	X	M	P	E	L	
merge(a, aux, 12, 13, 15)	E	E	G	M	O	R	R	S	A	E	T	X	E	L	M	P	
merge(a, aux, 8, 11, 15)	E	E	G	M	O	R	R	S	A	E	E	L	M	P	T	X	
merge(a, aux, 0, 7, 15)	A	E	E	E	E	E	G	L	M	M	O	P	R	R	S	T	X

←———— result after recursive call

## Insertion sort vs. mergesort: empirical analysis

---

Running time estimates (approximate):

- Laptop executes  $10^8$  compares/second.
- Supercomputer executes  $10^{12}$  compares/second.

n	laptop	super	n	laptop	super
thousand	<i>instant</i>	<i>instant</i>	thousand	<i>instant</i>	<i>instant</i>
million	2.8 <i>hours</i>	1 <i>second</i>	million	1 <i>second</i>	<i>instant</i>
billion	317 <i>years</i>	1 <i>week</i>	billion	18 <i>minutes</i>	<i>instant</i>

**insertion sort**                                    **mergesort**

Bottom line. Great algorithms are better than supercomputers.



## Algorithms: quiz 4

In the worst case, how many compares to merges two sorted subarrays of length  $n / 2$  to produce a sorted array of length  $n$  ?

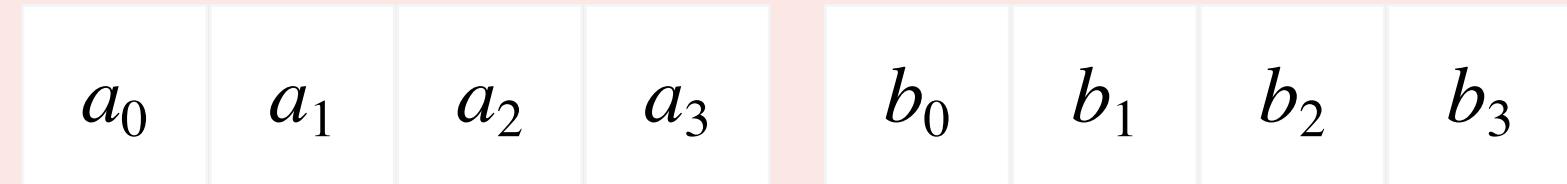
A.  $n / 2$

B.  $n - 1$

C.  $\Theta(n \log n)$

D.  $\Theta(n^2)$

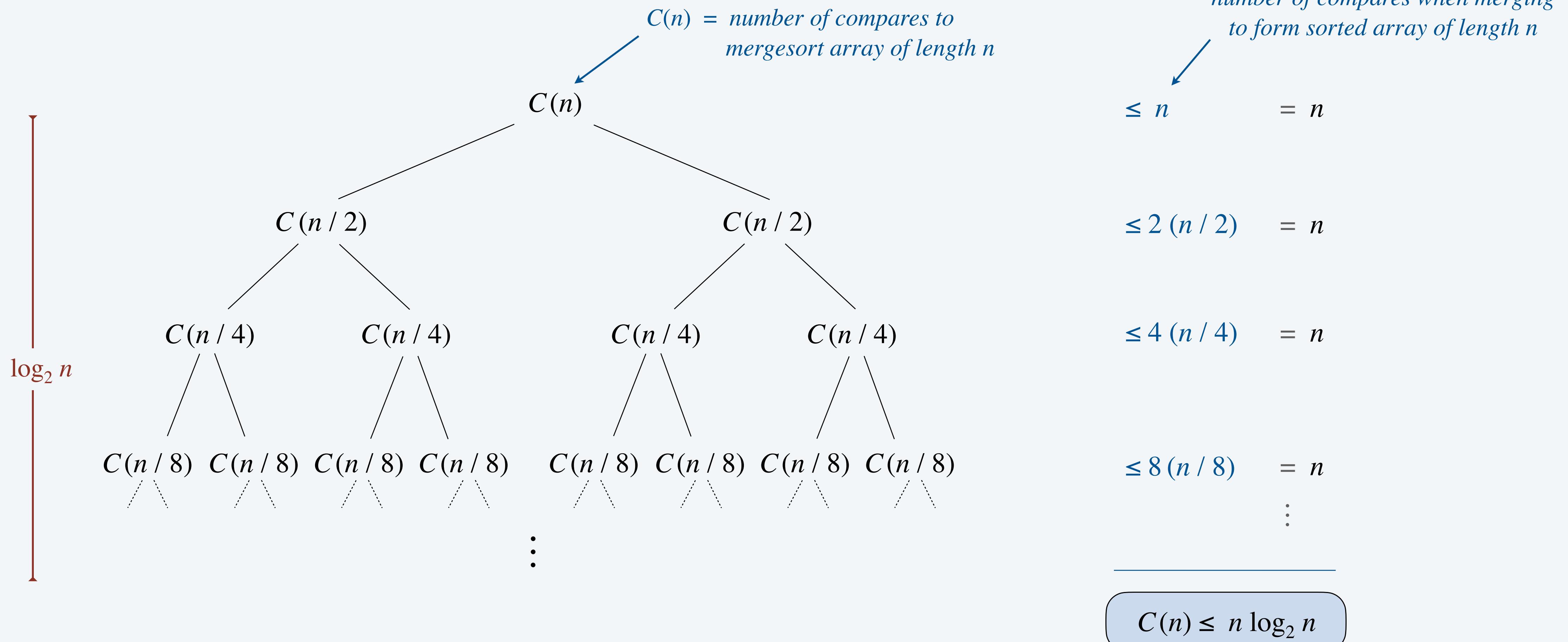
merging two sorted arrays, each of length  $n/2$

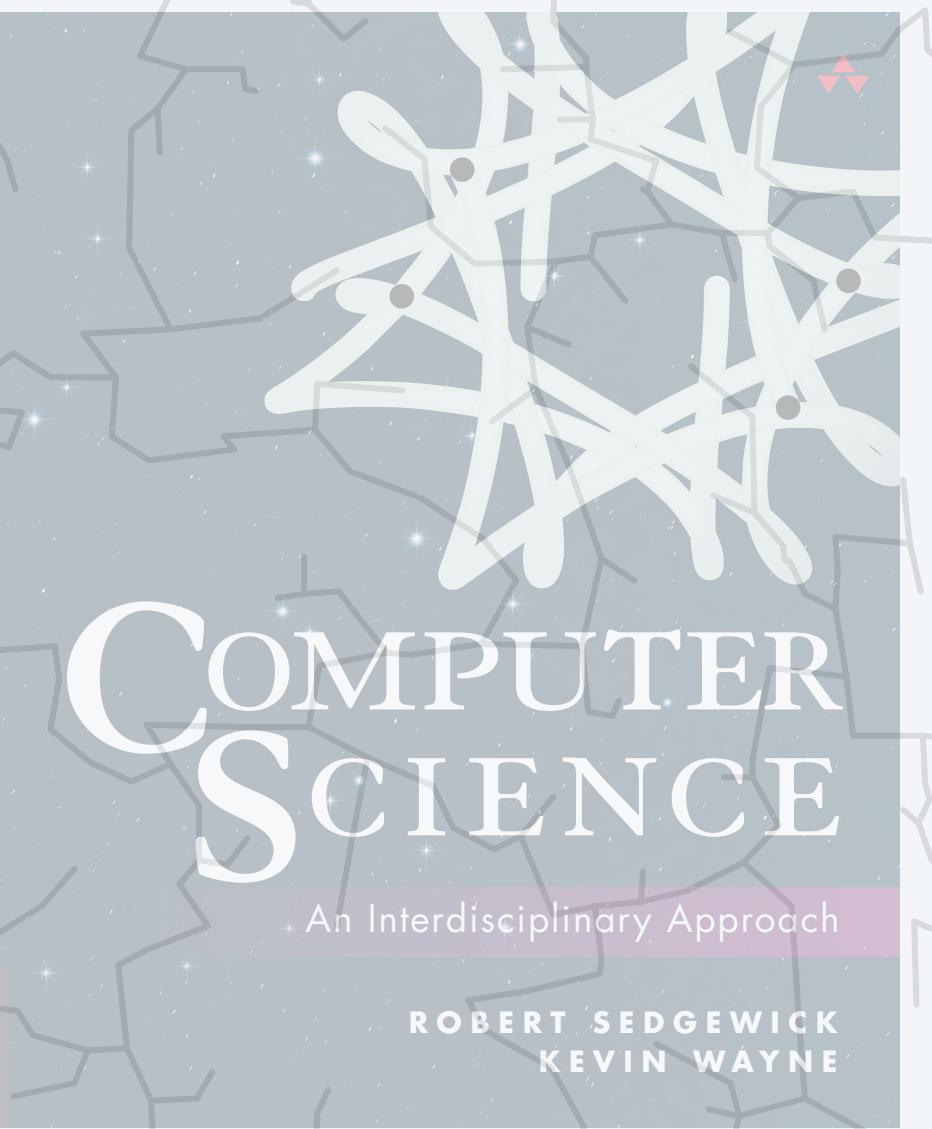


# Mergesort analysis

Proposition. Mergesort makes  $\leq n \log_2 n$  compares to sort any array of length  $n$ .

Pf by picture. [assuming  $n$  is a power of 2]





## 4.2 ALGORITHMS

---

- ▶ *sequential search*
- ▶ *binary search*
- ▶ *insertion sort*
- ▶ *mergesort*
- ▶ ***system libraries***

# Arrays Javadoc

`java.util.Arrays` contains static methods for manipulating arrays. ← *sorting, searching, comparing, ...*

**Module** `java.base`

**Package** `java.util`

## Class Arrays

`java.lang.Object`  
  `java.util.Arrays`

---

```
public class Arrays
extends Object
```

This class contains various methods for manipulating arrays (such as sorting and searching). This class also contains a static factory that allows arrays to be viewed as lists.

The methods in this class all throw a `NullPointerException`, if the specified array reference is null, except where noted.

The documentation for the methods contained in this class includes brief descriptions of the *implementations*. Such descriptions should be regarded as *implementation notes*, rather than parts of the *specification*. Implementors should feel free to substitute other algorithms, so long as the specification itself is adhered to. (For example, the algorithm used by `sort(Object[])` does not have to be a MergeSort, but it does have to be *stable*.)

# System sort and binary search

`Arrays.sort()` and `Arrays.binarySearch()` each refer to several overloaded methods.

- For primitive types.
- For reference types. ← *must be Comparable  
(such as String, stay tuned)*
- For subarrays.

```
import java.util.Arrays;  
  
public class TestSort {  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        Arrays.sort(args);  
        StdOut.println(Arrays.toString(args));  
    }  
}
```

*useful function to print elements in an array  
(separated by commas, enclosed in square braces)*

```
~/cos126/algorithms> java-introcs TestSort S O R T M E  
[E, M, O, R, S, T]
```

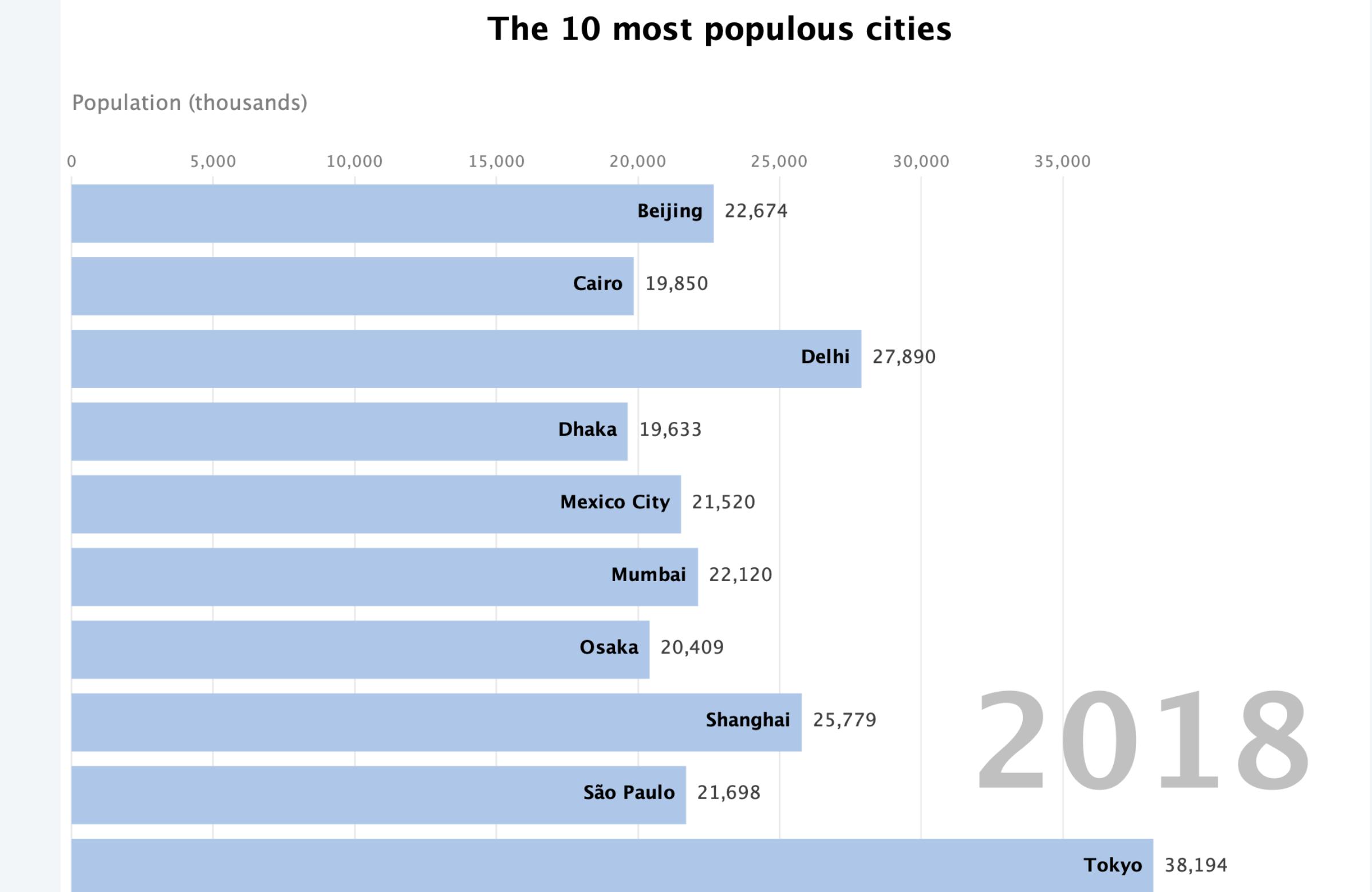
# Bar charts

BarChart is a data type (with simple API) to draw bar charts.

```
// create the bar chart
String title = "The 10 most populous cities";
String xLabel = "Population (thousands)";
String source = "Source: United Nations";
BarChart chart = new BarChart(title, xLabel, source);

// add the bars and caption to the bar chart
chart.add("Beijing", 22674, "East Asia");
chart.add("Cairo", 19850, "Middle East");
chart.add("Delhi", 27890, "South Asia");
chart.add("Dhaka", 19633, "South Asia");
chart.add("Mexico City", 21520, "Latin America");
chart.add("Mumbai", 22120, "South Asia");
chart.add("Osaka", 20409, "East Asia");
chart.add("Shanghai", 25779, "East Asia");
chart.add("São Paulo", 21698, "Latin America");
chart.add("Tokyo", 38194, "East Asia");
chart.setCaption("2018");

// draw the bar chart
chart.draw();
```

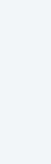


## Sorted bar chart

Sort the bars in descending order by value (e.g., population).

Color the bars by category (e.g., region).

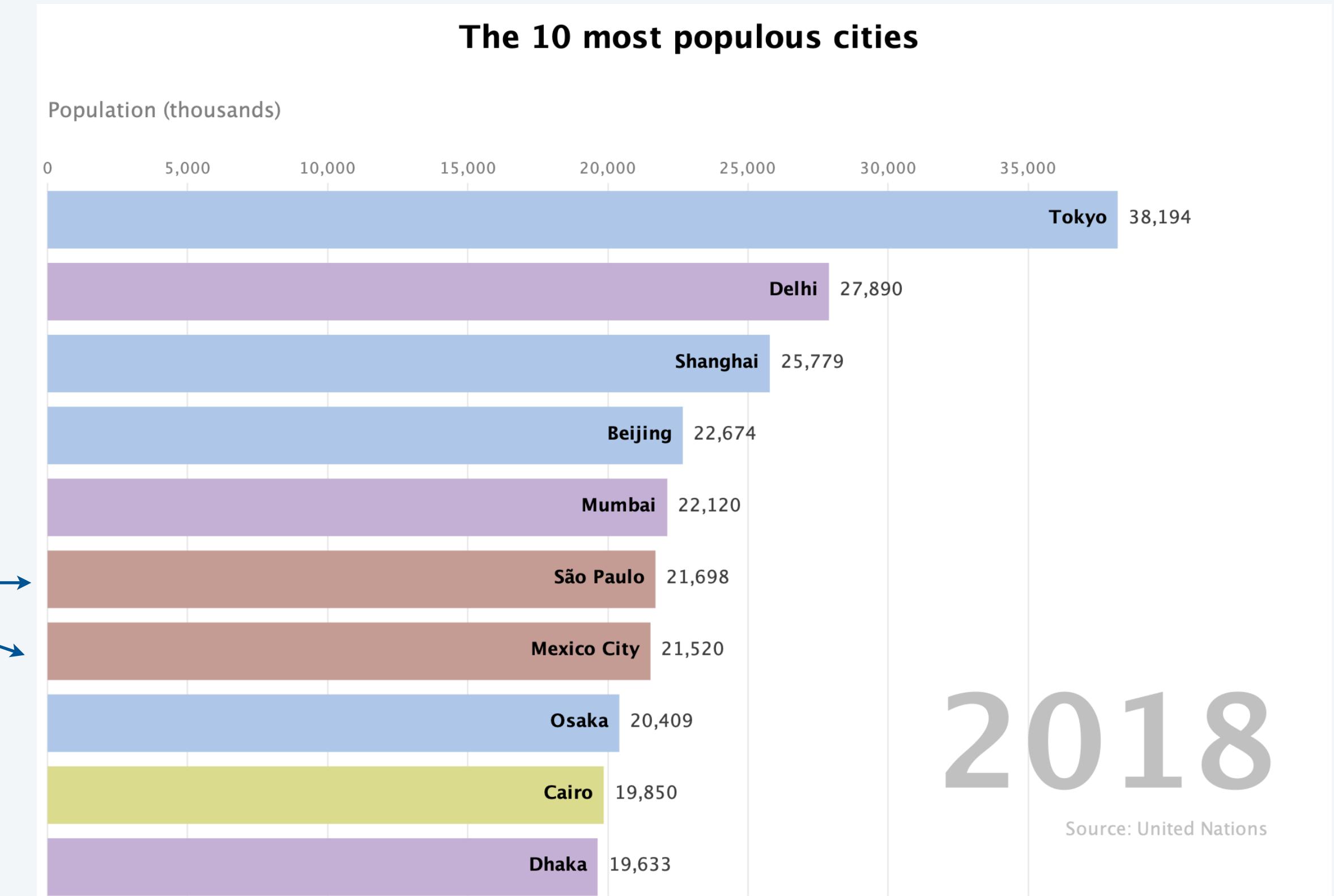
*name and region*



Challenge. Maintain auxiliary info when sorting.

Solution. Define helper Bar data type.

*Latin America*



*bars appear in descending  
order by population*

## Bar data type

To create a user-defined data type for use with `Arrays.sort()`:

- Declare the data type to be Comparable.
- Include a `compareTo()` method that compares two objects.

```
public class Bar implements Comparable<Bar> {  
    private final String name;  
    private final int value;  
    private final String category;  
  
    public Bar(String name, int value, String category) {  
        this.name = name;  
        this.value = value;  
        this.category = category;  
    }  
  
    public int compareTo(Bar that) {  
        if (this.value < that.value) return -1;  
        if (this.value > that.value) return +1;  
        return 0;  
    }  
    ...  
}
```

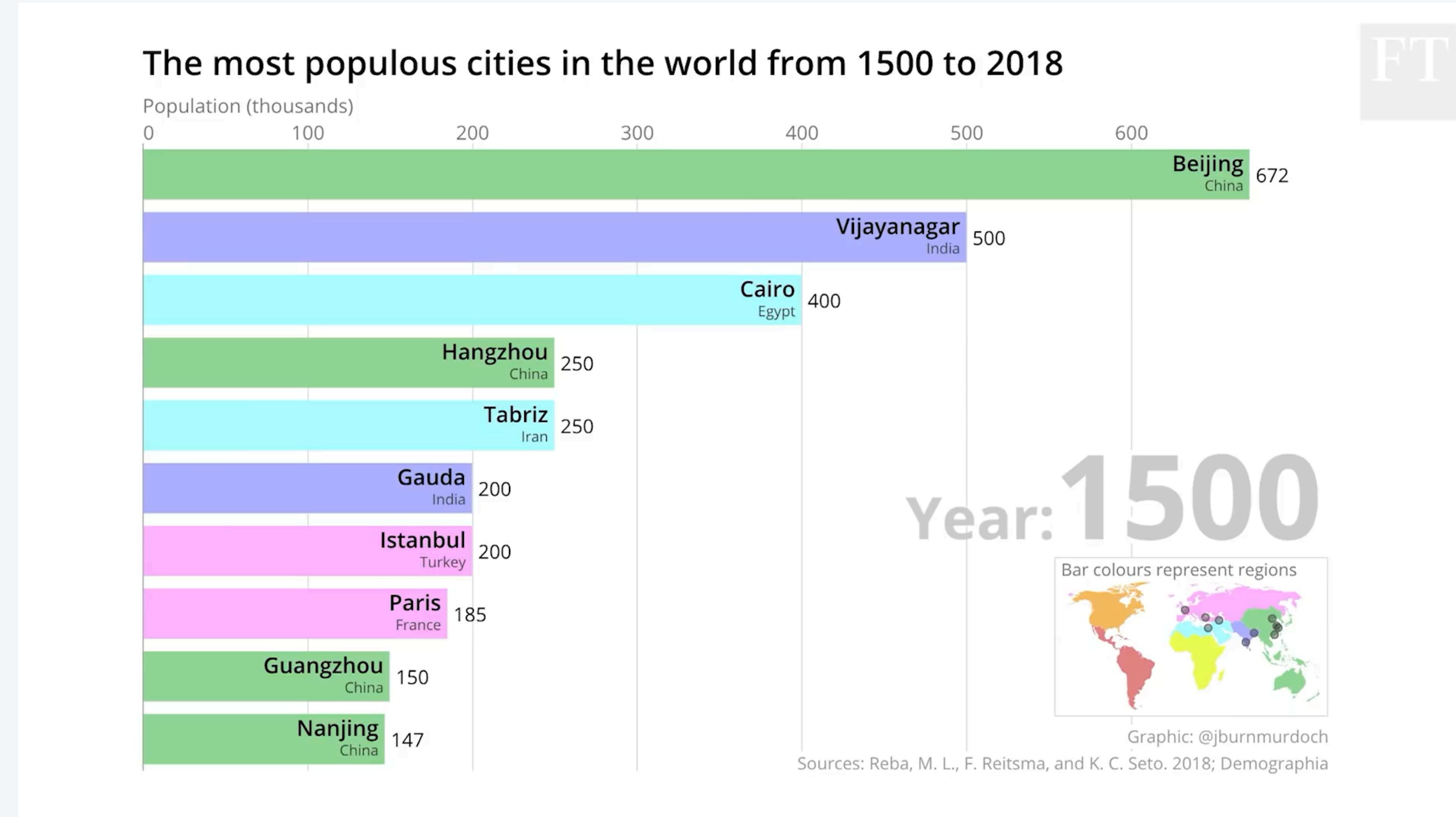
```
Bar[] bars = new Bar[10];  
...  
Arrays.sort(bars);
```

**sort bars in ascending order by value**

*return a negative integer (smaller),  
positive integer (larger), or zero (equal)*

# Bar chart race

Animated bar chart. Draw sorted bar chart (largest  $k = 10$ ) for each year.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pMs5xapBewM>

# Credits

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