



## 2.1 ELEMENTARY SORTS

---

- ▶ *rules of the game*
- ▶ *selection sort*
- ▶ *insertion sort*
- ▶ *binary search*

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ROBERT SEDGEWICK | KEVIN WAYNE

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# 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**

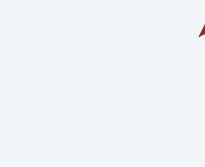
# Sorting problem

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

| Last ▾            | First    | House      | Year |
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| <b>Abbott</b>     | Hannah   | Hufflepuff | 1998 |
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| <b>Weasley</b>    | Ron      | Gryffindor | 1998 |
| <b>Weasley</b>    | Ginny    | Gryffindor | 1999 |

*key* →

*element* →



*sorted by key*



**sorting hat**

# Sorting problem

Sorting is a well-defined problem if there is a binary relation  $\leq$  that satisfies:

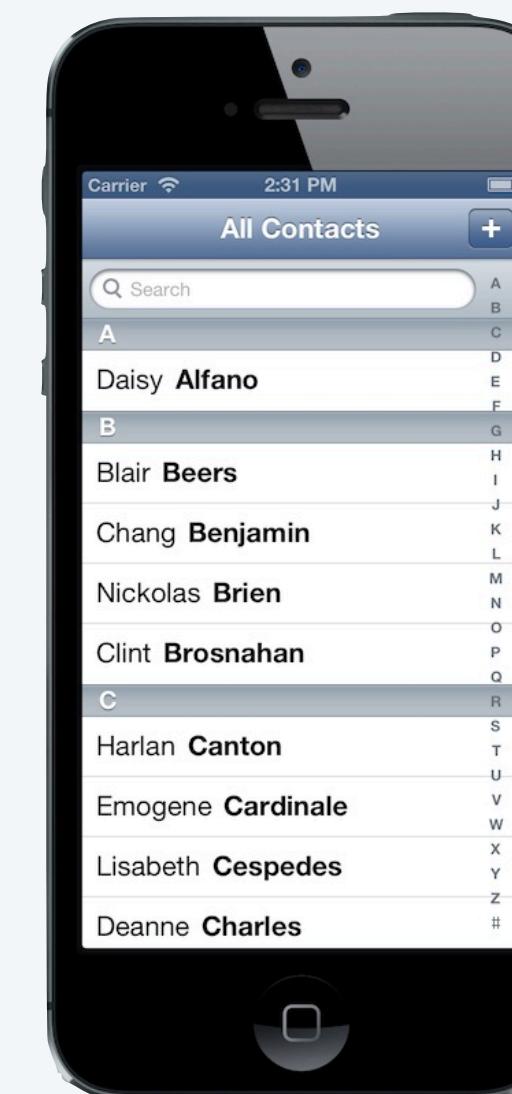
- Totality: either  $v \leq w$  or  $w \leq v$  or both.
- Transitivity: if both  $v \leq w$  and  $w \leq x$ , then  $v \leq x$ .

← mathematically, a “weak order”

## Examples.

| International Departures |               |      |      |                    |
|--------------------------|---------------|------|------|--------------------|
| Flight No                | Destination   | Time | Gate | Remarks            |
| CX7183                   | Berlin        | 7:50 | A-11 | Gate closed        |
| QF3474                   | London        | 7:50 | A-12 | Gate closed        |
| 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 | See ticket desk    |
| 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



alphabetical 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)

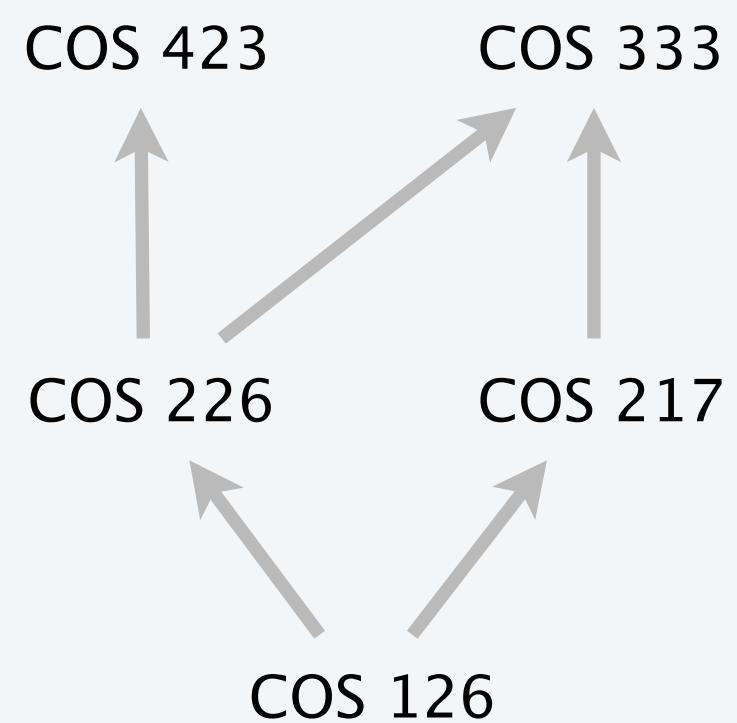
# Sorting problem

Sorting is a well-defined problem if there is a binary relation  $\leq$  that satisfies:

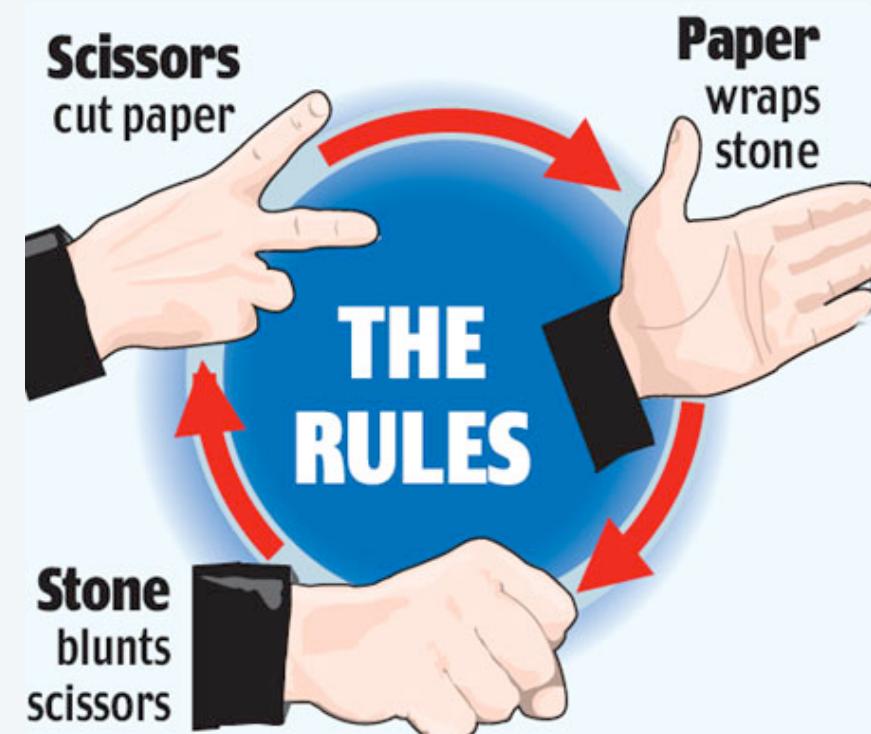
- Totality: either  $v \leq w$  or  $w \leq v$  or both.
- Transitivity: if both  $v \leq w$  and  $w \leq x$ , then  $v \leq x$ .

← mathematically, a “weak order”

## Non-examples.



course prerequisites  
(violates totality)



Ro-sham-bo order  
(violates transitivity)

```
~/cos226/sort> jshell
Math.sqrt(-1.0) <= Math.sqrt(-1.0);
false
```

the `<=` operator for double  
(irreflexive, which violates totality)

## Sample sort clients

---

Goal. General-purpose sorting function.

Ex 1. Sort strings in lexicographic order. ← *alphabetical order, using Unicode character ordering*

```
public class StringSorter {  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        String[] a = StdIn.readAllStrings();  
        Insertion.sort(a);  
        for (int i = 0; i < a.length; i++)  
            StdOut.println(a[i]);  
    }  
}
```

```
~/cos226/sort> more words3.txt  
bed bug dad yet zoo ... all bad yes  
  
~/cos226/sort> java StringSorter < words3.txt  
all bad bed bug dad ... yes yet zoo  
[suppressing newlines]
```

## Sample sort clients

---

Goal. General-purpose sorting function.

Ex 2. Sort real numbers in numerical order (ascending).

```
public class Experiment {  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        int n = Integer.parseInt(args[0]);  
        Double[] a = new Double[n];  
        for (int i = 0; i < n; i++)  
            a[i] = StdRandom.uniformDouble();  
        Insertion.sort(a);  
        for (int i = 0; i < n; i++)  
            StdOut.println(a[i]);  
    }  
}
```

```
~/cos226/sort> java Experiment 10  
0.08614716385210452  
0.09054270895414829  
0.10708746304898642  
0.21166190071646818  
0.363292849257276  
0.460954145685913  
0.5340026311350087  
0.7216129793703496  
0.9003500354411443  
0.9293994908845686
```

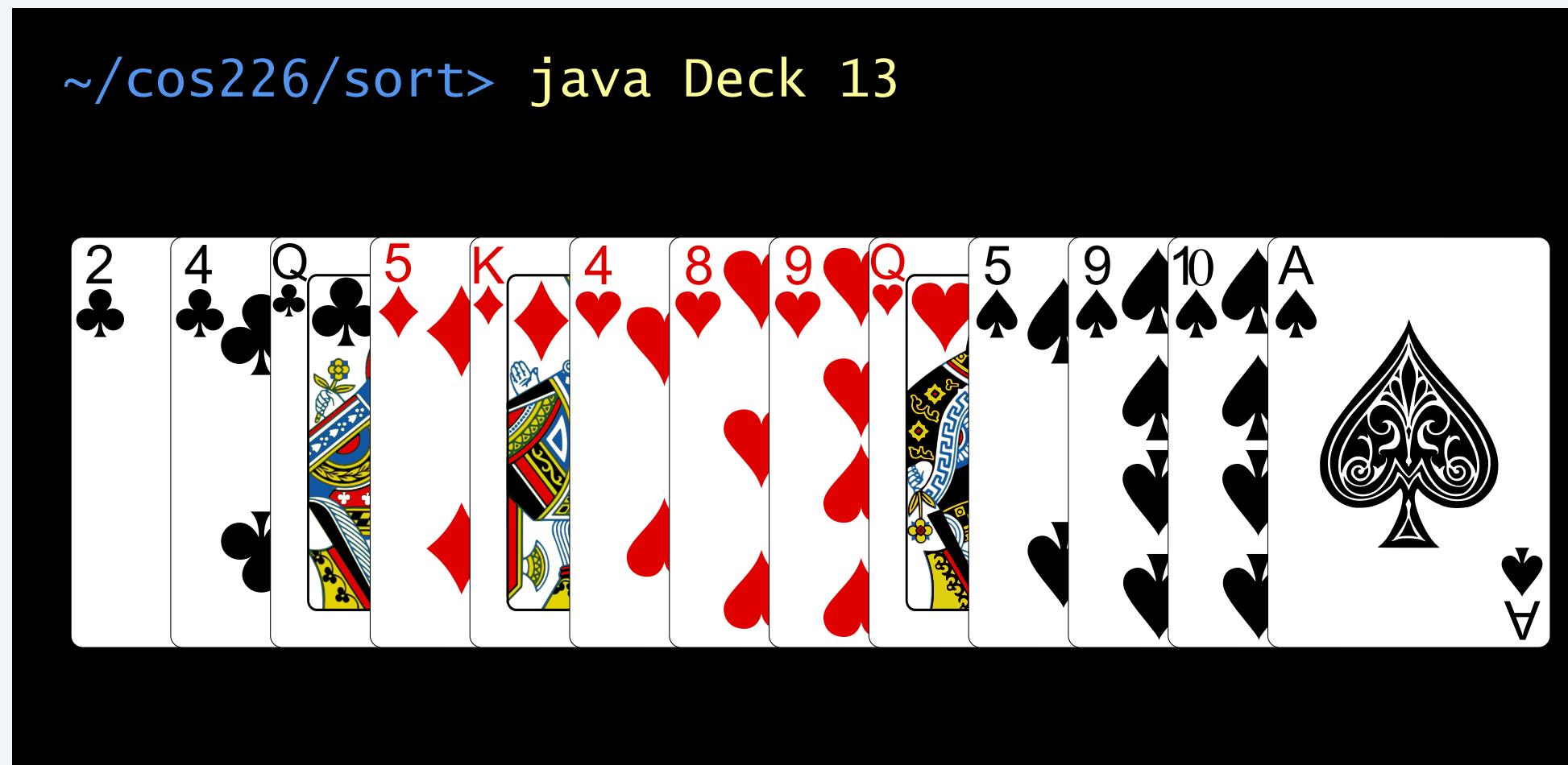
# Sample sort clients

---

Goal. General-purpose sorting function.

Ex 3. Sort playing cards by suit and rank.

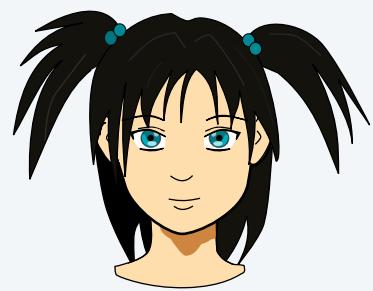
```
public class Deck {  
    ...  
  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        int n = Integer.parseInt(args[0]);  
        PlayingCard[] cards = deal(n);  
        Insertion.sort(cards);  
        draw(cards);  
    }  
}
```



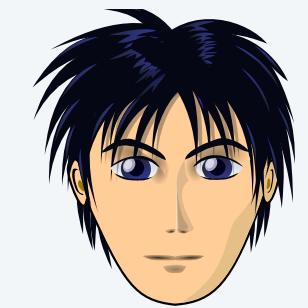
# How can a single function sort any type of data?

Goal. General-purpose sorting function.

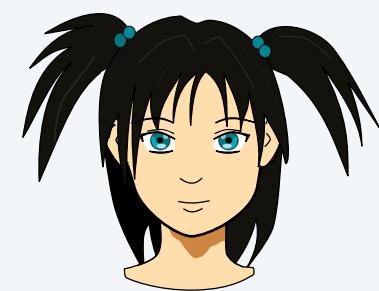
*Please sort these Japanese names for me:  
あゆみ, アユミ, Ayumi, 歩美, ....*



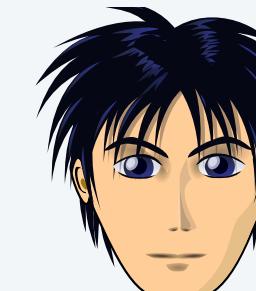
*But I don't speak Japanese and I  
don't know how words are ordered.*



*No problem. Whenever you need to  
compare two words, give me a **call back**.*



*オーケー. Just make sure  
to use a weak order.*



# Callbacks

---

**Goal.** General-purpose sorting function.

**Solution.** **Callback** = reference to executable code passed to other code and later executed.

- Client passes array of objects to `sort()` function.
- The `sort()` function calls object's `compareTo()` method as needed.

*in effect, client passes compareTo()  
method to sort() function;  
the callback occurs when  
sort() invokes compareTo()*

**Implementing callbacks.**

- Java: **interfaces**.
- Python, ML, Javascript: first-class functions.
- C#: delegates.
- C: function pointers.
- C++: class-type functors.

## Review: Java interfaces

---

**Interface.** A set of related methods that define some behavior (partial API) for a class.

**interface (java.lang.Comparable)**

```
public interface Comparable<Item> {  
    public int compareTo(Item that); ← contract: method with this signature  
(and prescribed behavior)  
}
```

**Class that implements interface.** Must implement all interface methods.

```
public class String implements Comparable<String> { ← class promises to  
honor the contract  
    ...  
  
    public int compareTo(String that) { ← class abides by  
the contract  
        ...  
    }  
}
```

# Callbacks in Java: roadmap

## client (StringSorter.java)

```
public class StringSorter {  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        String[] a = StdIn.readAllStrings();  
        Insertion.sort(a);  
        ...  
    }  
}
```

## interface (Comparable.java)

```
public interface Comparable<Item> {  
    int compareTo(Item that);  
}
```

## sort implementation (Insertion.java)

```
public class Insertion {  
    public static void sort(Comparable[] a) {  
        ...  
        if (a[i].compareTo(a[j]) < 0)  
        ...  
    }  
}
```

String[] is a subtype  
of Comparable[]

## data type implementation (String.java)

```
public class String implements Comparable<String> {  
    ...  
    public int compareTo(String that) {  
        ...  
    }  
}
```

*key point: sorting code does not  
depend upon type of data to be sorted*



## Elementary sorts: quiz 1

---

**Suppose that the Java architects left out `implements Comparable<String>` in the class declaration for `String`. What would be the effect?**

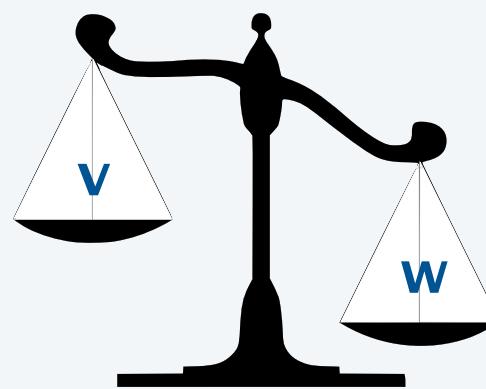
- A. Compile-time error in `String.java`.
- B. Compile-time error in `StringSorter.java`.
- C. Compile-time error in `Insertion.java`.
- D. Run-time exception in `Insertion.java`.

# Comparable API

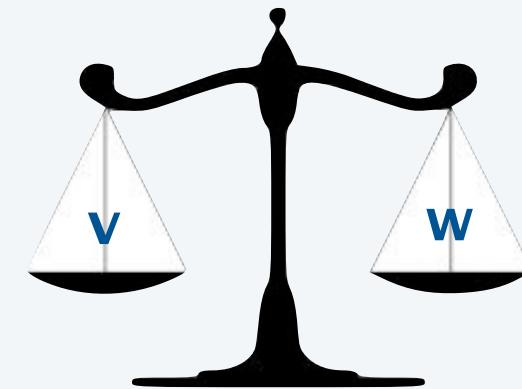
Implement `compareTo()` so that `v.compareTo(w)`

- Returns a negative integer if `v` is less than `w`.
- Returns a positive integer if `v` is greater than `w`.
- Returns zero if `v` is equal to `w`.
- Throws an exception if incompatible types (or either is `null`).

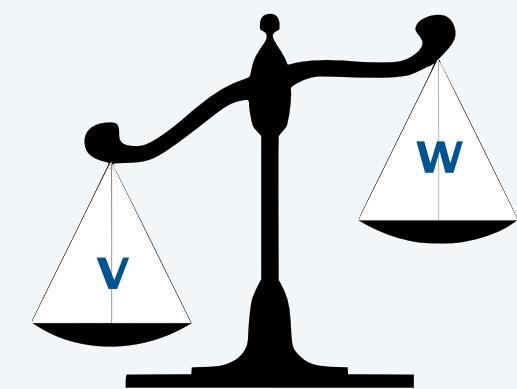
*API requirement:  
the binary relation  
`v.compareTo(w) <= 0`  
is a weak order*



*v is less than w  
(return negative integer)*



*v is equal to w  
(return 0)*



*v is greater than w  
(return positive integer)*

Built-in comparable types. `Integer`, `Double`, `String`, `java.util.Date`, ...

User-defined comparable types. Implement the Comparable interface.

# Implementing the Comparable interface

Date data type. Simplified version of java.util.Date.

```
public class Date implements Comparable<Date> {
    private final int month, day, year;

    public Date(int m, int d, int y) {
        month = m;
        day   = d;
        year  = y;
    }

    public int compareTo(Date that) {
        if (this.year < that.year) return -1;
        if (this.year > that.year) return +1;
        if (this.month < that.month) return -1;
        if (this.month > that.month) return +1;
        if (this.day   < that.day)  return -1;
        if (this.day   > that.day)  return +1;
        return 0;
    }
}
```

*can compare Date objects  
only to other Date objects*



## 2.1 ELEMENTARY SORTS

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- ▶ *rules of the game*
- ▶ **selection sort**
- ▶ *insertion sort*
- ▶ *binary search*

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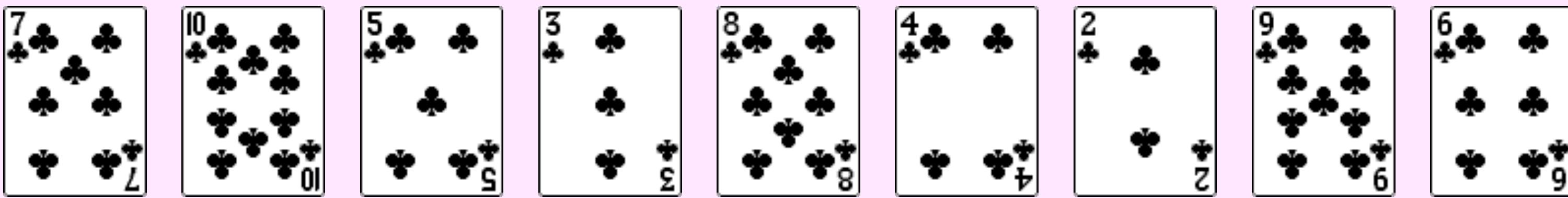
<https://algs4.cs.princeton.edu>

## Selection sort demo



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

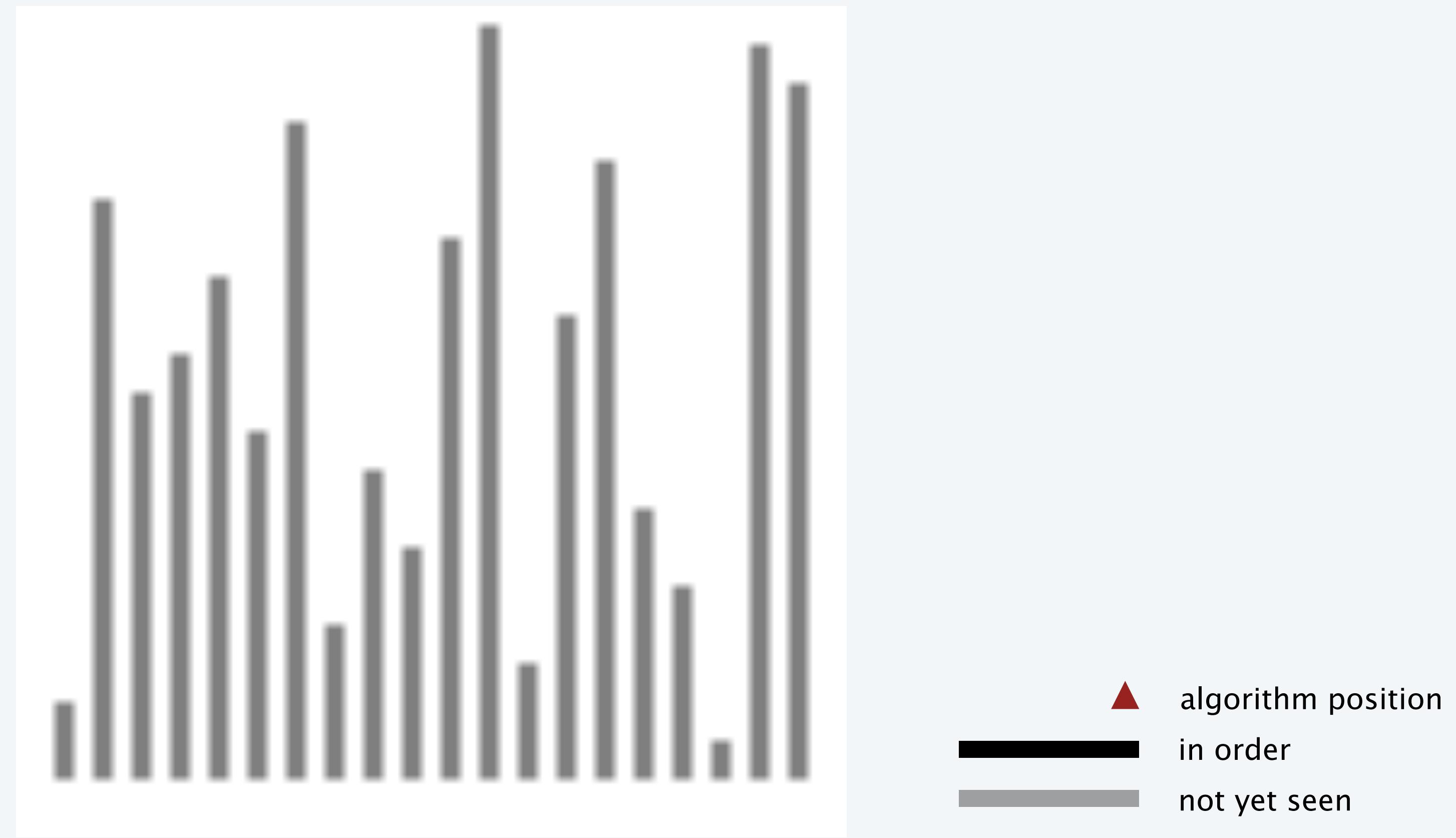
- Find index  $min$  of smallest remaining element.
- Swap elements at indices  $i$  and  $min$ .



initial array

# Selection sort: visualization

# Visualization. Sort vertical bars by length.



## Selection sort invariants

---

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

- Find index  $\min$  of smallest remaining element.
- Swap elements at indices  $i$  and  $\min$ .

**Invariants.**

**before iteration  $i$**



**after iteration  $i$**



## Two useful sorting primitives (and a cost model)

Helper functions. Refer to data only through **compares** and **exchanges**. ← e.g., no calls to `equals()`

use as our cost model for sorting

Compare. Is item `v` less than item `w`?

```
private static boolean less(Comparable v, Comparable w) { ← less("aardvark", "zebra") returns true
    return v.compareTo(w) < 0;
}
```

↑  
polymorphic method call

use interface type as argument  
⇒ method works for all subtypes

Exchange. Swap array entries `a[i]` and `a[j]`.

```
private static void exch(Object[] a, int i, int j) {
    Object swap = a[i];
    a[i] = a[j];
    a[j] = swap;
}
```

Java arrays are “covariant”  
(e.g., `String[]` is a subtype of `Object[]`)

## Selection sort: Java implementation

---

```
public class Selection {  
  
    public static void sort(Comparable[] a) {  
        int n = a.length;  
        for (int i = 0; i < n; i++)  
            int min = i;  
            for (int j = i+1; j < n; j++)  
                if (less(a[j], a[min]))  
                    min = j;  
                exch(a, i, min);  
    }  
  
    private static boolean less(Comparable v, Comparable w) {  
        /* see previous slide */  
    }  
  
    private static void exch(Object[] a, int i, int j) {  
        /* see previous slide */  
    }  
}
```



How many compares to selection sort an array of  $n$  distinct items in reverse order?

- A.  $\sim n$
- B.  $\sim 1/4 n^2$
- C.  $\sim 1/2 n^2$
- D.  $\sim n^2$

## Selection sort: mathematical analysis

Proposition. Selection sort makes  $(n - 1) + (n - 2) + \dots + 1 + 0 \sim \frac{1}{2} n^2$  compares and  $n$  exchanges to sort any array of  $n$  items.

| i  | min | 0        | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4        | 5 | 6        | 7        | 8        | 9        | 10       |
|----|-----|----------|---|---|---|----------|---|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
|    |     | S        | O | R | T | E        | X | A        | M        | P        | L        | E        |
| 0  | 6   | S        | O | R | T | E        | X | <b>A</b> | M        | P        | L        | E        |
| 1  | 4   | <b>A</b> | O | R | T | <b>E</b> | X | S        | M        | P        | L        | E        |
| 2  | 10  | A        | E | R | T | O        | X | S        | M        | P        | L        | <b>E</b> |
| 3  | 9   | A        | E | E | T | O        | X | S        | M        | P        | <b>L</b> | R        |
| 4  | 7   | A        | E | E | L | O        | X | S        | <b>M</b> | P        | T        | R        |
| 5  | 7   | A        | E | E | L | M        | X | S        | <b>O</b> | P        | T        | R        |
| 6  | 8   | A        | E | E | L | M        | O | S        | X        | <b>P</b> | T        | R        |
| 7  | 10  | A        | E | E | L | M        | O | P        | X        | S        | T        | <b>R</b> |
| 8  | 8   | A        | E | E | L | M        | O | P        | R        | <b>S</b> | T        | X        |
| 9  | 9   | A        | E | E | L | M        | O | P        | R        | S        | <b>T</b> | X        |
| 10 | 10  | A        | E | E | L | M        | O | P        | R        | S        | T        | <b>X</b> |
|    |     | A        | E | E | L | M        | O | P        | R        | S        | T        | X        |

Running time insensitive to input.  $\Theta(n^2)$  compares.  $\leftarrow$  even if input array is sorted

Data movement is minimal.  $\Theta(n)$  exchanges.

In place.  $\Theta(1)$  extra space.



## 2.1 ELEMENTARY SORTS

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- ▶ *binary search*

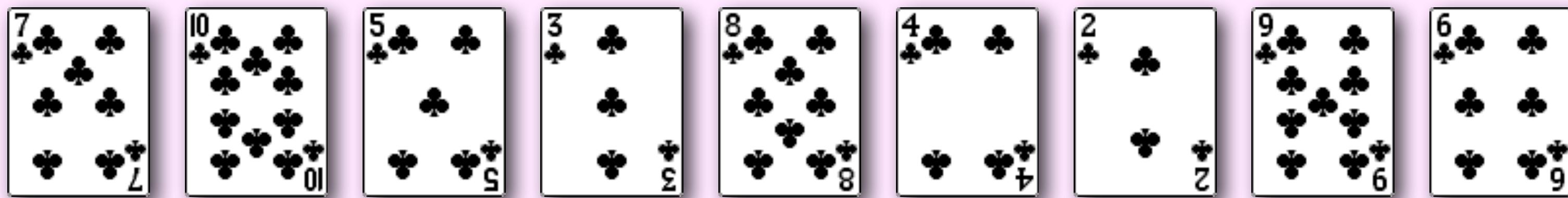
<https://algs4.cs.princeton.edu>

## 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.



initial array

## Insertion sort invariants

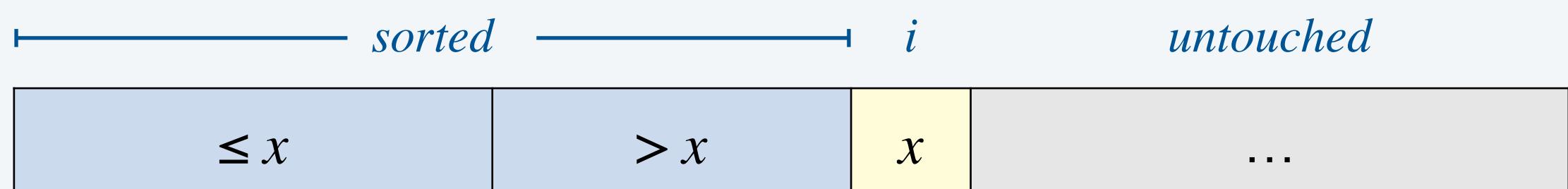
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Algorithm. For each index  $i = 0$  to  $n - 1$  :

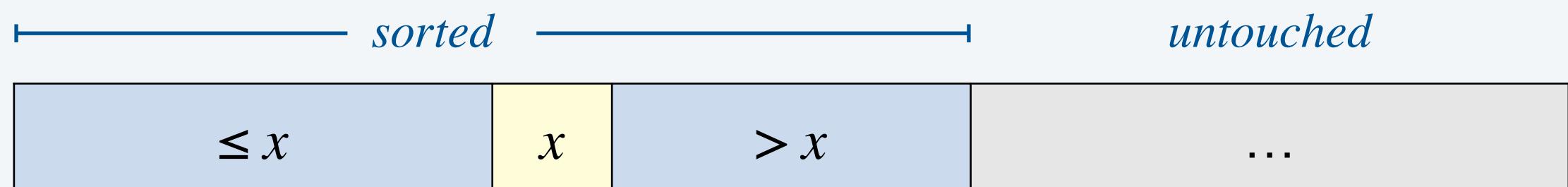
- Let  $x$  be the element at index  $i$ .
- Repeatedly exchange  $x$  with each larger element to its immediate left.

Invariants.

before iteration i



after iteration i



## Insertion sort: Java implementation

---

```
public class Insertion {  
  
    public static void sort(Comparable[] 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;  
    }  
  
    private static boolean less(Comparable v, Comparable w) {  
        /* as before */  
    }  
  
    private static void exch(Object[] a, int i, int j) {  
        /* as before */  
    }  
}
```

<https://algs4.cs.princeton.edu/21elementary/Insertion.java.html>



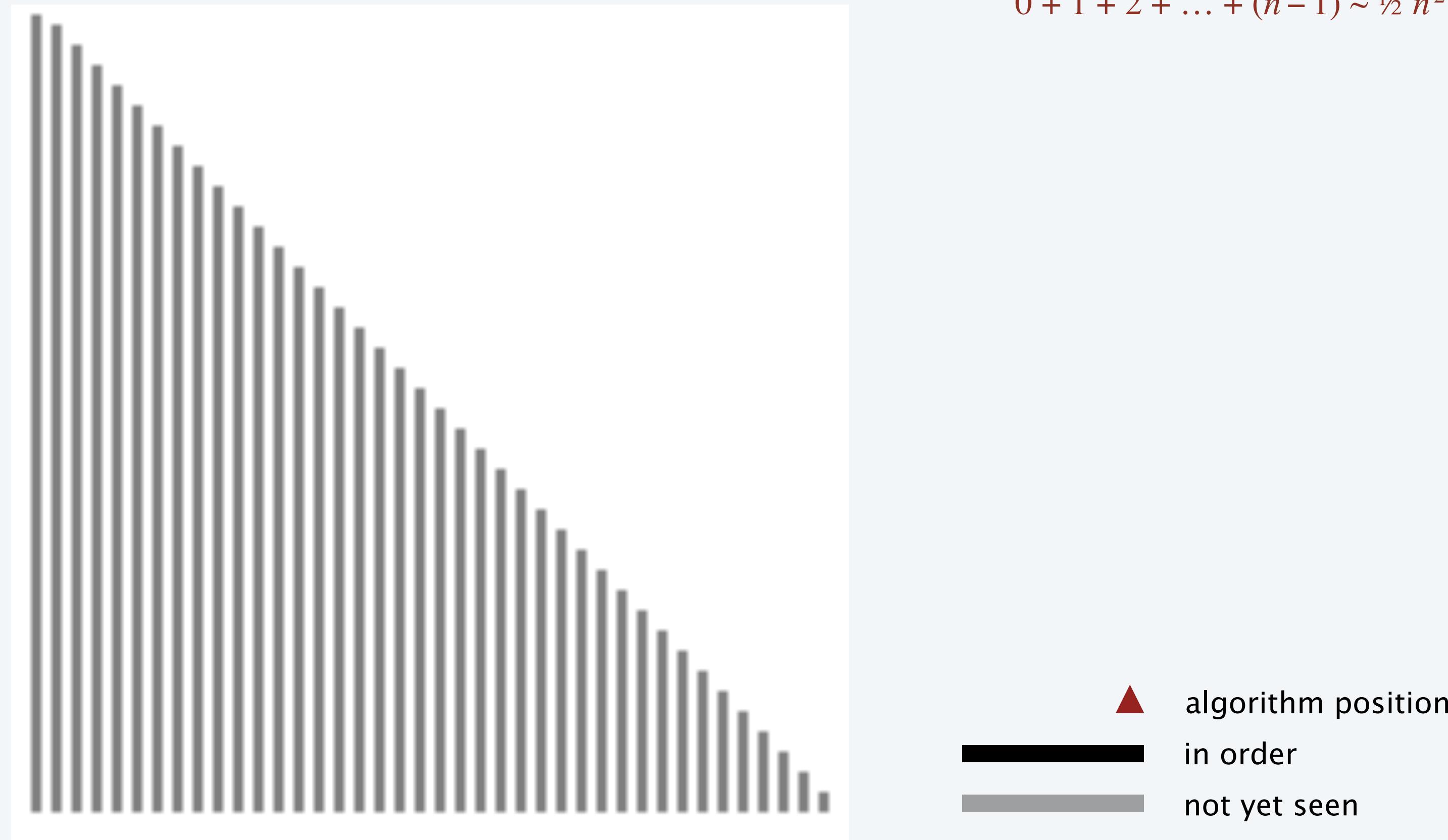
**How many compares to insertion sort an array of  $n$  distinct keys in reverse order?**

- A.**  $\sim n$
- B.**  $\sim 1/4 n^2$
- C.**  $\sim 1/2 n^2$
- D.**  $\sim n^2$

## Insertion sort: running time analysis

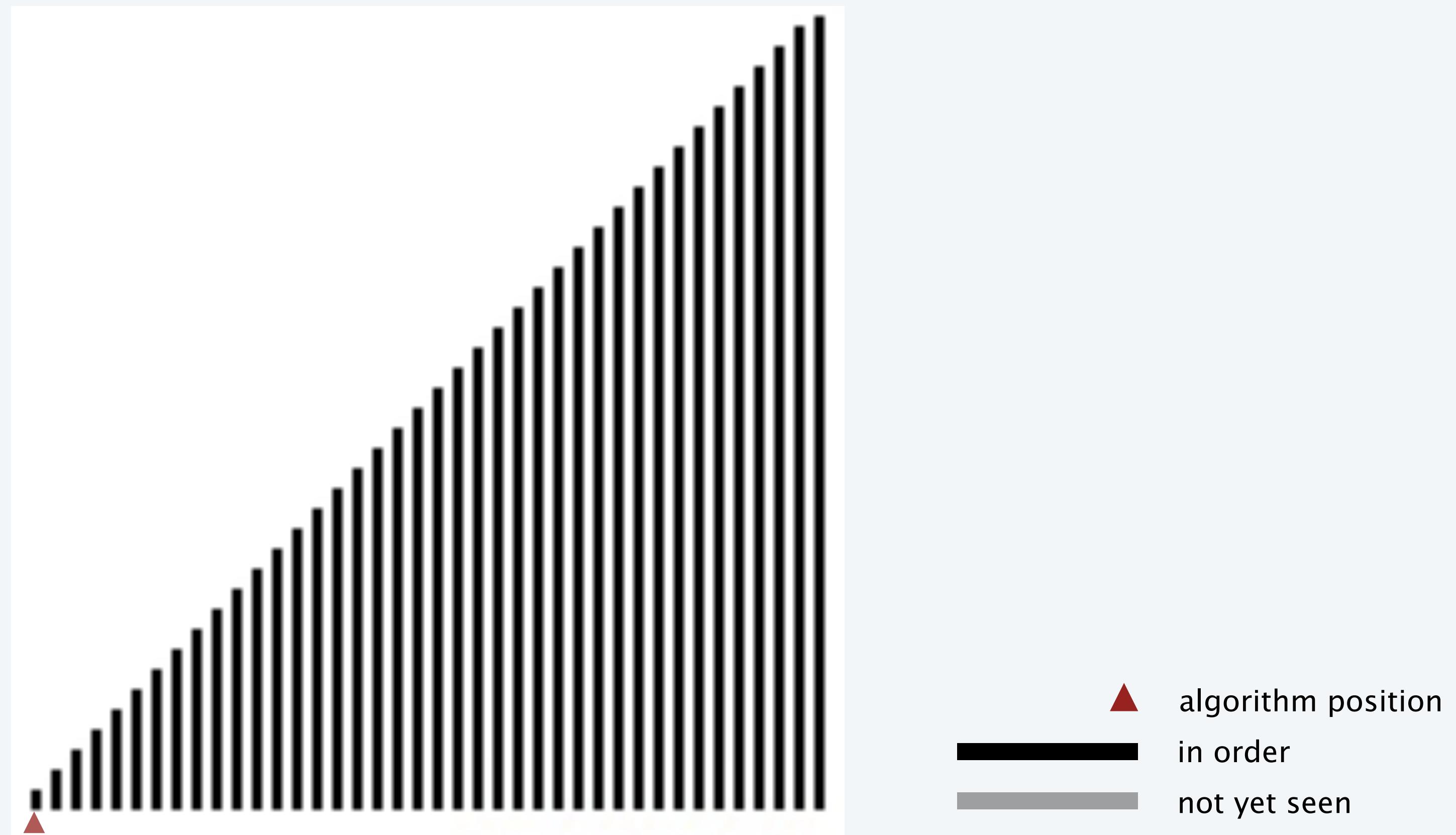
Worst case. Insertion sort makes  $\sim \frac{1}{2} n^2$  compares and  $\sim \frac{1}{2} n^2$  exchanges to sort an array of  $n$  distinct keys in reverse order.

Pf. Exactly  $i$  compares and exchanges in iteration  $i$ .



## Insertion sort: running time analysis

**Best case.** Insertion sort makes  $n - 1$  compares and 0 exchanges to sort an array of  $n$  distinct keys in ascending order.



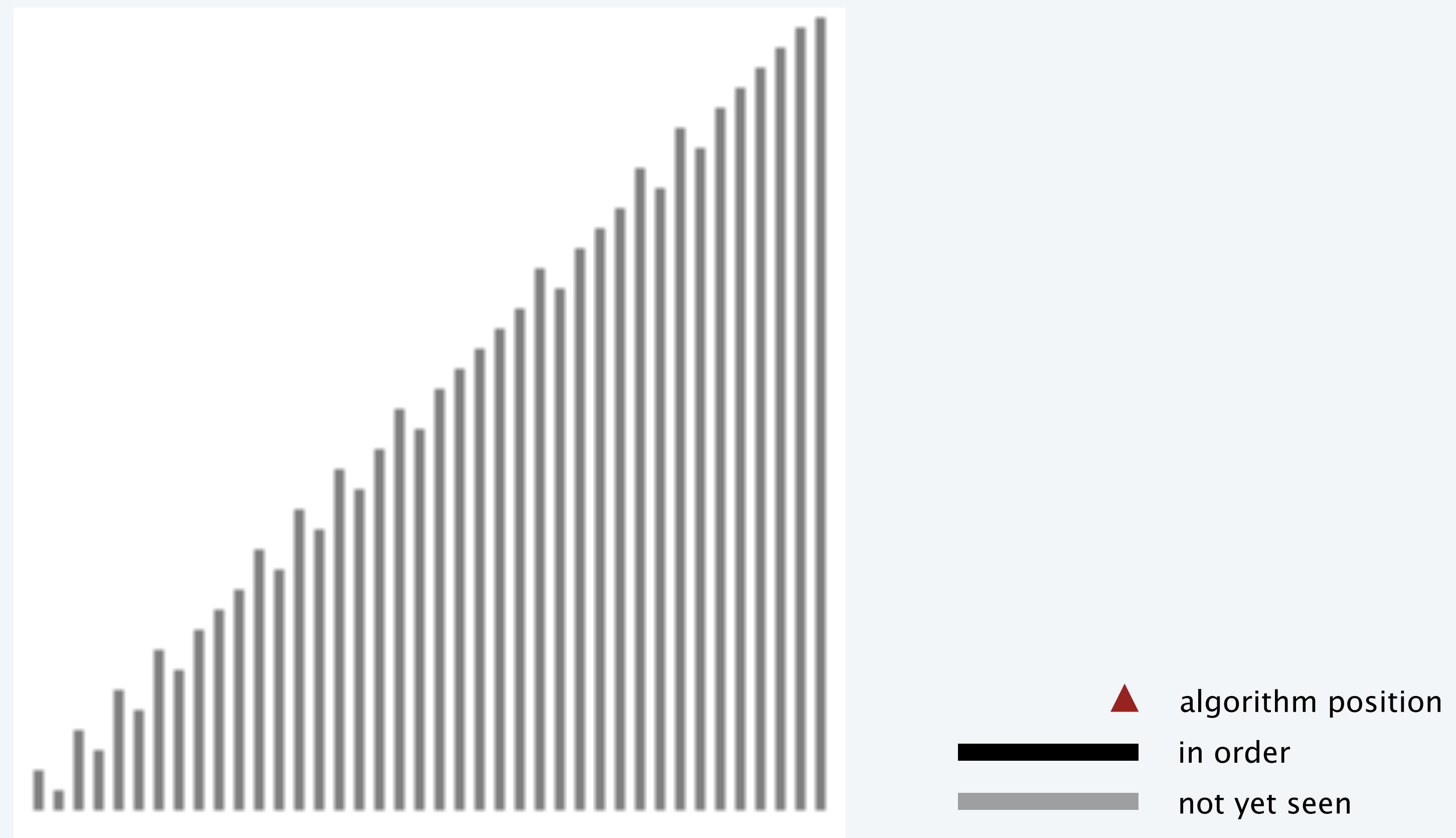
## Insertion sort: running time analysis

---

Good case. Insertion sort takes  $\Theta(n)$  time on “partially sorted” arrays.

Q. Can we formalize what we mean by partially sorted?

A. Yes, in terms of “inversions” (see textbook).



## Insertion sort: practical improvements

---

Half exchanges. Shift items over (instead of exchanging).

- Same compares; fewer array accesses.
- No longer uses only `less()` and `exch()` to access data.

A C H H I M N P Q X Y K B I N A R Y

Binary insertion sort. Use **binary search** to find insertion point.

- Now, worst-case number of compares  $\sim n \log_2 n$ .
- But still makes  $\Theta(n^2)$  array accesses in worst case.

A C H H I M N P Q X Y K B I N A R Y



*binary search for first key > K*



## 1.4 ANALYSIS OF ALGORITHMS

---

- ▶ *rules of the game*
- ▶ *selection sort*
- ▶ *insertion sort*
- ▶ *binary search*

# Binary search



**Goal.** Given a **sorted array** and a **search key**, find index of the search key in the array?

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

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

**sorted array**

|         |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |         |
|---------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|---------|
| 6       | 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      |
| ↑<br>lo |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | ↑<br>hi |

# Binary search: implementation

---

## Trivial to implement?

- First binary search published in 1946.
- First bug-free one in 1962.
- Bentley experiment: 90% of programmers implement it incorrectly.
- Bug in Java's `Arrays.binarySearch()` discovered in 2006.

*and in C, C++, ...*

Extra, Extra - Read All About It: Nearly All Binary Searches and Mergesorts are Broken

Friday, June 02, 2006

Posted by Joshua Bloch, Software Engineer

I remember vividly Jon Bentley's first Algorithms lecture at CMU, where he asked all of us incoming Ph.D. students to write a binary search, and then dissected one of our implementations in front of the class. Of course it was broken, as were most of our implementations. This made a real impression on me, as did the treatment of this material in his wonderful *Programming Pearls* (Addison-Wesley, 1986; Second Edition, 2000). The key lesson was to carefully consider the invariants in your programs.



<https://ai.googleblog.com/2006/06/extr-extra-read-all-about-it-nearly.html>

## Binary search: 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) >>> 1; why not mid = (lo + hi) / 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;  
}
```

<https://algs4.cs.princeton.edu/11model/BinarySearch.java.html>

## Binary search: analysis

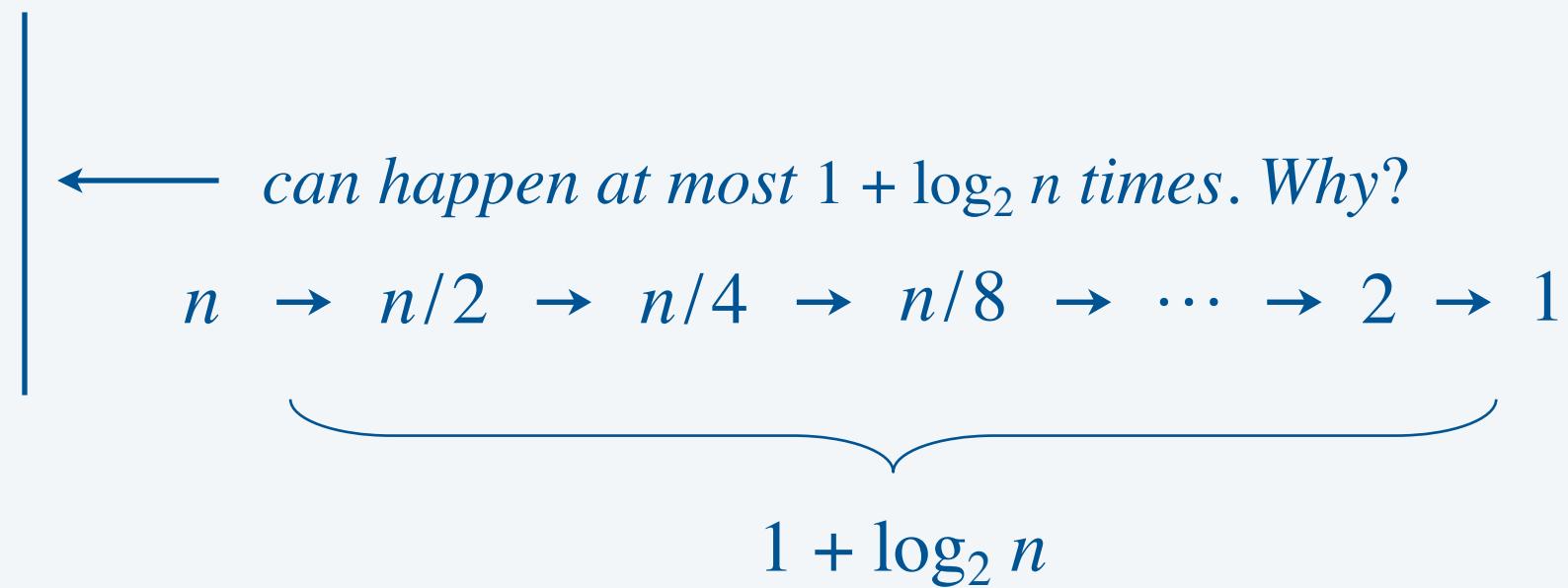
Proposition. Binary search makes at most  $1 + \log_2 n$  compares to search in any sorted array of length  $n$ .

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)*



# Binary search vs. sequential search



The image shows a screenshot of a Mac OS X terminal window. The window title is "1. less". The terminal contains the following Java code:

```
(R. Hendricks 112) int index = 0;
(R. Hendricks 113) while (!element.equals(sortedList.get(index))
(R. Hendricks 114)         && sortedList.size() > ++index);
(R. Hendricks 115) return index < sortedList.size() ? index : -1;
```

Below the terminal window, the text "SILICON VALLEY" is displayed in large red letters.



---

**3-SUM.** Given an array of  $n$  distinct integers, count number of triples that sum to 0.

**Version 0.**  $\Theta(n^3)$  time in worst case. ✓

**Version 1.**  $\Theta(n^2 \log n)$  time in worst case.

**Version 2.**  $\Theta(n^2)$  time in worst case.

**Note.** For full credit, use only  $\Theta(1)$  extra space.

## Summary

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**Comparable interface.** Java framework for comparing items.

**Selection sort.**  $\Theta(n^2)$  compares;  $\Theta(n)$  exchanges.

**Insertion sort.**  $\Theta(n^2)$  compares and exchanges in the worst case.

**Binary search.** Search a sorted array using  $\Theta(\log n)$  compares in worst case.

# Credits

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| image/video                         | source                              | license                           |
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| <i>Binary vs. Sequential Search</i> | <a href="#">Silicon Valley S6E4</a> |                                   |
| <i>Insertion Sort Dance</i>         | <a href="#">AlgoRythmics</a>        |                                   |

# Insertion sort with Romanian folk dance



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ROalU379I3U>