

# **Analysis of Insertion Sort**

Antonio Carzaniga

Faculty of Informatics  
Università della Svizzera italiana

March 8, 2022

- Sorting
- Insertion Sort
- Analysis

- **Input:** a sequence  $A = \langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \rangle$

■ **Input:** a sequence  $A = \langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \rangle$

**Output:** a sequence  $\langle b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n \rangle$  such that

- ▶  $\langle b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n \rangle$  is a *permutation* of  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \rangle$

■ **Input:** a sequence  $A = \langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \rangle$

**Output:** a sequence  $\langle b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n \rangle$  such that

- ▶  $\langle b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n \rangle$  is a *permutation* of  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \rangle$
- ▶  $\langle b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n \rangle$  is *sorted*

$$b_1 \leq b_2 \leq \dots \leq b_n$$

■ **Input:** a sequence  $A = \langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \rangle$

**Output:** a sequence  $\langle b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n \rangle$  such that

- ▶  $\langle b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n \rangle$  is a *permutation* of  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \rangle$
- ▶  $\langle b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n \rangle$  is *sorted*

$$b_1 \leq b_2 \leq \dots \leq b_n$$

■ Typically,  $A$  is implemented as an array

■ **Input:** a sequence  $A = \langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \rangle$

**Output:** a sequence  $\langle b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n \rangle$  such that

- ▶  $\langle b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n \rangle$  is a *permutation* of  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \rangle$
- ▶  $\langle b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n \rangle$  is *sorted*

$$b_1 \leq b_2 \leq \dots \leq b_n$$

■ Typically,  $A$  is implemented as an array

$A =$	6	8	3	2	7	6	11	5	9	4
-------	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	---	---	---

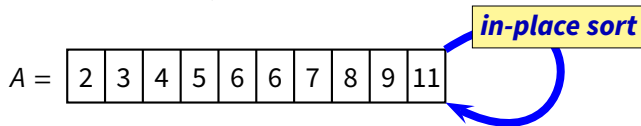
■ **Input:** a sequence  $A = \langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \rangle$

**Output:** a sequence  $\langle b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n \rangle$  such that

- ▶  $\langle b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n \rangle$  is a *permutation* of  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \rangle$
- ▶  $\langle b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n \rangle$  is *sorted*

$$b_1 \leq b_2 \leq \dots \leq b_n$$

■ Typically,  $A$  is implemented as an array





- **Idea:** it is like sorting a hand of cards

■ **Idea:** it is like sorting a hand of cards

- ▶ scan the sequence left to right
- ▶ pick the value at the current position  $a_j$
- ▶ insert it in its correct position in the sequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{j-1} \rangle$  so as to maintain a sorted subsequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_j \rangle$

■ **Idea:** it is like sorting a hand of cards

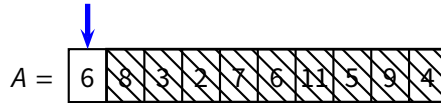
- ▶ scan the sequence left to right
- ▶ pick the value at the current position  $a_j$
- ▶ insert it in its correct position in the sequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{j-1} \rangle$  so as to maintain a sorted subsequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_j \rangle$

$A =$ 

6	8	3	2	7	6	11	5	9	4
---	---	---	---	---	---	----	---	---	---

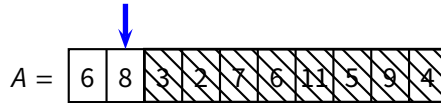
■ **Idea:** it is like sorting a hand of cards

- ▶ scan the sequence left to right
- ▶ pick the value at the current position  $a_j$
- ▶ insert it in its correct position in the sequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{j-1} \rangle$  so as to maintain a sorted subsequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_j \rangle$



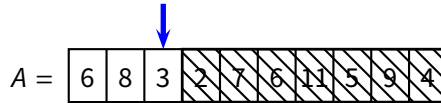
■ **Idea:** it is like sorting a hand of cards

- ▶ scan the sequence left to right
- ▶ pick the value at the current position  $a_j$
- ▶ insert it in its correct position in the sequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{j-1} \rangle$  so as to maintain a sorted subsequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_j \rangle$



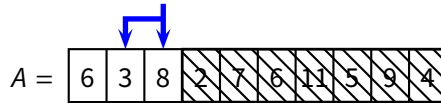
■ **Idea:** it is like sorting a hand of cards

- ▶ scan the sequence left to right
- ▶ pick the value at the current position  $a_j$
- ▶ insert it in its correct position in the sequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{j-1} \rangle$  so as to maintain a sorted subsequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_j \rangle$



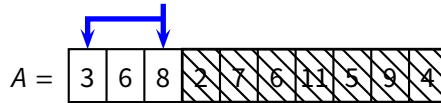
■ **Idea:** it is like sorting a hand of cards

- ▶ scan the sequence left to right
- ▶ pick the value at the current position  $a_j$
- ▶ insert it in its correct position in the sequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{j-1} \rangle$  so as to maintain a sorted subsequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_j \rangle$



■ **Idea:** it is like sorting a hand of cards

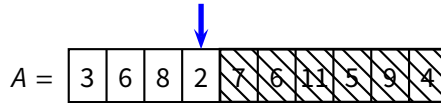
- ▶ scan the sequence left to right
- ▶ pick the value at the current position  $a_j$
- ▶ insert it in its correct position in the sequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{j-1} \rangle$  so as to maintain a sorted subsequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_j \rangle$





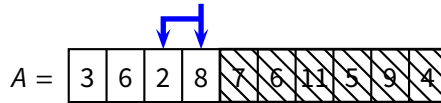
■ **Idea:** it is like sorting a hand of cards

- ▶ scan the sequence left to right
- ▶ pick the value at the current position  $a_j$
- ▶ insert it in its correct position in the sequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{j-1} \rangle$  so as to maintain a sorted subsequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_j \rangle$



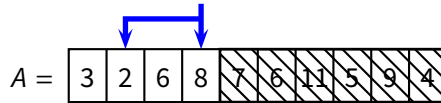
■ **Idea:** it is like sorting a hand of cards

- ▶ scan the sequence left to right
- ▶ pick the value at the current position  $a_j$
- ▶ insert it in its correct position in the sequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{j-1} \rangle$  so as to maintain a sorted subsequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_j \rangle$



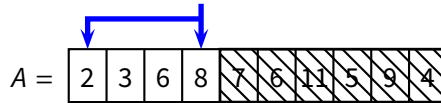
■ **Idea:** it is like sorting a hand of cards

- ▶ scan the sequence left to right
- ▶ pick the value at the current position  $a_j$
- ▶ insert it in its correct position in the sequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{j-1} \rangle$  so as to maintain a sorted subsequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_j \rangle$



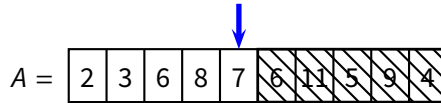
■ **Idea:** it is like sorting a hand of cards

- ▶ scan the sequence left to right
- ▶ pick the value at the current position  $a_j$
- ▶ insert it in its correct position in the sequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{j-1} \rangle$  so as to maintain a sorted subsequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_j \rangle$



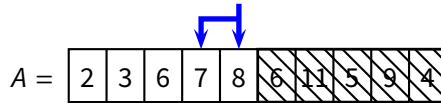
■ **Idea:** it is like sorting a hand of cards

- ▶ scan the sequence left to right
- ▶ pick the value at the current position  $a_j$
- ▶ insert it in its correct position in the sequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{j-1} \rangle$  so as to maintain a sorted subsequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_j \rangle$



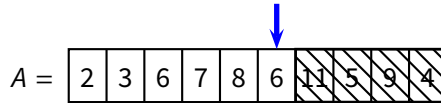
■ **Idea:** it is like sorting a hand of cards

- ▶ scan the sequence left to right
- ▶ pick the value at the current position  $a_j$
- ▶ insert it in its correct position in the sequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{j-1} \rangle$  so as to maintain a sorted subsequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_j \rangle$



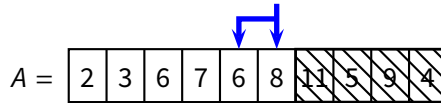
■ **Idea:** it is like sorting a hand of cards

- ▶ scan the sequence left to right
- ▶ pick the value at the current position  $a_j$
- ▶ insert it in its correct position in the sequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{j-1} \rangle$  so as to maintain a sorted subsequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_j \rangle$



■ **Idea:** it is like sorting a hand of cards

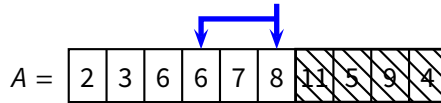
- ▶ scan the sequence left to right
- ▶ pick the value at the current position  $a_j$
- ▶ insert it in its correct position in the sequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{j-1} \rangle$  so as to maintain a sorted subsequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_j \rangle$





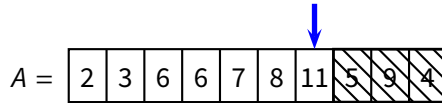
■ **Idea:** it is like sorting a hand of cards

- ▶ scan the sequence left to right
- ▶ pick the value at the current position  $a_j$
- ▶ insert it in its correct position in the sequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{j-1} \rangle$  so as to maintain a sorted subsequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_j \rangle$



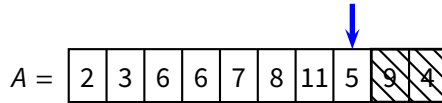
■ **Idea:** it is like sorting a hand of cards

- ▶ scan the sequence left to right
- ▶ pick the value at the current position  $a_j$
- ▶ insert it in its correct position in the sequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{j-1} \rangle$  so as to maintain a sorted subsequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_j \rangle$



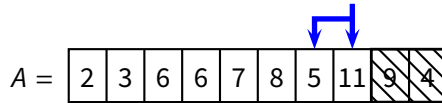
■ **Idea:** it is like sorting a hand of cards

- ▶ scan the sequence left to right
- ▶ pick the value at the current position  $a_j$
- ▶ insert it in its correct position in the sequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{j-1} \rangle$  so as to maintain a sorted subsequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_j \rangle$



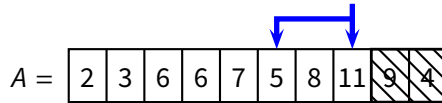
■ **Idea:** it is like sorting a hand of cards

- ▶ scan the sequence left to right
- ▶ pick the value at the current position  $a_j$
- ▶ insert it in its correct position in the sequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{j-1} \rangle$  so as to maintain a sorted subsequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_j \rangle$



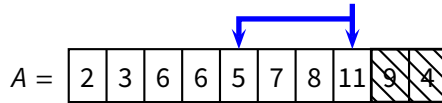
■ **Idea:** it is like sorting a hand of cards

- ▶ scan the sequence left to right
- ▶ pick the value at the current position  $a_j$
- ▶ insert it in its correct position in the sequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{j-1} \rangle$  so as to maintain a sorted subsequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_j \rangle$



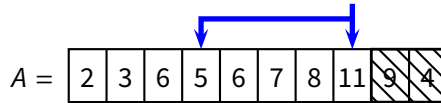
■ **Idea:** it is like sorting a hand of cards

- ▶ scan the sequence left to right
- ▶ pick the value at the current position  $a_j$
- ▶ insert it in its correct position in the sequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{j-1} \rangle$  so as to maintain a sorted subsequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_j \rangle$



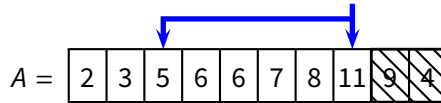
■ **Idea:** it is like sorting a hand of cards

- ▶ scan the sequence left to right
- ▶ pick the value at the current position  $a_j$
- ▶ insert it in its correct position in the sequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{j-1} \rangle$  so as to maintain a sorted subsequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_j \rangle$



■ **Idea:** it is like sorting a hand of cards

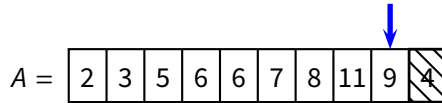
- ▶ scan the sequence left to right
- ▶ pick the value at the current position  $a_j$
- ▶ insert it in its correct position in the sequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{j-1} \rangle$  so as to maintain a sorted subsequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_j \rangle$





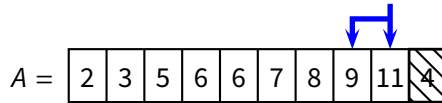
■ **Idea:** it is like sorting a hand of cards

- ▶ scan the sequence left to right
- ▶ pick the value at the current position  $a_j$
- ▶ insert it in its correct position in the sequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{j-1} \rangle$  so as to maintain a sorted subsequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_j \rangle$



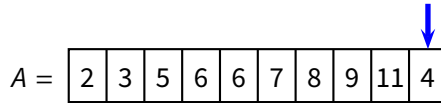
■ **Idea:** it is like sorting a hand of cards

- ▶ scan the sequence left to right
- ▶ pick the value at the current position  $a_j$
- ▶ insert it in its correct position in the sequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{j-1} \rangle$  so as to maintain a sorted subsequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_j \rangle$



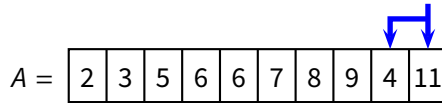
■ **Idea:** it is like sorting a hand of cards

- ▶ scan the sequence left to right
- ▶ pick the value at the current position  $a_j$
- ▶ insert it in its correct position in the sequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{j-1} \rangle$  so as to maintain a sorted subsequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_j \rangle$



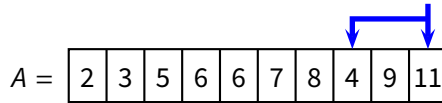
■ **Idea:** it is like sorting a hand of cards

- ▶ scan the sequence left to right
- ▶ pick the value at the current position  $a_j$
- ▶ insert it in its correct position in the sequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{j-1} \rangle$  so as to maintain a sorted subsequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_j \rangle$



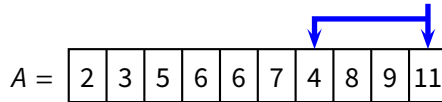
■ **Idea:** it is like sorting a hand of cards

- ▶ scan the sequence left to right
- ▶ pick the value at the current position  $a_j$
- ▶ insert it in its correct position in the sequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{j-1} \rangle$  so as to maintain a sorted subsequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_j \rangle$



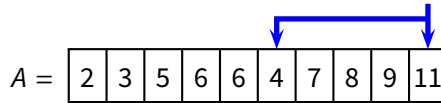
■ **Idea:** it is like sorting a hand of cards

- ▶ scan the sequence left to right
- ▶ pick the value at the current position  $a_j$
- ▶ insert it in its correct position in the sequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{j-1} \rangle$  so as to maintain a sorted subsequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_j \rangle$



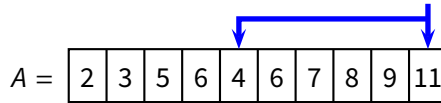
■ **Idea:** it is like sorting a hand of cards

- ▶ scan the sequence left to right
- ▶ pick the value at the current position  $a_j$
- ▶ insert it in its correct position in the sequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{j-1} \rangle$  so as to maintain a sorted subsequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_j \rangle$



■ **Idea:** it is like sorting a hand of cards

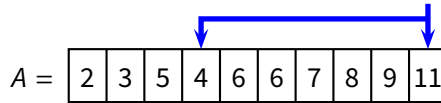
- ▶ scan the sequence left to right
- ▶ pick the value at the current position  $a_j$
- ▶ insert it in its correct position in the sequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{j-1} \rangle$  so as to maintain a sorted subsequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_j \rangle$





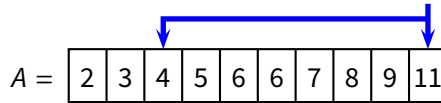
■ **Idea:** it is like sorting a hand of cards

- ▶ scan the sequence left to right
- ▶ pick the value at the current position  $a_j$
- ▶ insert it in its correct position in the sequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{j-1} \rangle$  so as to maintain a sorted subsequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_j \rangle$



■ **Idea:** it is like sorting a hand of cards

- ▶ scan the sequence left to right
- ▶ pick the value at the current position  $a_j$
- ▶ insert it in its correct position in the sequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{j-1} \rangle$  so as to maintain a sorted subsequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_j \rangle$



■ **Idea:** it is like sorting a hand of cards

- ▶ scan the sequence left to right
- ▶ pick the value at the current position  $a_j$
- ▶ insert it in its correct position in the sequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{j-1} \rangle$  so as to maintain a sorted subsequence  $\langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_j \rangle$

$A =$ 

2	3	4	5	6	6	7	8	9	11
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----

### INSERTION-SORT( $A$ )

```
1  for  $i = 2$  to  $length(A)$ 
2       $j = i$ 
3      while  $j > 1$  and  $A[j - 1] > A[j]$ 
4          swap  $A[j]$  and  $A[j - 1]$ 
5           $j = j - 1$ 
```

### **INSERTION-SORT**(A)

```
1  for  $i = 2$  to  $\text{length}(A)$ 
2       $j = i$ 
3      while  $j > 1$  and  $A[j - 1] > A[j]$ 
4          swap  $A[j]$  and  $A[j - 1]$ 
5           $j = j - 1$ 
```

- Is **INSERTION-SORT** *correct*?
- What is the time complexity of **INSERTION-SORT**?
- Can we do better?

# Complexity of INSERTION-SORT

## INSERTION-SORT( $A$ )

```
1  for  $i = 2$  to  $length(A)$ 
2       $j = i$ 
3      while  $j > 1$  and  $A[j - 1] > A[j]$ 
4          swap  $A[j]$  and  $A[j - 1]$ 
5           $j = j - 1$ 
```

# Complexity of INSERTION-SORT

```
INSERTION-SORT(A)
1  for  $i = 2$  to  $length(A)$ 
2       $j = i$ 
3      while  $j > 1$  and  $A[j - 1] > A[j]$ 
4          swap  $A[j]$  and  $A[j - 1]$ 
5           $j = j - 1$ 
```

- Outer loop (lines 1–5) runs exactly  $n - 1$  times (with  $n = length(A)$ )
- What about the inner loop (lines 3–5)?
  - ▶ best, worst, and average case?

## Complexity of INSERTION-SORT (2)

### INSERTION-SORT( $A$ )

```
1  for  $i = 2$  to  $length(A)$ 
2       $j = i$ 
3      while  $j > 1$  and  $A[j - 1] > A[j]$ 
4          swap  $A[j]$  and  $A[j - 1]$ 
5           $j = j - 1$ 
```

- **Best case:**



## Complexity of INSERTION-SORT (2)

### INSERTION-SORT( $A$ )

```
1  for  $i = 2$  to  $length(A)$ 
2       $j = i$ 
3      while  $j > 1$  and  $A[j - 1] > A[j]$ 
4          swap  $A[j]$  and  $A[j - 1]$ 
5           $j = j - 1$ 
```

- **Best case:** the inner loop is *never* executed
  - ▶ what case is this?

## Complexity of INSERTION-SORT (2)

### INSERTION-SORT( $A$ )

```
1  for  $i = 2$  to  $length(A)$ 
2       $j = i$ 
3      while  $j > 1$  and  $A[j - 1] > A[j]$ 
4          swap  $A[j]$  and  $A[j - 1]$ 
5           $j = j - 1$ 
```

- **Best case:** the inner loop is *never* executed

- ▶ what case is this?

- **Worst case:**

## Complexity of INSERTION-SORT (2)

```
INSERTION-SORT(A)
1  for  $i = 2$  to  $\text{length}(A)$ 
2       $j = i$ 
3      while  $j > 1$  and  $A[j - 1] > A[j]$ 
4          swap  $A[j]$  and  $A[j - 1]$ 
5           $j = j - 1$ 
```

- **Best case:** the inner loop is *never* executed
  - ▶ what case is this?
- **Worst case:** the inner loop is executed exactly  $j - 1$  times for every iteration of the outer loop
  - ▶ what case is this?

## Complexity of INSERTION-SORT (3)

- The worst-case complexity is when the inner loop is executed exactly  $j - 1$  times, so

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

## Complexity of INSERTION-SORT (3)

- The worst-case complexity is when the inner loop is executed exactly  $j - 1$  times, so

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

$T(n)$  is the *arithmetic series*  $\sum_{k=1}^{n-1} k$ , so

$$T(n) = \frac{n(n - 1)}{2}$$

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

## Complexity of INSERTION-SORT (3)

- The worst-case complexity is when the inner loop is executed exactly  $j - 1$  times, so

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

$T(n)$  is the *arithmetic series*  $\sum_{k=1}^{n-1} k$ , so

$$T(n) = \frac{n(n - 1)}{2}$$

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

- Best-case is  $T(n) = \Theta(n)$

## Complexity of INSERTION-SORT (3)

- The worst-case complexity is when the inner loop is executed exactly  $j - 1$  times, so

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

$T(n)$  is the *arithmetic series*  $\sum_{k=1}^{n-1} k$ , so

$$T(n) = \frac{n(n - 1)}{2}$$

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

- Best-case is  $T(n) = \Theta(n)$
- Average-case is  $T(n) = \Theta(n^2)$





- Does **INSERTION-SORT** terminate for all valid inputs?

- Does **INSERTION-SORT** terminate for all valid inputs?
- If so, does it satisfy the conditions of the sorting problem?
  - ▶  $A$  contains a *permutation* of the initial value of  $A$
  - ▶  $A$  is sorted:  $A[1] \leq A[2] \leq \dots \leq A[\text{length}(A)]$

- Does **INSERTION-SORT** terminate for all valid inputs?
- If so, does it satisfy the conditions of the sorting problem?
  - ▶  $A$  contains a *permutation* of the initial value of  $A$
  - ▶  $A$  is sorted:  $A[1] \leq A[2] \leq \dots \leq A[\text{length}(A)]$
- We want ***a formal proof of correctness***
  - ▶ does not seem straightforward...

# The Logic of Algorithmic Steps

**Example 1:** (straight-line program)

**BIGGER**( $n$ )

1 // must return a value greater than  $n$

2  $m = n * n + 1$

3 **return**  $m$

**Example 1:** (straight-line program)

**BIGGER**( $n$ )

```
1 // must return a value greater than n
2  $m = n * n + 1$ 
3 return  $m$ 
```

**Example 2:** (branching)

**SortTwo**( $A$ )

```
1 // must sort (in-place) an array of 2 elements
2 if  $A[1] > A[2]$ 
3      $t = A[1]$ 
4      $A[1] = A[2]$ 
5      $A[2] = t$ 
```

## Example 3: (nested branching)

**MAXTHREE**(A)

```
1 // find the maximum value in an array of 3 elements
2 if A[1] > A[2]
3     if A[2] > A[3]
4         return A[1]
5     else return A[3]
6 else if A[3] > A[2]
7     return A[3]
8     else return A[2]
```

## Example 3: (nested branching)

```
MAXTHREE(A)
1 // find the maximum value in an array of 3 elements
2 if A[1] > A[2]
3     if A[2] > A[3]
4         return A[1]
5     else return A[3]
6 else if A[3] > A[2]
7     return A[3]
8     else return A[2]
```

Is this algorithm correct?



**Example 3:** (nested branching)

```
MAXTHREE(A)
1 // find the maximum value in an array of 3 elements
2 if A[1] > A[2]
3     if A[2] > A[3]
4         return A[1]
5     else return A[3]
6 else if A[3] > A[2]
7     return A[3]
8     else return A[2]
```

Is this algorithm correct?

Why?

## Example 4: (second variant)

**MAXTHREE**(A)

```
1 // find the maximum value in an array of 3 elements
2 if A[1] > A[2]
3     if A[1] > A[3]
4         return A[1]
5     else return A[3]
6 else if A[2] > A[3]
7     return A[2]
8     else return A[3]
```

## Example 4: (second variant)

```
MAXTHREE(A)
1 // find the maximum value in an array of 3 elements
2 if A[1] > A[2]
3     if A[1] > A[3]
4         return A[1]
5     else return A[3]
6 else if A[2] > A[3]
7     return A[2]
8     else return A[3]
```

Is this algorithm correct?

## Example 4: (second variant)

```
MAXTHREE(A)
1 // find the maximum value in an array of 3 elements
2 if A[1] > A[2]
3     if A[1] > A[3]
4         return A[1]
5     else return A[3]
6 else if A[2] > A[3]
7     return A[2]
8     else return A[3]
```

Is this algorithm correct?

Prove it!

## Example 5: (third variant)

```
MAXTHREE(a, b, c)
```

```
1 // find the maximum among 3 values
```

```
2 if a > b and a > c
```

```
3     return a
```

```
4 if b > c
```

```
5     return b
```

```
6 else return c
```

**Example 5:** (third variant)

```
MAXTHREE(a, b, c)  
1 // find the maximum among 3 values  
2 if a > b and a > c  
3     return a  
4 if b > c  
5     return b  
6 else return c
```

Is this algorithm correct?

**Example 5:** (third variant)

```
MAXTHREE(a, b, c)  
1 // find the maximum among 3 values  
2 if a > b and a > c  
3     return a  
4 if b > c  
5     return b  
6 else return c
```

Is this algorithm correct?

Prove it!





- Every execution path defines a condition on the input values: we call it *path condition*

- Every execution path defines a condition on the input values: we call it *path condition*
- The path condition of every path must imply the correctness condition

- Every execution path defines a condition on the input values: we call it *path condition*
- The path condition of every path must imply the correctness condition

***An algorithm must be correct for every possible execution path***

- Every execution path defines a condition on the input values: we call it *path condition*
- The path condition of every path must imply the correctness condition

***An algorithm must be correct for every possible execution path***

**Problem:** what happens when we have *loops*?

# Loop Invariants

- We formulate a *loop-invariant* condition  $C$ 
  - ▶  $C$  must remain true *through* the loop

- We formulate a *loop-invariant* condition  $C$ 
  - ▶  $C$  must remain true *through* the loop
  - ▶  $C$  is relevant to the problem definition: we use  $C$  at the end of the loop to prove the correctness of the result

- We formulate a *loop-invariant* condition  $C$ 
  - ▶  $C$  must remain true *through* the loop
  - ▶  $C$  is relevant to the problem definition: we use  $C$  at the end of the loop to prove the correctness of the result
  
- Then, we only need to prove that the algorithm terminates



## Loop Invariants (2)

- Formulation: this is where we try to be smart
  - ▶ *the invariant must reflect the structure of the algorithm*
  - ▶ it must be the basis to prove the correctness of the solution

- Formulation: this is where we try to be smart
  - ▶ *the invariant must reflect the structure of the algorithm*
  - ▶ it must be the basis to prove the correctness of the solution
- Proof of validity (i.e., that  $C$  is indeed a loop invariant): typical *proof by induction*
  - ▶ **initialization:** we must prove that *the invariant  $C$  is true before entering the loop*
  - ▶ **maintenance:** we must prove that *if  $C$  is true at the beginning of a cycle **then** it remains true after one cycle*

# Loop Invariant for INSERTION-SORT

## INSERTION-SORT( $A$ )

```
1  for  $i = 2$  to  $length(A)$ 
2       $j = i$ 
3      while  $j > 1$  and  $A[j - 1] > A[j]$ 
4          swap  $A[j]$  and  $A[j - 1]$ 
5           $j = j - 1$ 
```

# Loop Invariant for INSERTION-SORT

## INSERTION-SORT( $A$ )

```
1  for  $i = 2$  to  $\text{length}(A)$ 
2       $j = i$ 
3      while  $j > 1$  and  $A[j - 1] > A[j]$ 
4          swap  $A[j]$  and  $A[j - 1]$ 
5           $j = j - 1$ 
```

- The main idea is to insert  $A[i]$  in  $A[1 \dots i - 1]$  so as to maintain a *sorted subsequence*  $A[1 \dots i]$

## Loop Invariant for INSERTION-SORT

```
INSERTION-SORT(A)
1  for  $i = 2$  to  $length(A)$ 
2       $j = i$ 
3      while  $j > 1$  and  $A[j - 1] > A[j]$ 
4          swap  $A[j]$  and  $A[j - 1]$ 
5           $j = j - 1$ 
```

- The main idea is to insert  $A[i]$  in  $A[1..i-1]$  so as to maintain a *sorted subsequence*  $A[1..i]$
- **Invariant:** (outer loop) *the subarray  $A[1..i-1]$  consists of the elements originally in  $A[1..i-1]$  in sorted order*

## Loop Invariant for INSERTION-SORT (2)

### INSERTION-SORT( $A$ )

```
1  for  $i = 2$  to  $length(A)$ 
2       $j = i$ 
3      while  $j > 1$  and  $A[j - 1] > A[j]$ 
4          swap  $A[j]$  and  $A[j - 1]$ 
5           $j = j - 1$ 
```

## Loop Invariant for INSERTION-SORT (2)

```
INSERTION-SORT(A)
1  for  $i = 2$  to  $length(A)$ 
2       $j = i$ 
3      while  $j > 1$  and  $A[j - 1] > A[j]$ 
4          swap  $A[j]$  and  $A[j - 1]$ 
5           $j = j - 1$ 
```

- **Initialization:**  $j = 2$ , so  $A[1..j - 1]$  is the single element  $A[1]$ 
  - ▶  $A[1]$  contains the original element in  $A[1]$
  - ▶  $A[1]$  is trivially sorted



## Loop Invariant for INSERTION-SORT (3)

### INSERTION-SORT( $A$ )

```
1  for  $i = 2$  to  $length(A)$ 
2       $j = i$ 
3      while  $j > 1$  and  $A[j - 1] > A[j]$ 
4          swap  $A[j]$  and  $A[j - 1]$ 
5           $j = j - 1$ 
```

## Loop Invariant for INSERTION-SORT (3)

```
INSERTION-SORT(A)
1  for  $i = 2$  to  $\text{length}(A)$ 
2       $j = i$ 
3      while  $j > 1$  and  $A[j - 1] > A[j]$ 
4          swap  $A[j]$  and  $A[j - 1]$ 
5           $j = j - 1$ 
```

- **Maintenance:** informally, if  $A[1..i-1]$  is a permutation of the original  $A[1..i-1]$  and  $A[1..i-1]$  is sorted (invariant), then *if* we enter the inner loop:
  - ▶ shifts the subarray  $A[k..i-1]$  by one position to the right
  - ▶ inserts *key*, which was originally in  $A[i]$  at its proper position  $1 \leq k \leq i-1$ , in sorted order

## Loop Invariant for INSERTION-SORT (4)

### INSERTION-SORT( $A$ )

```
1  for  $i = 2$  to  $\text{length}(A)$ 
2       $j = i$ 
3      while  $j > 1$  and  $A[j - 1] > A[j]$ 
4          swap  $A[j]$  and  $A[j - 1]$ 
5           $j = j - 1$ 
```

## Loop Invariant for INSERTION-SORT (4)

### INSERTION-SORT( $A$ )

```
1  for  $i = 2$  to  $length(A)$ 
2       $j = i$ 
3      while  $j > 1$  and  $A[j - 1] > A[j]$ 
4          swap  $A[j]$  and  $A[j - 1]$ 
5           $j = j - 1$ 
```

- **Termination:** INSERTION-SORT terminates with  $i = length(A) + 1$ ; the invariant states that

## Loop Invariant for INSERTION-SORT (4)

```
INSERTION-SORT(A)
1  for  $i = 2$  to  $length(A)$ 
2       $j = i$ 
3      while  $j > 1$  and  $A[j - 1] > A[j]$ 
4          swap  $A[j]$  and  $A[j - 1]$ 
5           $j = j - 1$ 
```

- **Termination:** **INSERTION-SORT** terminates with  $i = length(A) + 1$ ; the invariant states that
  - ▶  $A[1..i-1]$  is a permutation of the original  $A[1..i-1]$
  - ▶  $A[1..i-1]$  is sorted

Given the termination condition,  $A[1..i-1]$  is the whole  $A$

So **INSERTION-SORT** is *correct*!

- You are given a problem  $P$  and an algorithm  $A$ 
    - ▶  $P$  formally defines a *correctness* condition
    - ▶ assume, for simplicity, that  $A$  consists of one loop
-

- You are given a problem  $P$  and an algorithm  $A$ 
    - ▶  $P$  formally defines a *correctness* condition
    - ▶ assume, for simplicity, that  $A$  consists of one loop
- 

1. Formulate an invariant  $C$

- You are given a problem  $P$  and an algorithm  $A$ 
    - ▶  $P$  formally defines a *correctness* condition
    - ▶ assume, for simplicity, that  $A$  consists of one loop
- 

1. Formulate an invariant  $C$

2. **Initialization**

(for all valid inputs)

- ▶ prove that  $C$  holds right before the first execution of the first instruction of the loop



- You are given a problem  $P$  and an algorithm  $A$ 
    - ▶  $P$  formally defines a *correctness* condition
    - ▶ assume, for simplicity, that  $A$  consists of one loop
- 

1. Formulate an invariant  $C$

2. **Initialization** (for all valid inputs)

- ▶ prove that  $C$  holds right before the first execution of the first instruction of the loop

3. **Management** (for all valid inputs)

- ▶ prove that if  $C$  holds right before the first instruction of the loop, then it holds also at the end of the loop

- You are given a problem  $P$  and an algorithm  $A$ 
    - ▶  $P$  formally defines a *correctness* condition
    - ▶ assume, for simplicity, that  $A$  consists of one loop
- 

1. Formulate an invariant  $C$

2. **Initialization** (for all valid inputs)

- ▶ prove that  $C$  holds right before the first execution of the first instruction of the loop

3. **Management** (for all valid inputs)

- ▶ prove that if  $C$  holds right before the first instruction of the loop, then it holds also at the end of the loop

4. **Termination** (for all valid inputs)

- ▶ prove that the loop terminates, with some exit condition  $X$

- You are given a problem  $P$  and an algorithm  $A$ 
    - ▶  $P$  formally defines a *correctness* condition
    - ▶ assume, for simplicity, that  $A$  consists of one loop
- 

1. Formulate an invariant  $C$

2. **Initialization** (for all valid inputs)

- ▶ prove that  $C$  holds right before the first execution of the first instruction of the loop

3. **Management** (for all valid inputs)

- ▶ prove that if  $C$  holds right before the first instruction of the loop, then it holds also at the end of the loop

4. **Termination** (for all valid inputs)

- ▶ prove that the loop terminates, with some exit condition  $X$

5. Prove that  $X \wedge C \Rightarrow P$ , which means that  $A$  is correct

## Exercise: Analyze Selection-Sort

### **SELECTION-SORT**( $A$ )

```
1   $n = \text{length}(A)$ 
2  for  $i = 1$  to  $n - 1$ 
3       $\text{smallest} = i$ 
4      for  $j = i + 1$  to  $n$ 
5          if  $A[j] < A[\text{smallest}]$ 
6               $\text{smallest} = j$ 
7      swap  $A[i]$  and  $A[\text{smallest}]$ 
```

## Exercise: Analyze Selection-Sort

### **SELECTION-SORT**( $A$ )

```
1   $n = \text{length}(A)$ 
2  for  $i = 1$  to  $n - 1$ 
3       $\text{smallest} = i$ 
4      for  $j = i + 1$  to  $n$ 
5          if  $A[j] < A[\text{smallest}]$ 
6               $\text{smallest} = j$ 
7      swap  $A[i]$  and  $A[\text{smallest}]$ 
```

#### ■ Correctness?

- ▶ loop invariant?

#### ■ Complexity?

- ▶ worst, best, and average case?

## Exercise: Analyze Bubblesort

**BUBBLESORT**( $A$ )

```
1  for  $i = 1$  to  $\text{length}(A)$ 
2      for  $j = \text{length}(A)$  downto  $i + 1$ 
3          if  $A[j] < A[j - 1]$ 
4              swap  $A[j]$  and  $A[j - 1]$ 
```

## Exercise: Analyze Bubblesort

### **BUBBLESORT**( $A$ )

```
1  for  $i = 1$  to  $length(A)$ 
2      for  $j = length(A)$  downto  $i + 1$ 
3          if  $A[j] < A[j - 1]$ 
4              swap  $A[j]$  and  $A[j - 1]$ 
```

#### ■ Correctness?

- ▶ loop invariant?

#### ■ Complexity?

- ▶ worst, best, and average case?