

Sorting: *The Big Picture*

Given *n* comparable elements in an array, sort them in an increasing (or decreasing) order.



Insertion Sort: Idea • At the k^{th} step, put the k^{th} input element in the correct place among the first k elements • Result: After the k^{th} step, the first k elements are sorted. Runtime: worst case best case ÷ average case :

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Turns out to be $O(n \log n)$

See Section 7.7.5 for an idea of the proof. Don't need to know proof details for this course.

Features of Sorting Algorithms

- In-place
 - Sorted items occupy the same space as the original items. (No copying required, only O(1) extra space if any.)
- Stable
 - Items in input with the same value end up in the same order as when they began.

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Sort Properties

Are the following:	stable?			in-place?		
Insertion Sort?	No	Yes	Can Be	No	Yes	
Selection Sort?	No	Yes	Can Be	No	Yes	
MergeSort?	No	Yes	Can Be	No	Yes	
QuickSort?	No	Yes	Can Be	No	Yes	

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How fast can we sort?

- Heapsort, Mergesort, and Quicksort all run in O(N log N) <u>best</u> case running time
- Can we do any better?
- No, if the basic action is a comparison.











$\Omega(N \log N)$

- Run time of any comparison-based sorting algorithm is **Ω**(**N** log **N**)
- Can we do better if we don't use comparisons?

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RadixSort • Input:126, 328, 636, 341, 416, 131, 328											
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
BucketSort on next-higher digit:											
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
BucketSort on msd:											
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	

Radixsort: Complexity

- How many passes?
- How much work per pass?
- Total time?
- Conclusion?
- In practice
 - RadixSort only good for large number of elements with relatively small values
 - Hard on the cache compared to MergeSort/QuickSort³³

Internal versus External Sorting

- Need sorting algorithms that minimize disk/tape access time
- External sorting Basic Idea:
 - Load chunk of data into RAM, sort, store this "run" on disk/tape
 - Use the Merge routine from Mergesort to merge runs
 - Repeat until you have only one run (one sorted chunk)
 - Text gives some examples (also see CSE 444)