

# Analysis of Euclidean Algorithm

Algorithms  
Thomas Schwarz, SJ

# Greatest Common Divisor

- Given two numbers  $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$ :
  - $a$  divides  $b$       $a \mid b : \iff \exists x \in \mathbb{N} : b = ax$ 
    - Divisors are smaller than the dividend
      - $a \mid b \implies a \leq b$
  - $r$  is a common divisor of  $a$  and  $b$  iff  $r \mid a \wedge r \mid b$
  - $\gcd(a, b) = \max\{r : r \mid a \wedge r \mid b\}$ 
    - Always exists because the set is finite
    - Any finite subset of the natural numbers has a maximum

# Greatest Common Divisor

- Lemma 1: For all numbers  $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$ :  
 $\gcd(a, b) = \gcd(b, a)$
- Proof: The set of common divisors does not depend on the order in which  $a$  and  $b$  are given:
  - $\{r : r \mid a \wedge r \mid b\} = \{r : r \mid b \wedge r \mid a\}$  because the logical and operator is commutative

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Hence: } \gcd(a, b) &= \max\{r : r \mid a \wedge r \mid b\} \\ &= \max\{r : r \mid b \wedge r \mid a\} \\ &= \gcd(b, a)\end{aligned}$$

# Greatest Common Divisor

- Lemma 2: If  $a \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $a \mid b$  then  $\gcd(a, b) = a$ .
- Proof:
  - $a$  is the largest divisor of itself.
  - $a$  is also a divisor of  $b$  by assumption
  - Hence  $a$  is the largest element in the set of common divisors  $\{r : r \mid a \wedge r \mid b\}$ .
  - This means that
$$a = \max\{r : r \mid a \wedge r \mid b\} = \gcd(a, b)$$

# Greatest Common Divisor

- Lemma 3: If  $a \equiv c \pmod{b}$  then  $\gcd(a, b) = \gcd(c, b)$
- Proof:
  - $a \equiv c \pmod{b} \iff \exists r, s, t \in \mathbb{N}_0 : a = rb + t \wedge c = sb + t \wedge 0 \leq t < b$
  - We show that  $\{r : r \mid a \wedge r \mid b\} = \{r : r \mid c \wedge r \mid b\}$
  - Assume that  $d \in \mathbb{N}$  is in the left side. We want to show that it is also in the right side. For this we need to show that  $d$  also divides  $c$ .
    - What do we know: There exists  $x, y \in \mathbb{N}_0$  such that
      - $b = xd$  because  $d$  divides  $b$
      - $a = yd$  because  $d$  divides  $a$
      - $a = rb + t, c = sb + t, 0 \leq t < b$

# Greatest Common Divisor

- Proof (continued)

- $$\begin{aligned} c &= c - a + a \\ &= ((sb + t) - (rb + t)) + a \\ &= (s - r)b + a \\ &= (s - r)xd + yd \\ &= ((s - r)x + y)d \end{aligned}$$

# Greatest Common Divisor

- Proof: (cont)
  - Now we want to show that all elements on the right side of  $\{r : r \mid a \wedge r \mid b\} = \{r : r \mid c \wedge r \mid b\}$  are in the left side.
  - However, since our assumptions are symmetric in  $a$  and  $c$ , the same proof applies.

# Euclidean Algorithm

- Informal Version:
  - To compute  $\gcd(a, b)$  put the larger number of  $a$  and  $b$  on the left
  - Then divide  $a$  by  $b$  with remainder  $r$  ( $a = bx + r$ )
    - If  $r = 0$ , then  $b \mid a$  and  $\gcd(a, b) = b$ .
  - Otherwise:
    - Notice that  $r \equiv a \pmod{b}$ .
    - Therefore  $\gcd(a, b) = \gcd(r, b) = \gcd(b, r)$  by the Lemma
  - Continue until the remainder becomes 0



# Euclidean Algorithm

- $\text{gcd}(1043, 4321)$ 
  - $= \text{gcd}(4321, 1043)$
  - $= \text{gcd}(1043, 149)$
  - $= 149$  because  $1043 \% 149 = 0$ .
- There is an interesting extension:
  - $4321 = 4 * 1043 + 149$ , ergo  $149 = 4321 - 4 * 1043$ , a linear combination of 4321 and 1043

# Euclidean Algorithm

$$\gcd(198, 168)$$

$$= \gcd(168, 30)$$

$$= \gcd(30, 18)$$

$$= \gcd(18, 12)$$

$$= \gcd(12, 6)$$

$$= 6$$

- $198 - 168 = 30$
- $18 = 168 - 5 \cdot 30$   
 $= 168 - 5(198 - 168) = 6 \cdot 168 - 5 \cdot 198$
- $12 = 30 - 18 = 198 - 168 - 6 \cdot 168 + 5 \cdot 198 =$   
 $6 \cdot 198 - 7 \cdot 168$
- $6 = 18 - 12 = -5 \cdot 198 + 6 \cdot 168 - 6 \cdot 198 + 7 \cdot 168 =$   
 $-11 \cdot 198 + 13 \cdot 168$
- GCD is a linear combination of the two parameters!

# Euclidean Algorithm

- Pseudo-code

```
def gcd(a, b):  
    if b==0:  
        return a  
    else:  
        return gcd(b, a%b)
```

# Euclidean Algorithm

- How do we prove the correctness of an algorithm?
  - Especially if it contains a loop
    - Usually, need to use induction
      - Sometimes using a *loop invariant*

```
gcd(198, 168)
= gcd(168, 30)
= gcd(30, 18)
= gcd(18, 12)
= gcd(12, 6)
= gcd(6, 0)
```

- In this case:  $\text{gcd}(\text{var1}, \text{var2})$  does not change between between calls
- That is Lemma 3!
- End if the algorithm ever ends, it prints out the correct value by Lemma 1.

# Euclidean Algorithm

- How do we prove the correctness of the algorithm?
  - It is possible that an algorithm will never stop
    - (on some inputs, or on all inputs)
  - In our case, the smaller of the variables becomes strictly smaller
    - with the exception of the first step
  - Thus, we will run out of variables for our recursive calls sooner or later
- Algorithm will eventually return the correct number

# Euclidean Algorithm

- Performance
  - Obviously, proportional to the number of recursive calls
  - Given two random inputs:
    - Can stop in one iteration
      - If second variable divides the first
    - Or can stop after many
  - In a case like this: look for the worst case scenario

# Euclidean Algorithm

- Theorem: If  $\text{gcd}(a,b)$  makes  $N$  recursive calls and  $a > b$  then  $a \geq f_{N+2}$  and  $b \geq f_{N+1}$

# Euclidean Algorithm

- Proof:

- By induction

- Base case:  $N = 1$ :

- In this case  $b \neq 0$ , hence  $b \geq 1 = f_1$

- In this case  $a > b$ , so  $a > b = 1 \implies a \geq 2 = f_2$

```
def gcd(a, b):  
    if b==0:  
        return a  
    else:  
        return gcd(b, a%b)
```



# Euclidean Algorithm

```
def gcd(a, b):  
    if b==0:  
        return a  
    else:  
        return gcd(b, a%b)
```

- Induction step
  - Induction hypothesis:
    - If gcd has  $N$  recursive calls then  $a \geq f_{N+2}$  and  $b \geq f_{N+1}$
  - To show:
    - If gcd has  $N + 1$  recursive calls, then  $a \geq f_{N+3}$  and  $b \geq f_{N+2}$

# Euclidean Algorithm

- Assume that  $\text{gcd}(a,b)$  makes  $N+1$  calls.
- The first step calls  $\text{gcd}(b, a \% b)$ 
  - This call calls the function recursively  $N$  times
    - Thus, by Induction Hypothesis
      - $b \geq f_{N+2}$  and  $a \% b \geq f_{N+1}$
      - By division with remainder  $a = rb + a \% b$  with  $0 \leq a \% b < b$ 
        - Because  $a > b$  we have  $r \geq 1$ .
      - Therefore:  $a \geq b + a \% b \geq f_{N+2} + f_{N+1} \geq f_{N+3}$ .
      - We already know that  $b \geq f_{N+2}$

```
def gcd(a, b):  
    if b==0:  
        return a  
    else:  
        return gcd(b, a%b)
```

# Euclidean Algorithm

- Can find a closed form of Fibonacci

- $\Phi = \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \approx 1.68$

- $b \geq f_{N+2} \geq \Phi^N$

- This implies that  $\log_{\Phi}(b) \geq N - 1$  and  $N = O(\log b)$

```
def gcd(a, b):  
    if b==0:  
        return a  
    else:  
        return gcd(b, a%b)
```

# Loop Invariants

- Recursion usually demands induction proofs to assert properties of an algorithm
- For loops, use loop invariant:
  - A property that is true before the loop starts
  - A property that remains true after each loop iteration
  - And is therefore true after the loop terminates

# Loop Invariants

- Working with loop invariants:
  - Need to come up with a loop invariant
  - Prove that it is true before the loop starts (induction base)
  - Prove that it remains true after each iteration of the loop

# Loop Invariants

- Trivial Example:
  - Small C-program

```
extern int c;  
int x = c, y = 0;  
while (x >= 0) :  
    x--;  
    y++;  
print (y)
```

# Loop Invariants

- Step 1: Guessing a loop invariant

```
extern int c;  
int x = c, y = 0;  
while (x >= 0) :  
    x--;  
    y++;  
print (y)
```

- Needs to involve  $x$ ,  $y$ ,  $c$ 
  - $x + y = c$

# Loop Invariants

- Step 2:
  - Show that it is true before the loop starts
    - Simple: before the loop starts, we have  $x = c, y = 0$   
therefore  $x + y = c$



# Loop Invariants

- Step 3: Show that the truth does not change after one iteration
  - Induction step: Assume  $x_b + y_b = c$  before the loop iteration
    - After the iteration, we have  $x_a = x_b - 1, y_a = y_b + 1$ .
    - This implies
    - $x_a + y_a = (x_b - 1) + (y_b + 1) = x_b + y_b - 1 + 1 = x_b + y_b = c$

# Loop Invariants

- Step 4: Evaluate with the loop invariant
  - When the loop is terminated,  $x = 0$ .
    - (Question: why do we now that the loop terminates?)
    - Therefore, the value of  $y$  is
$$y = x + y - x = c - 0 = c$$
    - Thus, the function prints out the value of  $c$ .

# Examples

# Bubble Sort

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# Bubble Sort

- Idea of bubble sort:
  - Repeatedly swap adjacent elements in an array until they are in order
  - Reminder: Swaps in Python are easy:
    - `arr[i],arr[i+1] = arr[i+1],arr[i]`
- `while not done:`
  - `for i in range(len(arr)-1):`
    - `if arr[i] > arr[i+1]:`
      - `arr[i],arr[i+1]=arr[i+1],arr[i]`

# Bubble Sort

- Example: Sort



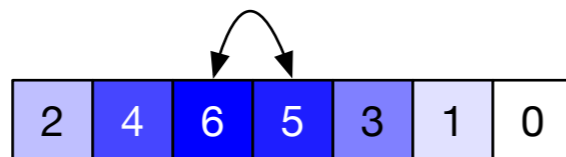
- First pass: Check first pair



- Swap and move on

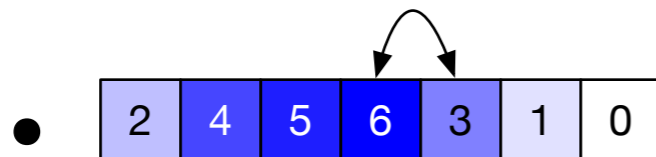


- No swap necessary, move on

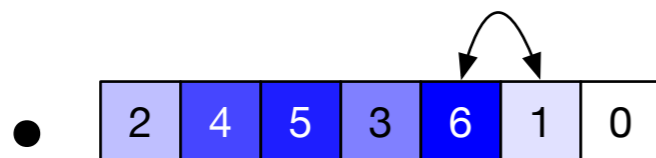


# Bubble Sort

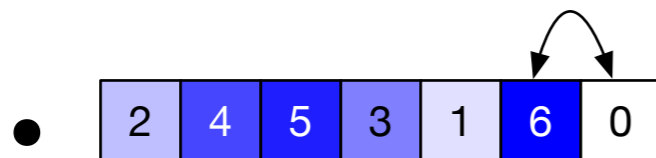
- Example:
  - Swap and move on



- Swap and move on



- Swap and move on



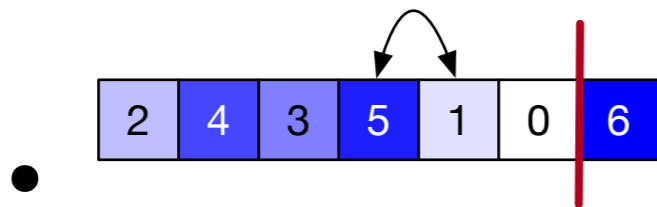
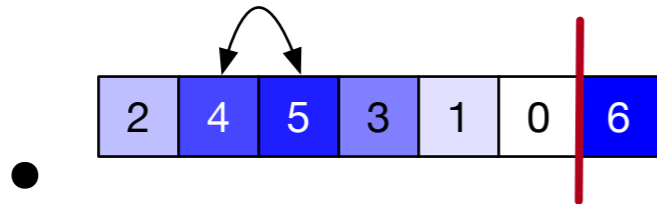
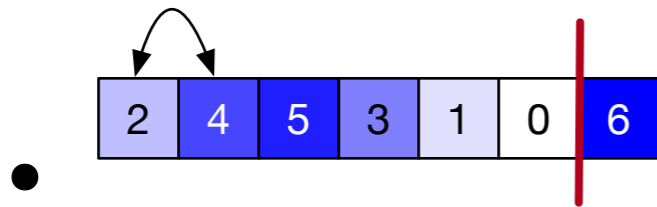
# Bubble Sort

- Example:
  - Swap and move on
    - |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 6 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
    - Array is still not sorted, so we need to continue
    - However: Notice that the maximum element has been picked up and is now at the correct position
    - We only have to order the first  $n - 1$  positions



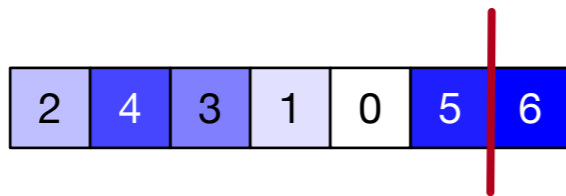
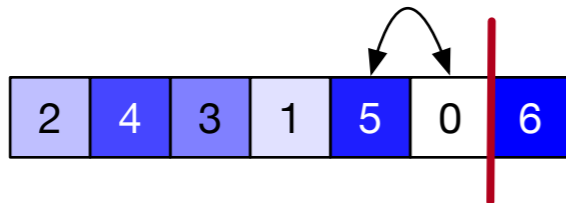
# Bubble Sort

- Example
  - Second pass:

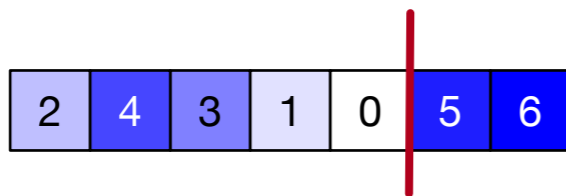


# Bubble Sort

- Example (Second Pass):

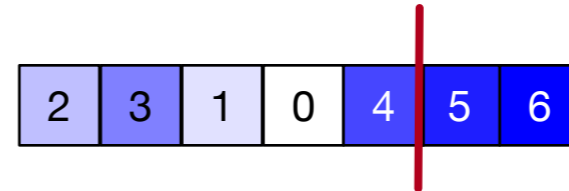
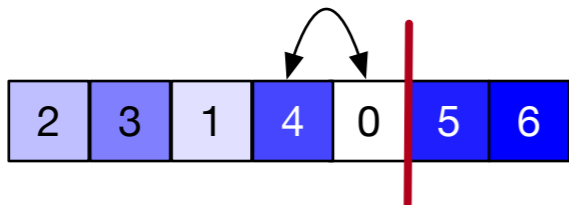
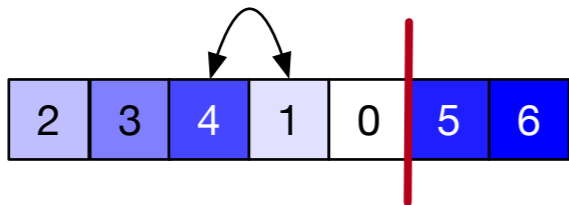
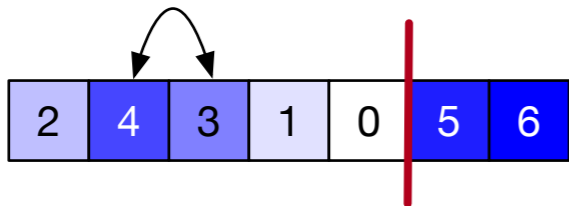
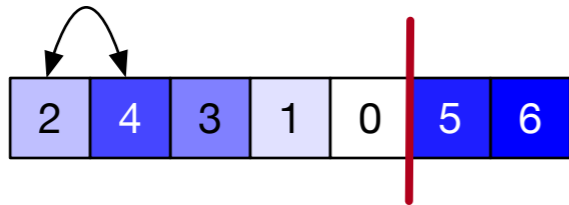


- The maximum in the remaining array has now reached its correct point

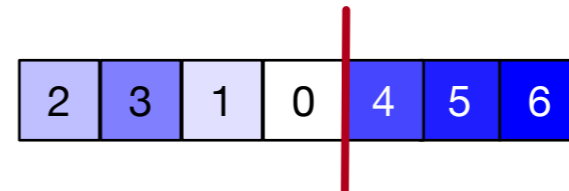


# Bubble Sort

- Example: Third Pass

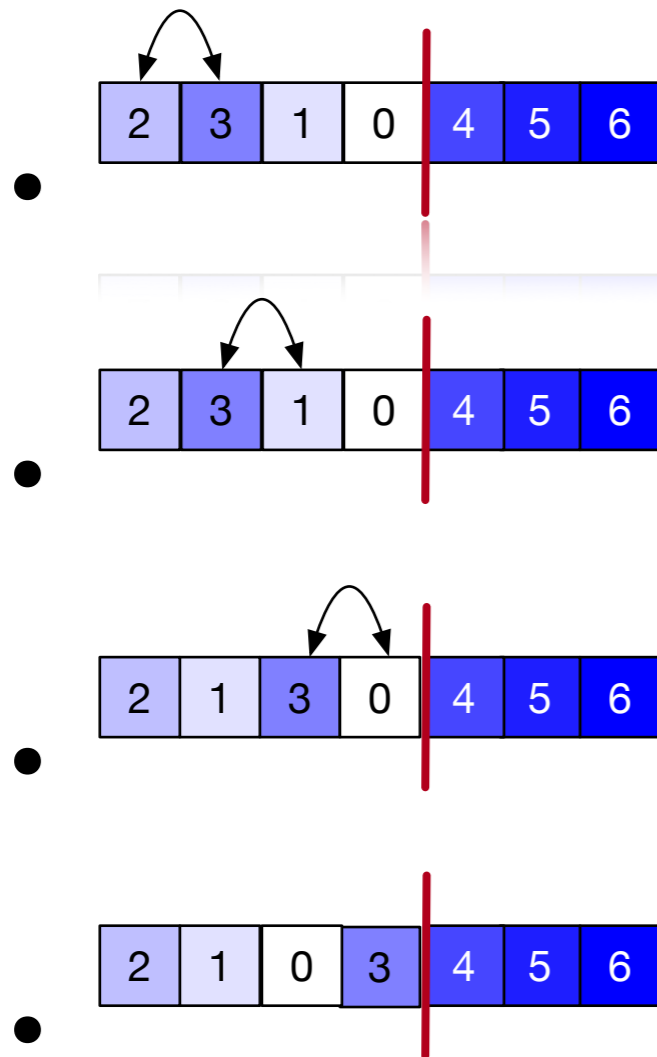


- Third largest element has bubbled up to the correct place

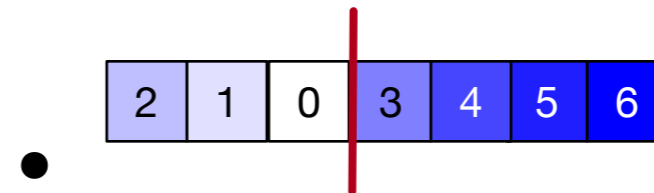


# Bubble Sort

- Fourth pass

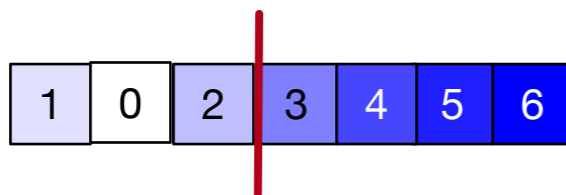
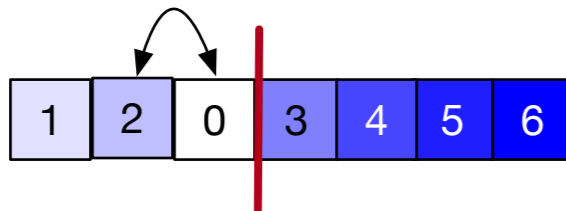
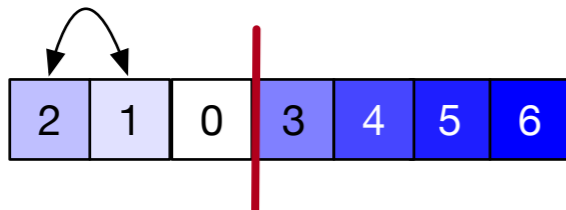


- Now 3 has bubbled up

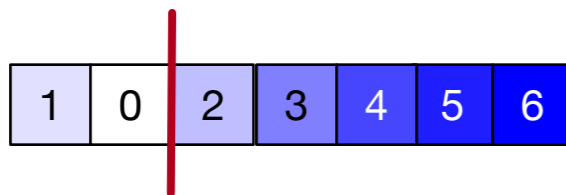


# Bubble Sort

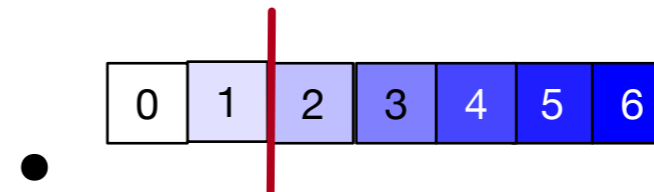
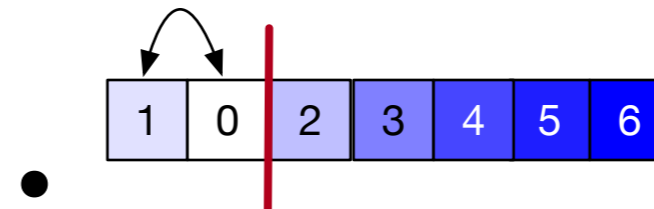
- Fifth Pass



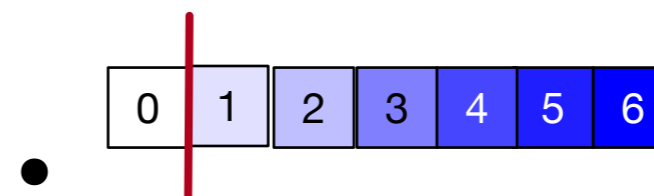
- 2 has bubbled up



- Final Pass



- 1 has bubbled up, and a singleton is always sorted:



# Bubble Sort

- We need one less pass than there are array elements
- And we do not need to look at the last elements of the array

```
def bubblesort(arr):  
    n = len(arr)  
    for i in range(n-1):  
        for j in range(n-i-1):  
            if arr[j] > arr[j+1]:  
                arr[j],arr[j+1]=arr[j+1],arr[j]
```

# Bubble Sort

- Potential improvements:
  - After each pass, the elements after the last swap are already in order
  - We can skip the corresponding passes
    - But need to keep track of the last swap

# Bubble Sort

- Performance:
  - At pass  $i$ ,  $i = 0, 1, \dots, n - 2$ , we compare  $n - i - 1$  values
  - This means, we make
    - $(n - 1) + (n - 2) + \dots + 2 + 1 = \frac{n(n - 1)}{2}$   
comparisons



# Bubble Sort

- If we use the last swap trick:
  - Best case behavior: The array is sorted, we did not do any swap, and we are done after a single pass with  $n - 1$  comparisons

# Bubble Sort

- Bubble sort is known to be the least efficient sort for data that is not already sorted
  - Among the sorting algorithms that do not try to be horrible

# Bubble Sort Invariant

- Loop Invariant:
  - After execution of outer loop with value  $i$ 
    - `arr[n-i-1:n]` contains the  $i+1$  maximal values in ascending order

```
def bubblesort(arr):  
    n = len(arr)  
    for i in range(n-1):  
        for j in range(n-i-1):  
            if arr[j] > arr[j+1]:  
                arr[j], arr[j+1] = arr[j+1], arr[j]
```

# Bubble Sort Invariant

- After execution of outer loop with value  $i$ 
  - `arr[n-i-1:n]` contains the  $i+1$  maximal values in ascending order
  - Follows from:
    - The inner loop selects the maximum element in `arr[0:n-i]` and moves it to `arr[n-i-1]`

```
def bubblesort(arr):  
    n = len(arr)  
    for i in range(n-1):  
        for j in range(n-i-1):  
            if arr[j] > arr[j+1]:  
                arr[j], arr[j+1] = arr[j+1], arr[j]
```

# Insertion Sort

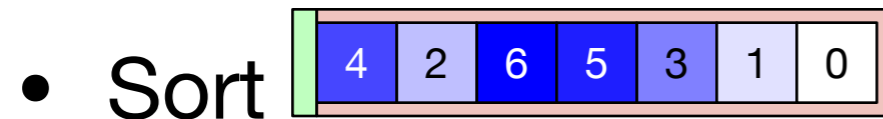
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# Insertion Sort

- Idea:
  - Break the array into a sorted and an unsorted part
  - Move first element of the unsorted part into the correct position in the sorted array

# Insertion Sort

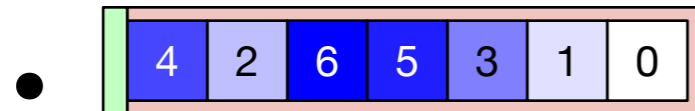
- Example:



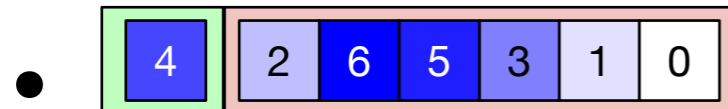
- Reddish part is unsorted: initially whole array
- Greenish part is sorted: initially empty

# Insertion Sort

- Example:



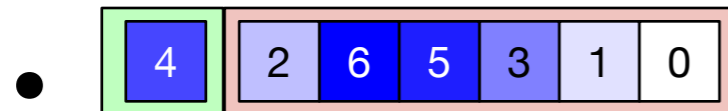
- First element in the red part is 4:
- Insert 4 into the green part





# Insertion Sort

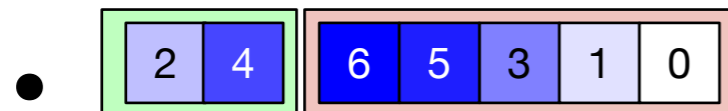
- Example



- Next unsorted element is 2

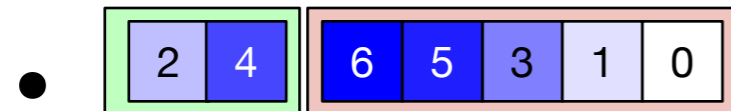
- Compare with 4

- Insert in front of 4



# Insertion Sort

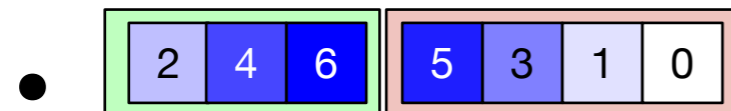
- Example



- Next unsorted element is 6

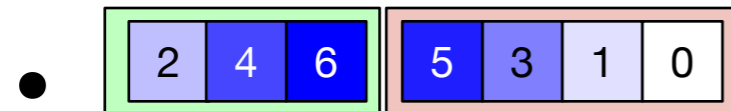
- Compare with 2, then 4

- Insert after 4



# Insertion Sort

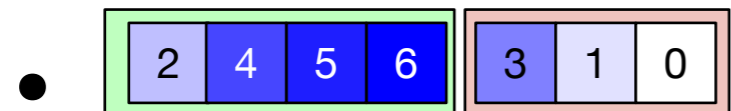
- Example



- Next unsorted element is 5

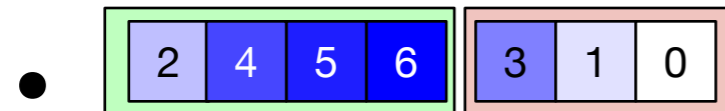
- Compare with 2, 4, 6

- Insert before 6



# Insertion Sort

- Example



- Next unsorted element is 3

- Compare with 2, then 4

- Insert before 4



# Insertion Sort

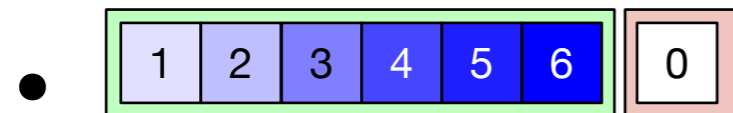
- Example



- Next comes 1

- Compare with 2

- Insert before 2



# Insertion Sort

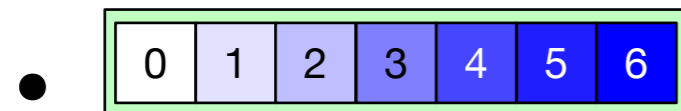
- Example



- Final unsorted element is 0

- Compare with 1

- Insert before 1



- We are done

# Insertion Sort

- Performance:
  - Inserting at a specific index in an array means moving the elements after the insertion
    - This is a big hidden cost
  - Inserting at a specific index into a linked list only involves finding the insertion point and constant link resetting work
  - However, we can now avoid comparisons
  - To insert into a sorted array of length  $i$ 
    - only need on average  $\frac{i}{2} + 1$  comparisons

# Insertion Sort

- Average case:

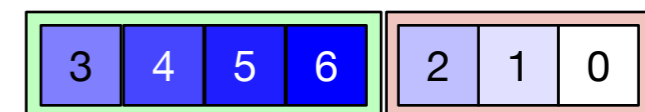
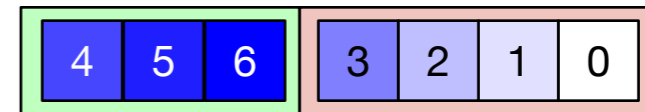
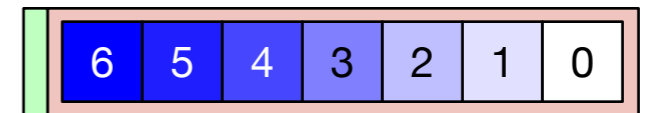
- Pass  $i$  has  $1 + \frac{i}{2}$  comparisons

- Total of  $\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} (1 + \frac{i}{2}) = n + \frac{1}{2} \frac{n(n-1)}{2}$  comparisons



# Insertion Sort

- Best Case:
  - Only one comparison per pass:
    - New element inserted into the sorted part is smaller than the current minimum of the part
  - Original array is ordered from maximum to minimum



# Insertion Sort Invariant

- After each step, the green array is correctly sorted
- After each step, the multi-set of elements has not changed