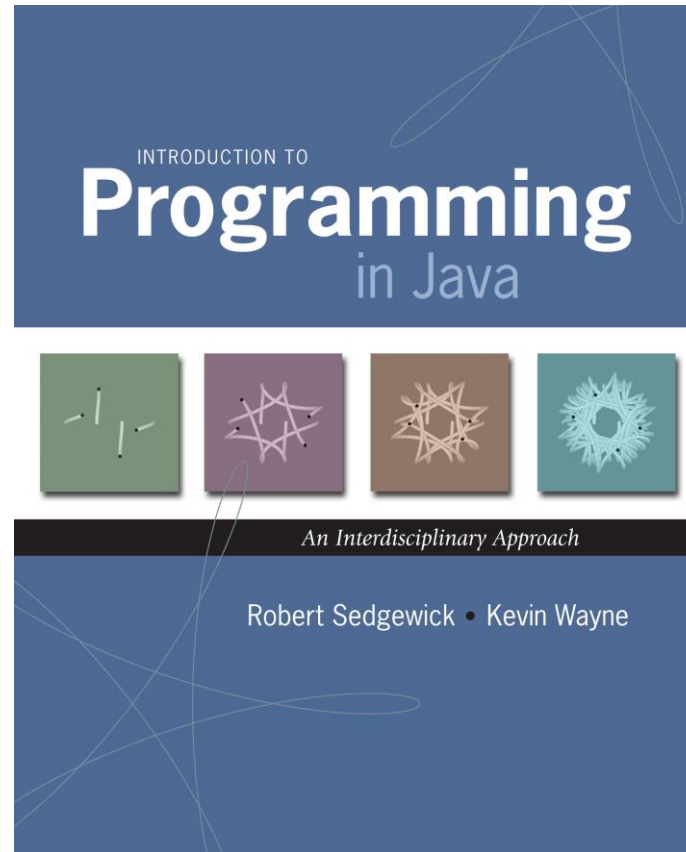


# 4.2 Sorting and Searching



# Searching

## The problem:

**Given a collection of data, determine if a query is contained in that collection.**

*This is a fundamentally important problem for a myriad of applications (from finding webpages to searching for fragments of DNA)*

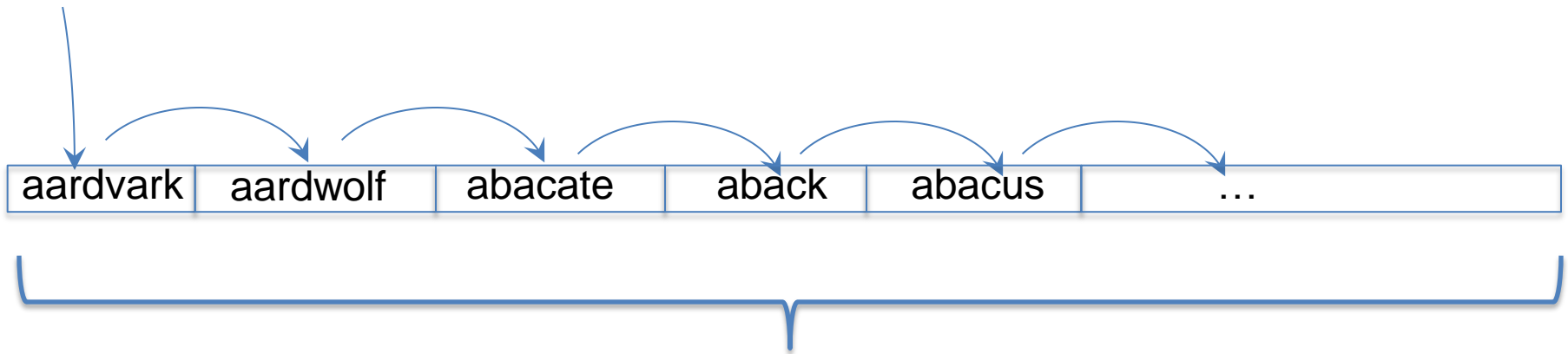
# Motivating Example: Spellchecker!



# Exhaustive (Linear) Search

- Systematically enumerate all possible values and compare to value being sought
- For an array, iterate from the beginning to the end, and test each item in the array

Find "awesome"



Array of all words in dictionary

# Linear Search

Scan through array, looking for key.

- Search hit: return array index.
- Search miss: return -1.

```
public static int search(String key, String[] a) {  
    int N = a.length;  
    for (int i = 0; i < a.length; i++)  
        if (a[i].compareTo(key) == 0)  
            return i;  
    return -1;  
}
```

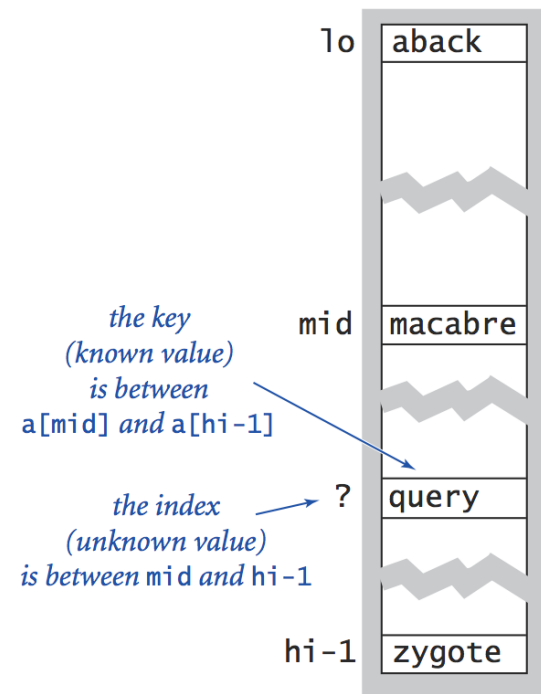
# Binary Search

Quickly find an item (query) in a sorted list.

**Examples:** Dictionary, phone book, index, credit card numbers, ...

## Binary Search:

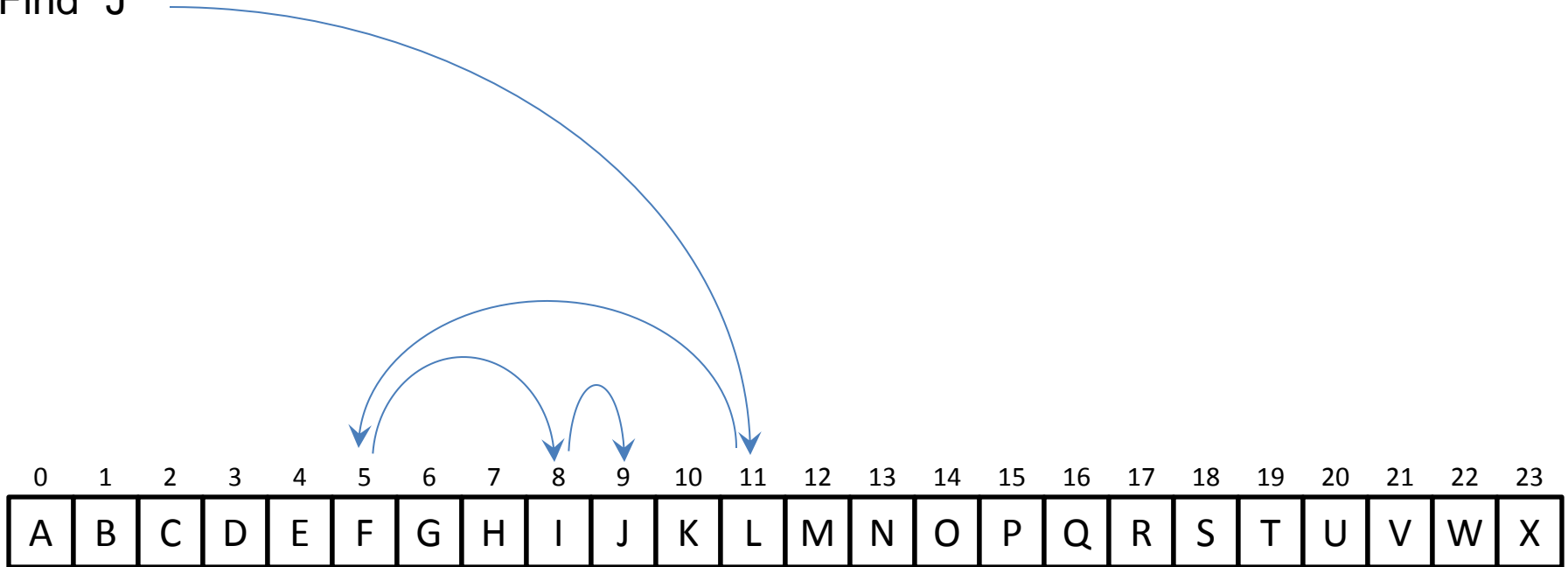
- Examine the middle key
- If it matches, return its index
- Otherwise, search either the left or right half



*Binary search in a sorted array (one step)*

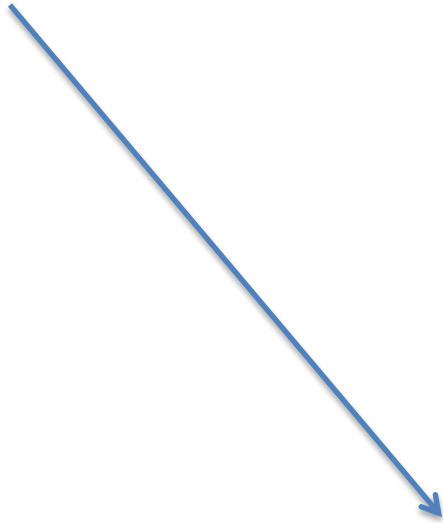
# Binary Search

Find "J"



# Binary Search Example

Find "awsome"



aardvark

...

macabre

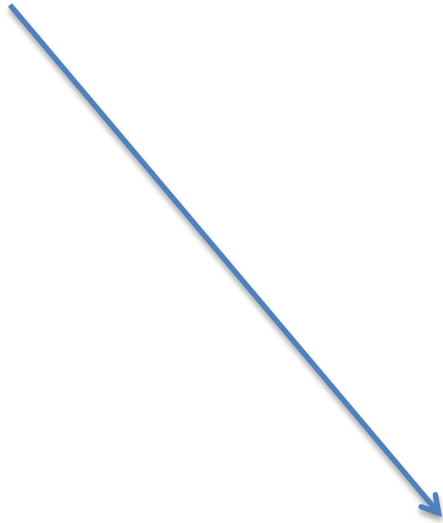
...

Zyzzogeton



# Binary Search Example

Find "awsome"



aardvark

...

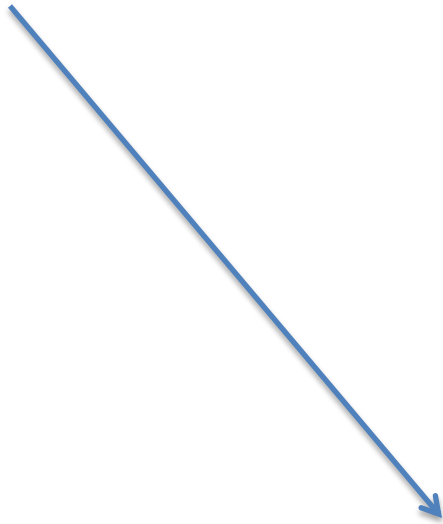
macabre

...

Zyzzogeton

# Binary Search Example

Find "awsome"



aardvark

...

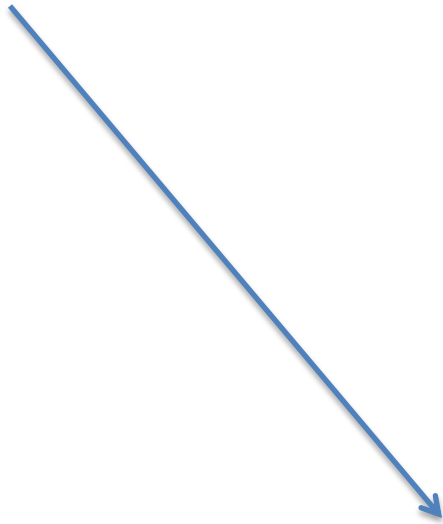
fable

...

macabre

# Binary Search Example

Find "awsome"



aardvark

...

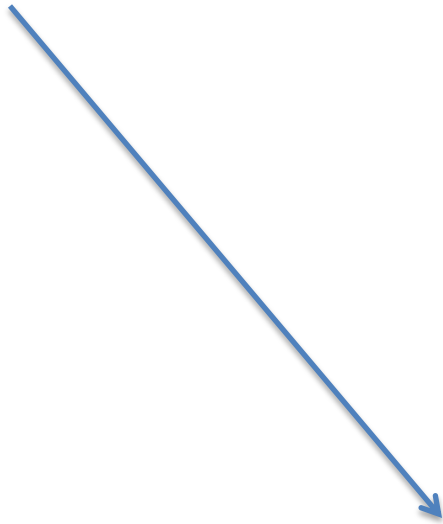
fable

...

macabre

# Binary Search Example

Find "awsome"



aardvark

...

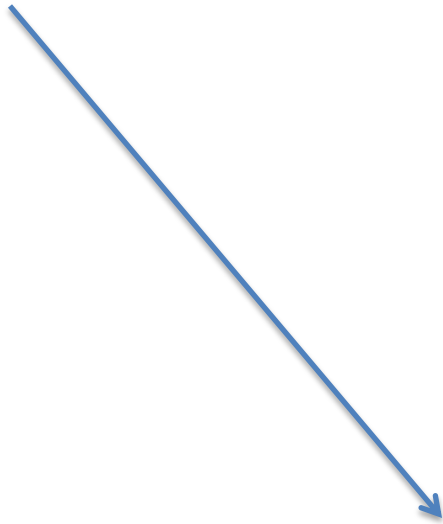
catfish

...

fable

# Binary Search Example

Find "awsome"



aardvark

...

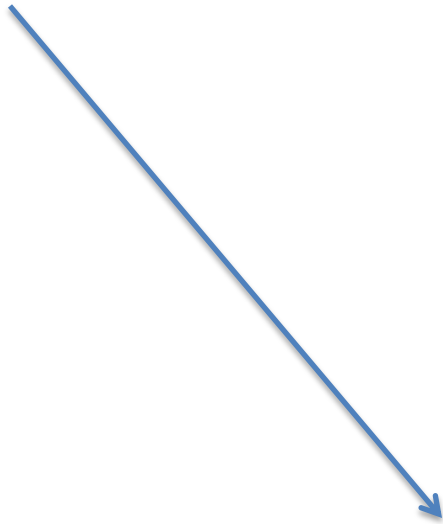
catfish

...

fable

# Binary Search Example

Find "awsome"



aardvark

...

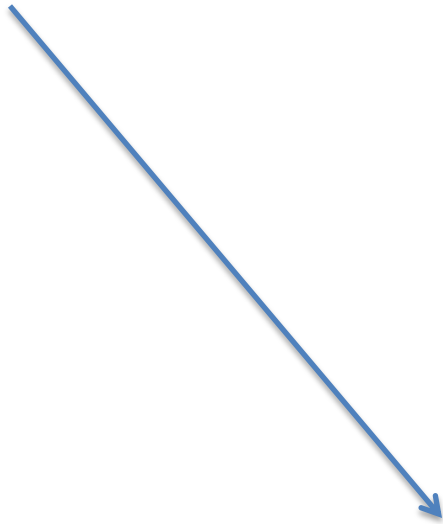
beetle

...

catfish

# Binary Search Example

Find "awsome"



aardvark

...

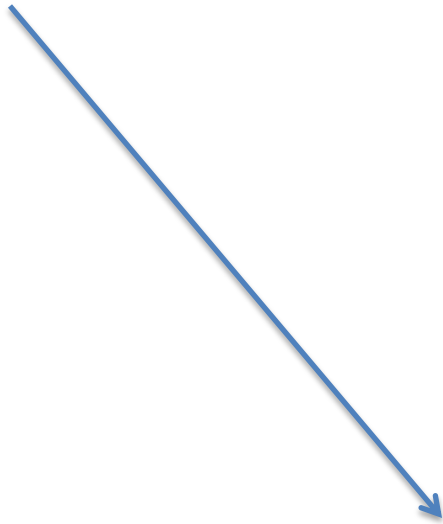
beetle

...

catfish

# Binary Search Example

Find "awsome"



aardvark

...

awake

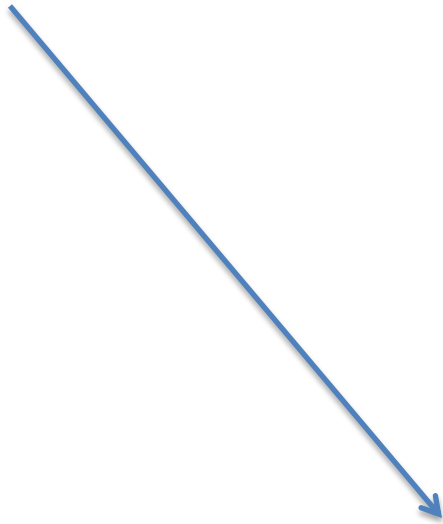
...

beetle



# Binary Search Example

Find "awsome"



aardvark

...

awake

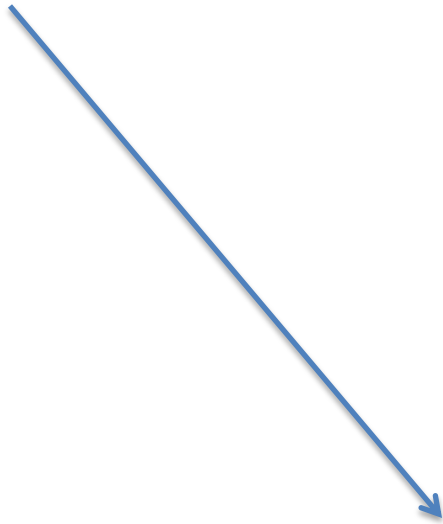


...

beetle

# Binary Search Example

Find "awsome"



awaken

...

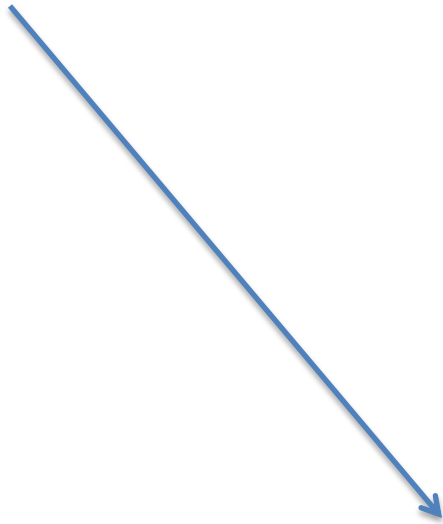
banjo

...

beetle

# Binary Search Example

Find "awsome"



awaken

...

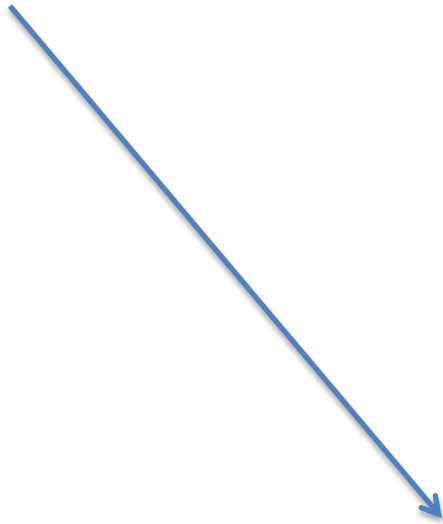
banjo

...

beetle

# Binary Search Example

Find "awsome"



awaken

...

banjo

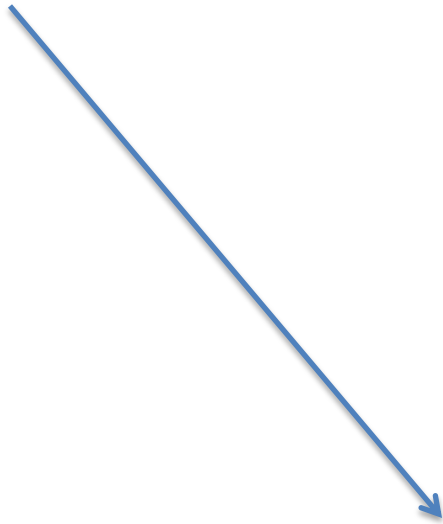
...

beetle

Repeat a few more times...

# Binary Search Example

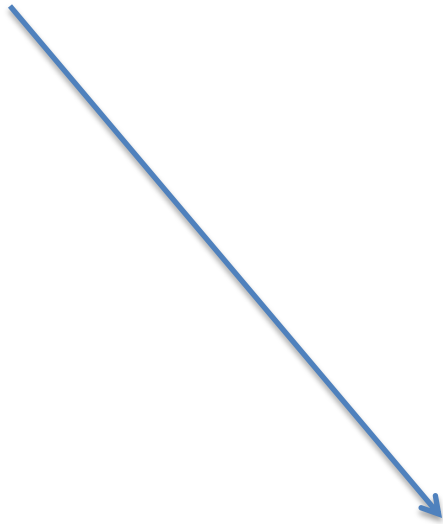
Find "awsome"



awry

# Binary Search Example

Find "awsome"



awry

Return false

# Binary Search

Invariant: Algorithm maintains  $a[lo] \leq key < a[hi]$

```
public static int search(String key, String[] a) {
    return search(key, a, 0, a.length);
}

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

# Binary Search

**Analysis:** Binary search in an array of size  $N$

- One compare
- Binary search in array of size  $N/2$

$$N \rightarrow N/2 \rightarrow N/4 \rightarrow N/8 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow 1$$

**Q.** How many times can you divide by 2 until you reach 1?

**A.**  $\log_2 N$

$$\begin{array}{c} 1 \\ 2 \rightarrow 1 \\ 4 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 1 \\ 8 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 1 \\ 16 \rightarrow 8 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 1 \\ 32 \rightarrow 16 \rightarrow 8 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 1 \\ 64 \rightarrow 32 \rightarrow 16 \rightarrow 8 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 1 \\ 128 \rightarrow 64 \rightarrow 32 \rightarrow 16 \rightarrow 8 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 1 \\ 256 \rightarrow 128 \rightarrow 64 \rightarrow 32 \rightarrow 16 \rightarrow 8 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 1 \\ 512 \rightarrow 256 \rightarrow 128 \rightarrow 64 \rightarrow 32 \rightarrow 16 \rightarrow 8 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 1 \\ 1024 \rightarrow 512 \rightarrow 256 \rightarrow 128 \rightarrow 64 \rightarrow 32 \rightarrow 16 \rightarrow 8 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 1 \end{array}$$



# Spell-Checking

## Midsummer Night's Dream

- Exhaustive Search: **385,554 milliseconds** to check the entire text
- Binary Search: **104 milliseconds** to check the entire text
- Speedup: **3,707 times!!!**

**Forbes**  
com

Microsoft

DON'T GET FORCED. GET  
Switch and get \$150/user ▶

## In Pictures: Weird Job Interview Questions



### "Can I Guess?"

CLOSE

Given the numbers 1 to 1,000, what is the minimum number of guesses needed to find a specific number if you are given the hint "higher" or "lower" for each guess you make?

Asked at Facebook

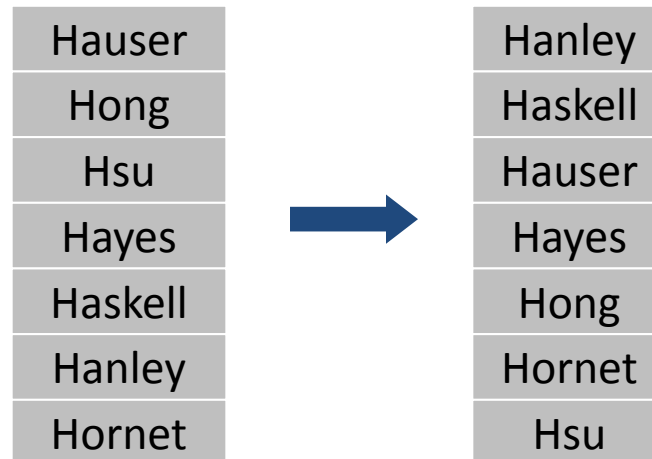
# Sitcom/Dictator Game



<http://www.smalltime.com/Dictator>

# Sorting

- Sorting problem. Rearrange N items in ascending order.
- Applications. Statistics, databases, data compression, bioinformatics, computer graphics, scientific computing, (too numerous to list), ...



# Sorting



pentrust.org

# Sorting



pentrust.org



shanghaiscrap.org

# Sorting



pentrust.org



shanghaiscrap.org



De Beers

# Selection Sort

- Idea:
  - Find the smallest element in the array
  - Exchange it with the element in the first position
  - Find the second smallest element and exchange it with the element in the second position
  - Continue until the array is sorted



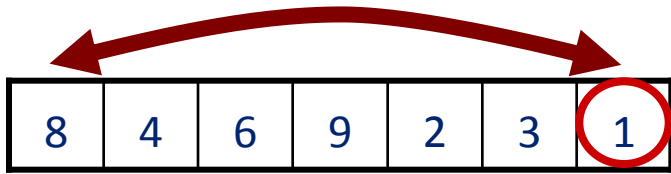
# Example

8	4	6	9	2	3	1
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

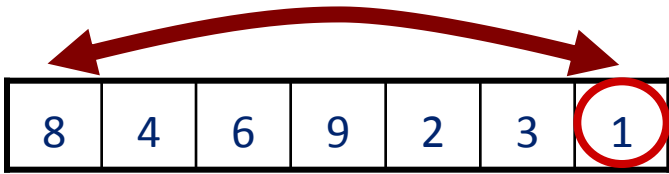
# Example

8	4	6	9	2	3	1
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

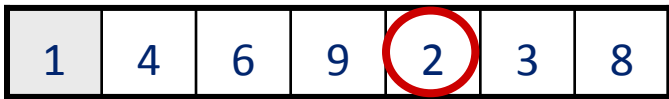
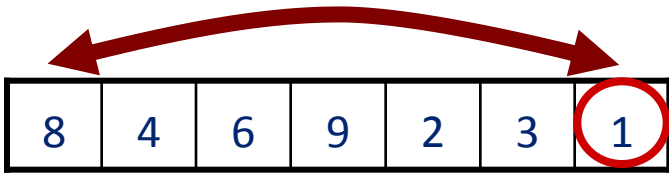
# Example



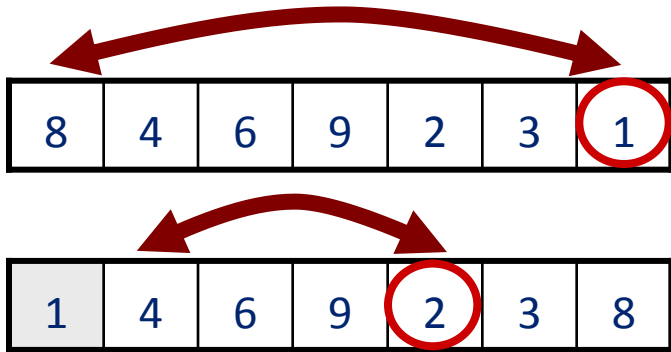
# Example



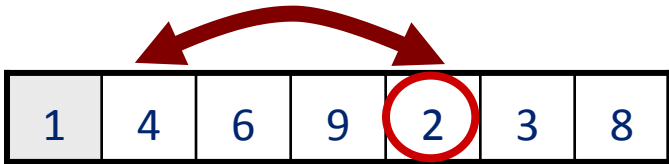
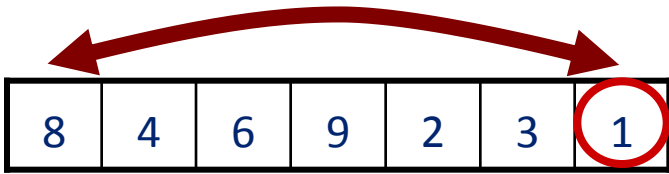
# Example



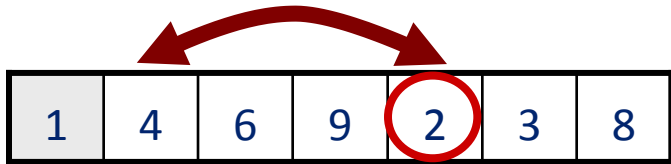
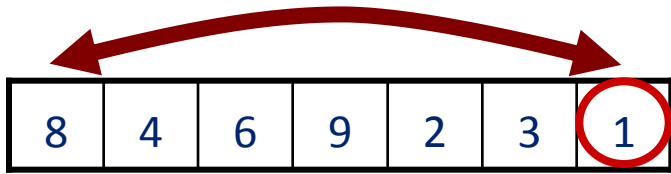
# Example



# Example

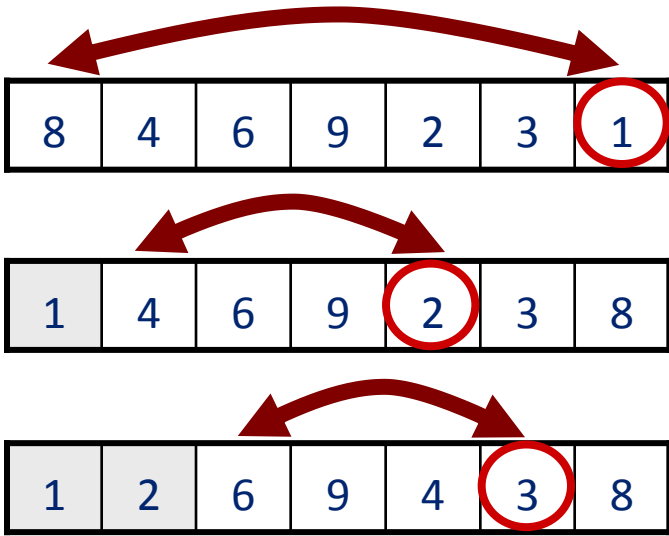


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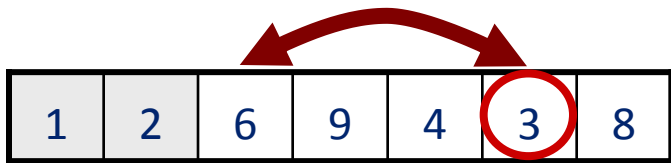
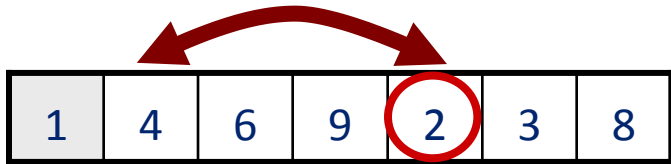
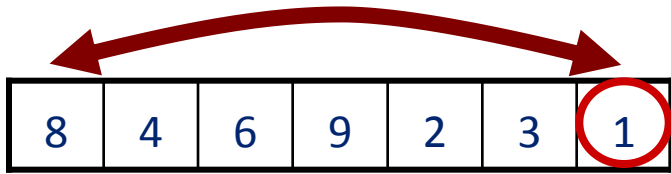




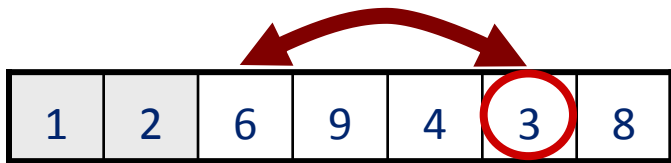
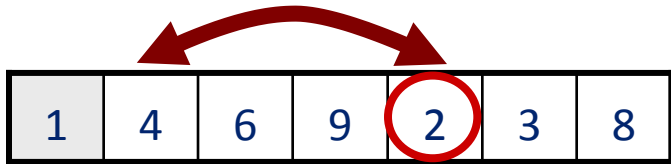
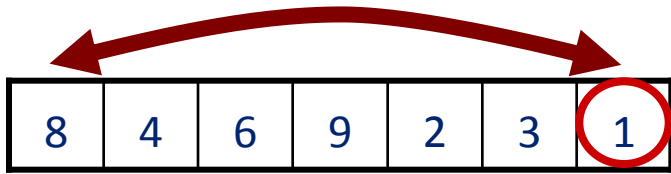
# Example



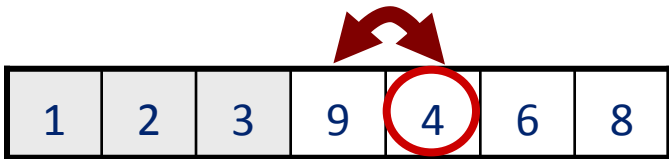
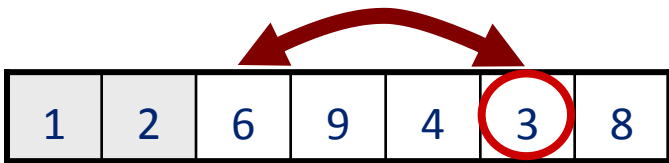
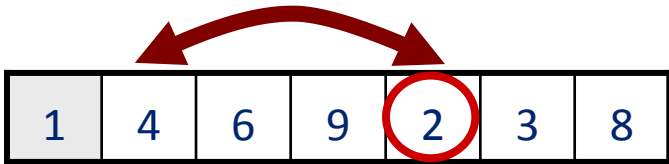
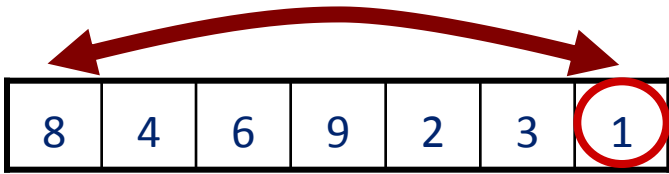
# Example



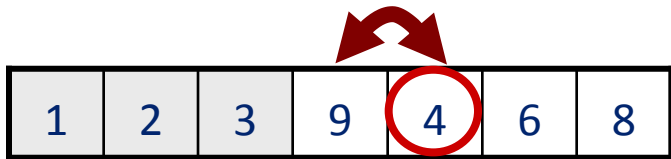
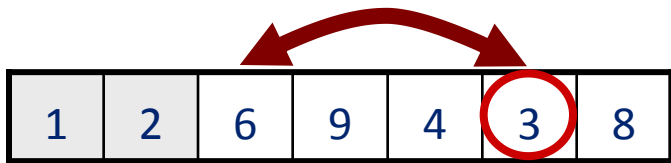
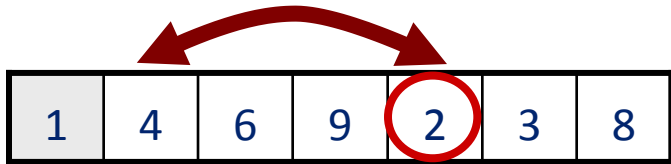
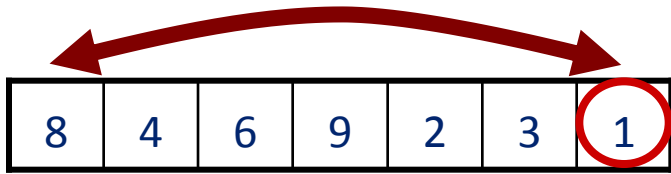
# Example



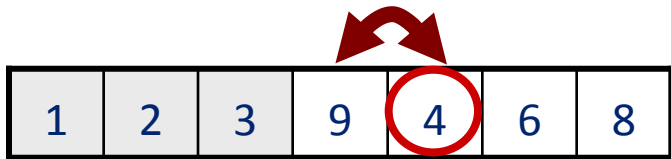
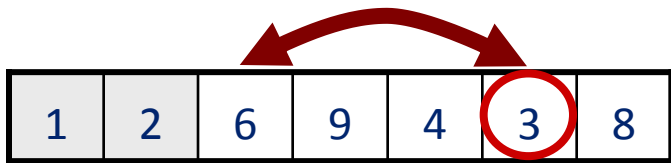
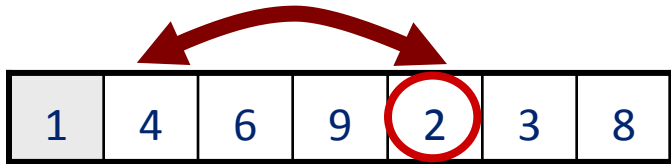
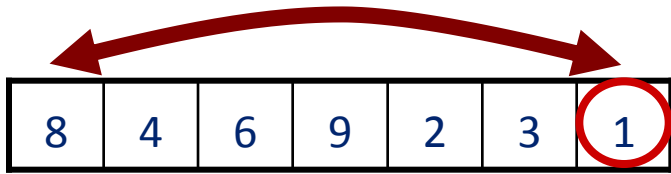
# Example



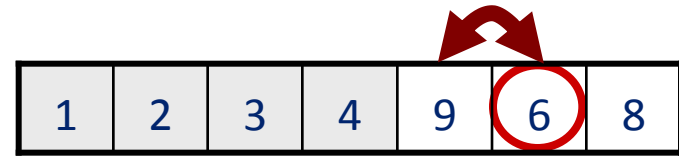
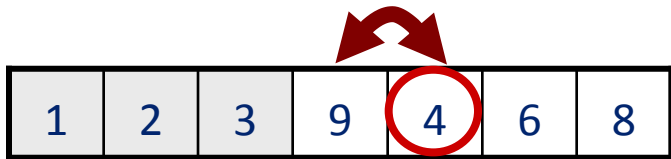
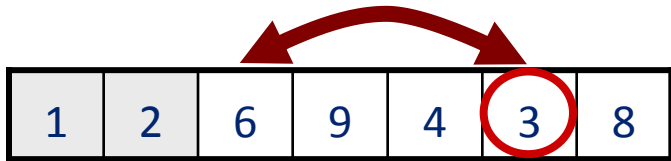
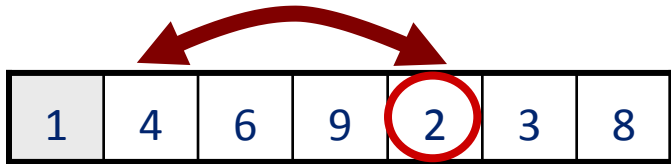
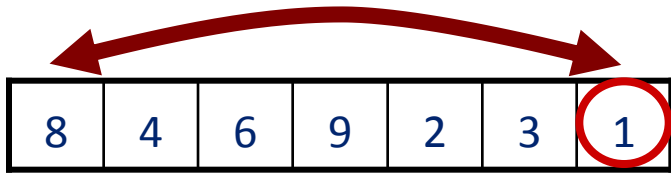
# Example



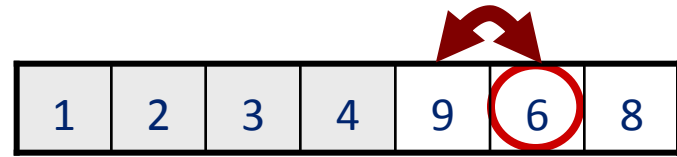
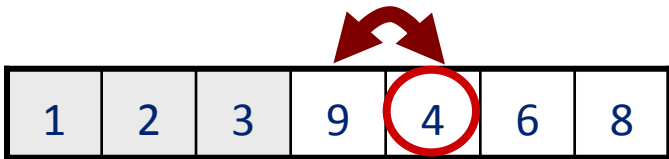
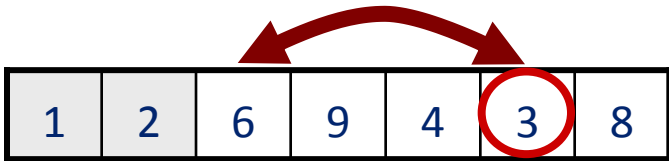
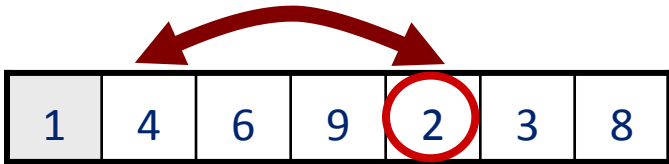
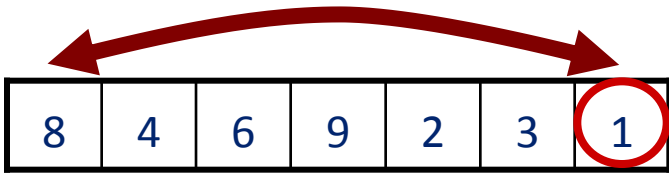
# Example



# Example

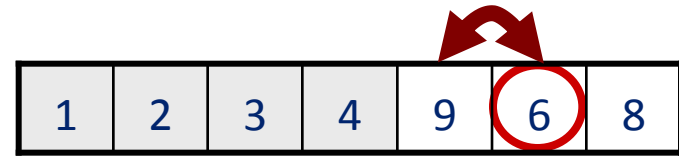
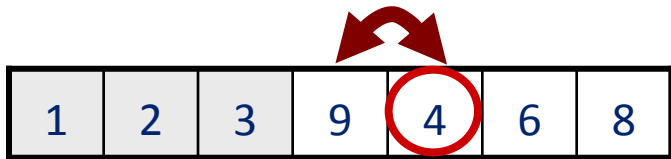
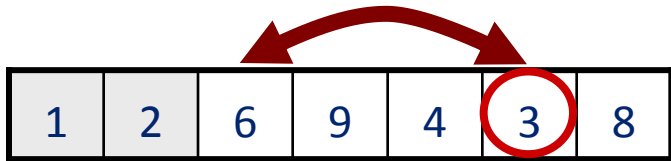
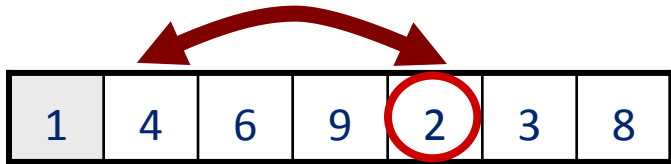
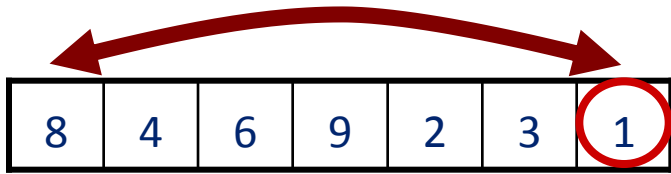


# Example

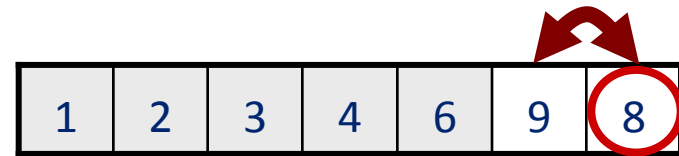
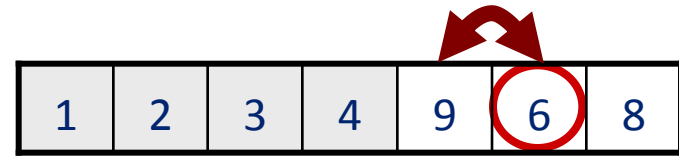
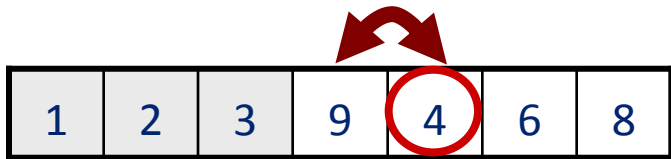
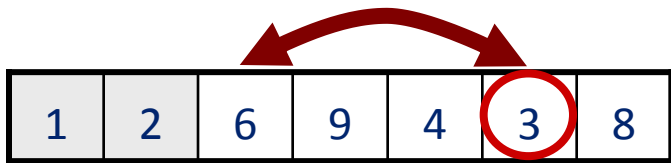
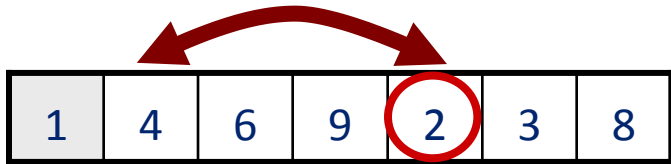
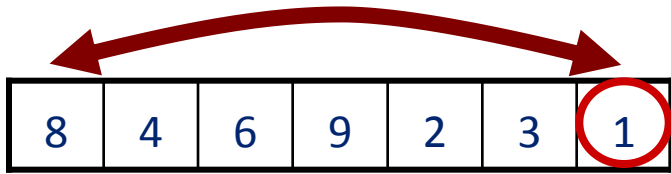




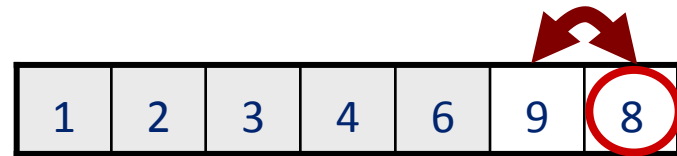
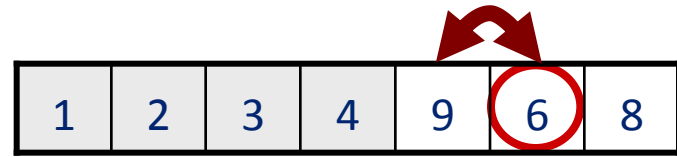
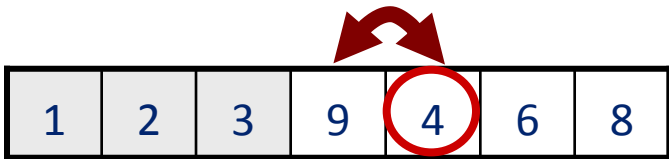
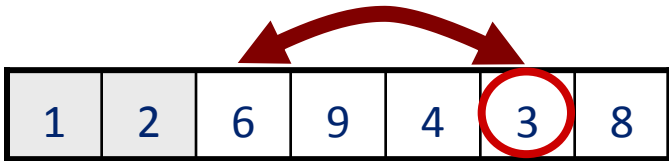
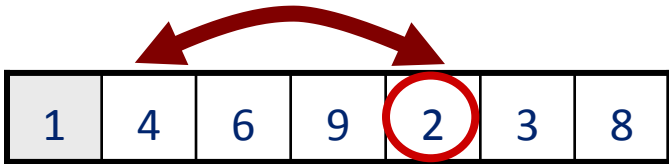
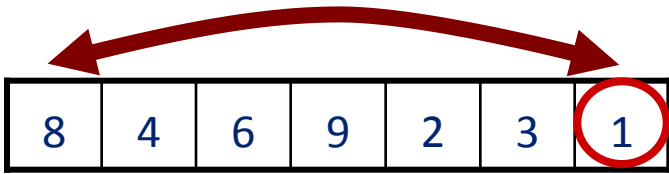
# Example



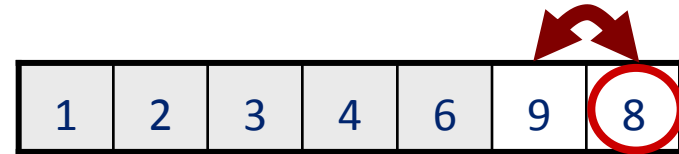
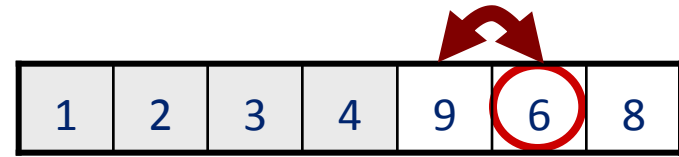
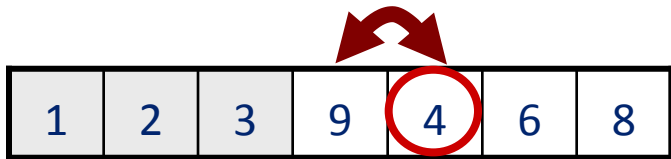
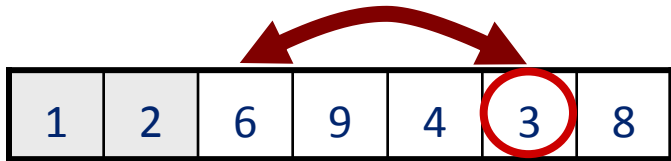
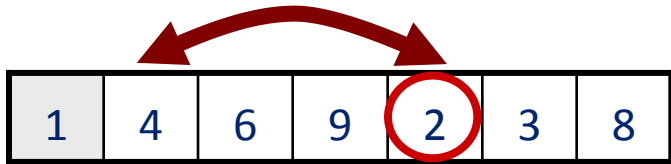
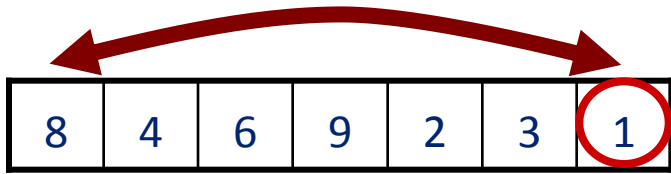
# Example



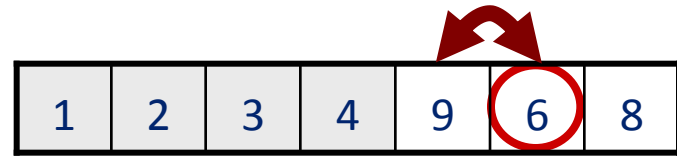
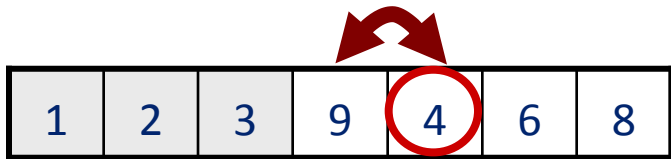
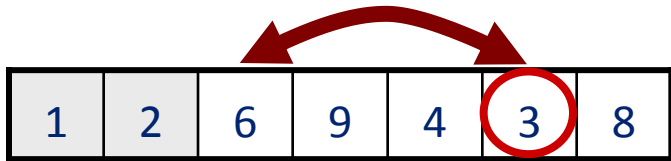
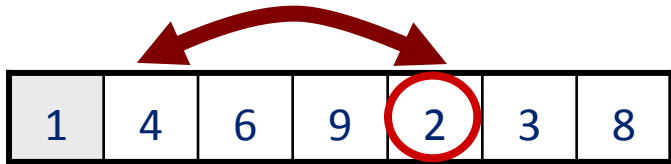
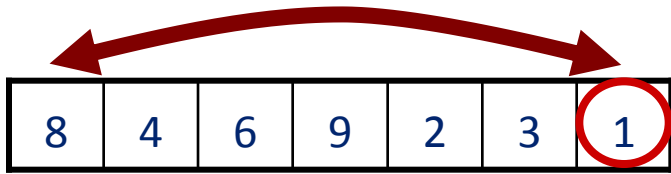
# Example



# Example

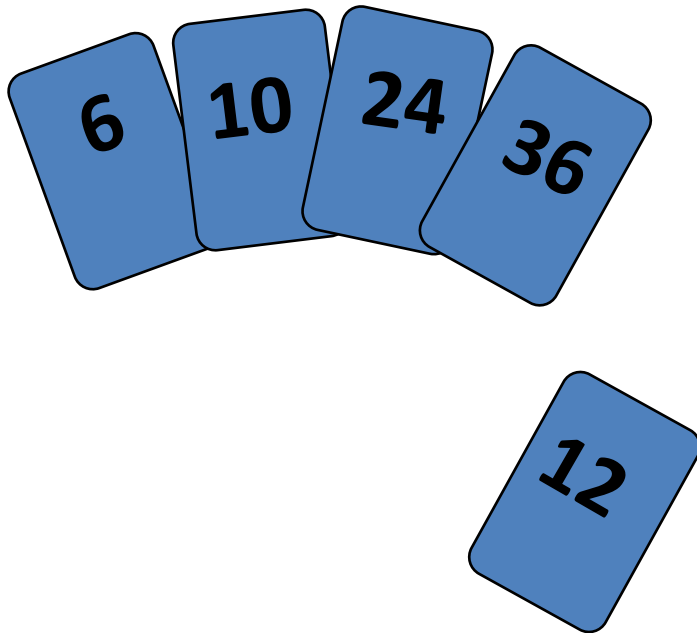


# Example

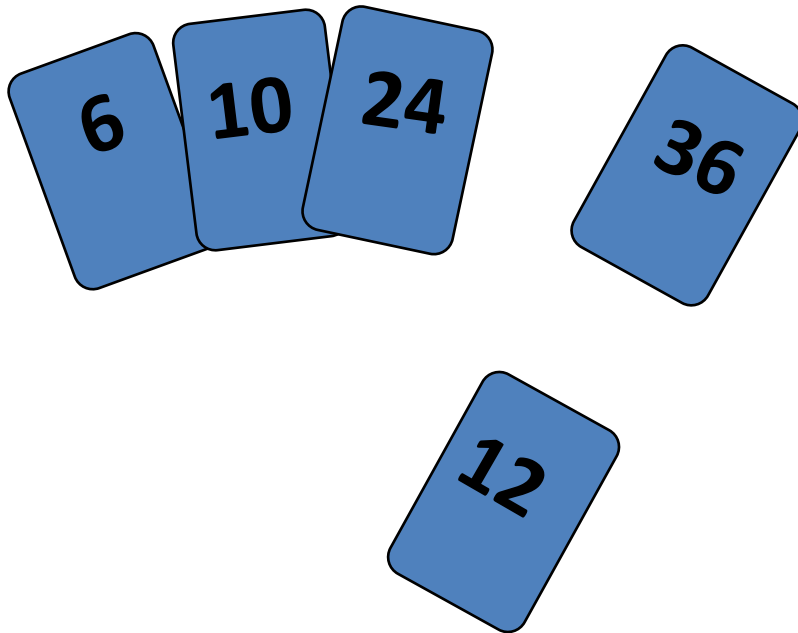


# Insertion Sort

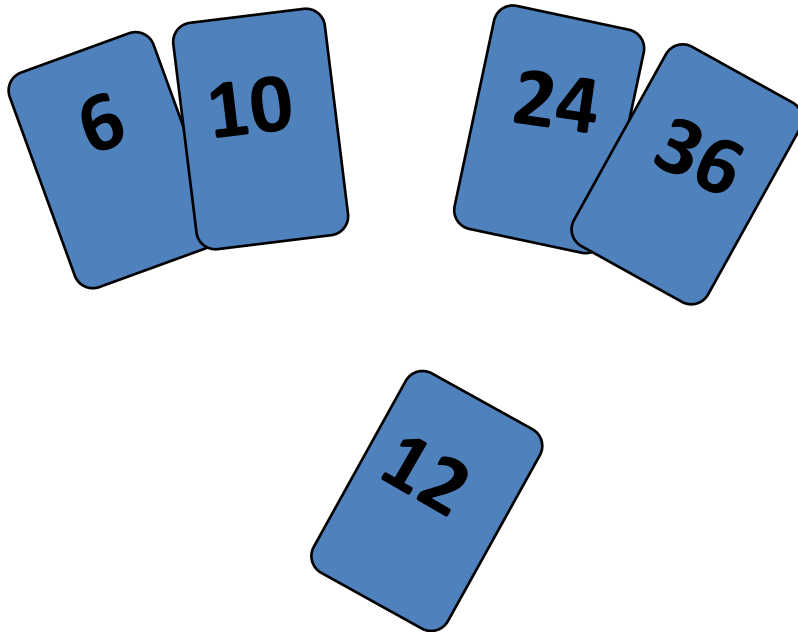
To insert 12, we need to make room for it by moving first 36 and then 24.



# Insertion Sort



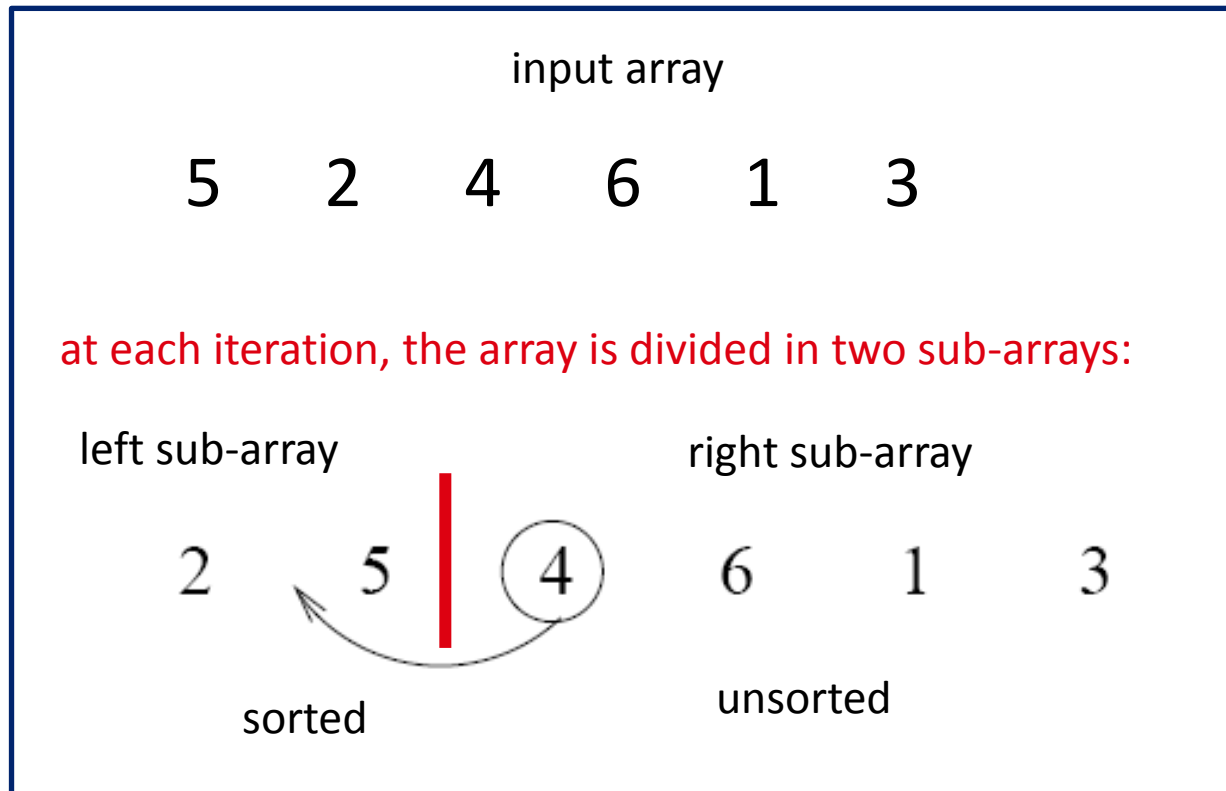
# Insertion Sort



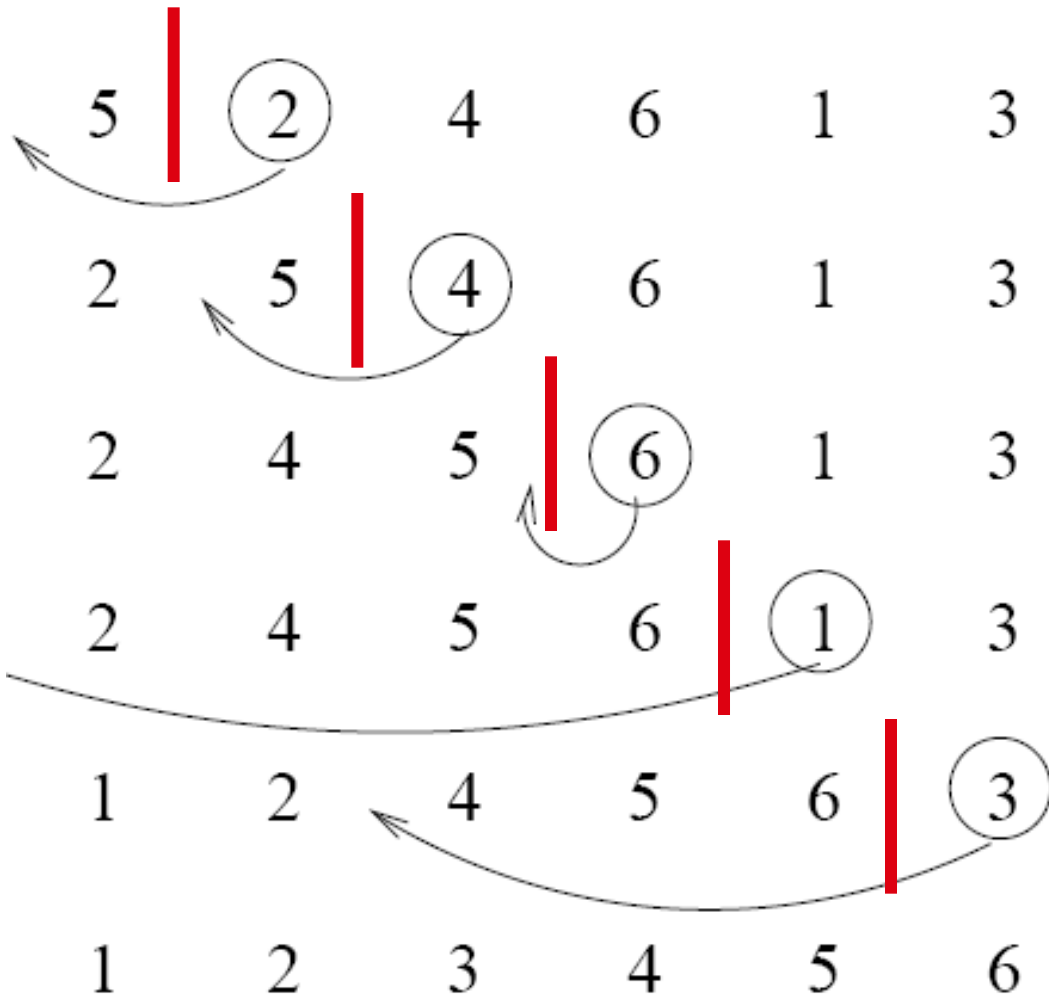


# Insertion Sort

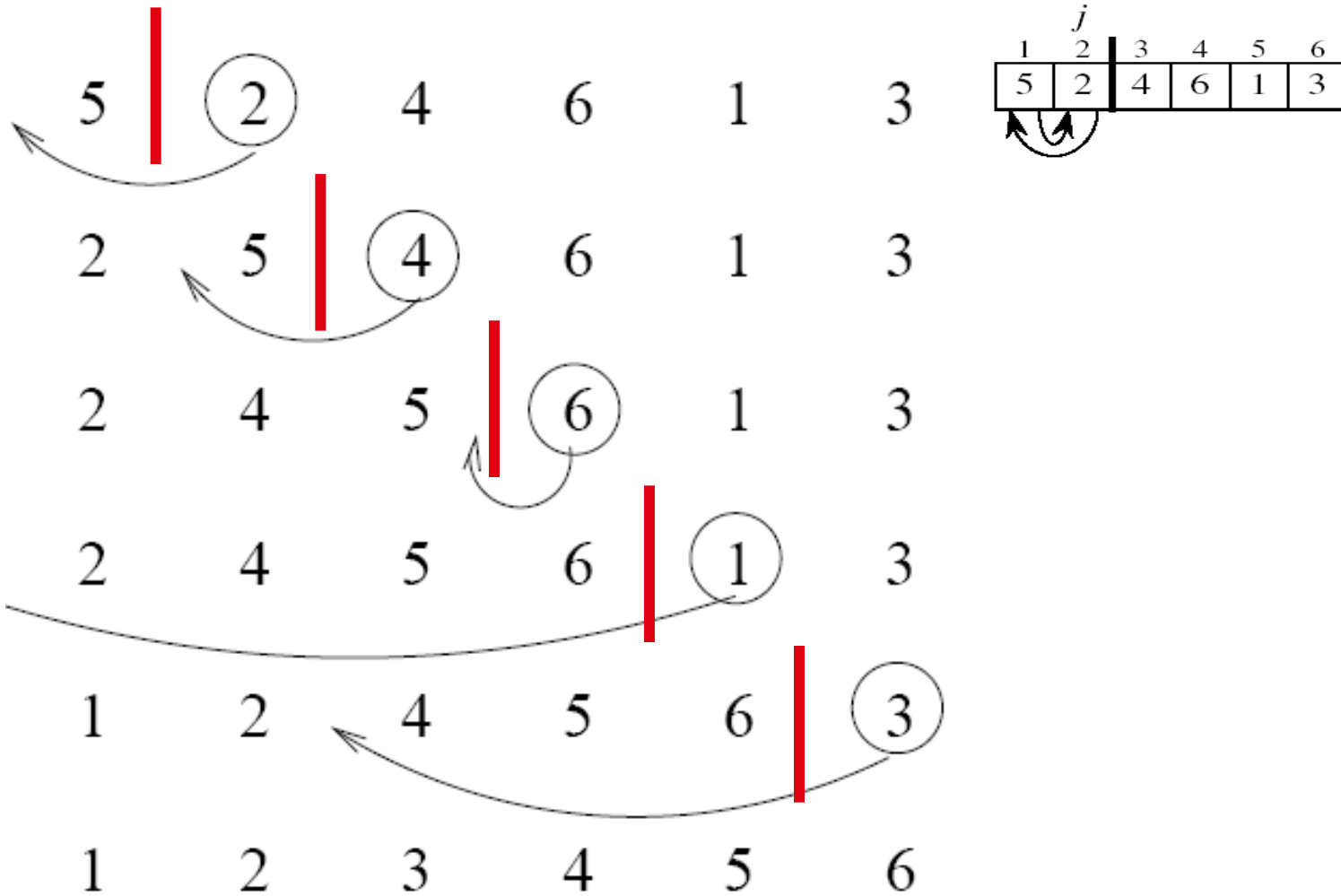
- Brute-force sorting solution.
- Move left-to-right through array.
- Exchange value with larger ones to left, one-by-one.



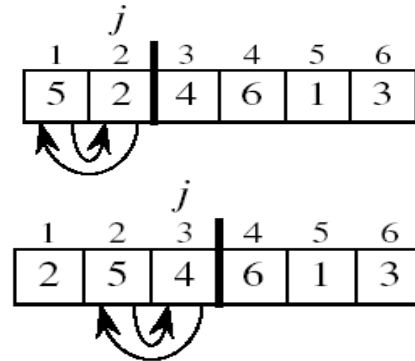
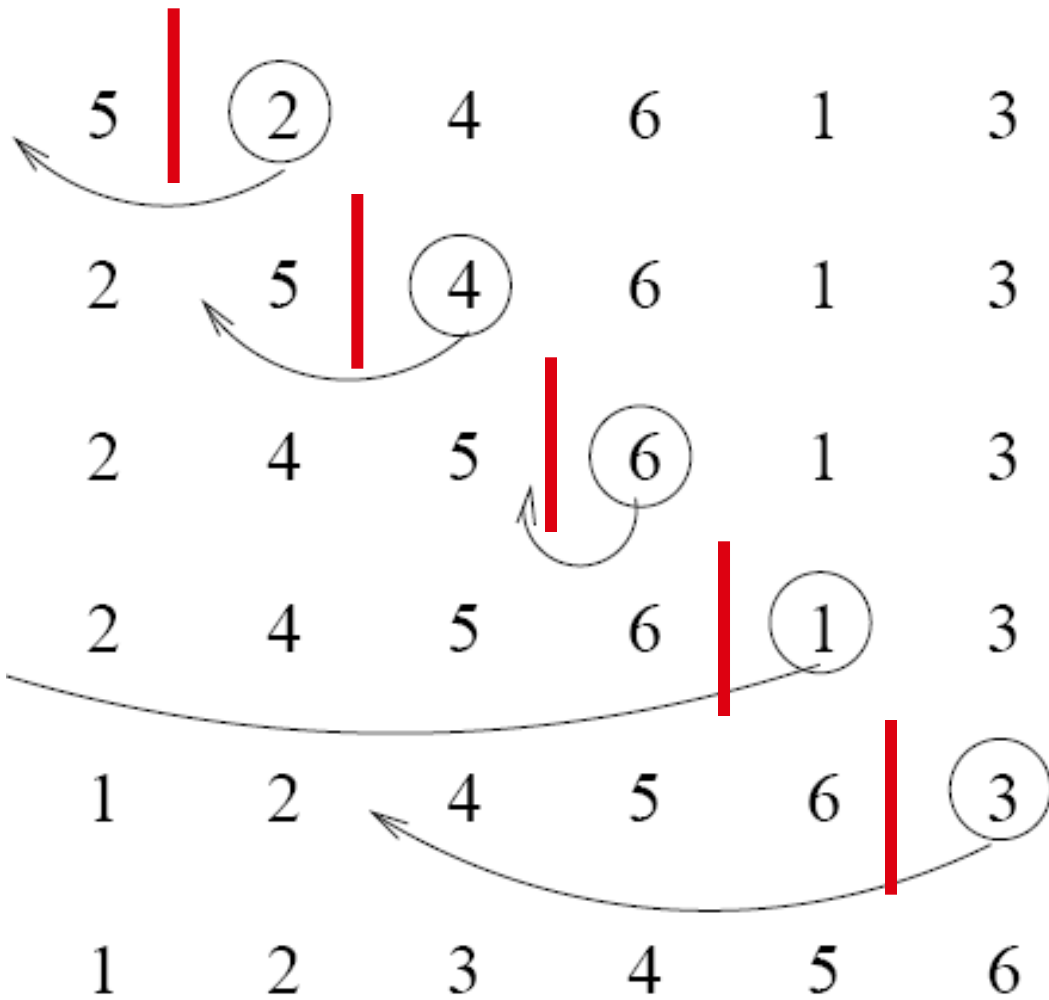
# Insertion Sort



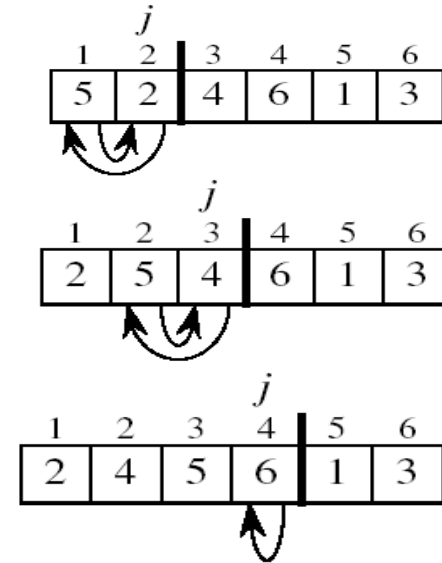
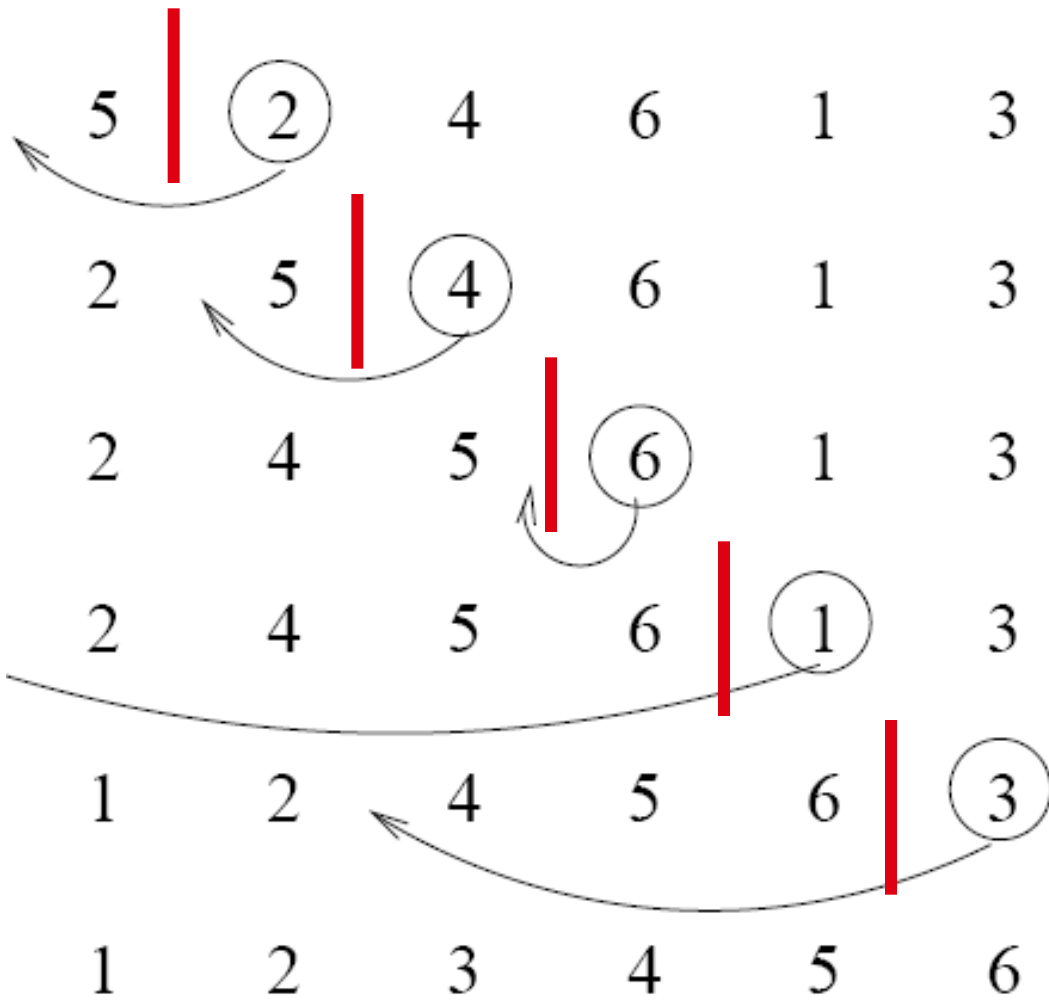
# Insertion Sort



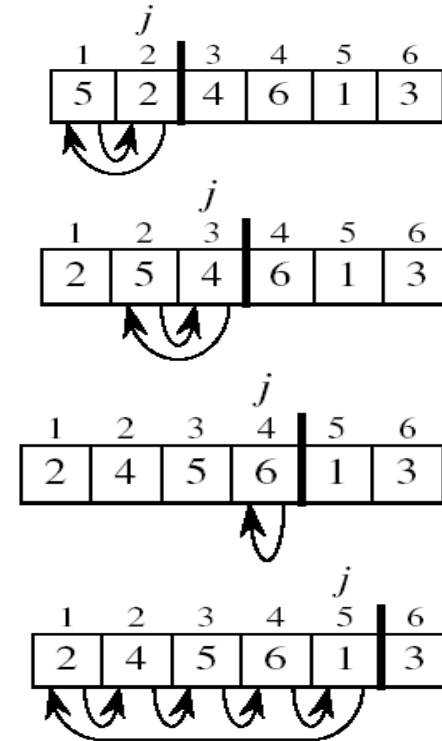
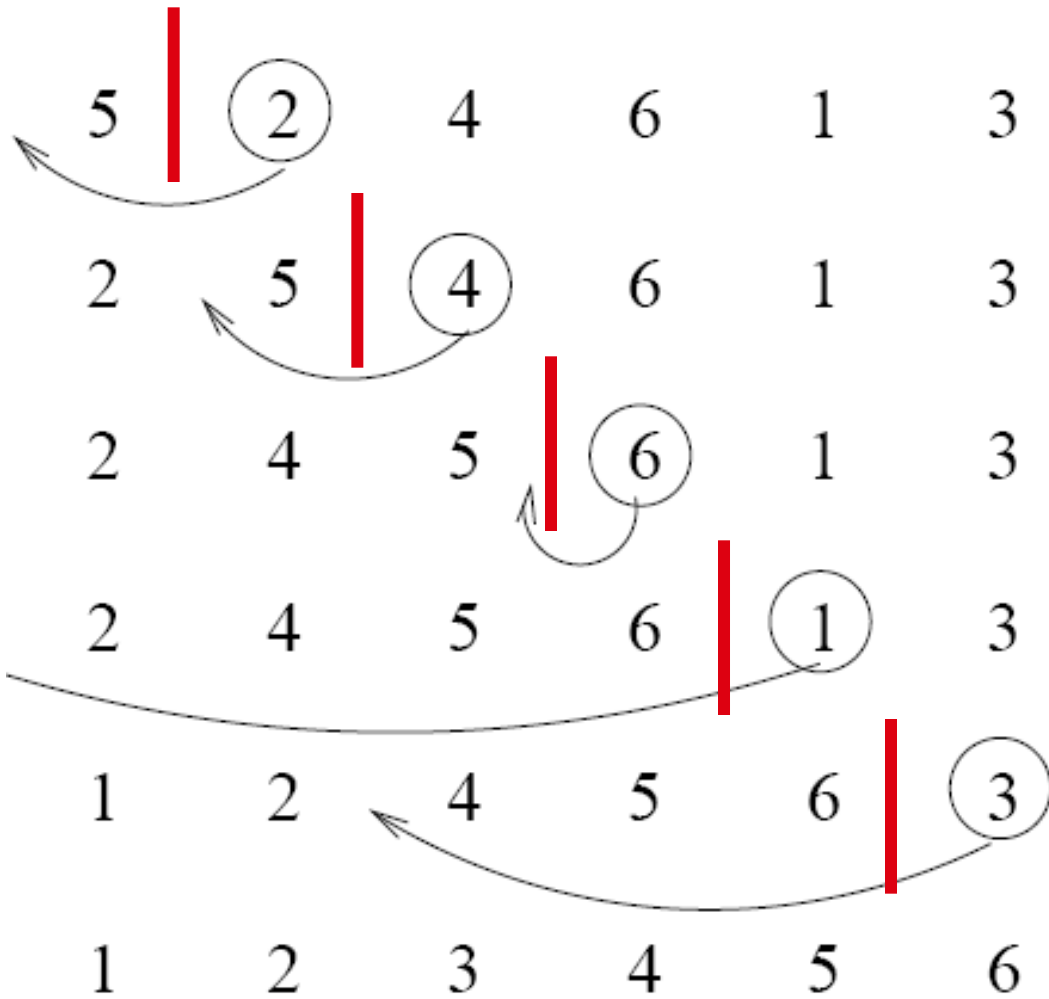
# Insertion Sort



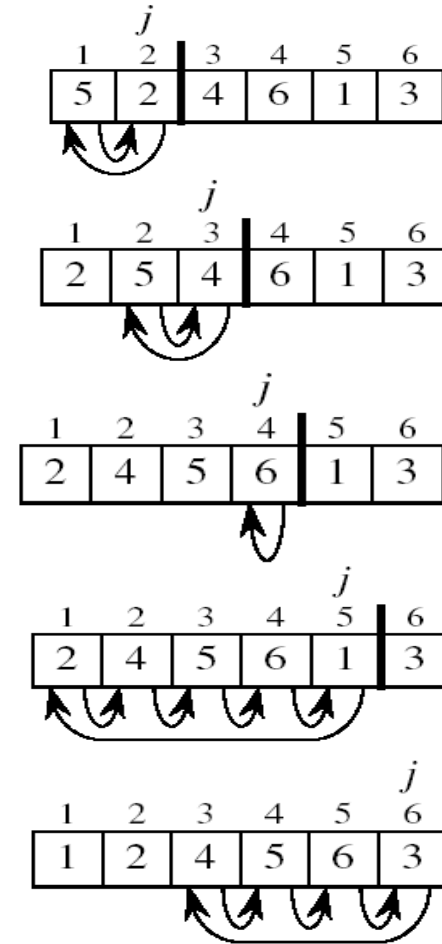
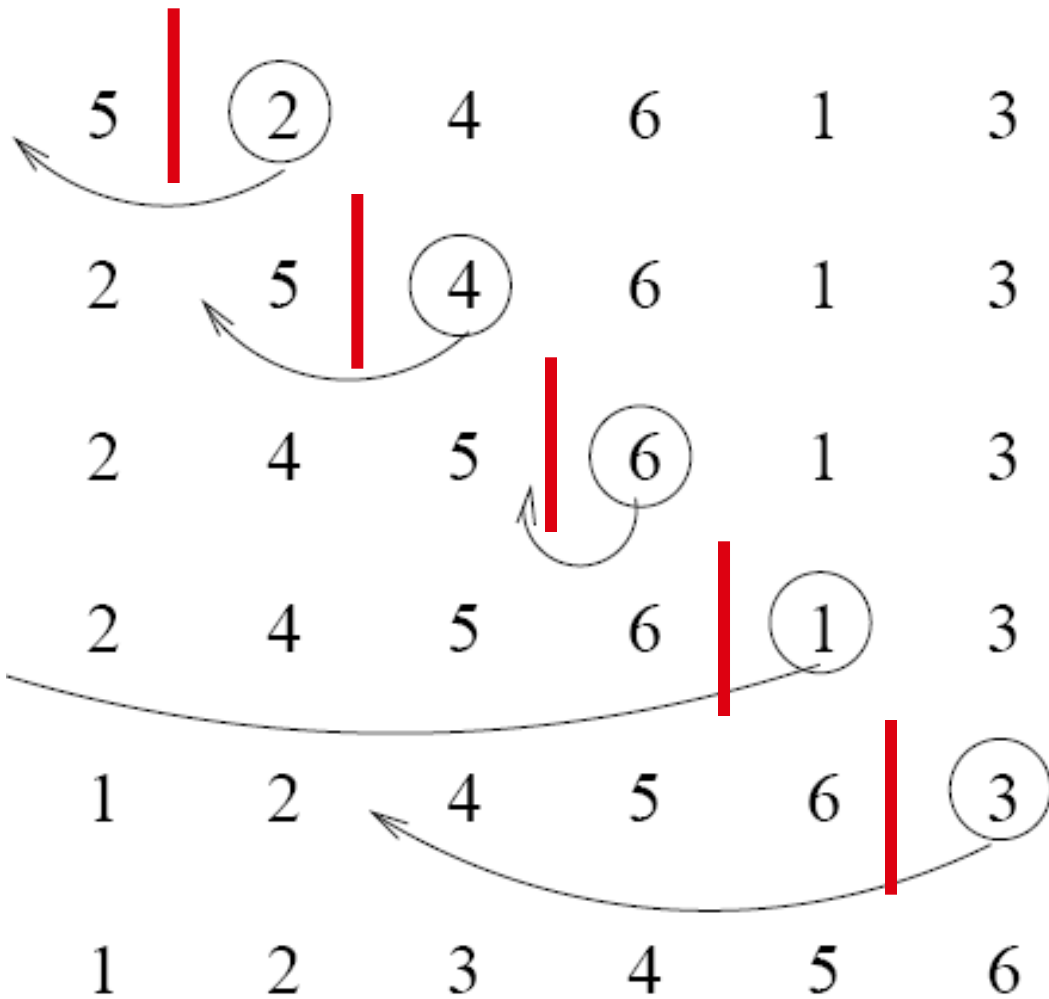
# Insertion Sort



# Insertion Sort



# Insertion Sort

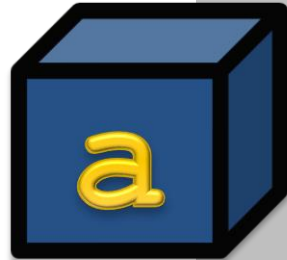


# Insertion Sort

```
public class Insertion {  
  
    public static void sort(int[] a) {  
        int N = a.length;  
        for (int i = 1; i < N; i++)  
            for (int j = i; j > 0; j--)  
                if (a[j-1] > a[j])  
                    exch(a, j-1, j);  
                else break;  
    }  
  
    private static void exch(int[] a, int i, int j) {  
        int swap = a[i];  
        a[i] = a[j];  
        a[j] = swap;  
    }  
}
```



# Insertion Sort: Call By Reference



```
public class Insertion {  
    public static void sort(int[] a) {  
        int N = a.length;  
        for (int i = 1; i < N; i++)  
            for (int j = i; j > 0; j--)  
                if (a[j-1] > a[j])  
                    exch(a, j-1, j);  
                else break;  
    }  
}
```

**b** contains a copy of the **address** in **a**. Both point to the same **contents**.



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



# Insertion Sort: Observation

Observe and tabulate running time for various values of N.

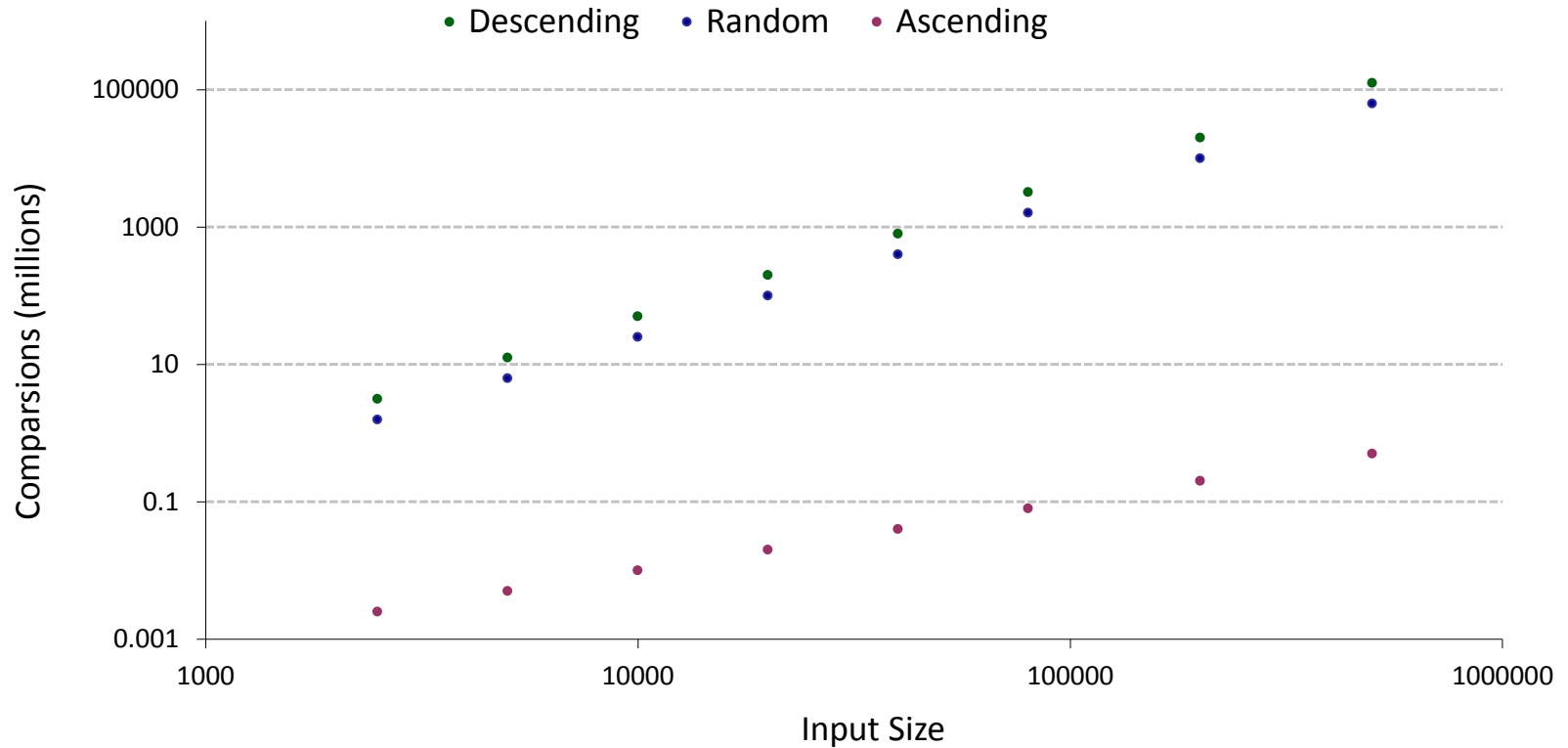
- Data source: N random numbers between 0 and 1.
- Machine: iMac Core i5 2.7GH, 12GB RAM.
- Timing: `System.currentTimeMillis()`.

N	Comparisons	Time
5,000	6.2 million	0.016 seconds
10,000	25 million	0.063 seconds
20,000	99 million	0.211 seconds
40,000	400 million	0.79 seconds
80,000	1600 million	3.125 seconds

# Empirical Analysis

**Observation.** Number of compares depends on input family.

- Descending:  $\sim N^2 / 2$
- Random:  $\sim N^2 / 4$
- Ascending:  $\sim N$



# Mathematical Analysis

## Worst Case. (descending)

- Iteration  $i$  requires  $i$  comparisons.
- Total =  $(0 + 1 + 2 + \dots + N-1) \sim N^2 / 2$  compares.



## Average Case. (random)

- Iteration  $i$  requires  $i / 2$  comparisons on average.
- Total =  $(0 + 1 + 2 + \dots + N-1) / 2 \sim N^2 / 4$  compares



# Mathematical Analysis

## Worst Case. (descending)

- Iteration  $i$  requires  $i$  comparisons.
- Total =  $(0 + 1 + 2 + \dots + N-1) \sim N^2 / 2$  compares.



Say, "Quadratic," " $N^2$ ,"  
"Order  $N^2$ ," or "Oh of  $N^2$ ."

Write, " $O(N^2)$ "

## Average Case. (random)

- Iteration  $i$  requires  $i / 2$  comparisons on average.
- Total =  $(0 + 1 + 2 + \dots + N-1) / 2 \sim N^2 / 4$  compares



$i$

# Sorting Challenge 1

- Q. A credit card company sorts 10 million customer account numbers, for use with binary search.
- Using **insertion sort**, what kind of computer is needed?
  - A. Toaster
  - B. Cell phone
  - C. Your laptop
  - D. Supercomputer
  - E. Google server farm

# Insertion Sort: Lesson

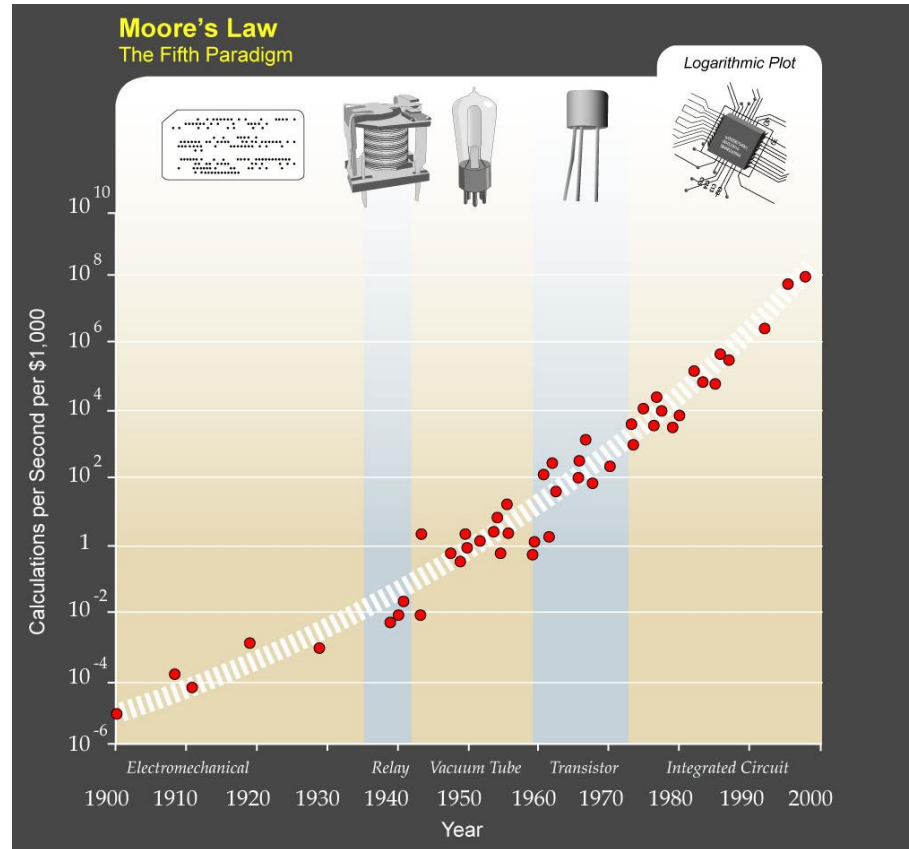
**Lesson.** Supercomputer can't rescue a bad algorithm.

Computer	Comparisons Per Second	Thousand	Million	Billion
laptop	$10^7$	instant	1 day	3 centuries
super	$10^{12}$	instant	1 second	2 weeks

# Moore's Law

**Moore's Law.** Transistor density on a chip doubles every 2 years.

**Variants.** Memory, disk space, bandwidth, computing power/\$.



[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moore's\\_law](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moore's_law)



# Moore's Law and Algorithms

Quadratic algorithms do not scale with technology.

- New computer may be 10x as fast.
- But, has 10x as much memory so problem may be 10x bigger.
- With quadratic algorithm, takes 10x as long!

*“Software inefficiency can always outpace Moore's Law. Moore's Law isn't a match for our bad coding.” – Jaron Lanier*



**Lesson.** Need linear or  $N \log N$  algorithms to keep pace with Moore's law.