1 Insertion sort example

Suppose that we want to sort the following array according to the alphabetical order using Insertion Sort.

C A B

In the first iteration, Insertion Sort starts moving C. Where does C end up after this iteration?

C A B

Position 1
Position 2
Position 3

Correct

Now we start moving A. Where does A end up after we are done with this iteration?

C A B

Position 1
Position 2
Position 3

Correct

In the next iteration, we move B. Where does it end up?

A C B

Position 1
Position 2
Position 3

Correct

The final array looks as follows.

A B C

2 Insertion sort questions

Can you see a pattern? When sorting an array using Insertion Sort, which of the following is correct after having iterated over the first \( i \) items.

- Item \( i \) is in its final position and will never move again.
- The first \( i \) items are in sorted order.
- The first \( i \) items are in their final positions.
- All of the above.

Correct

What is the smallest exponent \( x \) such that Insertion Sort on an array of size \( n \) always takes time \( O(n^x) \)?

Correct

What if we run insertion sort on an already-sorted array. What is the smallest exponent \( x \) such that Insertion Sort on a sorted array takes time \( O(n^x) \)?

Correct

Which of the following describes the worst case runtime of Insertion Sort?

- \( O(n^2) \)
- \( O(n^3) \)
- \( O(n!) \)
- All of the above

Correct

3 Merge sort

The Merge operation takes two arrays \( A \) and \( B \) of size \( n \) which are already sorted and outputs the union of the two in sorted order. What is the smallest bound on the runtime of the Merge algorithm?

- \( O(n \log n) \)
- \( O(n) \)
- \( O(n^2) \)

Correct

In Merge Sort run on array of size \( n \), how many calls (in total across all levels of recursion) are made to the Merge subroutine?

- \( \Theta(n) \)
- \( \Theta(n \log n) \)
- \( \Theta(n^2) \)

Correct

Is Merge Sort faster than Insertion Sort on all input arrays?

- Yes
- No

Correct

Is Merge Sort faster than Insertion Sort on some arrays?

- Yes
- No

Correct

If algorithm \( A \) is faster than algorithm \( B \) on some inputs, does that mean \( A \)'s worst case runtime is better than \( B \)'s worst case runtime?

- Yes
- No

Correct

Is Merge Sort's worst case runtime asymptotically faster than Insertion Sort's worst case runtime?

- Yes
- No

Correct