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## The Sorting Challenge

- Given: A list of numbers
- Goal: Sort those numbers using only
- Iteration (while-loops or for-loops)
- Comparisons (< or >)
- Assignment statements
- Why? For proper analysis.
- Methods/functions come with hidden costs
- Everything above has no hidden costs
- Each comparison or assignment is " 1 step"

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## Binary Search

## def binary_search(v,b)

\# Loop variable(s)
$i=0, j=\operatorname{len}(b)$
while $\mathrm{i}<\mathrm{j}$ and $\mathrm{b}[\mathrm{i}$ ! ! v :
mid $=(\mathrm{i}+\mathrm{j}) / / 2$
if b[mid] < v :
$j=$ mid
elif $\mathrm{b}[\mathrm{mid}]>\mathrm{v}$ :
$i=$ mid
else:
return mid
return-1 \# not found

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## Horizontal Notation

- Want a pictoral way to visualize this sorting
- Represent the list as long rectangle
- We saw this idea in divide-and-conquer

- Do not show individual boxes
- Just dividing lines between regions

- Label dividing lines with indices
$(\mathrm{h}+1)-\mathrm{h}=1$
- But index is either left or right of dividing line

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## Algorithm "Complexity"

- Given: a list of length n and a problem to solve
- Complexity: rough number of steps to solve worst case
- Suppose we can compute 1000 operations a second:

| Complexity | $\mathbf{n}=\mathbf{1 0}$ | $\mathbf{n}=\mathbf{1 0 0}$ | $\mathrm{n}=\mathbf{1 0 0 0}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\log \mathrm{n}$ | 0.003 s | 0.006 s | 0.01 s |
| n | 0.01 s | 0.1 s | 1 s |
| $\mathrm{n} \log \mathrm{n}$ | 0.016 s | 0.32 s | 4.79 s |
| $\mathrm{n}^{2}$ | 0.1 s | 10 s | 16.7 m |
| $\mathrm{n}^{3}$ | 1 s | 16.7 m | 11.6 d |
| $2^{\mathrm{n}}$ | 1 s | $4 \times 10^{19} \mathrm{y}$ | $3 \times 10^{290} \mathrm{y}$ |

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| Insertion Sort: Performance |
| :---: |
|  |
| Total Swaps: $0+1+2+3+\ldots(\mathrm{n}-1)=(\mathrm{n}-1) * \mathrm{n} / 2=\left(\mathrm{n}^{2}-\mathrm{n}\right) / 2$ |

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## What is the Problem?

- Both insertion, selection sort are nested loops
- Outer loop over each element to sort
- Inner loop to put next element in place
- Each loop is $n$ steps. $n \times n=n^{2}$
- To do better we must eliminate a loop
- But how do we do that?
- What is like a loop? Recursion!
- Will see how to do this next lecture

