



# UNIT 4B

## Iteration: Sorting

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# Sorting

Name	Artist	Time
Dig Your Grave	Modest Mouse	0:12
Ostriches & Chirping	Elliott Smith	0:33
Interlude (Wilo)	Modest Mouse	0:58
We've Got a File On...	Blur	1:02
Fewer Words	Badly Drawn ...	1:13
Life's Incredible Ag...	Michael Giacc...	1:24
30 Century Man	Scott Walker	1:26
Lava In the Afterno...	Michael Giacc...	1:29
The Chase	Stephen Trask	1:31
The Way I Feel Inside	The Zombies	1:34
Mr. Huph Will See ...	Michael Giacc...	1:35
Don't Ask Me I'm O...	Badly Drawn ...	1:36
Let Me Tell You Ab...	Mark Mothers...	1:38

Search results for amd

Sort by: Relevance

View count

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## Insertion Sort

Given an array  $a$  of length  $n$ ,  $n > 0$ .

1. Set  $i = 1$ .
2. While  $i$  is not equal to  $n$ , do the following:
  - a. Insert  $a[i]$  into its correct position in  $a[0..i]$ .
  - b. Add 1 to  $i$ .
3. Return the array  $a$  which will now be sorted.

## Example

$a = [53, 26, 76, 30, 14, 91, 68, 42]$

$i = 1$

Insert  $a[1]$  into its correct position in  $a[0..1]$   
and then add 1 to  $i$ :

53 moves to the right,

26 is inserted back into the array

$a = [26, 53, 76, 30, 14, 91, 68, 42]$

$i = 2$

## Example

**a = [26, 53, 76, 30, 14, 91, 68, 42]**

**i = 2**

Insert a[2] into its correct position in a[0..2]  
and then add 1 to i:

76 is already in the correct place in a[0..2]

**a = [26, 53, 76, 30, 14, 91, 68, 42]**

**i = 3**

## Example

**a = [26, 53, 76, 30, 14, 91, 68, 42]**

**i = 3**

Insert a[3] into its correct position in a[0..3]  
and then add 1 to i:

76 moves to the right, then 53 moves to the right,  
now 30 is inserted back into the array

**a = [26, 30, 53, 76, 14, 91, 68, 42]**

**i = 4**

## Look Closer at Insertion Sort

Given an array  $a$  of length  $n$ ,  $n > 0$ .

1. Set  $i = 1$ .
2. While  $i$  is not equal to  $n$ , do the following:  
**Precondition for each iteration:  $a[0..i-1]$  is sorted**
  - a. Insert  $a[i]$  into its correct position in  $a[0..i]$ .
  - b. Add 1 to  $i$ .**Postcondition for each iteration:  $a[0..i-1]$  is sorted**
3. Return the array  $a$  which will now be sorted.

## Look Closer at Insertion Sort

Given an array  $a$  of length  $n$ ,  $n > 0$ .

1. Set  $i = 1$ .
  2. While  $i$  is not equal to  $n$ , do the following:  
**Loop invariant:  $a[0..i-1]$  is sorted**
    - a. Insert  $a[i]$  into its correct position in  $a[0..i]$ .
    - b. Add 1 to  $i$ .
  3. Return the array  $a$  which will now be sorted.
- A loop invariant is a condition that is true at the start and end of each iteration of a loop.**

## Example (cont'd)

**a = [26, 30, 53, 76, 14, 91, 68, 42]**

**i = 4**

Insert a[4] into its correct position in a[0..4]  
and then add 1 to i:

76 moves to the right, then 53 moves to the right,  
then 30 moves to the right, then 26 moves to the right,  
now 14 is inserted back into the array

**a = [14, 26, 30, 53, 76, 91, 68, 42]**

**i = 5**

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## Example

**a = [14, 26, 30, 53, 76, 91, 68, 42]**

**i = 5**

Insert a[5] into its correct position in a[0..5]  
and then add 1 to i:

91 is already in its correct position

**a = [14, 26, 30, 53, 76, 91, 68, 42]**

**i = 6**

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## Example

**a = [14, 26, 30, 53, 76, 91, 68, 42]**

**i = 6**

Insert a[6] into its correct position in a[0..6]

and then add 1 to i:

91 moves to the right,

76 moves to the right,

now 68 is inserted back into the array

**a = [14, 26, 30, 53, 68, 76, 91, 42]**

**i = 7**

## Example

**a = [14, 26, 30, 53, 68, 76, 91, 42]**

**i = 7**

Insert a[7] into its correct position in a[0..7]

and then add 1 to i:

91 moves to the right, then 76 moves to the right,

then 68 moves to the right, then 53 moves to the right,

then 42 is inserted back into the array

**a = [14, 26, 30, 42, 53, 68, 76, 91]**

**i = 8**

## Example

$a = [14, 26, 30, 42, 53, 68, 76, 91]$

$i = 8$

The array is sorted.

But how do we know that the algorithm always sorts correctly?

## Reasoning with the Loop Invariant

The loop invariant is true at the end of each iteration, including the last iteration. After the last iteration, when we go to step 3:

$a[0..i-1]$  is sorted AND  $i$  is equal to  $n$

These 2 conditions imply that  $a[0..n-1]$  is sorted, but this range covers the entire array, so the array must always be sorted when we return our final answer!

## Insertion Sort in Ruby

```
def isort(list)
  a = list.clone
  i = 1
  while i != a.length do
    move_left(a, i) ← insert a[i] into a[0..i]
    i = i + 1          in its correct sorted
  end                position
  return a
end
```

## Moving left

To move the element  $x$  at index  $i$  “left” to its correct position, start at position  $i-1$ , and search left until we find the first element that is less than  $x$ .

Then insert  $x$  back into the array to the right of the first element that is less than  $x$  when you searched from right to left in the sorted part of the array.

(The insert operation does not overwrite. Think of it as “squeezing into the array”.)

*Can you think of a special case for the step above?*



## Moving left: examples

**Insert 68:**

**a** = [14, 26, 30, 53, 76, 91, 68, 42]

Searching from right to left starting with 91, the first element less than 68 is 53.

Insert 68 to the right of 53.

**Insert 76:**

**a** = [26, 53, 76, 30, 14, 91, 68, 42]

Searching from right to left starting with 53, the first element less than 76 is 53.

Insert 76 to the right of 53 (where it was before).

**Insert 14: SPECIAL CASE**

**a** = [26, 30, 53, 76, 14, 91, 68, 42]

Searching from right to left starting with 76, all elements left of 14 are greater than 14. Insert 14 into the position 0.

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## The `move_left` algorithm

Given an array **a** of length **n**,  $n > 0$  and a value at index **i** to be “moved left” in the array.

1. Remove **a**[**i**] from the array and store in **x**.
2. Set **j** = **i**-1.
3. While **j**  $\geq$  0 and **a**[**j**]  $>$  **x**, do the following:
  - a. Subtract 1 from **j**.
4. Reinsert **x** into position **a**[**j**+1].

*How is the special case handled here?*

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## move\_left in Ruby

```
def move_left(a, i)
  x = a.slice!(i) ← remove the item at
                    position i in array a
                    and store it in x
  j = i-1
  while j >= 0 and a[j] > x do
    j = j - 1 ← logical operator AND:
                both conditions must be true
                for the loop to continue
  end
  a.insert(j+1, x) ← insert x at position
                    j+1 of array a, shifting
                    all elements from j+1
                    and beyond over one
                    position
end
```