

Problem 4: Merge vs. Selection Sort

* Merge Sort:

```
if (array.size() == 1) return;  
int mid = array.size() / 2;  
vector<int> left (mid);  
vector<int> right (array.size() - mid);  
for (int i = 0; i < mid; i++) left[i] = array[i];  
for (int i = mid; i < array.size(); i++)  
    right[i - mid] = array[i];  
mrgSort (left);  
mrgSort (right);  
merge (array, left, right);
```

we continually halve our subarrays until we hit our base condition. This process of halving our subarrays will take at most $\log(N)$ operations, where $N = \text{size of array}$.

Thereafter, we merge our halves back together. This process takes N operations because we iterate over our entire array as we fill it. Thus, the merging operations are $O(N)$ operations and the halving operations are $O(\log N)$ operations.

Therefore, we can conclude that the merge sort is $O(N \log N)$. Everytime we halve our arrays, we have to merge them back together.

* Selection Sort:

```

for (int i = 0; i < arr.length; i++) {
    int minIndex = i;
    for (int j = i + 1; j < arr.length; j++) {
        if (arr[j] < arr[minIndex])
            minIndex = j;
    }
    swap(arr[i], arr[minIndex]);
}

```

Let:

O_i = operations in the outer loop.

O_j = operations in the inner loop.

P_{min} = operations to find the min. value.

O_s = swap operations.

Note: There is a probability P attached to O_{min} because these operations take place when a condition is satisfied.

Then:

$$P \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} O_i + O_s + \sum_{j=i+1}^{N-1} O_j + P_{min}$$

$$* \sum_{i=0}^N 1 = (N - 0 + 1) * 1 = N + 1.$$

$$- \text{Let } O_j + P_{min} = O_{jmin}.$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{j=i+1}^{N-1} O_j + P_{min} = (N - 1 - (i + 1) + 1) * O_{jmin} \\ = (N - i - 1) * O_{jmin}.$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} O_i + O_s + N O_{jmin} = i * O_{jmin} + P_{min}$$

$$* \sum_{i=0}^N i = N * (N + 1) / 2.$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{i=0}^{p-1} O_i + O_s + NO_{jmin} - i * O_{jmin} - O_{jmin}.$$

$$= p(O_i + O_s + NO_{jmin} - \frac{(p-1)p}{2} O_{jmin} - O_{jmin})$$

$$= pO_i + pO_s + pNO_{jmin} - \frac{(p^2 - p)}{2} O_{jmin} - pO_{jmin}.$$

$$\text{Let } f(N) = C'N + C.$$

$$= (pO_{jmin})N + (pO_i + pO_s - \frac{(p-1)p}{2} O_{jmin} - pO_{jmin})$$

Thus, we can conclude that our selection sort is $O(N)$ for $p \ll N$.

Conclusion: Our selection sort outperforms the merge sort for $p \ll N$.

As $p \rightarrow N$, the selection sort behaves more and more like an $O(N^2)$ sort.

In this case, the merge sort outperforms our selection sort. As long as p is taken to be $p \ll N$, our selection sort behaves like an $O(N)$ sort; thus, beating out the merge sort which is $O(N \log N)$.