Student Number: 109550096 Name: Du Feng

Program assignment3 report

1. Simple depict about merge sort:

   At first, we have an original array with several numbers. Then we divide the original array into two new arrays (I called these two array as left and right in my code.). Continue this step of “dividing” with recursion until it reaches the end which means the size of the last new array is 1. After this, we start the merge with comparing number in each array until its size go back to the size of the original array.

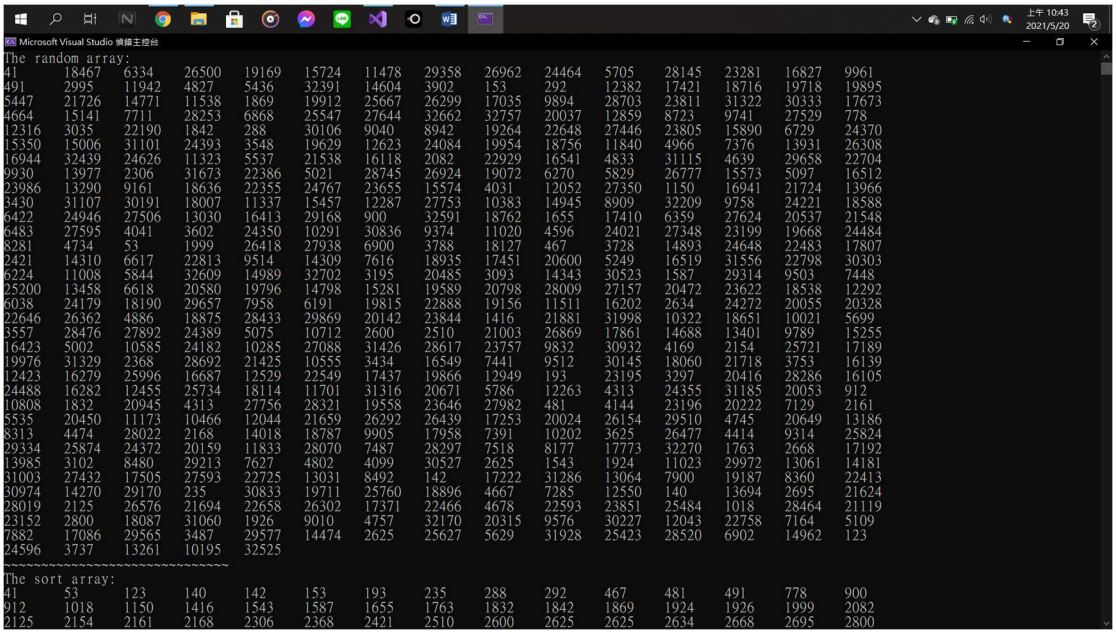
2. Explain its complexity and the reason:

   At first step, we use the loop “for” to divide the original array into two arrays (the first one goes to left array, the second one goes to right array, the third one goes to left array, the forth one goes to right array……). For n numbers, the complexity is ‘n’. And if we want to divide this array 1/2 by 1/2 until the number of its size reaches 1. Its complexity is log(n). So, in the “divide” step its complexity is equal nlog(n).

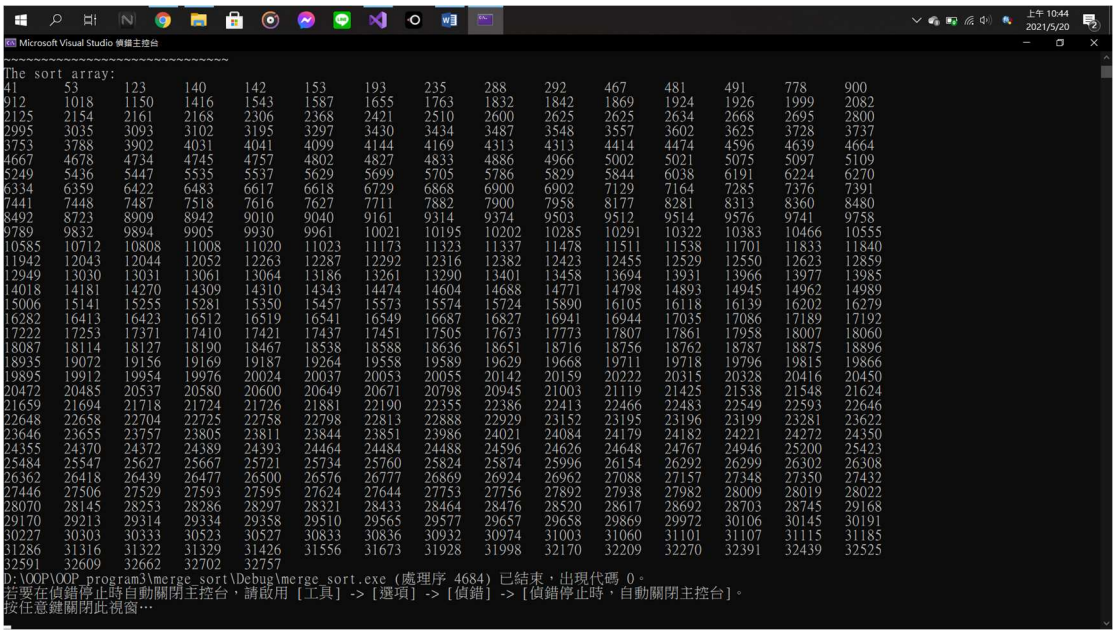
   In the next step, we also use the loop “for” to compare the numbers in each array, and the complexity is n. Because there are n numbers, and we are merge it two by two. So its complexity is log(n). In this step, the complexity is nlog(n).

   In total, the complexity is nlog(n)+nlog(n)=2nlog(n). In the big O, the complexity will equal nlog(n).

3. Result-before: 500 random numbers for each line is 15 numbers



Result-after: 500 random numbers after merge sorted for each line is 15 numbers:



4. How to code in practical?

   For the main function, I set an array for 500 numbers in the beginning. And use a “while” loop to push 500 random numbers into the array.

   Then, call the function ***print_the_arr()*** to print the array.

   Next, call the function ***merge_arr()*** to do the main task.

   In this function, we will judge that if the size of the input array is 1. If it is true, return and end the function. Otherwise, create two arrays named ‘left’ and ‘right’. Then using a “for” loop to divide the original array into these two arrays. And continue to call ***merge_arr()*** with using the property of recursion.

   After finishing the step of “divide”, which means the original array has been divided into n arrays with one integer in it, call the function ***merge()***.

   In this function, we will have 3 arrays, one is the original array, another is the left array, the other is right array. The original array is the array which is divided into the left array and the right array. Then compare the numbers in the left array and the right array, respectively. For which number is smaller than another, push this number back to the original array. Continuing this step until we compare all the “left” and “right” arrays, and pushing all the integer back to the original array.

   In the end, call the function ***print_the_arr()*** to print the sorted array in the main function.