

Merge Sort Algorithm

Merge Sort is a divide-and-conquer algorithm that divides the array into halves, sorts them, and then merges the sorted halves.

Steps:

1. **Divide:** Divide the array into two halves.
2. **Conquer:** Recursively sort the two halves.
3. **Combine:** Merge the two sorted halves to produce the sorted array.

Implementation:

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main()
{
    int arr[] = {12, 11, 13, 5, 6, 7};
    int n = sizeof(arr) / sizeof(arr[0]);
    int i, j, k;
    int l, r, m;
    int temp[100];

    // Merge sort implementation
    for (int curr_size = 1; curr_size <= n - 1; curr_size = 2 * curr_size)
    {
        for (int left_start = 0; left_start < n - 1; left_start += 2 * curr_size)
        {
            l = left_start;
            m = left_start + curr_size - 1;
            r = ((left_start + 2 * curr_size - 1) < (n - 1)) ? (left_start + 2 *
curr_size - 1) : (n - 1);

            // Merge the subarrays
            i = l;
            j = m + 1;
            k = l;
            while (i <= m && j <= r) {
                if (arr[i] <= arr[j]) {
                    temp[k] = arr[i];
                    i++;
                } else {
                    temp[k] = arr[j];
                    j++;
                }
                k++;
            }

            // Copy the remaining elements of left subarray, if any
            while (i <= m) {
                temp[k] = arr[i];
                i++;
                k++;
            }

            // Copy the remaining elements of right subarray, if any
            while (j <= r) {
                temp[k] = arr[j];
                j++;
                k++;
            }
        }
    }
}
```

```

    }

    // Copy the sorted subarray into Original array
    for (i = l; i <= r; i++) {
        arr[i] = temp[i];
    }
}

// Print the sorted array
printf("Sorted array: \n");
for (i = 0; i < n; i++) {
    printf("%d ", arr[i]);
}
printf("\n");

return 0;
}

```

Time Complexity:

- **Best Case:** $O(n \log n)$
- **Average Case:** $O(n \log n)$
- **Worst Case:** $O(n \log n)$

Space Complexity:

- **$O(n)$:** Requires additional space for temporary arrays used during merging.

Merge Sort is highly efficient for large datasets due to its consistent $O(n \log n)$ time complexity. However, it does require additional memory for the temporary arrays.