

Exercise 1:

(iii) From the pseudo-code provided in the class, we can get that:

1. For *selection_sort*, if the length of the list is n , then we need to go through the loop for n times. Thus, we need:

- a. n steps for checking if the list is empty
- b. On average, searching through the list to find the smallest value needs

$$\frac{1}{2} \left(n + \frac{n(n+1)}{2} \right) = \frac{(n+3)n}{4} \text{ steps}$$

- c. n steps to add the smallest value into the new list
- d. n steps to delete the smallest value in the old list

Also, we need 1 step to go out the loop. So in total, we need $\frac{(n+3)n}{4} + 1 + 3n$ steps.

2. For *Mergesort*, if the length of list is n , then:

- a. For the division part, we need $n - 1$ steps to separate the list into single element
- b. For merge part, since the depth of the division in the first part is $\log n$, we need to deal with the whole list for $\log n$ times. In each time, we need to compare between different sublists for n times and add the smaller value into a new list for n times. So in total, we need $2n * \log n$ in this part.

So for *Mergesort*, the total number of steps is $2n * \log n + n - 1$.

To find the proper t , we let the steps of two sorting algorithms be equal.

$$\text{i.e. } 2n * \log n + n - 1 = \frac{(n+3)n}{4} + 1 + 3n$$

Finally, we get that $n = 26.54$, so $t = 26$.

For the experimental value, see the output of the program.