

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  $t = 26$ .