

Problem 1B

1.

This is a stable sort because the splits and the merges in the merge sort preserve the order of equal elements.

2.

The the algorithm that I ran was merge sort, which has a best case time complexity of $O(N\log N)$. The algorithm first splits the array in two smaller arrays, and recursively splits those arrays, until there is only one element, and this takes $O(\log N)$ time :

if $\text{len}(\text{array}) > 1$:

```
mid = len(array)//2    //This splits the array in half
left = array[:mid]     // this makes the left array
right = array[mid:]    // this makes the right array
```

```
mergeSort(left)        //this recursively runs mergeSort on the left array
mergeSort(right)       //this recursively runs mergeSort on the right array
```

After the array cannot be split more, the elements are merged, this process takes $O(N)$ time, because each element has to be put back into the array at its appropriate index.

```
i = 0
j = 0
k = 0
```

```
while i < len(left) and j < len(right):
```

```
    if left[i] < right[j]:
```

```
        array[k] = left[i]    //this adds to the final array
        i+=1
```

```
    else:
```

```
        array[k] = right[j]   //this adds to the final array
        j+=1
```

```
    k+=1
```

```
while i < len(left):
```

```
    array[k] = left[i]        //this adds to the final array
    i+=1
    k+=1
```

```
while j < len(right):
```

```
    array[k] = right[j]       //this adds to the final array
    j+=1
    k+=1
```

So together, the best case time complexity is $O(N\log N)$

2. The worst case time complexity is also $O(N \log N)$ because regardless of the order of the array, the mergeSort will split the arrays into other smaller arrays until there is only one elements in $O(\log N)$ time, and will still take $O(N)$ time to reconstruct the new array. So in total, the worst case time complexity is $O(N \log N)$.

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while i < len(left):
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    k+=1
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```
while j < len(right):
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    array[k] = right[j]       //this adds to the final array
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```