

### Minimizing Wait Time

#### Pseudo Code:

It's possible to use a simple application of merge sort.

```
mergeSort(arr[0...n - 1])  
// basically mergesort with tweaks  
// returns an array of sorted jobs, aka the ordering that minimizes wait time
```

```
if n = 1 do  
    return arr  
left ← arr[0...n/2 - 1]  
right ← arr[n/2...n - 1]  
result ← merge(left, right)  
return result
```

```
merge(left[0...p], right[0...q])  
// returns an array of sorted jobs with an input of two arrays
```

```
i ← 0, j ← 0, k ← 0  
while i < p and j < q do  
    if left[i] ≤ right[j] do  
        arr[k] ← left[i]  
        i ← i + 1  
    else do  
        arr[k] ← right[j]  
        j ← j + 1  
    k ← k + 1  
if i = p do  
    copy right[j...q] into arr  
else do  
    copy left[i...p] into arr  
return arr
```

#### Performance Evaluation:

The equation of this algorithm is  $T(n) = 2T(n/2) + n$ , which follows the format of the Master Theorem  $T(n) = aT(n/b) + f(n)$  where  $f(n) = n^d$ .

In this case,  $a = 2$ ,  $b = 2$ , and  $d = 1$ .

Plugging the values into the equation  $\log_b a$  we get 1, which is equal to  $d$ .

This indicates a performance of  $O(n * \log n)$ .

Proof our algorithm is correct:

This will be a **proof by contradiction**.

- 1) Assume  $T$  to be the ordering of  $n$  jobs that minimizes the total wait time, where the order takes the form of an array  $T[0..j..k..n]$ .
- 2) Assume there are two jobs  $j \in T$  and  $k \in T$ , that can be exchanged, to reduce the total wait time.  
This implies that the wait time of  $k <$  the wait time of  $j$ .
- 3) Exchange  $j$  and  $k$ , so that the new ordering of jobs  $T'$  takes the form of an array  $T'[0..k..j..n]$ .  
The claim made is that the total wait time of  $T' <$  the total wait time of  $T$ .  
This is illustrated with the hypothetical example of a  $T$  that only has jobs  $j$  and  $k$ ,  $T[j, k]$ .  
The total wait time of  $T$  is  $j + (j + k) = 2j + k$   
Now, exchanging  $j$  and  $k$  on the basis of our above assumptions, we have  $T'[k, j]$ .  
The total wait time of  $T'$  is  $k + (k + j) = 2k + j$   
Because  $k < j$ ,  $T' < T$  follows.
- 4) BUT, this contradicts the initial assumption that we started out with an ordering of  $n$  jobs that minimizes the total wait time,  $T$ .