

2.4. lower bound for sorting average

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \frac{1}{i} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{i} (i-1) \right) \\ = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \frac{(1(i-1))}{i} + \frac{2}{2} - \frac{1}{1} = \frac{i+1}{2} - \frac{1}{i}$$

For  $n$  leaves:

$$\sum_{i=2}^n \left( \frac{i+1}{2} - \frac{1}{i} \right) = \frac{n(n+1)}{4} - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{2n}{4} - \frac{1}{2} - \sum_{i=2}^n \frac{1}{i} \\ = \frac{n^2}{4} + \frac{3n}{4} - 1 - \sum_{i=2}^n \frac{1}{i} \in \boxed{\Theta(n^2)}$$

The average order is still  $\Theta(n^2)$  for the lower bound. Even with a 75% chance of being sorted there will still be times when the list is unsorted.