My program in stringsorter uses a very basic sorting algorithm with the help of a size 52 linked list array. This array is similar to a hashtable's principle, in which every string has uses its first character in a linear hash key. Starting from capital A - Z, and then a - z, my program uses a total space of O(52 + n) which is just O(n) and a time complexity of a linear hash sort which is also just O(n).

Here is a simple algorithm of pseudo-code to follow for sorting. Please refer to my actual program's comments for the whole outlier.

EX: ./a.out "abc1a"

To delimit a string first:

- 1. Read until string hits first character;
- 2. a is first character, keep reading;
- 3. c is last character;
- 4. Cut string "abc" store in node and use insert method;
- 5. Read next available character start:
- 6. a is first character, keep reading;
- 7. a is only character, cut string "a" and store in node and use insert method;

Our resulting method will use these following steps.

- 1. String abc has a first letter a;
- 2. a is 27 with our modified ascii value table, so it goes into hashtable[26];
- 3. Hashtable[26] is currently NULL, therefore our string, (which is currently stored in a node), is now the head of hashtable[26];
- 4. Insert complete, we move onto the next real word.
- 5. String a has a first letter a;
- 6. Repeat step two.
- 7. Hashtable[26] is now not null anymore, we use strcmp, and loop until it finds the first word that when compared gives a positive value;
- 8. However, loop does not even commence, because a > abc, therefore it goes to sort method of linking nodes in the linked list.
- In this case, because loop did not commence, our new string (inside node) is the new head, so string(node) -> next = hashtable[26]; and then our new hashtable[26] = string(node);

Finally, just print everything from hashtable[0] - hashtable[52].