1) (5 pts) ANL (Algorithm Analysis)

What is the best and worst case runtime for the following algorithm, in terms of the input parameter n? Give a brief explanation for your answers.

Best Case

The for loop runs and sets j = n - 1, which means that nLen gets set to 0. In this case, the subsequent recursive call will immediately return 0 and the original recursive call will return the value of the last array element. The run time in this case is O(n), since the entirety of the execution includes one for loop that runs n times and a few other simple statements. From a conceptual standpoint, the for loop identifies the index in between 0 and n-1 that stores the largest value within that range.

Worst Case

The worst case is when the array is sorted in reverse order. Every call eliminates only 1 value at the cost of n operations. The total runtime becomes $O(n^2)$.

Grading: 2 pts for each answer, 1 pt for all of the explanation.