

# Merge Sort

classmate

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Example of Divide and Conquer, and its worst case complexity is  $O(n \log n)$ . The key idea of sorting the elements using Merge sort is:

- Given a sequence of  $n$  elements/keys in  $a[1], a[2], \dots, a[n]$ .
- General idea is to split elements in two parts,  $a[1], \dots, a[n/2]$  and  $a[n/2+1], \dots, a[n]$ .
- Each part is individually sorted, and
- The resulting sorted sequences are merge to produce a single sorted sequence of  $n$  elements.

Therefore, Merge Sort describes the above process using recursion and function merge, which merges two sorted sets.

Example An array of 10 elements  $a[1:10]$   
 $= (310, 285, 179, 652, 351, 423, 861, 254, 450, 520)$

Merge sort begins by split elements into two equal parts  $a[1:5]$  &  $a[6:10]$ . Further

$a[1:5] \quad 310, 285, 179, 652, 351 \mid 423, 861, 254, 450, 520$

Further  $a[1:5]$ , then splitted into two parts,  $a[1:3]$  &  $a[4:5]$

$310, 285, 179 \mid 652, 351 \mid 423, 861, 254, 450, 520$

Further  $a[1:3]$  splitted into two as  $a[1:2]$  &  $a[3]$

$310, 285 \mid 179 \mid 652, 351 \mid 423, 861, 254, 450, 520$

Further be in  $a[1], a[2]$

$310 \mid 285 \mid 179 \mid 652, 351 \mid 423, 861, 254, 450, 520$

$\lfloor x \rfloor$  = highest integer not less than  $x$

Write here Algo



Now call merge, elements  $a[1]$  and  $a[2]$  are merge to yield

285, 310 | 179, 652, 351 | 423, 861, 254, 450, 520

Then  $a[3]$  is merged with  $a[1:2]$  and 179, 285, 310 | 652, 351 | 423, 861, 254, 450, 520 is produced. Next,  $a[4]$  and  $a[5]$  are merged

179, 285, 310 | 351, 652 | 423, 861, 254, 450, 520

and then  $a[1:3]$  and  $a[4:5]$ :

179, 285, 310, 351, 652 | 423, 861, 254, 450, 520

At this point, the algorithm returns to merge sort for second half list process. Repeat the second half recursive calls

179, 285, 310, 351, 652 | 423 | 861 | 254 | 450, 520

$a[6]$  &  $a[7]$  are merged. Then  $a[8]$  is merged with  $a[1:7]$

179, 285, 310, 351, 652 | 254, 423, 861 | 450, 520

Next,  $a[8]$  &  $a[9]$  are merged, and then  $a[6:8]$  and  $a[9:10]$

179, 285, 310, 351, 652 | 254, 423, 450, 520, 861

At this point there are two sorted subarrays and finally merge produces the fully sorted result

179, 254, 285, 310, 351, 423, 450, 520, 652, 861



# Algorithm (Merge Sort)

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MergeSort (low, high)

{

if (low < high)

{

mid = ~~(low + high) / 2~~  $\lfloor (low + high) / 2 \rfloor$

MergeSort (low, mid);

MergeSort (mid+1, high);

Merge (low, mid, high);

}

}

## Algorithm Merge

Merge (low, mid, high)

{

h = low, i = low, j = mid+1

while ((h ≤ mid) && (j ≤ high)) do

{

if (a[h] ≤ a[j]) then

{

b[i] = a[h]; h = h+1;

}

else

{

b[i] = a[j]; j = j+1;

}

i = i+1;

}

if (h > mid) then

for k = i to high do

{

b[k] = a[k]; i = i+1;

}

else

for k = h to mid do

{

b[k] = a[k]; i = i+1;

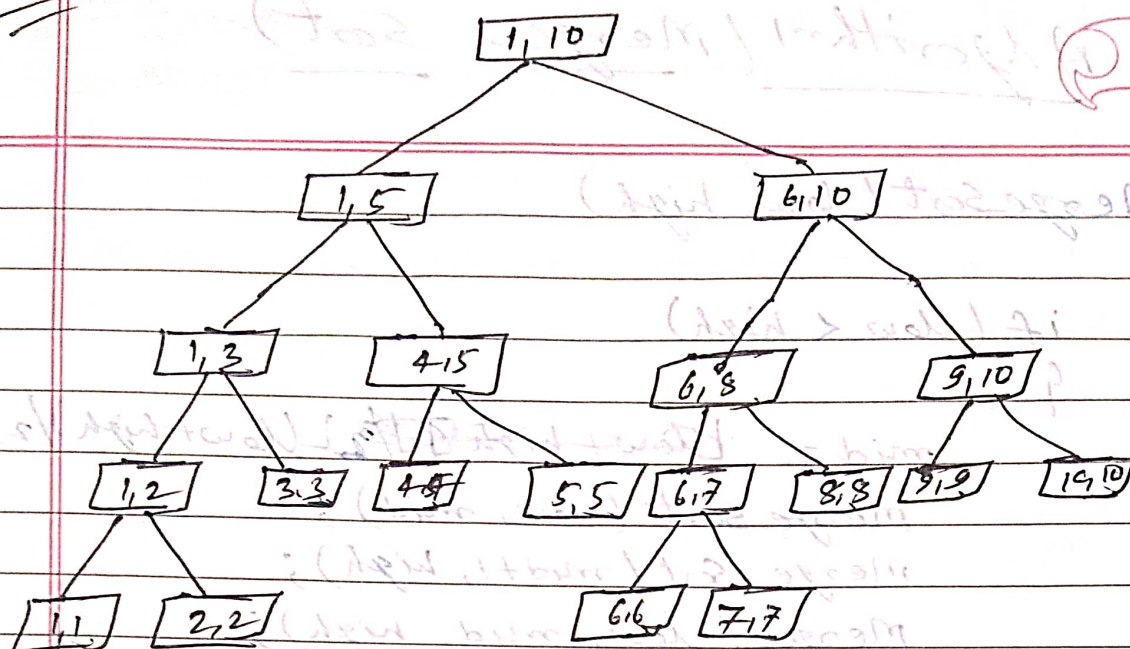
}

for k = low to high do a[k] = b[k];

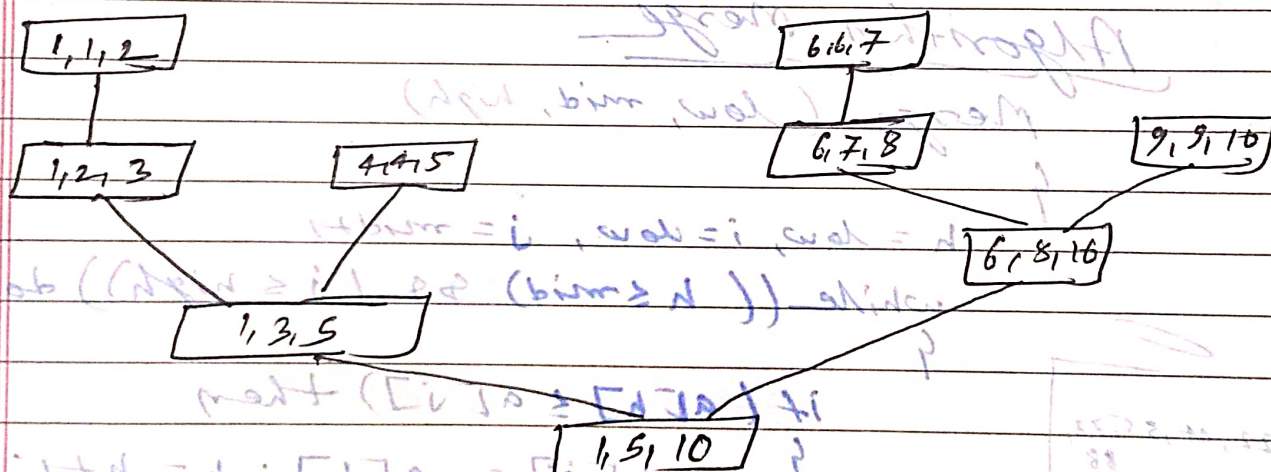
A = 22, 44, 55, 77, 88

B = 33, 66, 70





Tree of calls of Merge Sort(1, 10)



Tree of calls of Merge

Notations

$f(n) \in m/g(n)$ , then  
 $f(n) = O(g(n))$



# Analysis

The time for merging operation is proportional to  $n$ , then the computing time for merge sort is described by recurrence relation

$$T(n) = \begin{cases} a & ; n=1, a \text{ a constant} \\ 2T(n/2) + cn & ; n>1, c \text{ a constant} \end{cases}$$

When  $n$  is a power of 2,  $n = 2^k$ , we can solve this eqn. by successive substitution

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= 2(2T(n/4) + cn/2) + cn \\ &= 4T(n/4) + 2cn \end{aligned}$$

$$= 4(2T(n/8) + \frac{cn}{2}) + 2cn$$

for  $n$  no. of partitions.

$$\begin{aligned} &= 2^k T(1) + kcn \\ &= an + cn \log_2 n \\ &= O(n \log n) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 2^k &= n \\ k &= \log_2 n \end{aligned}$$

$$2^k = n$$

$$\log_2 2^k = \log_2 n$$

$$k = \log_2 n$$

It is easy to see that if  $2^k < n \leq 2^{k+1}$ , then  $T(n) \leq T(2^{k+1})$

Rough

$$T(n) = 2T(n/2) + cn$$

$$= 2(2T(n/4) + \frac{cn}{2}) + cn$$

$$= 4T(n/4) + 2cn$$

$$= 4(2T(n/8) + \frac{cn}{4}) + 2cn$$

$$= 2^k T(1) + kcn$$

$$= an$$

Highest order is

$$n \log_2 n$$