

1. Explain what you think the worst-case, big-Oh complexity and the best-case, big-Oh complexity of merge sort is. Why do you think that?

In the worst-case, the time complexity of merge sort is $O(n \log n)$ because we will need to divide elements $\log N$ times and each time we will need to compare all elements in the subarray so the time will be $O(n)$. In the best-case, the time complexity is also $O(n \log n)$ because we will need to divide the list, compare and merge even the list is already sorted.

2. Merge sort as we have implemented in there is a recursive algorithm as this is the easiest way to think about it. It is also possible to implement merge sort iteratively. Explain what you think the worst-case, big-Oh complexity and the best-case, big-Oh complexity is for this iterative merge sort. Why do you think that?

The time complexity of this iterative merge sort for worst case and best case is also $O(n \log n)$. Just like the recursive merge sort, this iterative version will divide the array $\log n$ times because the first for loop will run $\log N$ times no matter the array is sorted or not. The second for loop will compare all the elements in the subarray so the time complexity will be $O(n \log n)$.