Parallel Sorting of Roughly-Sorted Sequences

CSCI 5172 Fall '16 Project

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1 The Array Sorting Problem

Sorting a collection according to some ordering among its items is among the most classic problems of computer science. A well-established result is the linearithmic (i.e. $O(n \lg n)$) optimal upper bound for sorting sequences of length n by comparison.

2 Sorting Roughly-Sorted Sequences

We can exploit the ordering of *roughly-sorted* sequences to sort them in $O(n \lg k)$ time, where k is the *radius* of a sequence S or the smallest k such that S is *k-sorted.*[2] A k-sorted sequence $\{a_0, a_1, \cdots, a_n\}$ satisfies $a_i \leq a_j \; \forall \; 1 \leq i \leq j \leq n, i \leq j - k$. Since an unsorted sequence can be at most n-sorted, the worst-case runtime of this algorithm has complexity $O(n \lg n)$.

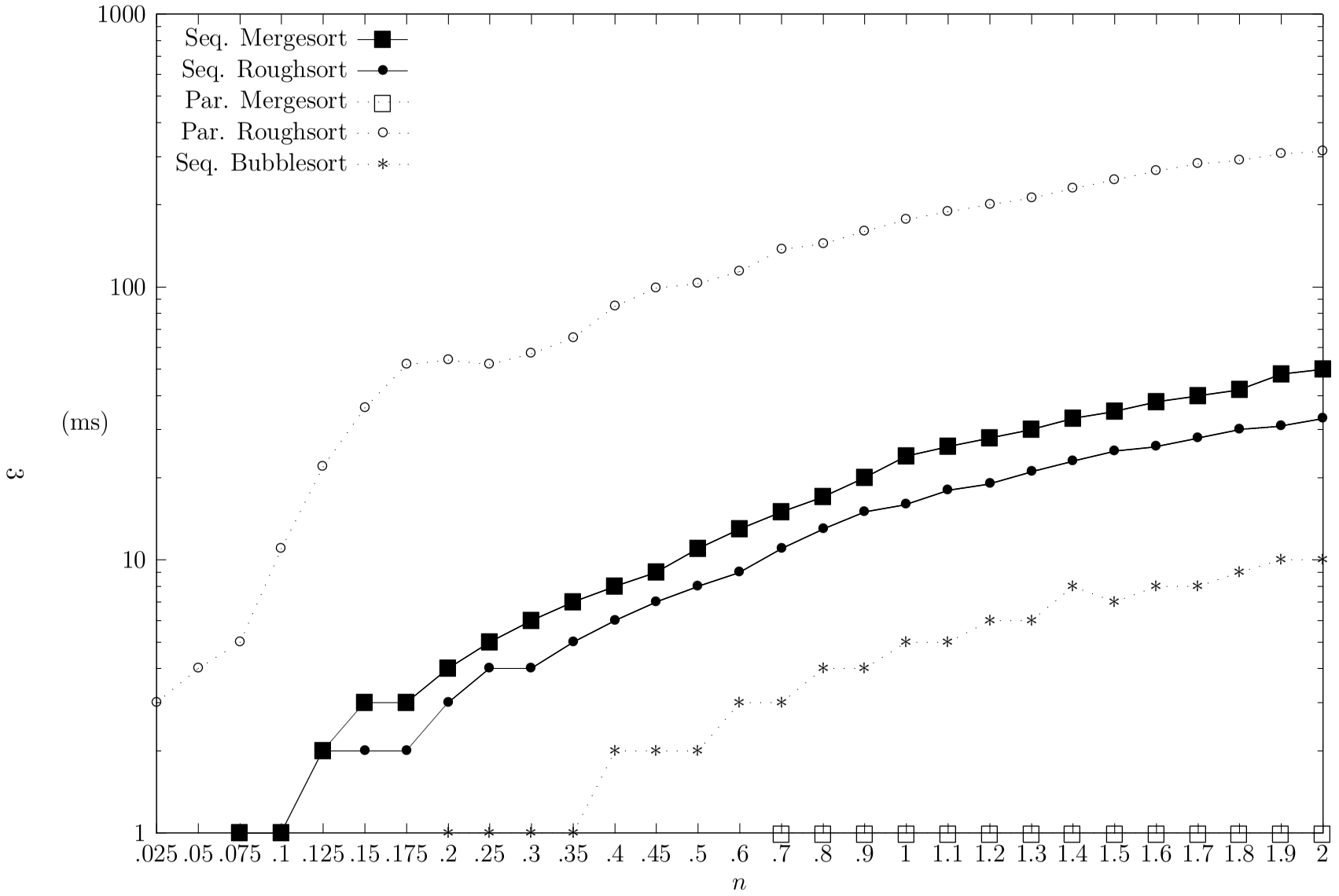

Figure 1: *Sort Runtimes over Arrays of Length* $n \cdot 10^6$, $k = 2$

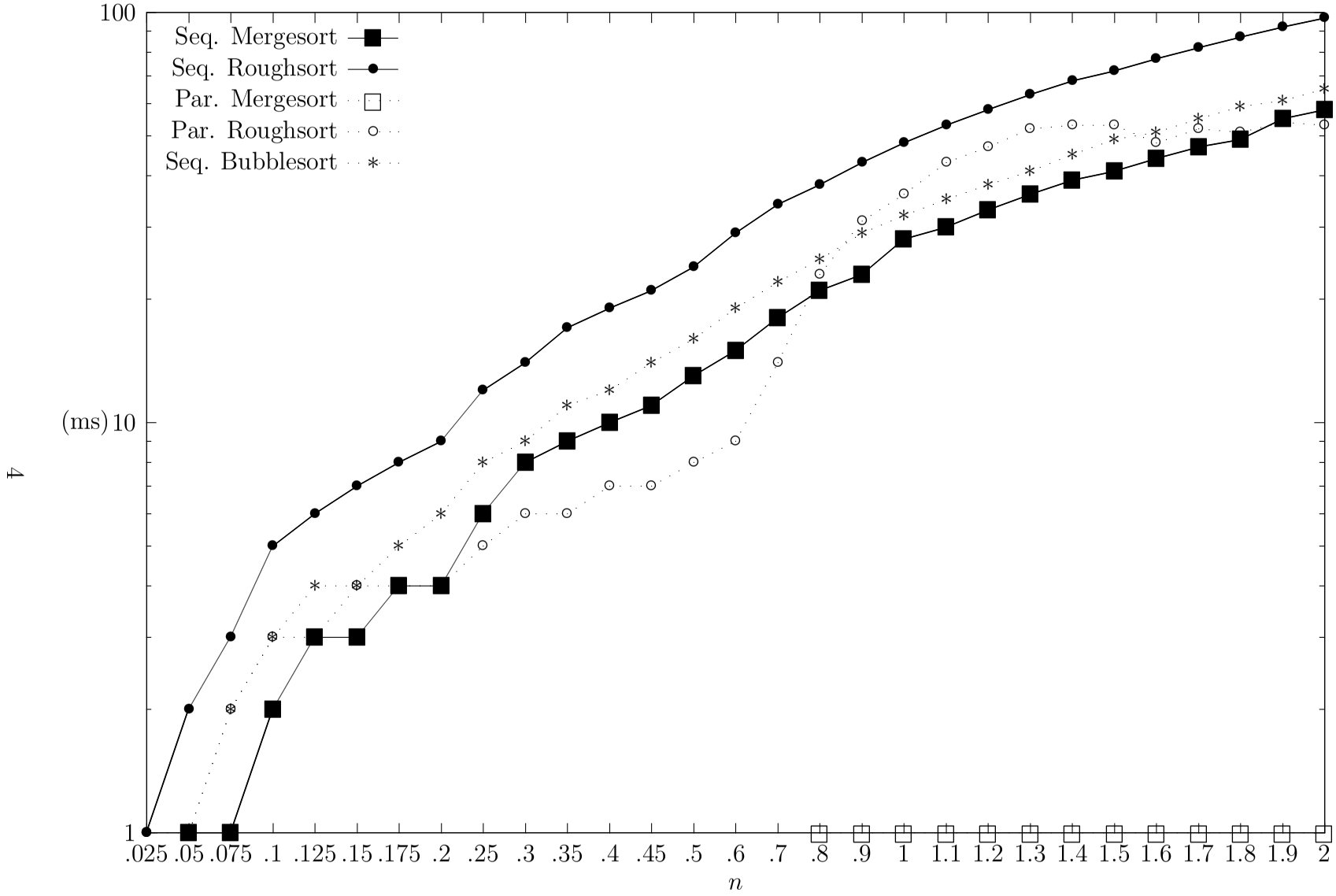

Figure 2: *Sort Runtimes over Arrays of Length* $n \cdot 10^6$, $k = 15$

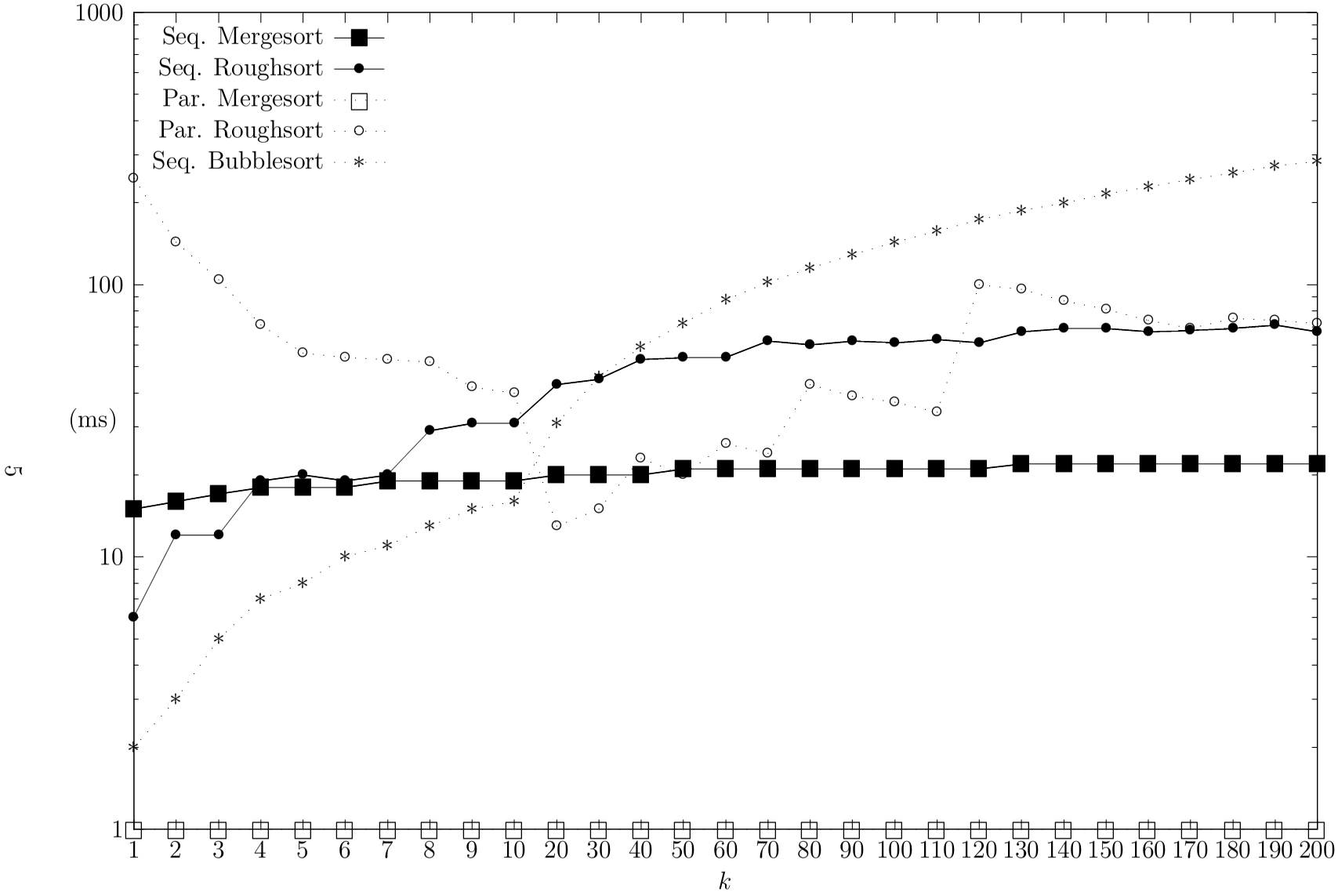

Figure 3: *Sort Runtimes over Arrays of Radius k*, $n = 0.75 \cdot 10^6$

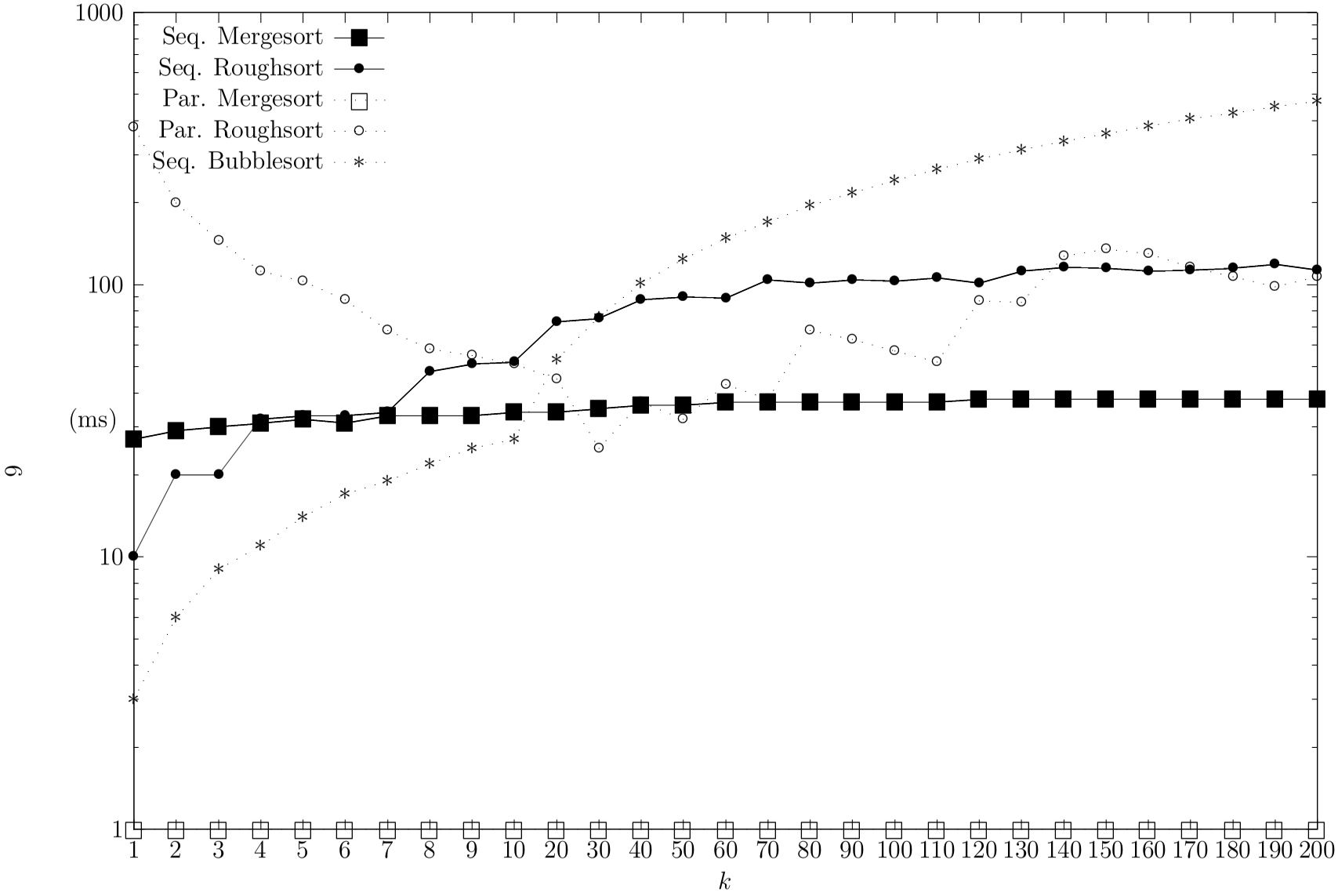

Figure 4: *Sort Runtimes over Arrays of Radius k,* $n = 1.25 \cdot 10^6$

8 Explanation of Results

9 Conclusion

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