











|   | # arrays  | items per array   | # merges  | comparisons per merge   | total work  |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   | 1   | $n$   | 1   | $n-1$   | $\sim n$  |
|   | 2   | $n/2$   | 2   | $n/2-1$   | $\sim n$  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|   | $n/2$   | 2   | $n/2$   | $2-1$   | $\sim n$  |
|  | $n$   | 1   | 0   | 0   |   |