

# Priority Queues

CSE 373  
Data Structures & Algorithms  
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1

## Today's Outline

- **Announcements**
  - Assignment #3 due Thurs, Feb 5th.
- **Today's Topics:**
  - **Priority Queues**
    - Leftist Heaps
    - Skew Heaps

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2

## Other Heap Operations

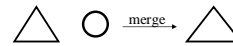
- insert ?
- deleteMin ?

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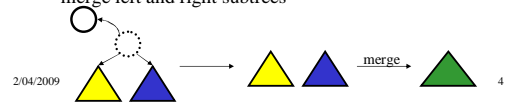
3

## Operations on Leftist Heaps

- merge with two trees of total size  $n$ :  $O(\log n)$
- insert with heap size  $n$ :  $O(\log n)$ 
  - pretend node is a size 1 leftist heap
  - insert by merging original heap with one node heap



- deleteMin with heap size  $n$ :  $O(\log n)$ 
  - remove and return root
  - merge left and right subtrees



4

## Leftist Heaps: Summary

### Good

- 
- 

### Bad

- 
- 

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5

## Amortized Time

am-or-tized time:

**Running time limit resulting from "writing off" expensive runs of an algorithm over multiple cheap runs of the algorithm, usually resulting in a lower overall running time than indicated by the worst possible case.**

If  $M$  operations take total  $O(M \log N)$  time,  
amortized time per operation is  $O(\log N)$

Difference from **average time**:

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6

## Skew Heaps

Problems with leftist heaps

- extra storage for npl
- extra complexity/logic to maintain and check npl
- right side is "often" heavy and requires a switch

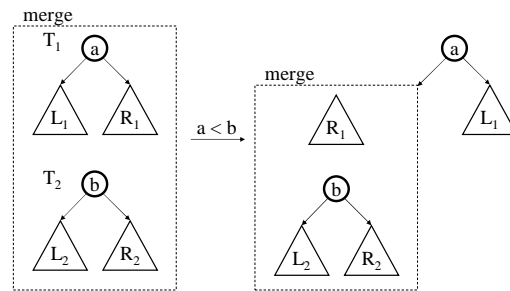
Solution: skew heaps

- "blindly" adjusting version of leftist heaps
- merge *always* switches children when fixing right path
- amortized time for: merge, insert, deleteMin =  $O(\log n)$
- however, worst case time for all three =  $O(n)$

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7

## Merging Two Skew Heaps

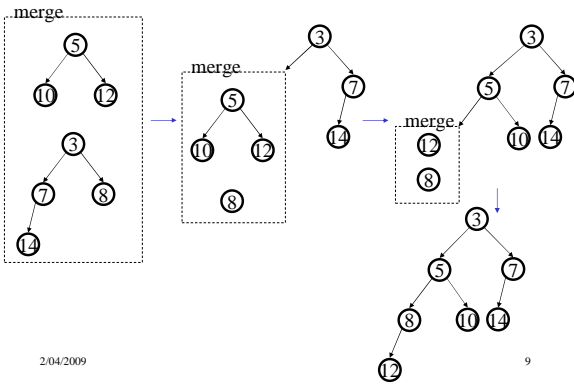


Only one step per iteration, with children *always* switched

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8

## Example



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9

## Skew Heap Code

```
void merge(heap1, heap2) {
  case {
    heap1 == NULL: return heap2;
    heap2 == NULL: return heap1;
    heap1.findMin() < heap2.findMin():
      temp = heap1.right;
      heap1.right = heap1.left;
      heap1.left = merge(heap2, temp);
      return heap1;
    otherwise:
      return merge(heap2, heap1);
  }
}
```

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10

## Runtime Analysis: Worst-case and Amortized

- No worst case guarantee on right path length!
- All operations rely on merge

⇒ worst case complexity of all ops =

- Amortized Analysis (Chapter 11)
- Result:  $M$  merges take time  $M \log n$

⇒ amortized complexity of all ops =

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11

## Comparing Priority Queues

- |                |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|
| • Binary Heaps | • Leftist Heaps |
| • d-Heaps      | • Skew Heaps    |

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12

Student Activity