



# CSE373: Data Structures & Algorithms Lecture 9: Priority Queues and Binary Heaps

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# **Priority Queue ADT**

- A priority queue holds *compare-able* items
- Each item in the priority queue has a "priority" and "data"
  - In our examples, the *lesser* item is the one with the *greater* priority
  - So "priority 1" is more important than "priority 4"
- Operations:
  - insert: adds an element to the priority queue
  - deleteMin: returns and deletes the item with greatest priority (min)
  - is\_empty
- Our data structure: A *binary min-heap* (or *binary heap* or *heap*) has:
  - Structure property: A complete binary tree
  - Heap property: The priority of every (non-root) node is less important than (>) the priority of its parent (*Not a binary search tree*)

# **Operations:** basic idea

- deleteMin:
  - 1. Remove root node
  - 2. Move right-most node in last row to root to restore structure property
  - 3. "Percolate down" to restore heap property

• insert:

- Put new node in next position on bottom row to restore structure property
- 2. "Percolate up" to restore heap property



#### **Overall strategy:**

- Preserve structure property
- Break and restore heap property

#### DeleteMin

Delete (and later return) value at root node



# DeleteMin: Keep the Structure Property

- We now have a "hole" at the root
  - Need to fill the hole with another value
- Keep structure property: When we are done, the tree will have one less node and must still be complete
- Pick the last node on the bottom row of the tree and move it to the "hole"



# DeleteMin: Restore the Heap Property

#### Percolate down:

- Keep comparing priority of item with both children
- If priority is less important, swap with the most important child and go down one level
- Done if both children are less important than the item or we've reached a leaf node



Height of a complete binary tree of *n* nodes =  $\lfloor \log_2(n) \rfloor$ 

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### Insert

- Add a value to the tree
- Afterwards, structure and heap properties must still be correct



# Insert: Maintain the Structure Property

- There is only one valid tree shape after we add one more node
- So put our new data there and then focus on restoring the heap property



### Insert: Restore the heap property

#### Percolate up:

- Put new data in new location
- If parent is less important, swap with parent, and continue
- Done if parent is more important than item or reached root



What is the running time? Like deleteMin, worst-case time proportional to tree height: O(log n)

# Array Representation of Binary Trees



From node i:

left child: **i**\*2 right child: **i**\*2+1 parent: **i**/2

(wasting index 0 is convenient for the index arithmetic)

implicit (array) implementation:



# Judging the array implementation

#### Plusses:

- Non-data space: just index 0 and unused space on right
  - In conventional tree representation, one edge per node (except for root), so *n*-1 wasted space (like linked lists)
  - Array would waste more space if tree were not complete
- Multiplying and dividing by 2 is very fast (shift operations in hardware)
- Last used position is just index **size**

#### Minuses:

• Same might-be-empty or might-get-full problems we saw with stacks and queues (resize by doubling as necessary)

Plusses outweigh minuses: "this is how people do it"

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This pseudocode uses ints. In real use, you will have data nodes with priorities.

#### Pseudocode: insert into binary heap

```
void insert(int val) {
    if(size==arr.length-1)
        resize();
    size++;
    i=percolateUp(size,val);
    arr[i] = val;
}
```



	10	20	80	40	60	85	99	700	50				
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13

#### Pseudocode: deleteMin from binary heap

```
int percolateDown(int hole,
int deleteMin() {
                                                      int val) {
  if(isEmpty()) throw...
                                  while(2*hole <= size) {</pre>
  ans = arr[1];
                                   left = 2*hole;
  hole = percolateDown
                                   right = left + 1;
                                   if(right > size |
            (1,arr[size]);
                                       arr[left] < arr[right])</pre>
  arr[hole] = arr[size];
                                     target = left;
  size--;
                                   else
                                     target = right;
  return ans;
                                   if(arr[target] < val) {</pre>
}
                                     arr[hole] = arr[target];
                                     hole = target;
              10
                                   } else
                  80
                                        break;
            60
               85
                     99
      40
                                  return hole;
    700
         50
      10
           20
                80
                     40
                         60
                              85
                                   99
                                       700
                                             50
           2
                3
                                        8
  0
                     4
                          5
                               6
                                   7
                                             9
                                                  10
                                                      11
       1
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```

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- 1. insert: 16, 32, 4, 67, 105, 43, 2
- 2. deleteMin



- 1. insert: 16, 32, 4, 67, 105, 43, 2
- 2. deleteMin

![](_page_14_Figure_3.jpeg)

- 1. insert: 16, 32, 4, 67, 105, 43, 2
- 2. deleteMin

![](_page_15_Figure_3.jpeg)

- 1. insert: 16, 32, 4, 67, 105, 43, 2
- 2. deleteMin

![](_page_16_Figure_3.jpeg)

- 1. insert: 16, 32, 4, 67, 105, 43, 2
- 2. deleteMin

![](_page_17_Figure_3.jpeg)

- 1. insert: 16, 32, 4, 67, 105, 43, 2
- 2. deleteMin

![](_page_18_Figure_3.jpeg)

- 1. insert: 16, 32, 4, 67, 105, 43, 2
- 2. deleteMin

![](_page_19_Figure_3.jpeg)

- 1. insert: 16, 32, 4, 67, 105, 43, 2
- 2. deleteMin

![](_page_20_Figure_3.jpeg)

#### Other operations

- decreasekey: given pointer to object in priority queue (e.g., its array index), lower its priority value by p
  - Change priority and percolate up
- **increaseKey**: given pointer to object in priority queue (e.g., its array index), raise its priority value by *p* 
  - Change priority and percolate down
- **remove**: given pointer to object in priority queue (e.g., its array index), remove it from the queue
  - decreaseKey with  $p = \infty$ , then deleteMin

Running time for all these operations?

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# **Build Heap**

- Suppose you have *n* items to put in a new (empty) priority queue
  - Call this operation buildHeap
- *n* inserts works
  - Only choice if ADT doesn't provide buildHeap explicitly
  - $O(n \log n)$
- Why would an ADT provide this unnecessary operation?
  - Convenience
  - Efficiency: an O(n) algorithm called Floyd's Method
  - Common issue in ADT design: how many specialized operations

# Floyd's Method

- 1. Use *n* items to make any complete tree you want
  - That is, put them in array indices 1,...,n
- 2. Treat it as a heap and fix the heap-order property
  - Bottom-up: leaves are already in heap order, work up toward the root one level at a time

```
void buildHeap() {
  for(i = size/2; i>0; i--) {
    val = arr[i];
    hole = percolateDown(i,val);
    arr[hole] = val;
  }
}
```

- In tree form for readability
  - Purple for node not less than descendants
    - heap-order problem
  - Notice no leaves are purple
  - Check/fix each non-leaf bottom-up (6 steps here)

![](_page_24_Figure_6.jpeg)

![](_page_25_Figure_1.jpeg)

• Happens to already be less than children (er, child)

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![](_page_26_Figure_1.jpeg)

• Percolate down (notice that moves 1 up)

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![](_page_27_Figure_1.jpeg)

• Another nothing-to-do step

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![](_page_28_Figure_1.jpeg)

• Percolate down as necessary (steps 4a and 4b)

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![](_page_29_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_30_Figure_1.jpeg)

# But is it right?

- "Seems to work"
  - Let's prove it restores the heap property (correctness)
  - Then let's prove its running time (efficiency)

```
void buildHeap() {
  for(i = size/2; i>0; i--) {
    val = arr[i];
    hole = percolateDown(i,val);
    arr[hole] = val;
  }
}
```

#### Correctness

```
void buildHeap() {
  for(i = size/2; i>0; i--) {
    val = arr[i];
    hole = percolateDown(i,val);
    arr[hole] = val;
  }
}
```

Loop Invariant: For all j>i, arr[j] is less than its children

- True initially: If j > size/2, then j is a leaf
  - Otherwise its left child would be at position > size
- True after one more iteration: loop body and percolateDown make arr[i] less than children without breaking the property for any descendants

So after the loop finishes, all nodes are less than their children

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### Efficiency

```
void buildHeap() {
  for(i = size/2; i>0; i--) {
    val = arr[i];
    hole = percolateDown(i,val);
    arr[hole] = val;
  }
}
```

Easy argument: buildHeap is  $O(n \log n)$  where n is size

- size/2 loop iterations
- Each iteration does one percolateDown, each is O(log n)

This is correct, but there is a more precise ("tighter") analysis of the algorithm...

```
Efficiency
void buildHeap() {
  for(i = size/2; i>0; i--) {
    val = arr[i];
    hole = percolateDown(i,val);
    arr[hole] = val;
  }
}
```

Better argument: **buildHeap** is O(n) where *n* is **size** 

- **size/2** total loop iterations: O(n)
- 1/2 the loop iterations percolate at most 1 step
- 1/4 the loop iterations percolate at most 2 steps
- 1/8 the loop iterations percolate at most 3 steps
- .
- ((1/2) + (2/4) + (3/8) + (4/16) + (5/32) + ...) < 2 (page 4 of Weiss)</li>
   So at most 2\*(size/2) total percolate steps: O(n)

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### Lessons from buildHeap

- Without buildHeap, our ADT already let clients implement their own in O(n log n) worst case
- By providing a specialized operation internal to the data structure (with access to the internal data), we can do O(n) worst case
  - Intuition: Most data is near a leaf, so better to percolate down
- Can analyze this algorithm for:
  - Correctness:
    - Non-trivial inductive proof using loop invariant
  - Efficiency:
    - First analysis easily proved it was O(n log n)
    - Tighter analysis shows same algorithm is O(n)