

# Priority Queues

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# Abstract Priority Queue

Source: `AbstractPriorityQueue.java`

```
public abstract class AbstractPriorityQueue<T extends Comparable<T>> {  
    protected Comparator<T> comparator;  
  
    public AbstractPriorityQueue(Comparator<T> comparator) {  
        this.comparator = comparator;  
    }  
}
```

- Class types: `class` vs. `abstract class` vs. `interface` .
- **Generics**: `<T extends Comparable<T>>` .
- Interface in generics: `Comparable` .
- Member types: `private` vs. `package` vs. `protected` vs. `public` .
- Constructor: `this` .

```

/**
 * Adds a comparable key to this queue.
 * @param key the comparable key.
 */
abstract public void add(T key);

/**
 * Removes the key with the highest priority if exists.
 * @return the key with the highest priority if exists; otherwise, {@code null}.
 */
abstract public T remove();

/** @return the size of this queue. */
abstract public int size();

/** @return {@code true} if the queue is empty; otherwise, {@code false}. */
public boolean isEmpty() {
    return size() == 0;
}

```

- Abstract methods: `add()` , `remove()` , `size()` .
- Regular method in abstract class: `isEmpty()` .
- [Javadoc](#).

# Lazy Priority Queue

Source: `LazyPriorityQueue.java`

```
public class LazyPriorityQueue<T extends Comparable<T>> extends AbstractPriorityQueue<T> {  
    private List<T> keys;  
  
    public LazyPriorityQueue(Comparator<T> comparator) {  
        super(comparator);  
        keys = new ArrayList<>();  
    }  
  
    public LazyPriorityQueue() {  
        this(Comparator.naturalOrder());  
    }  
}
```

- Class inheritance: `extends AbstractPriorityQueue<T>` .
- Constructors: default vs. parameters, `this` vs. `super` .

```

/**
 * Adds a key to the back of the list.
 * @param key the comparable key.
 */
@Override
public void add(T key) { keys.add(key); }

/**
 * Finds the key with the highest priority, and removes it from the list.
 * @return the key with the highest priority if exists; otherwise, {@code null}.
 */
@Override
public T remove() {
    if (isEmpty()) return null;
    T max = Collections.max(keys, comparator);
    keys.remove(max);
    return max;
}

@Override
public int size() { return keys.size(); }

```

- Annotation: `@Override` .
- Edge case handling: `remove()` .
- Base API: `Collections.max()` .
- Complexity: `add()` , `remove()` .

# Eager Priority Queue

Source: `EagerPriorityQueue.java`

```
/**
 * Adds a key to the list according to the priority.
 * @param key the comparable key.
 */
@Override
public void add(T key) {
    int index = Collections.binarySearch(keys, key, comparator);
    if (index < 0) index = -(index + 1);
    keys.add(index, key);
}

/**
 * Remove the last key in the list.
 * @return the key with the highest priority if exists; otherwise, {@code null}.
 */
@Override
public T remove() {
    return isEmpty() ? null : keys.remove(keys.size() - 1);
}
```

- Base API: `Collections.binarySearch()` .
- Ternary conditional operator: `condition ? :`  .
- Complexity: `add()` , `remove()` .

# Binary Heap

## What is a heap?

- A **tree** where each node has a **higher** (or equal) priority than its children.
- The tree must be **balanced** at all time.
- What is a **binary** heap?

## Operations

- Add: **swim**.
- Remove: **sink**.
- Both operations can be done in  $O(\log n)$ .

## Representation

- Binary heap can be represented by a **list**.
- Index of the parent:  $k/2$ .
- Index of the children:  $k * 2$  and  $(k * 2) + 1$ .

Input = 

7
---

3
---

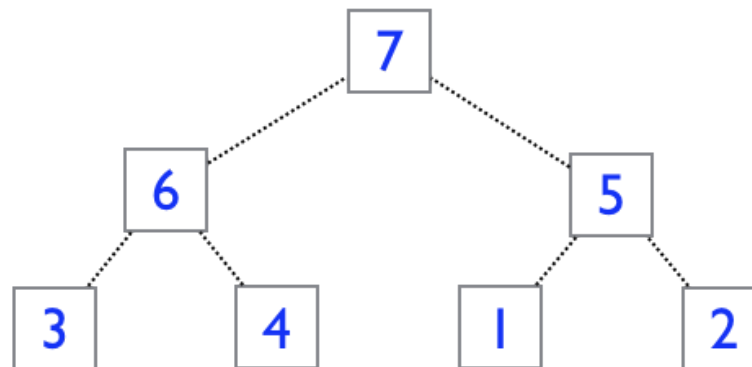
2
---

4
---

6
---

1
---

5
---



list = 

∅
---

7
---

6
---

5
---

3
---

4
---

1
---

2
---



Source: BinaryHeap.java

```
public class BinaryHeap<T extends Comparable<T>> extends AbstractPriorityQueue<T> {
    private List<T> keys;

    public BinaryHeap(Comparator<T> comparator) {
        super(comparator);
        keys = new ArrayList<>();
        keys.add(null);    // initialize the first item as null
    }

    public BinaryHeap() {
        this(Comparator.naturalOrder());
    }

    @Override
    public int size() {
        return keys.size() - 1;
    }
}
```

- Handle the `null` key at the front.

```

@Override
public void add(T key) {
    keys.add(key);
    swim(size());
}

private void swim(int k) {
    while (1 < k && comparator.compare(keys.get(k / 2), keys.get(k)) < 0) {
        Collections.swap(keys, k / 2, k);
        k /= 2;
    }
}

```

- Add each key to the end of the list and **swim**.
- `comparator.compare()` : compare itself to its parent.
- Base API: `Collections.swap()` .

```

@Override
public T remove() {
    if (isEmpty()) return null;
    Collections.swap(keys, 1, size());
    T max = keys.remove(size());
    sink(1);
    return max;
}

private void sink(int k) {
    for (int i = k * 2; i <= size(); k = i, i *= 2) {
        if (i < size() && comparator.compare(keys.get(i), keys.get(i + 1)) < 0) i++;
        if (comparator.compare(keys.get(k), keys.get(i)) >= 0) break;
        Collections.swap(keys, k, i);
    }
}

```

- Replace the root with the last key in the list and **sink**.
- Compare two children.
- Compare itself to the greater child.

# Unit Tests

Source: `PriorityQueueTest.java`

## Accuracy

```
/**
 * @param q a priority queue.
 * @param c a comparator used for sorting.
 * @param keys a list of comparable keys.
 */
private <T extends Comparable<T>>void testAccuracy(AbstractPriorityQueue<T> q, Comparator<T> c, List<T> keys) {
    keys.forEach(q::add);
    keys.sort(c);
    keys.forEach(key -> assertEquals(key, q.remove()));
}

@Test
public void testAccuracy() {
    testAccuracy(new LazyPriorityQueue<>(), Comparator.reverseOrder());
    testAccuracy(new EagerPriorityQueue<>(), Comparator.reverseOrder());
    testAccuracy(new BinaryHeap<>(), Comparator.reverseOrder());

    testAccuracy(new LazyPriorityQueue<Integer>(Comparator.reverseOrder()), Comparator.naturalOrder());
    testAccuracy(new EagerPriorityQueue<Integer>(Comparator.reverseOrder()), Comparator.naturalOrder());
    testAccuracy(new BinaryHeap<Integer>(Comparator.reverseOrder()), Comparator.naturalOrder());
}
```

- Generics on method.
- Lambda expression: `Iterable.forEach()` .
- Annotation: `@Test` .

# Speed

```
private class Time {
    long add;
    long remove;
}

private void addRuntime(AbstractPriorityQueue<Integer> q, Time t, int[] keys) {
    long st, et;

    // runtime for q.add()
    st = System.currentTimeMillis();
    Arrays.stream(keys).forEach(q::add);
    et = System.currentTimeMillis();
    t.add += et - st;

    // runtime for q.remove()
    st = System.currentTimeMillis();
    while (!q.isEmpty()) q.remove();
    et = System.currentTimeMillis();
    t.remove += et - st;
}
```

- Class type: `private class` .
- Constructor type: default constructor.
- Base API: `System.currentTimeMillis()` .
- Lambda expression: `Arrays.stream()` .

```

private Time[] benchmark(AbstractPriorityQueue<Integer>[] qs, int iter, int size) {
    Time[] ts = Stream.generate(Time::new).limit(qs.length).toArray(Time[]::new);
    Random rand = new Random();

    for (int i = 0; i < iter; i++) {
        int[] keys = Utils.getRandomIntArray(rand, size);

        for (int j = 0; j < qs.length; j++)
            addRuntime(qs[j], ts[j], keys);
    }

    return ts;
}

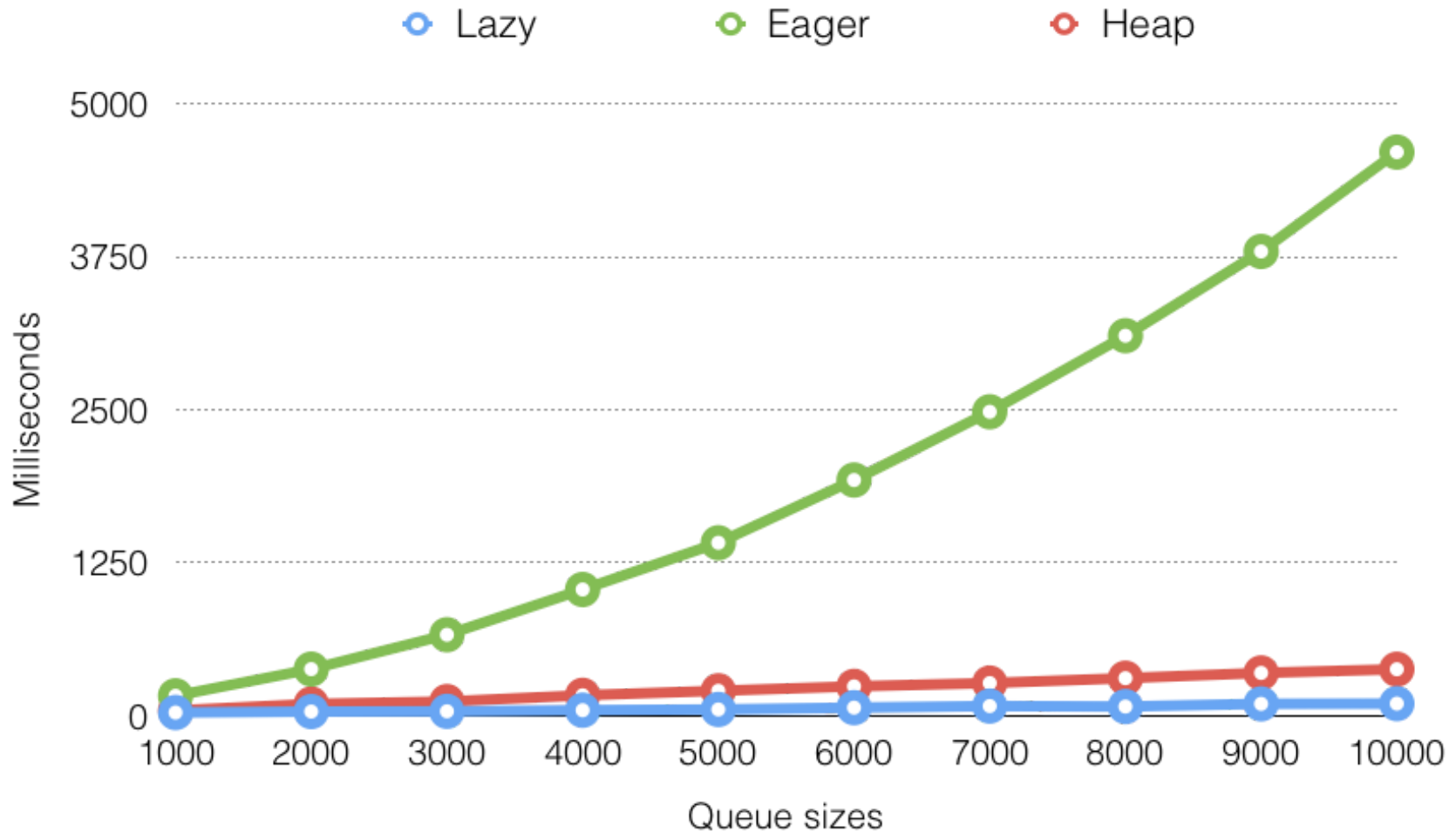
private void testSpeed(AbstractPriorityQueue<Integer>... qs) {
    for (int size = 1000; size <= 10000; size += 1000) {
        // JVM warmup
        benchmark(qs, 10, size);
        // benchmark all priority queues with the same keys
        Time[] times = benchmark(qs, 1000, size);
    }
}

@Test
public void testSpeed() {
    testSpeed(new LazyPriorityQueue<>(), new EagerPriorityQueue<>(), new BinaryHeap<>());
}

```

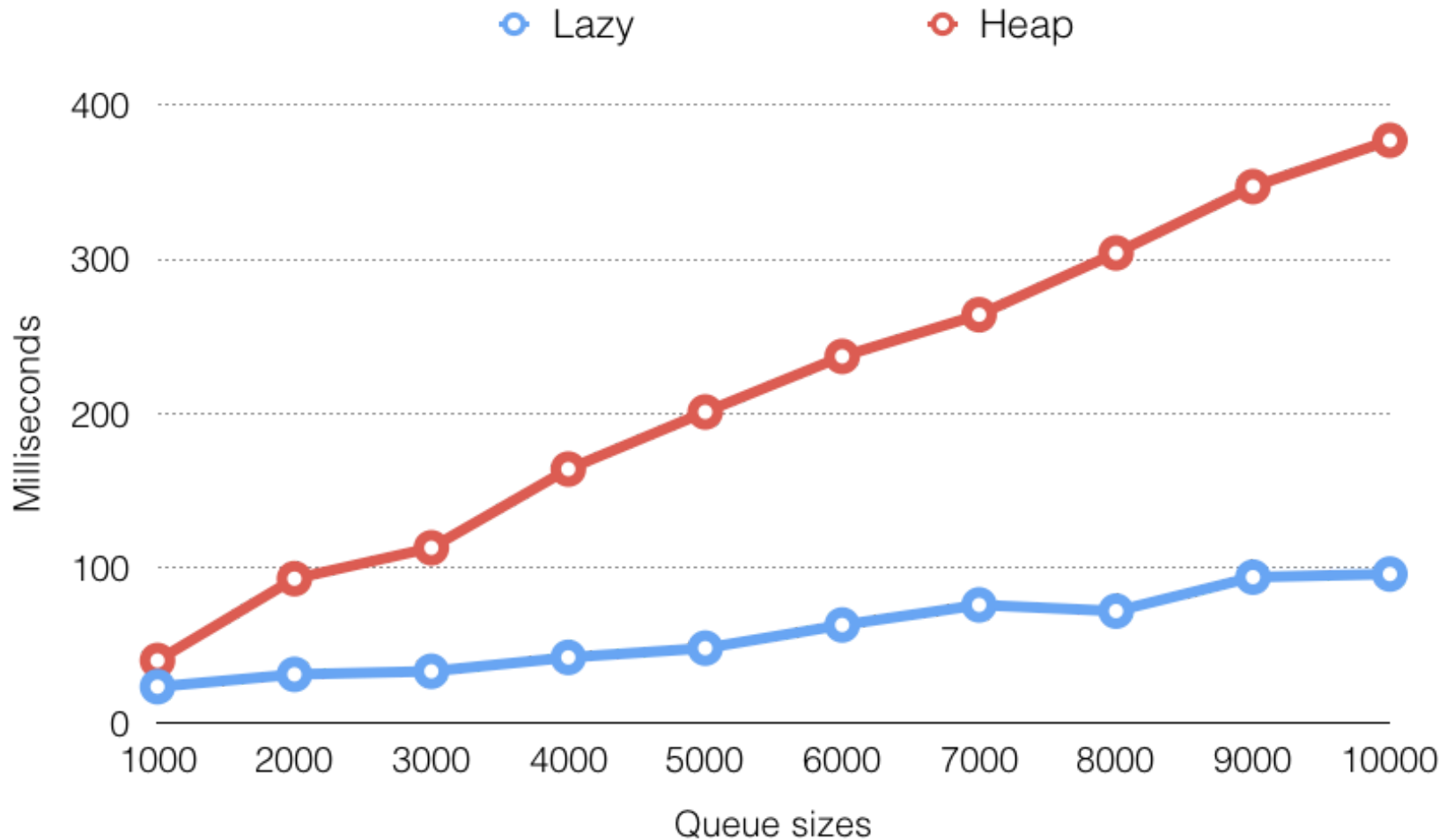
- Variable Arguments: `AbstractPriorityQueue<Integer>... qs` .
- Lambda expression: `Stream.generate().limit().toArray()` .

## Speed Comparison - Add



- Lazy:  $O(1)$  vs. Eager:  $O(\log n)$ ? vs. Heap:  $O(\log n)$ .

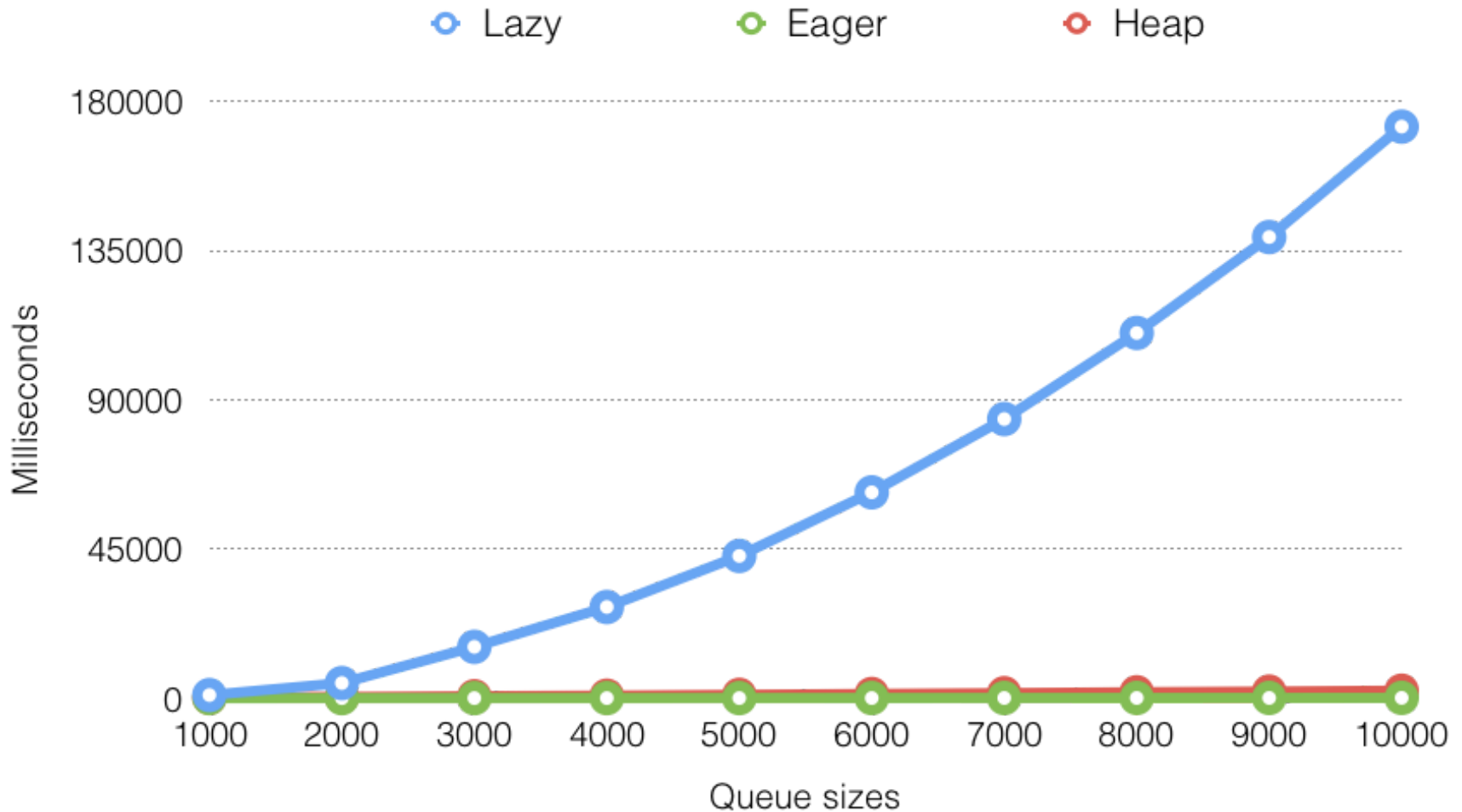
## Speed Comparison - Add



- Lazy:  $O(1)$  vs. Heap:  $O(\log n)$ .

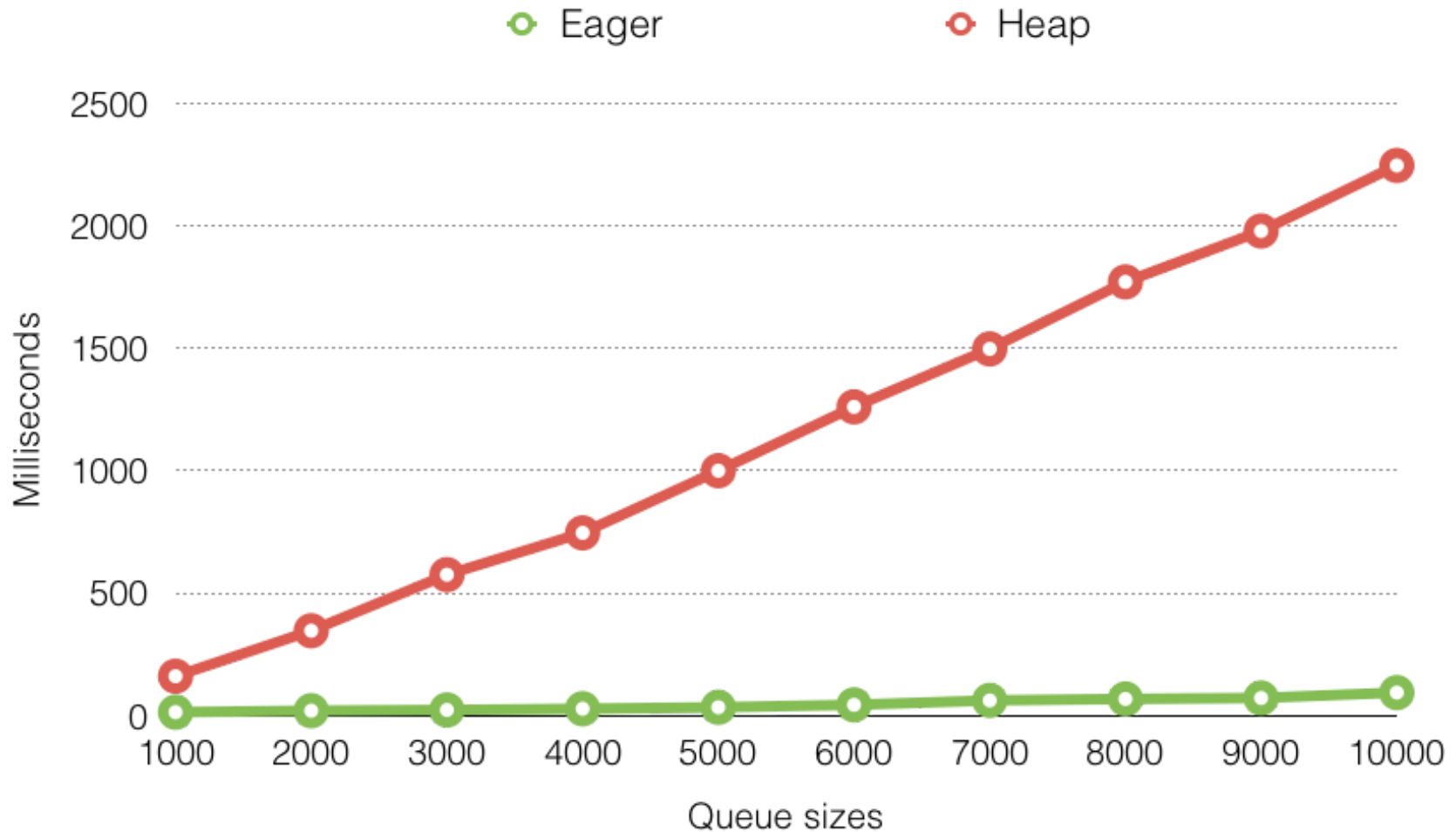


## Speed Comparison - Remove



- Lazy:  $O(n)$ , Eager:  $O(1)$ , Heap:  $O(\log n)$ .

## Speed Comparison - Remove



- Eager:  $O(1)$ , Heap:  $O(\log n)$ .

# References

- [Priority queue](#).
- [Binary heap](#).
- Java Base API:
  - [Comparable](#).
  - [Collections](#): `max()` , `swap()` , `binarySearch()` .
  - [Iterable](#): `forEach()` .
  - [Arrays](#): `forEach()` .
  - [Stream](#): `generate()` , `limit()` , `toArray()` .
- Java Annotation:
  - [@Override](#).
  - [@Test](#).