

Friday 1st March, group 1:

- Lab 7
- Lab 6 deadline

Monday 4th, group 2:

- Lab 7
- Lab 6 deadline

Lab 5 code reviews on Monday/Tuesday

Software Development 3 (F27SG)

## Lecture 14

# Priority Queues

Rob Stewart

# Overview

- Covered a number of Dynamic Data Structures
  - Linked-Lists
  - Trees
- These are Abstract Data Types
  - Different ways to implement them
    - arrays
    - dynamic creation and arrangement of objects
- Today we return to **Queues**
- **Priority queue**
  - Implemented with **array** based **min heap**

# FIFO Queues Recap

- We have already covered Queues
- Supermarket, airports, printers



# FIFO Queue Operations

- **Key property:** elements enter a queue at the rear and are removed from the front
- **Operations**
  - **enqueue(object)** - adds object to rear of the queue
  - **dequeue()** - remove and returns element at the top
  - **front()** - return the front element
  - **size()** - return number of elements
  - **isEmpty()** - check if empty
- Error conditions: dequeue/front of empty queue

# Priority Queues



## Priority Boarding

Business Class

Elite Plus

Elite passengers

Passengers may proceed to  
the front of the queue

# Priority Queues

- Each element in Queue has an associated “priority”
  - Usually a key (e.g. integer)
- Like FIFO (queue) and LIFO (stack) structures
  - elements **added in any order**.
- Unlike FIFO and LIFO structures
  - **elements are returned in a priority order**
- Either
  - highest priority, or
  - lowest priority
- There is no exposed notion of position
  - (e.g. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> element)

# Uses of Priority Queues

- Air Traffic Control
  - What is the “priority” value here?
    - Fuel Level, Airline, Flight hours remaining?
- Computer Process Scheduling
  - Processes are “time sliced”
  - How do we pick the next process to get processor time?
- Airline Denied Boarding
  - Who gets kicked off the plane?



# Priority Queue ADT

- Each entry has a key and value
  - **Key**: could be price, miles, age, ...
  - **Value**: The thing that we store in the queue
- Operations
  - **size()** - how many entries
  - **isEmpty()** - is it empty or not?
  - **insert(key,value)** - Insert a key/value pair
  - **removeMin()** - Removes and returns minimum element
  - **min()** - Returns the minimum element (but keeps it)

# Priority Queue ADT (simplified)

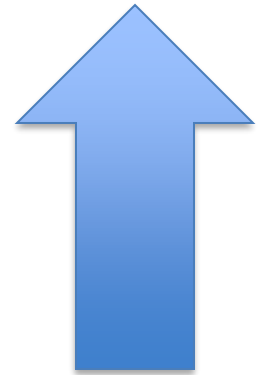
- We will make a simplification
- We are storing numbers in the priority queue
  - Meaning key = value
- Operations
  - size()
  - isEmpty()
  - **insert(value)**
  - removeMin()
  - min()

# Implementing a Priority Queue

- Fairly simple - use a linked list
- Add each element to the head
- Linear Search
  - to find the highest priority element
- But! also **naïve**:
  - $O(1)$  insert
  - $O(n)$  removeMin()

# Naïve Priority Queue

10	8	23	77	82	6
----	---	----	----	----	---



Next element to return

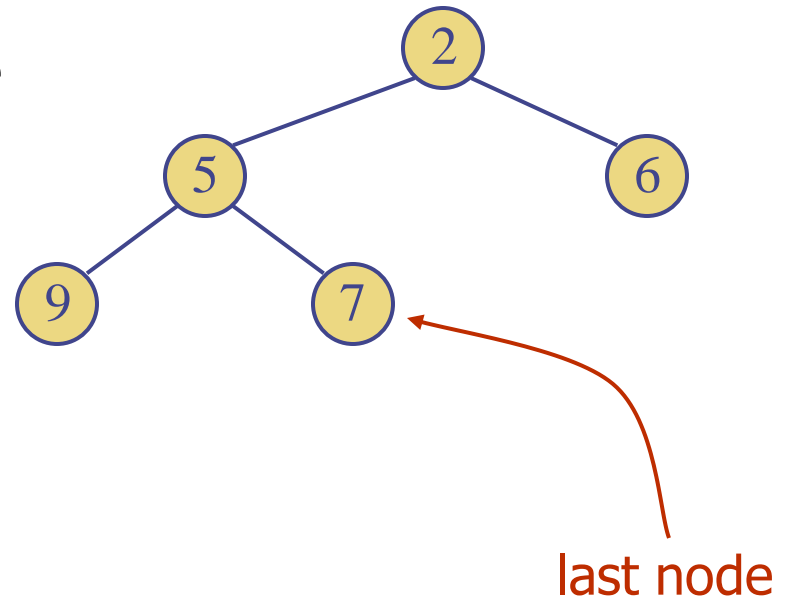
# Implementing a Priority Queue (2)

- How about we keep the list sorted?
  - `removeMin()` now becomes  $O(1)$
  - ... but **insert** is  $O(n)$
- So
  - Unsorted list:  **$O(1)$  insert**,  $O(n)$  **removeMin**
  - Sorted list:  $O(n)$  **insert**,  **$O(1)$  removeMin**
- Can we get the best of both worlds?
  - Use the **heap** data structure

**Solution: Min Heaps**

# Min Heaps

- A **min heap** is a binary tree that satisfies the following properties:
  - **Each node** except root has a value that is greater than (or equal to) its parent
  - Each level is filled up before moving to next
  - From left to right
- The **last node** is the rightmost node at the last level



# Heap operation

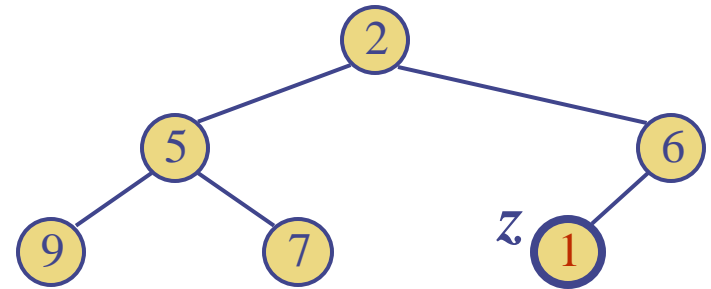
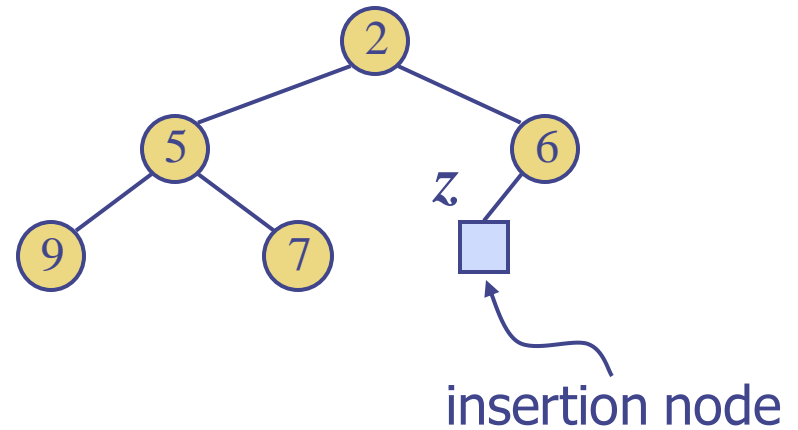
- The main operations on a priority queue are
  - removeMin
  - insert
- We need the heap to support these



# Heap insert

3 steps

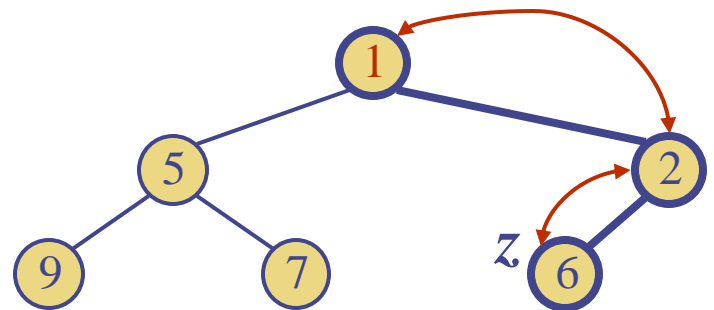
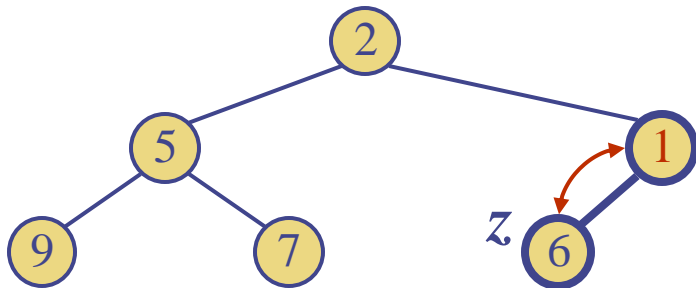
1. Find the insertion node
  - The next free node
2. Insert node
3. Restore heap property



# Heap insert

## restore heap property

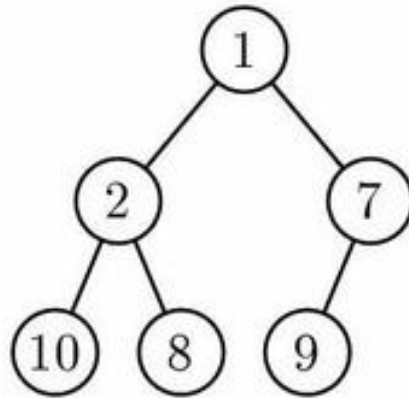
- If node is smaller than parent
  - Swap value
- Continue until
  - Node is larger than parent, or node is at root
- This is called **upheap**





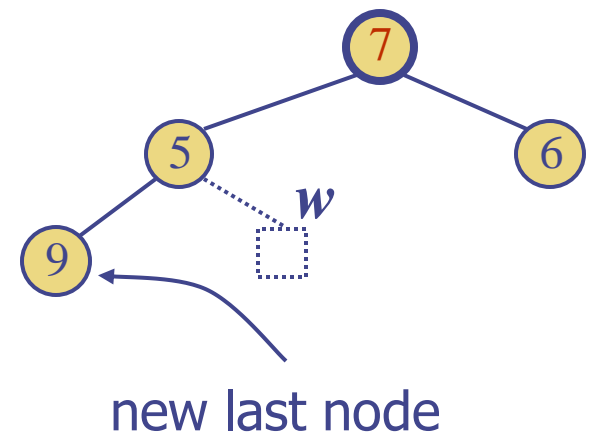
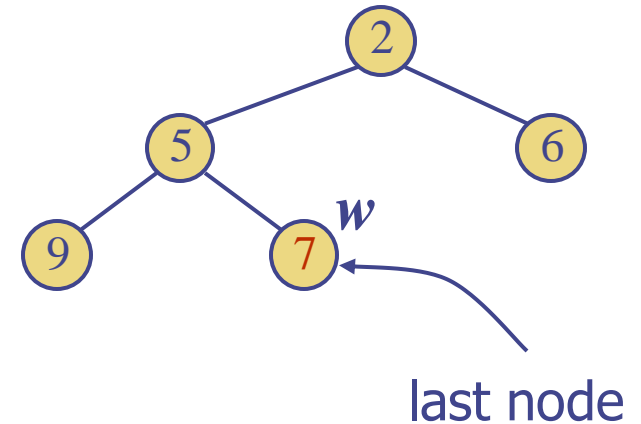
# Exercise

- Apply **insert(5)** to the following heap:



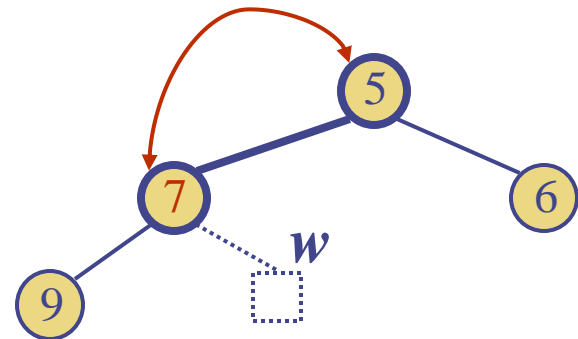
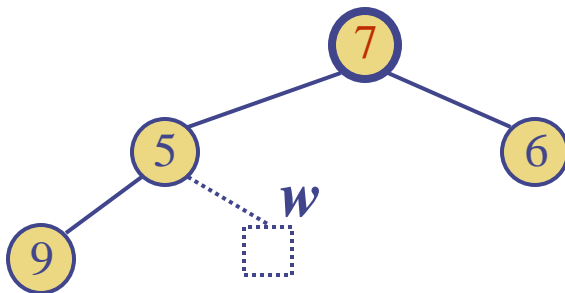
# Heap removal (removeMin)

- Removal has 3 steps
  1. Replace (and return) root with last node ( $w$ )
  2. Remove last node
  3. Restore heap property



# Heap removal restore heap property

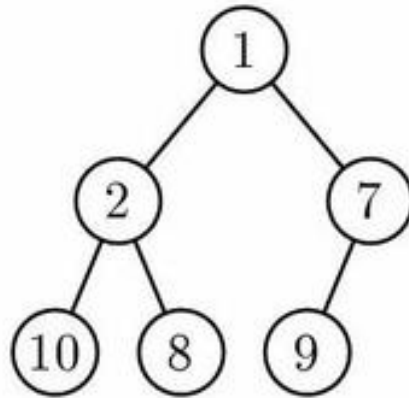
- Start at root and find the smallest child
  - If smaller than swap
- Continue until
  - Node is smaller than smallest child
  - or node is at leaf
- This is called **downheap**





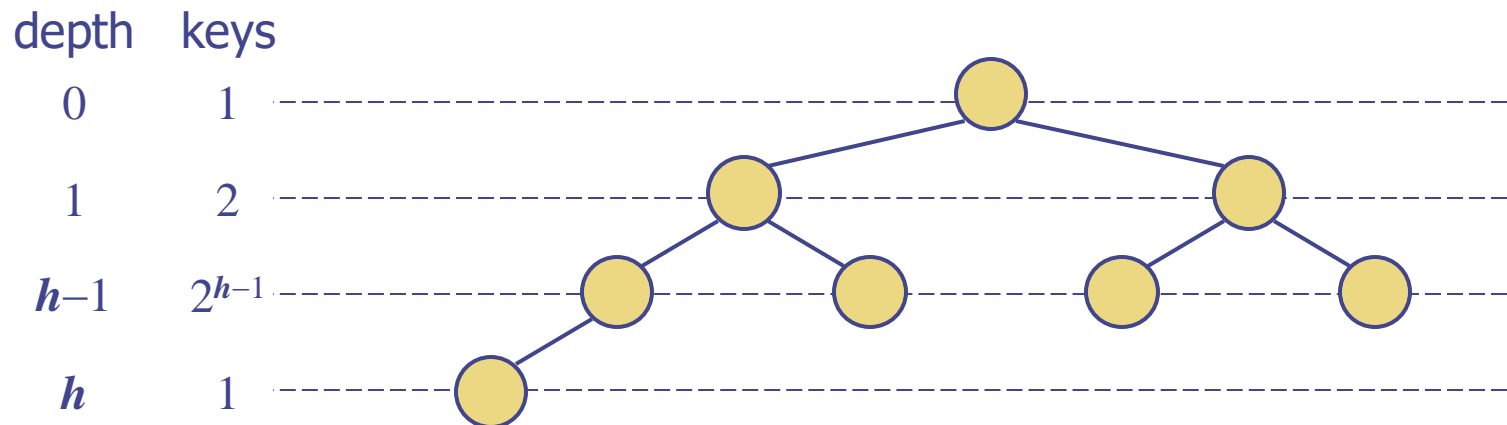
# Exercise

- Apply **removeMin()** to the following heap:



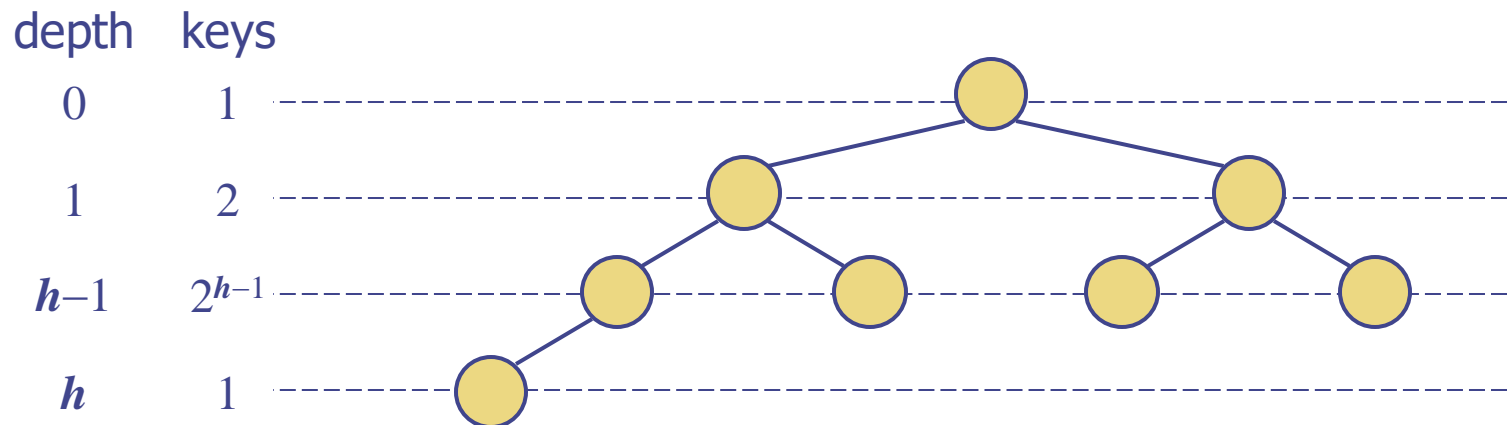
# Heap complexity

- Our goal was to improve on the  **$O(n)$**  complexity for insert/removeMin
- Tree is balanced, so the height is  **$\log n$**

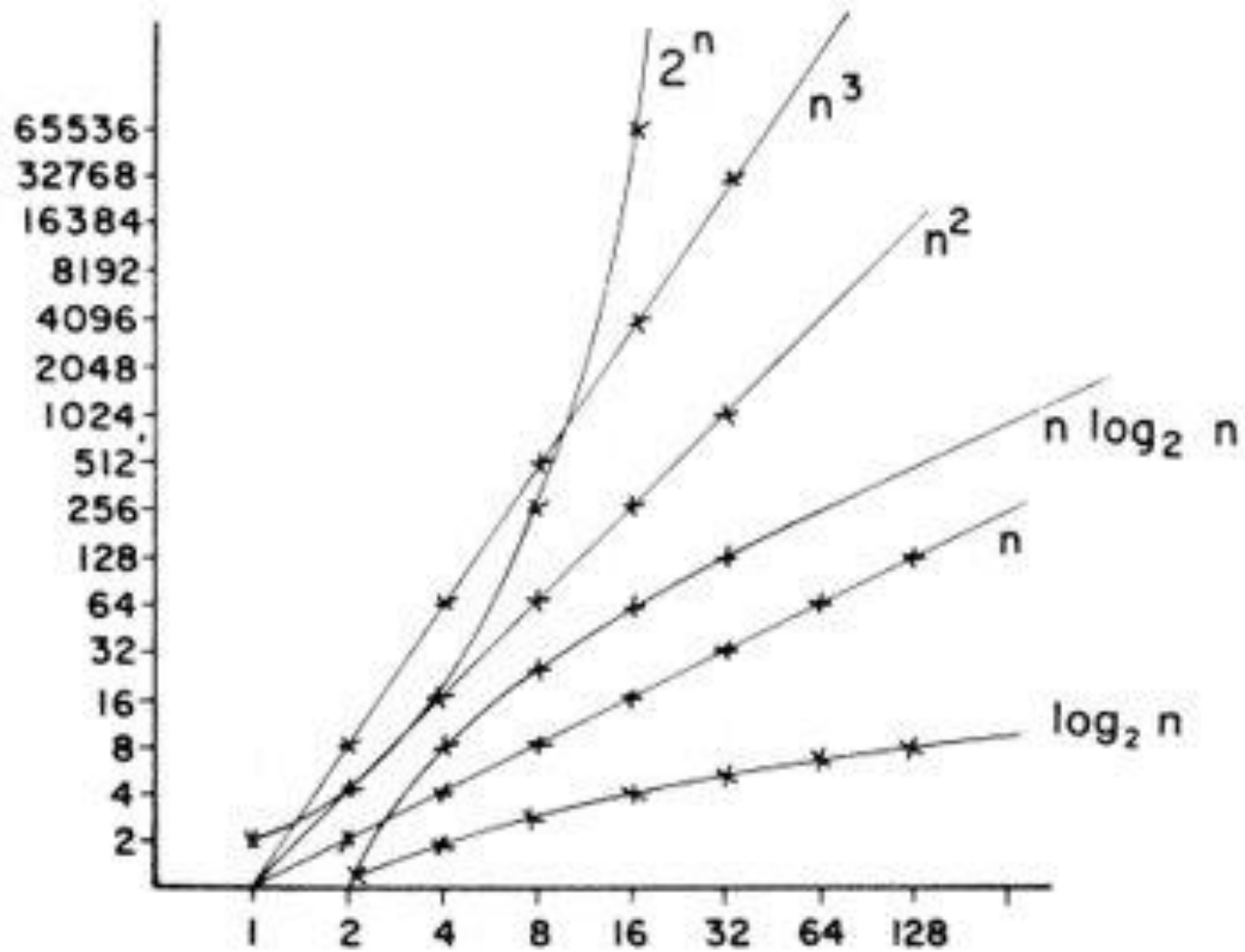


# Heap complexity

- Since the height is  **$\log n$** 
  - *upheap* and *downheap* both runs in  $O(\log N)$
- Thus, **insert** and **removeMin**
  - are both  **$O(\log N)$**







# Other Priority Queue operations

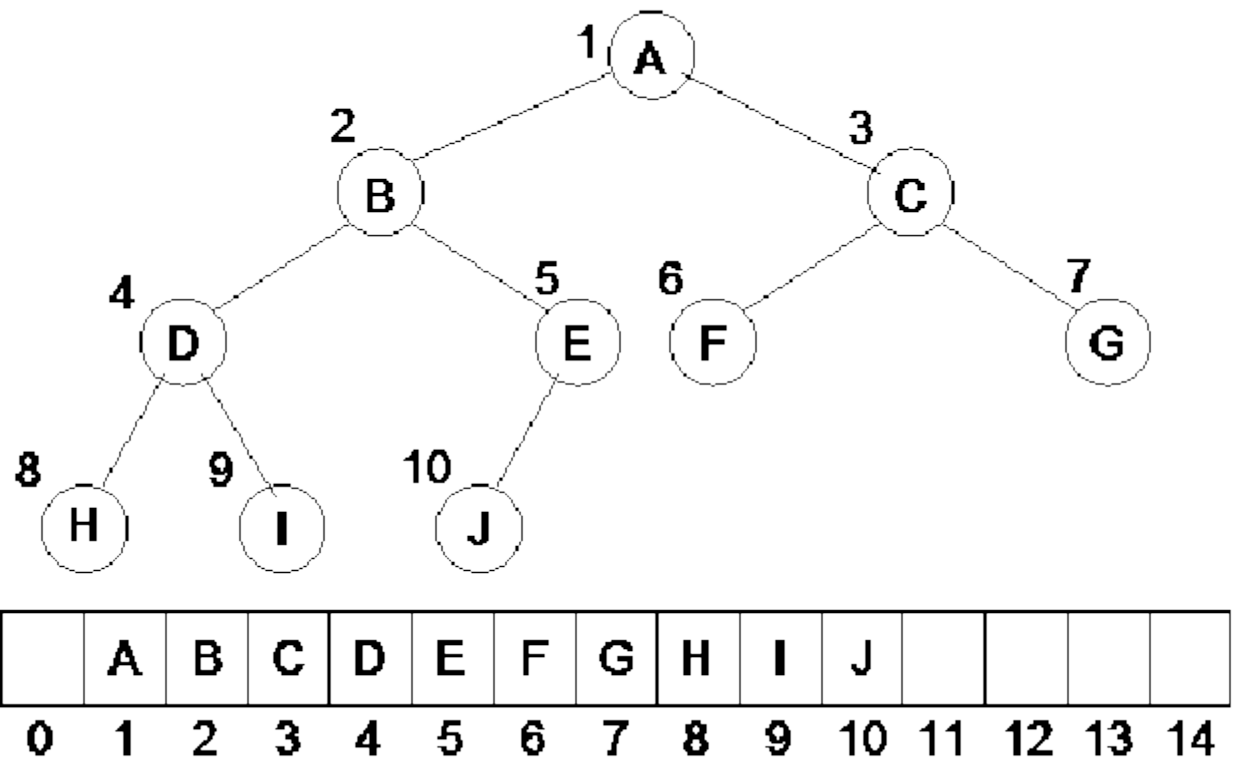
- `min()`
  - Involves returning the root of the heap:  $O(1)$
- `size()`
  - we can keep a separate variable with the size:  $O(1)$ 
    - as we did with e.g. stacks as linked lists
- `isEmpty()`
  - `size == 0` :  $O(1)$

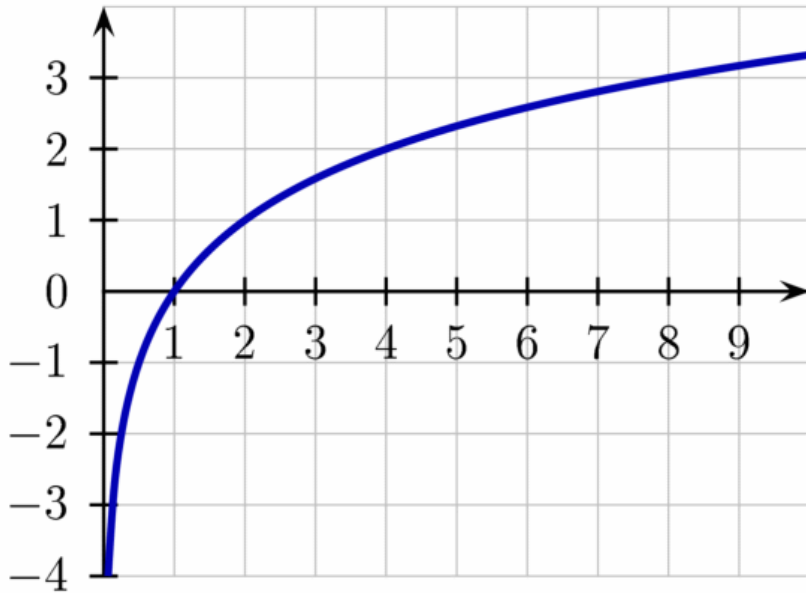
# Implementing Heaps

- For min heaps, a binary tree fills up from
  - Top-to-bottom
  - Left to right
- This can in fact be represented as an **array**
  - Root at index 1

# Implementing Heaps

- For a node at index  $n$ 
  - It's left child will be at index  $2*n$
  - It's right child will be at index  $(2*n) + 1$





- $\log_2 2 = 1$
- $\log_2 4 = 2$
- $\log_2 8 = 3$
- $\log_2 16 = 4$
- $\log_2 32 = 5$
- $\log_2 64 = 6$
- $\log_2 128 = 7$
- $\log_2 256 = 8$
- ...

For example...

If you want **6 levels** in min heap, **array size** must be **64**

# Min heap example

# Eclipse Demo: implementing a priority queue

# Implementing Heaps

```
public class PriorityQueue {  
    private int[] heap;  
    int last;  
  
    public PriorityQueue(int max){  
        heap = new int[max+1];  
        last = 0;  
    }  
  
    public int size(){  
        return last;  
    }  
}
```

```
    public boolean isEmpty(){  
        return last == 0; }  
  
    public int min(){  
        if(isEmpty())  
            throw new  
                PriorityQueueException  
                ("Empty Queue");  
        return heap[1];  
    }
```



# Implementing Heaps – insertion

```
public void insert(int j){  
    if(last == heap.length-1)  
        throw new  
            PriorityQueueException  
                ("Full Queue");  
    heap[++last] = j;  
    upHeap(); }
```

```
private void swap(int i,int j)  
{ int tmp = heap[i];  
  heap[i] = heap[j];  
  heap[j] = tmp; }
```

```
private void upHeap() {  
    int index = last;  
    int parent;  
    while(index > 1){  
        parent = index/2;  
        if(heap[index] >= heap[parent])  
            break;  
        swap(index,parent);  
        index = parent;  
    }  
}
```

# Implementing Heaps – removeMin

```
public void removeMin() {  
    if (isEmpty())  
        throw new PriorityQueueException ("Empty Queue");  
    int min = heap[1];  
    heap[1] = heap[last--];  
    downHeap();  
    return min;  
}
```

# Summary

- Introduced the **priority queue** ADT
- Shown issue with using linear linked list
- Introduced the **heap** data structure
  - insert/removeMin are  $O(\log N)$
- Shown how to **implement** priority queues using heaps with array storage
- Next lecture we will cover the final data structure in this course: **Tries**