

Priority Queues (Heaps)

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COP-3530 - Data Structures



Module #4: Priority Queues

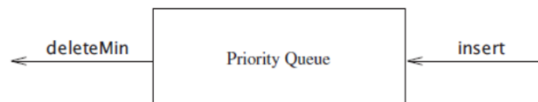
Outline:

- Priority Queues ADT.
- Simple implementations of Priority Queues.
- Efficient implementation - Heaps.
- Heaps operations:
 - insert/add
 - deleteMin
 - Complexity analysis.
- Java code of heaps.

Priority Queues. The Model



- A **priority queue** is a data structure that allows at least the following two operations:
 - **insert/add**;
 - **deleteMin**, which finds, returns, and removes the minimum element in the **priority queue**.
- Note that:
 - The **insert** operation is the equivalent of **enqueue**, and **deleteMin** is the **priority queue** equivalent of the **dequeue** operation.



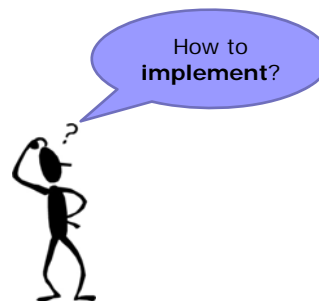
3

Priority Queues. The Model (cont...)



- **Important points:**
 - Each item has a "**priority**"
 - For example: the minimum element is the one with the greater priority (i.e. priority "1" is more important than priority "4")
 - **Main operations: insert** and **deleteMin**
- **Example:**

```
insert x1 with priority 7
insert x2 with priority 5
insert x3 with priority 6
a = deleteMin // x2
b = deleteMin // x3
insert x4 with priority 4
insert x5 with priority 8
c = deleteMin // x4
d = deleteMin // x1
```



4

Priority Queues. Simple implementation



- **Priority Queues in Simple Linked-List**
 - **insertion** at the front is $O(1)$
 - **deleteMin** is $O(N)$
- **Priority Queues in Sorted Linked-List**
 - **insertion** is $O(N)$
 - **deleteMin** is $O(1)$
- **Priority Queues in Binary Search Tree**
 - **insertion** is (in average) $O(\log N)$
 - **deleteMin** is (in average) $O(\log N)$

5

Priority Queues. Efficient implementation

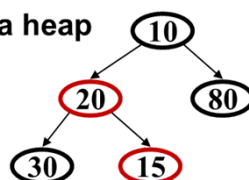


A **binary min-heap** (or **binary heap** or **heap**) has:

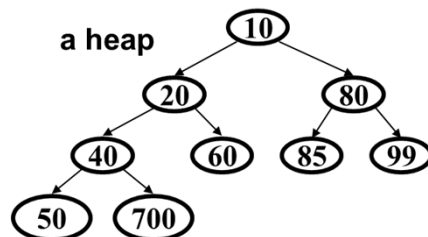
- **Structure property:** A **complete binary tree** – binary tree that is completely filled, with the possible exception of the bottom level, which is filled from left to right.
- **(Min) Heap property:** The priority of every (non-root) node is less important than the priority of its parent.

↓
the key of a node \leq the keys of the children

not a heap



a heap



Heap is Not a Binary Search Tree!!!

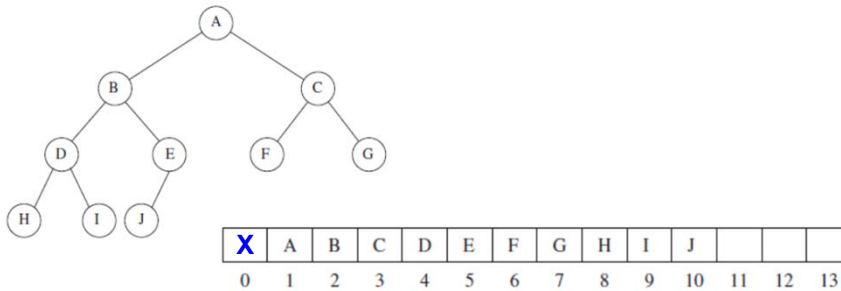
6

Priority Queues (heap). Simple representation



■ Important points:

- **Heap** - a **complete binary tree** is so regular then it can be represented in an **array** and no links are necessary.



- For any element in array position i , the **left child** is in position $2i$, the **right child** is in the cell after the left child ($2i + 1$), and the parent is in position $i/2$.
- Links are not required and the operations required to traverse the tree are extremely simple

7

Priority Queues (heap). Operations



- **findMin**: return **root.data**
- **deleteMin**:
 - **answer = root.data**
 - Move **right-most leaf** in last row to **root** to restore **structure property**
 - If necessary, **percolate down** to restore **heap-order property**
- **insert**:
 - Put new node in next position on bottom row to restore structure property
 - **Percolate up** to restore **heap-order property**

8

Priority Queues (heap). deleteMin



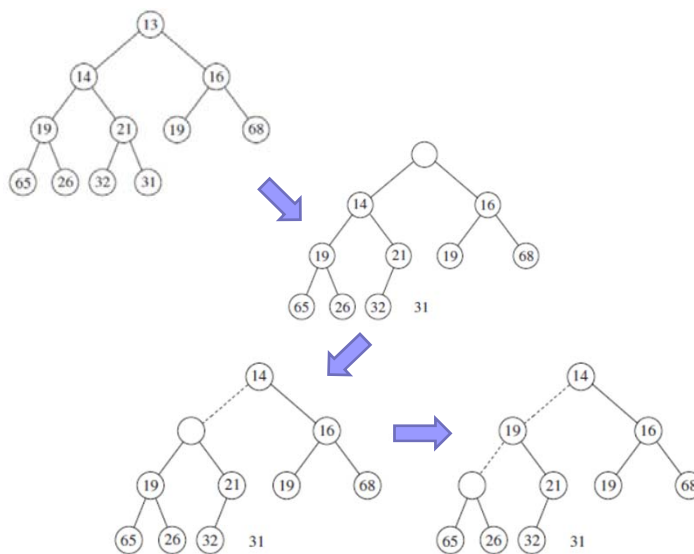
- **deleteMin. Percolate down strategy.**
 - **answer = root.data** (key at the root)
 - Replace the key at the root by the key of the last (right-most) leaf node.
 - Delete the last leaf node.
 - As long as the heap order property is violated, **percolate down**.

9

Priority Queues (heap). deleteMin



- **deleteMin. Example:**



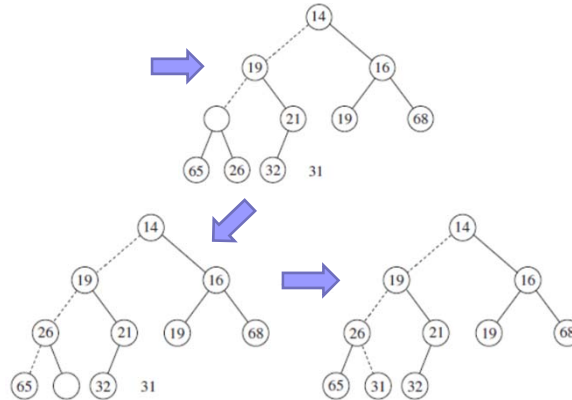
10

Priority Queues (heap). deleteMin

■ deleteMin:

□ 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.



11

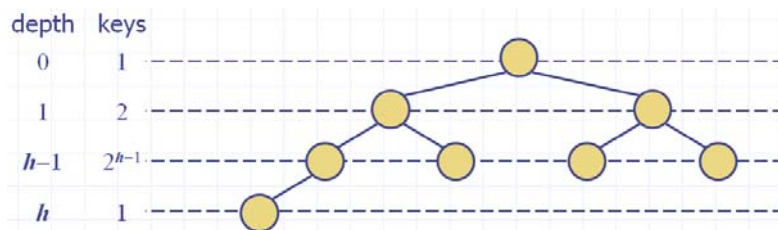
Priority Queues (heap). deleteMin

- **Theorem:** A **heap** storing N nodes has height $O(\log N)$.

Proof: We have $N \geq 1 + 2 + 4 + \dots + 2^{h-1} + 1$

Thus, $N \geq 2^h$, by using $\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} 2^k = 1 + 2 + 4 + \dots + 2^{n-1} = 2^n - 1$

i.e., $h \leq \log N$



- Running time of deleteMin is $O(\log N)$

12

Priority Queues (heap). Insert/add



■ General Strategy:

- Add a value to the tree (create a hole in the next available location, since otherwise the tree will not be complete).
- Focus on restoring the heap-order property.

■ What is the running time?

- Like **deleteMin**, the insert/add process (worst-case time) is proportional to tree height: **$O(\log M)$** .
- But... On **average**, the percolation terminates early; it has been shown that **2.607 comparisons** are required on average to perform an insert. So **insert** is, on **average**, **$O(1)$** .

13

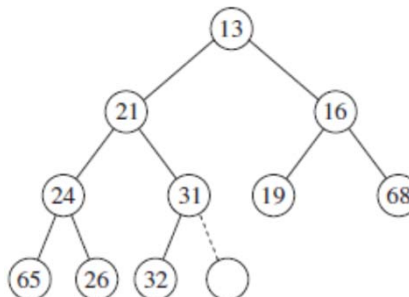
Priority Queues (heap). Insert/add



■ Insert. Percolate up strategy:

```
insert (key)
{
    if (the heap is full) throw an exception;
    insert key at the end of the heap;
    while(key is not in the root node and key < parent(key))
        swap(key, parent(key));
}
```

- **Example:** insert(14)



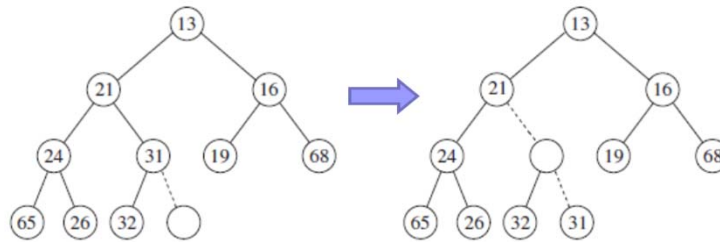
14

Priority Queues (heap). Insert/add

■ Example: insert(14):

□ 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



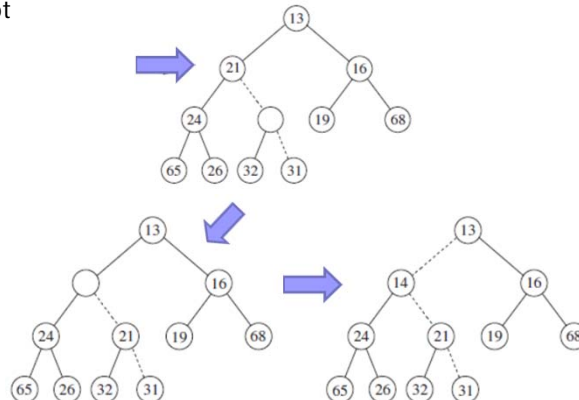
15

Priority Queues (heap). Insert/add

■ insert(14):

□ 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



16

Priority Queues (heap). Java Code



- See Java code for (binary) Heap in:

http://users.cis.fiu.edu/~weiss/cop3530_sum08/July16.java

Author: Prof. Mark Weiss

17