
6 Heapsort

In this chapter, we introduce another sorting algorithm: heapsort. Like merge sort, but unlike insertion sort, heapsort’s running time is $O(n \lg n)$. Like insertion sort, but unlike merge sort, heapsort sorts in place: only a constant number of array elements are stored outside the input array at any time. Thus, heapsort combines the better attributes of the two sorting algorithms we have already discussed.

Heapsort also introduces another algorithm design technique: using a data structure, in this case one we call a “heap,” to manage information. Not only is the heap data structure useful for heapsort, but it also makes an efficient priority queue. The heap data structure will reappear in algorithms in later chapters.

The term “heap” was originally coined in the context of heapsort, but it has since come to refer to “garbage-collected storage,” such as the programming languages Java and Lisp provide. Our heap data structure is *not* garbage-collected storage, and whenever we refer to heaps in this book, we shall mean a data structure rather than an aspect of garbage collection.

6.1 Heaps

The (*binary*) *heap* data structure is an array object that we can view as a nearly complete binary tree (see Section B.5.3), as shown in Figure 6.1. Each node of the tree corresponds to an element of the array. The tree is completely filled on all levels except possibly the lowest, which is filled from the left up to a point. An array A that represents a heap is an object with two attributes: $A.length$, which (as usual) gives the number of elements in the array, and $A.heap-size$, which represents how many elements in the heap are stored within array A . That is, although $A[1 \dots A.length]$ may contain numbers, only the elements in $A[1 \dots A.heap-size]$, where $0 \leq A.heap-size \leq A.length$, are valid elements of the heap. The root of the tree is $A[1]$, and given the index i of a node, we can easily compute the indices of its parent, left child, and right child:

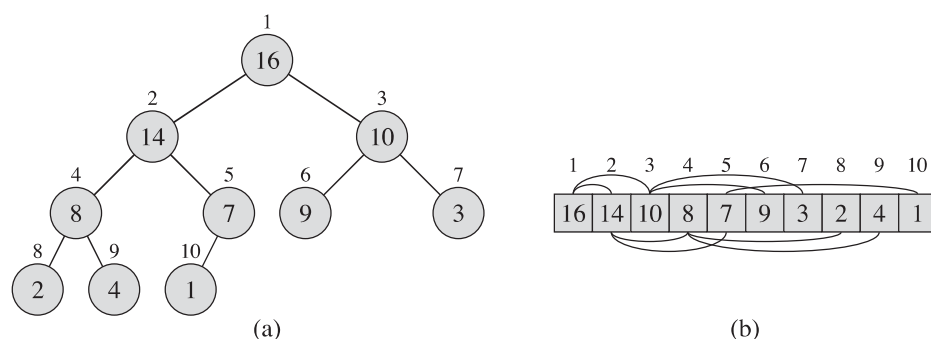


Figure 6.1 A max-heap viewed as **(a)** a binary tree and **(b)** an array. The number within the circle at each node in the tree is the value stored at that node. The number above a node is the corresponding index in the array. Above and below the array are lines showing parent-child relationships; parents are always to the left of their children. The tree has height three; the node at index 4 (with value 8) has height one.

PARENT(i)

1 **return** $\lfloor i/2 \rfloor$

LEFT(i)

1 **return** $2i$

RIGHT(i)

1 **return** $2i + 1$

On most computers, the LEFT procedure can compute $2i$ in one instruction by simply shifting the binary representation of i left by one bit position. Similarly, the RIGHT procedure can quickly compute $2i + 1$ by shifting the binary representation of i left by one bit position and then adding in a 1 as the low-order bit. The PARENT procedure can compute $\lfloor i/2 \rfloor$ by shifting i right one bit position. Good implementations of heapsort often implement these procedures as “macros” or “in-line” procedures.

There are two kinds of binary heaps: max-heaps and min-heaps. In both kinds, the values in the nodes satisfy a *heap property*, the specifics of which depend on the kind of heap. In a *max-heap*, the *max-heap property* is that for every node i other than the root,

$$A[\text{PARENT}(i)] \geq A[i],$$

that is, the value of a node is at most the value of its parent. Thus, the largest element in a max-heap is stored at the root, and the subtree rooted at a node contains

values no larger than that contained at the node itself. A *min-heap* is organized in the opposite way; the *min-heap property* is that for every node i other than the root,

$$A[\text{PARENT}(i)] \leq A[i] .$$

The smallest element in a min-heap is at the root.

For the heapsort algorithm, we use max-heaps. Min-heaps commonly implement priority queues, which we discuss in Section 6.5. We shall be precise in specifying whether we need a max-heap or a min-heap for any particular application, and when properties apply to either max-heaps or min-heaps, we just use the term “heap.”

Viewing a heap as a tree, we define the *height* of a node in a heap to be the number of edges on the longest simple downward path from the node to a leaf, and we define the height of the heap to be the height of its root. Since a heap of n elements is based on a complete binary tree, its height is $\Theta(\lg n)$ (see Exercise 6.1-2). We shall see that the basic operations on heaps run in time at most proportional to the height of the tree and thus take $O(\lg n)$ time. The remainder of this chapter presents some basic procedures and shows how they are used in a sorting algorithm and a priority-queue data structure.

- The MAX-HEAPIFY procedure, which runs in $O(\lg n)$ time, is the key to maintaining the max-heap property.
- The BUILD-MAX-HEAP procedure, which runs in linear time, produces a max-heap from an unordered input array.
- The HEAPSORT procedure, which runs in $O(n \lg n)$ time, sorts an array in place.
- The MAX-HEAP-INSERT, HEAP-EXTRACT-MAX, HEAP-INCREASE-KEY, and HEAP-MAXIMUM procedures, which run in $O(\lg n)$ time, allow the heap data structure to implement a priority queue.

Exercises

6.1-1

What are the minimum and maximum numbers of elements in a heap of height h ?

6.1-2

Show that an n -element heap has height $\lfloor \lg n \rfloor$.

6.1-3

Show that in any subtree of a max-heap, the root of the subtree contains the largest value occurring anywhere in that subtree.

6.1-4

Where in a max-heap might the smallest element reside, assuming that all elements are distinct?

6.1-5

Is an array that is in sorted order a min-heap?

6.1-6

Is the array with values $\langle 23, 17, 14, 6, 13, 10, 1, 5, 7, 12 \rangle$ a max-heap?

6.1-7

Show that, with the array representation for storing an n -element heap, the leaves are the nodes indexed by $\lfloor n/2 \rfloor + 1, \lfloor n/2 \rfloor + 2, \dots, n$.

6.2 Maintaining the heap property

In order to maintain the max-heap property, we call the procedure MAX-HEAPIFY. Its inputs are an array A and an index i into the array. When it is called, MAX-HEAPIFY assumes that the binary trees rooted at $\text{LEFT}(i)$ and $\text{RIGHT}(i)$ are max-heaps, but that $A[i]$ might be smaller than its children, thus violating the max-heap property. MAX-HEAPIFY lets the value at $A[i]$ “float down” in the max-heap so that the subtree rooted at index i obeys the max-heap property.

MAX-HEAPIFY(A, i)

```

1   $l = \text{LEFT}(i)$ 
2   $r = \text{RIGHT}(i)$ 
3  if  $l \leq A.\text{heap-size}$  and  $A[l] > A[i]$ 
4       $\text{largest} = l$ 
5  else  $\text{largest} = i$ 
6  if  $r \leq A.\text{heap-size}$  and  $A[r] > A[\text{largest}]$ 
7       $\text{largest} = r$ 
8  if  $\text{largest} \neq i$ 
9      exchange  $A[i]$  with  $A[\text{largest}]$ 
10     MAX-HEAPIFY( $A, \text{largest}$ )
```

Figure 6.2 illustrates the action of MAX-HEAPIFY. At each step, the largest of the elements $A[i]$, $A[\text{LEFT}(i)]$, and $A[\text{RIGHT}(i)]$ is determined, and its index is stored in largest . If $A[i]$ is largest, then the subtree rooted at node i is already a max-heap and the procedure terminates. Otherwise, one of the two children has the largest element, and $A[i]$ is swapped with $A[\text{largest}]$, which causes node i and its

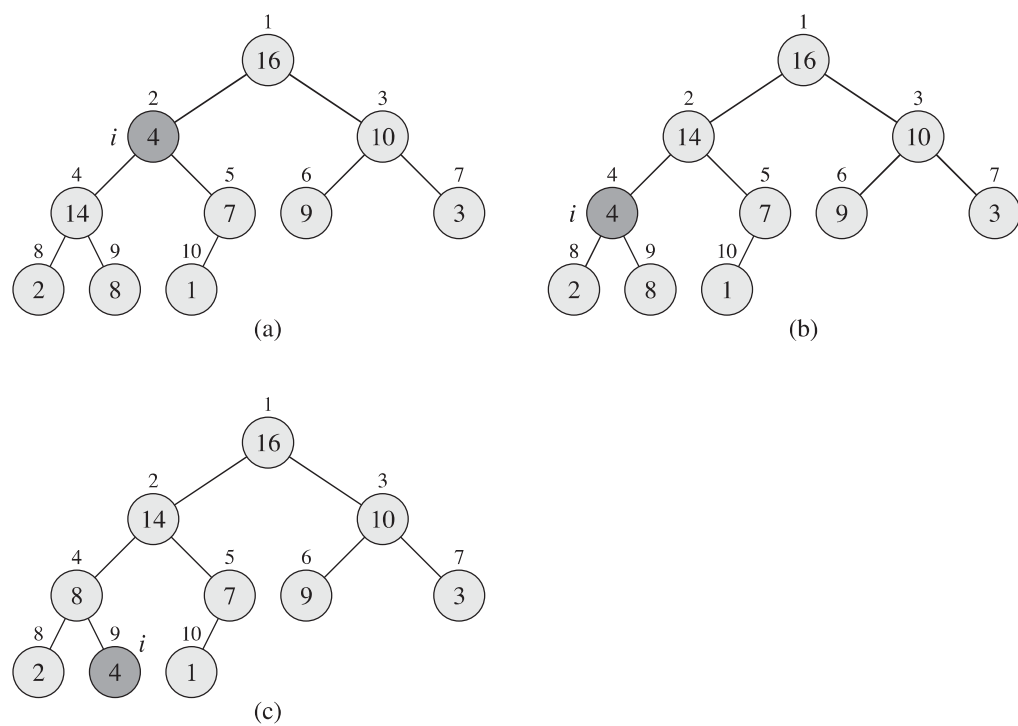


Figure 6.2 The action of $\text{MAX-HEAPIFY}(A, 2)$, where $A.\text{heap-size} = 10$. (a) The initial configuration, with $A[2]$ at node $i = 2$ violating the max-heap property since it is not larger than both children. The max-heap property is restored for node 2 in (b) by exchanging $A[2]$ with $A[4]$, which destroys the max-heap property for node 4. The recursive call $\text{MAX-HEAPIFY}(A, 4)$ now has $i = 4$. After swapping $A[4]$ with $A[9]$, as shown in (c), node 4 is fixed up, and the recursive call $\text{MAX-HEAPIFY}(A, 9)$ yields no further change to the data structure.

children to satisfy the max-heap property. The node indexed by *largest*, however, now has the original value $A[i]$, and thus the subtree rooted at *largest* might violate the max-heap property. Consequently, we call MAX-HEAPIFY recursively on that subtree.

The running time of MAX-HEAPIFY on a subtree of size n rooted at a given node i is the $\Theta(1)$ time to fix up the relationships among the elements $A[i]$, $A[\text{LEFT}(i)]$, and $A[\text{RIGHT}(i)]$, plus the time to run MAX-HEAPIFY on a subtree rooted at one of the children of node i (assuming that the recursive call occurs). The children's subtrees each have size at most $2n/3$ —the worst case occurs when the bottom level of the tree is exactly half full—and therefore we can describe the running time of MAX-HEAPIFY by the recurrence

$$T(n) \leq T(2n/3) + \Theta(1) .$$

The solution to this recurrence, by case 2 of the master theorem (Theorem 4.1), is $T(n) = O(\lg n)$. Alternatively, we can characterize the running time of MAX-HEAPIFY on a node of height h as $O(h)$.

Exercises

6.2-1

Using Figure 6.2 as a model, illustrate the operation of MAX-HEAPIFY($A, 3$) on the array $A = \langle 27, 17, 3, 16, 13, 10, 1, 5, 7, 12, 4, 8, 9, 0 \rangle$.

6.2-2

Starting with the procedure MAX-HEAPIFY, write pseudocode for the procedure MIN-HEAPIFY(A, i), which performs the corresponding manipulation on a min-heap. How does the running time of MIN-HEAPIFY compare to that of MAX-HEAPIFY?

6.2-3

What is the effect of calling MAX-HEAPIFY(A, i) when the element $A[i]$ is larger than its children?

6.2-4

What is the effect of calling MAX-HEAPIFY(A, i) for $i > A.heap-size/2$?

6.2-5

The code for MAX-HEAPIFY is quite efficient in terms of constant factors, except possibly for the recursive call in line 10, which might cause some compilers to produce inefficient code. Write an efficient MAX-HEAPIFY that uses an iterative control construct (a loop) instead of recursion.

6.2-6

Show that the worst-case running time of MAX-HEAPIFY on a heap of size n is $\Omega(\lg n)$. (*Hint:* For a heap with n nodes, give node values that cause MAX-HEAPIFY to be called recursively at every node on a simple path from the root down to a leaf.)

6.3 Building a heap

We can use the procedure MAX-HEAPIFY in a bottom-up manner to convert an array $A[1..n]$, where $n = A.length$, into a max-heap. By Exercise 6.1-7, the elements in the subarray $A[(\lfloor n/2 \rfloor + 1) .. n]$ are all leaves of the tree, and so each is

a 1-element heap to begin with. The procedure BUILD-MAX-HEAP goes through the remaining nodes of the tree and runs MAX-HEAPIFY on each one.

```

BUILD-MAX-HEAP( $A$ )
1   $A.heap-size = A.length$ 
2  for  $i = \lfloor A.length/2 \rfloor$  downto 1
3      MAX-HEAPIFY( $A, i$ )

```

Figure 6.3 shows an example of the action of BUILD-MAX-HEAP.

To show why BUILD-MAX-HEAP works correctly, we use the following loop invariant:

At the start of each iteration of the **for** loop of lines 2–3, each node $i + 1$, $i + 2, \dots, n$ is the root of a max-heap.

We need to show that this invariant is true prior to the first loop iteration, that each iteration of the loop maintains the invariant, and that the invariant provides a useful property to show correctness when the loop terminates.

Initialization: Prior to the first iteration of the loop, $i = \lfloor n/2 \rfloor$. Each node $\lfloor n/2 \rfloor + 1, \lfloor n/2 \rfloor + 2, \dots, n$ is a leaf and is thus the root of a trivial max-heap.

Maintenance: To see that each iteration maintains the loop invariant, observe that the children of node i are numbered higher than i . By the loop invariant, therefore, they are both roots of max-heaps. This is precisely the condition required for the call MAX-HEAPIFY(A, i) to make node i a max-heap root. Moreover, the MAX-HEAPIFY call preserves the property that nodes $i + 1, i + 2, \dots, n$ are all roots of max-heaps. Decrementing i in the **for** loop update reestablishes the loop invariant for the next iteration.

Termination: At termination, $i = 0$. By the loop invariant, each node $1, 2, \dots, n$ is the root of a max-heap. In particular, node 1 is.

We can compute a simple upper bound on the running time of BUILD-MAX-HEAP as follows. Each call to MAX-HEAPIFY costs $O(\lg n)$ time, and BUILD-MAX-HEAP makes $O(n)$ such calls. Thus, the running time is $O(n \lg n)$. This upper bound, though correct, is not asymptotically tight.

We can derive a tighter bound by observing that the time for MAX-HEAPIFY to run at a node varies with the height of the node in the tree, and the heights of most nodes are small. Our tighter analysis relies on the properties that an n -element heap has height $\lceil \lg n \rceil$ (see Exercise 6.1-2) and at most $\lceil n/2^{h+1} \rceil$ nodes of any height h (see Exercise 6.3-3).

The time required by MAX-HEAPIFY when called on a node of height h is $O(h)$, and so we can express the total cost of BUILD-MAX-HEAP as being bounded from above by

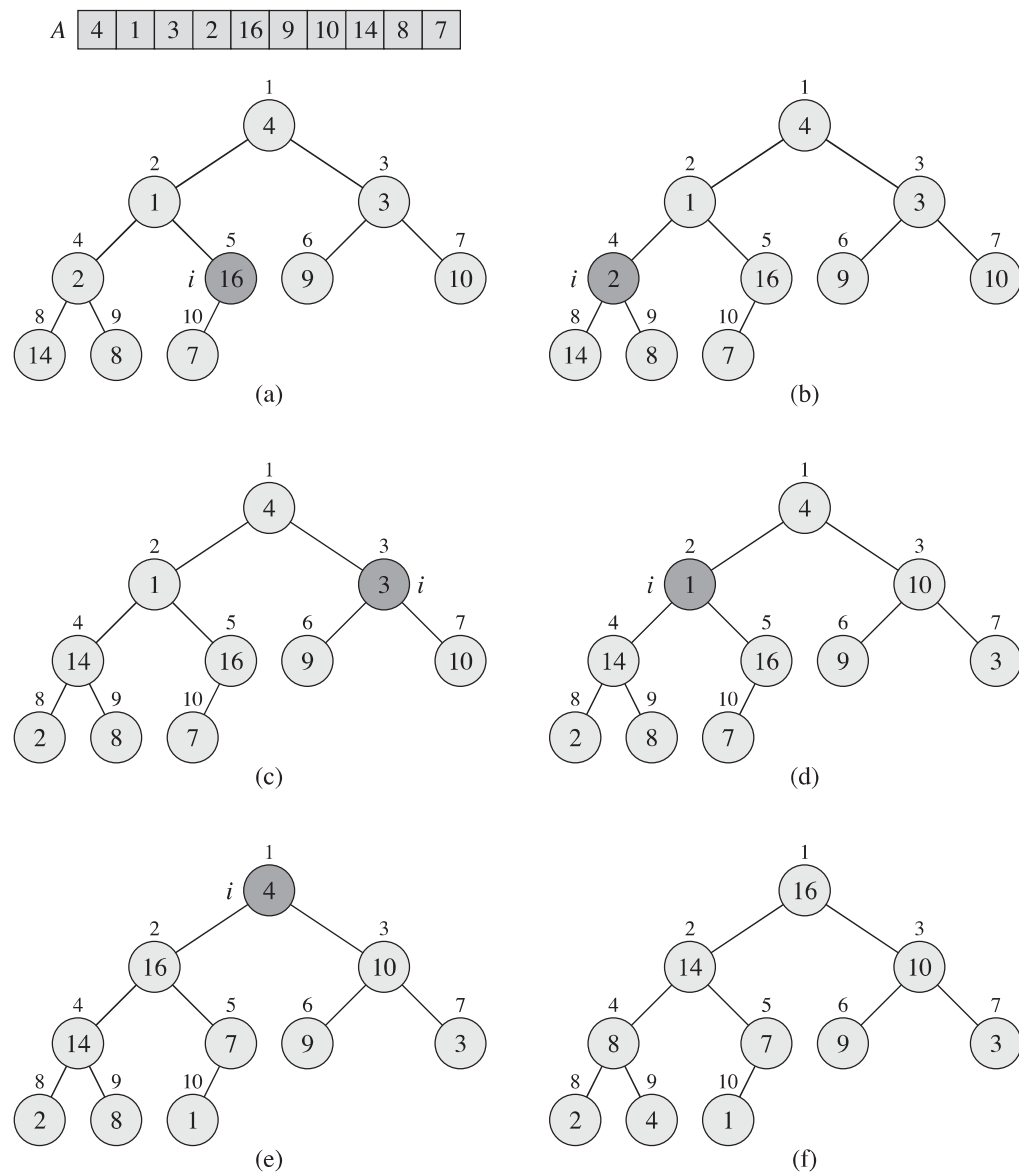


Figure 6.3 The operation of BUILD-MAX-HEAP, showing the data structure before the call to MAX-HEAPIFY in line 3 of BUILD-MAX-HEAP. **(a)** A 10-element input array A and the binary tree it represents. The figure shows that the loop index i refers to node 5 before the call MAX-HEAPIFY(A, i). **(b)** The data structure that results. The loop index i for the next iteration refers to node 4. **(c)–(e)** Subsequent iterations of the **for** loop in BUILD-MAX-HEAP. Observe that whenever MAX-HEAPIFY is called on a node, the two subtrees of that node are both max-heaps. **(f)** The max-heap after BUILD-MAX-HEAP finishes.

$$\sum_{h=0}^{\lfloor \lg n \rfloor} \left\lceil \frac{n}{2^{h+1}} \right\rceil O(h) = O\left(n \sum_{h=0}^{\lfloor \lg n \rfloor} \frac{h}{2^h}\right).$$

We evaluate the last summation by substituting $x = 1/2$ in the formula (A.8), yielding

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{h=0}^{\infty} \frac{h}{2^h} &= \frac{1/2}{(1 - 1/2)^2} \\ &= 2. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, we can bound the running time of BUILD-MAX-HEAP as

$$\begin{aligned} O\left(n \sum_{h=0}^{\lfloor \lg n \rfloor} \frac{h}{2^h}\right) &= O\left(n \sum_{h=0}^{\infty} \frac{h}{2^h}\right) \\ &= O(n). \end{aligned}$$

Hence, we can build a max-heap from an unordered array in linear time.

We can build a min-heap by the procedure BUILD-MIN-HEAP, which is the same as BUILD-MAX-HEAP but with the call to MAX-HEAPIFY in line 3 replaced by a call to MIN-HEAPIFY (see Exercise 6.2-2). BUILD-MIN-HEAP produces a min-heap from an unordered linear array in linear time.

Exercises

6.3-1

Using Figure 6.3 as a model, illustrate the operation of BUILD-MAX-HEAP on the array $A = \langle 5, 3, 17, 10, 84, 19, 6, 22, 9 \rangle$.

6.3-2

Why do we want the loop index i in line 2 of BUILD-MAX-HEAP to decrease from $\lfloor A.length/2 \rfloor$ to 1 rather than increase from 1 to $\lfloor A.length/2 \rfloor$?

6.3-3

Show that there are at most $\lceil n/2^{h+1} \rceil$ nodes of height h in any n -element heap.

6.4 The heapsort algorithm

The heapsort algorithm starts by using BUILD-MAX-HEAP to build a max-heap on the input array $A[1..n]$, where $n = A.length$. Since the maximum element of the array is stored at the root $A[1]$, we can put it into its correct final position

by exchanging it with $A[n]$. If we now discard node n from the heap—and we can do so by simply decrementing $A.\text{heap-size}$ —we observe that the children of the root remain max-heaps, but the new root element might violate the max-heap property. All we need to do to restore the max-heap property, however, is call $\text{MAX-HEAPIFY}(A, 1)$, which leaves a max-heap in $A[1..n-1]$. The heapsort algorithm then repeats this process for the max-heap of size $n-1$ down to a heap of size 2. (See Exercise 6.4-2 for a precise loop invariant.)

HEAPSORT(A)

```

1  BUILD-MAX-HEAP( $A$ )
2  for  $i = A.\text{length}$  downto 2
3      exchange  $A[1]$  with  $A[i]$ 
4       $A.\text{heap-size} = A.\text{heap-size} - 1$ 
5      MAX-HEAPIFY( $A, 1$ )
```

Figure 6.4 shows an example of the operation of **HEAPSORT** after line 1 has built the initial max-heap. The figure shows the max-heap before the first iteration of the **for** loop of lines 2–5 and after each iteration.

The **HEAPSORT** procedure takes time $O(n \lg n)$, since the call to **BUILD-MAX-HEAP** takes time $O(n)$ and each of the $n-1$ calls to **MAX-HEAPIFY** takes time $O(\lg n)$.

Exercises

6.4-1

Using Figure 6.4 as a model, illustrate the operation of **HEAPSORT** on the array $A = \langle 5, 13, 2, 25, 7, 17, 20, 8, 4 \rangle$.

6.4-2

Argue the correctness of **HEAPSORT** using the following loop invariant:

At the start of each iteration of the **for** loop of lines 2–5, the subarray $A[1..i]$ is a max-heap containing the i smallest elements of $A[1..n]$, and the subarray $A[i+1..n]$ contains the $n-i$ largest elements of $A[1..n]$, sorted.

6.4-3

What is the running time of **HEAPSORT** on an array A of length n that is already sorted in increasing order? What about decreasing order?

6.4-4

Show that the worst-case running time of **HEAPSORT** is $\Omega(n \lg n)$.

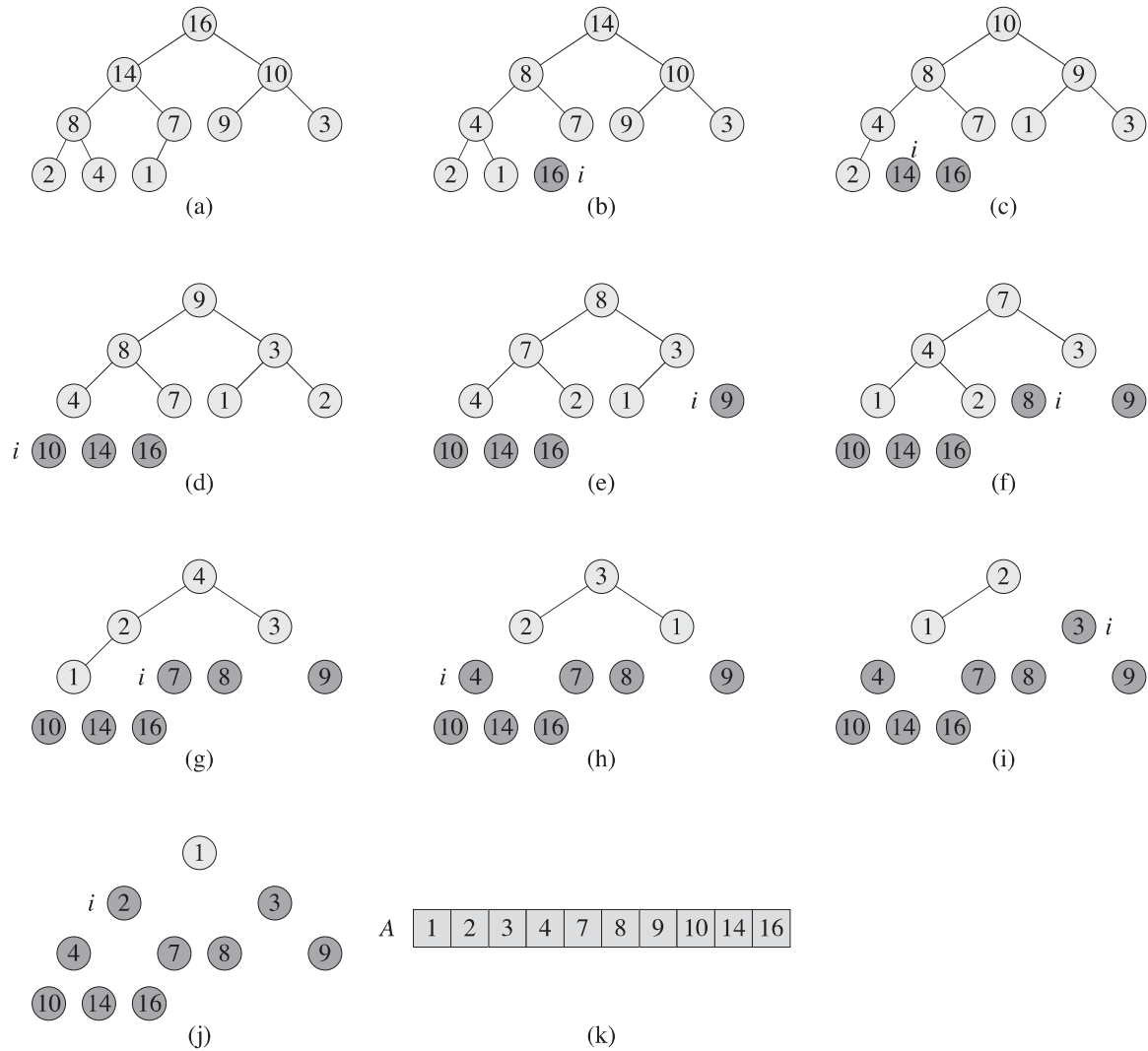


Figure 6.4 The operation of HEAPSORT. (a) The max-heap data structure just after BUILD-MAX-HEAP has built it in line 1. (b)–(j) The max-heap just after each call of MAX-HEAPIFY in line 5, showing the value of i at that time. Only lightly shaded nodes remain in the heap. (k) The resulting sorted array A .

6.4-5 ★

Show that when all elements are distinct, the best-case running time of HEAPSORT is $\Omega(n \lg n)$.

6.5 Priority queues

Heapsort is an excellent algorithm, but a good implementation of quicksort, presented in Chapter 7, usually beats it in practice. Nevertheless, the heap data structure itself has many uses. In this section, we present one of the most popular applications of a heap: as an efficient priority queue. As with heaps, priority queues come in two forms: max-priority queues and min-priority queues. We will focus here on how to implement max-priority queues, which are in turn based on max-heaps; Exercise 6.5-3 asks you to write the procedures for min-priority queues.

A **priority queue** is a data structure for maintaining a set S of elements, each with an associated value called a **key**. A **max-priority queue** supports the following operations:

INSERT(S, x) inserts the element x into the set S , which is equivalent to the operation $S = S \cup \{x\}$.

MAXIMUM(S) returns the element of S with the largest key.

EXTRACT-MAX(S) removes and returns the element of S with the largest key.

INCREASE-KEY(S, x, k) increases the value of element x 's key to the new value k , which is assumed to be at least as large as x 's current key value.

Among their other applications, we can use max-priority queues to schedule jobs on a shared computer. The max-priority queue keeps track of the jobs to be performed and their relative priorities. When a job is finished or interrupted, the scheduler selects the highest-priority job from among those pending by calling EXTRACT-MAX. The scheduler can add a new job to the queue at any time by calling INSERT.

Alternatively, a **min-priority queue** supports the operations INSERT, MINIMUM, EXTRACT-MIN, and DECREASE-KEY. A min-priority queue can be used in an event-driven simulator. The items in the queue are events to be simulated, each with an associated time of occurrence that serves as its key. The events must be simulated in order of their time of occurrence, because the simulation of an event can cause other events to be simulated in the future. The simulation program calls EXTRACT-MIN at each step to choose the next event to simulate. As new events are produced, the simulator inserts them into the min-priority queue by calling INSERT.

We shall see other uses for min-priority queues, highlighting the DECREASE-KEY operation, in Chapters 23 and 24.

Not surprisingly, we can use a heap to implement a priority queue. In a given application, such as job scheduling or event-driven simulation, elements of a priority queue correspond to objects in the application. We often need to determine which application object corresponds to a given priority-queue element, and vice versa. When we use a heap to implement a priority queue, therefore, we often need to store a *handle* to the corresponding application object in each heap element. The exact makeup of the handle (such as a pointer or an integer) depends on the application. Similarly, we need to store a handle to the corresponding heap element in each application object. Here, the handle would typically be an array index. Because heap elements change locations within the array during heap operations, an actual implementation, upon relocating a heap element, would also have to update the array index in the corresponding application object. Because the details of accessing application objects depend heavily on the application and its implementation, we shall not pursue them here, other than noting that in practice, these handles do need to be correctly maintained.

Now we discuss how to implement the operations of a max-priority queue. The procedure HEAP-MAXIMUM implements the MAXIMUM operation in $\Theta(1)$ time.

HEAP-MAXIMUM(A)

```
1  return  $A[1]$ 
```

The procedure HEAP-EXTRACT-MAX implements the EXTRACT-MAX operation. It is similar to the **for** loop body (lines 3–5) of the HEAPSORT procedure.

HEAP-EXTRACT-MAX(A)

```
1  if  $A.heap-size < 1$ 
2      error “heap underflow”
3   $max = A[1]$ 
4   $A[1] = A[A.heap-size]$ 
5   $A.heap-size = A.heap-size - 1$ 
6  MAX-HEAPIFY( $A, 1$ )
7  return  $max$ 
```

The running time of HEAP-EXTRACT-MAX is $O(\lg n)$, since it performs only a constant amount of work on top of the $O(\lg n)$ time for MAX-HEAPIFY.

The procedure HEAP-INCREASE-KEY implements the INCREASE-KEY operation. An index i into the array identifies the priority-queue element whose key we wish to increase. The procedure first updates the key of element $A[i]$ to its new value. Because increasing the key of $A[i]$ might violate the max-heap property,

the procedure then, in a manner reminiscent of the insertion loop (lines 5–7) of INSERTION-SORT from Section 2.1, traverses a simple path from this node toward the root to find a proper place for the newly increased key. As HEAP-INCREASE-KEY traverses this path, it repeatedly compares an element to its parent, exchanging their keys and continuing if the element’s key is larger, and terminating if the element’s key is smaller, since the max-heap property now holds. (See Exercise 6.5-5 for a precise loop invariant.)

HEAP-INCREASE-KEY(A, i, key)

```

1  if  $key < A[i]$ 
2      error “new key is smaller than current key”
3   $A[i] = key$ 
4  while  $i > 1$  and  $A[\text{PARENT}(i)] < A[i]$ 
5      exchange  $A[i]$  with  $A[\text{PARENT}(i)]$ 
6       $i = \text{PARENT}(i)$ 
```

Figure 6.5 shows an example of a HEAP-INCREASE-KEY operation. The running time of HEAP-INCREASE-KEY on an n -element heap is $O(\lg n)$, since the path traced from the node updated in line 3 to the root has length $O(\lg n)$.

The procedure MAX-HEAP-INSERT implements the INSERT operation. It takes as an input the key of the new element to be inserted into max-heap A . The procedure first expands the max-heap by adding to the tree a new leaf whose key is $-\infty$. Then it calls HEAP-INCREASE-KEY to set the key of this new node to its correct value and maintain the max-heap property.

MAX-HEAP-INSERT(A, key)

```

1   $A.\text{heap-size} = A.\text{heap-size} + 1$ 
2   $A[A.\text{heap-size}] = -\infty$ 
3  HEAP-INCREASE-KEY( $A, A.\text{heap-size}, key$ )
```

The running time of MAX-HEAP-INSERT on an n -element heap is $O(\lg n)$.

In summary, a heap can support any priority-queue operation on a set of size n in $O(\lg n)$ time.

Exercises

6.5-1

Illustrate the operation of HEAP-EXTRACT-MAX on the heap $A = \langle 15, 13, 9, 5, 12, 8, 7, 4, 0, 6, 2, 1 \rangle$.

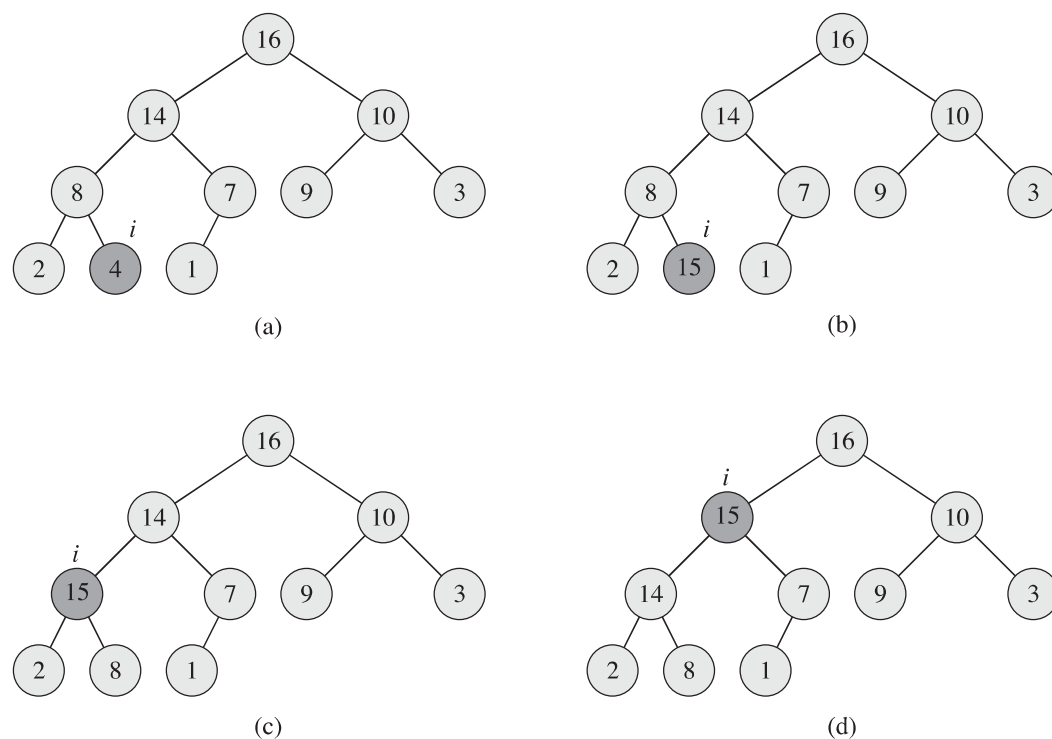


Figure 6.5 The operation of HEAP-INCREASE-KEY. **(a)** The max-heap of Figure 6.4(a) with a node whose index is i heavily shaded. **(b)** This node has its key increased to 15. **(c)** After one iteration of the **while** loop of lines 4–6, the node and its parent have exchanged keys, and the index i moves up to the parent. **(d)** The max-heap after one more iteration of the **while** loop. At this point, $A[\text{PARENT}(i)] \geq A[i]$. The max-heap property now holds and the procedure terminates.

6.5-2

Illustrate the operation of MAX-HEAP-INSERT(A , 10) on the heap $A = \langle 15, 13, 9, 5, 12, 8, 7, 4, 0, 6, 2, 1 \rangle$.

6.5-3

Write pseudocode for the procedures HEAP-MINIMUM, HEAP-EXTRACT-MIN, HEAP-DECREASE-KEY, and MIN-HEAP-INSERT that implement a min-priority queue with a min-heap.

6.5-4

Why do we bother setting the key of the inserted node to $-\infty$ in line 2 of MAX-HEAP-INSERT when the next thing we do is increase its key to the desired value?