

OperatorUtilizationHeap::Duplicating last operator in the heap while removing an operator

Summary

Due to miscalculation in OperatorUtilizationHeap::_remove() a duplicate of last operator is made while removing an operator.

Vulnerability Detail

First run this test in OperatorUtilizationHeap.sol contract:

```
function test_removing() public {
    OperatorUtilizationHeap.Data memory heap = OperatorUtilizationHeap.initialize(5);
    assertTrue(heap.isEmpty());
    assertEq(heap.count, 0);
    heap.insert(OperatorUtilizationHeap.Operator({id: 1, utilization: 15}));
    heap.insert(OperatorUtilizationHeap.Operator({id: 2, utilization: 5}));
    heap.insert(OperatorUtilizationHeap.Operator({id: 3, utilization: 10}));
    console.log("count is:", heap.count);

    assertEq(heap.operators[1].id, 2);
    assertEq(heap.operators[1].utilization, 5);
    assertEq(heap.operators[2].id, 1);
    assertEq(heap.operators[2].utilization, 15);
    assertEq(heap.operators[3].id, 3);

    assertEq(heap.operators[3].utilization, 10);

    heap.remove(2); // removing operator of index 2

    assertEq(heap.operators[1].id, 2);
    assertEq(heap.operators[1].utilization, 5);
    assertEq(heap.operators[2].id, 3); // 2nd operator removed & 3rd index's operator came here
    assertEq(heap.operators[2].utilization, 10);
    assertEq(heap.operators[3].id, 3); // the 3rd operator still in index 3
    assertEq(heap.operators[3].utilization, 10);

    console.log("count after removing is:", heap.count);
}
```

If we run this test it will succeed:

```

Ran 1 test for test/OperatorUtilizationHeap.t.sol:OperatorUtilizationHeapTest
[PASS] test_removing() (gas: 11482)
Logs:
count is: 3
count after removing is: 2

Test result: ok. 1 passed; 0 failed; 0 skipped; finished in 573.96µs

Ran 1 test suite in 573.96µs: 1 tests passed, 0 failed, 0 skipped (1 total tests)

```

Lets dive deep into removing the 2nd index operator. The `OperatorUtilizationHeap::remove()` looks like this:

```

/// @notice Removes an operator from the heap.
/// @param self The heap.
/// @param index The index of the operator to remove.
function remove(Data memory self, uint8 index) internal pure {
    if (index < ROOT_INDEX || index > self.count) revert INVALID_INDEX();
    self._remove(index);
    self._bubbleUp(index);
    self._bubbleDown(index);
}

```

In test we called this `remove()` with `index = 2`. At this point `heap.count` is 3 & there is total 3 operator in `operators[]`. So, 1st it will call the `_remove()`. The function looks like this:

```

function _remove(Data memory self, uint8 i) internal pure {
    self.operators[i] = self.operators[self.count--];
}

```

As `i = 2` here `operators[]`'s 2nd index is assigned with `self.count` i.e 3, then it is substracted by 1. Now 3rd index's operator is in 2nd index. If we see the test snippet we can see:

```

assertEq(heap.operators[2].id, 3);
assertEq(heap.operators[2].utilization, 10);

```

So, the index 2 successfully substituted by the operator in 3rd index. But the 3rd index's operator i.e the last operator is still in last index i.e 3rd index.

```

assertEq(heap.operators[3].id, 3);
assertEq(heap.operators[3].utilization, 10);

```

A duplicate of 3rd operator was made. Now, `_bubbleUp()` was called with index 2. As `index = 2` the `parentIndex` inside it will be 1:

```

uint8 parentIndex = i / 2;

```

But the condition on next line: `if (_isOnMinLevel(i)) {` evaluated to false for `i = 2`, so the `else` part will be executed, in `else` block the condition:

```

if (_hasParent(i) && self.operators[i].utilization < self.operators[parentIndex].utilization) {

```

will evaluate to false because for index 2 the `_hasParent(i)` is true but as 2nd operator's utilization is more than 1st operator's utilization. As this condition evaluated to false the next else part: `self._bubbleUpMax(i)` will execute and here this also does nothing because in `_bubbleUpMax()` the `if (_hasGrandparent(i)) {` condition evaluated to false. As we can till now nothing changed in call flow of `self._bubbleUp(index);`. Next, `self._bubbleDown(index);` is called with index 2, here if `(!_isOnMinLevel(i)) {` condition evaluate to false so the else block will execute, in else block `_bubbleDownMax()` is called with the index 2, in this function if `(self._hasChildren(i)) {` condition will evaluate to false so this `_bubbleDownMax()` also does nothing for index 2.

As we saw the 2nd operator [from index 2] was replaced by the 3rd operator but the 3rd operator was not removed from 3rd index, so resulted duplication. The `heap.count` in decreased so it also creates a mismatch.

Impact

Allowing the same operator to run Ethereum validators twice risks double signing, centralizes power, increases economic concentration, and undermines protocol integrity, jeopardizing network stability and decentralization principles.

Code Snippet

- <https://github.com/sherlock-audit/2024-02-rio-network-core-protocol/blob/main/rio-sherlock-audit/contracts/utils/OperatorUtilizationHeap.sol#L388-L390> (<https://github.com/sherlock-audit/2024-02-rio-network-core-protocol/blob/main/rio-sherlock-audit/contracts/utils/OperatorUtilizationHeap.sol#L388-L390>),
- <https://github.com/sherlock-audit/2024-02-rio-network-core-protocol/blob/main/rio-sherlock-audit/contracts/utils/OperatorUtilizationHeap.sol#L94-L100> (<https://github.com/sherlock-audit/2024-02-rio-network-core-protocol/blob/main/rio-sherlock-audit/contracts/utils/OperatorUtilizationHeap.sol#L94-L100>).

Tool used

Manual Review

Recommendation

Remove the last operator from operators[] after swapping.