

1 Part A

Define the following variables:

T: A binary tree T.

P(Q): The length of a random root-to-leaf path in the binary tree T.

When we meld two arbitrary heap-ordered binary tree Q_1 and Q_2 . The worst case is that the algorithm will trace down both Q_1 and Q_2 . The best case is that the algorithm will only trace down one tree (when all the elements in Q_1 has smaller or larger priority than Q_2). Each time an operation is carried out, we will trace down one step on Q_1 or Q_2 , either to the left or to the right. Thus we know that the maximum step we trace down is the summation of the length of the two trees, which is $P(Q_1) + P(Q_2)$. Now we will prove that

$$E[P(Q_1) + P(Q_2)] = O(\log n).$$

It suffice to show that for a tree T with n nodes, $E[P(T)] = O(\log n)$, since if we remove the root of T, it will readily become two trees with a total number of nodes equal to n-1.

Now we claim that $E[P(n)] \leq \log(n+1)$. If $n = 0$, this claim is readily satisfied. Otherwise, suppose that the left and right subtrees of T contains l and r nodes, respectively. Notice that $l < n$ and $r < n$. With strong induction hypothesis, we have $E[P(l)] \leq \log(l+1)$ and $E[P(r)] \leq \log(r+1)$. Thus we can have the following equations:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2}(E[P(l)] + E[P(r)]) &\leq \frac{1}{2}(\log(l+1) + \log(r+1)) \\ &= \log(2\sqrt{(l+1)(r+1)}) \\ &\leq \log(l+1) + (r+1) \\ &\leq \log(n+1) \end{aligned}$$

Thus the strong induction proof holds true and we have that $E[P(Q_1) + P(Q_2)] = O(\log n)$.

2 Part B

Define the following variables:

$|\gamma|$: The length of path γ .

h_Q : The length of a path from root to leaf.

Γ : The set of all paths from the root to leaf with length exceeding $(c+1)\log n$.

Note that to reach for any leaf from the root via any fixed path γ , the probability is $2^{-|\gamma|}$. Suppose that Γ is the set of all paths from the root to leaf with length exceeding $(c+1)\log n$, we have the following relation:

$$Pr[h_Q > (c+1)\log n] = \sum_{\gamma \in \Gamma} 2^{-|\gamma|} < \sum_{\gamma \in \Gamma} 2^{-(c+1)\log n} = |\Gamma|n^{-(c+1)} \leq n^{-c}$$

Thus we see that we have an exponentially decaying probability of length of path exceeding $(c + 1) \log n$ with the number of nodes n . Note the running time of $\text{Meld}(Q_1, Q_2)$ is $P(Q_1) + P(Q_2)$. This proves that the probability that we have running time of $\text{Meld}(Q_1, Q_2)$ having $O(\log n)$ is large.

3 Part C

MakeQueue: Create an empty set. This is $O(1)$ time.

FindMin(Q): Return the $\text{Key}(Q)$, which is the root of the tree, this takes $O(1)$ time.

DeleteMin(Q): Return $\text{Meld}(\text{left}(Q), \text{right}(Q))$.

Insert(Q, x): Make the new element itself a new tree which takes $O(1)$ time and return $\text{Meld}(Q, x)$.

Delete(Q, x): Let Q_x be the tree with root at x , replace Q_x with $\text{DeleteMin}(Q_x)$ which calls $\text{Meld}()$ once and then return Q .

DecreasePriority(Q, x, y): Let Q_x be the tree with root at x , detach it from the parent, change the value of $\text{Key}(x)$ to y and return $\text{Meld}(Q, Q_x)$