

Worksheet 5 — Heaps and Non-Comparison Sorting

1. Iterated functions and the tower of twos.

Problem: Let $2 \uparrow\uparrow i$ denote the *tower of twos*:

$$\underbrace{2^{2^{2^{\dots^2}}}}_{i \text{ times}}.$$

Write the tower of twos as an iterated function.

Solution #1: As a first try, let's make a recursive function:

$$P(i) = \begin{cases} 2^{P(i-1)} & i > 1, \\ 2 & i = 1. \end{cases}$$

However, this is not an iterated function per se. So instead, let's give a function that gives us the result when iterated.

Solution #2: Define our function to be $f(n) = 2^n$. Then following the framework of iterated functions, we get

$$f^{(i)}(n) = \begin{cases} f^{(i-1)}(f(n)) & i > 0, \\ n & i = 0, \end{cases}$$

which solves to $\underbrace{2^{2^{2^{\dots^2}}}}_{i \text{ times}}^{2^n}$. Thus, for $n = 1$, $f^{(i)}(n)$ is the tower of twos.

2. Let $A[1..n]$ store a heap of n distinct elements, and suppose we execute $\text{HEAPSORT}(A)$. Show that if, at the end of each call to $\text{Max-Heapify}(A, 1)$, $A[\text{heap-size}(A)]$ always remains the minimum element in A , then $\text{HEAPSORT}(A)$ requires $\Omega(n \lg n)$ time. Use the following template for guidance.

- (a) One way to prove this result is to focus on a single operation, and show that this operation occurs $\Omega(n \lg n)$ times. For this problem, the number of *swaps* made by the algorithm is a useful operation to bound. Explain why.

Solution: The number of swaps is equivalent to the number of times MAX-HEAPIFY is called. This seems to be the most expensive operation. We call it n times, so if a constant fraction of these calls make $\Omega(\lg n)$ swaps, then we have shown the result!

- (b) Where is the minimum value element in a MAX-HEAP ? What about in the MAX-HEAP with our extra constraint?

Solution: The minimum element in a MAX-HEAP of distinct elements is a leaf. Otherwise it would have a child with larger value and the max-heap property would be violated. With our extra constraint, it is the last leaf: the rightmost node on the bottommost level.

- (c) Call all the nodes on the path from a node v to the root of the heap v 's *ancestors*. Describe how the values of v 's ancestors relate to each other and to v . How many ancestors does the minimum value have in our constrained MAX-HEAP? How many ancestors does the value have after calling $\text{EXTRACT-MAX}(A)$?

Solution: Let an ancestor with height h be called v_h . Then by the max-heap property $v_h > v_{h-1}$. Our minimum value has $\lfloor \lg n \rfloor$ ancestors, since it is on the bottommost level and $\lfloor \lg n \rfloor$ is the height of a max-heap. After calling $\text{EXTRACT-MAX}(A)$, then the minimum value either still has $\lfloor \lg n \rfloor$ ancestors (if the level does not become empty) or else $\lfloor \lg n \rfloor - 1$ if the number of levels decreased by one.

- (d) How many calls are made to MAX-HEAPIFY during a call to $\text{EXTRACT-MAX}(A)$ for the general MAX-HEAP? What about for our constrained version? What is the minimum number of calls? The maximum number? *The minimum number is what we need to compute a lower bound for this case.* How many swaps are done?

Solution: MAX-HEAPIFY is called $O(\lg n)$ times during a call to $\text{EXTRACT-MAX}(A)$. However, it is possible that it will make only one call, and therefore is only $\Omega(1)$. For our constrained version, the same upper bound $O(\lg n)$ holds. However, the element must be moved to the bottommost level, which is at least $\lfloor \lg n \rfloor - 1 = \Omega(\lg n)$ calls to MAX-HEAPIFY . The number of swaps equals the number of calls to MAX-HEAPIFY .

- (e) Now compute the total number of swaps performed by $\text{HEAPSORT}(A)$ and use it to show that $\text{HEAPSORT}(A)$ takes $\Omega(n \lg n)$ time in this case.

Solution: During the course of the HEAPSORT algorithm, the minimum element will be in index $n, n-1, \dots, \lfloor n/2 \rfloor$ (the parent of n) of A , among others. For each one of these indices, EXTRACT-MAX calls MAX-HEAPIFY at least $\lfloor \lg n \rfloor - 2$ times. (When swapping $A[\lfloor n/2 \rfloor]$ and $A[1]$, removing $A[n/2]$ could empty level $\lfloor \lg n \rfloor - 1$. And then $\lfloor \lg n \rfloor - 2$ swaps would be performed.) Thus, at least

$$(n - \lfloor n/2 \rfloor + 1)(\lfloor \lg n \rfloor - 2) = \Omega(n \lg n)$$

swaps are performed. Since the algorithm performs this many swap operations, the entire algorithm uses $\Omega(n \lg n)$ operations.

3. Suppose there is an operation called $\text{SQRTSORT}(k)$, which sorts the subarray $A[k+1..k+\sqrt{n}]$ in place, given an arbitrary integer k between 0 and $n - \sqrt{n}$ as input. (To simplify the problem, assume that \sqrt{n} is an integer.)¹
- (a) Describe an algorithm that sorts an input array $A[1..n]$. Your algorithm is only allowed to inspect or modify the input array by calling SQRTSORT ; in particular, your algorithm must not directly compare, move, or copy array elements. How many times does your algorithm call SQRTSORT in the worst case?
 - (b) Prove that your algorithm is correct; that is, it sorts the input $A[1..n]$.

Inefficient Solution: If iteratively we call $\text{SQRTSORT}(k)$ for $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n - \sqrt{n}$, we move at least one element into correct position at the end. We can see this by the following invariant.

Invariant: Before calling $\text{SQRTSORT}(k)$, $A[k + \sqrt{n} - 1]$ contains the maximum element in $A[1..k + \sqrt{n} - 1]$. To briefly justify: when we call $\text{SQRTSORT}(k)$, it moves the maximum element in $A[k + 1..k + \sqrt{n}]$ to $A[k + \sqrt{n}]$, which since, $k + 1 + \sqrt{n} - 1 \in \{k, \dots, k + \sqrt{n}\}$ is the maximum of $A[k + 1 + \sqrt{n} - 1]$ (max in $A[1..k + \sqrt{n} - 1]$), and $A[k + 1..k + \sqrt{n}]$, which is the maximum in $A[1..k + \sqrt{n}]$.

We can therefore run SQRTSORT this way n times, which moves all elements into correct position.

Algorithm 1 A simple sorting algorithm with SQRTSORT .

proc SIMPLE-SQRTSORT($A[1..n]$)

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1: for  $i \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$ 
2:   for  $k \leftarrow 0$  to  $n - \sqrt{n}$ 
3:     SQRTSORT( $k$ )

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This takes $n(n - \sqrt{n} + 1)$ calls to SQRTSORT in the worst case.

More Efficient Solution: We iteratively call $\text{SQRTSORT}(k)$ for $k = 0, \sqrt{n}/2, \sqrt{n}, \dots, n - \sqrt{n}$. This moves $\sqrt{n}/2$ elements into correct position.

Invariant: Before calling $\text{SQRTSORT}(k)$, $A[k + 1..k + \sqrt{n}/2]$ contains the $\sqrt{n}/2$ largest elements in $A[1..k + \sqrt{n}/2]$. To briefly justify, when we call $\text{SQRTSORT}(k)$, it moves the largest $\sqrt{n}/2$ elements in $A[k + 1..k + \sqrt{n}]$ to $A[k + \sqrt{n}/2 + 1..k + \sqrt{n}]$, which includes the largest $\sqrt{n}/2$ elements from $A[1..k + \sqrt{n}/2]$.

See next page for analysis →

¹Parts of this problem are taken from Jeff Erickson's *Algorithms and Models of Computation* (<http://www.cs.illinois.edu/~jeffe/teaching/algorithms>); Chapter 1: Recursion.

Since the ranges overlap by $\sqrt{n}/2$ elements, we call SQRTSORT at most $\frac{n}{\sqrt{n}/2} - 1 = 2\sqrt{n} - 1$ times. We then repeat this for $k = 0, \sqrt{n}/2, \sqrt{n}, \dots, n - \sqrt{n} - \sqrt{n}/2$ and continue this pattern, as illustrated with the following pseudocode.

Algorithm 2 A more efficient algorithm with SQRTSORT.

proc EFFICIENT-SQRTSORT($A[1..n]$)

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1: for  $i \leftarrow 0$  to  $2\sqrt{n} - 1$ 
2:   for  $k \leftarrow 0$  to  $2\sqrt{n} - (i + 1)$ 
3:     SQRTSORT( $\sqrt{n}/2k$ )

```

In this algorithm, SQRTSORT is called

$$\sum_{i=0}^{2\sqrt{n}-1} \sum_{j=0}^{2\sqrt{n}-i-1} 1 = \sum_{i=0}^{2\sqrt{n}-1} (2\sqrt{n} - i) = \Theta(n)$$

times. Or, more precisely:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{i=0}^{2\sqrt{n}-1} \sum_{j=0}^{2\sqrt{n}-i-1} 1 &= \sum_{i=0}^{2\sqrt{n}-1} (2\sqrt{n} - i) \\
 &= \sum_{i=0}^{2\sqrt{n}-1} 2\sqrt{n} - \sum_{i=0}^{2\sqrt{n}-1} i \\
 &= 2\sqrt{n}(2\sqrt{n}) - \frac{2\sqrt{n}(2\sqrt{n} - 1)}{2} \\
 &= 2\sqrt{n}(2\sqrt{n}) - \sqrt{n}(2\sqrt{n} - 1) \\
 &= 4n - 2n + \sqrt{n} \\
 &= 2n + \sqrt{n}
 \end{aligned}$$

times.

8. Suppose we don't use a stable sort to sort by keys in RADIX-SORT. Give an example input with 2 values, where RADIX-SORT fails to sort the input.
(to be discussed in a future recitation)

9. In RADIX-SORT, suppose we no longer sort values from the least- to most-significant keys, but now sort from most- to least-significant. Give an example with 2 values where RADIX-SORT fails to sort the input.
(to be discussed in a future recitation)

10. Describe how to modify COUNTING-SORT to actually sort items with keys not equal to their values.
(to be discussed in a future recitation)

