

# Lecture 7-1: Priority Queues



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## Keywords



- Standby Passenger Queue
- Searching & Sorting

## ❏ The Priority Queue ADT

- Priorities and Total Order Relations
- The Priority Queue ADT
- Sorting with a Priority Queue

## ❏ Implementing a Priority Queue with a List

- Priority Queue Implementation Using a List
- Selection Sort
- Insertion Sort



# What is a Priority Queue(P) ?

## ❏ Definition

- An abstract data type for storing a collection of prioritized elements that supports arbitrary element insertion but supports removal of elements in order of priority

## ❏ Features

- Fundamentally different from the position-based data structures such as stacks, queues, lists, and even trees
- Previous data structures store elements at specific positions (determined by the insertion and deletion methods performed)
- The priority queue ADT stores elements according to their priorities, and exposes no notion of "position" to the user
- In a priority queue, the element with first priority can be removed at any time



# New Terms in Priority Queue

## Key

- An object that is assigned to an element as a specific attribute for that element, which can be used to identify or weigh that element
- A property that an element did not originally possess
- Not necessarily unique and changeable

## Entry

## Total Ordering (Total Order Relation)

## Comparator



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# Total Order Relations

8.1 The Priority Queue ADT

Keys in a priority queue can be arbitrary objects on which an order is defined

Two distinct entries in a priority queue can have the same key

## Total Order Relation

- The comparison rule is defined for every pair of keys and it must satisfy the following properties (mathematical concept of total order relation  $\leq$ ):
  - Reflexive property:  
 $x \leq x$
  - Antisymmetric property:  
 $x \leq y \wedge y \leq x \Rightarrow x = y$
  - Transitive property:  
 $x \leq y \wedge y \leq z \Rightarrow x \leq z$



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- An **entry** in a priority queue is simply a key-value pair
- Priority queues store entries to allow for efficient insertion and removal based on keys
- Methods:
  - **getKey**: returns the key for this entry
  - **getValue**: returns the value associated with this entry

- As a Java interface:

```
/**  
 * Interface for a key-value  
 * pair entry  
 **/  
public interface Entry<K,V>  
{  
    public K getKey();  
    public V getValue();  
}
```



# Comparator ADT

- A comparator encapsulates the action of comparing two objects according to a given total order relation
- A generic priority queue uses an auxiliary comparator
- The comparator is external to the keys being compared
- When the priority queue needs to compare two keys, it uses its comparator
- Primary method of the Comparator ADT
  - **compare**(a, b): returns an integer i such that
    - $i < 0$  if  $a < b$ ,
    - $i = 0$  if  $a = b$
    - $i > 0$  if  $a > b$
    - An error occurs if a and b cannot be compared.



- Lexicographic comparison of 2-D points:

```
/** Comparator for 2D points under the
    standard lexicographic order. */
public class Lexicographic implements
    Comparator {
    int xa, ya, xb, yb;
    public int compare(Object a, Object
    b) throws ClassCastException {
        xa = ((Point2D) a).getX();
        ya = ((Point2D) a).getY();
        xb = ((Point2D) b).getX();
        yb = ((Point2D) b).getY();
        if (xa != xb)
            return (xb - xa);
        else
            return (yb - ya);
    }
}
```

- Point objects:

```
/** Class representing a point in the
    plane with integer coordinates */
public class Point2D {
    protected int xc, yc; // coordinates
    public Point2D(int x, int y) {
        xc = x;
        yc = y;
    }
    public int getX() {
        return xc;
    }
    public int getY() {
        return yc;
    }
}
```



## Priority Queue ADT

- A priority queue stores a collection of prioritized **entries**

- Priorities are assigned to entries
  - Arbitrary elements insertions
  - Removal of elements in order of priority.
- Different from position-based D.S. (e.g. stack, queue, tree)
  - PQ : No notion of "position"

- An **entry** is a pair (**key**, **element**)

- Key** : An object that is assigned to an element as a specific attribute for that element by user or application
  - Used to identify, compare, rank, or weight that element  
(**each element is associated with a key**)



### Main methods of the Priority Queue ADT

- **insertItem**(*k*, *o*)  
inserts an **entry** with key *k* and element *o*
- **removeMin**( )  
removes and returns an entry (*k*,*o*) having minimal key from the priority queue; return null if the priority queue is empty

### Additional methods

- **minKey**(*k*, *o*)  
returns, but does not remove, the smallest key of an **entry**
- **minElement**( )  
returns, but does not remove, the element of an **entry** with smallest key
- **size**( ), **isEmpty**( )

### Applications:

- Standby flyers, Auctions, Stock market



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The effects of a series of operations on an initially empty PQ.

Operation	Output	Priority Queue
insert(5,A)	$e_1 = (5,A)$	$\{(5,A)\}$
insert(9,C)	$e_2 = (9,C)$	$\{(5,A), (9,C)\}$
insert(3,B)	$e_3 = (3,B)$	$\{(3,B), (5,A), (9,C)\}$
insert(7,D)	$e_4 = (7,D)$	$\{(3,B), (5,A), (7,D), (9,C)\}$
min()	$e_3$	$\{(3,B), (5,A), (7,D), (9,C)\}$
removeMin()	$e_3$	$\{(5,A), (7,D), (9,C)\}$
size()	3	$\{(5,A), (7,D), (9,C)\}$
removeMin()	$e_1$	$\{(7,D), (9,C)\}$
removeMin()	$e_4$	$\{(9,C)\}$
removeMin()	$e_2$	$\{\}$
removeMin()	"error"	$\{\}$
isEmpty()	true	$\{\}$



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❏ We can use a priority queue to sort a set of comparable elements

1. Insert the elements one by one with a series of **insert** operations
2. Remove the elements in sorted order with a series of **removeMin** operations

❏ The running time of this sorting method depends on the priority queue implementation

## Algorithm *PQ-Sort*(*S*, *C*)

**Input** sequence *S*, comparator *C* for the elements of *S*

**Output** sequence *S* sorted in increasing order according to *C*

*P* ← priority queue with comparator *C*

**while**  $\neg S.isEmpty()$

$e \leftarrow S.removeFirst()$

*P.insert* (*e*,  $\emptyset$ )

**while**  $\neg P.isEmpty()$

$e \leftarrow P.removeMin().getKey()$

*S.addLast*(*e*)



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# Implementing a Priority Queue

❏ Implementation of a PQ

– PQ using sequence

- Simple, but not very efficient
- Two sorting algorithm
  - Selection sort
  - Insertion Sort

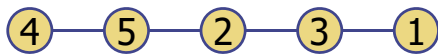
– PQ based on heap

- Efficient implementation
  - Support PQ operations in  $\log()$  time
  - Heap-sort



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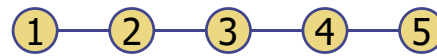
- Implementation with an unsorted list



- Performance:

- **insert** takes  $O(1)$  time since we can insert the item at the beginning or end of the sequence
- **removeMin** and **min** take  $O(n)$  time since we have to traverse the entire sequence to find the smallest key

- Implementation with a sorted list



- Performance:

- **insert** takes  $O(n)$  time since we have to find the place where to insert the item
- **removeMin** and **min** take  $O(1)$  time, since the smallest key is at the beginning



## Selection-Sort

- Selection-sort is the variation of PQ-sort where the priority queue is implemented with an unsorted sequence

- Running time of Selection-sort:

1. Inserting the elements into the priority queue with  $n$  **insert** operations takes  $O(n)$  time
2. Removing the elements in sorted order from the priority queue with  $n$  **removeMin** operations takes time proportional to

$$O(n + (n - 1) + \dots + 2 + 1) = O(\sum_{i=1}^n i)$$

- Selection-sort runs in  $O(n^2)$  time






	Sequence S	Priority Queue P
Input:	(7,4,8,2,5,3,9)	()
Phase 1		
(a)	(4,8,2,5,3,9)	(7)
(b)	(8,2,5,3,9)	(7,4)
⋮		$O(n^2)$
(g)	() $O(n^2)$	(7,4,8,2,5,3,9)
Phase 2		
(a)	(2)	(7,4,8,5,3,9)
(b)	(2,3)	(7,4,8,5,9)
(c)	(2,3,4)	(7,8,5,9)
(d)	(2,3,4,5)	(7,8,9)
(e)	(2,3,4,5,7)	(8,9)
(f)	(2,3,4,5,7,8)	(9)
(g)	(2,3,4,5,7,8,9)	()



## Insertion-Sort


 Insertion-sort is the variation of PQ-sort where the priority queue is implemented with a sorted sequence

 Running time of Insertion-sort:

1. Inserting the elements into the priority queue with  $n$  **insert** operations takes time proportional to

$$O(1 + 2 + \dots + (n-1) + n) = O\left(\sum_{i=1}^n i\right)$$

2. Removing the elements in sorted order from the priority queue with a series of  $n$  **removeMin** operations takes  $O(n)$  time

 Insertion sort runs in  $O(n^2)$  time



# Insertion-Sort Example

8.2 Implementing a PQ with a List

	Sequence S	Priority queue P
Input:	(7,4,8,2,5,3,9)	()
Phase 1		
(a)	(4,8,2,5,3,9)	(7)
(b)	(8,2,5,3,9)	(4,7)
(c)	(2,5,3,9)	(4,7,8)
(d)	(5,3,9)	(2,4,7,8)
(e)	(3,9)	(2,4,5,7,8)
(f)	(9)	(2,3,4,5,7,8)
(g)	()	(2,3,4,5,7,8,9)
Phase 2		
(a)	(2)	(3,4,5,7,8,9)
(b)	(2,3)	(4,5,7,8,9)
⋮	⋮	⋮
(g)	(2,3,4,5,7,8,9)	()



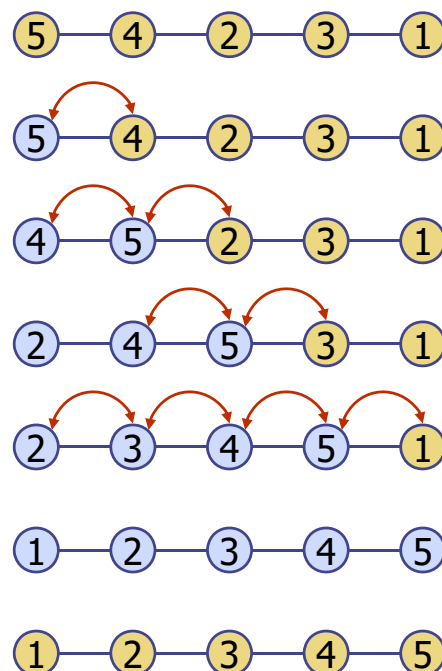
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# In-place Insertion-Sort

8.2 Implementing a PQ with a List

- Instead of using an external data structure, we can implement selection-sort and insertion-sort in-place
- A portion of the input sequence itself serves as the priority queue
- For in-place insertion-sort
  - We keep sorted the initial portion of the sequence
  - We can use **swaps** instead of modifying the sequence



general 한 정렬 알고리즘보다 장점은 메모리를 더 적게 쓴다는 것이다  
러닝타임은  $O(n^2)$



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# Q & A



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