

## **Assignment 4**

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## Heap Sort

Heap Sort is a comparison-based sorting algorithm that uses a binary heap data structure to sort elements efficiently. It works by first converting the input list into a max-heap, where the largest element is at the root. Then, it repeatedly swaps the root with the last element, removes it from the heap, and re-heapifies the remaining elements. This process continues until all elements are sorted. Heap Sort is known for its consistent  $O(n \log n)$  time complexity and its in-place sorting nature, meaning it doesn't require extra memory, making it both efficient and memory-friendly.

```
C: > Users > prash > Desktop > Masters > Fall 2025 > Algorithm and Data Structures > Assignment 4 > heap.py > heap_sort
1  #Heap_Sort
2
3  def maintain_heap(tree, size, root_index):
4
5      max_index = root_index      # Assuming root is the largest
6      left_child = 2 * root_index + 1  # Calculating left child index
7      right_child = 2 * root_index + 2  # Calculating right child index
8
9      # If left child exists and is greater than root
10     if left_child < size and tree[left_child] > tree[max_index]:
11         max_index = left_child
12
13     # If right child exists and is greater than current largest
14     if right_child < size and tree[right_child] > tree[max_index]:
15         max_index = right_child
16
17     # If root is not the largest, swap with the largest child
18     if max_index != root_index:
19         tree[root_index], tree[max_index] = tree[max_index], tree[root_index]
20         # Recursively heapify the affected subtree
21         maintain_heap(tree, size, max_index)
22
23
24 def heap_sort(data):
25
26     length = len(data)
27
28     # Building a max heap from the input list
29     for i in range(length // 2 - 1, -1, -1):
30         maintain_heap(data, length, i)
31
32     # Repeatedly extracting the maximum and heapify the remaining elements
33     for i in range(length - 1, 0, -1):
34         # Move current max (root) to the end
35         data[0], data[i] = data[i], data[0]
36         # Restore max-heap structure on the reduced heap
37         maintain_heap(data, i, 0)
38
39     return data
40
41
```

The above code implements the Heap Sort algorithm in Python to sort a list of numbers in ascending order. It uses a helper function called `maintain_heap` to ensure that a given portion of the list maintains the max-heap property, where each parent node is greater than or equal to its children. First, the `heap_sort` function builds a max-heap from the unsorted list by calling `maintain_heap` on all non-leaf nodes. Then, it repeatedly swaps the root of the heap (the maximum element) with the last element of the heap, reduces the heap size, and calls `maintain_heap` again to restore the heap structure. This process continues until the entire list is

sorted. The sorted list is returned at the end. The if `__name__ == "__main__":` block demonstrates the algorithm using a sample list.

## **Analysis of Implementation**

### **Time Complexity Analysis of Heap Sort**

Heap Sort has a consistent time complexity of  $O(n \log n)$  in the worst, average, and best cases. This uniformity arises from the algorithm's two main phases: heap construction and heap extraction. During the first phase, the algorithm builds a max-heap from the unsorted list by calling the `maintain_heap` function (heapify) on all non-leaf nodes in a bottom-up manner. Although it might appear that this would require  $O(n \log n)$  operations, this phase runs in  $O(n)$  time because most of the heapify calls are on nodes near the bottom of the tree, which take significantly less time to process.

The second phase of Heap Sort involves removing the maximum element (root) and placing it at the end of the list, then calling `maintain_heap` again to restore the heap structure. This step is repeated for each element in the array, and each heapify call takes up to  $O(\log n)$  time because it may traverse from the root to the leaf of the heap (which has height  $\log n$ ). Since this operation is done  $n$  times, the total complexity for this phase is  $O(n \log n)$ . Therefore, while the heap-building step is  $O(n)$ , it is dominated by the  $O(n \log n)$  extraction phase, resulting in an overall time complexity of  $O(n \log n)$  in all cases.

The reason Heap Sort doesn't have a better best-case time than  $O(n \log n)$  is because it always performs the same extraction and re-heapifying steps regardless of the input's initial order, whether sorted, reversed, or random. Unlike algorithms like quicksort, which can have better or worse performance based on the pivot choice and input distribution, heap sort follows a fixed structure.

## Space Complexity and Overheads

Heap Sort is an in-place sorting algorithm, meaning it doesn't require any significant additional memory. The space complexity is  $O(1)$ , and only a constant amount of extra space is used for temporary variable swaps and loop control, aside from the input array itself. There is no need for auxiliary arrays, which makes it more memory-efficient than algorithms like Merge Sort, which uses  $O(n)$  extra space.

As for overheads, the algorithm makes frequent swaps, which can be relatively expensive on systems with high memory latency or when sorting large data types. Heap Sort is also not a stable sort, meaning it doesn't guarantee the preservation of the relative order of equal elements. This can be a drawback in applications where stability is important.

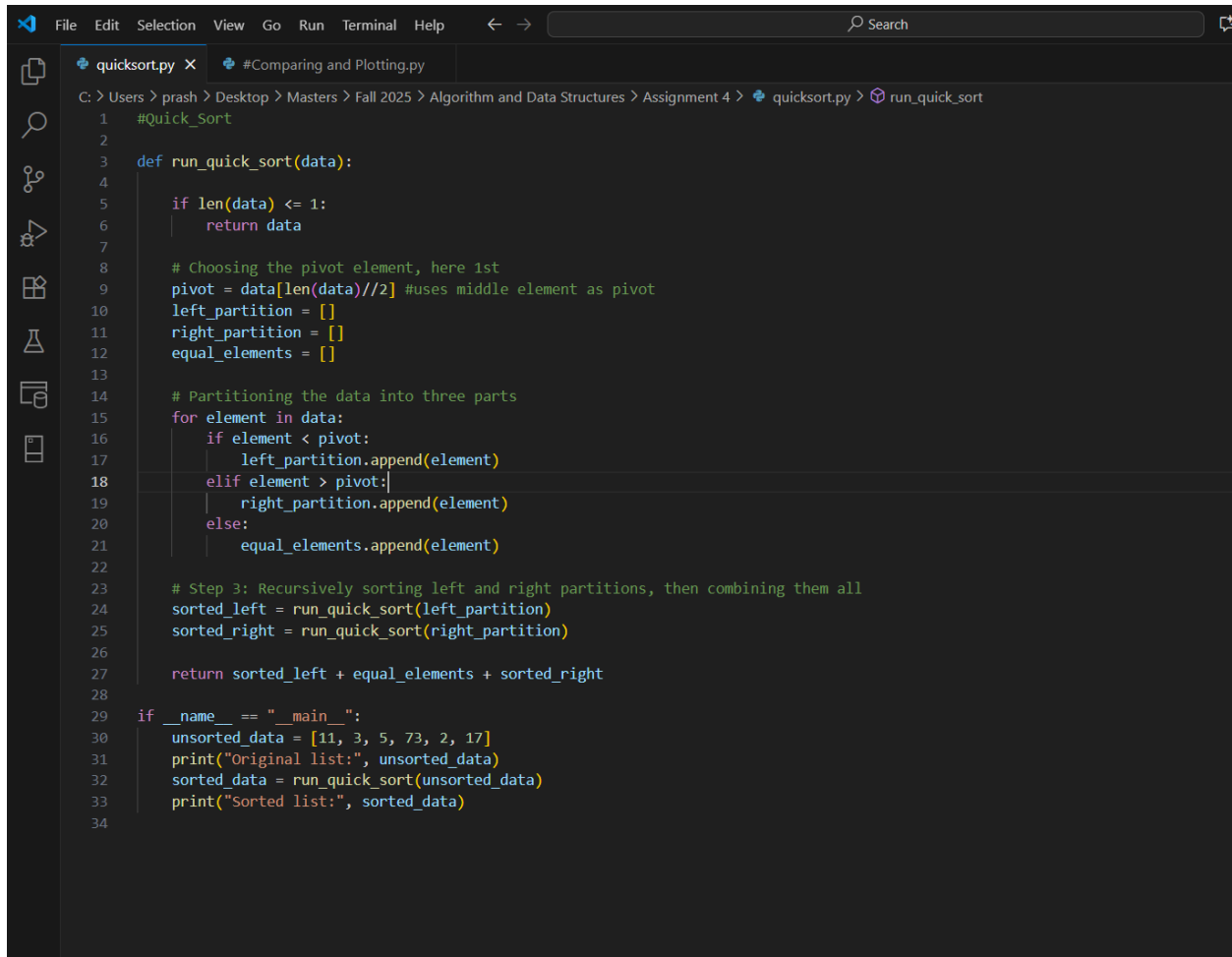
In summary, Heap Sort is a reliable and space-efficient algorithm with a predictable  $O(n \log n)$  time complexity across all input types. However, it may be outperformed in practice by other algorithms like quicksort or timsort (used in Python's built-in sort) due to lower constant factors and better cache performance.

## Runtime Comparisons of Heapsort, Quick Sort, and Merge Sort

### Quick Sort

The Quick Sort algorithm is a highly efficient, comparison-based sorting method that follows the divide-and-conquer strategy. It works by selecting a pivot element from the list and partitioning the remaining elements into two sub-lists: those less than the pivot and those greater than the pivot. These sublists are then recursively sorted using the same approach. Once the sublists are sorted, they are combined with the pivot to form the final sorted list. Quick Sort performs well on average with a time complexity of  $O(n \log n)$ , but its worst-case time complexity is  $O(n^2)$ , which can occur if poor pivot choices lead to highly unbalanced partitions.

Despite that, its speed and in-place nature make it one of the most commonly used sorting algorithms.



```
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quicksort.py x #Comparing and Plotting.py
C: > Users > prash > Desktop > Masters > Fall 2025 > Algorithm and Data Structures > Assignment 4 > quicksort.py > run_quick_sort
1 #Quick_Sort
2
3 def run_quick_sort(data):
4
5     if len(data) <= 1:
6         return data
7
8     # Choosing the pivot element, here 1st
9     pivot = data[len(data)//2] #uses middle element as pivot
10    left_partition = []
11    right_partition = []
12    equal_elements = []
13
14    # Partitioning the data into three parts
15    for element in data:
16        if element < pivot:
17            left_partition.append(element)
18        elif element > pivot:
19            right_partition.append(element)
20        else:
21            equal_elements.append(element)
22
23    # Step 3: Recursively sorting left and right partitions, then combining them all
24    sorted_left = run_quick_sort(left_partition)
25    sorted_right = run_quick_sort(right_partition)
26
27    return sorted_left + equal_elements + sorted_right
28
29 if __name__ == "__main__":
30     unsorted_data = [11, 3, 5, 73, 2, 17]
31     print("Original list:", unsorted_data)
32     sorted_data = run_quick_sort(unsorted_data)
33     print("Sorted list:", sorted_data)
34
```

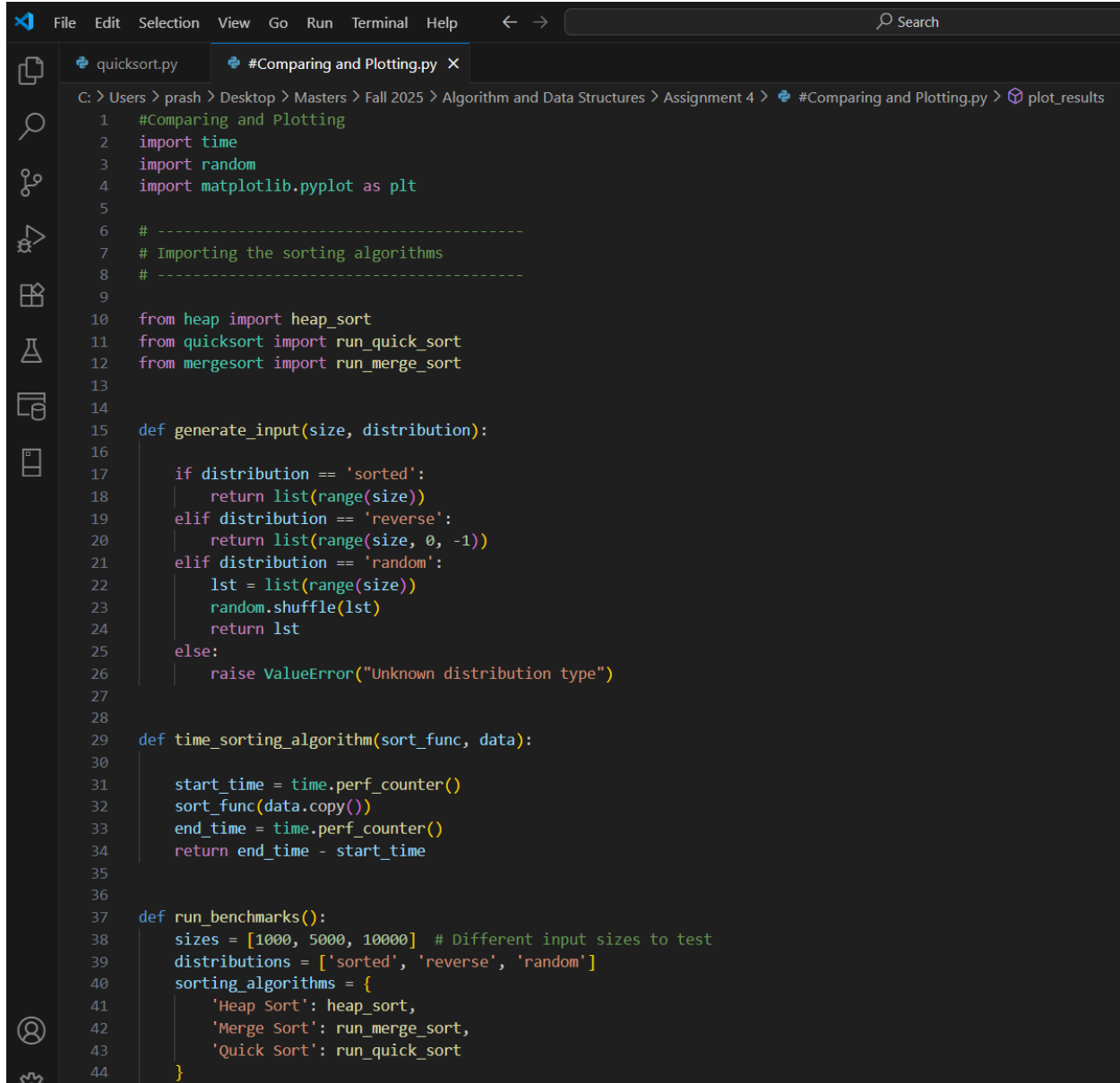
## Merge Sort

Likewise, Merge Sort is another reliable and efficient sorting algorithm based on the divide-and-conquer principle. It works by recursively dividing the input list into two halves until each sublist contains only one element, which is naturally sorted. Then, it repeatedly merges these sorted sublists back together in the correct order to produce a single sorted list. Unlike Quick Sort, Merge Sort guarantees a consistent time complexity of  $O(n \log n)$  in the best, worst, and average cases, making it very predictable in performance. However, it requires additional

space for the merging process, so its space complexity is  $O(n)$ . Because it maintains the original order of equal elements, Merge Sort is also a stable sorting algorithm, which is useful in scenarios where order matters.

```
C:\Users\prash\Desktop\Masters\Fall 2025\Algorithm and Data Structures\Assignment 4> mergesort.py > ...
1  #Merge_Sort
2
3  def run_merge_sort(data):
4
5      if len(data) <= 1:
6          return data
7
8      # Splitting the list into two halves
9      middle = len(data) // 2
10     left_partition = data[:middle]
11     right_partition = data[middle:]
12
13     # Recursively sort (function) def run_merge_sort(data) -> Any | list
14     sorted_left = run_merge_sort(left_partition)
15     sorted_right = run_merge_sort(right_partition)
16
17     # Merging the sorted halves into one sorted list
18     return combine(sorted_left, sorted_right)
19
20
21 def combine(left_list, right_list):
22
23     result = [] # Final merged result
24     left_index = 0
25     right_index = 0
26
27     # Comparing elements from both lists and adding the smaller one
28     while left_index < len(left_list) and right_index < len(right_list):
29         if left_list[left_index] < right_list[right_index]:
30             result.append(left_list[left_index])
31             left_index += 1
32         else:
33             result.append(right_list[right_index])
34             right_index += 1
35
36     # Changing any remaining elements from left_list
37     while left_index < len(left_list):
38         result.append(left_list[left_index])
39         left_index += 1
40
41     # Changing any remaining elements from right_list
42     while right_index < len(right_list):
43         result.append(right_list[right_index])
44         right_index += 1
45
```

## Code Snippet to Compare these three Algorithms



```
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#Comparing and Plotting.py X
C: > Users > prash > Desktop > Masters > Fall 2025 > Algorithm and Data Structures > Assignment 4 > #Comparing and Plotting.py > plot_results
1  #Comparing and Plotting
2  import time
3  import random
4  import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
5
6  # -----
7  # Importing the sorting algorithms
8  # -----
9
10 from heap import heap_sort
11 from quicksort import run_quick_sort
12 from mergesort import run_merge_sort
13
14
15 def generate_input(size, distribution):
16     if distribution == 'sorted':
17         return list(range(size))
18     elif distribution == 'reverse':
19         return list(range(size, 0, -1))
20     elif distribution == 'random':
21         lst = list(range(size))
22         random.shuffle(lst)
23         return lst
24     else:
25         raise ValueError("Unknown distribution type")
26
27
28
29 def time_sorting_algorithm(sort_func, data):
30
31     start_time = time.perf_counter()
32     sort_func(data.copy())
33     end_time = time.perf_counter()
34     return end_time - start_time
35
36
37 def run_benchmarks():
38     sizes = [1000, 5000, 10000] # Different input sizes to test
39     distributions = ['sorted', 'reverse', 'random']
40     sorting_algorithms = {
41         'Heap Sort': heap_sort,
42         'Merge Sort': run_merge_sort,
43         'Quick Sort': run_quick_sort
44     }
```



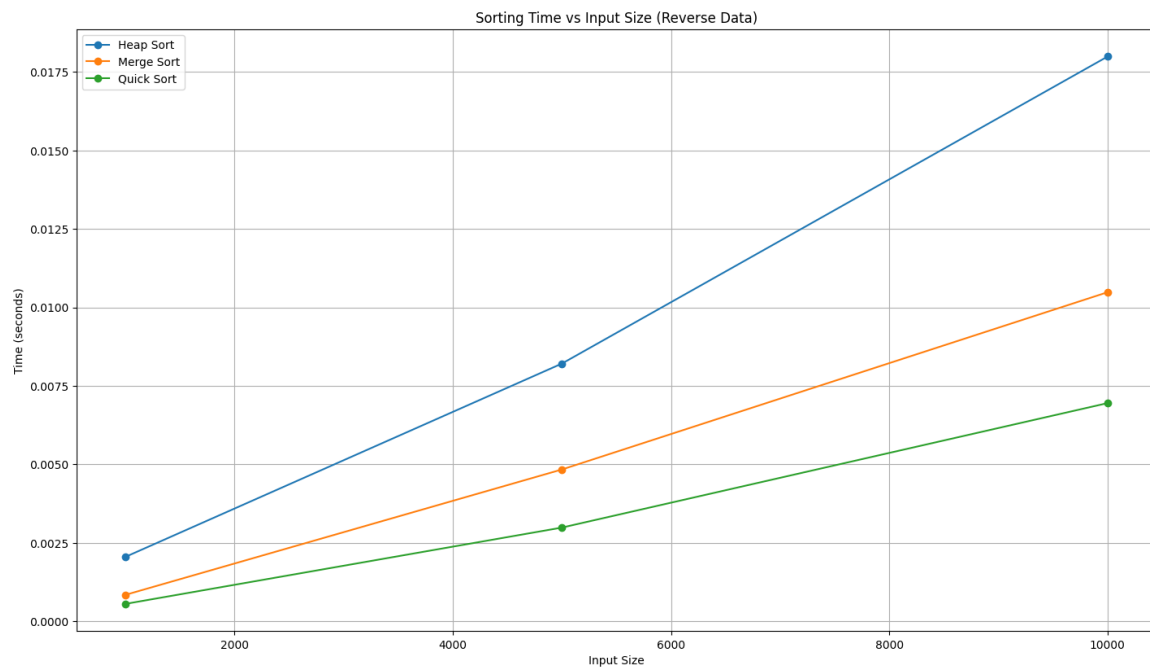
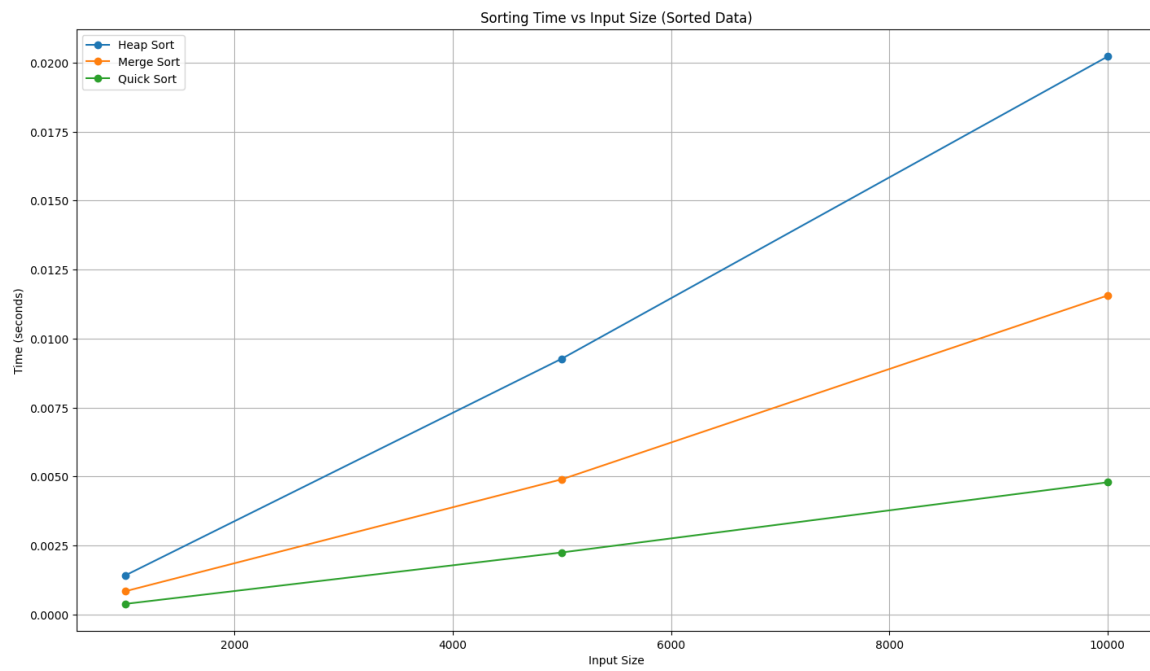
```

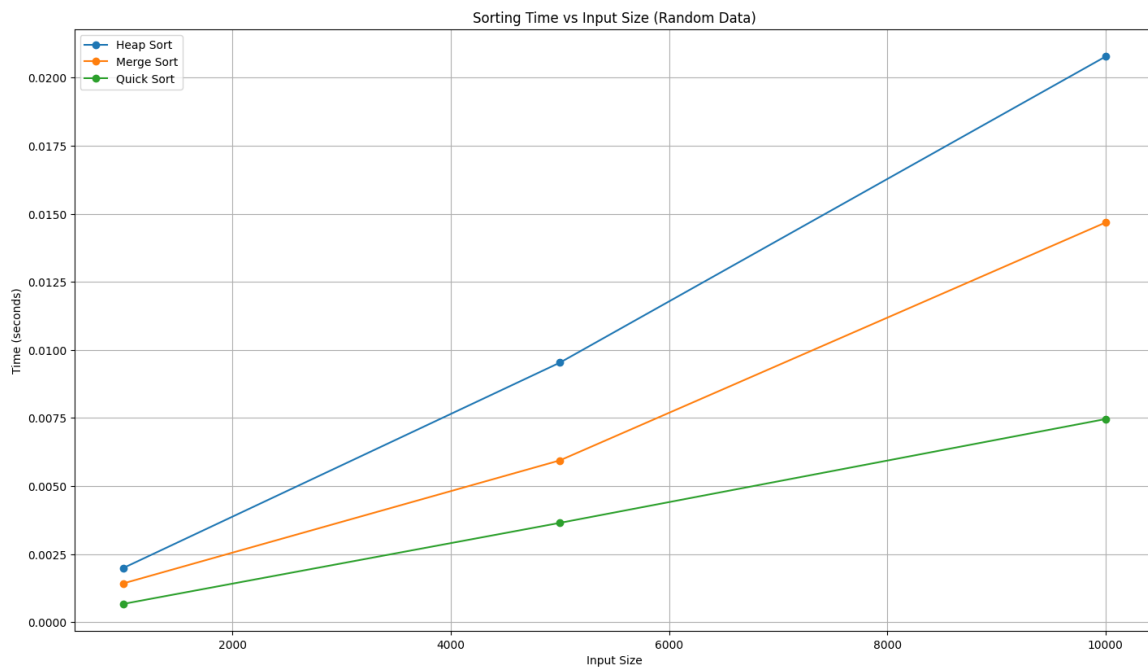
45     }
46
47
48     results = {dist: {name: [] for name in sorting_algorithms} for dist in distributions}
49
50     for dist in distributions:
51         for size in sizes:
52             data = generate_input(size, dist)
53             for name, func in sorting_algorithms.items():
54                 elapsed = time_sorting_algorithm(func, data)
55                 results[dist][name].append(elapsed)
56                 print(f"Size {size}, {dist.capitalize()}, {name}: {elapsed:.6f} sec")
57
58     return sizes, results
59
60
61 def plot_results(sizes, results):
62     for dist, algorithms in results.items():
63         plt.figure(figsize=(8, 5))
64         for name, times in algorithms.items():
65             plt.plot(sizes, times, marker='o', label=name)
66         plt.title(f"Sorting Time vs Input Size ({dist.capitalize()} Data)")
67         plt.xlabel("Input Size")
68         plt.ylabel("Time (seconds)")
69         plt.legend()
70         plt.grid(True)
71         plt.tight_layout()
72         plt.show()
73
74
75
76 if __name__ == "__main__":
77     sizes, benchmark_results = run_benchmarks()
78     plot_results(sizes, benchmark_results)
79

```

This script showcases the performance of Heap Sort, Merge Sort, and Quick Sort on lists of varying sizes and distributions (sorted, reverse, and random). It generates input data, times how long each algorithm takes to sort the lists and stores the results. After running the tests, it plots the timing results using line graphs to visually compare algorithm performance. The code runs all benchmarks when executed and displays both the timing output and performance plots.

## Results and Graphs





### Analysis:

The three graphs provided compare the running times of Heap Sort, Merge Sort, and Quick Sort on datasets of varying order: Sorted Data, Reverse Data, and Random Data. These analyses help in understanding the performance of each sorting algorithm in different data scenarios.

In the Sorted Data scenario, all three algorithms show an increase in running time as the input size grows. Heap Sort's time increases steadily in a linear fashion, suggesting that its performance is relatively unaffected by the initial order of the data. Merge Sort behaves similarly, with a slight edge in performance compared to Heap Sort, as it shows a slightly slower increase in time. However, Quick Sort stands out as the fastest among the three. Its time complexity is  $O(n \log n)$ , which generally leads to faster performance than both heap sort and merge sort, especially on sorted data.

When applied to Reverse Data, Heap Sort and Merge Sort exhibit similar behaviors to those seen with sorted data, with both showing a linear increase in running time. However, Quick Sort's performance degrades in this scenario. This is because Quick Sort may encounter its worst-case time complexity of  $O(n^2)$  if it consistently picks poor pivot elements (which can happen with reverse-sorted data), leading to a noticeable increase in time. Therefore, while Merge Sort and Heap Sort maintain stable and predictable performance, Quick Sort's efficiency is heavily impacted by the reverse order of the input.

In the Random Data scenario, the performance of all three algorithms follows a similar pattern to that seen in the sorted data case, but with some variations. Heap Sort's running time increases steadily, slightly higher than when the data is sorted but still showing a linear growth pattern. Merge Sort performs similarly, exhibiting a stable linear increase in time, unaffected by the data's order. Quick Sort, on the other hand, performs the best in this scenario. As expected, Quick Sort's time complexity follows an  $O(n \log n)$  pattern, making it the most efficient algorithm for random data. This is because Quick Sort typically avoids the worst-case scenario when working with random datasets.

In summary, Heap Sort and Merge Sort show relatively consistent performance across all three types of data, both demonstrating linear growth in time complexity. While Heap Sort is slightly faster than Merge Sort on sorted and reverse data, both algorithms are stable and predictable, regardless of the data order. Quick Sort, however, excels on random data, displaying its characteristic  $O(n \log n)$  performance. However, its performance degrades significantly when working with reverse-sorted data due to the worst-case  $O(n^2)$  time complexity. The overall takeaway is that Quick Sort is ideal when working with random or mostly sorted data, Merge

Sort is a reliable and stable choice for all input types, and Heap Sort, while consistent, is generally slower than Quick Sort in random or sorted data scenarios.

### **Priority Queue Implementation**

A binary heap is utilized for implementing a priority queue due to its efficiency and simplicity. It can be represented using an array (or list) and offers optimal performance for the key operations of a priority queue. The binary heap allows for fast insertion and removal, which is essential for managing tasks according to their priority.

In this code, the Task class stores key details for each task, including a unique ID, priority level (with higher priority processed first), arrival time, and deadline. These attributes enable effective management and scheduling of tasks with varying urgency, arrival times, and deadlines. A max heap was chosen because tasks with higher priority must be processed first. This ensures the highest-priority task is always at first, enabling efficient extraction.

```

quicksort.py  #Comparing and Plotting.py  priorityqueue.py X
C:\Users\prash\Desktop\Masters> Fall 2025 > Algorithm and Data Structures > Assignment 4 > priorityqueue.py > ...
1  #Priority_Queue
2
3  class Job:
4      def __init__(self, jid, priority, start_time, due_time):
5          self.jid = jid
6          self.priority = priority
7          self.start_time = start_time
8          self.due_time = due_time
9
10     def __repr__(self):
11         # A readable string representation of the job is returned
12         return f"Job #{self.jid} | Priority: {self.priority} | Start: {self.start_time} | Due: {self.due_time}"
13
14
15     class MaxPriorityQueue:
16         def __init__(self):
17             # The internal list to store the heap is initialized
18             self.queue = []
19
20         def insert(self, job):
21             # The job is checked before insertion to avoid None values
22             if job is None:
23                 print("Invalid job. Cannot insert.")
24                 return
25
26             self.queue.append(job)
27             i = len(self.queue) - 1
28
29             while i > 0:
30                 parent = (i - 1) // 2
31                 if self.queue[i].priority > self.queue[parent].priority:
32                     self.queue[i], self.queue[parent] = self.queue[parent], self.queue[i]
33                     i = parent
34                 else:
35                     break
36
37         def extract_max(self):
38             # If the queue is empty, a message is shown
39             if not self.queue:
40                 print("Queue is empty.")
41                 return None

```

```

42         # The heap property is restored by bubbling down
43         self._heapify(0)
44         return top
45
46     def _heapify(self, i):
47         # The children indices are computed
48         left = 2 * i + 1
49         right = 2 * i + 2
50         largest = i
51
52         # The index of the largest value is determined
53         if left < len(self.queue) and self.queue[left].priority > self.queue[largest].priority:
54             largest = left
55         if right < len(self.queue) and self.queue[right].priority > self.queue[largest].priority:
56             largest = right
57
58         # A swap is performed if the heap property is violated
59         if largest != i:
60             self.queue[i], self.queue[largest] = self.queue[largest], self.queue[i]
61             # The process is repeated recursively for the affected subtree
62             self._heapify(largest)
63
64     def update_priority(self, job, new_priority):
65         # The job is validated before proceeding
66         if job is None:
67             print("Cannot update priority for a null job.")
68             return
69
70         # The priority is updated to the new value
71         job.priority = new_priority
72         i = self.queue.index(job)
73
74         # The job is bubbled up to maintain the heap structure
75         while i > 0:
76             parent = (i - 1) // 2
77             if self.queue[i].priority > self.queue[parent].priority:
78                 self.queue[i], self.queue[parent] = self.queue[parent], self.queue[i]
79                 i = parent
80             else:
81                 break
82
83     def is_empty(self):
84         # A boolean indicating whether the queue is empty is returned
85         return not self.queue

```

**Insert Operation ( $O(\log n)$ )**

When a task is inserted, it is first placed at the end of the heap. To maintain the heap property, a heapify-up operation is performed, which may move the task up toward the root. Since this process traverses the height of the heap, it takes logarithmic time in the worst case.

**Extract Max Operation ( $O(\log n)$ )**

To extract the highest-priority task, the root node is replaced with the last node in the heap, followed by a heapify-down operation. This re-establishes the max-heap structure by comparing and swapping nodes down the tree, which also takes logarithmic time in the worst case.

**Insert Key Operation ( $O(\log n)$ )**

When a task's priority is increased, the key is updated, and the heapify-up operation is used to restore the max-heap property. As the task may need to move from a leaf node up to the root, the time complexity remains logarithmic.

**Empty Operation:  $O(1)$** 

It simply checks the heap length, which takes constant time.

**References**

Cormen, T. H., Leiserson, C. E., Rivest, R. L., & Stein, C. (2009). *Introduction to algorithms* (3rd ed.). MIT Press.

Weiss, M. A. (2014). *Data structures and algorithm analysis in C++* (4th ed.). Pearson.

Goodrich, M. T., Tamassia, R., & Goldwasser, M. H. (2014). *Data structures and algorithms in Java* (6th ed.). Wiley.