

1. The biggest advantage of a leftist heap is its speed. Because you know there is a shorter path to an external node on the right side of the tree, you will get faster operations if you solely operate (insert) on the right side of the heap. A disadvantage of leftist heaps is that they are slightly slower than skew trees. This is because of the comparing of ranks and ensuing rotation that occurs during insertion.
2. Because leftist trees are not complete trees, there would be “empty” spaces on an array-based implementation that would be a waste of memory. You do not have this problem with a pointer-based implementation, so it is an advantage. A disadvantage of pointer-based implementation of leftist heaps is that they are slower to operate on compared to an array-based implementation.