CS 240 - Data Structures and Data Management

Module 2: Priority Queues

Arne Storjohann

Based on lecture notes by many previous cs240 instructors

David R. Cheriton School of Computer Science, University of Waterloo

Fall 2024

Outline

- Priority Queues
 - Abstract Data Types
 - ADT Priority Queue
 - Binary Heaps
 - Binary Heaps as PQ realization
 - PQ-sort and heap-sort
 - Towards the Selection Problem

Outline

- 2 Priority Queues
 - Abstract Data Types
 - ADT Priority Queue
 - Binary Heaps
 - Binary Heaps as PQ realization
 - PQ-sort and heap-sort
 - Towards the Selection Problem

Abstract Data Types (review)

Abstract Data Type (ADT): A description of *information* and a collection of *operations* on that information.

The information is accessed *only* through the operations.

We can have various realizations of an ADT, which specify:

- How the information is stored (data structure)
- How the operations are performed (algorithms)

ADT Stack (review)

Stack: an ADT consisting of a collection of items with operations:



- push: Add an item to the stack.
- pop: Remove and return the most recently added item.

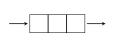
Items are removed in LIFO (*last-in first-out*) order.

We can have extra operations: size, is-empty, and top

ADT Stack can easily be realized using arrays or linked lists such that operations taking constant time (exercise).

ADT Queue (review)

Queue: an ADT consisting of a collection of items with operations:



- enqueue (or append or add-back): Add an item to the queue.
- dequeue (or remove-front): Remove and return the least recently inserted item.

Items are removed in FIFO (first-in first-out) order.

We can have extra operations: size, is-empty, and peek/front

ADT Queue can easily be realized using (circular) arrays or linked lists such that operations taking constant time (exercise).

Outline

- Priority Queues
 - Abstract Data Types
 - ADT Priority Queue
 - Binary Heaps
 - Binary Heaps as PQ realization
 - PQ-sort and heap-sort
 - Towards the Selection Problem

ADT Priority Queue

Priority Queue generalizes both ADT Stack and ADT Queue.

It is a collection of items (each having a priority or key) with operations

- insert: inserting an item tagged with a priority
- delete-max: removing and returning an item of highest priority.

We can have extra operations: size, is-empty, and get-max

This is a maximum-oriented priority queue. A minimum-oriented priority queue replaces operation delete-max by delete-min.

Applications:

- How would you simulate a stack with a priority queue?
- How would you simulate a queue with a priority queue?
- Other applications: typical todo-list, simulation systems, sorting

Using a Priority Queue to Sort

```
PQ	ext{-}Sort(A[0..n-1])
1. initialize PQ to an empty priority queue
2. for i \leftarrow 0 to n-1 do
3. PQ	ext{.}insert(an item with priority A[i])
4. for i \leftarrow n-1 down to 0 do
5. A[i] \leftarrow priority of PQ	ext{.}delete	ext{-}max()
```

- Note: Run-time depends on how we implement the priority queue.
- Sometimes written as: $O(initialization + n \cdot insert + n \cdot delete-max)$

Realization 1: unsorted arrays

In our examples we only show the priorities, and we show them directly in the node. A more accurate picture would be priority = 12, <other info>

Realization 1: unsorted arrays

$$\left(\begin{array}{c} \text{In our examples we only show the priorities, and we show them directly in} \\ \text{the node. A more accurate picture would be} \left(\begin{array}{c} \bullet & \bullet & \bullet \\ \bullet & \bullet & \bullet \end{array}\right)$$

Run-time of operations:

- insert: Θ(1)
- delete-max: $\Theta(n)$

Note: We assume **dynamic arrays**, i. e., expand by doubling as needed. (Amortized over all insertions this takes $\Theta(1)$ extra time.)

0	1	2	3	4
12	99	37		

Realization 1: unsorted arrays

$$\left(\begin{array}{c} \text{In our examples we only show the priorities, and we show them directly in} \\ \text{the node. A more accurate picture would be} \\ \end{array}\right)$$

Run-time of operations:

- insert: Θ(1)
- delete-max: $\Theta(n)$

Note: We assume **dynamic arrays**, i. e., expand by doubling as needed. (Amortized over all insertions this takes $\Theta(1)$ extra time.)

PQ-sort with this realization yields *selection-sort*. Using unsorted linked lists is identical.

Realization 2: sorted arrays

0	1	2	3	4
12	37	99		

0	1	2	3	4
12	37	99		

Realization 2: sorted arrays

Run-time of operations:

- insert: $\Theta(n)$
- delete-max: $\Theta(1)$

PQ-sort with this realization yields *insertion-sort*. Using sorted linked lists is identical.

0	1	2	3	4
12	37	99		

Realization 2: sorted arrays

Run-time of operations:

- insert: $\Theta(n)$
- delete-max: $\Theta(1)$

PQ-sort with this realization yields *insertion-sort*. Using sorted linked lists is identical.

Main advantage:

- insert can be implemented to have $\Theta(1)$ best-case run-time (how?)
- insertion-sort then has $\Theta(n)$ best-case run-time

Outline

- Priority Queues
 - Abstract Data Types
 - ADT Priority Queue
 - Binary Heaps
 - Binary Heaps as PQ realization
 - PQ-sort and heap-sort
 - Towards the Selection Problem

Towards Realization 3: Heaps

A (binary) heap is a certain type of binary tree.

You should know:

- A binary tree is either
 - ► empty, or
 - consists of three parts:
 a node and two binary trees (left subtree and right subtree).
- Terminology: root, leaf, parent, child, level, sibling, ancestor, descendant, etc.
- Level $\ell=$ all nodes with distance ℓ from the root. Root is on level 0.
- **Height** h = maximum number for which level h contains nodes. Single-node tree has height 0, empty tree has height -1.
- Known: Any binary tree with height h has $n \le 2^{h+1} 1$ nodes.

Towards Realization 3: Heaps

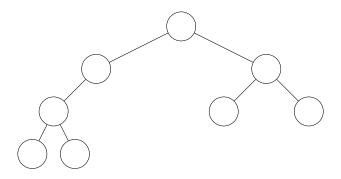
A (binary) heap is a certain type of binary tree.

You should know:

- A binary tree is either
 - ► empty, or
 - consists of three parts: a node and two binary trees (left subtree and right subtree).
- Terminology: root, leaf, parent, child, level, sibling, ancestor, descendant, etc.
- Level $\ell=$ all nodes with distance ℓ from the root. Root is on level 0.
- **Height** h = maximum number for which level h contains nodes. Single-node tree has height 0, empty tree has height -1.
- Known: Any binary tree with height h has $n \le 2^{h+1} 1$ nodes. So height $h \le \log(n+1) 1 \in \Omega(\log n)$.

Fall 2024

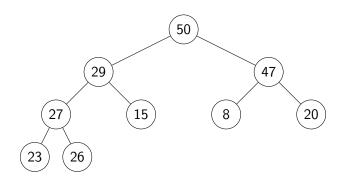
Example Binary Tree and Heap



Binary tree with

structural property and

Example Binary Tree and Heap



Binary tree with

- structural property and
- heap-order property.



Heaps - Definition

A **heap** is a binary tree with the following two properties:

- Structural Property: All the levels of a heap are completely filled, except (possibly) for the last level. The filled items in the last level are left-justified.
- **Heap-order Property:** For any node *i*, the key of the parent of *i* is larger than or equal to key of *i*.

Heaps - Definition

A **heap** is a binary tree with the following two properties:

- Structural Property: All the levels of a heap are completely filled, except (possibly) for the last level. The filled items in the last level are left-justified.
- **Heap-order Property:** For any node *i*, the key of the parent of *i* is larger than or equal to key of *i*.

The full name for this is *max-oriented binary heap*.

Heaps - Definition

A **heap** is a binary tree with the following two properties:

- Structural Property: All the levels of a heap are completely filled, except (possibly) for the last level. The filled items in the last level are left-justified.
- **Heap-order Property:** For any node *i*, the key of the parent of *i* is larger than or equal to key of *i*.

The full name for this is *max-oriented binary heap*.

Lemma: The height of a heap with n nodes is $\Theta(\log n)$.

Storing Heaps in Arrays

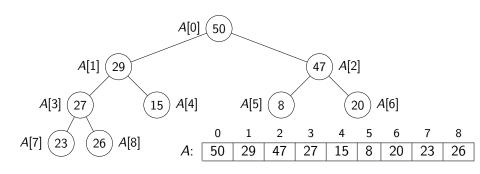
Heaps should *not* be stored as binary trees!

Let H be a heap of n items and let A be an array of size n. Store root in A[0] and continue with elements *level-by-level* from top to bottom, in each level left-to-right.

Storing Heaps in Arrays

Heaps should *not* be stored as binary trees!

Let H be a heap of n items and let A be an array of size n. Store root in A[0] and continue with elements *level-by-level* from top to bottom, in each level left-to-right.



Heaps in Arrays - Navigation

It is easy to navigate the heap using this array representation:

- the root node is at index 0
 (We use "node" and "index" interchangeably in this implementation.)
- the *last* node is n-1 (where n is the size)
- the *left child* of node i (if it exists) is node 2i + 1
- the *right child* of node i (if it exists) is node 2i + 2
- the *parent* of node i (if it exists) is node $\lfloor \frac{i-1}{2} \rfloor$
- ullet these nodes exist if the index falls in the range $\{0,\dots,n{-}1\}$

Heaps in Arrays - Navigation

It is easy to navigate the heap using this array representation:

- the root node is at index 0
 (We use "node" and "index" interchangeably in this implementation.)
- the *last* node is n-1 (where n is the size)
- the *left child* of node i (if it exists) is node 2i + 1
- the *right child* of node i (if it exists) is node 2i + 2
- the *parent* of node i (if it exists) is node $\lfloor \frac{i-1}{2} \rfloor$
- these nodes exist if the index falls in the range $\{0,\ldots,n-1\}$

We should hide implementation details using helper-functions!

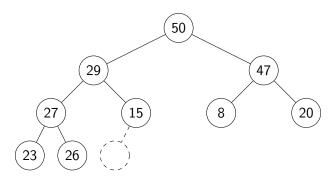
• functions root(), last(), parent(i), etc.

Some of these helper-functions need to know the size n. We assume that the data structure stores this explicitly.

Outline

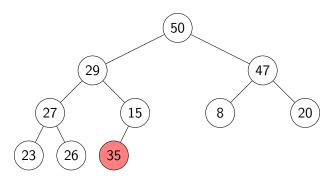
- Priority Queues
 - Abstract Data Types
 - ADT Priority Queue
 - Binary Heaps
 - Binary Heaps as PQ realization
 - PQ-sort and heap-sort
 - Towards the Selection Problem

insert(35):



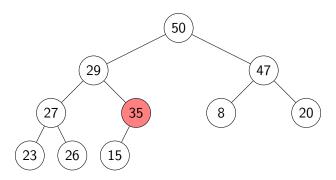
• By structural property: no choice where the new node can go.

insert(35):



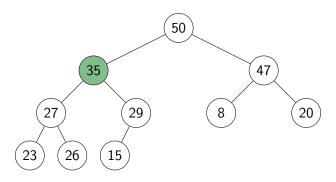
- By structural property: no choice where the new node can go.
- This may or may not lead to heap-order violations.

insert(35):



- By structural property: no choice where the new node can go.
- This may or may not lead to heap-order violations.
- Fix violations by "bubbling up" in the tree.

insert(35):



- By structural property: no choice where the new node can go.
- This may or may not lead to heap-order violations.
- Fix violations by "bubbling up" in the tree.

- Place the new key at the first free leaf
- Use fix-up to restore heap-order.

```
\begin{array}{ll} insert(x) \\ 1. & \ell \leftarrow last() + 1 \\ 2. & A[\ell] \leftarrow x \\ 3. & increase \ size \\ 4. & fix-up(A,\ell) \end{array} \ // \ assume \ dynamic \ array \ used
```

- Place the new key at the first free leaf
- Use fix-up to restore heap-order.

```
\begin{array}{ll} \mathit{insert}(x) \\ 1. & \ell \leftarrow \mathit{last}(){+}1 \\ 2. & A[\ell] \leftarrow x \\ 3. & \mathit{increase}\ \mathit{size} \\ 4. & \mathit{fix-up}(A,\ell) \end{array} \ //\ \mathit{assume}\ \mathit{dynamic}\ \mathit{array}\ \mathit{used} \\ 4. & \mathit{fix-up}(A,\ell) \end{array}
```

```
fix-up(A, i)

i: an index corresponding to a node of the heap

1. while parent(i) exists and A[parent(i)].key < A[i].key do

2. swap A[i] and A[parent(i)]

3. i \leftarrow parent(i)
```

- Place the new key at the first free leaf
- Use fix-up to restore heap-order.

```
\begin{array}{ll} insert(x) \\ 1. & \ell \leftarrow last() + 1 \\ 2. & A[\ell] \leftarrow x \\ 3. & increase \ size \\ 4. & fix-up(A,\ell) \end{array}   // assume dynamic array used
```

```
fix-up(A, i)
i: an index corresponding to a node of the heap

1. while parent(i) exists and A[parent(i)].key < A[i].key do

2. swap A[i] and A[parent(i)]

3. i \leftarrow parent(i)
```

Time: $O(\text{height of heap}) = O(\log n)$ (and this is tight). (Correctness may seem obvious, but is actually non-trivial.)

delete-max in Heaps

- The maximum item of a heap is just the root node.
- We replace root by the last leaf (last leaf is taken out).
- The heap-order property might be violated: perform a *fix-down*:

delete-max in Heaps

- The maximum item of a heap is just the root node.
- We replace root by the last leaf (last leaf is taken out).
- The heap-order property might be violated: perform a *fix-down*:

```
fix-down(A, i)

A: an array that stores a heap of size n

i: an index corresponding to a node of the heap

1. while i is not a leaf do

2. j \leftarrow left child of i // Find the child with the larger key

3. if (i has right child and A[right child of i].key > A[j].key)

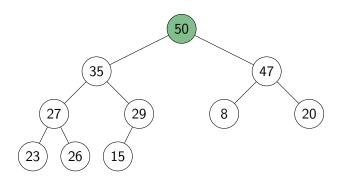
4. j \leftarrow right child of i

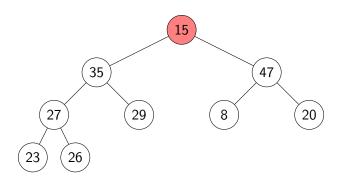
5. if A[i].key \ge A[j].key break

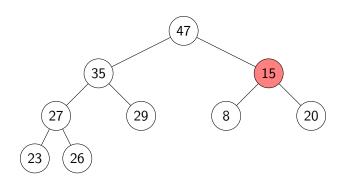
6. swap A[j] and A[i]

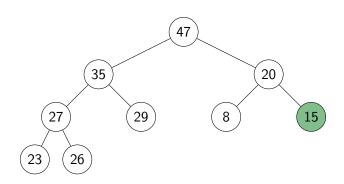
7. i \leftarrow j
```

Time: $O(\text{height of heap}) = O(\log n)$ (and this is tight).









Priority Queue Realization Using Heaps

delete-max()

- 1. $\ell \leftarrow last()$
- 2. swap A[root()] and $A[\ell]$
- 3. decrease size
- 4. fix-down(A, root(), size)
- 5. return $A[\ell]$

Time: $O(\text{height of heap}) = O(\log n)$ (and this is tight).

Priority Queue Realization Using Heaps

delete-max()

- 1. $\ell \leftarrow last()$
- 2. $swap\ A[root()]\ and\ A[\ell]$
- 3. decrease size
- 4. fix-down(A, root(), size)
- 5. return $A[\ell]$

Time: $O(\text{height of heap}) = O(\log n)$ (and this is tight).

Binary heap are a realization of priority queues where the operations *insert* and *delete-max* take $\Theta(\log n)$ **time**.

Outline

- Priority Queues
 - Abstract Data Types
 - ADT Priority Queue
 - Binary Heaps
 - Binary Heaps as PQ realization
 - PQ-sort and heap-sort
 - Towards the Selection Problem

Sorting using heaps

Recall: Any priority queue can be used to sort in time

$$O(initialization + n \cdot insert + n \cdot delete-max)$$

• Using the binary-heaps implementation of PQs, we obtain:

PQ-sort-with-heaps(A)

- 1. initialize H to an empty heap
- 2. for $i \leftarrow 0$ to n-1 do
- 3. H.insert(A[i])
- 4. for $i \leftarrow n-1$ down to 0 do
- 5. $A[i] \leftarrow H.delete-max()$

Sorting using heaps

Recall: Any priority queue can be used to sort in time

$$O(initialization + n \cdot insert + n \cdot delete-max)$$

• Using the binary-heaps implementation of PQs, we obtain:

```
PQ-sort-with-heaps(A)

1. initialize H to an empty heap

2. for i \leftarrow 0 to n-1 do

3. H.insert(A[i])

4. for i \leftarrow n-1 down to 0 do

5. A[i] \leftarrow H.delete-max()
```

- both operations run in $O(\log n)$ time for heaps
- \rightarrow PQ-sort using heaps takes $O(n \log n)$ time (and this is tight).

Sorting using heaps

Recall: Any priority queue can be used to sort in time

$$O(initialization + n \cdot insert + n \cdot delete-max)$$

Using the binary-heaps implementation of PQs, we obtain:

```
PQ-sort-with-heaps(A)

1. initialize H to an empty heap

2. for i \leftarrow 0 to n-1 do

3. H.insert(A[i])

4. for i \leftarrow n-1 down to 0 do

5. A[i] \leftarrow H.delete-max()
```

- both operations run in $O(\log n)$ time for heaps
- \rightarrow PQ-sort using heaps takes $O(n \log n)$ time (and this is tight).
 - Can improve this with two simple tricks → heap-sort
 - Can use the same array for input and heap. $\rightsquigarrow O(1)$ auxiliary space!
 - Peaps can be built faster if we know all input in advance.

Building Heaps with fix-up

Problem: Given n items all at once (in $A[0 \cdots n-1]$) build a heap containing all of them.

Building Heaps with fix-up

Problem: Given n items all at once (in $A[0 \cdots n-1]$) build a heap containing all of them.

Solution 1: Start with an empty heap and insert items one at a time:

simple-heap-building(A)

A: an array

- 1. initialize H as an empty heap
- 2. **for** $i \leftarrow 0$ **to** A.size() 1 **do**
- 3. H.insert(A[i])

Building Heaps with fix-up

Problem: Given n items all at once (in $A[0 \cdots n-1]$) build a heap containing all of them.

Solution 1: Start with an empty heap and insert items one at a time:

simple-heap-building(A)

A: an array

- 1. initialize H as an empty heap
- 2. **for** $i \leftarrow 0$ **to** A.size() 1 **do**
- 3. H.insert(A[i])

This corresponds to doing fix-ups

Worst-case running time: $O(n \log n)$ (and this is tight).

Building Heaps with fix-down

Problem: Given n items all at once (in $A[0 \cdots n-1]$) build a heap containing all of them.

Building Heaps with fix-down

Problem: Given n items all at once (in $A[0 \cdots n-1]$) build a heap containing all of them.

Solution 2: Using *fix-downs* instead:

```
heapify(A)
A: an array
1. n \leftarrow A.size()
2. for i \leftarrow parent(last()) downto root() do
3. fix-down(A, i, n)
```

Building Heaps with fix-down

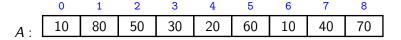
Problem: Given n items all at once (in $A[0 \cdots n-1]$) build a heap containing all of them.

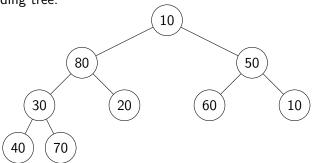
Solution 2: Using *fix-downs* instead:

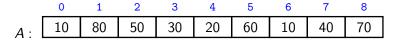
```
heapify(A)
A: an array
1. n \leftarrow A.size()
2. for i \leftarrow parent(last()) downto root() do
3. fix-down(A, i, n)
```

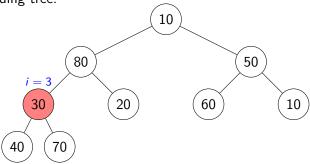
A careful analysis yields a worst-case complexity of $\Theta(n)$.

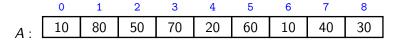
A heap can be built in linear time.

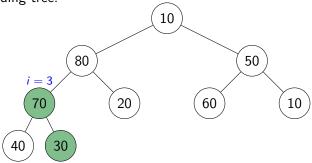


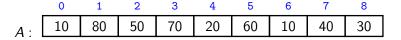


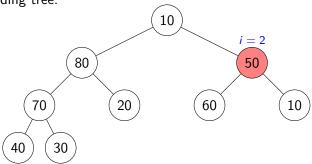


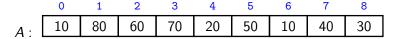


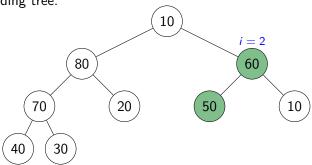


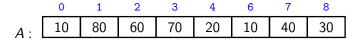


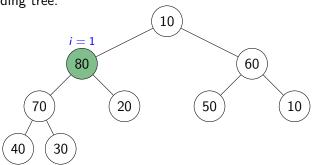


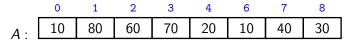


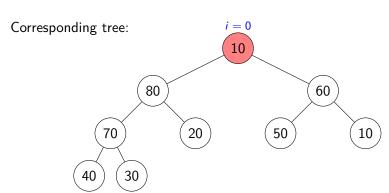


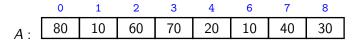


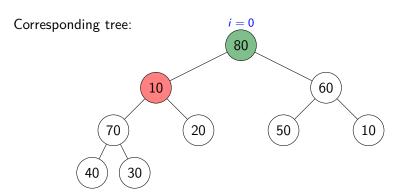


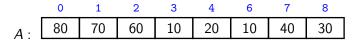


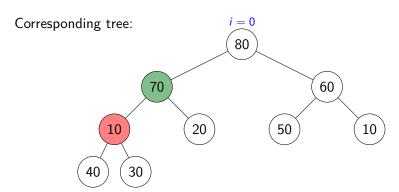


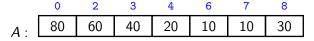


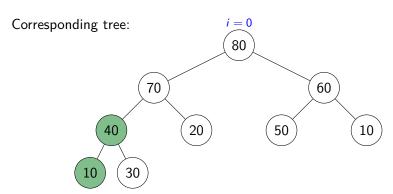










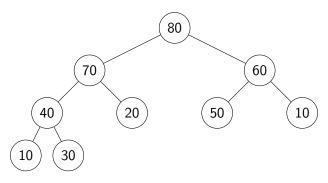


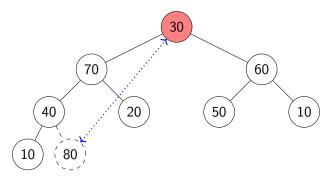
Efficient sorting with heaps

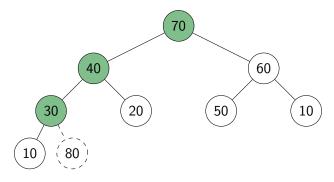
- Idea: PQ-sort with heaps.
- O(1) auxiliary space: Use same input-array A for storing heap.

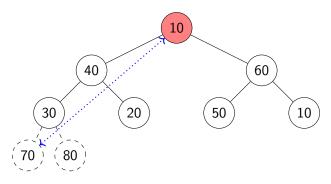
```
heap-sort(A)
1. // heapify
2. n \leftarrow A.size()
3. for i \leftarrow parent(last()) downto 0 do
   fix-down(A, i, n)
   // repeatedly find maximum
    while n > 1
   // 'delete' maximum by moving to end and decreasing n
8. swap items at A[root()] and A[last()]
9. decrease n
    fix-down(A, root(), n)
10.
```

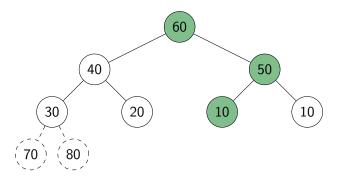
The for-loop takes $\Theta(n)$ time and the while-loop takes $\Theta(n \log n)$ time.

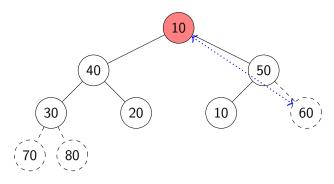


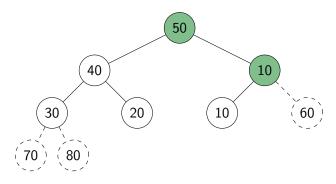


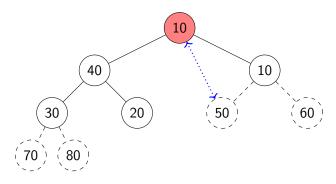


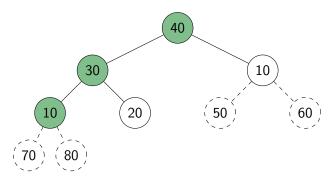


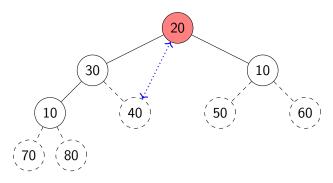


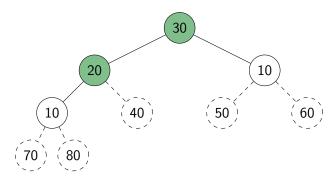


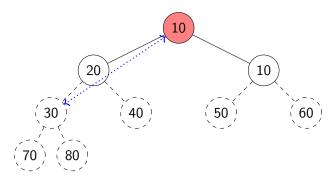


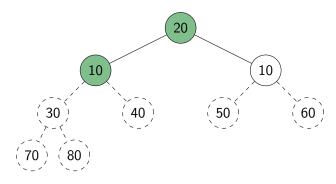


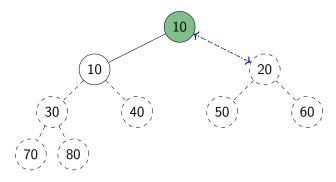




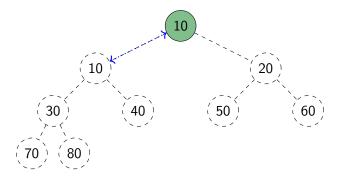








Continue with the example from heapify:



The array (i.e., the heap in level-by-level order) is now in sorted order.

Heap summary

- Binary heap: A binary tree that satisfies structural property and heap-order property.
- Heaps are one possible realization of ADT PriorityQueue:
 - ▶ insert takes time O(log n)
 - delete-max takes time $O(\log n)$
 - ▶ Also supports findMax in time O(1)
- A binary heap can be built in linear time.
- PQ-sort with binary heaps leads to a sorting algorithm with $O(n \log n)$ worst-case run-time (\leadsto heap-sort)
- We have seen here the max-oriented version of heaps (the maximum priority is at the root).
- There exists a symmetric min-oriented version that supports insert and delete-min with the same run-times.

Outline

- Priority Queues
 - Abstract Data Types
 - ADT Priority Queue
 - Binary Heaps
 - Binary Heaps as PQ realization
 - PQ-sort and heap-sort
 - Towards the Selection Problem

Problem: Find the *kth smallest item* in an array *A* of *n* numbers.

Problem: Find the *kth smallest item* in an array *A* of *n* numbers.

Solution 1: Make k (?) passes through the array, deleting the minimum number each time.

Complexity: $\Theta(kn)$.

Problem: Find the *kth smallest item* in an array A of n numbers. (Formally: kth smallest = the item that would be at A[k] if sorted.)

Solution 1: Make k+1 passes through the array, deleting the minimum number each time. Complexity: $\Theta(kn)$.

Problem: Find the *kth smallest item* in an array A of n numbers. (Formally: kth smallest = the item that would be at A[k] if sorted.)

Solution 1: Make k+1 passes through the array, deleting the minimum number each time.

Complexity: $\Theta(kn)$.

Solution 2: Sort A, then return A[k].

Complexity: $\Theta(n \log n)$.

Problem: Find the *kth smallest item* in an array A of n numbers. (Formally: kth smallest = the item that would be at A[k] if sorted.)

Solution 1: Make k+1 passes through the array, deleting the minimum number each time.

Complexity: $\Theta(kn)$.

Solution 2: Sort A, then return A[k].

Complexity: $\Theta(n \log n)$.

Solution 3: Create a min-heap with heapify(A). Call delete-min(A) k+1 times.

Complexity: $\Theta(n + k \log n)$.

Problem: Find the *kth smallest item* in an array A of n numbers. (Formally: kth smallest = the item that would be at A[k] if sorted.)

Solution 1: Make k+1 passes through the array, deleting the minimum number each time.

Complexity: $\Theta(kn)$.

Solution 2: Sort A, then return A[k].

Complexity: $\Theta(n \log n)$.

Solution 3: Create a min-heap with heapify(A). Call delete-min(A) k+1 times.

Complexity: $\Theta(n + k \log n)$.

We can achieve $\Theta(n \log n)$ worst-case time easily, but can we do better?