

HEAPS

COP 3502

- Binary heaps are used for two purposes:
 - Priority Queues
 - Heap sort



Priority Queue

A priority queue is where you always extract the item with the highest priority next.

Priority Queue Example

- Let's say we are Google and we want an efficient way to do determine which applicant from our applicant pool to interview when a new position opens up.
- So we assign a priority based on a particular formula including application arrival time, GPA, and understanding of Heaps, ironically enough.



- How could we implement this using our existing methods?
 - We don't want just a normal queue, because that's FIFO, doesn't care about a priority value.
 - We could use a linked list sorted by priority.
 - Then we would have a long insertion time for insert, because we have to traverse the list to find where our element goes.



This isn't necessary, because all we care about is the next applicant to interview, not that the list is sorted.

Consider a minimum binary heap:



- Looks similar to a binary search tree
- BUT all the values stored in the subtree rooted at a node are greater than or equal to the value stored at the node.



The only operations we need are:

Insert and RemoveMin

- We can implement a heap using a complete binary tree or an array as we will talk about later.
- No matter how we implement it, we will visualize the data structure as a tree, like the one above.

Insert

- Since we want a complete binary tree
 - We insert the new node into the next empty spot
- 5 Sarah 100 Ken 10 Mags 200 Otto
- Filling each level from left to right
- Then we need to worry about where this node should move to depending on its priority.



Insert

- The problem is in all likelihood, if the insertion is done in this location, the heap property will not be maintained.
- Thus, you must do the following "Percolate Up" procedure:
 - If the parent of the newly inserted node is greater than the inserted value, swap the two of them.
 - This is a single "Percolate Up" step.
 - Now, continue this process until the inserted node 's parent stores a number lower than it.





Insert

Percolate Up:

- If the parent of the newly inserted node is greater than the inserted value, swap the two of them.
- Now, continue this process until the inserted node 's parent stores a number lower than it.





Heap Implementation

Array Implementation:

- Instead of using a binary tree implementation,
- We can use an array implementation where the children of the node at index *i* are the nodes at indices *2i* and *2i+1*.



Delete Minimum

 Delete the min (which is always the root), and return:

2 Steph

- Now we need to replace it, but with what?
 - Replace with the last element in the array, or the last node added to the tree.
- Then Percolate Down.



Percolate Down:

If the children of this node has children less than it swap it with the MIN of its 2 children, until the node has children that are larger than it.

Runtime of heap operations

Insert

- Shown on the board
- DeleteMin
 - Shown on the board



Heapify

- Bottom up heap construction
 - Shown on the board



Heapsort

Shown on the board



Heap Implementation

- Insert
- Percolate Up
 - Shown on the board

