Priority Queues

CSE 373
Data Structures & Algorithms
Ruth Anderson
Spring 2008

Today's Outline

- **Admin**:
  - HW #3 due this Thursday 5/1 at 11:59pm
  - Printouts due Friday in lecture.
- **Priority Queues**
  - **Leftist Heaps**
  - **Skew Heaps**

Priority Queues

(Leftist Heaps)

One More Operation

- Merge two heaps. Ideas?

New Operation: Merge

Given two heaps, merge them into one heap

- first attempt: insert each element of the smaller heap into the larger.

  runtime:

- second attempt: concatenate binary heaps' arrays and run buildHeap.

  runtime:

Leftist Heaps

Idea:

Focus all heap maintenance work in one small part of the heap

Leftist heaps:

1. Most nodes are on the left
2. All the merging work is done on the right

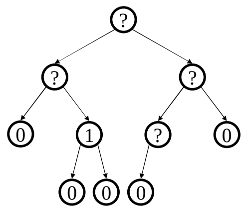
Definition: Null Path Length

null path length (npl) of a node *x* = the number of nodes between *x* and a null in its subtree

OR

npl(x) = min distance to a descendant with 0 or 1 children

- *npl*(null) = -1
- *npl*(leaf, aka zero children) = 0
- *npl*(node with one child) = 0



Equivalent definitions:

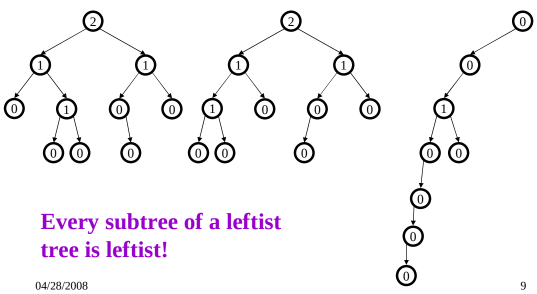
1. *npl(x)* is the height of largest perfect subtree rooted at *x*
2. *npl(x)* = 1 + min{*npl*(left(x)), *npl*(right(x))}

Leftist Heap Properties

- Heap-order property
  - parent's priority value is ≤ to childrens' priority values
  - result: minimum element is at the root
- Leftist property
  - For every node *x*, *npl*(left(*x*)) ≥ *npl*(right(*x*))
  - result: tree is at least as "heavy" on the left as the right

Are leftist trees…
complete?
balanced?

Are These Leftist?



Every subtree of a leftist tree is leftist!

Right Path in a Leftist Tree is Short (#1)

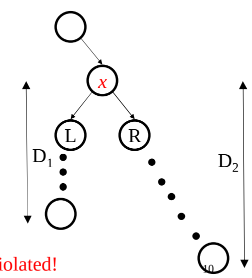
Claim: The right path is as short as *any* in the tree.

Proof: (By contradiction)

Pick a shorter path: $D_1 < D_2$
Say it diverges from right path at *x*

npl(L) ≤ D_1-1 because of the path of length D_1-1 to null

npl(R) ≥ D_2-1 because every node on right path is leftist



Leftist property at *x* violated!

Right Path in a Leftist Tree is Short (#2)

Claim: If the right path has **r** nodes, then the tree has at least
2^r-1 nodes.

Proof: (By induction)

Base case : **r=1**. Tree has at least **2¹-1 = 1** node

Inductive step : assume true for **r'< r**. Prove for tree with right path at least **r**.

1. Right subtree: right path of **r-1** nodes
   ⇒ $2^{r-1}-1$ right subtree nodes (by induction)
2. Left subtree: also right path of length at least **r-1** (by previous slide) ⇒ $2^{r-1}-1$ left subtree nodes (by induction)

Total tree size: $(2^{r-1}-1) + (2^{r-1}-1) + 1 = 2^r-1$

Why do we have the leftist property?

Because it guarantees that:

- the *right path is really short* compared to the number of nodes in the tree
- A leftist tree of N nodes, has a right path of at most **log (N+1)** nodes

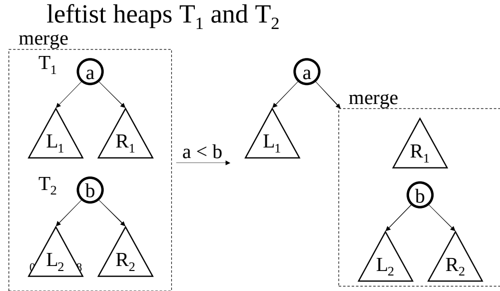
Idea – perform all work on the right path

Merge two heaps (basic idea)

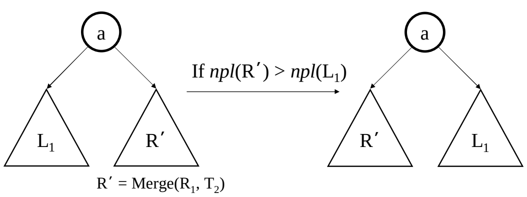
- Put the smaller root as the new root,
- Hang its left subtree on the left.
- Recursively merge its right subtree and the other tree.

Merging Two Leftist Heaps

- merge(T_1,T_2) returns one leftist heap containing all elements of the two (distinct) leftist heaps T_1 and T_2

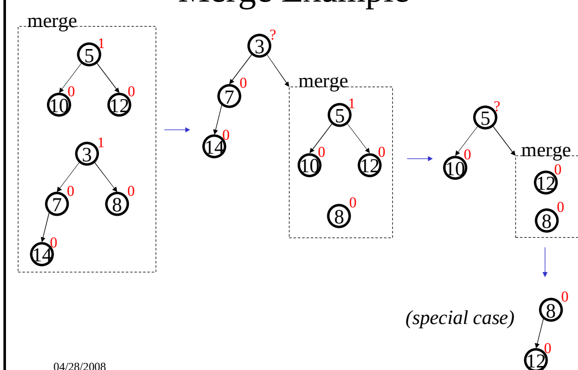


Merge Continued

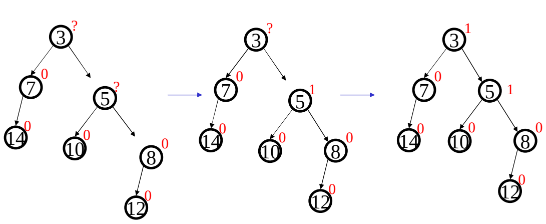


runtime:

Merge Example

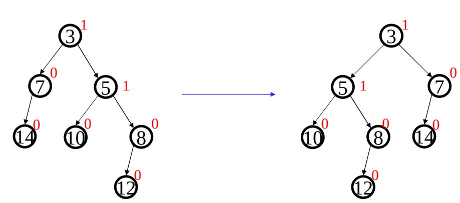


Sewing Up the Example

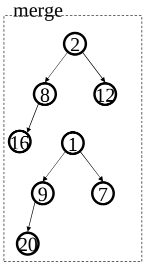


Done?

Finally…



Merge Two Leftist Heaps



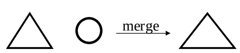
Student Activity

Other Heap Operations

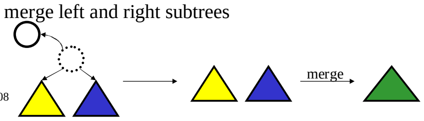
- insert ?
- deleteMin ?

Operations on Leftist Heaps

- merge with two trees of total size n: O(log n)
- insert with heap size n: O(log n)
  – pretend node is a size 1 leftist heap
  – insert by merging original heap with one node heap



- deleteMin with heap size n: O(log n)
  – remove and return root
  – merge left and right subtrees



Leftist Heaps: Summary

Good

•

•

Bad

•

•

Amortized Time

am·or·tized time:

Running time limit resulting from "writing off" expensive runs of an algorithm over multiple cheap runs of the algorithm, usually resulting in a lower overall running time than indicated by the worst possible case.

If M operations take total O(M log N) time, *amortized* time per operation is O(log N)

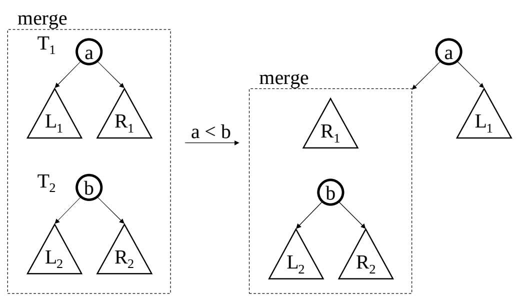
Difference from **average time:**

Skew Heaps

Problems with leftist heaps
– extra storage for npl
– extra complexity/logic to maintain and check npl
– right side is "often" heavy and requires a switch

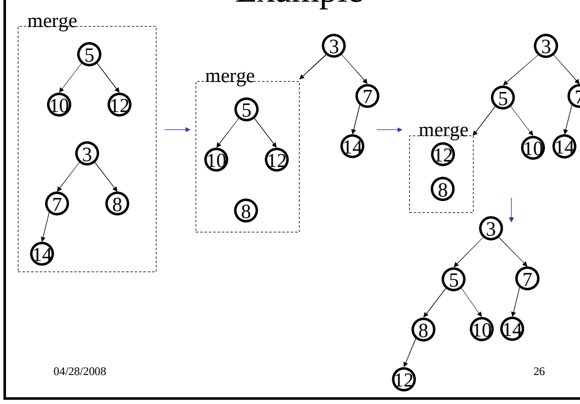
Solution: skew heaps
– "blindly" adjusting version of leftist heaps
– merge *always* switches children when fixing right path
– amortized time for: merge, insert, deleteMin = O(log *n*)
– however, worst case time for all three = O(*n*)

Merging Two Skew Heaps



Only one step per iteration, with children *always* switched

Example



Skew Heap Code

```
void merge(heap1, heap2) {
  case {
     heap1 == NULL: return heap2;
     heap2 == NULL: return heap1;
     heap1.findMin() < heap2.findMin():
          temp = heap1.right;
          heap1.right = heap1.left;
          heap1.left = merge(heap2, temp);
          return heap1;
     otherwise:
          return merge(heap2, heap1);
  }
}
```


Runtime Analysis: Worst-case and Amortized

- No worst case guarantee on right path length!
- All operations rely on merge

  $\Rightarrow$ worst case complexity of all ops =
- Amortized Analysis (Chapter 11)
- Result: M merges take time $M \log n$

  $\Rightarrow$ amortized complexity of all ops =

Comparing Priority Queues

• Binary Heaps	• Leftist Heaps
• d-Heaps	• Skew Heaps

Student Activity