Module 2: Priority Queues

CS 240 - Data Structures and Data Management

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Abstract Data Types

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*)

Priority Queue ADT

Priority Queue: An ADT consisting of a collection of items (each having a *priority*) with operations

- *insert*: inserting an item tagged with a priority
- *deleteMax*: removing the item of *highest priority*

deleteMax is also called *extractMax*.

Applications: typical "todo" list, simulation systems

The above definition is for a *maximum-oriented* priority queue. A *minimum-oriented* priority queue is defined in the natural way, by replacing the operation *deleteMax* by *deleteMin*.

Realizations of Priority Queues

Attempt 1: Use *unsorted arrays*

- insert: $O(1)$
- deleteMax: $O(n)$

Using unsorted linked lists is identical.
Attempt 2: Use *sorted arrays*

- insert: $O(n)$
- deleteMax: $O(1)$

Using sorted linked-lists is identical.

Third Realization: Heaps

A *heap* is a certain type of binary tree.

Recall binary trees:
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.* .

Heaps

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

1. 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*.
2. Heap-order Property: For any node i, *key* (priority) of parent of i is larger than or equal to key of i.

A *min-heap* is the same, but with opposite order property.

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

Insertion in Heaps

- Place the new key at the first free leaf
- The heap-order property might be violated: perform a *bubble-up*:

```
bubble-up(v)
v: a node of the heap
1.    while parent(v) exists and key(parent(v)) < key(v) do
2.        swap v and parent(v)
3.        v ← parent(v)
```

The new item bubbles up until it reaches its correct place in the heap.

Time: O(height of heap) $= O(\log n)$.

deleteMax 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 *bubble-down*:

```
bubble-down(v)
v: a node of the heap
    while v is not a leaf do
        u ← child of v with largest key
        if key(u) > key(v) then
            swap v and u
            v ← u
        else
            break
```

Time: O(height of heap) $= O(\log n)$.

Priority Queue Realization Using Heaps

heapInsert(A, x)

A: an array-based heap, x: a new item

$size(A) \leftarrow size(A) + 1$

$A[size(A) - 1] \leftarrow x$

$bubble{-}up(A, size(A) - 1)$

heapDeleteMax(A)

A: an array-based heap

$max \leftarrow A[0]$

$swap(A[0], A[size(A) - 1])$

$size(A) \leftarrow size(A) - 1$

$bubble{-}down(A, 0)$

return *max*

Insert and deleteMax: $O(\log n)$

Storing Heaps in Arrays

Let H be a heap (binary tree) 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.

It is easy to find parents and children using this array representation:

- the *left child* of $A[i]$ (if it exists) is $A[2i+1]$,
- the *right child* of $A[i]$ (if it exists) is $A[2i+2]$,
- the *parent* of $A[i]$ ($i \neq 0$) is $A[\lfloor \frac{i-1}{2} \rfloor]$ ($A[0]$ is the root node).

Building Heaps

Problem statement: Given n items (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:

heapify1(A)
A: an array
  initialize H as an empty heap
  for $i \leftarrow 0$ **to** *size*$(A) - 1$ **do**
    heapInsert$(H, A[i])$

This corresponds to going from $0 \cdots n-1$ in A and doing *bubble-ups*
Worst-case running time: $\Theta(n \log n)$.

Building Heaps

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

Solution 2: Using *bubble-downs* instead:

```
heapify(A)
A: an array
1.    n ← size(A) − 1
2.    for i ← ⌊n/2⌋ downto 0 do
3.        bubble−down(A, i)
```

A careful analysis yields a worst-case complexity of $\Theta(n)$.
A heap can be built in linear time.

Using a Priority Queue to Sort

$PQ - Sort(A)$

initialize PQ to an empty priority queue
for $i \leftarrow 0$ **to** $n-1$ **do**
    $PQ.insert(A[i], A[i])$
for $i \leftarrow 0$ **to** $n-1$ **do**
    $A[n-1-i] \leftarrow PQ.deleteMax()$

HeapSort

HeapSort(A)
initialize H to an empty heap
for $i \leftarrow 0$ **to** $n-1$ **do**
  heapInsert$(H, A[i])$
for $i \leftarrow 0$ **to** $n-1$ **do**
  $A[n-1-i] \leftarrow$ *heapDeleteMax*(H)

HeapSort(A)
heapify(A)
for $i \leftarrow 0$ **to** $n-1$ **do**
  $A[n-1-i] \leftarrow$ *heapDeleteMax*(A)

Running time of HeapSort: $O(n \log n)$

Selection

Problem Statement: The kth-max problem asks to find the *kth largest item* in an array A of n numbers.

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

Solution 2: First sort the numbers. Then return the kth largest number.
Complexity: $\Theta(n \log n)$.

Solution 3: Scan the array and maintain the k largest numbers seen so far in a min-heap
Complexity: $\Theta(n \log k)$.

Solution 4: Make a max-heap by calling *heapify*(A). Call *deleteMax*(A) k times.
Complexity: $\Theta(n + k \log n)$.