Binomial Heaps

Outline for this Week

- Binomial Heaps (Today)
 - A simple, flexible, and versatile priority queue.
- Lazy Binomial Heaps (Today)
 - A powerful building block for designing advanced data structures.
- Fibonacci Heaps (Wednesday)
 - A heavyweight and theoretically excellent priority queue.

Review: Priority Queues

Priority Queues

- A **priority queue** is a data structure that stores a set of elements annotated with *keys* and allows efficient extraction of the element with the least key.
- More concretely, supports these operations:
 - *pq.enqueue*(v, k), which enqueues element v with key k;
 - *pq.find-min()*, which returns the element with the least key; and
 - pq.extract-min(), which removes and returns the element with the least key,

- Priority queues are frequently implemented as binary heaps.
- *enqueue* and *extract-min* run in time O(log n);
 find-min runs in time O(1).
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Priority Queues in Practice

- Many graph algorithms directly rely priority queues supporting extra operations:
 - **meld**(pq_1 , pq_2): Destroy pq_1 and pq_2 and combine their elements into a single priority queue.
 - pq.decrease-key(v, k'): Given a pointer to element v already in the queue, lower its key to have new value k'.
 - $pq.add-to-all(\Delta k)$: Add Δk to the keys of each element in the priority queue (typically used with *meld*).
- In lecture, we'll cover binomial heaps to efficiently support *meld* and Fibonacci heaps to efficiently support *meld* and *decrease-key*.
- After the TAs ensure that it's not too hard to do so, you'll design a priority queue supporting efficient *meld* and *add-to-all* on the problem set.

- A priority queue supporting the *meld* operation is called a *meldable priority queue*.
- **meld**(pq_1 , pq_2) destructively modifies pq_1 and pq_2 and produces a new priority queue containing all elements of pq_1 and pq_2 .





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Efficiently Meldable Queues

- Standard binary heaps do not efficiently support *meld*.
- Intuition: Binary heaps are complete binary trees, and two complete binary trees cannot easily be linked to one another.



Binomial Heaps

- The **binomial heap** is an efficient priority queue data structure that supports efficient melding.
- We'll study binomial heaps for several reasons:
 - Implementation and intuition is totally different than binary heaps.
 - Used as a building block in other data structures (Fibonacci heaps, soft heaps, etc.)
 - Has a beautiful intuition; similar ideas can be used to produce other data structures.

The Intuition: **Binary Arithmetic**

























A Different Intuition

- Represent *n* and *m* as a collection of "packets" whose sizes are powers of two.
- Adding together *n* and *m* can then be thought of as combining the packets together, eliminating duplicates

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Why This Works

- In order for this arithmetic procedure to work efficiently, the packets must obey the following properties:
 - The packets must be stored in ascending/descending order of size.
 - The packets must be stored such that there are no two packets of the same size.
 - Two packets of the same size must be efficiently "fusable" into a single packet.

- Idea: Adapt this approach to build a priority queue.
- Store elements in the priority queue in "packets" whose sizes are powers of two.
- Store packets in ascending size order.
- We'll choose a representation of a packet so that two packets of the same size can easily be fused together.























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64

97 53 26 As long as the packets provide O(1) access to the minimum, we can execute *find-min* in

time $O(\log n)$.

- What properties must our packets have?
 - Sizes must be powers of two.
 - Can efficiently fuse packets of the same size.
 - Can efficiently find the minimum element of each packet.



- If we can efficiently meld two priority queues, we can efficiently enqueue elements to the queue.
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Time required: $O(\log n)$ fuses.

Deleting the Minimum

- Our analogy with arithmetic breaks down when we try to remove the minimum element.
- After losing an element, the packet will not necessarily hold a number of elements that is a power of two.

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- If we have a packet with 2^k elements in it and remove a single element, we are left with 2^k - 1 remaining elements.
- Fun fact: $2^{k} 1 = 1 + 2 + 4 + \dots + 2^{k-1}$.
- **Idea**: "Fracture" the packet into *k* 1 smaller packets, then add them back in.















- We can *extract-min* by fracturing the packet containing the minimum and adding the fragments back in.
- Runtime is O(log *n*) fuses in *meld*, plus fragment cost.



Building a Priority Queue

- What properties must our packets have?
 - Size must be a power of two.
 - Can efficiently fuse packets of the same size.
 - Can efficiently find the minimum element of each packet.
 - Can efficiently "fracture" a packet of 2^k nodes into packets of 1, 2, 4, 8, ..., 2^{k-1} nodes.
- What representation of packets will give us these properties?

• A **binomial tree of order** *k* is a type of tree recursively defined as follows:

A binomial tree of order k is a single node whose children are binomial trees of order 0, 1, 2, ..., k - 1.

• Here are the first few binomial trees:



- **Theorem:** A binomial tree of order k has exactly 2^k nodes.
- Proof: Induction on k. Assuming that binomial trees of orders 0, 1, 2, ..., k – 1 have 2⁰, 2¹, 2², ..., 2^{k-1} nodes, then then number of nodes in an order-k binomial tree is

 $2^{0} + 2^{1} + ... + 2^{k-1} + 1 = 2^{k} - 1 + 1 = 2^{k}$ So the claim holds for *k* as well.

- A heap-ordered binomial tree is a binomial tree whose nodes obey the heap property: all nodes are less than or equal to their descendants.
- We will use heap-ordered binomial trees to implement our "packets."



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Make the binomial tree with the larger root the first child of the tree with the smaller root.

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The Binomial Heap

- A **binomial heap** is a collection of heap-ordered binomial trees stored in ascending order of size.
- Operations defined as follows:
 - **meld** (pq_1, pq_2) : Use addition to combine all the trees.
 - Fuses O(log *n*) trees. Total time: O(log *n*).
 - *pq.enqueue*(*v*, *k*): Meld *pq* and a singleton heap of (*v*, *k*).
 - Total time: $O(\log n)$.
 - *pq.find-min()*: Find the minimum of all tree roots.
 - Total time: $O(\log n)$.
 - *pq.extract-min()*: Find the min, delete the tree root, then meld together the queue and the exposed children.
 - Total time: $O(\log n)$.










































Time-Out for Announcements!

Office Hours Update

- Keith's office hours are now moved to Gates 178 going forward – looks like we didn't actually have Hewlett 201 after lecture. ☺
- Thursday office hours changed from 7:30PM 9:30PM, location TBA.
- As always, feel free to email us with questions!

Problem Set Two Graded

- Problem Set Two has been graded; will be returned at end of lecture.
- Rough solution sketches available up front!

Problem Set Three Clarification

- Many of you have questions about Q2 on Problem Set Three.
- For parts (iii) and (iv), assume the following:
 - The basic data structure can be constructed in worst-case time O(n).
 - The cost of a cut is worst-case $O(\min\{|T_1|, |T_2|\})$.
- You don't need to justify these facts. We're mostly interested in seeing your amortized analyses.

Your Questions

"What's a popular data structure in place of map for military purposes, where guaranteed time of operations are required?"

> **Red/black trees** are the gold standard here – they've got excellent worst-case performance and support fast insertions and deletions.

Hash tables have *expected* O(1) operations, but that requires good hash functions. Search "HashDoS" for an attack on many programming languages' implementations of hash tables. "How do you determine out of how many fewer points a problem set will be worth for people working alone vs. in pairs? Are you happy with how the optional pairs system has worked thus far?"

> For PS1, about 25% the class worked in pairs. For PS2, about 50% of the class worked in pairs.

> I'm hoping to encourage people to work in pairs without punishing people who choose not to. I'm still tuning the buffer amount.

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"Do you Hear the Balanced Tree?"

Back to CS166!

Analyzing Insertions

- Each *enqueue* into a binomial heap takes time O(log *n*), since we have to meld the new node into the rest of the trees.
- However, it turns out that the amortized cost of an insertion is lower in the case where we do a series of *n* insertions.

- Suppose we want to execute n++ on the binary representation of n.
- Do the following:
 - Find the longest span of 1's at the right side of *n*.
 - Flip those 1's to 0's.
 - Set the preceding bit to 1.

$1 \quad 0 \quad 1 \quad 1 \quad 0$

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- Do the following:
 - Find the longest span of 1's at the right side of *n*.
 - Flip those 1's to 0's.
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- Runtime: $\Theta(b)$, where b is the number of bits flipped.

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- **Idea:** Use as a potential function the number of 1's in the number.



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Properties of Binomial Heaps

- Starting with an empty binomial heap, the amortized cost of each insertion into the heap is O(1), assuming there are no deletions.
- **Rationale:** Binomial heap operations are isomorphic to integer arithmetic.
- Since the amortized cost of incrementing a binary counter starting at zero is O(1), the amortized cost of enqueuing into an initially empty binomial heap is O(1).

Binomial vs Binary Heaps

- Interesting comparison:
 - The cost of inserting n elements into a binary heap, one after the other, is $\Theta(n \log n)$ in the worst-case.
 - If *n* is known in advance, a binary heap can be constructed out of *n* elements in time $\Theta(n)$.
 - The cost of inserting n elements into a binomial heap, one after the other, is $\Theta(n)$, even if n is not known in advance!

- This amortized time bound does not hold if enqueue and extract-min are intermixed.
- **Intuition:** Can force expensive insertions to happen repeatedly.



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Question: Can we make insertions amortized O(1), regardless of whether we do deletions?

Where's the Cost?

- Why does *enqueue* take time O(log *n*)?
- **Answer**: May have to combine together O(log *n*) different binomial trees together into a single tree.
- New Question: What happens if we don't combine trees together?
- That is, what if we just add a new singleton tree to the list?

Lazy Melding

• More generally, consider the following lazy melding approach:

To meld together two binomial heaps, just combine the two sets of trees together.

• If we assume the trees are stored in doubly-linked lists, this can be done in time O(1).



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The Catch: Part One

- When we use eager melding, the number of trees is O(log *n*).
- Therefore, *find-min* runs in time O(log *n*).
- **Problem:** *find-min* no longer runs in time $O(\log n)$ because there can be $\Theta(n)$ trees.



A Solution

- Have the binomial heap store a pointer to the minimum element.
- Can be updated in time O(1) after doing a meld by comparing the minima of the two heaps.

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Resolving the Issue

- Idea: When doing an *extract-min*, coalesce all of the trees so that there's at most one tree of each order.
- Intuitively:
 - The number of trees in a heap grows slowly (only during an insert or meld).
 - The number of trees in a heap drops rapidly after coalescing (down to O(log *n*)).
 - Can backcharge the work done during an *extract-min* to *enqueue* or *meld*.

- Our eager melding algorithm assumes that
 - there is either zero or one tree of each order, and that
 - the trees are stored in ascending order.
- **Challenge:** When coalescing trees in this case, neither of these properties necessarily hold.





• Let's turn back to arithmetic to get an intuition for how to solve this problem.

Sum: **19** Bits Needed: **5**















































- Compute the number of bits necessary to hold the sum.
 - Only O(log *n*) bits are needed.
- Create an array of that size, initially empty.
- For each packet:
 - If there is no packet of that size, place the packet in the array at that spot.
 - If there is a packet of that size:
 - Fuse the two packets together.
 - Recursively add the new packet back into the array.

Now With Trees!

- Compute the number of *trees* necessary to hold the *nodes*.
 - Only O(log *n*) *trees* are needed.
- Create an array of that size, initially empty.
- For each *tree*:
 - If there is no *tree* of that size, place the *tree* in the array at that spot.
 - If there is a *tree* of that size:
 - Fuse the two *trees* together.
 - Recursively add the new *tree* back into the array.



Total number of nodes: **15**

(Can compute in time $\Theta(T)$, where T is the number of trees, if each tree is tagged with its order)

Bits needed: 4






































Analyzing Coalesce

- Suppose there are *T* trees.
- We spend $\Theta(T)$ work iterating across the main list of trees twice:
 - Pass one: Count up number of nodes (if each tree stores its order, this takes time $\Theta(T)$).
 - Pass two: Place each node into the array.
- Each merge takes time O(1).
- The number of merges is O(T).
- Total work done: $\Theta(T)$.
- In the worst case, this is O(n).

The Story So Far

- A binomial heap with lazy melding has these worst-case time bounds:
 - *enqueue*: O(1)
 - *meld*: O(1)
 - *find-min*: O(1)
 - *extract-min*: O(*n*).
- These are *worst-case* time bounds. What about an *amortized* time bounds?

An Observation

- The expensive step here is *extract-min*, which runs in time proportional to the number of trees.
- Each tree can be traced back to one of three sources:
 - An *enqueue*.
 - A *meld* with another heap.
 - A tree exposed by an *extract-min*.
- Let's use an amortized analysis to shift the blame for the *extract-min* performance to other operations.

The Potential Method

- We will use the potential method in this analysis.
- When analyzing insertions with eager merges, we set $\Phi(D)$ to be the number of trees in D.
- Let's see what happens if we use this Φ here.

• To *enqueue* a key, we add a new binomial tree to the forest and possibly update the *min* pointer.



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Actual time: O(1). $\Delta \Phi$: +1

Amortized time: **O(1)**.



• Suppose that we **meld** two lazy binomial heaps B_1 and B_2 . Actual cost: O(1).



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- Suppose that we *meld* two lazy binomial heaps B_1 and B_2 . Actual cost: O(1).
- Let Φ_{B_1} and Φ_{B_2} be the initial potentials of B_1 and B_2 .
- The new heap *B* has potential $\Phi_{B_1} + \Phi_{B_2}$ and B_1 and B_2 have potential 0.
- $\Delta \Phi$ is zero.
- Amortized cost: **O(1)**.



Analyzing a Find-Min

- Each *find-min* does O(1) work and does not add or remove trees.
- Amortized cost: **O(1)**.



Analyzing Extract-Min

- Initially, we expose the children of the minimum element. This takes time O(log *n*).
- Suppose that at this point there are T trees. As we saw earlier, the runtime for the coalesce is $\Theta(T)$.
- When we're done merging, there will be $O(\log n)$ trees remaining, so $\Delta \Phi = -T + O(\log n)$.
- Amortized cost is

 $O(\log n) + \Theta(T) + O(1) \cdot (-T + O(\log n))$

 $= O(\log n) + \Theta(T) - O(1) \cdot T + O(1) \cdot O(\log n)$

= **O(log** *n*).

The Overall Analysis

- The *amortized* costs of the operations on a lazy binomial heap are as follows:
 - *enqueue*: O(1)
 - *meld*: O(1)
 - *find-min*: O(1)
 - **extract-min**: O(log n)
- Any series of e enqueues mixed with dextract-mins will take time $O(e + d \log e)$.

Why This Matters

- Lazy binomial heaps are a powerful building block used in many other data structures.
- We'll see one of them, the *Fibonacci heap*, when we come back on Wednesday.
- Assuming the TAs think it's reasonable, you'll see another (supporting *add-to-all*) on the problem set.

Next Time

- The Need for decrease-key
 - A powerful and versatile operation on priority queues.
- Fibonacci Heaps
 - A variation on lazy binomial heaps with efficient decrease-key.
- Implementing Fibonacci Heaps
 - ... is harder than it looks!