

Let's take a second…

•Congrats, you're past the halfway point in the quarter!

• Take a second to pat yourself on the back. This is hard stuff, and you're doing great \odot

Stack Efron, CS106B alum and LIFO enthusiast, congratulating on a job well done so far!

An informal announcement...

•The deadline to apply to become a section leader for current 106B students is **today! (10/23)**

•It's an amazing Stanford job!

- Incredible community + network
- You get paid!
- Give back to the program that supported you!
- Amazing events with lecturers / tech recruiters!
- This wonderful program has made me want to teach!!

Assignment logistics

•The assignment is due on **Wednesday October 28th at 11:59PM PDT**

• The grace period for submission expires **Friday, October 30th** at the same time.

•Try and start early! This one can be tricky to debug if you're not careful!

The Breakdown:

- 1. Warmups Two exercises in which you learn more helpful tips about using the debugger. We **highly** recommend paying close attention to these in the handout, because debugging the PQ assignment is historically quite difficult – these were designed to help!
- 2. Part 1: PQ Sorted Array Implement enqueue() in a self-sorting priority queue!
- 3. Part 2: PQ Client Tasks Using a **priorityqueue**, what kinds of powerful things can you do?
- 4. Part 3: Heap PQ Implement a **priorityqueue** using a binary min-heap!
- 5. Part 4: Data Demos You don't have to do any work here watch some incredible graphics demos that showcase your hard work!

- •In this week's warmups, you'll examine a **bouncing balls** program to learn about debugging objects.
- •In the above program, a number of balls are rendered on screen, and they move randomly around the screen.
	- Unfortunately, there's a rather conspicuous bug in the program. We want you to try and figure out what the issue is!

- •To debug this program, you're going to need to examine **member variables** in the debugger. Luckily, viewing these members is just like how you viewed program variables before!
- •You'll also learn how to set **conditional breakpoints**, which are breakpoints that only trigger when the program is at a pre-defined state.

- •For the next part of the warmup, you'll be debugging various functions that operate on c++ arrays.
- •In this assignment, array 'elements' will be defined by the struct to the right. Structs are like *lightweight* objects!

•There are 4 memory error cases that you'll observe:

1. Dereferencing a nullptr address

2. Accessing an index outside the allocated array bounds

- 3. Accessing memory after it has been deallocated
- 4. Deallocating the same memory twice
- •What do you think will happen in each of these cases?

```
struct DataPoint {
    string name;
    int priority;
\};
```
What's a priority queue?

•A priority queue, or a **pq** as lazy computer scientists like to say, is a **queue-like** data structure (think enqueue() and dequeue()), but it has a cool extra feature!

- All elements in a **pq** are assigned a **priority** upon enqueue(), and that **priority** determines the order that they will be dequeue()'d in!
- For this assignment, your **pq** will store **DataPoint structs**, that have embedded priorities
- A **pq** can either prioritize **high priorities** or **low priorities**, meaning that the element dequeue()'d will always be the one with the **highest** or **lowest** priority.
	- We'll be very clear about which magnitude we care about each time \odot .

structure doesn't have to be sorted, so long as the "highest priority element" is always next to be dequeue()'d

•For this first part, we're giving you **almost fully implemented priority queue .h and .cpp files!**

- •The data structure that stores the pq is **an array of DataPoints**, much like you've seen in lecture and section examples!
	- In this particular array, **all elements are sorted from high to low priority (front to back), and the smallest priority element will be dequeue()'d first!**
- •How does this queue work?

Important Note: The priority field is an integer value. A smaller integer value indicates a more **urgent priority than a larger integer value.** The DataPoint with the minimum integer value for priority is treated as the most urgent and is the one retrieved by peek/dequeue.

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PQ.enqueue(10);

PQ.enqueue(7);

PQ.enqueue(5);

PQ.dequeue();

PQ.dequeue();

PQ.dequeue();

PQ.enqueue(20);

•In this part of the assignment, you'll be asked to implement a **single method** in the pqsortedarray.cpp file: the **enqueue**(DataPoint element) method!

- •The rest of the pasortedarray.cpp pasortedarray.h are completed for you!
- •You are responsible for **inserting** the provided element in the correct place in the array to preserve the sorted order.
	- If you are not appending to the end of the array, you will have to **shift** the contents of the array over in order to accommodate this new element.
	- **If you attempt the enqueue() an element when the array is full, you are responsible for resizing the array. We recommend doubling the current capacity.**

Helpful hints:

- •You might want to make the resize() method a private helper method it makes for a cleaner implementation.
- •Apart from enqueue(), **you may not** modify any other functions. Adding helpers is okay, though!
- •Not sure how to resize an array? Take a look at Section 5's RBQueue example from section!

Debugging advice:

- •Debugging this assignment is a little different than debugging others, because you can't interact with the internals of your PQSortedArray when you're testing it be default
	- Verify to yourself that you shouldn't be able to access the object's internal state when debugging!
- •To get around this, we have given you a function called **validateInternalState()**, which goes through the values in your underlying array to ensure that everything is in proper sorted order; else it throws an error.
- •An additional debugging function we provide you is **printDebugInfo()**, which prints out the contents of your array, if you prefer a more hands-on approach to debugging.
- •Both of these functions are **public** member functions, so you can call them in your student tests!

More Debugging advice:

- •Think about where good places to call **validateInternalState()** or **printDebugInfo**() might be!
- •We also encourage that you use the debugger, as a way to easily see all of your data at runtime!
- •Be very careful about your array indexing out of bounds errors are common here! Perhaps a helper function verifying that an index is in bounds would be helpful
- •Also be mindful of your use of **delete[]**. There should be a single **delete[]** for every invocation of a **new** keyword!
Questions about Part 1?

THE AUTHOR OF THE WINDOWS FILE COPY DIALOG VISITS SOME FRIENDS.

This xkcd isn't actually relevant to the material, but as a proud Windows user, this hits a little too close to home.

•In this part of the assignment, you will be a **client**, or a user, of the pq class.

•With a pq, you can do some really powerful things! The code to the right sorts a vector using just **enqueue!** and **dequeue()!** Take a second to see why this works.

•Follow up question: Would this still work if your priority queue was not backed by a sorted array?

```
void pqSort(Vector<DataPoint>& v) {
    PQSortedArray pq;
    /* Add all the elements to the priority queue. */for (int i = 0; i < v.size(); i++) {
        pq.enqueue(v[i]);
    \mathcal{F}/* Extract all the elements from the priority queue. Due
     * to the priority queue property, we know that we will get
     * these elements in sorted order, in order of increasing priority
     * value. Store elements back into vector, now in sorted order.
     \star/for (int i = 0; i < v.size(); i++) {
        v[i] = pq. dequeue();
    ₹
```
•You'll be implementing the function **Vector**<DataPoint> **topK**(istream& stream, int k);

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•An **istream** is a special abstraction that acts like a massive data structure. Streams allow you to move around massive amounts of memory because they don't need to hold the data in your computer's memory all at once – as you read data from the stream, the stream can read more data from its source – a file on disk for example!

• You won't need to worry about the inner-workings of streams in this class, but it's important to know that **streams can store huge amounts of data.**

•You'll be implementing the function **Vector**<Datapoint> **topK**(istream& stream, int k);

- •In the above function, your job is harness the power of the PQ in order to return a **Vector**<DataPoint> of the largest k elements in the stream.
- •You must do so in **O(k)** space, meaning you can only store k elements in your priority queue at any given time.

•You will need to return the k largest elements in a Vector<DataPoint> sorted in **largest to smallest** priority order.

- Note that it's very easy to get this backwards! **pq.dequeue() returns the SMALLEST element in the queue, which should go at the END of the vector.**
- The vector .reverse() method might be helpful here, but it's an O(N) operation. Can you do better?

Tips / Tricks

- •Here's how you can loop through every dataPoint in the stream ->
- \cdot Because you can only store *k* elements at a time, how can you use the priority queue to your advantage?
	- When your pq has k elements in it, what's special about the element returned by pq.peek()?
- \cdot If the stream contains fewer than k elements, simply return those elements in the Vector as you would if there were more than k elements in the stream.

```
DataPoint cur;
while (stream \gg cur) {
    /* do something with cur */Y
```
Questions about Top-K?

streaming **Netflix**

streaming Top-K

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But Trip, aren't there two things called the heap?

It's time for...

Imogen Heap's data disambiguation!

[Aside] Heap vs. Heap

•Indeed, the **heap data structure** is **completely** different from the **heap region in memory.**

- •Moreover, the naming origins don't seem to be linked. A **heap data structure** was conceived and named in the 1960's, whereas the **heap region in memory** was named in the mid 1970's.
- •At a high level, both may have been named due to their behaviors. The **heap data structure** is optimized to provide a single element at request (in our case the dequeue()'d element), and the **heap region in memory** is frequently split into blocks that are allocated by requests made by the **new** keyword.
- •In this sense, both concepts fundamentally **provide** something to a client on a **per-request basis**, like picking something off a heap of clothes, for example.

Back to the action!

•In this final part, you'll be implementing a full priority queue using a binary min heap!

- As usual, we mean that the "highest priority" element is the element with the smallest value.
- In order to keep that property in your queue, you will be using a min heap like you've seen in lecture!
- •Lecture 17 is an excellent source for all you'll need to know about how to implement one of these heaps!
- •Moreover, the non heap-related code you have may end up looking quite a bit like the code already written for you in PQSortedArray!
- •Let's go over a few key points of how a binary min heap works!

•Let's talk about enqueue()!

• To enqueue an element, first add it to the end of your pqueue!

Once again, I'm using **integers** instead of **dataPoints** for clarity

pq.enqueue(3);

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bubbleUp()

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- Next, you want to **bubble down** the root element to its correct place. Compare the root element with its children, who live at indices (2 * i + 1) and (2 * i + 2), and swap your element with the **smaller** of the children.

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Disclaimer: I'm just using 'i' to represent the index of the element we're bubbling down; it has nothing to do with for loops \odot
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- Repeat this process until you are smaller than **both** of your children, or you have **no** children left!

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Helpful hints:

- •Be aware that you're implementing a **full** class now! Although you will see overlap between this code and your PQSortedArray code, be mindful about what you copy over!
- •Like the other parts of this assignment, you'll be using the **DataPoint** struct to represent elements.
- •You will need to **resize** this priority queue if your active size exceeds capacity.
- •The bubble functions can be implemented iteratively or recursively.

Helpful hints:

- •I recommend writing a **swap**() method and **bubbleUp()** and **bubbleDown()** methods.
- •**dequeue**() is a little more heap-y than **enqueue()**, so I'd recommend doing **enqueue()** first to get your feet wet!
- •Don't worry too much about ties swapping identical elements effectively does nothing.
	- Verify to yourself why is this true?
- •The **validateInternalState**() and **printDebugInfo**() methods can be life-savers here, but they aren't implemented. You'll have to write them yourself!

Helpful hints:

- •Verify that the bubble functions work individually before trying to run robustness tests! It can be **very** difficult to locate bugs if they have multiple potential sources.
- •Recall the debugging work you did in the first parts of this assignment to help you here we strongly encourage that you use the debugger and/or the debug helper member functions to hammer out your bugs.
	- Look to the warmups if you think you're getting weird memory errors!

One particular edge case I want to point out:

- •In **dequeue()**, be cognizant of the fact that it's possible to **only have one child** within the bounds of the array!
	- In this case, the second child should be ignored. If you don't check for this, your bubble down will read in a potentially bogus value that can cause wacky behavior in your program.

Questions about Part 3?

Part 4: Extra Demos!

•You don't have to do *any* extra coding here! Once your program is done, try running tests from the **demos.cpp** file to view representations of large real-world data sets that use your new data structure!

•It's an amazing graphical demo, so be sure to check it out **after** you've finished the assignment. It won't work before ;)

You did it!

Best of luck on this assignment!

Think about what you've just made - you can now create the data structures that we taught you about in the beginning of the class. Go you!