

# L20: Binary Heaps

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CompSci 201: Spring 2024

3/27/2024

# People in CS: Clarence “Skip” Ellis

- Born 1943 in Chicago. PhD in CS from UIUC in 1969
  - First African American in US to complete a PhD in CS
- Founding member of the CS department at U. Colorado, also worked in industry.
  - Developing original graphical user interfaces, object-oriented programming, collaboration tools.



“People put together an image of what I was supposed to be,” he recalled. “So I always tell my students to push.”

[Read more here](#)

# Logistics, Coming up

- Today, Wednesday 3/29
  - APT 7 due
- Next Monday, 4/3
  - Nothing due, start on P5 Huffman
- Next Wednesday, 4/5
  - APT 8 due

# Today's agenda

- Wrap up Huffman Coding Intro
- Priority Queue revisited
  - Implementations, especially binary heap

# Huffman Compression

Representing data with bits: Preferably fewer bits

- Zip



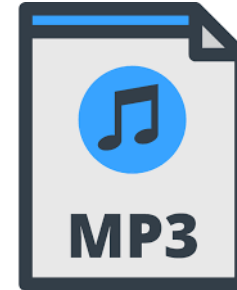
- Unicode



- JPEG



- MP3

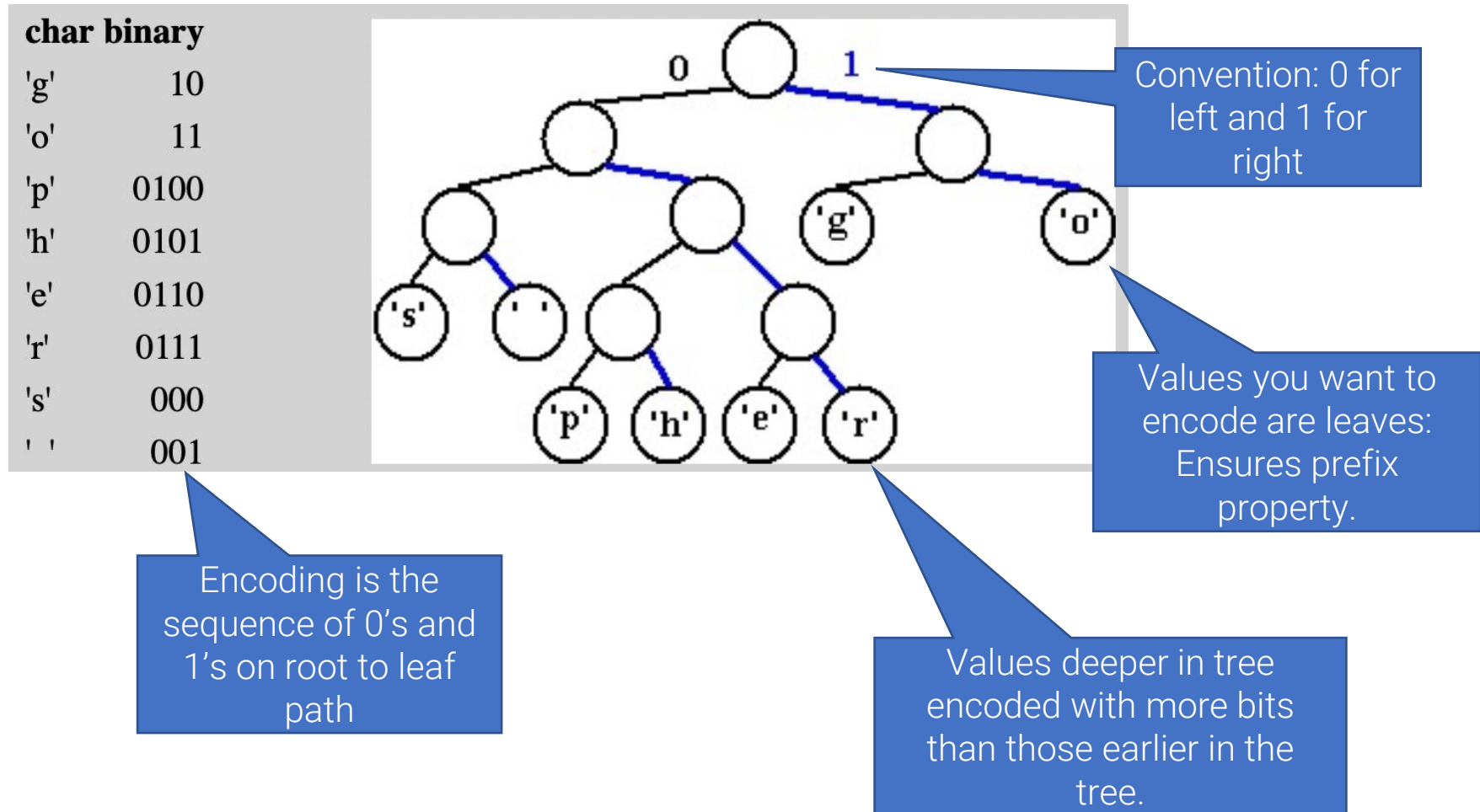


Huffman compression used in all of these and more!

# Decoding Variable Length

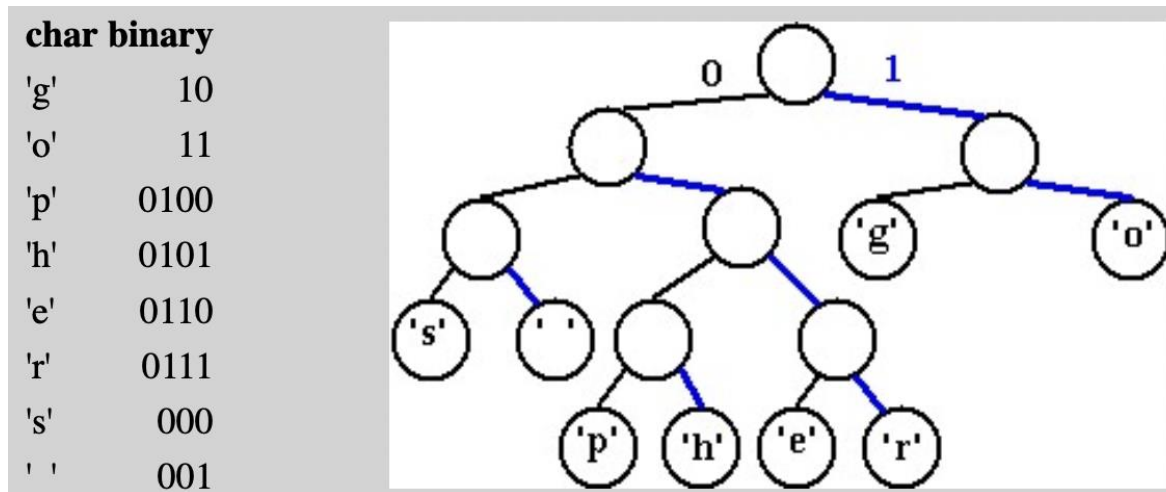
- What if we use
  - $a = 1$
  - $b = 10$
  - $c = 11$
- How would we decode 1011?
  - “baa” or “bc?”
- Problem: Encoding of a (1) is a *prefix* of the encoding for c (11). Ambiguous!

# Prefix Property: Encoding as a Tree



# Decoding bits using Huffman tree

Goal: Decode 10011011 assuming it was encoded with this tree.



- Read bit at a time, traverse left or right edge.
- When you reach a leaf, decode the character, restart at root.



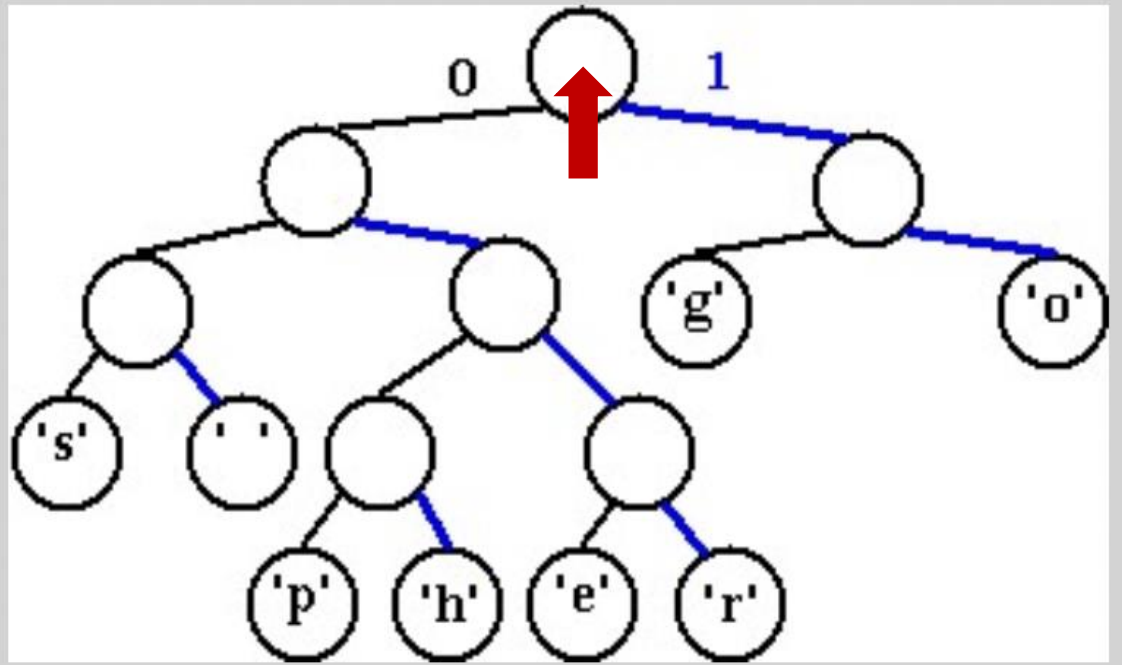
# Decoding bits using Huffman tree

Decode 10011011

Initialize at root

**char binary**

'g'	10
'o'	11
'p'	0100
'h'	0101
'e'	0110
'r'	0111
's'	000
' '	001



# Decoding bits using Huffman tree

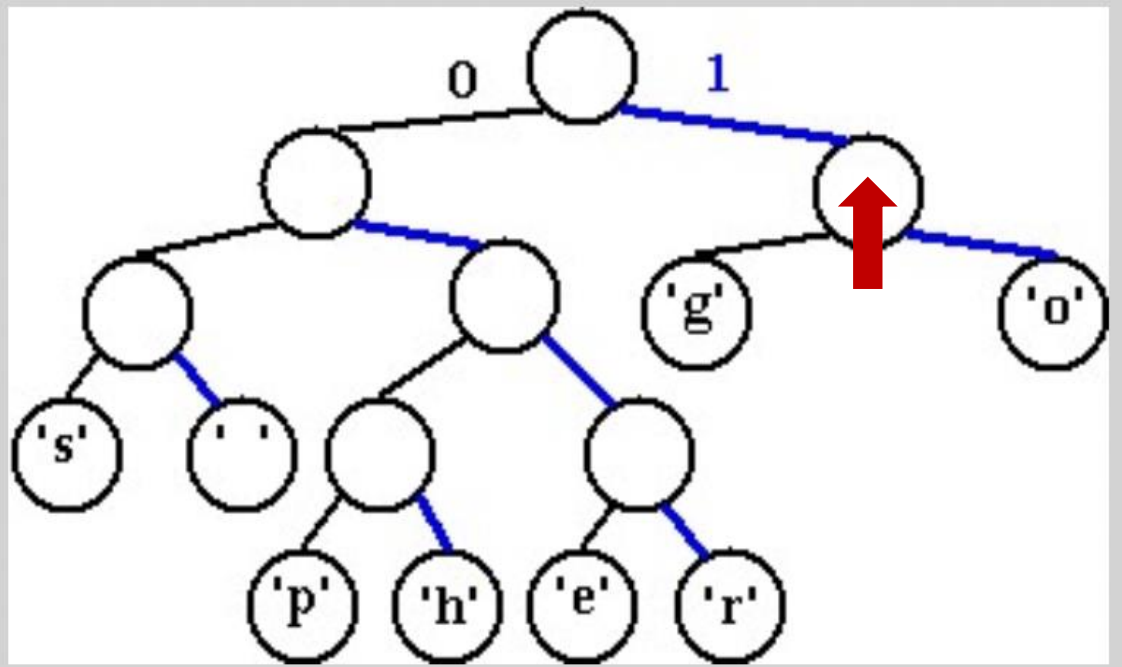
Decode 10011011



Read 1, go to  
right child

**char binary**

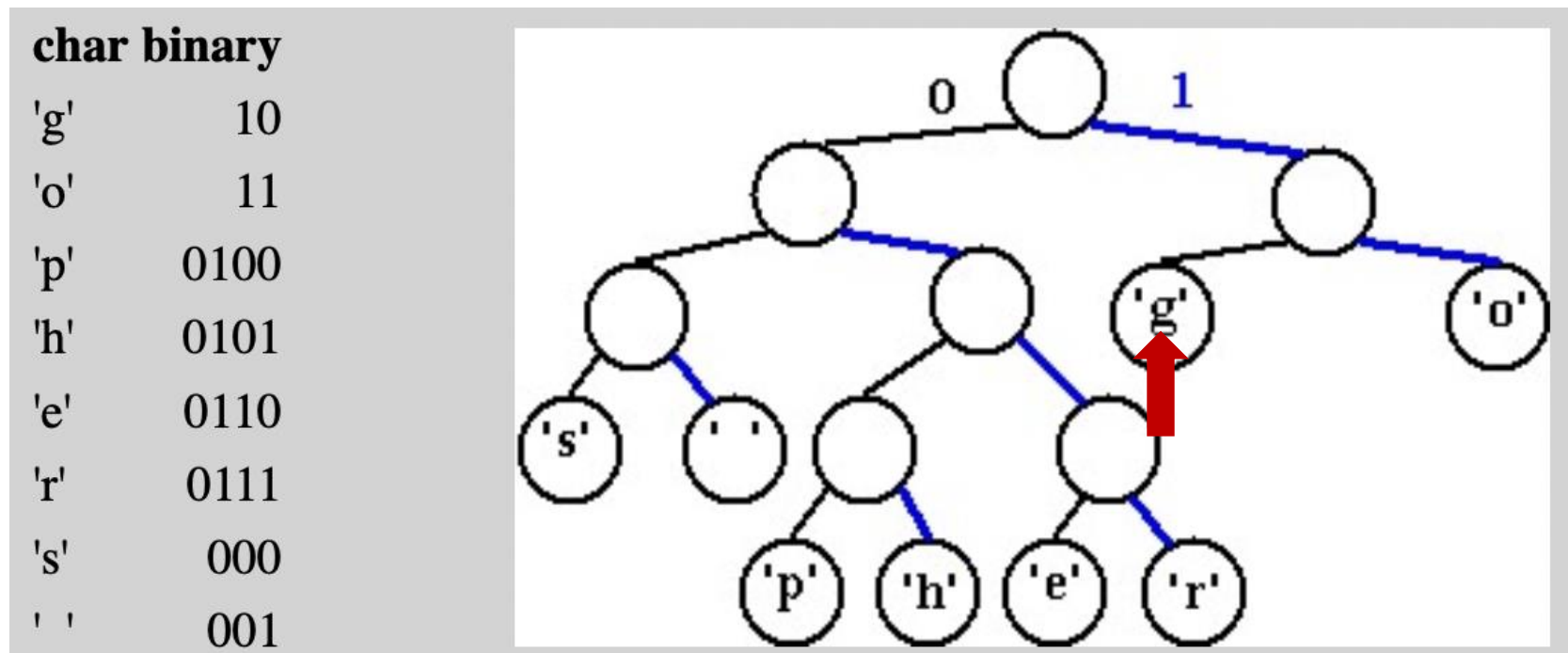
'g'	10
'o'	11
'p'	0100
'h'	0101
'e'	0110
'r'	0111
's'	000
' '	001



# Decoding bits using Huffman tree

Decode 10011011  
↑

Read 0, go to  
left child



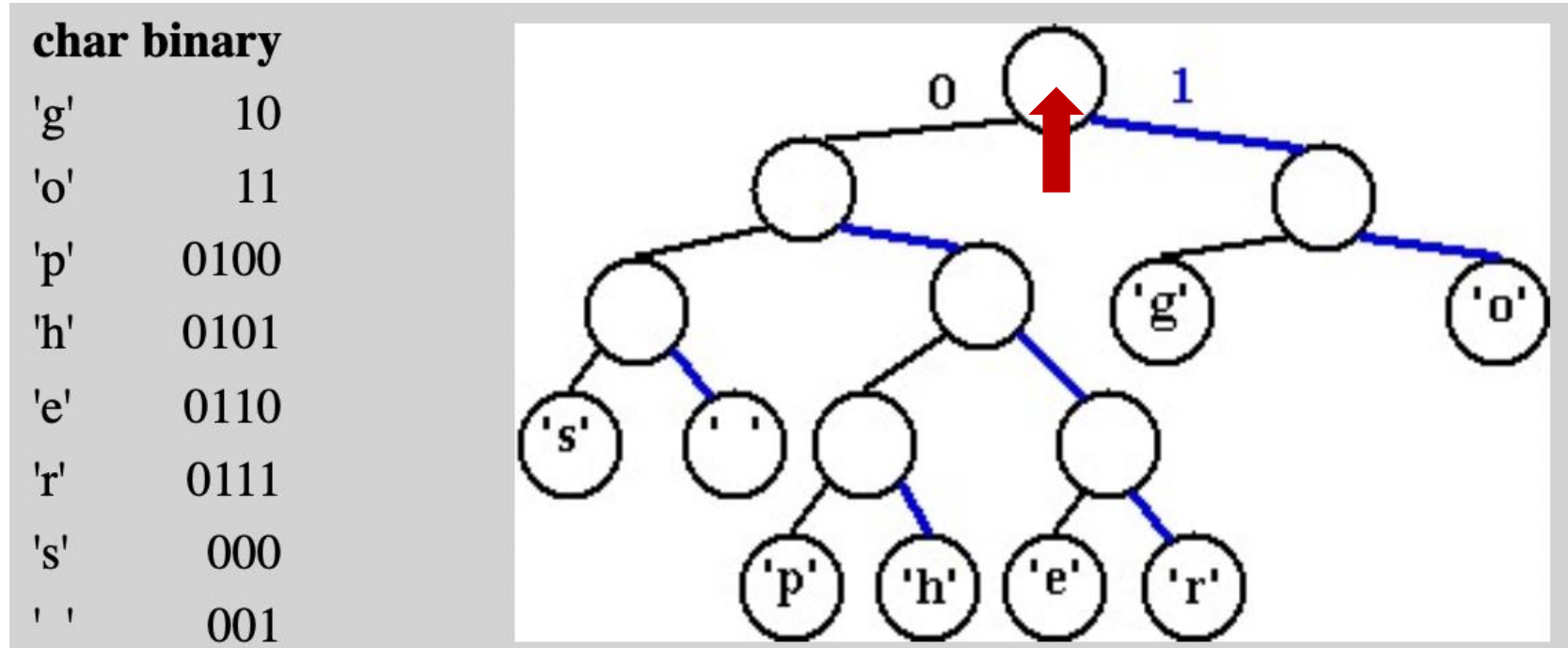
# Decoding bits using Huffman tree

Decode 10011011

g



Leaf, decode 'g',  
restart at root



# Decoding bits using Huffman tree

Decode 10011011

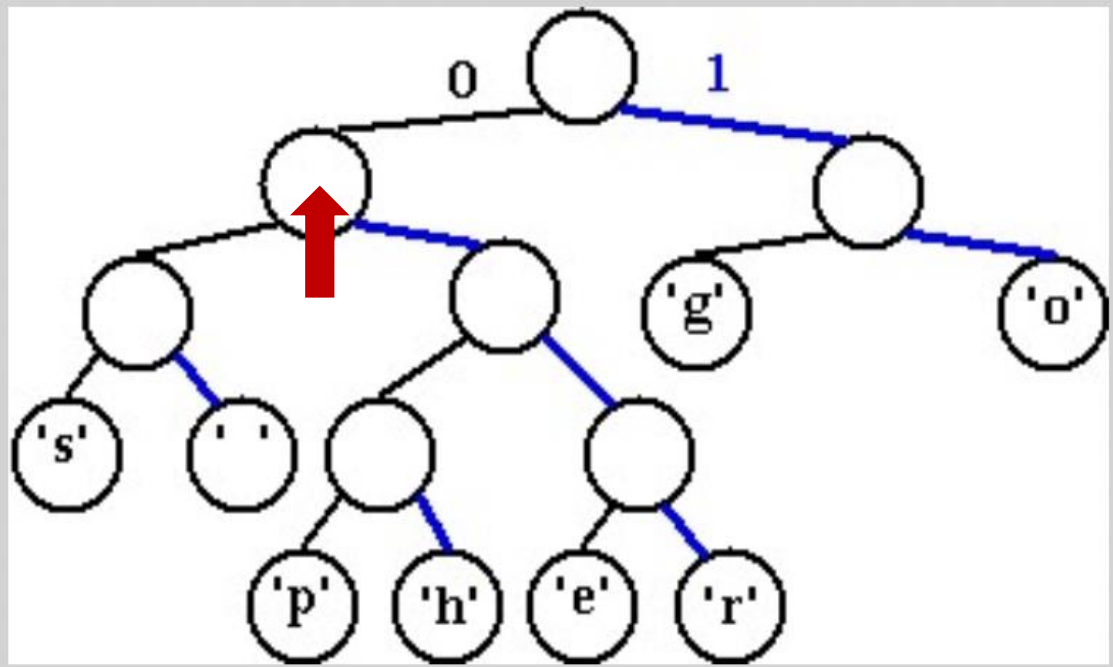
g



Read 0, go to  
left child

**char binary**

'g'	10
'o'	11
'p'	0100
'h'	0101
'e'	0110
'r'	0111
's'	000
' '	001



# Decoding bits using Huffman tree

# Decode 10011011

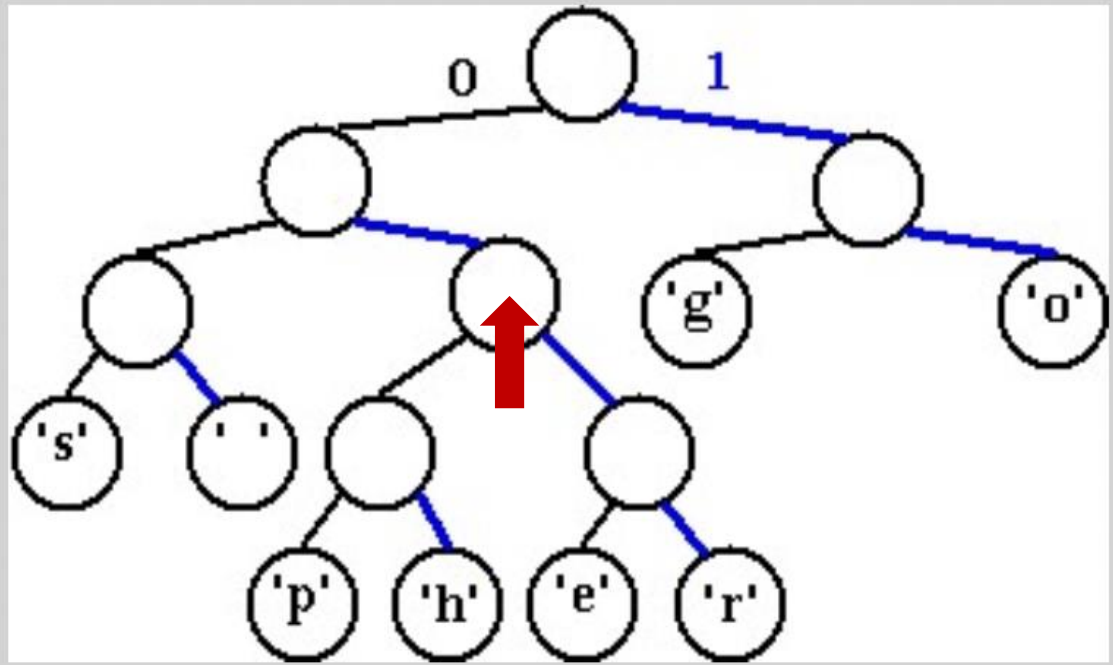
g



Read 1, go to  
right child

## char binary

'g'	10
'o'	11
'p'	0100
'h'	0101
'e'	0110
'r'	0111
's'	000
' '	001



# Decoding bits using Huffman tree

Decode 10011011

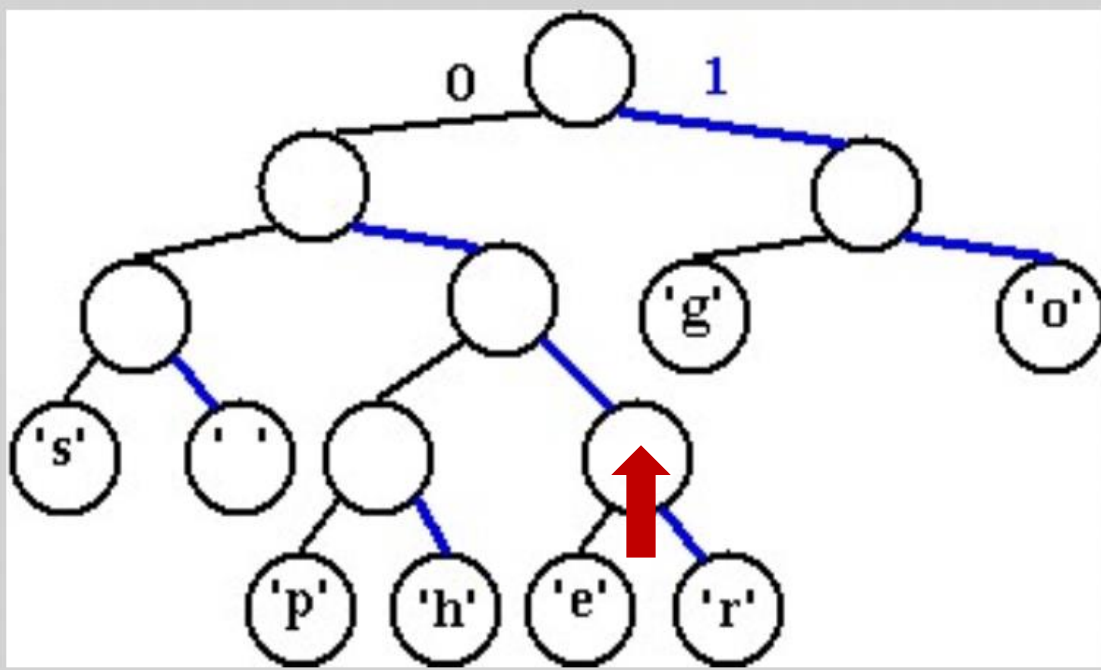
g



Read 1, go to  
right child

**char binary**

'g'	10
'o'	11
'p'	0100
'h'	0101
'e'	0110
'r'	0111
's'	000
' '	001



# Decoding bits using Huffman tree

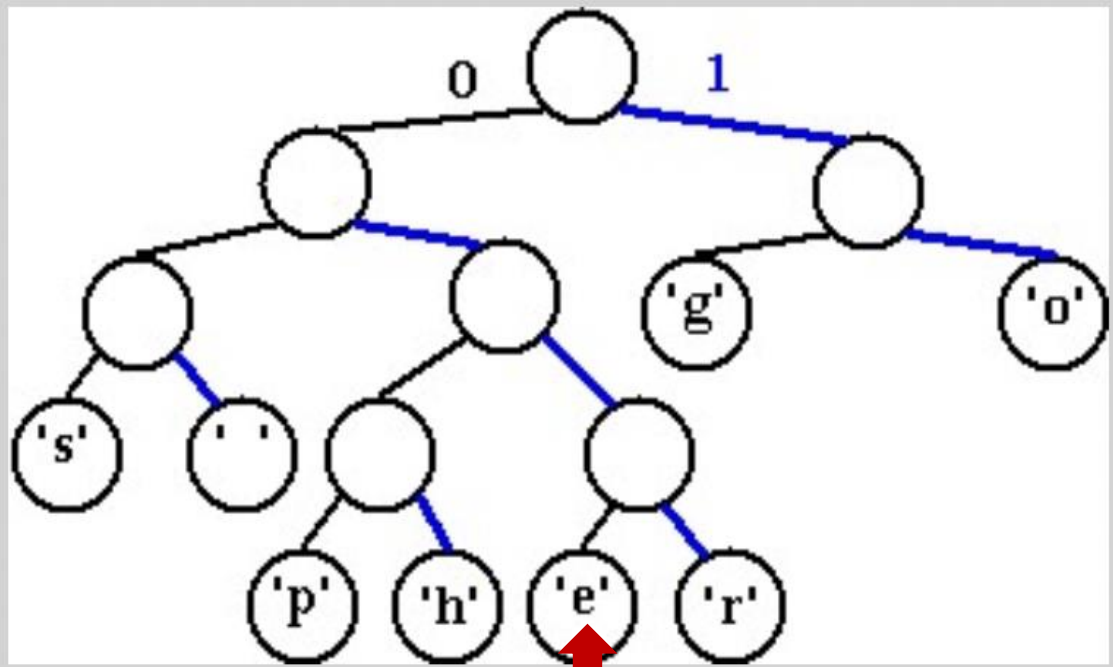
# Decode 10011011

g

Read 0, go to  
left child

## char binary

'g'	10
'o'	11
'p'	0100
'h'	0101
'e'	0110
'r'	0111
's'	000
' '	001





# Decoding bits using Huffman tree

Decode 10011011

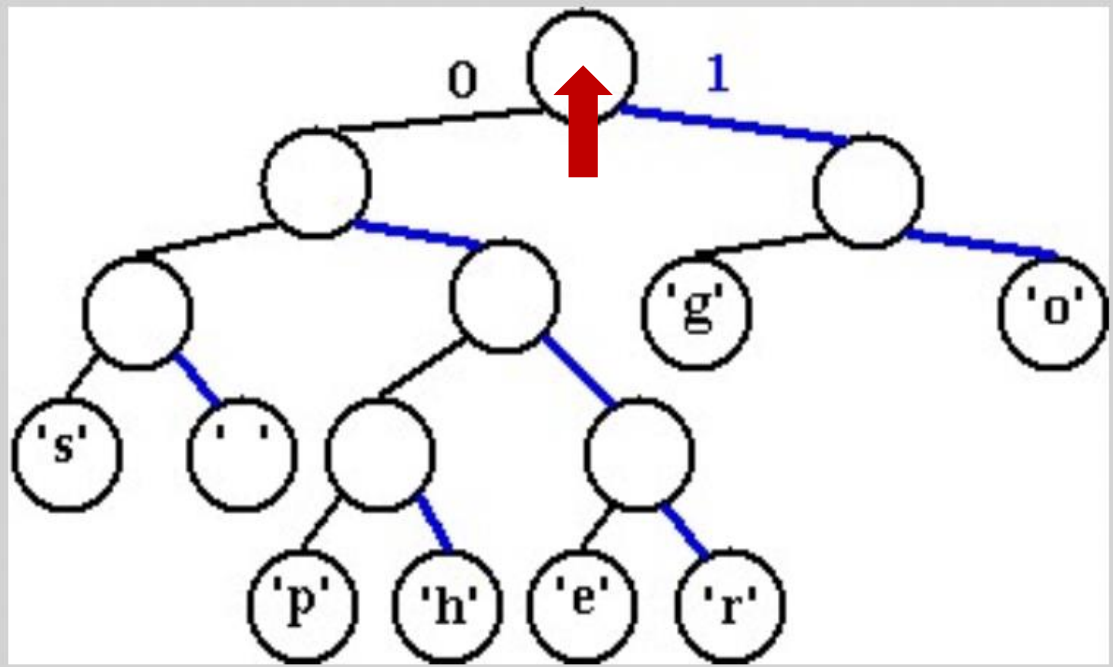
ge



Leaf, decode 'e',  
restart at root

**char binary**

'g'	10
'o'	11
'p'	0100
'h'	0101
'e'	0110
'r'	0111
's'	000
' '	001



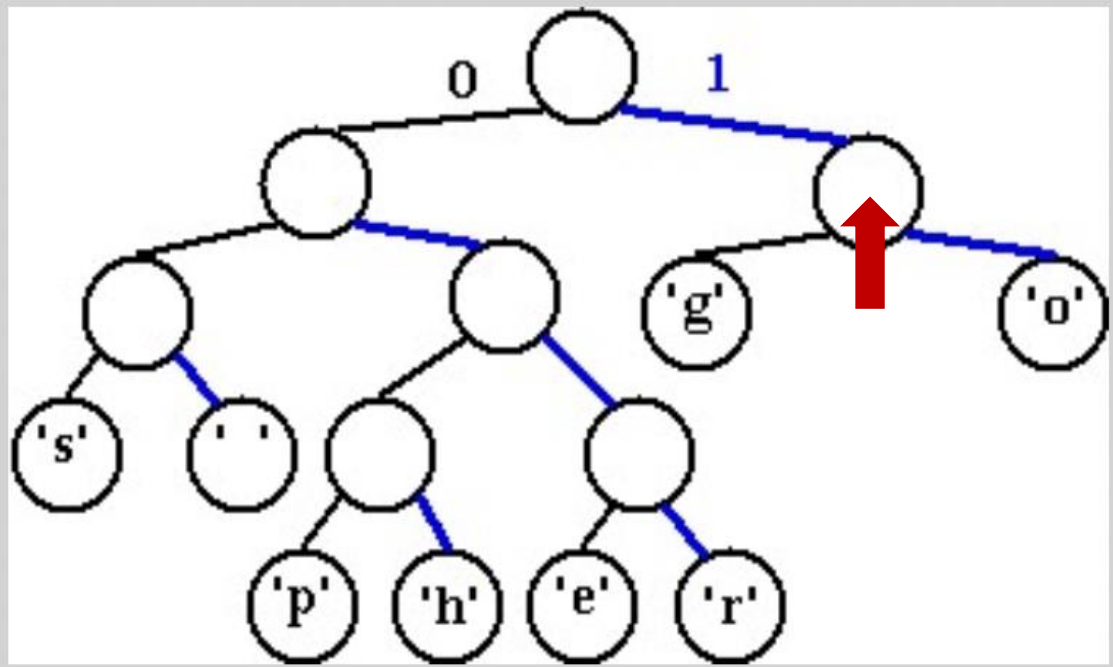
# Decoding bits using Huffman tree

Decode 10011011  
ge

Read 1, go to  
right child

**char binary**

'g'	10
'o'	11
'p'	0100
'h'	0101
'e'	0110
'r'	0111
's'	000
' '	001



# Decoding bits using Huffman tree

Decode 10011011

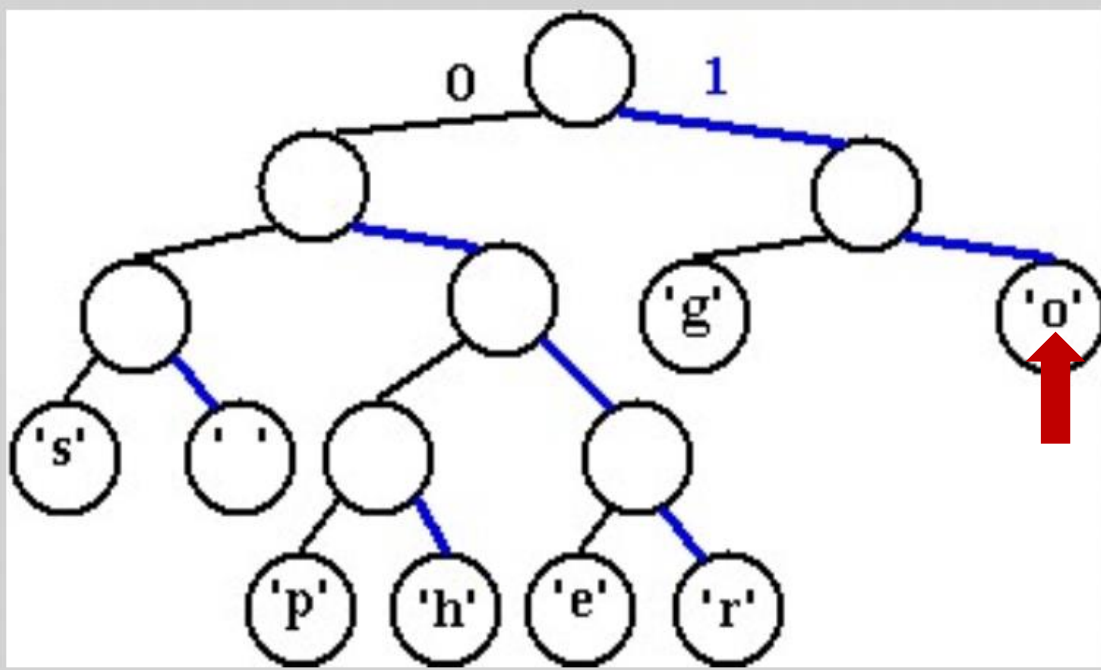
ge



Read 1, go to  
right child

**char binary**

'g'	10
'o'	11
'p'	0100
'h'	0101
'e'	0110
'r'	0111
's'	000
' '	001



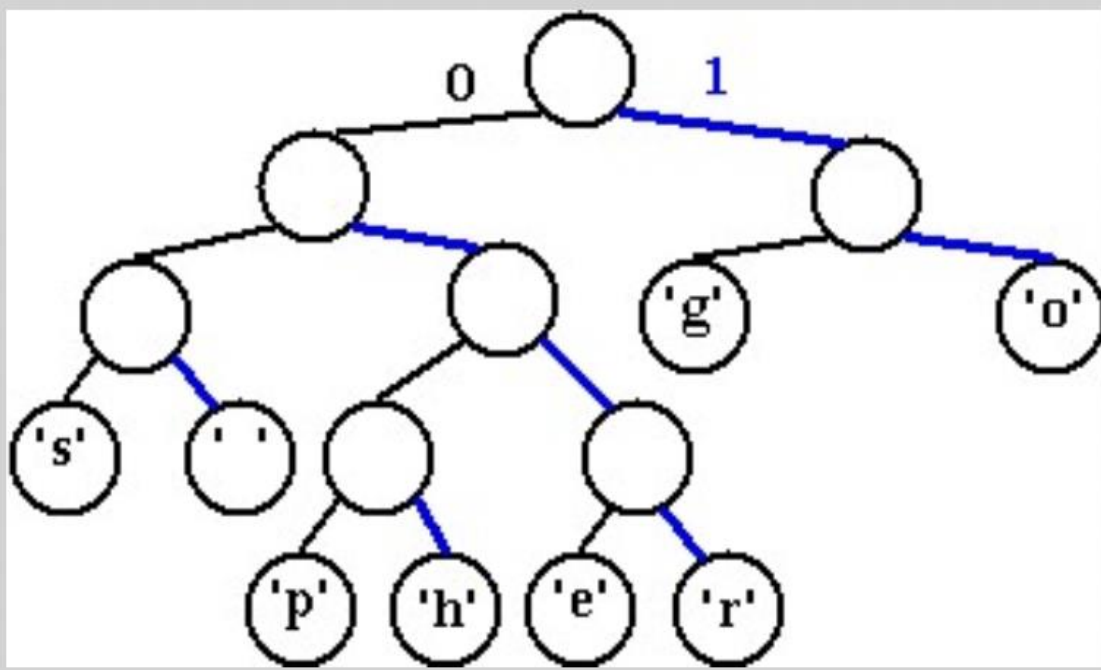
# Decoding bits using Huffman tree

Decode 1001 1011  
geo

Leaf, decode 'o'

**char binary**

'g'	10
'o'	11
'p'	0100
'h'	0101
'e'	0110
'r'	0111
's'	000
' '	001

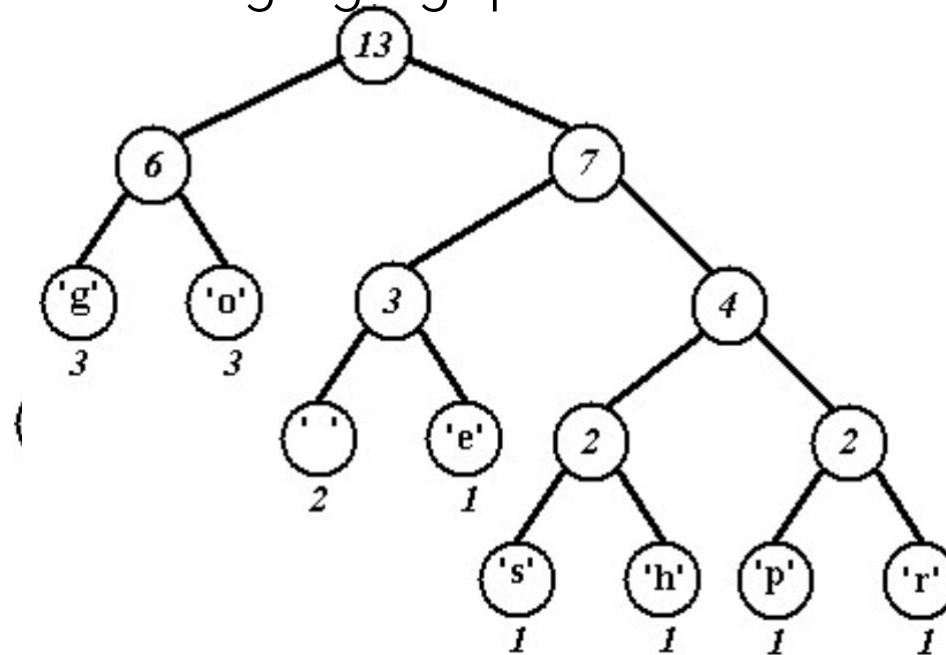


# Huffman Coding

- ***Greedy*** algorithm for building an optimal variable-length encoding tree.
- High level idea:
  - Start with the leaves/values you want to encode with weights = frequency. Then repeat until all leaves are in single tree:
  - ***Greedy*** step: Choose the ***lowest-weight nodes*** to connect as children to a new node with weight = sum of children.
- Implementation? Use a priority queue!

# Visualizing the greedy algorithm

Encoding the text “go go gophers”



**char binary**

'g'	00
'o'	01
'p'	1110
'h'	1101
'e'	101
'r'	1111
's'	1100
' '	100

# L20-WOTO1-Huffman-Sp24

Hi, Alexander. When you submit this form, the owner will see your name and email address.

\* Required


1

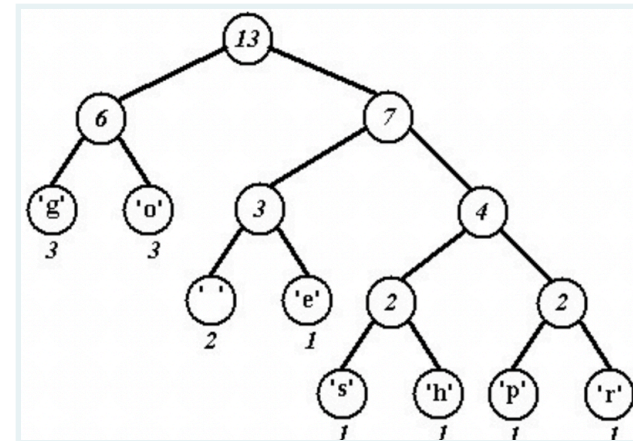
NetID \* 

solutions

2

Given the Huffman coding tree shown, what is the decoded text corresponding to the compressed bit sequence "1101 0111 1111 0010 1"?

These bits have been shown in blocks of 4 for readability; that does **not** mean each 4 bits codes for a single character. \* 



horse

3

Given these frequencies, how long will the encoding for 'a' be? How long will the encoding for 'b' be? \*



Character	Frequency
a	30
b	20
c	10
d	15
e	40

- ☐ 'a' -> 1 bit, 'b' -> 1 bit
- ☐ 'a' -> 1 bits, 'b' -> 2 bits
- ☒ 'a' -> 2 bits, 'b' -> 2 bits



☐ 'a' -> 2 bits, 'b' -> 3 bits

☐ 'a' -> 3 bits, 'b' -> 3 bits

☐ 'a' -> 3 bits, 'b' -> 4 bits

4

Suppose you are compressing a document with  $N$  total characters and  $M$  unique characters.  
How many nodes will there be in the Huffman coding tree? \*



☐  $O(N)$

☒  $O(M)$

☐  $O(N + M)$

☐  $O(N \log(N))$

☐  $O(M \log(M))$

☐  $O(N^2)$

☐  $O(M^2)$



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# P5 Outline

1. Write Decompress first
  - Takes a compressed file (we give you some)
  - Reads Huffman tree from bits
  - Uses tree to decode bits to text
2. Write Compress second
  - Count frequencies of values/characters
  - Greedy algorithm to build Huffman tree
  - Save tree and file encoded as bits

# Priority Queues Revisited, Binary Heaps

# java.util.PriorityQueue Class

- Kept in sorted order, smallest out first
  - Objects must be Comparable OR provide Comparator to priority queue

```
PriorityQueue<String> pq = new PriorityQueue<>();
pq.add("is");
pq.add("CompSci 201");
pq.add("wonderful");
while (! pq.isEmpty()) {
    System.out.println(pq.remove());
}
```

```
PriorityQueue<String> pq = new PriorityQueue<>(
    Comparator.comparing(String::length));
pq.add("is");
pq.add("CompSci 201");
pq.add("wonderful");
while (! pq.isEmpty()) {
    System.out.println(pq.remove());
}
```

CompSci 201  
is  
wonderful

is  
wonderful  
CompSci 201

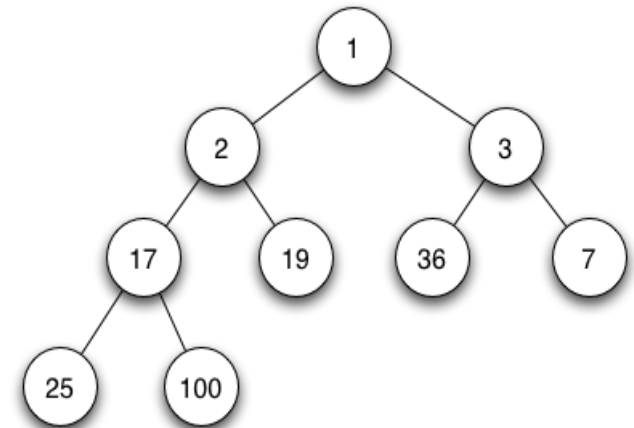
# java.util PriorityQueue basic methods

Method	Behavior	Runtime Complexity
<code>add(element)</code>	Add an element to the priority queue	$O(\log(N))$ comparisons
<code>remove()</code>	Remove and return the minimal element	$O(\log(N))$ comparisons
<code>peek()</code>	Return (do <i>*not*</i> remove) the minimal element	$O(1)$
<code>size()</code>	Return number of elements	$O(1)$

# Binary Heap at a high level

A **binary heap** is a binary tree satisfying the following structural invariants:

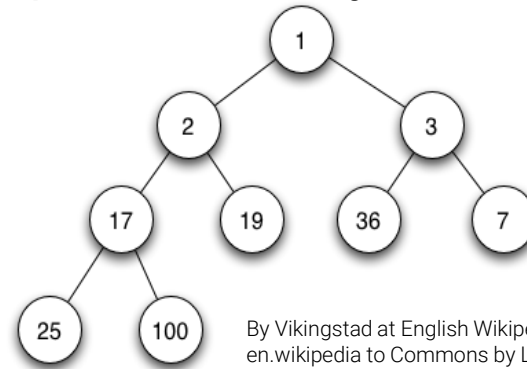
- **heap property**: every node is less than or equal to its successors, and
- **shape property**: the tree is **complete** (full except possibly last level, in which case it should be filled from left to right)



By Vikingstad at English Wikipedia - Transferred from en.wikipedia to Commons by LeaW., Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=3504273>

# How are binary heaps typically implemented?

- Normally think about a conceptual binary tree underlying the binary heap.



By Vikingstad at English Wikipedia - Transferred from en.wikipedia to Commons by LeaW., Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=3504273>

- Usually implement with an array
  - minimizes storage (no explicit points/nodes)
  - simpler to code, no explicit tree traversal
  - faster too (constant factor, not asymptotically)--- children are located by index/position in array

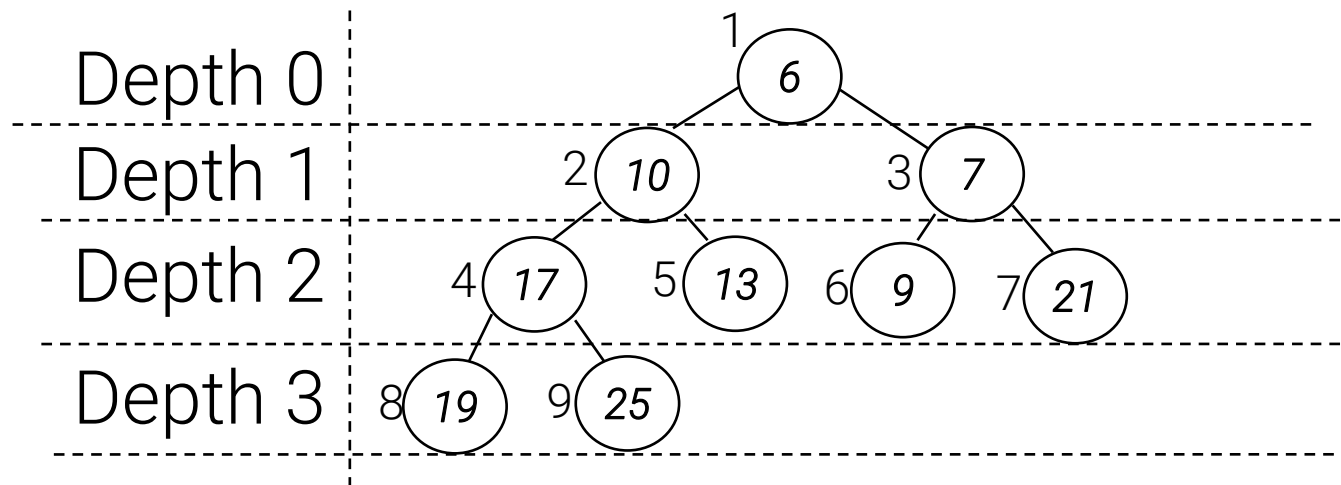


# Aside: How much less memory?

- Storing an int takes 4 bytes = 32 bits on most machines.
- Storing one *reference to an object* (a memory location) takes 8 bytes = 64 bits on most machines.
- For a heap storing  $N$  integers...
  - Array of  $N$  integers takes  $\sim 4N$  bytes.
  - Binary tree where each node has an int, left, and right reference takes  $\sim 20N$  bytes.
  - So maybe a 5x savings in memory (just an estimate). **Not** an asymptotic improvement.

# Using an array for a Heap

- Makes it easy to keep track of last “node” in “tree”
- Index positions in the tree level by level, left to right:



- Last node in the heap is always just the largest non-empty index
- Can use indices to represent as an array!

	6	10	7	17	13	9	21	19	25	
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

(ArrayList if you want it to be growable)

# Properties of the Heap Array

- Store “node values” in array beginning at index 1

- Could 0-index, Zybook does this

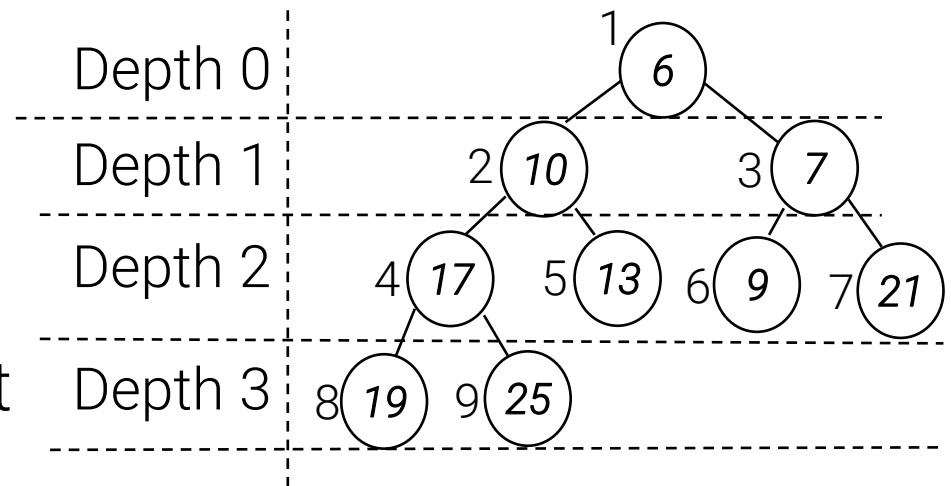
	6	10	7	17	13	9	21	19	25	
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

- Last “node” is always at the max index

- Minimum “node” is always at index 1

- **peek** is easy, return first value.

- How about add?
- Remove?



# Relating Nodes in Heap Array

- When 1-indexing: For node with index  $k$

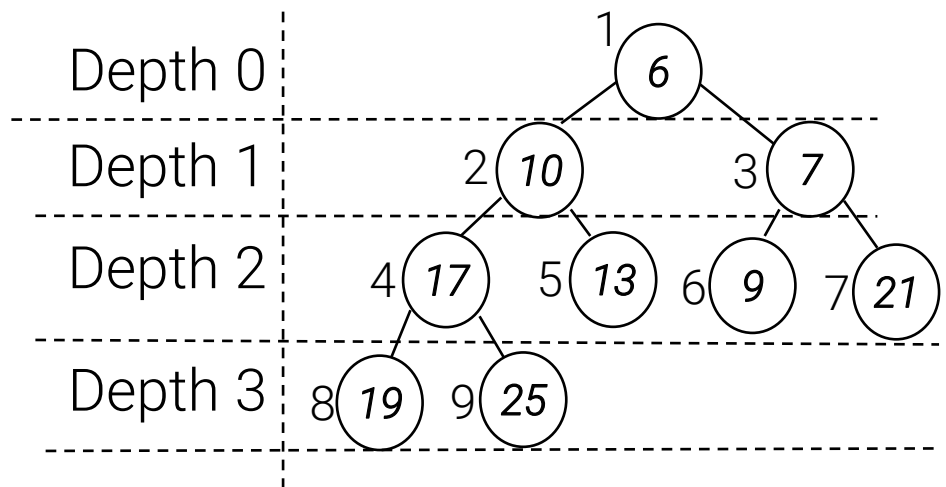
- left child: index  $2*k$
- right child: index  $2*k+1$
- parent: index  $k/2$

	6	10	7	17	13	9	21	19	25	
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Integer division

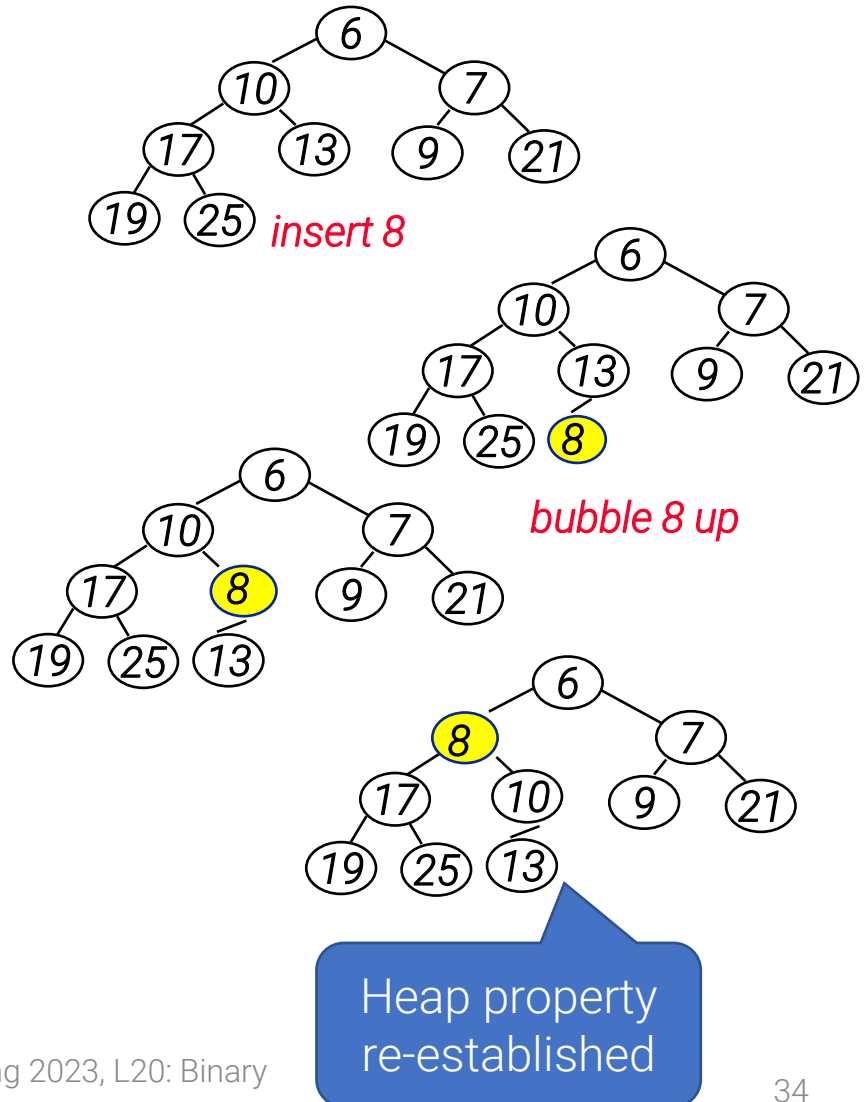
- Why? Follows from:

- Heap is *complete*, and
- Complete binary tree has  $2^d$  nodes at depth  $d$  (except last level)

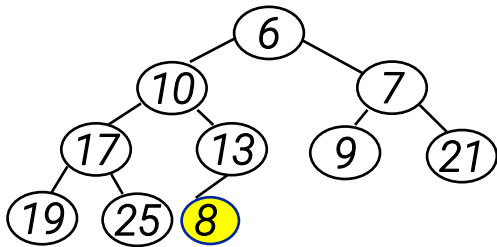


# Adding values to heap in pictures

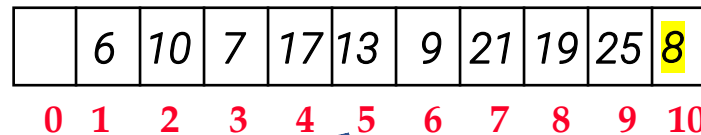
- Add to first open position in last level of the tree
  - (really, add to end of array)
- Shape property satisfied, but not heap property
- Fix it: Swap with parent if heap property violated
  - Stop when parent is smaller,
  - or you reach the root



# Heap add implementation



```
24 public void add(Integer value) {  
25     heap.add(value); // add to last position  
26     size++;  
27  
28     int index = size; // note we are 1-indexing  
29     int parent = index / 2;  
30  
31     while(parent >= 1 && heap.get(parent) > heap.get(index)) {  
32         swap(index, parent);  
33         index = parent;  
34         parent /= 2;  
35     }  
36 }
```

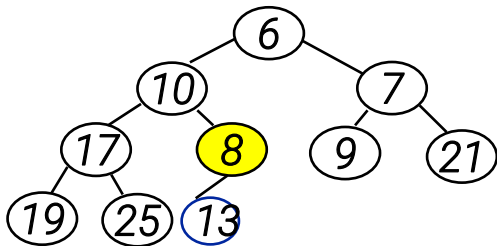
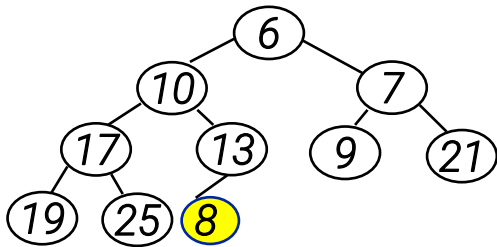


parent=5

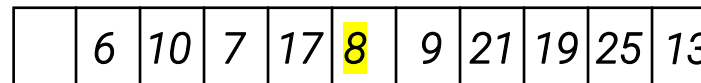
*ArrayList<Integer> heap*

index=10

# Heap add implementation



```
24 public void add(Integer value) {
25     heap.add(value); // add to last position
26     size++;
27
28     int index = size; // note we are 1-indexing
29     int parent = index / 2;
30
31     while(parent >= 1 && heap.get(parent) > heap.get(index)) {
32         swap(index, parent);
33         index = parent;
34         parent /= 2;
35     }
36 }
```



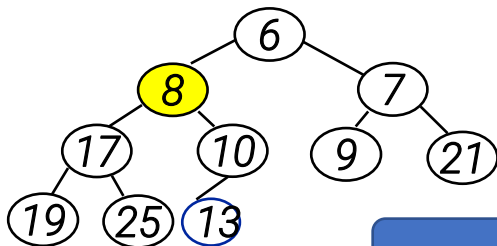
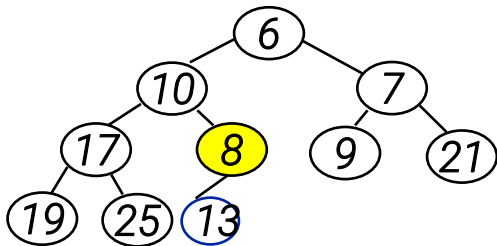
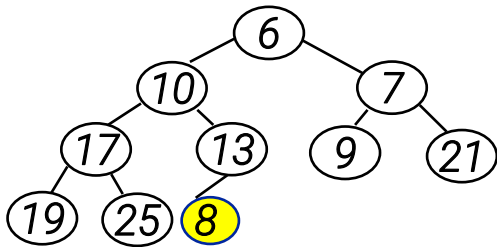
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

parent=2

index=5

*ArrayList<Integer> heap*

# Heap add implementation



```
24 public void add(Integer value) {
25     heap.add(value); // add to last position
26     size++;
27
28     int index = size; // note we are 1-indexing
29     int parent = index / 2;
30
31     while(parent >= 1 && heap.get(parent) > heap.get(index)) {
32         swap(index, parent);
33         index = parent;
34         parent /= 2;
35     }
36 }
```

	6	8	7	17	10	9	21	19	25	13
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

parent=1

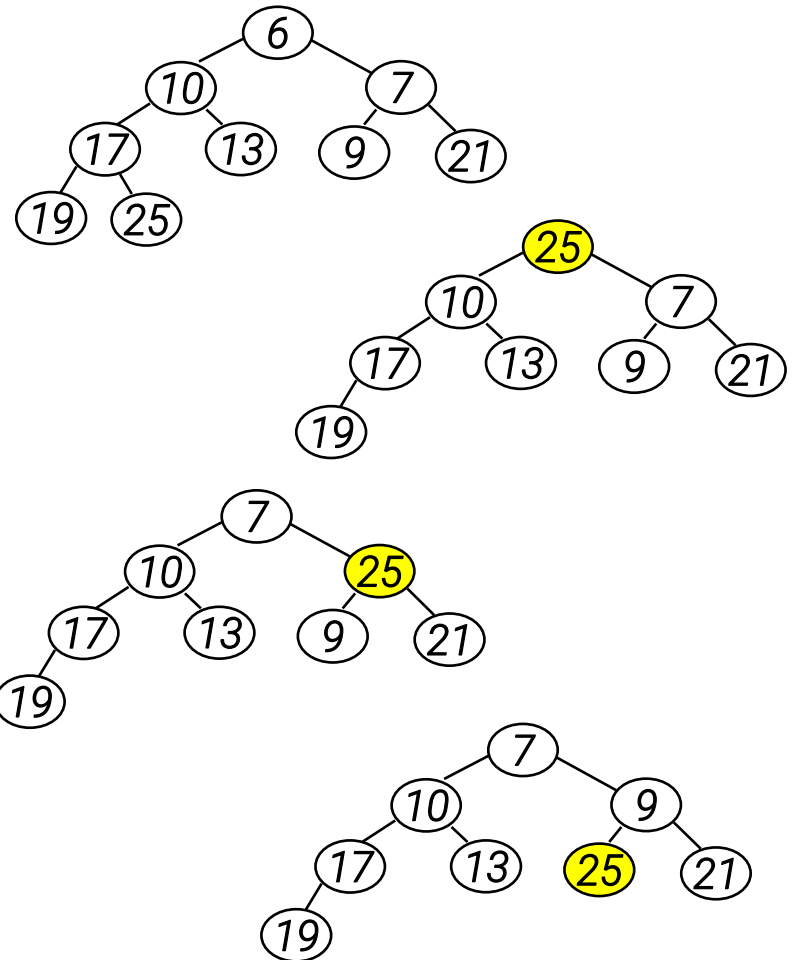
index=2

ArrayList<Integer> heap



# Heap remove in pictures

- Always return root value
- How to repair shape into a single tree?
  - Replace root with last node in the heap
  - While heap property violated, swap with *smaller* child.



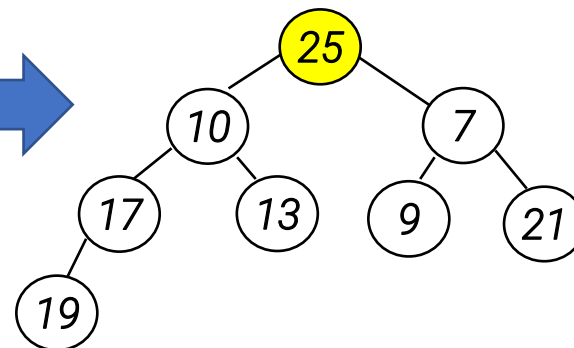
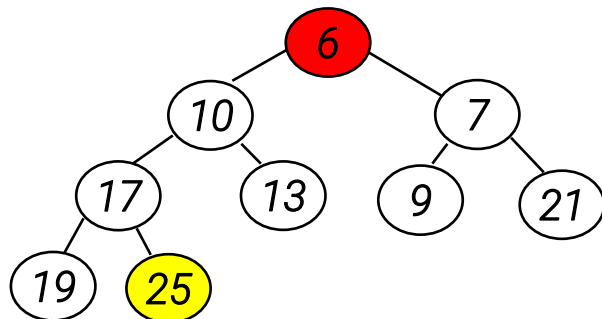
# Heap remove implementation

```
38 public Integer remove() {  
39     if (size < 1) { return null; }  
40     Integer retVal = heap.get(index:1);  
41     heap.set(index:1, heap.get(size));  
42     heap.remove(size);  
43     size--;  
44     if (size == 0) { return retVal; }
```

Get the minimal value

Replace "root" with "last node"

Delete "last node"



	6	10	7	17	13	9	21	19	25	
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

	25	10	7	17	13	9	21	19		
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

# Heap remove implementation

```

46  int index = 1;
47  int minChild = 2;
48  if (size > 2 && heap.get(index:3) < heap.get(index:2)) { minChild = 3; }
49  while (minChild <= size && heap.get(index) > heap.get(minChild)) {
50      swap(index, minChild);
51      index = minChild;
52      minChild = minChild * 2;
53      if (size > minChild && heap.get(minChild + 1) < heap.get(minChild)) { minChild++; }
54  }
55  return retVal;

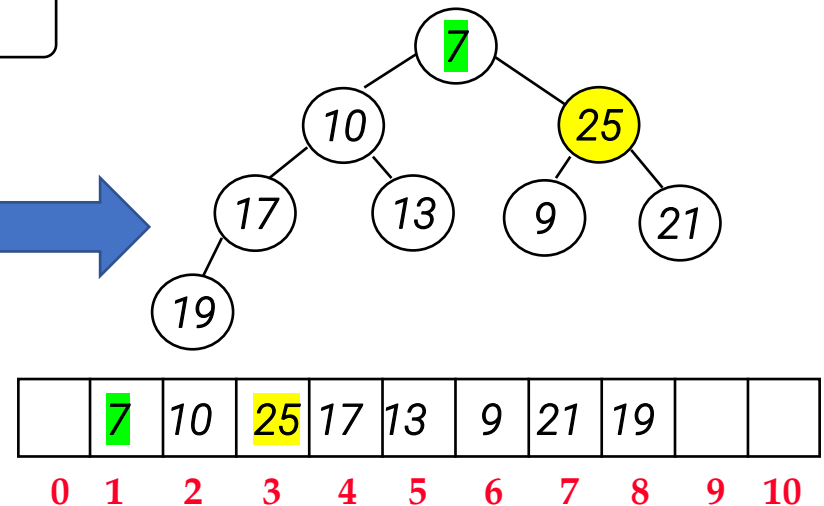
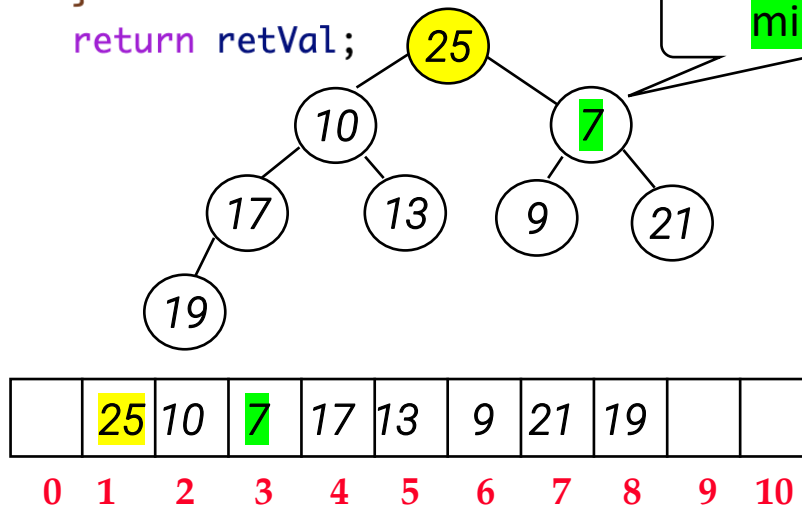
```

Find the smaller of 2 child nodes

Swap

Violating heap property

minChild



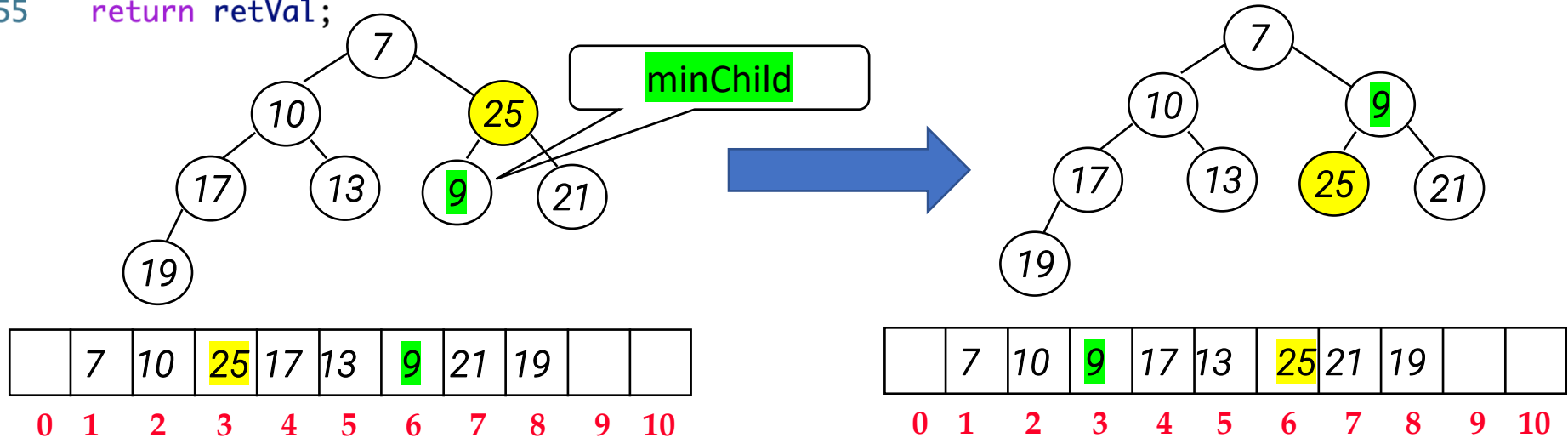
# Heap remove implementation

```

46  int index = 1;
47  int minChild = 2;
48  if (size > 2 && heap.get(index:3) < heap.get(index:2)) { minChild = 3; }
49  while (minChild <= size && heap.get(index) > heap.get(minChild)) {
50      swap(index, minChild);
51      index = minChild;
52      minChild = minChild * 2;
53      if (size > minChild && heap.get(minChild + 1) < heap.get(minChild)) { minChild++; }
54  }
55  return retVal;

```

Update minChild

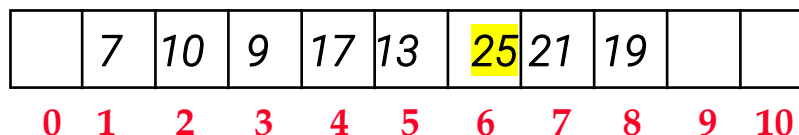
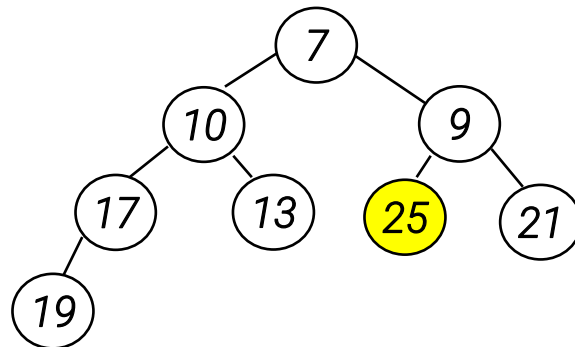


# Heap remove implementation

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46  int index = 1;
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48  if (size > 2 && heap.get(index:3) < heap.get(index:2)) { minChild = 3; }
49  while (minChild <= size && heap.get(index) > heap.get(minChild)) {
50      swap(index, minChild);
51      index = minChild;
52      minChild = minChild * 2;
53      if (size > minChild && heap.get(minChild + 1) < heap.get(minChild)) { minChild++; }
54  }
55  return retVal;
```

$2 * 6 = 12 > \text{size}$

Return retVal (6)

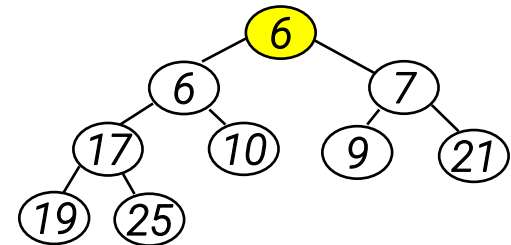
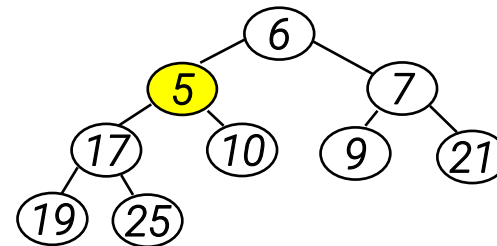
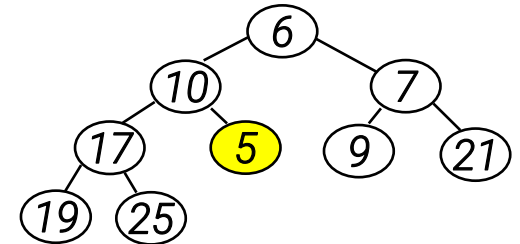
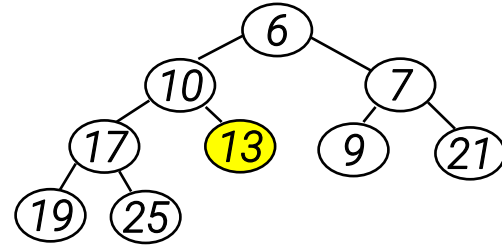


# Heap Complexity

- Claimed that:
  - Peek:  $O(1)$
  - Add:  $O(\log(N))$
  - Remove:  $O(\log(N))$
- On a heap with  $N$  values. Why?
  - Peek: Easy, return first value in an Array
  - Complete binary tree always has height  $O(\log(N))$ .
  - .add and remove “traverse” **one** root-leaf path, length at most  $O(\log(N))$ .

# decreaseKey Operation?

- Suppose we decrease the 13 to 5.
- Violates heap property
- Fix like in the add operation:
  - While violating heap property, swap with parent



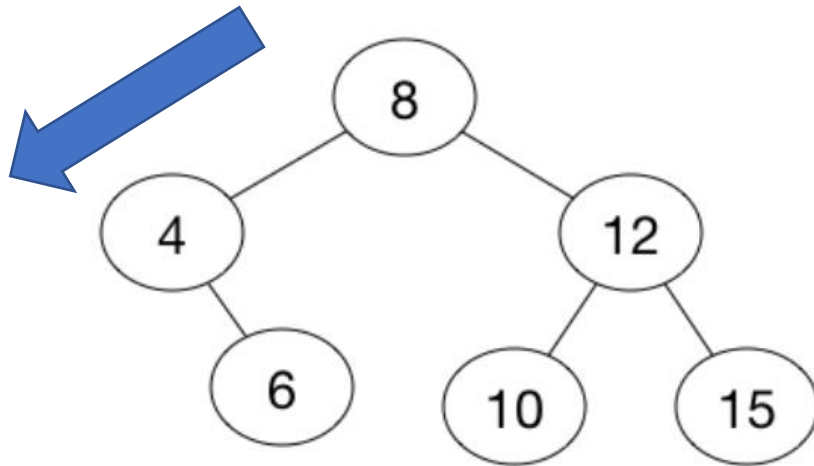
# decreaseKey NOT in java.util

- decreaseKey is important for some algorithms, but not supported in many standard libraries (including the java.util.PriorityQueue)
- Why not?
  - Note that binary heap does not support efficient *search*
  - In order to do decreaseKey in  $O(\log(n))$  time, need to store *references/indices* of all the “nodes.”
  - Adds overhead, not done in java.util



# Alternative Implementation: Binary Search Tree

- If your keys happen to be unique...
- Can support  $O(\log(n))$  add & remove (smallest) using a binary search tree!
- Smallest is leftmost child



# PriorityQueue (with unique keys) using a java.util TreeSet

```
import java.util.TreeSet;
```

```
public class BSTPQ<T extends Comparable<T>> {  
    private TreeSet<T> bst;
```

```
    public BSTPQ() { bst = new TreeSet<>(); }  
    public void add(T element) { bst.add(element); }  
    public int size() { return bst.size(); }  
    public T peek() { return bst.first(); }
```

```
    public T remove() {  
        T returnValue = bst.first();  
        bst.remove(returnValue);  
        return returnValue;  
    }
```

first gives smallest  
element in TreeSet in  
 $O(\log(n))$  time

```
    public void decreaseKey(T oldKey, T newKey) {  
        bst.remove(oldKey);  
        bst.add(newKey);
```

Can decreaseKey by  
removing and then re-adding,  
both  $O(\log(n))$  time for a  
TreeSet

```
    }  
}
```

3/29/23

# Disadvantages to using a Binary Search Tree for your priority queue?

1. All elements must be unique
2. Not array-based, uses more memory and has higher constant factors on runtime
3. Much harder to implement with guarantees that the tree will be balanced.