

Priority Queues  
&  
Sorting  
&  
Heap

# Priority Queue ADT

- Stores a collection of (key, element) pairs
- Main methods
  - `insertItem(k, o)`: inserts an item with key `k` and element `o`.
  - `removeMin()`: removes the item with smallest key and returns its element.
  - `minKey()`: returns, but does not remove, the smallest key of an item.
  - `minElement()`: returns, but does not remove, the element of an item with smallest key.
  - `size()`, `isEmpty()`
- Applications:
  - Multithreading
  - Triage

# Keys must be comparable

- Keys in a priority queue can be arbitrary objects on which a **total order relation** is defined
- A generic priority queue uses an auxiliary **Comparator ADT**
  - Encapsulates the action of comparing two objects according to a given total order relation
  - The comparator is external to the keys being compared
  - When the priority queue needs to compare two keys, it uses its comparator
    - `isLessThan(x,y)`
    - `isLessThanOrEqualTo(x,y)`
    - `isEqualTo(x,y)`
    - `isGreaterThan(x,y)`
    - `isGreaterThanOrEqualTo(x,y)`

Suppose you are given a priority queue implementation, so you have the following operations to work with:

`insertItem( $k, o$ )`

`removeMin()`

`minKey()`

`minElement()`

`size()`

`isEmpty()`

How can you use it to sort a sequence  $S$  of numbers?

# Sorting with a Priority Queue

We can use a priority queue to sort a set of comparable elements

1. Insert the elements of a **sequence S** one by one with a series of **insertItem(e, e)** operations into an initially empty **priority Queue P**.
2. Remove the elements in sorted order from **priority queue P** with a series of **removeMin()** operations and put them back into **sequence S**.

Running time  
depends on the  
priority queue  
implementation

**Algorithm** *PQ-Sort(S, C)*

**Input** sequence *S*, a priority Queue *P*

**Output** sequence *S* sorted in increasing order

**while**  $\neg S.isEmpty()$

$e \leftarrow S.remove(S.first())$

*P.insertItem(e, e)*

**while**  $\neg P.isEmpty()$

$e \leftarrow P.removeMin()$

*S.insertLast(e)*

# Sequence-based Priority Queue

Implementation with an **unsorted** sequence 

- Store the items of the priority queue in a list-based sequence, in arbitrary order
- **insertItem** takes  $O(1)$  time since we can insert the item at the beginning or end of the sequence
- **removeMin**, **minKey** and **minElement** take  $O(n)$  time since we have to traverse the entire sequence to find the smallest key

Implementation with a **sorted** sequence 

- Store the items of the priority queue in a sequence, sorted by key
- **insertItem** takes  $O(n)$  time since we have to find the place where to insert the item
- **removeMin**, **minKey** and **minElement** take  $O(1)$  time since the smallest key is at the beginning of the sequence

# Selection-Sort

- Selection-sort is the variation of PQ-sort where the priority queue is implemented with an **unsorted** sequence
- Running time of Selection-sort:
  1. Inserting the elements into the priority queue with  $n$  **insertItem** operations takes  $O(n)$  time
  2. Removing the elements in sorted order from the priority queue with  $n$  **removeMin** operations takes time proportional to
$$1 + 2 + \dots + n$$
- Runs in  $O(n^2)$  time

# Insertion-Sort

- Insertion-sort is the variation of PQ-sort where the priority queue is implemented with a **sorted** sequence
- Running time of Insertion-sort:
  1. Inserting the elements into the priority queue with  $n$  **insertItem** operations takes time proportional to
$$1 + 2 + \dots + n$$
  2. Removing the elements in sorted order from the priority queue with a series of  $n$  **removeMin** operations takes  $O(n)$  time
- Runs in  $O(n^2)$  time



# In-Place Selection and Insertion Sorting algorithms

Instead of using an external data structure, we can implement selection-sort and insertion-sort **in-place**.

# In-Place Selection Sort

- The selection sort algorithm sorts an array by repeatedly finding the minimum element (considering ascending order) from unsorted part and putting it at the beginning.
- The algorithm maintains two subarrays in a given array:
  - 1) the sorted part at the left end and
  - 2) the unsorted part at the right end.

# In-Place Selection Sort Pseudocode

Selection-Sort(A)

Input: Unsorted Array A of size  $n$

Output: Sorted Array A.

for  $i=1$  to  $n-1$  do

    for  $j=i+1$  to  $n$  do

        if  $A[i] > A[j]$  then

$tmp = A[i]$

$A[i] = A[j]$

$A[j] = tmp$

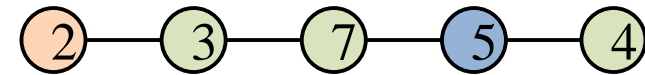
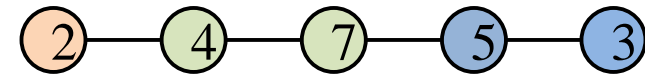
Runs in  $O(n^2)$  time



1<sup>st</sup>:



2<sup>nd</sup>:



3<sup>rd</sup>:



Why does it need to run for only the first  $n-1$  elements, rather than for all  $n$  elements?

# In-place Insertion-sort

- Insertion sort is a simple sorting algorithm that works the way we sort playing cards in our hands.

Insertion-Sort(A)

Input: Unsorted Array A of size  $n$

Output: Sorted Array A.

for  $i=2$  to  $n$  do

$key=A[i]$

$j=i-1$

    while  $j>0$  and  $A[j]>key$

$A[j+1]=A[j]$

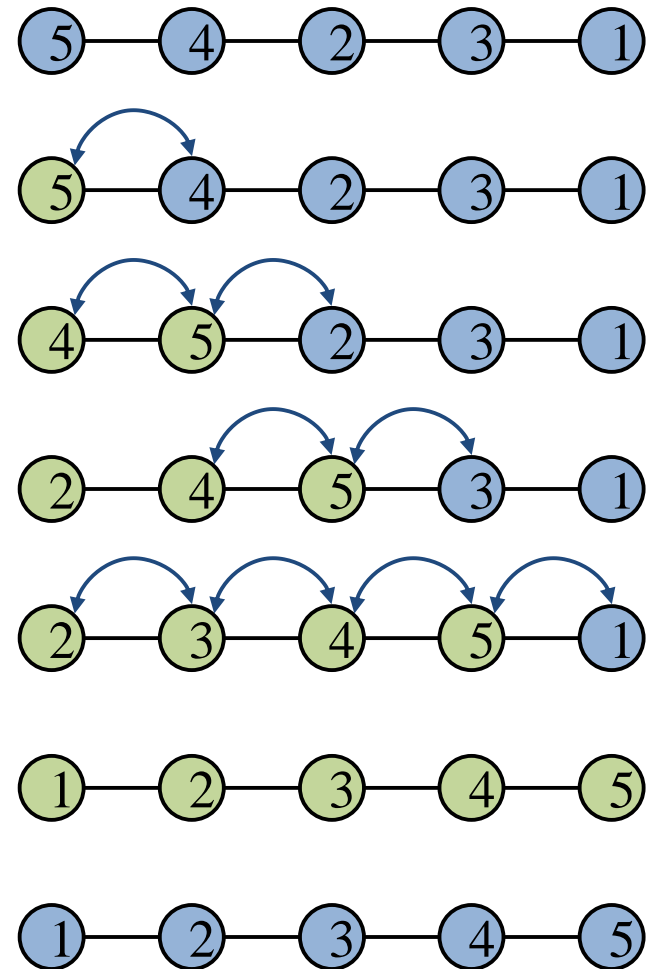
$j=j-1$

$A[j+1]=key$

Runs in  $O(n^2)$  time

# In-place Insertion-sort

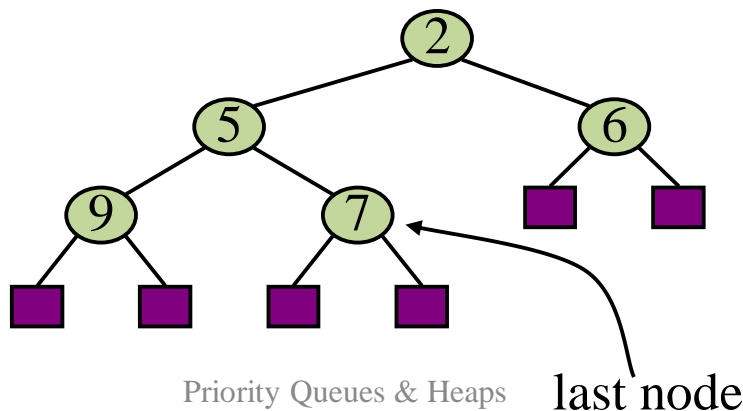
- A portion of the input sequence itself serves as the priority queue
- For in-place insertion-sort
  - We keep sorted the initial portion of the sequence
  - We can use `swapElements` instead of modifying the sequence



# Heap-Based Priority Queue

# What is a Heap

- A **heap** is a binary tree storing keys at its internal nodes and satisfying the following properties:
  - **Heap-Order**: for every internal node  $v$  other than the root,  $key(v) \geq key(parent(v))$
  - **Complete Binary Tree**: let  $h$  be the height of the heap
    - for  $i = 0, \dots, h - 2$ , there are  $2^i$  internal nodes of depth  $i$
    - at depth  $h - 1$ , the internal nodes are to the left of the external nodes
- The **last node** of a heap is the rightmost internal node of depth  $h - 1$

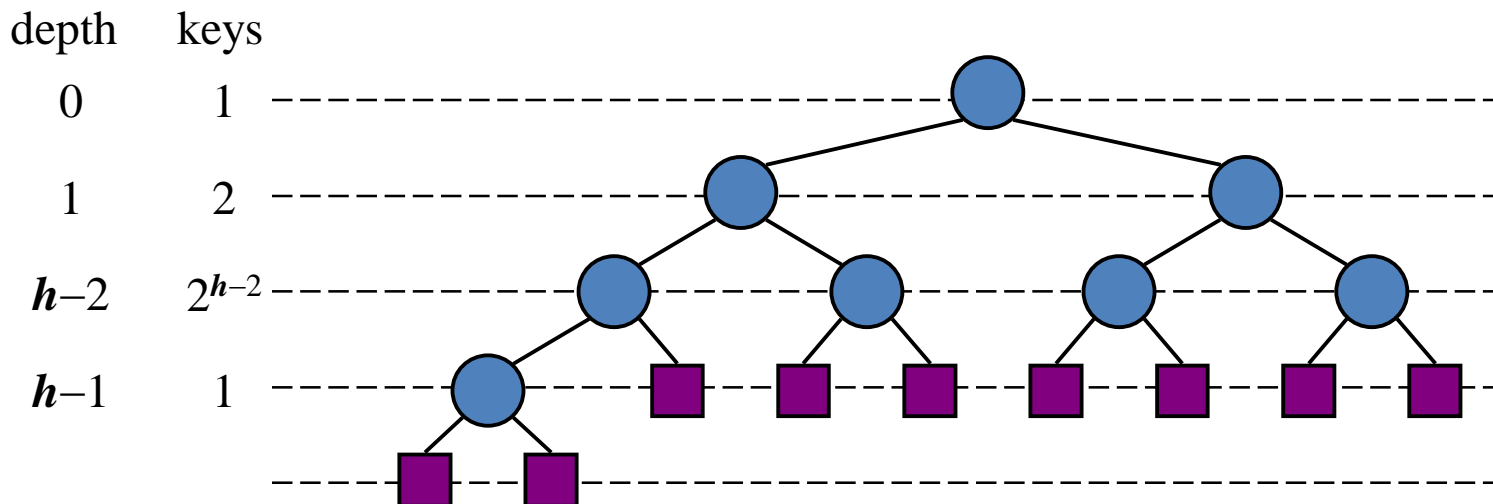


# Height of a Heap

**Theorem:** A heap storing  $n$  keys has height  $O(\log n)$

Proof: (we apply the complete binary tree property)

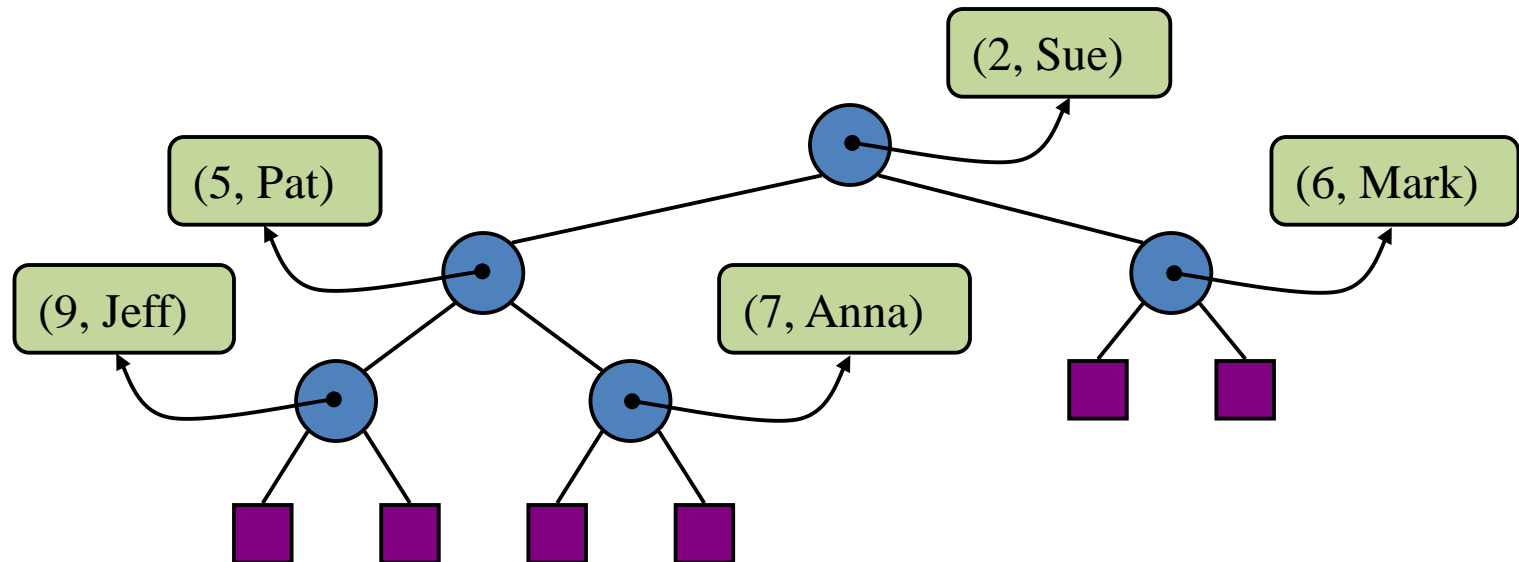
- Let  $h$  be the height of a heap storing  $n$  keys
- Since there are  $2^i$  keys at depth  $i = 0, \dots, h - 2$  and at least one key at depth  $h - 1$ , we have  $n \geq 1 + 2 + 4 + \dots + 2^{h-2} + 1$
- Thus,  $n \geq 2^{h-1}$ , i.e.,  $h \leq \log n + 1$





# Heaps and Priority Queues

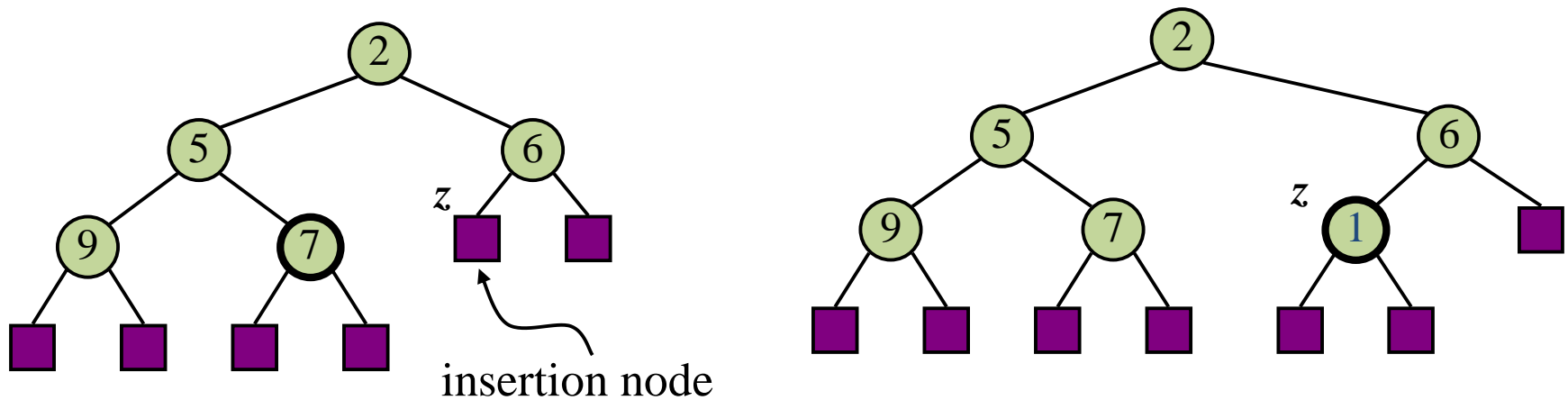
- We can use a heap to implement a priority queue
- We store a (key, element) item at each internal node
- We keep track of the position of the last node
- For simplicity, we show only the keys in the pictures



# Insertion into a Heap: $\text{insertItem}(k, o)$

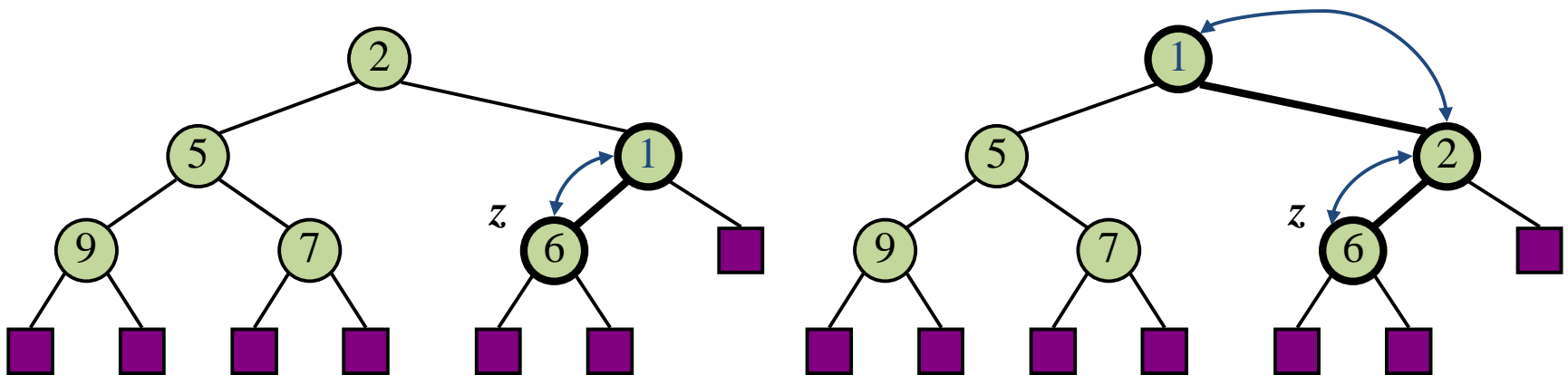
Consists of three steps:

- Find the insertion node  $z$  (the new last node)
- Store  $k$  at  $z$  and expand  $z$  into an internal node
- Restore the heap-order property (discussed next)



# Upheap Bubbling

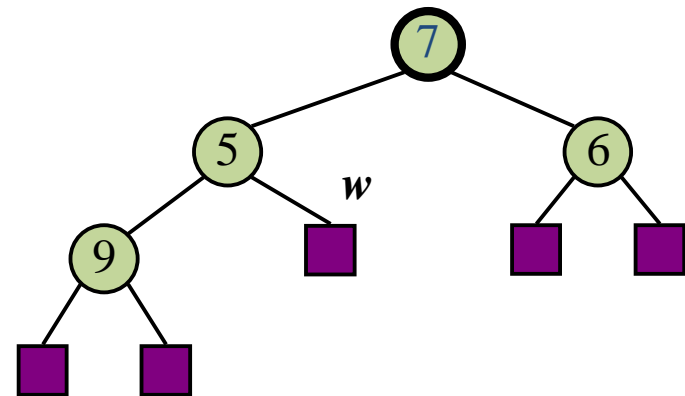
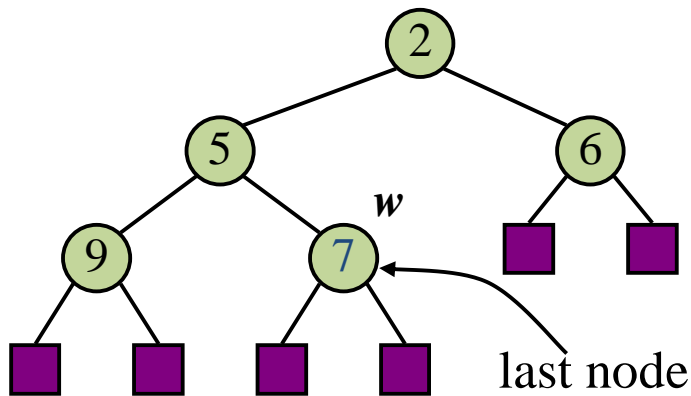
- After the insertion of a new key  $k$ , the heap-order property may be violated
- Algorithm **upheap** restores the heap-order property by swapping  $k$  along an upward path from the insertion node
- Terminates when the key  $k$  reaches the root or a node whose parent has a key smaller than or equal to  $k$
- Since a heap has height  $O(\log n)$ , upheap runs in  $O(\log n)$  time



# Removal from a Heap: removeMin()

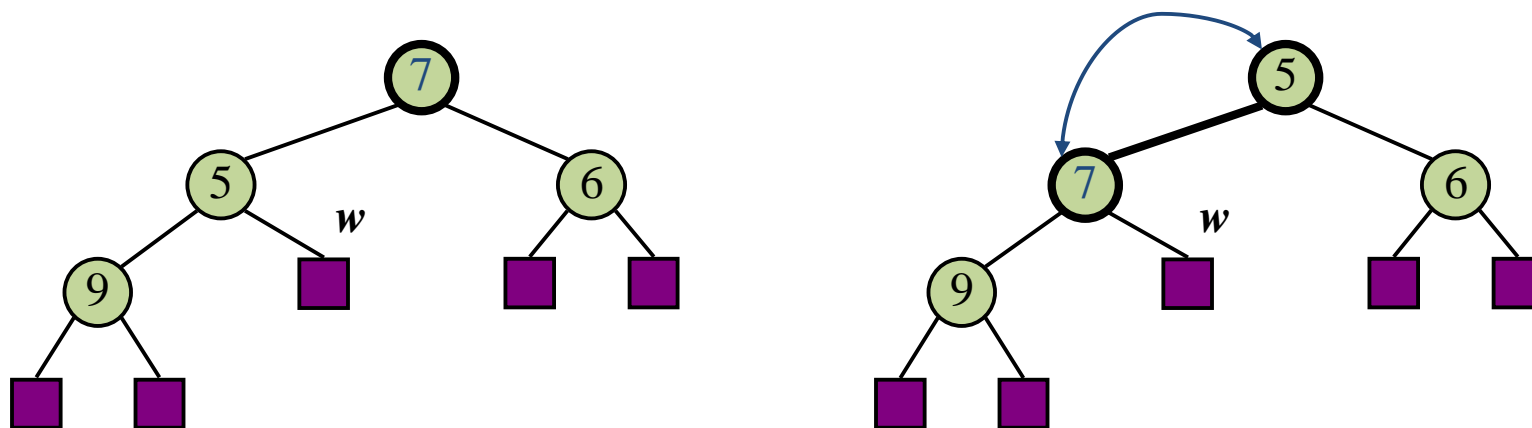
Consists of three steps

- Replace the root key with the key of the last node  $w$
- Compress  $w$  and its children into a leaf
- Restore the heap-order property (discussed next)



# Downheap Bubbling

- After replacing the root key with the key  $k$  of the last node, the heap-order property may be violated
- Algorithm **downheap** restores the heap-order property by swapping key  $k$  with the **smallest key among children** along a **downward path** from the root
- Terminates when key  $k$  reaches a leaf or a node whose children have keys greater than or equal to  $k$
- Since a heap has height  $O(\log n)$ , downheap runs in  $O(\log n)$  time



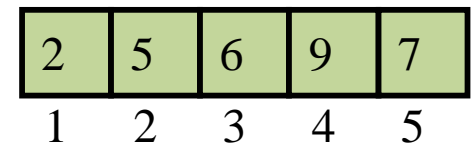
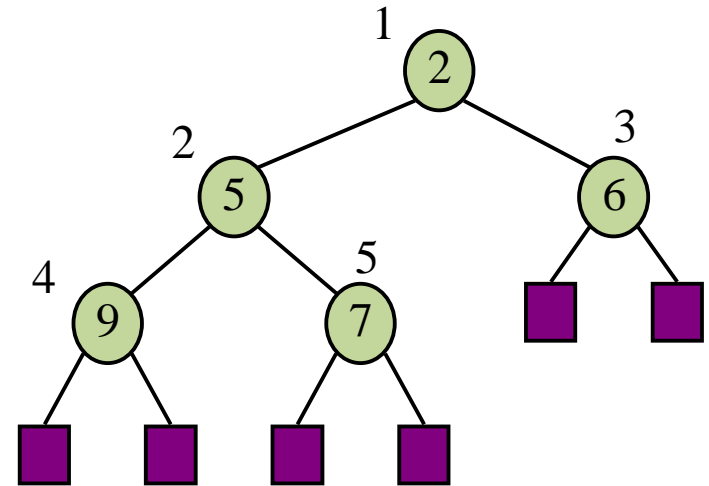
# Heap-Sort

- Consider a priority queue with  $n$  items implemented by means of a heap
  - the space used is  $O(n)$
  - methods `insertItem` and `removeMin` take  $O(\log n)$  time
  - methods `size`, `isEmpty`, `minKey`, and `minElement` take time  $O(1)$  time
- Using a heap-based priority queue, we can sort a sequence of  $n$  elements in  $O(n \log n)$  time
  - much faster than quadratic sorting algorithms, such as insertion-sort and selection-sort

# Vector-based Heap Implementation

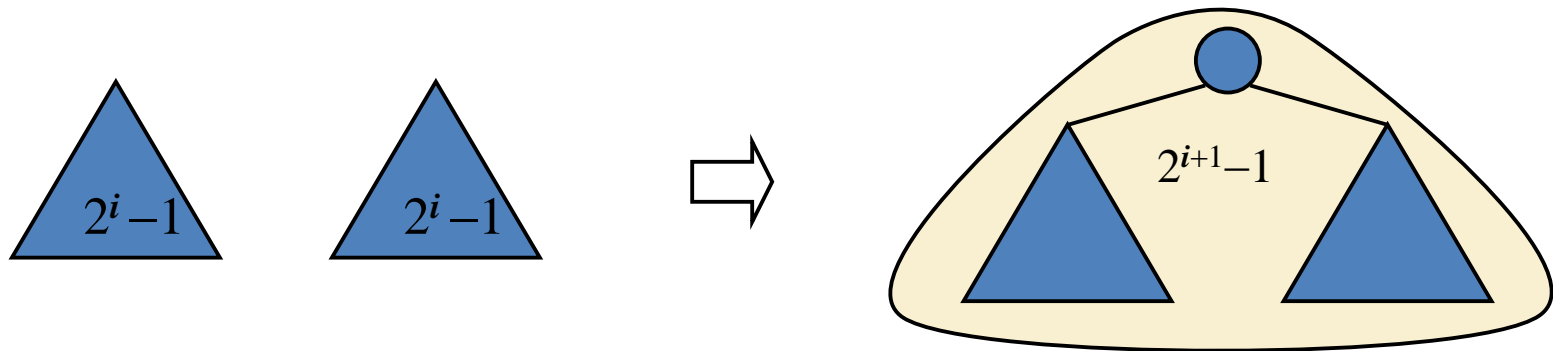
We can represent a heap with  $n$  keys by means of a vector of length  $n + 1$

- For the node at rank  $i$ 
  - left child is at rank  $2i$
  - right child is at rank  $2i + 1$
- What does not need to be stored:
  - links between nodes
  - leaves
- The cell at rank 0 is not used
- Last node is at rank  $n$ 
  - `insertItem` inserts at rank  $n + 1$
  - `removeMin` removes at rank  $n$  (after swapping root with last node)
- Yields in-place heap-sort



# Bottom-up Heap Construction

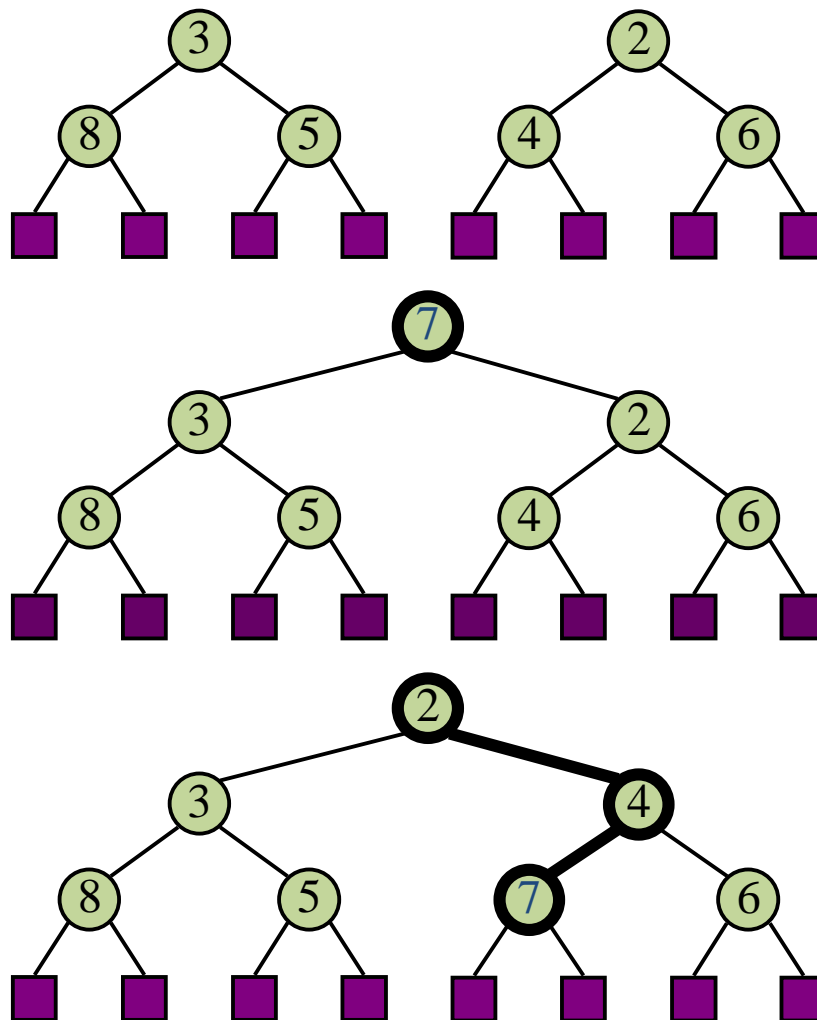
- If **all keys are known in advance**, we can build a heap recursively
- For simplicity, assume number of keys  $n = 2^h - 1$  so the heap is a complete binary tree, so each depth  $i = 0, \dots, h - 2$  contains  $2^i$  containing internal nodes
- Given  $n$  keys, build heap using a bottom-up construction with  $\log n$  phases
- In phase  $i$ , pairs of heaps with  $2^i - 1$  keys are **merged** into heaps with  $2^{i+1} - 1$  keys



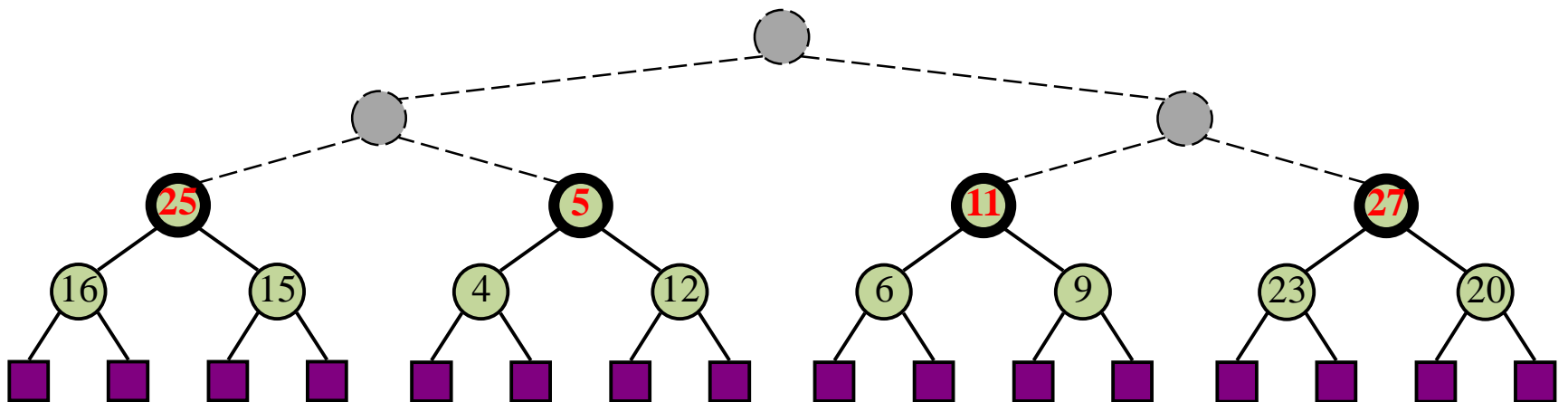
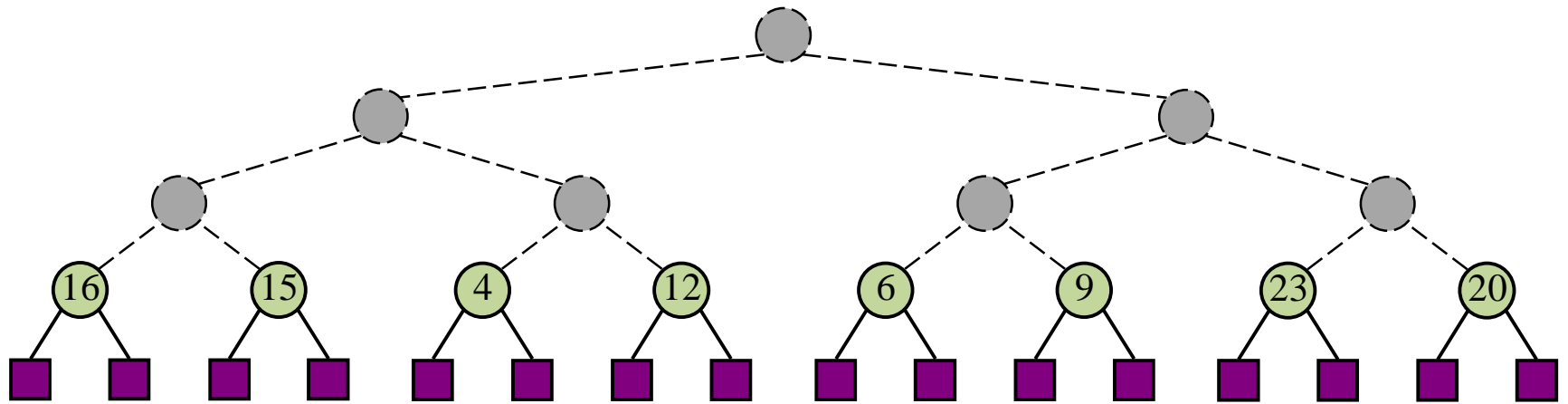


# Merging Two Heaps

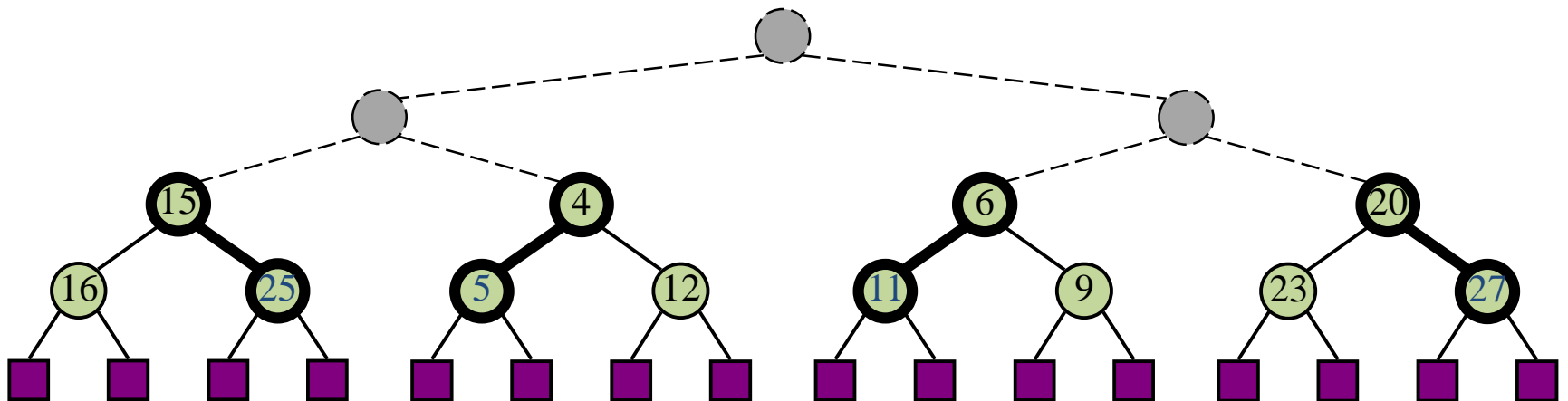
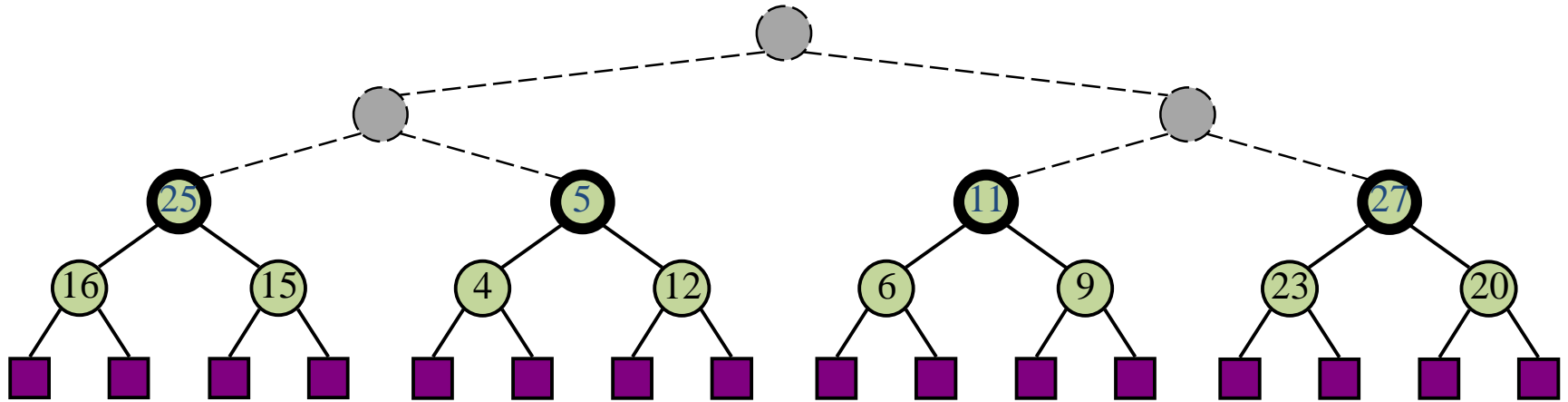
- We are given two heaps and a key  $k$
- We create a new heap with the root node storing  $k$  and with the two heaps as subtrees
- We perform **downheap** to restore the heap-order property



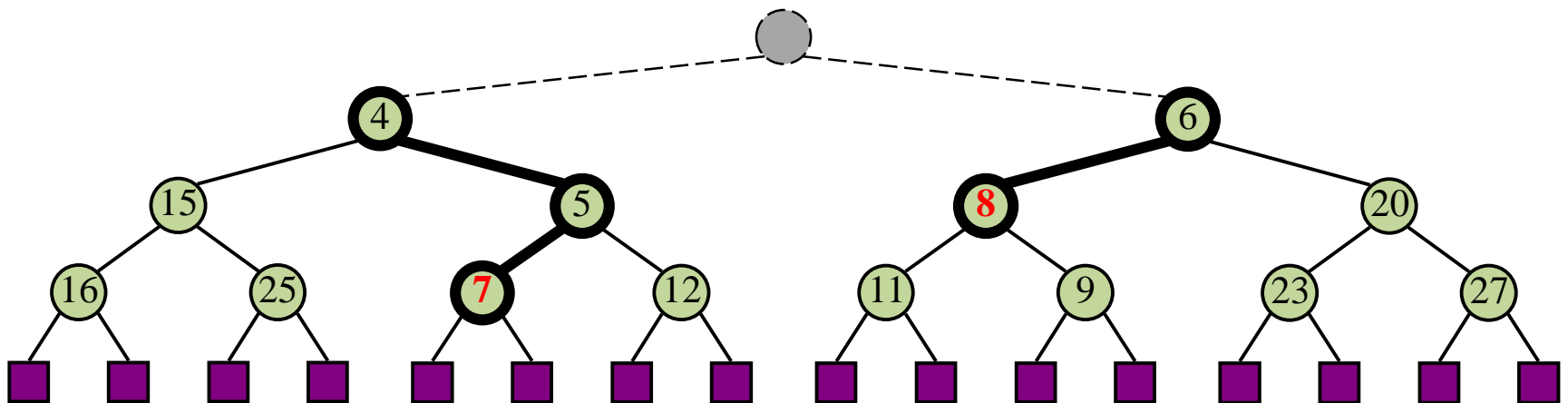
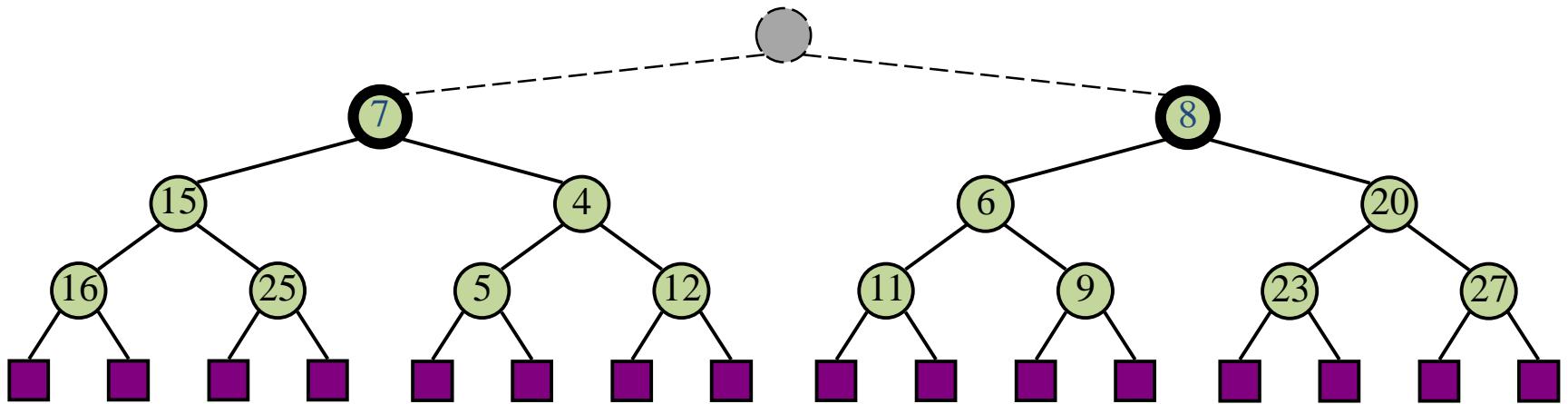
# Example



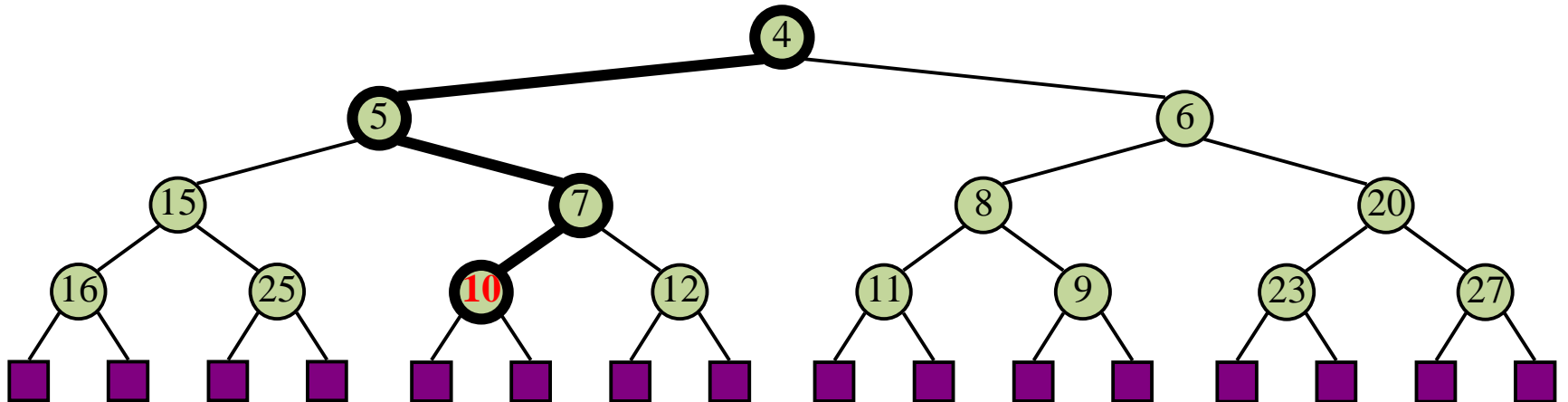
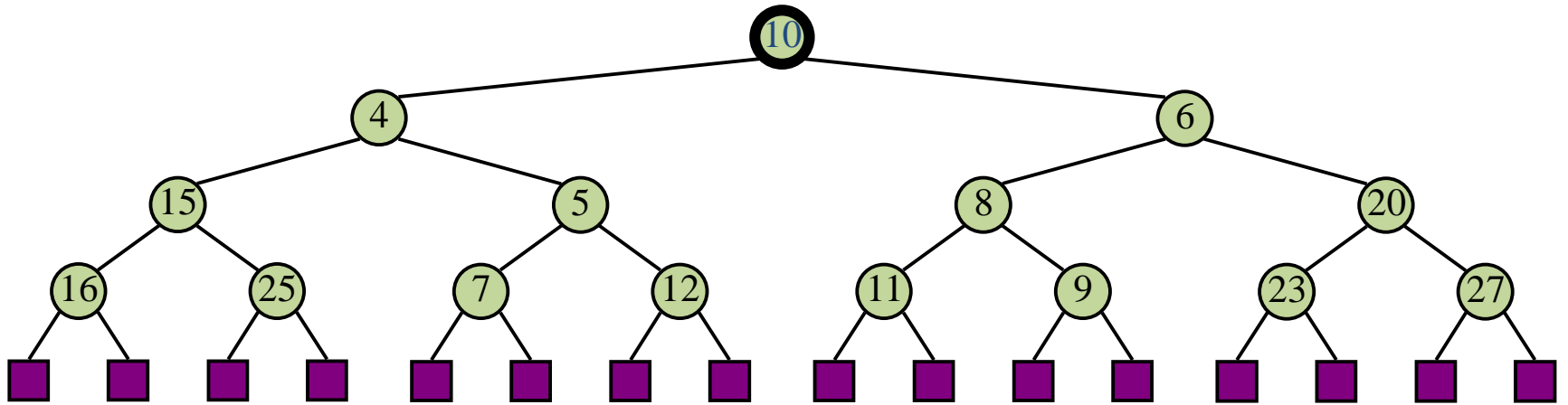
# Example (contd.)



# Example (contd.)



# Example (end)



# Analysis

- We visualize the worst-case time of a downheap with a **proxy path** that goes first right and then repeatedly goes left until the bottom of the heap (this path may differ from the actual downheap path)
- Since each node is traversed by at most two proxy paths, the total number of nodes of the proxy paths is  $O(n)$
- Thus, bottom-up heap construction runs in  $O(n)$  time
- Bottom-up heap construction is faster than  $n$  successive insertions and speeds up the first phase of heap-sort

