

# PRIORITY QUEUES AND HEAPS

Lecture 17  
CS2110 Fall 2015

# Readings and Homework

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**Read Chapter 26** “A Heap Implementation” to learn about heaps

**Exercise:** Salespeople often make matrices that show all the great features of their product that the competitor’s product lacks. Try this for a heap versus a BST. First, try and sell someone on a BST: List some desirable properties of a BST that a heap lacks. Now be the heap salesperson: List some good things about heaps that a BST lacks. Can you think of situations where you would favor one over the other?



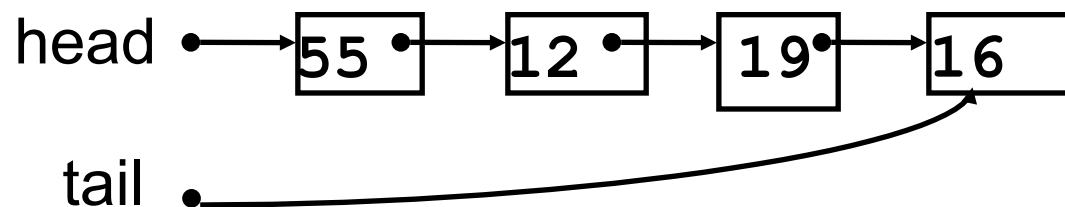
***With ZipUltra heaps, you’ve got it made in the shade my friend!***

# Stacks and queues are restricted lists

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- Stack (**LIFO**) implemented as list
  - **add ()**, **remove ()** from front of list
- Queue (**FIFO**) implemented as list
  - **add ()** on back of list, **remove ()** from front of list
- These operations are  $O(1)$

Both efficiently implementable using a singly linked list with head and tail



# Interface Bag (not In Java Collections)

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```
interface Bag<E>
    implements Iterable {
    void add(E obj);
    boolean contains(E obj);
    boolean remove(E obj);
    int size();
    boolean isEmpty();
    Iterator<E> iterator()
}
```

Also called **multiset**

Like a set except that a value can be in it more than once. Example: a bag of coins

Refinements of Bag: Stack, Queue, PriorityQueue

# Priority queue

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- **Bag** in which data items are **Comparable**
- **Smaller** elements (determined by **compareTo ()**) have **higher** priority
- **remove ()** return the element with the highest priority = least in the **compareTo ()** ordering
- break ties arbitrarily

# Examples of Priority Queues

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Scheduling jobs to run on a computer  
default priority = arrival time  
priority can be changed by operator

Scheduling events to be processed by an event handler  
priority = time of occurrence

Airline check-in  
first class, business class, coach  
FIFO within each class

Tasks that you have to carry out. You determine priority

## Example: Airline check-in

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- Fixed number of priority levels  $0, \dots, p - 1$
- FIFO within each level
- Example: airline check-in
- **add ()** – insert in appropriate queue –  $O(1)$
- **poll ()** – must find a nonempty queue –  $O(p)$

first class



many miles



paying



frequent flier



# java.util.PriorityQueue<E>

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```
interface PriorityQueue<E> {  
    boolean add(E e) {...} //insert an element  
    void clear() {...} //remove all elements  
    E peek() {...} //return min element w/o removing  
    E poll() {...} //remove and return min element  
    boolean contains(E e)  
    boolean remove(E e)  
    int size() {...}  
    Iterator<E> iterator()  
}
```



# Priority queues as lists

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- Maintain as **unordered list**
  - **add()** put new element at front –  $O(1)$
  - **poll()** must search the list –  $O(n)$
  - **peek()** must search the list –  $O(n)$
- Maintain as **ordered list**
  - **add()** must search the list –  $O(n)$
  - **poll()** must search the list –  $O(n)$
  - **peek()**  $O(1)$

Can we do better?

# Heap

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- A *heap* is a concrete data structure that can be used to implement priority queues
- Gives better complexity than either ordered or unordered list implementation:
  - **add ()** :  $O(\log n)$
  - **poll ()** :  $O(\log n)$
- $O(n \log n)$  to process  $n$  elements
- Do not confuse with *heap memory*, where the Java virtual machine allocates space for objects – different usage of the word *heap*

# Heap

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- Binary tree with data at each node
- Satisfies the *Heap Order Invariant*:

1. The least (highest priority) element of any subtree is at the root of that subtree.

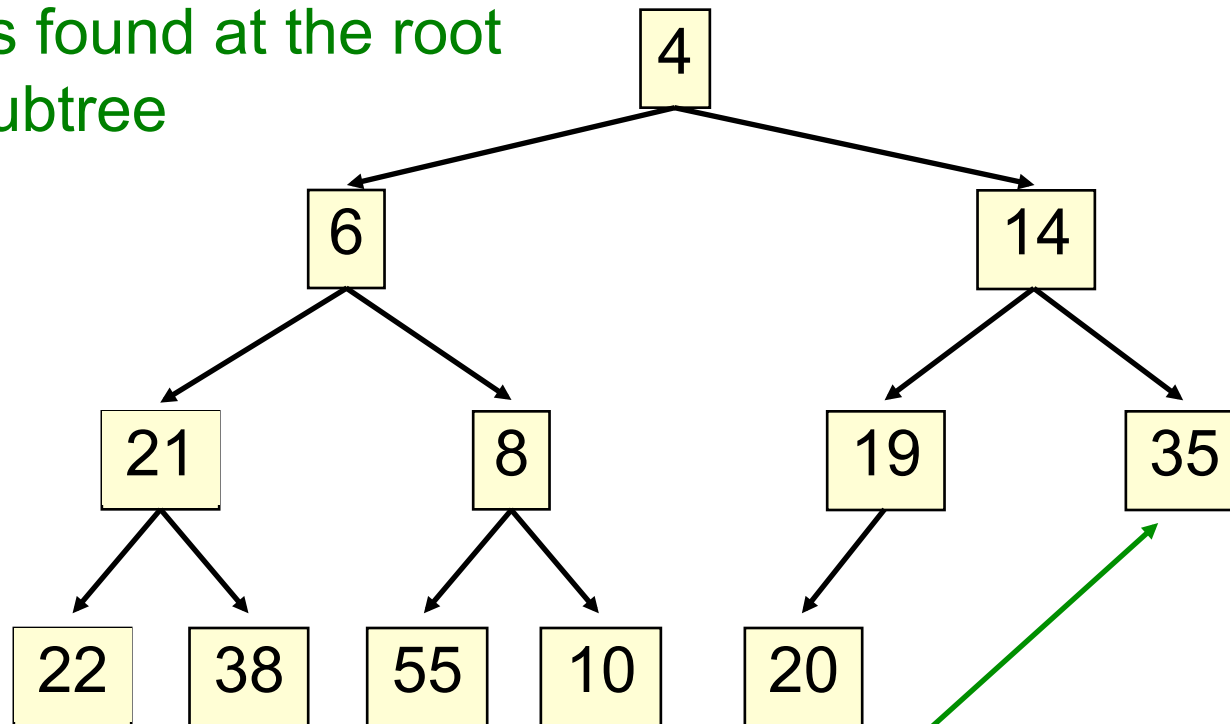
- Binary tree is complete (no holes)

2. Every level (except last) completely filled. Nodes on bottom level are as far left as possible.

# Heap

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Smallest element in any subtree  
is always found at the root  
of that subtree



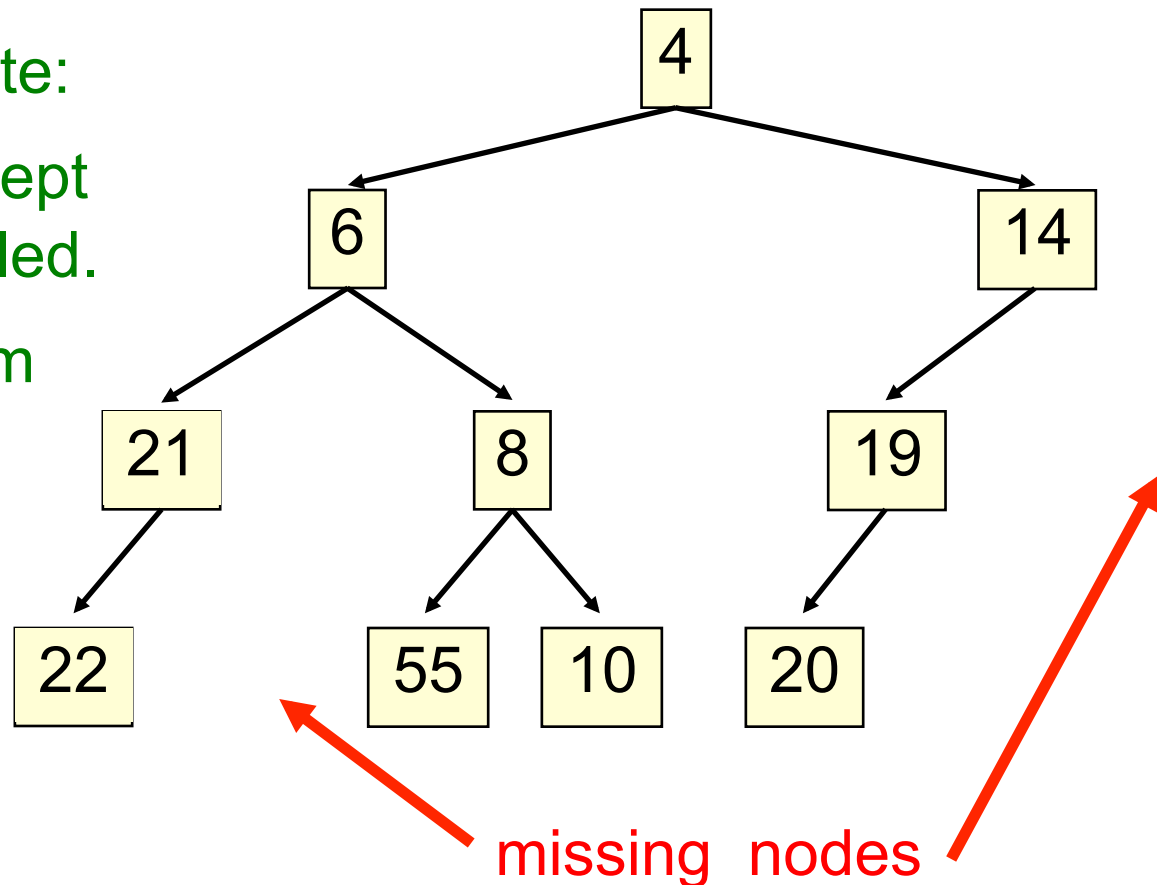
Note: 19, 20 < 35: Smaller elements  
can be deeper in the tree!

# Not a heap — has two holes

Should be complete:

\* Every level (except last) completely filled.

\* Nodes on bottom level are as far left as possible.

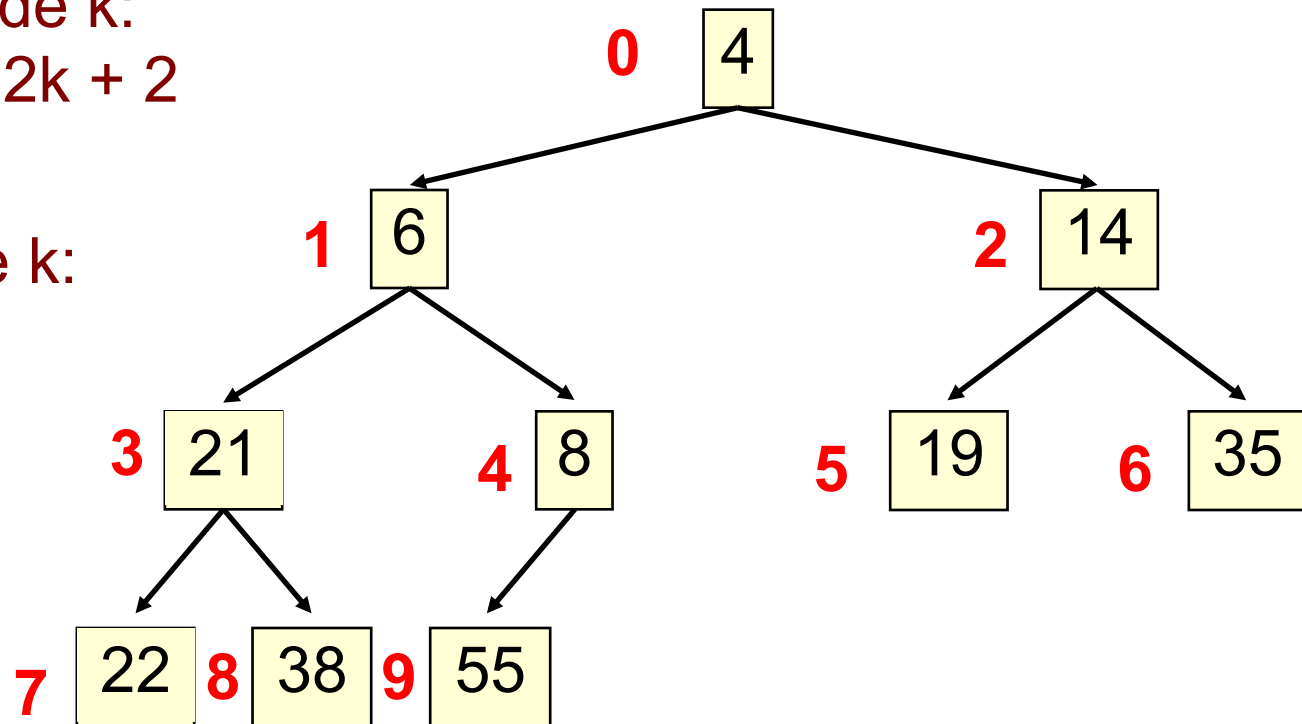


# Heap: number nodes as shown

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children of node  $k$ :  
at  $2k + 1$  and  $2k + 2$

parent of node  $k$ :  
at  $(k-1) / 2$

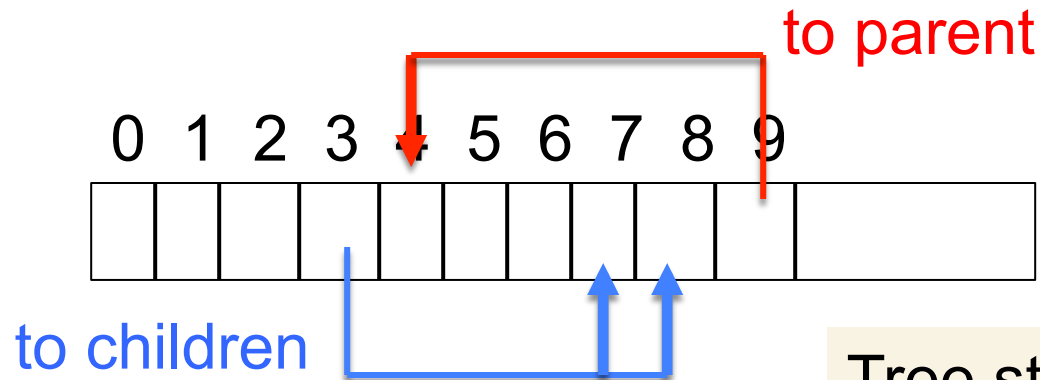


Remember, tree has no holes

We illustrate using an array  $b$   
(could also be ArrayList or Vector)

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- Heap nodes in  $b$  in order, going across each level from left to right, top to bottom
- Children  $b[k]$  are  $b[2k + 1]$  and  $b[2k + 2]$
- Parent of  $b[k]$   $b[(k - 1)/2]$



Tree structure is implicit.  
No need for explicit links!

# add (e)

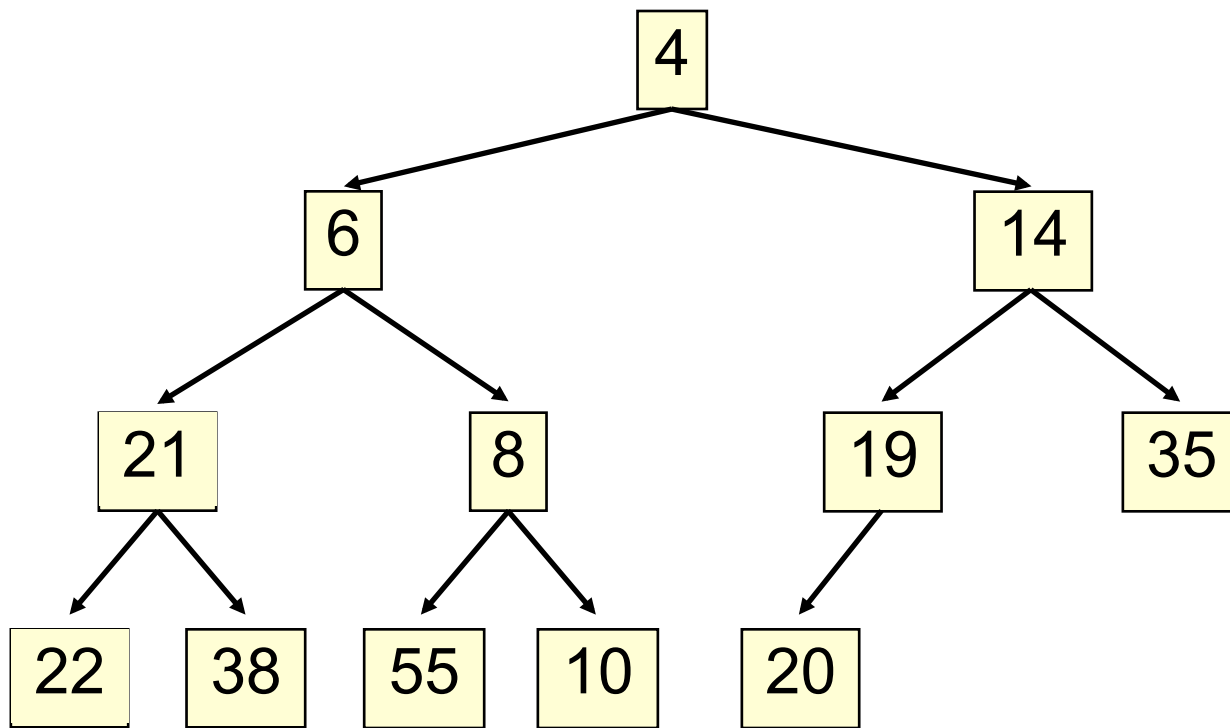
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- Add e at the end of the array
- If this violates heap order because it is smaller than its parent, swap it with its parent
- Continue swapping it up until it finds its rightful place
- The heap invariant is maintained!



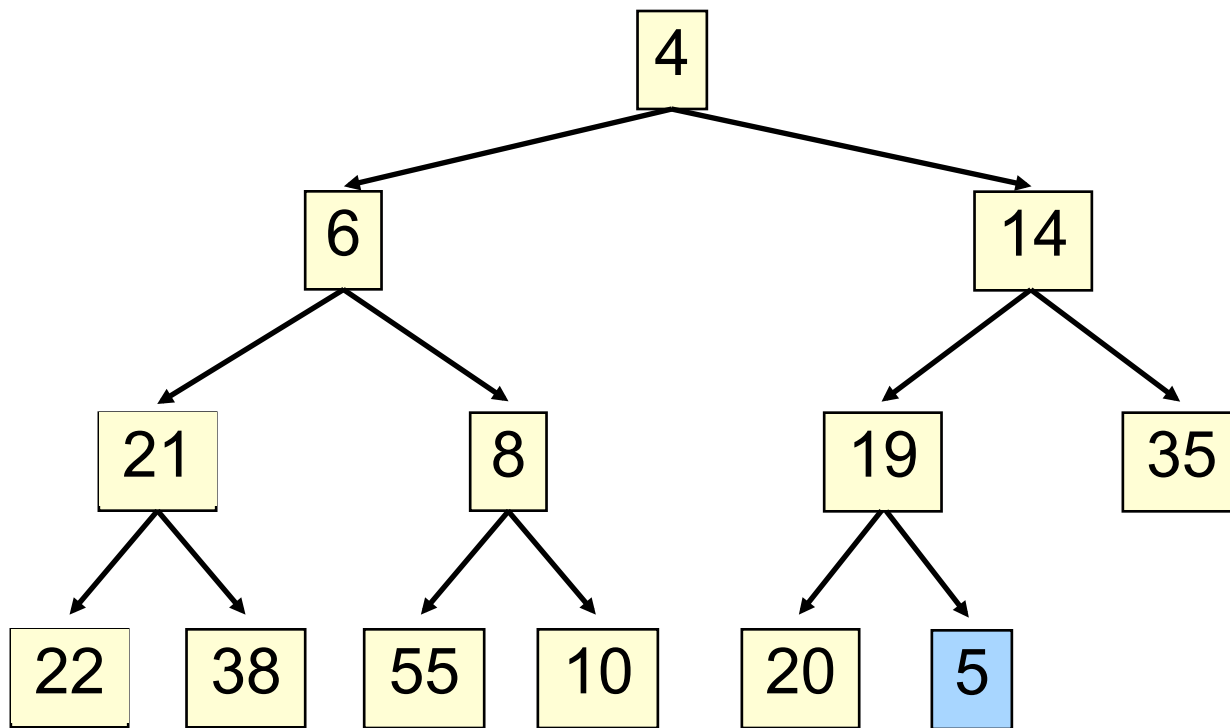
# add ()

17



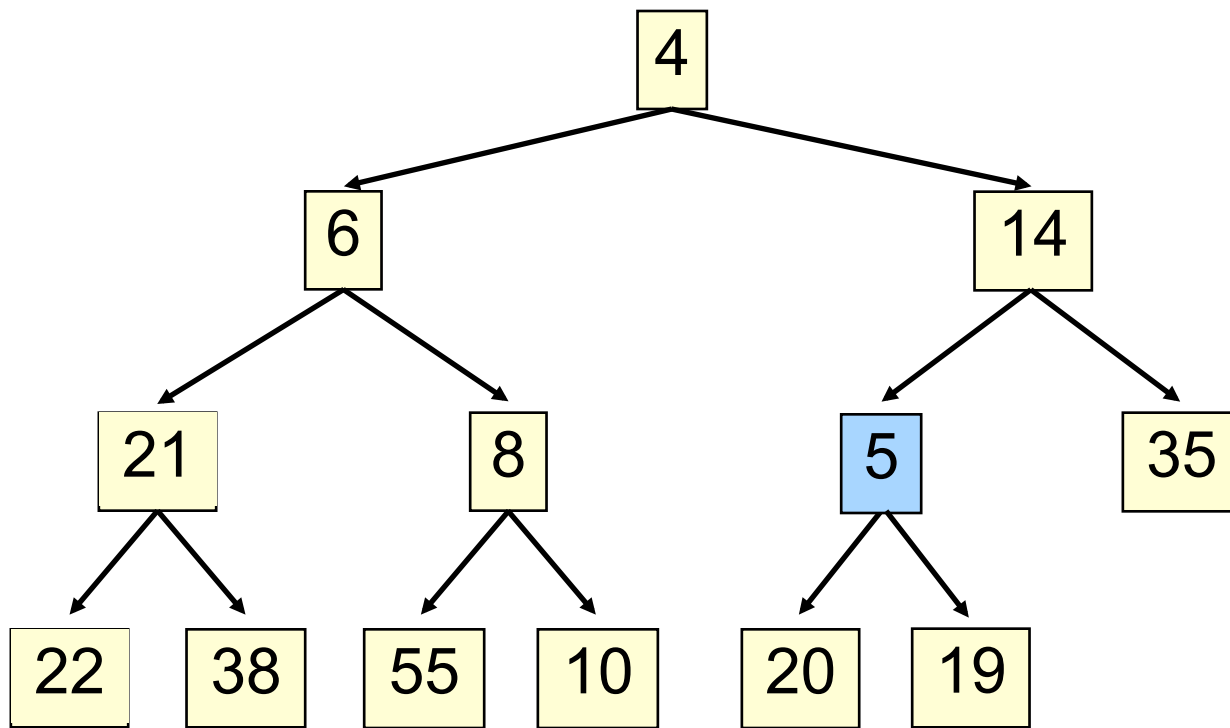
# add ()

18

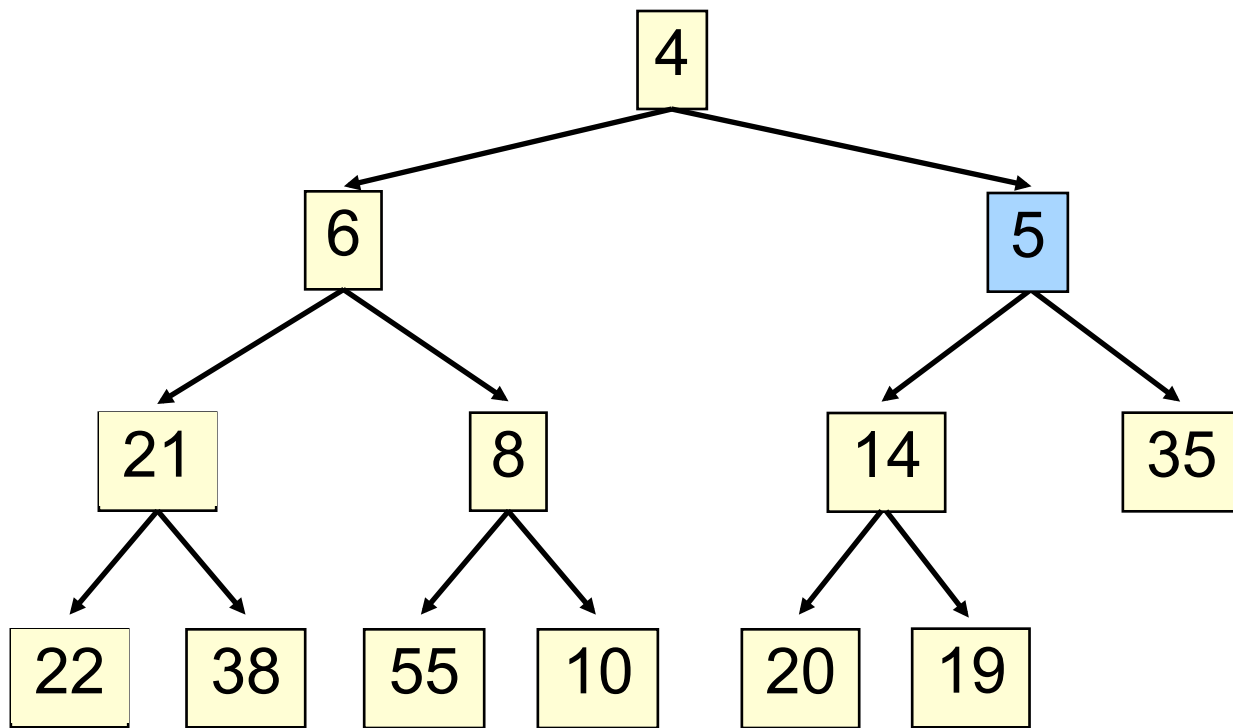


# add ()

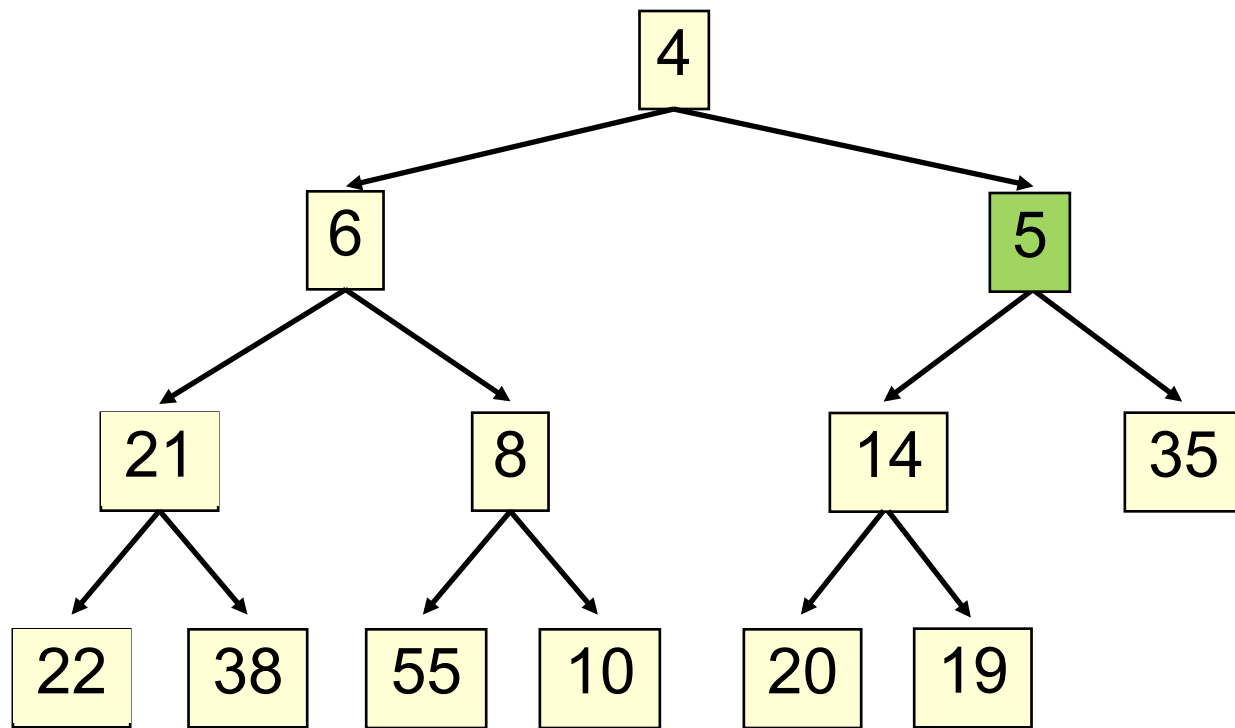
19



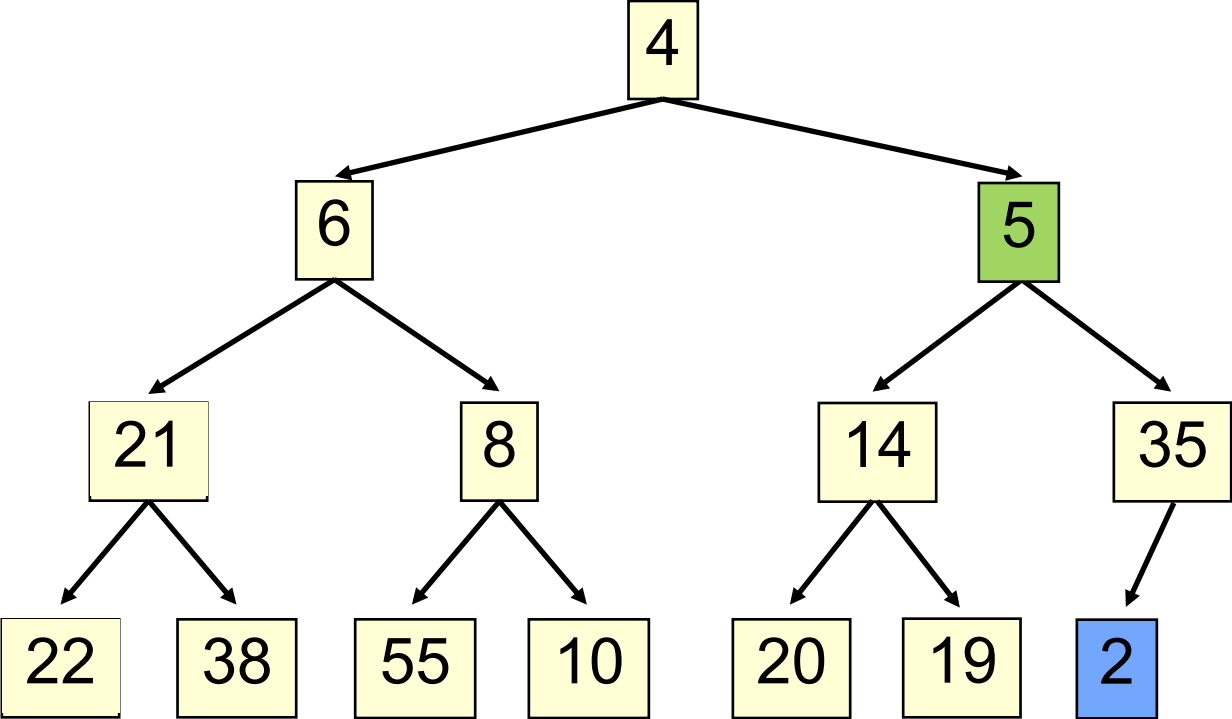
# add ()



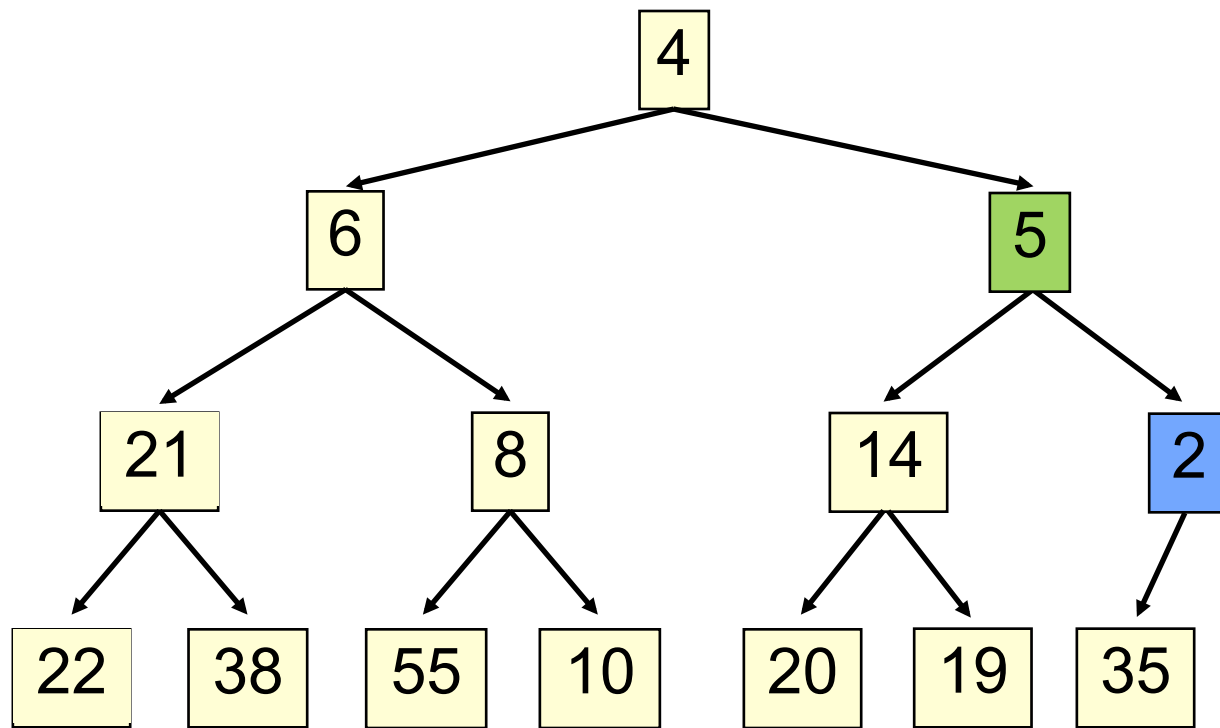
# add ()



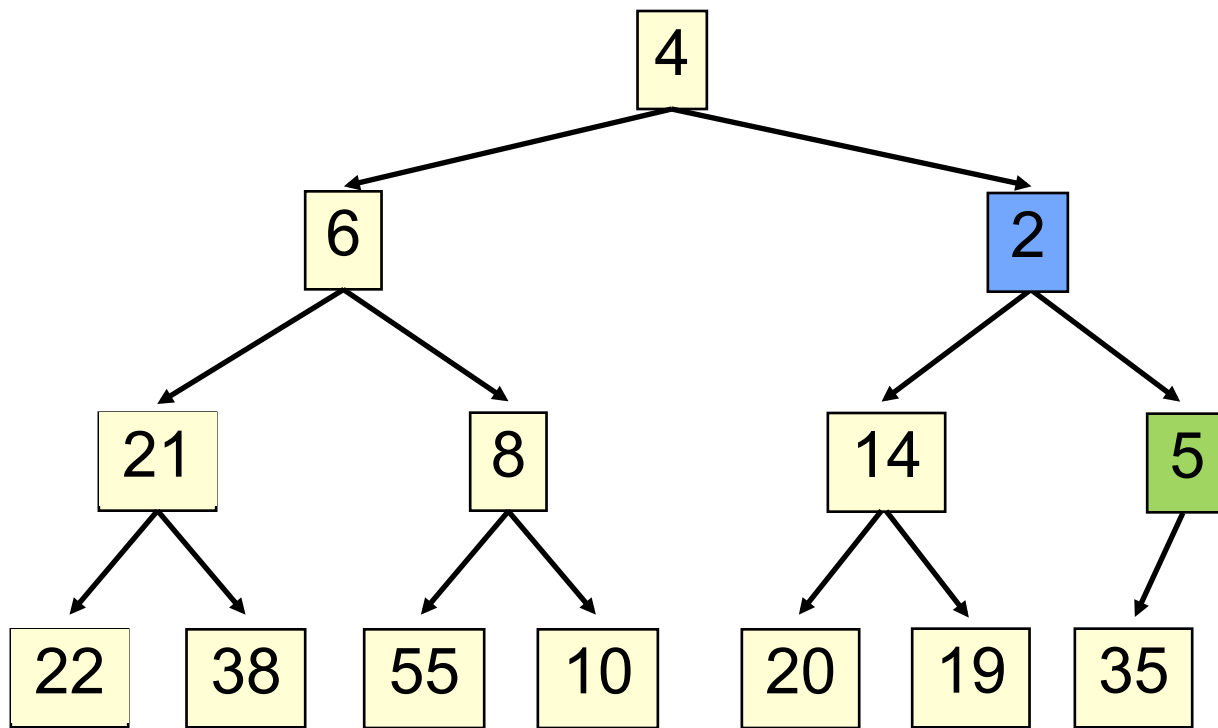
# add ()



# add ()

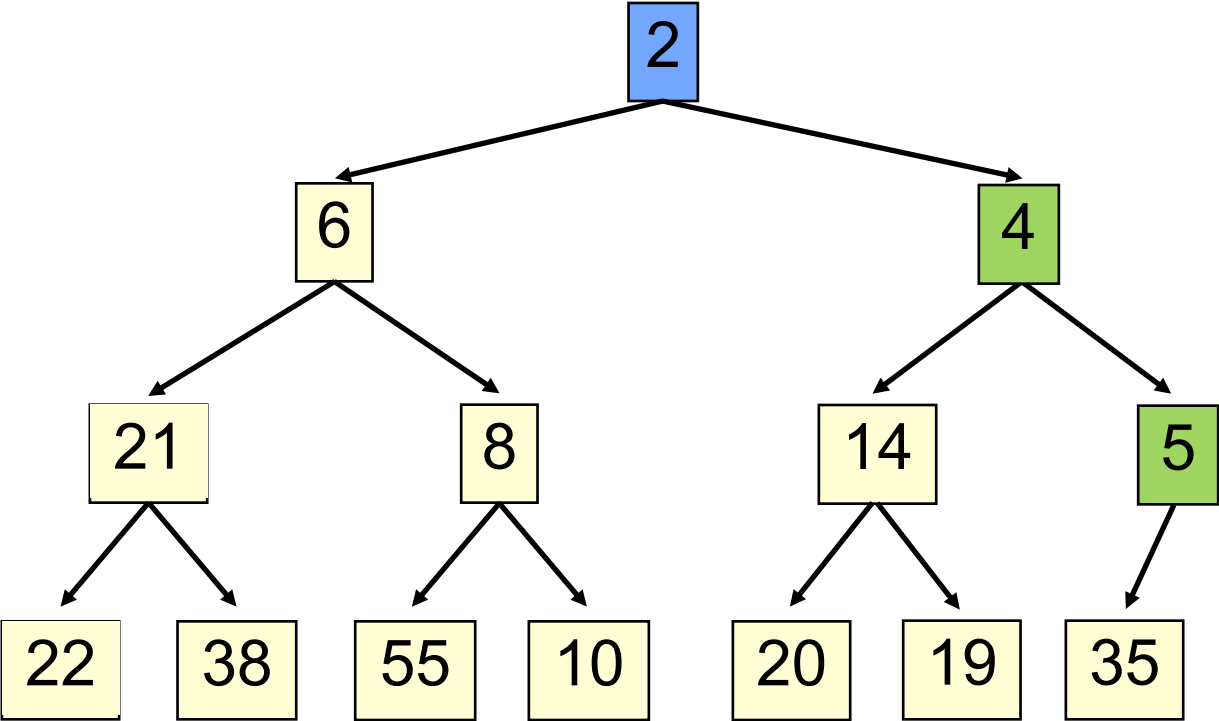


# add ()

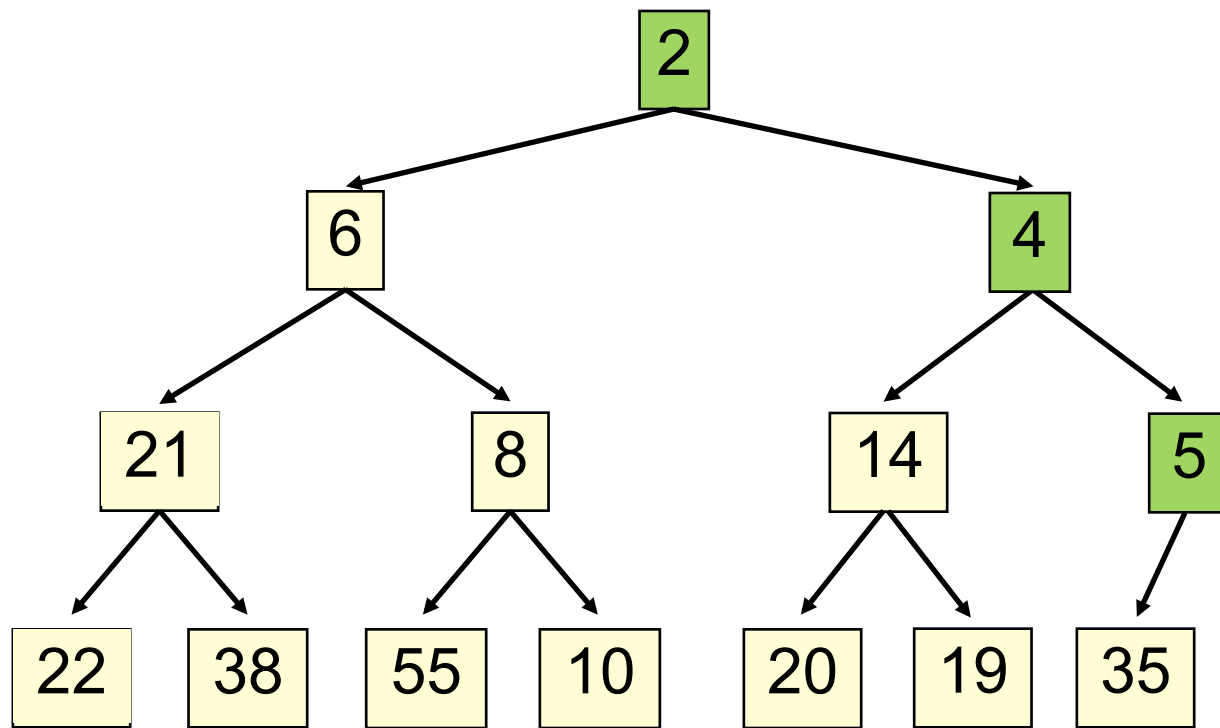




# add ()



# add ()



# add() to a tree of size n

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- Time is  $O(\log n)$ , since the tree is balanced
  - size of tree is exponential as a function of depth
  - depth of tree is logarithmic as a function of size

## add() --assuming there is space

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```
/** An instance of a heap */
class Heap<E> {
    E[] b= new E[50]; //heap is b[0..n-1]
    int n= 0;         // heap invariant is true

    /** Add e to the heap */
    public void add(E e) {
        b[n]= e;
        n= n + 1;
        bubbleUp(n - 1); // given on next slide
    }
}
```

## add () . Remember, heap is in b[0..n-1]

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```
class Heap<E> {  
    /** Bubble element #k up to its position.  
     * Pre: heap inv holds except maybe for k */  
    private void bubbleUp(int k) {  
        int p= (k-1)/2;    // p is the parent of k  
        // inv: p is parent of k and  
        // every other elt satisfies the heap inv  
        while (k>0  &&  b[k].compareTo(b[p]) < 0) {  
            swap(b[k], b[p]);  
            k= p;  
            p= (k-1)/2;  
        }  
    }  
}
```

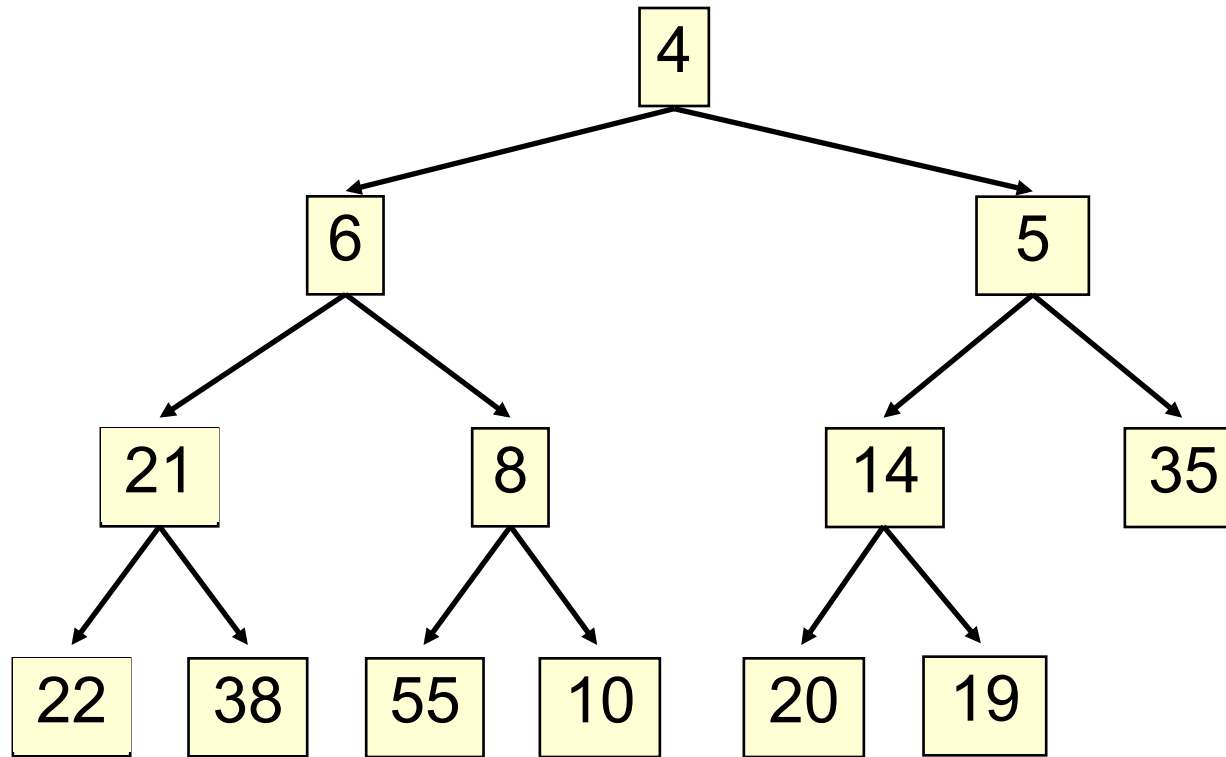
# poll()

30

- Remove the least element and return it – (at the root)
- This leaves a hole at the root – fill it in with the last element of the array
- If this violates heap order because the root element is too big, swap it down with the smaller of its children
- Continue swapping it down until it finds its rightful place
- The heap invariant is maintained!

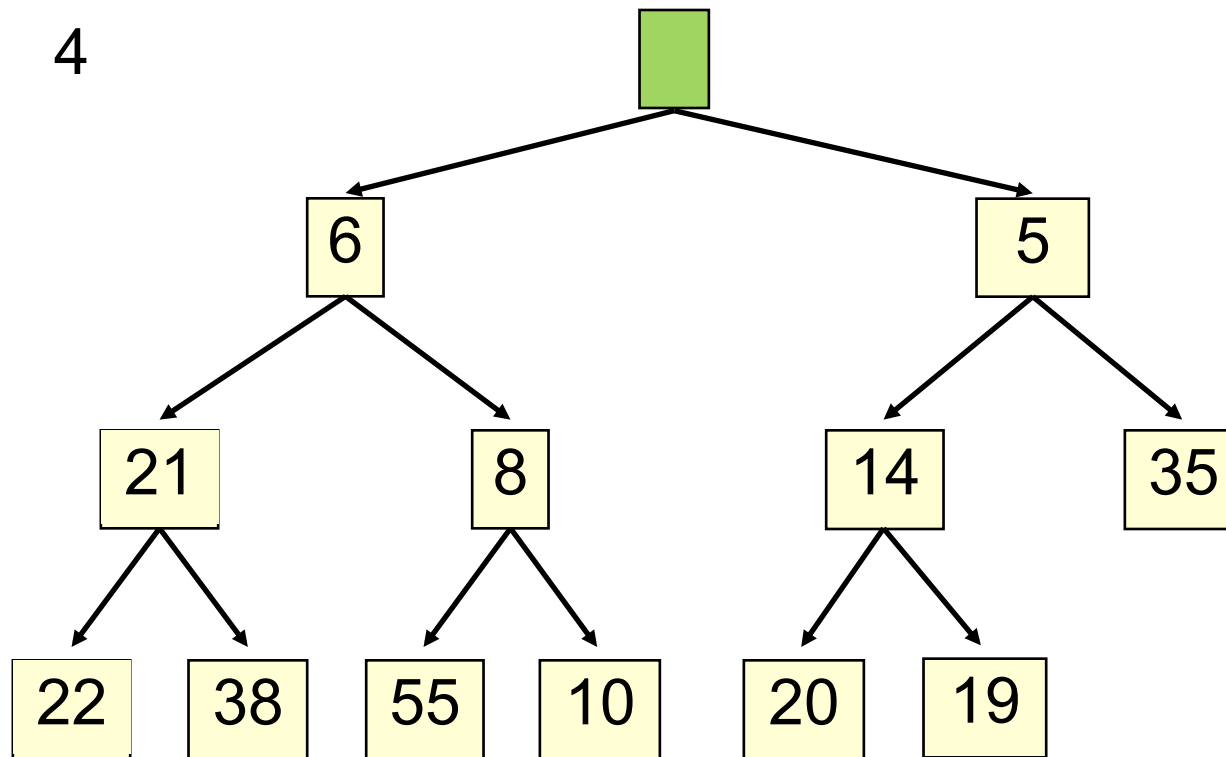
# poll()

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# poll()

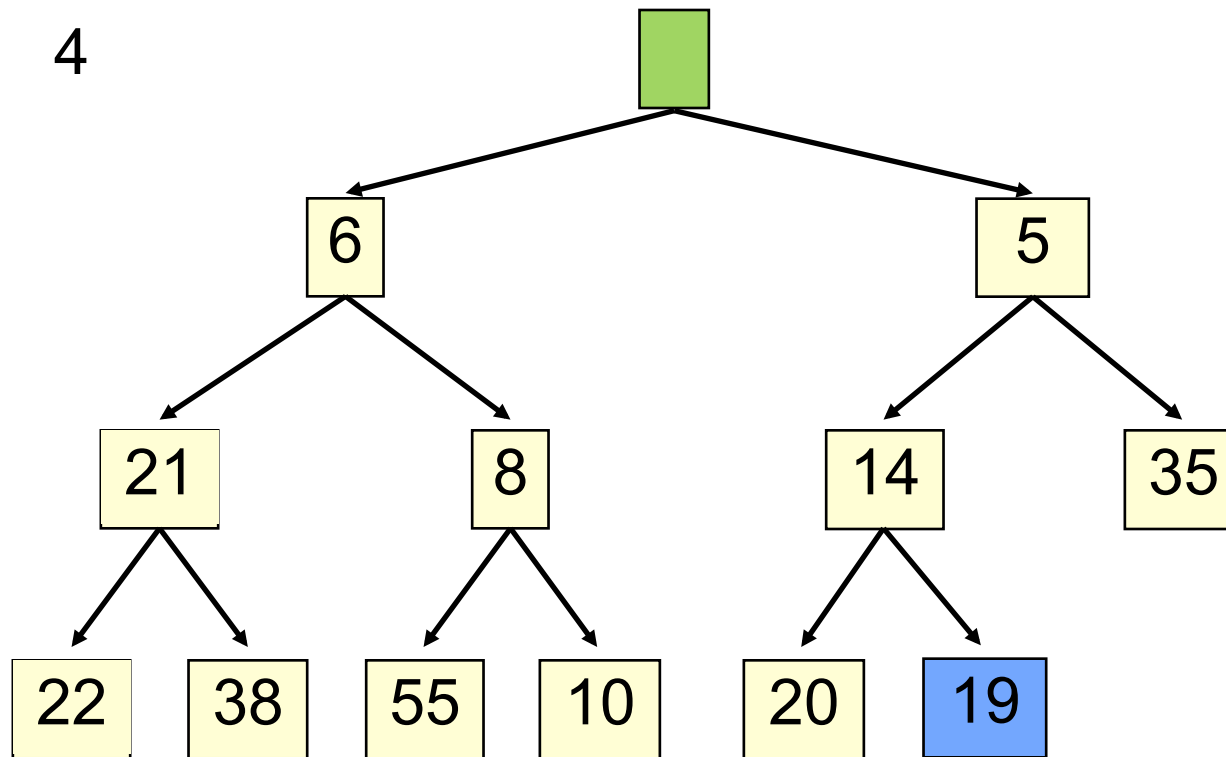
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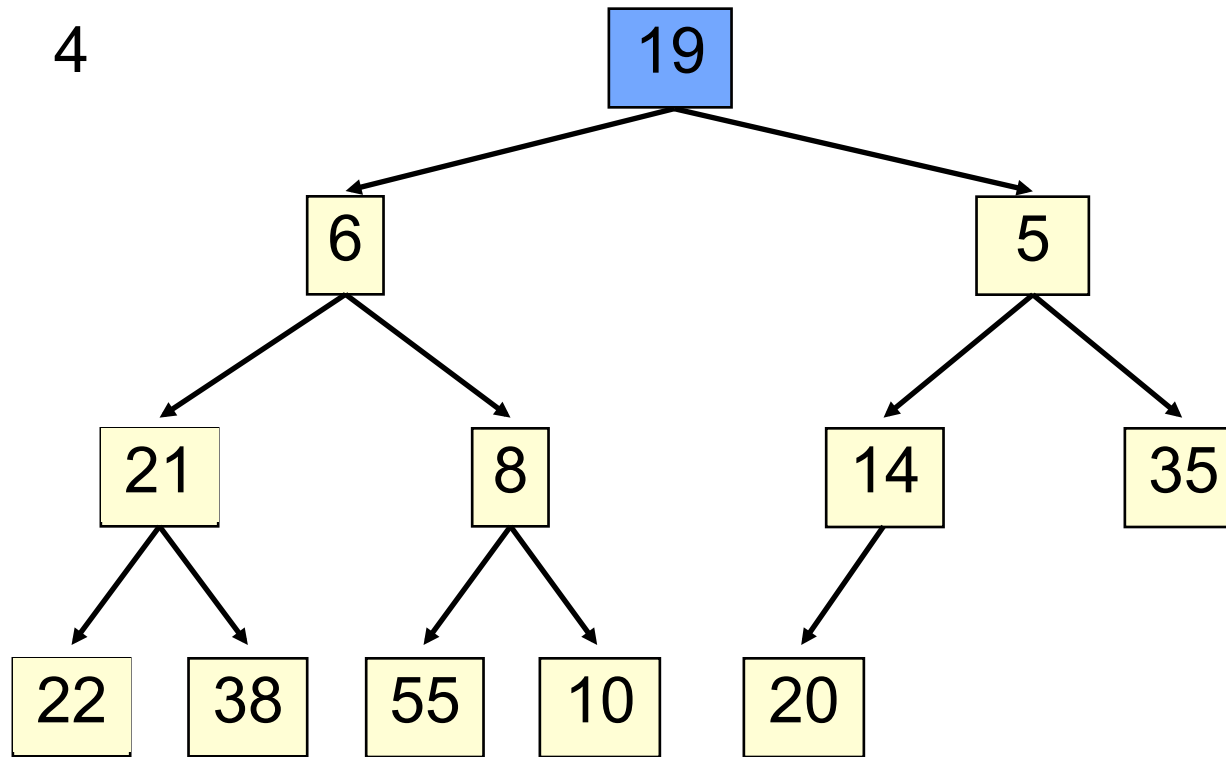
# poll()

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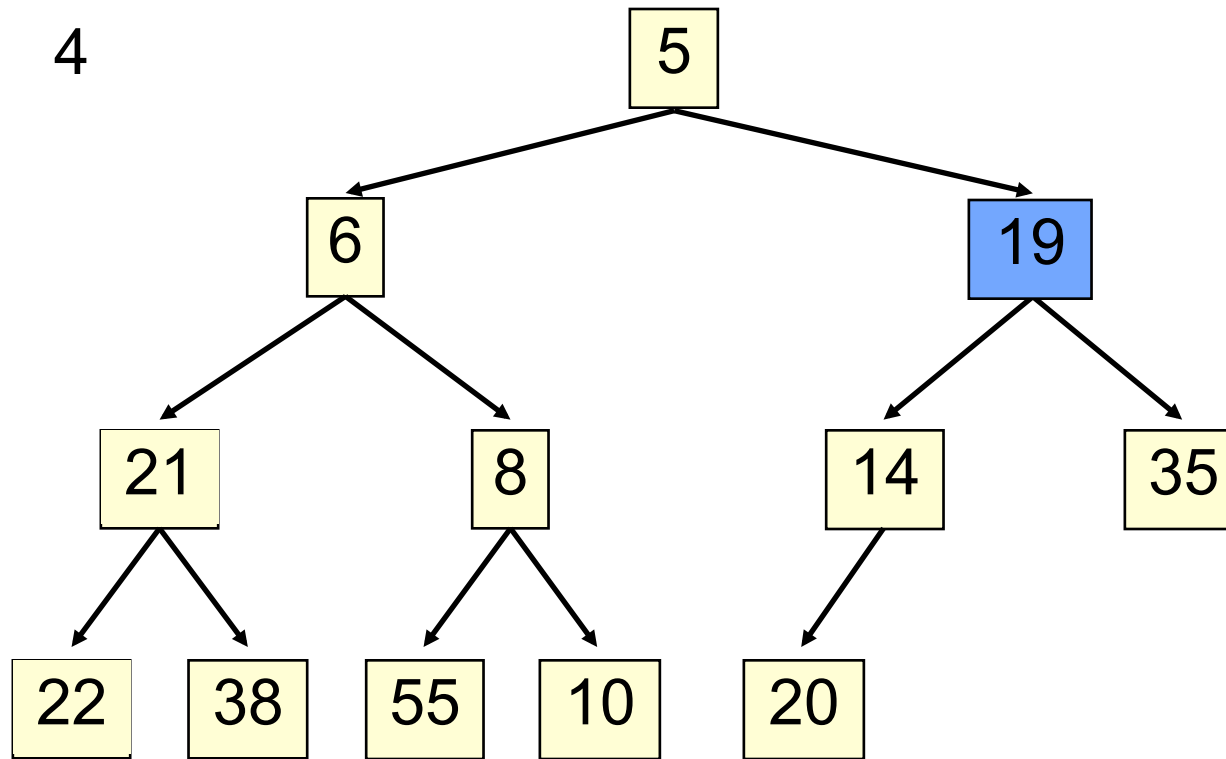
# poll()

34



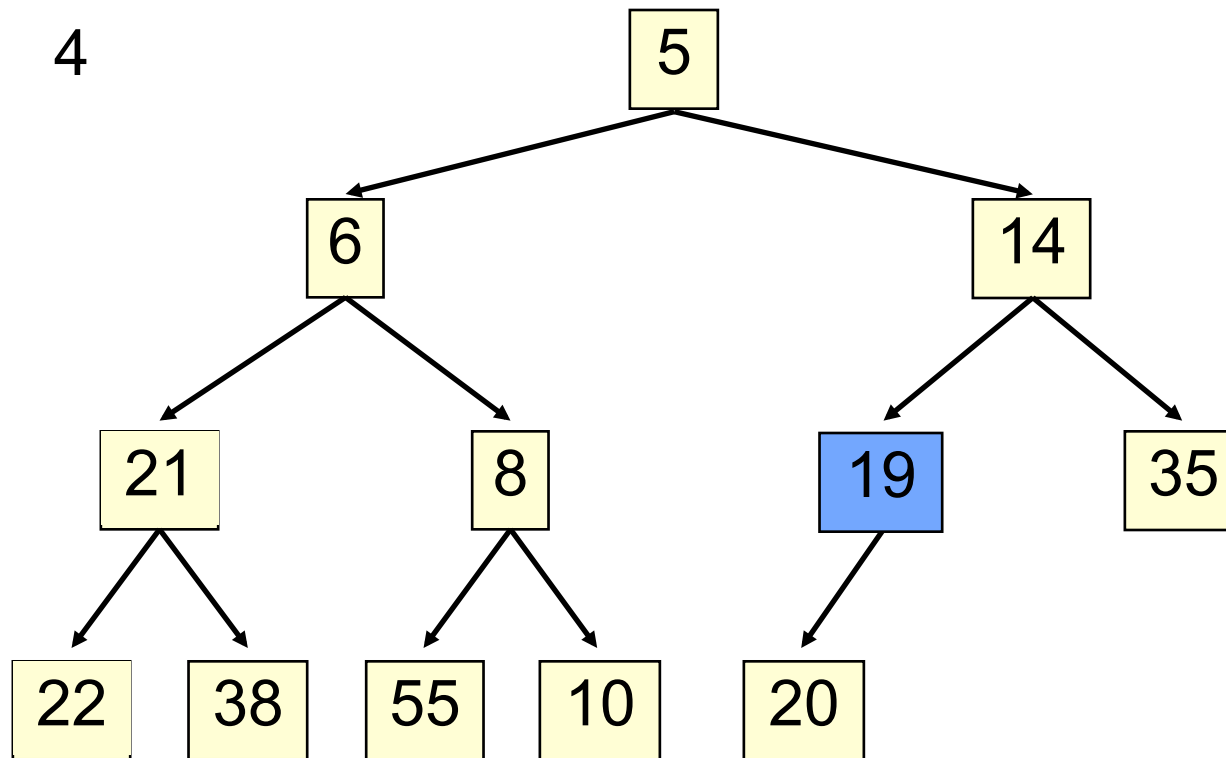
# poll()

35



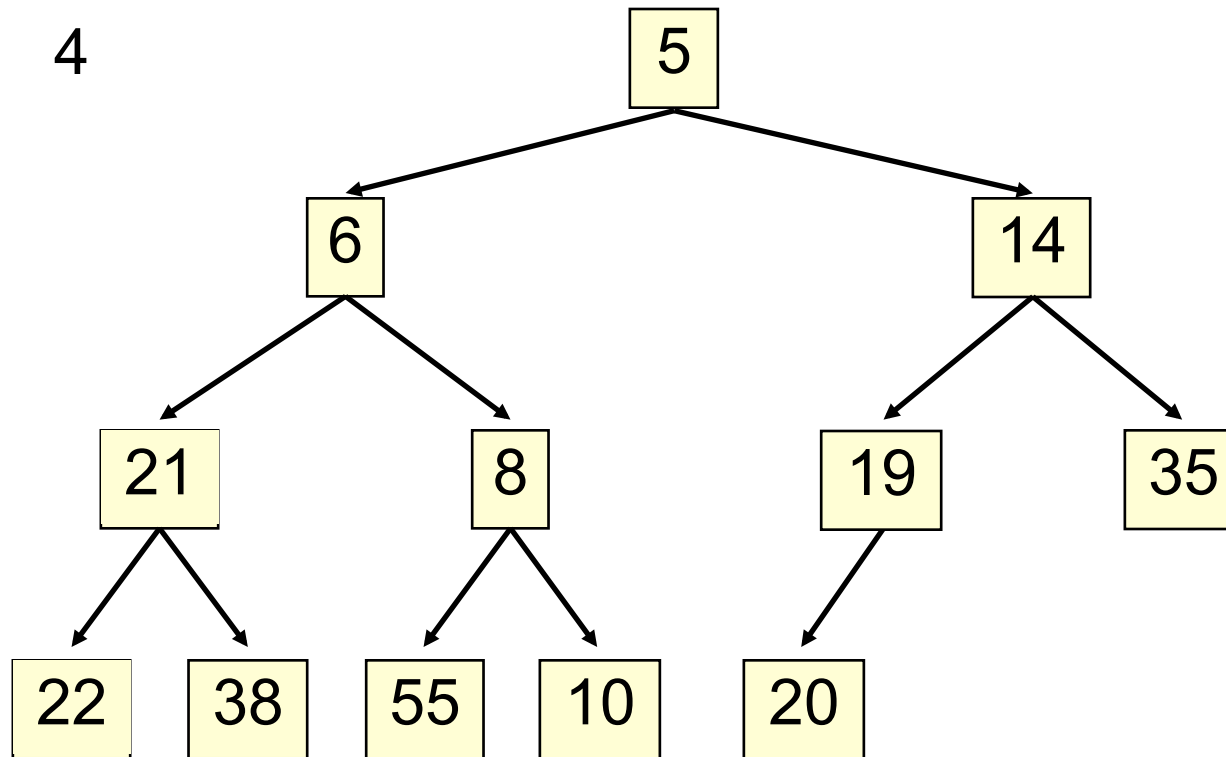
# poll()

36



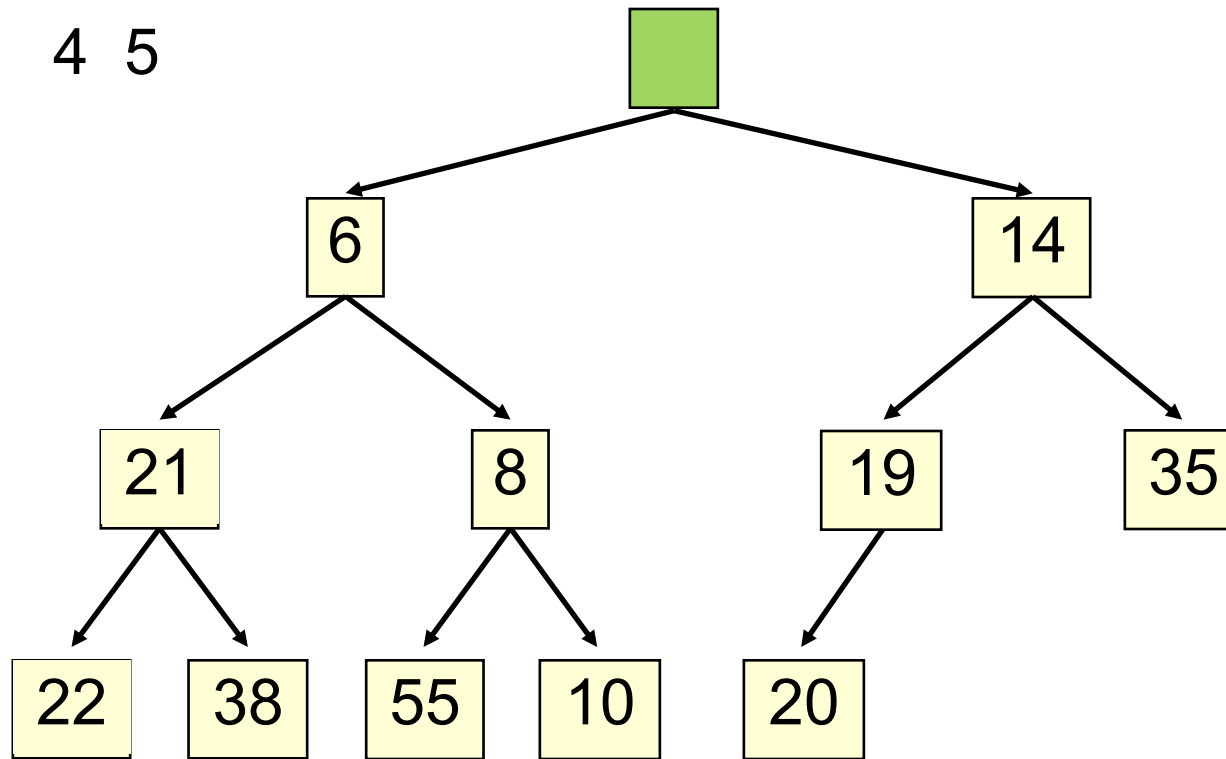
# poll()

37



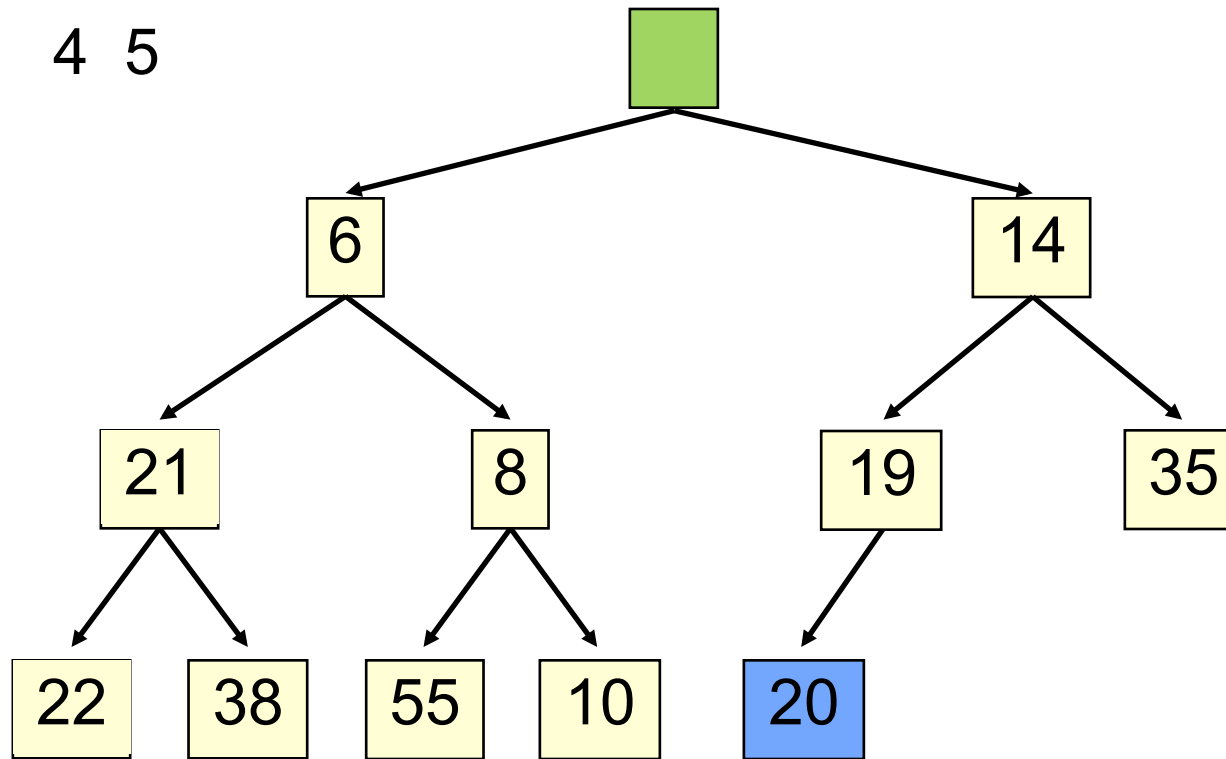
# poll()

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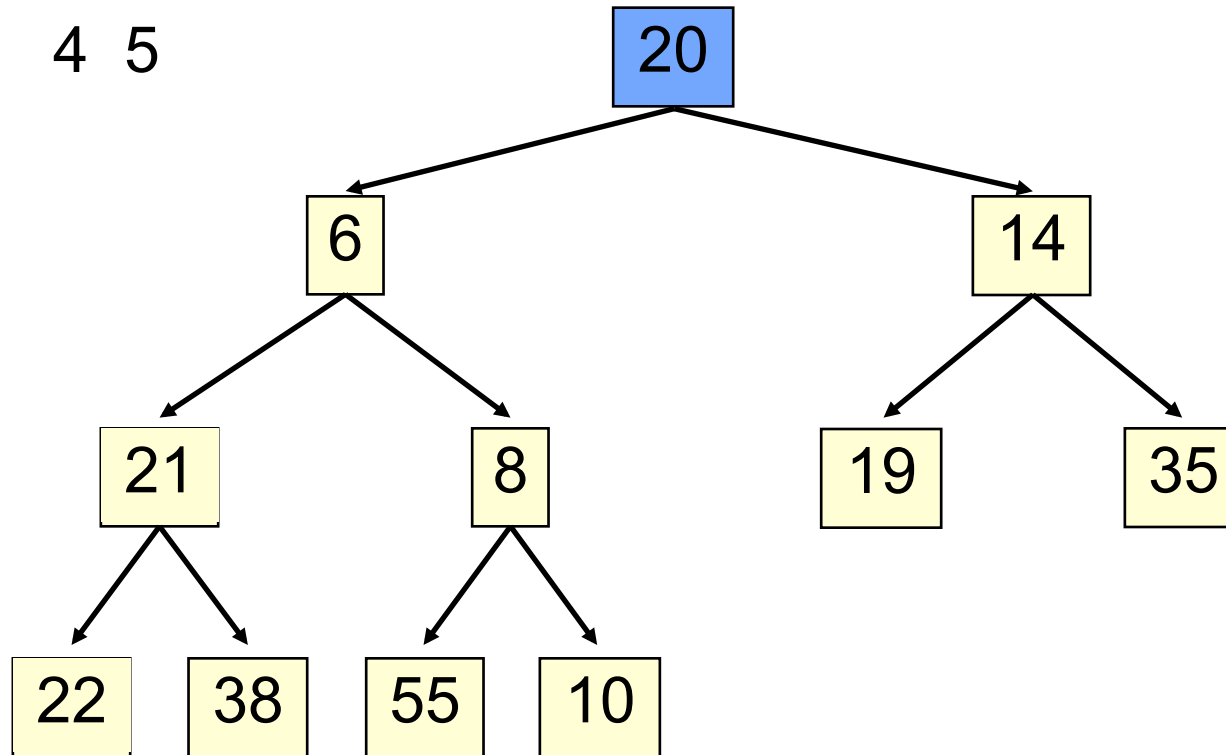
# poll()

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# poll()

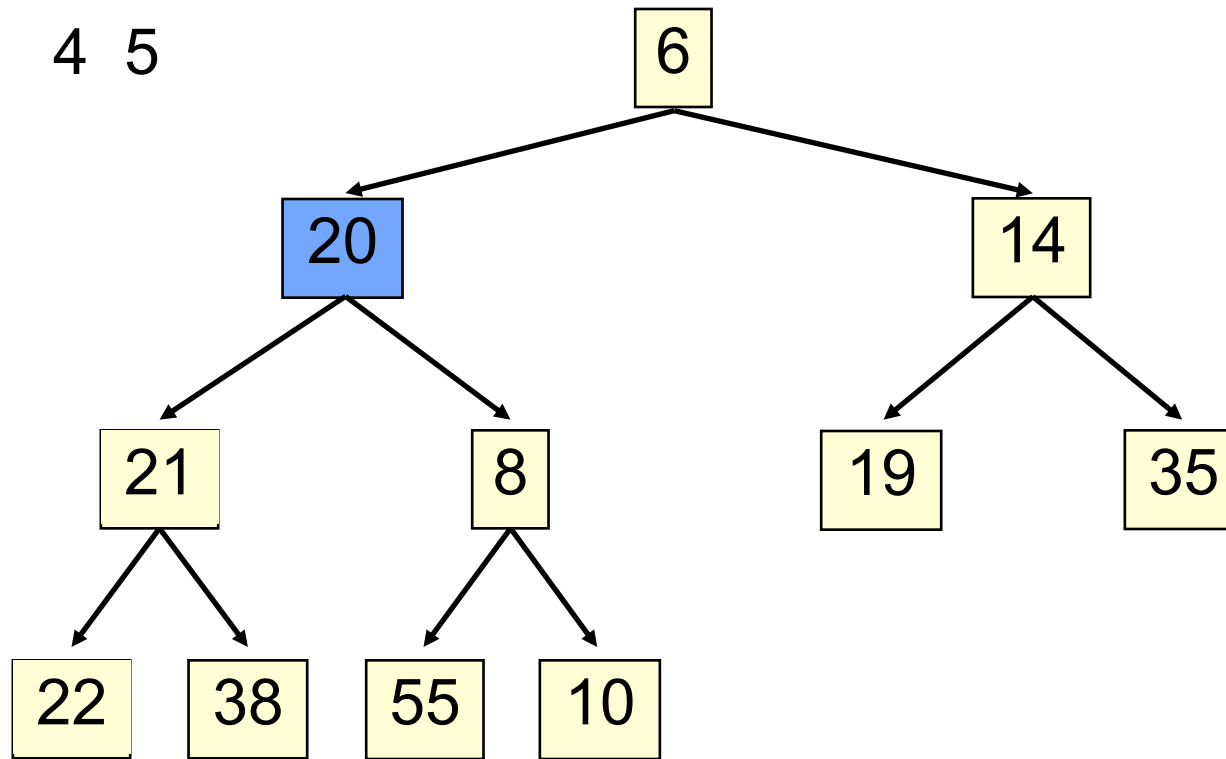
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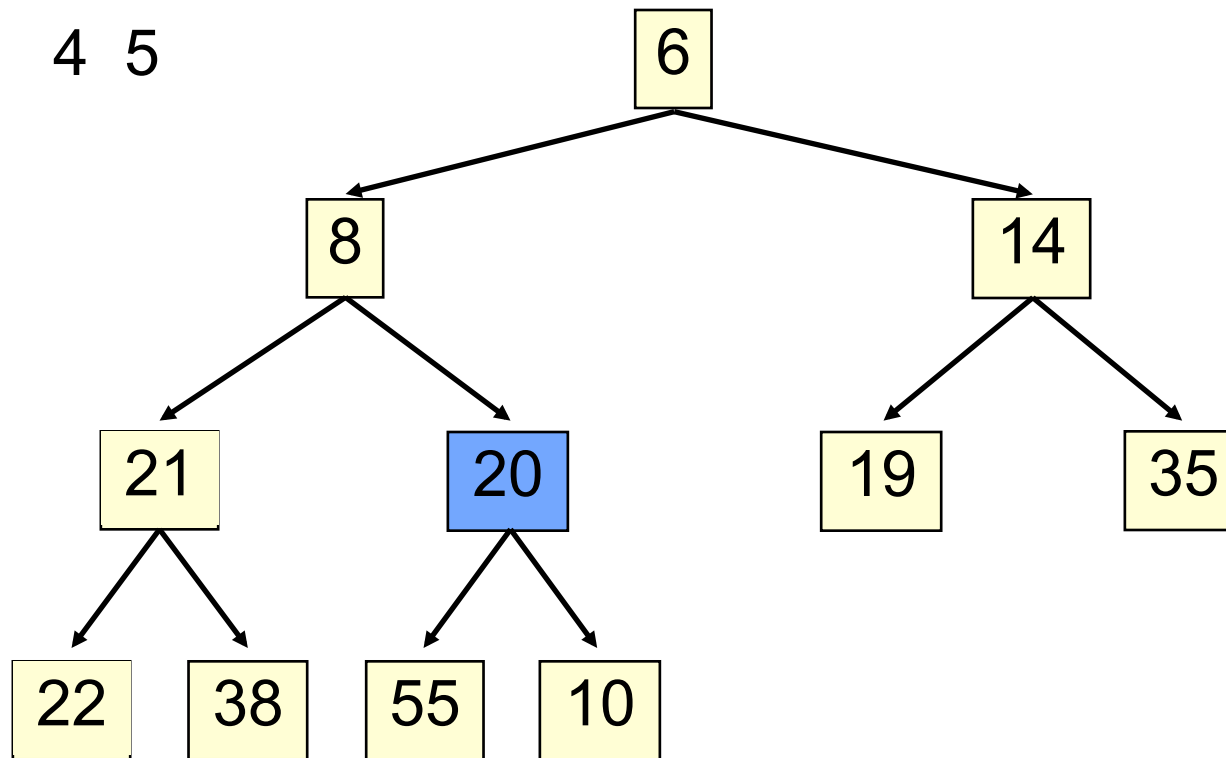
# poll()

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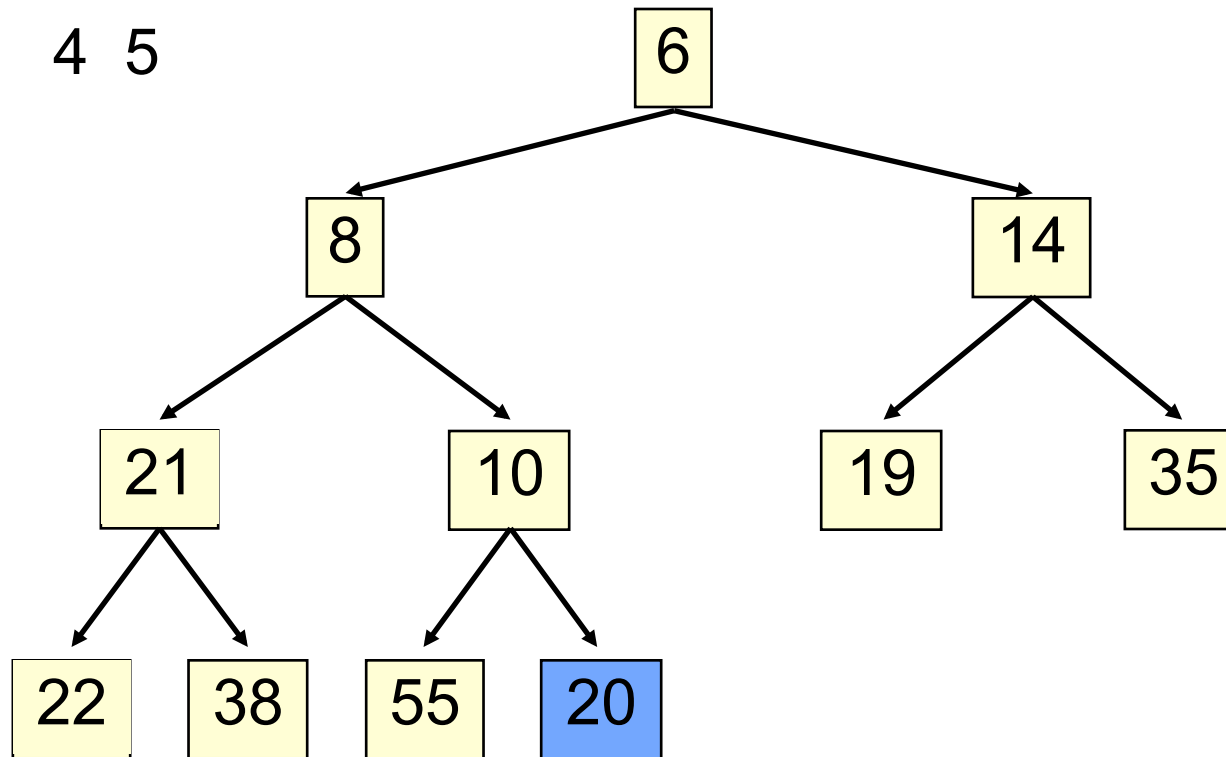
# poll()

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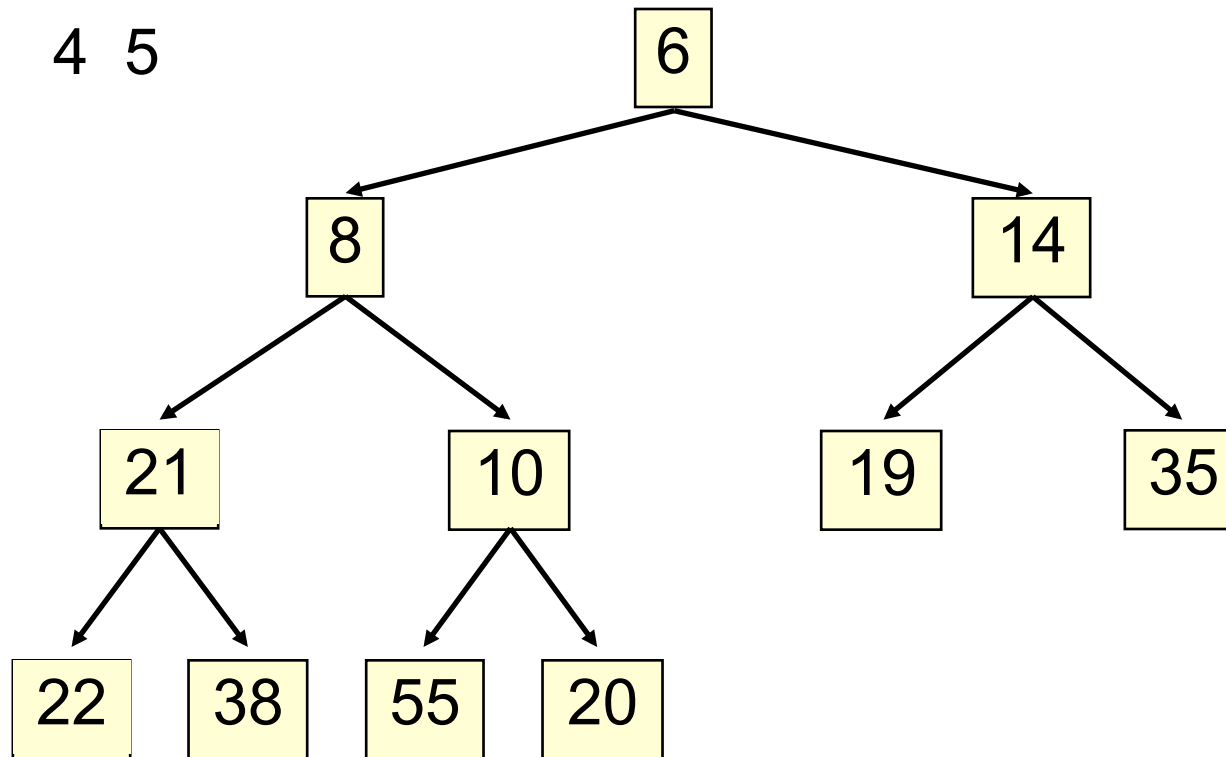
# poll()

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# poll()

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# poll ()

45

Time is  $O(\log n)$ , since the tree is balanced

## `poll()` . Remember, heap is in `b[0..n-1]`

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```
/** Remove and return the smallest element
 * (return null if list is empty) */
public E poll() {
    if (n == 0) return null;
    E v=  b[0];    // smallest value at root
    b[0]= b[n-1]; // move last elt to root
    n= n - 1;
    bubbleDown(0);
    return v;
}
```

```
/** Bubble root down to its heap position.  
    Pre: b[0..n-1] is a heap except maybe b[0] */  
private void bubbleDown() {  
    int k= 0;  
    // Set c to smaller of k's children  
    int c= 2*k + 2;    // k's right child  
    if (c >= n || b[c-1].compareTo(b[c]) < 0)  
        c= c-1;  
    // inv: b[0..n-1] is a heap except maybe b[k]  
    // Also, b[c] is b[k]'s smallest child  
    while (c < n && b[k].compareTo(b[c]) > 0) {  
        swap(b[k], b[c]);  
        k= c;  
        c= 2*k + 2; // k's right child  
        if (c >= n || b[c-1].compareTo(b[c]) < 0)  
            c= c-1;  
    }  
}
```

# Trouble changing heap behaviour a bit

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Separate priority from value and do this:

```
add(e, p); //add element e with priority p (a double)
```

THIS IS EASY!

Be able to change priority

```
change(e, p); //change priority of e to p
```

THIS IS HARD!

**Big question:** How do we find e in the heap?

Searching heap takes time proportional to its size! **No good!**

Once found, change priority and bubble up or down. **OKAY**



## HeapSort(b, n) —Sort b[0..n-1]

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**Whet your appetite** –use heap to get exactly  $n \log n$  in-place sorting algorithm. 2 steps, each is  $O(n \log n)$

1. Make b[0..n-1] into a **max**-heap (in place)
2. for (k= n-1; k > 0; k= k-1) {  
    b[k]= poll –i.e. take max element out of heap.  
}

We'll post this algorithm on course website

A **max**-heap has max value at root

# Many uses of priority queues & heaps

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Surface simplification [Garland and Heckbert 1997]

- Mesh compression: quadric error mesh simplification
- Event-driven simulation: customers in a line
- Collision detection: "next time of contact" for colliding bodies
- Data compression: Huffman coding
- Graph searching: Dijkstra's algorithm, Prim's algorithm
- AI Path Planning: A\* search
- Statistics: maintain largest  $M$  values in a sequence
- Operating systems: load balancing, interrupt handling
- Discrete optimization: bin packing, scheduling
- Spam filtering: Bayesian spam filter