

# CMSC 341

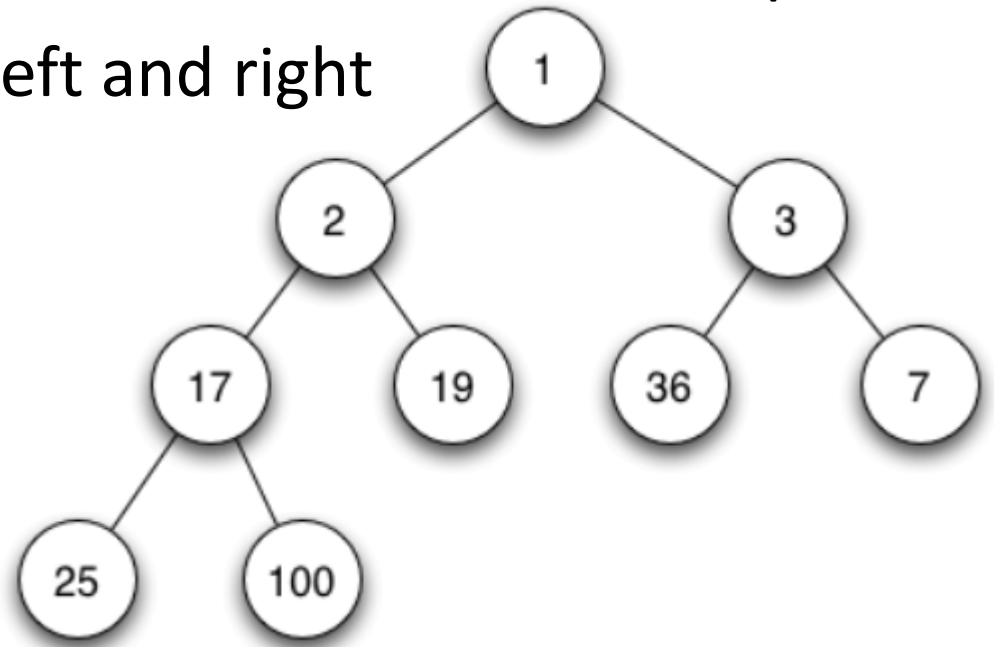
## Lecture 15 Leftist Heaps

Prof. John Park

# Review of Heaps

# Min Binary Heap

- A **min binary heap** is a...
  - Complete binary tree
  - Neither child is smaller than the value in the parent
  - No order between left and right
- In other words, smaller items go above larger ones



# Min Binary Heap Performance

- Performance
  - (n is the number of elements in the heap)
- construction  $O(n)$
- **findMin()**  $O(1)$
- **insert()**  $O(\lg n)$
- **deleteMin()**  $O(\lg n)$

# Introduction to Leftist Heaps

# Leftist Heap Concepts

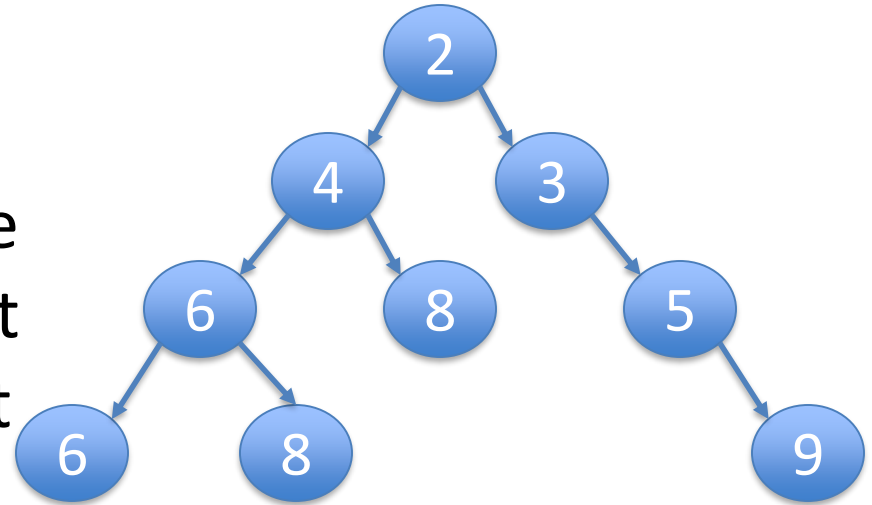
- Structurally, a leftist heap is a **min tree** where each node is marked with a **rank** value
  - The *rank* of a node is the depth of the nearest leaf
- Uses a binary tree
  - The tree is not balanced, however—just the opposite
- Use a true tree
  - May use already established links to merge with a new node

# Leftist Heap Concepts

- True heap: values do obey heap order
- Uses a *null path length* (*npl*) to maintain the structure (related to *s-value* or *rank*)
  - Additional constraint: the *npl* of a node's left child is  $\geq$  *npl* of the right child
- At every node, the shortest path to a non-full node is along the rightmost path

# Leftist Heap Example

- A leftist heap, then, is a purposefully **unbalanced** binary tree (leaning to the left, hence the name) that keeps its smallest value at the top



- Benefit: has an inexpensive merge operation



# Leftist Heap Performance

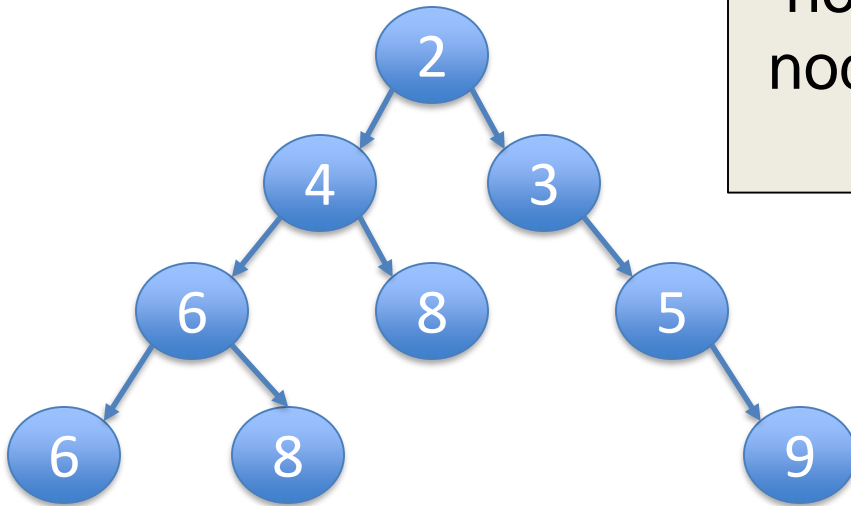
- Leftist Heaps support:
  - `findMin()` =  $O(1)$
  - `deleteMin()` =  $O(\log n)$
  - `insert()` =  $O(\log n)$
  - `construct` =  $O(n)$
  - `merge()` =  $O(\log n)$

# Null Path Length (npl)

- Length of **shortest** path from current node (X) to a node **without** 2 children
  - analogous to path to dummy leaf in full tree w/internal value nodes), minus 1
- leaves:  $npl = 0$
- nodes with only 1 child:  $npl = 0$

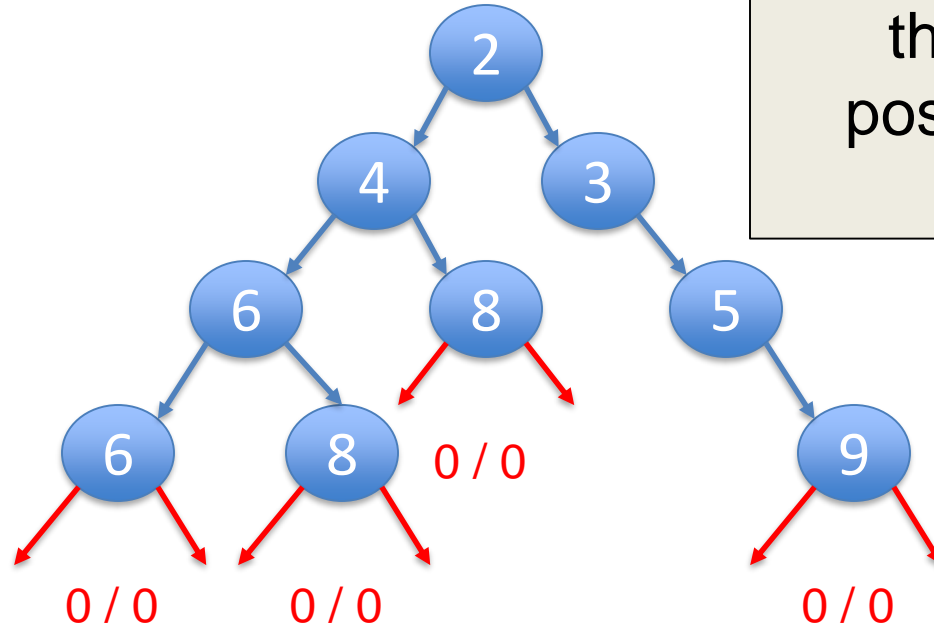
# Null Path Length (npl) Calculation

To calculate the npl for each node, we look to see how many nodes we need to traverse to get to an open node



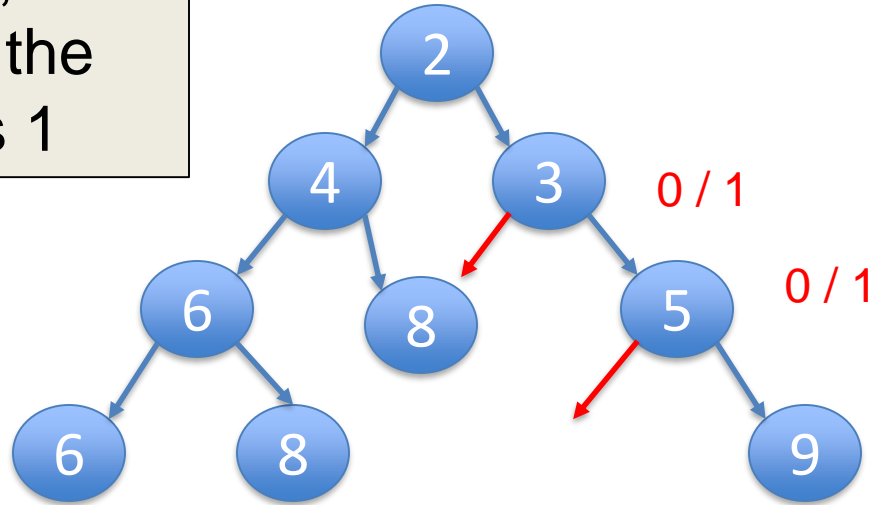
# Null Path Length (npl) Calculation

In the leaves case,  
there is a null  
position 0 nodes  
away

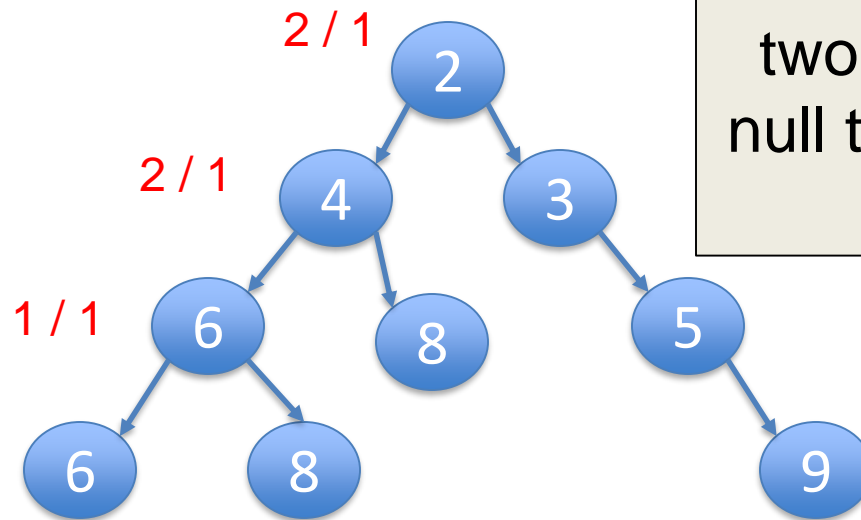


# Null Path Length (npl) Calculation

In these cases, one side is 0 and the other side is 1



# Null Path Length (npl) Calculation



In the root, it will take two levels to get to null to the left; one to the right.

# Leftist Node

- The node for a leftist heap will have an additional member variable tracking npl
  - links (left and right)
  - element (data)
  - npl

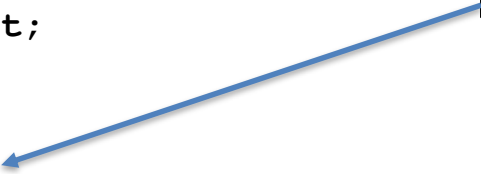
# Leftist Node Code

```
private:
    struct LeftistNode
    {
        Comparable    element;
        LeftistNode *left;
        LeftistNode *right;
        int           npl;

        LeftistNode( const Comparable & theElement, LeftistNode *lt = NULL,
                    LeftistNode *rt = NULL, int np = 0 )
            : element( theElement ), left( lt ), right( rt ), npl( np ) { }
    };

    LeftistNode *root;
```

Looks like a binary tree node except the npl being stored.





# Building a Leftist Heap

# Building a Leftist Heap

- Value of node still matters
  - Still a min Heap, so min value will be root
- Data entered is random
- Uses current npl of a node to determine where the next node will be placed

# Merging Nodes/Subtrees

- Place lower value as (sub)root, higher value as right child. If the lower node already has right child, then recursively merge the higher valued node with the the right child (ultimately equiv. to “place as far right as possible”)
- After merging, the npl of the lower valued node might have changed, so recompute

# Merging Nodes/Subtrees (cont)

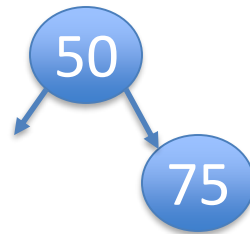
- If the lower-valued node does not have left child, swing right child to the left
- If lower-valued node does have left child, then order children so left has higher npl

# Moves in Building Leftist Heap

New leftist heap with  
one node

50

# Moves in Building Leftist Heap

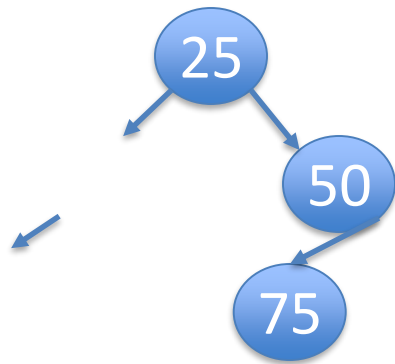


Normal insertion of a new node into the tree value 75.

First place as far **right** as possible.

Then swing left to satisfy npls.

# Moves in Building Leftist Heap

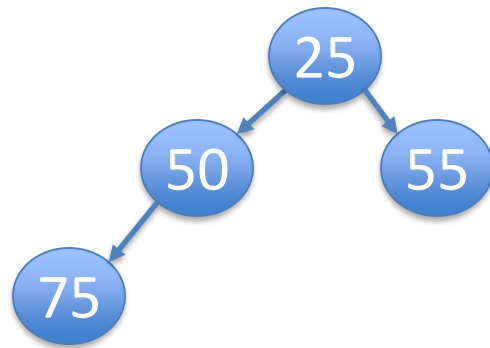


Normal insertion of a new node into the tree value 25.

As this is a min Tree, 25 is the new root.

Then swing left to satisfy npls.

# Moves in Building Leftist Heap

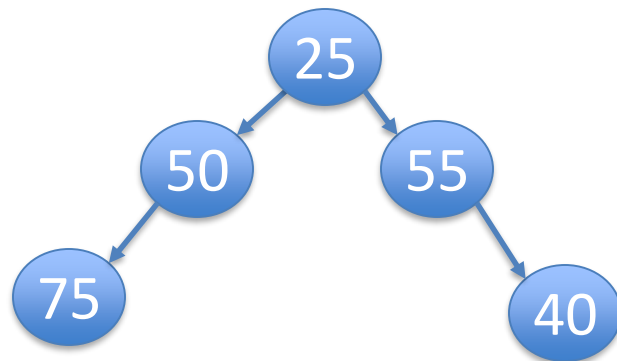


Normal insertion of a new node into the tree value 55.

No swing required.



# Moves in Building Leftist Heap

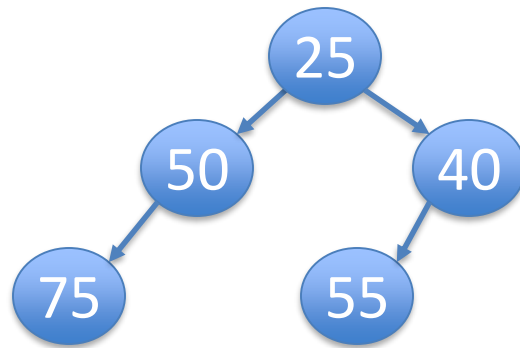


What is wrong with this?

Normal insertion of a new node into the tree value 40.

Not a min heap at this point. Need to swap 40 and 55 and swing.

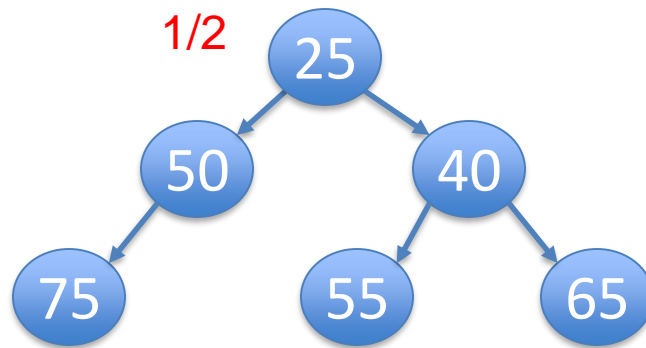
# Moves in Building Leftist Heap



Normal insertion of a new node into the tree value 40.

Not a min heap at this point. Need to swap 40 and 55 and swing.

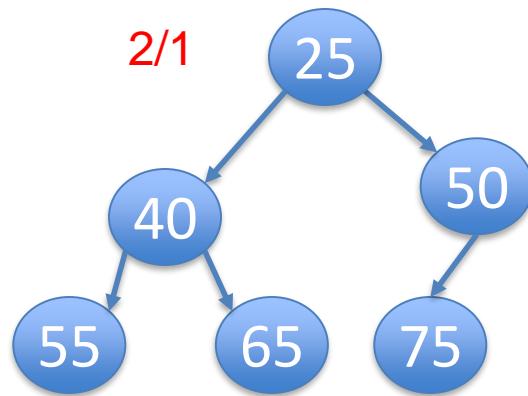
# Moves in Building Leftist Heap



Normal insertion of a new node into the tree value 65.

While this is still a min heap, the npl at the root is leftist

# Moves in Building Leftist Heap



We need change this from 1/2 to 2/1 so that it remains leftist.

To do this, we switch the left and the right subtrees.

After we do the swap, the npl of the root is compliant.

# Leftist Heap Algorithm

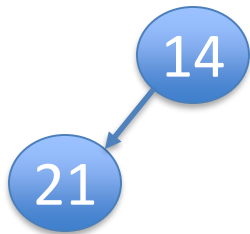
- Add new node to right-side of tree, in order
- If new node is to be inserted as a parent (parent  $<$  children)
  - make new node parent
  - link children to it
  - link grandparent down to new node (**now new parent**)
- If leaf, attach to right of parent
- If no left sibling, push to left (hence left-ist)
- Else left node is present, leave at right child
- Update all ancestors' npls
- Check each time that all nodes left npl  $>$  right npls
  - if not, swap children or node where this condition exists

# Building a Leftist Heap Example

~~24~~, 14, 17, 10, 3, 23,  
26, 8

# Building a Leftist Heap Example

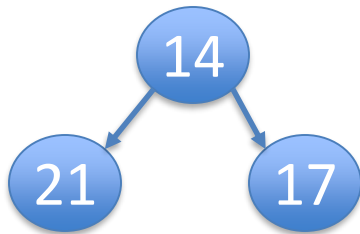
~~21~~, 14, 17, 10, 3, 23,  
26, 8



Insert 14 as the new root

# Building a Leftist Heap Example

~~21~~, 14, ~~17~~, 10, 3, 23,  
26, 8

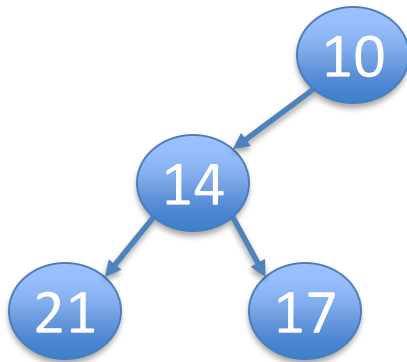


Insert 17 as the right  
child of 14



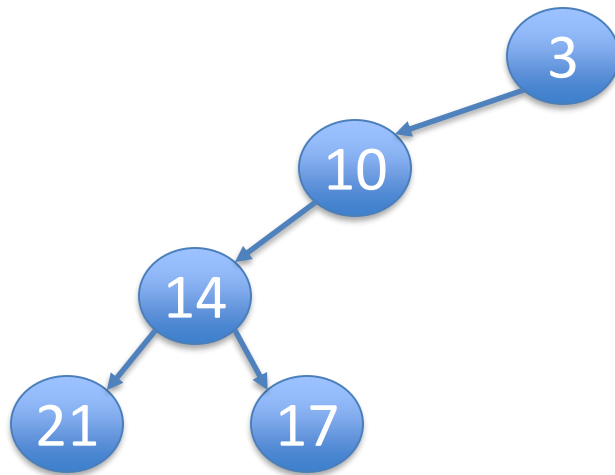
# Building a Leftist Heap Example

~~21, 14, 17, 10, 3, 23,~~  
26, 8



Insert 10 as the new root

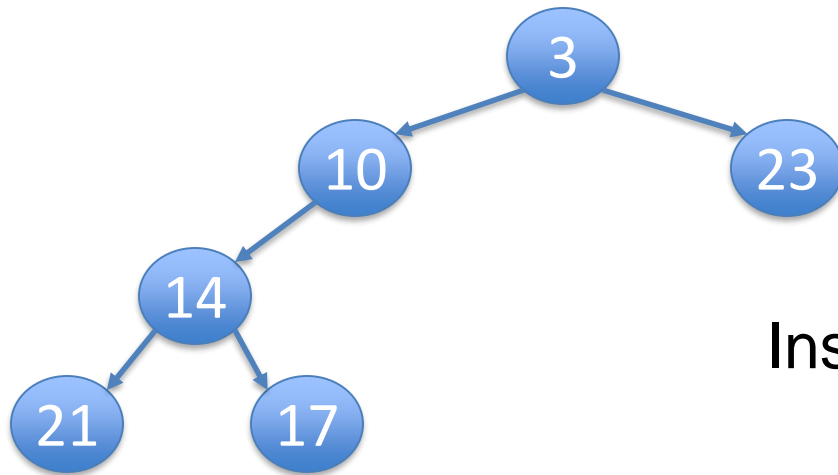
# Building a Leftist Heap Example



21, 14, 17, 10, 3, 23,  
26, 8

Insert 3 as the new root

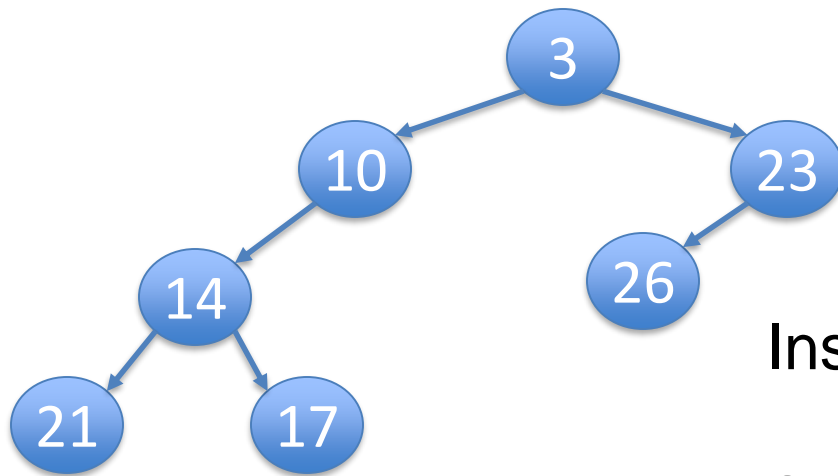
# Building a Leftist Heap Example



~~21, 14, 17, 10, 3, 23,~~  
26, 8

Insert 23 as the right  
child of 3

# Building a Leftist Heap Example

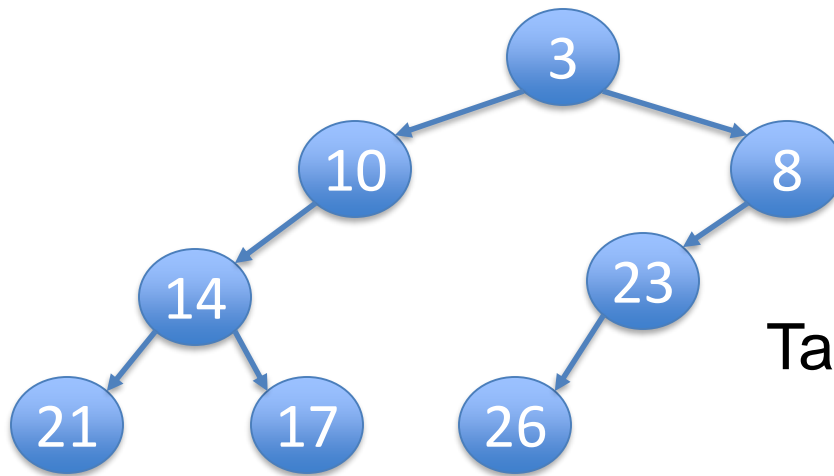


21, 14, 17, 10, 3, 23,  
26, 8

Insert 26 as the right  
child of 23

Swing 26 to the left

# Building a Leftist Heap Example



21, 14, 17, 10, 3, 23,  
26, 8

Take the right subtree of  
root 3: nodes 23 & 26  
Insert 8 as the new root  
(parent of 23)  
Reattach to original root

# Leftist Heap Animation

- <https://www.cs.usfca.edu/~galles/visualization/LeftistHeap.html>

# Merging Leftist Heaps

# Merging Leftist Heaps

- Leftist heaps actually optimized for merging entire trees
- Adding a single node is treated as special case: merging a heap of one node with an existing heap's root



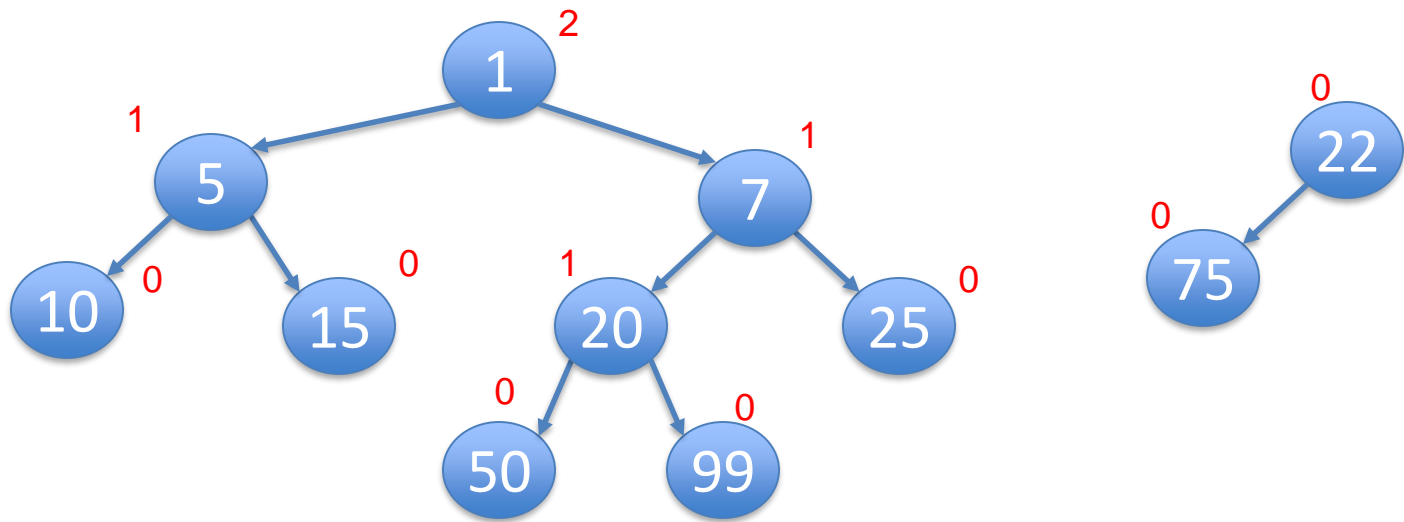
# Merging Leftist Heaps

- The two constituent heaps we are about to merge must already be leftist heaps
- Result will be a new leftist heap

# Merging Leftist Heaps

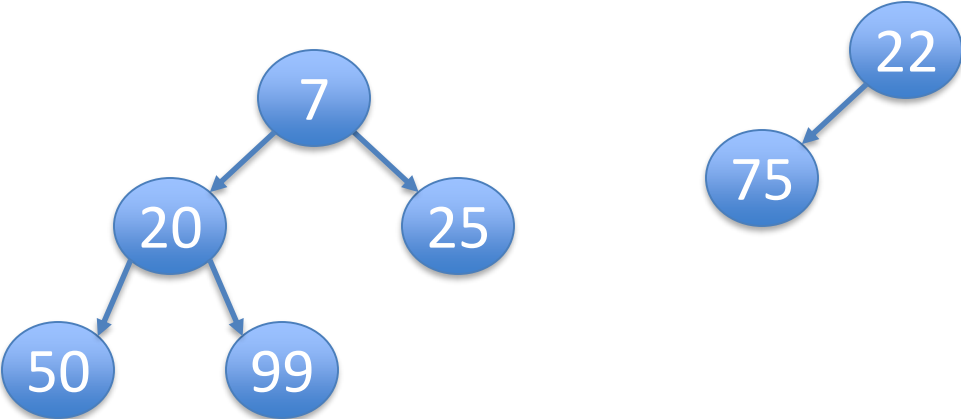
- The Merge procedure takes two leftist trees, A and B, and returns a leftist tree that contains the union of the elements of A and B. In a program, a leftist tree is represented by a pointer to its root.

# Merging Leftist Heaps Example



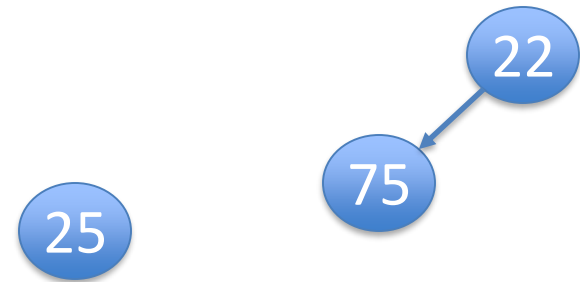
Where should we attempt to merge?

# Merging Leftist Heaps Example



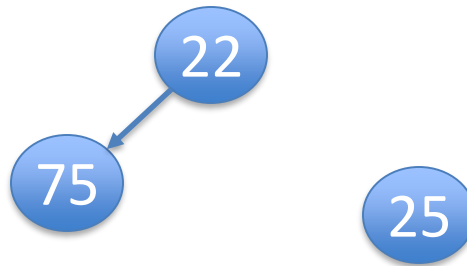
In the right sub-tree

# Merging Leftist Heaps Example



All the way down to  
the right most node

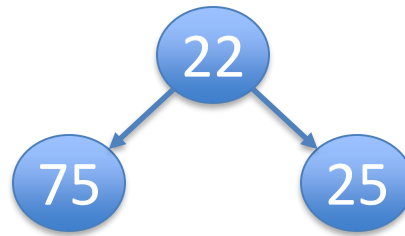
# Merging Leftist Heaps Example



As there are two nodes in the right subtree, swap.

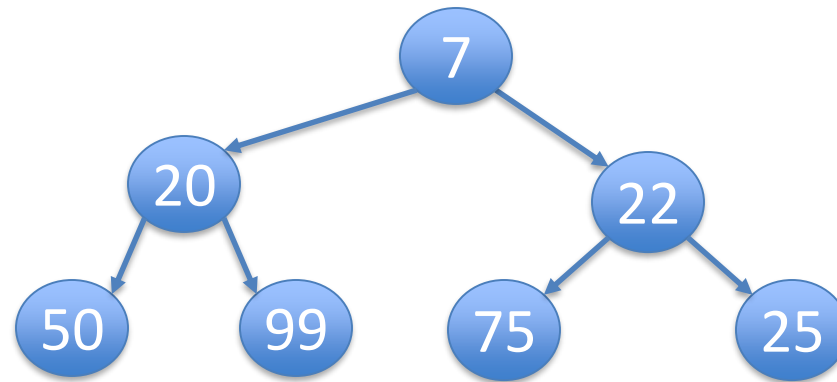
Important: We don't "split" a heap, so 22 must be the parent in this merge

# Merging Leftist Heaps Example



Merge two subtrees

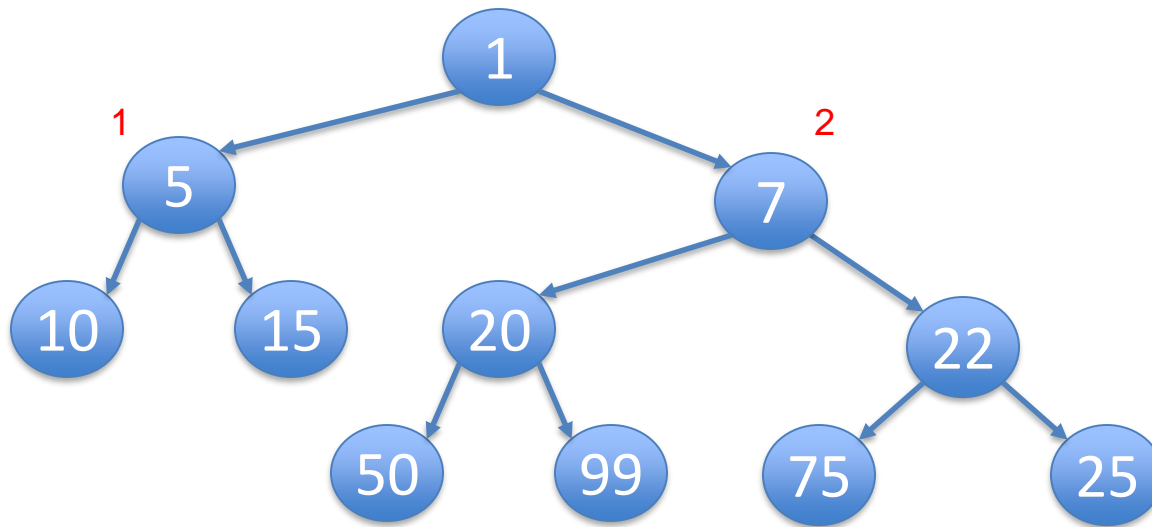
# Merging Leftist Heaps Example



Next level of the tree

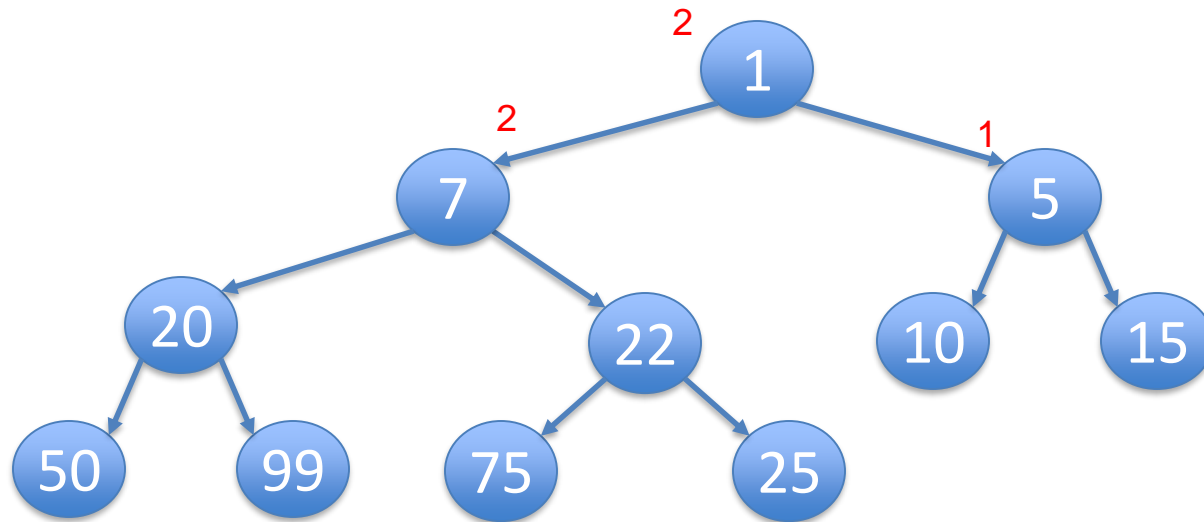


# Merging Leftist Heaps Example



Right side of the tree has a npl of 2 so we need to swap

# Merging Leftist Heaps Example



Now the highest npl  
is on the left.

# Merging Leftist Heaps Code

```
/**
 * Merge rhs into the priority queue.
 * rhs becomes empty. rhs must be different from this.
 */
void merge( LeftistHeap & rhs )
{
    if( this == &rhs )    // Avoid aliasing problems
        return;

    root = merge( root, rhs.root );
    rhs.root = NULL;
}
```

# Merging Leftist Heaps Code

```
/**
 * Internal method to merge two roots.
 * Deals with deviant cases and calls recursive merge1.
 */
LeftistNode * merge( LeftistNode *h1, LeftistNode *h2 )
{
    if( h1 == NULL )
        return h2;
    if( h2 == NULL )
        return h1;
    if( h1->element < h2->element )
        return merge1( h1, h2 );
    else
        return merge1( h2, h1 );
}
```

# Merging Leftist Heaps Code

```
/**
 * Internal method to merge two roots.
 * Assumes trees are not empty, & h1's root contains smallest item.
 */
LeftistNode * merge1( LeftistNode *h1, LeftistNode *h2 )
{
    if( h1->left == NULL ) // Single node
        h1->left = h2;      // Other fields in h1 already accurate
    else
    {
        h1->right = merge( h1->right, h2 );
        if( h1->left->npl < h1->right->npl )
            swapChildren( h1 );
        h1->npl = h1->right->npl + 1;
    }
    return h1;
}
```

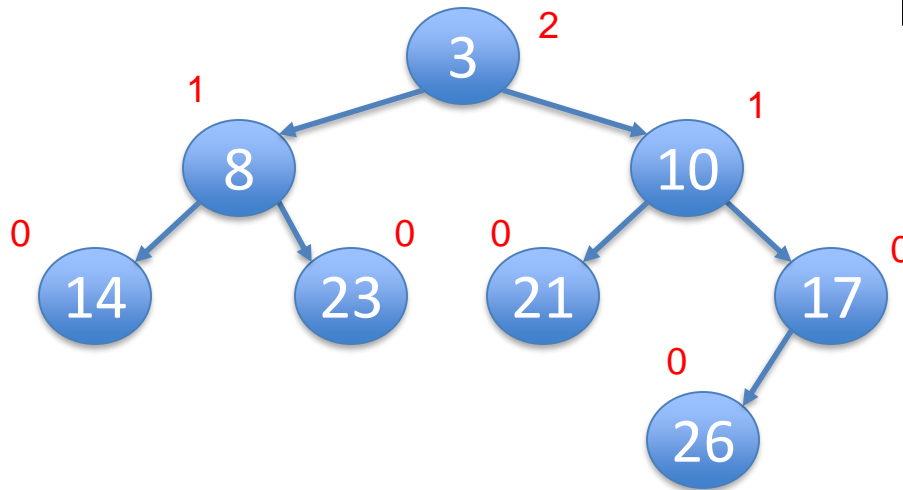
# Deleting from Leftist Heap

# Deleting from Leftist Heap

- Simple to just remove a node (since at top)
  - this will make two trees
- Merge the two trees like we just did

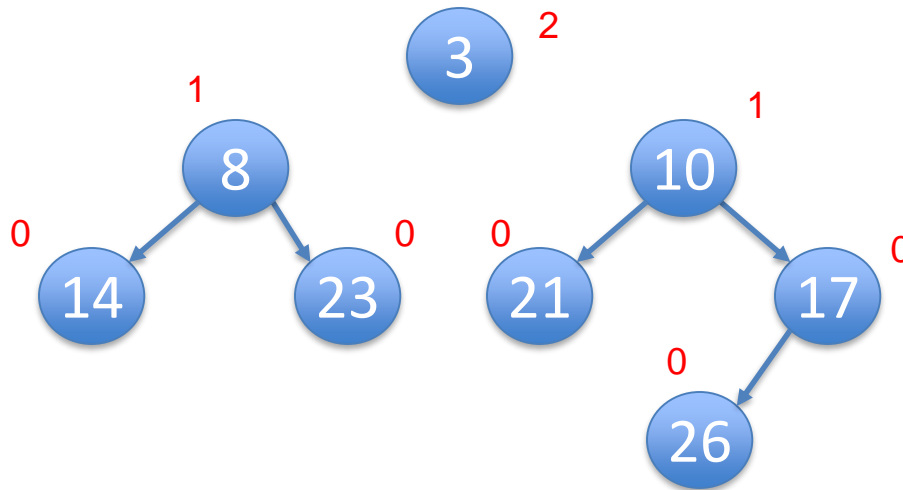
# Deleting from Leftist Heap

We remove the root.



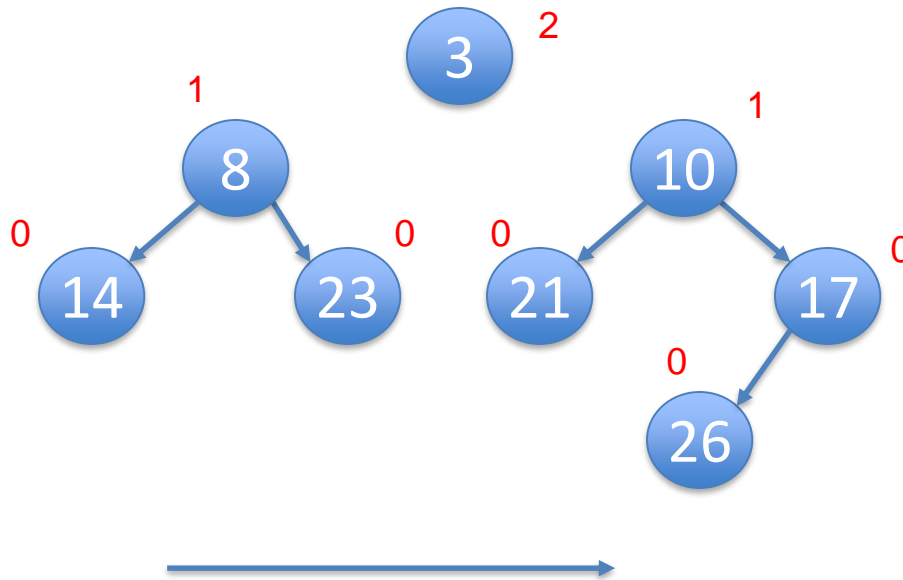


# Deleting from Leftist Heap



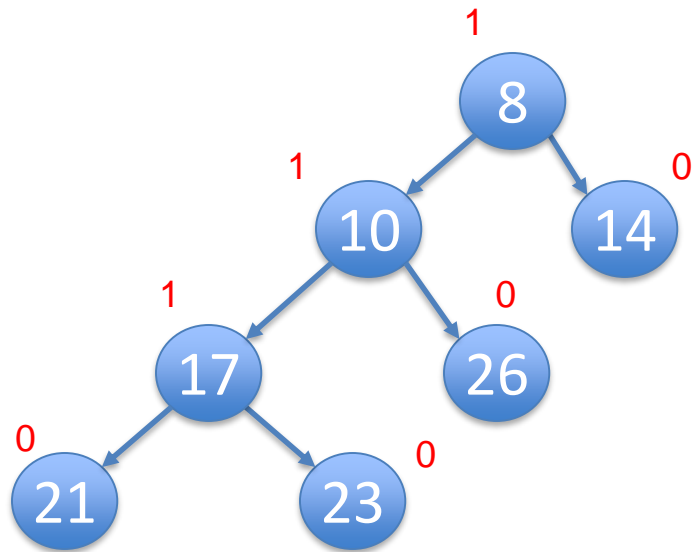
Then we do a merge and because min is in left subtree, we recursively merge right into left

# Deleting from Leftist Heap



Then we do a merge and because min is in left subtree, we recursively merge right into left

# Deleting from Leftist Heap



After Merge

# Leftist Heaps

- Merge with two trees of size  $n$ 
  - $O(\log n)$ , we are not creating a totally new tree!!
  - some was used as the LEFT side!
- Inserting into a left-ist heap
  - $O(\log n)$
  - same as before with a regular heap
- `deleteMin` with heap size  $n$ 
  - $O(\log n)$
  - remove and return root (minimum value)
  - merge left and right subtrees