

# *Data Structures*

## BST Homework 2

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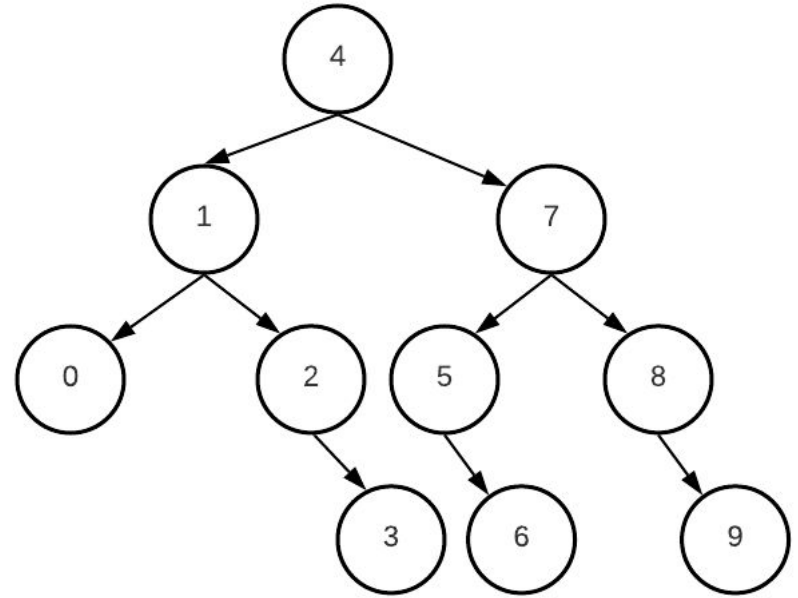
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# Problem #1: [LeetCode 98](#) - Validate Binary Search Tree

- Given the root of a binary tree, determine if it is a valid binary search tree (BST).
  - Consider this: A binary tree with **duplicate** value is not BST
- Describe 2 ***fundamentally different*** approaches to check that
  - Important! Don't simply code recursive and iterative versions of code following identical logic.
  - I want two distinct implementations

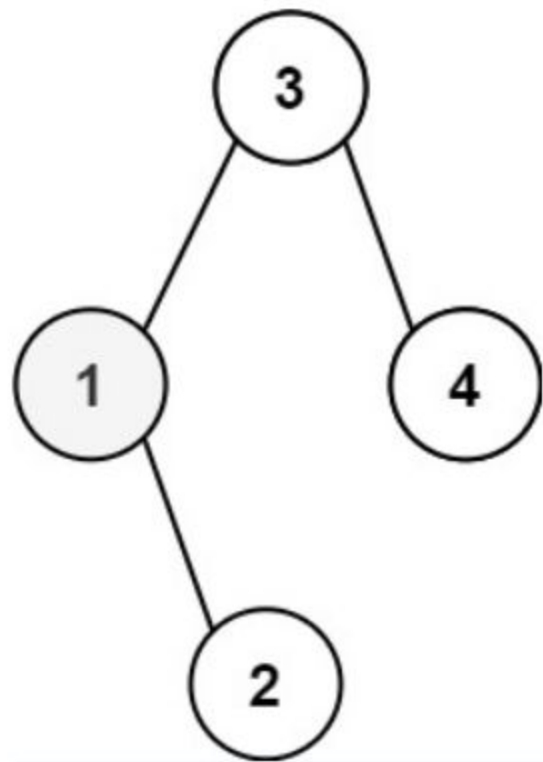
- Example: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9
- On the right side, there is only one way to make it a balanced BST



## Problem #2: [LeetCode 230](#) - Kth Smallest Element in a BST

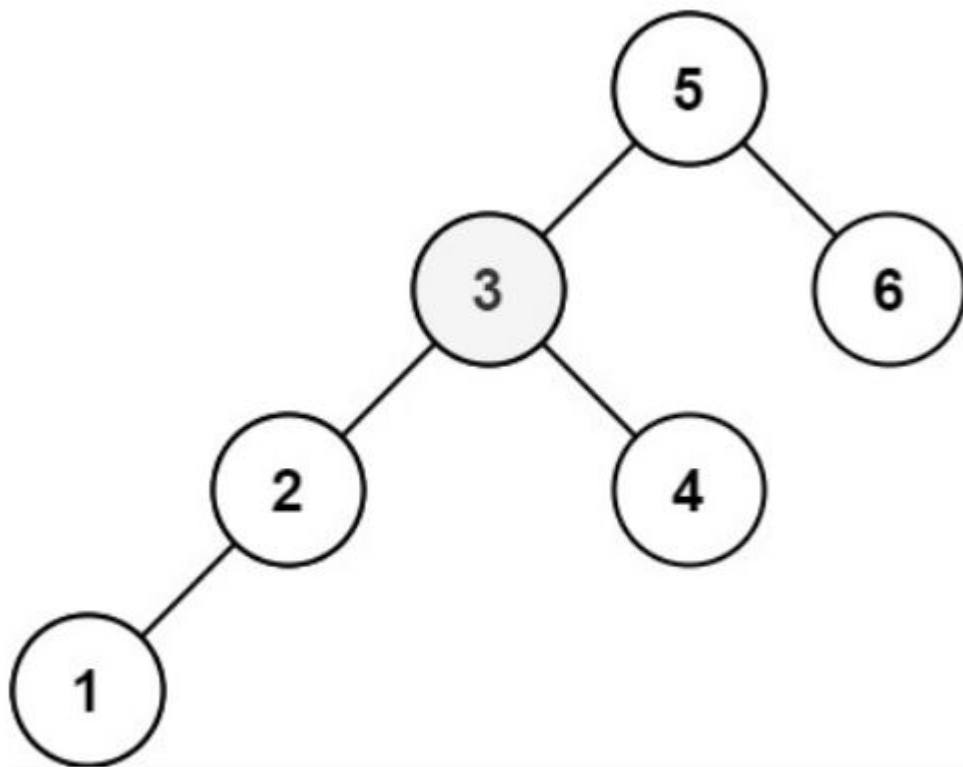
Given the `root` of a binary search tree, and an integer `k`, return the `kth` smallest value (**1-indexed**) of all the values of the nodes in the tree.

- A trivial way: compute inorder traversal, output is `inorder[k-1]`
  - Do something more efficient



**Input:** root = [3,1,4,null,2], k = 1

**Output:** 1

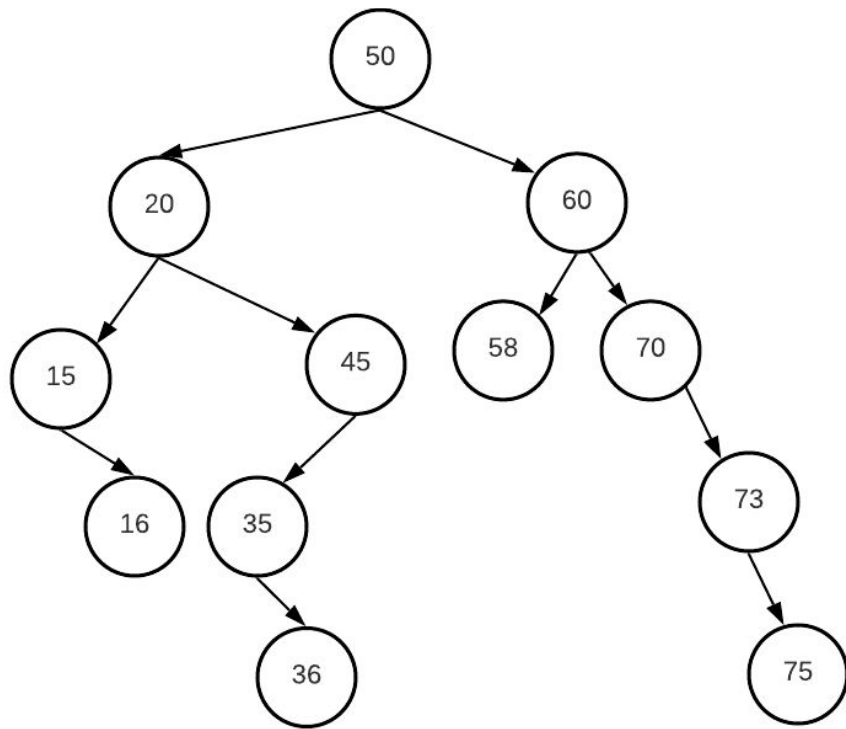


**Input:** root = [5,3,6,2,4,null,null,1], k = 3

**Output:** 3

## Problem #3: [LeetCode 235](#) - Lowest Common Ancestor of a Binary Search Tree

- Given **2 nodes**, find their LCA
- $LCA(x, y)$ : the farthest node from the root that is an ancestor for both  $x$  and  $y$ .
  - The root is common ancestor for any pair,, but we want to find the fareset from root
  - $LCA(16, 45) = 35$
  - $LCA(45, 36) = 45$
  - $LCA(15, 70) = 50$
  - $LCA(58, 70) = 60$
  - $LCA(36, 75) = 50$
  - $LCA(70, 75) = 70$



*“Acquire knowledge and impart it to the people.”*

*“Seek knowledge from the Cradle to the Grave.”*