

MA3 introduction

Tom Smedsaas

This module is about *data structures*, mostly *linked lists* and *trees*.

We will also discuss some new features:

- Operator overloading
- Iterators
- Generators

However this short lecture is just a repetition of what classes and objects are.

Everything in Python is an object

Examples:

- Numbers
- Strings
- Lists
- Dictionaries
- Functions
- Modules
- and more ...

Exceptions: +, <, in, not, and, for, if, [,), ...

Objects have properties

The function `dir` can be used to see the properties.

Example:

```
>>> dir(4.6)
```

```
['__abs__', '__add__', '__bool__', '__class__', '__delattr__', '__dir__', '__divmod__',  
 '__doc__', '__eq__', '__float__', '__floordiv__', '__format__', '__ge__', '__getattr__',  
 '__getformat__', '__getnewargs__', '__gt__', '__hash__', '__init__', '__init_subclass__',  
 '__int__', '__le__', '__lt__', '__mod__', '__mul__', '__ne__', '__neg__', '__new__',  
 '__pos__', '__pow__', '__radd__', '__rdivmod__', '__reduce__', '__reduce_ex__',  
 '__repr__', '__rfloordiv__', '__rmod__', '__rmul__', '__round__', '__rpow__', '__rsub__',  
 '__rtruediv__', '__set_format__', '__setattr__', '__sizeof__', '__str__', '__sub__',  
 '__subclasshook__', '__truediv__', '__trunc__', 'as_integer_ratio', 'conjugate', 'fromhex',  
 'hex', 'imag', 'is_integer', 'real']
```

```
>>> 4.6.__round__()
```

```
5
```

```
>>> round(4.6)
```

```
5
```

Python list properties

```
>>> dir(list)
['__add__', '__class__', '__contains__', '__delattr__', '__delitem__',
 '__dir__', '__doc__', '__eq__', '__format__', '__ge__', '__getattribute__',
 '__getitem__', '__gt__', '__hash__', '__iadd__', '__imul__', '__init__',
 '__init_subclass__', '__iter__', '__le__', '__len__', '__lt__', '__mul__',
 '__ne__', '__new__', '__reduce__', '__reduce_ex__', '__repr__', '__reversed__',
 '__rmul__', '__setattr__', '__setitem__', '__sizeof__', '__str__',
 '__subclasshook__', 'append', 'clear', 'copy', 'count', 'extend', 'index',
 'insert', 'pop', 'remove', 'reverse', 'sort']
```

Here we can see methods that we actually use, e.g. `append`, `reverse` and `sort`.

We can also see methods defining some list operators e.g. `__add__` for `+`, `__eq__` for `==` and `__le__` for `<=`.

These are called *dunder*, *magic* or *special methods*.

How create new types of objects?

Write a class!

Example from the traffic simulation in Prog 1:

```
class Vehicle:
    def __init__(self, destination, borntime):
        self.destination = destination
        self.borntime = borntime
```

Class name

Initializer or constructor

```
    def __str__(self):
        return f'Vehicle({self.destination}, {self.borntime})'
```

String representation

Usage:

```
car1 = Vehicle('Uppsala', 25)
car2 = Vehicle('Stockholm', 47)
print(car1)
print(car2)
print(car1.destination)
print(car2.destination)
print(car2.borntime)
```

Output:

```
Vehicle(Uppsala, 25)
Vehicle(Stockholm, 47)
Uppsala
Stockholm
47
```

Another example from the traffic simulation

```
class Light:
```

```
    def __init__(self, period, green_period):
        self._period = period
        self._green_period = green_period
        self._time = 0

    def is_green(self):
        return self._time < self._green_period

    def __str__(self):
        if self.is_green():
            return "(G)"
        else:
            return "(R)"

    def step(self):
        self._time = (self._time+1) % self._period
```

The constructor.
Three *instance variables*

Predicate: True or False

Special method for
converting to string

Time stepping

Usage of the Light class

Code:

```
s1 = Light(5,2)
s2 = Light(7,3)
s3 = s2
for i in range(8):
    print(i, s1, s2, s3)
    s1.step()
    s2.step()
```

Output:

```
0 (G) (G) (G)
1 (G) (G) (G)
2 (R) (G) (G)
3 (R) (R) (R)
4 (R) (R) (R)
5 (G) (R) (R)
6 (G) (R) (R)
7 (R) (G) (G)
```

Link to the traffic simulation lesson in [English](#) and in [Swedish](#)

Another example

```
class Person:
    def __init__(self, name):
        self.name = name
        self.children = []

    def __str__(self):
        return f"{self.name} : {str([s.name for s in self.children])}"

    def add_child(self, child):
        self.children.append(child)
```

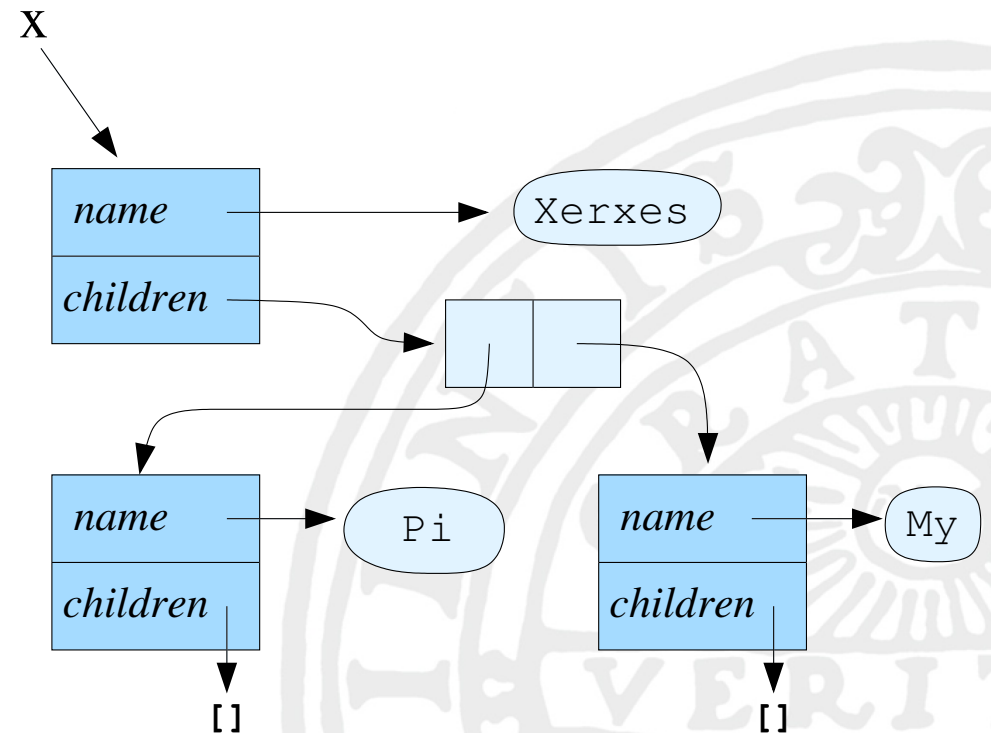

Usage of the class Person

Code:

```
x = Person("Xerxes")  
x.add_child(Person("Pi"))  
x.add_child(Person("My"))  
print(x)
```

Output:

```
Xerxes : ['Pi', 'My']
```



Summary

- Classes are used to define new types of objects
- A class contains methods and data attributes
- The `__init__` method is used to initialize an object
- The method definitions must have `self` as the first parameter
- The method `__str__` is used to define a string representation of the object
- Other special methods can define other operations on the objects (`__lt__`, `__eq__`, ...)

You will see more examples in the coming material.



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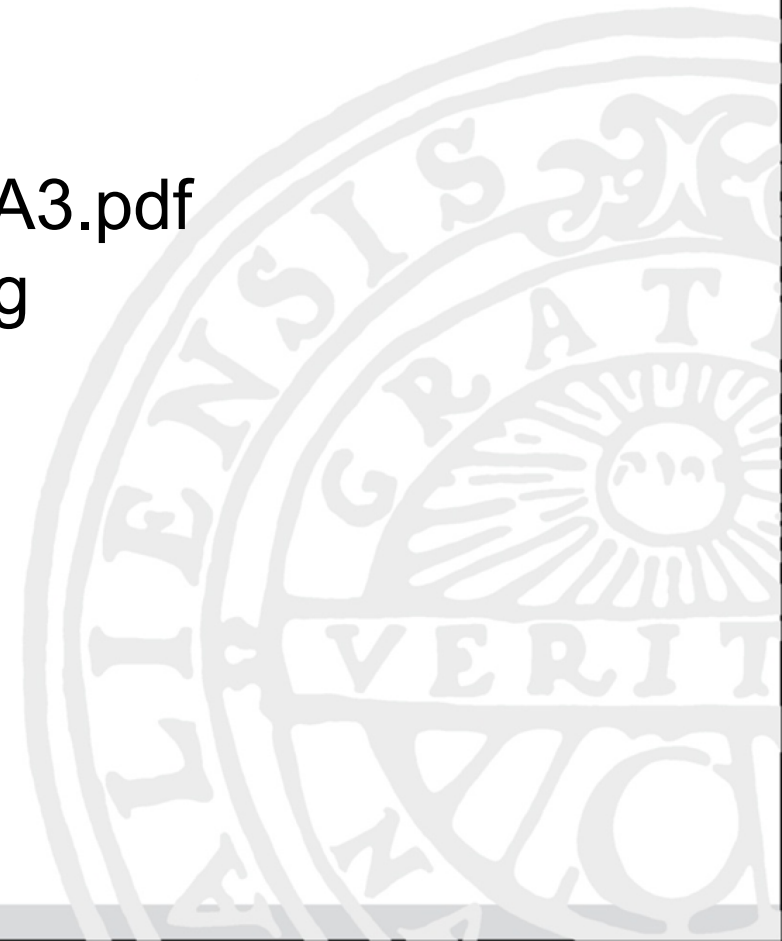
The end



MA3: Linked Lists

Tom Smedsaas

In this lecture we will discuss basic techniques for handling *linked lists*. It covers the first 11 pages in the MA3.pdf document i.e. up to but not including “Iterators and generators”.



Python lists

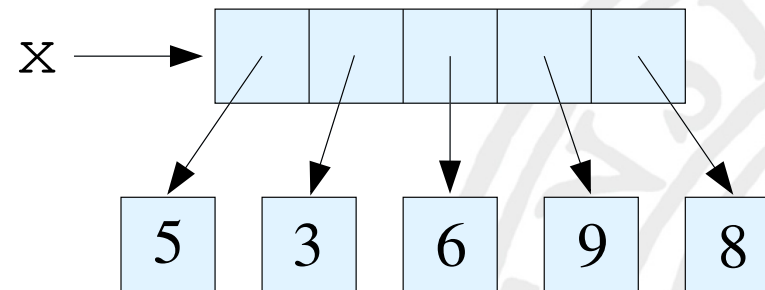
Lists are the most fundamental structure in Python.

We can, for example, write `x = [5, 3, 6, 9, 8]`

which can be illustrated:



Remember that it really is more like this:



We are now going to make a *linked list*:



Why?

Why are we making an alternative to the Python `list`?

- Study basic techniques for handling linked structures.
- Study *iterators*, *generators* and *operator overloading*.
- See more examples of recursive methods.
- Practice algorithm analysis.
- Discover that there are situations where these lists are more efficient than the built in lists.

A linked list

- We shall create a class `LinkedList` that can store a number of data items.
- The data shall be stored in *increasing order* so they must be comparable.
- We will use integers in our examples.

A linked list can be illustrated like this:

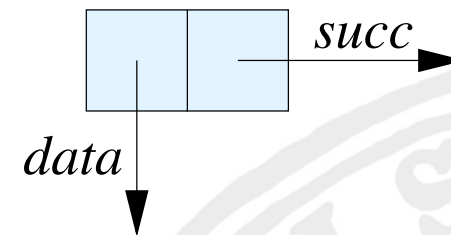


Each element has a reference to its follower.

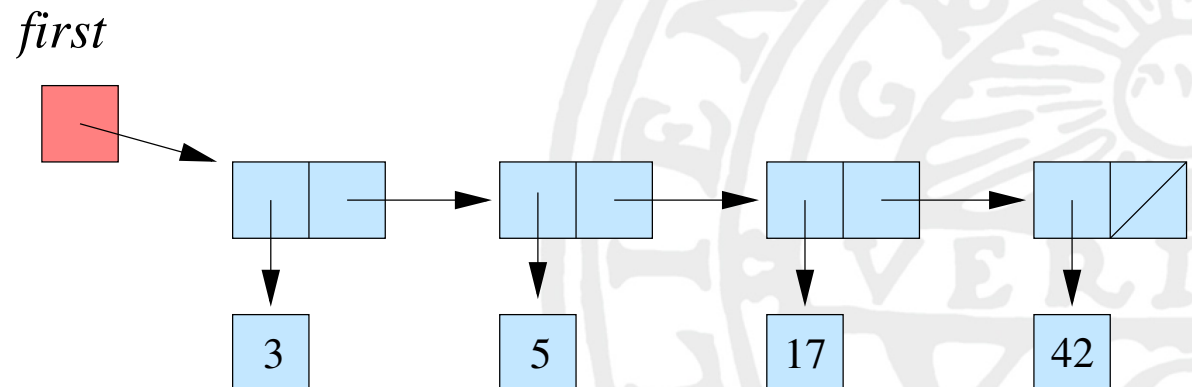
Python representation

We define a class for the nodes in the list:

```
class Node:
    def __init__(self, data, succ):
        self.data = data
        self.succ = succ
```



We have to keep track of the first node:



A class for linked lists

We would like to be able to write like this:

```
ll = LinkedList()
print(ll)
for x in [5, 2, 3, 7]:
    ll.insert(x)
print(ll)
```

```
()
(5)
(2, 5)
(2, 3, 5)
(2, 3, 5, 7)
```

Sketch:

```
class LinkedList:
    def __init__(self):
        pass

    def __str__(self):
        pass

    def insert(self, data):
        pass
```

We will also write the methods `remove_first` and `get_last` as examples of simple methods.

The LinkedList class

```
class LinkedList:

    class Node:
        def __init__(self, data, succ):
            self.data = data
            self.succ = succ

    def __init__(self):
        self.first = None

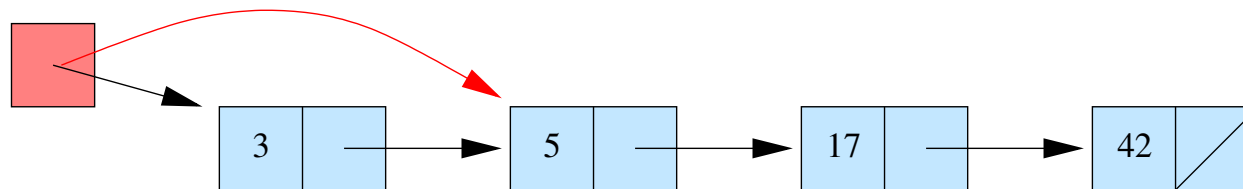
    . . .
```

The Node class is inside
the LinkedList class

Creates an empty list

The remove_first method

first



```
def remove_first(self):  
    '''Removes the first element and returns its value'''  
    result = self.first.data  
    self.first = self.first.succ  
    return result
```

There is actually a problem in the code. What is that?

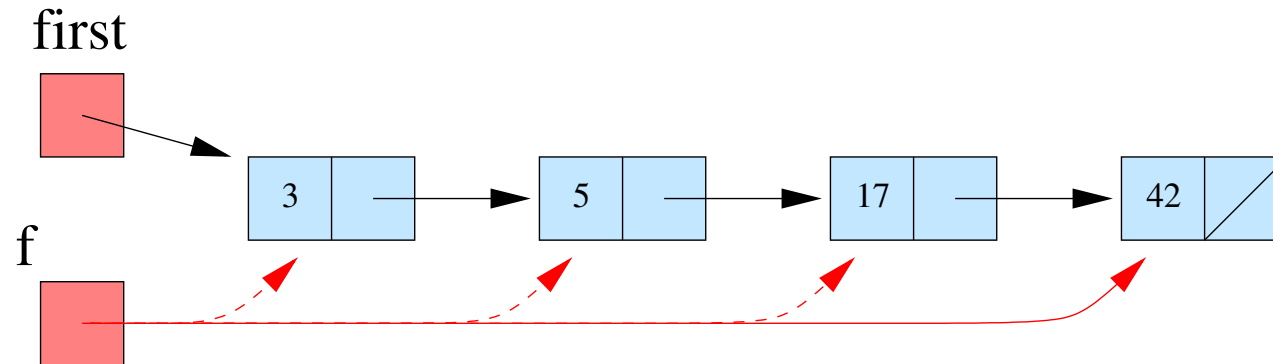
What happens if the list is empty?



Better remove_first

```
def remove_first(self):  
    '''Removes the first element and returns its value'''  
    if self.first == None:  
        return None                # Or raise an exception  
    result = self.first.data  
    self.first = self.first.succ  
    return result
```

The get_last method



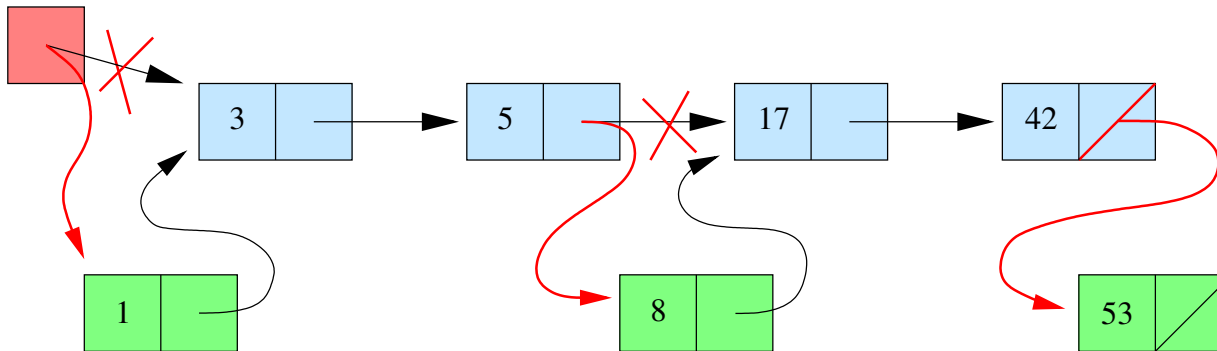
```
def get_last(self):  
    '''Returns the last stored data item'''  
    if self.first == None:  
        return None                # Or raise an exception  
    f = self.first  
    while f.succ:  
        f = f.succ  
    return f.data
```

The `__str__` method

```
def __str__(self):  
    result = ''  
    f = self.first  
    while f:  
        result += str(f.data)  
        f = f.succ  
        if f:  
            result += ', '  
    return '(' + result + ')'
```

Comma *between* elements

An *iterative* insert method



```
def insert(self, x):  
    if self.first is None or x < self.first.data:  
        self.first = self.Node(x, self.first)  
    else:  
        f = self.first  
        while f.succ and x >= f.succ.data:  
            f = f.succ  
        f.succ = self.Node(x, f.succ)
```

A recursive insert: method 1.

In the Node class:

```
def insert(self, x):  
    if self.succ is None or x < self.succ.data:  
        self.succ = self.Node(x, self.succ)  
    else:  
        self.succ.insert(x)
```

and the LinkedList class:

```
def insert(self, x):  
    if self.first is None or x < self.first.data:  
        self.first = self.Node(x, self.first)  
    else:  
        self.first.insert(x)
```


A recursive insert: method 2.

With a recursive help method in LinkedList

```
def insert(self, x):  
    self.first = self._insert(x, self.first)  
  
def _insert(self, x, f):  
    if f is None or x < f.data:  
        return self.Node(x, f)  
    else:  
        f.succ = self._insert(x, f.succ)  
        return f
```



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MA3: Some Python facilities

This lecture discusses

- *iterators*,
- *generators* and
- *operator overloading*

applied to the LinkedList class

A common pattern

Suppose we want to

- sum all values in our linked list or
- compute the mean and standard deviation of the values in the list or
- find the first prime number in the list or
- ...

For ordinary lists this could be done with a for-statement and we would like to be able to do it for our linked list also

A for-loop for the linked lists

```
ll = LinkedList()  
. . . # Build up the list  
  
sum = 0  
n = 0  
for x in ll:  
    sum += x  
    n += 1  
print(f'The mean value is {sum/n}')
```

This code is written *without any knowledge of the internal structure* of LinkedList class!

Make the list *iterable*!

Add two special methods:

```
def __iter__(self):  
    self.current = self.first  
    return self  
  
def __next__(self):  
    if self.current:  
        result = self.current.data  
        self.current = self.current.succ  
        return result  
    else:  
        raise StopIteration
```

Now we can iterate over our lists with a for statement

An easier way

We can write the `__iter__` method as a *generator*:

```
def __iter__(self):  
    current = self.first  
    while current:  
        yield current.data  
        current = current.succ
```

Note:

- The `yield` statement
- No `__next__` method
- `current` is a local variable

Operator overloading

By operator overloading we mean to give existing operators like +, ==, <=, ... a meaning and definition for new data types.

For an ordinary list we can use the operator `in` for example in an expression like

```
if w in lista:  
    print('Oui!')  
else:  
    print ('Non!')
```

We can get this to work by implementing the `__in__` method in our `LinkedList` class.

In the LinkedList class

```
def __in__(self, x):  
    for d in self:          # Use generator/iterator  
        if x == d:  
            return True  
        elif x < d:         # No point in searching more  
            return False  
    return False
```

Another example: indexing

```
def __getitem__(self, index):  
    i = 0  
    for x in self:  
        if i == index:  
            return x  
        i += 1  
    raise IndexError(f'LinkedList index {index} out of range')
```

Now we can write code like:

```
print(l1[0] + l1[2])
```

but **not**:

```
l1[3] = l1[0] + l1[2])
```

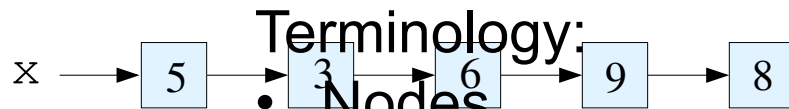


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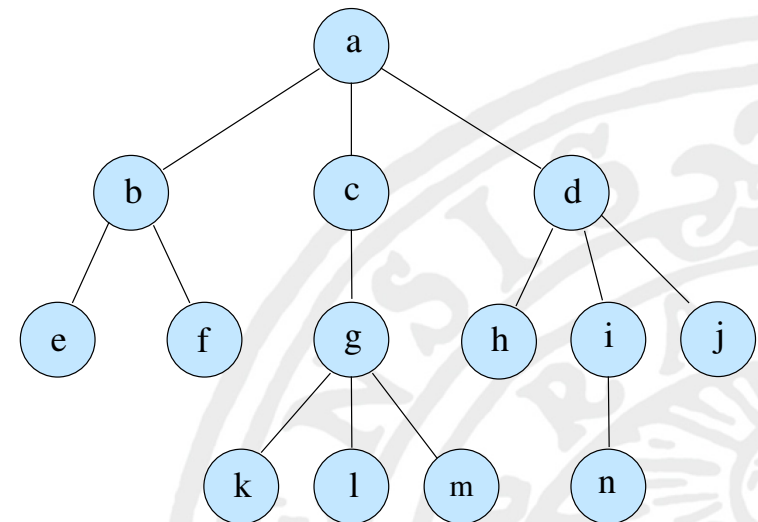
MA3: Tree structures

Tom Smedsaas



Terminology:

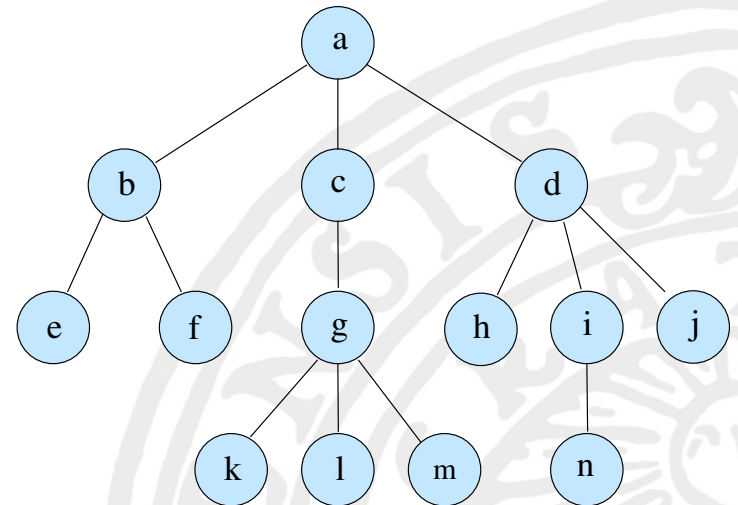
- Nodes
- Root
- Leafs
- Children
- Siblings
- Height
- Size



Operations in trees

Operations on trees:

- Enter new nodes
- Remove nodes
- Traverse the tree
- Search a node with a particular contents
- Search a node in a particular position
- Merge trees
- Measurements:
 - Height
 - Size
 - Path length

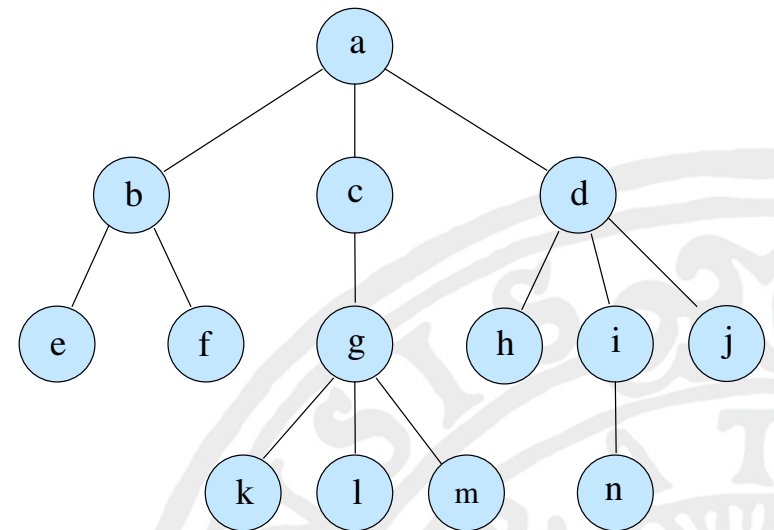


Tree traversals

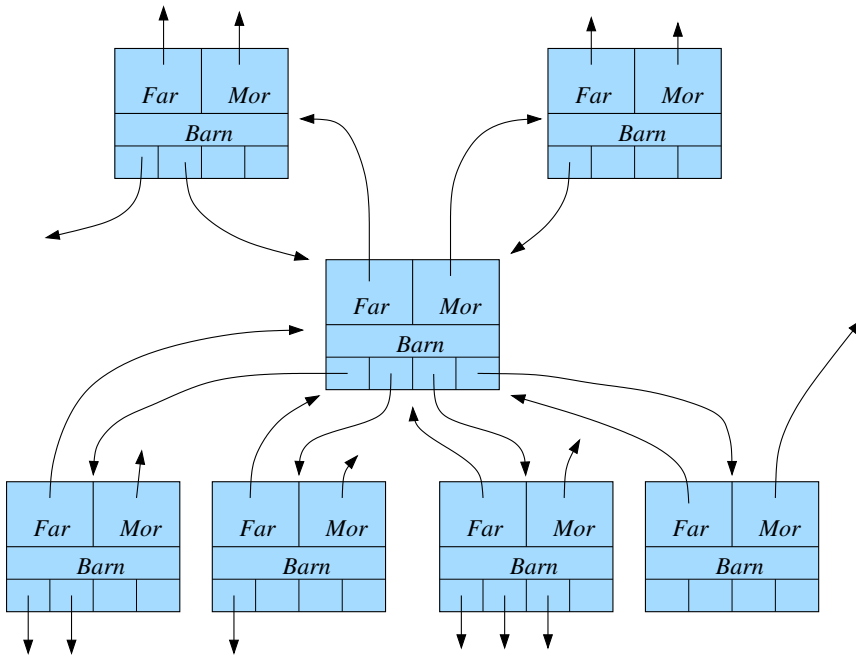
Preorder: a b e f c g k l m d h i n j

Postorder: e f b k l m g c h n i j d a

Level order: a b c d e f g h i j k l m n



More complicated structures



```
class Person:
    def __init__(self, name,
                  mother=None,
                  father=None):
        self.name = name
        self.mother = mother
        self.father = father
        self.children = []

    def add_child(self, child):
        self.children.append(child)
```



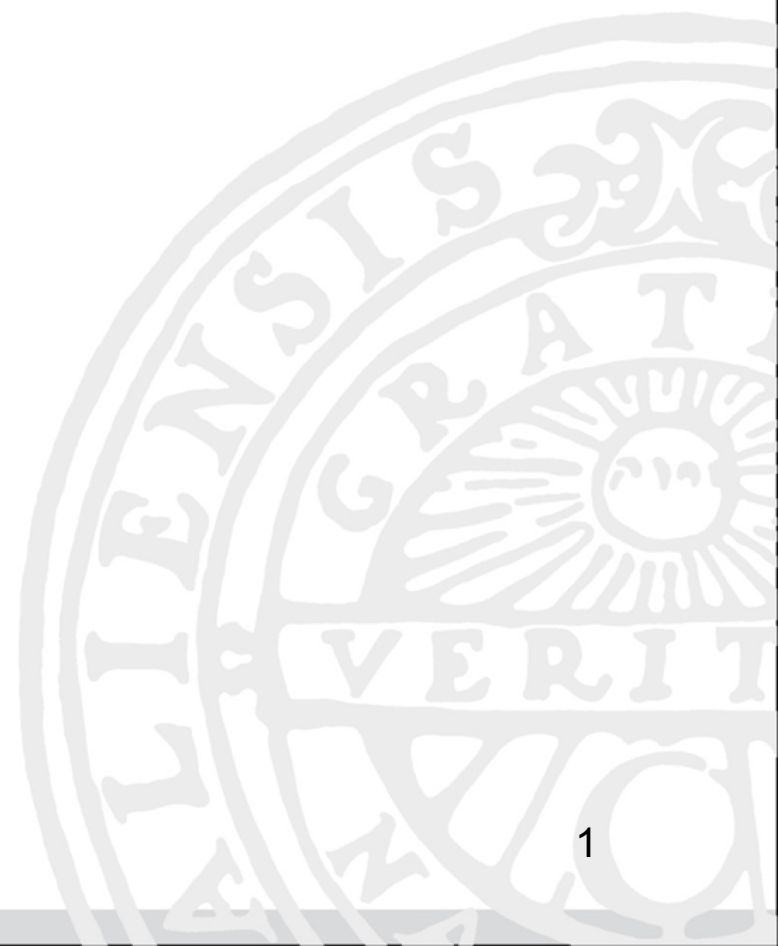
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MA3: Binary trees

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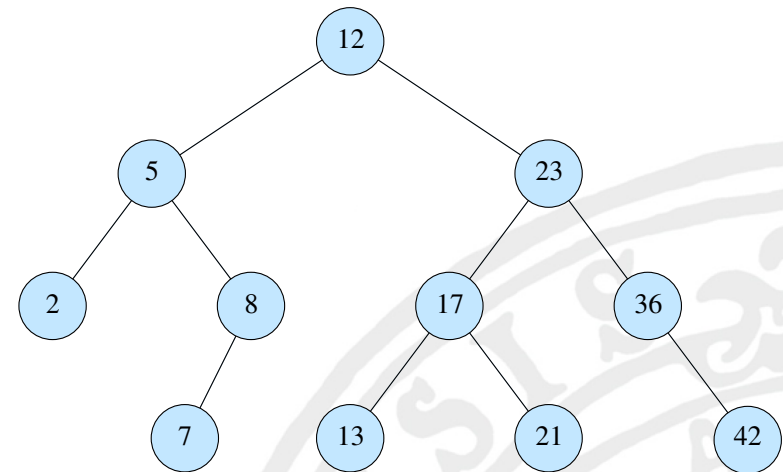


Binary trees

Definition:

A set of nodes that is either empty or consists of three disjoint sets:

- One with one node called *the root*
- One called *the left subtree* which is a binary tree
- One called *the right subtree* which is a binary tree

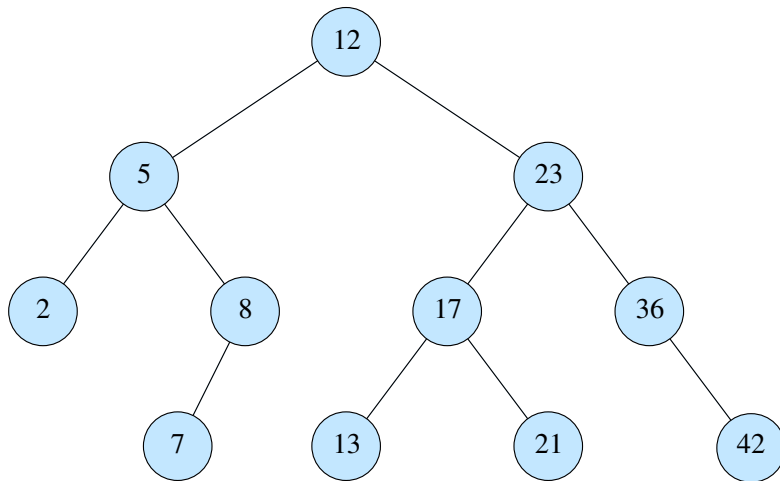


Inorder traversal:

2, 5, 7, 8, 12, 13, 17, 21, 23, 36, 42

Binary *search* trees

A *binary search tree* is a binary tree where the nodes are ordered:



The data in every node is greater than all data in its left subtree and less than all data in its right subtree.

Binary search trees

This is a powerful structure for storing data with an order relationship.

The operations

- searching data
- inserting
- removing data

can be done in $\Theta(\log n)$ time on the average.

We will here look at these algorithms.

A class for binary search trees

```
class BST:
    class Node:
        def __init__(self, key,
                     left = None,
                     right = None):
            self.key = key
            self.left = left
            self.right = right

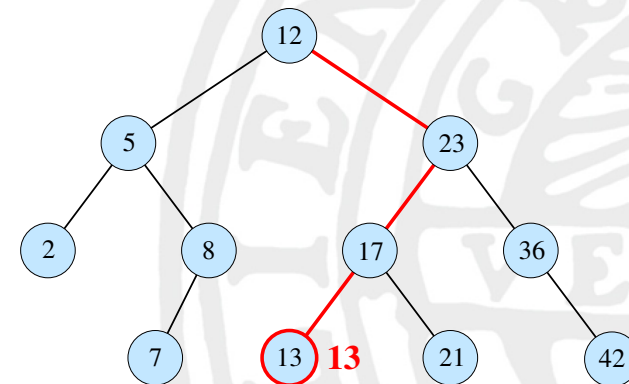
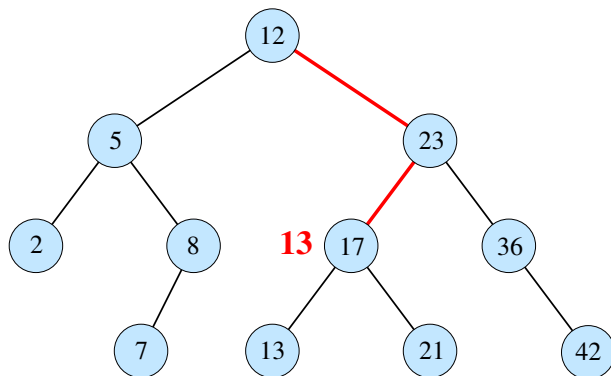
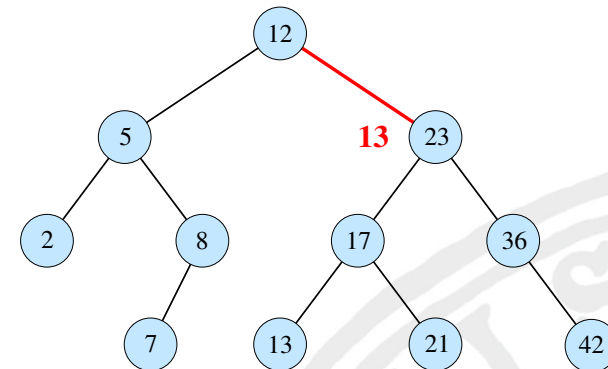
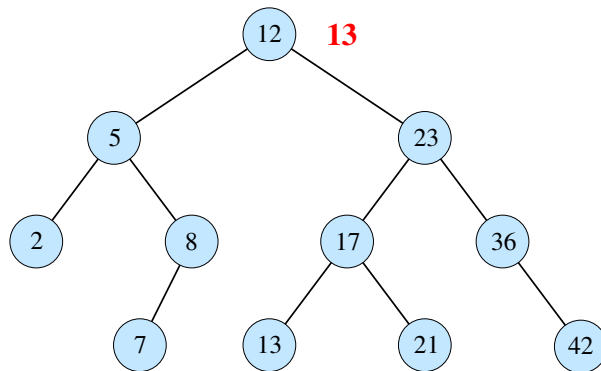
    def __init__(self, root = None)
        self.root = root

    . . .
```



Searching

Searching starts at the root and is guided by the values in the nodes:



A method for searching

```
def contains(self, k):  
    n = self.root  
    while n and n.key != k:  
        if k < n.key:  
            n = n.left  
        else:  
            n = n.right  
    return n
```

Traversal: Counting nodes

Use a recursive help method:

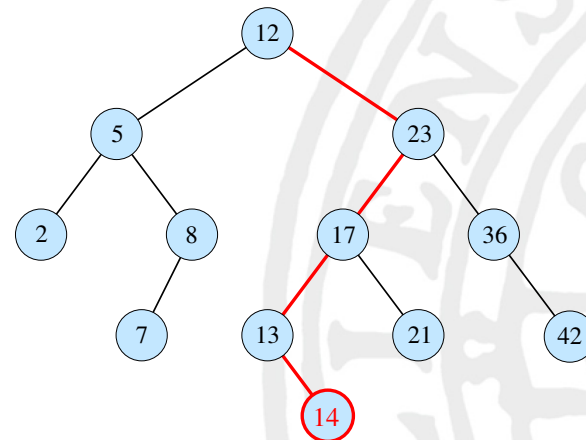
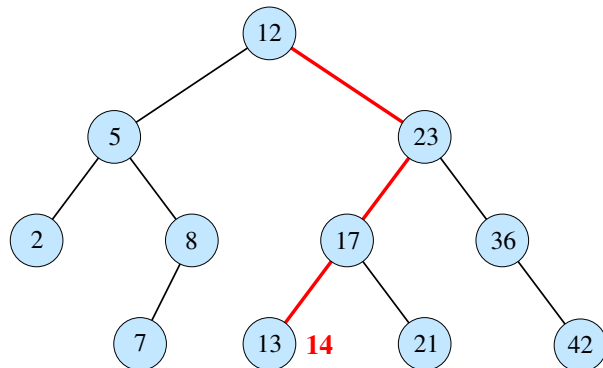
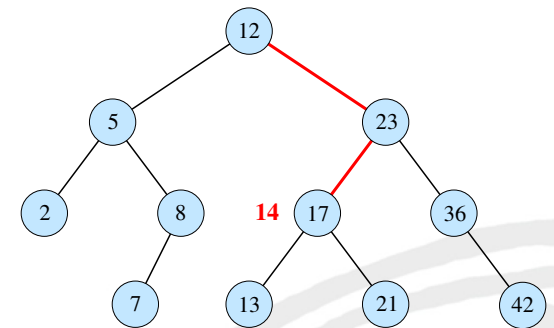
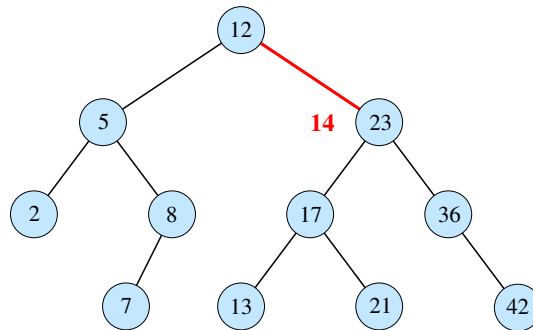
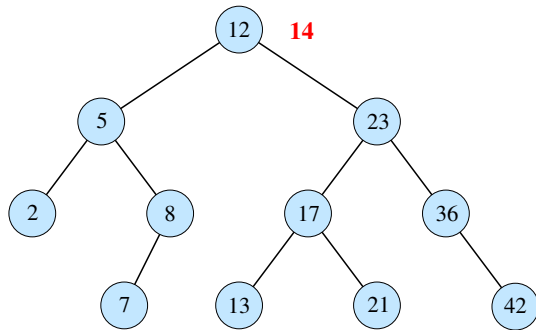
```
def size(self):  
    return self._size(self.root)  
  
def _size(self, r):  
    if r:  
        return 1 + self._size(r.left) + self._size(r.right)  
    else:  
        return 0
```

Note that `r == None` is a much better base case than `r.left == None` and `r.right == None`.

We will later see how this could be done using a *generator*.



Inserting in binary search tree



```
def insert(self, key):
    self.root = self._insert(self.root, key)

def _insert(self, r, key):
    if r is None:
        Modify the (sub-)tree with root
        in r and return the root of the
        modified (sub-)tree.
        return self.Node(key)
    elif key < r.key:
        r.left = self._insert(r.left, key)    # Insert in the left subtree
    elif key > r.key:
        r.right = self._insert(r.right, key)   # Insert in the right subtree
    else:
        pass
    return r
```

Note that the help method always have to return the root of the modified subtree regardless if it is the new node or not.

Modified insertion code

Suppose we want to know if a new node was inserted or not.

```
def insert(self, key):
    self.root = self._insert(self.root, key)

def _insert(self, r, key):

    if r is None:
        return self.Node(key)

    elif key < r.key:
        r.left = self._insert(r.left, key)    # Insert in the left subtree
    elif key > r.key:
        r.right = self._insert(r.right, key)   # Insert in the right subtree
    else:
        pass

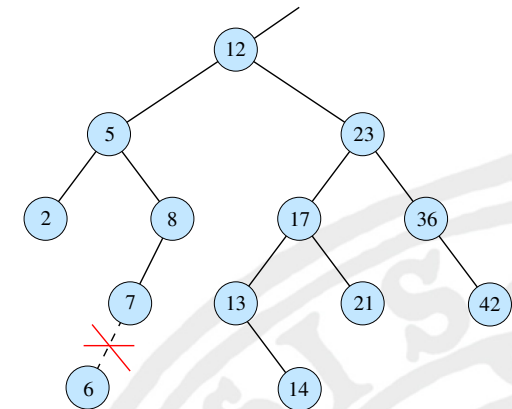
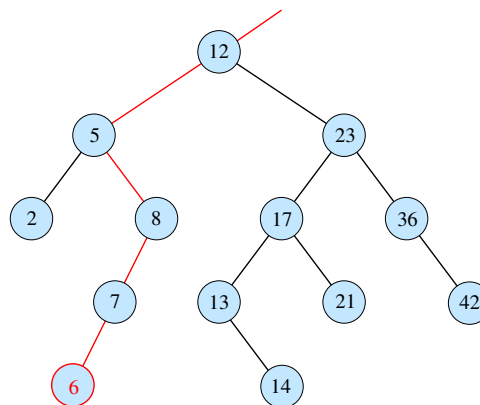
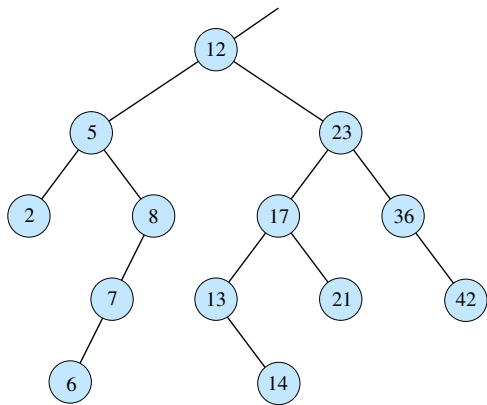
    return r
```

Modified insertion code

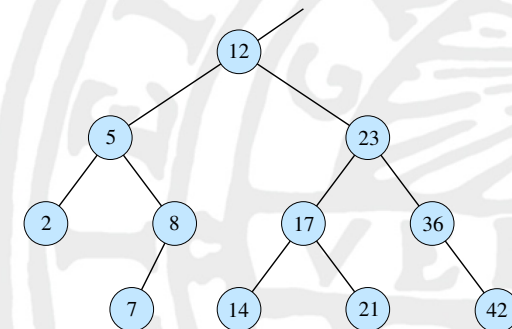
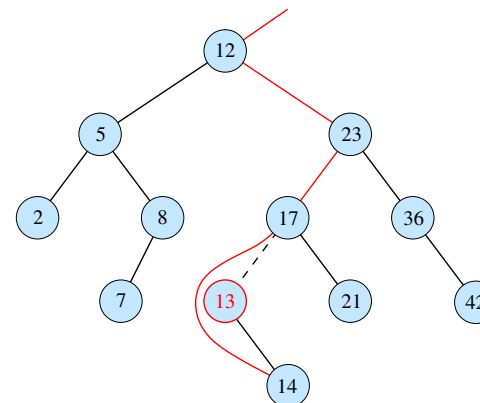
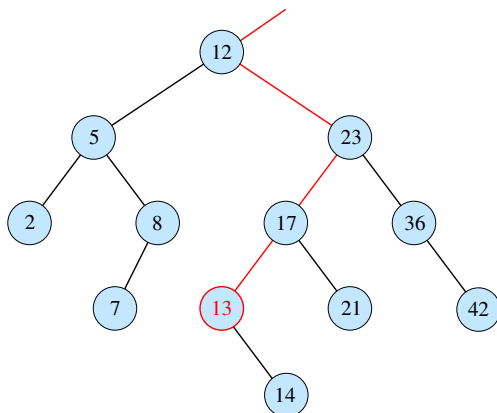
```
def insert(self, key):  
    self.root, result = self._insert(self.root, key)  
    return result  
  
def _insert(self, r, key):  
    if r is None:  
        return self.Node(key), True  
    elif key < r.key:  
        r.left, result = self._insert(r.left, key)  
    elif key > r.key:  
        r.right, result = self._insert(r.right, key)  
    else:  
        result = False # Already there  
    return r, result
```

Remove

If the node to be removed has no children. Example: remove 6.

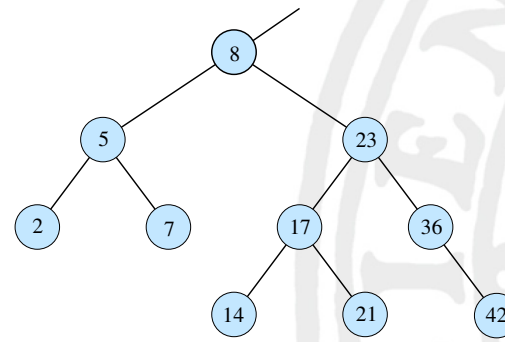
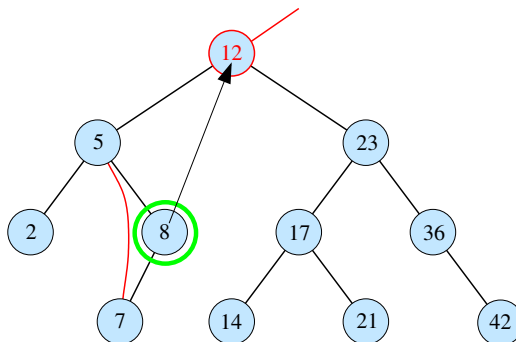
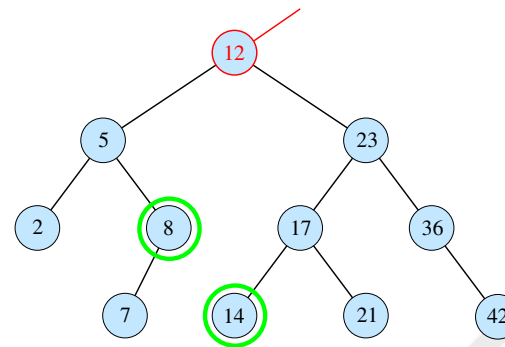
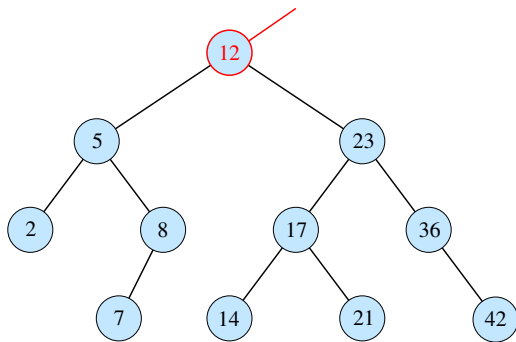


If the node to be removed has one child. Example: remove 13.



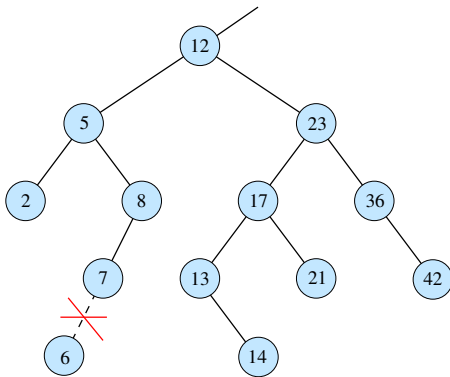
Remove – the harder case

Removing a key in a node with two children. Example: remove 12.





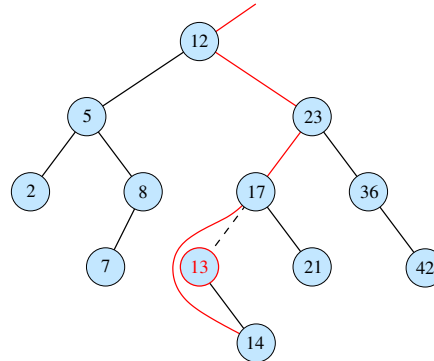
Coding hints for remove



```
def _remove(self, r, key):  
    pass
```

```
def _get_largest(self, r):  
    pass
```

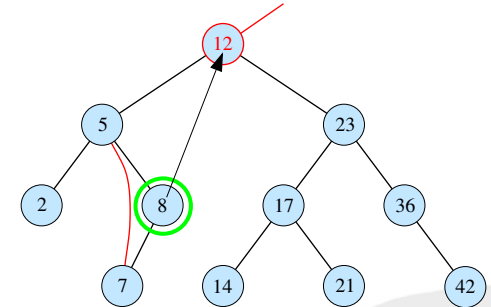
```
def _remove_largest(self, r):  
    pass
```



Takes a reference to a node (r) that is the root in a subtree. Removes key from that subtree and returns a reference to the root in the resulting subtree.

Find the largest and then then call `_remove` recursively

Removes the node with the largest key and returns a tuple with that key and a reference to the root in the resulting subtree.





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MA3: Tree Generators

Tom Smedsaas

This lecture discusses
generators for tree structures

The LinkedList generator

We noticed the the easiest way to to write the `__iter__` function in the `LinkedList` class was to do it as an generator:

```
def __iter__(self):  
    current = self.first  
    while current:  
        result = current.data  
        yield result  
        current = current.succ
```

With this construction we could iterate over a list wit the code:

```
ll = LinkedList()  
...  
for n in ll:  
    do_something(n)
```

The for statement will use the generator to access the elements in the list.

Tree generator

The situation in the BST class is more complicated since we have no easy way to say what the next element is.

However, if we write a generator in the Node class, we can iterate over the nodes in the left and right subtree by using the generators in the two root nodes there.

BST-classes

```
class BST:

    class Node:
        def __init__(self, key,
                      left = None,
                      right = None):
            self.key = key
            self.left = left
            self.right = right

    def __init__(self, root = None):
        self.root = root

    . . . .
```

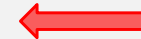
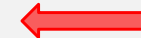
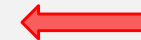
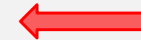
Generator for BST

```
class BST:
    class Node:
        def __init__(. . .): . . .

        def __iter__(self):
            → if self.left:
                for key in self.left:
                    yield key
                yield self.key
            → if self.right:
                for key in self.right:
                    yield key

    def __init__(. . .): . . .

    def __iter__(self):
        → if self.root:
            for key in self.root:
                yield key
```



Using `yield from`

The code can be a little simplified by using the `yield from` construction:

```
def __iter__(self):                # In the Node class
    if self.left:
        yield from self.left:
    yield self.key
    if self.right:
        yield from self.right

def __iter__(self):                # In the BST class
    if self.root:
        yield from self.root:
```

Note how easily the generator can be changed to do other traversals!



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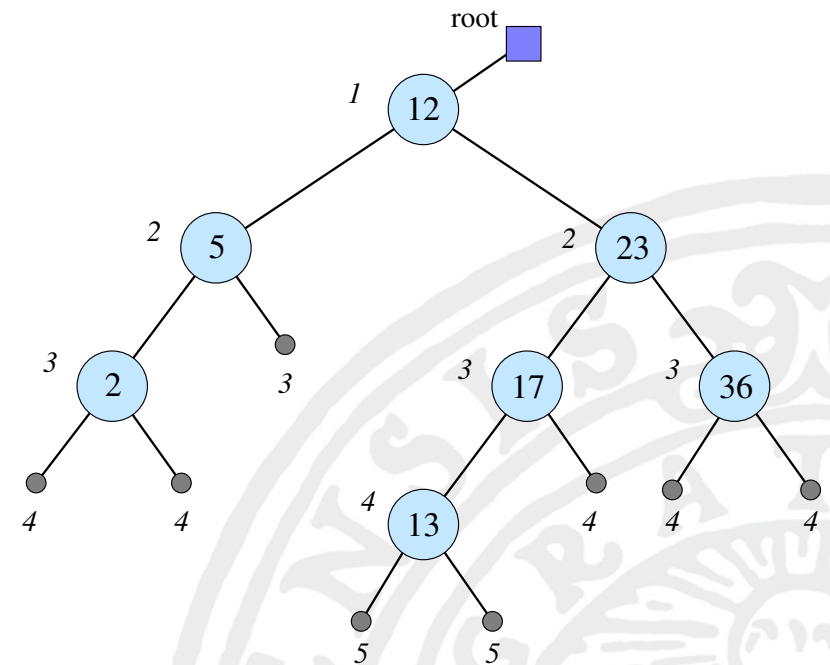
MA3: Properties of binary trees

Tom Smedsaas

This lecture discuss properties of binary trees
and their implications for binary search trees.

Measurements on trees

- Size (n): 7
- Height (h): 4
- Internal path length (i or ipl):
 $1 + 2 + 2 + 3 + 3 + 3 + 4 = 18$
- External path length (e or epl):
 $4 + 4 + 3 + 5 + 5 + 4 + 4 + 4 = 33$



The two path length properties are a measurements of how well balanced the tree is. They are also linked by the relation $e = i + 2n + 1$

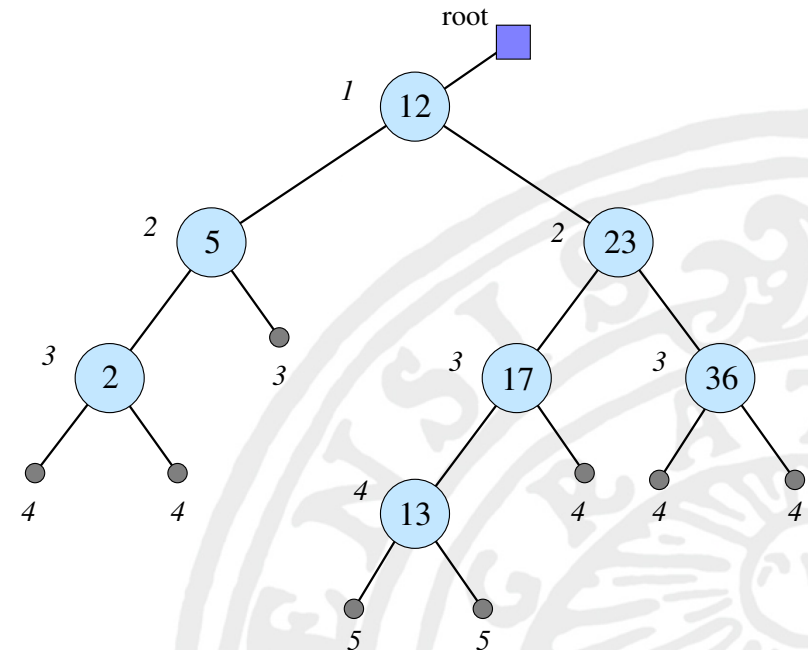
What do these numbers mean?

Searching, removing and inserting are all $O(h)$ operations.

What about the average?

A *successful* search in a given tree will, *on the average*, require: $\frac{i}{n}$ tries which, in this case, is $\frac{18}{7} = 2.57$.

An *unsuccessful* search in a given tree will, *on the average*, require: $\frac{e}{n+1}$ tries which, in this case, is $\frac{33}{7+1} = 4.12$.



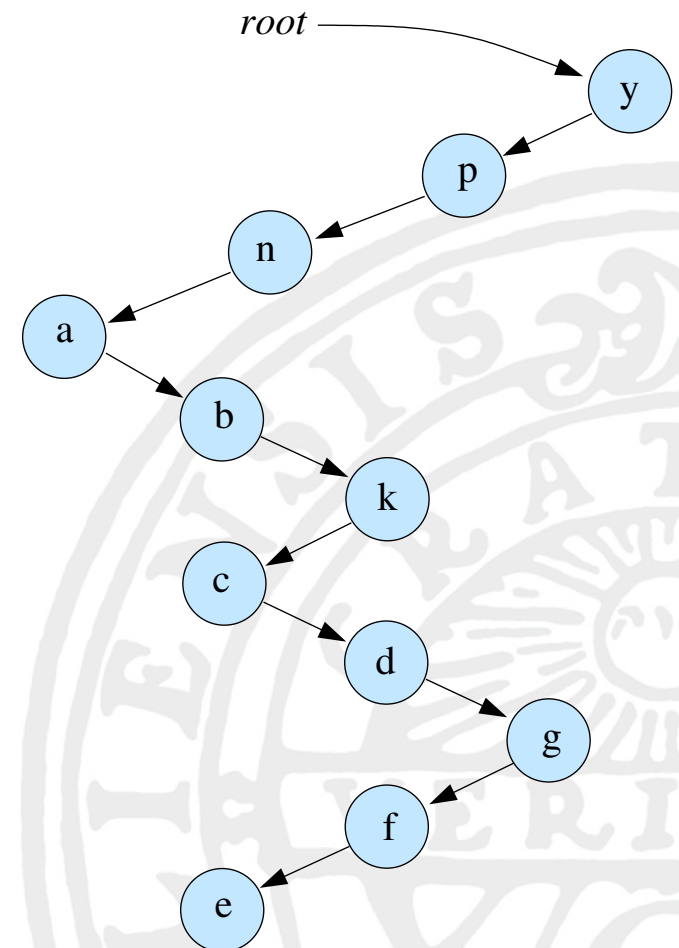
Maximal values?

This tree will give maximal values:

the height is n

$$i = 1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$$

which makes the operations $\Theta(n)$
on the average.

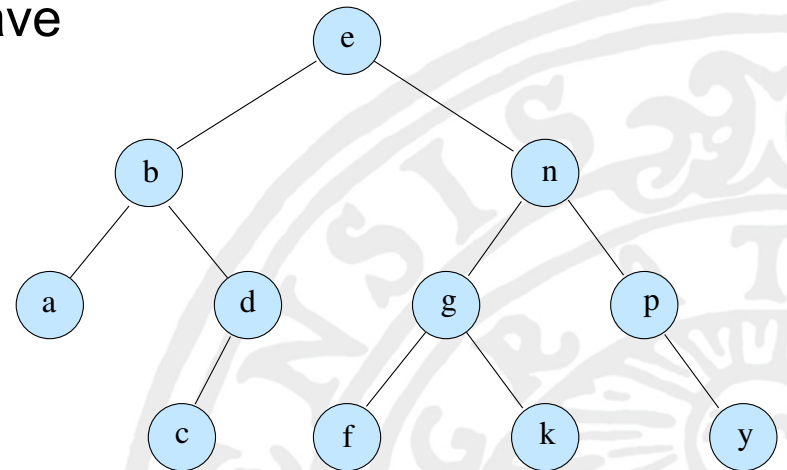


Minimal values

As well branched as possible.

If we have h completely filled levels we will have
 $n = 1 + 2 + 4 + \dots + 2^{h-1} = 2^h - 1$
giving that $h = \log_2(n + 1)$

Thus, searching, inserting and removing keys are all done $O(\log(n))$



Average search tree

What is an average tree?

Suppose we have n different keys. There are $n!$ possible permutations these keys. If we use each of these permutations to build a tree we can see what the average values of the height and the path lengths are.

It can be shown the the average internal path length over all these trees is

$$1.39 \cdot n \log_2 n + O(n)$$

Thus, for example, searching for a key in a tree with 1000000 keys require, on the average on the average tree $1.39 \cdot \log_2 10^6 \approx 28$ tries.

Thus

The search, insert and remove operations of a key in the "average" binary search tree with n keys require

$$\frac{1.39n \log_2 n + O(n)}{n} = 1.39 \log_2 n + O(1)$$

node visits on the average.

The average case in the worst tree is n node visits. However, there are several insertion algorithms that keep the tree well balanced (AVL-trees, RB-trees ...)



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