

# DATA STRUCTURES

## Binary Search Trees

---

*Lect. Ph.D. Diana-Lucia Miholca*

2022 - 2023



Babeş - Bolyai University  
Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science

- Binary trees (II)
  - Traversals

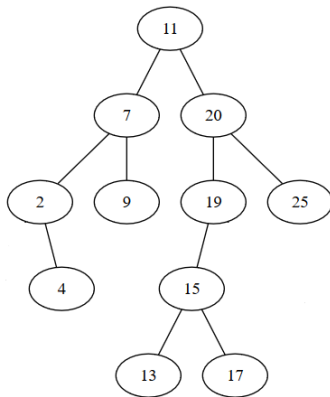
- Binary Search Trees



A **binary search tree** is a binary tree that satisfies the following property:

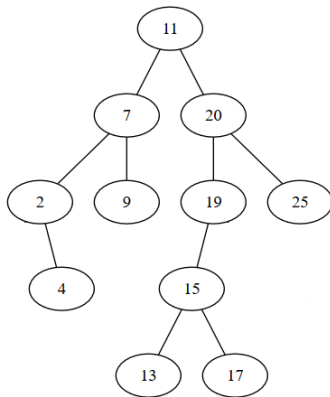
- Let  $x$  be a node in a binary search tree.
  - For every node  $y$  from the left subtree of  $x$ , the information from  $y$  is less than or equal to the information from  $x$
  - For every node  $y$  from the right subtree of  $x$ , the information from  $y$  is greater than or equal to the information from  $x$

# Binary Search Tree Example



Inorder:

# Binary Search Tree Example



Inorder: 2 4 7 9 11 13 15 17 19 20 25



An inorder traversal of a binary search tree will visit the elements in increasing order.

# Binary Search Tree - terminology



The terminology discussed for binary trees is valid for binary search trees as well:



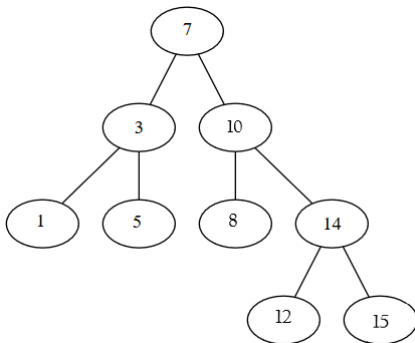
We can have a binary search trees that are:

- full
- complete
- almost complete
- degenerated
- balanced

# Binary tree - Terminology



A binary search tree is called **full** if every internal node has exactly two children.

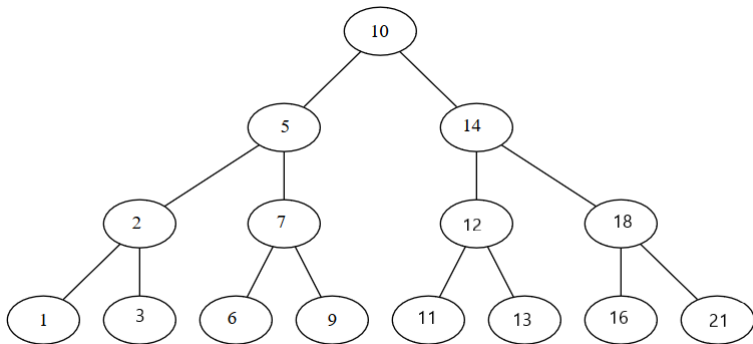




# Binary tree - Terminology



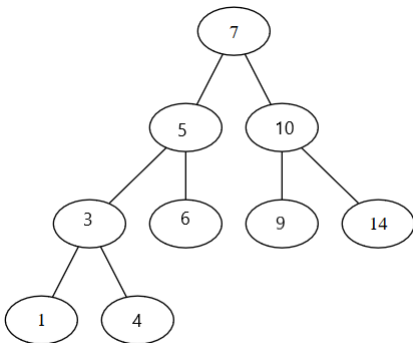
A binary search tree is called **complete** if every level of the tree is completely filled.



# Binary tree - Terminology



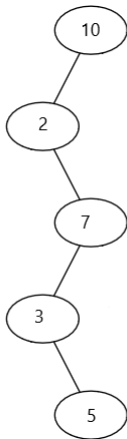
A binary search tree is called **almost complete** if every level of the tree is completely filled, except possibly the bottom level, which is filled from left to right.



## Binary tree - Terminology

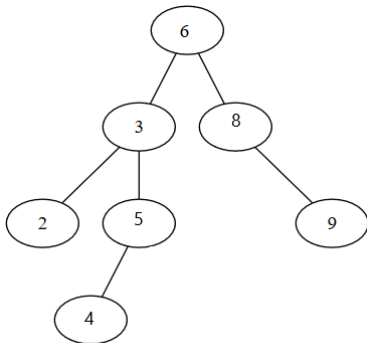


A binary search tree is called **degenerated** if every internal node has exactly one child (it is actually a chain of nodes).



## Binary tree - Terminology

**D** A binary search tree is called **balanced** if the difference between the height of the left and right subtrees is at most 1 for every node from the tree.



# Binary Search Tree



Binary search trees inherit the numerical properties of binary trees:



The number of nodes in a complete binary search tree of height  $N$  is

# Binary Search Tree



Binary search trees inherit the numerical properties of binary trees:



The number of nodes in a complete binary search tree of height  $N$  is  $2^{N+1} - 1$  (it is  $1 + 2 + 4 + 8 + \dots + 2^N$ )



The maximum number of nodes in a binary search tree of height  $N$  is

# Binary Search Tree



Binary search trees inherit the numerical properties of binary trees:



The number of nodes in a complete binary search tree of height  $N$  is  $2^{N+1} - 1$  (it is  $1 + 2 + 4 + 8 + \dots + 2^N$ )



The maximum number of nodes in a binary search tree of height  $N$  is  $2^{N+1} - 1$  - if the tree is complete.



The minimum number of nodes in a binary search tree of height  $N$  is

# Binary Search Tree



Binary search trees inherit the numerical properties of binary trees:



The number of nodes in a complete binary search tree of height  $N$  is  $2^{N+1} - 1$  (it is  $1 + 2 + 4 + 8 + \dots + 2^N$ )



The maximum number of nodes in a binary search tree of height  $N$  is  $2^{N+1} - 1$  - if the tree is complete.



The minimum number of nodes in a binary search tree of height  $N$  is  $N + 1$  - if the tree is degenerated.



A binary search tree with  $N$  nodes has a height between  $\lceil \log_2(N + 1) \rceil$  and  $N - 1$ .





Binary search trees can be used as representation for **sorted** containers

- sorted maps
- priority queues
- sorted sets, etc.



Basic operations:

- searching for an element
- inserting an element
- removing an element

# Binary Search Tree - other operations



## Other operations:

- get the minimum element
- get the maximum element
- find the successor of an element
- find the predecessor of an element

# Binary Search Tree - Representation

- A linked representation with dynamic allocation for binary search trees:



## Representation of a node in a Binary Search Tree:

BSTNode:

info: TComp

left:  $\uparrow$  BSTNode

right:  $\uparrow$  BSTNode

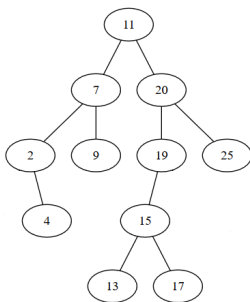


## Representation of a Binary Search Tree:

Binary Search Tree:

root:  $\uparrow$  BSTNode

# Binary Search Tree - search operation



How can we search for 15? What about the 14?

# Binary Search Tree - search operation



How can we **search** for an element in a binary search tree?



The idea of searching for an element *elem*:



We start at the root of the tree.



For each node *node* encountered:



If *node* = *NIL*  $\Rightarrow$  unsuccessful search



If *[node].info* = *elem*  $\Rightarrow$  successful search



If *[node].info* > *elem*  $\Rightarrow$  search recursively the left subtree



If *[node].info* < *elem*  $\Rightarrow$  search recursively the right subtree



## Recursively searching in a Binary Search Tree:

**function** search\_rec (node, elem) **is:**

*//pre: node is a BSTNode and elem is the TElem we are searching for*



## Recursively searching in a Binary Search Tree:

**function** search\_rec (node, elem) **is:**

*//pre: node is a BSTNode and elem is the TElem we are searching for*

**if** node = NIL **then**

    search\_rec  $\leftarrow$  false

**else**

**if** [node].info = elem **then**

        search\_rec  $\leftarrow$  true

**else if** [node].info < elem **then**

        search\_rec  $\leftarrow$  search\_rec([node].right, elem)

**else**

        search\_rec  $\leftarrow$  search\_rec([node].left, elem)

**end-if**

**end-function**

# BST - search operation - recursive implementation - complexity



The time complexity of the *search* operation is



# BST - search operation - recursive implementation - complexity



The time complexity of the *search* operation is  $O(h)$ , where  $h$  is the height of the tree.



The maximum height of a tree with  $n$  nodes is

# BST - search operation - recursive implementation - complexity



The time complexity of the *search* operation is  $O(h)$ , where  $h$  is the height of the tree.



The maximum height of a tree with  $n$  nodes is  $n - 1$  (if the tree is degenerated).



Therefore, the time complexity of the *search* operation can also be expressed as  $O(n)$ .

# BST - search operation - recursive implementation



We need a wrapper to call the recursive function with the root of the tree:



## Recursive searching function - initial call

**function** search (tree, e) **is:**

*//pre: tree is a Binary Search Tree, e is the elem we are looking for*  
search  $\leftarrow$  search\_rec(tree.root, e)

**end-function**

# BST - search operation - non-recursive implementation

- The iterative implementation of the *search* operation:



## Iteratively searching in a Binary Search Tree:

**function** search (tree, elem) **is:**

*//pre: tree is a Binary Search Tree and elem is the TElem we are searching for*

# BST - search operation - non-recursive implementation

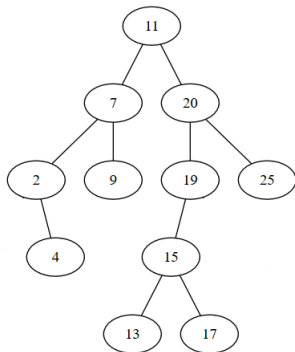
- The iterative implementation of the *search* operation:



## Iteratively searching in a Binary Search Tree:

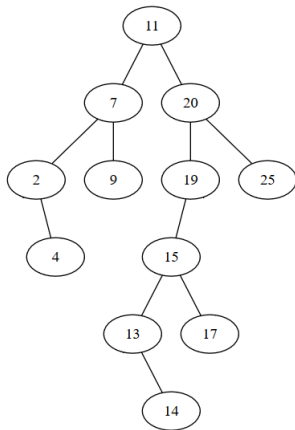
```
function search (tree, elem) is:  
  //pre: tree is a Binary Search Tree and elem is the TElem we are searching for  
  currentNode  $\leftarrow$  tree.root  
  found  $\leftarrow$  false  
  while currentNode  $\neq$  NIL and not found execute  
    if [currentNode].info = elem then  
      found  $\leftarrow$  true  
    else if [currentNode].info < elem then  
      currentNode  $\leftarrow$  [currentNode].right  
    else  
      currentNode  $\leftarrow$  [currentNode].left  
    end-if  
  end-while  
  search  $\leftarrow$  found  
end-function
```

## BST - insert operation



Where can we insert element 14?

## BST - insert operation



# BST - insert operation - recursive implementation

- An function that creates a new node with a given element:



## Creating a node with a given element:

**function** initNode(e) **is:**

*//pre: e is a TComp*

*//post: initNode:  $\uparrow$  BSTNode  $\leftarrow$  a node with e as information*

allocate(newNode)

[newNode].info  $\leftarrow$  e

[newNode].left  $\leftarrow$  NIL

[newNode].right  $\leftarrow$  NIL

initNode  $\leftarrow$  newNode

**end-function**



# BST - insert operation - recursive implementation



## Recursively inserting in a Binary Search Tree::

**function** insert\_rec(node, e) **is:**

*//pre: node is a BSTNode, e is TComp*

*//post: a node containing e was added in the tree starting from node*

# BST - insert operation - recursive implementation



## Recursively inserting in a Binary Search Tree::

```
function insert_rec(node, e) is:  
  //pre: node is a BSTNode, e is TComp  
  //post: a node containing e was added in the tree starting from node  
  if node = NIL then  
    node  $\leftarrow$  initNode(e)  
  else if [node].info  $\geq$  e then  
    [node].left  $\leftarrow$  insert_rec([node].left, e)  
  else  
    [node].right  $\leftarrow$  insert_rec([node].right, e)  
  end-if  
  insert_rec  $\leftarrow$  node  
end-function
```

## BST - insert operation - recursive implementation



The time complexity of the *insert* operation is

# BST - insert operation - recursive implementation



The time complexity of the *insert* operation is  $O(h)$  (or  $O(n)$ )



We need a wrapper function to call *insert\_rec* with the root of the tree:



## Recursive insertion function - initial call:

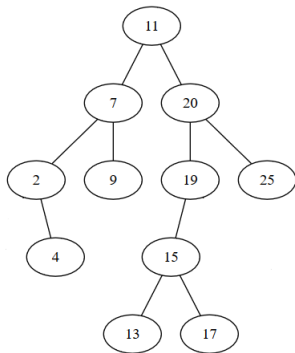
**function** insert (tree, e) **is:**

*//pre: tree is a Binary Search Tree, e is the elem to be inserted*

*tree.root  $\leftarrow$  insert\_rec(tree.root, e)*

**end-function**

## BST - Finding the minimum element



How can we find the minimum element of the binary search tree?

# BST - Finding the minimum element



## Finding the minimum in a Binary Search Tree:

**function** minimum(tree) **is:**

*//pre: tree is a Binary Search Tree*

*//post: minimum = the minimum value from the tree*

# BST - Finding the minimum element



## Finding the minimum in a Binary Search Tree:

**function** minimum(tree) **is:**

*//pre: tree is a Binary Search Tree*

*//post: minimum = the minimum value from the tree*

currentNode  $\leftarrow$  tree.root

**if** currentNode = NIL **then**

    @empty tree, no minimum

**else**

**while** [currentNode].left  $\neq$  NIL **execute**

        currentNode  $\leftarrow$  [currentNode].left

**end-while**

    minimum  $\leftarrow$  [currentNode].info

**end-if**

**end-function**

## BST - Finding the minimum element



The time complexity of the *minimum* operation is



## BST - Finding the minimum element



The time complexity of the *minimum* operation is  $O(h)$  (or  $O(n)$ )



We can adapt the *minimum* function for finding the minimum of a subtree



The parameter would be a pointer to the root of the subtree

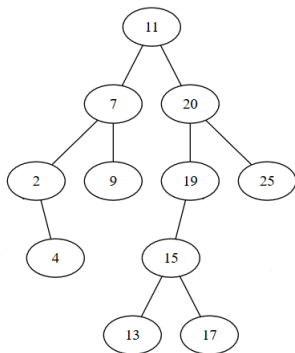


Maximum can be found symmetrically



It is in the rightmost node of the BST

## Finding the parent of a node



How can we find the parent of the node?

# Finding the parent of a node



## Finding the parent of a node in a Binary Search Tree:

**function** parent(tree, node) **is**:

*//pre: tree is a Binary Search Tree, node is a pointer to a BSTNode, node  $\neq$  NIL*

*//post: returns the parent of node, or NIL if node is the root*

c  $\leftarrow$  tree.root

**if** c = node **then** *//node is the root*

parent  $\leftarrow$  NIL

**else**

**while** c  $\neq$  NIL **and** [c].left  $\neq$  node **and** [c].right  $\neq$  node **execute**

**if** [c].info  $\geq$  [node].info **then**

c  $\leftarrow$  [c].left

**else**

c  $\leftarrow$  [c].right

**end-if**

**end-while**

parent  $\leftarrow$  c

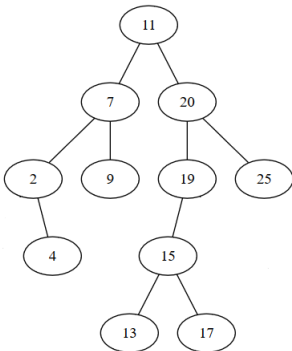
**end-if**

**end-function**



Complexity:  $O(h)$  (or  $O(n)$ )

## BST - Finding the successor



How can we find the successor of a node?



How can we find the successor of 11? What about the successor of 17?

## BST - Finding the successor of a node



How can we find the **successor** of a node  $x$  in a binary search tree?



The idea is the following:



If  $x$  has a non-empty right subtree:



Its successor is just the leftmost node in  $x$ 's right subtree



If  $x$  does not have a right subtree:



The successor of  $x$  is the lowest ancestor of the node whose left child is also an ancestor of  $x$



We go up the tree from  $x$  until we encounter a node that is the left child of its parent. The parent of that node is the successor.

# BST - Finding the successor of a node



## Finding the successor of a node in a Binary Search Tree:

**function** successor(tree, x) **is:**

*//pre: tree is a Binary Search Tree, x is a pointer to a BSTNode,  $x \neq \text{NIL}$*

*//post: returns the node with the next value after the value from x*

*//or NIL if x is the maximum*

**if** [x].right  $\neq$  NIL **then**

    c  $\leftarrow$  [x].right

**while** [c].left  $\neq$  NIL **execute**

        c  $\leftarrow$  [c].left

**end-while**

    successor  $\leftarrow$  c

**else**

    p  $\leftarrow$  parent(tree, x)

**while** p  $\neq$  NIL **and** [p].left  $\neq$  x **execute**

        x  $\leftarrow$  p

        p  $\leftarrow$  parent(tree, p)

**end-while**

    successor  $\leftarrow$  p

**end-if**

**end-function**

## BST - Finding the successor of a node



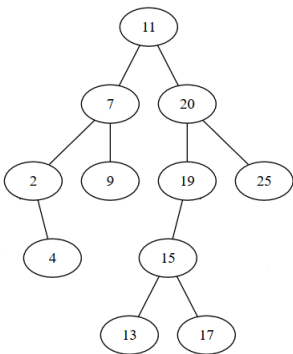
Time complexity of *successor* depends on *parent* function:

- If *parent* runs in  $\Theta(1) \Rightarrow$  complexity of successor is  $O(h)$  (or  $O(n)$ )
- If *parent* runs in  $O(n) \Rightarrow$  complexity of successor is  $O(h^2)$  (or  $O(n^2)$ )



Similar to *successor*, we can define a *predecessor* function as well.

## BST - Remove a node



How can we remove the value 25? What about removing 2?  
What about removing 11?



# BST - Remove a node



When we want to remove a value (a node  $x$  containing the given value) from a BST we have 3 cases:



$x$  has no children



Set the corresponding child of the parent to NIL



$x$  has one descendant



Set the corresponding child of the parent to the child of  $x$



$x$  has two children



Find its predecessor  $p$ , let it take the position of  $x$  in the tree and delete the node containing  $p$

**OR**



Find its successor  $s$  and splice  $s$  out of its current location and have it replace  $x$  in the tree.

# BST - Removing an element



## Recursively removing an element from a BST:

**function** remove\_rec(p, e) **is:**

*//pre: p:  $\uparrow$  BSTNode, e: TComp*

*//post: e is removed from the BST rooted by p; return the root of the new (sub)tree*

**if** p = NIL **then**

    remove\_rec  $\leftarrow$  p

**else**

**if** e < [p].info **then**

        [p].left  $\leftarrow$  remove\_rec([p].left, e)

        remove\_rec  $\leftarrow$  p

**else if** e > [p].info **then**

        [p].right  $\leftarrow$  remove\_rec([p].right, e)

        remove\_rec  $\leftarrow$  p

**else**

**if** [p].left  $\neq$  NIL **and** [p].right  $\neq$  NIL **then**

            temp  $\leftarrow$  minimum([p].dr)

            [p].info  $\leftarrow$  [temp].info

            [p].right  $\leftarrow$  remove\_rec([p].right, [p].info)

            remove\_rec  $\leftarrow$  p

*//continued on the next slide*

# BST - Removing an element



## Recursively removing an element from a BST:

```
    else if [p].left = NIL then
        remove_rec ← [p].right
    else
        remove_rec ← [p].left
    end-if
end-if
end-function
```



The time complexity of the *remove* operation is  $O(h)$  (or  $O(n)$ )

# BST - Removing an element



We need a wrapper function to call *remove\_rec* with the root of the tree:



## Recursively deletion an from a BST - - initial call:

**function** remove (tree, e) **is:**

*//pre: tree is a Binary Search Tree, e is the elem to be removed*

*//post: tree' is a Binary Search Tree obtained by removing e from tree*

tree.root  $\leftarrow$  remove\_rec(tree.root, e)

**end-function**

- Traversals from previous course

# Containers represented using BSTs



BSTs are used for representing the following containers:

- ADT Set



set in C++ STL, TreeSet in Guava (Google Core Libraries for Java)  
(implemented using balanced BST)

- ADT Map (Sorted Map)



map in C++ STL, TreeMap in Guava (for Java)

- ADT MultiMap (Sorted MultiMap)



multimap in C++ STL, TreeMultimap in Guava (for Java)

- ADT Bag



TreeMultiset in Guava (for Java)

# Binary Search Trees- Applications



Real-world applications of binary search tree data structure:



Unix Kernel

- Managing Virtual Memory Areas (VMAs)



Compilers

- For implementing Syntax Tress



Routing tables

- A routing table is used to link routers in a network. It is usually implemented with a variation of a binary search tree.



Data compression

- Huffman coding



## Bibliography

- David M. Mount, *Lecture notes for the course Data Structures* (CMSC 420), at the Dept. of Computer Science, University of Maryland, College Park, 2001
- Thomas H. Cormen, Charles E. Leiserson, Ronald L. Rivest, and Clifford Stein, *Introduction to Algorithms*, Third Edition, The MIT Press, 2009
- Narasimha Karumanchi, *Data Structures and Algorithms Made Easy: Data Structures and Algorithmic Puzzles*, Fifth Edition, 2016
- Clifford A. Shaffer, *A Practical Introduction to Data Structures and Algorithm Analysis*, Third Edition, 2010



Thank you

► TREES  
THANK  
SEARCH  
BINARY  
YOU