

Preorder traversal of BST

Problem statement

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You have been given an array/list 'PREORDER' representing the preorder traversal of a BST with 'N' nodes. All the elements in the given array have distinct values.

Your task is to construct a binary search tree that matches the given preorder traversal.

A binary search tree (BST) is a binary tree data structure that has the following properties:

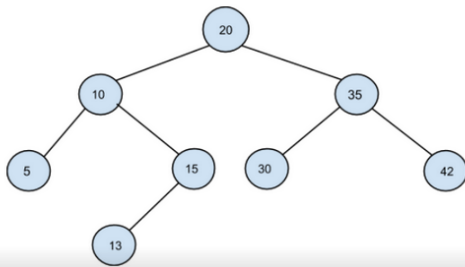
- The left subtree of a node contains only nodes with data less than the node's data.
- The right subtree of a node contains only nodes with data greater than the node's data.
- Both the left and right subtrees must also be binary search trees.

Note:

It is guaranteed that a BST can be always constructed from the given preorder traversal. Hence, the answer will always exist.

Example:

From PREORDER = [20, 10, 5, 15, 13, 35, 30, 42], the following BST can be constructed:



→ Brute force :-

↳ Make a node.

↳ Use BST properly to insert into the node.

Time Complexity : $O(N^2)$

Space Complexity : $O(N)$

→ Approach 2 :-

↳ We do have preorder traversal.

↳ Sort it to get inorder traversal

↳ Now, we can generate the tree from here.

Time Complexity :

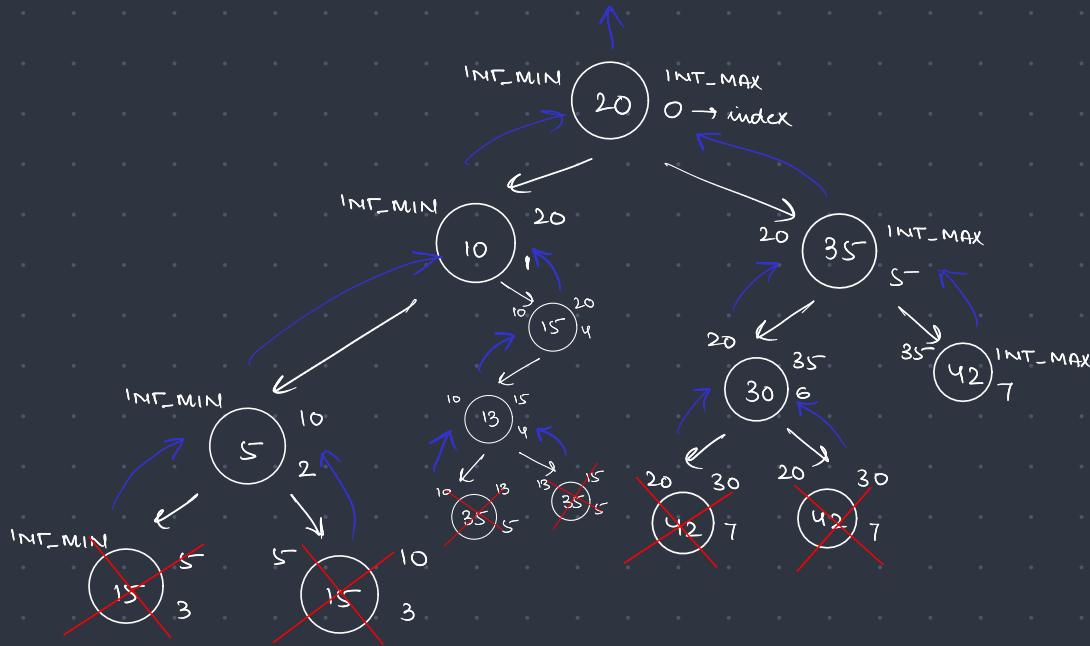
Space Complexity :

→ Optimized Approach:-

- ↳ We will use the concept of `isValidBST()` here.
- ↳ for a particular node we will check if the root data $< \text{INT_MAX}$ & $\text{root} \rightarrow \text{data} > \text{MINI}$. If so, then we will make call for `root → left` & `root → right`.
- ↳ Else return NULL.

20	10	5	15	13	35	30	42
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Recursion tree



```

BinaryTreeNode<int> *preToBST(vector<int> &preorder, int &index, int mini, int maxi) {
    if (index >= preorder.size())
        return NULL;
    if (preorder[index] < mini || preorder[index] > maxi)
        return NULL;
    BinaryTreeNode<int> *root = new BinaryTreeNode<int>(preorder[index++]);
    root->left = preToBST(preorder, index, mini, root->data);
    root->right = preToBST(preorder, index, root->data, maxi);
    return root;
}

```

```

BinaryTreeNode<int> *preorderToBST(vector<int> &preorder) {
    int mini = INT_MIN, maxi = INT_MAX;
    int index = 0;
    return preToBST(preorder, index, mini, maxi);
}

```

Time Complexity: $O(N)$

Space Complexity: $O(N)$