

# **Trees and BSTs**

# **BSTs: Binary Search Trees**

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# Search

- Given a BST already formed, how to we search a key in it?
  - Recursive search of a node storing the desired key
    - Visit the tree from the root
    - Terminate the search if
      - Either the searched key is the one of the current node (search hit) or
      - An empty tree (the sentinel node or a NULL pointer) has been reached (search miss)
    - Recur from the current node on
      - The left sub-tree if the searched key is smaller than the key of the current node
      - The right sub-tree otherwise







# **Minimum and Maximum**

- Find the minimum key in a given BST
  - ➢ If the BST is empty return NULL
  - > Follow pointers onto **left** sub-trees until they exist
  - Return last key encountered
- Find the maximum ley in a given BST
  - ➢ If the BST is empty return NULL
  - Follow pointers onto right sub-trees until they exist
  - Return last key encountered



# **Recursive implementation**



# **Iterative implementation**





- Insert into a BST a node storing a new item
- The BST property must be maintained
  - ➢ If the BST is empty
    - Create a new tree node with the new key and return its pointer
  - Recursion
    - Insert into the left sub-tree if the item key is less than the current node key
    - Insert into the right sub-tree if the item key is larger than the current node key
- Notice that in all cases the new node in on a BST leaf (terminal node with no children)







# **Iterative implementation**

- BST insert can be also be performed using an iterative procedure
  - Find the position first
  - Then add the new node
- As we cannot assign the new pointer on the way back (on recursion) we need two pointers
  - Please remind the ordered list implementation
    - The visit was perfomed either using two pointers or the pointer of a pointer to assign the new pointer to the the pointer of the previous element

#### **Iterative implementation**





# **Node Extract**

- Given a BST delete a node with a given key
  - > We have to recursively search the key into the BST
  - $\succ$  If we found it
    - Then we must delete it
    - Otherwise the key is not in the BST and we just return
- Search is performed as before and it is followed by the procedure to delete the node

#### **Node Extract**

#### To sum up we have to

- ➢ If the BST is empty
  - Return doing nothing
- If the current node is the one with the desired key, then apply one of the following three basic rules
  - If the node has no children, simply remove it
  - If the node has one child, then move the chile one level higher in the tree to substitute the erased node in the tree with its child
  - If the node has two children, find
    - The greatest node in its left subtree or
    - The smallest node in its right subtree and substitute the erased node with it



# **Node Extract**

- If the current node is not the one with the desired key
  - Recur onto the left sub-tree in the key is smaller than the node's key
  - Recur onto the right sub-tree in the key is smaller than the node's key



## **Recursive implementation**



# **Recursive implementation**

















- Tree fully balanced with n nodes
  - Height  $h = \alpha(\log_2 n)$
- Tree completely unbalanced with n nodes
  - Height  $h = \alpha(n)$
- ➢  $O(\log n) ≤ T(n) ≤ O(n)$





