Lecture 24, 11 November 2025

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Programming and Data Structures with Python

Lecture 24, 11 Nov 2025

Two dimensional data structures

$\sqrt{n} \times \sqrt{n}$ array

Binary tree – heap – insert()

delete_max()

balanced by construction

height is $O(\log \text{size})$

Dynamic sorted data

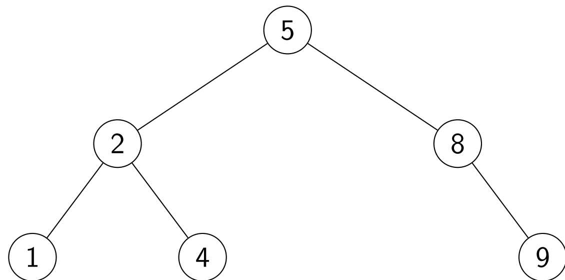
- Sorting is useful for efficient searching
- What if the data is changing dynamically?
  - Items are periodically inserted and deleted
- Insert/delete in a sorted list takes time $O(n)$

Dynamic sorted data

- Sorting is useful for efficient searching
- What if the data is changing dynamically?
  - Items are periodically inserted and deleted
- Insert/delete in a sorted list takes time $O(n)$
- Move to a tree structure, like heaps for priority queues

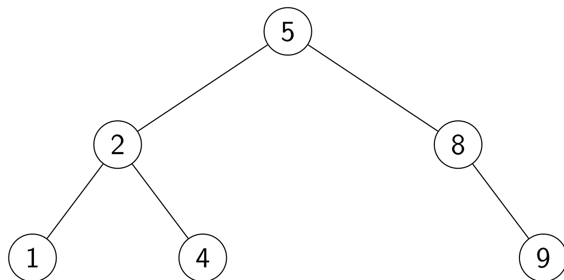
Binary search tree — No duplicates

- For each node with value v
  - All values in the left subtree are $< v$
  - All values in the right subtree are $> v$



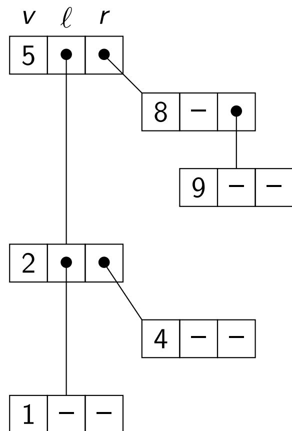
Binary search tree

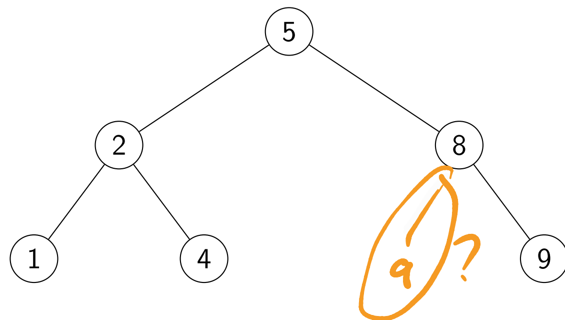
- For each node with value v
  - All values in the left subtree are $< v$
  - All values in the right subtree are $> v$
- No duplicate values



Implementing a binary search tree

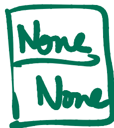
- Each node has a value and pointers to its children



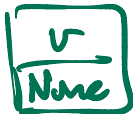


Back to lists

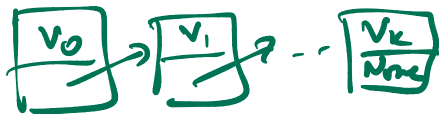
Empty



Singleton



General



appendr(v) — if empty
set value = v
elsif singleton
add a successor v
else recursively append v to next.

2 base cases (the "if empty" and "elsif singleton" cases)

Solution

Terminate every list with an empty node

appendr(v)

```
if emptylist
    set value = v
    set next = new Node()
else
    self.next.appendr(v)
```

Implementing a binary search tree

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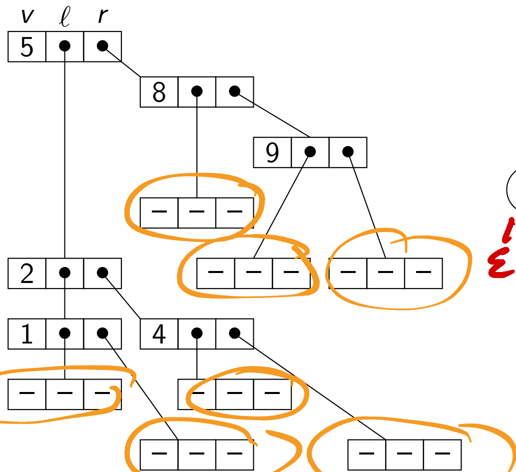

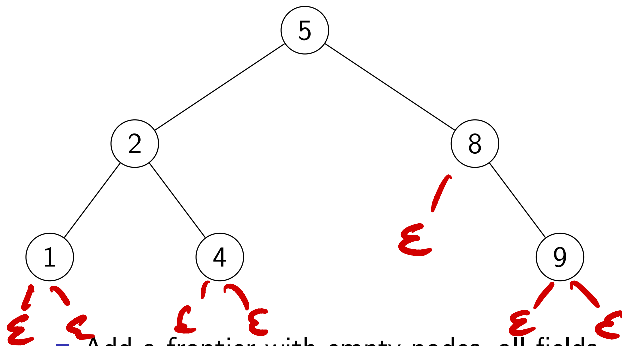

- Add a frontier with empty nodes, all fields –
  - Empty tree is single empty node
  - Leaf node points to empty nodes
- Easier to implement operations recursively

The class Tree

- Three local fields, `value`, `left`, `right`
- Value `None` for empty value –
- Empty tree has all fields `None`
- Leaf has a nonempty `value` and empty `left` and `right`

```
class Tree:

    # Constructor:
    def __init__(self,initval=None):
        self.value = initval
        if self.value != None:
            self.left = Tree()
            self.right = Tree()
        else:
            self.left = None
            self.right = None
        return

    # Only empty node has value None
    def isempty(self):
        return (self.value == None)

    # Leaf nodes have both children empty
    def isleaf(self):
        return (self.value != None and
                self.left.isempty() and
                self.right.isempty())
```

Inorder traversal

- List the left subtree, then the current node, then the right subtree
- Lists values in sorted order
- Use to print the tree

```
class Tree:
    ...
    # Inorder traversal
    def inorder(self):
        if self.isempty():
            return([])
        else:
            return(self.left.inorder()+
                   [self.value]+
                   self.right.inorder())

    # Display Tree as a string
    def __str__(self):
        return(str(self.inorder()))
```

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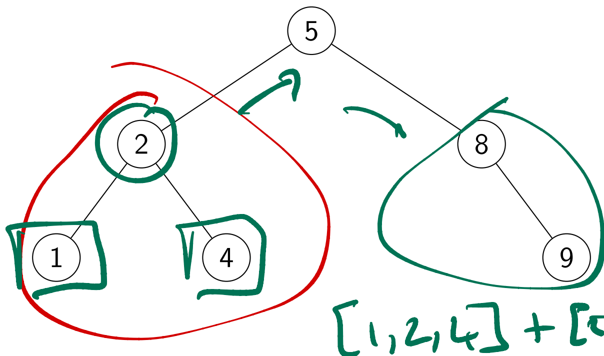


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Find a value v

- Check value at current node
- If `v` smaller than current node, go left
- If `v` smaller than current node, go right
- Natural generalization of binary search

```
class Tree:
    ...
    # Check if value v occurs in tree
    def find(self,v):
        if self.isempty():
            return(False)

        if self.value == v:
            return(True)

        if v < self.value:
            return(self.left.find(v))

        if v > self.value:
            return(self.right.find(v))
```

Find a value v

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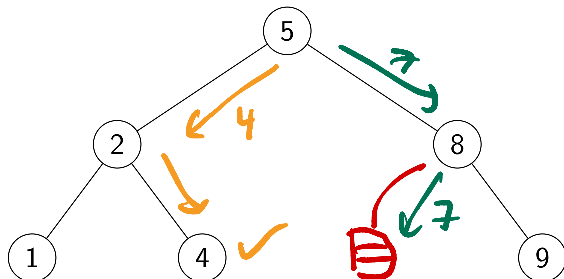


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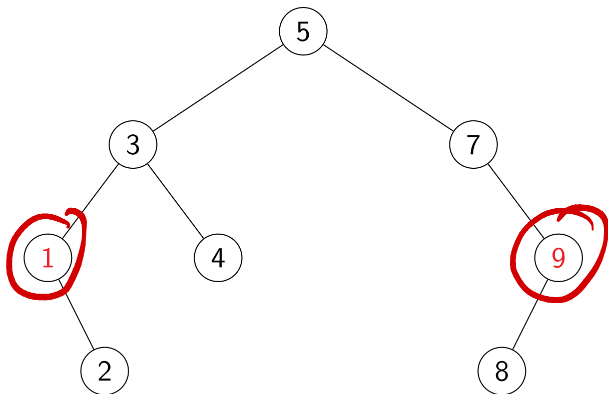

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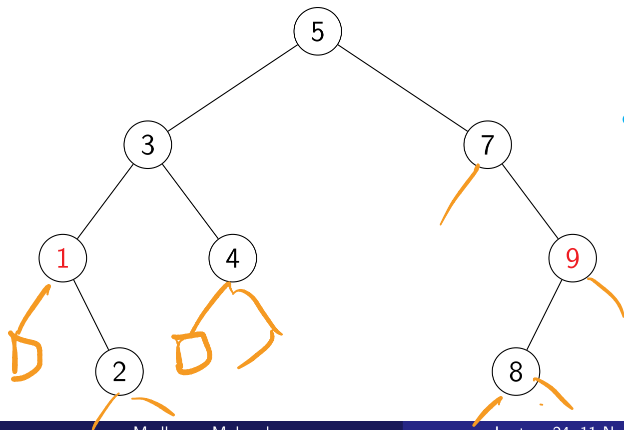
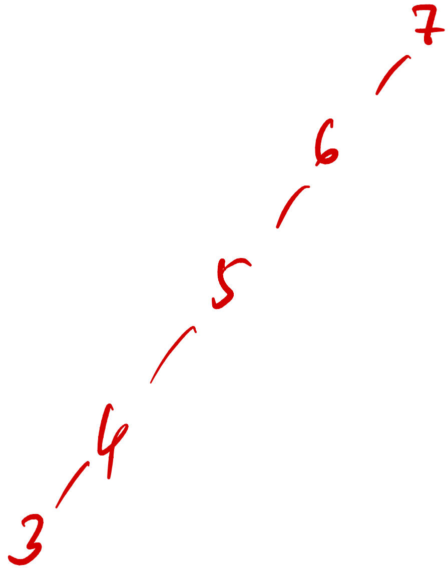



```
class Tree:
    ...
    def minval(self):
        if self.left.isempty():
            return(self.value)
        else:
            return(self.left.minval())


    def maxval(self):
        if self.right.isempty():
            return(self.value)
        else:
            return(self.right.maxval())
```

Bad tree



Insert a value `v`

- Try to find `v`
- Insert at the position where `find` fails

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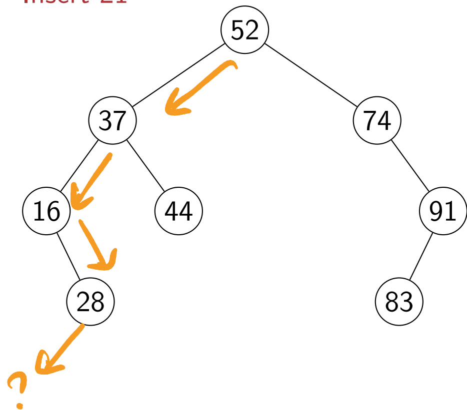
Insert 21



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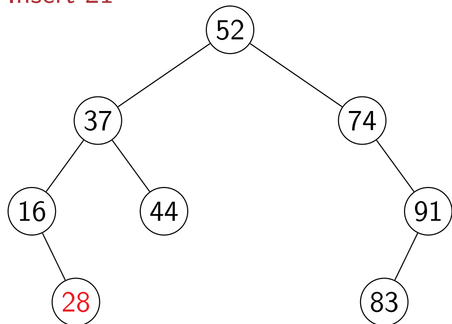

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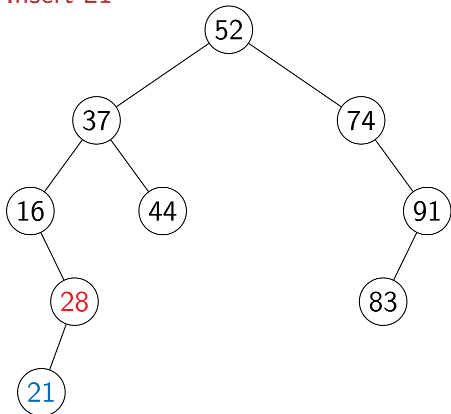
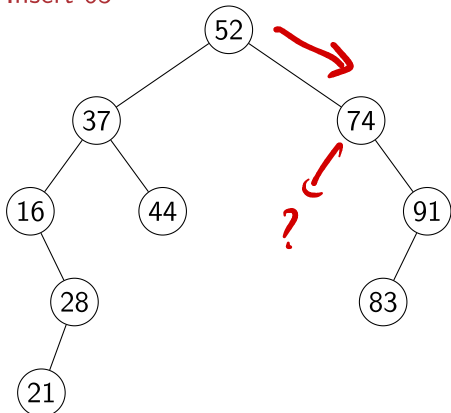


Insert a value v

- Try to find v
- Insert at the position where find fails

Insert 65



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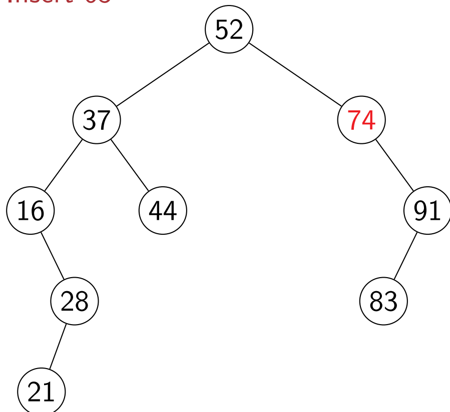

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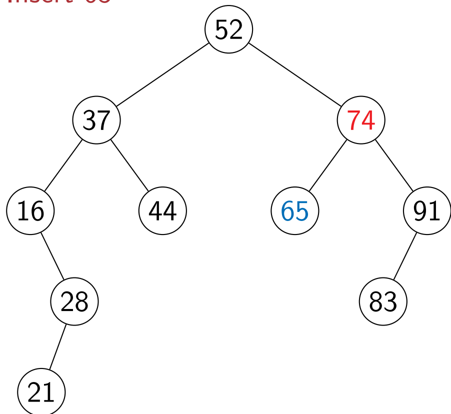

Insert a value v

- Try to find `v`
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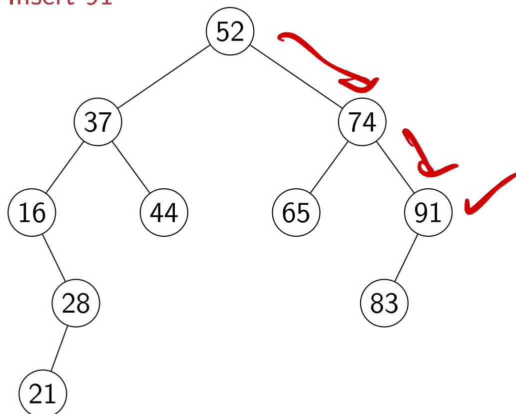
Insert 91



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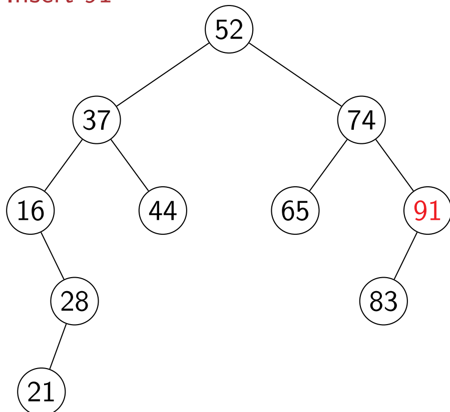


```
class Tree:
    ...
    def insert(self,v):
        if self.isempty():
            self.value = v
            self.left = Tree()
            self.right = Tree()

        if self.value == v:
            return

        if v < self.value:
            self.left.insert(v)
            return

        if v > self.value:
            self.right.insert(v)
            return
```

find

return (False)

return (True)

Delete a value v

- If `v` is present, delete

Delete a value v

- If v is present, delete
- Leaf node? No problem

Delete a value v

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- Leaf node? No problem
- If only one child, promote that subtree

Delete a value v

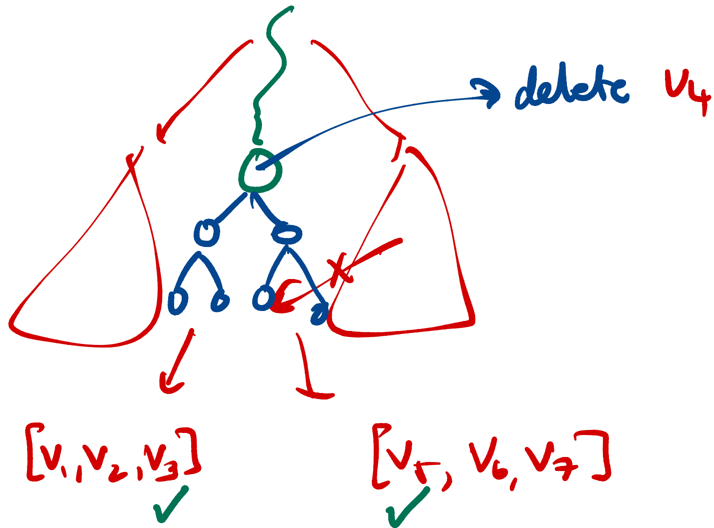
- If v is present, delete
- Leaf node? No problem Case 1
- If only one child, promote that subtree Case2
- Otherwise, replace v with `self.left.maxval()` and delete `self.left.maxval()` Case3
  - `self.left.maxval()` has no right child

```
class Tree:
    ...
    def delete(self,v):
        if self.isempty():
            return
        if v < self.value:
            self.left.delete(v)
            return
        if v > self.value:
            self.right.delete(v)
            return
        if v == self.value:
            if self.isleaf():
                self.makeempty()
            elif self.left.isempty():
                self.copyright()
            elif self.right.isempty():
                self.copyleft()
            else:
                self.value = self.left.maxval()
                self.left.delete(self.left.maxval())
            return
```

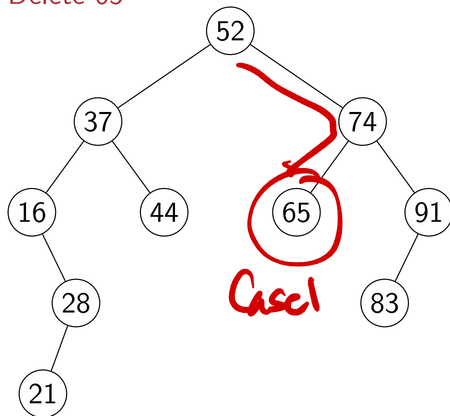
v absent

Case 1

Case 2


delete
v_4
$[v_1, v_2, v_3]$
$[v_5, v_6, v_7]$

Delete a value v

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            elif self.left.isempty():
                self.copyright()
            elif self.right.isempty():
                self.copyleft()
            else:
                self.value = self.left.maxval()
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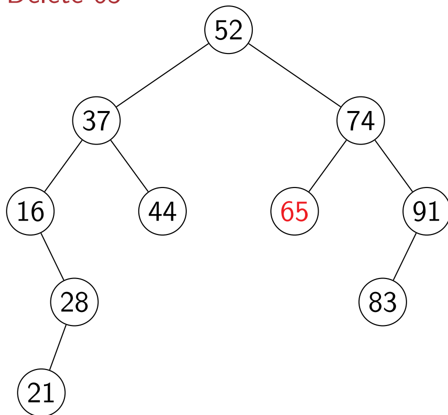
            return
```

Delete a value v

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            elif self.left.isempty():
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            elif self.right.isempty():
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            else:
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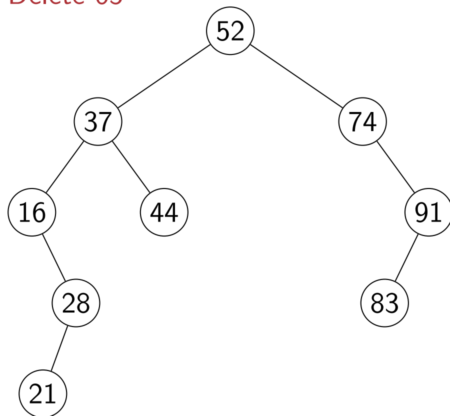
Delete a value v

Delete 65

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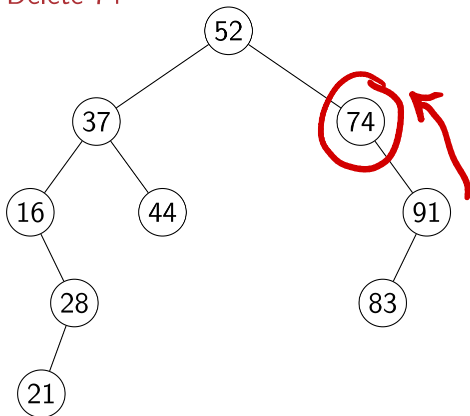


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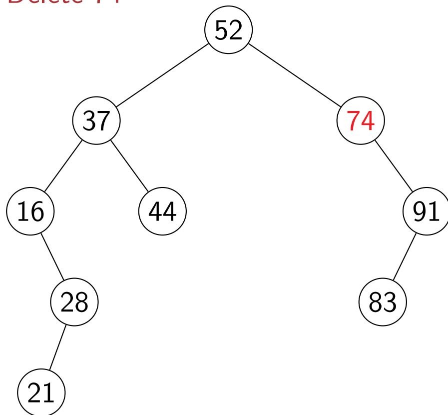


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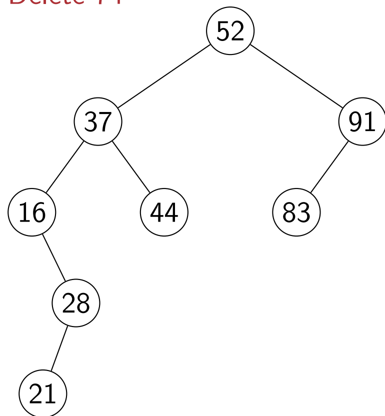
Delete a value v

Delete 74

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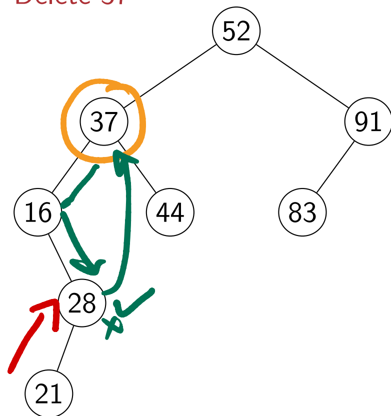


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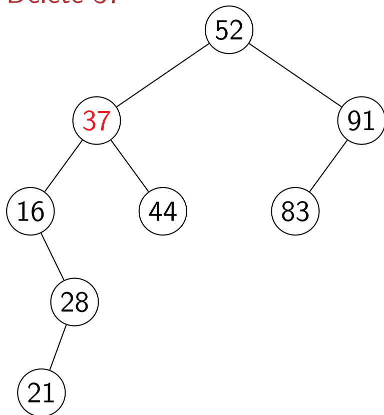


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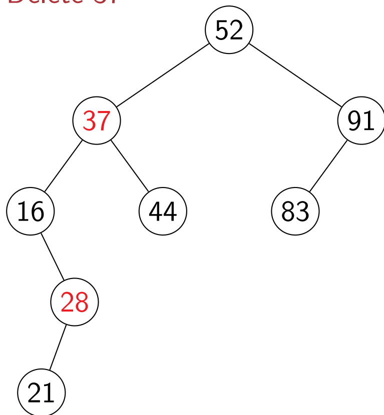


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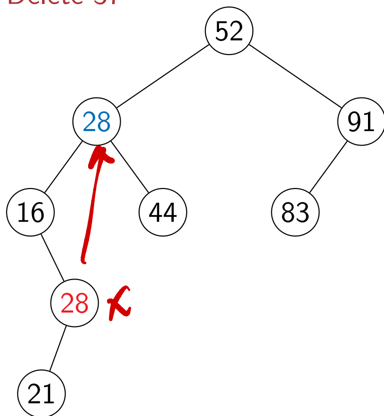


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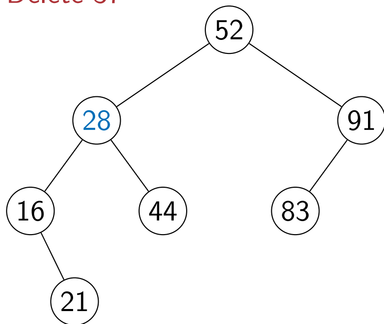


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                self.left.delete(self.left.maxval())
            return
```

Delete a value v

```
class Tree:
    ...
    def delete(self,v):
        if self.isempty():
            return
        if v < self.value:
            self.left.delete(v)
            return
        if v > self.value:
            self.right.delete(v)
            return
        if v == self.value:
            if self.isleaf():
                self.makeempty()
            elif self.left.isempty():
                self.copyright()
            elif self.right.isempty():
                self.copyleft()
            else:
                self.value = self.left.maxval()
                self.left.delete(self.left.maxval())
            return
```

```
# Convert leaf node to empty node
def makeempty(self):
    self.value = None
    self.left = None
    self.right = None
    return

# Promote left child
def copyleft(self):
    self.value = self.left.value
    self.right = self.left.right
    self.left = self.left.left
    return

# Promote right child
def copyright(self):
    self.value = self.right.value
    self.left = self.right.left
    self.right = self.right.right
    return
```

Complexity

- `find()`, `insert()` and `delete()` all walk down a single path
- Worst-case: height of the tree
- An unbalanced tree with n nodes may have height $O(n)$
- Balanced trees have height $O(\log n)$
- How can we maintain balance as tree grows and shrinks?

Operations on search trees

Defining balance

- Left and right subtrees should be "equal"
  - Two possible measures: `size` and `height`

Operations on search trees

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Defining balance

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  - Two possible measures: `size` and `height`
- `self.left.size()` and `self.right.size()` are equal?
  - Only possible for complete binary trees
- `self.left.size()` and `self.right.size()` differ by at most 1?
  - Plausible, but difficult to maintain

Height balanced trees

- `self.height()` — number of nodes on longest path from root to leaf
  - 0 for empty tree
  - 1 for tree with only a root node
  - $1 + \max$ of heights of left and right subtrees, in general

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Red Black trees

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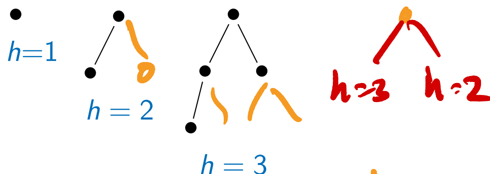
- Minimum size height-balanced trees



height is small wrt size

log(size)

size is large wrt height

2^{height}

Height balanced trees

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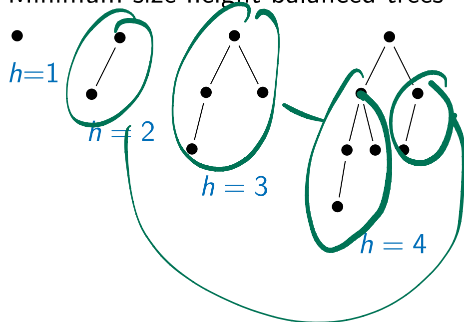

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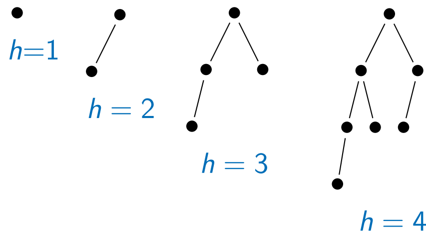
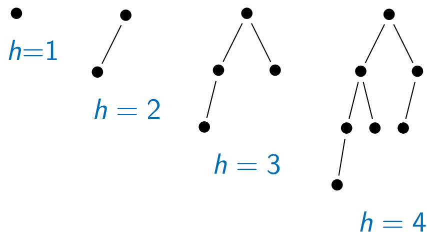


- General strategy to build a small balanced tree of height h
  - Smallest balanced tree of height $h-1$ as left subtree
  - Smallest balanced tree of height $h-2$ as right subtree

Height balanced trees

- Minimum size height-balanced trees



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Height balanced trees

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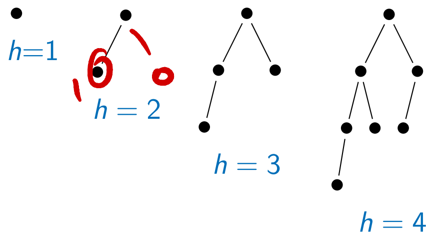

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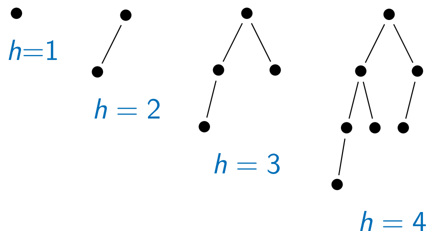
Height balanced trees

- Minimum size height-balanced trees



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  - $S(0) = 0$, $S(1) = 1$
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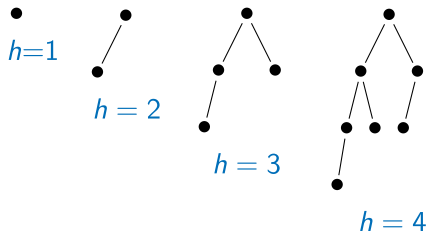
Height balanced trees

- Minimum size height-balanced trees



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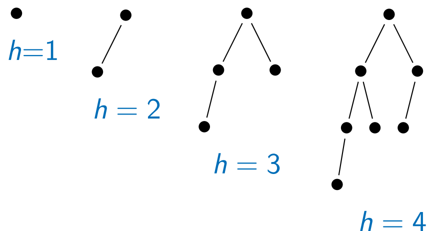
  - $F(n) = F(n-1) + F(n-2)$

Height balanced trees

- Minimum size height-balanced trees



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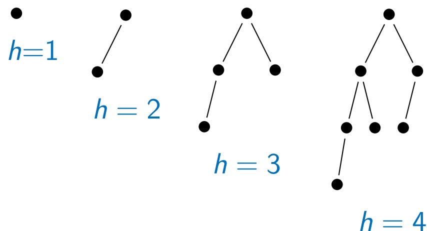

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- $S(h)$ grows exponentially with h
- For size n, h is $O(\log n)$

Correcting imbalance

- Slope of a node : `self.left.height() - self.right.height()`

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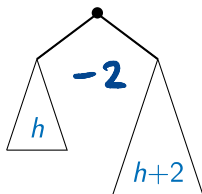
Left rotation



h may be 0
but h+2 > 0

Correcting imbalance

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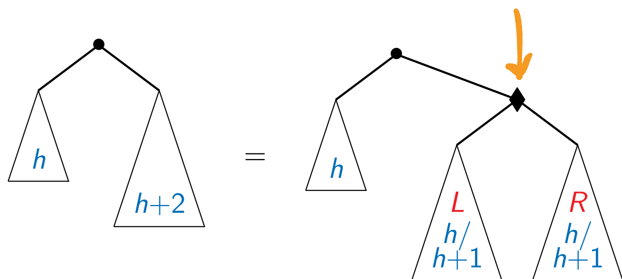

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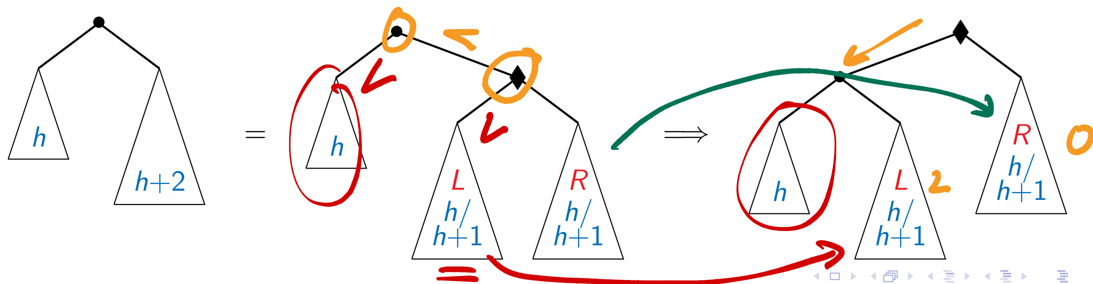
Left rotation — converts slope -2 to $\{0, 1, 2\}$



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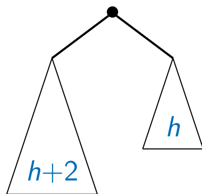
Right rotation



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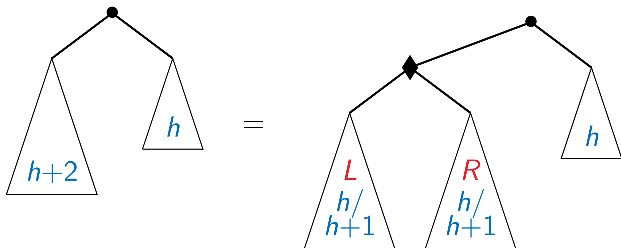
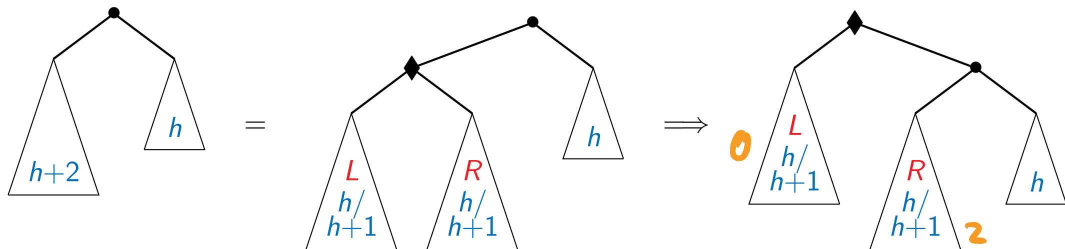
Right rotation



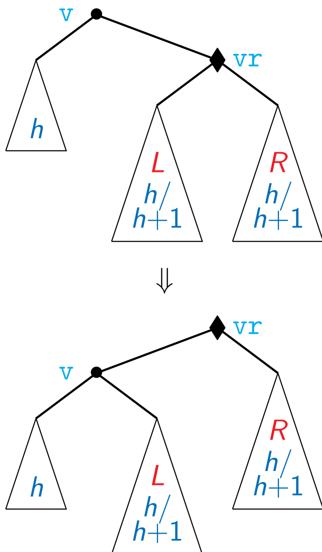
Correcting imbalance

- Slope of a node : `self.left.height() - self.right.height()`
- Balanced tree — slope is $\{-1, 0, 1\}$
- `t.insert(v)`, `t.delete(v)` can alter slope to -2 or $+2$

Right rotation — converts slope $+2$ to $\{-2, -1, 0\}$

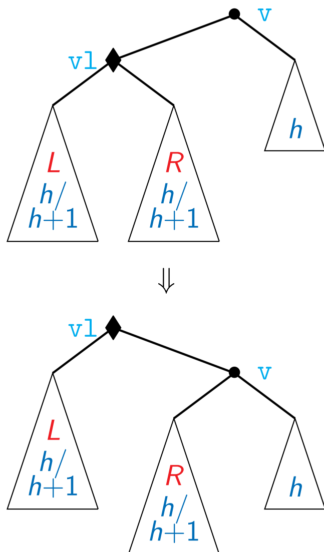


Implementing rotations




```
class Tree:
  ...

  def leftrotate(self):
    v = self.value
    vr = self.right.value
    tl = self.left
    trl = self.right.left
    trr = self.right.right

    newleft = Tree(v)
    newleft.left = tl
    newleft.right = trl

    self.value = vr
    self.left = newleft
    self.right = trr

    return
```

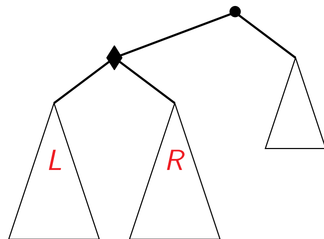
Implementing rotations




```
class Tree:
  ...

  def rightrotate(self):
    v = self.value
    vl = self.left.value
    tll = self.left.left
    tlr = self.left.right
    tr = self.right

    newright = Tree(v)
    newright.left = tlr
    newright.right = tr

    self.value = vl
    self.left = tll
    self.right = newright

    return
```

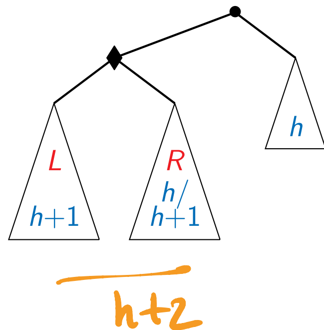
Rebalancing, root has slope $+2$

- Rebalance bottom-up, assume subtrees are balanced



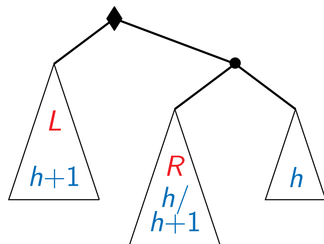
Rebalancing, root has slope $+2$

- Rebalance bottom-up, assume subtrees are balanced
- Case 1: Slope at ♦ is in $\{0, 1\}$



Rebalancing, root has slope $+2$

- Rebalance bottom-up, assume subtrees are balanced
- Case 1: Slope at ♦ is in $\{0, 1\}$
  - Rotate right at •
  - All nodes are balanced



Rebalancing, root has slope $+2$

- Rebalance bottom-up, assume subtrees are balanced
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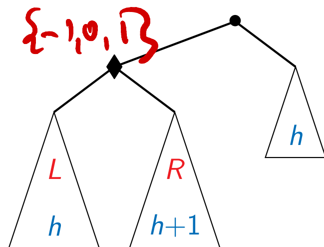
- Case 2: Slope at ♦ is -1



Rebalancing, root has slope $+2$

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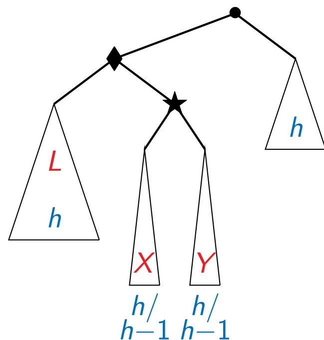
  - Expand *R*



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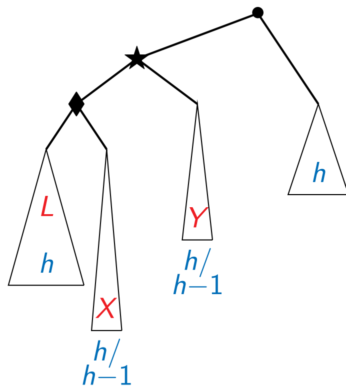

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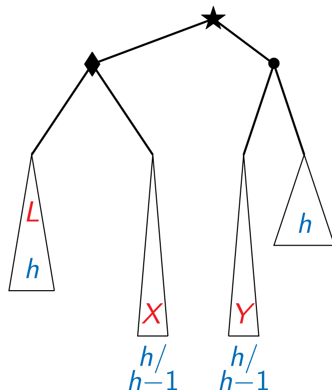

Rebalancing, root has slope $+2$

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- Case 2: Slope at ♦ is -1
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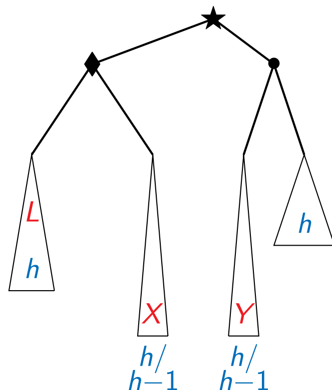
  - Rotate left at ♦
  - Rotate left at •
- Rebalance with root slope -2 is symmetric



Update insert() and delete()

- Use the rebalancing strategy to define a function `rebalance()`
- Rebalance each time the tree is modified
- Automatically rebalances bottom up

```
class Tree:
    ...
    def insert(self,v):
        if self.isempty():
            self.value = v
            self.left = Tree()
            self.right = Tree()

        if self.value == v:
            return

        if v < self.value:
            self.left.insert(v)
            self.left.rebalance()
            return

        if v > self.value:
            self.right.insert(v)
            self.right.rebalance()
            return
```

Update insert() and delete()

- Use the rebalancing strategy to define a function `rebalance()`
- Rebalance each time the tree is modified
- Automatically rebalances bottom up

```
class Tree:
    ...
    def delete(self,v):
        ...
        if v < self.value:
            self.left.delete(v)
            self.left.rebalance()
            return
        if v > self.value:
            self.right.delete(v)
            self.right.rebalance()
            return
        if v == self.value:
            if self.isleaf():
                self.makeempty()
            elif self.left.isempty():
                self.copyright()
            elif self.right.isempty():
                self.copyleft()
            else:
                self.value = self.left.maxval()
                self.left.delete(self.left.maxval())
            return
```

Computing slope

- To compute the slope we need heights of subtrees
- But, computing height is $O(n)$

```
class Tree:
    ...
    def height(self):
        if self.isempty():
            return(0)
        else:
            return(1 +
                   max(self.left.height(),
                       self.right.height()))
```

Computing slope

- To compute the slope we need heights of subtrees
- But, computing height is $O(n)$
- Instead, maintain a field `self.height`

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Computing slope

- To compute the slope we need heights of subtrees
- But, computing height is $O(n)$
- Instead, maintain a field `self.height`
- After each modification, update `self.height` based on `self.left.height`, `self.right.height`

```
class Tree:
    ...
    def insert(self,v):
        ...
        if v < self.value:
            self.left.insert(v)
            self.left.rebalance()
            self.height = 1 +
                       max(self.left.height,
                           self.right.height)
            return

        if v > self.value:
            self.right.insert(v)
            self.right.rebalance()
            self.height = 1 +
                       max(self.left.height,
                           self.right.height)
            return
```

Summary

- Using rotations, we can maintain height balance
- Height balanced trees have height $O(\log n)$
- `find()`, `insert()` and `delete()` all walk down a single path, take time $O(\log n)$