# Algorithms and Data Structures for Data Science Binary Search Tree

CS 277 Brad Solomon April 9, 2025



**Department of Computer Science** 

# Learning Objectives

Review understanding of Binary Trees

**Extend ADT to Binary Search Trees** 

Implement BST operations

# (Binary) Tree Recursion

A **binary tree** is a tree *T* such that:

$$T = None$$

or

$$T = treeNode(val, T_L, T_R)$$

```
class treeNode:
def __init__(self, val, left=None, right=None):
self.val = val
self.left = left
self.right = right
```

```
1 class binaryTree:
2    def __init__(self):
3         self.root = None
4    5
```

#### Tree ADT

Constructor: Build a new (empty) tree

**Insert:** Add an object into tree

Remove: Remove a specific object from tree

**Traverse:** Visit every node in tree (all objects)

**Search:** Find a specific object in the tree

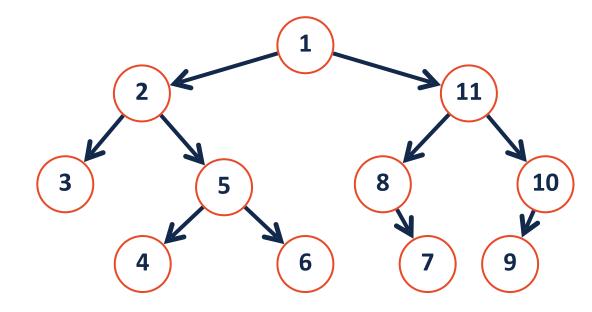
# Binary Tree Traversal



Last class we implemented traversals using recursion, stacks, and queues.

What implementations led to a **depth first search traversal**?

Which lead to breadth first search?



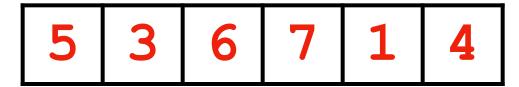
# Binary Tree Utility

This week we will deep dive into useful implementations of binary trees

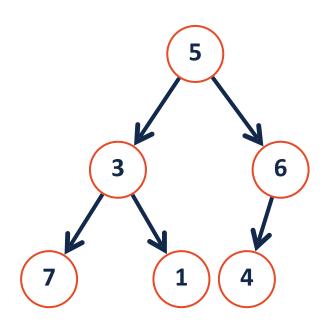
**Binary Search Tree:** An efficient implementation of a dictionary

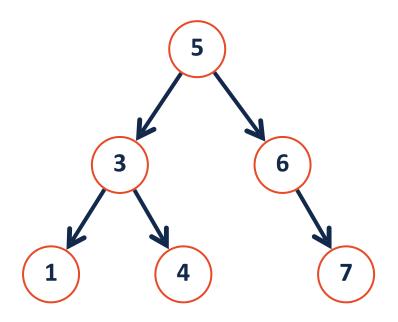
Huffman Tree: A binary tree used to define an optimal text encoding

# Improved search on a binary tree







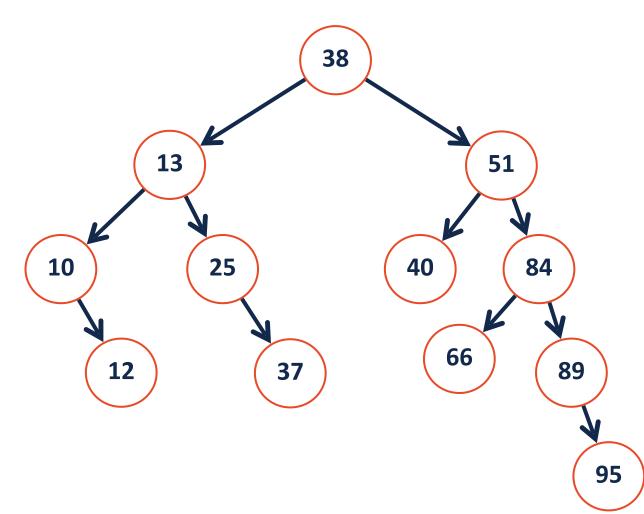


# Binary Search Tree (BST)

A **BST** is a binary tree  $T = treeNode(val, T_L, T_r)$  such that:

$$\forall n \in T_L, n.val < T.val$$

$$\forall n \in T_R, n.val > T.val$$



# Dictionary ADT

#### Data is often organized into key/value pairs:

Word → Definition

Course Number → Lecture/Lab Schedule

Node → Edges

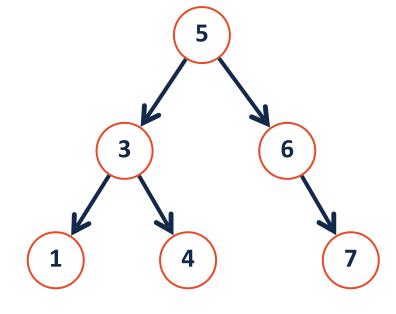
Flight Number → Arrival Information

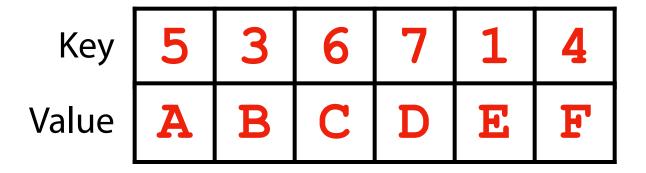
URL → HTML Page

Average Image Color → File Location of Image

# Dictionary as a Binary Search Tree

```
class bstNode:
    def __init__(self, key, val, left=None, right=None):
        self.key = key
        self.val = val
        self.left = left
        self.right = right
```





# Binary **Search** Tree ADT — what changed?



Constructor: Build a new (empty) tree

**Insert:** Add an object into tree

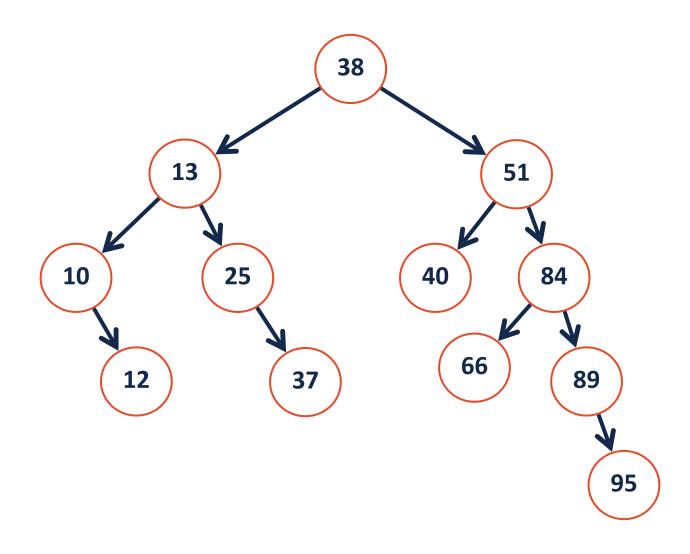
**Remove:** Remove a specific object from tree

**Traverse:** Visit every node in tree (all objects)

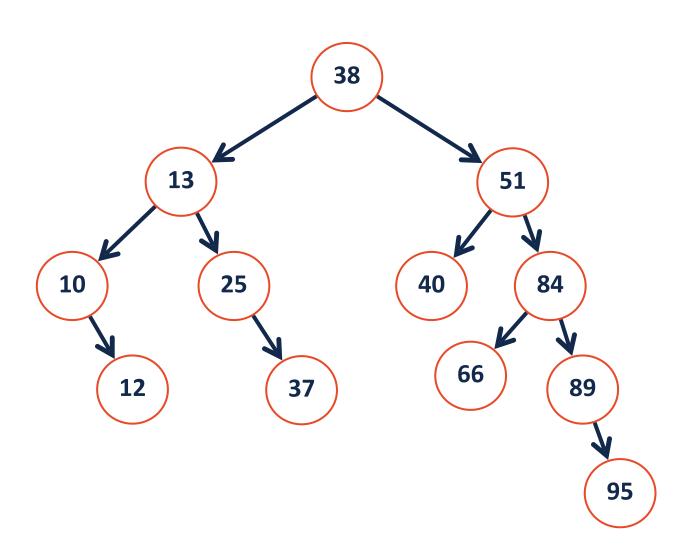
**Find** 

**Search:** Find a specific **key** in the tree, **return value** 

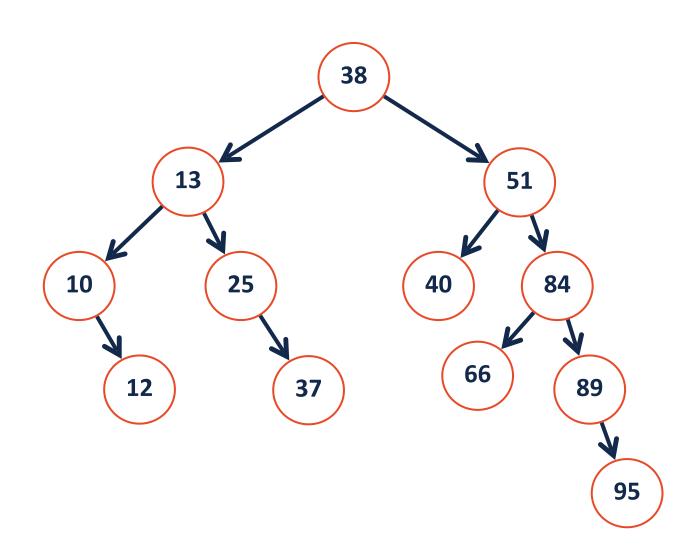
#### **BST In-Order Traversal**



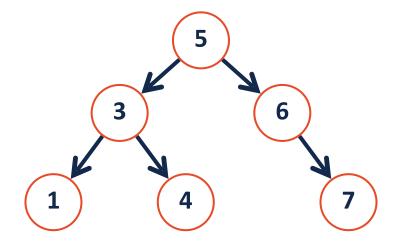
# find(66)



# find(9)



**Base Case:** 



**Recursive Step:** 

**Combining:** 



#### A recursive function based around value of root:

Base Case: If root is None, return root

If root.key is query, return root

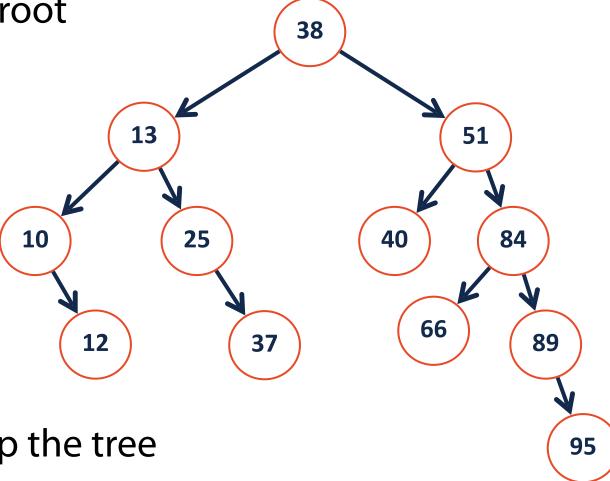
#### **Recursion:**

root.key \_\_\_\_ query, recurse right

root.key \_\_\_\_ query, recurse left

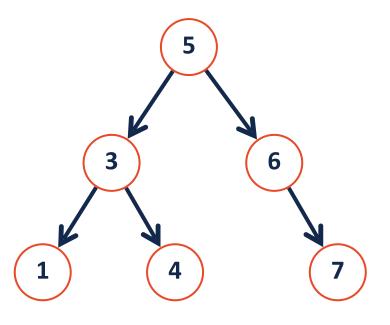
#### **Combining:**

Return the recursive value back up the tree





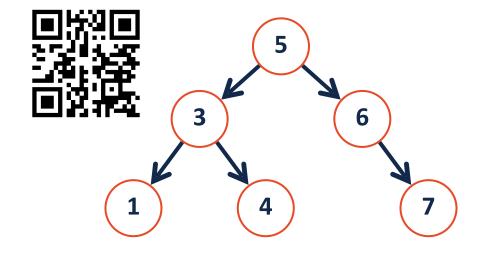
```
#inside class bst
   def find(self, key):
 3
 4
 5
 6
 7
 8
   def find_helper(self, node, key):
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
```



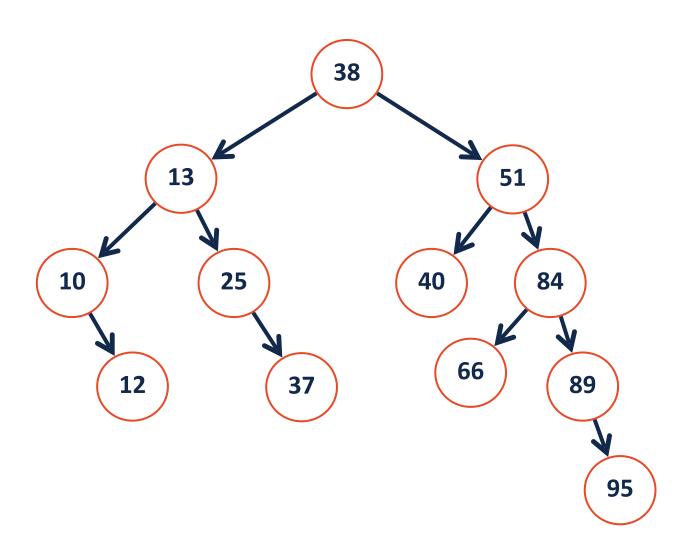
**Base Case:** 

**Recursive Step:** 

**Combining:** 

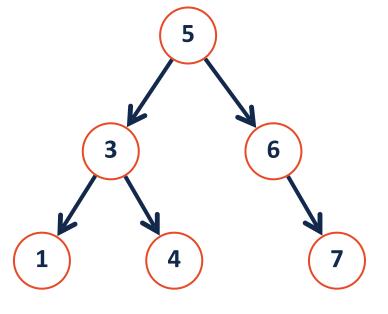


# insert(33)



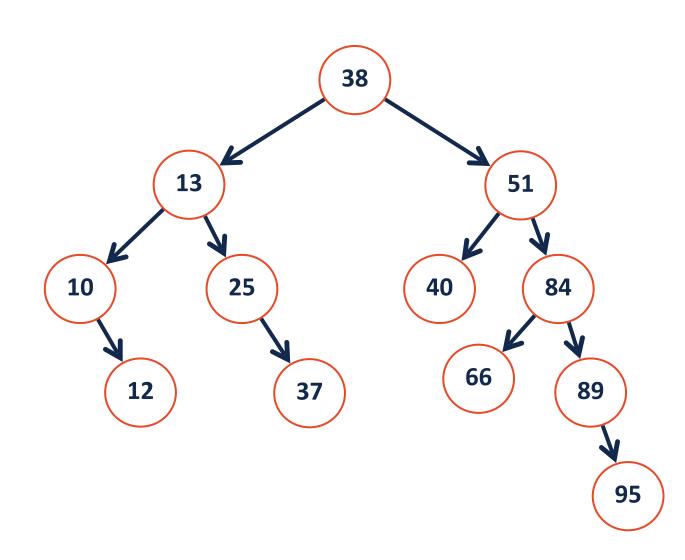
```
# inside class bst
   def insert(self, key, val):
       self.root = self.insert_helper(self.root, key, val)
 3
   def insert_helper(self, node, key, val):
 6
 7
 8
 9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
```





What binary tree would be formed by inserting the following sequence of integers: [3, 7, 2, 1, 4, 8, 0]

## remove (40)



#### remove (12)

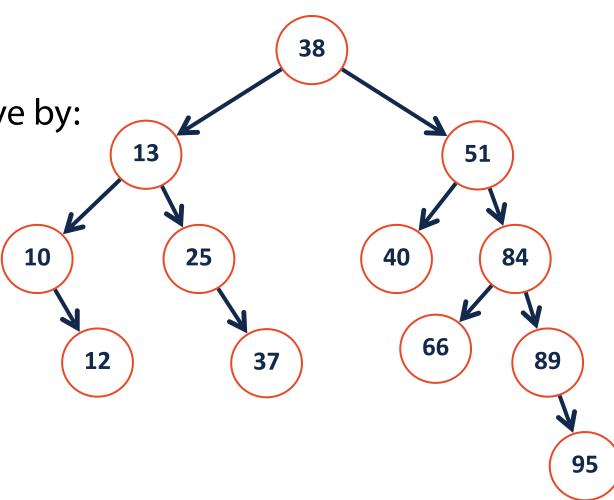
1) Find item being removed

2) Identify number of children

When we have zero children, remove by:

Set parent.**next** = None

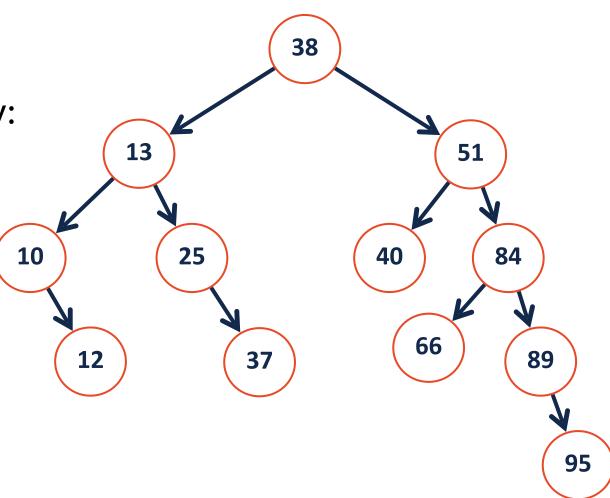
next is either left or right



#### remove (25)

- 1) Find item being removed
- 2) Identify number of children

When we have one child, remove by:



#### remove (10)

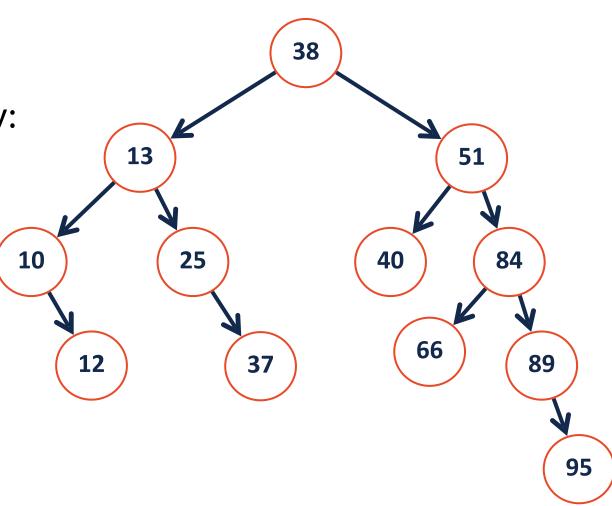
- 1) Find item being removed
- 2) Identify number of children

When we have one child, remove by:

Set parent.next1 = target.next2

next1 is either left or right

next2 is either left or right

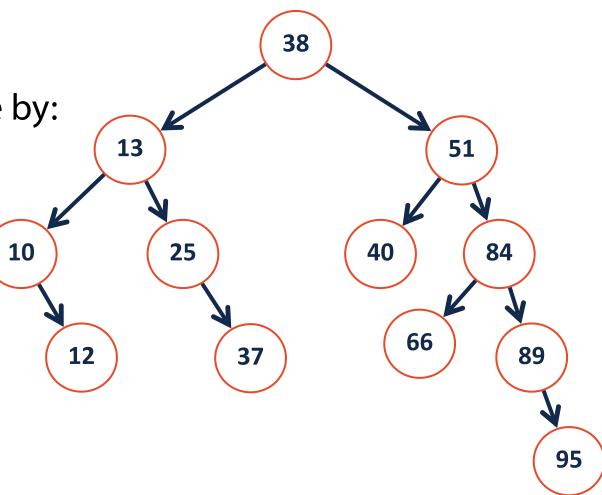


#### remove (13)

1) Find item being removed

2) Identify number of children

When we have two children, remove by:



# BST In-Order \_\_\_\_\_



#### **In-Order Predecessor**

Rightmost left child

$$IOP(38) =$$

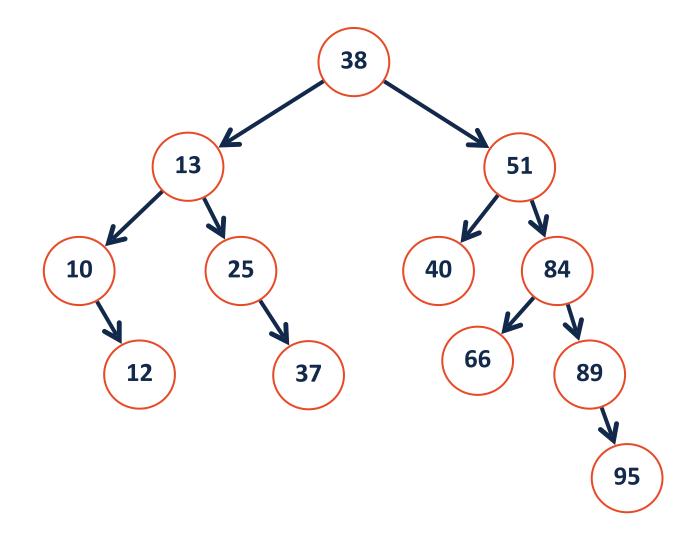
$$IOP(84) =$$

#### **In-Order Successor**

Leftmost right child

$$IOS(38) =$$

$$IOS(84) =$$



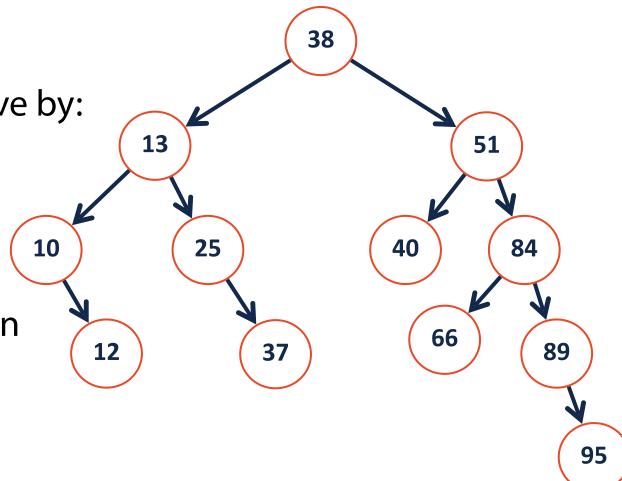
#### remove (13)

1) Find item being removed

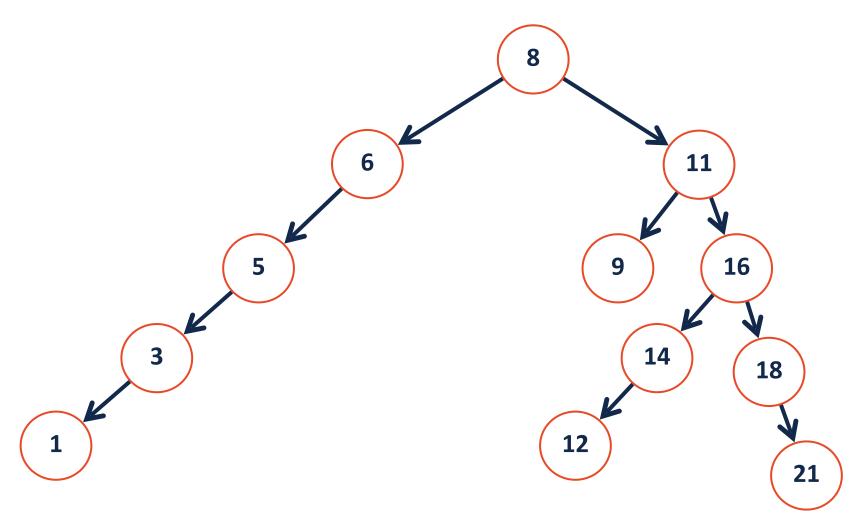
2) Identify number of children

When we have two children, remove by:

- 3) Find the IOP / IOS
- 4) Swap target with IOP / IOS
- 5) Remove target at its new location

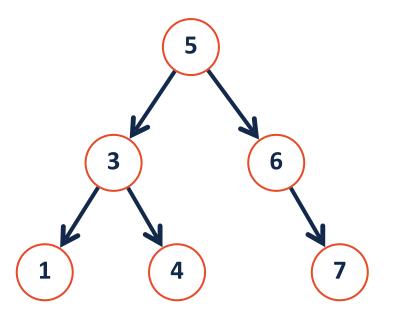


What will the tree structure look like if we remove node 16 using IOS?





```
def remove(self, key):
       self.root = self.remove_helper(self.root, key)
   def remove_helper(self, node, key):
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
```



# BST Analysis – Running Time





Operation	BST Worst Case
find	
insert	
delete	
traverse	

Every operation on a BST depends on the **height** of the tree.

... how do we relate O(h) to n, the size of our dataset?



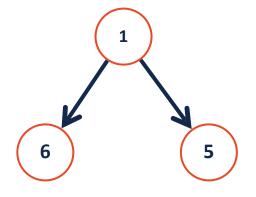
What is the max number of nodes in a tree of height h?



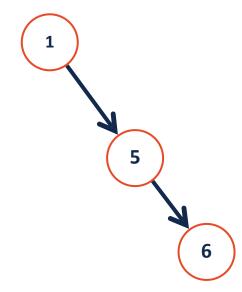
What is the min number of nodes in a tree of height h?

A BST of *n* nodes has a height between:

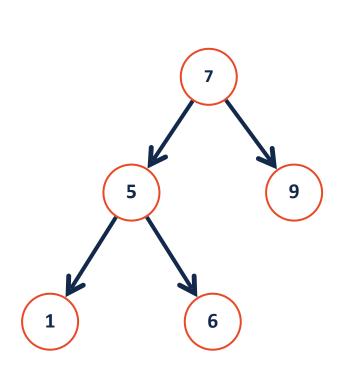
**Lower-bound:**  $O(\log n)$ 

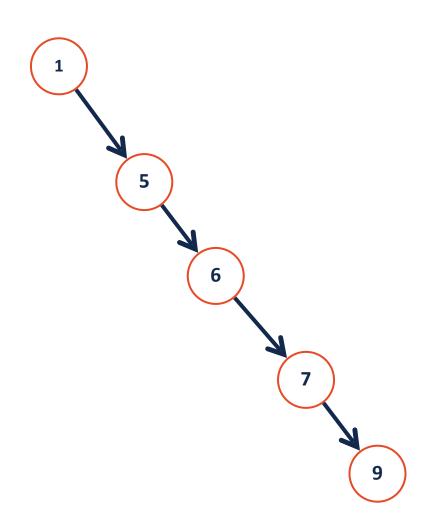


**Upper-bound:** O(n)



# Limiting the height of a tree





# Option A: Correcting bad insert order

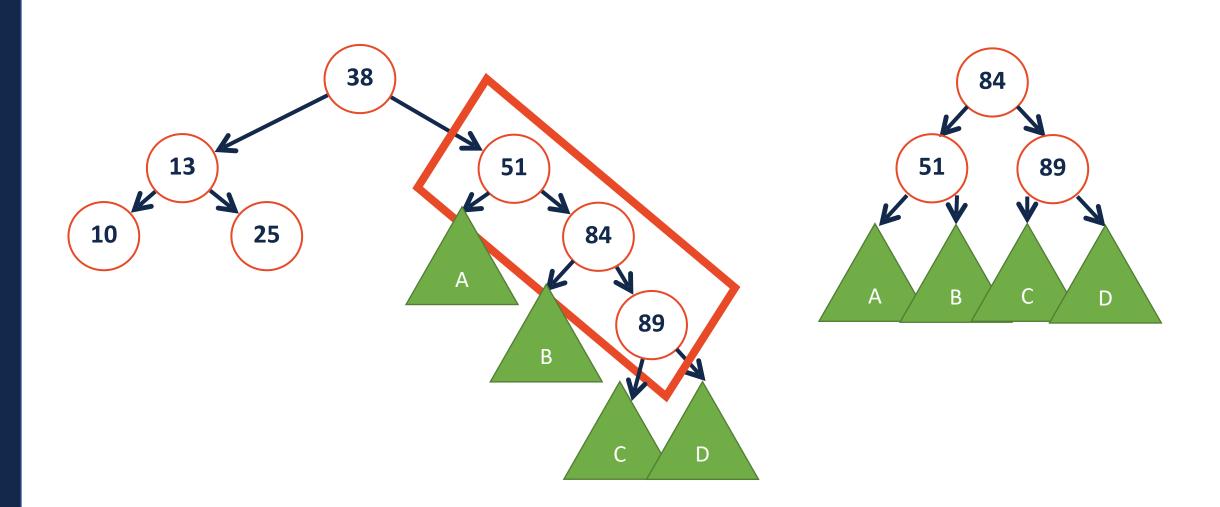
The height of a BST depends on the order in which the data was inserted

**Insert Order:** [1, 3, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7]

**Insert Order:** [4, 2, 3, 6, 7, 1, 5]

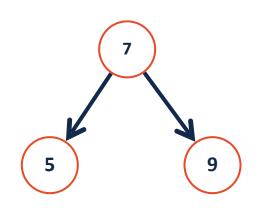
# AVL-Tree: A self-balancing binary search tree

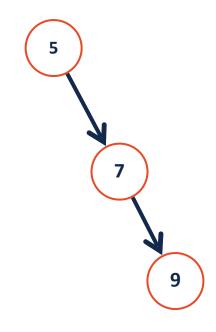
Rather than fixing an insertion order, just correct the tree as needed!



# Height-Balanced Tree

What tree is better?



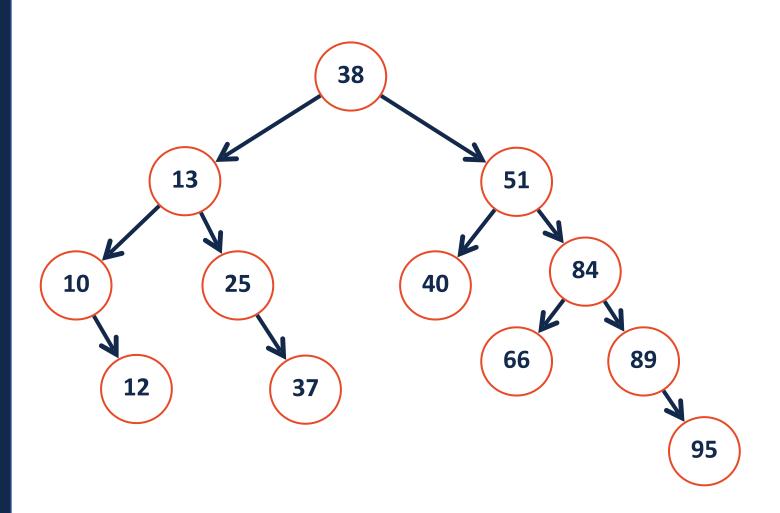


Height balance:  $b = height(T_R) - height(T_L)$ 

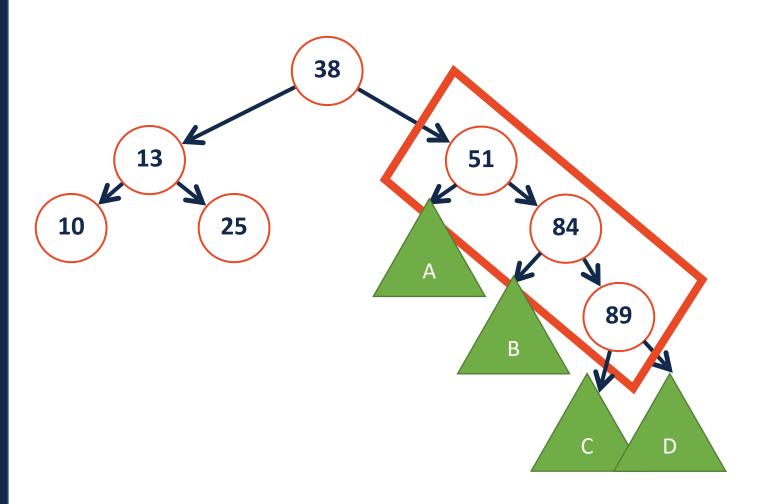
A tree is "balanced" if:

#### BST Rotations (The AVL Tree)

We can adjust the BST structure by performing **rotations**.



## **Left Rotation**



## **Left Rotation**

