

# Trees

Trees, Binary Search Trees, Heaps & Applications

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## Abstract

These are lecture notes used in CSCE 156 (Computer Science II), CSCE 235 (Discrete Structures) and CSCE 310 (Data Structures & Algorithms) at the University of Nebraska—Lincoln.



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## Part I

# Trees

Lecture Outlines

CSCE 156

- Basic definitions
- Tree Traversals

CSCE 235

- Review of basic definitions
- Huffman Coding

CSCE 310

- Heaps, Heap Sort
- Balanced BSTs: 2-3 Trees, AVL, Red-Black

## 1 Introduction

Motivation: we want a data structure to store elements that offers efficient, arbitrary retrieval (search), insertion, and deletion.

- Array-based Lists
  - $O(n)$  insertion and deletion
  - Fast index-based retrieval
  - Efficient binary search if sorted
- Linked Lists
  - Efficient,  $O(1)$  insert/delete for head/tail

- Inefficient,  $O(n)$  arbitrary search/insert/delete
- Efficient binary search not possible without random access
- Stacks and queues are efficient, but are restricted access data structures
- Possible alternative: Trees
- Trees have the potential to provide  $O(\log n)$  efficiency for all operations

## 2 Definitions & Terminology

- A *tree* is an acyclic graph
- For our purposes: a *tree* is a collection of *nodes* (that can hold keys, data, etc.) that are connected by *edges*
- Trees are also *oriented*: each node has a parent and children
- A node with no parents is the *root* of the tree, all child nodes are oriented downward
- Nodes not immediately connected can have an ancestor, descendant or cousin relationship
- A node with no children is a *leaf*
- A tree such that all nodes have at most two children is called a *binary tree*
- A binary tree is also oriented horizontally: each node may have a left and/or a right child
- Example: see Figure 1
- A *path* in a tree is a sequence nodes connected by edges
- The *length* of a path in a tree is the number of edges in the path (which equals the number of nodes in the path minus one)
- A path is *simple* if it does not traverse nodes more than once (this is the default type of path)
- The *depth* of a node  $u$  is the length of the (unique) path from the root to  $u$
- The depth of the root is 0
- The depth of a tree is the maximal depth of any node in the tree (sometimes the term *height* is used)

- All nodes of the same depth are considered to be at the same *level*
- A binary tree is *complete* (also called *full* or *perfect*) if all nodes are present at all levels 0 up to its depth  $d$
- A sub-tree rooted at a node  $u$  is the tree consisting of all descendants with  $u$  oriented as the root

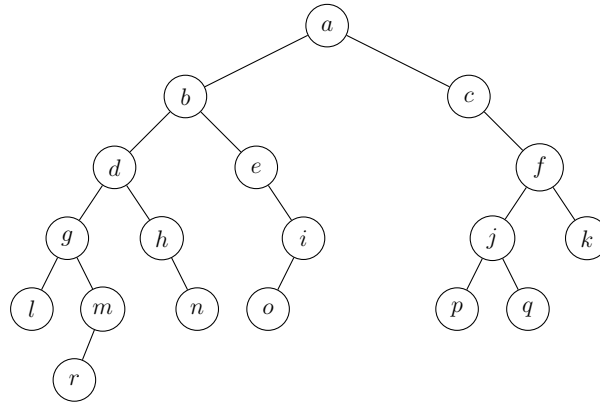


Figure 1: A Binary Tree

Properties:

- In a tree, all nodes are connected by exactly one unique path
- The maximum number of nodes at any level  $k$  is  $2^k$
- Thus, the maximum number of nodes  $n$  for any binary tree of depth  $d$  is:

$$n = 2^0 + 2^1 + 2^2 + \dots + 2^{d-1} + 2^d = \sum_{k=0}^d 2^k = 2^{d+1} - 1$$

- Given a *full binary tree* with  $n$  nodes in it has depth:

$$d = \log(n + 1) - 1$$

- That is,  $d = O(\log n)$

Motivation: if we can create a tree-based data structure with operations proportional to its depth, then we could potentially have a data structure that allows retrieval/search, insertion, and deletion in  $O(\log n)$ -time.

## 3 Tree Traversal

- Given a tree, we need a way to enumerate elements in a tree
- Many algorithms exist to iterate over the elements in a tree
- We'll look at several variations on a depth-first-search

### 3.1 Preorder Traversal

- A preorder traversal strategy visits nodes in the following order: root; left-sub-tree; right-sub-tree
- An example traversal on the tree in Figure 1:

*a, b, d, g, l, m, r, h, n, e, i, o, c, f, j, p, q, k*

- Applications:
  - Building a tree, traversing a tree, copying a tree, etc.
  - Efficient stack-based implementation
  - Used in prefix notation (polish notation); used in languages such as Lisp/Scheme

### 3.2 Inorder Traversal

- An inorder traversal strategy visits nodes in the following order: left-sub-tree; root; right-sub-tree
- An example traversal on the tree in Figure 1:

*l, g, r, m, d, h, n, b, e, o, i, a, c, p, j, q, f, k*

- Applications:
  - Enumerating elements in order in a binary search tree
  - Expression trees

### 3.3 Postorder Traversal

- A postorder traversal strategy visits nodes in the following order: left-sub-tree; right-sub-tree; root

- An example traversal on the tree in Figure 1:

$l, r, m, g, n, h, d, o, i, e, b, p, q, j, k, f, c, a$

- Applications:
  - Topological sorting
  - Destroying a tree when manual memory management is necessary (roots are the last thing that get cleaned up)
  - Reverse polish notation (operand-operand-operator, unambiguous, used in old HP calculators)
  - PostScript (Page Description Language)

### 3.4 Breadth-First Search Traversal

- Breadth-First Search (BFS) traversal is a general graph traversal strategy that explores local or close nodes first before traversing “deeper” into the graph
- When applied to an oriented binary tree, BFS explores the tree level-by-level (top-to-bottom, left-to-right)

### 3.5 Implementations & Data Structures

- Reference based implementation: `TreeNode<T>`
  - Owns (through composition) references to: `leftChild`, `rightChild`, `parent`
  - Can use either *sentinel* nodes or `null` to indicate missing children and parent
- `BinaryTree<T>` owns a `root`
- SVN examples: `unl.cse.bst`

#### 3.5.1 Preorder Implementations

INPUT : A binary tree node  $u$   
 OUTPUT: A preorder traversal of the nodes in the subtree rooted at  $u$

```

1 print  $u$ 
2 preOrderTraversal( $u \rightarrow leftChild$ )
3 preOrderTraversal( $u \rightarrow rightChild$ )
  
```

**Algorithm 1:** Recursive Preorder Tree Traversal

Stack-based implementation:



- Initially, we push the tree's root into the stack
- Within a loop, we pop the top of the stack and process it
- We need to push the node's children for future processing
- Since a stack is LIFO, we push the right child first.

```

INPUT  : A binary tree,  $T$ 
OUTPUT: A preorder traversal of the nodes in  $T$ 
1  $S \leftarrow$  empty stack
2 push  $T$ 's root onto  $S$ 
3 WHILE  $S$  is not empty DO
4   |  $node \leftarrow S.pop$ 
5   | push  $node$ 's right-child onto  $S$ 
6   | push  $node$ 's left-child onto  $S$ 
7   | process  $node$ 
8 END

```

**Algorithm 2:** Stack-based Preorder Tree Traversal

### 3.5.2 Inorder Implementation

Stack-based implementation:

- The same basic idea: push nodes onto the stack as you visit them
- However, we want to delay processing the node until we've explored the left-sub-tree
- We need a way to tell if we are visiting the node for the first time or returning from the left-tree exploration
- To achieve this, we allow the node to be null
- If null, then we are returning from a left-tree exploration, pop the top of the stack and process (then push the right child)
- If not null, then we push it to the stack for later processing, explore the left child

```

INPUT  : A binary tree,  $T$ 
OUTPUT: An inorder traversal of the nodes in  $T$ 
1  $S \leftarrow$  empty stack
2  $u \leftarrow$  root
3 WHILE  $S$  is not empty OR  $u \neq$  null DO
4   IF  $u \neq$  null THEN
5     push  $u$  onto  $S$ 
6      $u \leftarrow u.\text{leftChild}$ 
7   ELSE
8      $u \leftarrow S.\text{pop}$ 
9     process  $u$ 
10     $u \leftarrow u.\text{rightChild}$ 
11  END
12 END

```

**Algorithm 3:** Stack-based Inorder Tree Traversal

### 3.5.3 Postorder Implementation

Stack-based implementation:

- Same basic ideas, except that we need to distinguish if we're visiting the node for the first time, second time or last (so that we can process it)
- To achieve this, we keep track of *where* we came from: a parent, left, or right node
- We keep track of a previous and a current node

```

INPUT  : A binary tree,  $T$ 
OUTPUT: A postorder traversal of the nodes in  $T$ 
1  $S \leftarrow$  empty stack
2  $prev \leftarrow null$ 
3 push root onto  $S$ 
4 WHILE  $S$  is not empty DO
5    $curr \leftarrow S.peek$ 
6   IF  $prev = null$  OR  $prev.leftChild = curr$  OR  $prev.rightChild = curr$  THEN
7     IF  $curr.leftChild \neq null$  THEN
8       | push  $curr.leftChild$  onto  $S$ 
9     ELSE IF  $curr.rightChild \neq null$  THEN
10    | push  $curr.rightChild$  onto  $S$ 
11    | END
12  ELSE IF  $curr.leftChild = prev$  THEN
13    | IF  $curr.rightChild \neq null$  THEN
14    | | push  $curr.rightChild$  onto  $S$ 
15    | END
16  ELSE
17    | process  $curr$ 
18    |  $S.pop$ 
19  END
20   $prev \leftarrow curr$ 
21 END

```

**Algorithm 4:** Stack-based Postorder Tree Traversal

### 3.5.4 BFS Implementation

```
INPUT  : A binary tree,  $T$ 
OUTPUT: A BFS traversal of the nodes in  $T$ 
1  $Q \leftarrow$  empty queue
2 enqueue  $T$ 's root into  $Q$ 
3 WHILE  $Q$  is not empty DO
4    $node \leftarrow Q.dequeue$ 
5   enqueue  $node$ 's left-child onto  $Q$ 
6   enqueue  $node$ 's right-child onto  $Q$ 
7   print  $node$ 
8 END
```

**Algorithm 5:** Queue-based BFS Tree Traversal

### 3.5.5 Tree Walk Implementations

- Simple rules based on local information: where you are and where you came from
- No additional data structures required
- Traversal is a “walk” around the perimeter of the tree
- Can use similar rules to determine when the current node should be processed to achieve pre, in, and postorder traversals
- Need to take care with corner cases (when current node is the root or children are missing)
- Pseudocode presented Algorithm 6

## 3.6 Operations

Basic Operations:

- Search for a particular element/key
- Adding an element
  - Add at most shallow available spot
  - Add at a random leaf

```

INPUT  : A binary tree,  $T$ 
OUTPUT: A Tree Walk around  $T$ 
1  $curr \leftarrow root$ 
2  $prevType \leftarrow parent$ 
3 WHILE  $curr \neq null$  DO
4   IF  $prevType = parent$  THEN
5     //preorder: process  $curr$  here
6     IF  $curr.leftChild$  exists THEN
7       //Go to the left child:
8        $curr \leftarrow curr.leftChild$ 
9        $prevType \leftarrow parent$ 
10    ELSE
11      $curr \leftarrow curr$ 
12      $prevType \leftarrow left$ 
13  END
14 ELSE IF  $prevType = left$  THEN
15  //inorder: process  $curr$  here
16  IF  $curr.rightChild$  exists THEN
17  //Go to the right child:
18   $curr \leftarrow curr.rightChild$ 
19   $prevType \leftarrow parent$ 
20 ELSE
21   $curr \leftarrow curr$ 
22   $prevType \leftarrow right$ 
23 END
24 ELSE IF  $prevType = right$  THEN
25 //postorder: process  $curr$  here
26 IF  $curr.parent = null$  THEN
27 //root has no parent, we're done traversing
28  $curr \leftarrow curr.parent$ 
29 //are we at the parent's left or right child?
30 ELSE IF  $curr = curr.parent.leftChild$  THEN
31  $curr \leftarrow curr.parent$ 
32  $prevType \leftarrow left$ 
33 ELSE
34  $curr \leftarrow curr.parent$ 
35  $prevType \leftarrow right$ 
36 END
37 END
38 END

```

- Add internally, shift nodes down by some criteria
- Removing elements
  - Removing leaves
  - Removing elements with one child
  - Removing elements with two children

Other Operations:

- Compute the total number of nodes in a tree
- Compute the total number of leaves in a tree
- Given an item or node, compute its depth
- Compute the depth of a tree

## 4 Binary Search Trees

Regular binary search trees have little structure to their elements; search, insert, delete operations are still linear with respect to the number of tree nodes,  $O(n)$ . We want a data structure with operations proportional to its depth,  $O(d)$ . To this end, we add structure and order to tree nodes.

- Each node has an associated *key*
- Binary Search Tree Property: For every node  $u$  with key  $u_k$  in  $T$ 
  1. Every node in the left-sub-tree of  $u$  has keys *less* than  $u_k$
  2. Every node in the right-sub-tree of  $u$  has keys *greater* than  $u_k$
- Duplicate keys can be handled, but you must be consistent and not guaranteed to be contiguous
- Alternatively: do not allow duplicate keys or define a key scheme that ensures a *total order*
- Inductive property: all sub-trees are also binary search trees
- A full example can be found in Figure 2

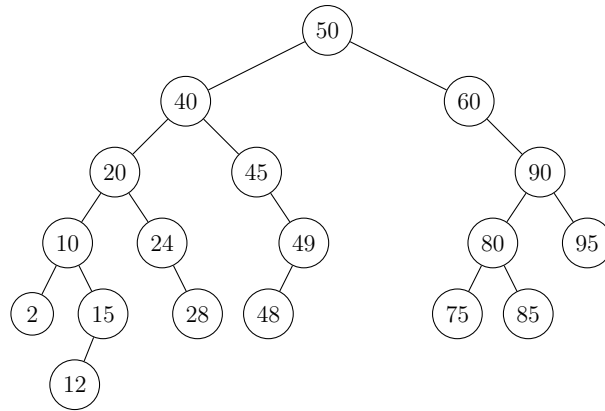


Figure 2: A Binary Search Tree

## 4.1 Basic Operations

Observation: a binary search tree has more *structure*: the key in each node provides information on where a node is *not* located. We will exploit this structure to achieve  $O(\log n)$  operations.

Search/retrieve

- Goal: find a node (and its data) that matches a given key  $k$
- Start at the node
- At each node  $u$ , compare  $k$  to  $u$ 's key,  $u_k$ :
  - If equal, element found, stop and return
  - If  $k < u_k$ , traverse to  $u$ 's left-child
  - If  $k > u_k$ , traverse to  $u$ 's right-child
- Traverse until the sub-tree is empty (element not found)
- Analysis: number of comparisons is bounded by the depth of the tree,  $O(d)$

```

INPUT  : A binary search tree,  $T$ , a key  $k$ 
OUTPUT: The tree node  $u \in T$  whose key,  $u_k$  matches  $k$ 
1  $u \leftarrow T$ 's root
2 WHILE  $u \neq \phi$  DO
3   IF  $u_k = k$  THEN
4     | output  $u$ 
5   END
6   ELSE IF  $u_k > k$  THEN
7     |  $u \leftarrow u$ 's left-child
8   ELSE IF  $u_k < k$  THEN
9     |  $u \leftarrow u$ 's left-child
10 END
11 output  $\phi$ 

```

**Algorithm 7:** Search algorithm for a binary search tree

Insert

- Insert new nodes as leaves
- To determine where it should be inserted: traverse the tree as above
- Insert at the first available spot (first missing child node)
- Analysis: finding the available location is  $O(d)$ , inserting is just reference juggling,  $O(1)$

Delete

- Need to first *find* the node  $u$  to delete, traverse as above,  $O(d)$
- If  $u$  is a leaf (no children): its safe to simply delete it
- If  $u$  has one child, then we can “promote” it to  $u$ 's spot ( $u$ 's parent will now point to  $u$ 's child)
- If  $u$  has two children, we need to find a way to preserve the BST property
  - Want to minimally change the tree's structure
  - Need the operation to be efficient
  - Find the minimum element of the greater nodes (right sub-tree) or the maximal element of the lesser nodes (left sub-tree)
  - Such an element will have at most one child (which we know how to delete)



- Delete it and store off the key/data
- Replace *us* key/data with the contents of the minimum/maximum element
- Analysis:
  - Search/Find:  $O(d)$
  - Finding the min/max:  $O(d)$
  - Swapping:  $O(1)$
  - In total:  $O(d)$
- Examples illustrated in Figure 3

## 5 Balanced Binary Search Trees

Motivation:

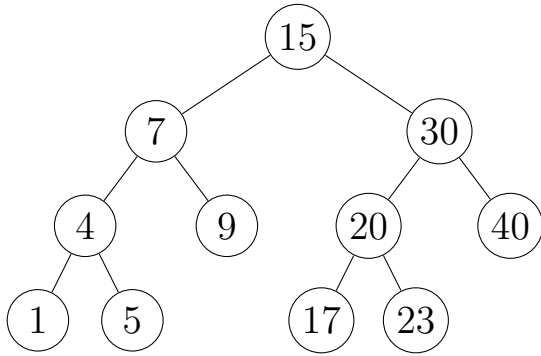
- Ideally, a full binary tree has depth  $d = O(\log n)$
- General BSTs can degenerate such that  $d = O(n)$
- Need a way to preserve the BST property while at the same time limiting the depth to  $O(\log n)$
- Solution: Balanced Binary Search Trees
- BSTs that efficiently reorganize themselves such that the BST Property is preserved and that the depth is restricted to  $O(\log n)$
- Some types of Balanced BSTs:
  - B-trees (and 2-3 trees)
  - AVL Trees
  - Red-Black Trees
  - Splay trees

### 5.1 2-3 Trees

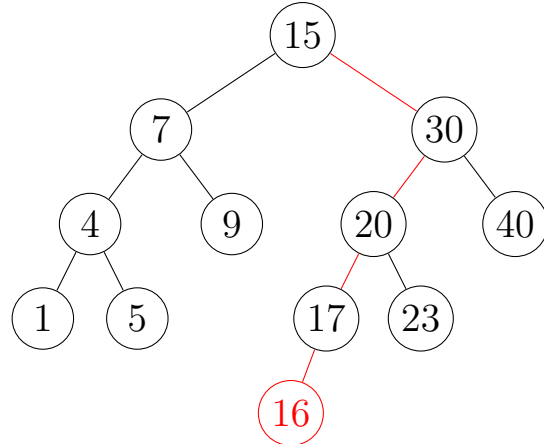
See 310 Note Set.

### 5.2 AVL Trees

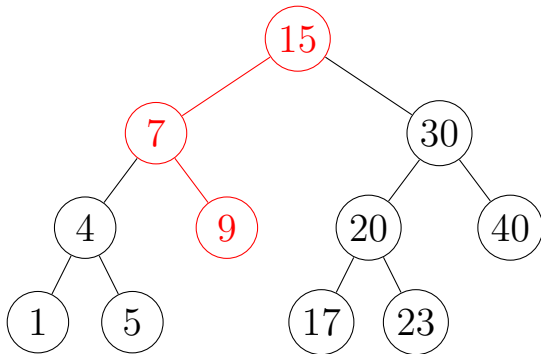
See 310 Note Set.



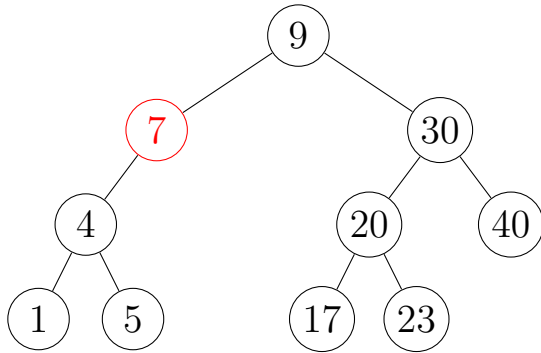
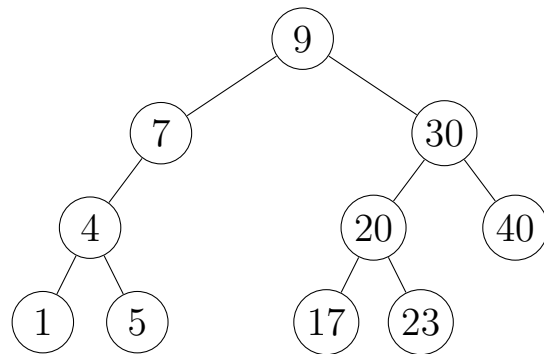
(a) A Binary Search Tree



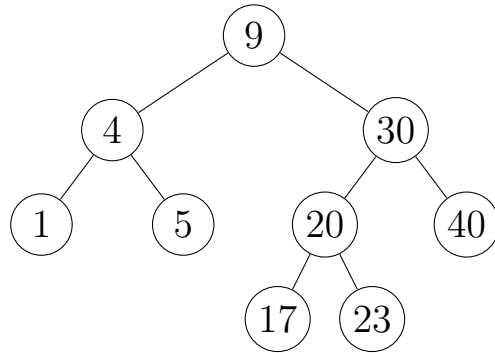
(b) Insertion of a new node (16) into a Binary Search Tree



(c) Deletion of a node with two children (15). (d) Node 15 is replaced with the extremal node, First step: find the maximum node in the left- preserving the BST property sub-tree (lesser elements).



(e) Deletion a node with only one child (7).



(f) Removal is achieved by simply promoting the single child/subtree.

Figure 3: Binary Search Tree Operations. Figure 3(b) depicts the insertion of (16) into the tree in Figure 3(a). Figures 3(c) and 3(d) depict the deletion of a node (15) with two children. Figures 3(e) and 3(f) depict the deletion of a node with only one child (7).

## 5.3 Red-Black Trees

See 310 Note Set.

## 6 Optimal Binary Search Trees

See 310 Note Set.

## 7 Heaps

**Definition 1.** A heap is a binary tree that satisfies the following properties.

1. It is a full or complete binary tree: all nodes are present except possibly the last row
2. If the last row is not full, all nodes are full-to-the-left
3. It satisfies the Heap Property: every node has a key that is greater than both of its children (*max-heap*)

- As a consequence of the Heap Property, the maximal element is always at the root
- Alternatively, we can define a *min-heap*
- Variations: 2-3 heaps, fibonacci heaps, etc.
- A min-heap example can be found in [Figure 4](#)

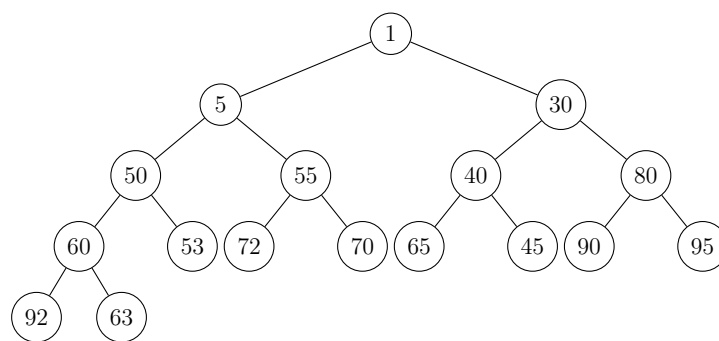


Figure 4: A min-heap

Applications

- Heaps are an optimal implementation of a priority queue
- Used extensively in other algorithms (Heap Sort, Prim's, Dijkstra's, Huffman Coding, etc.) to ensure efficient operation

## 7.1 Operations

Insert

- Want to preserve the full-ness property and the Heap Property
- Preserve full-ness: add new element at the end of the heap (last row, first free spot on the left)
- Insertion at the end may violate the Heap Property
- Heapify/fix: bubble up inserted element until Heap Property is satisfied
- Analysis: insert is  $O(1)$ ; heapify:  $O(d)$

Remove from top

- Want to preserve the full-ness property and the Heap Property
- Preserve full-ness: swap root element with the last element in the heap (lowest row, right-most element)
- Heap property may be violated
- Heapify/fix: bubble new root element down until Heap Property is satisfied
- Analysis: Swap is  $O(1)$ ; heapify:  $O(d)$

Others

- Arbitrary remove
- Find
- Possible, but not ideal: Heaps are restricted-access data structures

Analysis

- All operations are  $O(d)$
- Since Heaps are *full*,  $d = O(\log n)$
- Thus, all operations are  $O(\log n)$

## 7.2 Implementations

### Array-Based

- Root is located at index 1
- If a node  $u$  is at index  $i$ ,  $u$ 's left-child is at  $2i$ , its right-child is at  $2i + 1$
- If node  $u$  is at index  $j$ , its parent is at index  $\lfloor \frac{j}{2} \rfloor$
- Alternatively: 0-index array left/right children/parent are at  $2n + 1, 2n + 2$ , and  $\lfloor \frac{j-1}{2} \rfloor$
- Advantage: easy implementation, all items are contiguous in the array (in fact, a BFS ordering!)
- Disadvantage: Insert operation may force a reallocation, but this can be done in amortized-constant time (though may still have wasted space)

### Tree-Based

- Reference-based tree (nodes which contain references to children/parent)
- Parent reference is now *required* for efficiency
- For efficiency, we need to keep track of the *last* element in the tree
- For deletes/inserts: we need a way to find the last element and first “open spot”
- We'll focus on finding the first available open spot as the same technique can be used to find the last element with minor modifications

### 7.2.1 Finding the first available open spot in a Tree-based Heap

#### Technique A: numerical technique

- WLOG: assume we keep track of the number of nodes in the heap,  $n$  and thus the depth  $d = \lfloor \log n \rfloor$
- If  $n = 2^{d+1} - 1$  then the tree is full, the last element is all the way to the right, the first available spot is all the way to the left
- Otherwise  $n < 2^{d+1} - 1$  and the heap is not full (the first available spot is located at level  $d$ , root is at level 0)
- Starting at the root, we want to know if the last element is in the left-subtree or the right subtree

- Let  $m = n - (2^d - 1)$ , the number of nodes present in level  $d$
- If  $m \geq \frac{2^d}{2}$  then the left-sub tree is full at the last level and so the next open spot would be in the right-sub tree
- Otherwise if  $m < \frac{2^d}{2}$  then the left-sub tree is not full at the last level and so the next open spot is in the left-sub tree
- Traverse down to the left or right respectively and repeat: the resulting sub-tree will have depth  $d - 1$  with  $m = m$  (if traversing left) or  $m = m - \frac{2^d}{2}$  (if traversing right)
- Repeat until we've found the first available spot
- Analysis: in any case, its  $O(d) = O(\log n)$  to traverse from the root to the first open spot

```

INPUT  : A tree-based heap  $H$  with  $n$  nodes
OUTPUT: The node whose child is the next available open spot in the heap
1 curr  $\leftarrow T.head$ 
2  $d \leftarrow \lfloor \log n \rfloor$ 
3  $m \leftarrow n$ 
4 WHILE curr has both children DO
5     IF  $m = 2^{d+1} - 1$  THEN
6         //remaining tree is full, traverse all the way left
7         WHILE curr has both children DO
8             |  $curr \leftarrow curr.leftChild$ 
9         END
10    ELSE
11        //remaining tree is not full, determine if the next open spot is
12        //in the left or right sub-tree
13        IF  $m \geq \frac{2^d}{2}$  THEN
14            //left sub-tree is full
15             $d \leftarrow (d - 1)$ 
16             $m \leftarrow (m - \frac{2^d}{2})$ 
17             $curr \leftarrow curr.rightChild$ 
18        ELSE
19            //left sub-tree is not full
20             $d \leftarrow (d - 1)$ 
21             $m \leftarrow m$ 
22             $curr \leftarrow curr.leftChild$ 
23        END
24    END
25 END
26 output curr

```

**Algorithm 8:** Find Next Open Spot - Numerical Technique

Technique B: Walk Technique

- Alternatively, we can adapt the idea behind the tree walk algorithm to find the next available open spot
- We'll assume that we've kept track of the last node
- If the tree is full, we simply traverse all the way to the left and insert,  $O(d)$

- If the last node is a left-child then its parent's right child is the next available spot, finding it is  $O(1)$
- Otherwise, we'll need to traverse around the perimeter of the tree until we reach the next open slot

```

INPUT  : A tree-based heap  $H$  with  $n$  nodes
OUTPUT: The node whose (missing) child is the next available open spot in the heap
1  $d \leftarrow \lfloor \log n \rfloor$ 
2 IF  $n = 2^{d+1} - 1$  THEN
    //The tree is full, traverse all the way to the left
3    $curr \leftarrow root$ 
4   WHILE  $curr.leftChild \neq null$  DO
5      $curr \leftarrow curr.leftChild$ 
6   END
7 ELSE IF  $last$  is a left-child THEN
    //parent's right child is open
8    $curr \leftarrow last.parent$ 
9 ELSE
    //The open spot lies in a subtree to the right of the last node
    //Walk the tree until we reach it
10   $curr \leftarrow last.parent$ 
11  WHILE  $curr$  is a right-child DO
12     $curr \leftarrow curr.parent$ 
13  END
    // "turn" right
14   $curr \leftarrow curr.parent$ 
15   $curr \leftarrow curr.rightChild$ 
    //traverse all the way left
16  WHILE  $curr.leftChild \neq null$  DO
17     $curr \leftarrow curr.leftChild$ 
18  END
19 END
    //current node's missing child is the open spot
20 output  $curr$ 

```

**Algorithm 9:** Find Next Open Spot - Walk Technique



### 7.3 Heap Sort

- If min/max element is always at the top; simply insert all elements, then remove them all!
- Perfect illustration of “Smart data structures and dumb code are a lot better than the other way around”

INPUT : A collection of elements  $A = \{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$   
OUTPUT: A collection,  $A'$  of elements in  $A$ , sorted

- 1  $H \leftarrow$  empty heap
- 2  $A' \leftarrow$  empty collection
- 3 FOREACH  $x \in A$  DO
- 4 | insert  $x$  into  $H$
- 5 END
- 6 WHILE  $H$  is not empty DO
- 7 |  $y \leftarrow$  remove top from  $H$
- 8 | Add  $y$  to the end of  $A'$
- 9 END
- 10 output  $A'$

#### Algorithm 10: Heap Sort

##### Analysis

- Amortized analysis: insert/remove operations are not constant throughout the algorithm
- On first iteration: insert is  $d = O(1)$ ; on the  $i$ -th iteration,  $d = O(\log i)$ ; only on the last iteration is insertion  $O(\log n)$
- In total, the insert phase is:

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \log i = O(n \log n)$$

- A similar lower bound can be shown
- Same analysis applies to the remove phase:

$$\sum_{i=n}^1 \log i$$

- In total,  $O(n \log n)$

## 8 Java Collections Framework

Java has support for several data structures supported by underlying tree structures.

- `java.util.PriorityQueue<E>` is a binary-heap based priority queue
  - Priority (keys) based on either *natural ordering* or a provided `Comparator`
  - Guaranteed  $O(\log n)$  time for insert (`offer`) and get top (`poll`)
  - Supports  $O(n)$  arbitrary `remove(Object)` and search (`contains`) methods
- `java.util.TreeSet<E>`
  - Implements the `SortedSet` interface; makes use of a `Comparator`
  - Backed by `TreeMap`, a red-black tree balanced binary tree implementation
  - Guaranteed  $O(\log n)$  time for add, remove, contains operations
  - Default iterator is an in-order traversal

## 9 Applications

### 9.1 Huffman Coding

Overview

- Coding Theory is the study and theory of *codes*—schemes for transmitting data
- Coding theory involves efficiently padding out data with redundant information to increase reliability (detect or even correct errors) over a noisy channel
- Coding theory also involves *compressing* data to save space
  - MP3s (uses a form of Huffman coding, but is information lossy)
  - jpegs, mpegs, even DVDs
  - `pack` (straight Huffman coding)
  - `zip`, `gzip` (uses a Ziv-Lempel and Huffman compression algorithm)

Basics

- Let  $\Sigma$  be a fixed *alphabet* of size  $n$
- A *coding* is a mapping of this alphabet to a collection of binary *codewords*,

$$\Sigma \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^*$$

- A *block encoding* is a *fixed length encoding* scheme where all codewords have the same length (example: ASCII); requires  $\lceil \log_2 n \rceil$  length codes
- Not all symbols have the same frequency, alternative: *variable length encoding*
- Intuitively: assign shorter codewords to more frequent symbols, longer to less frequent symbols
- Reduction in the overall *average* codeword length
- Variable length encodings must be *unambiguous*
- Solution: *prefix free codes*: a code in which no *whole* codeword is the prefix of another (other than itself of course).
- Examples:
  - $\{0, 01, 101, 010\}$  is not a prefix free code.
  - $\{10, 010, 110, 0110\}$  is a prefix free code.
- A simple way of building a prefix free code is to associate codewords with the *leaves* of a binary tree (not necessarily full).
- Each edge corresponds to a bit, 0 if it is to the left sub-child and 1 to the right sub-child.
- Since no simple path from the root to any leaf can continue to another leaf, then we are guaranteed a prefix free coding.
- Using this idea along with a greedy encoding forms the basis of *Huffman Coding*

#### Steps

- Consider a precomputed relative frequency function:

$$\text{freq} : \Sigma \rightarrow [0, 1]$$

- Build a collection of *weighted* trees  $T_x$  for each symbol  $x \in \text{Sigma}$  with  $wt(T_x) = \text{freq}(x)$
- Combine the two least weighted trees via a new node; associate a new weight (the sum of the weights of the two subtrees)
- Keep combining until only one tree remains
- The tree constructed in Huffman's algorithm is known as a *Huffman Tree* and it defines a *Huffman Code*

```

INPUT  : An alphabet of symbols,  $\Sigma$  with relative frequencies,  $\text{freq}(x)$ 
OUTPUT: A Huffman Tree
1  $H \leftarrow$  new min-heap
2 FOREACH  $x \in \Sigma$  DO
3    $T_x \leftarrow$  single node tree
4    $wt(T_x) \leftarrow \text{freq}(x)$ 
5   insert  $T_x$  into  $H$ 
6 END
7 WHILE size of  $H > 1$  DO
8    $T_r \leftarrow$  new tree root node
9    $T_a \leftarrow H.getMin$ 
10   $T_b \leftarrow H.getMin$ 
11   $T_r.leftChild \leftarrow T_a$ 
12   $T_r.rightChild \leftarrow T_b$ 
13   $wt(r) \leftarrow wt(T_a) + wt(T_b)$ 
14  insert  $T_r$  into  $H$ 
15 END
16 output  $H.getMin$ 

```

**Algorithm 11:** Huffman Coding

### 9.1.1 Example

Construct the Huffman Tree and Huffman Code for a file with the following content.

character	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
frequency	0.10	0.15	0.34	.05	.12	.21	.03

- Average codeword length:

$$.10 \cdot 3 + .15 \cdot 3 + .34 \cdot 2 + .05 \cdot 4 + .12 \cdot 3 + .21 \cdot 2 + .03 \cdot 4 = 2.53$$

- Compression ratio:

$$\frac{(3 - 2.53)}{3} = 15.67\%$$

- In general, for text files, **pack** (Huffman Coding), claims an average compression ratio of 25-40%.
- Degenerative cases:

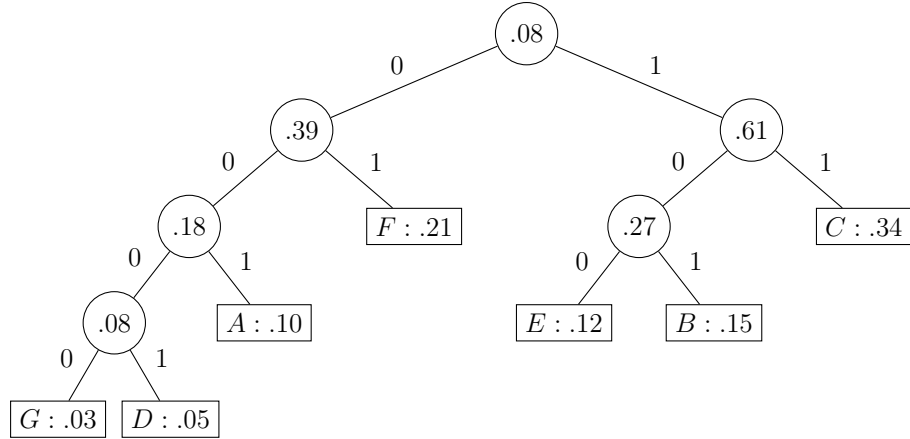


Figure 5: Huffman Tree

- When the probability distribution is uniform:  $p(x) = p(y)$  for all  $x, y \in \Sigma$
- When the probability distribution follows a fibonacci sequence (the sum of each of the two smallest probabilities is less than equal to the next highest probability for all probabilities)

## A Stack-based Traversal Simulations

### A.1 Preorder

Simulation of a stack-based preorder traversal of the binary tree in Figure 1.

push <i>a</i>	(enter loop)	(enter loop)	pop, <i>node</i> = <i>e</i>	push <i>f</i>
(enter loop)	(enter loop)	pop, <i>node</i> = <i>r</i>	push <i>i</i>	(no push)
pop, <i>node</i> = <i>a</i>	pop, <i>node</i> = <i>g</i>	(no push)	(no push)	print <i>c</i>
push <i>c</i>	push <i>m</i>	(no push)	print <i>e</i>	(enter loop)
push <i>b</i>	push <i>l</i>	print <i>r</i>	(enter loop)	pop, <i>node</i> = <i>f</i>
print <i>a</i>	print <i>g</i>	(enter loop)	pop, <i>node</i> = <i>i</i>	push <i>k</i>
(enter loop)	(enter loop)	pop, <i>node</i> = <i>h</i>	(no push)	push <i>j</i>
pop, <i>node</i> = <i>b</i>	pop, <i>node</i> = <i>l</i>	push <i>n</i>	push <i>o</i>	print <i>f</i>
push <i>e</i>	(no push)	(no push)	print <i>i</i>	(enter loop)
push <i>d</i>	(no push)	print <i>h</i>	(enter loop)	pop, <i>node</i> = <i>j</i>
print <i>b</i>	print <i>l</i>	(enter loop)	pop, <i>node</i> = <i>o</i>	push <i>q</i>
(enter loop)	(enter loop)	pop, <i>node</i> = <i>n</i>	(no push)	push <i>p</i>
pop, <i>node</i> = <i>d</i>	pop, <i>node</i> = <i>m</i>	(no push)	(no push)	print <i>j</i>
push <i>h</i>	(no push)	print <i>n</i>	print <i>o</i>	(enter loop)
push <i>g</i>	push <i>r</i>	(enter loop)	(enter loop)	pop, <i>node</i> = <i>p</i>
print <i>d</i>	print <i>m</i>	(enter loop)	pop, <i>node</i> = <i>c</i>	(no push)

(no push) print $p$	(enter loop) pop, $node = q$	(no push) (no push) print $q$	(enter loop) pop, $node = k$	(no push) (no push) print $k$
------------------------	---------------------------------	-------------------------------------	---------------------------------	-------------------------------------

## A.2 Inorder

Simulation of a stack-based inorder traversal of the binary tree in Figure 1.

(enter loop, $u = a$ ) push $a$ update $u = b$	(enter loop, $u = \text{null}$ ) pop $r$ , update $u = r$ process $r$ update $u = \text{null}$	update $u = \text{null}$ (enter loop, $u = \text{null}$ ) pop $b$ , update $u = b$ process $b$ update $u = e$	(enter loop, $u = \text{null}$ ) pop $i$ , update $u = i$ process $i$ update $u = \text{null}$	$u = p$ process $p$ update $u = \text{null}$
(enter loop, $u = b$ ) push $b$ update $u = d$	(enter loop, $u = \text{null}$ ) pop $m$ , update $u = m$ process $m$ update $u = \text{null}$	(enter loop, $u = e$ ) push $e$ update $u = \text{null}$	(enter loop, $u = \text{null}$ ) pop $a$ , update $u = a$ process $a$ update $u = c$	(enter loop, $u = \text{null}$ ) pop $j$ , update $u = j$ process $j$ update $u = q$
(enter loop, $u = d$ ) push $d$ update $u = g$	(enter loop, $u = \text{null}$ ) pop $d$ , update $u = d$ process $d$ update $u = h$	(enter loop, $u = e$ ) push $e$ update $u = \text{null}$	(enter loop, $u = c$ ) push $c$ update $u = \text{null}$	(enter loop, $u = q$ ) push $q$ update $u = \text{null}$
(enter loop, $u = g$ ) push $g$ update $u = l$	(enter loop, $u = \text{null}$ ) pop $e$ , update $u = e$ process $e$ update $u = i$	(enter loop, $u = \text{null}$ ) pop $e$ , update $u = e$ process $e$ update $u = i$	(enter loop, $u = c$ ) push $c$ update $u = \text{null}$	(enter loop, $u = \text{null}$ ) pop $q$ , update $u = q$ process $q$ update $u = \text{null}$
(enter loop, $u = l$ ) push $l$ update $u = \text{null}$	(enter loop, $u = h$ ) push $h$ update $u = \text{null}$	(enter loop, $u = i$ ) push $i$ update $u = o$	(enter loop, $u = \text{null}$ ) pop $c$ , update $u = c$ process $c$ update $u = f$	(enter loop, $u = \text{null}$ ) pop $f$ , update $u = f$ process $f$ update $u = k$
(enter loop, $u = \text{null}$ ) pop $l$ , update $u = l$ process $l$ update $u = \text{null}$	(enter loop, $u = \text{null}$ ) pop $h$ , update $u = h$ process $h$ update $u = n$	(enter loop, $u = o$ ) push $o$ update $u = \text{null}$	(enter loop, $u = f$ ) push $f$ update $u = j$	(enter loop, $u = k$ ) push $k$ update $u = \text{null}$
(enter loop, $u = \text{null}$ ) pop $g$ , update $u = g$ process $g$ update $u = m$	(enter loop, $u = \text{null}$ ) pop $h$ , update $u = h$ process $h$ update $u = n$	(enter loop, $u = o$ ) push $o$ update $u = \text{null}$	(enter loop, $u = j$ ) push $j$ update $u = p$	(enter loop, $u = \text{null}$ ) pop $f$ , update $u = f$ process $f$ update $u = k$
(enter loop, $u = m$ ) push $m$ update $u = r$	(enter loop, $u = n$ ) push $n$ update $u = \text{null}$	(enter loop, $u = o$ ) push $o$ update $u = \text{null}$	(enter loop, $u = p$ ) push $p$ update $u = \text{null}$	(enter loop, $u = \text{null}$ ) pop $k$ , update $u = k$ process $k$ update $u = \text{null}$
(enter loop, $u = r$ ) push $r$ update $u = \text{null}$	(enter loop, $u = \text{null}$ ) pop $n$ , update $u = n$ process $n$	(enter loop, $u = \text{null}$ ) pop $i$ , update $u = i$ process $i$ update $u = \text{null}$	(enter loop, $u = \text{null}$ ) pop $p$ , update	(done)

### A.3 Postorder

Simulation of a stack-based postorder traversal of the binary tree in Figure 1:

<i>prev</i> = null	process l	update <i>prev</i> = <i>m</i>	update <i>curr</i> = ( <i>n</i> )
push <i>a</i>	update <i>prev</i> = <i>l</i>	(enter loop)	check:
(enter loop)	(enter loop)	update <i>curr</i> = ( <i>m</i> )	<i>prev.rightChild</i> = <i>curr</i>
update <i>curr</i> = ( <i>a</i> )	update <i>curr</i> = ( <i>g</i> )	check:	( <i>null.rightChild</i> = ( <i>n</i> ))
check: <i>prev</i> = null	check:	<i>prev.rightChild</i> = <i>curr</i>	process n
push ( <i>b</i> )	<i>prev.rightChild</i> = <i>curr</i>	( <i>null.rightChild</i> = ( <i>m</i> ))	update <i>prev</i> = <i>n</i>
update <i>prev</i> = <i>a</i>	( <i>null.rightChild</i> = ( <i>g</i> ))	process m	(enter loop)
(enter loop)	check:	update <i>prev</i> = <i>m</i>	update <i>curr</i> = ( <i>h</i> )
update <i>curr</i> = ( <i>b</i> )	<i>curr.leftChild</i> = <i>prev</i>	(enter loop)	check:
check:	(( <i>l.leftChild</i> = ( <i>l</i> ))	update <i>curr</i> = ( <i>g</i> )	<i>prev.rightChild</i> = <i>curr</i>
<i>prev.leftChild</i> = <i>curr</i>	push ( <i>m</i> )	check:	( <i>null.rightChild</i> = ( <i>h</i> ))
(( <i>b.leftChild</i> = ( <i>b</i> ))	update <i>prev</i> = <i>g</i>	<i>prev.rightChild</i> = <i>curr</i>	process h
push ( <i>d</i> )	(enter loop)	( <i>null.rightChild</i> = ( <i>g</i> ))	update <i>prev</i> = <i>h</i>
update <i>prev</i> = <i>b</i>	update <i>curr</i> = ( <i>m</i> )	process g	(enter loop)
(enter loop)	check:	update <i>prev</i> = <i>g</i>	update <i>curr</i> = ( <i>d</i> )
update <i>curr</i> = ( <i>d</i> )	<i>prev.rightChild</i> = <i>curr</i>	(enter loop)	check:
check:	(( <i>m.rightChild</i> = ( <i>m</i> ))	update <i>curr</i> = ( <i>d</i> )	<i>prev.rightChild</i> = <i>curr</i>
<i>prev.leftChild</i> = <i>curr</i>	push ( <i>r</i> )	check:	(( <i>n.rightChild</i> = ( <i>d</i> ))
(( <i>d.leftChild</i> = ( <i>d</i> ))	update <i>prev</i> = <i>m</i>	<i>prev.rightChild</i> = <i>curr</i>	process d
push ( <i>g</i> )	(enter loop)	(( <i>m.rightChild</i> = ( <i>d</i> ))	update <i>prev</i> = <i>d</i>
update <i>prev</i> = <i>d</i>	update <i>curr</i> = ( <i>r</i> )	check:	(enter loop)
(enter loop)	check:	<i>curr.leftChild</i> = <i>prev</i>	update <i>curr</i> = ( <i>b</i> )
update <i>curr</i> = ( <i>g</i> )	<i>prev.leftChild</i> = <i>curr</i>	(( <i>g.leftChild</i> = ( <i>g</i> ))	check:
check:	(( <i>r.leftChild</i> = ( <i>r</i> ))	push ( <i>h</i> )	<i>prev.rightChild</i> = <i>curr</i>
<i>prev.leftChild</i> = <i>curr</i>	(noop)	update <i>prev</i> = <i>d</i>	(( <i>h.rightChild</i> = ( <i>b</i> ))
(( <i>g.leftChild</i> = ( <i>g</i> ))	update <i>prev</i> = <i>r</i>	(enter loop)	check:
push ( <i>l</i> )	(enter loop)	update <i>curr</i> = ( <i>h</i> )	<i>curr.leftChild</i> = <i>prev</i>
update <i>prev</i> = <i>g</i>	update <i>curr</i> = ( <i>r</i> )	check:	(( <i>d.leftChild</i> = ( <i>d</i> ))
(enter loop)	check:	<i>prev.rightChild</i> = <i>curr</i>	push ( <i>e</i> )
update <i>curr</i> = ( <i>l</i> )	<i>prev.rightChild</i> = <i>curr</i>	(( <i>h.rightChild</i> = ( <i>h</i> ))	update <i>prev</i> = <i>b</i>
check:	( <i>null.rightChild</i> = ( <i>r</i> ))	push ( <i>n</i> )	(enter loop)
<i>prev.leftChild</i> = <i>curr</i>	process r	update <i>prev</i> = <i>h</i>	update <i>curr</i> = ( <i>e</i> )
(( <i>l.leftChild</i> = ( <i>l</i> ))	update <i>prev</i> = <i>r</i>	(enter loop)	check:
(noop)	(enter loop)	update <i>curr</i> = ( <i>n</i> )	<i>prev.rightChild</i> = <i>curr</i>
update <i>prev</i> = <i>l</i>	update <i>curr</i> = ( <i>m</i> )	check:	(( <i>e.rightChild</i> = ( <i>e</i> ))
(enter loop)	check:	<i>prev.rightChild</i> = <i>curr</i>	push ( <i>i</i> )
update <i>curr</i> = ( <i>l</i> )	<i>prev.rightChild</i> = <i>curr</i>	(( <i>n.rightChild</i> = ( <i>n</i> ))	update <i>prev</i> = <i>e</i>
check:	( <i>null.rightChild</i> = ( <i>m</i> ))	(noop)	(enter loop)
<i>prev.rightChild</i> = <i>curr</i>	check:	update <i>prev</i> = <i>n</i>	update <i>curr</i> = ( <i>i</i> )
( <i>null.rightChild</i> = ( <i>l</i> ))	<i>curr.leftChild</i> = <i>prev</i>	(enter loop)	check:
	(( <i>r.leftChild</i> = ( <i>r</i> ))		<i>prev.rightChild</i> = <i>curr</i>

<i>((i).rightChild = (i))</i>	check:	<i>(enter loop)</i>	<i>((q).rightChild = (f))</i>
push ( <i>o</i> )	<i>prev.rightChild = curr</i>	update <i>curr = (p)</i>	check:
update <i>prev = i</i>	<i>((i).rightChild = (b))</i>	check:	<i>curr.leftChild = prev</i>
(enter loop)	process <i>b</i>	<i>prev.rightChild = curr</i>	<i>((j).leftChild = (j))</i>
update <i>curr = (o)</i>	update <i>prev = b</i>	<i>(null.rightChild = (p))</i>	push ( <i>k</i> )
check:	(enter loop)	process <i>p</i>	update <i>prev = f</i>
<i>prev.leftChild = curr</i>	update <i>curr = (a)</i>	update <i>prev = p</i>	(enter loop)
<i>((o).leftChild = (o))</i>	check:	(enter loop)	update <i>curr = (k)</i>
(noop)	<i>prev.rightChild = curr</i>	update <i>curr = (j)</i>	check:
update <i>prev = o</i>	<i>((e).rightChild = (a))</i>	check:	<i>prev.rightChild = curr</i>
(enter loop)	check:	<i>prev.rightChild = curr</i>	<i>((k).rightChild = (k))</i>
update <i>curr = (o)</i>	<i>curr.leftChild = prev</i>	<i>(null.rightChild = (j))</i>	(noop)
check:	<i>((b).leftChild = (b))</i>	check:	update <i>prev = k</i>
<i>prev.rightChild = curr</i>	push ( <i>c</i> )	<i>curr.leftChild = prev</i>	(enter loop)
<i>(null.rightChild = (o))</i>	update <i>prev = a</i>	<i>((p).leftChild = (p))</i>	update <i>curr = (k)</i>
process <i>o</i>	(enter loop)	push ( <i>q</i> )	check:
update <i>prev = o</i>	update <i>curr = (c)</i>	update <i>prev = j</i>	<i>prev.rightChild = curr</i>
(enter loop)	check:	(enter loop)	<i>(null.rightChild = (k))</i>
update <i>curr = (i)</i>	<i>prev.rightChild = curr</i>	update <i>curr = (q)</i>	process <i>k</i>
check:	<i>((c).rightChild = (c))</i>	check:	update <i>prev = k</i>
<i>prev.rightChild = curr</i>	push ( <i>f</i> )	<i>prev.rightChild = curr</i>	(enter loop)
<i>(null.rightChild = (i))</i>	update <i>prev = c</i>	<i>((q).rightChild = (q))</i>	update <i>curr = (f)</i>
check:	(enter loop)	(noop)	check:
<i>curr.leftChild = prev</i>	update <i>curr = (f)</i>	update <i>prev = q</i>	<i>prev.rightChild = curr</i>
<i>((o).leftChild = (o))</i>	check:	(enter loop)	<i>(null.rightChild = (f))</i>
update <i>prev = i</i>	<i>prev.rightChild = curr</i>	update <i>curr = (q)</i>	process <i>f</i>
(enter loop)	<i>((f).rightChild = (f))</i>	check:	update <i>prev = f</i>
update <i>curr = (i)</i>	push ( <i>j</i> )	<i>prev.rightChild = curr</i>	(enter loop)
check:	update <i>prev = f</i>	<i>(null.rightChild = (q))</i>	update <i>curr = (c)</i>
<i>prev.rightChild = curr</i>	(enter loop)	process <i>q</i>	check:
<i>(null.rightChild = (i))</i>	update <i>curr = (j)</i>	update <i>prev = q</i>	<i>prev.rightChild = curr</i>
process <i>i</i>	check:	(enter loop)	<i>((k).rightChild = (c))</i>
update <i>prev = i</i>	<i>prev.leftChild = curr</i>	update <i>curr = (j)</i>	process <i>c</i>
(enter loop)	<i>((j).leftChild = (j))</i>	check:	update <i>prev = c</i>
update <i>curr = (e)</i>	push ( <i>p</i> )	<i>prev.rightChild = curr</i>	(enter loop)
check:	update <i>prev = j</i>	<i>(null.rightChild = (j))</i>	update <i>curr = (a)</i>
<i>prev.rightChild = curr</i>	(enter loop)	process <i>j</i>	check:
<i>(null.rightChild = (e))</i>	update <i>curr = (p)</i>	update <i>prev = j</i>	<i>prev.rightChild = curr</i>
process <i>e</i>	check:	(enter loop)	<i>((f).rightChild = (a))</i>
update <i>prev = e</i>	<i>prev.leftChild = curr</i>	update <i>curr = (f)</i>	process <i>a</i>
(enter loop)	<i>((p).leftChild = (p))</i>	check:	update <i>prev = a</i>
update <i>curr = (b)</i>	(noop)	<i>prev.rightChild = curr</i>	
	update <i>prev = p</i>		