CSE 143
Lecture 17

Binary Trees

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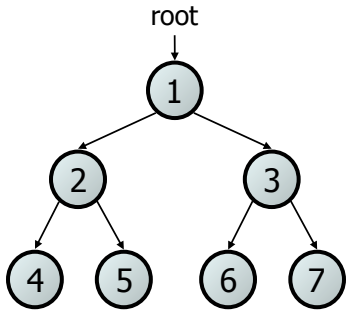
http://www.cs.washington.edu/143/

Trees

- **tree**: A directed, acyclic structure of linked nodes.
  - *directed* : Has one-way links between nodes.
  - *acyclic* : No path wraps back around to the same node twice.

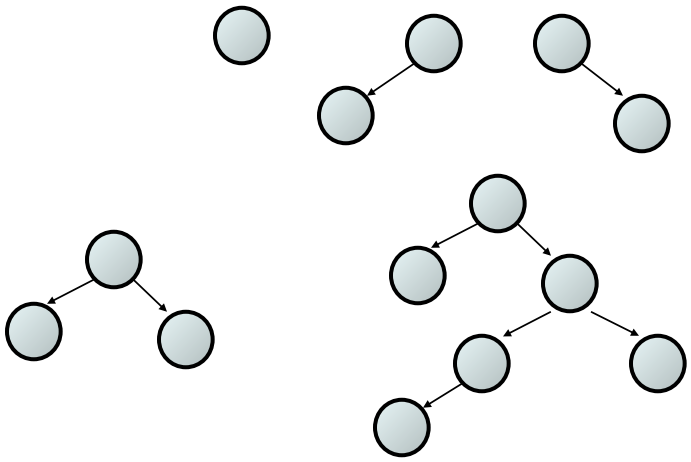
- A **binary tree** can be defined as either:
  - empty (`null`), or
  - a **root** node that contains:
    - **data**,
    - a **left** subtree, and
    - a **right** subtree.
      - (The left and/or right subtree could be empty.)



2

Definition is recursive!

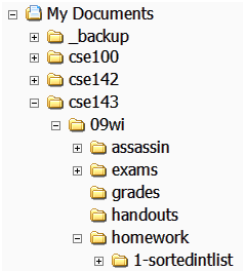
- The recursive definition lets us build any shape tree:

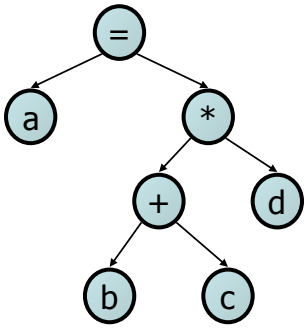


3

Trees in computer science

- folders/files on a computer
- family genealogy; organizational charts
- AI: decision trees
- compilers: parse tree
  - a = (b + c) * d;





4

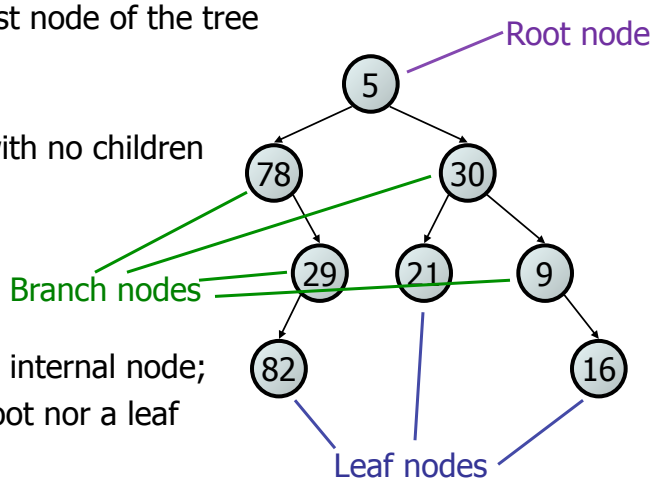
Programming with trees

- Trees are a mixture of linked lists and recursion
  - considered very elegant once understood
  - difficult for novices to master
- Common student remark #1:
  - "My code doesn't work, and I don't know why."
- Common student remark #2:
  - "My code works, and I don't know why."

5

Terminology

- **root**: topmost node of the tree
- **leaf**: node with no children
- **branch**: any internal node; neither the root nor a leaf

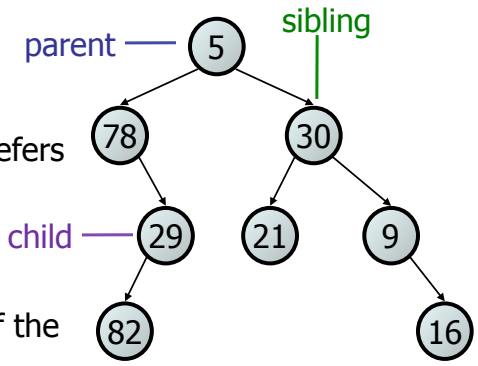


6

Terminology

- **child**: Any node our node refers to
- **parent**: the node that refers to our node
- **sibling**: another child of the parent of our node

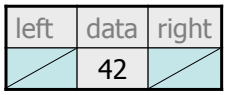
Looking at our 78 node:



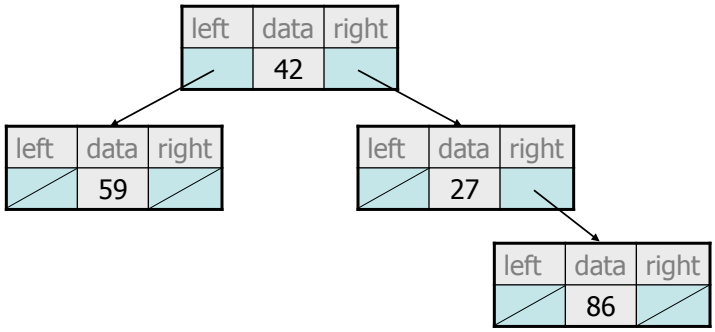
7

A tree node for integers

- A basic **tree node object** stores data and refers to left/right



- Multiple nodes can be linked together into a larger tree



8

IntTreeNode class

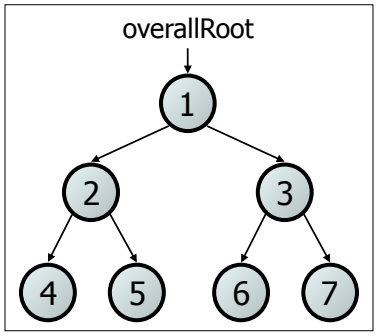
```
// An IntTreeNode object is one node in a binary tree of ints.
public class IntTreeNode {
    public int data;            // data stored at this node
    public IntTreeNode left;    // reference to left subtree
    public IntTreeNode right;   // reference to right subtree

    // Constructs a leaf node with the given data.
    public IntTreeNode(int data) {
        this(data, null, null);
    }

    // Constructs a branch node with the given data and links.
    public IntTreeNode(int data, IntTreeNode left,
                                 IntTreeNode right) {
        this.data = data;
        this.left = left;
        this.right = right;
    }
}
```

9

IntTree class

```
// An IntTree object represents an entire binary tree of ints.
public class IntTree {
    private IntTreeNode overallRoot;   // null for an empty tree

    <methods>
}
```

- Client code talks to the `IntTree`, not to the node objects inside it
- Methods of the `IntTree` create and manipulate the nodes, their data and links between them



10

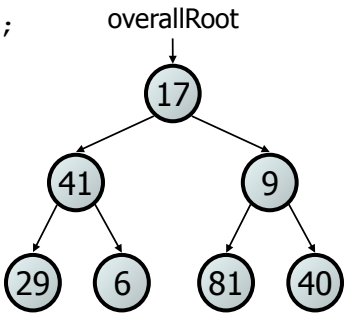
`IntTree` constructor

- Assume we have the following constructor:

```
public IntTree(int height)
```

that will create a tree and fill it with nodes with random data values from 1-100 until it is full at the given height.

```
IntTree tree = new IntTree(3);
```

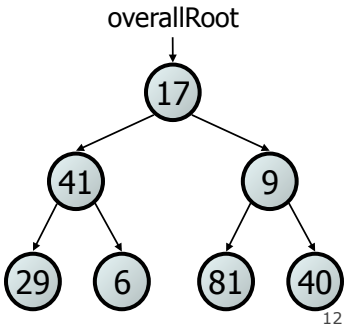


11

Exercise

- Add a method `print` to the `IntTree` class that prints the elements of the tree, separated by spaces.
  - A node's left subtree should be printed before it, and its right subtree should be printed after it.
  - Example: `tree.print();`

```
29 41 6 17 81 9 40
```



12

Exercise solution

```
// An IntTree object represents an entire binary tree of ints.
public class IntTree {
    private IntTreeNode overallRoot;   // null for an empty tree
    ...

    public void print() {
        print(overallRoot);
        System.out.println();   // end the line of output
    }

    private void print(IntTreeNode root) {
        // (base case is implicitly to do nothing on null)
        if (root != null) {
            // recursive case: print left, center, right
            print(root.left);
            System.out.print(root.data + " ");
            print(root.right);
        }
    }
}
```


Template for tree methods

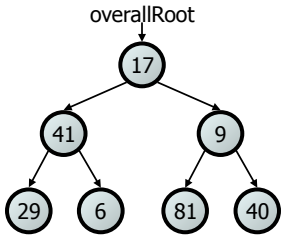
```
public class IntTree {
    private IntTreeNode overallRoot;
    ...


    public <type> <name>(<parameters>) {
        name(overallRoot, <parameters>);
    }

    private <type> <name>(IntTreeNode root, <parameters>) {
        ...
    }
}
```

- Tree methods are often implemented recursively
  - with a public/private pair
  - the private version accepts the root node to process

Traversals

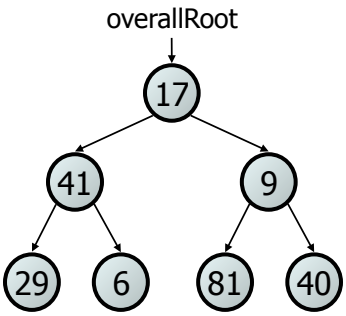
- **traversal**: An examination of the elements of a tree.
  - But in what order? Root first? Left subtree first? …

- Common orderings for traversals:
  - **pre-order**: process root node, then its left/right subtrees
  - **in-order**: process left subtree, then root node, then right
  - **post-order**: process left/right subtrees, then root node



15

Traversal example

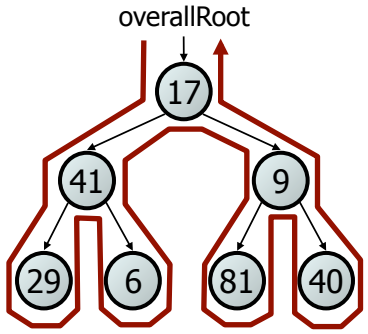


- pre-order: `17 41 29 6 9 81 40`
- in-order: `29 41 6 17 81 9 40`
- post-order: `29 6 41 81 40 9 17`

16

Sailboat Method

- To quickly generate a traversal:
  - Trace a path around the tree.
  - As you pass a node on the proper side, process it.
    - pre-order: left side
    - in-order: bottom
    - post-order: right side

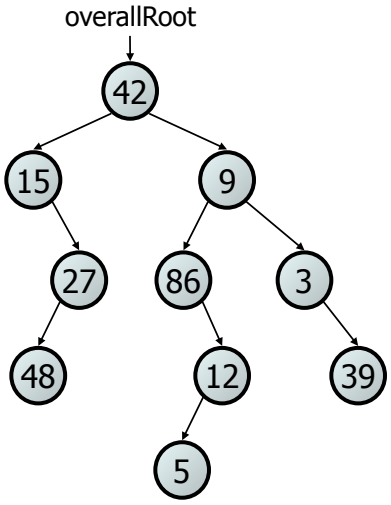


- pre-order: 17 41 29 6 9 81 40
- in-order: 29 41 6 17 81 9 40
- post-order: 29 6 41 81 40 9 17

17

Exercise

- Give pre-, in-, and post-order traversals for the following tree:



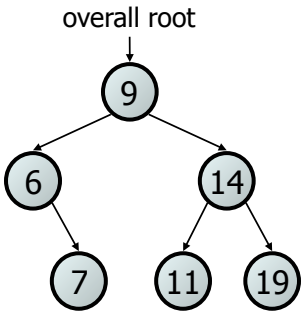
  - pre: 42 15 27 48 9 86 12 5 3 39
  - in: 15 48 27 42 86 5 12 9 3 39
  - post: 48 27 15 5 12 86 39 3 9 42

18

Exercise

- Add a method named `printSideways` to the `IntTree` class that prints the tree in a sideways indented format, with right nodes above roots above left nodes, with each level 4 spaces more indented than the one above it.
  - Example: Output from the tree below:

```
        19
    14
        11
9
        7
    6
```



Exercise solution

```
// Prints the tree in a sideways indented format.
public void printSideways() {
    printSideways(overallRoot, "");
}

private void printSideways(IntTreeNode root,
                           String indent) {
    if (root != null) {
        printSideways(root.right, indent + "    ");
        System.out.println(indent + root.data);
        printSideways(root.left, indent + "    ");
    }
}
```