Binary Search Trees (BST)

- 1. Hierarchical data structure with a single reference to root node
- 2. Each node has at most two child nodes (a left and a right child)
- 3. Nodes are organized by the Binary Search property:
 - Every node is ordered by some key data field(s)
 - For every node in the tree, its key is greater than its left child's key and less than its right child's key



Some BST Terminology

- 1. The <u>Root</u> node is the top node in the hierarchy
- 2. A <u>Child</u> node has exactly one <u>Parent</u> node, a Parent node has at most two child nodes, <u>Sibling</u> nodes share the same Parent node (ex. node 22 is a child of node 15)
- 3. A <u>Leaf</u> node has no child nodes, an <u>Interior</u> node has at least one child node (ex. 18 is a leaf node)
- 4. Every node in the BST is a <u>Subtree</u> of the BST rooted at that node



Implementing Binary Search Trees

Self-referential class is used to build Binary Search Trees

```
public class BSTNode {
   Comparable data;
   BSTNode left;
   BSTNode right;
   public BSTNode(Comparable d) {
      data = d; left = right = null;
}
```

- left refers to the left child
- right refers to the left child
- data field refers to object that implements the Comparable interface, so that data fields can be compared to order nodes in the BST
- Single reference to the root of the BST
 - All BST nodes can be accessed through root reference by recursively accessing left or right child nodes

Operations on BST

- Naturally recursive:
 - Each node in the BST is itself a BST
- Some Operations:
 - Create a BST
 - Find node in BST using its key field
 - Add a node to the BST
 - Traverse the BST
 visit all the tree nodes in some order

Create a Binary Search Tree



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Find a Node into the BST

• Use the search key to direct a recursive binary

search for a matching node

- 1. Start at the root node as current node
- 2. If the search key's value matches the current node's key then found a match
- 3. If search key's value is greater than current node's
 - 1. If the current node has a right child, search right
 - 2. Else, no matching node in the tree
- 4. If search key is less than the current node's
 - 1. If the current node has a left child, search left
 - 2. Else, no matching node in the tree

Example: search for 45 in the tree

(key fields are show in node rather than in separate obj ref to by data field):

- 1. start at the root, 45 is greater than 25, search in right subtree
- 2. 45 is less than 50, search in 50's left subtree
- 3. 45 is greater than 35, search in 35's right subtree
- 4. 45 is greater than 44, but 44 has no right subtree so 45 is not in the BST



Insert Node into the BST

Always insert new node as leaf node

- 2. Start at root node as current node
- 3. If new node's key < current's key
 - 1. If current node has a left child, search left
 - 2. Else add new node as current's left child
- 4. If new node's key > current's key
 - 1. If current node has a right child, search right
 - 2. Else add new node as current's right child

Example: insert 60 in the tree:

- 1. start at the root, 60 is greater than 25, search in right subtree
- 2. 60 is greater than 50, search in 50's right subtree
- 3. 60 is less than 70, search in 70's left subtree
- 4. 60 is less than 66, add 60 as 66's left child



<u>Traversals</u>

- Visit every node in the tree and perform some operation on it
 - (ex) print out the data fields of each node
- Three steps to a traversal
 - 1. Visit the current node
 - 2. Traverse its left subtree
 - 3. Traverse its right subtree
- The order in which you perform these three steps results in different traversal orders:
 - Pre-order traversal: (1)(2)(3)
 - In-order traversal: (2)(1)(3)
 - Post-order traversal: (2)(3)(1)

Traversal Code

```
public void InOrder(bst_node root) {
  // stop the recursion:
  if(root == null) {
     return;
  }
  // recursively traverse left subtree:
  InOrder(root.leftChild());
  // visit the current node:
  Visit(root);
  // recursively traverse right subtree:
  InOrder(root.rightChild());
```

// in main: a call to InOrder passing root
InOrder(root);

// The call stack after the first few
// calls to InOrder(root.leftChild()):



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Traversal Examples

InOrder(root) visits nodes in the following order: 4, 10, 12, 15, 18, 22, 24, 25, 31, 35, 44, 50, 66, 70, 90

- A Pre-order traversal visits nodes in the following order: 25, 15, 10, 4, 12, 22, 18, 24, 50, 35, 31, 44, 70, 66, 90
- A Post-order traversal visits nodes in the following order: 4, 12, 10, 18, 24, 22, 15, 31, 44, 35, 66, 90, 70, 50, 25

