



UNIVERSITY of NORTH TEXAS

Data Structures & Algorithm Analysis

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Binary Search Trees



A Taxonomy of Trees

- ⊕ General Trees – any number of children / node



- ⊕ Binary Trees – max 2 children / node



- ⊕ Heaps – parent $<$ ($>$) children



- ⊕ Binary Search Trees



Binary Trees

⊕ Binary search tree

- ⊞ Every element has a unique key.
- ⊞ The keys in a nonempty **left subtree** (**right subtree**) are **smaller** (**larger**) than the key in the root of subtree.
- ⊞ The left and right subtrees are also binary search trees.



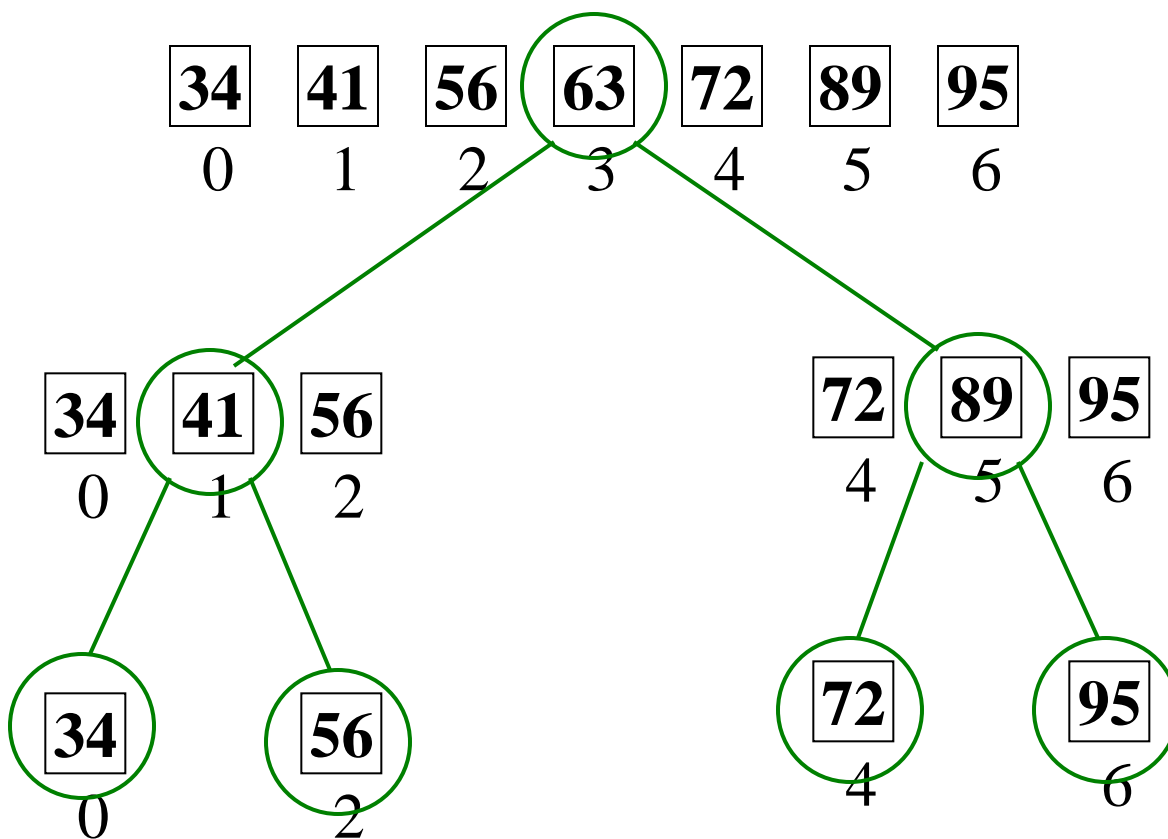
Binary Search Trees

- ❖ Binary Search Trees (BST) are a type of Binary Trees with a special organization of data.
- ❖ This data organization leads to $O(\log n)$ complexity for searches, insertions and deletions in certain types of the BST (balanced trees).
 - ❖ $O(h)$ in general



Binary Search Algorithm

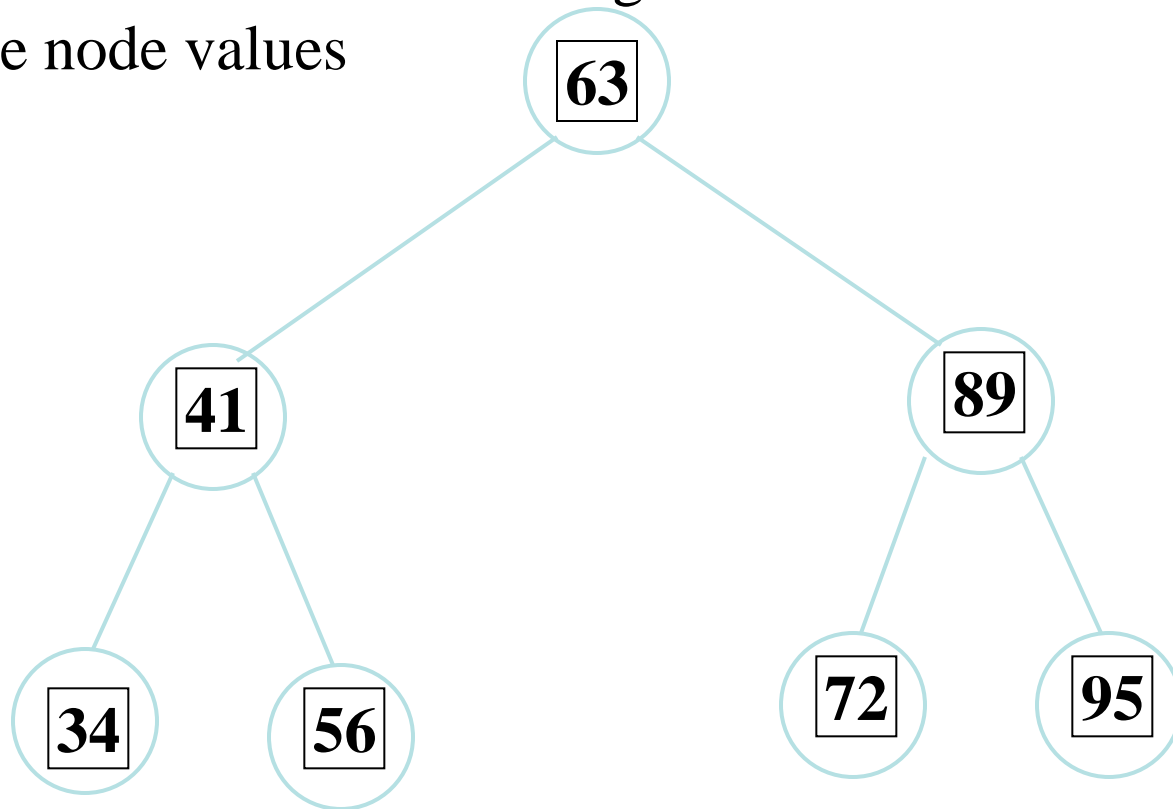
Binary Search algorithm of an array of *sorted* items reduces the search space by one half after each comparison





Organization Rule for BST

- the values in all nodes in the left subtree of a node are less than the node value
- the values in all nodes in the right subtree of a node are greater than the node values





Binary Tree

```
typedef struct tnode *ptnode;
typedef struct node {
    short int key;
    ptnode right, left;
} ;
```



BST Operations: Search

Searching in the BST

function search(key)

- implements the binary search based on comparison of the items in the tree
- the items in the BST must be comparable (e.g integers, string, etc.)

The search starts at the root. It probes down, comparing the values in each node with the target, till it finds the first item equal to the target. Returns this item or `null` if there is none.



Search in BST - Pseudocode

if the tree is empty

 return NULL

else if the item in the node equals the target

 return the node value

else if the item in the node is greater than the target

 return the result of searching the left subtree

else if the item in the node is smaller than the target

 return the result of searching the right subtree



Search in a BST: C code

```
Ptnode search(ptnode root,
              int key)
{
/* return a pointer to the node that
contains key. If there is no such
node, return NULL */

if (!root) return NULL;
if (key == root->key) return root;
if (key < root->key)
    return search(root->left, key);
return search(root->right, key);
}
```



BST Operations: Insertion

function insert(key)

- places a new item near the frontier of the BST while retaining its organization of data:
 - **starting at the root** it probes **down** the tree till it finds a node whose left or right pointer is empty and is a logical place for the new value
 - uses a binary search to locate the insertion point
 - is based on comparisons of the new item and values of nodes in the BST
 - *Elements in nodes must be comparable!*

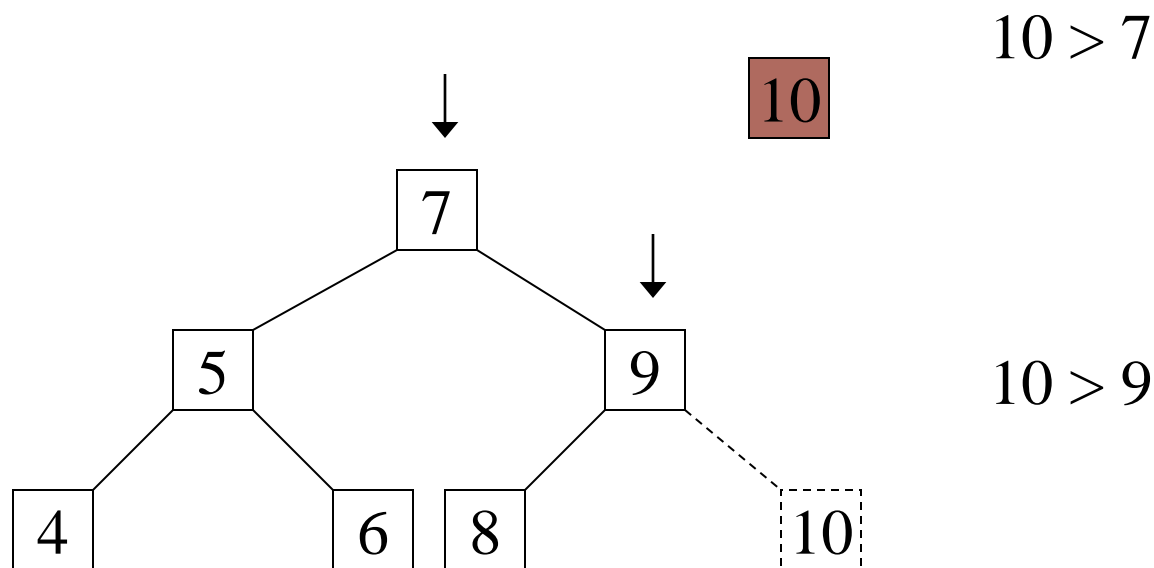


Case 1: The Tree is Empty

- Set the root to a new node containing the item

Case 2: The Tree is Not Empty

- Call a recursive helper method to insert the item





Insertion in BST - Pseudocode

if tree is empty

create a root node with the new key

else

compare key with the top node

if **key = node key**

replace the node with the new value

else if **key > node key**

compare key with the right subtree:

if subtree is empty create a leaf node

else **add key** in right subtree

else **key < node key**

compare key with the left subtree:

if the subtree is empty create a leaf node

else **add key** to the left subtree



Insertion into a BST: C code

```
void insert (ptnode *node, int key)
{
    ptnode ptr,
        temp = search(*node, key);
    if (temp || !(*node)) {
        ptr = (ptnode) malloc(sizeof(tnode));
        if (IS_FULL(ptr)) {
            fprintf(stderr, "The memory is full\n");
            exit(1);
        }
        ptr->key = key;
        ptr->left = ptr->right = NULL;
        if (*node)
            if (key < temp->key) temp->left = ptr;
            else temp->right = ptr;
        else *node = ptr;
    }
}
```



BST Shapes

- The order of supplying the data determines where it is placed in the BST , which determines the shape of the BST
- Create BSTs from the same set of data presented each time in a different order:
 - a) 17 4 14 19 15 7 9 3 16 10
 - b) 9 10 17 4 3 7 14 16 15 19
 - c) 19 17 16 15 14 10 9 7 4 3 **can you guess this shape?**



BST Operations: Removal

- **removes** a specified item from the BST and **adjusts** the tree
- uses a binary search to locate the target item:
 - **starting at the root** it probes down the tree till it finds the target or reaches a leaf node (target not in the tree)
- removal of a node must not leave a ‘gap’ in the tree,



Removal in BST - Pseudocode

method remove (key)

- I if the tree is empty return false
- II Attempt to locate the node containing the target using the binary search algorithm
 - if the target is not found return false
 - else the target is found, so remove its node:
 - Case 1: if the node has 2 empty subtrees
 - replace the link in the parent with null
 - Case 2: if the node has a left and a right subtree
 - replace the node's value with the max value in the left subtree
 - delete the max node in the left subtree



Removal in BST - Pseudocode

Case 3: if the node has no left child

- link the parent of the node
- to the right (non-empty) subtree

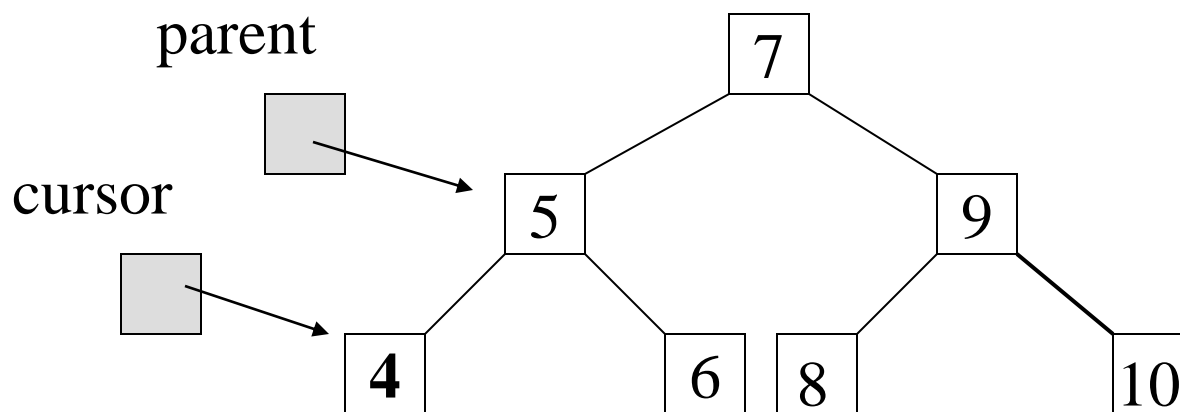
Case 4: if the node has no right child

- link the parent of the target
- to the left (non-empty) subtree

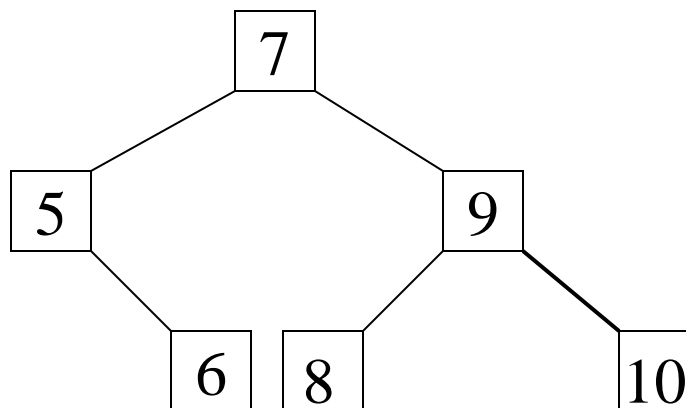


Removal in BST: Example

Case 1: removing a node with 2 EMPTY SUBTREES



Removing 4
replace the link in the
parent with null





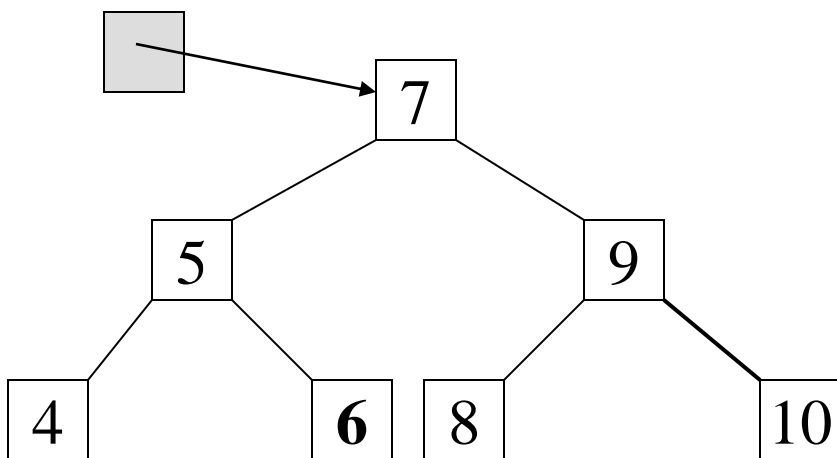
Removal in BST: Example

Case 2: removing a node with 2 SUBTREES

- replace the node's value with the max value in the left subtree
- delete the max node in the left subtree

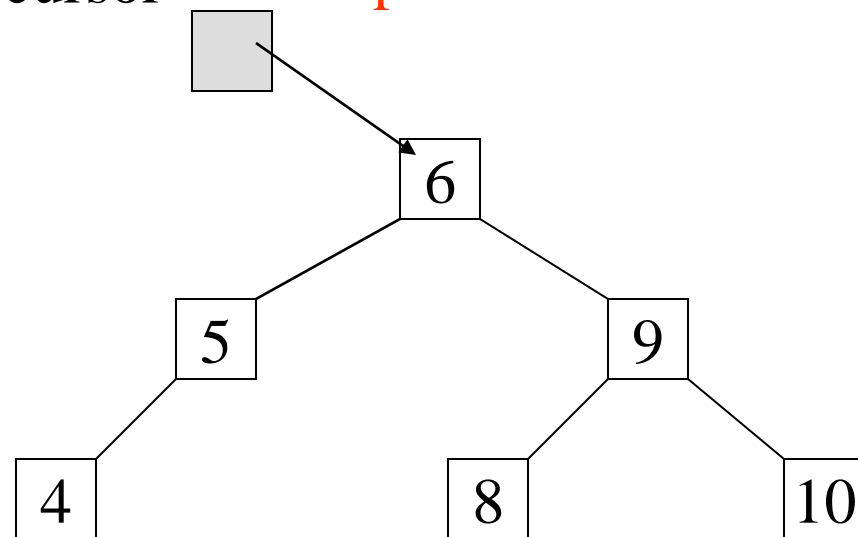
Removing 7

cursor



What other element
can be used as
replacement?

cursor





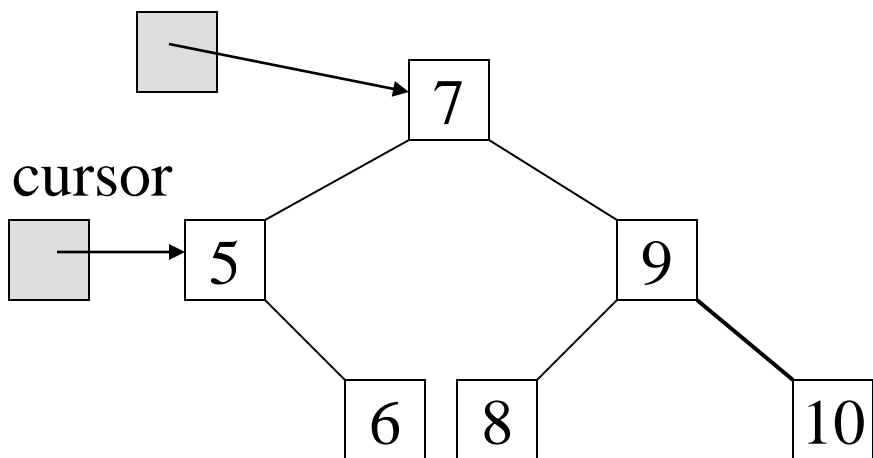
Removal in BST: Example

Case 3: removing a node with 1 EMPTY SUBTREE

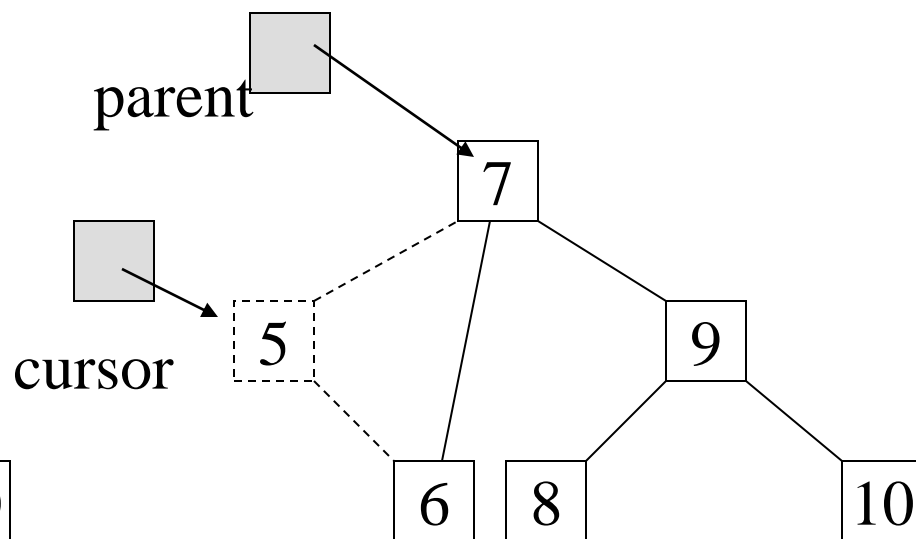
the node has no left child:

link the parent of the node to the right (non-empty) subtree

parent



parent





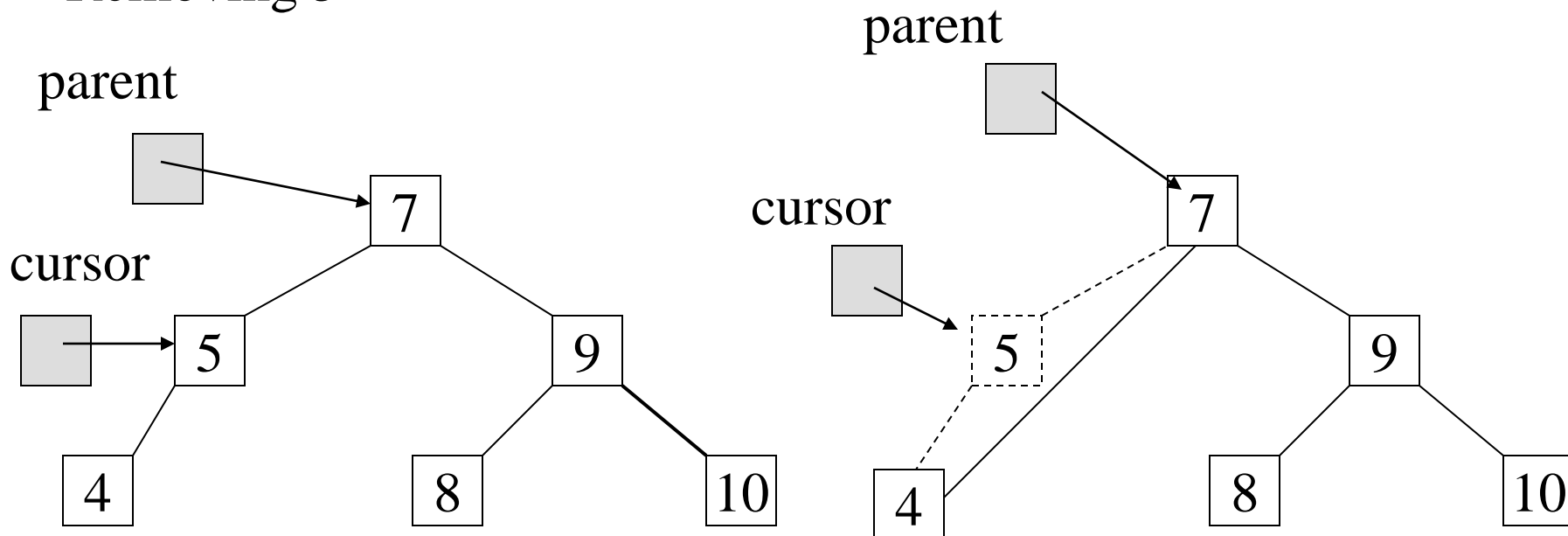
Removal in BST: Example

Case 4: removing a node with 1 EMPTY SUBTREE

the node has no right child:

link the parent of the node to the left (non-empty) subtree

Removing 5





Analysis of BST Operations

- The complexity of operations **get**, **insert** and **remove** in BST is $O(h)$, where h is the height.
- $O(\log n)$ when the tree is balanced. The updating operations cause the tree to become unbalanced.
- The tree can degenerate to a linear shape and the operations will become $O(n)$



Best Case

```
BST tree = new BST();
```

```
tree.insert ("E");
```

```
tree.insert ("C");
```

```
tree.insert ("D");
```

```
tree.insert ("A");
```

```
tree.insert ("H");
```

```
tree.insert ("F");
```

```
tree.insert ("K");
```

Output:

>>>> Items in advantageous order:

```
      K
     H
    F
   E
  D
 C
  A
```




Worst Case

```
BST tree = new BST();  
for (int i = 1; i <= 8; i++)  
    tree.insert (i);
```

Output:

>>>> Items in worst order:

8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1



Random Case

```
tree = new BST ();  
for (int i = 1; i <= 8; i++)  
    tree.insert(random());
```

Output:

>>>> Items in random order:

X

U

P

O

H

F

B



Applications for BST

- ⊕ Sorting with binary search trees
 - ⊞ Input: unsorted array
 - ⊞ Output: sorted array

- ⊕ Algorithm ?
- ⊕ Running time ?



Better Search Trees

Prevent the degeneration of the BST :

- A BST can be set up to maintain balance during updating operations (insertions and removals)
- Types of ST which maintain the optimal performance:
 - splay trees
 - AVL trees
 - 2-4 Trees
 - Red-Black trees
 - B-trees