

# Binary Search Trees

- ▶ basic implementations
- ▶ randomized BSTs
- ▶ deletion in BSTs

References:  
Algorithms in Java, Chapter 12  
Intro to Programming, Section 4.4  
<http://www.cs.princeton.edu/introalgsds/43bst>

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## Elementary implementations: summary

implementation	worst case		average case		ordered iteration?	operations on keys
	search	insert	search	insert		
unordered array	N	N	N/2	N/2	no	<code>equals()</code>
ordered array	$\lg N$	N	$\lg N$	N/2	yes	<code>compareTo()</code>
unordered list	N	N	N/2	N	no	<code>equals()</code>
ordered list	N	N	N/2	N/2	yes	<code>compareTo()</code>

### Challenge:

Efficient implementations of `get()` and `put()` and ordered iteration.

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- ▶ basic implementations
- ▶ randomized BSTs
- ▶ deletion in BSTs

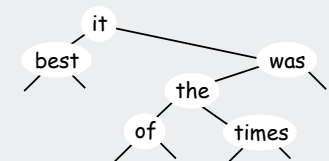
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## Binary Search Trees (BSTs)

Def. A BINARY SEARCH TREE is a **binary tree** in **symmetric order**.

A **binary tree** is either:

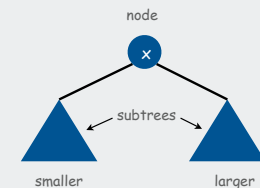
- empty
- a key-value pair and two binary trees [neither of which contain that key]



equal keys ruled out to facilitate associative array implementations

**Symmetric order** means that:

- every node has a **key**
- every node's key is **larger** than all keys in its left subtree and **smaller** than all keys in its right subtree



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## BST representation

A **BST** is a reference to a **Node**.

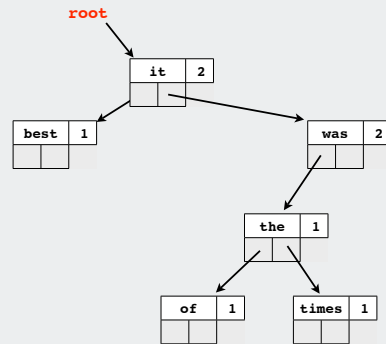
A **Node** is comprised of four fields:

- A key and a value.
- A reference to the left and right subtree.

smaller keys      larger keys

```
private class Node
{
    Key key;
    Value val;
    Node left, right;
}
```

Key and Value are generic types;  
Key is Comparable



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## BST implementation (skeleton)

```
public class BST<Key extends Comparable<Key>, Value>
    implements Iterable<Key>
{
    private Node root;

    private class Node
    {
        Key key;
        Value val;
        Node left, right;
        Node(Key key, Value val)
        {
            this.key = key;
            this.val = val;
        }
    }

    public void put(Key key, Value val)
    // see next slides

    public Val get(Key key)
    // see next slides
}
```

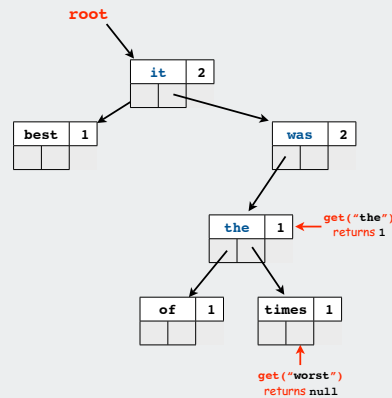
← instance variable

← inner class

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## BST implementation (search)

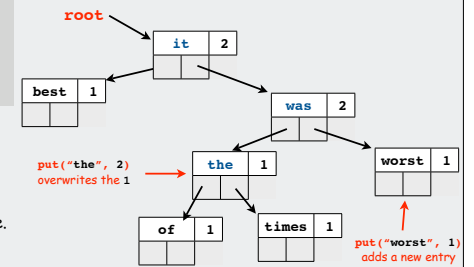
```
public Value get(Key key)
{
    Node x = root;
    while (x != null)
    {
        int cmp = key.compareTo(x.key);
        if (cmp == 0) return x.val;
        else if (cmp < 0) x = x.left;
        else if (cmp > 0) x = x.right;
    }
    return null;
}
```



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## BST implementation (insert)

```
public void put(Key key, Value val)
{
    root = put(root, key, val);
}
```



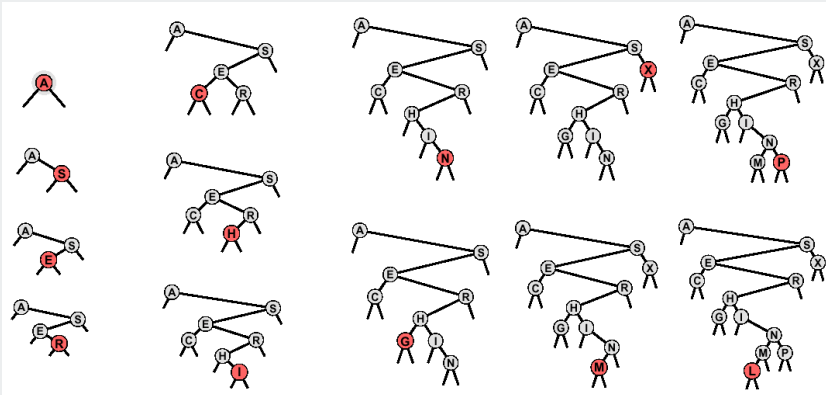
Caution: tricky recursive code.  
Read carefully!

```
private Node put(Node x, Key key, Value val)
{
    if (x == null) return new Node(key, val);
    int cmp = key.compareTo(x.key);
    if (cmp == 0) x.val = val;
    else if (cmp < 0) x.left = put(x.left, key, val);
    else if (cmp > 0) x.right = put(x.right, key, val);
    return x;
}
```

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## BST: Construction

Insert the following keys into BST. A S E R C H I N G X M P L

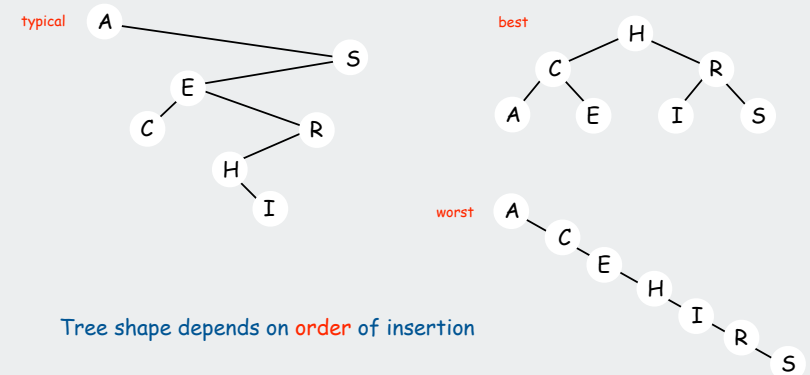


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## Tree Shape

### Tree shape.

- Many BSTs correspond to same input data.
- Cost of search/insert is proportional to depth of node.



Tree shape depends on order of insertion

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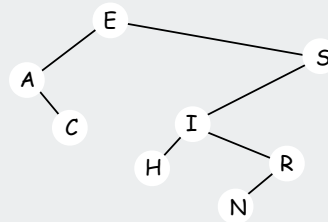
## BST implementation: iterator?

```
public Iterator<Key> iterator()
{ return new BSTIterator(); }

private class BSTIterator
    implements Iterator<Key>
{
    BSTIterator()
    { }

    public boolean hasNext()
    { }

    public Key next()
    { }
}
```



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## BST implementation: iterator?

### Approach: mimic recursive inorder traversal

```
public void visit(Node x)
{
    if (x == null) return;
    visit(x.left);
    StdOut.println(x.key);
    visit(x.right);
}
```

```
visit(E)
  visit(A)
    print A
    visit(C)
      print C
    print E
  visit(S)
    visit(I)
      visit(H)
        print H
      print I
    visit(R)
      visit(N)
        print N
      print R
    print S
```

```
E
A E
E
C E
E
S
I S
H I S
I S
R S
N R S
R S
S
```

Stack contents

- To process a node
- follow left links until empty (pushing onto stack)
  - pop and process
  - process node at right link

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## BST implementation: iterator

```
public Iterator<Key> iterator()
{ return new BSTIterator(); }

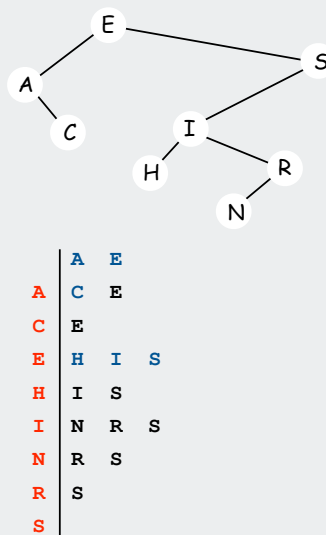
private class BSTIterator
    implements Iterator<Key>
{
    private Stack<Node>
        stack = new Stack<Node>();

    private void pushLeft(Node x)
    {
        while (x != null)
        { stack.push(x); x = x.left; }
    }

    BSTIterator()
    { pushLeft(root); }

    public boolean hasNext()
    { return !stack.isEmpty(); }

    public Key next()
    {
        Node x = stack.pop();
        pushLeft(x.right);
        return x.key;
    }
}
```



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## 1-1 correspondence between BSTs and Quicksort partitioning

Q U I C K S O R T E X A M P L E

E R A T E S L P U I M Q C X O K

E C A I E **K** L P U T M Q R X O S

A C **E** I E K L P U T M Q R X O S

A **C** E I E K L P U T M Q R X O S

**A** C E I E K L P U T M Q R X O S

A C E **E** I K L P U T M Q R X O S

A C E I **E** K L P U T M Q R X O S

A C E E I K L P O R M Q S X U T

A C E E I K L P O M Q R S X U T

A C E E I K L M O P Q R S X U T

A C E E I K L M O P Q R S X U T

A C E E I K L M O **P** Q R S X U T

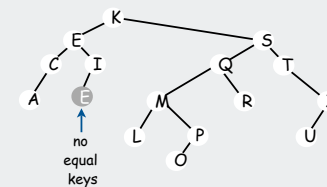
A C E E I K L M O P Q R S X U T

A C E E I K L M O P Q **R** S X U T

A C E E I K L M O P Q R S **T** U X

A C E E I K L M O P Q R S T U X

A C E E I K L M O P Q R S T U X



1

## BSTs: analysis

**Theorem.** If keys are inserted in **random** order, the expected number of comparisons for a search/insert is about  $2 \ln N$ .

$= 1.38 \lg N$ , variance =  $O(1)$

Proof: 1-1 correspondence with quicksort partitioning

**Theorem.** If keys are inserted in random order, height of tree is proportional to  $\lg N$ , except with exponentially small probability.

mean =  $6.22 \lg N$ , variance =  $O(1)$

But... Worst-case for search/insert/height is  $N$ .

e.g., keys inserted in ascending order

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### Searching challenge 3 (revisited):

**Problem:** Frequency counts in "Tale of Two Cities"

**Assumptions:** book has 135,000+ words  
about 10,000 distinct words

### Which searching method to use?

- 1) unordered array
- 2) unordered linked list
- 3) ordered array with binary search
- 4) need better method, all too slow
- 5) doesn't matter much, all fast enough
- 6) **BSTs**

## 6) BSTs

insertion cost  $< 10000 * 1.38 * \lg 10000 < .2$  million  
lookup cost  $< 135000 * 1.38 * \lg 10000 < 2.5$  million

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## Elementary implementations: summary

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	search	insert	search	insert		
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ordered array	<b>lg N</b>	N	<b>lg N</b>	N/2	yes	<code>compareTo()</code>
unordered list	N	N	N/2	N	no	<code>equals()</code>
ordered list	N	N	N/2	N/2	yes	<code>compareTo()</code>
BST	N	N	<b>1.38 lg N</b>	<b>1.38 lg N</b>	<b>yes</b>	<code>compareTo()</code>

### Next challenge:

Guaranteed efficiency for `get()` and `put()` and ordered iteration.

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▸ basic implementations

▸ randomized BSTs

▸ deletion in BSTs

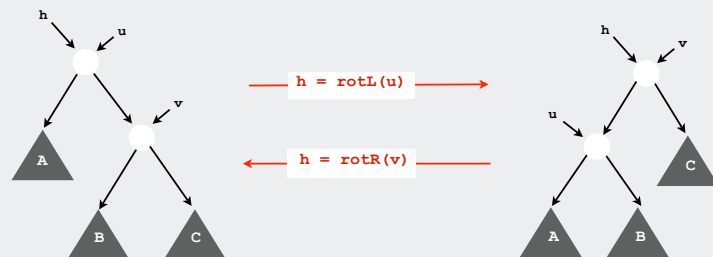
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## Rotation in BSTs

Two fundamental operations to rearrange nodes in a tree.

- maintain symmetric order.
- local transformations (change just 3 pointers).
- basis for advanced BST algorithms

Strategy: use rotations on insert to adjust tree shape to be more balanced



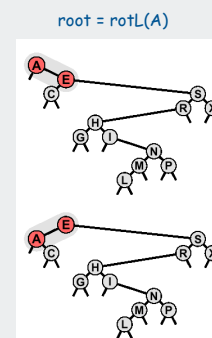
Key point: no change in search code (!)

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## Rotation

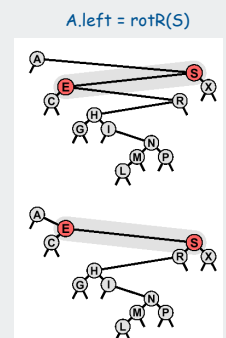
Fundamental operation to rearrange nodes in a tree.

- easier done than said
- raise some nodes, lowers some others



```
private Node rotL(Node h)
{
    Node v = h.r;
    h.r = v.l;
    v.l = h;
    return v;
}
```

```
private Node rotR(Node h)
{
    Node u = h.l;
    h.l = u.r;
    u.r = h;
    return u;
}
```



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## Recursive BST Root Insertion

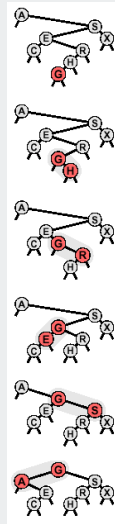
**Root insertion:** insert a node and make it the new root.

- Insert as in standard BST.
- Rotate inserted node to the root.
- Easy recursive implementation

Caution: **very** tricky recursive code.  
Read very carefully!

```
private Node putRoot(Node x, Key key, Val val)
{
    if (x == null) return new Node(key, val);
    int cmp = key.compareTo(x.key);
    if (cmp == 0) x.val = val;
    else if (cmp < 0)
    { x.left = putRoot(x.left, key, val); x = rotR(x); }
    else if (cmp > 0)
    { x.right = putRoot(x.right, key, val); x = rotL(x); }
    return x;
}
```

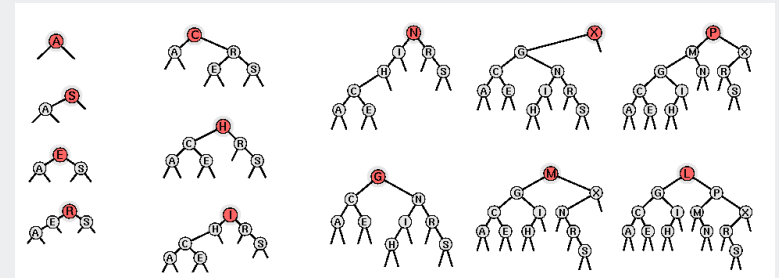
insert G



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## Constructing a BST with root insertion

Ex. A S E R C H I N G X M P L



Why bother?

- Recently inserted keys are near the top (better for some clients).
- Basis for advanced algorithms.

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## Randomized BSTs (Roura, 1996)

**Intuition.** If tree is random, height is logarithmic.

**Fact.** Each node in a random tree is equally likely to be the root.

**Idea.** Since new node should be the root with probability  $1/(N+1)$ ,  
**make it the root** (via root insertion) **with probability  $1/(N+1)$ .**

```
private Node put(Node x, Key key, Value val)
{
    if (x == null) return new Node(key, val);
    int cmp = key.compareTo(x.key);
    if (cmp == 0) { x.val = val; return x; }
    if (StdRandom.bernoulli(1.0 / (x.N + 1.0))
        return putRoot(h, key, val);
    if (cmp < 0) x.left = put(x.left, key, val);
    else if (cmp > 0) x.right = put(x.right, key, val);
    x.N++;
    return x;
}
```

need to maintain count of nodes in tree rooted at x

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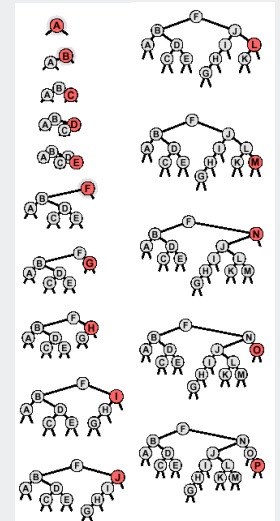
## Constructing a randomized BST

Ex: Insert distinct keys in ascending order.

**Surprising fact:**

Tree has same shape as if keys were inserted in **random** order.

Random trees result from **any** insert order

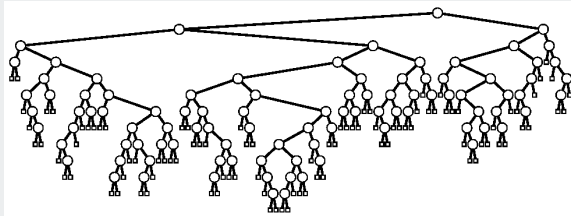


Note: to maintain associative array abstraction need to check whether key is in table and replace value without rotations if that is the case.

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## Randomized BST

**Property.** Randomized BSTs have the same distribution as BSTs under random insertion order, **no matter in what order** keys are inserted.



- Expected height is  $\sim 6.22 \lg N$
- Average search cost is  $\sim 1.38 \lg N$ .
- Exponentially small chance of bad balance.

**Implementation cost.** Need to maintain subtree size in each node.

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## Summary of symbol-table implementations

implementation	guarantee		average case		ordered iteration?	operations on keys
	search	insert	search	insert		
unordered array	N	N	N/2	N/2	no	<code>equals()</code>
ordered array	$\lg N$	N	$\lg N$	N/2	yes	<code>compareTo()</code>
unordered list	N	N	N/2	N	no	<code>equals()</code>
ordered list	N	N	N/2	N/2	yes	<code>compareTo()</code>
BST	N	N	$1.38 \lg N$	$1.38 \lg N$	yes	<code>compareTo()</code>
randomized BST	$7 \lg N$	$7 \lg N$	$1.38 \lg N$	$1.38 \lg N$	yes	<code>compareTo()</code>

Randomized BSTs provide the desired guarantee

↑  
probabilistic, with  
exponentially small  
chance of quadratic time

**Bonus (next):** Randomized BSTs also support delete (!)

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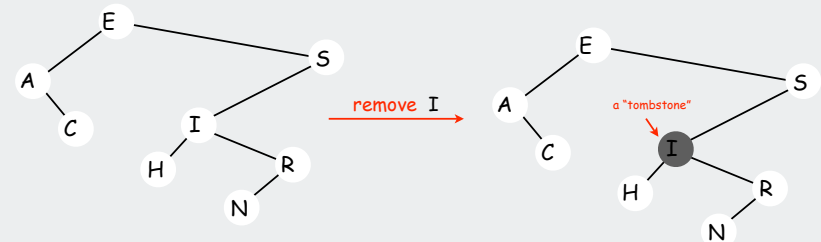
- basic implementations
- randomized BSTs
- **deletion in BSTs**

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## BST delete: lazy approach

To remove a node with a given key

- set its value to `null`
- leave key in tree to guide searches  
[but do not consider it equal to any search key]



**Cost.**  $O(\log N')$  per insert, search, and delete, where  $N'$  is the number of elements ever inserted in the BST.

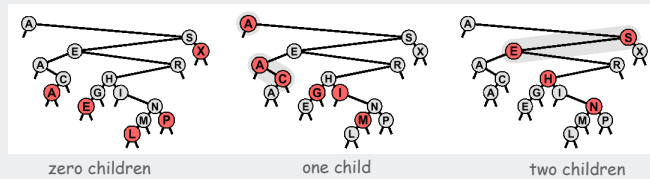
**Unsatisfactory solution:** Can get overloaded with tombstones.

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## BST delete: first approach

To remove a node from a BST. [Hibbard, 1960s]

- Zero children: just remove it.
- One child: pass the child up.
- Two children: find the next largest node using right-left\* swap with next largest remove as above.



**Unsatisfactory solution.** Not symmetric, code is clumsy.

**Surprising consequence.** Trees not random (!)  $\Rightarrow \sqrt{n}$  per op.

Longstanding open problem: simple and efficient delete for BSTs

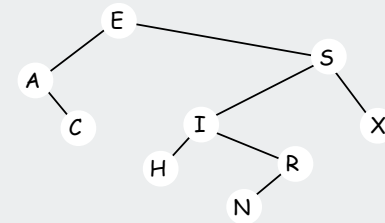
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## Deletion in randomized BSTs

To delete a node containing a given key

- remove the node
- **join** the two remaining subtrees to make a tree

Ex. Delete S in



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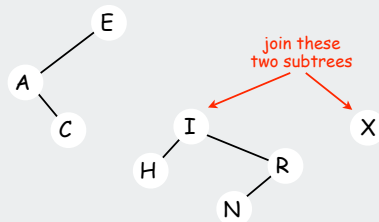
## Deletion in randomized BSTs

To delete a node containing a given key

- remove the node
- **join** its two subtrees

```
private Node remove(Node x, Key key)
{
    if (x == null)
        return new Node(key, val);
    int cmp = key.compareTo(x.key);
    if (cmp == 0)
        return join(x.left, x.right);
    else if (cmp < 0)
        x.left = remove(x.left, key);
    else if (cmp > 0)
        x.right = remove(x.right, key);
    return x;
}
```

Ex. Delete S in

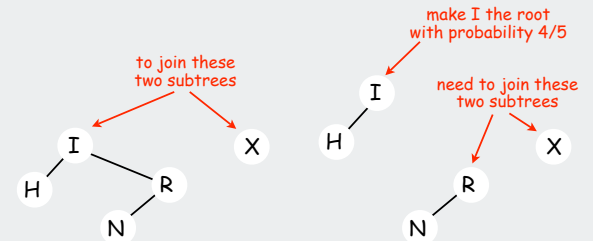


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## Join in randomized BSTs

To join two subtrees with all keys in one less than all keys in the other

- maintain counts of nodes in subtrees (L and R)
- with probability  $L/(L+R)$ 
  - make the root of the left the root
  - make its left subtree the left subtree of the root
  - join its right subtree to R to make the right subtree of the root
- with probability  $R/(L+R)$  do the symmetric moves on the right



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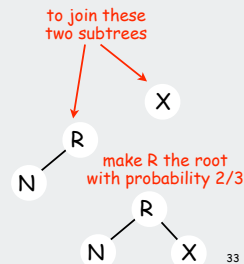


## Join in randomized BSTs

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- maintain counts of nodes in subtrees (L and R)
- with probability  $L/(L+R)$ 
  - make the root of the left the root
  - make its left subtree the left subtree of the root
  - join its right subtree to R to make the right subtree of the root
- with probability  $L/(L+R)$  do the symmetric moves on the right

```
private Node join(Node a, Node b)
{
    if (a == null) return a;
    if (b == null) return b;
    int cmp = key.compareTo(x.key);
    if (StdRandom.bernoulli((double)*a.N / (a.N + b.N))
    { a.right = join(a.right, b); return a; }
    else
    { b.left = join(a, b.left); return b; }
}
```



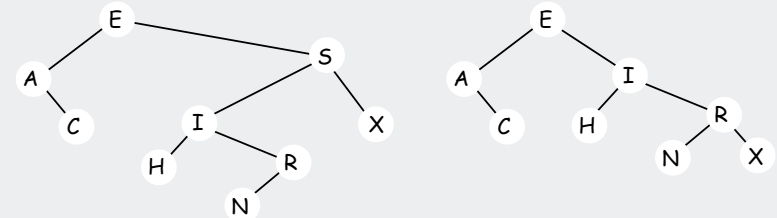
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## Deletion in randomized BSTs

To delete a node containing a given key

- remove the node
- join its two subtrees

Ex. Delete S in



Theorem. Tree still random after delete (!)

Bottom line. Logarithmic guarantee for search/insert/delete

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## Summary of symbol-table implementations

implementation	guarantee			average case			ordered iteration?
	search	insert	delete	search	insert	delete	
unordered array	N	N	N	N/2	N/2	N/2	no
ordered array	$\lg N$	N	N	$\lg N$	N/2	N/2	yes
unordered list	N	N	N	N/2	N	N/2	no
ordered list	N	N	N	N/2	N/2	N/2	yes
BST	N	N	N	$1.38 \lg N$	$1.38 \lg N$	?	yes
randomized BST	$7 \lg N$	$7 \lg N$	$7 \lg N$	$1.38 \lg N$	$1.38 \lg N$	$1.38 \lg N$	yes

Randomized BSTs provide the desired guarantees

↑  
probabilistic, with  
exponentially small  
chance of error

Next lecture: Can we do better?

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