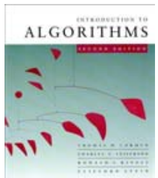
CS 5633 -- Spring 2005



B-trees

External memory dictionary

Task: Given a large amount of data that does not fit into main memory, process it into a dictionary data structure

- Need to minimize number of disk accesses
- With each disk read, read a whole block of data
- Construct a balanced search tree that uses one disk block per tree node
- Each node needs to contain more than one key

k-ary search trees

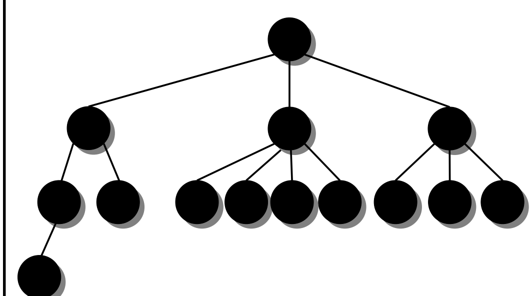
A ***k*-ary search tree** T is defined as follows:

•For each node x of T:

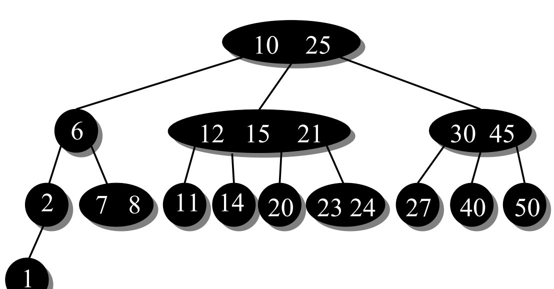
- x has at most k children (i.e., T is a k-ary tree)
- x stores an ordered list of pointers to its children, and an ordered list of keys
- For every internal node: #keys = #children-1
- x fulfills the search tree property:

keys in subtree rooted at i-th child $\leq$ i-th key $\leq$ keys in subtree rooted at $(i+1)$-st child

Example of a 4-ary tree



Example of a 4-ary search tree

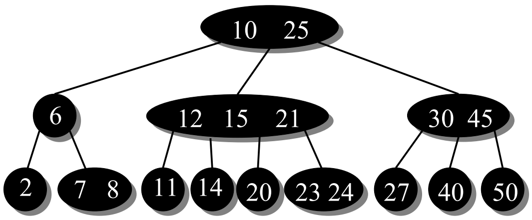


B-tree

A ***B*-tree** T with **minimum degree** $k \geq 2$ is defined as follows:

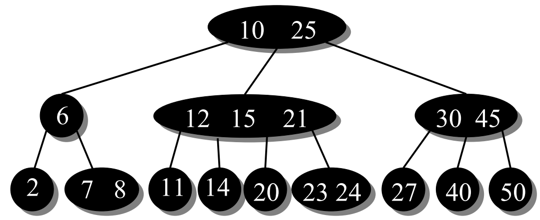
1. T is a $(2k)$-ary search tree
2. Every node, except the root, stores at least k-1 keys
(every internal non-root node has at least k children)
3. The root must store at least one key
4. All leaves have the same depth

B-tree with k=2



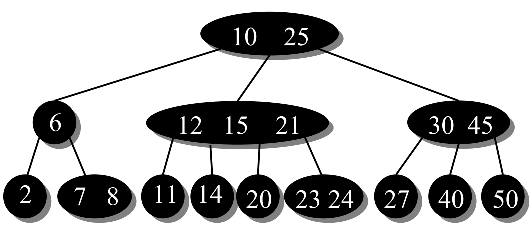
1. T is a $(2k)$-ary search tree

B-tree with k=2



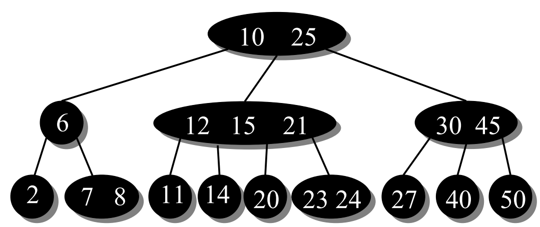
2. Every node, except the root, stores at least k-1 keys

B-tree with k=2



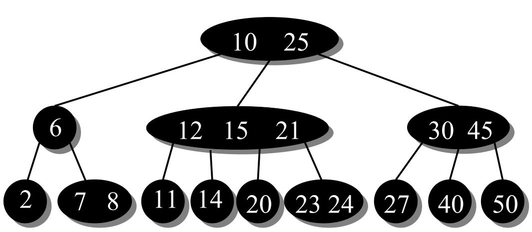
3. The root must store at least one key

B-tree with k=2



4. All leaves have the same depth

B-tree with k=2



Remark: This is a (2,3,4)-tree.

Height of a B-tree

Theorem: A B-tree with minimum degree $k \ge 2$ which stores n keys has height h at most

$$\log_k (n+1)/2$$

Proof: #nodes $\ge 1+2+2k+2k^2+\ldots+2k^{h-1}$

level 0, level 1, level 2, level 3

n = #keys $\ge 1+(k-1)\sum_{i=0}^{h-1} 2k^i = 1+2(k-1)\cdot\frac{k^h-1}{k-1} = 2k^h-1$

B-tree search

B-TREE-SEARCH(*x*,*key*)

```
i ← 1
while i≤#keys of x and key > i-th key of x
    do i ← i+1
if i≤#keys of x and key = i-th key of x
    then return (x,i)
if x is a leaf
    then return NIL
else b=DISK-READ(i-th child of x)
    return B-TREE-SEARCH(b,key)
```


B-tree search runtime

- $O(k)$ per node
- Path has height $h = O(\log_k n)$
- CPU-time: $O(k \log_k n)$

- Disk accesses: $O(\log_k n)$

  disk accesses are more expensive than CPU time

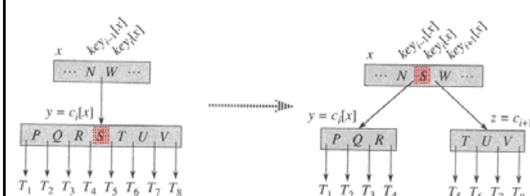
B-tree insert

- There are different insertion strategies. We just cover one of them
- Make one pass down the tree:
  - The goal is to insert the new key *key* into a leaf
  - Search where *key* should be inserted
  - **Only descend into non-full nodes:**
    - If a node is full, split it. Then continue descending.
    - **Splitting of the root node is the only way a B-tree grows in height**

B-TREE-SPLIT-CHILD(*x*,*i*,*y*)

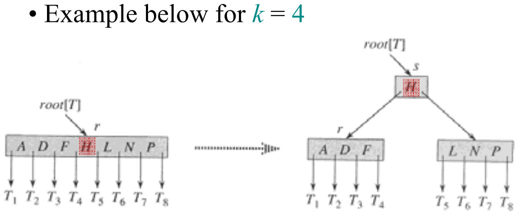
has $2k$-1 keys

- Split full node *y* into two nodes *y* and *z* of k-1 keys
- Median key S of *y* is moved up into *y*'s parent *x*
- Example below for $k = 4$



Split root: B-TREE-SPLIT-CHILD(*s*,*1*,*r*)

- The **full** root node *r* is split in two.
- A new root node *s* is created
- *s* contains the median key H of *r* and has the two halves of *r* as children
- Example below for $k = 4$



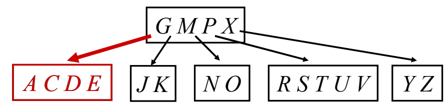
B-TREE-INSERT(*T*,*key*)

```
r = root[T]
if (# keys in r) = 2k-1 // root r is full
    //insert new root node:
    s ← ALLOCATE-NODE()
    root[T] ← s
    // split old root r to be two children of new root s
    B-TREE-SPLIT-CHILD(s,1,r)
    B-TREE-INSERT-NONFULL(s,key)
else B-TREE-INSERT-NONFULL(s,key)
```

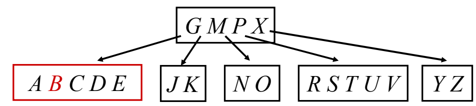
B-TREE-INSERT-NONFULL(x,*key*)

if x is a leaf **then**
  insert *key* at the correct (sorted) position in x
  DISK-WRITE(x)
else
  find child c of x which by the search tree property should contain *key*
  DISK-READ(c)
  if c is full **then** // c contains $2k$-1 keys
    B-TREE-SPLIT-CHILD(x,i,c)
  B-TREE-INSERT-NONFULL(c,k)

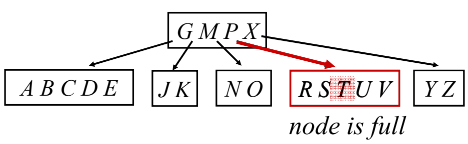
Insert example (k=3)



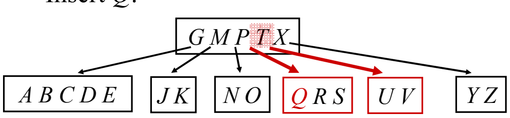
- Insert B:



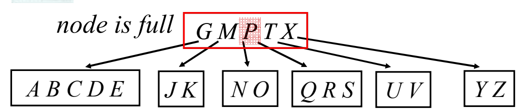
Insert example (k=3) -- cont.



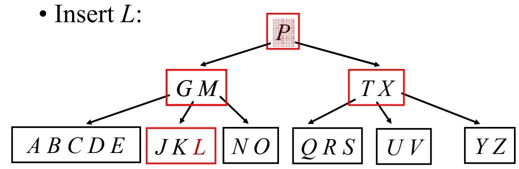
- Insert Q:



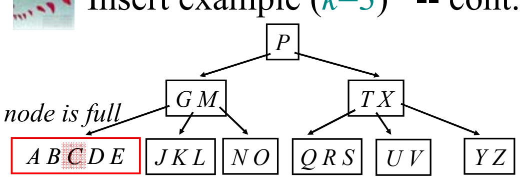
Insert example (k=3) -- cont.



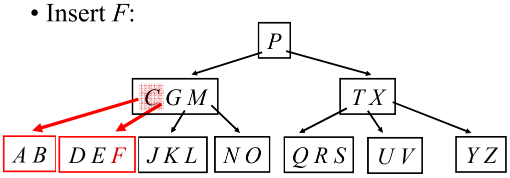
- Insert L:



Insert example (k=3) -- cont.



- Insert F:



Runtime of B-TREE-INSERT

- $O(k)$ runtime per node
- Path has height $h = O(\log_k n)$
- CPU-time: $O(k \log_k n)$

- Disk accesses: $O(\log_k n)$

  disk accesses are more expensive than CPU time

Deletion of an element

- Similar to insertion, but a bit more complicated; see book for details
- If sibling nodes get not full enough, they are **merged** into a single node
- Same complexity as insertion

B-trees -- Conclusion

- B-trees are balanced k-ary search trees
- The **degree** of each node is **bounded from above and below** using the parameter k
- All leaves are at the same height
- **No rotations** are needed: During insertion (or deletion) the balance is maintained by node **splitting** (or node **merging**)
- The tree grows (shrinks) in height only by splitting (or merging) the root