



Universiteit Utrecht

[Faculty of Science
Information and Computing Sciences]

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134. Finger Trees

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Finger trees

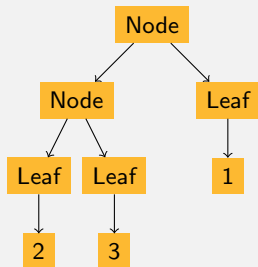
- ▶ A general purpose data structure, reminiscent of a Swiss army knife.
It can be used as:
 - ▶ a sequence (split and concatenate, access to both ends in constant time)
 - ▶ a priority queue (find the minimum)
 - ▶ a search tree (find an element)
 - ▶ ...
- ▶ Specialized data structures are often slightly more efficient, but finger trees are competitive.
- ▶ Available in `Data.Sequence`.



Tree-like structures

```
data Tree a = Leaf a  
          | Node (Tree a) (Tree a)
```

Simple Haskell trees are not always balanced:



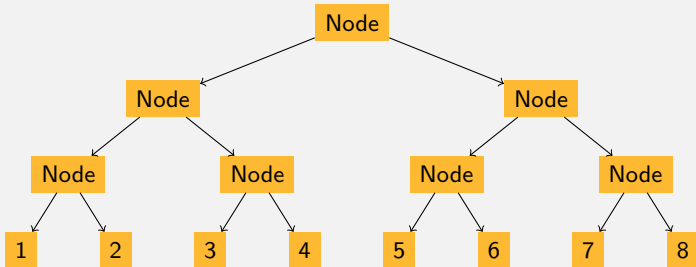
Balanced trees

Idea

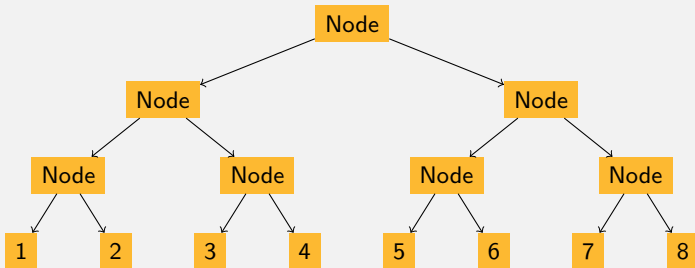
Let us use Haskell's type system to enforce that trees are balanced.



Example: a balanced complete tree



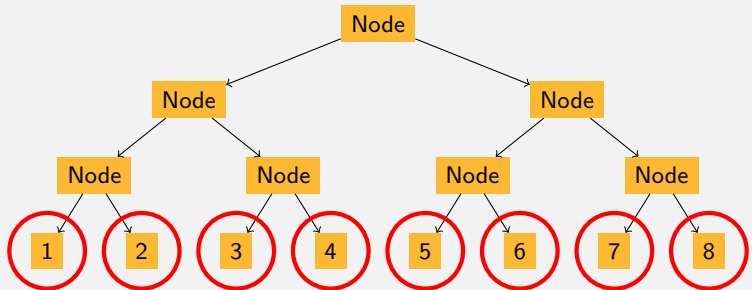
Example: a balanced complete tree



What are the leaves?



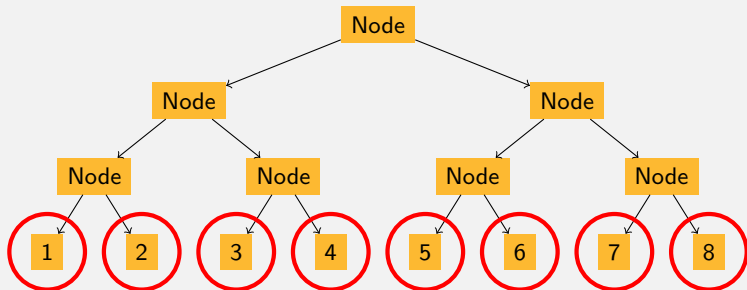
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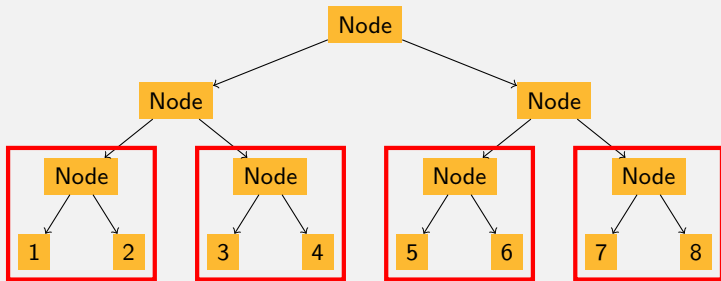


What are the leaves?

Can we define trees that have other trees as leaves?



Example: a balanced complete tree

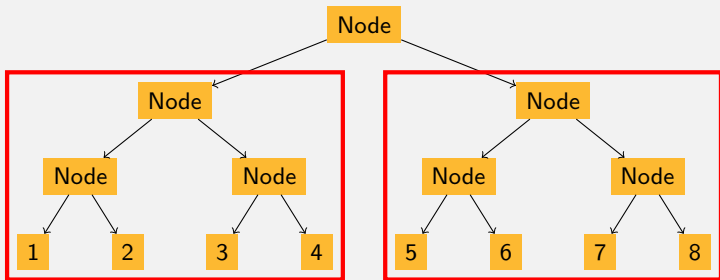


What are the leaves?

Can we define trees that have other trees as leaves? Yes, of course – the type of leaves is just a parameter.



Example: a balanced complete tree



What are the leaves?

Can we define trees that have other trees as leaves? Yes, of course – the type of leaves is just a parameter.



Trees of a fixed depth

type $\text{Tree}_0\ a = a$

type $\text{Tree}_1\ a = \text{Node}\ a = \text{Tree}_0\ (\text{Node}\ a)$

type $\text{Tree}_2\ a = \text{Node}\ (\text{Node}\ a) = \text{Tree}_1\ (\text{Node}\ a)$

type $\text{Tree}_3\ a = \text{Node}\ (\text{Node}\ (\text{Node}\ a)) = \text{Tree}_2\ (\text{Node}\ a)$

...

data $\text{Node}\ a = \text{Node}\ a\ a$ -- a node is a pair!



Nested datatypes

Complete trees of a certain depth:

type Tree_0 $a = a$

type Tree_{1+n} $a = \text{Tree}_n$ (Node a)

data $\text{Node } a = \text{Node } a \ a$ -- a node is a pair!



Nested datatypes

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Combined into a single datatype:

data $\text{Tree } a = \text{Zero } a$

| $\text{Succ } (\text{Tree } (\text{Node } a))$

Trees of this datatype are always complete! What's strange about this type?



Nested datatypes

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Datatypes with non-regular recursion such as `Tree` are also called **nested datatypes**.



Example

```
t :: Tree Int
```

```
t = Succ (Succ (Succ (Zero (Node (Node (Node 1
                                     2)
                                   (Node 3
                                     4))
                                (Node (Node 5
                                     6)
                                   (Node 7
                                     8))))))
```



Example

```
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```

The constructors Succ and Zero encode the number of levels in the tree.



Towards 2-3-trees

- ▶ Complete binary trees are too limited.
- ▶ The number of elements in a complete binary tree is always a power of two.
- ▶ It is therefore difficult to implement basic functions such as insertion of a single element – we need more flexibility.



Towards 2-3-trees

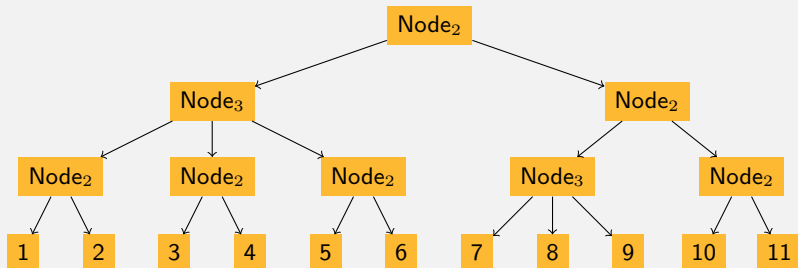
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2-3-trees

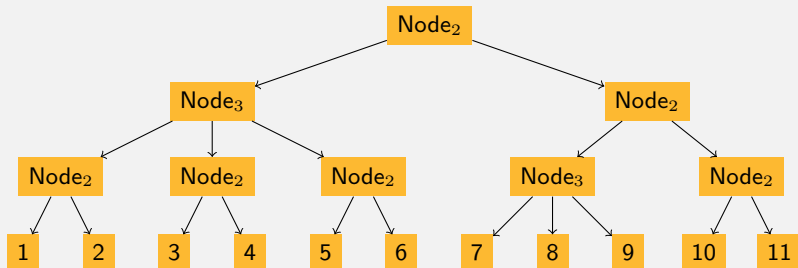
Complete trees with values at the leaves where every node has either two or three children.



A 2-3-tree



A 2-3-tree



data Tree a = Zero a

| Succ (Tree (Node a)) -- as before

data Node a = Node₂ a a

| Node₃ a a a -- pair or triple



Number of elements in a 2-3 tree

depth (n)	min elements (2^n)	max elements (3^n)
0	1	1
1	2	3
2	4	9
3	8	27
...		



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...		

Every number of elements can be represented.

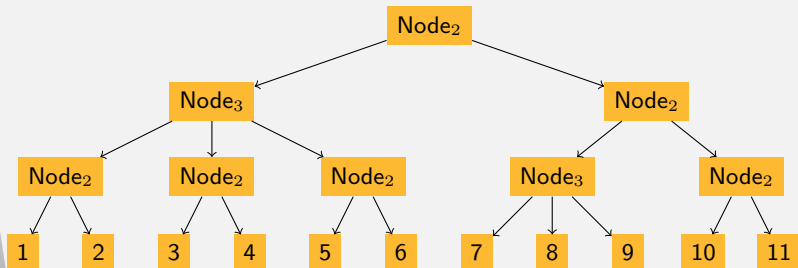


Finger trees

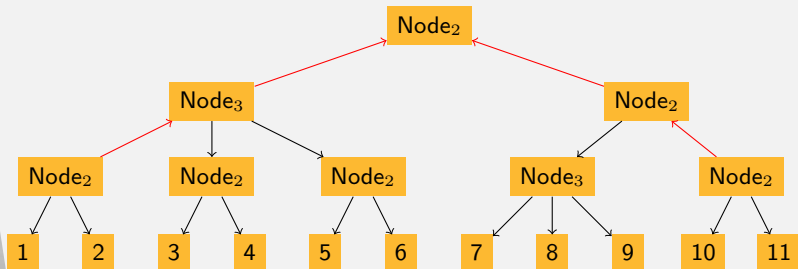
- ▶ 2-3-Trees already give us logarithmic access to all elements.
- ▶ For sequence operations, we want access to both ends in constant time.
- ▶ Finger trees are a reorganisation of 2-3-Trees.



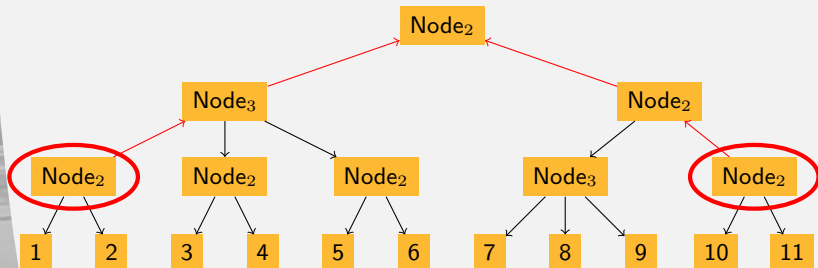
Introducing a “finger” – pointer reversal



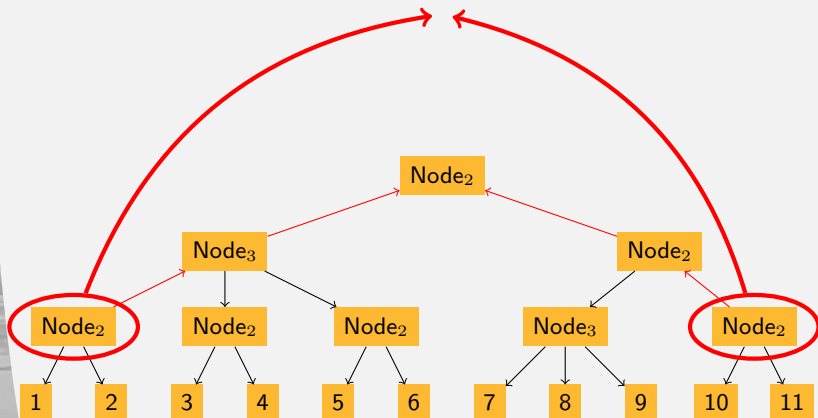
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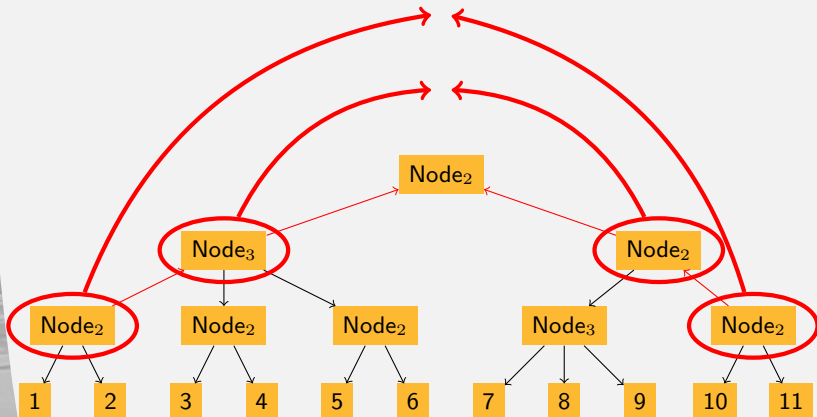
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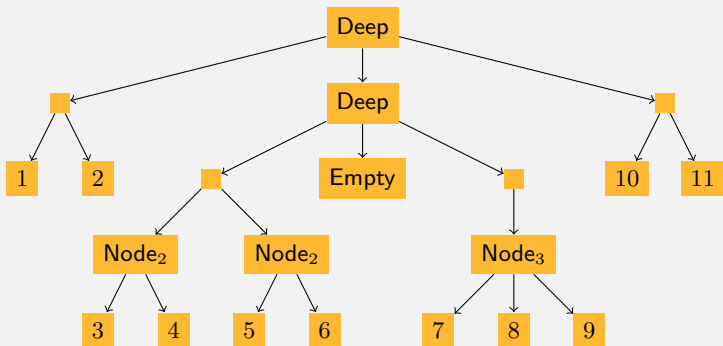
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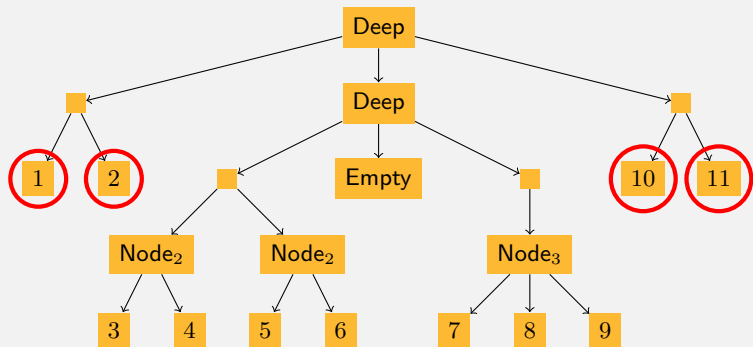
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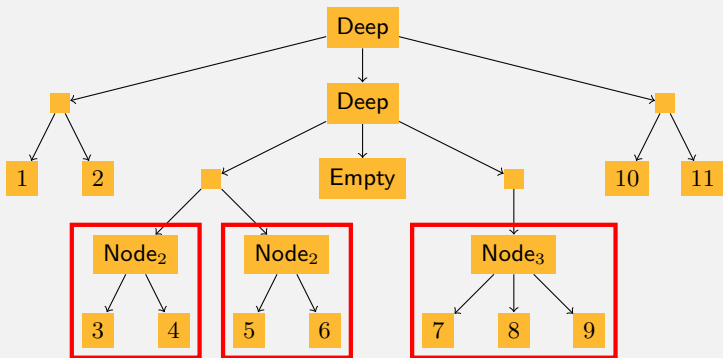
A finger tree



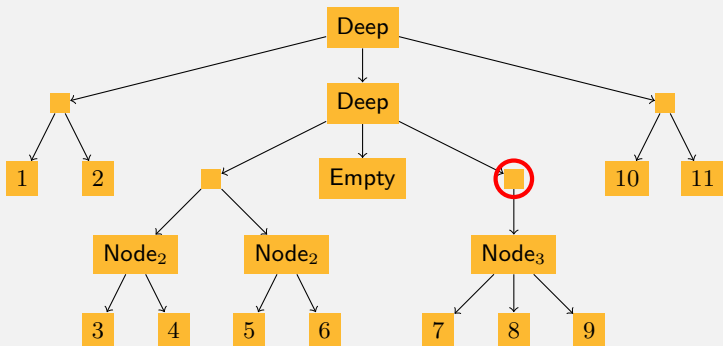
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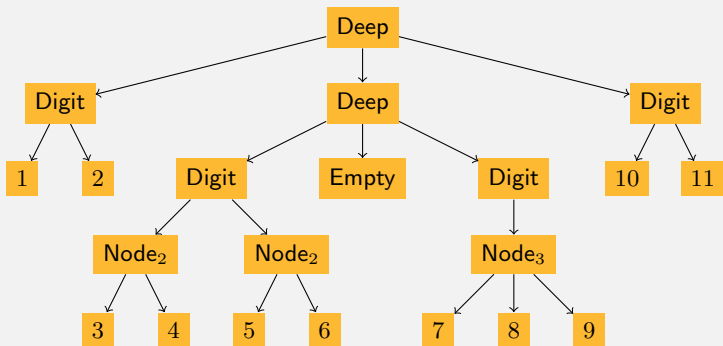
A finger tree



A finger tree



A finger tree



data FingerTree a =
 Empty
 | Single a
 | Deep (Digit a) (FingerTree (Node a)) (Digit a)

type Digit a = [a] -- one up to four elements



Adding a single element

infix 5 \triangleleft

$(\triangleleft) :: a \rightarrow \text{FingerTree } a \rightarrow \text{FingerTree } a$

$a \triangleleft \text{Empty} = \text{Single } a$

$a \triangleleft \text{Single } b = \text{Deep } [a] \text{ Empty } [b]$

$a \triangleleft \text{Deep } [b, c, d, e] \text{ m sf} = \text{Deep } [a, b] (\text{Node}_3 \text{ c d e } \triangleleft \text{m}) \text{ sf}$

$a \triangleleft \text{Deep } \text{pr m sf} = \text{Deep } ([a] \text{ ++ pr}) \text{ m sf}$

- ▶ We define our own operator.
- ▶ We also define its precedence and associativity.
- ▶ Note that (\triangleleft) makes use of **polymorphic recursion** – what is the type of the recursive call?



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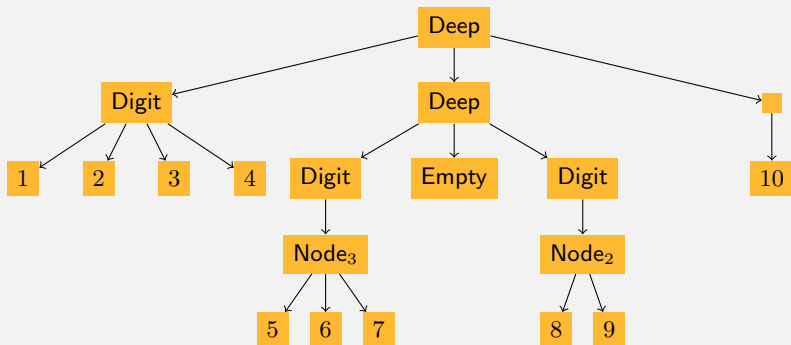
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- ▶ We define our own operator.
- ▶ We also define its precedence and associativity.
- ▶ Note that (\triangleleft) makes use of **polymorphic recursion** – what is the type of the recursive call?
- ▶ Type inference is not supported for polymorphically recursive functions.



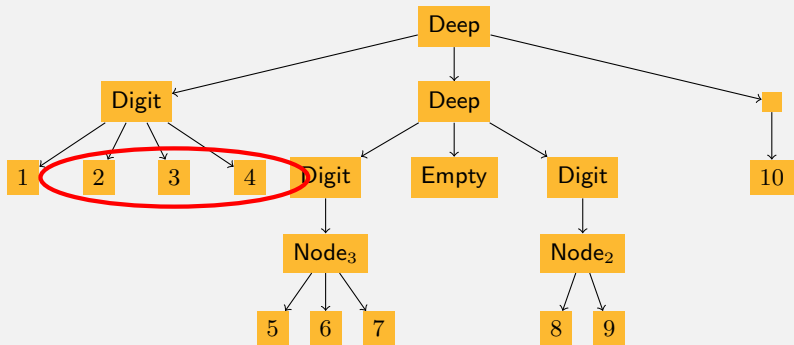
Example: inserting an element

What happens when we insert 0 into the following tree?



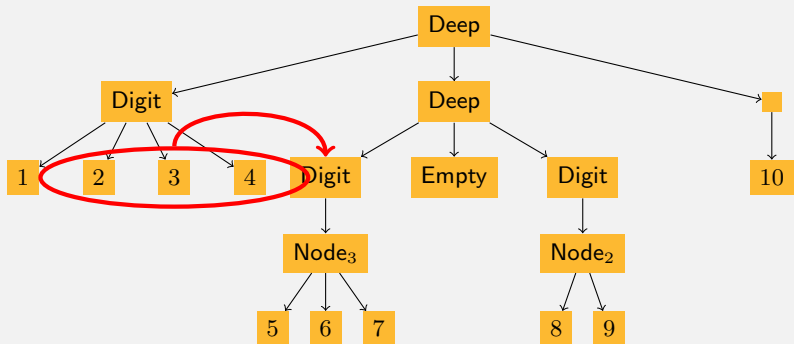
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Example: inserting an element

What happens when we insert 0 into the following tree?



Splitting off the first element

```
data ViewL s a = NilL | ConsL a (s a)
viewL :: FingerTree a → ViewL FingerTree a
```

Using these definitions, it is easy to deconstruct a finger tree:

```
isEmpty :: FingerTree a → Bool
isEmpty x = case viewL x of NilL           → True
              ConsL _ _ → False

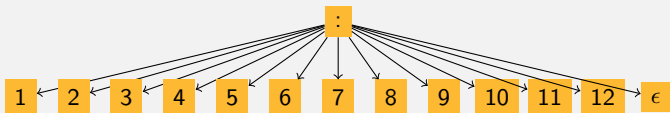
headL :: FingerTree a → a
headL x = case viewL x of ConsL a _ → a

tailL :: FingerTree a → FingerTree a
tailL x = case viewL x of ConsL _ y → y
```

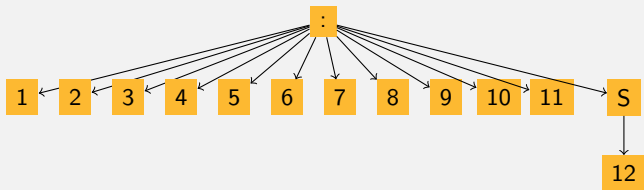
All these operations (and also (\triangleleft)) take $O(1)$ time.



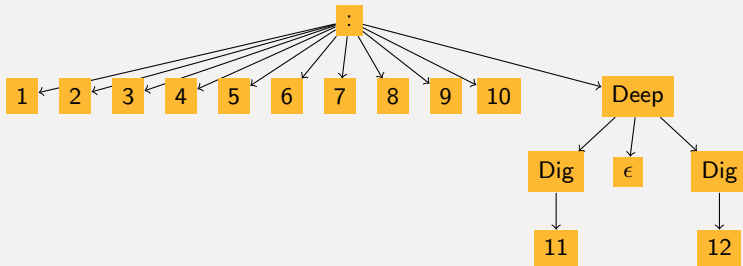
Animation of insertion into Finger Trees



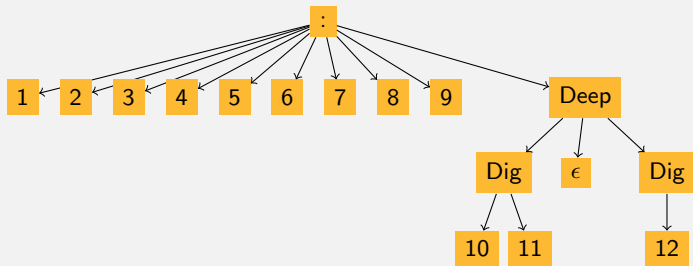
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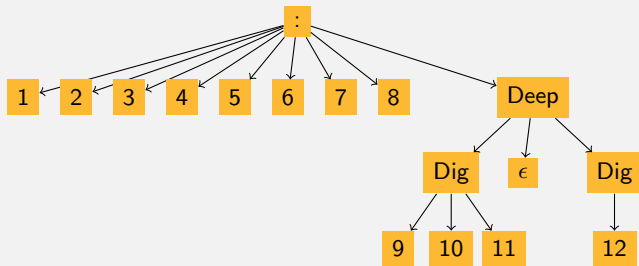
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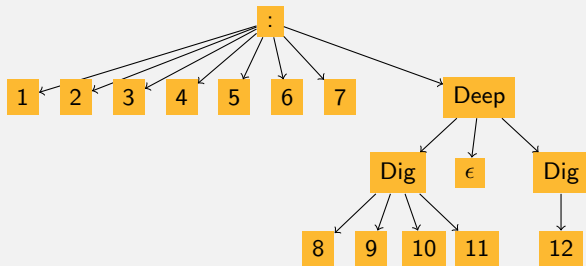
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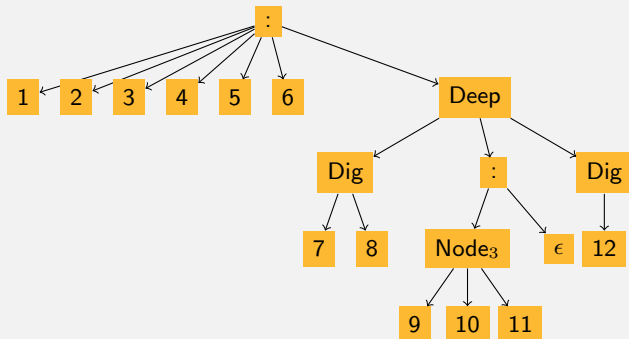
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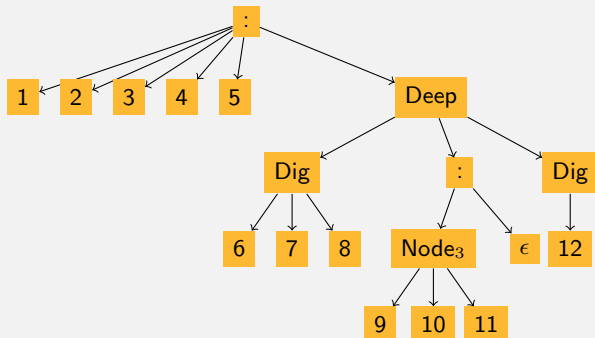
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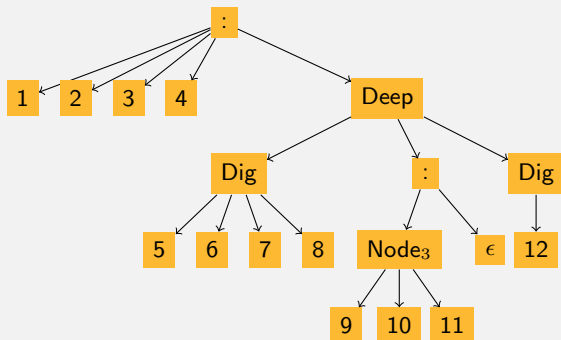
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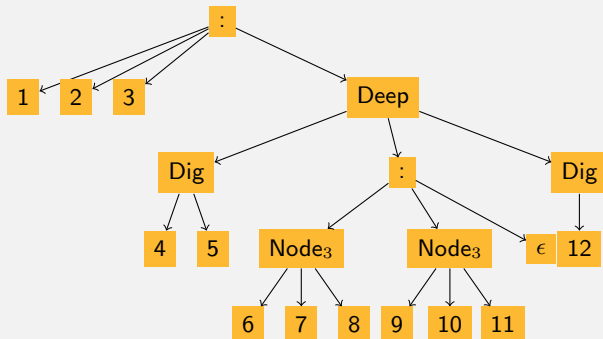
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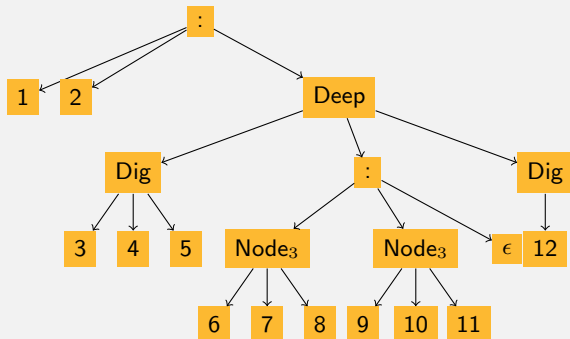
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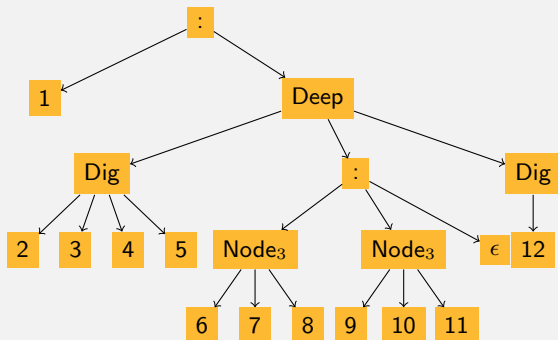
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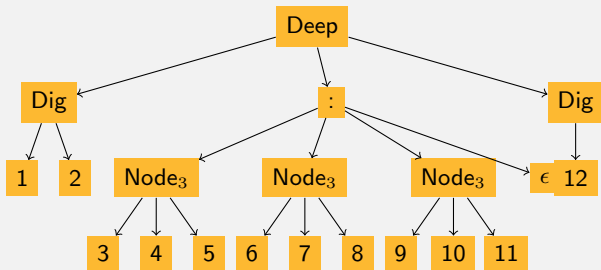
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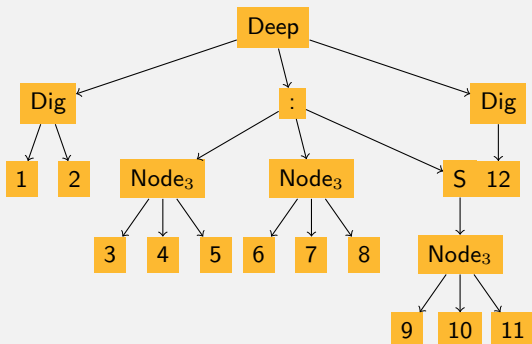
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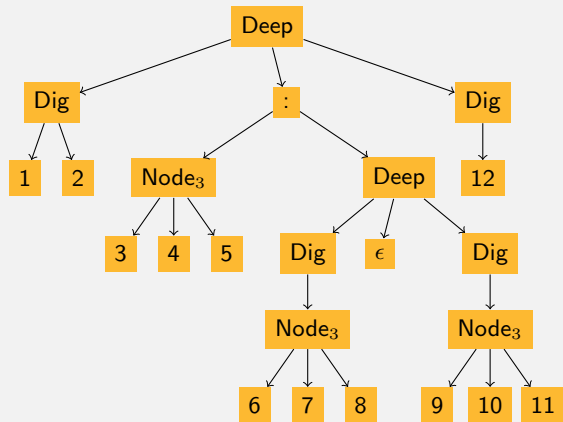
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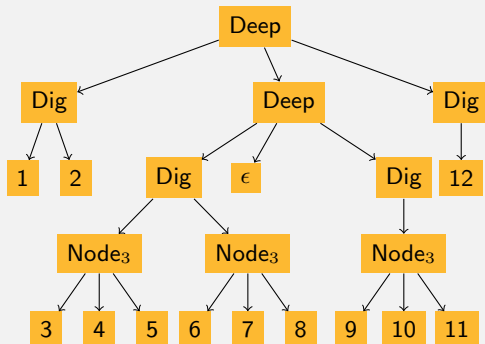
Animation of insertion into Finger Trees



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 - ▶ Think of **credit** that may be distributed among operations.
 - ▶ If the timeout of an operation is T , and an operation actually finishes at time t before T , then it collects $T - t$ units of credit.
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 - ▶ If a later operation takes longer than T , it may use the credit accumulated thus far to pay for the extra time.
- ▶ In a lazy setting with persistent data structures, we have to refine this analysis.



Complexity of adding an element

- ▶ Let us call a digit **safe** if it has two or three elements.
- ▶ Let us call it **dangerous** otherwise.
- ▶ The operation (\triangleleft) only propagates to the next level on a dangerous digit, but makes it safe at the time.

$a \triangleleft \text{Empty} = \text{Single } a$

$a \triangleleft \text{Single } b = \text{Deep } [a] \text{ Empty } [b]$

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$$\begin{aligned} a \triangleleft \text{Empty} &= \text{Single } a \\ a \triangleleft \text{Single } b &= \text{Deep } [a] \text{ Empty } [b] \\ a \triangleleft \text{Deep } [b, c, d, e] \text{ m sf} &= \text{Deep } [a, b] (\text{Node}_3 \text{ c d e } \triangleleft \text{m}) \text{ sf} \\ a \triangleleft \text{Deep pr m sf} &= \text{Deep } ([a] \uparrow \text{pr}) \text{ m sf} \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ At most every second operation propagates to next level.
- ▶ Gives us a (ephemeral) amortized bound of 2 steps per call.



Complexity of adding an element

- ▶ To make the analysis work in a persistent setting, we **need** laziness.
- ▶ Laziness ensures that expensive operations are delayed, and can only be forced by performing a sufficient number of further operations to pay for the cost.



Many more operations on finger trees

Data.Sequence extend finger trees further and define many more operations – an excerpt:

```
data Seq a -- abstract, essentially FingerTree a
( $\otimes$ )    :: Seq a  $\rightarrow$  Seq a  $\rightarrow$  Seq a      -- O (log (min (m, n)))
length   :: Seq a  $\rightarrow$  Int                    -- O (1)
index    :: Seq a  $\rightarrow$  Int  $\rightarrow$  a      -- O (log n)
update   :: Int  $\rightarrow$  a  $\rightarrow$  Seq a  $\rightarrow$  Seq a -- O (log n)
splitAt  :: Int  $\rightarrow$  Seq a  $\rightarrow$  (Seq a, Seq a)    -- O (log n)
reverse  :: Seq a  $\rightarrow$  Seq a                    -- O (n)
```

Data.FingerTree (and corresponding paper by Hinze & Paterson) also describe how to implement other data structures using finger trees.

