

Binary Tree Learning 2

This document summarizes all the binary tree topics learned today with structured explanations, step-wise approaches, and C++ code samples.

1. Check Symmetric Tree (Mirror Tree)

Problem:

Check whether a binary tree is symmetric (mirror image about the center).

Approach:

- Use recursion to check if left and right subtrees are mirrors of each other.

Code:

```
bool isMirror(TreeNode* t1, TreeNode* t2) {
    if (!t1 && !t2) return true;
    if (!t1 || !t2 || t1->val != t2->val) return false;
    return isMirror(t1->left, t2->right) && isMirror(t1->right, t2->left)
}

bool isSymmetric(TreeNode* root) {
    if (!root) return true;
    return isMirror(root->left, root->right);
}
```

Time Complexity: $O(N)$

Space Complexity: $O(H)$ — recursion stack

2. Print Root-to-Node Path

Problem:

Given a binary tree and a target node, print the path from root to that node.

Approach:

- Use backtracking DFS.
- Push node value to path, recurse, and pop if not found.

Code:

```
bool getPath(TreeNode* root, int target, vector<int>& path) {
    if (!root) return false;
    path.push_back(root->val);
    if (root->val == target) return true;

    if (getPath(root->left, target, path) || getPath(root->right, target, path))
        return true;

    path.pop_back();
    return false;
}

void printPath(TreeNode* root, int target) {
    vector<int> path;
    if (getPath(root, target, path)) {
        for (int val : path) cout << val << " ";
    } else {
        cout << "Target not found\n";
    }
}
```

Time Complexity: $O(N)$

Space Complexity: $O(H)$

3. Binary Tree Paths (Root to Leaf)

Problem:

Print all paths from root to all leaf nodes as strings.

Approach:

- Use recursive DFS.
- Store current path in a vector, push when leaf is reached.

Code:

```
void dfs(TreeNode* node, vector<int> path, vector<string>& res) {
    if (!node) return;
    path.push_back(node->val);
    if (!node->left && !node->right) {
        string s = to_string(path[0]);
        for (int i = 1; i < path.size(); i++) s += "->" + to_string(path[i]);
        res.push_back(s);
        return;
    }
    dfs(node->left, path, res);
    dfs(node->right, path, res);
}

vector<string> binaryTreePaths(TreeNode* root) {
    vector<string> result;
    dfs(root, {}, result);
    return result;
}
```

Time Complexity: $O(N)$

Space Complexity: $O(H)$

4. Lowest Common Ancestor (LCA)

Problem:

Find the lowest common ancestor of two nodes in a binary tree.

Approach:

- Use post-order recursion.
- Return the node if found either p or q, else combine results.

Code:

```

TreeNode* lowestCommonAncestor(TreeNode* root, TreeNode* p, TreeNode* q)
    if (!root || root == p || root == q) return root;

    TreeNode* left = lowestCommonAncestor(root->left, p, q);
    TreeNode* right = lowestCommonAncestor(root->right, p, q);

    if (left && right) return root;
    return left ? left : right;
}

```

Time Complexity: $O(N)$

Space Complexity: $O(H)$

5. Maximum Width of Binary Tree

Problem:

Find the maximum width of the binary tree — the width between leftmost and rightmost non-null nodes at any level.

Approach:

- Use level-order traversal with indices like a complete binary tree.
- Normalize indices per level to avoid overflow.

Code:

```

int widthOfBinaryTree(TreeNode* root) {
    if (!root) return 0;
    queue<pair<TreeNode*, unsigned long long>> q;
    q.push({root, 0});
    int maxWidth = 0;

    while (!q.empty()) {
        int size = q.size();
        unsigned long long minIndex = q.front().second;
        unsigned long long first = 0, last = 0;

        for (int i = 0; i < size; i++) {

```

```

        auto [node, idx] = q.front(); q.pop();
        idx -= minIndex; // normalize
        if (i == 0) first = idx;
        if (i == size - 1) last = idx;
        if (node->left) q.push({node->left, 2 * idx + 1});
        if (node->right) q.push({node->right, 2 * idx + 2});
    }

    maxWidth = max(maxWidth, int(last - first + 1));
}

return maxWidth;
}

```

Time Complexity: $O(N)$

Space Complexity: $O(N)$

6. Check Children Sum Property

Problem:

Check if each node equals the sum of its children (NULL children count as 0).

Code:

```

bool checkChildrenSum(TreeNode* root) {
    if (!root || (!root->left && !root->right)) return true;
    int leftVal = root->left ? root->left->val : 0;
    int rightVal = root->right ? root->right->val : 0;
    return (root->val == leftVal + rightVal) &&
        checkChildrenSum(root->left) &&
        checkChildrenSum(root->right);
}

```

Time Complexity: $O(N)$

Space Complexity: $O(H)$

7. Modify Tree to Satisfy Children Sum Property

Problem:

Modify tree in-place so every node becomes equal to sum of its children by only increasing node values.

Approach:

- Use post-order traversal.
- Push parent value down if needed.
- Update back up from fixed children.

Code:

```
void convertToChildrenSum(TreeNode* root) {
    if (!root || (!root->left && !root->right)) return;

    convertToChildrenSum(root->left);
    convertToChildrenSum(root->right);

    int leftVal = root->left ? root->left->val : 0;
    int rightVal = root->right ? root->right->val : 0;
    int childSum = leftVal + rightVal;

    if (childSum >= root->val) {
        root->val = childSum;
    } else {
        if (root->left) root->left->val = root->val;
        if (root->right) root->right->val = root->val;
    }

    convertToChildrenSum(root->left);
    convertToChildrenSum(root->right);

    root->val = (root->left ? root->left->val : 0) +
                (root->right ? root->right->val : 0);
}
```

Time Complexity: $O(N)$

Space Complexity: $O(H)$

Summary Table

Problem	Approach	TC	SC
Symmetric Tree	DFS	$O(N)$	$O(H)$
Root to Node Path	Backtracking DFS	$O(N)$	$O(H)$
All Root to Leaf Paths	DFS	$O(N)$	$O(H)$
LCA in Binary Tree	Post-order	$O(N)$	$O(H)$
Width of Binary Tree	Level-order BFS	$O(N)$	$O(N)$
Check Children Sum Property	Post-order DFS	$O(N)$	$O(H)$
Modify Tree to Children Sum Prop	Post-order Fix	$O(N)$	$O(H)$