

# Open Data Structures

An  
Introduction

PAT  
MORIN



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## Why This Book?

There are plenty of books that teach introductory data structures. Some of them are very good. Most of them cost money, and the vast majority of computer science undergraduate students will shell out at least some cash on a data structures book.

Several free data structures books are available online. Some are very good, but most of them are getting old. The majority of these books became free when their authors and/or publishers decided to stop updating them. Updating these books is usually not possible, for two reasons: (1) The copyright belongs to the author and/or publisher, either of whom may not allow it. (2) The *source code* for these books is often not available. That is, the Word, WordPerfect, FrameMaker, or  $\text{\LaTeX}$  source for the book is not available, and even the version of the software that handles this source may not be available.

The goal of this project is to free undergraduate computer science students from having to pay for an introductory data structures book. I have decided to implement this goal by treating this book like an Open Source software project. The  $\text{\LaTeX}$  source, Java source, and build scripts for the book are available to download from the author's website<sup>1</sup> and also, more importantly, on a reliable source code management site.<sup>2</sup>

The source code available there is released under a Creative Commons Attribution license, meaning that anyone is free to *share*: to copy, distribute and transmit the work; and to *remix*: to adapt the work, including the right to make commercial use of the work. The only condition on these rights is *attribution*: you must acknowledge that the derived work contains code and/or text from [opendatastructures.org](http://opendatastructures.org).

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<sup>1</sup><http://opendatastructures.org>

<sup>2</sup><https://github.com/patmorin/ods>

## Why This Book?

Anyone can contribute corrections/fixes using the `git` source-code management system. Anyone can also fork the book's sources to develop a separate version (for example, in another programming language). My hope is that, by doing things this way, this book will continue to be a useful textbook long after my interest in the project or my pulse, (whichever comes first) has waned.

# Chapter 1

## Introduction

Every computer science curriculum in the world includes a course on data structures and algorithms. Data structures are *that* important; they improve our quality of life and even save lives on a regular basis. Many multi-million and several multi-billion dollar companies have been built around data structures.

How can this be? If we stop to think about it, we realize that we interact with data structures constantly.

- Open a file: File system data structures are used to locate the parts of that file on disk so they can be retrieved. This isn't easy; disks contain hundreds of millions of blocks. The contents of your file could be stored on any one of them.
- Look up a contact on your phone: A data structure is used to look up a phone number in your contact list based on partial information even before you finish dialing/typing. This isn't easy; your phone may contain information about a lot of people—everyone you have ever contacted via phone or email—and your phone doesn't have a very fast processor or a lot of memory.
- Log in to your favourite social network: The network servers use your login information to look up your account information. This isn't easy; the most popular social networks have hundreds of millions of active users.
- Do a web search: The search engine uses data structures to find the web pages containing your search terms. This isn't easy; there are

over 8.5 billion web pages on the Internet and each page contains a lot of potential search terms.

- Phone emergency services (9-1-1): The emergency services network looks up your phone number in a data structure that maps phone numbers to addresses so that police cars, ambulances, or fire trucks can be sent there without delay. This is important; the person making the call may not be able to provide the exact address they are calling from and a delay can mean the difference between life or death.

## 1.1 The Need for Efficiency

In the next section, we look at the operations supported by the most commonly used data structures. Anyone with a bit of programming experience will see that these operations are not hard to implement correctly. We can store the data in an array or a linked list and each operation can be implemented by iterating over all the elements of the array or list and possibly adding or removing an element.

This kind of implementation is easy, but not very efficient. Does this really matter? Computers are becoming faster and faster. Maybe the obvious implementation is good enough. Let's do some rough calculations to find out.

**Number of operations:** Imagine an application with a moderately-sized data set, say of one million ( $10^6$ ), items. It is reasonable, in most applications, to assume that the application will want to look up each item at least once. This means we can expect to do at least one million ( $10^6$ ) searches in this data. If each of these  $10^6$  searches inspects each of the  $10^6$  items, this gives a total of  $10^6 \times 10^6 = 10^{12}$  (one thousand billion) inspections.

**Processor speeds:** At the time of writing, even a very fast desktop computer can not do more than one billion ( $10^9$ ) operations per second.<sup>1</sup> This

---

<sup>1</sup>Computer speeds are at most a few gigahertz (billions of cycles per second), and each operation typically takes a few cycles.

means that this application will take at least  $10^{12}/10^9 = 1000$  seconds, or roughly 16 minutes and 40 seconds. Sixteen minutes is an eon in computer time, but a person might be willing to put up with it (if he or she were headed out for a coffee break).

**Bigger data sets:** Now consider a company like Google, that indexes over 8.5 billion web pages. By our calculations, doing any kind of query over this data would take at least 8.5 seconds. We already know that this isn't the case; web searches complete in much less than 8.5 seconds, and they do much more complicated queries than just asking if a particular page is in their list of indexed pages. At the time of writing, Google receives approximately 4,500 queries per second, meaning that they would require at least  $4,500 \times 8.5 = 38,250$  very fast servers just to keep up.

**The solution:** These examples tell us that the obvious implementations of data structures do not scale well when the number of items,  $n$ , in the data structure and the number of operations,  $m$ , performed on the data structure are both large. In these cases, the time (measured in, say, machine instructions) is roughly  $n \times m$ .

The solution, of course, is to carefully organize data within the data structure so that not every operation requires every data item to be inspected. Although it sounds impossible at first, we will see data structures where a search requires looking at only two items on average, independent of the number of items stored in the data structure. In our billion instruction per second computer it takes only 0.000000002 seconds to search in a data structure containing a billion items (or a trillion, or a quadrillion, or even a quintillion items).

We will also see implementations of data structures that keep the items in sorted order, where the number of items inspected during an operation grows very slowly as a function of the number of items in the data structure. For example, we can maintain a sorted set of one billion items while inspecting at most 60 items during any operation. In our billion instruction per second computer, these operations take 0.00000006 seconds each.

The remainder of this chapter briefly reviews some of the main concepts used throughout the rest of the book. Section 1.2 describes the in-

terfaces implemented by all of the data structures described in this book and should be considered required reading. The remaining sections discuss:

- some mathematical review including exponentials, logarithms, factorials, asymptotic (big-Oh) notation, probability, and randomization;
- the model of computation;
- correctness, running time, and space;
- an overview of the rest of the chapters; and
- the sample code and typesetting conventions.

A reader with or without a background in these areas can easily skip them now and come back to them later if necessary.

## 1.2 Interfaces

When discussing data structures, it is important to understand the difference between a data structure's interface and its implementation. An interface describes what a data structure does, while an implementation describes how the data structure does it.

An *interface*, sometimes also called an *abstract data type*, defines the set of operations supported by a data structure and the semantics, or meaning, of those operations. An interface tells us nothing about how the data structure implements these operations; it only provides a list of supported operations along with specifications about what types of arguments each operation accepts and the value returned by each operation.

A data structure *implementation*, on the other hand, includes the internal representation of the data structure as well as the definitions of the algorithms that implement the operations supported by the data structure. Thus, there can be many implementations of a single interface. For example, in Chapter 2, we will see implementations of the `List` interface using arrays and in Chapter 3 we will see implementations of the `List` interface using pointer-based data structures. Each implements the same interface, `List`, but in different ways.



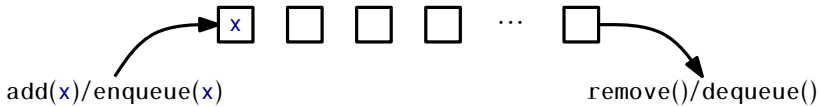


Figure 1.1: A FIFO Queue.

### 1.2.1 The Queue, Stack, and Deque Interfaces

The Queue interface represents a collection of elements to which we can add elements and remove the next element. More precisely, the operations supported by the Queue interface are

- `add(x)`: add the value `x` to the Queue
- `remove()`: remove the next (previously added) value, `y`, from the Queue and return `y`

Notice that the `remove()` operation takes no argument. The Queue’s *queueing discipline* decides which element should be removed. There are many possible queueing disciplines, the most common of which include FIFO, priority, and LIFO.

A *FIFO (first-in-first-out) Queue*, which is illustrated in Figure 1.1, removes items in the same order they were added, much in the same way a queue (or line-up) works when checking out at a cash register in a grocery store. This is the most common kind of Queue so the qualifier FIFO is often omitted. In other texts, the `add(x)` and `remove()` operations on a FIFO Queue are often called `enqueue(x)` and `dequeue()`, respectively.

A *priority Queue*, illustrated in Figure 1.2, always removes the smallest element from the Queue, breaking ties arbitrarily. This is similar to the way in which patients are triaged in a hospital emergency room. As patients arrive they are evaluated and then placed in a waiting room. When a doctor becomes available he or she first treats the patient with the most life-threatening condition. The `remove(x)` operation on a priority Queue is usually called `deleteMin()` in other texts.

A very common queueing discipline is the LIFO (last-in-first-out) discipline, illustrated in Figure 1.3. In a *LIFO Queue*, the most recently added element is the next one removed. This is best visualized in terms of a stack of plates; plates are placed on the top of the stack and also

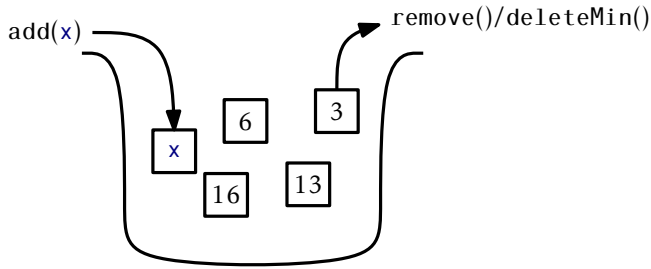


Figure 1.2: A priority Queue.

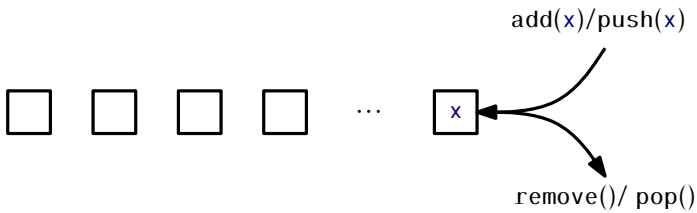


Figure 1.3: A stack.

removed from the top of the stack. This structure is so common that it gets its own name: Stack. Often, when discussing a Stack, the names of `add(x)` and `remove()` are changed to `push(x)` and `pop()`; this is to avoid confusing the LIFO and FIFO queueing disciplines.

A Deque is a generalization of both the FIFO Queue and LIFO Queue (Stack). A Deque represents a sequence of elements, with a front and a back. Elements can be added at the front of the sequence or the back of the sequence. The names of the Deque operations are self-explanatory: `addFirst(x)`, `removeFirst()`, `addLast(x)`, and `removeLast()`. It is worth noting that a Stack can be implemented using only `addFirst(x)` and `removeFirst()` while a FIFO Queue can be implemented using `addLast(x)` and `removeFirst()`.

### 1.2.2 The List Interface: Linear Sequences

This book will talk very little about the FIFO Queue, Stack, or Deque interfaces. This is because these interfaces are subsumed by the List interface. A List, illustrated in Figure 1.4, represents a sequence,  $x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}$ ,

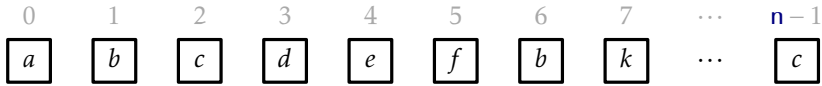


Figure 1.4: A List represents a sequence indexed by  $0, 1, 2, \dots, n$ . In this List a call to `get(2)` would return the value `c`.

of values. The List interface includes the following operations:

1. `size()`: return  $n$ , the length of the list
2. `get(i)`: return the value  $x_i$
3. `set(i, x)`: set the value of  $x_i$  equal to  $x$
4. `add(i, x)`: add  $x$  at position  $i$ , displacing  $x_i, \dots, x_{n-1}$ ;  
Set  $x_{j+1} = x_j$ , for all  $j \in \{n-1, \dots, i\}$ , increment  $n$ , and set  $x_i = x$
5. `remove(i)` remove the value  $x_i$ , displacing  $x_{i+1}, \dots, x_{n-1}$ ;  
Set  $x_j = x_{j+1}$ , for all  $j \in \{i, \dots, n-2\}$  and decrement  $n$

Notice that these operations are easily sufficient to implement the Deque interface:

```

addFirst(x)  ⇒  add(0, x)
removeFirst() ⇒  remove(0)
addLast(x)   ⇒  add(size(), x)
removeLast() ⇒  remove(size() - 1)

```

Although we will normally not discuss the Stack, Deque and FIFO Queue interfaces in subsequent chapters, the terms Stack and Deque are sometimes used in the names of data structures that implement the List interface. When this happens, it highlights the fact that these data structures can be used to implement the Stack or Deque interface very efficiently. For example, the `ArrayDeque` class is an implementation of the List interface that implements all the Deque operations in constant time per operation.

### 1.2.3 The USet Interface: Unordered Sets

The USet interface represents an unordered set of unique elements, which mimics a mathematical *set*. A USet contains `n` *distinct* elements; no element appears more than once; the elements are in no specific order. A USet supports the following operations:

1. `size()`: return the number, `n`, of elements in the set
2. `add(x)`: add the element `x` to the set if not already present;  
Add `x` to the set provided that there is no element `y` in the set such that `x` equals `y`. Return `true` if `x` was added to the set and `false` otherwise.
3. `remove(x)`: remove `x` from the set;  
Find an element `y` in the set such that `x` equals `y` and remove `y`. Return `y`, or `null` if no such element exists.
4. `find(x)`: find `x` in the set if it exists;  
Find an element `y` in the set such that `y` equals `x`. Return `y`, or `null` if no such element exists.

These definitions are a bit fussy about distinguishing `x`, the element we are removing or finding, from `y`, the element we may remove or find. This is because `x` and `y` might actually be distinct objects that are nevertheless treated as equal.<sup>2</sup> Such a distinction is useful because it allows for the creation of *dictionaries* or *maps* that map keys onto values.

To create a dictionary/map, one forms compound objects called `Pairs`, each of which contains a *key* and a *value*. Two `Pairs` are treated as equal if their keys are equal. If we store some pair `(k,v)` in a USet and then later call the `find(x)` method using the pair `x = (k,null)` the result will be `y = (k,v)`. In other words, it is possible to recover the value, `v`, given only the key, `k`.

---

<sup>2</sup>In Java, this is done by overriding the class's `equals(y)` and `hashCode()` methods.

### 1.2.4 The SSet Interface: Sorted Sets

The SSet interface represents a sorted set of elements. An SSet stores elements from some total order, so that any two elements  $x$  and  $y$  can be compared. In code examples, this will be done with a method called `compare(x, y)` in which

$$\text{compare}(x, y) \begin{cases} < 0 & \text{if } x < y \\ > 0 & \text{if } x > y \\ = 0 & \text{if } x = y \end{cases}$$

An SSet supports the `size()`, `add(x)`, and `remove(x)` methods with exactly the same semantics as in the USet interface. The difference between a USet and an SSet is in the `find(x)` method:

4. `find(x)`: locate  $x$  in the sorted set;  
Find the smallest element  $y$  in the set such that  $y \geq x$ . Return  $y$  or `null` if no such element exists.

This version of the `find(x)` operation is sometimes referred to as a *successor search*. It differs in a fundamental way from `USet.find(x)` since it returns a meaningful result even when there is no element equal to  $x$  in the set.

The distinction between the USet and SSet `find(x)` operations is very important and often missed. The extra functionality provided by an SSet usually comes with a price that includes both a larger running time and a higher implementation complexity. For example, most of the SSet implementations discussed in this book all have `find(x)` operations with running times that are logarithmic in the size of the set. On the other hand, the implementation of a USet as a `ChainedHashTable` in Chapter 5 has a `find(x)` operation that runs in constant expected time. When choosing which of these structures to use, one should always use a USet unless the extra functionality offered by an SSet is truly needed.

## 1.3 Mathematical Background

In this section, we review some mathematical notations and tools used throughout this book, including logarithms, big-Oh notation, and proba-

bility theory. This review will be brief and is not intended as an introduction. Readers who feel they are missing this background are encouraged to read, and do exercises from, the appropriate sections of the very good (and free) textbook on mathematics for computer science [50].

### 1.3.1 Exponentials and Logarithms

The expression  $b^x$  denotes the number  $b$  raised to the power of  $x$ . If  $x$  is a positive integer, then this is just the value of  $b$  multiplied by itself  $x - 1$  times:

$$b^x = \underbrace{b \times b \times \cdots \times b}_x .$$

When  $x$  is a negative integer,  $b^x = 1/b^{-x}$ . When  $x = 0$ ,  $b^x = 1$ . When  $b$  is not an integer, we can still define exponentiation in terms of the exponential function  $e^x$  (see below), which is itself defined in terms of the exponential series, but this is best left to a calculus text.

In this book, the expression  $\log_b k$  denotes the *base- $b$  logarithm* of  $k$ . That is, the unique value  $x$  that satisfies

$$b^x = k .$$

Most of the logarithms in this book are base 2 (*binary logarithms*). For these, we omit the base, so that  $\log k$  is shorthand for  $\log_2 k$ .

An informal, but useful, way to think about logarithms is to think of  $\log_b k$  as the number of times we have to divide  $k$  by  $b$  before the result is less than or equal to 1. For example, when one does binary search, each comparison reduces the number of possible answers by a factor of 2. This is repeated until there is at most one possible answer. Therefore, the number of comparison done by binary search when there are initially at most  $n + 1$  possible answers is at most  $\lceil \log_2(n + 1) \rceil$ .

Another logarithm that comes up several times in this book is the *natural logarithm*. Here we use the notation  $\ln k$  to denote  $\log_e k$ , where  $e$  — *Euler's constant* — is given by

$$e = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n \approx 2.71828 .$$

The natural logarithm comes up frequently because it is the value of a particularly common integral:

$$\int_1^k 1/x \, dx = \ln k .$$

Two of the most common manipulations we do with logarithms are removing them from an exponent:

$$b^{\log_b k} = k$$

and changing the base of a logarithm:

$$\log_b k = \frac{\log_a k}{\log_a b} .$$

For example, we can use these two manipulations to compare the natural and binary logarithms

$$\ln k = \frac{\log k}{\log e} = \frac{\log k}{(\ln e)/(\ln 2)} = (\ln 2)(\log k) \approx 0.693147 \log k .$$

### 1.3.2 Factorials

In one or two places in this book, the *factorial* function is used. For a non-negative integer  $n$ , the notation  $n!$  (pronounced “ $n$  factorial”) is defined to mean

$$n! = 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdots n .$$

Factorials appear because  $n!$  counts the number of distinct permutations, i.e., orderings, of  $n$  distinct elements. For the special case  $n = 0$ ,  $0!$  is defined as 1.

The quantity  $n!$  can be approximated using *Stirling’s Approximation*:

$$n! = \sqrt{2\pi n} \left(\frac{n}{e}\right)^n e^{\alpha(n)} ,$$

where

$$\frac{1}{12n+1} < \alpha(n) < \frac{1}{12n} .$$

Stirling’s Approximation also approximates  $\ln(n!)$ :

$$\ln(n!) = n \ln n - n + \frac{1}{2} \ln(2\pi n) + \alpha(n)$$

(In fact, Stirling's Approximation is most easily proven by approximating  $\ln(n!) = \ln 1 + \ln 2 + \dots + \ln n$  by the integral  $\int_1^n \ln n \, dn = n \ln n - n + 1$ .)

Related to the factorial function are the *binomial coefficients*. For a non-negative integer  $n$  and an integer  $k \in \{0, \dots, n\}$ , the notation  $\binom{n}{k}$  denotes:

$$\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!} .$$

The binomial coefficient  $\binom{n}{k}$  (pronounced “ $n$  choose  $k$ ”) counts the number of subsets of an  $n$  element set that have size  $k$ , i.e., the number of ways of choosing  $k$  distinct integers from the set  $\{1, \dots, n\}$ .

### 1.3.3 Asymptotic Notation

When analyzing data structures in this book, we want to talk about the running times of various operations. The exact running times will, of course, vary from computer to computer and even from run to run on an individual computer. When we talk about the running time of an operation we are referring to the number of computer instructions performed during the operation. Even for simple code, this quantity can be difficult to compute exactly. Therefore, instead of analyzing running times exactly, we will use the so-called *big-Oh notation*: For a function  $f(n)$ ,  $O(f(n))$  denotes a set of functions,

$$O(f(n)) = \left\{ g(n) : \text{there exists } c > 0, \text{ and } n_0 \text{ such that } \begin{array}{l} g(n) \leq c \cdot f(n) \text{ for all } n \geq n_0 \end{array} \right\} .$$

Thinking graphically, this set consists of the functions  $g(n)$  where  $c \cdot f(n)$  starts to dominate  $g(n)$  when  $n$  is sufficiently large.

We generally use asymptotic notation to simplify functions. For example, in place of  $5n \log n + 8n - 200$  we can write  $O(n \log n)$ . This is proven as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} 5n \log n + 8n - 200 &\leq 5n \log n + 8n \\ &\leq 5n \log n + 8n \log n \quad \text{for } n \geq 2 \text{ (so that } \log n \geq 1) \\ &\leq 13n \log n . \end{aligned}$$

This demonstrates that the function  $f(n) = 5n \log n + 8n - 200$  is in the set  $O(n \log n)$  using the constants  $c = 13$  and  $n_0 = 2$ .



A number of useful shortcuts can be applied when using asymptotic notation. First:

$$O(n^{c_1}) \subset O(n^{c_2}) ,$$

for any  $c_1 < c_2$ . Second: For any constants  $a, b, c > 0$ ,

$$O(a) \subset O(\log n) \subset O(n^b) \subset O(c^n) .$$

These inclusion relations can be multiplied by any positive value, and they still hold. For example, multiplying by  $n$  yields:

$$O(n) \subset O(n \log n) \subset O(n^{1+b}) \subset O(nc^n) .$$

Continuing in a long and distinguished tradition, we will abuse this notation by writing things like  $f_1(n) = O(f(n))$  when what we really mean is  $f_1(n) \in O(f(n))$ . We will also make statements like “the running time of this operation is  $O(f(n))$ ” when this statement should be “the running time of this operation is a member of  $O(f(n))$ .” These shortcuts are mainly to avoid awkward language and to make it easier to use asymptotic notation within strings of equations.

A particularly strange example of this occurs when we write statements like

$$T(n) = 2 \log n + O(1) .$$

Again, this would be more correctly written as

$$T(n) \leq 2 \log n + [\text{some member of } O(1)] .$$

The expression  $O(1)$  also brings up another issue. Since there is no variable in this expression, it may not be clear which variable is getting arbitrarily large. Without context, there is no way to tell. In the example above, since the only variable in the rest of the equation is  $n$ , we can assume that this should be read as  $T(n) = 2 \log n + O(f(n))$ , where  $f(n) = 1$ .

Big-Oh notation is not new or unique to computer science. It was used by the number theorist Paul Bachmann as early as 1894, and is immensely useful for describing the running times of computer algorithms. Consider the following piece of code:

Simple

```
void snippet() {  
    for (int i = 0; i < n; i++)  
        a[i] = i;  
}
```

One execution of this method involves

- 1 assignment (`int i = 0`),
- $n + 1$  comparisons (`i < n`),
- $n$  increments (`i ++`),
- $n$  array offset calculations (`a[i]`), and
- $n$  indirect assignments (`a[i] = i`).

So we could write this running time as

$$T(n) = a + b(n + 1) + cn + dn + en ,$$

where  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $c$ ,  $d$ , and  $e$  are constants that depend on the machine running the code and represent the time to perform assignments, comparisons, increment operations, array offset calculations, and indirect assignments, respectively. However, if this expression represents the running time of two lines of code, then clearly this kind of analysis will not be tractable to complicated code or algorithms. Using big-Oh notation, the running time can be simplified to

$$T(n) = O(n) .$$

Not only is this more compact, but it also gives nearly as much information. The fact that the running time depends on the constants  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $c$ ,  $d$ , and  $e$  in the above example means that, in general, it will not be possible to compare two running times to know which is faster without knowing the values of these constants. Even if we make the effort to determine these constants (say, through timing tests), then our conclusion will only be valid for the machine we run our tests on.

Big-Oh notation allows us to reason at a much higher level, making it possible to analyze more complicated functions. If two algorithms have

the same big-Oh running time, then we won't know which is faster, and there may not be a clear winner. One may be faster on one machine, and the other may be faster on a different machine. However, if the two algorithms have demonstrably different big-Oh running times, then we can be certain that the one with the smaller running time will be faster for large enough values of  $n$ .

An example of how big-Oh notation allows us to compare two different functions is shown in Figure 1.5, which compares the rate of growth of  $f_1(n) = 15n$  versus  $f_2(n) = 2n \log n$ . It might be that  $f_1(n)$  is the running time of a complicated linear time algorithm while  $f_2(n)$  is the running time of a considerably simpler algorithm based on the divide-and-conquer paradigm. This illustrates that, although  $f_1(n)$  is greater than  $f_2(n)$  for small values of  $n$ , the opposite is true for large values of  $n$ . Eventually  $f_1(n)$  wins out, by an increasingly wide margin. Analysis using big-Oh notation told us that this would happen, since  $O(n) \subset O(n \log n)$ .

In a few cases, we will use asymptotic notation on functions with more than one variable. There seems to be no standard for this, but for our purposes, the following definition is sufficient:

$$O(f(n_1, \dots, n_k)) = \left\{ g(n_1, \dots, n_k) : \begin{array}{l} \text{there exists } c > 0, \text{ and } z \text{ such that} \\ g(n_1, \dots, n_k) \leq c \cdot f(n_1, \dots, n_k) \\ \text{for all } n_1, \dots, n_k \text{ such that } g(n_1, \dots, n_k) \geq z \end{array} \right\}.$$

This definition captures the situation we really care about: when the arguments  $n_1, \dots, n_k$  make  $g$  take on large values. This definition also agrees with the univariate definition of  $O(f(n))$  when  $f(n)$  is an increasing function of  $n$ . The reader should be warned that, although this works for our purposes, other texts may treat multivariate functions and asymptotic notation differently.

### 1.3.4 Randomization and Probability

Some of the data structures presented in this book are *randomized*; they make random choices that are independent of the data being stored in them or the operations being performed on them. For this reason, performing the same set of operations more than once using these structures could result in different running times. When analyzing these data struc-

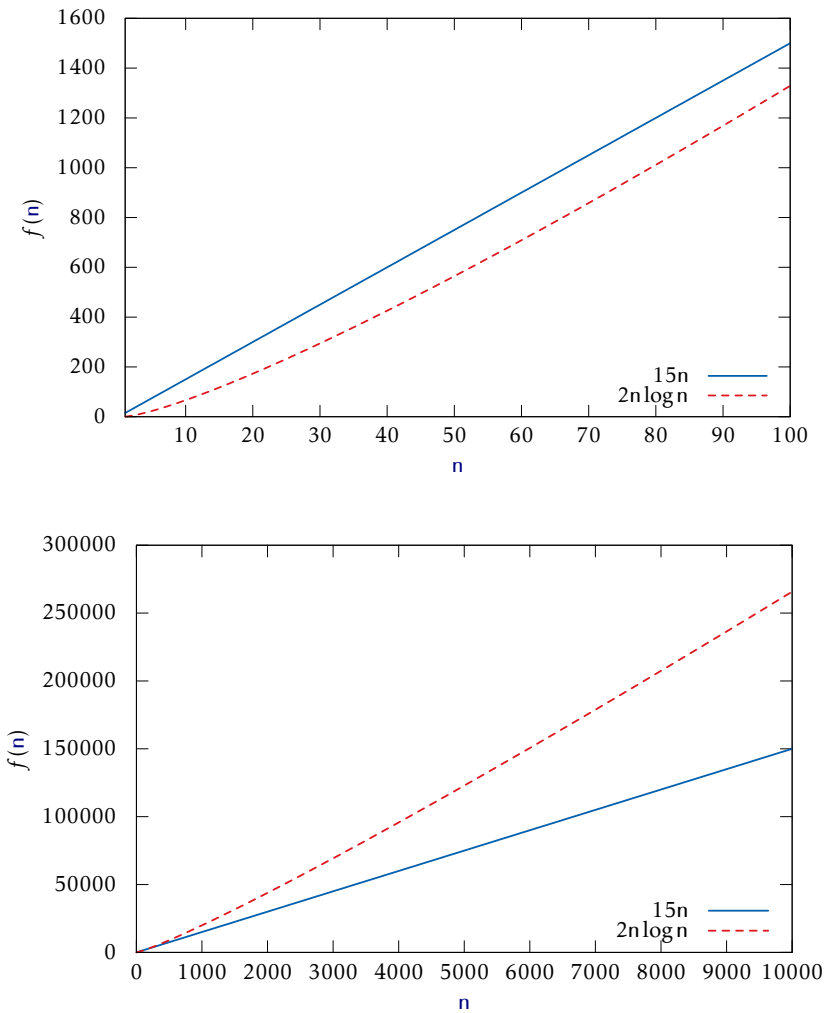


Figure 1.5: Plots of  $15n$  versus  $2n \log n$ .

tures we are interested in their average or *expected* running times.

Formally, the running time of an operation on a randomized data structure is a random variable, and we want to study its *expected value*. For a discrete random variable  $X$  taking on values in some countable universe  $U$ , the expected value of  $X$ , denoted by  $E[X]$ , is given by the formula

$$E[X] = \sum_{x \in U} x \cdot \Pr\{X = x\} .$$

Here  $\Pr\{\mathcal{E}\}$  denotes the probability that the event  $\mathcal{E}$  occurs. In all of the examples in this book, these probabilities are only with respect to the random choices made by the randomized data structure; there is no assumption that the data stored in the structure, nor the sequence of operations performed on the data structure, is random.

One of the most important properties of expected values is *linearity of expectation*. For any two random variables  $X$  and  $Y$ ,

$$E[X + Y] = E[X] + E[Y] .$$

More generally, for any random variables  $X_1, \dots, X_k$ ,

$$E\left[\sum_{i=1}^k X_i\right] = \sum_{i=1}^k E[X_i] .$$

Linearity of expectation allows us to break down complicated random variables (like the left hand sides of the above equations) into sums of simpler random variables (the right hand sides).

A useful trick, that we will use repeatedly, is defining *indicator random variables*. These binary variables are useful when we want to count something and are best illustrated by an example. Suppose we toss a fair coin  $k$  times and we want to know the expected number of times the coin turns up as heads. Intuitively, we know the answer is  $k/2$ , but if we try to prove it using the definition of expected value, we get

$$\begin{aligned} E[X] &= \sum_{i=0}^k i \cdot \Pr\{X = i\} \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^k i \cdot \binom{k}{i} / 2^k \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= k \cdot \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \binom{k-1}{i} / 2^k \\
&= k/2 .
\end{aligned}$$

This requires that we know enough to calculate that  $\Pr\{X = i\} = \binom{k}{i}/2^k$ , and that we know the binomial identities  $i\binom{k}{i} = k\binom{k-1}{i-1}$  and  $\sum_{i=0}^k \binom{k}{i} = 2^k$ .

Using indicator variables and linearity of expectation makes things much easier. For each  $i \in \{1, \dots, k\}$ , define the indicator random variable

$$I_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if the } i\text{th coin toss is heads} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Then

$$E[I_i] = (1/2)1 + (1/2)0 = 1/2 .$$

Now,  $X = \sum_{i=1}^k I_i$ , so

$$\begin{aligned}
E[X] &= E\left[\sum_{i=1}^k I_i\right] \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^k E[I_i] \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^k 1/2 \\
&= k/2 .
\end{aligned}$$

This is a bit more long-winded, but doesn't require that we know any magical identities or compute any non-trivial probabilities. Even better, it agrees with the intuition that we expect half the coins to turn up as heads precisely because each individual coin turns up as heads with a probability of 1/2.

## 1.4 The Model of Computation

In this book, we will analyze the theoretical running times of operations on the data structures we study. To do this precisely, we need a mathematical model of computation. For this, we use the *w-bit word-RAM* model.

RAM stands for Random Access Machine. In this model, we have access to a random access memory consisting of *cells*, each of which stores a  $w$ -bit *word*. This implies that a memory cell can represent, for example, any integer in the set  $\{0, \dots, 2^w - 1\}$ .

In the word-RAM model, basic operations on words take constant time. This includes arithmetic operations ( $+$ ,  $-$ ,  $*$ ,  $/$ ,  $\%$ ), comparisons ( $<$ ,  $>$ ,  $=$ ,  $\leq$ ,  $\geq$ ), and bitwise boolean operations (bitwise-AND, OR, and exclusive-OR).

Any cell can be read or written in constant time. A computer's memory is managed by a memory management system from which we can allocate or deallocate a block of memory of any size we would like. Allocating a block of memory of size  $k$  takes  $O(k)$  time and returns a reference (a pointer) to the newly-allocated memory block. This reference is small enough to be represented by a single word.

The word-size  $w$  is a very important parameter of this model. The only assumption we will make about  $w$  is the lower-bound  $w \geq \log n$ , where  $n$  is the number of elements stored in any of our data structures. This is a fairly modest assumption, since otherwise a word is not even big enough to count the number of elements stored in the data structure.

Space is measured in words, so that when we talk about the amount of space used by a data structure, we are referring to the number of words of memory used by the structure. All of our data structures store values of a generic type  $T$ , and we assume an element of type  $T$  occupies one word of memory. (In reality, we are storing references to objects of type  $T$ , and these references occupy only one word of memory.)

The  $w$ -bit word-RAM model is a fairly close match for the (32-bit) Java Virtual Machine (JVM) when  $w = 32$ . The data structures presented in this book don't use any special tricks that are not implementable on the JVM and most other architectures.

## 1.5 Correctness, Time Complexity, and Space Complexity

When studying the performance of a data structure, there are three things that matter most:

**Correctness:** The data structure should correctly implement its interface.

**Time complexity:** The running times of operations on the data structure should be as small as possible.

**Space complexity:** The data structure should use as little memory as possible.

In this introductory text, we will take correctness as a given; we won't consider data structures that give incorrect answers to queries or don't perform updates properly. We will, however, see data structures that make an extra effort to keep space usage to a minimum. This won't usually affect the (asymptotic) running times of operations, but can make the data structures a little slower in practice.

When studying running times in the context of data structures we tend to come across three different kinds of running time guarantees:

**Worst-case running times:** These are the strongest kind of running time guarantees. If a data structure operation has a worst-case running time of  $f(n)$ , then one of these operations *never* takes longer than  $f(n)$  time.

**Amortized running times:** If we say that the amortized running time of an operation in a data structure is  $f(n)$ , then this means that the cost of a typical operation is at most  $f(n)$ . More precisely, if a data structure has an amortized running time of  $f(n)$ , then a sequence of  $m$  operations takes at most  $mf(n)$  time. Some individual operations may take more than  $f(n)$  time but the average, over the entire sequence of operations, is at most  $f(n)$ .

**Expected running times:** If we say that the expected running time of an operation on a data structure is  $f(n)$ , this means that the actual running time is a random variable (see Section 1.3.4) and the expected value of this random variable is at most  $f(n)$ . The randomization here is with respect to random choices made by the data structure.

To understand the difference between worst-case, amortized, and expected running times, it helps to consider a financial example. Consider the cost of buying a house:



**Worst-case versus amortized cost:** Suppose that a home costs \$120 000. In order to buy this home, we might get a 120 month (10 year) mortgage with monthly payments of \$1 200 per month. In this case, the worst-case monthly cost of paying this mortgage is \$1 200 per month.

If we have enough cash on hand, we might choose to buy the house outright, with one payment of \$120 000. In this case, over a period of 10 years, the amortized monthly cost of buying this house is

$$\$120\,000/120\text{ months} = \$1\,000\text{ per month} .$$

This is much less than the \$1 200 per month we would have to pay if we took out a mortgage.

**Worst-case versus expected cost:** Next, consider the issue of fire insurance on our \$120 000 home. By studying hundreds of thousands of cases, insurance companies have determined that the expected amount of fire damage caused to a home like ours is \$10 per month. This is a very small number, since most homes never have fires, a few homes may have some small fires that cause a bit of smoke damage, and a tiny number of homes burn right to their foundations. Based on this information, the insurance company charges \$15 per month for fire insurance.

Now it's decision time. Should we pay the \$15 worst-case monthly cost for fire insurance, or should we gamble and self-insure at an expected cost of \$10 per month? Clearly, the \$10 per month costs less *in expectation*, but we have to be able to accept the possibility that the *actual cost* may be much higher. In the unlikely event that the entire house burns down, the actual cost will be \$120 000.

These financial examples also offer insight into why we sometimes settle for an amortized or expected running time over a worst-case running time. It is often possible to get a lower expected or amortized running time than a worst-case running time. At the very least, it is very often possible to get a much simpler data structure if one is willing to settle for amortized or expected running times.

## 1.6 Code Samples

The code samples in this book are written in the Java programming language. However, to make the book accessible to readers not familiar with all of Java's constructs and keywords, the code samples have been simplified. For example, a reader won't find any of the keywords `public`, `protected`, `private`, or `static`. A reader also won't find much discussion about class hierarchies. Which interfaces a particular class implements or which class it extends, if relevant to the discussion, should be clear from the accompanying text.

These conventions should make the code samples understandable by anyone with a background in any of the languages from the ALGOL tradition, including B, C, C++, C#, Objective-C, D, Java, JavaScript, and so on. Readers who want the full details of all implementations are encouraged to look at the Java source code that accompanies this book.

This book mixes mathematical analyses of running times with Java source code for the algorithms being analyzed. This means that some equations contain variables also found in the source code. These variables are typeset consistently, both within the source code and within equations. The most common such variable is the variable  $n$  that, without exception, always refers to the number of items currently stored in the data structure.

## 1.7 List of Data Structures

Tables 1.1 and 1.2 summarize the performance of data structures in this book that implement each of the interfaces, `List`, `USet`, and `SSet`, described in Section 1.2. Figure 1.6 shows the dependencies between various chapters in this book. A dashed arrow indicates only a weak dependency, in which only a small part of the chapter depends on a previous chapter or only the main results of the previous chapter.

List implementations			
	<code>get(i)/set(i,x)</code>	<code>add(i,x)/remove(i)</code>	
ArrayStack	$O(1)$	$O(1 + n - i)^A$	§ 2.1
ArrayDeque	$O(1)$	$O(1 + \min\{i, n - i\})^A$	§ 2.4
DualArrayDeque	$O(1)$	$O(1 + \min\{i, n - i\})^A$	§ 2.5
RootishArrayStack	$O(1)$	$O(1 + n - i)^A$	§ 2.6
DLList	$O(1 + \min\{i, n - i\})$	$O(1 + \min\{i, n - i\})$	§ 3.2
SEList	$O(1 + \min\{i, n - i\}/b)$	$O(b + \min\{i, n - i\}/b)^A$	§ 3.3
SkiplistList	$O(\log n)^E$	$O(\log n)^E$	§ 4.3

USet implementations			
	<code>find(x)</code>	<code>add(x)/remove(x)</code>	
ChainedHashTable	$O(1)^E$	$O(1)^{A,E}$	§ 5.1
LinearHashTable	$O(1)^E$	$O(1)^{A,E}$	§ 5.2

<sup>A</sup> Denotes an *amortized* running time.

<sup>E</sup> Denotes an *expected* running time.

Table 1.1: Summary of List and USet implementations.

SSet implementations			
	$\text{find}(x)$	$\text{add}(x)/\text{remove}(x)$	
SkiplistSSet	$O(\log n)^E$	$O(\log n)^E$	§ 4.2
Treap	$O(\log n)^E$	$O(\log n)^E$	§ 7.2
ScapegoatTree	$O(\log n)$	$O(\log n)^A$	§ 8.1
RedBlackTree	$O(\log n)$	$O(\log n)$	§ 9.2
BinaryTrie <sup>I</sup>	$O(w)$	$O(w)$	§ 13.1
XFastTrie <sup>I</sup>	$O(\log w)^{A,E}$	$O(w)^{A,E}$	§ 13.2
YFastTrie <sup>I</sup>	$O(\log w)^{A,E}$	$O(\log w)^{A,E}$	§ 13.3
BTree	$O(\log n)$	$O(B + \log n)^A$	§ 14.2
BTree <sup>X</sup>	$O(\log_B n)$	$O(\log_B n)$	§ 14.2

(Priority) Queue implementations			
	$\text{findMin}()$	$\text{add}(x)/\text{remove}()$	
BinaryHeap	$O(1)$	$O(\log n)^A$	§ 10.1
MeldableHeap	$O(1)$	$O(\log n)^E$	§ 10.2

<sup>I</sup> This structure can only store  $w$ -bit integer data.

<sup>X</sup> This denotes the running time in the external-memory model; see Chapter 14.

Table 1.2: Summary of SSet and priority Queue implementations.

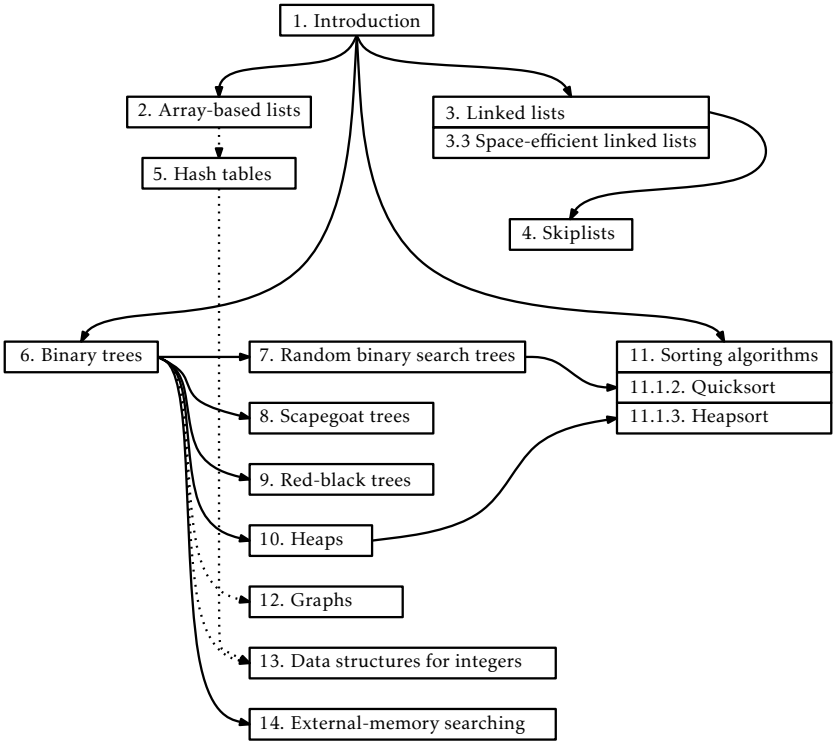


Figure 1.6: The dependencies between chapters in this book.

## 1.8 Discussion and Exercises

The `List`, `USet`, and `SSet` interfaces described in Section 1.2 are influenced by the Java Collections Framework [54]. These are essentially simplified versions of the `List`, `Set`, `Map`, `SortedSet`, and `SortedMap` interfaces found in the Java Collections Framework. The accompanying source code includes wrapper classes for making `USet` and `SSet` implementations into `Set`, `Map`, `SortedSet`, and `SortedMap` implementations.

For a superb (and free) treatment of the mathematics discussed in this chapter, including asymptotic notation, logarithms, factorials, Stirling's approximation, basic probability, and lots more, see the textbook by Leyman, Leighton, and Meyer [50]. For a gentle calculus text that includes formal definitions of exponentials and logarithms, see the (freely available) classic text by Thompson [73].

For more information on basic probability, especially as it relates to computer science, see the textbook by Ross [65]. Another good reference, which covers both asymptotic notation and probability, is the textbook by Graham, Knuth, and Patashnik [37].

Readers wanting to brush up on their Java programming can find many Java tutorials online [56].

**Exercise 1.1.** This exercise is designed to help familiarize the reader with choosing the right data structure for the right problem. If implemented, the parts of this exercise should be done by making use of an implementation of the relevant interface (`Stack`, `Queue`, `Deque`, `USet`, or `SSet`) provided by the Java Collections Framework.

Solve the following problems by reading a text file one line at a time and performing operations on each line in the appropriate data structure(s). Your implementations should be fast enough that even files containing a million lines can be processed in a few seconds.

1. Read the input one line at a time and then write the lines out in reverse order, so that the last input line is printed first, then the second last input line, and so on.
2. Read the first 50 lines of input and then write them out in reverse order. Read the next 50 lines and then write them out in reverse

order. Do this until there are no more lines left to read, at which point any remaining lines should be output in reverse order.

In other words, your output will start with the 50th line, then the 49th, then the 48th, and so on down to the first line. This will be followed by the 100th line, followed by the 99th, and so on down to the 51st line. And so on.

Your code should never have to store more than 50 lines at any given time.

3. Read the input one line at a time. At any point after reading the first 42 lines, if some line is blank (i.e., a string of length 0), then output the line that occurred 42 lines prior to that one. For example, if Line 242 is blank, then your program should output line 200. This program should be implemented so that it never stores more than 43 lines of the input at any given time.
4. Read the input one line at a time and write each line to the output if it is not a duplicate of some previous input line. Take special care so that a file with a lot of duplicate lines does not use more memory than what is required for the number of unique lines.
5. Read the input one line at a time and write each line to the output only if you have already read this line before. (The end result is that you remove the first occurrence of each line.) Take special care so that a file with a lot of duplicate lines does not use more memory than what is required for the number of unique lines.
6. Read the entire input one line at a time. Then output all lines sorted by length, with the shortest lines first. In the case where two lines have the same length, resolve their order using the usual “sorted order.” Duplicate lines should be printed only once.
7. Do the same as the previous question except that duplicate lines should be printed the same number of times that they appear in the input.
8. Read the entire input one line at a time and then output the even numbered lines (starting with the first line, line 0) followed by the odd-numbered lines.

9. Read the entire input one line at a time and randomly permute the lines before outputting them. To be clear: You should not modify the contents of any line. Instead, the same collection of lines should be printed, but in a random order.

**Exercise 1.2.** A *Dyck word* is a sequence of  $+1$ 's and  $-1$ 's with the property that the sum of any prefix of the sequence is never negative. For example,  $+1, -1, +1, -1$  is a Dyck word, but  $+1, -1, -1, +1$  is not a Dyck word since the prefix  $+1 - 1 - 1 < 0$ . Describe any relationship between Dyck words and Stack `push(x)` and `pop()` operations.

**Exercise 1.3.** A *matched string* is a sequence of `{`, `}`, `(`, `)`, `[`, and `]` characters that are properly matched. For example, `"{({})[]}"` is a matched string, but this `"{({})}"` is not, since the second `{` is matched with a `]`. Show how to use a stack so that, given a string of length  $n$ , you can determine if it is a matched string in  $O(n)$  time.

**Exercise 1.4.** Suppose you have a Stack, `s`, that supports only the `push(x)` and `pop()` operations. Show how, using only a FIFO Queue, `q`, you can reverse the order of all elements in `s`.

**Exercise 1.5.** Using a `USet`, implement a Bag. A Bag is like a `USet`—it supports the `add(x)`, `remove(x)` and `find(x)` methods—but it allows duplicate elements to be stored. The `find(x)` operation in a Bag returns some element (if any) that is equal to `x`. In addition, a Bag supports the `findAll(x)` operation that returns a list of all elements in the Bag that are equal to `x`.

**Exercise 1.6.** From scratch, write and test implementations of the `List`, `USet` and `SSet` interfaces. These do not have to be efficient. They can be used later to test the correctness and performance of more efficient implementations. (The easiest way to do this is to store the elements in an array.)

**Exercise 1.7.** Work to improve the performance of your implementations from the previous question using any tricks you can think of. Experiment and think about how you could improve the performance of `add(i, x)` and `remove(i)` in your `List` implementation. Think about how you could improve the performance of the `find(x)` operation in your `USet` and `SSet` implementations. This exercise is designed to give you a feel for how difficult it can be to obtain efficient implementations of these interfaces.



## Chapter 2

### Array-Based Lists

In this chapter, we will study implementations of the `List` and `Queue` interfaces where the underlying data is stored in an array, called the *backing array*. The following table summarizes the running times of operations for the data structures presented in this chapter:

	<code>get(i)/set(i, x)</code>	<code>add(i, x)/remove(i)</code>
<code>ArrayStack</code>	$O(1)$	$O(n - i)$
<code>ArrayDeque</code>	$O(1)$	$O(\min\{i, n - i\})$
<code>DualArrayDeque</code>	$O(1)$	$O(\min\{i, n - i\})$
<code>RootishArrayStack</code>	$O(1)$	$O(n - i)$

Data structures that work by storing data in a single array have many advantages and limitations in common:

- Arrays offer constant time access to any value in the array. This is what allows `get(i)` and `set(i, x)` to run in constant time.
- Arrays are not very dynamic. Adding or removing an element near the middle of a list means that a large number of elements in the array need to be shifted to make room for the newly added element or to fill in the gap created by the deleted element. This is why the operations `add(i, x)` and `remove(i)` have running times that depend on  $n$  and  $i$ .
- Arrays cannot expand or shrink. When the number of elements in the data structure exceeds the size of the backing array, a new array

needs to be allocated and the data from the old array needs to be copied into the new array. This is an expensive operation.

The third point is important. The running times cited in the table above do not include the cost associated with growing and shrinking the backing array. We will see that, if carefully managed, the cost of growing and shrinking the backing array does not add much to the cost of an *average* operation. More precisely, if we start with an empty data structure, and perform any sequence of  $m$  `add(i, x)` or `remove(i)` operations, then the total cost of growing and shrinking the backing array, over the entire sequence of  $m$  operations is  $O(m)$ . Although some individual operations are more expensive, the amortized cost, when amortized over all  $m$  operations, is only  $O(1)$  per operation.

## 2.1 ArrayStack: Fast Stack Operations Using an Array

An `ArrayStack` implements the list interface using an array `a`, called the *backing array*. The list element with index `i` is stored in `a[i]`. At most times, `a` is larger than strictly necessary, so an integer `n` is used to keep track of the number of elements actually stored in `a`. In this way, the list elements are stored in `a[0]`, ..., `a[n - 1]` and, at all times, `a.length ≥ n`.

ArrayStack

```
T[] a;  
int n;  
int size() {  
    return n;  
}
```

### 2.1.1 The Basics

Accessing and modifying the elements of an `ArrayStack` using `get(i)` and `set(i, x)` is trivial. After performing any necessary bounds-checking we simply return or set, respectively, `a[i]`.

ArrayStack

```
T get(int i) {
```

```

    return a[i];
}
T set(int i, T x) {
    T y = a[i];
    a[i] = x;
    return y;
}

```

The operations of adding and removing elements from an ArrayStack are illustrated in Figure 2.1. To implement the `add(i, x)` operation, we first check if `a` is already full. If so, we call the method `resize()` to increase the size of `a`. How `resize()` is implemented will be discussed later. For now, it is sufficient to know that, after a call to `resize()`, we can be sure that `a.length > n`. With this out of the way, we now shift the elements `a[i], ..., a[n - 1]` right by one position to make room for `x`, set `a[i]` equal to `x`, and increment `n`.

```

ArrayStack
void add(int i, T x) {
    if (n + 1 > a.length) resize();
    for (int j = n; j > i; j--)
        a[j] = a[j-1];
    a[i] = x;
    n++;
}

```

If we ignore the cost of the potential call to `resize()`, then the cost of the `add(i, x)` operation is proportional to the number of elements we have to shift to make room for `x`. Therefore the cost of this operation (ignoring the cost of resizing `a`) is  $O(n - i + 1)$ .

Implementing the `remove(i)` operation is similar. We shift the elements `a[i + 1], ..., a[n - 1]` left by one position (overwriting `a[i]`) and decrease the value of `n`. After doing this, we check if `n` is getting much smaller than `a.length` by checking if `a.length ≥ 3n`. If so, then we call `resize()` to reduce the size of `a`.

```

ArrayStack
T remove(int i) {
    T x = a[i];

```

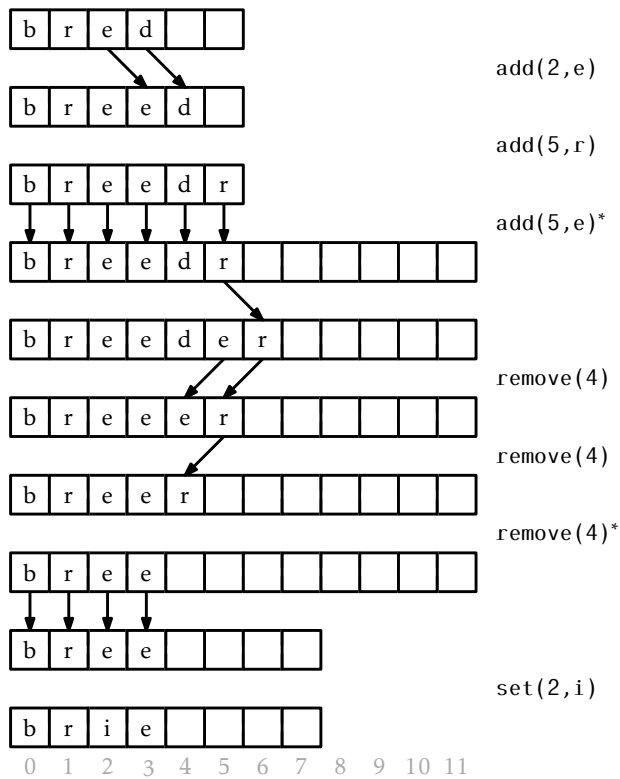


Figure 2.1: A sequence of `add(i, x)` and `remove(i)` operations on an `ArrayStack`. Arrows denote elements being copied. Operations that result in a call to `resize()` are marked with an asterisk.

```

    for (int j = i; j < n-1; j++)
        a[j] = a[j+1];
    n--;
    if (a.length >= 3*n) resize();
    return x;
}

```

If we ignore the cost of the `resize()` method, the cost of a `remove(i)` operation is proportional to the number of elements we shift, which is  $O(n-i)$ .

### 2.1.2 Growing and Shrinking

The `resize()` method is fairly straightforward; it allocates a new array `b` whose size is  $2n$  and copies the `n` elements of `a` into the first `n` positions in `b`, and then sets `a` to `b`. Thus, after a call to `resize()`, `a.length = 2n`.

```

ArrayStack
void resize() {
    T[] b = newArray(max(n*2, 1));
    for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
        b[i] = a[i];
    }
    a = b;
}

```

Analyzing the actual cost of the `resize()` operation is easy. It allocates an array `b` of size  $2n$  and copies the `n` elements of `a` into `b`. This takes  $O(n)$  time.

The running time analysis from the previous section ignored the cost of calls to `resize()`. In this section we analyze this cost using a technique known as *amortized analysis*. This technique does not try to determine the cost of resizing during each individual `add(i, x)` and `remove(i)` operation. Instead, it considers the cost of all calls to `resize()` during a sequence of  $m$  calls to `add(i, x)` or `remove(i)`. In particular, we will show:

**Lemma 2.1.** *If an empty ArrayList is created and any sequence of  $m \geq 1$  calls to `add(i, x)` and `remove(i)` are performed, then the total time spent during all calls to `resize()` is  $O(m)$ .*

*Proof.* We will show that any time `resize()` is called, the number of calls to `add` or `remove` since the last call to `resize()` is at least  $n/2 - 1$ . Therefore, if  $n_i$  denotes the value of  $n$  during the  $i$ th call to `resize()` and  $r$  denotes the number of calls to `resize()`, then the total number of calls to `add(i, x)` or `remove(i)` is at least

$$\sum_{i=1}^r (n_i/2 - 1) \leq m ,$$

which is equivalent to

$$\sum_{i=1}^r n_i \leq 2m + 2r .$$

On the other hand, the total time spent during all calls to `resize()` is

$$\sum_{i=1}^r O(n_i) \leq O(m + r) = O(m) ,$$

since  $r$  is not more than  $m$ . All that remains is to show that the number of calls to `add(i, x)` or `remove(i)` between the  $(i - 1)$ th and the  $i$ th call to `resize()` is at least  $n_i/2$ .

There are two cases to consider. In the first case, `resize()` is being called by `add(i, x)` because the backing array `a` is full, i.e., `a.length = n = ni`. Consider the previous call to `resize()`: after this previous call, the size of `a` was `a.length`, but the number of elements stored in `a` was at most `a.length/2 = ni/2`. But now the number of elements stored in `a` is `ni = a.length`, so there must have been at least  $n_i/2$  calls to `add(i, x)` since the previous call to `resize()`.

The second case occurs when `resize()` is being called by `remove(i)` because `a.length ≥ 3n = 3ni`. Again, after the previous call to `resize()` the number of elements stored in `a` was at least `a.length/2 - 1`.<sup>1</sup> Now there are  $n_i \leq a.length/3$  elements stored in `a`. Therefore, the number of

---

<sup>1</sup>The  $- 1$  in this formula accounts for the special case that occurs when  $n = 0$  and `a.length = 1`.

`remove(i)` operations since the last call to `resize()` is at least

$$\begin{aligned} R &\geq \text{a.length}/2 - 1 - \text{a.length}/3 \\ &= \text{a.length}/6 - 1 \\ &= (\text{a.length}/3)/2 - 1 \\ &\geq n_i/2 - 1 . \end{aligned}$$

In either case, the number of calls to `add(i, x)` or `remove(i)` that occur between the  $(i-1)$ th call to `resize()` and the  $i$ th call to `resize()` is at least  $n_i/2 - 1$ , as required to complete the proof.  $\square$

### 2.1.3 Summary

The following theorem summarizes the performance of an `ArrayStack`:

**Theorem 2.1.** *An `ArrayStack` implements the `List` interface. Ignoring the cost of calls to `resize()`, an `ArrayStack` supports the operations*

- `get(i)` and `set(i, x)` in  $O(1)$  time per operation; and
- `add(i, x)` and `remove(i)` in  $O(1 + n - i)$  time per operation.

Furthermore, beginning with an empty `ArrayStack` and performing any sequence of  $m$  `add(i, x)` and `remove(i)` operations results in a total of  $O(m)$  time spent during all calls to `resize()`.

The `ArrayStack` is an efficient way to implement a `Stack`. In particular, we can implement `push(x)` as `add(n, x)` and `pop()` as `remove(n - 1)`, in which case these operations will run in  $O(1)$  amortized time.

## 2.2 FastArrayStack: An Optimized ArrayStack

Much of the work done by an `ArrayStack` involves shifting (by `add(i, x)` and `remove(i)`) and copying (by `resize()`) of data. In the implementations shown above, this was done using `for` loops. It turns out that many programming environments have specific functions that are very efficient at copying and moving blocks of data. In the C programming language, there are the `memcpy(d, s, n)` and `memmove(d, s, n)` functions. In the C++

language there is the `std::copy(a0,a1,b)` algorithm. In Java there is the `System.arraycopy(s,i,d,j,n)` method.

```

FastArrayStack
void resize() {
    T[] b = newArray(max(2*n,1));
    System.arraycopy(a, 0, b, 0, n);
    a = b;
}
void add(int i, T x) {
    if (n + 1 > a.length) resize();
    System.arraycopy(a, i, a, i+1, n-i);
    a[i] = x;
    n++;
}
T remove(int i) {
    T x = a[i];
    System.arraycopy(a, i+1, a, i, n-i-1);
    n--;
    if (a.length >= 3*n) resize();
    return x;
}

```

These functions are usually highly optimized and may even use special machine instructions that can do this copying much faster than we could by using a `for` loop. Although using these functions does not asymptotically decrease the running times, it can still be a worthwhile optimization. In the Java implementations here, the use of the native `System.arraycopy(s,i,d,j,n)` resulted in speedups of a factor between 2 and 3, depending on the types of operations performed. Your mileage may vary.

## 2.3 ArrayQueue: An Array-Based Queue

In this section, we present the `ArrayQueue` data structure, which implements a FIFO (first-in-first-out) queue; elements are removed (using the `remove()` operation) from the queue in the same order they are added (using the `add(x)` operation).



Notice that an `ArrayStack` is a poor choice for an implementation of a FIFO queue. It is not a good choice because we must choose one end of the list upon which to add elements and then remove elements from the other end. One of the two operations must work on the head of the list, which involves calling `add(i, x)` or `remove(i)` with a value of `i = 0`. This gives a running time proportional to `n`.

To obtain an efficient array-based implementation of a queue, we first notice that the problem would be easy if we had an infinite array `a`. We could maintain one index `j` that keeps track of the next element to remove and an integer `n` that counts the number of elements in the queue. The queue elements would always be stored in

$$a[j], a[j + 1], \dots, a[j + n - 1] .$$

Initially, both `j` and `n` would be set to 0. To add an element, we would place it in `a[j + n]` and increment `n`. To remove an element, we would remove it from `a[j]`, increment `j`, and decrement `n`.

Of course, the problem with this solution is that it requires an infinite array. An `ArrayQueue` simulates this by using a finite array `a` and *modular arithmetic*. This is the kind of arithmetic used when we are talking about the time of day. For example 10:00 plus five hours gives 3:00. Formally, we say that

$$10 + 5 = 15 \equiv 3 \pmod{12} .$$

We read the latter part of this equation as “15 is congruent to 3 modulo 12.” We can also treat `mod` as a binary operator, so that

$$15 \bmod 12 = 3 .$$

More generally, for an integer `a` and positive integer `m`, `a mod m` is the unique integer `r`  $\in \{0, \dots, m - 1\}$  such that `a = r + km` for some integer `k`. Less formally, the value `r` is the remainder we get when we divide `a` by `m`. In many programming languages, including Java, the mod operator is represented using the `%` symbol.<sup>2</sup>

---

<sup>2</sup>This is sometimes referred to as the *brain-dead* mod operator, since it does not correctly implement the mathematical mod operator when the first argument is negative.

Modular arithmetic is useful for simulating an infinite array, since  $i \bmod a.length$  always gives a value in the range  $0, \dots, a.length - 1$ . Using modular arithmetic we can store the queue elements at array locations

$$a[j \% a.length], a[(j + 1) \% a.length], \dots, a[(j + n - 1) \% a.length] .$$

This treats the array `a` like a *circular array* in which array indices larger than `a.length - 1` “wrap around” to the beginning of the array.

The only remaining thing to worry about is taking care that the number of elements in the `ArrayQueue` does not exceed the size of `a`.

\_\_\_\_\_ `ArrayQueue` \_\_\_\_\_

```
T[] a;
int j;
int n;
```

A sequence of `add(x)` and `remove()` operations on an `ArrayQueue` is illustrated in Figure 2.2. To implement `add(x)`, we first check if `a` is full and, if necessary, call `resize()` to increase the size of `a`. Next, we store `x` in `a[(j + n) % a.length]` and increment `n`.

\_\_\_\_\_ `ArrayQueue` \_\_\_\_\_

```
boolean add(T x) {
    if (n + 1 > a.length) resize();
    a[(j + n) % a.length] = x;
    n++;
    return true;
}
```

To implement `remove()`, we first store `a[j]` so that we can return it later. Next, we decrement `n` and increment `j` (modulo `a.length`) by setting `j = (j + 1) mod a.length`. Finally, we return the stored value of `a[j]`. If necessary, we may call `resize()` to decrease the size of `a`.

\_\_\_\_\_ `ArrayQueue` \_\_\_\_\_

```
T remove() {
    if (n == 0) throw new NoSuchElementException();
    T x = a[j];
    j = (j + 1) % a.length;
```

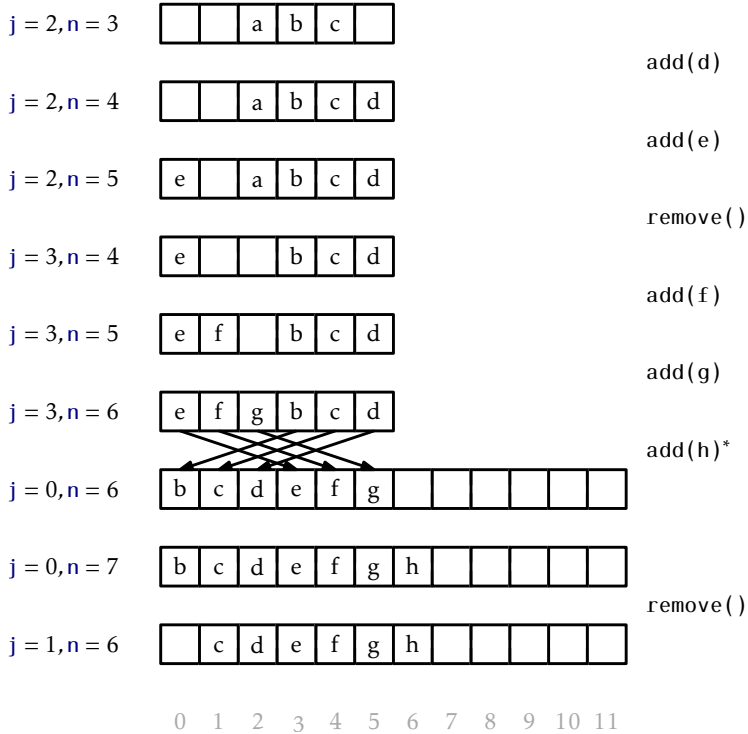


Figure 2.2: A sequence of `add(x)` and `remove(i)` operations on an `ArrayQueue`. Arrows denote elements being copied. Operations that result in a call to `resize()` are marked with an asterisk.

```

    n--;
    if (a.length >= 3*n) resize();
    return x;
}

```

Finally, the `resize()` operation is very similar to the `resize()` operation of `ArrayStack`. It allocates a new array `b` of size  $2n$  and copies

$$a[j], a[(j+1)\%a.length], \dots, a[(j+n-1)\%a.length]$$

onto

$$b[0], b[1], \dots, b[n-1]$$

and sets `j = 0`.

```

ArrayQueue
void resize() {
    T[] b = newArray(max(1, n*2));
    for (int k = 0; k < n; k++)
        b[k] = a[(j+k) % a.length];
    a = b;
    j = 0;
}

```

### 2.3.1 Summary

The following theorem summarizes the performance of the `ArrayQueue` data structure:

**Theorem 2.2.** *An `ArrayQueue` implements the (FIFO) Queue interface. Ignoring the cost of calls to `resize()`, an `ArrayQueue` supports the operations `add(x)` and `remove()` in  $O(1)$  time per operation. Furthermore, beginning with an empty `ArrayQueue`, any sequence of  $m$  `add(i, x)` and `remove(i)` operations results in a total of  $O(m)$  time spent during all calls to `resize()`.*

## 2.4 ArrayDeque: Fast Deque Operations Using an Array

The `ArrayQueue` from the previous section is a data structure for representing a sequence that allows us to efficiently add to one end of the

sequence and remove from the other end. The `ArrayDeque` data structure allows for efficient addition and removal at both ends. This structure implements the `List` interface by using the same circular array technique used to represent an `ArrayQueue`.

ArrayDeque

```
T[] a;
int j;
int n;
```

The `get(i)` and `set(i, x)` operations on an `ArrayDeque` are straightforward. They get or set the array element `a[(j + i) mod a.length]`.

ArrayDeque

```
T get(int i) {
    return a[(j+i)%a.length];
}
T set(int i, T x) {
    T y = a[(j+i)%a.length];
    a[(j+i)%a.length] = x;
    return y;
}
```

The implementation of `add(i, x)` is a little more interesting. As usual, we first check if `a` is full and, if necessary, call `resize()` to resize `a`. Remember that we want this operation to be fast when `i` is small (close to 0) or when `i` is large (close to `n`). Therefore, we check if `i < n/2`. If so, we shift the elements `a[0], ..., a[i - 1]` left by one position. Otherwise (`i ≥ n/2`), we shift the elements `a[i], ..., a[n - 1]` right by one position. See Figure 2.3 for an illustration of `add(i, x)` and `remove(x)` operations on an `ArrayDeque`.

ArrayDeque

```
void add(int i, T x) {
    if (n+1 > a.length) resize();
    if (i < n/2) { // shift a[0], ..., a[i-1] left one position
        j = (j == 0) ? a.length - 1 : j - 1; //(j-1)mod a.length
        for (int k = 0; k <= i-1; k++)
            a[(j+k)%a.length] = a[(j+k+1)%a.length];
    }
    a[(j+i)%a.length] = x;
    n++;
}
```

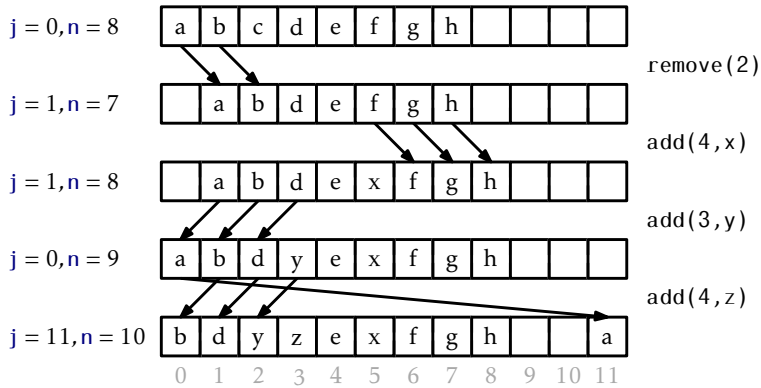


Figure 2.3: A sequence of `add(i, x)` and `remove(i)` operations on an `ArrayDeque`. Arrows denote elements being copied.

```

    } else { // shift a[i], ..., a[n-1] right one position
        for (int k = n; k > i; k--)
            a[(j+k)%a.length] = a[(j+k-1)%a.length];
        }
    a[(j+i)%a.length] = x;
    n++;
}

```

By doing the shifting in this way, we guarantee that `add(i, x)` never has to shift more than  $\min\{i, n - i\}$  elements. Thus, the running time of the `add(i, x)` operation (ignoring the cost of a `resize()` operation) is  $O(1 + \min\{i, n - i\})$ .

The implementation of the `remove(i)` operation is similar. It either shifts elements `a[0], ..., a[i - 1]` right by one position or shifts the elements `a[i + 1], ..., a[n - 1]` left by one position depending on whether  $i < n/2$ . Again, this means that `remove(i)` never spends more than  $O(1 + \min\{i, n - i\})$  time to shift elements.

```

ArrayDeque
T remove(int i) {
    T x = a[(j+i)%a.length];
    if (i < n/2) { // shift a[0], ..., [i-1] right one position
        for (int k = i; k > 0; k--)

```

```

        a[(j+k)%a.length] = a[(j+k-1)%a.length];
        j = (j + 1) % a.length;
    } else { // shift a[i+1],...,a[n-1] left one position
        for (int k = i; k < n-1; k++)
            a[(j+k)%a.length] = a[(j+k+1)%a.length];
        }
    n--;
    if (3*n < a.length) resize();
    return x;
}

```

### 2.4.1 Summary

The following theorem summarizes the performance of the ArrayDeque data structure:

**Theorem 2.3.** *An ArrayDeque implements the List interface. Ignoring the cost of calls to `resize()`, an ArrayDeque supports the operations*

- `get(i)` and `set(i, x)` in  $O(1)$  time per operation; and
- `add(i, x)` and `remove(i)` in  $O(1 + \min\{i, n - i\})$  time per operation.

Furthermore, beginning with an empty ArrayDeque, performing any sequence of  $m$  `add(i, x)` and `remove(i)` operations results in a total of  $O(m)$  time spent during all calls to `resize()`.

## 2.5 DualArrayDeque: Building a Deque from Two Stacks

Next, we present a data structure, the DualArrayDeque that achieves the same performance bounds as an ArrayDeque by using two ArrayStacks. Although the asymptotic performance of the DualArrayDeque is no better than that of the ArrayDeque, it is still worth studying, since it offers a good example of how to make a sophisticated data structure by combining two simpler data structures.

A DualArrayDeque represents a list using two ArrayStacks. Recall that an ArrayStack is fast when the operations on it modify elements

near the end. A `DualArrayDeque` places two `ArrayStacks`, called `front` and `back`, back-to-back so that operations are fast at either end.

```

DualArrayDeque
List<T> front;
List<T> back;

```

A `DualArrayDeque` does not explicitly store the number, `n`, of elements it contains. It doesn't need to, since it contains `n = front.size() + back.size()` elements. Nevertheless, when analyzing the `DualArrayDeque` we will still use `n` to denote the number of elements it contains.

```

DualArrayDeque
int size() {
    return front.size() + back.size();
}

```

The `front` `ArrayStack` stores the list elements that whose indices are `0, ..., front.size() - 1`, but stores them in reverse order. The `back` `ArrayStack` contains list elements with indices in `front.size(), ..., size() - 1` in the normal order. In this way, `get(i)` and `set(i, x)` translate into appropriate calls to `get(i)` or `set(i, x)` on either `front` or `back`, which take  $O(1)$  time per operation.

```

DualArrayDeque
T get(int i) {
    if (i < front.size()) {
        return front.get(front.size()-i-1);
    } else {
        return back.get(i-front.size());
    }
}
T set(int i, T x) {
    if (i < front.size()) {
        return front.set(front.size()-i-1, x);
    } else {
        return back.set(i-front.size(), x);
    }
}

```



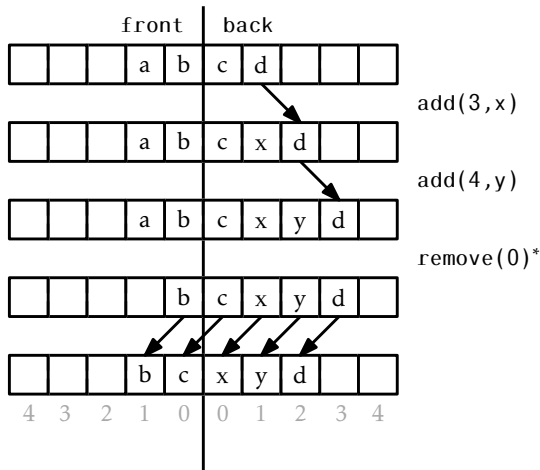


Figure 2.4: A sequence of `add(i, x)` and `remove(i)` operations on a `DualArrayDeque`. Arrows denote elements being copied. Operations that result in a rebalancing by `balance()` are marked with an asterisk.

Note that if an index `i < front.size()`, then it corresponds to the element of `front` at position `front.size() - i - 1`, since the elements of `front` are stored in reverse order.

Adding and removing elements from a `DualArrayDeque` is illustrated in Figure 2.4. The `add(i, x)` operation manipulates either `front` or `back`, as appropriate:

```

DualArrayDeque
void add(int i, T x) {
    if (i < front.size()) {
        front.add(front.size() - i, x);
    } else {
        back.add(i - front.size(), x);
    }
    balance();
}

```

The `add(i, x)` method performs rebalancing of the two `ArrayStacks` `front` and `back`, by calling the `balance()` method. The implementation

of `balance()` is described below, but for now it is sufficient to know that `balance()` ensures that, unless `size() < 2`, `front.size()` and `back.size()` do not differ by more than a factor of 3. In particular,  $3 \cdot \text{front.size}() \geq \text{back.size}()$  and  $3 \cdot \text{back.size}() \geq \text{front.size}()$ .

Next we analyze the cost of `add(i, x)`, ignoring the cost of calls to `balance()`. If  $i < \text{front.size}()$ , then `add(i, x)` gets implemented by the call to `front.add(front.size() - i - 1, x)`. Since `front` is an `ArrayStack`, the cost of this is

$$O(\text{front.size}() - (\text{front.size}() - i - 1) + 1) = O(i + 1) . \quad (2.1)$$

On the other hand, if  $i \geq \text{front.size}()$ , then `add(i, x)` gets implemented as `back.add(i - front.size(), x)`. The cost of this is

$$O(\text{back.size}() - (i - \text{front.size}()) + 1) = O(n - i + 1) . \quad (2.2)$$

Notice that the first case (2.1) occurs when  $i < n/4$ . The second case (2.2) occurs when  $i \geq 3n/4$ . When  $n/4 \leq i < 3n/4$ , we cannot be sure whether the operation affects `front` or `back`, but in either case, the operation takes  $O(n) = O(i) = O(n - i)$  time, since  $i \geq n/4$  and  $n - i > n/4$ . Summarizing the situation, we have

$$\text{Running time of add}(i, x) \leq \begin{cases} O(1 + i) & \text{if } i < n/4 \\ O(n) & \text{if } n/4 \leq i < 3n/4 \\ O(1 + n - i) & \text{if } i \geq 3n/4 \end{cases}$$

Thus, the running time of `add(i, x)`, if we ignore the cost of the call to `balance()`, is  $O(1 + \min\{i, n - i\})$ .

The `remove(i)` operation and its analysis resemble the `add(i, x)` operation and analysis.

```

DualArrayDeque
T remove(int i) {
    T x;
    if (i < front.size()) {
        x = front.remove(front.size() - i - 1);
    } else {
        x = back.remove(i - front.size());
    }
    balance();
}

```

```

    return x;
}

```

### 2.5.1 Balancing

Finally, we turn to the `balance()` operation performed by `add(i,x)` and `remove(i)`. This operation ensures that neither `front` nor `back` becomes too big (or too small). It ensures that, unless there are fewer than two elements, each of `front` and `back` contain at least  $n/4$  elements. If this is not the case, then it moves elements between them so that `front` and `back` contain exactly  $\lfloor n/2 \rfloor$  elements and  $\lceil n/2 \rceil$  elements, respectively.

```

DualArrayDeque
void balance() {
    int n = size();
    if (3*front.size() < back.size()) {
        int s = n/2 - front.size();
        List<T> l1 = newStack();
        List<T> l2 = newStack();
        l1.addAll(back.subList(0,s));
        Collections.reverse(l1);
        l1.addAll(front);
        l2.addAll(back.subList(s, back.size()));
        front = l1;
        back = l2;
    } else if (3*back.size() < front.size()) {
        int s = front.size() - n/2;
        List<T> l1 = newStack();
        List<T> l2 = newStack();
        l1.addAll(front.subList(s, front.size()));
        l2.addAll(front.subList(0, s));
        Collections.reverse(l2);
        l2.addAll(back);
        front = l1;
        back = l2;
    }
}

```

Here there is little to analyze. If the `balance()` operation does rebal-

ancing, then it moves  $O(n)$  elements and this takes  $O(n)$  time. This is bad, since `balance()` is called with each call to `add(i, x)` and `remove(i)`. However, the following lemma shows that, on average, `balance()` only spends a constant amount of time per operation.

**Lemma 2.2.** *If an empty `DualArrayDeque` is created and any sequence of  $m \geq 1$  calls to `add(i, x)` and `remove(i)` are performed, then the total time spent during all calls to `balance()` is  $O(m)$ .*

*Proof.* We will show that, if `balance()` is forced to shift elements, then the number of `add(i, x)` and `remove(i)` operations since the last time any elements were shifted by `balance()` is at least  $n/2 - 1$ . As in the proof of Lemma 2.1, this is sufficient to prove that the total time spent by `balance()` is  $O(m)$ .

We will perform our analysis using a technique known as the *potential method*. Define the *potential*,  $\Phi$ , of the `DualArrayDeque` as the difference in size between `front` and `back`:

$$\Phi = |\text{front.size()} - \text{back.size()}| .$$

The interesting thing about this potential is that a call to `add(i, x)` or `remove(i)` that does not do any balancing can increase the potential by at most 1.

Observe that, immediately after a call to `balance()` that shifts elements, the potential,  $\Phi_0$ , is at most 1, since

$$\Phi_0 = \lfloor n/2 \rfloor - \lceil n/2 \rceil \leq 1 .$$

Consider the situation immediately before a call to `balance()` that shifts elements and suppose, without loss of generality, that `balance()` is shifting elements because  $3\text{front.size()} < \text{back.size()}()$ . Notice that, in this case,

$$\begin{aligned} n &= \text{front.size()} + \text{back.size()} \\ &< \text{back.size()}/3 + \text{back.size()} \\ &= \frac{4}{3} \text{back.size()} \end{aligned}$$

Furthermore, the potential at this point in time is

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Phi_1 &= \text{back.size()} - \text{front.size()} \\
 &> \text{back.size()} - \text{back.size()}/3 \\
 &= \frac{2}{3} \text{back.size()} \\
 &> \frac{2}{3} \times \frac{3}{4} n \\
 &= n/2
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the number of calls to `add(i, x)` or `remove(i)` since the last time `balance()` shifted elements is at least  $\Phi_1 - \Phi_0 > n/2 - 1$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

### 2.5.2 Summary

The following theorem summarizes the properties of a `DualArrayDeque`:

**Theorem 2.4.** *A `DualArrayDeque` implements the `List` interface. Ignoring the cost of calls to `resize()` and `balance()`, a `DualArrayDeque` supports the operations*

- `get(i)` and `set(i, x)` in  $O(1)$  time per operation; and
- `add(i, x)` and `remove(i)` in  $O(1 + \min\{i, n - i\})$  time per operation.

*Furthermore, beginning with an empty `DualArrayDeque`, any sequence of  $m$  `add(i, x)` and `remove(i)` operations results in a total of  $O(m)$  time spent during all calls to `resize()` and `balance()`.*

## 2.6 RootishArrayStack: A Space-Efficient Array Stack

One of the drawbacks of all previous data structures in this chapter is that, because they store their data in one or two arrays and they avoid resizing these arrays too often, the arrays frequently are not very full. For example, immediately after a `resize()` operation on an `ArrayStack`, the backing array `a` is only half full. Even worse, there are times when only 1/3 of `a` contains data.

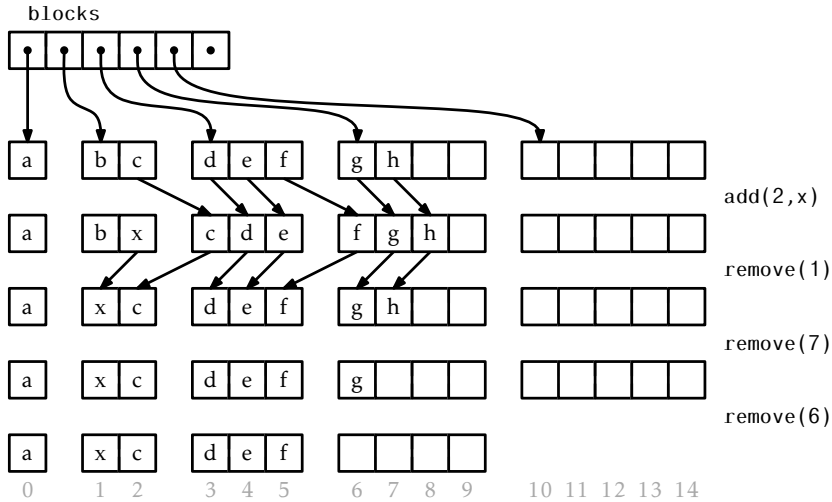


Figure 2.5: A sequence of `add(i, x)` and `remove(i)` operations on a `RootishArrayStack`. Arrows denote elements being copied.

In this section, we discuss the `RootishArrayStack` data structure, that addresses the problem of wasted space. The `RootishArrayStack` stores  $n$  elements using  $O(\sqrt{n})$  arrays. In these arrays, at most  $O(\sqrt{n})$  array locations are unused at any time. All remaining array locations are used to store data. Therefore, these data structures waste at most  $O(\sqrt{n})$  space when storing  $n$  elements.

A `RootishArrayStack` stores its elements in a list of  $r$  arrays called *blocks* that are numbered  $0, 1, \dots, r - 1$ . See Figure 2.5. Block  $b$  contains  $b + 1$  elements. Therefore, all  $r$  blocks contain a total of

$$1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + r = r(r + 1)/2$$

elements. The above formula can be obtained as shown in Figure 2.6.

```
RootishArrayStack
List<T[]> blocks;
int n;
```

As we might expect, the elements of the list are laid out in order within the blocks. The list element with index 0 is stored in block 0,

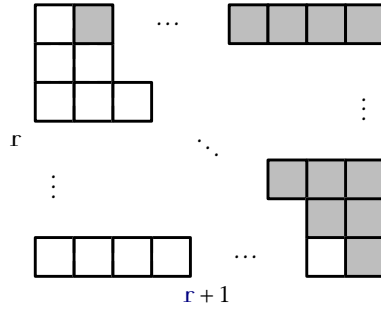


Figure 2.6: The number of white squares is  $1+2+3+\dots+r$ . The number of shaded squares is the same. Together the white and shaded squares make a rectangle consisting of  $r(r+1)$  squares.

elements with list indices 1 and 2 are stored in block 1, elements with list indices 3, 4, and 5 are stored in block 2, and so on. The main problem we have to address is that of determining, given an index  $i$ , which block contains  $i$  as well as the index corresponding to  $i$  within that block.

Determining the index of  $i$  within its block turns out to be easy. If index  $i$  is in block  $b$ , then the number of elements in blocks  $0, \dots, b-1$  is  $b(b+1)/2$ . Therefore,  $i$  is stored at location

$$j = i - b(b+1)/2$$

within block  $b$ . Somewhat more challenging is the problem of determining the value of  $b$ . The number of elements that have indices less than or equal to  $i$  is  $i+1$ . On the other hand, the number of elements in blocks  $0, \dots, b$  is  $(b+1)(b+2)/2$ . Therefore,  $b$  is the smallest integer such that

$$(b+1)(b+2)/2 \geq i+1.$$

We can rewrite this equation as

$$b^2 + 3b - 2i \geq 0.$$

The corresponding quadratic equation  $b^2 + 3b - 2i = 0$  has two solutions:  $b = (-3 + \sqrt{9 + 8i})/2$  and  $b = (-3 - \sqrt{9 + 8i})/2$ . The second solution makes no sense in our application since it always gives a negative value. Therefore, we obtain the solution  $b = (-3 + \sqrt{9 + 8i})/2$ . In general, this solution

is not an integer, but going back to our inequality, we want the smallest integer  $b$  such that  $b \geq (-3 + \sqrt{9 + 8i})/2$ . This is simply

$$b = \lceil (-3 + \sqrt{9 + 8i})/2 \rceil .$$

RootishArrayStack

```
int i2b(int i) {
    double db = (-3.0 + Math.sqrt(9 + 8*i)) / 2.0;
    int b = (int)Math.ceil(db);
    return b;
}
```

With this out of the way, the `get(i)` and `set(i,x)` methods are straightforward. We first compute the appropriate block  $b$  and the appropriate index  $j$  within the block and then perform the appropriate operation:

RootishArrayStack

```
T get(int i) {
    int b = i2b(i);
    int j = i - b*(b+1)/2;
    return blocks.get(b)[j];
}

T set(int i, T x) {
    int b = i2b(i);
    int j = i - b*(b+1)/2;
    T y = blocks.get(b)[j];
    blocks.get(b)[j] = x;
    return y;
}
```

If we use any of the data structures in this chapter for representing the `blocks` list, then `get(i)` and `set(i,x)` will each run in constant time.

The `add(i,x)` method will, by now, look familiar. We first check to see if our data structure is full, by checking if the number of blocks  $r$  is such that  $r(r+1)/2 = n$ . If so, we call `grow()` to add another block. With this done, we shift elements with indices  $i, \dots, n-1$  to the right by one position to make room for the new element with index  $i$ :



```

RootishArrayStack
void add(int i, T x) {
    int r = blocks.size();
    if (r*(r+1)/2 < n + 1) grow();
    n++;
    for (int j = n-1; j > i; j--)
        set(j, get(j-1));
    set(i, x);
}

```

The `grow()` method does what we expect. It adds a new block:

```

RootishArrayStack
void grow() {
    blocks.add(newArray(blocks.size()+1));
}

```

Ignoring the cost of the `grow()` operation, the cost of an `add(i, x)` operation is dominated by the cost of shifting and is therefore  $O(1 + n - i)$ , just like an `ArrayStack`.

The `remove(i)` operation is similar to `add(i, x)`. It shifts the elements with indices  $i + 1, \dots, n$  left by one position and then, if there is more than one empty block, it calls the `shrink()` method to remove all but one of the unused blocks:

```

RootishArrayStack
T remove(int i) {
    T x = get(i);
    for (int j = i; j < n-1; j++)
        set(j, get(j+1));
    n--;
    int r = blocks.size();
    if ((r-2)*(r-1)/2 >= n) shrink();
    return x;
}

```

```

RootishArrayStack
void shrink() {
    int r = blocks.size();
}

```

```

while (r > 0 && (r-2)*(r-1)/2 >= n) {
    blocks.remove(blocks.size()-1);
    r--;
}
}

```

Once again, ignoring the cost of the `shrink()` operation, the cost of a `remove(i)` operation is dominated by the cost of shifting and is therefore  $O(n-i)$ .

### 2.6.1 Analysis of Growing and Shrinking

The above analysis of `add(i, x)` and `remove(i)` does not account for the cost of `grow()` and `shrink()`. Note that, unlike the `ArrayStack.resize()` operation, `grow()` and `shrink()` do not copy any data. They only allocate or free an array of size `r`. In some environments, this takes only constant time, while in others, it may require time proportional to `r`.

We note that, immediately after a call to `grow()` or `shrink()`, the situation is clear. The final block is completely empty, and all other blocks are completely full. Another call to `grow()` or `shrink()` will not happen until at least `r-1` elements have been added or removed. Therefore, even if `grow()` and `shrink()` take  $O(r)$  time, this cost can be amortized over at least `r-1` `add(i, x)` or `remove(i)` operations, so that the amortized cost of `grow()` and `shrink()` is  $O(1)$  per operation.

### 2.6.2 Space Usage

Next, we analyze the amount of extra space used by a `RootishArrayStack`. In particular, we want to count any space used by a `RootishArrayStack` that is not an array element currently used to hold a list element. We call all such space *wasted space*.

The `remove(i)` operation ensures that a `RootishArrayStack` never has more than two blocks that are not completely full. The number of blocks, `r`, used by a `RootishArrayStack` that stores `n` elements therefore satisfies

$$(r-2)(r-1) \leq n.$$

Again, using the quadratic equation on this gives

$$r \leq (3 + \sqrt{1 + 4n})/2 = O(\sqrt{n}) .$$

The last two blocks have sizes  $r$  and  $r - 1$ , so the space wasted by these two blocks is at most  $2r - 1 = O(\sqrt{n})$ . If we store the blocks in (for example) an `ArrayList`, then the amount of space wasted by the `List` that stores those  $r$  blocks is also  $O(r) = O(\sqrt{n})$ . The other space needed for storing  $n$  and other accounting information is  $O(1)$ . Therefore, the total amount of wasted space in a `RootishArrayStack` is  $O(\sqrt{n})$ .

Next, we argue that this space usage is optimal for any data structure that starts out empty and can support the addition of one item at a time. More precisely, we will show that, at some point during the addition of  $n$  items, the data structure is wasting an amount of space at least in  $\sqrt{n}$  (though it may be only wasted for a moment).

Suppose we start with an empty data structure and we add  $n$  items one at a time. At the end of this process, all  $n$  items are stored in the structure and distributed among a collection of  $r$  memory blocks. If  $r \geq \sqrt{n}$ , then the data structure must be using  $r$  pointers (or references) to keep track of these  $r$  blocks, and these pointers are wasted space. On the other hand, if  $r < \sqrt{n}$  then, by the pigeonhole principle, some block must have a size of at least  $n/r > \sqrt{n}$ . Consider the moment at which this block was first allocated. Immediately after it was allocated, this block was empty, and was therefore wasting  $\sqrt{n}$  space. Therefore, at some point in time during the insertion of  $n$  elements, the data structure was wasting  $\sqrt{n}$  space.

### 2.6.3 Summary

The following theorem summarizes our discussion of the `RootishArrayStack` data structure:

**Theorem 2.5.** *A `RootishArrayStack` implements the `List` interface. Ignoring the cost of calls to `grow()` and `shrink()`, a `RootishArrayStack` supports the operations*

- `get(i)` and `set(i, x)` in  $O(1)$  time per operation; and
- `add(i, x)` and `remove(i)` in  $O(1 + n - i)$  time per operation.

Furthermore, beginning with an empty *RootishArrayStack*, any sequence of  $m$  `add(i, x)` and `remove(i)` operations results in a total of  $O(m)$  time spent during all calls to `grow()` and `shrink()`.

The space (measured in words)<sup>3</sup> used by a *RootishArrayStack* that stores  $n$  elements is  $n + O(\sqrt{n})$ .

#### 2.6.4 Computing Square Roots

A reader who has had some exposure to models of computation may notice that the *RootishArrayStack*, as described above, does not fit into the usual word-RAM model of computation (Section 1.4) because it requires taking square roots. The square root operation is generally not considered a basic operation and is therefore not usually part of the word-RAM model.

In this section, we show that the square root operation can be implemented efficiently. In particular, we show that for any integer  $x \in \{0, \dots, n\}$ ,  $\lfloor \sqrt{x} \rfloor$  can be computed in constant-time, after  $O(\sqrt{n})$  preprocessing that creates two arrays of length  $O(\sqrt{n})$ . The following lemma shows that we can reduce the problem of computing the square root of  $x$  to the square root of a related value  $x'$ .

**Lemma 2.3.** *Let  $x \geq 1$  and let  $x' = x - a$ , where  $0 \leq a \leq \sqrt{x}$ . Then  $\sqrt{x'} \geq \sqrt{x} - 1$ .*

*Proof.* It suffices to show that

$$\sqrt{x - \sqrt{x}} \geq \sqrt{x} - 1 .$$

Square both sides of this inequality to get

$$x - \sqrt{x} \geq x - 2\sqrt{x} + 1$$

and gather terms to get

$$\sqrt{x} \geq 1$$

which is clearly true for any  $x \geq 1$ . □

---

<sup>3</sup>Recall Section 1.4 for a discussion of how memory is measured.

Start by restricting the problem a little, and assume that  $2^r \leq x < 2^{r+1}$ , so that  $\lfloor \log x \rfloor = r$ , i.e.,  $x$  is an integer having  $r + 1$  bits in its binary representation. We can take  $x' = x - (x \bmod 2^{\lfloor r/2 \rfloor})$ . Now,  $x'$  satisfies the conditions of Lemma 2.3, so  $\sqrt{x} - \sqrt{x'} \leq 1$ . Furthermore,  $x'$  has all of its lower-order  $\lfloor r/2 \rfloor$  bits equal to 0, so there are only

$$2^{r+1-\lfloor r/2 \rfloor} \leq 4 \cdot 2^{r/2} \leq 4\sqrt{x}$$

possible values of  $x'$ . This means that we can use an array, `sqrcttab`, that stores the value of  $\lfloor \sqrt{x'} \rfloor$  for each possible value of  $x'$ . A little more precisely, we have

$$\text{sqrcttab}[i] = \left\lfloor \sqrt{i 2^{\lfloor r/2 \rfloor}} \right\rfloor.$$

In this way, `sqrcttab` $[i]$  is within 2 of  $\sqrt{x}$  for all  $x \in \{i 2^{\lfloor r/2 \rfloor}, \dots, (i+1) 2^{\lfloor r/2 \rfloor} - 1\}$ . Stated another way, the array entry  $s = \text{sqrcttab}[x \gg \lfloor r/2 \rfloor]$  is either equal to  $\lfloor \sqrt{x} \rfloor$ ,  $\lfloor \sqrt{x} \rfloor - 1$ , or  $\lfloor \sqrt{x} \rfloor - 2$ . From  $s$  we can determine the value of  $\lfloor \sqrt{x} \rfloor$  by incrementing  $s$  until  $(s+1)^2 > x$ .

FastSqrt

```
int sqrt(int x, int r) {
    int s = sqrctab[x >> r/2];
    while ((s+1)*(s+1) <= x) s++; // executes at most twice
    return s;
}
```

Now, this only works for  $x \in \{2^r, \dots, 2^{r+1} - 1\}$  and `sqrcttab` is a special table that only works for a particular value of  $r = \lfloor \log x \rfloor$ . To overcome this, we could compute  $\lfloor \log n \rfloor$  different `sqrcttab` arrays, one for each possible value of  $\lfloor \log x \rfloor$ . The sizes of these tables form an exponential sequence whose largest value is at most  $4\sqrt{n}$ , so the total size of all tables is  $O(\sqrt{n})$ .

However, it turns out that more than one `sqrcttab` array is unnecessary; we only need one `sqrcttab` array for the value  $r = \lfloor \log n \rfloor$ . Any value  $x$  with  $\log x = r' < r$  can be *upgraded* by multiplying  $x$  by  $2^{r-r'}$  and using the equation

$$\sqrt{2^{r-r'} x} = 2^{(r-r')/2} \sqrt{x}.$$

The quantity  $2^{r-r'} x$  is in the range  $\{2^r, \dots, 2^{r+1} - 1\}$  so we can look up its square root in `sqrcttab`. The following code implements this idea to

compute  $\lfloor \sqrt{x} \rfloor$  for all non-negative integers  $x$  in the range  $\{0, \dots, 2^{30} - 1\}$  using an array, `sqrttab`, of size  $2^{16}$ .

```

FastSqrt
int sqrt(int x) {
    int rp = log(x);
    int upgrade = ((r-rp)/2) * 2;
    int xp = x << upgrade; // xp has r or r-1 bits
    int s = sqrttab[xp>>(r/2)] >> (upgrade/2);
    while ((s+1)*(s+1) <= x) s++; // executes at most twice
    return s;
}

```

Something we have taken for granted thus far is the question of how to compute  $r' = \lfloor \log x \rfloor$ . Again, this is a problem that can be solved with an array, `logtab`, of size  $2^{r/2}$ . In this case, the code is particularly simple, since  $\lfloor \log x \rfloor$  is just the index of the most significant 1 bit in the binary representation of  $x$ . This means that, for  $x > 2^{r/2}$ , we can right-shift the bits of  $x$  by  $r/2$  positions before using it as an index into `logtab`. The following code does this using an array `logtab` of size  $2^{16}$  to compute  $\lfloor \log x \rfloor$  for all  $x$  in the range  $\{1, \dots, 2^{32} - 1\}$ .

```

FastSqrt
int log(int x) {
    if (x >= halfint)
        return 16 + logtab[x>>>16];
    return logtab[x];
}

```

Finally, for completeness, we include the following code that initializes `logtab` and `sqrttab`:

```

FastSqrt
void inittabs() {
    sqrttab = new int[1<<(r/2)];
    logtab = new int[1<<(r/2)];
    for (int d = 0; d < r/2; d++)
        Arrays.fill(logtab, 1<<d, 2<<d, d);
    int s = 1<<(r/4); // sqrt(2^(r/2))
}

```

```

for (int i = 0; i < 1<<(r/2); i++) {
    if ((s+1)*(s+1) <= i << (r/2)) s++; // sqrt increases
    sqrttab[i] = s;
}
}

```

To summarize, the computations done by the `i2b(i)` method can be implemented in constant time on the word-RAM using  $O(\sqrt{n})$  extra memory to store the `sqrttab` and `logtab` arrays. These arrays can be rebuilt when `n` increases or decreases by a factor of two, and the cost of this rebuilding can be amortized over the number of `add(i, x)` and `remove(i)` operations that caused the change in `n` in the same way that the cost of `resize()` is analyzed in the `ArrayStack` implementation.

## 2.7 Discussion and Exercises

Most of the data structures described in this chapter are folklore. They can be found in implementations dating back over 30 years. For example, implementations of stacks, queues, and dequeues, which generalize easily to the `ArrayStack`, `ArrayQueue` and `ArrayDeque` structures described here, are discussed by Knuth [46, Section 2.2.2].

Brodnik *et al.* [13] seem to have been the first to describe the `RootishArrayStack` and prove a  $\sqrt{n}$  lower-bound like that in Section 2.6.2. They also present a different structure that uses a more sophisticated choice of block sizes in order to avoid computing square roots in the `i2b(i)` method. Within their scheme, the block containing `i` is block  $\lfloor \log(i+1) \rfloor$ , which is simply the index of the leading 1 bit in the binary representation of `i + 1`. Some computer architectures provide an instruction for computing the index of the leading 1-bit in an integer.

A structure related to the `RootishArrayStack` is the two-level *tiered-vector* of Goodrich and Kloss [35]. This structure supports the `get(i, x)` and `set(i, x)` operations in constant time and `add(i, x)` and `remove(i)` in  $O(\sqrt{n})$  time. These running times are similar to what can be achieved with the more careful implementation of a `RootishArrayStack` discussed in Exercise 2.11.

**Exercise 2.1.** In the `ArrayStack` implementation, after the first call to `remove(i)`, the backing array, `a`, contains `n + 1` non-`null` values despite the fact that the `ArrayStack` only contains `n` elements. Where is the extra non-`null` value? Discuss any consequences this non-`null` value might have on the Java Runtime Environment’s memory manager.

**Exercise 2.2.** The `List` method `addAll(i, c)` inserts all elements of the `Collection c` into the list at position `i`. (The `add(i, x)` method is a special case where `c = {x}`.) Explain why, for the data structures in this chapter, it is not efficient to implement `addAll(i, c)` by repeated calls to `add(i, x)`. Design and implement a more efficient implementation.

**Exercise 2.3.** Design and implement a *RandomQueue*. This is an implementation of the `Queue` interface in which the `remove()` operation removes an element that is chosen uniformly at random among all the elements currently in the queue. (Think of a *RandomQueue* as a bag in which we can add elements or reach in and blindly remove some random element.) The `add(x)` and `remove()` operations in a *RandomQueue* should run in constant time per operation.

**Exercise 2.4.** Design and implement a *Treque* (triple-ended queue). This is a `List` implementation in which `get(i)` and `set(i, x)` run in constant time and `add(i, x)` and `remove(i)` run in time

$$O(1 + \min\{i, n - i, |n/2 - i|\}) .$$

In other words, modifications are fast if they are near either end or near the middle of the list.

**Exercise 2.5.** Implement a method `rotate(a, r)` that “rotates” the array `a` so that `a[i]` moves to `a[(i + r) mod a.length]`, for all  $i \in \{0, \dots, a.length\}$ .

**Exercise 2.6.** Implement a method `rotate(r)` that “rotates” a `List` so that list item `i` becomes list item  $(i + r) \bmod n$ . When run on an `ArrayDeque`, or a `DualArrayDeque`, `rotate(r)` should run in  $O(1 + \min\{r, n - r\})$  time.

**Exercise 2.7.** Modify the `ArrayDeque` implementation so that the shifting done by `add(i, x)`, `remove(i)`, and `resize()` is done using the faster `System.arraycopy(s, i, d, j, n)` method.



**Exercise 2.8.** Modify the `ArrayDeque` implementation so that it does not use the `%` operator (which is expensive on some systems). Instead, it should make use of the fact that, if `a.length` is a power of 2, then

$$k\%a.length = k\&(a.length - 1) .$$

(Here, `&` is the bitwise-and operator.)

**Exercise 2.9.** Design and implement a variant of `ArrayDeque` that does not do any modular arithmetic at all. Instead, all the data sits in a consecutive block, in order, inside an array. When the data overruns the beginning or the end of this array, a modified `rebuild()` operation is performed. The amortized cost of all operations should be the same as in an `ArrayDeque`.

Hint: Getting this to work is really all about how you implement the `rebuild()` operation. You would like `rebuild()` to put the data structure into a state where the data cannot run off either end until at least  $n/2$  operations have been performed.

Test the performance of your implementation against the `ArrayDeque`. Optimize your implementation (by using `System.arraycopy(a, i, b, i, n)`) and see if you can get it to outperform the `ArrayDeque` implementation.

**Exercise 2.10.** Design and implement a version of a `RootishArrayStack` that has only  $O(\sqrt{n})$  wasted space, but that can perform `add(i, x)` and `remove(i, x)` operations in  $O(1 + \min\{i, n - i\})$  time.

**Exercise 2.11.** Design and implement a version of a `RootishArrayStack` that has only  $O(\sqrt{n})$  wasted space, but that can perform `add(i, x)` and `remove(i, x)` operations in  $O(1 + \min\{\sqrt{n}, n - i\})$  time. (For an idea on how to do this, see Section 3.3.)

**Exercise 2.12.** Design and implement a version of a `RootishArrayStack` that has only  $O(\sqrt{n})$  wasted space, but that can perform `add(i, x)` and `remove(i, x)` operations in  $O(1 + \min\{i, \sqrt{n}, n - i\})$  time. (See Section 3.3 for ideas on how to achieve this.)

**Exercise 2.13.** Design and implement a `CubishArrayStack`. This three level structure implements the `List` interface using  $O(n^{2/3})$  wasted space. In this structure, `get(i)` and `set(i, x)` take constant time; while `add(i, x)` and `remove(i)` take  $O(n^{1/3})$  amortized time.



## Chapter 3

# Linked Lists

In this chapter, we continue to study implementations of the `List` interface, this time using pointer-based data structures rather than arrays. The structures in this chapter are made up of nodes that contain the list items. Using references (pointers), the nodes are linked together into a sequence. We first study singly-linked lists, which can implement `Stack` and (FIFO) `Queue` operations in constant time per operation and then move on to doubly-linked lists, which can implement `Deque` operations in constant time.

Linked lists have advantages and disadvantages when compared to array-based implementations of the `List` interface. The primary disadvantage is that we lose the ability to access any element using `get(i)` or `set(i, x)` in constant time. Instead, we have to walk through the list, one element at a time, until we reach the `i`th element. The primary advantage is that they are more dynamic: Given a reference to any list node `u`, we can delete `u` or insert a node adjacent to `u` in constant time. This is true no matter where `u` is in the list.

### 3.1 `SLList`: A Singly-Linked List

An `SLList` (singly-linked list) is a sequence of `Nodes`. Each node `u` stores a data value `u.x` and a reference `u.next` to the next node in the sequence. For the last node `w` in the sequence, `w.next = null`

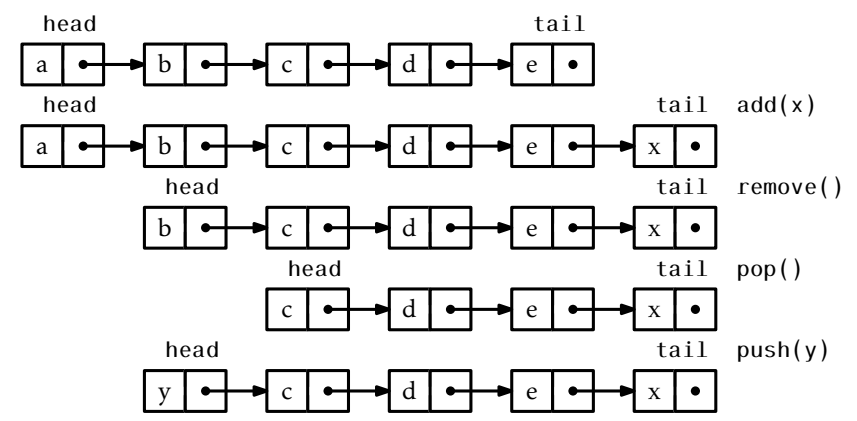


Figure 3.1: A sequence of Queue (add(x) and remove()) and Stack (push(x) and pop()) operations on an SLList.

```
SLList
class Node {
    T x;
    Node next;
}
```

For efficiency, an SLList uses variables head and tail to keep track of the first and last node in the sequence, as well as an integer n to keep track of the length of the sequence:

```
SLList
Node head;
Node tail;
int n;
```

A sequence of Stack and Queue operations on an SLList is illustrated in Figure 3.1.

An SLList can efficiently implement the Stack operations push() and pop() by adding and removing elements at the head of the sequence. The push() operation simply creates a new node u with data value x, sets u.next to the old head of the list and makes u the new head of the list. Finally, it increments n since the size of the SLList has increased by one:

\_\_\_\_\_ SLList \_\_\_\_\_

```
T push(T x) {  
    Node u = new Node();  
    u.x = x;  
    u.next = head;  
    head = u;  
    if (n == 0)  
        tail = u;  
    n++;  
    return x;  
}
```

The `pop()` operation, after checking that the `SLList` is not empty, removes the head by setting `head = head.next` and decrementing `n`. A special case occurs when the last element is being removed, in which case `tail` is set to `null`:

\_\_\_\_\_ SLList \_\_\_\_\_

```
T pop() {  
    if (n == 0) return null;  
    T x = head.x;  
    head = head.next;  
    if (--n == 0) tail = null;  
    return x;  
}
```

Clearly, both the `push(x)` and `pop()` operations run in  $O(1)$  time.

### 3.1.1 Queue Operations

An `SLList` can also implement the FIFO queue operations `add(x)` and `remove()` in constant time. Removals are done from the head of the list, and are identical to the `pop()` operation:

\_\_\_\_\_ SLList \_\_\_\_\_

```
T remove() {  
    if (n == 0) return null;  
    T x = head.x;  
    head = head.next;
```

```

    if (--n == 0) tail = null;
    return x;
}

```

Additions, on the other hand, are done at the tail of the list. In most cases, this is done by setting `tail.next = u`, where `u` is the newly created node that contains `x`. However, a special case occurs when `n = 0`, in which case `tail = head = null`. In this case, both `tail` and `head` are set to `u`.

```

SLList
boolean add(T x) {
    Node u = new Node();
    u.x = x;
    if (n == 0) {
        head = u;
    } else {
        tail.next = u;
    }
    tail = u;
    n++;
    return true;
}

```

Clearly, both `add(x)` and `remove()` take constant time.

### 3.1.2 Summary

The following theorem summarizes the performance of an `SLList`:

**Theorem 3.1.** *An `SLList` implements the Stack and (FIFO) Queue interfaces. The `push(x)`, `pop()`, `add(x)` and `remove()` operations run in  $O(1)$  time per operation.*

An `SLList` nearly implements the full set of Deque operations. The only missing operation is removing from the tail of an `SLList`. Removing from the tail of an `SLList` is difficult because it requires updating the value of `tail` so that it points to the node `w` that precedes `tail` in the `SLList`; this is the node `w` such that `w.next = tail`. Unfortunately, the only way to get to `w` is by traversing the `SLList` starting at `head` and taking `n - 2` steps.

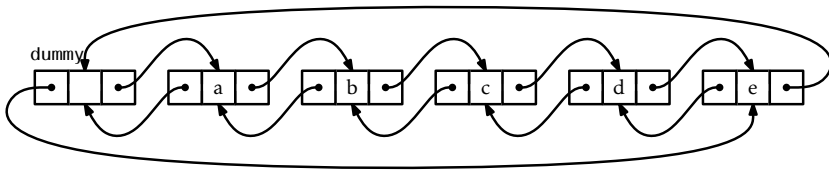


Figure 3.2: A DLList containing a,b,c,d,e.

### 3.2 DLList: A Doubly-Linked List

A DLList (doubly-linked list) is very similar to an SLList except that each node `u` in a DLList has references to both the node `u.next` that follows it and the node `u.prev` that precedes it.

```

class Node {
    T x;
    Node prev, next;
}

```

When implementing an SLList, we saw that there were always several special cases to worry about. For example, removing the last element from an SLList or adding an element to an empty SLList requires care to ensure that `head` and `tail` are correctly updated. In a DLList, the number of these special cases increases considerably. Perhaps the cleanest way to take care of all these special cases in a DLList is to introduce a `dummy` node. This is a node that does not contain any data, but acts as a placeholder so that there are no special nodes; every node has both a `next` and a `prev`, with `dummy` acting as the node that follows the last node in the list and that precedes the first node in the list. In this way, the nodes of the list are (doubly-)linked into a cycle, as illustrated in Figure 3.2.

```

int n;
Node dummy;
DLList() {
    dummy = new Node();
}

```

```

dummy.next = dummy;
dummy.prev = dummy;
n = 0;
}

```

Finding the node with a particular index in a `DLList` is easy; we can either start at the head of the list (`dummy.next`) and work forward, or start at the tail of the list (`dummy.prev`) and work backward. This allows us to reach the `i`th node in  $O(1 + \min\{i, n - i\})$  time:

```

DLList
Node getNode(int i) {
    Node p = null;
    if (i < n / 2) {
        p = dummy.next;
        for (int j = 0; j < i; j++)
            p = p.next;
    } else {
        p = dummy;
        for (int j = n; j > i; j--)
            p = p.prev;
    }
    return (p);
}

```

The `get(i)` and `set(i,x)` operations are now also easy. We first find the `i`th node and then get or set its `x` value:

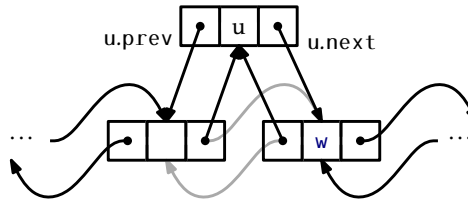
```

DLList
T get(int i) {
    return getNode(i).x;
}
T set(int i, T x) {
    Node u = getNode(i);
    T y = u.x;
    u.x = x;
    return y;
}

```

The running time of these operations is dominated by the time it takes to find the `i`th node, and is therefore  $O(1 + \min\{i, n - i\})$ .



Figure 3.3: Adding the node *u* before the node *w* in a DLList.

### 3.2.1 Adding and Removing

If we have a reference to a node *w* in a DLList and we want to insert a node *u* before *w*, then this is just a matter of setting *u*.next = *w*, *u*.prev = *w*.prev, and then adjusting *u*.prev.next and *u*.next.prev. (See Figure 3.3.) Thanks to the dummy node, there is no need to worry about *w*.prev or *w*.next not existing.

```

DLList
Node addBefore(Node w, T x) {
    Node u = new Node();
    u.x = x;
    u.prev = w.prev;
    u.next = w;
    u.next.prev = u;
    u.prev.next = u;
    n++;
    return u;
}

```

Now, the list operation `add(i, x)` is trivial to implement. We find the *i*th node in the DLList and insert a new node *u* that contains *x* just before it.

```

DLList
void add(int i, T x) {
    addBefore(getNode(i), x);
}

```

The only non-constant part of the running time of `add(i, x)` is the time it takes to find the `i`th node (using `getNode(i)`). Thus, `add(i, x)` runs in  $O(1 + \min\{i, n - i\})$  time.

Removing a node `w` from a `DLList` is easy. We only need to adjust pointers at `w.next` and `w.prev` so that they skip over `w`. Again, the use of the dummy node eliminates the need to consider any special cases:

```

DLList
void remove(Node w) {
    w.prev.next = w.next;
    w.next.prev = w.prev;
    n--;
}

```

Now the `remove(i)` operation is trivial. We find the node with index `i` and remove it:

```

DLList
T remove(int i) {
    Node w = getNode(i);
    remove(w);
    return w.x;
}

```

Again, the only expensive part of this operation is finding the `i`th node using `getNode(i)`, so `remove(i)` runs in  $O(1 + \min\{i, n - i\})$  time.

### 3.2.2 Summary

The following theorem summarizes the performance of a `DLList`:

**Theorem 3.2.** *A `DLList` implements the `List` interface. In this implementation, the `get(i)`, `set(i, x)`, `add(i, x)` and `remove(i)` operations run in  $O(1 + \min\{i, n - i\})$  time per operation.*

It is worth noting that, if we ignore the cost of the `getNode(i)` operation, then all operations on a `DLList` take constant time. Thus, the only expensive part of operations on a `DLList` is finding the relevant node.

Once we have the relevant node, adding, removing, or accessing the data at that node takes only constant time.

This is in sharp contrast to the array-based List implementations of Chapter 2; in those implementations, the relevant array item can be found in constant time. However, addition or removal requires shifting elements in the array and, in general, takes non-constant time.

For this reason, linked list structures are well-suited to applications where references to list nodes can be obtained through external means. An example of this is the `LinkedHashSet` data structure found in the Java Collections Framework, in which a set of items is stored in a doubly-linked list and the nodes of the doubly-linked list are stored in a hash table (discussed in Chapter 5). When elements are removed from a `LinkedHashSet`, the hash table is used to find the relevant list node in constant time and then the list node is deleted (also in constant time).

### 3.3 SEList: A Space-Efficient Linked List

One of the drawbacks of linked lists (besides the time it takes to access elements that are deep within the list) is their space usage. Each node in a `DLList` requires an additional two references to the next and previous nodes in the list. Two of the fields in a `Node` are dedicated to maintaining the list, and only one of the fields is for storing data!

An `SEList` (space-efficient list) reduces this wasted space using a simple idea: Rather than store individual elements in a `DLList`, we store a block (array) containing several items. More precisely, an `SEList` is parameterized by a *block size* `b`. Each individual node in an `SEList` stores a block that can hold up to `b + 1` elements.

For reasons that will become clear later, it will be helpful if we can do Deque operations on each block. The data structure that we choose for this is a `BDeque` (bounded deque), derived from the `ArrayDeque` structure described in Section 2.4. The `BDeque` differs from the `ArrayDeque` in one small way: When a new `BDeque` is created, the size of the backing array `a` is fixed at `b + 1` and never grows or shrinks. The important property of a `BDeque` is that it allows for the addition or removal of elements at either the front or back in constant time. This will be useful as elements are

shifted from one block to another.

```

SEList
class BDeque extends ArrayDeque<T> {
    BDeque() {
        super(SEList.this.type());
        a = newArray(b+1);
    }
    void resize() { }
}

```

An SEList is then a doubly-linked list of blocks:

```

SEList
class Node {
    BDeque d;
    Node prev, next;
}

```

```

SEList
int n;
Node dummy;

```

### 3.3.1 Space Requirements

An SEList places very tight restrictions on the number of elements in a block: Unless a block is the last block, then that block contains at least  $b-1$  and at most  $b+1$  elements. This means that, if an SEList contains  $n$  elements, then it has at most

$$n/(b-1)+1 = O(n/b)$$

blocks. The BDeque for each block contains an array of length  $b+1$  but, for every block except the last, at most a constant amount of space is wasted in this array. The remaining memory used by a block is also constant. This means that the wasted space in an SEList is only  $O(b + n/b)$ . By choosing a value of  $b$  within a constant factor of  $\sqrt{n}$ , we can make the space-overhead of an SEList approach the  $\sqrt{n}$  lower bound given in Section 2.6.2.

### 3.3.2 Finding Elements

The first challenge we face with an SEList is finding the list item with a given index *i*. Note that the location of an element consists of two parts:

1. The node *u* that contains the block that contains the element with index *i*; and
2. the index *j* of the element within its block.

```

SEList
class Location {
    Node u;
    int j;
    Location(Node u, int j) {
        this.u = u;
        this.j = j;
    }
}

```

To find the block that contains a particular element, we proceed the same way as we do in a DLList. We either start at the front of the list and traverse in the forward direction, or at the back of the list and traverse backwards until we reach the node we want. The only difference is that, each time we move from one node to the next, we skip over a whole block of elements.

```

SEList
Location getLocation(int i) {
    if (i < n/2) {
        Node u = dummy.next;
        while (i >= u.d.size()) {
            i -= u.d.size();
            u = u.next;
        }
        return new Location(u, i);
    } else {
        Node u = dummy;
        int idx = n;
    }
}

```

```

    while (i < idx) {
        u = u.prev;
        idx -= u.d.size();
    }
    return new Location(u, i-idx);
}
}

```

Remember that, with the exception of at most one block, each block contains at least  $b - 1$  elements, so each step in our search gets us  $b - 1$  elements closer to the element we are looking for. If we are searching forward, this means that we reach the node we want after  $O(1 + i/b)$  steps. If we search backwards, then we reach the node we want after  $O(1 + (n - i)/b)$  steps. The algorithm takes the smaller of these two quantities depending on the value of  $i$ , so the time to locate the item with index  $i$  is  $O(1 + \min\{i, n - i\}/b)$ .

Once we know how to locate the item with index  $i$ , the  $\text{get}(i)$  and  $\text{set}(i, x)$  operations translate into getting or setting a particular index in the correct block:

```

SEList
T get(int i) {
    Location l = getLocation(i);
    return l.u.d.get(l.j);
}
T set(int i, T x) {
    Location l = getLocation(i);
    T y = l.u.d.get(l.j);
    l.u.d.set(l.j, x);
    return y;
}

```

The running times of these operations are dominated by the time it takes to locate the item, so they also run in  $O(1 + \min\{i, n - i\}/b)$  time.

### 3.3.3 Adding an Element

Adding elements to an `SEList` is a little more complicated. Before considering the general case, we consider the easier operation,  $\text{add}(x)$ , in which

$x$  is added to the end of the list. If the last block is full (or does not exist because there are no blocks yet), then we first allocate a new block and append it to the list of blocks. Now that we are sure that the last block exists and is not full, we append  $x$  to the last block.

```

SEList
boolean add(T x) {
    Node last = dummy.prev;
    if (last == dummy || last.d.size() == b+1) {
        last = addBefore(dummy);
    }
    last.d.add(x);
    n++;
    return true;
}

```

Things get more complicated when we add to the interior of the list using `add(i, x)`. We first locate  $i$  to get the node  $u$  whose block contains the  $i$ th list item. The problem is that we want to insert  $x$  into  $u$ 's block, but we have to be prepared for the case where  $u$ 's block already contains  $b + 1$  elements, so that it is full and there is no room for  $x$ .

Let  $u_0, u_1, u_2, \dots$  denote  $u, u.\text{next}, u.\text{next.next}$ , and so on. We explore  $u_0, u_1, u_2, \dots$  looking for a node that can provide space for  $x$ . Three cases can occur during our space exploration (see Figure 3.4):

1. We quickly (in  $r + 1 \leq b$  steps) find a node  $u_r$  whose block is not full. In this case, we perform  $r$  shifts of an element from one block into the next, so that the free space in  $u_r$  becomes a free space in  $u_0$ . We can then insert  $x$  into  $u_0$ 's block.
2. We quickly (in  $r + 1 \leq b$  steps) run off the end of the list of blocks. In this case, we add a new empty block to the end of the list of blocks and proceed as in the first case.
3. After  $b$  steps we do not find any block that is not full. In this case,  $u_0, \dots, u_{b-1}$  is a sequence of  $b$  blocks that each contain  $b + 1$  elements. We insert a new block  $u_b$  at the end of this sequence and *spread* the original  $b(b + 1)$  elements so that each block of  $u_0, \dots, u_b$  contains

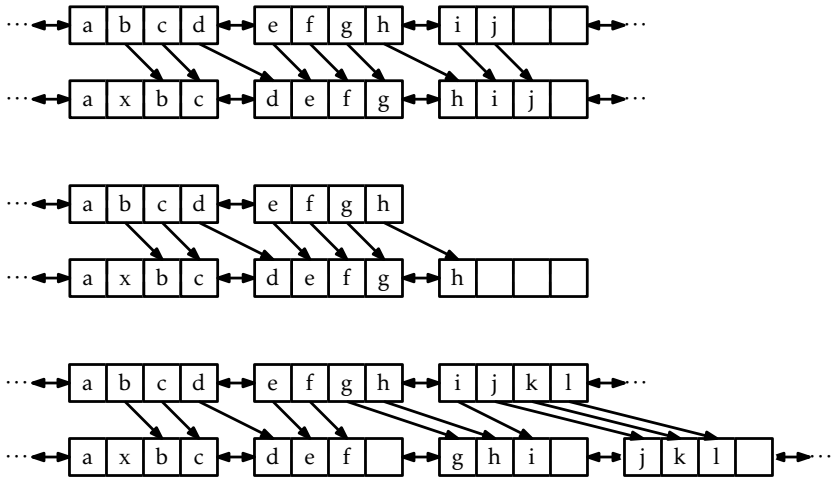


Figure 3.4: The three cases that occur during the addition of an item  $x$  in the interior of an SEList. (This SEList has block size  $b = 3$ .)

exactly  $b$  elements. Now  $u_0$ 's block contains only  $b$  elements so it has room for us to insert  $x$ .

```

SELlist
void add(int i, T x) {
    if (i == n) {
        add(x);
        return;
    }
    Location l = getLocation(i);
    Node u = l.u;
    int r = 0;
    while (r < b && u != dummy && u.d.size() == b+1) {
        u = u.next;
        r++;
    }
    if (r == b) {           // b blocks each with b+1 elements
        spread(l.u);
        u = l.u;
    }
}

```



```

if (u == dummy) { // ran off the end - add new node
    u = addBefore(u);
}
while (u != l.u) { // work backwards, shifting elements
    u.d.add(0, u.prev.d.remove(u.prev.d.size()-1));
    u = u.prev;
}
u.d.add(l.j, x);
n++;
}

```

The running time of the  $\text{add}(i, x)$  operation depends on which of the three cases above occurs. Cases 1 and 2 involve examining and shifting elements through at most  $b$  blocks and take  $O(b)$  time. Case 3 involves calling the  $\text{spread}(u)$  method, which moves  $b(b+1)$  elements and takes  $O(b^2)$  time. If we ignore the cost of Case 3 (which we will account for later with amortization) this means that the total running time to locate  $i$  and perform the insertion of  $x$  is  $O(b + \min\{i, n - i\}/b)$ .

### 3.3.4 Removing an Element

Removing an element from an SEList is similar to adding an element. We first locate the node  $u$  that contains the element with index  $i$ . Now, we have to be prepared for the case where we cannot remove an element from  $u$  without causing  $u$ 's block to become smaller than  $b - 1$ .

Again, let  $u_0, u_1, u_2, \dots$  denote  $u, u.\text{next}, u.\text{next.next}$ , and so on. We examine  $u_0, u_1, u_2, \dots$  in order to look for a node from which we can borrow an element to make the size of  $u_0$ 's block at least  $b - 1$ . There are three cases to consider (see Figure 3.5):

1. We quickly (in  $r + 1 \leq b$  steps) find a node whose block contains more than  $b - 1$  elements. In this case, we perform  $r$  shifts of an element from one block into the previous one, so that the extra element in  $u_r$  becomes an extra element in  $u_0$ . We can then remove the appropriate element from  $u_0$ 's block.
2. We quickly (in  $r + 1 \leq b$  steps) run off the end of the list of blocks. In this case,  $u_r$  is the last block, and there is no need for  $u_r$ 's block

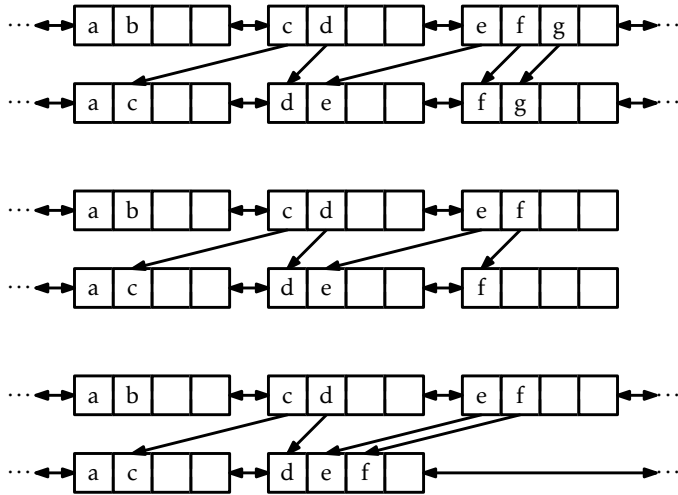


Figure 3.5: The three cases that occur during the removal of an item  $x$  in the interior of an SEList. (This SEList has block size  $b = 3$ .)

to contain at least  $b - 1$  elements. Therefore, we proceed as above, borrowing an element from  $u_r$  to make an extra element in  $u_0$ . If this causes  $u_r$ 's block to become empty, then we remove it.

3. After  $b$  steps, we do not find any block containing more than  $b - 1$  elements. In this case,  $u_0, \dots, u_{b-1}$  is a sequence of  $b$  blocks that each contain  $b - 1$  elements. We *gather* these  $b(b - 1)$  elements into  $u_0, \dots, u_{b-2}$  so that each of these  $b - 1$  blocks contains exactly  $b$  elements and we remove  $u_{b-1}$ , which is now empty. Now  $u_0$ 's block contains  $b$  elements and we can then remove the appropriate element from it.

SEList

```

T remove(int i) {
    Location l = getLocation(i);
    T y = l.u.d.get(l.j);
    Node u = l.u;
    int r = 0;

```

```

while (r < b && u != dummy && u.d.size() == b-1) {
    u = u.next;
    r++;
}
if (r == b) { // b blocks each with b-1 elements
    gather(l.u);
}
u = l.u;
u.d.remove(l.j);
while (u.d.size() < b-1 && u.next != dummy) {
    u.d.add(u.next.d.remove(0));
    u = u.next;
}
if (u.d.isEmpty()) remove(u);
n--;
return y;
}

```

Like the `add(i, x)` operation, the running time of the `remove(i)` operation is  $O(b + \min\{i, n - i\}/b)$  if we ignore the cost of the `gather(u)` method that occurs in Case 3.

### 3.3.5 Amortized Analysis of Spreading and Gathering

Next, we consider the cost of the `gather(u)` and `spread(u)` methods that may be executed by the `add(i, x)` and `remove(i)` methods. For the sake of completeness, here they are:

```

SEList
void spread(Node u) {
    Node w = u;
    for (int j = 0; j < b; j++) {
        w = w.next;
    }
    w = addBefore(w);
    while (w != u) {
        while (w.d.size() < b)
            w.d.add(0, w.prev.d.remove(w.prev.d.size()-1));
        w = w.prev;
    }
}

```

```
}

```

```
SEList
void gather(Node u) {
    Node w = u;
    for (int j = 0; j < b-1; j++) {
        while (w.d.size() < b)
            w.d.add(w.next.d.remove(0));
        w = w.next;
    }
    remove(w);
}
```

The running time of each of these methods is dominated by the two nested loops. Both the inner and outer loops execute at most  $b + 1$  times, so the total running time of each of these methods is  $O((b + 1)^2) = O(b^2)$ . However, the following lemma shows that these methods execute on at most one out of every  $b$  calls to `add(i, x)` or `remove(i)`.

**Lemma 3.1.** *If an empty SEList is created and any sequence of  $m \geq 1$  calls to `add(i, x)` and `remove(i)` is performed, then the total time spent during all calls to `spread()` and `gather()` is  $O(bm)$ .*

*Proof.* We will use the potential method of amortized analysis. We say that a node  $u$  is *fragile* if  $u$ 's block does not contain  $b$  elements (so that  $u$  is either the last node, or contains  $b - 1$  or  $b + 1$  elements). Any node whose block contains  $b$  elements is *rugged*. Define the *potential* of an SEList as the number of fragile nodes it contains. We will consider only the `add(i, x)` operation and its relation to the number of calls to `spread(u)`. The analysis of `remove(i)` and `gather(u)` is identical.

Notice that, if Case 1 occurs during the `add(i, x)` method, then only one node,  $u_r$ , has the size of its block changed. Therefore, at most one node, namely  $u_r$ , goes from being rugged to being fragile. If Case 2 occurs, then a new node is created, and this node is fragile, but no other node changes size, so the number of fragile nodes increases by one. Thus, in either Case 1 or Case 2 the potential of the SEList increases by at most one.

Finally, if Case 3 occurs, it is because  $u_0, \dots, u_{b-1}$  are all fragile nodes. Then  $\text{spread}(u_0)$  is called and these  $b$  fragile nodes are replaced with  $b+1$  rugged nodes. Finally,  $x$  is added to  $u_0$ 's block, making  $u_0$  fragile. In total the potential decreases by  $b-1$ .

In summary, the potential starts at 0 (there are no nodes in the list). Each time Case 1 or Case 2 occurs, the potential increases by at most 1. Each time Case 3 occurs, the potential decreases by  $b-1$ . The potential (which counts the number of fragile nodes) is never less than 0. We conclude that, for every occurrence of Case 3, there are at least  $b-1$  occurrences of Case 1 or Case 2. Thus, for every call to  $\text{spread}(u)$  there are at least  $b$  calls to  $\text{add}(i, x)$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

### 3.3.6 Summary

The following theorem summarizes the performance of the SEList data structure:

**Theorem 3.3.** *An SEList implements the List interface. Ignoring the cost of calls to  $\text{spread}(u)$  and  $\text{gather}(u)$ , an SEList with block size  $b$  supports the operations*

- $\text{get}(i)$  and  $\text{set}(i, x)$  in  $O(1 + \min\{i, n-i\}/b)$  time per operation; and
- $\text{add}(i, x)$  and  $\text{remove}(i)$  in  $O(b + \min\{i, n-i\}/b)$  time per operation.

Furthermore, beginning with an empty SEList, any sequence of  $m$   $\text{add}(i, x)$  and  $\text{remove}(i)$  operations results in a total of  $O(bm)$  time spent during all calls to  $\text{spread}(u)$  and  $\text{gather}(u)$ .

The space (measured in words)<sup>1</sup> used by an SEList that stores  $n$  elements is  $n + O(b + n/b)$ .

The SEList is a trade-off between an ArrayList and a DLList where the relative mix of these two structures depends on the block size  $b$ . At the extreme  $b = 2$ , each SEList node stores at most three values, which is not much different than a DLList. At the other extreme,  $b > n$ , all the elements are stored in a single array, just like in an ArrayList. In between these two extremes lies a trade-off between the time it takes to

<sup>1</sup>Recall Section 1.4 for a discussion of how memory is measured.

add or remove a list item and the time it takes to locate a particular list item.

### 3.4 Discussion and Exercises

Both singly-linked and doubly-linked lists are established techniques, having been used in programs for over 40 years. They are discussed, for example, by Knuth [46, Sections 2.2.3–2.2.5]. Even the `SList` data structure seems to be a well-known data structures exercise. The `SList` is sometimes referred to as an *unrolled linked list* [69].

Another way to save space in a doubly-linked list is to use so-called XOR-lists. In an XOR-list, each node, `u`, contains only one pointer, called `u.nextprev`, that holds the bitwise exclusive-or of `u.prev` and `u.next`. The list itself needs to store two pointers, one to the `dummy` node and one to `dummy.next` (the first node, or `dummy` if the list is empty). This technique uses the fact that, if we have pointers to `u` and `u.prev`, then we can extract `u.next` using the formula

$$u.next = u.prev \oplus u.nextprev.$$

(Here  $\oplus$  computes the bitwise exclusive-or of its two arguments.) This technique complicates the code a little and is not possible in some languages that have garbage collection—including Java—but gives a doubly-linked list implementation that requires only one pointer per node. See Sinha’s magazine article [70] for a detailed discussion of XOR-lists.

**Exercise 3.1.** Why is it not possible to use a dummy node in an `SList` to avoid all the special cases that occur in the operations `push(x)`, `pop()`, `add(x)`, and `remove()`?

**Exercise 3.2.** Design and implement an `SList` method, `secondLast()`, that returns the second-last element of an `SList`. Do this without using the member variable, `n`, that keeps track of the size of the list.

**Exercise 3.3.** Implement the `List` operations `get(i)`, `set(i, x)`, `add(i, x)` and `remove(i)` on an `SList`. Each of these operations should run in  $O(1 + i)$  time.

**Exercise 3.4.** Design and implement an `SLList` method, `reverse()` that reverses the order of elements in an `SLList`. This method should run in  $O(n)$  time, should not use recursion, should not use any secondary data structures, and should not create any new nodes.

**Exercise 3.5.** Design and implement `SLList` and `DLList` methods called `checkSize()`. These methods walk through the list and count the number of nodes to see if this matches the value, `n`, stored in the list. These methods return nothing, but throw an exception if the size they compute does not match the value of `n`.

**Exercise 3.6.** Try to recreate the code for the `addBefore(w)` operation that creates a node, `u`, and adds it in a `DLList` just before the node `w`. Do not refer to this chapter. Even if your code does not exactly match the code given in this book it may still be correct. Test it and see if it works.

The next few exercises involve performing manipulations on `DLList`s. You should complete them without allocating any new nodes or temporary arrays. They can all be done only by changing the `prev` and `next` values of existing nodes.

**Exercise 3.7.** Write a `DLList` method `isPalindrome()` that returns `true` if the list is a *palindrome*, i.e., the element at position `i` is equal to the element at position `n - i - 1` for all  $i \in \{0, \dots, n - 1\}$ . Your code should run in  $O(n)$  time.

**Exercise 3.8.** Implement a method `rotate(r)` that “rotates” a `DLList` so that list item `i` becomes list item  $(i + r) \bmod n$ . This method should run in  $O(1 + \min\{r, n - r\})$  time and should not modify any nodes in the list.

**Exercise 3.9.** Write a method, `truncate(i)`, that truncates a `DLList` at position `i`. After executing this method, the size of the list will be `i` and it should contain only the elements at indices  $0, \dots, i - 1$ . The return value is another `DLList` that contains the elements at indices  $i, \dots, n - 1$ . This method should run in  $O(\min\{i, n - i\})$  time.

**Exercise 3.10.** Write a `DLList` method, `absorb(12)`, that takes as an argument a `DLList`, `12`, empties it and appends its contents, in order, to the receiver. For example, if `11` contains *a, b, c* and `12` contains *d, e, f*,

then after calling `l1.absorb(l2)`, `l1` will contain *a,b,c,d,e,f* and `l2` will be empty.

**Exercise 3.11.** Write a method `deal()` that removes all the elements with odd-numbered indices from a `DLList` and return a `DLList` containing these elements. For example, if `l1`, contains the elements *a,b,c,d,e,f*, then after calling `l1.deal()`, `l1` should contain *a,c,e* and a list containing *b,d,f* should be returned.

**Exercise 3.12.** Write a method, `reverse()`, that reverses the order of elements in a `DLList`.

**Exercise 3.13.** This exercise walks you through an implementation of the merge-sort algorithm for sorting a `DLList`, as discussed in Section 11.1.1. In your implementation, perform comparisons between elements using the `compareTo(x)` method so that the resulting implementation can sort any `DLList` containing elements that implement the `Comparable` interface.

1. Write a `DLList` method called `takeFirst(l2)`. This method takes the first node from `l2` and appends it to the the receiving list. This is equivalent to `add(size(), l2.remove(0))`, except that it should not create a new node.
2. Write a `DLList` static method, `merge(l1,l2)`, that takes two sorted lists `l1` and `l2`, merges them, and returns a new sorted list containing the result. This causes `l1` and `l2` to be emptied in the proces. For example, if `l1` contains *a,c,d* and `l2` contains *b,e,f*, then this method returns a new list containing *a,b,c,d,e,f*.
3. Write a `DLList` method `sort()` that sorts the elements contained in the list using the merge sort algorithm. This recursive algorithm works in the following way:
  - (a) If the list contains 0 or 1 elements then there is nothing to do. Otherwise,
  - (b) Using the `truncate(size()/2)` method, split the list into two lists of approximately equal length, `l1` and `l2`;
  - (c) Recursively sort `l1`;



- (d) Recursively sort 12; and, finally,
- (e) Merge 11 and 12 into a single sorted list.

The next few exercises are more advanced and require a clear understanding of what happens to the minimum value stored in a Stack or Queue as items are added and removed.

**Exercise 3.14.** Design and implement a MinStack data structure that can store comparable elements and supports the stack operations `push(x)`, `pop()`, and `size()`, as well as the `min()` operation, which returns the minimum value currently stored in the data structure. All operations should run in constant time.

**Exercise 3.15.** Design and implement a MinQueue data structure that can store comparable elements and supports the queue operations `add(x)`, `remove()`, and `size()`, as well as the `min()` operation, which returns the minimum value currently stored in the data structure. All operations should run in constant amortized time.

**Exercise 3.16.** Design and implement a MinDeque data structure that can store comparable elements and supports all the deque operations `addFirst(x)`, `addLast(x)`, `removeFirst()`, `removeLast()` and `size()`, and the `min()` operation, which returns the minimum value currently stored in the data structure. All operations should run in constant amortized time.

The next exercises are designed to test the reader's understanding of the implementation and analysis of the space-efficient SEList:

**Exercise 3.17.** Prove that, if an SEList is used like a Stack (so that the only modifications to the SEList are done using `push(x)  $\equiv$  add(size(), x)` and `pop()  $\equiv$  remove(size() - 1)`), then these operations run in constant amortized time, independent of the value of `b`.

**Exercise 3.18.** Design and implement of a version of an SEList that supports all the Deque operations in constant amortized time per operation, independent of the value of `b`.

**Exercise 3.19.** Explain how to use the bitwise exclusive-or operator, `^`, to swap the values of two `int` variables without using a third variable.



## Chapter 4

# Skiplists

In this chapter, we discuss a beautiful data structure: the skiplist, which has a variety of applications. Using a skiplist we can implement a `List` that has  $O(\log n)$  time implementations of `get(i)`, `set(i, x)`, `add(i, x)`, and `remove(i)`. We can also implement an `SSet` in which all operations run in  $O(\log n)$  expected time.

The efficiency of skiplists relies on their use of randomization. When a new element is added to a skiplist, the skiplist uses random coin tosses to determine the height of the new element. The performance of skiplists is expressed in terms of expected running times and path lengths. This expectation is taken over the random coin tosses used by the skiplist. In the implementation, the random coin tosses used by a skiplist are simulated using a pseudo-random number (or bit) generator.

### 4.1 The Basic Structure

Conceptually, a skiplist is a sequence of singly-linked lists  $L_0, \dots, L_h$ . Each list  $L_r$  contains a subset of the items in  $L_{r-1}$ . We start with the input list  $L_0$  that contains  $n$  items and construct  $L_1$  from  $L_0$ ,  $L_2$  from  $L_1$ , and so on. The items in  $L_r$  are obtained by tossing a coin for each element,  $x$ , in  $L_{r-1}$  and including  $x$  in  $L_r$  if the coin turns up as heads. This process ends when we create a list  $L_r$  that is empty. An example of a skiplist is shown in Figure 4.1.

For an element,  $x$ , in a skiplist, we call the *height* of  $x$  the largest value

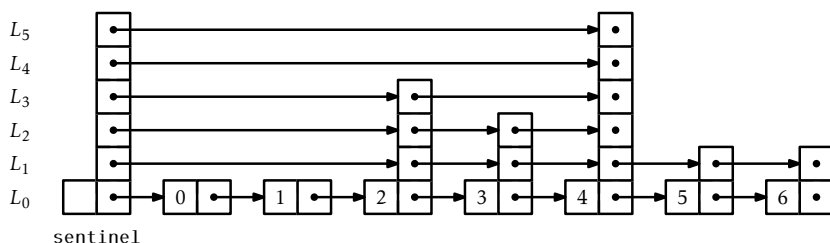


Figure 4.1: A skiplist containing seven elements.

$r$  such that  $x$  appears in  $L_r$ . Thus, for example, elements that only appear in  $L_0$  have height 0. If we spend a few moments thinking about it, we notice that the height of  $x$  corresponds to the following experiment: Toss a coin repeatedly until it comes up as tails. How many times did it come up as heads? The answer, not surprisingly, is that the expected height of a node is 1. (We expect to toss the coin twice before getting tails, but we don't count the last toss.) The *height* of a skiplist is the height of its tallest node.

At the head of every list is a special node, called the *sentinel*, that acts as a dummy node for the list. The key property of skiplists is that there is a short path, called the *search path*, from the sentinel in  $L_h$  to every node in  $L_0$ . Remembering how to construct a search path for a node,  $u$ , is easy (see Figure 4.2): Start at the top left corner of your skiplist (the sentinel in  $L_h$ ) and always go right unless that would overshoot  $u$ , in which case you should take a step down into the list below.

More precisely, to construct the search path for the node  $u$  in  $L_0$ , we start at the sentinel,  $w$ , in  $L_h$ . Next, we examine  $w.\text{next}$ . If  $w.\text{next}$  contains an item that appears before  $u$  in  $L_0$ , then we set  $w = w.\text{next}$ . Otherwise, we move down and continue the search at the occurrence of  $w$  in the list  $L_{h-1}$ . We continue this way until we reach the predecessor of  $u$  in  $L_0$ .

The following result, which we will prove in Section 4.4, shows that the search path is quite short:

**Lemma 4.1.** *The expected length of the search path for any node,  $u$ , in  $L_0$  is at most  $2 \log n + O(1) = O(\log n)$ .*

A space-efficient way to implement a skiplist is to define a Node,  $u$ ,

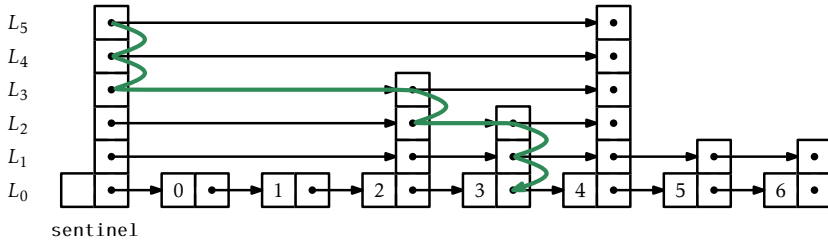


Figure 4.2: The search path for the node containing 4 in a skip list.

as consisting of a data value,  $x$ , and an array, `next`, of pointers, where `u.next[i]` points to  $u$ 's successor in the list  $L_i$ . In this way, the data,  $x$ , in a node is referenced only once, even though  $x$  may appear in several lists.

## SkiplistSset

```
class Node<T> {
    T x;
    Node<T>[] next;
    Node(T ix, int h) {
        x = ix;
        next = Array.newInstance(Node.class, h+1);
    }
    int height() {
        return next.length - 1;
    }
}
```

The next two sections of this chapter discuss two different applications of skip lists. In each of these applications,  $L_0$  stores the main structure (a list of elements or a sorted set of elements). The primary difference between these structures is in how a search path is navigated; in particular, they differ in how they decide if a search path should go down into  $L_{r-1}$  or go right within  $L_r$ .

## 4.2 SkipListSSet: An Efficient SSet

A SkipListSSet uses a skiplist structure to implement the SSet interface. When used in this way, the list  $L_0$  stores the elements of the SSet in sorted order. The `find(x)` method works by following the search path for the smallest value  $y$  such that  $y \geq x$ :

```

SkipListSSet
Node<T> findPredNode(T x) {
    Node<T> u = sentinel;
    int r = h;
    while (r >= 0) {
        while (u.next[r] != null && compare(u.next[r].x, x) < 0)
            u = u.next[r];    // go right in list r
        r--;                  // go down into list r-1
    }
    return u;
}
T find(T x) {
    Node<T> u = findPredNode(x);
    return u.next[0] == null ? null : u.next[0].x;
}

```

Following the search path for  $y$  is easy: when situated at some node,  $u$ , in  $L_r$ , we look right to  $u.next[r].x$ . If  $x > u.next[r].x$ , then we take a step to the right in  $L_r$ ; otherwise, we move down into  $L_{r-1}$ . Each step (right or down) in this search takes only constant time; thus, by Lemma 4.1, the expected running time of `find(x)` is  $O(\log n)$ .

Before we can add an element to a SkipListSSet, we need a method to simulate tossing coins to determine the height,  $k$ , of a new node. We do so by picking a random integer,  $z$ , and counting the number of trailing 1s in the binary representation of  $z$ .<sup>1</sup>

```

SkipListSSet
int pickHeight() {
    int z = rand.nextInt();
}

```

<sup>1</sup>This method does not exactly replicate the coin-tossing experiment since the value of  $k$  will always be less than the number of bits in an `int`. However, this will have negligible impact unless the number of elements in the structure is much greater than  $2^{32} = 4294967296$ .

```

int k = 0;
int m = 1;
while ((z & m) != 0) {
    k++;
    m <= 1;
}
return k;
}

```

To implement the `add(x)` method in a `SkiplistSSet` we search for `x` and then splice `x` into a few lists  $L_0, \dots, L_k$ , where `k` is selected using the `pickHeight()` method. The easiest way to do this is to use an array, `stack`, that keeps track of the nodes at which the search path goes down from some list  $L_r$  into  $L_{r-1}$ . More precisely, `stack[r]` is the node in  $L_r$  where the search path proceeded down into  $L_{r-1}$ . The nodes that we modify to insert `x` are precisely the nodes `stack[0], ..., stack[k]`. The following code implements this algorithm for `add(x)`:

```

SkiplistSSet
boolean add(T x) {
    Node<T> u = sentinel;
    int r = h;
    int comp = 0;
    while (r >= 0) {
        while (u.next[r] != null
               && (comp = compare(u.next[r].x, x)) < 0)
            u = u.next[r];
        if (u.next[r] != null && comp == 0) return false;
        stack[r--] = u;           // going down, store u
    }
    Node<T> w = new Node<T>(x, pickHeight());
    while (h < w.height())
        stack[++h] = sentinel;    // height increased
    for (int i = 0; i < w.next.length; i++) {
        w.next[i] = stack[i].next[i];
        stack[i].next[i] = w;
    }
    n++;
    return true;
}

```

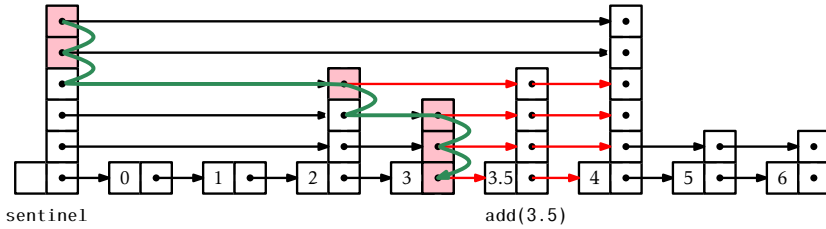


Figure 4.3: Adding the node containing 3.5 to a skiplist. The nodes stored in `stack` are highlighted.

Removing an element,  $x$ , is done in a similar way, except that there is no need for `stack` to keep track of the search path. The removal can be done as we are following the search path. We search for  $x$  and each time the search moves downward from a node  $u$ , we check if  $u.next.x = x$  and if so, we splice  $u$  out of the list:

```

SkiplistSet
boolean remove(T x) {
    boolean removed = false;
    Node<T> u = sentinel;
    int r = h;
    int comp = 0;
    while (r >= 0) {
        while (u.next[r] != null
                && (comp = compare(u.next[r].x, x)) < 0) {
            u = u.next[r];
        }
        if (u.next[r] != null && comp == 0) {
            removed = true;
            u.next[r] = u.next[r].next[r];
            if (u == sentinel && u.next[r] == null)
                h--; // height has gone down
        }
        r--;
    }
    if (removed) n--;
    return removed;
}

```



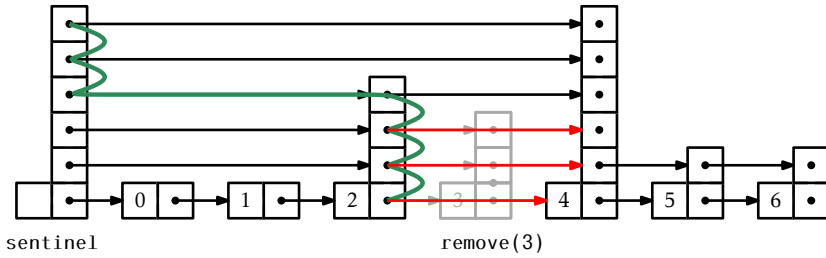


Figure 4.4: Removing the node containing 3 from a skip list.

#### 4.2.1 Summary

The following theorem summarizes the performance of skip lists when used to implement sorted sets:

**Theorem 4.1.** *SkiplistSSet implements the SSet interface. A SkiplistSSet supports the operations  $\text{add}(x)$ ,  $\text{remove}(x)$ , and  $\text{find}(x)$  in  $O(\log n)$  expected time per operation.*

### 4.3 SkiplistList: An Efficient Random-Access List

A SkiplistList implements the List interface using a skip list structure. In a SkiplistList,  $L_0$  contains the elements of the list in the order in which they appear in the list. As in a SkiplistSSet, elements can be added, removed, and accessed in  $O(\log n)$  time.

For this to be possible, we need a way to follow the search path for the  $i$ th element in  $L_0$ . The easiest way to do this is to define the notion of the *length* of an edge in some list,  $L_r$ . We define the length of every edge in  $L_0$  as 1. The length of an edge,  $e$ , in  $L_r$ ,  $r > 0$ , is defined as the sum of the lengths of the edges below  $e$  in  $L_{r-1}$ . Equivalently, the length of  $e$  is the number of edges in  $L_0$  below  $e$ . See Figure 4.5 for an example of a skip list with the lengths of its edges shown. Since the edges of skip lists are stored in arrays, the lengths can be stored the same way:

```

class Node {
    SkiplistList

```

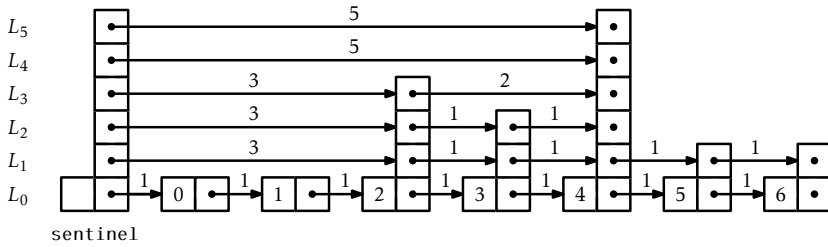


Figure 4.5: The lengths of the edges in a skiplist.

```

T x;
Node[] next;
int[] length;
Node(T ix, int h) {
    x = ix;
    next = Array.newInstance(Node.class, h+1);
    length = new int[h+1];
}
int height() {
    return next.length - 1;
}
}

```

The useful property of this definition of length is that, if we are currently at a node that is at position  $j$  in  $L_0$  and we follow an edge of length  $\ell$ , then we move to a node whose position, in  $L_0$ , is  $j + \ell$ . In this way, while following a search path, we can keep track of the position,  $j$ , of the current node in  $L_0$ . When at a node,  $u$ , in  $L_r$ , we go right if  $j$  plus the length of the edge  $u.\text{next}[r]$  is less than  $i$ . Otherwise, we go down into  $L_{r-1}$ .

## SkiplistList

```

Node findPred(int i) {
    Node u = sentinel;
    int r = h;
    int j = -1; // index of the current node in list 0
    while (r >= 0) {
        while (u.next[r] != null && j + u.length[r] < i) {
            j += u.length[r];
        }
    }
}

```

```

    u = u.next[r];
  }
  r--;
}
return u;
}

```

## SkiplistList

```

T get(int i) {
    return findPred(i).next[0].x;
}
T set(int i, T x) {
    Node u = findPred(i).next[0];
    T y = u.x;
    u.x = x;
    return y;
}

```

Since the hardest part of the operations `get(i)` and `set(i, x)` is finding the  $i$ th node in  $L_0$ , these operations run in  $O(\log n)$  time.

Adding an element to a `SkiplistList` at a position,  $i$ , is fairly simple. Unlike in a `SkiplistSet`, we are sure that a new node will actually be added, so we can do the addition at the same time as we search for the new node's location. We first pick the height,  $k$ , of the newly inserted node,  $w$ , and then follow the search path for  $i$ . Any time the search path moves down from  $L_r$  with  $r \leq k$ , we splice  $w$  into  $L_r$ . The only extra care needed is to ensure that the lengths of edges are updated properly. See Figure 4.6.

Note that, each time the search path goes down at a node,  $u$ , in  $L_r$ , the length of the edge `u.next[r]` increases by one, since we are adding an element below that edge at position  $i$ . Splicing the node  $w$  between two nodes,  $u$  and  $z$ , works as shown in Figure 4.7. While following the search path we are already keeping track of the position,  $j$ , of  $u$  in  $L_0$ . Therefore, we know that the length of the edge from  $u$  to  $w$  is  $i - j$ . We can also deduce the length of the edge from  $w$  to  $z$  from the length,  $\ell$ , of the edge from  $u$  to  $z$ . Therefore, we can splice in  $w$  and update the lengths of the edges in constant time.

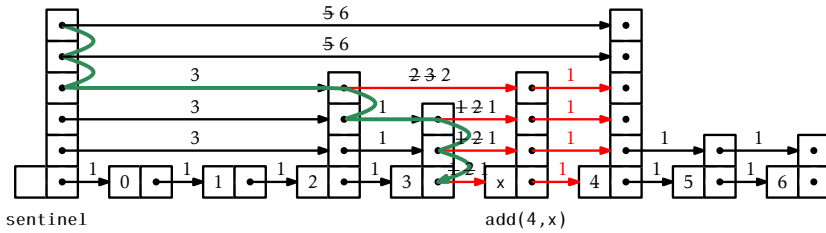
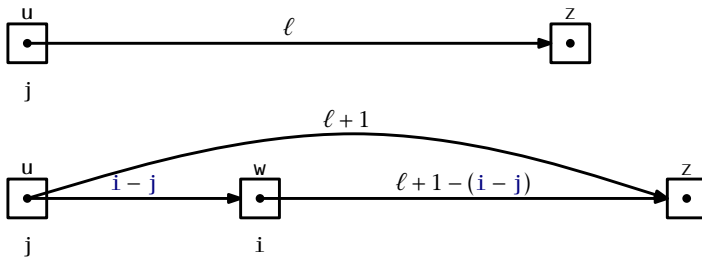


Figure 4.6: Adding an element to a SkipListList.

Figure 4.7: Updating the lengths of edges while splicing a node  $w$  into a skip list.

This sounds more complicated than it is, for the code is actually quite simple:

```

SkiplistList
void add(int i, T x) {
    Node w = new Node(x, pickHeight());
    if (w.height() > h)
        h = w.height();
    add(i, w);
}

```

```

SkiplistList
Node add(int i, Node w) {
    Node u = sentinel;
    int k = w.height();
    int r = h;
    int j = -1; // index of u
    while (r >= 0) {

```

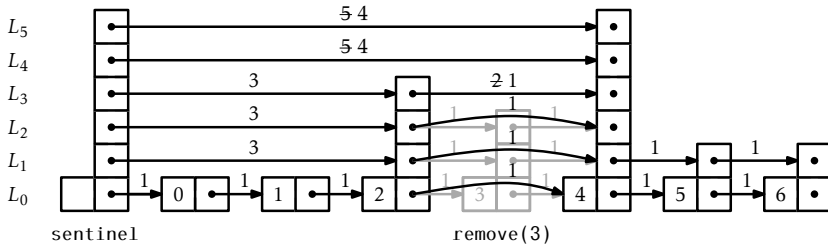


Figure 4.8: Removing an element from a SkiplistList.

```

while (u.next[r] != null && j+u.length[r] < i) {
    j += u.length[r];
    u = u.next[r];
}
u.length[r]++; // accounts for new node in list 0
if (r <= k) {
    w.next[r] = u.next[r];
    u.next[r] = w;
    w.length[r] = u.length[r] - (i - j);
    u.length[r] = i - j;
}
r--;
}
n++;
return u;
}

```

By now, the implementation of the `remove(i)` operation in a `SkiplistList` should be obvious. We follow the search path for the node at position `i`. Each time the search path takes a step down from a node, `u`, at level `r` we decrement the length of the edge leaving `u` at that level. We also check if `u.next[r]` is the element of rank `i` and, if so, splice it out of the list at that level. An example is shown in Figure 4.8.

```

SkiplistList
T remove(int i) {
    T x = null;
    Node u = sentinel;
    int r = h;

```

```

int j = -1; // index of node u
while (r >= 0) {
    while (u.next[r] != null && j+u.length[r] < i) {
        j += u.length[r];
        u = u.next[r];
    }
    u.length[r]--; // for the node we are removing
    if (j + u.length[r] + 1 == i && u.next[r] != null) {
        x = u.next[r].x;
        u.length[r] += u.next[r].length[r];
        u.next[r] = u.next[r].next[r];
        if (u == sentinel && u.next[r] == null)
            h--;
    }
    r--;
}
n--;
return x;
}

```

#### 4.3.1 Summary

The following theorem summarizes the performance of the Skiplist-List data structure:

**Theorem 4.2.** *A SkiplistList implements the List interface. A SkiplistList supports the operations `get(i)`, `set(i,x)`, `add(i,x)`, and `remove(i)` in  $O(\log n)$  expected time per operation.*

## 4.4 Analysis of Skiplists

In this section, we analyze the expected height, size, and length of the search path in a skiplist. This section requires a background in basic probability. Several proofs are based on the following basic observation about coin tosses.

**Lemma 4.2.** *Let  $T$  be the number of times a fair coin is tossed up to and including the first time the coin comes up heads. Then  $E[T] = 2$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose we stop tossing the coin the first time it comes up heads. Define the indicator variable

$$I_i = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if the coin is tossed less than } i \text{ times} \\ 1 & \text{if the coin is tossed } i \text{ or more times} \end{cases}$$

Note that  $I_i = 1$  if and only if the first  $i - 1$  coin tosses are tails, so  $E[I_i] = \Pr\{I_i = 1\} = 1/2^{i-1}$ . Observe that  $T$ , the total number of coin tosses, can be written as  $T = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} I_i$ . Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} E[T] &= E\left[\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} I_i\right] \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} E[I_i] \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} 1/2^{i-1} \\ &= 1 + 1/2 + 1/4 + 1/8 + \cdots \\ &= 2 . \end{aligned} \quad \square$$

The next two lemmata tell us that skiplists have linear size:

**Lemma 4.3.** *The expected number of nodes in a skiplist containing  $n$  elements, not including occurrences of the sentinel, is  $2n$ .*

*Proof.* The probability that any particular element,  $x$ , is included in list  $L_r$  is  $1/2^r$ , so the expected number of nodes in  $L_r$  is  $n/2^r$ .<sup>2</sup> Therefore, the total expected number of nodes in all lists is

$$\sum_{r=0}^{\infty} n/2^r = n(1 + 1/2 + 1/4 + 1/8 + \cdots) = 2n . \quad \square$$

**Lemma 4.4.** *The expected height of a skiplist containing  $n$  elements is at most  $\log n + 2$ .*

*Proof.* For each  $r \in \{1, 2, 3, \dots, \infty\}$ , define the indicator random variable

$$I_r = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } L_r \text{ is empty} \\ 1 & \text{if } L_r \text{ is non-empty} \end{cases}$$

<sup>2</sup>See Section 1.3.4 to see how this is derived using indicator variables and linearity of expectation.

The height,  $h$ , of the skiplist is then given by

$$h = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} I_r .$$

Note that  $I_r$  is never more than the length,  $|L_r|$ , of  $L_r$ , so

$$E[I_r] \leq E[|L_r|] = n/2^r .$$

Therefore, we have

$$\begin{aligned} E[h] &= E\left[\sum_{r=1}^{\infty} I_r\right] \\ &= \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} E[I_r] \\ &= \sum_{r=1}^{\lfloor \log n \rfloor} E[I_r] + \sum_{r=\lfloor \log n \rfloor+1}^{\infty} E[I_r] \\ &\leq \sum_{r=1}^{\lfloor \log n \rfloor} 1 + \sum_{r=\lfloor \log n \rfloor+1}^{\infty} n/2^r \\ &\leq \log n + \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} 1/2^r \\ &= \log n + 2 . \end{aligned} \quad \square$$

**Lemma 4.5.** *The expected number of nodes in a skiplist containing  $n$  elements, including all occurrences of the sentinel, is  $2n + O(\log n)$ .*

*Proof.* By Lemma 4.3, the expected number of nodes, not including the sentinel, is  $2n$ . The number of occurrences of the sentinel is equal to the height,  $h$ , of the skiplist so, by Lemma 4.4 the expected number of occurrences of the sentinel is at most  $\log n + 2 = O(\log n)$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 4.6.** *The expected length of a search path in a skiplist is at most  $2 \log n + O(1)$ .*

*Proof.* The easiest way to see this is to consider the *reverse search path* for a node,  $x$ . This path starts at the predecessor of  $x$  in  $L_0$ . At any point in



time, if the path can go up a level, then it does. If it cannot go up a level then it goes left. Thinking about this for a few moments will convince us that the reverse search path for  $x$  is identical to the search path for  $x$ , except that it is reversed.

The number of nodes that the reverse search path visits at a particular level,  $r$ , is related to the following experiment: Toss a coin. If the coin comes up as heads, then move up and stop. Otherwise, move left and repeat the experiment. The number of coin tosses before the heads represents the number of steps to the left that a reverse search path takes at a particular level.<sup>3</sup> Lemma 4.2 tells us that the expected number of coin tosses before the first heads is 1.

Let  $S_r$  denote the number of steps the forward search path takes at level  $r$  that go to the right. We have just argued that  $E[S_r] \leq 1$ . Furthermore,  $S_r \leq |L_r|$ , since we can't take more steps in  $L_r$  than the length of  $L_r$ , so

$$E[S_r] \leq E[|L_r|] = n/2^r.$$

We can now finish as in the proof of Lemma 4.4. Let  $S$  be the length of the search path for some node,  $u$ , in a skiplist, and let  $h$  be the height of the skiplist. Then

$$\begin{aligned} E[S] &= E\left[h + \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} S_r\right] \\ &= E[h] + \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} E[S_r] \\ &= E[h] + \sum_{r=0}^{\lfloor \log n \rfloor} E[S_r] + \sum_{r=\lfloor \log n \rfloor + 1}^{\infty} E[S_r] \\ &\leq E[h] + \sum_{r=0}^{\lfloor \log n \rfloor} 1 + \sum_{r=\lfloor \log n \rfloor + 1}^{\infty} n/2^r \\ &\leq E[h] + \sum_{r=0}^{\lfloor \log n \rfloor} 1 + \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} 1/2^r \end{aligned}$$

---

<sup>3</sup>Note that this might overcount the number of steps to the left, since the experiment should end either at the first heads or when the search path reaches the sentinel, whichever comes first. This is not a problem since the lemma is only stating an upper bound.

$$\begin{aligned}
&\leq E[h] + \sum_{r=0}^{\lfloor \log n \rfloor} 1 + \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} 1/2^r \\
&\leq E[h] + \log n + 3 \\
&\leq 2\log n + 5 .
\end{aligned}
\quad \square$$

The following theorem summarizes the results in this section:

**Theorem 4.3.** *A skiplist containing  $n$  elements has expected size  $O(n)$  and the expected length of the search path for any particular element is at most  $2\log n + O(1)$ .*

## 4.5 Discussion and Exercises

Skiplists were introduced by Pugh [62] who also presented a number of applications and extensions of skiplists [61]. Since then they have been studied extensively. Several researchers have done very precise analyses of the expected length and variance of the length of the search path for the  $i$ th element in a skiplist [45, 44, 58]. Deterministic versions [53], biased versions [8, 26], and self-adjusting versions [12] of skiplists have all been developed. Skiplist implementations have been written for various languages and frameworks and have been used in open-source database systems [71, 63]. A variant of skiplists is used in the HP-UX operating system kernel's process management structures [42]. Skiplists are even part of the Java 1.6 API [55].

**Exercise 4.1.** Illustrate the search paths for 2.5 and 5.5 on the skiplist in Figure 4.1.

**Exercise 4.2.** Illustrate the addition of the values 0.5 (with a height of 1) and then 3.5 (with a height of 2) to the skiplist in Figure 4.1.

**Exercise 4.3.** Illustrate the removal of the values 1 and then 3 from the skiplist in Figure 4.1.

**Exercise 4.4.** Illustrate the execution of `remove(2)` on the `SkiplistList` in Figure 4.5.

**Exercise 4.5.** Illustrate the execution of `add(3, x)` on the `SkipListList` in Figure 4.5. Assume that `pickHeight()` selects a height of 4 for the newly created node.

**Exercise 4.6.** Show that, during an `add(x)` or a `remove(x)` operation, the expected number of pointers in a `SkipListSet` that get changed is constant.

**Exercise 4.7.** Suppose that, instead of promoting an element from  $L_{i-1}$  into  $L_i$  based on a coin toss, we promote it with some probability  $p$ ,  $0 < p < 1$ .

1. Show that, with this modification, the expected length of a search path is at most  $(1/p) \log_{1/p} n + O(1)$ .
2. What is the value of  $p$  that minimizes the preceding expression?
3. What is the expected height of the skiplist?
4. What is the expected number of nodes in the skiplist?

**Exercise 4.8.** The `find(x)` method in a `SkipListSet` sometimes performs *redundant comparisons*; these occur when  $x$  is compared to the same value more than once. They can occur when, for some node,  $u$ ,  $u.next[r] = u.next[r - 1]$ . Show how these redundant comparisons happen and modify `find(x)` so that they are avoided. Analyze the expected number of comparisons done by your modified `find(x)` method.

**Exercise 4.9.** Design and implement a version of a skiplist that implements the `SSet` interface, but also allows fast access to elements by rank. That is, it also supports the function `get(i)`, which returns the element whose rank is  $i$  in  $O(\log n)$  expected time. (The rank of an element  $x$  in an `SSet` is the number of elements in the `SSet` that are less than  $x$ .)

**Exercise 4.10.** A *finger* in a skiplist is an array that stores the sequence of nodes on a search path at which the search path goes down. (The variable `stack` in the `add(x)` code on page 91 is a finger; the shaded nodes in Figure 4.3 show the contents of the finger.) One can think of a finger as pointing out the path to a node in the lowest list,  $L_0$ .

A *finger search* implements the `find(x)` operation using a finger, by walking up the list using the finger until reaching a node `u` such that `u.x < x` and `u.next = null` or `u.next.x > x` and then performing a normal search for `x` starting from `u`. It is possible to prove that the expected number of steps required for a finger search is  $O(1 + \log r)$ , where  $r$  is the number values in  $L_0$  between `x` and the value pointed to by the finger.

Implement a subclass of `Skiplist` called `SkiplistWithFinger` that implements `find(x)` operations using an internal finger. This subclass stores a finger, which is then used so that every `find(x)` operation is implemented as a finger search. During each `find(x)` operation the finger is updated so that each `find(x)` operation uses, as a starting point, a finger that points to the result of the previous `find(x)` operation.

**Exercise 4.11.** Write a method, `truncate(i)`, that truncates a `SkiplistList` at position `i`. After the execution of this method, the size of the list is `i` and it contains only the elements at indices  $0, \dots, i - 1$ . The return value is another `SkiplistList` that contains the elements at indices  $i, \dots, n - 1$ . This method should run in  $O(\log n)$  time.

**Exercise 4.12.** Write a `SkiplistList` method, `absorb(12)`, that takes as an argument a `SkiplistList`, `12`, empties it and appends its contents, in order, to the receiver. For example, if `11` contains  $a, b, c$  and `12` contains  $d, e, f$ , then after calling `11.absorb(12)`, `11` will contain  $a, b, c, d, e, f$  and `12` will be empty. This method should run in  $O(\log n)$  time.

**Exercise 4.13.** Using the ideas from the space-efficient list, `SEList`, design and implement a space-efficient `SSet`, `SESSet`. To do this, store the data, in order, in an `SEList`, and store the blocks of this `SEList` in an `SSet`. If the original `SSet` implementation uses  $O(n)$  space to store  $n$  elements, then the `SESSet` will use enough space for  $n$  elements plus  $O(n/b + b)$  wasted space.

**Exercise 4.14.** Using an `SSet` as your underlying structure, design and implement an application that reads a (large) text file and allows you to search, interactively, for any substring contained in the text. As the user types their query, a matching part of the text (if any) should appear as a result.

Hint 1: Every substring is a prefix of some suffix, so it suffices to store all suffixes of the text file.

Hint 2: Any suffix can be represented compactly as a single integer indicating where the suffix begins in the text.

Test your application on some large texts, such as some of the books available at Project Gutenberg [1]. If done correctly, your applications will be very responsive; there should be no noticeable lag between typing keystrokes and seeing the results.

**Exercise 4.15.** (This exercise should be done after reading about binary search trees, in Section 6.2.) Compare skiplists with binary search trees in the following ways:

1. Explain how removing some edges of a skiplist leads to a structure that looks like a binary tree and is similar to a binary search tree.
2. Skiplists and binary search trees each use about the same number of pointers (2 per node). Skiplists make better use of those pointers, though. Explain why.



## Chapter 5

# Hash Tables

Hash tables are an efficient method of storing a small number,  $n$ , of integers from a large range  $U = \{0, \dots, 2^w - 1\}$ . The term *hash table* includes a broad range of data structures. This chapter focuses on one of the most common implementations of hash tables, namely hashing with chaining.

Very often hash tables store types of data that are not integers. In this case, an integer *hash code* is associated with each data item and is used in the hash table. The second part of this chapter discusses how such hash codes are generated.

Some of the methods used in this chapter require random choices of integers in some specific range. In the code samples, some of these “random” integers are hard-coded constants. These constants were obtained using random bits generated from atmospheric noise.

### 5.1 ChainedHashTable: Hashing with Chaining

A `ChainedHashTable` data structure uses *hashing with chaining* to store data as an array, `t`, of lists. An integer, `n`, keeps track of the total number of items in all lists (see Figure 5.1):

```
ChainedHashTable
List<T>[] t;
int n;
```

The *hash value* of a data item `x`, denoted `hash(x)` is a value in the range

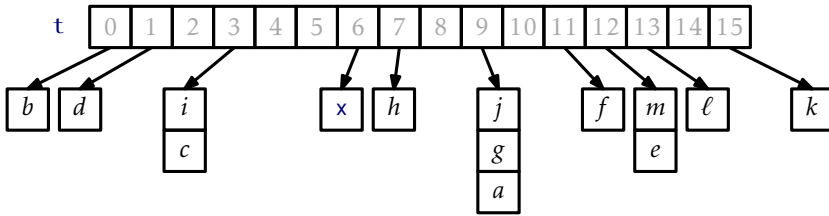


Figure 5.1: An example of a ChainedHashTable with  $n = 14$  and `t.length` = 16. In this example `hash(x)` = 6

$\{0, \dots, \text{t.length} - 1\}$ . All items with hash value `i` are stored in the list at `t[i]`. To ensure that lists don't get too long, we maintain the invariant

$$n \leq \text{t.length}$$

so that the average number of elements stored in one of these lists is  $n/\text{t.length} \leq 1$ .

To add an element, `x`, to the hash table, we first check if the length of `t` needs to be increased and, if so, we grow `t`. With this out of the way we hash `x` to get an integer, `i`, in the range  $\{0, \dots, \text{t.length} - 1\}$ , and we append `x` to the list `t[i]`:

```

ChainedHashTable
boolean add(T x) {
    if (find(x) != null) return false;
    if (n+1 > t.length) resize();
    t[hash(x)].add(x);
    n++;
    return true;
}

```

Growing the table, if necessary, involves doubling the length of `t` and reinserting all elements into the new table. This strategy is exactly the same as the one used in the implementation of `ArrayStack` and the same result applies: The cost of growing is only constant when amortized over a sequence of insertions (see Lemma 2.1 on page 33).

Besides growing, the only other work done when adding a new value `x` to a ChainedHashTable involves appending `x` to the list `t[hash(x)]`. For



any of the list implementations described in Chapters 2 or 3, this takes only constant time.

To remove an element,  $x$ , from the hash table, we iterate over the list  $t[hash(x)]$  until we find  $x$  so that we can remove it:

```

ChainedHashTable
T remove(T x) {
    Iterator<T> it = t[hash(x)].iterator();
    while (it.hasNext()) {
        T y = it.next();
        if (y.equals(x)) {
            it.remove();
            n--;
            return y;
        }
    }
    return null;
}

```

This takes  $O(n_{hash(x)})$  time, where  $n_i$  denotes the length of the list stored at  $t[i]$ .

Searching for the element  $x$  in a hash table is similar. We perform a linear search on the list  $t[hash(x)]$ :

```

ChainedHashTable
T find(Object x) {
    for (T y : t[hash(x)])
        if (y.equals(x))
            return y;
    return null;
}

```

Again, this takes time proportional to the length of the list  $t[hash(x)]$ .

The performance of a hash table depends critically on the choice of the hash function. A good hash function will spread the elements evenly among the  $t.length$  lists, so that the expected size of the list  $t[hash(x)]$  is  $O(n/t.length) = O(1)$ . On the other hand, a bad hash function will hash all values (including  $x$ ) to the same table location, in which case the size

of the list  $t[\text{hash}(x)]$  will be  $n$ . In the next section we describe a good hash function.

### 5.1.1 Multiplicative Hashing

Multiplicative hashing is an efficient method of generating hash values based on modular arithmetic (discussed in Section 2.3) and integer division. It uses the  $\text{div}$  operator, which calculates the integral part of a quotient, while discarding the remainder. Formally, for any integers  $a \geq 0$  and  $b \geq 1$ ,  $a \text{ div } b = \lfloor a/b \rfloor$ .

In multiplicative hashing, we use a hash table of size  $2^d$  for some integer  $d$  (called the *dimension*). The formula for hashing an integer  $x \in \{0, \dots, 2^w - 1\}$  is

$$\text{hash}(x) = ((z \cdot x) \bmod 2^w) \text{div } 2^{w-d}.$$

Here,  $z$  is a randomly chosen *odd* integer in  $\{1, \dots, 2^w - 1\}$ . This hash function can be realized very efficiently by observing that, by default, operations on integers are already done modulo  $2^w$  where  $w$  is the number of bits in an integer. (See Figure 5.2.) Furthermore, integer division by  $2^{w-d}$  is equivalent to dropping the rightmost  $w - d$  bits in a binary representation (which is implemented by shifting the bits right by  $w - d$ ). In this way, the code that implements the above formula is simpler than the formula itself:

```

ChainedHashTable
int hash(Object x) {
    return (z * x.hashCode()) >>> (w-d);
}

```

The following lemma, whose proof is deferred until later in this section, shows that multiplicative hashing does a good job of avoiding collisions:

**Lemma 5.1.** *Let  $x$  and  $y$  be any two values in  $\{0, \dots, 2^w - 1\}$  with  $x \neq y$ . Then  $\Pr\{\text{hash}(x) = \text{hash}(y)\} \leq 2/2^d$ .*

With Lemma 5.1, the performance of  $\text{remove}(x)$ , and  $\text{find}(x)$  are easy to analyze:



$(b_r, \dots, b_0)_2$  is the integer whose binary representation is given by  $b_r, \dots, b_0$ . We use  $\star$  to denote a bit of unknown value.

**Lemma 5.3.** *Let  $S$  be the set of odd integers in  $\{1, \dots, 2^w - 1\}$ ; let  $q$  and  $i$  be any two elements in  $S$ . Then there is exactly one value  $z \in S$  such that  $zq \bmod 2^w = i$ .*

*Proof.* Since the number of choices for  $z$  and  $i$  is the same, it is sufficient to prove that there is *at most* one value  $z \in S$  that satisfies  $zq \bmod 2^w = i$ .

Suppose, for the sake of contradiction, that there are two such values  $z$  and  $z'$ , with  $z > z'$ . Then

$$zq \bmod 2^w = z'q \bmod 2^w = i$$

So

$$(z - z')q \bmod 2^w = 0$$

But this means that

$$(z - z')q = k2^w \tag{5.1}$$

for some integer  $k$ . Thinking in terms of binary numbers, we have

$$(z - z')q = k \cdot \underbrace{(1, 0, \dots, 0)}_w \tag{5.1}$$

so that the  $w$  trailing bits in the binary representation of  $(z - z')q$  are all 0's.

Furthermore  $k \neq 0$ , since  $q \neq 0$  and  $z - z' \neq 0$ . Since  $q$  is odd, it has no trailing 0's in its binary representation:

$$q = (\star, \dots, \star, 1)_2 .$$

Since  $|z - z'| < 2^w$ ,  $z - z'$  has fewer than  $w$  trailing 0's in its binary representation:

$$z - z' = (\star, \dots, \star, 1, \underbrace{0, \dots, 0}_{<w})_2 .$$

Therefore, the product  $(z - z')q$  has fewer than  $w$  trailing 0's in its binary representation:

$$(z - z')q = (\star, \dots, \star, 1, \underbrace{0, \dots, 0}_{<w})_2 .$$

Therefore  $(z - z')q$  cannot satisfy (5.1), yielding a contradiction and completing the proof.  $\square$

The utility of Lemma 5.3 comes from the following observation: If  $z$  is chosen uniformly at random from  $S$ , then  $z\mathbf{t}$  is uniformly distributed over  $S$ . In the following proof, it helps to think of the binary representation of  $z$ , which consists of  $w - 1$  random bits followed by a 1.

*Proof of Lemma 5.1.* First we note that the condition  $\text{hash}(\mathbf{x}) = \text{hash}(\mathbf{y})$  is equivalent to the statement “the highest-order  $d$  bits of  $z\mathbf{x} \bmod 2^w$  and the highest-order  $d$  bits of  $z\mathbf{y} \bmod 2^w$  are the same.” A necessary condition of that statement is that the highest-order  $d$  bits in the binary representation of  $z(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}) \bmod 2^w$  are either all 0’s or all 1’s. That is,

$$z(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}) \bmod 2^w = (\underbrace{0, \dots, 0}_d, \underbrace{\star, \dots, \star}_{w-d})_2 \quad (5.2)$$

when  $z\mathbf{x} \bmod 2^w > z\mathbf{y} \bmod 2^w$  or

$$z(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}) \bmod 2^w = (\underbrace{1, \dots, 1}_d, \underbrace{\star, \dots, \star}_{w-d})_2 . \quad (5.3)$$

when  $z\mathbf{x} \bmod 2^w < z\mathbf{y} \bmod 2^w$ . Therefore, we only have to bound the probability that  $z(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}) \bmod 2^w$  looks like (5.2) or (5.3).

Let  $q$  be the unique odd integer such that  $(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}) \bmod 2^w = q2^r$  for some integer  $r \geq 0$ . By Lemma 5.3, the binary representation of  $zq \bmod 2^w$  has  $w - 1$  random bits, followed by a 1:

$$zq \bmod 2^w = (\underbrace{b_{w-1}, \dots, b_1}_w, 1)_2$$

Therefore, the binary representation of  $z(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}) \bmod 2^w = zq2^r \bmod 2^w$  has  $w - r - 1$  random bits, followed by a 1, followed by  $r$  0’s:

$$z(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}) \bmod 2^w = zq2^r \bmod 2^w = (\underbrace{b_{w-r-1}, \dots, b_1}_{w-r-1}, \underbrace{1, 0, \dots, 0}_r)_2$$

We can now finish the proof: If  $r > w - d$ , then the  $d$  higher order bits of  $z(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}) \bmod 2^w$  contain both 0’s and 1’s, so the probability that  $z(\mathbf{x} -$

$y) \bmod 2^w$  looks like (5.2) or (5.3) is 0. If  $r = w - d$ , then the probability of looking like (5.2) is 0, but the probability of looking like (5.3) is  $1/2^{d-1} = 2/2^d$  (since we must have  $b_1, \dots, b_{d-1} = 1, \dots, 1$ ). If  $r < w - d$ , then we must have  $b_{w-r-1}, \dots, b_{w-r-d} = 0, \dots, 0$  or  $b_{w-r-1}, \dots, b_{w-r-d} = 1, \dots, 1$ . The probability of each of these cases is  $1/2^d$  and they are mutually exclusive, so the probability of either of these cases is  $2/2^d$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

### 5.1.2 Summary

The following theorem summarizes the performance of a `ChainedHashTable` data structure:

**Theorem 5.1.** *A `ChainedHashTable` implements the `USet` interface. Ignoring the cost of calls to `grow()`, a `ChainedHashTable` supports the operations `add(x)`, `remove(x)`, and `find(x)` in  $O(1)$  expected time per operation.*

*Furthermore, beginning with an empty `ChainedHashTable`, any sequence of  $m$  `add(x)` and `remove(x)` operations results in a total of  $O(m)$  time spent during all calls to `grow()`.*

## 5.2 LinearHashTable: Linear Probing

The `ChainedHashTable` data structure uses an array of lists, where the  $i$ th list stores all elements  $x$  such that  $\text{hash}(x) = i$ . An alternative, called *open addressing* is to store the elements directly in an array,  $t$ , with each array location in  $t$  storing at most one value. This approach is taken by the `LinearHashTable` described in this section. In some places, this data structure is described as *open addressing with linear probing*.

The main idea behind a `LinearHashTable` is that we would, ideally, like to store the element  $x$  with hash value  $i = \text{hash}(x)$  in the table location  $t[i]$ . If we cannot do this (because some element is already stored there) then we try to store it at location  $t[(i + 1) \bmod t.\text{length}]$ ; if that's not possible, then we try  $t[(i + 2) \bmod t.\text{length}]$ , and so on, until we find a place for  $x$ .

There are three types of entries stored in  $t$ :

1. data values: actual values in the `USet` that we are representing;
2. `null` values: at array locations where no data has ever been stored; and
3. `del` values: at array locations where data was once stored but that has since been deleted.

In addition to the counter, `n`, that keeps track of the number of elements in the `LinearHashTable`, a counter, `q`, keeps track of the number of elements of Types 1 and 3. That is, `q` is equal to `n` plus the number of `del` values in `t`. To make this work efficiently, we need `t` to be considerably larger than `q`, so that there are lots of `null` values in `t`. The operations on a `LinearHashTable` therefore maintain the invariant that `t.length ≥ 2q`.

To summarize, a `LinearHashTable` contains an array, `t`, that stores data elements, and integers `n` and `q` that keep track of the number of data elements and non-`null` values of `t`, respectively. Because many hash functions only work for table sizes that are a power of 2, we also keep an integer `d` and maintain the invariant that `t.length = 2d`.

LinearHashTable

```
T[] t;    // the table
int n;    // the size
int d;    // t.length = 2^d
int q;    // number of non-null entries in t
```

The `find(x)` operation in a `LinearHashTable` is simple. We start at array entry `t[i]` where `i = hash(x)` and search entries `t[i]`, `t[(i + 1) mod t.length]`, `t[(i + 2) mod t.length]`, and so on, until we find an index `i'` such that, either, `t[i'] = x`, or `t[i'] = null`. In the former case we return `t[i']`. In the latter case, we conclude that `x` is not contained in the hash table and return `null`.

LinearHashTable

```
T find(T x) {
    int i = hash(x);
    while (t[i] != null) {
        if (t[i] != del && x.equals(t[i])) return t[i];
        i = (i == t.length - 1) ? 0 : i + 1; // increment i
    }
}
```

```

    }
    return null;
}

```

The `add(x)` operation is also fairly easy to implement. After checking that `x` is not already stored in the table (using `find(x)`), we search `t[i]`, `t[(i+1) mod t.length]`, `t[(i+2) mod t.length]`, and so on, until we find a `null` or `del` and store `x` at that location, increment `n`, and `q`, if appropriate.

```

LinearHashTable
boolean add(T x) {
    if (find(x) != null) return false;
    if (2*(q+1) > t.length) resize(); // max 50% occupancy
    int i = hash(x);
    while (t[i] != null && t[i] != del)
        i = (i == t.length-1) ? 0 : i + 1; // increment i
    if (t[i] == null) q++;
    n++;
    t[i] = x;
    return true;
}

```

By now, the implementation of the `remove(x)` operation should be obvious. We search `t[i]`, `t[(i + 1) mod t.length]`, `t[(i + 2) mod t.length]`, and so on until we find an index `i'` such that `t[i'] = x` or `t[i'] = null`. In the former case, we set `t[i'] = del` and return `true`. In the latter case we conclude that `x` was not stored in the table (and therefore cannot be deleted) and return `false`.

```

LinearHashTable
T remove(T x) {
    int i = hash(x);
    while (t[i] != null) {
        T y = t[i];
        if (y != del && x.equals(y)) {
            t[i] = del;
            n--;
            if (8*n < t.length) resize(); // min 12.5% occupancy
            return y;
        }
        i = (i + 1) % t.length;
    }
    return null;
}

```



```

    }
    i = (i == t.length-1) ? 0 : i + 1;  // increment i
  }
  return null;
}

```

The correctness of the `find(x)`, `add(x)`, and `remove(x)` methods is easy to verify, though it relies on the use of `del` values. Notice that none of these operations ever sets a non-`null` entry to `null`. Therefore, when we reach an index `i'` such that `t[i'] = null`, this is a proof that the element, `x`, that we are searching for is not stored in the table; `t[i']` has always been `null`, so there is no reason that a previous `add(x)` operation would have proceeded beyond index `i'`.

The `resize()` method is called by `add(x)` when the number of non-`null` entries exceeds `t.length/2` or by `remove(x)` when the number of data entries is less than `t.length/8`. The `resize()` method works like the `resize()` methods in other array-based data structures. We find the smallest non-negative integer `d` such that  $2^d \geq 3n$ . We reallocate the array `t` so that it has size  $2^d$ , and then we insert all the elements in the old version of `t` into the newly-resized copy of `t`. While doing this, we reset `q` equal to `n` since the newly-allocated `t` contains no `del` values.

```

LinearHashTable
void resize() {
    d = 1;
    while ((1<<d) < 3*n) d++;
    T[] told = t;
    t = newArray(1<<d);
    q = n;
    // insert everything from told
    for (int k = 0; k < told.length; k++) {
        if (told[k] != null && told[k] != del) {
            int i = hash(told[k]);
            while (t[i] != null)
                i = (i == t.length-1) ? 0 : i + 1;
            t[i] = told[k];
        }
    }
}

```

}

### 5.2.1 Analysis of Linear Probing

Notice that each operation, `add(x)`, `remove(x)`, or `find(x)`, finishes as soon as (or before) it discovers the first `null` entry in `t`. The intuition behind the analysis of linear probing is that, since at least half the elements in `t` are equal to `null`, an operation should not take long to complete because it will very quickly come across a `null` entry. We shouldn't rely too heavily on this intuition, though, because it would lead us to (the incorrect) conclusion that the expected number of locations in `t` examined by an operation is at most 2.

For the rest of this section, we will assume that all hash values are independently and uniformly distributed in  $\{0, \dots, t.length - 1\}$ . This is not a realistic assumption, but it will make it possible for us to analyze linear probing. Later in this section we will describe a method, called tabulation hashing, that produces a hash function that is “good enough” for linear probing. We will also assume that all indices into the positions of `t` are taken modulo `t.length`, so that `t[i]` is really a shorthand for `t[i mod t.length]`.

We say that a *run of length  $k$  that starts at  $i$*  occurs when all the table entries `t[i]`, `t[i + 1]`,  $\dots$ , `t[i + k - 1]` are non-`null` and `t[i - 1] = t[i + k] = null`. The number of non-`null` elements of `t` is exactly  $q$  and the `add(x)` method ensures that, at all times,  $q \leq t.length/2$ . There are  $q$  elements  $x_1, \dots, x_q$  that have been inserted into `t` since the last `rebuild()` operation. By our assumption, each of these has a hash value, `hash(xj)`, that is uniform and independent of the rest. With this setup, we can prove the main lemma required to analyze linear probing.

**Lemma 5.4.** *Fix a value  $i \in \{0, \dots, t.length - 1\}$ . Then the probability that a run of length  $k$  starts at  $i$  is  $O(c^k)$  for some constant  $0 < c < 1$ .*

*Proof.* If a run of length  $k$  starts at  $i$ , then there are exactly  $k$  elements  $x_j$  such that `hash(xj)`  $\in \{i, \dots, i + k - 1\}$ . The probability that this occurs is exactly

$$p_k = \binom{q}{k} \left( \frac{k}{t.length} \right)^k \left( \frac{t.length - k}{t.length} \right)^{q-k},$$

since, for each choice of  $k$  elements, these  $k$  elements must hash to one of the  $k$  locations and the remaining  $q - k$  elements must hash to the other  $\mathbf{t.length} - k$  table locations.<sup>1</sup>

In the following derivation we will cheat a little and replace  $r!$  with  $(r/e)^r$ . Stirling's Approximation (Section 1.3.2) shows that this is only a factor of  $O(\sqrt{r})$  from the truth. This is just done to make the derivation simpler; Exercise 5.4 asks the reader to redo the calculation more rigorously using Stirling's Approximation in its entirety.

The value of  $p_k$  is maximized when  $\mathbf{t.length}$  is minimum, and the data structure maintains the invariant that  $\mathbf{t.length} \geq 2q$ , so

$$\begin{aligned}
 p_k &\leq \binom{q}{k} \left(\frac{k}{2q}\right)^k \left(\frac{2q-k}{2q}\right)^{q-k} \\
 &= \left(\frac{q!}{(q-k)!k!}\right) \left(\frac{k}{2q}\right)^k \left(\frac{2q-k}{2q}\right)^{q-k} \\
 &\approx \left(\frac{q^q}{(q-k)^{q-k}k^k}\right) \left(\frac{k}{2q}\right)^k \left(\frac{2q-k}{2q}\right)^{q-k} \quad [\text{Stirling's approximation}] \\
 &= \left(\frac{q^k q^{q-k}}{(q-k)^{q-k}k^k}\right) \left(\frac{k}{2q}\right)^k \left(\frac{2q-k}{2q}\right)^{q-k} \\
 &= \left(\frac{qk}{2qk}\right)^k \left(\frac{q(2q-k)}{2q(q-k)}\right)^{q-k} \\
 &= \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^k \left(\frac{(2q-k)}{2(q-k)}\right)^{q-k} \\
 &= \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^k \left(1 + \frac{k}{2(q-k)}\right)^{q-k} \\
 &\leq \left(\frac{\sqrt{e}}{2}\right)^k.
 \end{aligned}$$

(In the last step, we use the inequality  $(1 + 1/x)^x \leq e$ , which holds for all  $x > 0$ .) Since  $\sqrt{e}/2 < 0.824360636 < 1$ , this completes the proof.  $\square$

Using Lemma 5.4 to prove upper-bounds on the expected running time of  $\mathbf{find(x)}$ ,  $\mathbf{add(x)}$ , and  $\mathbf{remove(x)}$  is now fairly straightforward. Consider the simplest case, where we execute  $\mathbf{find(x)}$  for some value  $x$  that

<sup>1</sup>Note that  $p_k$  is greater than the probability that a run of length  $k$  starts at  $i$ , since the definition of  $p_k$  does not include the requirement  $\mathbf{t[i-1] = t[i+k] = null}$ .

has never been stored in the `LinearHashTable`. In this case,  $i = \text{hash}(x)$  is a random value in  $\{0, \dots, t.\text{length} - 1\}$  independent of the contents of  $t$ . If  $i$  is part of a run of length  $k$ , then the time it takes to execute the  $\text{find}(x)$  operation is at most  $O(1 + k)$ . Thus, the expected running time can be upper-bounded by

$$O\left(1 + \left(\frac{1}{t.\text{length}}\right) \sum_{i=1}^{t.\text{length}} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} k \Pr\{i \text{ is part of a run of length } k\}\right).$$

Note that each run of length  $k$  contributes to the inner sum  $k$  times for a total contribution of  $k^2$ , so the above sum can be rewritten as

$$\begin{aligned} & O\left(1 + \left(\frac{1}{t.\text{length}}\right) \sum_{i=1}^{t.\text{length}} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} k^2 \Pr\{i \text{ starts a run of length } k\}\right) \\ & \leq O\left(1 + \left(\frac{1}{t.\text{length}}\right) \sum_{i=1}^{t.\text{length}} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} k^2 p_k\right) \\ & = O\left(1 + \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} k^2 p_k\right) \\ & = O\left(1 + \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} k^2 \cdot O(c^k)\right) \\ & = O(1). \end{aligned}$$

The last step in this derivation comes from the fact that  $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} k^2 \cdot O(c^k)$  is an exponentially decreasing series.<sup>2</sup> Therefore, we conclude that the expected running time of the  $\text{find}(x)$  operation for a value  $x$  that is not contained in a `LinearHashTable` is  $O(1)$ .

If we ignore the cost of the `resize()` operation, then the above analysis gives us all we need to analyze the cost of operations on a `LinearHashTable`.

First of all, the analysis of  $\text{find}(x)$  given above applies to the  $\text{add}(x)$  operation when  $x$  is not contained in the table. To analyze the  $\text{find}(x)$  operation when  $x$  is contained in the table, we need only note that this

---

<sup>2</sup>In the terminology of many calculus texts, this sum passes the ratio test: There exists a positive integer  $k_0$  such that, for all  $k \geq k_0$ ,  $\frac{(k+1)^2 c^{k+1}}{k^2 c^k} < 1$ .

is the same as the cost of the `add(x)` operation that previously added `x` to the table. Finally, the cost of a `remove(x)` operation is the same as the cost of a `find(x)` operation.

In summary, if we ignore the cost of calls to `resize()`, all operations on a `LinearHashTable` run in  $O(1)$  expected time. Accounting for the cost of `resize` can be done using the same type of amortized analysis performed for the `ArrayStack` data structure in Section 2.1.

### 5.2.2 Summary

The following theorem summarizes the performance of the `LinearHashTable` data structure:

**Theorem 5.2.** *A `LinearHashTable` implements the `USet` interface. Ignoring the cost of calls to `resize()`, a `LinearHashTable` supports the operations `add(x)`, `remove(x)`, and `find(x)` in  $O(1)$  expected time per operation.*

*Furthermore, beginning with an empty `LinearHashTable`, any sequence of  $m$  `add(x)` and `remove(x)` operations results in a total of  $O(m)$  time spent during all calls to `resize()`.*

### 5.2.3 Tabulation Hashing

While analyzing the `LinearHashTable` structure, we made a very strong assumption: That for any set of elements,  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ , the hash values `hash(x1)`, ..., `hash(xn)` are independently and uniformly distributed over the set  $\{0, \dots, t.length - 1\}$ . One way to achieve this is to store a giant array, `tab`, of length  $2^w$ , where each entry is a random  $w$ -bit integer, independent of all the other entries. In this way, we could implement `hash(x)` by extracting a  $d$ -bit integer from `tab[x.hashCode()]`:

```

LinearHashTable
int idealHash(T x) {
    return tab[x.hashCode() >>> w-d];
}

```

Unfortunately, storing an array of size  $2^w$  is prohibitive in terms of memory usage. The approach used by *tabulation hashing* is to, instead,

treat  $w$ -bit integers as being comprised of  $w/r$  integers, each having only  $r$  bits. In this way, tabulation hashing only needs  $w/r$  arrays each of length  $2^r$ . All the entries in these arrays are independent  $w$ -bit integers. To obtain the value of  $\text{hash}(x)$  we split  $x.\text{hashCode}()$  up into  $w/r$   $r$ -bit integers and use these as indices into these arrays. We then combine all these values with the bitwise exclusive-or operator to obtain  $\text{hash}(x)$ . The following code shows how this works when  $w = 32$  and  $r = 4$ :

```

LinearHashTable
int hash(T x) {
    int h = x.hashCode();
    return (tab[0][h&0xff]
           ^ tab[1][(h>>8)&0xff]
           ^ tab[2][(h>>16)&0xff]
           ^ tab[3][(h>>24)&0xff])
       >>> (w-d);
}

```

In this case, `tab` is a two-dimensional array with four columns and  $2^{32/4} = 256$  rows.

One can easily verify that, for any  $x$ ,  $\text{hash}(x)$  is uniformly distributed over  $\{0, \dots, 2^d - 1\}$ . With a little work, one can even verify that any pair of values have independent hash values. This implies tabulation hashing could be used in place of multiplicative hashing for the `ChainedHashTable` implementation.

However, it is not true that any set of  $n$  distinct values gives a set of  $n$  independent hash values. Nevertheless, when tabulation hashing is used, the bound of Theorem 5.2 still holds. References for this are provided at the end of this chapter.

### 5.3 Hash Codes

The hash tables discussed in the previous section are used to associate data with integer keys consisting of  $w$  bits. In many cases, we have keys that are not integers. They may be strings, objects, arrays, or other compound structures. To use hash tables for these types of data, we must

map these data types to  $w$ -bit hash codes. Hash code mappings should have the following properties:

1. If  $x$  and  $y$  are equal, then  $x.hashCode()$  and  $y.hashCode()$  are equal.
2. If  $x$  and  $y$  are not equal, then the probability that  $x.hashCode() = y.hashCode()$  should be small (close to  $1/2^w$ ).

The first property ensures that if we store  $x$  in a hash table and later look up a value  $y$  equal to  $x$ , then we will find  $x$ —as we should. The second property minimizes the loss from converting our objects to integers. It ensures that unequal objects usually have different hash codes and so are likely to be stored at different locations in our hash table.

### 5.3.1 Hash Codes for Primitive Data Types

Small primitive data types like `char`, `byte`, `int`, and `float` are usually easy to find hash codes for. These data types always have a binary representation and this binary representation usually consists of  $w$  or fewer bits. (For example, in Java, `byte` is an 8-bit type and `float` is a 32-bit type.) In these cases, we just treat these bits as the representation of an integer in the range  $\{0, \dots, 2^w - 1\}$ . If two values are different, they get different hash codes. If they are the same, they get the same hash code.

A few primitive data types are made up of more than  $w$  bits, usually  $cw$  bits for some constant integer  $c$ . (Java's `long` and `double` types are examples of this with  $c = 2$ .) These data types can be treated as compound objects made of  $c$  parts, as described in the next section.

### 5.3.2 Hash Codes for Compound Objects

For a compound object, we want to create a hash code by combining the individual hash codes of the object's constituent parts. This is not as easy as it sounds. Although one can find many hacks for this (for example, combining the hash codes with bitwise exclusive-or operations), many of these hacks turn out to be easy to foil (see Exercises 5.7–5.9). However, if one is willing to do arithmetic with  $2w$  bits of precision, then there are simple and robust methods available. Suppose we have an object made

up of several parts  $P_0, \dots, P_{r-1}$  whose hash codes are  $x_0, \dots, x_{r-1}$ . Then we can choose mutually independent random  $w$ -bit integers  $z_0, \dots, z_{r-1}$  and a random  $2w$ -bit odd integer  $z$  and compute a hash code for our object with

$$h(x_0, \dots, x_{r-1}) = \left( \left( z \sum_{i=0}^{r-1} z_i x_i \right) \bmod 2^{2w} \right) \text{div } 2^w .$$

Note that this hash code has a final step (multiplying by  $z$  and dividing by  $2^w$ ) that uses the multiplicative hash function from Section 5.1.1 to take the  $2w$ -bit intermediate result and reduce it to a  $w$ -bit final result. Here is an example of this method applied to a simple compound object with three parts  $x_0$ ,  $x_1$ , and  $x_2$ :

Point3D

```
int hashCode() {
    // random numbers from rand.org
    long[] z = {0x2058cc50L, 0xcb19137eL, 0x2cb6b6fdL};
    long zz = 0xbea0107e5067d19dL;

    // convert (unsigned) hashcodes to long
    long h0 = x0.hashCode() & ((1L<<32)-1);
    long h1 = x1.hashCode() & ((1L<<32)-1);
    long h2 = x2.hashCode() & ((1L<<32)-1);

    return (int)((z[0]*h0 + z[1]*h1 + z[2]*h2)*zz
                >>> 32);
}
```

The following theorem shows that, in addition to being straightforward to implement, this method is provably good:

**Theorem 5.3.** *Let  $x_0, \dots, x_{r-1}$  and  $y_0, \dots, y_{r-1}$  each be sequences of  $w$  bit integers in  $\{0, \dots, 2^w - 1\}$  and assume  $x_i \neq y_i$  for at least one index  $i \in \{0, \dots, r-1\}$ . Then*

$$\Pr\{h(x_0, \dots, x_{r-1}) = h(y_0, \dots, y_{r-1})\} \leq 3/2^w .$$

*Proof.* We will first ignore the final multiplicative hashing step and see how that step contributes later. Define:

$$h'(x_0, \dots, x_{r-1}) = \left( \sum_{j=0}^{r-1} z_j x_j \right) \bmod 2^{2w} .$$



Suppose that  $h'(\mathbf{x}_0, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{r-1}) = h'(\mathbf{y}_0, \dots, \mathbf{y}_{r-1})$ . We can rewrite this as:

$$z_i(\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{y}_i) \bmod 2^{2w} = t \quad (5.4)$$

where

$$t = \left( \sum_{j=0}^{i-1} z_j(\mathbf{y}_j - \mathbf{x}_j) + \sum_{j=i+1}^{r-1} z_j(\mathbf{y}_j - \mathbf{x}_j) \right) \bmod 2^{2w}$$

If we assume, without loss of generality that  $\mathbf{x}_i > \mathbf{y}_i$ , then (5.4) becomes

$$z_i(\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{y}_i) = t, \quad (5.5)$$

since each of  $z_i$  and  $(\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{y}_i)$  is at most  $2^w - 1$ , so their product is at most  $2^{2w} - 2^{w+1} + 1 < 2^{2w} - 1$ . By assumption,  $\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{y}_i \neq 0$ , so (5.5) has at most one solution in  $z_i$ . Therefore, since  $z_i$  and  $t$  are independent ( $z_0, \dots, z_{r-1}$  are mutually independent), the probability that we select  $z_i$  so that  $h'(\mathbf{x}_0, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{r-1}) = h'(\mathbf{y}_0, \dots, \mathbf{y}_{r-1})$  is at most  $1/2^w$ .

The final step of the hash function is to apply multiplicative hashing to reduce our  $2w$ -bit intermediate result  $h'(\mathbf{x}_0, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{r-1})$  to a  $w$ -bit final result  $h(\mathbf{x}_0, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{r-1})$ . By Theorem 5.3, if  $h'(\mathbf{x}_0, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{r-1}) \neq h'(\mathbf{y}_0, \dots, \mathbf{y}_{r-1})$ , then  $\Pr\{h(\mathbf{x}_0, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{r-1}) = h(\mathbf{y}_0, \dots, \mathbf{y}_{r-1})\} \leq 2/2^w$ .

To summarize,

$$\begin{aligned} & \Pr \left\{ \begin{array}{l} h(\mathbf{x}_0, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{r-1}) \\ = h(\mathbf{y}_0, \dots, \mathbf{y}_{r-1}) \end{array} \right\} \\ &= \Pr \left\{ \begin{array}{l} h'(\mathbf{x}_0, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{r-1}) = h'(\mathbf{y}_0, \dots, \mathbf{y}_{r-1}) \text{ or} \\ h'(\mathbf{x}_0, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{r-1}) \neq h'(\mathbf{y}_0, \dots, \mathbf{y}_{r-1}) \\ \text{and } zh'(\mathbf{x}_0, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{r-1}) \bmod 2^w = zh'(\mathbf{y}_0, \dots, \mathbf{y}_{r-1}) \bmod 2^w \end{array} \right\} \\ &\leq 1/2^w + 2/2^w = 3/2^w. \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

### 5.3.3 Hash Codes for Arrays and Strings

The method from the previous section works well for objects that have a fixed, constant, number of components. However, it breaks down when we want to use it with objects that have a variable number of components, since it requires a random  $w$ -bit integer  $z_i$  for each component. We could use a pseudorandom sequence to generate as many  $z_i$ 's as we need, but then the  $z_i$ 's are not mutually independent, and it becomes difficult to

prove that the pseudorandom numbers don't interact badly with the hash function we are using. In particular, the values of  $t$  and  $z_i$  in the proof of Theorem 5.3 are no longer independent.

A more rigorous approach is to base our hash codes on polynomials over prime fields; these are just regular polynomials that are evaluated modulo some prime number,  $p$ . This method is based on the following theorem, which says that polynomials over prime fields behave pretty-much like usual polynomials:

**Theorem 5.4.** *Let  $p$  be a prime number, and let  $f(z) = x_0z^0 + x_1z^1 + \dots + x_{r-1}z^{r-1}$  be a non-trivial polynomial with coefficients  $x_i \in \{0, \dots, p-1\}$ . Then the equation  $f(z) \bmod p = 0$  has at most  $r-1$  solutions for  $z \in \{0, \dots, p-1\}$ .*

To use Theorem 5.4, we hash a sequence of integers  $x_0, \dots, x_{r-1}$  with each  $x_i \in \{0, \dots, p-2\}$  using a random integer  $z \in \{0, \dots, p-1\}$  via the formula

$$h(x_0, \dots, x_{r-1}) = (x_0z^0 + \dots + x_{r-1}z^{r-1} + (p-1)z^r) \bmod p .$$

Note the extra  $(p-1)z^r$  term at the end of the formula. It helps to think of  $(p-1)$  as the last element,  $x_r$ , in the sequence  $x_0, \dots, x_r$ . Note that this element differs from every other element in the sequence (each of which is in the set  $\{0, \dots, p-2\}$ ). We can think of  $p-1$  as an end-of-sequence marker.

The following theorem, which considers the case of two sequences of the same length, shows that this hash function gives a good return for the small amount of randomization needed to choose  $z$ :

**Theorem 5.5.** *Let  $p > 2^w + 1$  be a prime, let  $x_0, \dots, x_{r-1}$  and  $y_0, \dots, y_{r-1}$  each be sequences of  $w$ -bit integers in  $\{0, \dots, 2^w - 1\}$ , and assume  $x_i \neq y_i$  for at least one index  $i \in \{0, \dots, r-1\}$ . Then*

$$\Pr\{h(x_0, \dots, x_{r-1}) = h(y_0, \dots, y_{r-1})\} \leq (r-1)/p .$$

*Proof.* The equation  $h(x_0, \dots, x_{r-1}) = h(y_0, \dots, y_{r-1})$  can be rewritten as

$$((x_0 - y_0)z^0 + \dots + (x_{r-1} - y_{r-1})z^{r-1}) \bmod p = 0. \quad (5.6)$$

Since  $x_i \neq y_i$ , this polynomial is non-trivial. Therefore, by Theorem 5.4, it has at most  $r-1$  solutions in  $z$ . The probability that we pick  $z$  to be one of these solutions is therefore at most  $(r-1)/p$ .  $\square$

Note that this hash function also deals with the case in which two sequences have different lengths, even when one of the sequences is a prefix of the other. This is because this function effectively hashes the infinite sequence

$$x_0, \dots, x_{r-1}, p-1, 0, 0, \dots$$

This guarantees that if we have two sequences of length  $r$  and  $r'$  with  $r > r'$ , then these two sequences differ at index  $i = r$ . In this case, (5.6) becomes

$$\left( \sum_{i=0}^{i=r'-1} (x_i - y_i) z^i + (x_{r'} - p + 1) z^{r'} + \sum_{i=r'+1}^{i=r-1} x_i z^i + (p-1) z^r \right) \bmod p = 0 ,$$

which, by Theorem 5.4, has at most  $r$  solutions in  $z$ . This combined with Theorem 5.5 suffice to prove the following more general theorem:

**Theorem 5.6.** Let  $p > 2^w + 1$  be a prime, let  $x_0, \dots, x_{r-1}$  and  $y_0, \dots, y_{r'-1}$  be distinct sequences of  $w$ -bit integers in  $\{0, \dots, 2^w - 1\}$ . Then

$$\Pr\{h(x_0, \dots, x_{r-1}) = h(y_0, \dots, y_{r'-1})\} \leq \max\{r, r'\}/p .$$

The following example code shows how this hash function is applied to an object that contains an array,  $x$ , of values:

```

GeomVector
int hashCode() {
    long p = (1L<<32)-5;    // prime: 2^32 - 5
    long z = 0x64b6055aL;    // 32 bits from random.org
    int z2 = 0x5067d19d;    // random odd 32 bit number
    long s = 0;
    long zi = 1;
    for (int i = 0; i < x.length; i++) {
        // reduce to 31 bits
        long xi = (x[i].hashCode() * z2) >>> 1;
        s = (s + zi * xi) % p;
        zi = (zi * z) % p;
    }
    s = (s + zi * (p-1)) % p;
    return (int)s;
}

```

The preceding code sacrifices some collision probability for implementation convenience. In particular, it applies the multiplicative hash function from Section 5.1.1, with  $d = 31$  to reduce `x[i].hashCode()` to a 31-bit value. This is so that the additions and multiplications that are done modulo the prime  $p = 2^{32} - 5$  can be carried out using unsigned 63-bit arithmetic. Thus the probability of two different sequences, the longer of which has length  $r$ , having the same hash code is at most

$$2/2^{31} + r/(2^{32} - 5)$$

rather than the  $r/(2^{32} - 5)$  specified in Theorem 5.6.

## 5.4 Discussion and Exercises

Hash tables and hash codes represent an enormous and active field of research that is just touched upon in this chapter. The online Bibliography on Hashing [10] contains nearly 2000 entries.

A variety of different hash table implementations exist. The one described in Section 5.1 is known as *hashing with chaining* (each array entry contains a chain (`List`) of elements). Hashing with chaining dates back to an internal IBM memorandum authored by H. P. Luhn and dated January 1953. This memorandum also seems to be one of the earliest references to linked lists.

An alternative to hashing with chaining is that used by *open addressing* schemes, where all data is stored directly in an array. These schemes include the `LinearHashTable` structure of Section 5.2. This idea was also proposed, independently, by a group at IBM in the 1950s. Open addressing schemes must deal with the problem of *collision resolution*: the case where two values hash to the same array location. Different strategies exist for collision resolution; these provide different performance guarantees and often require more sophisticated hash functions than the ones described here.

Yet another category of hash table implementations are the so-called *perfect hashing* methods. These are methods in which `find(x)` operations take  $O(1)$  time in the worst-case. For static data sets, this can be accomplished by finding *perfect hash functions* for the data; these are functions

that map each piece of data to a unique array location. For data that changes over time, perfect hashing methods include *FKS two-level hash tables* [31, 24] and *cuckoo hashing* [57].

The hash functions presented in this chapter are probably among the most practical methods currently known that can be proven to work well for any set of data. Other provably good methods date back to the pioneering work of Carter and Wegman who introduced the notion of *universal hashing* and described several hash functions for different scenarios [14]. Tabulation hashing, described in Section 5.2.3, is due to Carter and Wegman [14], but its analysis, when applied to linear probing (and several other hash table schemes) is due to Pătraşcu and Thorup [60].

The idea of *multiplicative hashing* is very old and seems to be part of the hashing folklore [48, Section 6.4]. However, the idea of choosing the multiplier  $z$  to be a random *odd* number, and the analysis in Section 5.1.1 is due to Dietzfelbinger *et al.* [23]. This version of multiplicative hashing is one of the simplest, but its collision probability of  $2/2^d$  is a factor of two larger than what one could expect with a random function from  $2^w \rightarrow 2^d$ . The *multiply-add hashing* method uses the function

$$h(x) = ((zx + b) \bmod 2^{2w}) \operatorname{div} 2^{2w-d}$$

where  $z$  and  $b$  are each randomly chosen from  $\{0, \dots, 2^{2w}-1\}$ . Multiply-add hashing has a collision probability of only  $1/2^d$  [21], but requires  $2w$ -bit precision arithmetic.

There are a number of methods of obtaining hash codes from fixed-length sequences of  $w$ -bit integers. One particularly fast method [11] is the function

$$\begin{aligned} h(x_0, \dots, x_{r-1}) \\ = \left( \sum_{i=0}^{r/2-1} ((x_{2i} + a_{2i}) \bmod 2^w)((x_{2i+1} + a_{2i+1}) \bmod 2^w) \right) \bmod 2^{2w} \end{aligned}$$

where  $r$  is even and  $a_0, \dots, a_{r-1}$  are randomly chosen from  $\{0, \dots, 2^w\}$ . This yields a  $2w$ -bit hash code that has collision probability  $1/2^w$ . This can be reduced to a  $w$ -bit hash code using multiplicative (or multiply-add) hashing. This method is fast because it requires only  $r/2$   $2w$ -bit multiplications whereas the method described in Section 5.3.2 requires  $r$  multiplications. (The mod operations occur implicitly by using  $w$  and  $2w$ -bit arithmetic for the additions and multiplications, respectively.)

The method from Section 5.3.3 of using polynomials over prime fields to hash variable-length arrays and strings is due to Dietzfelbinger *et al.* [22]. Due to its use of the mod operator which relies on a costly machine instruction, it is, unfortunately, not very fast. Some variants of this method choose the prime  $p$  to be one of the form  $2^w - 1$ , in which case the mod operator can be replaced with addition (+) and bitwise-and (&) operations [47, Section 3.6]. Another option is to apply one of the fast methods for fixed-length strings to blocks of length  $c$  for some constant  $c > 1$  and then apply the prime field method to the resulting sequence of  $\lceil r/c \rceil$  hash codes.

**Exercise 5.1.** A certain university assigns each of its students student numbers the first time they register for any course. These numbers are sequential integers that started at 0 many years ago and are now in the millions. Suppose we have a class of one hundred first year students and we want to assign them hash codes based on their student numbers. Does it make more sense to use the first two digits or the last two digits of their student number? Justify your answer.

**Exercise 5.2.** Consider the hashing scheme in Section 5.1.1, and suppose  $n = 2^d$  and  $d \leq w/2$ .

1. Show that, for any choice of the multiplier,  $z$ , there exists  $n$  values that all have the same hash code. (Hint: This is easy, and doesn't require any number theory.)
2. Given the multiplier,  $z$ , describe  $n$  values that all have the same hash code. (Hint: This is harder, and requires some basic number theory.)

**Exercise 5.3.** Prove that the bound  $2/2^d$  in Lemma 5.1 is the best possible bound by showing that, if  $x = 2^{w-d-2}$  and  $y = 3x$ , then  $\Pr\{\text{hash}(x) = \text{hash}(y)\} = 2/2^d$ . (Hint look at the binary representations of  $zx$  and  $z3x$  and use the fact that  $z3x = zx + 2zx$ .)

**Exercise 5.4.** Reprove Lemma 5.4 using the full version of Stirling's Approximation given in Section 1.3.2.

**Exercise 5.5.** Consider the following simplified version of the code for adding an element  $x$  to a `LinearHashTable`, which simply stores  $x$  in the

first `null` array entry it finds. Explain why this could be very slow by giving an example of a sequence of  $O(n)$  `add(x)`, `remove(x)`, and `find(x)` operations that would take on the order of  $n^2$  time to execute.

```

LinearHashTable
boolean addSlow(T x) {
    if (2*(q+1) > t.length) resize(); // max 50% occupancy
    int i = hash(x);
    while (t[i] != null) {
        if (t[i] != del && x.equals(t[i])) return false;
        i = (i == t.length-1) ? 0 : i + 1; // increment i
    }
    t[i] = x;
    n++; q++;
    return true;
}

```

**Exercise 5.6.** Early versions of the Java `hashCode()` method for the `String` class worked by not using all of the characters found in long strings. For example, for a sixteen character string, the hash code was computed using only the eight even-indexed characters. Explain why this was a very bad idea by giving an example of large set of strings that all have the same hash code.

**Exercise 5.7.** Suppose you have an object made up of two  $w$ -bit integers,  $x$  and  $y$ . Show why  $x \oplus y$  does not make a good hash code for your object. Give an example of a large set of objects that would all have hash code 0.

**Exercise 5.8.** Suppose you have an object made up of two  $w$ -bit integers,  $x$  and  $y$ . Show why  $x + y$  does not make a good hash code for your object. Give an example of a large set of objects that would all have the same hash code.

**Exercise 5.9.** Suppose you have an object made up of two  $w$ -bit integers,  $x$  and  $y$ . Suppose that the hash code for your object is defined by some deterministic function  $h(x, y)$  that produces a single  $w$ -bit integer. Prove that there exists a large set of objects that have the same hash code.

**Exercise 5.10.** Let  $p = 2^w - 1$  for some positive integer  $w$ . Explain why, for

a positive integer  $x$

$$(x \bmod 2^w) + (x \operatorname{div} 2^w) \equiv x \bmod (2^w - 1) .$$

(This gives an algorithm for computing  $x \bmod (2^w - 1)$  by repeatedly setting

$$x = x \&((1 \ll w) - 1) + x \gg w$$

until  $x \leq 2^w - 1$ .)

**Exercise 5.11.** Find some commonly used hash table implementation such as the (Java Collection Framework `HashMap` or the `HashTable` or `LinearHashTable` implementations in this book, and design a program that stores integers in this data structure so that there are integers,  $x$ , such that `find(x)` takes linear time. That is, find a set of  $n$  integers for which there are  $cn$  elements that hash to the same table location.

Depending on how good the implementation is, you may be able to do this just by inspecting the code for the implementation, or you may have to write some code that does trial insertions and searches, timing how long it takes to add and find particular values. (This can be, and has been, used to launch denial of service attacks on web servers [17].)



## Chapter 6

# Binary Trees

This chapter introduces one of the most fundamental structures in computer science: binary trees. The use of the word *tree* here comes from the fact that, when we draw them, the resultant drawing often resembles the trees found in a forest. There are many ways of defining binary trees. Mathematically, a *binary tree* is a connected, undirected, finite graph with no cycles, and no vertex of degree greater than three.

For most computer science applications, binary trees are *rooted*: A special node,  $r$ , of degree at most two is called the *root* of the tree. For every node,  $u \neq r$ , the second node on the path from  $u$  to  $r$  is called the *parent* of  $u$ . Each of the other nodes adjacent to  $u$  is called a *child* of  $u$ . Most of the binary trees we are interested in are *ordered*, so we distinguish between the *left child* and *right child* of  $u$ .

In illustrations, binary trees are usually drawn from the root downward, with the root at the top of the drawing and the left and right children respectively given by left and right positions in the drawing (Figure 6.1). For example, Figure 6.2.a shows a binary tree with nine nodes.

Because binary trees are so important, a certain terminology has developed for them: The *depth* of a node,  $u$ , in a binary tree is the length of the path from  $u$  to the root of the tree. If a node,  $w$ , is on the path from  $u$  to  $r$ , then  $w$  is called an *ancestor* of  $u$  and  $u$  a *descendant* of  $w$ . The *subtree* of a node,  $u$ , is the binary tree that is rooted at  $u$  and contains all of  $u$ 's descendants. The *height* of a node,  $u$ , is the length of the longest path from  $u$  to one of its descendants. The *height* of a tree is the height of its root. A node,  $u$ , is a *leaf* if it has no children.

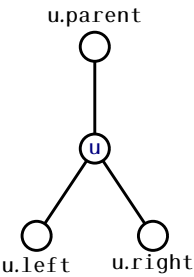


Figure 6.1: The parent, left child, and right child of the node  $u$  in a BinaryTree.

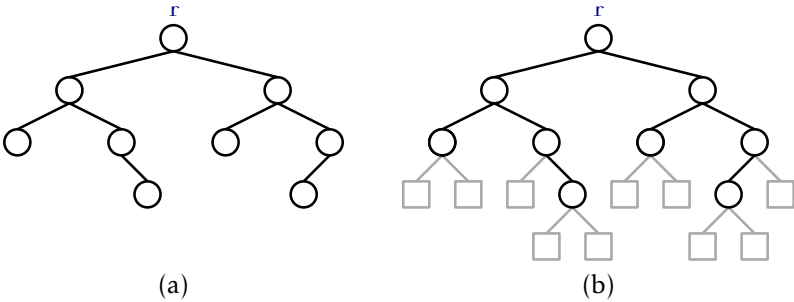


Figure 6.2: A binary tree with (a) nine real nodes and (b) ten external nodes.

We sometimes think of the tree as being augmented with *external nodes*. Any node that does not have a left child has an external node as its left child, and, correspondingly, any node that does not have a right child has an external node as its right child (see Figure 6.2.b). It is easy to verify, by induction, that a binary tree with  $n \geq 1$  real nodes has  $n + 1$  external nodes.

## 6.1 BinaryTree: A Basic Binary Tree

The simplest way to represent a node, *u*, in a binary tree is to explicitly store the (at most three) neighbours of *u*:

```

BinaryTree
class BTreeNode<Node extends BTreeNode<Node>> {
    Node left;
    Node right;
    Node parent;
}

```

When one of these three neighbours is not present, we set it to *nil*. In this way, both external nodes of the tree and the parent of the root correspond to the value *nil*.

The binary tree itself can then be represented by a reference to its root node, *r*:

```

BinaryTree
Node r;

```

We can compute the depth of a node, *u*, in a binary tree by counting the number of steps on the path from *u* to the root:

```

BinaryTree
int depth(Node u) {
    int d = 0;
    while (u != r) {
        u = u.parent;
        d++;
    }
}

```

```
    }  
    return d;  
}
```

### 6.1.1 Recursive Algorithms

Using recursive algorithms makes it very easy to compute facts about binary trees. For example, to compute the size of (number of nodes in) a binary tree rooted at node *u*, we recursively compute the sizes of the two subtrees rooted at the children of *u*, sum up these sizes, and add one:

```
BinaryTree  
int size(Node u) {  
    if (u == nil) return 0;  
    return 1 + size(u.left) + size(u.right);  
}
```

To compute the height of a node *u*, we can compute the height of *u*'s two subtrees, take the maximum, and add one:

```
BinaryTree  
int height(Node u) {  
    if (u == nil) return -1;  
    return 1 + max(height(u.left), height(u.right));  
}
```

### 6.1.2 Traversing Binary Trees

The two algorithms from the previous section both use recursion to visit all the nodes in a binary tree. Each of them visits the nodes of the binary tree in the same order as the following code:

```
BinaryTree  
void traverse(Node u) {  
    if (u == nil) return;  
    traverse(u.left);  
    traverse(u.right);  
}
```

Using recursion this way produces very short, simple code, but it can also be problematic. The maximum depth of the recursion is given by the maximum depth of a node in the binary tree, i.e., the tree's height. If the height of the tree is very large, then this recursion could very well use more stack space than is available, causing a crash.

To traverse a binary tree without recursion, you can use an algorithm that relies on where it came from to determine where it will go next. See Figure 6.3. If we arrive at a node `u` from `u.parent`, then the next thing to do is to visit `u.left`. If we arrive at `u` from `u.left`, then the next thing to do is to visit `u.right`. If we arrive at `u` from `u.right`, then we are done visiting `u`'s subtree, and so we return to `u.parent`. The following code implements this idea, with code included for handling the cases where any of `u.left`, `u.right`, or `u.parent` is `nil`:

```
BinaryTree
void traverse2() {
    Node u = r, prev = nil, next;
    while (u != nil) {
        if (prev == u.parent) {
            if (u.left != nil) next = u.left;
            else if (u.right != nil) next = u.right;
            else next = u.parent;
        } else if (prev == u.left) {
            if (u.right != nil) next = u.right;
            else next = u.parent;
        } else {
            next = u.parent;
        }
        prev = u;
        u = next;
    }
}
```

The same facts that can be computed with recursive algorithms can also be computed in this way, without recursion. For example, to compute the size of the tree we keep a counter, `n`, and increment `n` whenever visiting a node for the first time:

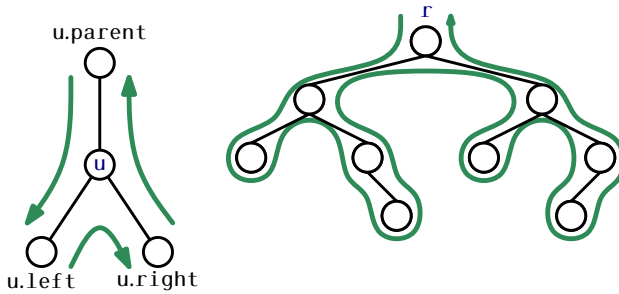


Figure 6.3: The three cases that occur at node  $u$  when traversing a binary tree non-recursively, and the resultant traversal of the tree.

```

int size2() {
    Node u = r, prev = nil, next;
    int n = 0;
    while (u != nil) {
        if (prev == u.parent) {
            n++;
            if (u.left != nil) next = u.left;
            else if (u.right != nil) next = u.right;
            else next = u.parent;
        } else if (prev == u.left) {
            if (u.right != nil) next = u.right;
            else next = u.parent;
        } else {
            next = u.parent;
        }
        prev = u;
        u = next;
    }
    return n;
}

```

In some implementations of binary trees, the `parent` field is not used. When this is the case, a non-recursive implementation is still possible, but the implementation has to use a List (or Stack) to keep track of the path from the current node to the root.

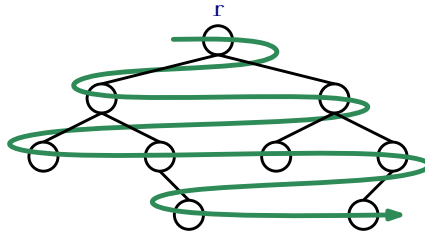


Figure 6.4: During a breadth-first traversal, the nodes of a binary tree are visited level-by-level, and left-to-right within each level.

A special kind of traversal that does not fit the pattern of the above functions is the *breadth-first traversal*. In a breadth-first traversal, the nodes are visited level-by-level starting at the root and moving down, visiting the nodes at each level from left to right (see Figure 6.4). This is similar to the way that we would read a page of English text. Breadth-first traversal is implemented using a queue, `q`, that initially contains only the root, `r`. At each step, we extract the next node, `u`, from `q`, process `u` and add `u.left` and `u.right` (if they are non-`nil`) to `q`:

```

BinaryTree
void bfTraverse() {
    Queue<Node> q = new LinkedList<Node>();
    if (r != nil) q.add(r);
    while (!q.isEmpty()) {
        Node u = q.remove();
        if (u.left != nil) q.add(u.left);
        if (u.right != nil) q.add(u.right);
    }
}

```

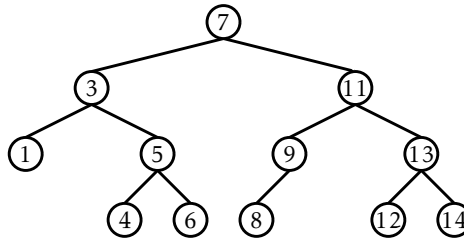


Figure 6.5: A binary search tree.

## 6.2 BinarySearchTree: An Unbalanced Binary Search Tree

A `BinarySearchTree` is a special kind of binary tree in which each node, `u`, also stores a data value, `u.x`, from some total order. The data values in a binary search tree obey the *binary search tree property*: For a node, `u`, every data value stored in the subtree rooted at `u.left` is less than `u.x` and every data value stored in the subtree rooted at `u.right` is greater than `u.x`. An example of a `BinarySearchTree` is shown in Figure 6.5.

### 6.2.1 Searching

The binary search tree property is extremely useful because it allows us to quickly locate a value, `x`, in a binary search tree. To do this we start searching for `x` at the root, `r`. When examining a node, `u`, there are three cases:

1. If `x < u.x`, then the search proceeds to `u.left`;
2. If `x > u.x`, then the search proceeds to `u.right`;
3. If `x = u.x`, then we have found the node `u` containing `x`.

The search terminates when Case 3 occurs or when `u = nil`. In the former case, we found `x`. In the latter case, we conclude that `x` is not in the binary



search tree.

```
BinarySearchTree
T findEQ(T x) {
    Node u = r;
    while (u != nil) {
        int comp = compare(x, u.x);
        if (comp < 0)
            u = u.left;
        else if (comp > 0)
            u = u.right;
        else
            return u.x;
    }
    return null;
}
```

Two examples of searches in a binary search tree are shown in Figure 6.6. As the second example shows, even if we don't find  $x$  in the tree, we still gain some valuable information. If we look at the last node,  $u$ , at which Case 1 occurred, we see that  $u.x$  is the smallest value in the tree that is greater than  $x$ . Similarly, the last node at which Case 2 occurred contains the largest value in the tree that is less than  $x$ . Therefore, by keeping track of the last node,  $z$ , at which Case 1 occurs, a BinarySearchTree can implement the  $\text{find}(x)$  operation that returns the smallest value stored in the tree that is greater than or equal to  $x$ :

```
BinarySearchTree
T find(T x) {
    Node w = r, z = nil;
    while (w != nil) {
        int comp = compare(x, w.x);
        if (comp < 0) {
            z = w;
            w = w.left;
        } else if (comp > 0) {
            w = w.right;
        } else {
            return w.x;
        }
    }
}
```

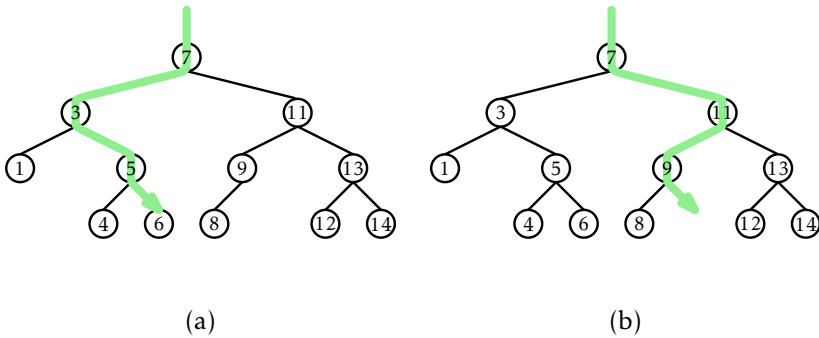


Figure 6.6: An example of (a) a successful search (for 6) and (b) an unsuccessful search (for 10) in a binary search tree.

```

    }
    return z == nil ? null : z.x;
}

```

### 6.2.2 Addition

To add a new value,  $x$ , to a `BinarySearchTree`, we first search for  $x$ . If we find it, then there is no need to insert it. Otherwise, we store  $x$  at a leaf child of the last node,  $p$ , encountered during the search for  $x$ . Whether the new node is the left or right child of  $p$  depends on the result of comparing  $x$  and  $p.x$ .

```

BinarySearchTree
boolean add(T x) {
    Node p = findLast(x);
    return addChild(p, newNode(x));
}

```

```

BinarySearchTree
Node findLast(T x) {
    Node w = r, prev = nil;
    while (w != nil) {

```

```

    prev = w;
    int comp = compare(x, w.x);
    if (comp < 0) {
        w = w.left;
    } else if (comp > 0) {
        w = w.right;
    } else {
        return w;
    }
}
return prev;
}

```

```

BinarySearchTree
boolean addChild(Node p, Node u) {
    if (p == nil) {
        r = u;                // inserting into empty tree
    } else {
        int comp = compare(u.x, p.x);
        if (comp < 0) {
            p.left = u;
        } else if (comp > 0) {
            p.right = u;
        } else {
            return false;    // u.x is already in the tree
        }
        u.parent = p;
    }
    n++;
    return true;
}

```

An example is shown in Figure 6.7. The most time-consuming part of this process is the initial search for  $x$ , which takes an amount of time proportional to the height of the newly added node  $u$ . In the worst case, this is equal to the height of the `BinarySearchTree`.

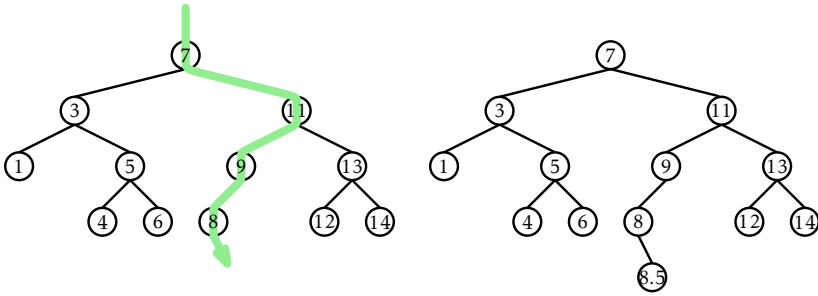


Figure 6.7: Inserting the value 8.5 into a binary search tree.

### 6.2.3 Removal

Deleting a value stored in a node,  $u$ , of a `BinarySearchTree` is a little more difficult. If  $u$  is a leaf, then we can just detach  $u$  from its parent. Even better: If  $u$  has only one child, then we can splice  $u$  from the tree by having  $u.parent$  adopt  $u$ 's child (see Figure 6.8):

```

BinarySearchTree
void splice(Node u) {
    Node s, p;
    if (u.left != nil) {
        s = u.left;
    } else {
        s = u.right;
    }
    if (u == r) {
        r = s;
        p = nil;
    } else {
        p = u.parent;
        if (p.left == u) {
            p.left = s;
        } else {
            p.right = s;
        }
    }
    if (s != nil) {

```

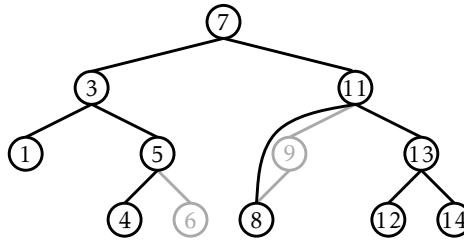


Figure 6.8: Removing a leaf (6) or a node with only one child (9) is easy.

```

    s.parent = p;
  }
  n--;
}

```

Things get tricky, though, when `u` has two children. In this case, the simplest thing to do is to find a node, `w`, that has less than two children and such that `w.x` can replace `u.x`. To maintain the binary search tree property, the value `w.x` should be close to the value of `u.x`. For example, choosing `w` such that `w.x` is the smallest value greater than `u.x` will work. Finding the node `w` is easy; it is the smallest value in the subtree rooted at `u.right`. This node can be easily removed because it has no left child (see Figure 6.9).

```

BinarySearchTree
void remove(Node u) {
    if (u.left == nil || u.right == nil) {
        splice(u);
    } else {
        Node w = u.right;
        while (w.left != nil)
            w = w.left;
        u.x = w.x;
        splice(w);
    }
}

```

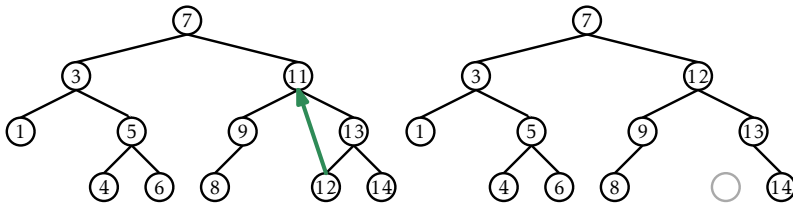


Figure 6.9: Deleting a value (11) from a node,  $u$ , with two children is done by replacing  $u$ 's value with the smallest value in the right subtree of  $u$ .

#### 6.2.4 Summary

The `find(x)`, `add(x)`, and `remove(x)` operations in a `BinarySearchTree` each involve following a path from the root of the tree to some node in the tree. Without knowing more about the shape of the tree it is difficult to say much about the length of this path, except that it is less than  $n$ , the number of nodes in the tree. The following (unimpressive) theorem summarizes the performance of the `BinarySearchTree` data structure:

**Theorem 6.1.** *BinarySearchTree implements the SSet interface and supports the operations `add(x)`, `remove(x)`, and `find(x)` in  $O(n)$  time per operation.*

Theorem 6.1 compares poorly with Theorem 4.1, which shows that the `SkipListSSet` structure can implement the `SSet` interface with  $O(\log n)$  expected time per operation. The problem with the `BinarySearchTree` structure is that it can become *unbalanced*. Instead of looking like the tree in Figure 6.5 it can look like a long chain of  $n$  nodes, all but the last having exactly one child.

There are a number of ways of avoiding unbalanced binary search trees, all of which lead to data structures that have  $O(\log n)$  time operations. In Chapter 7 we show how  $O(\log n)$  expected time operations can be achieved with randomization. In Chapter 8 we show how  $O(\log n)$  amortized time operations can be achieved with partial rebuilding operations. In Chapter 9 we show how  $O(\log n)$  worst-case time operations can be achieved by simulating a tree that is not binary: one in which nodes can have up to four children.

## 6.3 Discussion and Exercises

Binary trees have been used to model relationships for thousands of years. One reason for this is that binary trees naturally model (pedigree) family trees. These are the family trees in which the root is a person, the left and right children are the person's parents, and so on, recursively. In more recent centuries binary trees have also been used to model species trees in biology, where the leaves of the tree represent extant species and the internal nodes of the tree represent *speciation events* in which two populations of a single species evolve into two separate species.

Binary search trees appear to have been discovered independently by several groups in the 1950s [48, Section 6.2.2]. Further references to specific kinds of binary search trees are provided in subsequent chapters.

When implementing a binary tree from scratch, there are several design decisions to be made. One of these is the question of whether or not each node stores a pointer to its parent. If most of the operations simply follow a root-to-leaf path, then parent pointers are unnecessary, waste space, and are a potential source of coding errors. On the other hand, the lack of parent pointers means that tree traversals must be done recursively or with the use of an explicit stack. Some other methods (like inserting or deleting into some kinds of balanced binary search trees) are also complicated by the lack of parent pointers.

Another design decision is concerned with how to store the parent, left child, and right child pointers at a node. In the implementation given here, these pointers are stored as separate variables. Another option is to store them in an array, `p`, of length 3, so that `u.p[0]` is the left child of `u`, `u.p[1]` is the right child of `u`, and `u.p[2]` is the parent of `u`. Using an array this way means that some sequences of `if` statements can be simplified into algebraic expressions.

An example of such a simplification occurs during tree traversal. If a traversal arrives at a node `u` from `u.p[i]`, then the next node in the traversal is `u.p[(i + 1) mod 3]`. Similar examples occur when there is left-right symmetry. For example, the sibling of `u.p[i]` is `u.p[(i + 1) mod 2]`. This trick works whether `u.p[i]` is a left child (`i = 0`) or a right child (`i = 1`) of `u`. In some cases this means that some complicated code that would otherwise need to have both a left version and right version can be writ-

ten only once. See the methods `rotateLeft(u)` and `rotateRight(u)` on page 163 for an example.

**Exercise 6.1.** Prove that a binary tree having  $n \geq 1$  nodes has  $n - 1$  edges.

**Exercise 6.2.** Prove that a binary tree having  $n \geq 1$  real nodes has  $n + 1$  external nodes.

**Exercise 6.3.** Prove that, if a binary tree,  $T$ , has at least one leaf, then either (a)  $T$ 's root has at most one child or (b)  $T$  has more than one leaf.

**Exercise 6.4.** Implement a non-recursive method, `size2(u)`, that computes the size of the subtree rooted at node `u`.

**Exercise 6.5.** Write a non-recursive method, `height2(u)`, that computes the height of node `u` in a `BinaryTree`.

**Exercise 6.6.** A binary tree is *size-balanced* if, for every node `u`, the size of the subtrees rooted at `u.left` and `u.right` differ by at most one. Write a recursive method, `isBalanced()`, that tests if a binary tree is balanced. Your method should run in  $O(n)$  time. (Be sure to test your code on some large trees with different shapes; it is easy to write a method that takes much longer than  $O(n)$  time.)

A *pre-order* traversal of a binary tree is a traversal that visits each node, `u`, before any of its children. An *in-order* traversal visits `u` after visiting all the nodes in `u`'s left subtree but before visiting any of the nodes in `u`'s right subtree. A *post-order* traversal visits `u` only after visiting all other nodes in `u`'s subtree. The pre/in/post-order numbering of a tree labels the nodes of a tree with the integers  $0, \dots, n - 1$  in the order that they are encountered by a pre/in/post-order traversal. See Figure 6.10 for an example.

**Exercise 6.7.** Create a subclass of `BinaryTree` whose nodes have fields for storing pre-order, post-order, and in-order numbers. Write recursive methods `preOrderNumber()`, `inOrderNumber()`, and `postOrderNumbers()` that assign these numbers correctly. These methods should each run in  $O(n)$  time.



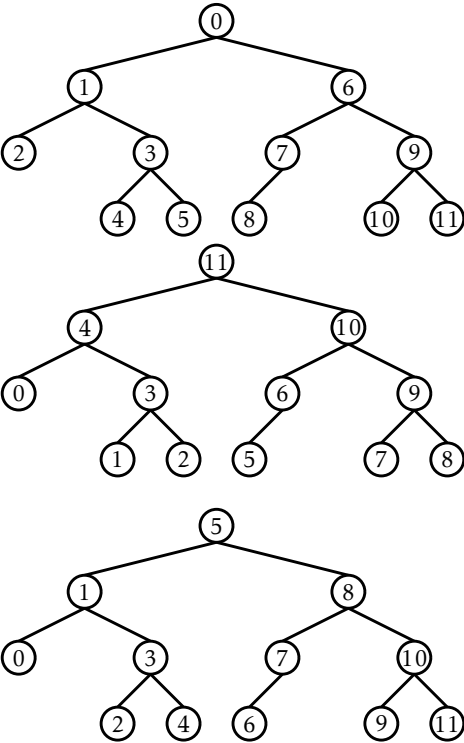


Figure 6.10: Pre-order, post-order, and in-order numberings of a binary tree.

**Exercise 6.8.** Implement the non-recursive functions `nextPreOrder(u)`, `nextInOrder(u)`, and `nextPostOrder(u)` that return the node that follows `u` in a pre-order, in-order, or post-order traversal, respectively. These functions should take amortized constant time; if we start at any node `u` and repeatedly call one of these functions and assign the return value to `u` until `u = null`, then the cost of all these calls should be  $O(n)$ .

**Exercise 6.9.** Suppose we are given a binary tree with pre-, post-, and in-order numbers assigned to the nodes. Show how these numbers can be used to answer each of the following questions in constant time:

1. Given a node `u`, determine the size of the subtree rooted at `u`.
2. Given a node `u`, determine the depth of `u`.
3. Given two nodes `u` and `w`, determine if `u` is an ancestor of `w`.

**Exercise 6.10.** Suppose you are given a list of nodes with pre-order and in-order numbers assigned. Prove that there is at most one possible tree with this pre-order/in-order numbering and show how to construct it.

**Exercise 6.11.** Show that the shape of any binary tree on  $n$  nodes can be represented using at most  $2(n - 1)$  bits. (Hint: think about recording what happens during a traversal and then playing back that recording to reconstruct the tree.)

**Exercise 6.12.** Illustrate what happens when we add the values 3.5 and then 4.5 to the binary search tree in Figure 6.5.

**Exercise 6.13.** Illustrate what happens when we remove the values 3 and then 5 from the binary search tree in Figure 6.5.

**Exercise 6.14.** Implement a `BinarySearchTree` method, `getLE(x)`, that returns a list of all items in the tree that are less than or equal to `x`. The running time of your method should be  $O(n' + h)$  where  $n'$  is the number of items less than or equal to `x` and  $h$  is the height of the tree.

**Exercise 6.15.** Describe how to add the elements  $\{1, \dots, n\}$  to an initially empty `BinarySearchTree` in such a way that the resulting tree has height  $n - 1$ . How many ways are there to do this?

**Exercise 6.16.** If we have some `BinarySearchTree` and perform the operations `add(x)` followed by `remove(x)` (with the same value of `x`) do we necessarily return to the original tree?

**Exercise 6.17.** Can a `remove(x)` operation increase the height of any node in a `BinarySearchTree`? If so, by how much?

**Exercise 6.18.** Can an `add(x)` operation increase the height of any node in a `BinarySearchTree`? Can it increase the height of the tree? If so, by how much?

**Exercise 6.19.** Design and implement a version of `BinarySearchTree` in which each node, `u`, maintains values `u.size` (the size of the subtree rooted at `u`), `u.depth` (the depth of `u`), and `u.height` (the height of the subtree rooted at `u`).

These values should be maintained, even during calls to the `add(x)` and `remove(x)` operations, but this should not increase the cost of these operations by more than a constant factor.



## Chapter 7

# Random Binary Search Trees

In this chapter, we present a binary search tree structure that uses randomization to achieve  $O(\log n)$  expected time for all operations.

### 7.1 Random Binary Search Trees

Consider the two binary search trees shown in Figure 7.1, each of which has  $n = 15$  nodes. The one on the left is a list and the other is a perfectly balanced binary search tree. The one on the left has a height of  $n - 1 = 14$  and the one on the right has a height of three.

Imagine how these two trees could have been constructed. The one on the left occurs if we start with an empty `BinarySearchTree` and add the sequence

$\langle 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 \rangle$  .

No other sequence of additions will create this tree (as you can prove by induction on  $n$ ). On the other hand, the tree on the right can be created by the sequence

$\langle 7, 3, 11, 1, 5, 9, 13, 0, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14 \rangle$  .

Other sequences work as well, including

$\langle 7, 3, 1, 5, 0, 2, 4, 6, 11, 9, 13, 8, 10, 12, 14 \rangle$  ,

and

$\langle 7, 3, 1, 11, 5, 0, 2, 4, 6, 9, 13, 8, 10, 12, 14 \rangle$  .

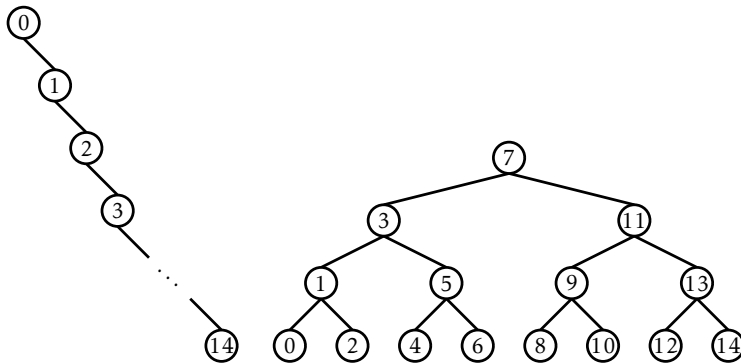


Figure 7.1: Two binary search trees containing the integers  $0, \dots, 14$ .

In fact, there are 21,964,800 addition sequences that generate the tree on the right and only one that generates the tree on the left.

The above example gives some anecdotal evidence that, if we choose a random permutation of  $0, \dots, 14$ , and add it into a binary search tree, then we are more likely to get a very balanced tree (the right side of Figure 7.1) than we are to get a very unbalanced tree (the left side of Figure 7.1).

We can formalize this notion by studying random binary search trees. A *random binary search tree* of size  $n$  is obtained in the following way: Take a random permutation,  $x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}$ , of the integers  $0, \dots, n-1$  and add its elements, one by one, into a `BinarySearchTree`. By *random permutation* we mean that each of the possible  $n!$  permutations (orderings) of  $0, \dots, n-1$  is equally likely, so that the probability of obtaining any particular permutation is  $1/n!$ .

Note that the values  $0, \dots, n-1$  could be replaced by any ordered set of  $n$  elements without changing any of the properties of the random binary search tree. The element  $x \in \{0, \dots, n-1\}$  is simply standing in for the element of rank  $x$  in an ordered set of size  $n$ .

Before we can present our main result about random binary search trees, we must take some time for a short digression to discuss a type of number that comes up frequently when studying randomized structures. For a non-negative integer,  $k$ , the  $k$ -th *harmonic number*, denoted  $H_k$ , is

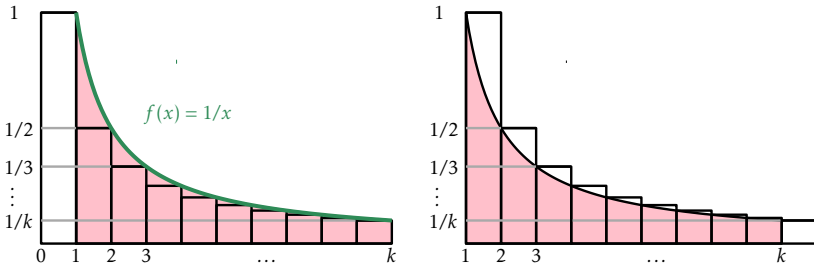


Figure 7.2: The  $k$ th harmonic number  $H_k = \sum_{i=1}^k 1/i$  is upper- and lower-bounded by two integrals. The value of these integrals is given by the area of the shaded region, while the value of  $H_k$  is given by the area of the rectangles.

defined as

$$H_k = 1 + 1/2 + 1/3 + \cdots + 1/k .$$

The harmonic number  $H_k$  has no simple closed form, but it is very closely related to the natural logarithm of  $k$ . In particular,

$$\ln k < H_k \leq \ln k + 1 .$$

Readers who have studied calculus might notice that this is because the integral  $\int_1^k (1/x) dx = \ln k$ . Keeping in mind that an integral can be interpreted as the area between a curve and the  $x$ -axis, the value of  $H_k$  can be lower-bounded by the integral  $\int_1^k (1/x) dx$  and upper-bounded by  $1 + \int_1^k (1/x) dx$ . (See Figure 7.2 for a graphical explanation.)

**Lemma 7.1.** *In a random binary search tree of size  $n$ , the following statements hold:*

1. For any  $x \in \{0, \dots, n-1\}$ , the expected length of the search path for  $x$  is  $H_{x+1} + H_{n-x} - O(1)$ .<sup>1</sup>
2. For any  $x \in (-1, n) \setminus \{0, \dots, n-1\}$ , the expected length of the search path for  $x$  is  $H_{\lceil x \rceil} + H_{n-\lceil x \rceil}$ .

<sup>1</sup>The expressions  $x+1$  and  $n-x$  can be interpreted respectively as the number of elements in the tree less than or equal to  $x$  and the number of elements in the tree greater than or equal to  $x$ .

We will prove Lemma 7.1 in the next section. For now, consider what the two parts of Lemma 7.1 tell us. The first part tells us that if we search for an element in a tree of size  $n$ , then the expected length of the search path is at most  $2 \ln n + O(1)$ . The second part tells us the same thing about searching for a value not stored in the tree. When we compare the two parts of the lemma, we see that it is only slightly faster to search for something that is in the tree compared to something that is not.

### 7.1.1 Proof of Lemma 7.1

The key observation needed to prove Lemma 7.1 is the following: The search path for a value  $x$  in the open interval  $(-1, n)$  in a random binary search tree,  $T$ , contains the node with key  $i < x$  if, and only if, in the random permutation used to create  $T$ ,  $i$  appears before any of  $\{i+1, i+2, \dots, \lfloor x \rfloor\}$ .

To see this, refer to Figure 7.3 and notice that until some value in  $\{i, i+1, \dots, \lfloor x \rfloor\}$  is added, the search paths for each value in the open interval  $(i-1, \lfloor x \rfloor+1)$  are identical. (Remember that for two values to have different search paths, there must be some element in the tree that compares differently with them.) Let  $j$  be the first element in  $\{i, i+1, \dots, \lfloor x \rfloor\}$  to appear in the random permutation. Notice that  $j$  is now and will always be on the search path for  $x$ . If  $j \neq i$  then the node  $u_j$  containing  $j$  is created before the node  $u_i$  that contains  $i$ . Later, when  $i$  is added, it will be added to the subtree rooted at  $u_j.\text{left}$ , since  $i < j$ . On the other hand, the search path for  $x$  will never visit this subtree because it will proceed to  $u_j.\text{right}$  after visiting  $u_j$ .

Similarly, for  $i > x$ ,  $i$  appears in the search path for  $x$  if and only if  $i$  appears before any of  $\{\lceil x \rceil, \lceil x \rceil+1, \dots, i-1\}$  in the random permutation used to create  $T$ .

Notice that, if we start with a random permutation of  $\{0, \dots, n\}$ , then the subsequences containing only  $\{i, i+1, \dots, \lfloor x \rfloor\}$  and  $\{\lceil x \rceil, \lceil x \rceil+1, \dots, i-1\}$  are also random permutations of their respective elements. Each element, then, in the subsets  $\{i, i+1, \dots, \lfloor x \rfloor\}$  and  $\{\lceil x \rceil, \lceil x \rceil+1, \dots, i-1\}$  is equally likely to appear before any other in its subset in the random permutation used



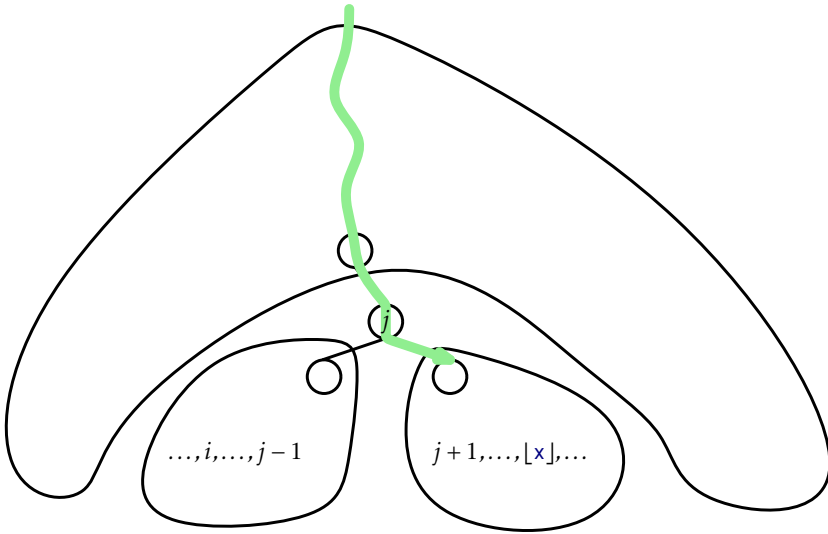


Figure 7.3: The value  $i < x$  is on the search path for  $x$  if and only if  $i$  is the first element among  $\{i, i+1, \dots, \lfloor x \rfloor\}$  added to the tree.

to create  $T$ . So we have

$$\Pr\{i \text{ is on the search path for } x\} = \begin{cases} 1/(\lfloor x \rfloor - i + 1) & \text{if } i < x \\ 1/(i - \lceil x \rceil + 1) & \text{if } i > x \end{cases}.$$

With this observation, the proof of Lemma 7.1 involves some simple calculations with harmonic numbers:

*Proof of Lemma 7.1.* Let  $I_i$  be the indicator random variable that is equal to one when  $i$  appears on the search path for  $x$  and zero otherwise. Then the length of the search path is given by

$$\sum_{i \in \{0, \dots, n-1\} \setminus \{x\}} I_i$$

so, if  $x \in \{0, \dots, n-1\}$ , the expected length of the search path is given by

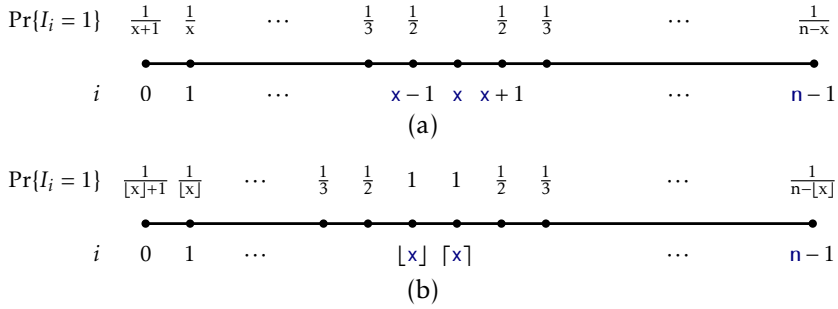


Figure 7.4: The probabilities of an element being on the search path for  $x$  when (a)  $x$  is an integer and (b) when  $x$  is not an integer.

(see Figure 7.4.a)

$$\begin{aligned}
 E \left[ \sum_{i=0}^{x-1} I_i + \sum_{i=x+1}^{n-1} I_i \right] &= \sum_{i=0}^{x-1} E[I_i] + \sum_{i=x+1}^{n-1} E[I_i] \\
 &= \sum_{i=0}^{x-1} 1/(\lfloor x \rfloor - i + 1) + \sum_{i=x+1}^{n-1} 1/(i - \lceil x \rceil + 1) \\
 &= \sum_{i=0}^{x-1} 1/(x - i + 1) + \sum_{i=x+1}^{n-1} 1/(i - x + 1) \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \dots + \frac{1}{x+1} \\
 &\quad + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \dots + \frac{1}{n-x} \\
 &= H_{x+1} + H_{n-x} - 2.
 \end{aligned}$$

The corresponding calculations for a search value  $x \in (-1, n) \setminus \{0, \dots, n-1\}$  are almost identical (see Figure 7.4.b).  $\square$

### 7.1.2 Summary

The following theorem summarizes the performance of a random binary search tree:

**Theorem 7.1.** *A random binary search tree can be constructed in  $O(n \log n)$  time. In a random binary search tree, the `find(x)` operation takes  $O(\log n)$  expected time.*

We should emphasize again that the expectation in Theorem 7.1 is with respect to the random permutation used to create the random binary search tree. In particular, it does not depend on a random choice of `x`; it is true for every value of `x`.

## 7.2 Treap: A Randomized Binary Search Tree

The problem with random binary search trees is, of course, that they are not dynamic. They don't support the `add(x)` or `remove(x)` operations needed to implement the `SSet` interface. In this section we describe a data structure called a Treap that uses Lemma 7.1 to implement the `SSet` interface.<sup>2</sup>

A node in a Treap is like a node in a `BinarySearchTree` in that it has a data value, `x`, but it also contains a unique numerical *priority*, `p`, that is assigned at random:

```

Treap
class Node<T> extends BSTNode<Node<T>, T> {
    int p;
}
```

In addition to being a binary search tree, the nodes in a Treap also obey the *heap property*:

- (Heap Property) At every node `u`, except the root, `u.parent.p < u.p`.

In other words, each node has a priority smaller than that of its two children. An example is shown in Figure 7.5.

The heap and binary search tree conditions together ensure that, once the key (`x`) and priority (`p`) for each node are defined, the shape of the Treap is completely determined. The heap property tells us that the node

<sup>2</sup>The names Treap comes from the fact that this data structure is simultaneously a binary search tree (Section 6.2) and a heap (Chapter 10).

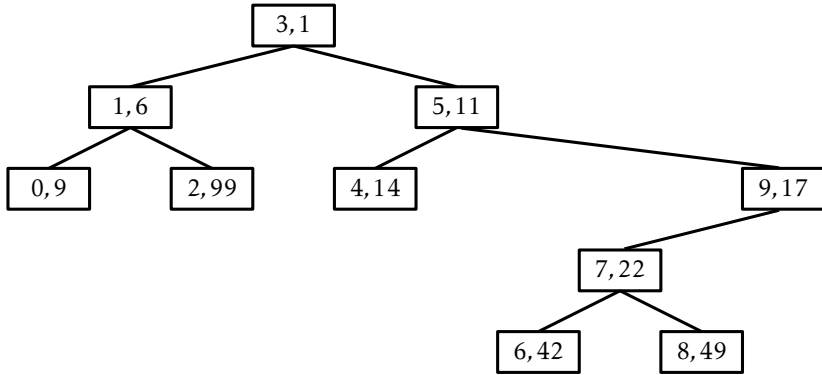


Figure 7.5: An example of a Treap containing the integers  $0, \dots, 9$ . Each node,  $u$ , is illustrated as a box containing  $u.x, u.p$ .

with minimum priority has to be the root,  $r$ , of the Treap. The binary search tree property tells us that all nodes with keys smaller than  $r.x$  are stored in the subtree rooted at  $r.left$  and all nodes with keys larger than  $r.x$  are stored in the subtree rooted at  $r.right$ .

The important point about the priority values in a Treap is that they are unique and assigned at random. Because of this, there are two equivalent ways we can think about a Treap. As defined above, a Treap obeys the heap and binary search tree properties. Alternatively, we can think of a Treap as a `BinarySearchTree` whose nodes were added in increasing order of priority. For example, the Treap in Figure 7.5 can be obtained by adding the sequence of  $(x, p)$  values

$\langle (3, 1), (1, 6), (0, 9), (5, 11), (4, 14), (9, 17), (7, 22), (6, 42), (8, 49), (2, 99) \rangle$

into a `BinarySearchTree`.

Since the priorities are chosen randomly, this is equivalent to taking a random permutation of the keys—in this case the permutation is

$\langle 3, 1, 0, 5, 9, 4, 7, 6, 8, 2 \rangle$

—and adding these to a `BinarySearchTree`. But this means that the shape of a treap is identical to that of a random binary search tree. In

particular, if we replace each key  $x$  by its rank,<sup>3</sup> then Lemma 7.1 applies. Restating Lemma 7.1 in terms of Treaps, we have:

**Lemma 7.2.** *In a Treap that stores a set  $S$  of  $n$  keys, the following statements hold:*

1. *For any  $x \in S$ , the expected length of the search path for  $x$  is  $H_{r(x)+1} + H_{n-r(x)} - O(1)$ .*
2. *For any  $x \notin S$ , the expected length of the search path for  $x$  is  $H_{r(x)} + H_{n-r(x)}$ .*

Here,  $r(x)$  denotes the rank of  $x$  in the set  $S \cup \{x\}$ .

Again, we emphasize that the expectation in Lemma 7.2 is taken over the random choices of the priorities for each node. It does not require any assumptions about the randomness in the keys.

Lemma 7.2 tells us that Treaps can implement the `find(x)` operation efficiently. However, the real benefit of a Treap is that it can support the `add(x)` and `delete(x)` operations. To do this, it needs to perform rotations in order to maintain the heap property. Refer to Figure 7.6. A *rotation* in a binary search tree is a local modification that takes a parent  $u$  of a node  $w$  and makes  $w$  the parent of  $u$ , while preserving the binary search tree property. Rotations come in two flavours: *left* or *right* depending on whether  $w$  is a right or left child of  $u$ , respectively.

The code that implements this has to handle these two possibilities and be careful of a boundary case (when  $u$  is the root), so the actual code is a little longer than Figure 7.6 would lead a reader to believe:

```

BinarySearchTree
void rotateLeft(Node u) {
    Node w = u.right;
    w.parent = u.parent;
    if (w.parent != nil) {
        if (w.parent.left == u) {
            w.parent.left = w;
        } else {

```

<sup>3</sup>The rank of an element  $x$  in a set  $S$  of elements is the number of elements in  $S$  that are less than  $x$ .

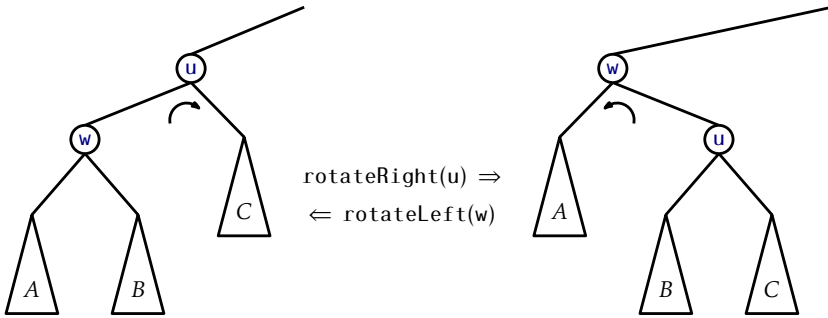


Figure 7.6: Left and right rotations in a binary search tree.

```

    w.parent.right = w;
  }
}
u.right = w.left;
if (u.right != nil) {
    u.right.parent = u;
}
u.parent = w;
w.left = u;
if (u == r) { r = w; r.parent = nil; }
}

void rotateRight(Node u) {
    Node w = u.left;
    w.parent = u.parent;
    if (w.parent != nil) {
        if (w.parent.left == u) {
            w.parent.left = w;
        } else {
            w.parent.right = w;
        }
    }
    u.left = w.right;
    if (u.left != nil) {
        u.left.parent = u;
    }
    u.parent = w;
    w.right = u;
}

```

```

    if (u == r) { r = w; r.parent = nil; }
}

```

In terms of the Treap data structure, the most important property of a rotation is that the depth of `w` decreases by one while the depth of `u` increases by one.

Using rotations, we can implement the `add(x)` operation as follows: We create a new node, `u`, assign `u.x = x`, and pick a random value for `u.p`. Next we add `u` using the usual `add(x)` algorithm for a `BinarySearchTree`, so that `u` is now a leaf of the Treap. At this point, our Treap satisfies the binary search tree property, but not necessarily the heap property. In particular, it may be the case that `u.parent.p > u.p`. If this is the case, then we perform a rotation at node `w=u.parent` so that `u` becomes the parent of `w`. If `u` continues to violate the heap property, we will have to repeat this, decreasing `u`'s depth by one every time, until `u` either becomes the root or `u.parent.p < u.p`.

```

Treap
boolean add(T x) {
    Node<T> u = newNode();
    u.x = x;
    u.p = rand.nextInt();
    if (super.add(u)) {
        bubbleUp(u);
        return true;
    }
    return false;
}

void bubbleUp(Node<T> u) {
    while (u.parent != nil && u.parent.p > u.p) {
        if (u.parent.right == u) {
            rotateLeft(u.parent);
        } else {
            rotateRight(u.parent);
        }
    }
    if (u.parent == nil) {
        r = u;
    }
}

```

}

An example of an `add(x)` operation is shown in Figure 7.7.

The running time of the `add(x)` operation is given by the time it takes to follow the search path for `x` plus the number of rotations performed to move the newly-added node, `u`, up to its correct location in the Treap. By Lemma 7.2, the expected length of the search path is at most  $2\ln n + O(1)$ . Furthermore, each rotation decreases the depth of `u`. This stops if `u` becomes the root, so the expected number of rotations cannot exceed the expected length of the search path. Therefore, the expected running time of the `add(x)` operation in a Treap is  $O(\log n)$ . (Exercise 7.5 asks you to show that the expected number of rotations performed during an addition is actually only  $O(1)$ .)

The `remove(x)` operation in a Treap is the opposite of the `add(x)` operation. We search for the node, `u`, containing `x`, then perform rotations to move `u` downwards until it becomes a leaf, and then we splice `u` from the Treap. Notice that, to move `u` downwards, we can perform either a left or right rotation at `u`, which will replace `u` with `u.right` or `u.left`, respectively. The choice is made by the first of the following that apply:

1. If `u.left` and `u.right` are both `null`, then `u` is a leaf and no rotation is performed.
2. If `u.left` (or `u.right`) is `null`, then perform a right (or left, respectively) rotation at `u`.
3. If `u.left.p < u.right.p` (or `u.left.p > u.right.p`), then perform a right rotation (or left rotation, respectively) at `u`.

These three rules ensure that the Treap doesn't become disconnected and that the heap property is restored once `u` is removed.

Treap

```
boolean remove(T x) {
    Node<T> u = findLast(x);
    if (u != nil && compare(u.x, x) == 0) {
        trickleDown(u);
        splice(u);
        return true;
    }
```



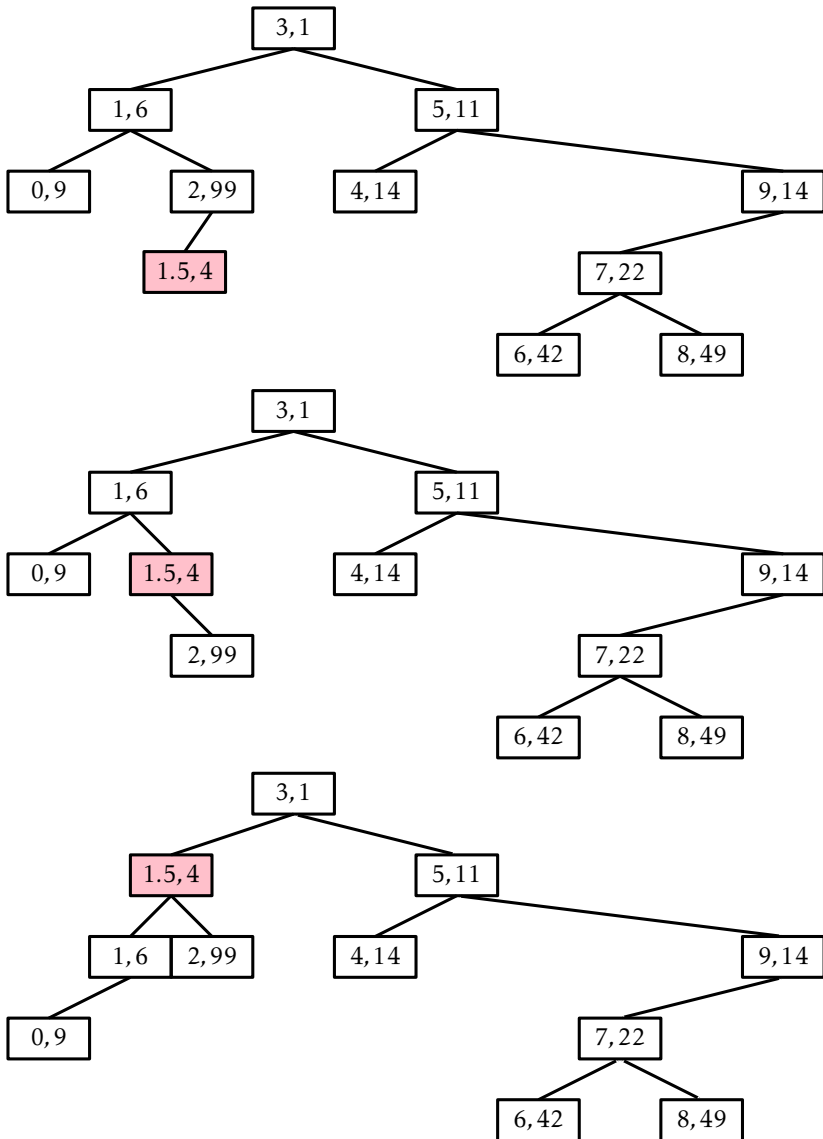


Figure 7.7: Adding the value 1.5 into the Treap from Figure 7.5.

```

    }
    return false;
}
void trickleDown(Node<T> u) {
    while (u.left != nil || u.right != nil) {
        if (u.left == nil) {
            rotateLeft(u);
        } else if (u.right == nil) {
            rotateRight(u);
        } else if (u.left.p < u.right.p) {
            rotateRight(u);
        } else {
            rotateLeft(u);
        }
        if (r == u) {
            r = u.parent;
        }
    }
}
}

```

An example of the `remove(x)` operation is shown in Figure 7.8.

The trick to analyze the running time of the `remove(x)` operation is to notice that this operation reverses the `add(x)` operation. In particular, if we were to reinsert `x`, using the same priority `u.p`, then the `add(x)` operation would do exactly the same number of rotations and would restore the Treap to exactly the same state it was in before the `remove(x)` operation took place. (Reading from bottom-to-top, Figure 7.8 illustrates the addition of the value 9 into a Treap.) This means that the expected running time of the `remove(x)` on a Treap of size `n` is proportional to the expected running time of the `add(x)` operation on a Treap of size `n-1`. We conclude that the expected running time of `remove(x)` is  $O(\log n)$ .

### 7.2.1 Summary

The following theorem summarizes the performance of the Treap data structure:

**Theorem 7.2.** *A Treap implements the SSet interface. A Treap supports the operations `add(x)`, `remove(x)`, and `find(x)` in  $O(\log n)$  expected time per*

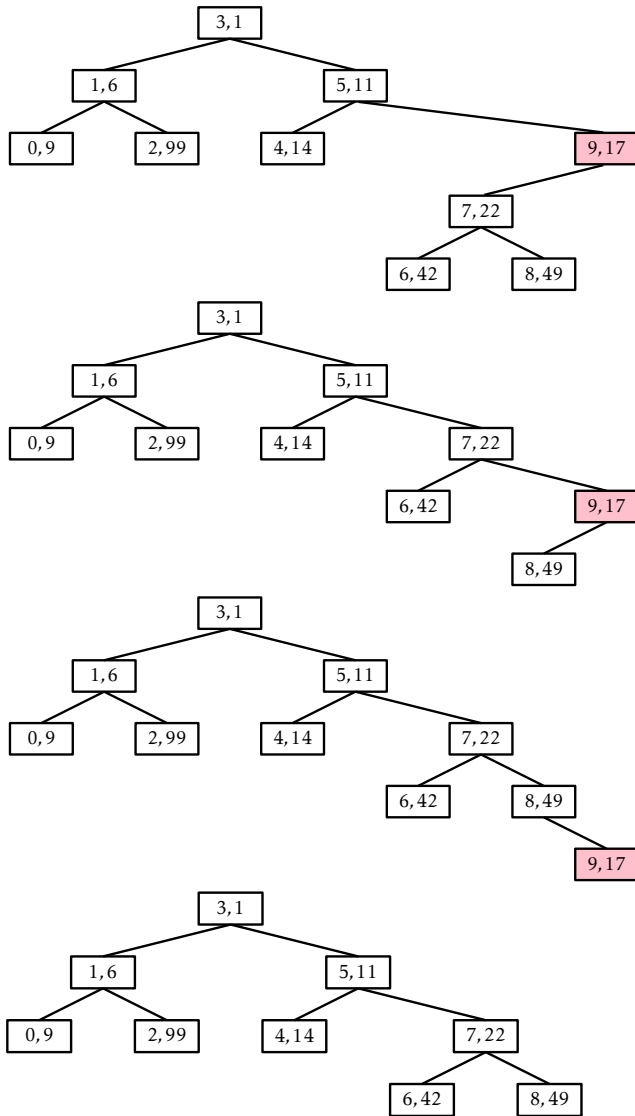


Figure 7.8: Removing the value 9 from the Treap in Figure 7.5.

*operation.*

It is worth comparing the Treap data structure to the `SkiplistSSet` data structure. Both implement the `SSet` operations in  $O(\log n)$  expected time per operation. In both data structures, `add(x)` and `remove(x)` involve a search and then a constant number of pointer changes (see Exercise 7.5 below). Thus, for both these structures, the expected length of the search path is the critical value in assessing their performance. In a `SkiplistS-Set`, the expected length of a search path is

$$2\log n + O(1) ,$$

In a Treap, the expected length of a search path is

$$2\ln n + O(1) \approx 1.386\log n + O(1) .$$

Thus, the search paths in a Treap are considerably shorter and this translates into noticeably faster operations on Treaps than `Skiplists`. Exercise 4.7 in Chapter 4 shows how the expected length of the search path in a `Skiplist` can be reduced to

$$e\ln n + O(1) \approx 1.884\log n + O(1)$$

by using biased coin tosses. Even with this optimization, the expected length of search paths in a `SkiplistSSet` is noticeably longer than in a Treap.

## 7.3 Discussion and Exercises

Random binary search trees have been studied extensively. Devroye [19] gives a proof of Lemma 7.1 and related results. There are much stronger results in the literature as well, the most impressive of which is due to Reed [64], who shows that the expected height of a random binary search tree is

$$\alpha \ln n - \beta \ln \ln n + O(1)$$

where  $\alpha \approx 4.31107$  is the unique solution on the interval  $[2, \infty)$  of the equation  $\alpha \ln((2e/\alpha)) = 1$  and  $\beta = \frac{3}{2\ln(\alpha/2)}$ . Furthermore, the variance of the height is constant.

The name Treap was coined by Seidel and Aragon [67] who discussed Treaps and some of their variants. However, their basic structure was studied much earlier by Vuillemin [76] who called them Cartesian trees.

One possible space-optimization of the Treap data structure is the elimination of the explicit storage of the priority  $p$  in each node. Instead, the priority of a node,  $u$ , is computed by hashing  $u$ 's address in memory (in 32-bit Java, this is equivalent to hashing  $u.hashCode()$ ). Although a number of hash functions will probably work well for this in practice, for the important parts of the proof of Lemma 7.1 to remain valid, the hash function should be randomized and have the *min-wise independent property*: For any distinct values  $x_1, \dots, x_k$ , each of the hash values  $h(x_1), \dots, h(x_k)$  should be distinct with high probability and, for each  $i \in \{1, \dots, k\}$ ,

$$\Pr\{h(x_i) = \min\{h(x_1), \dots, h(x_k)\}\} \leq c/k$$

for some constant  $c$ . One such class of hash functions that is easy to implement and fairly fast is *tabulation hashing* (Section 5.2.3).

Another Treap variant that doesn't store priorities at each node is the randomized binary search tree of Martínez and Roura [51]. In this variant, every node,  $u$ , stores the size,  $u.size$ , of the subtree rooted at  $u$ . Both the  $add(x)$  and  $remove(x)$  algorithms are randomized. The algorithm for adding  $x$  to the subtree rooted at  $u$  does the following:

1. With probability  $1/(size(u)+1)$ , the value  $x$  is added the usual way, as a leaf, and rotations are then done to bring  $x$  up to the root of this subtree.
2. Otherwise (with probability  $1 - 1/(size(u) + 1)$ ), the value  $x$  is recursively added into one of the two subtrees rooted at  $u.left$  or  $u.right$ , as appropriate.

The first case corresponds to an  $add(x)$  operation in a Treap where  $x$ 's node receives a random priority that is smaller than any of the  $size(u)$  priorities in  $u$ 's subtree, and this case occurs with exactly the same probability.

Removing a value  $x$  from a randomized binary search tree is similar to the process of removing from a Treap. We find the node,  $u$ , that contains  $x$  and then perform rotations that repeatedly increase the depth of  $u$  until

it becomes a leaf, at which point we can splice it from the tree. The choice of whether to perform a left or right rotation at each step is randomized.

1. With probability  $u.\text{left.size}/(u.\text{size} - 1)$ , we perform a right rotation at  $u$ , making  $u.\text{left}$  the root of the subtree that was formerly rooted at  $u$ .
2. With probability  $u.\text{right.size}/(u.\text{size} - 1)$ , we perform a left rotation at  $u$ , making  $u.\text{right}$  the root of the subtree that was formerly rooted at  $u$ .

Again, we can easily verify that these are exactly the same probabilities that the removal algorithm in a Treap will perform a left or right rotation of  $u$ .

Randomized binary search trees have the disadvantage, compared to treaps, that when adding and removing elements they make many random choices, and they must maintain the sizes of subtrees. One advantage of randomized binary search trees over treaps is that subtree sizes can serve another useful purpose, namely to provide access by rank in  $O(\log n)$  expected time (see Exercise 7.10). In comparison, the random priorities stored in treap nodes have no use other than keeping the treap balanced.

**Exercise 7.1.** Illustrate the addition of 4.5 (with priority 7) and then 7.5 (with priority 20) on the Treap in Figure 7.5.

**Exercise 7.2.** Illustrate the removal of 5 and then 7 on the Treap in Figure 7.5.

**Exercise 7.3.** Prove the assertion that there are 21,964,800 sequences that generate the tree on the right hand side of Figure 7.1. (Hint: Give a recursive formula for the number of sequences that generate a complete binary tree of height  $h$  and evaluate this formula for  $h = 3$ .)

**Exercise 7.4.** Design and implement the `permute(a)` method that takes as input an array, `a`, that contains `n` distinct values and randomly permutes `a`. The method should run in  $O(n)$  time and you should prove that each of the  $n!$  possible permutations of `a` is equally probable.

**Exercise 7.5.** Use both parts of Lemma 7.2 to prove that the expected number of rotations performed by an `add(x)` operation (and hence also a `remove(x)` operation) is  $O(1)$ .

**Exercise 7.6.** Modify the Treap implementation given here so that it does not explicitly store priorities. Instead, it should simulate them by hashing the `hashCode()` of each node.

**Exercise 7.7.** Suppose that a binary search tree stores, at each node, `u`, the height, `u.height`, of the subtree rooted at `u`, and the size, `u.size` of the subtree rooted at `u`.

1. Show how, if we perform a left or right rotation at `u`, then these two quantities can be updated, in constant time, for all nodes affected by the rotation.
2. Explain why the same result is not possible if we try to also store the depth, `u.depth`, of each node `u`.

**Exercise 7.8.** Design and implement an algorithm that constructs a Treap from a sorted array, `a`, of `n` elements. This method should run in  $O(n)$  worst-case time and should construct a Treap that is indistinguishable from one in which the elements of `a` were added one at a time using the `add(x)` method.

**Exercise 7.9.** This exercise works out the details of how one can efficiently search a Treap given a pointer that is close to the node we are searching for.

1. Design and implement a Treap implementation in which each node keeps track of the minimum and maximum values in its subtree.
2. Using this extra information, add a `fingerFind(x, u)` method that executes the `find(x)` operation with the help of a pointer to the node `u` (which is hopefully not far from the node that contains `x`). This operation should start at `u` and walk upwards until it reaches a node `w` such that `w.min ≤ x ≤ w.max`. From that point onwards, it should perform a standard search for `x` starting from `w`. (One can show that `fingerFind(x, u)` takes  $O(1 + \log r)$  time, where  $r$  is the number of elements in the treap whose value is between `x` and `u.x`.)

3. Extend your implementation into a version of a treap that starts all its `find(x)` operations from the node most recently found by `find(x)`.

**Exercise 7.10.** Design and implement a version of a Treap that includes a `get(i)` operation that returns the key with rank `i` in the Treap. (Hint: Have each node, `u`, keep track of the size of the subtree rooted at `u`.)

**Exercise 7.11.** Implement a `TreapList`, an implementation of the `List` interface as a treap. Each node in the treap should store a list item, and an in-order traversal of the treap finds the items in the same order that they occur in the list. All the `List` operations `get(i)`, `set(i, x)`, `add(i, x)` and `remove(i)` should run in  $O(\log n)$  expected time.

**Exercise 7.12.** Design and implement a version of a Treap that supports the `split(x)` operation. This operation removes all values from the Treap that are greater than `x` and returns a second Treap that contains all the removed values.

Example: the code `t2 = t.split(x)` removes from `t` all values greater than `x` and returns a new Treap `t2` containing all these values. The `split(x)` operation should run in  $O(\log n)$  expected time.

Warning: For this modification to work properly and still allow the `size()` method to run in constant time, it is necessary to implement the modifications in Exercise 7.10.

**Exercise 7.13.** Design and implement a version of a Treap that supports the `absorb(t2)` operation, which can be thought of as the inverse of the `split(x)` operation. This operation removes all values from the Treap `t2` and adds them to the receiver. This operation presupposes that the smallest value in `t2` is greater than the largest value in the receiver. The `absorb(t2)` operation should run in  $O(\log n)$  expected time.

**Exercise 7.14.** Implement Martinez's randomized binary search trees, as discussed in this section. Compare the performance of your implementation with that of the Treap implementation.



## Chapter 8

# Scapegoat Trees

In this chapter, we study a binary search tree data structure, the ScapegoatTree. This structure is based on the common wisdom that, when something goes wrong, the first thing people tend to do is find someone to blame (the *scapegoat*). Once blame is firmly established, we can leave the scapegoat to fix the problem.

A ScapegoatTree keeps itself balanced by *partial rebuilding operations*. During a partial rebuilding operation, an entire subtree is deconstructed and rebuilt into a perfectly balanced subtree. There are many ways of rebuilding a subtree rooted at node `u` into a perfectly balanced tree. One of the simplest is to traverse `u`'s subtree, gathering all its nodes into an array, `a`, and then to recursively build a balanced subtree using `a`. If we let `m = a.length/2`, then the element `a[m]` becomes the root of the new subtree, `a[0], ..., a[m-1]` get stored recursively in the left subtree and `a[m+1], ..., a[a.length-1]` get stored recursively in the right subtree.

```

ScapegoatTree
void rebuild(Node<T> u) {
    int ns = size(u);
    Node<T> p = u.parent;
    Node<T>[] a = Array.newInstance(Node.class, ns);
    packIntoArray(u, a, 0);
    if (p == nil) {
        r = buildBalanced(a, 0, ns);
        r.parent = nil;
    } else if (p.right == u) {
        p.right = buildBalanced(a, 0, ns);
    }
}
```

```

    p.right.parent = p;
  } else {
    p.left = buildBalanced(a, 0, ns);
    p.left.parent = p;
  }
}
int packIntoArray(Node<T> u, Node<T>[] a, int i) {
  if (u == nil) {
    return i;
  }
  i = packIntoArray(u.left, a, i);
  a[i++] = u;
  return packIntoArray(u.right, a, i);
}
Node<T> buildBalanced(Node<T>[] a, int i, int ns) {
  if (ns == 0)
    return nil;
  int m = ns / 2;
  a[i + m].left = buildBalanced(a, i, m);
  if (a[i + m].left != nil)
    a[i + m].left.parent = a[i + m];
  a[i + m].right = buildBalanced(a, i + m + 1, ns - m - 1);
  if (a[i + m].right != nil)
    a[i + m].right.parent = a[i + m];
  return a[i + m];
}

```

A call to `rebuild(u)` takes  $O(\text{size}(u))$  time. The resulting subtree has minimum height; there is no tree of smaller height that has  $\text{size}(u)$  nodes.

## 8.1 ScapegoatTree: A Binary Search Tree with Partial Rebuilding

A `ScapegoatTree` is a `BinarySearchTree` that, in addition to keeping track of the number, `n`, of nodes in the tree also keeps a counter, `q`, that maintains an upper-bound on the number of nodes.

```

int q;
ScapegoatTree

```

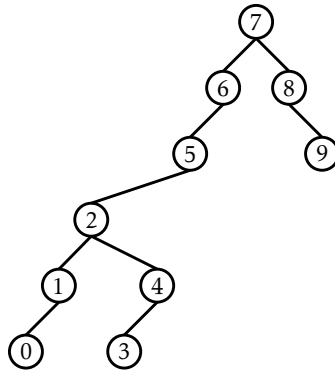


Figure 8.1: A ScapegoatTree with 10 nodes and height 5.

At all times,  $n$  and  $q$  obey the following inequalities:

$$q/2 \leq n \leq q .$$

In addition, a ScapegoatTree has logarithmic height; at all times, the height of the scapegoat tree does not exceed:

$$\log_{3/2} q \leq \log_{3/2} 2n < \log_{3/2} n + 2 . \quad (8.1)$$

Even with this constraint, a ScapegoatTree can look surprisingly unbalanced. The tree in Figure 8.1 has  $q = n = 10$  and height  $5 < \log_{3/2} 10 \approx 5.679$ .

Implementing the `find(x)` operation in a ScapegoatTree is done using the standard algorithm for searching in a `BinarySearchTree` (see Section 6.2). This takes time proportional to the height of the tree which, by (8.1) is  $O(\log n)$ .

To implement the `add(x)` operation, we first increment  $n$  and  $q$  and then use the usual algorithm for adding  $x$  to a binary search tree; we search for  $x$  and then add a new leaf  $u$  with  $u.x = x$ . At this point, we may get lucky and the depth of  $u$  might not exceed  $\log_{3/2} q$ . If so, then we leave well enough alone and don't do anything else.

Unfortunately, it will sometimes happen that  $\text{depth}(u) > \log_{3/2} q$ . In this case, we need to reduce the height. This isn't a big job; there is only

one node, namely  $u$ , whose depth exceeds  $\log_{3/2} q$ . To fix  $u$ , we walk from  $u$  back up to the root looking for a *scapegoat*,  $w$ . The scapegoat,  $w$ , is a very unbalanced node. It has the property that

$$\frac{\text{size}(w.\text{child})}{\text{size}(w)} > \frac{2}{3}, \quad (8.2)$$

where  $w.\text{child}$  is the child of  $w$  on the path from the root to  $u$ . We'll very shortly prove that a scapegoat exists. For now, we can take it for granted. Once we've found the scapegoat  $w$ , we completely destroy the subtree rooted at  $w$  and rebuild it into a perfectly balanced binary search tree. We know, from (8.2), that, even before the addition of  $u$ ,  $w$ 's subtree was not a complete binary tree. Therefore, when we rebuild  $w$ , the height decreases by at least 1 so that height of the ScapegoatTree is once again at most  $\log_{3/2} q$ .

#### ScapegoatTree

```
boolean add(T x) {
    // first do basic insertion keeping track of depth
    Node<T> u = newNode(x);
    int d = addWithDepth(u);
    if (d > log32(q)) {
        // depth exceeded, find scapegoat
        Node<T> w = u.parent;
        while (3*size(w) <= 2*size(w.parent))
            w = w.parent;
        rebuild(w.parent);
    }
    return d >= 0;
}
```

If we ignore the cost of finding the scapegoat  $w$  and rebuilding the subtree rooted at  $w$ , then the running time of  $\text{add}(x)$  is dominated by the initial search, which takes  $O(\log q) = O(\log n)$  time. We will account for the cost of finding the scapegoat and rebuilding using amortized analysis in the next section.

The implementation of  $\text{remove}(x)$  in a ScapegoatTree is very simple. We search for  $x$  and remove it using the usual algorithm for removing a node from a BinarySearchTree. (Note that this can never increase the

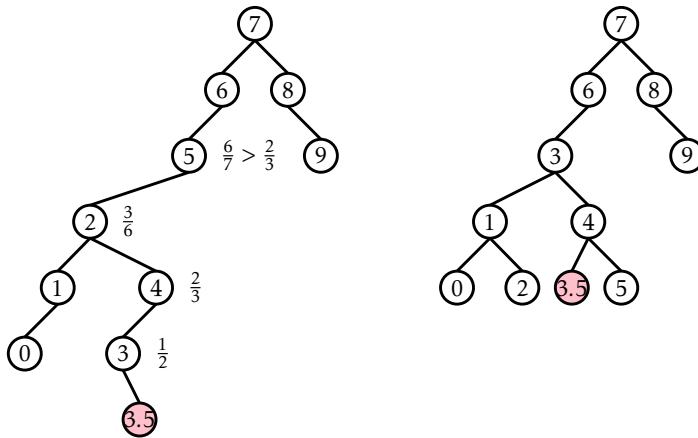


Figure 8.2: Inserting 3.5 into a ScapegoatTree increases its height to 6, which violates (8.1) since  $6 > \log_{3/2} 11 \approx 5.914$ . A scapegoat is found at the node containing 5.

height of the tree.) Next, we decrement  $n$ , but leave  $q$  unchanged. Finally, we check if  $q > 2n$  and, if so, then we *rebuild the entire tree* into a perfectly balanced binary search tree and set  $q = n$ .

ScapegoatTree

```
boolean remove(T x) {
    if (super.remove(x)) {
        if (2*n < q) {
            rebuild(r);
            q = n;
        }
        return true;
    }
    return false;
}
```

Again, if we ignore the cost of rebuilding, the running time of the `remove(x)` operation is proportional to the height of the tree, and is therefore  $O(\log n)$ .

## 8.1.1 Analysis of Correctness and Running-Time

In this section, we analyze the correctness and amortized running time of operations on a ScapegoatTree. We first prove the correctness by showing that, when the  $\text{add}(x)$  operation results in a node that violates Condition (8.1), then we can always find a scapegoat:

**Lemma 8.1.** *Let  $u$  be a node of depth  $h > \log_{3/2} q$  in a ScapegoatTree. Then there exists a node  $w$  on the path from  $u$  to the root such that*

$$\frac{\text{size}(w)}{\text{size}(\text{parent}(w))} > 2/3 .$$

*Proof.* Suppose, for the sake of contradiction, that this is not the case, and

$$\frac{\text{size}(w)}{\text{size}(\text{parent}(w))} \leq 2/3 .$$

for all nodes  $w$  on the path from  $u$  to the root. Denote the path from the root to  $u$  as  $r = u_0, \dots, u_h = u$ . Then, we have  $\text{size}(u_0) = n$ ,  $\text{size}(u_1) \leq \frac{2}{3}n$ ,  $\text{size}(u_2) \leq \frac{4}{9}n$  and, more generally,

$$\text{size}(u_i) \leq \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^i n .$$

But this gives a contradiction, since  $\text{size}(u) \geq 1$ , hence

$$1 \leq \text{size}(u) \leq \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^h n < \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{\log_{3/2} q} n \leq \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{\log_{3/2} n} n = \left(\frac{1}{n}\right)n = 1 . \quad \square$$

Next, we analyze the parts of the running time that are not yet accounted for. There are two parts: The cost of calls to  $\text{size}(u)$  when searching for scapegoat nodes, and the cost of calls to  $\text{rebuild}(w)$  when we find a scapegoat  $w$ . The cost of calls to  $\text{size}(u)$  can be related to the cost of calls to  $\text{rebuild}(w)$ , as follows:

**Lemma 8.2.** *During a call to  $\text{add}(x)$  in a ScapegoatTree, the cost of finding the scapegoat  $w$  and rebuilding the subtree rooted at  $w$  is  $O(\text{size}(w))$ .*

*Proof.* The cost of rebuilding the scapegoat node  $w$ , once we find it, is  $O(\text{size}(w))$ . When searching for the scapegoat node, we call  $\text{size}(u)$  on a

sequence of nodes  $u_0, \dots, u_k$  until we find the scapegoat  $u_k = w$ . However, since  $u_k$  is the first node in this sequence that is a scapegoat, we know that

$$\text{size}(u_i) < \frac{2}{3} \text{size}(u_{i+1})$$

for all  $i \in \{0, \dots, k-2\}$ . Therefore, the cost of all calls to  $\text{size}(u)$  is

$$\begin{aligned} O\left(\sum_{i=0}^k \text{size}(u_{k-i})\right) &= O\left(\text{size}(u_k) + \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \text{size}(u_{k-i-1})\right) \\ &= O\left(\text{size}(u_k) + \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^i \text{size}(u_k)\right) \\ &= O\left(\text{size}(u_k) \left(1 + \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^i\right)\right) \\ &= O(\text{size}(u_k)) = O(\text{size}(w)) , \end{aligned}$$

where the last line follows from the fact that the sum is a geometrically decreasing series.  $\square$

All that remains is to prove an upper-bound on the cost of all calls to  $\text{rebuild}(u)$  during a sequence of  $m$  operations:

**Lemma 8.3.** *Starting with an empty ScapegoatTree any sequence of  $m$   $\text{add}(x)$  and  $\text{remove}(x)$  operations causes at most  $O(m \log m)$  time to be used by  $\text{rebuild}(u)$  operations.*

*Proof.* To prove this, we will use a *credit scheme*. We imagine that each node stores a number of credits. Each credit can pay for some constant,  $c$ , units of time spent rebuilding. The scheme gives out a total of  $O(m \log m)$  credits and every call to  $\text{rebuild}(u)$  is paid for with credits stored at  $u$ .

During an insertion or deletion, we give one credit to each node on the path to the inserted node, or deleted node,  $u$ . In this way we hand out at most  $\log_{3/2} n \leq \log_{3/2} m$  credits per operation. During a deletion we also store an additional credit “on the side.” Thus, in total we give out at most  $O(m \log m)$  credits. All that remains is to show that these credits are sufficient to pay for all calls to  $\text{rebuild}(u)$ .

If we call `rebuild(u)` during an insertion, it is because `u` is a scapegoat. Suppose, without loss of generality, that

$$\frac{\text{size}(\text{u.left})}{\text{size}(\text{u})} > \frac{2}{3} .$$

Using the fact that

$$\text{size}(\text{u}) = 1 + \text{size}(\text{u.left}) + \text{size}(\text{u.right})$$

we deduce that

$$\frac{1}{2}\text{size}(\text{u.left}) > \text{size}(\text{u.right})$$

and therefore

$$\text{size}(\text{u.left}) - \text{size}(\text{u.right}) > \frac{1}{2}\text{size}(\text{u.left}) > \frac{1}{3}\text{size}(\text{u}) .$$

Now, the last time a subtree containing `u` was rebuilt (or when `u` was inserted, if a subtree containing `u` was never rebuilt), we had

$$\text{size}(\text{u.left}) - \text{size}(\text{u.right}) \leq 1 .$$

Therefore, the number of `add(x)` or `remove(x)` operations that have affected `u.left` or `u.right` since then is at least

$$\frac{1}{3}\text{size}(\text{u}) - 1 .$$

and there are therefore at least this many credits stored at `u` that are available to pay for the  $O(\text{size}(\text{u}))$  time it takes to call `rebuild(u)`.

If we call `rebuild(u)` during a deletion, it is because  $q > 2n$ . In this case, we have  $q - n > n$  credits stored “on the side,” and we use these to pay for the  $O(n)$  time it takes to rebuild the root. This completes the proof.  $\square$

### 8.1.2 Summary

The following theorem summarizes the performance of the Scapegoat-Tree data structure:



**Theorem 8.1.** *A ScapegoatTree implements the SSet interface. Ignoring the cost of rebuild(u) operations, a ScapegoatTree supports the operations add(x), remove(x), and find(x) in  $O(\log n)$  time per operation.*

*Furthermore, beginning with an empty ScapegoatTree, any sequence of  $m$  add(x) and remove(x) operations results in a total of  $O(m \log m)$  time spent during all calls to rebuild(u).*

## 8.2 Discussion and Exercises

The term *scapegoat tree* is due to Galperin and Rivest [33], who define and analyze these trees. However, the same structure was discovered earlier by Andersson [5, 7], who called them *general balanced trees* since they can have any shape as long as their height is small.

Experimenting with the ScapegoatTree implementation will reveal that it is often considerably slower than the other SSet implementations in this book. This may be somewhat surprising, since height bound of

$$\log_{3/2} q \approx 1.709 \log n + O(1)$$

is better than the expected length of a search path in a SkipList and not too far from that of a Treap. The implementation could be optimized by storing the sizes of subtrees explicitly at each node or by reusing already computed subtree sizes (Exercises 8.5 and 8.6). Even with these optimizations, there will always be sequences of add(x) and delete(x) operation for which a ScapegoatTree takes longer than other SSet implementations.

This gap in performance is due to the fact that, unlike the other SSet implementations discussed in this book, a ScapegoatTree can spend a lot of time restructuring itself. Exercise 8.3 asks you to prove that there are sequences of  $n$  operations in which a ScapegoatTree will spend on the order of  $n \log n$  time in calls to rebuild(u). This is in contrast to other SSet implementations discussed in this book, which only make  $O(n)$  structural changes during a sequence of  $n$  operations. This is, unfortunately, a necessary consequence of the fact that a ScapegoatTree does all its restructuring by calls to rebuild(u) [20].

Despite their lack of performance, there are applications in which a

ScapegoatTree could be the right choice. This would occur any time there is additional data associated with nodes that cannot be updated in constant time when a rotation is performed, but that can be updated during a `rebuild(u)` operation. In such cases, the ScapegoatTree and related structures based on partial rebuilding may work. An example of such an application is outlined in Exercise 8.11.

**Exercise 8.1.** Illustrate the addition of the values 1.5 and then 1.6 on the ScapegoatTree in Figure 8.1.

**Exercise 8.2.** Illustrate what happens when the sequence 1, 5, 2, 4, 3 is added to an empty ScapegoatTree, and show where the credits described in the proof of Lemma 8.3 go, and how they are used during this sequence of additions.

**Exercise 8.3.** Show that, if we start with an empty ScapegoatTree and call `add(x)` for  $x = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n$ , then the total time spent during calls to `rebuild(u)` is at least  $cn \log n$  for some constant  $c > 0$ .

**Exercise 8.4.** The ScapegoatTree, as described in this chapter, guarantees that the length of the search path does not exceed  $\log_{3/2} q$ .

1. Design, analyze, and implement a modified version of ScapegoatTree where the length of the search path does not exceed  $\log_b q$ , where  $b$  is a parameter with  $1 < b < 2$ .
2. What does your analysis and/or your experiments say about the amortized cost of `find(x)`, `add(x)` and `remove(x)` as a function of  $n$  and  $b$ ?

**Exercise 8.5.** Modify the `add(x)` method of the ScapegoatTree so that it does not waste any time recomputing the sizes of subtrees that have already been computed. This is possible because, by the time the method wants to compute `size(w)`, it has already computed one of `size(w.left)` or `size(w.right)`. Compare the performance of your modified implementation with the implementation given here.

**Exercise 8.6.** Implement a second version of the ScapegoatTree data structure that explicitly stores and maintains the sizes of the subtree

rooted at each node. Compare the performance of the resulting implementation with that of the original `ScapegoatTree` implementation as well as the implementation from Exercise 8.5.

**Exercise 8.7.** Reimplement the `rebuild(u)` method discussed at the beginning of this chapter so that it does not require the use of an array to store the nodes of the subtree being rebuilt. Instead, it should use recursion to first connect the nodes into a linked list and then convert this linked list into a perfectly balanced binary tree. (There are very elegant recursive implementations of both steps.)

**Exercise 8.8.** Analyze and implement a `WeightBalancedTree`. This is a tree in which each node `u`, except the root, maintains the *balance invariant* that  $\text{size}(u) \leq (2/3)\text{size}(u.\text{parent})$ . The `add(x)` and `remove(x)` operations are identical to the standard `BinarySearchTree` operations, except that any time the balance invariant is violated at a node `u`, the subtree rooted at `u.parent` is rebuilt. Your analysis should show that operations on a `WeightBalancedTree` run in  $O(\log n)$  amortized time.

**Exercise 8.9.** Analyze and implement a `CountdownTree`. In a `CountdownTree` each node `u` keeps a *timer* `u.t`. The `add(x)` and `remove(x)` operations are exactly the same as in a standard `BinarySearchTree` except that, whenever one of these operations affects `u`'s subtree, `u.t` is decremented. When `u.t = 0` the entire subtree rooted at `u` is rebuilt into a perfectly balanced binary search tree. When a node `u` is involved in a rebuilding operation (either because `u` is rebuilt or one of `u`'s ancestors is rebuilt) `u.t` is reset to  $\text{size}(u)/3$ .

Your analysis should show that operations on a `CountdownTree` run in  $O(\log n)$  amortized time. (Hint: First show that each node `u` satisfies some version of a balance invariant.)

**Exercise 8.10.** Analyze and implement a `DynamiteTree`. In a `DynamiteTree` each node `u` keeps tracks of the size of the subtree rooted at `u` in a variable `u.size`. The `add(x)` and `remove(x)` operations are exactly the same as in a standard `BinarySearchTree` except that, whenever one of these operations affects a node `u`'s subtree, `u` *explodes* with probability  $1/u.\text{size}$ . When `u` explodes, its entire subtree is rebuilt into a perfectly balanced binary search tree.

Your analysis should show that operations on a `Dynami teTree` run in  $O(\log n)$  expected time.

**Exercise 8.11.** Design and implement a `Sequence` data structure that maintains a sequence (list) of elements. It supports these operations:

- `addAfter(e)`: Add a new element after the element `e` in the sequence. Return the newly added element. (If `e` is null, the new element is added at the beginning of the sequence.)
- `remove(e)`: Remove `e` from the sequence.
- `testBefore(e1,e2)`: return `true` if and only if `e1` comes before `e2` in the sequence.

The first two operations should run in  $O(\log n)$  amortized time. The third operation should run in constant time.

The `Sequence` data structure can be implemented by storing the elements in something like a `Scapegoat Tree`, in the same order that they occur in the sequence. To implement `testBefore(e1,e2)` in constant time, each element `e` is labelled with an integer that encodes the path from the root to `e`. In this way, `testBefore(e1,e2)` can be implemented by comparing the labels of `e1` and `e2`.

## Chapter 9

# Red-Black Trees

In this chapter, we present red-black trees, a version of binary search trees with logarithmic height. Red-black trees are one of the most widely used data structures. They appear as the primary search structure in many library implementations, including the Java Collections Framework and several implementations of the C++ Standard Template Library. They are also used within the Linux operating system kernel. There are several reasons for the popularity of red-black trees:

1. A red-black tree storing  $n$  values has height at most  $2 \log n$ .
2. The `add(x)` and `remove(x)` operations on a red-black tree run in  $O(\log n)$  *worst-case* time.
3. The amortized number of rotations performed during an `add(x)` or `remove(x)` operation is constant.

The first two of these properties already put red-black trees ahead of skiplists, treaps, and scapegoat trees. Skiplists and treaps rely on randomization and their  $O(\log n)$  running times are only expected. Scapegoat trees have a guaranteed bound on their height, but `add(x)` and `remove(x)` only run in  $O(\log n)$  amortized time. The third property is just icing on the cake. It tells us that the time needed to add or remove an element  $x$  is dwarfed by the time it takes to find  $x$ .<sup>1</sup>

However, the nice properties of red-black trees come with a price: implementation complexity. Maintaining a bound of  $2 \log n$  on the height

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<sup>1</sup>Note that skiplists and treaps also have this property in the expected sense. See Exercises 4.6 and 7.5.

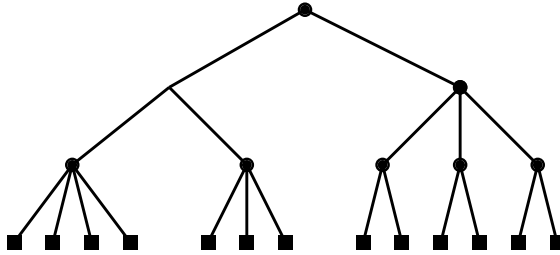


Figure 9.1: A 2-4 tree of height 3.

is not easy. It requires a careful analysis of a number of cases. We must ensure that the implementation does exactly the right thing in each case. One misplaced rotation or change of colour produces a bug that can be very difficult to understand and track down.

Rather than jumping directly into the implementation of red-black trees, we will first provide some background on a related data structure: 2-4 trees. This will give some insight into how red-black trees were discovered and why efficiently maintaining them is even possible.

## 9.1 2-4 Trees

A 2-4 tree is a rooted tree with the following properties:

**Property 9.1** (height). All leaves have the same depth.

**Property 9.2** (degree). Every internal node has 2, 3, or 4 children.

An example of a 2-4 tree is shown in Figure 9.1. The properties of 2-4 trees imply that their height is logarithmic in the number of leaves:

**Lemma 9.1.** A 2-4 tree with  $n$  leaves has height at most  $\log n$ .

*Proof.* The lower-bound of 2 on the number of children of an internal node implies that, if the height of a 2-4 tree is  $h$ , then it has at least  $2^h$  leaves. In other words,

$$n \geq 2^h.$$

Taking logarithms on both sides of this inequality gives  $h \leq \log n$ . □

### 9.1.1 Adding a Leaf

Adding a leaf to a 2-4 tree is easy (see Figure 9.2). If we want to add a leaf  $u$  as the child of some node  $w$  on the second-last level, then we simply make  $u$  a child of  $w$ . This certainly maintains the height property, but could violate the degree property; if  $w$  had four children prior to adding  $u$ , then  $w$  now has five children. In this case, we *split*  $w$  into two nodes,  $w$  and  $w'$ , having two and three children, respectively. But now  $w'$  has no parent, so we recursively make  $w'$  a child of  $w$ 's parent. Again, this may cause  $w$ 's parent to have too many children in which case we split it. This process goes on until we reach a node that has fewer than four children, or until we split the root,  $r$ , into two nodes  $r$  and  $r'$ . In the latter case, we make a new root that has  $r$  and  $r'$  as children. This simultaneously increases the depth of all leaves and so maintains the height property.

Since the height of the 2-4 tree is never more than  $\log n$ , the process of adding a leaf finishes after at most  $\log n$  steps.

### 9.1.2 Removing a Leaf

Removing a leaf from a 2-4 tree is a little more tricky (see Figure 9.3). To remove a leaf  $u$  from its parent  $w$ , we just remove it. If  $w$  had only two children prior to the removal of  $u$ , then  $w$  is left with only one child and violates the degree property.

To correct this, we look at  $w$ 's sibling,  $w'$ . The node  $w'$  is sure to exist since  $w$ 's parent had at least two children. If  $w'$  has three or four children, then we take one of these children from  $w'$  and give it to  $w$ . Now  $w$  has two children and  $w'$  has two or three children and we are done.

On the other hand, if  $w'$  has only two children, then we *merge*  $w$  and  $w'$  into a single node,  $w$ , that has three children. Next we recursively remove  $w'$  from the parent of  $w'$ . This process ends when we reach a node,  $u$ , where  $u$  or its sibling has more than two children, or when we reach the root. In the latter case, if the root is left with only one child, then we delete the root and make its child the new root. Again, this simultaneously decreases the height of every leaf and therefore maintains the height property.

Again, since the height of the tree is never more than  $\log n$ , the process

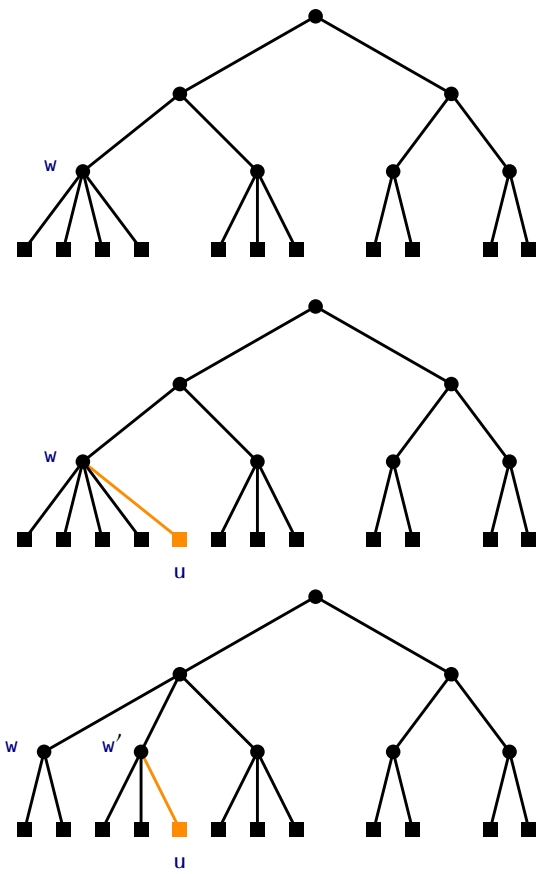


Figure 9.2: Adding a leaf to a 2-4 Tree. This process stops after one split because `w.parent` has a degree of less than 4 before the addition.



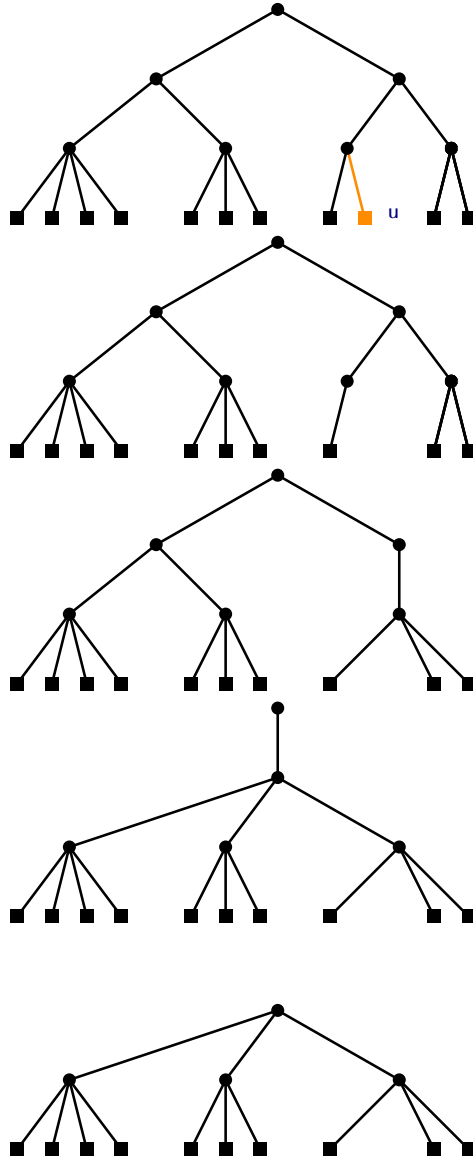


Figure 9.3: Removing a leaf from a 2-4 Tree. This process goes all the way to the root because each of  $u$ 's ancestors and their siblings have only two children.