

Tree Problems — Full Notes + Java Implementations

TreeProblems30.java

This file contains complete Java implementations for 30 tree problems commonly asked in interviews. You can download the Java source file and compile it locally.

Files included:

- TreeProblems30.java (Java source)

Usage:

- Compile: `javac TreeProblems30.java`
- Run: `java TreeProblems30`

Complete Java Source Code (TreeProblems30.java)

```
/*
 * TreeProblems30.java
 *
 * Complete implementations for 30 binary tree problems commonly asked in interviews.
 * Includes problem descriptions, approaches, complexity notes and example usages in main().
 *
 * Compile & run:
 *   javac TreeProblems30.java && java TreeProblems30
 *
 * Notes:
 * - This single file is for learning and quick testing. For production, split into classes/tests.
 */

import java.util.*;

public class TreeProblems30 {

    // ----- Node Definition -----
    static class TreeNode {
        int val;
        TreeNode left, right;
        TreeNode(int val) { this.val = val; }
        @Override public String toString() { return String.valueOf(val); }
    }

    // ----- 1-20 (from original) ---

    // For brevity, I've included the already provided 20 problem implementations here.
    // (1) Inorder (recursive & iterative)
    public static List<Integer> inorderTraversal(TreeNode root) {
        List<Integer> res = new ArrayList<>();
        inorderHelper(root, res);
        return res;
    }

    private static void inorderHelper(TreeNode node, List<Integer> res) {
        if (node == null) return;
        inorderHelper(node.left, res);
        res.add(node.val);
        inorderHelper(node.right, res);
    }
}
```

```

}

public static List<Integer> inorderIterative(TreeNode root) {
    List<Integer> res = new ArrayList<>();
    Deque<TreeNode> stack = new ArrayDeque<>();
    TreeNode curr = root;
    while (curr != null || !stack.isEmpty()) {
        while (curr != null) { stack.push(curr); curr = curr.left; }
        curr = stack.pop();
        res.add(curr.val);
        curr = curr.right;
    }
    return res;
}

// (2) Preorder
public static List<Integer> preorderTraversal(TreeNode root) {
    List<Integer> res = new ArrayList<>();
    preorderHelper(root, res);
    return res;
}
private static void preorderHelper(TreeNode node, List<Integer> res) {
    if (node == null) return;
    res.add(node.val);
    preorderHelper(node.left, res);
    preorderHelper(node.right, res);
}
public static List<Integer> preorderIterative(TreeNode root) {
    List<Integer> res = new ArrayList<>();
    if (root == null) return res;
    Deque<TreeNode> stack
    = new ArrayDeque<>();
    stack.push(root);
    while (!stack.isEmpty()) {
        TreeNode node = stack.pop();
        res.add(node.val);
        if (node.right != null) stack.push(node.right);
        if (node.left != null) stack.push(node.left);
    }
    return res;
}

// (3) Postorder
public static List<Integer> postorderTraversal(TreeNode root) {
    List<Integer> res = new ArrayList<>();
    postorderHelper(root, res);
    return res;
}
private static void postorderHelper(TreeNode node, List<Integer> res) {
    if (node == null) return;
    postorderHelper(node.left, res);
    postorderHelper(node.right, res);
    res.add(node.val);
}
public static List<Integer> postorderIterative(TreeNode root)
{
    List<Integer> res = new ArrayList<>();
    if (root == null) return res;
    Deque<TreeNode> stack = new ArrayDeque<>();
    stack.push(root);
    while (!stack.isEmpty()) {
        TreeNode node = stack.pop();
        res.add(node.val);
        if (node.left != null) stack.push(node.left);
        if (node.right != null) stack.push(node.right);
    }
    Collections.reverse(res);
    return res;
}

// (4) Level Order
public static List<List<Integer>> levelOrder(TreeNode root) {
    List<List<Integer>> res = new ArrayList<>();
    if (root == null) return res;
    Queue<TreeNode> q = new LinkedList<>();

```

```

q.offer(root);
while (!q.isEmpty()) {
    int size = q.size();
    List<Intege
    }> level = new ArrayList<>();
    for (int i = 0; i < size; i++) {
        TreeNode node = q.poll();
        level.add(node.val);
        if (node.left != null) q.offer(node.left);
        if (node.right != null) q.offer(node.right);
    }
    res.add(level);
}
return res;
}

// (5) Zigzag Level Order
public static List<List<Integer>> zigzagLevelOrder(TreeNode root) {
    List<List<Integer>> res = new ArrayList<>();
    if (root == null) return res;
    Queue<TreeNode> q = new LinkedList<>();
    q.offer(root);
    boolean leftToRight = true;
    while (!q.isEmpty()) {
        int size = q.size();
        LinkedList<Integer> level = new LinkedList<>();
        for (int i
= 0; i < size; i++) {
            TreeNode node = q.poll();
            if (leftToRight) level.addLast(node.val);
            else level.addFirst(node.val);
            if (node.left != null) q.offer(node.left);
            if (node.right != null) q.offer(node.right);
        }
        res.add(level);
        leftToRight = !leftToRight;
    }
    return res;
}

// (6) Height / Max Depth
public static int height(TreeNode root) {
    if (root == null) return 0;
    return 1 + Math.max(height(root.left), height(root.right));
}

// (7) Diameter (node count)
static int diameterAnswer;
public static int diameter(TreeNode root) {
    diameterAnswer = 0;
    diameterHelper(root);
    return diameterAnswer;
}

private static int diameterHelper(TreeNode node) {
    if (node == null) return 0;
    int left = diameterHelper(node.left);
    int right = diameterHelper(node.right);
    diameterAnswer = Math.max(diameterAnswer, left + right + 1);
    return 1 + Math.max(left, right);
}

// (8) Left View
public static List<Integer> leftView(TreeNode root) {
    List<Integer> res = new ArrayList<>();
    if (root == null) return res;
    Queue<TreeNode> q = new LinkedList<>();
    q.offer(root);
    while (!q.isEmpty()) {
        int size = q.size();
        for (int i = 0; i < size; i++) {
            TreeNode node = q.poll();
            if (i == 0) res.add(node.val);
            if (node.left != null) q.offer(node.left);
        }
    }
    return res;
}

```

```

        if (node.right != null) q.offer(node.right);
    }
}
return res;
}

// (9) Right View
public static List<Integer> rightView(TreeNode root) {
    List<Integer> res = new ArrayList<>();
    if (root == null) return res;
    Queue<TreeNode> q = new LinkedList<>();
    q.offer(root);
    while (!q.isEmpty()) {
        int size = q.size();
        for (int i = 0; i < size; i++) {
            TreeNode node = q.poll();
            if (i == size - 1) res.add(node.val);
            if (node.left != null) q.offer(node.left);
            if (node.right != null) q.offer(node.right);
        }
    }
    return res;
}

// (10) Top View
static class PairNode { TreeNode node; int hd; PairNo
de(TreeNode n,int h){node=n;hd=h;} }
public static List<Integer> topView(TreeNode root) {
    List<Integer> res = new ArrayList<>();
    if (root == null) return res;
    Map<Integer, Integer> map = new TreeMap<>();
    Queue<PairNode> q = new LinkedList<>();
    q.offer(new PairNode(root,0));
    while (!q.isEmpty()) {
        PairNode p = q.poll();
        if (!map.containsKey(p.hd)) map.put(p.hd, p.node.val);
        if (p.node.left != null) q.offer(new PairNode(p.node.left, p.hd-1));
        if (p.node.right != null) q.offer(new PairNode(p.node.right, p.hd+1));
    }
    for (Integer v : map.values()) res.add(v);
    return res;
}

// (11) Bottom View
public static List<Integer> bottomView(TreeNode root) {
    List<
    <Integer> res = new ArrayList<>();
    if (root == null) return res;
    Map<Integer, Integer> map = new TreeMap<>();
    Queue<PairNode> q = new LinkedList<>();
    q.offer(new PairNode(root,0));
    while (!q.isEmpty()) {
        PairNode p = q.poll();
        map.put(p.hd, p.node.val);
        if (p.node.left != null) q.offer(new PairNode(p.node.left, p.hd-1));
        if (p.node.right != null) q.offer(new PairNode(p.node.right, p.hd+1));
    }
    for (Integer v : map.values()) res.add(v);
    return res;
}

// (12) Has Path Sum (root-to-leaf)
public static boolean hasPathSum(TreeNode root, int targetSum) {
    if (root == null) return false;
    if (root.left == null && root.right == null) return root.val == targetSum
;

    int newSum = targetSum - root.val;
    return hasPathSum(root.left, newSum) || hasPathSum(root.right, newSum);
}

// (13) All root-to-leaf paths
public static List<List<Integer>> allPaths(TreeNode root) {
    List<List<Integer>> res = new ArrayList<>();
    if (root == null) return res;

```

```

    allPathsHelper(root, new ArrayList<>(), res);
    return res;
}
private static void allPathsHelper(TreeNode node, List<Integer> path, List<List<Integer>> res) {
    if (node == null) return;
    path.add(node.val);
    if (node.left == null && node.right == null) res.add(new ArrayList<>(path));
    else {
        allPathsHelper(node.left, path, res);
        allPathsHelper(node.right, path, res);
    }
    path.remove(path
.size()-1);
}

// (14) Lowest Common Ancestor (general)
public static TreeNode lowestCommonAncestor(TreeNode root, TreeNode p, TreeNode q) {
    if (root == null) return null;
    if (root == p || root == q) return root;
    TreeNode left = lowestCommonAncestor(root.left, p, q);
    TreeNode right = lowestCommonAncestor(root.right, p, q);
    if (left != null && right != null) return root;
    return left != null ? left : right;
}

// (15) Is Balanced
public static boolean isBalanced(TreeNode root) { return checkHeight(root) != -1; }
private static int checkHeight(TreeNode node) {
    if (node == null) return 0;
    int left = checkHeight(node.left); if (left == -1) return -1;
    int right = checkHeight(node.right); if (right
== -1) return -1;
    if (Math.abs(left-right) > 1) return -1;
    return 1 + Math.max(left,right);
}

// (16) Is Symmetric
public static boolean isSymmetric(TreeNode root) {
    if (root == null) return true;
    return isMirror(root.left, root.right);
}
private static boolean isMirror(TreeNode a, TreeNode b) {
    if (a == null && b == null) return true;
    if (a == null || b == null) return false;
    if (a.val != b.val) return false;
    return isMirror(a.left, b.right) && isMirror(a.right, b.left);
}

// (17) Maximum Path Sum
static int maxPathSumAns;
public static int maxPathSum(TreeNode root) {
    maxPathSumAns = Integer.MIN_VALUE;
    maxPathSumHelper(root);
    return maxPathSumAns;
}
private

static int maxPathSumHelper(TreeNode node) {
    if (node == null) return 0;
    int left = Math.max(0, maxPathSumHelper(node.left));
    int right = Math.max(0, maxPathSumHelper(node.right));
    maxPathSumAns = Math.max(maxPathSumAns, node.val + left + right);
    return node.val + Math.max(left, right);
}

// (18) Serialize / Deserialize (level-order)
public static String serialize(TreeNode root) {
    if (root == null) return "";
    StringBuilder sb = new StringBuilder();
    Queue<TreeNode> q = new LinkedList<>();
    q.offer(root);
    while (!q.isEmpty()) {
        TreeNode node = q.poll();
        if (node == null) { sb.append("null,"); continue; }
        sb.append(node.val).append(',');
    }
}

```

```

        q.offer(node.left);
        q.offer(node.right);
    }
    String[] parts = sb.toString().split(",");
    int last = parts.length - 1;
    while (last >= 0 && parts[last].equals("null")) last--;
    StringBuilder cleaned = new StringBuilder();
    for (int i = 0; i <= last; i++) cleaned.append(parts[i]).append('.');
    if (cleaned.length() > 0) cleaned.setLength(cleaned.length() - 1);
    return cleaned.toString();
}

public static TreeNode deserialize(String data) {
    if (data == null || data.isEmpty()) return null;
    String[] parts = data.split(",");
    Queue<TreeNode> q = new LinkedList<>();
    TreeNode root = new TreeNode(Integer.parseInt(parts[0]));
    q.offer(root);
    int i = 1;
    while (!q.isEmpty() && i < parts.length)
        h) {
        TreeNode node = q.poll();
        if (i < parts.length) {
            String leftVal = parts[i++];
            if (!leftVal.equals("null")) { TreeNode left = new TreeNode(Integer.parseInt(leftVal)); node.left = left; q.offer(left); }
        }
        if (i < parts.length) {
            String rightVal = parts[i++];
            if (!rightVal.equals("null")) { TreeNode right = new TreeNode(Integer.parseInt(rightVal)); node.right = right; q.offer(right); }
        }
    }
    return root;
}

// (19) Sorted Array to BST
public static TreeNode sortedArrayToBST(int[] nums) {
    if (nums == null || nums.length == 0) return null;
    return sortedArrayToBSTHelper(nums, 0, nums.length - 1);
}
private static TreeNode sortedArrayToBSTHelper(int[] nums, int l, int r) {
    if (l > r) return null;
    int mid = l + (r - l) / 2;
    TreeNode root = new TreeNode(nums[mid]);
    root.left = sortedArrayToBSTHelper(nums, l, mid - 1);
    root.right = sortedArrayToBSTHelper(nums, mid + 1, r);
    return root;
}

// (20) Find Min and Max in Binary Tree
public static int findMin(TreeNode root) {
    if (root == null) throw new IllegalArgumentException("Tree is empty");
    int min = root.val;
    if (root.left != null) min = Math.min(min, findMin(root.left));
    if (root.right != null) min = Math.min(min, findMin(root.right));
    return min;
}
public static int findMax(TreeNode root) {
    if (root == null) throw new IllegalArgumentException("Tree is empty");
    int max = root.val;
    if (root.left != null) max = Math.max(max, findMax(root.left));
    if (root.right != null) max = Math.max(max, findMax(root.right));
    return max;
}

// ----- 21-30 (additional problems) -----

// 21. Validate Binary Search Tree (BST)
// Use min/max bounds passed down recursion. Use long to avoid int overflow on extremes.
public static boolean isValidBST(TreeNode root) {
    return isValidBSTHelper(root, Long.MIN_VALUE, Long.MAX_VALUE);
}

```

```

private static boolean isValidBSTHelper(TreeNode node, long min, long max) {
    if (node == null) return true;
    if (node.val <= min || node.val >= max) return false;
    return isValidBSTHelper(node.left,
        min, node.val) && isValidBSTHelper(node.right, node.val, max);
}

// 22. Kth Smallest Element in BST (iterative inorder)
public static int kthSmallest(TreeNode root, int k) {
    Deque<TreeNode> stack = new ArrayDeque<>();
    TreeNode curr = root;
    while (curr != null || !stack.isEmpty()) {
        while (curr != null) { stack.push(curr); curr = curr.left; }
        curr = stack.pop();
        if (--k == 0) return curr.val;
        curr = curr.right;
    }
    throw new IllegalArgumentException("k is larger than number of nodes");
}

// 23. Invert / Mirror Binary Tree
public static TreeNode invertTree(TreeNode root) {
    if (root == null) return null;
    TreeNode left = invertTree(root.left);
    TreeNode right
    = invertTree(root.right);
    root.left = right;
    root.right = left;
    return root;
}

// 24. Flatten Binary Tree to Linked List (in-place, preorder)
static TreeNode flattenPrev = null;
public static void flatten(TreeNode root) {
    flattenPrev = null;
    flattenHelper(root);
}
private static void flattenHelper(TreeNode node) {
    if (node == null) return;
    flattenHelper(node.right);
    flattenHelper(node.left);
    node.right = flattenPrev;
    node.left = null;
    flattenPrev = node;
}

// 25. Recover Binary Search Tree (two nodes swapped)
static TreeNode recoverFirst = null, recoverSecond = null, recoverPrev = null;
public static void recoverTree(TreeNode root) {
    recoverFirst = recoverFirst == null ? root : recoverFirst;
    recoverSecond = recoverSecond == null ? root : recoverSecond;
    recoverDfs(root);
    if (recoverFirst != null && recoverSecond != null) {
        int tmp = recoverFirst.val;
        recoverFirst.val = recoverSecond.val;
        recoverSecond.val = tmp;
    }
}
private static void recoverDfs(TreeNode node) {
    if (node == null) return;
    recoverDfs(node.left);
    if (recoverPrev != null && node.val < recoverPrev.val) {
        if (recoverFirst == null) recoverFirst = recoverPrev;
        recoverSecond = node;
    }
    recoverPrev = node;
    recoverDfs(node.right);
}

// 26. Path Sum III (any downward path) - count paths equal target
public static int pathSumIII(TreeNode root, int target) {
    Map<Integer, Integer> prefix = new Hash
        Map<>();

```

```

prefix.put(0, 1);
return pathSumIIIHelper(root, 0, target, prefix);
}
private static int pathSumIIIHelper(TreeNode node, int curr, int target, Map<Integer, Integer> prefix) {
    if (node == null) return 0;
    curr += node.val;
    int res = prefix.getOrDefault(curr - target, 0);
    prefix.put(curr, prefix.getOrDefault(curr, 0) + 1);
    res += pathSumIIIHelper(node.left, curr, target, prefix);
    res += pathSumIIIHelper(node.right, curr, target, prefix);
    prefix.put(curr, prefix.get(curr) - 1);
    return res;
}

// 27. Count Unival Subtrees
static int univalueCount;
public static int countUnivalSubtrees(TreeNode root) {
    univalueCount = 0;
    isUnival(root);
    return univalueCount;
}
private static boolean isUnival(TreeNode node) {
    if (node == null) return true;
    boolean left = isUnival(node.left);
    boolean right = isUnival(node.right);
    if (!left || !right) return false;
    if (node.left != null && node.left.val != node.val) return false;
    if (node.right != null && node.right.val != node.val) return false;
    univalueCount++;
    return true;
}

// 28. Construct Binary Tree from Preorder and Inorder
static int preIndex;
public static TreeNode buildTreePreIn(int[] preorder, int[] inorder) {
    preIndex = 0;
    Map<Integer, Integer> idx = new HashMap<>();
    for (int i = 0; i < inorder.length; i++) idx.put(inorder[i], i);
    return buildPreInHelper(preorder, 0, inorder.length
- 1, idx);
}
private static TreeNode buildPreInHelper(int[] preorder, int inL, int inR, Map<Integer, Integer> idx) {
    if (inL > inR) return null;
    int rootVal = preorder[preIndex++];
    TreeNode root = new TreeNode(rootVal);
    int pos = idx.get(rootVal);
    root.left = buildPreInHelper(preorder, inL, pos - 1, idx);
    root.right = buildPreInHelper(preorder, pos + 1, inR, idx);
    return root;
}

// 29. Morris Inorder Traversal (O(1) extra space)
public static List<Integer> morrisInorder(TreeNode root) {
    List<Integer> res = new ArrayList<>();
    TreeNode curr = root;
    while (curr != null) {
        if (curr.left == null) {
            res.add(curr.val);
            curr = curr.right;
        } else {
            TreeNode pred = curr.left;
            while (pred.right != null && pred.right != curr) pred = pred.right;
            if (pred.right == null) {
                pred.right = curr;
                curr = curr.left;
            } else {
                pred.right = null;
                res.add(curr.val);
                curr = curr.right;
            }
        }
    }
    return res;
}

```

```

}

// 30. Convert BST to Sorted Doubly Linked List (in-place)
// Reuse left as prev and right as next. Return head of doubly linked list.
static TreeNode dllPrev = null;
public static TreeNode bstToDoublyList(TreeNode root) {
    dllPrev = null;
    if (root == null) return null;
    TreeNode head = bstToDoublyLi
    stHelper(root);
    // Move to head
    while (head != null && head.left != null) head = head.left;
    return head;
}
private static TreeNode bstToDoublyListHelper(TreeNode node) {
    if (node == null) return null;
    bstToDoublyListHelper(node.left);
    // link prev <-> node
    node.left = dllPrev;
    if (dllPrev != null) dllPrev.right = node;
    dllPrev = node;
    bstToDoublyListHelper(node.right);
    return node;
}

// ----- Helper: Build Sample Tree -----
public static TreeNode buildSampleTree() {
    TreeNode root = new TreeNode(1);
    root.left = new TreeNode(2);
    root.right = new TreeNode(3);
    root.left.left = new TreeNode(4);
    root.l
eft.right = new TreeNode(5);
    root.right.left = new TreeNode(6);
    root.right.right = new TreeNode(7);
    return root;
}

// ----- Main: Quick demonstration -----
public static void main(String[] args) {
    TreeNode root = buildSampleTree();
    System.out.println("Inorder recursive: " + inorderTraversal(root));
    System.out.println("Inorder iterative: " + inorderIterative(root));
    System.out.println("Preorder recursive: " + preorderTraversal(root));
    System.out.println("Postorder recursive: " + postorderTraversal(root));
    System.out.println("Level Order: " + levelOrder(root));
    System.out.println("Zigzag: " + zigzagLevelOrder(root));
    System.out.println("Height:
" + height(root));
    System.out.println("Diameter: " + diameter(root));
    System.out.println("Left view: " + leftView(root));
    System.out.println("Right view: " + rightView(root));
    System.out.println("Top view: " + topView(root));
    System.out.println("Bottom view: " + bottomView(root));
    System.out.println("Has path sum 8: " + hasPathSum(root, 8));
    System.out.println("All paths: " + allPaths(root));
    System.out.println("LCA(4,5): " + lowestCommonAncestor(root, root.left.left, root.left.right));
    System.out.println("Is balanced: " + isBalanced(root));
    System.out.println("Is symmetric example: " + isSymmetric(root.left)); // not symmetric but demo
    TreeNode sumRoot = new TreeNode(-10); sumRoot.left = new TreeNode(9
);

sumRoot.right = new TreeNode(20);
    sumRoot.right.left = new TreeNode(15); sumRoot.right.right = new TreeNode(7);
    System.out.println("Max path sum example: " + maxPathSum(sumRoot));

String ser = serialize(root);
    System.out.println("Serialized: " + ser);
    TreeNode deser = deserialize(ser);
    System.out.println("Deserialized level order: " + levelOrder(deser));

int[] sorted = {-10,-3,0,5,9};
    TreeNode bst = sortedArrayToBST(sorted);
    System.out.println("Sorted array->BST inorder: " + inorderTraversal(bst));
    System.out.println("Min: " + findMin(root) + " Max: " + findMax(root));
}

```

```

// 21: Validate BST (use bst built from sorted array)
System.out.println("Is valid BST: " + isValidBST(bst));

//

22: kth smallest
System.out.println("Kth smallest (k=3) in BST: " + kthSmallest(bst, 3));

// 23: invert tree
TreeNode inv = invertTree(buildSampleTree());
System.out.println("Inverted inorder: " + inorderTraversal(inv));

// 24: flatten
TreeNode flatSample = buildSampleTree();
flatten(flatSample);
System.out.print("Flattened list (right pointers): "); TreeNode cur = flatSample;
while (cur != null) { System.out.print(cur.val + " "); cur = cur.right; }
System.out.println();

// 25: recover tree - create swapped BST
TreeNode r = new TreeNode(3); r.left = new TreeNode(1); r.right = new TreeNode(4); r.right.left = new TreeNode(2);
System.out.println("Before recover inorder: " + inorderTraver
sal(r));
// swap values of two nodes to simulate error
int tmp = r.val; r.val = r.right.left.val; r.right.left.val = tmp;
System.out.println("After swap inorder: " + inorderTraversal(r));
recoverTree(r);
System.out.println("After recover inorder: " + inorderTraversal(r));

// 26: Path Sum III
TreeNode pSum = buildSampleTree(); System.out.println("PathSumIII target=3: " + pathSumIII(pSum, 3));

// 27: Count univalue subtrees
TreeNode u = new TreeNode(5); u.left = new TreeNode(1); u.right = new TreeNode(5); u.right.left = new TreeNode(5); u.right.right = new TreeNode(5);
System.out.println("Univalue subtree count: " + countUnivalSubtrees(u));

// 28: build from preorder & inorder
int[] pre = {3,9,
20,15,7}; int[] in = {9,3,15,20,7};
TreeNode built = buildTreePreIn(pre, in);
System.out.println("Built tree inorder (should be inorder array): " + inorderTraversal(built));

// 29: morris inorder
System.out.println("Morris inorder on sample: " + morrisInorder(buildSampleTree()));

// 30: bst to doubly linked list
TreeNode dll = bstToDoublyList(bst);
System.out.print("BST->DLL inorder forward: "); TreeNode h = dll; while (h!=null) { System.out.print(h.val+" "); h = h.right; } System.out.println();

System.out.println("--- End of demo ---");
}
}

```