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# Lecture 10: Binary Search Trees

#### Wholeness of the Lesson

Binary Search Trees arose as a natural solution to the need for combining the efficient insertion and deletion of linked lists with fast sorting and binary search provided by arrays and array lists. Expansion from a linear structure to a two-dimensional structure (a tree) makes a solution of this kind possible. Likewise, any problem becomes easier to solve if one can transcend the boundaries of the problem.

#### A List Wish-List

1. For many purposes, keeping data stored in memory in a sorted order is a way to optimize a variety of searches on the data.

A typical problem one might try to solve when it is possible to keep data sorted is:

Find all Employees having a salary between \$50,000 and \$75,000.

2. If Employees have been maintained in sorted order – sorted by salary -- in some kind of list, then to solve the problem, we find the first Employee in the list with salary no less than 50,000 and also find the first Employee with salary bigger than 75,000. In this way we can specify the desired range of Employees.

## How to Maintain Data in Memory, In Sorted Order?

- ArrayLists. If we are using an ArrayList, then maintaining the list in sorted order is expensive because each time we add a new element, it must be inserted into the correct spot, and this requires array copy routines
- LinkedLists. If we are using a LinkedList, it is easy to maintain sorted order since insertions are efficient, but searches are not very efficient.
- The Need. We need a data structure that performs insertions efficiently in order to maintain sorted order (like a linked list) but that also performs finds efficiently (binary search is highly efficient in an array list when elements are sorted)

## A Solution: Binary Search Trees

- A binary tree is a generalization of a linked list. It has a root node (analogous to the zeroth node or header node in a linked list). And each node has a reference to a left and right child node (though some references may be null).
- A binary search tree (BST) is a binary tree in which the BST Rule is satisfied: BST Rule:

At each node *N*, every value in the left subtree of *N* is less than the value at *N*, and every value in the right subtree of *N* is greater than the value at *N*. For the moment, we assume all values are of type Integer.

The fundamental operations on a BST are:

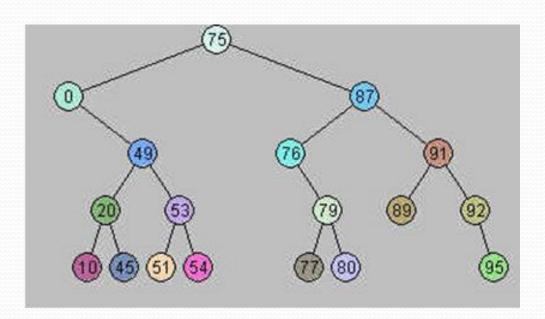
```
public boolean find(Integer val)
public void insert(Integer val)
public boolean remove(Integer val)
public void print()
```

## What BSTs Accomplish

- When implemented properly, BSTs perform insertions and deletions faster than can be done on Linked Lists and performs any find with as much efficiency as the binary search on a sorted array.
- In addition, because of the BST Rule, the BST keeps all data in sorted order, and the algorithm for displaying all data in its sorted order is very efficient.

## **Building Binary Search Trees**

- ➤ BSTs are typically built from an *insertion sequence*, starting with an empty tree.
- > Example of a BST:



#### Insertion into a BST

Recursive algorithm for insertion of Integer x [an iterative implementation is given below]

- 1. If the root is null, create a new root having value x
- Otherwise, if x is less than the value in the root, insert x into the left subtree; if x is bigger than the value in the root, insert x into the right subtree

## Searching a BST

Recursive algorithm for finding an Integer x

The recursive *find* operation for BSTs is in reality the binary search algorithm in the context of BSTs.

- If the root is null, return false
- 2. If the value in the root equals x, return true
- 3. If x is less than the value in the root, return the result of searching the left subtree
- 4. If x is greater than the value in the root, return the result of seraching the right subtree

#### **BST In-Order Traversal**

Recursive print algorithm – outputs values in every node in sorted order

- 1. If the root is null, return
- 2. Print the left subtree of the root, in sorted order
- 3. Print the root
- 4. Print the right subtree of the root, in sorted order

#### Deletions in a BST

#### *Algorithm to remove Integer x*

- Case I: Node to remove is a leaf node
   Find it and set to null
- Case II: Node to remove has one child
   Create new link from parent to child, and set node to be removed to null
- Case III: Node to remove has two children
  - 1. Find smallest node in right subtree say it stores an Integer y. This node has at most one child
  - 2. Replace x with y in node to be removed. Delete node that used to store y this is done as in one of the two cases above

## Sample Code

```
public class MyBST {
    /** The tree root. */
    private BinaryNode root;
    public MyBST() {
           root = null;
    /**
     * Prints the values in the nodes of the tree
     * in sorted order.
     */
    public void printTree( ) {
        if( root == null )
            System.out.println( "Empty tree" );
        else
            printTree( root );
    private void printTree( BinaryNode t ){
        if( t != null ) {
            printTree( t.left );
            System.out.println( t.element );
            printTree( t.right );
```

```
public void insert(Integer x) {
    if (root == null) {
       root = new BinaryNode(x, null, null);
           return;
    BinaryNode n = root;
   boolean inserted = false;
    while(!inserted){
       if(x.compareTo(n.element) < 0) {</pre>
           //available spot found on the left
           if(n.left == null){
               n.left = new BinaryNode(x, null, null);
               inserted = true;
           //keep looking
           else {
               n = n.left;
       else if(x.compareTo(n.element) > 0){
           //available spot found on the right
           if(n.right == null){
               n.right = new Node(x, null, null);
               inserted = true;
           //keep looking
           else {
               n = n.right;
        } //case x.compareTo(n.element) == 0 not handled - no duplicates allowed
```

```
private class BinaryNode {
  // Constructors
   BinaryNode(Integer theElement) {
        this (the Element, null, null);
   BinaryNode (Integer element, BinaryNode left, BinaryNode right) {
        this.element = element;
        this.left = left;
        this.right = right;
   private Integer element; // The data in the node
   private BinaryNode right; // Right child
```

## Handling Duplicates in a BST

- The algorithms and implementations above assume no duplicate values are being inserted into the BST.
- To handle duplicate values, store in each BinaryNode a List (instead of a value); then when a value is added to a BinaryNode, it is instead added to the List.
- Example: Suppose we are storing Employees in a BST, ordered by name. Our BST will be created so that the value in each node is a List<Employee> instance. Then, after insertions, all Employees with the same name will be found in a single List located in a single BinaryNode.
- Example: Suppose we want to have a data structure that provides us with a count of how many Employees have a particular salary. To begin, we could order Employees by salary (using a SalaryComparator), insert into a BST using Lists as values in each BinaryNode. After all Employees have been inserted, we could answer the query "How many have salary 50000?" by searching for the 50,000 node and then returning the size of the list stored at that node.

## Using BSTs for Sorting

- Consider the following procedure for sorting a list of Integers:
  - Insert them into a BST
  - Print the results (or modify "print" so that it puts values in a list)
- How good is this new sorting algorithm? How does it compare to MinSort? The Lab asks you to implement this algorithm and compare its running time to that of MinSort.

#### BSTs in the Java Libraries

- Java uses a special kind of BST (a "balanced" tree) as a background data structure for several of their data structures namely TreeSet and TreeMap.
- If a BST becomes unbalanced, its performance degrades dramatically; techniques have been developed to keep a tree from slipping into an unbalanced condition the most popular such technique produces red-black trees. TreeSet and TreeMap are implemented using red-black trees.

#### Main Point

A *binary search tree* (BST) is a binary tree in which the BST Rule is satisfied:

At each node *N*, every value in the left subtree of *N* is less than the value at *N*, and every value in the right subtree of *N* is greater than the value at *N*.

BSTs provide efficient search, insert, and remove operations on orderable data. A binary search tree is an example of the principle of Diving: Because the structure is right, the basic operations are accomplished with maximum efficiency.

### Summary

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## Connecting the Parts of Knowledge With the Wholeness of Knowledge

#### Fundamental patterns of consciousness in the realm of binary trees

- 1. Binary search trees support insert, remove, and find operations with efficient performance, as well as efficient support for accessing elements in order, such as findMin, findMax, and finding elements in a specified range.
- 2. The structure of complete binary trees involves an expansion from 1 to 2 to 4 to 8, and eventually to 64 (mirroring to a large extent the significant numbers that mark the progress of unfoldment within the Ved, from A to AK to the fourfold Rishi, Devata, Chhandas, Samhita, to 8-fold prakriti through the first Richa to the 64 fundamental impulses that structure the first 192 syllables of Rk Ved).
- **Transcendental Consciousness:** TC is the home of all the impulses of natural law, of creative intelligence.
- 4. <u>Wholeness moving within itself</u>: In Unity Consciousness, the emergence the structure of pure knowledge as appreciated as a self-referral activity of consciousness interacting with itself.