CMSC 123: Data Structures

Handout Adapted from: Clinton Poserio

Exercise 04a: BST::Traversals (In-Lab Exercise)

Overview

Generally, trees have traversal operations. A traversal or a *tree walk* is a process where in each node in the tree is visited. Since, a tree is a non-linear structure, there is no unique traversal. For BST ADT, we consider the following traversal algorithms:

- 1. Inorder tree walk
- 2. Preorder tree walk
- 3. Postorder tree walk

These traversal algorithms are simple recursive algorithms that visits each node in a BST, beginning from the root, in a unique order. Using *inorder tree walk* allows us to print the keys in a BST in an increasing order (*i.e.* a sorted order). As the name suggests, this traversal visits (and prints) the root node of a subtree *in between* its left subtree and right subtree; that is, for each node you visit, visit first its left child, then the node, and finally, the right child. The first node to be visited is the root.

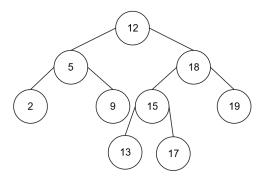


Figure 1: Sample BST [rooted at 12]

Applying the algorithm to the BST in Figure 1, we have the following:

```
visit node 12
  visit left of 12: node 5
     visit left of 5: node 2
       visit left of 2 (NULL)
       print 2
       visit right of 2 (NULL)
     print 5
     visit right of 5: node 9
       visit left of 9 (NULL)
       print 9
       visit right of 9 (NULL)
  print 12
  visit right of 12: node 18
     visit left of 18: node 15
       visit left of 15: node 13
          visit left of 13 (NULL)
```

```
print 13
visit right of 13 (NULL)
print 15
visit right of 15: node 17
visit left of 17 (NULL)
print 17
visit right of 17 (NULL)
print 18
visit right of 18: node 19
visit left of 19 (NULL)
print 19
visit right of 19 (NULL)
```

Similarly, the **preorder tree walk** displays the key of the root node of a subtree before it's left subtree and right subtree and the **postorder tree walk** displays the key of the root node after its left and right subtree. To easily remember the process, here is a summary of the keywords:

```
1. Inorder tree walk - left, root, right
```

- 2. Preorder tree walk root, left, right
- 3. Postrder tree walk left, right, root

Tasks

For this exercise, the following functions are to be implemented:

- 1. void preorderWalk(BST* B) displays a list of the keys in the BST using preorder tree walk
- 2. void inorderWalk(BST* B) displays a list of the keys in the BST using inorder tree walk
- 3. void postorderWalk (BST* B) displays a list of the keys in the BST using postorder tree walk

Instructions

1. Add the following prototypes in BST.h (documentation for each function is also included below):

```
/*
    ** function: preorderWalk
    ** requirements:
        a non-null BST pointer

** results:
        displays a list of elements of the BST using `pre-order traversal`

*/
void preorderWalk(BST* B);

/*

** function: inorderWalk

** requirements:
        a non-null BST pointer

** results:
        displays a list of elements of the BST using `in-order traversal`

*/
void inorderWalk(BST* B);

/*
```

```
** function: postorderWalk

** requirements:
    a non-null BST pointer

** results:
    displays a list of elements of the BST using `post-order traversal`

*/
void postorderWalk(BST* B);
```

- 2. Implement the three traversal functions in BST.c
- 3. Create also test plans for these functions to check your implementation.

Learn to test your code and as much as possible, avoid submitting code with compile errors i.e. code that don't even run.

Notes on Files

To help you in your implementation, we include these two files:

- BST.h a new version of BST.h where three new functions are included
- main.c interpreter program now includes commands for these traversal algorithms; see description below.

Shell Program

A shell program is created to easily interact with the BST ADT. The available commands are described below:

- + X inserts the integer key X in the BST.
- ? X displays the location of the node with key X, if found.
- p reports the contents of the BST in tree mode.
- < lists the keys of the BST using preorder traversal.
- = lists the keys of the BST using inorder traversal.
- > lists the keys of the BST using postorder traversal.
- Q terminates the program.

Submission

Submit to our Lab Google Classroom a compressed (.zip) folder named in lab O4a. zip (e.g. ajjacildoin lab O4a. zip) containing the following:

```
    BST.h and BST.c
    main.c
    program.cs
    Makefile
```

Questions?

If you have any questions, approach your lab instructor.