

All Paths for a Sum (medium)

We'll cover the following ^

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Problem Statement

Given a binary tree and a number 'S', find all paths from root-to-leaf such that the sum of all the node values of each path equals 'S'.

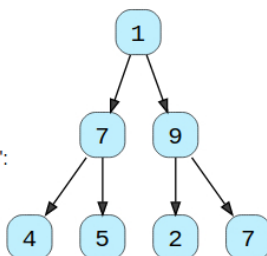
Example 1:

S: 12

Output: 2

Explanation: There are the two paths with sum '12':

1 -> 7 -> 4 and 1 -> 9 -> 2



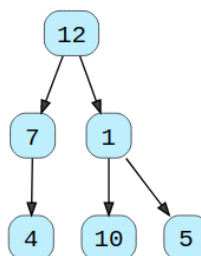
Example 2:

S: 23

Output: 2

Explanation: Here are the two paths with sum '23':

12 -> 7 -> 4 and 12 -> 1 -> 10



Try it yourself

Try solving this question here:

Java Python3 JS C++

```
1 class TreeNode:
2     def __init__(self, val, left=None, right=None):
3         self.val = val
4         self.left = left
5         self.right = right
6
7
8 def find_paths(root, sum):
9     allPaths = []
```

```

10 # TODO: Write your code here
11 return allPaths
12
13
14 def main():
15
16     root = TreeNode(12)
17     root.left = TreeNode(7)
18     root.right = TreeNode(1)
19     root.left.left = TreeNode(4)
20     root.right.left = TreeNode(10)
21     root.right.right = TreeNode(5)
22     sum = 23
23     print("Tree paths with sum " + str(sum) +
24           ": " + str(find_paths(root, sum)))
25
26
27 main()
28

```

Run

Save

Reset



Solution

This problem follows the [Binary Tree Path Sum](#) pattern. We can follow the same **DFS** approach. There will be two differences:

1. Every time we find a root-to-leaf path, we will store it in a list.
2. We will traverse all paths and will not stop processing after finding the first path.

Code

Here is what our algorithm will look like:

| | | | |
|------|---------|-----|----|
| Java | Python3 | C++ | JS |
|------|---------|-----|----|

```

1 class TreeNode:
2     def __init__(self, val, left=None, right=None):
3         self.val = val
4         self.left = left
5         self.right = right
6
7
8 def find_paths(root, required_sum):
9     allPaths = []
10    find_paths_recursive(root, required_sum, [], allPaths)
11    return allPaths
12
13
14 def find_paths_recursive(currentNode, required_sum, currentPath, allPaths):
15     if currentNode is None:
16         return
17
18     # add the current node to the path
19     currentPath.append(currentNode.val)
20
21     # if the current node is a leaf and its value is equal to required_sum, save the current path
22     if currentNode.val == required_sum and currentNode.left is None and currentNode.right is None:
23         allPaths.append(list(currentPath))
24     else:
25         # traverse the left sub-tree
26         find_paths_recursive(currentNode.left, required_sum -
27                             currentNode.val, currentPath, allPaths)
28         # traverse the right sub-tree
29         find_paths_recursive(currentNode.right, required_sum -
30                             currentNode.val, currentPath, allPaths)
31
32     # remove the current node from the path to backtrack,
33     # we need to remove the current node while we are going up the recursive call stack.
34     del currentPath[-1]
35
36
37 def main():
38
39     root = TreeNode(12)
40     root.left = TreeNode(7)
41     root.right = TreeNode(1)
42     root.left.left = TreeNode(4)

```

```

43 root.right.left = TreeNode(10)
44 root.right.right = TreeNode(5)
45 required_sum = 23
46 print("Tree paths with required_sum " + str(required_sum) +
47       ": " + str(find_paths(root, required_sum)))
48
49
50 main()
51

```

Run

Save

Reset

↺

Time complexity

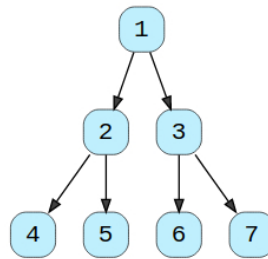
The time complexity of the above algorithm is $O(N^2)$, where 'N' is the total number of nodes in the tree. This is due to the fact that we traverse each node once (which will take $O(N)$), and for every leaf node, we might have to store its path (by making a copy of the current path) which will take $O(N)$.

We can calculate a tighter time complexity of $O(N \log N)$ from the space complexity discussion below.

Space complexity

If we ignore the space required for the `allPaths` list, the space complexity of the above algorithm will be $O(N)$ in the worst case. This space will be used to store the recursion stack. The worst-case will happen when the given tree is a linked list (i.e., every node has only one child).

How can we estimate the space used for the `allPaths` array? Take the example of the following balanced tree:



Here we have seven nodes (i.e., $N = 7$). Since, for binary trees, there exists only one path to reach any leaf node, we can easily say that total root-to-leaf paths in a binary tree can't be more than the number of leaves. As we know that there can't be more than $(N + 1)/2$ leaves in a binary tree, therefore the maximum number of elements in `allPaths` will be $O((N + 1)/2) = O(N)$. Now, each of these paths can have many nodes in them. For a balanced binary tree (like above), each leaf node will be at maximum depth. As we know that the depth (or height) of a balanced binary tree is $O(\log N)$ we can say that, at the most, each path can have $\log N$ nodes in it. This means that the total size of the `allPaths` list will be $O(N * \log N)$. If the tree is not balanced, we will still have the same worst-case space complexity.

From the above discussion, we can conclude that our algorithm's overall space complexity is $O(N * \log N)$.

Also, from the above discussion, since for each leaf node, in the worst case, we have to copy $\log(N)$ nodes to store its path; therefore, the time complexity of our algorithm will also be $O(N * \log N)$.

Similar Problems

Problem 1: Given a binary tree, return all root-to-leaf paths.

Solution: We can follow a similar approach. We just need to remove the "check for the path sum."

Problem 2: Given a binary tree, find the root-to-leaf path with the maximum sum.


Solution: We need to find the path with the maximum sum. As we traverse all paths, we can keep track of the path with the maximum sum.

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Binary Tree Path Sum (easy)

Sum of Path Numbers (medium)

 Completed

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