

Binary search trees



- Good average case behavior logn
- Bad worst case behavior n
- So overall BST O(n).
 - Actual behaviour: trees usually are not linear
 - But they potentially can be linear
- Balanced trees: AVL, red-black; 2,3,4; B+tree.

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Dictionaries: Summary



- We have looked at various underlying data structures for implementing dictionaries:
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Dictionaries: Summary



- We have analyzed the computational complexity for these data structures:

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Dictionaries: Summary



- So far the best we have done is log n search, where either:
 - Insertion is O(n); or
 - O(log n) average case but O(n) worst case.
- We can do better...

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So far...



- Dictionary search with slow look-up or insertion:
 - Lists, sorted and unsorted
 - Array, unsorted
 - Sorted array has log n lookup, but n² build
- Binary search tree:
 - good average case, but very bad worst case.

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Balanced trees



- Binary search tree:
 - Average case insertion and search: log n
 - Worst case for both: O(n)

Although simple, it's usually good enough, but not reliable

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This section



- How to get a BST to stay balanced?
 - or almost balanced...
 - ... no matter what order the data are inserted

Note: this material is not covered in Skiena.

It is essential knowledge for any computer scientist, however, and *is* examinable.

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Balanced trees



- Idea: make BST perfectly (or almost perfectly)
 balanced
- In a balanced tree of *n* items, height is O(log n)
 - Perfectly balanced tree, height = log n, exactly
 - Balanced tree, height = O(log n).
- Therefore build a balanced tree is O(n log n)
 - Search is O(log n).

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Balanced tree implementations



- →•AVL trees
- •2-3-4 trees
- ●B+ trees
- Red-black trees

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Balanced Trees and Binary Search Trees



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- In balanced trees, during insertion there are mechanisms for making sure the tree does not grow unbalanced
- At the same time, the BST ordering is preserved
- So, search in a balanced tree is exactly the same as binary tree
- The only difference is that it is O(log n)

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AVL Trees



The first balanced tree:

- Insert node + Keep track of height of subtrees of every node.
 - Balance node every time difference between subtree heights is >1.
 - Basic balancing operation: Rotation.

Adelson-Velskii, G.; E. M. Landis (1962). "An algorithm for the organization of information". Proceedings of the USSR Academy of Sciences 146: 263-266. (Russian) English translation by Myron J. Ricci in Soviet Math. Doklady 3:1259-1263, 1962.































































