Algorithms SV worksheet 3

Bálint Molnár

October 6, 2025

1 Trees

- 1. Prove that, in a binary search tree, if node n has two children, then its successor has no left child.
- 2. Prove that in a BST in which all nodes have either 0 or 2 children, if a key is not in a bottom node, its successor, if it exists, must be.
- 3. Explain insertion and deletion to a red-black tree. Please use figures instead of just writing pseudocode.

2 Hash Tables

- 1. Make a hash table with 8 slots and insert into it the following values: 15, 23, 12, 20, 19, 8, 7, 17, 10, 11.
 - Use the hash function $h(k) = (k \mod 10) \mod 8$, and resolve collisions by chaining
- 2. How can you handle deletions from an open addressing table? What are the problems with the obvious naïve approach?
- 3. One idea to avoid handling collisions is to make the hash table large enough so that the chances of having a collision are negligible. Explain why it is not feasible.

 Hint: Birthday problem
- 4. Find another use of hash functions in Computer Science/Software Engineering. Explain what properties of hash functions are required for this use case, and why you also need them for hash tables.

3 Algorithm Design

Solve this Leetcode problem. You can use any programming languages (Python, Java or C++ preferred). Please send your code, with an explanation of your algorithm.

This is a very standard coding interview question, so you might be tempted to just look up the solution. Please attempt it first without any help.