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1. Analyze the worst-case time complexity of operations `mostSimilarValue` and `printByLevels`.

1.1. `MostSimilarValue`

```
@Override public Integer mostSimilarValue (Integer value) {
    if (contains (value)) return value;
    return similar (root, value, 0);
}

private Integer similar(Node comparator, Integer value, Integer s0) {
    if (comparator.key > value && comparator.left != null)
        if (Math.abs(comparator.key - value) >= Math.abs(comparator.left.key - value))
            return similar(comparator.left, value, comparator.left.key);
        else
            return similar(comparator.left, value, comparator.key);

    else if (comparator.key < value && comparator.right != null)
        if (Math.abs(comparator.right.key - value) >= Math.abs(comparator.key - value))
            return similar(comparator.right, value, comparator.key);
        else
            return similar(comparator.right, value, comparator.right.key);

    return s0;
}
```

- Searching in a BST starts at the root and yields a recursive algorithm.
- This process is binary, thus **search is $O(\log N)$** .
- A BST has **$O(h)$** worst-case runtime complexity, where h is the height of the tree. Since a binary search tree with n nodes has a minimum of **$O(\log N)$** levels, it takes at least **$O(\log N)$** comparisons to find a particular node.
- Unfortunately, a binary search tree can degenerate to a linked list, effectively reducing the search time to **$O(n)$** . That is the worst-case scenario for a BST and it involves a completely unbalanced tree, which degenerates into a single-linked list. This presents a challenge since we do not get the "halving at every step" characteristic that gives a Binary Search Tree its power.

1.2. `PrintByLevels`

The exercise instructions describe a **Level order traversal** that processes the nodes level by level. The method would traverse the root, and then its children, then its grandchildren, and so on. Unlike the other traversal methods, it seems that ***a recursive version does not exist***.

The possible implementation I read about, is similar to the non-recursive preorder traversal algorithm. The only difference is that a stack is replaced with a FIFO queue. But since we are not allowed to use such data structures. I will content myself with $O(N^2)$.

- PrintLevel () takes $O(N)$ time where N is the number of nodes in the tree. So time complexity of **printByLevels ()** is $O(N) + O(N-1) + O(N-2) + \dots + O(1)$ which is $O(N^2)$.

```
@Override public void printByLevels(){ //using Breadth First Search traversal.
    int h = depthTree(root);
    for (int i=1; i<=h; i++){
        System.out.print("Depth "+(i-1)+" :");
        printLevel(root, i);
        System.out.println("\n");
    }
}

private int depthTree(Node root) {
    if (root == null) return 0;
    else {
        int left = depthTree(root.left);
        int right = depthTree(root.right);
        if (left > right) return(left+1);
        else return(right+1);
    }
}

private void printLevel(Node root , int level) {
    if (root == null) return;
    if (level == 1) System.out.print(root.key + " ");
    else if (level > 1) {
        printLevel(root.left, level-1);
        printLevel(root.right, level-1);
    }
}
```

I could have done this: Using a Queue, which significantly lowers the Time Complexity to $O(N)$ where N is number of nodes in the binary tree.

```
@Override public void printByLevels(){ //using Breadth First Search traversal.
    if(root == null) return;
    Queue<Node> q =new LinkedList<>();
    q.add(root);
    while(true){
        int nodeCount = q.size();
        if(nodeCount == 0) break;
        while(nodeCount > 0) {
            Node node = q.peek();
            System.out.print(node.key + " ");
            q.remove();
            if(node.left != null) q.add(node.left);
            if(node.right != null) q.add(node.right);
            nodeCount--;
        }
        System.out.println();
    }
}
```

2. Proposed Data structure

In order to achieve, $O(1)$ for insert/remove right and insert/remove left, I chose to implement a **doubly linked list**, since it allows convenient access in the obvious way by storing two pointers. To comply with the operations needed, the DLL implementation differs from the text book solution. The insert/remove methods make use of the head and tail node to execute the concept.

In that regard, the assignment also describes a *find minimum method that should not surpass worst-case $O(N)$* .

A straight forward implementation would compare the nodes until reaching the end to make sure the minimum value is found. However, to surpass this theoretical limit, I read through encoding methods and discovered that by adding a **Key** to my nested **Node** class I can retain information about the min value and *intuitively link the other node values in a scheme that would allow me in the event of a remove operation to **recalculate the min value in $O(1)$ time***.

Now, the solution is not perfect the encoding does need an extra if statement when the ADT only holds one node to work so that the **find min** operation executes correctly.

```
//O(1)
@Override public Integer findMinimum(){
    if (head == null)
        throw new RuntimeException("List is empty!");
    if(head==tail)
        return head.getValue();
    return minEle.getValue();
}
```

Same with Insert/remove operations, the implementation is straight forward and takes $O(1)$ as the lines of codes remain **in the boundary of constant time**. Lastly, **ToString ()** takes $O(N)$.

```
//O(1)
@Override public void insertRight(Integer value) {
    Node added = new Node(value,value);
    if (head == null){
        minEle=added;
        head = added;
        tail = added;
    } else{
        if( added.getEncoding() < minEle.getEncoding()) {
            // When inserting the values are encoded to retrace back the minimum if it's removed.
            added=new Node(value,2*added.getEncoding() - minEle.getEncoding());
            minEle=new Node(value,value);
        }
        added.prev = tail;
        this.tail.next = added;
        this.tail = added;
    }
    this.size++;
}
```

