

Binary Search Trees

CMPT 125 Mo Chen SFU Computing Science 18/3/2020

Lecture 27

Today:

- Building a tree using a stack
- Binary Search Trees

Trees and Recursion (Review)

Trees can be defined recursively.

• often, in terms of their subtrees

Recursive definitions benefit you in two ways:

- allow you to write recursive algorithms
- allow you to reason about the structure by recursion (or induction)

Trees with special properties are usually also recursive

- E.g., full binary trees
- E.g., expression trees

T is a binary tree when either:

- T is an empty tree (basis)
- T has a root vertex whose left and right subtrees are binary trees (recursive definition)



right subtree

left subtree

Dynamic Set ADT / Lookup Table

Define a Dynamic Set ADT as:

• a collection of keys

Galaxy S10 Pixel 3 Mate 20 Pro

Key

- iPhone XS
- each key may have some associated data
- insert(key, data) adds (key, data) into the collection
- search(key) returns the data associated with key if present, or NULL otherwise. (Alternate: true / false)

Implementations?

- Coded with an unordered array, search() will be O(N).
- Coded with a sorted array, insert() will be O(N).
- To do better, manage all the keys in a binary tree.

Binary Search Tree

To manage a collection of keys, use a binary tree, one key per node in the tree.

For any key *x* in the tree:

- its left subtree contains keys $\leq x$
- its right subtree contains keys $\geq x$
- To implement insert() or search():
 - compare value with root key
 - recurse left if value < key
 - recurse right if value > key



Binary Search Tree: search()

A recursive definition for *binary* search tree (BST):

35

23

10

16

NULL

28

26

33

25

58

59

62

72

77

80

47

46

41

For root with key = x,

- left subtree is a BST with all keys $\leq x$
- right subtree is a BST with all keys $\ge x$



bool search(BTnode * root, int target) {



- o return false if tree empty
- Compare target to root->key
 - \circ return true if found
 - o recursively search left if target < root->key
 - o recursively search right if target > root->key

Binary Search Tree: search()

A recursive definition for *binary* search tree (BST):

NULL

For root with key = x,

- left subtree is a BST with all keys $\leq x$
- right subtree is a BST with all keys $\ge x$

How would you search for 24?





- return true if found
- o recursively search left if target < root->key
- o recursively search right if target > root->key

Binary Search Tree: search()

A recursive definition for *binary* search tree (BST):

For root with key = x,

- left subtree is a BST with all keys $\leq x$
- right subtree is a BST with all keys $\ge x$

How would you search for 24?

```
bool search(BTnode * root, int target) {
    // Base case
    if (root == NULL) return false;
    if (root->key == target) return true;

    // Search left subtree
    if (target < root->key)
        return search(root->left, target);

    // Search right subtree
    else // root->key < target</pre>
```

return search(root->right, target);



Q. What's the running time?

- Q. Where would you insert 82?
- Q. Where would you insert 40?
- Q. How about 72, 55, 38, 89, 78, 52?





Strategy for insert():

• Similar to search(), recurse down the tree until you see a NULL, then place the new node there

```
// Returns the new root of the binary search tree
BTnode * insert(BTnode * root, int key) {
    // Base case
    if (root == NULL)
        return new BTnode(key, NULL, NULL);
```



- Compare key to root->key
 - o recursively insert to the left if key <= root->key
 - recursively insert to the right if key > root->key
 - return root

Strategy for insert():

• Similar to search(), recurse down the tree until you see a NULL, then place the new node there

```
// Returns the new root of the binary search tree
BTnode * insert(BTnode * root, int key) {
    // Base case
    if (root == NULL)
        return new BTnode(key, NULL, NULL);
    // Insert to left subtree
    if (key <= root->key)
        root->left = insert(root->left, key);
    // Insert into right subtree
    else // root->key < key
        root->right = insert(root->right, key);
    return root;
}
```



Q. What's the running time?

Running Time Analysis

What's the worst case running time of search()?

What about insert()?

- both are based on maximum recursion depth
- *depth* of a node = distance from the root
- tree *height* = maximum of all depths

How does height (h) relate to the number of nodes (N)?

- worst case? a linear, anaemic tree. h = O(N)
- best case? a *balanced* tree. $h = O(\log N)$
- average case? randomly inserted keys. average height = O(logN)

Rule of Thumb: Balanced is best for efficiency

- There are algorithms to re-balance search trees, so that operations are always *O*(log*N*).
- E.g., AVL trees, red-black trees, B-Trees



worst-case



best case