Luiss Libera Università Internazionale degli Studi Sociali Guido Carli

Algorithms A.Y. 2022/2023

Lab – Binary Search Trees

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courtesy of: Andrea Coletta







A *binary search tree* is a binary tree that satisfies three properties:

- Each node v is associated with a key key(v)
- All the keys in the **left** subtree of v are **smaller** than key(v)
- All the keys in the **right** subtree of v are **grater** than key(v)



A binary search tree example





We can perform many operations on binary search trees (BST):

- Search
- Insertion
- Deletion
- ...



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- Search DONE
- Insertion **DONE**
- Deletion **TODO**

• • • •



To delete an element from a BST we have 3 different cases:



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1. The node to delete is a leaf





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- 1. The node to delete is a leaf
- 2. The node to delete has just 1 child



To delete an element from a BST we have 3 different cases:

- 1. The node to delete is a leaf
- 2. The node to delete has just 1 child
- 3. The node to delete has 2 children





Case 1: The node to delete is a leaf

Any guess?





Case 1: The node to delete is a leaf

We can just delete the node! Super Easy





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Case 1: The node to delete is a leaf

We can just delete the node! Super Easy



Case 2: The node to delete has just one child

Any guess?





Case 2: The node to delete has just one child

We can delete the node and put the child in the same place of the parent



Case 2: The node to delete has just one child

We can delete the node and put the child in the same place of the parent **Easy!**







- Case 3: The node to delete has two children.
- It is slightly more complex compare to others.
- The node to delete is replaced with its **in-order successor** (or predecessor).

















Binary Search Tree - What they are used for?

• BSTs are used for indexing



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• BSTs are used for indexing

Be aware that a BST can become **unbalanced**

What is the problem?





Binary Search Tree - What they are used for?

- BSTs are used for indexing
- TreeMap and TreeSet data structures in java are internally implemented using self-balancing BSTs to avoid unbalanced cases



Perform a **post-order visit** of the tree on the right





Just to recap, a post-order visit is done as follow:

Algorithm Postorder(tree)





We start exploring 40 and call again the function on the left node



Algorithm Postorder(tree)



We start exploring 30 and call again the function on the left node



Algorithm Postorder(tree)



We start exploring 25 and call again the function on the left node



Algorithm Postorder(tree)



We start exploring 15 and call again the function on the left node... But it has no children!

So we can mark it as visited!



Algorithm Postorder(tree)



We return to 25 and call again the function on the right node



Nodes visited: 15

Algorithm Postorder(tree)



We start exploring 28 and call again the function on the left node... But it has no children!

So we can mark it as visited!



Algorithm Postorder(tree)



We return to 25



Nodes visited: 15, 28

Algorithm Postorder(tree)



We return to 25 but we finished the exploration so we mark it as visited and we can return to 30



Nodes visited: 15, 28, 25

Algorithm Postorder(tree)



Then we call again the function on the right node, namely, 35



Nodes visited: 15, 28, 25

Algorithm Postorder(tree)


Then we call again the function on the right node, namely, 35 and since it has no children we can mark it as visited



Nodes visited: 15, 28, 25, 35

Algorithm Postorder(tree)



We return to 30 and since the exploration is done we mark it as visited



Nodes visited: 15, 28, 25, 35, 30

Algorithm Postorder(tree)



Now try to finish the exercise by yourself!



Nodes visited: 15, 28, 25, 35, 30

Algorithm Postorder(tree)



Solution!



Algorithm Postorder(tree)

Postorder(left->subtree) Postorder(right->subtree) Visit the root

Nodes visited: 15, 28, 25, 35, 30, 45, 55, 70, 60, 50, 40



Perform a **post-order visit** of the tree on the right

Algorithm Postorder(tree)





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Algorithm Postorder(tree)





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Perform a **post-order visit** of the tree on the right

Algorithm Postorder(tree)



Nodes visited: A, E



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Postorder(left->subtree) Postorder(right->subtree) Visit the root



Nodes visited: A, E, L



Perform a **post-order visit** of the tree on the right

Algorithm Postorder(tree)



Nodes visited: A, E, L



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Postorder(left->subtree) Postorder(right->subtree) Visit the root



Nodes visited: A, E, L, O



Perform a **post-order visit** of the tree on the right

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Postorder(left->subtree) Postorder(right->subtree) Visit the root



Nodes visited: A, E, L, O, N



Perform a **post-order visit** of the tree on the right



Postorder(left->subtree) Postorder(right->subtree) Visit the root



Nodes visited: A, E, L, O, N, I



Perform a **post-order visit** of the tree on the right

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Postorder(left->subtree) Postorder(right->subtree) Visit the root



Nodes visited: A, E, L, O, N, I



Perform a **post-order visit** of the tree on the right

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Postorder(left->subtree) Postorder(right->subtree) Visit the root



Nodes visited: A, E, L, O, N, I, Y



Perform a **post-order visit** of the tree on the right

Algorithm Postorder(tree)

Postorder(left->subtree) Postorder(right->subtree) Visit the root



Nodes visited: A, E, L, O, N, I, Y, S



Perform a **post-order visit** of the tree on the right

Algorithm Postorder(tree)

Postorder(left->subtree) Postorder(right->subtree) Visit the root



Nodes visited: A, E, L, O, N, I, Y, S, C



Perform a in-order visit of the tree on the right

Algorithm Inorder(tree)

Inorder(left->subtree) Visit the root Inorder(right->subtree)





Perform a in-order visit of the tree on the right

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Inorder(left->subtree) Visit the root Inorder(right->subtree)





Perform a in-order visit of the tree on the right

Algorithm Inorder(tree)

Inorder(left->subtree) Visit the root Inorder(right->subtree)





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Inorder(left->subtree) Visit the root Inorder(right->subtree)



Nodes visited: A, C



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Inorder(left->subtree) Visit the root Inorder(right->subtree)





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Algorithm Inorder(tree)

Inorder(left->subtree) Visit the root Inorder(right->subtree)



Nodes visited: A, C, E



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Algorithm Inorder(tree)

Inorder(left->subtree) Visit the root Inorder(right->subtree)



Nodes visited: A, C, E, I



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Inorder(left->subtree) Visit the root Inorder(right->subtree)



Nodes visited: A, C, E, I



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Inorder(left->subtree) Visit the root Inorder(right->subtree)



Nodes visited: A, C, E, I, L, N



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Nodes visited: A, C, E, I, L, N, O



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Inorder(left->subtree) Visit the root Inorder(right->subtree)



Nodes visited: A, C, E, I, L, N, O



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Inorder(left->subtree) Visit the root Inorder(right->subtree)



Nodes visited: A, C, E, I, L, N, O, S


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Nodes visited: A, C, E, I, L, N, O, S, Y



Perform a in-order visit of the tree on the right

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Inorder(left->subtree) Visit the root Inorder(right->subtree)



Nodes visited: A, C, E, I, L, N, O, S, Y



Perform a in-order visit of the tree on the right

We found the solution!

Algorithm Inorder(tree)

Inorder(left->subtree) Visit the root Inorder(right->subtree)



Nodes visited: A, C, E, I, L, N, O, S, Y



Perform a pre-order visit of the tree on the right

Algorithm Preorder(tree)

Visit the root Preorder(left->subtree) Preorder(right->subtree)



Nodes visited:



Perform a pre-order visit of the tree on the right

Algorithm Preorder(tree)

Visit the root Preorder(left->subtree) Preorder(right->subtree)



Nodes visited: C



Perform a pre-order visit of the tree on the right

Algorithm Preorder(tree)



Nodes visited: C, A



Perform a pre-order visit of the tree on the right

Algorithm Preorder(tree)



Nodes visited: C, A



Perform a pre-order visit of the tree on the right

Algorithm Preorder(tree)



Nodes visited: C, A, S



Perform a pre-order visit of the tree on the right

Algorithm Preorder(tree)



Nodes visited: C, A, S, I



Perform a pre-order visit of the tree on the right

Algorithm Preorder(tree)

Visit the root Preorder(left->subtree) Preorder(right->subtree)



Nodes visited: C, A, S, I, E



Perform a pre-order visit of the tree on the right

Algorithm Preorder(tree)



Nodes visited: C, A, S, I, E



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Visit the root Preorder(left->subtree) Preorder(right->subtree)



Nodes visited: C, A, S, I, E, N



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