## Topic 19

## Red Black Trees

## "People in every direction

No words exchanged
No time to exchange
And all the little ants are marching
Red and black antennas waving"
-Ants Marching, Dave Matthew's Band
"Welcome to L.A.'s Automated Traffic Surveillance and Control Operations Center. See, they use video feeds from intersections and specifically designed algorithms to predict traffic conditions, and thereby control traffic lights. So all I did was come up with my own... kick ass algorithm to sneak in, and now we own the place."
-Lyle, the Napster, (Seth Green), The Italian Job

## Binary Search Trees

- Average case and worst case Big O for
- insertion
- deletion
- access
- Balance is important. Unbalanced trees give worse than $\log \mathrm{N}$ times for the basic tree operations
- Can balance be guaranteed?


## Attendance Question 1

- 2000 elements are inserted one at a time into an initially empty binary search tree using the traditional algorithm. What is the maximum possible height of the resulting tree?
A. 1
B. 11
C. 1000
D. 1999
E. 4000


## Red Black Trees

- A BST with more complex algorithms to ensure balance
- Each node is labeled as Red or Black.
- Path: A unique series of links (edges) traverses from the root to each node.
- The number of edges (links) that must be followed is the path length
- In Red Black trees paths from the root to elements with 0 or 1 child are of particular interest


## Paths to Single or Zero Child Nodes



## Example of a Red Black Tree

- The root of a Red Black tree is black
- Every other node in the tree follows these rules:
- Rule 3: If a node is Red, all of its children are Black
- Rule 4: The number of Black nodes must be the same in all paths from the root node to null nodes



## Red Black Tree Rules

1. Every node is colored either Red or black
2. The root is black
3. If a node is red its children must be black. (a.k.a. the red rule)
4. Every path from a node to a null link must contain the same number of black nodes (a.k.a. the path rule)

## Red Black Tree?



## Attendance Question 2

- Is the tree on the previous slide a binary search tree? Is it a red black tree?

BST? Red-Black?
A. No

No
B. No

Yes
C. Yes

No
D. Yes

Yes

## Red Black Tree?



Perfect?
Full?
Complete?

## Implications of the Rules

- If a Red node has any children, it must have two children and they must be Black. (Why?)
- If a Black node has only one child that child must be a Red leaf. (Why?)
- Due to the rules there are limits on how unbalanced a Red Black tree may become.
- on the previous example may we hang a new node off of the leaf node that contains 0 ?


## Properties of Red Black Trees

- If a Red Black Tree is complete, with all Black nodes except for Red leaves at the lowest level the height will be minimal, $\sim \log \mathrm{N}$
- To get the max height for N elements there should be as many Red nodes as possible down one path and all other nodes are Black
- This means the max height would be < 2 * $\log \mathrm{N}$
- see example on next slide


## Maintaining the Red Black Properties in a Tree

- Insertions
- Must maintain rules of Red Black Tree.
- New Node always a leaf
- can't be black or we will violate rule 4
- therefore the new leaf must be red
- If parent is black, done (trivial case)
- if parent red, things get interesting because a red leaf with a red parent violates rule 3

Max Height Red Black Tree


CS 307 Fundamentals of
Computer Science

## Insertions with Red Parent - Child

Must modify tree when insertion would result in Red Parent - Child pair using color changes and rotations.


## Case 1

- Suppose sibling of parent is Black.
- by convention null nodes are black
- In the previous tree, true if we are inserting a 3 or an 8.
- What about inserting a 99 ? Same case?
- Let $X$ be the new leaf Node, $P$ be its Red Parent, S the Black sibling and G, P's and S's parent and X's grandparent
- What color is G?

Fixing the Problem
 rotation between P and G fixes the problem. A rotation is an exchange of roles between a parent and child node. So P becomes G's parent. Also must recolor P and G.

## Case 1 - The Picture



Relative to $\mathrm{G}, \mathrm{X}$ could be an inside or outside node. Outside -> left left or right right moves Inside $->$ left right or right left moves

## Single Rotation



Apparent rule violation?

## Case 2

- What if $X$ is an inside node relative to $G$ ?
- a single rotation will not work
- Must perform a double rotation
- rotate $X$ and $P$


Case 3
Sibling is Red, not Black


Any problems?

## Fixing Tree when $S$ is Red

- Must perform single rotation between parent, $P$ and grandparent, G, and then make appropriate color changes



## More on Insert

- Problem: What if on the previous example G's parent had been red?
- Easier to never let Case 3 ever occur!
- On the way down the tree, if we see a node $X$ that has 2 Red children, we make X Red and its two children black.
- if recolor the root, recolor it to black
- the number of black nodes on paths below X remains unchanged
- If X 's parent was Red then we have introduced 2 consecutive Red nodes.(violation of rule)
- to fix, apply rotations to the tree, same as inserting node


## Example of Inserting Sorted Numbers

-12345678910


Insert 1. A leaf so red. Realize it is root so recolor to black.

Insert 3

Insert 2



## Insert 4

On way down see 2 with 2 red children. Recolor 2 red and children black.
Realize 2 is root

so color back to black


Finish insert of 5


## Insert 5

5's parent is red. Parent's sibling is black (null). 5 is outside relative to grandparent (3) so rotate parent and grandparent then recolor

## Insert 6

On way down see 4 with 2 red children. Make 4 red and children black. 4's parent is black so no problem.


Finishing insert of 6

6's parent is black so done.


Finish insert of 7


## Insert 7

7's parent is red. Parent's sibling is black (null). 7 is outside relative to grandparent (5) so rotate parent and grandparent then recolor
way down see 6 with 2 red children. Make 6 red and children black. This

## Insert 8

creates a problem because 6's parent, 4 , is also red. Must perform rotation.


## Still Inserting 8

Recolored now need to rotate


On way down see 4 has two red children 8 so recolor 4 red and children black. Realize 4 is the root so recolor black


On way down see 8 has two red children so change 8 to red and children black

Finish inserting 11


