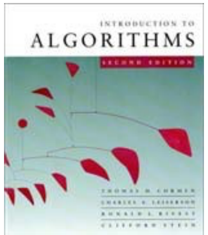
CS60020: Foundations of Algorithm Design and Machine Learning

Sourangshu Bhattacharya

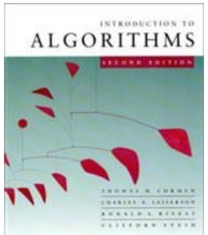


Why study algorithms and performance?

- Algorithms help us to understand ***scalability***.
- Performance often draws the line between what is feasible and what is impossible.
- Algorithmic mathematics provides a ***language*** for talking about program behavior.
- Performance is the ***currency*** of computing.
- The lessons of program performance generalize to other computing resources.
- Speed is fun!

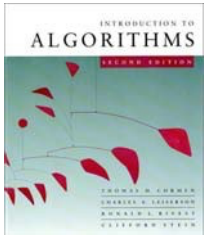
Searching

- Given a list of numbers: L = {1,4,5,…}
  - L can be implemented as linked list or array.
- Given another number: x
- Return whether x is present in L
  - Variant return the any / first instance of x in L
- Linear Search:
  - For each element y in L: if x==y return y
  - Return null



Running time

- The running time depends on the input:
  - if x appears early in L, running time is low.
- Parameterize the running time by the size of the input, say length of L.
- Generally, we seek upper bounds on the running time, because everybody likes a guarantee.



Kinds of analyses

Worst-case: (usually)

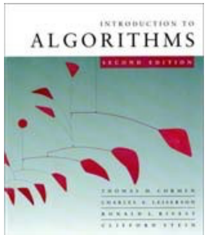
- $T(n)$ = maximum time of algorithm on any input of size n.

Average-case: (sometimes)

- $T(n)$ = expected time of algorithm over all inputs of size n.
- Need assumption of statistical distribution of inputs.

Best-case: (bogus)

- Cheat with a slow algorithm that works fast on *some* input.



Machine-independent time

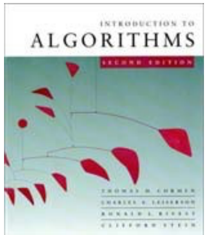
What is linear search's worst-case time?

- It depends on the speed of our computer:
  - relative speed (on the same machine),
  - absolute speed (on different machines).

BIG IDEA:

- Ignore machine-dependent constants.
- Look at ***growth*** of $T(n)$ as $n \to \infty$.

"Asymptotic Analysis"



Θ-notation

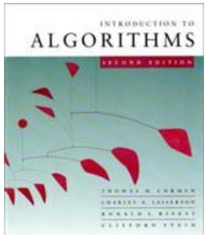
Math:

$\Theta(g(n)) = \{ f(n)$: there exist positive constants c_1, c_2, and n_0 such that $0 \le c_1 g(n) \le f(n) \le c_2 g(n)$ for all $n \ge n_0 \}$

Engineering:

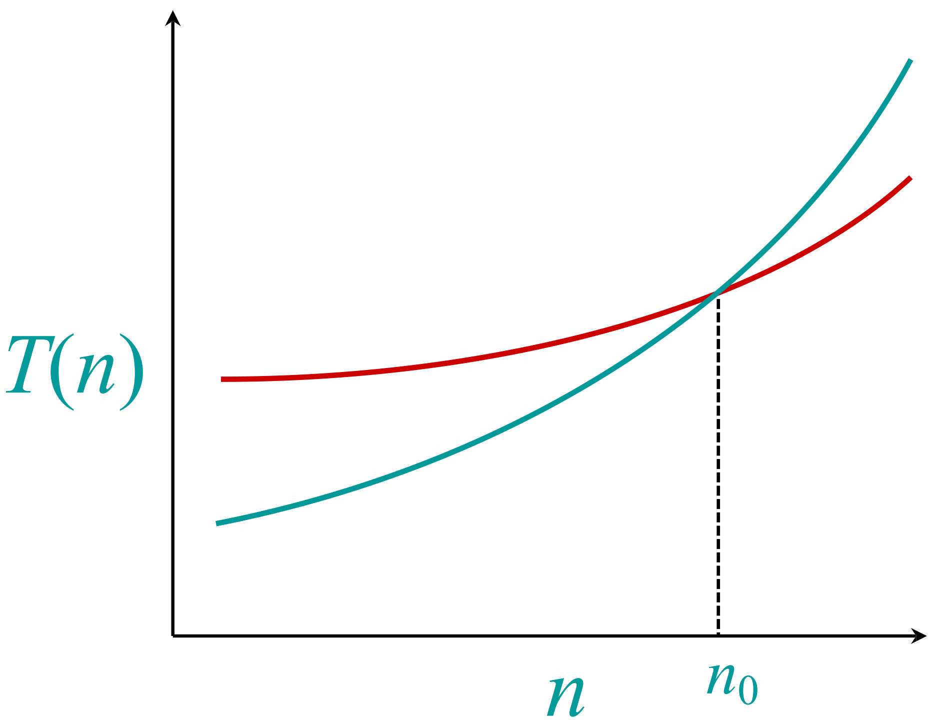
- Drop low-order terms; ignore leading constants.
- Example: $3n^3 + 90n^2 - 5n + 6046 = \Theta(n^3)$

- Big-O notation: T(n) = O(f(n)) if $T(n) \le cf(n)$ for some c, and $n \ge n_0$.



Asymptotic performance

When n gets large enough, a $\Theta(n^2)$ algorithm *always* beats a $\Theta(n^3)$ algorithm.



- We shouldn't ignore asymptotically slower algorithms, however.
- Real-world design situations often call for a careful balancing of engineering objectives.
- Asymptotic analysis is a useful tool to help to structure our thinking.

Running time for Linear Search

- T(n) = O(n)
- Worst case running time is also $\Theta(n)$.
- T(n) = $O(n^2)$

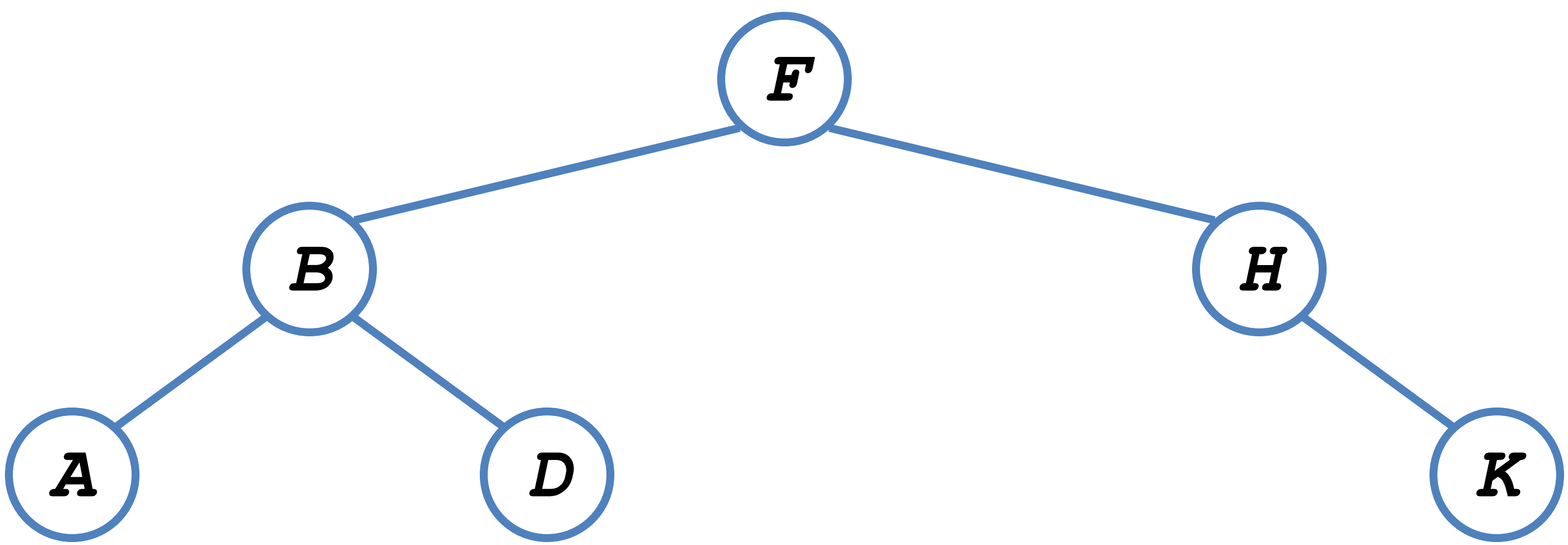
- Can we do better ?
- Also, can maintain L as a dynamic data-structure ?

Binary Search Trees

- *Binary Search Trees* (BSTs) are an important data structure for dynamic sets
- Comprises of a number of linked nodes / items / elements.
- In addition to satellite data, nodes have:
  – *key*: an identifying field inducing a total ordering
  – *left*: pointer to a left child (may be NULL)
  – *right*: pointer to a right child (may be NULL)
  – *p*: pointer to a parent node (NULL for root)

Binary Search Trees

- BST property:
  key[leftSubtree(x)] ≤ key[x] ≤ key[rightSubtree(x)]
- Example:



Inorder Tree Walk

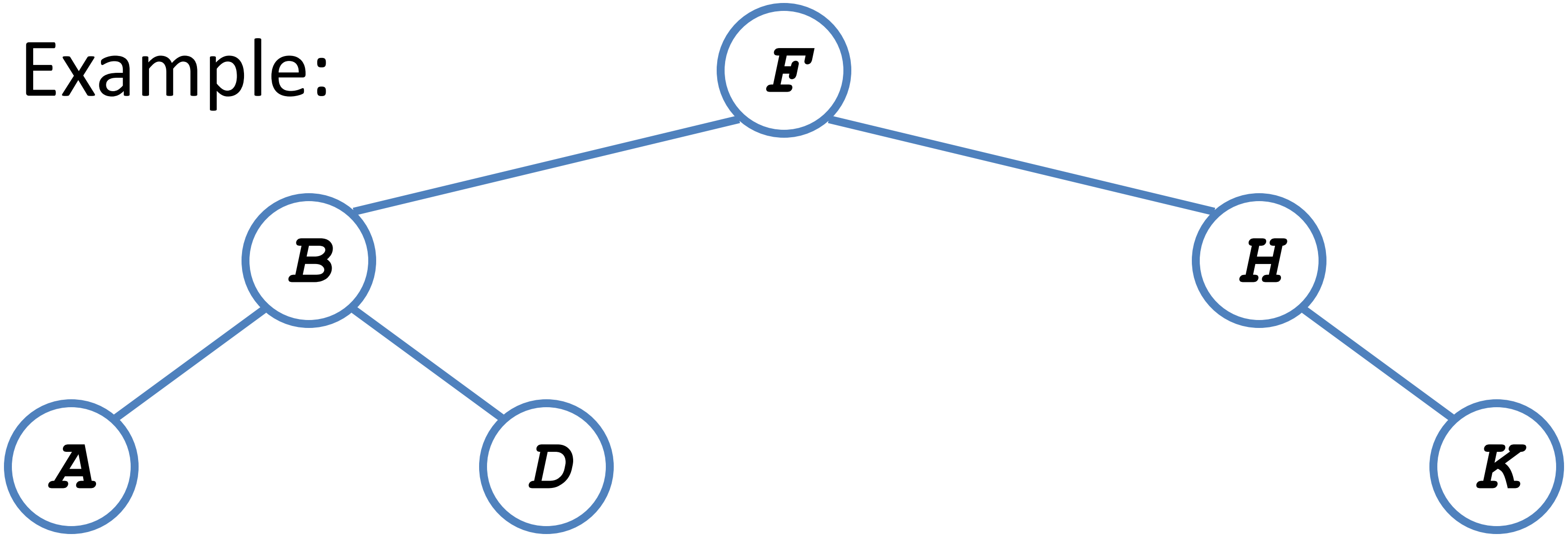
- *What does the following code do?*

```
TreeWalk(x)
     TreeWalk(left[x]);
     print(x);
     TreeWalk(right[x]);
```

- A: prints elements in sorted (increasing) order
- This is called an *inorder tree walk*
  - *Preorder tree walk*: print root, then left, then right
  - *Postorder tree walk*: print left, then right, then root

Inorder Tree Walk

- Example:



- *How long will a tree walk take?*
- *Prove that inorder walk prints in monotonically increasing order*

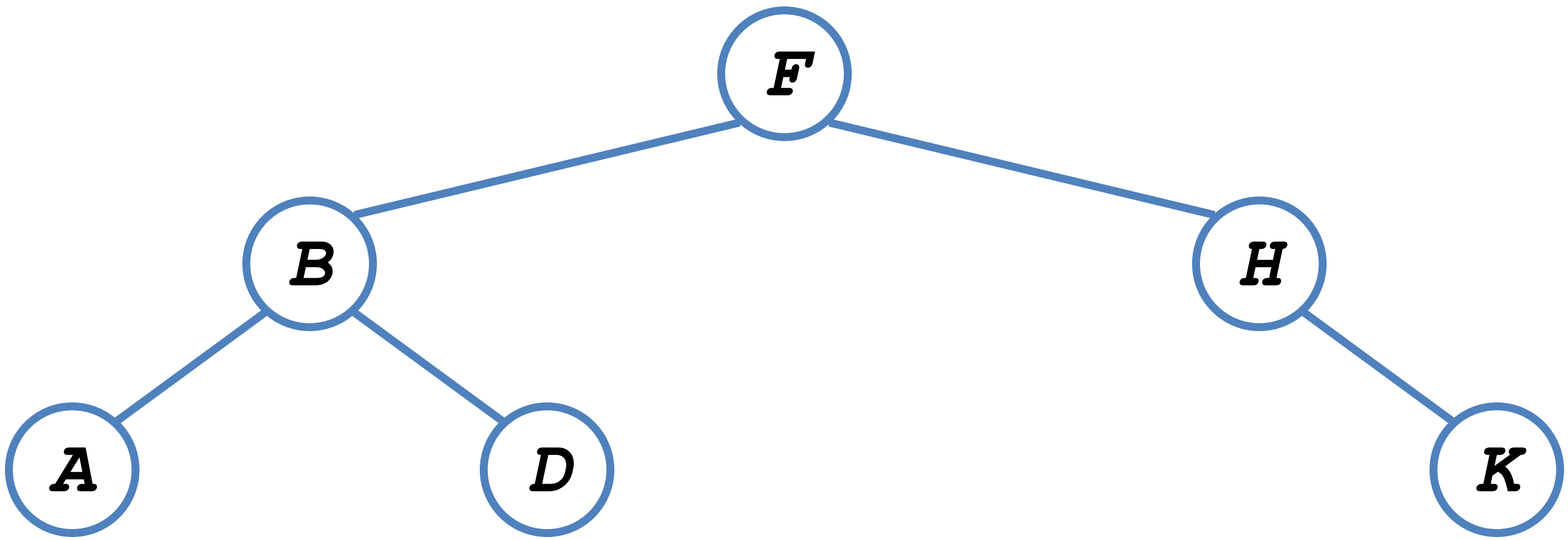
Operations on BSTs: Search

- Given a key and a pointer to a node, returns an element with that key or NULL:

```
TreeSearch(x, k)
    if (x = NULL  or  k = key[x])
        return x;
    if (k < key[x])
        return TreeSearch(left[x], k);
    else
        return TreeSearch(right[x], k);
```

BST Search: Example

- Search for *D* and *C*:



Operations on BSTs: Search

- Here’s another function that does the same:

```
TreeSearch(x, k)
    while (x != NULL  and  k != key[x])
        if (k < key[x])
            x = left[x];
        else
            x = right[x];
    return x;
```

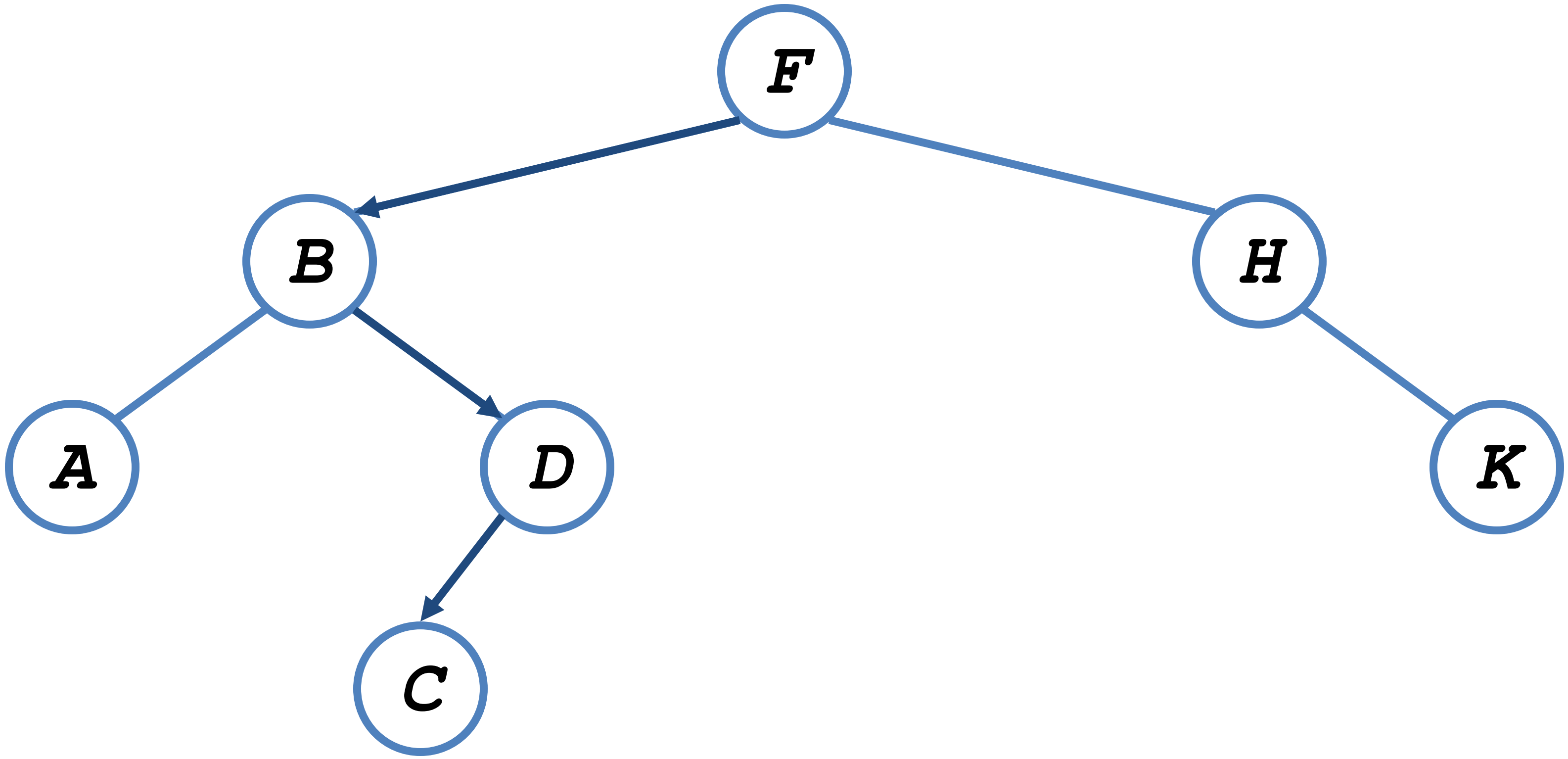
- *Which of these two functions is more efficient?*

Operations of BSTs: Insert

- Adds an element x to the tree so that the binary search tree property continues to hold
- The basic algorithm
  - Like the search procedure above
  - Insert x in place of NULL
  - Use a "trailing pointer" to keep track of where you came from (like inserting into singly linked list)

BST Insert: Example

- Example: Insert *C*



BST Search/Insert: Running Time

- *What is the running time of TreeSearch() or TreeInsert()?*
- A: O(h), where h = height of tree
- *What is the height of a binary search tree?*
- A: worst case: h = O(n) when tree is just a linear string of left or right children
  - We'll keep all analysis in terms of h for now
  - Later we'll see how to maintain h = O(lg n)

More BST Operations

- BSTs are good for more than searching. For example, can implement a priority queue
- *What operations must a priority queue have?*
  - Insert
  - Minimum
  - Extract-Min

BST Operations: Minimum

- *How can we implement a Minimum() query?*
- *What is the running time?*

BST Operations: Successor

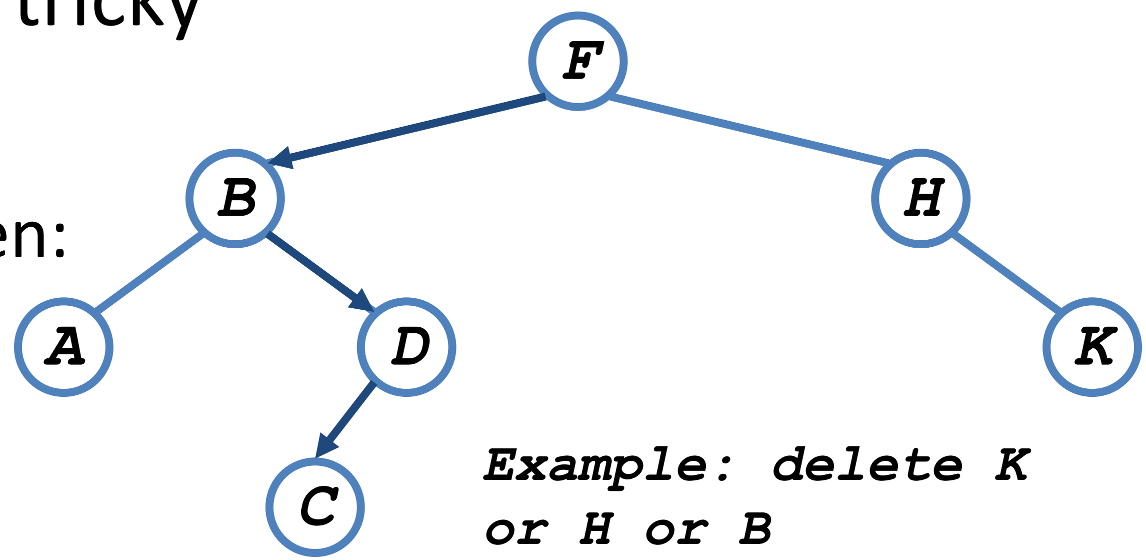
- Two cases:
  - x has a right subtree: successor is minimum node in right subtree
  - x has no right subtree: successor is first ancestor of x whose left child is also ancestor of x
    - Intuition: As long as you move to the left up the tree, you're visiting smaller nodes.
- Predecessor: similar algorithm

BST Operations: Successor

```
TREE-SUCCESSOR(x)
if x.right ≠ NIL
    return TREE-MINIMUM(x.right)
y = x.p
while y ≠ NIL and x == y.right
    x = y
    y = y.p
return y
```

BST Operations: Delete

- Deletion is a bit tricky
- 3 cases:
  - x has no children:
    - Remove x
  - x has one child:
    - Splice out x
  - x has two children:
    - Swap x with successor
    - Perform case 1 or 2 to delete it



Example: delete K or H or B

BST Operations: Delete

- *Why will case 2 always go to case 0 or case 1?*
- A: because when x has 2 children, its successor is the minimum in its right subtree
- *Could we swap x with predecessor instead of successor?*
- A: yes. *Would it be a good idea?*
- A: might be good to alternate

Binary Search Tree