Exercises

Cormen Problem 12-1. Equal keys pose a problem for the implementation of binary search trees.

a. What is the asymptotic performance of TREE-INSERT when used to insert *n* items with identical keys into an initially empty binary search tree?

Exercises

Cormen Problem 12-1. We propose to improve TREE-INSERT by testing before line 5 to determine whether *z.key* = *x.key* and by testing before line 11 to determine whether *z.key* = *y.key*.

```
TREE-INSERT(T, z)
1   y = NIL
2   x = T.root
3   while x ≠ NIL
4       y = x
5       if z.key < x.key
6           x = x.left
7       else x = x.right
8   z.p = y
9   if y == NIL
10      T.root = z
11  elseif z.key < y.key
12      y.left = z
13  else y.right = z
```

If equality holds, we implement one of the following strategies. For each strategy, find the asymptotic performance of inserting *n* items with identical keys into an initially empty binary search tree. (The strategies are described for line 5, in which we compare the keys of *z* and *x*. Substitute *y* for *x* to arrive at the strategies for line 11.)

b. Keep a boolean flag *x.b* at node *x*, and set *x* to either *x.left* or *x.right* based on the value of *x.b*, which alternates between FALSE and TRUE each time we visit *x* while inserting a node with the same key as *x*.

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c. Keep a list of nodes with equal keys at *x*, and insert *z* into the list.

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d. Randomly set x to either *x.left* or *x.right*. (Give the worst-case performance and informally derive the expected running time.)

Exercises

A preorder traversal of a tree is given by the following procedure:

- Visit (print) the root node
- Traverse the left sub-tree in pre-order
- Traverse the right sub-tree in pre-order

A postorder traversal of a tree is given by the following procedure:

- Traverse the left subtree by calling the postorder function recursively.
- Traverse the right subtree by calling the postorder function recursively.
- Visit (print) the current node.

EX. Given a BST in pre-order as {13,5,3,2,11,7,19,23}, draw this BST and determine if this BST is the same as one described in post-order as {2,3,5,7,11,23,19,13}.