Recursive Objects (Part 4)

Trees

- a tree is a data structure made up of nodes
 - each node stores data
 - each node has links to zero or more nodes in the next level of the tree
 - children of the node
 - each node has exactly one parent node
 - except for the root node





Trees

- the root of the tree is the node that has no parent node
- all algorithms start at the root



Trees

• a node without any children is called a leaf



Trees

the recursive structure of a tree means that every node is the root of a tree











Binary Tree

- a binary tree is a tree where each node has at most two children
 - very common in computer science
 - many variations
- traditionally, the children nodes are called the left node and the right node









Binary Tree Algorithms

- the recursive structure of trees leads naturally to recursive algorithms that operate on trees
- for example, suppose that you want to search a binary tree for a particular element

```
public static <E> boolean contains(E element, Node<E> node) {
  if (node == null) {
    return false;
  }
  if (element.equals(node.data)) {
    return true;
  }
  boolean inLeftTree = contains(element, node.left);
  if (inLeftTree) {
    return true;
  }
  boolean inRightTree = contains(element, node.right);
  return inRightTree;
}
```

Iteration

- visiting every element of the tree can also be done recursively
- > 3 possibilities based on when the root is visited
 - inorder
 - visit left child, then root, then right child
 - preorder
 - visit root, then left child, then right child
 - postorder
 - visit left child, then right child, then root



inorder: 8, 27, 44, 50, 73, 74, 83, 93



preorder: 50, 27, 8, 44, 73, 83, 74, 93



postorder: 8, 44, 27, 74, 93, 83, 73, 50

Binary Search Trees (BST)

- the tree from the previous slide is a special kind of binary tree called a *binary search tree*
- in a binary search tree:
 - all nodes in the left subtree have data elements that are less than the data element of the root node
 - 2. all nodes in the right subtree have data elements that are greater than the data element of the root node
 - 3. rules 1 and 2 apply recursively to every subtree



Predecessors and Successors in a BST

- in a BST there is something special about a node's:
 - left subtree right-most child
 - right subtree left-most child



Deletion from a BST

• to delete a node in a BST there are 3 cases to consider:

- 1. deleting a leaf node
- 2. deleting a node with one child
- 3. deleting a node with two children

Deleting a Leaf Node

- deleting a leaf node is easy because the leaf has no children
 - simply remove the node from the tree
- e.g., delete 93





Deleting a Node with One Child

- deleting a node with one child is also easy because of the structure of the BST
 - remove the node by replacing it with its child
- e.g., delete 83





Deleting a Node with Two Children

- deleting a node with two children is a little trickier
 - call the node to be deleted Z
 - find the inorder predecessor OR the inorder successor
 - call this node Y
 - □ if the inorder predecessor does not exist, then you must find the inorder successor (and vice versa)
 - copy the data element of Y into the data element of Z
 - delete Y
- e.g., delete 50









