

# Fundamental Algorithms

## Chapter 8: AVL Trees

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# Part I

## AVL Trees

# Binary Search Trees – Summary

## Complexity of Searching:

- worst-case complexity depends on height of the search trees
- $O(\log n)$  for balanced trees

## Inserting and Deleting:

- insertion and deletion might change balance of trees
- question: how expensive is re-balancing?

**Test:** Inserting/Deleting into a (fully) balanced tree  
⇒ strict balancing (uniform depth for all leaves) too strict

# Height Balance

## Definition (height balance)

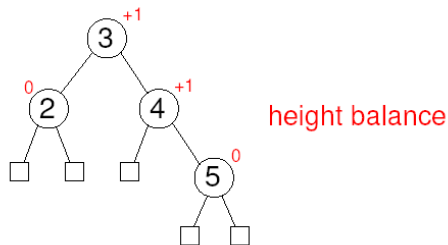
Let  $h(x)$  be the height of a binary tree  $x$ .

Then, the height balance  $b(x.key)$  of a node  $x.key$  is defined as

$$b(x.key) := h(x.rightChild) - h(x.leftChild)$$

i.e. the difference of the heights of the two subtrees of  $x.key$ .

## Example:



# AVL Trees

## Definition (AVL tree)

A binary search tree  $x$  is called an AVL tree, if:

1.  $b(x.key) \in \{-1, 0, 1\}$ , and
  2.  $x.leftChild$  and  $x.rightChild$  are both AVL trees.
- = the height balance of every node must be -1, 0, or 1

# Number of Nodes in an AVL Tree

## Crucial Question for Complexity:

What is the maximal and minimal number of nodes that can be stored in an AVL tree of given height  $h$ ?

## Maximal number:

- a full binary tree has a height balance of 0 for every node
- thus: full binary trees are AVL trees
- number of nodes:  $2^h - 1$  nodes.

# Minimal Number of Nodes in an AVL Tree

## Minimal number:

A “minimal” AVL tree of height  $h$  consists of

- a root node
- one subtree that is a minimal AVL tree of height  $h - 1$
- one subtree that is a minimal AVL tree of height  $h - 2$

⇒ leads to recurrence:

$$N_{\min\text{AVL}}(h) = 1 + N_{\min\text{AVL}}(h - 1) + N_{\min\text{AVL}}(h - 2)$$

In addition, we know that

- a minimal AVL tree of height 1 has 1 node:  $N_{\min\text{AVL}}(1) = 1$
- a minimal AVL tree of height 2 has 2 nodes:  $N_{\min\text{AVL}}(2) = 2$

## Minimal Number of Nodes in an AVL Tree (2)

Solve recurrence:

$$N_{\min\text{AVL}}(h) = 1 + N_{\min\text{AVL}}(h-1) + N_{\min\text{AVL}}(h-2)$$

$$N_{\min\text{AVL}}(1) = 1$$

$$N_{\min\text{AVL}}(2) = 2$$

Compare with Fibonacci numbers:  $f_n = f_{n-1} + f_{n-2}$ ,  $f_0 = f_1 = 1$

$h$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
$f_h$	1	2	3	5	8	13	21	34
$N_{\min\text{AVL}}(h)$	1	2	4	7	12	20	33	54

**Claim:**  $N_{\min\text{AVL}}(h) = f_{h+1} - 1$  (proof by induction)



## Minimal Number of Nodes in an AVL Tree (2)

**Minimum number of nodes:**  $N_{\min\text{AVL}}(h) = f_{h+1} - 1$

- inequality for Fibonacci numbers:  $2^{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} \leq f_n \leq 2^n$

$$\Rightarrow 2^{\lfloor (h+1)/2 \rfloor} - 1 \leq N_{\min\text{AVL}}(h) \leq 2^{h+1} - 1$$

- thus: an AVL tree that contains  $n$  nodes will be of height  $\Theta(\log n)$

### Corollaries:

- Searching in an AVL tree has a time complexity of  $\Theta(\log n)$
- Inserting, or deleting a single element in an AVL tree has a time complexity of  $\Theta(\log n)$
- BUT: standard inserting/deleting will probably destroy the AVL property.

## Part II

# Algorithms on AVL Trees

# Inserting and Deleting on AVL Trees

## General Concept:

- insert/delete via standard algorithms
- after insert/delete: load balance  $b(\text{node})$  might be changed to  $+2$  or  $-2$  for certain nodes
- re-balance load after each step

## Requirements:

- re-balancing must have  $O(\log n)$  worst-case complexity

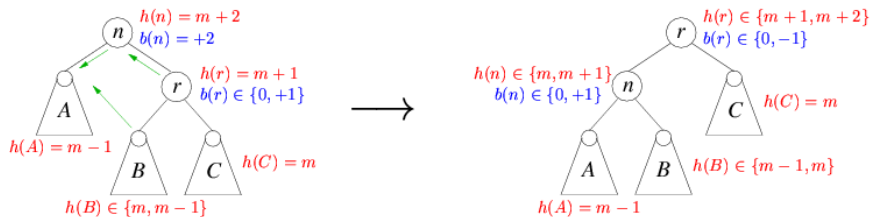
## Solution:

- apply certain “rotation” operations

# Left Rotation

## Situation:

- height balance of the node is +2 (or larger), and
- height balance of the right subtree is 0, or +1



- can reduce height of the subtree and require further rotations

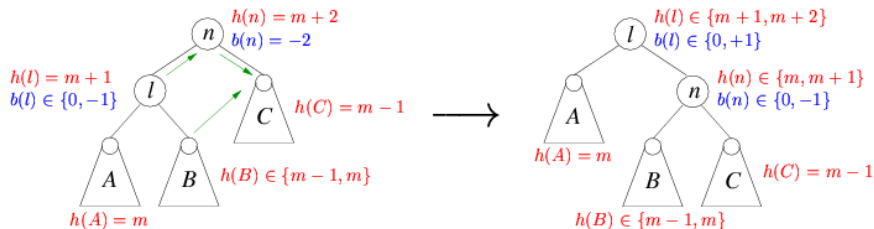
# Left Rotation – Implementation

```
LeftRotAVL (x: BinTree) {  
    x := ( x.rightChild.key,  
          (x.key, x.leftChild, x.rightChild.leftChild),  
          x.rightChild.rightChild  
        );  
}
```

# Right Rotation

## Situation:

- height balance of the node is  $-2$  (or smaller), and
- height balance of the left subtree is  $0$ , or  $-1$



- can reduce height of the subtree and require further rotations

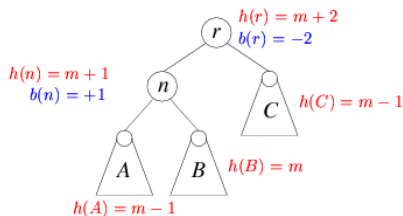
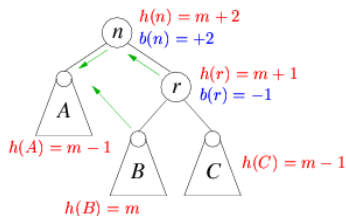
# Right Rotation – Implementation

```
RightRotAVL (x: BinTree) {  
    x := ( x.leftChild.key,  
          x.leftChild.leftChild,  
          (x.key, x.leftChild.rightChild, x.rightChild)  
        );  
}
```

# Right-Left Rotation

## Situation:

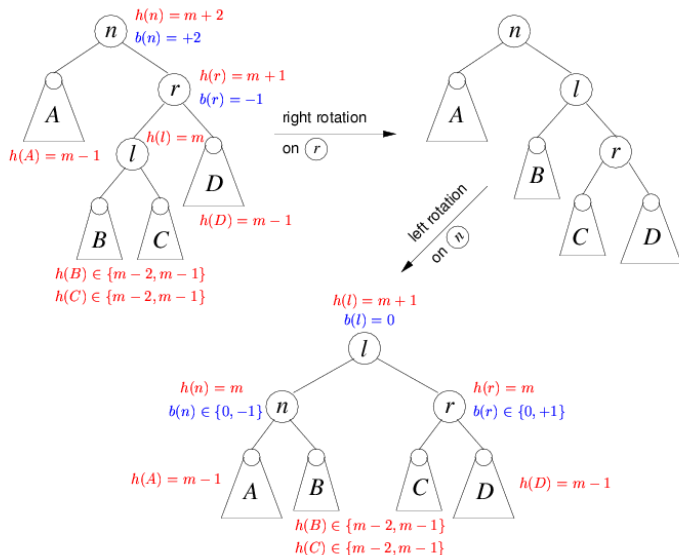
- height balance of the node is  $+2$ , and
- height balance of the right subtree is  $-1$   
 $\Rightarrow$  left rotation successful?



- left rotation is not sufficient to restore the AVL property



# Solution: Two Successive Rotations



## Right-Left Rotation – Implementation

```

RightRotLeftRot (x: BinTree) {
    RightRotAVL(x.rightChild);
    LeftRotAVL(x);
}

```

### In a single procedure:

```

RightLeftRotAVL (x: BinTree) {
    x := ( x.rightChild.leftChild.key,
          ( x.key,
            x.leftChild,
            x.rightChild.leftChild.leftChild ),
          ( x.rightChild.key,
            x.rightChild.leftChild.rightChild,
            x.rightChild.rightChild )
    );
}

```

# Left-Right Rotation

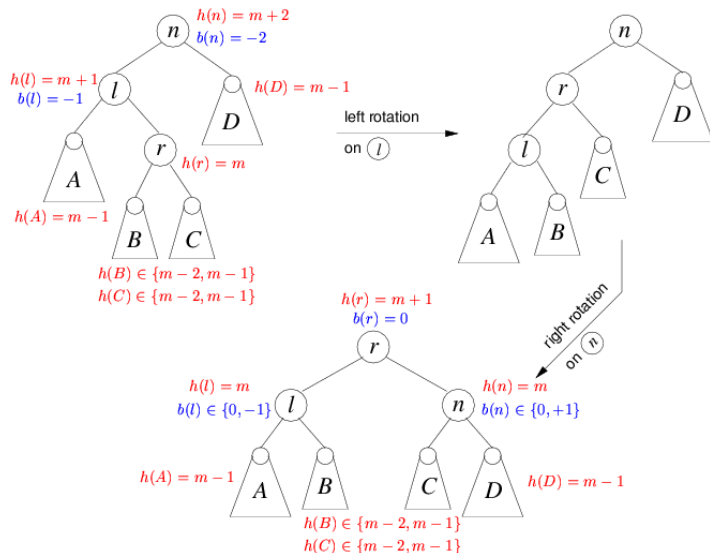
## Situation:

- height balance of the node is  $-2$  , and
- height balance of the right subtree is  $+1$

## Analogous to Right-Left Rotation:

- again, right rotation is not sufficient to restore the AVL property
- right rotation followed by a left rotation

# Left-Right Rotation – Scheme



## Left-Right Rotation – Implementation

```
LeftRotRightRot(x: BinTree) {  
    LeftRotAVL(x.leftChild);  
    RightRotAVL(x);  
}
```

### In a single procedure:

```
LeftRightRotAVL(x: BinTree) {  
    x := ( x.leftChild.rightChild.key,  
          ( x.leftChild.key,  
            x.leftChild.leftChild,  
            x.leftChild.rightChild.leftChild ),  
          ( x.key,  
            x.leftChild.rightChild.rightChild,  
            x.rightChild )  
    );  
}
```

# Effect of Rotation Operations

## Observations:

- LeftRightRot and RightLeftRot always reduce the height of the (sub-)tree by 1.
- LeftRotAVL and RightRotAVL reduce the height by at most 1 (might keep it unchanged)
- thus: AVL property can be violated in a parent node!

## After inserting one node into an AVL tree:

- at most one rotation required to restore AVL property

## Effect of Rotation Operations (2)

### After inserting one node into an AVL tree:

- at most one rotation required to restore AVL property

### After deleting one node of an AVL tree:

- up to  $\log h$  rotations can be required to restore AVL property

### For insertion and deletion:

- imbalance might occur on a much higher level
- thus: AVL property has to be checked in the entire branch of the tree (up to the root)

### Corollary:

Time complexity for **deleting**, **inserting**, and **searching** in an AVL tree is  $O(\log n)$