# Maintaining Balance: Balanced BST 

Lecture 20
by Marina Barsky

## Recap: Definition

Binary search tree is a binary tree with the following property:
for each node with key $\boldsymbol{x}$, all the nodes in its left subtree have keys smaller than $x$, and all the keys in its right subtree are greater than x .


## Recap: Operations on BST

$>$ Search (k)
$>$ Successor (k)/Predecessor (k)
$>$ Add (k)
$>$ Remove (k)

How fast is each operation?

## Example: search (k)

search (5)


Total questions asked before we reach 5: 4

Recap: node depth (below the surface)


Distance from the root:
how many edges to go from the root to a given node

Recap: node height (above the ground)


Distance from the node to the bottom: how many edges to go to the furthest leaf

## Complexity: search (k)

## search (5)



- The number of operations is the depth of the node in question
- In the worst case it is bounded by the height of the tree


## Complexity: search (k)

search (5)


- The complexity of all BST operations is $\mathrm{O}(h)$
- What is the height of the tree in terms of $n$-number of nodes?


## Complexity: O (n)

search (4)


The height can be as bad as $O(n)$ !

## We could do $\mathrm{O}(\mathrm{n})$ before:

Sorted Array
$\rightarrow$ Range Search:
$\rightarrow$ Nearest Neighbors:
$\rightarrow$ Insert:
$\rightarrow$ Delete:
Linked List
$\rightarrow$ Range Search:
$\rightarrow$ Nearest Neighbors:
$\rightarrow$ Insert:
$\rightarrow$ Delete:
$O(\log (n)) V$
$O(\log (n)) V$
$O(n) \times$
$O(n) \times$


Height can be much smaller than $O(n)$

## Keeping height low

- The worst-case running time of all the operations is proportional to the tree height $h$
- To achieve optimal performance we need to keep the height low
- One possible way: avoid disbalance in tree nodes
- The node is out of balance if the heights of its children differ by a lot


## The height of Null nodes



To make it easier to compare balance of node's children - let's think of each BST node having exactly 2 children
If either left or right child is NULL - we consider it to be a special NULL node with height -1

## Defining balance

> One possible definition:
For every internal node $v$, the heights of the children of $v$ may differ by at most 1
$>$ That is, if a node $v$ has children, $x$ and $y$, then $|h(x)-h(y)| \leq 1$.
~That implies that we should track the current height for each node of the BBST

## How the balance can be destroyed



We start with a perfectly balanced tree

## How the balance can be destroyed



## We insert key 2

The tree is still balanced (check)

## How the balance can be destroyed



We insert key 1
The root has 2 children $x$ and $y$ and the height of the corresponding subtrees differs by 2

If we now add 0 - we will make it even more unbalanced

## How the balance can be destroyed



We do not leave the tree like that we rearrange the heavier branch that resulted from adding 1

If we rebalance on time, we will never need to deal with difference >2

## Rebalancing



The imbalance in this case is caused by the newly added node 1 and is presented by the path 1, 2, 3 ( 3 being the first imbalanced node on this path)

We need to rearrange nodes 1,2,3
We can leave all of them in the same tree branch (all are < 5)
$1<2<3$ : so if we pull 2 on top, then 1 will
be its left child, and 3 its right child

## Rebalancing: rotation



This method of rearrangement is called a rotation

It is also called a trinode restructuring

## Trinode restructuring: left-heavy subtree



The nodes $x, y, z$ are in increasing order: $\mathrm{x}<\mathrm{y}<\mathrm{z}$

## Trinode restructuring: left-heavy subtree



The nodes $x, y, z$ are in increasing order: $x<y<z$

Pull $y$ to the top and make $x$ its left child and $z$ its right child

## Trinode restructuring: left-heavy subtree



The nodes $x, y, z$ are in increasing order

Pull $y$ to the top and make $x$ its left child and z its right child

## General trinode restructuring: left-heavy subtree



## The nodes $x, y, z$ are in increasing order <br> Pull $y$ to the top and make $x$ its left child and $z$ its right child

Reattach all 4 children (some of them can be NULL) to $x$ and $z$

The tree is now balanced

## Trinode restructuring: right-heavy subtree the same idea

The nodes $x, y, z$ are in increasing order

Pull y to the top and make $x$ its left child and $z$ its right child

Reattach all 4 children (some of them
can be NULL) to $x$ and $z$

## Trinode restructuring: right-heavy subtree



The nodes $x, y, z$ are in increasing order

Pull y to the top and make $x$ its left child and $z$ its right child

Reattach all 4 children (some of them
can be NULL) to $x$ and $z$

## Trinode restructuring: right-left-heavy subtree: the same idea

The nodes $x, y, z$ are in increasing order

Pull $y$ to the top and make $x$ its left child and $z$ its right child

Reattach all 4 children (some of them can be NULL) to $x$ and $z$

## Trinode restructuring: right-left-heavy subtree



The nodes $x, y, z$ are in increasing order

Pull $y$ to the top and make $x$ its left child and $z$ its right child

Reattach all 4 children (some of them
can be NULL) to $x$ and $z$

## Trinode restructuring: left-right-heavy subtree: the same idea



The nodes $x, y, z$ are in increasing order

Pull y to the top and make $x$ its left child and $z$ its right child

Reattach all 4 children (some of them
can be NULL) to $x$ and $z$

## Trinode restructuring: left-right-heavy subtree



The nodes $x, y, z$ are in increasing order

Pull $y$ to the top and make $x$ its left child and $z$ its right child

Reattach all 4 children (some of them can be NULL) to $x$ and $z$

## AVL trees*

## Definition

AVL tree is a Binary Search Tree with the following property: for every internal node $v$ in AVL tree, the heights of the children of $v$ differ by at most 1

I.e. if the children of $v$ are $x$ and $y$, then $|h(x)-h(y)| \leq 1$
*Named after inventors Adelson-Velsky and Landis

## AVL tree: insertion

Add(4)

First, we perform regular insertion into BST and end up filling up one of the NULL nodes with the new value


## AVL tree: insertion

External node becomes a new internal node

After the insertion, some internal nodes may become unbalanced


## AVL tree: rebalancing after insertion

We can go up from the inserted node until we encounter the first unbalanced node v

Note that in order for a branch to become heavy, there must be at least 2 real nodes on this branch (think why one node is not enough)


## AVL tree: rebalancing after insertion

We keep track of the first unbalanced node $v$ and the 2 nodes encountered before we reach $v$, and we name them according to their relative order as $x, y, z$


## AVL tree: rebalancing after insertion

We then perform a rotation moving $y$ on top of $x$ and $z$ - according to trinode restructuring rules


## AVL tree: rebalancing after insertion

Detach 4 children of $x, y, z$


## AVL tree: rebalancing after insertion

Detach 4 children of $x, y, z$


## AVL tree: rebalancing after insertion

Perform rotation


## AVL tree: rebalancing after insertion

Reattach children


## AVL tree: insertion summary



The rebalancing is local and involves only $\mathrm{x}, \mathrm{y}, \mathrm{z}$ - thus in constant time The heavier subtree height is reduced by 1 - restoring AVL property for the parent node

## Is this tree balanced?


A. The tree is balanced
B. The tree is unbalanced because of node 2
C. The tree is unbalanced because of node 3
D. The tree is unbalanced because of node 5
E. More than one unbalanced node

## Which tree is the result of rebalancing the tree on the left?



## AVL tree: deletion - similar idea



By removing a node from AVL tree some nodes may become unbalanced But this time the branch from which the node was removed becomes lighter than its sibling
We need to restructure the heavier sibling to reduce its height

## AVL tree: rebalancing after deletion

We move up the tree from the current NULL node until we encounter an internal node which is unbalanced


## AVL tree: rebalancing after deletion

Then we move into the heavier subtree choosing the child with the larger height

We produce 3 nodes $x<y<z$ to be restructured


## AVL tree: rebalancing after deletion

We perform rotation around $y$

This is accomplished with trinode restructuring as before


## AVL tree: rebalancing after deletion

Trinode restructuring: detach children of $x, y, z$


## AVL tree: rebalancing after deletion

Move y on top and reattach 4 children


## AVL tree: rebalancing after deletion



We fixed the imbalance in left subtree by increasing the height of the right child of the root by 1

## Remove (10)

Which tree represents the result of deleting the node with key 10 from the tree below?


## Is the result balanced?

## Is the resulting BST balanced?



Resulting BST
A. The tree is balanced
B. Tree is unbalanced because node 5 is unbalanced
C. Tree is unbalanced because node 12 is unbalanced
D. Tree is unbalanced because node 14 is unbalanced
E. None of the above (something else?)

