

Indian Institute of Information Technology Allahabad

Data Structures

Height-balanced Tree (AVL Tree)

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How long do these operations take in BST?

- SEARCH is the big one.
 - Everything else just calls SEARCH and then does some small O(1)-time operation.



Search might take time O(n) in BST



- This is a valid binary search tree.
- The version with n nodes has depth n, not O(log(n)).



What to do?

- Goal: Fast **SEARCH/INSERT/DELETE**
- All these things take time O(height)
- And the height might be big!!! 🟵
- Idea 0:
 - Keep track of how deep the tree is getting.
 - If it gets too tall, re-do everything from scratch.
 - At least Ω(n) every so often....
- Turns out that's not a great idea. Instead we turn to...



Self-Balancing Binary Search Trees



Idea 1: Rotations

No matter what lives underneath A,B,C, **this takes time O(1)**. (Why?)



This seems helpful





• Whenever something seems unbalanced, do rotations until it's okay again.



This is pretty vague.

What do we mean by "seems unbalanced"?

What's "okay"?

Idea 2: have some proxy for balance

- Maintaining perfect balance is too hard.
- Instead, come up with some proxy for balance:
 - If the tree satisfies [SOME PROPERTY], then it's pretty balanced.
 - We can maintain [SOME PROPERTY] using rotations.



There are actually several ways to do this, but we'll see:

- 1. AVL Tree (In this course)
- 2. Multiway-Search Tree (2-4 Tree)
- 3. Red-Black Tree

These two examples demonstrate how we can correct for imbalances: starting with this tree, add 1:





This is more like a linked list; however, we can fix this...



Promote 2 to the root, demote 3 to be 2's right child, and 1 remains the left child of 2



The result is a perfect, though trivial tree





Alternatively, given this tree, insert 2



Again, the product is a linked list; however, we can fix this, too



Promote 2 to the root, and assign 1 and 3 to be its children





The result is, again, a perfect tree



These examples may seem trivial, but they are the basis for the corrections in the next data structure we will see: AVL trees



We will focus on the first strategy: AVL trees

Named after Adelson-Velskii and Landis

Balance is defined by comparing the height of the two subtrees

Recall:

- An empty tree has height -1
- A tree with a single node has height 0

A binary search tree is said to be AVL balanced if:

- The difference in the heights between the left and right sub-trees is at most 1, and
- Both sub-trees are themselves AVL trees

AVL trees with 1, 2, 3, and 4 nodes:





Here is a larger AVL tree (42 nodes):



The root node is AVL-balanced:

• Both sub-trees are of height 4:



All other nodes are AVL balanced

• The sub-trees differ in height by at most one



• By the definition of complete trees, any complete binary search tree is an AVL tree

- Thus an upper bound on the number of nodes in an AVL tree of height *h* a perfect binary tree with $2^{h+1} 1$ nodes
 - What is an lower bound?

Let F(h) be the fewest number of nodes in a tree of height h

Can we find F(h)?

The worst-case AVL tree of height *h* would have:

- A worst-case AVL tree of height h 1 on one side,
- A worst-case AVL tree of height h 2 on the other, and
- The root node

We get: F(h) = F(h-1) + 1 + F(h-2)

This is a recurrence relation:

$$F(h) = \begin{cases} 1 & h = 0 \\ 2 & h = 1 \\ F(h-1) + F(h-2) + 1 & h > 1 \end{cases}$$

The solution?

- Fact: The *height* of an AVL tree storing n keys is O(log n).
- Proof: Let us bound n(h): the minimum number of internal nodes of an AVL tree of height h.
- We easily see that n(1) = 1 and n(2) = 2
- For n > 2, an AVL tree of height h contains the root node, one AVL subtree of height h-1 and another of height h-2.
- That is, n(h) = 1 + n(h-1) + n(h-2)
- Knowing n(h-1) > n(h-2), we get n(h) > 2n(h-2). So
 - n(h) > 2n(h-2), n(h) > 4n(h-4), n(h) > 8n(n-6), ... (by induction),
 - n(h) > 2ⁱn(h-2i)
- Solving the base case we get: $n(h) > 2^{h/2-1}$
- Taking logarithms: h < 2log n(h) +2
- Thus the height of an AVL tree is O(log n)



To maintain AVL balance, observe that:

- Inserting a node can increase the height of a tree by at most 1
- Removing a node can decrease the height of a tree by at most 1

Consider this AVL tree



Consider inserting 15 into this tree

• In this case, the heights of none of the trees change



The tree remains balanced



Consider inserting 42 into this tree

• In this case, the heights of none of the trees change



If a tree is AVL balanced, for an insertion to cause an imbalance:

- The heights of the sub-trees must differ by 1
- The insertion must increase the height of the deeper subtree by 1



Suppose we insert 23 into our initial tree


The heights of each of the sub-trees from here to the root are increased by one



However, only two of the nodes are unbalanced: 17 and 36



However, only two of the nodes are unbalanced: 17 and 36

• We only have to fix the imbalance at the lowest node





We can promote 23 to where 17 is, and make 17 the left child of 23





Thus, that node is no longer unbalanced

 Incidentally, neither is the root now balanced again, too



Consider adding 6:





The height of each of the trees in the path back to the root are increased by one





The height of each of the trees in the path back to the root are increased by one

• However, only the root node is now unbalanced



We may fix this by rotating the root to the right



Note: the right subtree of 12 became the left subtree of 36

Case 1 setup

Consider the following setup

• Each blue triangle represents a tree of height h



Insert *a* into this tree: it falls into the left subtree B_L of *b*

- Assume B_L remains balanced
- Thus, the tree rooted at b is also balanced





The tree rooted at node f is now unbalanced

• We will correct the imbalance at this node



We will modify these three pointers:



Specifically, we will rotate these two nodes around the root:

- Recall the first prototypical example
- Promote node *b* to the root and demote node *f* to be the right child of *b*





Make *f* the right child of *b*



Assign former parent of node f to point to node bMake B_R left child of node f



The nodes *b* and *f* are now balanced and all remaining nodes of the subtrees are in their correct positions



Additionally, height of the tree rooted at *b* equals the original height of the tree rooted at *f*

• Thus, this insertion will no longer affect the balance of any ancestors all the way back to the root















Alternatively, consider the insertion of c where b < c < f into our original tree



Assume that the insertion of c increases the height of B_R • Once again, f becomes unbalanced



Here are examples of when the insertion of 14 may cause this situation when h = -1, 0, and 1





Unfortunately, the previous correction does not fix the imbalance at the root of this sub-tree: the new root, b, remains unbalanced





In our three sample cases with h = -1, 0, and 1, doing the same thing as before results in a tree that is still unbalanced...

• The imbalance is just shifted to the other side



Lets start over ...



Re-label the tree by dividing the left subtree of f into a tree rooted at d with two subtrees of height h - 1



Now an insertion causes an imbalance at f

• The addition of either c or e will cause this





We will reassign the following pointers



Specifically, we will order these three nodes as a perfect tree

• Recall the second prototypical example



To achieve this, b and f will be assigned as children of the new root d



We also have to connect the two subtrees and original parent of *f*



Now the tree rooted at d is balanced



Again, the height of the root did not change



In our three sample cases with h = -1, 0, and 1, the node is now balanced and the same height as the tree before the insertion



Maintaining Balance: Summary

There are two symmetric cases to those we have examined:

• Insertions into the right-right sub-tree



-- Insertions into either the right-left sub-tree



More Examples: Insertion

Consider this AVL tree


Insert 73





The node 81 is unbalanced



The node 81 is unbalanced



The node 81 is unbalanced



The node 81 is unbalanced

- A left-left imbalance
- Promote the intermediate node to the imbalanced node
- 75 is that node



The node 81 is unbalanced

- A left-left imbalance
- Promote the intermediate node to the imbalanced node
- 75 is that node





The tree is AVL balanced



Insert 77





The node 87 is unbalanced

• A left-right imbalance



The node 87 is unbalanced

• A left-right imbalance



The node 87 is unbalanced

• A left-right imbalance



The node 87 is unbalanced

- A left-right imbalance
- Promote the intermediate node to the imbalanced node
- 81 is that value



The node 87 is unbalanced

- A left-right imbalance
- Promote the intermediate node to the imbalanced node
- 81 is that value



The tree is balanced





Insert 76



The node 78 is unbalanced



The node 78 is unbalanced

• Promote 77



Again, balanced





Insert 80



80

The node 69 is unbalanced

- A right-left imbalance
- Promote the intermediate node to the imbalanced node



The node 69 is unbalanced

- A left-right imbalance
- Promote the intermediate node to the imbalanced node
- 75 is that value



Again, balanced



Insert 74





The node 72 is unbalanced

- A right-right imbalance
- Promote the intermediate node to the imbalanced node



The node 72 is unbalanced

- A right-right imbalance
- Promote the intermediate node to the imbalanced node



Again, balanced



Insert 55





The node 69 is imbalanced

- A left-left imbalance
- Promote the intermediate node to the imbalanced node





The node 69 is imbalanced

- A left-left imbalance
- Promote the intermediate node to the imbalanced node
- 63 is that value





Insert 55

• No imbalances



Insert 67 Again, balanced





Insert 70



The root node is now imbalanced

- A right-left imbalance
- Promote the intermediate node to the root



The root node is imbalanced

- A right-left imbalance
- Promote the intermediate node to the root
- 63 is that node



The result is balanced





Insertion: Summary

Let the node that needs rebalancing be j.

There are 4 cases:

Outside Cases (require single rotation) :

1. Insertion into left subtree of left child of j.

2. Insertion into right subtree of right child of j. Inside Cases (require double rotation) :

- 3. Insertion into right subtree of left child of j.
- 4. Insertion into left subtree of right child of j.

The rebalancing is performed through four separate rotation algorithms.
Outside and Inside Cases



Single "right" Rotation

Inside Case

Right subtree of left child





Inside Case Recap





AVL Insertion: Inside Case



.....



AVL Insertion: Inside Case



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AVL Insertion: Inside Case





Double rotation: first rotation





Double rotation: second rotation





Double rotation: second rotation





Implementation



- No need to keep the height; just the difference in height, i.e. the balance factor; this has to be modified on the path of insertion even if you don't perform rotations
- Once you have performed a rotation (single or double) you won't need to go back up the tree



Insertion in AVL Trees

- Insert at the leaf (as for all BST)
 - only nodes on the path from insertion point to root node have possibly changed in height
 - So after the Insert, go back up to the root node by node, updating heights
 - If a new balance factor (the difference h_{left}-h_{right}) is 2 or -2, adjust tree by *rotation* around the node

Correctness: Rotations preserve inorder traversal ordering



Removing a node from an AVL tree may cause more than one AVL imbalance

- Like insert, erase must check after it has been successfully called on a child to see if it caused an imbalance
- Unfortunately, it may cause multiple imbalances that must be corrected
 - Insertions will only cause one imbalance that must be fixed



Consider the following AVL tree







Suppose we erase the front node: 1





While its previous parent, 2, is not unbalanced, its grandparent 3 is

• The imbalance is in the right-right subtree



We can correct this with a simple balance





The node of that subtree, 5, is now balanced



Recursing to the root, however, 8 is also unbalancedThis is a right-left imbalance



Promoting 11 to the root corrects the imbalance





At this point, the node 11 is balanced





Still, the root node is unbalanced

• This is a right-right imbalance



Again, a simple balance fixes the imbalance



The resulting tree is now AVL balanced



Pros and Cons of AVL Trees

Pros:

- 1. Search is O(log N) since AVL trees are always balanced.
- 2. Insertion and deletions are also O(logn)
- 3. The height balancing adds no more than a constant factor to the speed of insertion.

Cons:

- 1. Difficult to program & debug; more space for balance factor.
- 2. Asymptotically faster but rebalancing costs time.
- 3. Most large searches are done in database systems on disk and use other structures (e.g. B-trees).
- 4. May be OK to have O(N) for a single operation if total run time for many consecutive operations is fast (e.g. Splay trees).



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Thank You