

Trees (Today: Splay Trees)

Chapter 4 in Weiss

AVL Trees Revisited

- **Balance condition:**
For every node x , $-1 \leq \text{balance}(x) \leq 1$
 - Strong enough : Worst case depth is $O(\log n)$
 - Easy to maintain : *one* single or double rotation
- **Guaranteed $O(\log n)$ running time** for
 - Find ?
 - Insert ?
 - Delete ?
 - buildTree ?

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AVL Trees Revisited

- What **extra info** did we maintain in each node?
- **Where** were rotations performed?
- How did we **locate** this node?

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Other Possibilities?

- Could use different balance conditions, different ways to maintain balance, different guarantees on running time, ...
- Why aren't AVL trees perfect?
- Many other balanced BST data structures
 - Red-Black trees
 - AA trees
 - **Splay Trees**
 - 2-3 Trees
 - **B-Trees**
 - ...

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Splay Trees

- Blind adjusting version of AVL trees
 - Why worry about balances? Just rotate anyway!
- Amortized time per operations is $O(\log n)$
- Worst case time per operation is $O(n)$
 - But guaranteed to happen rarely

Insert/Find always rotate node to the root!

SAT/GRE Analogy question:

AVL is to Splay trees as _____ is to _____

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Recall: Amortized Complexity

If a sequence of M operations takes $O(M f(n))$ time, we say the amortized runtime is $O(f(n))$.

- Worst case time *per operation* can still be large, say $O(n)$
- Worst case time for any sequence of M operations is $O(M f(n))$

Average time *per operation* for any sequence is $O(f(n))$

Amortized complexity is *worst-case* guarantee over *sequences* of operations.

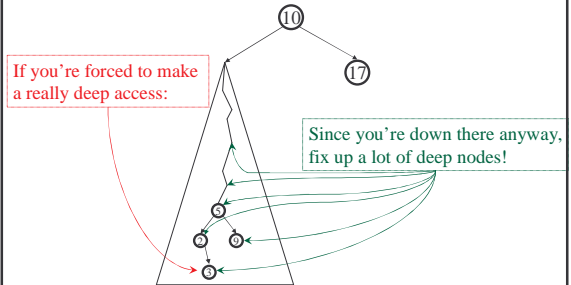
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Recall: Amortized Complexity

- Is amortized guarantee any weaker than worstcase?
- Is amortized guarantee any stronger than averagecase?
- Is average case guarantee good enough in practice?
- Is amortized guarantee good enough in practice?

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The Splay Tree Idea



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Find/Insert in Splay Trees

1. Find or insert a node k
2. **Splay** k to the root using:
zig-zag, zig-zig, or plain old zig rotation

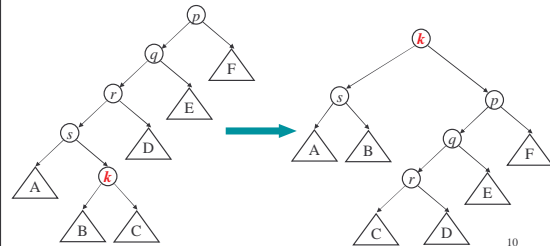
Why could this be good??

1. Helps the new root, k
 - o Great if k is accessed again
2. And helps many others!
 - o Great if many others on the path are accessed

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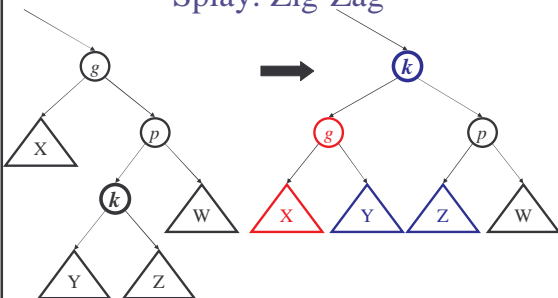
Splaying node k to the root: Need to be careful!

One bad idea is to repeatedly use AVL single rotation until k becomes the root:



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Splay: Zig-Zag*

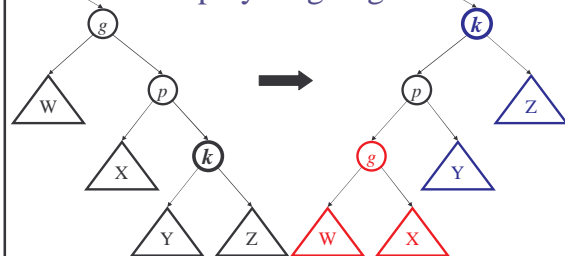


*Just like an...

Which nodes improve depth?

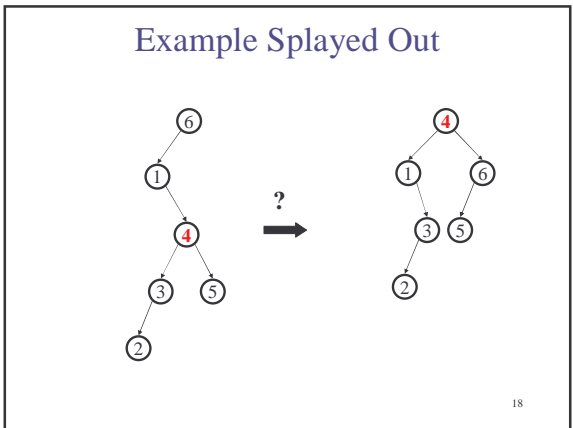
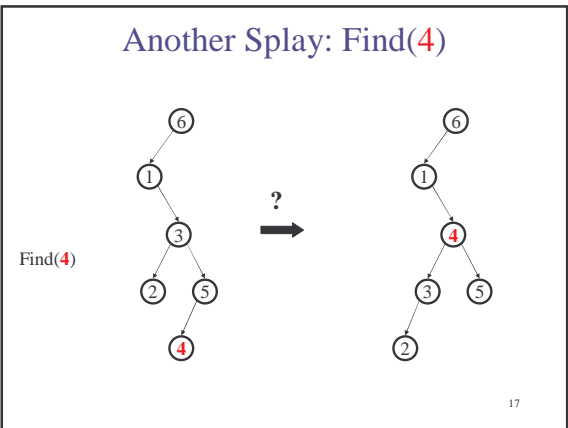
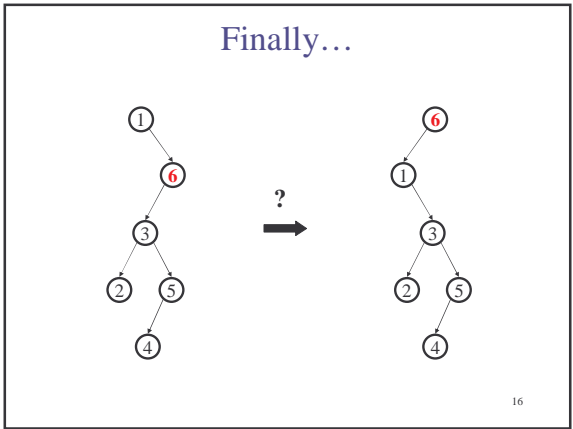
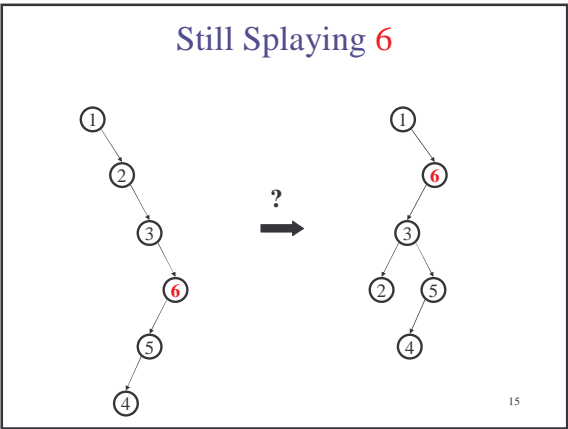
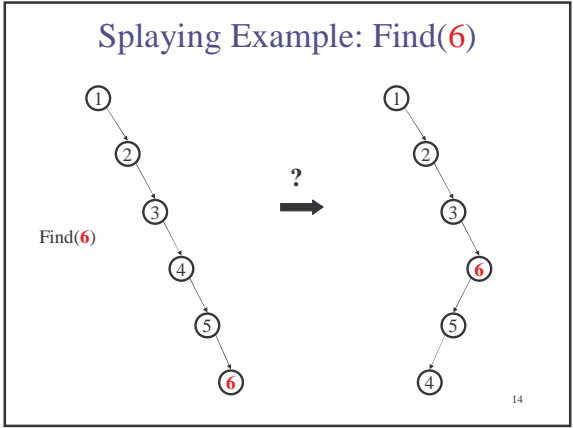
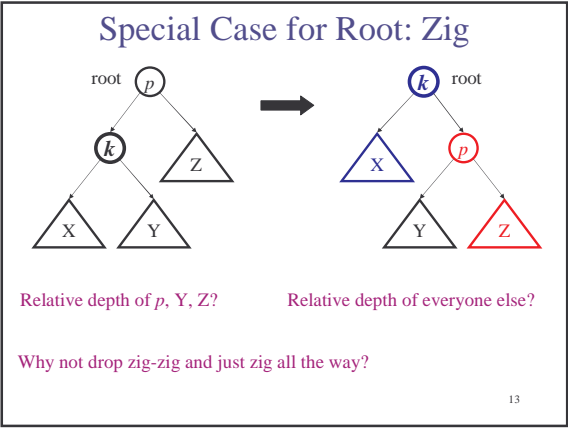
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Splay: Zig-Zig*



*Is this just two AVL single rotations in a row?

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But Wait...

What happened here?

Didn't *two* find operations take linear time instead of logarithmic?

What about the amortized $O(\log n)$ guarantee?

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Why Splaying Helps

- If a node n on the access path is at depth d before the splay, it's at about depth $d/2$ after the splay
- Overall, nodes which are low on the access path tend to move closer to the root
- Splaying gets amortized $O(\log n)$ performance. (Maybe not now, but soon, and for the rest of the operations.)

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Practical Benefit of Splaying

- No heights to maintain, no imbalance to check for
 - Less storage per node, easier to code
- Often data that is accessed once, is soon accessed again!
 - Splaying does implicit *caching* by bringing it to the root

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Splay Operations: Find

- Find the node in normal BST manner
- Splay the node to the root
 - if node not found, splay what would have been its parent

What if we didn't splay?

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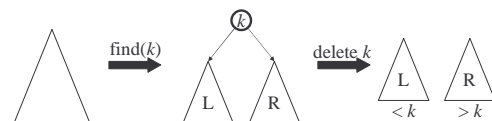
Splay Operations: Insert

- Insert the node in normal BST manner
- Splay the node to the root

What if we didn't splay?

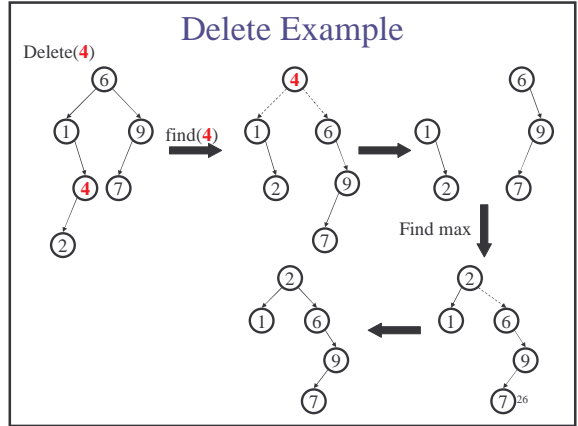
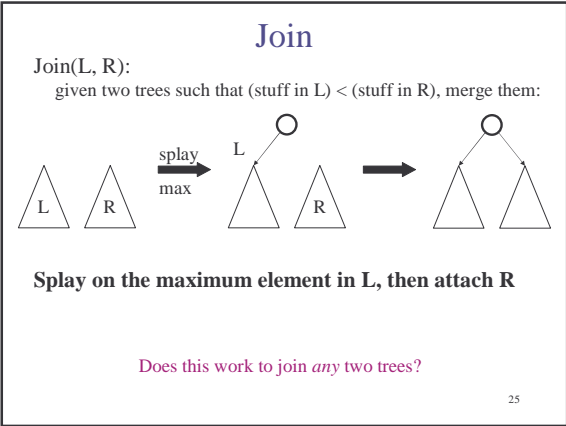
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Splay Operations: Remove



Now what?

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- ### Splay Tree Summary
- All operations are in amortized $O(\log n)$ time
 - Splaying can be done top-down; this may be better because:
 - only one pass
 - no recursion or parent pointers necessary
 - *we didn't cover top-down in class*
 - Splay trees are *very* effective search trees
 - Relatively simple
 - No extra fields required
 - **Excellent locality properties**: frequently accessed keys are cheap to find
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