Section 4: Balanced Trees Solutions

0. The ABC's of AVL Trees

What are the constraints on the data types you can store in an AVL tree? When is an AVL tree preferred over another dictionary implementation, such as a HashMap?

AVL trees are similar to TreeMaps. The constraint is that they require that keys be comparable. The value type can be anything, just like any other dictionary.

A perk over HashMaps is that keys can be iterated over in sorted order. AVL trees are also preferred over BSTs when there's a possibility of sorted input because the balancing prevents the worst case of a degenerate tree.
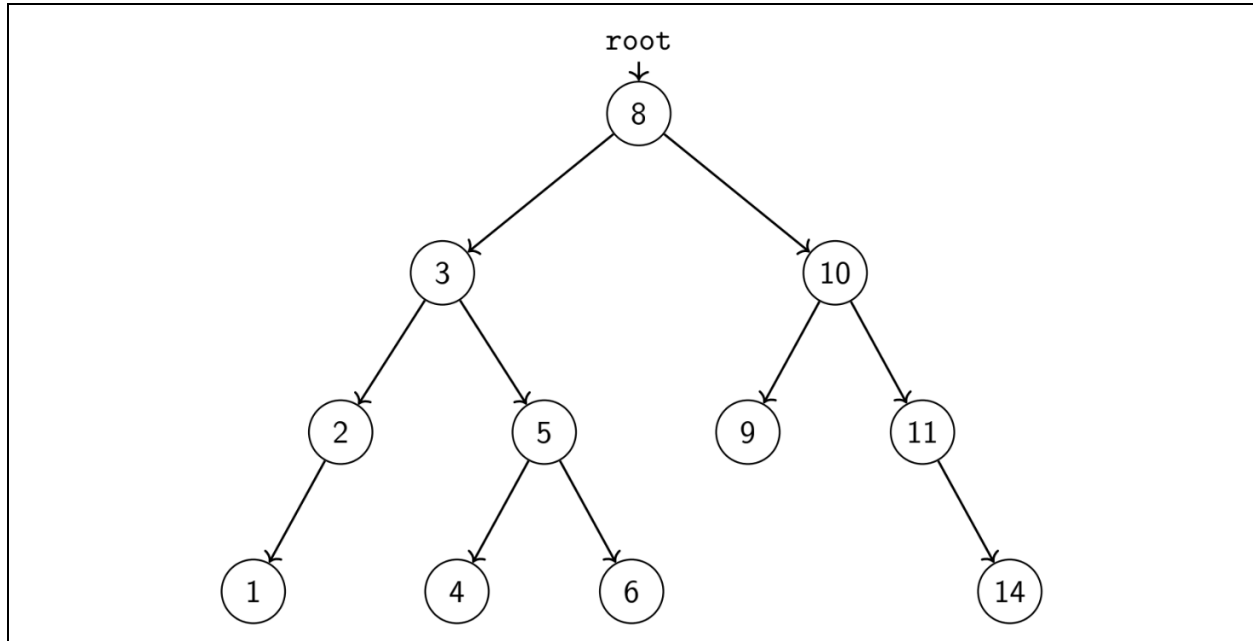
1. Left Rotation References

Suppose we do a left rotation on the tree below from node p. Write out what references need to change and what they need to change to.
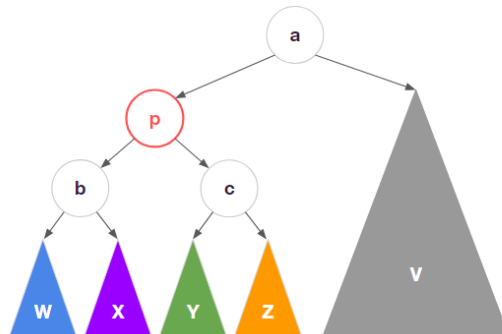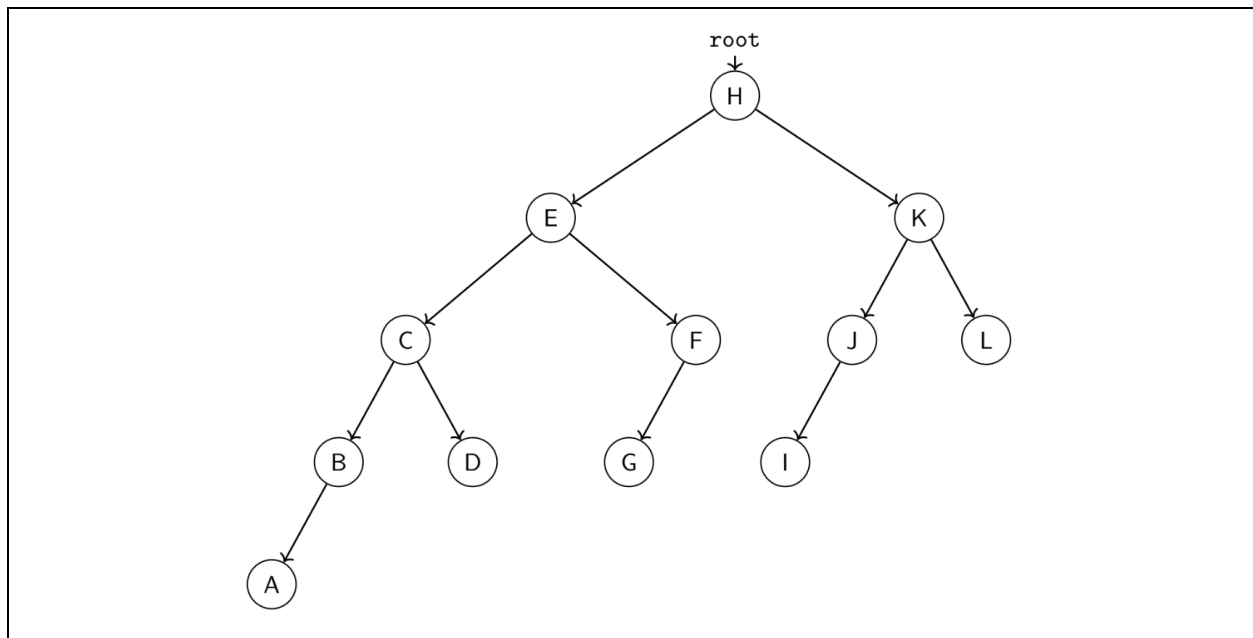

a.left=c
p.right=c.left
c.left = p

2. Let's Plant an AVL Tree

Insert `10, 4, 5, 8, 9, 6, 11, 3, 2, 1, 14` into an initially empty AVL Tree.

root
↓
8
├── 3
│   ├── 2
│   │   └── 1
│   └── 5
│   ├── 4
│   └── 6
└── 10
    ├── 9
    └── 11
        └── 14

3. MinVL Trees

Draw an AVL tree of height 4 that contains the minimum possible number of nodes.

root
↓
H
├── E
│   ├── C
│   │   ├── B
│   │   │   └── A
│   │   └── D
│   └── F
│   └── G
└── K
    ├── J
    │   └── I
    └── L

4. AVL Trees

Insert `6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, 10, 9, 8, 7` into an initially empty AVL Tree.