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AVL Trees

ICS202-Summary

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(AVL Trees)

✓ Balance & Height

Balanced Tree: A binary tree has a difference in height of both subtrees of any node in the tree either 0 or 1.

- A balanced tree of n nodes has a height of $\log n$.
- The imbalanced tree can reach a height close to n .
- The height of trees is important because the runtime of BST operations (Insertion, search) is closely related to height.

Height: Max number of nodes in path from root to any leaf node.
or in other words: the longest path from the root to any leaf node.

✓ AVL Tree

A binary search tree that uses modified insert and delete operations to stay balanced as its elements change.

- Many of the AVL tree operations depend on height, so each node keeps track of its subtree height as a field.
- Rebalancing operations cost: $O(1)$
- AVL tree's height is always $O(\log n)$
- **The main idea of AVL Tree: It always balances itself.**

Balance Factor (BF): (height of right subtree – height of left subtree) for any node.

- AVL tree maintains the BF in each node equal to: 0, 1, or -1.

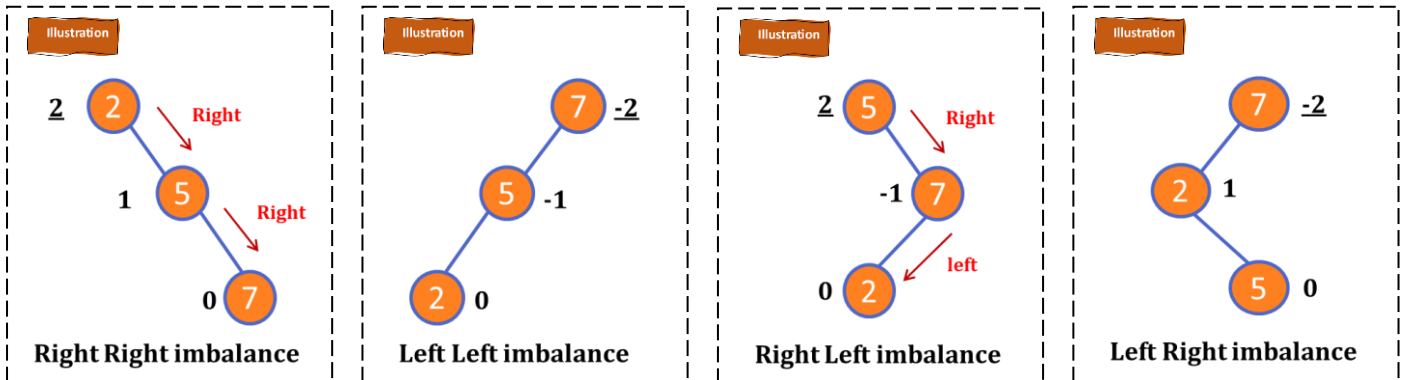
(For all AVL operations, assume the tree was balanced before the operation began.)

AVL Tree (Insertion\Deletion):

- First, the node is inserted\deleted in the same way as BST.
- Then, go back from the new node to the root and check the BF for each node on the path.
 - Either: all nodes are still balanced or stop on the first node that has a BF of (2)/(-2).

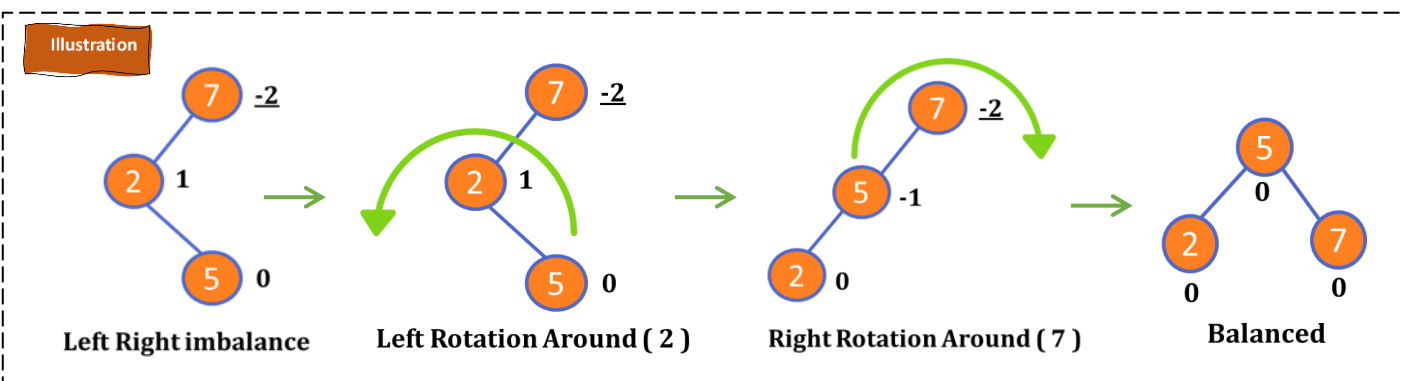
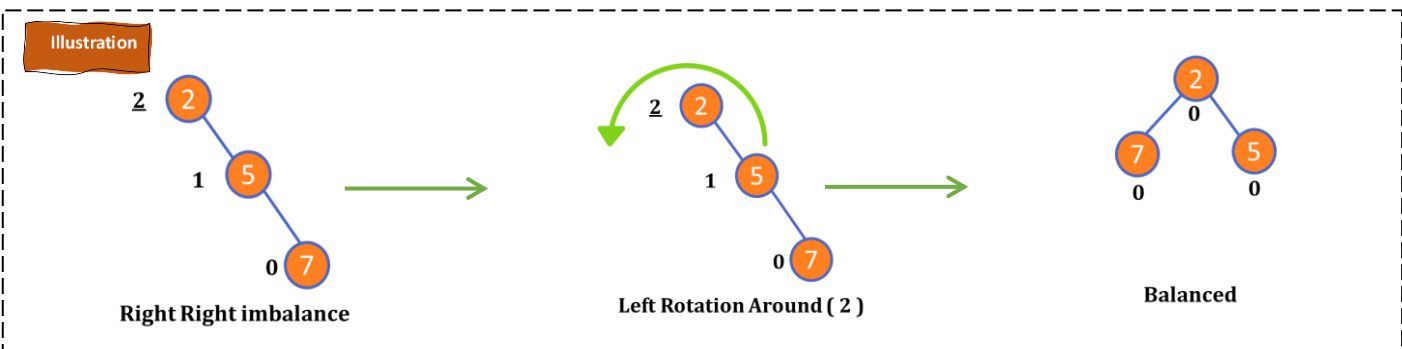
- The imbalanced node has one of these cases:

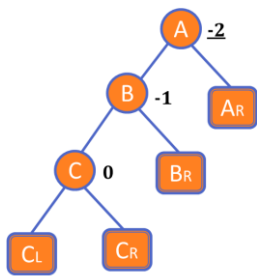
- Right Right – imbalance
- Left Left – imbalance
- Right Left – imbalance
- Left Right – imbalance



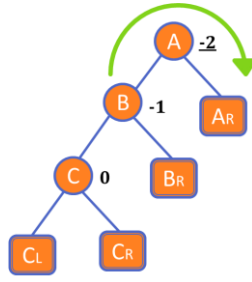
How to Fix Each?

Imbalance Type	Fixing Steps
Right Right	Single Left Rotation around the node
Left Left	Single Right Rotation around the node
Right Left	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Single Right Rotation around the Right Child Single Left Rotation Around the Node
Left Right	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Single Left Rotation around the Left Child Single Right Rotation around the node

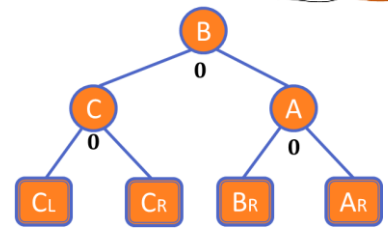




Left Left imbalance

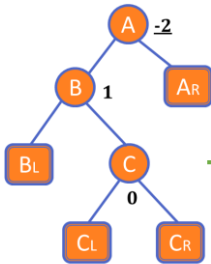


Right Rotation

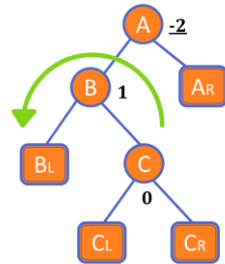


Balanced

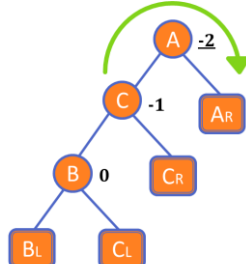
Illustration



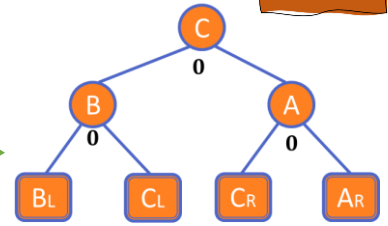
Left Right imbalance



Left Rotation Around (B)

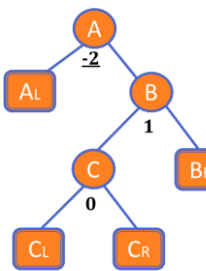


Right Rotation Around (A)

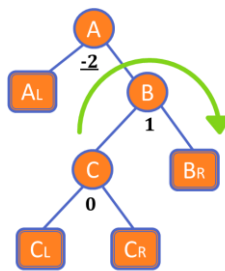


Balanced

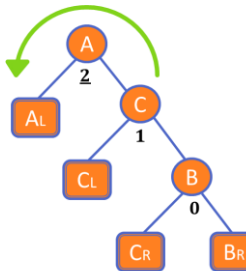
Illustration



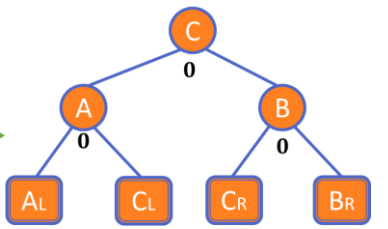
Right Left imbalance



Right Rotation Around (B)



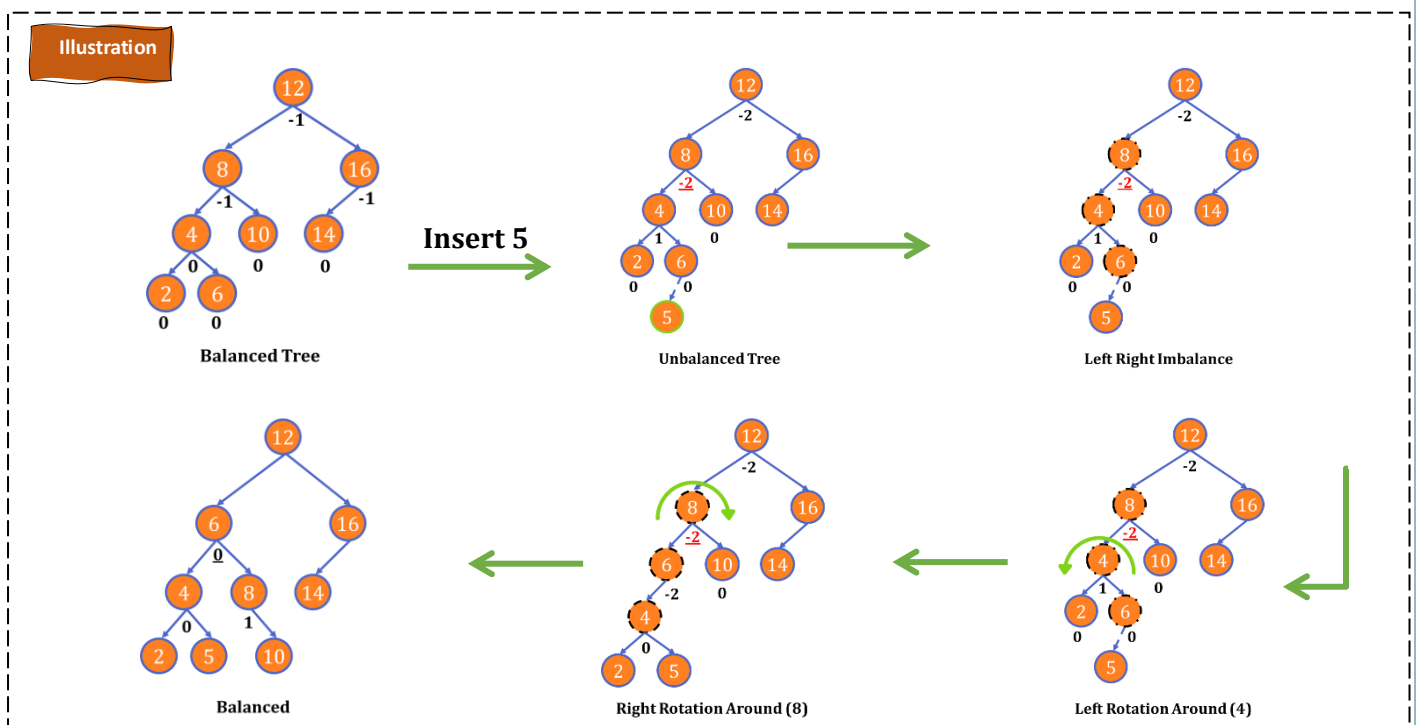
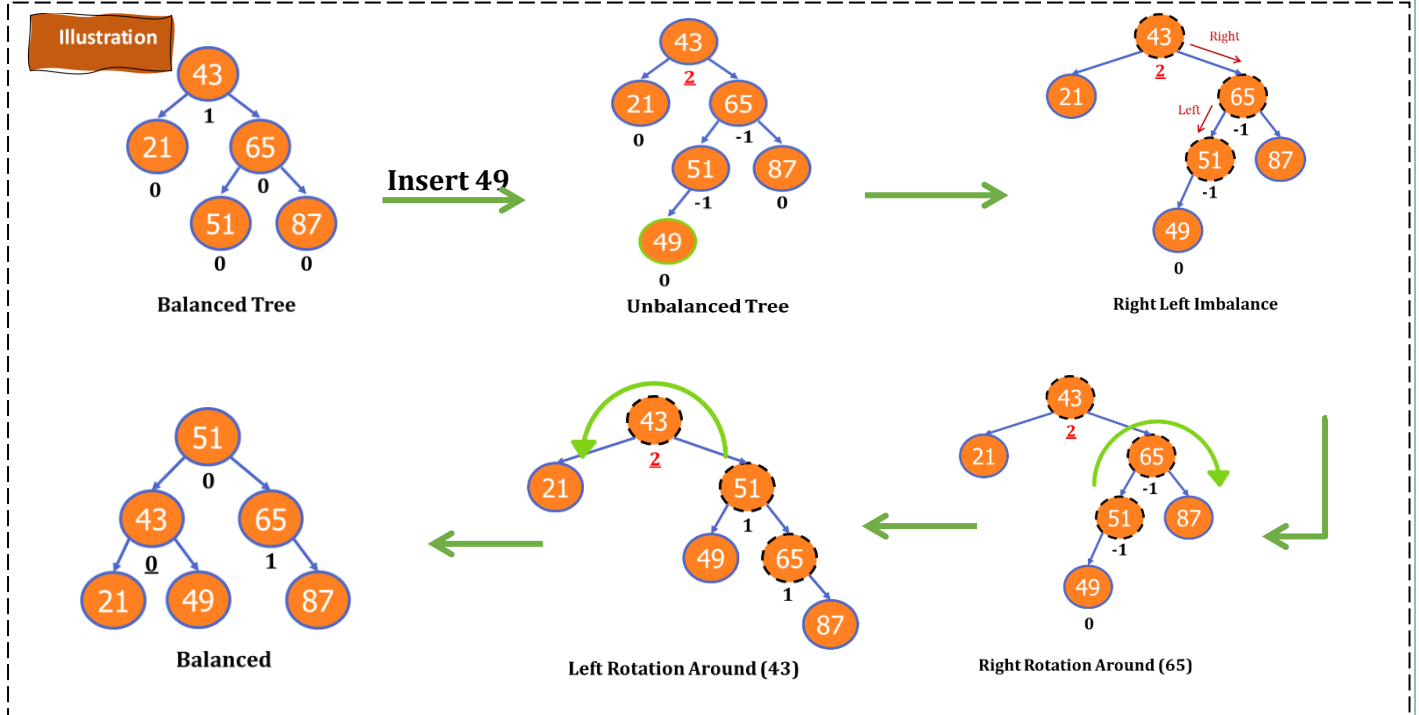
Left Rotation Around (A)



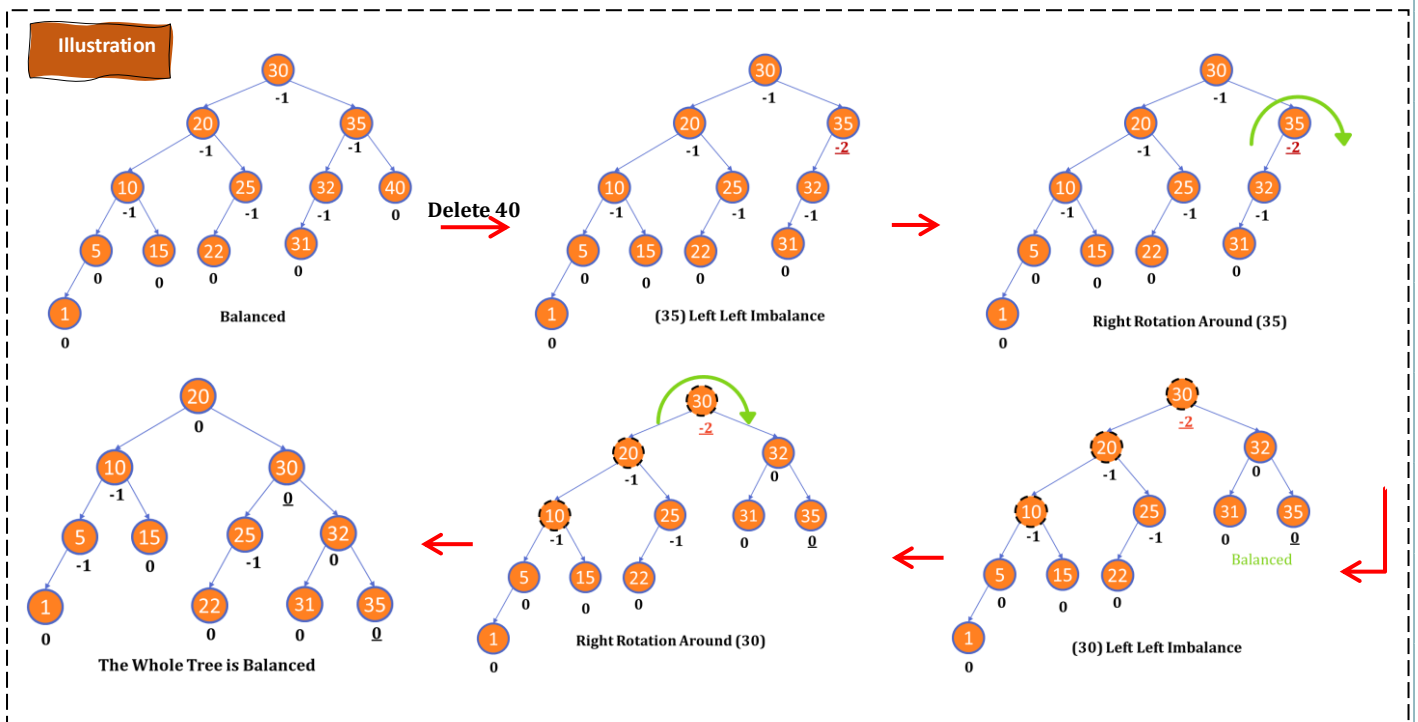
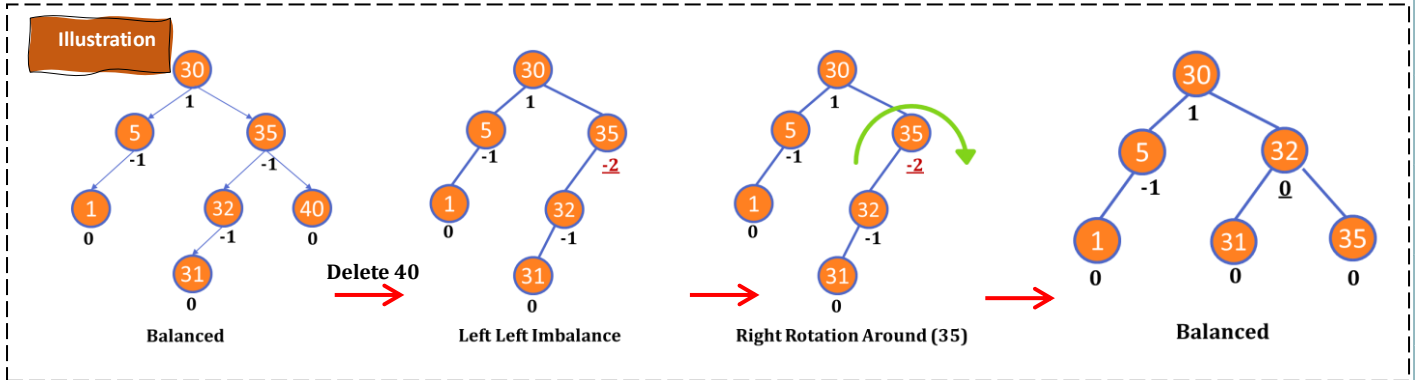
Balanced

Illustration

Rebalancing After Insertion:



Rebalancing After Deletion:



Pros and Cons of AVL Trees:

Arguments for AVL trees:

- Search, insertion, and deletion are always $O(\log n)$.
- The height balancing adds no more than a constant factor to the speed of insertion.

Arguments against using AVL trees:

- Difficult to program/debug.
- It costs more space for a balance factor.
- Asymptotically faster but rebalancing costs time.