

# AVL Trees

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# Balanced Search Trees

- The height of a binary search tree is sensitive to the order of insertions and deletions.
  - The height of a binary search tree is between  $\lceil \log_2(N+1) \rceil$  and  $N$ .
  - So, the worst case behavior of some BST operations are  $O(N)$ .
- There are various search trees that can retain their balance at the end of each insertion and deletion.
  - AVL Trees
  - 2-3 Trees
  - 2-3-4 Trees
  - Red-Black Trees
- In these height balanced search trees, the run time complexity of insertion, deletion, and retrieval operations is  $O(\log_2 N)$  at the worst case.

# AVL Trees

- An AVL tree is a binary search tree with a *balance* condition.
- AVL is named for its inventors: Adel'son-Vel'skii and Landis
- AVL tree *approximates* the ideal tree (completely balanced tree).
- AVL Tree maintains a height close to the minimum.

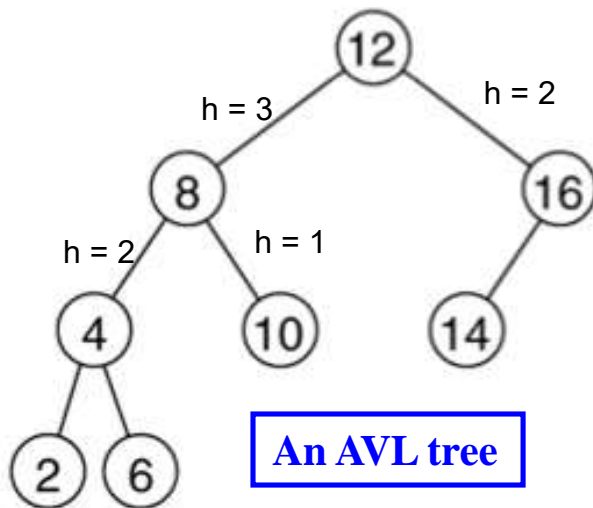
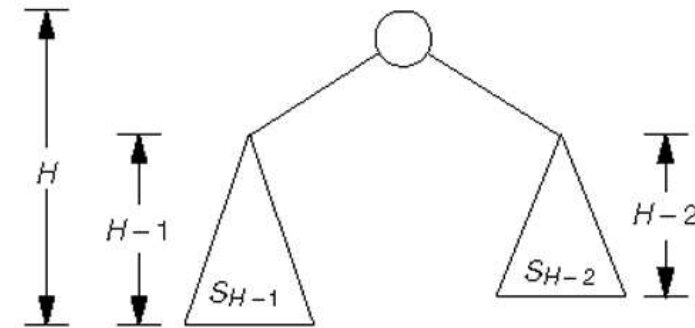
not complete

perfect balance -> every path has same height

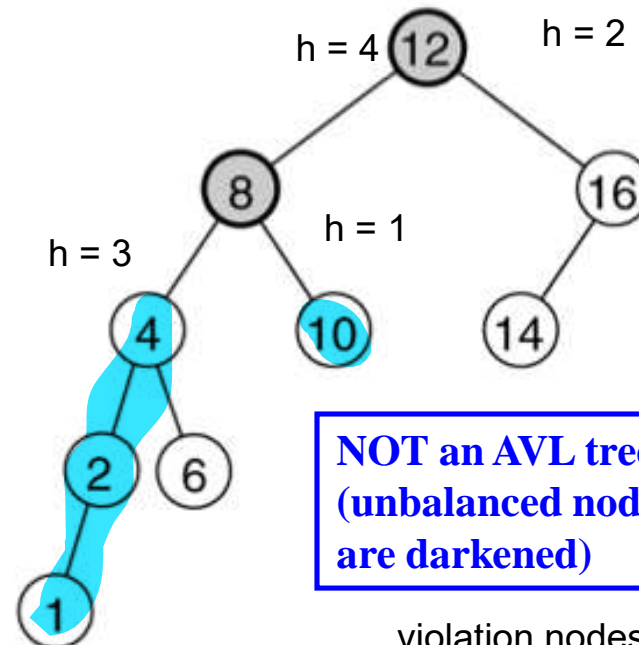
# AVL Trees

## Definition:

An AVL tree is a binary search tree such that for **any node** in the tree, the height of the left and right subtrees can differ by at most 1.



**An AVL tree**



**NOT an AVL tree  
(unbalanced nodes  
are darkened)**

violation nodes

# AVL Trees -- Properties

- The depth of a typical node in an AVL tree is very close to the optimal  $\log_2 N$ .
- Consequently, all searching operations in an AVL tree have logarithmic worst-case bounds.
- An update (insert or delete) in an AVL tree could destroy the balance.  
➔ It must then be rebalanced before the operation can be considered complete.

# AVL Tree -- Insertions

- Insert is the same as **Binary Search Tree** insertion
- Then, starting from the insertion point, check for balance at each node
- It is enough to perform correction “rotation” only **at the first node where imbalance occurs**
  - On the path from the inserted node to the root.

# AVL -- Insertions

- An AVL violation might occur in four possible cases:

- 1) Insertion into left subtree of left child of node  $n$
- 2) Insertion into right subtree of left child of node  $n$
- 3) Insertion into left subtree of right child of node  $n$
- 4) Insertion into right subtree of right child of node  $n$

node  $n$  = violation node

- (1) and (4) are mirror cases
- (2) and (3) are mirror cases
- If insertion occurs “**outside**” (1 & 4), then perform **single rotation**.
- If insertion occurs “**inside**” (2 & 3), then perform **double rotation**.

# AVL Trees -- Balance Operations

- Balance is restored by tree *rotations*.
- There are four different cases for rotations:
  1. Single Right Rotation
  2. Single Left Rotation
  3. Double Right-Left Rotation
  4. Double Left-Right Rotation

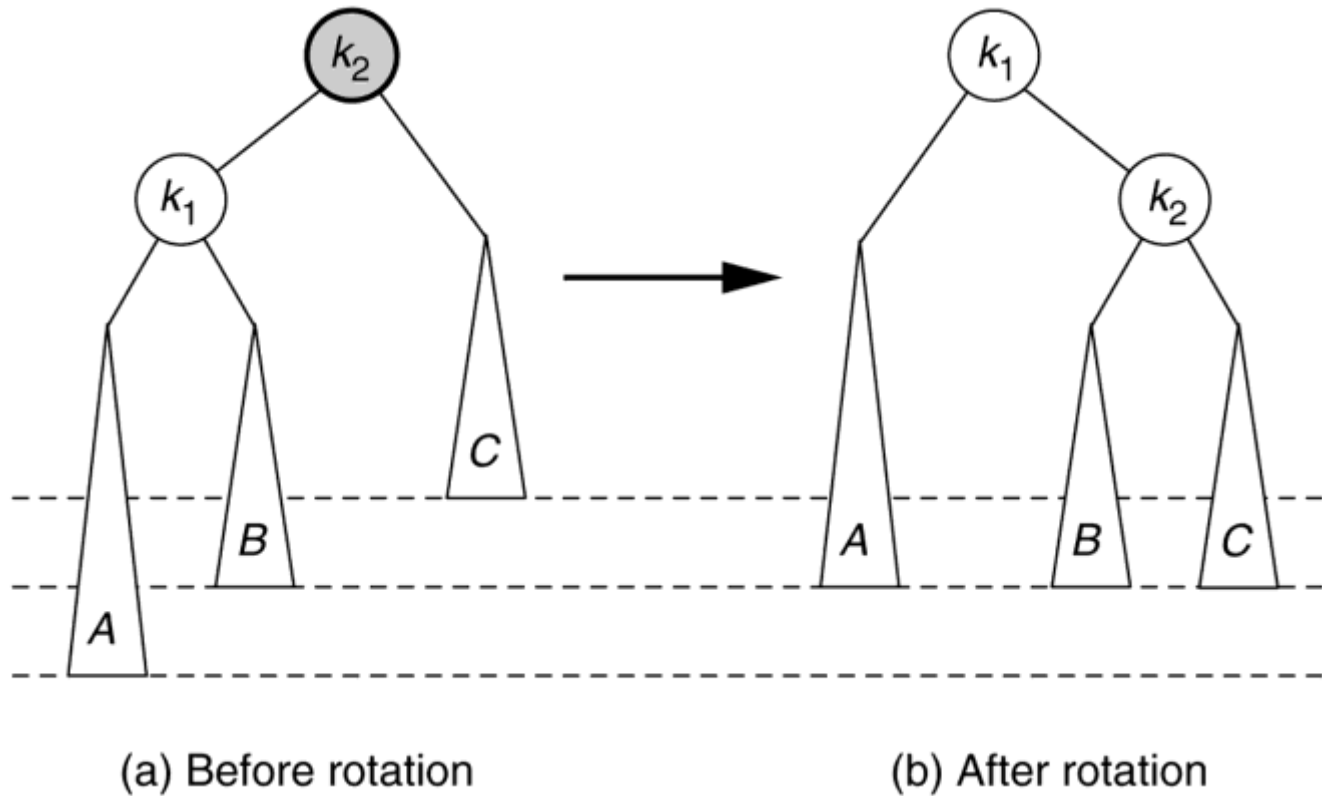


# AVL Trees -- Single Rotation

- A single rotation switches the roles of the parent and the child while maintaining the search order.
- We rotate between a node and its child (left or right).
  - Child becomes parent
  - Parent becomes right child in Case 1 (single right rotation)  
Parent becomes left child in Case 2 (single left rotation)
- The result is a binary search tree that satisfies the AVL property.

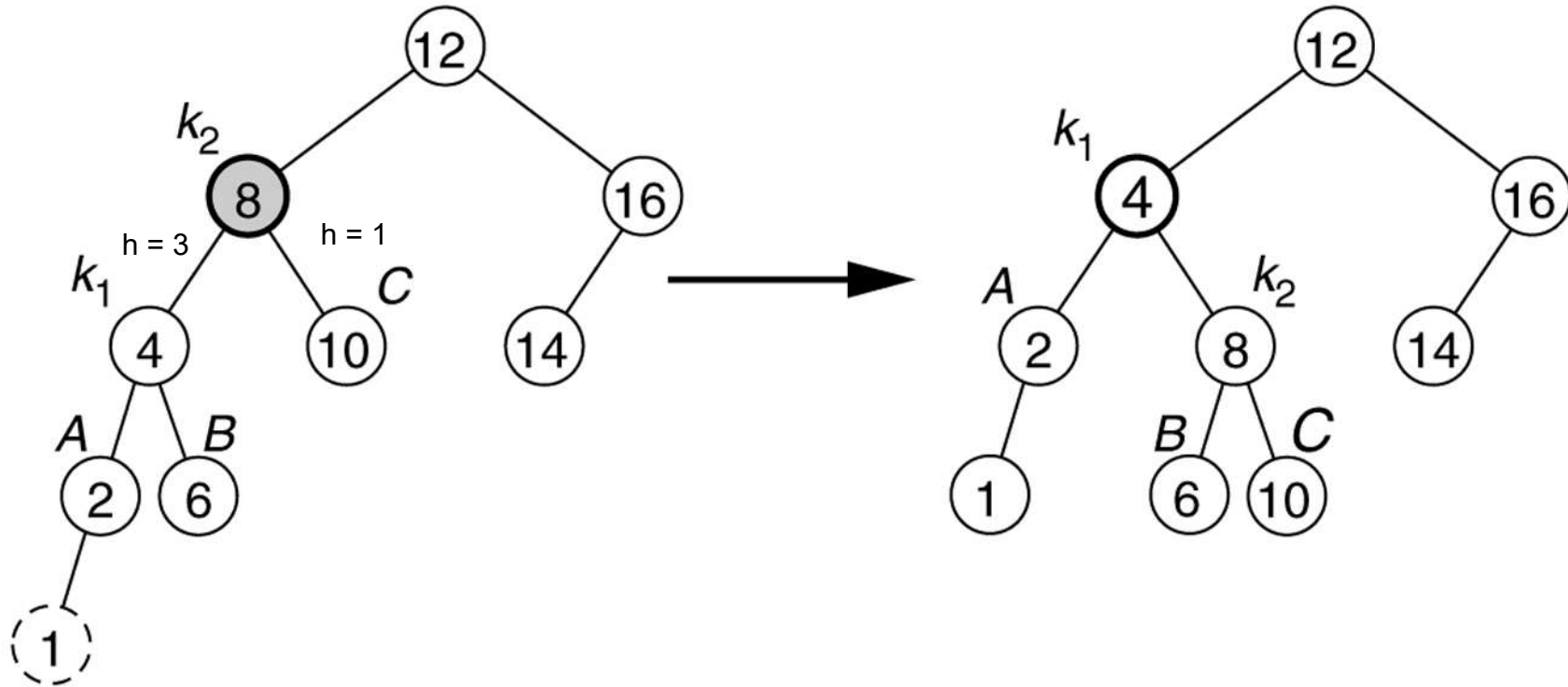
# Case 1 -- Single Right Rotation

inorder traversal should be same after all rotations (binary search tree)



**Child becomes parent**  
**Parent becomes right child**

# Case 1 -- Single Right Rotation

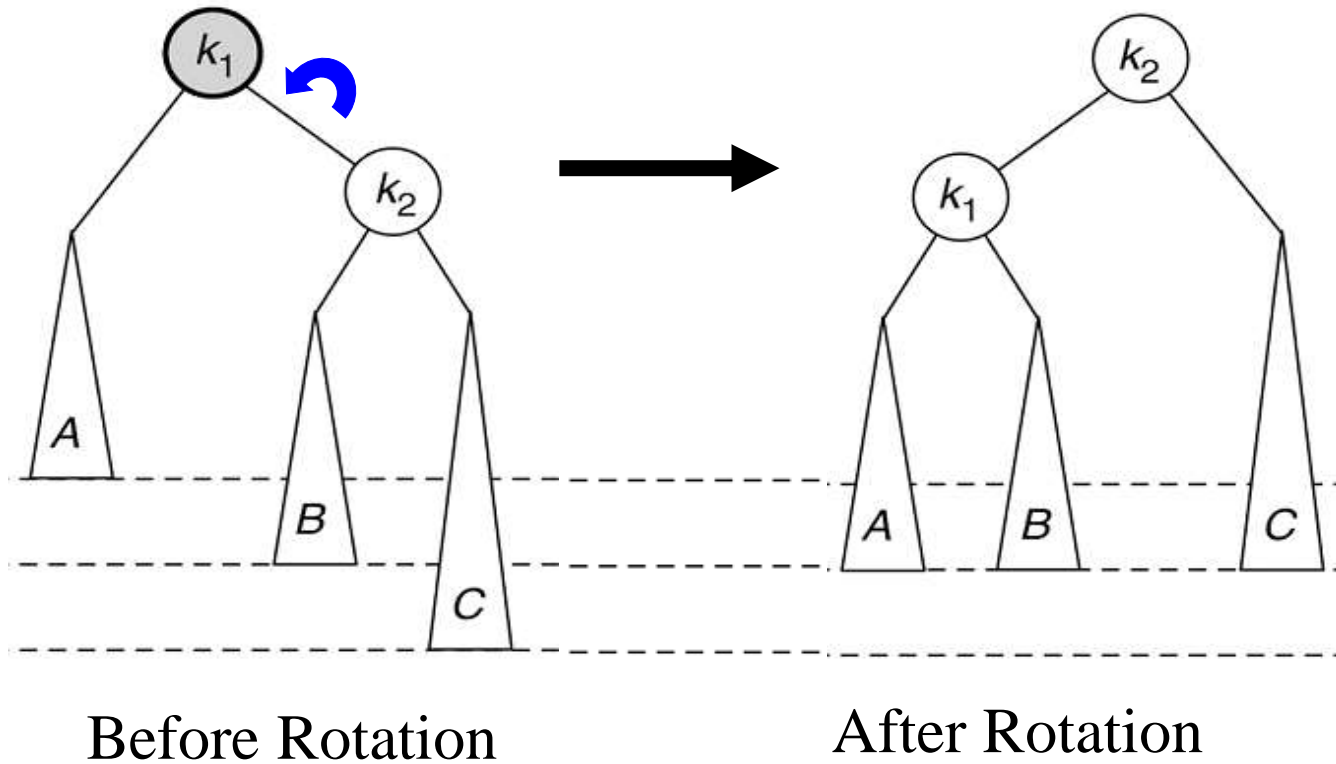


(a) Before rotation

(b) After rotation

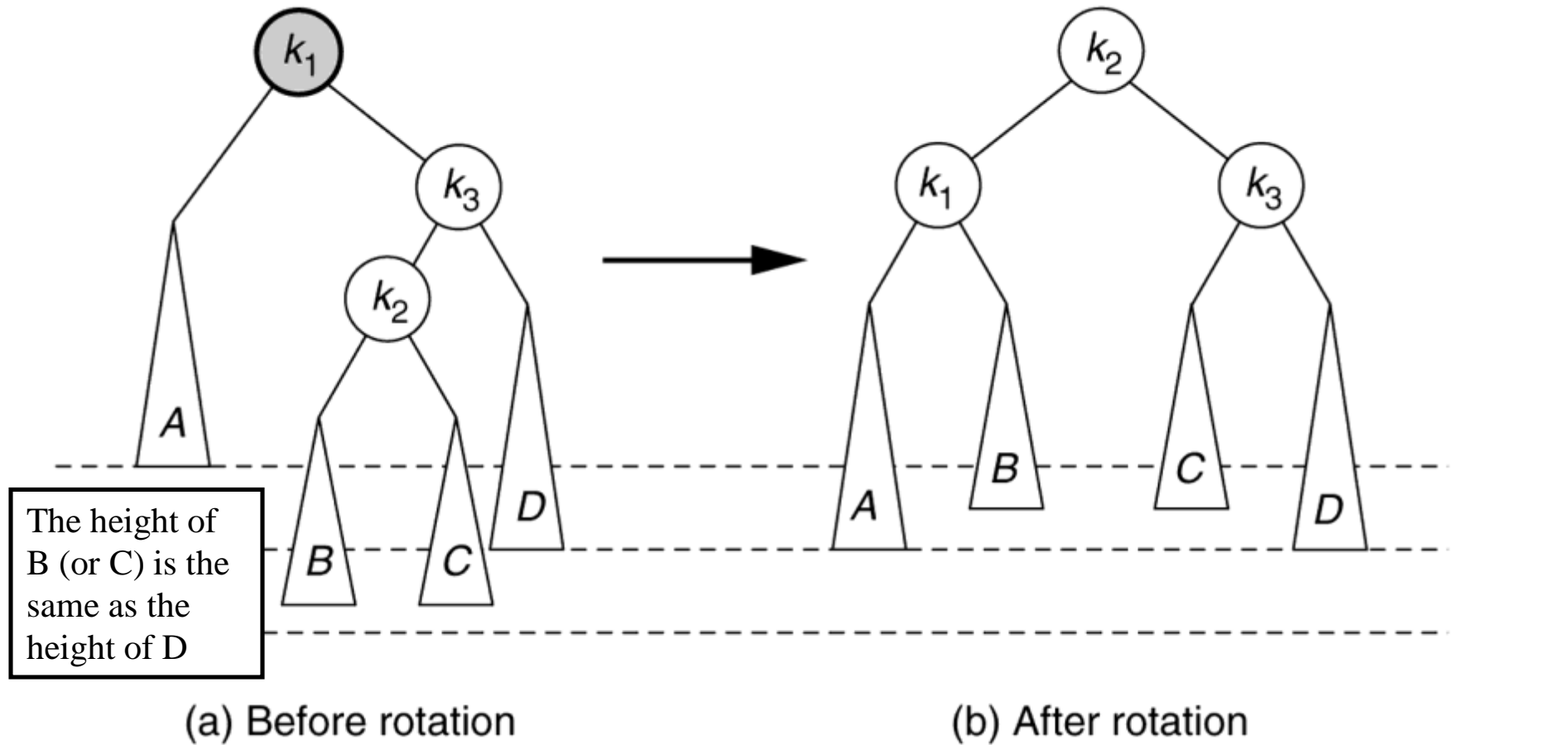
**Child becomes parent**  
**Parent becomes right child**

## Case 2 – Single Left Rotation



Child becomes parent  
Parent becomes left child

## Case 3 -- Double Right-Left Rotation

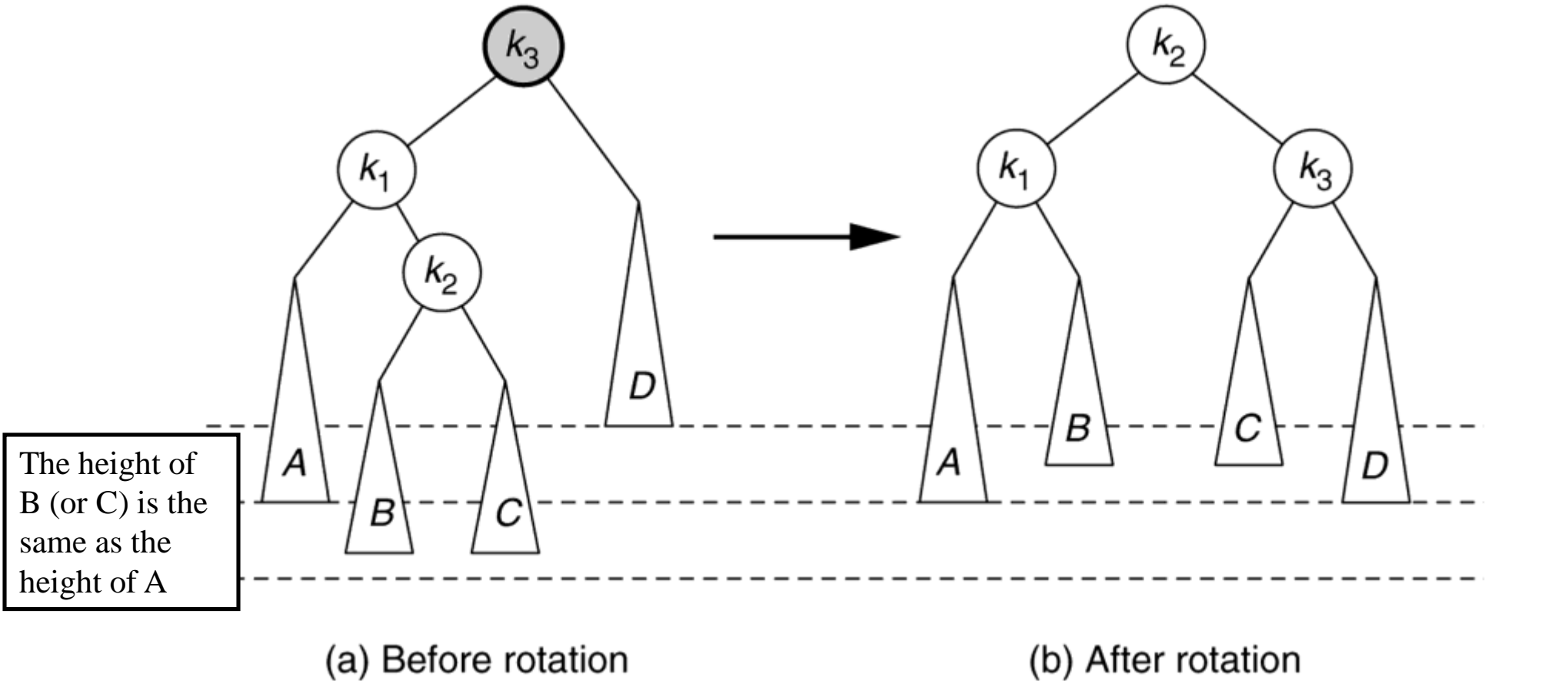


**First perform single right rotation on  $k_2$  and  $k_3$**

**Then perform single left rotation on  $k_2$  and  $k_1$**

(after right rotation  $k_2$  would be parent of  $k_3$ )

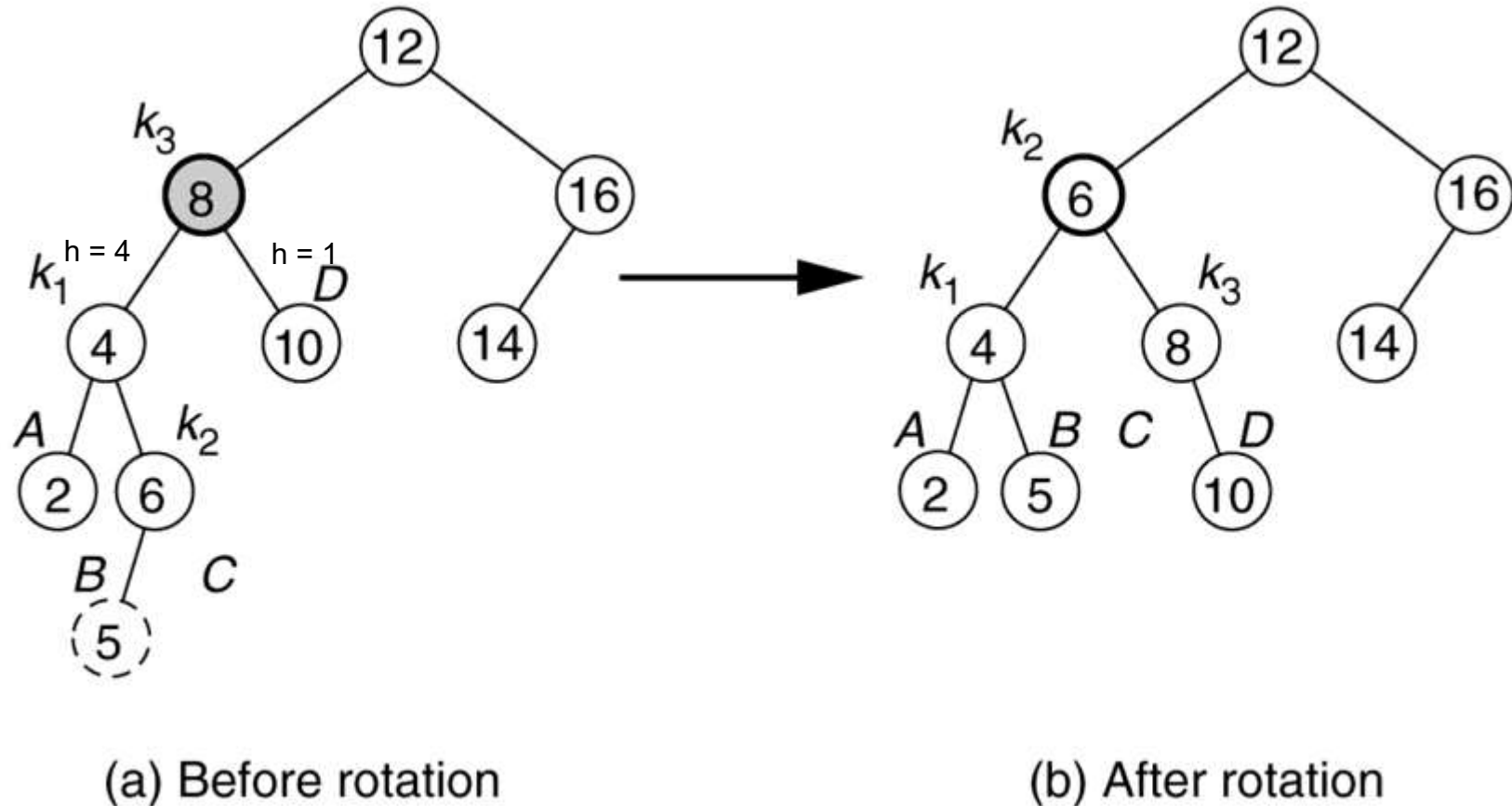
## Case 4 -- Double Left-Right Rotation



**First perform single left rotation on k2 and k1**  
**Then perform single right rotation on k2 and k3**

after left rotation  
k2 would be parent of k1

## Case 4 -- Double Left-Right Rotation



no violation occurs at  $k_1$  and  $k_2$

**First perform single left rotation on  $k_2$  and  $k_1$**   
**Then perform single right rotation on  $k_2$  and  $k_3$**

# AVL Trees -- Insertion

- It is enough to perform rotation only at the first node
  - Where imbalance occurs
  - On the path from the inserted node to the root.
- The rotation takes  $O(1)$  time.
- After insertion, only nodes that are on the path from the insertion point to the root can have their balances changed.
- Hence insertion is  $O(\log N)$



# AVL Trees -- Insertion

**Exercise:** Starting with an empty AVL tree, insert the following items

7 6 5 4 3 2 1 8 9 10 11 12

Check the following applet for more exercises.

<http://www.site.uottawa.ca/~stan/csi2514/applets/avl/BT.html>

# AVL Trees -- Deletion

- Deletion is more complicated.
  - It requires both single and double rotations
  - We may need more than one rebalance operation (rotation) on the path from the deleted node back to the root.
- Steps:
  - First delete the node the same as deleting it from a binary search tree
    - Remember that a node can be either *a leaf node* or *a node with a single child* or *a node with two children*
  - Walk through from the deleted node back to the root and rebalance the nodes on the path if required
    - Since a rotation can change the height of the original tree
- Deletion is  $O(\log N)$ 
  - Each rotation takes  $O(1)$  time
  - We may have at most  $h$  (height) rotations, where  $h = O(\log N)$

# AVL Trees -- Deletion

- For the implementation
  - We have a **shorter** flag that shows if a subtree has been shortened
  - Each node is associated with a **balance factor**
    - **left-high** the height of the left subtree is higher than that of the right subtree
    - **right-high** the height of the right subtree is higher than that of the left subtree
    - **equal** the height of the left and right subtrees is equal
- In the deletion algorithm
  - Shorter is initialized as **true**
  - Starting from **the deleted node back to the root**, take an action depending on
    - The value of shorter
    - The balance factor of the current node
    - Sometimes the balance factor of a child of the current node
  - **Until shorter becomes false**

# AVL Trees -- Deletion

Three cases according to the balance factor of the current node

1. The balance factor is equal

→ *no rotation*

2. The balance factor is not equal and the taller subtree was shortened

→ *no rotation*

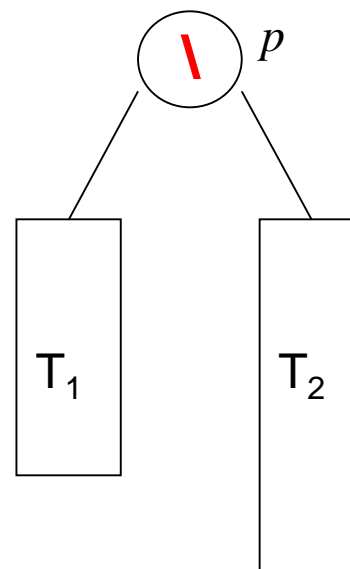
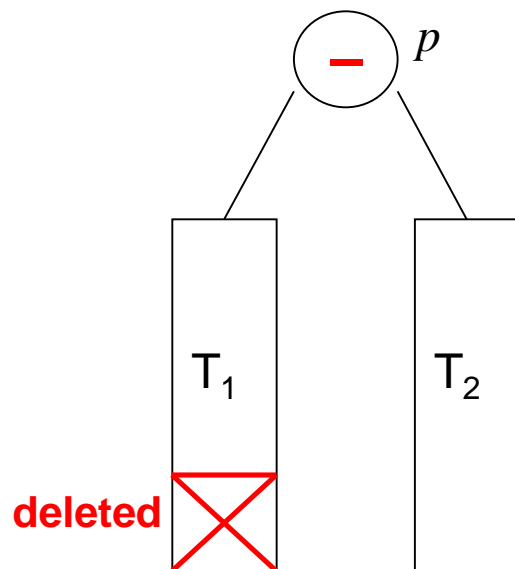
3. The balance factor is not equal and the shorter subtree was shortened

→ *rotation is necessary*

# AVL Trees -- Deletion

## Case 1: The balance factor of $p$ is equal.

- Change the balance factor of  $p$  to *right-high* (or *left-high*)
- Shorter becomes **false**



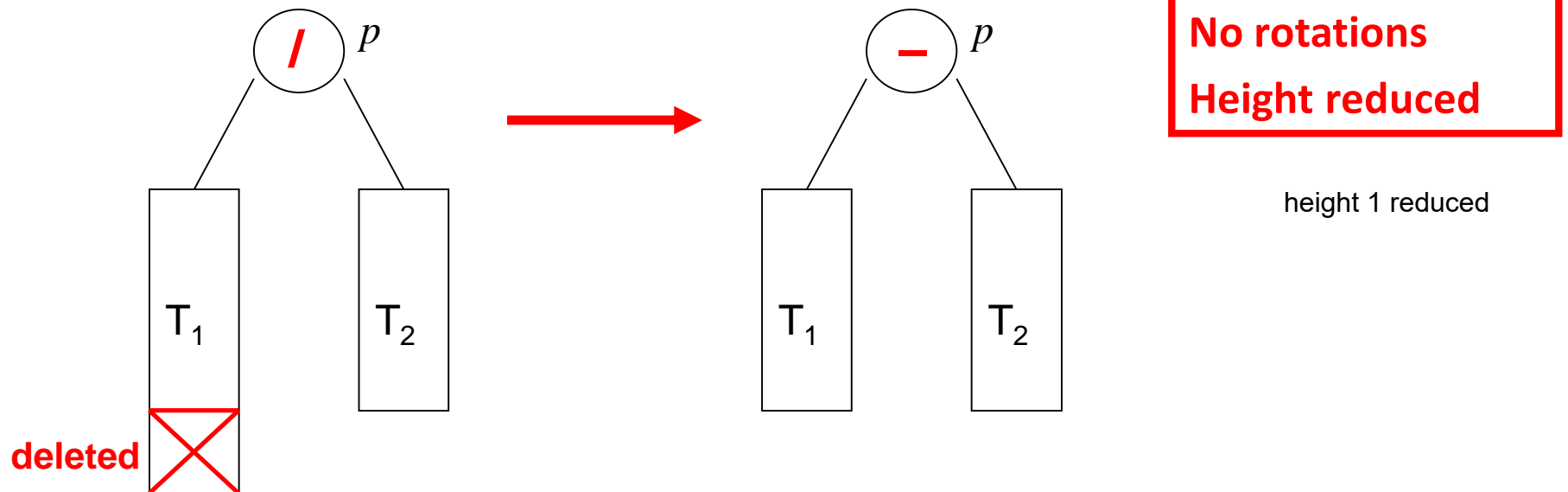
**No rotations**  
**Height unchanged**

height = 1 + T2 still

# AVL Trees -- Deletion

Case 2: The balance factor of  $p$  is not equal and the taller subtree is shortened.

- Change the balance factor of  $p$  to *equal*
- Shorter remains true // check for upper nodes since height is changed



# AVL Trees -- Deletion

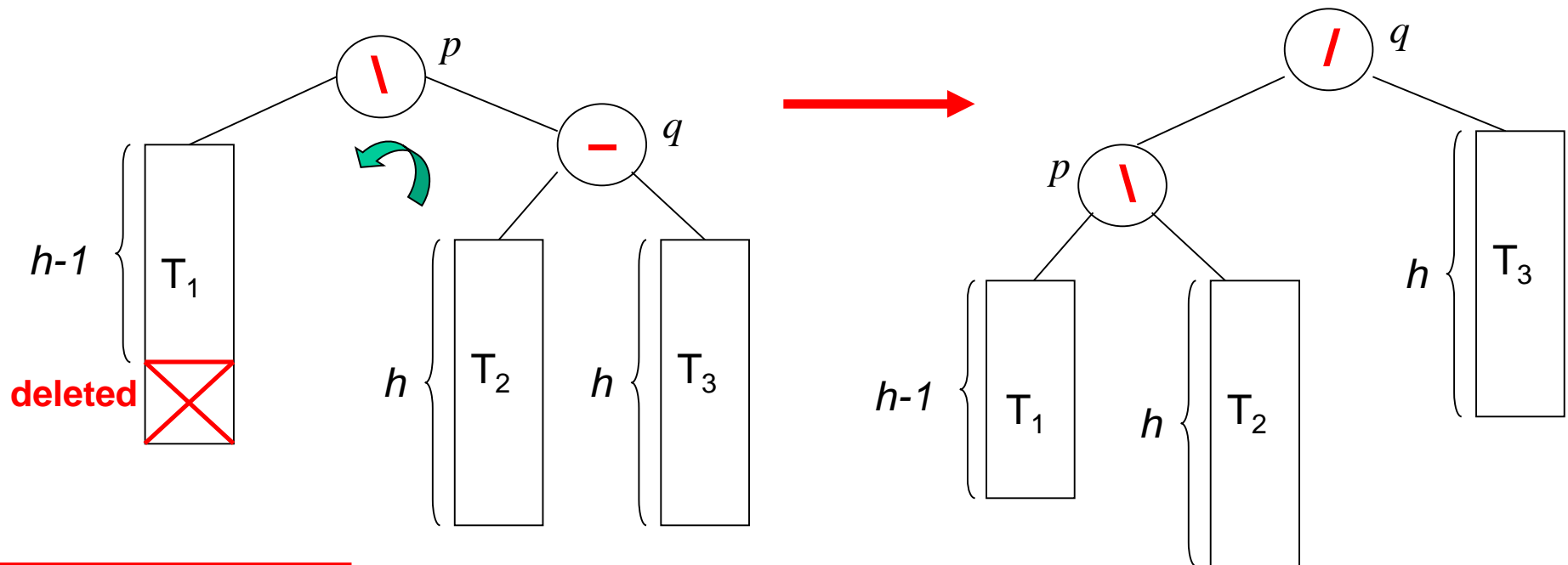
Case 3: *The balance factor of  $p$  is not equal and the shorter subtree is shortened.*

- Rotation is necessary
- Let  $q$  be the root of the taller subtree of  $p$
- We have three sub-cases according to the balance factor of  $q$

# AVL Trees -- Deletion

## Case 3a: The balance factor of $q$ is equal.

- Apply a **single rotation**
- Change the balance factor of  $q$  to *left-high* (or *right-high*)
- Shorter becomes **false**



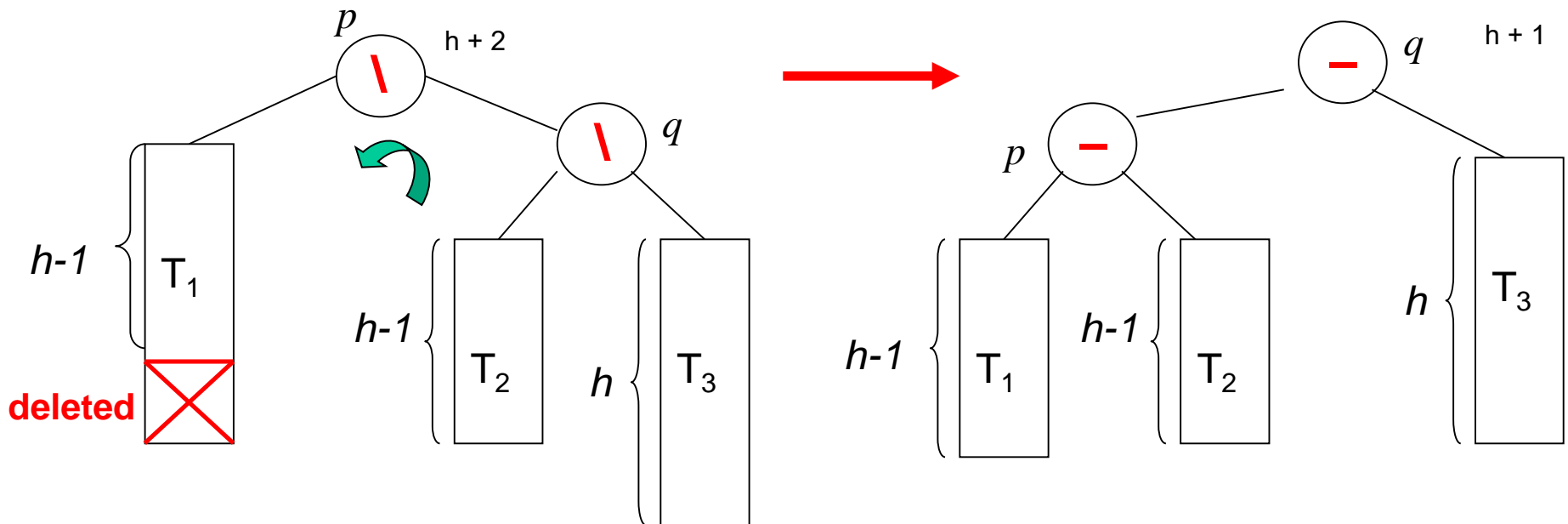
**Single rotation**  
**Height unchanged**



# AVL Trees -- Deletion

Case 3b: The balance factor of  $q$  is the same as that of  $p$ .

- Apply a single rotation
- Change the balance factors of  $p$  and  $q$  to *equal*
- Shorter remains *true* since height is reduced

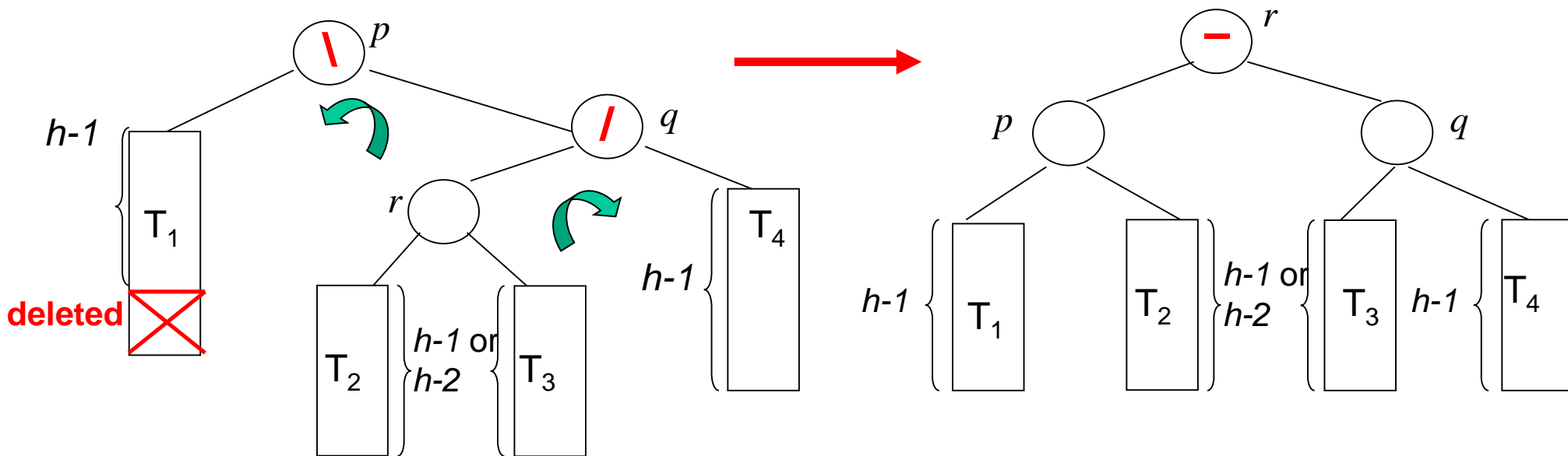


**Single rotation**  
**Height reduced**

# AVL Trees -- Deletion

Case 3c: The balance factor of  $q$  is the opposite of that of  $p$ .

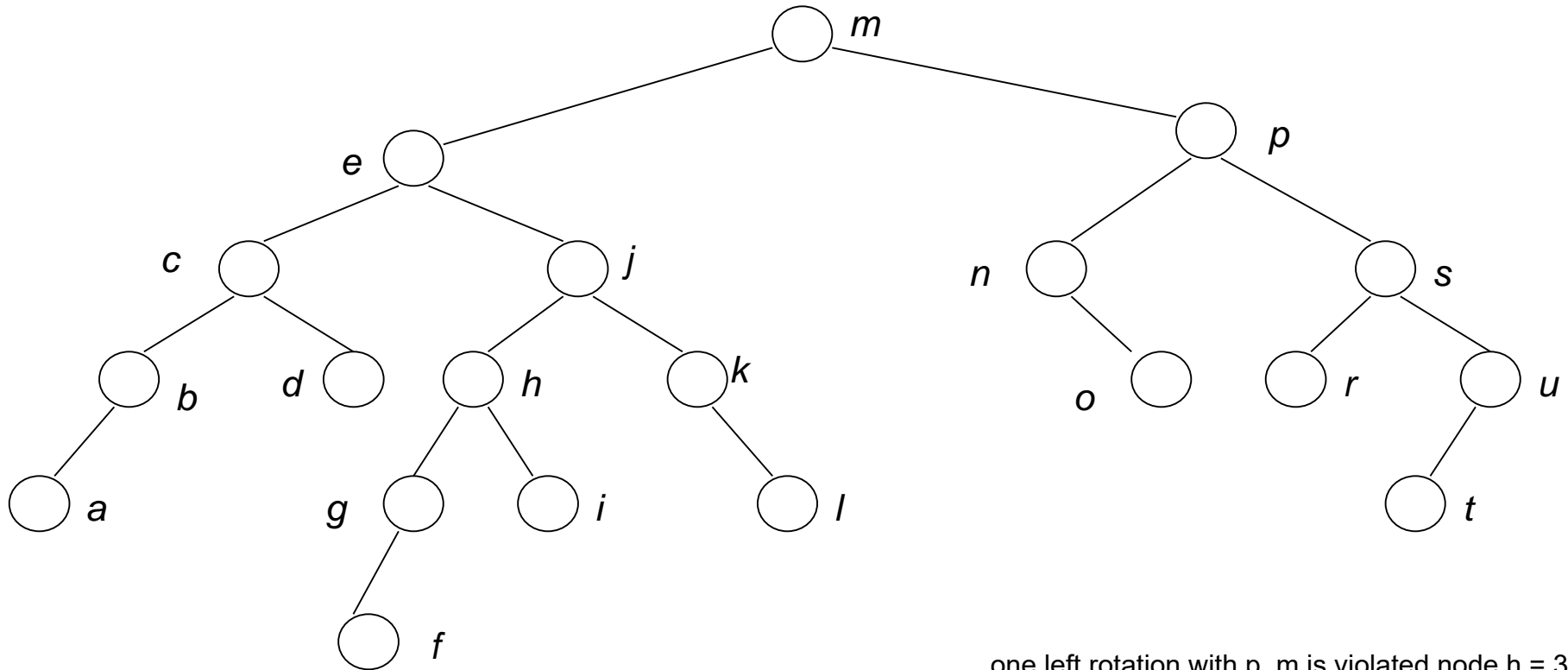
- Apply a double rotation
- Change the balance factor of the new root to *equal*
- Also change the balance factors of  $p$  and  $q$
- Shorter remains true



**Double rotation**  
**Height reduced**

# AVL Trees -- Deletion

**Exercise:** Delete *o* from the following AVL tree



one left rotation with *p*, *m* is violated node *h* = 3, *h* = 5  
right rotate

Check the following applet for more exercises.

<http://www.site.uottawa.ca/~stan/csi2514/applets/avl/BT.html>

# AVL Trees -- Analysis

| <u>H</u>  | <u>minN</u>           | <u>logN</u>  | <u>H / logN</u> |
|-----------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| 4         | 7                     | 2,81         | 1,42            |
| 5         | 12                    | 3,58         | 1,39            |
| 6         | 20                    | 4,32         | 1,39            |
| 7         | 33                    | 5,04         | 1,39            |
| 8         | 54                    | 5,75         | 1,39            |
| 9         | 88                    | 6,46         | 1,39            |
| 10        | 143                   | 7,16         | 1,40            |
| 11        | 232                   | 7,86         | 1,40            |
| 12        | 376                   | 8,55         | 1,40            |
| 13        | 609                   | 9,25         | 1,41            |
| 14        | 986                   | 9,95         | 1,41            |
| 15        | 1.596                 | 10,64        | 1,41            |
| 16        | 2.583                 | 11,33        | 1,41            |
| 17        | 4.180                 | 12,03        | 1,41            |
| 18        | 6.764                 | 12,72        | 1,41            |
| 19        | 10.945                | 13,42        | 1,42            |
| 20        | 17.710                | 14,11        | 1,42            |
| <b>30</b> | <b>2.178.308</b>      | <b>21,05</b> | <b>1,42</b>     |
| <b>40</b> | <b>267.914.295</b>    | <b>28,00</b> | <b>1,43</b>     |
| <b>50</b> | <b>32.951.280.098</b> | <b>34,94</b> | <b>1,43</b>     |

***What is the minimum number of nodes in an AVL tree?***

$$\text{minN}(0) = 0$$

$$\text{minN}(1) = 1$$

$$\text{minN}(2) = 2$$

$$\text{minN}(3) = 4$$

...

$$\text{minN}(h) = \text{minN}(h-1) + \text{minN}(h-2) + 1$$

**Max height of an N-node AVL tree is less than  $1.44 \log N$**