- An AVL tree is a Binary Search Tree
  - Everything about BST applies.
  - The heights of the left and right subtree of every node differ by at most 1.

### Structural Possibilites an AVL Tree Allows

- Equal heights
- Right is 1 level taller
- Left is 1 level taller

#### **Balance Factors**

- Every node in an AVL tree has a balance factor
  - $\circ$  bf = h<sub>r</sub> h<sub>l</sub>
  - Remember to subtract heights, not bf
  - sometimes they are counted left right

### Rebalancing

- a bf of +/- 2 means that the subtree rooted node is out of balance
- Balance will be restored by subtree rotations
- All rotations will occur in the context of a 3-node neighborhood.

# Rebalancing operations for Add

- Straight line right (positive positive) using a left rotation
- Straight line left (negative negative) using a right rotation
- Zig-zag to the left (positive negative) uses a right rotation then left rotation
- Zig-zag to the right (negative positive) uses a left rotation then right rotation

### **Coding rotations**

```
t = rotateLeft(t);
public BTN rotateLeft(BTN n) {
    BTN m = n.right;
    n.right = m.left;
    m.left = n;
    return m;
}
```

## **Inserting a New Element**

- Use the standard BST insertion algorithm to insert the new node.
- Beginning with the node just inserted, walk the revers path back toward the root, recalculating balance factors.
- Stop at the first(lowest) node that has a balance factor of +/- 2. This node roots the 2-node neighborhood that will be rotated.
- · At most one rebalancing operation will be required per insertion.

### **Deleting an Element**

- Use the standard BST deletion algorithm to delete the element.
- Beginning at the point of deletion, walk the reverse path back toward the root, recalculating the BF.
- Stop at the first(lowest) node that has a balance factor of +/- 2. This node roots the 2-node neighborhood that will be rotated.
  - These repairs might have to occur more than once unlike in the add case.
  - Basically in the case of the height of the subtree being deleted from changing.
  - Or when rebalancing changes the height of the subtree.
- See the notes to practice deleting nodes.

- Balanced BSTs are like a structural implementation of the binary search algorithm
  So, now we can use binary search on a structure built with linked nodes.