

Data Structures

Red And Black Trees

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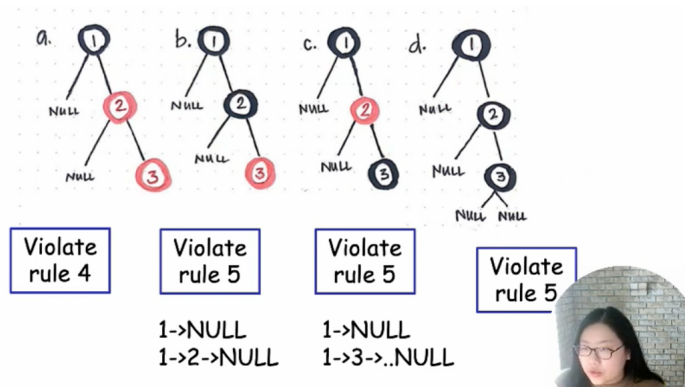
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Definition of RBT

An Red Black Tree is another type of binary search tree that is self balancing. Each node in the tree is either coloured *red* or *black*. In order for a tree to be a RBT it must satisfy the following conditions

1. Every node is red or black
2. the root is black
3. every leaf (NIL) is black
4. if a node is red, then both of it's children are black. thus no 2 consecutive nodes are red.
5. for each node x , all simple paths from the node to it's descendant leaves contain the same ammount of black nodes.



An RBTree also has the following properties:

- The path from any node to the farthest leaf is no more than *twice* as long as the path from the node to the nearest leaf
- the sortest path for node n down to a leaf is equal to $k' \geq b \geq \frac{k}{2}$ where k' is the length of the shortest path and b is the number of black nodes in all paths (as this number must be the same for all paths).
- a red black tree with nodes has a height of:

$$h \geq 2 \log_2(n + 1)$$

- the number of leaves in an RBTree is $n + 1$