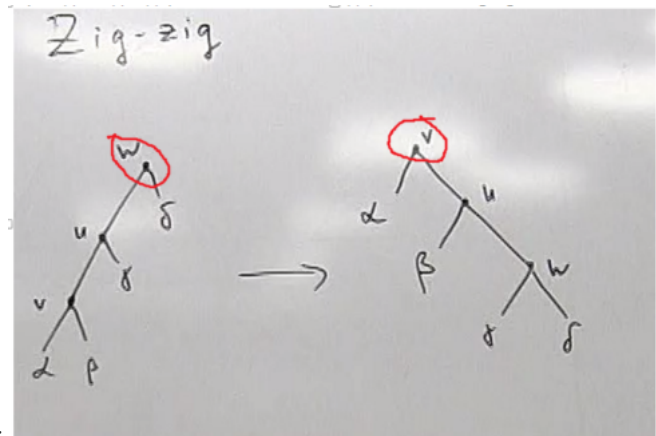


Proof of Zig-Zig step

There was a question connected with one of the video lecture lessons that I'm currently watching.



Let two trees be given - the original and the tree after the zig-zig step:

$$r'(u) + r'(v) + r'(w) - r(u) - r(v) - r(w)$$

Calculate the cost of this operation.

Where it is: the sum of the ranks of the new tree (after the zig-zig step) minus the sum of the ranks of the source tree. Now pay attention to the root tops of the trees. - because their rank is equal, then we can delete them from equation

$$\cancel{r'(u)} + \cancel{r(v)} + r'(w) - \cancel{r(u)} - \cancel{r(v)} - \cancel{r(w)}$$

Now, we carry out the upper bound. $r'(u)$ and $r'(w)$ - they can be estimated as $r'(v)$ in the initial tree (up to the zig-zig step) in the upper estimate - the vertices u and w are above the vertex v - therefore, when estimating from above with respect to the vertex v in the source tree - we simply consider the potential of the vertices $r(u)$ and $r(w)$ as $r(v)$ with the opposite sign. As a result, we get the expression:

$$\begin{aligned} & \cancel{r'(u)} + \cancel{r'(v)} + r'(w) - \cancel{r(u)} - r(v) - \cancel{r(w)} \leq \\ & \leq r'(v) + r'(v) - r(v) - r(v) = \\ & = 2(r'(v) - r(v)) \end{aligned}$$

Now the question is: why does index

2 change to 3?

$$\begin{aligned} & \cancel{r'(u)} + \cancel{r'(v)} + r'(w) - \cancel{r(u)} - r(v) - \cancel{r(w)} \leq \\ & \leq r'(v) + r'(v) - r(v) - r(v) = \\ & = 2(r'(v) - r(v)) \leq \underline{3(r'(v) - r(v))} \end{aligned}$$

At first I thought that it was +1 as an accounting cost for the actual action, but it turned out that this +1 should be performed for each vertex - that breaks all the evidence - there it is explained later in the lecture and also how to avoid it, But now this is not about it, but why, if this is not +1 for the actual action, then where did the index 3 come from?

P.s : Further in the lecture, attention is not focused on this - therefore I ask.

asked Dec 12 '17 at 19:27



BadCatss

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1 They probably only need to show the upper bound $3(r'(v) - r(v))$. It's certainly the case that $2(r'(v) - r(v)) \leq 3(r'(v) - r(v))$, assuming that $r'(v) \geq r(v)$. - [Yuval Filmus](#) Dec 12 '17 at 21:27

Could you explain more? You are welcome? - [BadCatss](#) Dec 13 '17 at 13:01

Having not seen the video, unfortunately I cannot say anything more. - [Yuval Filmus](#) Dec 13 '17 at 13:04

Excuse me, if you can - a few more questions? As I understand it, index 3 is used here as a tool for estimating the upper bound of the expression $2(r'(v) - r(v))$, but in essence the principal role as a number figure does not? those if I understood you correctly - I want to say that in general this expression: $2(r'(v) - r(v)) \leq 3(r'(v) - r(v))$ - as $(r'(v) - r(v)) \leq n + k(r'(v) - r(v))$ - where k is the upper bound of the expression: $n(r'(v) - r(v))$ In this case, $k = 1$. Did I understand you correctly? Well and yes, we take into account that assuming that $r'(v) \geq r(v)$. - [BadCatss](#) Dec 13 '17 at 14:05

1 The rest of the argument presumably only needs the upper bound $3(r'(v) - r(v))$. The argument gives the stronger upper bound $2(r'(v) - r(v))$, from which we can derive the weaker upper bound $3(r'(v) - r(v))$. For anything more, you will need to explain the rest of the argument. - [Yuval Filmus](#) Dec 13 '17 at 14:36