

done with 1 and 2 in submissions, starting from 3

3. In the handouts, it was shown that the height of an AVL tree with n nodes has height $\mathcal{O}(\log n)$, by first proving that $N(h) \geq \alpha\beta^h + \gamma$ for some constants $\alpha > 0$, $\beta > 1$ and γ , which directly implies that $h \leq \frac{\lg n}{\lg \beta} + \mathcal{O}(1)$, and thus $h = \mathcal{O}(\log n)$.

The actual value of β we got from the handouts is $\beta = \sqrt{2}$, which gives us the tighter bound $h \leq \frac{\lg n}{\lg \sqrt{2}} + \mathcal{O}(1) = 2 \lg n + \mathcal{O}(1)$.

The goal of this task is to prove an even tighter bound, by proving that we can choose β to be φ .¹ This gives us a height bound of $\approx 1.44 \lg n + \mathcal{O}(1)$.

**3.1. Let f be defined recursively as $f(0) = 1$, $f(1) = 2$ and for $n \geq 2$,
 $f(n) = f(n-1) + f(n-2) + 1$.**

Prove that $N(h) \geq f(h)$ for all $h \geq 0$.

We prove by strong induction on h .

[Base Cases]

$h = 0$: $N(0) = 1 = f(0)$

$h = 1$: $N(1) = 2 = f(1)$

Thus, $N(h) \geq f(h)$ holds.

[Inductive Step] Assume for all $k < h$ that $N(k) \geq f(k)$.

For $h \geq 2$, an AVL tree of height h with minimal nodes must have one child of height $h-1$ and the other of height at least $h-2$. Hence:

$$N(h) \geq N(h-1) + N(h-2) + 1$$

By the inductive hypothesis, $N(h) \geq f(h-1) + f(h-2) + 1$.

But by definition of f : $f(h-1) + f(h-2) + 1 = f(h)$.

Therefore, $N(h) \geq f(h)$, completing the induction and the proof.

3.2. Show that the equation $x^2 = x + 1$ has exactly two solutions, both of which are real numbers, and find the largest one. Call this constant b .

Suppose r is a solution, so that $r^2 = r + 1$. Then we have:

$$\begin{aligned} r^2 - r &= 1 \\ 4r^2 - 4r &= 4 \\ 4r^2 - 4r + 1 &= 5 \\ (2r - 1)^2 &= 5 \\ 2r - 1 &= \{\sqrt{5}, -\sqrt{5}\} \\ r &\in \{(1+\sqrt{5})/2, (1-\sqrt{5})/2\} \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the only possible solutions are $(1+\sqrt{5})/2$, $(1-\sqrt{5})/2$, we can verify that these solutions work. We pick the largest of the two: $(1+\sqrt{5})/2 = \phi$.

3.3. Show that there exists a constant $a > 0$ such that $f(n) \geq ab^n$ for all $n \geq 0$.

We have $b = \phi$, the positive root of $x^2 = x+1$. Choose $a = 1$. We prove by strong induction that $f(n) \geq b^n$ for all $n \geq 0$.

[Base Cases]

$$n = 0: f(0) = 1 \geq b^0 = 1$$

$$n = 1: f(1) = 2 \geq b^1 \approx 1.618$$

Thus, the base cases hold for $n = 0, 1$.

[Inductive Step] Assume for all $k < n$ that $f(k) \geq b^k$. For $n \geq 2$, by definition of f :

$$f(n) = f(n-1) + f(n-2) + 1.$$

By the inductive hypothesis: $f(n) \geq b^{n-1} + b^{n-2} + 1$.

since $b^2 = b + 1$, we have $b^{n-1} + b^{n-2} = b^{n-2}(b+1) = b^{n-2} b^2 = b^n$

Thus, $f(n) \geq b^n + 1 > b^n$

Therefore, $f(n) \geq b^n$ for all $n \geq 0$, proving the claim with $a = 1$.

3.4. Show that $N(h) \geq ab^h$ for all $h \geq 0$ (for the a chosen in 3.3)

Combining 3.1 and 3.3, we get $N(h) \geq f(h) \geq ab^h$ for every $h \geq 0$.

3.5. Conclude that an AVL tree with n nodes has height $\leq c \lg n + O(1)$ where $c = 1/\lg \phi$.

Let T be a tree with n nodes, and suppose its height is h . Note that $n \geq N(h)$ by definition of N . Using 3.4, we have

$$n \geq ab^h = \phi^h$$

Taking logarithms, we get $\lg n \geq h \lg \phi$, implying

$$h \leq 1/\lg \phi * \lg n,$$

which is what we wanted to prove.

4. A **red-black tree** is another kind of self-balancing tree, different from an AVL tree. It maintains balancing by coloring each node either *red* or *black*, and maintaining some invariants. To maintain these invariants, tree rotations are used, similar to AVL trees.

Its height is also $\mathcal{O}(\log n)$, though the constant behind the “ \mathcal{O} ” here is generally larger than that in the case of the AVL tree, so red-black trees are often taller (though just by a constant). However, it has a few notable “selling points” as well:

- The only extra data needed to be stored in each node is its color. Since there are only two colors, only one bit of extra data per node is needed.²
- Although insertion and deletion as a whole still take $\mathcal{O}(\log n)$ time, only $\mathcal{O}(1)$ tree rotations are needed to rebalance the tree!
- It is related to B-trees, which are yet another kind of self-balancing tree, particularly suited for databases and file systems.

The following invariants are maintained after every operation in a red-black tree:

- 4.1. A red node does not have a red child.
- 4.2. If a left or right child of a node is missing, we say that its left or right child is a null node.
- 4.3. A null node has no children and is colored black.
- 4.4. All paths from the root to a null node have the same number of black nodes.

4. Prove that any tree with n nodes satisfying the red-black tree properties above has height $\leq 2 \lg n + O(1)$.

Let c be the black-height of the tree, the number of black nodes on any path from root to null.

By induction, any red-black tree with black-height c has at least $2^c - 1$ nodes $\geq 2(2^{c-1} - 1) + 1 = 2^c - 1$.

If root is red, then both children are black with black-height c , with even more nodes. Thus, $n \geq 2^c - 1$. On any root-to-null path, no two reds are consecutive, so at least half the nodes are black (rounded up).

Therefore, $h \leq 2c$.

Combining $h \leq 2c \leq 2\log_2(n+1) = 2\lg n + O(1)$. Hence, height $\leq 2\lg n + O(1)$.

5. An instance of the **dictionary** abstract data type consists of a collection of key-value pairs, where the keys are distinct. For simplicity, the keys and values in our dictionary will be strings. It supports the following operations:

- 5.1. Create an empty dictionary.
- 5.2. Find the size (number of key-value pairs) in the dictionary.
- 5.3. Insert a new key-value pair to the dictionary (unless a pair with that key already exists, in which case, do nothing).
- 5.4. Delete a key-value pair with a given key (unless there's no such pair, in which case, do nothing).
- 5.5. Find the corresponding value of a given key.

5. Explain how to use AVL trees to implement a dictionary such that the first two operations take $O(1)$ time, and the last three operations take $O(\log n)$ time.

For this data structure, we store key-value pairs in an AVL tree, ordered by key. Each node contains: key, value, left, right, height. We maintain a separate size attribute, tracking the total number of nodes.

- 5.1. To create an empty dictionary, we initialize $\text{root} = \text{null}$ and $\text{size} = 0$. This takes $O(1)$.
- 5.2. Provided we've maintained the size correctly throughout the operations, all we need to do is return the size attribute. This takes $O(1)$.
- 5.3. To insert a key-value pair into the AVL tree:
 - Perform standard AVL insert using key for ordering.
 - If the key exists, update its value, return False.
 - If the key does not exist, create a new node, increment size by 1, and return True.
 - After insertion, perform rebalancing along the path.
 - This takes $O(\log n)$.
- 5.4. To delete a key-value pair with a given key:
 - Perform standard AVL delete using key.
 - If key found: remove node, decrement size by 1, return True.
 - If key not found: return False
 - After deletion, perform rebalancing along the path.
 - This takes $O(\log n)$.

5.5. To find a value given a key:

- We perform standard BST search using key.
- If found: return associated value.
- If not, return null or identity value.
- This takes $O(\log n)$.

AVL property ensures height $O(\log n)$, so all tree operations run in $O(\log n)$. The size variable is updated on every insertion/deletion, so it is maintained correctly.

6. Consider an abstract data type that represents a collection of integers and that supports the following operations:

- 6.1. Given an integer x , insert x in the structure. Note that the same integer can be inserted multiple times.
- 6.2. Given an integer x , remove x from the structure. If there are multiple occurrences of x , remove only one occurrence. If there are none, do nothing.
- 6.3. Given an integer x , determine how many elements of the structure are strictly less than x .

When an instance is created, it is initially empty.

Describe a data structure implementing the above, with each operation running in $\mathcal{O}(\log n)$ worst case time.

6. Describe a data structure implementing the above, with each operation running in $O(\log n)$ worst case time.

We implement an AVL tree, augmented as follows:

- Each node stores: value, count (multiplicity), left, right, height, size (total nodes in subtree)
- Multiple occurrences of same value stored in a single node with count > 1 .

For node x :

$$\text{size}(x) = \text{size}(\text{left}) + \text{size}(\text{right}) + \text{count}(x)$$

$$\text{height}(x) = \max(\text{height}(\text{left}), \text{height}(\text{right})) + 1$$

We update the parameters above during rotations/rebalancing in $O(1)$.

6.1. Inserting x :

- Search for node with value x
- If found: increment count by 1
- If not found: create new node with count = 1
- Update size along path, rebalance if needed.
- This takes $O(\log n)$.

6.2. Removing one occurrence of x:

- Search for node with value x
- If not found: do nothing
- If found and $\text{count} > 1$: decrement count by 1
- If found and $\text{count} = 1$ delete node, using the standard AVL deletion.
- Update size along path, rebalance if needed.
- This takes $O(\log n)$.

6.3. Count elements strictly lesser than x:

- We use the function below:

...

```
function count_less(node, x):  
    if node is null: return 0  
    if x <= node.value:  
        return count_less(node.left, x)  
    else: // x > node.value  
        return size(node.left) + node.count + count_less(node.right, x)
```

...

- Running it from the root, and traversing at most one path.
- This takes $O(\log n)$.

We now discuss the correctness of this implementation. AVL property guarantees height $O(\log n)$. The size augmentation enables $O(\log n)$ order statistics. All operations update size/height correctly during rotations.