

Data Structures

AVL Deletion

Mostafa S. Ibrahim

Teaching, Training and Coaching since more than a decade!

Artificial Intelligence & Computer Vision Researcher

PhD from Simon Fraser University - Canada

Bachelor / Msc from Cairo University - Egypt

Ex-(Software Engineer / ICPC World Finalist)



Node deletion

- Recall how deletion has several cases (successor replacement in the worst case)
- In fact, we follow in the logic as insertion. If a tree node has changes
 - Update height. Do rebalance. That is it \Rightarrow Simple code changes

```
def delete(self, val):
    def process(current, val):
        if not current:
            return
        if val < current.val: ...
        if val > current.val: ...
        if current.is_leaf(): # case 1: leaf
            return None # Just remove

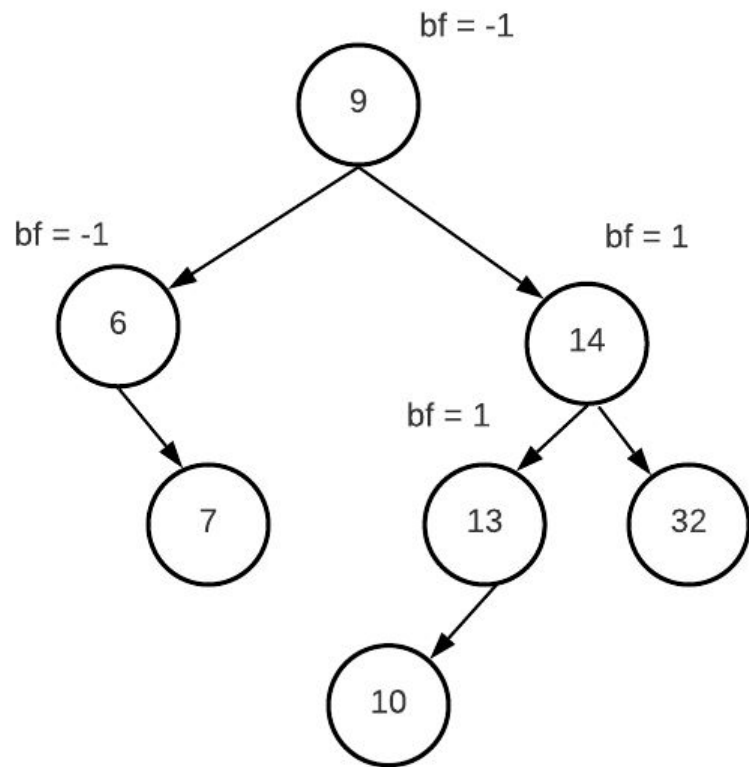
        if not current.right: # case 2: has left only
            current = current.left
        elif not current.left: # case 2: has right only
            current = current.right
        else:
            # 2 children: Use successor
            mn = self.min_node(current.right)
            current.val = mn.val # copy data
            current.right = process(current.right, mn.val)

        current.update_height()
        return self.balance(current)

    self.root = process(self.root, val) # ** update root
```

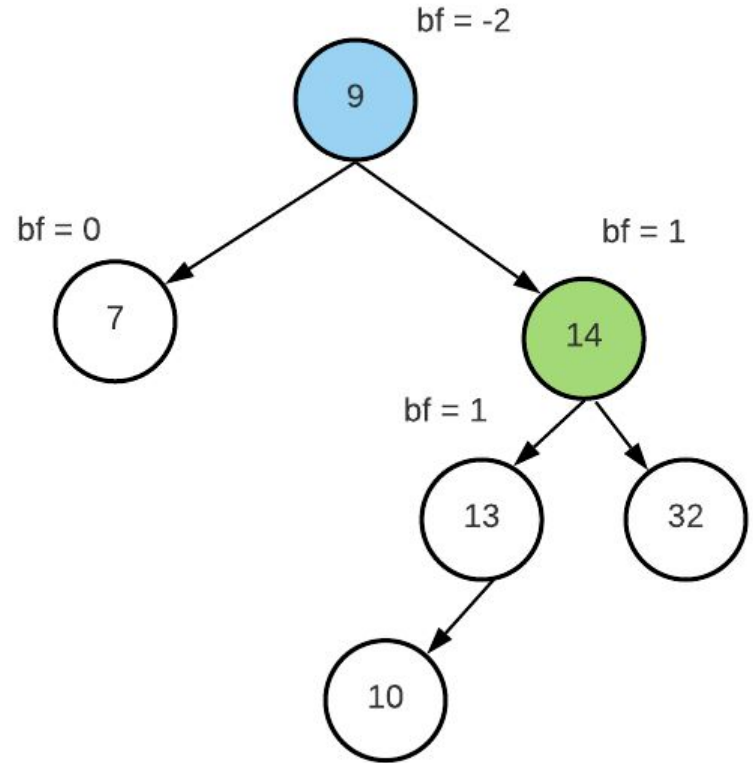
Let's simulate

- Let's create this tree first
 - Insert: 9 6 14 7 13 32 10
 - Tip: level-order traversal
- Next, delete 6
 - 6 only has one child node
 - Connect parent (9) to child (7)
 - Compute the BF for 9



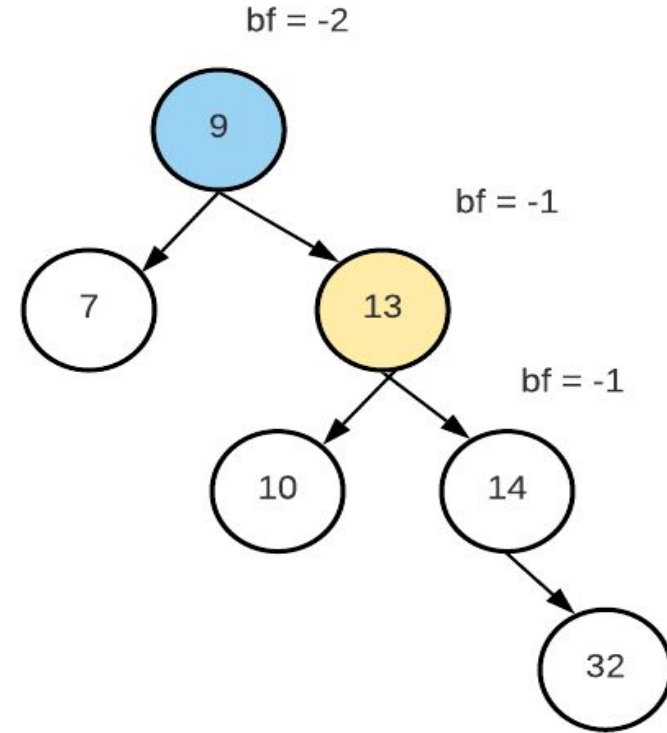
Delete 6

- BF $[-2, 1] \Rightarrow$ Right-Left unbalanced tree
 - Right-Rotation(14)
 - Pushes 14 down and 13 up
 - Then Left-Rotation(9)



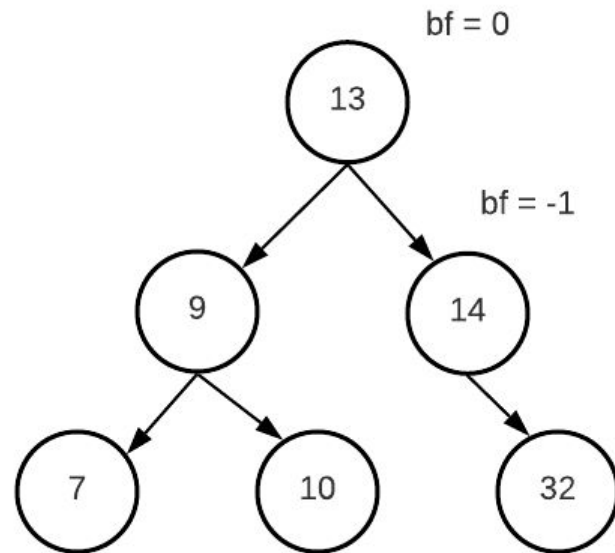
Delete 6

- Now we have BF [-2, -1]
 - Right-right unbalanced type
- Left-Rotation(9)
 - Pushes 9 down and 13 up
 - B-subtree(10)
 - Moves from left of 13 to right of 9



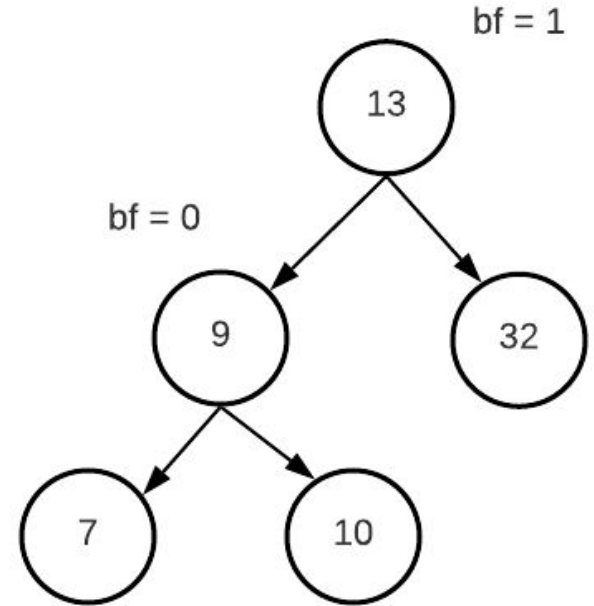
Delete 6

- It's fixed now!
- Next delete 14
 - Again, link 13 to 32
 - Update the BF, then check the balance



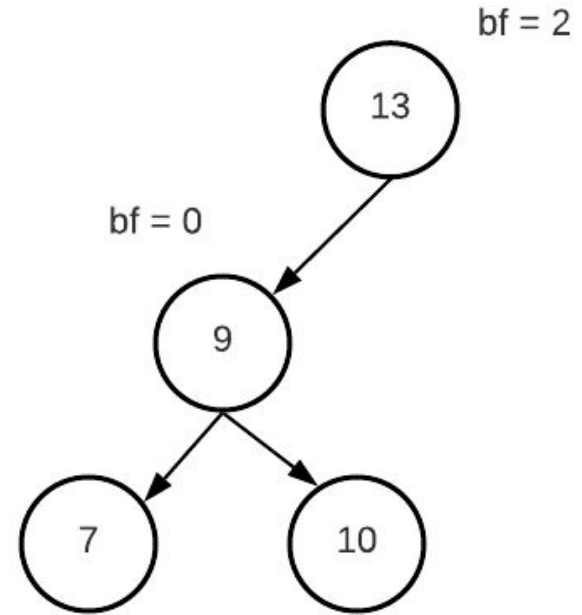
Delete 14

- No problems after deletion
- Next, delete 32
 - It's a leaf node, simply delete it as normal
 - Update the height and check the balance



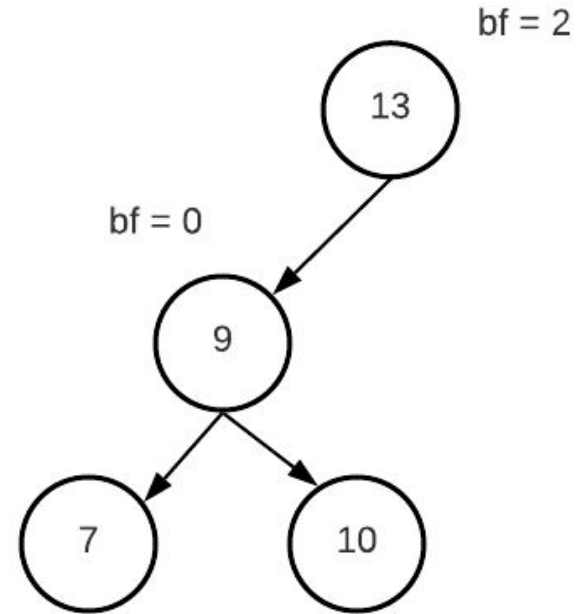
Delete 32

- Now we have an unbalanced tree/subtree
- The BF is 2, so we check the left subtree
- In insertion, left will be either 1 or -1
 - 1 \Rightarrow Left-Left rotation
 - -1 \Rightarrow Left-right rotation (requires two rotations to fix)
- Deletion here creates a NEW scenario!
 - BF = 0
 - Now, our possible values are: $\{-1, 0, 1\}$
 - It simply means **both** left-left or left-right are okay
 - Going left-left is more efficient
 - This means our balance code **doesn't need** changes
 - It only checks for left-right and right-left



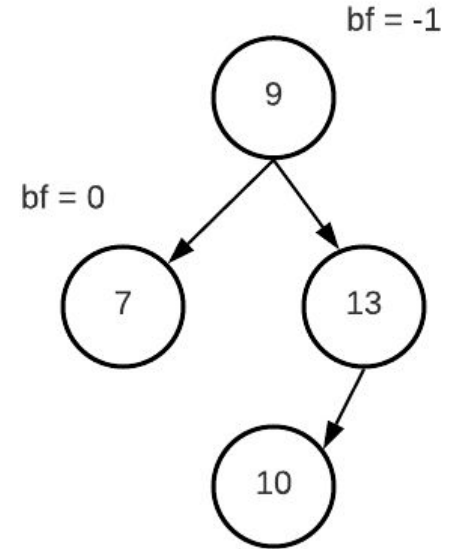
Delete 32

- BF [2, 0] \Rightarrow Left-left rotation
- Perform Right-rotation(13)
 - Pushes 13 down and 9 up
 - Subtree B(10) changes its parent
-



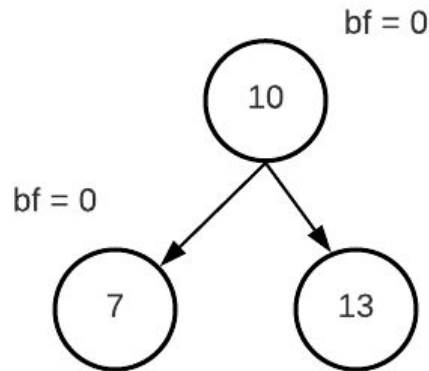
Delete 32

- Now it's fixed
- Next, delete 9
 - 9 has 2 children
 - Find $\text{successor}(9) = 10$
 - Copy the successor value
 - Remove node (10), which has no child
- So, deletion in the successor case ends up being just with 0-1 child nodes - as we already learned



Done

- As you can see, the effect of deletion is direct
- Only it created the $BF == 0$ case
 - $BF \{2, 0\}$
 - $BF \{-2, 0\}$
- However, this case can be handled easily, just like:
 - $BF \{2, 1\}$
 - $BF \{-2, -1\}$
 - So, the code for `balance()` didn't change
 - *Review code and verify*



“Acquire knowledge and impart it to the people.”

“Seek knowledge from the Cradle to the Grave.”