

# Splay Trees and B-Trees

CSE 373 - Data Structures  
April 19, 2002

## Readings and References

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- Reading
  - › Section 4.5-4.7, *Data Structures and Algorithm Analysis in C*, Weiss
- Other References

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## Self adjustment for better living

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- Ordinary binary search trees have no balance conditions
  - › what you get from insertion order is it
- Balanced trees like AVL trees enforce a balance condition when nodes change
  - › tree is always balanced after an insert or delete
- Self adjusting trees get reorganized over time as nodes are accessed

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## Splay Trees

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- Splay trees are tree structures that:
  - Are not perfectly balanced all the time
  - Use Find operations to balance the tree
    - future operations may run faster
- Based on the heuristic:
  - If X is accessed once, it is likely to be accessed again.
- The procedure:
  - After node X is accessed, perform “splaying” operations to bring it up to the root of the tree.
  - Do this in a way that leaves the tree more balanced as a whole

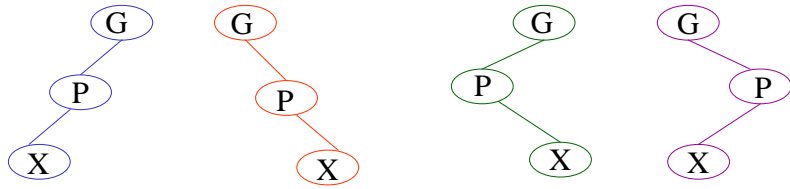
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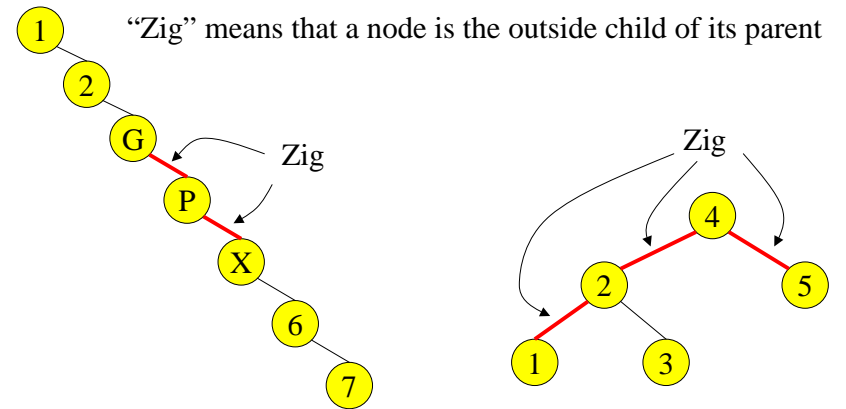
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# Splay Tree Terminology

- Let  $X$  be a non-root node with  $\geq 2$  ancestors.
  - $P$  is its parent node.
  - $G$  is its grandparent node.

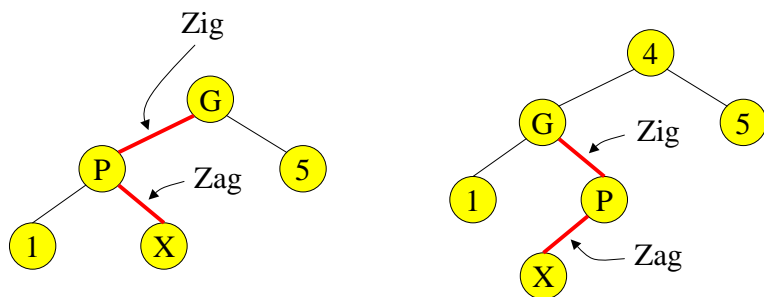


# Zig

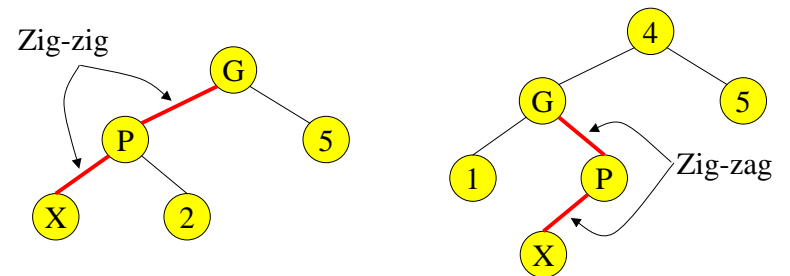


# Zag

“Zag” means that a node is the inside child of its parent, relative to the "zig" above it

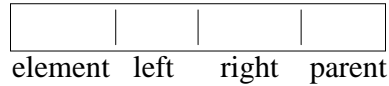


# Zig-Zig and Zig-Zag



# Splay Tree Operations

- Nodes must contain a **parent** pointer.

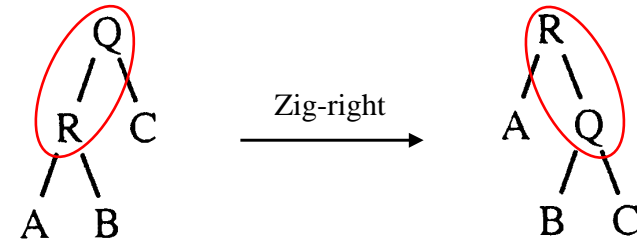


- When X is accessed, apply one of **six** rotation routines.

- **Single Rotations** (X has a P (the root) but no G)
  - zig\_left, zig\_right
- **Double Rotations** (X has both a P and a G)
  - zig\_zig\_left, zig\_zig\_right
  - zig\_zag\_left, zig\_zag\_right

# Zig at depth 1

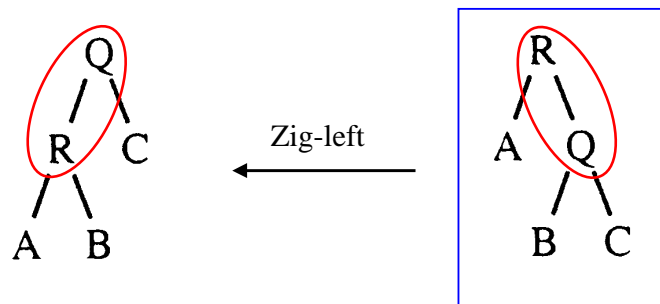
- “Zig” is just a **single rotation**, as in an AVL tree
- Let R be the node that was accessed (e.g. using Find)



- Zig-right moves R to the top → faster access next time

# Zig at depth 1

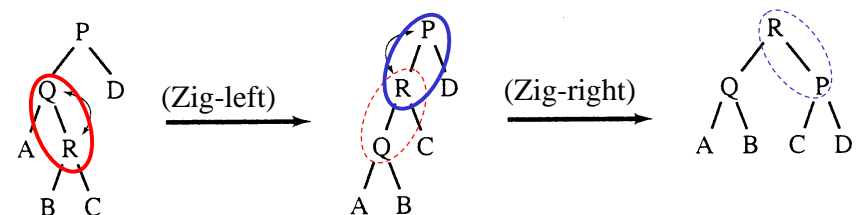
- Suppose Q is now accessed using Find



- Zig-left moves Q back to the top

# Zig-Zag operation

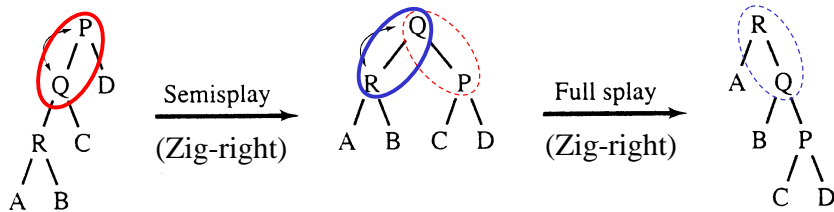
- “Zig-Zag” consists of **two rotations of the opposite direction** (assume R is the node that was accessed)



- “Zig-Zag” splaying causes R to move to the top

## Zig-Zig operation

- “Zig-Zig” consists of **two single rotations of the same direction** (R is the node that was accessed)



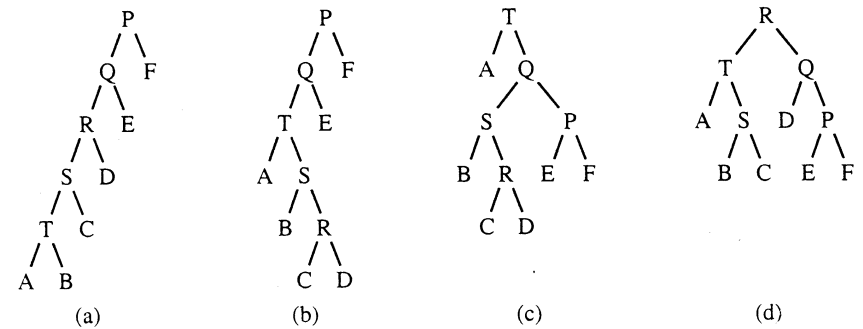
- Again, due to “zig-zig” splaying, R has bubbled to the top

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## Decreasing depth - "autobalance"



- Restructuring a tree with splaying after accessing *T* (a–c) and then *R* (c–d).

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## Analysis of Splay Trees

Examples suggest that splaying causes tree to get balanced.

The actual analysis is rather advanced and is in Chapter 11.

Result of Analysis: Any **sequence** of **M** operations on a splay tree of size **N** takes  **$O(M \log N)$**  time.

So, the **amortized** running time for one operation is  **$O(\log N)$** .

This guarantees that even if the depths of some nodes get very large, you cannot get a long sequence of  $O(N)$  searches because each search operation causes a rebalance.

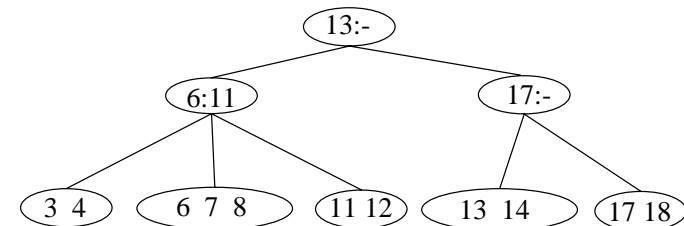
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## Beyond Binary Search Trees: Multi-Way Trees

- B-tree of order 3 has 2 or 3 children per node



- Search for 8

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# B-Trees

B-Trees are **multi-way search trees** commonly used in database systems or other applications where data is stored externally on disks and keeping the tree shallow is important.

A B-Tree of order **M** has the following properties:

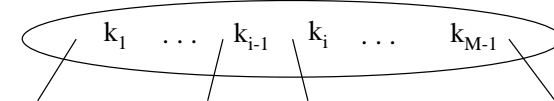
1. The root is either a leaf or has **between 2 and M children**.
2. All nonleaf nodes (except the root) have **between  $\lceil M/2 \rceil$  and M children**.
3. All leaves are at the same depth.

All data records are stored at the leaves.  
Leaves store between  $\lceil M/2 \rceil$  and M data records.

# B-Tree Details

Each internal node of a B-tree has:

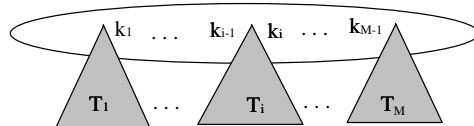
- > Between  $\lceil M/2 \rceil$  and M children.
- > up to M-1 keys  $k_1 < k_2 < \dots < k_{M-1}$



Keys are ordered so that:

$$k_1 < k_2 < \dots < k_{M-1}$$

# Properties of B-Trees



Children of each internal node are "between" the items in that node.

Suppose subtree  $T_i$  is the  $i$ th child of the node:

all keys in  $T_i$  must be between keys  $k_{i-1}$  and  $k_i$

i.e.  $k_{i-1} \leq T_i < k_i$

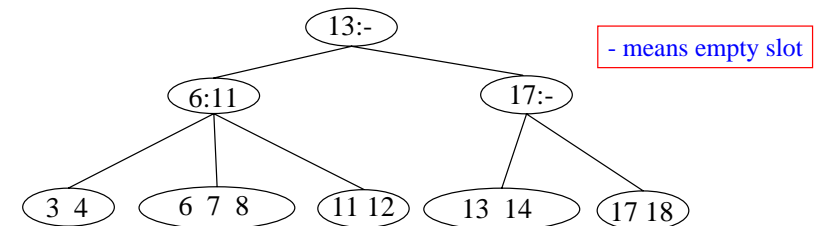
$k_{i-1}$  is the smallest key in  $T_i$

All keys in first subtree  $T_1 < k_1$

All keys in last subtree  $T_M \geq k_{M-1}$

# Example: Searching in B-trees

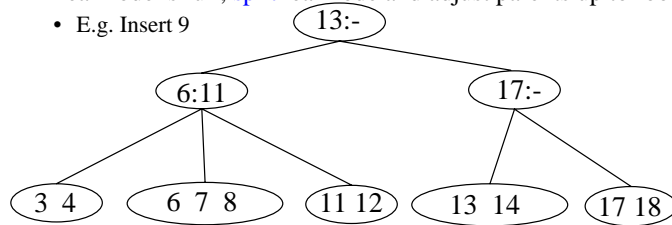
- B-tree of order 3: also known as **2-3 tree** (2 to 3 children)



- Examples: Search for 9, 14, 12
- Note: If leaf nodes are connected as a Linked List, B-tree is called a B+ tree – Allows sorted list to be accessed easily

## Inserting and Deleting in B-Trees

- Insert X: Do a Find on X and find appropriate leaf node
  - › If leaf node is not full, fill in empty slot with X
    - E.g. Insert 5
  - › If leaf node is full, **split** leaf node and adjust parents up to root node
    - E.g. Insert 9



- Delete X: Do a Find on X and delete value from leaf node
  - › May have to combine leaf nodes and adjust parents up to root node

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## Run Time Analysis of B-Tree Operations

- For a B-Tree of order M
  - › Each internal node has up to M-1 keys to search
  - › Each internal node has between  $\lceil M/2 \rceil$  and M children
  - › **Depth** of B-Tree storing N items is  $O(\log_{\lceil M/2 \rceil} N)$
- Find: Run time is:
  - ›  $O(\log M)$  to binary search which branch to take at each node
  - › Total time to find an item is  $O(\text{depth} * \log M) = O(\log N)$

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## Summary of Search Trees

- Problem with Search Trees: Must keep tree balanced to allow fast access to stored items
- **AVL trees**: Insert/Delete operations keep tree balanced
- **Splay trees**: Repeated Find operations produce balanced trees
- **Multi-way search trees (e.g. B-Trees)**: More than two children per node allows shallow trees; all leaves are at the same depth keeping tree balanced at all times

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