

# AVL Trees

CSE 373

Data Structures

Lecture 8

# Readings

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- Reading
  - › Section 4.4,

# Binary Search Tree - Best Time

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- All BST operations are  $O(d)$ , where  $d$  is tree depth
- minimum  $d$  is  $d = \lfloor \log_2 N \rfloor$  for a binary tree with  $N$  nodes
  - › What is the best case tree?
  - › What is the worst case tree?
- So, best case running time of BST operations is  $O(\log N)$

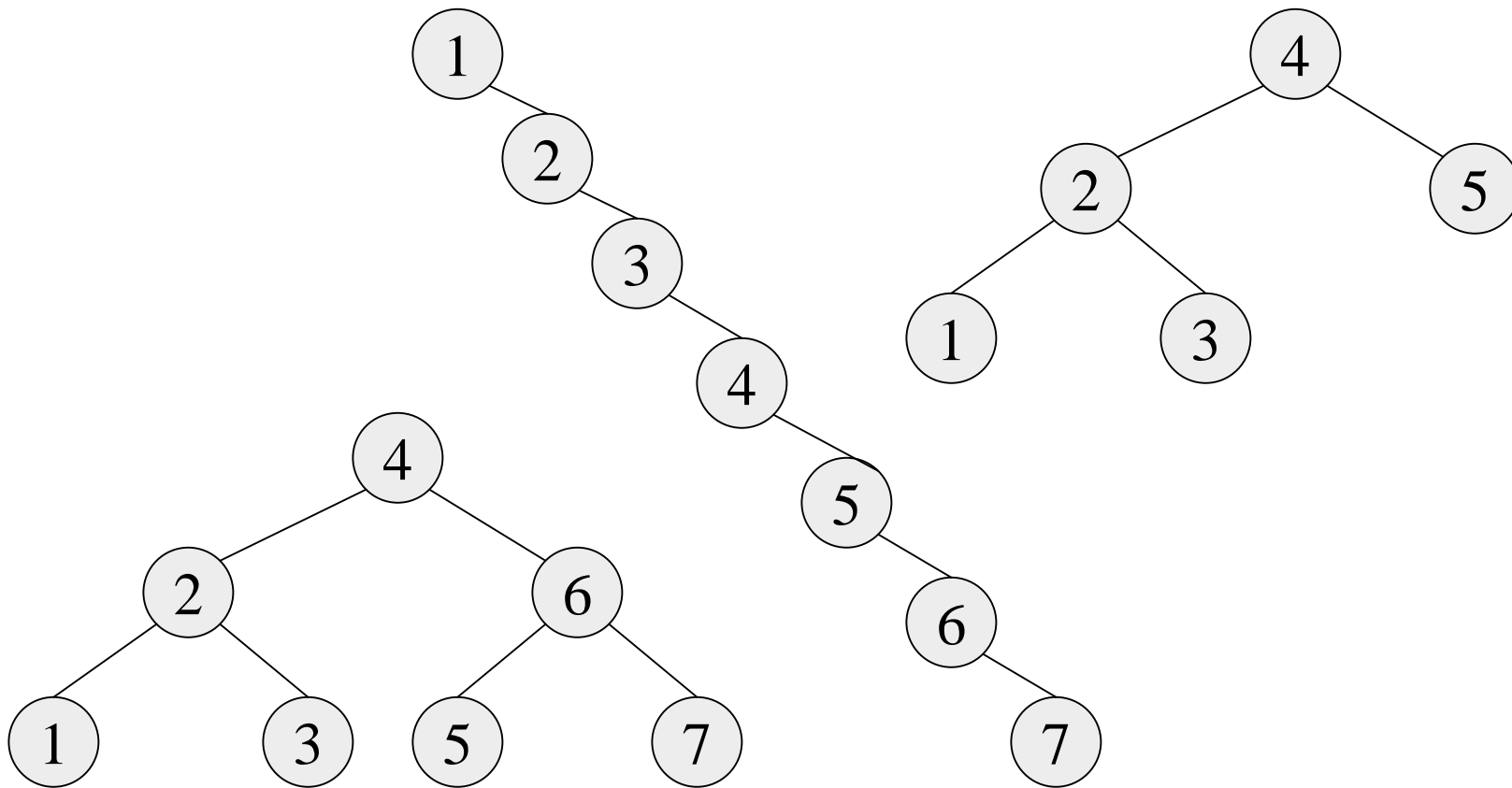
# Binary Search Tree - Worst Time

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- Worst case running time is  $O(N)$ 
  - › What happens when you Insert elements in ascending order?
    - Insert: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12 into an empty BST
  - › Problem: Lack of “balance”:
    - compare depths of left and right subtree
  - › Unbalanced degenerate tree

# Balanced and unbalanced BST

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# Approaches to balancing trees

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- Don't balance
  - › May end up with some nodes very deep
- Strict balance
  - › The tree must always be balanced perfectly
- Pretty good balance
  - › Only allow a little out of balance
- Adjust on access
  - › Self-adjusting

# Balancing Binary Search Trees

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- Many algorithms exist for keeping binary search trees balanced
  - › Adelson-Velskii and Landis (AVL) trees (height-balanced trees)
  - › Weight-balanced trees
  - › Splay trees and other self-adjusting trees
  - › B-trees and other multiway search trees

# Perfect Balance

- Want a complete tree after every operation
  - › tree is full except possibly in the lower right
- This is expensive
  - › For example, insert 2 in the tree on the left and then rebuild as a complete tree



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AVL Trees - Lecture 8

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# AVL - Good but not Perfect Balance

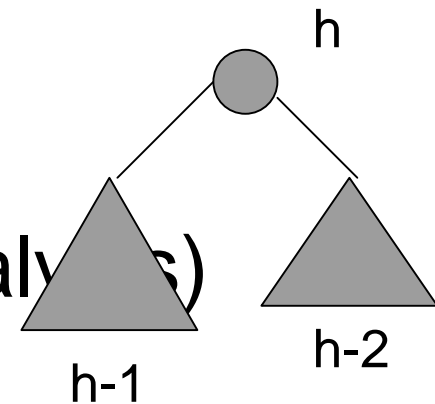
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- AVL trees are height-balanced binary search trees
- Balance factor of a node
  - ›  $\text{height}(\text{left subtree}) - \text{height}(\text{right subtree})$
- An AVL tree has balance factor calculated at every node
  - › For every node, heights of left and right subtree can differ by no more than 1
  - › Store current heights in each node

# Height of an AVL Tree

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- $N(h)$  = minimum number of nodes in an AVL tree of height  $h$ .
- Basis
  - ›  $N(0) = 1, N(1) = 2$
- Induction
  - ›  $N(h) = N(h-1) + N(h-2) + 1$
- Solution (recall Fibonacci analysis)
  - ›  $N(h) \geq \phi^h$  ( $\phi \approx 1.62$ )



# Height of an AVL Tree

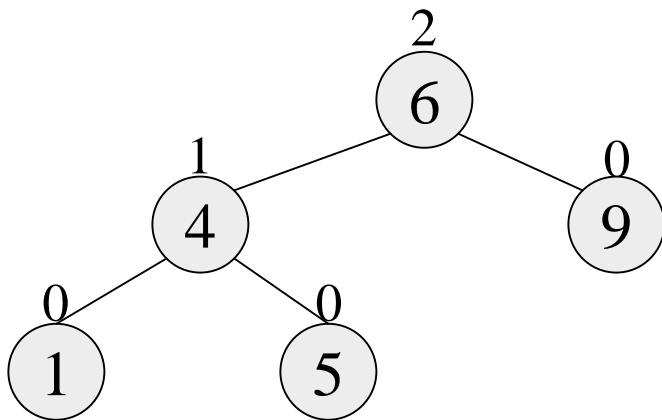
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- $N(h) \geq \phi^h$  ( $\phi \approx 1.62$ )
- Suppose we have  $n$  nodes in an AVL tree of height  $h$ .
  - ›  $n \geq N(h)$
  - ›  $n \geq \phi^h$  hence  $\log_{\phi} n \geq h$  (relatively well balanced tree!!)
  - ›  $h \leq 1.44 \log_2 n$  (i.e., Find takes  $O(\log n)$ )

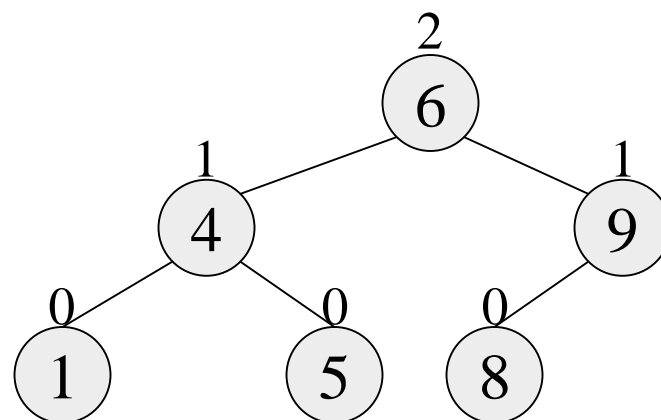
# Node Heights

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Tree A (AVL)



Tree B (AVL)



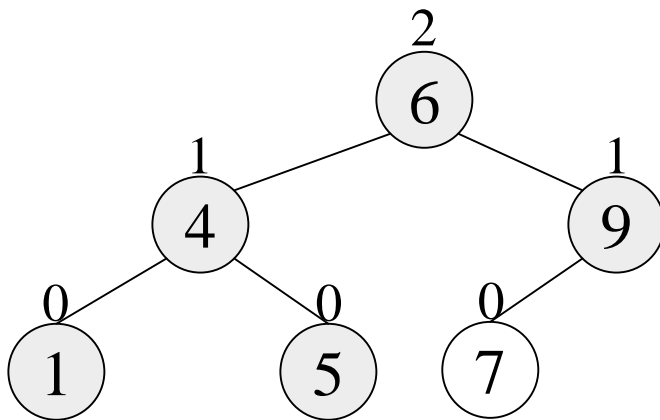
height of node =  $h$

balance factor =  $h_{\text{left}} - h_{\text{right}}$

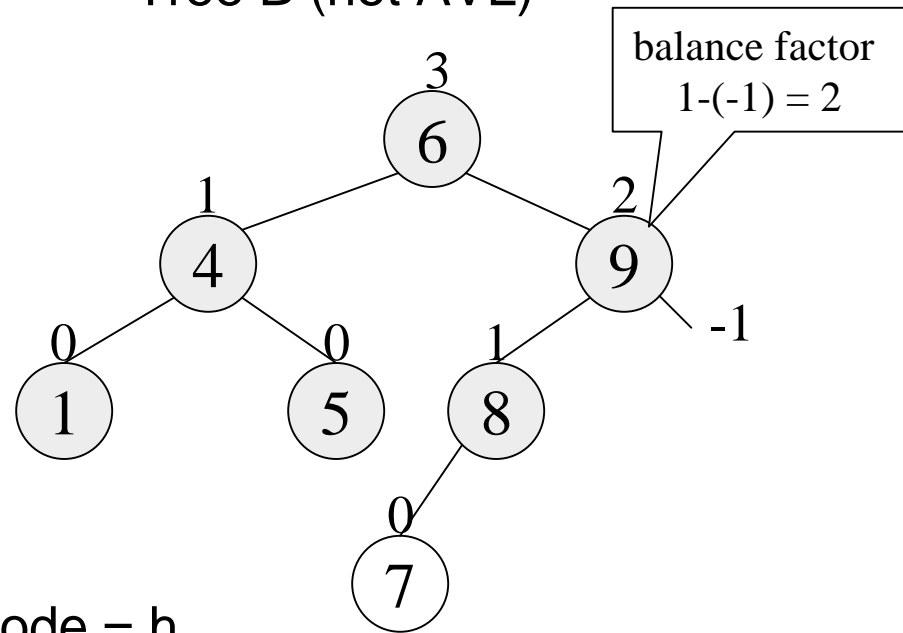
empty height = -1

# Node Heights after Insert 7

Tree A (AVL)



Tree B (not AVL)



height of node = h  
balance factor =  $h_{\text{left}} - h_{\text{right}}$   
empty height = -1

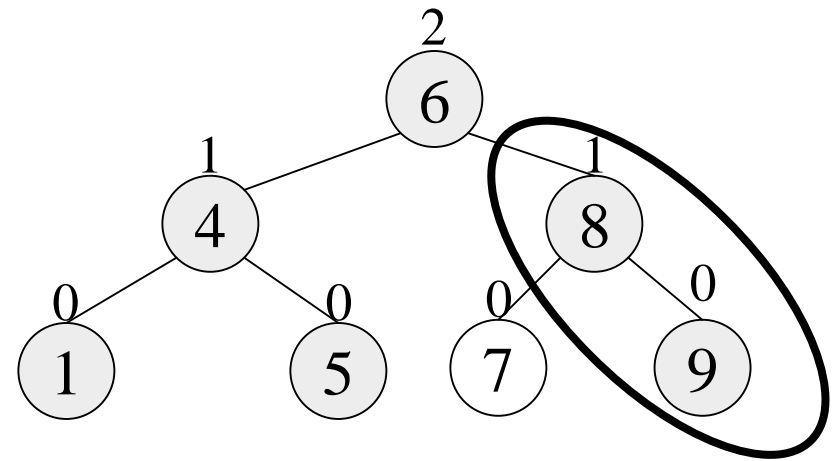
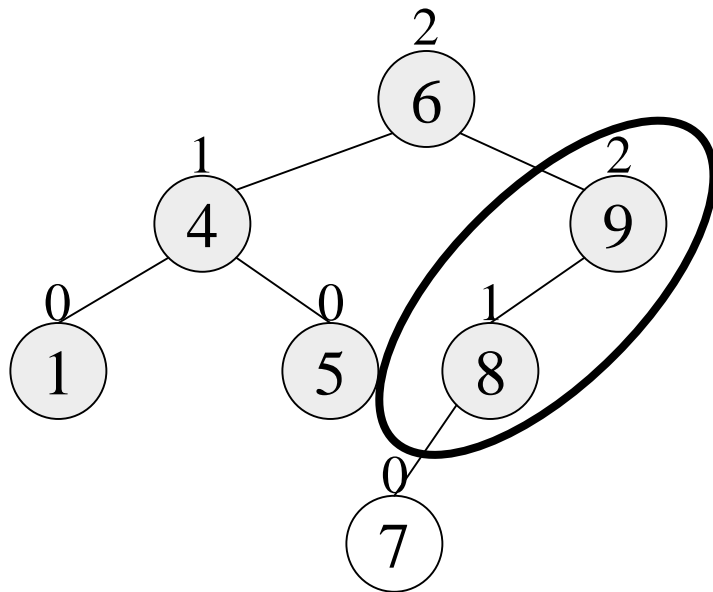
# Insert and Rotation in AVL Trees

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- Insert operation may cause balance factor to become 2 or  $-2$  for some node
  - › only nodes on the path from insertion point to root node have possibly changed in height
  - › So after the Insert, go back up to the root node by node, updating heights
  - › If a new balance factor (the difference  $h_{\text{left}} - h_{\text{right}}$ ) is 2 or  $-2$ , adjust tree by *rotation* around the node

# Single Rotation in an AVL Tree

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# Insertions in AVL Trees

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Let the node that needs rebalancing be  $\alpha$ .

There are 4 cases:

Outside Cases (require single rotation) :

1. Insertion into left subtree of left child of  $\alpha$ .
2. Insertion into right subtree of right child of  $\alpha$ .

Inside Cases (require double rotation) :

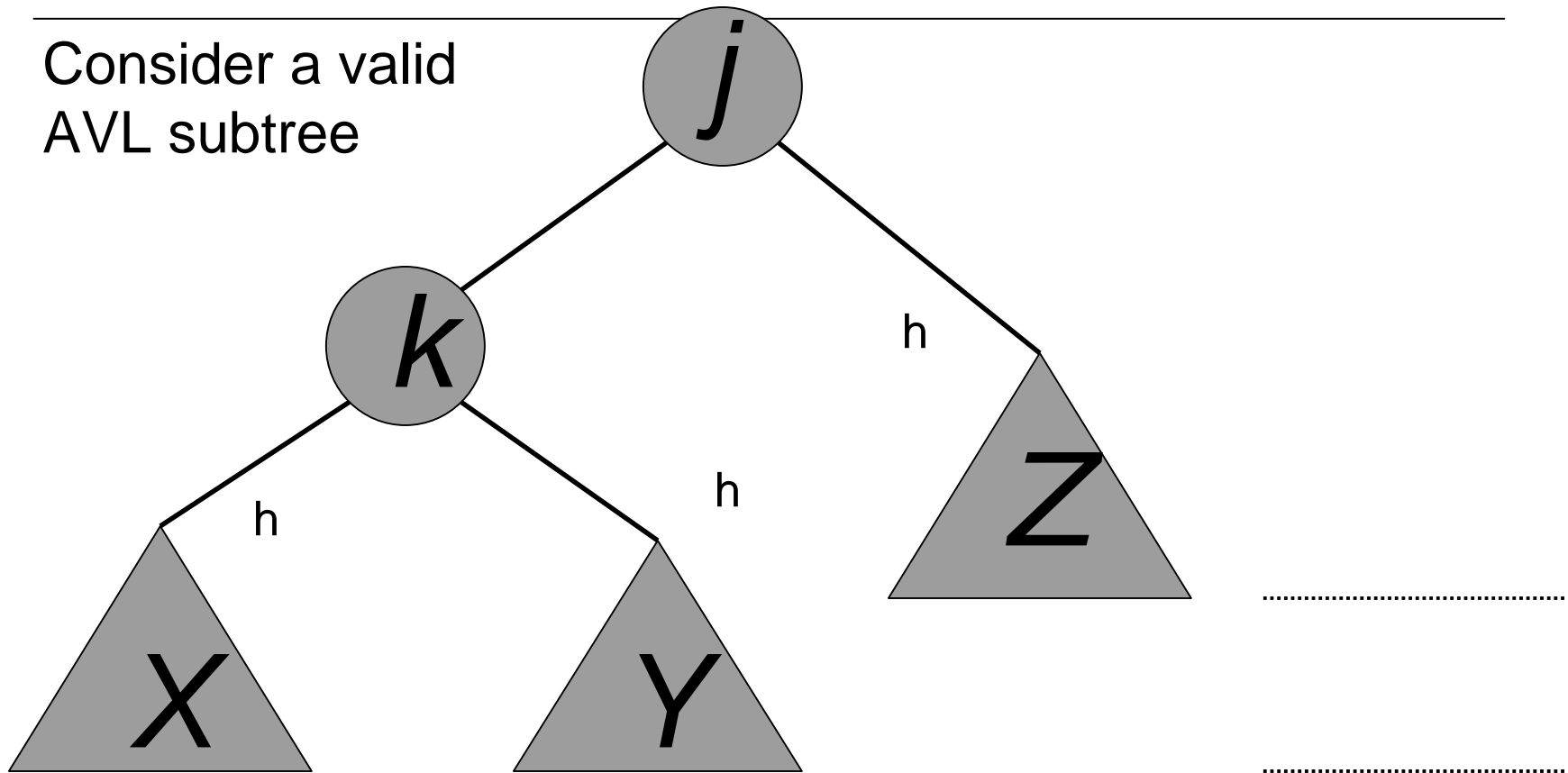
3. Insertion into right subtree of left child of  $\alpha$ .
4. Insertion into left subtree of right child of  $\alpha$ .

The rebalancing is performed through four separate rotation algorithms.

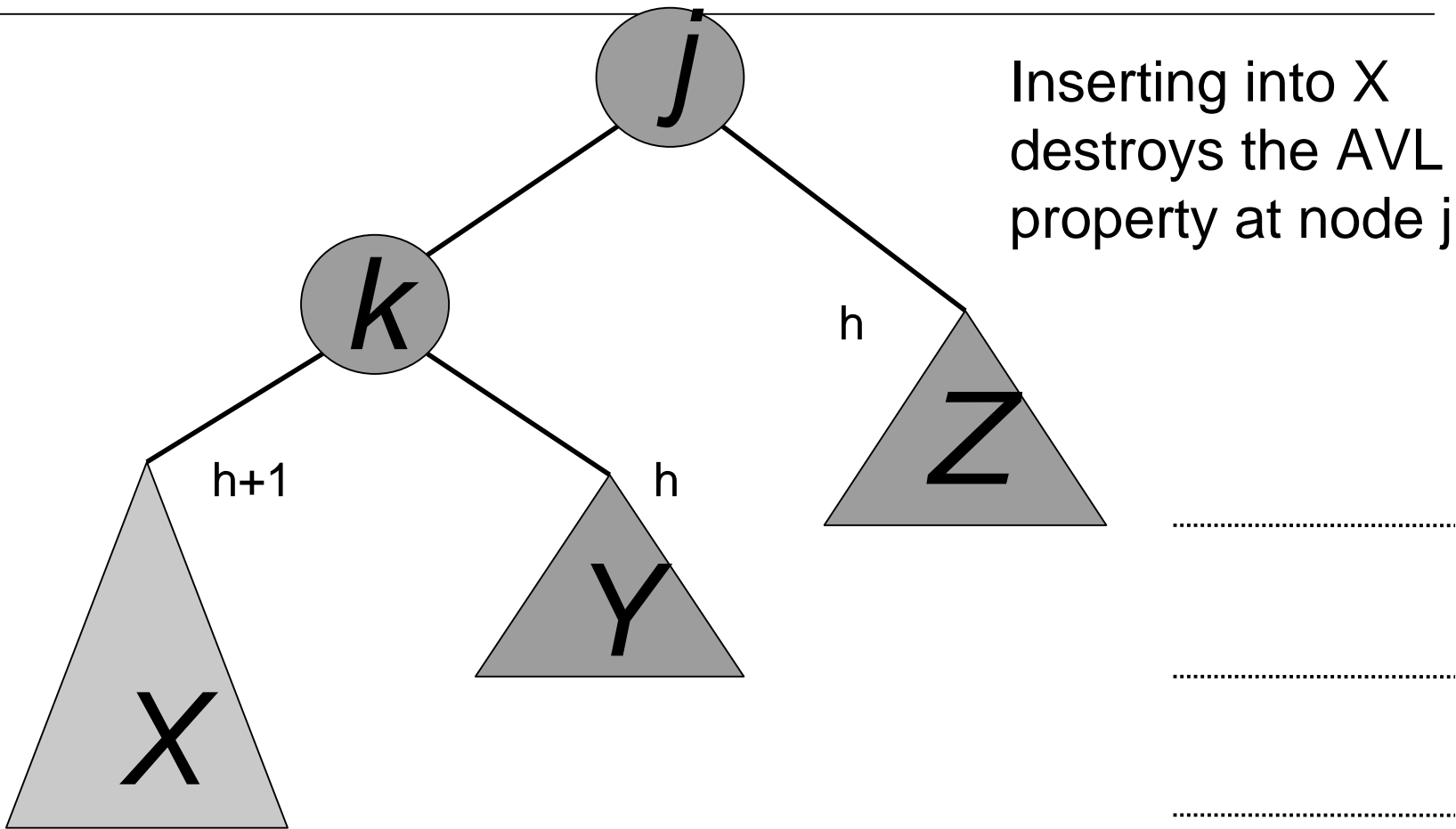


# AVL Insertion: Outside Case

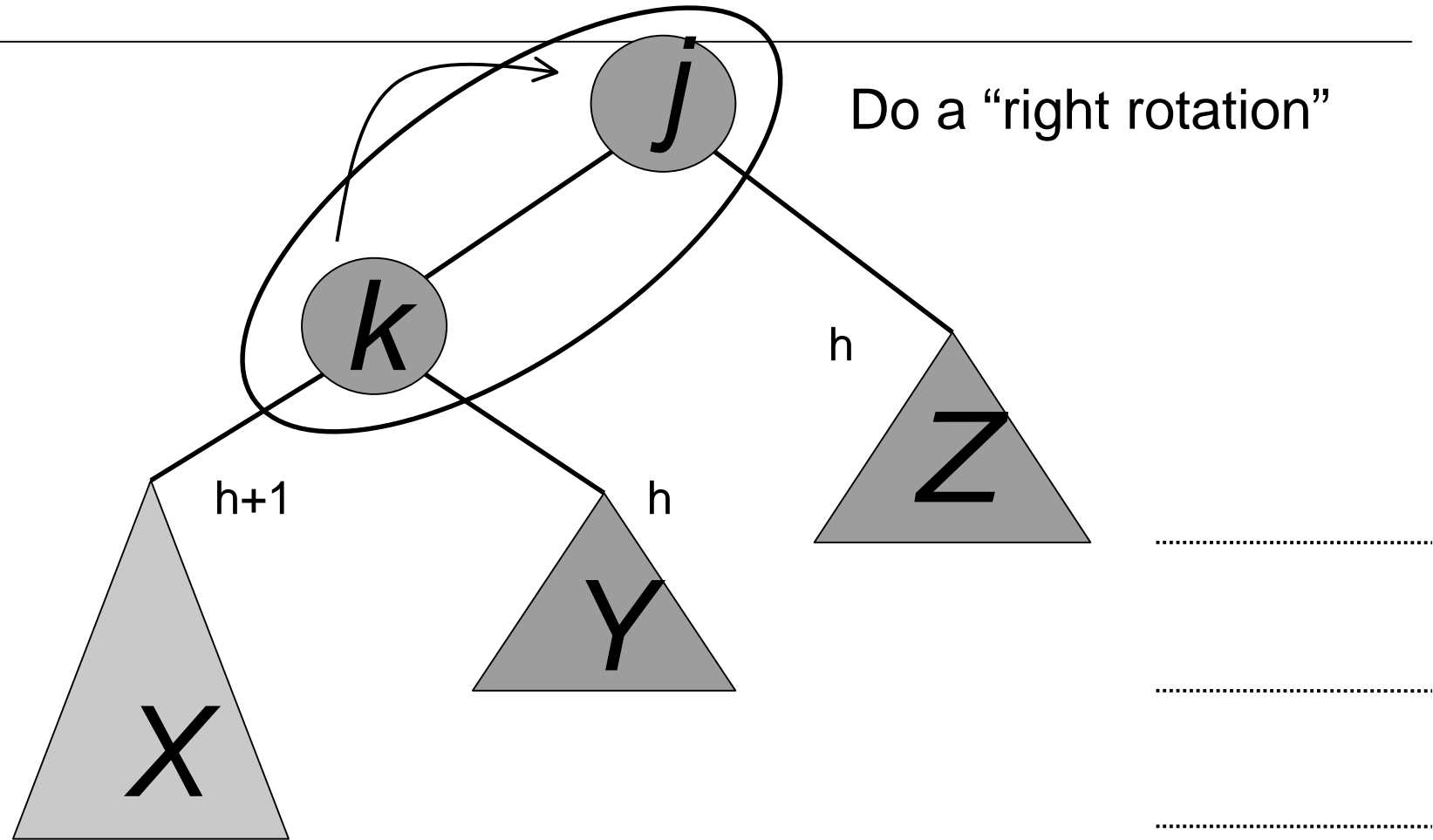
Consider a valid  
AVL subtree



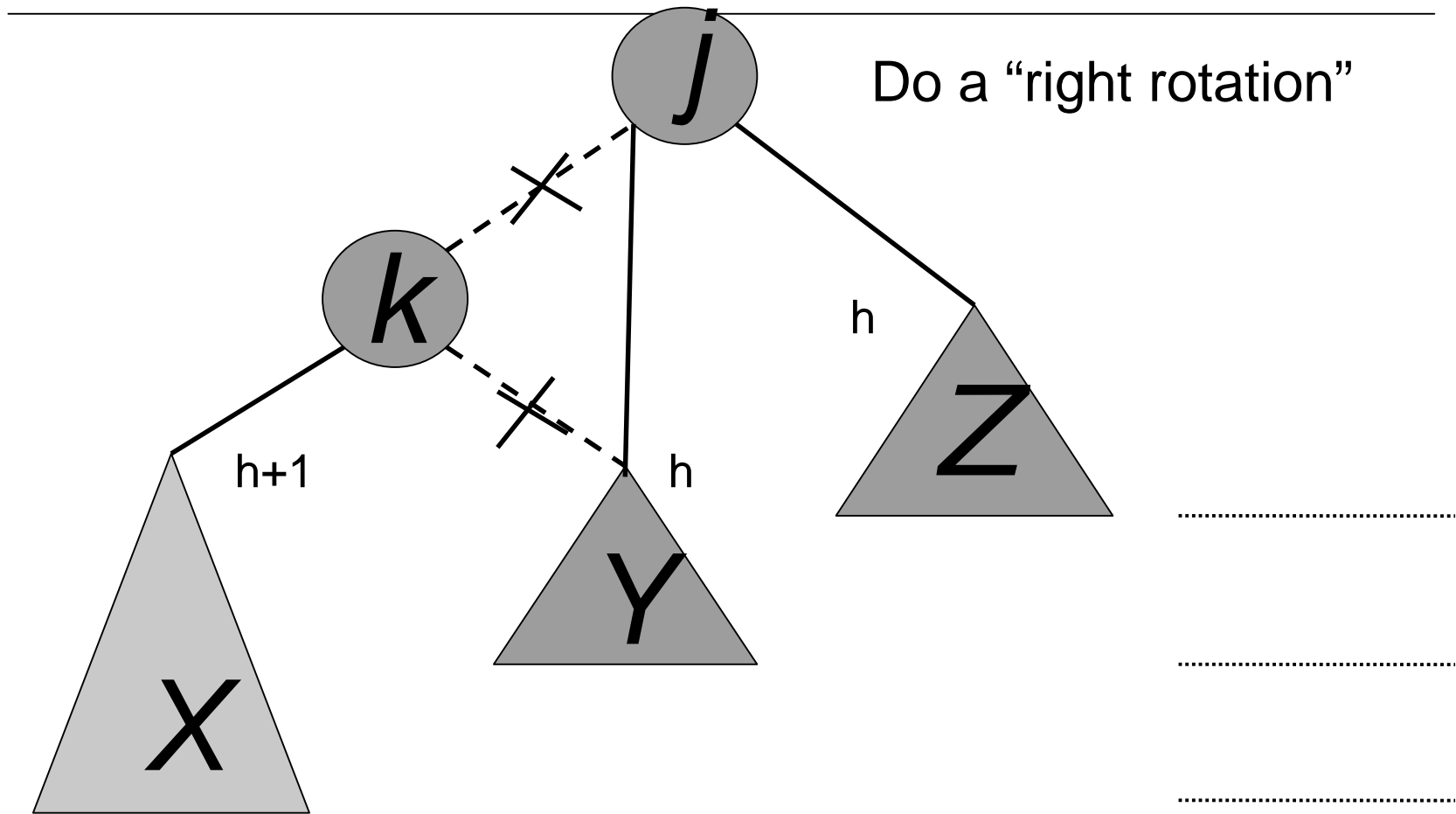
# AVL Insertion: Outside Case



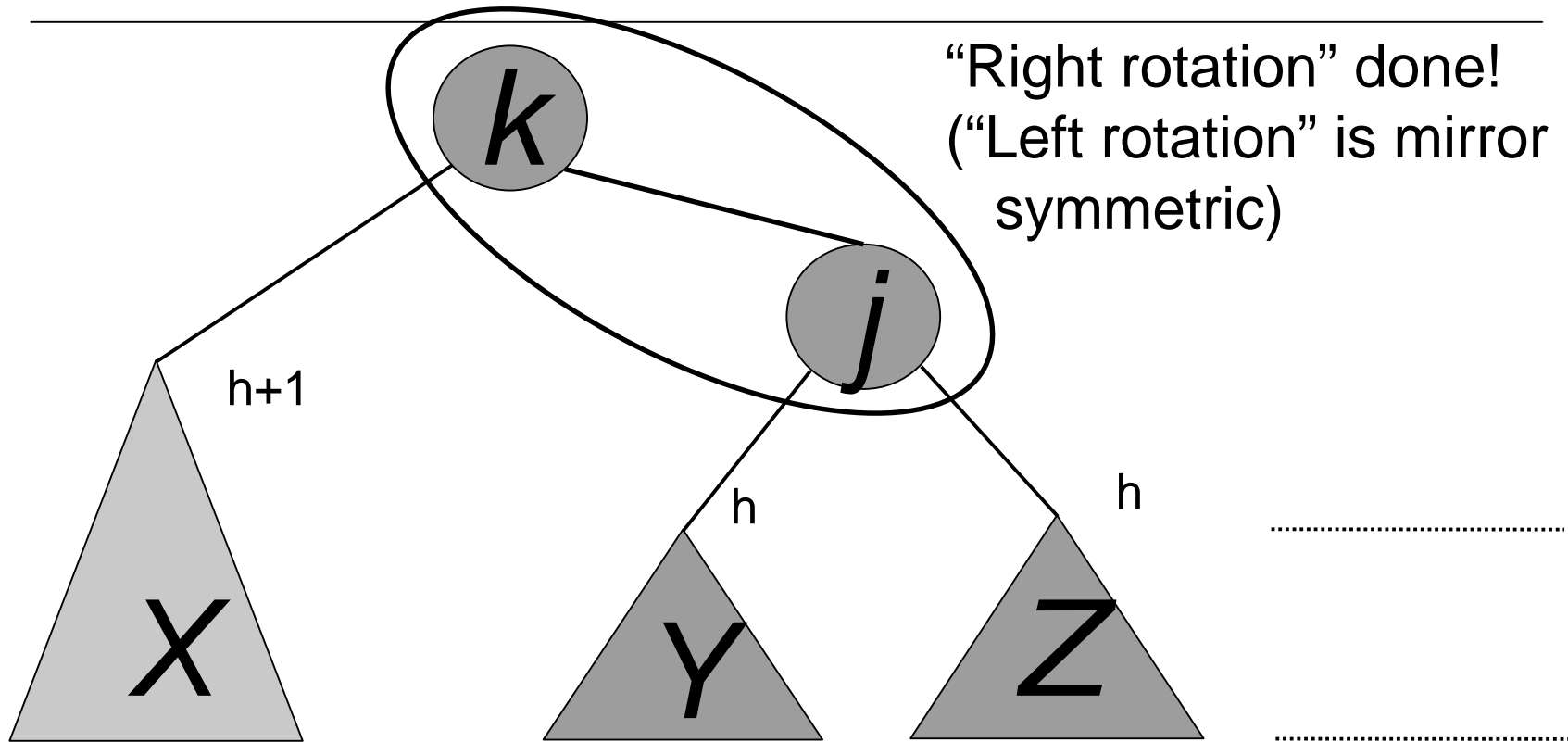
# AVL Insertion: Outside Case



# Single right rotation



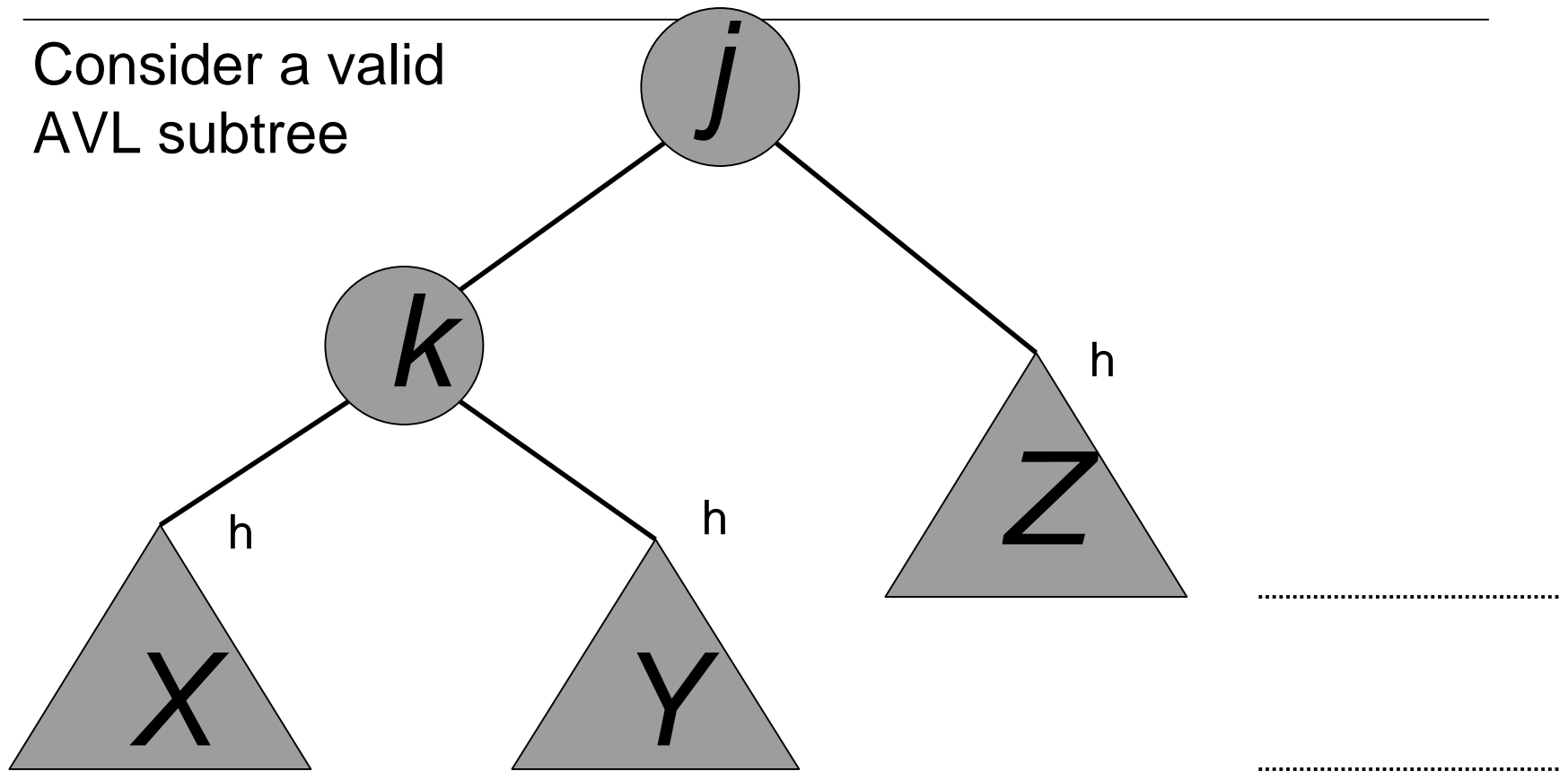
# Outside Case Completed



AVL property has been restored!

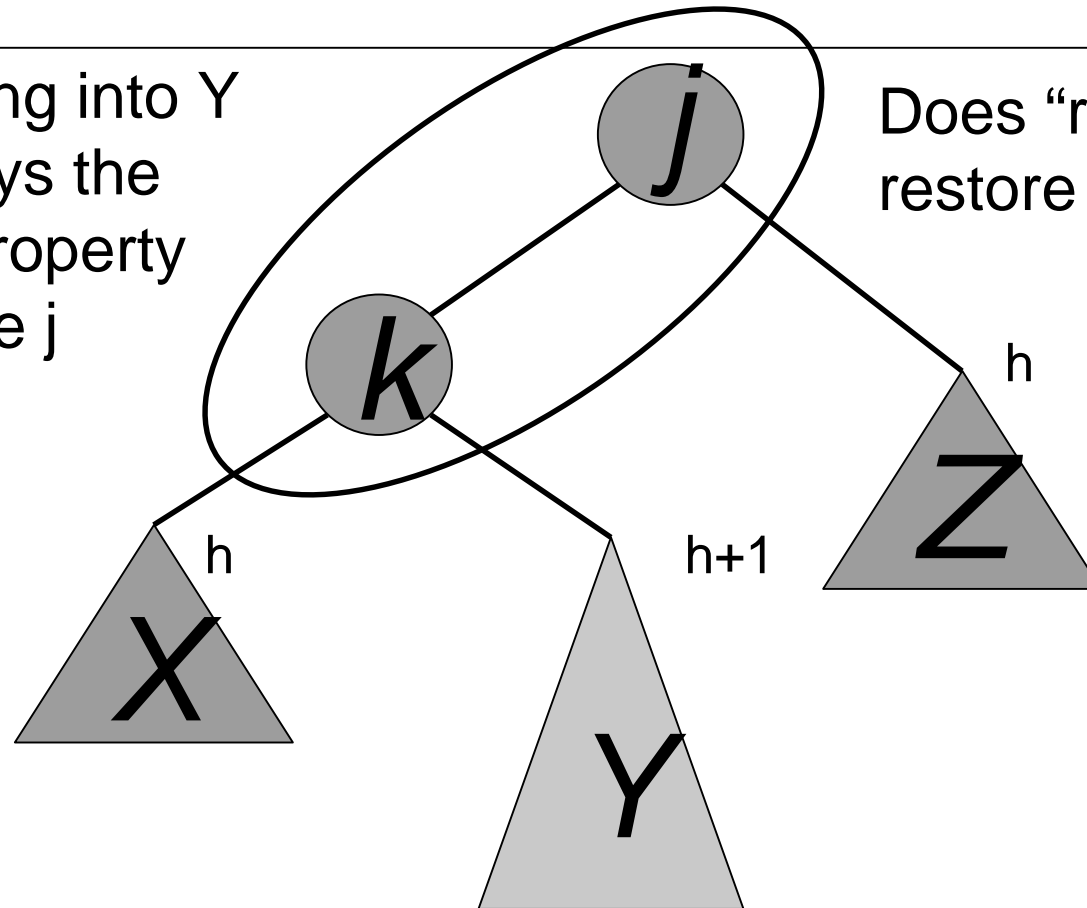
# AVL Insertion: Inside Case

Consider a valid  
AVL subtree

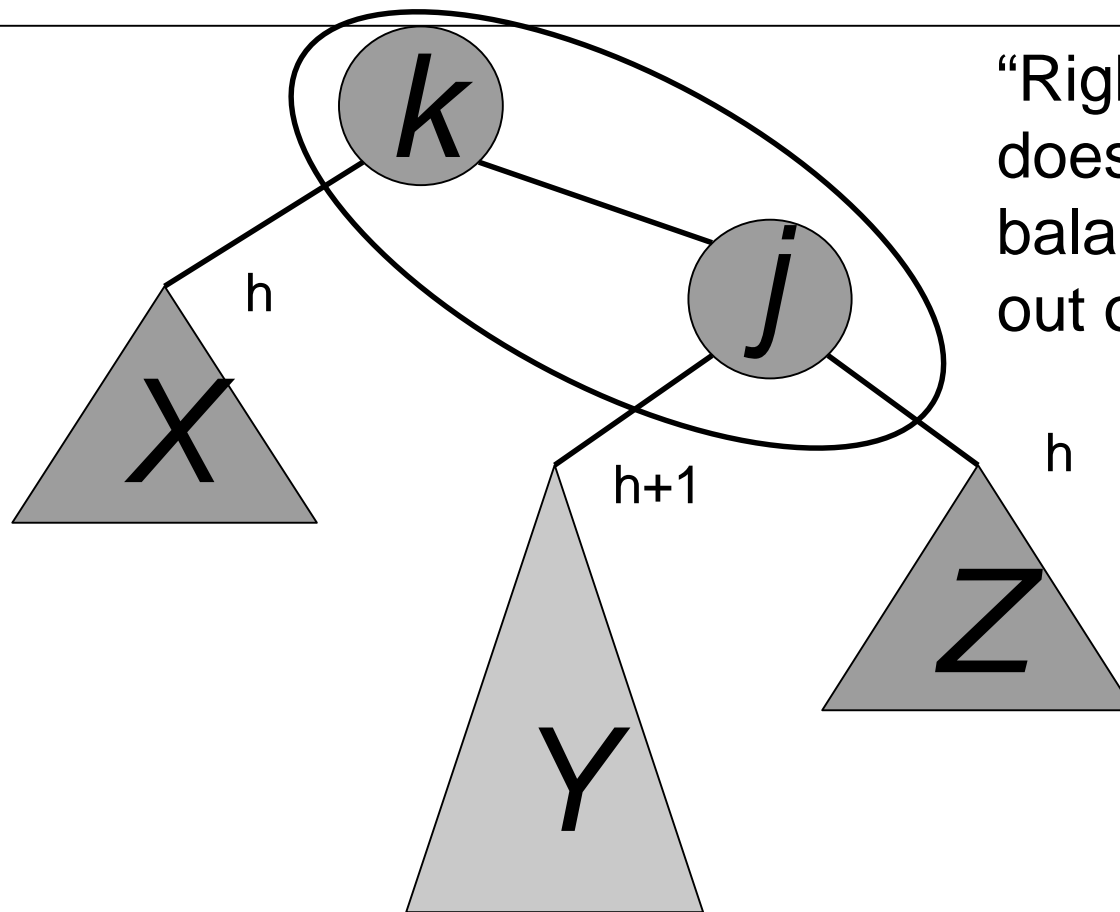


# AVL Insertion: Inside Case

Inserting into Y  
destroys the  
AVL property  
at node j



# AVL Insertion: Inside Case



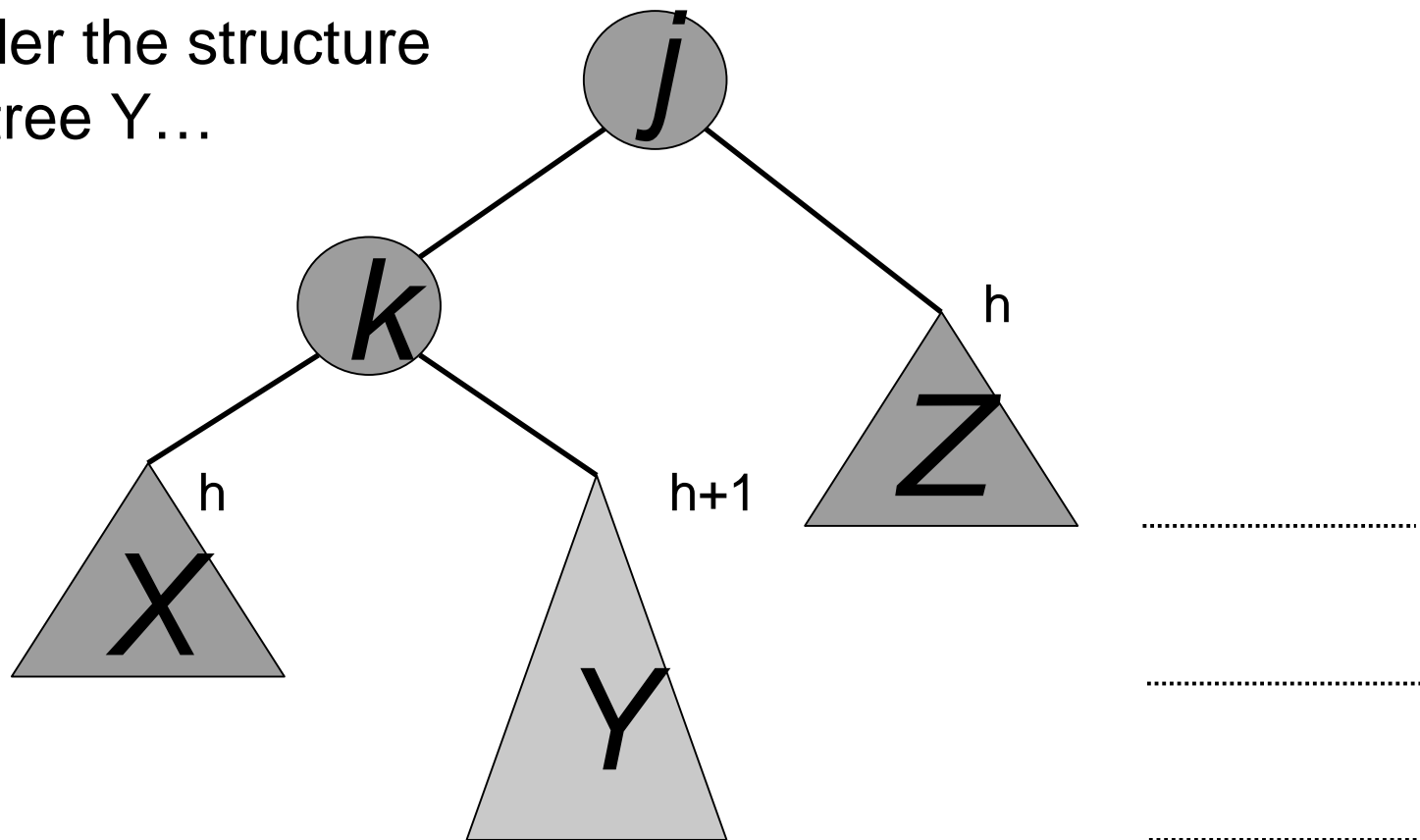
“Right rotation”  
does not restore  
balance... now  $k$  is  
out of balance

.....  
.....  
.....



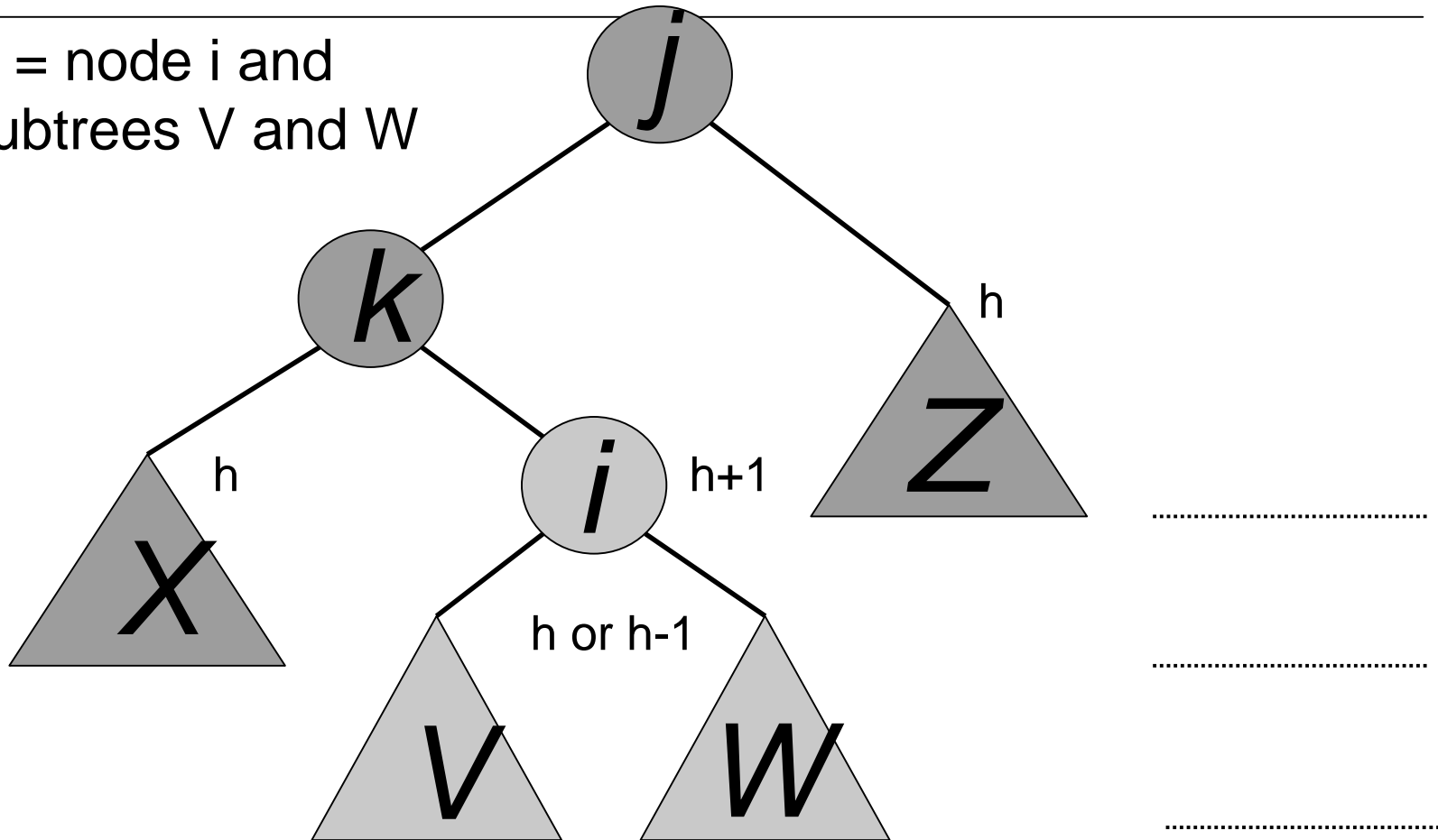
# AVL Insertion: Inside Case

Consider the structure of subtree Y...

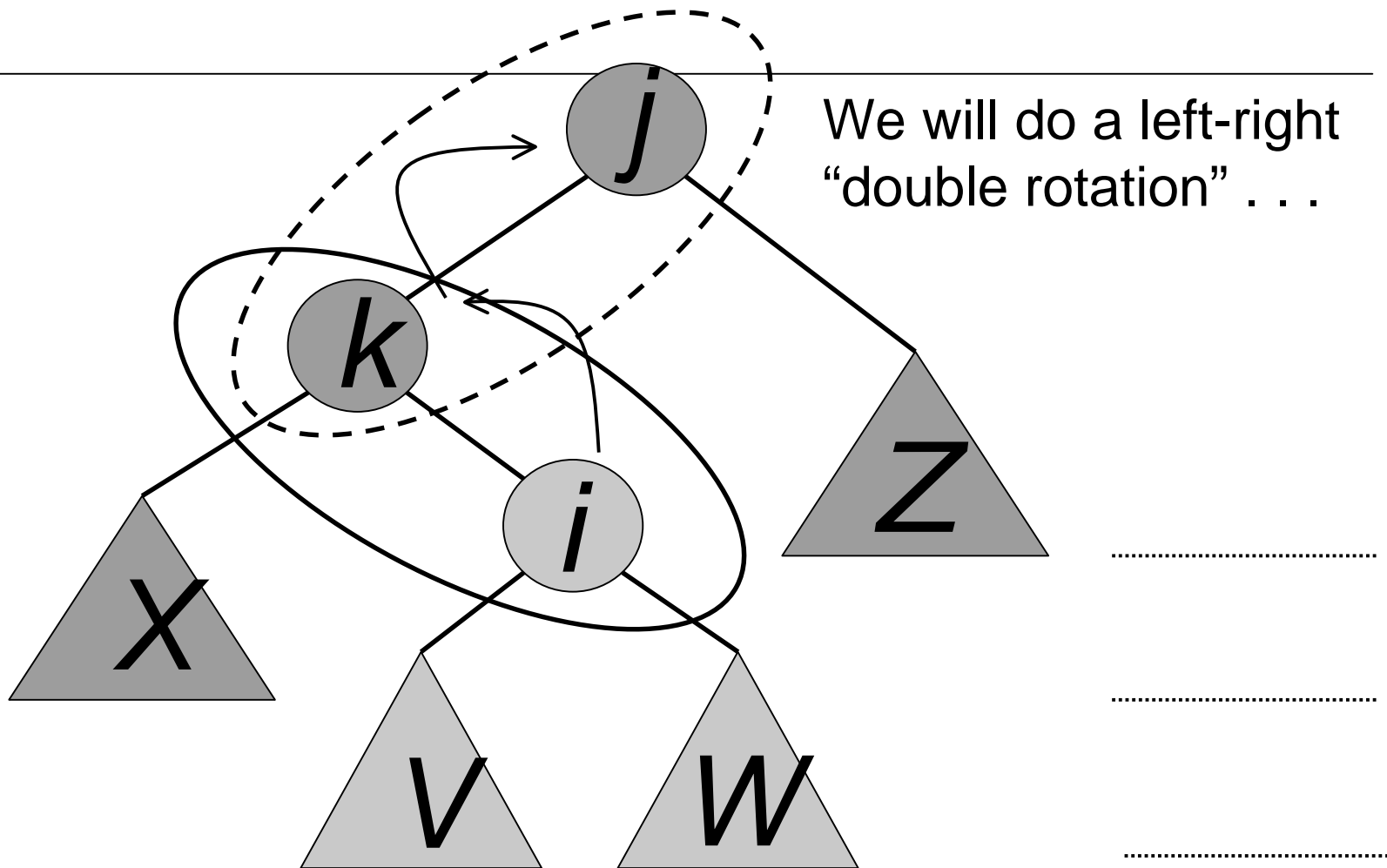


# AVL Insertion: Inside Case

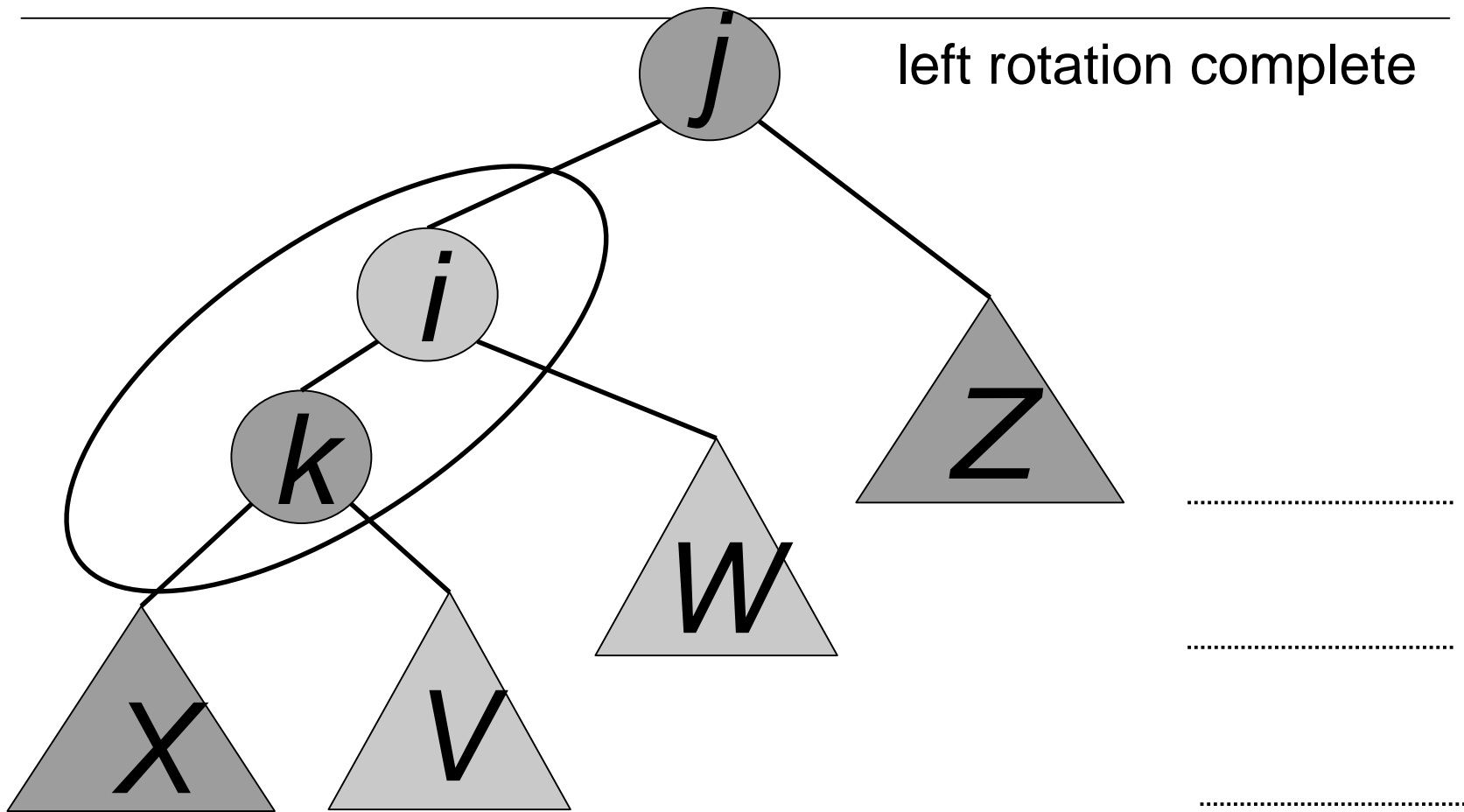
Y = node  $i$  and  
subtrees  $V$  and  $W$



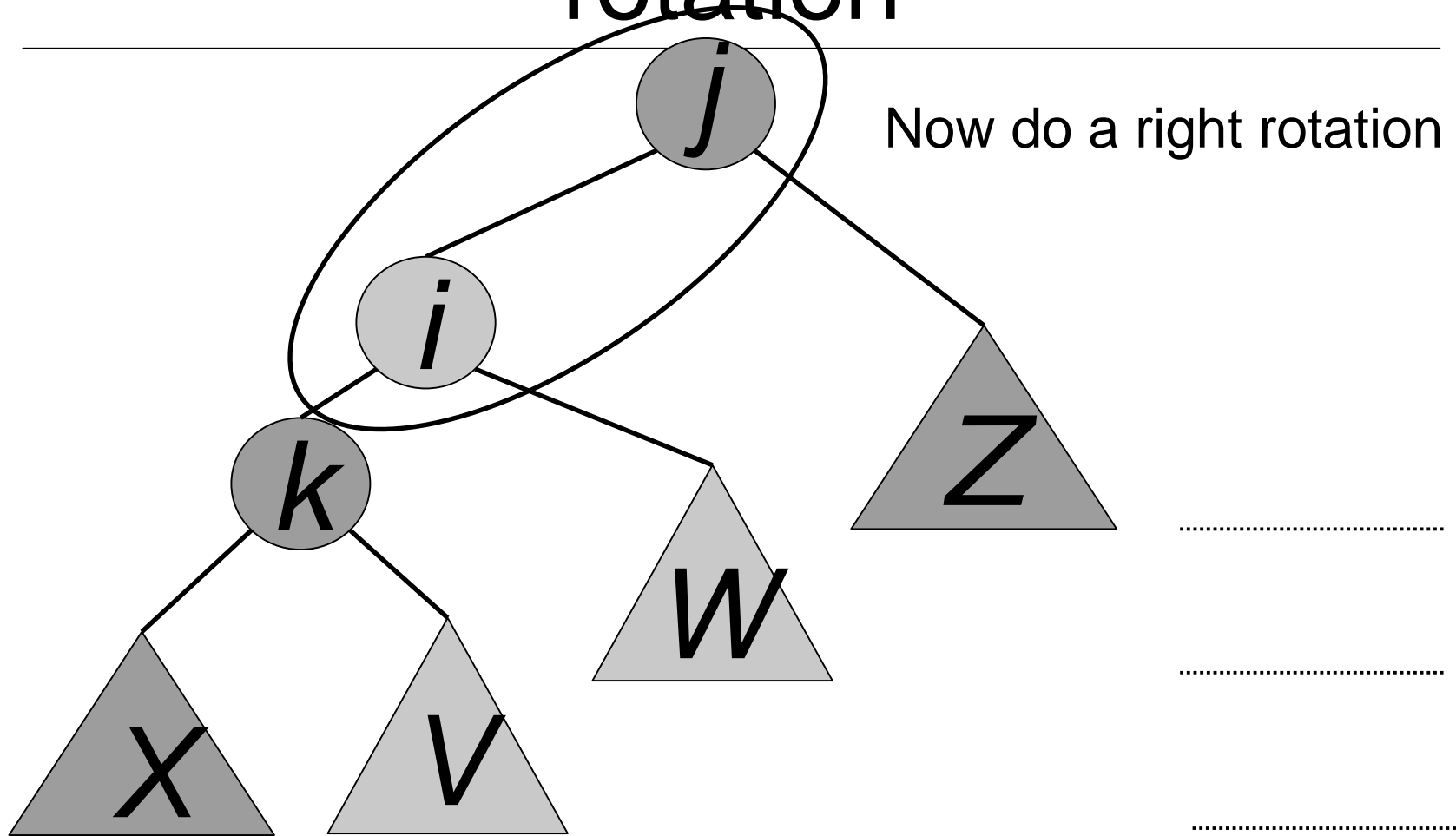
# AVL Insertion: Inside Case



# Double rotation : first rotation



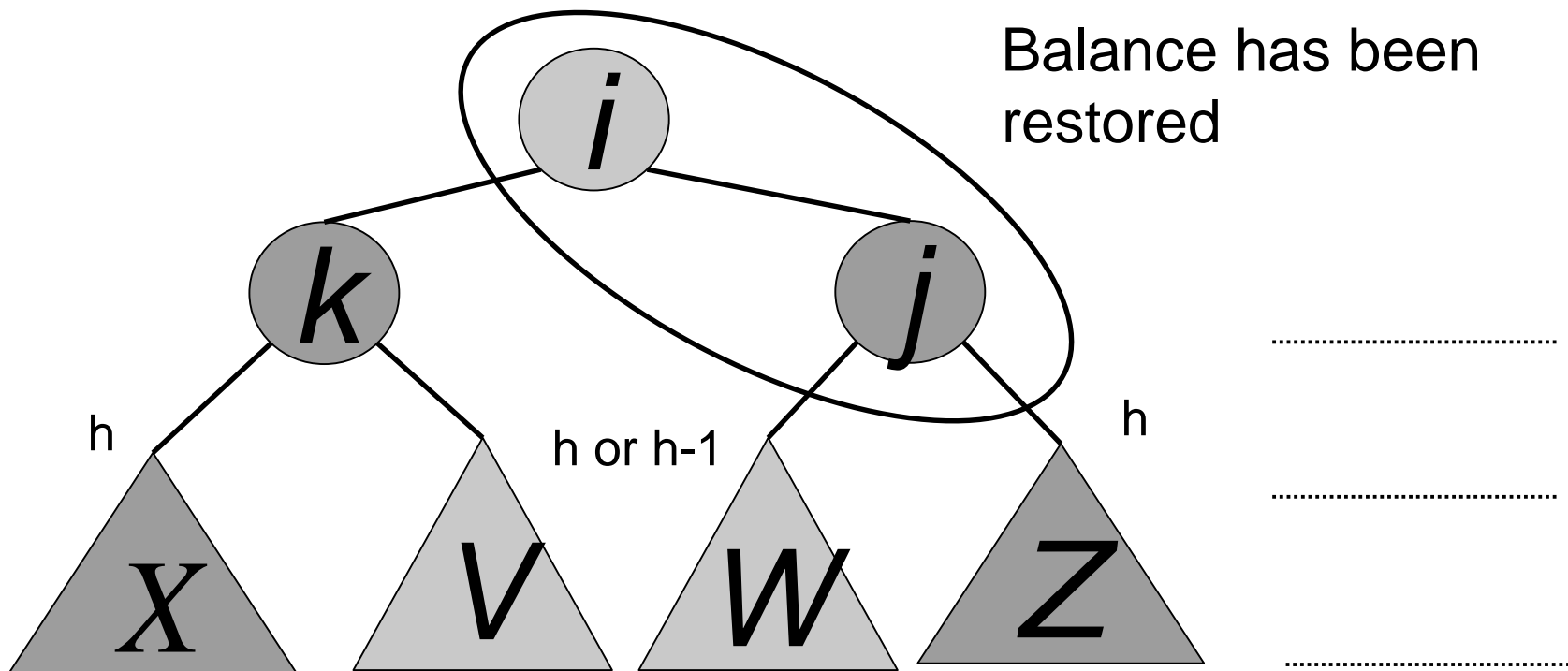
# Double rotation : second rotation



# Double rotation : second rotation

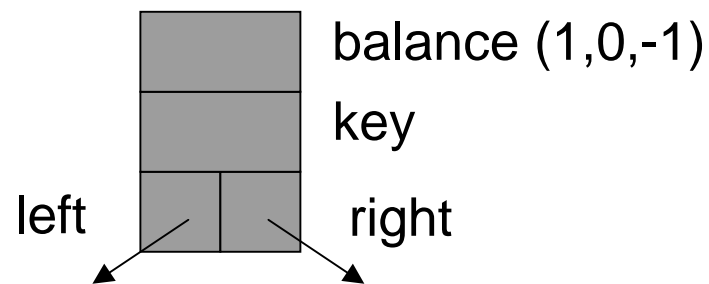
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right rotation complete



# Implementation

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No need to keep the height; just the difference in height, i.e. the balance factor; this has to be modified on the path of insertion even if you don't perform rotations

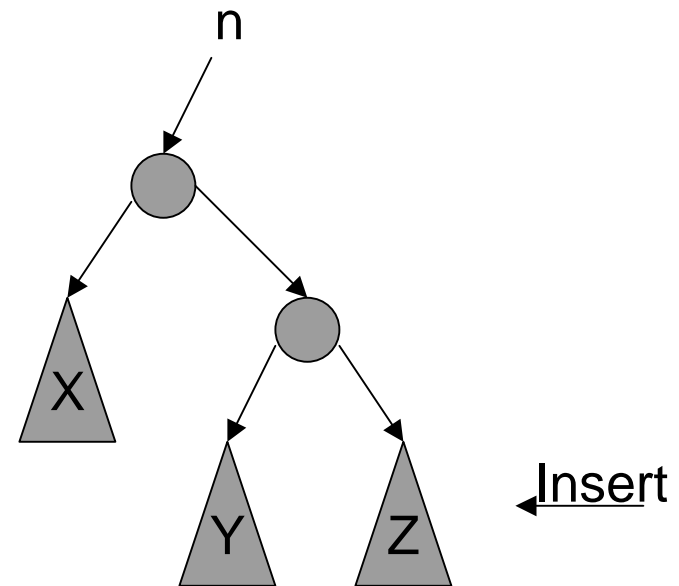
Once you have performed a rotation (single or double) you won't need to go back up the tree

# Single Rotation

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```
RotateFromRight (n : reference node pointer) {  
  p : node pointer;  
  p := n.right;  
  n.right := p.left;  
  p.left := n;  
  n := p  
}
```

You also need to  
modify the heights  
or balance factors  
of n and p



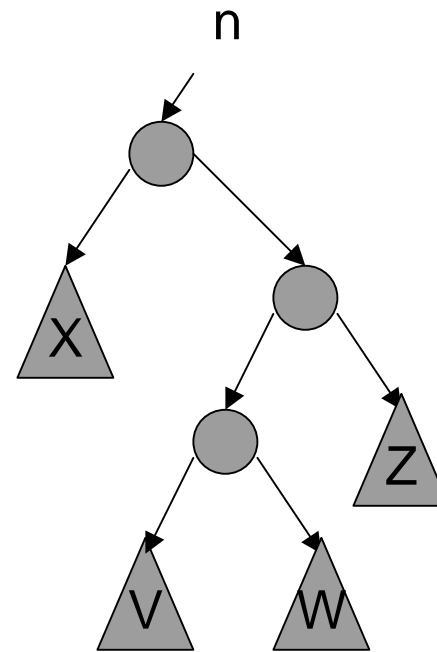


# Double Rotation

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- Implement Double Rotation in two lines.

```
DoubleRotateFromRight (n : reference node pointer) {  
  ????  
}
```



# AVL Tree Deletion

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- Similar but more complex than insertion
  - › Rotations and double rotations needed to rebalance
  - › Imbalance may propagate upward so that many rotations may be needed.

# Pros and Cons of AVL Trees

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## Arguments for AVL trees:

1. Search is  $O(\log N)$  since AVL trees are always balanced.
2. Insertion and deletions are also  $O(\log n)$
3. The height balancing adds no more than a constant factor to the speed of insertion.

## Arguments against using AVL trees:

1. Difficult to program & debug; more space for balance factor.
2. Asymptotically faster but rebalancing costs time.
3. Most large searches are done in database systems on disk and use other structures (e.g. B-trees).
4. May be OK to have  $O(N)$  for a single operation if total run time for many consecutive operations is fast (e.g. Splay trees).

# Double Rotation Solution

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```
DoubleRotateFromRight (n : reference node pointer) {  
  RotateFromLeft (n.right);  
  RotateFromRight (n);  
}
```

