

# Lecture 2: Amortized Analysis & Splay Trees

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# Overview

- Introduction
  - Meet your TAs!
  - Types of amortized analyses
  - Splay Trees
- Implementing Splay-Trees
  - Setup
  - Splay Rotations
  - Analysis
- Acknowledgements

# Meet your TAs

Thi Xuan Vu

Office hours: ~~Monday afternoon 1pm - 2pm (EDT)~~  
Tuesdays at 1pm (EDT)

Anubhav Srivastava

Office hours: Thursday afternoon ~~1pm - 2pm (EDT)~~  
3 pm (EDT)

## Admin notes

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- Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover. - Mark Twain

## Recap - Why Amortized Analysis?

In **amortized analysis**, one averages the *total time* required to perform a sequence of data-structure operations over *all operations performed*.

Upshot of amortized analysis: worst-case cost *per query* may be high for one particular query, so long as overall average cost per query is small in the end!

### Remark

Amortized analysis is a *worst-case* analysis. That is, it measures the average performance of each operation in the worst case.

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Data structures with great amortized running time are great for internal processes, such as *internal graph algorithms* (e.g. min spanning tree). It is bad when you have client-server model (i.e., internet-related things), as in this setting one wants to minimize worst-case *per query*.

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- 2 **Accounting Method:** assign certain *charge* to each operation (independent of the actual cost of the operation). If operation is cheaper than the charge, then build up credit to use later.

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- 2 **Accounting Method:** assign certain *charge* to each operation (independent of the actual cost of the operation). If operation is cheaper than the charge, then build up credit to use later.
- 3 **Potential Method:** one comes up with *potential energy* of a data structure, which maps each state of entire data-structure to a real number (its “potential”). Differs from accounting method because we assign credit to the data structure as a whole, instead of assigning credit to each operation.

# Why Splay Trees?

Binary search trees:

- extremely useful data structures (pervasive in computer science/industry)
- worst-case running time per operation  $\Theta(\text{height})$
- Need technique to balance height.
- Different implementations: red-black trees [CLRS 2009, Chapter 13], AVL trees [CLRS 2009, Exercise 13-3] and many others (see [CLRS 2009, Chapter notes of ch. 13]).
- All these implementations are quite involved, require extra information per node (i.e. more memory) and difficult to analyze.

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Splay trees are:

- Easier to implement
- don't keep any balance info



## Splay Trees (self-adjusting binary trees)

Theorem ([Sleator & Tarjan 1985])

*Splay trees have  $\Theta(\log n)$  amortized cost per op.,  $\Theta(n)$  worst-case time.*

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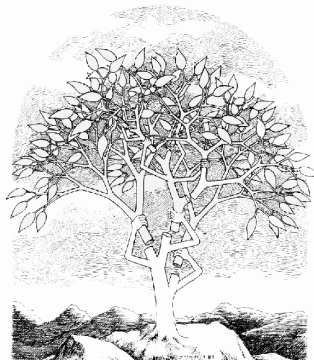
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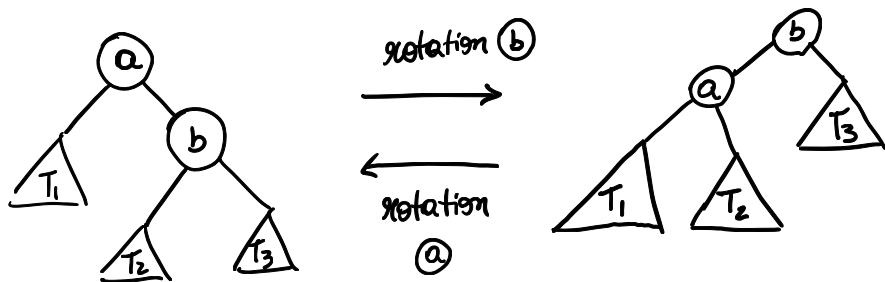
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**Naive Idea:** perform [single] rotations to move the searched node to the root.

This is not good. In exercises you will show that this gives amortized search cost of  $\Omega(n)$ .

How do we fix this? By adding different kinds of rotations!

# Setup

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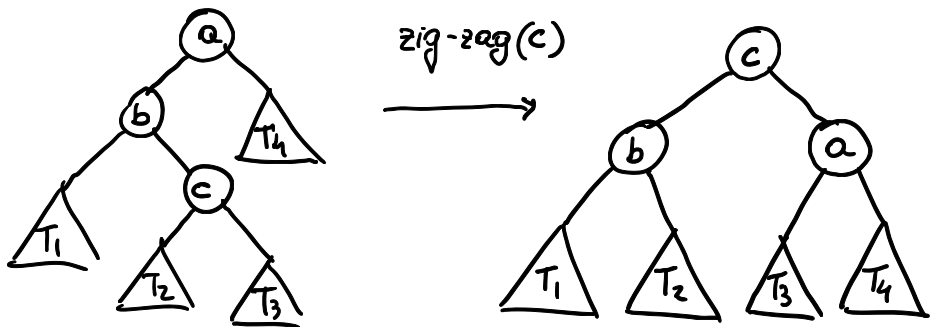
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- $SEARCH(k) \leftarrow$  find whether element  $k$  is in tree
- $INSERT(k) \leftarrow$  insert element  $k$  in our tree
- $DELETE(k) \leftarrow$  delete element  $k$  from our tree

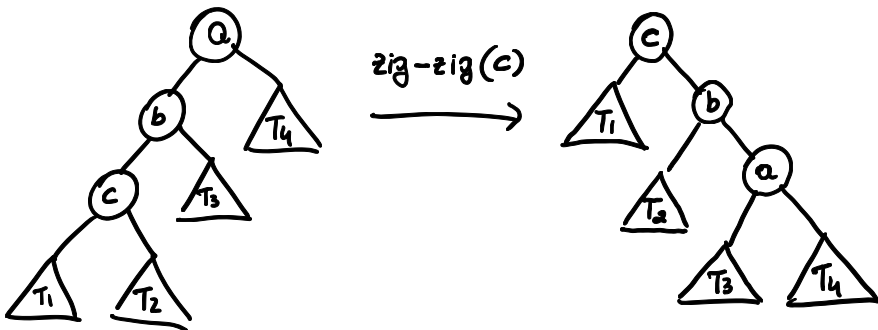
# Splay Operation

Rotation type 1: *zig-zag rotations*



## Splay Operation (continued)

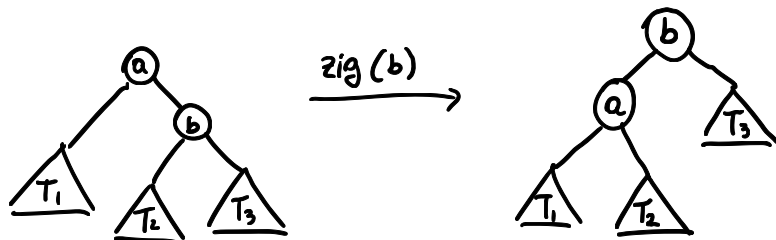
Rotation type 2: *zig-zig rotations*



## Splay Operation (continued)

Rotation type 3: *normal rotations (zigs)*

(this is whenever *our* node is child of the root)





## Splay Operation (continued)

Definition (SPLAY operation)

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- Repeat until  $k$  is the root of the tree:
  - If node of  $k$  in tree satisfies the zig-zag condition, perform zig-zag rotation.
    - *zig-zag condition:*  $parent(k)$  has  $k$  as left-child (right child) and  $parent(parent(k))$  has  $parent(k)$  as right-child (left child)

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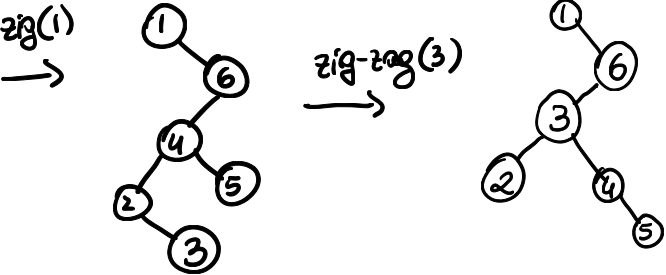
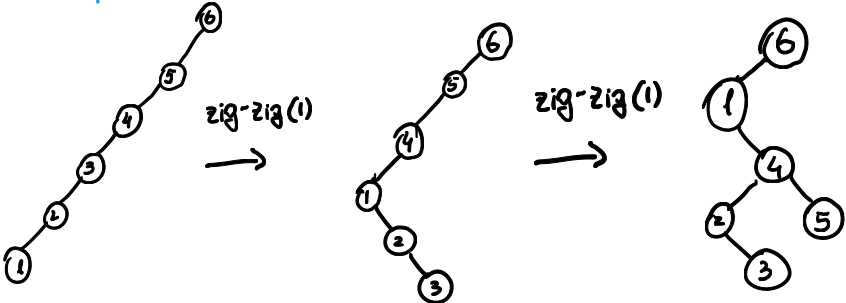
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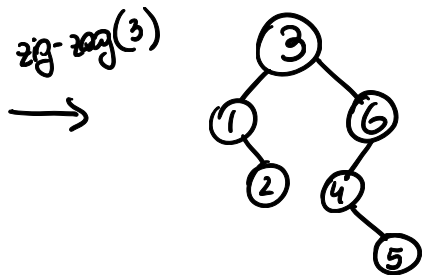
### $SPLAY(k)$

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  - If node of  $k$  in tree is a child of the root, perform normal rotation (zig).

# Example



## Example (continued)



zig-zag and zig-zig make a lot of progress  
in balanced trees.



# Splay Tree Algorithm

**Input:** set of elements  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$

**Output:** at each step, a binary-search tree data structure and the answer to the query being asked.

- 1  $SEARCH(k) \rightarrow$  after searching for  $k$ , if  $k$  in the tree, do  $SPLAY(k)$
- 2  $INSERT(k) \rightarrow$  standard insert operation, then do  $SPLAY(k)$
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The *amortized cost* of all operations is

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^m \hat{c}_i &= \sum_{i=1}^m c_i + \Phi(D_i) - \Phi(D_{i-1}) \\ &= \underbrace{\Phi(D_m)}_{\text{final potential}} - \underbrace{\Phi(D_0)}_{\text{initial potential}} + \sum_{i=1}^m c_i \end{aligned}$$

*actual cost*

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So long as final potential ( $\Phi(D_m)$ ) greater than or equal to initial potential ( $\Phi(D_0)$ ) then amortized charge is an upper bound on amortized cost.

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$$\Phi(T) = \sum_{k \in T} \text{rank}(k)$$

If node is far from root, splay is expensive but potential will pay for it (potential account for how balanced a tree is).

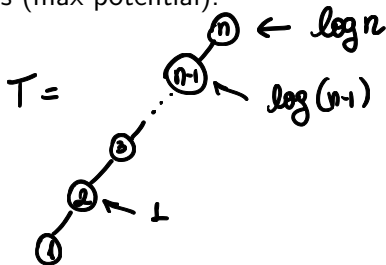
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Examples (max potential):

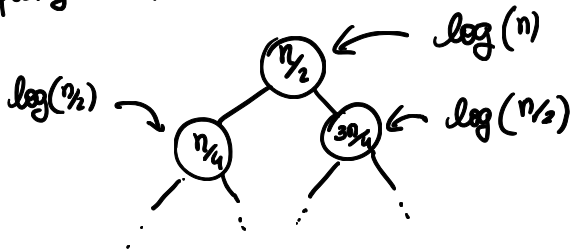


unbalanced tree

$$\Phi(T) = \sum_{i=1}^n \log(i)$$
$$= O(n \log n)$$

## Example - min potential

perfectly balanced tree



$$\Phi(T) = \sum_{h=1}^{\log n} h \cdot (\# \text{ nodes at height } h) = \sum_{h=1}^{\log n} h \cdot \frac{n}{2^h} = O(n)$$

# Splay Tree Algorithm - Recap

**Input:** set of elements  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$

**Output:** at each step, a binary-search tree data structure and the answer to the query being asked.

- 1  $SEARCH(k) \rightarrow$  after searching for  $k$ , if  $k$  in the tree, do  $SPLAY(k)$
- 2  $INSERT(k) \rightarrow$  standard insert operation, then do  $SPLAY(k)$
- 3  $DELETE(k) \rightarrow$  standard delete operation, then  $SPLAY(parent(k))$

## Analysis - Splay operation

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### Lemma (Potential Change from SPLAY Subroutines)

The charge  $c$  of an operation (zig, zig-zig, zig-zag) is bounded by:

$$c \leq \begin{cases} 3 \cdot (\text{rank}'(k) - \text{rank}(k)) & \text{for zig-zig, zig-zag} \\ 3 \cdot (\text{rank}'(k) - \text{rank}(k)) + 1 & \text{for zig} \end{cases}$$

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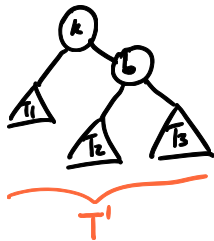
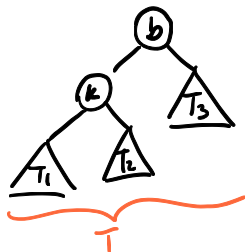
### Lemma (Total Cost of SPLAY( $k$ ))

Let  $T$  be our current tree, with root  $t$  and  $k$  be a node in this tree. The charge of SPLAY( $k$ ) is

$$\leq 3 \cdot (\text{rank}(t) - \text{rank}(k)) + 1 \leq 3 \cdot \text{rank}(t) + 1 = O(\log n)$$

# Proof of First Lemma (potential change from SPLAY subroutine)

Regular rotation (zig):



$$\begin{aligned} \text{rank}'(k) &= \\ \text{rank}(b) & \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{charge} = \text{cost} + \phi(T') - \phi(T)$$

$$= \underbrace{1}_{\text{rotation}} + \underbrace{\cancel{\text{rank}'(k)} + \text{rank}'(b) - \cancel{\text{rank}(k)} - \cancel{\text{rank}(b)}}_{\text{change in potential}}$$

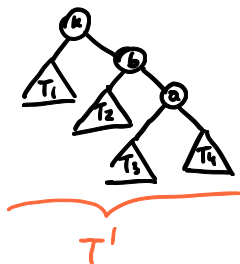
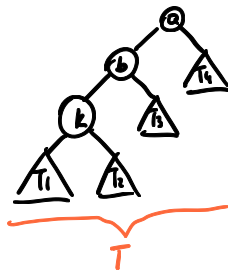
$$= 1 + \text{rank}'(b) - \text{rank}(k) \leq 1 + \text{rank}'(k) - \text{rank}(k) \leq 1 + 3(\text{rank}'(k) - \text{rank}(k))$$

$k$  is parent of  $b$  in  $T'$



# Proof of First Lemma (potential change from SPLAY subroutine)

Zig-zig:



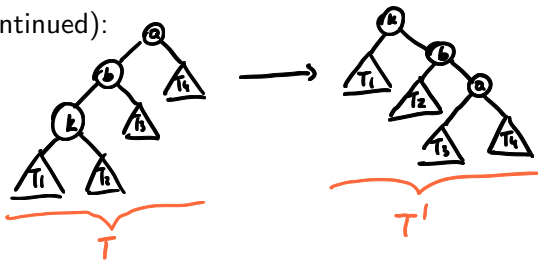
$$\text{rank}'(k) = \text{rank}(a)$$

$$\delta'(k) \geq \delta'(a) + \delta(k)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{charge} &= (\text{cost of rotations}) + (\text{change in potential}) \\ &= 2 + \text{rank}'(a) + \text{rank}'(b) + \cancel{\text{rank}'(k)} - \cancel{\text{rank}(a)} - \cancel{\text{rank}(b)} - \cancel{\text{rank}(k)} \\ &= 2 + \text{rank}'(a) + \text{rank}'(b) - \text{rank}(b) - \text{rank}(k) \end{aligned}$$

# Proof of First Lemma (potential change from SPLAY subroutine)

Zig-zig (continued):



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$$\text{charge} = 2 + \text{rank}'(a) + \text{rank}'(b) - \text{rank}(b) - \text{rank}(k)$$

$$\leq 2 + \text{rank}'(k) + \text{rank}'(a) - 2 \text{rank}(k)$$

$$\text{Now, } \delta'(a) + \delta(k) \leq \delta'(k) \Rightarrow \log\left(\frac{\delta'(a)}{\delta'(k)}\right) + \log\left(\frac{\delta(k)}{\delta'(k)}\right) \leq -2 \Rightarrow$$

$$\log(\delta'(a)) + \log(\delta(k)) \leq 2 \log(\delta'(k)) - 2 \Rightarrow \text{rank}'(a) \leq 2 \text{rank}'(k) - \text{rank}(k) - 2$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{charge} \leq 3(\text{rank}'(k) - \text{rank}(k)).$$

(Same proof for zig-zag)

## Proof of Second Lemma (total charge of $SPLAY(k)$ )

$T$  is our tree,  $t$  its root,  $k$  the element we want to  $SPLAY$ .

Let's add up all charges from all  $SPLAY$  operations:

$\delta_i \leftarrow$  charge from  $i^{\text{th}}$   $SPLAY$  op.

$\text{rank}^{(i)}(k) \leftarrow$  rank of  $k$  after  $i^{\text{th}}$   $SPLAY$  operation

**OBS:**  $\text{rank}^{(0)}(k) = \text{rank}(k)$ ,  $\text{rank}^{(r)}(k) = \text{rank}(t)$  (final rank of  $k$ ).

$$\text{charge of } SPLAY(k) = \sum_{i=1}^r \delta_i \leq 1 + \sum_{i=1}^r 3(\text{rank}^{(i)}(k) - \text{rank}^{(i-1)}(k))$$

by Lemma 1, each  $\delta_i \leq 3(\text{rank}^{(i)}(k) - \text{rank}^{(i-1)}(k))$   
(for zig-zig, zig-zag) and at most one operation  
is zig (hence the +1 outside the summand)

$$\leq 1 + 3(\text{rank}^{(r)}(k) - \text{rank}^{(0)}(k)) = 1 + 3(\text{rank}(t) - \text{rank}(k)) \quad \square$$

## Analysis - Amortized cost

- 1 For each operation (INSERT, SEARCH, DELETE) we have:

$$\begin{aligned}(\text{charge per operation}) &= (\text{charge of SPLAY}) \\ &+ (\text{cost of operation}) \\ &+ (\text{potential change } \textit{not} \text{ from SPLAY})\end{aligned}$$

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- ②  $(\text{charge of SPLAY}) = O(\log n)$  (by second lemma)

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- ④ Tracking potential change outside splay:

## Analysis - Amortized cost

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$$\begin{aligned}(\text{charge per operation}) &= (\text{charge of SPLAY}) \\ &+ (\text{cost of operation}) \\ &+ (\text{potential change } \textit{not} \text{ from SPLAY})\end{aligned}$$

- 2 (charge of SPLAY) =  $O(\log n)$  (by second lemma)
- 3 (cost of operation)  $\leq$  (charge of SPLAY) (walking down tree)
- 4 Tracking potential change outside splay:
  - 1 *SEARCH*  $\rightarrow$  only splay changes the potential ✓



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① *SEARCH* → only splay changes the potential ✓

② *DELETE* → removing a node decreases potential ✓

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  - 1 *SEARCH*  $\rightarrow$  only splay changes the potential
  - 2 *DELETE*  $\rightarrow$  removing a node decreases potential
  - 3 *INSERT*  $\rightarrow$  adding new element  $k$  increases ranks of all ancestors of  $k$  post insertion (might be  $O(n)$  of them) *need to handle this*

## Handling INSERT potential

Let us check the potential change after an insert:

Adding element increases potential of all ancestors.

Let  $k = k_0 \rightarrow k_1 \rightarrow k_2 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow k_d = \text{root}$  be the path from  $k$  to root after  $\text{INSERT}(k)$ ,

$$\begin{cases} \delta'(a) = \text{new \# descendants} \\ \delta(a) = \text{old \# descendants} \end{cases}$$

**Reminder:** when we insert a node in our tree, the node becomes a **leaf** of the new tree.

Thus we have:

$$\delta'(k_i) = \delta(k_i) + 1 \quad 1 \leq i \leq d \quad \delta'(k) = 1.$$

$\therefore$  change in potential:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=0}^d \text{xrank}'(k_i) - \sum_{i=1}^d \text{xrank}(k_i) &= \sum_{i=1}^d (\text{xrank}'(k_i) - \text{xrank}(k_i)) = \sum_{i=1}^d \log\left(\frac{\delta(k_i)+1}{\delta(k_i)}\right) \leq \\ &\leq \sum_{i=1}^d \log\left(\frac{i+1}{i}\right) = O(\log n) \end{aligned}$$

## Final Analysis:

Q: why is this a valid potential scheme?

A: potential is always  $\geq 0$ , initial potential = 0 (empty tree)

$$\therefore \sum \tilde{c}_i = \sum c_i + \underbrace{\Phi_{\text{final}}}_{\geq 0} - \underbrace{\Phi_0}_{=0} \quad \checkmark$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{charge per operation} &= \underbrace{\text{change of SPLAY}}_{O(\log n)} + \underbrace{\text{cost of operation}}_{\leq \text{cost of SPLAY (walking down tree)}} + \underbrace{\text{potential change not from SPLAY}}_{\text{only insert } \leq \log n} \\ &= O(\log n) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \text{total charge} &= (\# \text{ operations}) \cdot (\text{charge per operation}) \\ &= O(m \cdot \log n) \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{amortized cost } O(\log n).$$



## Dynamic Optimality Conjecture

### Open Question ([Sleator & Tarjan 1985])

*Splay Trees are optimal (within a constant) in a very strong sense:*

*Given a sequence of items to search for  $a_1, \dots, a_m$ , let  $OPT$  be the minimum cost of doing these searches + any rotations you like on the binary search tree.*

*You can charge 1 for following tree pointer (parent  $\rightarrow$  child or child  $\rightarrow$  parent), charge 1 per rotation.*

***Conjecture:** Cost of splay tree is  $O(OPT)$ .*

Note that for  $OPT$ , you get to look at the sequence of searches first and plan ahead. (we will cover this in more detail in the online algorithms part of the course)

Also,  $OPT$  can adjust the tree so it's even better than the static optimal binary search trees you may have seen in CS 341.

# Acknowledgement

- Lecture based largely on Anna Lubiw's notes. See her notes at <https://www.student.cs.uwaterloo.ca/~cs466/Lectures/Lecture4.pdf>
- Picutre of self-adjusting tree taken from Robert Tarjan's website

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