

# 18. AVL Trees

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Balanced Trees [Ottman/Widmayer, Kap. 5.2-5.2.1, Cormen et al, Kap. Problem 13-3]

# Background

- Search tree: Search, insertion and removal of a key in average in  $\mathcal{O}(\log n)$  steps (given  $n$  keys in the tree)
- Worst case, though:  $\Theta(n)$  (degenerated tree)

**Goal:** Avoid degeneration, by balancing the tree after each update operation.

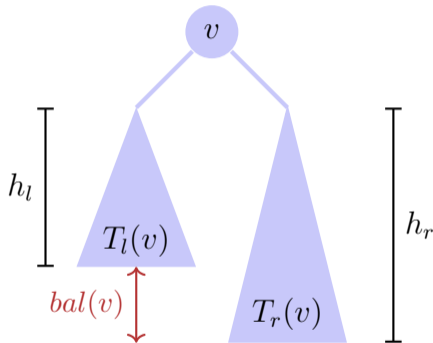
*Balancing:* guarantee that a tree with  $n$  nodes always has a height of  $\mathcal{O}(\log n)$ .

**Adelson-Velsky and Landis (1962): AVL-Trees**

# Balance of a node

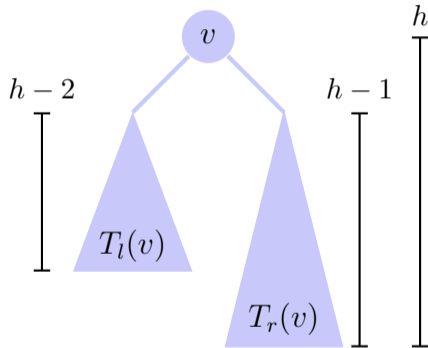
The *balance* of a node  $v$  is defined as the height difference of its sub-trees  $T_l(v)$  and  $T_r(v)$

$$\text{bal}(v) := h(T_r(v)) - h(T_l(v))$$

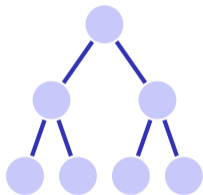


# AVL Condition

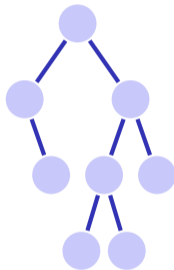
*AVL Condition*: for each node  $v$  of a tree  
 $\text{bal}(v) \in \{-1, 0, 1\}$



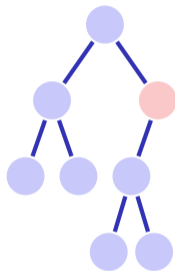
# (Counter-)Examples



AVL tree with height 3



AVL tree with height 4

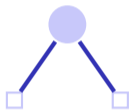


No AVL tree

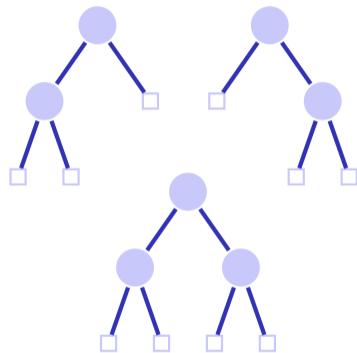
# Number of Leaves

- 1. observation: a binary tree with  $n$  keys provides exactly  $n + 1$  leaves. Simple induction argument.
  - The binary tree with  $n = 0$  keys has  $m = 1$  leaves
  - When a key is added ( $n \rightarrow n + 1$ ), then it replaces a leaf and adds two new leaves ( $m \rightarrow m - 1 + 2 = m + 1$ ).
- 2. observation: a lower bound of the number of leaves in a binary tree with given height implies an upper bound of the height of a binary tree with given number of keys.

# Lower bound of the leaves



AVL tree with height 1 has  
 $N(1) := 2$  leaves.



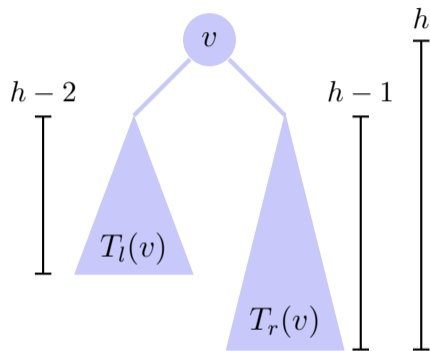
AVL tree with height 2 has at  
least  $N(2) := 3$  leaves.

# Lower bound on the leaves for $h > 2$ in AVL trees

- Height of one subtree  $\geq h - 1$ .
- Height of the other subtree  $\geq h - 2$ .

Minimal number of leaves  $N(h)$  is

$$N(h) = N(h - 1) + N(h - 2)$$



Overall we have  $N(h) = F_{h+2}$  with **Fibonacci-numbers**  $F_0 := 0$ ,  $F_1 := 1$ ,  $F_n := F_{n-1} + F_{n-2}$  for  $n > 1$ .



# Fibonacci Numbers, closed Form

It holds that<sup>20</sup>

$$F_i = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}(\phi^i - \hat{\phi}^i)$$

with the roots  $\phi, \hat{\phi}$  of the golden ratio equation  $x^2 - x - 1 = 0$ :

$$\phi = \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \approx 1.618$$

$$\hat{\phi} = \frac{1 - \sqrt{5}}{2} \approx -0.618$$

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<sup>20</sup>Derivation using generating functions (power series) in the appendix.

# Tree Height

Because  $|\hat{\phi}| < 1$ , overall we have

$$N(h) \in \Theta\left(\left(\frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^h\right) \subseteq \Omega(1.618^h)$$

and thus

$$N(h) \geq c \cdot 1.618^h \quad \Rightarrow \quad h \leq 1.44 \log_2 n + c'$$

- I.e. an AVL tree has, as desired, a height of  $\mathcal{O}(\log n)$
- and is asymptotically not more than 44% higher than a perfectly balanced tree (height  $\lceil \log_2 n + 1 \rceil$ )

# Insertion and Balancing

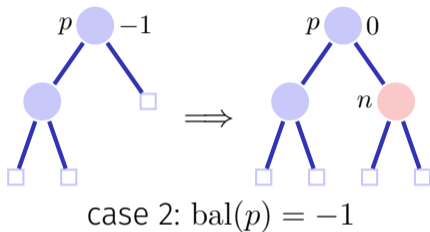
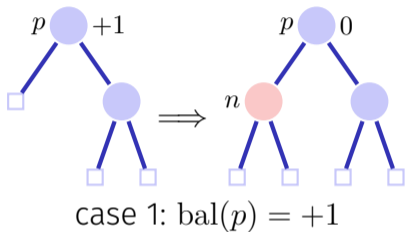
Balance:

- Insertion potentially violates AVL condition → balancing
- For that, we store the balance in each node

Insert:

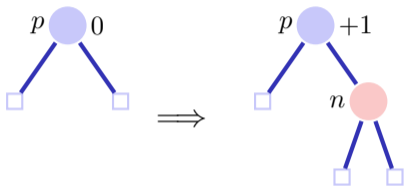
- Insert new node  $n$ , as done for search trees
- Check, and potentially restore, balance of all nodes from  $n$  upwards to the root

# Balance at Insertion Point

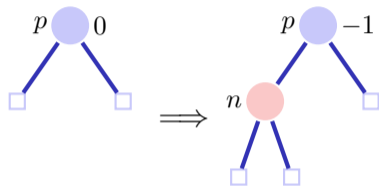


Directly done in both cases because the height of subtree  $p$  did not change. Balance of parent node thus also unchanged.

# Balance at Insertion Point



case 3.1:  $\text{bal}(p) = 0$  right



case 3.2:  $\text{bal}(p) = 0$ , left

Not yet done in both case, since parent node potentially no longer balanced  $\rightarrow$  Invocation of function **upin(p)** (upwards + insert)

# upin(p): Recursive Invocation Requirement

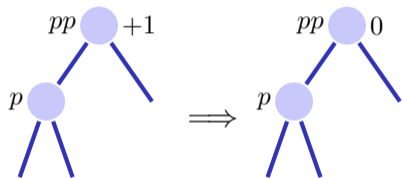
For every call **upin(p)** it must hold that

- the subtree  $p$  grew and thereby
- changed  $\text{bal}(p)$  from 0 to  $\in \{-1, +1\}$ .

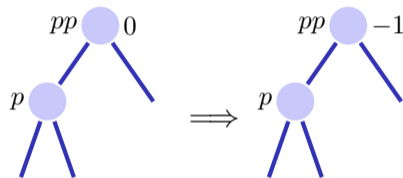
Because only in this situation can the newly developed imbalance of  $p$  ( $\text{bal}(p) \neq 0$ ) affect the tree structure above.

# upin(p)

Assumption:  $p$  is left son of  $pp$ <sup>21</sup>



case 1:  $\text{bal}(pp) = +1$ , done.



case 2:  $\text{bal}(pp) = 0$ , **upin(pp)**

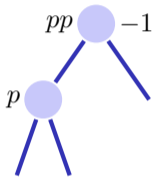
In both cases the AVL-Condition holds for the subtree from  $pp$

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<sup>21</sup>If  $p$  is a right son: symmetric cases with exchange of  $+1$  and  $-1$

# upin(p)

Assumption:  $p$  is left son of  $pp$



case 3:  $\text{bal}(pp) = -1,$

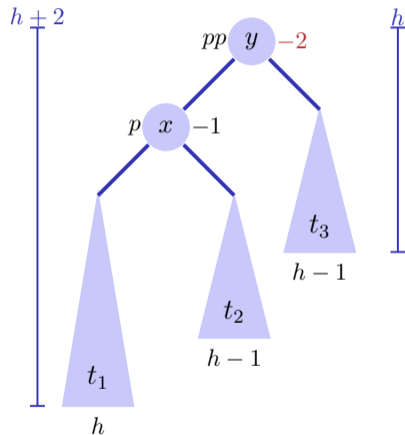
This case is problematic: adding  $n$  to the subtree from  $pp$  has violated the AVL-condition. Re-balance!

Two cases  $\text{bal}(p) = -1, \text{bal}(p) = +1$

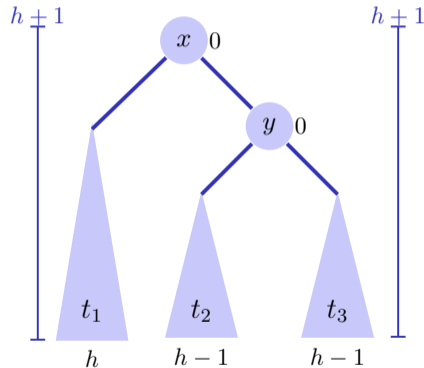


# Rotations

case 1.1  $\text{bal}(p) = -1$ .<sup>22</sup>



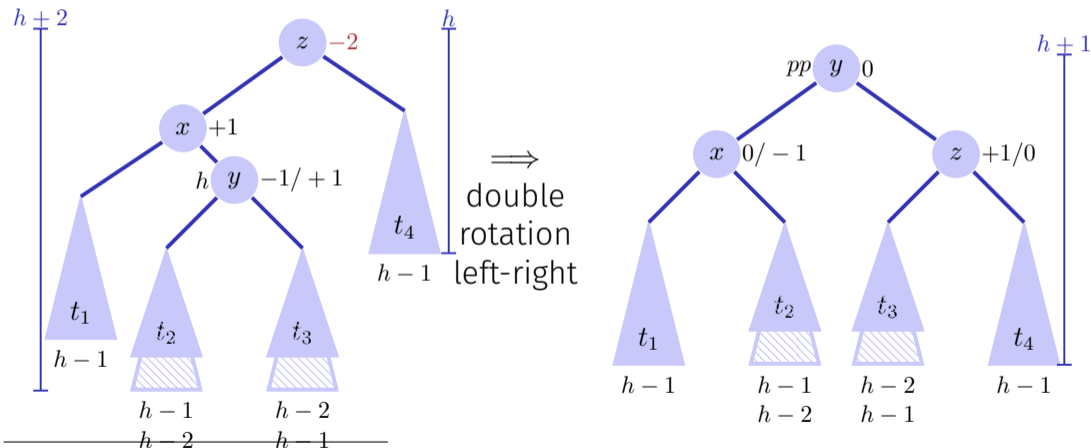
$\Rightarrow$   
rotation  
right



<sup>22</sup> $p$  right son:  $\Rightarrow \text{bal}(pp) = \text{bal}(p) = +1$ , left rotation

# Rotations

case 1.2  $\text{bal}(p) = +1$ .<sup>23</sup>



<sup>23</sup> $p$  right son  $\Rightarrow \text{bal}(pp) = +1, \text{bal}(p) = -1$ , double rotation right left

# Analysis

- Tree height:  $\mathcal{O}(\log n)$ .
- Insertion like in binary search tree.
- Balancing via recursion from node to the root (during recursive ascend).  
Maximal path length  $\mathcal{O}(\log n)$ .

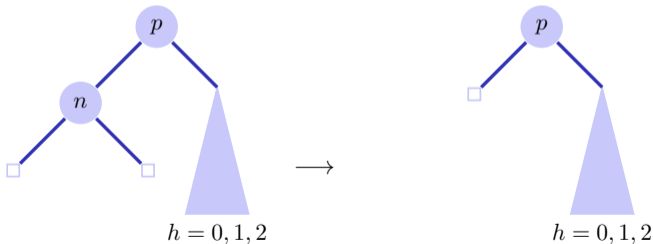
Insertion in an AVL-tree provides run time costs of  $\mathcal{O}(\log n)$ .

# Deletion

Case 1: Children of node  $n$  are both leaves.

Let  $p$  be parent node of  $n \Rightarrow$  Other subtree has height  $h' = 0, 1$  or  $2$ .

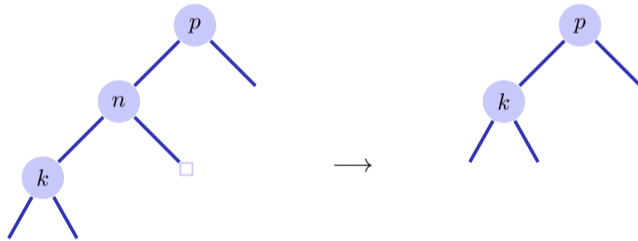
- $h' = 1$ : Adapt  $\text{bal}(p)$ .
- $h' = 0$ : Adapt  $\text{bal}(p)$ . Call **upout**( $p$ ).
- $h' = 2$ : Rebalanciere des Teilbaumes. Call **upout**( $p$ ).



# Deletion

Case 2: one child  $k$  of node  $n$  is an inner node

- Replace  $n$  by  $k$ . **upout(k)**



# Deletion

Case 3: both children of node  $n$  are inner nodes

- Replace  $n$  by symmetric successor  $\Rightarrow$  **upout(k)**
- Deletion of the symmetric successor is as in case 1 or 2.

## upout (p)

Let  $pp$  be the parent node of  $p$ .

(a)  $p$  left child of  $pp$

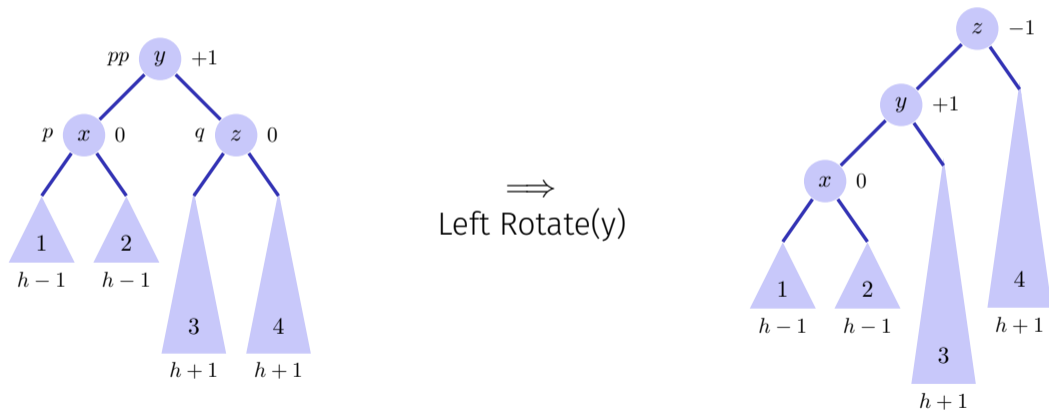
1.  $\text{bal}(pp) = -1 \Rightarrow \text{bal}(pp) \leftarrow 0$ . **upout (pp)**
2.  $\text{bal}(pp) = 0 \Rightarrow \text{bal}(pp) \leftarrow +1$ .
3.  $\text{bal}(pp) = +1 \Rightarrow$  next slides.

(b)  $p$  right child of  $pp$ : Symmetric cases exchanging  $+1$  and  $-1$ .

# upout (p)

Case (a).3:  $\text{bal}(pp) = +1$ . Let  $q$  be brother of  $p$

(a).3.1:  $\text{bal}(q) = 0$ .<sup>24</sup>

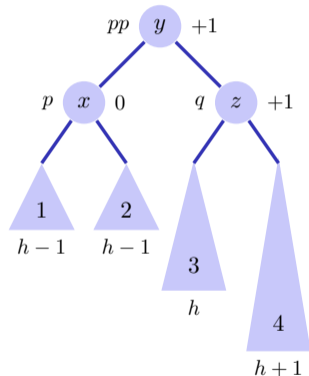


<sup>24</sup>(b).3.1:  $\text{bal}(pp) = -1$ ,  $\text{bal}(q) = 0$ , Right rotation

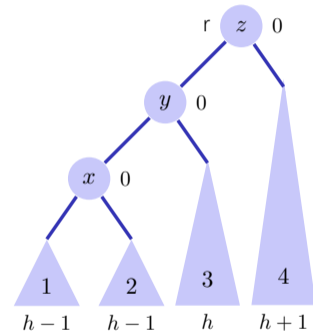


# upout (p)

Case (a).3:  $\text{bal}(pp) = +1$ . (a).3.2:  $\text{bal}(q) = +1$ .<sup>25</sup>



$\Rightarrow$   
Left Rotate( $y$ )



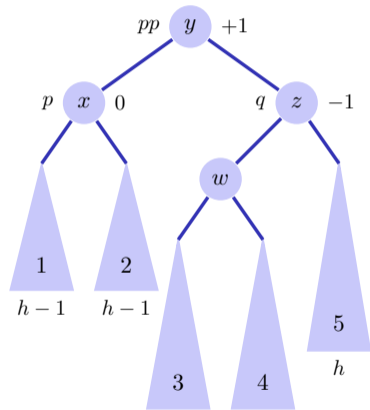
plus **upout (r)**.

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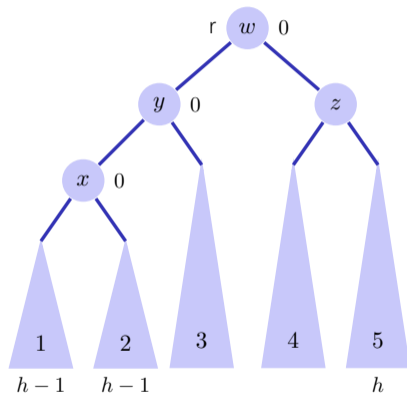
<sup>25</sup>(b).3.2:  $\text{bal}(pp) = -1$ ,  $\text{bal}(q) = +1$ , Right rotation+upout

# upout (p)

Case (a).3:  $\text{bal}(pp) = +1$ . (a).3.3:  $\text{bal}(q) = -1$ .<sup>26</sup>



$\implies$   
Rotate right ( $z$ )  
left ( $y$ )



plus **upout (r)**.

<sup>26</sup>(b).3.3:  $\text{bal}(pp) = -1$ ,  $\text{bal}(q) = -1$ , left-right rotation + upout

# Conclusion

- AVL trees have worst-case asymptotic runtimes of  $\mathcal{O}(\log n)$  for searching, insertion and deletion of keys.
- Insertion and deletion is relatively involved. For small trees (key sets), the costs of balancing outweighs the gain of  $\mathcal{O}(\log n)$  height.
- Several other balanced trees exist: Red-Black tree (`std::map` in C++), B-tree (`std::collections::BTreeMap` in Rust), Splay tree; Treap (balanced with high probability)

## 18.6 Appendix

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Derivation of some mathematical formulas

# Fibonacci Numbers, Inductive Proof

$$F_i \stackrel{!}{=} \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}(\phi^i - \hat{\phi}^i) \quad [*] \quad \left(\phi = \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}, \hat{\phi} = \frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}\right).$$

1. Immediate for  $i = 0, i = 1$ .
2. Let  $i > 2$  and claim  $[*]$  true for all  $F_j, j < i$ .

$$\begin{aligned} F_i &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} F_{i-1} + F_{i-2} \stackrel{[*]}{=} \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}(\phi^{i-1} - \hat{\phi}^{i-1}) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}(\phi^{i-2} - \hat{\phi}^{i-2}) \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}(\phi^{i-1} + \phi^{i-2}) - \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}(\hat{\phi}^{i-1} + \hat{\phi}^{i-2}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}\phi^{i-2}(\phi + 1) - \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}\hat{\phi}^{i-2}(\hat{\phi} + 1) \end{aligned}$$

$(\phi, \hat{\phi} \text{ fulfil } x + 1 = x^2)$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}\phi^{i-2}(\phi^2) - \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}\hat{\phi}^{i-2}(\hat{\phi}^2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}(\phi^i - \hat{\phi}^i).$$

# [Fibonacci Numbers: closed form]

Closed form of the Fibonacci numbers: computation via generation functions:

1. Power series approach

$$f(x) := \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} F_i \cdot x^i$$

# [Fibonacci Numbers: closed form]

2. For Fibonacci Numbers it holds that  $F_0 = 0$ ,  $F_1 = 1$ ,  
 $F_i = F_{i-1} + F_{i-2} \forall i > 1$ . Therefore:

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= x + \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} F_i \cdot x^i = x + \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} F_{i-1} \cdot x^i + \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} F_{i-2} \cdot x^i \\ &= x + x \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} F_{i-1} \cdot x^{i-1} + x^2 \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} F_{i-2} \cdot x^{i-2} \\ &= x + x \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} F_i \cdot x^i + x^2 \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} F_i \cdot x^i \\ &= x + x \cdot f(x) + x^2 \cdot f(x). \end{aligned}$$

# [Fibonacci Numbers: closed form]

3. Thus:

$$f(x) \cdot (1 - x - x^2) = x.$$
$$\Leftrightarrow f(x) = \frac{x}{1 - x - x^2} = -\frac{x}{x^2 + x - 1}$$

with the roots  $-\phi$  and  $-\hat{\phi}$  of  $x^2 + x - 1$ ,

$$\phi = \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \approx 1.6, \quad \hat{\phi} = \frac{1 - \sqrt{5}}{2} \approx -0.6.$$

it holds that  $\phi \cdot \hat{\phi} = -1$  and thus

$$f(x) = -\frac{x}{(x + \phi) \cdot (x + \hat{\phi})} = \frac{x}{(1 - \phi x) \cdot (1 - \hat{\phi} x)}$$



# [Fibonacci Numbers: closed form]

4. It holds that:

$$(1 - \hat{\phi}x) - (1 - \phi x) = \sqrt{5} \cdot x.$$

Damit:

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \frac{(1 - \hat{\phi}x) - (1 - \phi x)}{(1 - \phi x) \cdot (1 - \hat{\phi}x)} \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \left( \frac{1}{1 - \phi x} - \frac{1}{1 - \hat{\phi}x} \right) \end{aligned}$$

# [Fibonacci Numbers: closed form]

5. Power series of  $g_a(x) = \frac{1}{1-a \cdot x}$  ( $a \in \mathbb{R}$ ):

$$\frac{1}{1 - a \cdot x} = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} a^i \cdot x^i.$$

E.g. Taylor series of  $g_a(x)$  at  $x = 0$  or like this: Let  $\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} G_i \cdot x^i$  a power series of  $g$ . By the identity  $g_a(x)(1 - a \cdot x) = 1$  it holds that for all  $x$  (within the radius of convergence)

$$1 = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} G_i \cdot x^i - a \cdot \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} G_i \cdot x^{i+1} = G_0 + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} (G_i - a \cdot G_{i-1}) \cdot x^i$$

For  $x = 0$  it follows  $G_0 = 1$  and for  $x \neq 0$  it follows then that  $G_i = a \cdot G_{i-1} \Rightarrow G_i = a^i$ .

# [Fibonacci Numbers: closed form]

6. Fill in the power series:

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \left( \frac{1}{1 - \phi x} - \frac{1}{1 - \hat{\phi} x} \right) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \left( \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \phi^i x^i - \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \hat{\phi}^i x^i \right) \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} (\phi^i - \hat{\phi}^i) x^i \end{aligned}$$

Comparison of the coefficients with  $f(x) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} F_i \cdot x^i$  yields

$$F_i = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} (\phi^i - \hat{\phi}^i).$$