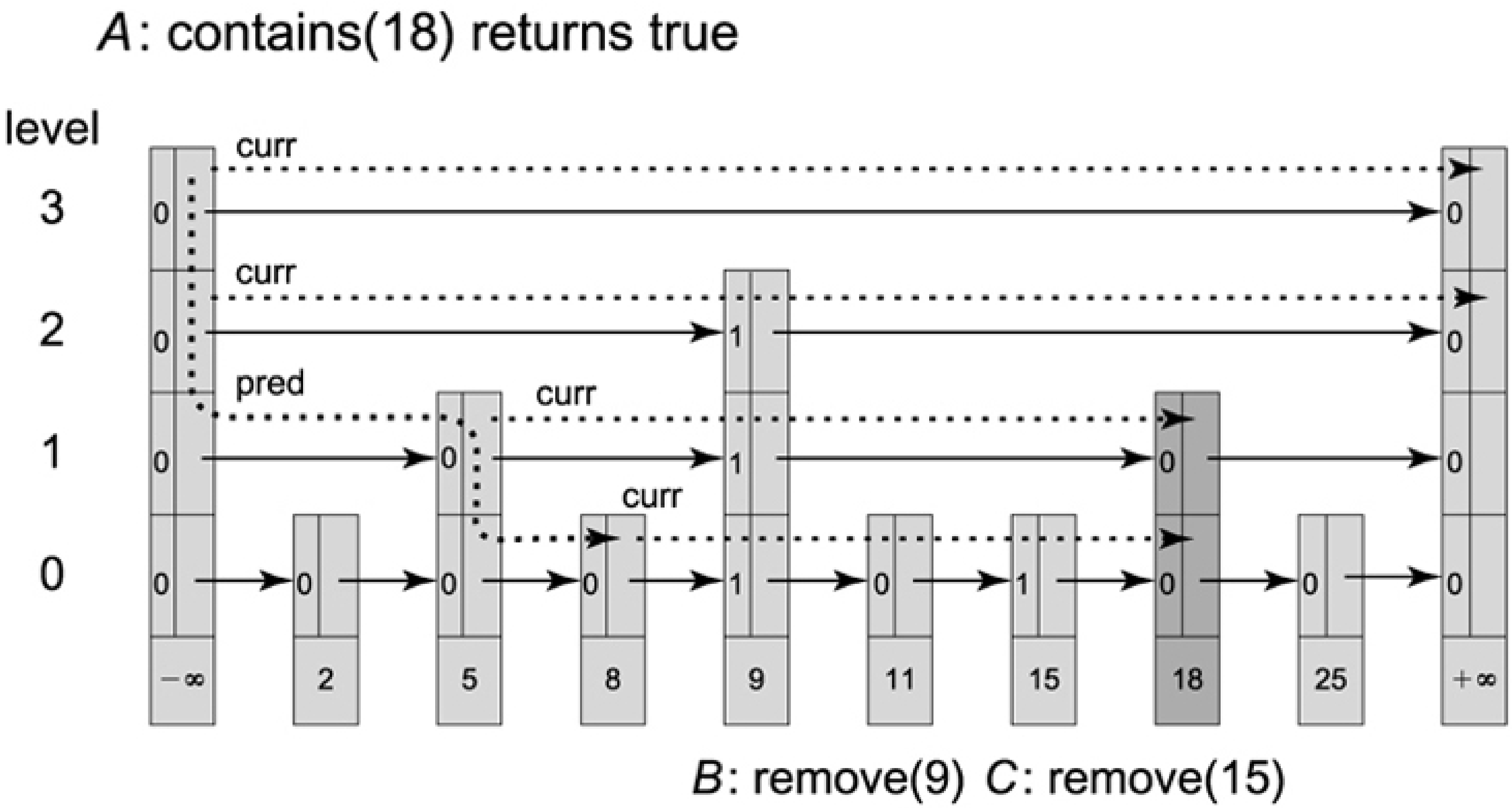

FIGURE 14.15 Thread *A* calls contains*(*18*)*, which traverses the list starting from the top level of the head node. The dotted line marks the traversal by the pred field, and the sparse dotted line marks the path of the curr field. The curr field is advanced to tail on level 3. Since its key is greater than 18, pred descends to level 2. The curr field advances past the marked reference in the node with key 9, again reaching tail, which is greater than 18, so pred descends to level 1. Here pred is advanced to the unmarked node with key 5, and curr advances past the marked node with key 9 to reach the unmarked node with key 18, at which point curr is no longer advanced. Though 18 is the target key, the method continues to descend with pred to the bottom level, advancing pred to the node with key 8. From this point, curr traverses past marked Nodes 9 and 15 and Node 11 whose key is smaller than 18. Eventually curr reaches the unmarked node with key 18, returning *true*.