

Binary Search Trees (BST)

Subhabrata Samajder



IIIT, Delhi
Winter Semester,
5th April, 2023

Tree Algorithms

Counting Nodes of a Binary Tree

Counting Nodes of a Binary Tree

- One needs to visit all the nodes.
- Count the current node, and
- recursively visit the left sub-tree and the right sub-tree.

```
int count (Node *Root) {  
    if (pRoot==null)  
        return 0;  
    else  
        return 1 + count(pRoot->pLeft) + count(pRoot->pRight);  
}
```

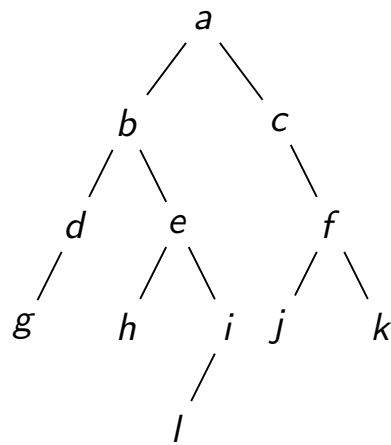
Counting Nodes of a Binary Tree

- One needs to visit all the nodes.
- Count the current node, and
- recursively visit the left sub-tree and the right sub-tree.

```
int count (Node *Root) {  
    if (pRoot==null)  
        return 0;  
    else  
        return 1 + count(pRoot->pLeft) + count(pRoot->pRight);  
}
```

Exercise: Write an equivalent iterative code for counting nodes.

Height of a Tree



- The **height** of a binary tree is the number of levels of tree.
 - **Tree height:** 5.
- **Height of left sub-tree:** 4.
- **Height of right sub-tree:** 3.

Height of a Binary Tree

- ① Get the height of left sub tree, say *LeftHeight*.
- ② Get the height of right sub tree, say *RightHeight*.
- ③ Take $\max\{LeftHeight, RightHeight\}$ and add 1 for the root
- ④ Call recursively.

Height of a Binary Tree: C Code

```
/* height of binary tree */  
int height (Node pRoot) {  
    if (pRoot==null)  
        return 0;  
    else  
        return 1 + max(height(root->pLeft), height (root->pRight));  
}
```


Copying a Binary Tree

- Copy the current node.
- Recursively call the routine for left sub-tree and right sub-tree.

```
BTNode *Copy (BTNode pRoot) {  
    if (pRoot == null) {  
        return null;  
    }  
  
    {BTNode *copy = NULL;  
    copy = (BTNode *)malloc(sizeof(BTNode));  
    copy->nData = pRoot->nData; }  
  
    copy->pLeft = Copy(pRoot->pLeft);  
    copy->pRight = Copy(pRoot->pRight);  
  
    return copy;  
}
```

Binary Search Tree (BST)

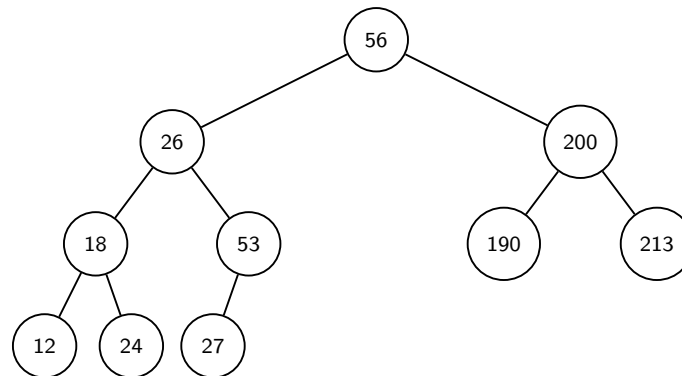
Binary Search Tree (BST)

- The name itself suggests the purpose of the tree.
- We can easily carry out binary search on such a tree.
- The process is similar to Binary Search method.
- We create a binary search tree where the elements are stored in a sorted manner.

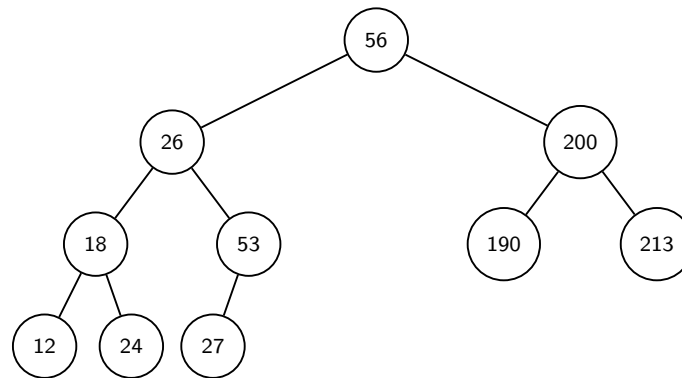
Binary Search Tree (BST): Definition

- A BST is a special type of rooted Binary tree.
- The value stored at the root is
 - *more* than any value in its *left sub-tree* and
 - *less* than any value in its *right sub-tree*.
 - This is called the *binary search property*.
- A null tree is a BST.
- The binary search property must be satisfied for all the nodes on the tree and their sub-trees.

Maximum and Minimum



Maximum and Minimum



- Minimum element is the leftmost node.
- Maximum element is the rightmost node.

TREE-MAXIMUM and TREE-MINIMUM: Pseudocodes

TREE-MAXIMUM(x)

I/P: The root x of a BST T .
O/P: Maximum element of T .

Begin

```
while (right[ $x$ ]  $\neq$  nil) {  
     $x \leftarrow$  right[ $x$ ];  
}
```

return;

End

TREE-MINIMUM(x)

I/P: The root x of a BST T .
O/P: Minimum element of T .

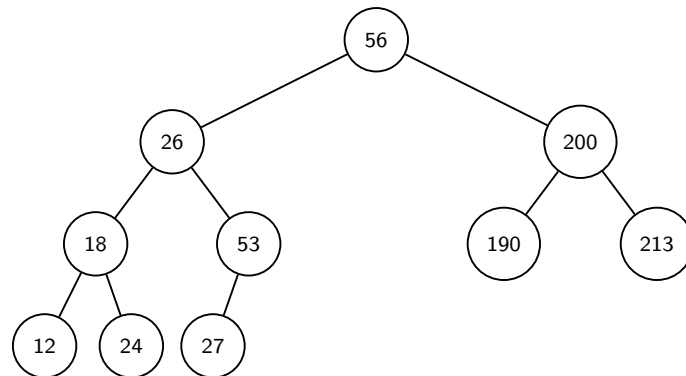
Begin

```
while (left[ $x$ ]  $\neq$  nil) {  
     $x \leftarrow$  left[ $x$ ];  
}
```

return;

End

Search in a BST



Search in a BST: Pseudocode

TREE-SEARCH(x, k)

I/P: The root x of a BST T and a key k .

O/P: Returns **True** if $k \in T$, otherwise returns **False**.

Begin

if ($x = \mathbf{nil}$)
return **False**;

if ($k = \text{key}[x]$)
return **True**;

if ($k \leq \text{key}[x]$)
return TREE-SEARCH($\text{left}[x], k$);
else
return TREE-SEARCH($\text{right}[x], k$);

End

Iterative BST Search Returning True/False

```
int searchBST (BTNode *pRoot, int target) {  
    BTNode *current = NULL;  
  
    current = pRoot;  
    while (current != NULL) {  
        if (current->nData == target)  
            return 1;  
        else if (current->data > target)  
            current = current->pLeft;  
        else  
            current = current->pRight;  
    }  
  
    return 0;  
}
```

Iterative BST Search Returning Node Reference

```
int search (BTreeNode *pRoot, int target) {  
    BTreeNode *current = NULL;  
  
    current = pRoot;  
    while (current != NULL) {  
        if (current->nData == target)  
            return current;  
        else if (current->nData > target)  
            current = current->pLeft;  
        else  
            current = current->pRight;  
    }  
  
    return NULL;  
}
```

Complexity of Search in a BST

- **Worst-case:** Starts from the root and ends at the leaves.
- \therefore search path corresponds to height of the tree which is $\mathcal{O}(\log n)$ if the tree is **complete**.

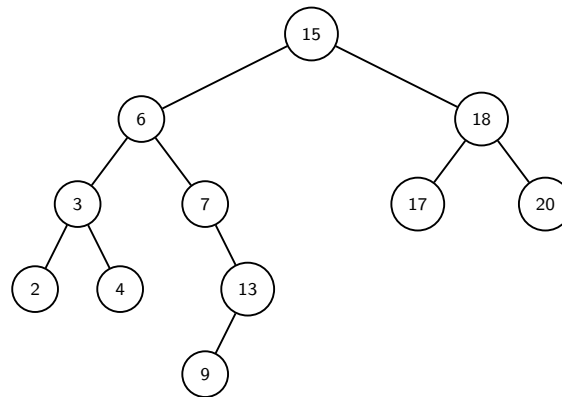
- **The recurrence relation for almost full BST:**

$$T(n) = T(n/2) + 1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad T(n) = \mathcal{O}(\log n).$$

- **Note:** If the tree is skewed, then its height is very nearly n .
 - **Worst-case complexity:** $\mathcal{O}(n)$.

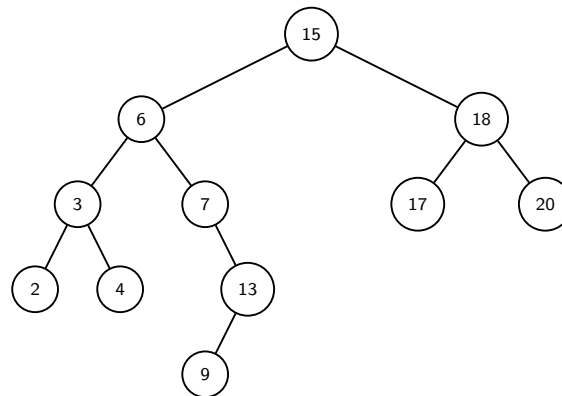
Successor

- The structure of BST allows us to determine the successor of a node without ever comparing keys!



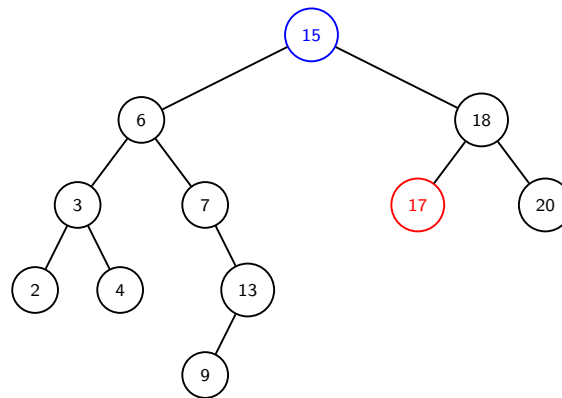
Successor

- The structure of BST allows us to determine the successor of a node without ever comparing keys!
- Two cases may arise:
 - **Case 1:** The **right sub-tree** of a node x is **non-empty**.
 - **Successor of x :** The **leftmost node** in the right sub-tree.
 - \therefore call `TREE-MINIMUM(right[x])`.



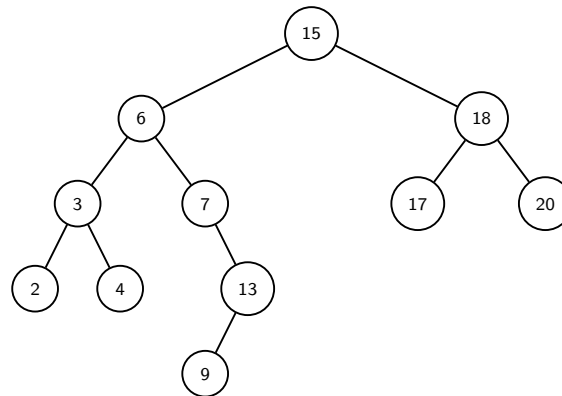
Successor

- The structure of BST allows us to determine the successor of a node without ever comparing keys!
- Two cases may arise:
 - **Case 1:** The **right sub-tree** of a node x is **non-empty**.
 - **Successor of x :** The **leftmost node** in the right sub-tree.
 - \therefore call `TREE-MINIMUM(right[x])`.
 - **Example:** Successor of 15 is 17.



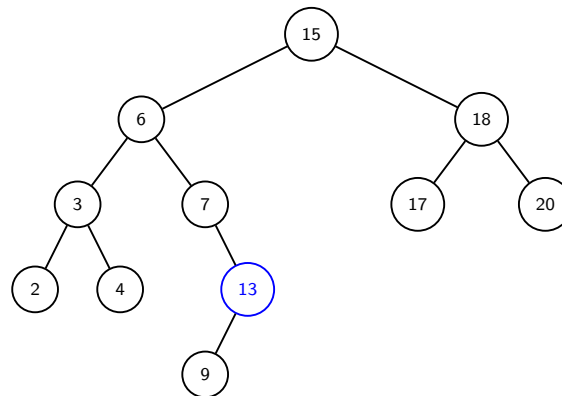
Successor

- The structure of BST allows us to determine the successor of a node without ever comparing keys!
- Two cases may arise:
 - **Case 2:** The right sub-tree of a node x is empty.
 - **Successor of x :** The lowest ancestor of x whose left child is also an ancestor of x .



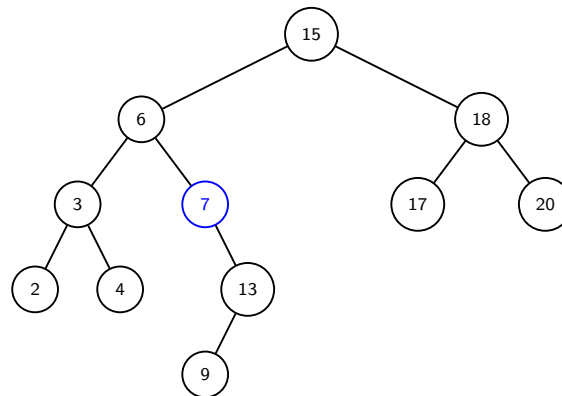
Successor

- The structure of BST allows us to determine the successor of a node without ever comparing keys!
- Two cases may arise:
 - **Case 2:** The right sub-tree of a node x is empty.
 - **Successor of x :** The lowest ancestor of x whose left child is also an ancestor of x .
 - Go up the tree from x until we encounter a node that is the left child of its parent.
 - **Example:** Consider the node 13.



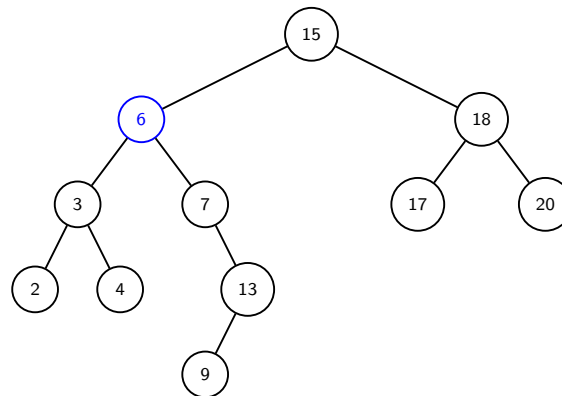
Successor

- The structure of BST allows us to determine the successor of a node without ever comparing keys!
- Two cases may arise:
 - **Case 2:** The **right sub-tree** of a node x is **empty**.
 - **Successor of x :** The **lowest ancestor of x whose left child is also an ancestor of x** .
 - Go up the tree from x until we encounter a node that is the left child of its parent.
 - **Example:** Consider the node 13.



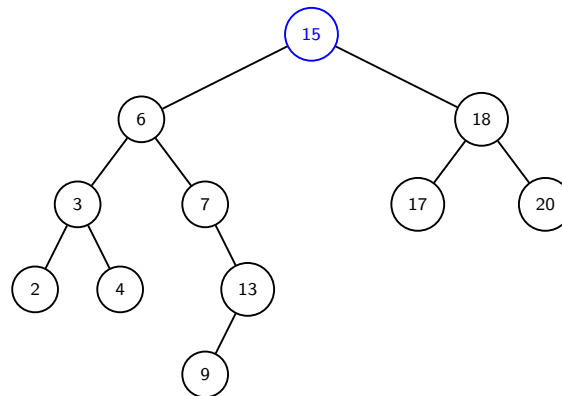
Successor

- The structure of BST allows us to determine the successor of a node without ever comparing keys!
- Two cases may arise:
 - **Case 2:** The **right sub-tree** of a node x is **empty**.
 - **Successor of x :** The **lowest ancestor of x whose left child is also an ancestor of x** .
 - Go up the tree from x until we encounter a node that is the left child of its parent.
 - **Example:** Consider the node 13.



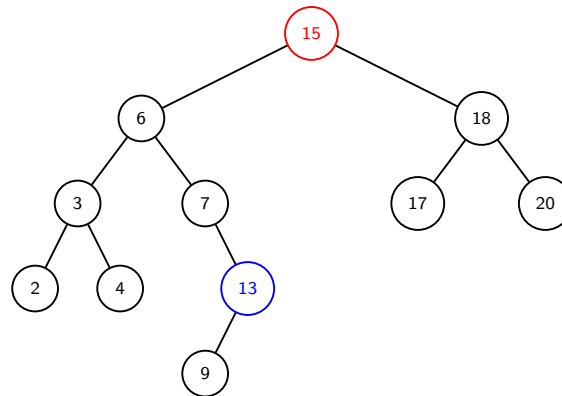
Successor

- The structure of BST allows us to determine the successor of a node without ever comparing keys!
- Two cases may arise:
 - **Case 2:** The right sub-tree of a node x is empty.
 - **Successor of x :** The lowest ancestor of x whose left child is also an ancestor of x .
 - Go up the tree from x until we encounter a node that is the left child of its parent.
 - **Example:** Consider the node 13.



Successor

- The structure of BST allows us to determine the successor of a node without ever comparing keys!
- Two cases may arise:
 - **Case 2:** The right sub-tree of a node x is empty.
 - **Successor of x :** The lowest ancestor of x whose left child is also an ancestor of x .
 - Go up the tree from x until we encounter a node that is the left child of its parent.
 - Then this parent is the successor.
 - **Example:** The successor of 13 is 15.



TREE-SUCCESSOR

TREE-SUCCESSOR(x)

I/P: A node x whose successor we need to find.

O/P: The successor of x .

Begin

if ($right[x] \neq \mathbf{nil}$)

 return TREE-MINIMUM($right[x]$);

$y \leftarrow parent[x]$;

while ($y \neq \mathbf{nil}$) and ($x = right[y]$)

$x \leftarrow y$;

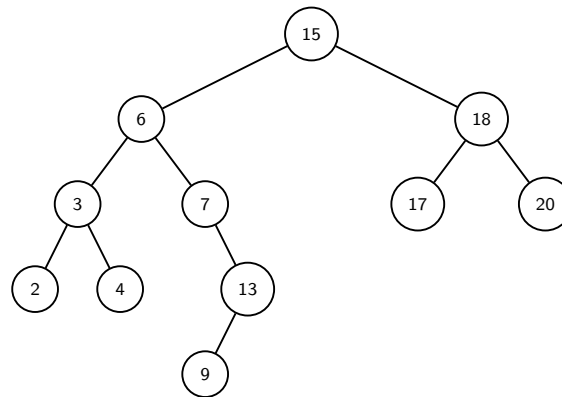
$y \leftarrow parent[y]$;

return y ;

End

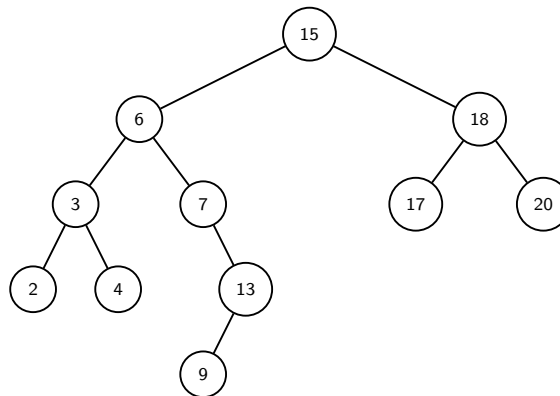
Predecessor

- The structure of BST allows us to determine the Predecessor of a node without ever comparing keys!



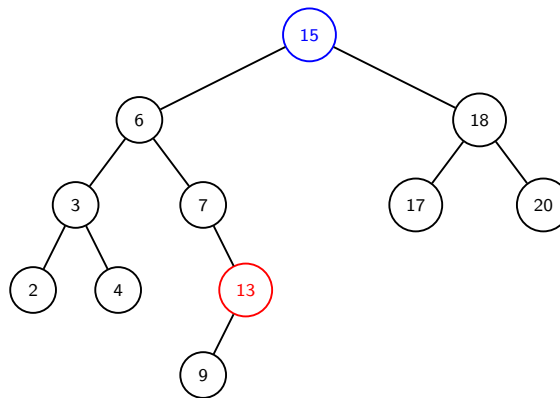
Predecessor

- The structure of BST allows us to determine the Predecessor of a node without ever comparing keys!
- Two cases may arise:
 - **Case 1:** The **left sub-tree** of a node x is **non-empty**.
 - **Predecessor of x :** The **rightmost node** in the left sub-tree.
 - \therefore call `TREE-MAXIMUM(left[x])`.



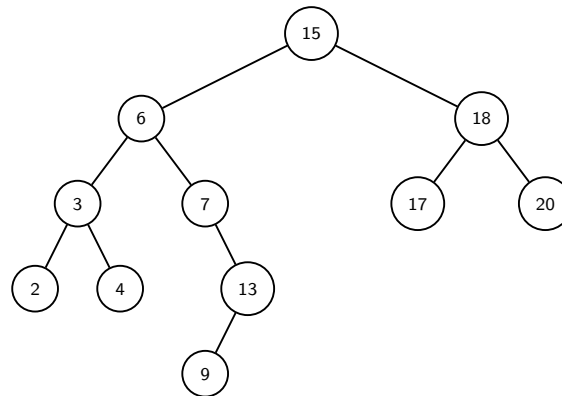
Predecessor

- The structure of BST allows us to determine the Predecessor of a node without ever comparing keys!
- Two cases may arise:
 - **Case 1:** The **left sub-tree** of a node x is **non-empty**.
 - **Predecessor of x :** The **rightmost node** in the left sub-tree.
 - \therefore call $\text{TREE-MAXIMUM}(\text{left}[x])$.
 - **Example:** Predecessor of 15 is 13.



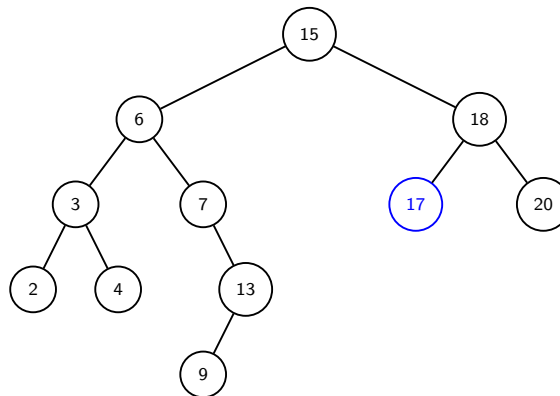
Predecessor

- The structure of BST allows us to determine the Predecessor of a node without ever comparing keys!
- Two cases may arise:
 - **Case 2:** The left sub-tree of a node x is empty.
 - **Predecessor of x :** The lowest ancestor of x whose right child is also an ancestor of x .



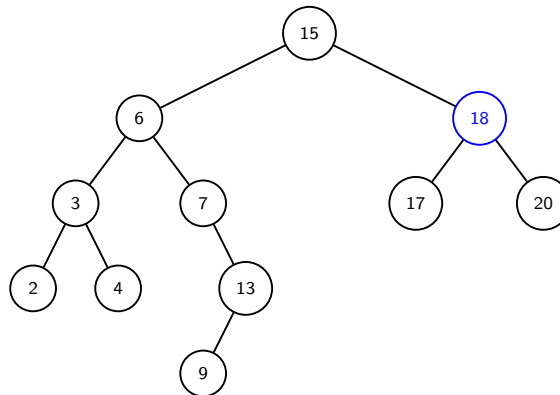
Predecessor

- The structure of BST allows us to determine the Predecessor of a node without ever comparing keys!
- Two cases may arise:
 - **Case 2:** The **left sub-tree** of a node x is **empty**.
 - **Predecessor of x :** The **lowest ancestor of x whose right child is also an ancestor of x** .
 - Go up the tree from x until we encounter a node that is the right child of its parent.
 - **Example:** Consider the node 17.



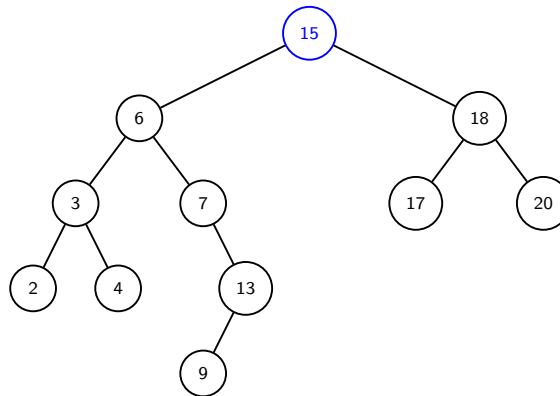
Predecessor

- The structure of BST allows us to determine the Predecessor of a node without ever comparing keys!
- Two cases may arise:
 - **Case 2:** The **left sub-tree** of a node x is **empty**.
 - **Predecessor of x :** The **lowest ancestor of x whose right child is also an ancestor of x** .
 - Go up the tree from x until we encounter a node that is the right child of its parent.
 - **Example:** Consider the node 17.



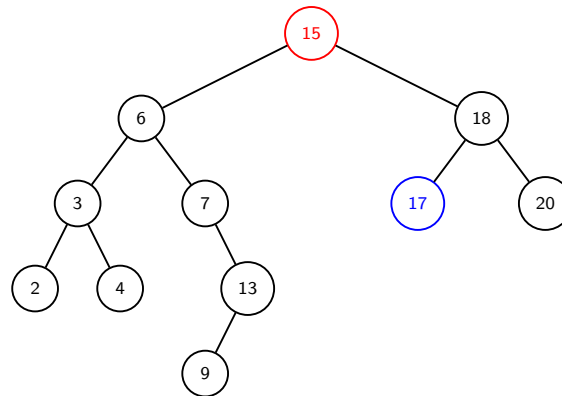
Predecessor

- The structure of BST allows us to determine the Predecessor of a node without ever comparing keys!
- Two cases may arise:
 - **Case 2:** The **left sub-tree** of a node x is **empty**.
 - **Predecessor of x :** The **lowest ancestor of x whose right child is also an ancestor of x** .
 - Go up the tree from x until we encounter a node that is the right child of its parent.
 - **Example:** Consider the node 17.



Predecessor

- The structure of BST allows us to determine the Predecessor of a node without ever comparing keys!
- Two cases may arise:
 - **Case 2:** The left sub-tree of a node x is empty.
 - **Predecessor of x :** The lowest ancestor of x whose right child is also an ancestor of x .
 - Go up the tree from x until we encounter a node that is the right child of its parent.
 - Then this parent is the predecessor.
 - **Example:** The Predecessor of 17 is 15.



TREE-PREDECESSOR

TREE-PREDECESSOR(x)

I/P: A node x whose predecessor we need to find.

O/P: The predecessor of x .

Begin

if ($left[x] \neq \mathbf{nil}$)

return TREE-MAXIMUM($left[x]$);

$y \leftarrow parent[x]$;

while ($y \neq \mathbf{nil}$) and ($x = left[y]$)

$x \leftarrow y$;

$y \leftarrow parent[y]$;

return y ;

End

A Theorem

Theorem

The dynamic set operations SEARCH, MINIMUM, MAXIMUM, SUCCESSOR and PREDECESSOR can be made to run in $\mathcal{O}(h)$ time in a BST of height h .

Checking BST property

Checking BST property

```
int BST(BTNode *pRoot, int min, int max) {  
    if (pRoot == null)  
        return true;  
  
    return ((root->nData > min) && (root->data < max) &&  
            BST(root->pLeft, min, pRoot->nData) &&  
            BST(pRoot->pRight, pRoot->data, max));  
}
```

// or do an inorder traversal and keep checking

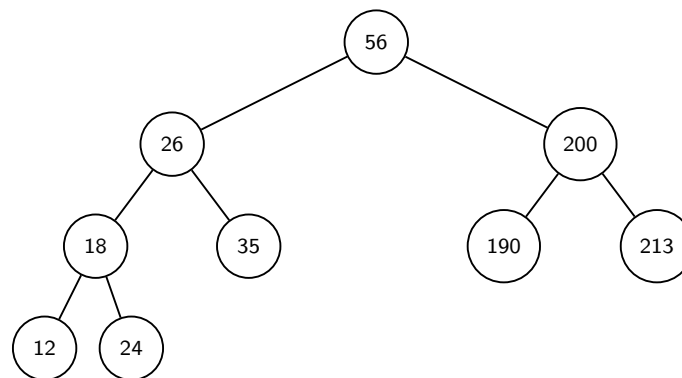
Inserting a node in a BST

Inserting a Node in a BST

- First find the *right place* to insert it.
- Follow the path from the root to the “*appropriate node*”.
- That is the node which will be the parent of the new node.
- The new node is then connected as its *left* or *right child*, depending on whether the new node's key is *less* or *greater* than that of the parent.

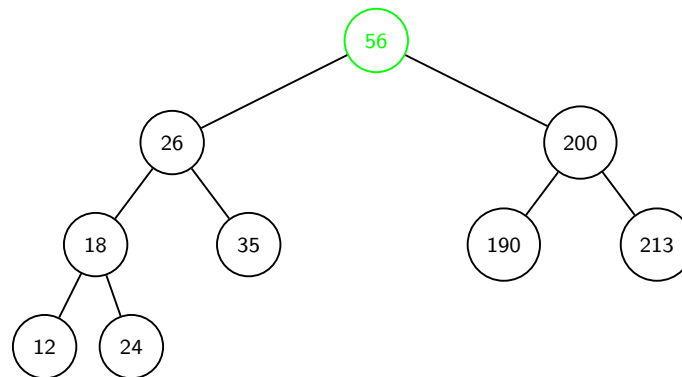
Insertion on a BST

- Insert 30 in the given BST.



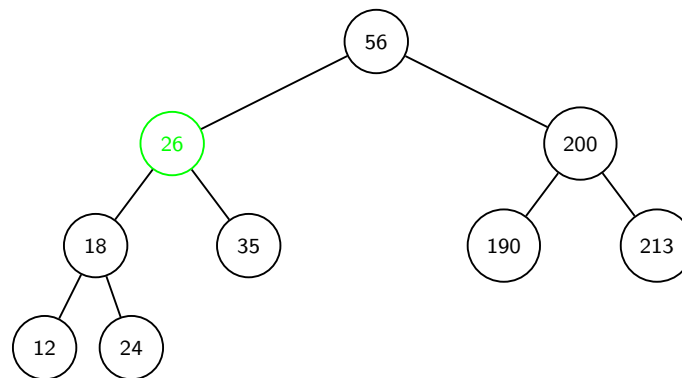
Insertion on a BST

- Insert 30 in the given BST.
- Try to locate appropriate location for 30 on the tree.



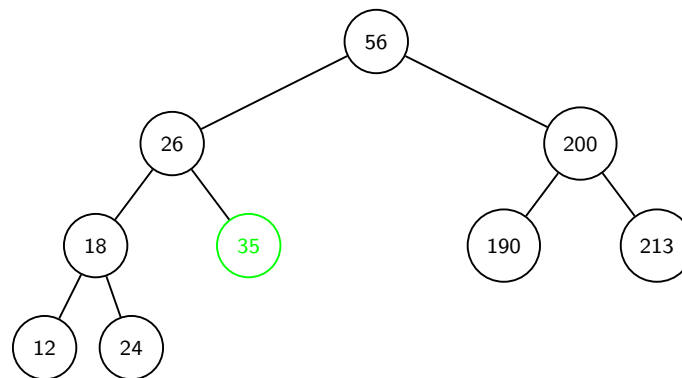
Insertion on a BST

- Insert 30 in the given BST.
- Try to locate appropriate location for 30 on the tree.



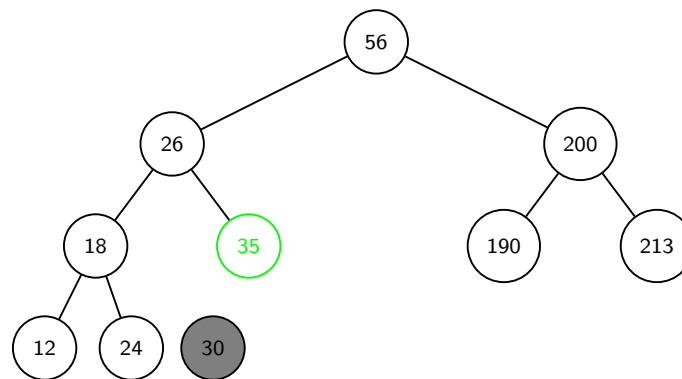
Insertion on a BST

- Insert 30 in the given BST.
- Try to locate appropriate location for 30 on the tree.



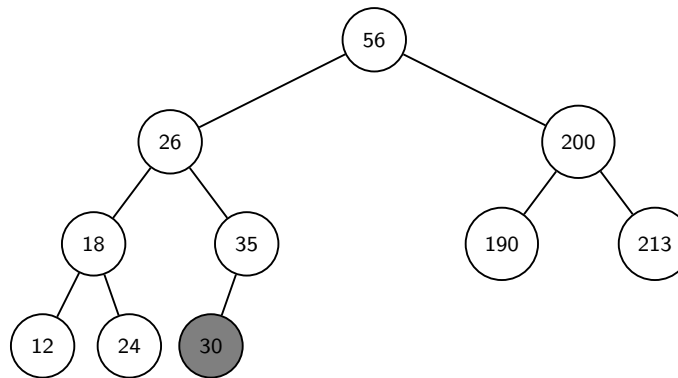
Insertion on a BST

- Insert 30 in the given BST.
- Try to locate appropriate location for 30 on the tree.
- Create a new node with value 30.



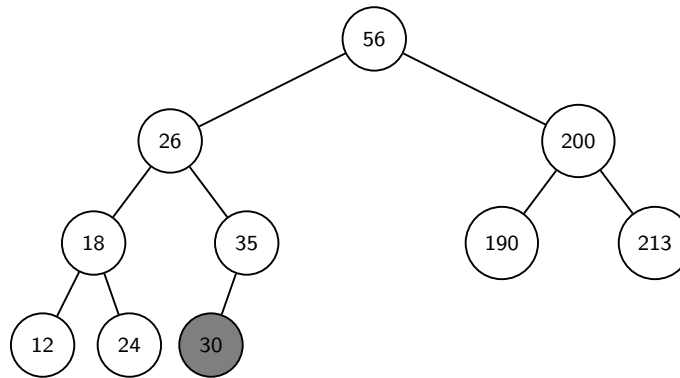
Insertion on a BST

- Insert 30 in the given BST.
- Try to locate appropriate location for 30 on the tree.
- Create a new node with value 30.
- If 30 has to be on the tree, then only place is left child of 35.
- Attach the node 30 as left child of 35.



Insertion on a BST

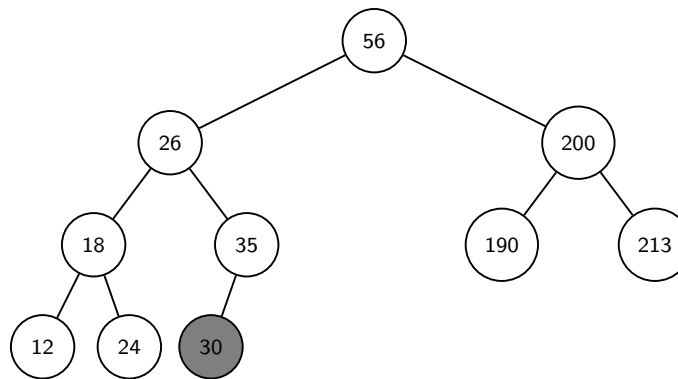
- Insert 30 in the given BST.
- Try to locate appropriate location for 30 on the tree.
- Create a new node with value 30.
- If 30 has to be on the tree, then only place is left child of 35.
- Attach the node 30 as left child of 35.



Complexity?

Insertion on a BST

- Insert 30 in the given BST.
- Try to locate appropriate location for 30 on the tree.
- Create a new node with value 30.
- If 30 has to be on the tree, then only place is left child of 35.
- Attach the node 30 as left child of 35.



Complexity: $\mathcal{O}(h)$.

Inserting a Node in a BST: C Code

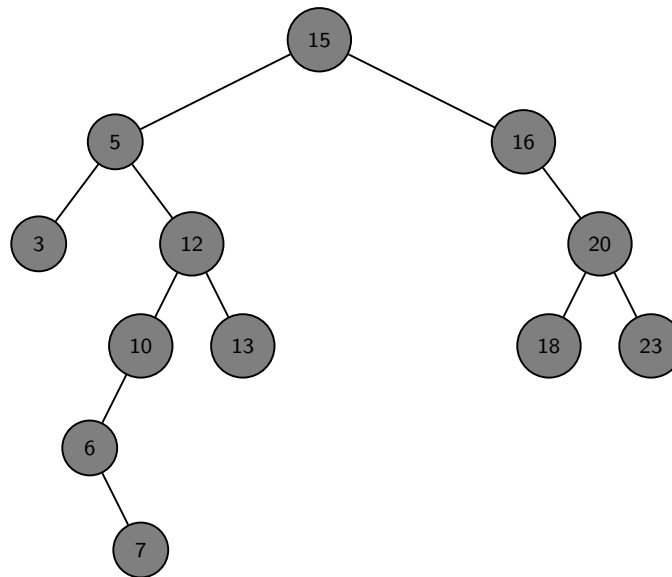
```
BTNode *insert (BTNode pRoot, int value) {  
    if (pRoot == null) {  
        pRoot = (BTNode *)malloc(sizeof(BTNode));  
        pRoot->nData = value;  
        pRoot->pLeft = pRoot->pRight = NULL;  
    }  
    else {  
        if (value ≤ pRoot->nData)  
            pRoot->pLeft = insert (pRoot->pLeft, value);  
        else  
            root->pRight = insert (root->pRight, value);  
    }  
  
    return pRoot;  
}
```

Deletion in Binary Search Tree

Deleting in a BST

- **Delete** a specified item from the BST and **adjust** the tree.
- Use the binary search property to locate the target item:
 - **Starting at the root** probe down the tree till either the target node is reached or a leaf node reached (i.e., target node is not in the tree)
- Removal of a node must not leave a “**gap**” in the tree,

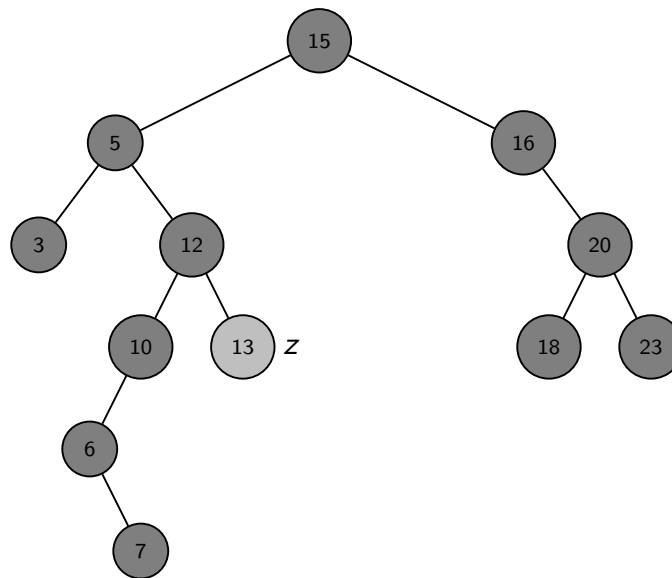
Deleting a Node z from a BST



Deleting a Node z from a BST

Three cases may arise:

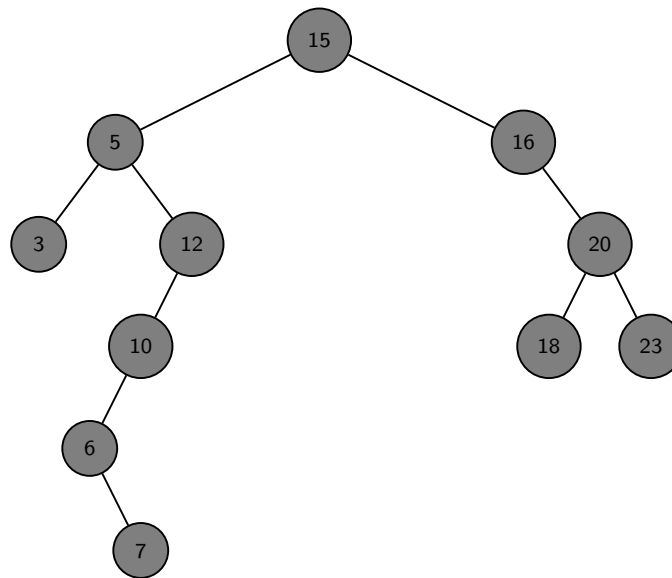
- **z has no children:** Consider $z = 13$.



Deleting a Node z from a BST

Three cases may arise:

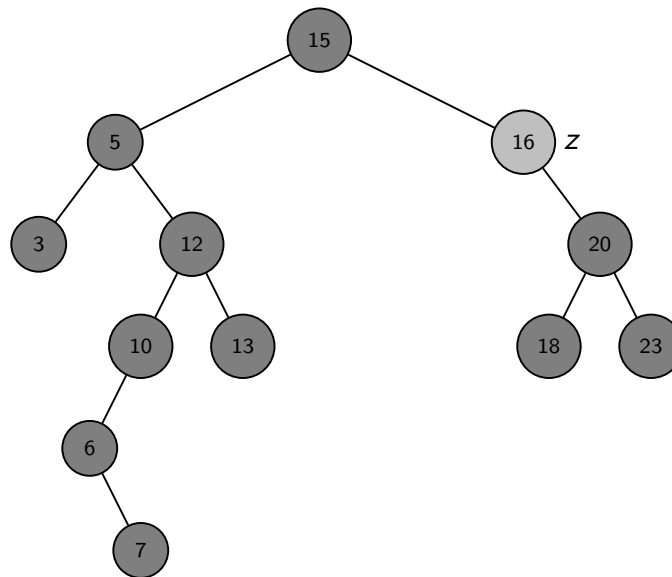
- z **has no children**: Consider $z = 13$.
 - Just remove it!



Deleting a Node z from a BST

Three cases may arise:

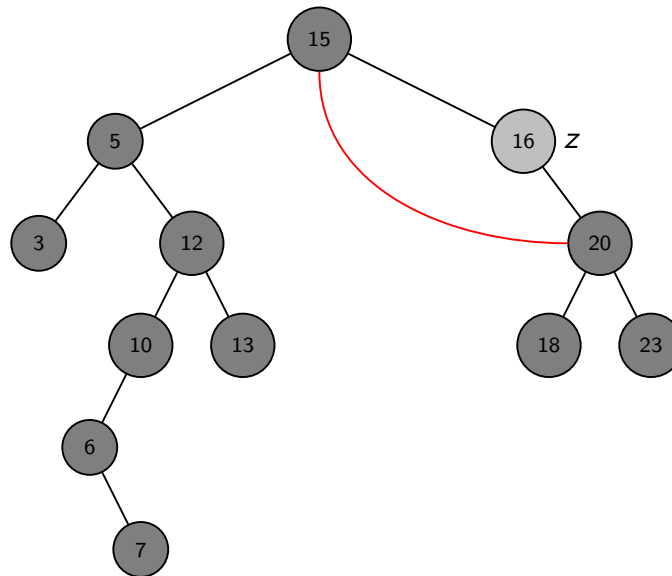
- **z has only one children:** Consider $z = 16$.



Deleting a Node z from a BST

Three cases may arise:

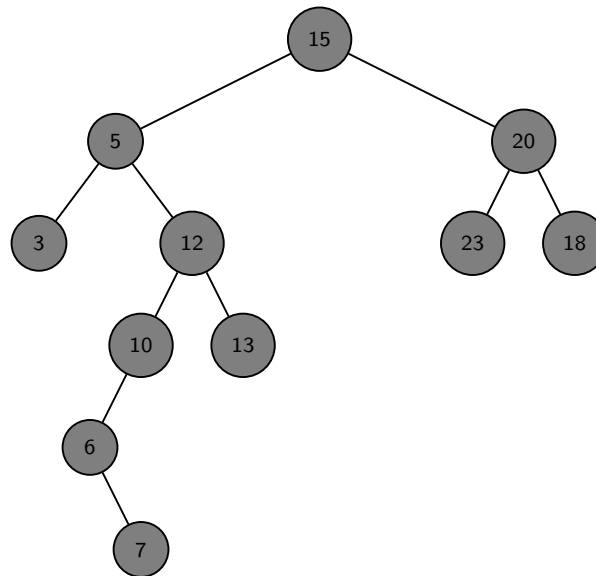
- z **has only one child**: Consider $z = 16$.
 - Splice out z .



Deleting a Node z from a BST

Three cases may arise:

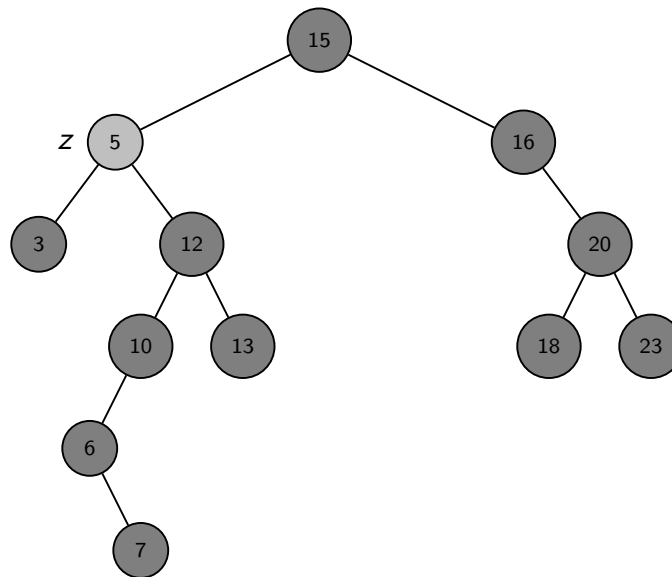
- z **has only one children:** Consider $z = 16$.
 - Splice out z .



Deleting a Node z from a BST

Three cases may arise:

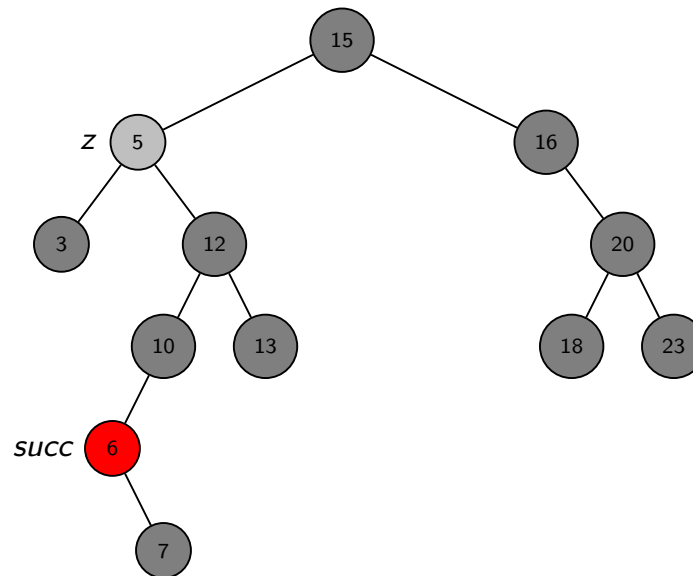
- **z has only two children:** Consider $z = 5$.



Deleting a Node z from a BST

Three cases may arise:

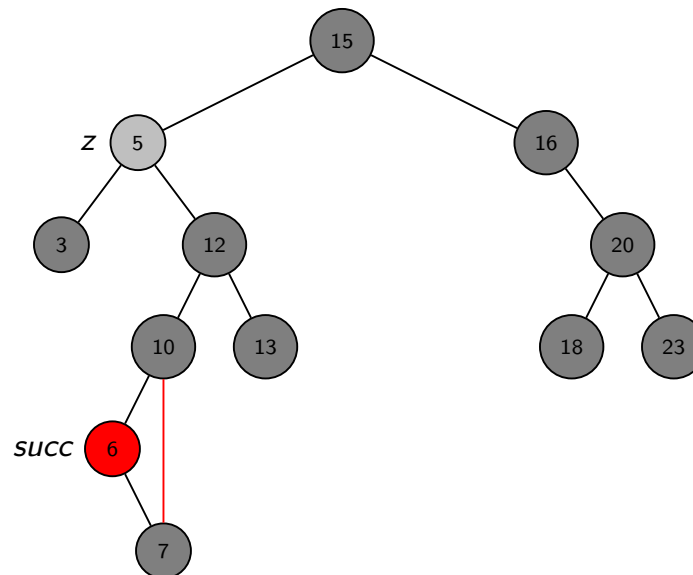
- z **has only two children**: Consider $z = 5$.
 - Find the successor of $z = 5$.



Deleting a Node z from a BST

Three cases may arise:

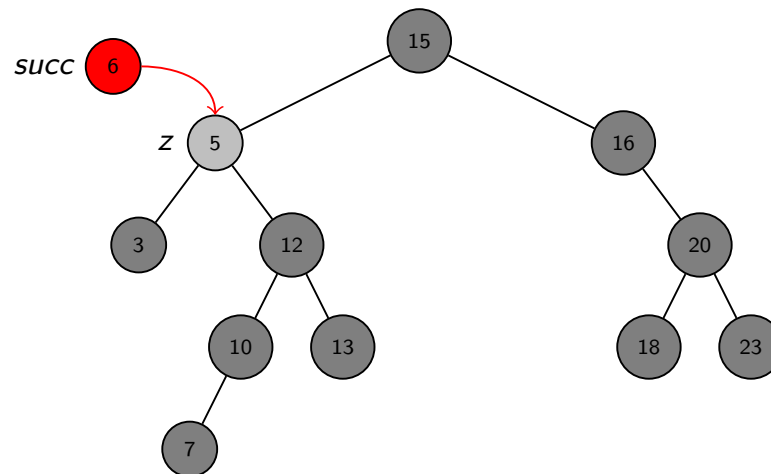
- **z has only two children:** Consider $z = 5$.
 - Find the successor of $z = 5$.
 - Splice out or Delete the successor of z depending on whether *succ* has one child or no child, respectively.
 - In our case we splice out the node *succ* = 6.



Deleting a Node z from a BST

Three cases may arise:

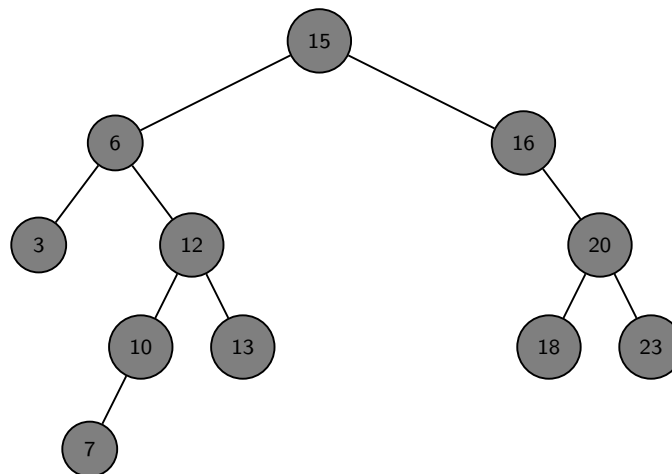
- **z has only two children:** Consider $z = 5$.
 - Find the successor of $z = 5$.
 - Splice out or Delete the successor of z depending on whether *succ* has one child or no child, respectively.
 - In our case we splice out the node *succ* = 6.
 - Copy 6 to the node 5.



Deleting a Node z from a BST

Three cases may arise:

- **z has only two children:** Consider $z = 5$.
 - Find the successor of $z = 5$.
 - Splice out or Delete the successor of z depending on whether *succ* has one child or no child, respectively.
 - In our case we splice out the node *succ* = 6.
 - Copy 6 to the node 5.



TREE-DELETE(T, z)

I/P: A tree T and a pointer to the node z to be deleted.

O/P: The updated tree T with its node z deleted.

```
Begin
  if ( $left[z] = \mathbf{nil}$  or  $right[z] = \mathbf{nil}$ )
     $y \leftarrow z$ ;
  else
     $y \leftarrow \text{TREE-SUCCESSOR}(z)$ ;

  if ( $left[y] \neq \mathbf{nil}$ )
     $x \leftarrow left[y]$ ;
  else
     $x \leftarrow right[y]$ ;

  if ( $x \neq \mathbf{nil}$ )
     $p[x] \leftarrow p[y]$ ;

  if ( $p[y] = \mathbf{nil}$ )
     $root[T] \leftarrow x$ ;
  else if ( $y = left[p[y]]$ )
     $left[p[y]] \leftarrow x$ ;
  else
     $right[p[y]] \leftarrow x$ ;

  if ( $y \neq z$ ) {
     $key[z] \leftarrow key[y]$ ;
    copy  $y$ 's satellite data into  $z$ ;
  }

  return  $y$ ;
End
```

Theorem

Theorem

The dynamic-set operations INSERT and DELETE can be made to run in $\mathcal{O}(h)$ time on a binary tree of height h .

Thank You for your kind attention!

Books Consulted

- ① Chapter 4.3.3 of *Introduction to Algorithms: A Creative Approach* by [Udi Manber](#).
- ② Chapter 12 of *Introduction to Algorithms* by [Thomas H Cormen](#), [Charles E Leiserson](#), [Ronald L Rivest](#), [Clifford Stein](#).

Questions!!