

# AVL trees

# Today

- AVL Deletes and rotations, then testing your knowledge of these concepts!
- Before I get into details, I want to show you some animated operations in an AVL tree.
- I think it's important to just get the gears turning in your mind.
- We'll look at some animations *again* after we study (some) details.
- Interactive web applet



# AVL tree

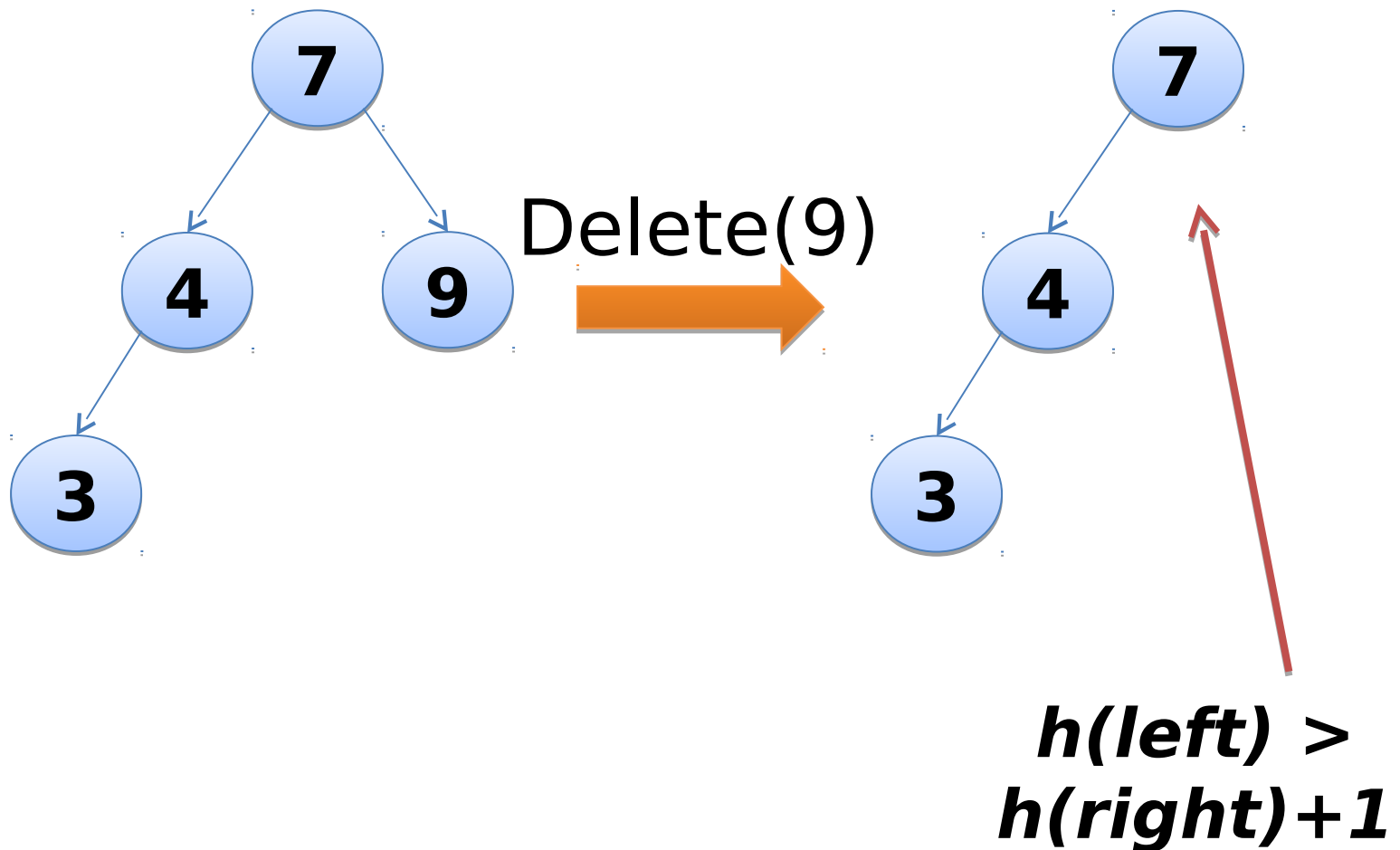
- Is a binary search tree
- Has an additional ***height constraint***:
  - For each node  $x$  in the tree,  $\text{Height}(x.\text{left})$  differs from  $\text{Height}(x.\text{right})$  by at most 1
- I promise:
  - If you satisfy the ***height constraint***, then the **height of the tree is  $O(\lg n)$** .
  - (Proof is easy, but no time! =])



# AVL tree

- To be an AVL tree, must **always**:
  - (1) Be a ***binary search tree***
  - (2) Satisfy the ***height constraint***
- Suppose we start with an AVL tree, then delete as if we're in a regular BST.
- Will the tree be an AVL tree after the delete?
  - (1) It will still be a BST... that's one part.
  - (2) Will it satisfy the ***height constraint***?
- (Not covering insert, since you already did in class)

# BST Delete breaks an AVL tree

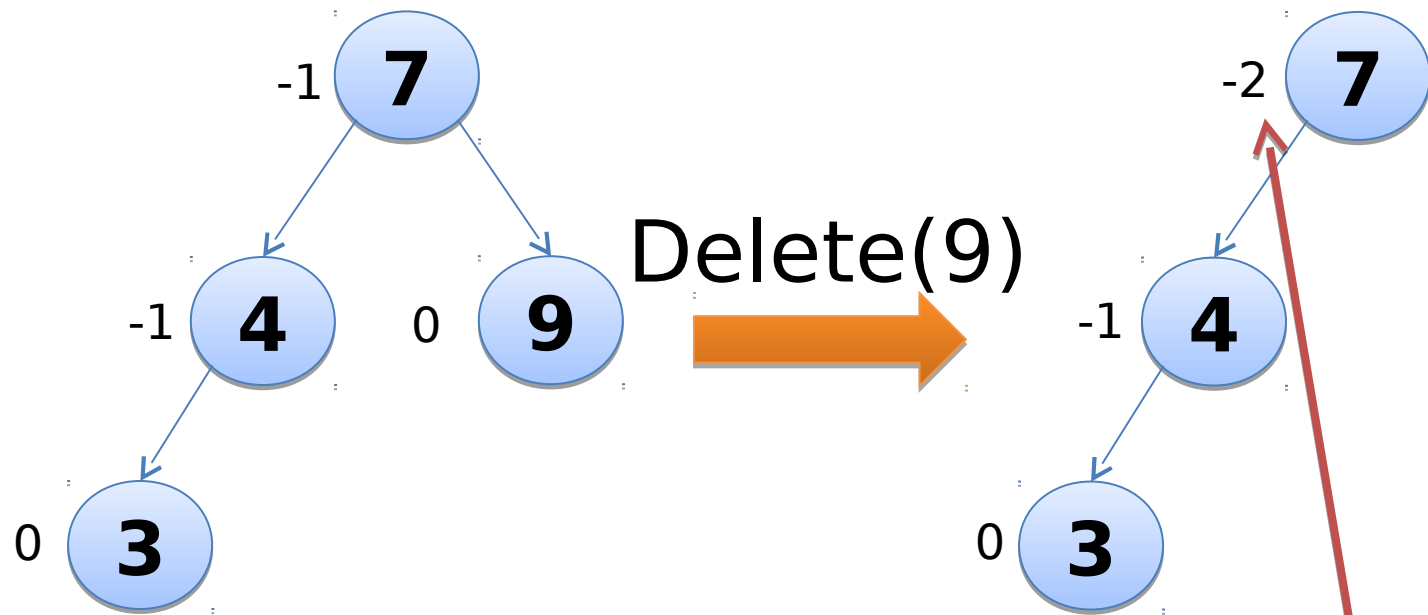




# Balance factors

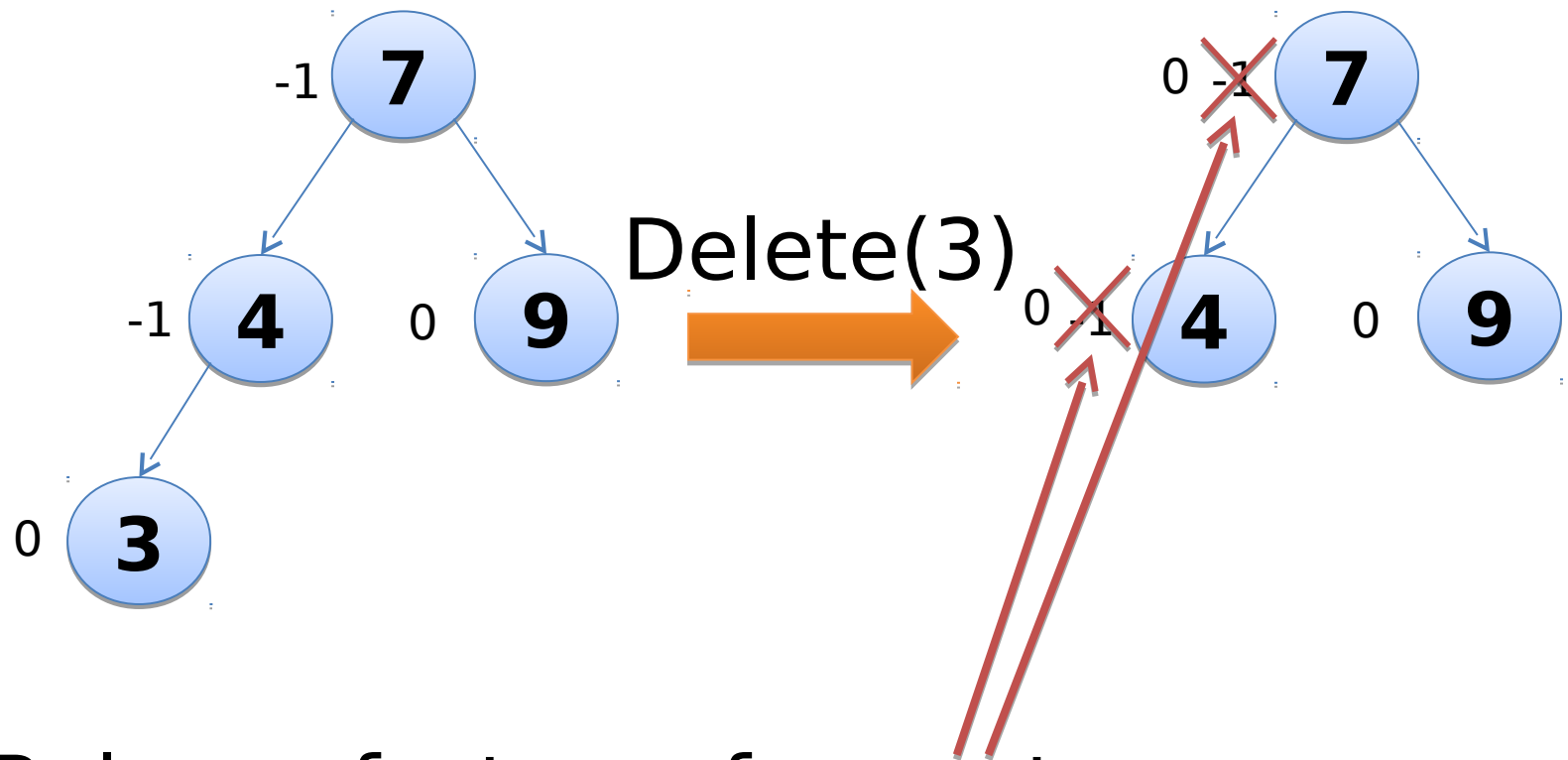
- To check the **balance constraint**, we have to know the ***height h*** of each node
- Or do we?
- In fact, we can store ***balance factors*** instead.
- The balance factor  $bf(x) = h(x.right) - h(x.left)$ 
  - $bf(x)$  values -1, 0, and 1 are allowed.
  - If  $bf(x) < -1$  or  $bf(x) > 1$  then tree is **NOT AVL**

Same example with **bf(x)**,  
**not** **h(x)**



**bf** < -1  
so **NOT** an AVL tree

# What else can BST Delete break?



- Balance factors of ancestors...



# Need a new Delete algorithm



- We are starting to see what our delete algorithm must look like.
- **Goal:** if tree is AVL before Delete, then tree is AVL after Delete.
- **Step 1:** do BST delete.
  - This maintains the *BST property*, but can BREAK the *balance factors of ancestors!*
- **Step 2:** fix the balance constraint.
  - Do something that maintains the BST property, but fixes any balance factors that are  $< -1$  or  $> 1$ .



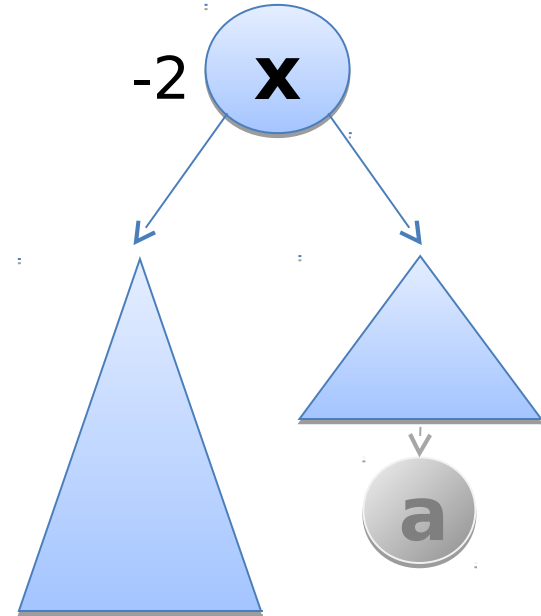
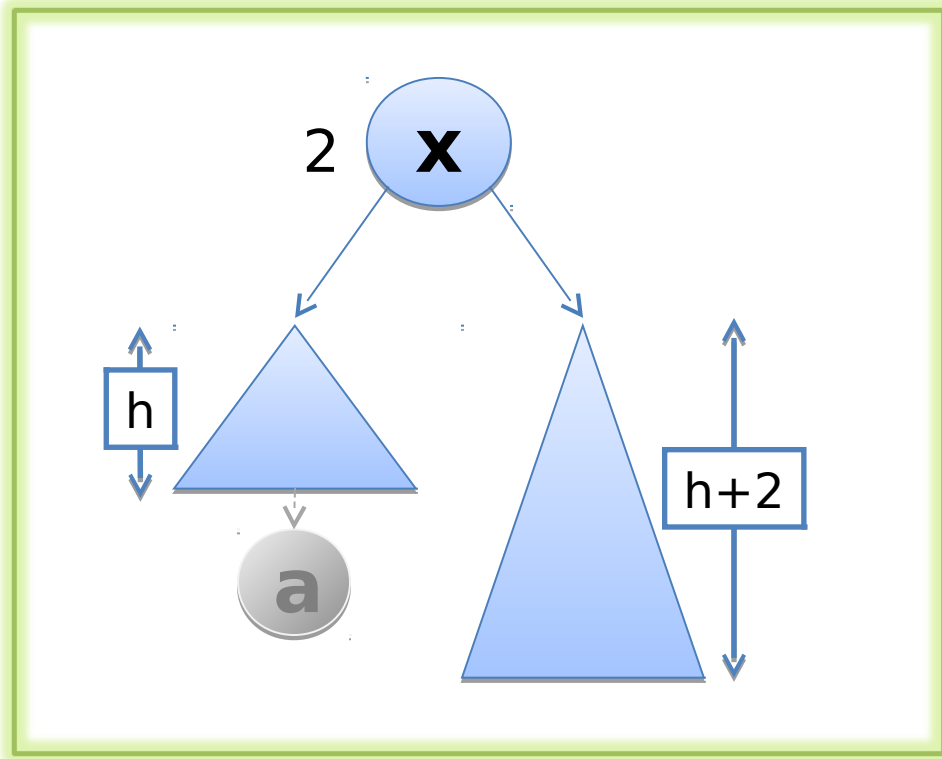
# Bad balance factors

- Start with an AVL tree, then do a BST Delete.
- What bad values can  $bf(x)$  take on?
  - Delete can reduce a subtree's height by 1.
  - So, it might increase or decrease  $h(x.right) - h(x.left)$  by 1.
  - So,  $bf(x)$  might increase or decrease by 1.
  - This means:
    - if  $bf(x) = 1$  before Delete, it might become 2. **BAD**
    - If  $bf(x) = -1$  before Delete, it might become -2. **BAD**
    - If  $bf(x) = 0$  before Delete, then it is still -1, 0 or 1. **OK.**

2 cases



# Problematic cases for Delete(a)



- $bf(x) = -2$  is just **symmetric** to  $bf(x) = 2$ .
- So, we just look at  $bf(x) = 2$ .

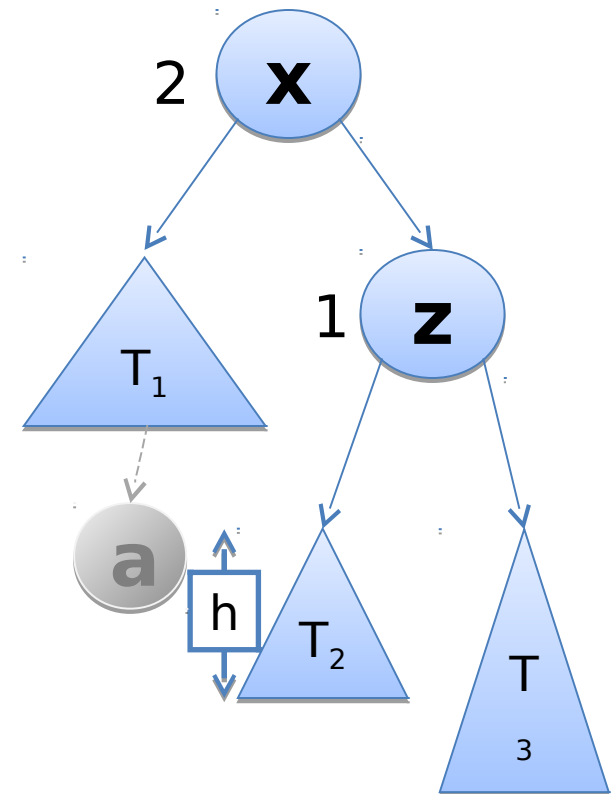
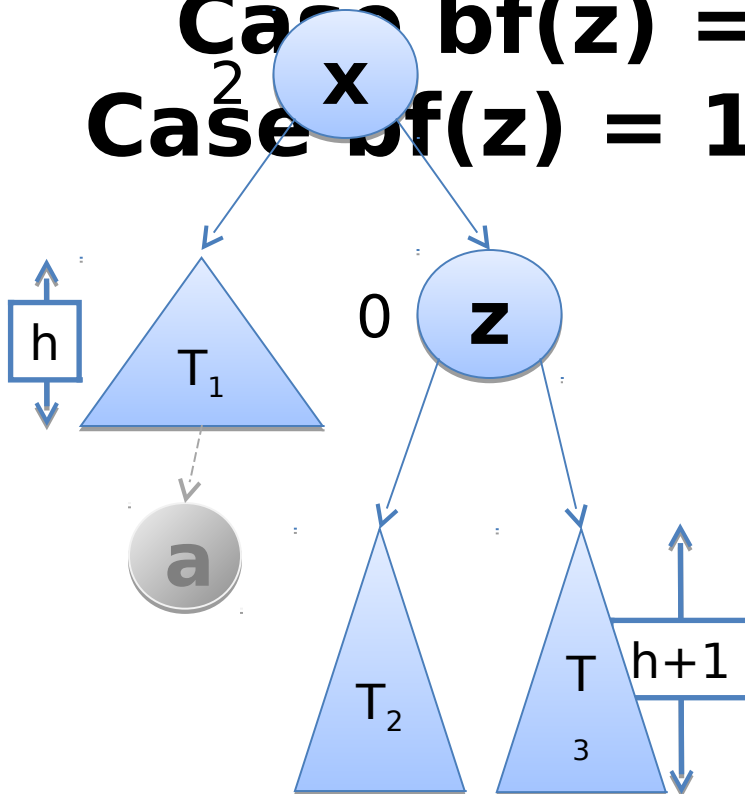
# Delete(a): 3 subcases for $bf(x)=2$



- Since tree was AVL before,  **$bf(z) = -1, 0 \text{ or } 1$**

Case  $bf(z) = 0$

Case  $bf(z) = 1$

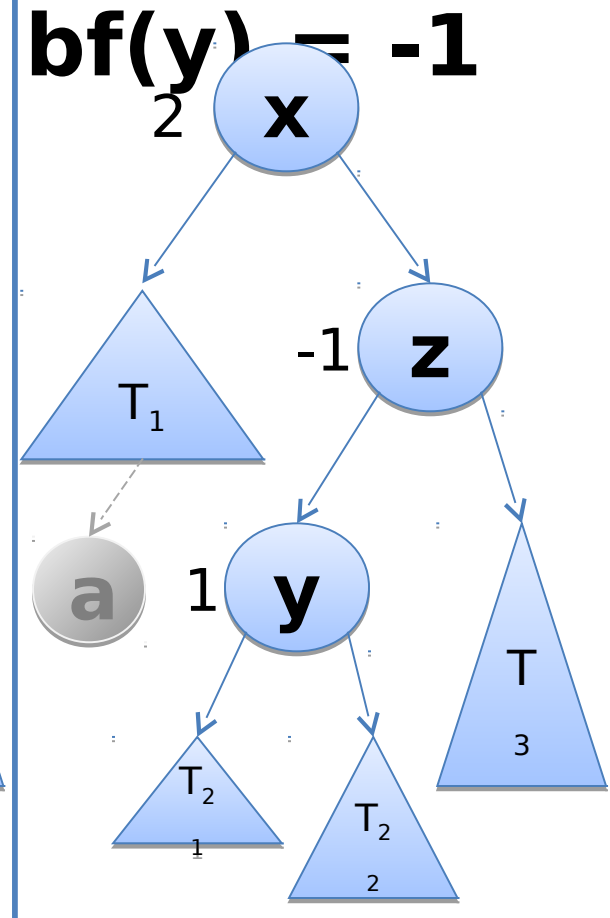
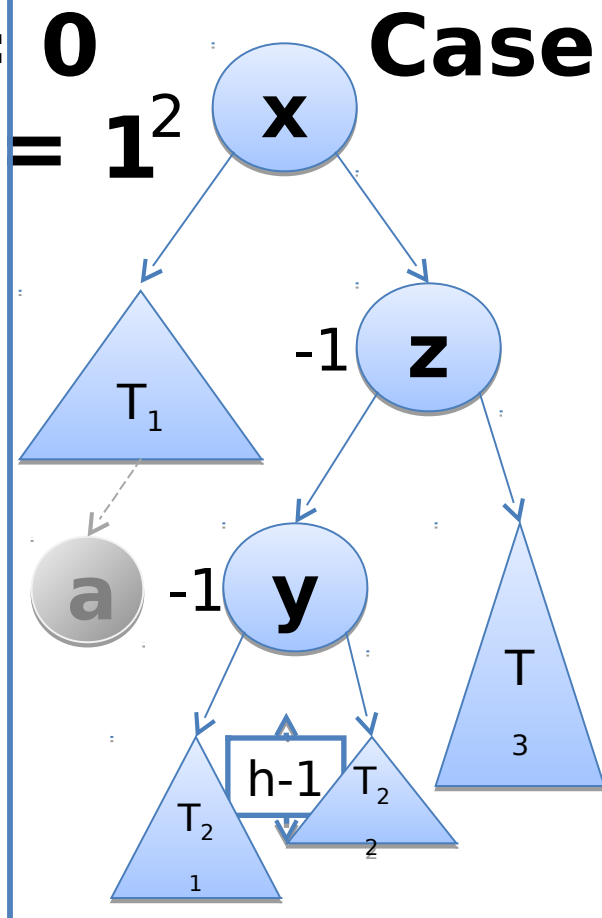
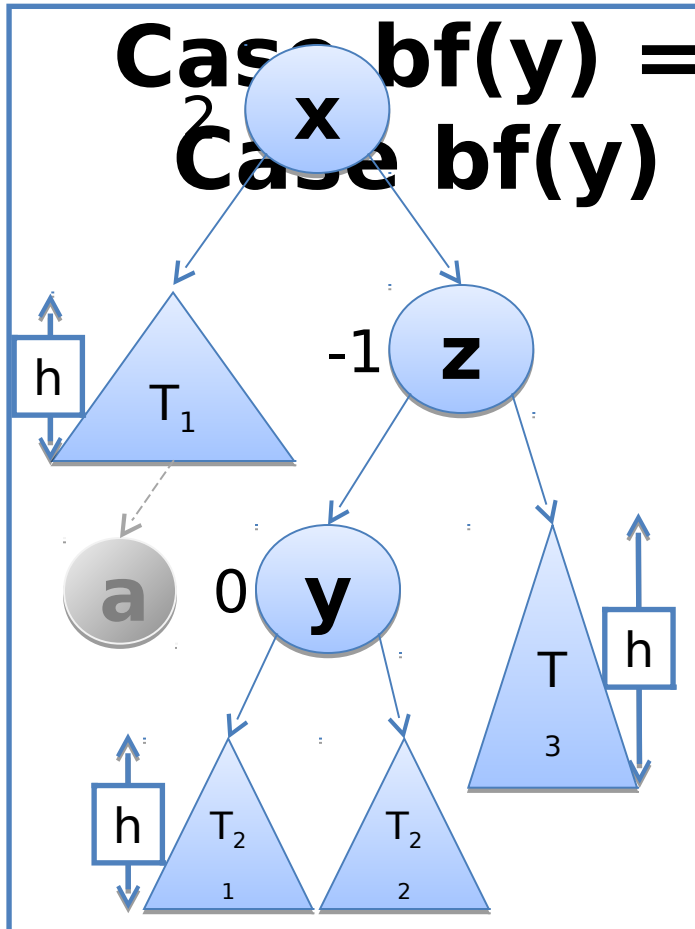




# Delete(a): final subcase for $bf(x)=2$

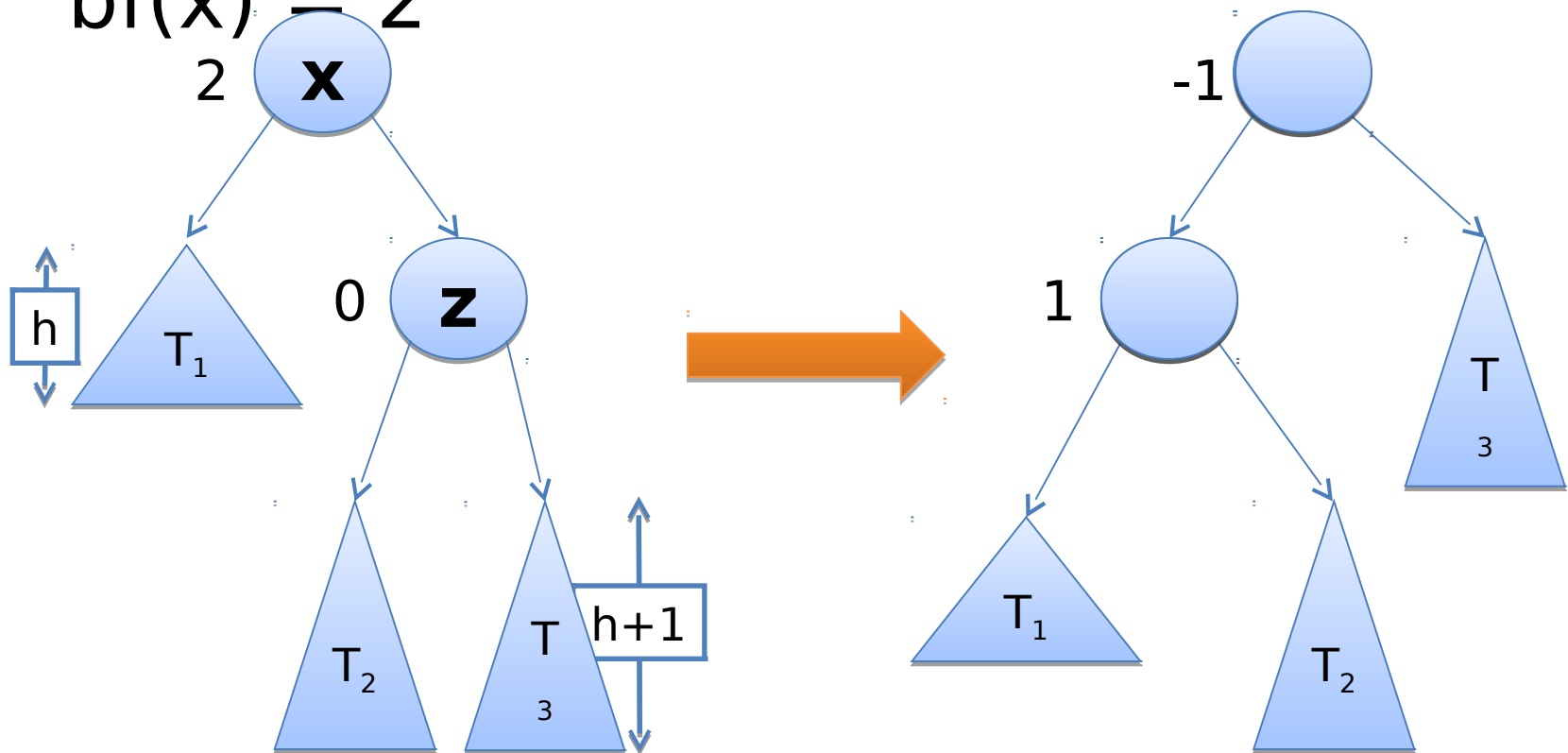
**Case  $bf(z) = -1$ :** we have 3 subcases.  
(More details)

**Case  $bf(y) = 0$**   
**Case  $bf(y) = 1$**



# Fixing case $bf(x) = 2, bf(z) = 0$

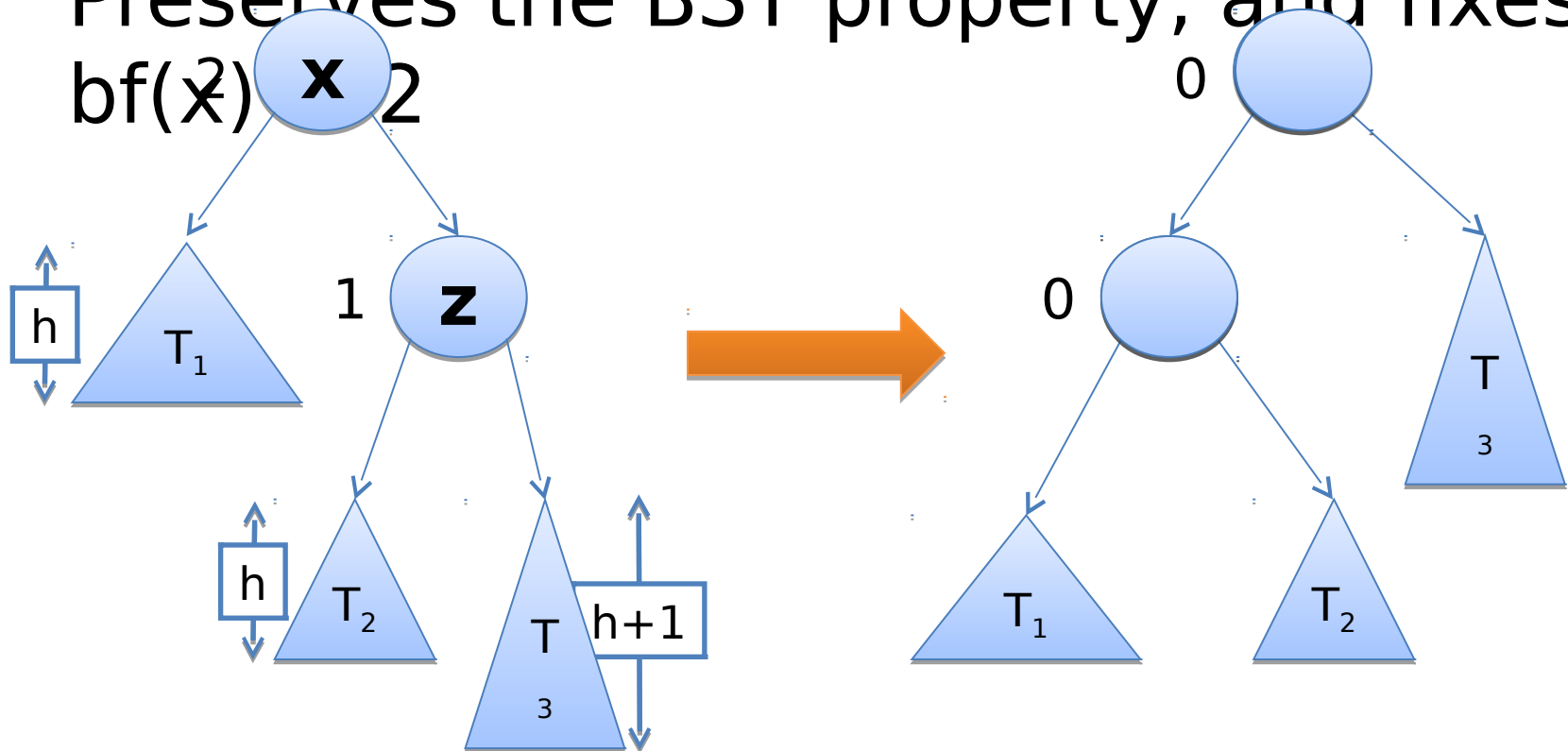
- We do a ***single left rotation***
- Preserves the BST property, and fixes  $bf(x) = 2$



# Fixing case $bf(x) = 2, bf(z) = 1$



- We do a **single left rotation** (same as last case)
- Preserves the BST property, and fixes



# Interactive AVL Deletes



- Interactive web applet
- Video of this applet being used to show most cases for insert / delete