

Delete nodes in BST

3 cases:

0 child case

15
6' Delete 6

1 child case

15
6' Delete 15

2 child case

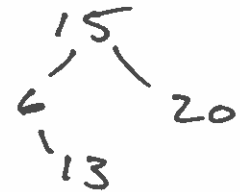
15
6 ^ 18 Delete 15

Replacement node in 2 child case

- Max value in left subtree - uncommon

Delete 15

Replace with 13



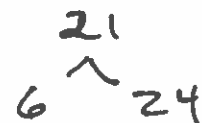
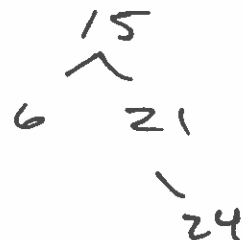
- Convention - min value in right subtree

- 2 cases

- Replacement node is deleted node's right child

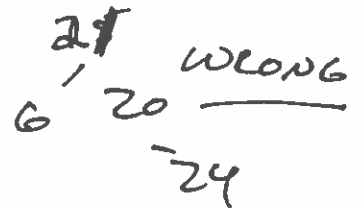
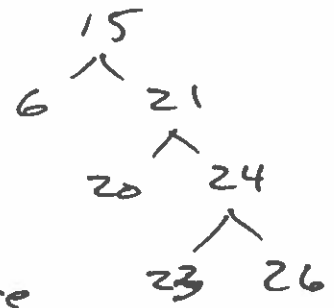
Delete 15

Replace with 21



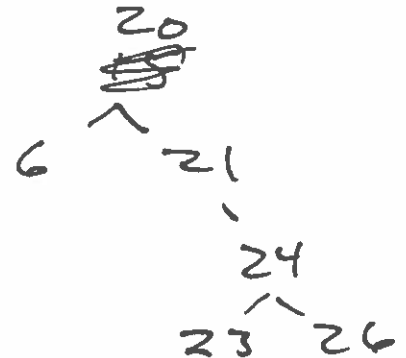
- Replacement is not right child

Delete 15
If we replace
15 with 21,
20 is out of place.

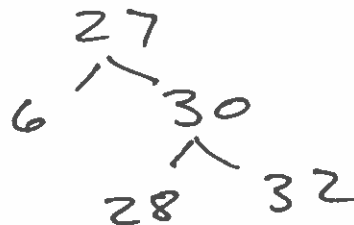
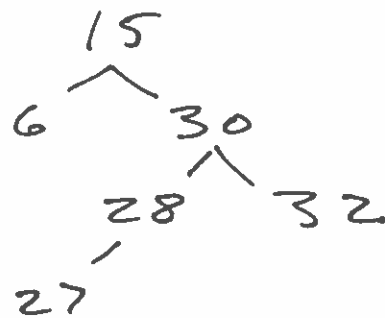


- Replace node with min value
in its right subtree.

Delete 15



Ex:



Delete 15.
What replaces it?
27

First, we need to find min in right subtree.
Node * min = treeMinimum(n → right child)
// input to treeMinimum is right child
of node to delete.

treeMinimum(n) // n is a node pointer.

Node *x = n;

while (x->leftChild != null)

x = x->leftChild;

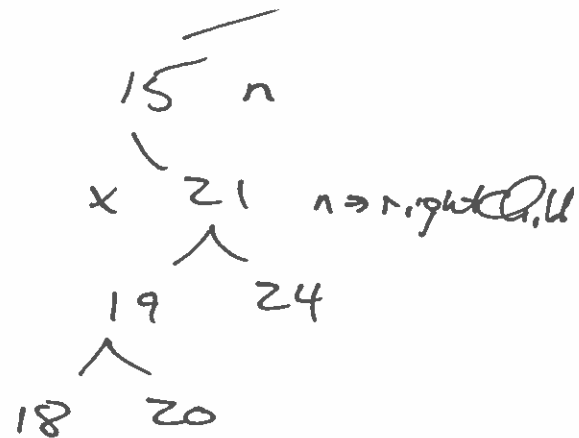
return x

Delete 15

n = search(15)

treeMinimum(n->rightChild)

returns pointer to 18



If min is right child of node delete

Delete 15

min = treeMinimum(15->rightChild)

if (min == n->rightChild)

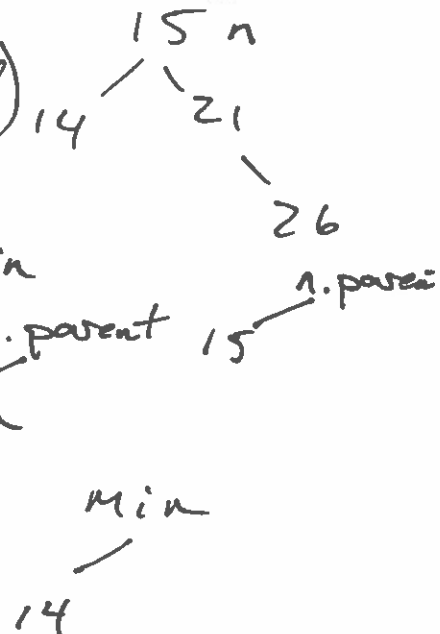
→ n->parent->leftChild = min

min->parent = n->parent

min->leftChild =

n->leftChild

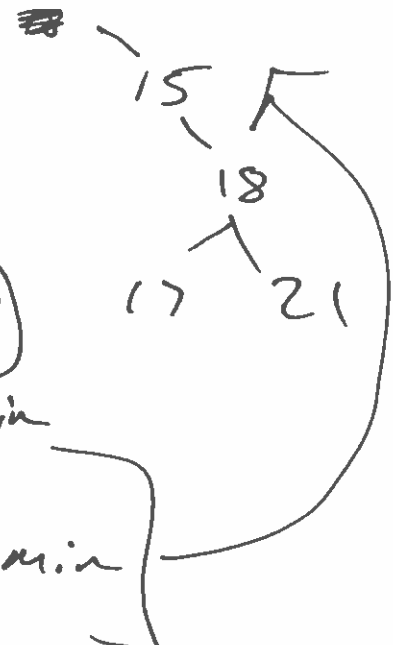
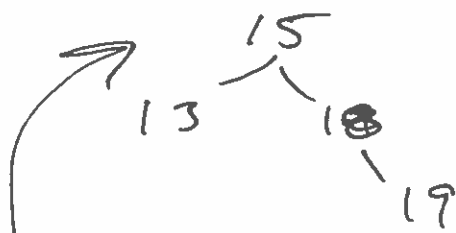
min->leftChild->parent = min



How does this code change if
n is a right child?

Delete 15
20

Delete 15
12



if (n == n → parent → leftchild)
 n → parent → leftchild = min

else
 n → parent → rightchild = min

// 16 is not right child of 15

else { // condition where min not right child

// nodes involved:

min right child

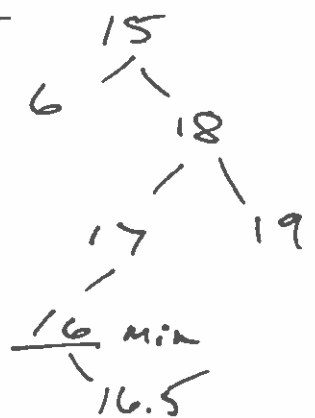
min parent gets new left

child
 n left child, right child, and
 parent all have to be updated

Delete 15

~~15~~

min = 16



min → parent → leftchild = min → rightchild
 17 16.5

17 → leftchild = 16.5

min → rightchild → parent = min → parent
 16.5 16.5

16.5 → parent = 17

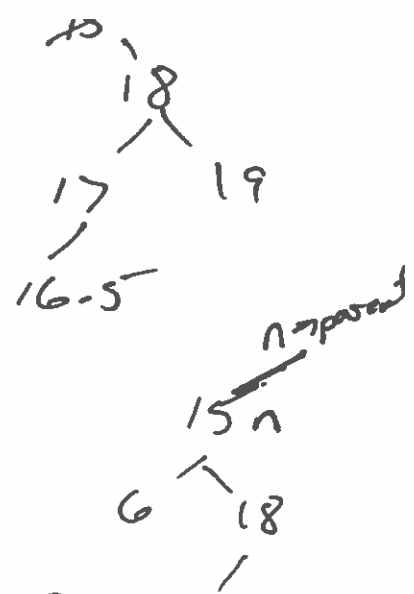
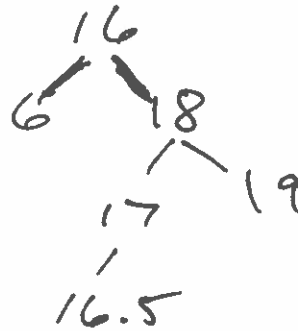
min → parent = n → parent

16 → parent = 15 → parent

$\rightarrow n \rightarrow \text{parent} \rightarrow \text{leftChild} = \text{min}$

$\text{min} \rightarrow \text{leftChild} = n \rightarrow \text{leftChild}$

$16 \rightarrow \text{leftChild} = 15 \rightarrow \text{leftChild}$

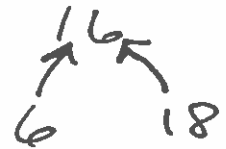


$\text{min} \rightarrow \text{rightChild} = n \rightarrow \text{rightChild}$

$16 \rightarrow \text{rightChild} = 15 \rightarrow \text{rightChild}$

$n \rightarrow \text{rightChild} \rightarrow \text{parent} = \text{min}$

$n \rightarrow \text{leftChild} \rightarrow \text{parent} = \text{min}$



delete n

$n \rightarrow \text{key} = \text{min} \rightarrow \text{key}$
delete min