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## 3.2 BINARY SEARCH TREES

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- ▶ *BSTs*
- ▶ *ordered operations*
- ▶ *deletion*



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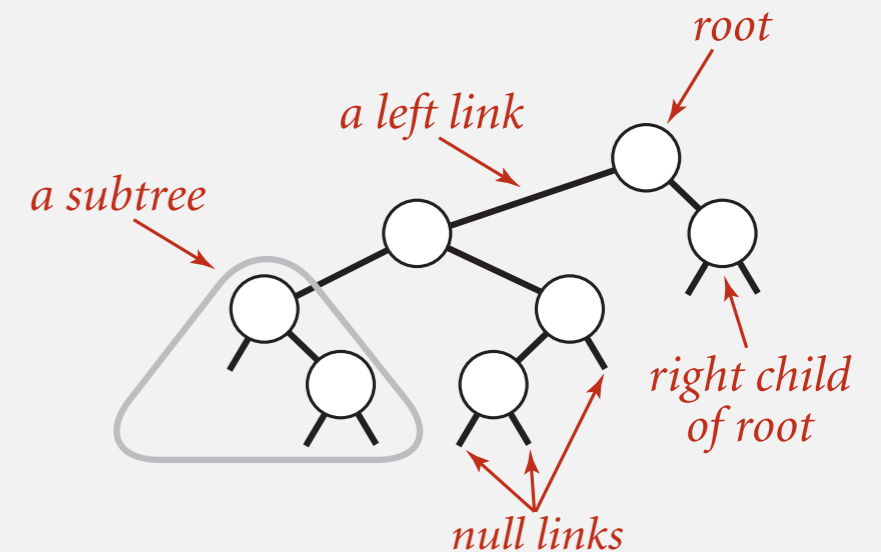
- ▶ *BSTs*
- ▶ *ordered operations*
- ▶ *deletion*

# Binary search trees

**Definition.** A BST is a **binary tree** in **symmetric order**.

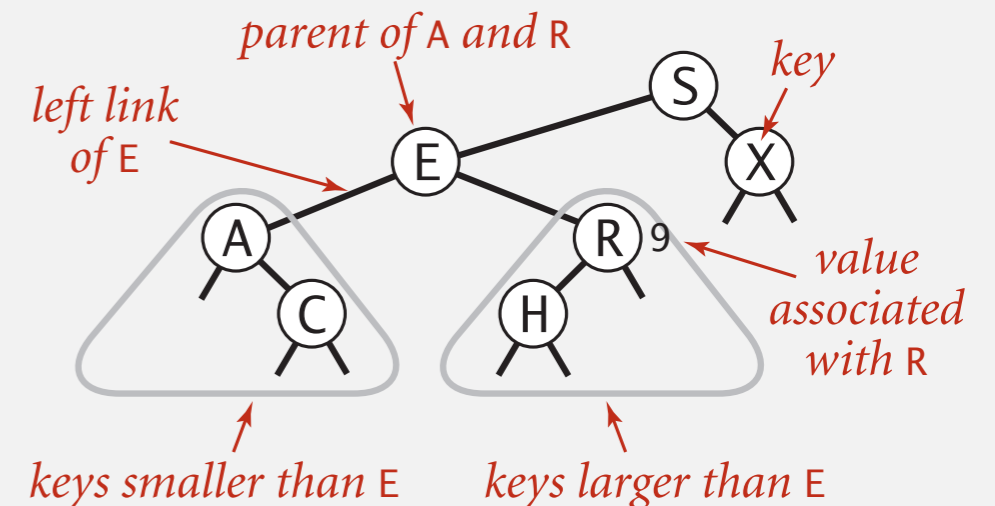
A binary tree is either:

- Empty.
- Two disjoint binary trees (left and right).



**Symmetric order.** Each node has a key, and every node's key is:

- Larger than all keys in its left subtree.
- Smaller than all keys in its right subtree.

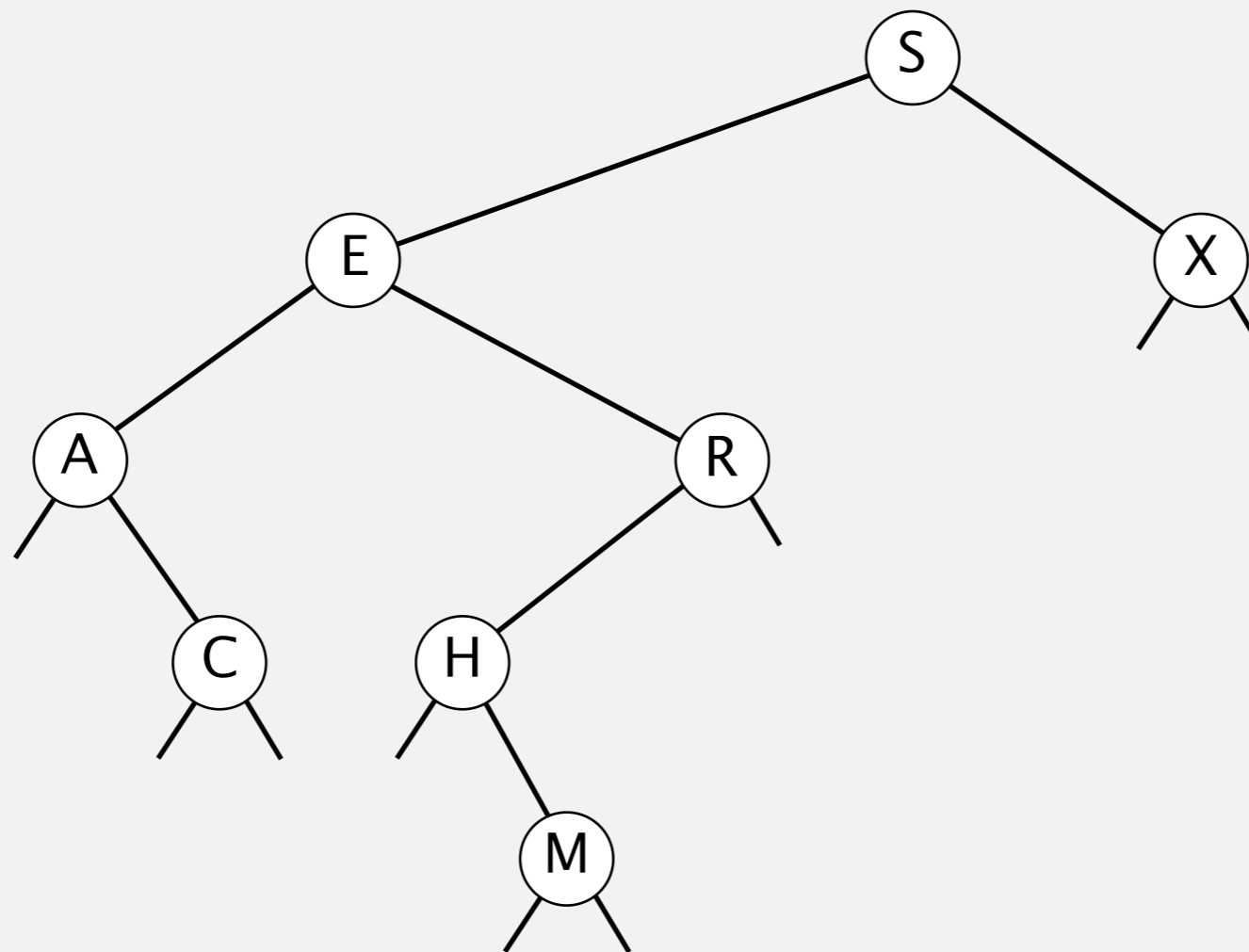


# Binary search tree demo

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**Search.** If less, go left; if greater, go right; if equal, search hit.

successful search for H

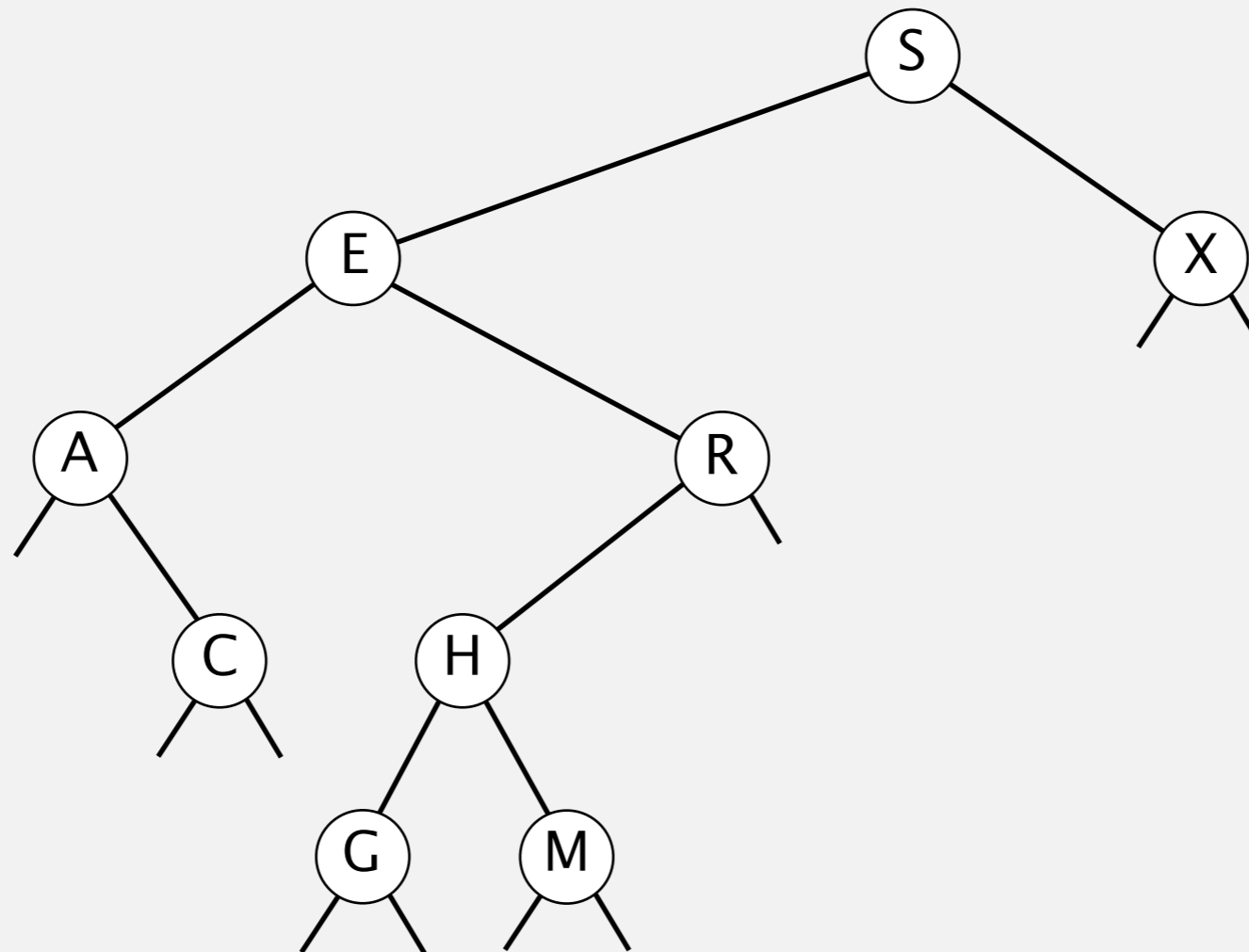


# Binary search tree demo

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**Insert.** If less, go left; if greater, go right; if null, insert.

insert G



# BST representation in Java

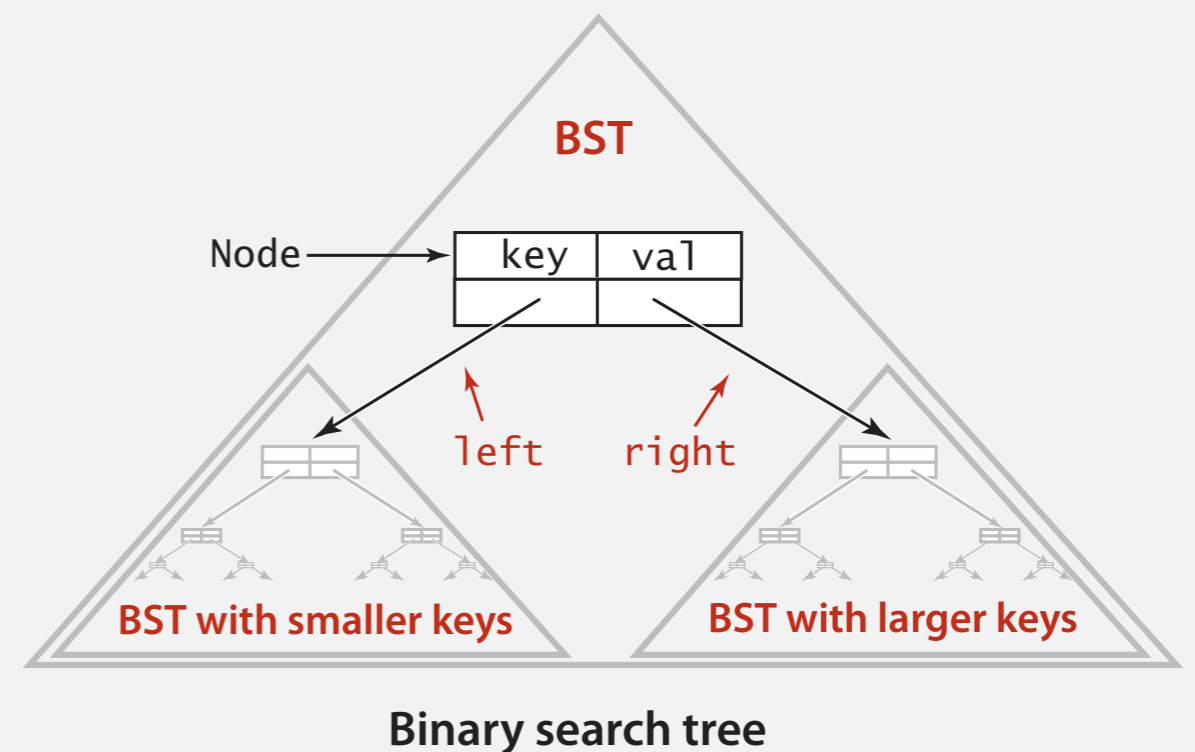
**Java definition.** A BST is a reference to a root Node.

A Node is composed of four fields:

- A Key and a Value.
- A reference to the left and right subtree.

↑ smaller keys      ↑ larger keys

```
private class Node
{
    private Key key;
    private Value val;
    private Node left, right;
    public Node(Key key, Value val)
    {
        this.key = key;
        this.val = val;
    }
}
```



Key and Value are generic types; Key is Comparable

# BST implementation (skeleton)

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```
public class BST<Key extends Comparable<Key>, Value>
{
    private Node root;

    private class Node
    { /* see previous slide */ }

    public void put(Key key, Value val)
    { /* see next slides */ }

    public Value get(Key key)
    { /* see next slides */ }

    public void delete(Key key)
    { /* see next slides */ }

    public Iterable<Key> iterator()
    { /* see next slides */ }
}
```

← root of BST

# BST search: Java implementation

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**Get.** Return value corresponding to given key, or null if no such key.

```
public Value get(Key key)
{
    Node x = root;
    while (x != null)
    {
        int cmp = key.compareTo(x.key);
        if (cmp < 0) x = x.left;
        else if (cmp > 0) x = x.right;
        else if (cmp == 0) return x.val;
    }
    return null;
}
```

**Cost.** Number of compares is equal to 1 + depth of node.



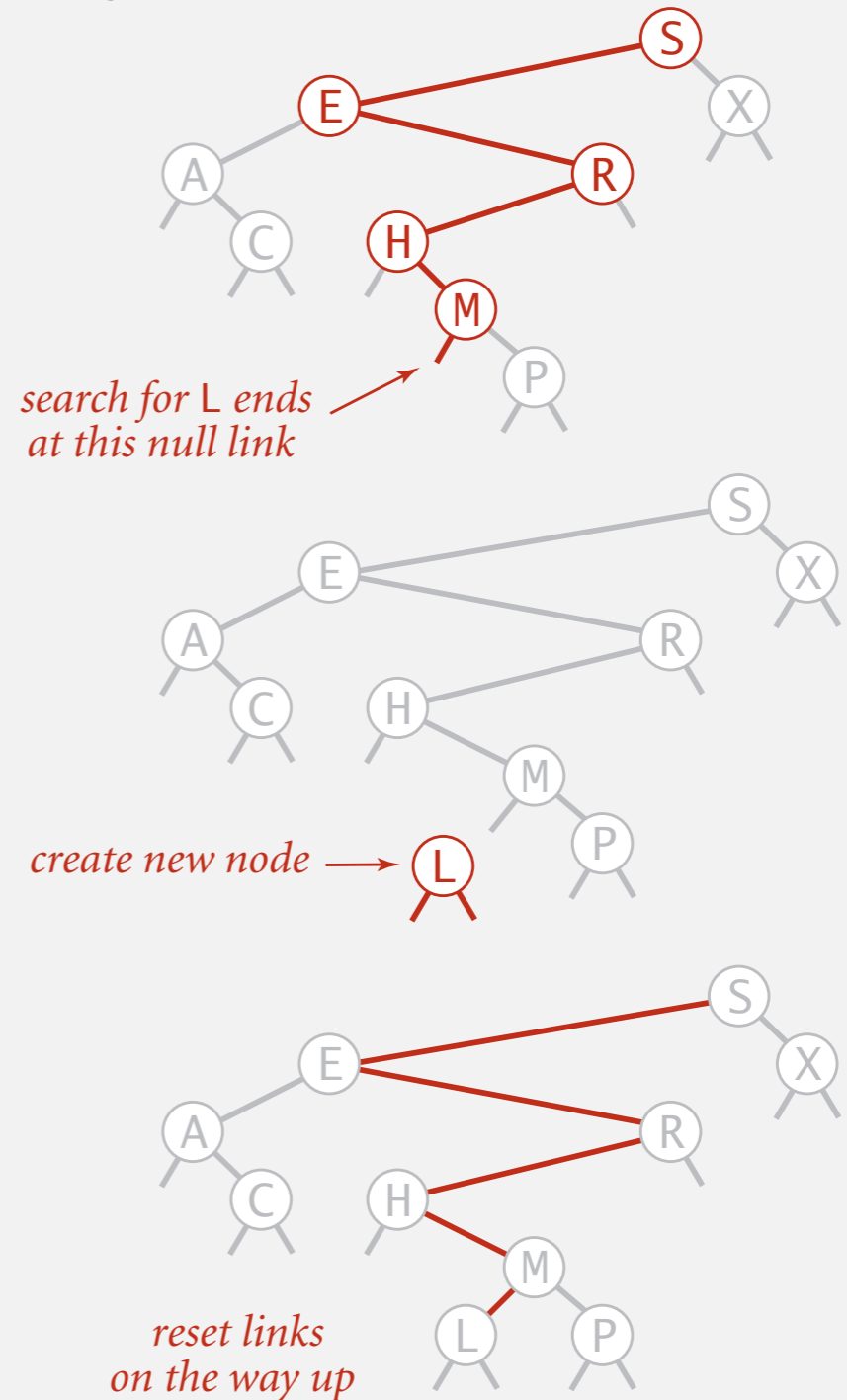
# BST insert

**Put.** Associate value with key.

Search for key, then two cases:

- Key in tree  $\Rightarrow$  reset value.
- Key not in tree  $\Rightarrow$  add new node.

inserting L



Insertion into a BST

# BST insert: Java implementation

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**Put.** Associate value with key.

```
public void put(Key key, Value val)
{ root = put(root, key, val); }

private Node put(Node x, Key key, Value val)
{
    if (x == null) return new Node(key, val);
    int cmp = key.compareTo(x.key);
    if (cmp < 0)
        x.left = put(x.left, key, val);
    else if (cmp > 0)
        x.right = put(x.right, key, val);
    else if (cmp == 0)
        x.val = val;
    return x;
}
```

concise, but tricky,  
recursive code;  
read carefully!

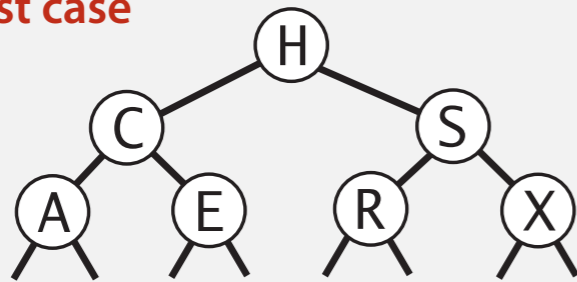
**Cost.** Number of compares is equal to  $1 + \text{depth of node}$ .

# Tree shape

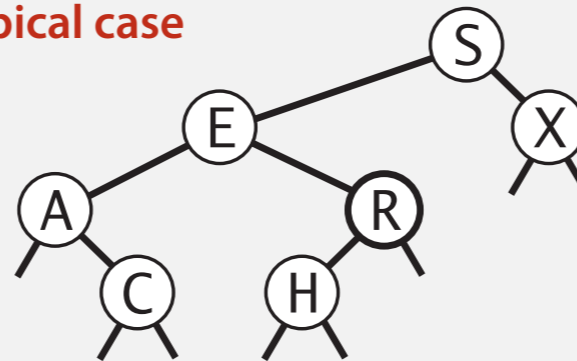
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- Many BSTs correspond to same set of keys.
- Number of compares for search/insert is equal to  $1 + \text{depth of node}$ .

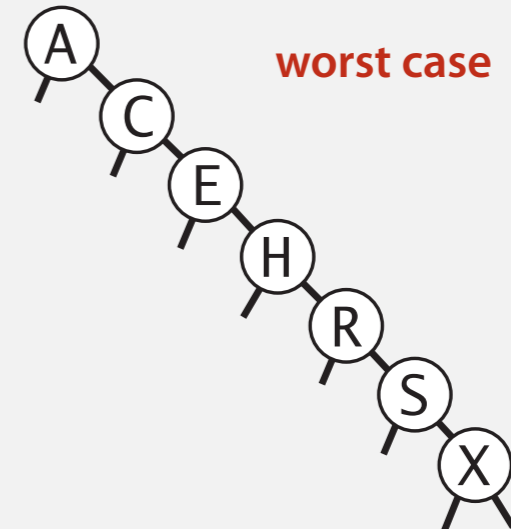
best case



typical case



worst case

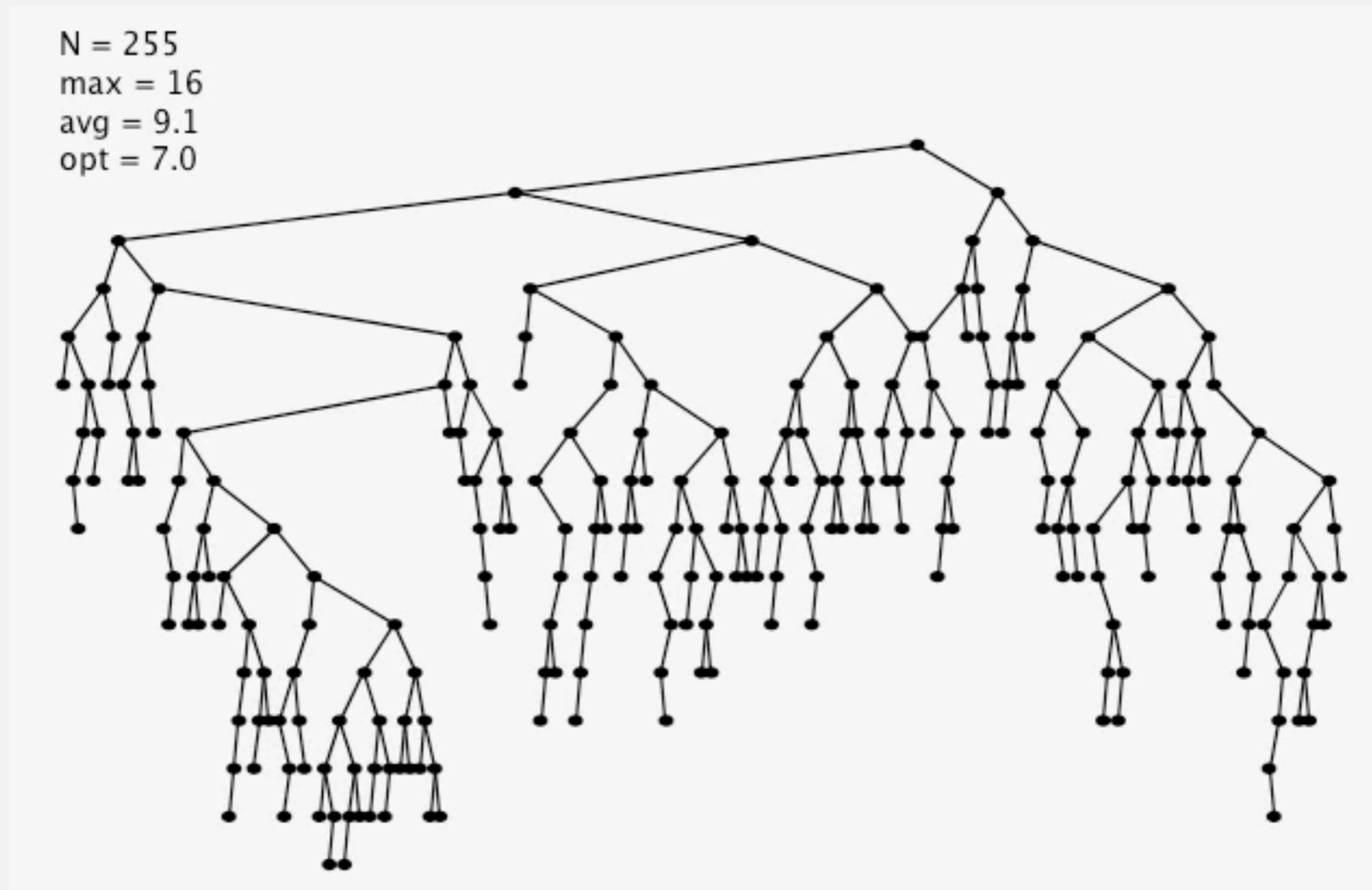


**Bottom line.** Tree shape depends on order of insertion.

# BST insertion: random order visualization

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Ex. Insert keys in random order.



# BSTs: mathematical analysis

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**Proposition.** If  $N$  distinct keys are inserted into a BST in **random** order, the expected number of compares for a search/insert is  $\sim 2 \ln N$ .

**Pf.** 1–1 correspondence with quicksort partitioning.

**Proposition.** [Reed, 2003] If  $N$  distinct keys are inserted in random order, expected height of tree is  $\sim 4.311 \ln N$ .

## How Tall is a Tree?

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### ABSTRACT

Let  $H_n$  be the height of a random binary search tree on  $n$  nodes. We show that there exists constants  $\alpha = 4.31107\dots$  and  $\beta = 1.95\dots$  such that  $\mathbf{E}(H_n) = \alpha \log n - \beta \log \log n + O(1)$ . We also show that  $\text{Var}(H_n) = O(1)$ .

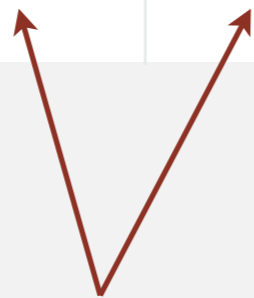
**But...** Worst-case height is  $N - 1$ .

[ exponentially small chance when keys are inserted in random order ]

# ST implementations: summary

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implementation	guarantee		average case		operations on keys
	search	insert	search hit	insert	
sequential search (unordered list)	$N$	$N$	$\frac{1}{2} N$	$N$	<code>equals()</code>
binary search (ordered array)	$\lg N$	$N$	$\lg N$	$\frac{1}{2} N$	<code>compareTo()</code>
BST	$N$	$N$	$1.39 \lg N$	$1.39 \lg N$	<code>compareTo()</code>



Why not shuffle to ensure a (probabilistic) guarantee of  $4.311 \ln N$ ?



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# ST implementations: summary

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implementation	guarantee			average case			ordered ops?	operations on keys
	search	insert	delete	search hit	insert	delete		
sequential search (linked list)	$N$	$N$	$N$	$\frac{1}{2} N$	$N$	$\frac{1}{2} N$		equals()
binary search (ordered array)	$\lg N$	$N$	$N$	$\lg N$	$\frac{1}{2} N$	$\frac{1}{2} N$	✓	compareTo()
BST	$N$	$N$	$N$	$1.39 \lg N$	$1.39 \lg N$	???	✓	compareTo()

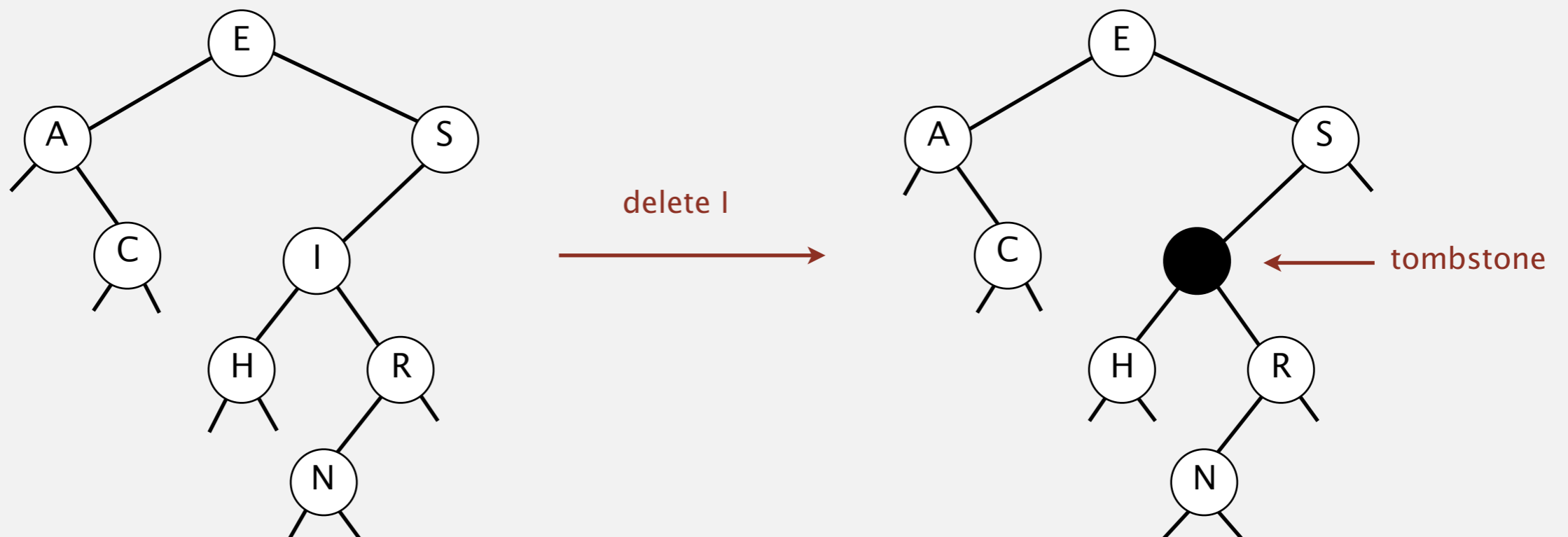
Next. Deletion in BSTs.



# BST deletion: lazy approach

To remove a node with a given key:

- Set its value to null.
- Leave key in tree to guide search (but don't consider it equal in search).



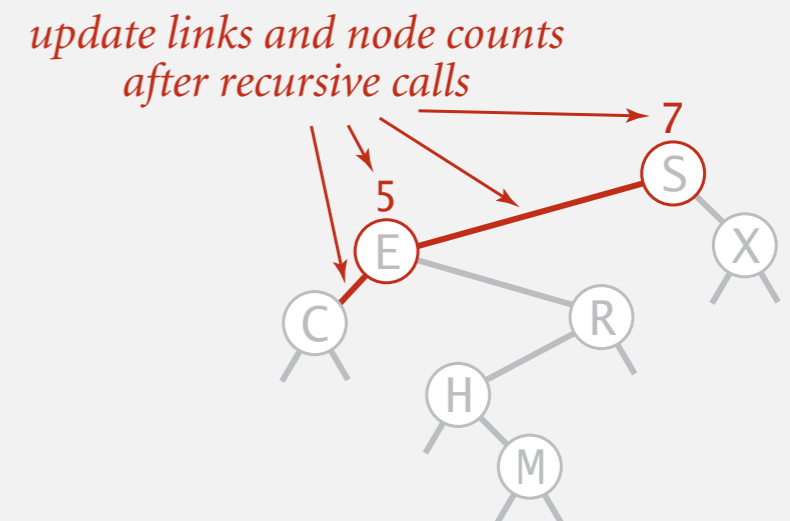
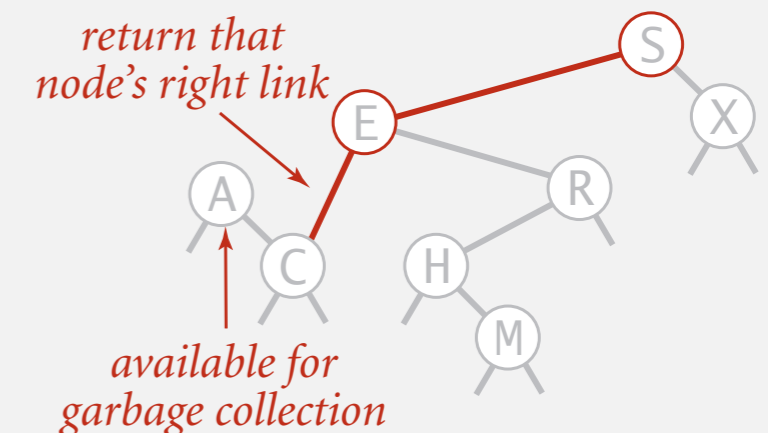
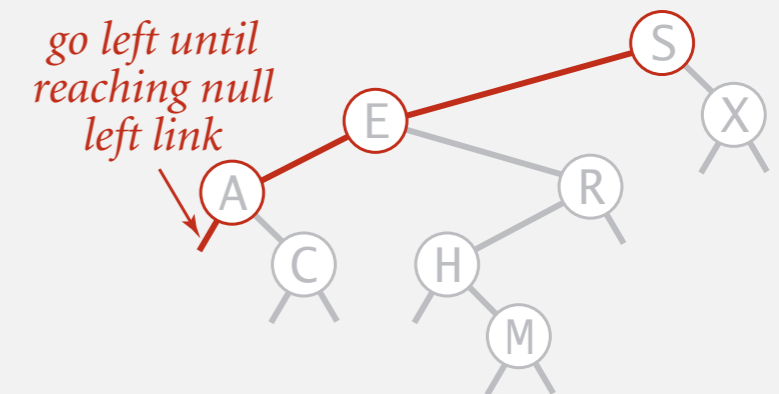
**Cost.**  $\sim 2 \ln N'$  per insert, search, and delete (if keys in random order), where  $N'$  is the number of key-value pairs ever inserted in the BST.

**Unsatisfactory solution.** Tombstone (memory) overload.

# Deleting the minimum

## To delete the minimum key:

- Go left until finding a node with a null left link.
- Replace that node by its right link.
- Update subtree counts.



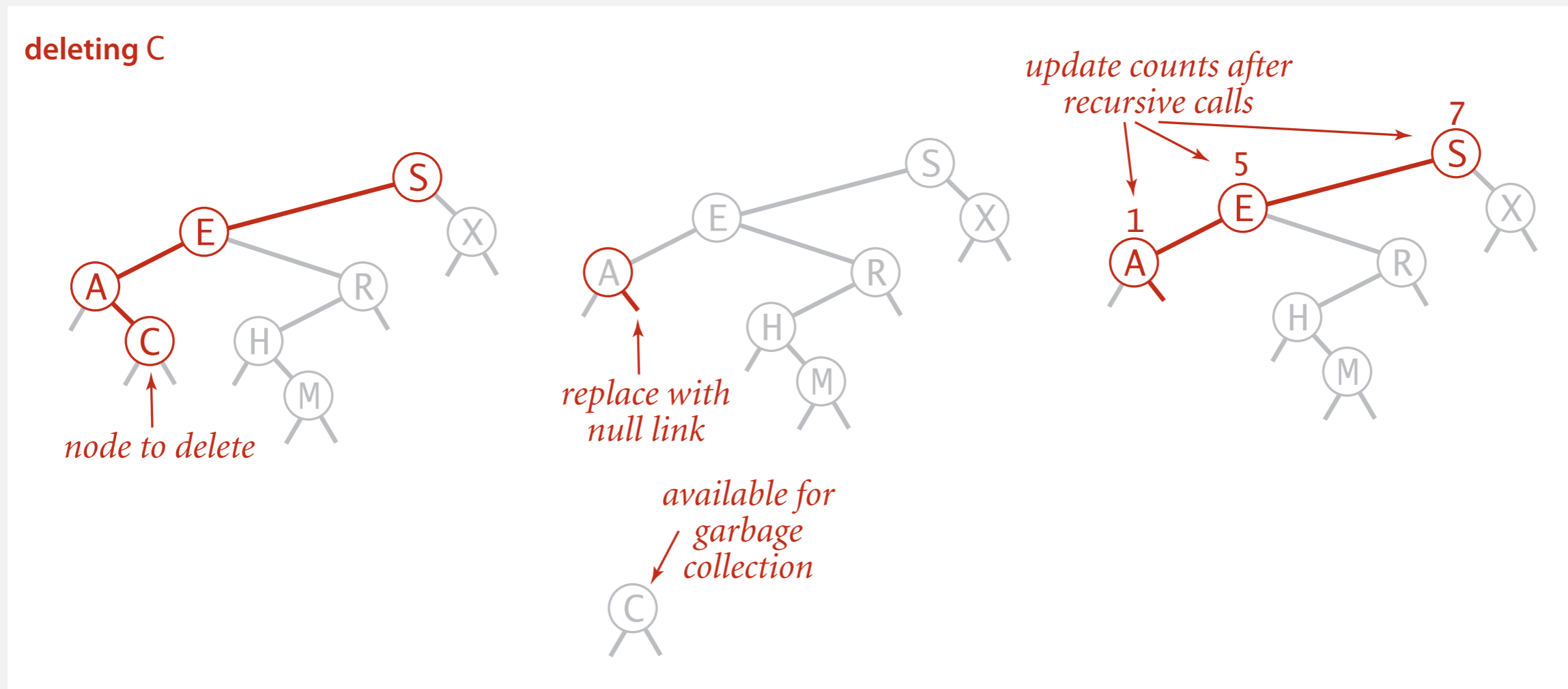
```
public void deleteMin()
{ root = deleteMin(root); }

private Node deleteMin(Node x)
{
    if (x.left == null) return x.right;
    x.left = deleteMin(x.left);
    x.count = 1 + size(x.left) + size(x.right);
    return x;
}
```

# Hibbard deletion

To delete a node with key  $k$ : search for node  $t$  containing key  $k$ .

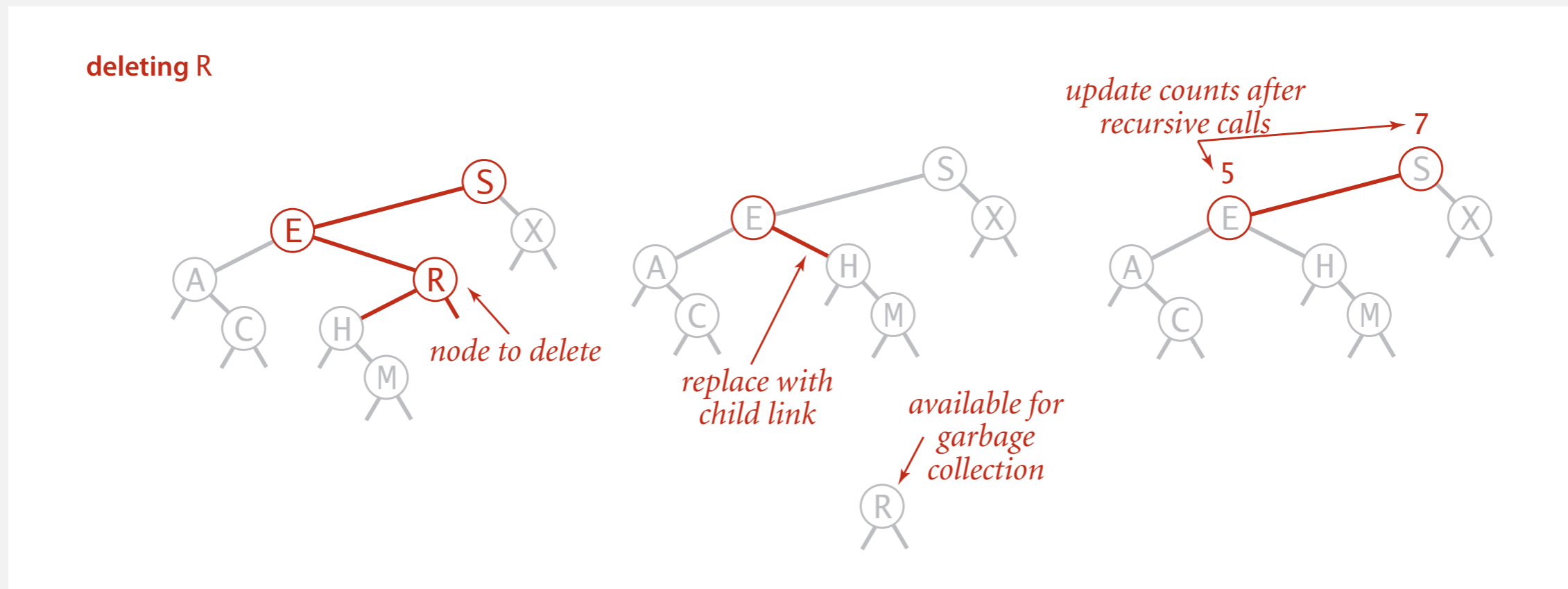
Case 0. [0 children] Delete  $t$  by setting parent link to null.



# Hibbard deletion

To delete a node with key  $k$ : search for node  $t$  containing key  $k$ .

Case 1. [1 child] Delete  $t$  by replacing parent link.

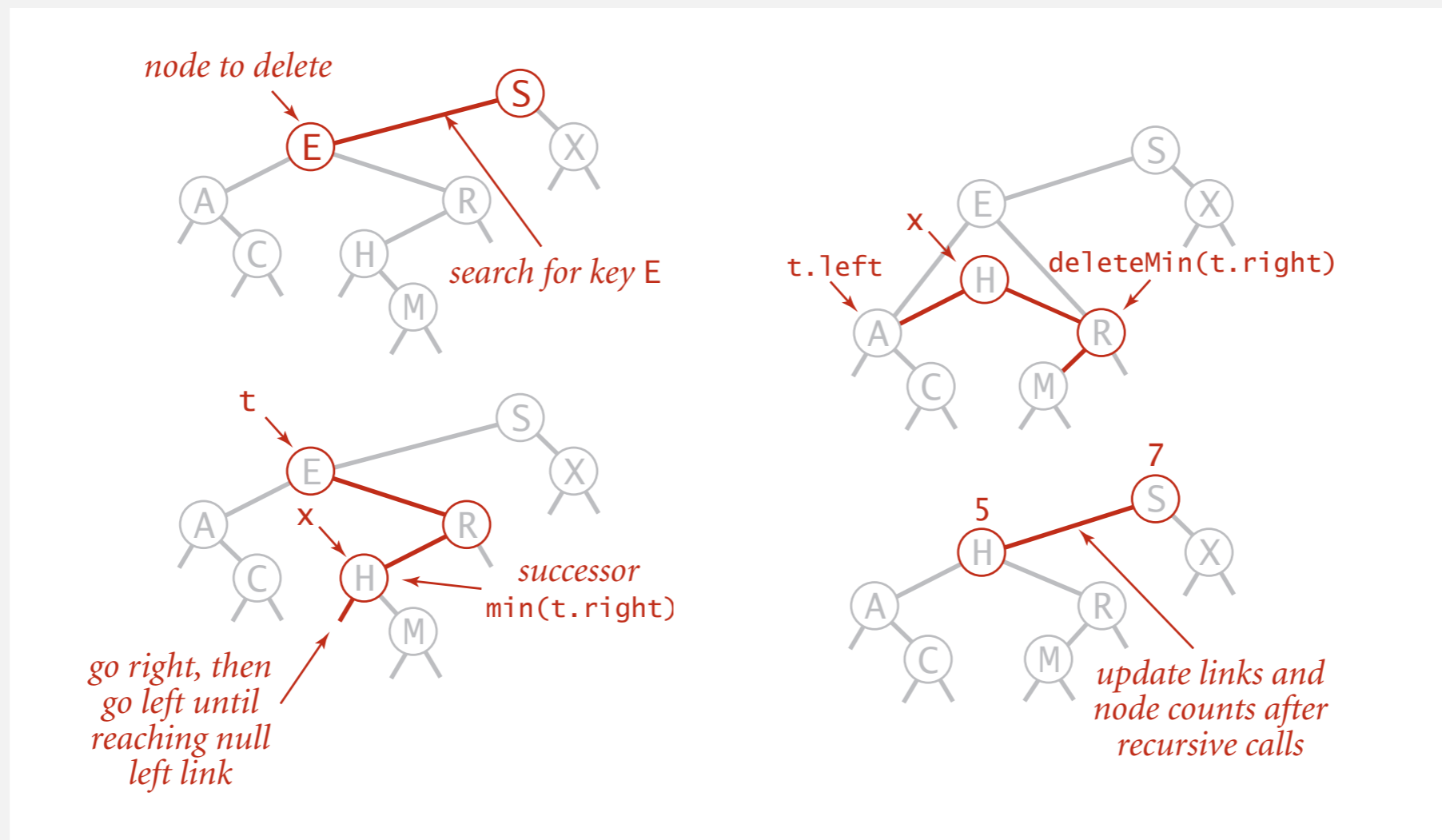


# Hibbard deletion

To delete a node with key  $k$ : search for node  $t$  containing key  $k$ .

## Case 2. [2 children]

- Find successor  $x$  of  $t$ . ←  $x$  has no left child
- Delete the minimum in  $t$ 's right subtree. ← but don't garbage collect  $x$
- Put  $x$  in  $t$ 's spot. ← still a BST



# Hibbard deletion: Java implementation

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```
public void delete(Key key)
{ root = delete(root, key); }
```

```
private Node delete(Node x, Key key) {
```

```
    if (x == null) return null;
```

```
    int cmp = key.compareTo(x.key);
```

```
    if (cmp < 0) x.left = delete(x.left, key);
```

```
    else if (cmp > 0) x.right = delete(x.right, key);
```

```
    else {
```

```
        if (x.right == null) return x.left;
```

```
        if (x.left == null) return x.right;
```

```
        Node t = x;
```

```
        x = min(t.right);
```

```
        x.right = deleteMin(t.right);
```

```
        x.left = t.left;
```

```
    }
```

```
    x.count = size(x.left) + size(x.right) + 1;
```

```
    return x;
```

```
}
```

← search for key

← no right child

← no left child

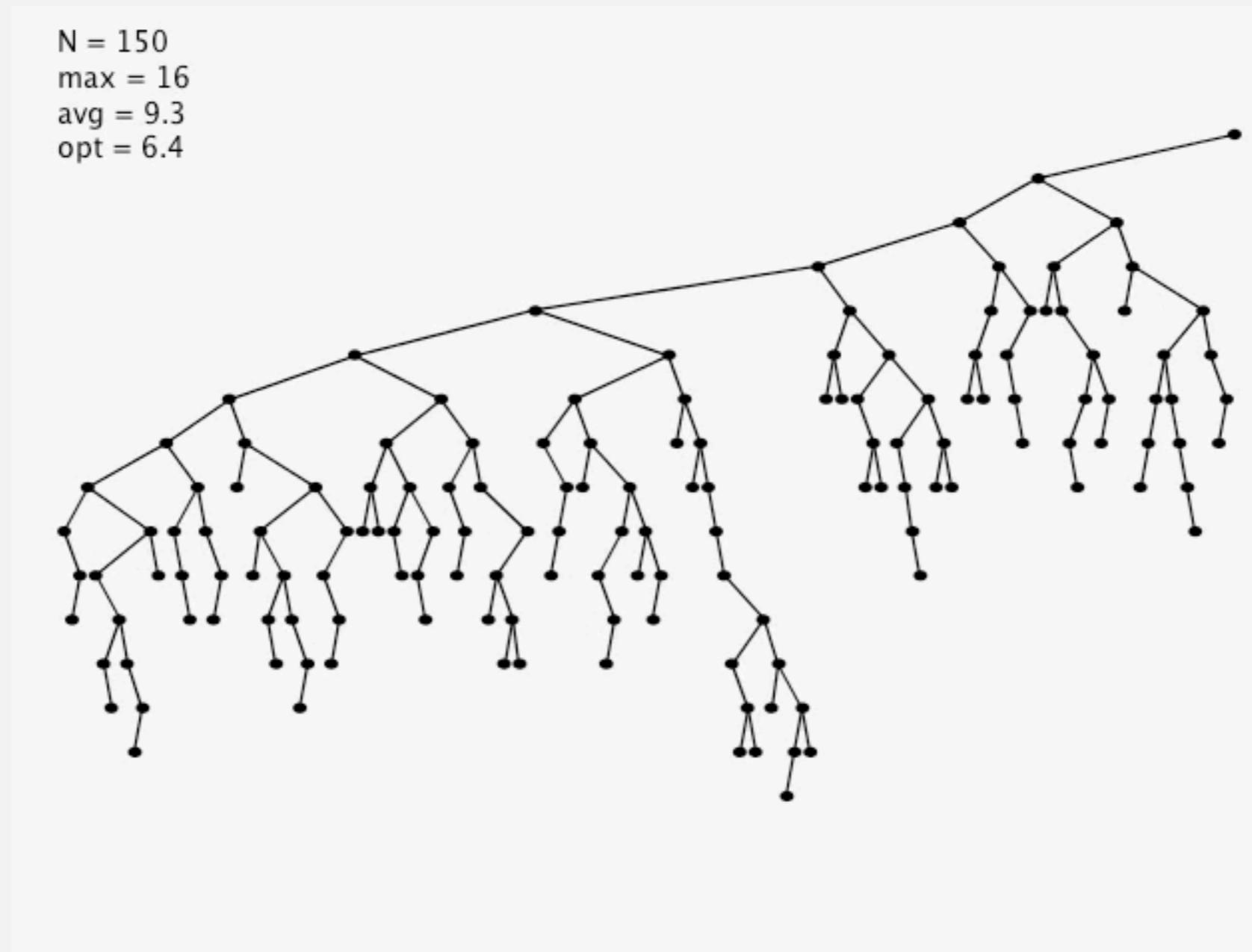
← replace with  
successor

← update subtree  
counts

# Hibbard deletion: analysis

---

Unsatisfactory solution. Not symmetric.



Surprising consequence. Trees not random (!)  $\Rightarrow \sqrt{N}$  per op.

Longstanding open problem. Simple and efficient delete for BSTs.

# ST implementations: summary

implementation	guarantee			average case			ordered ops?	operations on keys
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sequential search (linked list)	$N$	$N$	$N$	$\frac{1}{2} N$	$N$	$\frac{1}{2} N$		equals()
binary search (ordered array)	$\lg N$	$N$	$N$	$\lg N$	$\frac{1}{2} N$	$\frac{1}{2} N$	✓	compareTo()
BST	$N$	$N$	$N$	$1.39 \lg N$	$1.39 \lg N$	$\sqrt{N}$	✓	compareTo()

other operations also become  $\sqrt{N}$   
if deletions allowed

Next lecture. **Guarantee** logarithmic performance for all operations.