Priority Queue

An Introduction

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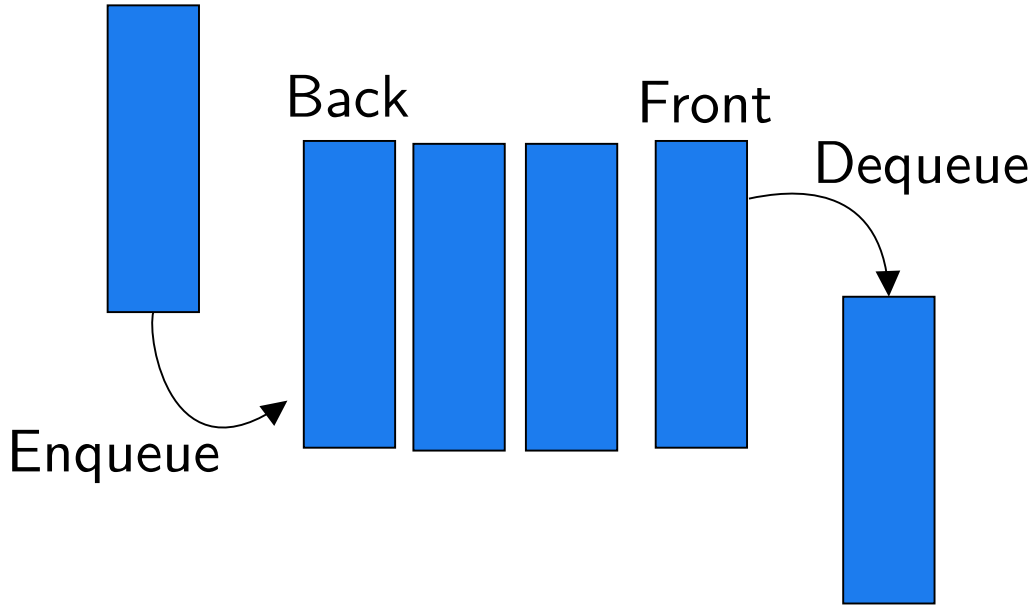
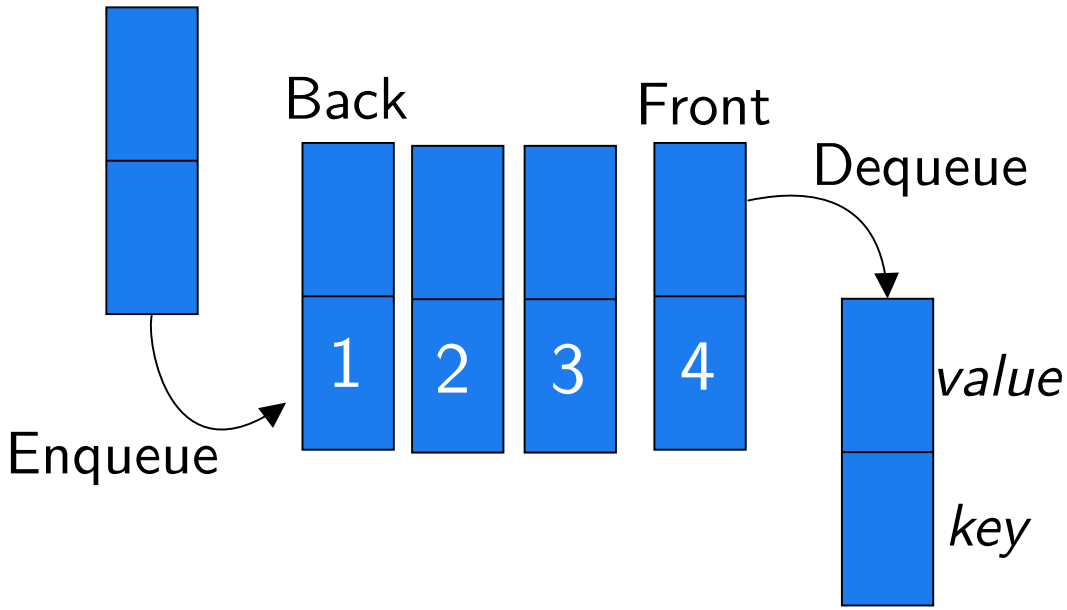
What is a Queue?

A queue is an example of a linear data structure, which works on the basis of "**first-in-first-out**" (FIFO).



What is a Priority Queue?

A priority queue is like a regular queue or stack data structure but where additionally each element has a "**priority**" associated with it. In a priority queue, an element with high priority is served before an element with low priority.



Application of Queue

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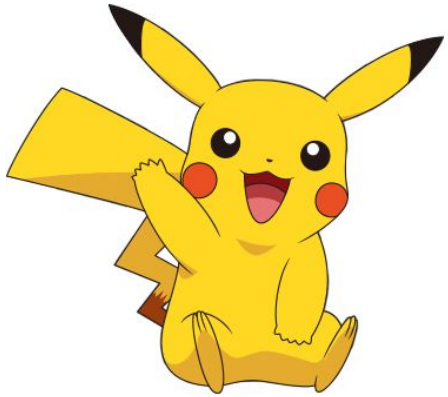

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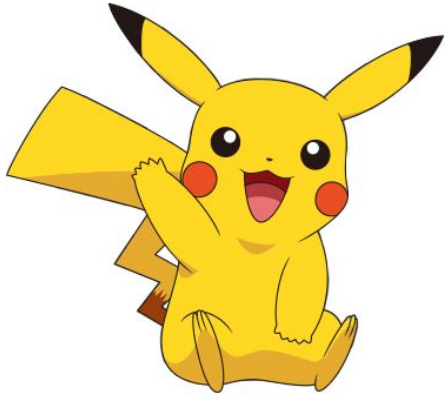
Application of Queue



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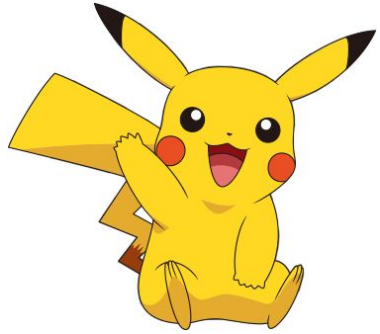

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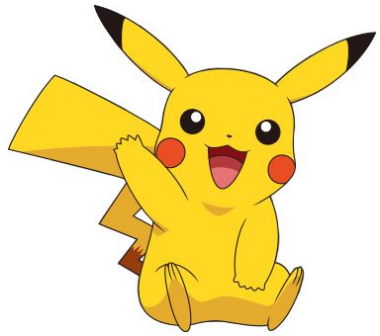

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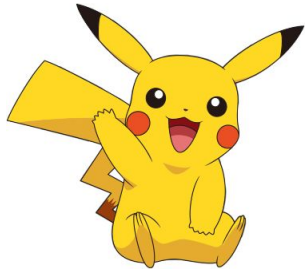

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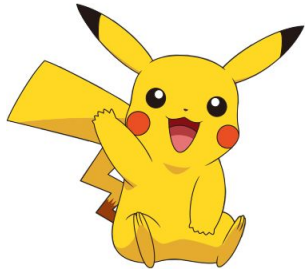

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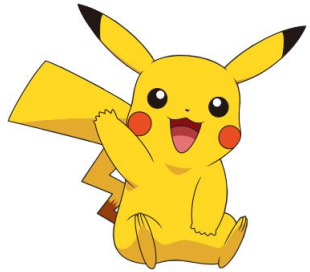

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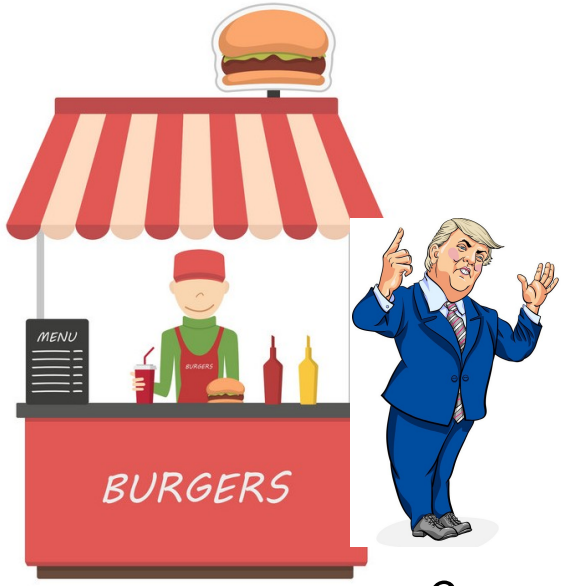

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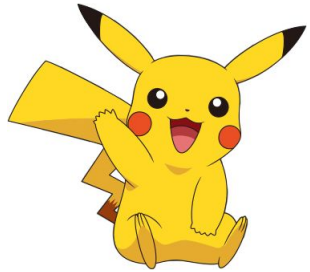

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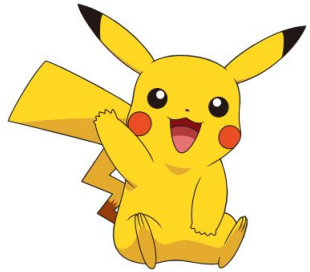

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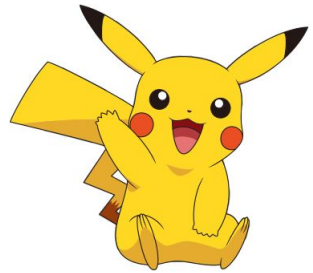

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Applications

- Dijkstra's Shortest Path Algorithm using priority queue: When the graph is stored in the form of adjacency list or matrix, priority queue can be used to extract minimum efficiently when implementing Dijkstra's algorithm.
- Prim's algorithm: It is used to implement Prim's Algorithm to store keys of nodes and extract minimum key node at every step.
- Data compression : It is used in Huffman codes which is used to compresses data.

Implementations of Priority Queue

- Fibonacci Heap
- Binary Heap

Definition

A Binary (Max) Heap is a complete binary tree that maintains the Max Heap property. Binary Heap is one possible data structure to model an efficient Priority Queue (PQ) Abstract Data Type (ADT). In a PQ, each element has a "priority" and an element with higher priority is served before an element with lower priority (ties are broken with standard First-In First-Out (FIFO) rule as with normal Queue). Try clicking ExtractMax() for a sample animation on extracting the max value of random Binary Heap above. To focus the discussion scope, we design this visualization to show a Binary Max Heap that contains distinct integers only.

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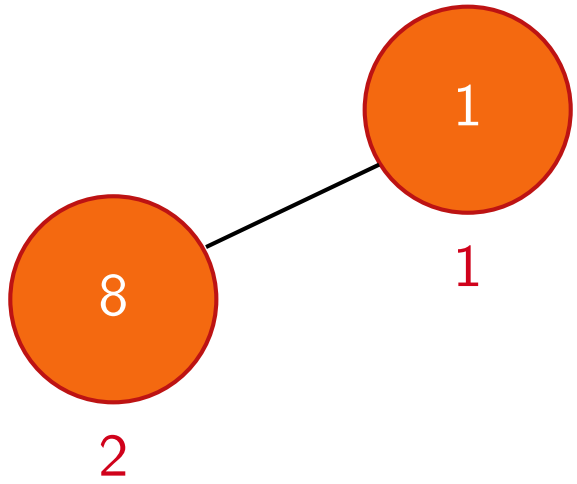
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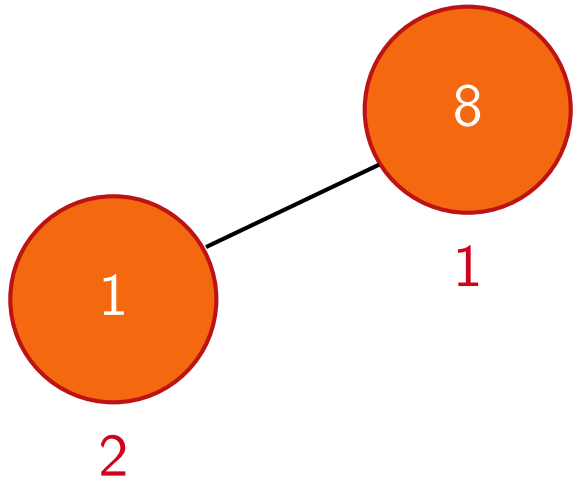
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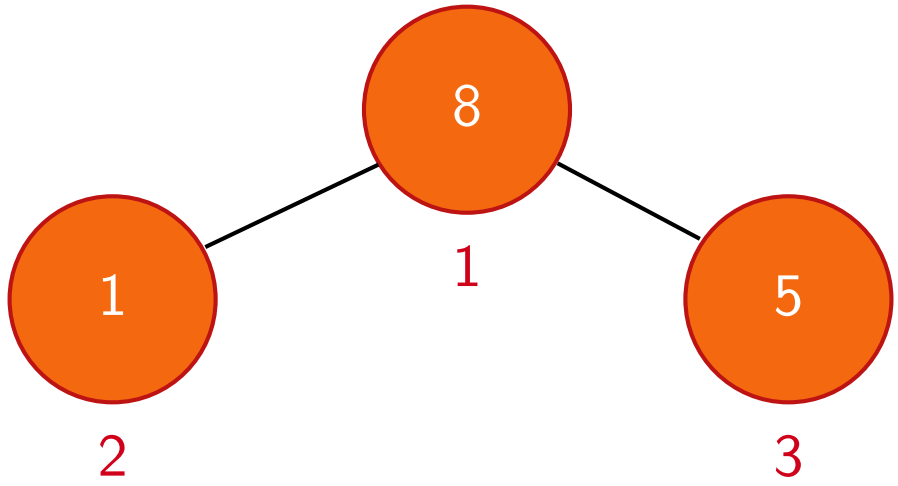
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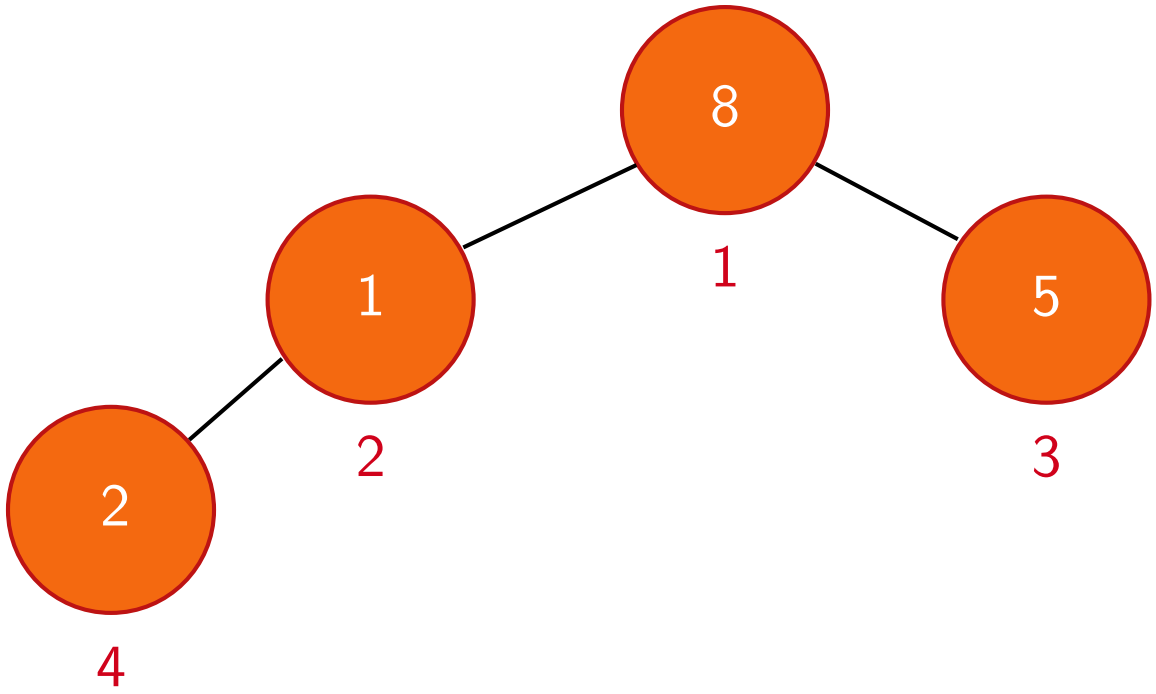
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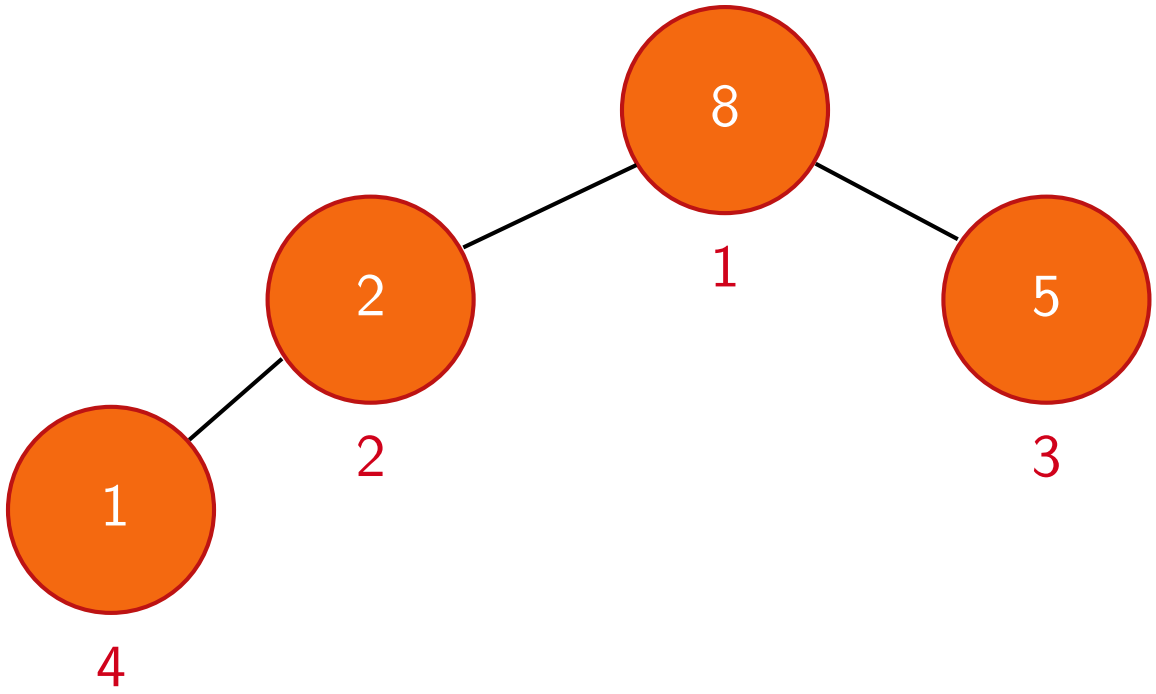
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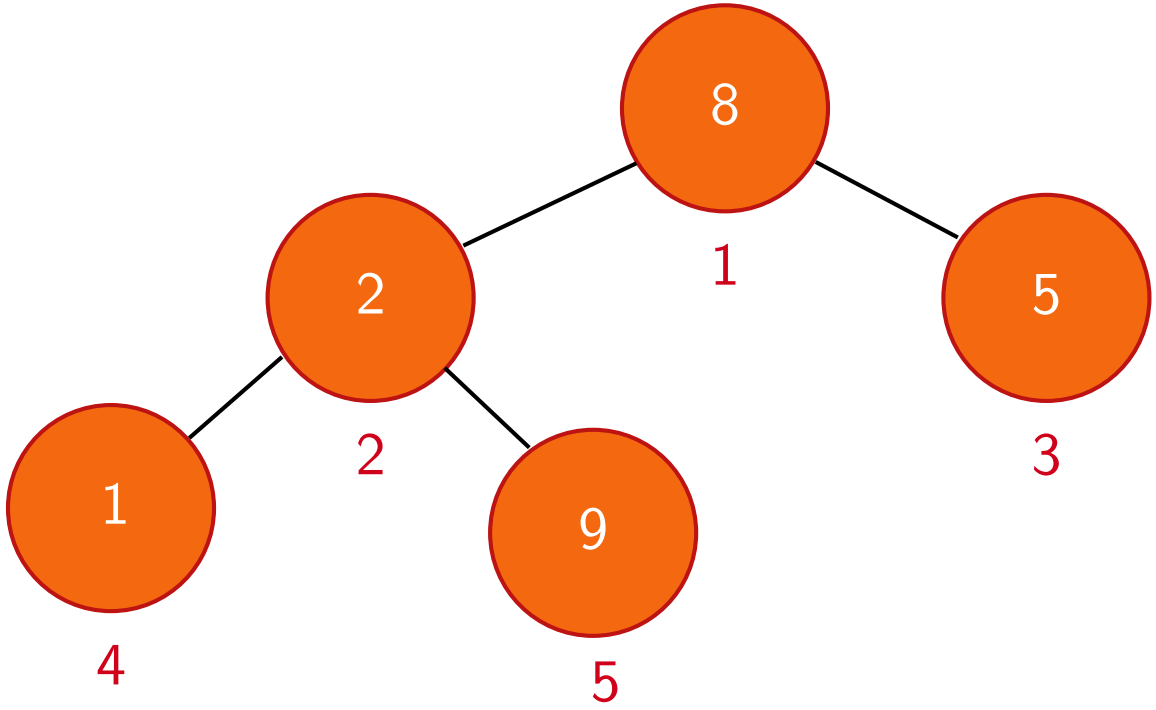
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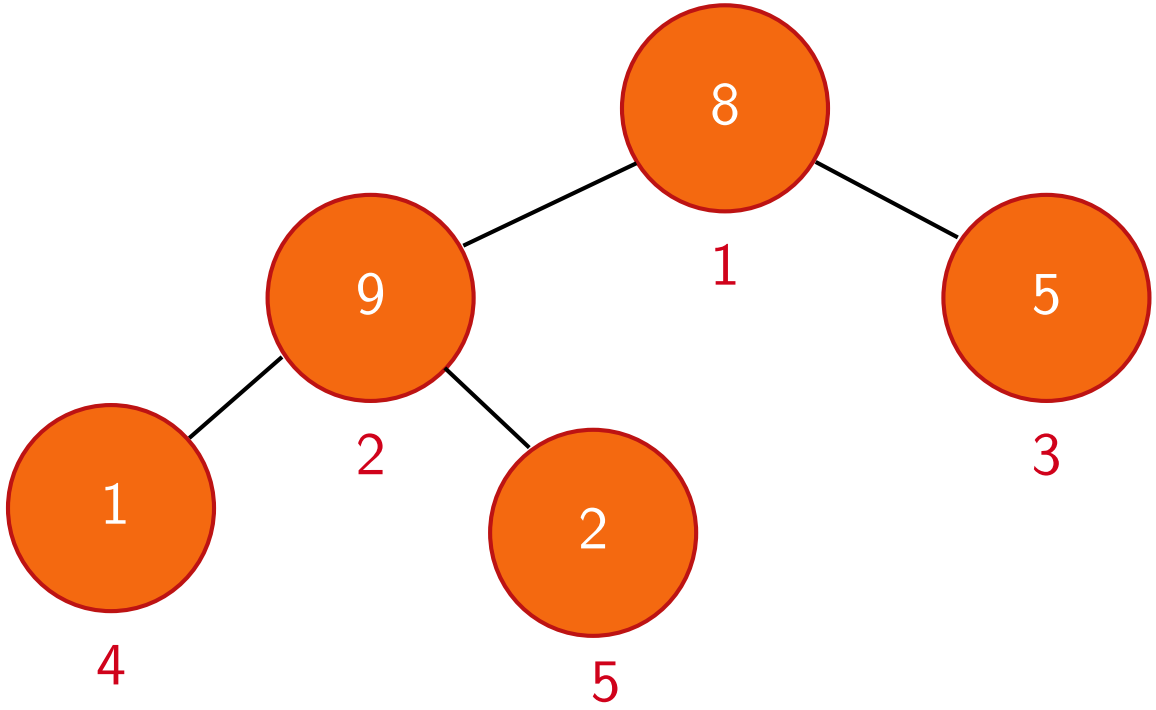
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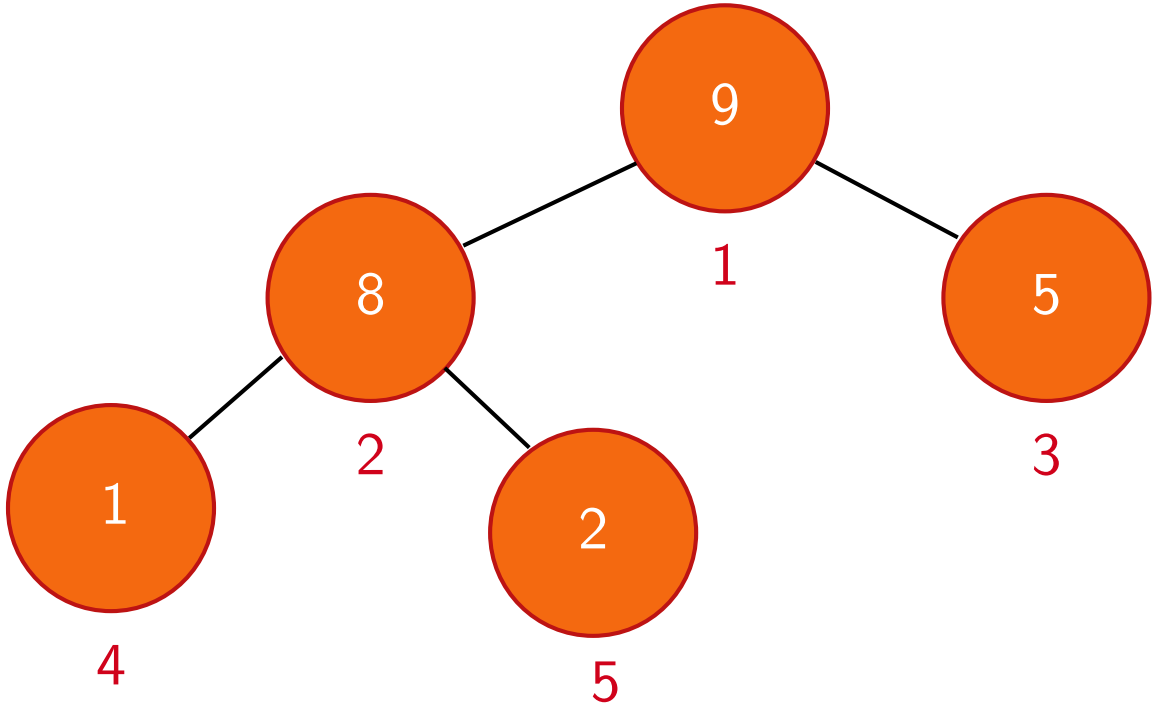
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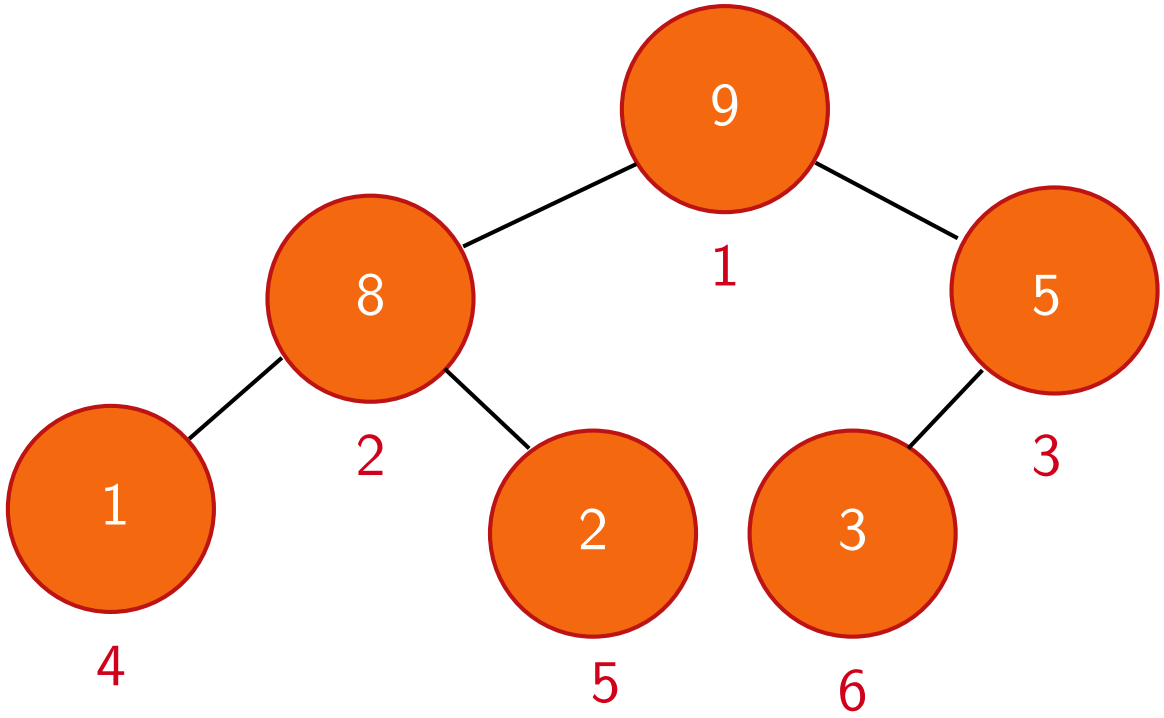
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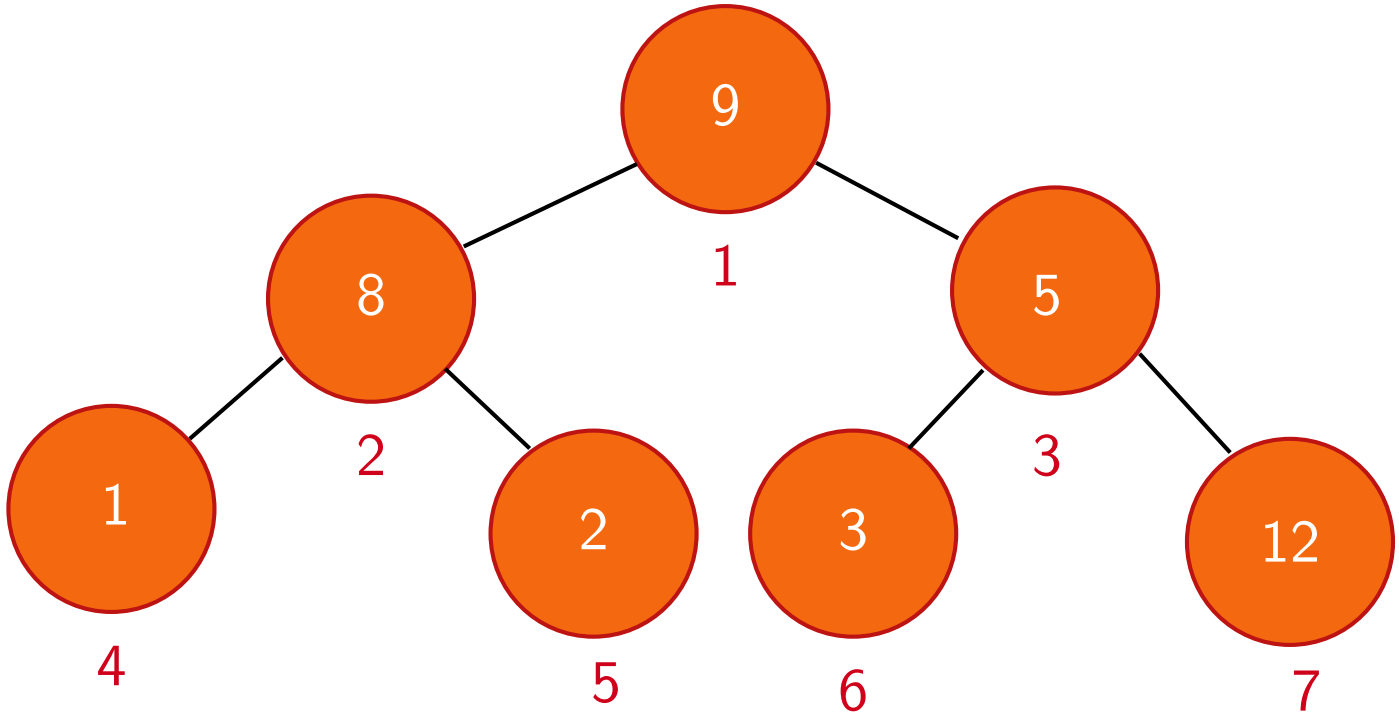
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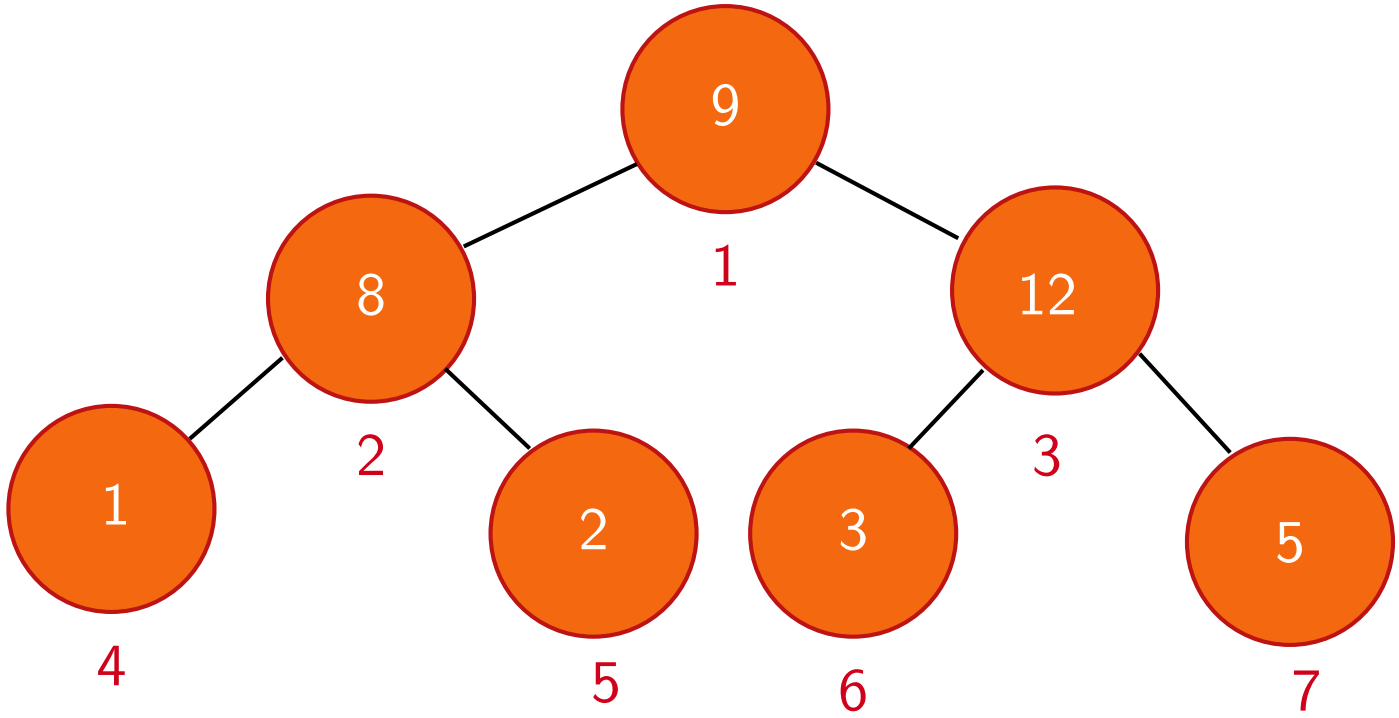
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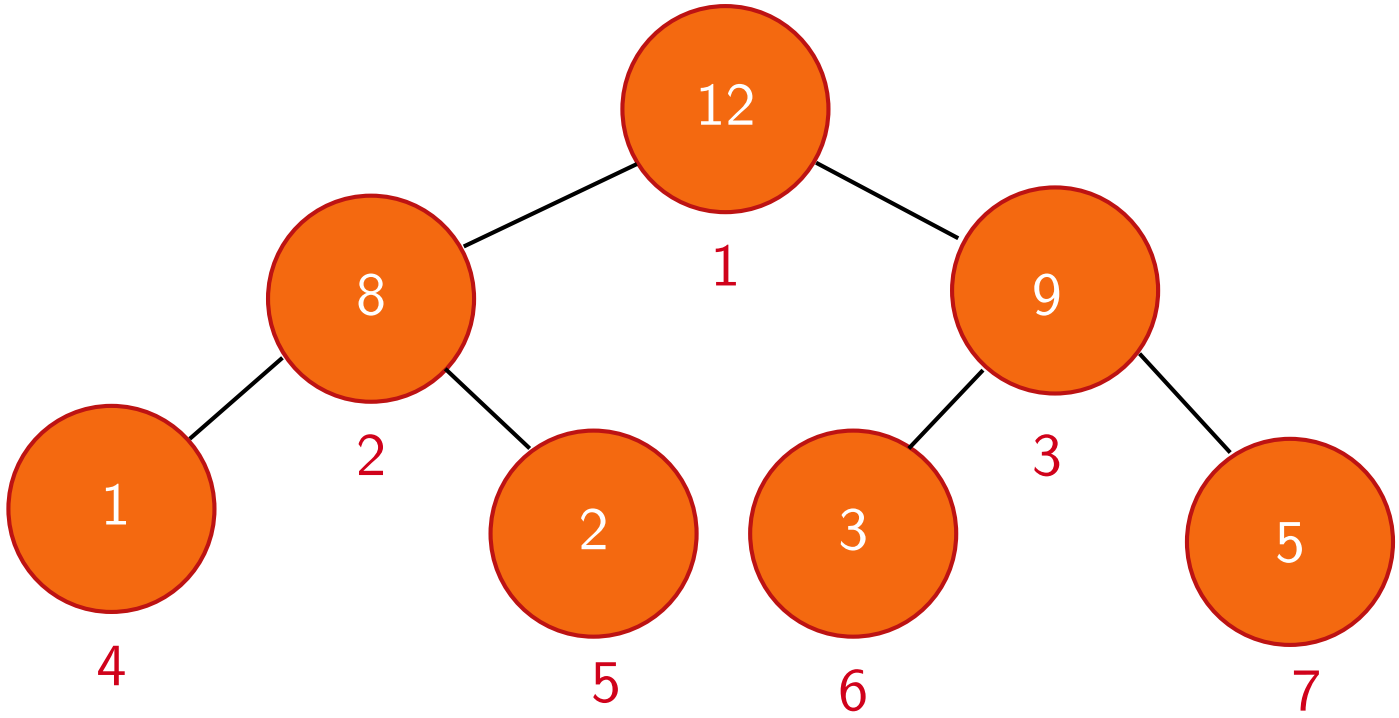
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The End

Any Questions?