Introduction to Segment Trees

Special class

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Introduction to Segment Trees

Course: https://unacademy.com/a/i-p-c-intermediate-track

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Objective

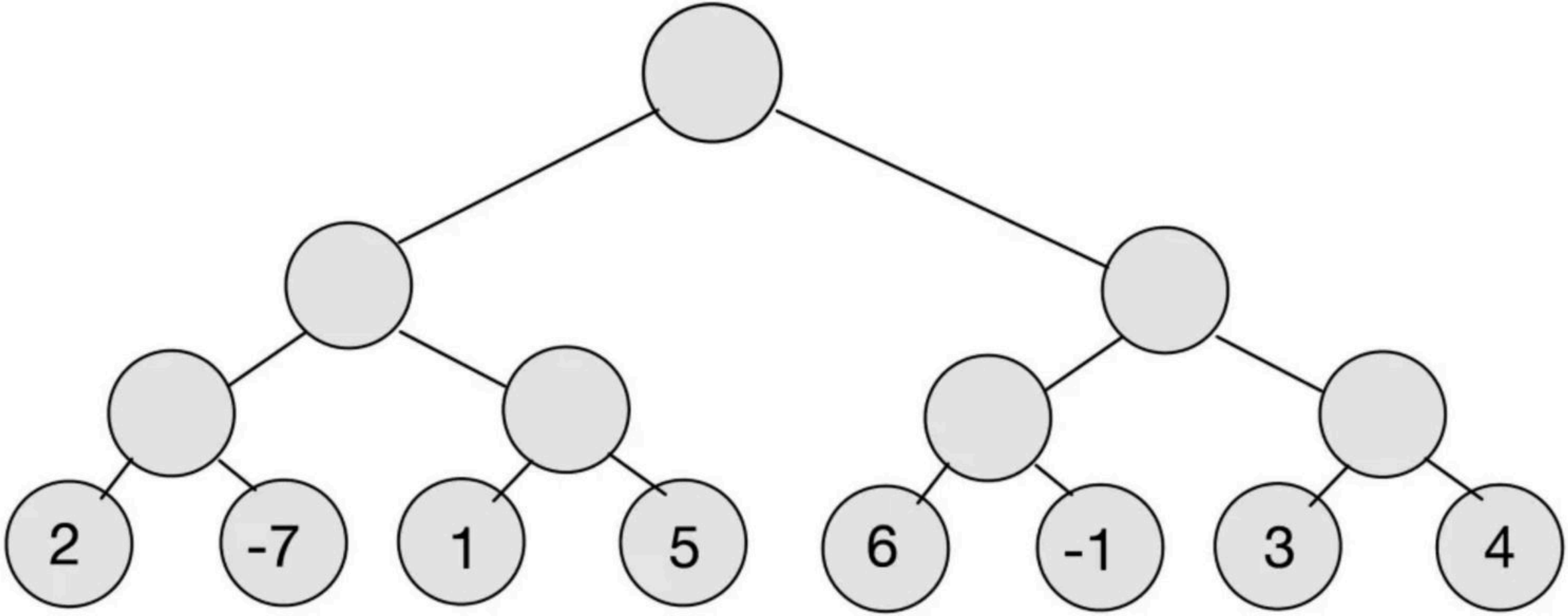
- Point Update and Range Query problem
- Introduction to Segment Trees
  - Discuss via examples
  - Build
  - Query
  - Update
- Sparse Segment Trees
  - Definition
  - Update
  - Query
- Conclusion

Point Updates and Range Queries

- Given an array A of N elements, support two types of operations:
  - Point Update: Given i, x set A[i] = x.
  - Range Query: Given [L, R] return Sum(A[i]), L <= i <= R.

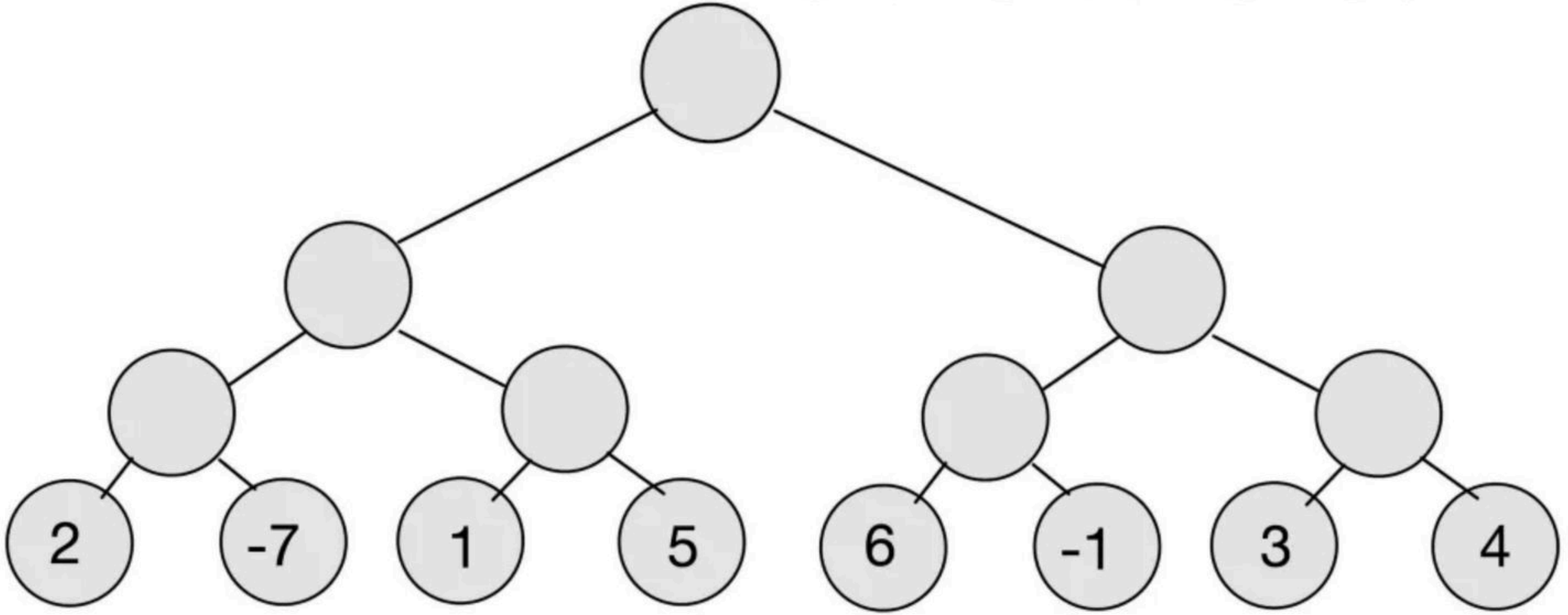
Introduction to Segment Trees

- A binary tree with each leaf corresponding to an element in the array.
- Every internal node represents a range in the original array.



Introduction to Segment Trees (eg: sum)

- Every internal node should store the “answer” for the range.
- Any range [L, R] can be broken down into at most LogN ranges.
- Final answer = CombineAnswer(Range_1, Range_2, ..., Range_LogN)



Introduction to Segment Trees (eg: min)

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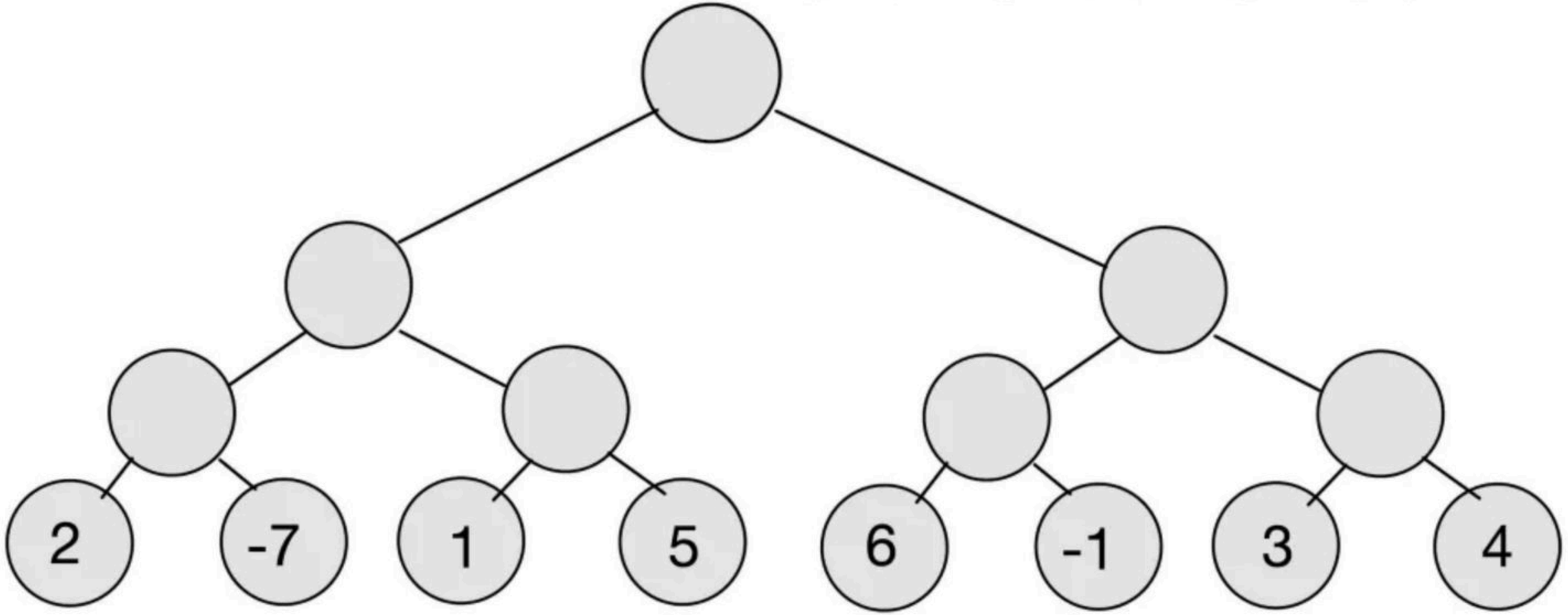
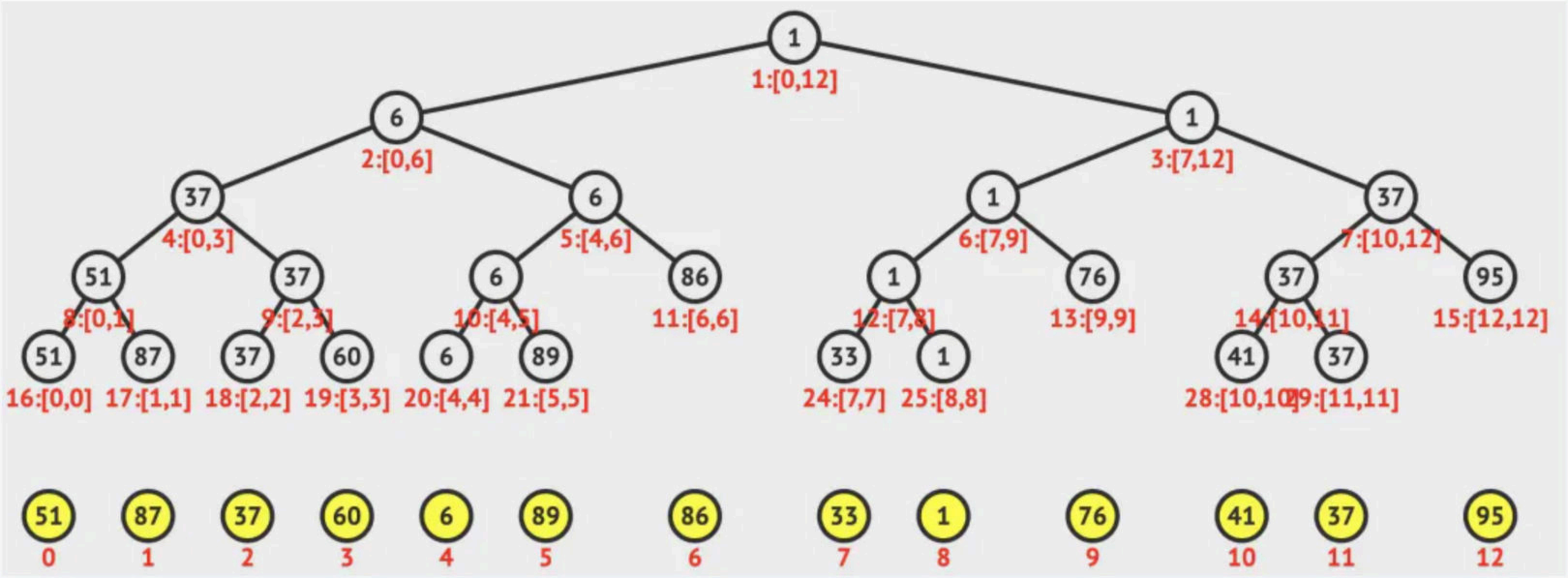


Introduction to Segment Trees

- See https://visualgo.net/en/segmenttree for more visualisations.
- **Q:** What is the tightest upper bound on number of nodes in a Segment Tree over array of length N? **A)** N **B)** 2 * N **C)** 4 * N **D)** N^2



Build

- Takes O(N) time because ST has O(N) nodes and each node is visited once.

```
int ST[4 * N], A[N];
#define lc (x << 1)
#define rc (x << 1)|1
void build(int x = 1, int l = 1, int r = N - 1) {
  if (l == r - 1) return void(ST[x] = A[l]);
  int mid = (l + r) / 2;
  build(lc, l, mid);
  build(rc, mid, r);
  ST[x] = combine(ST[lc], ST[rc]);
}
```

Query

- Start with the root node, and for every node check whether the range represented by this node lies completely within the Query Range
- If yes, return the answer stored at this node.
- If no, recursively fetch the answer from left and right child of the node, combine and return the complete answer.
- **Claim:** The query runs in O(logN) time.

```
int query(int L, int R, int x = 1, int l = 1, int r = N - 1) {
  if (l >= R || r <= L) return 0;
  if (l >= L && r <= R) return ST[x];
  int mid = (l + r) / 2;
  return combine(query(L, R, lc, l, mid), query(L, R, rc, mid, r));
}
```

Query Complexiy

Claim: The query runs in O(logN) time.

Proof: The Segment tree has O(logN) levels and at every level, we expand at-most 2 nodes (leftmost and rightmost). Therefore, we visit at-most 4 nodes at any level. Since time spent per node is O(1), total time is O(logN).

Point Update

- Takes O(logN) time since only nodes lying on a path from root to affected leaf will get affected. Hence no. of affected nodes are only O(logN).

```
void point_update(int pos, int val, int x = 1, int l = 1, int r = N - 1) {
  if (pos < l || pos >= r) return;
  if (l == r - 1) {
    ST[x] = val;
    A[pos] = val;
    return;
  }
  int mid = (l + r) / 2;
  update(pos, val, lc, l, mid);
  update(pos, val, rc, mid, r);
  ST[x] = combine(ST[lc], ST[rc]);
}
```

Sparse Segment Trees

- Let A be an empty array of 1e9 ([1, 1e9]) elements, initially all 0. Let there be Q (<= 1e5) queries of the form:
  - Point Update: Given pos, v - set A[pos] = v (1 <= pos <= 1e9)
  - Range Query: Given [L, R] - return Sum(A[i]), L <= i <= R.

Way-1 Coordinate Compression (Offline)

- Since number of distinct positions (updated or queried) is bounded by the input size (2 * Q), we can read all queries offline and map the integers to range [1, 2e5]
- Works only if processing the queries offline is allowed.

Way-2: Sparse Segment Trees

- Allocate the segment tree nodes only when needed (i.e. during a point update).
- During a Query, if a child doesn’t exist, the range represented by that child is 0.
- Need total Qlog(MAX) nodes in the tree, where MAX is the size of the range.

Way-2: Sparse Segment Trees

```
int L[Q * LOGN], R[Q * LOGN], ST[Q * LOGN], blen;
// sparse segtree. range sum, initially 0
int update(int pos, int add, int l, int r, int id) {
  if (pos < l || pos >= r) return id;
  if (!id) id = ++blen;
  if (l == r - 1) {
    ST[id] += add;
    return id;
  }
  int m = l + (r - l) / 2;
  L[id] = update(pos, add, l, m, L[id]);
  R[id] = update(pos, add, m, r, R[id]);
  ST[id] = combine(ST[L[id]], ST[R[id]]);
  return id;
}
```

Conclusion

- There are many more variations in segment trees.
  - Lazy Segment Trees for range updates
  - Merge Sort Trees
  - 2D Segment Trees.
  - Persistent Segment Trees
  - Etc.
- Segment trees are really powerful and are one of the most used DS in Competitive Programming.