

An aerial photograph of the University of British Columbia Okanagan campus. The image shows several large, modern brick buildings with flat roofs, interspersed with green lawns and trees. In the background, there are rolling hills and mountains under a clear blue sky. A semi-transparent white box is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing the title and course information.

# Data Structures and Algorithms

UBCO Master of Data Science – DATA 532



## Recap...

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We looked at the notion of data structures

- Hashing
- Collisions, Linear Probing, etc.

We learnt some basic algorithms

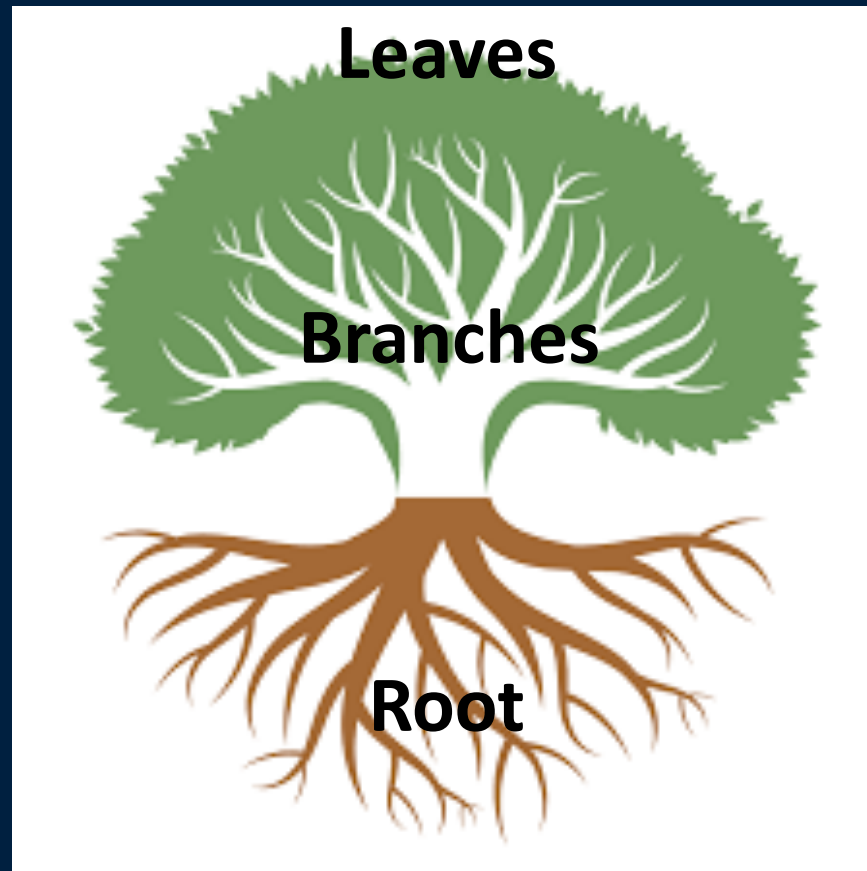
- Reviewed algorithmic complexity

# What are we going to learn today ?

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- What is a tree data structure
- Traversal in trees (pre-order, post-order)
- Idea of Binary Trees
- Concept of Binary Search Trees and how it affects searching

# Natural View of Trees....

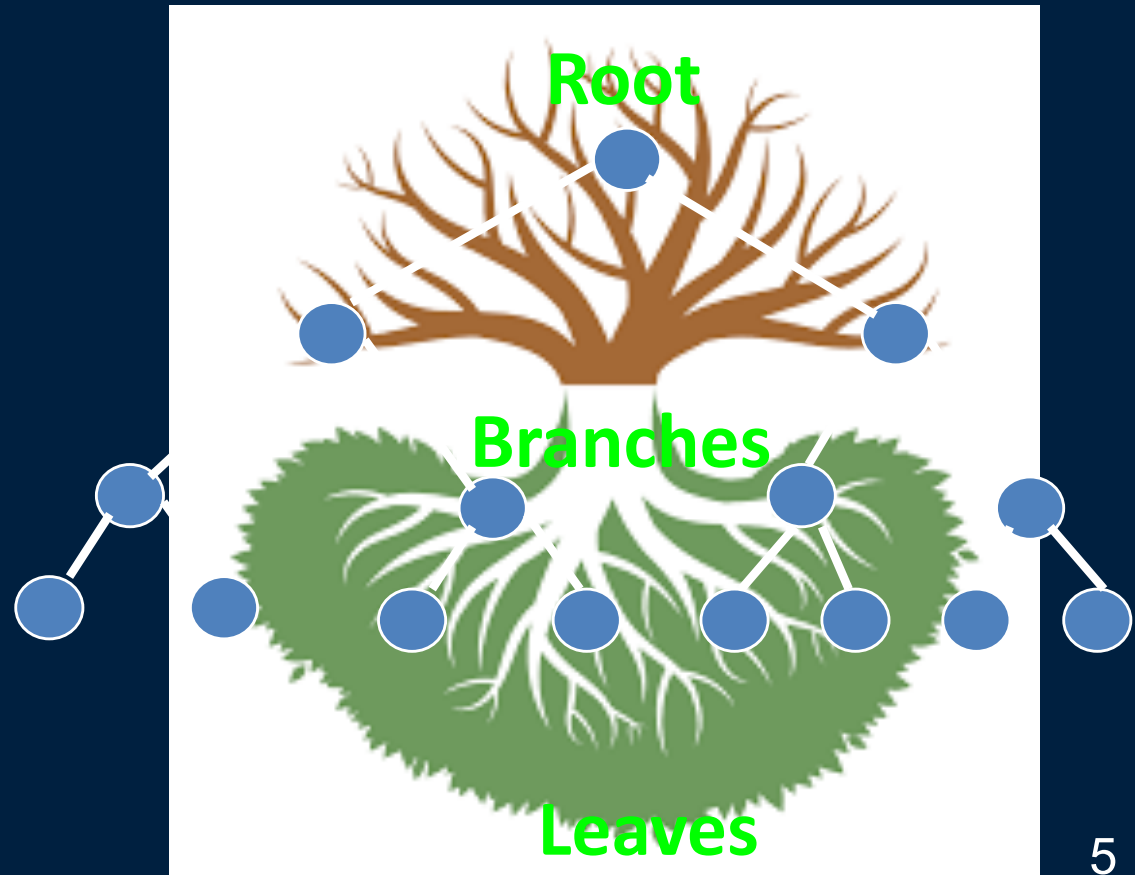




# Data Structure View of Trees...

While linked lists, stacks, and queues are useful data structures, they do have limitations

- Linked lists are linear in form and cannot reflect hierarchically organized data
- Stacks and queues are one-dimensional structures and have limited expressiveness

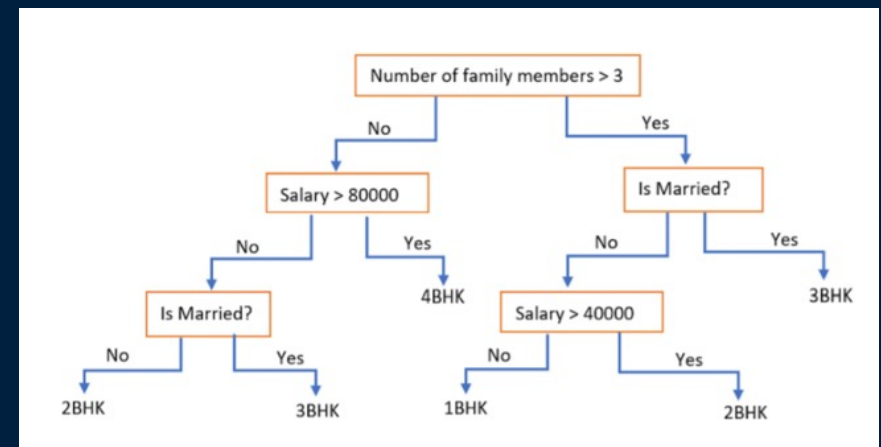
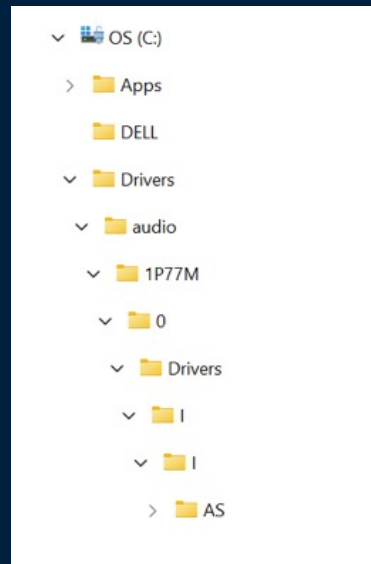


# What is a Tree ?

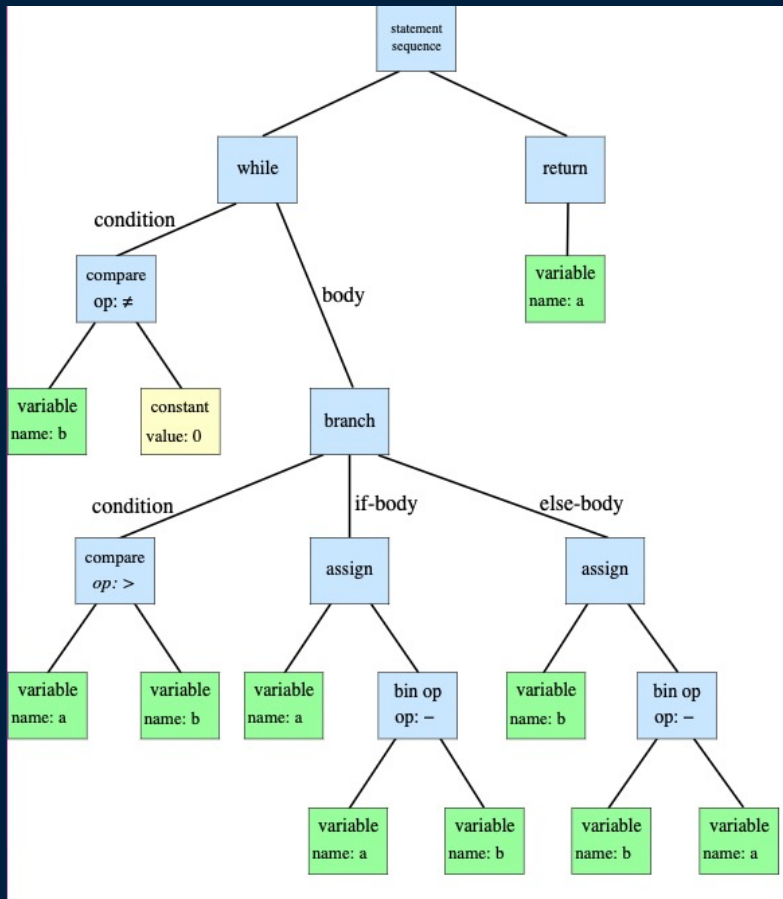
A tree is a finite nonempty set of elements.  
It is an abstract model of a hierarchical structure.  
consists of nodes with a parent-child relation.

Applications:

- File systems
- Decision Trees

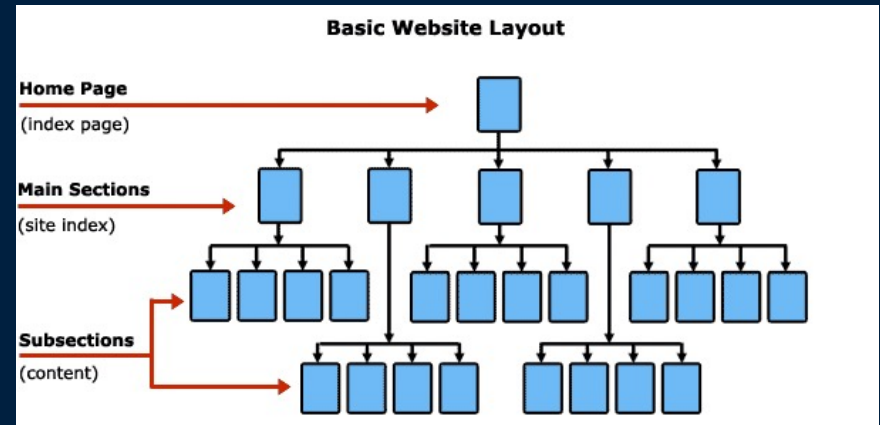


# Tree Data Structure applications



```

while b ≠ 0:
    if a > b:
        a := a - b
    else:
        b := b - a
return a
  
```



# Tree Terminology

**Root:** node without parent (A)

**Siblings:** nodes share the same parent

**Internal node:** node with at least one child (A, B, C, F)

**External node (LEAF):** node without children (E, I, J, K, G, H, D)

**Ancestors** of a node: parent, grandparent, grand-grandparent, etc.

**Descendant** of a node: child, grandchild, grand-grandchild, etc.

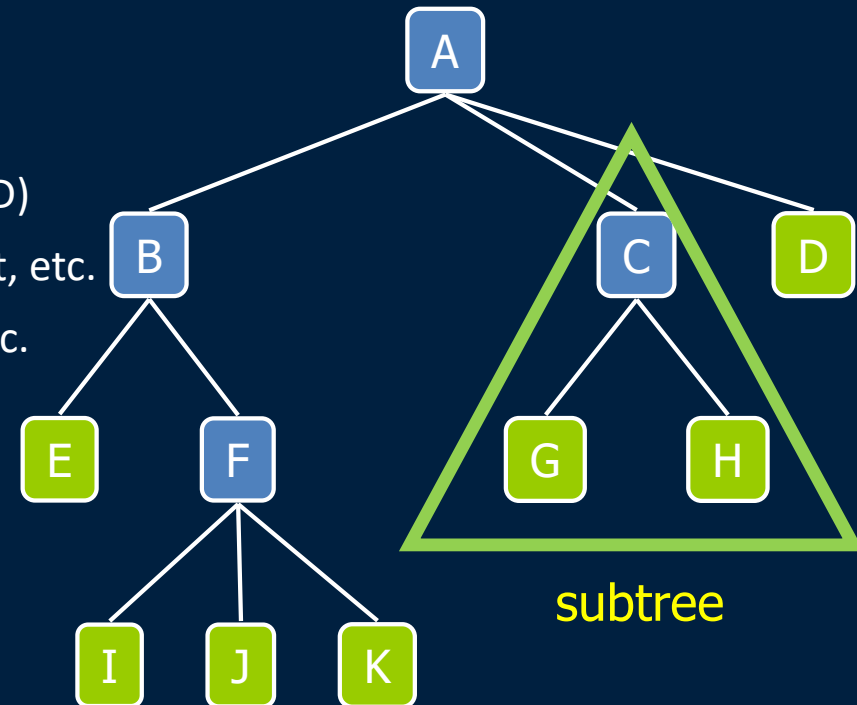
**Depth** of a node: number of ancestors

**Height** of a tree: maximum depth of a node (3)

**Degree** of a node: the number of its children

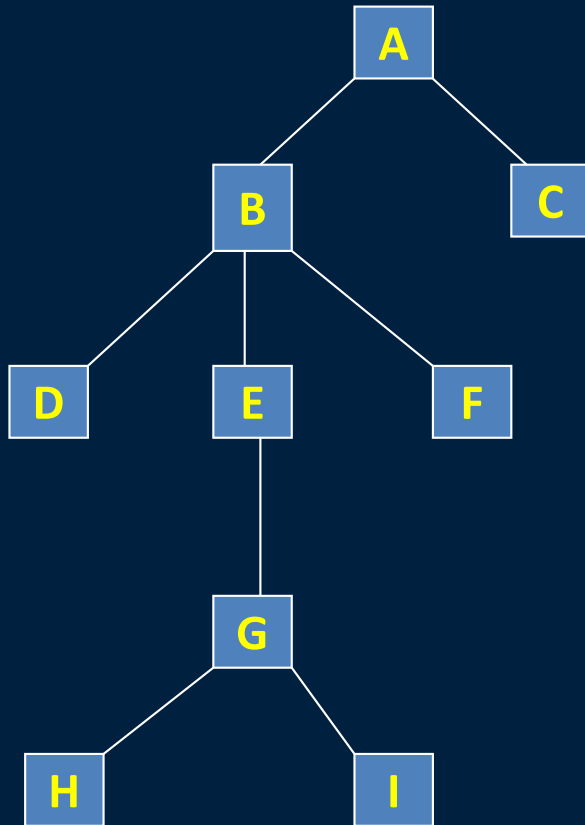
**Degree** of a tree: the maximum number of its node.

**Subtree:** tree consisting of a node and its descendants





# Quick check...



## Property

## Value

Number of nodes

Height

Root Node

Leaves

Interior nodes

Ancestors of H

Descendants of B

Siblings of E

Right subtree of A

Degree of A

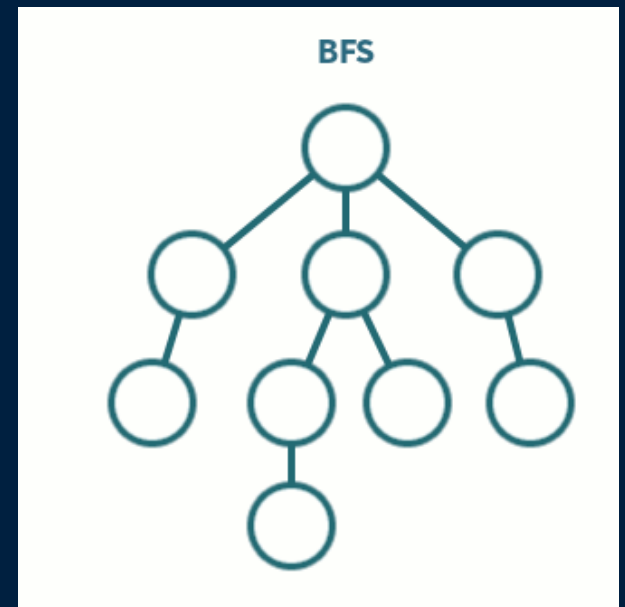
Degree of F

# Tree Traversal: Breadth First Traversal

Tree Traversal: visit each node to perform a certain operation (e.g. print the value stored in the node)

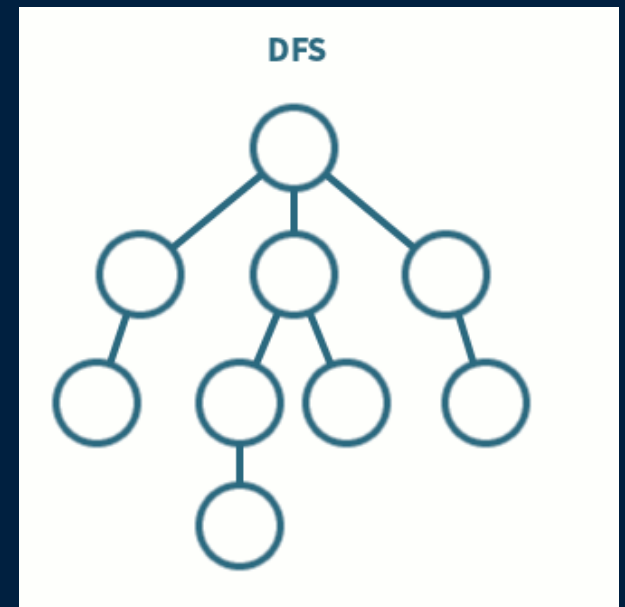
In Tree Traversal, all nodes must be visited and only once in a certain order

Breadth-First Traversal: We will go down the tree level by level. We will go left to right on each level looking at all sibling nodes



# Tree Traversal: Depth-First Traversal

Depth-First Traversal: We will go as far down the tree as possible. We will go left to right on each level. Once it hits the last leaf, it starts back up at the top. Follows the same process.



# Tree Traversal :Depth Traversal

Three main methods:

- Preorder
- Postorder
- Inorder

V - visit the node

L - traverse the left subtree

R - traverse the right subtree

Preorder (Visit, Left, Right) :

- VLR
- visit the root
- traverse in preorder the left subtree
- Traverse in preorder the right subtree

Inorder (Left, Visit, Right)

- LVR

Postorder (Left, Right, Visit)

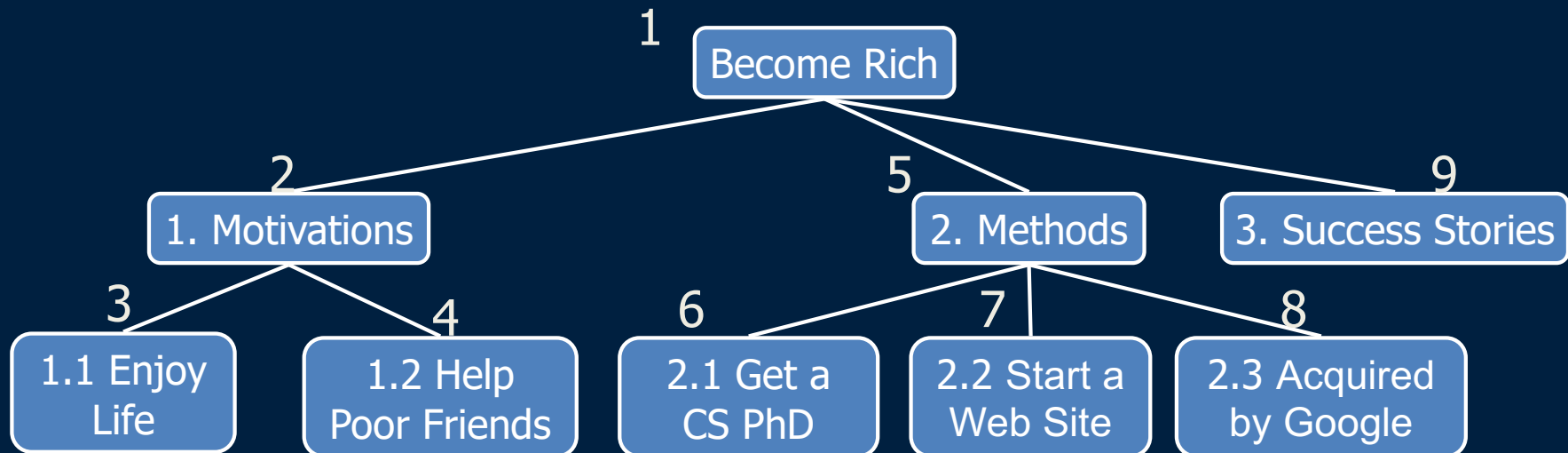
- LRV
- traverse the left subtree
- Visit the right subtree
- visit the root

# Preorder Traversal...

In a preorder traversal, a node is visited before its descendants

Application: print a structured document

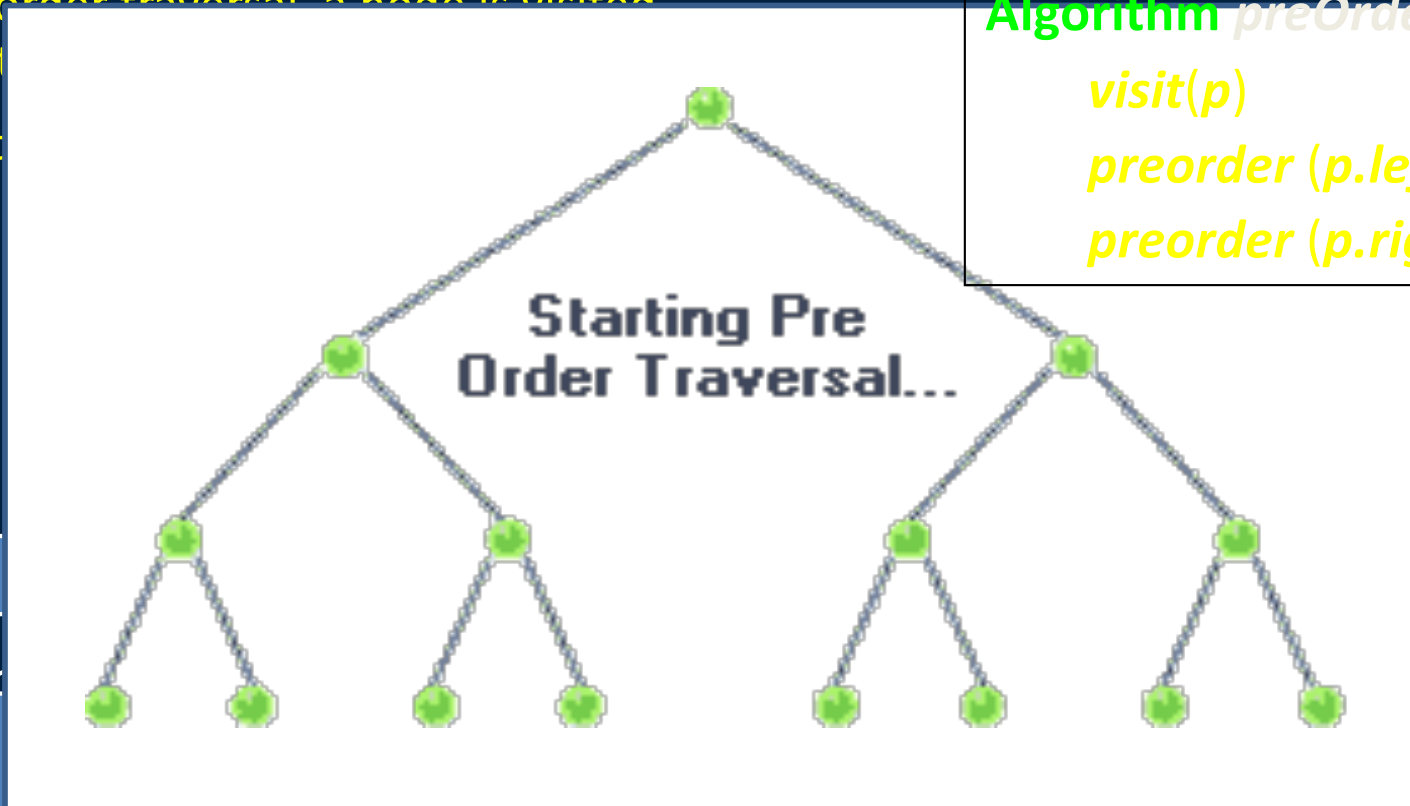
**Algorithm** *preOrder(p)*  
*visit(p)*  
*preorder (p.left)*  
*preorder (p.right)*



# Preorder Traversal...

In a preorder traversal, a node is visited  
before its children.  
Applicat

**Algorithm** *preOrder(p)*  
*visit(p)*  
*preorder (p.left)*  
*preorder (p.right)*



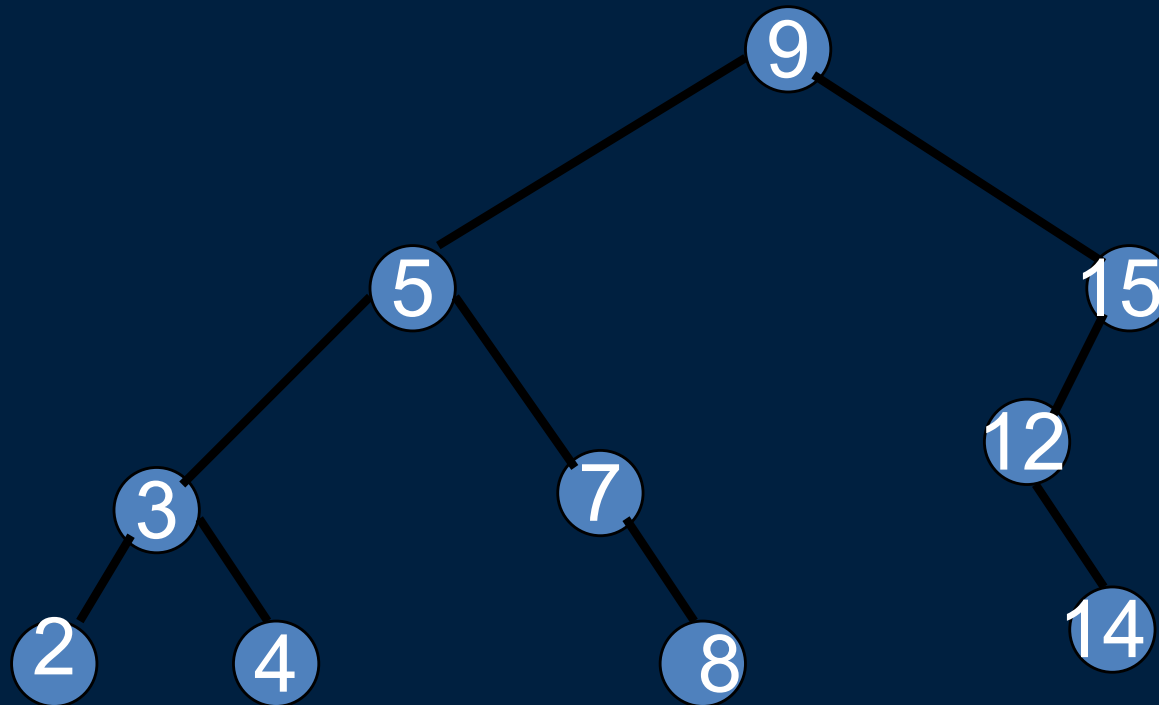
3

1.1 Enj  
Life

9  
Stories



# Preorder Example (VLR)

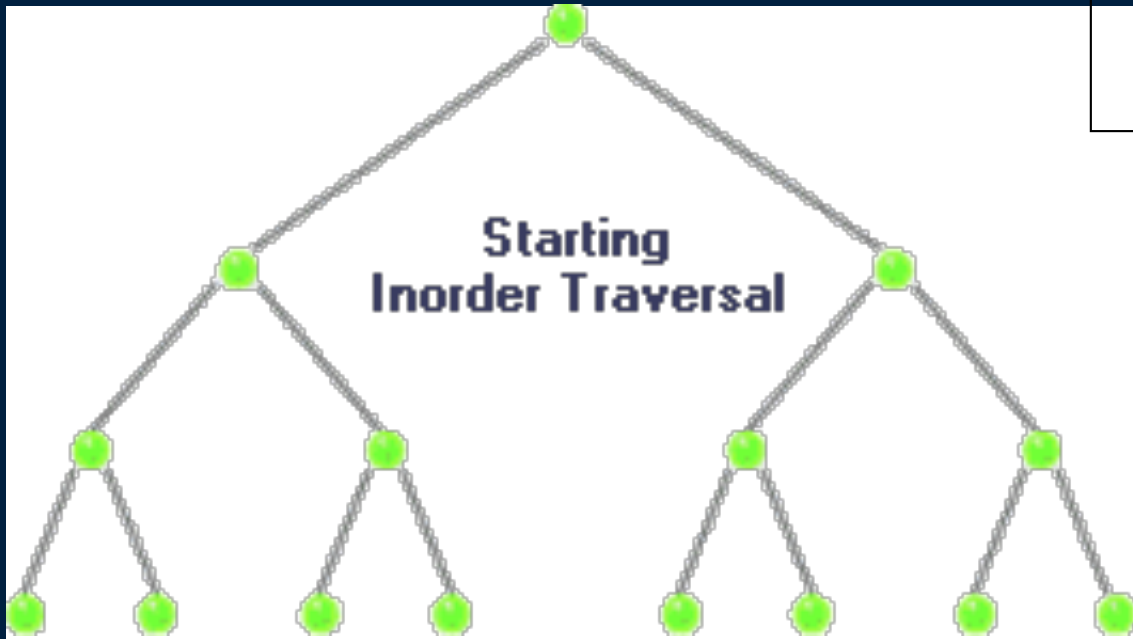


9 5 3 2 4 7 8 15 12 14

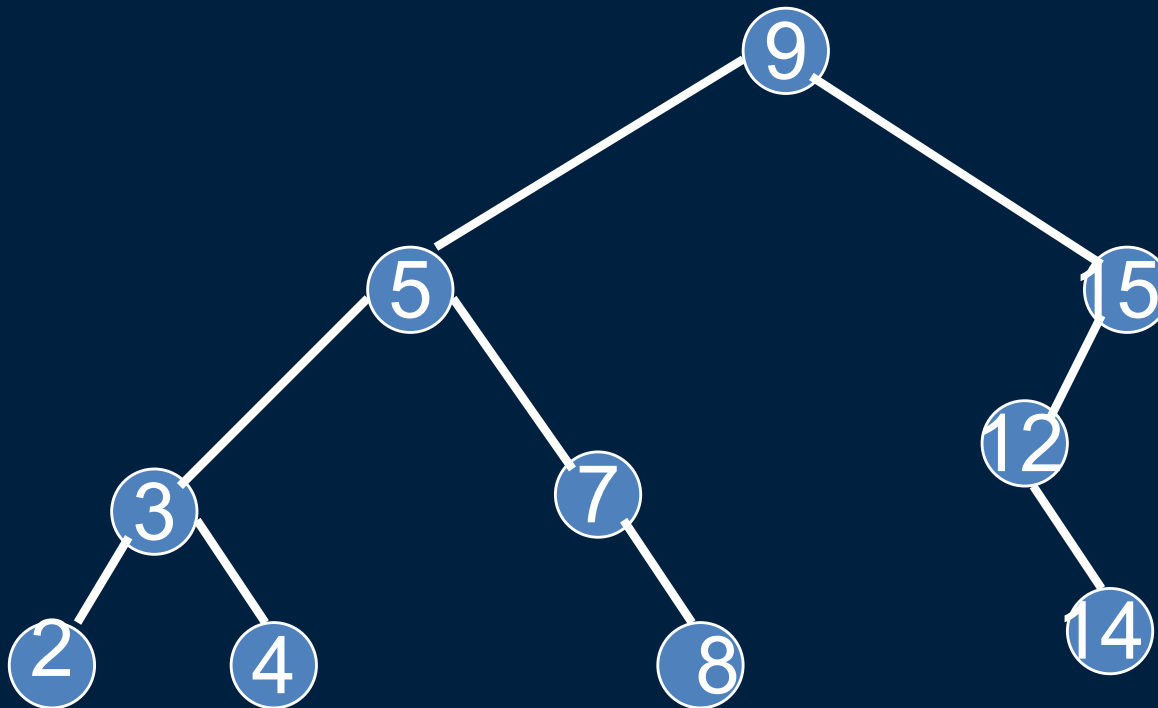
# Inorder tree traversal

LVR

**Algorithm** *inOrder*(*p*)  
*inOrder* (*p.left*)  
*visit*(*p*)  
*inOrder* (*p.right*)



- Observe the output of the inorder traversal, what do you notice:
- It is ordered !
- This is not a coincidence, output in a **BST** (not any tree) using inorder is a sorted output



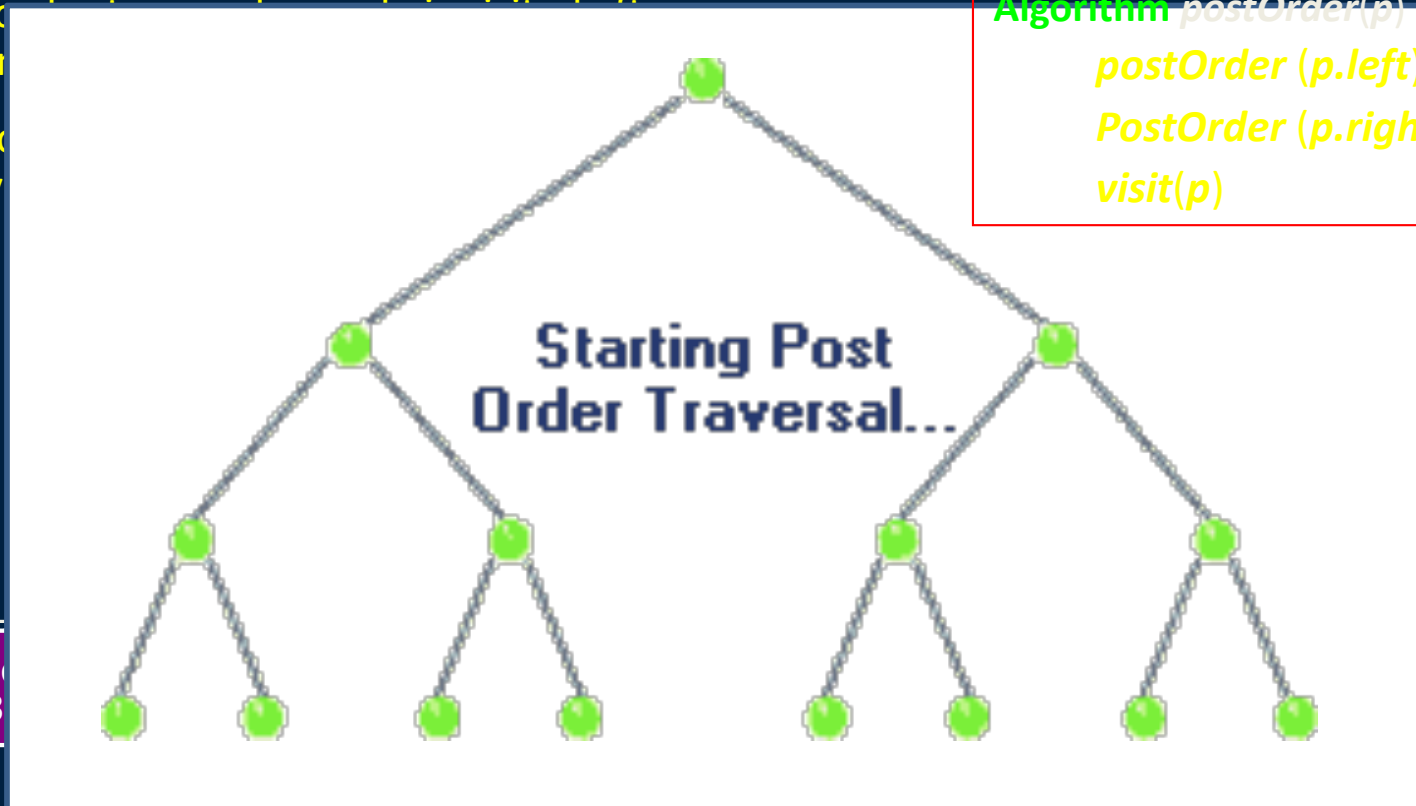
2 3 4 5 7 8 9 12 14 15

# Postorder Traversal

In a postorder traversal, the root of the tree is visited last, after all of its descendants have been visited.

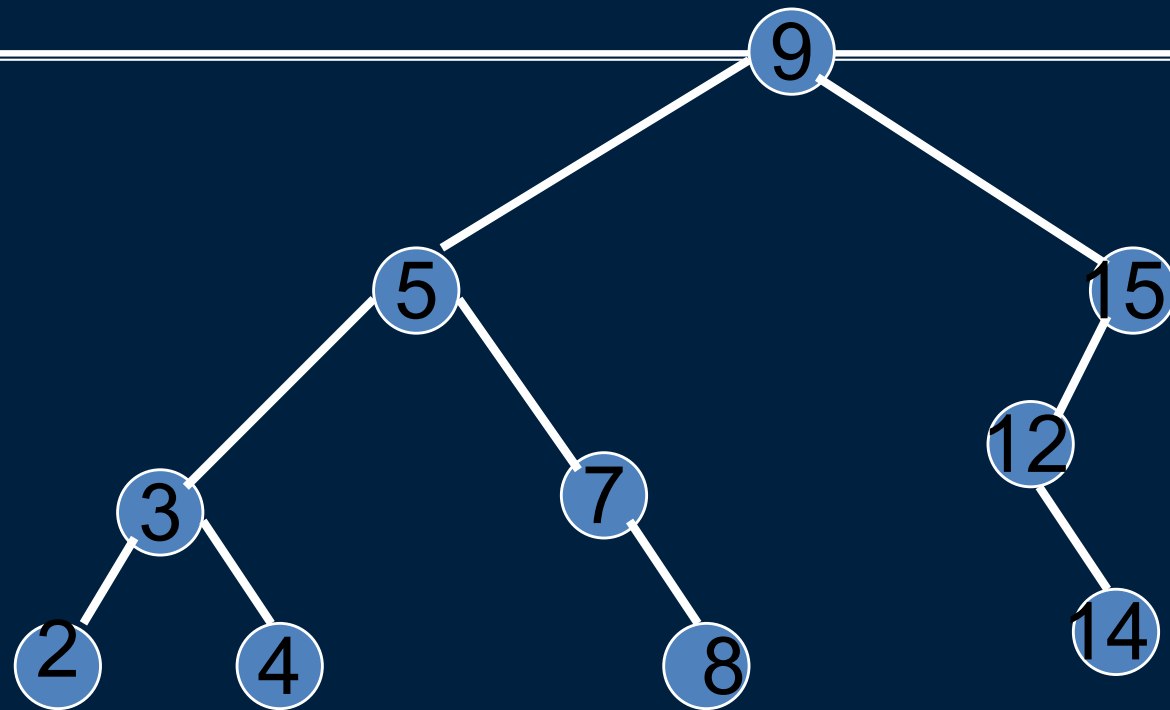
Applications:  
directory

```
Algorithm postOrder(p)
    postOrder (p.left)
    PostOrder (p.right)
    visit(p)
```



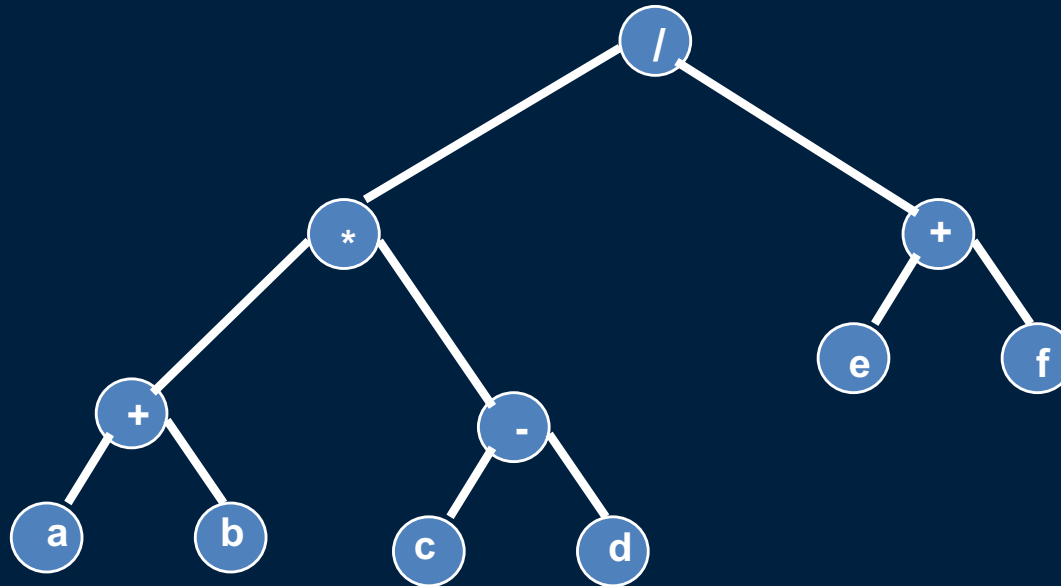
1  
h1c.  
3

3  
.txt  
<



2 4 3 8 7 5 14 12 15 9

- Example2: traverse using postorder traversal

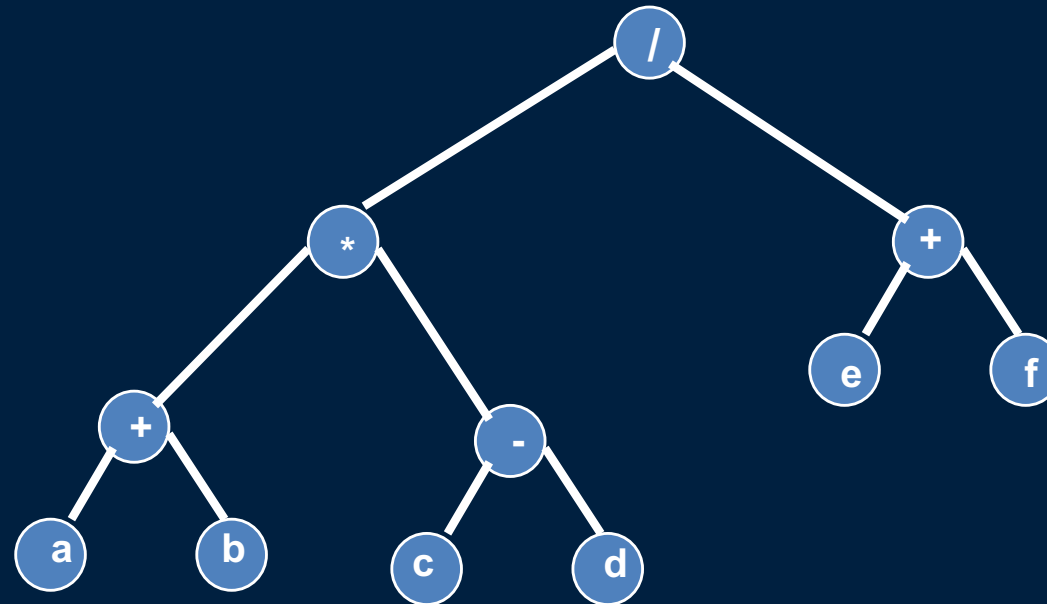


a b + c d - \* e f + /

Gives postfix form of expression of **(a+b) \* (c-d) / (e+f)**

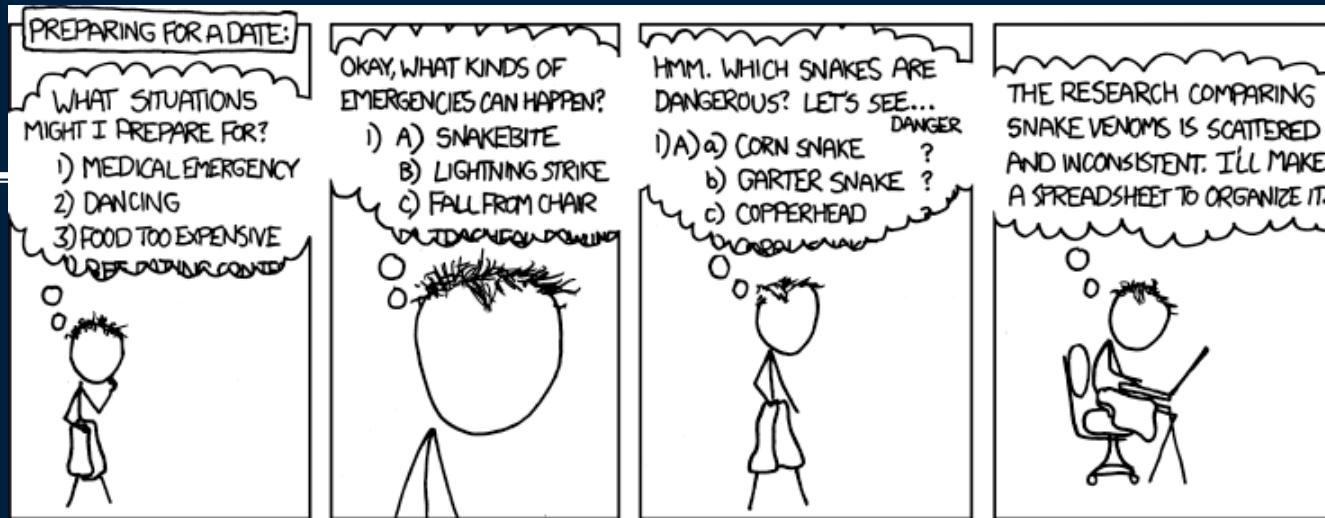


## Example 2: Traverse using preorder traversal



/ \* + a b - c d + e f

**Gives prefix form of expression of  $(a+b) * (c-d) / (e+f)$**



- Depth First turns is not always the best approach
- In this case, really bad idea, as it ends with the man having spent all morning doing research of snake venom, to the exclusion of even getting dressed.
- Breadth-first would have allowed the man to briefly check many more things within the time allotted, and probably still been able to get dressed



I REALLY NEED TO STOP USING DEPTH-FIRST SEARCHES.

# Binary Tree

A binary tree is a tree with the following properties:

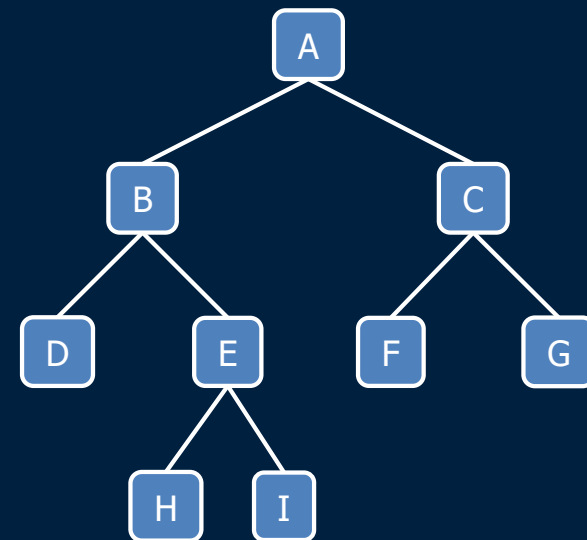
- Each internal node has at most two children (degree of two)
- The children of a node are an ordered pair
  - We call the children of an internal node left child and right child

Alternative recursive definition: a binary tree is either

- a tree consisting of a single node, OR
- a tree whose root has an ordered pair of children, each of which is a binary tree

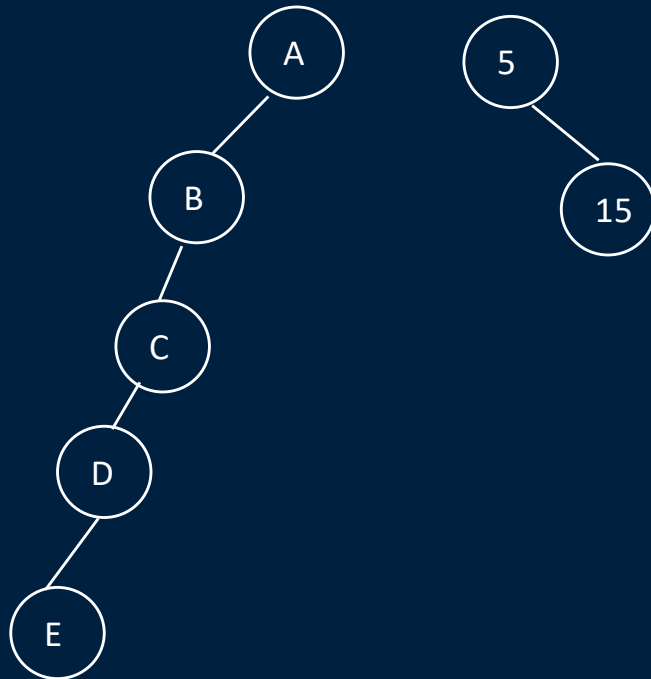
## Applications:

- arithmetic expressions (see examples in previous slides)
- decision processes
- searching

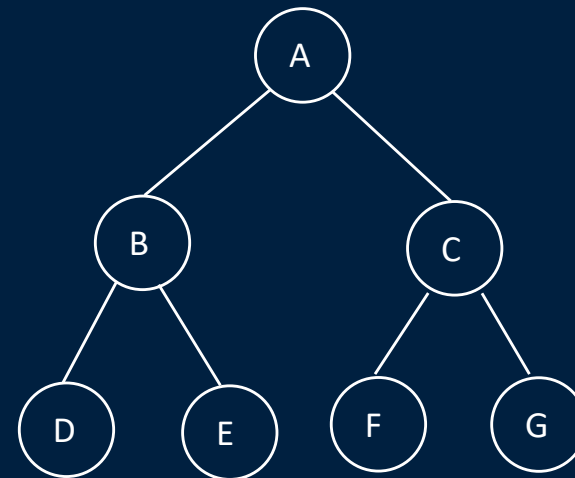


# Other extreme examples of binary trees

Skewed Binary Tree

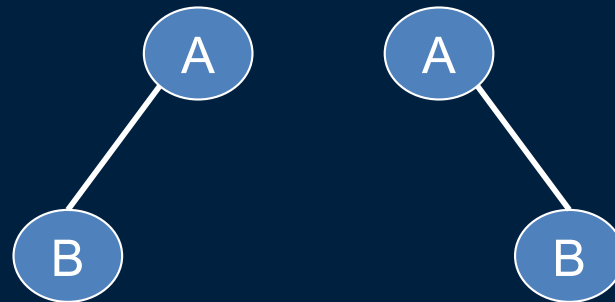


Complete Binary Tree



# Differences Between A Tree and A Binary Tree

The subtrees of a binary tree are ordered; those of a tree are not ordered.



- Are different when viewed as binary trees.
- Are the same when viewed as trees.

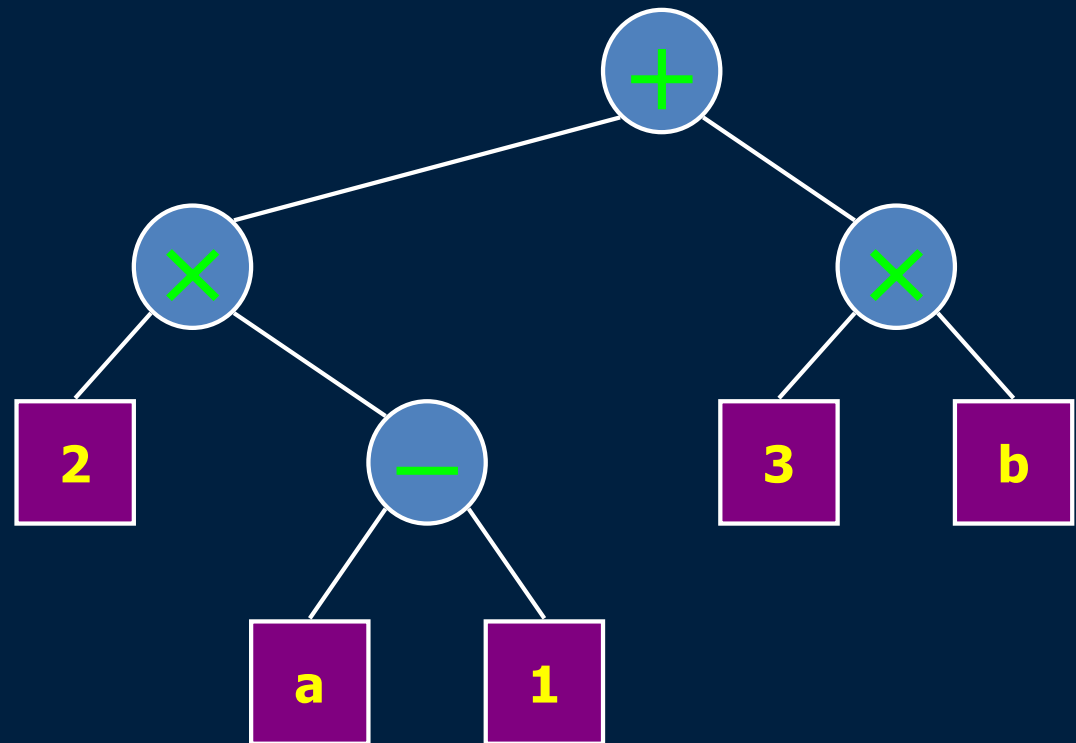
# Do a inorder traversal and identify the expression?

A)  $2 \times a - 1 + 3 \times b$

B)  $((2 \times a) - 1) + (3 \times b)$

C)  $(2 \times (a - 1) + b \times 3)$

D) None of the above



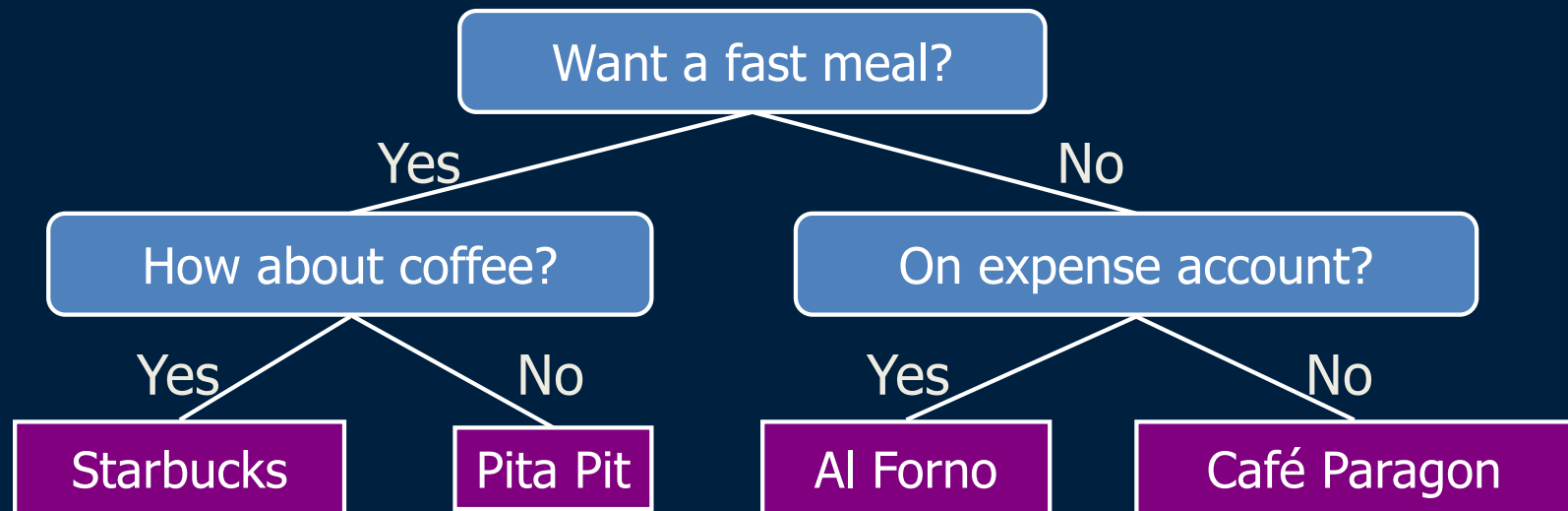


# Binary Tree as a Decision Making Tool

Binary tree associated with a decision process

- internal nodes: questions with yes/no answer
- external nodes: decisions

Example: dining decision



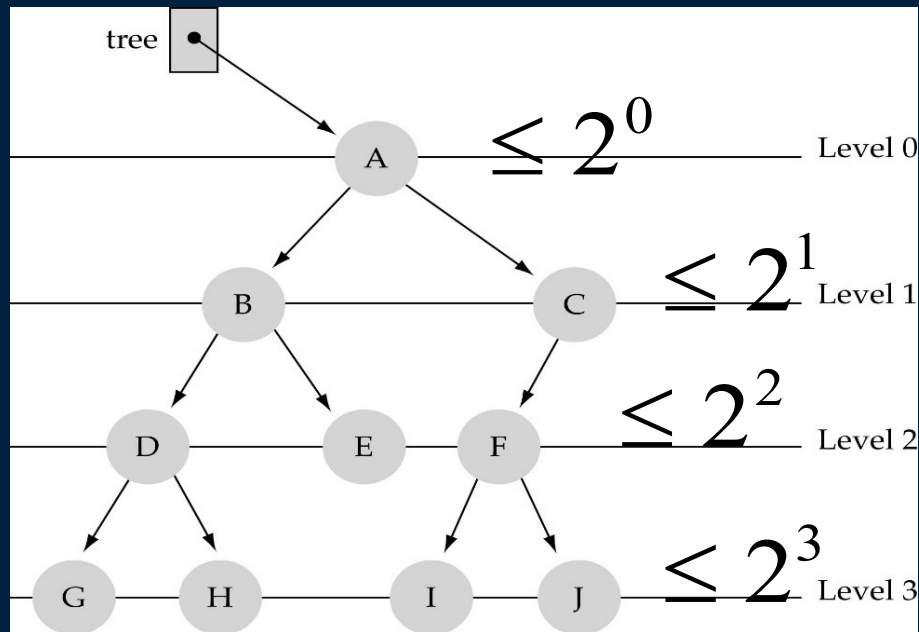
## Some numbers...

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- The maximum number of nodes on depth  $i$  of a binary tree is  $2^i, i \geq 0$ .
- The maximum number of nodes in a binary tree of height  $h$  is  $2^{h+1}-1, h \geq 0$ .

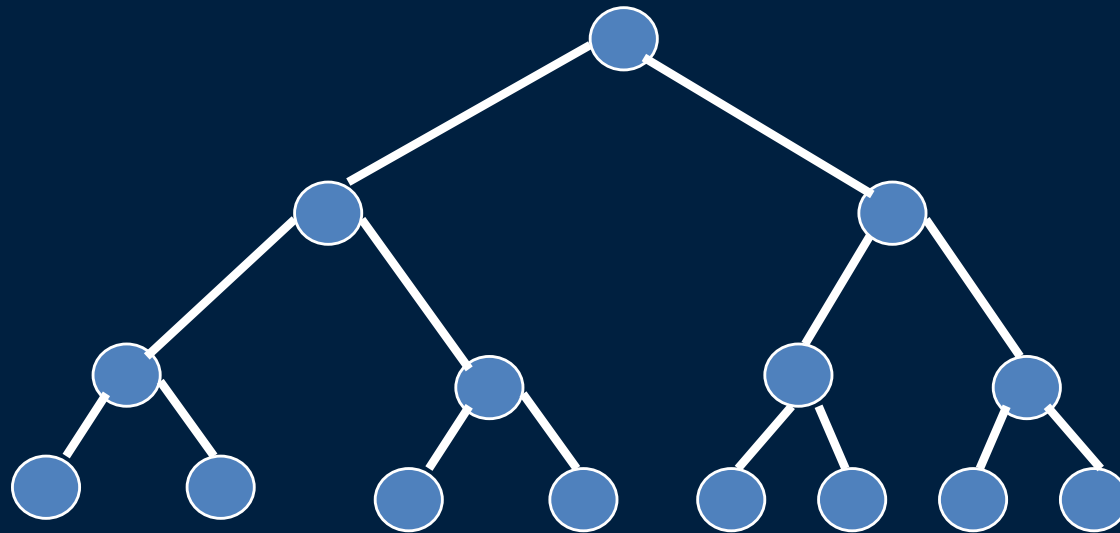
# What is the max #nodes at some level $l$ ?

The max #nodes at level  $l$  is  $2^l$  where  $l=0,1,2, \dots, L-1$



# Complete (Full) Binary Tree

A complete binary tree of a given height  $h$  has exactly  $2^{h+1}-1$  nodes.



Height  $3$  full binary tree.

What is the height **h** of a full tree with **N** nodes?

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$$2^h - 1 = N$$

# Why is $h$ important?

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Tree operations (e.g., insert, delete, retrieve etc.) are typically expressed in terms of  $h$ .

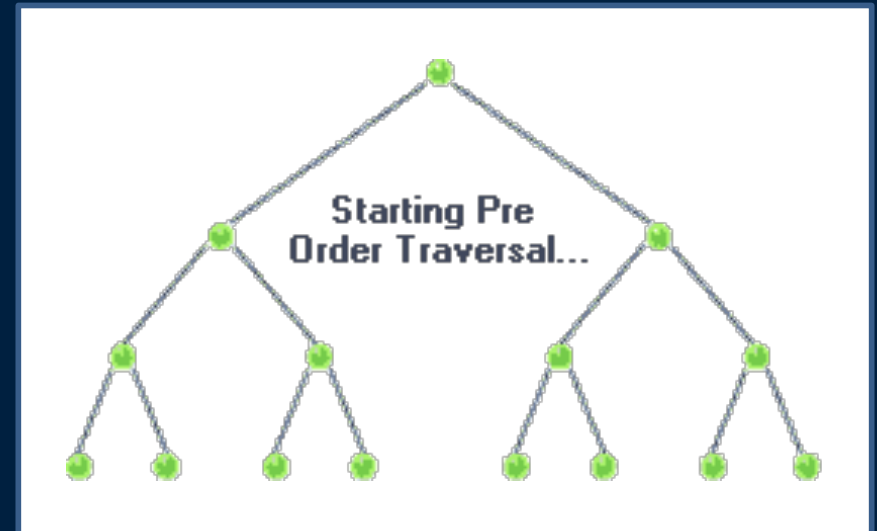
So,  $h$  determines running time!



# How to search a binary tree?

- (1) Start at the root
- (2) Search the tree level by level, until you find the element you are searching for or you reach a leaf.

Is this better than searching in a list ?

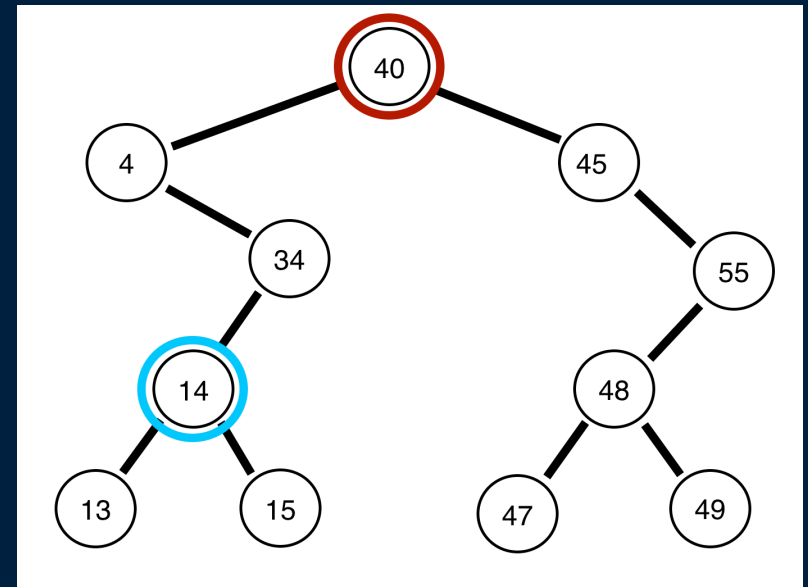


No  $\rightarrow O(N)$

# Binary Search Trees (BSTs)

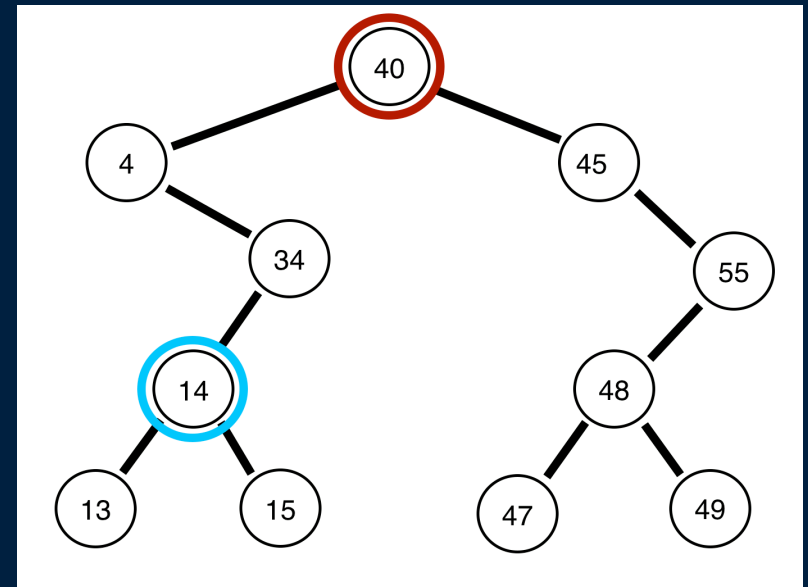
## Binary Search Tree Property:

The value stored at a node is *greater* than the value stored at its left subtree and *less* than the value stored at its right subtree



# Binary Search Trees (BSTs)

In a BST, the value stored at the root of a subtree is *greater* than any value in its left subtree and *less* than any value in its right subtree!



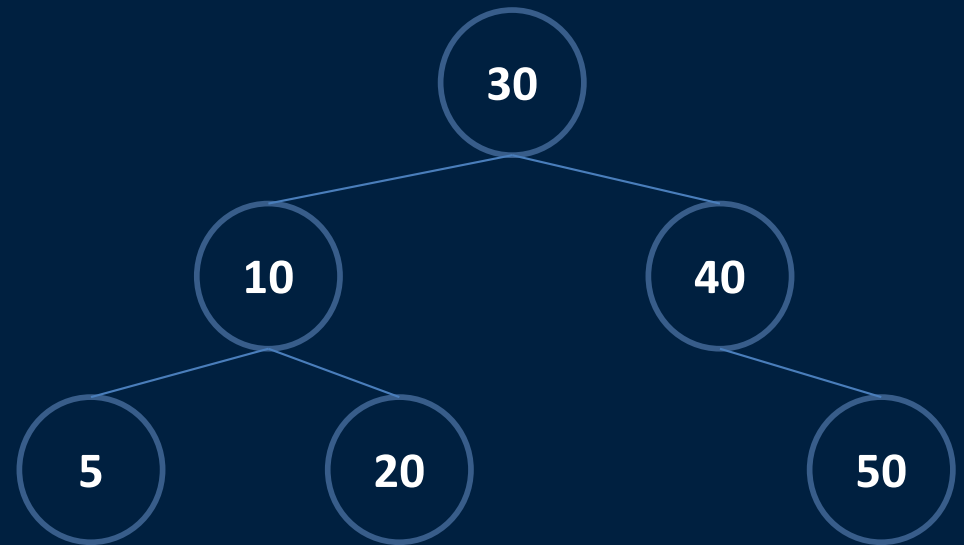
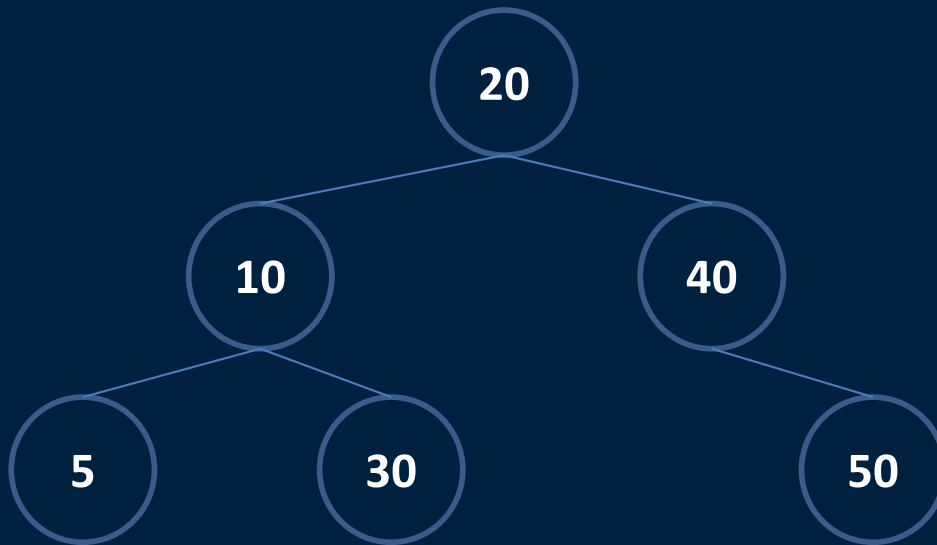
# Where is the smallest element stored in a BST ?

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- A) Root node
- B) Left most node
- C) Right most node
- D) Any of the leaf nodes could be the smallest

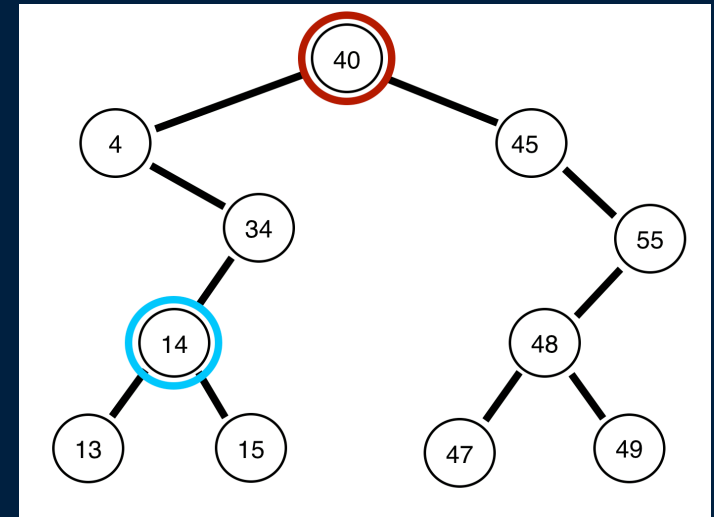
## Which of the following is BST?



- The tree on the left is not a BST. Although every node has the appropriate relationship to its parent, a BST requires that the root node's value be greater than all values in the left sub-tree. The 30 node is out of place with respect to the 20.
- The tree on the right is a BST.

# How to search a binary search tree?

- (1) Start at the root
- (2) Compare the value of the item you are searching for with the value stored at the root
- (3) If the values are equal, then *item found*;  
otherwise, if it is a leaf node, then *not found*



# Insertion

Searching a binary tree does not modify the tree

Traversals may temporarily modify the tree, but it is usually left in its original form when the traversal is done

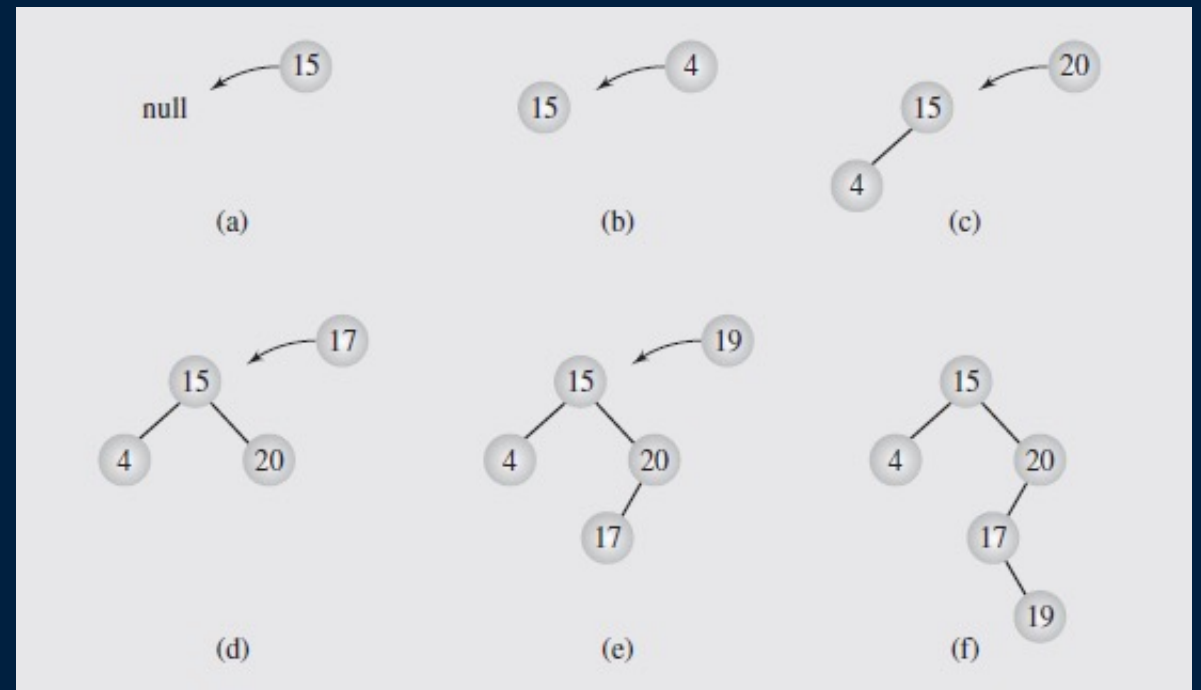
Operations like insertions, deletions, modifying values, merging trees, and balancing trees do alter the tree structure

We'll look at how insertions are managed in binary search trees

In order to insert a new node in a binary tree, we have to be at a node with a vacant left or right child

This is performed in the same way as searching:

- Compare the value of the node to be inserted to the current node
- If the value to be inserted is smaller, follow the left subtree; if it is larger, follow the right subtree
- If the branch we are to follow is empty, we stop the search and insert the new node as that child





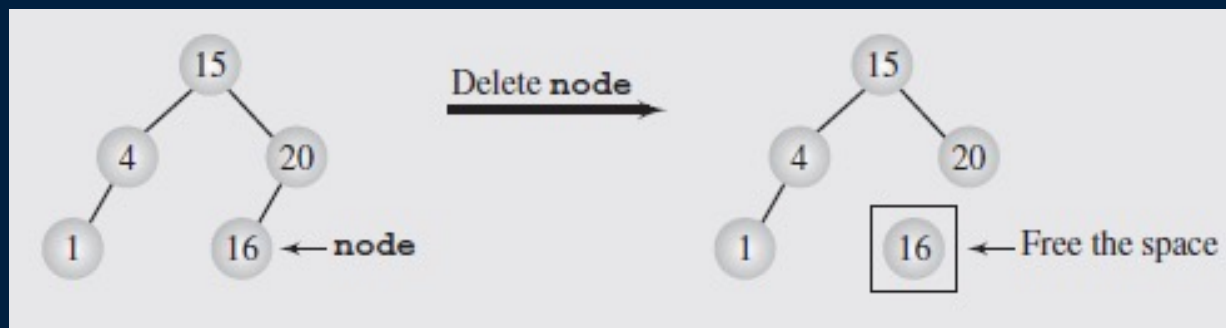
# Deletion

Deletion is another operation essential to maintaining a binary search tree

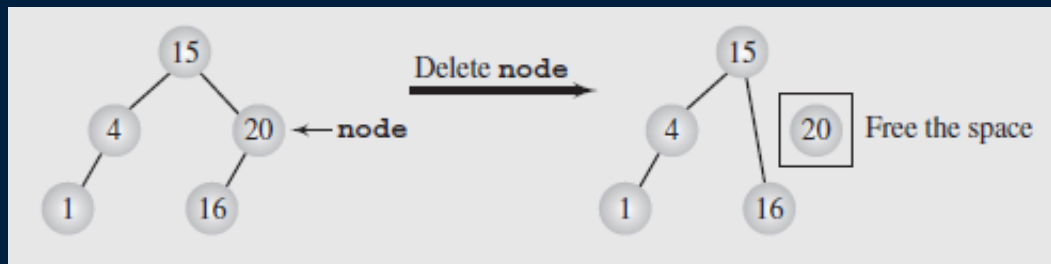
The more children a node has, the more complex the deletion process

There are three cases of deletion that need to be handled:

- The node is a leaf; this is the easiest case, because all that needs to be done is to set the parent link to null and delete the node



- The node has one child (which can be a single node or a tree); also easy, as we set the parent's to point to the node's child

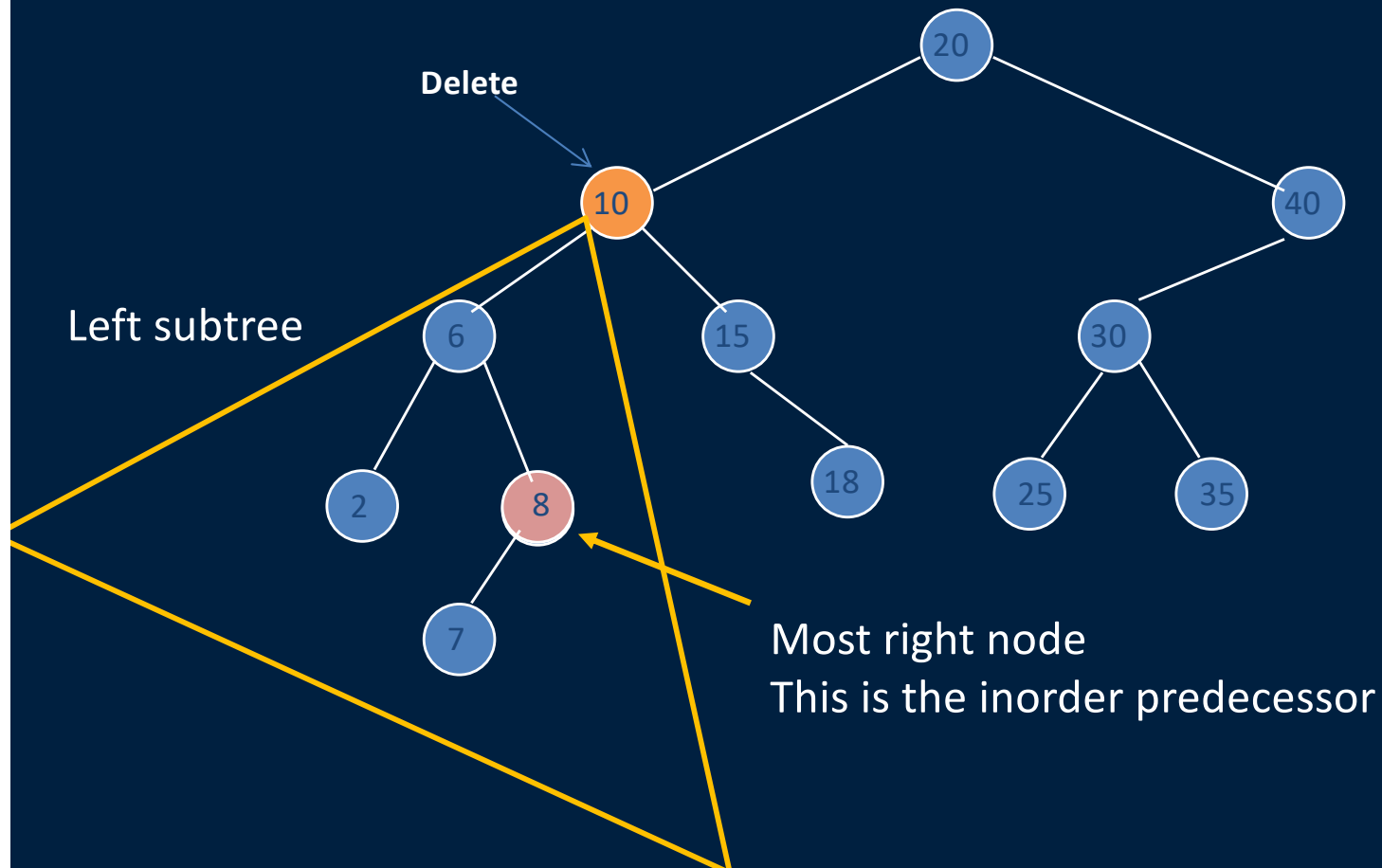


- The third case is when the node has two children. This is more tricky. We will consider one way to do it:
  - Deletion by copying

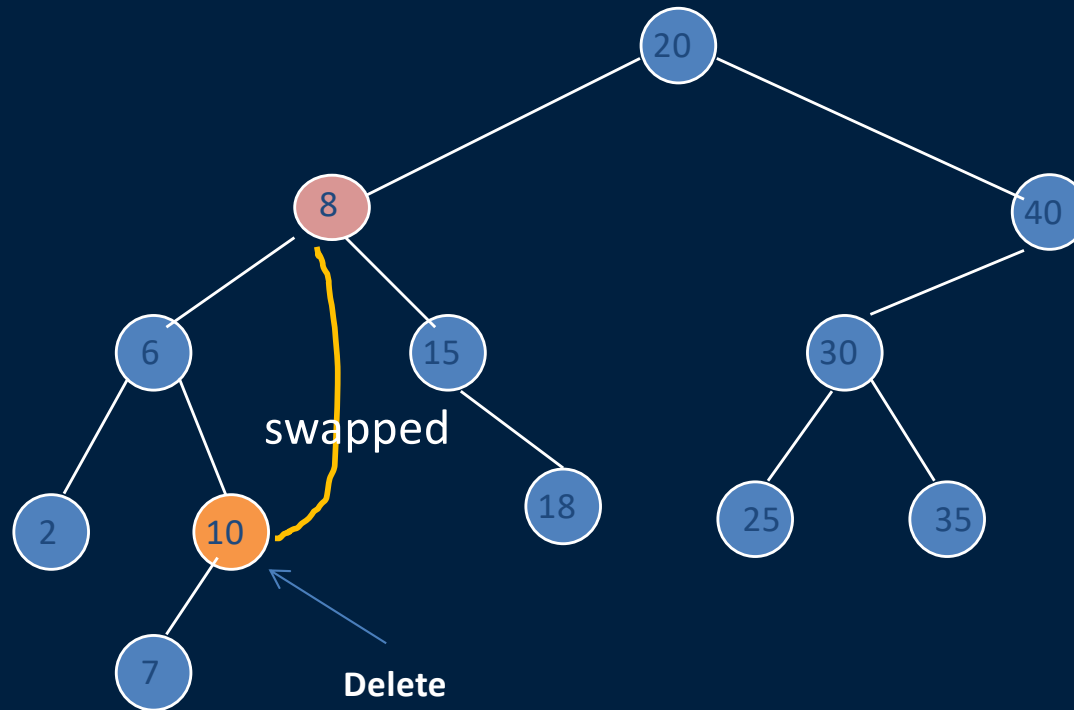
# Delete by Copying

- One approach to handling deleting is called deletion by copying and was proposed by Thomas Hibbard and Donald Knuth in the 1960s
- If the node is easy to delete, we delete it (case 1 or 2)
- If case 3 (two children), we locate the node's inorder predecessor by searching for the right-most node in the left subtree
- The key of this node replaces the key of the node to be deleted
- We delete the inorder predecessor:
  - We recall the two simple cases of deletion: if the rightmost node was a leaf, we delete it; if it has one child (left child), we set the parent's to point to the node's child
- This way, we delete a key  $k_1$  by overwriting it by a key  $k_2$  and then deleting the node holding  $k_2$

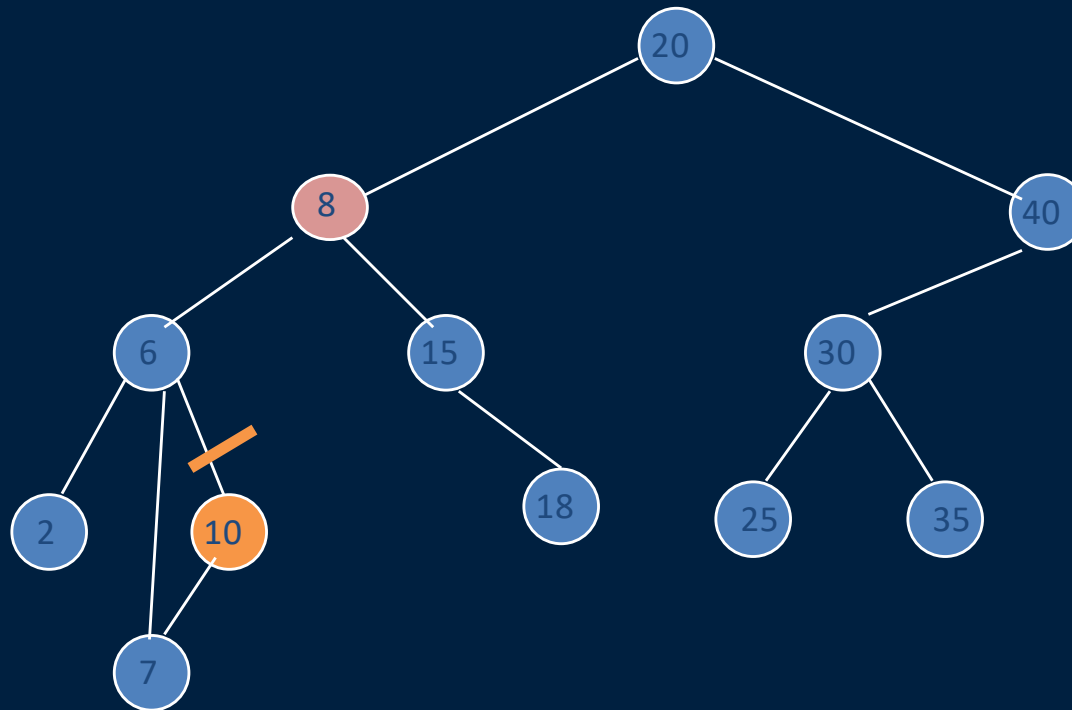
# Delete by Copying using inorder predecessor



# Delete using inorder predecessor



# Delete using inorder predecessor



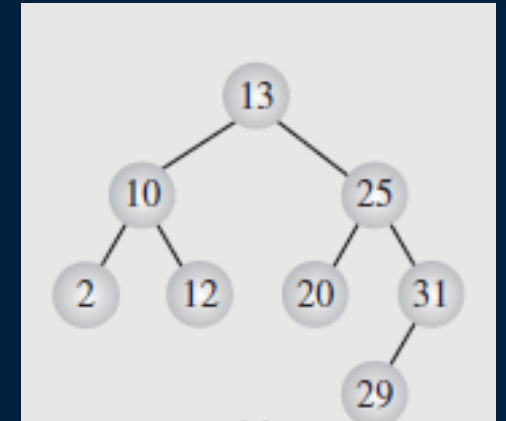
# Complexity of Search in BST

Consider the following BST:

To determine the complexity of the search we will consider the number of comparisons to be done

- If we search for node 13 only one comparison is required
- If we search for node 29 then maximum of 4 comparisons required
- If we search for non-existing node (node 30), also 4 comparisons are needed
- In general:

The complexity is given by the number of nodes along the path



The complexity as we have seen in the previous example is determined by 2 factors:

- The shape of the tree
- The position of the node we are searching for

In the shape of the tree analysis, we will study best, average, and worst case

In the position of the node analysis we will study worst case analysis. This implies searching for a node that is on level  $h$  of the tree.

Hence we will focus on the shape of the tree with the node always in the bottom at level  $h$



**Worst Case Tree Shape:** All internal nodes have one child only. Thus, the tree is effectively a linked list.

The number of comparisons required is equal to  $N$ , hence

Thus search is  $O(N)$ .

**Best Case Tree Shape:** The height of the tree is minimized. This case is a bit hard to analyze, so we assume that the tree is complete (requires  $N = 2^{h+1} - 1$ ). The height of the tree is  $h = \log(N)$ . Thus, the search is  $O(\log N)$ .

**Average tree shape:** This one is more difficult. However, it can be shown that the average height of a randomly built BST is:  $h = O(\log N)$ . Thus, search is  $O(\log N)$  for such a BST tree.



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