

Traversal of Trees

- A traversal of a tree T is a systematic way of visiting all the nodes of T
- Traversing a tree involves visiting the root and traversing its subtrees
- There are the following traversal methods:
 - Preorder Traversal
 - Postorder Traversal
 - Inorder Traversal (of a binary tree)

Preorder Traversal

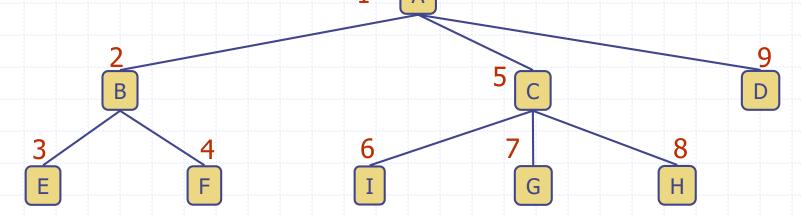
- In a preorder traversal, a node is visited before its descendants
- If a tree is ordered, then the subtrees are traversed according to the order of the children

Algorithm preOrder(v)

visit(v)

for each child w of v

preorder (w)

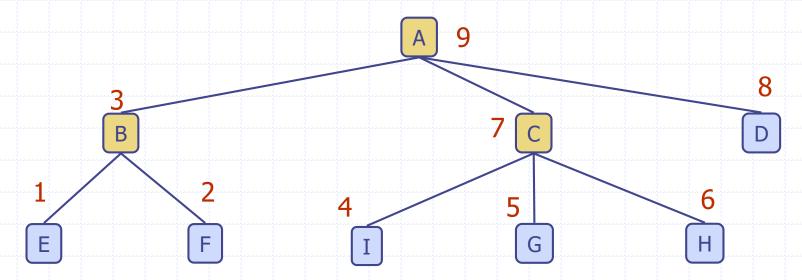


Preorder: ABEFCIGHD

Postorder Traversal

 In a postorder traversal, a node is visited after its descendants

Algorithm postOrder(v)
for each child w of v
postOrder (w)
visit(v)

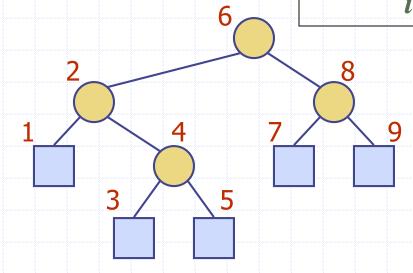


Postorder: EFBIGHCDA

Inorder Traversal

 In an inorder traversal a node is visited after its left subtree and before its right subtree

Algorithm inOrder(v) if isInternal (v) inOrder (leftChild (v)) visit(v) if isInternal (v) inOrder (rightChild (v))

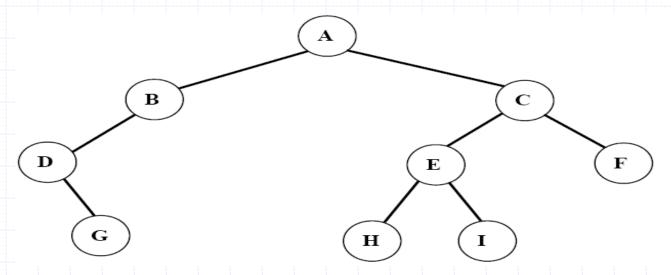


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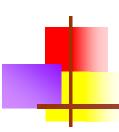
Inorder Traversal

Traversing a binary tree in *inorder*

- 1. Traverse the *left subtree* in inorder.
- 2. Visit the *root*.
- 3. Traverse the *right subtree* in inorder.



Inorder: DGBAHEICF

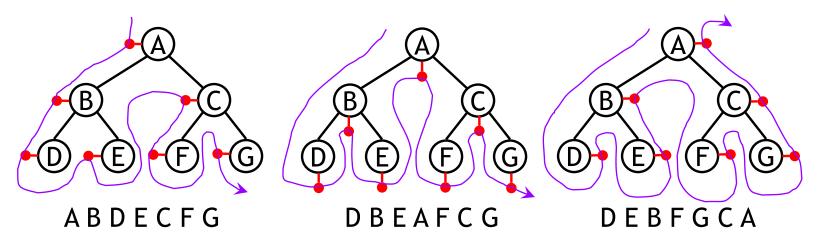


Tree traversals using "flags"

The order in which the nodes are visited during a tree traversal can be easily determined by imagining there is a "flag" attached to each node, as follows:

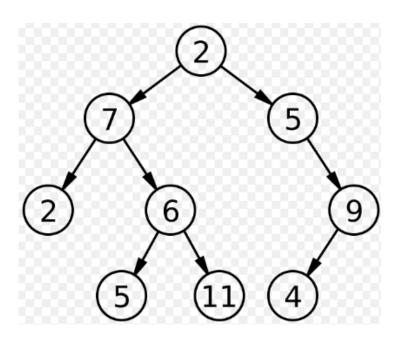


To traverse the tree, collect the flags:



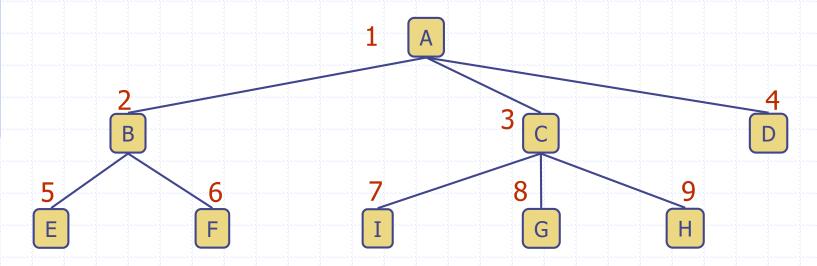
Exercise

 Perform pre-order, post-order and in-order types of traversal on the following tree



Level Order Traversal

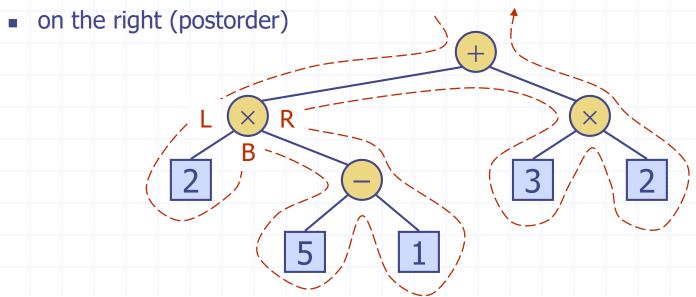
In a level order traversal, every node on a level is visited before going to a lower level



Level order: ABCDEFIGH

Euler Tour Traversal

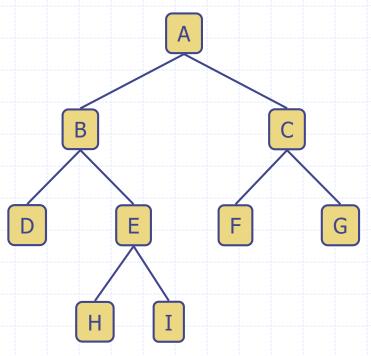
- Generic traversal of a binary tree
- Includes a special cases the preorder, postorder and inorder traversals
- Walk around the tree and visit each node three times:
 - on the left (preorder)
 - from below (inorder)



(Proper) Binary Tree

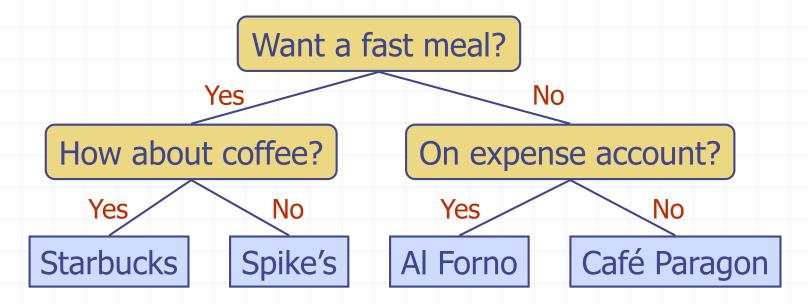
- A (proper) binary tree is a tree with the following properties:
 - Each internal node has two children
 - The children of a node are an ordered pair
- We call the children of an internal node left child and right child
- Alternative recursive definition: a (proper) binary tree is either
 - a tree consisting 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
 - decision processes
 - searching



Decision Tree

- Binary tree associated with a decision process
 - internal nodes: questions with yes/no answer
 - external nodes: decisions
- Example: dining decision



Arithmetic Expression Tree

- Binary tree associated with an arithmetic expression
 - internal nodes: operators
 - external nodes: operands
- \bullet Example: arithmetic expression tree for the expression $(2 \times (a-1) + (3 \times b))$

