

Data Structures and Algorithms

# 2-3 Trees

## 2-3-4 Trees

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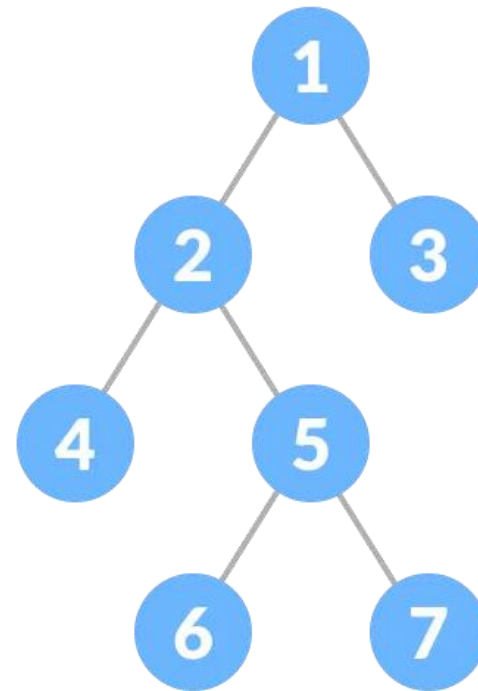
# Outline



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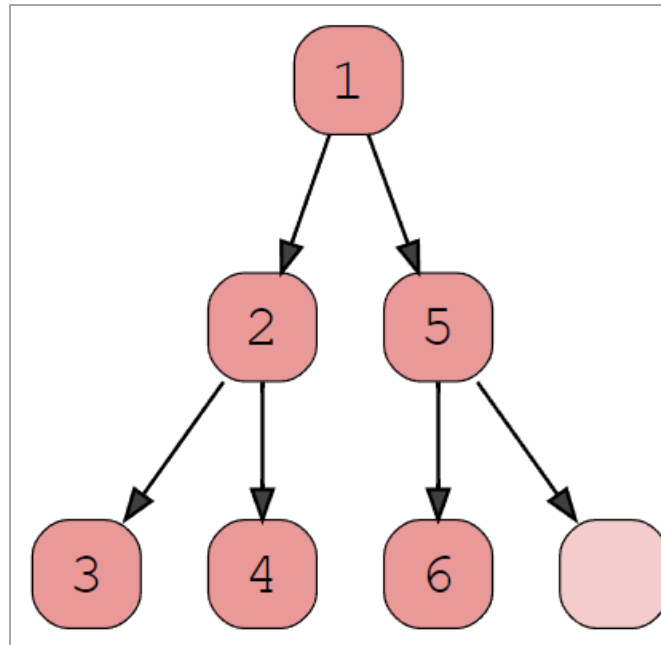
- **2-3 Tree**
- 2-3-4 Tree

- **Full Binary Tree:**
  - Every **node**, except the leaf nodes, have **2** children.



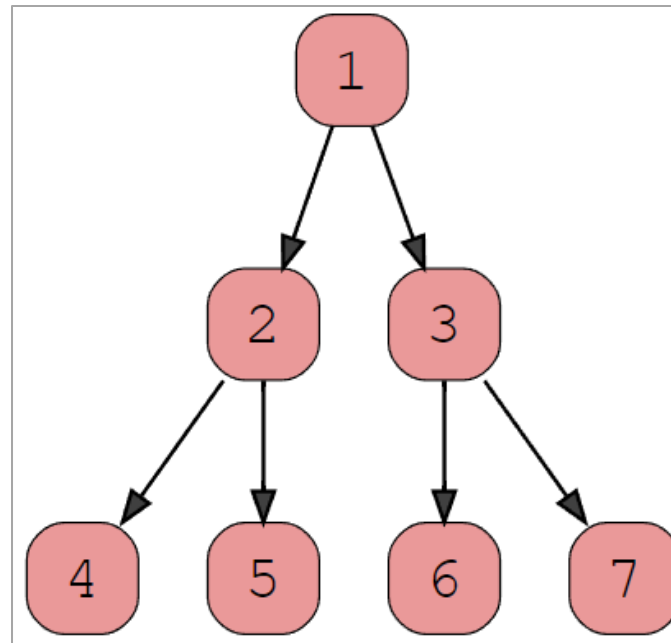
## ○ Complete Tree:

- Every **level**, excluding the last, is filled
- All nodes at the last level are as far left as they can be.



- **Perfect Tree:**

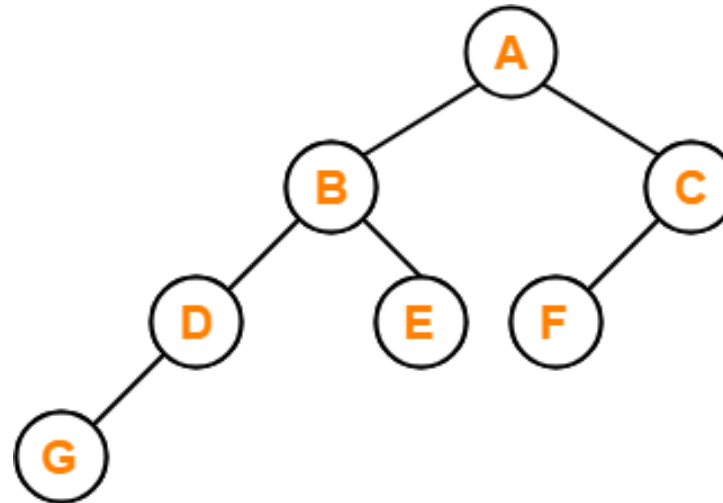
- Null links are all the same distance from the root



Do you like perfect tree?  
Why? Why not?

# Reviews

- Is a AVL tree a perfectly balanced search tree?

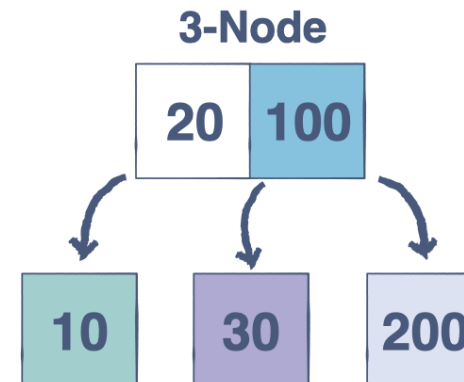
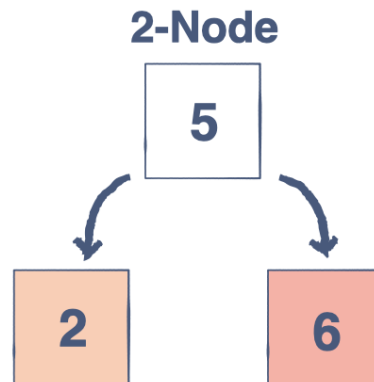


**AVL Tree**  
(Height = 3)

- Is there any way to make a perfectly AVL tree all time?
  - No
- Is there a perfect balanced search tree all time?
  - Yes

# 2-3 Search Tree

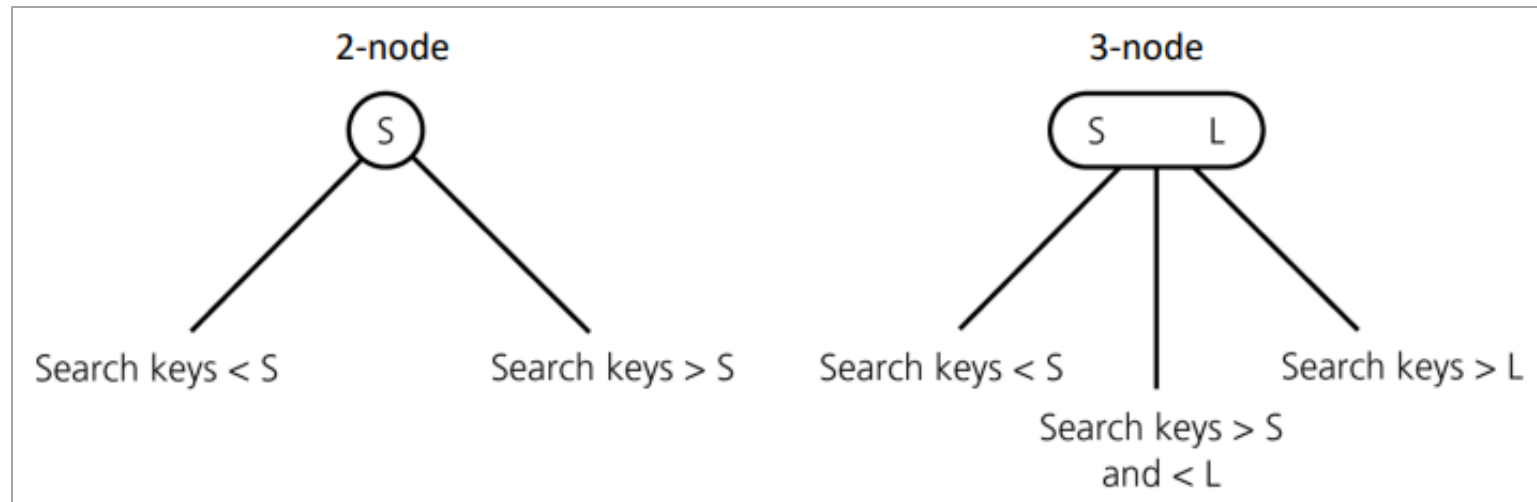
- A **2-3 search tree** is a tree that is either empty or
  - Has **2-node**, with **one key and two links**
  - Has **3-node**, with **two keys and three links**





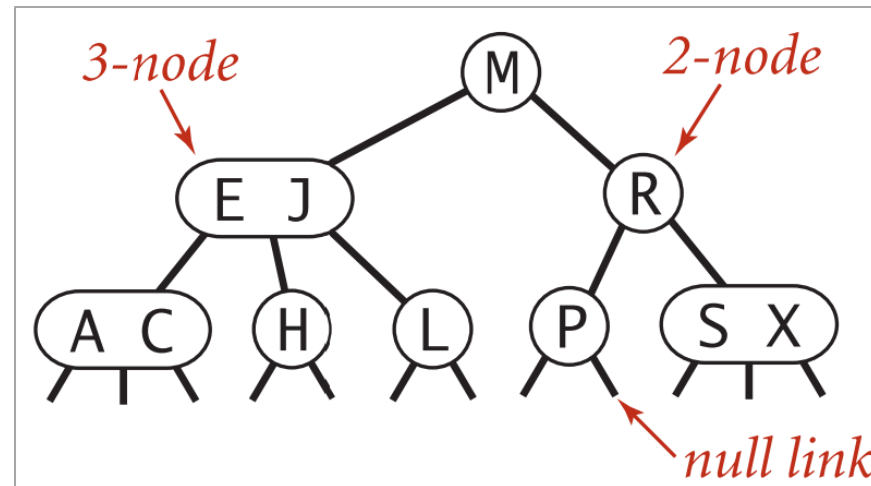
# 2-3 Search Tree

- A **2-3 search tree** is a tree that is either empty or
  - Has **2-node**, with **one key and two links**
  - Has **3-node**, with **two keys and three links**
  - Satisfy value properties as a search tree
  - All leaves are at the same level in the tree



# 2-3 Search Tree

- Example

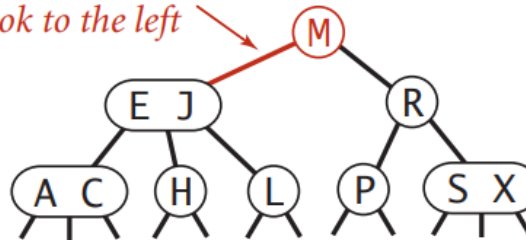


# Search an Item

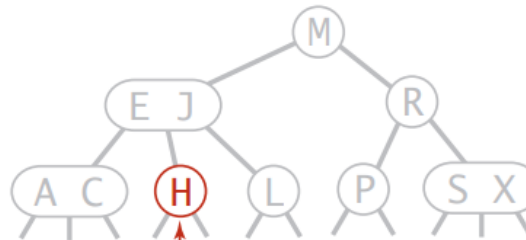
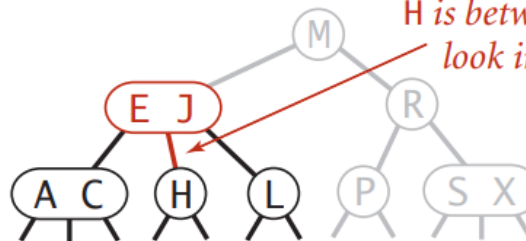
- Search in 2-3 tree is **same** the search algorithm for BST.

successful search for H

*H is less than M so  
look to the left*



*H is between E and J so  
look in the middle*

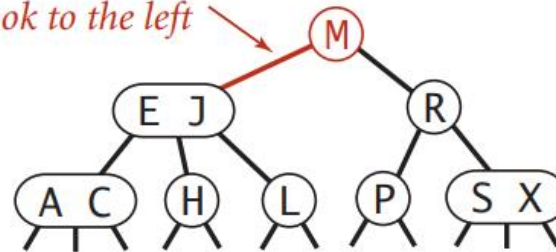


*found H so return value (search hit)*

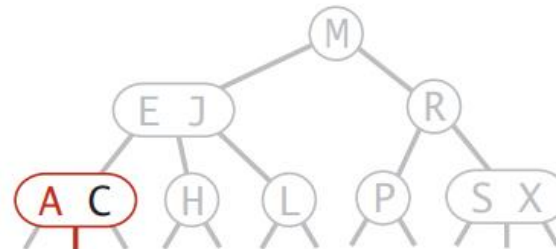
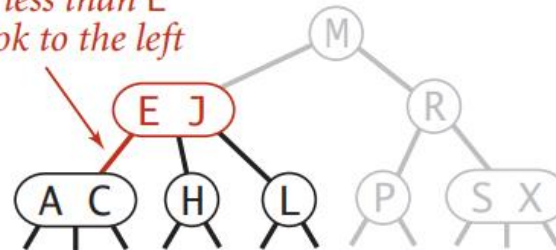
# Search an Item

unsuccessful search for B

*B is less than M so  
look to the left*



*B is less than E  
so look to the left*

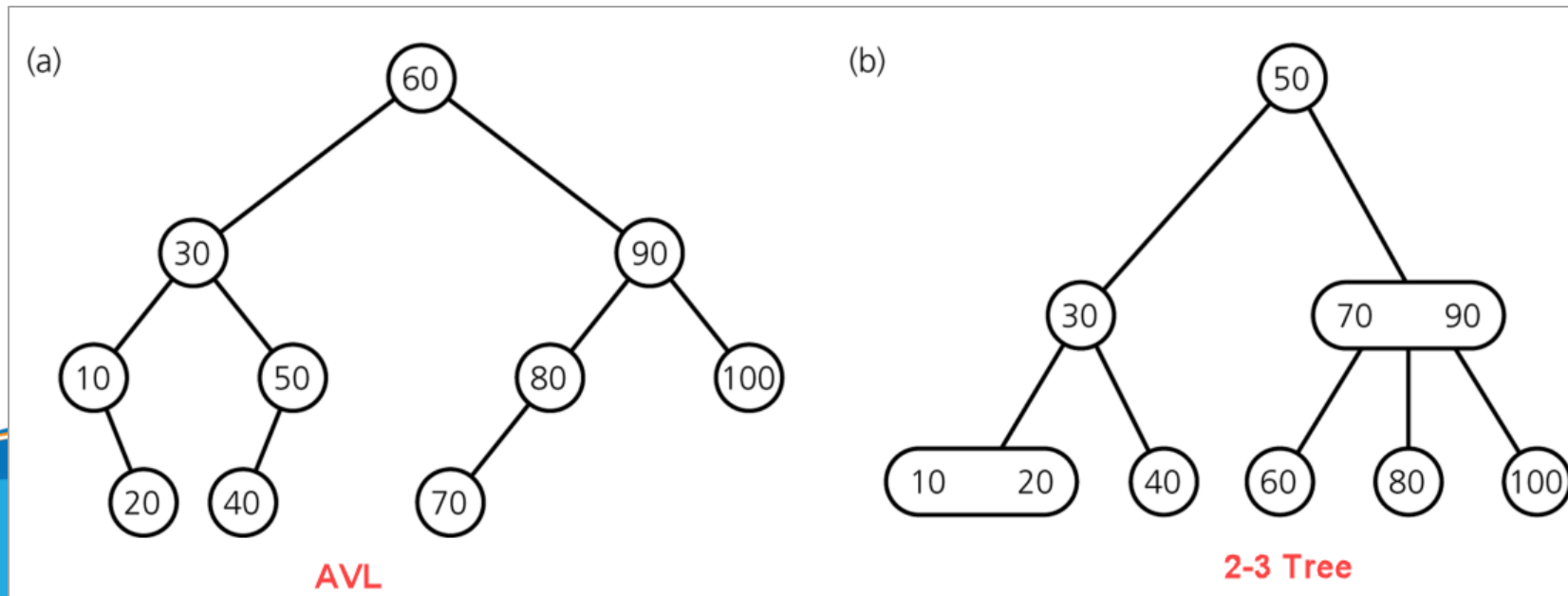


*B is between A and C so look in the middle  
link is null so B is not in the tree (search miss)*

# Time Efficiency of Searching

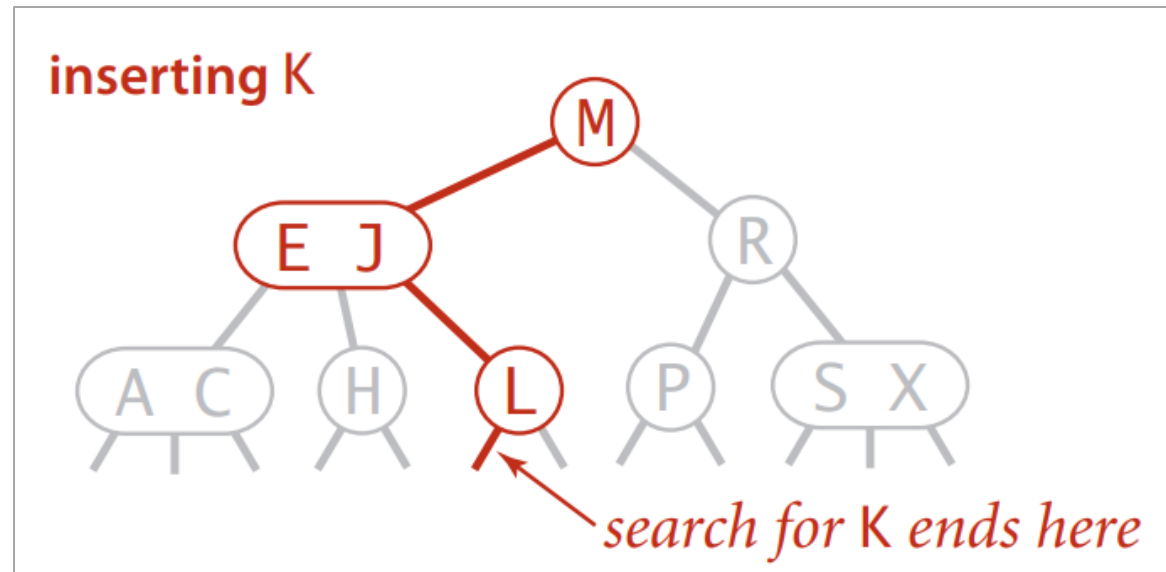
## ○ What is the time efficiency of searching for an item?

- $O(\log n)$
- But
  - A AVL tree's height:  $1.44\log(n+2)-0.328$
  - A 2-3 tree's height:  $2\log(n+1)$
  - ⇒ A AVL is slightly faster than a 2-3 tree.
  - ⇒ **So why we need a 2-3 tree?**



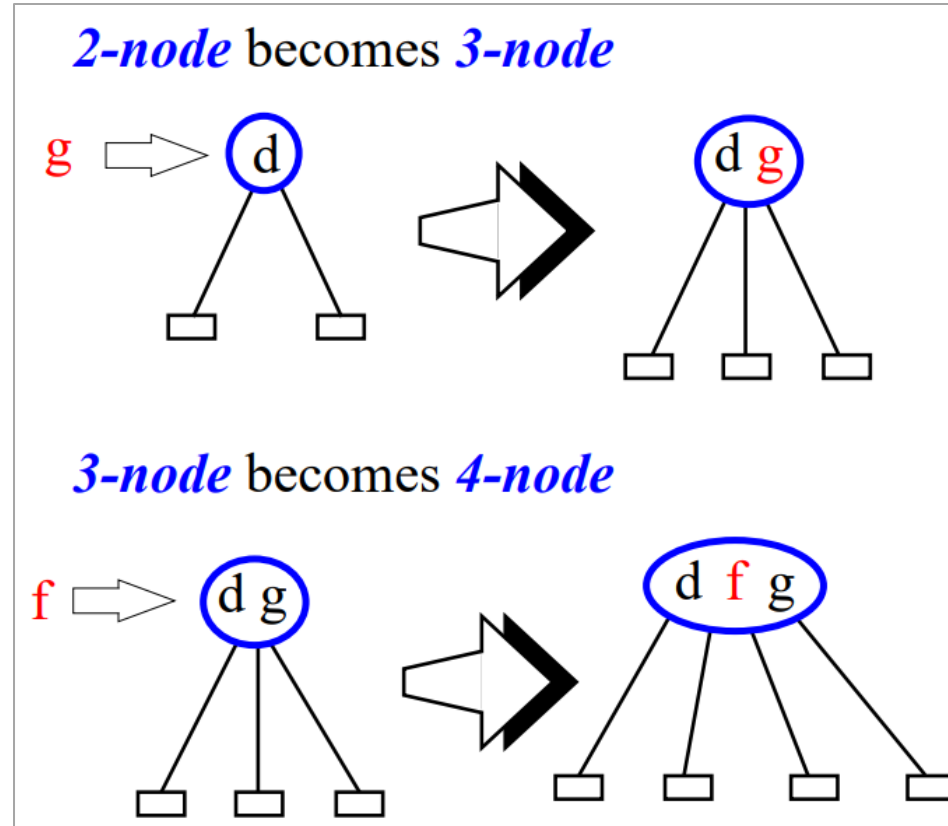
# Insert an item

- To insert an item to a 2-3 tree:
  - Do an unsuccessful **search** and then hook on the **node at the bottom**.
  - **Insert** a new item into this node.



# Insert an item

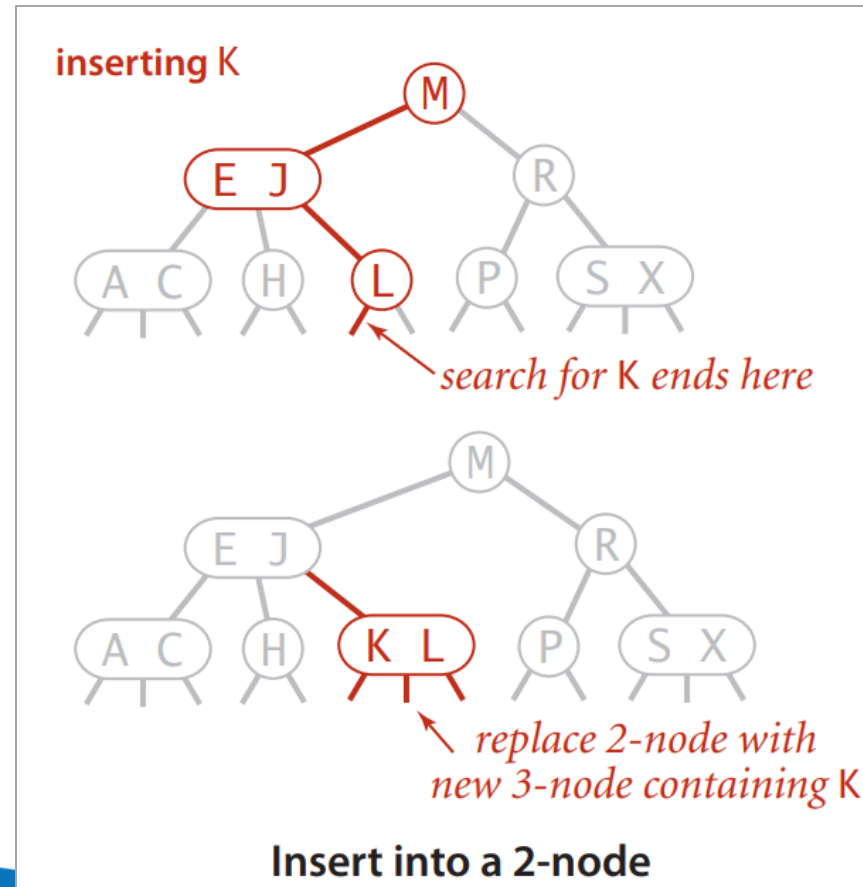
- There are two cases:
  - Insert into a 2-node
  - Insert into a 3-node



# Insert an item

- **Insert into a 2-node:**

- Just replace the node with a 3-node containing its key and the new key to be inserted.

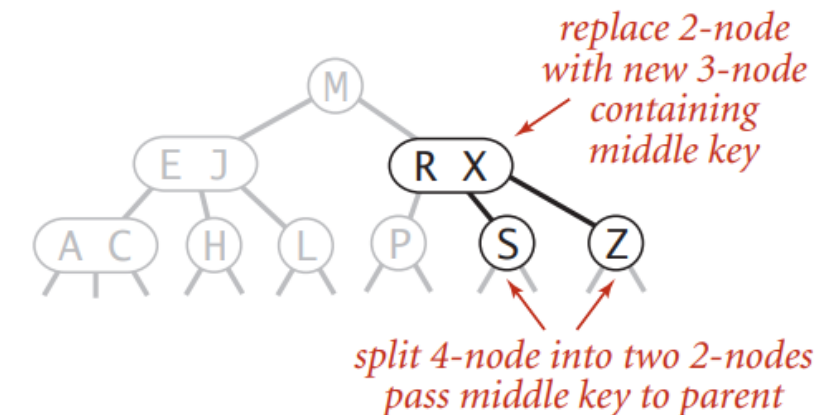
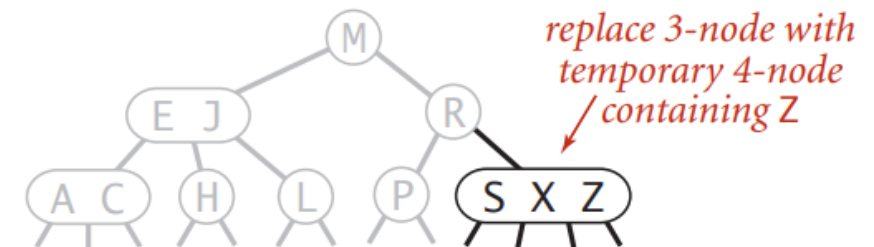
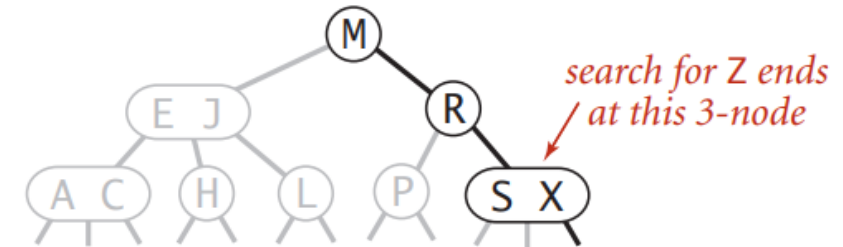




# Insert an item

- **Insert into a 3-node:**
  - The new key to be inserted the leaf and after that ...
  - **Divide** (split) the leaf and **move middle value up** to parent.
  - **Check and fix parent** if it is overcrowded and **repeat again until root**.

inserting Z

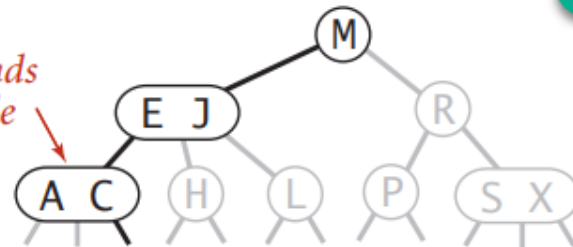


Insert into a 3-node whose parent is a 2-node

# Insert an item

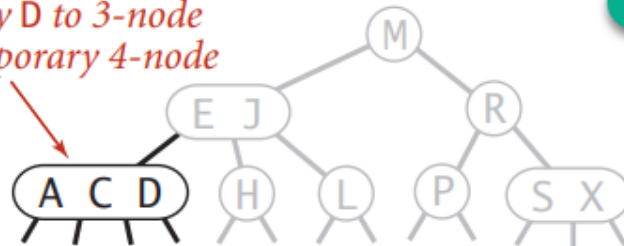
inserting D

search for D ends  
at this 3-node



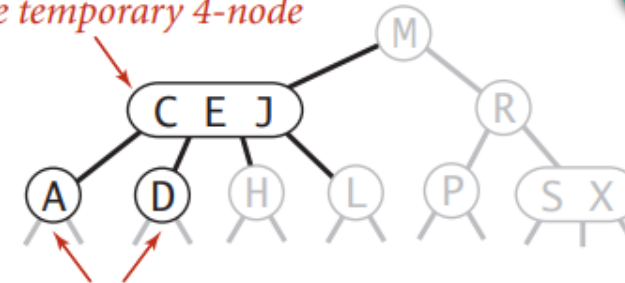
1

add new key D to 3-node  
to make temporary 4-node



2

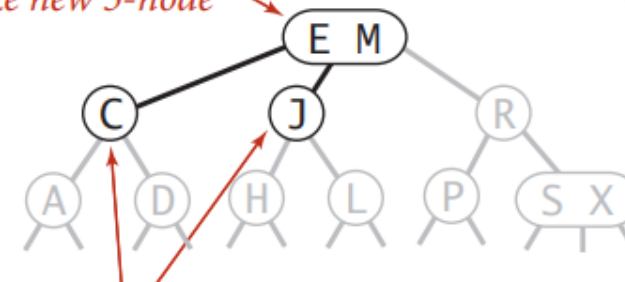
add middle key C to 3-node  
to make temporary 4-node



3

split 4-node into two 2-nodes  
pass middle key to parent

add middle key E to 2-node  
to make new 3-node



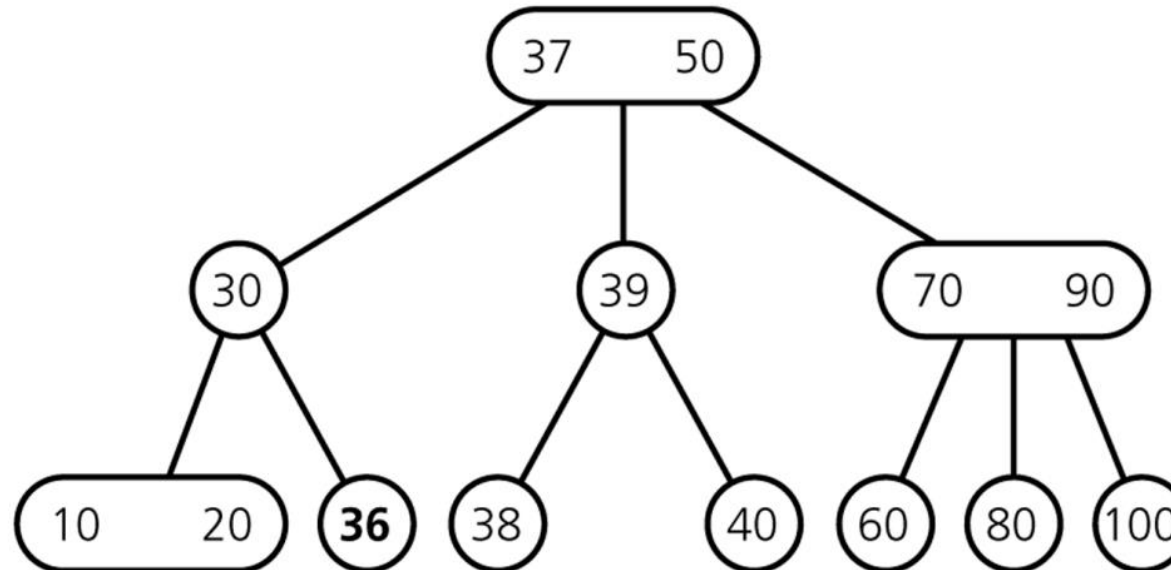
4

split 4-node into two 2-nodes  
pass middle key to parent

# Exercises

- Insert some following values into current 2-3 tree:

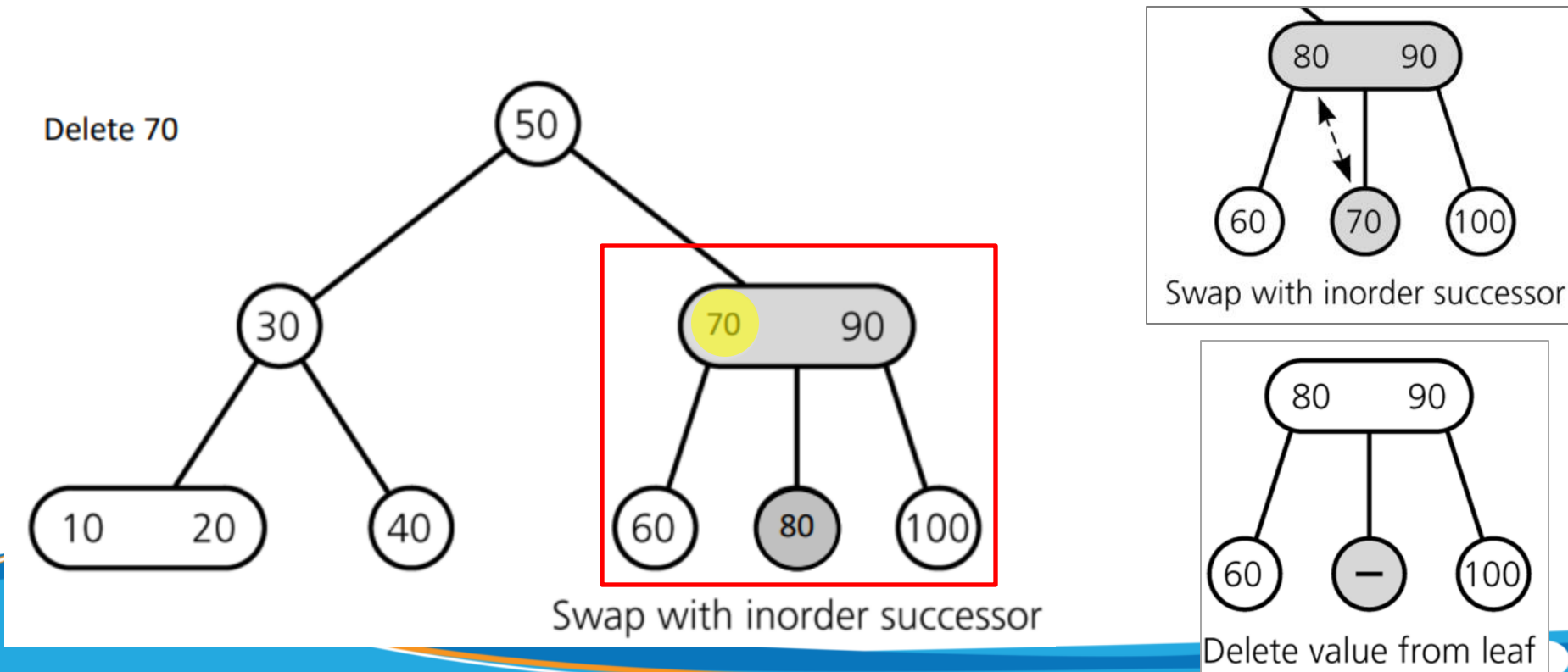
35, 34, 33, 32, 15, 29, 48, 17



- Some comments on inserting:
  - Simple balancing
    - No part of the tree needs to be examined or modified other than the specified nodes and links.
    - Number of links changed is bounded by a small constant.
  - Is better than AVL tree?

# Delete an item

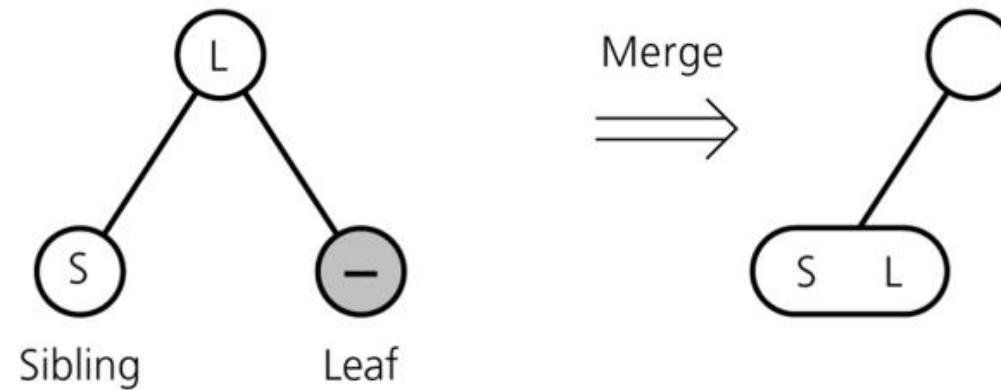
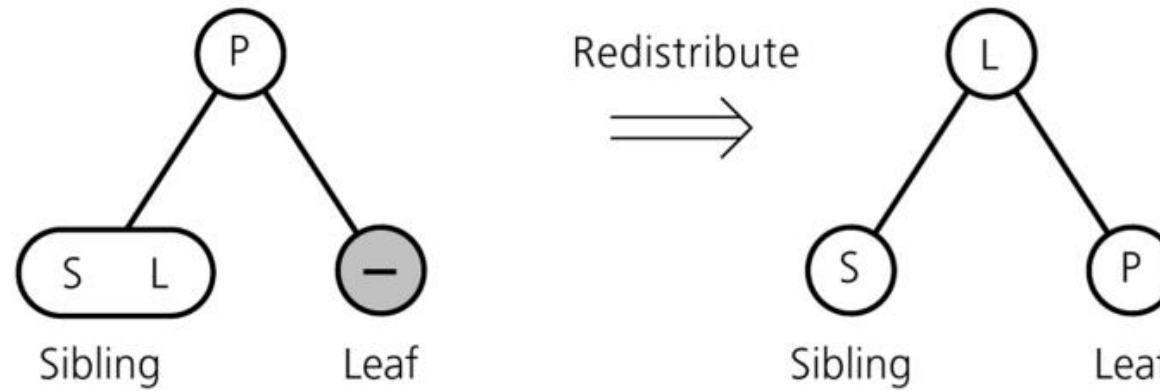
- To delete an item from a 2-3 tree:
  - Do an successful **search** and then **delete** that **value** from the node at the bottom (similar with BST)
  - Deletion leaves a hole in a bottom node so **removing the hole without violating the 2-3 tree**.



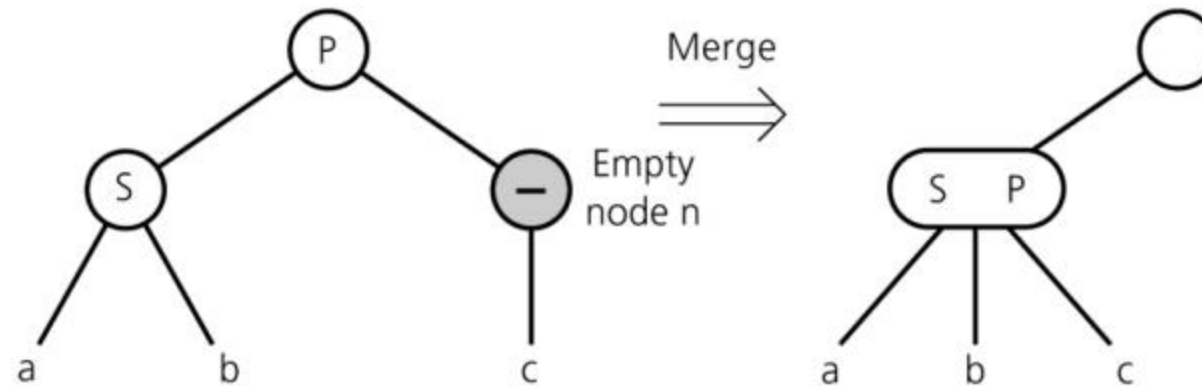
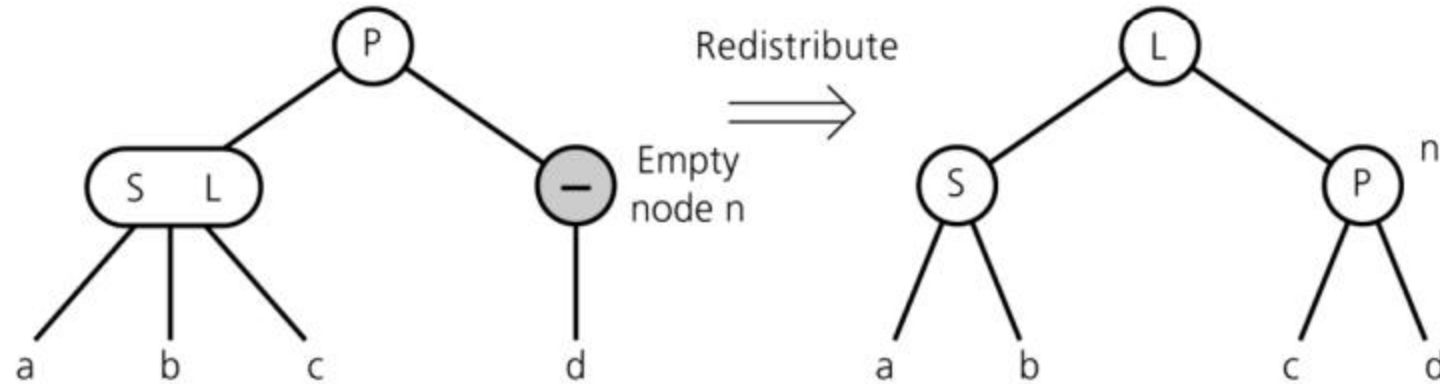
# Delete an item

- There are 2 main cases:
  - If the node (with hole) is enough (2-node), do nothing.
  - Otherwise (empty):
    - If sibling is rich (3-node), borrow (redistribute) a value from it through parent.
    - If sibling is poor (2-node), join (merge) with sibling and parent. Consequently, new hole is created on parent node. Repeat removing the hole from parent.

# Redistribute and Merge (1)

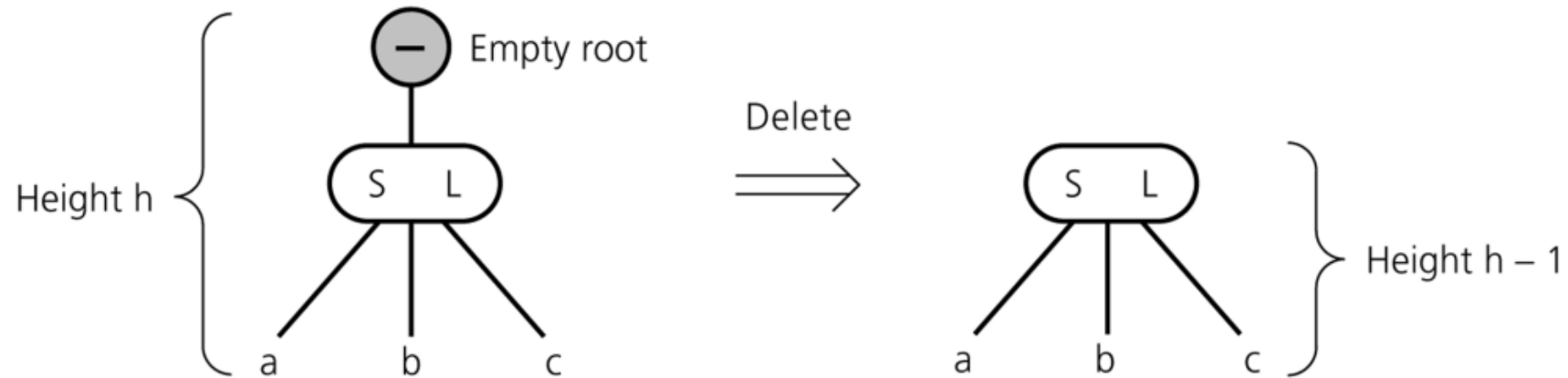


# Redistribute and Merge (2)



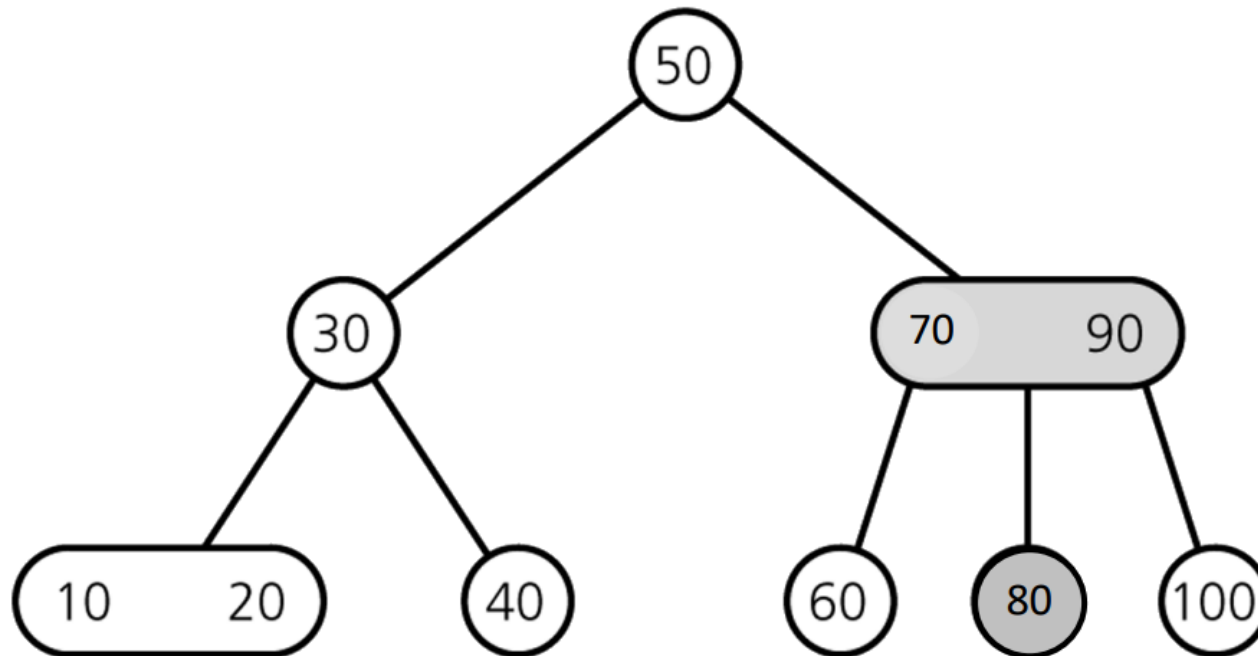


# Redistribute and Merge (3)



# Exercise

- Delete following values from a 2-3 tree:  
70, 100, 80, 20, 50



# Comments

## ○ Advantages:

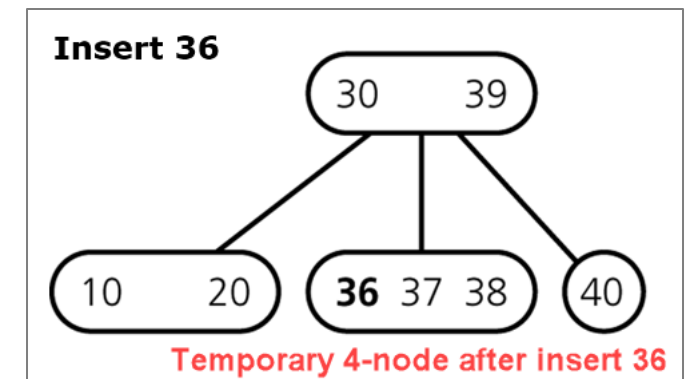
- Perfect balanced
- Do not use rotation
- Complexity is  $O(\log n)$

## ○ Disadvantages:

- Walking up the tree to split nodes
- When **insert an item**, we **create the temporary 4-node**.
- Need to **check which value is middle**

⇒ Waste space and time

⇒ **Solve with a 2-3-4 tree**



# Outline

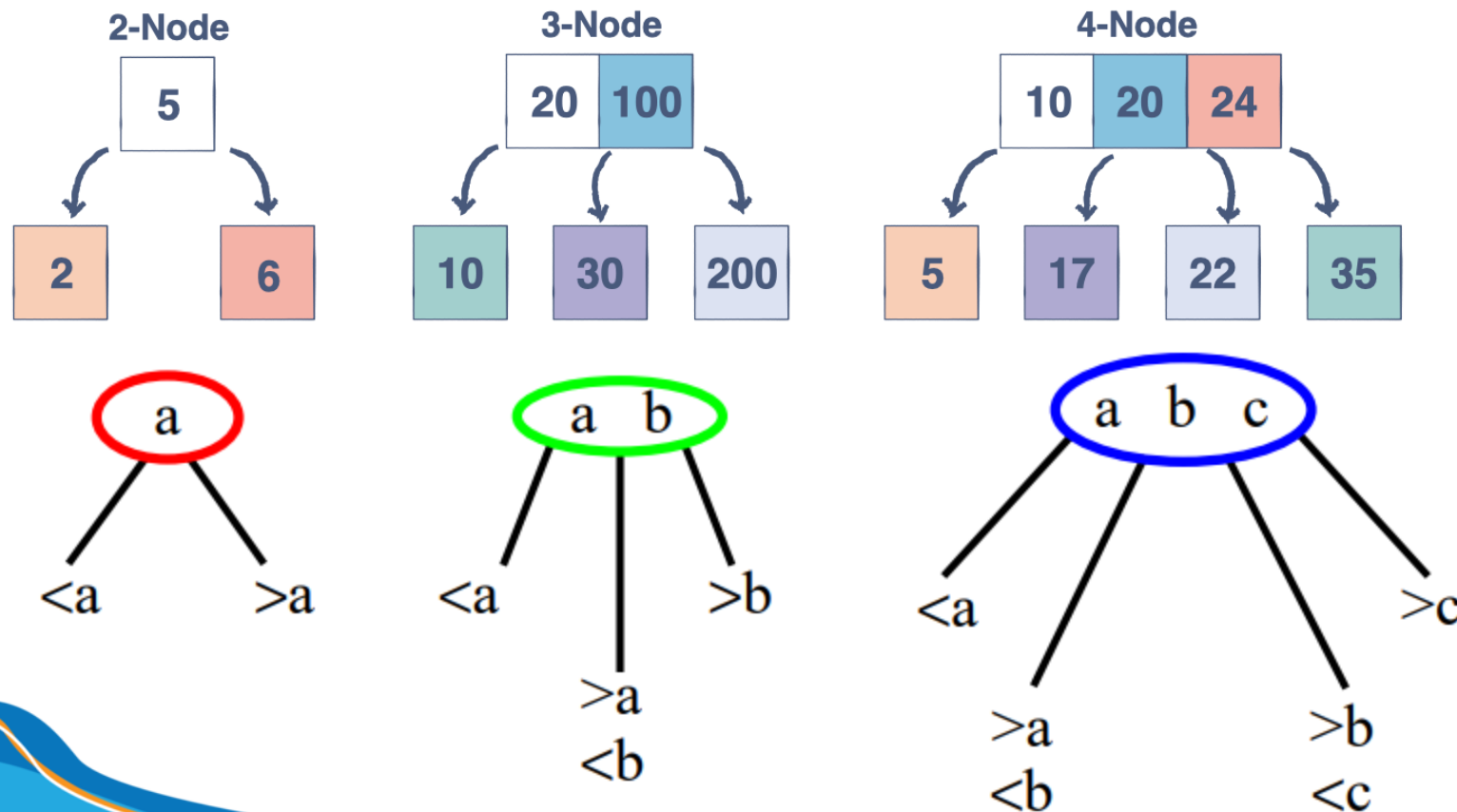


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- 2-3 Tree
- **2-3-4 Tree**

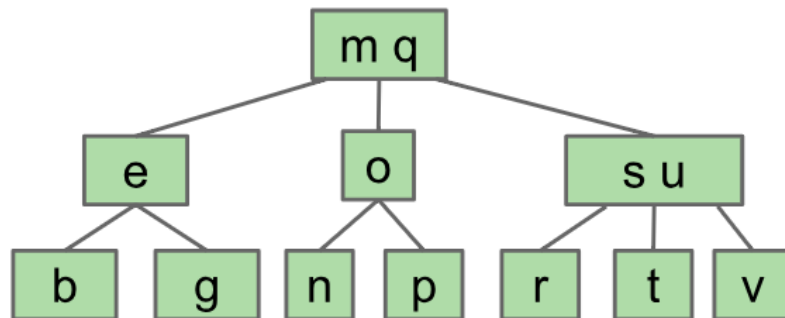
# 2-3-4 Tree

- A **2-3-4 tree** is like a **2-3 tree**, but it allows **4-nodes**, which are nodes that have four children and three data items.



# Search, Insert, Delete in a 2-3-4 tree

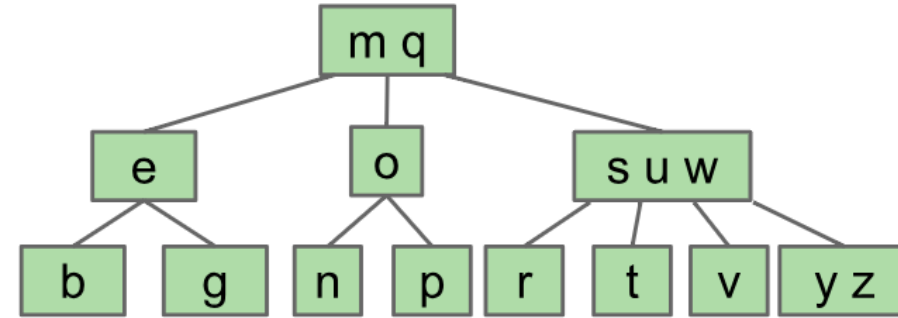
- **Search, Insert, Delete** in a 2-3-4 tree are **similar to 2-3 tree**, but it has **more efficient insertion** and **deletion** operations than a 2-3 tree.



2-3 Tree (L=2):

Max 2 items per node.

Max 3 non-null children per node.



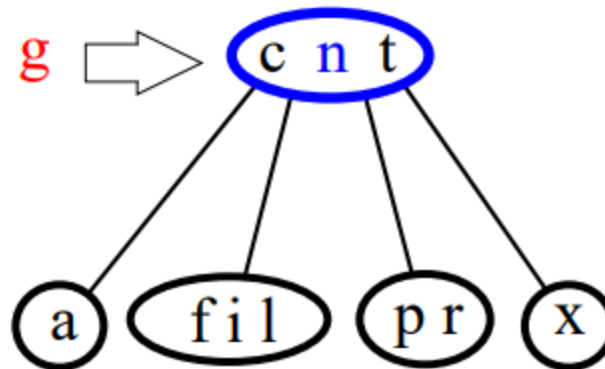
2-3-4 a.k.a. 2-4 Tree (L=3):

Max 3 items per node.

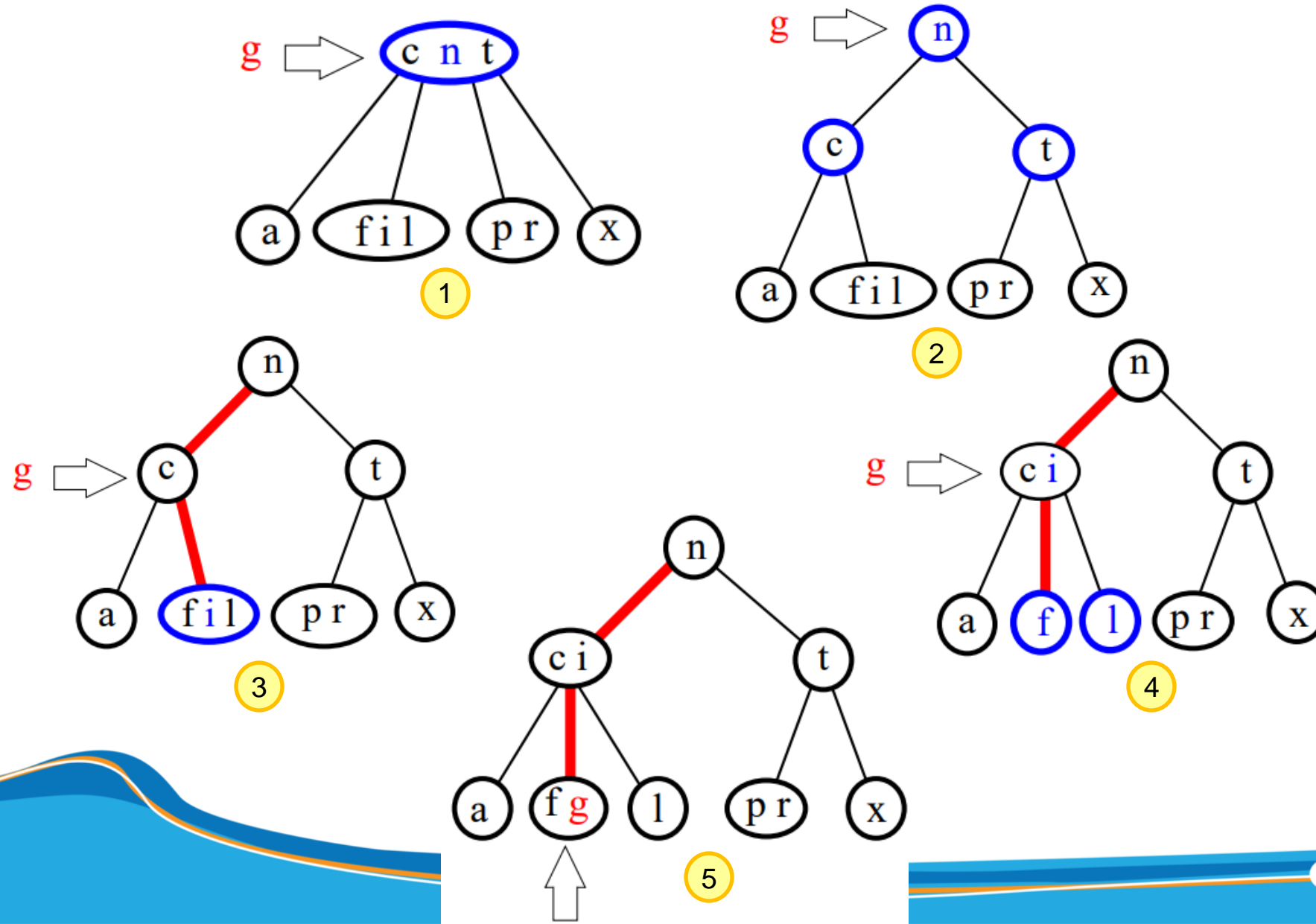
Max 4 non-null children per node.

# Top Down Insertion

- For a **2-3 tree**:
  - The insertion algorithm traces a path from the root to a leaf and then **backs up from the leaf as it splits nodes**.
- For a **2-3-4 tree**:
  - **Insertion can be done in one pass**
  - To avoid this return path after reaching a leaf, **whenever we reach a 4-node, we break it up into two 2-nodes**, and **move the middle element up into the parent node**.



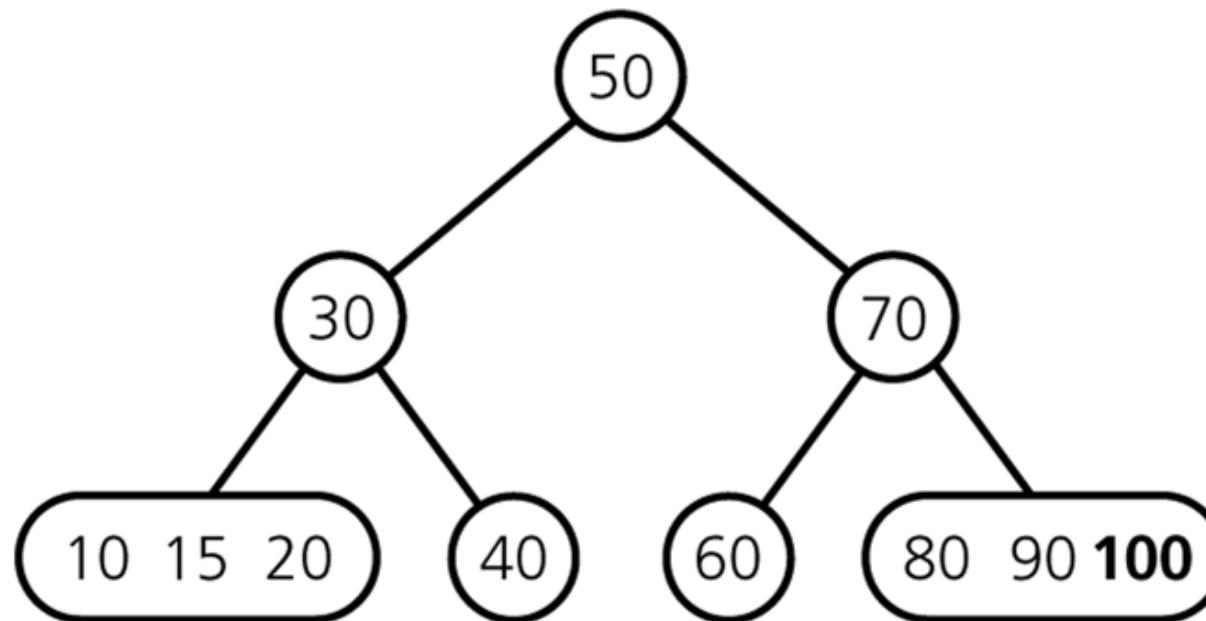
# Top Down Insertion





# Exercise

- Inserting 60, 30, 10, 20, 50, 40, 70, 80, 15, 90, 100 into a 2-3-4 tree.



Result Tree

# Top Down Deletion

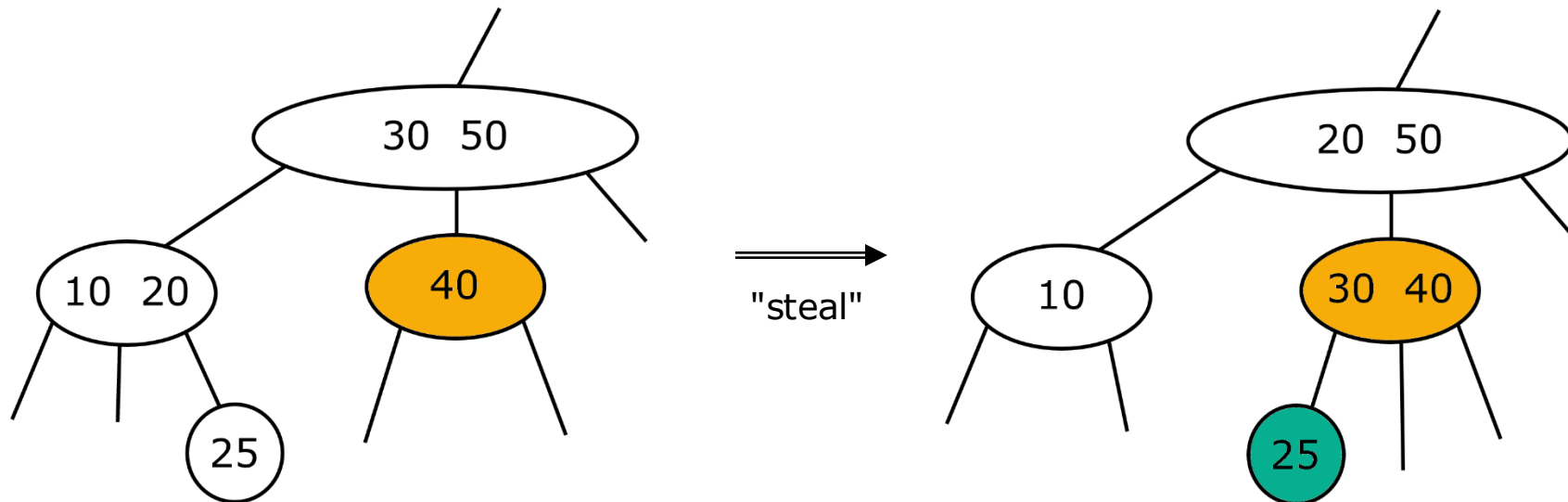
- For a **2-3 tree**:
  - The deletion algorithm traces a path from the root to a leaf and then backs up from the leaf, **fixing empty nodes on the path back up to root**.
- For a **2-3-4 tree**:
  - **Deletion can be done in one pass**
  - To avoid this return path after reaching a leaf, we **transforms each 2-node into either 3-node or 4-node as soon as it encounters them** on the way down the tree from the root to a leaf.
    - Case 1: If **an adjacent sibling is a 3-node or 4-node**, **transfer an item from that sibling to our 2-node**.
    - Case 2: If **adjacent sibling is a 2-node**, **merge them**.

# Top Down Deletion

- For a **2-3-4 tree**:

- To avoid ...

- Case 1: If an adjacent sibling is a 3-node or 4-node, transfer an item from that sibling to our 2-node.

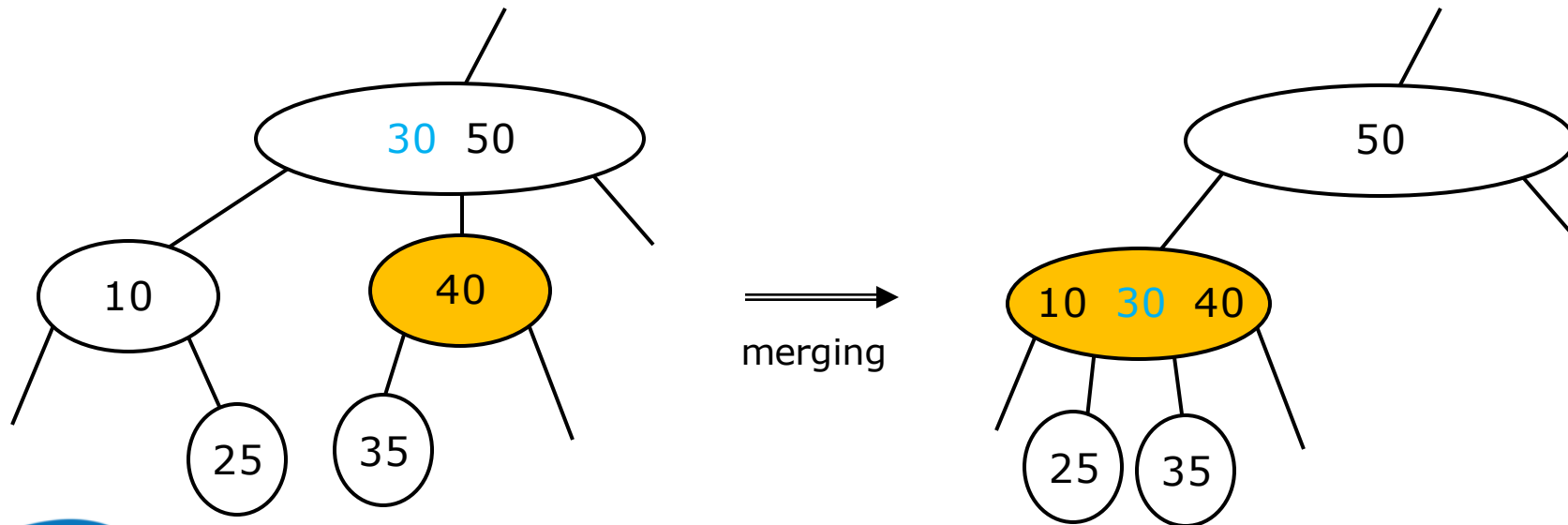


# Top Down Deletion

- For a **2-3-4 tree**:

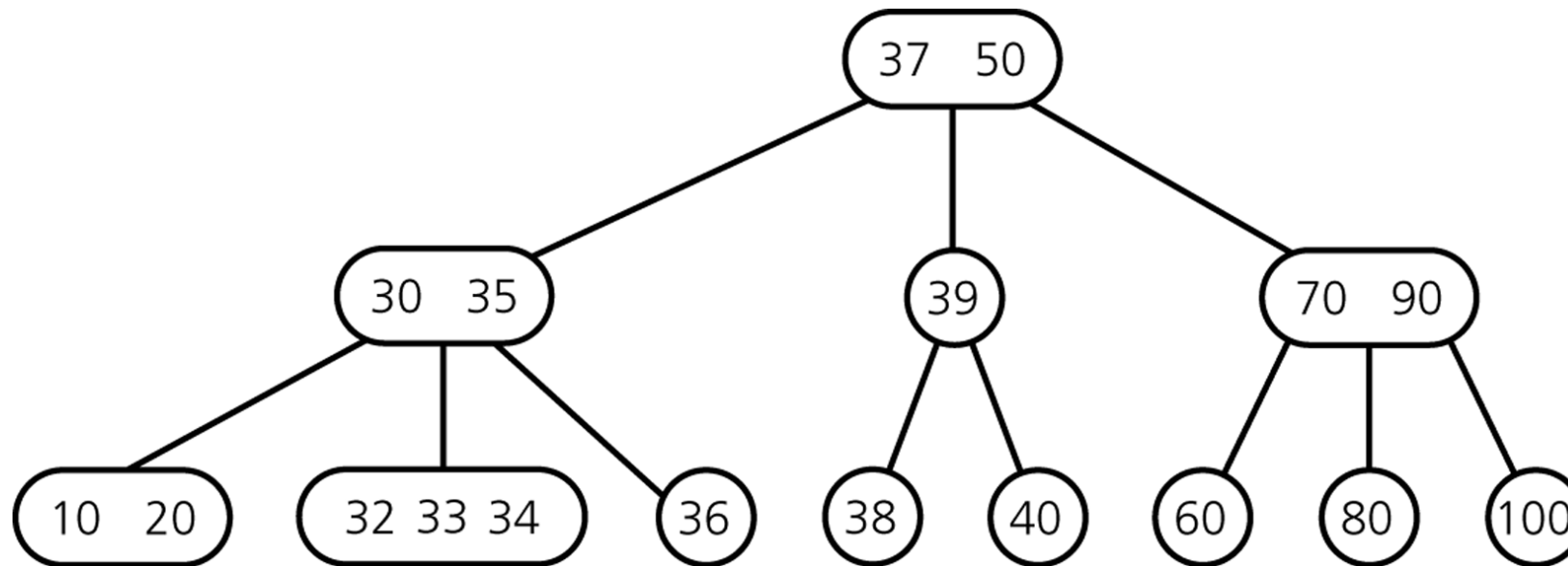
- To avoid ...

- Case 1: ...
- Case 2: If **adjacent sibling** is a 2-node, **merge them**.



# Exercise

- Delete 32, 35, 40, 38, 39, 37, 60 from the following 2-3-4 tree



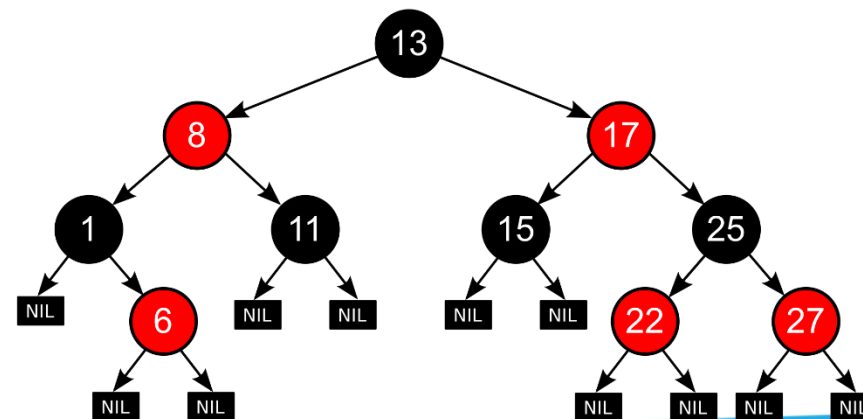
## ○ Advantages:

- Perfect balanced
- Time complexity:  $O(\log N)$
- Insertion/deletion performance is more efficient than a 2-3 tree.

## ○ Disadvantages:

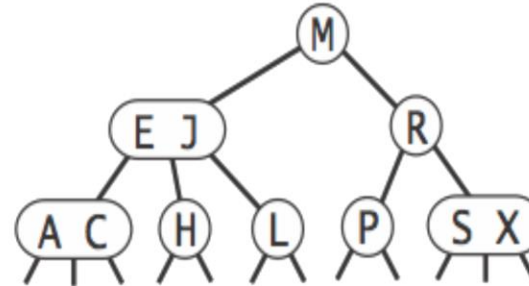
- Different node structures
  - Interconversion of nodes among 2-nodes, 3-nodes and 4-nodes.

=> Solved by Red-Black Tree

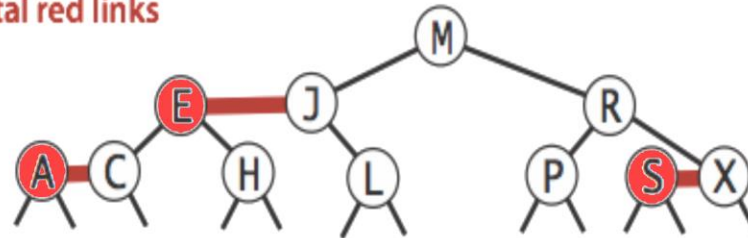


# 2-3 tree to red-black tree

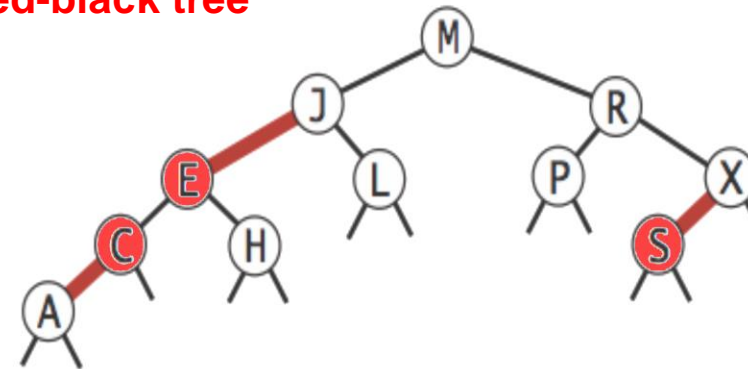
2-3 tree



horizontal red links

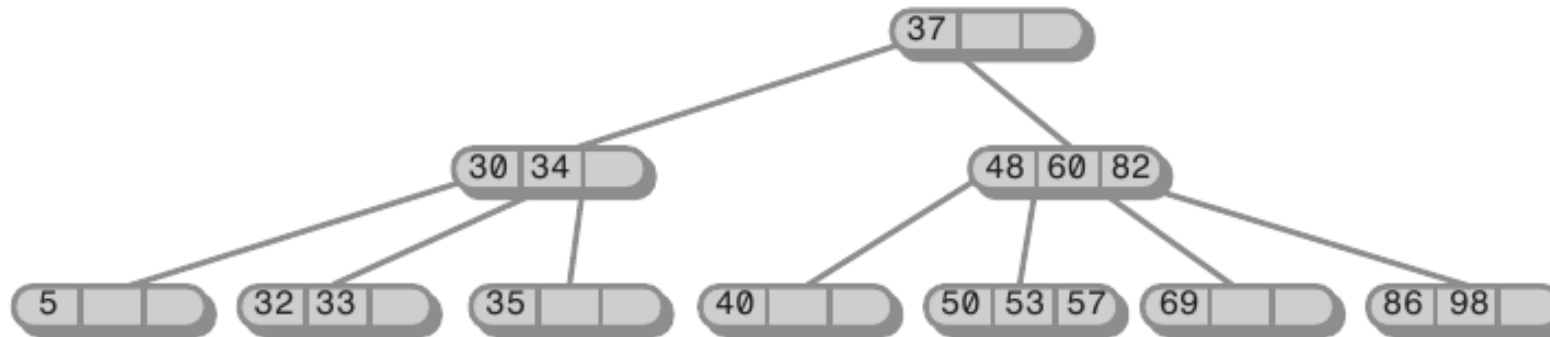


Left-lean red-black tree

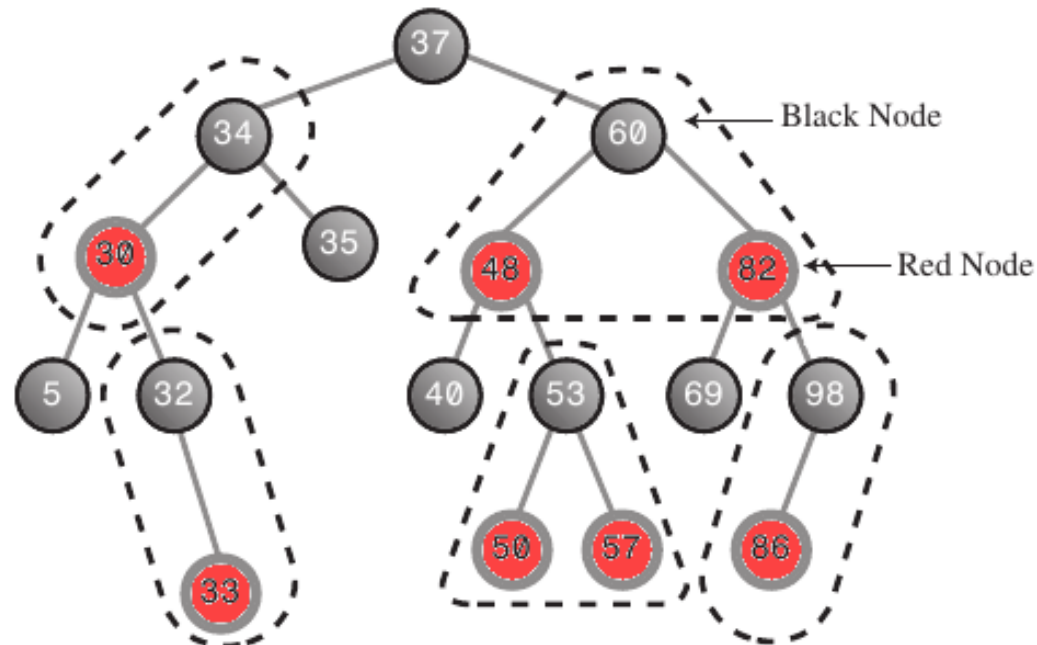


# 2-3-4 tree to red-black tree

a) 2-3-4 tree



b) Red-black tree





# Exercises

- Find an order such that if you add the items 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 in that order, the resulting 2-3 tree has height 1.

# Conclusion

- Binary search trees are simple, but they are subject to imbalance which leads to crappy runtime.
- 2-3 trees are balanced, but painful to implement and relatively slow.
- 2-3-4 trees are more effective than 2-3 trees in insertion and deletion.
- LLRBs maintain correspondence with 2-3 tree, Standard Red-Black trees maintain correspondence with 2-3-4 trees.
  - More complex implementation, but significantly faster.

*The End*

