- An m-way search tree T may be an empty tree. If T is non-empty, it satisfies the following properties:
- (i) For some integer m known as the order of the tree, each node has at most m child nodes. A node may be represented as  $A_0$ ,  $(K_1, A_1)$ ,  $(K_2, A_2)$  ....  $(K_{m-1}, A_{m-1})$

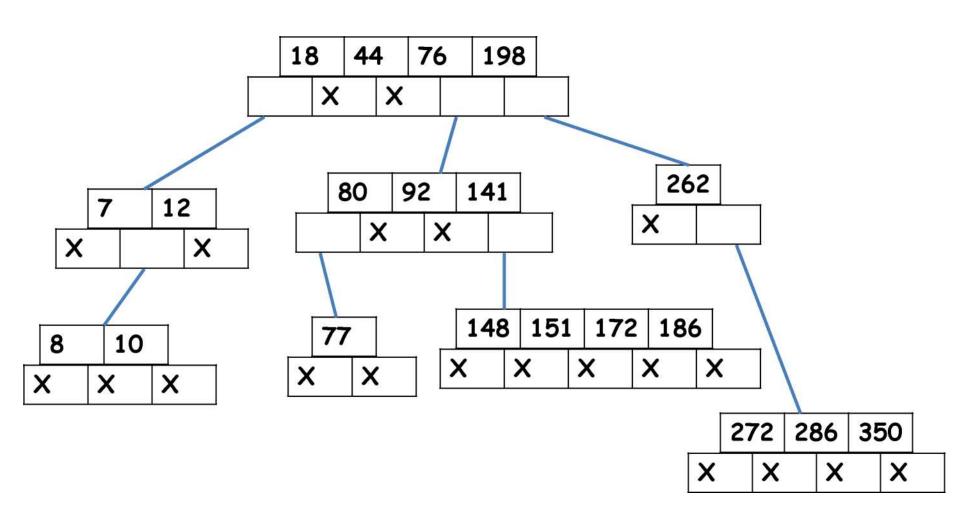
where  $K_i$ ,  $1 \le i \le m-1$  are the keys and  $A_i$ ,  $0 \le i \le m-1$  are the pointers to the subtree of T.

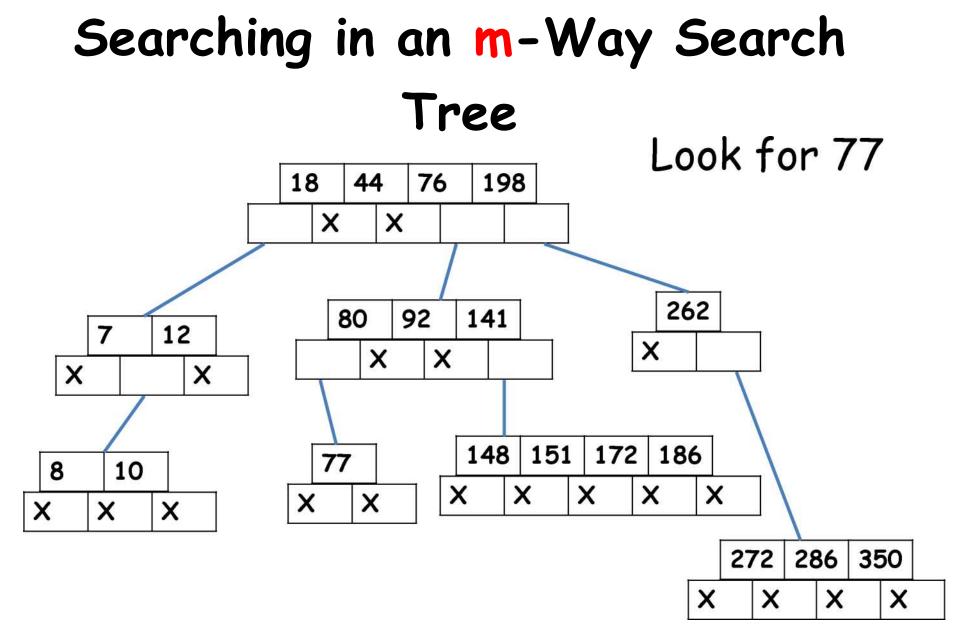
[2] If the node has k child nodes where k < = m, then the node can have only (k-1) keys,  $K_1$ ,  $K_2$ ,  $K_{k-1}$  contained in the node such that  $K_i < K_{i+1}$  and each of the keys partitions all the keys in the subtrees into k subsets

[3] For a node  $A_0$ , (K1,,  $A_1$ ), (K2,  $A_2$ ,).... ( $K_{m-1}$ ,  $A_{m-1}$ ) all key values in the subtree pointed to by  $A_i$  are less than the key  $K_{i+1}$ , 0 < i < m-2 and all key values in the subtree pointed to by  $A_{m-1}$  are greater than  $K_{m-1}$ 

[4] Each of the subtree  $A_i$ , 0 <= i <= m-1 are also m-way search tree

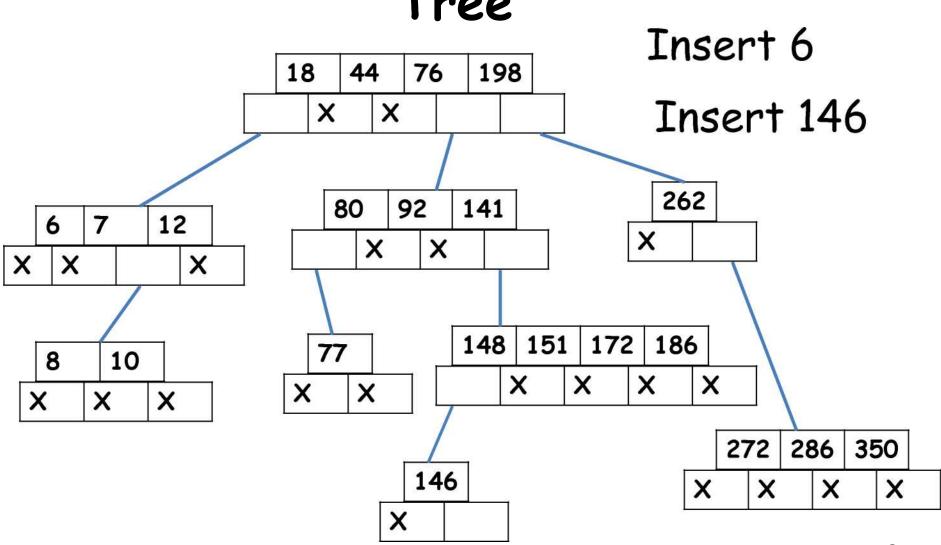
#### m-Way Search Tree [m=5]





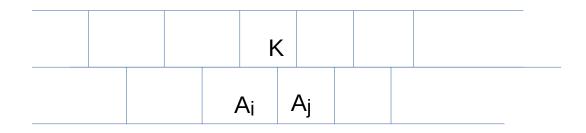
#### Insertion in an m-Way Search Tree Insert 6 18 44 76 198 X X 262 92 141 80 12 X X X X X 148 151 172 186 77 8 10 X X X X X X X X X X 286 272 350 X X X X

# Insertion in an m-Way Search Tree



## Deletion in an m-Way Search Tree

Let K be the key to be deleted from the m-way search tree.



K: Key

 $A_i$ ,  $A_j$ : Pointers to subtree

# Deletion in an m-Way Search Tree

[1] If  $(A_i = A_j = NULL)$  then delete K [2] If  $(A_i \# NULL, A_j = NULL)$  then choose the largest of the key elements K' in the child node pointed to by A; and replace K by K'. [3] If  $(A_i = NULL, A_i # NULL)$  then choose the smallest of the key element K" from the subtree pointed to by Ai, delete K" and replace K by K"

### Deletion in an m-Way Search Tree

[4] If  $(A_i \# \text{NULL}, A_j \# \text{NULL})$  then choose the largest of the key elements K' in the subtree pointed to by  $A_i$  or the smallest of the key element K" from the subtree pointed to by  $A_j$  to replace K.

