
COMP20010: Algorithms and Imperative Programming

Lecture 1

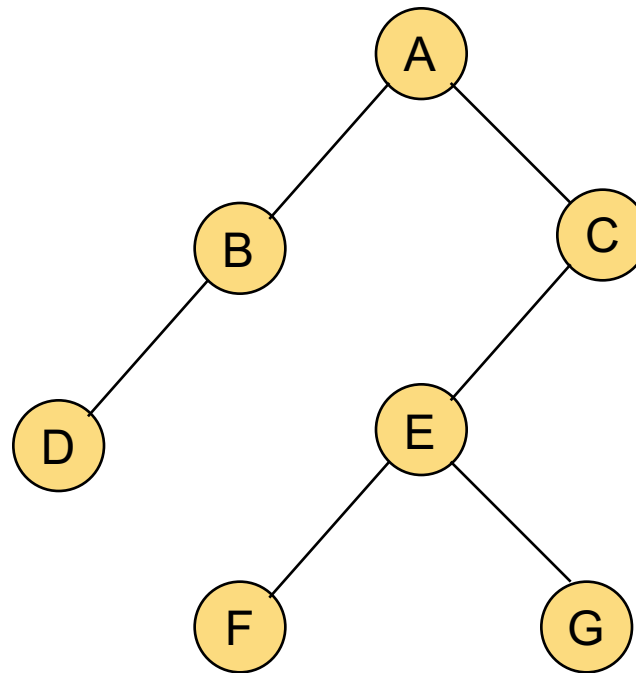
Trees

Lecture outline

- Motivation
- Definitions
- Ordered trees
- Generic methods for tree operations
- Tree traversal (preorder, postorder, inorder)
- Binary trees – tree traversal

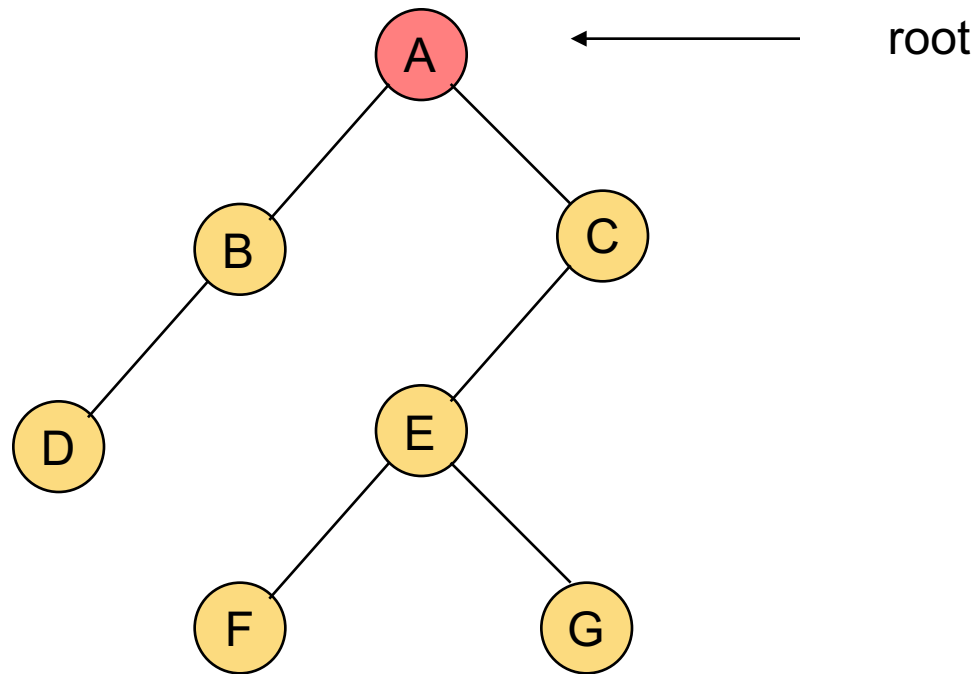
Definitions

- An abstract data type for hierarchical storage of information;



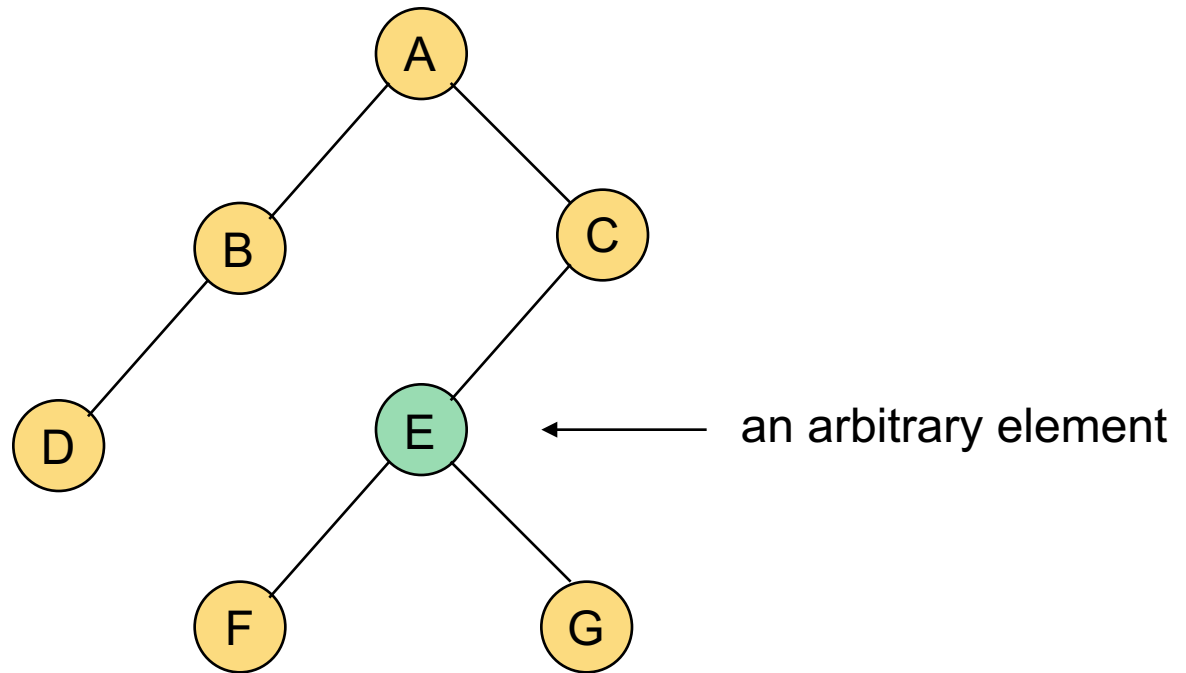
Definitions

- The top element of a tree is referred to as the **root** of a tree;



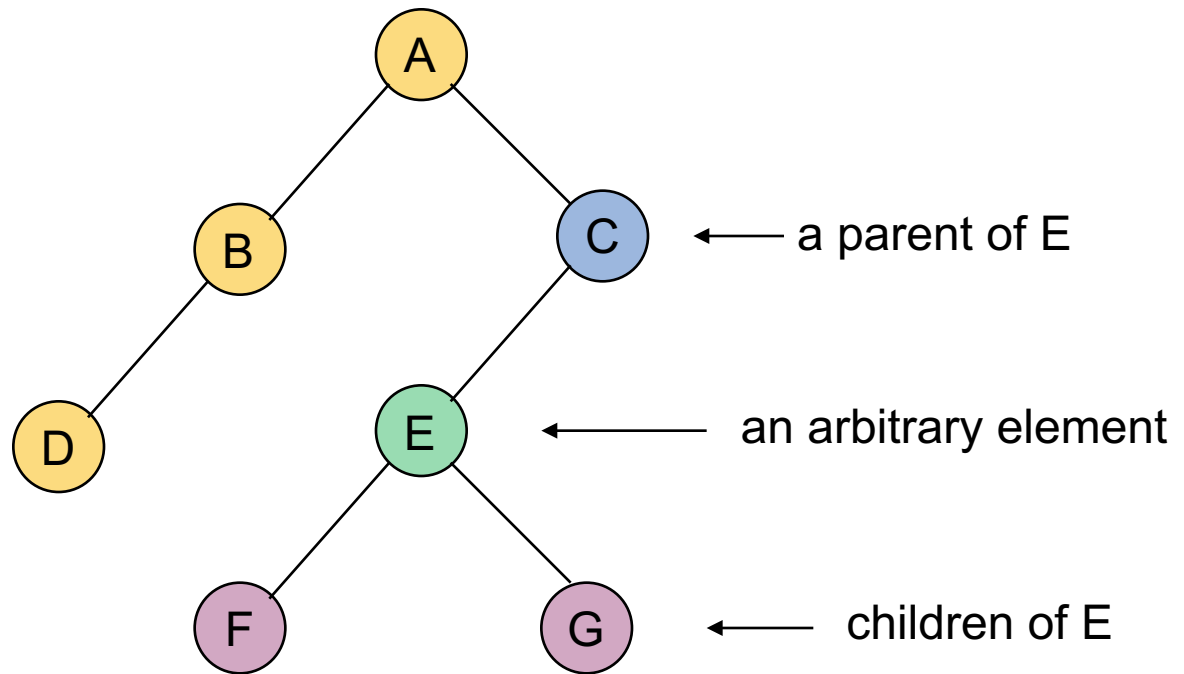
Definitions

- Each element in a tree (except the root)



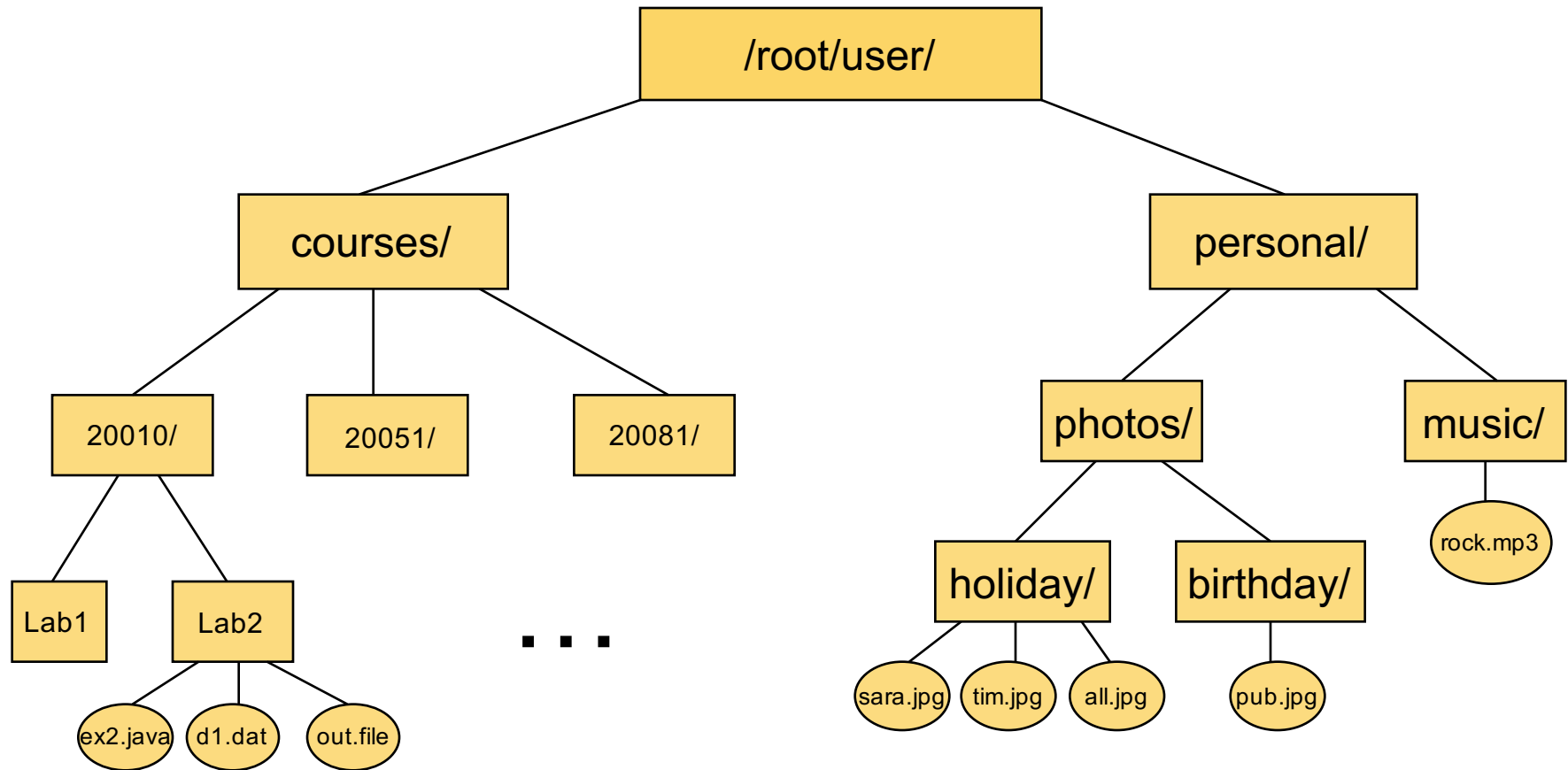
Definitions

- Each **element** in a tree (except the root) has a **parent** and zero or more **children** elements;



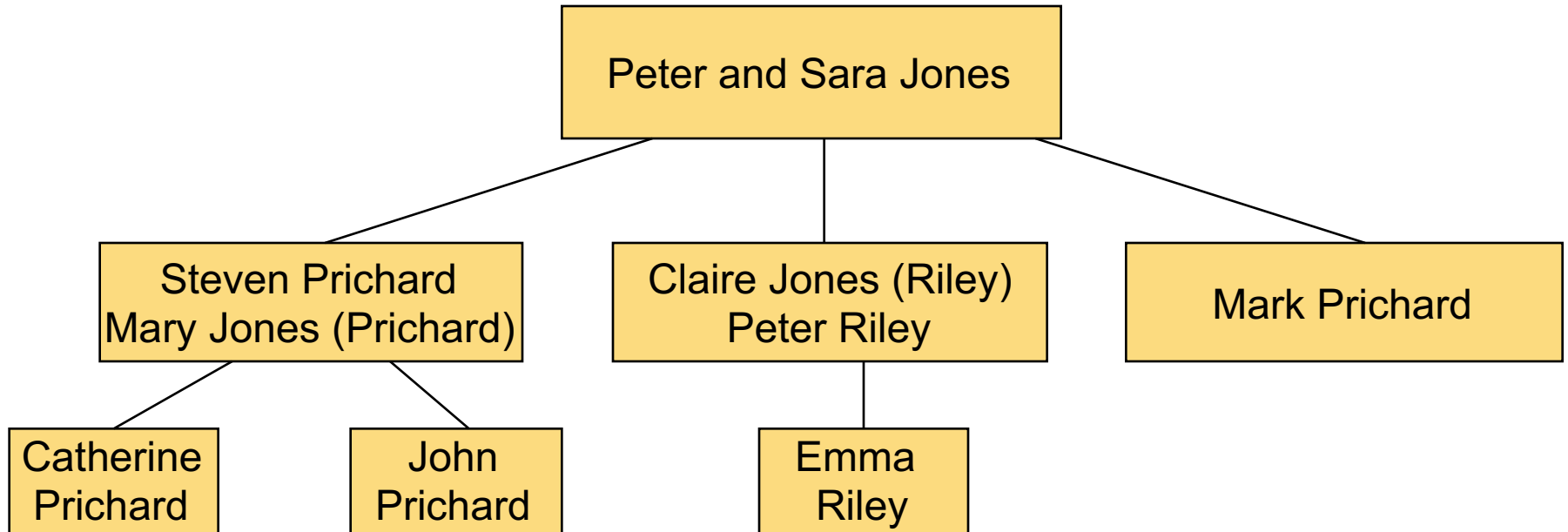
Examples

Computer disc directory structure



Examples

A family tree

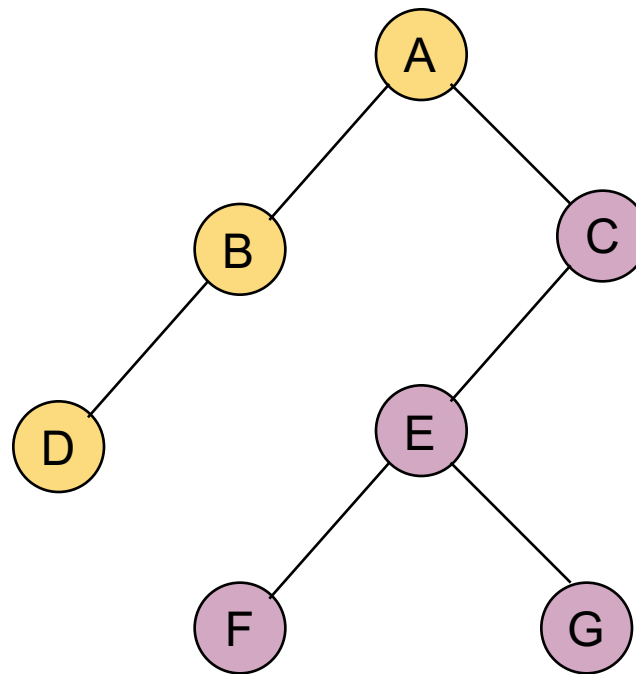


Definitions

- A tree T is a non-empty set of nodes storing useful information in a parent-child relationship with the following properties:
 - T has a special node r referred to as the **root**;
 - Each node v of T different from r has a parent node u ;
- If the node u is the **parent (ancestor)** node of v , then v is a **child (descendent)** of u . Two children of the same parent are **siblings**.
- A node is **external** (a leaf node) if it has no children and **internal** if it has one or more children.

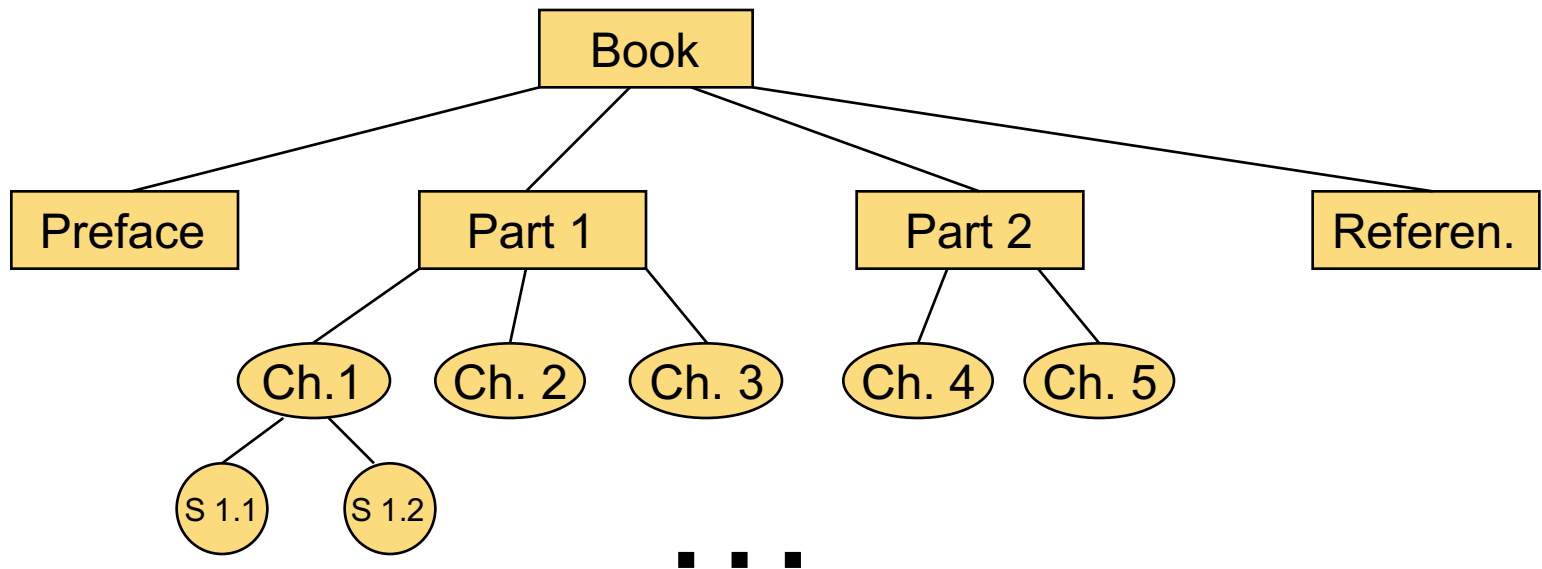
Definitions

- A **sub-tree** of T rooted at the node v is a tree consisting of all the descendants of v in T , including v itself.



Ordered trees

- A tree is **ordered** if a linear ordering relation is defined for the children of each node, that is, we can define an order among them.
- Example: a book



Binary trees

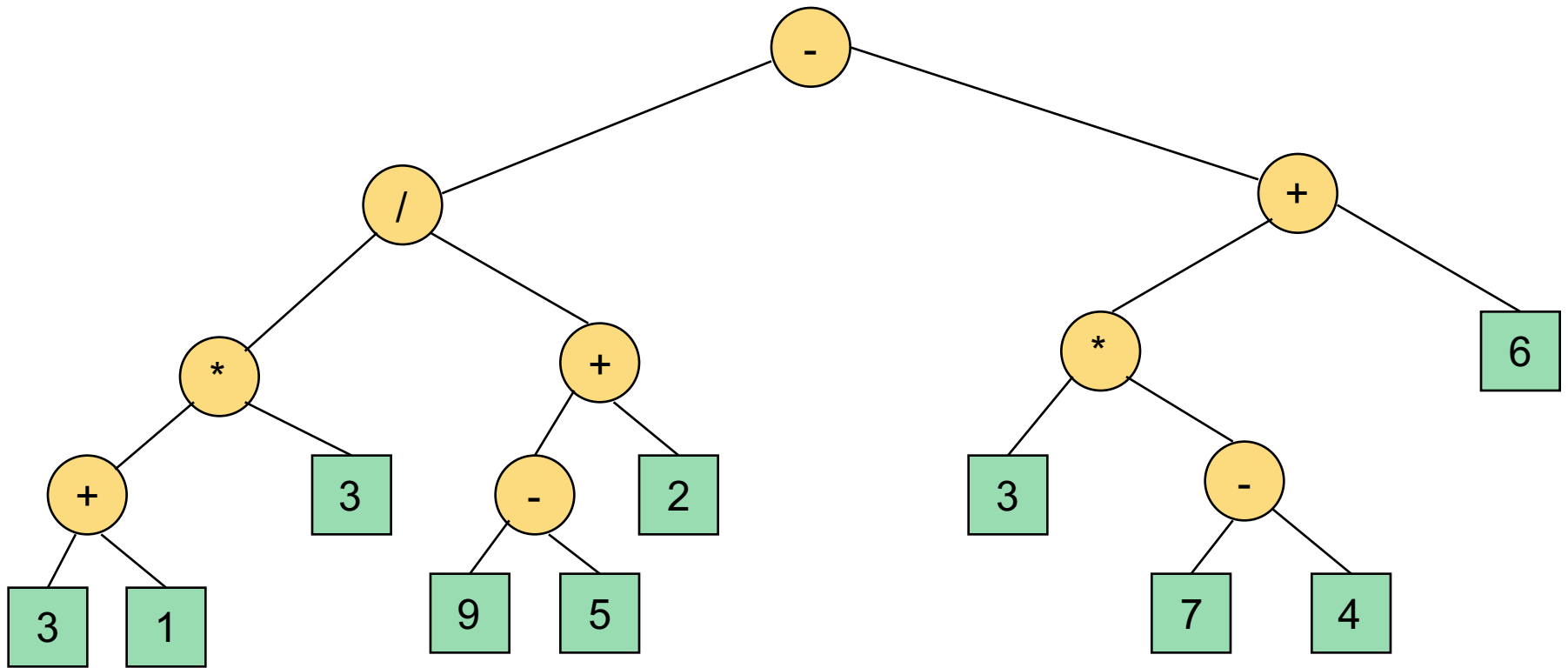
- A **binary tree** is an ordered tree in which each node has at most two children.
- A binary tree is **proper** if each internal node has two children.
- For each internal node its children are labelled as a **left child** and a **right child**.
- The children are ordered so that a left child comes **before** a right child.

An example of a binary tree

- Representing an arithmetic expression by a binary tree in which the external nodes are associated with variables or constants and the internal nodes are associated with 4 arithmetic operations.

An example of a binary tree

■ $(((((3+1)*3)/((9-5)+2))-((3*(7-4))+6)))$



The tree abstract data type

- Elements of a tree are stored at positions (tree nodes) which are defined relative to neighbouring positions (parent-child relationships).
- Accessor methods for the tree ADT:
 - `root()` – returns the root of the tree;
 - `parent(v)` – returns the parent node of v (an error if v is the root);
 - `children(v)` – returns an iterator of the children of the node v (if v is a leaf node it returns an empty iterator);

The tree abstract data type

- Query methods for the tree ADT:
 - `isInternal(v)` – tests whether the node v is internal;
 - `isExternal(v)` – tests whether the node v is external;
 - `isRoot(v)` – tests whether the node v is the root;
- Generic methods (not necessarily related to the tree structure):
 - `size()` – returns the number of nodes of the tree;
 - `elements()` – returns the an iterator of all the elements stored at the nodes of the tree;
 - `positions()` – returns an iterator of all the nodes of the tree;
 - `swapElements(v, w)` – swaps the elements stored at the nodes v and w ;
 - `replaceElement(v, e)` – returns the element v and replaces it with the element e ;

Tree traversal

- Complexity of the methods of the tree ADT:
 - `root()` and `parent(v)` take $O(1)$ time;
 - `isInternal(v)`, `isExternal(v)`, `isRoot(v)` take $O(1)$ time;
 - `children(v)` takes $O(c_v)$ time, where c_v is the number of children of v ;
 - `swapElements(v, w)` and `replaceElement(v, e)` take $O(1)$ time;
 - `elements()` and `positions()` take $O(n)$ time, where n is the number of elements in the tree;

Depth of a node

- Let v be a node of a tree T . The **depth** of v is a number of ancestors of v , excluding v itself.
- The depth of the root is 0;
- Recursive definition:
 - If v is a root, then the depth of v is 0;
 - Otherwise, the depth of v is one plus the depth of its parent;

Algorithm $\text{depth}(T, v)$

if $T.\text{isroot}(v)$ **then**

return 0

else

return $1 + \text{depth}(T, T.\text{parent}(v))$

The height of a tree

- It is equal to the maximum depth of an external node of T .
- If the previous depth-finding algorithm is applied, the complexity would be $O(n^2)$.
- A recursive definition of height of a node v in a tree T :
 - If v is an external node, the height of v is 0;
 - Otherwise, the height of v is one plus the maximum height of a child of v ;

```
Algorithm height( $T, v$ )  
  if  $T.isExternal(v)$  then  
    return 0  
  else  
     $h=0$   
    for each  $w$  in  $T.children(v)$  do  
       $h=\max(h, height(T, w))$   
    return  $1+h$ 
```

A traversal of a tree

- A **traversal** of a tree is a systematic way of accessing (visiting) all the nodes of T .
- There are two different traversal schemes for trees referred to as **preorder** and **postorder**.
- In a preorder traversal of a tree T the root is visited first, and then the subtrees rooted at its children are traversed recursively.

Algorithm preorder(T, v)

perform the action on the node v

for each child w of v

call preorder(T, w)

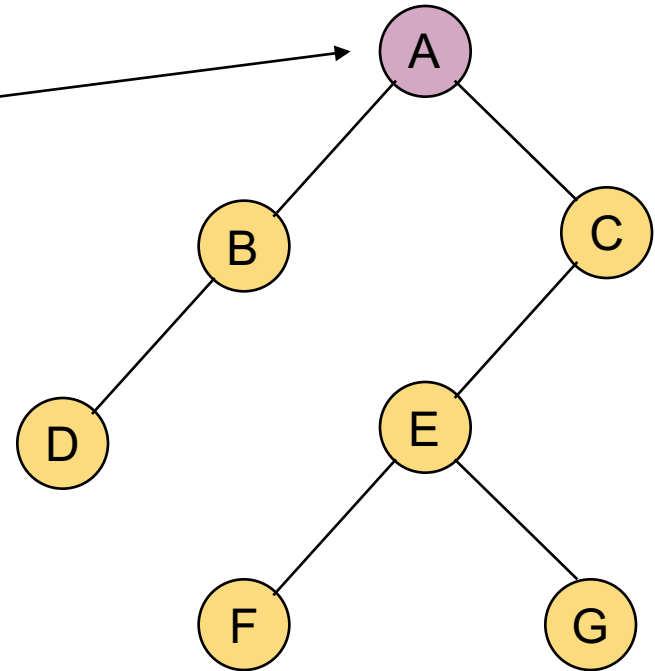
Preorder traversal of a tree

call preorder($T, T.\text{root}$)

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Preorder traversal of a tree

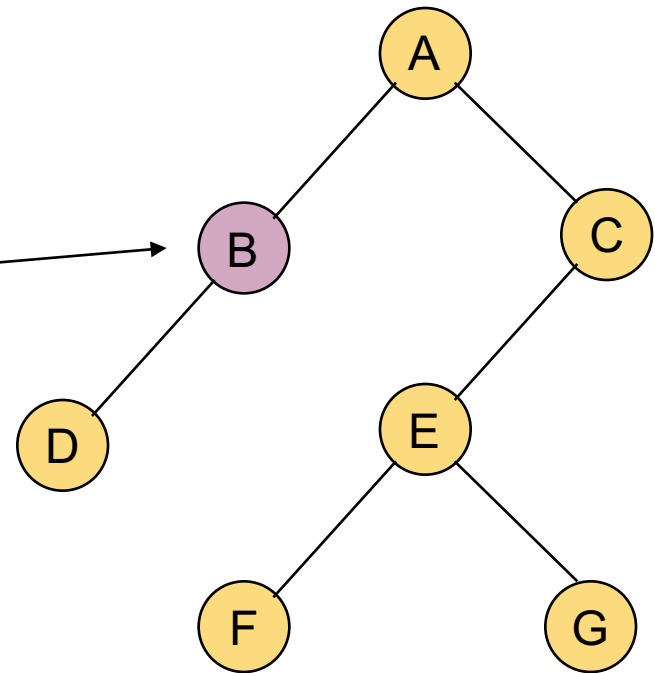
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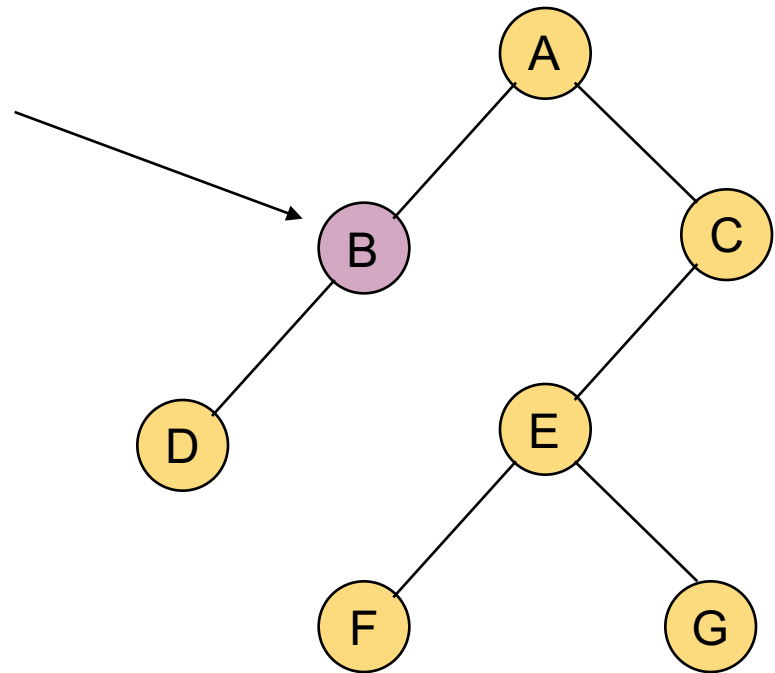
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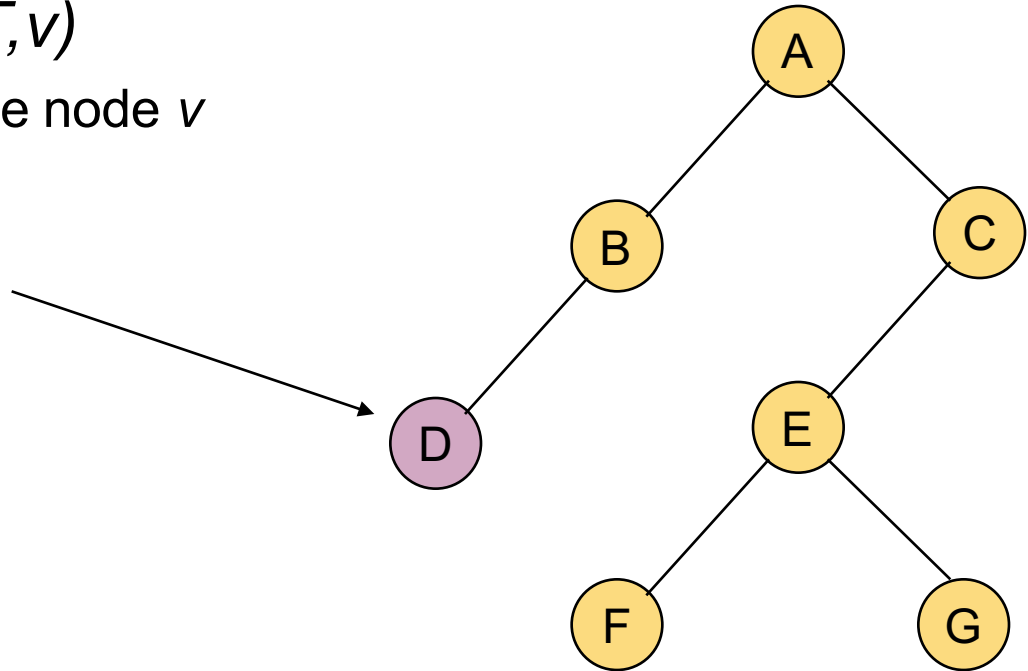
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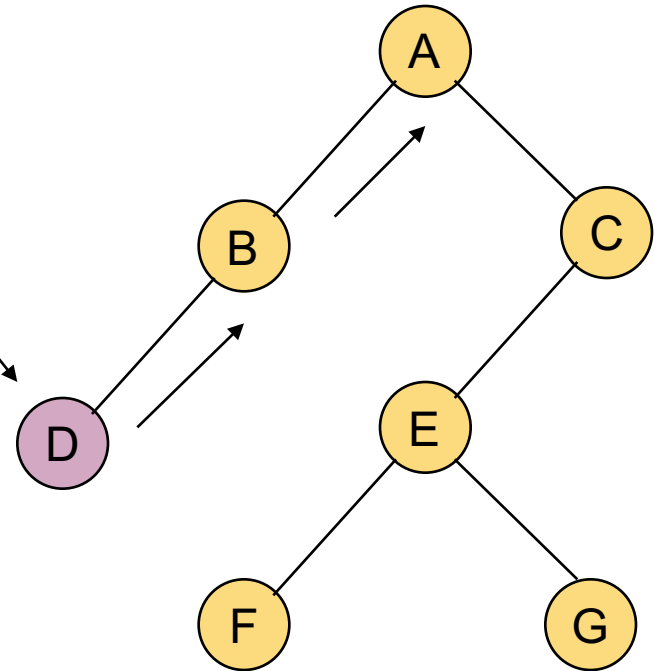
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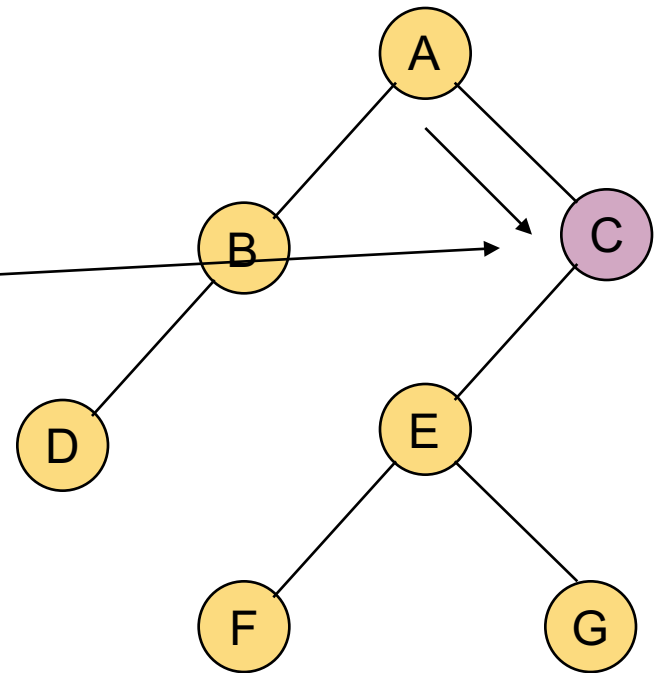
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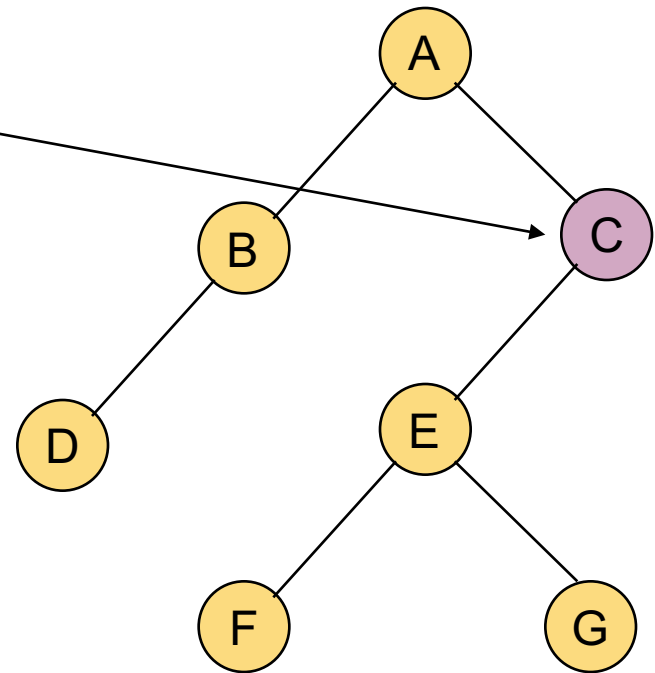
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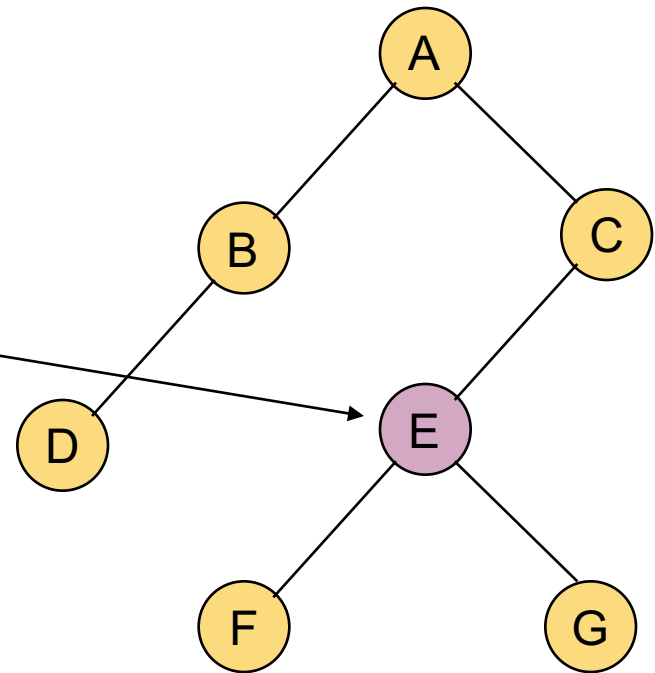
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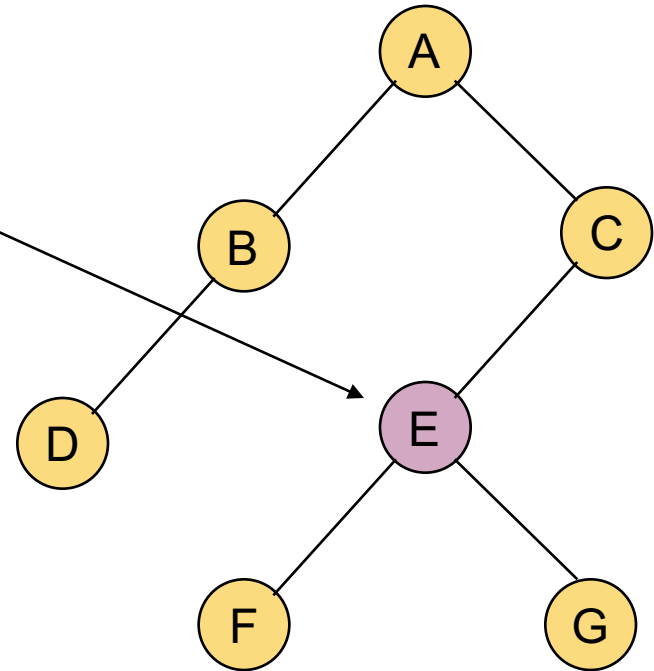
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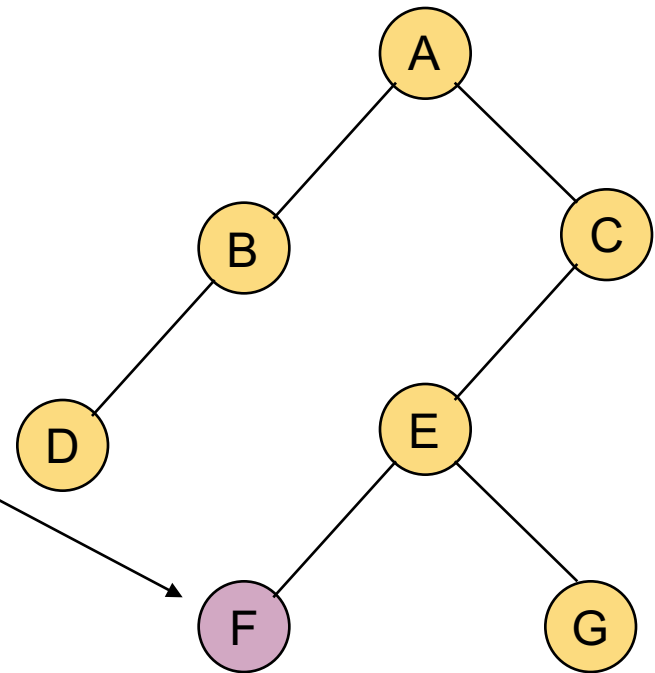
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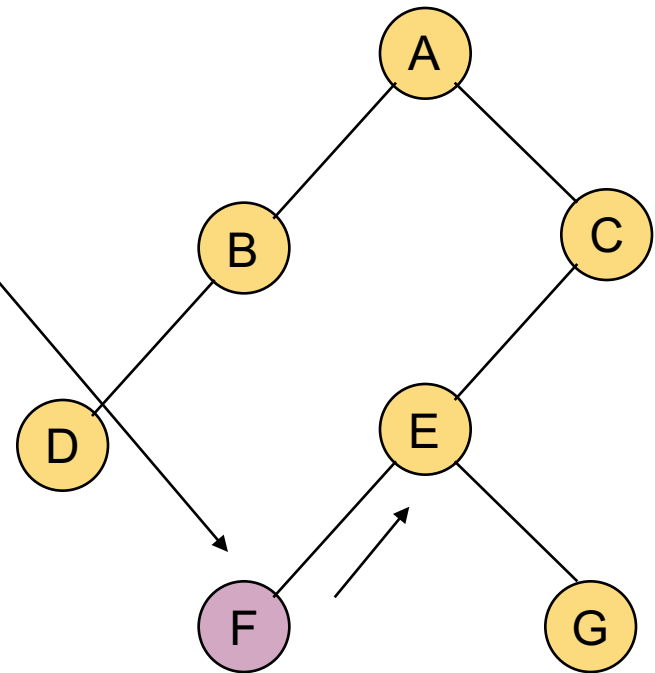
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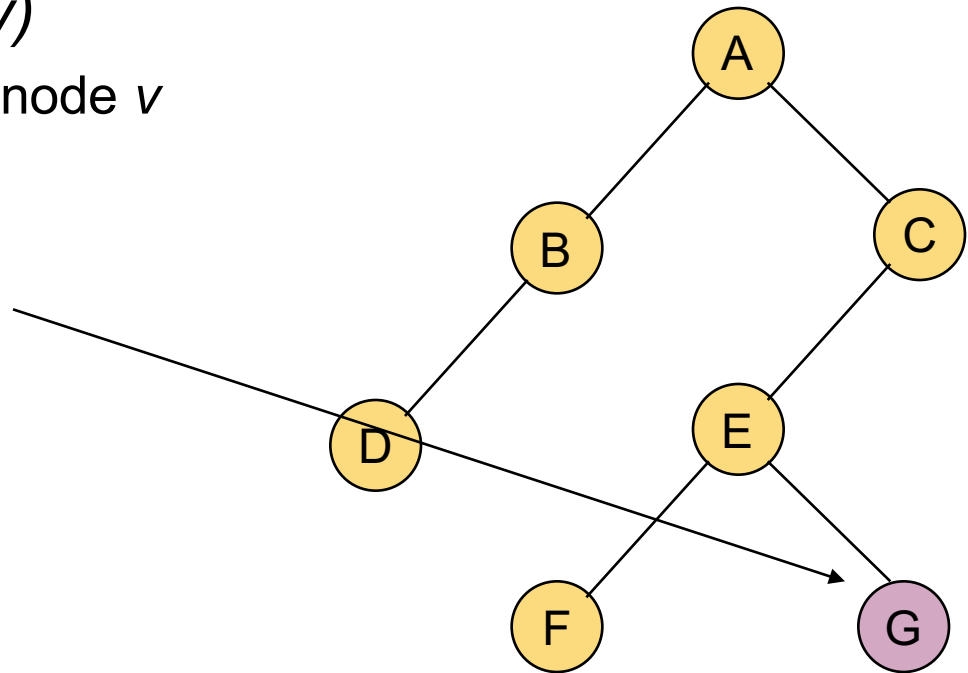
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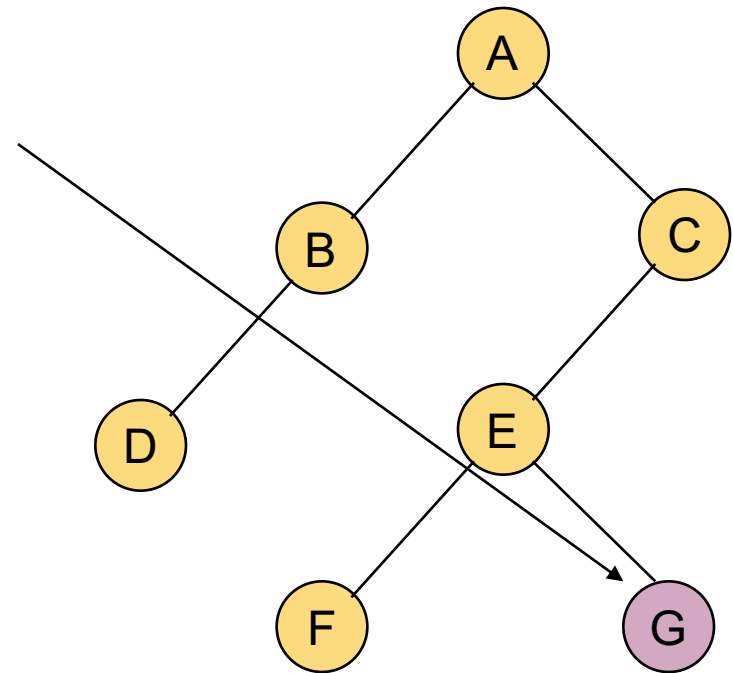
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Preorder traversal of a tree

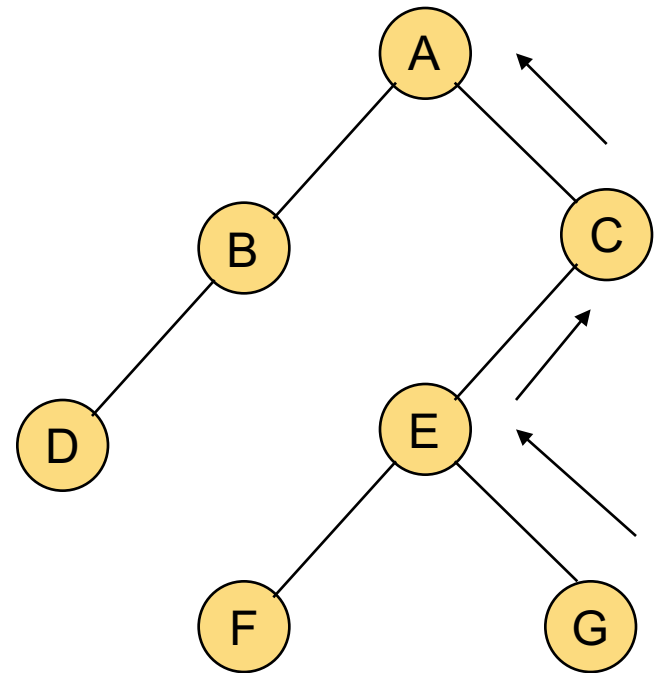
call preorder($T, T.\text{root}$)

Algorithm preorder(T, v)

perform the action on the node v

for each child w of v

call preorder(T, w)



Preorder traversal of a tree

- It is useful for producing a linear ordering of the nodes in a tree where parents are always before their children.
- If a document is represented as a tree, the preorder traversal examines the document sequentially.
- The overall running time of the preorder traversal is $O(n)$.

Postorder traversal of a tree

- It is a complementary algorithm to preorder traversal, as it traverses recursively the subtrees rooted at the children of the root first before visiting the root.

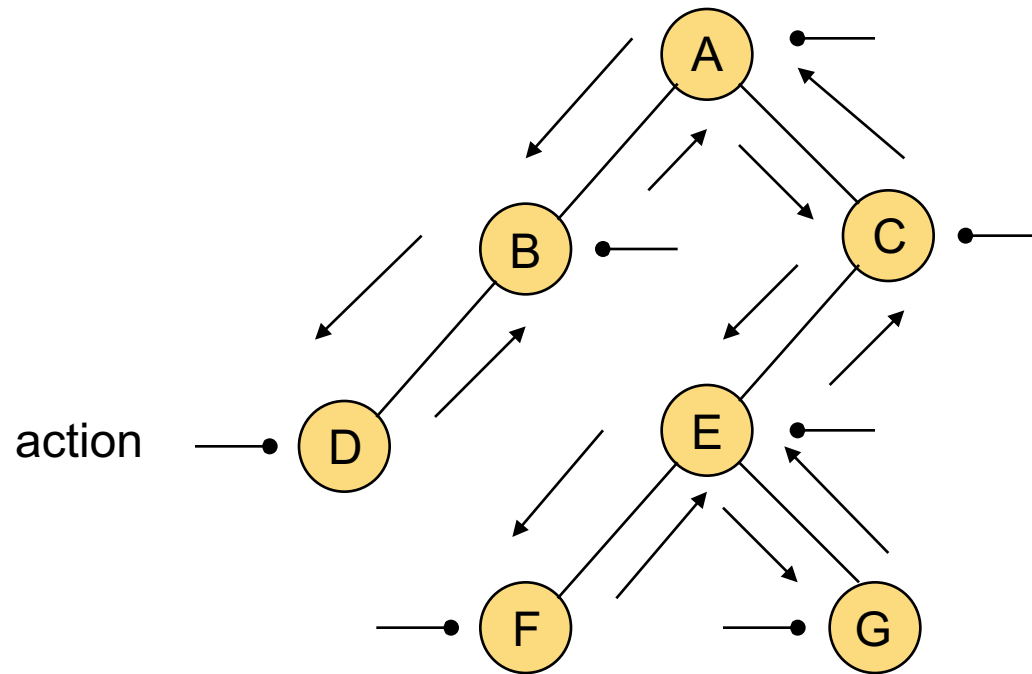
Algorithm postorder(T, v)

for each child w of v **do**

call postorder(T, w)

perform the action on the node v

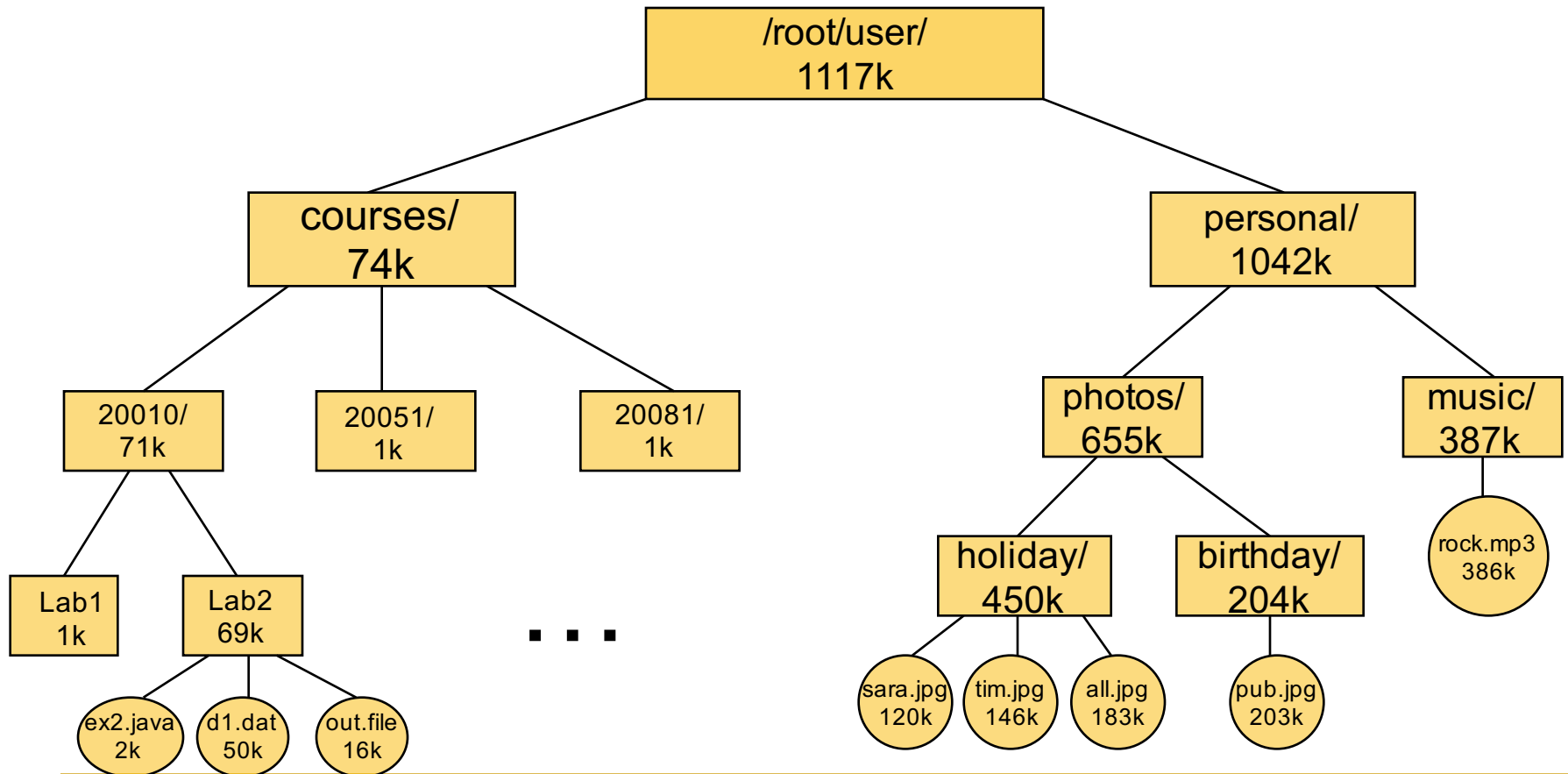
Postorder traversal of a tree



Postorder traversal of a tree

- The postorder traversal of a tree with n nodes takes $O(n)$ time, assuming that visiting each node takes $O(1)$ time.
- The algorithm is useful if computing a certain property of a node in a tree requires that this property is previously computed for all its children.

Postorder traversal of a tree



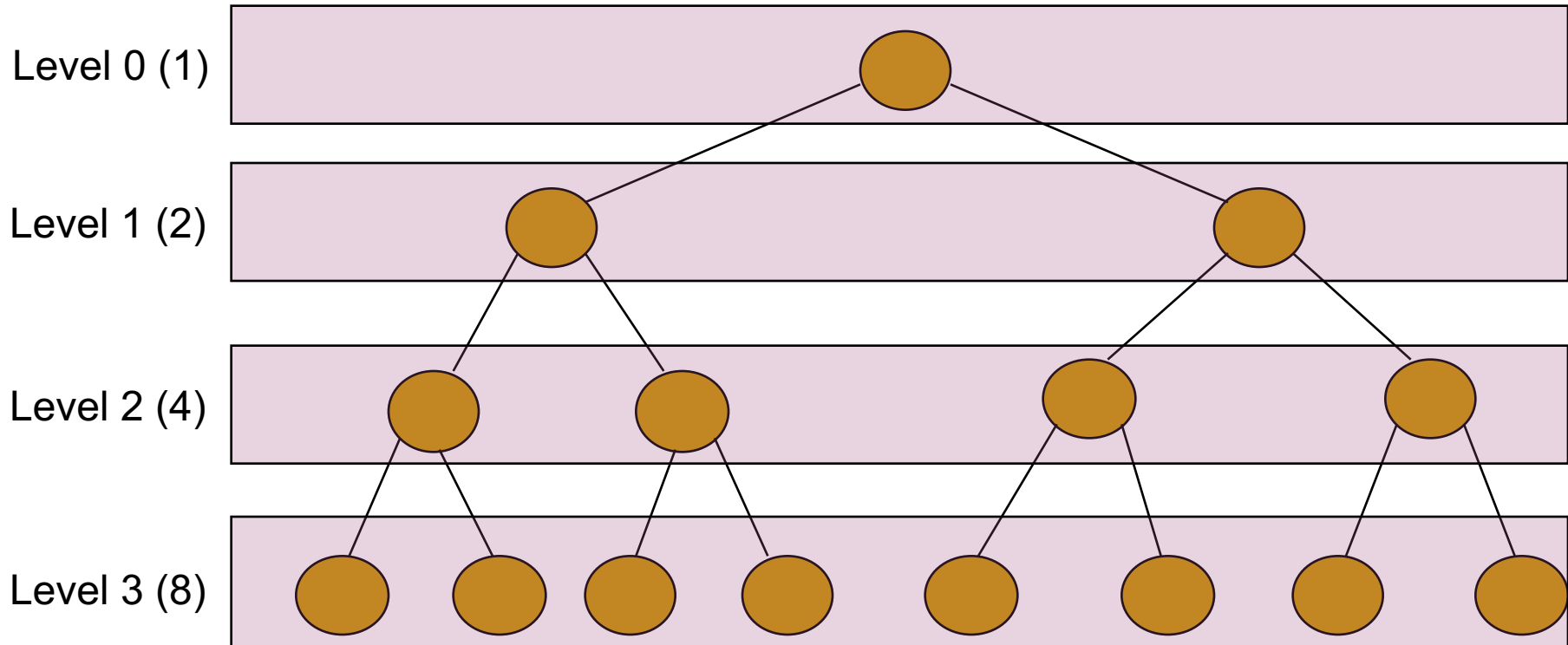
Binary trees

- A proper binary tree is an ordered tree in which each internal node has **exactly** two children.
- As an ADT, a binary tree supports 3 additional accessor methods:
 - `leftChild(v)` – returns the left child of v ; if v is an external node, an error occurs;
 - `rightChild(v)` – returns the right child of v ; if v is an external node, an error occurs;
 - `sibling(v)` – returns the sibling of v ; an error occurs if v is the root;

Binary trees

- Denote all the nodes of a binary tree T at the same depth d as the **level d** of T ;
- Level 0 has 1 node (the root), level 1 has at most 2 nodes, etc. In general, level d has at most 2^d nodes;
- In a proper binary tree the number of external nodes is 1 more than the number of internal nodes;

Binary trees



Preorder traversal of a binary tree

Algorithm binaryPreorder(T, v)

perform the action on the node v

if v is an internal node **then**

call binaryPreorder($T, T.\text{leftChild}(v)$)

call binaryPreorder($T, T.\text{rightChild}(v)$)

Postorder traversal of a binary tree

Algorithm binaryPostorder(T, v)

if v is an internal node **then**

call binaryPostorder($T, T.\text{leftChild}(v)$)

call binaryPostorder($T, T.\text{rightChild}(v)$)

perform the action on the node v

Inorder traversal of a binary tree

- In this method the action on a node v is performed in between the recursive traversals on its left and right subtrees.
- The inorder traversal of a binary tree can be viewed as visiting the nodes from left to right.

Algorithm $\text{binaryInorder}(T, v)$

if v is an internal node **then**

call $\text{binaryInorder}(T, T.\text{leftChild}(v))$

 perform the action on the node v

if v is an internal node **then**

call $\text{binaryInorder}(T, T.\text{leftChild}(v))$