

# Trees and Binary Trees

Computer Science CS112  
Boston University

Christine Papadakis

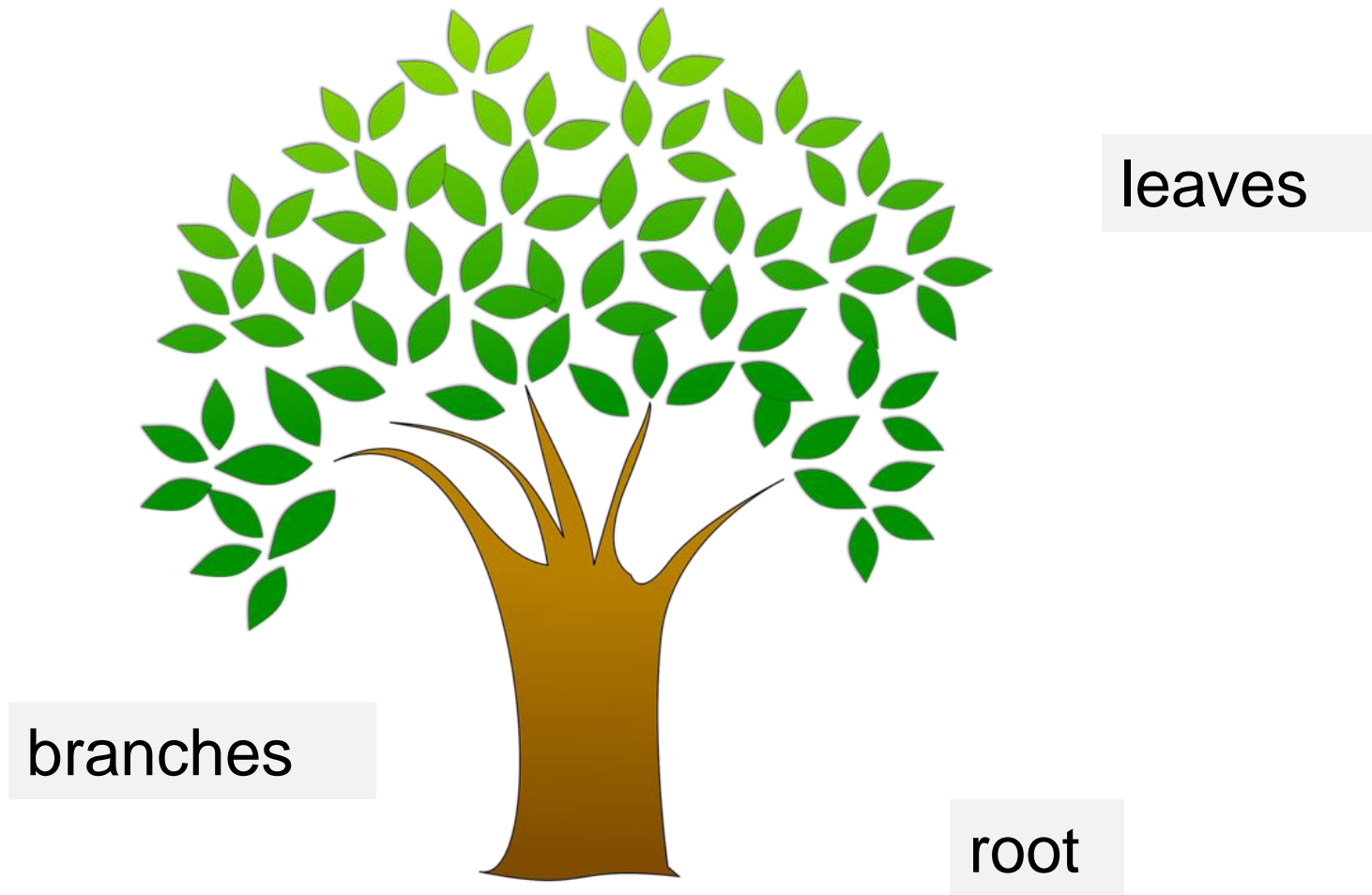
# Motivation: Implementing a Dictionary

- A *data dictionary* is a collection of data with two main operations:
  - *search* for an item (and possibly delete it)
  - *insert* a new item
- If we use a *sorted* list to implement it, efficiency =  $O(n)$ .

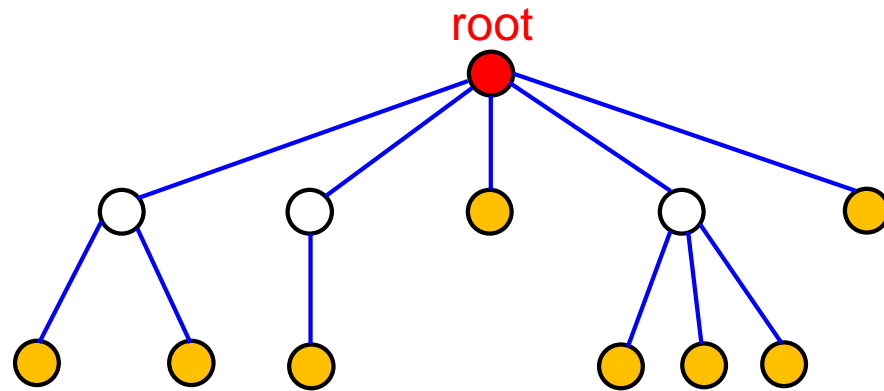
<b><i>data structure</i></b>	<b><i>searching for an item</i></b>	<b><i>inserting an item</i></b>
a list implemented using an array	$O(n)$ using sequential search  $O(\log n)$ using binary search	$O(n)$ because we need to shift items over
a list implemented using a linked list	$O(n)$ using sequential search  binary search? $O(n \log n)$	$O(n)$  ( $O(1)$ to do the actual insertion, but $O(n)$ to find where it belongs)

- Can we do better?

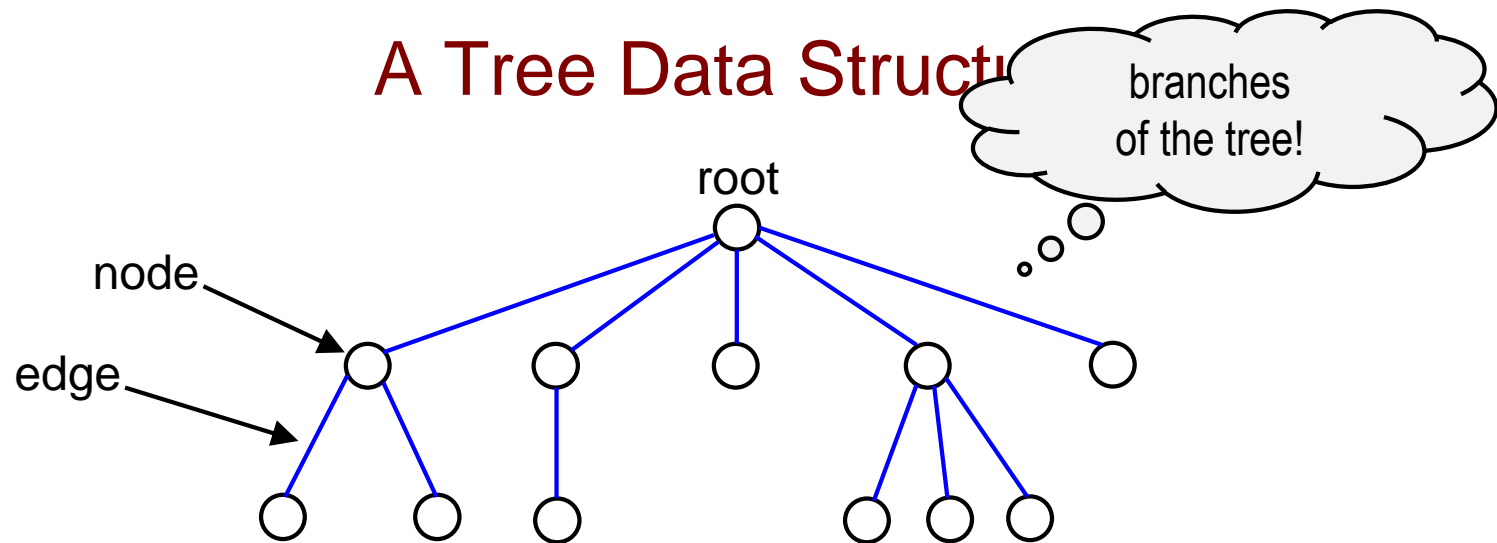
# Characteristics of a Tree *in Nature*



# A Tree Data Structure

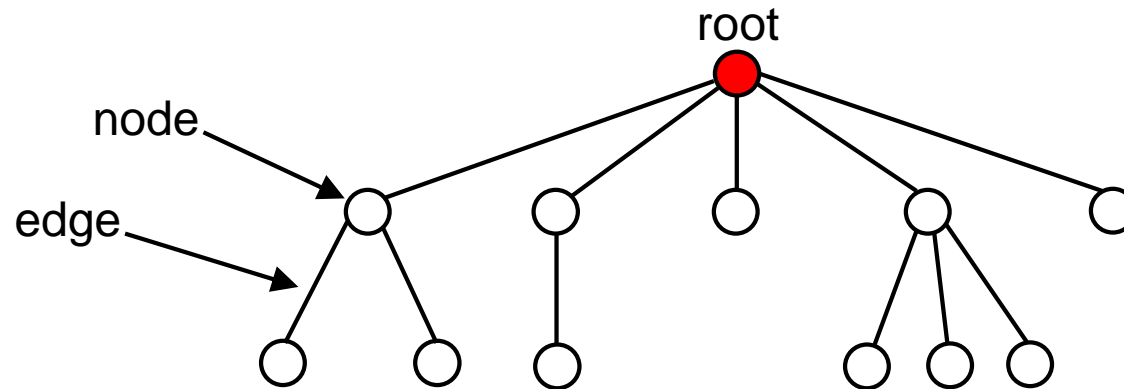


# A Tree Data Structure



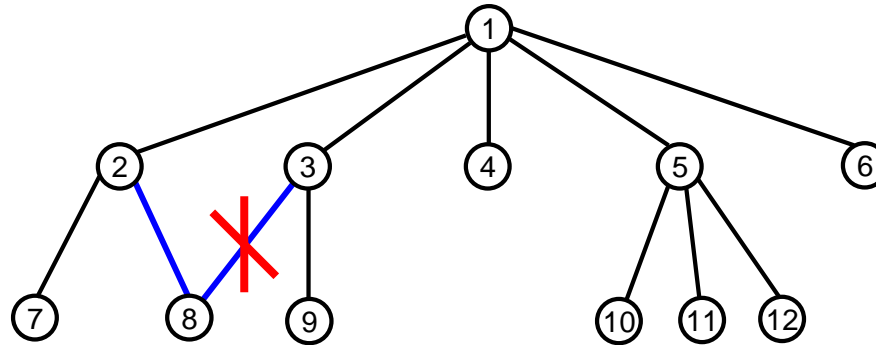
- A tree consists of:
  - a set of *nodes*
  - a set of *edges*, each of which connects a pair of nodes

# A Tree Data Structure



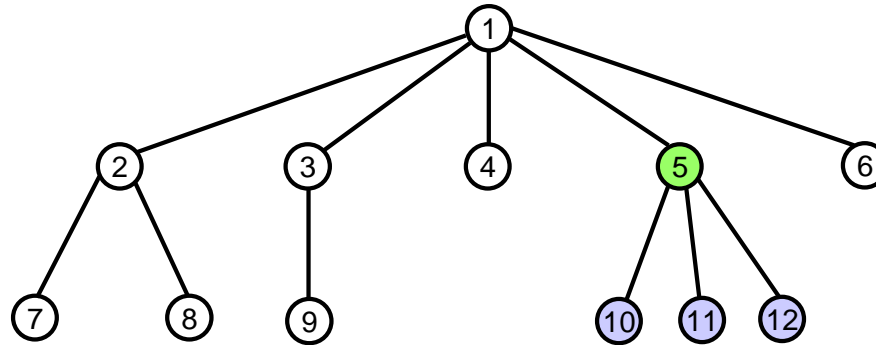
- A tree consists of:
  - a set of *nodes*
  - a set of *edges*, each of which connects a pair of nodes
- Each node may have one or more *data items*.
  - each data item consists of one or more fields
  - *key field* = the field used when searching for a data item
  - multiple data items with the same key are referred to as *duplicates*
- The node at the "top" of the tree is called the *root* of the tree.

# Relationships Between Nodes



- If a node N is connected to nodes directly below it in the tree:
  - N is referred to as their *parent*
  - they are referred to as its *children*.
    - example: node 5 is the parent of nodes 10, 11, and 12
- Each node is the child of *at most one* parent.

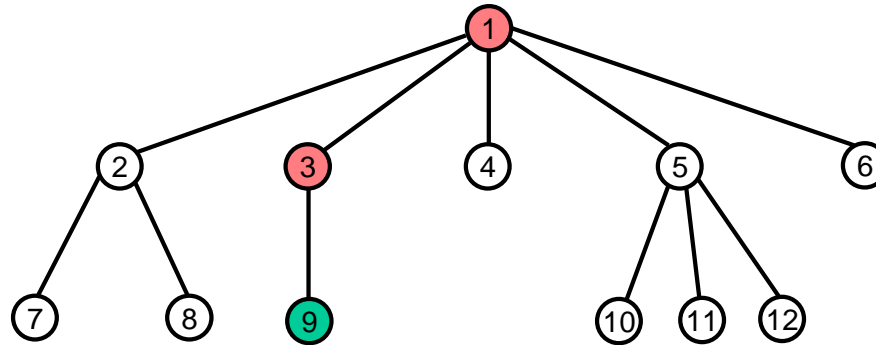
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- Other family-related terms are also used:
  - nodes with the same parent are *siblings*

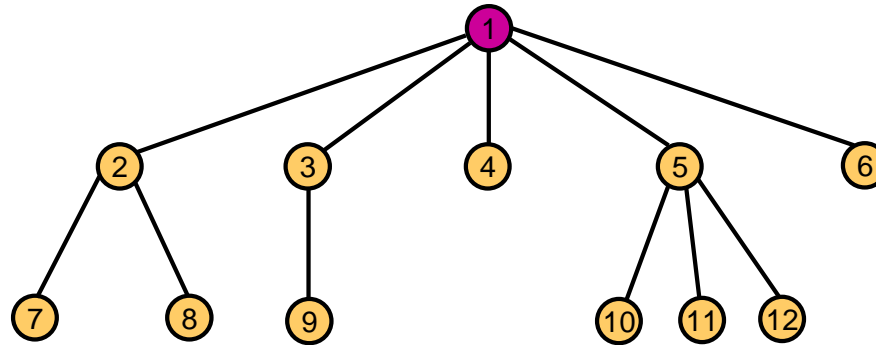


# Relationships Between Nodes



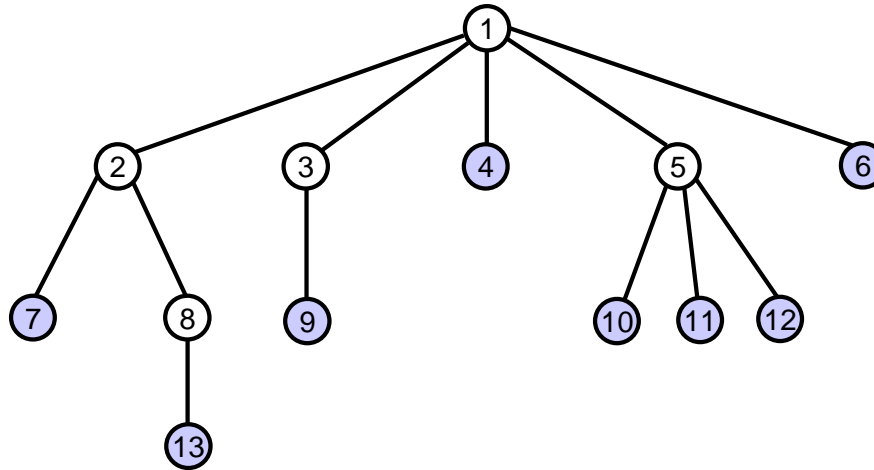
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- Other family-related terms are also used:
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  - a node's *ancestors* are its parent, its parent's parent, etc.
    - example: node 9's ancestors are 3 and 1

# Relationships Between Nodes



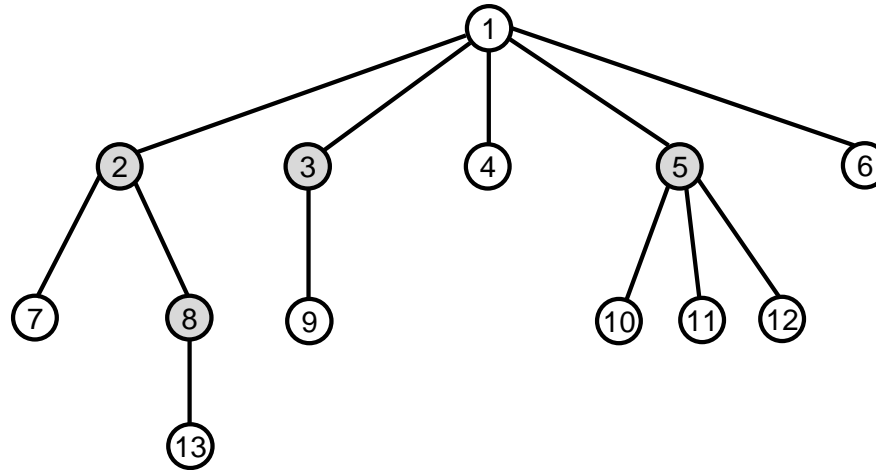
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- Other family-related terms are also used:
  - nodes with the same parent are *siblings*
  - a node's *ancestors* are its parent, its parent's parent, etc.
    - example: node 9's ancestors are 3 and 1
  - a node's *descendants* are its children, their children, etc.
    - example: node 1's descendants are *all* of the other nodes

# Types of Nodes



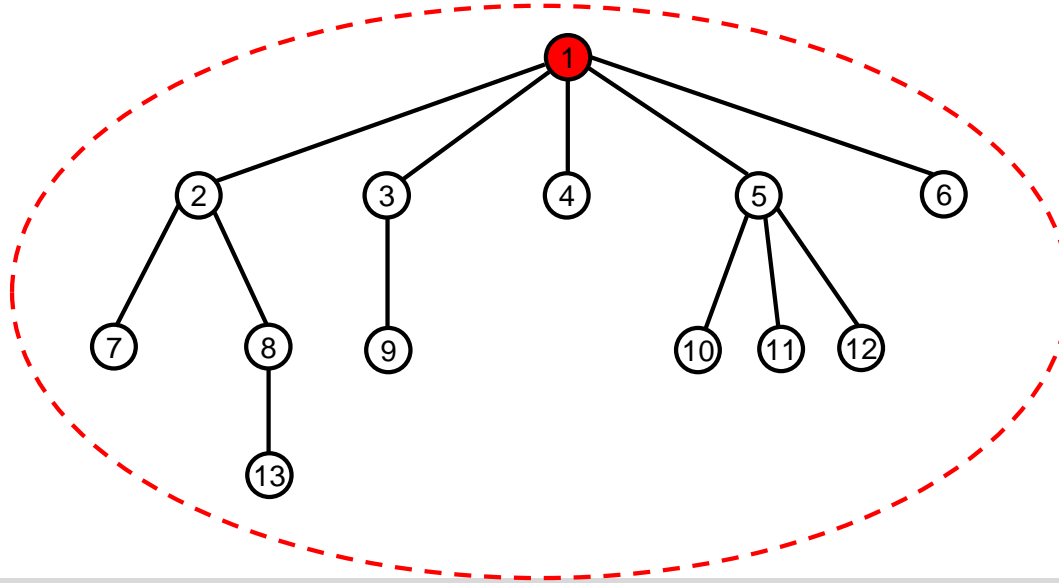
- A *leaf node* is a node without children.
- An *interior node* is a node with one or more children.

# Types of Nodes



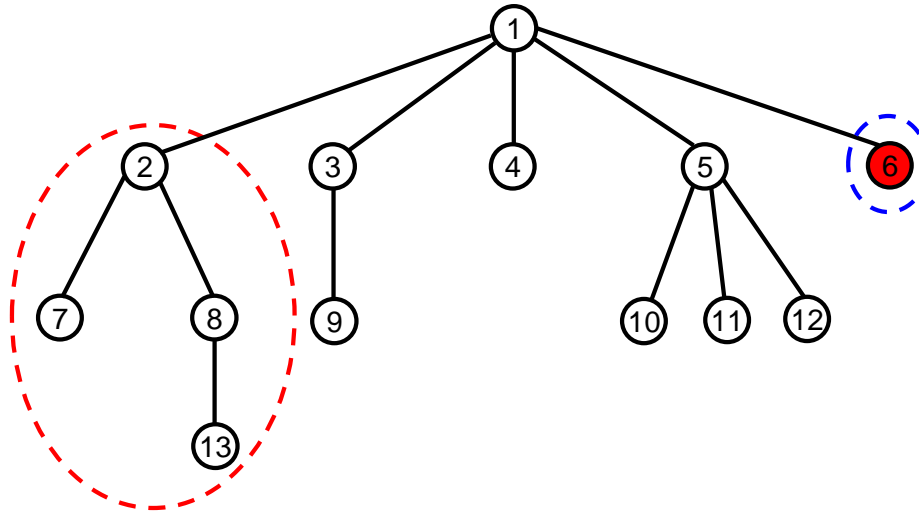
- A *leaf node* is a node without children.
- An *interior node* is a node *from root to leaf* with one or more children.

# A Tree is a Recursive Data Structure



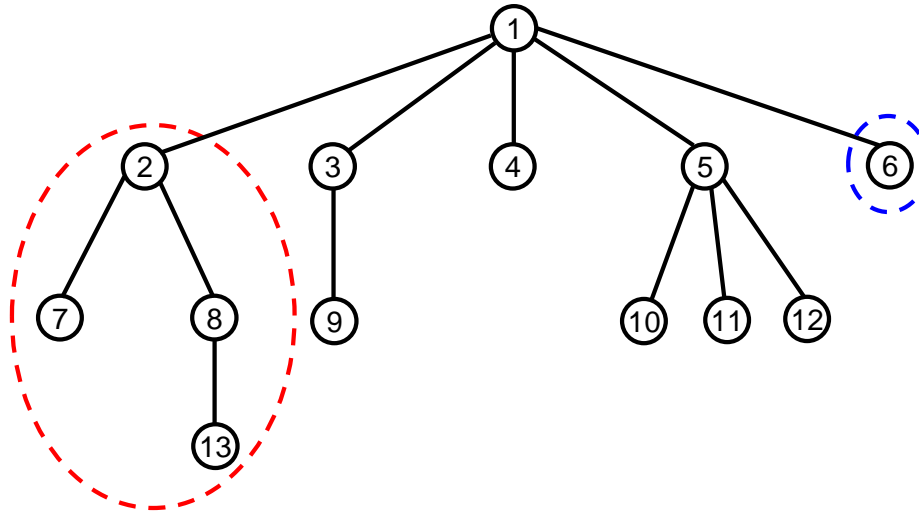
- Each node in the tree is the root of a smaller tree!
  - refer to such trees as *subtrees* to distinguish them from the tree as a whole

# A Tree is a Recursive Data Structure



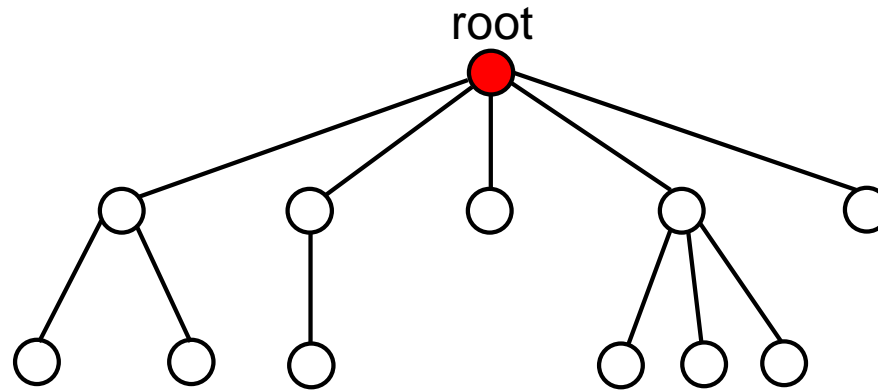
- Each node in the tree is the root of a smaller tree!
  - refer to such trees as *subtrees* to distinguish them from the tree as a whole
  - example: node 2 is the root of the subtree circled above
  - example: node 6 is the root of a subtree with only one node

# A Tree is a Recursive Data Structure



- Each node in the tree is the root of a smaller tree!
  - refer to such trees as *subtrees* to distinguish them from the tree as a whole
  - example: node 2 is the root of the subtree circled above
  - example: node 6 is the root of a subtree with only one node
- We'll see that tree algorithms often lend themselves to recursive implementations.

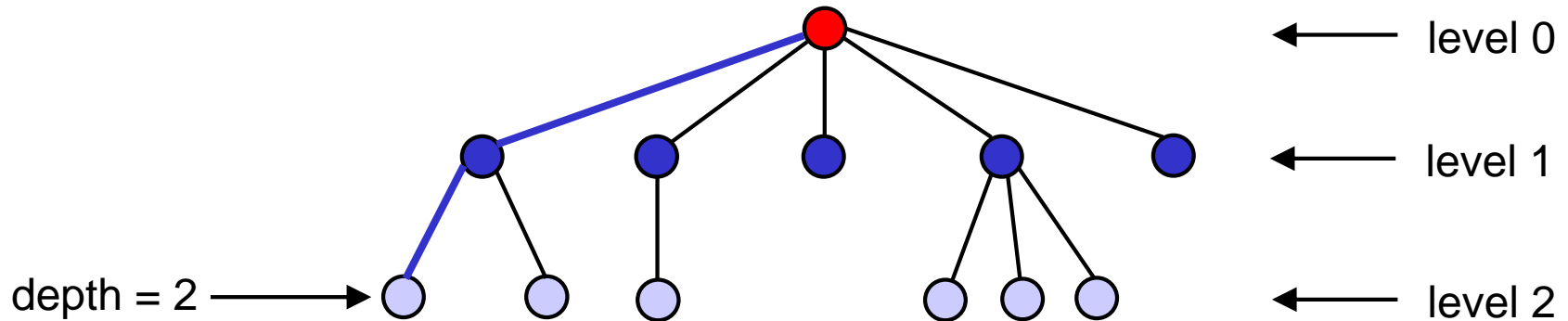
# Path, Depth, Level, and Height



- The *path* is the sequence of edges connecting each node to the root.

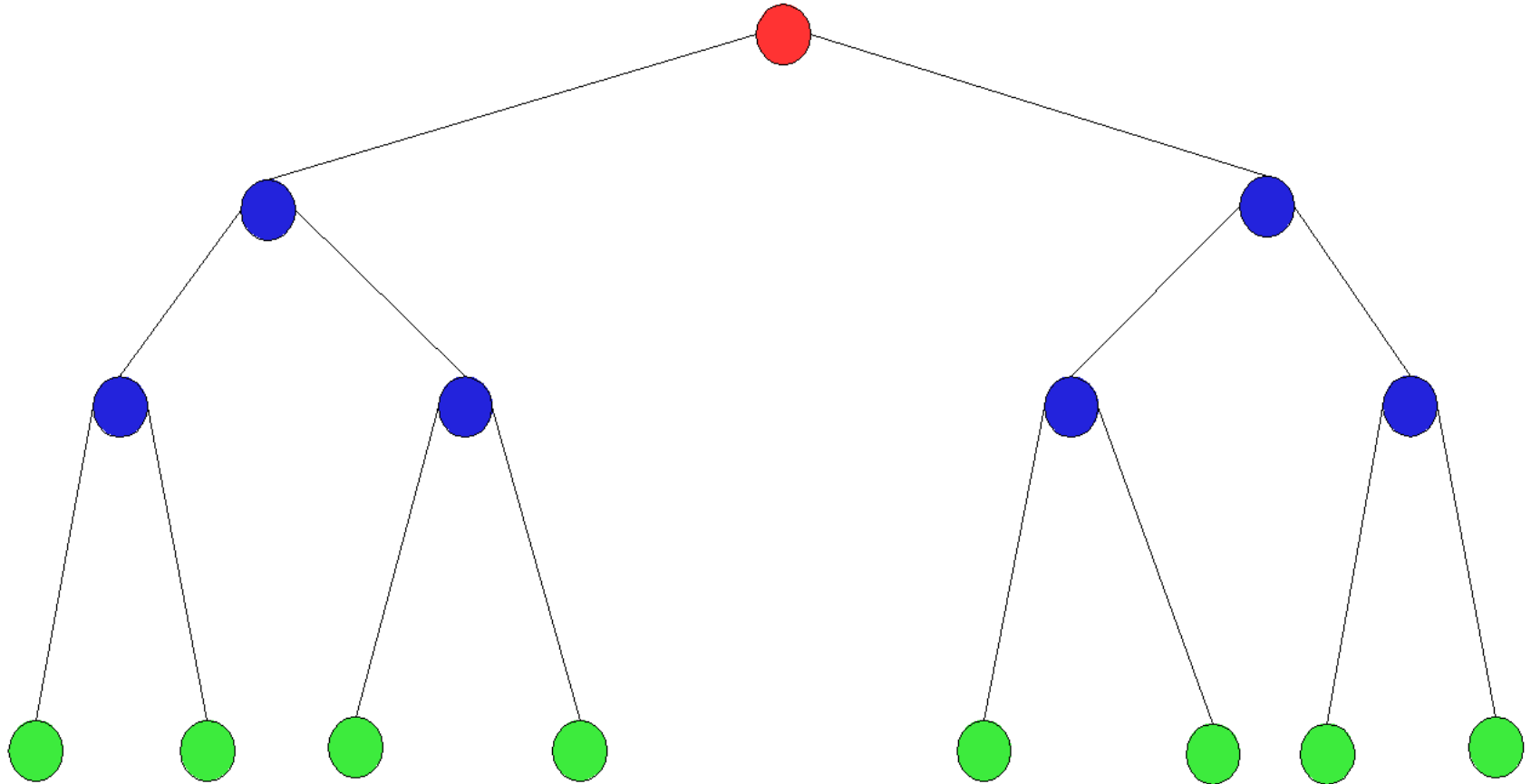


# Path, Depth, Level, and Height



- There is exactly one *path* (one sequence of edges) connecting each node to the root.
- *depth* of a node = # of edges on the path from it to the root
- Nodes with the same depth form a *level* of the tree.
- The *height* of a tree is the maximum depth of its nodes.
  - example: the tree above has a height of 2

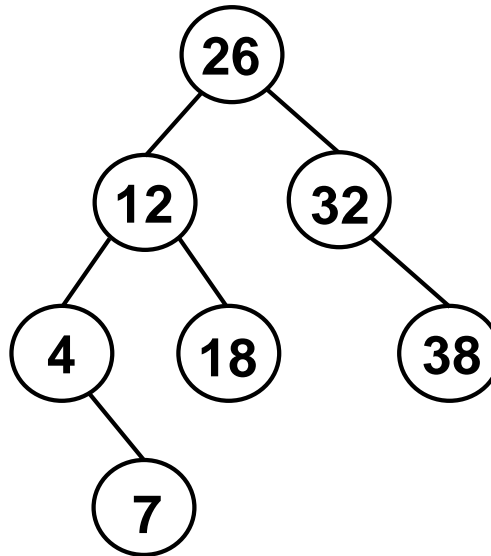
# Binary Tree



# Binary Trees

- In a *binary tree*, nodes have *at most two* children.
  - distinguish between them using the direction *left* or *right*

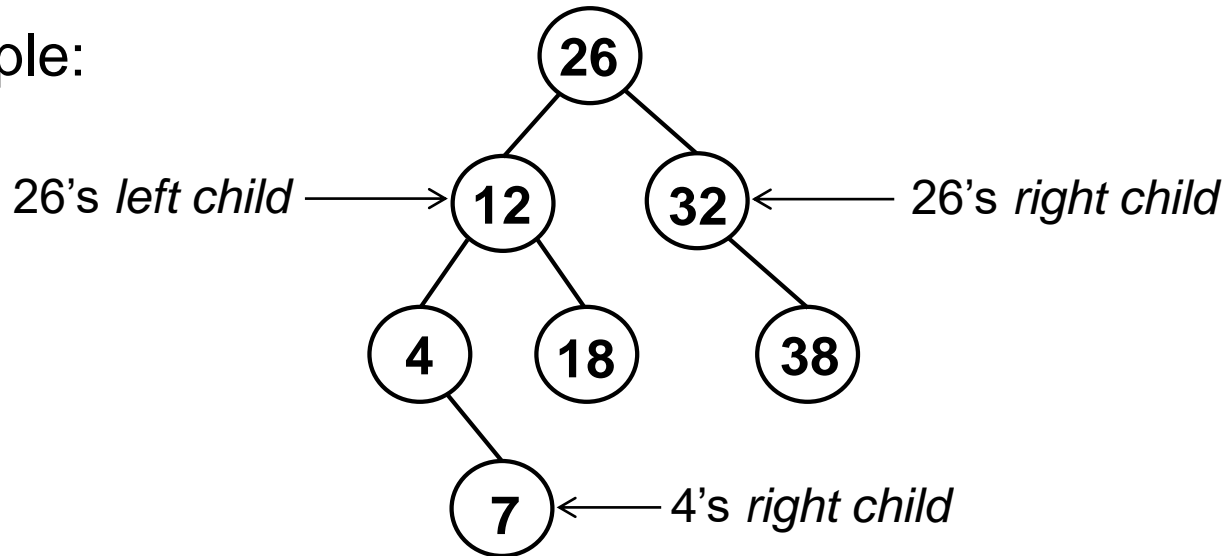
- Example:



# Binary Trees

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- Example:

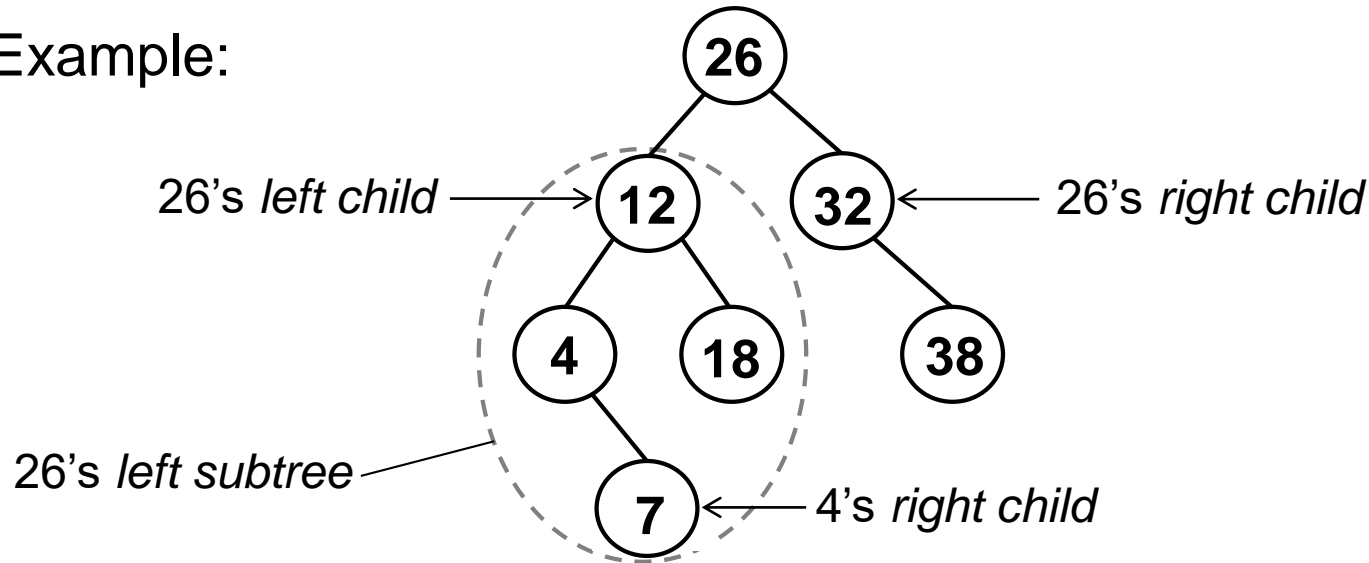


- Recursive definition: a binary tree is either:
  - 1) empty, or
  - 2) a node (the root of the tree) that has:
    - one or more pieces of data (the key, and possibly others)
    - a left subtree, which is itself a binary tree
    - a right subtree, which is itself a binary tree

# Binary Trees

- In a *binary tree*, nodes have *at most two* children.
  - distinguish between them using the direction *left* or *right*

- Example:

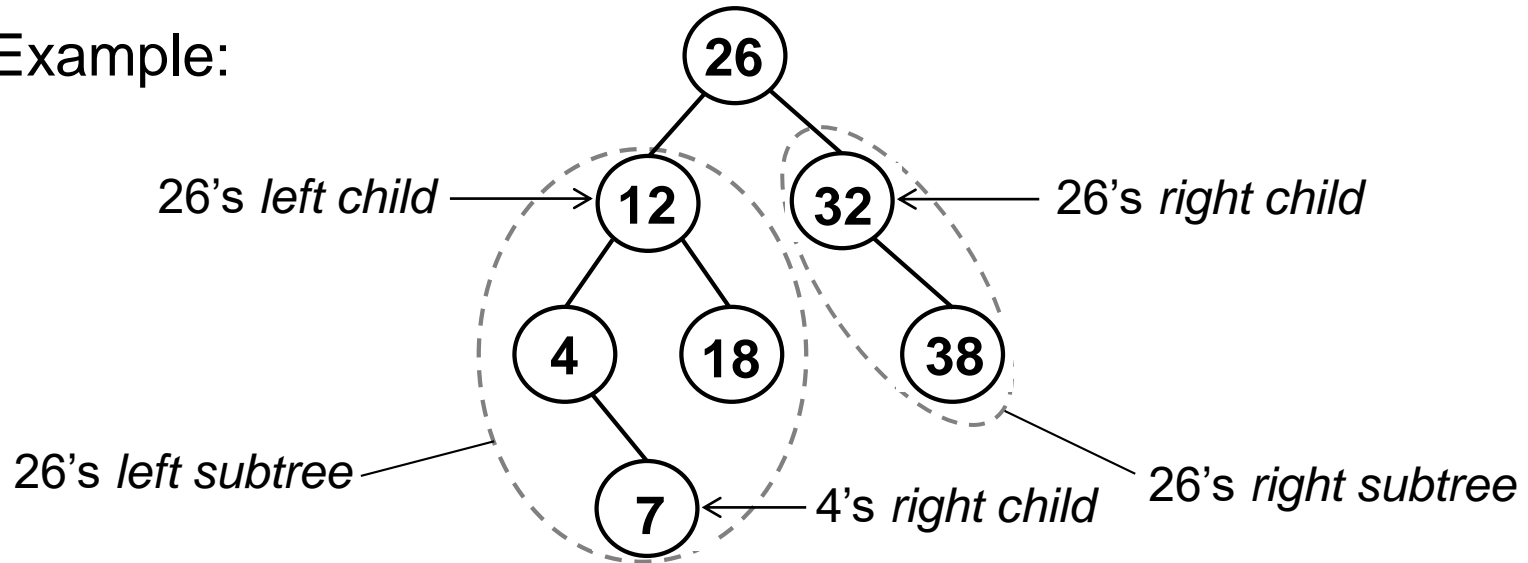


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# Binary Trees

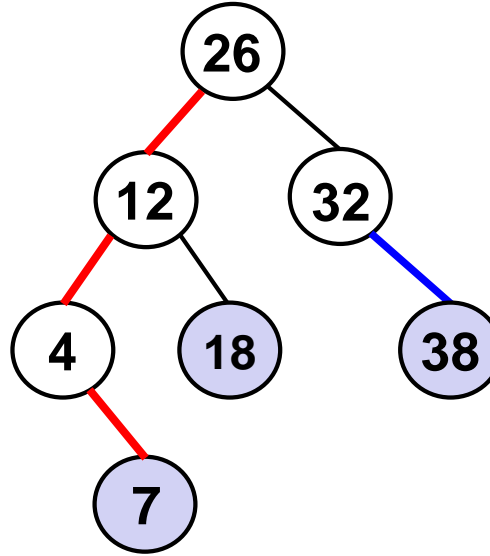
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    - one or more pieces of data (the key, and possibly others)
    - a *left subtree*, which is itself a binary tree
    - a *right subtree*, which is itself a binary tree

Which of the following is/are not true?



A. ~~This tree has a height of 4.~~ *It has a height of 3.*

B. There are 3 leaf nodes.

C. The 38 node is the right child of the 32 node.

D. ~~The 12 node has 3 children.~~ 12 has two children (4 and 18).  
It has three descendants (4, 18, and 7).

E. **more than one of the above are not true (A and D)**

# Representing a Binary Tree Using Linked Nodes:

*for a data dictionary*

```
public class LinkedTree {  
    private class Node {
```

```
}
```

```
...
```

```
}
```

Assumptions:

- 1) keys are integers
- 2) a key can have more than one value associated with it.



# Representing a Binary Tree Using Linked Nodes:

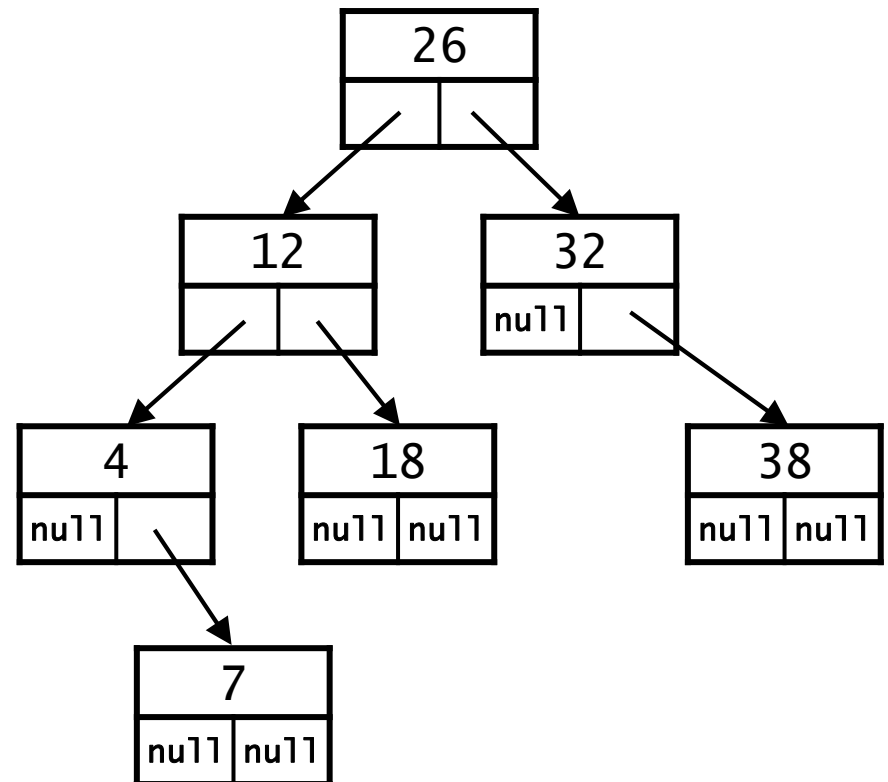
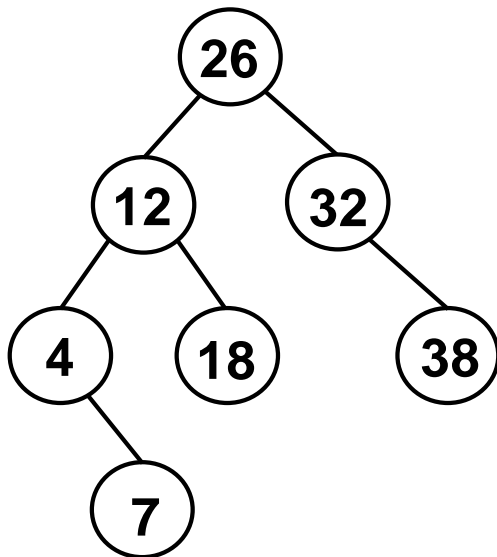
*for a data dictionary*

```
public class LinkedTree {  
    private class Node {  
        // key;  
        // data value(s) associated with the key;  
        // reference to left child;  
        // reference to right child;  
        ...  
    }  
    // reference to first node in the tree;  
    ...  
}
```

# Representing a Binary Tree Using Linked Nodes: *for a data dictionary*

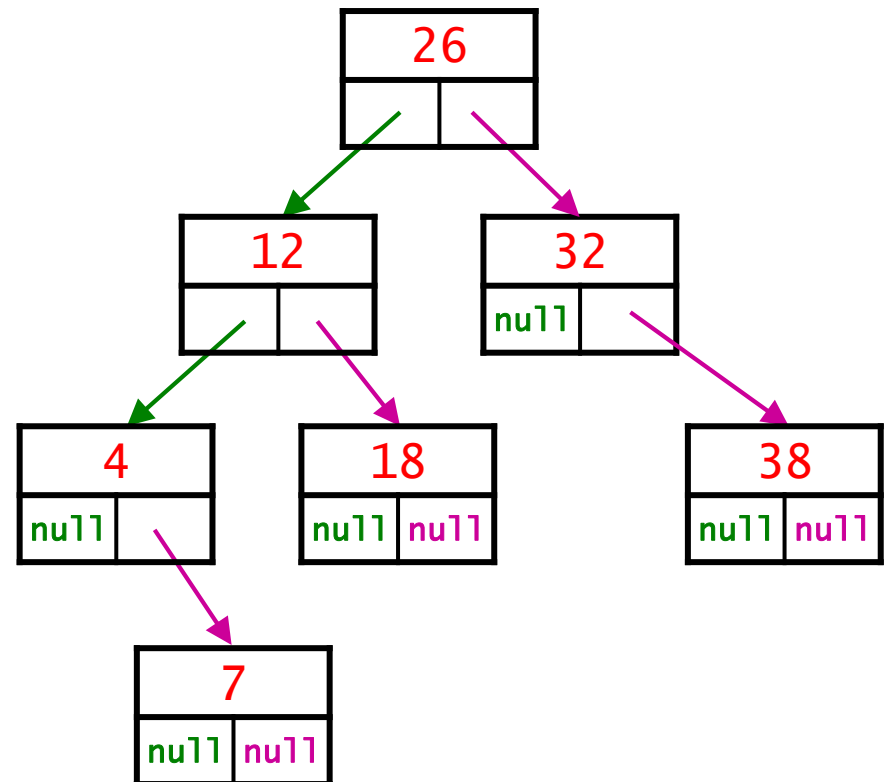
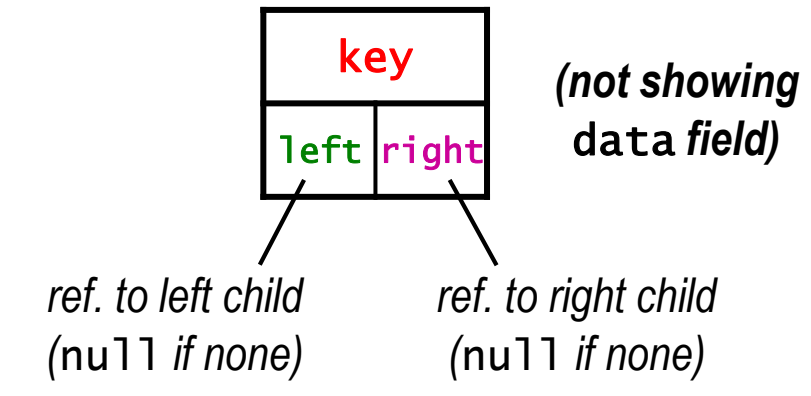
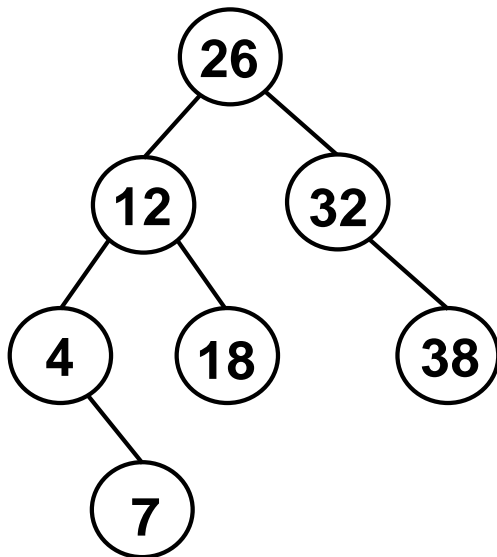
```
public class LinkedTree {  
    private class Node {  
        private int key;  
        private LList data;  
        private Node left;  
        private Node right;  
        ...  
    }  
    private Node root;  
    ...  
}
```

// limit ourselves to int keys  
// list of data for that key  
// reference to left child  
// reference to right child



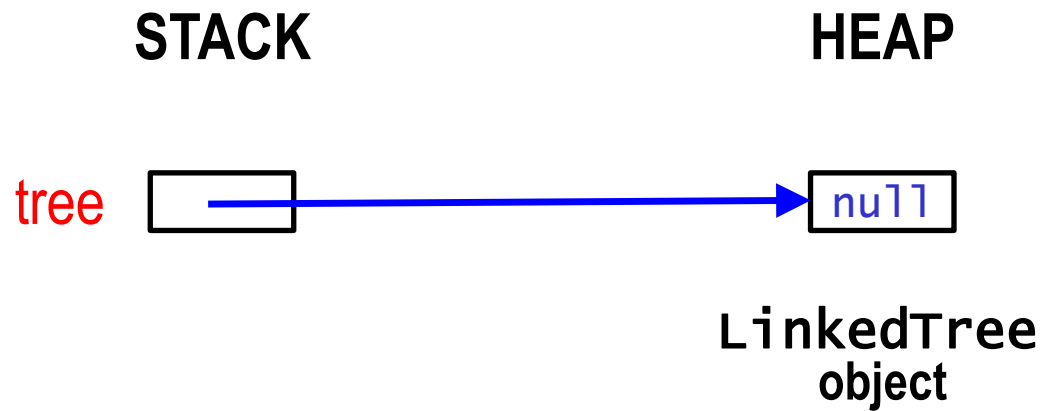
# Representing a Binary Tree Using Linked Nodes: *for a data dictionary*

```
public class LinkedTree {  
    private class Node {  
        private int key;  
        private LLList data;  
        private Node left;  
        private Node right;  
        ...  
    }  
    private Node root;  
    ...  
}
```



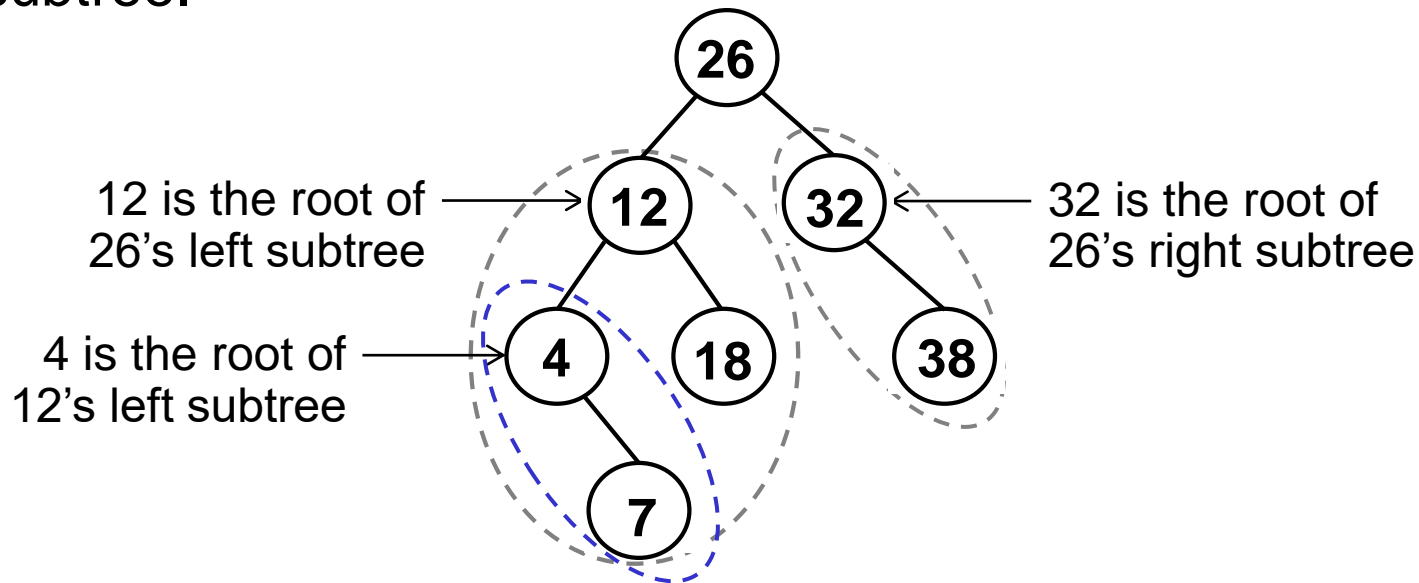
# An instance of LinkedList

- `LinkedList tree = new LinkedList();`



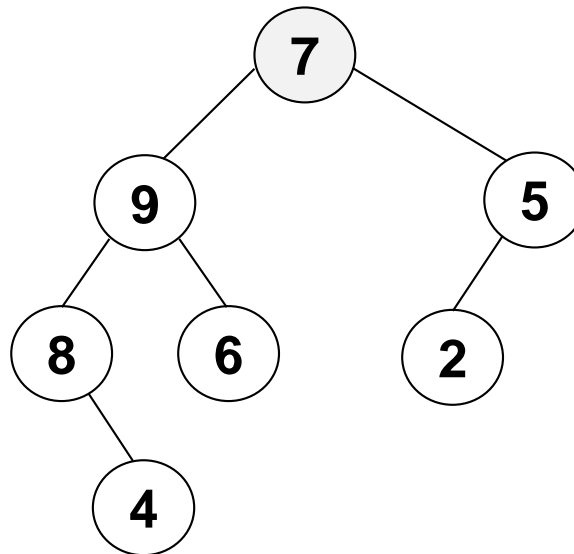
# Traversing a Binary Tree

- Traversing a tree involves *visiting* all of the nodes in the tree.
  - visiting a node = processing its data in some way
    - example: print the key, perform a comparison on the key, etc.
- We will look at four types of traversals. Each of them visits the nodes in a different order.
- To understand traversals, it helps to remember the recursive definition of a binary tree, in which every node is the root of a subtree.



# Preorder Traversal

- preorder traversal of the tree whose root is N:
  - 1) visit the root, N
  - 2) recursively perform a preorder traversal of N's left subtree
  - 3) recursively perform a preorder traversal of N's right subtree



- Preorder traversal of the tree above:  
**7 9 8 4 6 5 2**

# Implementing Preorder Traversal

```
public class LinkedTree {  
    private Node root;  
  
    public void preorderPrint() {  
        if (root != null) {  
            preorderPrintTree(root);  
        }  
    }  
  
    private static void preorderPrintTree(Node root) {  
        System.out.print(root.key + " ");  
        if (root.left != null) {  
            preorderPrintTree(root.left);  
        }  
        if (root.right != null) {  
            preorderPrintTree(root.right);  
        }  
    }  
}
```

- `preorderPrintTree()` is a static, recursive method that takes as a parameter the root of the tree/subtree that you want to print.

# Implementing Preorder Traversal

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public class LinkedTree {  
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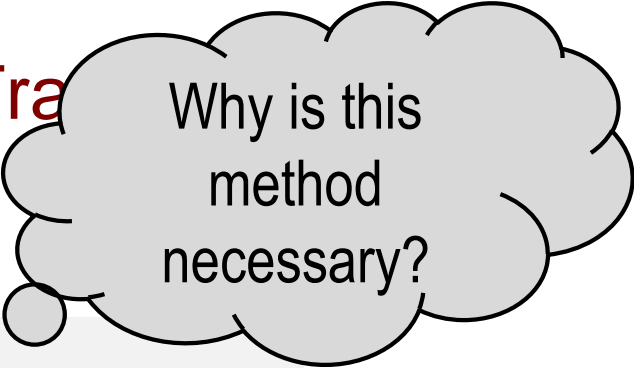
# Implementing Preorder Traversal

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public class LinkedTree {  
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        if (root != null) {  
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    }  
    private static void preorderPrintTree(Node root) {  
        System.out.print(root.key + " ");  
        if (root.left != null) {  
            preorderPrintTree(root.left);  
        }  
        if (root.right != null) {  
            preorderPrintTree(root.right);  
        }  
    }  
}
```

*Not always the  
same as the root  
of the entire tree.*

- `preorderPrintTree()` is a static, recursive method that takes the root of the tree/subtree that you want to print.

# Implementing Preorder Tra



Why is this method necessary?

```
public class LinkedTree {  
    private Node root;  
  
    public void preorderPrint() {  
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        }  
    }  
  
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        }  
        if (root.right != null) {  
            preorderPrintTree(root.right);  
        }  
    }  
}
```

- preorderPrintTree() is a static, recursive method that takes the root of the tree/subtree that you want to print.
- preorderPrint() is a non-static "wrapper" method that makes the initial call. It passes in the root of the entire tree.

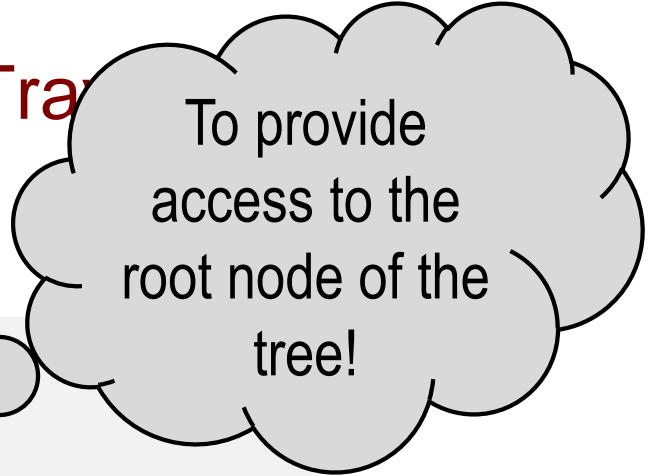
# Implementing Preorder Traversal

```
public class LinkedTree {
```

```
    private Node root;
```

```
    public void preorderPrint() {  
        if (root != null) {  
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        }  
    }
```

```
    private static void preorderPrintTree(Node root) {  
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        }  
        if (root.right != null) {  
            preorderPrintTree(root.right);  
        }  
    }
```

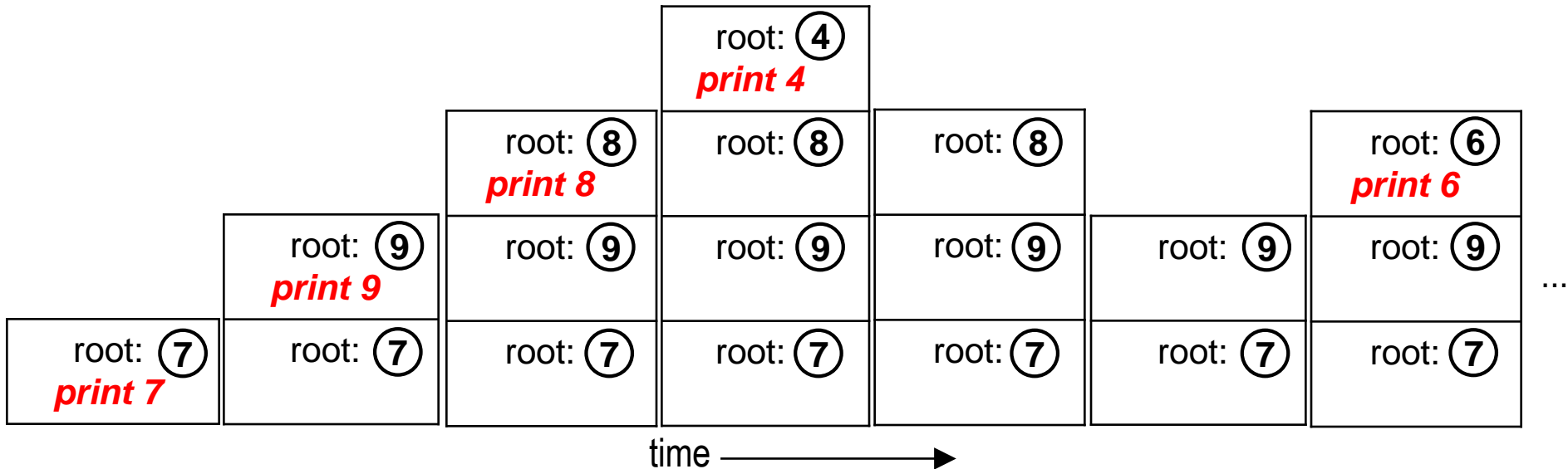
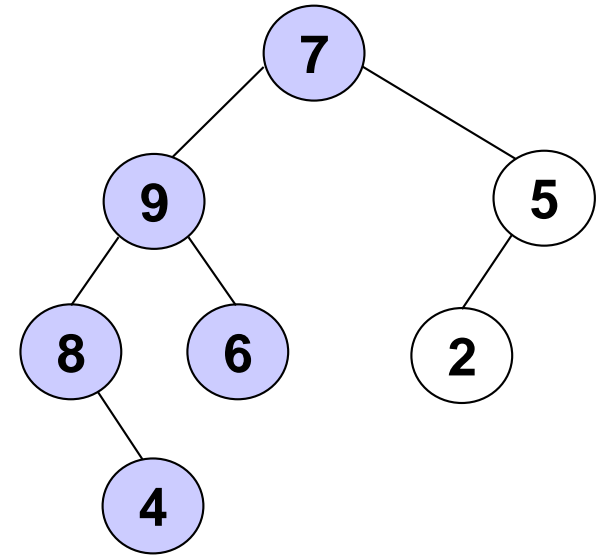


To provide  
access to the  
root node of the  
tree!

- preorderPrintTree() is a static, recursive method that takes the root of the tree/subtree that you want to print.
- preorderPrint() is a non-static "wrapper" method that makes the initial call. It passes in the root of the entire tree.

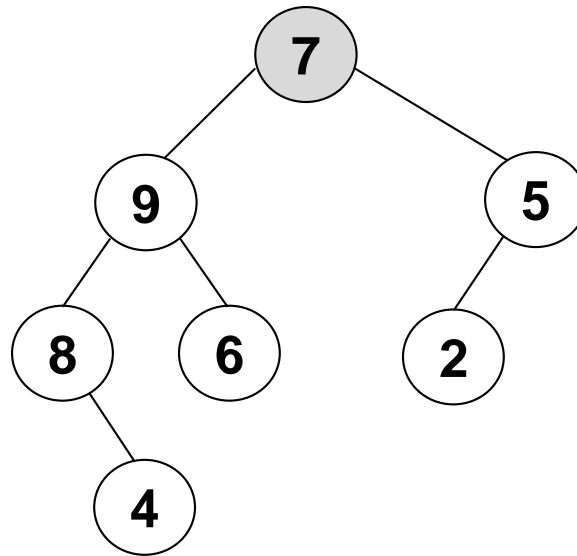
# Tracing Preorder Traversal

```
void preorderPrintTree(Node root) {  
    System.out.print(root.key + " ");  
    if (root.left != null) {  
        preorderPrintTree(root.left);  
    }  
    if (root.right != null) {  
        preorderPrintTree(root.right);  
    }  
}
```



# Postorder Traversal

- postorder traversal of the tree whose root is N:
  - 1) recursively perform a postorder traversal of N's left subtree
  - 2) recursively perform a postorder traversal of N's right subtree
  - 3) **visit the root, N**



- Postorder traversal of the tree above:  
**4 8 6 9 2 5 7**

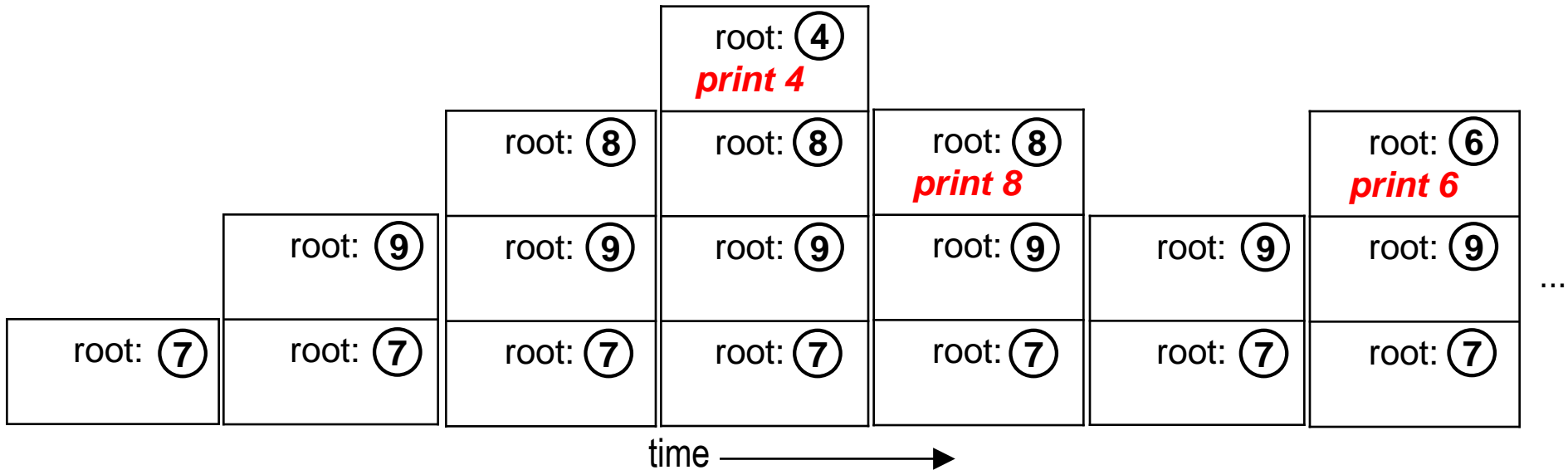
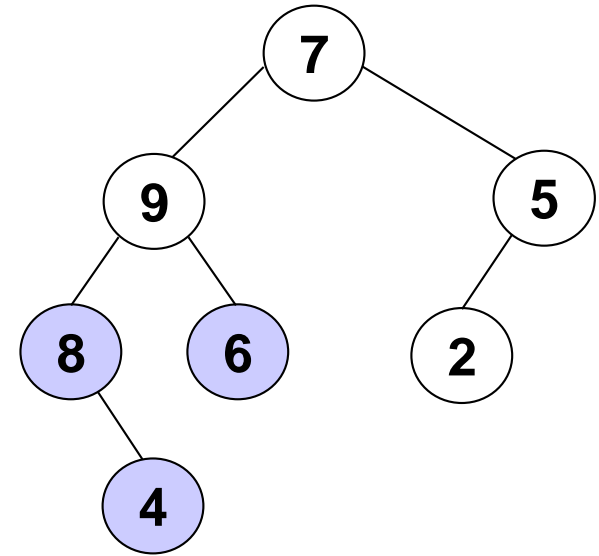
# Implementing Postorder Traversal

```
public class LinkedTree {  
    ...  
    private Node root;  
  
    public void postorderPrint() {  
        if (root != null) {  
            postorderPrintTree(root);  
        }  
    }  
  
    private static void postorderPrintTree(Node root) {  
        if (root.left != null) {  
            postorderPrintTree(root.left);  
        }  
        if (root.right != null) {  
            postorderPrintTree(root.right);  
        }  
        System.out.print(root.key + " "); // visit  
    }  
}
```

- Note that the root is printed *after* the two recursive calls.

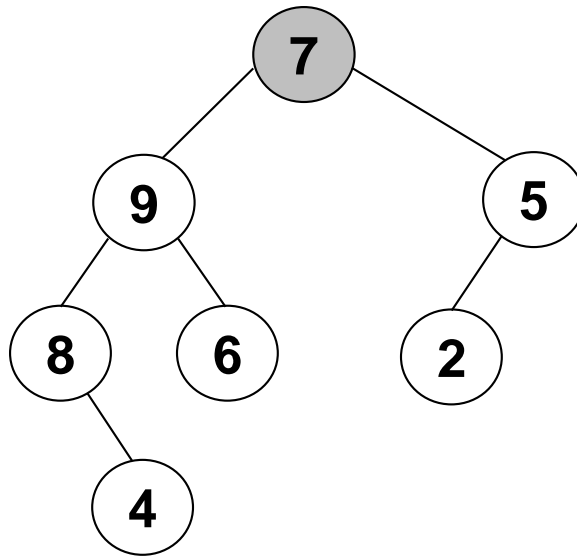
# Tracing Postorder Traversal

```
void postorderPrintTree(Node root) {  
    if (root.left != null) {  
        postorderPrintTree(root.left);  
    }  
    if (root.right != null) {  
        postorderPrintTree(root.right);  
    }  
    System.out.print(root.key + " ");  
}
```



# Inorder Traversal

- inorder traversal of the tree whose root is N:
  - 1) recursively perform an inorder traversal of N's left subtree
  - 2) **visit the root, N**
  - 3) recursively perform an inorder traversal of N's right subtree



- Inorder traversal of the tree above:  
**8 4 9 6 7 2 5**



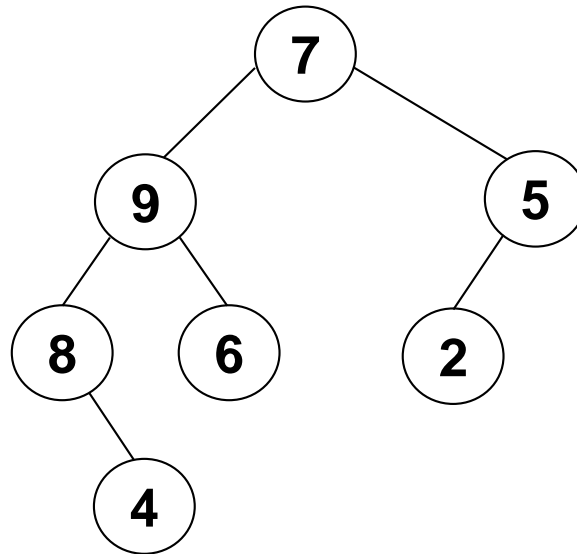
# Implementing Inorder Traversal

```
public class LinkedTree {  
    ...  
    private Node root;  
  
    public void inorderPrint() {  
        if (root != null) {  
            inorderPrintTree(root);  
        }  
    }  
  
    private static void inorderPrintTree(Node root) {  
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        if (root.right != null) {  
            inorderPrintTree(root.right);  
        }  
    }  
}
```

- Note that the root is printed *between* the two recursive calls.

# Level-Order Traversal

- Visit the nodes one level at a time, from top to bottom and left to right.



- Level-order traversal of the tree above: **7 9 5 8 6 2 4**
- We can implement this type of traversal using a [queue](#).
  - more on this later!

# Tree-Traversal Summary

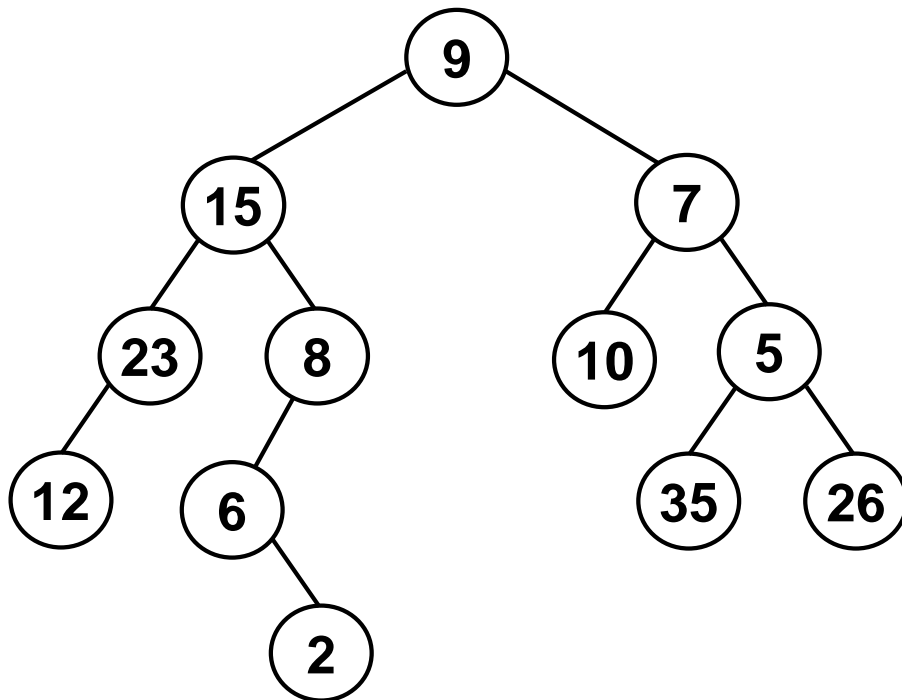
preorder: root, left subtree, right subtree

postorder: left subtree, right subtree, root

inorder: left subtree, root, right subtree

level-order: top to bottom, left to right

- Perform each type of traversal on the tree below:



pre: 9 15 23 12 8 6 2 7 10 5 35 26

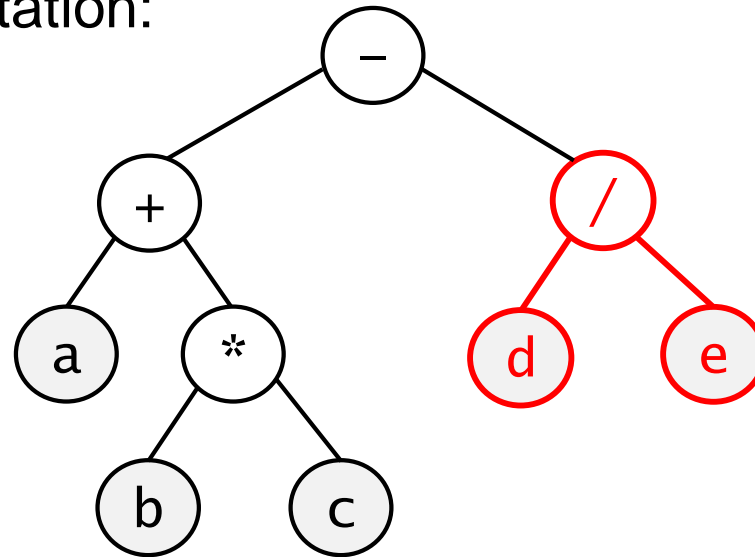
post: 12 23 2 6 8 15 10 35 26 5 7 9

in: 12 23 15 6 2 8 9 10 7 35 5 26

level: 9 15 7 23 8 10 5 12 6 35 26 2

# Using a Binary Tree for an Algebraic Expression

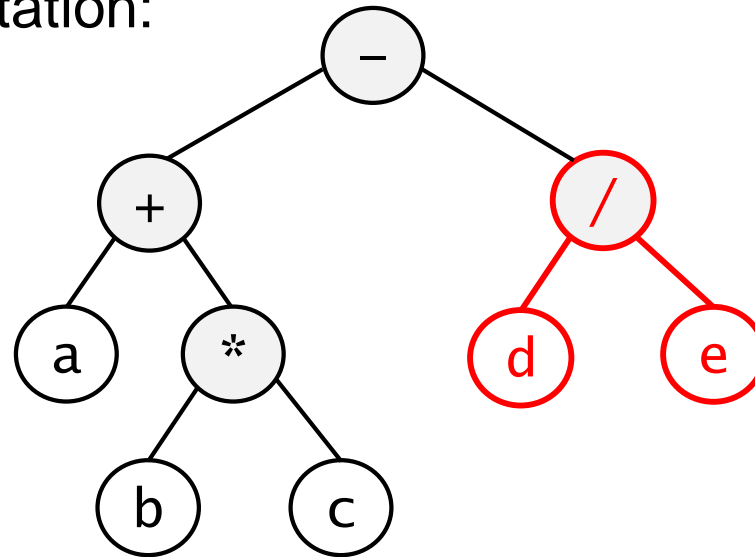
- We'll restrict ourselves to fully parenthesized expressions and to the following binary operators:  $+$ ,  $-$ ,  $*$ ,  $/$
- Example expression:  $((a + (b * c)) - \underline{(d / e)})$
- Tree representation:



- Leaf nodes are variables or constants
- Interior nodes are operators.

# Using a Binary Tree for an Algebraic Expression

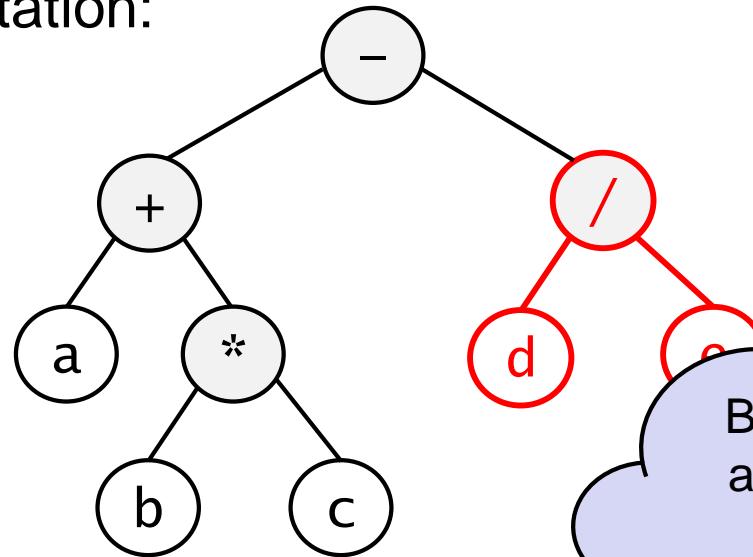
- We'll restrict ourselves to fully parenthesized expressions and to the following binary operators:  $+$ ,  $-$ ,  $*$ ,  $/$
- Example expression:  $((a + (b * c)) - \underline{(d / e)})$
- Tree representation:



- Leaf nodes are variables or constants
- Interior nodes are operators.

# Using a Binary Tree for an Algebraic Expression

- We'll restrict ourselves to fully parenthesized expressions and to the following binary operators:  $+$ ,  $-$ ,  $*$ ,  $/$
- Example expression:  $((a + (b * c)) - (d / e))$
- Tree representation:



- Leaf nodes are variables or constants

Because operators are binary, either a node has two children or it is a leaf node!

- Interior nodes are operators.

# Traversing an Algebraic-Expression Tree

- Inorder gives conventional algebraic notation.
  - print '(' before the recursive call on the left subtree
  - print ')' after the recursive call on the right subtree
  - for tree at right:  $((a + (b * c)) - (d / e))$
- Preorder gives functional notation.
  - print '('s and ')'s as for inorder, and commas after the recursive call on the left subtree
  - for tree above: `subtr(add(a, mult(b, c)), divide(d, e))`
- Postorder gives the order in which the computation must be carried out on a stack/RPN calculator.
  - for tree above: push a, push b, push c, multiply, add,...

