

# YZM2031

## Data Structures and Algorithms

### Week 5: Algorithm Analysis and Trees

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## Recap - Week 4

### What We Covered

- Queue variations (Ring Buffer, Multi-Level Queue)
- Characters and C-strings
- C++ string class and operations
- String algorithms (reverse, palindrome, tokenization)
- Pattern matching and word manipulation

# Today's Focus

## Part 1: Algorithm Analysis

- Why algorithm analysis matters
- Time and space complexity
- Big-Oh notation and asymptotic analysis
- How to analyze code
- Comparing algorithms

## Part 2: Trees Introduction

- Introduction to hierarchical data structures
- Tree terminology (root, leaf, height, depth)
- Tree properties and characteristics

## Why Do We Need Algorithm Analysis?

You have two programs that solve the same problem. Which one is better?

```
// Program A
int sumArray1(int arr[], int n) {
    int sum = 0;
    for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
        sum += arr[i];
    }
    return sum;
}

// Program B
int sumArray2(int arr[], int n) {
    if (n == 0) return 0;
    return arr[n-1] + sumArray2(arr, n-1);
}
```

How do we  
compare?



## Intuitive Approaches

### Approach 1 - Run time on local computer

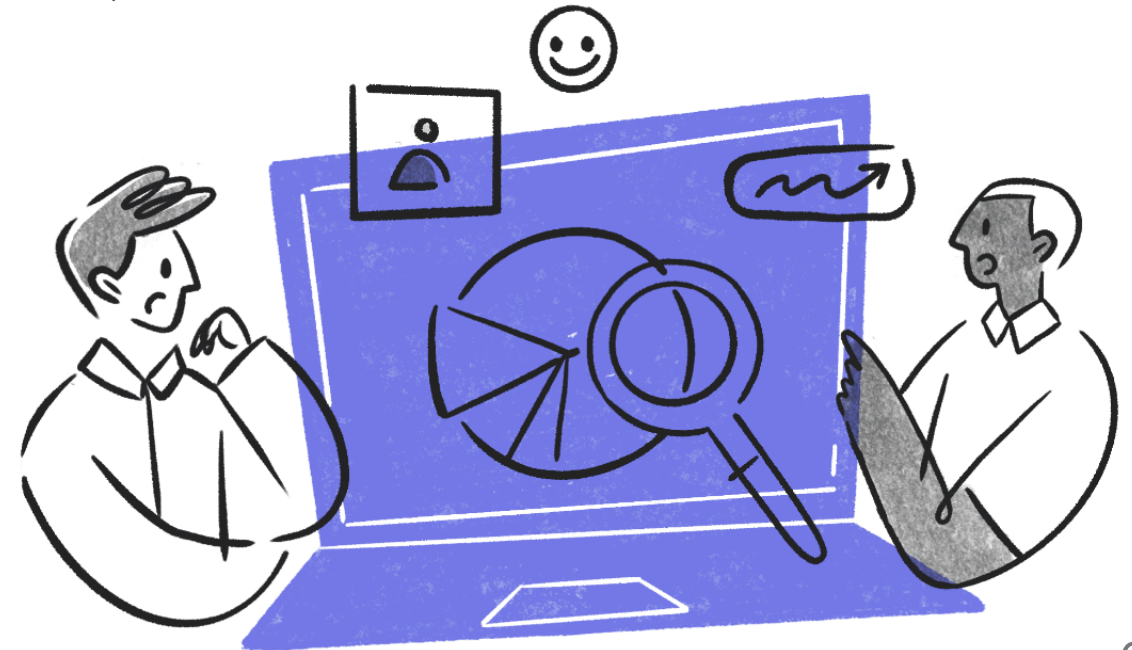
#### Problems:

- Different computers have different speeds
- Same computer may perform differently at different times
- Results not reproducible or comparable

### Approach 2 - Count instructions

#### Problems:

- Different programming languages
- Different compiler optimizations
- Too implementation-specific

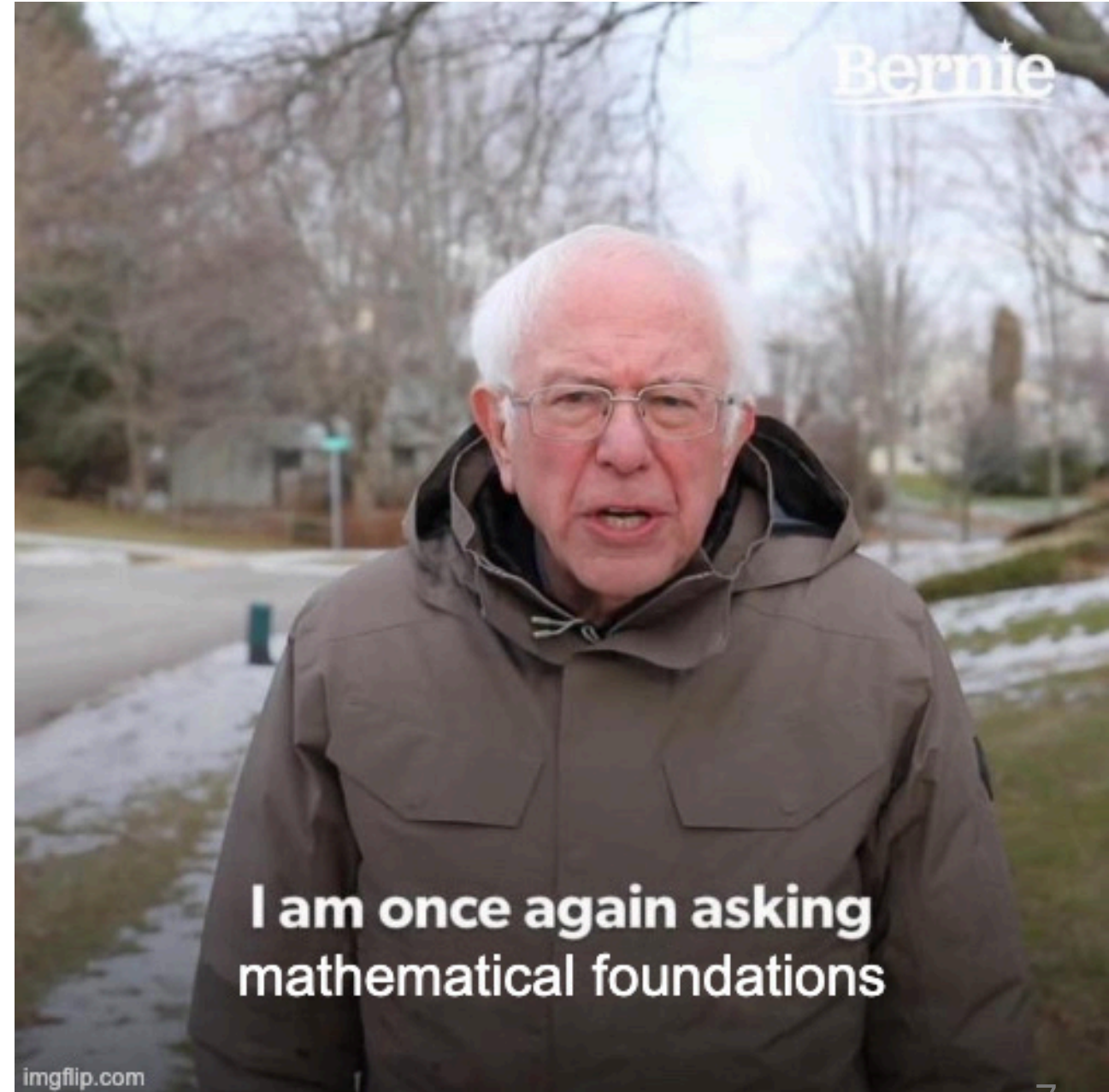




## What We Need - Mathematical Analysis

Analyze algorithm **independent** of:

- Specific implementations
- Computers
- Data
- Programming language



# The RAM Model

## Random Access Machine

How do we analyze algorithms mathematically?

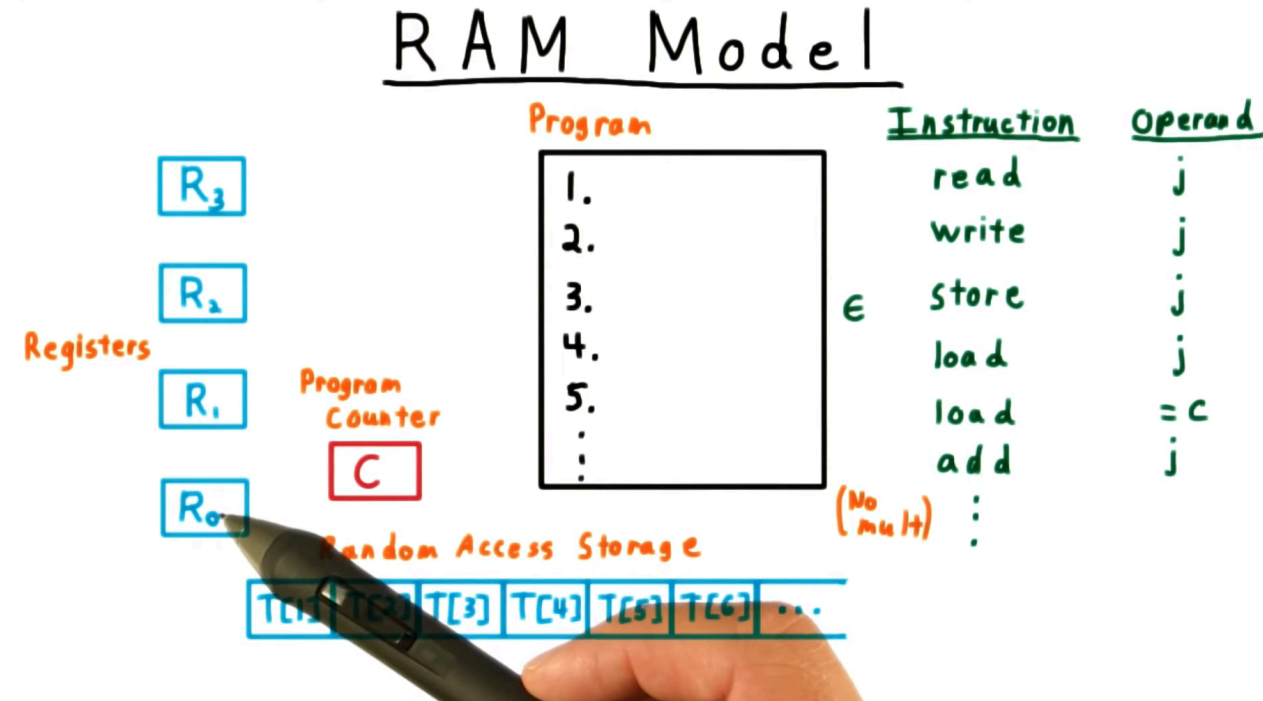
We use a theoretical model called RAM (Random Access Machine)

Key Assumptions:

- Each basic operation takes **unit time** (constant time)
- Memory access is **direct** - accessing any memory cell takes the same time
- Instructions execute **one after another** (no parallel execution)
- Infinite memory available

This is a simplification, but it works well in practice

[RAM Model Tutorial - Georgia Tech](#)





# What Are Basic Operations?

## Operations That Take Constant Time

In the RAM model, these are considered **basic operations** ( $O(1)$ ):

- Evaluating an expression ( `x + y` , `a * b` )
- Assigning a value to a variable ( `x = 5` )
- Indexing into an array ( `arr[i]` )
- Calling a method (the call itself, not what it does inside)
- Returning from a method
- Comparing two values ( `x < y` , `a == b` )

**Key Point:** We count these as 1 operation regardless of the actual CPU cycles

## Question - RAM Model Complexity

How many operations in the function below?

```
int sum(int n) {  
    int partialSum = 0;  
    for (int i = 1; i <= n; i++) {  
        partialSum += i * i * i;  
    }  
  
    return partialSum;  
}
```

## Answer - RAM Model Complexity

How many operations in the function below?

```
int sum(int n) {  
    int partialSum = 0; -----> 1  
    for (int i = 1; i <= n; i++) { -----> 2n + 2  
        partialSum += i * i * i; -----> 4n  
    }  
  
    return partialSum; -----> 1  
}
```

Total =  $6n+4$

$n = 1 \rightarrow 10$

$n = 100 \rightarrow 604$

$n = 10000 \rightarrow 60004$

# Algorithm Complexity

## What Do We Measure?

**Time Complexity:** How execution time grows with input size

**Space Complexity:** How memory usage grows with input size

## Important!

We don't care about **exact** time or memory

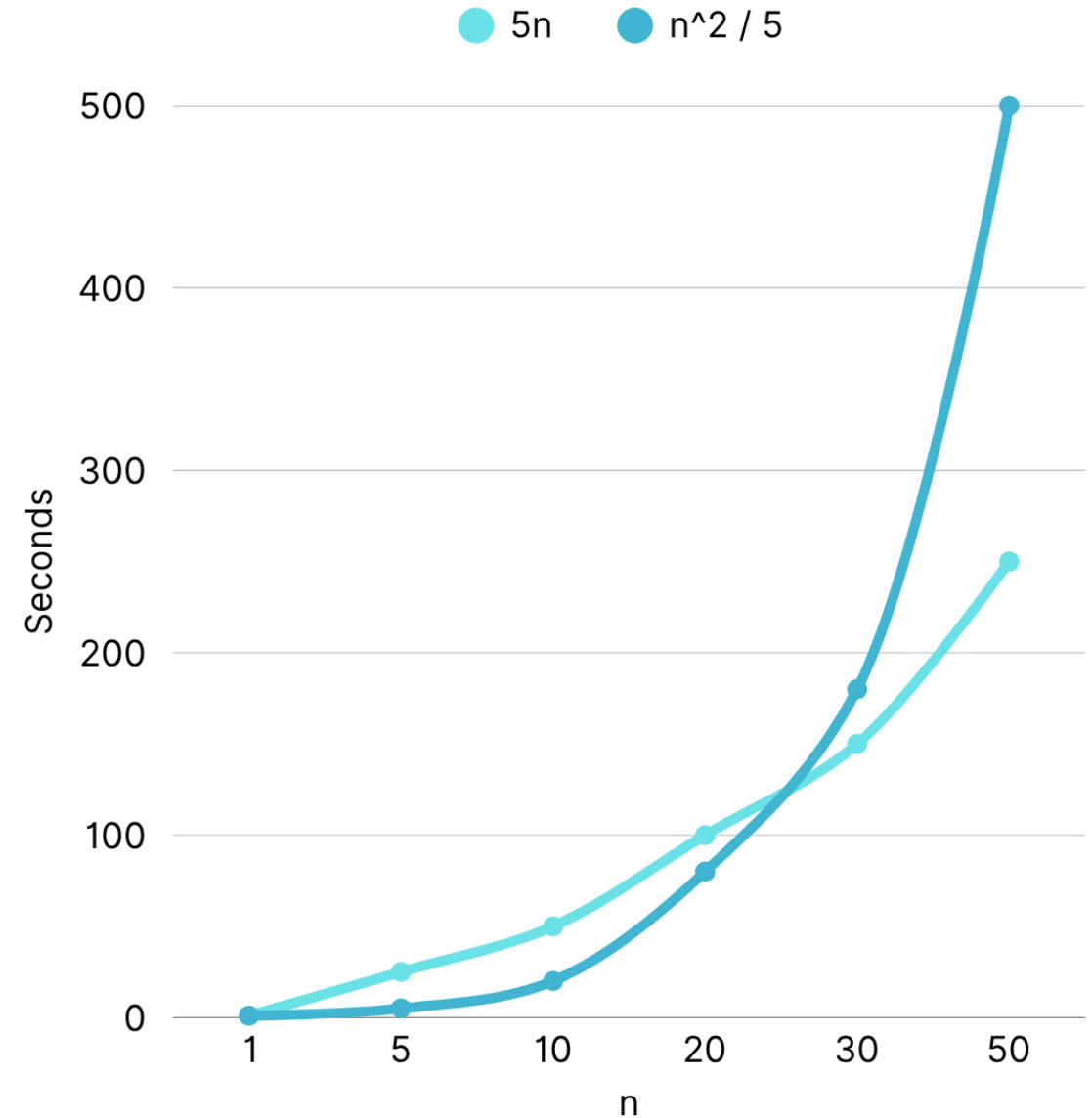
We care about **growth rate** as input size increases

## Example:

- Algorithm A:  $5n$  operations
- Algorithm B:  $n^2 / 5$  operations

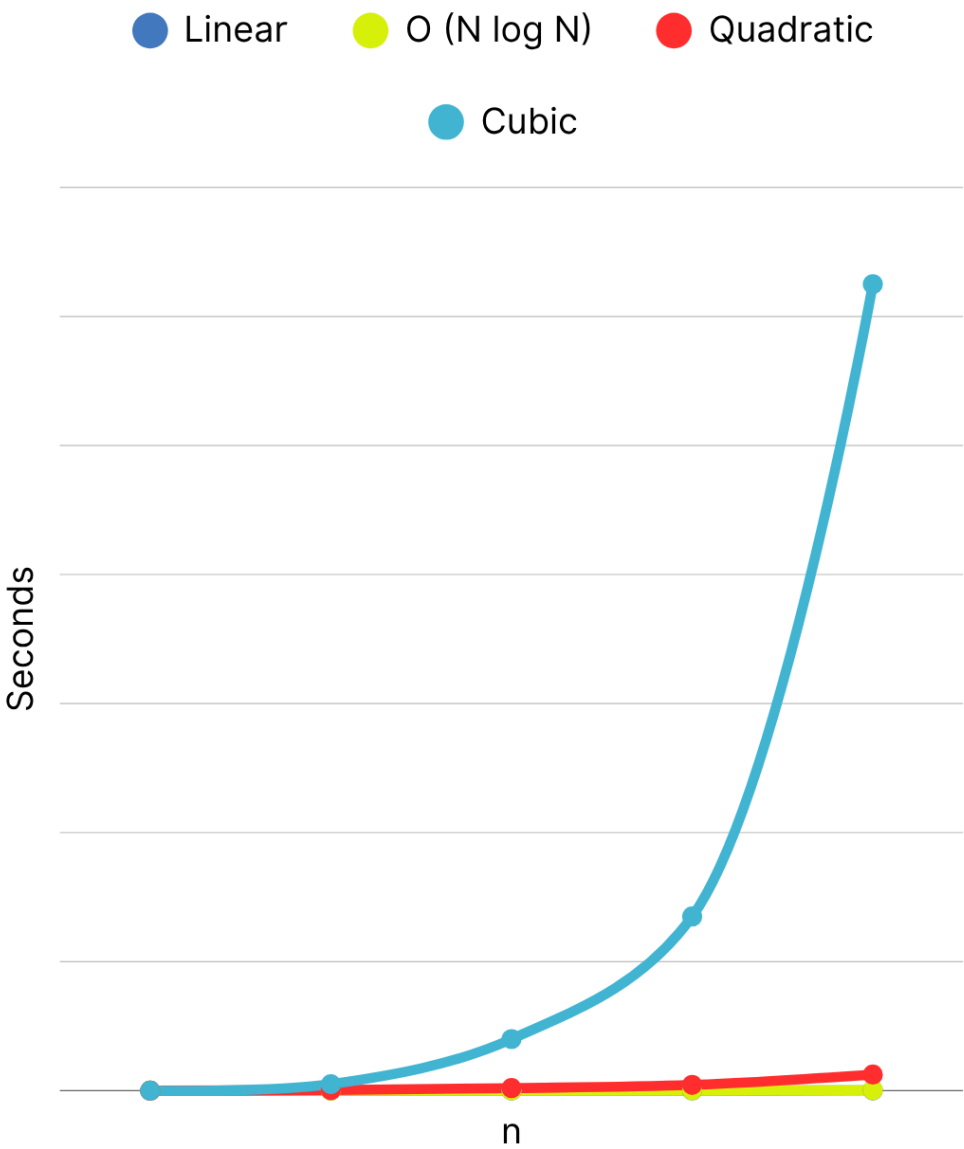
For small  $n$ , B might be faster.

For large  $n$ , A is **much** faster



# Typical Growth Rates

Function	Name	Category
c	Constant	Sublinear
log N	Logarithmic	Sublinear
log <sup>2</sup> N	Log-squared	Sublinear
N	Linear	Polynomial
N Log N		Polynomial
N <sup>2</sup>	Quadratic	Polynomial
N <sup>3</sup>	Cubic	Polynomial
c <sup>N</sup>	Exponential	



# Asymptotic Growth

## What is Asymptotic Behavior?

Use functions to model the "**approximate**" and "**asymptotic**" (running time) behavior of algorithms.

**Asymptotic growth:** The rate of growth of a function

- $T(n)$ : Time of running input size of  $n$

**Goal:** Establish a relative order among the growth rate of functions

Given a particular function  $f(n)$ , all other functions fall into three classes:

- $T(n)$  growing with the **same rate** as  $f(n)$
- $T(n)$  growing **faster** than  $f(n)$
- $T(n)$  growing **slower** than  $f(n)$



## Big-Oh Notation

Big-Oh describes the **upper bound** of growth rate.

**Notation:**  $T(n) = O(f(n))$

**Informal Meaning:**

- Function  $T(n)$  grows **no faster** than  $f(n)$  (ignoring constants)
- Big-Oh tells us the **worst-case** behavior as input size approaches infinity



# Big-Oh Notation - Mathematical Definition

If there are positive constants  $c$  and  $n_0$  such that:

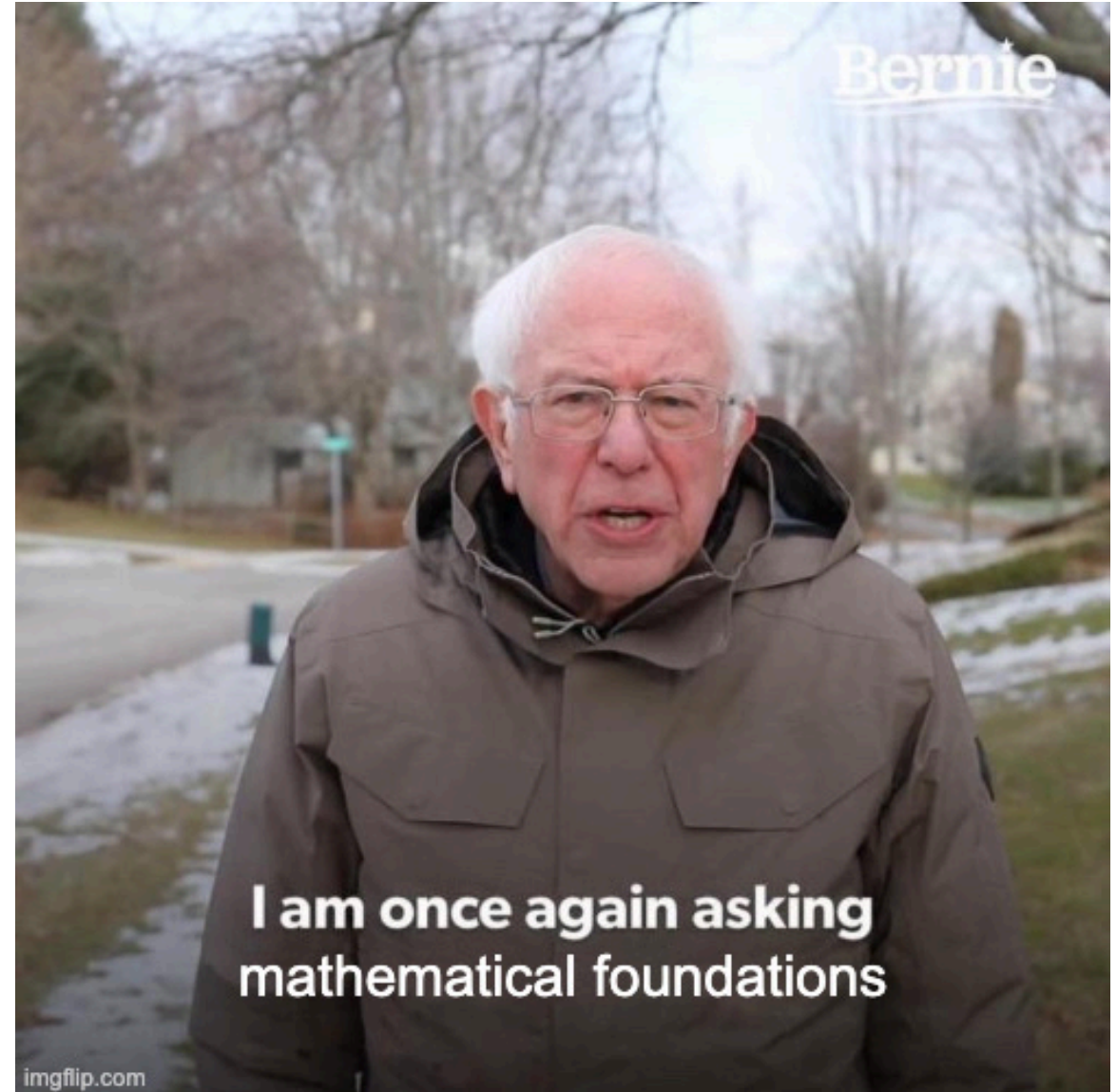
$$T(N) \leq c * f(N) \text{ for all } N \geq n_0$$

then  $T(N) = O(f(N))$

(read as "order of  $f(N)$ " or "big-oh of  $f(N)$ ")

What does this mean?

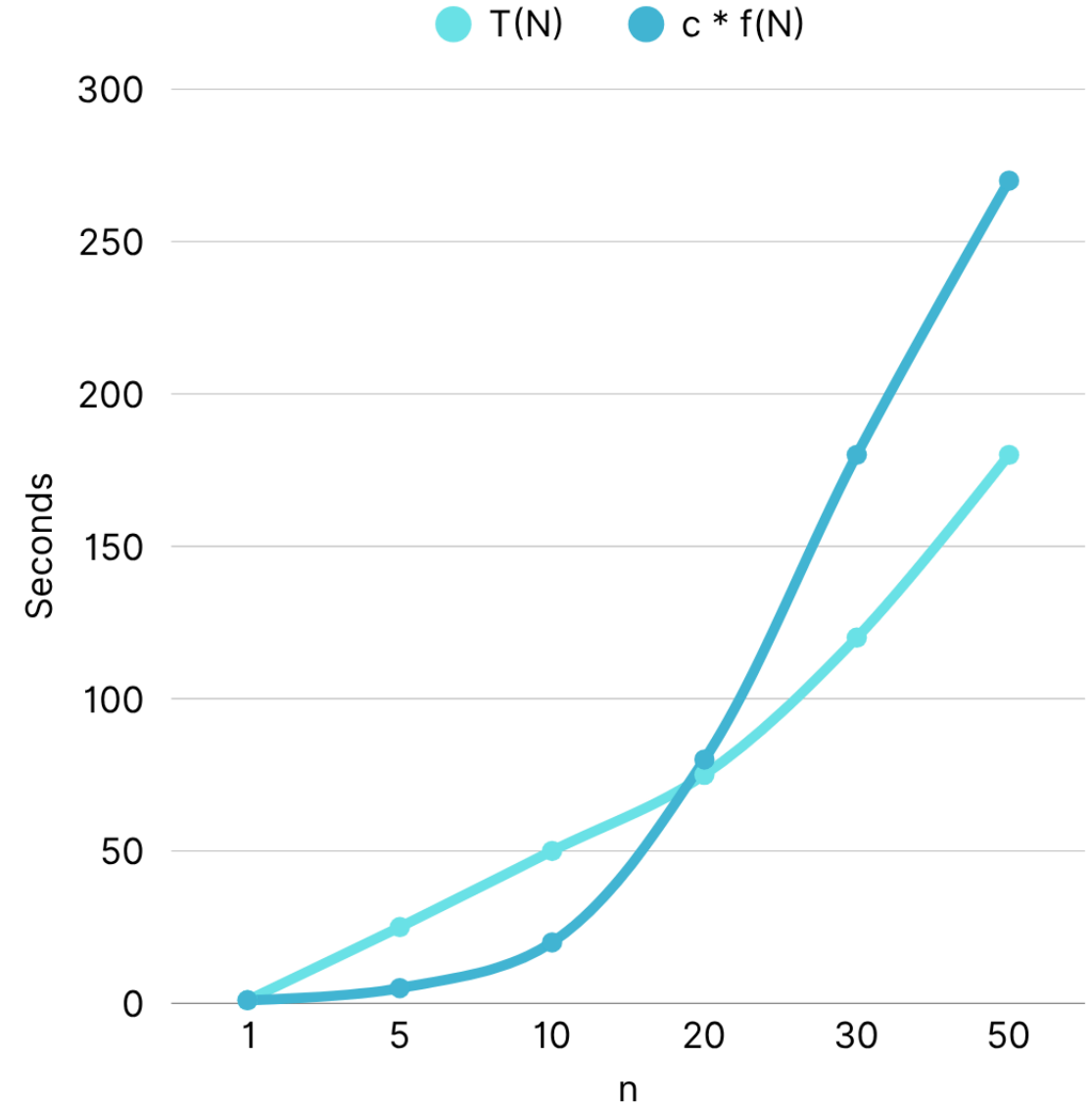
- We can find some constant  $c$  that, when multiplied by  $f(N)$ , will always be  $\geq T(N)$
- This must be true for all inputs beyond some threshold  $n_0$
- $T(N)$  is **bounded above** by  $c \cdot f(N)$  for large  $N$



## Big-Oh Visual Representation

$T(N)$  is bounded by  $c * f(N)$

After  $n_0$ ,  $T(N)$  is always below  $c * f(N)$



## Example

**Prove:  $2n + 10$  is  $O(n)$**

We need to find positive constants  $c$  and  $n_0$  such that:

$$2n + 10 \leq c * n \text{ for all } n \geq n_0$$

**Let's find them:**

$$\begin{array}{ll} 2n + 10 \leq c * n & \\ (c - 2)n \geq 10 & \text{(rearrange)} \\ n \geq 10/(c - 2) & \text{(solve for } n) \end{array}$$

**Choose  $c = 3$ :**

- $n \geq 10/(3 - 2) = 10/1 = 10$
- So  $n_0 = 10$  and  $c = 3$

**Verification:** For  $n = 10$ :  $2(10) + 10 = 30$ , and  $3(10) = 30$

# Counterexample - What is not Big-Oh

**Question: Is  $n^2 = O(n)$ ?**

Let's try to satisfy the definition:  $n^2 \leq c * n$  for all  $n \geq n_0$

**Attempt to find constants:**

$$\begin{aligned} n^2 &\leq c * n \\ n^2 / n &\leq c \\ n &\leq c \end{aligned}$$

**Problem:**

- For the inequality to hold for **all**  $n \geq n_0$ , we need  $n \leq c$
- But  $c$  must be a **constant**
- $n$  can grow arbitrarily large
- No constant  $c$  can be  $\geq$  all values of  $n$

**Conclusion:  $n^2$  is NOT  $O(n)$**

## Practice - Find Constants

**Prove:**  $3n^2 + 2n + 5$  is  $O(n^2)$

**Task:** Find positive constants  $c$  and  $n_0$  such that:

$$3n^2 + 2n + 5 \leq c * n^2 \text{ for all } n \geq n_0$$



## Practice - Answer

**Prove:  $3n^2 + 2n + 5$  is  $O(n^2)$**

**Solution with  $c = 5$ :**

$$\begin{array}{l} 3n^2 + 2n + 5 \leq 5n^2 \\ 2n + 5 \leq 2n^2 \end{array} \quad (\text{subtract } 3n^2 \text{ from both sides})$$

**For  $n \geq 1$ :**

- $2n \leq 2n^2$  (since  $n \geq 1$  means  $n^2 \geq n$ )
- $5 \leq 2n^2$  (since  $n \geq 2$  means  $n^2 \geq 2.5$ )

**Therefore:  $c = 5, n_0 = 2$**

**Verification for  $n = 2$ :**

- $3(4) + 2(2) + 5 = 12 + 4 + 5 = 21$
- $5(4) = 20$  --- doesn't work Need  $n_0 = 3$

# Big-Omega - $\Omega(f(N))$

## Lower Bound

If there are positive constants  $c$  and  $n_0$  such that:

$$T(N) \geq c * f(N) \text{ for all } N \geq n_0$$

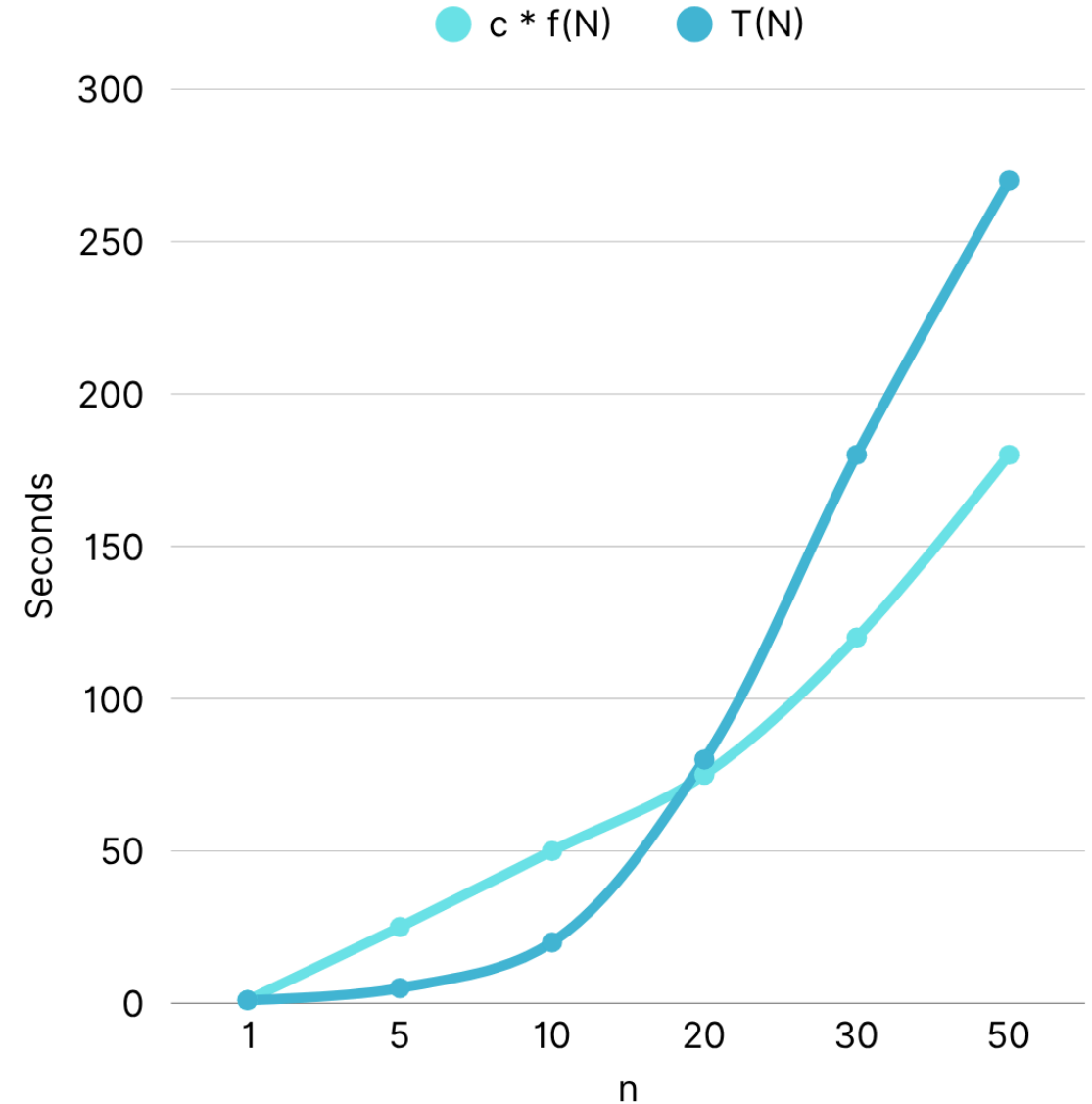
then  $T(N) = \Omega(f(N))$  (read as "omega of  $f(N)$ ")

What does this mean?

- $T(N)$  is **bounded below** by  $c * f(N)$  for large  $N$
- $T(N)$  grows **at least as fast** as  $f(N)$
- Opposite of Big-O (which is upper bound)

**Visual:**  $T(N)$  stays above  $cf(N)$  after  $n_0$

**Example:** If an algorithm takes at least  $n^2$  operations, then  $T(N) = \Omega(n^2)$



# Theta - $\Theta(f(N))$

## Tight Bound (Exact Growth Rate)

If  $T(N) = O(f(N))$  AND  $T(N) = \Omega(f(N))$

then  $T(N) = \Theta(f(N))$  (read as "theta of  $f(N)$ ")

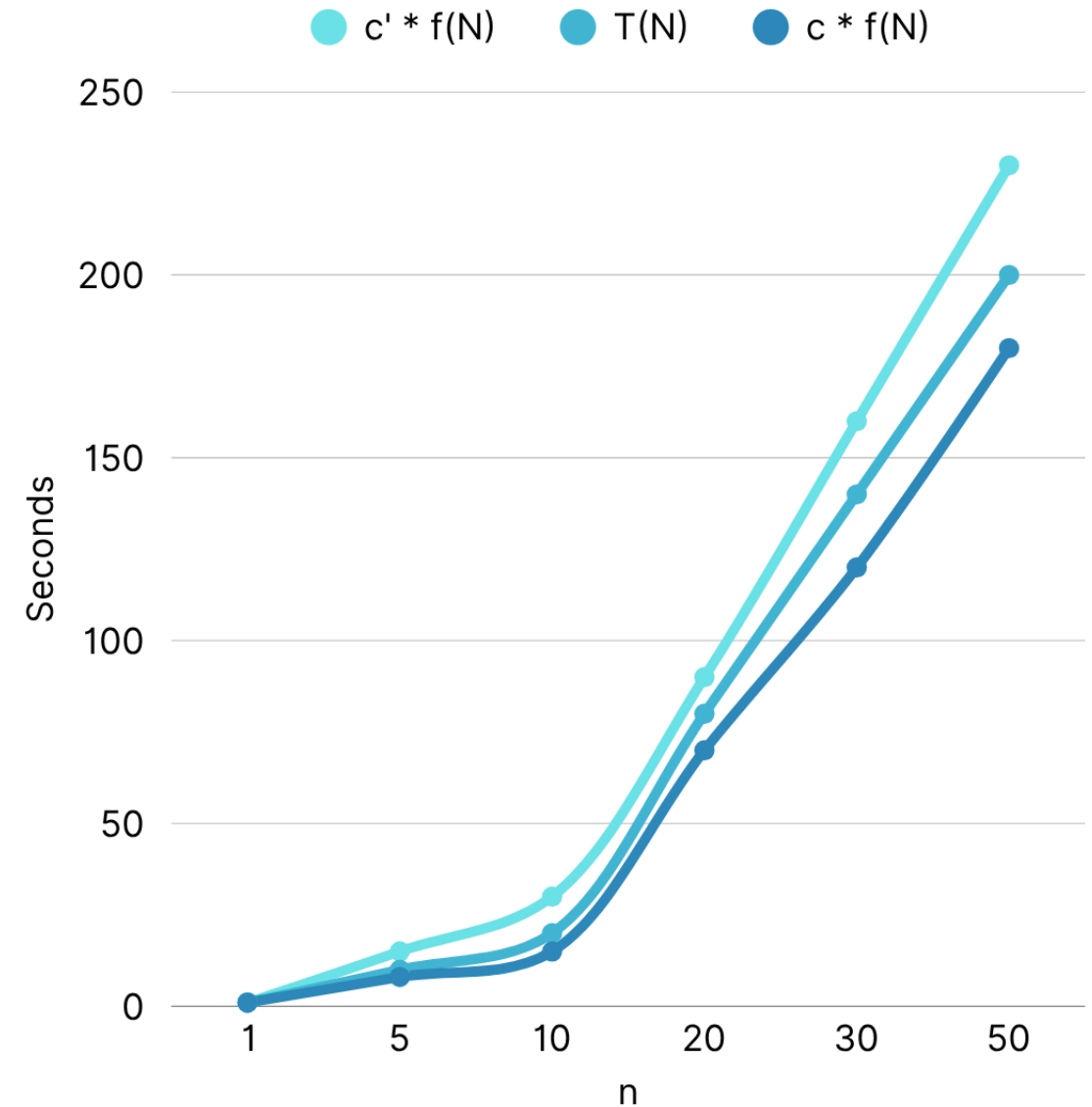
What does this mean?

- $T(N)$  grows at the **same rate** as  $f(N)$
- $T(N)$  is sandwiched between  $c \_ f(N)$  and  $c' \_ f(N)$
- Most precise notation

**Mathematical definition:**

- There exist constants  $c, c', n_0, n_0'$  such that:
- $c \_ f(N) \leq T(N) \leq c' \_ f(N)$  for all  $N \geq \max(n_0, n_0')$

**Example:**  $3n^2 + 2n + 5 = \Theta(n^2)$



# Theta - Formal Definition

## Same Rate of Growth

$T(N)$  and  $f(N)$  have same rate of growth if:

$\lim(T(N) / f(N)) = c$ , where  $0 < c < \infty$ , as  $N \rightarrow \infty$

What this means:

- The ratio  $T(N)/f(N)$  approaches a positive constant
- Neither function dominates the other
- They grow proportionally

**Example: Compare  $3n^2 + 2n$  and  $n^2$**

$$\begin{aligned} & \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (3n^2 + 2n) / n^2 \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (3 + 2/n) \\ &= 3 \text{ (constant!)} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore:  $3n^2 + 2n = \Theta(n^2)$

# Little-oh - $o(f(N))$

## Strictly Less Than (Not Equal)

If  $T(N) = O(f(N))$  and  $T(N) \neq \Theta(f(N))$

then  $T(N) = o(f(N))$  (read as "little-o of  $f(N)$ ")

Mathematical definition:

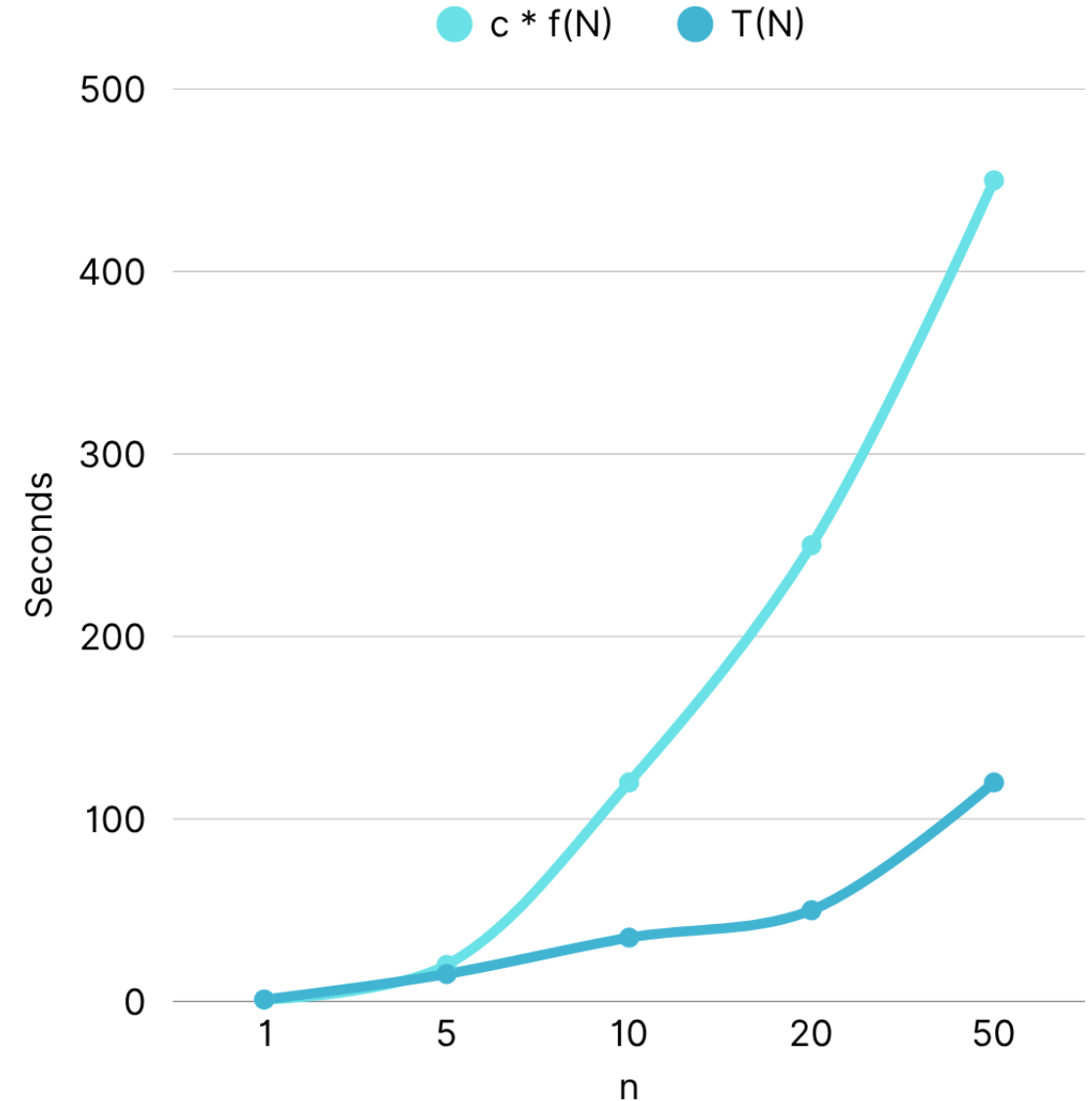
$$\lim(T(N) / f(N)) = 0 \text{ as } N \rightarrow \infty$$

What does this mean?

- $T(N)$  grows **strictly slower** than  $f(N)$
- $f(N)$  grows **strictly faster** than  $T(N)$
- $T(N)$  becomes negligible compared to  $f(N)$

Examples:

- $n = o(n^2)$  (linear is strictly less than quadratic)
- $n^2$  is NOT  $o(n^2)$  (same growth rate, use  $\Theta$  instead)



# Little-oh Example

## Comparing $n$ and $n^2$

Question: Is  $n = o(n^2)$ ?

Check the limit:

$$\begin{aligned}\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n / n^2 \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 1/n \\ &= 0\end{aligned}$$

Yes!  $n = o(n^2)$

Intuition:

- As  $n$  grows,  $n^2$  grows much faster
- The ratio  $n/n^2 = 1/n$  approaches 0
- $n$  becomes insignificant compared to  $n^2$

**Practical meaning:** An  $O(n)$  algorithm is **significantly better** than  $O(n^2)$



# Little-Omega - $\omega(f(N))$

## Strictly Greater Than (Not Equal)

If  $T(N) = \Omega(f(N))$  and  $T(N) \neq \Theta(f(N))$

then  $T(N) = \omega(f(N))$  (read as "little-omega of  $f(N)$ ")

Mathematical definition:

$$\lim(T(N) / f(N)) = \infty \text{ as } N \rightarrow \infty$$

What does this mean?

- $T(N)$  grows **strictly faster** than  $f(N)$
- $f(N)$  grows **strictly slower** than  $T(N)$
- Opposite of little-oh

Examples:

- $n^2 = \omega(n)$  (quadratic is strictly greater than linear)
- $n^2$  is NOT  $\omega(n^2)$  (same growth rate, use  $\Theta$  instead)

# Comparing Little-oh and Little-omega

Little-oh (T grows slower):

$$\begin{aligned}\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n/n^2 &= 0 \\ \rightarrow n &= o(n^2)\end{aligned}$$

Little-omega (T grows faster):

$$\begin{aligned}\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^2/n &= \infty \\ \rightarrow n^2 &= \omega(n)\end{aligned}$$

**Key Insight:**

- If  $T(N) = o(f(N))$ , then  $f(N) = \omega(T(N))$
- These are inverse relationships

# Summary - All Asymptotic Notations

## Complete Picture

Notation	Meaning	Condition	Limit Test
$O(f(N))$	Upper bound	$T(N) \leq c \cdot f(N)$	$T / f \leq \text{constant}$
$\Omega(f(N))$	Lower bound	$T(N) \geq c \cdot f(N)$	$T / f \geq \text{constant}$
$\Theta(f(N))$	Tight bound	Both $O$ and $\Omega$	$T / f = \text{constant}$
$o(f(N))$	Strictly less	$T$ grows slower	$T / f \rightarrow 0$
$\omega(f(N))$	Strictly greater	$T$ grows faster	$T / f \rightarrow \infty$

**Most commonly used:** Big-Oh (worst case) and Theta (exact)

# Notation Relationships

Same rate of growth:  $T(N) = \Theta(f(N))$

Different rate of growth:

- **Either:**  $T(N) = o(f(N))$ 
  - $T(N)$  grows slower than  $f(N)$
  - Example:  $n = o(n^2)$
- **Or:**  $T(N) = \omega(f(N))$ 
  - $T(N)$  grows faster than  $f(N)$
  - Example:  $n^2 = \omega(n)$

In Practice:

- Use **Big-Oh** for worst-case analysis (most common)
- Use **Theta** when you know exact growth rate
- Use **Omega** for best-case or lower bounds
- Little-oh and Little-omega are less common



# Big-Oh Classes

## Similar to the growth rates

Function	Name	Example
$O(1)$ or $O(c)$	Constant	Array access, arithmetic
$O(\log n)$	Logarithmic	Binary search
$O(\log^2 n)$	Log-squared	Some divide & conquer
$O(n)$	Linear	Linear search, array sum
$O(n \log n)$	Linearithmic	Merge sort, quick sort
$O(n^2)$	Quadratic	Nested loops, bubble sort
$O(n^3)$	Cubic	Triple nested loops
$O(c^n)$ or $O(2^n)$	Exponential	Recursive Fibonacci
$O(n!)$	Factorial	Generating permutations

**Rule of Thumb:** Anything worse than  $O(n^2)$  is usually impractical for large inputs

## Question - Big-Oh Ordering

**Order these complexities from Fastest to Slowest**

- A.  $O(n^2)$
- B.  $O(1)$
- C.  $O(n \log n)$
- D.  $O(\log n)$
- E.  $O(n)$



## Answer

**Correct Order (Fastest to Slowest):**

**B → D → E → C → A**

1.  **$O(1)$**  - Constant (B)
2.  **$O(\log n)$**  - Logarithmic (D)
3.  **$O(n)$**  - Linear (E)
4.  **$O(n \log n)$**  - Linearithmic (C)
5.  **$O(n^2)$**  - Quadratic (A)

**Remember:** When comparing, the dominant term always wins

# Visualizing Growth Rates

## How fast do they grow?

For  $n = 100$ :

- $O(1)$ : 1 operation
- $O(\log n)$ :  $\sim 7$  operations
- $O(n)$ : 100 operations
- $O(n \log n)$ :  $\sim 700$  operations
- $O(n^2)$ : 10,000 operations
- $O(2^n)$ : 1,267,650,600,228,229,401,496,703,205,376 operations 💀

**Key Takeaway:** Growth rate matters more than anything else for large inputs

# O(1) - Constant Time

## Operations that Don't Depend on Input Size

```
// Array access - O(1)
int getFirst(int arr[]) {
    return arr[0]; // Direct memory access
}

// Arithmetic operations - O(1)
int add(int a, int b) {
    return a + b; // Single operation
}

// Linked list operations (if we have pointer) - O(1)
void insertAtFront(Node*& head, int value) {
    Node* newNode = new Node(value);
    newNode->next = head;
    head = newNode;
}
```

**Key:** Number of operations stays the same regardless of  $n$

# $O(\log n)$ - Logarithmic Time

## Dividing the Problem in Half Each Time

```
// Binary search -  $O(\log n)$ 
int binarySearch(int arr[], int n, int target) {
    int left = 0;
    int right = n - 1;

    while (left <= right) {
        int mid = left + (right - left) / 2;

        if (arr[mid] == target) {
            return mid;
        }

        if (arr[mid] < target) {
            left = mid + 1; // Search right half
        } else {
            right = mid - 1; // Search left half
        }
    }

    return -1;
}
```

**Why  $\log n$ ?** Each iteration cuts problem size in half

## Practice - Identify Complexity

What is the time complexity of these functions?

```
// Function 1
void printFirst(int arr[], int n) {
    cout << arr[0] << endl;
}

// Function 2
void printAll(int arr[], int n) {
    for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
        cout << arr[i] << endl;
    }
}

// Function 3
void printPairs(int arr[], int n) {
    for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
        for (int j = 0; j < n; j++) {
            cout << arr[i] << "," << arr[j] << endl;
        }
    }
}
```

## Practice - Answer

```
// Function 1: O(1) - Constant
void printFirst(int arr[], int n) {
    cout << arr[0] << endl; // Always 1 operation
}

// Function 2: O(n) - Linear
void printAll(int arr[], int n) {
    for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) { // n operations
        cout << arr[i] << endl;
    }
}

// Function 3: O(n²) - Quadratic
void printPairs(int arr[], int n) {
    for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) { // n times
        for (int j = 0; j < n; j++) { // n times each
            cout << arr[i] << "," << arr[j] << endl;
        }
    } // Total: n x n = n²
}
```

# Understanding Logarithms

**Question:** How many times can we divide  $n$  by 2 until we reach 1?

**Answer:**  $\log_2(n)$  times

**Example with  $n = 16$ :**

16  $\rightarrow$  8  $\rightarrow$  4  $\rightarrow$  2  $\rightarrow$  1

That's 4 steps, and  $\log_2(16) = 4$

**Another Example:**

- In a phone book with 1 million names
- Binary search needs only ~20 comparisons
- Linear search needs up to 1 million comparisons

**Bottom Line:**  $O(\log n)$  scales **extremely** well

# $O(n)$ - Linear Time

## Processing Each Element Once

```
// Sum array -  $O(n)$ 
int sum(int arr[], int n) {
    int total = 0;
    for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
        total += arr[i]; // Visit each element once
    }
    return total;
}

// Find maximum -  $O(n)$ 
int findMax(int arr[], int n) {
    int maxVal = arr[0];
    for (int i = 1; i < n; i++) {
        if (arr[i] > maxVal) {
            maxVal = arr[i];
        }
    }
    return maxVal;
}
```

**Key:** One pass through the data =  $O(n)$



# $O(n \log n)$ - Linearithmic Time

## Efficient Sorting Algorithms

```
// Merge sort pseudocode -  $O(n \log n)$ 
void mergeSort(int arr[], int left, int right) {
    if (left >= right) return;

    int mid = (left + right) / 2;

    // Divide:  $O(\log n)$  levels
    mergeSort(arr, left, mid);
    mergeSort(arr, mid + 1, right);

    // Conquer:  $O(n)$  work per level
    merge(arr, left, mid, right);
}
```

### Why $n \log n$ ?

- $O(\log n)$  levels of recursion (dividing in half)
- $O(n)$  work at each level (merging)
- Total:  $O(n) \times O(\log n) = O(n \log n)$

# $O(n^2)$ - Quadratic Time

## Nested Loops Over the Same Data

```
// Bubble sort -  $O(n^2)$ 
void bubbleSort(int arr[], int n) {
    for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {           // n times
        for (int j = 0; j < n - i - 1; j++) { // n times
            if (arr[j] > arr[j + 1]) {
                // Swap
                int temp = arr[j];
                arr[j] = arr[j + 1];
                arr[j + 1] = temp;
            }
        }
    }
}

// Check for duplicates -  $O(n^2)$ 
bool hasDuplicates(int arr[], int n) {
    for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
        for (int j = i + 1; j < n; j++) {
            if (arr[i] == arr[j]) return true;
        }
    }
    return false;
}
```

## Activity - Count Operations

How many comparisons for hasDuplicates with  $n = 5$ ?

```
bool hasDuplicates(int arr[], int n) {  
    for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {  
        for (int j = i + 1; j < n; j++) {  
            if (arr[i] == arr[j]) return true;  
        }  
    }  
    return false;  
}
```

**Task:** Manually count how many times `arr[i] == arr[j]` is executed and find Big-Oh notation

## Activity - Answer

### Counting comparisons for $n = 5$ :

```
i=0: j=1,2,3,4 → 4 comparisons
i=1: j=2,3,4   → 3 comparisons
i=2: j=3,4     → 2 comparisons
i=3: j=4       → 1 comparison
i=4: (none)    → 0 comparisons
```

**Total:**  $4 + 3 + 2 + 1 = 10$  comparisons

**Formula:** For  $n$  elements:  $n(n - 1) / 2$  comparisons

- For  $n=5$ :  $5 \times 4 / 2 = 10$
- For  $n=10$ :  $10 \times 9 / 2 = 45$
- For  $n=100$ :  $100 \times 99 / 2 = 4,950$

**Big-Oh:** Drop constants and lower terms  $\rightarrow O(n^2)$

```
// Naive recursive Fibonacci -  $O(2^n)$ 
int fibonacci(int n) {
    if (n <= 1) return n;

    return fibonacci(n - 1) + fibonacci(n - 2);
}
```

```

      fib(5)
     /    \
  fib(4)   fib(3)
  /  \    /  \
fib(3) fib(2) fib(2) fib(1)
 /  \  /  \  /  \
fib(2) fib(1) ...

```

## Warning: Even fib(50) takes forever

## Practice - Calculate Complexity

```
void mysteryFunction(int arr[], int n) {  
    for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {  
        for (int j = i; j < n; j++) {  
            cout << arr[i] + arr[j] << endl;  
        }  
    }  
}
```

### Questions:

1. How many times does the inner loop run for each `i` ?
2. What is the total number of operations?
3. What is the Big-Oh complexity?

# Answer

```
void mysteryFunction(int arr[], int n) {  
    for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {  
        for (int j = i; j < n; j++) {  
            cout << arr[i] + arr[j] << endl;  
        }  
    }  
}
```

## Analysis:

- When  $i = 0$  : inner loop runs  $n$  times
- When  $i = 1$  : inner loop runs  $n - 1$  times
- When  $i = 2$  : inner loop runs  $n - 2$  times
- ...
- When  $i = n-1$  : inner loop runs  $1$  time

**Total:**  $n + (n-1) + (n-2) + \dots + 1 = n(n+1)/2 = (n^2 + n)/2$

**Big-Oh:** Drop constants and lower terms  $\rightarrow O(n^2)$

# Best, Average, and Worst Case

## Same Algorithm, Different Scenarios

```
// Linear search
int search(int arr[], int n, int target) {
    for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
        if (arr[i] == target) {
            return i;
        }
    }
    return -1;
}
```

**Best Case:**  $O(1)$  - Target is first element

**Average Case:**  $O(n/2) = O(n)$  - Target is in middle

**Worst Case:**  $O(n)$  - Target is last or not found



# Why Focus on Worst Case?

## Three Reasons

### 1. Easier to analyze

- No need to guess about "typical" inputs
- Clear, unambiguous definition

### 2. Safety Critical

- Medical devices, aviation systems
- Need guaranteed response time
- Can't afford "usually fast"

### 3. Conservative estimate

- If worst case is acceptable, we're safe
- Average case is bonus

## Rules for Calculating Big-Oh

1. **Drop constants:**  $O(2n) = O(n)$ ,  $O(n/2) = O(n)$
2. **Drop lower-order terms:**  $O(n^2 + n) = O(n^2)$ ,  $O(n^2 + \log n) = O(n^2)$
3. **Different variables for different inputs:**

```
void process(int arr1[], int n, int arr2[], int m) {
    for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) { /* ... */ } // O(n)
    for (int i = 0; i < m; i++) { /* ... */ } // O(m)
}
// Total: O(n + m), NOT O(n)!
```

4. **Sequential = Add, Nested = Multiply:**

- Sequential loops:  $O(n) + O(n) = O(n)$
- Nested loops:  $O(n) \times O(n) = O(n^2)$



## Practice - Apply the Rules

**Simplify these to Big-Oh notation:**

1.  $3n + 5$

2.  $2n^2 + 100n + 50$

3.  $n \log n + n$

4.  $5n^2 + 3n^3 + 2$

5.  $\log n + n + n^2$

## Practice - Answers

### Simplified Big-Oh:

1.  $3n + 5 \rightarrow O(n)$  (drop constants)
2.  $2n^2 + 100n + 50 \rightarrow O(n^2)$  (drop lower terms  $n$  and constants)
3.  $n \log n + n \rightarrow O(n \log n)$  ( $n \log n$  dominates  $n$ )
4.  $5n^2 + 3n^3 + 2 \rightarrow O(n^3)$  ( $n^3$  dominates)
5.  $\log n + n + n^2 \rightarrow O(n^2)$  ( $n^2$  dominates everything)

**Key Rule:** Always keep only the fastest-growing term

## Question - Complex Analysis

What is the complexity?

```
void process(int arr[], int n) {  
    // Part 1  
    int max = arr[0];  
    for (int i = 1; i < n; i++) {  
        if (arr[i] > max) max = arr[i];  
    }  
  
    // Part 2  
    for (int i = 0; i < max; i++) {  
        cout << i << endl;  
    }  
  
    // Part 3  
    for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {  
        for (int j = 0; j < n; j++) {  
            cout << arr[i] * arr[j] << endl;  
        }  
    }  
}
```

# Answer

```
void process(int arr[], int n) {  
    // Part 1:  $O(n)$  – one loop through array  
    int max = arr[0];  
    for (int i = 1; i < n; i++) {  
        if (arr[i] > max) max = arr[i];  
    }  
  
    // Part 2:  $O(\text{max})$  – depends on max value, not n!  
    // Could be  $O(1)$  if max is small, or  $O(n)$  if  $\text{max} \approx n$   
    // Worst case: max could be very large!  
    for (int i = 0; i < max; i++) {  
        cout << i << endl;  
    }  
  
    // Part 3:  $O(n^2)$  – nested loops  
    for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {  
        for (int j = 0; j < n; j++) {  
            cout << arr[i] * arr[j] << endl;  
        }  
    }  
}
```

**Total:**  $O(n) + O(\text{max}) + O(n^2) = O(n^2 + \text{max})$

## Question - Complexity

What's the time complexity?

```
void mystery(int n) {  
    int sum = 0;  
    for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {  
        sum += i;  
    }  
  
    for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {  
        for (int j = 0; j < 100; j++) {  
            sum += j;  
        }  
    }  
}
```

- A)  $O(n)$
- B)  $O(n^2)$
- C)  $O(n + 100)$
- D)  $O(100n)$

# Answer

```
void mystery(int n) {  
    int sum = 0;  
    for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {           // O(n)  
        sum += i;  
    }  
  
    for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {           // O(n)  
        for (int j = 0; j < 100; j++) {    // O(100) = O(1) constant!  
            sum += j;  
        }  
    }  
}
```

## Analysis:

- First loop:  $O(n)$
- Second loop:  $O(n) \times O(100) = O(100n) = O(n)$
- Total:  $O(n) + O(n) = O(n)$

**Answer: A)  $O(n)$**

**Key Point:** Inner loop with constant bound (100) is just a constant



# Trees

## From Linear to Hierarchical

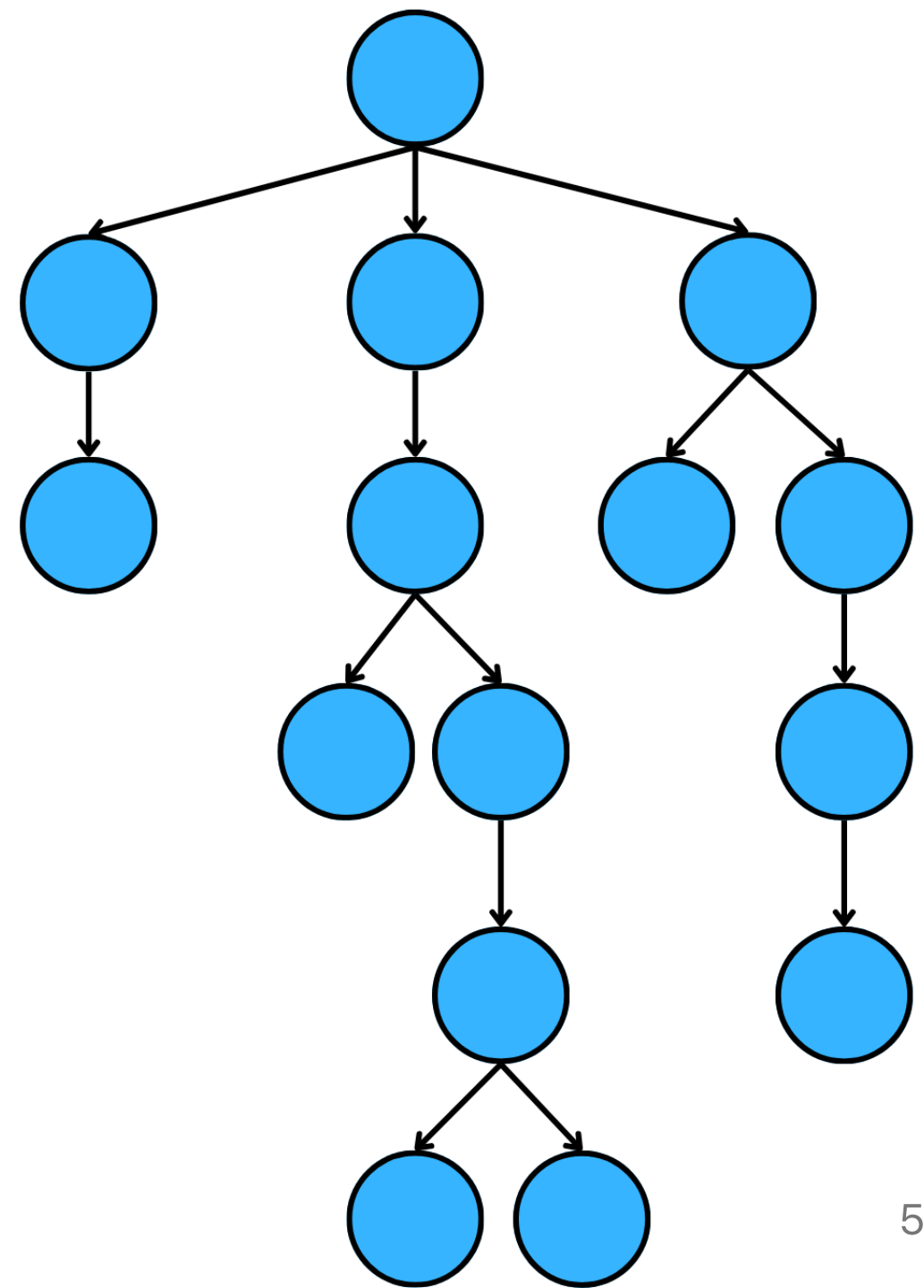
### So Far We've Seen Linear Structures

- Arrays - sequential access
- Linked Lists - sequential traversal
- Stacks - LIFO access
- Queues - FIFO access

**Problem:** These are all linear structures!

### What About Hierarchical Relationships?

- File systems (folders contain folders)
- Organization charts (managers and employees)
- Family trees (parents and children)
- Decision processes (choices leading to more choices)



# Where Trees?

## File Systems:

- Directories contain subdirectories
- Hierarchical organization

## Compilers:

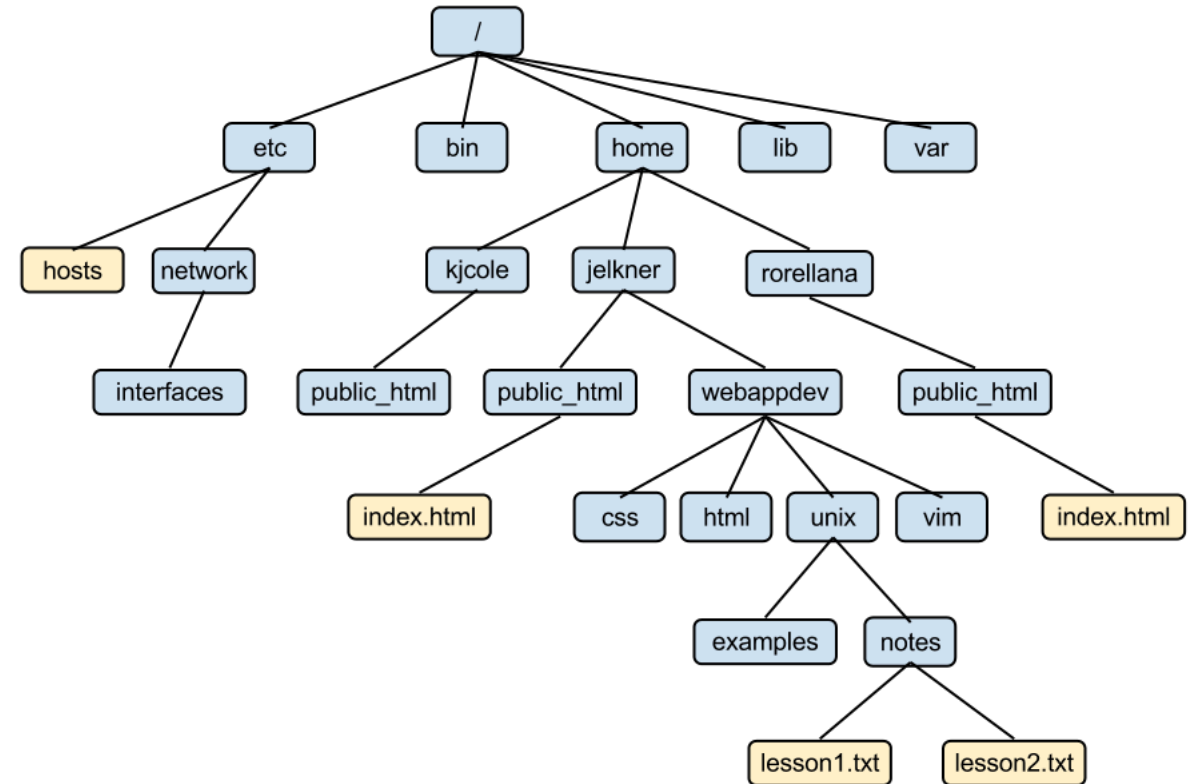
- Abstract Syntax Trees (AST)
- Expression evaluation

## AI/Games:

- Decision trees
- Game state exploration

## Networks:

- Routing protocols
- DNS hierarchy



# What is a Tree?

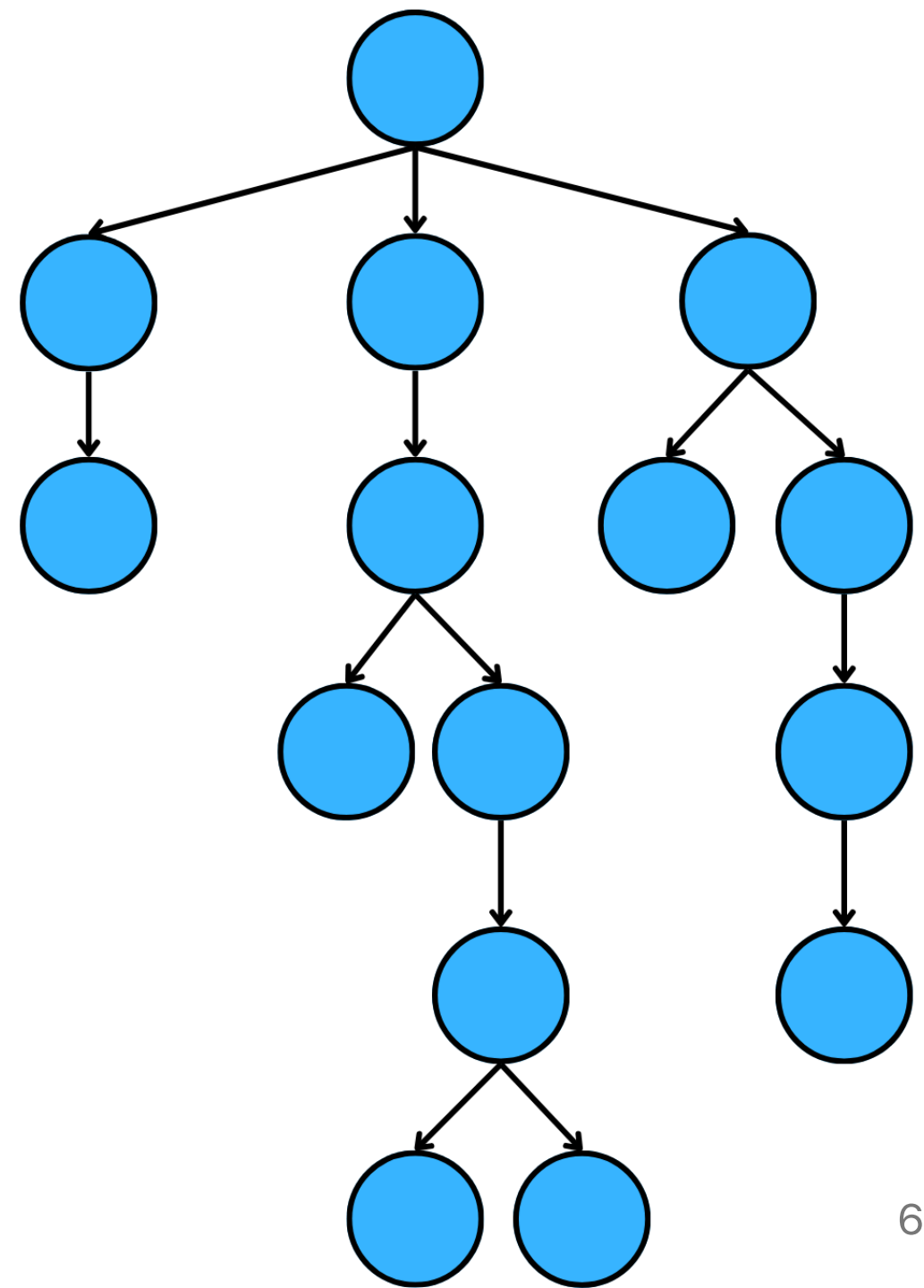
A **tree** is a hierarchical data structure consisting of nodes connected by edges.

## Key Characteristics

- **One root node** - the topmost node
- **Parent-child relationships** - each node (except root) has exactly one parent
- **No cycles** - there's exactly one path between any two nodes
- **Connected** - all nodes are reachable from the root

## Tree vs Graph

- Trees are special cases of graphs
- Trees have no cycles
- Trees have  $n-1$  edges for  $n$  nodes



# Tree Terminology

## Basic Terms

**Node:** A single element in the tree containing data

**Root:** The topmost node

**Edge:** Connection between two nodes

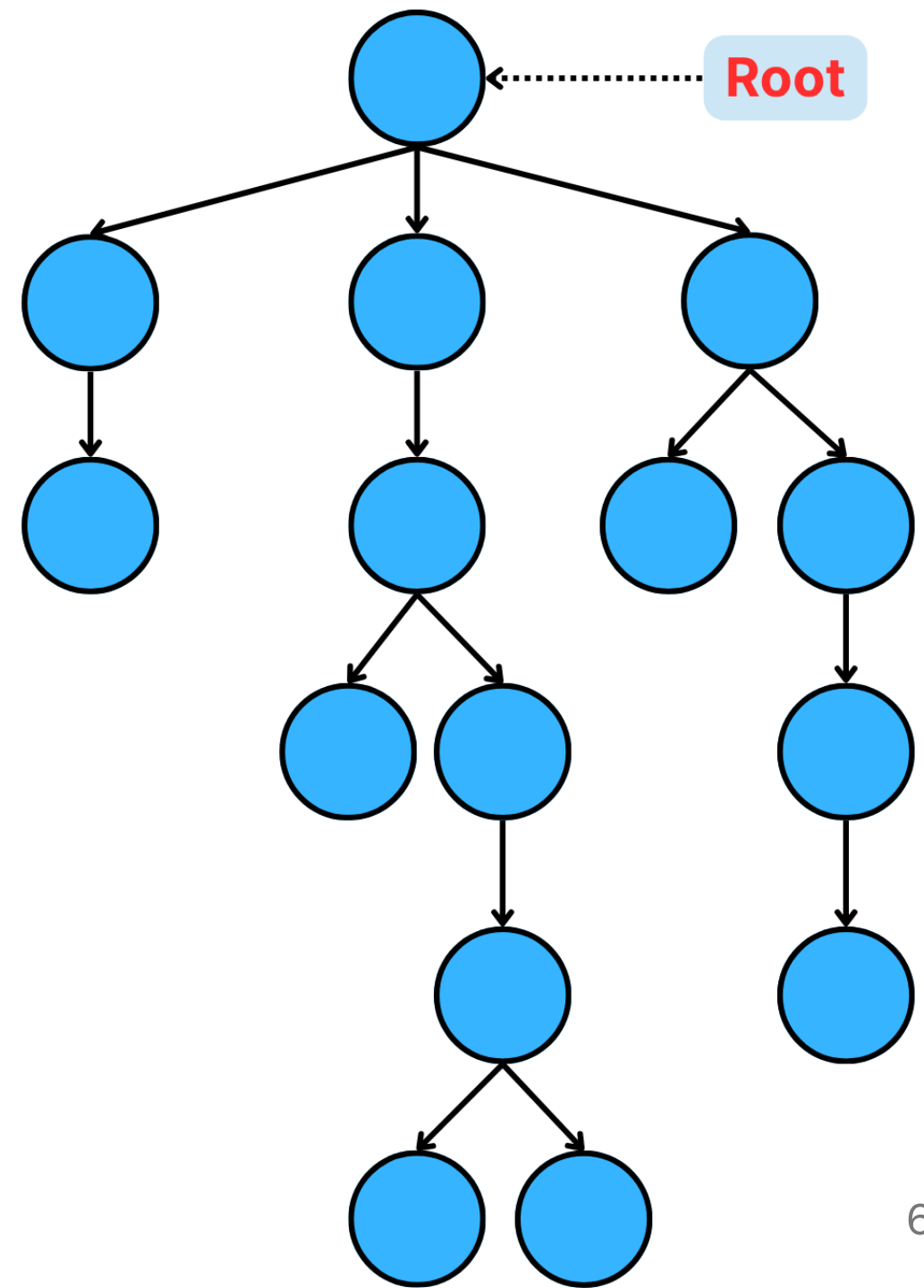
**Parent:** Node with children below it

**Child:** Node connected below another node

**Siblings:** Nodes with the same parent

**Leaf:** Node with no children

**Subtrees:** Individual trees within tree



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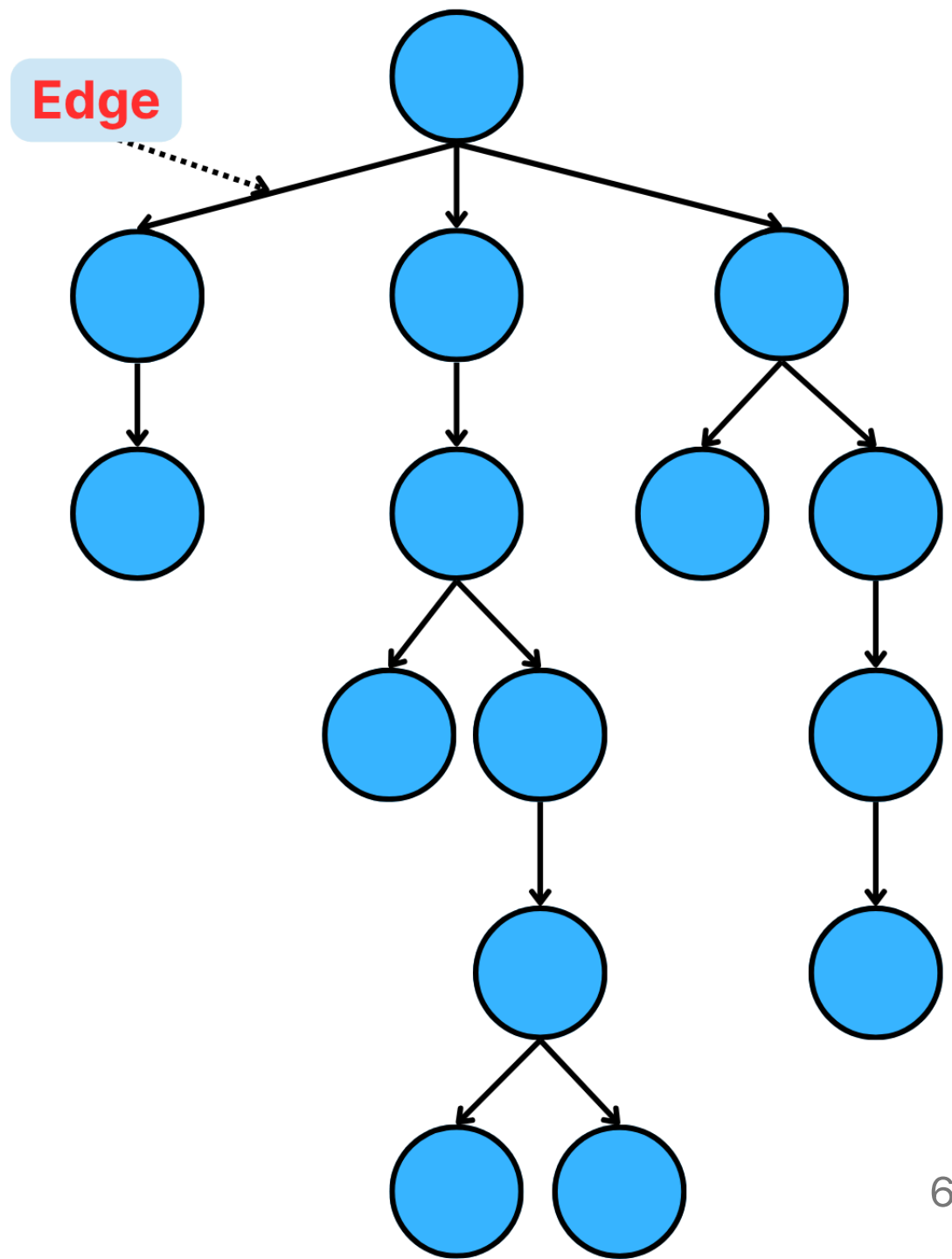
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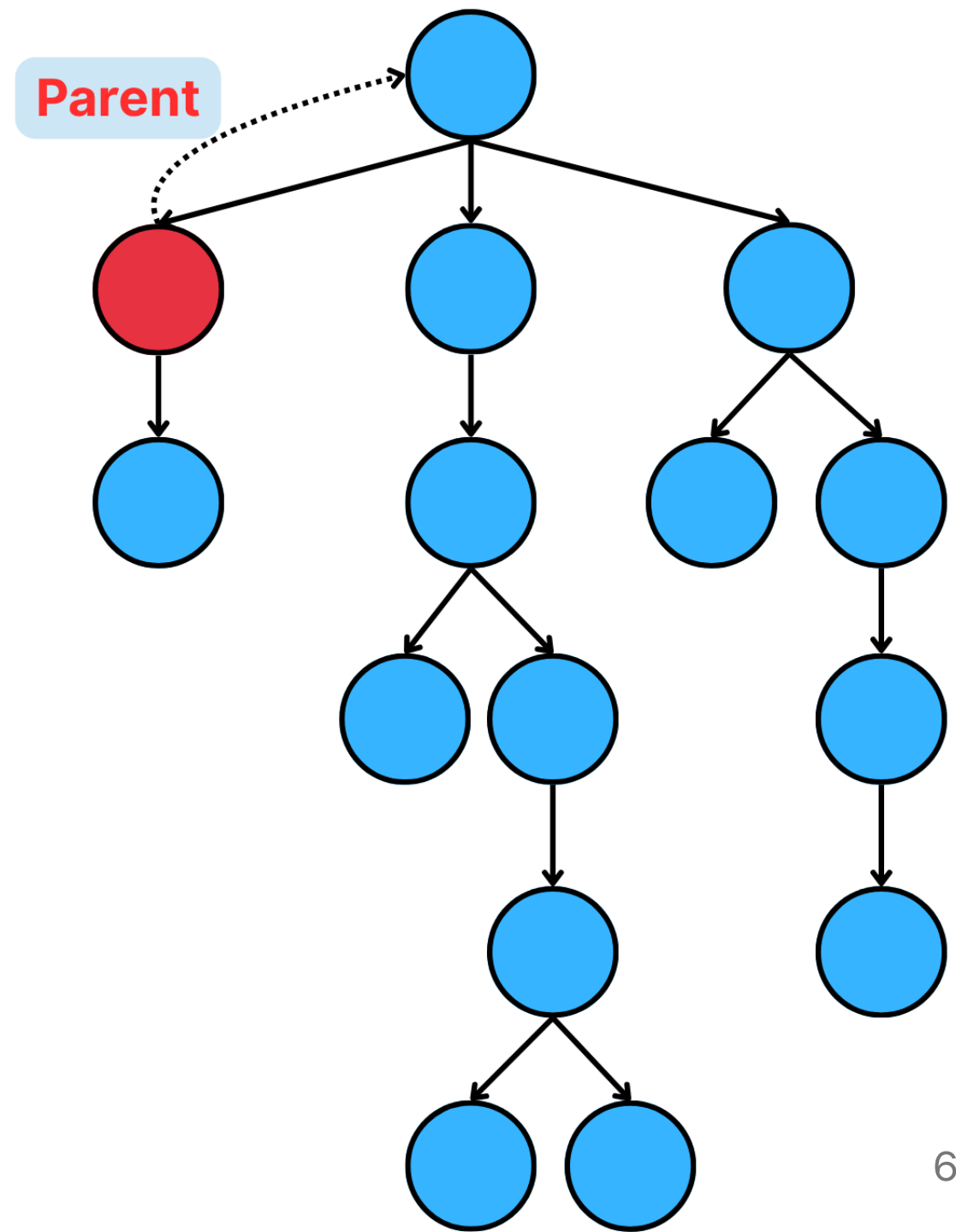
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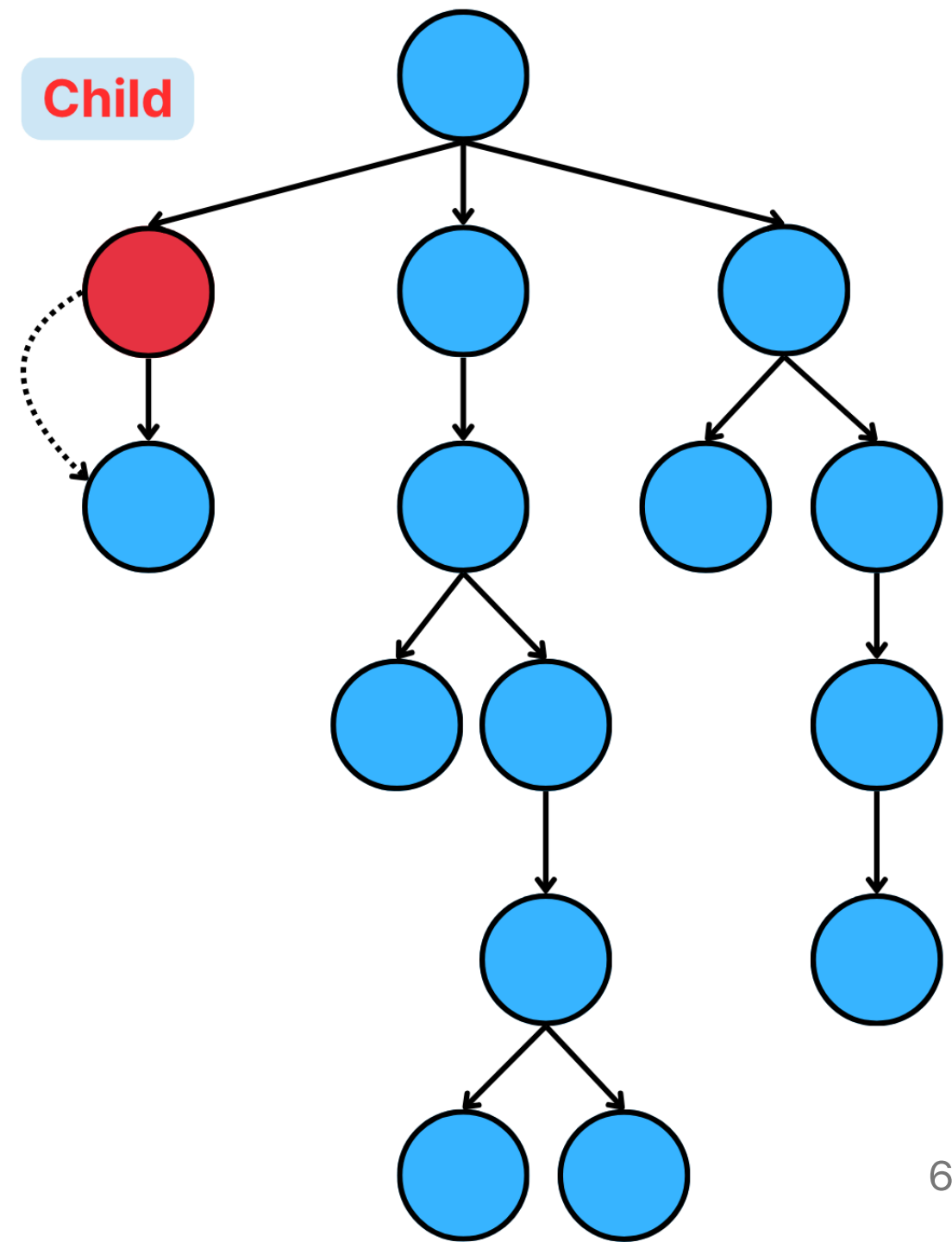
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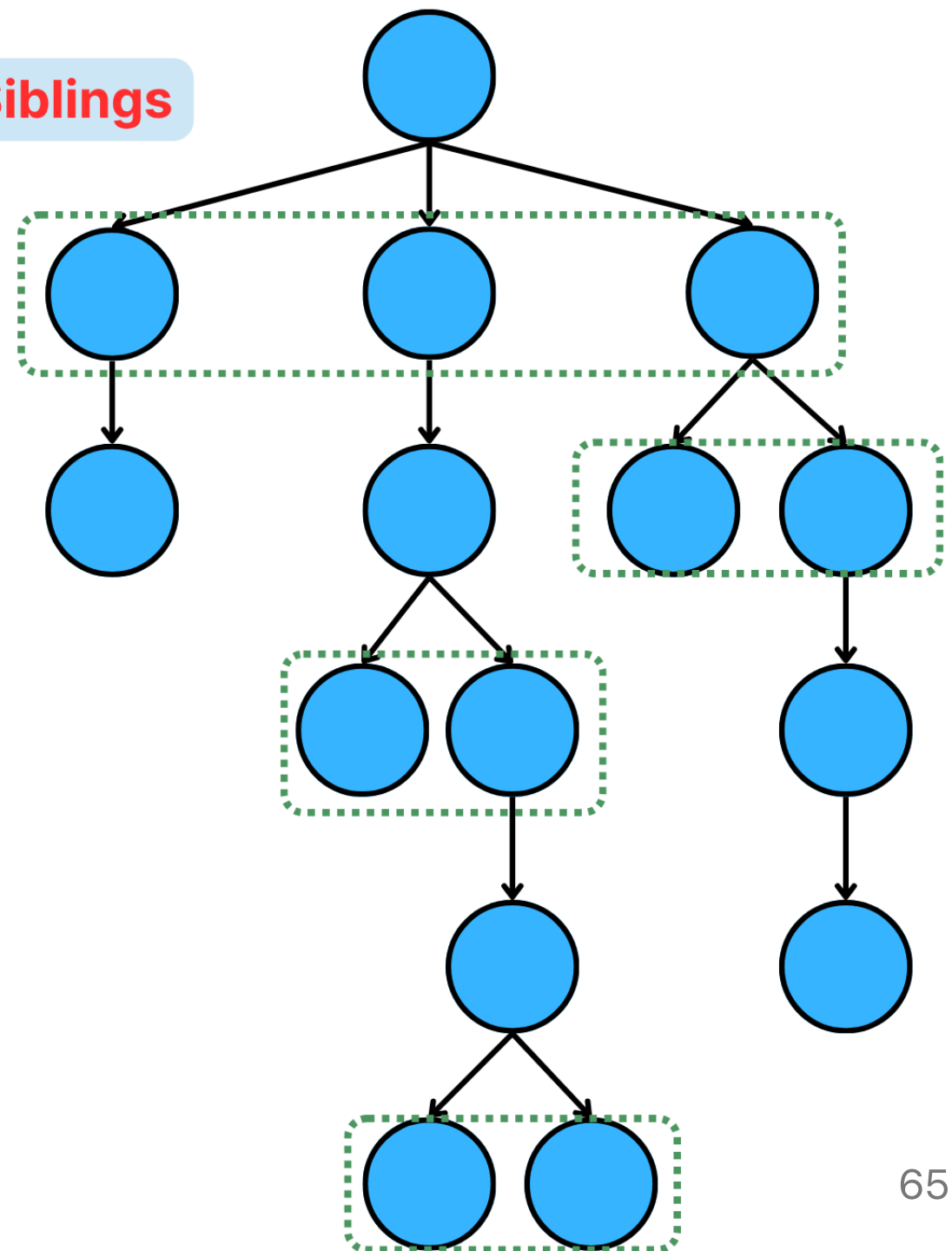
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**Siblings**



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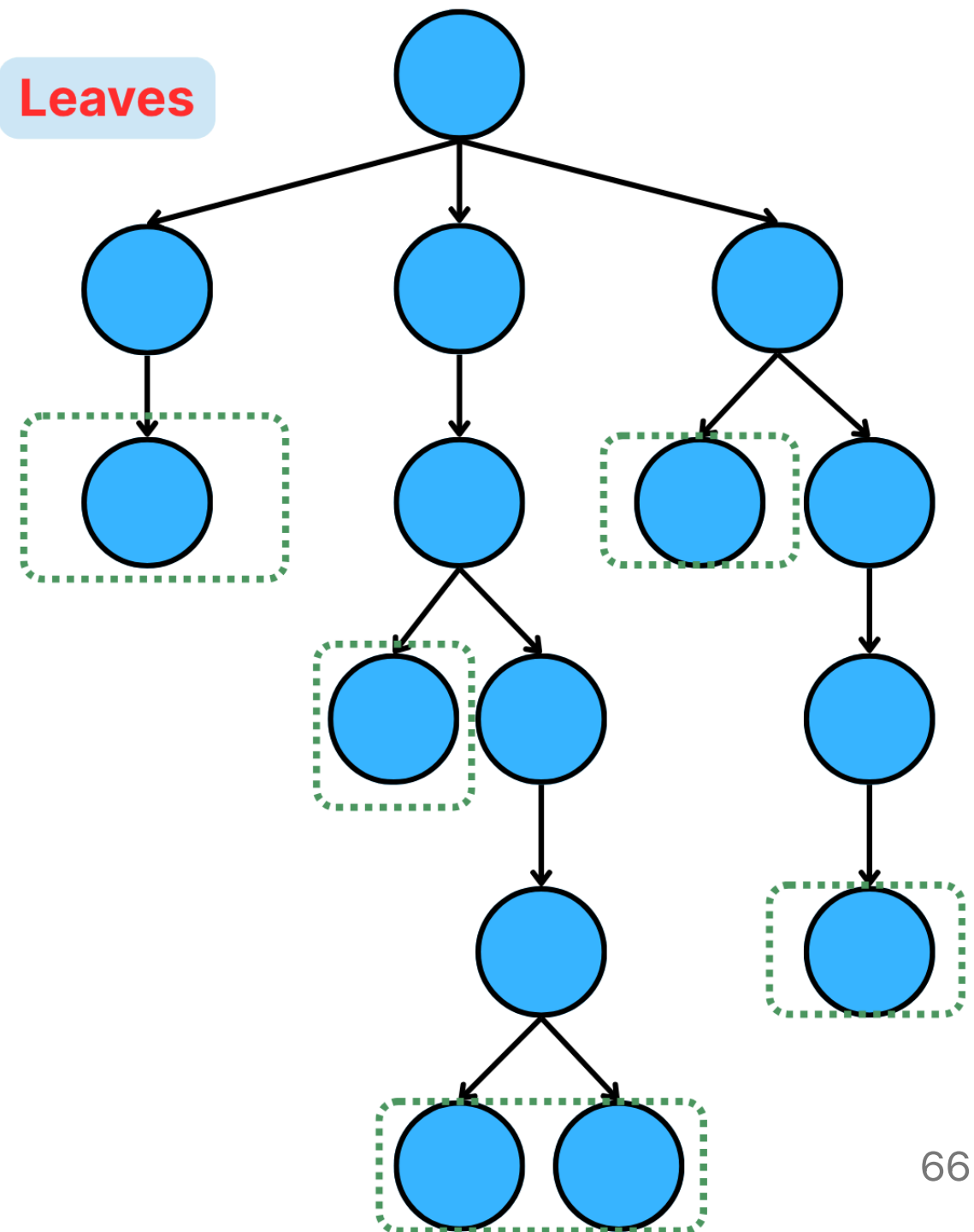
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**Subtrees:** Individual trees within tree

**Leaves**



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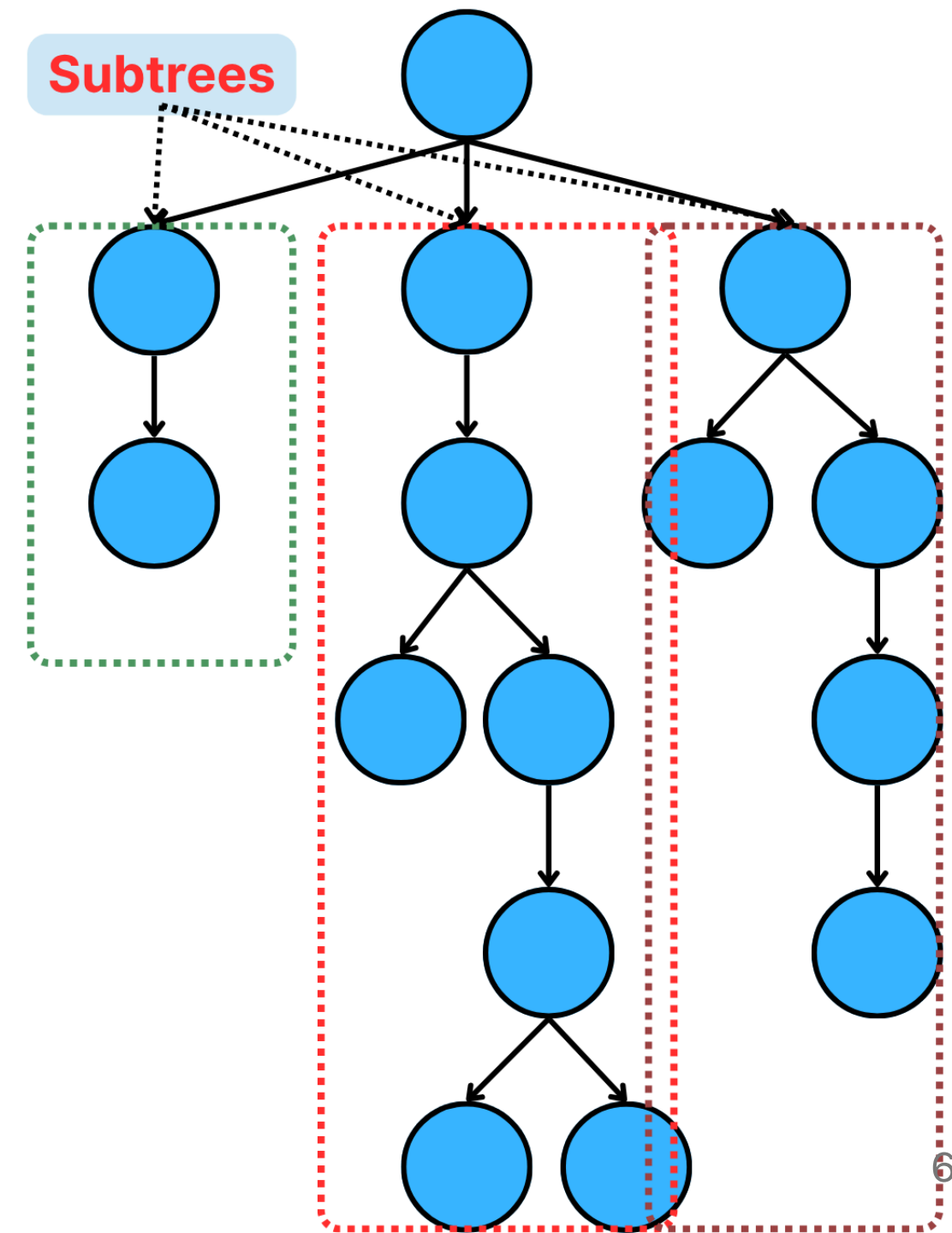
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## More Tree Terminology

**Path:** Sequence of nodes connected by edges

- There is exactly one path from root to each node

**Depth/Level of a node:** Number of edges from root to that node

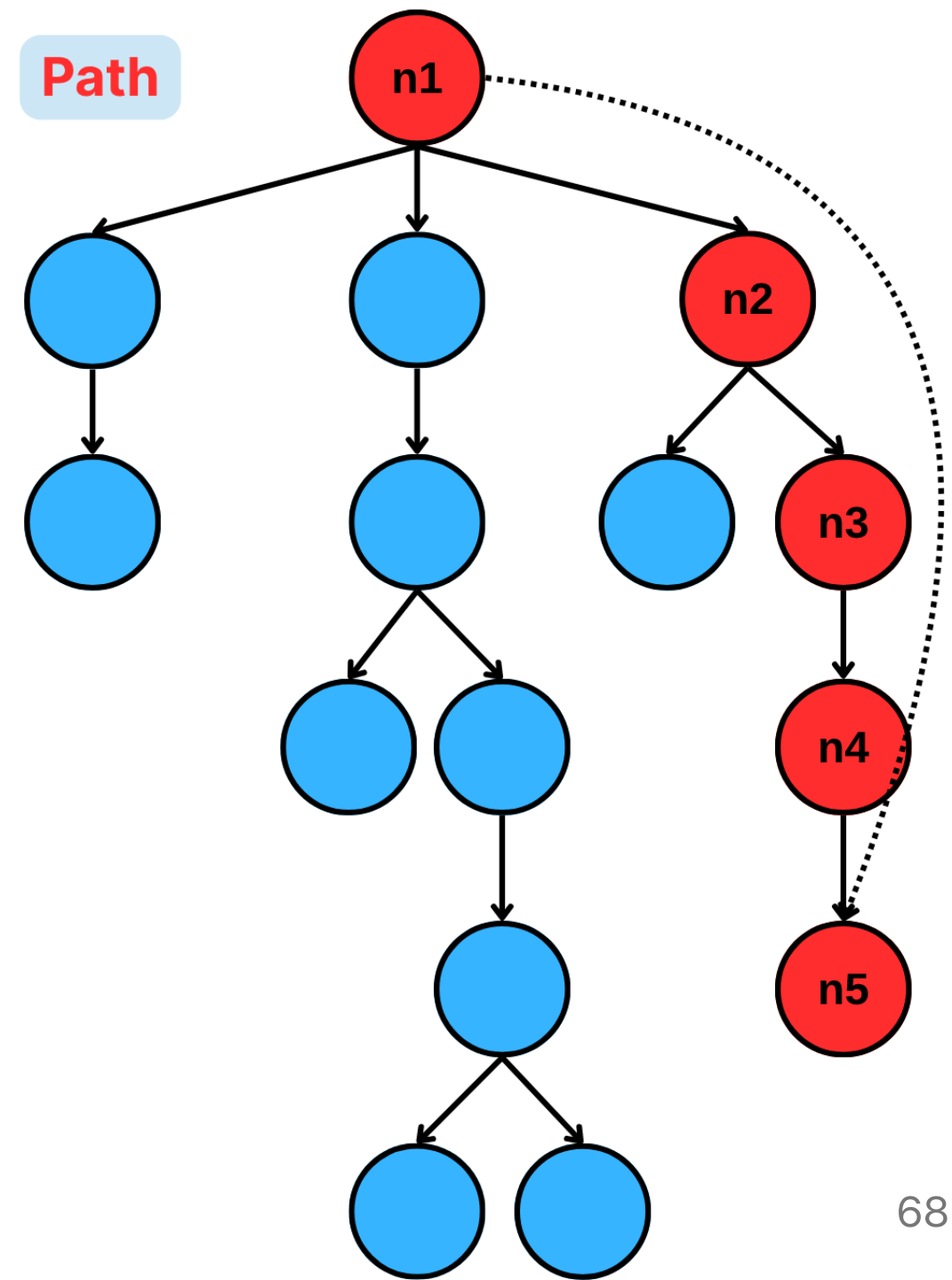
- Root has depth 0
- Root's children have depth 1

**Height of a node:** Number of edges on the longest path from that node to a leaf

- Leaf has height 0

**Height of a tree:** Height of the root node

**Degree of a node:** Number of children it has



## More Tree Terminology

**Path:** Sequence of nodes connected by edges

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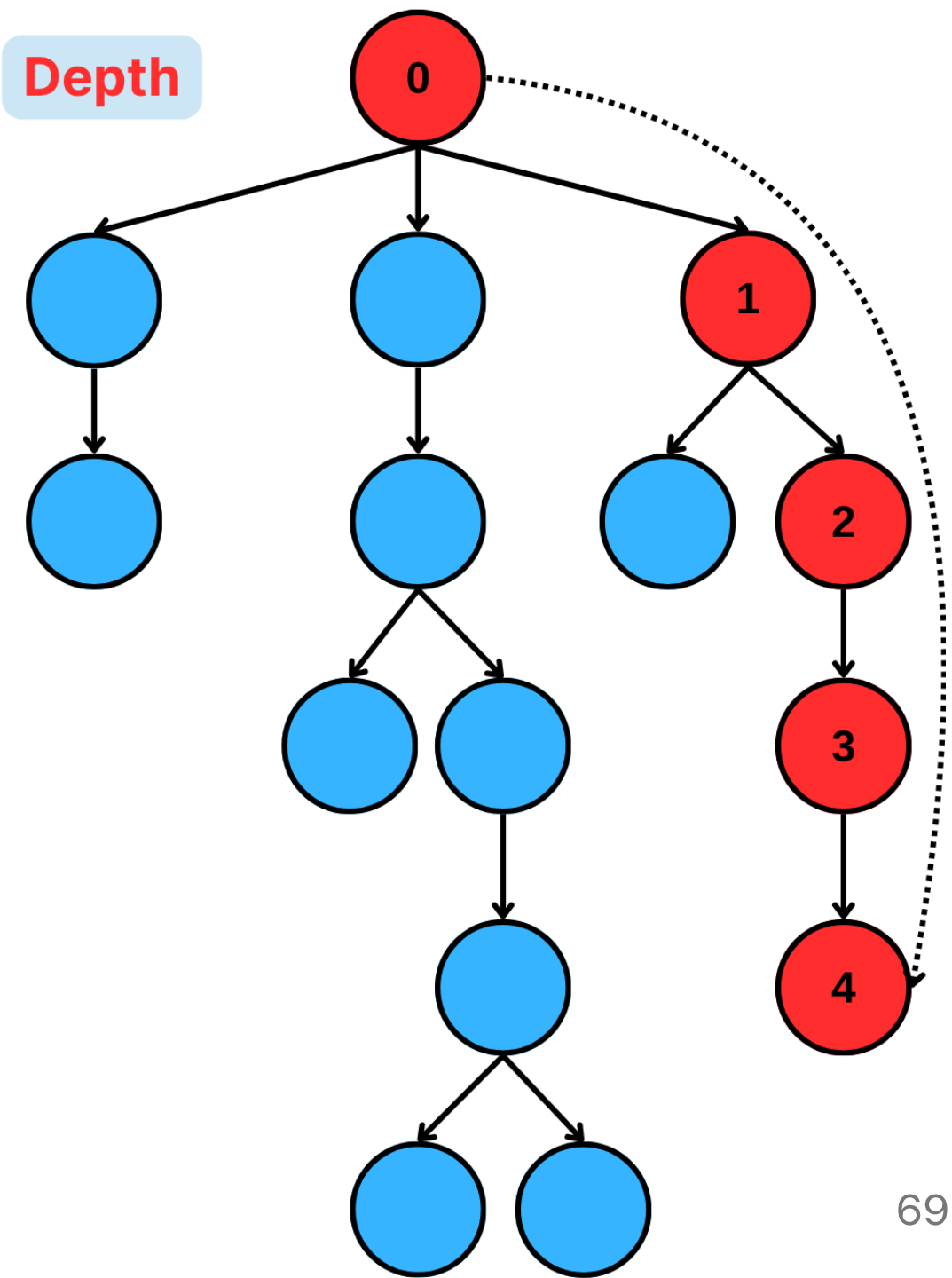
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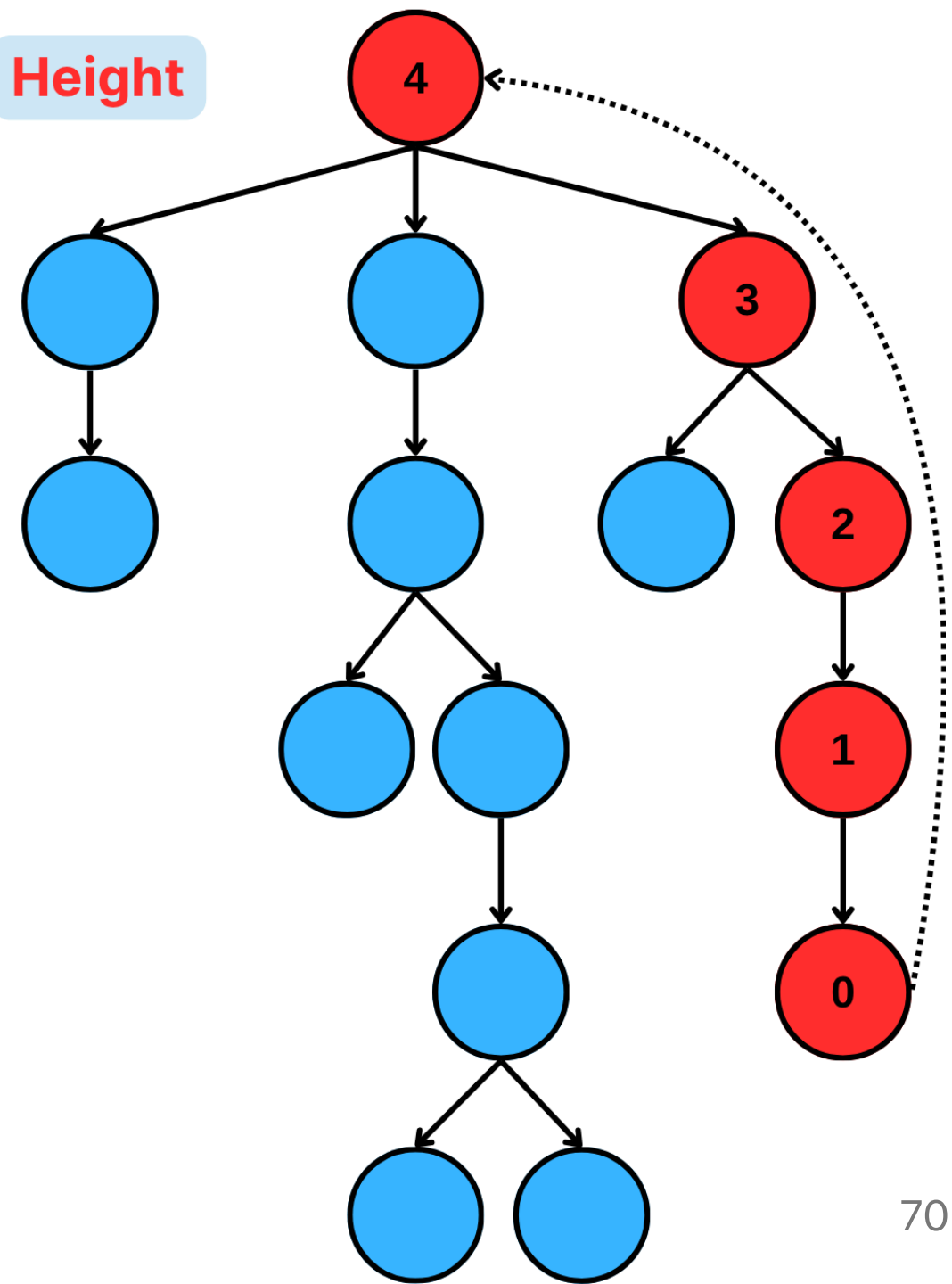
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**Height**



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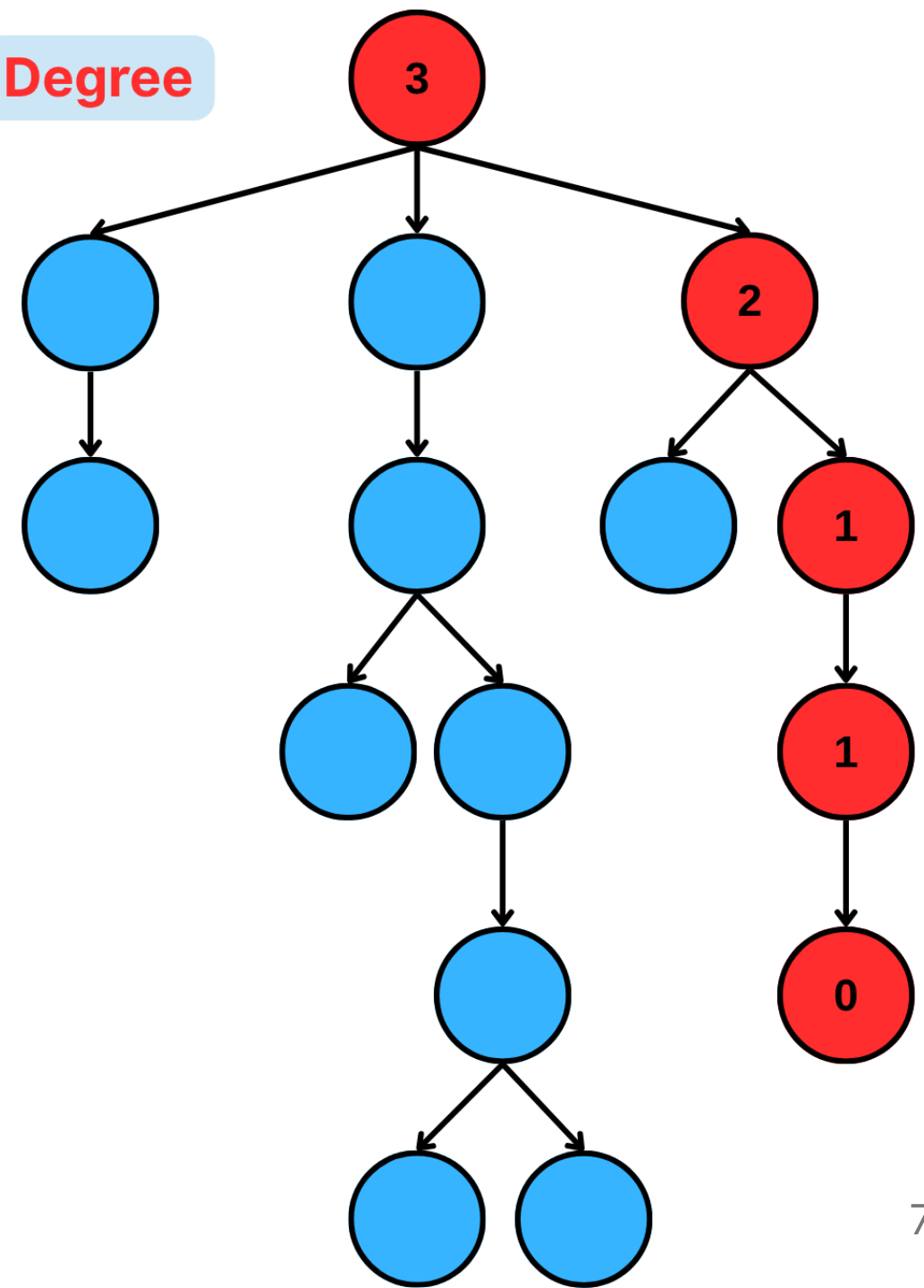
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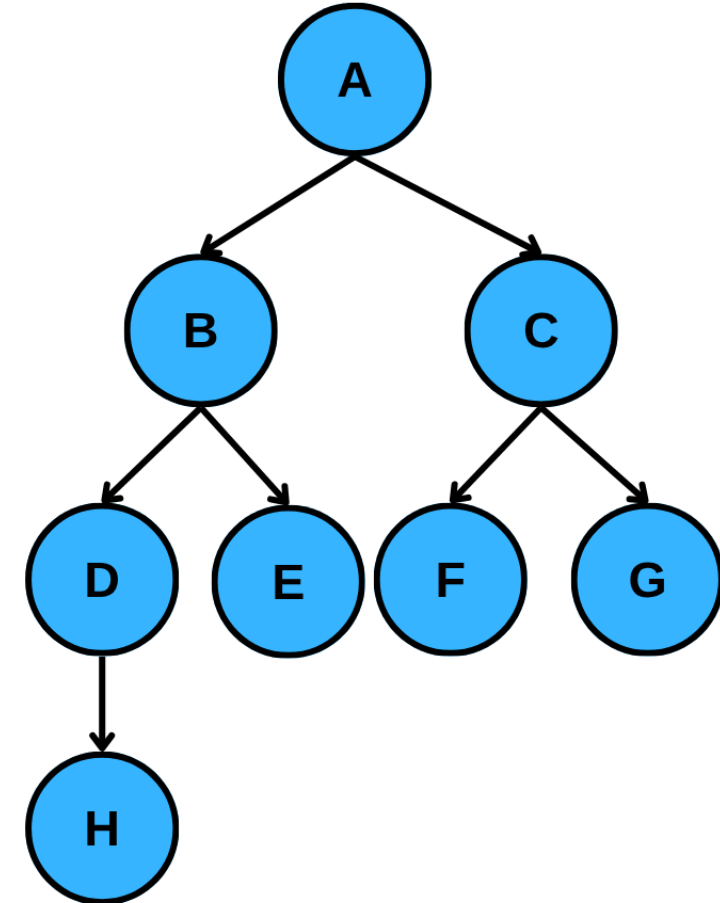
**Degree**



## Tree Terminology - Practice

Identify:

- Root:
- Leaves:
- Internal nodes:
- Parent of D:
- Children of C:
- Siblings of B:
- Degree of B:
- Depth of D:
- Height of B:
- Height of tree:

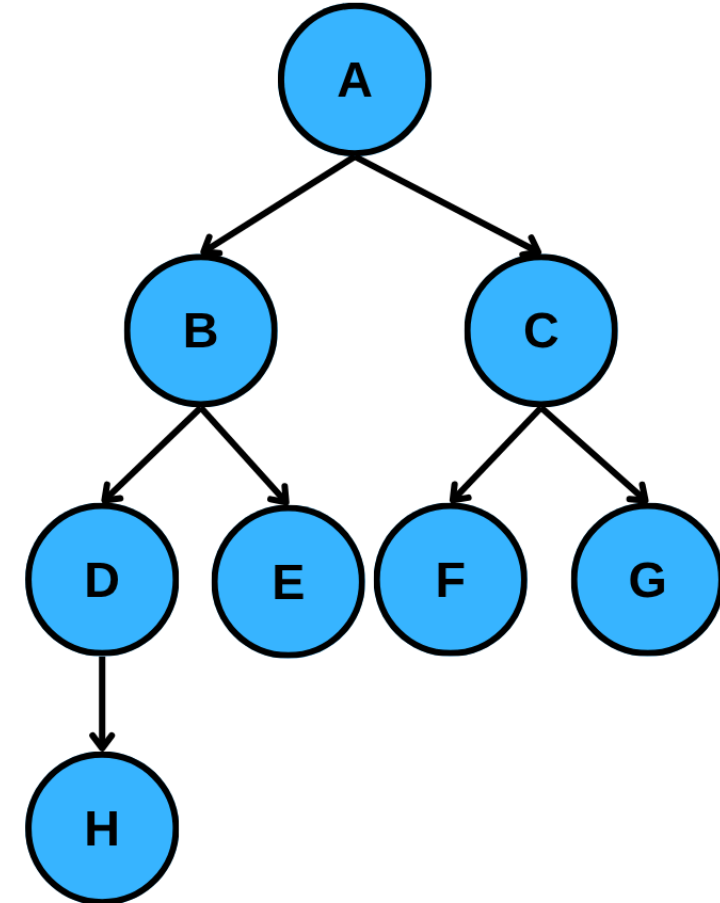




## Tree Terminology - Answer

### Identify:

- Root: A
- Leaves: E, F, G, H
- Internal nodes: A, B, C, D
- Parent of D: B
- Children of C: F, G
- Siblings of B: C
- Degree of B: 2
- Depth of D: 2
- Height of B: 2
- Height of tree: 3



# Tree Properties

## Important Properties

### 1. Number of Edges

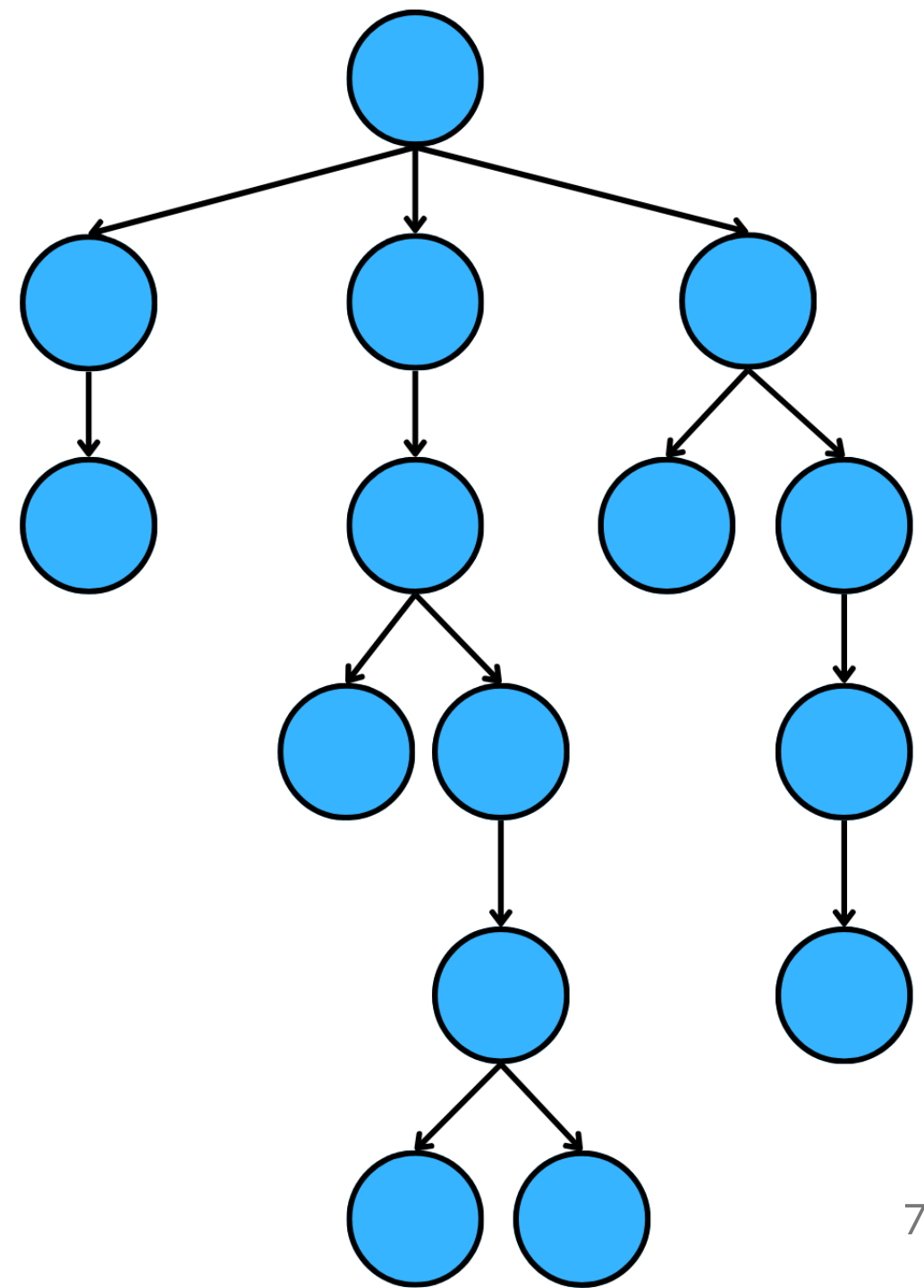
- A tree with  $n$  nodes has exactly  $n-1$  edges
- Example: 10 nodes  $\rightarrow$  9 edges

### 2. Maximum Nodes at Level

- Maximum nodes at level  $i = 2^i$
- Level 0: 1 node (root)
- Level 1: 2 nodes
- Level 2: 4 nodes
- Level 3: 8 nodes

### 3. Path Uniqueness

- Between any two nodes, there is exactly **one path**



# Summary - Key Takeaways

## Part 1: Algorithm Analysis

### Big-Oh Notation:

- Describes growth rate of algorithms
- Focus on worst case, ignore constants
- Essential for comparing algorithms

### Common Complexities:

- $O(1) < O(\log n) < O(n) < O(n \log n) < O(n^2) < O(2^n) < O(n!)$

### Analysis Skills:

- Count loops and operations
- Add for sequential, multiply for nested
- Consider both time and space

# Summary - Key Takeaways

## Part 2: Trees Introduction

### Tree Fundamentals:

- Hierarchical data structure with nodes and edges
- One root, parent-child relationships, no cycles
- $n$  nodes  $\rightarrow$   $n-1$  edges

### Tree Terminology:

- Node, root, parent, child, siblings, leaf
- Path, depth/level, height
- Degree and subtrees

### Tree Properties:

- Maximum nodes at level  $i = 2^i$
- Exactly one path between any two nodes
- Foundation for advanced structures

# Thank You!

## Contact Information

- **Email:** [ekrem.cetinkaya@yildiz.edu.tr](mailto:ekrem.cetinkaya@yildiz.edu.tr)
- **Office Hours:** Tuesday 14:00-16:00 - Room F-B21
- **Book a slot before coming to the office hours:** [Booking Link](#)
- **Course Repository:** [GitHub Link](#)

## Next Class

- **Date:** 12.11.2025
- **Topic:** Trees (cont.) and Binary Search Tree
- **Reading:** Weiss Ch.4.1-4.2-4.3

### Practice Resources:

- Visualize algorithms: <https://visualgo.net>
- Big-Oh cheat sheet: <https://www.bigocheatsheet.com>