



**NANYANG  
TECHNOLOGICAL  
UNIVERSITY**

# **CE1007/CZ1007 DATA STRUCTURES**

## **Lecture 08: Binary Tree Traversal**

Dr. Owen Noel Newton Fernando

**College of Engineering**

School of Computer Science and Engineering

- Tree traversal order
  - Pre-order
  - In-order
  - Post-order
- Application examples
  - Count nodes in a binary tree
  - Find grandchild nodes
  - Calculate height of every node
- Level-by-level traversal
- Preorder traversal with a stack

- **Tree traversal order**

- **Pre-order**
- **In-order**
- **Post-order**

- Application examples
  - Count nodes in a binary tree
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- Preorder traversal with a stack

# ARRAY & LINKED LIST TRAVERSAL

Arr[i]

[0]	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]
1	2	3	4	5	6

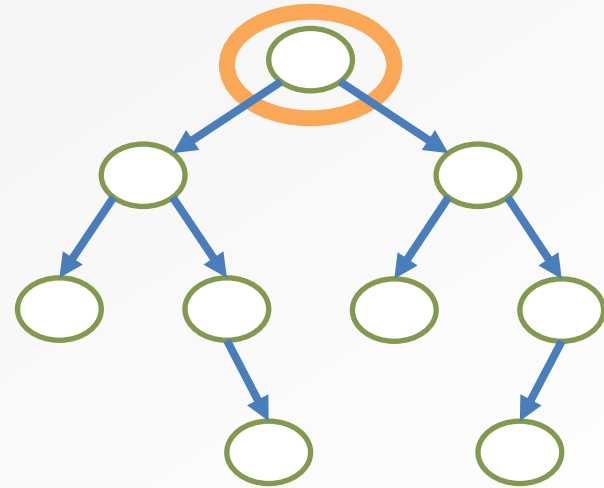
$i = i + 1;$



$cur = cur \rightarrow next ;$

# TREE TRAVERSAL

- Tree traversal:
  - Visiting every node in some systematic manner
  - Procedure should be clearly-defined and repeatable
  - Should not have repeated paths or repeated visits to nodes



## RECURSION

## RECURSION

Here we go again

# RECURSION

Here we go again

# RECURSION

Here we go again

# RECURSION

Here we go again

People often joke that  
in order to understand  
recursion, you must  
first understand  
recursion.

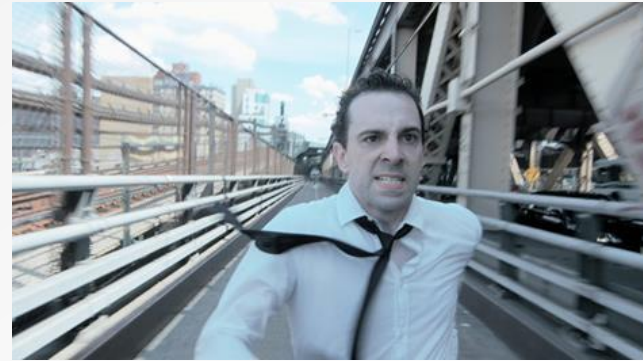
- *John D. Cook*



# A RECURSION MOVIE

["RECURSION", Short Film by Sam Buntrock \(US\)](#)

<http://www.recursionshortfilm.com/about.php>

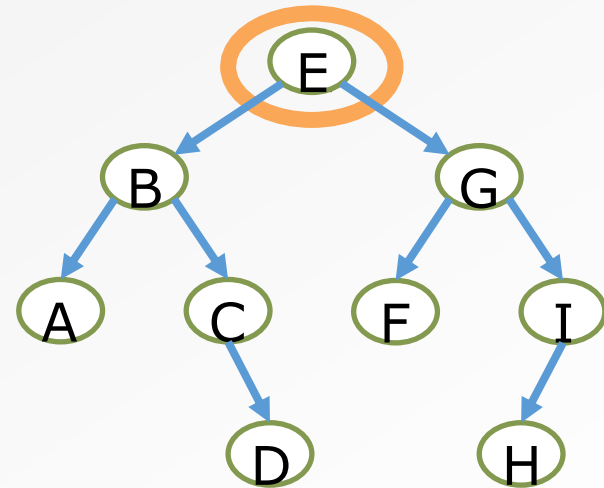


**'Recursion'** is the modern-day time-travel adventure of Sherwin, a best man who travels back in time after losing a wedding ring.



# THREE "STANDARD" WAYS TO TRAVERSAL

- Pre-order
  - Process the current node's data
  - Visit the left child subtree
  - Visit the right child subtree
- In-order
- Post-order



# THREE "STANDARD" WAYS TO TRAVERSAL

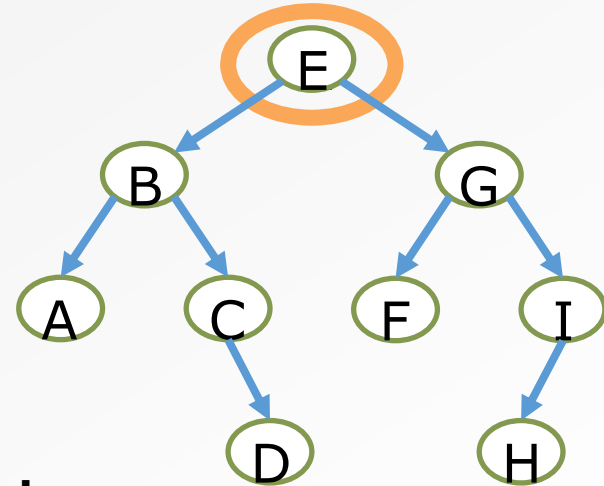
- Pre-order

- Process the current node's data
- Visit the left child subtree
- Visit the right child subtree

- **In-order**

- **Visit the left child subtree**
- **Process the current node's data**
- **Visit the right child subtree**

- Post-order



# THREE "STANDARD" WAYS TO TRAVERSAL

- Pre-order

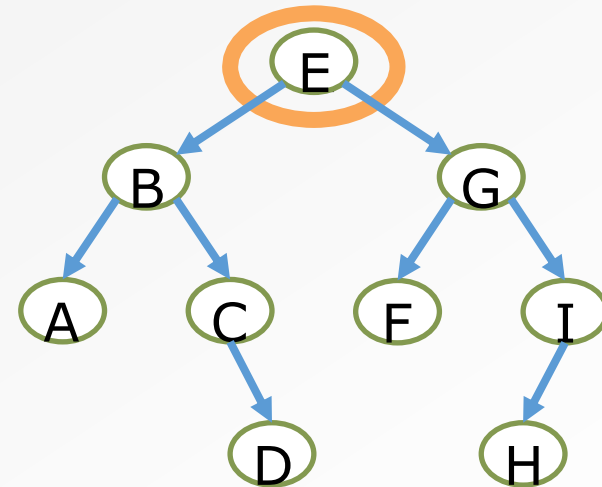
- Process the current node's data
- Visit the left child subtree
- Visit the right child subtree

- In-order

- Visit the left child subtree
- Process the current node's data
- Visit the right child subtree

- **Post-order**

- **Visit the left child subtree**
- **Visit the right child subtree**
- **Process the current node's data**



# TREE TRAVERSAL - PRINT

- Recall the TreeTraversal() template (TT) – **Pre-order** :
  - Simple task at each node: print out data in that node

```
void TreeTraversal(BTNode *cur){  
    if (cur == NULL)  
        return;  
  
    // Do something with the current node's data  
  
    TreeTraversal(cur->left); //Visit the left child node  
    TreeTraversal(cur->right); //Visit the right child node  
}
```

# TREE TRAVERSAL - PRINT

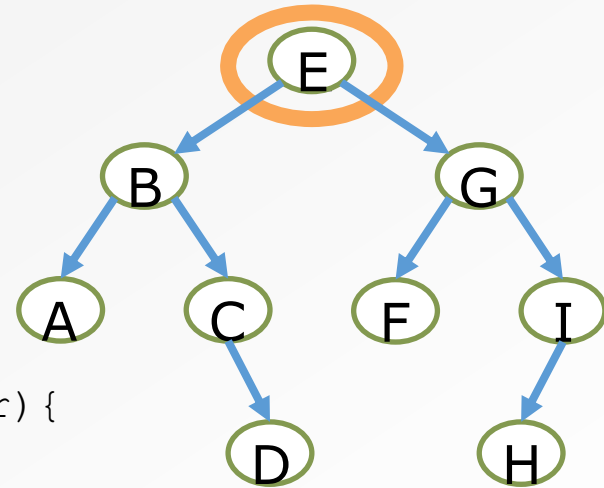
- Recall the TreeTraversal() template (TT) – **Pre-order** :
  - Simple task at each node: print out data in that node

```
void TreeTraversal(BTNode *cur){  
    if (cur == NULL)  
        return;  
  
    printf("%c", cur->item);  
  
    TreeTraversal(cur->left); //Visit the left child node  
    TreeTraversal(cur->right); //Visit the right child node  
}
```

# TREE TRAVERSAL PRE-ORDER: PRINT

Output:

E B A C D G F I H

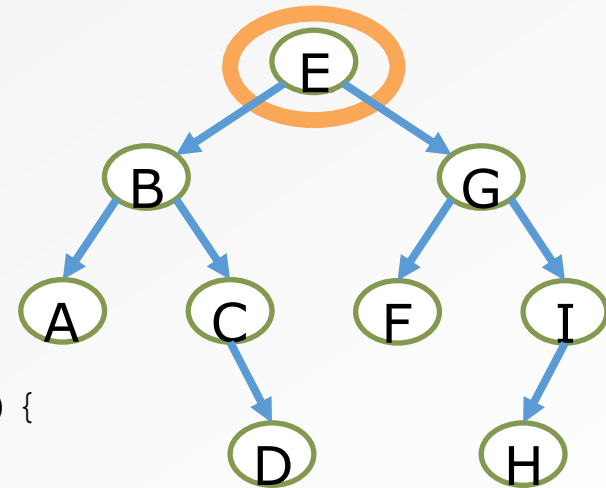


```
void TreeTraversal_pre(BTNode *cur){  
    if (cur == NULL)  
        return;  
  
    printf("%c  ", cur->item);  
  
    TreeTraversal_pre(cur->left); //Visit the left child node  
    TreeTraversal_pre(cur->right); //Visit the right child node  
}
```

# TREE TRAVERSAL IN-ORDER: PRINT

Output:

A B C D E F G H I

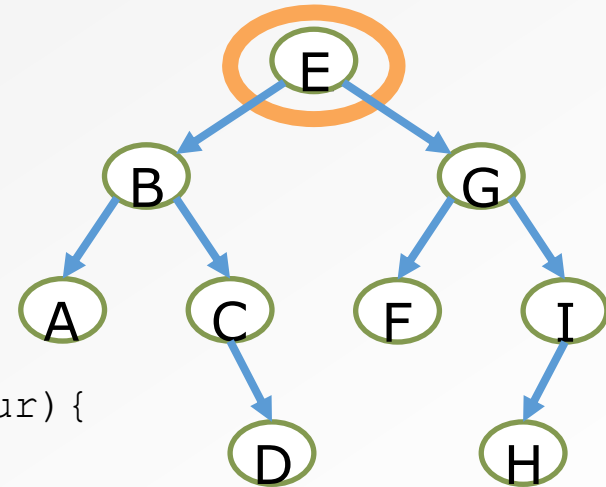


```
void TreeTraversal_in(BTNode *cur){  
    if (cur == NULL)  
        return;  
  
    TreeTraversal_in(cur->left); //Visit the left child node  
    printf("%c  ", cur->item);  
    TreeTraversal_in(cur->right); //Visit the right child node  
}
```

# TREE TRAVERSAL POST-ORDER: PRINT

Output:

A D C B F H I G E



```
void TreeTraversal_post(BTNode *cur) {  
    if (cur == NULL)  
        return;  
  
    TreeTraversal_post(cur->left); //Visit the left child node  
    TreeTraversal_post(cur->right); //Visit the right child node  
    printf("%c  ", cur->item);  
}
```



# PRE-ORDER, IN-ORDER AND POST-ORDER

Pre-Order Traversal

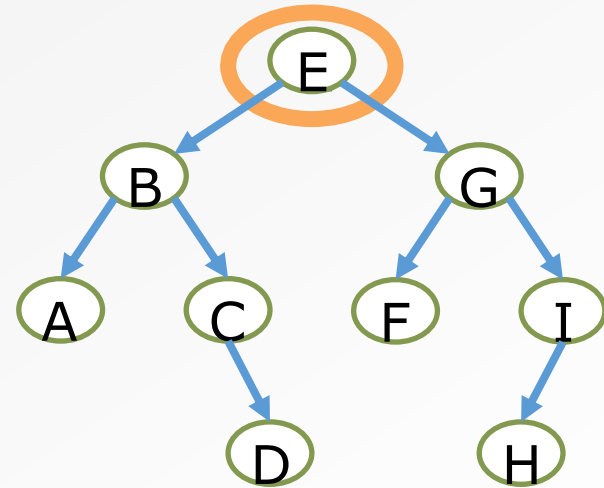
E B A C D G F I H

In-Order Traversal

A B C D E F G H I

Post-Order Traversal

A D C B F H I G E



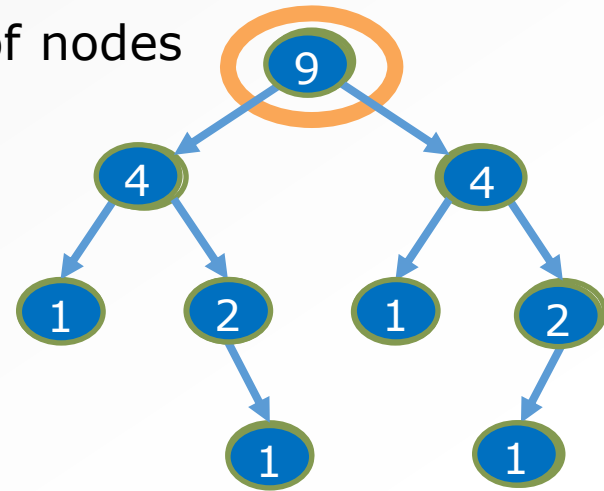
Once we know how to traverse a Binary Tree,

we can do more based on this ...

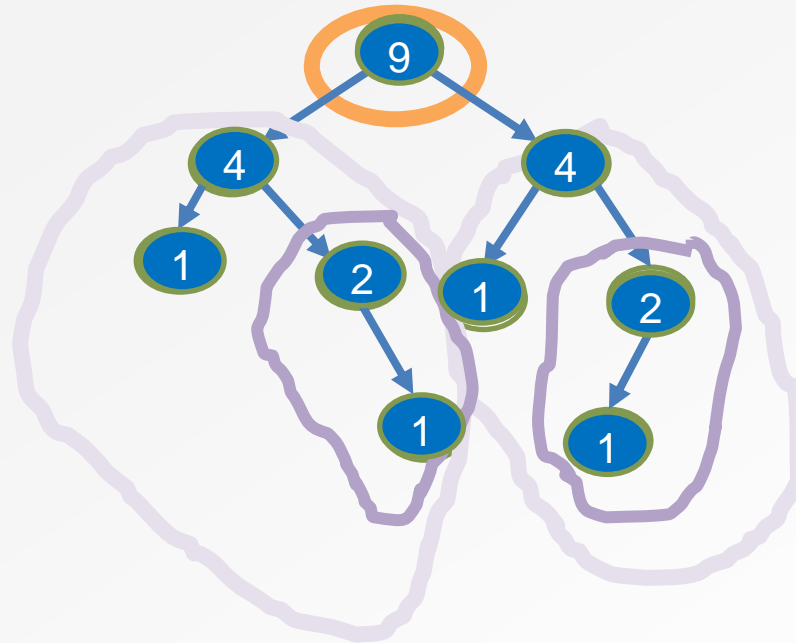
- Tree traversal order
  - Pre-order
  - In-order
  - Post-order
- Application examples
  - **Count nodes in a binary tree**
    - Find grandchild nodes
    - Calculate height of every node
- Level-by-level traversal
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# COUNT NODES IN A BINARY TREE

- Recursive definition:
  - Number of nodes in a tree  
= 1  
+ number of nodes in left subtree  
+ number of nodes in right subtree
- Each node returns the number of nodes in its subtree



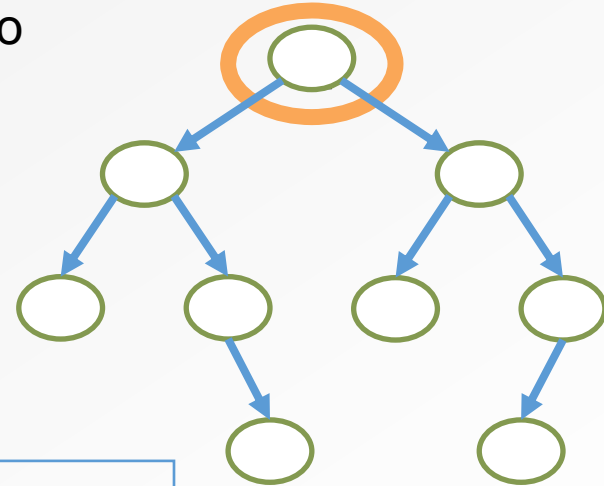
# COUNT NODES IN A BINARY TREE



- Each node returns the number of nodes in its own subtree
- Leaf nodes return 1  
Information **propagates upwards** as TreeTraversal returns from visiting leaf nodes
- Which is the first/last count to be returned?

## countNode()

- Return the size of your subtree to your parent node
- Leaf nodes must return 1 to parent node
- Root node returns size of entire tree

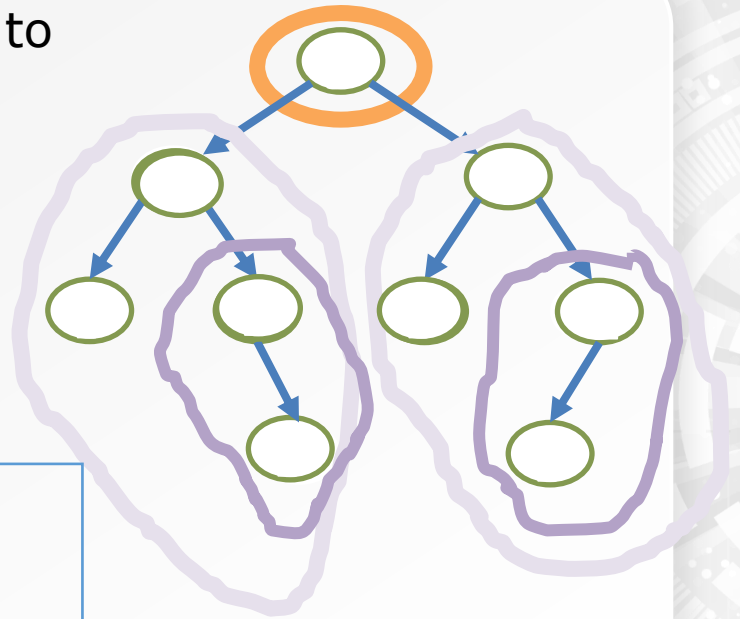


```
void TreeTraversal(BTNode *cur){  
    if (cur == NULL)  
        return;  
    //may do something with cur;  
    TreeTraversal(cur->left);  
    TreeTraversal(cur->right);  
    //may do something with cur;  
}
```

# countNode()

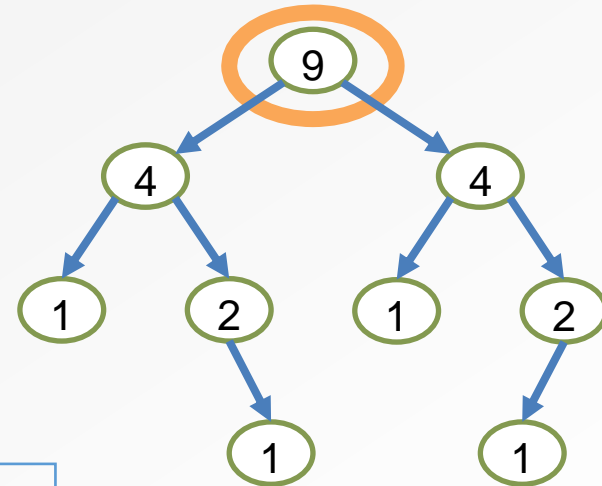
- Return the size of your subtree to your parent node
- Leaf nodes must return 1 to parent node
- Root node returns size of entire tree

```
int countNode(BTNode *cur) {  
    if (cur == NULL)  
        return ???;  
  
    countNode(cur->left);  
    countNode(cur->right);  
    ??? //sum and get total;  
}
```



# countNode()

- Leaf nodes must return 1
  - "Null" nodes should return 0
- Leaf node returns  $1 + 0 + 0$

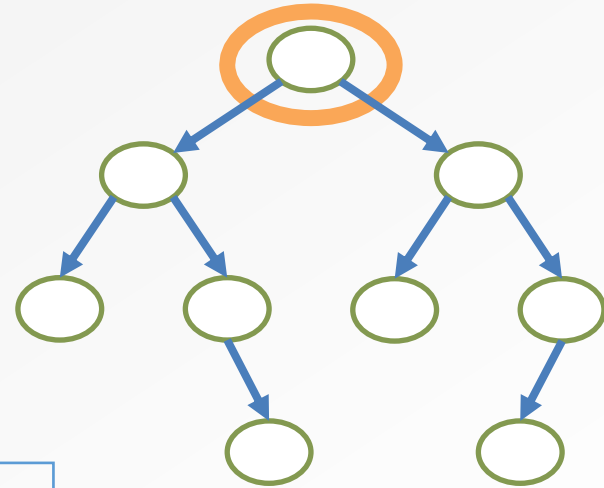


```
int countNode(BTNode *cur) {  
    if (cur == NULL)  
        return 0;  
  
    l = countNode(cur->left);  
    r = countNode(cur->right);  
    return l+r+1;  
}
```



# countNode()

- Leaf nodes must return 1
  - "Null" nodes should return 0
- Leaf node returns  $1 + 0 + 0$

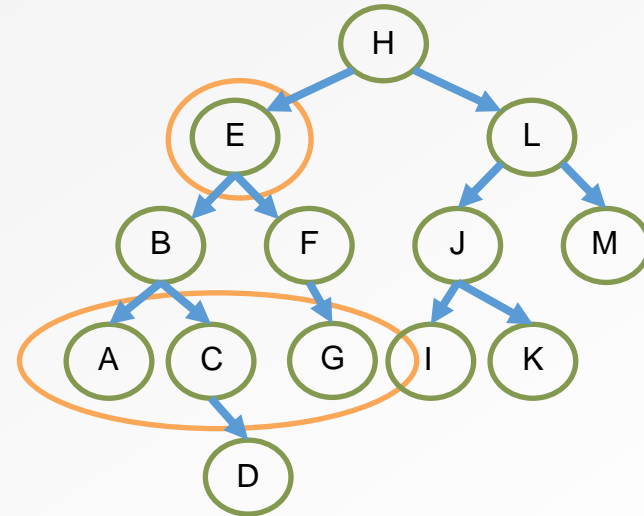


```
int countNode(BTNode *cur) {  
    if (cur == NULL)  
        return 0;  
  
    return (countNode(cur->left)  
        + countNode(cur->right)  
        + 1);  
}
```

- Tree traversal order
  - Pre-order
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# FIND GRANDCHILDREN

- Given a node X, find all the nodes that are X's grandchildren
- Given node E, we should return grandchild nodes A, C, and G
- What if we want to find **k-level grandchildren**?
  - **Need a way to keep track of how many levels down we've gone**

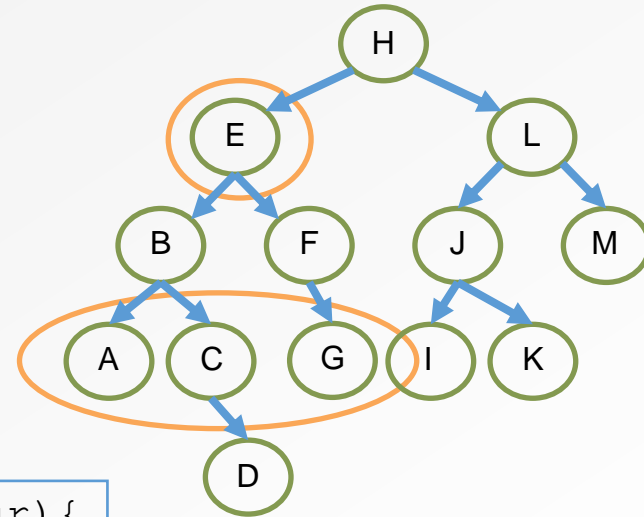


**X->left->left**  
**X->left->right**  
**X->right->left**  
**X->right->right**

**2-level grandchildren**

# FIND GRANDCHILDREN

- We want to go down **k** “levels”
- Use a counter to track how far down we’ve gone
- At each TreeTraversal(child), increment counter



```
void TreeTraversal(BTNode *cur){  
    if (cur == NULL)  
        return;  
  
    // check counter  
  
    TreeTraversal(cur->left);  
    TreeTraversal(cur->right);  
}
```

Do something with the  
current node's data

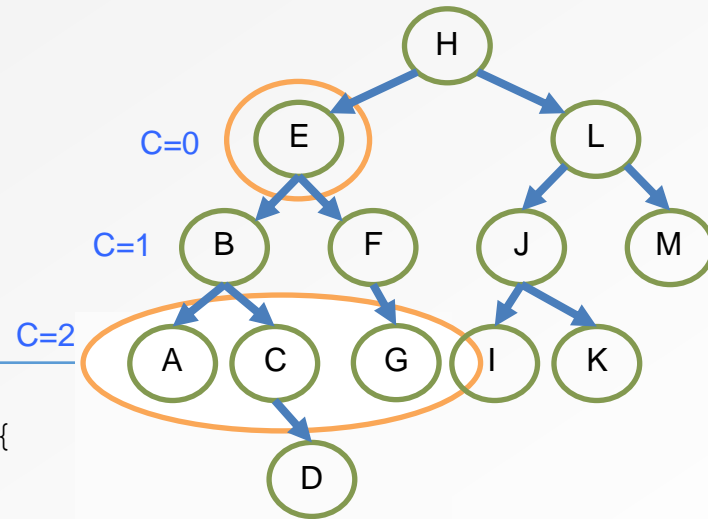
Visit the left child node

Visit the right child node

# FIND GRANDCHILDREN

```
void main( ){ ...  
    if (X = null) return;  
    findgrandchildren(X, 0);  
}
```

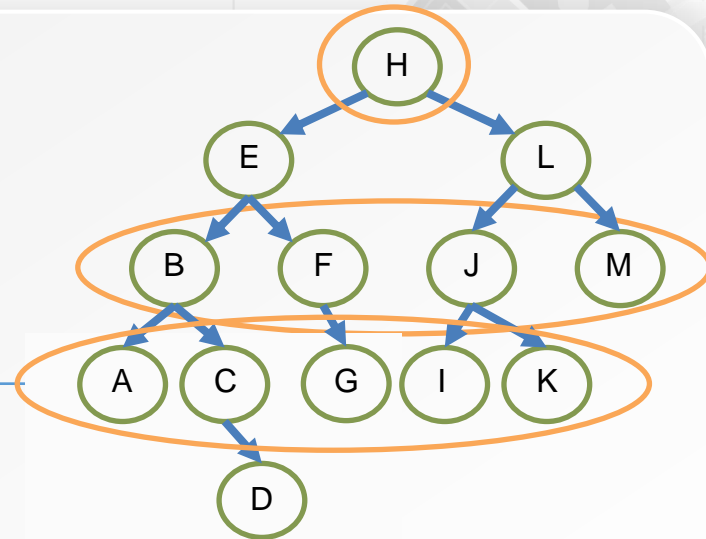
```
void findgrandchildren(  
    BTNode *cur, int c){  
    if (cur == NULL) return;  
  
    if (c == k){  
        printf("%d ", cur->item);  
        return;  
    }  
    if (c < k){  
        findgrandchildren(cur->left, c+1);  
        findgrandchildren(cur->right, c+1); }  
}
```



# FIND GRANDCHILDREN

```
void main( ){ ...  
    if (X = null) return;  
    findgrandchildren(X,0);  
}
```

```
void findgrandchildren(  
    BTNode *cur, int c){  
    if (cur == NULL) return;  
  
    if (c == k){  
        printf("%d ", cur->item);  
        return;  
    }  
    if (c < k){  
        findgrandchildren(cur->left, c+1);  
        findgrandchildren(cur->right, c+1);  
    }  
}
```



if  $k=2$ , we call  
`findgrandchildren(H,0)`,  
what is the output?  
How about  $k=3$ ?  
How about  
`findgrandchildren(H,1)`?

- Tree traversal order
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# CALCULATE HEIGHT OF EVERY NODE

- **Height** of a node = number of links from that node to the deepest leaf node

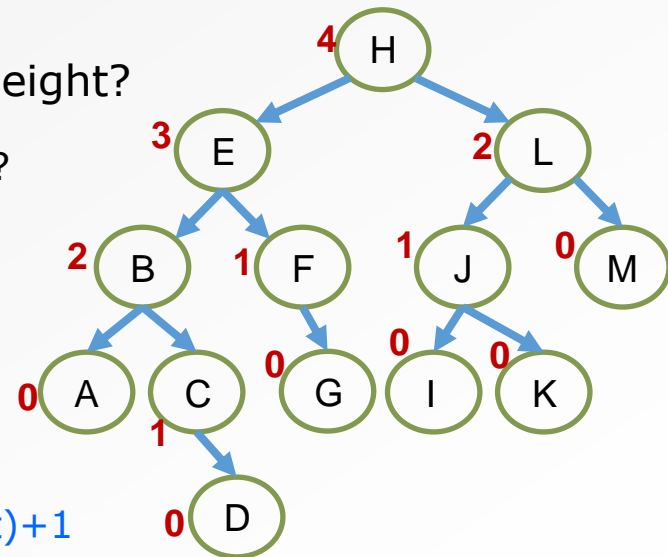
- How does each node calculate its height?

- What is the height of node D, C, H?

- We found:

- leaf.height = 0
  - Non-leaf node X

$X.\text{height} = \max(X.\text{left.height}, X.\text{right.height}) + 1$

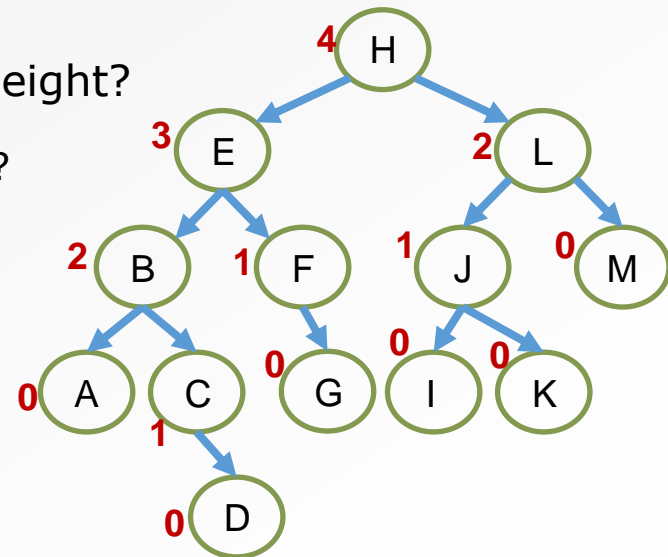


- Does information propagate upwards or downwards?



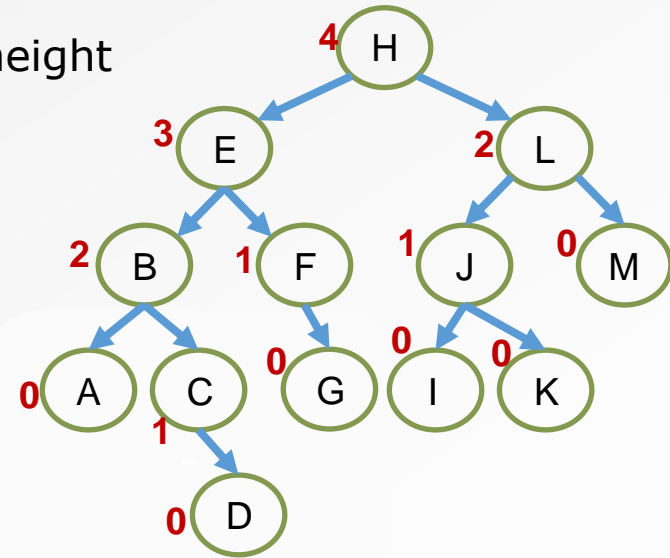
# CALCULATE HEIGHT OF EVERY NODE

- **Height** of a node = number of links from that node to the deepest leaf node
- How does each node calculate its height?
  - What is the height of node D, C, H?
- Go through entire tree:  
calculate and store height of  
each node in the item field



# CALCULATE HEIGHT OF EVERY NODE

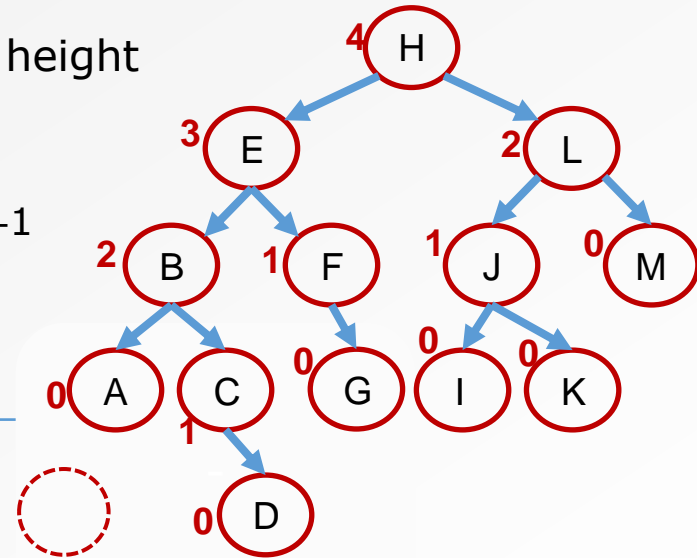
- We want each node to report its height
  - Leaf node must report 0



```
int TreeTraversal(BTNode *cur){  
    if(cur == NULL)  
        return ;  
  
    int l = TreeTraversal(cur->left);  
    int r = TreeTraversal(cur->right);  
  
    // do something here. Max( left, right)?  
  
    return ;  
}
```

# CALCULATE HEIGHT OF EVERY NODE

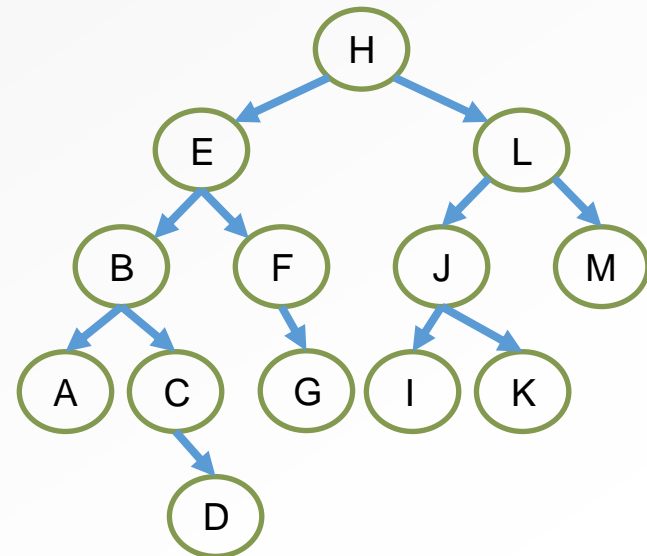
- We want each node to report its height
  - Leaf node must report 0
  - At "null" condition, must report -1



```
int TreeTraversal(BTNode *cur){  
    if(cur == NULL)  
        return -1;  
  
    int l = TreeTraversal(cur->left);  
    int r = TreeTraversal(cur->right);  
  
    int c = max (l, r) + 1;  
  
    return c;  
}
```

# QUESTIONS

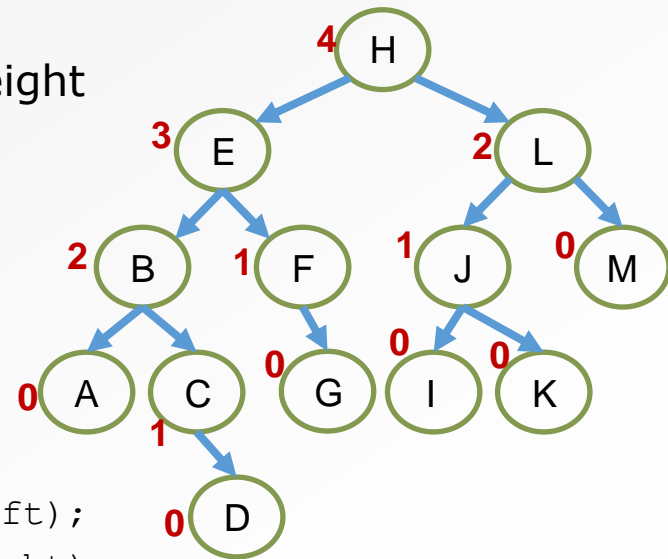
- Does the tree traversal order matter?
- **Depth** of a node = number of links from that node to the root node. How does each node calculate its depth?



# CALCULATE HEIGHT OF EVERY NODE

- **Height** of a node = number of links from that node to the deepest leaf node
- We want each node to report its height
  - Leaf node must report 0
  - At "null" condition, must report -1

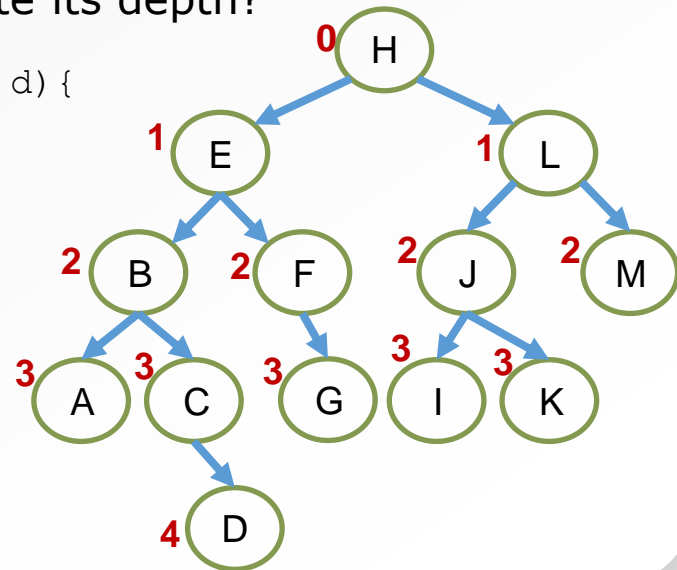
```
int TreeTraversal(BTNode *cur){  
    if(cur == NULL)  
        return -1;  
  
    int l = TreeTraversal(cur->left);  
    int r = TreeTraversal(cur->right);  
  
    int c = max (l, r) + 1;  
  
    return c;  
}
```



# QUESTIONS

- Does the tree traversal order matter?
- **Height** of a node = number of links from that node to the deepest leaf node
- **Depth** of a node = number of links from that node to the root node. How does each node calculate its depth?

```
void TreeTraversal(BTNode *cur, int d){  
    if(cur == NULL)  
        return;  
  
    //print cur->item and d;  
  
    TreeTraversal(cur->left, d+1);  
    TreeTraversal(cur->right, d+1);  
  
    return;  
}
```



- Tree traversal order
  - Pre-order
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- **Level-by-level traversal**
- Preorder traversal with a stack

# LEVEL-BY-LEVEL: BREADTH-FIRST SEARCH



Depth-first search

begins at the root and explores as far as possible along each branch before backtracking

E.g. the post-order traversal

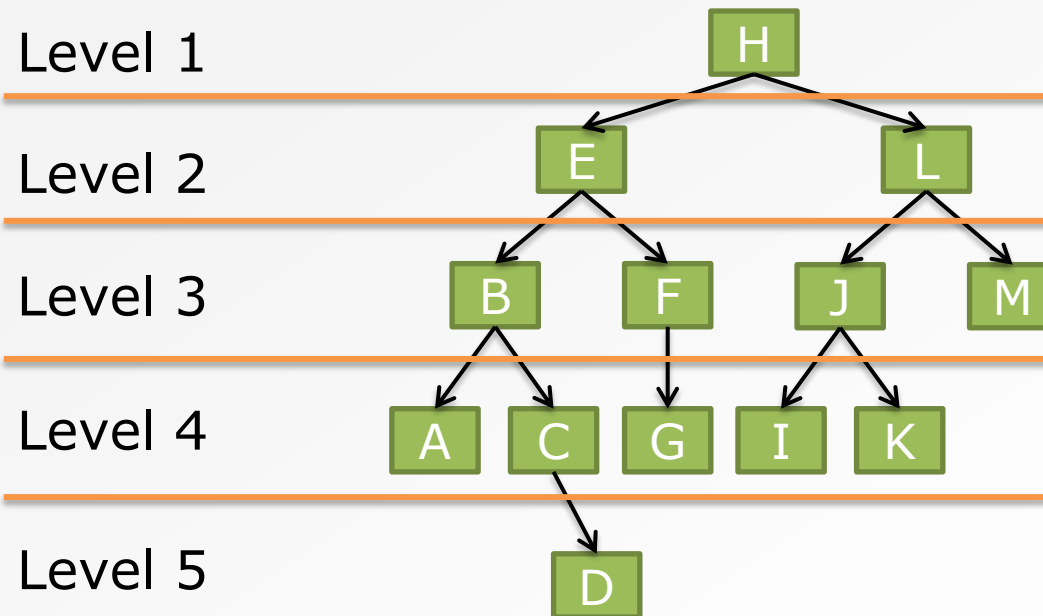


Breadth-first search

begins at a root node and inspects all its children nodes. Then for each of those children nodes in turn, it inspects their children nodes, and so on.

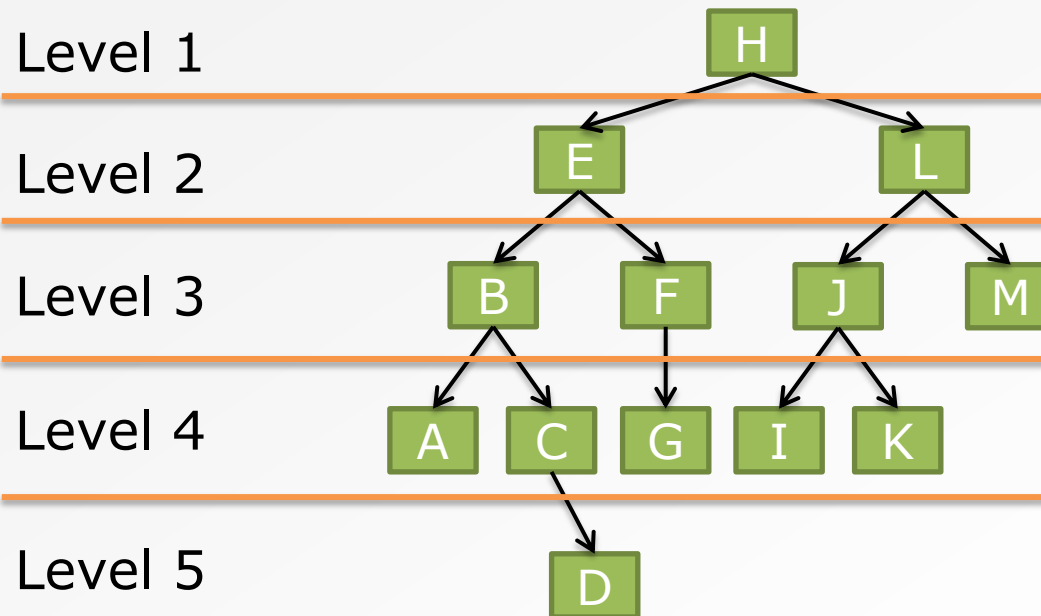


# LEVEL-BY-LEVEL TREE TRAVERSAL



# LEVEL-BY-LEVEL TREE TRAVERSAL

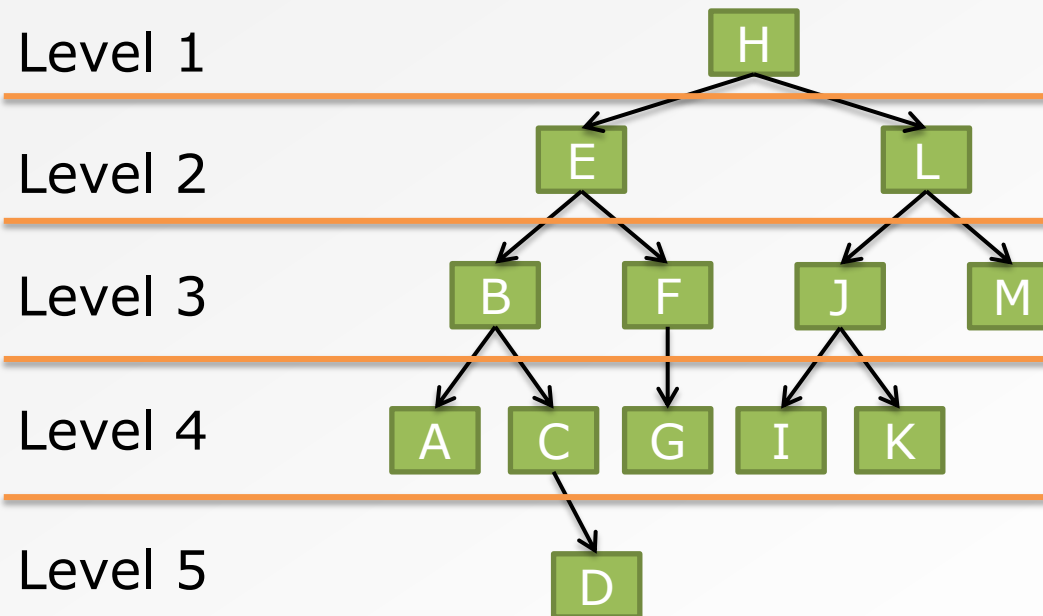
- Hint: Make use of another data structure



Nodes stored in order accessed in tree...

# LEVEL-BY-LEVEL TREE TRAVERSAL

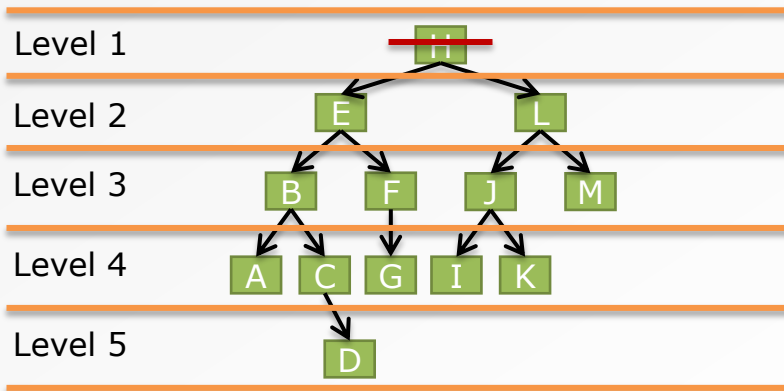
- Use a queue! Root node should be first



Nodes stored in order accessed in tree

# LEVEL-BY-LEVEL TREE TRAVERSAL

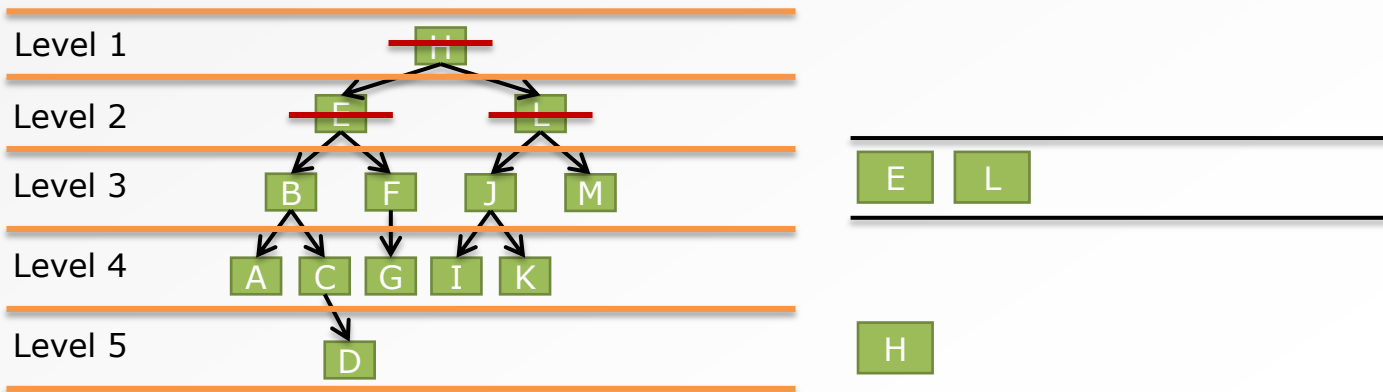
- Enqueue the root, H



H

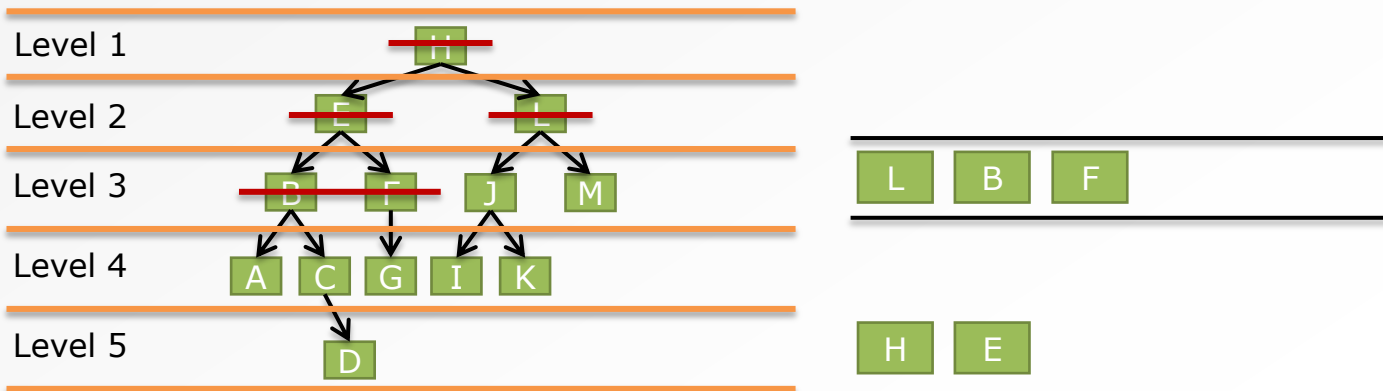
# LEVEL-BY-LEVEL TREE TRAVERSAL

- Enqueue the root, H
- Dequeue H, and enqueue H's children



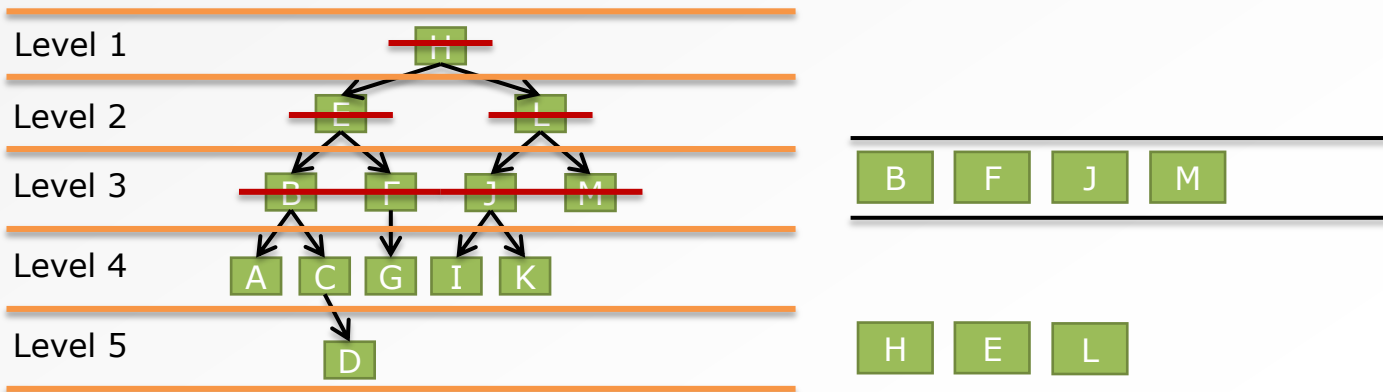
# LEVEL-BY-LEVEL TREE TRAVERSAL

- Enqueue the root, H
- Dequeue H, and enqueue H's children
- Dequeue E, and enqueue E's children



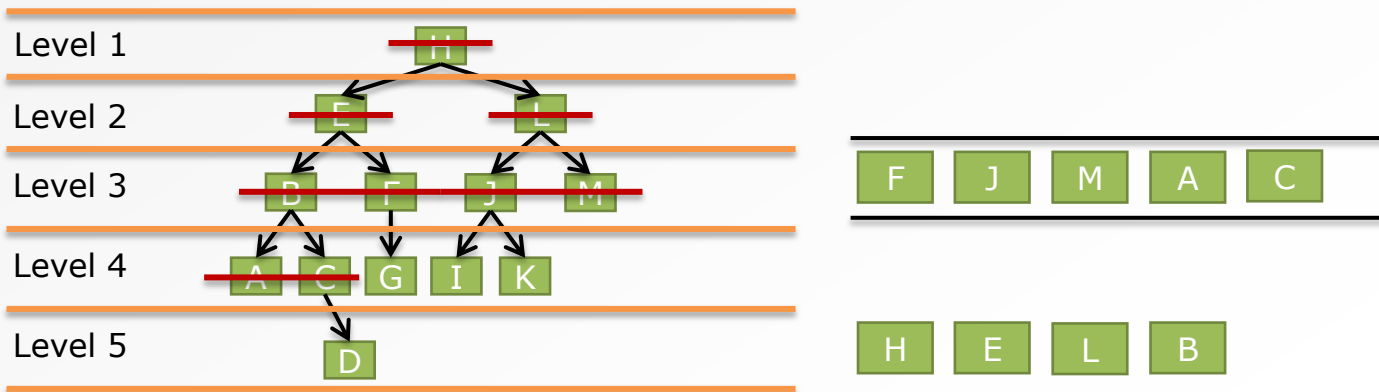
# LEVEL-BY-LEVEL TREE TRAVERSAL

- Enqueue the root, H
- Dequeue H, and enqueue H's children
- Dequeue E, and enqueue E's children
- Dequeue L, and enqueue L's children



# LEVEL-BY-LEVEL TREE TRAVERSAL

- Enqueue the root, H
- Dequeue H, and enqueue H's children
- Dequeue E, and enqueue E's children
- Dequeue L, and enqueue L's children
- Dequeue B, and enqueue B's children





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- **Preorder traversal with a stack**

# PREORDER TRAVERSAL WITH A STACK

Push the root onto the stack.

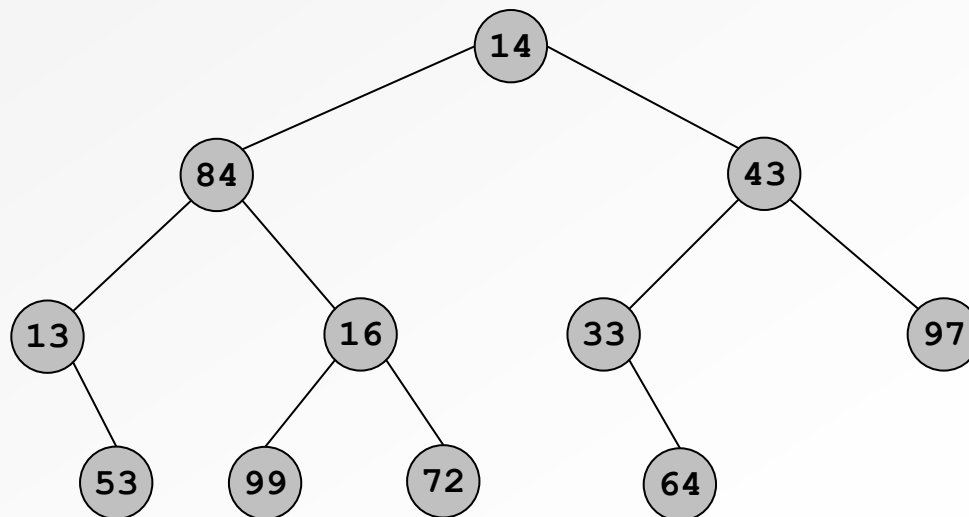
While the stack is not empty

- pop the stack and visit it
- push its two children



14

Stack



# PREORDER TRAVERSAL WITH A STACK

Push the root onto the stack.

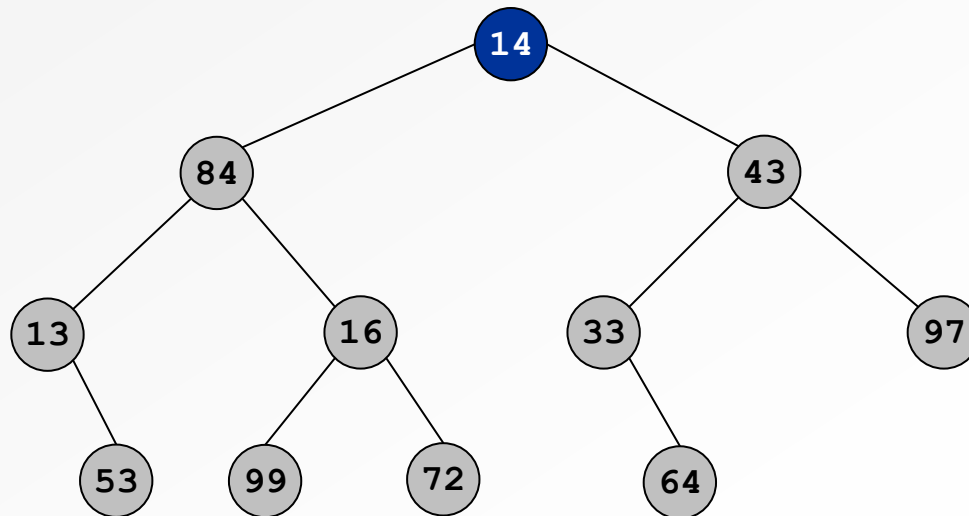
While the stack is not empty

- pop the stack and visit it
- push its two children

14

84  
43

Stack



# PREORDER TRAVERSAL WITH A STACK

Push the root onto the stack.

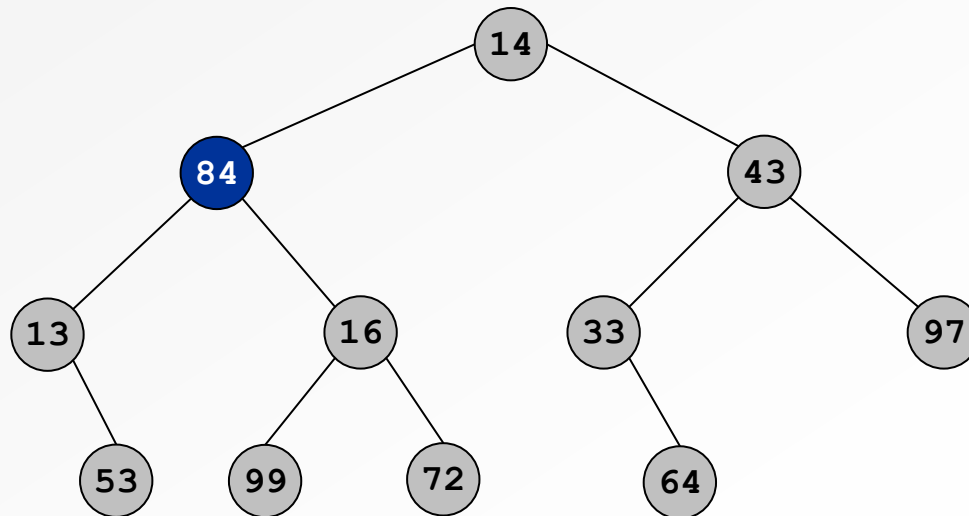
While the stack is not empty

- pop the stack and visit it
- push its two children

14 84

13  
16  
43

Stack



# PREORDER TRAVERSAL WITH A STACK

Push the root onto the stack.

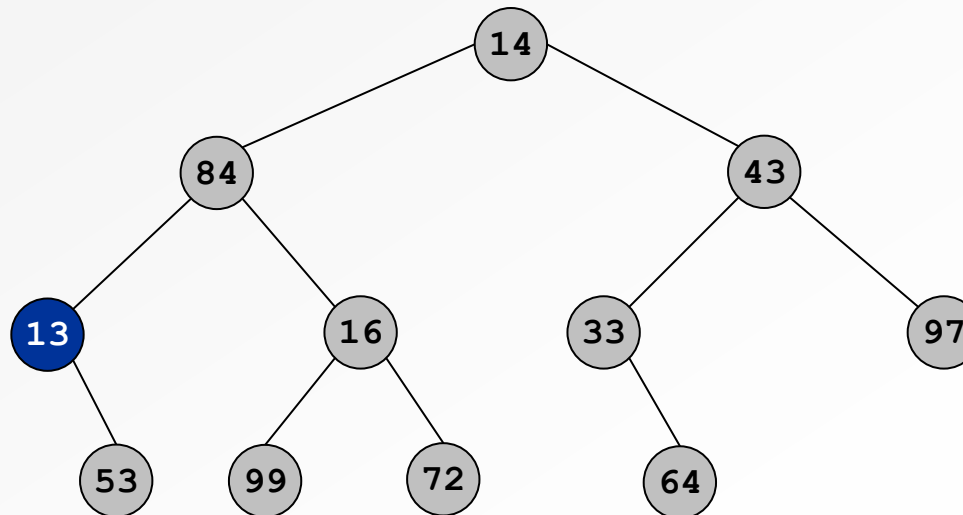
While the stack is not empty

- pop the stack and visit it
- push its two children

14 84 13

53  
16  
43

Stack



# PREORDER TRAVERSAL WITH A STACK

Push the root onto the stack.

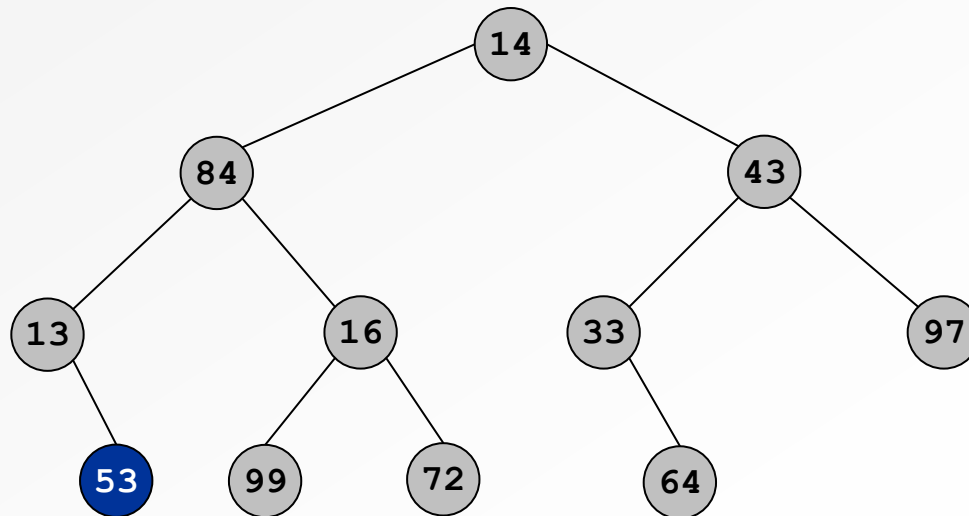
While the stack is not empty

- pop the stack and visit it
- push its two children

14 84 13 53

16  
43

Stack



# PREORDER TRAVERSAL WITH A STACK

Push the root onto the stack.

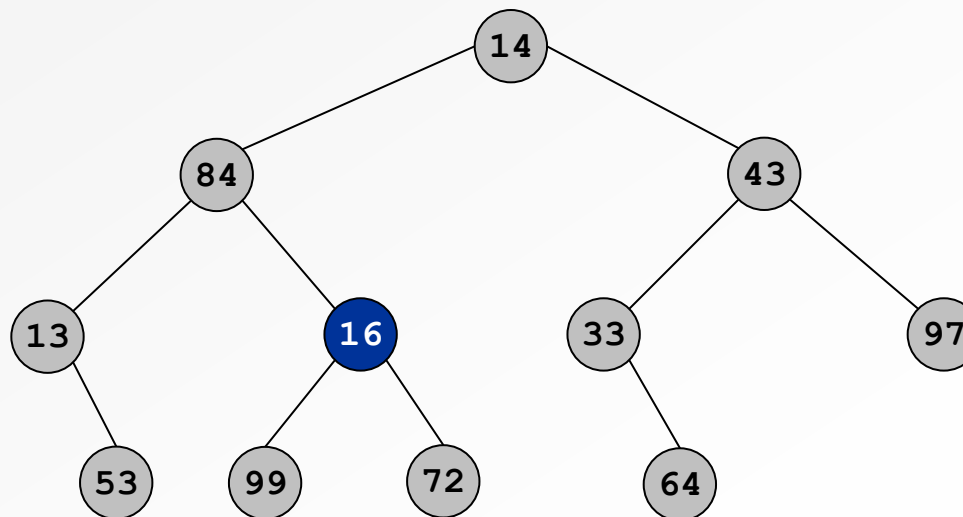
While the stack is not empty

- pop the stack and visit it
- push its two children

14 84 13 53 16

99  
72  
43

Stack



# PREORDER TRAVERSAL WITH A STACK

Push the root onto the stack.

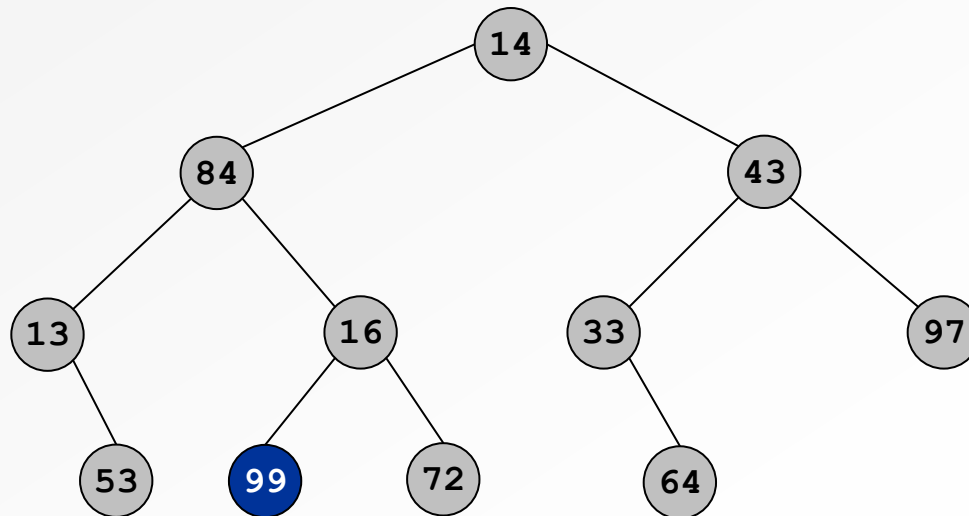
While the stack is not empty

- pop the stack and visit it
- push its two children

14 84 13 53 16 99

72  
43

Stack





# PREORDER TRAVERSAL WITH A STACK

Push the root onto the stack.

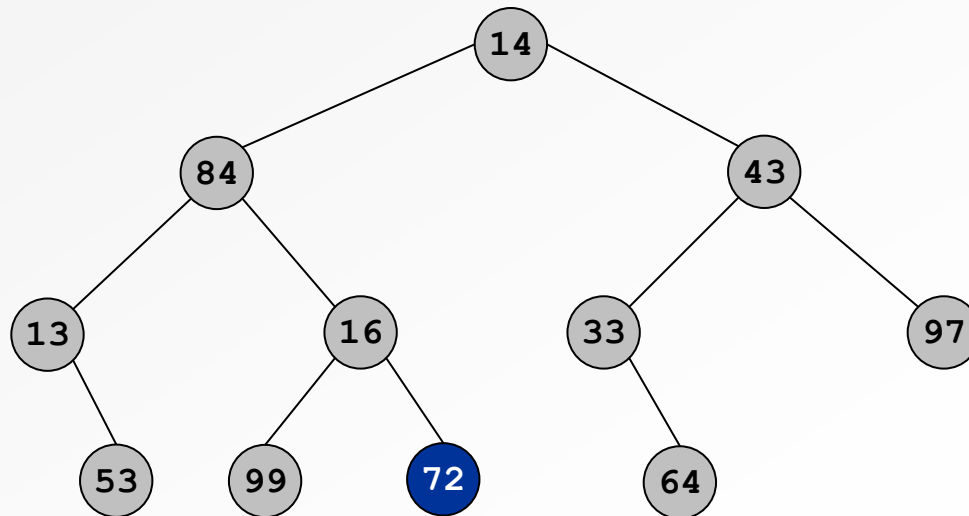
While the stack is not empty

- pop the stack and visit it
- push its two children

14 84 13 53 16 99 72

43

Stack



# PREORDER TRAVERSAL WITH A STACK

Push the root onto the stack.

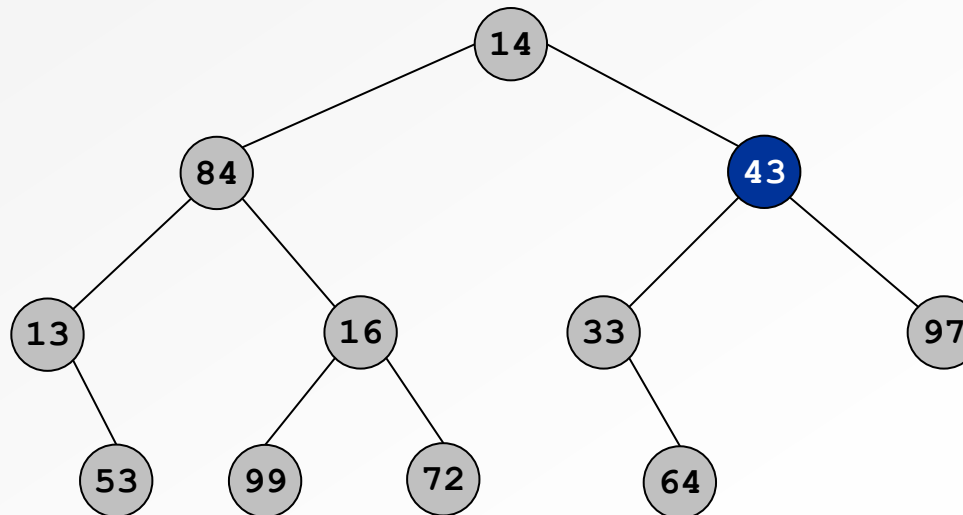
While the stack is not empty

- pop the stack and visit it
- push its two children

14 84 13 53 16 99 72 43

33  
97

Stack



# PREORDER TRAVERSAL WITH A STACK

Push the root onto the stack.

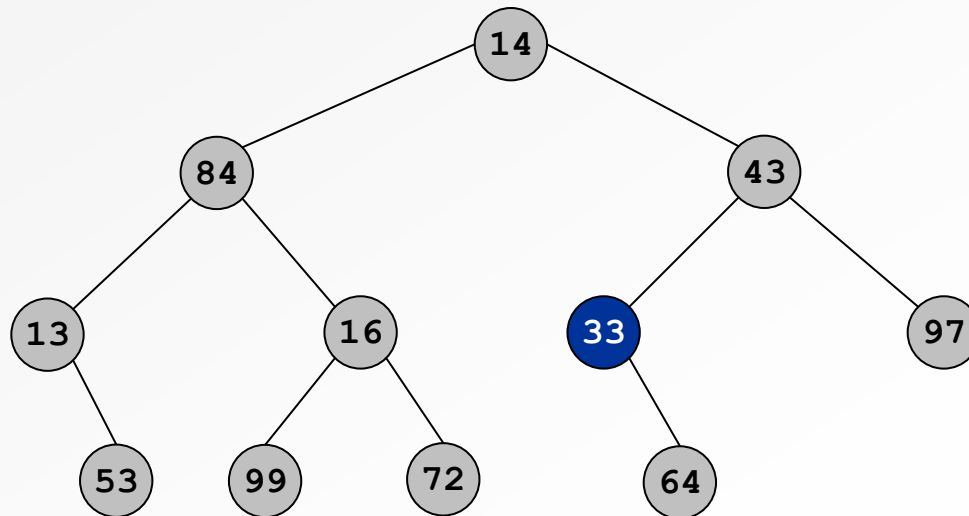
While the stack is not empty

- pop the stack and visit it
- push its two children

14 84 13 53 16 99 72 43 33

64  
97

Stack



# PREORDER TRAVERSAL WITH A STACK

Push the root onto the stack.

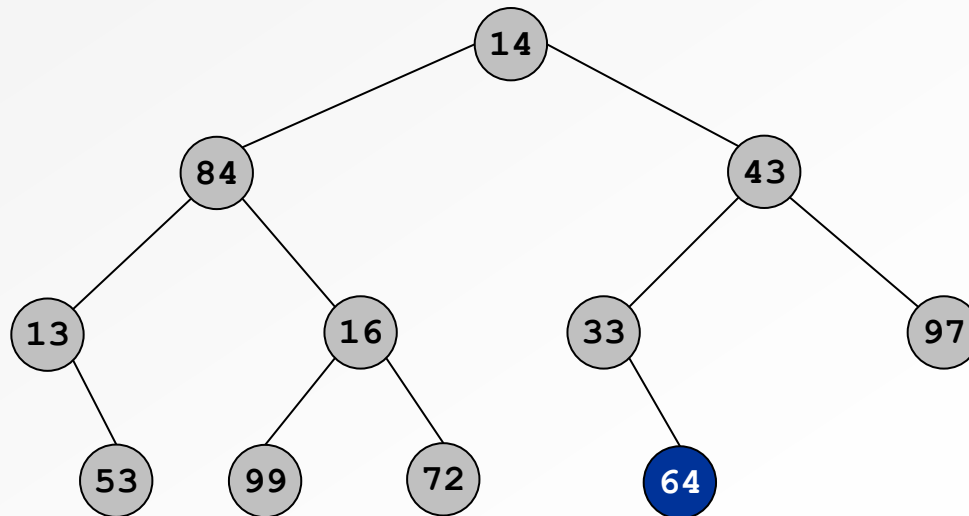
While the stack is not empty

- pop the stack and visit it
- push its two children

14 84 13 53 16 99 72 43 33 64

97

Stack



# PREORDER TRAVERSAL WITH A STACK

Push the root onto the stack.

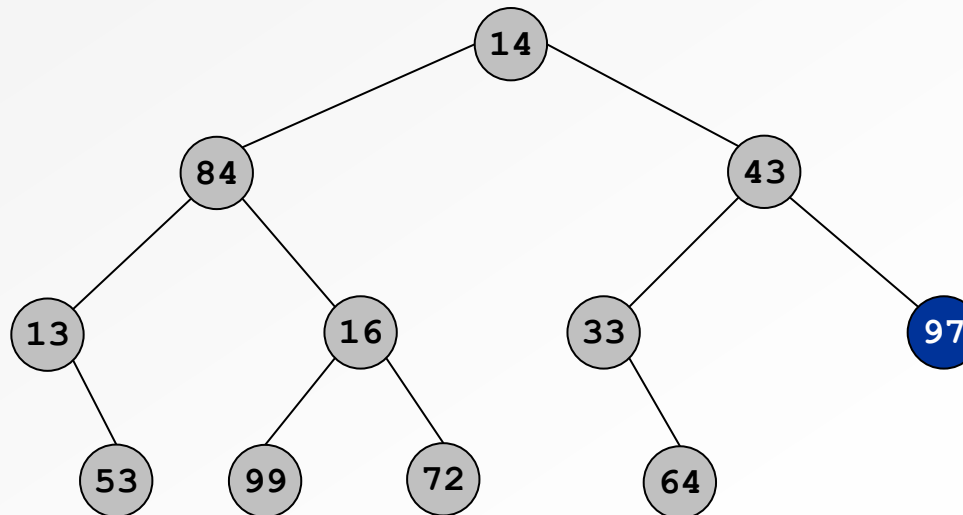
While the stack is not empty

- pop the stack and visit it
- push its two children

14 84 13 53 16 99 72 43 33 64 97



Stack



# PREORDER TRAVERSAL WITH A STACK

Push the root onto the stack.

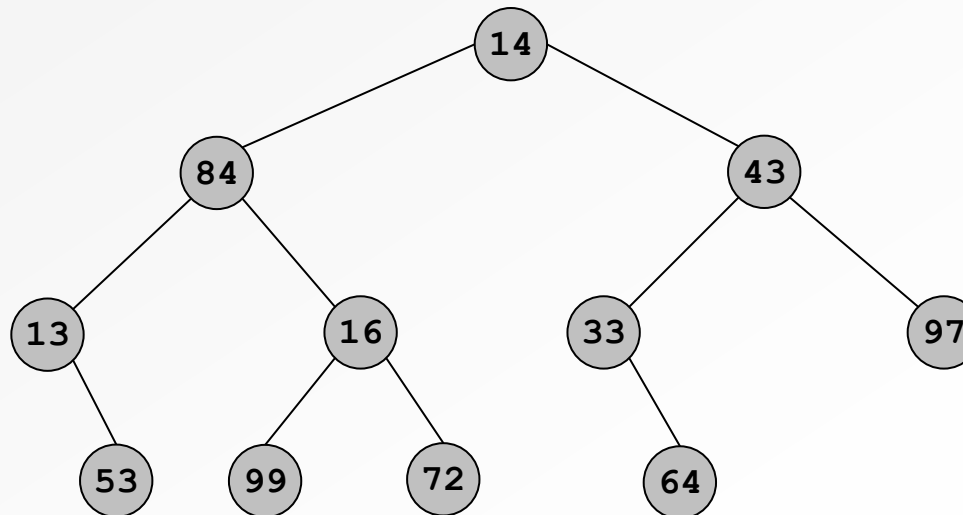
While the stack is not empty

- pop the stack and visit it
- push its two children

14 84 13 53 16 99 72 43 33 64 97



Stack



# YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO

- Binary tree Traverse:
  - Pre-order
  - In-order
  - Post-order
- Write recursive binary tree functions using the TreeTraversal template as a starting point
- Based on the traversal of the binary tree, do a lot of things: print, count numbers, count height/depth, find grandchildren,..., etc.