

# Trie / Prefix tree

- Characters stored in each node
- Each path down tree may represent a word
- If node is "\*", indicates word is complete



upto 27 children  
↑  
(a, b, ..., z, \*)

data structure for  
easy look up if a string is a prefix  
of a valid word

look up if **s** is a valid prefix

→  $O(|s|)$  time

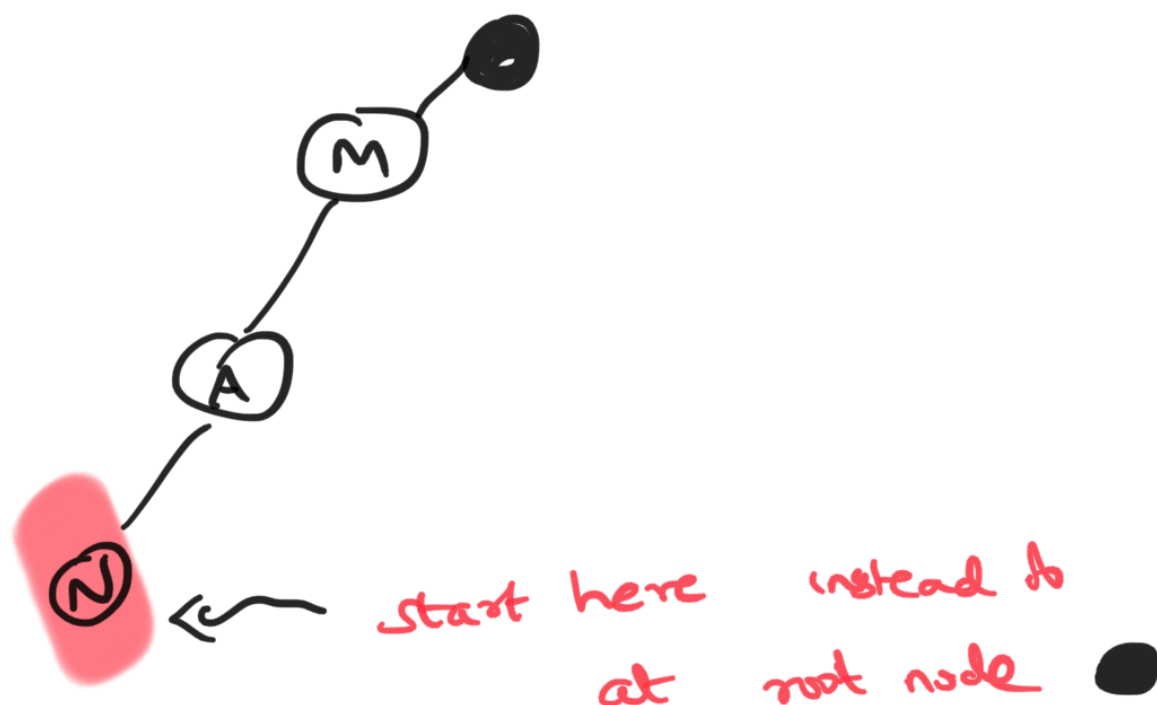
(i.e) see if  $\exists$  path

"**-s-**....."

(if have to search related

prefixes repeatedly, sometimes  
pass a good starting node  
(instead of root node)

check if MANY, MANIPULATE,  
MANNER etc are prefixes..



check if a string  
is a key in a  
dictionary

~~$O(N)$~~

$O(|S|)$

as need to compute  
hash(S) to see if in  
dictionary...

