

## 🚀 Building a Binary Tree from Preorder & Inorder Traversal

### ◆ Problem Statement:

Given preorder and inorder traversal arrays, construct the corresponding binary tree.

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### 🔥 Approach & Logic

#### 🔍 Identifying the Root (Preorder Property)

- The **first element** in preorder is always the **root**.
- Example:
- preorder = [3, 9, 20, 15, 7]
- inorder = [9, 3, 15, 20, 7]

Here, 3 is the first element, so it becomes the **root**.

#### 🔍 Finding Left and Right Subtrees (Inorder Property)

- Elements **before the root in inorder** belong to the **left subtree**.
- Elements **after the root in inorder** belong to the **right subtree**.
- Example:
- inorder = [9, 3, 15, 20, 7]
- ↑
- (Root at index 1)
  - Left Subtree: [9]
  - Right Subtree: [15, 20, 7]

#### 🔍 Recursively Building the Subtrees

- Recursively pass the relevant parts of preorder and inorder for left and right subtree construction.
  - LeftCount and RightCount track subtree sizes.
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### 📖 Understanding the Variables Used in Code

- pre & in: Vectors storing the **preorder** and **inorder** traversal.
- prelo, prehi: Indices marking the **current segment** of preorder being processed.
- inlo, inhi: Indices marking the **current segment** of inorder being processed.
- i: Iterator used to **find the index of root** in inorder.
- LeftCount: Number of elements in the **left subtree** (i - inlo).

- RightCount: Number of elements in the **right subtree** (inhi - i).
  - root: The **current root node** being created.
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### Dry Run Example 1

**Input:**

preorder = [1, 2, 4, 5, 3, 6]

inorder = [4, 2, 5, 1, 3, 6]

#### Step 1: Identify Root

- preorder[0] = 1 → Root
- inorder index of 1 = 3
- Left Subtree: [4, 2, 5]
- Right Subtree: [3, 6]

1

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#### Step 2: Left Subtree

- preorder[1] = 2
- inorder index of 2 = 1
- Left: [4], Right: [5]

1

/ \

2 ?

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4 5

#### Step 3: Right Subtree

- preorder[4] = 3
- inorder index of 3 = 4
- Left: [], Right: [6]

1

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2 3

/\ \  
4 5 6

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### Code Implementation

```
class Solution {
public:
    TreeNode* build(vector<int>& pre, int prelo, int prehi,
                    vector<int>& in, int inlo, int inhi) {
        // Base Case 1: If the inorder range is invalid, return NULL
        if (inlo > inhi) return NULL;

        // Create the root node from the preorder traversal
        TreeNode* root = new TreeNode(pre[prelo]);

        // Base Case 2: If there is only one element, return that node
        if (prelo == prehi) return root;

        // Find the index of the root in inorder
        int i = inlo;
        while (i <= inhi) {
            if (in[i] == pre[prelo]) break;
            i++;
        }

        int LeftCount = i - inlo;
        int RightCount = inhi - i;

        root->left = build(pre, prelo + 1, prelo + LeftCount, in, inlo, i - 1);
        root->right = build(pre, prelo + LeftCount + 1, prehi, in, i + 1, inhi);

        return root;
    }
};
```

```
}

TreeNode* buildTree(vector<int>& pre, vector<int>& in) {
    int n = pre.size();
    return build(pre, 0, n - 1, in, 0, n - 1);
}

};
```

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### Key Takeaways

1. **First element of preorder is always the root.**
2. **inorder helps identify left and right subtrees.**
3. **Recursion is used to construct the subtrees.**
4. **Index tracking helps manage subtree sizes.**
5. **Each recursive call processes a smaller portion of preorder and inorder.**
6. **Using a hashmap for inorder lookup reduces complexity to  $O(N)$ .**
7. **Base Case 1 ensures recursion stops when there are no elements left to process.**
8. **Base Case 2 ensures a single node is returned when no children exist.**

This structured approach ensures an efficient and clear understanding of binary tree construction.

