



Data Structures

Lecture 6: Tree

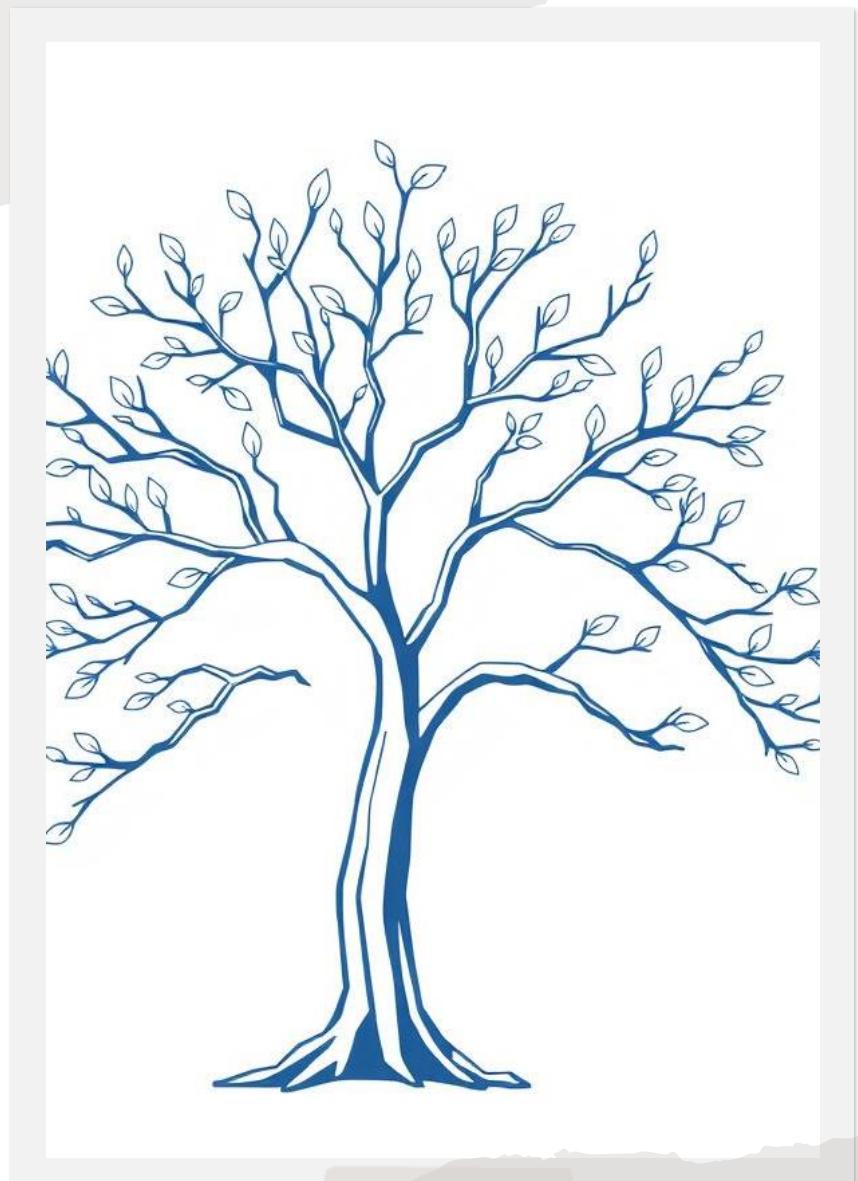
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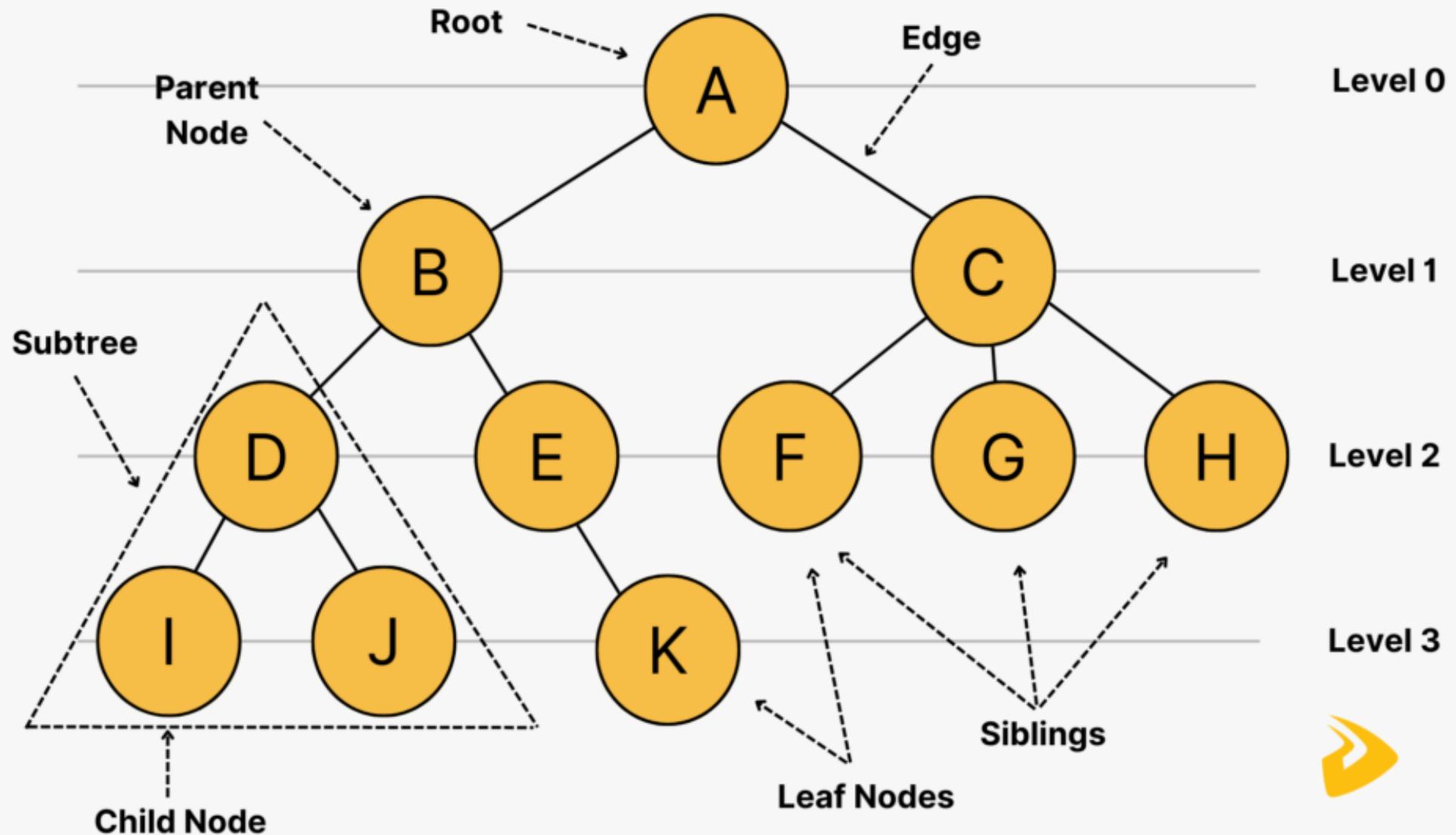
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Trees: Hierarchical Data Structures

- Trees organize data in a **hierarchical structure**, with nodes connected in parent-child relationships. They start with a single root node and branch downwards, with no cycles, ensuring a clear path from root to any node.
- There are many specialized tree types, such as **binary trees** (each node has at most two children), **binary search trees** (ordered nodes for efficient searching), **heaps** (used in priority queues), and **tries** (for string retrieval).
- Trees are extensively used in **file systems** to represent directories and files, in **databases for indexing**, in parsing expressions (abstract syntax trees), and for efficiently organizing and searching hierarchical data like the Document Object Model (DOM) in web browsers.





Properties of Tree

- **Root Node:** The root node is the very top node of the tree. It has no parent. **A** is the root node.
- **Node:** Nodes are the individual circles (entities) in the tree. In the image, **A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K** are all nodes.
- **Edges:** Edges are the lines that connect one node to another. They show relationships between nodes (parent to child). For example, the lines A–B, A–C, B–D are all edges.
- **Parent:** A parent node is a node that has at least one child connected below it. **A, B, C, D, E** are parent Nodes.
- **Children:** A child node is directly connected below a parent node. All nodes are child except **A**.
- **Leaf Nodes:** All the nodes that have no children are called leaves. Here, **I, J, K, F, G, H** are leaf nodes.
- **Internal Node:** All nodes Except Parent and Leaf (**B, C, D, E**).
- **Sibling:** All the child nodes of a parent node are siblings.

Properties of Tree

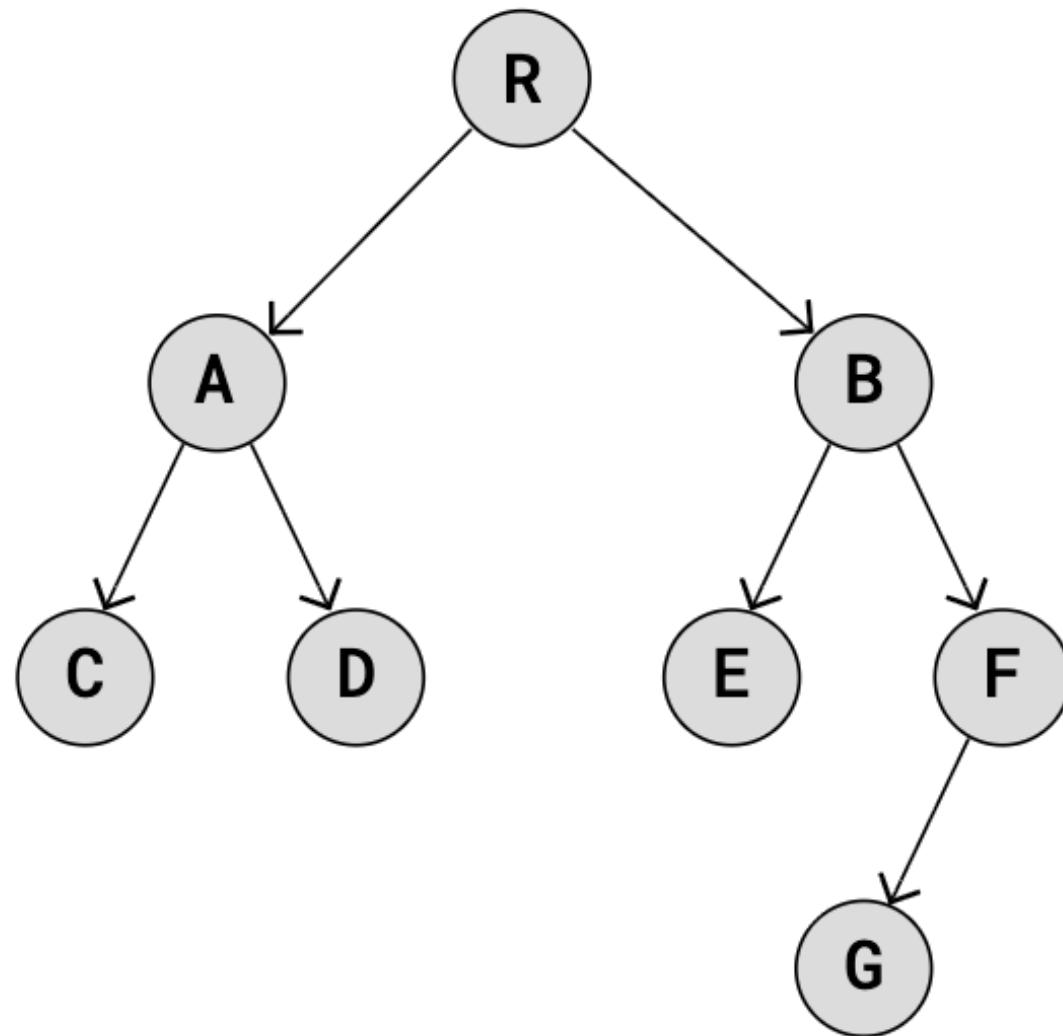
- **Degree:** The degree of a tree means the maximum number of children any single node has.
A → 2 children, B → 2 children, C → 2 children, D → 2 children, E → 1 child
F, G, H, I, J, K → 0 children
Here, maximum is 2. So, **Degree of the tree = 2.**
- **Tree Size:** Tree size means the total number of nodes in the tree. Just count all nodes: **A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K = 11** nodes.
- **Tree Height:** Tree height is the number of **levels** from the **root to the deepest leaf.**
Level counting usually starts from 0 (as shown).
Here **Levels:**
Level 0 → A
Level 1 → B, C
Level 2 → D, E, F, G, H
Level 3 → I, J, K
So the height = 3.

Types of Trees

- General TreeS
- Binary TreeS
- Binary Search Trees (BST)

Binary Tree

- A **binary tree** is a *hierarchical data structure* where each node can have at **most two children**. **No of Children of a Node (0, 1, 2).**
- These children are typically labeled **left child** and **right child**.
- This restriction, that a node can have a maximum of two child nodes, gives us many benefits:
 - Algorithms like **traversing, searching, insertion and deletion** become easier to understand, to implement, and run faster.
 - Keeping data sorted in a **Binary Search Tree (BST)** makes searching very efficient.
 - **Balancing trees is easier** to do with a limited number of child nodes, using an AVL Binary Tree for example.
 - Binary Trees can be represented as **arrays**, making the tree more memory efficient.



Finding number of Nodes and Height for a Tree

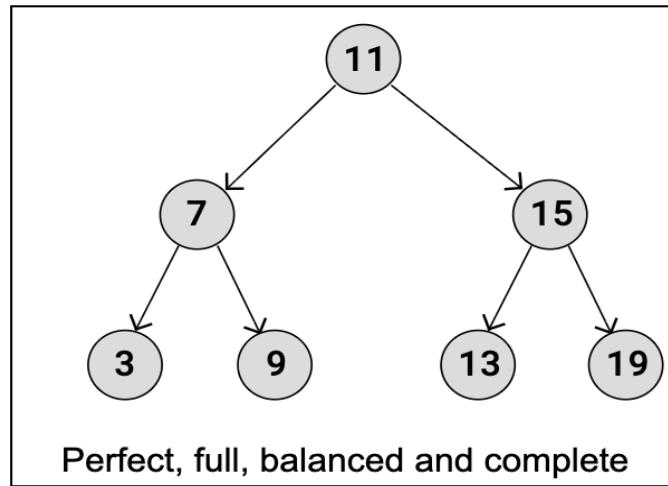
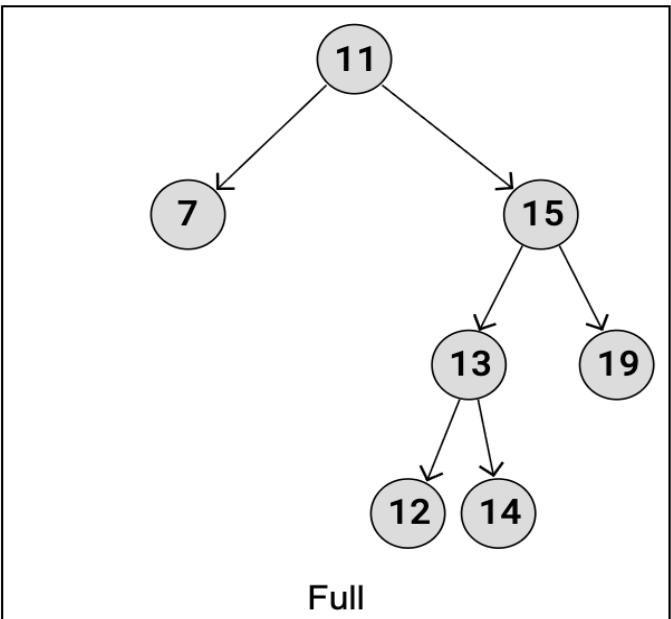
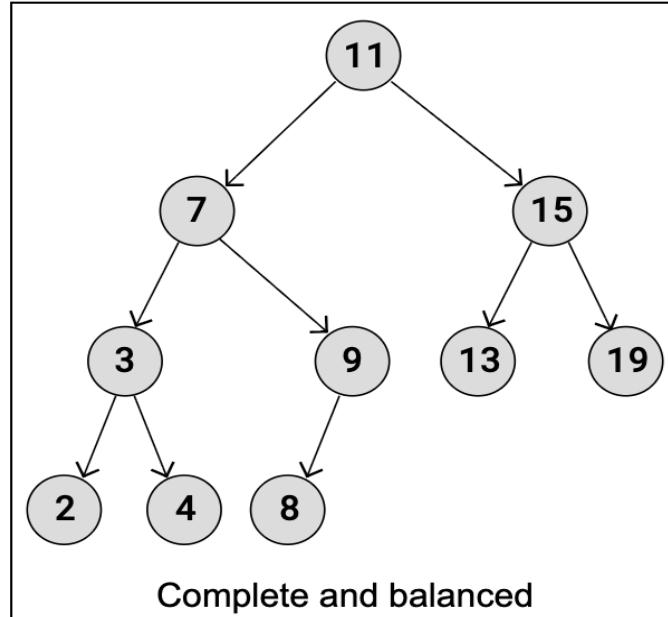
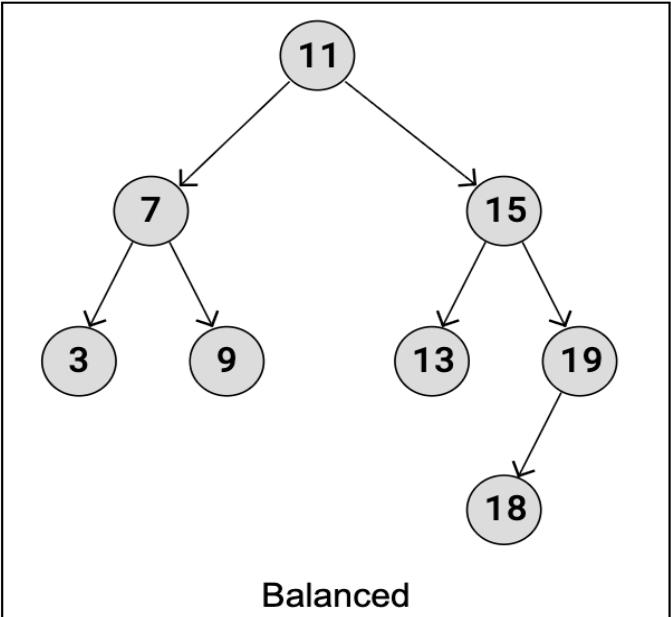
- Maximum Number of Nodes in a BT
 $1+2+4+\dots+2^h = 2^{h+1} - 1$, Here, h is the height of Tree.
- Minimum Number of Nodes in a BT
 - $h+1$ (Height of tree +1)
- Max Height of a tree
 - This happens when the tree is totally skewed. Every node has only one child.
This happens for min number of nodes.
 - $N=h+1 \Rightarrow h=N-1$ (N , number of nodes)
- Min height for tree
 - This happens when the tree is perfectly balanced and fully filled. For maximum number of nodes.
 - $N=2^{h+1} - 1 \Rightarrow h=\log_2(N+1) - 1$

Exercises

- If a binary tree has a height of 4, what are the maximum and minimum numbers of nodes it can have?
- If a binary tree has 7 nodes, what are the minimum and maximum possible heights of the tree?

Types fo Binary Tree

- **Balanced Binary Tree**: A balanced Binary Tree has at most 1 in difference between its **left and right subtree heights**, for each node in the tree.
- **Complete Binary Tree**: A complete Binary Tree has all **levels full of nodes, except the last level**, which is can also be full, or filled from left to right. The properties of a complete Binary Tree means it is also balanced.
- **Full Binary Tree**: A full Binary Tree is a kind of tree where each node has either **0 or 2 child nodes**.
- **Perfect Binary Tree**: A **perfect** Binary Tree has all leaf nodes on the same level, which means that **all levels are full of nodes**, and all internal nodes have two child nodes. The properties of a perfect Binary Tree means it is also full, balanced, and complete.

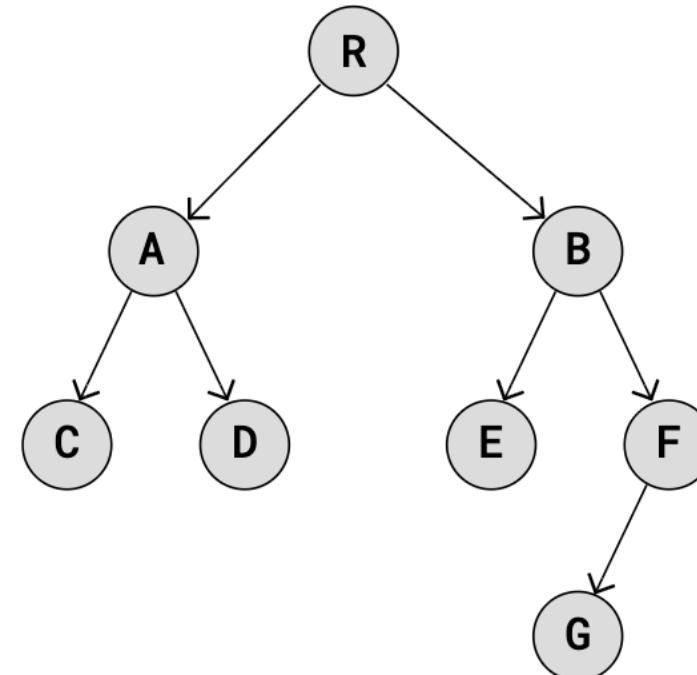


Binary Tree Traversal

- Traversal is a process to ***visit all the nodes of a tree*** and may print their values too.
- All nodes are connected via edges (links) we always start from the ***root (head) node***.
- Random access of a node in a tree is not possible.
- There are three ways which we use to traverse a tree –
 - Pre-order Traversal [Root, Left , Right / N-L-R]
 - In-order Traversal [Left, Root, Right / L-N-R]
 - Post-order Traversal [Left, Right, Root / L-R-N]

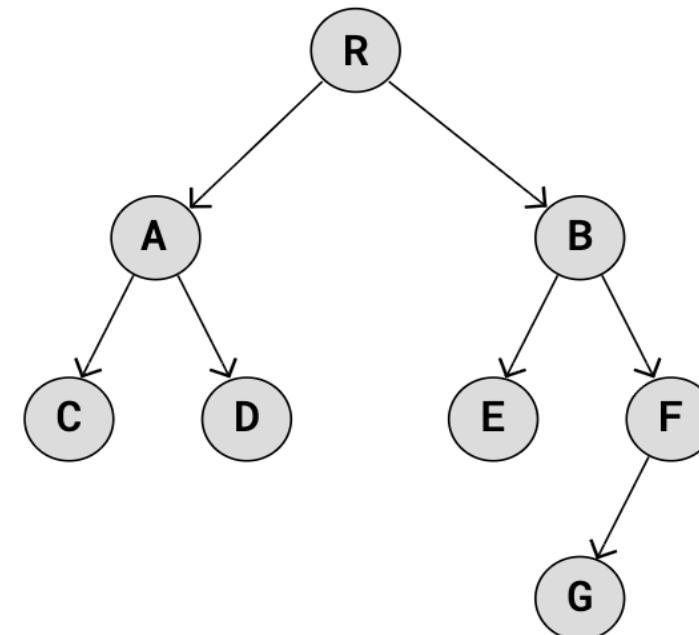
Pre-order Traversal

- In this traversal method, the root node is visited first, then the left subtree and finally the right subtree **[Root-Left-Right]**.
- Traversal Sequence for the following tree : **R,A,C,D,B,E,F,G**



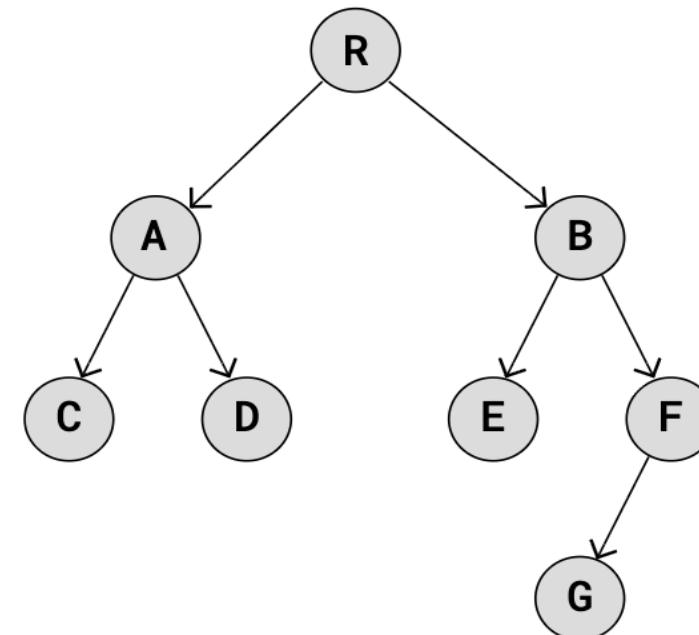
In-order Traversal

- In this traversal method, the left subtree is visited first, then the root and later the right sub-tree. We should always remember that every node may represent a subtree itself **[Left- Root-Right]**.
- Traversal Sequence for the following tree : **C,A,D,R,E,B,G,F**



Post-order Traversal

- In this traversal method, the root node is visited last, hence the name. First we traverse the left subtree, then the right subtree and finally the root node **[Left- Right-Root]**.
- Traversal Sequence for the following tree :
- **C → D → A → E → G → F → B → R**

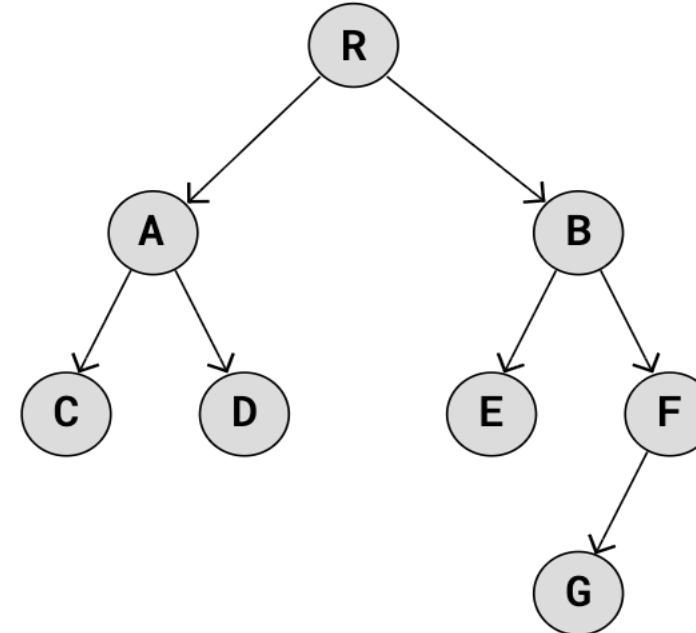


Construct binary Tree from a Sequence

- To construct a unique binary tree following combination of node sequences require:
 - Inorder and preorder
 - Inorder and postorder

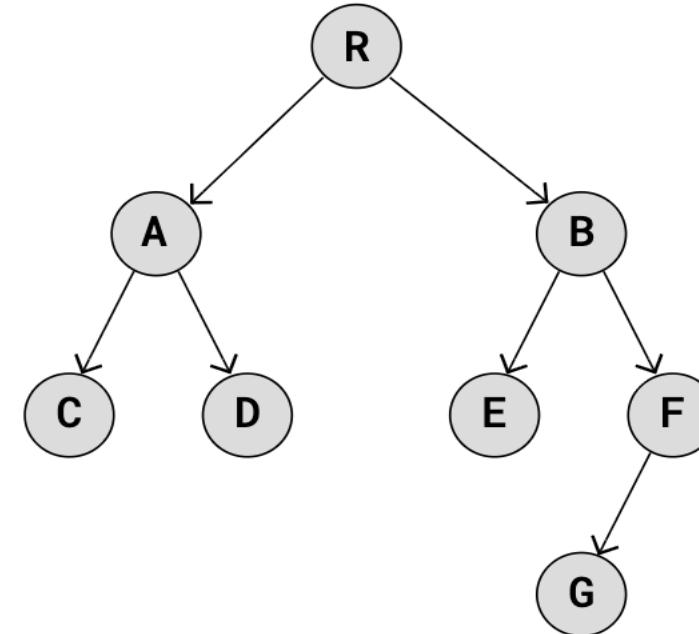
Construct Tree from inorder and preorder

- Preorder: **R,A,C,D,B,E,F,G**
- Inorder: **C,A,D,R,E,B,G,F**
- *Exercises:*
 - Preorder: A, B, D, G, K, H, L, M, C, E
 - Inorder: K, G, D, L, H, M, B, A, E, C



Construct Tree from inorder and postorder

- Postorder: **C, D, A, E, G, F, B, R**
- Inorder: **C, A, D, R, E, B, G, F**
- *Exercises:*
 - Postorder: K, G, L, M, H, D, B, E, C, A
 - Inorder: K, G, D, L, H, M, B, A, E, C



Tree Applications

- Binary Search Trees(BSTs) are used to quickly check whether an element is present in a set or not.
- Heap is a kind of tree that is used for heap sort.
- A modified version of a tree called Tries is used in modern routers to store routing information.
- Most popular databases use B-Trees and T-Trees, which are variants of the tree structure we learned above to store their data
- Compilers use a syntax tree to validate the syntax of every program you write.

References

- **Chapter 8: Tree (Data Structures using C** by E. Balagurusamy)

Thank You