# Construct Tree from given Inorder and Preorder traversals

Let us consider the below traversals:

Inorder sequence: D B E A F C

Preorder sequence: A B D E C F

In a Preorder sequence, leftmost element is the root of the tree. So we know 'A' is root for given sequences. By searching 'A' in Inorder sequence, we can find out all elements on left side of 'A' are in left subtree and elements on right are in right subtree. So we know below structure now.

```
              A
           /    \
          /      \
        D B E    F C
```
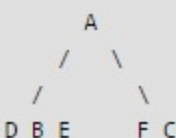
We recursively follow above steps and get the following tree.

```
          A
        /   \
       /     \
      B       C
     / \     /
    /   \   /
   D     E F
```
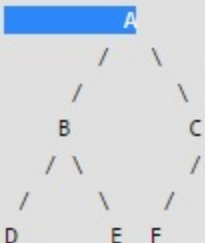
Algorithm: buildTree()

1) Pick an element from Preorder. Increment a Preorder Index Variable (preIndex in below code) to pick next element in next recursive call.
2) Create a new tree node tNode with the data as picked element.
3) Find the picked element's index in Inorder. Let the index be inIndex.
4) Call buildTree for elements before inIndex and make the built tree as left subtree of tNode.
5) Call buildTree for elements after inIndex and make the built tree as right subtree of tNode.
6) return tNode.

Thanks to Rohini and Tushar for suggesting the code.

C   Java   Python

```c
/* program to construct tree using inorder and preorder traversals */
#include<stdio.h>
#include<stdlib.h>

/* A binary tree node has data, pointer to left child
   and a pointer to right child */
struct node
{
   char data;
   struct node* left;
   struct node* right;
};

/* Prototypes for utility functions */
int search(char arr[], int strt, int end, char value);
struct node* newNode(char data);

/* Recursive function to construct binary of size len from
   Inorder traversal in[] and Preorder traversal pre[].  Initial values
   of inStrt and inEnd should be 0 and len -1.  The function doesn't
   do any error checking for cases where inorder and preorder
   do not form a tree */
struct node* buildTree(char in[], char pre[], int inStrt, int inEnd)
{
   static int preIndex = 0;

   if(inStrt > inEnd)
      return NULL;

   /* Pick current node from Preorder traversal using preIndex
      and increment preIndex */
   struct node *tNode = newNode(pre[preIndex++]);

   /* If this node has no children then return */
   if(inStrt == inEnd)
      return tNode;

   /* Else find the index of this node in Inorder traversal */
   int inIndex = search(in, inStrt, inEnd, tNode->data);

   /* Using index in Inorder traversal, construct left and
      right subtress */
   tNode->left = buildTree(in, pre, inStrt, inIndex-1);
   tNode->right = buildTree(in, pre, inIndex+1, inEnd);

   return tNode;
}

/* UTILITY FUNCTIONS */
/* Function to find index of value in arr[start...end]
   The function assumes that value is present in in[] */
int search(char arr[], int strt, int end, char value)
{
   int i;
   for(i = strt; i <= end; i++)
   {
      if(arr[i] == value)
         return i;
   }
}

/* Helper function that allocates a new node with the
   given data and NULL left and right pointers. */
struct node* newNode(char data)
{
   struct node* node = (struct node*)malloc(sizeof(struct node));
   node->data = data;
   node->left = NULL;
   node->right = NULL;

   return(node);
}

/* This funtcion is here just to test buildTree() */
void printInorder(struct node* node)
{
   if (node == NULL)
      return;

   /* first recur on left child */
   printInorder(node->left);

   /* then print the data of node */
   printf("%c ", node->data);

   /* now recur on right child */
   printInorder(node->right);
}

/* Driver program to test above functions */
int main()
{
   char in[] = {'D', 'B', 'E', 'A', 'F', 'C'};
   char pre[] = {'A', 'B', 'D', 'E', 'C', 'F'};
   int len = sizeof(in)/sizeof(in[0]);
   struct node *root = buildTree(in, pre, 0, len - 1);

   /* Let us test the built tree by printing Insorder traversal */
   printf("Inorder traversal of the constructed tree is \n");
   printInorder(root);
   getchar();
}
```

Run on IDE

Output :

```
Inorder traversal of constructed tree is :
D B E A F C
```

Time Complexity: O(n^2). Worst case occurs when tree is left skewed. Example Preorder and Inorder traversals for worst case are {A, B, C, D} and {D, C, B, A}.

Construct a Binary Tree from Postorder and Inorder