

# **AVL Tree Deletion, Other Balanced Trees**

EECS 233

# AVL Trees -- Deletion

## □ Deletion is more complicated.

- It requires both single and double rotations
- We may need more than one rebalance operation (rotation) on the path from the deleted node back to the root.

## □ Steps:

- First delete the node the same as deleting it from a binary search tree
  - Remember that a node can be either *a leaf node* or *a node with a single child* or *a node with two children*
- Walk through from the deleted node back to the root and rebalance the nodes on the path if required
  - Since a rotation can change the height of the original tree

## □ Deletion is $O(\log N)$

- Each rotation takes  $O(1)$  time
- We may have at most  $h$  (height) rotations, where  $h = O(\log N)$

# AVL Trees -- Deletion

## □ For the implementation

- We have a **shorter** flag that shows if a subtree has been shortened
- Each node is associated with a **balance factor**
  - **left-high**            the height of the left subtree is higher than that of the right subtree
  - **right-high**           the height of the right subtree is higher than that of the left subtree
  - **equal**                the height of the left and right subtrees is equal

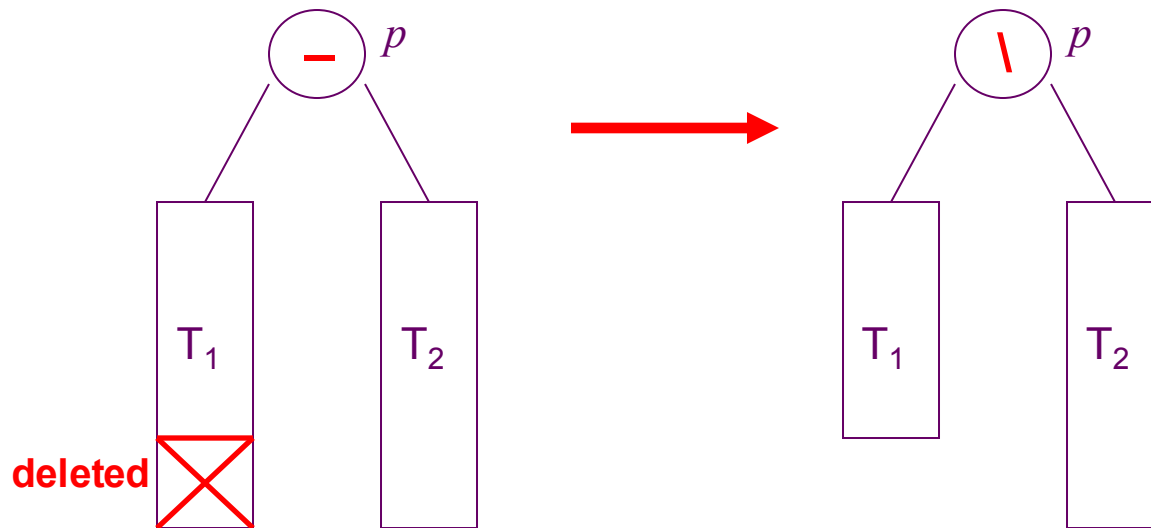
## □ In the deletion algorithm

- Shorter is initialized as true
- Starting from the deleted node back to the root, take an action depending on
  - The value of shorter
  - The balance factor of the current node
  - Sometimes the balance factor of a child of the current node
- Until shorter becomes false

# AVL Trees -- Deletion

## Case 1: The balance factor of $p$ is equal.

- Change the balance factor of  $p$  to *right-high* (or *left-high*)
- Shorter becomes false

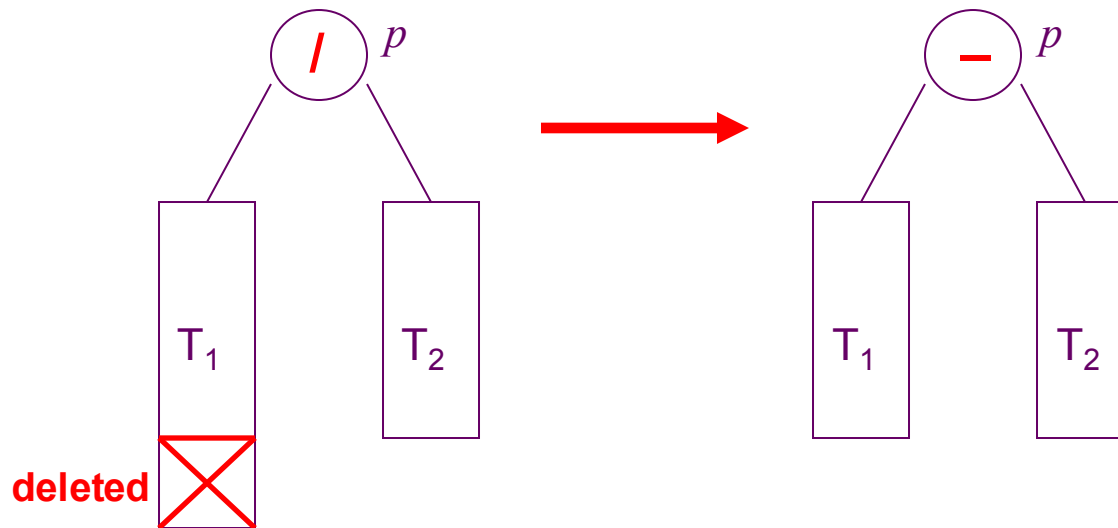


**No rotations**  
**Height unchanged**

# AVL Trees -- Deletion

**Case 2: The balance factor of  $p$  is not equal and the taller subtree is shortened.**

- Change the balance factor of  $p$  to *equal*
- Shorter remains true



**No rotations  
Height reduced**

# AVL Trees -- Deletion

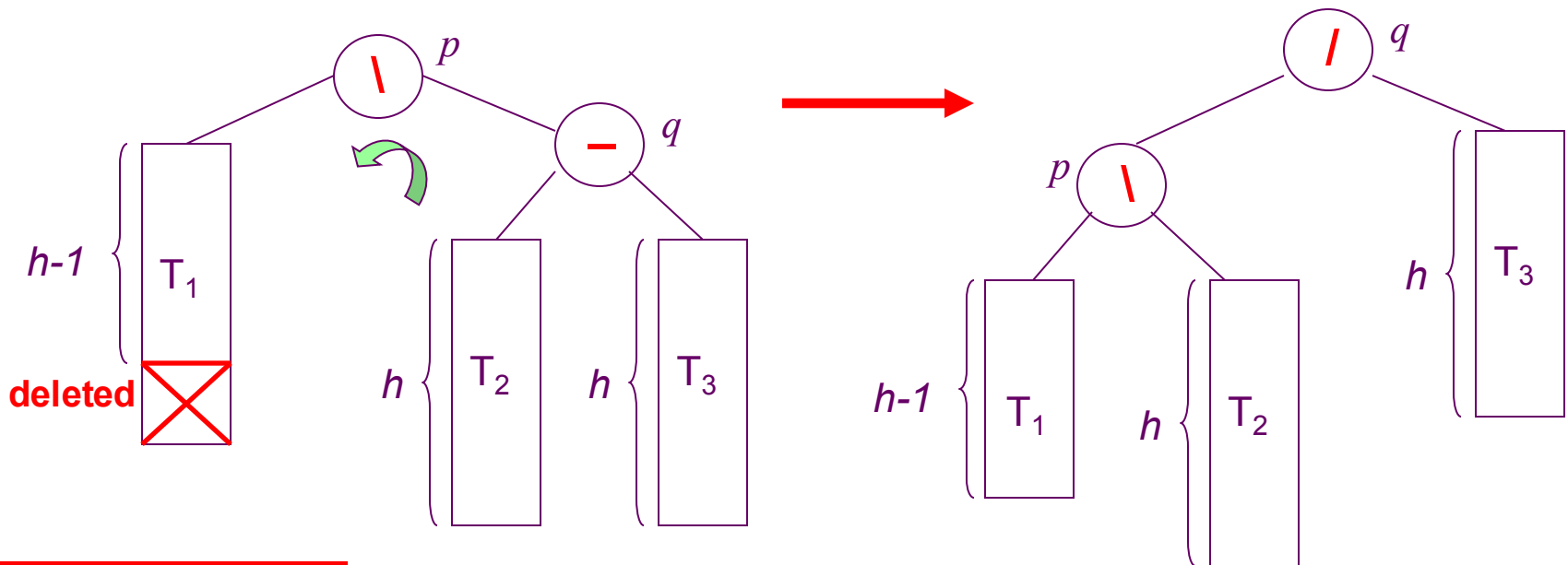
Case 3: *The balance factor of  $p$  is not equal and the shorter subtree is shortened.*

- Rotation is necessary
- Let  $q$  be the root of the taller subtree of  $p$
- We have three sub-cases according to the balance factor of  $q$

# AVL Trees -- Deletion

## Case 3a: The balance factor of $q$ is equal.

- Apply a single rotation
- Change the balance factor of  $q$  to *left-high* (or *right-high*)
- Shorter becomes false

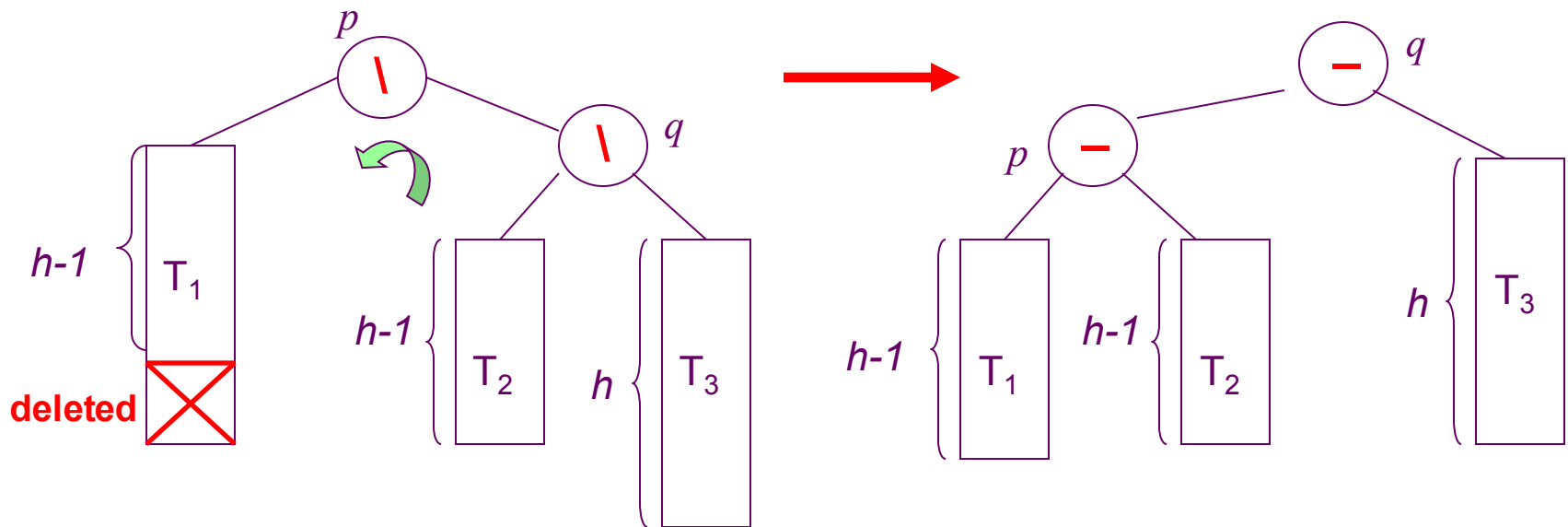


**Single rotation**  
**Height unchanged**

# AVL Trees -- Deletion

**Case 3b:** *The balance factor of  $q$  is the same as that of  $p$ .*

- Apply a single rotation
- Change the balance factors of  $p$  and  $q$  to *equal*
- Shorter remains true



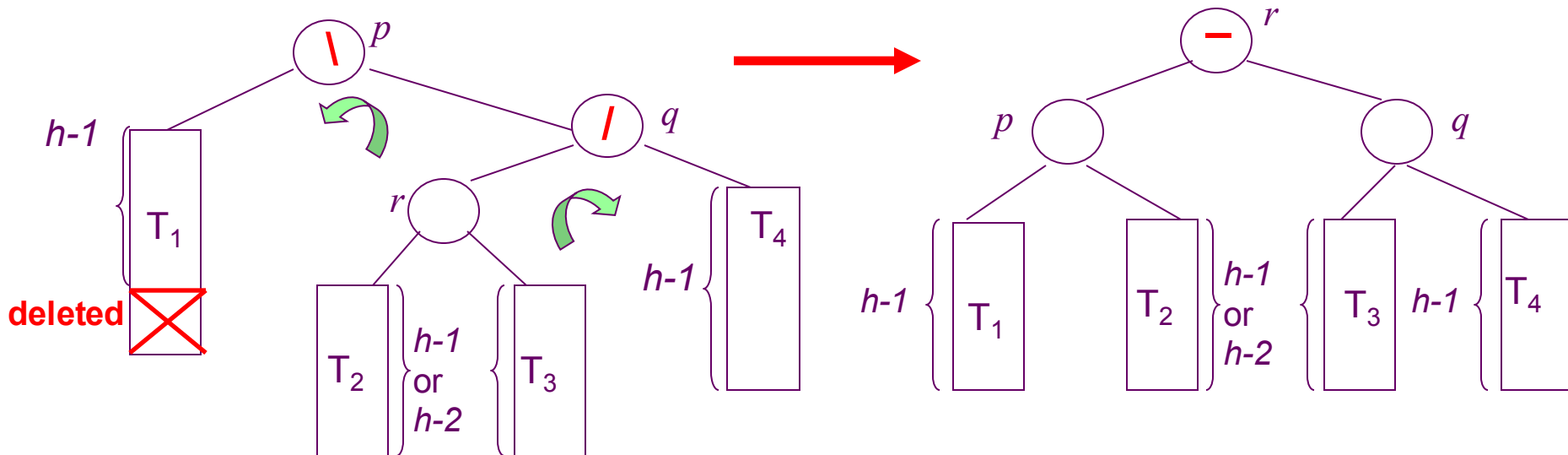
**Single rotation**  
**Height reduced**



# AVL Trees -- Deletion

**Case 3c: The balance factor of  $q$  is the opposite of that of  $p$ .**

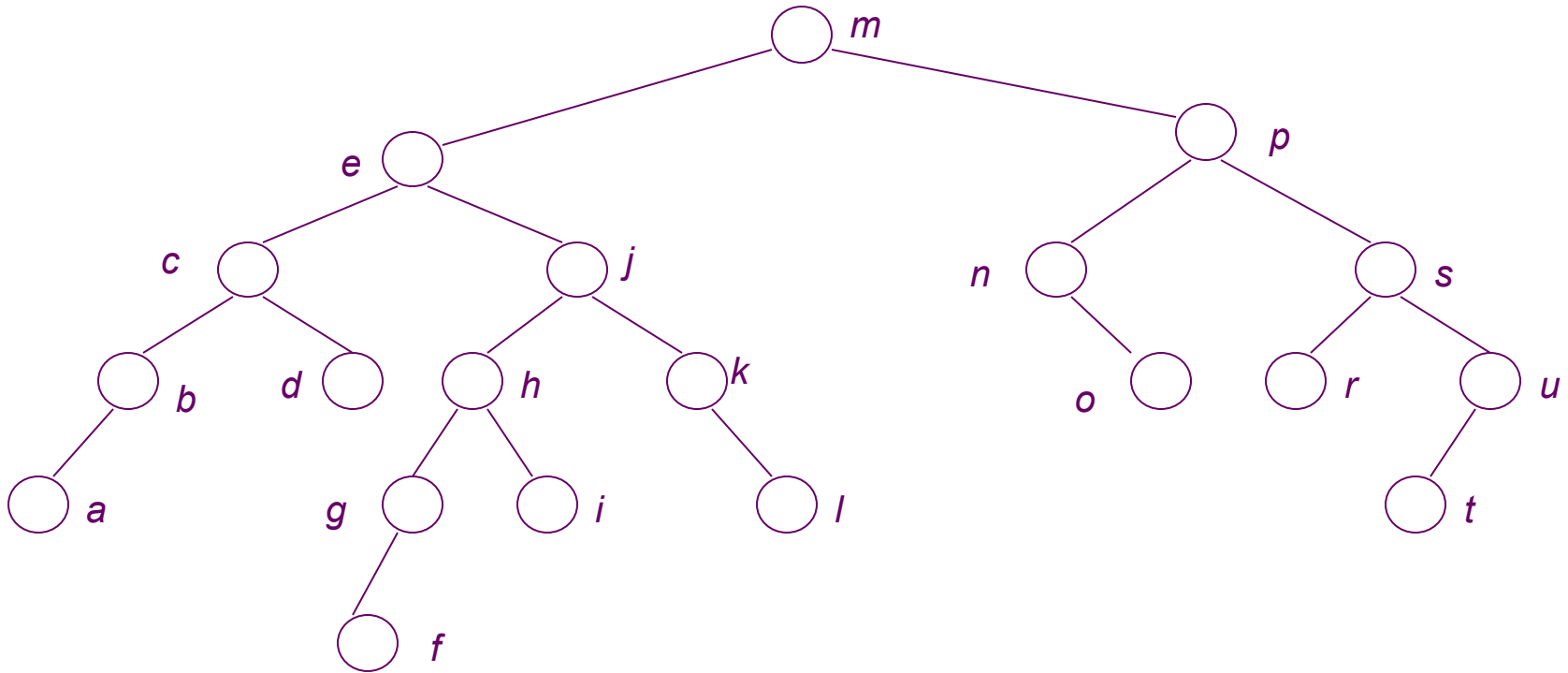
- Apply a double rotation
- Change the balance factor of the new root to *equal*
- Also change the balance factors of  $p$  and  $q$
- Shorter remains true



**Double rotation**  
**Height reduced**

# AVL Trees -- Deletion

**Exercise:** Delete *o* from the following AVL tree

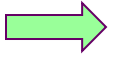


# Efficiency of AVL Trees

- An AVL tree containing  $n$  items has a height that is  $O(\log_2 n)$ .
- Search and insertion are both  $O(\log_2 n)$ .
  - Search travels at most one path down the tree
  - An insertion goes down one path to the insertion point, and then goes back up adjusting balances/performing rotations
    - in the worst case, both the path down and the path back up consider  $O(\log_2 n)$  nodes
    - each rotation requires a constant number of operations, and we perform at most two of them for a given insertion
- Deletion begins with the same procedure used in binary search trees ( $O(\log_2 n)$  complexity). It can also require rotations to rebalance the tree, also at the complexity of  $O(\log_2 n)$ .

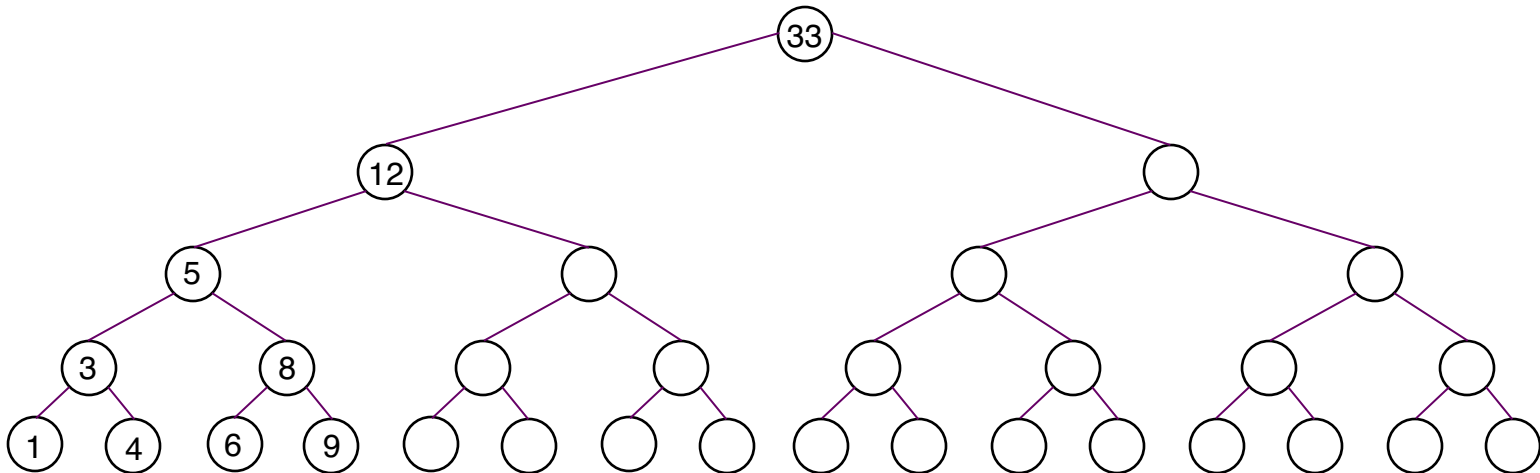
# Other Trees

- 2-3 trees
- Splay trees
- Red-black trees
- B-trees

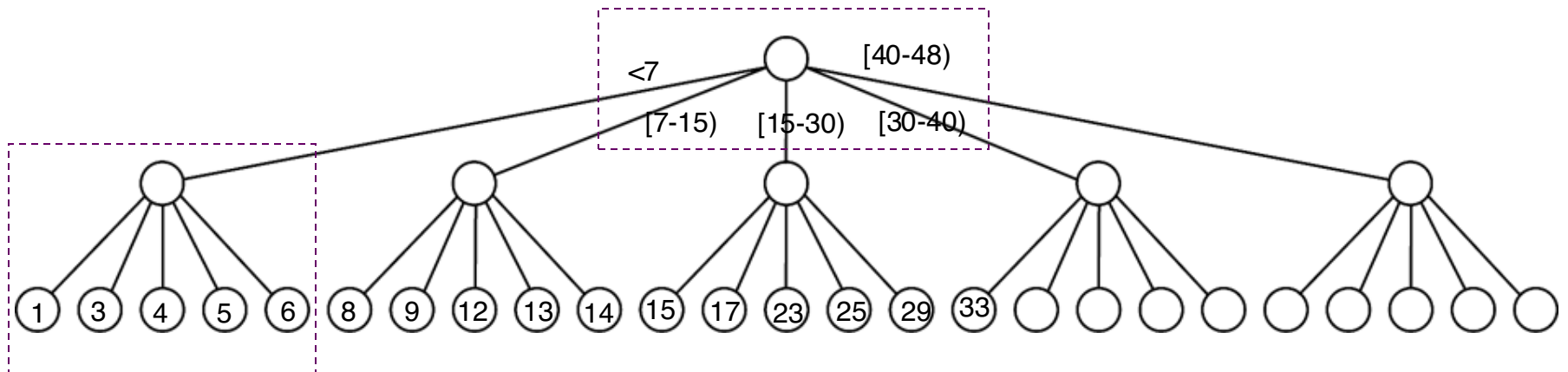
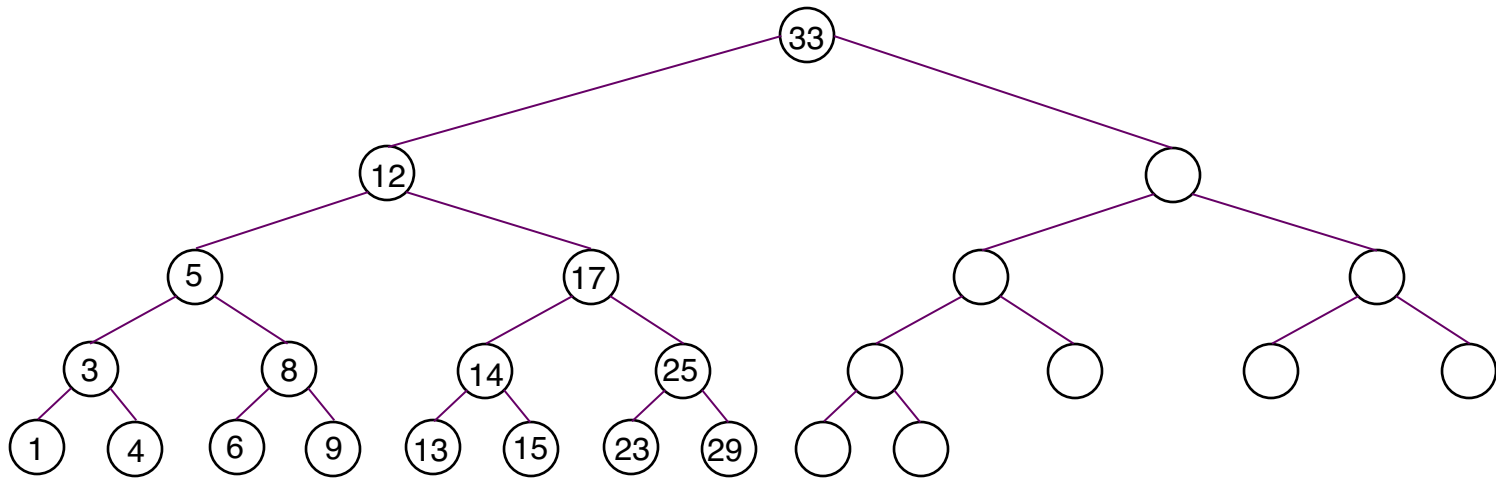


# Aren't AVL Trees Perfect?

- AVL tree - binary balanced tree
  - Searching an item requires traversing from root to (at most) leaf
  - $\log N$  descents (random accesses)
  - Visiting each node - one comparison.
- On disk:
  - Random access is expensive
  - Disk read is in blocks (e.g. 4K bytes at once)
  - Disk-based AVL trees waste much of a block for an internal node read
    - The node is smaller than the block
    - Payload of the node is not used

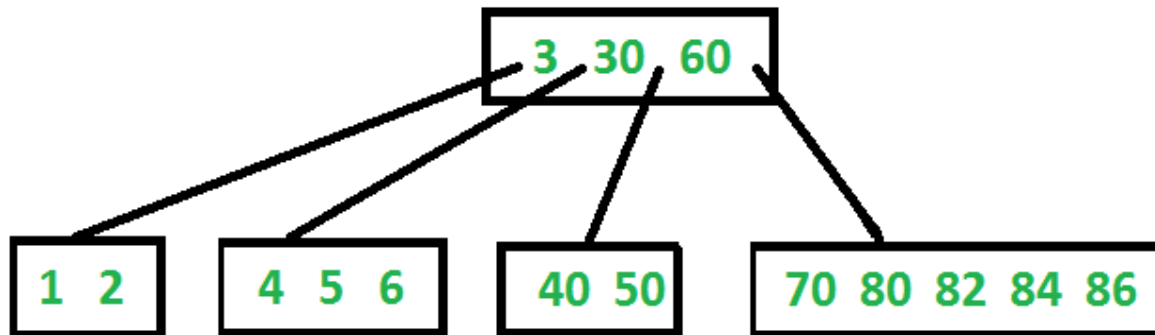


# Designing for Disk Particulars



# B-Tree

- ❑ Reduce the number of disk accesses
- ❑ All leaves are at same level
- ❑ Defined by its *minimum degree* 't'
- ❑ **Every node except root must contain at least t-1 keys**
  - Root may contain minimum 1 key
- ❑ All nodes (including root) may contain at most  $2t - 1$  keys
- ❑ Number of children of a node is equal to the number of keys in it plus 1



# B-Tree – Alternative Definition

- B-Trees are specialized  $M$ -ary search trees
- Each node has many keys
- maximum branching factor of  $M$
- the root has between 2 and  $M$  children *or* at most  $L$  keys
- other internal nodes have between  $\lceil M/2 \rceil$  and  $M$  children
- internal nodes contain only *search* keys (no data)
- each (non-root) leaf contains between  $\lceil L/2 \rceil$  and  $L$  keys
- all leaves are at the same depth



# B-Tree Example

B-Tree with  $M = 4$   
and  $L = 4$

