

# GRAPH THEORY

## [5]

Binary Trees  
Huffman encoding  
Binary Search Trees

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Documents are here:

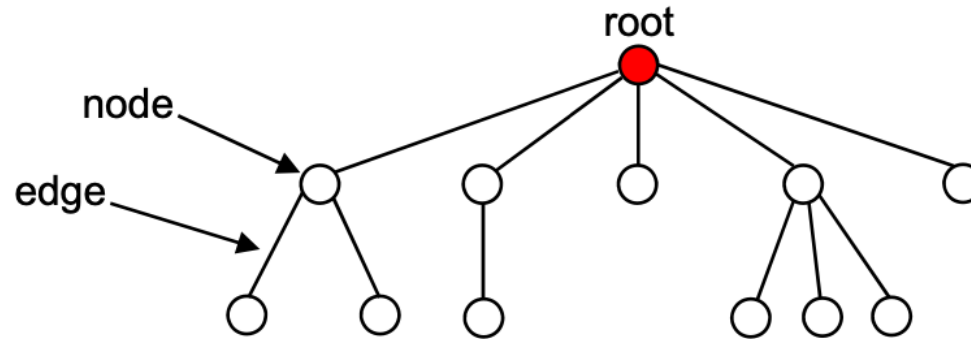


<https://www-l2ti.univ-paris13.fr/~viennet/ens/2024-USTH-Graphs>

Slides adapted from D.G. Sullivan, Harvard

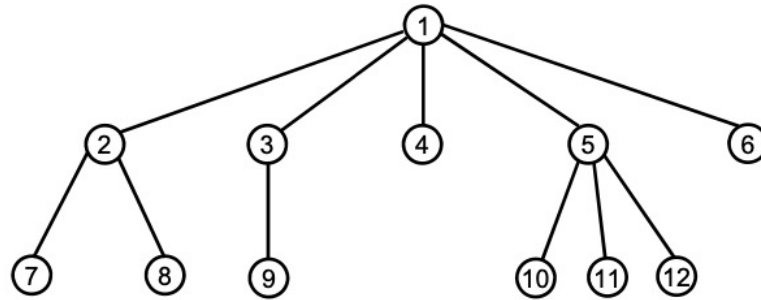


## What Is a Tree?



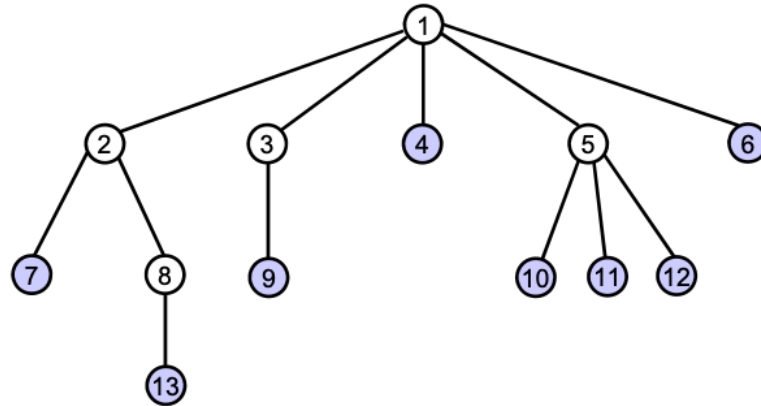
- A tree consists of:
  - a set of *nodes*
  - a set of *edges*, each of which connects a pair of nodes
- Each node may have one or more *data items*.
  - each data item consists of one or more fields
  - *key field* = the field used when searching for a data item
  - multiple data items with the same key are referred to as *duplicates*
- The node at the “top” of the tree is called the *root* of the tree.

## Relationships Between Nodes



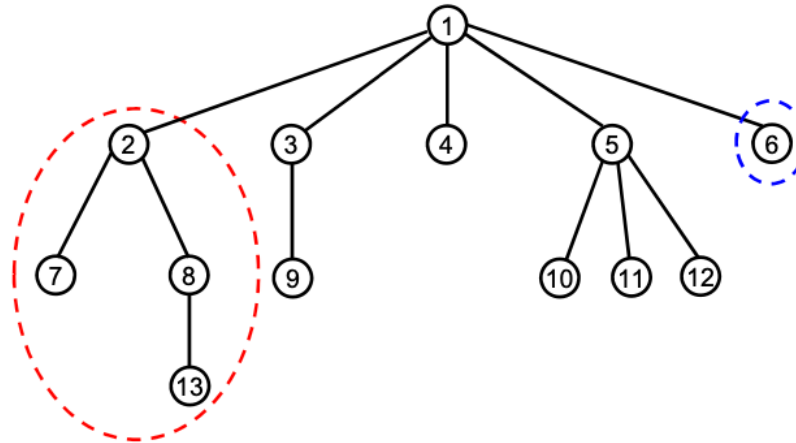
- If a node  $N$  is connected to other nodes that are directly below it in the tree,  $N$  is referred to as their *parent* and they are referred to as its *children*.
  - example: node 5 is the parent of nodes 10, 11, and 12
- Each node is the child of *at most one* parent.
- Other family-related terms are also used:
  - nodes with the same parent are *siblings*
  - a node's *ancestors* are its parent, its parent's parent, etc.
    - example: node 9's ancestors are 3 and 1
  - a node's *descendants* are its children, their children, etc.
    - example: node 1's descendants are *all* of the other nodes

## Types of Nodes



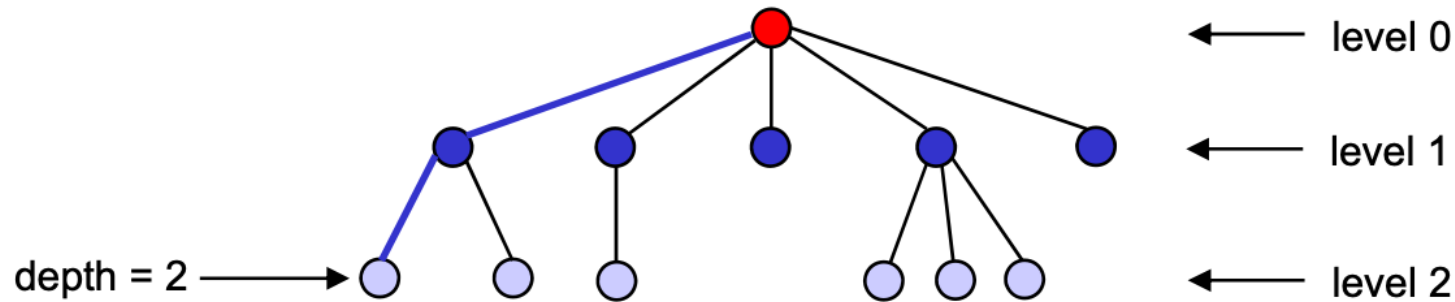
- A *leaf node* is a node without children.
- An *interior node* is a node with one or more children.

## A Tree is a Recursive Data Structure



- Each node in the tree is the root of a smaller tree!
  - refer to such trees as *subtrees* to distinguish them from the tree as a whole
  - example: node 2 is the root of the subtree circled above
  - example: node 6 is the root of a subtree with only one node
- We'll see that tree algorithms often lend themselves to recursive implementations.

## Path, Depth, Level, and Height

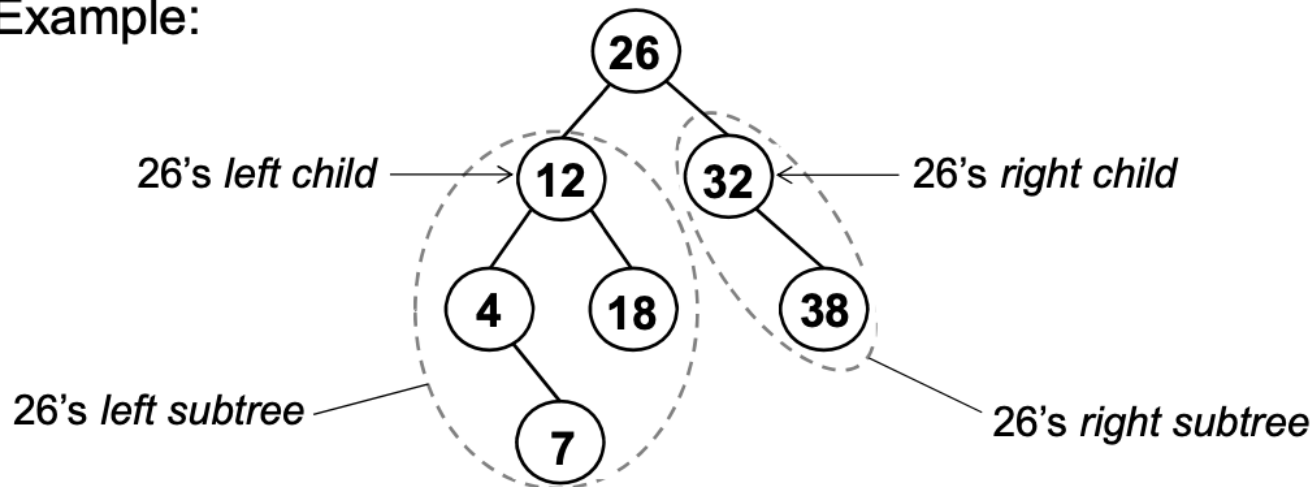


- There is exactly one *path* (one sequence of edges) connecting each node to the root.
- *depth* of a node = # of edges on the path from it to the root
- Nodes with the same depth form a *level* of the tree.
- The *height* of a tree is the maximum depth of its nodes.
  - example: the tree above has a height of 2

# Binary Trees

- In a *binary tree*, nodes have *at most two* children.
- Recursive definition: a binary tree is either:
  - 1) empty, or
  - 2) a node (the root of the tree) that has
    - one or more data items
    - a *left child*, which is itself the root of a binary tree
    - a *right child*, which is itself the root of a binary tree

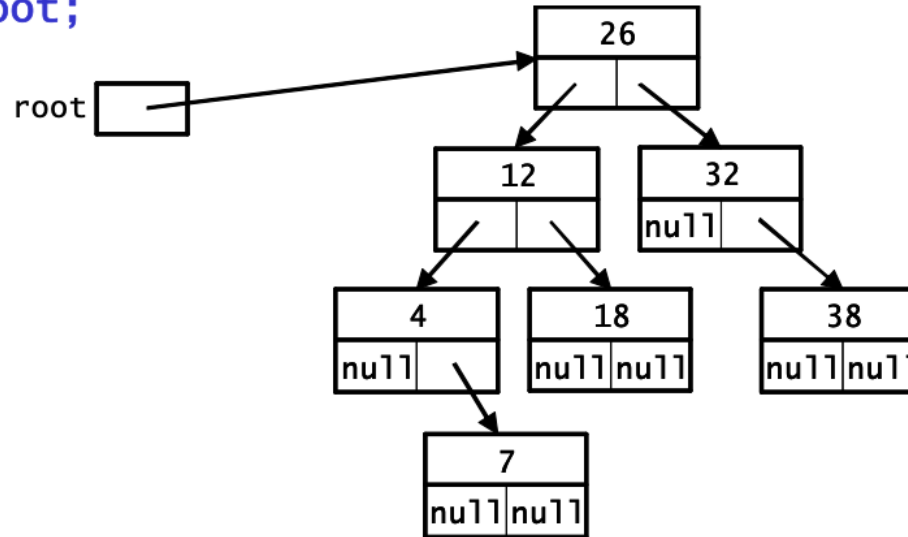
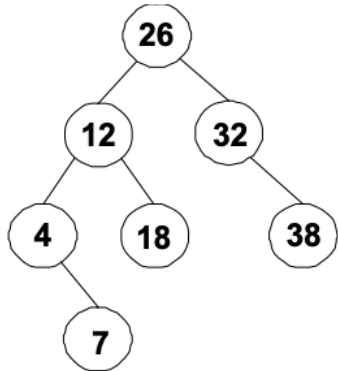
- Example:



- How are the edges of the tree represented?

## Representing a Binary Tree Using Linked Nodes

```
public class LinkedTree {  
    private class Node {  
        private int key;  
        private LList data; // list of data items  
        private Node left; // reference to left child  
        private Node right; // reference to right child  
        ...  
    }  
    private Node root;  
    ...  
}
```

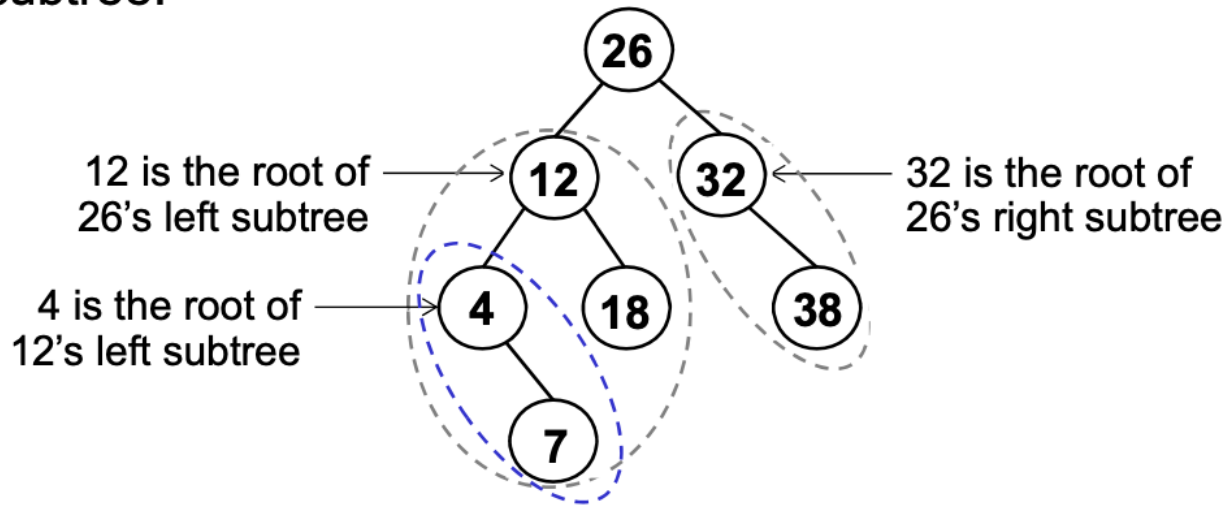


- see `~cscie119/examples/trees/LinkedTree.java`



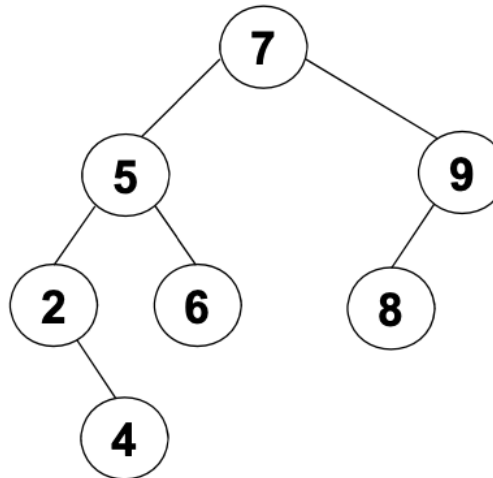
## Traversing a Binary Tree

- Traversing a tree involves *visiting* all of the nodes in the tree.
  - visiting a node = processing its data in some way
    - example: print the key
- We will look at four types of traversals. Each of them visits the nodes in a different order.
- To understand traversals, it helps to remember the recursive definition of a binary tree, in which every node is the root of a subtree.



## Preorder Traversal

- preorder traversal of the tree whose root is N:
  - 1) visit the root, N
  - 2) recursively perform a preorder traversal of N's left subtree
  - 3) recursively perform a preorder traversal of N's right subtree



- Preorder traversal of the tree above:  
**7 5 2 4 6 9 8**
- Which state-space search strategy visits nodes in this order?

## Implementing Preorder Traversal

```
public class LinkedTree {
    ...
    private Node root;

    public void preorderPrint() {
        if (root != null)
            preorderPrintTree(root);
    }

    private static void preorderPrintTree(Node root) {
        System.out.print(root.key + " ");
        if (root.left != null)
            preorderPrintTree(root.left);
        if (root.right != null)
            preorderPrintTree(root.right);
    }
}
```

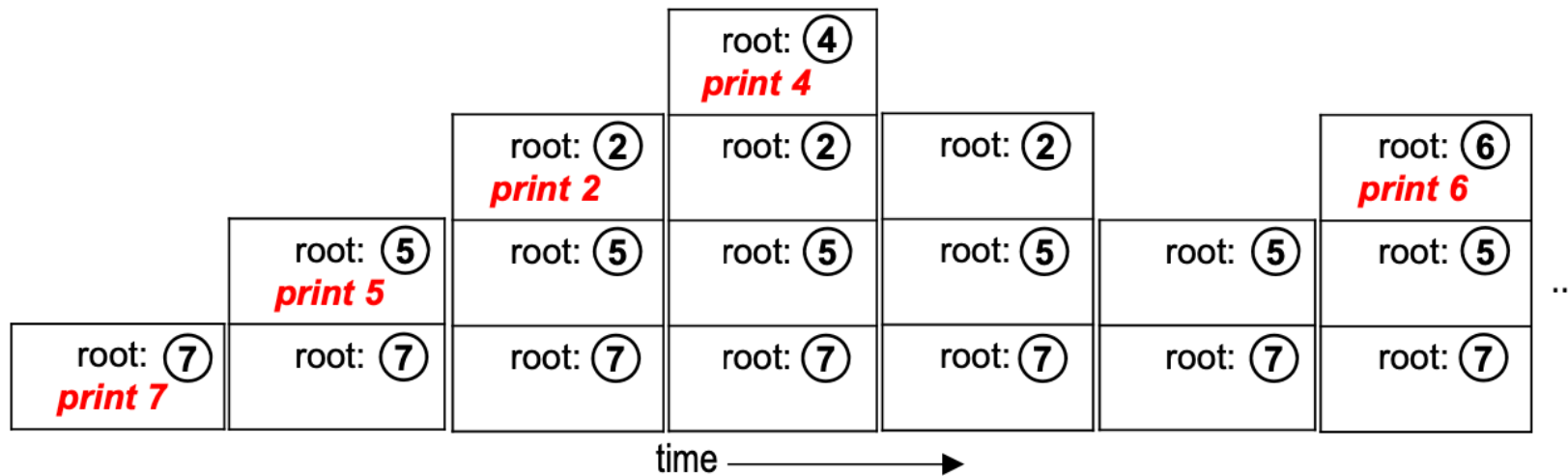
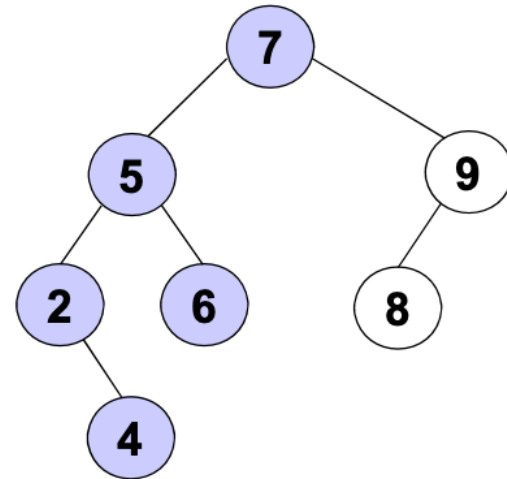
*Not always the same as the root of the entire tree.*

- `preorderPrintTree()` is a static, recursive method that takes as a parameter the root of the tree/subtree that you want to print.
- `preorderPrint()` is a non-static method that makes the initial call. It passes in the root of the entire tree as the parameter.

# Tracing Preorder Traversal

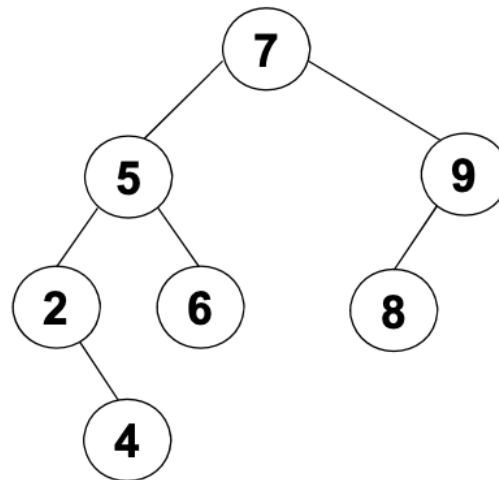
```

void preorderPrintTree(Node root) {
    System.out.print(root.key + " ");
    if (root.left != null)
        preorderPrintTree(root.left);
    if (root.right != null)
        preorderPrintTree(root.right);
}
    
```



## Postorder Traversal

- postorder traversal of the tree whose root is N:
  - 1) recursively perform a postorder traversal of N's left subtree
  - 2) recursively perform a postorder traversal of N's right subtree
  - 3) visit the root, N



- Postorder traversal of the tree above:  
**4 2 6 5 8 9 7**

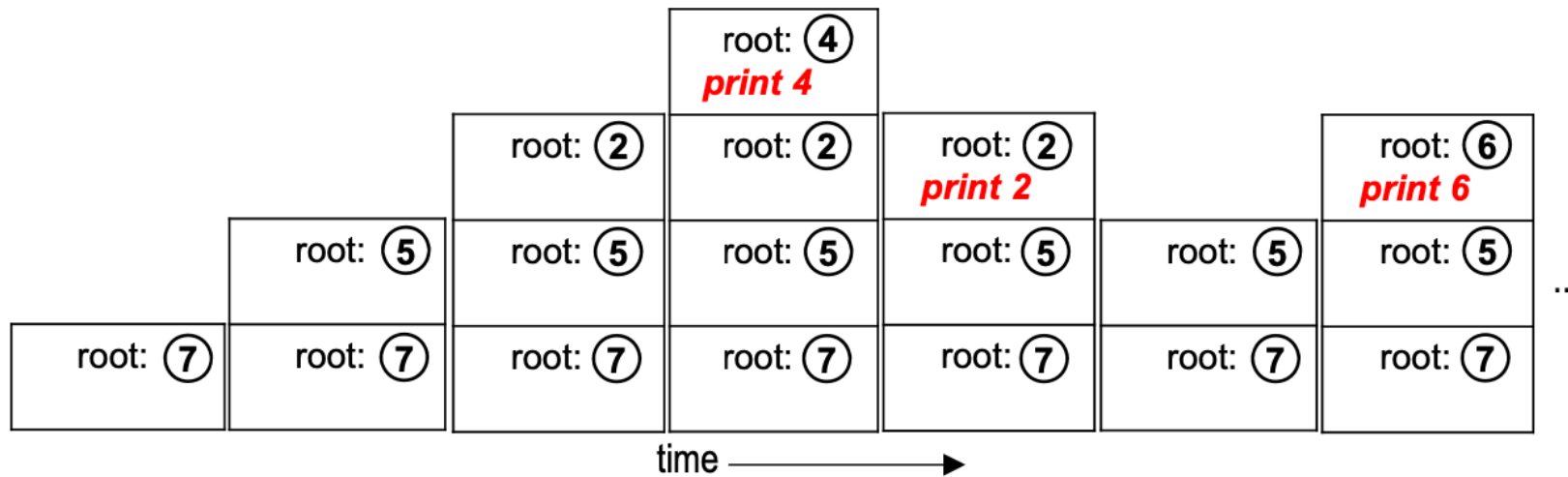
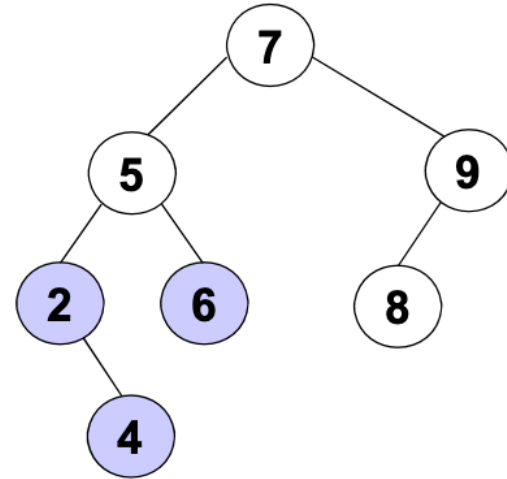
## Implementing Postorder Traversal

```
public class LinkedTree {
    ...
    private Node root;
    public void postorderPrint() {
        if (root != null)
            postorderPrintTree(root);
    }
    private static void postorderPrintTree(Node root) {
        if (root.left != null)
            postorderPrintTree(root.left);
        if (root.right != null)
            postorderPrintTree(root.right);
        System.out.print(root.key + " ");
    }
}
```

- Note that the root is printed *after* the two recursive calls.

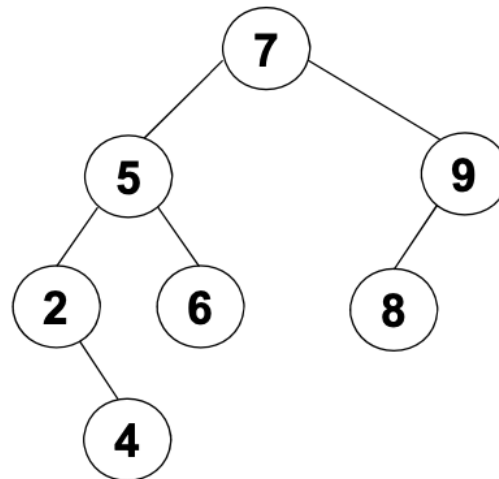
# Tracing Postorder Traversal

```
void postorderPrintTree(Node root) {  
    if (root.left != null)  
        postorderPrintTree(root.left);  
    if (root.right != null)  
        postorderPrintTree(root.right);  
    System.out.print(root.key + " ");  
}
```



## Inorder Traversal

- inorder traversal of the tree whose root is N:
  - 1) recursively perform an inorder traversal of N's left subtree
  - 2) visit the root, N
  - 3) recursively perform an inorder traversal of N's right subtree



- Inorder traversal of the tree above:  
**2 4 5 6 7 8 9**



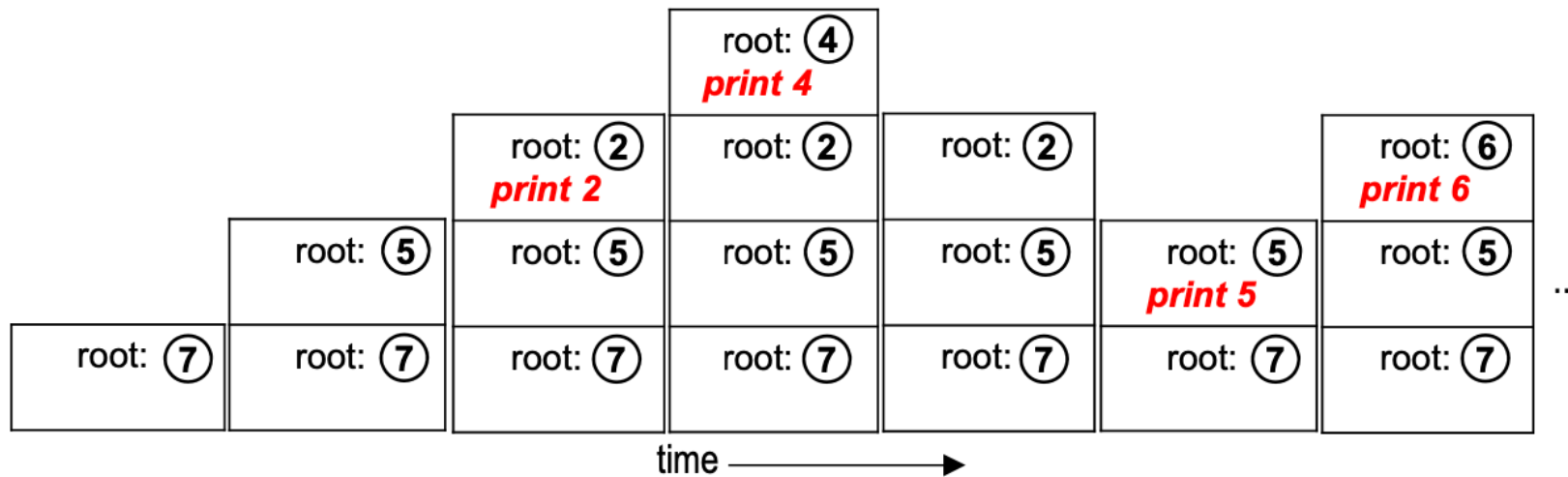
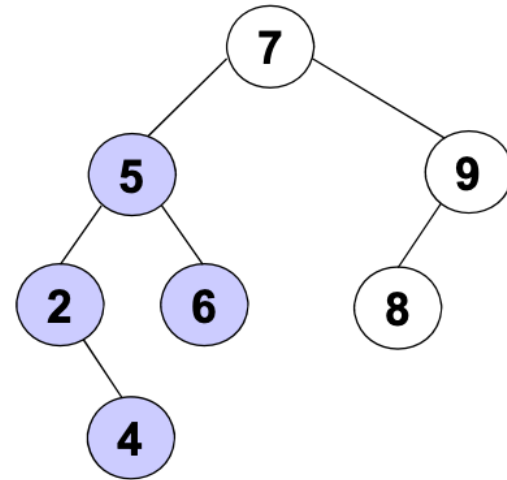
## Implementing Inorder Traversal

```
public class LinkedTree {
    ...
    private Node root;
    public void inorderPrint() {
        if (root != null)
            inorderPrintTree(root);
    }
    private static void inorderPrintTree(Node root) {
        if (root.left != null)
            inorderPrintTree(root.left);
        System.out.print(root.key + " ");
        if (root.right != null)
            inorderPrintTree(root.right);
    }
}
```

- Note that the root is printed *between* the two recursive calls.

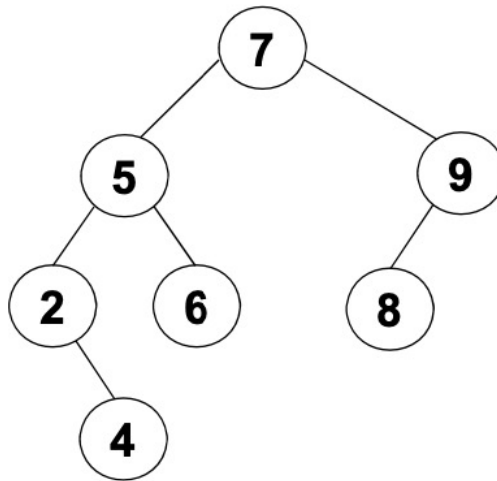
## Tracing Inorder Traversal

```
void inorderPrintTree(Node root) {
    if (root.left != null)
        inorderPrintTree(root.left);
    System.out.print(root.key + " ");
    if (root.right != null)
        inorderPrintTree(root.right);
}
```



## Level-Order Traversal

- Visit the nodes one level at a time, from top to bottom and left to right.



- Level-order traversal of the tree above: **7 5 9 2 6 8 4**
- Which state-space search strategy visits nodes in this order?
- How could we implement this type of traversal?

## Tree-Traversal Summary

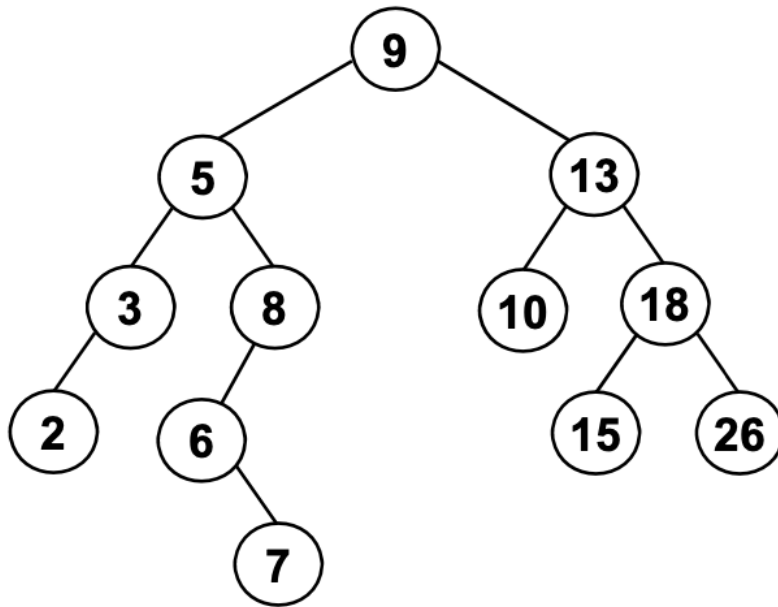
preorder: root, left subtree, right subtree

postorder: left subtree, right subtree, root

inorder: left subtree, root, right subtree

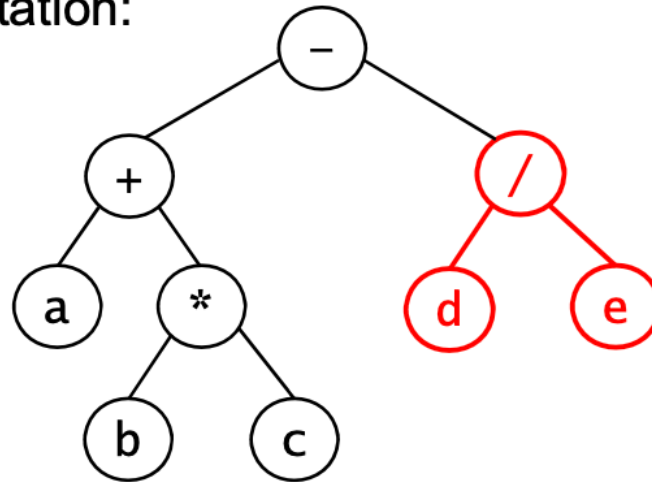
level-order: top to bottom, left to right

- Perform each type of traversal on the tree below:



## Using a Binary Tree for an Algebraic Expression

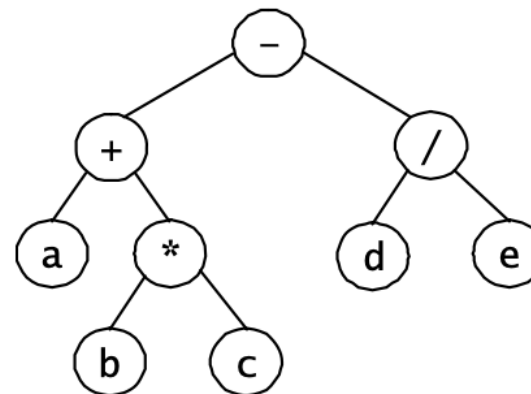
- We'll restrict ourselves to fully parenthesized expressions and to the following binary operators:  $+$ ,  $-$ ,  $*$ ,  $/$
- Example expression:  $((a + (b * c)) - (d / e))$
- Tree representation:



- Leaf nodes are variables or constants; interior nodes are operators.
- Because the operators are binary, either a node has two children or it has none.

## Traversing an Algebraic-Expression Tree

- Inorder gives conventional algebraic notation.
  - print '(' before the recursive call on the left subtree
  - print ')' after the recursive call on the right subtree
  - for tree at right:  $((a + (b * c)) - (d / e))$
- Preorder gives functional notation.
  - print '('s and ')'s as for inorder, and commas after the recursive call on the left subtree
  - for tree above: `subtr(add(a, mult(b, c)), divide(d, e))`
- Postorder gives the order in which the computation must be carried out on a stack/RPN calculator.
  - for tree above: push a, push b, push c, multiply, add,...
- see `~cscie119/examples/trees/ExprTree.java`



## Fixed-Length Character Encodings

- A character encoding maps each character to a number.
- Computers usually use fixed-length character encodings.
  - ASCII (American Standard Code for Information Interchange) uses 8 bits per character.

char	dec	binary
a	97	01100001
b	98	01100010
c	99	01100011
...	...	...

example: “bat” is stored in a text file as the following sequence of bits:  
01100010 01100001 01110100

- Unicode uses 16 bits per character to accommodate foreign-language characters. (ASCII codes are a subset.)
- Fixed-length encodings are simple, because
  - all character encodings have the same length
  - a given character always has the same encoding

## Variable-Length Character Encodings

- Problem: fixed-length encodings waste space.
- Solution: use a variable-length encoding.
  - use encodings of different lengths for different characters
  - assign shorter encodings to frequently occurring characters

• Example:

e	01
o	100
s	111
t	00

“test” would be encoded as

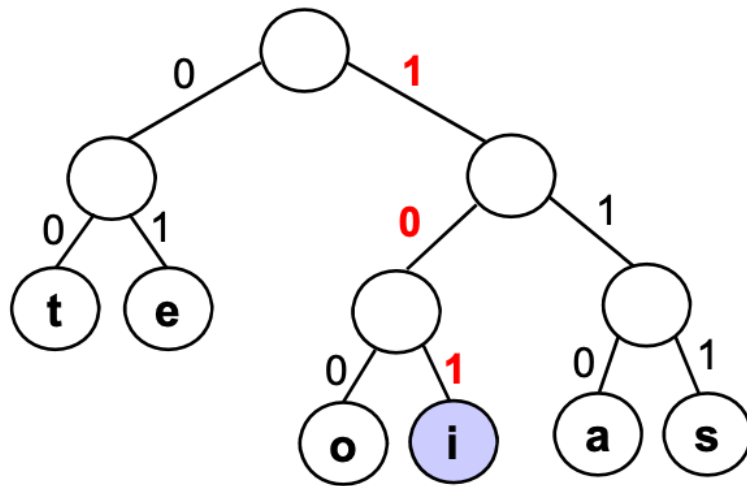
00 01 111 00 → 000111100

- Challenge: when decoding/decompressing an encoded document, how do we determine the boundaries between characters?
  - example: for the above encoding, how do we know whether the next character is 2 bits or 3 bits?
- One requirement: no character’s encoding can be the prefix of another character’s encoding (e.g., couldn’t have 00 and 001).



# Huffman Encoding

- Huffman encoding is a type of variable-length encoding that is based on the actual character frequencies in a given document.
- Huffman encoding uses a binary tree:
  - to determine the encoding of each character
  - to decode an encoded file – i.e., to decompress a compressed file, putting it back into ASCII
- Example of a Huffman tree (for a text with only six chars):



Leaf nodes are characters.

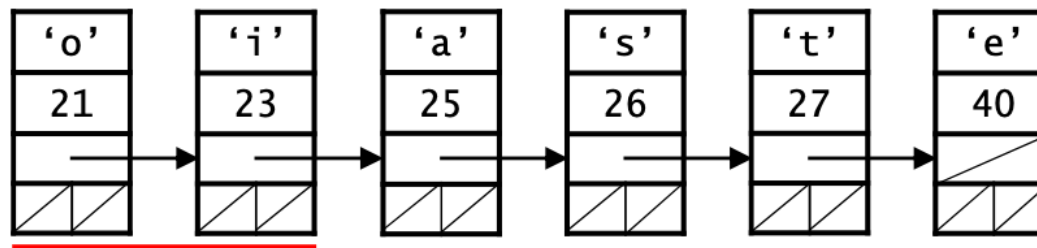
Left branches are labeled with a 0, and right branches are labeled with a 1.

If you follow a path from root to leaf, you get the encoding of the character in the leaf

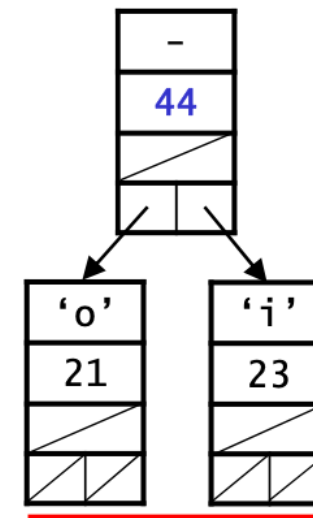
example: 101 = 'i'

## Building a Huffman Tree

- 1) Begin by reading through the text to determine the frequencies.
- 2) Create a list of nodes that contain (character, frequency) pairs for each character that appears in the text.

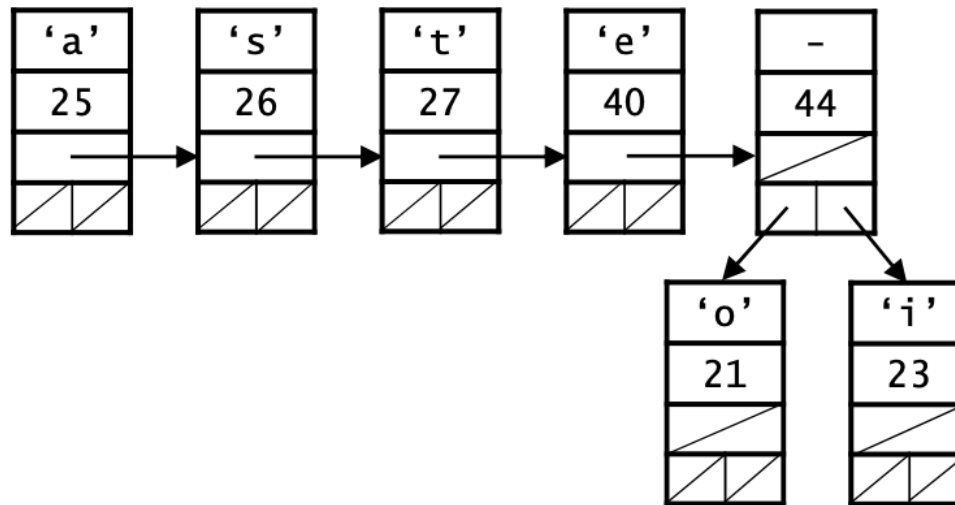


- 3) Remove and “merge” the nodes with the two lowest frequencies, forming a new node that is their parent.
  - left child = lowest frequency node
  - right child = the other node
  - frequency of parent = sum of the frequencies of its children
    - in this case,  $21 + 23 = 44$



## Building a Huffman Tree (cont.)

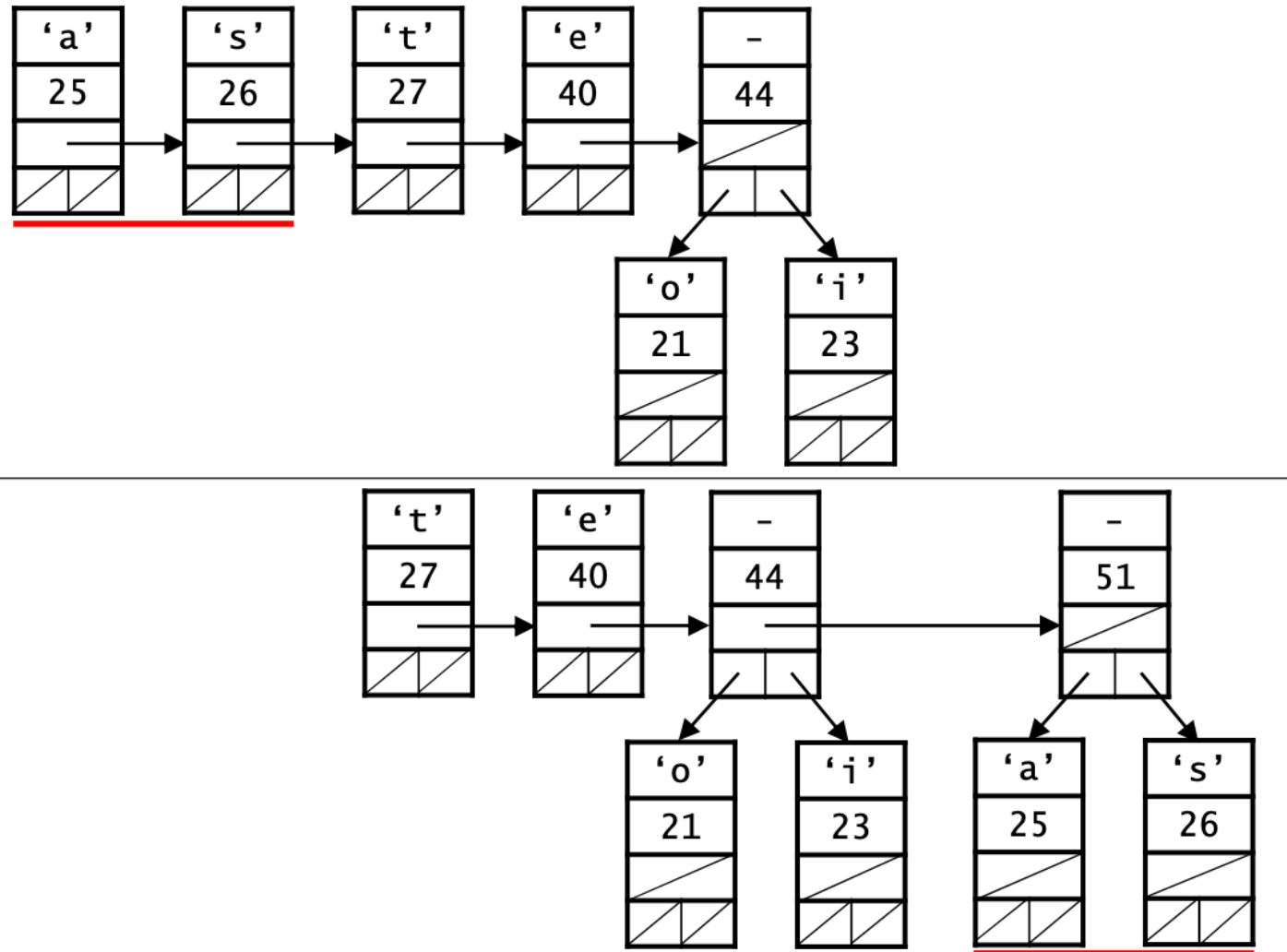
4) Add the parent to the list of nodes:



5) Repeat steps 3 and 4 until there is only a single node in the list, which will be the root of the Huffman tree.

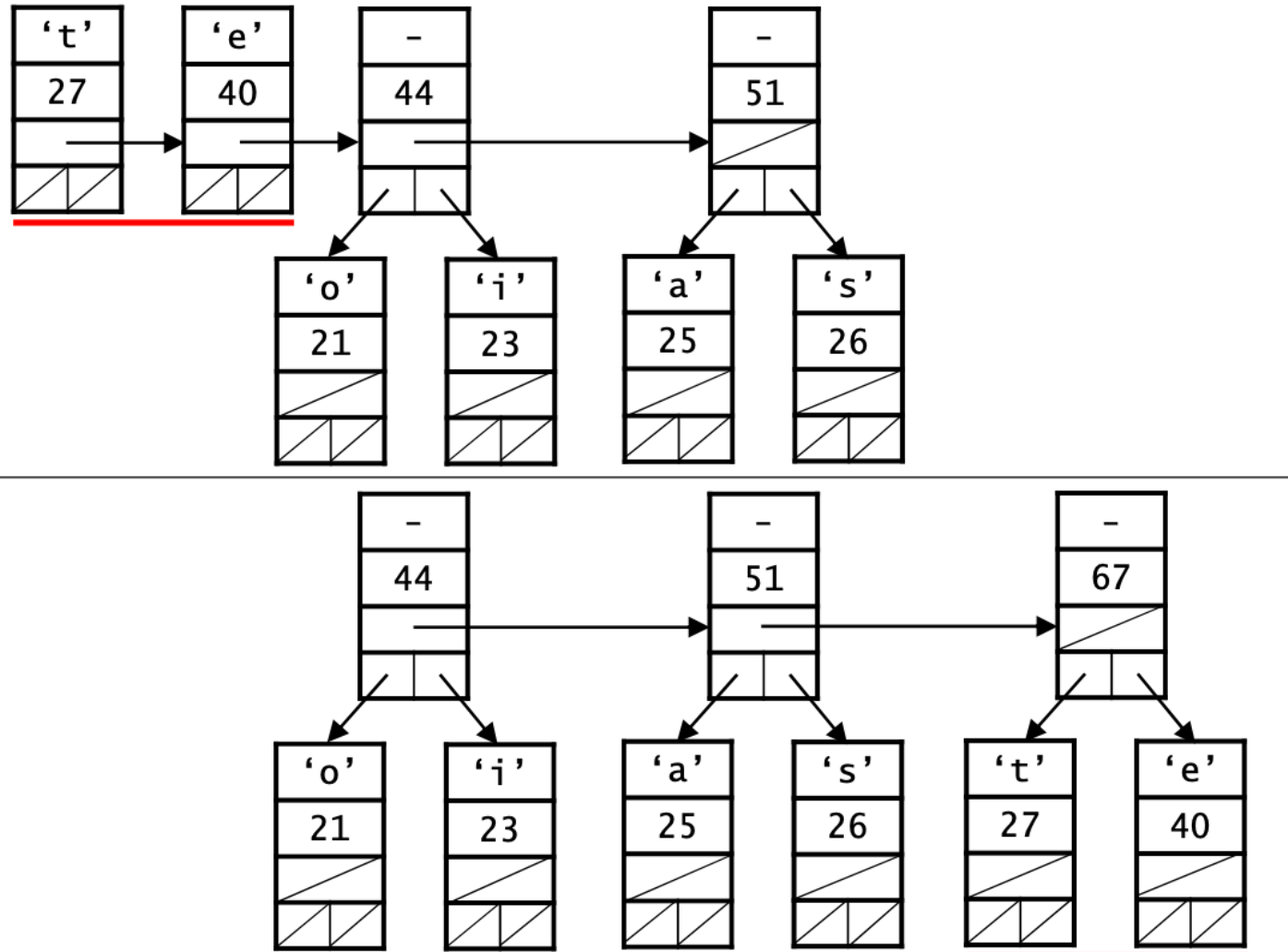
## Completing the Huffman Tree Example I

- Merge the two remaining nodes with the lowest frequencies:



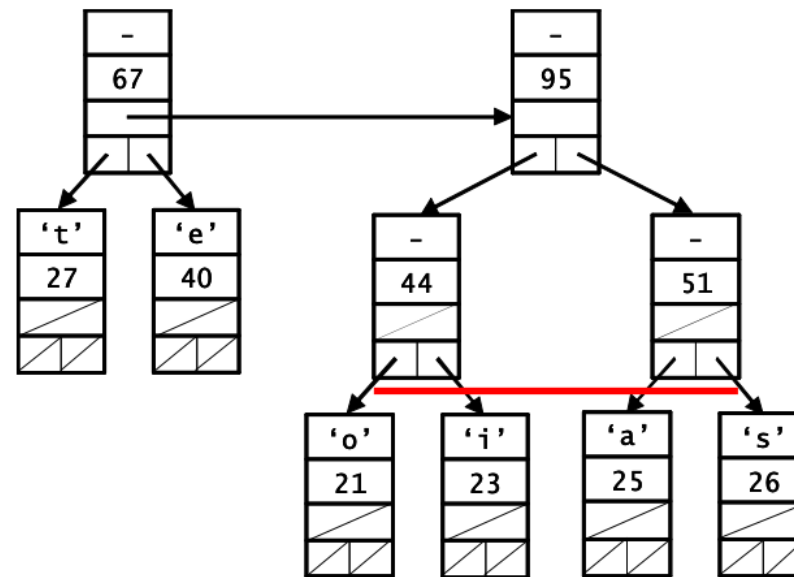
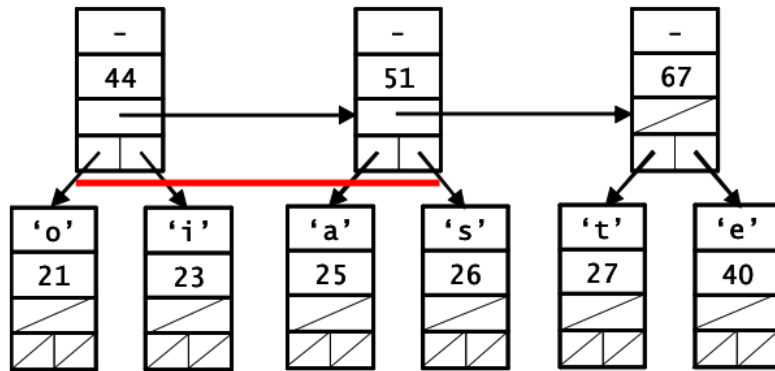
## Completing the Huffman Tree Example II

- Merge the next two nodes:



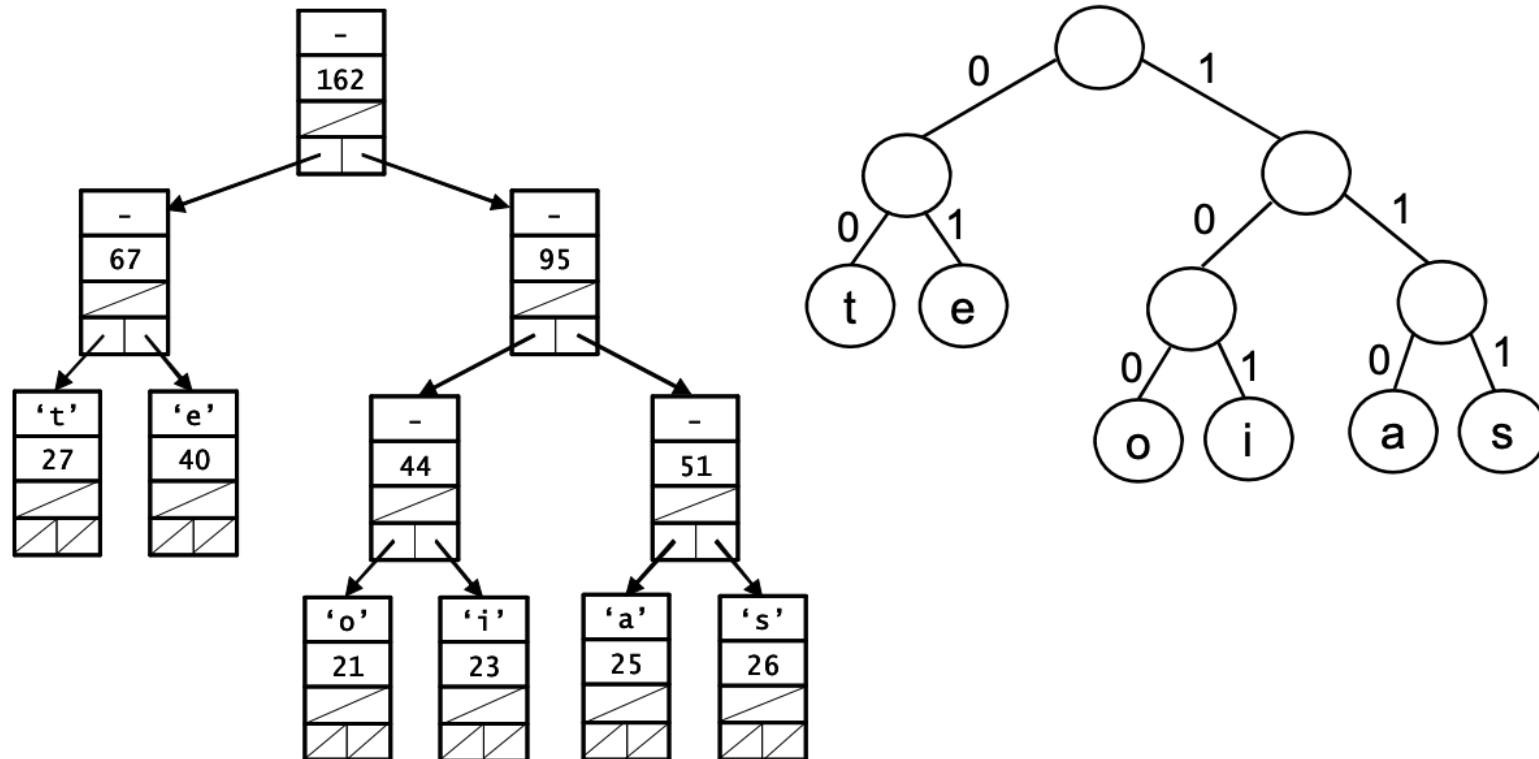
## Completing the Huffman Tree Example III

- Merge again:



## Completing the Huffman Tree Example IV

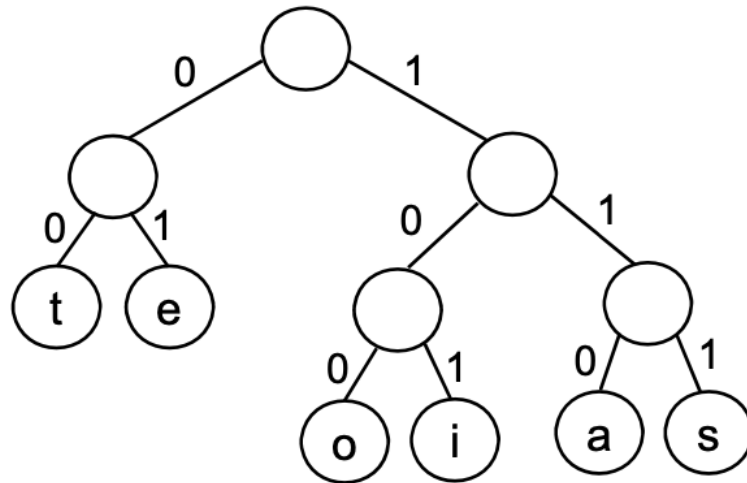
- The next merge creates the final tree:



- Characters that appear more frequently end up higher in the tree, and thus their encodings are shorter.

## Using Huffman Encoding to Compress a File

- 1) Read through the input file and build its Huffman tree.
- 2) Write a file header for the output file.
  - include an array containing the frequencies so that the tree can be rebuilt when the file is decompressed.
- 3) Traverse the Huffman tree to create a table containing the encoding of each character:



a	?
e	?
i	101
o	100
s	111
t	00

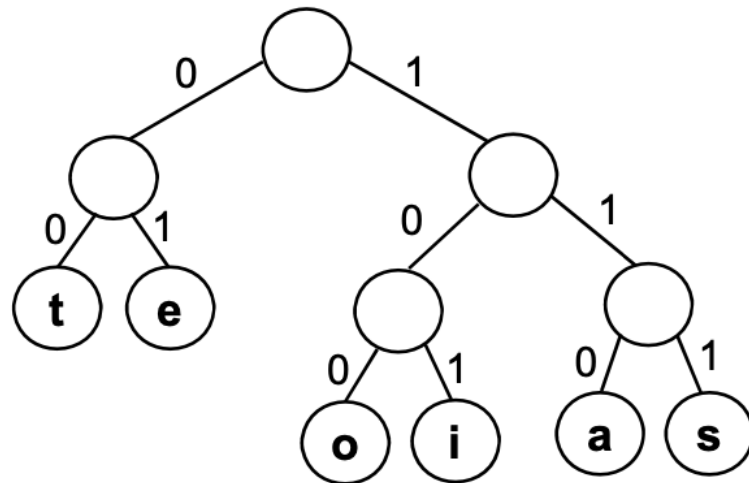
- 4) Read through the input file a second time, and write the Huffman code for each character to the output file.



## Using Huffman Decoding to Decompress a File

- 1) Read the frequency table from the header and rebuild the tree.
- 2) Read one bit at a time and traverse the tree, starting from the root:
  - when you read a bit of 1, go to the right child
  - when you read a bit of 0, go to the left child
  - when you reach a leaf node, record the character,
  - return to the root, and continue reading bits

*The tree allows us to easily overcome the challenge of determining the character boundaries!*



example: 101111110000111100

101 = right,left,right = i

111 = right,right,right = s

110 = right,right,left = a

00 = left,left = t

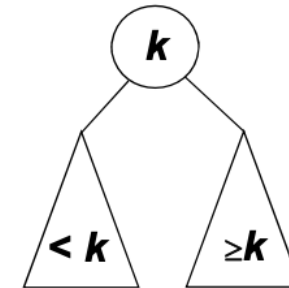
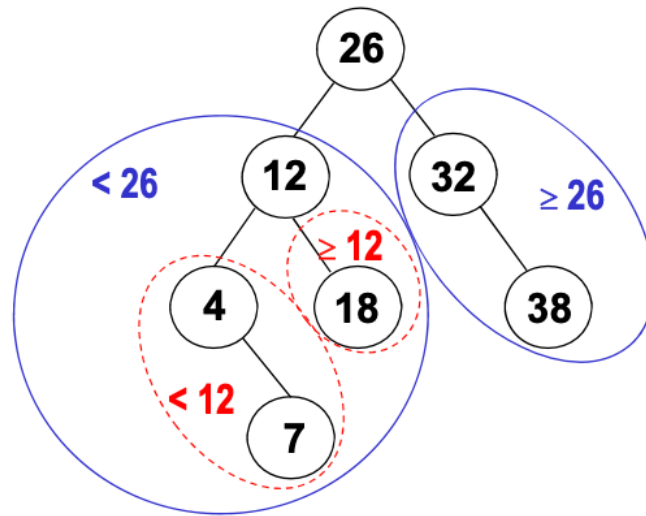
01 = left,right = e

111 = right,right,right = s

00 = left,left = t

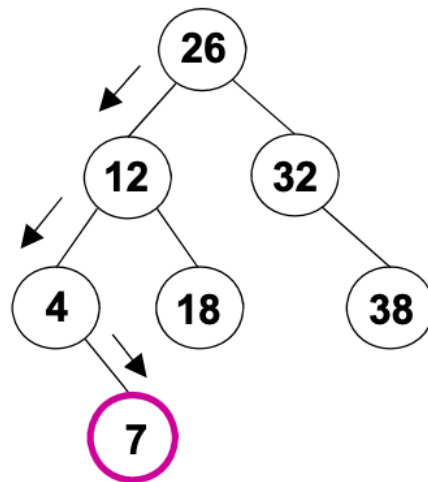
## Binary Search Trees

- Search-tree property: for each node  $k$ :
  - all nodes in  $k$ 's left subtree are  $< k$
  - all nodes in  $k$ 's right subtree are  $\geq k$
- Our earlier binary-tree example is a search tree:



## Searching for an Item in a Binary Search Tree

- Algorithm for searching for an item with a key  $k$ :
  - if  $k ==$  the root node's key, you're done
  - else if  $k <$  the root node's key, search the left subtree
  - else search the right subtree
- Example: search for 7



## Implementing Binary-Tree Search

```
public class LinkedTree {    // Nodes have keys that are ints
    ...
    private Node root;

    public LList search(int key) {
        Node n = searchTree(root, key);
        return (n == null ? null : n.data);
    }

    private static Node searchTree(Node root, int key) {
        // write together
    }
}
```

- If we find a node that has the specified key, we return its data field, which holds a list of the data items for that key.

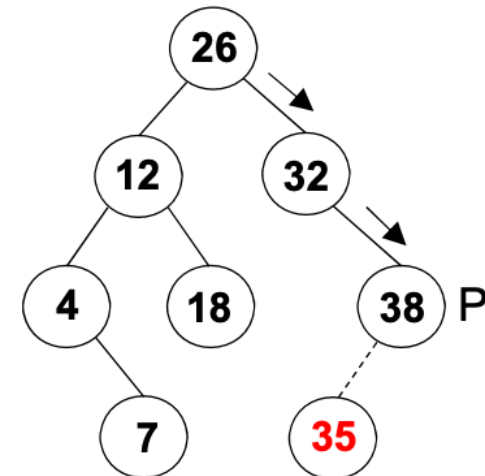
## Binary-Tree Search : complete method

```
private static Node searchTree(Node root, int key) {  
    if (root == null || root.key == key) {  
        return root;  
    }  
    if (key < root.key) {  
        return searchTree(root.left, key);  
    } else {  
        return searchTree(root.right, key);  
    }  
}
```

## Inserting an Item in a Binary Search Tree

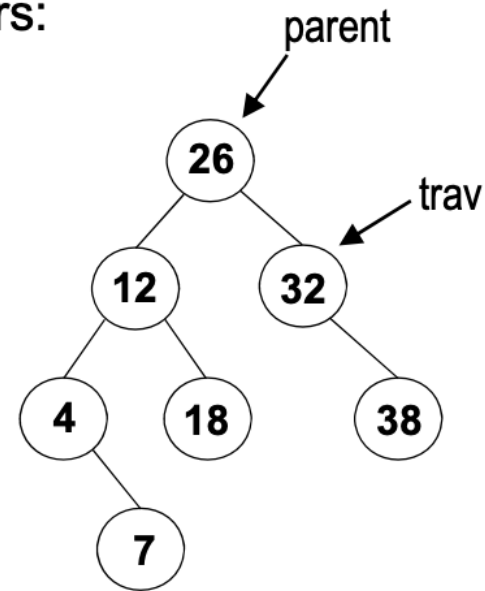
- We want to insert an item whose key is  $k$ .
- We traverse the tree as if we were searching for  $k$ .
- If we find a node with key  $k$ , we add the data item to the list of items for that node.
- If we don't find it, the last node we encounter will be the parent  $P$  of the new node.
  - if  $k < P$ 's key, make the new node  $P$ 's left child
  - else make the node  $P$ 's right child
- *Special case:* if the tree is empty, make the new node the root of the tree.
- The resulting tree is still a search tree.

example: insert 35



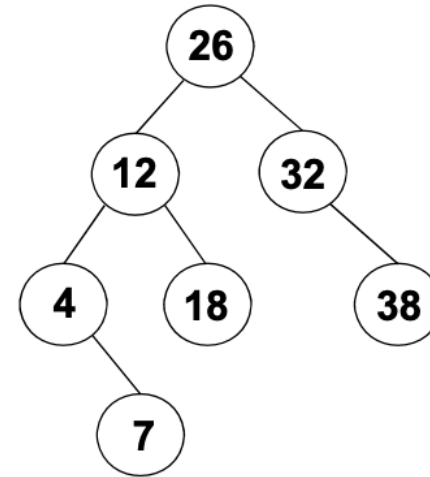
## Implementing Binary-Tree Insertion

- We'll implement part of the `insert()` method together.
- We'll use iteration rather than recursion.
- Our method will use two references/pointers:
  - `trav`: performs the traversal down to the point of insertion
  - `parent`: stays one behind `trav`
    - like the `trail` reference that we sometimes use when traversing a linked list



## Implementing Binary-Tree Insertion

```
public void insert(int key, Object data) {  
    Node parent = null;  
    Node trav = root;  
    while (trav != null) {  
        if (trav.key == key) {  
            trav.data.addItem(data, 0);  
            return;  
        }  
    }
```



```
    }  
    Node newNode = new Node(key, data);  
    if (parent == null) // the tree was empty  
        root = newNode;  
    else if (key < parent.key)  
        parent.left = newNode;  
    else  
        parent.right = newNode;  
}
```



## Binary-Tree Insertion : complete method

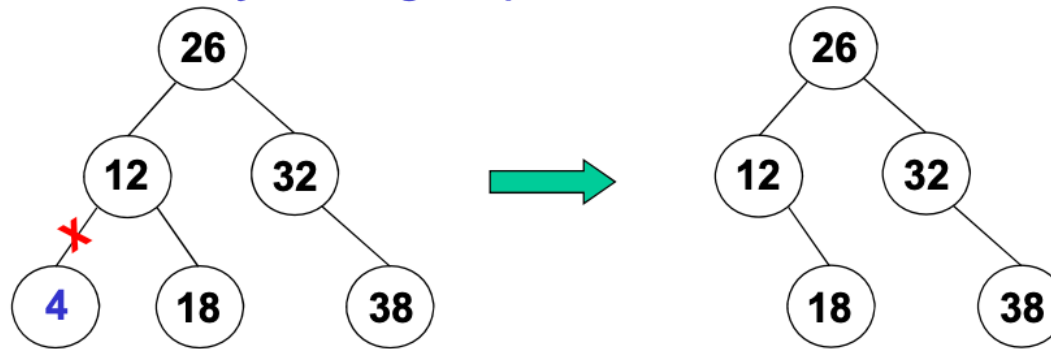
```
public void insert(int key, Object data) {
    Node parent = null;
    Node trav = root;
    while (trav != null) {
        if (trav.key == key) {
            // `addItem` is a method that adds the item to the node's data.
            trav.data = data;
            return;
        }
        parent = trav; // Update the parent before going deeper
        if (key < trav.key) {
            trav = trav.left;
        } else {
            trav = trav.right;
        }
    }

    Node newNode = new Node(key, data);
    if (parent == null) // the tree was empty
        root = newNode;
    else if (key < parent.key)
        parent.left = newNode;
    else
        parent.right = newNode;
}
```

## Deleting Items from a Binary Search Tree

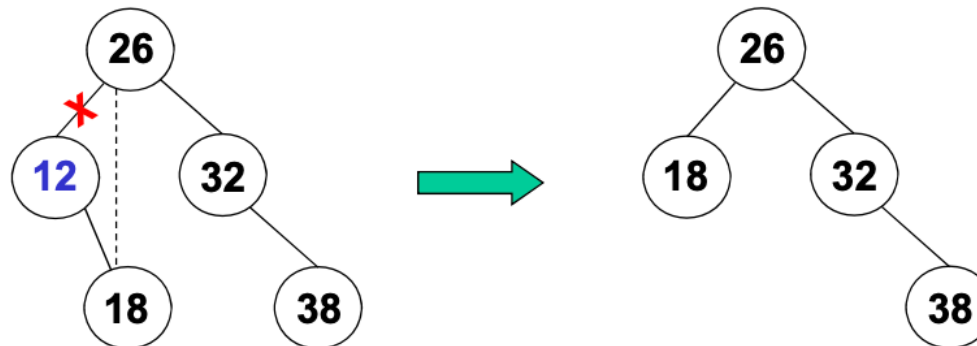
- Three cases for deleting a node  $x$
- **Case 1:**  $x$  has no children.  
Remove  $x$  from the tree by setting its parent's reference to null.

ex: delete 4



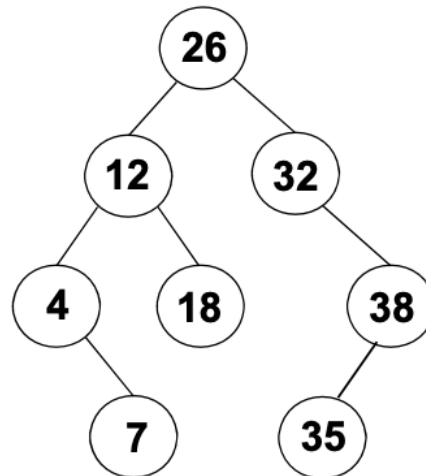
- **Case 2:**  $x$  has one child.  
Take the parent's reference to  $x$  and make it refer to  $x$ 's child.

ex: delete 12



## Deleting Items from a Binary Search Tree (cont.)

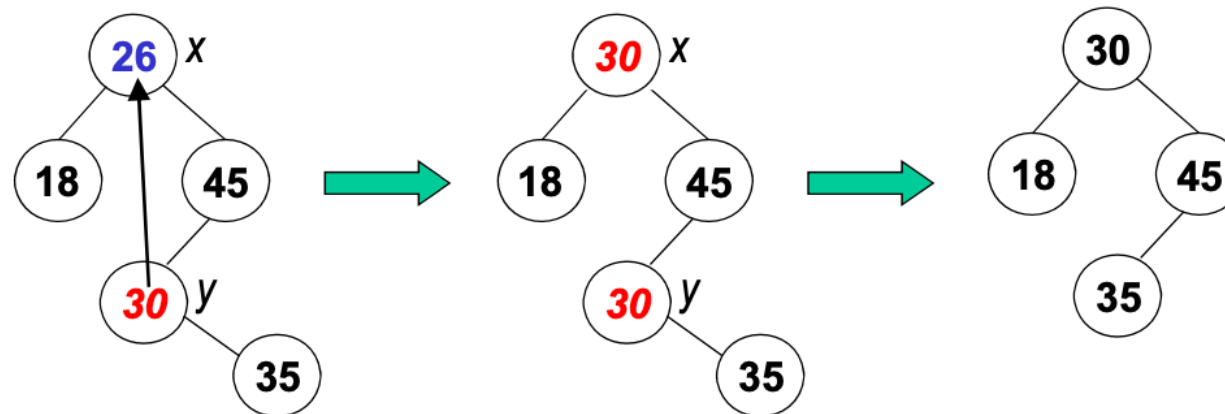
- **Case 3:**  $x$  has two children
  - we can't just delete  $x$ . why?
  - instead, we replace  $x$  with a node from elsewhere in the tree
  - to maintain the search-tree property, we must choose the replacement carefully
    - example: what nodes could replace 26 below?



## Deleting Items from a Binary Search Tree (cont.)

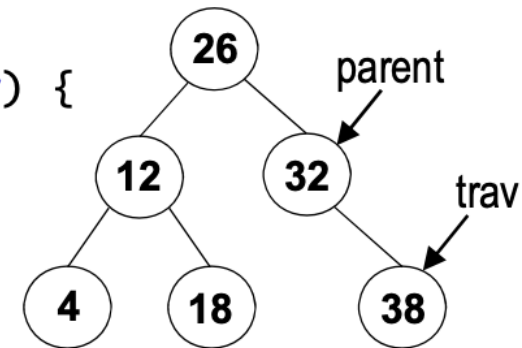
- **Case 3:**  $x$  has two children (continued):
  - replace  $x$  with the smallest node in  $x$ 's right subtree—call it  $y$ 
    - $y$  will either be a leaf node or will have one right child. why?
- After copying  $y$ 's item into  $x$ , we delete  $y$  using case 1 or 2.

ex:  
delete 26



## Implementing Binary-Tree Deletion

```
public LList delete(int key) {  
    // Find the node and its parent.  
    Node parent = null;  
    Node trav = root;  
    while (trav != null && trav.key != key) {  
        parent = trav;  
        if (key < trav.key)  
            trav = trav.left;  
        else  
            trav = trav.right;  
    }  
  
    // Delete the node (if any) and return the removed items.  
    if (trav == null) // no such key  
        return null;  
    else {  
        LList removedData = trav.data;  
        deleteNode(trav, parent);  
        return removedData;  
    }  
}
```



- This method uses a helper method to delete the node.

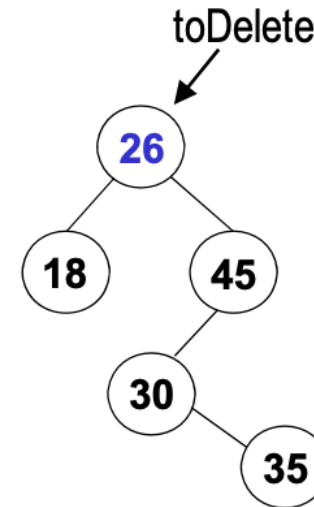
## Implementing Case 3

```
private void deleteNode(Node toDelete, Node parent) {
    if (toDelete.left != null && toDelete.right != null) {
        // Find a replacement - and
        // the replacement's parent.
        Node replaceParent = toDelete;

        // Get the smallest item
        // in the right subtree.
        Node replace = toDelete.right;
        // what should go here?

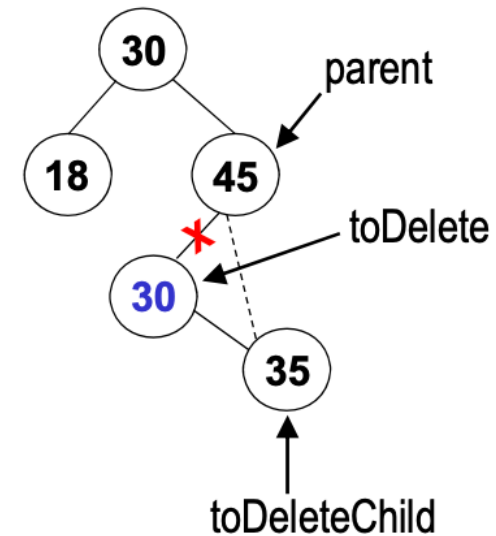
        // Replace toDelete's key and data
        // with those of the replacement item.
        toDelete.key = replace.key;
        toDelete.data = replace.data;

        // Recursively delete the replacement
        // item's old node. It has at most one
        // child, so we don't have to
        // worry about infinite recursion.
        deleteNode(replace, replaceParent);
    } else {
        ...
    }
}
```



## Implementing Cases 1 and 2

```
private void deleteNode(Node toDelete, Node parent) {  
    if (toDelete.left != null && toDelete.right != null) {  
        ...  
    } else {  
        Node toDeleteChild;  
        if (toDelete.left != null)  
            toDeleteChild = toDelete.left;  
        else  
            toDeleteChild = toDelete.right;  
        // Note: in case 1, toDeleteChild  
        // will have a value of null.  
  
        if (toDelete == root)  
            root = toDeleteChild;  
        else if (toDelete.key < parent.key)  
            parent.left = toDeleteChild;  
        else  
            parent.right = toDeleteChild;  
    }  
}
```



## Binary-Tree Deletion : complete method (1)

```
public Object delete(int key) {
    // Find the node and its parent.
    Node parent = null;
    Node trav = root;
    while (trav != null && trav.key != key) {
        parent = trav;
        if (key < trav.key)
            trav = trav.left;
        else
            trav = trav.right;
    }
    // Delete the node (if any) and return the removed items.
    if (trav == null) // no such key
        return null;
    else {
        Object removedData = trav.data;
        deleteNode(trav, parent);
        return removedData;
    }
}
```



## Binary-Tree Deletion : complete method (case 3)

```
private void deleteNode(Node toDelete, Node parent) {
    if (toDelete.left != null && toDelete.right != null) {
        // Find a replacement – and
        // the replacement's parent.
        Node replaceParent = toDelete;
        // Get "y", the smallest item
        // in the right subtree.
        Node replace = toDelete.right;
        while (replace.left != null) {
            replaceParent = replace;
            replace = replace.left;
        }

        // Replace toDelete's key and data
        // with those of the replacement item.
        toDelete.key = replace.key;
        toDelete.data = replace.data;

        // Delete the replacement node
        if (replaceParent.left == replace) {
            replaceParent.left = replace.right;
        } else {
            replaceParent.right = replace.right;
        }
    }
}
```

## Binary-Tree Deletion : complete method (case 1 and 2)

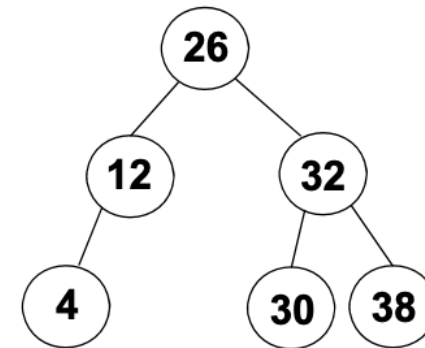
```
    if (toDelete.left != null && toDelete.right != null) {  
    } else {  
        Node toDeleteChild;  
        if (toDelete.left != null)  
            toDeleteChild = toDelete.left;  
        else  
            toDeleteChild = toDelete.right;  
        // Note: in case 1, toDeleteChild  
        // will have a value of null.  
        if (toDelete == root)  
            root = toDeleteChild;  
        else if (toDelete.key < parent.key)  
            parent.left = toDeleteChild;  
        else  
            parent.right = toDeleteChild;  
    }  
}
```

## Efficiency of a Binary Search Tree

- The three key operations (search, insert, and delete) all have the same time complexity.
  - insert and delete both involve a search followed by a constant number of additional operations
- Time complexity of searching a binary search tree:
  - best case:  $O(1)$
  - worst case:  $O(h)$ , where  $h$  is the height of the tree
  - average case:  $O(h)$
- What is the height of a tree containing  $n$  items?
  - it depends! why?

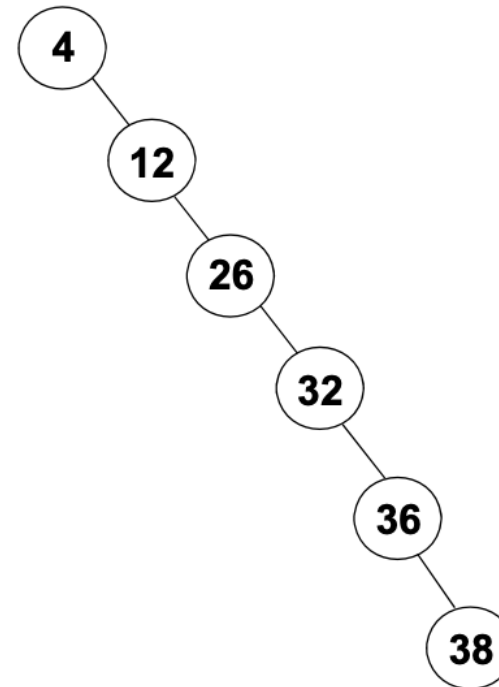
## Balanced Trees

- A tree is *balanced* if, for each node, the node's subtrees have the same height or have heights that differ by 1.
- For a balanced tree with  $n$  nodes:
  - height =  $O(\log_2 n)$ .
  - gives a worst-case time complexity that is logarithmic ( $O(\log_2 n)$ )
    - the best worst-case time complexity for a binary tree



## What If the Tree Isn't Balanced?

- Extreme case: the tree is equivalent to a linked list
  - height =  $n - 1$
  - worst-case time complexity =  $O(n)$

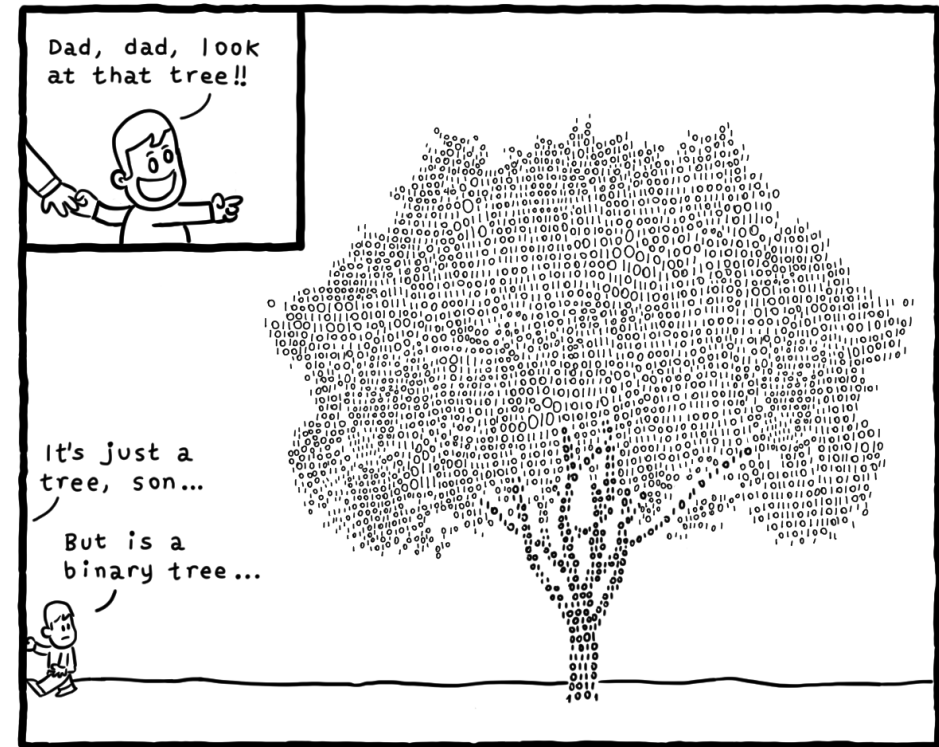


# Coming next:

Assignment on Moodle:

implement binary trees and Huffman's encoding

Documents are here:



<https://www-l2ti.univ-paris13.fr/~viennet/ens/2024-USTH-Graphs>