



Trees

LO:

build a tree of a data structure





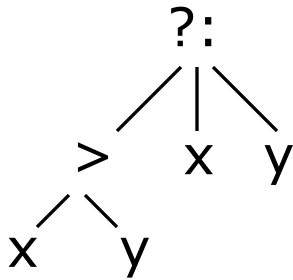
File systems

- File systems are almost always implemented as a tree structure
 - The nodes in the tree are of (at least) two types: *folders* (or *directories*), and *plain files*
 - A folder typically has children—subfolders and plain files
 - A folder also contains a link to its parent—in both Windows and UNIX, this link is denoted by `..`
 - In UNIX, the root of the tree is denoted by `/`
 - A plain file is typically a leaf

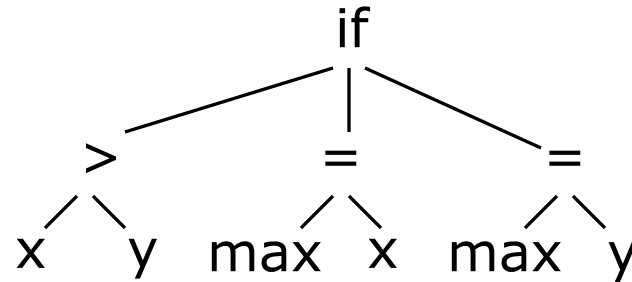
Family trees

Trees for expressions and statements

- Examples:



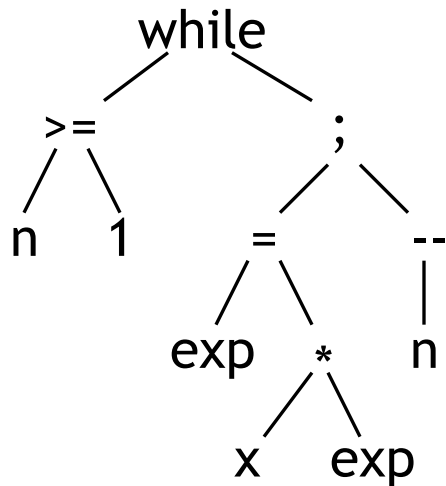
The expression `x > y ? x : y`



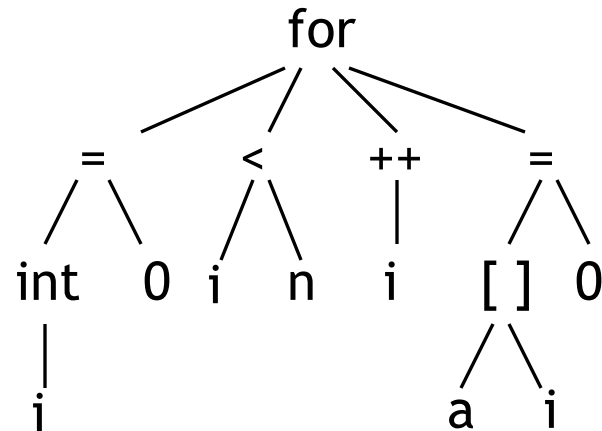
The statement `if (x > y) max = x;`
`else max = y;`

More trees for statements

```
while (n >= 1) {  
    exp = x * exp;  
    n--;  
}
```

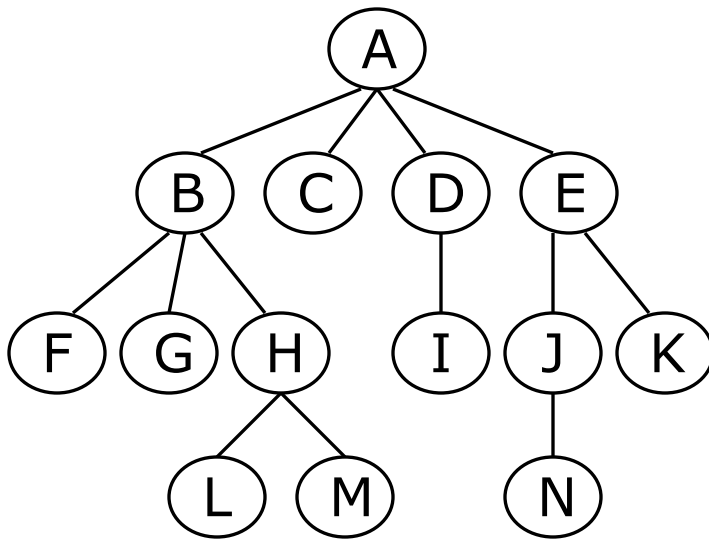


```
for (int i = 0; i < n; i++)  
    a[i] = 0;
```



Definition of a tree

- A **tree** is a node with a **value** and zero or more **children**
 - Depending on the needs of the program, the children may or may not be ordered



- A tree has a **root**, **internal nodes**, and **leaves**
- Each node contains an **element** and has **branches** leading to other nodes (its **children**)
- Each node (other than the root) has a **parent**
- Each node has a **depth** (distance from the root)

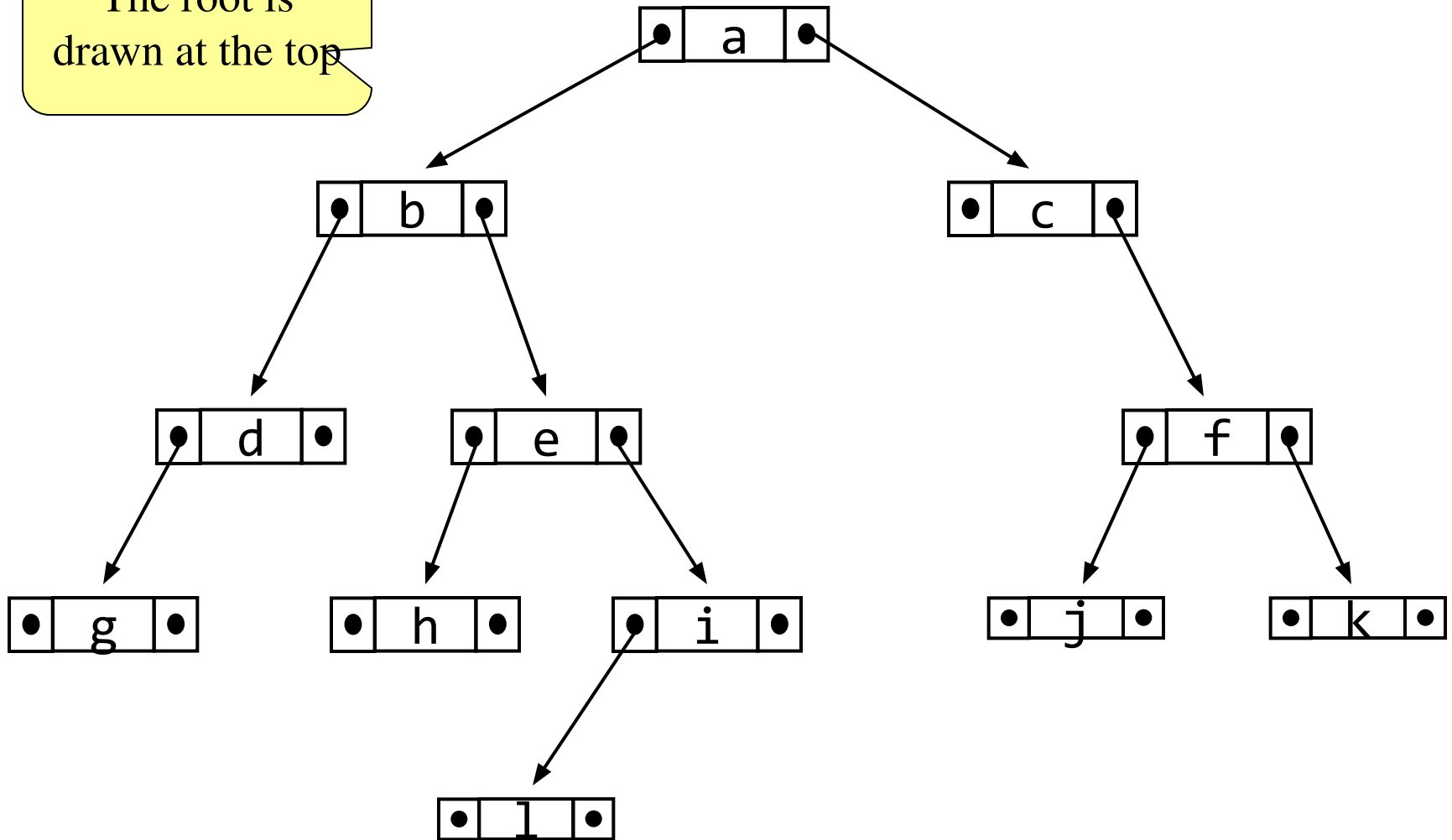


Parts of a binary tree

- A binary tree is composed of zero or more **nodes**
- Each node contains:
 - A **value** (some sort of data item)
 - A reference or pointer to a **left child** (may be **null**), and
 - A reference or pointer to a **right child** (may be **null**)
- A binary tree may be *empty* (contain no nodes)
- If not empty, a binary tree has a **root node**
 - Every node in the binary tree is reachable from the root node by a *unique* path
- A node with no left child and no right child is called a **leaf**
 - In some binary trees, only the leaves contain a value

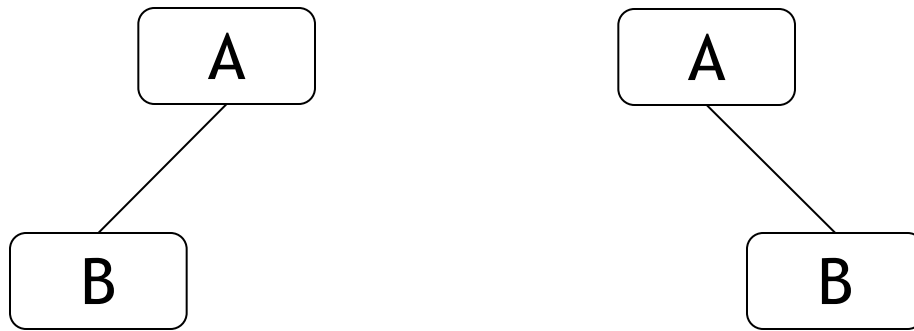
Picture of a binary tree

The root is drawn at the top



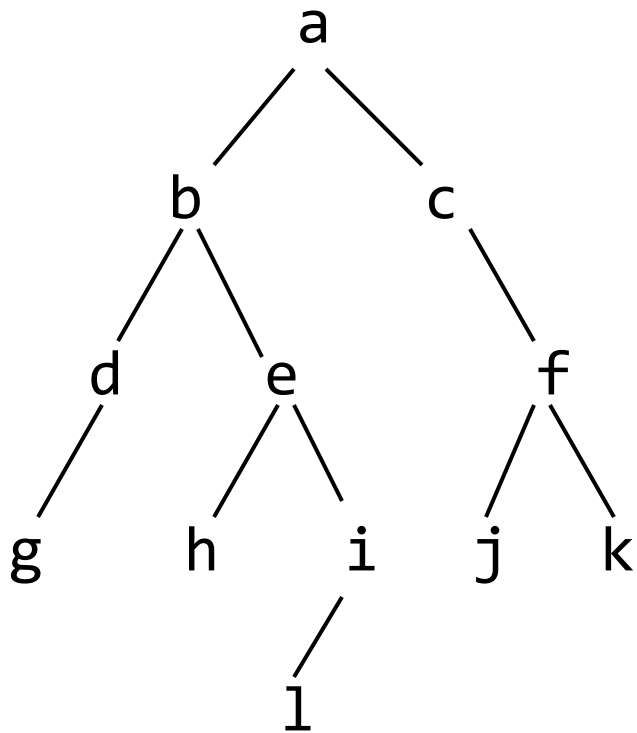
Left \neq Right

- The following two binary trees are *different*:



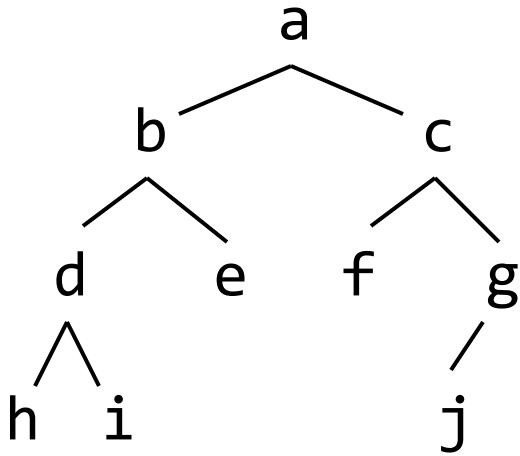
- In the first binary tree, node A has a left child but no right child; in the second, node A has a right child but no left child
- Put another way: Left and right are *not* relative terms

Size and depth

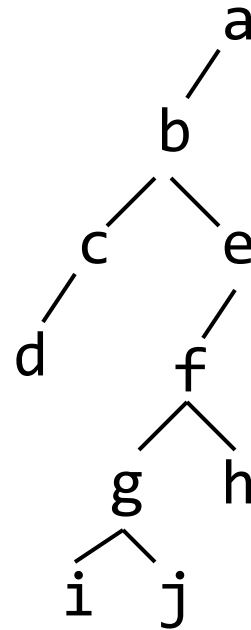


- The **size** of a binary tree is the number of nodes in it
 - This tree has size 12
- The **depth** of a node is its distance from the root
 - **a** is at depth zero
 - **e** is at depth 2
- The **depth** of a binary tree is the depth of its deepest node
 - This tree has depth 4

Balance



A balanced binary tree



An unbalanced binary tree

- A binary tree is balanced if every level above the lowest is “full” (contains 2^n nodes)
- In most applications, a reasonably balanced binary tree is desirable



■ **Breadth-first**

Traversing a tree in breadth-first order means that after visiting a node X, all of X's children are visited, then all of X's 'grand-children' (i.e. the children's children), then all of X's 'great-grand-children', etc. In other words, the tree is traversed by sweeping through the breadth of a level before visiting the next level down.

■ **Depth-first**

As the name implies, a depth-first traversal will go down one branch of the tree as far as possible, i.e. until it stops at a leaf, before trying any other branch. The various branches starting from the same parent may be explored in any order. For the example tree, two possible depth-first traversals are F B A D C E G I H and F G I H B D E C A.

■ **Depth First traversal generally uses a Stack**

■ **Breadth First generally uses a Queue**



Tree traversals

- A binary tree is defined recursively: it consists of a **root**, a **left subtree**, and a **right subtree**
- To **traverse** (or **walk**) the binary tree is to visit each node in the binary tree exactly once
- Tree traversals are naturally recursive
- Since a binary tree has three “parts,” there are six possible ways to traverse the binary tree:
 - root, left, right
 - left, root, right
 - left, right, root
 - root, right, left
 - right, root, left
 - right, left, root



Preorder traversal

In **preorder**, the root is visited *first*

If each node is visited before both of its subtrees, then it's called a pre-order traversal. The algorithm for left-to-right pre-order traversal is:

- Visit the root node (generally output it)
- Do a pre-order traversal of the left subtree
- Do a pre-order traversal of the right subtree



Inorder traversal

- In **inorder**, the root is visited *in the middle*

If each node is visited *between* visiting its left and right subtrees, then it's an *in-order* traversal. The algorithm for left-to-right in-order traversal is:

- Do an in-order traversal of the left subtree
- Visit root node (generally output this)
- Do an in-order traversal of the right subtree



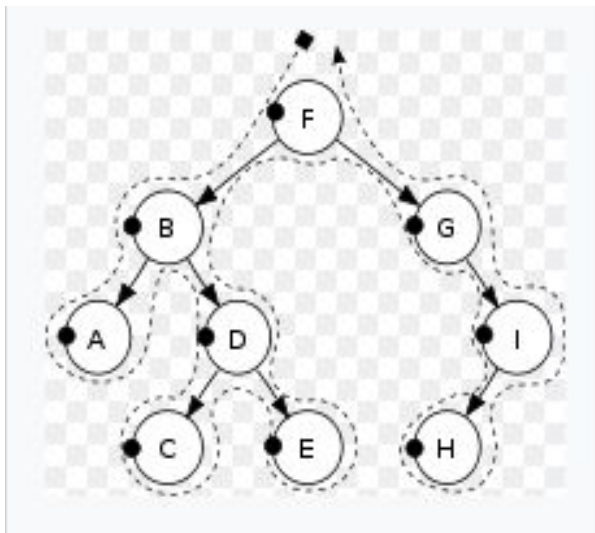
Postorder traversal

- In **postorder**, the root is visited *last*

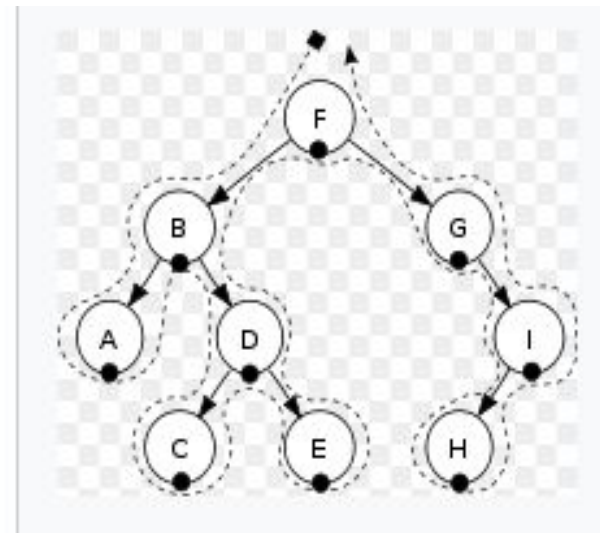
If each node is visited *after* its subtrees, then it's a *post-order* traversal. The algorithm for left-to-right post-order traversal is:

- Do a post-order traversal of the left subtree
- Do a post-order traversal of the right subtree
- Visit the root node (generally output this)

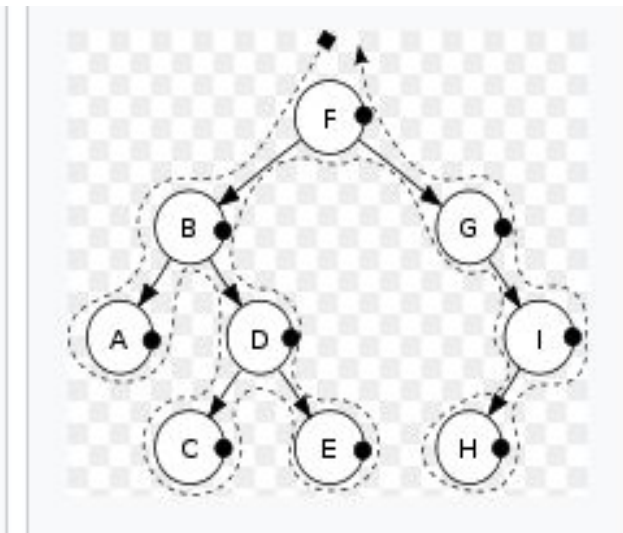
The 3 different types of left-to-right traversal



Pre-order
FBADCEGIH



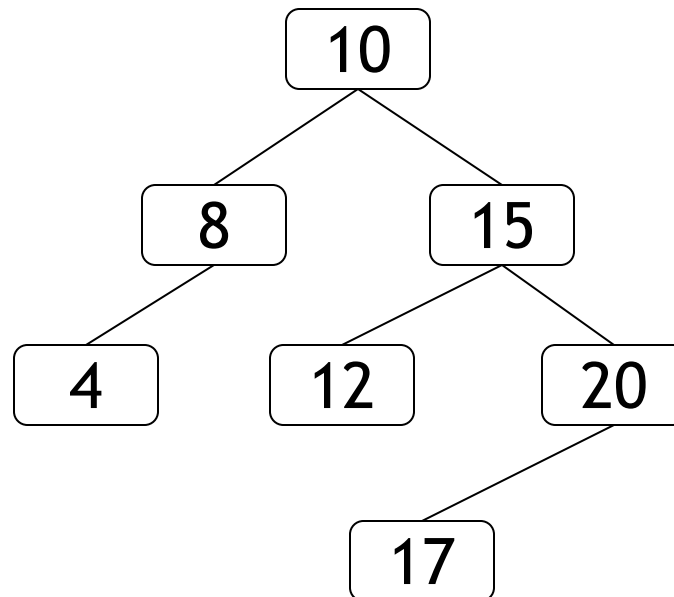
In-order
ABCDEFGHI

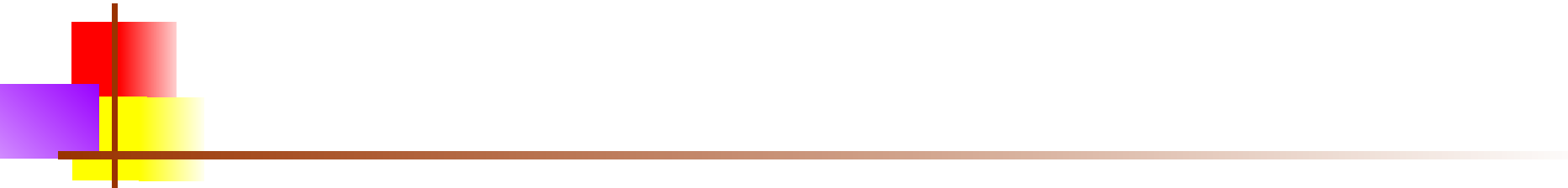


Post-order
ACEDBHIGF

Sorted binary trees

- A binary tree is sorted if every node in the tree is larger than (or equal to) its left descendants, and smaller than (or equal to) its right descendants
- Equal nodes can go either on the left or the right (but it has to be consistent)



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- https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/A-level_Computing/A_QA/Paper_1/Fundamentals_of_data_structures/Tree_s
 - [https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/A-level_Computing/A_QA/Paper_1/Fundamentals_of_algorithms/Tree traversal](https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/A-level_Computing/A_QA/Paper_1/Fundamentals_of_algorithms/Tree_traversal)
 - https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Data_Structures/Trees