



廈門大學信息學院  
School of Informatics Xiamen University  
(特色化示范性软件学院)  
(National Characteristic Demonstration Software School)

# 《离散数学》

## Chapter 11: Trees (I)

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# >>> Outline

- Introduction to Trees
- Tree Traversal
- Spanning Trees
- Minimum Spanning Trees



# Introduction to Trees

- Introduction to Trees
- Rooted Trees
- Trees as Models
- Properties of Trees

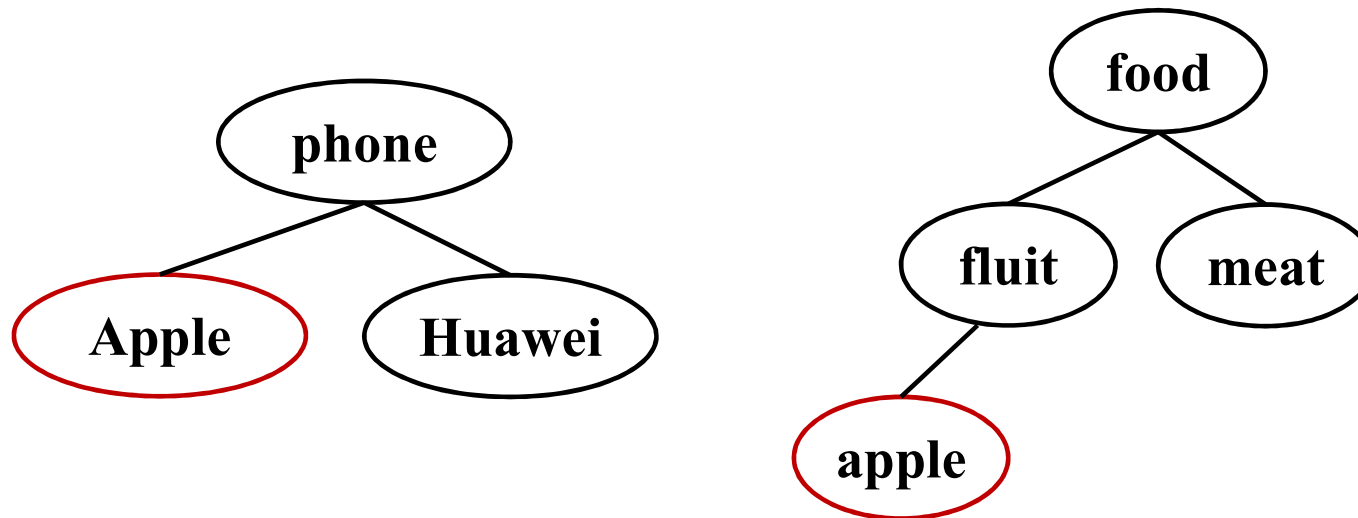
## >>> A Motivated Example

- Type in “buy apple to eat” using the search engine



**Apples** are so expensive, so why do so many people still buy them?

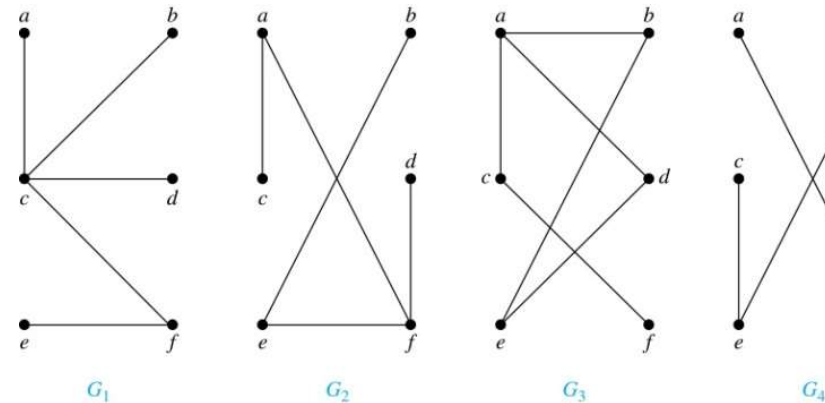
**Apples** are so expensive this year, they're even pricier than meat.



# >>> Trees

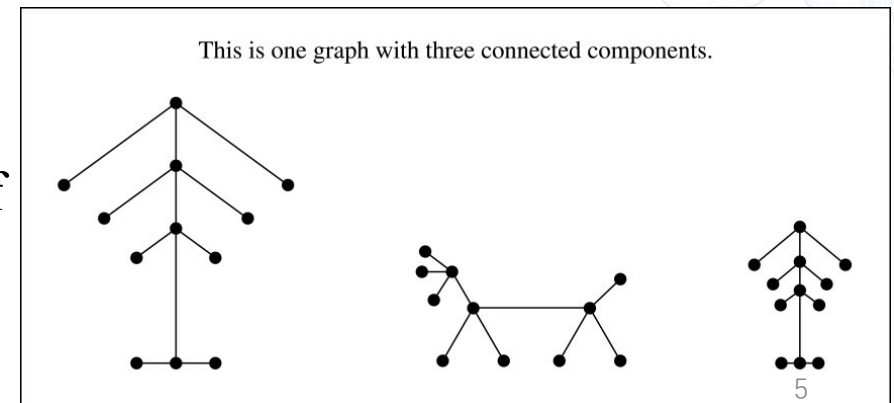
**Definition:** A *tree* (树) is a connected undirected graph with no simple circuits.

**Example:** Which of these graphs are trees?



**Solution:**  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  are trees - both are connected and have no simple circuits. Because  $e, b, a, d, e$  is a simple circuit,  $G_3$  is not a tree.  $G_4$  is not a tree because it is not connected.

**Definition:** A *forest* (森林) is a graph that has no simple circuit, but is not connected. Each of the connected components in a forest is a tree.



## »» Trees (continued)

**Theorem:** An undirected graph is a tree if and only if there is a unique simple path between any two of its vertices.

**Proof:** Assume that  $T$  is a tree. Then  $T$  is connected with no simple circuits. Hence, if  $x$  and  $y$  are distinct vertices of  $T$ , there is a simple path between them (by [Theorem 1](#) of Section 10.4). This path must be unique - for if there were a second path, there would be a simple circuit in  $T$ . Hence, there is a unique simple path between any two vertices of a tree.

Now assume that there is a unique simple path between any two vertices of a graph  $T$ . Then  $T$  is connected because there is a path between any two of its vertices. Furthermore,  $T$  can have no simple circuits since if there were a simple circuit, there would be two paths between some two vertices.

Hence, a graph with a unique simple path between any two vertices is a tree. ◀

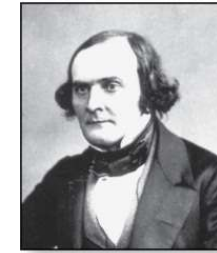
### THEOREM 1

There is a simple path between every pair of distinct vertices of a connected undirected graph.



# >>> Trees as Models

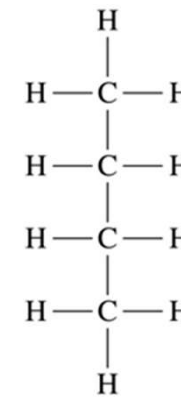
- Trees are used as models in computer science, chemistry, geology, botany, psychology, and many other areas
- Trees were introduced by the mathematician Cayley in 1857 in his work counting the number of isomers of saturated hydrocarbons. The two isomers of butane are shown at the right
- The organization of a computer file system into directories, subdirectories, and files is naturally represented as a tree
- Trees are used to represent the structure of organizations



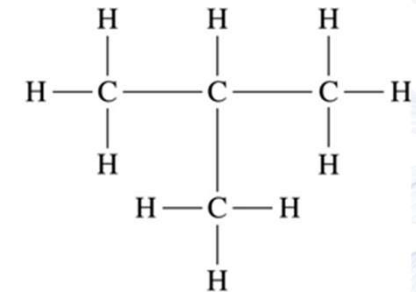
Arthur Cayley  
(1821-1895)



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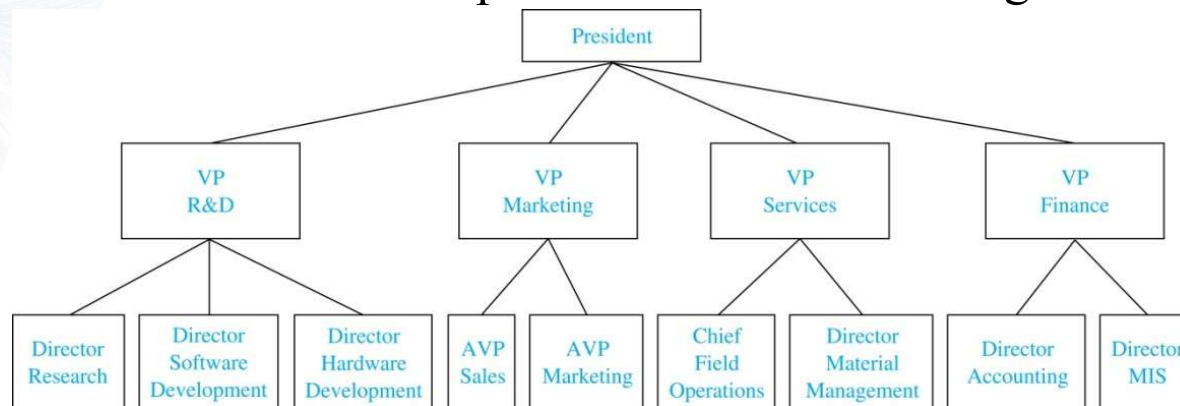
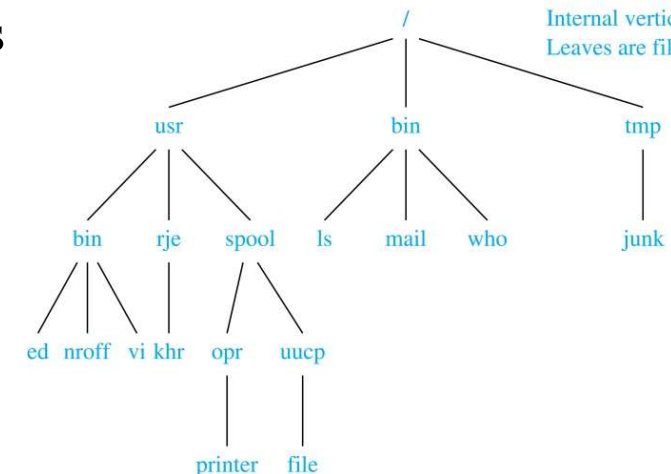


Butane



Isobutane

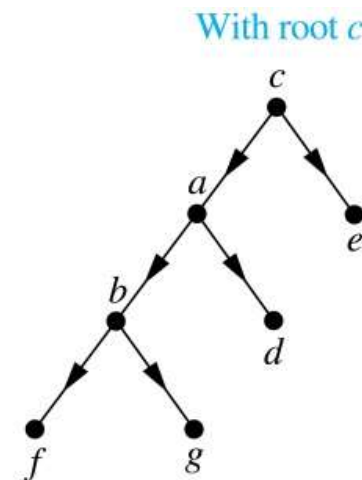
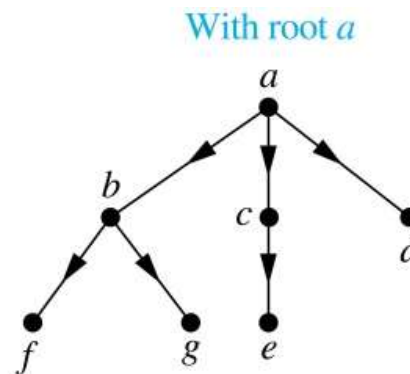
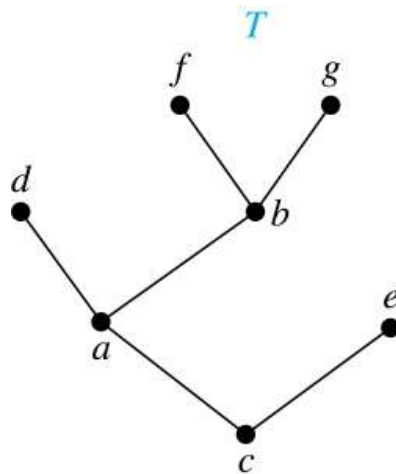
The root is the root directory /  
Internal vertices are directories  
Leaves are files



# >>> Rooted Trees

**Definition:** A *rooted tree* (有根树) is a tree in which one vertex has been designated as the *root* and every edge is directed away from the root.

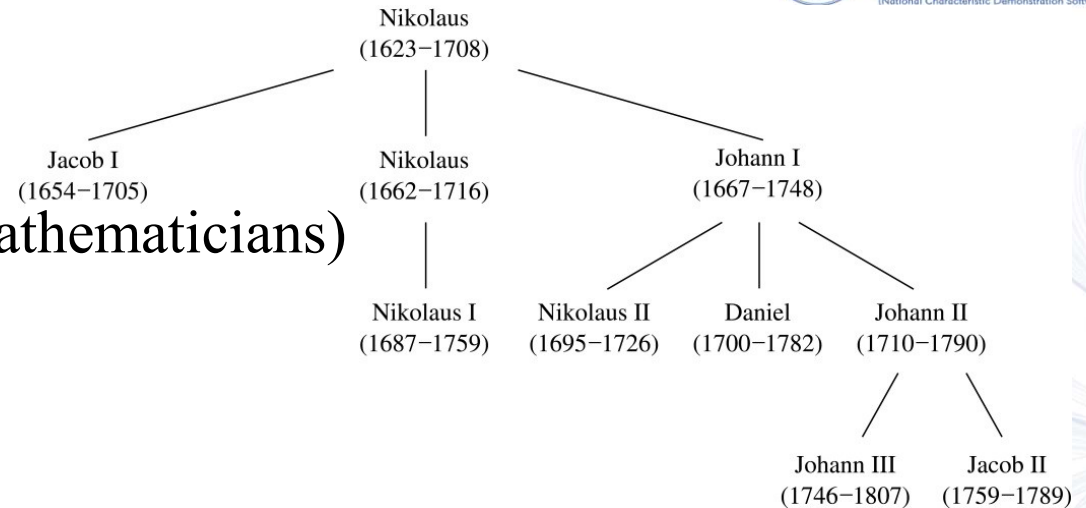
An unrooted tree is converted into different rooted trees when different vertices are chosen as the root.





# Rooted Tree Terminology

- Terminology for rooted trees is a mix from botany and genealogy (such as the Bernoulli family of mathematicians)



- If  $v$  is a vertex of a rooted tree other than the root, the *parent* of  $v$  is the unique vertex  $u$  such that there is a directed edge from  $u$  to  $v$ . When  $u$  is a parent of  $v$ ,  $v$  is called a *child* of  $u$ . Vertices with the same parent are called *siblings*.
- The *ancestors* of a vertex are the vertices in the path from the root to this vertex, excluding the vertex itself and including the root. The *descendants* of a vertex  $v$  are those vertices that have  $v$  as an ancestor.
- A vertex of a rooted tree with no children is called a *leaf*. Vertices that have children are called *internal vertices*.
- If  $a$  is a vertex in a tree, the *subtree* with  $a$  as its root is the subgraph of the tree consisting of  $a$  and its descendants and all edges incident to these descendants.

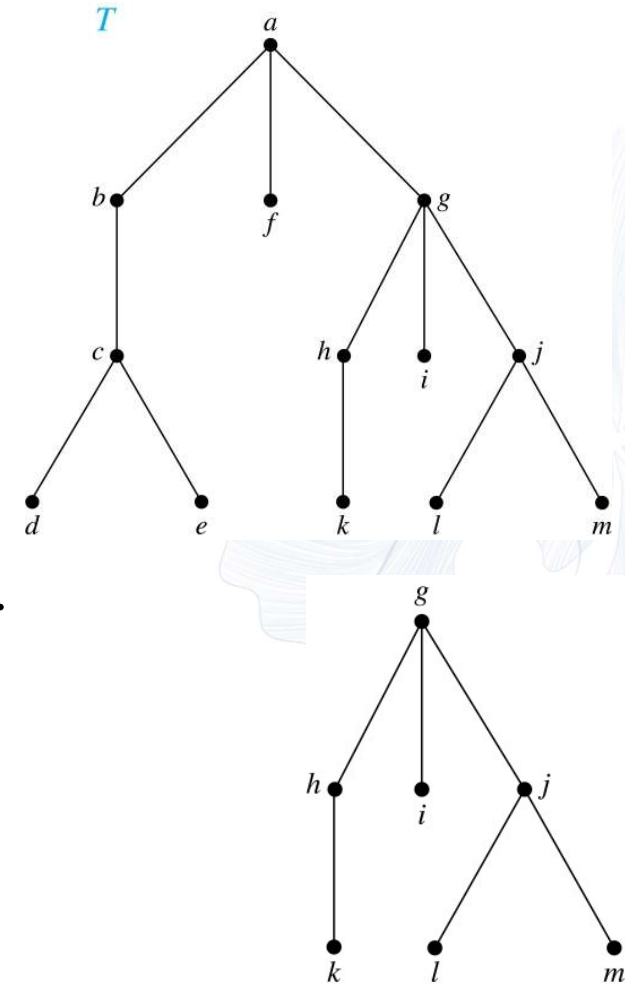
# Terminology for Rooted Trees

**Example:** In the rooted tree  $T$  (with root  $a$ ):

- (i) Find the parent of  $c$ , the children of  $g$ , the siblings of  $h$ , the ancestors of  $e$ , and the descendants of  $b$ .
- (ii) Find all internal vertices and all leaves.
- (iii) What is the subtree rooted at  $g$ ?

**Solution:**

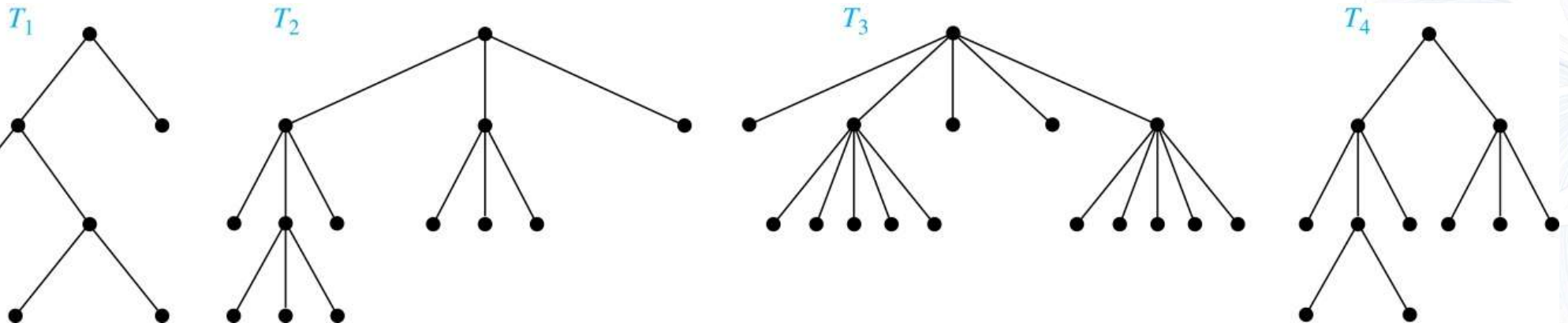
- (i) The parent of  $c$  is  $b$ . The children of  $g$  are  $h$ ,  $i$ , and  $j$ . The siblings of  $h$  are  $i$  and  $j$ . The ancestors of  $e$  are  $c$ ,  $b$ , and  $a$ . The descendants of  $b$  are  $c$ ,  $d$ , and  $e$ .
- (ii) The internal vertices are  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $c$ ,  $g$ ,  $h$ , and  $j$ . The leaves are  $d$ ,  $e$ ,  $f$ ,  $i$ ,  $k$ ,  $l$ , and  $m$ .
- (iii) We display the subtree rooted at  $g$ .



# >>> m-ary Rooted Trees

**Definition:** A rooted tree is called an *m-ary tree* if every internal vertex has no more than  $m$  children. The tree is called a *full m-ary tree* if every internal vertex has exactly  $m$  children. An  $m$ -ary tree with  $m=2$  is called a *binary tree*.

**Example:** Are the following rooted trees full  $m$ -ary trees for some positive integer  $m$ ?



**Solution:**

$T_1$  is a full binary tree because each of its internal vertices has two children.

$T_2$  is a full 3-ary tree because each of its internal vertices has three children.

In  $T_3$  each internal vertex has five children, so  $T_3$  is a full 5-ary tree.

$T_4$  is not a full  $m$ -ary tree for any  $m$  because some of its internal vertices have two children and others have three children.

# Ordered Rooted Trees

**Definition:** An *ordered rooted tree* (有序根树) is a rooted tree where the children of each internal vertex are ordered.

- We draw ordered rooted trees so that the children of each internal vertex are shown in order from left to right.

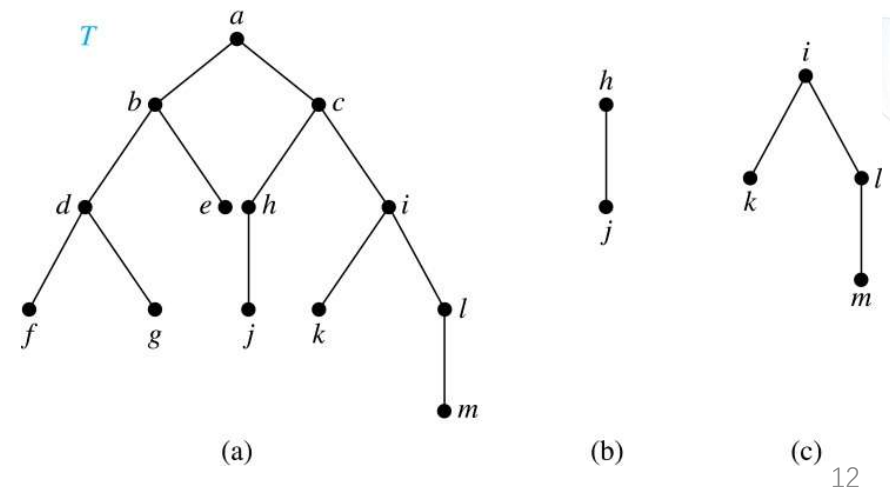
**Definition:** A *binary tree* (二叉树) is an ordered rooted tree where each internal vertex has at most two children. If an internal vertex of a binary tree has two children, the first is called the *left child* and the second the *right child*. The tree rooted at the left child of a vertex is called the *left subtree* of this vertex, and that rooted at the right child of a vertex is called the *right subtree* of this vertex.

**Example:** Consider the binary tree  $T$ .

- (i) What are the left and right children of  $d$ ?
- (ii) What are the left and right subtrees of  $c$ ?

**Solution:**

- (i) The left child of  $d$  is  $f$  and the right child is  $g$ .
- (ii) The left and right subtrees of  $c$  are displayed in (b) and (c).



## »» Properties of Trees

**Theorem 2:** A tree with  $n$  vertices has  $n-1$  edges.

***Proof (by mathematical induction):***

***BASIS STEP:*** When  $n=1$ , a tree with one vertex has no edges. Hence, the theorem holds when  $n=1$ .

***INDUCTIVE STEP:*** Assume that every tree with  $k$  vertices has  $k-1$  edges.

Suppose that a tree  $T$  has  $k+1$  vertices and that  $v$  is a leaf of  $T$ . Let  $w$  be the parent of  $v$ . Removing the vertex  $v$  and the edge connecting  $w$  to  $v$  produces a tree  $T'$  with  $k$  vertices. By the inductive hypothesis,  $T'$  has  $k-1$  edges. Because  $T$  has one more edge than  $T'$ , we see that  $T$  has  $k$  edges. This completes the inductive step. ◀

## Counting Vertices in Full $m$ -Ary Trees

**Theorem 3:** A full  $m$ -ary tree with  $i$  internal vertices has  $n = mi + 1$  vertices.

**Proof:** Every vertex, except the root, is the child of an internal vertex. Because each of the  $i$  internal vertices has  $m$  children, there are  $mi$  vertices in the tree other than the root. Hence, the tree contains  $n = mi + 1$  vertices.



## Counting Vertices in Full $m$ -Ary Trees (continued)

**Theorem 4:** A full  $m$ -ary tree with

- (i)  $n$  vertices has  $i = (n - 1)/m$  internal vertices and  $l = [(m - 1)n + 1]/m$  leaves,
- (ii)  $i$  internal vertices has  $n = mi + 1$  vertices and  $l = (m - 1)i + 1$  leaves,
- (iii)  $l$  leaves has  $n = (ml - 1)/(m - 1)$  vertices and  $i = (l - 1)/(m - 1)$  internal vertices.

*proofs of parts  
(ii) and (iii)  
are left as  
take-home  
assignments*

**Proof (of part i):** Solving for  $i$  in  $n = mi + 1$  (from Theorem 3) gives  $i = (n - 1)/m$ . Since each vertex is either a leaf or an internal vertex,  $n = l + i$ . By solving for  $l$  and using the formula for  $i$ , we see that

$$l = n - i = n - (n - 1)/m = [(m - 1)n + 1]/m .$$

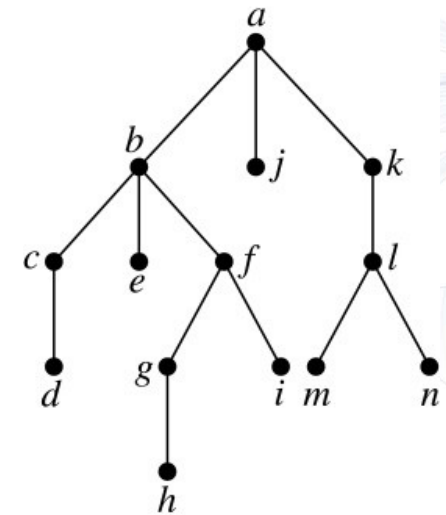


# >>> Level of vertices and height of trees

- When working with trees, we often want to have rooted trees where the subtrees at each vertex contain paths of approximately the same length
- To make this idea precise we need some definitions:
  - The *level* of a vertex in a rooted tree is the length of the unique path from the root to this vertex
  - The *height* of a rooted tree is the maximum of the levels of the vertices

## Example:

- (i) Find the level of each vertex in the tree to the right.
- (ii) What is the height of the tree?



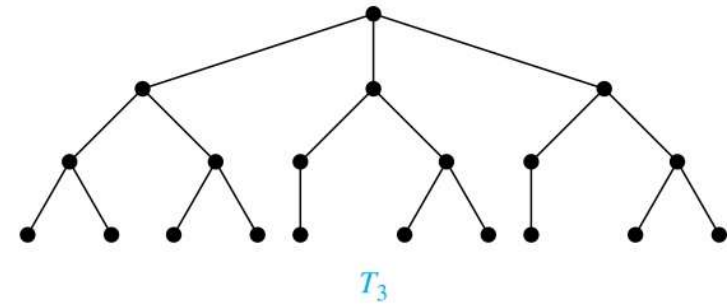
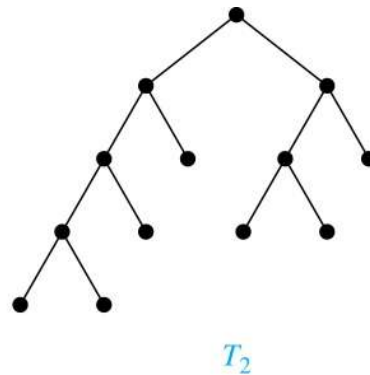
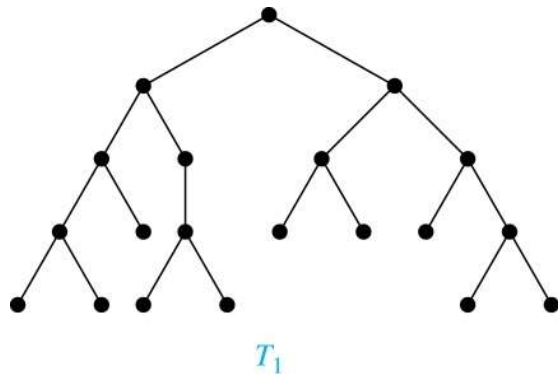
## Solution:

- (i) The root  $a$  is at level 0. Vertices  $b, j$ , and  $k$  are at level 1. Vertices  $c, e, f$ , and  $l$  are at level 2. Vertices  $d, g, i, m$ , and  $n$  are at level 3. Vertex  $h$  is at level 4.
- (ii) The height is 4, since 4 is the largest level of any vertex.

## 》》》 Balanced m-Ary Trees

**Definition:** A rooted  $m$ -ary tree of height  $h$  is *balanced* if all leaves are at levels  $h$  or  $h-1$ .

**Example:** Which of the rooted trees shown below is balanced?



**Solution:**  $T_1$  and  $T_3$  are balanced, but  $T_2$  is not because it has leaves at levels 2, 3, and 4.

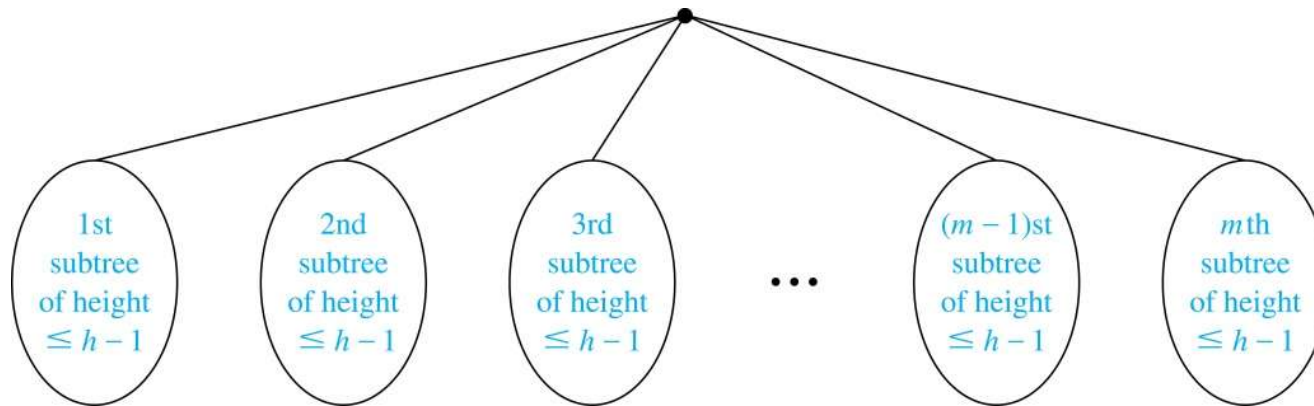
# >>> The Bound for the Number of Leaves in an $m$ -Ary Tree

**Theorem 5:** There are at most  $m^h$  leaves in an  $m$ -ary tree of height  $h$ .

**Proof (by mathematical induction on height):**

**BASIS STEP:** Consider an  $m$ -ary trees of height 1. The tree consists of a root and no more than  $m$  children, all leaves. Hence, there are no more than  $m^1 = m$  leaves in an  $m$ -ary tree of height 1.

**INDUCTIVE STEP:** Assume the result is true for all  $m$ -ary trees of height  $< h$ . Let  $T$  be an  $m$ -ary tree of height  $h$ . The leaves of  $T$  are the leaves of the subtrees of  $T$  we get when we delete the edges from the root to each of the vertices of level 1.



Each of these subtrees has height  $\leq h-1$ . By the inductive hypothesis, each of these subtrees has at most  $m^{h-1}$  leaves. Since there are at most  $m$  such subtrees, there are at most  $m \cdot m^{h-1} = m^h$  leaves in the tree.

# Tree Traversal

- Traversal Algorithms
- Infix, Prefix, and Postfix Notation

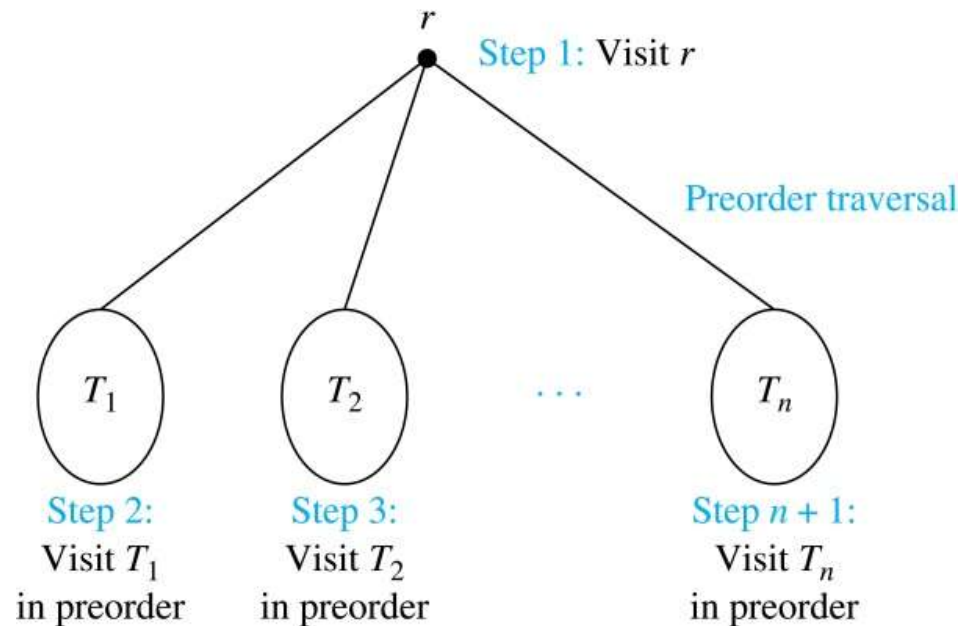
# Tree Traversal

- Procedures for systematically visiting every vertex of an ordered tree are called *traversals* (遍历)
- The three most commonly used *traversals* are *preorder traversal* (前序遍历), *inorder traversal* (中序遍历), and *postorder traversal* (后序遍历)



# Preorder Traversal

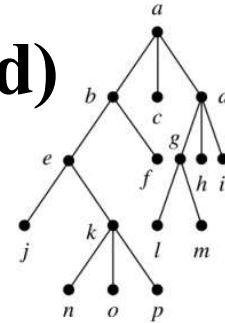
**Definition:** Let  $T$  be an ordered rooted tree with root  $r$ . If  $T$  consists only of  $r$ , then  $r$  is the *preorder traversal* of  $T$ . Otherwise, suppose that  $T_1, T_2, \dots, T_n$  are the subtrees of  $r$  from left to right in  $T$ . The preorder traversal begins by visiting  $r$ , and continues by traversing  $T_1$  in preorder, then  $T_2$  in preorder, and so on, until  $T_n$  is traversed in preorder.



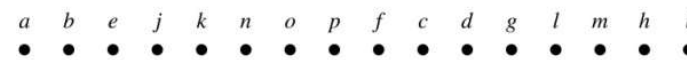
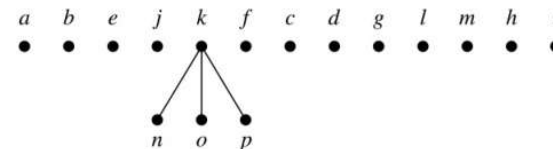
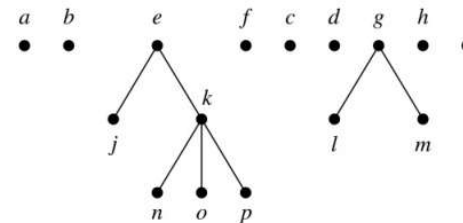
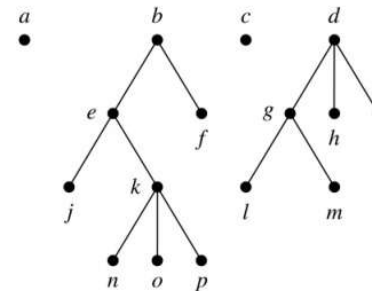
# Preorder Traversal (continued)

```

procedure preorder (T: ordered rooted tree)
  r := root of T
  list r
  for each child c of r from left to right
    T(c) := subtree with c as root
    preorder(T(c))
  
```

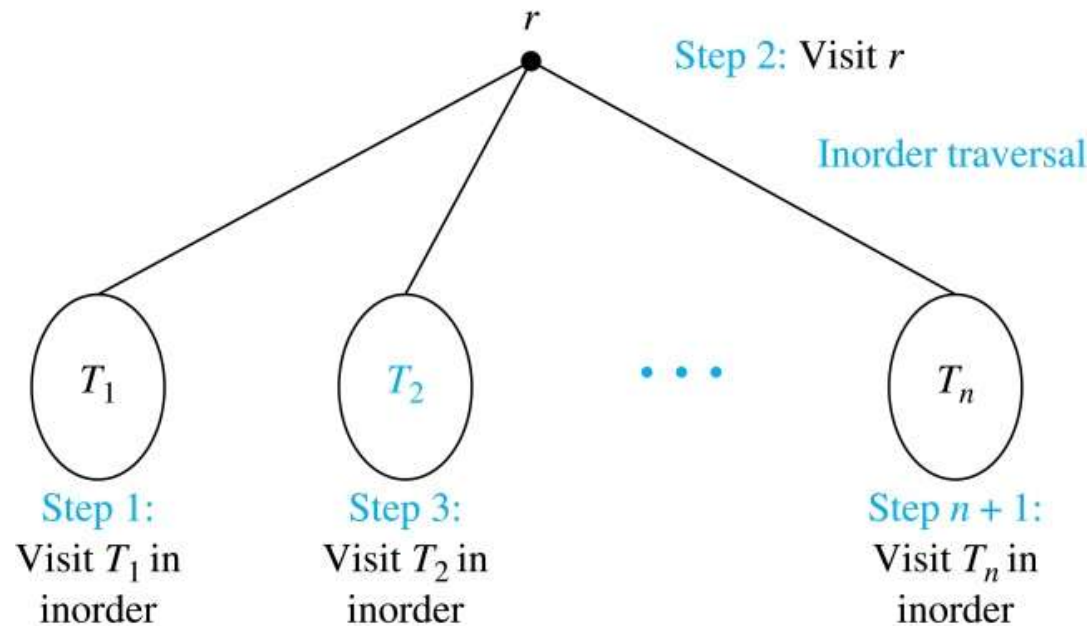


Preorder traversal: Visit root,  
visit subtrees left to right



# 》》 Inorder Traversal

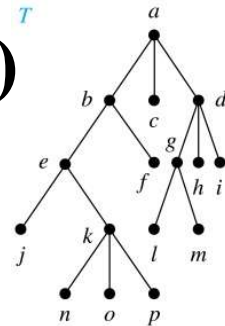
**Definition:** Let  $T$  be an ordered rooted tree with root  $r$ . If  $T$  consists only of  $r$ , then  $r$  is the *inorder traversal* of  $T$ . Otherwise, suppose that  $T_1, T_2, \dots, T_n$  are the subtrees of  $r$  from left to right in  $T$ . The inorder traversal begins by traversing  $T_1$  in inorder, then visiting  $r$ , and continues by traversing  $T_2$  in inorder, and so on, until  $T_n$  is traversed in inorder.



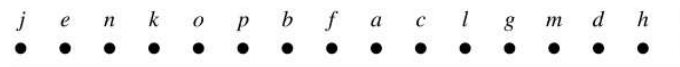
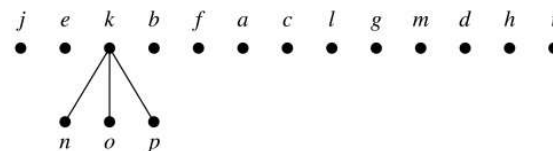
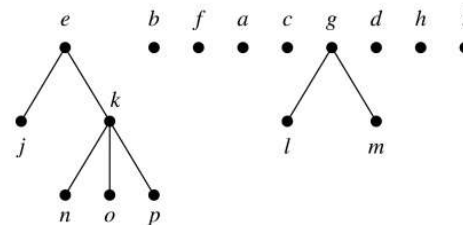
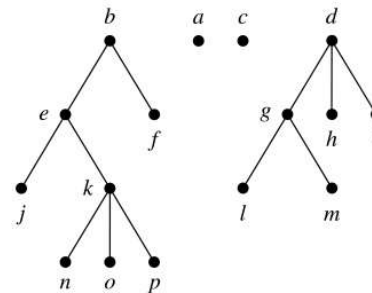
# Inorder Traversal (continued)

```

procedure inorder (T: ordered rooted tree)
  r := root of T
  if r is a leaf then list r
  else
    l := first child of r from left to right
    T(l) := subtree with l as its root
    inorder(T(l))
    list(r)
    for each child c of r from left to right
      T(c) := subtree with c as root
      inorder(T(c))
  
```

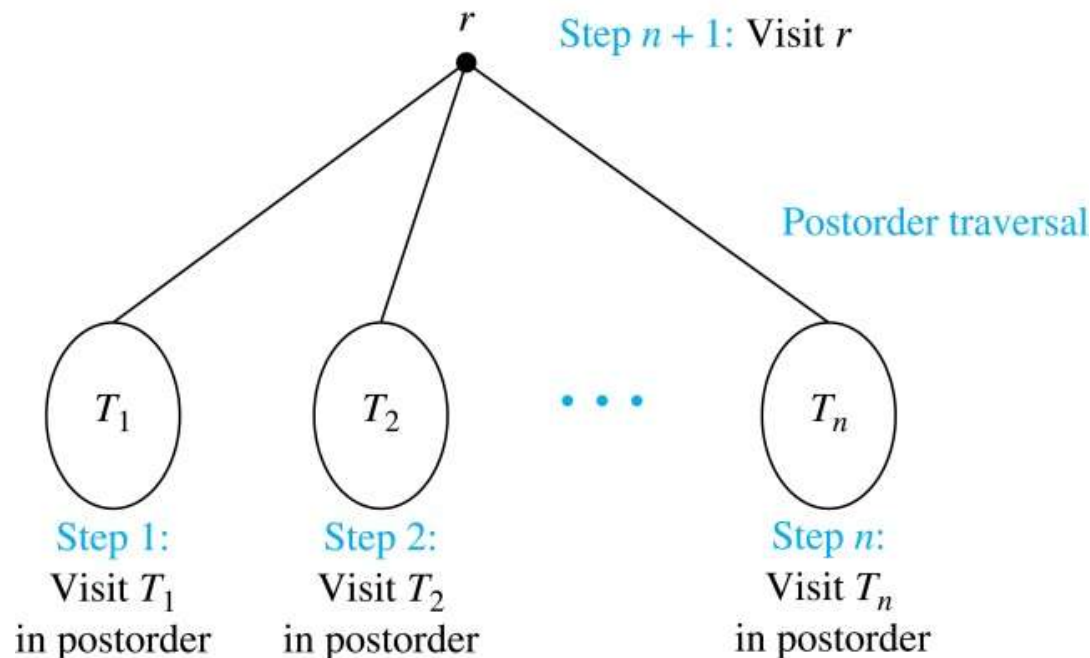


**Inorder traversal:** Visit leftmost subtree, visit root, visit other subtrees left to right



## Postorder Traversal

**Definition:** Let  $T$  be an ordered rooted tree with root  $r$ . If  $T$  consists only of  $r$ , then  $r$  is the *postorder traversal* of  $T$ . Otherwise, suppose that  $T_1, T_2, \dots, T_n$  are the subtrees of  $r$  from left to right in  $T$ . The postorder traversal begins by traversing  $T_1$  in postorder, then  $T_2$  in postorder, and so on, after  $T_n$  is traversed in postorder,  $r$  is visited.

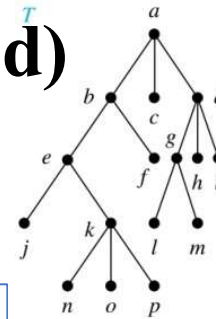




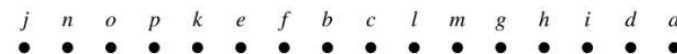
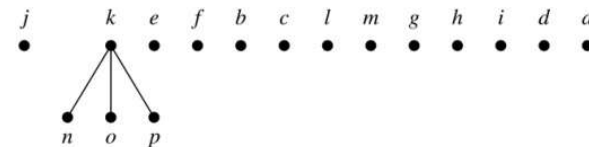
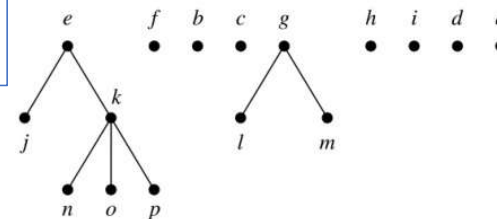
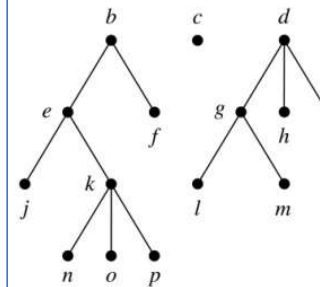
# Postorder Traversal (continued)

```

procedure postordered ( $T$ : ordered rooted tree)
 $r := \text{root of } T$ 
for each child  $c$  of  $r$  from left to right
   $T(c) := \text{subtree with } c \text{ as root}$ 
  postorder( $T(c)$ )
list  $r$ 
  
```



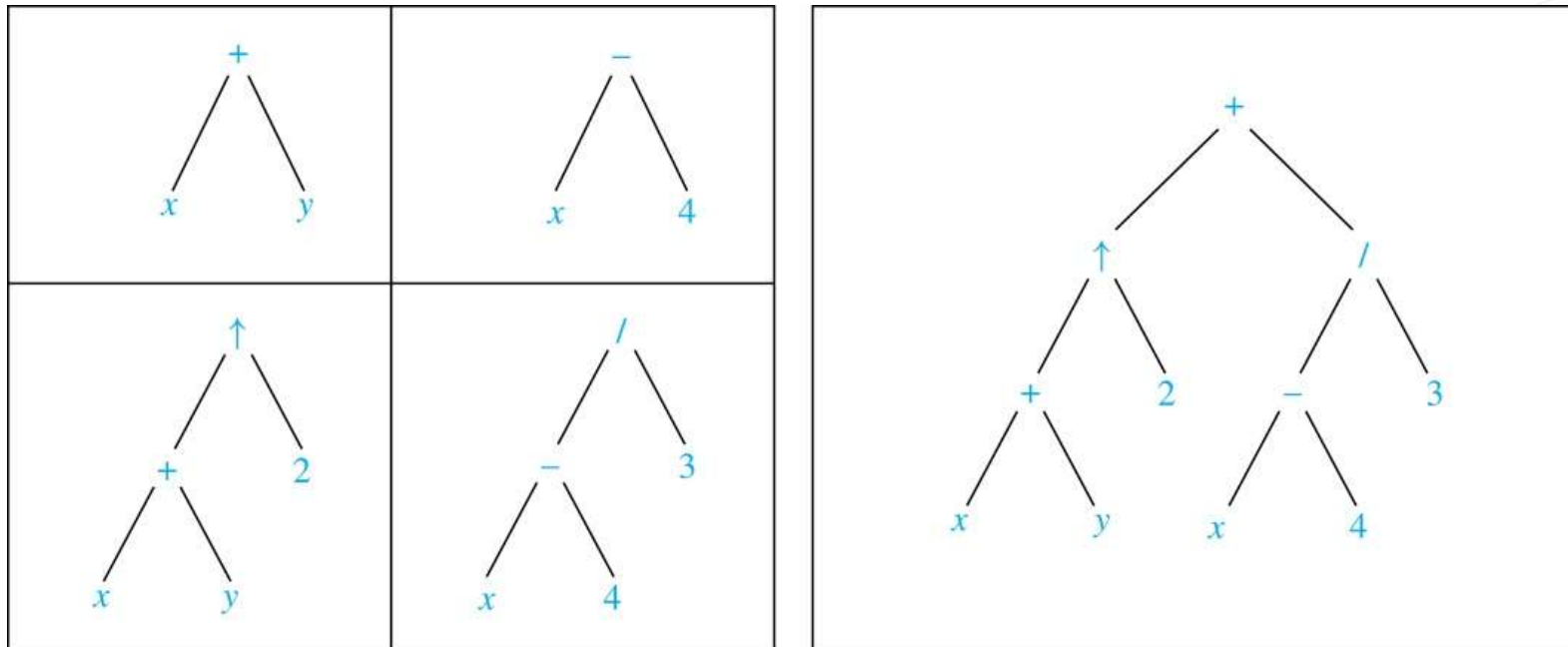
Postorder traversal: Visit subtrees left to right; visit root





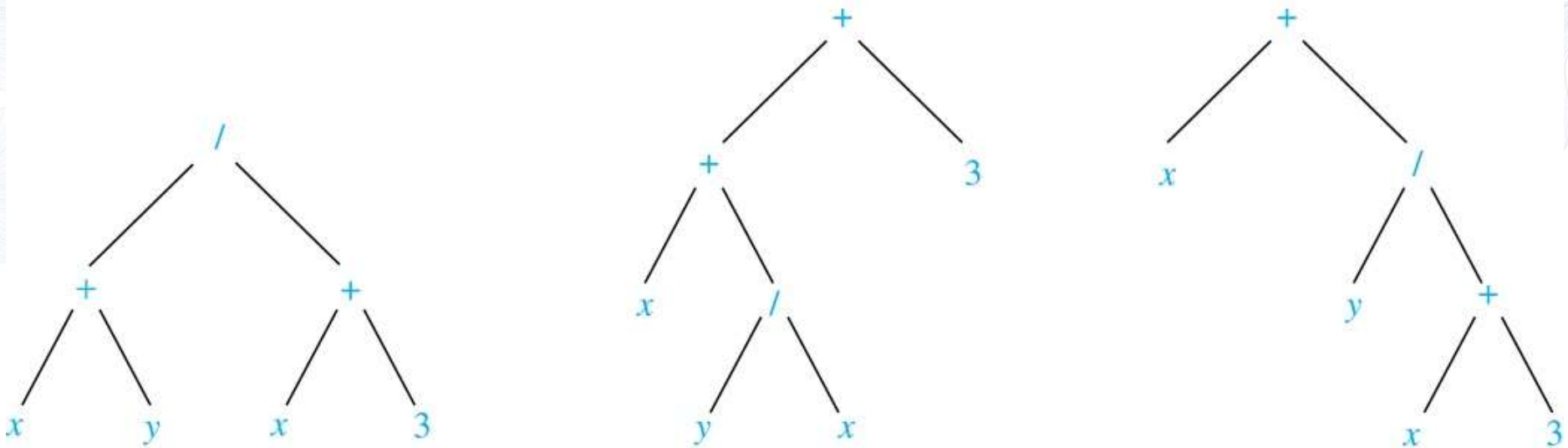
# Expression Trees

- Complex expressions can be represented using ordered rooted trees
- Consider the expression  $((x + y) \uparrow 2) + ((x - 4)/3)$
- A binary tree for the expression can be built from the bottom up, as is illustrated here



# >>> Infix Notation

- An inorder traversal of the tree representing an expression produces the original expression when parentheses are included except for unary operations, which now immediately follow their operands
- We illustrate why parentheses are needed with an example that displays three trees all yield the same *infix representation* (中缀表示)



# >>> Prefix Notation

- When we traverse the rooted tree representation of an expression in preorder, we obtain the *prefix form* (前缀形式) of the expression. Expressions in prefix form are said to be in *Polish notation* (波兰记法), named after the Polish logician Jan Łukasiewicz
- Operators precede their operands in the prefix form of an expression. Parentheses are not needed as the representation is unambiguous
- The prefix form of  $((x + y) \uparrow 2) + ((x - 4)/3)$  is  $+ \uparrow + x y 2 / - x 4 3$
- Prefix expressions are evaluated by working from right to left. When we encounter an operator, we perform the corresponding operation with the two operations to the right



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(National Characteristic Demonstration Software School)

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(1878-1956)

**Example:** We show the steps used to evaluate a particular prefix expression:

$$\begin{array}{cccccccccccc}
 + & - & * & 2 & 3 & 5 & / & \uparrow & 2 & 3 & 4 \\
 & & & & & & & \text{---} & & & \\
 & & & & & & & & 2 \uparrow 3 = 8 & & \\
 + & - & * & 2 & 3 & 5 & / & 8 & 4 & & \\
 & & & & & & & \text{---} & & & \\
 & & & & & & & & 8 / 4 = 2 & & \\
 + & - & * & 2 & 3 & 5 & 2 & & & & \\
 & & \text{---} & & & & & & & & \\
 & & & 2 * 3 = 6 & & & & & & & \\
 + & - & 6 & 5 & 2 & & & & & & \\
 & \text{---} & & & & & & & & & \\
 & & 6 - 5 = 1 & & & & & & & & \\
 + & 1 & 2 & & & & & & & & \\
 & \text{---} & & & & & & & & & \\
 & & 1 + 2 = 3 & & & & & & & & 
 \end{array}$$

Value of expression: 3

## Postfix Notation

- We obtain the *postfix form* (后綴形式) of an expression by traversing its binary trees in postorder. Expressions written in postfix form are said to be in *reverse Polish notation* (逆波兰记法)
- Parentheses are not needed as the postfix form is unambiguous
- The postfix form of  $((x + y) \uparrow 2) + ((x - 4)/3)$  is  $x y + 2 \uparrow x 4 - 3 / +$
- A binary operator follows its two operands. So, to evaluate an expression one works from left to right, carrying out an operation represented by an operator on its preceding operands

**Example:** We show the steps used to evaluate a particular postfix expression.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccccc} 7 & 2 & 3 & * & - & 4 & \uparrow & 9 & 3 & / & + \\ \hline & & & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & & & \\ \hline 7 & 6 & - & 4 & \uparrow & 9 & 3 & / & + \\ \hline & & & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & & & \\ \hline 1 & 4 & \uparrow & 9 & 3 & / & + \\ \hline & & & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & & & \\ \hline 1 & 9 & 3 & / & + \\ \hline & & & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & & & \\ \hline 1 & 3 & + \\ \hline & & & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & & & \\ \hline \end{array}$$

Value of expression: 4



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# Q&A

