

# TREES

Lecture 12  
CS2110 – Fall 2016

# Prelim 1 tonight!

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5:30 prelim is very crowded. You HAVE to follow these directions:

1. Students taking the normal 5:30 prelim (not the quiet room) and whose last names begin with **A through Da** MUST go to Phillips 101.
2. All other 5:30 students, go to Olin 155. You will stay there or be directed to another Olin room.
3. All 7:30 students go to Olin 155; you will stay there or be directed to another Olin room.
4. **EVERYONE**: Bring your Cornell id card. You will need it to get into the exam room.

# Important Announcements

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- A4 will be posted this weekend
- Mid-semester TA evaluations are coming up; please participate! Your feedback will help our staff improve their teaching ---this semester.

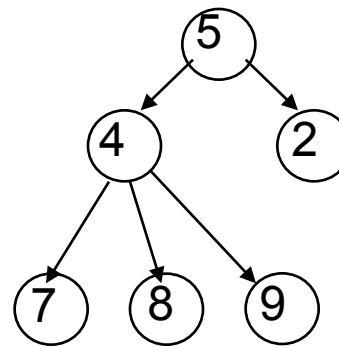
# Tree Overview

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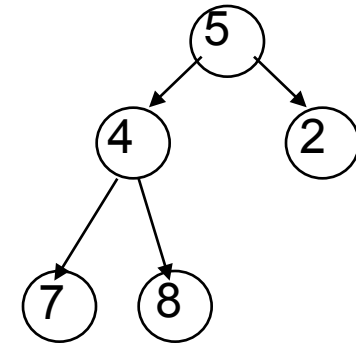
*Tree*: data structure with nodes, similar to linked list

- ▣ Each node may have zero or more *successors* (children)
- ▣ Each node has exactly one *predecessor* (parent) except the *root*, which has none
- ▣ All nodes are reachable from *root*

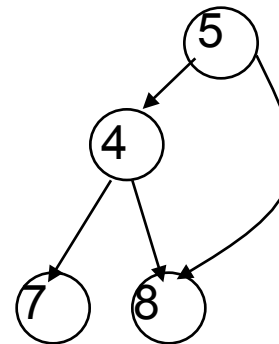
*Binary tree*: tree in which each node can have at most two children: a left child and a right child



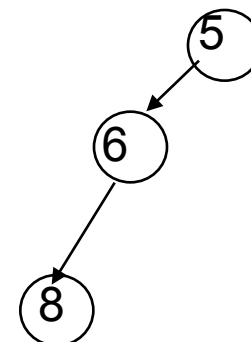
General tree



Binary tree



Not a tree



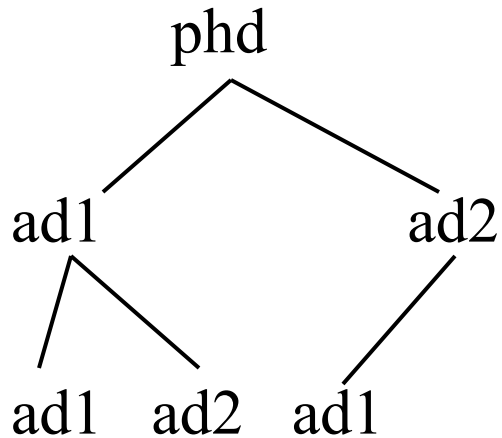
List-like tree

## Binary trees were in A1!

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You have seen a binary tree in A1.

A PhD object `phd` has one or two advisors.  
Here is an intellectual ancestral tree!



# Tree terminology

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M: *root* of this tree

G: *root* of the *left subtree* of M

B, H, J, N, S: *leaves* (their set of children is empty)

N: *left child* of P; S: *right child* of P

P: *parent* of N

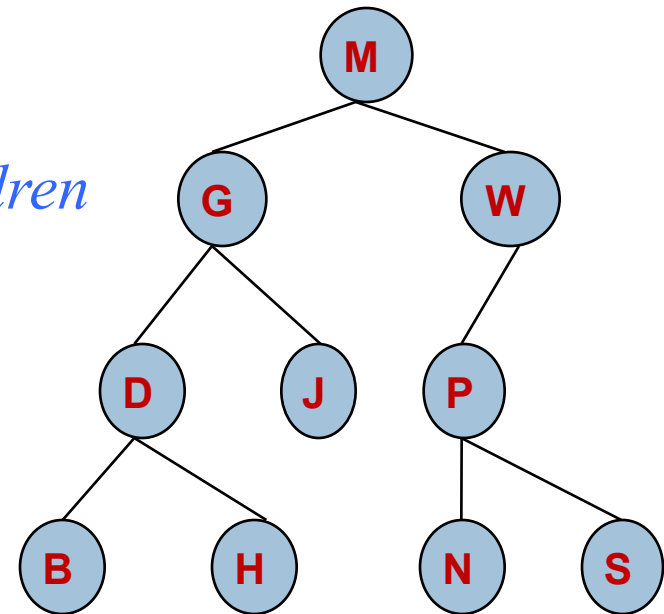
M and G: *ancestors* of D

P, N, S: *descendants* of W

J is at *depth* 2 (i.e. length of path from root = no. of edges)

W is at *height* 2 (i.e. length of longest path to a leaf)

A collection of several trees is called a ...?



# Class for binary tree node

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```
class TreeNode<T> {  
    private T datum;  
    private TreeNode<T> left, right;  
  
    /** Constructor: one-node tree with datum x */  
    public TreeNode (T d) { datum= d; left= null; right= null;}  
  
    /** Constr: Tree with root value x, left tree l, right tree r */  
    public TreeNode (T d, TreeNode<T> l, TreeNode<T> r) {  
        datum= d; left= l; right= r;  
    }  
}
```

Points to left subtree  
(null if empty)

Points to right subtree  
(null if empty)

more methods: getValue, setValue,  
getLeft, setLeft, etc.

# Binary versus general tree

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In a binary tree, each node has up to two pointers: to the left subtree and to the right subtree:

- ▣ One or both could be **null**, meaning the subtree is empty (remember, a tree is a set of nodes)

In a general tree, a node can have any number of child nodes (and they need not be ordered)

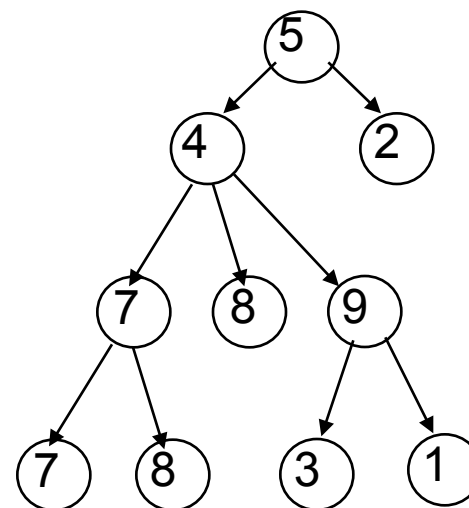
- ▣ Very useful in some situations ...
- ▣ ... one of which may be in an assignment!



## Class for general tree nodes

```
class GTreeNode<T> {  
    private T datum;  
    private List<GTreeNode<T>> children;  
    //appropriate constructors, getters,  
    //setters, etc.  
}
```

Parent contains a list of  
its children

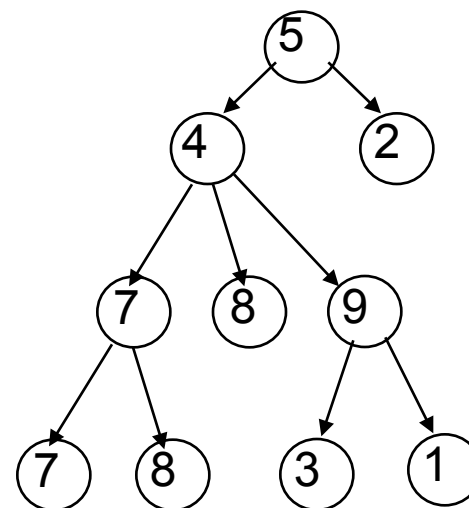


General  
tree

# Class for general tree nodes

```
class GTreeNode<T> {  
    private T datum;  
    private List<GTreeNode<T>> children;  
    //appropriate constructors, getters,  
    //setters, etc.  
}
```

Java.util.List is an interface!  
It defines the methods that all  
implementation must implement.  
Whoever writes this class gets to  
decide what implementation to use —  
ArrayList? LinkedList? Etc.?



General  
tree

# Applications of Tree: Syntax Trees

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- Most languages (natural and computer) have a recursive, hierarchical structure
- This structure is *implicit* in ordinary textual representation
- Recursive structure can be made *explicit* by representing sentences in the language as trees: **Abstract Syntax Trees** (ASTs)
- ASTs are easier to optimize, generate code from, etc. than textual representation
- A **parser** converts textual representations to AST

# Applications of Tree: Syntax Trees

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In textual representation:  
Parentheses show  
hierarchical structure

In tree representation:  
Hierarchy is explicit in  
the structure of the tree

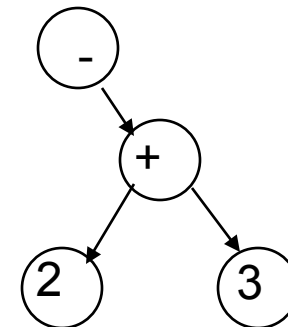
We'll talk more about  
expressions and trees in  
next lecture

Text	Tree Representation
------	---------------------

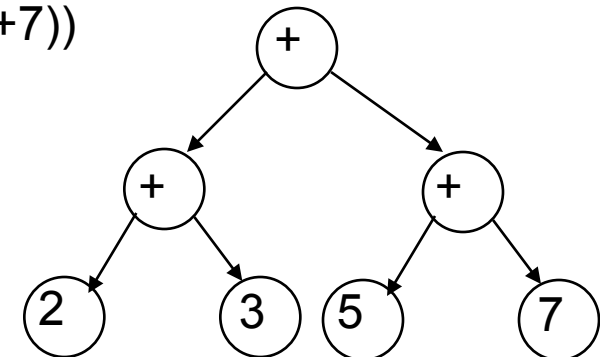
-34	
-----	--



- (2 + 3)	
-----------	--



((2+3) + (5+7))	
-----------------	--



# Recursion on trees

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Trees are defined recursively:

A **binary tree** is either

(1) empty

or

(2) a value (called the root value),

a left **binary tree**, and a right **binary tree**

# Recursion on trees

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Trees are defined recursively, so recursive methods can be written to process trees in an obvious way.

Base case

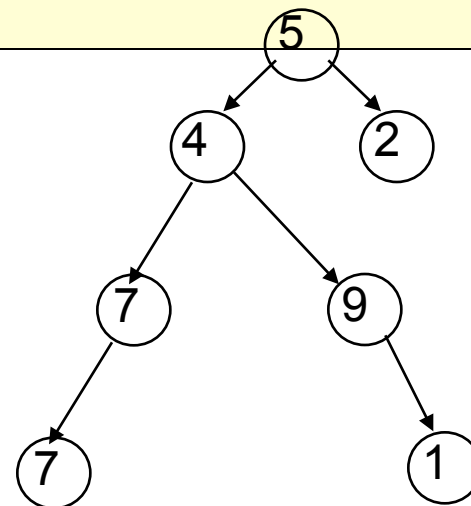
- ▣ empty tree (null)
- ▣ leaf

Recursive case

- ▣ solve problem on each subtree
- ▣ put solutions together to get solution for full tree

## Class for binary tree nodes

```
Class BinTreeNode<T> {  
    private T datum;  
    private BinTreeNode<T> left;  
    private BinTreeNode<T> right;  
    //appropriate constructors, getters,  
    //setters, etc.  
}
```



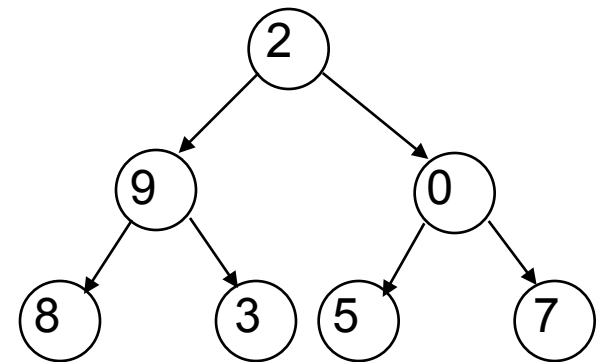
Binary  
tree

# Searching in a Binary Tree

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```
/** Return true iff x is the datum in a node of tree t*/  
public static boolean treeSearch(T x, TreeNode<T> t) {  
    if (t == null) return false;  
    if (x.equals(t.datum)) return true;  
    return treeSearch(x, t.left) || treeSearch(x, t.right);  
}
```

- Analog of linear search in lists:  
given tree and an object, find out if  
object is stored in tree
- Easy to write recursively, harder to  
write iteratively





# Searching in a Binary Tree

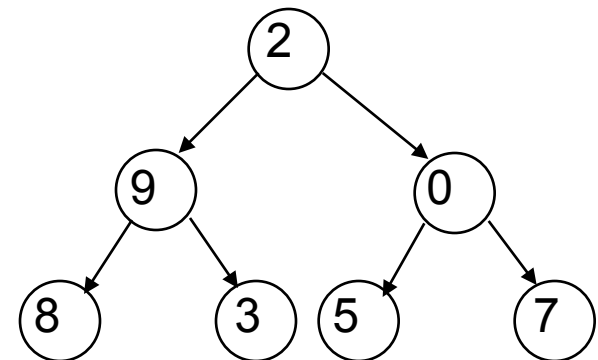
17

```
/** Return true iff x is the datum in a node of tree t*/  
public static boolean treeSearch(T x, TreeNode<T> t) {  
    if (t == null) return false;  
    if (x.equals(t.datum)) return true;  
    return treeSearch(x, t.left) || treeSearch(x, t.right);  
}
```

VERY IMPORTANT!

We sometimes talk of t as the root of the tree.

But we also use t to denote the whole tree.



# Binary Search Tree (BST)

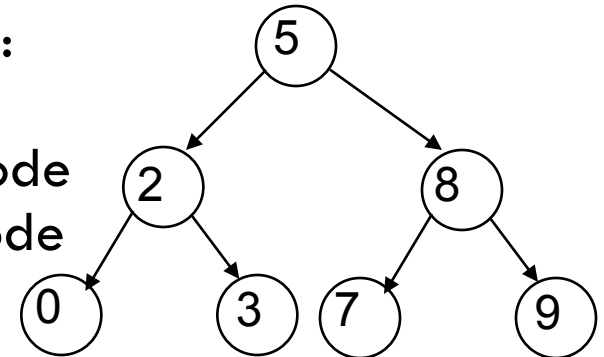
18

If the tree data is *ordered and has no duplicate values*:  
in every subtree,

All *left* descendents of a node come *before* the node

All *right* descendents of a node come *after* the node

Search can be made MUCH faster

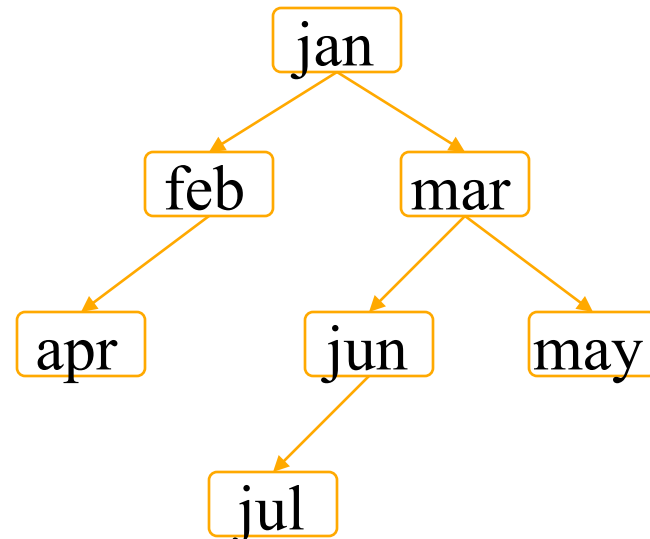


```
/** Return true iff x is the datum in a node of tree t.  
    Precondition: node is a BST and all data are non-null */  
boolean treeSearch (int x, TreeNode<Integer> t) {  
    if (t == null) return false;  
    if (x < t.datum) return treeSearch(x, t.left);  
    if (x == t.datum) return true;  
    return treeSearch(x, t.right);  
}
```

# Building a BST

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- To insert a new item
  - ▣ Pretend to look for the item
  - ▣ Put the new node in the place where you fall off the tree
- This can be done using either recursion or iteration
- Example
  - ▣ Tree uses *alphabetical order*
  - ▣ Months appear for insertion in *calendar order*



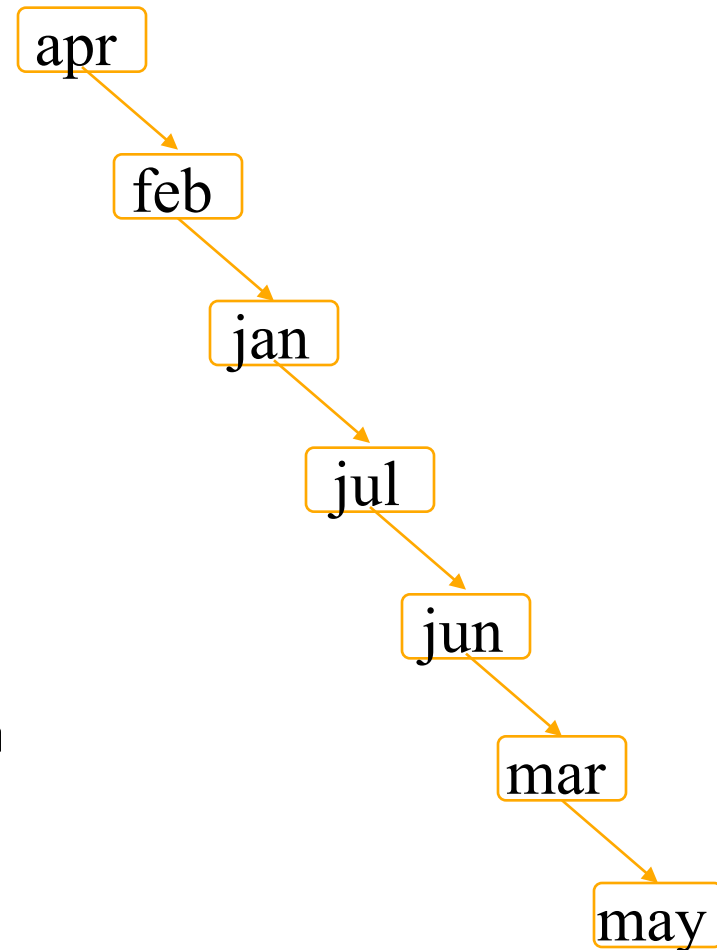
# What can go wrong?

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A BST makes searches very fast, *unless...*

- ▣ Nodes are inserted in increasing order
- ▣ In this case, we're basically building a linked list (with some extra wasted space for the **left** fields, which aren't being used)

BST works great if data arrives in random order



# Printing contents of BST

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Because of ordering rules for a BST, it's easy to print the items in alphabetical order

- ▣ Recursively print left subtree
- ▣ Print the node
- ▣ Recursively print right subtree

```
/** Print BST t in alpha order */  
private static void print(TreeNode<T> t) {  
    if (t == null) return;  
    print(t.left);  
    System.out.print(t.datum);  
    print(t.right);  
}
```

# Tree traversals

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“Walking” over the whole tree is a **tree traversal**

- Done often enough that there are standard names

Previous example:

**in-order traversal**

- Process left subtree
- Process root
- Process right subtree

Note: Can do other processing besides printing

Other standard kinds of traversals

■ **preorder traversal**

- ◆ Process root
- ◆ Process left subtree
- ◆ Process right subtree

■ **postorder traversal**

- ◆ Process left subtree
- ◆ Process right subtree
- ◆ Process root

■ **level-order traversal**

- ◆ Not recursive uses a queue. We discuss later

## Some useful methods

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```
/** Return true iff node t is a leaf */
public static boolean isLeaf(TreeNode<T> t) {
    return t != null && t.left == null && t.right == null;
}

/** Return height of node t (postorder traversal) */
public static int height(TreeNode<T> t) {
    if (t == null) return -1; //empty tree
    return 1 + Math.max(height(t.left), height(t.right));
}

/** Return number of nodes in t (postorder traversal) */
public static int numNodes(TreeNode<T> t) {
    if (t == null) return 0;
    return 1 + numNodes(t.left) + numNodes(t.right);
}
```

# Useful facts about binary trees

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Max # of nodes at depth  $d$ :  $2^d$

If height of tree is  $h$

▣ min # of nodes:  $h + 1$

▣ max # of nodes in tree:

▣  $2^0 + \dots + 2^h = 2^{h+1} - 1$

**Complete binary tree**

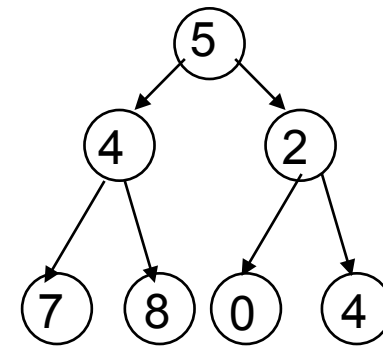
▣ All levels of tree down to a certain depth are completely filled

depth

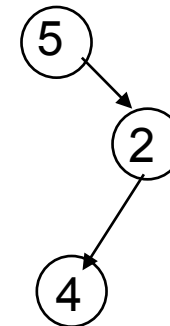
0 -----

1 -----

2 -----



Height 2,  
maximum number of nodes



Height 2,  
minimum number of nodes



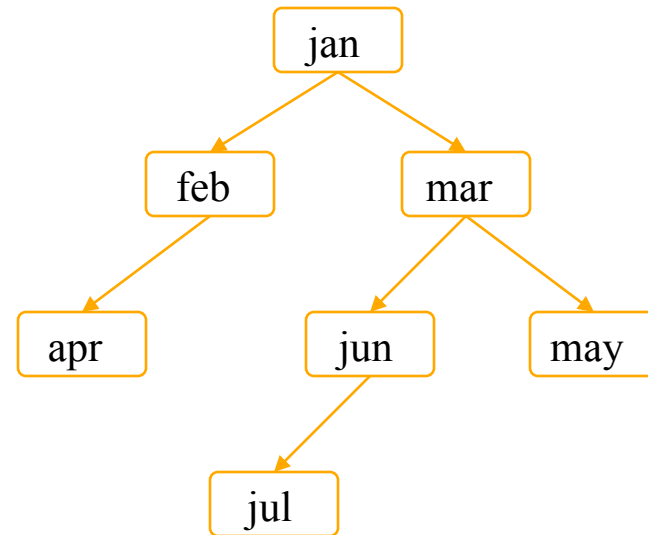
# Things to think about

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What if we want to *delete* data from a BST?

A BST works great as long as it's *balanced*

How can we keep it balanced? *This turns out to be hard enough to motivate us to create other kinds of trees*



# Tree Summary

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- A *tree* is a recursive data structure
  - ▣ Each node has 0 or more successors (*children*)
  - ▣ Each node except the *root* has exactly one predecessor (*parent*)
  - ▣ All node are reachable from the *root*
  - ▣ A node with no children (or empty children) is called a *leaf*
- Special case: *binary tree*
  - ▣ Binary tree nodes have a left and a right child
  - ▣ Either or both children can be empty (null)
- Trees are useful in many situations, including exposing the recursive structure of natural language and computer programs