

# Foundations of Computer Science

## Lecture #10: Search

Anil Madhavapeddy & Amanda Prorok  
2019-2020

# Review: Curried Functions

```
> let prefix a b = a ^ b;;  
val prefix : string -> string -> string = <fun>
```

```
                prefix a b      (prefix a) b  
string -> string -> string   $\Leftrightarrow$   string -> (string -> string)
```

Expressions are evaluated from left to right (left-*assoc.*)

The `->` symbol associates to the right

**Example:**

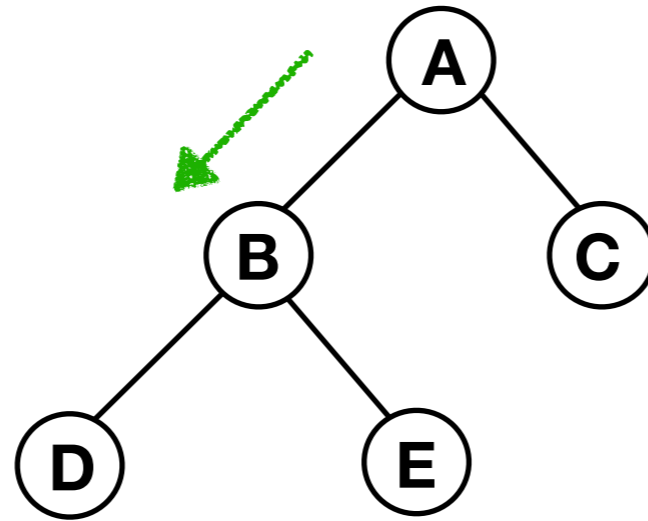
*partial application: fix first arg.*

```
> let promote = prefix "Professor ";  
let promote : string -> string = <fun>
```

```
> prefix "Mrs. " "Johnson";  
- : string = "Mrs. Johnson"
```

```
> promote "Johnson";  
- : string = "Professor Johnson"
```

# Warm-Up

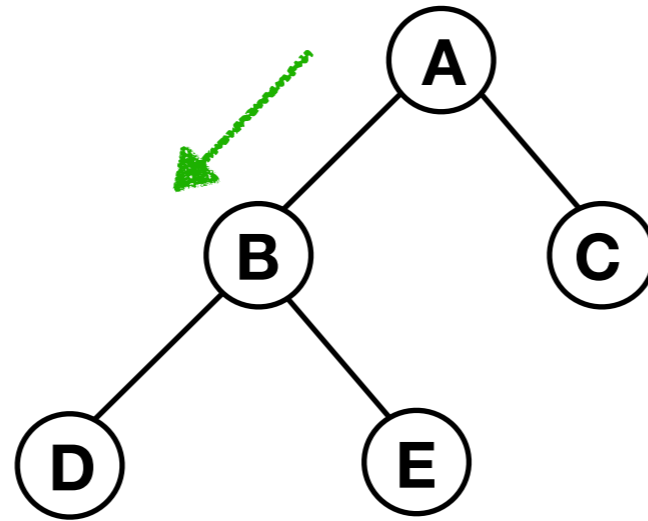


Pre-order ?

In-order ?

Post-order ?

# Warm-Up



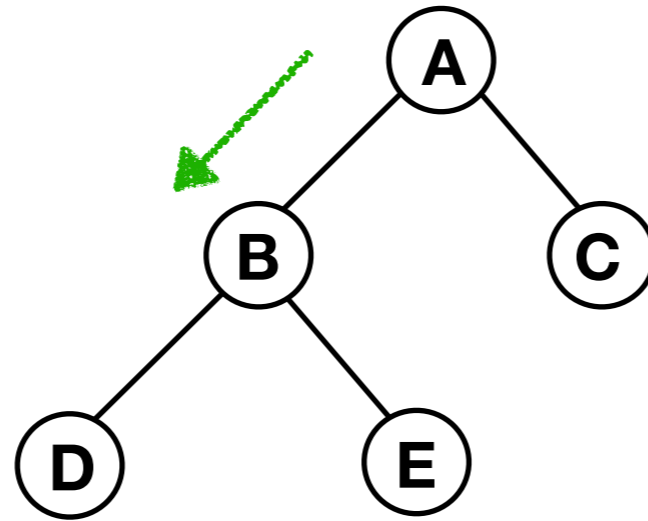
Pre-order ?

In-order ?

Post-order ?

**A - B - D - E - C**

# Warm-Up



Pre-order ?

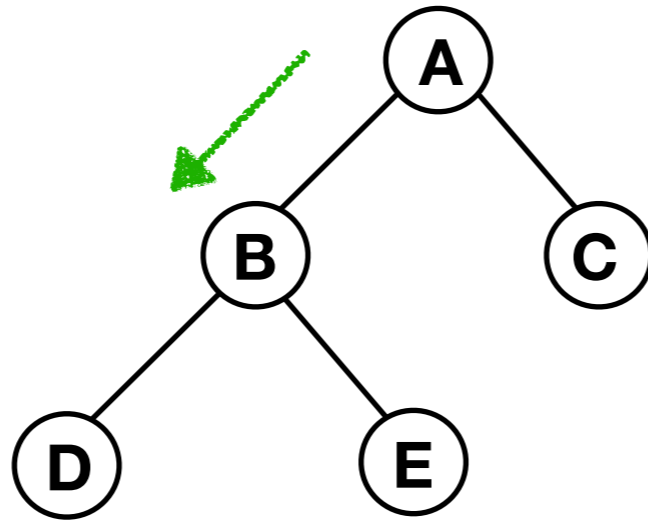
**A - B - D - E - C**

In-order ?

**D - B - E - A - C**

Post-order ?

# Warm-Up



Pre-order ?

**A - B - D - E - C**

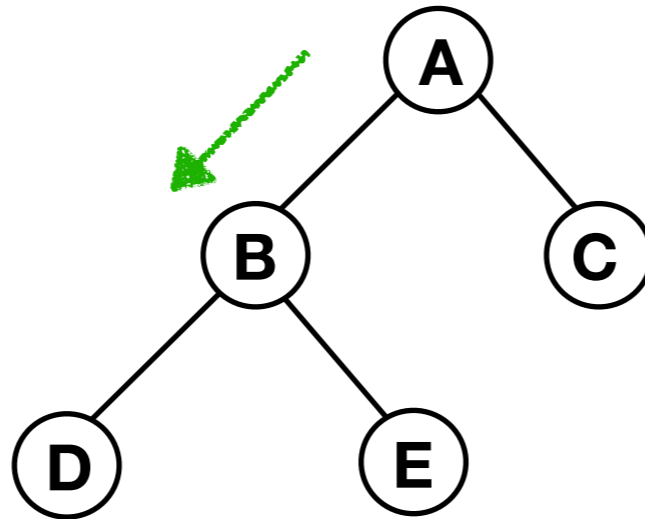
In-order ?

**D - B - E - A - C**

Post-order ?

**D - E - B - C - A**

# Warm-Up



Pre-order ?

**A - B - D - E - C**

In-order ?

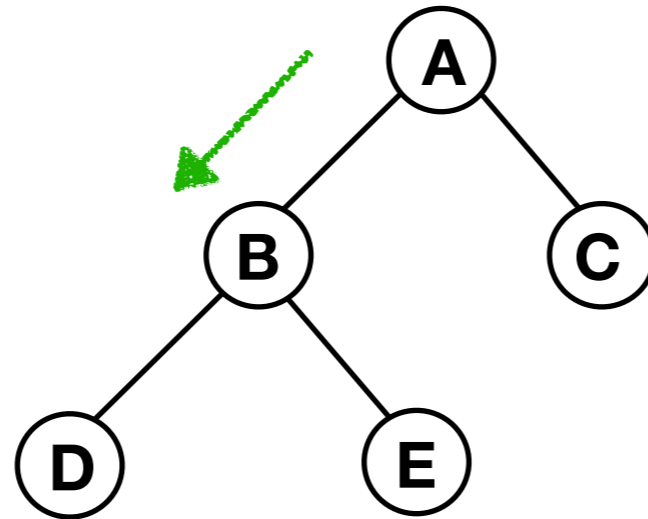
**D - B - E - A - C**

Post-order ?

**D - E - B - C - A**

What kind of traversal is this?

# Warm-Up



Pre-order ?

**A - B - D - E - C**

In-order ?

**D - B - E - A - C**

Post-order ?

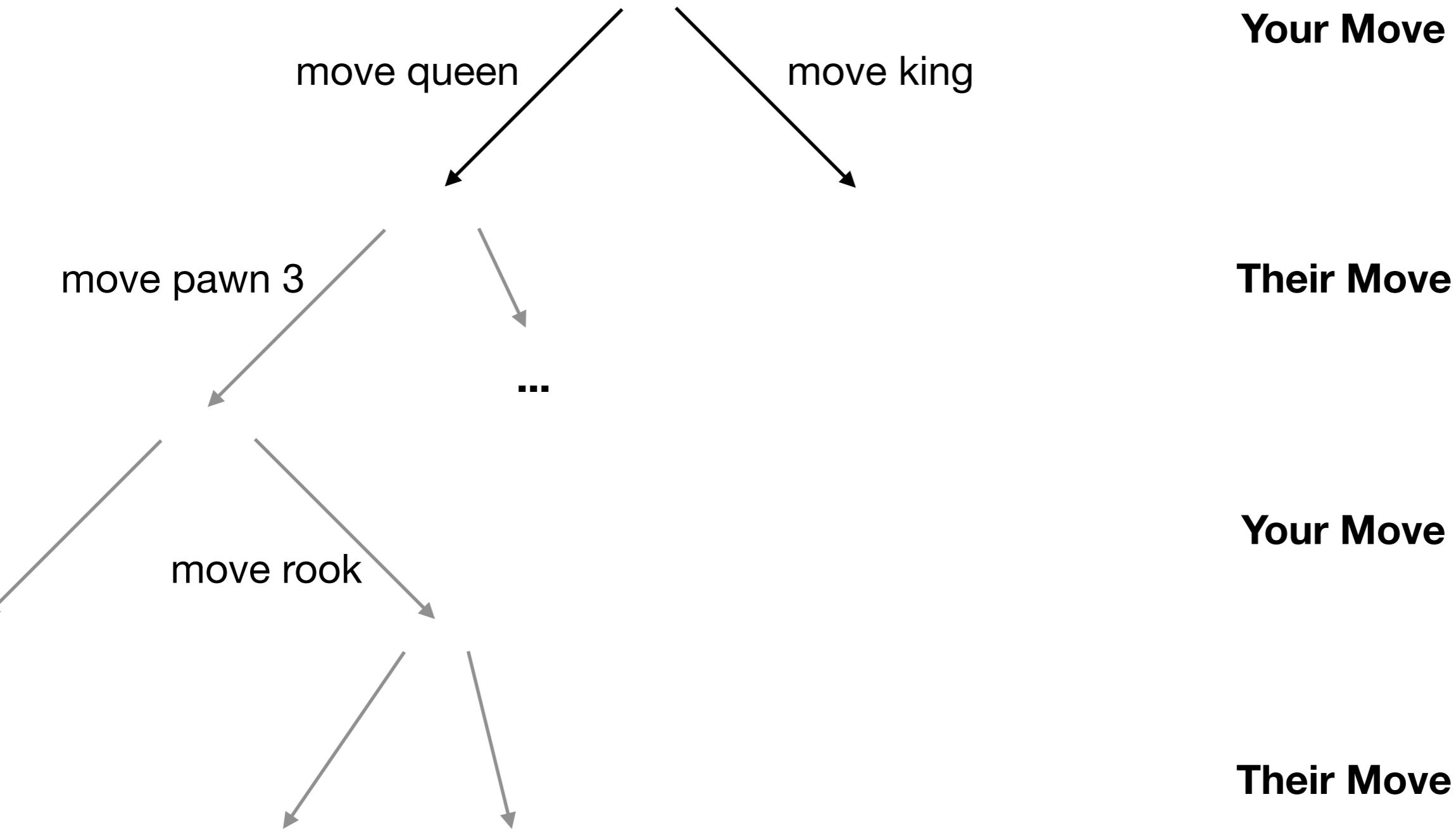
**D - E - B - C - A**

What kind of traversal is this?

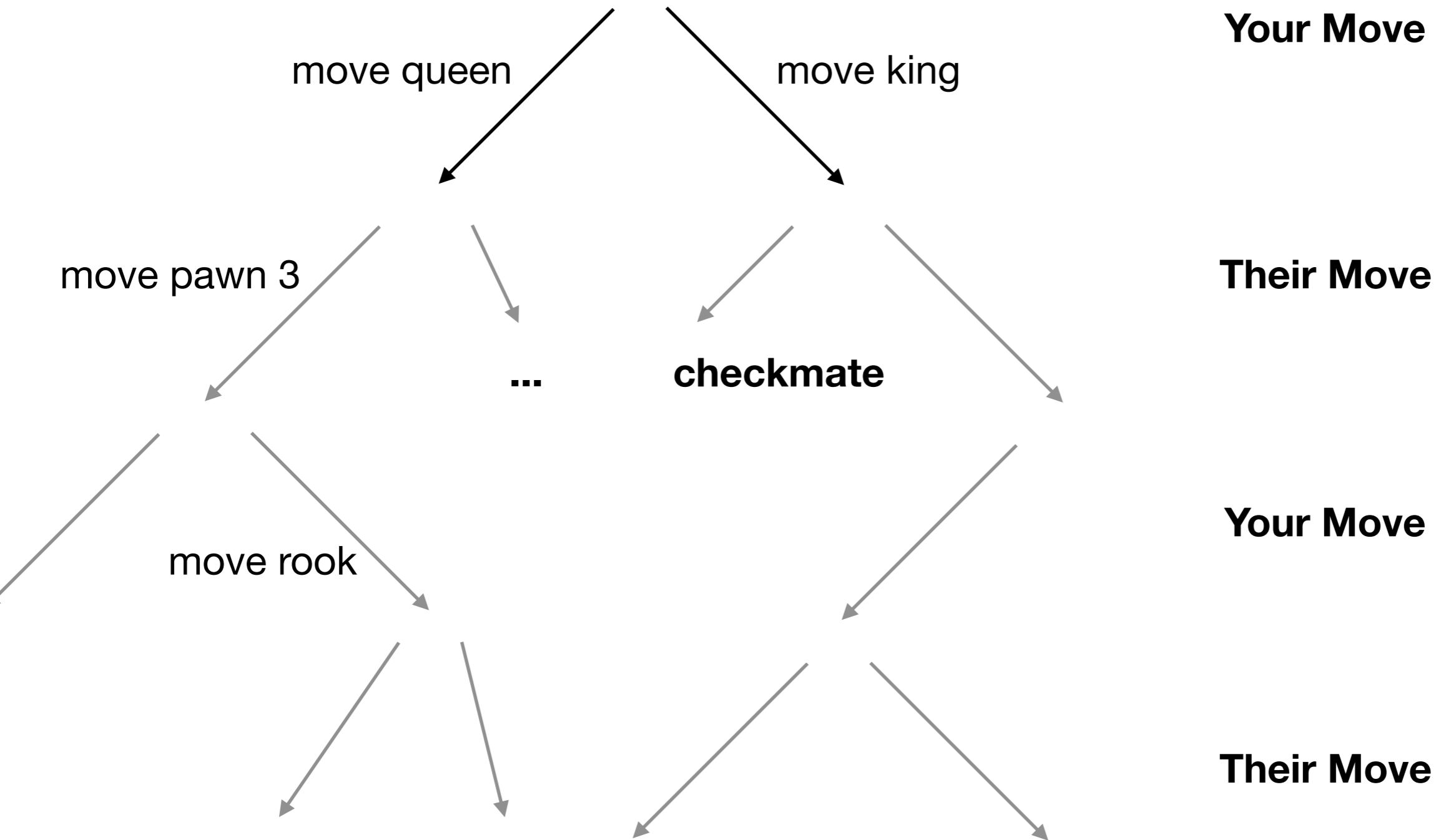
**depth-first**



# Breadth-First v Depth-First Tree Traversal



# Breadth-First v Depth-First Tree Traversal



# Breadth-First v Depth-First Tree Traversal

binary trees as *decision trees*

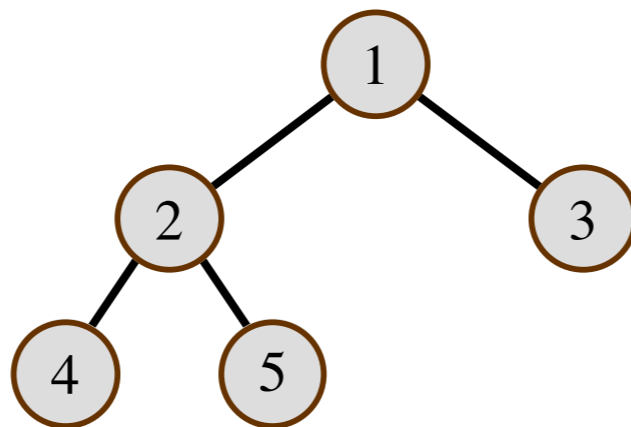
Look for *solution nodes*

- *Depth-first*: search one subtree in full before moving on
- *Breadth-first*: search all nodes at level  $k$  before moving to  $k + 1$

Finds *all* solutions — nearest first!

## Reminder: type tree


```
type 'a tree = Lf
             | Br of 'a * 'a tree * 'a tree
```



```
Br (1, Br (2, Br (4, Lf, Lf),  
           Br (5, Lf, Lf)),  
    Br (3, Lf, Lf))
```

# Breadth-First Tree Traversal – Using Append

```
let rec nbreadth = function
| [] -> []
| Lf :: ts -> nbreadth ts
| Br (v, t, u) :: ts ->
    v :: nbreadth (ts @ [t; u])
```

 queue

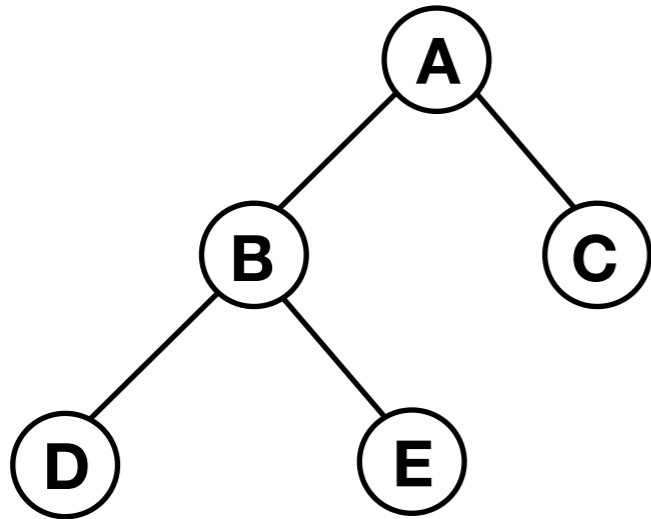
Keeps an *enormous queue* of nodes of search

Wasteful use of *append*

25 SECS to search depth 12 binary tree (4095 labels)

\* careful: assumes depth starts at 1

# Breadth-First Tree Traversal – Using Append



Notation in this example:

$Br(v_A, t_B, t_C)$  is a tree  $t_A$  with root value  $v_A$  and subtrees  $t_B, t_C$

$nbreadth([t_A])$

(\*  $ts$  is empty \*)

$v_A :: nbreadth([\ ] @ [t_B; t_C])$

(\* put root value into list \*)

$v_A :: nbreadth([t_B; t_C])$

(\* execute append \*)

$v_A :: v_B :: nbreadth([t_C] @ [t_D; E])$

(\* append new subtrees \*)

$v_A :: v_B :: nbreadth([t_C; t_D; t_E])$

$v_A :: v_B :: v_C :: nbreadth([t_D; t_E] @ [Lf; Lf])$

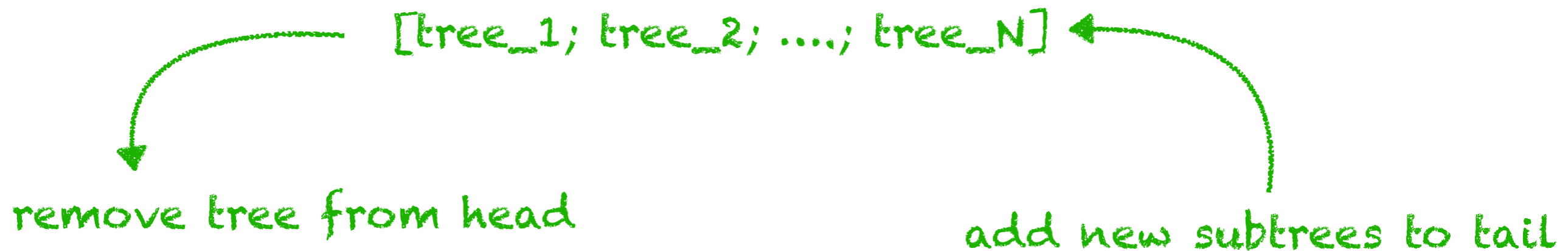
$v_A :: v_B :: v_C :: nbreadth([t_D; t_E; Lf; Lf])$

...

first arg of append grows!

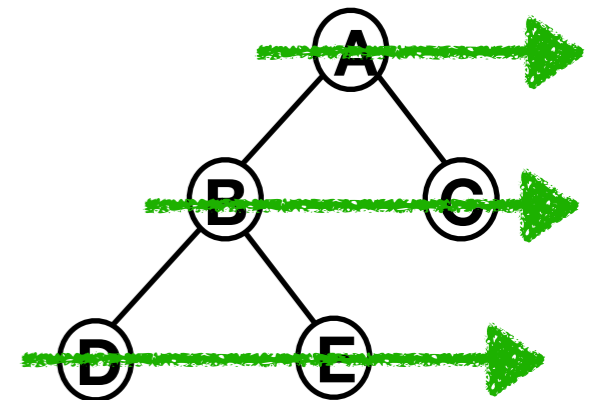
# Breadth-First Tree Traversal – Using Append

Two key operations in `nbreadth` example:



The **order** matters:

Process what we first put into list *first*,  
*before* we process its descendants.

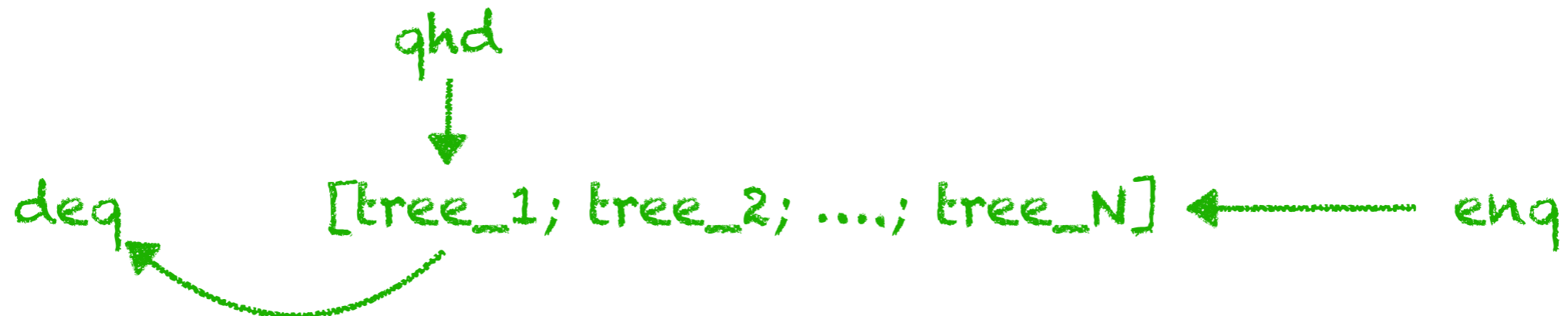


-> find a better data-structure than ordinary list

# An Abstract Data Type: Queues

We want: efficient FIFO data-structure

- `qempty` is the *empty queue*
- `qnull` *tests* whether a queue is empty
- `qhd` *returns* the element at the *head* of a queue
- `deq` *discards* the element at the *head* of a queue
- `enq` **adds** an element at the **end** of a queue





## Efficient Functional Queues: Idea

Goal: avoid  $q@[x]$  since  $O(\text{length}(q))$

Key idea: reverse back half of list!

Represent the queue  $x_1 \ x_2 \ \dots \ x_m \ \underline{y_n \ \dots \ y_1}$

by a pair of lists

$([x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m], [y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n])$

Add new items to *rear list*

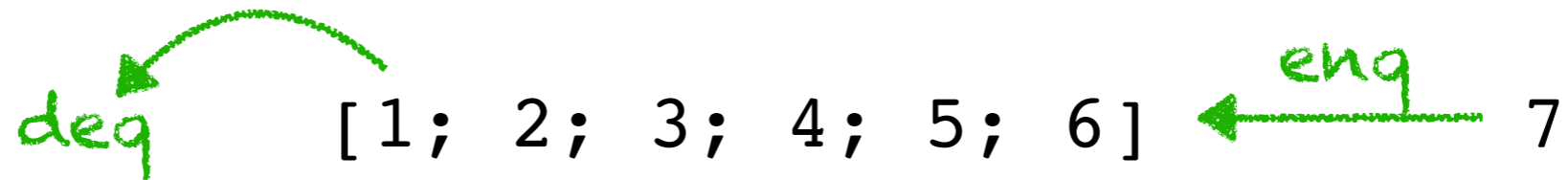
Remove items from *front list*; if empty move rear to front

*Amortized* time per operation is  $O(1)$

careful! (reversed)

# Efficient Functional Queues: Idea

Goal:



Functional queue:

$([1; 2; 3], [6; 5; 4])$

pattern-match and discard

cons 7

$1 :: [2; 3]$

$7 :: [6; 5; 4]$

Result:

$([2; 3], [7; 6; 5; 4])$

Rationale of amortized cost, for a queue of length  $n$ :

- $n$  enq,  $n$  deq operations
- $2n$  cons operations for queue of length  $n$
- $O(1)$  cost per operation

## Efficient Functional Queues: Code

```
type 'a queue = Q of 'a list * 'a list

let norm = function
| Q ([], tls) -> Q (List.rev tls, [])
| q -> q

let qnull q = (q = Q ([], []))

let enq (Q (hds, tls)) x =
  norm (Q (hds, x::tls))

exception Empty

let deq = function
| Q (x::hds, tls) -> norm (Q (hds, tls))
| _ -> raise Empty
```

# Breadth-First Tree Traversal – Using Queues

```
let rec breadth q =  
  if qnull q then []  
  else  
    match qhd q with  
    | Lf -> breadth (deq q)  
    | Br (v, t, u) ->  
      v :: breadth (enq (enq (deq q) t) u)
```

removing first subtree

enq. its children

0.14 secs to search depth 12 binary tree (4095 labels)

**200 times faster!**

\* careful: assumes depth starts at 1

# Iterative Deepening: Another Exhaustive Search

Breadth-first search examines  $O(b^d)$  nodes:

General formula:

$$1 + b + \dots + b^d = \frac{b^{d+1} - 1}{b - 1}$$

$b =$  branching factor  
 $d =$  depth

For binary tree:  $2^{d+1} - 1$

Space and time complexity:  $O(b^d)$

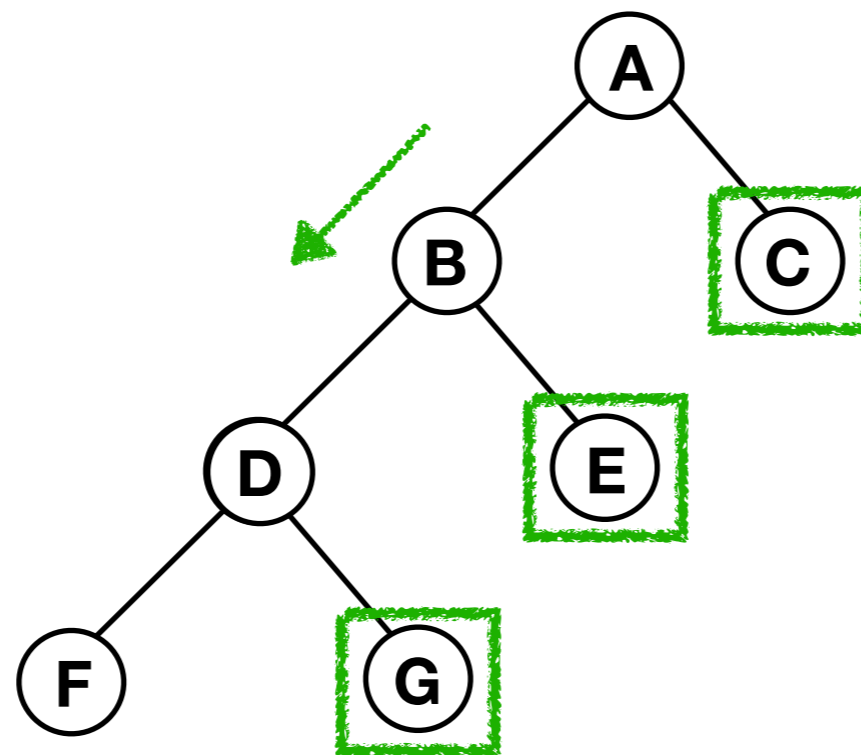
\* careful: assumes depth starts at 0

# Iterative Deepening: Another Exhaustive Search

**Idea** behind iterative deepening:

- Use **DFS** to get benefits of BFS
- Recompute nodes at depth  $d$  instead of storing them
- Complexity:  $b/(b - 1)$  times that for BFS (if  $b > 1$ )
- Space requirement at depth  $d$  drops from  $b^d$  to  $d$

**Recall** depth-first search:



Space complexity:  $O(d)$

## Another Abstract Data Type: Stacks

- `empty` is the *empty stack*
- `null` *tests* whether a stack is empty
- `top` *returns* the element at the *top* of a stack
- `pop` *discards* the element at the *top* of a stack
- `push` *adds* an element at the *top* of a stack

# A Survey of Search Methods

1. **Depth-first:** use a *stack* (efficient but incomplete)
2. **Breadth-first:** use a *queue* (uses too much space!)
3. **Iterative deepening:** use (1) to get benefits of (2)  
(trades time for space)
4. **Best-first:** use a *priority queue* (heuristic search)

*The data structure determines the search!*



# **CODE DEMO**

## **of Fast vs Slow Breadth-First Search**

time how long it takes to traverse  
a tree of depth 16 (131'071 nodes)

\* careful: assumes depth starts at 0