

1. Reading: K. Rosen *Discrete Mathematics and Its Applications*, 8.3
2. The main message of this lecture:

**Tree traversal is a procedure for visiting all the vertices of a tree. There are some common traversal algorithms.**

**Definition 35.1. Universal address system** for an ordered rooted tree labels all its vertices. Labels are  $n$ -tuples of nonnegative integers (separated by “.”). They are defined recursively as follows:

1. The root  $r$  is labelled with 0 and its children are labelled  $1, 2, \dots, n$  left to right.
2. If an internal vertex  $v \neq r$  has a label  $A$ , then its  $k_v$  children get labels  $A.1, A.2, \dots, A.k_v$  respectively.

Vertices in each finite tree can be then totally ordered by their universal addresses using the lexicographic ordering of their labels.

**Examples 35.2.** Slides!

**Definition 35.3. Preorder traversal algorithm** of an ordered rooted tree  $T$  is defined recursively.

1. If  $T$  consists of a root  $r$  only, then  $r$  is the preorder traversal of  $T$ .
2. Suppose  $T_1, T_2, \dots, T_n$  are the subtrees at  $r$  from left to right. The preorder traversal begins by visiting  $r$ , then  $T_1$  in preorder, then  $T_2$  in preorder, and so on, until  $T_n$  is traversed in preorder.

**Examples 35.4.** Slides!

**Definition 35.5. Inorder traversal algorithm** of an ordered rooted tree  $T$  is also defined recursively.

1. If  $T$  consists of a root  $r$  only, then  $r$  is the inorder traversal of  $T$ .
2. Suppose  $T_1, T_2, \dots, T_n$  are the subtrees at  $r$  from left to right. The inorder traversal begins by traversing  $T_1$  in inorder, then visiting  $r$ . It continues by traversing  $T_2$  in inorder, then  $T_3$  in inorder, and so on, and finally  $T_n$  in inorder.

**Examples 35.6.** Slides!

**Definition 35.7. Postorder traversal algorithm** of an ordered rooted tree  $T$  is defined recursively as well.

1. If  $T$  consists of a root  $r$  only, then  $r$  is the postorder traversal of  $T$ .
2. Suppose  $T_1, T_2, \dots, T_n$  are the subtrees at  $r$  from left to right. The postorder traversal begins by traversing  $T_1$  in postorder, then by traversing  $T_2$  in postorder, then  $T_3$  in postorder,  $\dots$ , then  $T_n$  in postorder, and ends by visiting  $r$ .

**Examples 35.8.** Slides!

**Definition 35.9.** The standard fully parenthesized expression corresponds to the inorder traversal of the formation tree and is called the **infix form**. The **prefix form** corresponds to the preorder traversal of a formation tree. Sometimes it is also called the **Polish notation**. It is not too convenient for humans but is quite OK for computers since it provides a concise

unambiguous notation. The **postfix form** of a term corresponds to the postorder traversal of the formation tree. Such expression is also said to be in the **reverse Polish notation**.

**Examples 35.10.** Slides!

**Homework assignments.** (The third installment due Friday 04/27)

35A:Rosen8.3-6b; 35B:Rosen8.3-8(preorder, inorder, postorder); 35C:Rosen8.3-26ac.