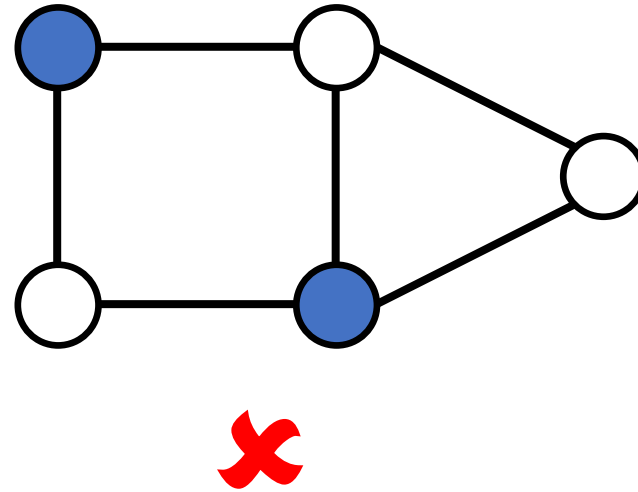
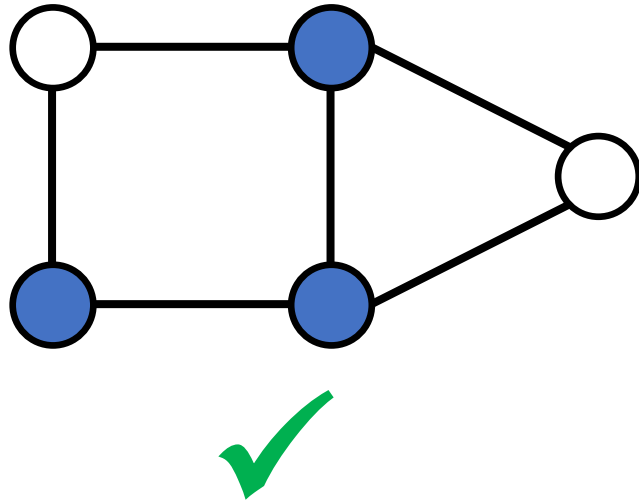


# Vertex Cover

## CSCI 532

# Vertex Cover

Vertex Cover: Given graph, find the smallest subset of vertices such that every edge in the graph has at least one vertex in the subset.

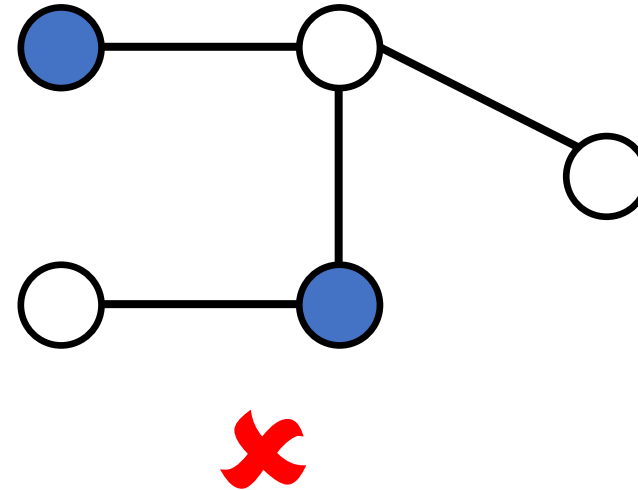
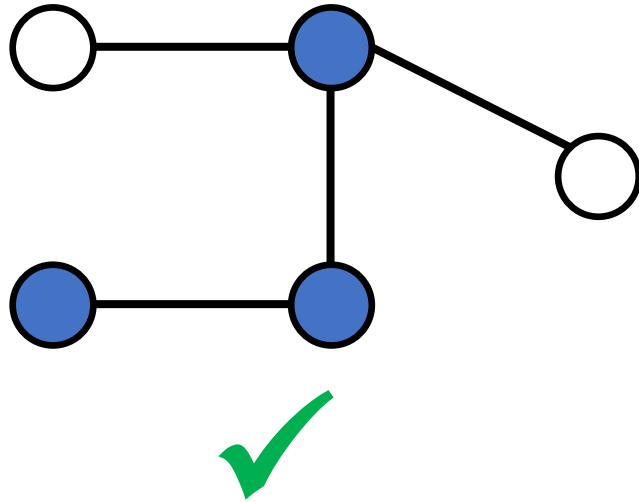


# Vertex Cover

tree

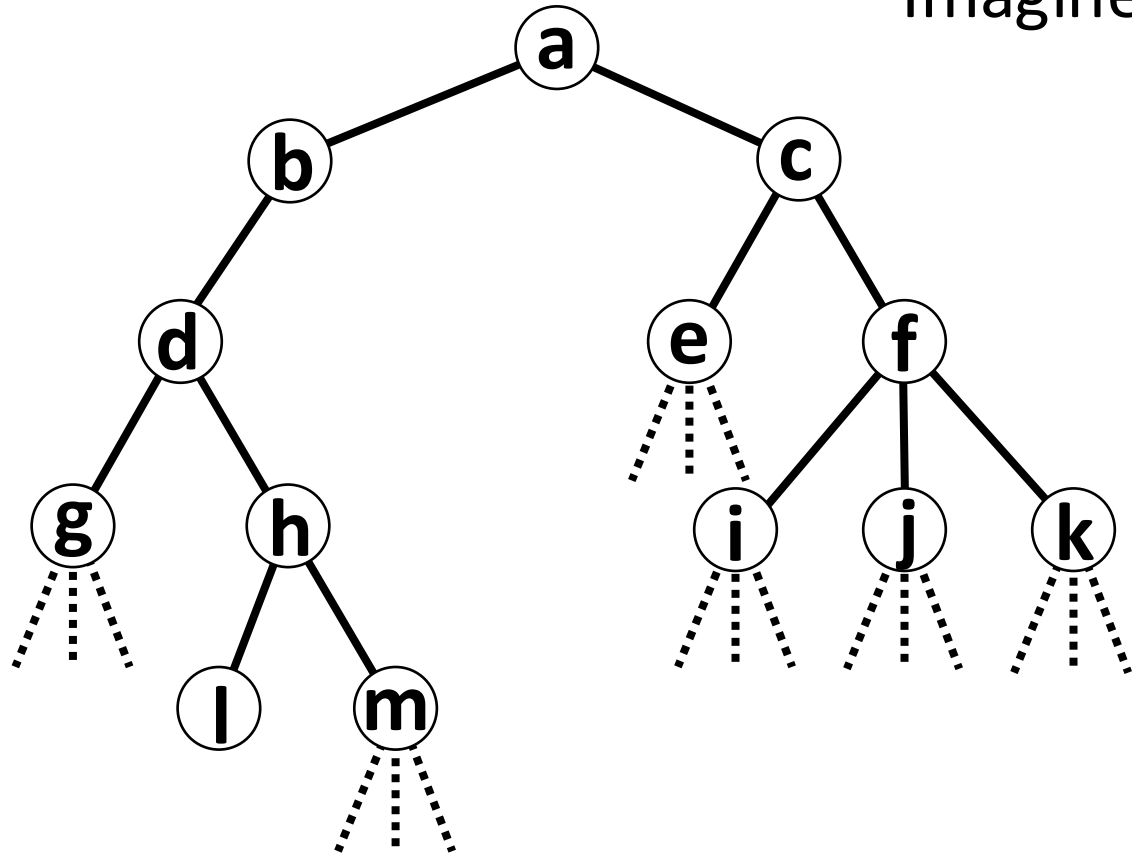
Vertex Cover: Given ~~graph~~, find the smallest subset of vertices such that every edge in the ~~graph~~ has at least one vertex in the subset.

tree



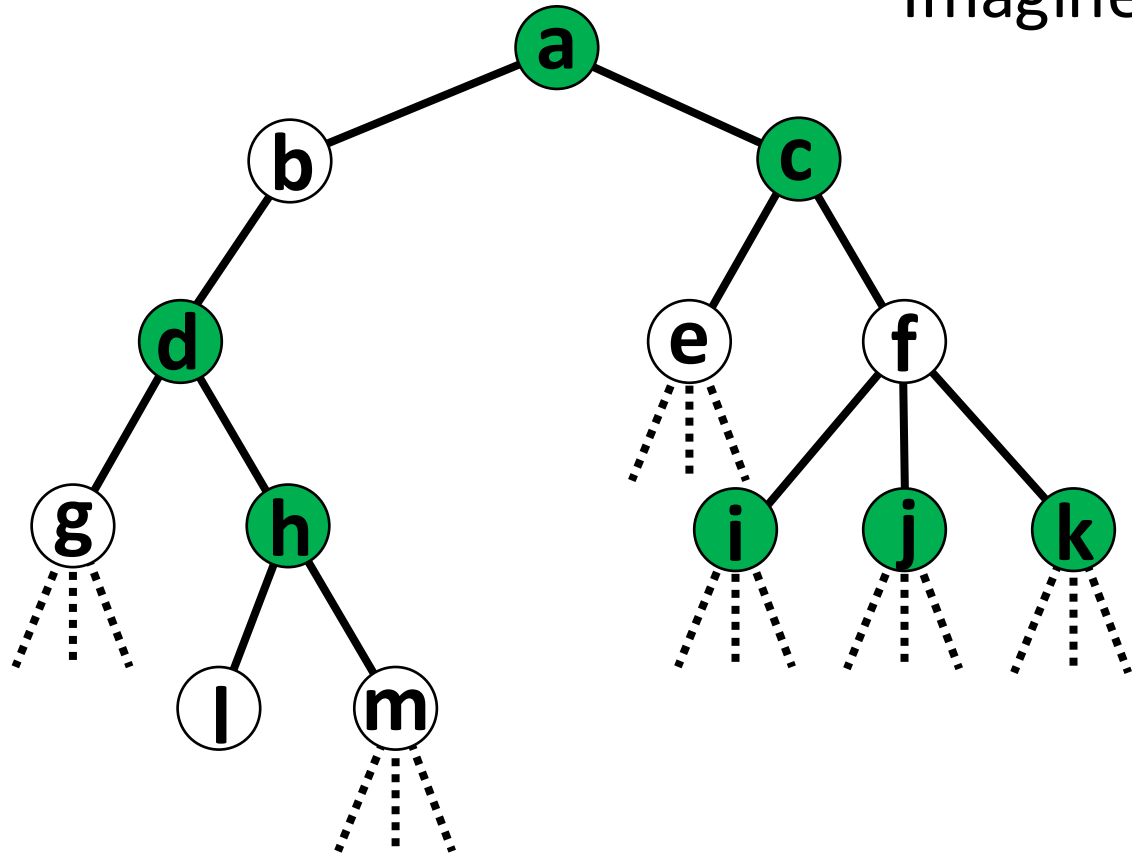
# Vertex Cover in Trees

Imagine the minimum vertex cover.



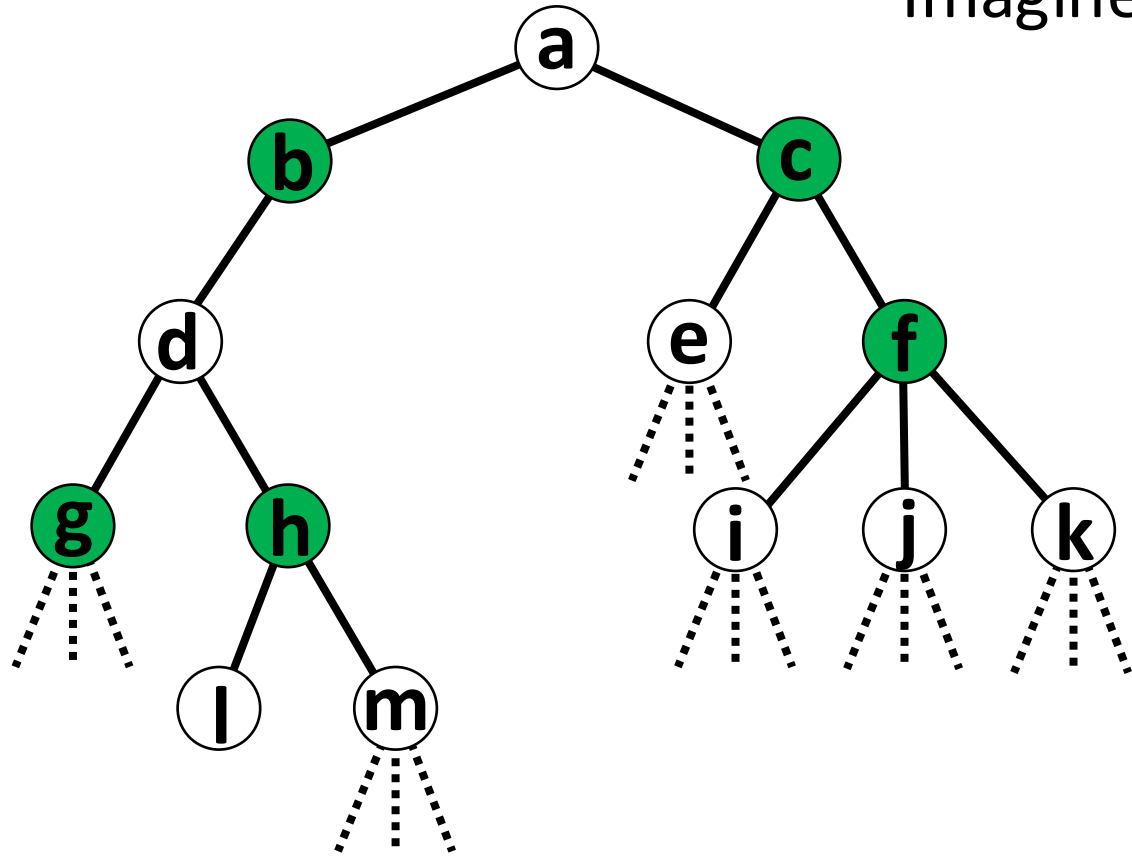
# Vertex Cover in Trees

Imagine the minimum vertex cover.



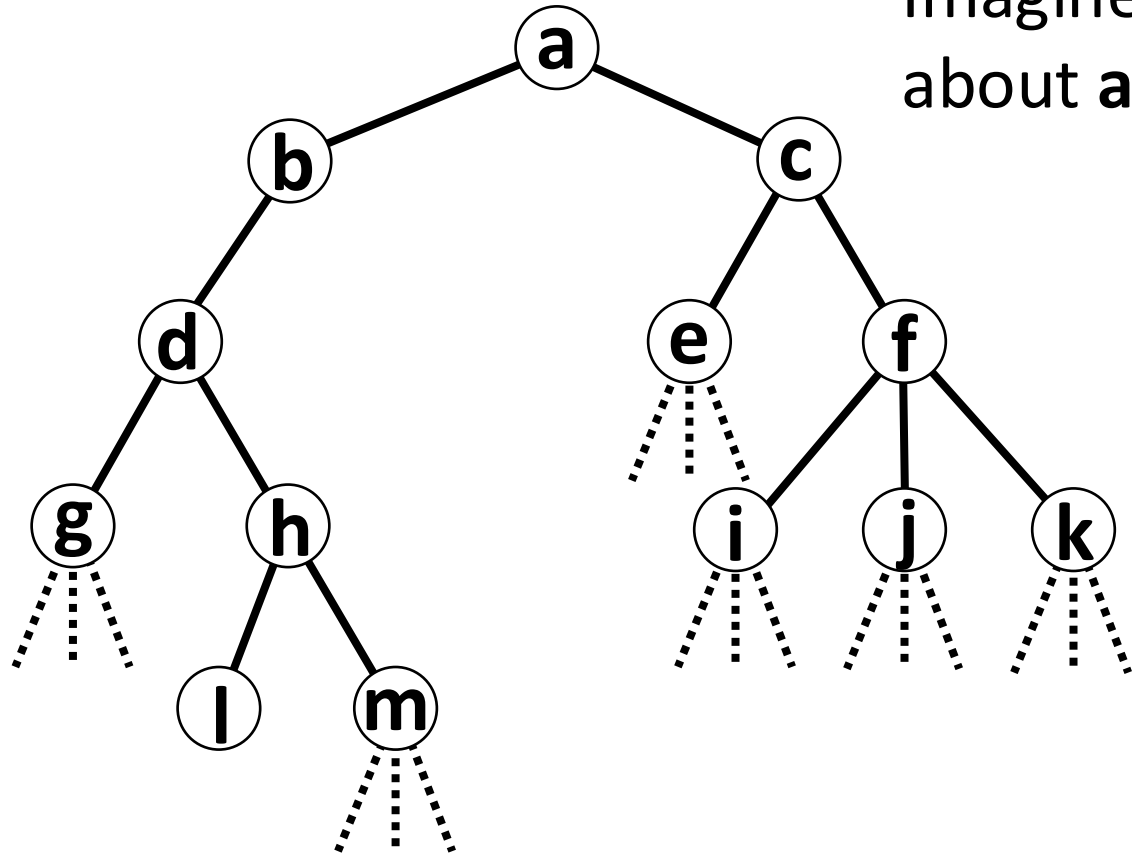
# Vertex Cover in Trees

Imagine the minimum vertex cover.



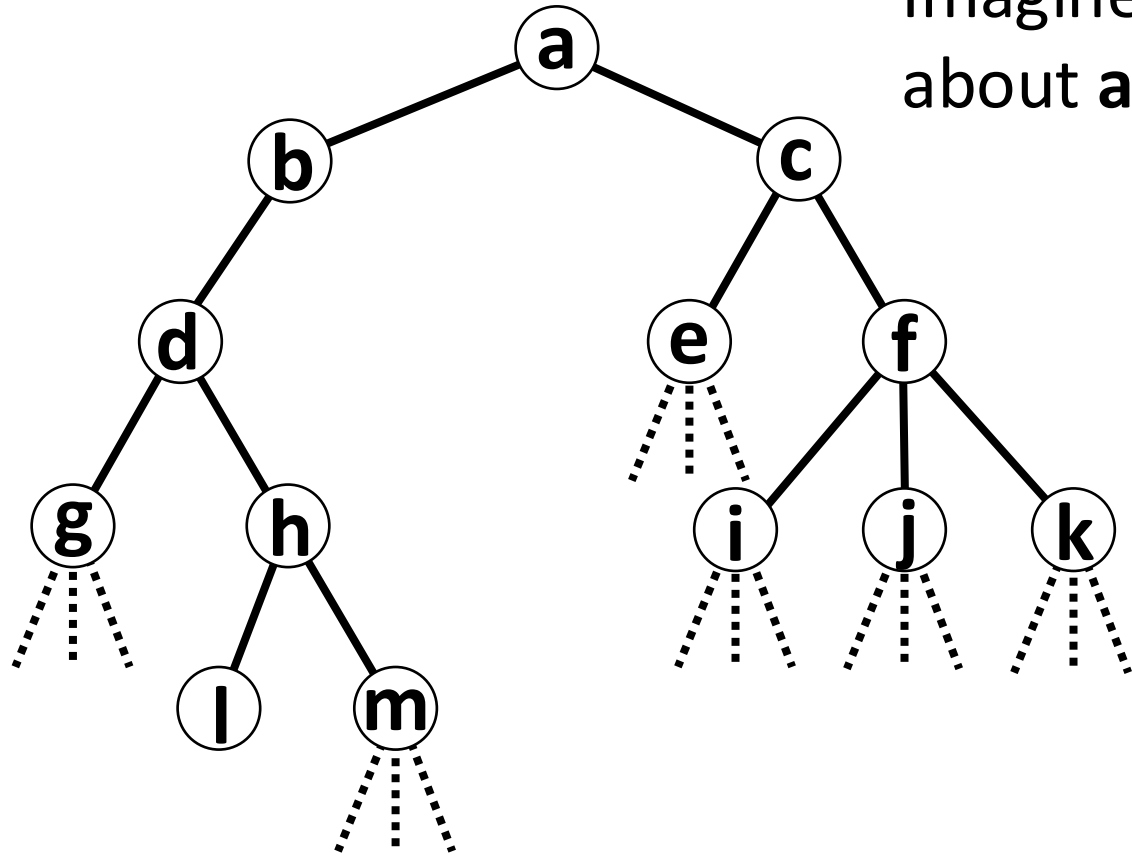
# Vertex Cover in Trees

Imagine the minimum vertex cover. What can we say about **a**?



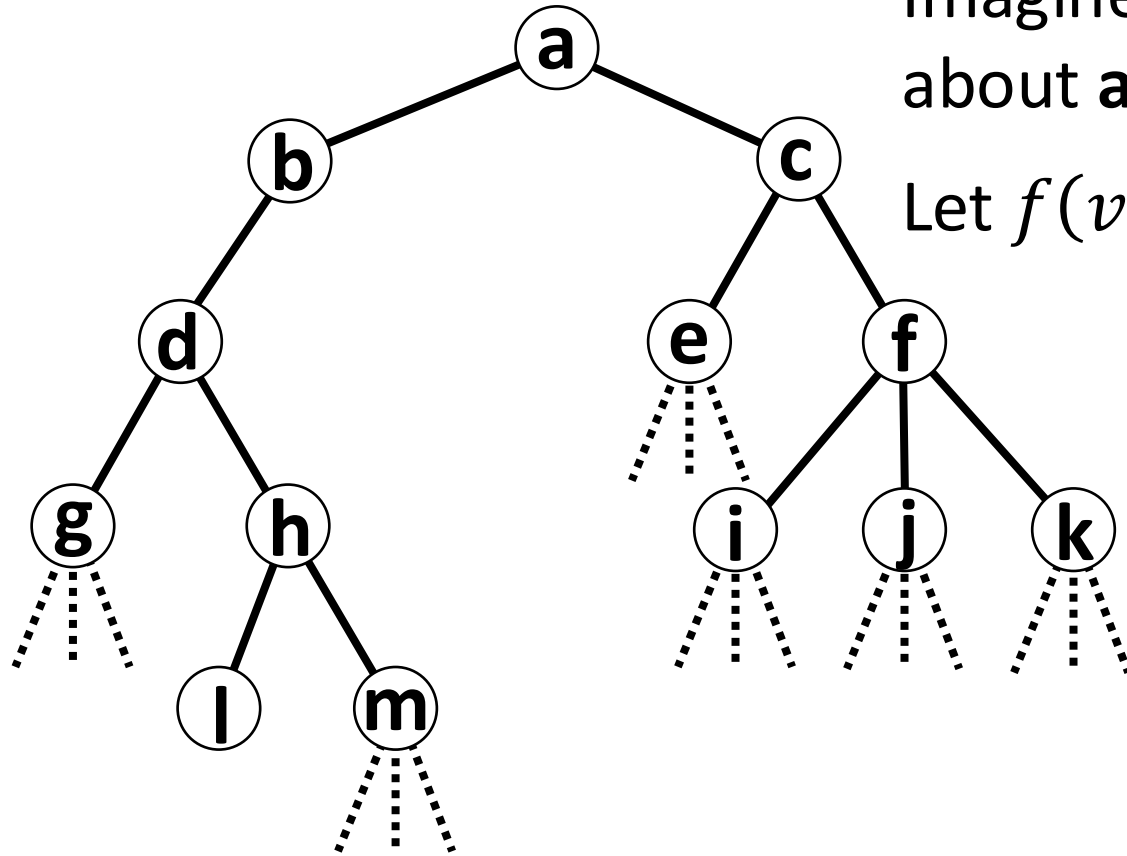
# Vertex Cover in Trees

Imagine the minimum vertex cover. What can we say about **a**? **a** is in a minimum vertex cover, or it's not.





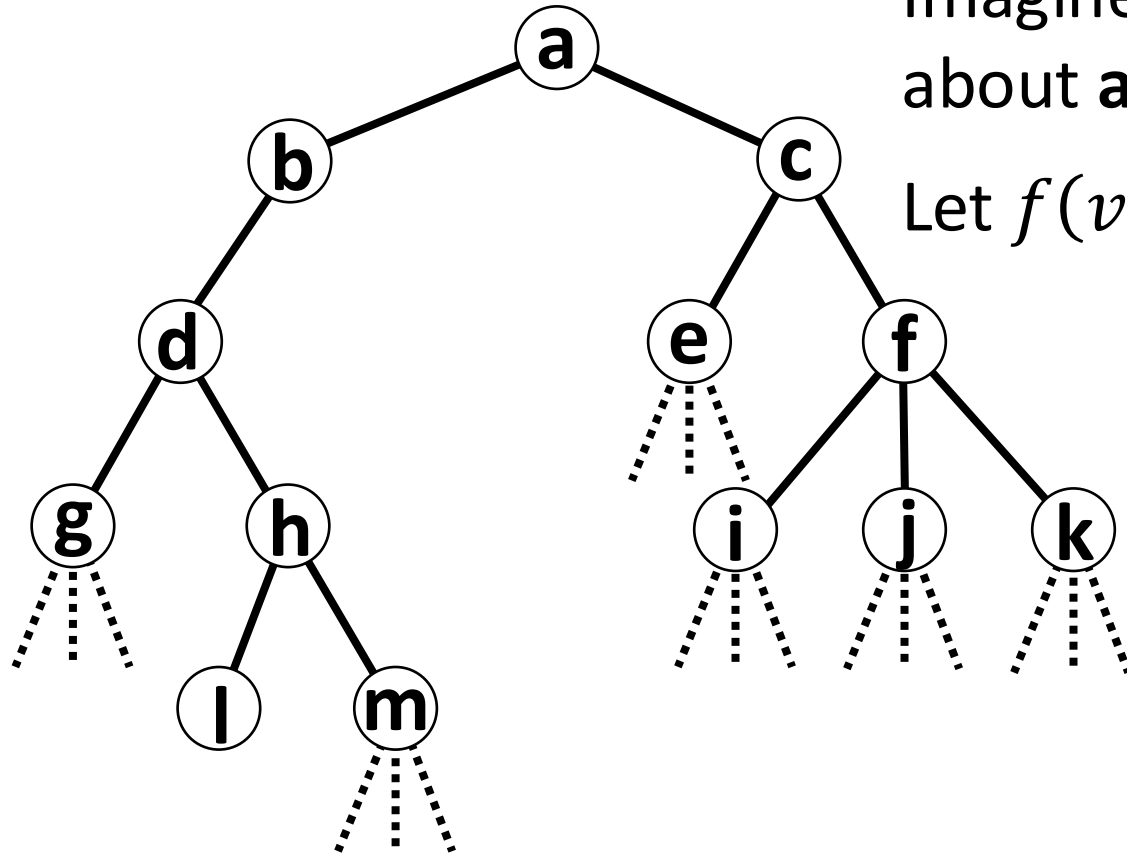
# Vertex Cover in Trees



Imagine the minimum vertex cover. What can we say about **a**? **a** is in a minimum vertex cover, or it's not.

Let  $f(v)$  = Size of minimum vertex cover rooted at  $v$ .

# Vertex Cover in Trees



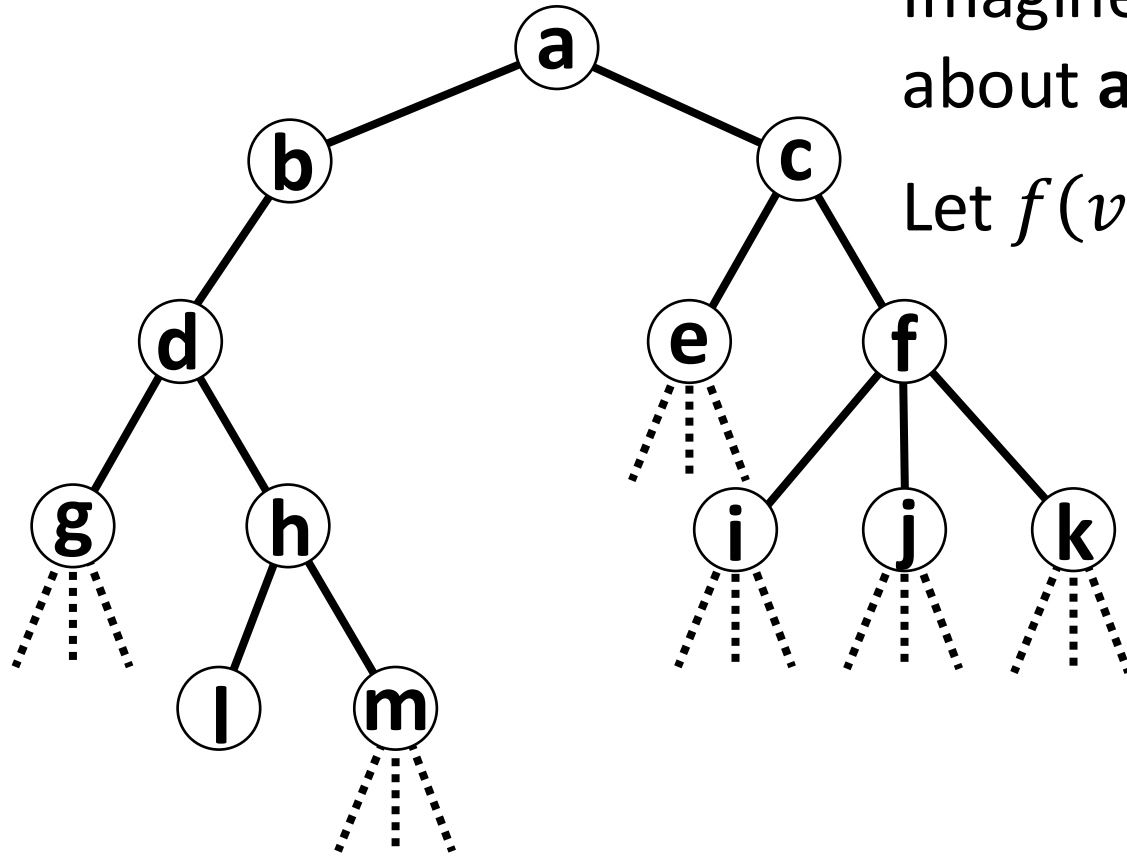
Imagine the minimum vertex cover. What can we say about **a**? **a** is in a minimum vertex cover, or it's not.

Let  $f(v)$  = Size of minimum vertex cover rooted at  $v$ .

If a **is** in a minimum VC

If a **is not** in a minimum VC

# Vertex Cover in Trees



Imagine the minimum vertex cover. What can we say about **a**? **a** is in a minimum vertex cover, or it's not.

Let  $f(v)$  = Size of minimum vertex cover rooted at  $v$ .

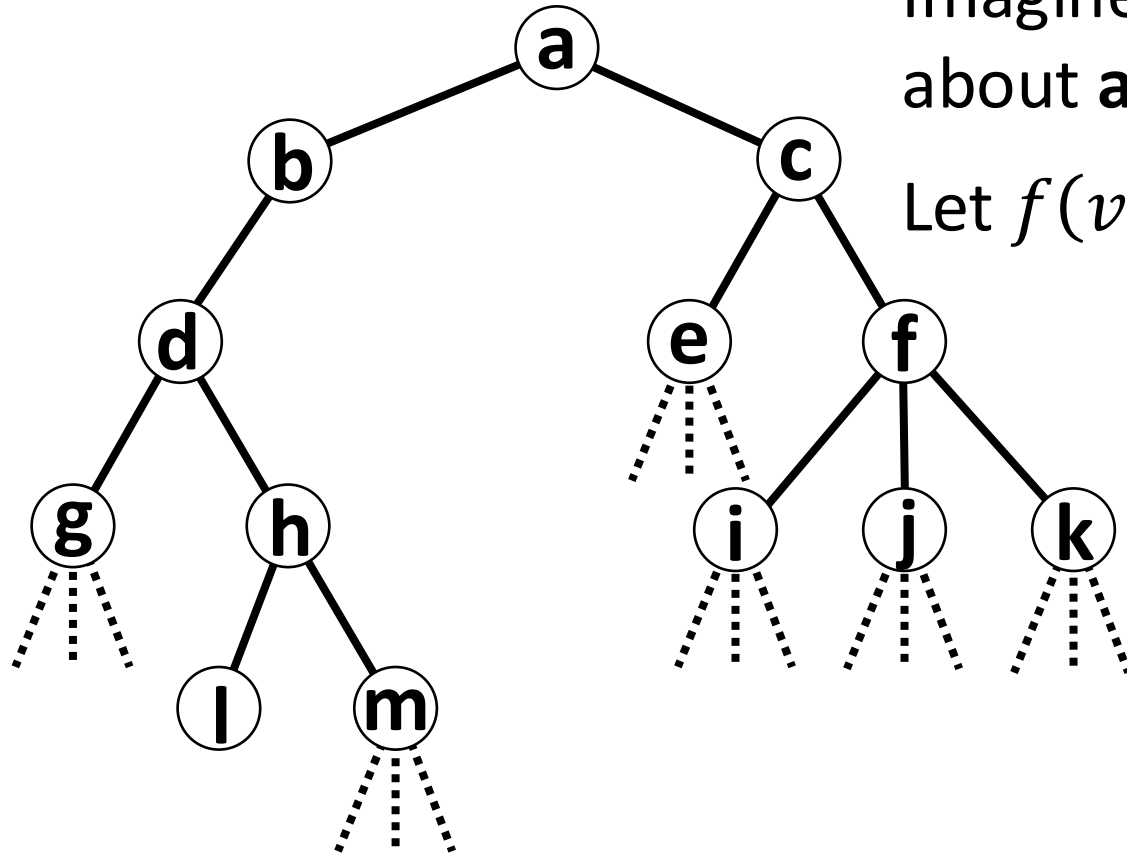
If a **is** in a minimum VC

$f(a) = ??$

If a **is not** in a minimum VC

$f(a) = ??$

# Vertex Cover in Trees



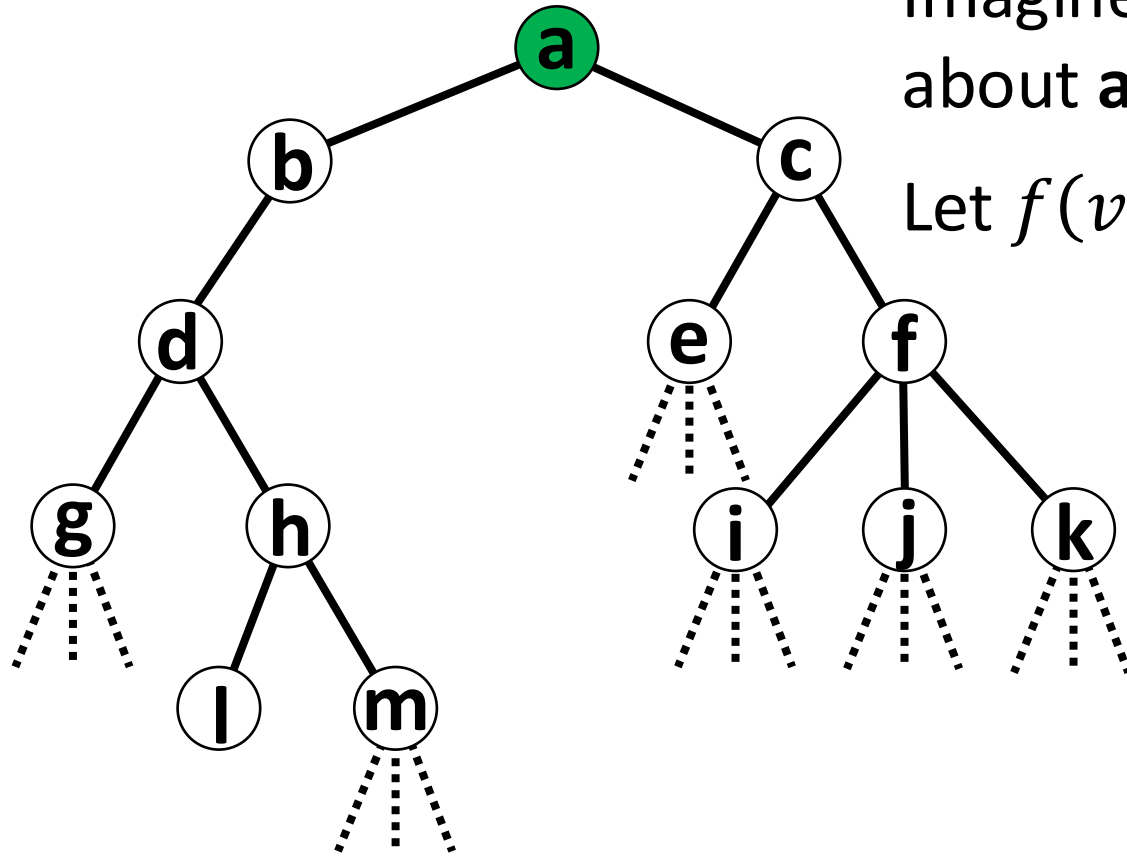
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# Vertex Cover in Trees



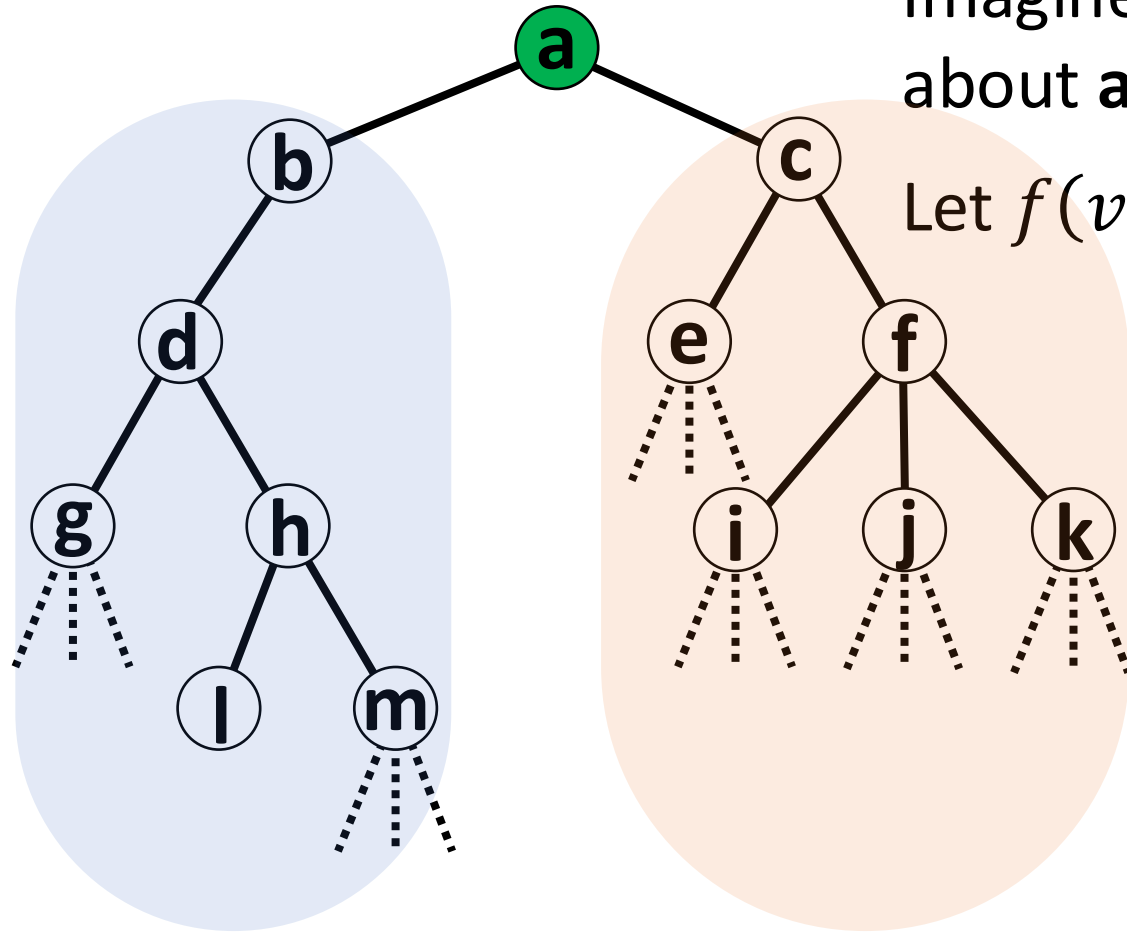
Imagine the minimum vertex cover. What can we say about **a**? **a** is in a minimum vertex cover, or it's not.

Let  $f(v)$  = Size of minimum vertex cover rooted at  $v$ .

If a **is** in a minimum VC

$$f(a) = 1 + ??$$

# Vertex Cover in Trees



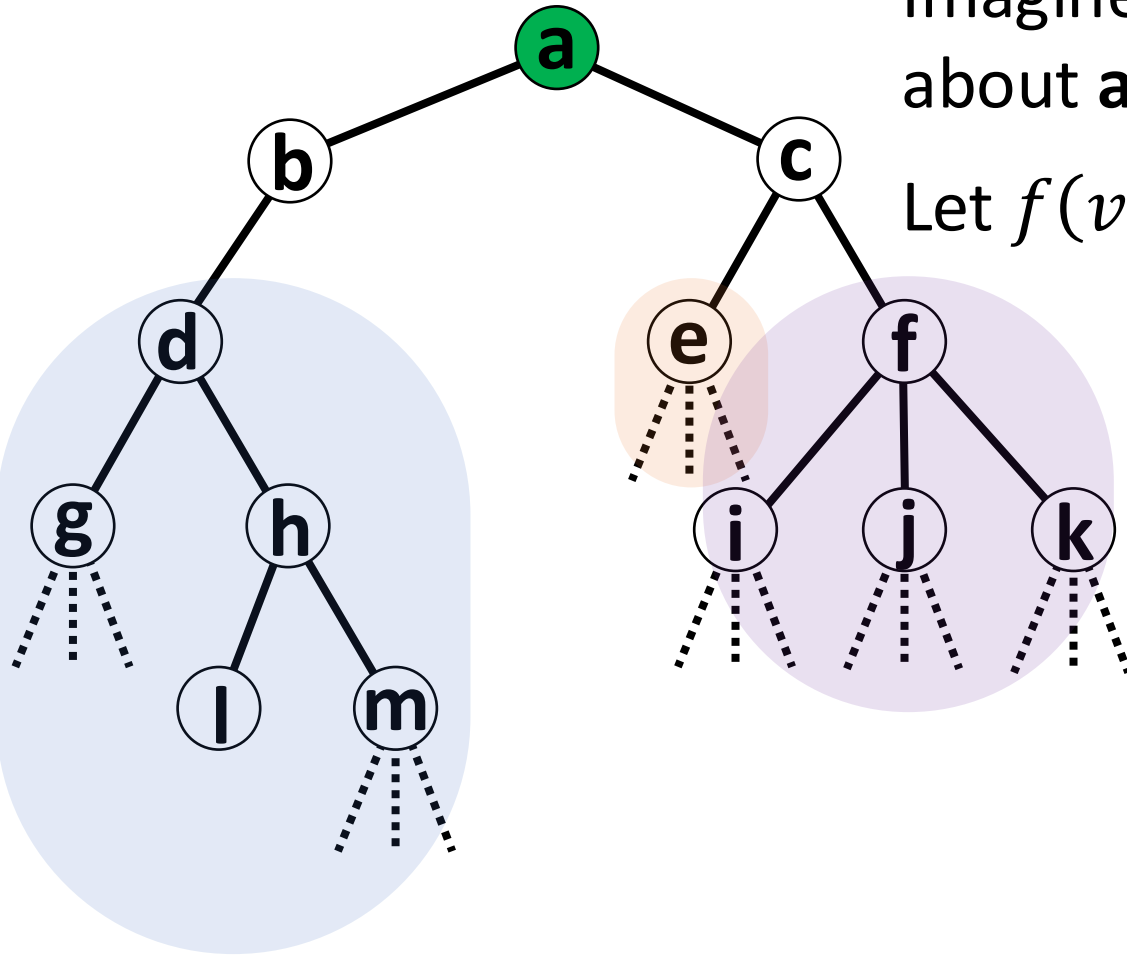
Imagine the minimum vertex cover. What can we say about **a**? **a** is in a minimum vertex cover, or it's not.

Let  $f(v)$  = Size of minimum vertex cover rooted at  $v$ .

If a **is** in a minimum VC

$$f(a) = 1 + f(b) + f(c)$$

# Vertex Cover in Trees



Imagine the minimum vertex cover. What can we say about **a**? **a** is in a minimum vertex cover, or it's not.

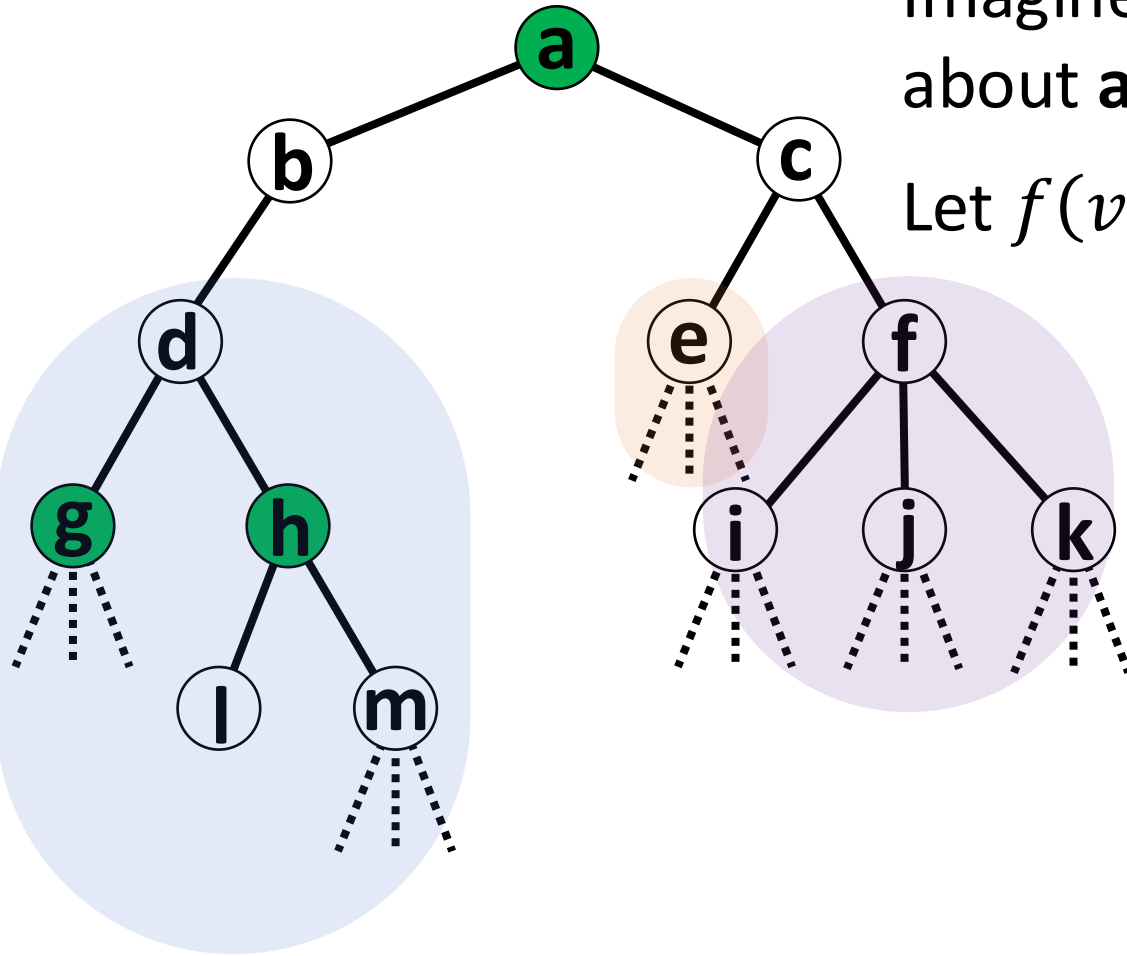
Let  $f(v)$  = Size of minimum vertex cover rooted at  $v$ .

If a **is** in a minimum VC

$$f(a) = 1 + f(d) + f(e) + f(f)$$

Why not this?

# Vertex Cover in Trees



Imagine the minimum vertex cover. What can we say about **a**? **a** is in a minimum vertex cover, or it's not.

Let  $f(v)$  = Size of minimum vertex cover rooted at  $v$ .

If a **i**s in a minimum VC

$$f(a) = 1 + f(d) + f(e) + f(f)$$

Why not this?

Because the optimal VC rooted at **d** may not include **d**...



# Vertex Cover in Trees

Imagine the minimum vertex cover. What can we say about **a**? **a** is in a minimum vertex cover, or it's not.

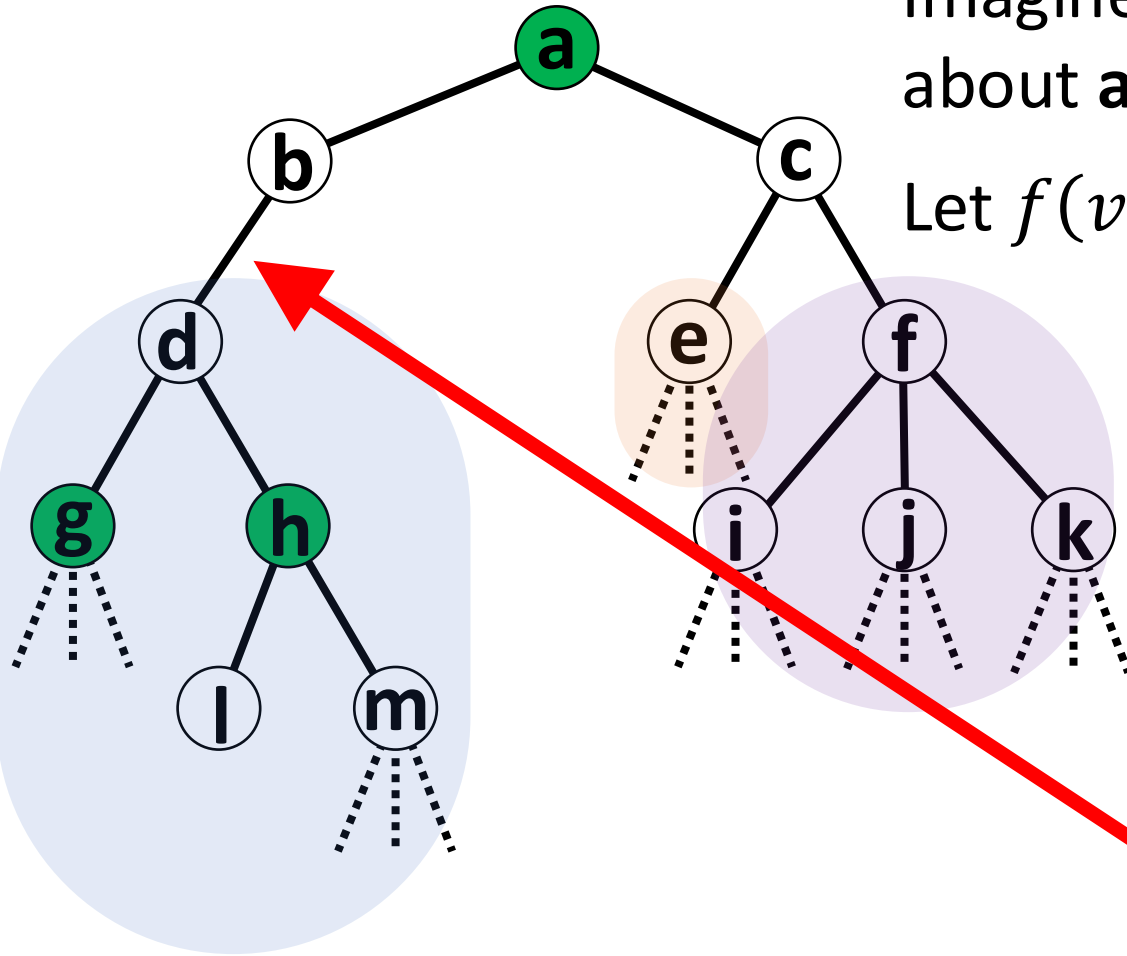
Let  $f(v)$  = Size of minimum vertex cover rooted at  $v$ .

If a **is** in a minimum VC

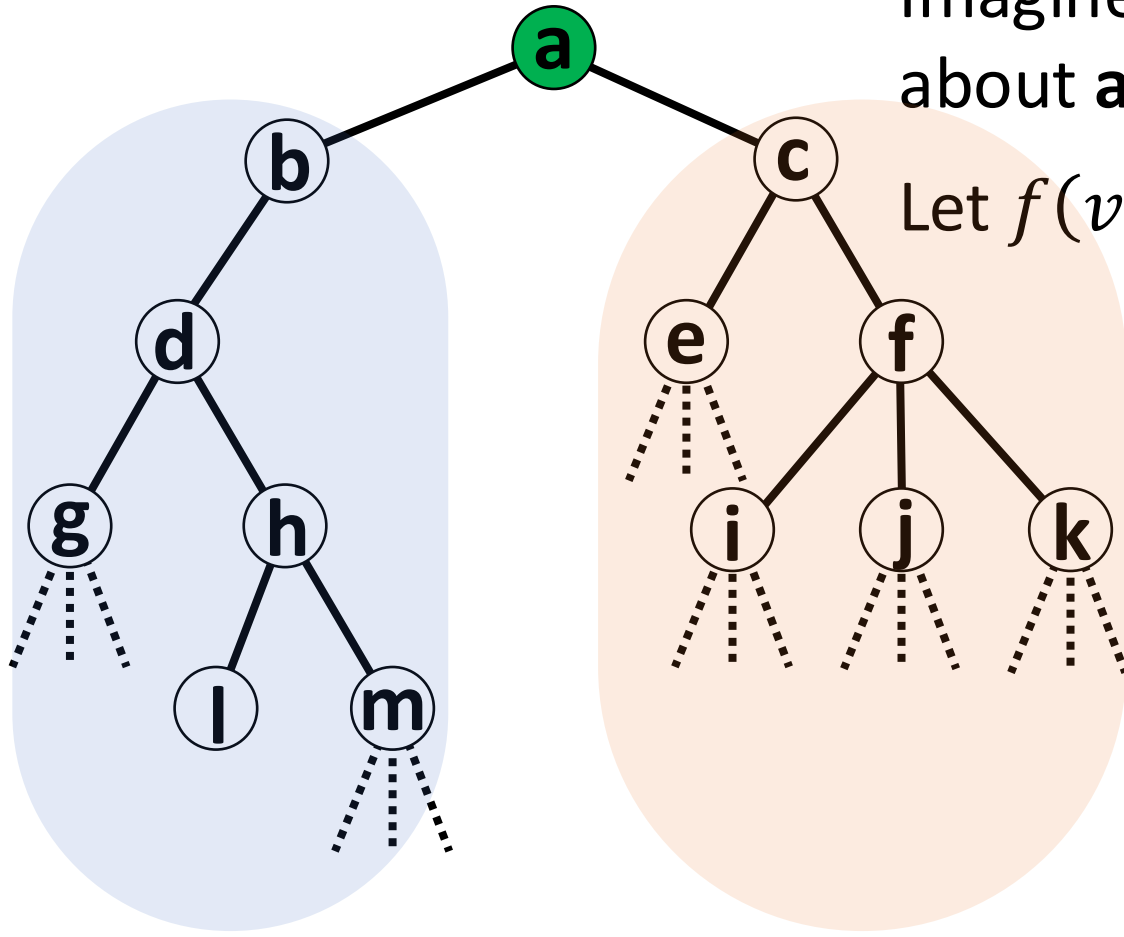
$$f(a) = 1 + f(d) + f(e) + f(f)$$

Why not this?

Because the optimal VC rooted at **d** may not include **d**...which leaves an edge uncovered.



# Vertex Cover in Trees



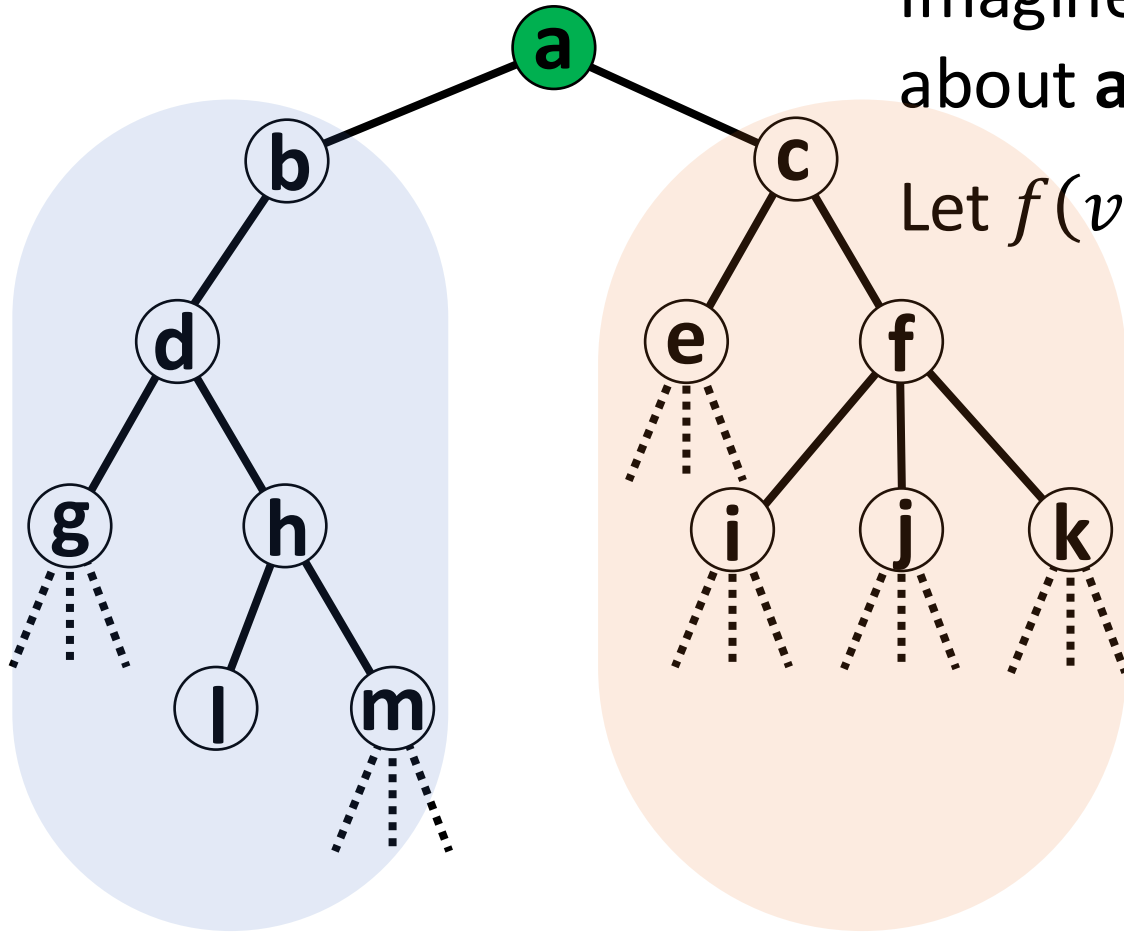
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Let  $f(v)$  = Size of minimum vertex cover rooted at  $v$ .

If a **is** in a minimum VC

$$f(a) = 1 + f(b) + f(c)$$

# Vertex Cover in Trees



Imagine the minimum vertex cover. What can we say about **a**? **a** is in a minimum vertex cover, or it's not.

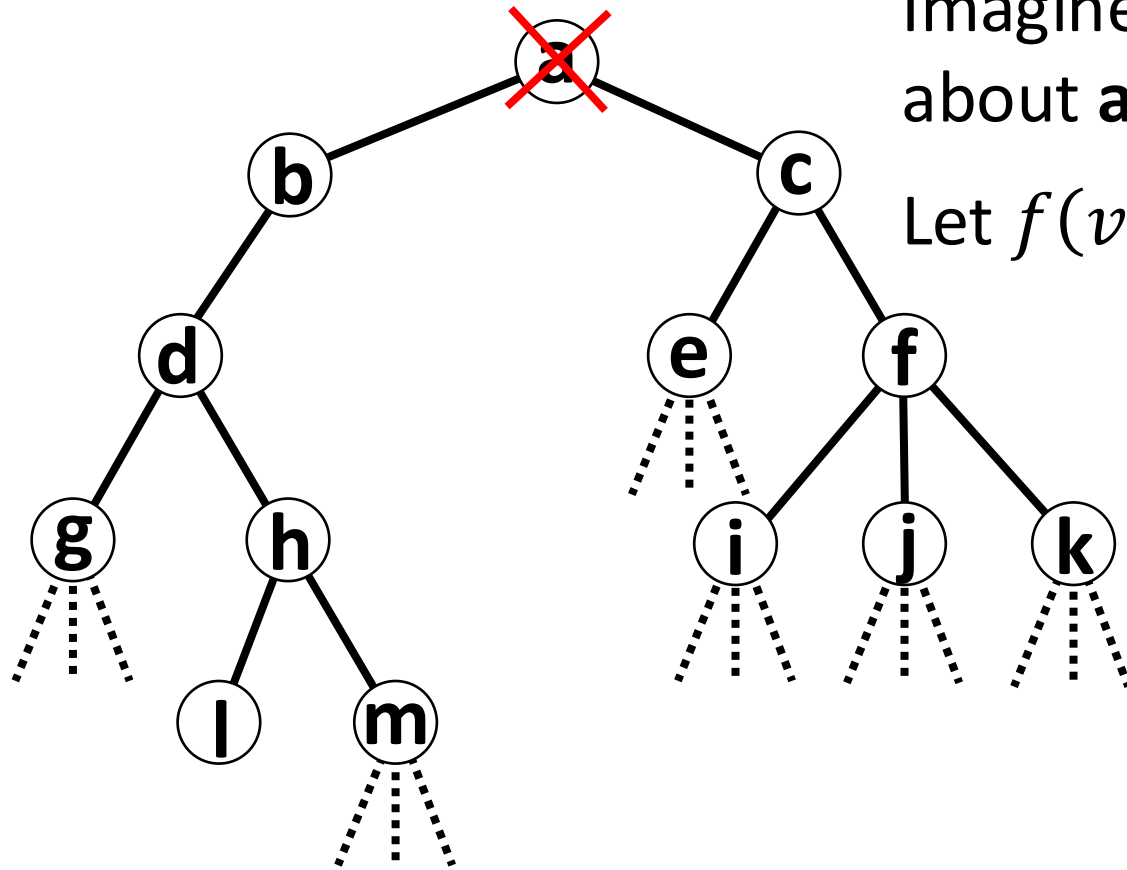
Let  $f(v)$  = Size of minimum vertex cover rooted at  $v$ .

If **a** is in a minimum VC

$$f(a) = 1 + f(b) + f(c)$$

*Optimal Substructure: "If there was a smaller VC rooted at **b**, it would give us a smaller VC rooted at **a**."*

# Vertex Cover in Trees



Imagine the minimum vertex cover. What can we say about **a**? **a** is in a minimum vertex cover, or it's not.

Let  $f(v)$  = Size of minimum vertex cover rooted at  $v$ .

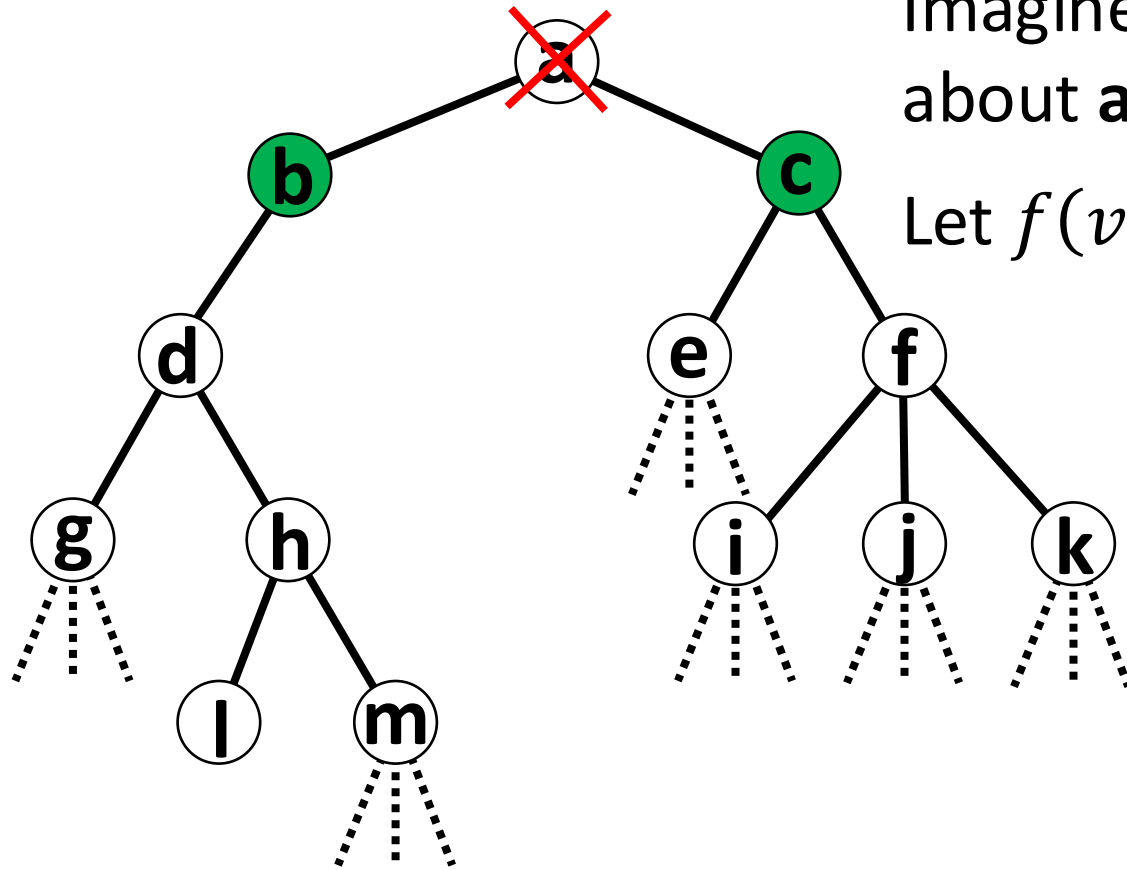
If **a** is in a minimum VC

$$f(a) = 1 + f(b) + f(c)$$

If **a** is not in a minimum VC

$$f(a) = ??$$

# Vertex Cover in Trees



Imagine the minimum vertex cover. What can we say about **a**? **a** is in a minimum vertex cover, or it's not.

Let  $f(v)$  = Size of minimum vertex cover rooted at  $v$ .

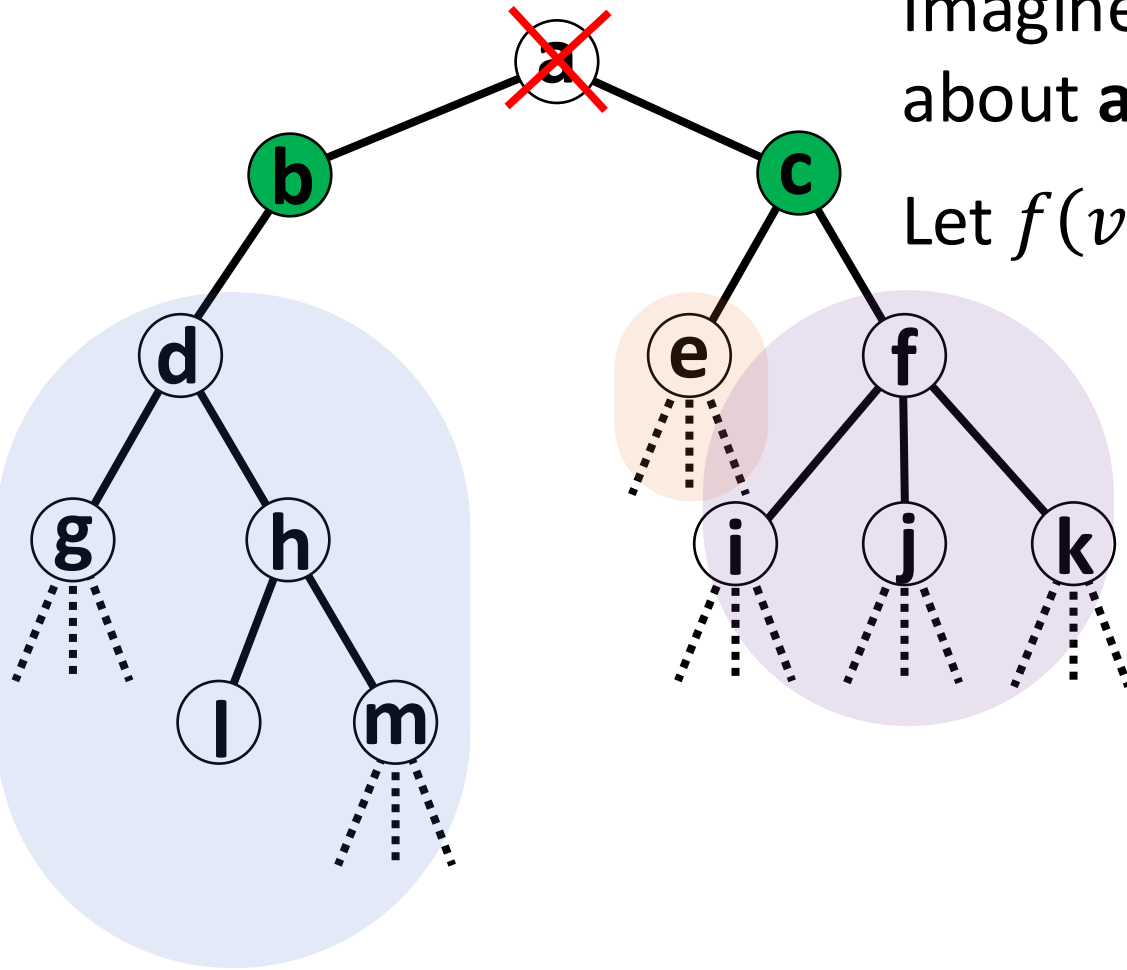
If **a** is in a minimum VC

$$f(a) = 1 + f(b) + f(c)$$

If **a** is not in a minimum VC

$$f(a) = 2 + ??$$

# Vertex Cover in Trees



Imagine the minimum vertex cover. What can we say about **a**? **a** is in a minimum vertex cover, or it's not.

Let  $f(v)$  = Size of minimum vertex cover rooted at  $v$ .

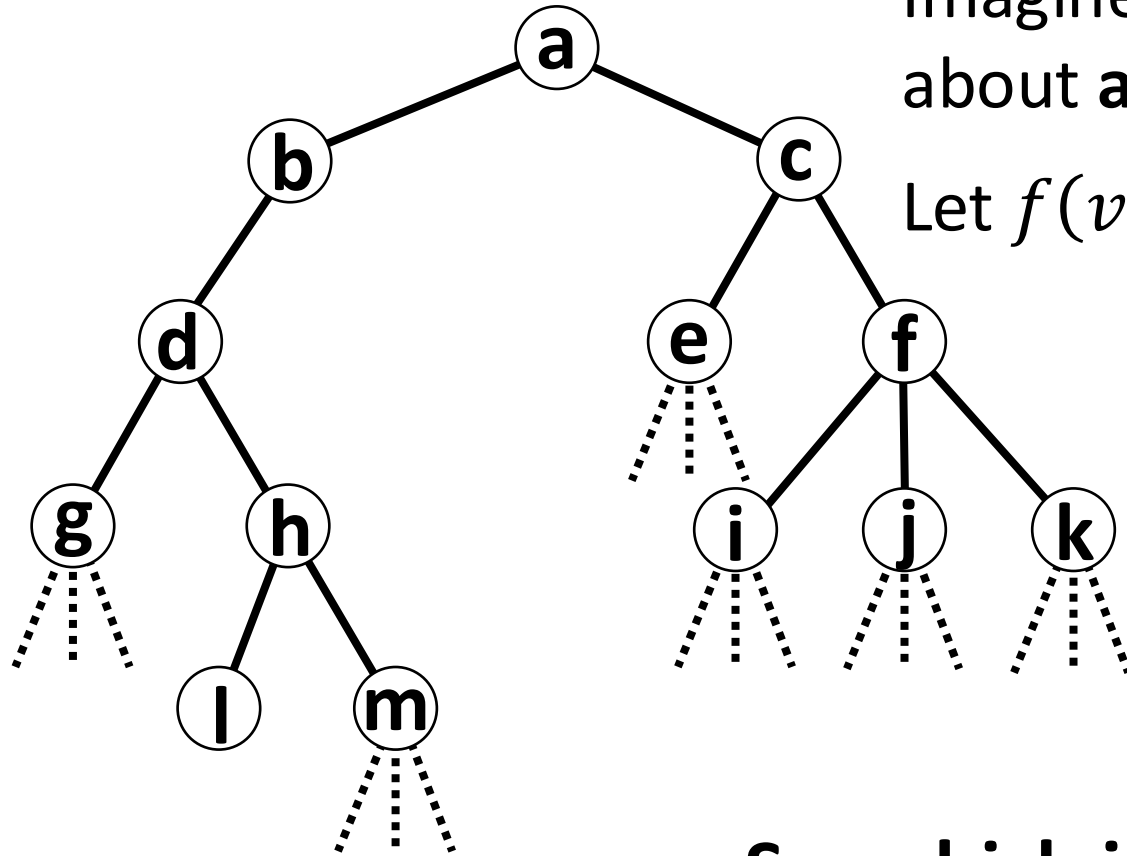
If **a** is in a minimum VC

$$f(a) = 1 + f(b) + f(c)$$

If **a** is not in a minimum VC

$$f(a) = 2 + f(d) + f(e) + f(f)$$

# Vertex Cover in Trees



Imagine the minimum vertex cover. What can we say about **a**? **a** is in a minimum vertex cover, or it's not.

Let  $f(v)$  = Size of minimum vertex cover rooted at  $v$ .

If **a** is in a minimum VC

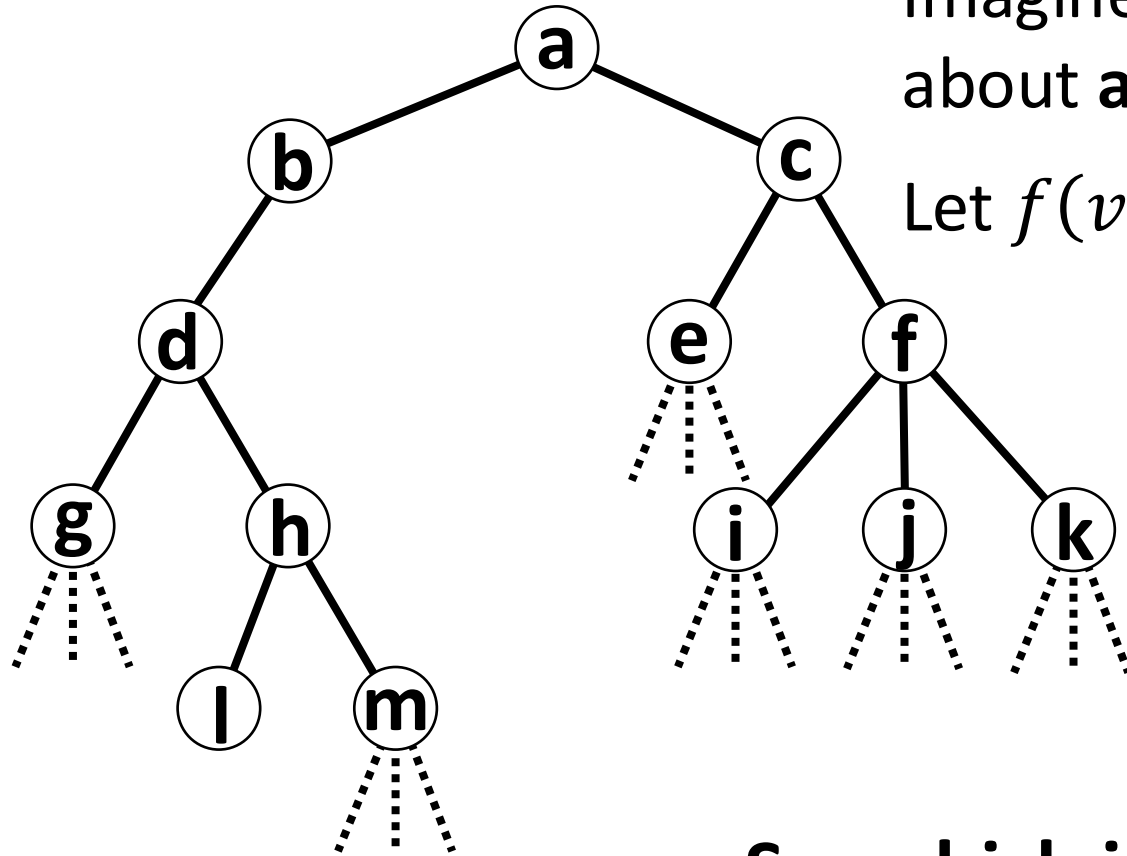
$$f(a) = 1 + f(b) + f(c)$$

If **a** is not in a minimum VC

$$f(a) = 2 + f(d) + f(e) + f(f)$$

So, which is it?

# Vertex Cover in Trees



Imagine the minimum vertex cover. What can we say about **a**? **a** is in a minimum vertex cover, or it's not.

Let  $f(v)$  = Size of minimum vertex cover rooted at  $v$ .

If **a** is in a minimum VC

$$f(a) = 1 + f(b) + f(c)$$

If **a** is not in a minimum VC

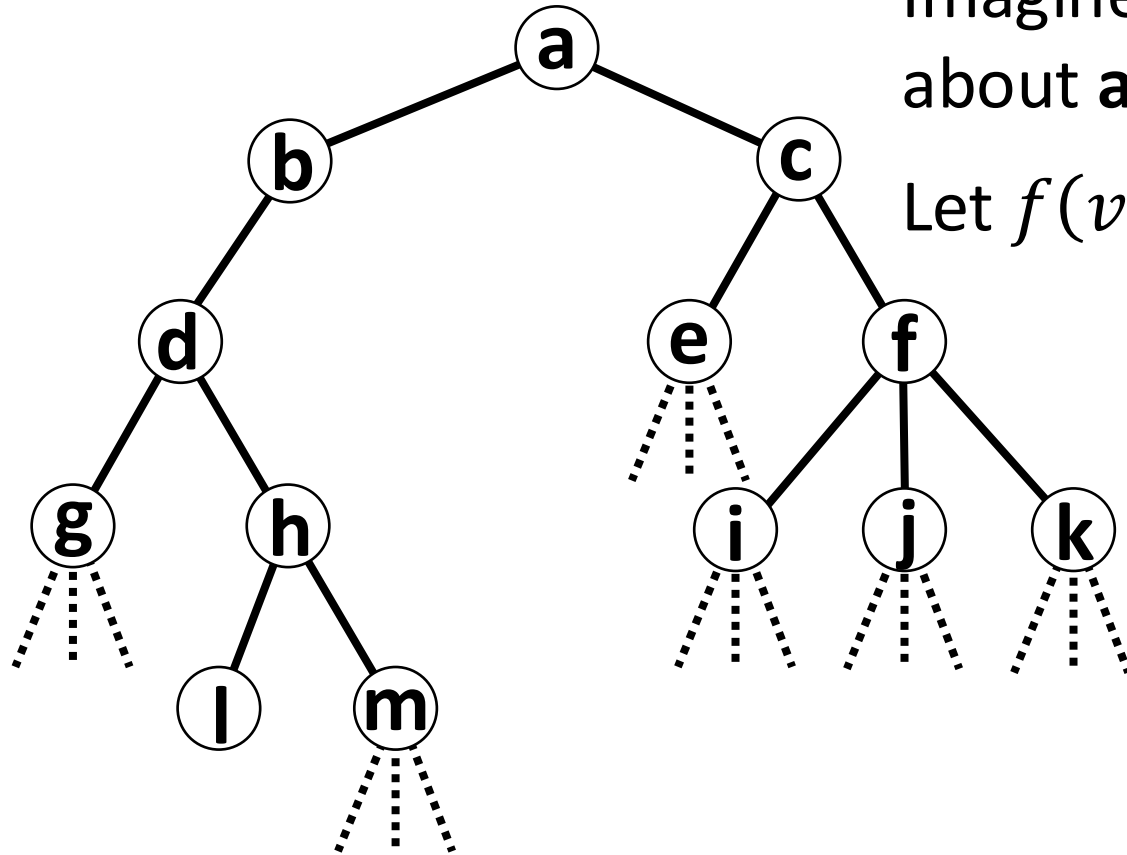
$$f(a) = 2 + f(d) + f(e) + f(f)$$

So, which is it?

The smallest!



# Vertex Cover in Trees



Imagine the minimum vertex cover. What can we say about **a**? **a** is in a minimum vertex cover, or it's not.

Let  $f(v)$  = Size of minimum vertex cover rooted at  $v$ .

If **a** is in a minimum VC

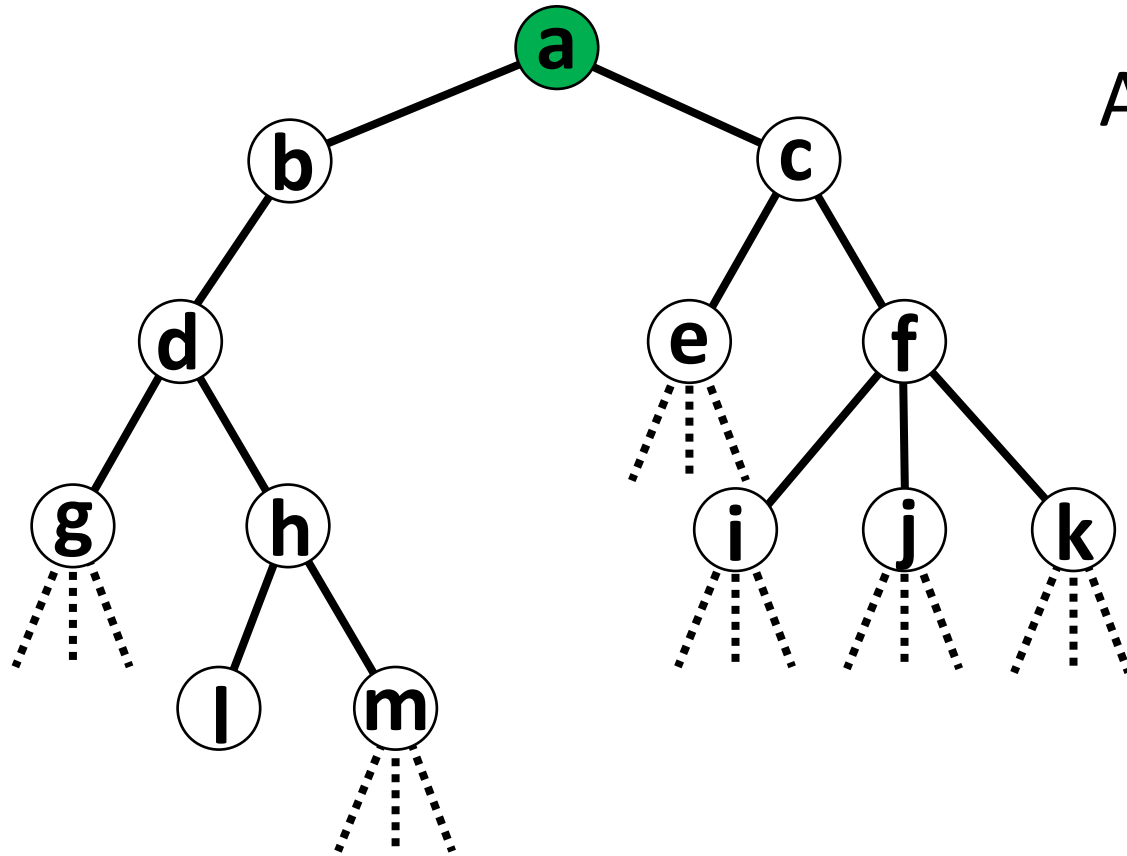
$$f(a) = 1 + f(b) + f(c)$$

If **a** is not in a minimum VC

$$f(a) = 2 + f(d) + f(e) + f(f)$$

$$f(v) = \min \left\{ 1 + \sum_{u \in \text{child}(v)} f(u), |\text{child}(v)| + \sum_{w \in \text{grandchild}(v)} f(w) \right\}$$

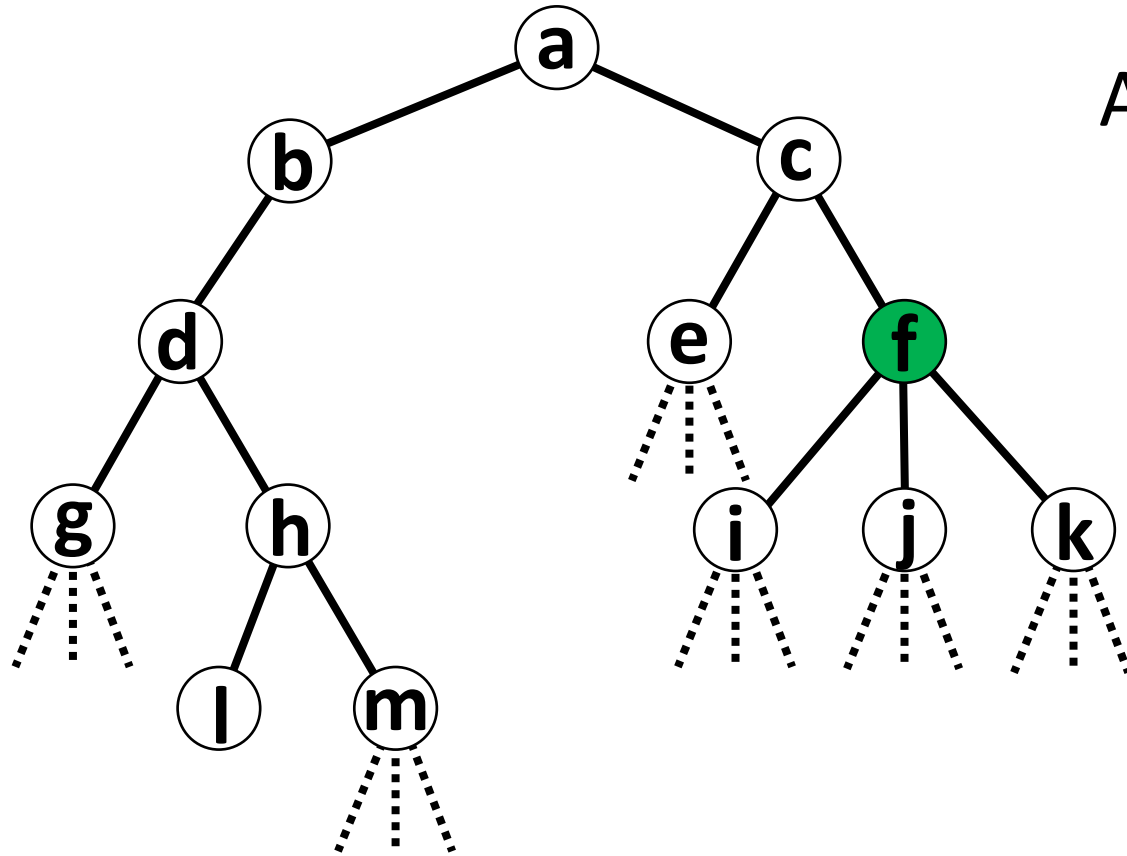
# Vertex Cover in Trees



Are we ready to calculate  $f(v)$  **here**?

$$f(v) = \min \left\{ 1 + \sum_{u \in \text{child}(v)} f(u), |\text{child}(v)| + \sum_{w \in \text{grandchild}(v)} f(w) \right\}$$

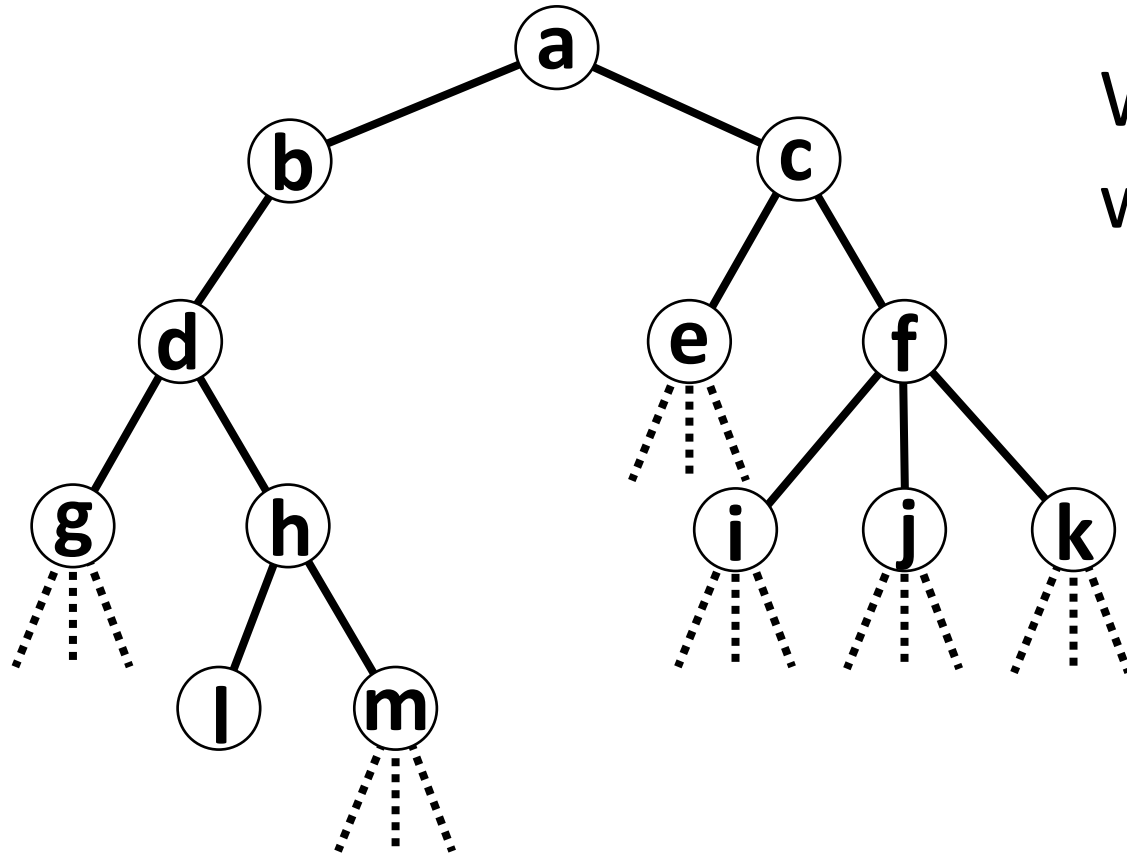
# Vertex Cover in Trees



Are we ready to calculate  $f(v)$  **here**?

$$f(v) = \min \left\{ 1 + \sum_{u \in \text{child}(v)} f(u), |\text{child}(v)| + \sum_{w \in \text{grandchild}(v)} f(w) \right\}$$

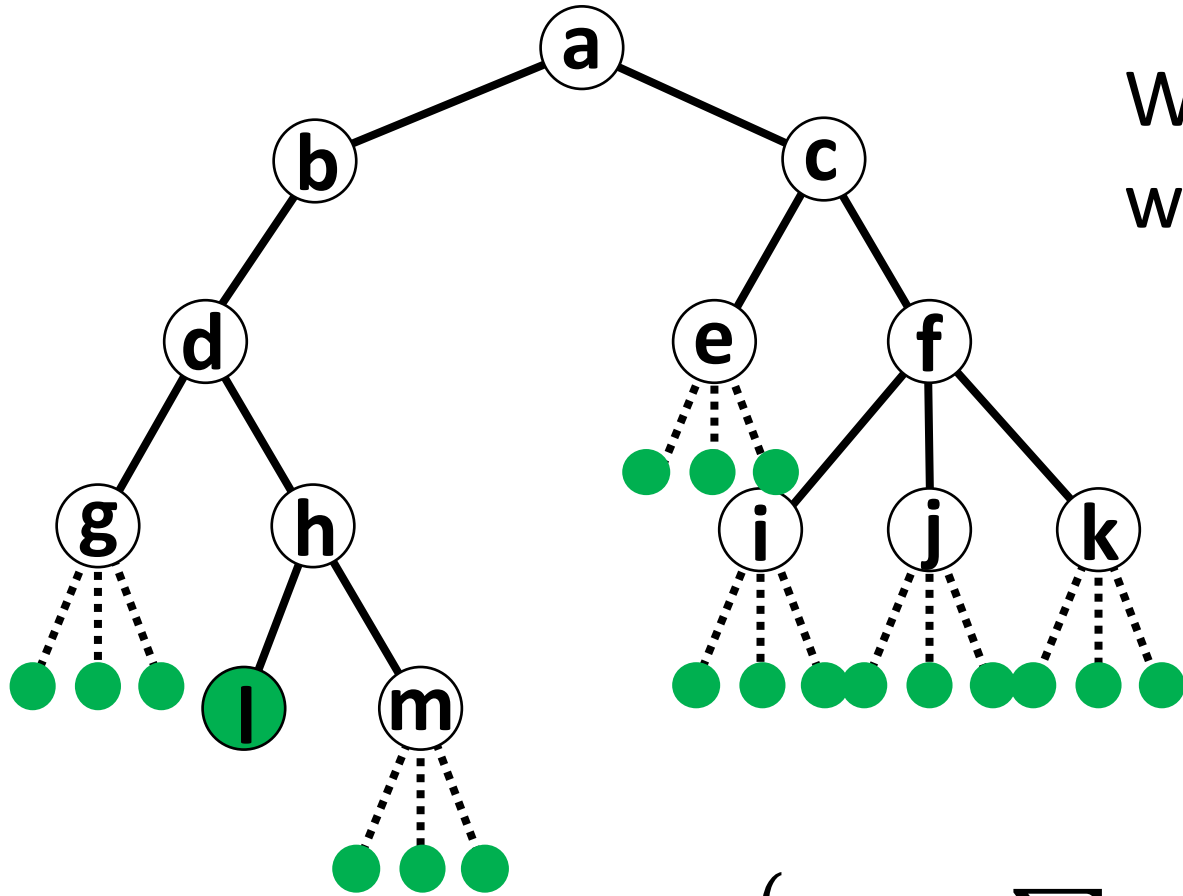
# Vertex Cover in Trees



Where do we have all the information we need to calculate  $f(v)$ ?

$$f(v) = \min \left\{ 1 + \sum_{u \in \text{child}(v)} f(u), |\text{child}(v)| + \sum_{w \in \text{grandchild}(v)} f(w) \right\}$$

# Vertex Cover in Trees



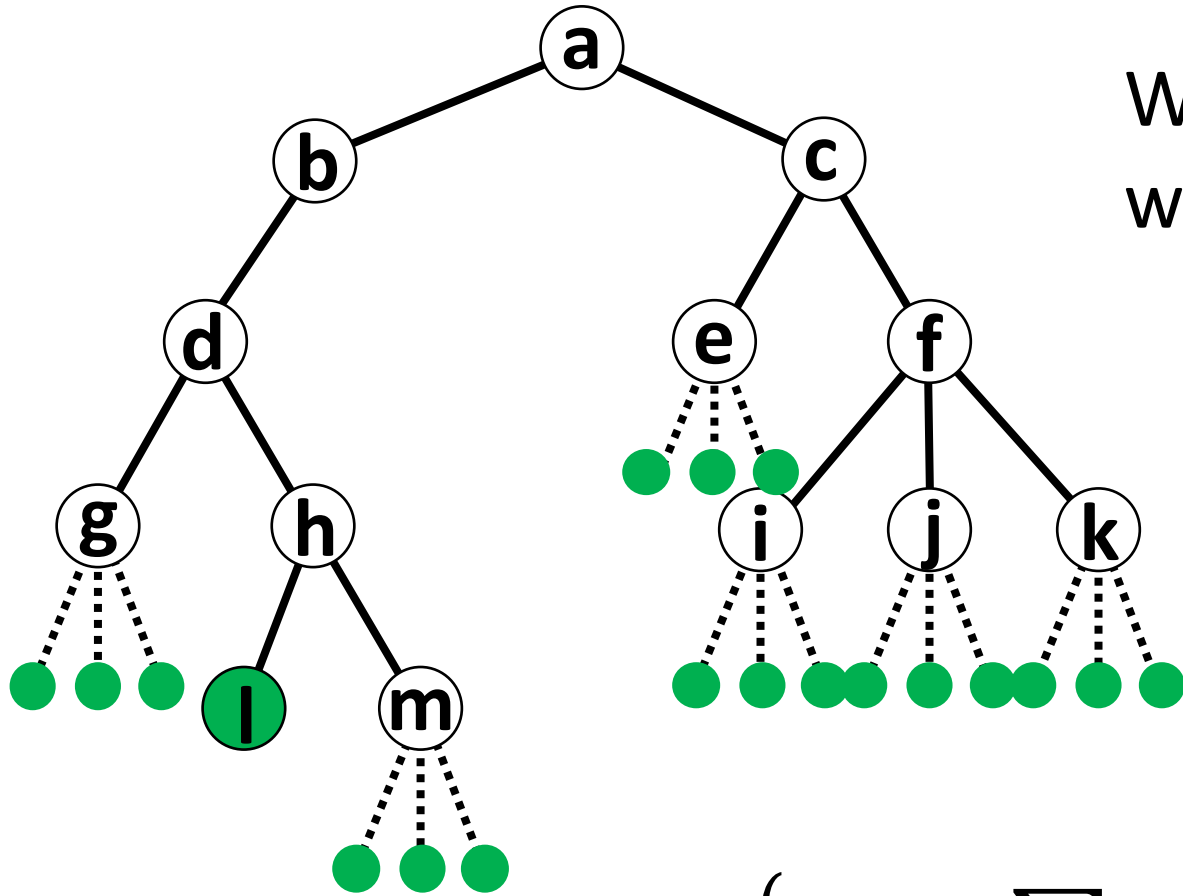
Where do we have all the information we need to calculate  $f(v)$ ?

At the leaves!!

$$f(v) = \min \left\{ 1 + \sum_{u \in \text{child}(v)} f(u), |\text{child}(v)| + \sum_{w \in \text{grandchild}(v)} f(w) \right\}$$

# Vertex Cover in Trees

Let  $f(v)$  = Size of minimum vertex cover rooted at  $v$ .



Where do we have all the information we need to calculate  $f(v)$ ?

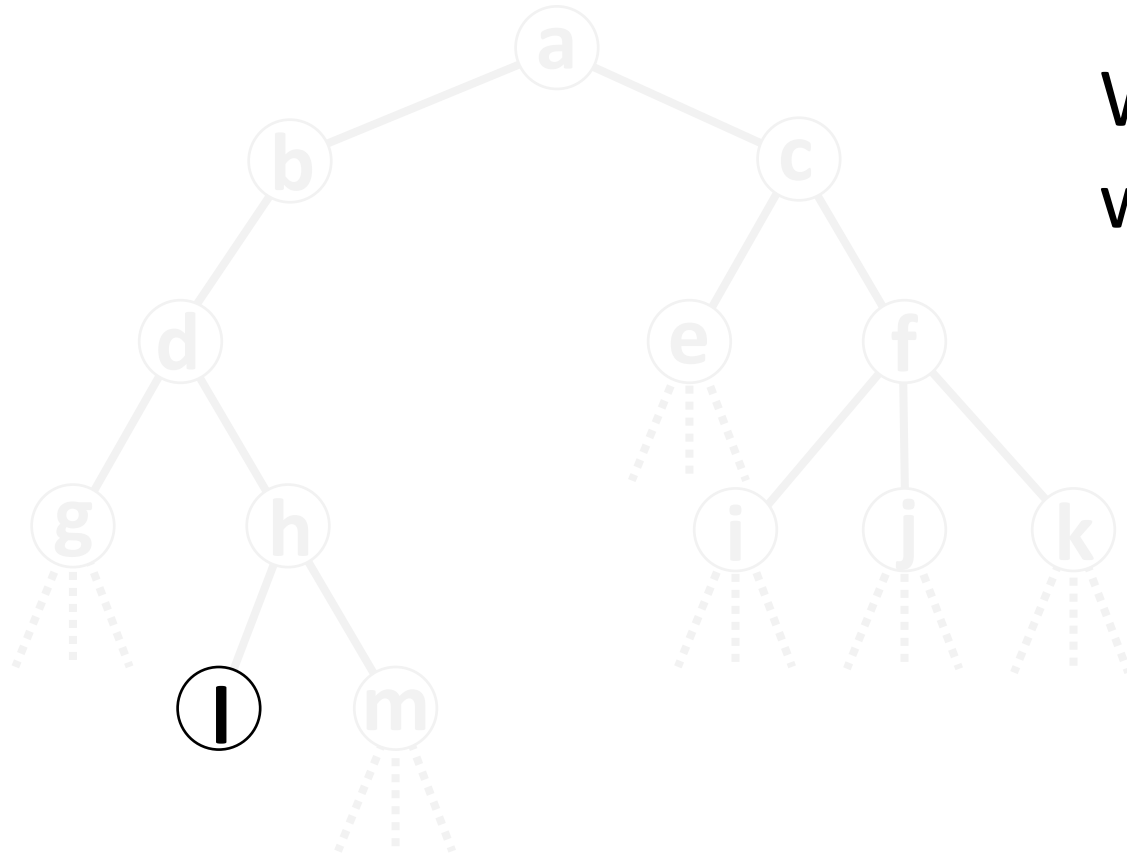
At the leaves!!

If  $v$  is a leaf,  $f(v) = ??$

$$f(v) = \min \left\{ 1 + \sum_{u \in \text{child}(v)} f(u), |\text{child}(v)| + \sum_{w \in \text{grandchild}(v)} f(w) \right\}$$

# Vertex Cover in Trees

Let  $f(v)$  = Size of minimum vertex cover rooted at  $v$ .



Where do we have all the information we need to calculate  $f(v)$ ?

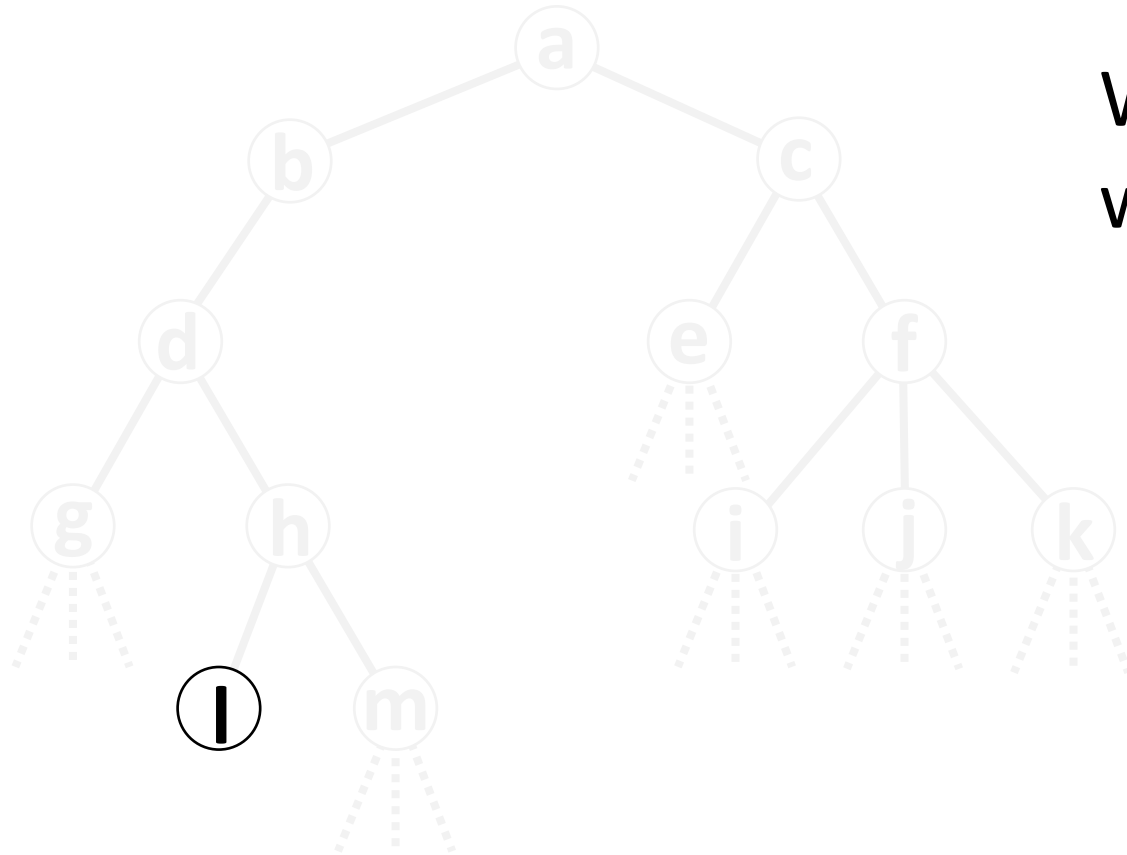
At the leaves!!

If  $v$  is a leaf,  $f(v) = ??$

$$f(v) = \min \left\{ 1 + \sum_{u \in \text{child}(v)} f(u), |\text{child}(v)| + \sum_{w \in \text{grandchild}(v)} f(w) \right\}$$

# Vertex Cover in Trees

Let  $f(v)$  = Size of minimum vertex cover rooted at  $v$ .



Where do we have all the information we need to calculate  $f(v)$ ?

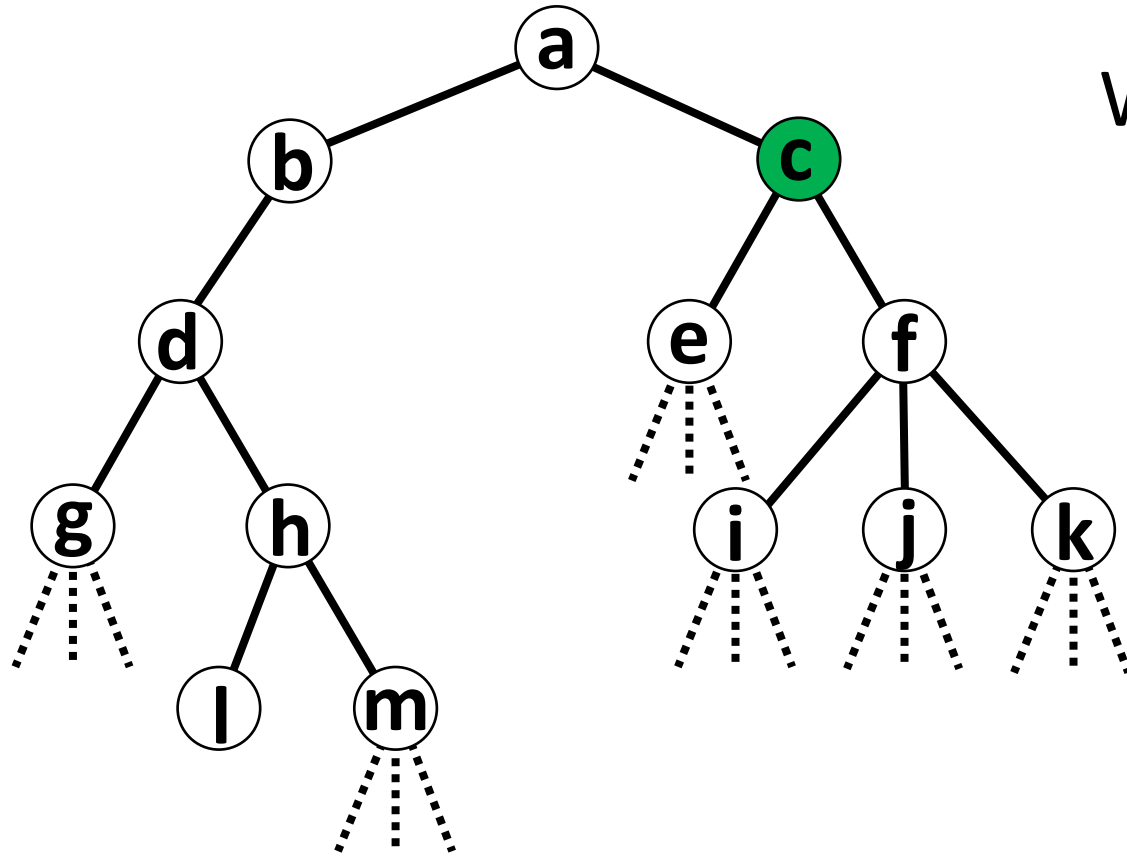
At the leaves!!

If  $v$  is a leaf,  $f(v) = 0$

$$f(v) = \min \left\{ 1 + \sum_{u \in \text{child}(v)} f(u), |\text{child}(v)| + \sum_{w \in \text{grandchild}(v)} f(w) \right\}$$



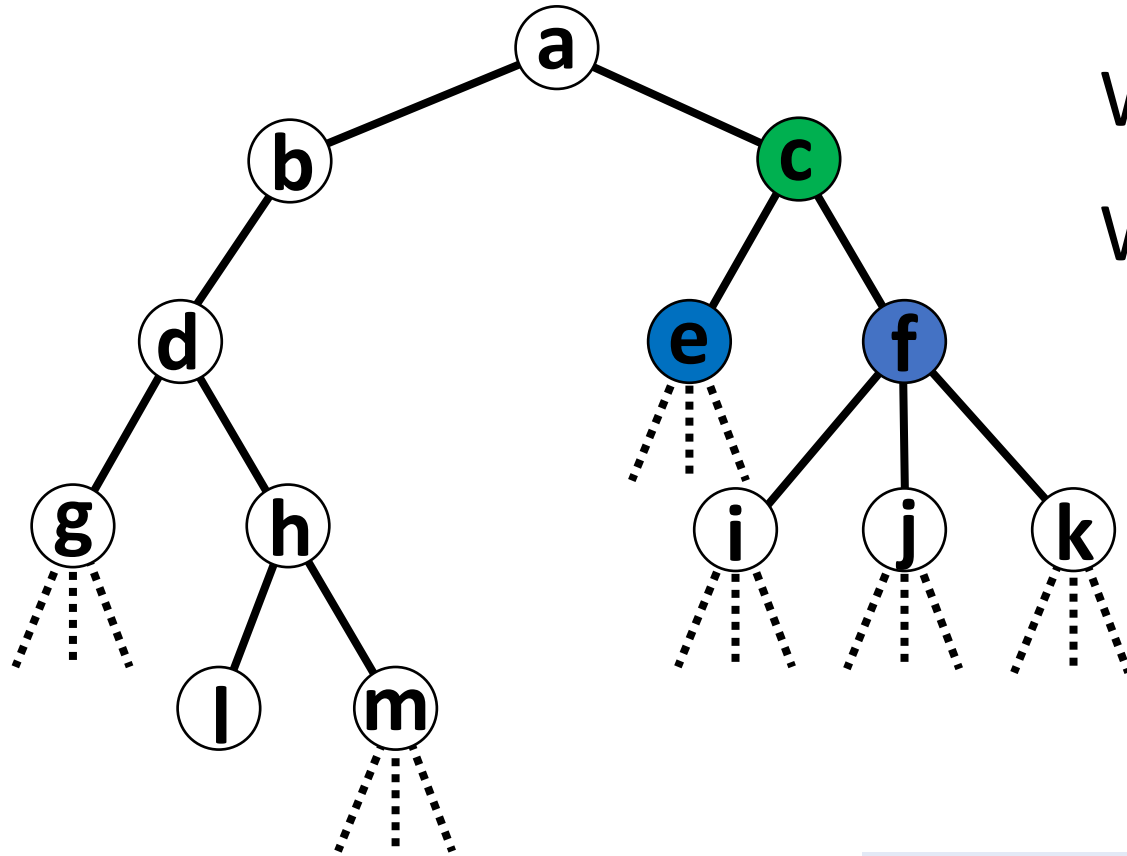
# Vertex Cover in Trees



When are we ready to calculate  $f(c)$ ?

$$f(v) = \min \left\{ 1 + \sum_{u \in \text{child}(v)} f(u), |\text{child}(v)| + \sum_{w \in \text{grandchild}(v)} f(w) \right\}$$

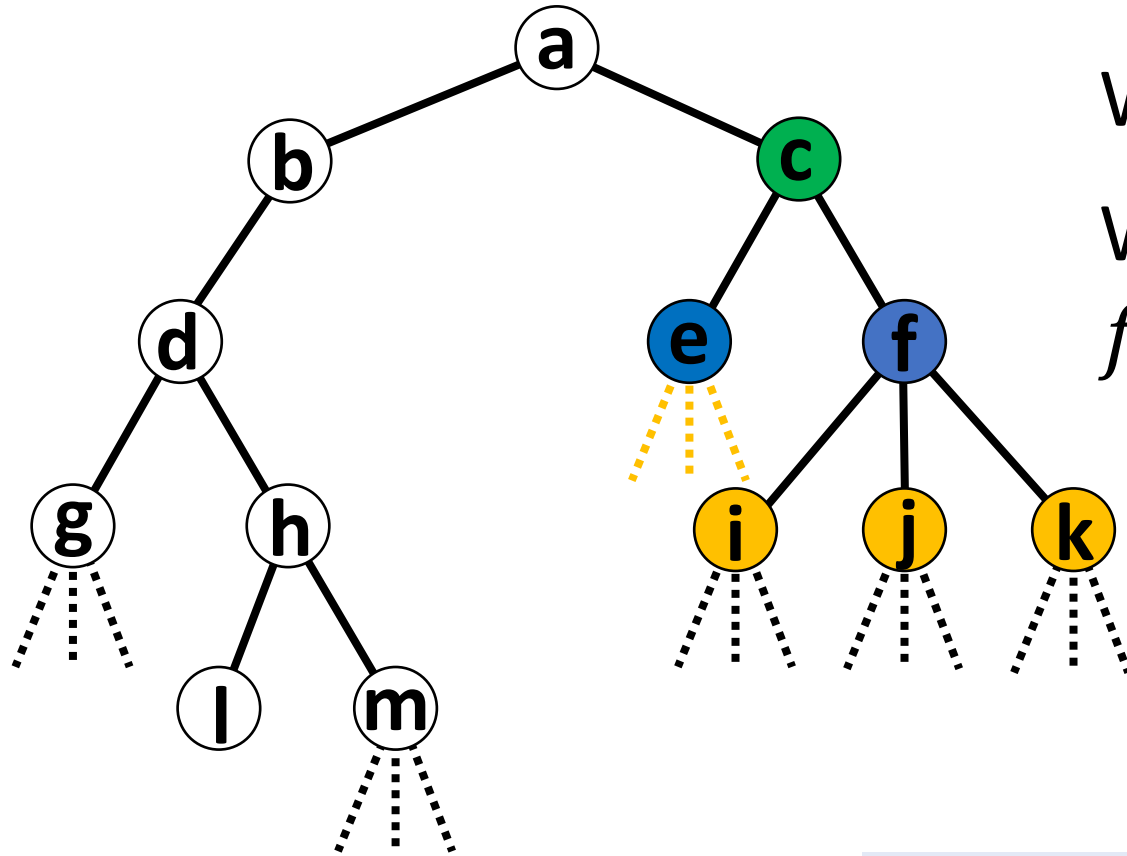
# Vertex Cover in Trees



When are we ready to calculate  $f(c)$ ?  
When we have  $f(e)$  and  $f(f)$ ...

$$f(v) = \min \left\{ 1 + \sum_{u \in \text{child}(v)} f(u), |\text{child}(v)| + \sum_{w \in \text{grandchild}(v)} f(w) \right\}$$

# Vertex Cover in Trees

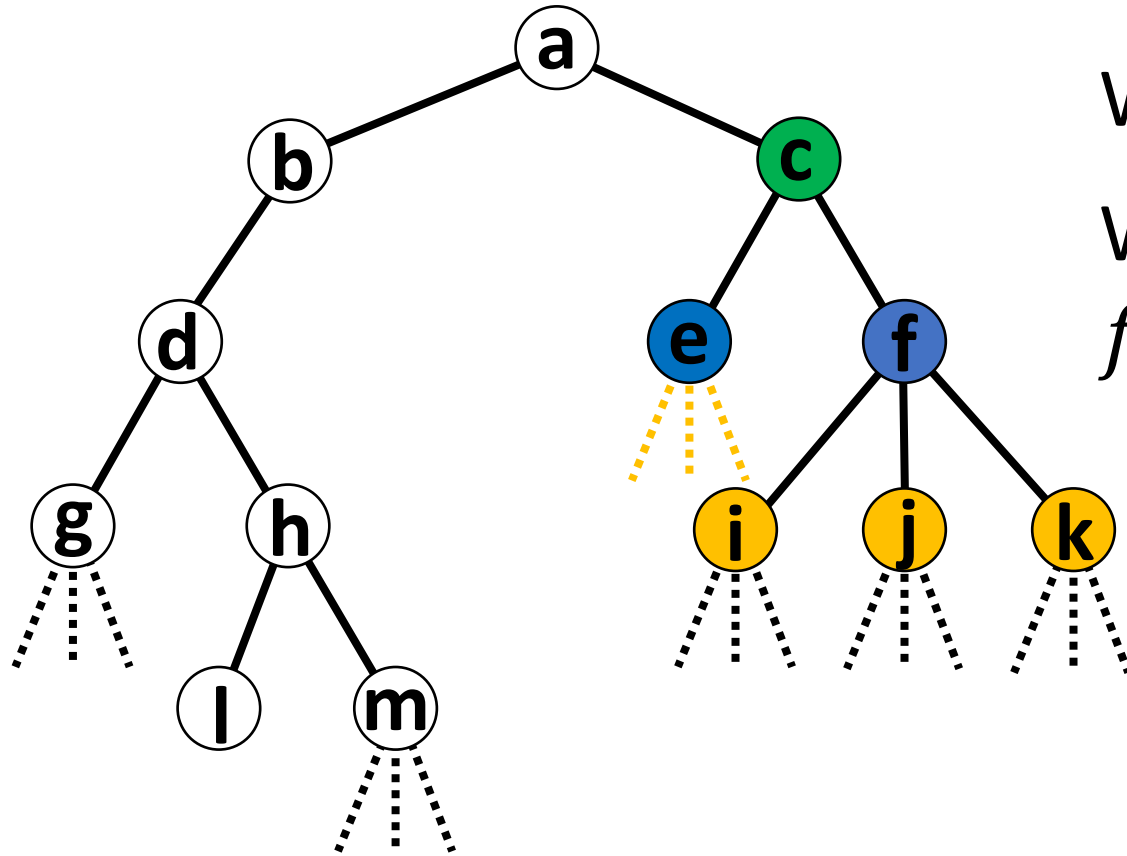


When are we ready to calculate  $f(c)$ ?

When we have  $f(e)$  and  $f(f)$  and  $f(v)$  for all of  $c$ 's grandchildren.

$$f(v) = \min \left\{ 1 + \sum_{u \in \text{child}(v)} f(u), |\text{child}(v)| + \sum_{w \in \text{grandchild}(v)} f(w) \right\}$$

# Vertex Cover in Trees



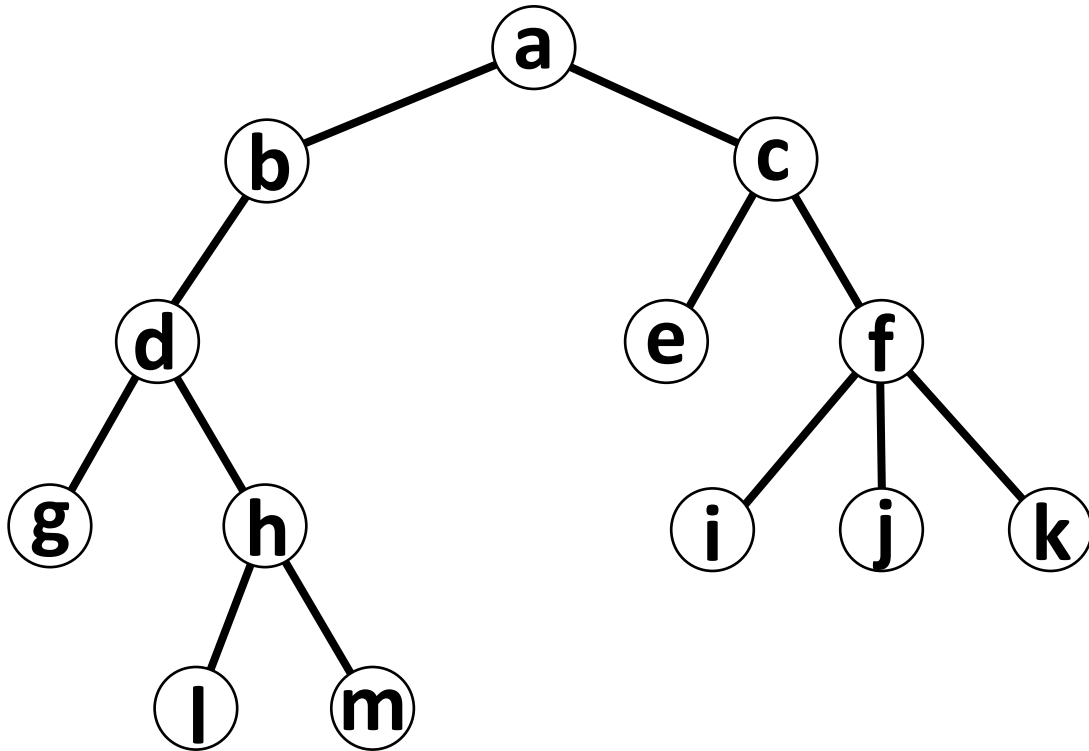
When are we ready to calculate  $f(c)$ ?

When we have  $f(e)$  and  $f(f)$  and  $f(v)$  for all of  $c$ 's grandchildren.

How can we do this?

$$f(v) = \min \left\{ 1 + \sum_{u \in \text{child}(v)} f(u), |\text{child}(v)| + \sum_{w \in \text{grandchild}(v)} f(w) \right\}$$

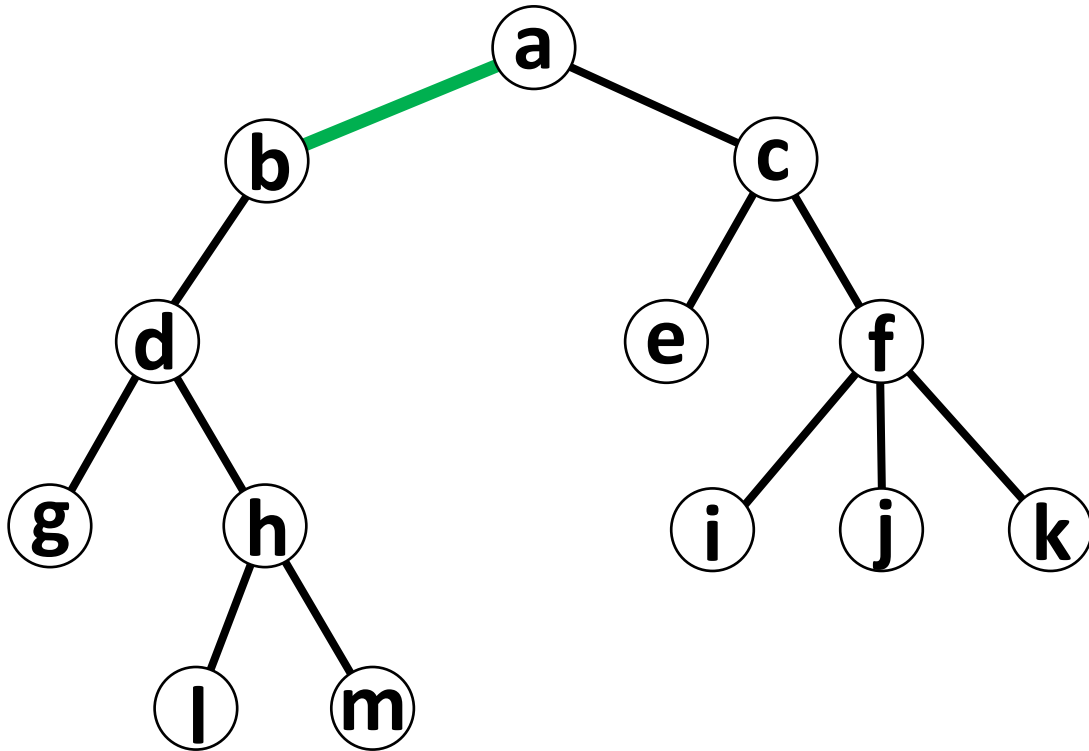
# Tree Traversals



Breadth First: Start at a node. Visit all of its children, then all of its grandchildren, then great-grandchildren,...

Order visited: a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, j, k, l, m

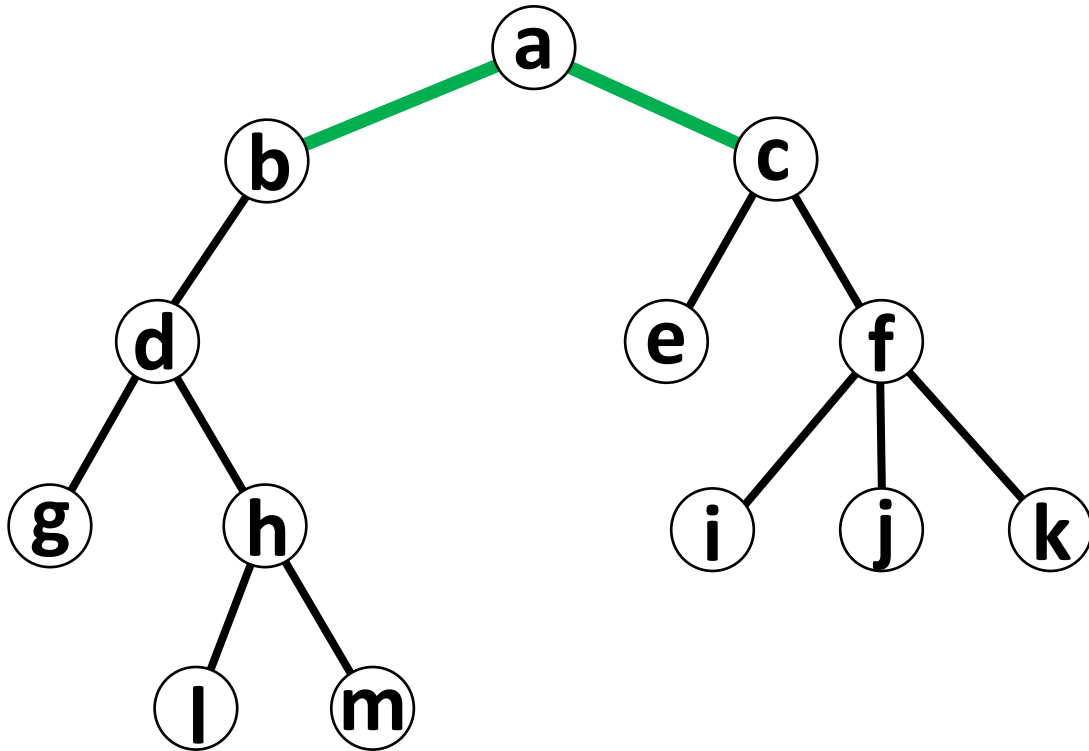
# Tree Traversals



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Order visited: a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, j, k, l, m

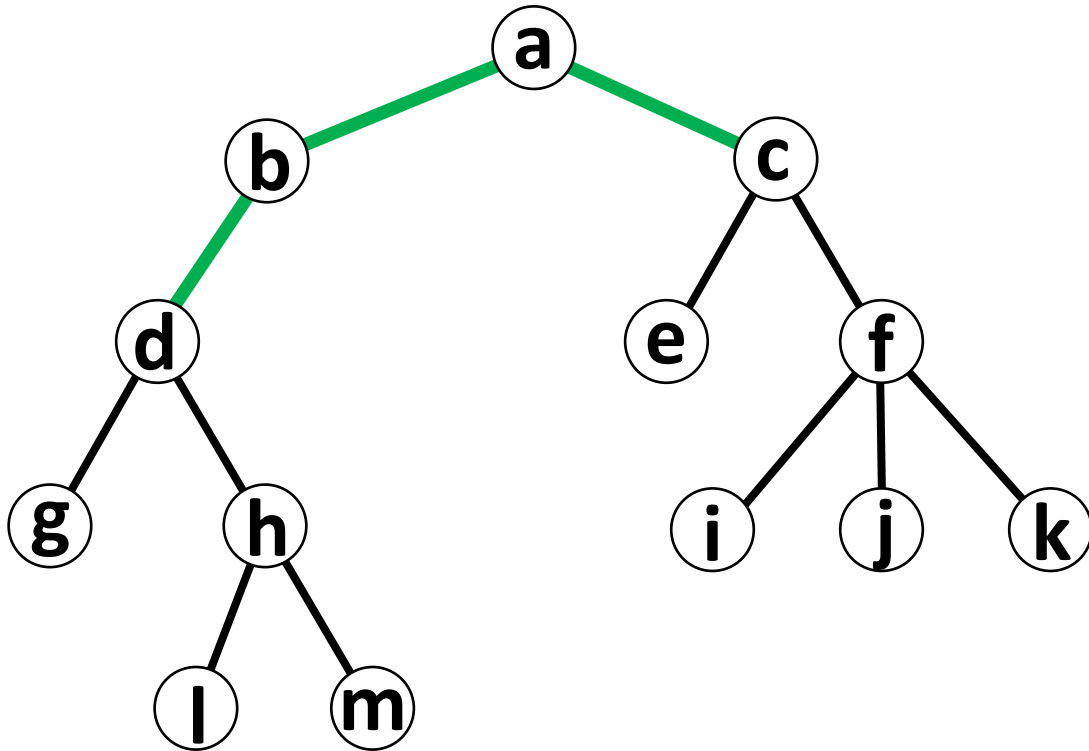
# Tree Traversals



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# Tree Traversals



Breadth First: Start at a node. Visit all of its children, then all of its grandchildren, then great-grandchildren,...

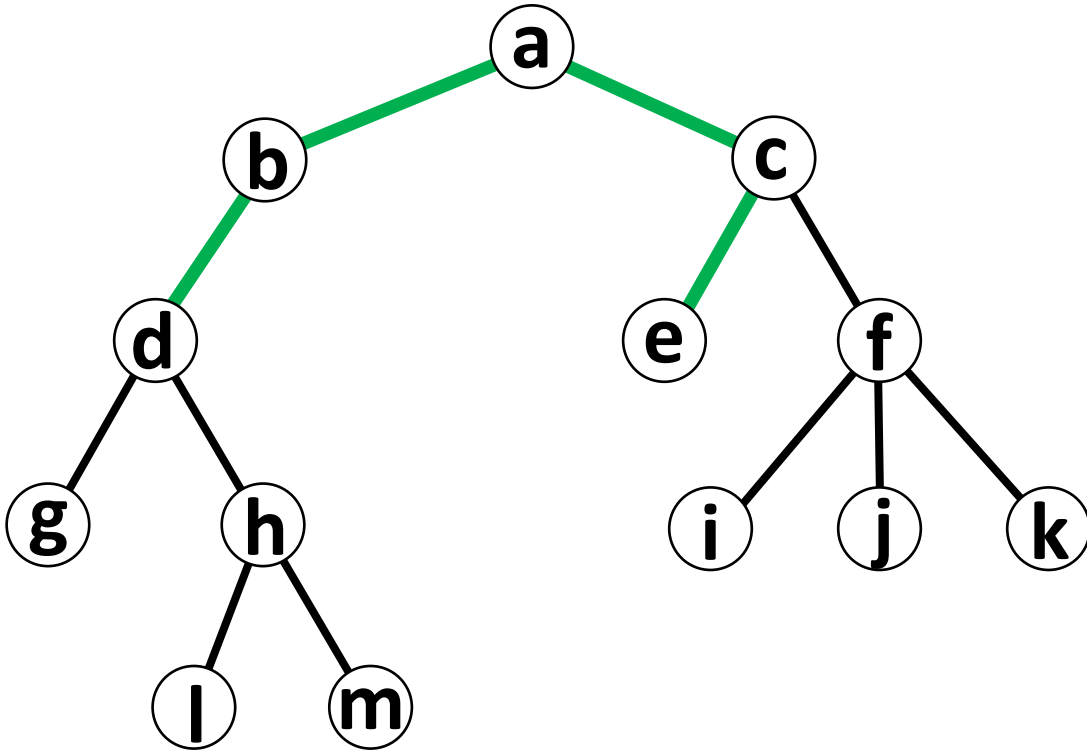
Order visited: a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, j, k, l, m



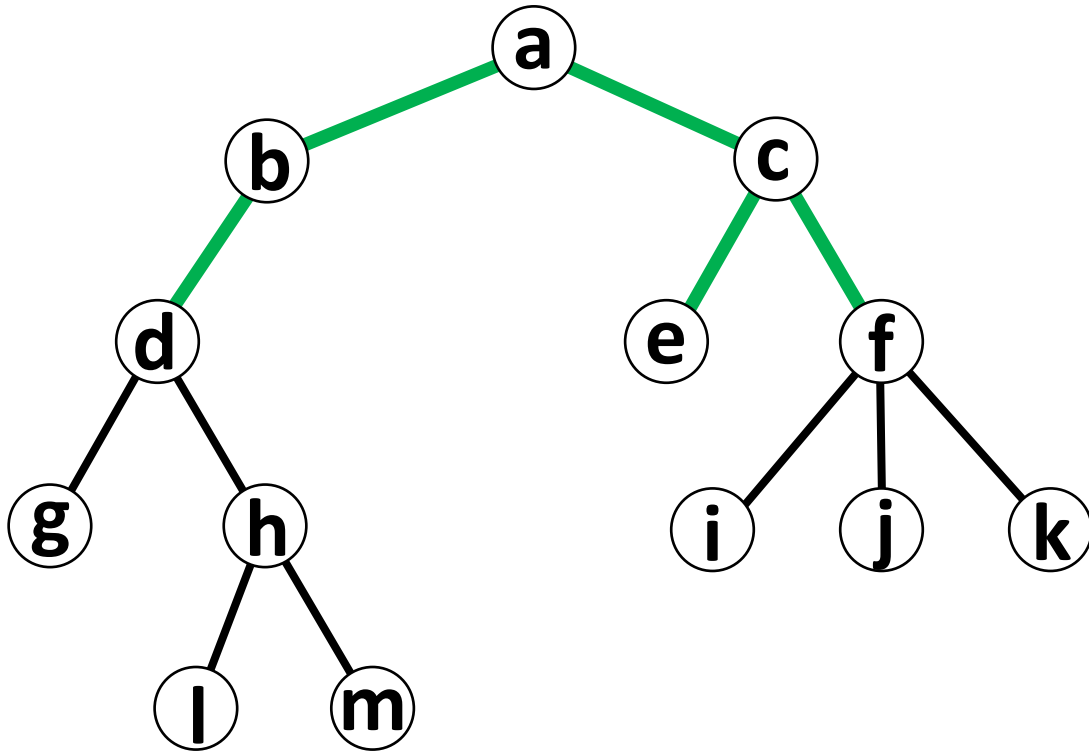
# Tree Traversals

Breadth First: Start at a node. Visit all of its children, then all of its grandchildren, then great-grandchildren,...

Order visited: a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, j, k, l, m



# Tree Traversals

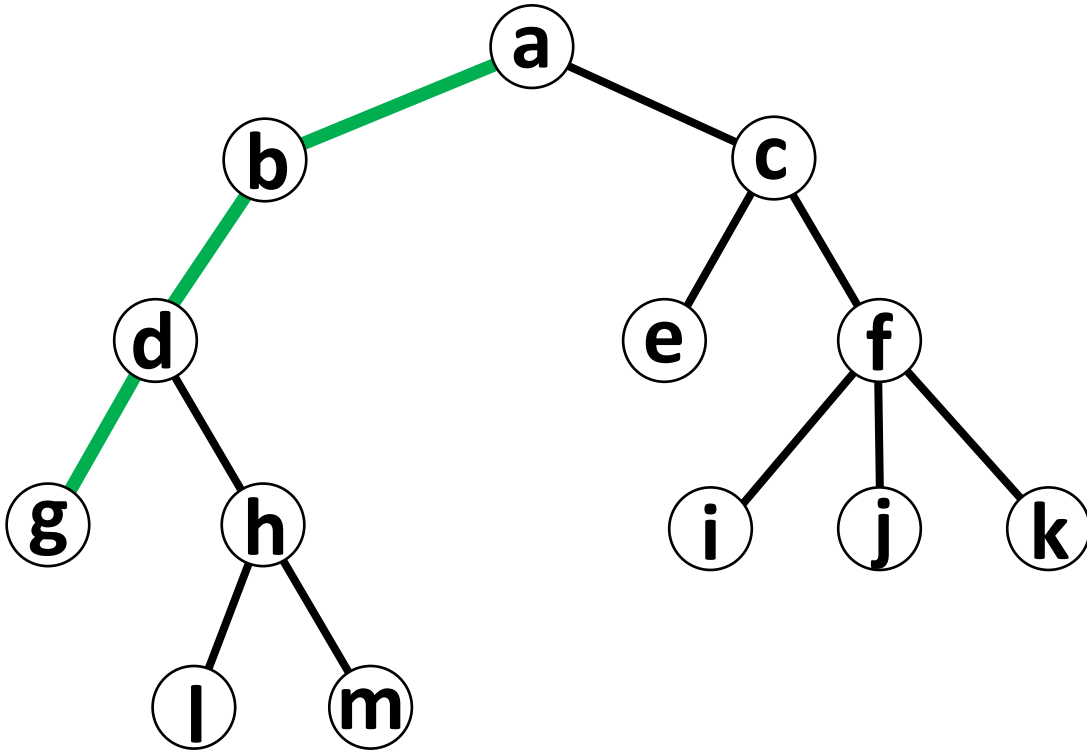


Breadth First: Start at a node. Visit all of its children, then all of its grandchildren, then great-grandchildren,...

Order visited: a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, j, k, l, m

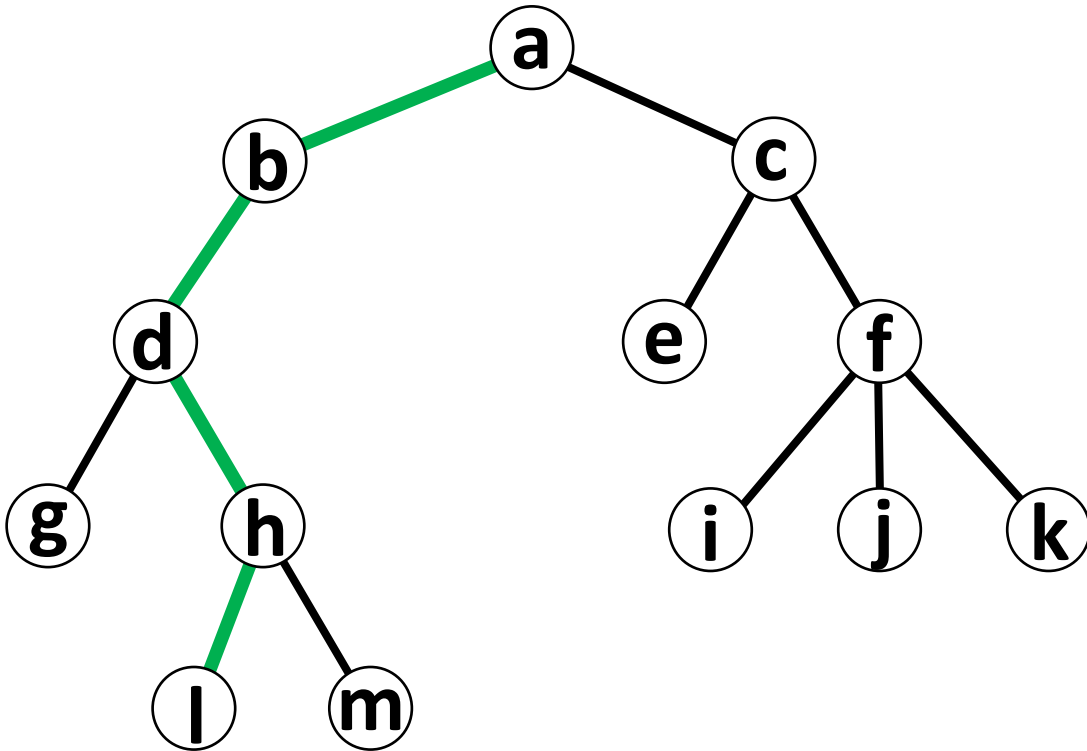
# Tree Traversals

Depth First: Start at a node. Follow children until leaf is reached. Back track until unvisited child is available. Repeat...



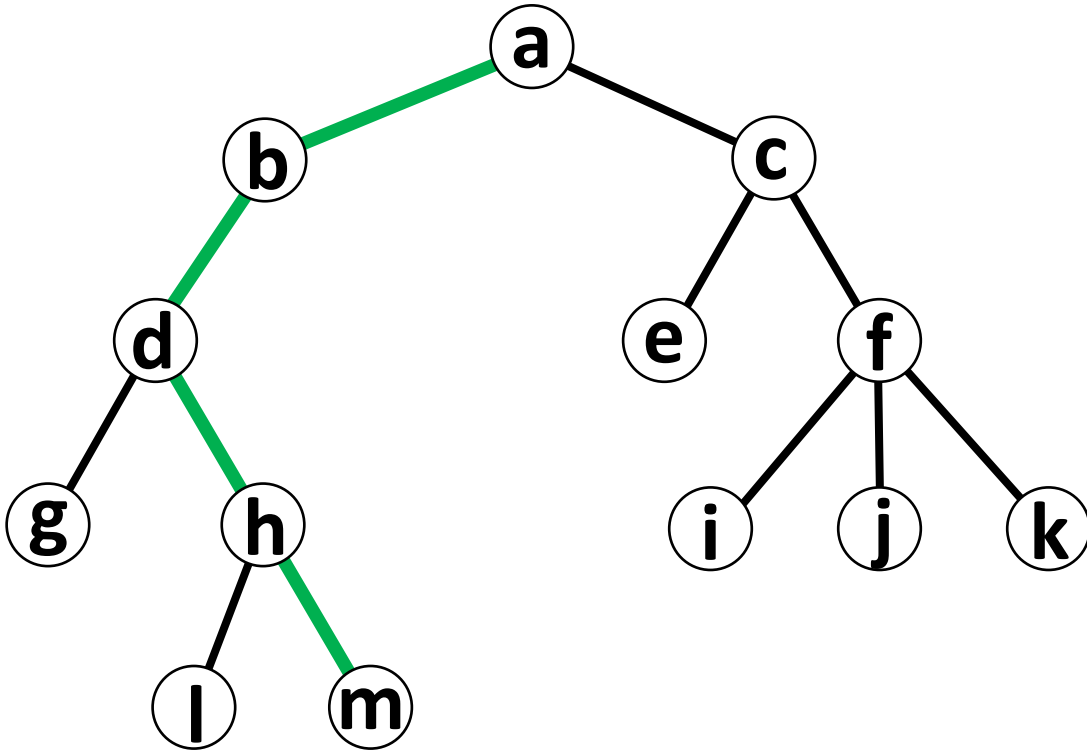
# Tree Traversals

Depth First: Start at a node. Follow children until leaf is reached. Back track until unvisited child is available. Repeat...

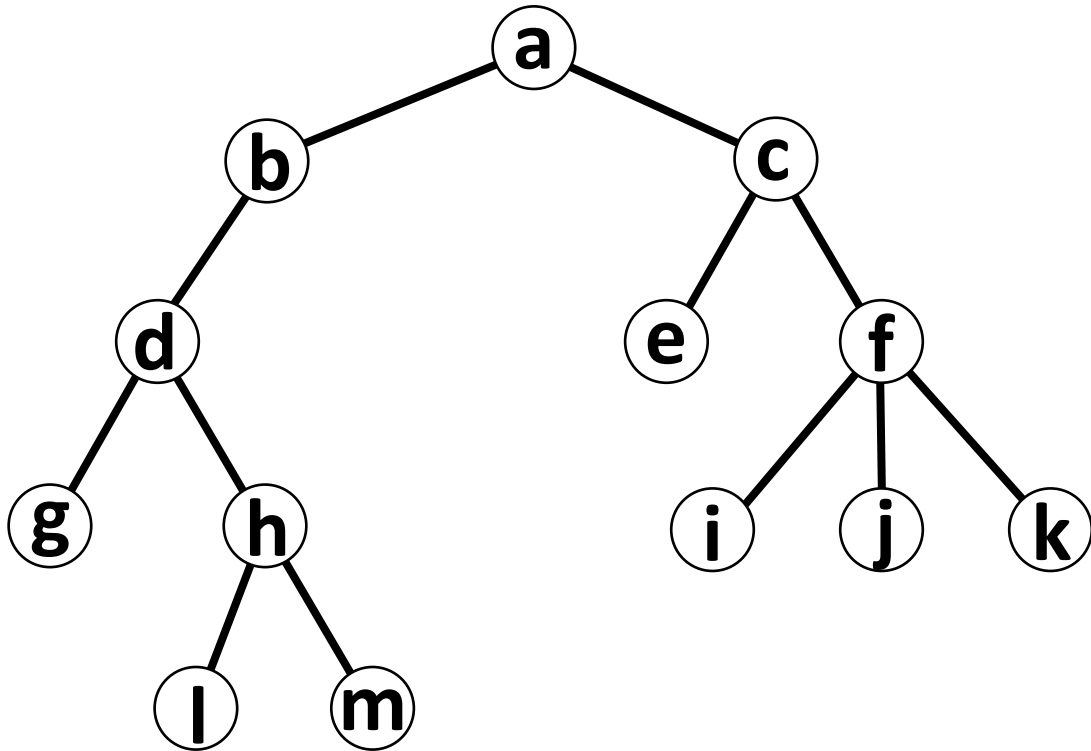


# Tree Traversals

Depth First: Start at a node. Follow children until leaf is reached. Back track until unvisited child is available. Repeat...



# Tree Traversals

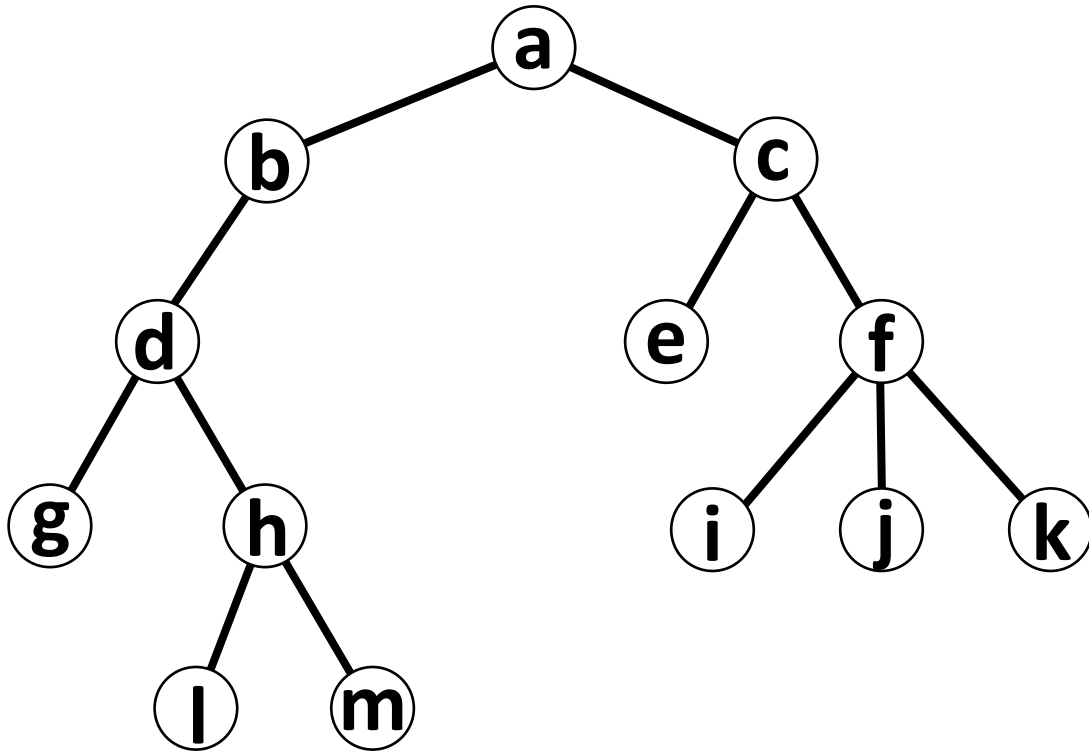


Depth First: Start at a node. Follow children until leaf is reached. Back track until unvisited child is available. Repeat...

```
preorder(Vertex v):  
    if v not null:  
        print(v.value())  
        for u in child(v):  
            preorder(u)
```

```
postorder(Vertex v):  
    if v not null:  
        for u in child(v):  
            postorder(u)  
        print(v.value())
```

# Tree Traversals



Depth First: Start at a node. Follow children until leaf is reached. Back track until unvisited child is available. Repeat...

preorder(Vertex v):

1. Process parent
2. Process children

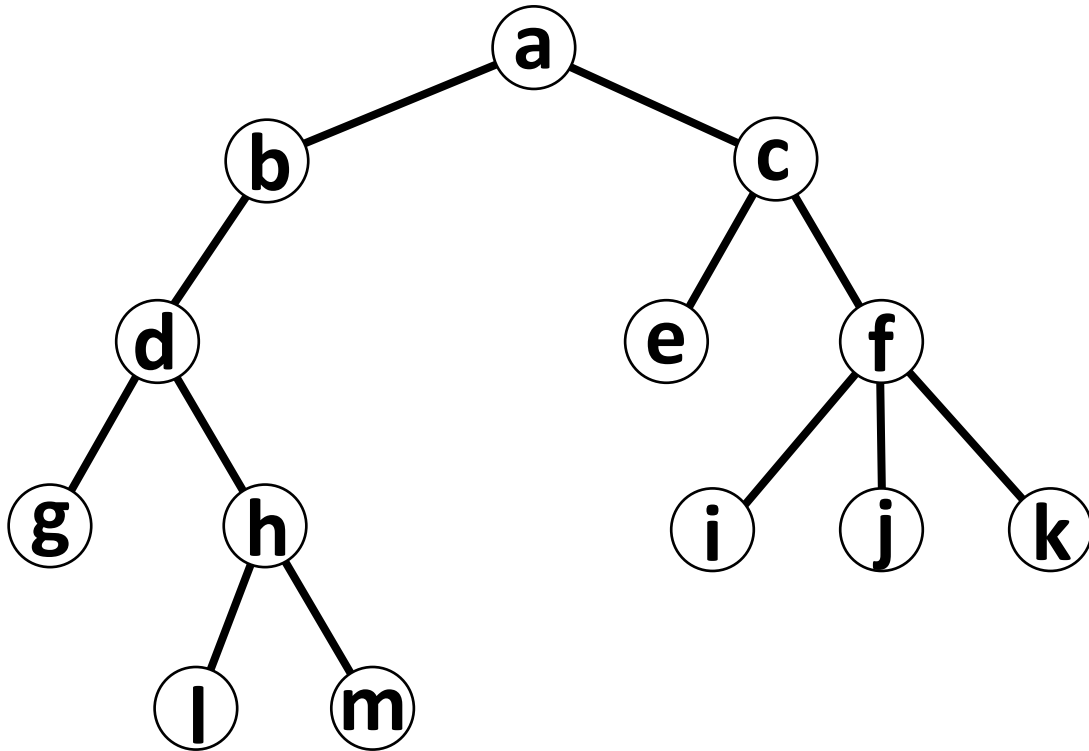
```
if v not null:  
    print(v.value())  
    for u in child(v):  
        preorder(u)
```

postorder(Vertex v):

1. Process children
2. Process parent

```
if v not null:  
    for u in child(v):  
        postorder(u)  
    print(v.value())
```

# Tree Traversals



Preorder visited: a, b, d, g, h, l, m, c, e, f, i, j, k

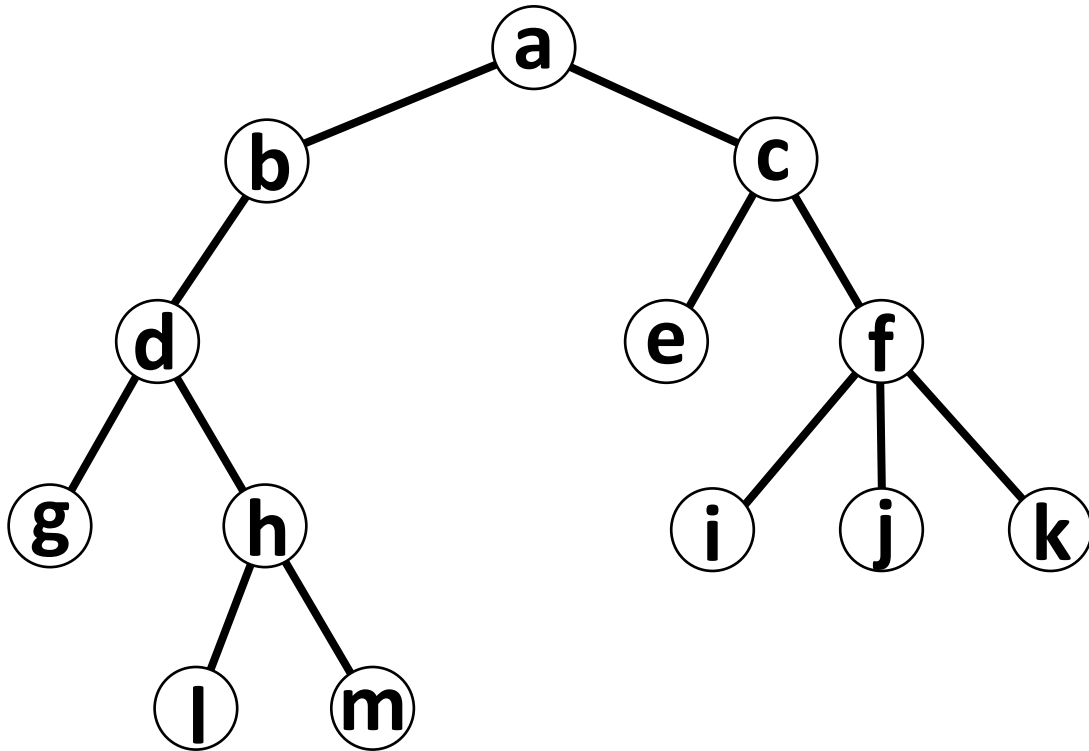
Depth First: Start at a node. Follow children until leaf is reached. Back track until unvisited child is available. Repeat...

```
preorder(Vertex v):  
    if v not null:  
        print(v.value())  
        for u in child(v):  
            preorder(u)
```

```
postorder(Vertex v):  
    if v not null:  
        for u in child(v):  
            postorder(u)  
        print(v.value())
```



# Tree Traversals



Preorder visited: a, b, d, g, h, l, m, c, e, f, i, j, k

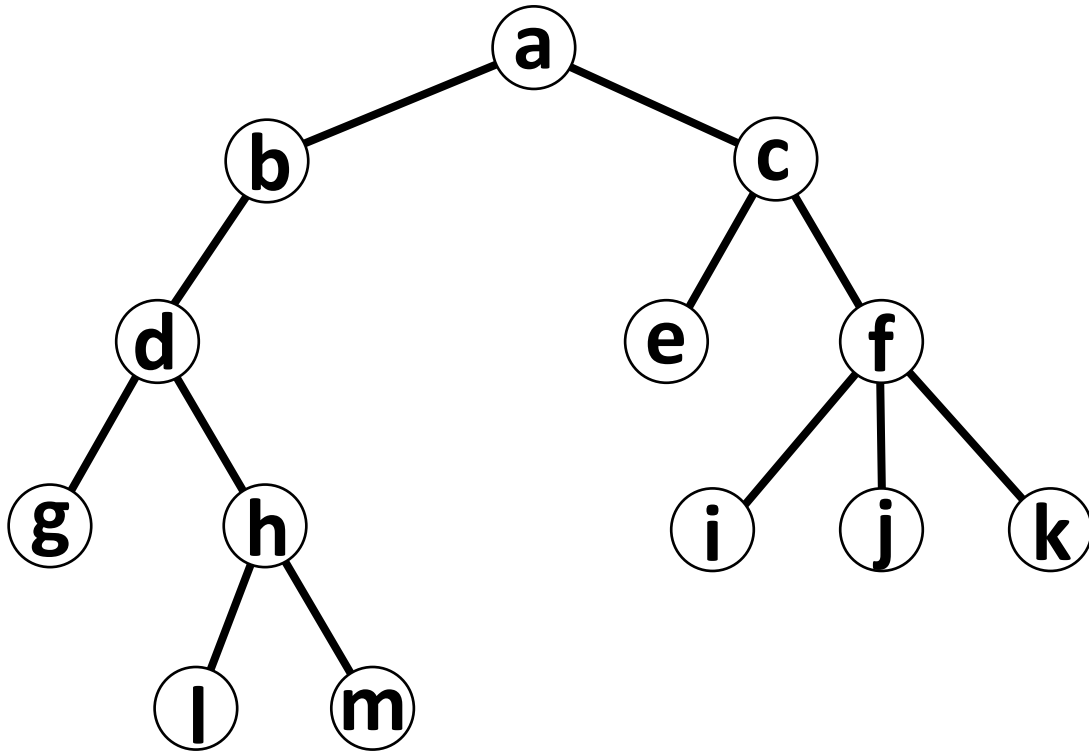
Postorder visited: g, l, m, h, d, b, e, i, j, k, f, c, a

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# Tree Traversals



Depth First: Start at a node. Follow children until leaf is reached. Back track until unvisited child is available. Repeat...

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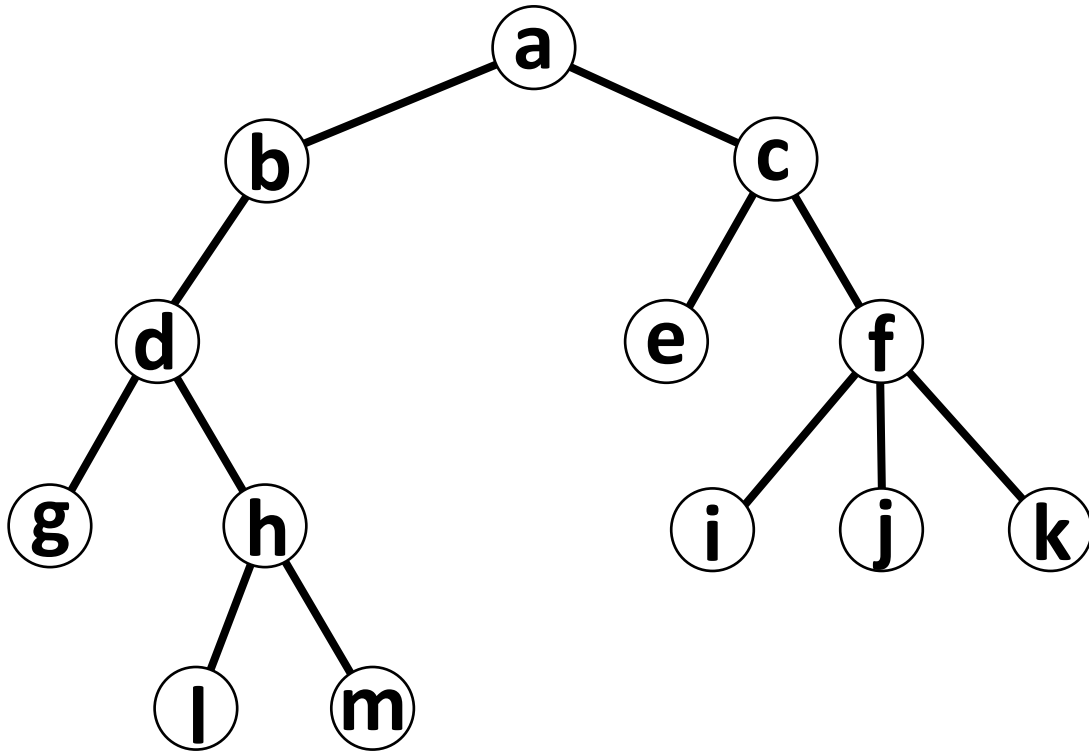
Which one  
do we want?

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Postorder visited: g, l, m, h, d, b, e, i, j, k, f, c, a

# Tree Traversals



Depth First: Start at a node. Follow children until leaf is reached. Back track until unvisited child is available. Repeat...

**Which one  
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```

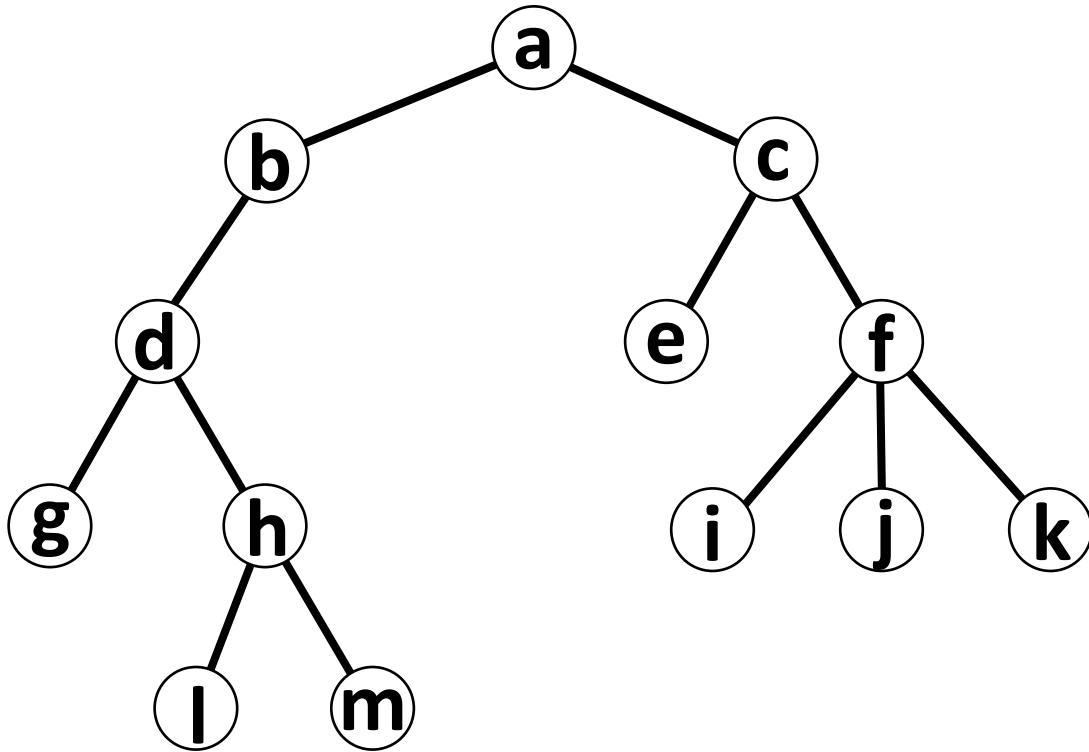
```
postorder(Vertex v):  
    if v not null:  
        for u in child(v):  
            postorder(u)  
        print(v.value())
```

Preorder visited: a, b, d, g, h, l, m, c, e, f, i, j, k

Postorder visited: g, l, m, h, d, b, e, i, j, k, f, c, a

# Vertex Cover in Trees

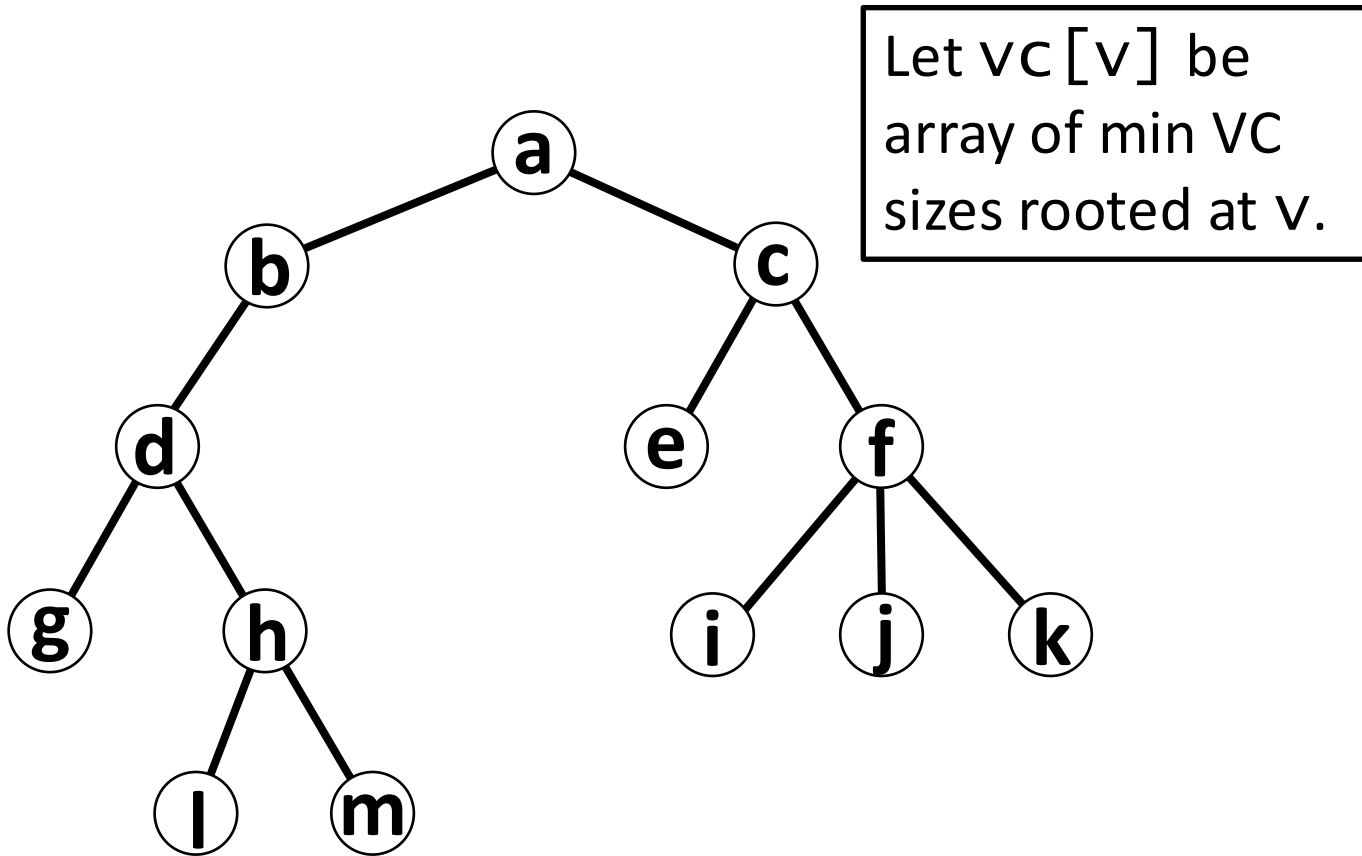
`min_vc(Vertex v):`



$$f(v) = \min \left\{ 1 + \sum_{u \in \text{child}(v)} f(u), |\text{child}(v)| + \sum_{w \in \text{grandchild}(v)} f(w) \right\}$$

`min_vc(Vertex v):`

# Vertex Cover in Trees



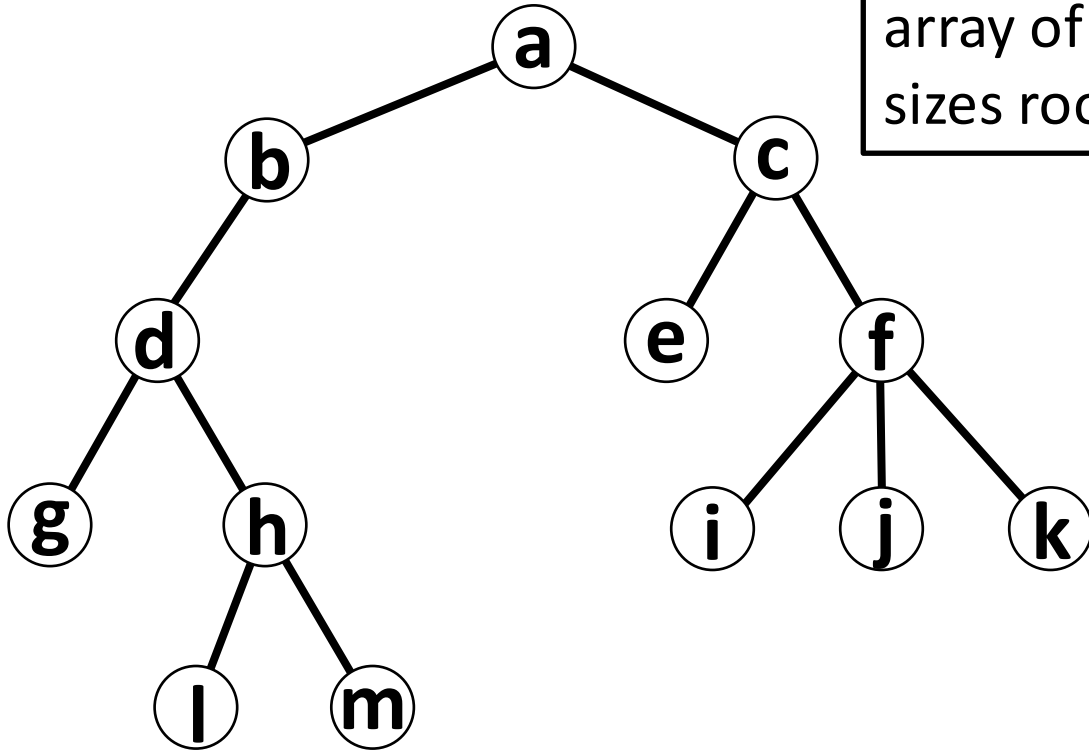
$$f(v) = \min \left\{ 1 + \sum_{u \in \text{child}(v)} f(u), |\text{child}(v)| + \sum_{w \in \text{grandchild}(v)} f(w) \right\}$$

# Vertex Cover in Trees

`min_vc(Vertex v):`  
    **if** `v` is leaf:

**else:**

Let `vc[v]` be  
array of min VC  
sizes rooted at `v`.

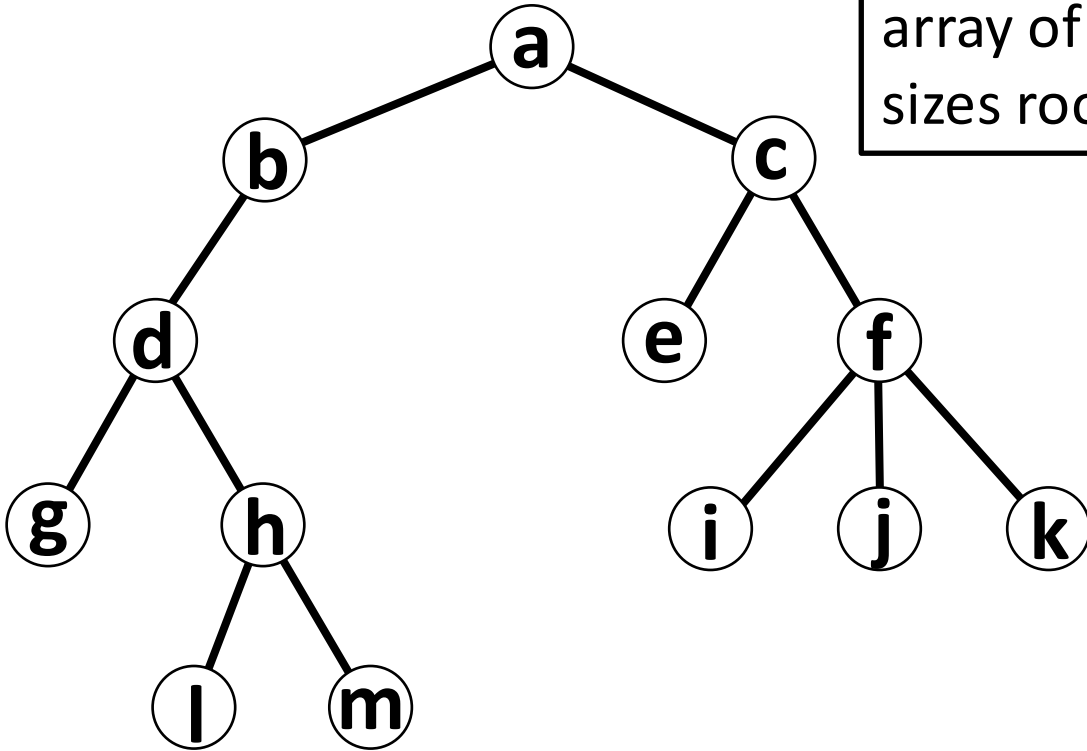


$$f(v) = \min \left\{ 1 + \sum_{u \in \text{child}(v)} f(u), |\text{child}(v)| + \sum_{w \in \text{grandchild}(v)} f(w) \right\}$$

# Vertex Cover in Trees

```
min_vc(Vertex v):  
    if v is leaf:  
        vc[v] = 0  
    else:
```

Let  $vc[v]$  be  
array of min VC  
sizes rooted at  $v$ .



$$f(v) = \min \left\{ 1 + \sum_{u \in \text{child}(v)} f(u), |\text{child}(v)| + \sum_{w \in \text{grandchild}(v)} f(w) \right\}$$

# Vertex Cover in Trees

```
min_vc(Vertex v):
```

```
    if v is leaf:
```

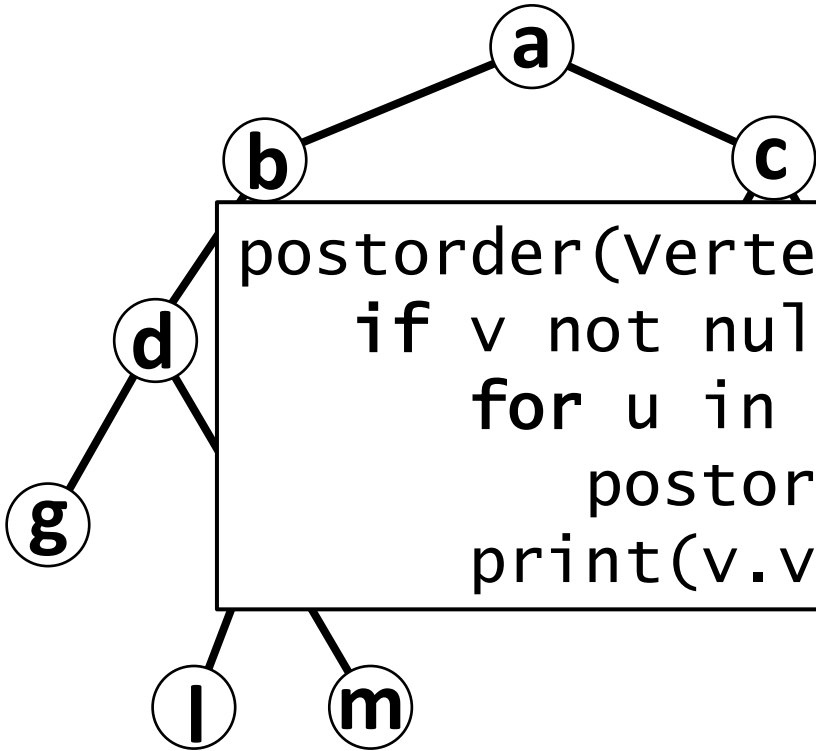
```
        vc[v] = 0
```

```
    else:
```

```
        // calculate descendants
```

Let  $vc[v]$  be  
array of min VC  
sizes rooted at  $v$ .

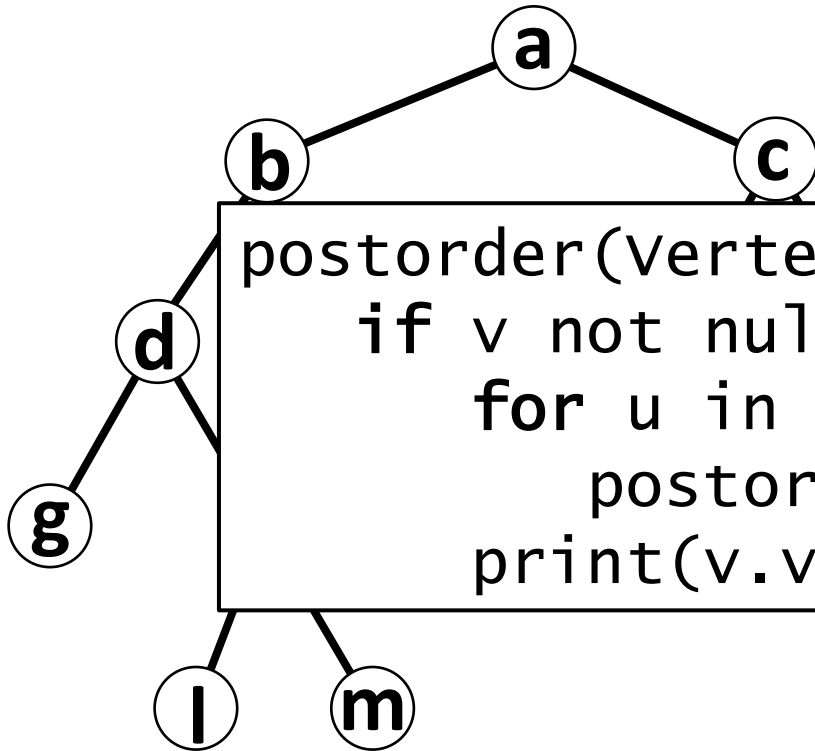
```
postorder(Vertex v):  
    if v not null:  
        for u in child(v):  
            postorder(u)  
        print(v.value())
```



$$f(v) = \min \left\{ 1 + \sum_{u \in \text{child}(v)} f(u), |\text{child}(v)| + \sum_{w \in \text{grandchild}(v)} f(w) \right\}$$



# Vertex Cover in Trees



Let  $vc[v]$  be  
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postorder(Vertex v):  
    if v not null:  
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min_vc(Vertex v):
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    if v is leaf:
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```
        vc[v] = 0
```

```
    else:
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```
        // calculate descendants
```

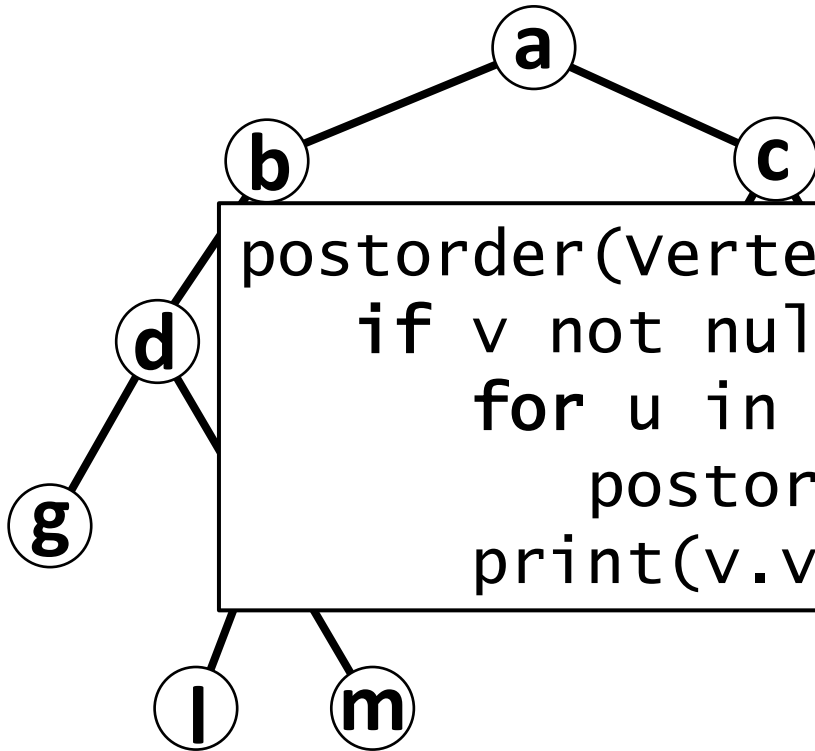
```
        // min VC includes v
```

```
        // min VC excludes v
```

$$f(v) = \min \left\{ 1 + \sum_{u \in \text{child}(v)} f(u), |\text{child}(v)| + \sum_{w \in \text{grandchild}(v)} f(w) \right\}$$

```
vc[v] = min(???, ???)
```

# Vertex Cover in Trees



Let  $vc[v]$  be  
array of min VC  
sizes rooted at  $v$ .

```
postorder(Vertex v):  
    if v not null:  
        for u in child(v):  
            postorder(u)  
        print(v.value())
```

```
min_vc(Vertex v):
```

```
    if v is leaf:
```

```
        vc[v] = 0
```

```
    else:
```

```
        // calculate descendants
```

```
        for u in child(v):
```

```
            min_vc(u)
```

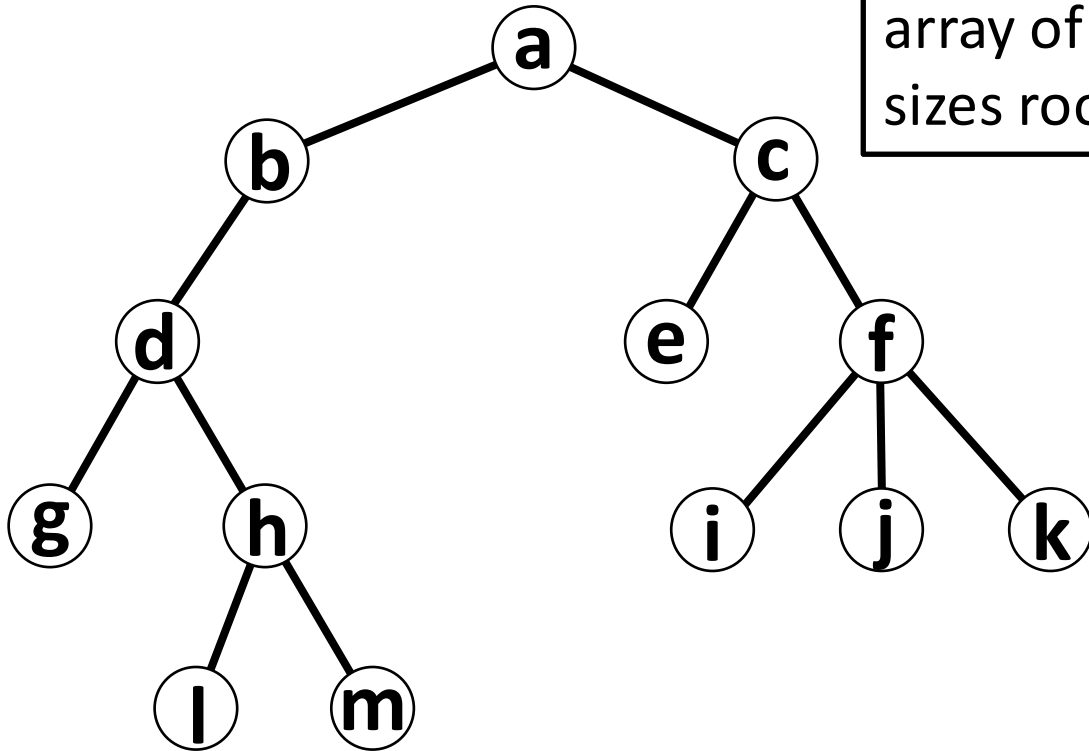
```
        // min VC includes v
```

```
        // min VC excludes v
```

$$f(v) = \min \left\{ 1 + \sum_{u \in \text{child}(v)} f(u), |\text{child}(v)| + \sum_{w \in \text{grandchild}(v)} f(w) \right\}$$

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vc[v] = min(???, ???)
```

# Vertex Cover in Trees



Let  $vc[v]$  be  
array of min VC  
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`min_vc(Vertex v):`

`if v is leaf:`

`vc[v] = 0`

`else:`

`// calculate descendants`

`for u in child(v):`

`min_vc(u)`

`// min VC includes v`

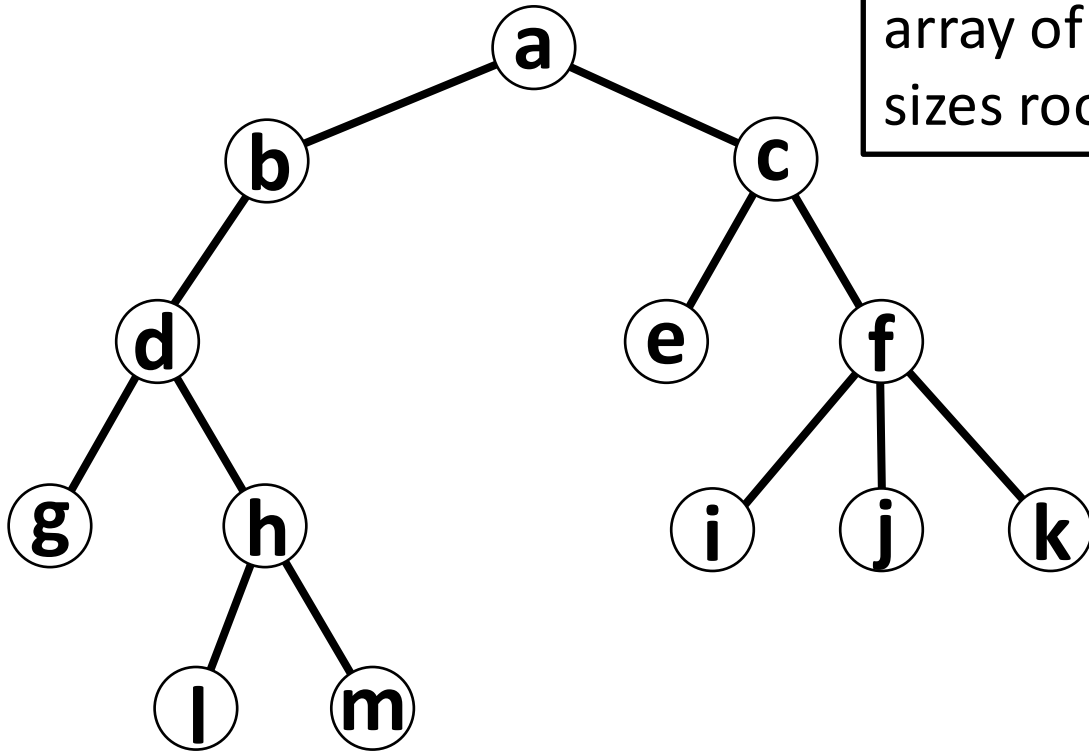
`inc = 1`

`// min VC excludes v`

$$f(v) = \min \left\{ 1 + \sum_{u \in \text{child}(v)} f(u), |\text{child}(v)| + \sum_{w \in \text{grandchild}(v)} f(w) \right\}$$

`vc[v] = min(???, ???)`

# Vertex Cover in Trees



Let  $vc[v]$  be  
array of min VC  
sizes rooted at  $v$ .

$\text{min\_vc}(\text{Vertex } v):$

**if**  $v$  is leaf:

$vc[v] = 0$

**else:**

// calculate descendants

**for**  $u$  in  $\text{child}(v)$ :

$\text{min\_vc}(u)$

// min VC includes  $v$

$\text{inc} = 1$

**for**  $u$  in  $\text{child}(v)$ :

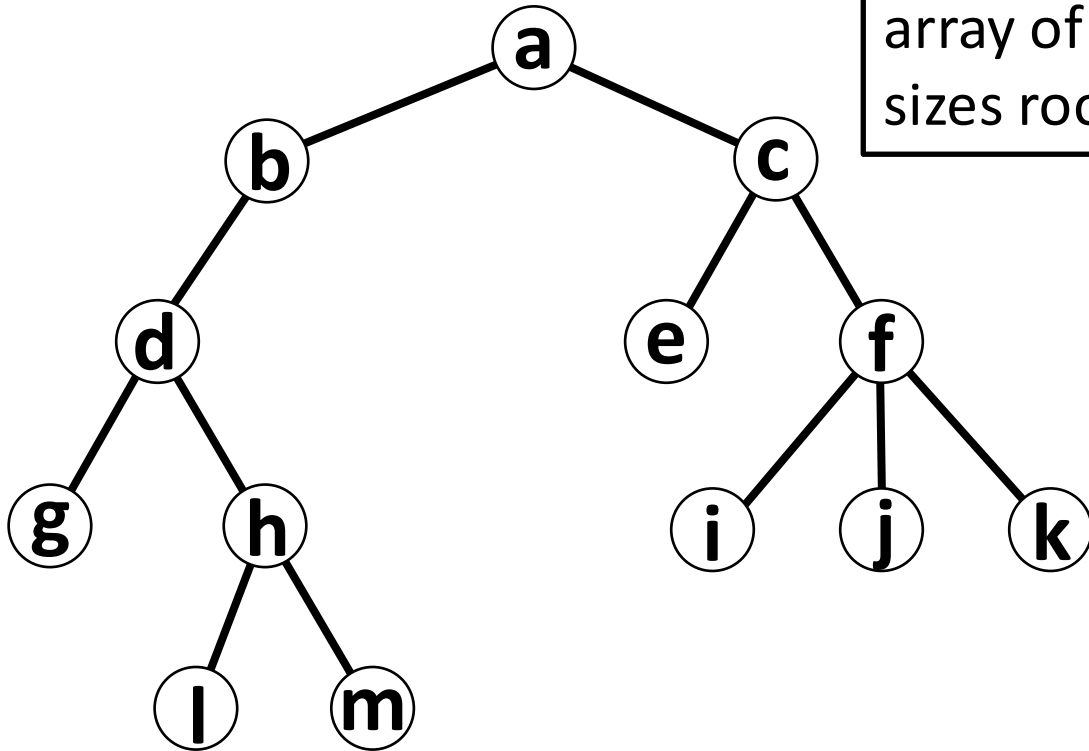
$\text{inc} += vc[u]$

// min VC excludes  $v$

$$f(v) = \min \left\{ 1 + \sum_{u \in \text{child}(v)} f(u), |\text{child}(v)| + \sum_{w \in \text{grandchild}(v)} f(w) \right\}$$

$vc[v] = \min(???, ???)$

# Vertex Cover in Trees



Let  $vc[v]$  be  
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`min_vc(Vertex v):`

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`// calculate descendants`

`for u in child(v):`

`min_vc(u)`

`// min VC includes v`

`inc = 1`

`for u in child(v):`

`inc += vc[u]`

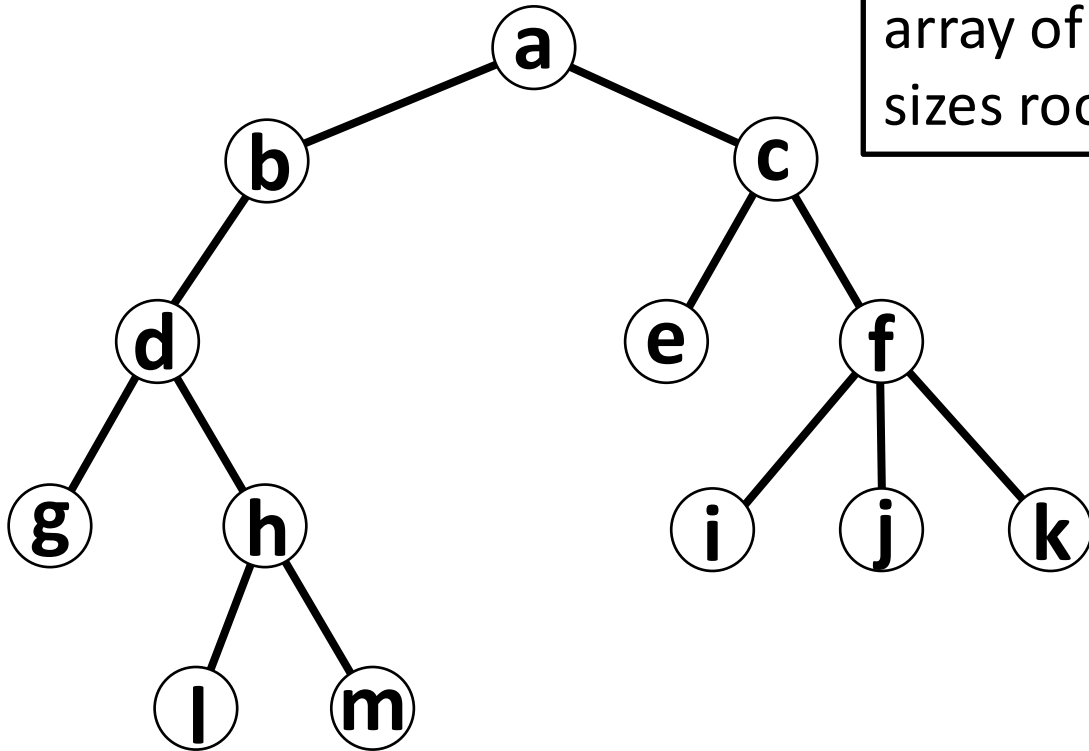
`// min VC excludes v`

`exc = |child(v)|`

$$f(v) = \min \left\{ 1 + \sum_{u \in \text{child}(v)} f(u), \quad |\text{child}(v)| + \sum_{w \in \text{grandchild}(v)} f(w) \right\}$$

`vc[v] = min(???, ???)`

# Vertex Cover in Trees



Let  $vc[v]$  be  
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**if**  $v$  is leaf:

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// calculate descendants

**for**  $u$  in  $\text{child}(v)$ :

$\text{min\_vc}(u)$

// min VC includes  $v$

$\text{inc} = 1$

**for**  $u$  in  $\text{child}(v)$ :

$\text{inc} += vc[u]$

// min VC excludes  $v$

$\text{exc} = |\text{child}(v)|$

**for**  $u$  in  $\text{child}(v)$ :

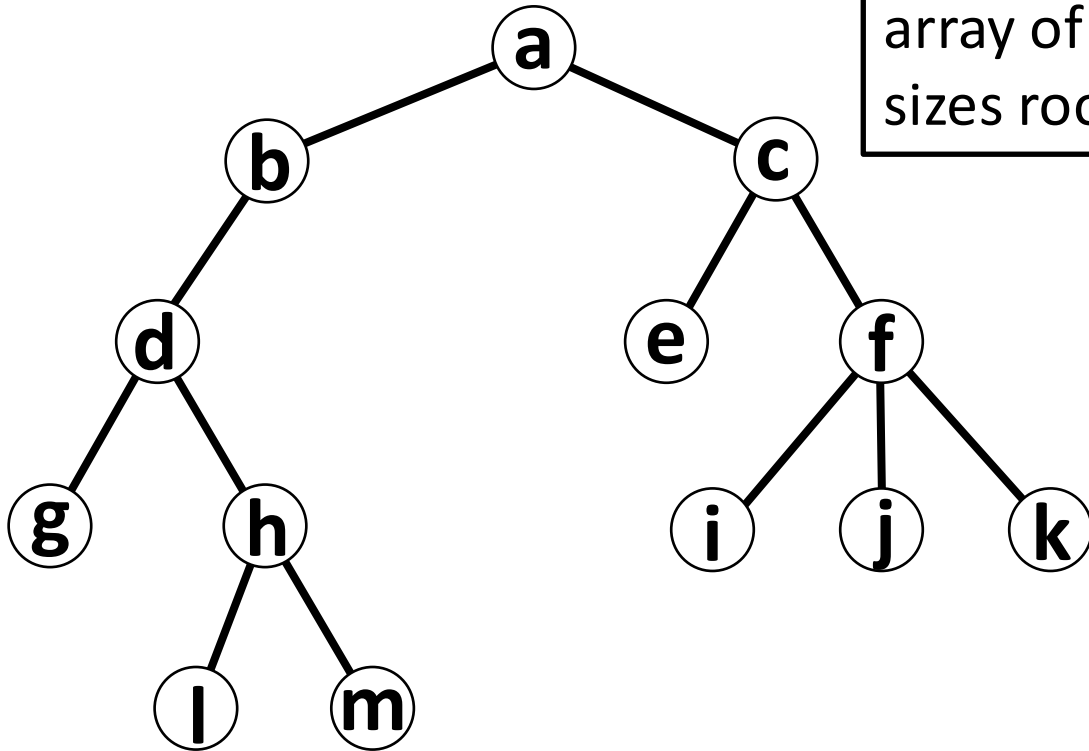
**for**  $w$  in  $\text{child}(u)$ :

$\text{exc} += vc[w]$

$vc[v] = \min(???, ???)$

$$f(v) = \min \left\{ 1 + \sum_{u \in \text{child}(v)} f(u), \quad |\text{child}(v)| + \sum_{w \in \text{grandchild}(v)} f(w) \right\}$$

# Vertex Cover in Trees



Let  $vc[v]$  be  
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    if v is leaf:
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        inc = 1
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        for u in child(v):
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            inc += vc[u]
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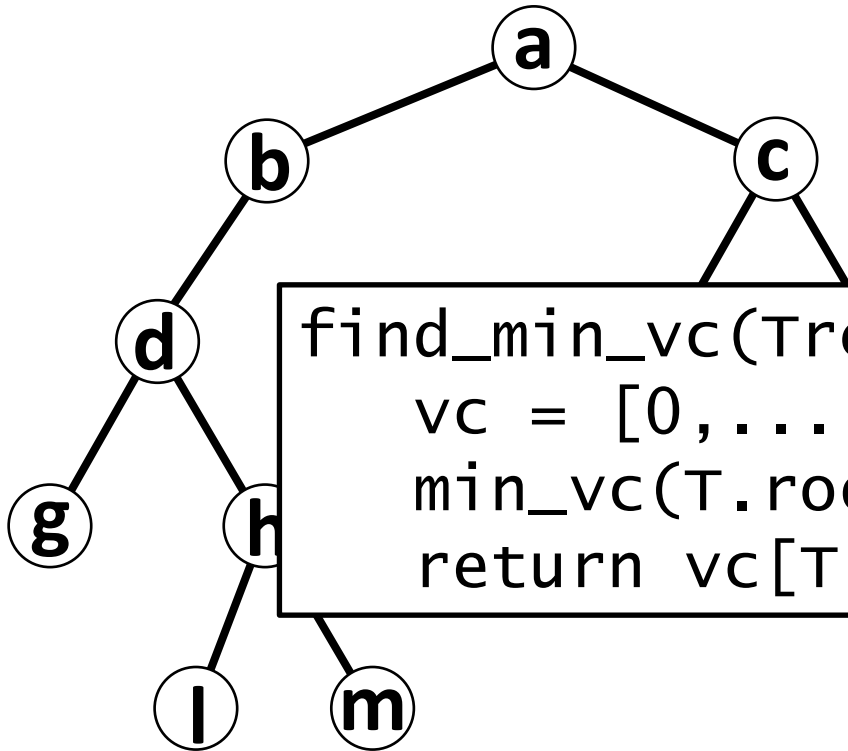
```
            for w in child(u):
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                exc += vc[w]
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```
        vc[v] = min(inc, exc)
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# Vertex Cover in Trees



Let  $vc[v]$  be  
array of min VC  
sizes rooted at  $v$ .

```
find_min_vc(Tree T):  
     $vc = [0, \dots, 0]$   
    min_vc(T.root)  
    return  $vc[T.root]$ 
```

$$f(v) = \min \left\{ 1 + \sum_{u \in \text{child}(v)} f(u), |\text{child}(v)| + \sum_{w \in \text{grandchild}(v)} f(w) \right\}$$

```
min_vc(Vertex v):
```

```
    if v is leaf:
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```
         $vc[v] = 0$ 
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```

```
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```

```
        for u in child(v):
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        for u in child(v):
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            inc +=  $vc[u]$ 
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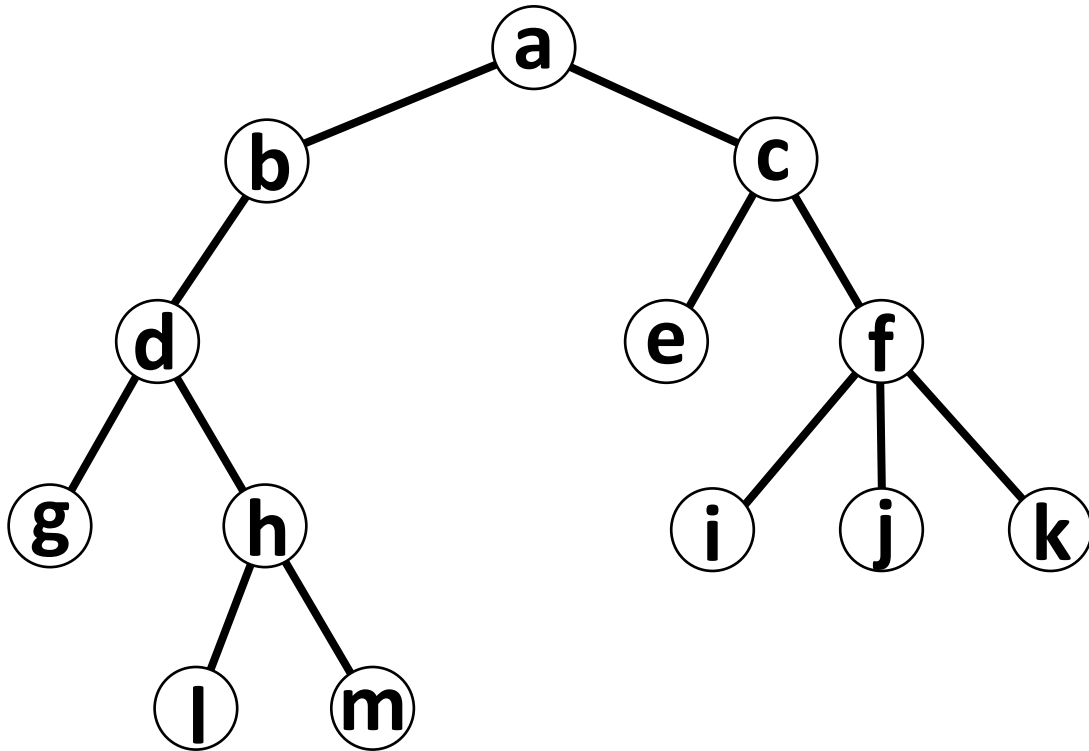
```
            for w in child(u):
```

```
                exc +=  $vc[w]$ 
```

```
         $vc[v] = \min(\text{inc}, \text{exc})$ 
```



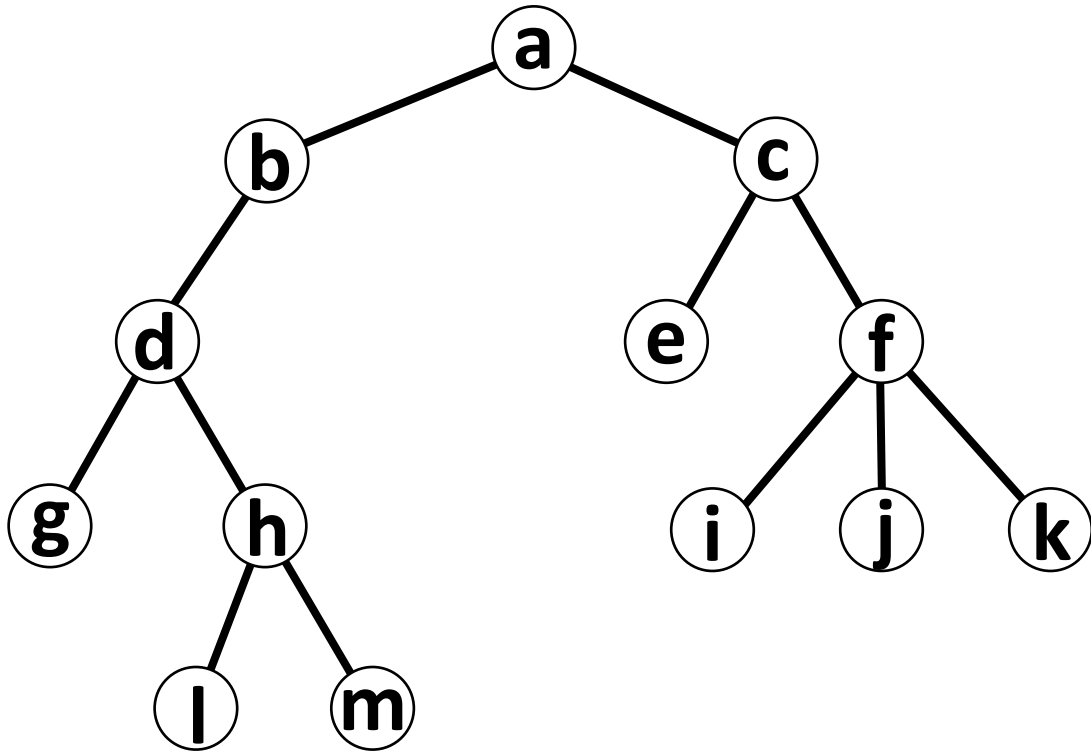
# Vertex Cover in Trees



Running Time: ??

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            inc += vc[u]  
  
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        for u in child(v):  
            for w in child(u):  
                exc += vc[w]  
  
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```

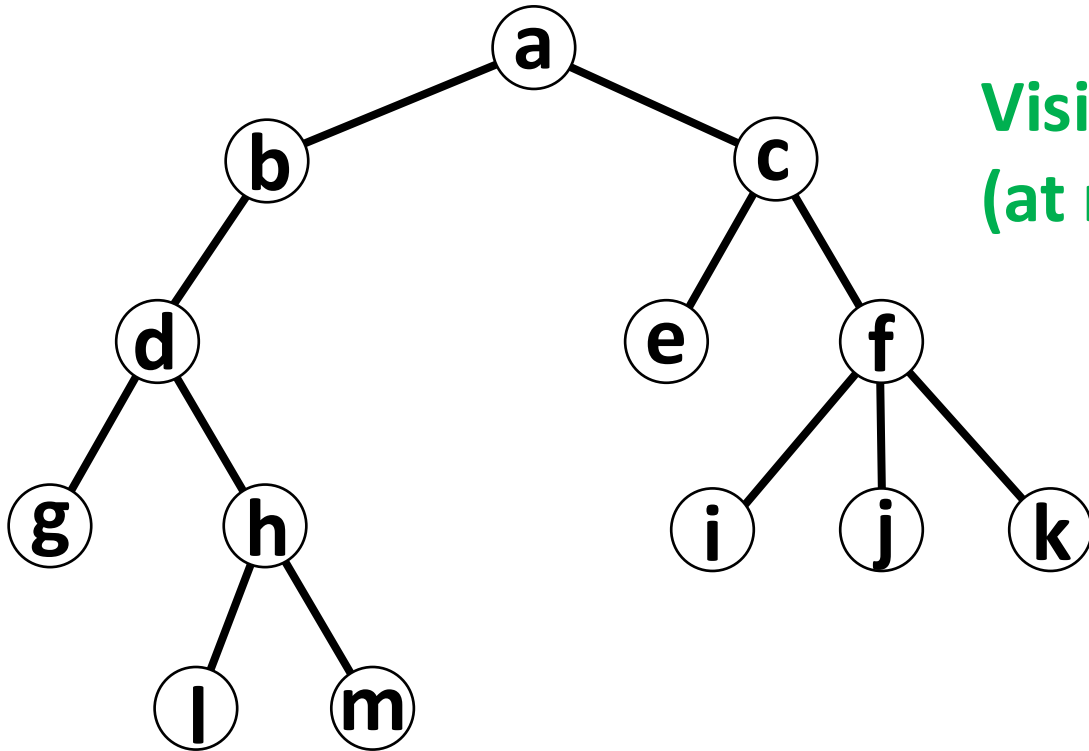
# Vertex Cover in Trees



Running Time: ??

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              for u in child(v):  
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              for u in child(v):  
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# Vertex Cover in Trees

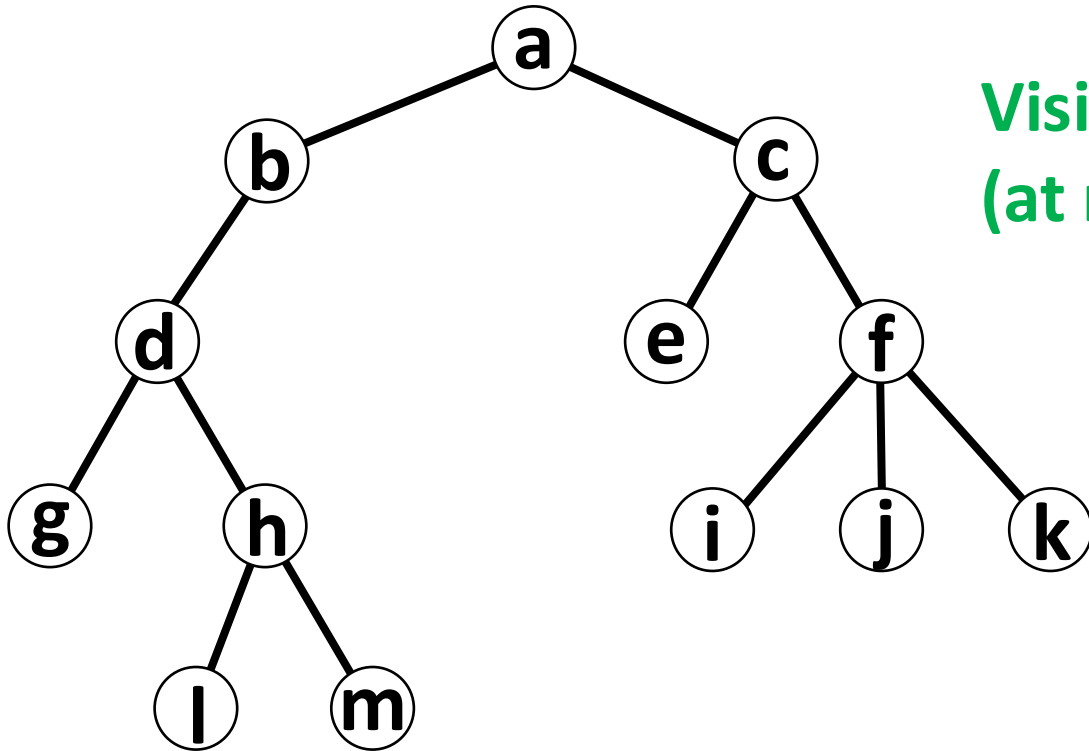


Running Time: ??

Visit each node  
(at most) once

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# Vertex Cover in Trees

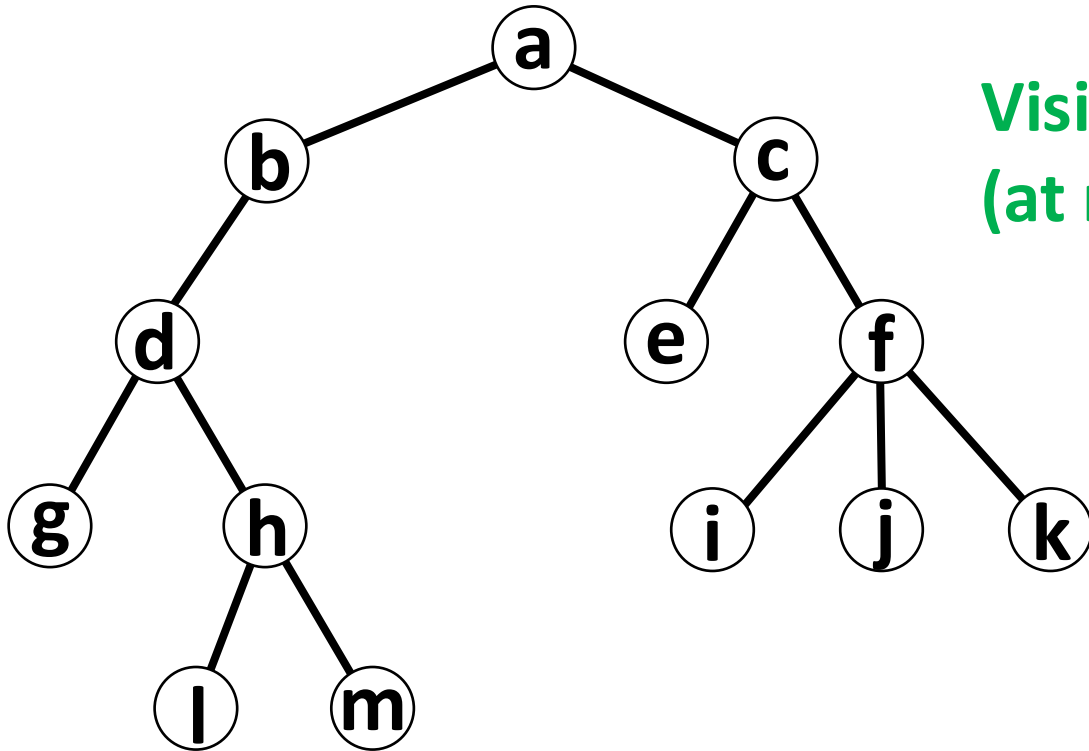


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# Vertex Cover in Trees



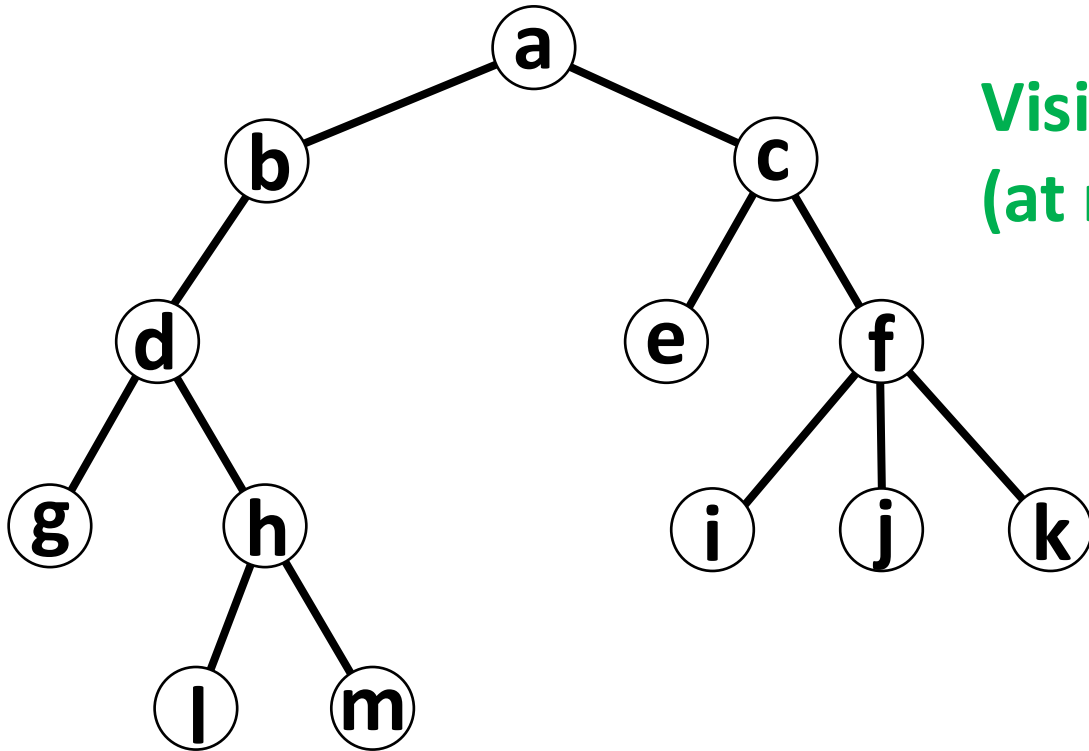
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        inc = 1  
        for u in child(v):  
            inc += vc[u]  
  
        // min VC excludes v  
        exc = |child(v)|  
        for u in child(v):  
            for w in child(u):  
                exc += vc[w]  
  
        vc[v] = min(inc, exc)
```

# Vertex Cover in Trees



Running Time:  $O(n)$

Visit each node  
(at most) once

Visit each  
node (at  
most) once

Visit each node  
(at most) once

```
min_vc(Vertex v):
```

```
    if v is leaf:
```

```
        vc[v] = 0
```

```
    else:
```

```
        // calculate descendants
```

```
        for u in child(v):
```

```
            min_vc(u)
```

```
        // min VC includes v
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```
        inc = 1
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```
        for u in child(v):
```

```
            inc += vc[u]
```

```
        // min VC excludes v
```

```
        exc = |child(v)|
```

```
        for u in child(v):
```

```
            for w in child(u):
```

```
                exc += vc[w]
```

```
        vc[v] = min(inc, exc)
```

# Vertex Cover in Trees

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min_vc(Vertex v):  
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        for u in child(v):  
            for w in child(u):  
                exc += vc[w]  
  
        vc[v] = min(inc, exc)
```

**a**

How do we find the actual minimum vertex cover?

**b**

Running Time:  $O(n)$

# Vertex Cover in Trees

**a**

How do we find the actual minimum vertex cover?

Save Results. When the minimum of (inc, exc) is selected, save whether  $v$  or children of  $v$  are part of the cover.

Running Time:  $O(n)$

```
min_vc(Vertex v):  
    if v is leaf:  
        vc[v] = 0  
    else:  
        // calculate descendants  
        for u in child(v):  
            min_vc(u)  
  
        // min VC includes v  
        inc = 1  
        for u in child(v):  
            inc += vc[u]  
  
        // min VC excludes v  
        exc = |child(v)|  
        for u in child(v):  
            for w in child(u):  
                exc += vc[w]  
  
        vc[v] = min(inc, exc)
```



# Vertex Cover in Trees

**a**

How do we find the actual minimum vertex cover?

**g** Save Results. When the minimum of (*inc*, *exc*) is selected, save whether *v* or children of *v* are part of the cover.

Backtrack. At root, determine if we did *inc* or *exc* then check children (*inc*) or grandchildren (*exc*).

Running Time:  $O(n)$

```
min_vc(Vertex v):
    if v is leaf:
        vc[v] = 0
    else:
        // calculate descendants
        for u in child(v):
            min_vc(u)

        // min VC includes v
        inc = 1
        for u in child(v):
            inc += vc[u]

        // min VC excludes v
        exc = |child(v)|
        for u in child(v):
            for w in child(u):
                exc += vc[w]

        vc[v] = min(inc, exc)
```