

**ADBIS 2018**

September 2-5

Budapest Hungary

# Integrating Approximate String Matching with Phonetic Similarity



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# Context

- Natural Language Processing (NLP)
- Named Entity Recognition (NER)
  - Organizations
  - Cities and Countries
  - Names of Drugs
- A usual approach
  - Dictionary-based (gazetteer) – exact match

# Problem

- Imperfections (spelling errors)

```
1: HMP: Diabetes {há cerca de 15 anos}, tratamento com diamicroen 2cp VO  
2: Paciente com {há 10 anos}, realizou cirurgia de ponte cesarea. cardiacos,  
3: Angioplastia cesarea. {há 6 anos}, paciente relata d...  
4: HAS {há 30 anos}, tratamento com enalapril e selozok.  
5: G6P4A2 partos normais e ultimo cesarea. Fumante há 50 maços{ano}.  
6: Paciente relata diversa internações por problemas cardiacos, não soube...  
7: Preventivo e mamografia ultima vez {há dois anos}  
8: Pai falecido CA esofágico {62 anos}, esofágico carcinoma de coluna  
9: Paciente faz acompanhamento da Pa realata aumento da glicemia...  
10: Paciente realata insônia e dificuldade no sono, acorda sem disposição.  
11: Nega angina de repouso. Uso de propoatilnitrato {3x ao dia}.  
12: Monocordil 1cp {de 12/12 horas}, Dolamin {toda noite} devido a dor.  
13: Paciente por dia realata mg {uma...}. Trimetazidina 1cp {por dia}.  
14: realata mg {uma...}. Omeprazol 20mg 11cp {12/12h}.  
15: Atorvastatina 1cp {por dia}. Selozok 2cp {por dia}.  
16: Relata perda de peso {há cerca de 3 meses} (relatou perda de 2kg).  
17: {Há dois meses} episodio de gripe, {2 dias} de cama, uso de penicilina...
```

- Approximate String Matching (ASM)
  - Indexed (fast) search + Edit Distance

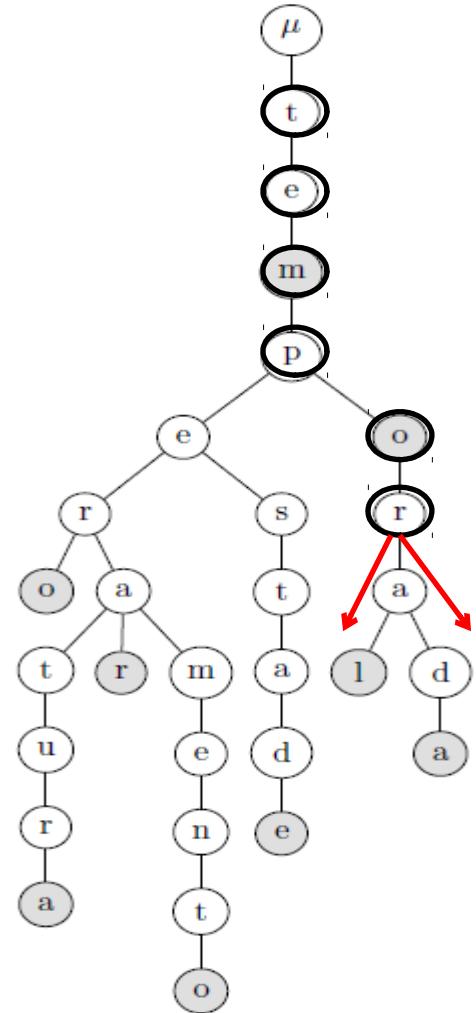
# Problem

- ED does not capture all the aspects of text imperfections, such as phonetic dissimilarity.
- Phonetics is a language-dependent problem
- Hybrid string and phonetic similarity approaches can lead to more consistent results compared to traditional ED-based methods [Tissot et al., DEXA-2014]

# Method

- Task:
  - NER
  - Matching phonetically similar words
- *TRIE: indexed search*
  - *ED: String similarity threshold*  
Used to auto-complete
- *Language-dependent components*
  - Phonetic representation (Metaphone)
    - more compact (memory optimization)
  - *String Similarity Function*

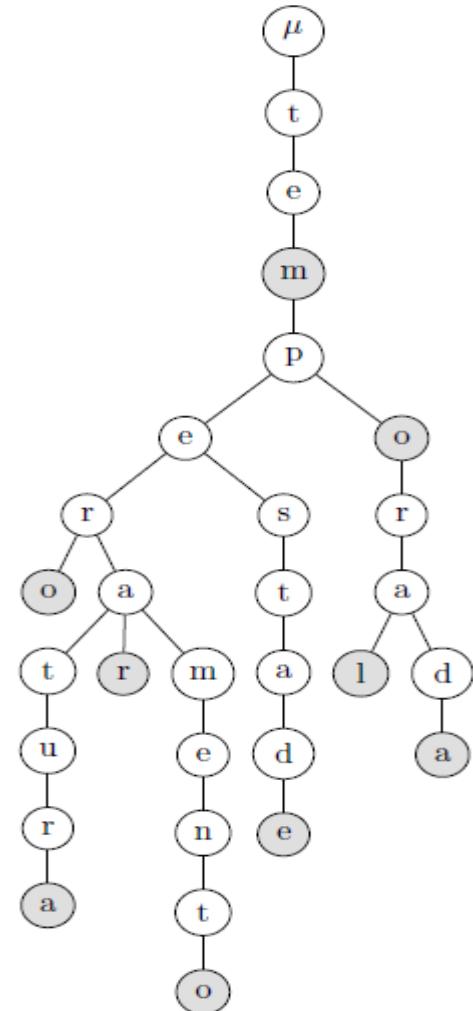
[Tissot et al., DEXA-2014]



# Method

(A) Both gazetteer entries and text are converted to a phonetic representation (Metaphone)

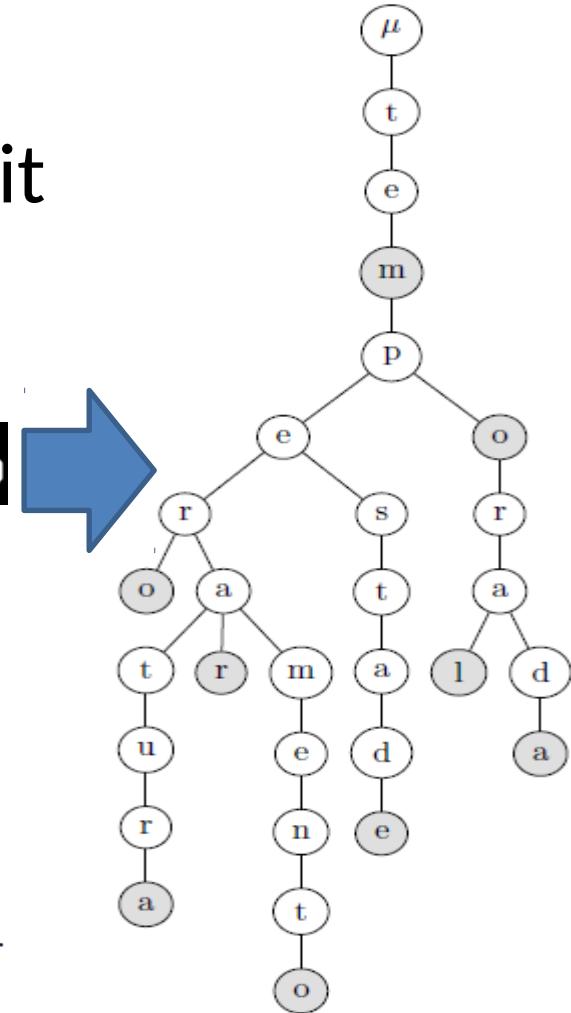
Word	Phonetic representation
medroxalol	MTRKSLL
amoxicillin	AMKSSLN
bromfenac	BRMFNK
New York	NYRK
Avondale Estates	AFNTLSTTS
Washington	WXNKTN



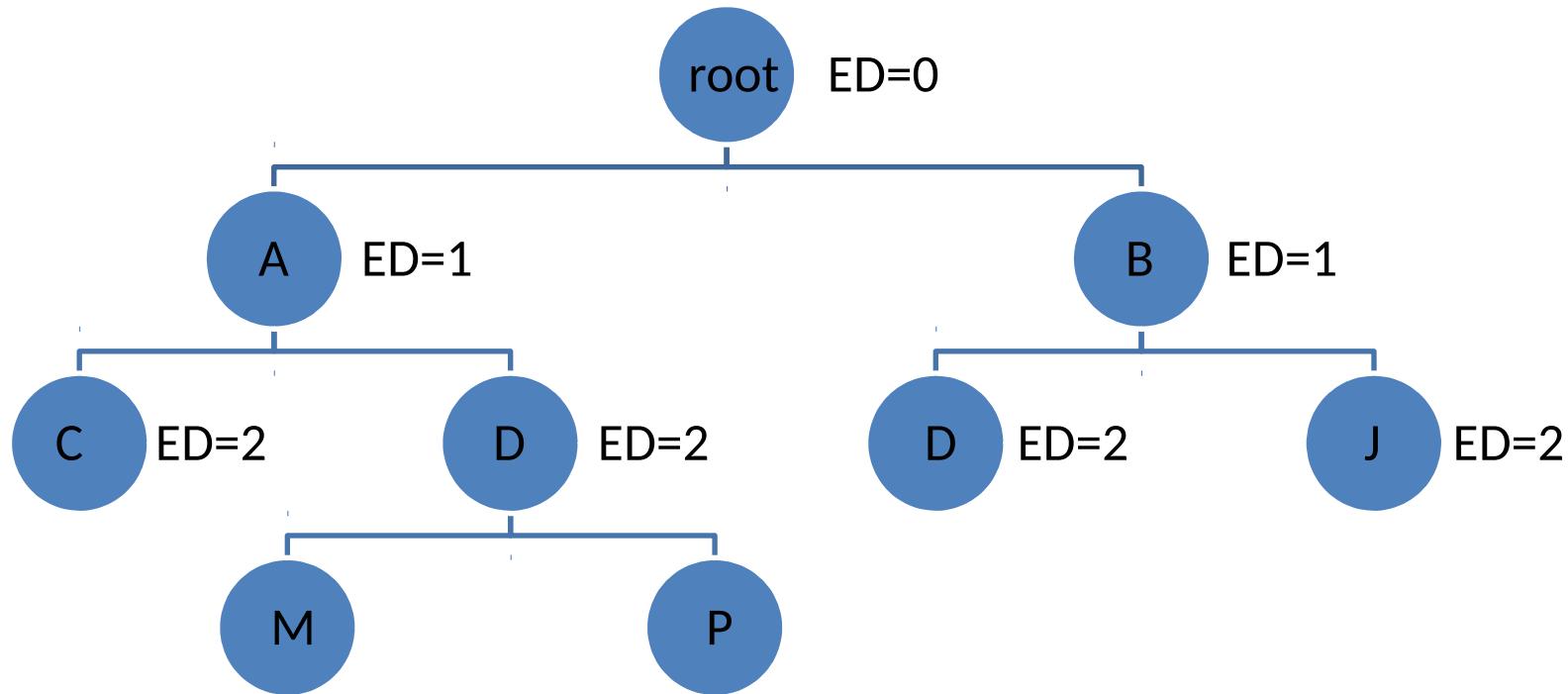
# Method

(B) TRIE search combines the phonetic representation with a Edit Distance threshold (ED <= 2)

1: HMP: Diabetes {há cerca de 15 anos}, tratamento com diamicroen 2cp VO  
2: Paciente com **cesarea.**, realizou cirurgia de ponte **cardiacos,**  
3: Angioplastia {há 6 anos}, paciente relata o...  
4: HAS {há 30 anos} tratado com enalapril e selozok.  
5: G6P4A2 partos normais e ultima **cesarea**. Fumante há 50 maços{ano}.  
6: Paciente relata diversa internações por problemas **cardiacos**, não soube...  
7: Preventivo e mamografia ultima vez {há dois anos}.  
8: Pai falecido CA esofágico {22 anos}, **esofâgo** carcinoma de coluna  
9: Paciente faz acompanhamento da Pa **realata** aumento da glicemias...  
10: Paciente **realata** insônia e dificuldade no sono, acorda sem disposição.  
11: Nega angina de repouso. Uso de propoatilnitrato {3x ao dia}.  
12: Monocodil 1cp {de 12/12 horas}. Dolamin {toda noite} devido a dor.  
13: **Paciente** por dia **realata**. Trimetazidina 1cp {por dia}.  
14: **realata** mg {uma vez ao dia}. Esprazol 20mg 11cp {12/12h}.  
15: Intervastatina 1cp {por dia}. Selozok 2cp {por dia}.  
16: Relata perda de peso {há cerca de 3 meses} (relatou perda de 2kg).  
17: {Há dois meses} episódio de gripe, {2 dias} de cama, uso de penicilina...

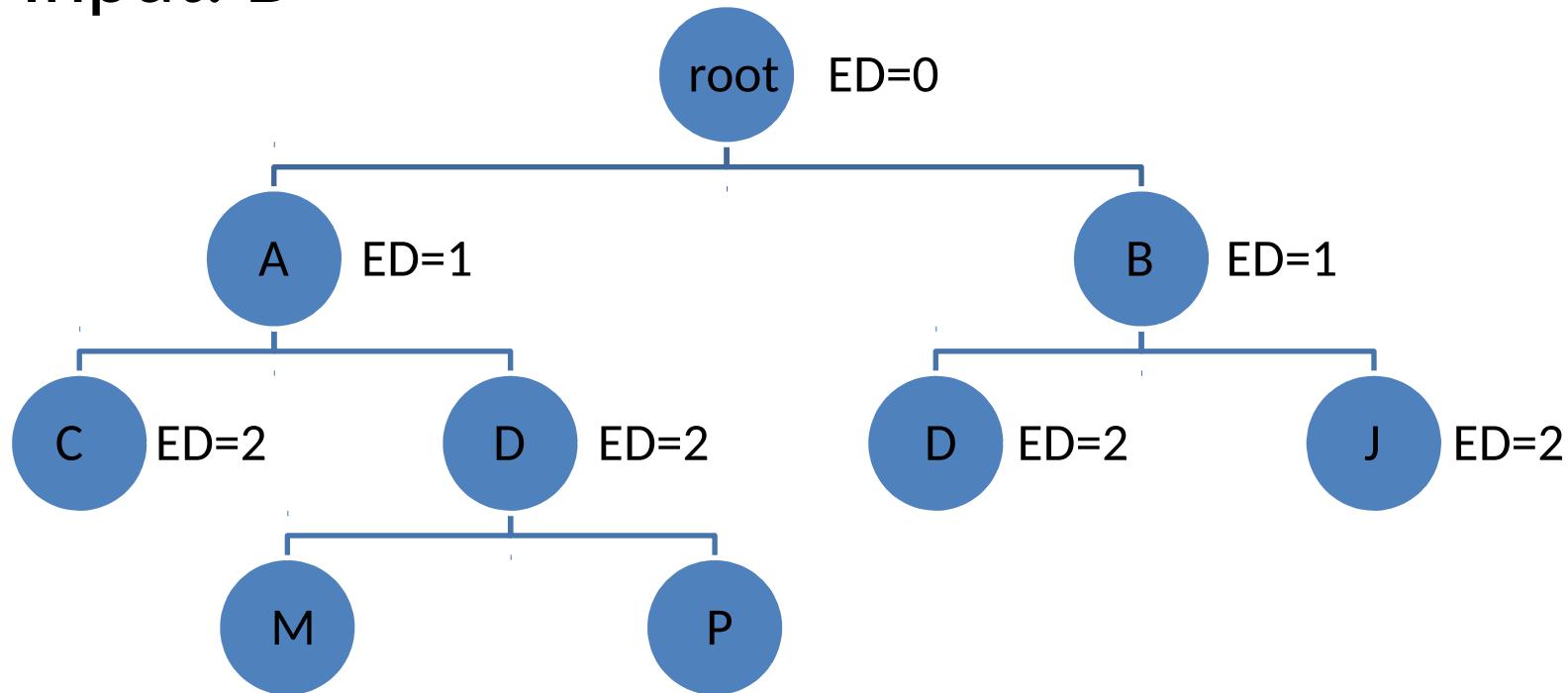


# Method



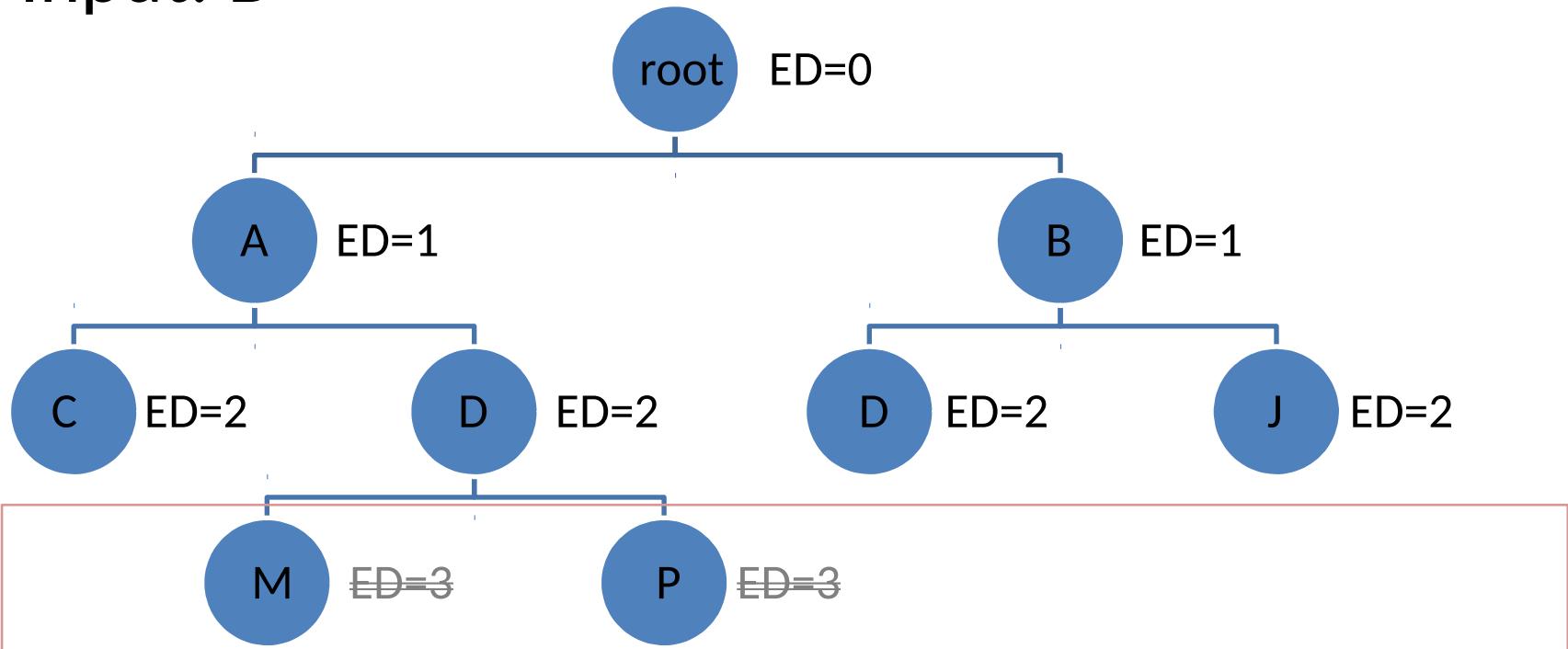
# Method

Input: D



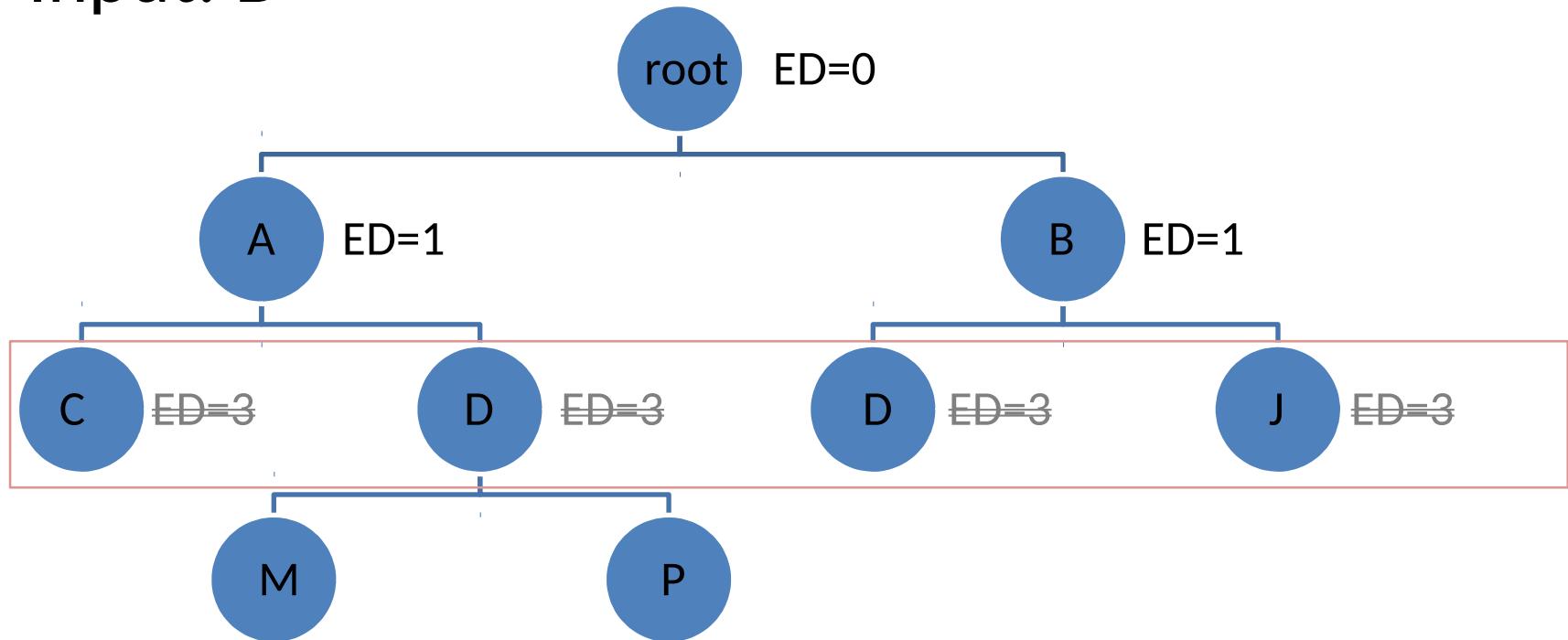
# Method

Input: D



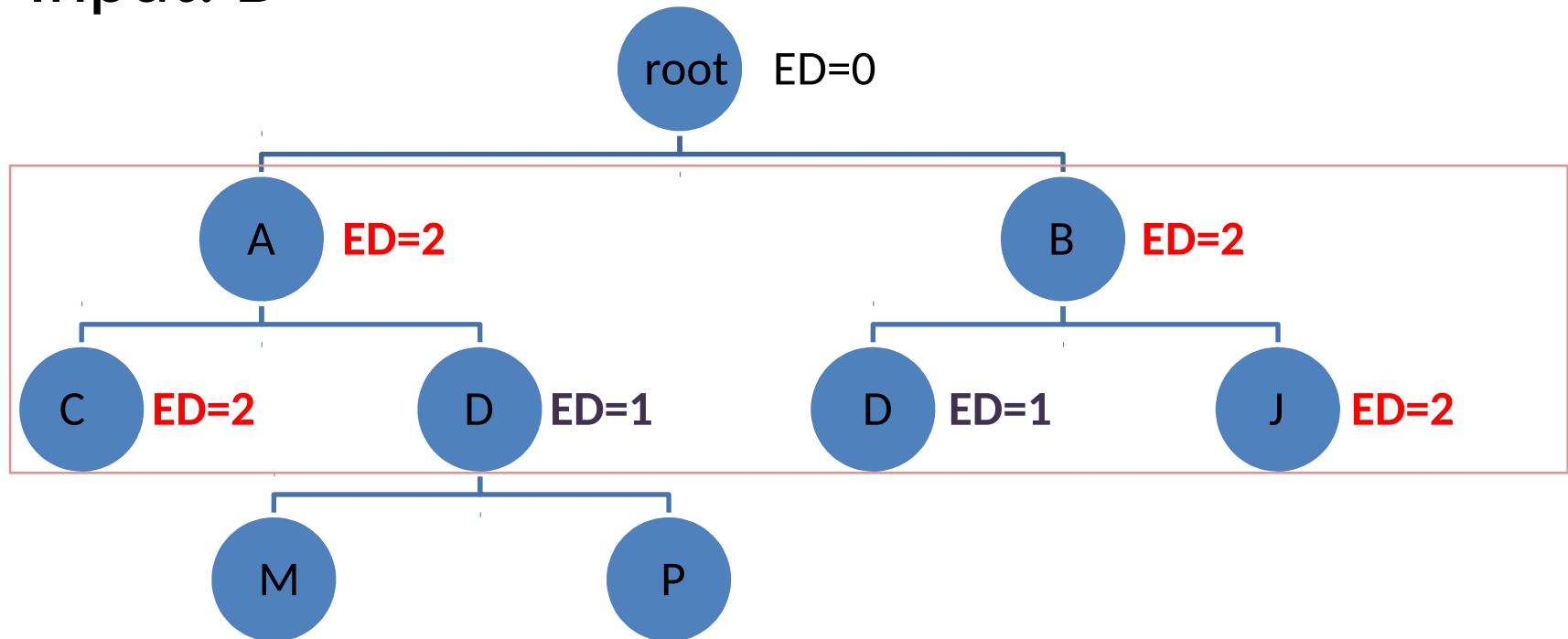
# Method

Input: D



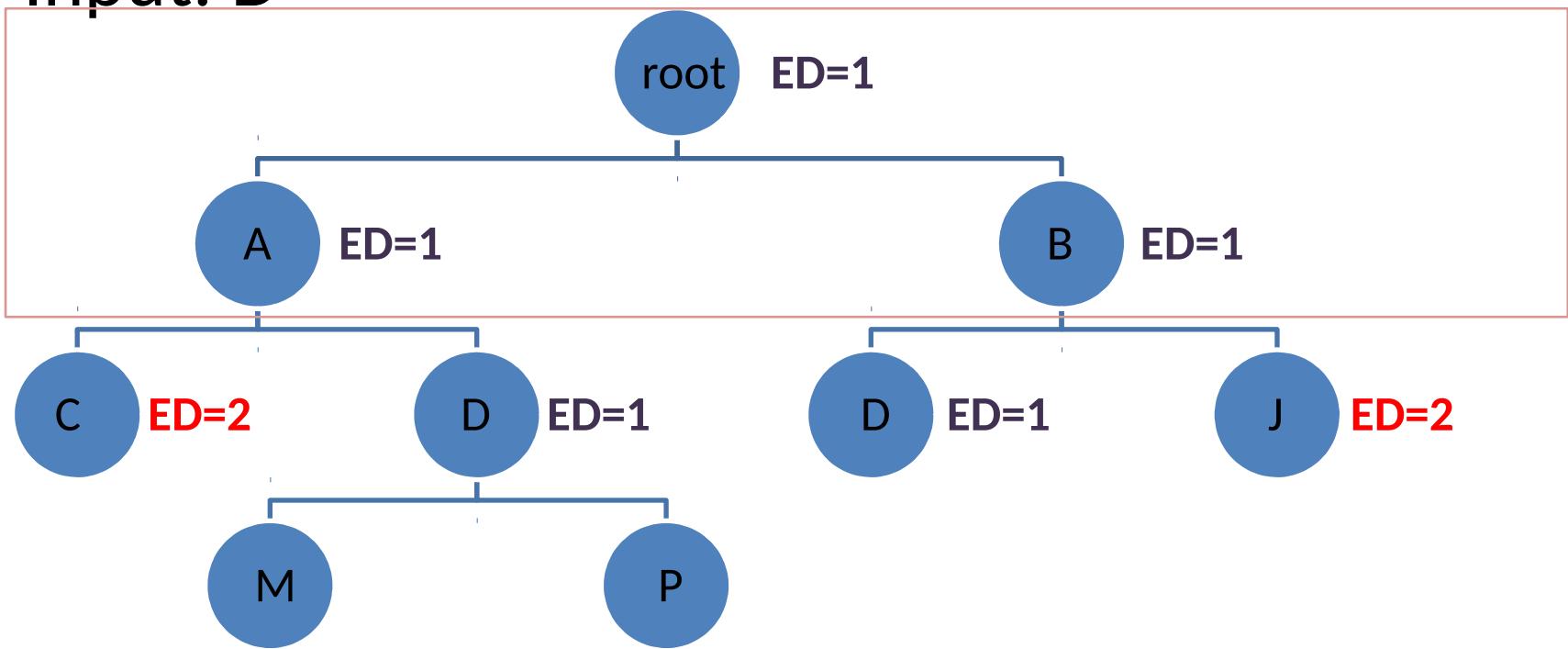
# Method

Input: D



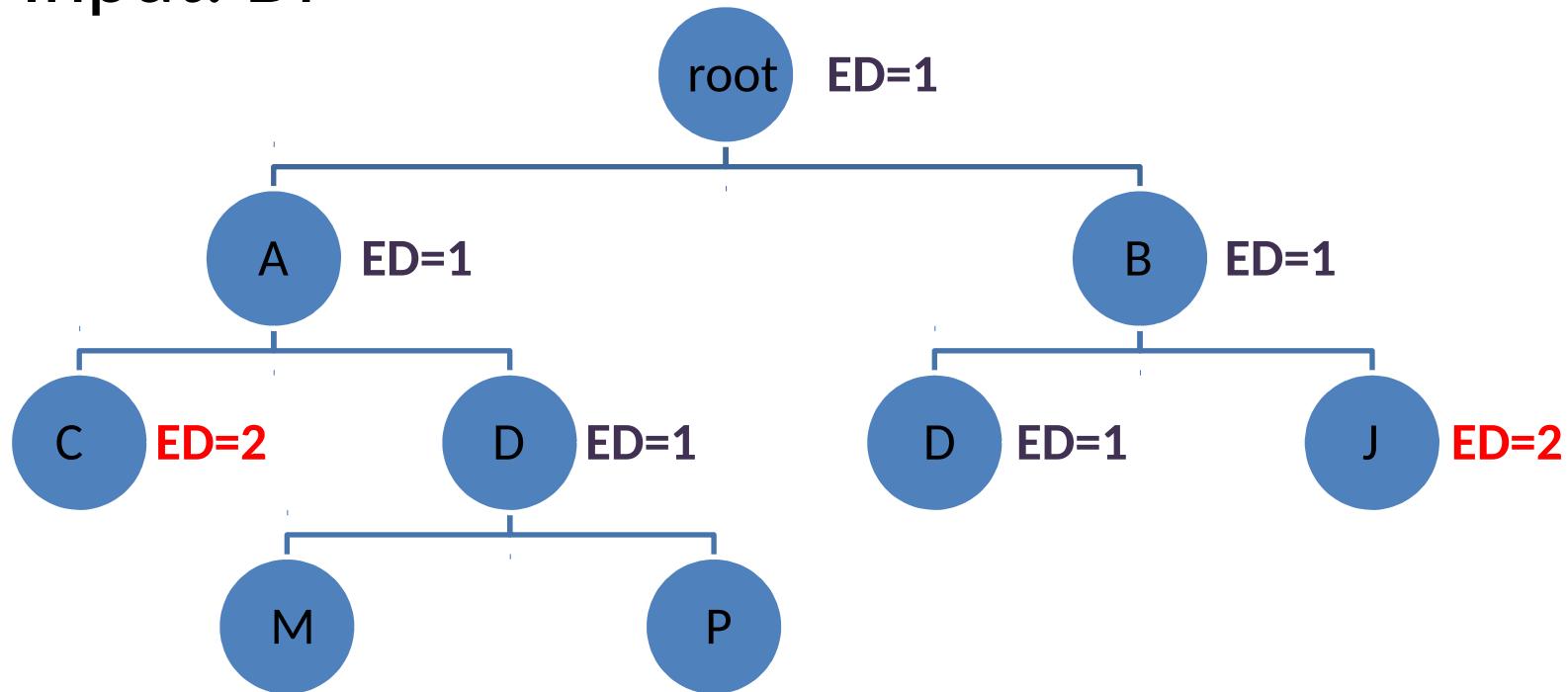
# Method

Input: D



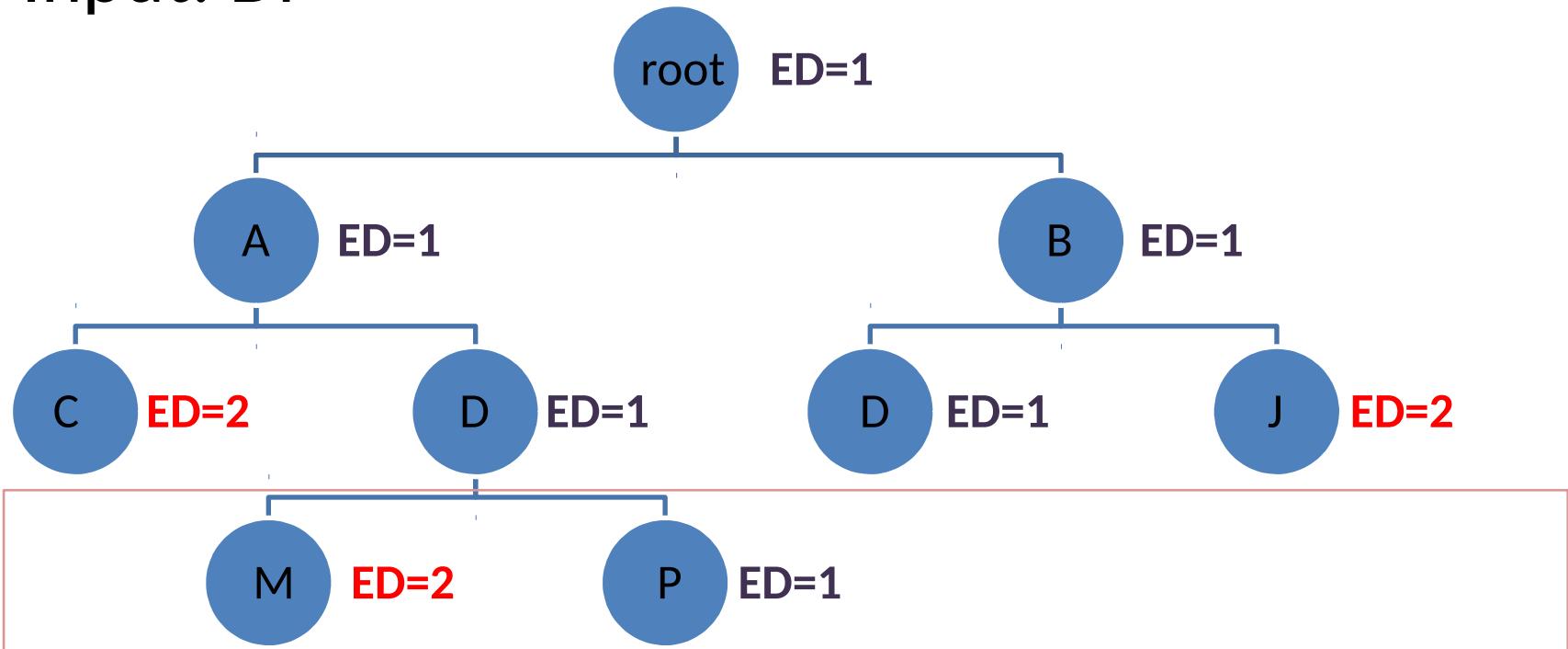
# Method

Input: DP



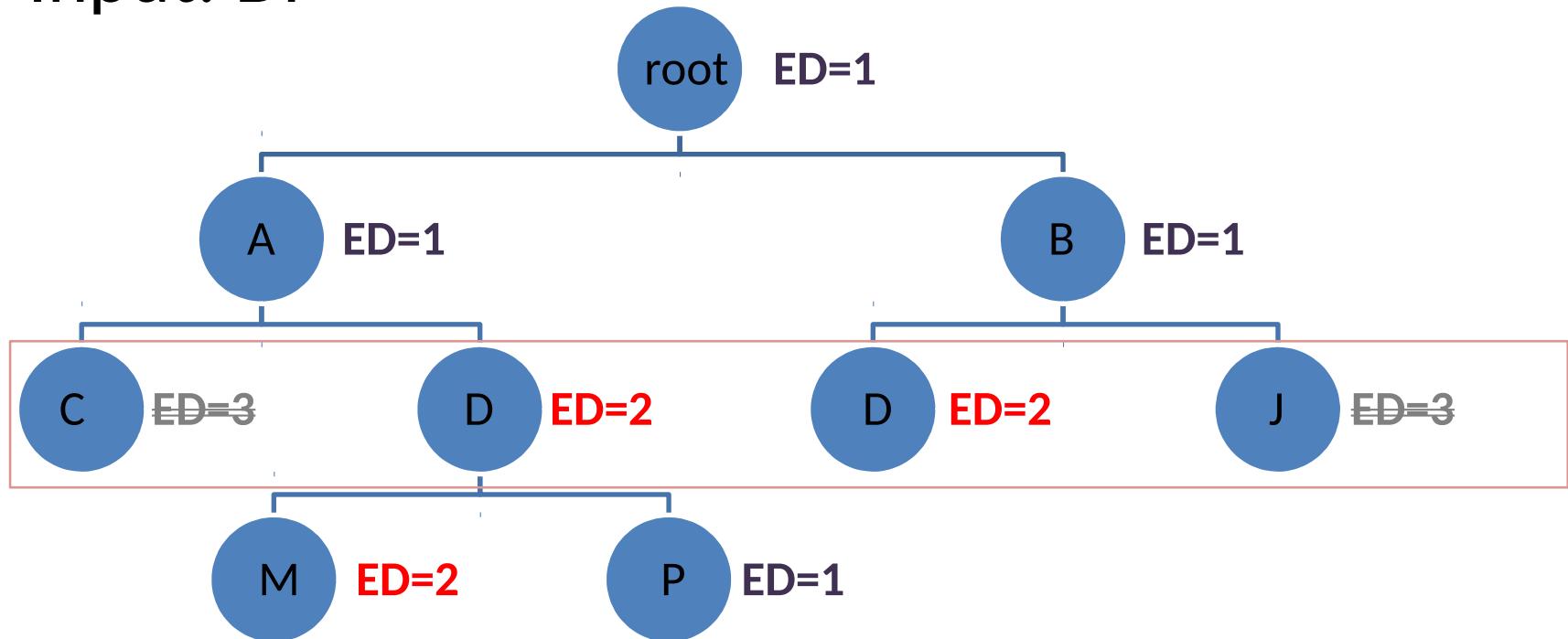
# Method

Input: DP



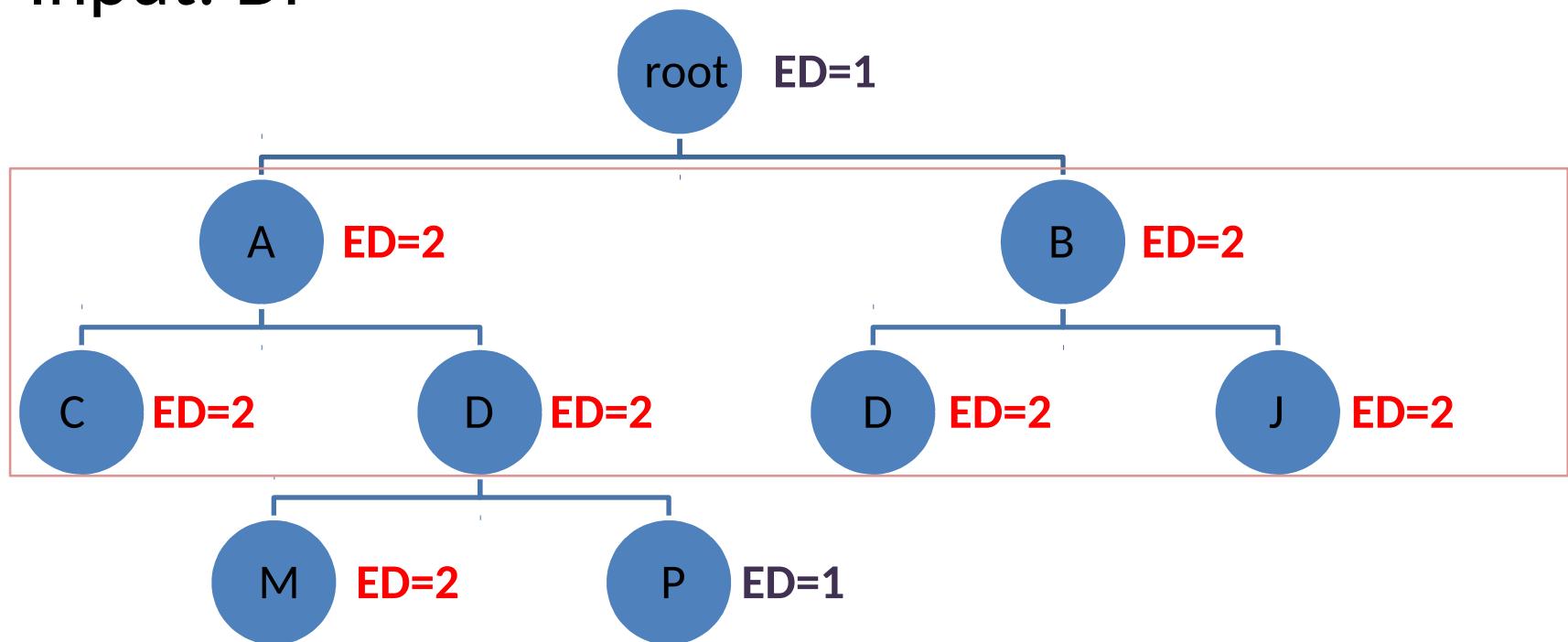
# Method

Input: DP



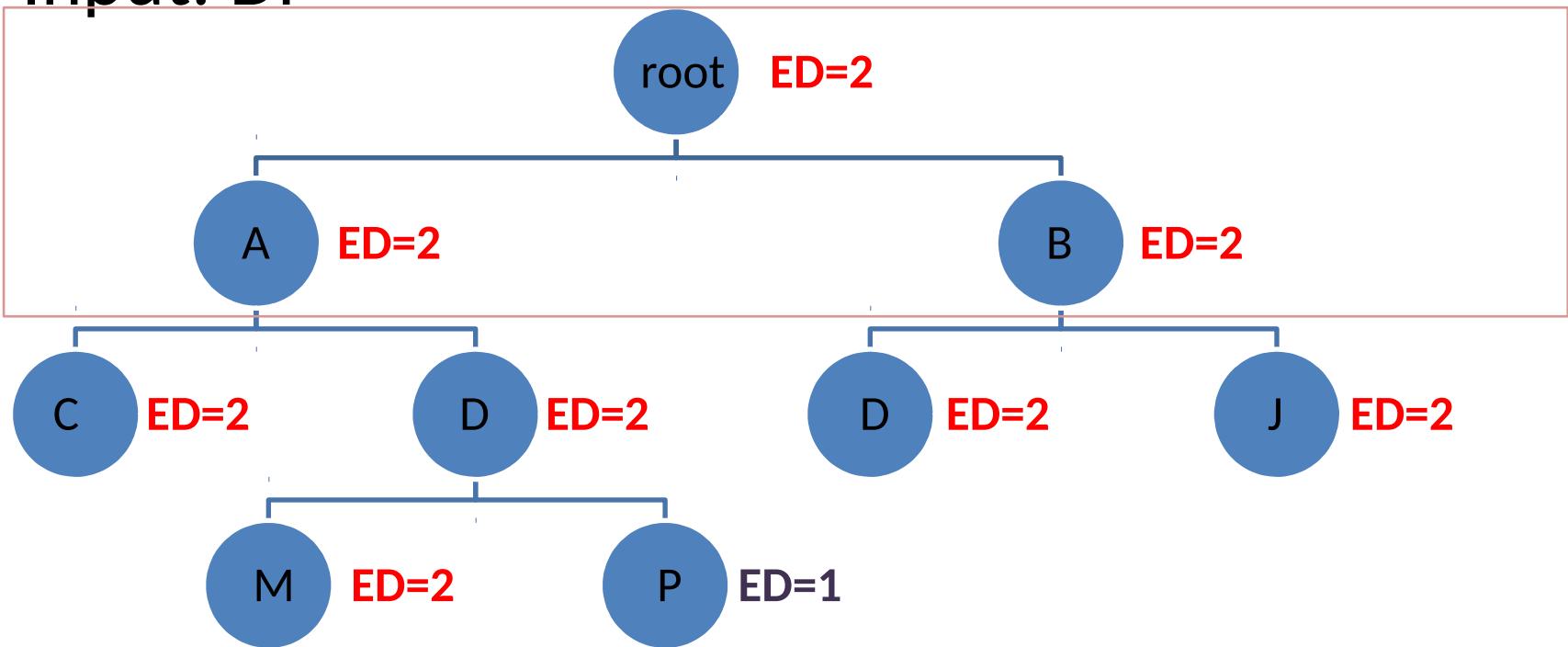
# Method

Input: DP



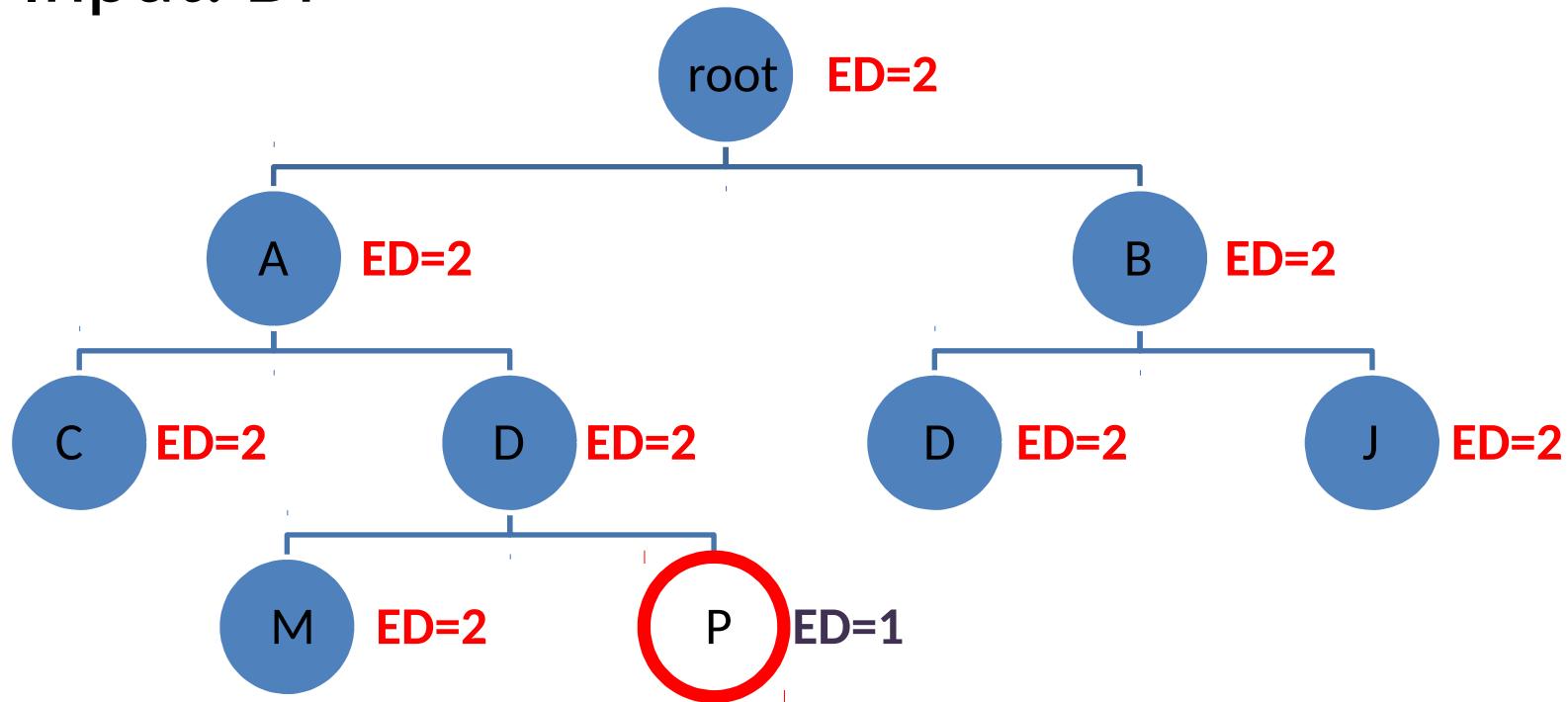
# Method

Input: DP



# Method

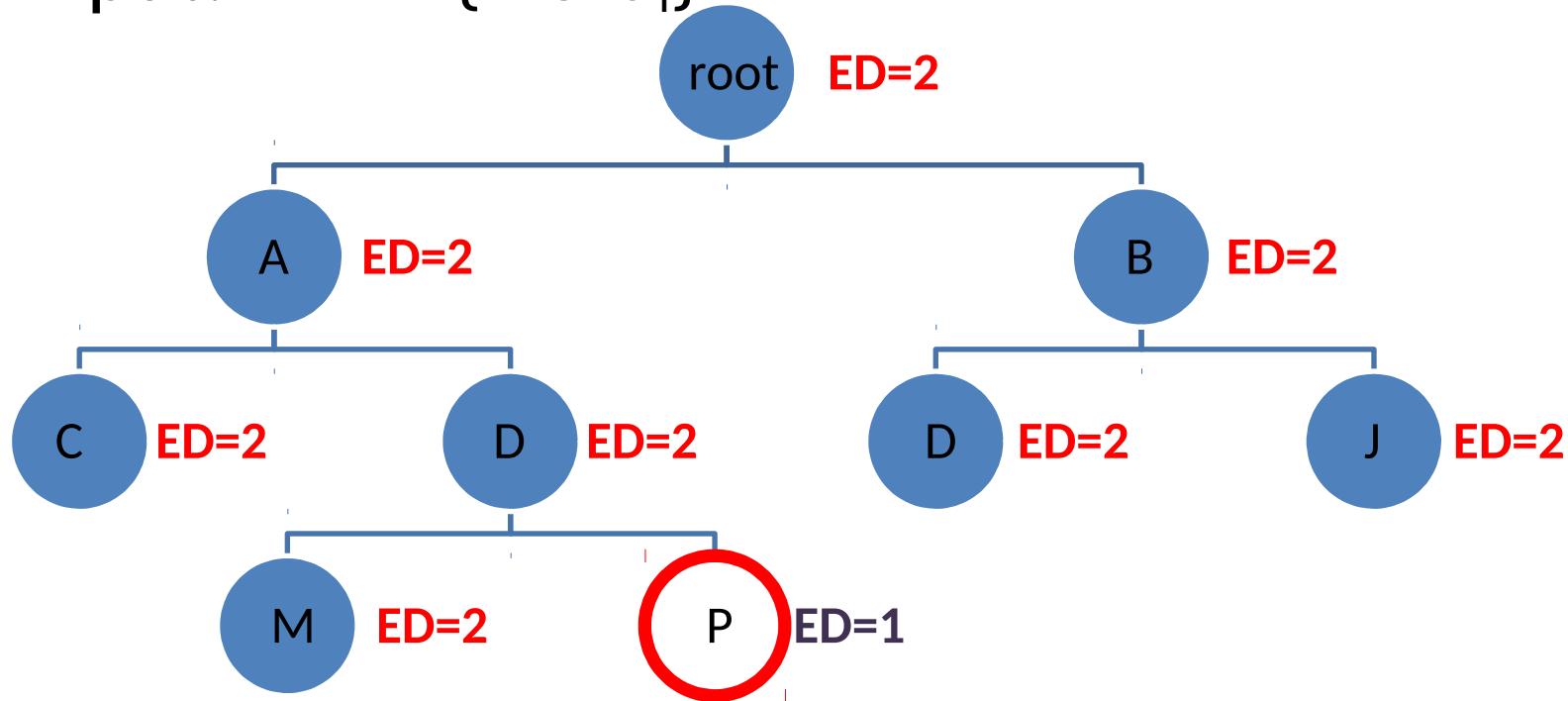
Input: DP



TRIE: ADP (ED=1)

# Method

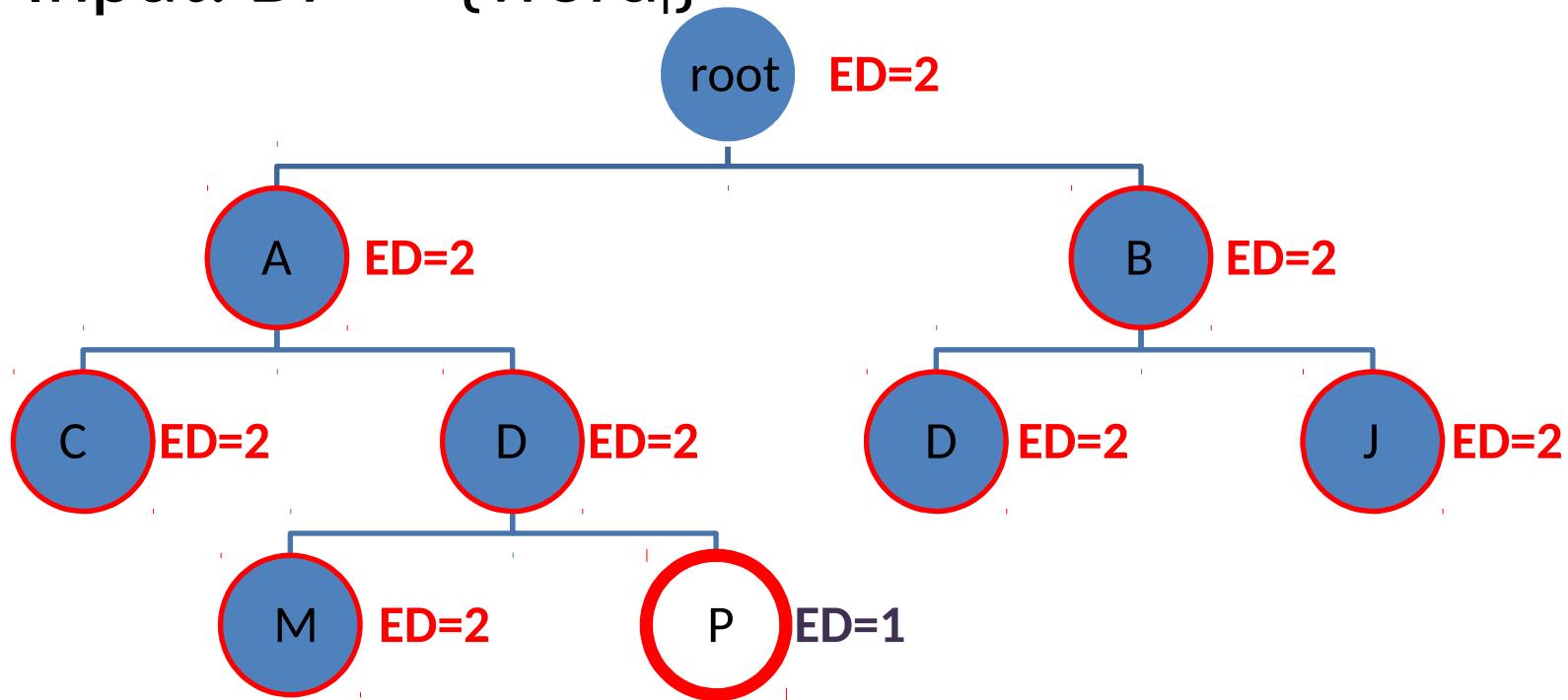
Input: DP  $\rightarrow \{\text{word}_i\}$



TRIE: ADP (ED=1)  $\rightarrow \{\text{word}_1, \text{word}_2, \dots, \text{word}_n\}$

# Method

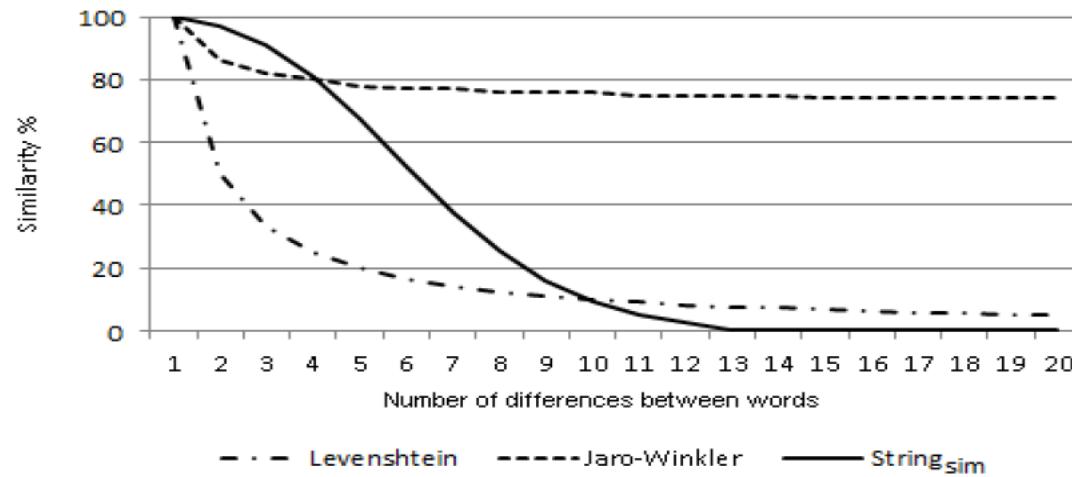
Input: DP  $\rightarrow \{\text{word}_i\}$



TRIE: ADP (ED=1)  $\rightarrow \{\text{word}_1, \text{word}_2, \dots, \text{word}_n\}$

# Method

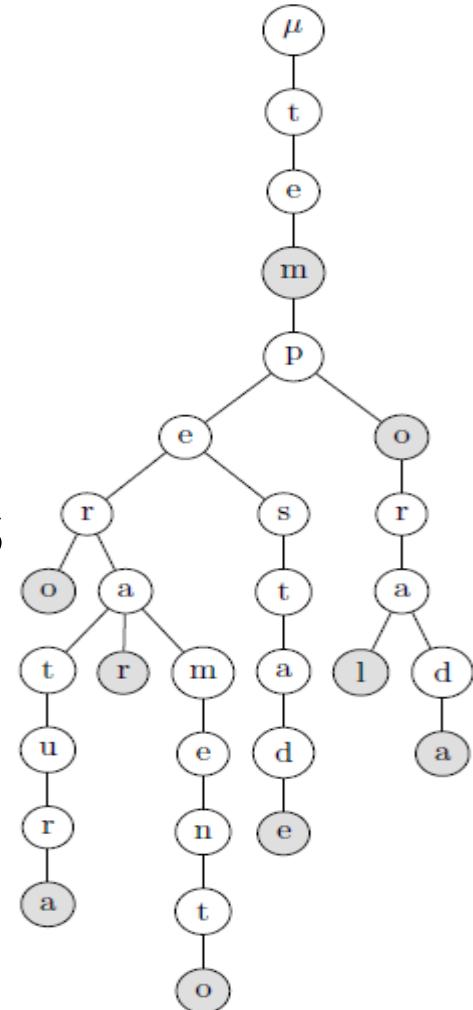
(C) A string similarity function is used to finally filter out possible false positive matches



ED vs Jaro-Winkler vs **String<sub>Sim</sub>**

# Validating Experiment

- 76,912 English words  
(WordNet)
- vs
- Lists of 1,000 common misspellings  
(Wikipedia)



# Validating Results

Metaphone						Metaphone					
Jaro-Winkler						<i>StringSim</i>					
ED	Min	Sim	Precision	Recall	F1	ED	Min	Sim	Precision	Recall	F1
0	0.7	81.3%	64.2%	71.7%	82.9%	0	0.7	86.7%	66.5%	75.3%	82.9%
0	0.8	84.4%	64.2%	72.9%	84.4%	0	0.8	90.7%	66.3%	76.6%	84.4%
0	0.9	<b>87.8%</b>	62.7%	73.2%	87.8%	0	0.9	<b>94.9%</b>	51.9%	67.1%	94.9%
1	0.7	81.5%	<b>84.4%</b>	<b>82.9%</b>	84.4%	1	0.7	85.7%	<b>89.5%</b>	<b>87.6%</b>	89.5%
1	0.8	81.5%	<b>84.4%</b>	<b>82.9%</b>	84.4%	1	0.8	86.4%	89.3%	<b>87.8%</b>	89.3%
1	0.9	82.6%	82.8%	82.7%	82.8%	1	0.9	89.3%	72.9%	<b>80.3%</b>	80.3%
2	0.7	78.3%	82.3%	80.3%	80.3%	2	0.7	84.1%	74.3%	81.1%	84.1%
2	0.8	78.7%	82.3%	80.4%	80.4%	2	0.8	84.1%	74.3%	81.2%	84.1%
2	0.9	79.7%	81.5%	80.6%	80.6%	2	0.9	87.1%	73.1%	80.2%	87.1%

No phonetic conversion					
<i>StringSim</i>					
ED	Min	Sim	Precision	Recall	F1
1	0.7	89.3%	74.3%	81.1%	89.3%
1	0.8	89.5%	74.3%	81.2%	89.5%
1	0.9	<b>91.8%</b>	65.3%	<b>76.3%</b>	91.8%
2	0.7	87.0%	<b>89.4%</b>	<b>88.2%</b>	89.4%
2	0.8	86.9%	89.2%	88.1%	86.9%
2	0.9	88.8%	73.1%	80.2%	88.8%

# Conclusions

- Inexact Match
  - Information Extraction
  - Natural Language Processing
- Temporal Information Extraction
  - December: Dcember, Decmebr, Deceber, remember(?)
  - August: Augusto, Augustus (person or month?)
- Future work
  - Disambiguation

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