Introduction to Trees

lan Ludden

lan Ludden Introduction to Trees

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• Define and use tree terminology.

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- Define and use tree terminology.
- Define and identify various tree properties.

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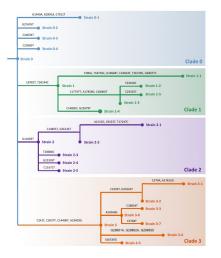
Why do we care about trees?

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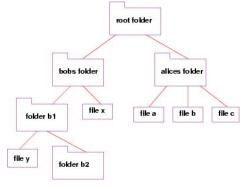
Why do we care about trees?



A phylogenetic tree (Source)

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Why do we care about trees?



A file tree (Source)

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A *tree* is a connected acyclic graph. A *rooted* tree has a special vertex called a *root*.

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• Root goes at the top by convention

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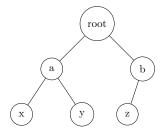
- Root goes at the top by convention
- Terms borrowed from biological trees and family trees





A *tree* is a connected acyclic graph. A *rooted* tree has a special vertex called a *root*.

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An *m*-ary tree is a tree in which each node has at most *m* children.

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An *m-ary tree* is a tree in which each node has at most *m* children.

Some special cases (shown for m = 2):

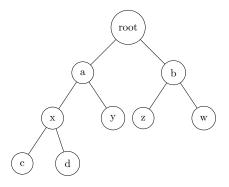
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An *m*-ary tree is a tree in which each node has at most *m* children.

Some special cases (shown for m = 2):

• full m-ary tree



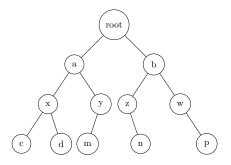
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An *m*-ary tree is a tree in which each node has at most *m* children.

Some special cases (shown for m = 2):

- full m-ary tree
- complete *m*-ary tree

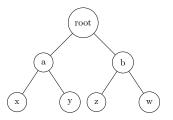


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An *m-ary tree* is a tree in which each node has at most *m* children.

Some special cases (shown for m = 2):

- full m-ary tree
- complete *m*-ary tree
- full and complete *m*-ary tree



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Counting Nodes

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Fact

A full *m*-ary tree with *i* internal nodes has mi + 1 nodes total.

Proof: Ask everyone how many kids they have (then add the root).

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Fact

A full *m*-ary tree with *i* internal nodes has mi + 1 nodes total.

Proof: Ask everyone how many kids they have (then add the root).

Fact

A binary tree of height h has at least h + 1 and at most $2^{h+1} - 1$ nodes.

Proof: Consider a path of length *h* and a full, complete binary tree of height *h*.

Fact

A full *m*-ary tree with *i* internal nodes has mi + 1 nodes total.

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Fact

A binary tree of height h has at least h + 1 and at most $2^{h+1} - 1$ nodes.

Proof: Consider a path of length *h* and a full, complete binary tree of height *h*.

Fact

The height of a full and complete binary tree with n nodes is proportional to $\log_2 n$.

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- Define and use tree terminology.
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