General Trees and Binary Trees



EECS2101 X & Z: Fundamentals of Data Structures Winter 2025

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Learning Outcomes of this Lecture



This module is designed to help you understand:

- Linar DS (e.g., arrays, LLs) vs. Non-Linear DS (e.g., trees)
- Terminologies: General Trees vs. Binary Trees
- Implementation of a Generic Tree
- Mathematical Properties of Binary Trees
- Tree *Traversals*

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General Trees

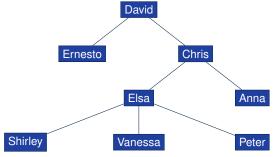


- A linear data structure is a sequence, where stored objects can be related via notions of "predecessor" and "successor".
 - o e.g., arrays
 - e.g., Singly-Linked Lists (SLLs)
 - e.g., Doubly-Linked Lists (DLLs)
- The *Tree ADT* is a *non-linear* collection of nodes/positions.
 - Each node stores some data object.
 - Nodes in a tree are organized into levels: some nodes are "above" others, and some are "below" others.
 - Think of a tree forming a hierarchy among the stored nodes.
- Terminology of the *Tree ADT* borrows that of *family trees*:
 - o e.g., root
 - o e.g., parents, siblings, children
 - e.g., ancestors, descendants

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General Trees: Terminology (1)





o top element of the tree

e.g., root of the above family tree: David

 the node immediately above node n e.g., parent of Vanessa: Elsa

<u>all</u> nodes <u>immediately below</u> node n
 e.g., children of Elsa: Shirley, Vanessa, and Peter
 e.g., children of Ernesto: Ø

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[root of tree]

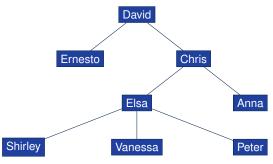
[parent of n]

[children of n]

[children o



General Trees: Terminology (2)

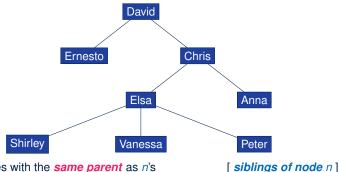


- Union of n, n's parent, n's grand parent, ..., root [n's ancestors]
 e.g., ancestors of Vanessa: Vanessa, Elsa, Chris, and David
 e.g., ancestors of David: David
- Union of n, n's children, n's grand children, ... [n's descendants]
 e.g., descendants of Vanessa: Vanessa
 e.g., descendants of David: the entire family tree
- By the above definitions, a *node* is both its *ancestor* and *descendant*.

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General Trees: Terminology (3)





- <u>all</u> nodes with the <u>same parent</u> as n's e.g., siblings of Vanessa: Shirley and Peter
- **the** tree formed by **descendants** of *n* [**subtree rooted at** *n*]
- nodes with no children

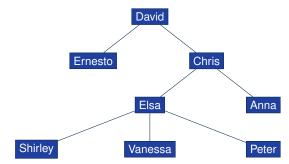
 e.g., leaves of the above tree: Ernesto, Anna, Shirley, Vanessa, Peter
- nodes with at least one child [internal nodes]

e.g., non-leaves of the above tree: David, Chris, Elsa

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General Trees: Terminology (4)





- a <u>pair</u> of *parent* and *child* nodes [an edge of tree]
 e.g., (David, Chris), (Chris, Elsa), (Elsa, Peter) are three edges
- a <u>sequence</u> of nodes where any two consecutive nodes form an <u>edge</u>
 [a path of tree]

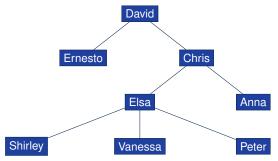
e.g., \langle David, Chris, Elsa, Peter \rangle is a path

e.g., Elsa's ancestor path: (Elsa, Chris, David)

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General Trees: Terminology (5)





number of edges from the root to node n alternatively: number of n's ancestors of n minus one e.g., depth of David (root): 0

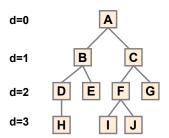
e.g., depth of Shirley, Vanessa, and Peter: 3

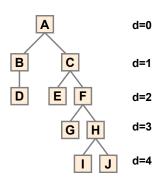
• maximum depth among all nodes [height of tree]

e.g., Shirley, Vanessa, and Peter have the maximum depth

General Trees: Example Node Depths







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General Tree: Definition



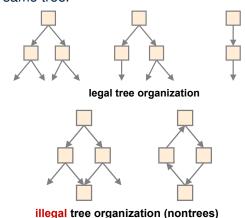
A *tree T* is a set of *nodes* satisfying **parent-child** properties:

- **1.** If *T* is *empty*, then it does not contain any nodes.
- **2.** If *T* is *nonempty*, then:
 - T contains at least its **root** (a special node with no parent).
 - Each node *n* of *T* that is not the root has *a unique parent node w*.
 - Given two nodes <u>n</u> and <u>w</u>,
 if w is the <u>parent</u> of n, then symmetrically, n is one of w's <u>children</u>.

General Tree: Important Characteristics



There is a *single*, *unique path* from the *root* to any particular node in the same tree.

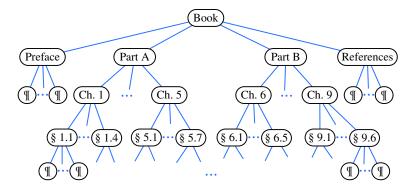


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General Trees: Ordered Trees



A tree is *ordered* if there is a meaningful *linear order* among the *children* of each *internal node*.

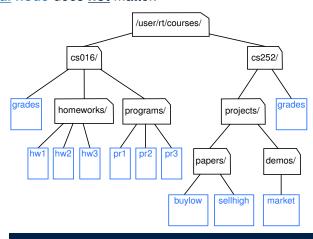


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General Trees: Unordered Trees

A tree is *unordered* if the order among the *children* of each *internal node* does **not** matter.



Implementation: Generic Tree Nodes (1)

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```
public class TreeNode<E> {
     private E element; /* data object */
     private TreeNode<E> parent; /* unique parent node */
     private TreeNode<E>[] children; /* list of child nodes */
     private final int MAX_NUM_CHILDREN = 10; /* fixed max */
     private int noc; /* number of child nodes */
9
     public TreeNode(E element) {
10
       this.element = element;
11
       this.parent = null;
12
       this.children = (TreeNode<E>[])
13
        Array.newInstance(this.getClass(), MAX_NUM_CHILDREN);
14
       this.noc = 0;
15
16
17
```

Replacing **L13** with the following results in a **ClassCastException**:

```
this.children = (TreeNode<E>[]) new Object[MAX_NUM_CHILDREN];
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```

Implementation: Generic Tree Nodes (2)



```
public class TreeNode<E> {
   private E element; /* data object */
   private TreeNode<E> parent; /* unique parent node */
   private TreeNode<E>[] children; /* list of child nodes */

   private final int MAX_NUM_CHILDREN = 10; /* fixed max */
   private int noc; /* number of child nodes */

   public E getElement() { ... }
   public TreeNode<E> getParent() { ... }
   public TreeNode<E>[] getChildren() { ... }

   public void setElement(E element) { ... }
   public void setParent(TreeNode<E> parent) { ... }
   public void addChild(TreeNode<E> child) { ... }
   public void removeChildAt(int i) { ... }
}
```

Exercise: Implement void removeChildAt (int i).

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Testing: Connected Tree Nodes



Constructing a *tree* is similar to constructing a *SLL*:

```
@Test
public void test_general_trees_construction() {
   TreeNode<String> agnarr = new TreeNode<> ("Agnarr");
   TreeNode<String> elsa = new TreeNode<> ("Elsa");
   TreeNode<String> anna = new TreeNode<> ("Anna");

agnarr.addChild(elsa);
agnarr.addChild(anna);
elsa.setParent(agnarr);
anna.setParent(agnarr);
ansestNull(agnarr.getParent());
assertTrue(agnarr == elsa.getParent());
assertTrue(agnarr == anna.getParent());
assertTrue(agnarr.getChildren().length == 2);
assertTrue(agnarr.getChildren()[0] == elsa);
assertTrue(agnarr.getChildren()[1] == anna);
}
```

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Problem: Computing a Node's Depth

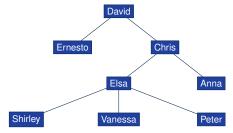
- Given a node *n*, its *depth* is defined as:
 - If *n* is the *root*, then *n*'s depth is 0.
 - o Otherwise, n's **depth** is the **depth** of n's parent plus one.
- Assuming under a *generic* class TreeUtilities<E>:

```
1  public int depth(TreeNode<E> n) {
2    if(n.getParent() == null) {
3       return 0;
4    }
5    else {
6       return 1 + depth(n.getParent());
7    }
8  }
```

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Testing: Computing a Node's Depth



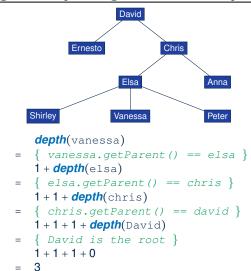


```
@Test
public void test_general_trees_depths() {
    ... /* constructing a tree as shown above */
    TreeUtilities<String> u = new TreeUtilities<>();
    assertEquals(0, u.depth(david));
    assertEquals(1, u.depth(ernesto));
    assertEquals(2, u.depth(erlsi));
    assertEquals(2, u.depth(elsi));
    assertEquals(2, u.depth(anna));
    assertEquals(3, u.depth(shirley));
    assertEquals(3, u.depth(vanessa));
    assertEquals(3, u.depth(vanessa));
    assertEquals(3, u.depth(peter));
}
```

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Unfolding: Computing a Node's Depth





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Problem: Computing a Tree's Height

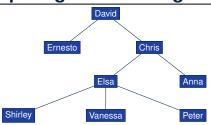


- Given node *n*, the *height* of subtree rooted at *n* is defined as:
 - If n is a *leaf*, then the *height* of subtree rooted at n is 0.
 - Otherwise, the height of subtree rooted at n is one plus the maximum height of all subtrees rooted at n's children.
- Assuming under a *generic* class TreeUtilities<E>:

```
public int height(TreeNode<E> n) {
2
     TreeNode<E>[] children = n.getChildren();
     if(children.length == 0) { return 0; }
4
     else {
      int max = 0;
      for(int i = 0; i < children.length; i ++) {</pre>
        int h = 1 + height(children[i]);
8
        max = h > max ? h : max;
9
10
       return max;
11
12
```



Testing: Computing a Tree's Height

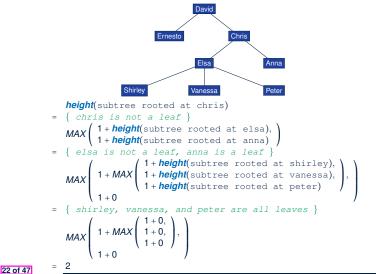


```
@Test
public void test_general_trees_heights() {
    ... /* constructing a tree as shown above */
    TreeUtilities<String> u = new TreeUtilities<>();
    /* internal nodes */
    assertEquals(3, u.height(david));
    assertEquals(2, u.height(chris));
    assertEquals(1, u.height(elsa));
    /* external nodes */
    assertEquals(0, u.height(ernesto));
    assertEquals(0, u.height(anna));
    assertEquals(0, u.height(shirley));
    assertEquals(0, u.height(vanessa));
    assertEquals(0, u.height(peter));
}
```

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Unfolding: Computing a Tree's Height



Exercises on General Trees



• Implement and test the following *recursive* algorithm:

```
public TreeNode<E>[] ancestors(TreeNode<E> n)
```

which returns the list of *ancestors* of a given node n.

<u>Implement</u> and <u>test</u> the following *recursive* algorithm:

```
public TreeNode<E>[] descendants(TreeNode<E> n)
```

which returns the list of *descendants* of a given node n.

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Binary Trees (BTs): Definitions



A binary tree (BT) is an ordered tree satisfying the following:

- **1.** Each node has at most two (\leq 2) children.
- 2. Each *child node* is labeled as either a *left child* or a *right child*.
- 3. A *left child* precedes a *right child*.

A *binary tree (BT)* is either:

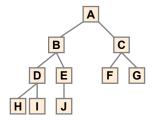
- An *empty* tree; or
- A *nonempty* tree with a *root* node *r* which has:
 - a *left subtree* rooted at its *left child*, if any
 - a <u>right subtree</u> rooted at its **right child**, if any

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BT Terminology: LST vs. RST

For an *internal* node (with at least one child):

- Subtree rooted at its *left child*, if any, is called *left subtree*.
- Subtree <u>rooted</u> at its *right child*, if any, is called *right subtree*.
 e.g.,



Node A has:

- o a *left subtree* rooted at node B
- o a *right subtree* rooted at node C

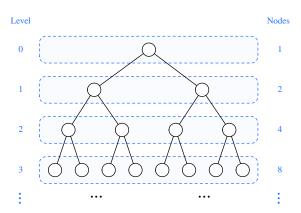
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BT Terminology: Depths, Levels

The set of nodes with the same depth d are said to be at the same level d.



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Background: Sum of Geometric Sequence

• Given a *geometric sequence* of *n* terms, where the initial term is *a* and the common factor is *r*, the *sum* of all its terms is:

$$\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} (a \cdot r^k) = a \cdot r^0 + a \cdot r^1 + a \cdot r^2 + \dots + a \cdot r^{n-1} = a \cdot \left(\frac{r^n - 1}{r - 1}\right)$$

[See *here* to see how the formula is derived.]

 For the purpose of binary trees, maximum numbers of nodes at all levels form a geometric sequence:

o a = 1 [the **root** at **Level 0**] o r = 2 [≤ 2 children for each **internal** node] o e.g., **Max** total # of nodes at **levels** 0 to $4 = 1 + 2 + 4 + 8 + 16 = 1 \cdot (\frac{2^5 - 1}{2 - 1}) = 31$

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BT Properties: Max # Nodes at Levels



Given a *binary tree* with *height* h:

- At each level:
 - Maximum number of nodes at Level 0: 2⁰ = 1
 Maximum number of nodes at Level 1: 2¹ = 2
 Maximum number of nodes at Level 2: 2² = 4
 - Maximum number of nodes at Level h:
- Summing <u>all</u> levels:

Maximum total number of nodes:

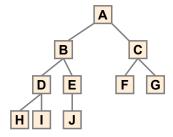
$$\underbrace{2^0 + 2^1 + 2^2 + \dots + 2^h}_{h+1 \text{ terms}} = 1 \cdot \left(\frac{2^{h+1} - 1}{2 - 1}\right) = 2^{h+1} - 1$$



BT Terminology: Complete BTs

A *binary tree* with *height h* is considered as *complete* if:

- Nodes with $depth \le h 2$ has two children.
- Nodes with *depth* h 1 may have <u>zero</u>, <u>one</u>, or <u>two</u> child nodes.
- Children of nodes with depth h 1 are filled from left to right.



Q1: *Minimum* # of nodes of a *complete* BT? $(2^h - 1) + 1 = 2^h$

Q2: Maximum # of nodes of a complete BT? $2^{h+1} - 1$

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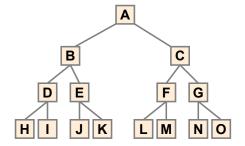


BT Terminology: Full BTs

A binary tree with height h is considered as full if:

Each node with *depth* $\leq h - 1$ has two child nodes.

That is, <u>all *leaves*</u> are with the same *depth* h.



Q1: *Minimum* # of nodes of a complete BT? $2^{h+1} - 1$

Q2: *Maximum* # of nodes of a complete BT? $2^{h+1} - 1$

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BT Properties: Bounding # of Nodes



Given a binary tree with height h, the number of nodes n is bounded as:

$$h+1 \le n \le 2^{h+1}-1$$

- Shape of BT with *minimum* # of nodes?
 - A "one-path" tree (each *internal node* has exactly one child)
- Shape of BT with maximum # of nodes?
 A tree completely filled at each level

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BT Properties: Bounding Height of Tree



Given a *binary tree* with *n nodes*, the *height h* is bounded as:

$$log(n+1) - 1 \le h \le n-1$$

• Shape of BT with *minimum* height?

A tree completely filled at each level

$$n = 2^{h+1} - 1$$

$$\iff n+1 = 2^{h+1}$$

$$\iff \log(n+1) = h+1$$

$$\iff \log(n+1) - 1 = h$$

• Shape of BT with maximum height?

A "one-path" tree (each *internal node* has exactly one child)

BT Properties: Bounding # of Ext. Nodes



Given a binary tree with height h, the number of external *nodes* n_F is bounded as:

$$1 \le n_E \le 2^h$$

- Shape of BT with *minimum* # of external nodes? A tree with only one node (i.e., the **root**)
- Shape of BT with *maximum* # of external nodes? A tree whose bottom level (with depth h) is completely filled

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BT Properties: Bounding # of Int. Nodes



Given a binary tree with height h, the number of internal **nodes** n_l is bounded as:

$$h \le n_l \le 2^h - 1$$

- Shape of BT with *minimum* # of internal nodes?
 - Number of nodes in a "one-path" tree (h + 1) minus one
 - That is, the "deepest" leaf node excluded
- Shape of BT with *maximum* # of internal nodes?
 - ∘ A tree whose $\leq h-1$ *levels* are all completely filled ∘ That is: $2^0+2^1+\cdots+2^{h-1}=2^h-1$

• That is:
$$2^0 + 2^1 + \dots + 2^{h-1} = 2^h - 1$$

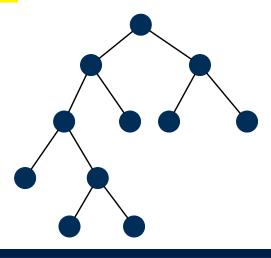
n terms

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BT Terminology: Proper BT



A binary tree is proper if each internal node has two children.



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BT Properties: #s of Ext. and Int. Nodes



Given a *binary tree* that is:

- nonempty and proper
- with n_l internal nodes and n_E external nodes

We can then expect that: $n_E = n_I + 1$

Proof by *mathematical induction*:

Base Case:

A **proper** BT with only the **root** (an **external node**): $n_E = 1$ and $n_I = 0$.

- Inductive Case:
 - Assume a *proper* BT with *n* nodes (n > 1) with n_1 internal nodes and n_F **external nodes** such that $n_F = n_I + 1$.
 - Only one way to create a **larger** BT (with n + 2 nodes) that is still **proper** (with n_F' external nodes and n_I' internal nodes):

Convert an external node into an *internal* node.

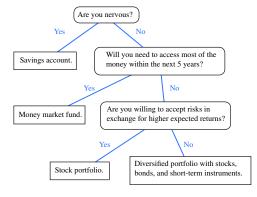
$$\mathbf{n}_{E}' = (n_{E} - 1) + 2 = n_{E} + 1 \wedge \mathbf{n}_{I}' = n_{I} + 1 \Rightarrow \mathbf{n}_{E}' = \mathbf{n}_{E}' + 1$$



Binary Trees: Application (1)

A *decision tree* is a <u>proper</u> binary tree used to to express the decision-making process:

- Each *internal node* denotes a decision point: yes or no.
- Each external node denotes the consequence of a decision.



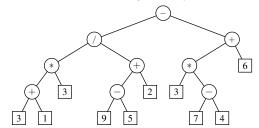
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Binary Trees: Application (2)

An *infix arithmetic expression* can be represented using a binary tree:

- Each *internal node* denotes an operator (unary or binary).
- Each external node denotes an operand (i.e., a number).



 To evaluate the expression that is represented by a binary tree, certain *traversal* over the entire tree is required.

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Tree Traversal Algorithms: Definition



- A *traversal* of a *tree T* systematically *visits* all *T*'s nodes.
- Visiting each *node* may be associated with an *action*: e.g.,
 - Print the node element.
 - Determine if the node element satisfies certain property

 (e.g., positive, matching a key).
 - Accumulate the node element values for some global result.

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Tree Traversal Algorithms: Common Types LASSONDE



Three common traversal orders:

o Preorder: Visit parent, then visit child subtrees.

```
preorder (n)

visit and act on position n

for child C: children(n) { preorder (C) }
```

Postorder: Visit child subtrees, then visit parent.

```
postorder (n)
for child c: children(n) { postorder (c) }
visit and act on position n
```

Inorder (for BT): Visit left subtree, then parent, then right subtree.

```
inorder (n)
if (n has a left child | lc) { inorder (| lc) }
visit and act on position n
if (n has a right child | rc) { inorder (rc) }
```



Tree Traversal Algorithms: Preorder

Preorder: Visit parent, then visit child subtrees.

```
preorder (n)
visit and act on position n
for child C: children(n) { preorder (C) }

Paper

Paper

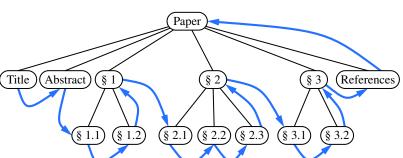
(§ 1.1) (§ 1.2) (§ 2.1) (§ 2.2) (§ 2.3) (§ 3.1) (§ 3.2)
```

Tree Traversal Algorithms: Postorder



Postorder: Visit child subtrees, then visit parent.

```
postorder (n)
for child C: children(n) { postorder (C) }
visit and act on position n
```



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Tree Traversal Algorithms: Inorder



Inorder (for BT): Visit left subtree, then parent, then right subtree.

```
inorder (n)
if (n has a left child lc) {
    inorder (lc) }

visit and act on position n
if (n has a right child rc) {
    inorder (rc) }
```

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Learning Outcomes of this Lecture

General Trees

General Trees: Terminology (1)

General Trees: Terminology (2)

General Trees: Terminology (3)

General Trees: Terminology (4)

General Trees: Terminology (5)

General Trees: Example Node Depths

General Tree: Definition

General Tree: Important Characteristics

General Trees: Ordered Trees

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General Trees: Unordered Trees

Implementation: Generic Tree Nodes (1)

Implementation: Generic Tree Nodes (2)

Testing: Connected Tree Nodes

Problem: Computing a Node's Depth

Testing: Computing a Node's Depth

Unfolding: Computing a Node's Depth

Problem: Computing a Tree's Height

Testing: Computing a Tree's Height

Unfolding: Computing a Tree's Height

Exercises on General Trees

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Binary Trees (BTs): Definitions

BT Terminology: LST vs. RST

BT Terminology: Depths, Levels

Background: Sum of Geometric Sequence

BT Properties: Max # Nodes at Levels

BT Terminology: Complete BTs

BT Terminology: Full BTs

BT Properties: Bounding # of Nodes

BT Properties: Bounding Height of Tree

BT Properties: Bounding # of Ext. Nodes

BT Properties: Bounding # of Int. Nodes

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BT Terminology: Proper BT

BT Properties: #s of Ext. and Int. Nodes

Binary Trees: Application (1)
Binary Trees: Application (2)

Tree Traversal Algorithms: Definition

Tree Traversal Algorithms: Common Types

Tree Traversal Algorithms: Preorder

Tree Traversal Algorithms: Postorder

Tree Traversal Algorithms: Inorder