

## Lecture 29: Trees and Rooted Trees

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Grimaldi 12.1, 12.2

Assignment #7 solutions posted.  
 Assignment #8 is compulsory — worth 3% of course grade.  
 Will be posted "shortly". Due next Friday April 16th.

## Definition ( tree )

A multigraph  $G$  is a **tree** if  $G$  is connected and  $G$  does not contain a cycle.

## Theorem ( main properties of trees )

If  $T = (V, E)$  is a tree then  $|V| = |E| + 1$  and secondly, there is a unique path in  $T$  between every pair of vertices.

Examples

Trees with 5 vertices



Removing any edge from a tree disconnects the tree.  
 Adding an edge to a tree creates a cycle.

## Theorem (Characterization of Trees)

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a multigraph. The following statements are equivalent.

- (1)  $G$  is connected and has no cycle. ( $G$  is a tree)
- (2)  $G$  is connected and  $|V| = |E| + 1$ .
- (3)  $G$  has no cycle and  $|V| = |E| + 1$ .
- (4) There is a unique path between every pair of vertices in  $G$ .

Proof. We will prove  $(1) \Rightarrow (2) \Rightarrow (3) \Rightarrow (1)$

We have proven  $(1) \Rightarrow (4)$ . Exercise  $(4) \Rightarrow (1)$ .

$(1) \Rightarrow (2)$  Given  $G$  is connected and  $G$  has no cycle. ( $G$  is a tree)  
To prove:  $G$  is connected and  $|V| = |E| + 1$ . (last day)

$(2) \Rightarrow (3)$ . Given  $G$  is connected and  $|V| = |E| + 1$ .  
To prove  $G$  has no cycle and  $|V| = |E| + 1$ .

Let's use induction on  $n = |V|$ .  $\beta$

Base:  $|V| = 1$ . Using  $|V| = |E| + 1 \Rightarrow |E| = 0 \Rightarrow G = \bullet$   
Clearly  $G$  has no cycle.

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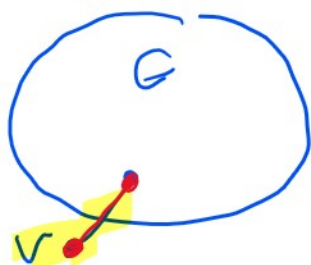
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Proof (cont). Ind Step.  $n = |V| > 1$ .

Ind. Hyp. Assume  $(2) \Rightarrow (3)$  holds for  $G$  with  $|V| < n$ .

If  $|V| = |E| + 1$  a Lemma from last day said  $G$  has a vertex of degree 1 or  $\geq 2$  vertices of degree 1 (leaf vertices).

But  $|V| > 1$  and  $G$  is connected.  $\Rightarrow G$  has a leaf vertex  $v$ .



Observe  $G - v$  is connected since  $G$  is connected.  
 $G$  satisfies  $|V| = |E| + 1$ . Therefore in  $G - v$   
 $|V| - 1 = |E| - 1 + 1$ . Since  $G - v$  has  $n - 1$  vertices.  
by the Ind. Hyp.  $G - v$  has no cycle.  
This implies  $G$  has no cycle because  $v$  is a leaf.

$(3) \Rightarrow (1)$ .  $G$  has no cycle and  $|V| = |E| + 1$ .

To prove  $G$  is connected and  $G$  has no cycle.

Since  $G$  has no cycle it is a forest with  $k \geq 1$  trees.  
From last day  $|V| = |E| + k$ .  
But  $|V| = |E| + 1$ .

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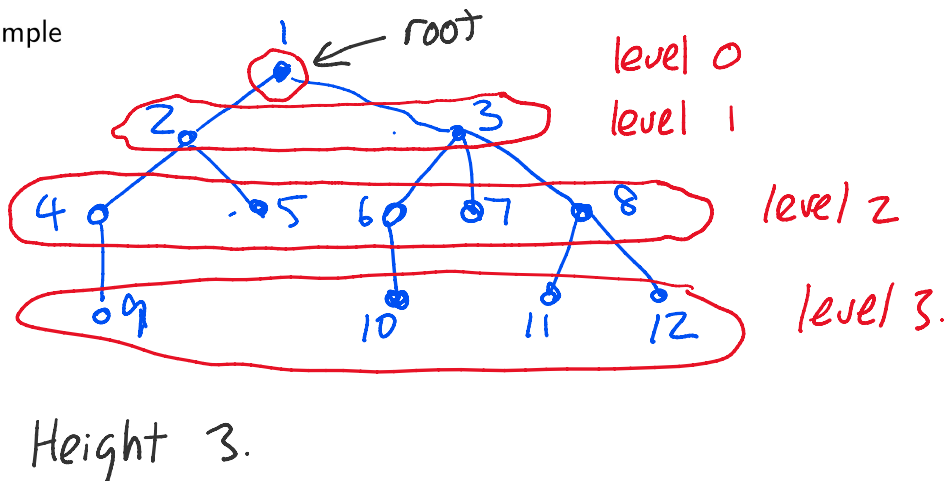
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Therefore  $k = 1 \Rightarrow G$  has 1 tree  $\Rightarrow G$  is connected.

## Definition ( rooted tree )

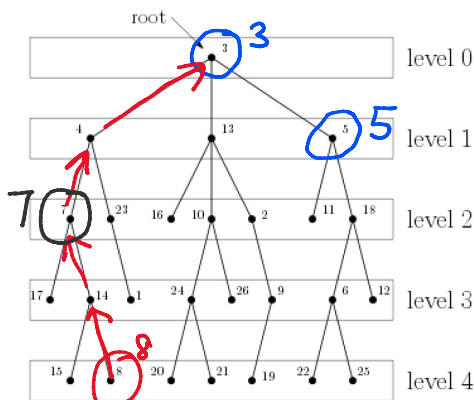
A **rooted tree**  $T = (V, E)$  is a tree with a distinguished vertex called the **root**. For every vertex  $v \in V$  the **level** of  $v$  is the length of the path from  $v$  to the root. Note: the root is the unique vertex at level 0.

Example



## Definition ( rooted tree terminology )

- The **height** of a rooted tree is the maximum level of a vertex. A rooted tree consisting of just a root vertex has height 0.
- Every non-root vertex  $v$  at level  $i$  is adjacent to exactly one vertex  $u$  at level  $i - 1$ . We call  $u$  the **parent** of  $v$  and we say that  $v$  is a **child** of  $u$ .
- For every vertex  $v$  there is a walk "up the tree" to the root obtained by moving to the parent vertex at each step. If  $u$  is another vertex on this walk, we call  $u$  an **ancestor** of  $v$  and  $v$  a **descendant** of  $u$ .

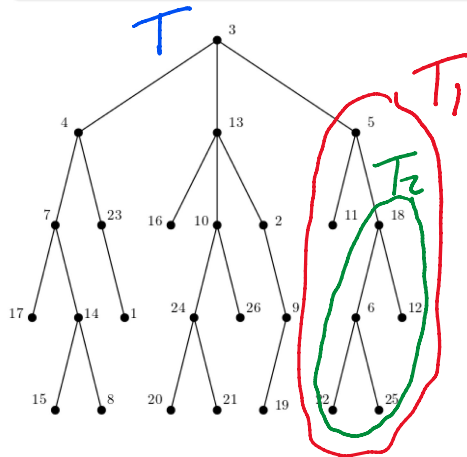


3 is the parent of vertex 5.  
 5 is a child of vertex 3.  
 7 is an ancestor of vertex 8.  
 8 is a descendant of vertex 7.

We are frequently interested in working with rooted trees recursively. Therefore, it will be helpful to think of a rooted tree as composed out of smaller rooted trees.

### Definition ( subtree )

Let  $v$  be a vertex of a rooted tree  $T$  with level  $i$ . Define  $T'$  to be the subgraph of  $T$  induced by  $v$  together with its descendants. Then  $T'$  forms a new rooted tree with root vertex  $v$ . We say that  $T'$  with root  $v$  is the **subtree** of  $T$  at  $v$ .



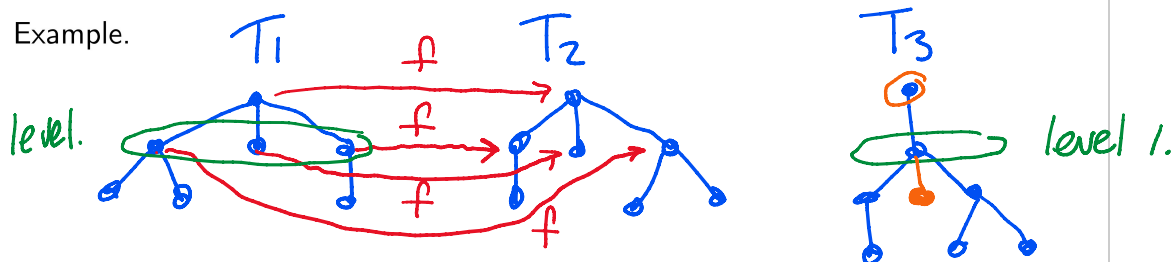
$T_1$  is a subtree of  $T$ .  
 $T_2$  is a subtree of  $T_1$ .

### Definition ( isomorphism of rooted trees )

Let  $T_1, T_2$  be rooted trees with  $T_i = (V_i, E_i)$  for  $i = 1, 2$ . We say that  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  are **isomorphic** if there exists a bijection  $f : V_1 \rightarrow V_2$  satisfying:

- (1)  $\{f(u), f(v)\} \in E_2 \Leftrightarrow \{u, v\} \in E_1$
  - (2) For every  $v \in V_1$  the level of  $v$  and  $f(v)$  is the same.
- In particular,  $f$  sends the root of  $T_1$  to the root of  $T_2$ .

Example.



$T_1$  is isomorphic to  $T_2$  as a rooted tree but not to  $T_3$  because the  $\#$  of vertices at level 1 differs.  
 But  $T_2$  (hence also  $T_1$ ) is isomorphic to  $T_3$  as a tree.



# Definition

non-leaf vertex

A rooted tree is **m-ary** if every internal node has at most  $m$  children. A 2-ary tree is called **binary** tree.

Every vertex has  $\leq 2$  children.

Exercise. Find all binary trees with height 0, 1, and 2 up to isomorphism.

Height	0	1	2							
Trees.										
#Edges	0	1	2	2	3	3	4	4	5	6

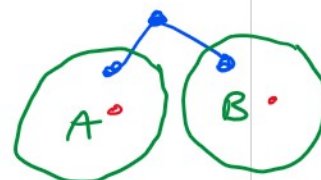
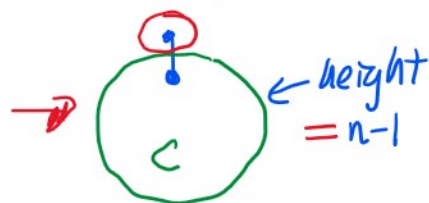
Let  $b_n$  denote the number of binary trees of height at most  $n$ . Find  $b_0, b_1, b_2$ .

$$b_0 = 1 \quad b_1 = b_0 + 2 = 3 \quad b_2 = b_1 + 7 = 10.$$

Use the recursive structure of rooted trees find a recurrence for  $b_n$ .

We will remove the root vertex which leaves at most two binary trees of less height.

CASE 0 children 1 child 2 children



A and B have heights  $\leq n-1$ .

In Case 1 there are  $b_{n-1}$  binary trees for C.

In Case 2 there are  $\binom{b_{n-1}}{2}$  ways to choose two distinct binary trees of height  $\leq n-1$  for A and B plus  $b_{n-1}$  ways to choose the same one for A and B.

Hence  $b_0 = 1, \quad b_n = 1 + b_{n-1} + \binom{b_{n-1}}{2} + b_{n-1} \quad \text{for } n \geq 1.$

0 children 1 child 2 children

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Check } b_2 &= 1 + b_1 + \binom{b_1}{2} + b_1 \\ &= 1 + 3 + \binom{3}{2} + 3 = 1 + 3 + 3 + 3 = 10. \checkmark \end{aligned}$$