## Trees

#### Tree:

- A tree is an abstract data type that stores elements hierarchically
- Stores data nonlinearly
- The collection of nodes has parent-child relationships
- If the tree is non-empty, it has a special node called the *root*, that has no parents
- Every other node has one parent and some children (0 or more) and it is the parent for each one of its children
- No node can be its own ancestor

## Terminology:

- Root: The first node or top node. There can only be one root and it has no parents
- **Leaf/leaves:** Nodes that have no children. They are considered external node.
- Internal node: Nodes that have at least 1 child
- **Siblings:** Nodes that have the same parents
- **Ancestors:** of a node are nodes reachable by going from child to parent (including the node itself)
- **Descendants:** of a node are nodes reachable by going from parent to child (including the node itself)
- **Subtree:** A tree that consists of a node and its descendants
- **Depth:** The depth of a node is the number of edges between the root and the node
- Height: The number of edges in the longest path from root to leaf
- **Ordered Tree:** A tree in which there is some kind of linear ordering of a node children. Such ordering is visualized by arranging the siblings from left to right



Source: https://www.tutorialride.com/data-structures/trees-in-data-structure.htm

# **Binary Tree:**

- Ordered tree with the following properties:
  - Every node has at most two children
  - Each child is labeled as being either left child or a right child
  - A left child precedes a right child in ordering
- A proper binary tree, is a binary tree that each node has either 0 or 2 children.



Source: https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/binary-tree-data-structure/

## **Properties of a Binary Tree:**

- In a binary tree, level 0 has at most one node, level 1 has at most 2 nodes, level 2 has at most 4 nodes.
  - In general, level d has at most 2<sup>d</sup> nodes
- In a proper binary tree, # of leaves = # of internal node +1
  - Proof: We count the edges in the tree.
    - Every internal node has starts 2 edges, one to each of its children.

- Every node, except the root, ends 1 edge
- E = L + N<sub>I</sub> -1

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$$2^*N_1 = L + N_1 - 1$$

 $- N_{I} = L - 1$ 

## Tree Traversal:

- A traversal of a tree is a systematic way of accessing or visiting all the nodes of a tree.
- Two ways of traversing the tree, Depth-First (pre-order, post-order, in-order) and Breadth-First (level-order)
- Pre-order:
  - The root is visited first and then the subtree rooted at its children are traversed recursively.
  - If the tree is ordered, then the subtrees are traversed according to the order of the children
  - Root, Left Child, Right Child



Figure 8.13: Preorder traversal of an ordered tree, where the children of each position are ordered from left to right.

#### - Post-order:

- Recursively traverse the subtree rooted at the children first and then visits the root
- This transversal will visit all the descendants of the root before it visits itself
- Left Child, Right Child, Root



Figure 8.14: Postorder traversal of the ordered tree of Figure 8.13.

#### - In-order:

- Recursively visit all the left subtree, root, and then recursively visit all the right subtree
- Left Child, root, Right Child



Figure 8.16: Inorder traversal of a binary tree.

#### - Level-order:

- Visit every node, level by level
- No recursion involved



Figure 8.15: Partial game tree for Tic-Tac-Toe when ignoring symmetries; annotations denote the order in which positions are visited in a breadth-first tree traversal.