

# Tree Decompositions

## Centroid Decomposition

See <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3pk02p1-weU>

- A tree *centroid* is a node that, when removed, maximizes the remaining two components
  - It/they must be either the **single center** or **two middle nodes**.

Can be used for divide and conquer approaches:

- 1) Solve problem for all paths going through some node
- 2) Remove node
- 3) Solve sub-problems recursively

Ex. problem: Yin-Yang Paths

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find all balanced paths.

`--Approach:--`

- Root tree at centroid.
- Solve recursively.
  - Store array starting at root, all elements will be accessed. But when solving sub-problem only at-most half will be accessed, times the number of components that the centroid splits into.
  - Actually need two arrays, one for current recursion level that will replace the other when recursing.
  - Each child-component shattered by a centroid will look at its sibling-components, combine them (e.g.  $[-1,2] \sim [-2,5]$  corresponds to 1 balanced path due to 2 and -2)
  - Then, update table and repeat on children-components.

## Heavy Light Decomposition