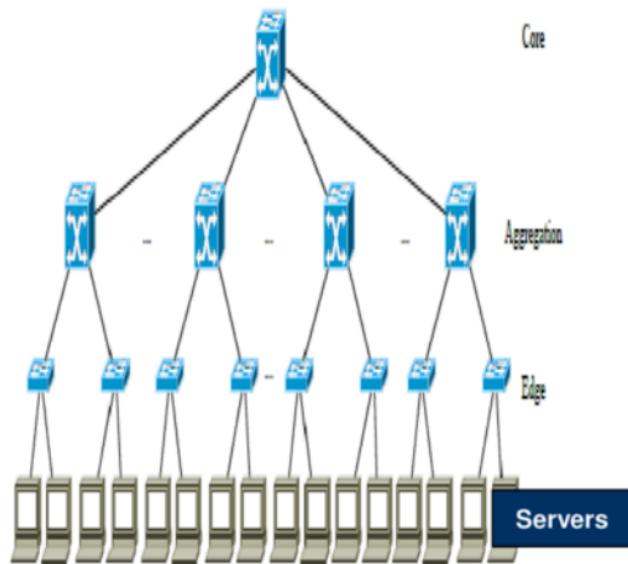


A traditional **basic tree** network topology is usually built with two or three layers: **edge**, **aggregation** and **core**. The servers are **tree leaves**, which are interconnected to the edge switches, also called **Top of Rack (ToR)** switches, which are interconnected through the aggregation switches also called **End of Row (EoR)** switches. These switches are in turn interconnected through core switches. **Core switches are also responsible for connecting the data centre to the Internet.**

This topology has some drawbacks like the requirement of **core/aggregation with higher performance and reliability**, **higher oversubscription ratio**, **scalability problems**, and **no fault tolerance**, etc. To solve this problems one can use the Fat Tree.



Source: "A Survey of Data Center Network Architectures": Yang Liu, Jogesh K. Muppala