

3.

Let LE represent “Left subtree of node x is empty”

Let XP represent “x has a predecessor y in the tree”

Let YR represent “y has a right child”

Need to prove: $(LE \wedge XP) \rightarrow YR$

There are 3 cases for this problem.

- 1) X is the root node.
- 2) X is left child of a node.
- 3) X is right child of a node.

- 1) Given x is the root node, all keys in the tree are distinct, and left subtree of x is empty. In this case, x is the smallest key in the tree, since no key is the same with x. Hence, x does not have any predecessor in this case.

$$(LE \wedge XP) \rightarrow YR \equiv (LE \wedge F) \rightarrow YR \equiv F \rightarrow YR \equiv T$$

- 2) Given x is left child of a node, and left subtree of x is empty, then $\text{parent}(x) \geq x$ and $\text{right}(x) \geq x$. But since all keys in the tree are distinct, $\text{parent}(x) > x$ and $\text{right}(x) > x$. This means that x is still the smallest key in the tree. So, x does not have any predecessor.

$$(LE \wedge XP) \rightarrow YR \equiv (LE \wedge F) \rightarrow YR \equiv F \rightarrow YR \equiv T$$

- 3) Given x is the right child of a node, and left subtree of x is empty. We have $\text{parent}(x) \leq x$. But since all keys in tree are distinct, we $\text{parent}(x) < x$. In this case, $\text{parent}(x)$ is the largest key smaller than x, and hence $p(x) = y$. Since x is the right child of $\text{parent}(x)$, x is the right child of y, and y indeed has a right child.

$$(LE \wedge XP) \rightarrow YR \equiv T \wedge T \rightarrow T \equiv T$$

Hence, all 3 cases suffices to prove that In a binary search tree in which the keys are all distinct, if the left subtree of node x is empty and x has a predecessor y in the tree, then y has a right child.