

Properties of Proper Binary Tree (slide chap2-#45)

In the proper binary tree T , each symbol denotes a following number:

- n : the number of nodes in T ,
- e : the number of **external** nodes in T ,
- i : the number of **internal** nodes in T .
- h : the **height** of T .

1). $e = i + 1$:

Proof: Prove it by induction on the height h of T .

Base Case:

i) $h = 0$:

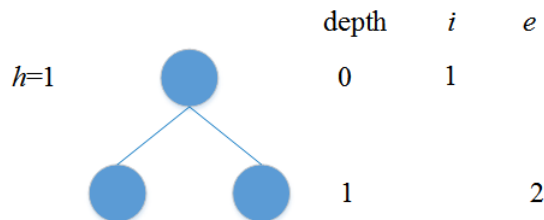
A proper binary tree (BT) with a single node which is a root of T .



Since T has the root only which an external node, $e = i + 1$ holds in T of height $h = 0$.

ii) $h = 1$:

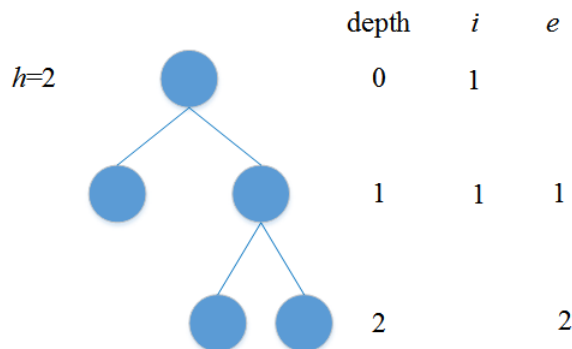
A proper BT of height 1 is only when a root has both left child and right children.



Since T has 2 external nodes and 1 internal node (i.e. root), $e = i + 1$ holds in T of height $h = 1$.

iii) $h = 2$:

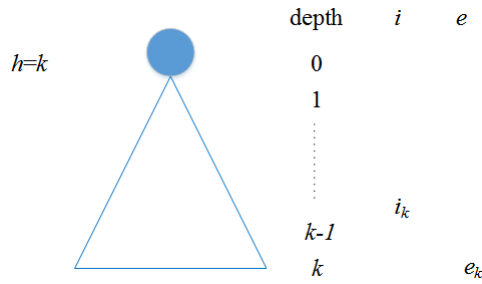
A proper BT of height 2 is a left (or right) child of a root has both left child and right children.



Since T has 3 external nodes and 2 internal node (i.e. root), $e = i + 1$ holds in T of height $h = 2$.

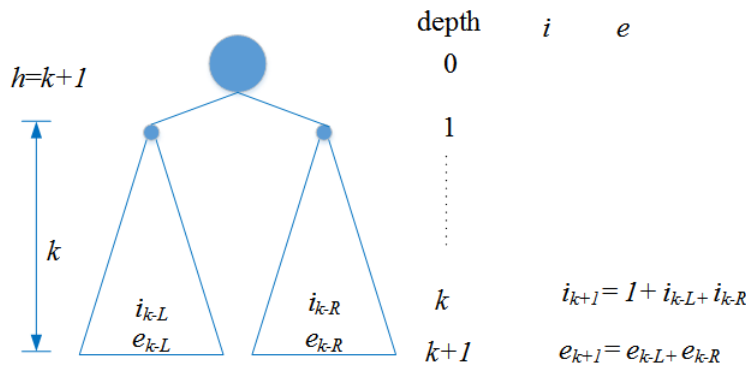
Inductive Hypothesis:

Assume that $e = i + 1$ holds in the proper binary tree of height k : i.e. $e_k = i_k + 1$.



Inductive Step:

Let's prove that $e = i + 1$ holds in the proper binary tree of height $k + 1$ using the Inductive Hypothesis.



A proper binary tree T of height $h = k + 1$ is a tree in which both left-subtree and/or right-subtree of a root are proper binary tree of height k . Let

- e_{k-L} : the number of external nodes in T 's left-subtree of height k ,
- e_{k-R} : the number of external nodes in T 's right-subtree of height k ,
- i_{k-L} : the number of internal nodes in T 's left-subtree of height k ,
- i_{k-R} : the number of internal nodes in T 's right-subtree of height k ,
- e_{k+1} : the number of external nodes in T , and
- i_{k+1} : the number of internal nodes in T .

Since the number of internal nodes of a proper BT of height $k + 1$ is equal to a sum of the internal nodes of its left and right subtrees plus one which is a root,

$$i_{k+1} = i_{k-L} + i_{k-R} + 1. \quad - * \text{ (eq. 1)}$$

Similarly, the number of external nodes of a proper BT of height $k + 1$ is equal to a sum of the external nodes of its left and right subtrees,

$$e_{k+1} = e_{k-L} + e_{k-R}. \quad - ** \text{ (eq. 2)}$$

Thus, $e_{k+1} = e_{k-L} + e_{k-R}$ by ** (eq. 2)
 $= (i_{k-L} + 1) + (i_{k-R} + 1)$ by **Inductive Hypothesis**
 $= (i_{k-L} + i_{k-R} + 1) + 1$
 $= i_{k+1} + 1.$ by * (eq. 1)

Hence, $e = i + 1$ also holds in a proper BT of height $k + 1$.

Therefore, in the proper binary tree of any height, $e = i + 1$. **Q.E. D.**

2). $n = 2e - 1$:

Proof:

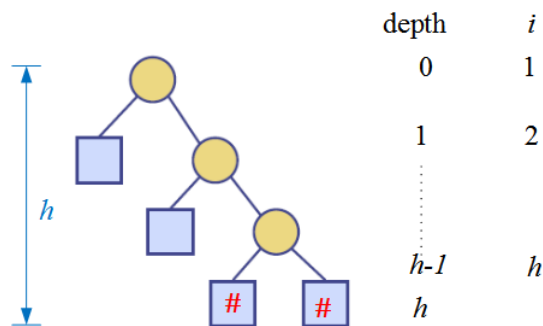
Since $n = e + i$ in T, $n = e + (e - 1) = 2e - 1$ where $i = e - 1$ in 1.

Thus, $n = 2e - i$. Q.E.D.

3). $h \leq i$:

Proof:

The height of a proper BT is the *highest* is when only a left (or right) child of a root of any subtree keeps expanding its two children while any right (or left) child doesn't expand a child at all, and vice versa. For example, a right child of a root of each subtree keeps expanding its two children but any left child does not in Figure 1 below.



In such a case, the number of internal nodes is equal to the height of a proper BT because a root is included as an internal nodes while the external nodes at the height of tree (#) are excluded when i is counted.

Thus, the height of a proper BT is at most the number of internal nodes.

Thus, $h \leq i$. Q.E.D.

Proof:

4). $h \leq \frac{(n-1)}{2}$:

Proof:

In 2, $n = 2e - 1$. Since $n = 2e - 1 = 2(i + 1) - 1 = 2i + 1$, $i = \frac{n-1}{2}$.

Thus, $h \leq \frac{n-1}{2}$ in 3. Q.E.D.

5). $e \leq 2^h$:

Proof:

The maximum number of external node of a proper BT happens when a proper BT is *complete*, i.e. all internal nodes have exactly two children and all external nodes have the same depth. (Refer to slide #12 & #14 of Appendix B_Tree.)

In such a case, the number of nodes at each depth d is 2^d , i.e. the number of external nodes at the depth h is 2^h .

Thus, the number of external nodes of complete BT of height h is at most 2^h ,

Hence, $e \leq 2^h$. Q.E.D.

6). $h \geq \log_2 e$:

Proof:

In **5**, $e \leq 2^h$. Apply the logarithm of base 2 to both sides.

$$\begin{aligned}\log_2 e \leq \log_2 2^h &\Leftrightarrow \log_2 e \leq h \cdot \log_2 2 \\ &\Leftrightarrow \log_2 e \leq h \cdot 1 \\ &\Leftrightarrow \log_2 e \leq h. \quad \text{Q.E.D.}\end{aligned}$$

7). $h \geq \log_2 (n + 1) - 1$:

Proof:

In **2**, $n = 2e - 1$, i.e. $e = \frac{n+1}{2}$.

Let us apply it to the above **6**.

$$\begin{aligned}\log_2 e \leq h &\Leftrightarrow \log_2 \frac{n+1}{2} \leq h \\ &\Leftrightarrow \log_2 (n + 1) - \log_2 2 \leq h \\ &\Leftrightarrow \log_2 (n + 1) - 1 \leq h. \quad \text{Q.E.D.}\end{aligned}$$