

Proofs

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Definition 1. A binary tree is a tree in which every node has at most two children.

Height of a Binary Tree is $\log(n)$

Suppose we have A perfect binary tree (PBT), PBT is binary tree in which all internal nodes have exactly two children and all leaves are at the same level.

Proof. Let n be the number of nodes in the PBT and $A(k)$ be the number of nodes in the level k

$$A(k) = \begin{cases} 1 & k = 0 \\ 2 * A(k-1) & k > 0 \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

so, given the Equation 1, we can say that the total number of nodes n in a PBT is

$$n = 2^0 + 2^1 + 2^2 + \dots + 2^h$$

from Computer Science course we know

$$1 + 2^1 + 2^2 + \dots + 2^h = 2^{h+1} - 1$$

therefore:

$$n + 1 = 2^{h+1}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \log_2(n + 1) &= \log_2(2^{h+1}) \\ &= h + 1 \\ h &= \log_2(n + 1) - 1 \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

Therefore h is $O(\log(n))$

Sorting lower bound in comparison model

Can we say that is possible to sort faster than $\Omega(n \log n)$?, let's suppose we have a decision tree to sort elements, e.g Fig 1 with tree elements

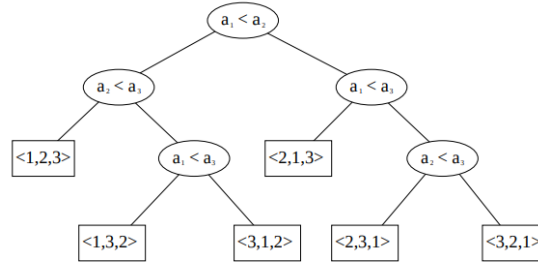


Figure 1: Decision tree with tree elements, taken from Bowdoin College

□

so, each leaf will have a permutation of the original array

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned}
 2^h &\leq n! \implies h \geq \log_2(n!) \\
 &= \log_2(n(n-1)(n-2)\dots(2)) \\
 &= \log n + \log(n-1) + \log(n-2) + \dots + \log 2 \\
 &= \sum_{i=2}^n \log(i) \\
 &= \sum_{i=2}^{n/2-1} \log(i) + \sum_{i=n/2}^n \log(i) \\
 &\geq 0 + \sum_{i=n/2}^n \log\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) \\
 &= \frac{n}{2} \log\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) \\
 &= \Omega(n \log(n))
 \end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

□