

PROPOSITION 6.5. *Let T be a nonempty binary tree with n nodes and height h .*

1. *If the levels $0, 1, \dots, h$ have the maximum number of nodes then $n = 2^{h+1} - 1$.*
2. *If the levels $0, 1, \dots, h - 1$ have the maximum number of nodes and level h has one node¹ then $n = 2^h$.*
3. *If T is complete then $2^h \leq n \leq 2^{h+1} - 1$.*
4. *If T is complete then $h = \lfloor \log(n) \rfloor$.*

PROOF

1. Induction on T (easy exercise).
2. Immediate consequence of 1.
3. Immediate consequence of 1. and 2.
4. According to 3.,

$$\begin{aligned} 2^h &\leq n \\ \Rightarrow h &\leq \log(n). \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

According to 3.,

$$\begin{aligned} 2^{h+1} - 1 &\geq n \\ \Rightarrow 2^{h+1} &\geq n + 1 \\ \Rightarrow h + 1 &\geq \log(n + 1) \\ \Rightarrow h &\geq \log(n + 1) - 1 \\ \Rightarrow h &> \log(n) - 1 \quad [\log(n + 1) > \log(n)]. \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

Combining (1) and (2) we get $h = \lfloor \log(n) \rfloor$.

□

¹This is not a strong binary tree.