

Sequences and Mathematical Induction

CSE 215: Foundations of Computer Science

Stony Brook University

<http://www.cs.stonybrook.edu/~liu/cse215>

Sequences

- A *sequence* is a function whose domain is
 - all the integers between two given integers m and n
 $a_m, a_{m+1}, a_{m+2}, \dots, a_n$
 - all the integers greater than or equal to a given integer m

$$a_m, a_{m+1}, a_{m+2}, \dots$$

a_k is a *term* in the sequence

k is the *subscript* or *index*

m is the *subscript of the initial term*

n is the *subscript of the last term* ($m \leq n$)

- An *explicit formula* or *general formula* for a sequence is a rule that shows how the values of a_k depend on k

Sequences: examples

$a_k = 2^k$ is the sequence 2, 4, 8, 16, 32, 64, 128, ...

Index	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Term	2	4	8	16	32	64	128	256

$a_k = k/k + 1$, for all integers $k \geq 1$:

$$a_1 = \frac{1}{1+1} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$a_2 = \frac{2}{2+1} = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$a_3 = \frac{3}{3+1} = \frac{3}{4}$$

$b_i = i-1/i$, for all integers $i \geq 2$:

$$b_2 = \frac{2-1}{2} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$b_3 = \frac{3-1}{3} = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$b_4 = \frac{4-1}{4} = \frac{3}{4}$$

- a_k for $k \geq 1$ is the same sequence as b_i for $i \geq 2$

Sequences: one more example

An alternating sequence:

$$c_j = (-1)^j \text{ for all integers } j \geq 0:$$

$$c_0 = (-1)^0 = 1$$

$$c_1 = (-1)^1 = -1$$

$$c_2 = (-1)^2 = 1$$

$$c_3 = (-1)^3 = -1$$

$$c_4 = (-1)^4 = 1$$

$$c_5 = (-1)^5 = -1$$

...

Find an explicit formula for a sequence

- The initial terms of a sequence are:

$$1, \quad -\frac{1}{4}, \quad \frac{1}{9}, \quad -\frac{1}{16}, \quad \frac{1}{25}, \quad -\frac{1}{36}$$

- a_k is the general term of the sequence, a_1 is the first element
- observe that the denominator of each term is a perfect square

$$\begin{array}{cccccc} \frac{1}{1^2} & \frac{(-1)}{2^2} & \frac{1}{3^2} & \frac{(-1)}{4^2} & \frac{1}{5^2} & \frac{(-1)}{6^2} \\ \updownarrow & \updownarrow & \updownarrow & \updownarrow & \updownarrow & \updownarrow \\ a_1 & a_2 & a_3 & a_4 & a_5 & a_6 \end{array}$$

- observe that the numerator equals ± 1 : $a_k = \frac{\pm 1}{k^2}$
- alternating sequence with -1 when k is even:

$$a_k = \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{k^2} \quad \text{for all integers } k \geq 1$$

Find an explicit formula for a sequence

- Continuing from previous slide

- Result sequence:

$$a_k = \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{k^2} \quad \text{for all integers } k \geq 1$$

- Alternative sequence:

$$a_k = \frac{(-1)^k}{(k+1)^2} \quad \text{for all integers } k \geq 0$$

Summation notation

- If m and n are integers and $m \leq n$, the summation from k equals m to n of a_k , $\sum_{k=m}^n a_k$, is the sum of all the terms a_m , a_{m+1} , a_{m+2} , \dots , a_n

$$\sum_{k=m}^n a_k = a_m + a_{m+1} + a_{m+2} + \dots + a_n$$

k is the index of the summation

m is the lower limit of the summation

n is the upper limit of the summation

Summation notation: examples

$$a_1 = -2, \quad a_2 = -1, \quad a_3 = 0, \quad a_4 = 1, \quad a_5 = 2$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^5 a_k = a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + a_4 + a_5 = (-2) + (-1) + 0 + 1 + 2 = 0$$

$$\sum_{k=2}^2 a_k = a_2 = -1$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^2 a_{2k} = a_{2 \cdot 1} + a_{2 \cdot 2} = a_2 + a_4 = -1 + 1 = 0$$

Summation notation: more forms

- Summation notation with formulas:

$$\sum_{k=1}^5 k^2 = 1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + 4^2 + 5^2 = 55$$

- Changing from Summation Notation to Expanded Form:

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{i=0}^n \frac{(-1)^i}{i+1} &= \frac{(-1)^0}{0+1} + \frac{(-1)^1}{1+1} + \frac{(-1)^2}{2+1} + \frac{(-1)^3}{3+1} + \dots + \frac{(-1)^n}{n+1} \\ &= \frac{1}{1} + \frac{(-1)}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{(-1)}{4} + \dots + \frac{(-1)^n}{n+1} \\ &= 1 - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4} + \dots + \frac{(-1)^n}{n+1}\end{aligned}$$

Summation notation: from expanded

- Changing from Expanded Form to Summation Notation:

$$\frac{1}{n} + \frac{2}{n+1} + \frac{3}{n+2} + \dots + \frac{n+1}{2n}$$

The general term of this summation can be expressed as $\frac{k+1}{n+k}$
for integers k from 0 to n

$$\frac{1}{n} + \frac{2}{n+1} + \frac{3}{n+2} + \dots + \frac{n+1}{2n} = \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{k+1}{n+k}$$

Summation: evaluation for small n

- Evaluating expression for given limits:

$$\frac{1}{1 \cdot 2} + \frac{1}{2 \cdot 3} + \frac{1}{3 \cdot 4} + \cdots + \frac{1}{n \cdot (n + 1)}$$

$$n = 1 \quad \frac{1}{1 \cdot 2} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$n = 2 \quad \frac{1}{1 \cdot 2} + \frac{1}{2 \cdot 3} = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{6} = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$n = 3 \quad \frac{1}{1 \cdot 2} + \frac{1}{2 \cdot 3} + \frac{1}{3 \cdot 4} = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{12} = \frac{3}{4}$$

Summation: recursive definition

- Recursive definition:

$$\sum_{k=m}^m a_k = a_m \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{k=m}^n a_k = \sum_{k=m}^{n-1} a_k + a_n \quad \text{for all integers } n > m$$

- Examples:

- Separating off final term

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n+1} \frac{1}{i^2} = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{i^2} + \frac{1}{(n+1)^2}$$

- Writing summation

$$\sum_{k=0}^n 2^k + 2^{n+1} = \sum_{k=0}^{n+1} 2^k$$

Summation: successive cancellation

- Transform sum into *telescoping sums*, then into a simple expression

- Example:
$$\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k(k+1)}$$

- Use
$$\frac{1}{k} - \frac{1}{k+1} = \frac{(k+1) - k}{k(k+1)} = \frac{1}{k(k+1)}$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k(k+1)} = \sum_{k=1}^n \left(\frac{1}{k} - \frac{1}{k+1} \right)$$

$$= \left(\frac{1}{1} - \frac{1}{2} \right) + \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{3} \right) + \left(\frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4} \right) + \cdots + \left(\frac{1}{n-1} - \frac{1}{n} \right) + \left(\frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{n+1} \right)$$

$$= 1 - \frac{1}{n+1}$$

Product notation

- The product from k equals m to n of a_k , $\prod_{k=m}^n a_k$, for integers m and n with $m \leq n$, is the product of all the terms

$a_m, a_{m+1}, a_{m+2}, \dots, a_n$

$$\prod_{k=m}^n a_k = a_m \cdot a_{m+1} \cdot a_{m+2} \cdot \dots \cdot a_n$$

- Examples: $\prod_{k=1}^5 a_k = a_1 a_2 a_3 a_4 a_5$

$$\prod_{k=1}^5 k = 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 \cdot 5 = 120$$

Product notation: recursive definition

- Recursive definition:

$$\prod_{k=m}^m a_k = a_m \quad \text{and} \quad \prod_{k=m}^n a_k = \left(\prod_{k=m}^{n-1} a_k \right) \cdot a_n \quad \text{for all integers } n > m$$

Summation and product properties

- If $a_m, a_{m+1}, a_{m+2}, \dots$ and $b_m, b_{m+1}, b_{m+2}, \dots$ are sequences of real numbers:

$$\sum_{k=m}^n a_k + \sum_{k=m}^n b_k = \sum_{k=m}^n (a_k + b_k)$$

$$\left(\prod_{k=m}^n a_k \right) \cdot \left(\prod_{k=m}^n b_k \right) = \prod_{k=m}^n (a_k \cdot b_k)$$

- Generalized distributive law: if c is any real number:

$$c \cdot \sum_{k=m}^n a_k = \sum_{k=m}^n c \cdot a_k$$

Summation and product properties

- Example: using properties of summation and product

$$a_k = k + 1$$

$$b_k = k - 1$$

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{k=m}^n a_k + 2 \cdot \sum_{k=m}^n b_k &= \sum_{k=m}^n (k + 1) + 2 \cdot \sum_{k=m}^n (k - 1) \\ &= \sum_{k=m}^n (k + 1) + \sum_{k=m}^n 2 \cdot (k - 1) \\ &= \sum_{k=m}^n ((k + 1) + 2 \cdot (k - 1)) \\ &= \sum_{k=m}^n (3k - 1)\end{aligned}$$

Summation and product properties

- Another example: using properties of summation and product

$$a_k = k + 1$$

$$b_k = k - 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\prod_{k=m}^n a_k \right) \cdot \left(\prod_{k=m}^n b_k \right) &= \left(\prod_{k=m}^n (k + 1) \right) \cdot \left(\prod_{k=m}^n (k - 1) \right) \\ &= \prod_{k=m}^n (k + 1) \cdot (k - 1) \\ &= \prod_{k=m}^n (k^2 - 1) \end{aligned}$$

Sequences: change of variables

- Examples:

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{j=2}^4 (j-1)^2 &= (2-1)^2 + (3-1)^2 + (4-1)^2 \\ &= 1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^3 k^2.\end{aligned}$$

change of variable
 $k=j-1$

$$\sum_{k=0}^6 \frac{1}{k+1} \quad \text{change of variable: } j = k + 1$$
$$\frac{1}{k+1} = \frac{1}{(j-1)+1} = \frac{1}{j}$$

$$\begin{aligned}k = 0, \quad j &= k + 1 = 0 + 1 = 1 \\ k = 6, \quad j &= k + 1 = 6 + 1 = 7\end{aligned}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^6 \frac{1}{k+1} = \sum_{j=1}^7 \frac{1}{j}$$

Factorial notation

- The quantity n factorial, $n!$, is defined to be the product of all the integers from 1 to n :

$$n! = n \cdot (n - 1) \cdot \cdots \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1$$

$0!$ is defined to be 1: $0! = 1$

$$0! = 1$$

$$1! = 1$$

$$2! = 2 \cdot 1 = 2$$

$$3! = 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 = 6$$

$$4! = 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 = 24$$

$$5! = 5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 = 120$$

$$6! = 6 \cdot 5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 = 720$$

$$7! = 7 \cdot 6 \cdot 5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 = 5,040$$

$$8! = 8 \cdot 7 \cdot 6 \cdot 5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 = 40,320$$

$$9! = 9 \cdot 8 \cdot 7 \cdot 6 \cdot 5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 = 362,880$$

Factorial notation: recursive definition

- Recursive definition for factorial:

$$n! = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } n = 0 \\ n \cdot (n - 1)! & \text{if } n \geq 1. \end{cases}$$

- Examples: computing with factorials

$$\frac{8!}{7!} = \frac{8 \cdot \cancel{7!}}{\cancel{7!}} = 8$$

$$\frac{5!}{2! \cdot 3!} = \frac{5 \cdot 4 \cdot \cancel{3!}}{2! \cdot \cancel{3!}} = \frac{5 \cdot 4}{2 \cdot 1} = 10$$

$$\frac{(n + 1)!}{n!} = \frac{(n + 1) \cdot \cancel{n!}}{\cancel{n!}} = n + 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{n!}{(n - 3)!} &= \frac{n \cdot (n - 1) \cdot (n - 2) \cdot \cancel{(n - 3)!}}{\cancel{(n - 3)!}} = n \cdot (n - 1) \cdot (n - 2) \\ &= n^3 - 3n^2 + 2n \end{aligned}$$

n choose r

- n choose r , $\binom{n}{r}$, represents the number of subsets of size r that can be chosen from a set with n elements, for integers n and r with $0 \leq r \leq n$

$$\binom{n}{r} = \frac{n!}{r!(n-r)!}$$

Combination: number of r -combinations from a set of n elements

- Examples:

$$\binom{8}{5} = \frac{8!}{5!(8-5)!} = \frac{8 \cdot 7 \cdot \cancel{6} \cdot \cancel{5} \cdot \cancel{4} \cdot \cancel{3} \cdot \cancel{2} \cdot 1}{(\cancel{5} \cdot \cancel{4} \cdot \cancel{3} \cdot \cancel{2} \cdot 1) \cdot (\cancel{3} \cdot \cancel{2} \cdot 1)} = 56$$

$$\binom{n+1}{n} = \frac{(n+1)!}{n!((n+1)-n)!} = \frac{(n+1)!}{n!1!} = \frac{(n+1) \cdot \cancel{n!}}{\cancel{n!}} = n+1$$

n choose r

- Example: $4 \text{ choose } 2 = 4! / (2!2!) = 6$
- Let $S = \{1,2,3,4\}$
 - The 6 subsets of S with 2 elements are:

$\{1,2\}$

$\{1,3\}$

$\{1,4\}$

$\{2,3\}$

$\{2,4\}$

$\{3,4\}$

Sequences in computer programming

- Array: $a[1], a[2], \dots, A[50]$ $a = [7,4,25,9]$ list in py/da
- **for** $i := 1$ **to** n for i in range(1,n+1): ints(1,n) da
 print $a[i]$ print (a[i])
next i
- Summation
 $s := a[1]$ $s = a[1]$
 for $k := 2$ **to** n for k in ...
 $s := s + a[k]$
 next k

 $s = \text{sum}(a[k] \text{ for } k \text{ in range}(1,n+1))$
 $s = \text{sumof}(a[k], k \text{ in ints}(1,n))$ da

Example algorithm with arrays

- Convert from base 10 to base 2:

$$38 = 19 \cdot 2 + 0$$

$$= (9 \cdot 2 + 1) \cdot 2 + 0 = 9 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 + 1 \cdot 2 + 0$$

$$= (4 \cdot 2 + 1) \cdot 2^2 + 1 \cdot 2 + 0 = 4 \cdot 2^3 + 1 \cdot 2^2 + 1 \cdot 2 + 0$$

$$= (2 \cdot 2 + 0) \cdot 2^3 + 1 \cdot 2^2 + 1 \cdot 2 + 0$$

$$= 2 \cdot 2^4 + 0 \cdot 2^3 + 1 \cdot 2^2 + 1 \cdot 2 + 0$$

$$= (1 \cdot 2 + 0) \cdot 2^4 + 0 \cdot 2^3 + 1 \cdot 2^2 + 1 \cdot 2 + 0$$

$$= 1 \cdot 2^5 + 0 \cdot 2^4 + 0 \cdot 2^3 + 1 \cdot 2^2 + 1 \cdot 2 + 0$$

$$a = 2^k \cdot r[k] + 2^{k-1} \cdot r[k-1] + \dots + 2^2 \cdot r[2] + 2^1 \cdot r[1] + 2^0 \cdot r[0]$$

$$a_{10} = (r[k]r[k-1] \dots r[2]r[1]r[0])_2$$

Convert from base 10 to base 2

Input: n [a nonnegative integer]

Algorithm Body:

$q := n, i := 0$

while ($i = 0$ or $q = 0$)

$r[i] := q \bmod 2$

$q := q \operatorname{div} 2$

$i := i + 1$

end while

Output: $r[0], r[1], r[2], \dots, r[i - 1]$ [a sequence of integers]

Mathematical induction

Principle of mathematical induction:

Let $P(n)$ be a property that is defined for integers n , and let a be a fixed integer. Suppose the following two statements are true:

1. $P(a)$ is true.
2. For all integers $k \geq a$, if $P(k)$ is true then $P(k + 1)$ is true.

Then the statement “for all integers $n \geq a$, $P(n)$ ” is true.

That is:

$P(a)$ is true.

$P(k) \rightarrow P(k + 1), \forall k \geq a$

$\therefore P(n)$ is true, $\forall n \geq a$

Mathematical induction: proof method

Method of proof by mathematical induction:

To prove a statement of the form:

“For all integers $n \geq a$, a property $P(n)$ is true.”

Step 1. Base step: Show that $P(a)$ is true.

Step 2. Inductive step: Show that for all integers $k \geq a$,
if $P(k)$ is true then $P(k + 1)$ is true:

- **Inductive hypothesis:** suppose that $P(k)$ is true, where k is any particular but arbitrarily chosen integer with $k \geq a$.
- Then show that $P(k + 1)$ is true.

Mathematical induction: example 1

For all integers $n \geq 8$, $n\text{¢}$ can be obtained using 3¢ and 5¢ coins

Base step: $P(8)$ is true because $8\text{¢} =$ one 3¢ coin and one 5¢ coin

Inductive step: for all integers $k \geq 8$, if $P(k)$ is true then $P(k+1)$ is true

Inductive hypothesis: suppose k is any integer with $k \geq 8$:

$P(k)$: $k\text{¢}$ can be obtained using 3¢ and 5¢ coins

We must show $P(k+1)$: $(k+1)\text{¢}$ can be obtained using 3¢ and 5¢ coins

Case 1. There is a 5¢ coin among those used to make up the $k\text{¢}$:

Replace the 5¢ coin by two 3¢ coins; the result will be $(k + 1)\text{¢}$.

Case 2. There is not a 5¢ coin among those used to make up the $k\text{¢}$:

Because $k \geq 8$, at least three 3¢ coins must have been used.

Remove three 3¢ coins (9¢) and replace them by two 5¢ coins (10¢);

the result will be $(k + 1)\text{¢}$

Mathematical induction: example 2

Sum of the first n integers:

$$1 + 2 + \dots + n = \frac{n(n+1)}{2} \quad \text{for all integers } n \geq 1$$

Base step: $P(1): 1 = \frac{1(1+1)}{2}$

Inductive step:

Inductive hypo: $P(k)$ is true, for a particular but arbitrarily chosen integer $k \geq 1$: $1 + 2 + \dots + k = \frac{k(k+1)}{2}$

Prove $P(k+1)$: $1 + 2 + \dots + (k+1) = \frac{(k+1)(k+2)}{2}$

$$(1 + 2 + \dots + k) + (k+1) = \frac{k(k+1)}{2} + (k+1) = \frac{(k+1)(k+2)}{2}$$

Sum of the first n integers

- A formula in *closed form* represents a sum with a variable number of terms without an ellipsis or a summation symbol.
- Examples: apply the formula for the sum of the first n Integers:

$$\begin{aligned}2 + 4 + 6 + \cdots + 500 &= 2 \cdot (1 + 2 + 3 + \cdots + 250) \\ &= 2 \cdot \left(\frac{250 \cdot 251}{2} \right) \\ &= 62,750.\end{aligned}$$

$$5 + 6 + 7 + 8 + \cdots + 50 = (1 + 2 + 3 + \cdots + 50) - (1 + 2 + 3 + 4)$$

Mathematical induction: example 3

Sum of geometric sequence: each term is obtained from the preceding one by multiplying by a constant: if the first term is 1 and the constant is r : $1, r, r^2, r^3, \dots, r^n, \dots$

$$1 + r + r^2 + \dots + r^n = \sum_{i=0}^n r^i = \frac{r^{n+1} - 1}{r - 1}$$

Base step: Prove $P(0)$: $\sum_{i=0}^0 r^i = \frac{r^{0+1} - 1}{r - 1} \Leftrightarrow 1 = 1$ (Proved)

Inductive step:

Inductive hypothesis:

suppose $P(k)$ is true for $k \geq 0$: $\sum_{i=0}^k r^i = \frac{r^{k+1} - 1}{r - 1}$

Prove $P(k + 1)$: $\sum_{i=0}^{k+1} r^i = \frac{r^{k+2} - 1}{r - 1}$

Sum of geometric sequence

Continued:

Prove P(k + 1): $\sum_{i=0}^{k+1} r^i = \frac{r^{k+2} - 1}{r - 1}$

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{i=0}^{k+1} r^i &= 1 + r + r^2 + \dots + r^k + r^{k+1} \\ &= \frac{r^{k+1} - 1}{r - 1} + r^{k+1} \\ &= \frac{r^{k+2} - 1}{r - 1}\end{aligned}$$

Sum of geometric sequence: examples

$$\begin{aligned}1 + 3 + 3^2 + \dots + 3^{m-2} &= \frac{3^{(m-2)+1} - 1}{3 - 1} \\ &= \frac{3^{m-1} - 1}{2}.\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}3^2 + 3^3 + 3^4 + \dots + 3^m &= 3^2 \cdot (1 + 3 + 3^2 + \dots + 3^{m-2}) \quad \text{by factoring out } 3^2 \\ &= 9 \cdot \left(\frac{3^{m-1} - 1}{2} \right)\end{aligned}$$

Mathematical induction: example 4

Proving a divisibility property:

$P(n)$: for all integers $n \geq 0$, $2^{2n} - 1$ is divisible by 3

Basic step: $P(0)$: $2^{2 \cdot 0} - 1 = 0$ is divisible by 3

Inductive step:

Induction hypothesis:

suppose $P(k)$ is true: $2^{2k} - 1$ is divisible by 3

Prove $P(k+1)$: $2^{2(k+1)} - 1$ is divisible by 3

Proving a divisibility property

Continued:

Prove P(k+1): $2^{2(k+1)} - 1$ is divisible by 3

$$\begin{aligned}2^{2(k+1)} - 1 &= 2^{2k+2} - 1 \\ &= 2^{2k} \cdot 2^2 - 1 && \text{by the laws of exponents} \\ &= 2^{2k} \cdot 4 - 1 \\ &= 2^{2k}(3 + 1) - 1 \\ &= 2^{2k} \cdot 3 + (2^{2k} - 1) && \text{by the laws of algebra} \\ &= 2^{2k} \cdot 3 + 3r && \text{by inductive hypothesis} \\ &= 3(2^{2k} + r) && \text{by factoring out the 3.}\end{aligned}$$

$2^{2k} + r$ is an integer because integers are closed under multiplication and summation

so, $2^{2(k+1)} - 1$ is divisible by 3 ■

Mathematical induction: example 5

Proving an inequality:

$P(n)$: for all integers $n \geq 3$, $2n + 1 < 2^n$

Base step: Prove $P(3)$: $2 \cdot 3 + 1 < 2^3$

$$7 < 8 \quad (\text{true})$$

Inductive step:

Inductive hypo: suppose for $k \geq 3$, $P(k)$ is true: $2k + 1 < 2^k$

Show $P(k+1)$: $2(k+1) + 1 < 2^{k+1}$

That is: $2k + 3 < 2^{k+1}$

$$2k + 3 = (2k + 1) + 2 < 2^k + 2^k = 2^{k+1}$$

because $2k + 1 < 2^k$ by the inductive hypothesis

and because $2 < 2^k$ for all integers $k \geq 3$

Mathematical induction: example 6

A sequence: $a_1 = 2$ and $a_k = 5a_{k-1}$ for all integers $k \geq 2$

Prove: $a_n = 2 \cdot 5^{n-1}$ for all integers $n \geq 1$

Proof by induction: $P(n)$: $a_n = 2 \cdot 5^{n-1}$ for all integers $n \geq 1$

Base step: $P(1)$: $a_1 = 2 \cdot 5^{1-1}$. $2 \cdot 5^{1-1} = 2 \cdot 5^0 = 2 \cdot 1 = 2 = a_1$

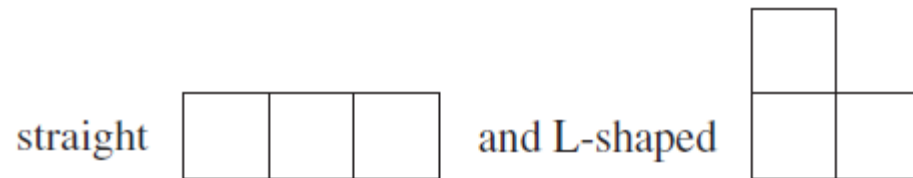
Inductive step: **Inductive hypo:** suppose $P(k)$ is true: $a_k = 2 \cdot 5^{k-1}$

Show $P(k+1)$: $a_{k+1} = 2 \cdot 5^{(k+1)-1} = 2 \cdot 5^k$

$$\begin{aligned} a_{k+1} &= 5a_{(k+1)-1} && \text{by definition of } a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots \\ &= 5 \cdot a_k && \text{since } (k+1) - 1 = k \\ &= 5 \cdot 2 \cdot 5^{k-1} && \text{by inductive hypothesis} \\ &= 2 \cdot (5 \cdot 5^{k-1}) && \text{by regrouping} \\ &= 2 \cdot 5^k && \text{by the laws of exponents} \end{aligned}$$

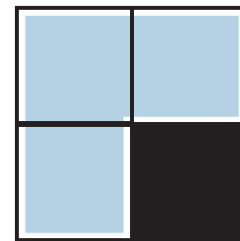
Mathematical induction: example 7

A problem with trominoes (Tetris):



For any integer $n \geq 1$, if one square is removed from a $2^n \times 2^n$ checkerboard, the remaining squares can be completely covered by L-shaped trominoes

Base step: a 2×2 checkerboard can be covered by 1 L-shaped tromino



A problem with trominoes

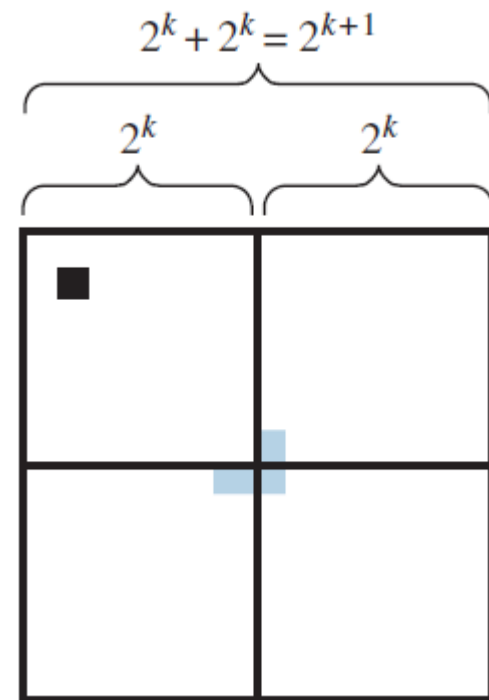
Continued: Inductive step:

Inductive hypothesis: for $k \geq 1$: $P(k)$:

if one square is removed from a $2^k \times 2^k$ checkerboard, the remaining squares can be completely covered by L-shaped trominoes

Proof $P(k+1)$:

if one square is removed from a $2^{k+1} \times 2^{k+1}$ checkerboard, the remaining squares can be completely covered by L-shaped trominoes



Strong mathematical induction

Principle of strong mathematical induction:

$P(n)$ is a property that is defined for integers n , and a and b are fixed integers with $a \leq b$.

Base step: $P(a)$, $P(a + 1)$, \dots , and $P(b)$ are all true

Inductive step:

Inductive hypothesis: for any integer $k \geq b$, if $P(i)$ is true for all integers i from a through k

then $P(k + 1)$ is true

Then the statement “for all integers $n \geq a$, $P(n)$ ” is true.

That is: $P(a), P(a+1), \dots, P(b-1), P(b)$ are true.

$\forall k \geq b, (\forall a \leq i \leq k, P(i)) \rightarrow P(k + 1)$

$\therefore P(n)$ is true, $\forall n \geq a$

Strong mathematical induction

Any statement that can be proved with ordinary mathematical induction can be proved with strong mathematical induction (and vice versa).

Strong induction: example 1

Divisibility by a prime:

Any integer greater than 1 is divisible by a prime number

$P(n)$: n is divisible by a prime number

Base step: $P(2)$: 2 is divisible by a prime number

2 is divisible by 2 and 2 is a prime number

Inductive step:

Inductive hypothesis: Let k be any integer with $k \geq 2$

suppose $P(i)$ is true for all integers i from 2 through k ,

that is, i is divisible by a prime number for int i from 2 to k

Show $P(k + 1)$: $k + 1$ is divisible by a prime number

Strong induction: example 1 (cont'd)

Show $P(k + 1)$: $k + 1$ is divisible by a prime number

Case 1 ($k + 1$ is prime): In this case $k + 1$ is divisible by itself
(a prime number): $k + 1 = 1 * (k + 1)$

Case 2 ($k + 1$ is not prime): $k + 1 = a * b$

where a and b are integers with $1 < a < k + 1$ and $1 < b < k + 1$.

From $k + 1 = a * b$, $k + 1$ is divisible by a .

By inductive hypothesis, a is divisible by a prime number p .

By transitivity of divisibility, $k + 1$ is divisible by p .

Therefore, $k + 1$ is divisible by a prime number p . ■

Strong induction: example 2

A sequence s_0, s_1, s_2, \dots

$$s_0=0, s_1=4, s_k=6s_{k-1}-5s_{k-2} \text{ for all integers } k \geq 2$$

$$s_2 = 6s_1 - 5s_0 = 6 \cdot 4 - 5 \cdot 0 = 24,$$

$$s_3 = 6s_2 - 5s_1 = 6 \cdot 24 - 5 \cdot 4 = 144 - 20 = 124$$

Prove: $s_n = 5^n - 1$

Base step: $P(0)$ and $P(1)$ are true:

$$P(0): s_0 = 5^0 - 1 = 1 - 1 = 0$$

$$P(1): s_1 = 5^1 - 1 = 5 - 1 = 4$$

Inductive step: Inductive hypo: Let k be any integer with $k \geq 1$,

$$s_i = 5^i - 1 \text{ for all integers } i \text{ with } 0 \leq i \leq k$$

Strong induction: example 2 (cont'd)

Show $P(k + 1)$ is true: $s_{k+1} = 5^{k+1} - 1$

$$\begin{aligned} s_{k+1} &= 6s_k - 5s_{k-1} && \text{by definition of } s_0, s_1, s_2, \dots \\ &= 6(5^k - 1) - 5(5^{k-1} - 1) && \text{by induction hypothesis} \\ &= 6 \cdot 5^k - 6 - 5^k + 5 && \text{by multiplying out and applying} \\ & && \text{a law of exponents} \\ &= (6 - 1)5^k - 1 && \text{by factoring out 6 and arithmetic} \\ &= 5 \cdot 5^k - 1 && \text{by arithmetic} \\ &= 5^{k+1} - 1 && \text{by applying a law of exponents} \blacksquare \end{aligned}$$

Strong induction: example 3

The number of multiplications needed to multiply n numbers is $(n-1)$.

$P(n)$: If x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n are n numbers, then no matter how parentheses are inserted into their product, the number of multiplications used to compute the product is $n - 1$.

Base case: $P(1)$: The number of multiplications needed to compute the product of x_1 is $1 - 1 = 0$

Inductive case:

Inductive hypothesis: Let k be any integer with $k \geq 1$ and for all integers i from 1 through k , if x_1, x_2, \dots, x_i are numbers, then no matter how parentheses are inserted into their product, the number of multiplications used to compute the product is $i - 1$.

Strong induction: example 3 (cont'd)

We must show $P(k + 1)$: If x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{k+1} are $k + 1$ numbers, then no matter how parentheses are inserted into their product, the number of multiplications used to compute the product is $(k + 1) - 1 = k$.

When parentheses are inserted in order to compute the product $x_1 x_2 \dots x_{k+1}$, some multiplication is the final one:

let L be the product of the left-hand l factors (numbers) and
 R be the product of the right-hand r factors: $l + r = k + 1$

By inductive hypothesis, evaluating L takes $l - 1$ multiplications
and evaluating R takes $r - 1$ multiplications

$$(l - 1) + (r - 1) + 1 = (l + r) - 1 = (k + 1) - 1 = k \quad \blacksquare$$

Strong induction: example 4

Existence and uniqueness of binary integer representations:

any positive integer n has a unique representation in the form

$$n = c_r \cdot 2^r + c_{r-1} \cdot 2^{r-1} + \cdots + c_2 \cdot 2^2 + c_1 \cdot 2 + c_0 \quad P(n)$$

where r is a nonnegative integer, $c_r = 1$, and

$$c_j = 0 \text{ or } 1 \text{ for } j = 0, \dots, r-1$$

Proof of existence:

Base step: $P(1)$: $1 = c_0 \cdot 2^0$ where $c_0 = 1$, $r = 0$.

Inductive hypothesis: $k \geq 1$ is an integer and for all integers i from

$$1 \text{ through } k: P(i): i = c_r \cdot 2^r + c_{r-1} \cdot 2^{r-1} + \cdots + c_2 \cdot 2^2 + c_1 \cdot 2 + c_0$$

We must show that $k + 1$ can be written in the required form.

Strong induction: example 4 (cont'd)

Case 1. $k + 1$ is even: $(k + 1)/2$ is an integer

By inductive hypothesis:

$$(k + 1)/2 = c_r \cdot 2^r + c_{r-1} \cdot 2^{r-1} + \cdots + c_2 \cdot 2^2 + c_1 \cdot 2 + c_0$$

$$\begin{aligned} k + 1 &= c_r \cdot 2^{r+1} + c_{r-1} \cdot 2^r + \cdots + c_2 \cdot 2^3 + c_1 \cdot 2^2 + c_0 \cdot 2 \\ &= c_r \cdot 2^{r+1} + c_{r-1} \cdot 2^r + \cdots + c_2 \cdot 2^3 + c_1 \cdot 2^2 + c_0 \cdot 2^1 + 0 \cdot 2^0 \end{aligned}$$

Case 2. $k + 1$ is odd: k is even, so $k/2$ is an integer

By inductive hypothesis:

$$k/2 = c_r \cdot 2^r + c_{r-1} \cdot 2^{r-1} + \cdots + c_2 \cdot 2^2 + c_1 \cdot 2 + c_0$$

$$k = c_r \cdot 2^{r+1} + c_{r-1} \cdot 2^r + \cdots + c_2 \cdot 2^3 + c_1 \cdot 2^2 + c_0 \cdot 2$$

$$\begin{aligned} k + 1 &= c_r \cdot 2^{r+1} + c_{r-1} \cdot 2^r + \cdots + c_2 \cdot 2^3 + c_1 \cdot 2^2 + c_0 \cdot 2 + 1 \\ &= c_r \cdot 2^{r+1} + c_{r-1} \cdot 2^r + \cdots + c_2 \cdot 2^3 + c_1 \cdot 2^2 + c_0 \cdot 2^1 + 1 \cdot 2^0 \end{aligned}$$

Strong induction: example 4 (cont'd)

Proof of uniqueness:

Proof by contradiction: suppose there is an integer n with two different representations as a sum of nonnegative integer powers of 2:

$$2^r + c_{r-1} \cdot 2^{r-1} + \cdots + c_1 \cdot 2 + c_0 = 2^s + d_{s-1} \cdot 2^{s-1} + \cdots + d_1 \cdot 2 + d_0$$

r and s are nonnegative integers, and each c_i and d_i equal 0 or 1.

Assume: $r < s$

By geometric sequence:

$$2^r + c_{r-1} \cdot 2^{r-1} + \cdots + c_1 \cdot 2 + c_0 \leq 2^r + 2^{r-1} + \cdots + 2 + 1 = 2^{r+1} - 1 < 2^s$$

$$2^r + c_{r-1} \cdot 2^{r-1} + \cdots + c_1 \cdot 2 + c_0 < 2^s + d_{s-1} \cdot 2^{s-1} + \cdots + d_1 \cdot 2 + d_0$$

Contradiction

Well-ordering principle for integers

- Let S be a set of integers containing one or more integers all of which are greater than some fixed integer. Then S has a least element.
- The well-ordering principle is equivalent to both ordinary and strong mathematical induction.

Well-ordering principle: examples

Why is the well-ordering principle not violated in these sets?

- The set of all positive real numbers.
- The set of all nonnegative integers n such that $n^2 < n$.
- The set of all nonnegative integers of the form $46 - 7k$, where k is an integer.

Solution:

- Not a set of integers
- Empty set
- $\{4, 11, 18, 25, \dots\}$ where 4 is the least element

Defining sequences recursively

- A sequence can be defined in 3 ways:
 - enumeration: $-2, 3, -4, 5, \dots$
 - general pattern: $a_n = (-1)^n(n+1)$, for all integers $n \geq 1$
 - recursion: $a_1 = -2$ and $a_n = (-1)^{n-1} a_{n-1} + (-1)^n$
 - **define one or more initial values for the sequence AND**
 - **define each later term in the sequence by reference to earlier terms**
- A **recurrence relation** for a sequence a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots is a formula that relates each term a_k to certain of its predecessors $a_{k-1}, a_{k-2}, \dots, a_{k-i}$, where i is an integer with $k-i \geq 0$
- The **initial conditions** for a recurrence relation specify the values of $a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{i-1}$, if i is a fixed integer, OR a_0, a_1, \dots, a_m , where m is an integer with $m \geq 0$, if i depends on k .

Recursion: example 1

- **Computing terms of a recursively defined sequence**
- **Example:**

Initial conditions: $c_0 = 1$ and $c_1 = 2$

Recurrence relation: $c_k = c_{k-1} + k * c_{k-2} + 1$, for all integers $k \geq 2$

$$\begin{aligned} c_2 &= c_1 + 2 c_0 + 1 && \text{by substituting } k = 2 \text{ into the recurrence relation} \\ &= 2 + 2 \cdot 1 + 1 && \text{since } c_1 = 2 \text{ and } c_0 = 1 \text{ by the initial conditions} \\ &= 5 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} c_3 &= c_2 + 3 c_1 + 1 && \text{by substituting } k = 3 \text{ into the recurrence relation} \\ &= 5 + 3 \cdot 2 + 1 && \text{since } c_2 = 5 \text{ and } c_1 = 2 \\ &= 12 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} c_4 &= c_3 + 4 c_2 + 1 && \text{by substituting } k = 4 \text{ into the recurrence relation} \\ &= 12 + 4 \cdot 5 + 1 && \text{since } c_3 = 12 \text{ and } c_2 = 5 \\ &= 33 \end{aligned}$$

Recursion: example 2

- **Writing a recurrence relation in more than one way**

- Example:

Initial condition: $s_0 = 1$

Recurrence relation 1: $s_k = 3s_{k-1} - 1$, for all integers $k \geq 1$

Recurrence relation 2: $s_{k+1} = 3s_k - 1$, for all integers $k \geq 0$

Recursion: example 3

- Sequences that satisfy the same recurrence relation

- Example:

Initial conditions: $a_1 = 2$ and $b_1 = 1$

Recurrence relations: $a_k = 3a_{k-1}$ and $b_k = 3b_{k-1}$ for all integers $k \geq 2$

$$a_2 = 3a_1 = 3 \cdot 2 = 6$$

$$b_2 = 3b_1 = 3 \cdot 1 = 3$$

$$a_3 = 3a_2 = 3 \cdot 6 = 18$$

$$b_3 = 3b_2 = 3 \cdot 3 = 9$$

$$a_4 = 3a_3 = 3 \cdot 18 = 54$$

$$b_4 = 3b_3 = 3 \cdot 9 = 27$$

Recursion: example 4

- **Fibonacci numbers**

1. We have one pair of rabbits (male and female) at the beginning of a year.
2. Rabbit pairs are not fertile during their first month of life but thereafter give birth to one new male & female pair at the end of every month.

$$\begin{aligned} \left[\begin{array}{l} \text{the number} \\ \text{of rabbit} \\ \text{pairs alive} \\ \text{at the end} \\ \text{of month } k \end{array} \right] &= \left[\begin{array}{l} \text{the number} \\ \text{of rabbit} \\ \text{pairs alive} \\ \text{at the end} \\ \text{of month } k - 1 \end{array} \right] + \left[\begin{array}{l} \text{the number} \\ \text{of rabbit} \\ \text{pairs born} \\ \text{at the end} \\ \text{of month } k \end{array} \right] \\ &= \left[\begin{array}{l} \text{the number} \\ \text{of rabbit} \\ \text{pairs alive} \\ \text{at the end} \\ \text{of month } k - 1 \end{array} \right] + \left[\begin{array}{l} \text{the number} \\ \text{of rabbit} \\ \text{pairs alive} \\ \text{at the end} \\ \text{of month } k - 2 \end{array} \right] \end{aligned}$$

Recursion: example 4 (continued)

- **Fibonacci numbers**

The initial number of rabbit pairs: $F_0 = 1$

F_n : the number of rabbit pairs at the end of month n , for each integer $n \geq 1$

$F_n = F_{n-1} + F_{n-2}$, for all integers $n \geq 2$

$F_1 = 1$, because the first pair of rabbits is not fertile until the second month

How many rabbit pairs are at the end of one year?

January 1st: $F_0 = 1$

February 1st: $F_1 = 1$

March 1st: $F_2 = F_1 + F_0 = 1 + 1 = 2$

April 1st: $F_3 = F_2 + F_1 = 2 + 1 = 3$

$$F_{11} = F_{10} + F_9 = 89 + 55 = 144$$

May 1st: $F_4 = F_3 + F_2 = 3 + 2 = 5$

June 1st: $F_5 = F_4 + F_3 = 5 + 3 = 8$

July 1st: $F_6 = F_5 + F_4 = 8 + 5 = 13$

August 1st: $F_7 = F_6 + F_5 = 13 + 8 = 21$

September 1st: $F_8 = F_7 + F_6 = 21 + 13 = 34$

October 1st: $F_9 = F_8 + F_7 = 34 + 21 = 55$

November 1st: $F_{10} = F_9 + F_8 = 55 + 34 = 89$

December 1st:

January 1st: $F_{12} = F_{11} + F_{10} = 144 + 89 = \mathbf{233}$

Recursion: example 5

- **Compound interest**

- A deposit of \$100,000 in a bank account earning 4% interest compounded annually:

the amount in the account at the end of any particular year

= the amount in the account at the end of the previous year +
the interest earned on the account during the year

= the amount in the account at the end of the previous year +
 $0.04 \cdot$ the amount in the account at the end of the previous year

$$A_0 = \$100,000$$

$$A_k = A_{k-1} + (0.04) \cdot A_{k-1} = 1.04 \cdot A_{k-1}, \text{ for each integer } k \geq 1$$

$$A_1 = 1.04 \cdot A_0 = \$104,000$$

$$A_2 = 1.04 \cdot A_1 = 1.04 \cdot \$104,000 = \$108,160$$

...

Recursion: example 6

- **Compound interest with compounding several times a year**

- An annual interest rate of i is compounded m times per year:
the interest rate paid per each period is i/m

P_k is sum of amount at the end of the $(k-1)$ -th period
and interest earned during k -th period

$$P_k = P_{k-1} + P_{k-1} \cdot i/m = P_{k-1} \cdot (1 + i/m)$$

- If 3% annual interest is compounded quarterly, then the interest rate paid per quarter is $0.03/4 = 0.0075$

Compound interest: examples

Example: deposit of \$10,000 at 3% compounded quarterly

For each integer $n \geq 1$,

P_n = the amount on deposit after n consecutive quarters.

$$P_k = 1.0075 \cdot P_{k-1}$$

$$P_0 = \$10,000$$

$$P_1 = 1.0075 \cdot P_0 = 1.0075 \cdot \$10,000 = \$10,075.00$$

$$P_2 = 1.0075 \cdot P_1 = (1.0075) \cdot \$10,075.00 = \$10,150.56$$

$$P_3 = 1.0075 \cdot P_2 \approx (1.0075) \cdot \$10,150.56 = \$10,226.69$$

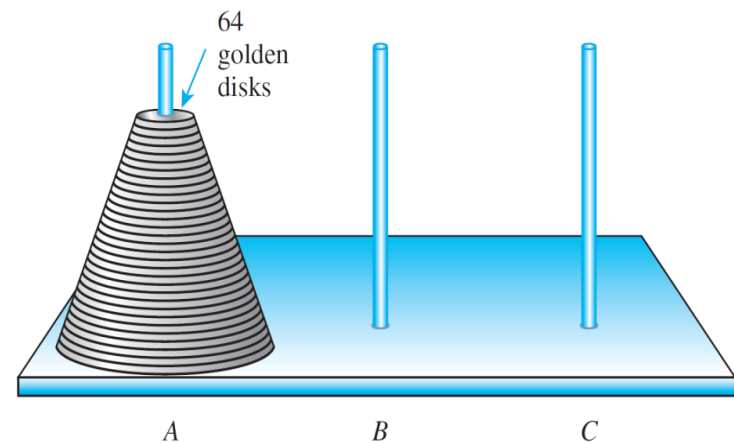
$$P_4 = 1.0075 \cdot P_3 \approx (1.0075) \cdot \$10,226.69 = \$10,303.39$$

The annual percentage rate (APR) is the percentage increase in the value of the account over a one-year period:

$$\text{APR} = (10303.39 - 10000) / 10000 = 0.03034 = 3.034\%$$

Recursion: example 7

- **Towers of Hanoi:** n disks piled in order of decreasing size on one pole in a row of three
- Want to move all the disks one by one from one pole to another, never placing a larger disk on top of a smaller one
- How many moves are required to move the disks from pole A to C?

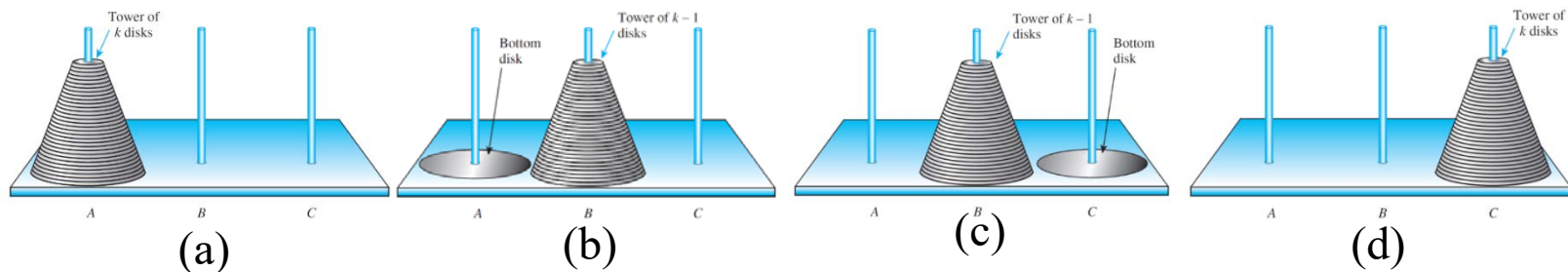


HW 4 extra-credit programming: even generate all moves in 2 lines

- A best way to solve this problem is to think recursively!

Recursion: example 7 (continued)

- Moves must include going from initial position (a) to (b) to (c) to (d).



- For $k \geq 1$, let m_k be number of moves to move a tower of k disks from one pole to another.

- (a) to (b) needs m_{k-1} moves, (b) to (c) 1 move, (c) to (d) m_{k-1}

$$m_k = m_{k-1} + 1 + m_{k-1} = 2m_{k-1} + 1$$

- Simplest case: 1 disk, so move from pole A to C in one move

$$m_1 = 1$$

- $m_2 = 2m_1 + 1 = 2 \cdot 1 + 1 = 3,$
 $m_3 = 2m_2 + 1 = 2 \cdot 3 + 1 = 7,$
 $m_4 = 2m_3 + 1 = 2 \cdot 7 + 1 = 15,$

Recursive definitions of sum and product

- The summation from $i=1$ to n of a sequence is defined using recursion:

$$\sum_{i=1}^1 a_i = a_1 \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{i=1}^n a_i = \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} a_i \right) + a_n, \quad \text{if } n > 1.$$

$$f(1) = a_1 \quad f(n) = f(n-1) + a_n$$

- The product from $i=1$ to n of a sequence is defined using recursion:

$$\prod_{i=1}^1 a_i = a_1 \quad \text{and} \quad \prod_{i=1}^n a_i = \left(\prod_{i=1}^{n-1} a_i \right) \cdot a_n, \quad \text{if } n > 1.$$

Sum of sums: recursion and induction

- For any positive integer n , if a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n and b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n are real numbers, then

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (a_i + b_i) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i + \sum_{i=1}^n b_i.$$

- **Proof by induction (using recursive definition of sum):**

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (a_i + b_i) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i + \sum_{i=1}^n b_i. \quad \leftarrow P(n)$$

Base step:

$$\sum_{i=1}^1 (a_i + b_i) = a_1 + b_1 = \sum_{i=1}^1 a_i + \sum_{i=1}^1 b_i$$

Inductive hypothesis:

$$\sum_{i=1}^k (a_i + b_i) = \sum_{i=1}^k a_i + \sum_{i=1}^k b_i. \quad \leftarrow P(k)$$

Sum of sums continued

We must show that:

$$\sum_{i=1}^{k+1} (a_i + b_i) = \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} a_i + \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} b_i. \quad \leftarrow P(k+1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} (a_i + b_i) &= \sum_{i=1}^k (a_i + b_i) + (a_{k+1} + b_{k+1}) && \text{by definition of } \Sigma \\ &= \left(\sum_{i=1}^k a_i + \sum_{i=1}^k b_i \right) + (a_{k+1} + b_{k+1}) && \text{by inductive hypothesis} \\ &= \left(\sum_{i=1}^k a_i + a_{k+1} \right) + \left(\sum_{i=1}^k b_i + b_{k+1} \right) && \text{by the associative and commutative} \\ & && \text{laws of algebra} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} a_i + \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} b_i && \text{by definition of } \Sigma \end{aligned}$$

Q.E.D.

Solving recurrence relations

- **Arithmetic sequence:** there is a constant d such that

$$a_k = a_{k-1} + d \text{ for all integers } k \geq 1$$

It follows that, $a_n = a_0 + d \cdot n$ for all integers $n \geq 0$.

- **Geometric sequence:** there is a constant r such that

$$a_k = r \cdot a_{k-1} \text{ for all integers } k \geq 1$$

It follows that, $a_n = a_0 \cdot r^n$ for all integers $n \geq 0$.

A general form of recurrence relation

- A **second-order linear homogeneous recurrence relation** with constant coefficients is a recurrence relation of the form:

$$a_k = A \cdot a_{k-1} + B \cdot a_{k-2} \text{ for all integers } k \geq \text{some fixed integer}$$

where A and B are fixed real numbers with $B \neq 0$.

- In general: given a sequence, or a recurrence relation, guess a closed-form formula, and prove by induction.

Applications: correctness of algorithms

- A program is correct if it produces the output specified in its documentation for each set of inputs
 - initial state (inputs): **pre-condition** for the algorithm
 - final state (outputs): **post-condition** for the algorithm
- Example:
Algorithm to compute a product of two nonnegative integers
pre-condition: input variables m and n are nonnegative integers
post-condition: output variable p equals $m*n$

Correctness of algorithms

- The steps of an algorithm are divided into sections with assertions about the current state of algorithm

[Assertion 1: pre-condition for the algorithm]

{Algorithm statements}

[Assertion 2]

{Algorithm statements}

...

[Assertion $k - 1$]

{Algorithm statements}

[Assertion k : post-condition for the algorithm]

Correctness of algorithms

- **Loop invariants** are used to prove correctness of a loop with respect to pre- and post-conditions

[pre-condition for the loop]

while (G)

{Statements in the body of the loop}

end while

[post-condition for the loop]

A loop is correct with respect to its pre- and post-conditions if, and only if,

whenever the algorithm variables satisfy the pre-condition for the loop, and the loop terminates after a finite number of steps, the algorithm variables satisfy the post-condition for the loop.

Loop invariant

- A **loop invariant** is a predicate with domain a set of integers, satisfying: for each iteration of the loop, **(induction)** if the predicate is true before the iteration, then it is true after the iteration.
- Furthermore, if the following two conditions hold
 - before the first iteration of the loop, the predicate is implied by the pre-condition for the loop,
 - if the loop terminates after a finite number of iterations, the predicate ensures the post-condition for the loop,then the loop is with respect to its pre- and post-conditions.

Loop invariant: example

- **Correctness of a loop to compute a product**

A loop to compute the product $m \cdot x$ for a nonnegative integer m and a real number x , without using multiplication

[pre-condition: m is a nonnegative integer, x is a real number,
 $i = 0$, and $\text{product} = 0$]

while ($i \neq m$)

$\text{product} := \text{product} + x$

$i := i + 1$

end while

[post-condition: $\text{product} = m \cdot x$]

Loop invariant $I(n)$: $[i = n \wedge \text{product} = n \cdot x]$

Guard G : $i \neq m$

Loop invariant $I(n)$: $[i = n \wedge \text{product} = n * x]$ Guard G : $i \neq m$

Base property:

$[I(0): i = 0 \text{ and } \text{product} = 0 \cdot x = 0 \quad \text{is true before first iteration}]$

Inductive property:

$[\text{If } G \wedge I(k) \text{ is true before an iteration (where } k \geq 0),$
 $\text{then } I(k+1) \text{ is true after the iteration}]$

Let k is a nonnegative integer such that $G \wedge I(k)$ is true, i.e.,

$$i \neq m \quad \wedge \quad i = k \quad \wedge \quad \text{product} = k * x$$

Since $i \neq m$, the guard is passed and

$$\begin{aligned} \text{product} &= \text{product} + x &= k * x + x &= (k + 1) * x \\ i &= i + 1 &= k + 1 \end{aligned}$$

So $I(k + 1): i = k + 1 \wedge \text{product} = (k + 1) * x$ is true after the iteration

Eventual falsity of guard:

$[\text{After a finite number of iterations, } G \text{ becomes false}]$

After m iterations of the loop: $i = m$ and G becomes false

Loop invariant $I(n)$: $[i = n \wedge \text{product} = n * x]$ Guard G : $i \neq m$

Correctness of the post-condition:

[If N is the least number of iterations after which G is false and $I(N)$ is true, then the value of the algorithm variables will be as specified in the post-condition of the loop]

$I(N)$ is true at the end of the loop: $i = N \wedge \text{product} = N * x$

G becomes false after N iterations: $i = m$

So $N = i = m$

Post-condition $\text{product} = m * x$ after execution of the loop is true.