Recursion and Recurrence Relations

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18, 23 February, 2016











Recursive Definitions

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Definition

Discrete Mathematics Recursion

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- A basis, where some simple cases of the object being defined are explicitly provided,
- (ii) An inductive or recursive step, where new cases of the item being defined are given in terms of previous cases.

Note

Strong connection between induction and recursion.

Types of objects defined recursively

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Recursive Objects

Discrete Mathematics Recursion

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(i) Sequences.

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(ii) Sets.

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- (i) Sequences.
- (ii) Sets.
- (iii) Operations.

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Recursive Objects

- (i) Sequences.
- (ii) Sets.
- (iii) Operations.
- (iv) Algorithms.



Sequences

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Write down the first 5 elements of the following recursively defined sequence:

$$S(1) = 2$$

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The second part of the definition is called a recurrence relation.

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$$\begin{array}{rcl} T(1) & = & 1 \\ T(n) & = & T(n-1) + 3, \ n \geq 2. \end{array}$$

Sequences (contd.)

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Example

Enumerate the first 5 elements of the Fibonacci sequence. Show that

$$F(n+4) = 3 \cdot F(n+2) - F(n)$$
, for all $n \ge 1$

Fibonacci Sequence

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Proof.

Discrete Mathematics Recursion

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We now need to show that

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Observe that,

F(k + 1 + 4) = F(k + 5)= F(k + 4) + F(k + 3), by definition

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$$= F(k + 4) + F(k + 3), \text{ by definition}$$

$$= F(k + 4) + F((k - 1) + 4))$$

$$= 3 \cdot F(k + 2) - F(k) + 3 \cdot F((k - 1) + 2) - F(k - 1), \text{ using the i. b.}$$

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Applying the second principle of mathematical induction, we conclude that the conjecture is true for all $n \ge 1$.

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Discrete Mathematics Recursion

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= $2 \cdot F(n+2) + (F(n+2) - F(n))$

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= $3 \cdot F(n+2) - F(n)$

Recursively Defined Sets

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Example

Discrete Mathematics Recursion

Recursively Defined Sets

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Define the set of ancestors of John.

Recursively Defined Sets

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Recursively Defined Sets

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- (iii) If x and y are words, then so is $x \cdot y$.

Recursively Defined Sets (contd.)

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Discrete Mathematics Recursion

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Recursively Defined Sets (contd.)

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Define the set of binary palindromes.

- (i) The empty string λ is a palindrome.
- (ii) 0 and 1 are palindromes.
- (iii) If x is a palindrome, then so are $0 \cdot x \cdot 0$ and $1 \cdot x \cdot 1$.

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Define multiplication in terms of addition.

$$\begin{array}{rcl} x \cdot 0 & = & 0 \\ x \cdot y & = & x + x \cdot (y - 1), \ y \geq 1. \end{array}$$

Recursively Defined Algorithms

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Function MAX(a, b)

- 1: if $(a \ge b)$ then
- 2: **return**(*a*).
- 3: **else**
- 4: **return**(*b*).
- 5: end if

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The Find-Max Algorithm

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Function FIND-MAX(A, n)
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2: return(A[1]).
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3: else
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4: return(MAX(A[n], FIND-MAX(A, n - 1))).
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Note

Can you prove the correctness of the above algorithm?

Recursive Definitions

Solving recurrences

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Problem definition

Discrete Mathematics Recursion

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Two methods

(i) Expand-Guess-Verify (EGV).

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Two methods

- (i) Expand-Guess-Verify (EGV).
- (ii) Formula.
Expand-Guess-Verify

Expand-Guess-Verify

Example

Discrete Mathematics Recursio

Expand-Guess-Verify

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Example

Consider the recurrence:

S(1) = 1

Expand-Guess-Verify

Example

$$S(1) = 1$$

 $S(n) = S(n-1) + 1, n > 2.$

Expand-Guess-Verify

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Consider the recurrence:

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(i) Expand: S(1) = 1,

Expand-Guess-Verify

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Expand-Guess-Verify

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- (i) Expand: S(1) = 1, S(2) = S(1) + 1 = 2, S(3) = S(2) + 1 = 3,
- (ii) Guess: S(n) =

Example

$$S(1) = 1$$

 $S(n) = S(n-1) + 1, n > 2.$

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- (iii) Verify: Using Induction!

Example

- $\begin{array}{rcl} S(1) & = & 1 \\ S(n) & = & S(n-1)+1, \ n > 2. \end{array}$
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LHS =

Example

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LHS = 1RHS =

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Since LHS=RHS, the basis is proven.

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S(k + 1) = S(k) + 1, by definition = k + 1, by inductive hypothesis

Applying the first principle of mathematical induction, we conclude that S(n) = n.



EGV (contd.)

Example

Discrete Mathematics Recursion

EGV (contd.)

Example

Example

Consider the recurrence:

S(1) = 2

Example

Consider the recurrence:

S(1) = 2 $S(n) = 2 \cdot S(n-1), n \ge 2.$

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S(1) = 2 $S(n) = 2 \cdot S(n-1), n \ge 2.$

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(i) Expand: S(1) = 2,
Example

Consider the recurrence:

S(1) = 2 $S(n) = 2 \cdot S(n-1), n \ge 2.$

(i) Expand: S(1) = 2, S(2) =

Example

Consider the recurrence:

S(1) = 2 $S(n) = 2 \cdot S(n-1), n \ge 2.$

(i) Expand: S(1) = 2, $S(2) = 2 \cdot S(2) = 4$,

Example

- S(1) = 2 $S(n) = 2 \cdot S(n-1), n \ge 2.$
- (i) Expand: S(1) = 2, $S(2) = 2 \cdot S(2) = 4$, S(3) = 4

Example

Consider the recurrence:

S(1) = 2 $S(n) = 2 \cdot S(n-1), n \ge 2.$

(i) Expand: S(1) = 2, $S(2) = 2 \cdot S(2) = 4$, $S(3) = 2 \cdot S(2) = 8$,

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- (ii) Guess: $S(n) = 2^n$.

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LHS = 2

Example

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- (iii) Verify: Using Induction! BASIS: n = 1

$$LHS = 2$$

 $RHS = 2^1$

Example

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- (iii) Verify: Using Induction! BASIS: n = 1

$$LHS = 2$$
$$RHS = 2^{1}$$
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Since LHS=RHS, the basis is proven.

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- (iii) Verify: Using Induction! BASIS: n = 1

LHS = 2 $RHS = 2^{1}$ = 2

Since LHS=RHS, the basis is proven. INDUCTIVE STEP: Assume that $S(k) = 2^k$.

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$$S(k + 1) = 2 \cdot S(k), \text{ by definition}$$

= 2 \cdot 2^k, by inductive hypothesis
= 2^{k+1}.

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Consider the recurrence:

- S(1) = 2 $S(n) = 2 \cdot S(n-1), n \ge 2.$
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- (ii) Guess: $S(n) = 2^n$.
- (iii) Verify: Using Induction! BASIS: *n* = 1

LHS = 2 $RHS = 2^{1}$ = 2

Since LHS=RHS, the basis is proven.

INDUCTIVE STEP: Assume that $S(k) = 2^k$. We need to show that $S(k + 1) = 2^{k+1}$. Observe that,

$$S(k + 1) = 2 \cdot S(k), \text{ by definition}$$

= $2 \cdot 2^k$, by inductive hypothesis
= 2^{k+1} .

Applying the first principle of mathematical induction, we conclude that $S(n) = 2^{n}$.





Example

Discrete Mathematics Recursion



Example

Example

Solve the recurrence:

T(1) = 1

Example

$$T(1) = 1$$

 $T(n) = T(n-1) + 3, n \ge 2.$

Example

Solve the recurrence:

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$$T(n) = T(n-1) + 3, n \ge 2.$$

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$$T(n) = T(n-1) + 3, n \ge 2.$$

(i) Expand:
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Example

Solve the recurrence:

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 $T(n) = T(n-1) + 3, n \ge 2.$

(i) Expand: T(1) = 1, T(2) = T(1) + 3 = 4, T(3) = T(2) + 3 = 7,

Example

Solve the recurrence:

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 $T(n) = T(n-1) + 3, n \ge 2.$

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(i) Expand:
$$T(1) = 1$$
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, $T(2) = T(1) + 3 = 4$, $T(3) = T(2) + 3 = 7$, ...

- (ii) Guess: $T(n) = 3 \cdot n 2$.
- (iii) Verify: Somebody from class!

Formula approach

Formula approach

Definition

Discrete Mathematics Recursion
Definition

A general linear recurrence has the form:

Definition

A general linear recurrence has the form:

$$S(n) = f_1(n) \cdot S(n-1) + f_2(n) \cdot S(n-2) + \dots + f_k(n) \cdot S(n-k) + g(n)$$

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Note

The above formula is called linear, because the S() terms occur only in the first power.

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The recurrence is called homogeneous, if g(n) = 0, for all n.

Solving Recurrences

Linear first-order recurrence with constant coefficients

Linear first-order recurrence with constant coefficients

Linear first-order recurrence with constant coefficients

$$S(1) = k_0$$

Linear first-order recurrence with constant coefficients

$$S(1) = k_0$$

 $S(n) = c \cdot S(n-1) + g(n)$

Linear first-order recurrence with constant coefficients

Formula for Linear first-order recurrence

$$S(1) = k_0$$

 $S(n) = c \cdot S(n-1) + g(n)$

 \Rightarrow S(n) =

Linear first-order recurrence with constant coefficients

Formula for Linear first-order recurrence

$$S(1) = k_0$$

 $S(n) = c \cdot S(n-1) + g(n)$

 $\Rightarrow S(n) = c^{n-1} \cdot k_0 +$

Linear first-order recurrence with constant coefficients

$$S(1) = k_0$$

$$S(n) = c \cdot S(n-1) + g(n)$$

$$\Rightarrow S(n) = c^{n-1} \cdot k_0 + \sum_{i=2}^n c^{n-i} \cdot g(i).$$





Example

Discrete Mathematics Recursion

Example

Example

$$S(1) = 2$$

Example

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$$S(1) = 2$$

 $S(n) = 2 \cdot S(n-1), n \ge 2.$

Example

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As per the formula, $k_0 = 2$, g(n) =

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= 2ⁿ.

Another Example

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Example

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Second Order homogeneous Linear Recurrence with constant coefficients

Second Order homogeneous Linear Recurrence with constant coefficients

Formula

Discrete Mathematics Recursion

Second Order homogeneous Linear Recurrence with constant coefficients

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 (a) If r₁ ≠ r₂, solve

$$p+q = S(1)$$

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Recursive Definitions

Examples of second order recurrences

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Solve the recurrence relation

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Solve the recurrence relation

T(1) = 5

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One More Example

One More Example

Example

Discrete Mathematics Recursion

Example

Solve the recurrence relation:

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S(1) = 1

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$$\begin{array}{rcl} S(1) & = & 1 \\ S(2) & = & 12 \\ S(n) & = & 8 \cdot S(n-1) - 16 \cdot S(n-2), \ n \geq 3 \end{array}$$

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Recursive Definitions

Divide and Conquer Recurrences

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$$S(1) = k_0$$

Divide and Conquer Recurrences

$$\begin{array}{rcl} S(1) & = & k_0 \\ S(n) & = & c \cdot S(\frac{n}{2}) + g(n), \ n \geq 2, \ n = 2^m. \end{array}$$

Divide and Conquer Recurrences

Formula for Divide and Conquer Recurrence

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Divide and Conquer Recurrences

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Divide and Conquer Recurrences

 \Rightarrow

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$$S(n) = c^{\log n} \cdot k_0 + \sum_{i=1}^{\log n} c^{\log n-i} \cdot g(2^i).$$

Divide and Conquer Recurrences

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Note that $c^{\log n-i}$ in the expression above stands for $\frac{c^{\log n}}{c^{i}}$.





Example





Example

Example

$$C(1) = 1$$

Example

$$\begin{array}{rcl} C(1) & = & 1 \\ C(n) & = & 1 + C(\frac{n}{2}), \ n \geq 2, \ n = 2^{m}. \end{array}$$

Example

Solve the recurrence:

$$C(1) = 1$$

$$C(n) = 1 + C(\frac{n}{2}), \ n \ge 2, \ n = 2^{m}.$$

Note that

Example

Solve the recurrence:

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Example

Discrete Mathematics Recursion

$$T(1) = 3$$

$$T(n) = 2 \cdot T(\frac{n}{2}) + 2 \cdot n, \ n \ge 2, \ n = 2^{m}.$$

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Recursive Definitions

Analysis of Algorithms

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Solving Recurrences

Analysis of Algorithms

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Note

How many element-to-element comparisons are performed by the FIND-MAX() algorithm on an array of size n?