

# Recurrence Relations

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# Outline

## 1 Recurrences

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2 Solving Recurrences

# Sample Recurrences

## Examples

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(i)

$$S(1) = 2$$

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

(ii)

$$T(1) = 1$$

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

# Sample Recurrences

## Examples

(i)

$$\begin{aligned} S(1) &= 2 \\ S(n) &= 2 \cdot S(n-1), \quad n \geq 2. \end{aligned}$$

(ii)

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

(iii)

$$\begin{aligned} F(1) &= 1 \\ F(2) &= 1 \\ F(n) &= F(n-1) + F(n-2), \quad n \geq 3 \end{aligned}$$

# Solving recurrences

Three methods



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

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- (iii) Recursion Tree.

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



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- (iii) Verify: Somebody from class!

# Formula approach



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A general linear recurrence has the form:

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$$S(1) = k_0$$

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

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

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$$\begin{aligned} S(n) &= 2^{n-1} \cdot 2 + \sum_{i=2}^n 2^{n-i} \cdot 0 \\ &= 2^n \end{aligned}$$

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Solve the recurrence:

$$S(1) = 4$$

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$$S(n) = 2 \cdot S(n-1) + 3, \quad n \geq 2.$$

As per the formula,  $k_0 = 4$ ,  $g(n) = 3$  and  $c = 2$ . Thus,

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

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Solve the recurrence relation

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$$T(n) = 6 \cdot T(n-1) - 5 \cdot T(n-2), n \geq 3$$

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(iii) Accordingly, the solution is  $T(n) = 3 \cdot 1^{n-1} + 2 \cdot 5^{n-1} = 3 + 2 \cdot 5^{n-1}$ .



# One More Example

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Solve the recurrence relation:

$$S(1) = 1$$

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$$S(n) = 8 \cdot S(n-1) - 16 \cdot S(n-2), \quad n \geq 3$$

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(iii) Accordingly, the solution is  $S(n) = 4^{n-1} + 2 \cdot (n-1) \cdot 4^{n-1} = (2n-1) \cdot 4^{n-1}$ .

□

# Divide and Conquer Recurrence

Formula for Divide and Conquer Recurrence

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# The Master Method

## Theorem

Let  $a \geq 1$  and  $b \geq 1$  be constants.

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*Proof is via induction. Outside scope of class. The master theorem does not cover all cases!*

# Some examples

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- (v)  $T(n) = 2 \cdot T(\sqrt{n}) + \log n.$