

CISC 102 (Fall 20)
Homework #5: Sequences, Recursion & Induction (25
Points)

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Solutions are due before 11:59 PM on **November 1, 2020** .

1. (2pts)

Prove by induction that

$$\sum_{j=1}^n 2^j = 2^{n+1} - 2, \forall n \geq 1$$

This gives us the sequence:

$$2^1 + 2^2 + 2^3 + \dots 2^n = 2^{n+1} - 2.$$

Here is how we get the base case:

$$\sum_{j=1}^n 2^j = 2^1 = 0$$

Next assume that for $k \geq 0$ so that $\sum_{j=1}^k 2^j = 2^{k+1} - 2$,

and we assume that $\sum_{j=1}^{k+1} 2^j = 2^{k+2} - 2$.

Using recursion we can come up with the following:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=1}^{k+1} 2^j &= \left(\sum_{j=1}^k 2^j \right) + 2^{k+1} \\ &= (2^{k+1} - 2) + 2^{k+1} \\ &= 2 * 2^{k+1} - 2 \\ &= 2^{k+2} - 2 \end{aligned}$$

This proves that this is true $\forall n \geq 1$, because even with the -2, any number will result in a positive integer.

2. (2pts)

Prove by induction:

$$\forall n \geq 1, (n^3 - n) \text{ is divisible by } 3$$

For $n = 1$, we get $1-1 = 0$, and this is divisible by 3.

Assume that n is true

Then we get:

$$\begin{aligned} &(n+1)^3 - (n+1) \\ &= n^3 + 3n^2 + 3n + 1 - n - 1 \\ &= (n^3 - n) + 3n^2 + 3n \\ &= 3k + 3n^2 + 3n \end{aligned}$$

$$= 3(k + n^2 + n)$$

\therefore this is divisible by three, for all positive integers.

3. (2pts)

Find a closed form for

$$a_1 = 2, a_n = a_{n-1} + n + 6$$

$$a_1 = 2$$

$$a_2 = a_1 + 2 + 6 = 2 + 2 + 6$$

$$a_3 = a_2 + 3 + 6 = 2 + (2 + 3) + 2 * 6$$

$$a_4 = a_3 + 4 + 6 = 2 + (2 + 3) + 2 * 6 + 4 + 6 = 2 + (2 + 3 + 4) + 3 * 6$$

This pattern implies that there is a pattern of :

$$a_n = 2 + \frac{(n-1)(2+n)}{2} + 6(n-1)$$

and therefore this is the closed form.

4. (2pts)

Find a closed form for the recurrence relation

$$a_n = a_{n-1} + 2n, \text{ with } a_1 = 2$$

Prove that your closed form is correct.

$$a_n = a_{n-1} + 2n$$

$$= (a_{n-2} + 2(n-1)) + 2n = a_{n-2} + 2((n-1) + n)$$

$$= (a_{n-3} + 2(n-2)) + 2((n-1) + n) = a_{n-3} + 2((n-2) + (n-1) + n)$$

$$= a_1 + 2(2 + 3 + \dots + (n-2) + (n-1) + n)$$

$$= 2 + 2(2 + 3 + 4 \dots + (n-2) + (n-1) + n)$$

$$= 2(1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + \dots + (n-2) + (n-1) + n)$$

$$= 2 * \frac{n(n+1)}{2} = n(n+1)$$

$$= n^2 + n$$

\therefore our closed form is $n^2 + n$

To proof that this is true, we need to look at the given.

$$\text{Let } P(n) = a_n = n^2 + n$$

$$n = 1$$

$$P(1) = 1^2 + 1 = 2$$

Thus $P(1)$ is true.

To prove that $P(k+1)$ is true:

$$a_{k+1} = a_{(k+1)-1} + 2(k+1)$$

$$= a_k + 2(k+1)$$

$$= k^2 + k + 2(k+1)$$

$$= k^2 + k + 2k + 2$$

$$= (k^2 + 2k + 1) + (k + 1)$$

$$= (k+1)^2 + (k+1)$$

$\therefore P(k+1)$ is true, and therefore $P(n)$ is true for all positive integers.

5. (4pts)

- (a) Find a recurrence relation that defines the sequence 1, 1, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 9, 15, 26, ...
(Hint: each number in the sequence is based on the four numbers just before it in the sequence.)

This is a recurrence relation that defines this sequence:

$$P(n) = (a_{n-1} + a_{n-2} + a_{n-3}) - a_{n-4}$$

- (b) Now find a different sequence that satisfies the recurrence relation you found in (a)

Another sequence we can do is starting at 3 so:

3, 3, 3, 3, 6, 9, 15, 27,

6. (2pts)

Consider the following recurrence relation:

$$a_n = a_{n-1} + 2n, \text{ with } a_1 = 3$$

Prove by induction that

$$a_n = n^2 + n + 1 \quad \forall n \geq 1$$

Let $P(n) = a_n = n^2 + n + 1$

$$n = 1$$

$$a_n = a_1 = 3$$

$$\therefore n^2 + n + 1 = 1^2 + 1 + 1 = 1 + 1 + 1 = 3$$

Therefore $P(1)$ is true.

We can then assume that $P(k)$ is true. To prove this we go:

$$a_k = k^2 + k + 1$$

$$a_{k+1} = a_{(k+1)-1} + 2(k+1)$$

$$= a_k + 2(k+1)$$

$$= k^2 + k + 1 + 2(k+1)$$

$$= k^2 + k + 1 + 2k + 2$$

$$= (k^2 + 2k + 1) + k + 2$$

$$= (k+1)^2 + k + 2$$

$$= (k+1)^2 + (k+1) + 1$$

Therefore $a_n = n^2 + n + 1 \quad \forall n \geq 1$ because of the +1, and so this will always be greater than, or equal to 1 in the case that $(k+1)$ is equal to zero.

7. (2pts)

Consider the following recurrence relation:

$$a_n = 2 \cdot a_{n-1} - 3 \text{ with } a_1 = 5$$

Prove by induction that

$$(a_n = 2^n + 3 \forall n \geq 1)$$

We will assign this statement as $P(n)$:

$$P(n) : a_n = 2^n + 3, n \geq 1$$

$P(1) = 2^1 + 3 = 5$ Therefore $P(1)$ as our base case is true.

Assume $P(k)$ is true:

$$a_k = 2^k + 3$$

$$a_{k+1} = 2^{k+1} + 3$$

$$a_{k+1} = 2a_k - 3$$

$$= 2(2^k + 3) - 3$$

$$= 2a_k + 2 \cdot 3 - 3$$

$$= 2a_k + 3$$

$\therefore P(k+1)$ is true for all $n \geq 1$

8. (4pts)

(a) Find a closed-form solution for this recurrence relation:

$$a_n = 2 \cdot a_{n-1} - n + 1 \text{ with } a_1 = 2$$

$$a_n = 2a_{n-1} - n + 1$$

$$a_1 = 2$$

$$a_1 = 2$$

$$a_2 = 2a_1 - 2 + 1 = 2(2) - 2 + 1 = 3$$

$$a_3 = 2a_2 - 3 + 1 = 2(3) - 3 + 1 = 4$$

$$a_4 = 2a_3 - 4 + 1 = 2(4) - 4 + 1 = 5$$

etc...

We can say that $a_n = n + 1$

(b) Prove that your closed-form solution is correct

Let $P(n)$ be $a_n = n + 1$

$$n = 1$$

$$a_n = a_1 = 2$$

$$n + 1 = 1 + 1 = 2$$

Therefore we can say the $P(1)$ is true.

Assume that $P(k)$ is also true: $a_k = k + 1$

$$a_k + 1 = 2a_{(k+1)-1} - (k + 1) + 1$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= 2a_k - k \\
&= 2(k+1) - k \\
&= 2k + 2 - k \\
&= k + 2 \\
&= (k+1) + 1 \\
&\therefore P(k+1) \text{ is true, for all positive integers.}
\end{aligned}$$

9. (5 pts)

Let $P(n)$ be the statement that a postage of n cents can be formed using just 4-cent stamps and 7-cent stamps. The parts of this exercise outline a strong induction proof that $P(n)$ is true for all integers $n \geq 18$.

- (a) Show that the statements $P(18)$, $P(19)$, $P(20)$, and $P(21)$ are true, completing the basis step of a proof by strong induction that $P(n)$ is true for all integers $n \geq 18$.

$P(18)$ is true because 18 cents can be formed using two 7-cent stamps and a 4-cent stamp.

Here we can show $2 * 7 + 4 = 18$

$P(19)$ is true because we can use a 7-cent stamp and three 4-cent stamps to find 19.

Here we can show that $7 + 3 * 4 = 19$

$P(20)$ is true because we can use five 4-cent stamps to find 20.

Here we can show that $5 * 4 = 20$

$P(21)$ is true because we can use three 7-cent stamps to find 21.

Here we can show that $3 * 7 = 21$

- (b) What is the inductive hypothesis of a proof by strong induction that $P(n)$ is true for all integers $n \geq 18$?

Assume that $P(18), P(19), P(20), \dots, P(k)$ are true. This means that any postage from 18 to k cents can be formed using 4 and 7 cent stamps.

- (c) What do you need to prove in the inductive step of a proof that $P(n)$ is true for all integers $n \geq 18$?

To prove that $P(n)$ is true for all integers $n \geq 18$ we need to show that $P(k+1)$ is true and $k+1$ postage can be formed using 4 and 7 cent stamps.

(d) Complete the inductive step for $k \geq 21$.

Since $k+1 = (k-3) + 4$, $P(k+1)$ must be true because we know that $P(k-3)$ is true through inductive hypothesis. Since this is true, the number of 7 cent stamps are the same for $k+1$ and $k-3$, while the 4 cent stamps are one more for $k+1$.

(e) Explain why these steps show that $P(n)$ is true for all integers $n \geq 18$.

We can determine that $P(n)$ is true for integers $n \geq 18$ through the principle of strong induction. This is because we proved the base case $P(k)$ as $P(18)$, and therefore we can assume that $P(k+1)$ is true, and therefore all integers $n \geq 18$ are true.