

Military Institute of Science and Technology
Department of Computer Science and Engineering
Mathematical Analysis for Computer Science
CSE-313

Practice Problem on Chapter 1 and 2

1. Let Q_n be the minimum number of moves needed to transfer a tower of n disks from A to B if all moves must be clockwise [that is, from A to B, or from B to the other peg, or from the other peg to A. Also, let R_n be the minimum number of moves needed to go from B back to A under this restriction. Prove that


$$Q_n = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } n = 0; \\ 2R_{n-1} + 1, & \text{if } n > 0; \end{cases} \quad R_n = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } n = 0; \\ Q_n + Q_{n-1} + 1, & \text{if } n > 0. \end{cases}$$

2. If W is the minimum number of moves needed to transfer a tower of n disks from one peg to another when there are four pegs instead of three, show that

$$W_{n(n+1)/2} \leq 2W_{n(n-1)/2} + T_n, \quad \text{for } n > 0.$$

(Here $T = 2^n - 1$ is the ordinary three-peg number.)

3. Suppose there are $2n$ people in a circle; the first n are "good guys" and the last n are "bad guys." Show that it is always an integer m (depending on n) such that, if we go around the circle executing every m th person, all the bad guys are first to go. (For example, when $n = 3$ we can take $m = 5$; when $n = 4$ we can take $m = 30$.)

4.  $n = \sum_{0 \leq k \leq n} K^3 = \frac{n^2(n+1)^2}{4}$ Prove it,

- i) By induction
- ii) Using Perturbation
- iii) Using Repertoire