

Homework 4

Problem 1. Express the n^{th} term of the sequences given by the following recurrence relations

1. $a_0 = 2, a_1 = 3, a_{n+2} = 3a_n - 2a_{n+1} \ (n = 0, 1, 2, \dots).$
2. $a_0 = 1, a_{n+1} = 2a_n + 3 \ (n = 0, 1, 2, \dots).$

Solution.

- (1) As we can get the characteristic equation $x^2 + 2x - 3 = 0$, so $x_1 = -3$ and $x_2 = 1$, we can assume $a_n = c_1(-3)^n + c_2$.
Then, we make $n = 0$ and $n = 1$, get $c_1 + c_2 = 2$; $-3c_1 + c_2 = 3$, so $c_1 = -\frac{1}{4}, c_2 = \frac{9}{4}$, it means $a_n = -\frac{1}{4}(-3)^n + \frac{9}{4}$.
- (2) For special solution, we assume its form follows $a'_n = c_1$, then we can get $c_1 = -3$. For homogeneous part, $a_n = c_2 2^n$, for $a_0 = 1$, we can get $c_2 = 1$. As is mentioned above, $a_n = -3 + 2^n$.

Problem 2. Solve the recurrence relation $a_{n+2} = \sqrt{a_{n+1}a_n}$ with initial conditions $a_0 = 2, a_1 = 8$ and find $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$.

Solution.

- (1) We can use logarithm to simplify the equation as $\log(a_{n+2}) = \frac{1}{2} \log(a_{n+1}) + \frac{1}{2} \log(a_n)$, we define $b_n = \log(a_n)$.
we can get the characteristic equation as $2x^2 - x - 1 = 0 \Rightarrow x_1 = -\frac{1}{2}, x_2 = 1$, it means the solution have the form $b_n = c_1 + c_2(-\frac{1}{2})^n$, as $b_0 = \log(2), b_1 = 3 \log(2)$, we can get $b_n = \frac{7}{3} \log(2) - \frac{4}{3} \log(2)(-\frac{1}{2})^n$. Therefore, if we choose $e = 2.718281828 \dots$ as logarithm base, $a_n = \exp(\frac{7}{3} \ln(2) - \frac{4}{3} \ln(2)(-\frac{1}{2})^n)$.
- (2) As $n \rightarrow \infty, a_n \rightarrow 2^{\frac{7}{3}}$.

Problem 3. Fill in the blanks with either true (\checkmark) or false (\times)

Problem 4. 1. Find two functions $f(x)$ and $g(x)$ such that $f(x) \neq O(g(x))$ and $g(x) \neq O(f(x))$.

$f(n)$	$g(n)$	$f = O(g)$	$f = \Omega(g)$	$f = \Theta(g)$
$2n^3 + 3n$	$100n^2 + 2n + 100$	×	✓	×
$50n + \log n$	$10n + \log \log n$	✓	✓	✓
$50n \log n$	$10n \log \log n$	×	✓	✓
$\log n$	$\log^2 n$	✓	×	×
$n!$	5^n	✓	×	×

2. Furthermore, we say a function $h : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is monotonically increasing if it satisfies the property ' $x \leq y \Rightarrow h(x) \leq h(y)$ '.

Find two monotonically increasing functions $f(x)$ and $g(x)$ such that $f(x) \neq O(g(x))$ and $g(x) \neq O(f(x))$.

(Please give the detailed proof that your functions satisfy the requirements.)

Solution.

(1) As we can define a pair of functions to satisfy this situation as follows:

$$f(x) = x, x \in \mathbb{N}$$

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} x + 1 & , x \in \text{Even}, \\ x - 1 & , x \in \text{Odd}. \end{cases}$$

For this pair of function, we can find there not exists a specific relation between them, which can satisfy origin situation.

(2) We can give a pair of functions as follows:

$$f(x) = x, x \in \mathbb{N}$$

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} x + 1 & , x \in \text{Even}, \\ x - 1 & , x \in \text{Odd}. \end{cases}$$

For $f(x)$ and $g(x)$, they are both monotonically increasing functions, but we can find:

- if $x \in \text{Odd}$, $g(x) < f(x)$, therefore, $g(x) \neq O(f(x))$.
- if $x \in \text{Even}$, $g(x) > f(x)$, therefore, $f(x) \neq O(g(x))$.

As is mentioned above, this pair of functions satisfy this situation.

Problem 5.

- a) Show that the product of all primes p with $m + 1 < p \leq 2m$ is at most $\binom{2m}{m}$.
- b) Using a), prove the estimate $\pi(n) = O(\frac{n}{\ln n})$, where $\pi(n)$ denotes the number of primes not exceeding the number n .

Solution.

(a) $C_{m+1}^{2m+1} = \binom{2m+1}{m+1} = \frac{(2m+1)!}{(m+1)!m!} = \frac{(2m+1)2m \cdots (m+2)}{m(m-1) \cdots 2 \cdot 1}$. As we all know this number is an integer, and all the prime number between $m + 1$ and $2m$ can't be divided by denominator $m, (m - 1), \dots, 2, 1$, it means once C_{m+1}^{2m+1} be divided by all the prime between $m + 1$ and $2m$, it still remains a positive integer (positive integer must be greater than 1). Therefore, the product of all primes between $m + 1$ and $2m$ is at most C_{m+1}^{2m+1} .

(b) According to a), we have $\prod_{\frac{n}{2} \leq p \leq n, \text{prime}} < C_{\frac{n}{2}}^n < 4^n$. We can define t as a constant number which is smaller than $\frac{n}{2}$. So we have $t^{\pi(n) - \pi(\frac{n}{2})} < \prod_{\frac{n}{2} \leq p \leq n, \text{prime}} < C_{\frac{n}{2}}^n < 4^n$. So we can get $\pi(n) - \pi(\frac{n}{2}) \leq \frac{n \ln(4)}{\ln(t)}$, with iteration, we can get $\pi(n) \leq \frac{n \ln(4)}{\ln(t)} \times (2 - \frac{2}{n}) < \frac{2n \ln(4)}{\ln(t)}$. We let $n = \frac{1}{2}n$, it makes $\pi(n) \leq \frac{2n \ln(4)}{\ln(n) - \ln(2)} \leq \frac{4n \ln(4)}{\ln(n)}$, it means $\pi(n) = O(\frac{n}{\ln n})$.