

Mathematica Problems on Recurrence Relations (RR) and Cellular Automata (CA)

1. A particle moves horizontally to the right. For $n \in \mathbf{Z}^+$, the distance the particle travels in the $(n + 1)$ st second is equal to 4 times the distance it travels during the n th second. If $x_n, n \geq 0$, denotes the position of the particle at the start of the $(n + 1)$ st second, find a recurrence relation for x_n , where $x_0 = 1$ and $x_1 = 3$. Solve it on the computer. Plot with command `DiscretePlot` the first 10 values of x_n (and logarithm for higher values).

2. Check if you, like in the logistic map, can see a couple of period doublings for $g(x) = a \sin(\pi x)$. Starting value is still between 0 and 1 and a lies also between zero and one. Make an estimate of Feigenbaums constant from your observations. The program will protest somewhat when you use the command `Solve` but you can trust the output.**OP**

3. Run rule 225 for a seed of length 1000. All cells are white initially except for a black cell at position 10. Iterate 1000 times and present the figure. Write 225 in base 2, using for example the command `BaseForm`, and try to understand the rule in detail.

4. Run the rule 90016 starting with a wall, that is a square of black cells. Take for example a 100 times 100 grid and put the wall at rows and columns 10 and 90. Iterate 1,2,3,.. 10,100, 500 times. What happens? Express 90016 in base 2, using `BaseForm`, and describe in words the rule, when will birth and survival happen? Note `;;` can be used in the construction of the seed. `seed[[10;;90,1]] = 1` gives the value 1 to all elements in the column 1 from row 10 to row 90.