

Proof by Induction for The Recursive Function $pop(n)$

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$$pop(n) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } n = 0. \\ 1, & \text{if } n = 1. \\ \lfloor \frac{5 \cdot pop(n-1)}{2} \rfloor - pop(n-2), & \text{if } n \geq 2. \end{cases}$$

The following proof shows that the function pop as defined above recursively, is equal to 2^{n-1} for all $n \in \mathbb{W}$.

Base Cases:

$$\begin{aligned} pop(0) &= 0, & 2^{0-1} &= 0 \\ pop(1) &= 1, & 2^0 &= 1 \\ pop(2) &= 2, & 2^1 &= 2 \end{aligned}$$

Inductive Step: Assume $pop(n) = 2^{n-1}$ for some $n \in \mathbb{W}$, we will show that this implies $pop(n+1) = 2^n$.

$$\begin{aligned} pop(n+1) &= \lfloor \frac{5 \cdot pop(n)}{2} \rfloor - pop(n-1) \\ &\stackrel{\text{IH}}{=} \lfloor \frac{5 \cdot 2^{n-1}}{2} \rfloor - 2^{n-2} \\ &= 5 \cdot 2^{n-2} - 2^{n-2} \\ &= 4 \cdot 2^{n-2} \\ &= 2^n \end{aligned}$$

Thus, it is shown that $pop(n) = 2^{n-1}$ for all $n \in \mathbb{W}$.