

**Quiz 4A (Module 6)**  
**Recurrence Relations**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
ID \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*\*ONLY THE ANSWERS IN THE ANSWER SHEET WILL BE GRADED.\*\*\***

**Part A: Multiple choice questions (12 points)**

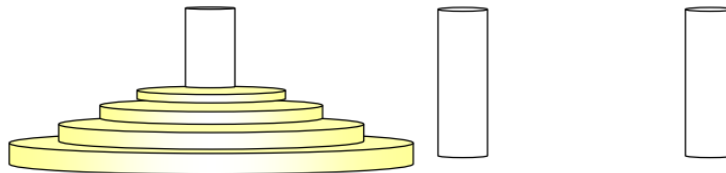
**Question 1-2:** Let the recurrence relation  $a_n$  be the number of ternary strings (a string that contains only 0s, 1s, and 2s) of length  $n$  that **DO NOT** contain **three consecutive 0s**.

1. Given  $a_n$  is in the form of  $a_n = Aa_{n-1} + Ba_{n-2} + Ca_{n-3}$  Find  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  respectively.
  - a. 2, 2, 4
  - b. 1, 2, 4
  - c. 1, 2, 3
  - d. 2, 2, 2
2. How many possible ternary strings of length 5?
  - a. 111
  - b. 222
  - c. 333
  - d. 444

**Question 3-4:** Let the recurrence relation  $a_n$  be the number of ways to climb  $n$  stairs if the person climbing the stairs can take **one** or **three** stairs at a time ( $n \geq 1$ ).

3. Given  $a_n$  is in the form of  $a_n = Aa_{n-1} + Ba_{n-2} + Ca_{n-3} + Da_{n-4}$  Find  $A$ ,  $B$ ,  $C$  and  $D$  respectively.
  - a. 0, 0, 1, 1
  - b. 0, 1, 0, 1
  - c. 1, 0, 1, 0
  - d. 1, 1, 0, 0
4. How many possible ways to climb 6 stairs?
  - a. 6
  - b. 5
  - c. 4
  - d. 3

**Question 5-6:** Let the recurrence relation  $a_n$  be **the minimum moves** needed to solve the “Tower of Hanoi” problem with  $n$  disks. ( $n \geq 1$ ).



[Recalled the **rules of the game**, move a disk at a time from one peg to another, never place a disk on a smaller disk, and the goal is to have all disks on the second peg in order of size.]

5. Given  $a_n$  is in the form of  $a_n = Aa_{n-1} + Ba_{n-2} + C$  Find  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  respectively.
  - a. 2, 0, 1
  - b. 2, 1, 0
  - c. 1, 0, 2
  - d. 1, 2, 0

**Quiz 4A (Module 6)**  
**Recurrence Relations**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
ID \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_

6. Find the **minimum moves** needed to solve the “**Tower of Hanoi**” problem with 5 disks?
- a. 21                      b. 31                      c. 42                      d. 63

**Question 7-8:** The recurrence relation satisfied by  $a_n$  where  $a_n$  is the number of intersection points from those  $n$  lines and  $b_n$  is the number of regions that a plane is divided into by  $n$  lines, if no two of the lines are parallel and no three of the lines go through the same point.

7. Given  $a_n$  is in the form of  $a_n = Aa_{n-1} + Ba_{n-2} + Cn + K$  Find  $A + B + C + K$
- a. -1                      b. 0                      c. 1                      d. 2
8. Let  $c_n = a_n + b_n$  and  $c_n$  is in the form of  $c_n = Ac_{n-1} + Bc_{n-2} + Cn + K$   
Find  $A + B + C + K$
- a. -1                      b. 0                      c. 1                      d. 2

**Question 9-10:** The recurrence relation satisfied by  $a_n$  where  $a_n$  is the number of ways to completely cover a  $2 \times n$  checkerboard with  $1 \times 2$  dominoes. [Hint: Consider separately the coverings where the position in the top right corner of the checkerboard is covered by a domino positioned horizontally and where it is covered by a domino positioned vertically.]

9. Given  $a_n$  is in the form of  $a_n = Aa_{n-1} + Ba_{n-2} + Ca_{n-3} + Da_{n-4}$   
Find  $A, B, C$  and  $D$  respectively.
- a. 1, 0, 0, 1  
b. 0, 1, 0, 1  
c. 1, 0, 1, 0  
d. 1, 1, 0, 0
10. From  $a_n$  got in the question 9, find  $a_7$ .
- a. 13                      b. 14                      c. 20                      d. 21

**Question 11-12:** There are  $n$  lamp labelled  $1, 2, \dots, n$ . Lamp 1 can be switched on or off at any time. Lamp  $k$ , where  $1 < k \leq n$  can only be switched (on or off) when the lamp  $k - 1$  is the only lamp that is on out of lamps  $1, 2, \dots, k - 1$ . Given that all lamps are initially off, and let  $P(n)$  be the **minimum moves to turn on the lamp  $n$** .

11. Find  $P(n)$ .
- a.  $1 + \frac{n(n-1)}{2}$   
b.  $2^n - 1$   
c.  $2^{n-1}$   
d.  $P(n - 1) + 2P(n - 2)$  when  $n > 2$
12. Find  $P(3)$ .
- a. 4                      b. 5                      c. 6                      d. 7

**Quiz 4A (Module 6)**  
**Recurrence Relations**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
ID \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_

**Part B: Numeric response questions (11 points)**

13. [4 points] Given  $a_n = 2a_{n-1} + 3a_{n-2}$  with  $a_0 = 1$  and  $a_1 = 7$  for  $n \geq 2$ . Do the following tasks.
- Let  $r_1, r_2$  be the answers of the characteristic equation where  $r_1 < r_2$ .  
Solve the characteristic equation to find  $r_1$  and  $r_2$ .
  - From a., given that the unique solution is in the form of  $a_n = A(r_1)^n + B(r_2)^n$ . Solve for the unique solution to find  $A$  and  $B$ .
14. [7 points] The solution of the recurrence relation  $a_n = 5a_{n-1} - 6a_{n-2} + 2n$  for  $n \geq 2$  where  $a_0 = 0$  and  $a_1 = 2$ . If general solution is in the form of  $a_n = A3^n + B(C^n) + Dn^2 + En + F$
- Find the value of  $[A], B, C, D, E$  and  $[F]$
  - Find  $a_5$
15. [Bonus 4 points] A hunter, Taeyeon, and an invisible bunny play a game in the Euclidean plane. The bunny's starting point,  $A_0$  and the Taeyeon's starting point,  $B_0$  **are the same** (Hint :  $D_0 = ?$ ). After  $n - 1$  rounds of the game, the bunny is at point  $A_{n-1}$  and the hunter is at point  $B_{n-1}$ . In the  $n^{th}$  round of the game, three things occur in order:
- The bunny moves invisibly away from Taeyeon to a point  $A_n$  such that the distance between  $A_{n-1}$  and  $A_n$  is exactly 1.
  - A tracking device reports a point  $P_n$  to Taeyeon. The guarantees provided by the tracking device to Taeyeon are that the distance between  $P_n$  and  $A_n$  is exactly 1 and the vector  $\vec{A_n P_n}$  perpendicular to the vector  $\vec{A_n A_{n-1}}$ .
  - Taeyeon moves visibly to a point  $B_n$  which is the direction to the tracking point such that the distance between  $B_{n-1}$  and  $B_n$  is exactly 1.

Let  $D_n$  is distance between the Taeyeon and the bunny after  $n$  rounds and let's say that the

recurrence relation of  $D_n = \sqrt{(D_{n-1} + 1)^2 + 1} - 1$  by approximately after somehow

**"MAGIC"** solving and got that  $D_n = \sqrt{n + X - Y\sqrt{n + Z}}$ . **Find  $D_0, X, Y$  and  $Z$  respectively.**

[Hint: Maybe let  $F_n = (D_n + 1)^2$  can help?, FYI:  $X, Y, Z$  are positive integers.]

**"Well, That Part Is A Little Dramatic." -Tenet-**

**Quiz 4A (Module 6)**  
**Recurrence Relations**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 ID \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_

## ANSWER SHEET for Quiz 4A

**Part A:** Choose the correct answer and provide the **X** mark.

No.	Choice				No.	Choice				No.	Choice			
	a.	b.	c.	d.		a.	b.	c.	d.		a.	b.	c.	d.
1.					5.					9.				
2.					6.					10.				
3.					7.					11.				
4.					8.					12.				

**Part B:** Provide an answer in terms of **INTEGER ONLY**.

No.	Variables	Answer	Variables	Answer
13.	$r_1$		$A$	
	$r_2$		$B$	
14.	$[A]$		$D$	
	$B$		$E$	
	$C$		$[F]$	
	$a_5$			
15.	$D_0$		$Y$	
	$X$		$Z$	

"Well, That Part Is A Little Dramatic." -Tenet-