

CS 230 : Discrete Computational Structures

Fall Semester, 2024

ASSIGNMENT #7

Due Date: Wednesday, October 30

**Suggested Reading:** Rosen Sections 5.2 - 5.3; Lehman et al. Chapters 5, 6.1 - 6.3

For the problems below, explain your answers and show your reasoning.

1. [8 Pts] Give an inductive definition for the following sequences  $a_0, a_1, \dots$ 
  - (a) 3, 9, 15, 21, ...
  - (b) 4, 11, 25, 53, ...
2. [8 Pts] Prove that  $f_1 + f_3 + \dots + f_{2n-1} = f_{2n}$  for all positive integers  $n$ , where  $f_i$  are the Fibonacci numbers.
3. [8 Pts] Consider the following state machine with the states  $\{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ . The start state is 0. The transitions are  $0 \rightarrow 1$ ,  $0 \rightarrow 4$ ,  $1 \rightarrow 2$ ,  $2 \rightarrow 3$ ,  $3 \rightarrow 0$ ,  $4 \rightarrow 5$ ,  $5 \rightarrow 6$ , and  $6 \rightarrow 0$ .  
Prove that if we take  $n$  steps in the state machine we will end up in state 0 if and only if  $n$  is divisible by 4. Argue that to prove the statement above by induction, we first have to *strengthen the induction hypothesis*. State the strengthened hypothesis and prove it.
4. [9 Pts] Consider the following game. Suppose you have a stack of  $n$  bricks. In a sequence of moves, you will split the stack of  $n$  bricks into  $n$  stacks of 1 brick each. You will get a score for each move and you want to maximize your total score.  
In each move, you take a stack and split it into two non-empty stacks. For any  $a, b \geq 1$ , if you split a stack of  $a + b$  bricks into one stack of  $a$  bricks and one stack of  $b$  bricks, you get  $ab$  points.  
Prove by strong induction that the total score will be  $n(n - 1)/2$  regardless of the order in which the bricks are split.
5. [9 Pts] A robot wanders around a 2-dimensional grid. He starts out at (1,1). At any state it is in, it can take the following steps: (+1,-4), (-2,+2), (+4,-1) and (0,+3). Define a state machine for this problem. Then, define a Preserved Invariant and prove that the robot can never get to (0,0).
6. [8 Pts] Show that if a predicate  $P(n)$  can be proven true for all positive integers  $n$  by strong induction, then it can be proven true also by regular induction, once you strengthen the inductive hypothesis. In other words, Strong Induction isn't really stronger than Regular Induction. *Hint: Given any statement  $P(n)$ , define a new (stronger) statement  $Q(n)$  so that proving  $P(n)$  by strong induction is similar to proving  $Q(n)$  by regular induction.*

For more practice, you are encouraged to work on other problems in Rosen Sections 5.2 and 5.3 and in LLM Chapter 5, 6.1 - 6.3.

1.)

a.) Each term increases by 6 so we can say

$a_0 = 3$  which is the base case.

The inductive step would be for  $n \geq 1$  for the next term  $a_n$  is:

**CONCLUSION:**  $a_n = a_{n-1} + 6$

b.)

We can notice a pattern, that when we take the difference while it is growing, we get that  $11 - 4 = 7, 25 - 11 = 14, 53 - 25 = 28 \dots$ . The terms are added by an increasing power of 2.

We can take the base:  $a_0 = 4$  and for the inductive definition:

**CONCLUSION:**  $a_n = a_{n-1} + 2^{n+1}$  for  $n \geq 1$

2.)

Base Case:

$n = 1$  so that  $f_1 = f_1 = 1$  and that  $f_{2*1} = f_2 = 1$  Inductive Step:

We assume that  $k$  holds for some positive integer  $k$  so that

$f_1 + f_3 + f_5 + \dots + f_{2k-1} = f_{2k}$  and show that it implies  $f_1 + f_3 + f_5 + \dots + f_{2k-1} + f_{2k+1} = f_{2k+2}$

By IH we know that  $f_1 + f_3 + f_5 + \dots + f_{2k-1} = f_{2k}$  so expanding the left side, we can add  $f_{2k+1}$

to both sides to get  $f_1 + f_3 + f_5 + \dots + f_{2k-1} + f_{2k+1} = f_{2k} + f_{2k+1}$

Simplify:

By the definition of the Fib sequence we have that  $f_{2k} + f_{2k+1} = f_{2k+2}$

**CONCLUSION: Inductive Step:**  $f_1 + f_3 + f_5 + \dots + f_{2k-1} + f_{2k+1} = f_{2k+2}$  which means that  $f_1 + f_3 + f_5 + \dots + f_{2n-1} = f_{2n}$  for all positive integers  $n$

3.)

By strengthening the IH we need to track the values of  $n$  module 4, along with the values when  $n$  is divisible by 4. By doing this we can prove that the behavior for each case of  $n$  is increasing by 1 step.

Base Case:  $n = 0$  which is state 0, since  $0 \equiv 0$

Inductive Step: We assume that for some  $k \geq 0$  Showing the strengthened hypothesis with mod 4:

If  $n \equiv 0$ , the state is 0

If  $n \equiv 1$ , the state is 1

If  $n \equiv 2$ , the state is 2

If  $n \equiv 3$ , the state is 3

Continuing the inductive step we need to show that the IH holds for  $k+1$

So going one-by-one for each state: 1. If  $k \equiv 0$  then by the IH the state  $k$  steps is 0 then the next state would be 1, concluding that after  $k+1$  step we are in state 1, where  $(k+1) \equiv 1$

2. If  $k \equiv 1$  then by the IH the state  $k$  steps is 1 then the next state would be 2, concluding that after  $k+1$  step we are in state 2, where  $(k+1) \equiv 2$

3. If  $k \equiv 2$  then by the IH the state  $k$  steps is 2 then the next state would be 3, concluding that after  $k+1$  step we are in state 3, where  $(k+1) \equiv 3$

4. If  $k \equiv 3$  then by the IH the state  $k$  steps is 3 then the next state would be 0, concluding that after  $k+1$  step we are in state 0, where  $(k+1) \equiv 0$

After completing the inductive step the hypothesis holds for  $k+1$

**CONCLUSION: The strengthened hypothesis is proven for all  $n \geq 0$ . Therefore we return to state 0 if and only if  $n$  is divisible by 4**

4.)

Base Case:  $n = 1$ , meaning that there is only one stack of 1 brick, so in the game no moves can be made. Making a formula we can get the base would be:

$$S(1) = 0, \text{ and expanding it we get that } S(1) = 1 * (1 - 1)/2 = 0$$

Inductive Hypothesis:

We can assume that for all  $k$  where  $1 \leq k \leq n$  the score of  $S(k)$  when splitting the stack of  $k$  bricks into  $k$  stacks of 1 is given by the equation:

$$S(k) = k(k - 1)/2$$

Inductive Step:

To show that  $S(n + 1) = ((n + 1)n)/2$  we can start with a stack of  $n + 1$  bricks and after first move it will split the stack into two stacks of  $a$  and  $b$  bricks, where  $a + b = n + 1$  and  $a, b \geq 1$  would give the score of  $ab$

After the split we will have 2 separate stacks of  $a$  and  $b$ , the stack will be labeled  $S(a)$  and  $S(b)$ , giving the total score of  $S(n + 1) = ab + S(a) + S(b)$

Using IH we know that  $S(a) = a(a - 1)/2$  and  $S(b) = b(b - 1)/2$

Simplifying it we get  $S(n + 1) = ab + (a(a - 1)/2) + (b(b - 1)/2)$

We can simplify even more by combining terms and factoring, which gets us:  $S(n + 1) = ab + (a^2 + b^2 - a - b)/2$

Continuing we get that we can combine and simplify:  $a^2 + b^2 = (n + 1)^2 - 2ab$

**CONCLUSION:**  $S(n + 1) = ab + ((n + 1)^2 - 2ab - (n + 1))/2$

5.)

State Machine:

With 2 variables,  $2^2 = 4$ , that gives the robot 4 possible moves:

$$(x, y) \rightarrow (x + 1, y - 4)$$

$$(x, y) \rightarrow (x - 2, y + 2)$$

$$(x, y) \rightarrow (x + 4, y - 1)$$

$$(x, y) \rightarrow (x, y + 3)$$

Preserved Invariant:

Proving that the bot can never reach  $(0, 0)$ , we find a condition that remains true after each move the bot makes.

Initially we can assume  $I(x, y) \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$

Iterating through the moves the bot makes with the assumption and checking if the invariant is preserved after each move:

1. MOVE(1,-4):

$$I(x + 1, y - 4) = (x + 1) + (y - 4) = x + y - 3 \equiv x + y \pmod{3}, \text{ keeps } (x, y) \text{ unchanged}$$

2. MOVE (-2,2)

$$I(x - 2, y + 2) = (x - 2) + (y + 2) = x + y \equiv x + y \pmod{3}, \text{ keeps } (x, y) \text{ unchanged}$$

3. MOVE (4,-1)

$$I(x + 4, y - 1) = (x + 4) + (y - 1) = x + y + 3 \equiv x + y \pmod{3}, \text{ keeps } (x, y) \text{ unchanged}$$

4. MOVE (0, 3)

$$I(x, y + 3) = x + (y + 3) = x + y + 3 \equiv x + y \pmod{3}$$

We can also prove that  $I(0, 0) = 0 + 0 = 0$ , and it does not satisfy the invariant  $I(x, y) = x + y \pmod{3}$

**CONCLUSION:** The invariant remains constant at  $2 \pmod{3}$  for all positions the robot can reach, starting from  $(1, 1)$ . Since  $(0, 0)$  does not satisfy this invariant, the robot can never reach  $(0, 0)$ .

6.)

We can use a new stronger statement  $Q(n)$  that implies  $P(n)$ , where we can use it to prove  $Q(n)$  using regular induction will imply  $P(n)$  for all of  $n$ .

We define that  $Q(n) : P(1), P(2), \dots, P(n)$  are all true.

Proving  $Q(n)$  by regular induction:

Base Case: For  $n = 1$ ,  $Q(1)$  states that  $P(1)$  is true. Since strong induction allows us to assume that  $P(1)$  is true as part of its base case, we have  $P(1)$  is true, and thus  $Q(1)$  holds.

Inductive Step:

We assume that  $Q(k)$  is true from  $k \geq 1$  and assume  $P(1), P(2), \dots, P(k)$  are all true, and we want to show  $Q(k+1)$  is true and also show  $P(1), P(2), \dots, P(k), P(k+1)$  are all true.

Using the string induction hypothesis that  $P(1), P(2), \dots, P(k)$  are true to prove that  $P(k+1)$ .

Therefore by using string induction,  $P(k+1)$  is true if  $P(1), P(2), \dots, P(k)$  are true

**CONCLUSION: Firstly by showing regular induction, we have shown that  $Q(n)$  is true for all  $n \geq 1$ . Since  $Q(n)$  implies  $P(n)$ , it would conclude that  $P(n)$  is true for all  $n$**