

1. Describe the sequence $1^2, 2^2, 3^2, 4^2, \dots$ recursively. Include initial conditions and assume that sequences begin with a_1 .

$$a_1 = 1 \quad \text{OR} \quad a_n = a_{n-1} + 2n - 1$$

$$a_n = (\sqrt{a_{n-1}} + 1)^2$$

2. Find the solution of the recurrence relation $a_n = 2a_{n-1} + a_{n-2}$ where $a_0 = 1, a_1 = 2$.

$$r^2 = 2r + 1$$

$$r^2 - 2r - 1 = 0$$

$$r = \frac{2 \pm \sqrt{4+4}}{2}$$

$$r = 1 \pm \sqrt{2}$$

$$a_n = \alpha_1 (1 + \sqrt{2})^n + \alpha_2 (1 - \sqrt{2})^n$$

$$a_0 = \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 \rightarrow \alpha_1 = 1 - \alpha_2$$

$$a_1 = \alpha_1 (1 + \sqrt{2}) + \alpha_2 (1 - \sqrt{2})$$

$$a_1 = (1 - \alpha_2)(1 + \sqrt{2}) + \alpha_2 (1 - \sqrt{2}) = 2$$

$$2 = (1 + \sqrt{2}) + 2\alpha_2$$

$$\alpha_2 = \frac{1 - \sqrt{2}}{2}$$

$$\alpha_1 = \frac{1 + \sqrt{2}}{2}$$

$$\therefore a_n = \left(\frac{1 + \sqrt{2}}{2}\right) (1 + \sqrt{2})^n + \left(\frac{1 - \sqrt{2}}{2}\right) (1 - \sqrt{2})^n$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} (1 + \sqrt{2})^{n+1} + \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1 - \sqrt{2}}{2}\right)^{n+1}$$