

## Recursion

Recursive functions have two parts:

- 1) base case
- 2) recursive formula

ex. Fibonacci  $F_i$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} F_0 = 0 \\ F_1 = 1 \end{array} \right\} \text{base cases}$$

$$F_n = F_{n-1} + F_{n-2} \quad n \geq 2 \left\{ \text{recursive formula} \right.$$

} fibonacci sequence

ex. summation from 0 to  $n \geq 0$

$$S(0) = 0 \quad \text{base case}$$

$$S(n) = S(n-1) + n \quad n \geq 1 \quad \text{recursive formula}$$

Needs to recur down to base case eventually

ex.  $f(x) = f(x-1) + 100$

not complete recursion bc no base case

ex.  $g(x) = \begin{cases} g(x) = 0 & x = 7 \\ g(x) = g(x-1) + 2 & x > 6 \end{cases}$

invalid recursion bc  $g(7)$  defined twice

Range of recursion:

- 1) cover every case
- 2) no duplicate definitions
- 3) base case(s)

## Unrolling

ex. Fibonacci:  $F_0 = 0, F_1 = 1, F_n = F_{n-1} + F_{n-2} \quad n \geq 2$

$$F_2 = F_1 + F_0 = 1 + 0 = 1$$

$$F_4 = F_3 + F_2 = F_2 + F_1 + F_1 + F_0 = F_1 + F_0 + F_1 + F_1 + F_0 = 1 + 0 + 1 + 1 + 0 = 3$$

ex.  $T: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$

$$T(0) = 1$$

$k=1$   $T(n) = 2T(n-1) + 3 \quad n \geq 1 \quad k = \text{"level"}$

$k=2$   $= 2(2T(n-2) + 3) + 3 = 2^2 T(n-2) + 2 \cdot 3 + 3$

$k=3$   $= 2^2(2T(n-3) + 3) + 2 \cdot 3 + 3 = 2^3 T(n-3) + 2^2 \cdot 3 + 2 \cdot 3 + 3$

$$k=k \quad T(n) = 2^k T(n-k) + 3 \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} 2^i$$

At  $T(0)$  (base case),  $n-k=0$ ,  $k=n$

$$T(n) = 2^n T(0) + 3 \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} 2^i \quad \text{final closed form}$$

Finding closed form:

1) unroll, plug in previous iterations (start at  $n$ , go down (ie  $n, n-1, n-2, \dots$  or  $k=1, 2, \dots, k$ )

2) guess pattern

3) reach base case

4) plug in  $k$  value for base case

ex.  $S(n) = \begin{cases} c & n=1 \\ 2S(\frac{n}{2}) + n & n \geq 2 \end{cases} \quad n=2^i \quad \forall i \in \mathbb{N}$

$$k=1 \quad S(n) = 2S(\frac{n}{2}) + n \quad S(\frac{n}{2}) = 2S(\frac{n}{4}) + \frac{n}{2}$$

$$k=2 \quad = 2(2S(\frac{n}{4}) + \frac{n}{2}) + n = 2^2 S(\frac{n}{4}) + 2n$$

$$k=3 \quad = 2^2 (2S(\frac{n}{8}) + \frac{n}{4}) + n + n = 2^3 S(\frac{n}{8}) + 3n$$

$$\vdots$$

$$k=k \quad = 2^k S(\frac{n}{2^k}) + kn$$

base case when  $n=1$ ,  $\frac{n}{2^k} = 1 \rightarrow k = \log_2 n$ , plug in

$$S(n) = 2^{\log_2 n} S\left(\frac{n}{2^{\log_2 n}}\right) + n \log_2 n = n S(1) + n \log_2 n = cn + n \log_2 n \quad \text{closed form}$$

## Invalid recursion

Three of the following function definitions are not valid, each for a different reason. Which one is valid, and what's wrong with each of the others? (Domains and codomains are not provided, but assume they're always something sensible.)

$$f(n) = \begin{cases} 8 & \text{when } n < 9 \\ n + f(n-2) & \text{when } n \geq 9 \end{cases} \quad \text{valid}$$

$$g(n) = \begin{cases} -9 & \text{when } n = 6 \\ n + g(n-1) & \text{when } n > 7 \end{cases} \quad \text{invalid, doesn't cover } g(7)$$

$$h(n) = \begin{cases} 3 & \text{when } n = 6 \\ n + h(n+1) & \text{when } n \geq 7 \end{cases} \quad \text{invalid, never reaches a base case}$$

$$s(n) = \begin{cases} 2 & \text{when } n \leq 7 \\ n + s(n-1) & \text{when } n > 6 \end{cases} \quad \text{invalid, two definitions for } s(7)$$

## 12.2 Unrolling

Find closed forms for the following recursive definitions using unrolling. Specifically, show at least two steps of unrolling, a summation whose value is equal to  $T(n)$ , and finally a closed-form expression (i.e. containing no recursion or summations) equal to  $T(n)$ .

(a)  $T: \mathbb{Z}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^+$  defined by

$$\begin{aligned} T(1) &= 1 \\ T(n) &= 2T(n-1) + 3 \end{aligned}$$

(b)  $f: \mathbb{N}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  defined by

$$\begin{aligned} f(0) &= 0 \\ f(n) &= 5f(n-1) + 1 \end{aligned}$$

(c)  $T: \mathbb{Z}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^+$  defined (powers of 3 only) by

$$\begin{aligned} T(1) &= 47 \\ T(n) &= 3T(n/3) + 13n \end{aligned}$$

b)  $f: \mathbb{N}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$

$$f(0) = 0$$

$$f(n) = 5f(n-1) + 1$$

$$k=1 \quad f(n) = 5f(n-1) + 1$$

$$k=2 \quad = 5(5f(n-2) + 1) + 1 = 5^2 f(n-2) + 5 \cdot 1 + 1$$

$$k=3 \quad = 5^2 (5f(n-3) + 1) + 5 \cdot 1 + 1 = 5^3 f(n-3) + 5^2 \cdot 1 + 5 \cdot 1 + 5$$

$$\vdots$$

$$k=k \quad = 5^k f(n-k) + 5^{k-1} + 5^{k-2} + \dots + 5^1 + 5^0 = 5^k f(n-k) + \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} 5^i$$

base case when  $n-k=0$ ,  $k=n$

$$k=n \quad = 5^n f(0) + \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} 5^i = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} 5^i = \frac{5^n - 1}{4} \quad \text{closed form}$$

c)  $T: \mathbb{Z}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^+$

$$T(1) = 47$$

$$T(n) = 3T\left(\frac{n}{3}\right) + 13n$$

$$k=1 \quad T(n) = 3T\left(\frac{n}{3}\right) + 13n$$

$$k=2 \quad = 3 \left( 3T\left(\frac{n}{9}\right) + \frac{13}{3}n \right) + 13n = 3^2 T\left(\frac{n}{9}\right) + 13n + 13n$$

$$k=3 \quad = 3^2 \left( 3T\left(\frac{n}{27}\right) + \frac{13}{9}n \right) + 13n + 13n = 3^3 T\left(\frac{n}{27}\right) + 13n + 13n + 13n$$

$$\vdots$$

$$k=k \quad = 3^k T\left(\frac{n}{3^k}\right) + 13kn$$

for base case,  $\frac{n}{3^k} = 1 \Rightarrow n = 3^k \Rightarrow k = \log_3 n$

$$k = \log_3 n \quad = 3^{\log_3 n} T\left(\frac{n}{3^{\log_3 n}}\right) + 13n \log_3 n = nT(1) + 13n \log_3 n = 47n + 13n \log_3 n \quad \text{closed form}$$