

2-5 Linear Recurrences

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March 26, 2020



Don't we already know how to use the “Master Theorem”?

$$T(n) = aT(n/b) + f(n)$$

Linear recurrences which may arise in **average-case** analysis.

$$a_n = f(a_{n-1}, a_{n-2}, \dots, a_{n-t}) + g(n)$$

recurrence type	typical example
first-order	
linear	$a_n = na_{n-1} - 1$
nonlinear	$a_n = 1/(1 + a_{n-1})$
second-order	
linear	$a_n = a_{n-1} + 2a_{n-2}$
nonlinear	$a_n = a_{n-1}a_{n-2} + \sqrt{a_{n-2}}$
variable coefficients	$a_n = na_{n-1} + (n-1)a_{n-2} + 1$
t th order	$a_n = f(a_{n-1}, a_{n-2}, \dots, a_{n-t})$
full-history	$a_n = n + a_{n-1} + a_{n-2} \dots + a_1$
divide-and-conquer	$a_n = a_{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} + a_{\lceil n/2 \rceil} + n$

Table 2.1 Classification of recurrences

Theorem (First-order Linear Recurrences with Constant Coefficients)

$$T(n) = rT(n-1) + g(n) \quad \text{for } n > 0 \text{ with } T(0) = a$$

$$T(n) = r^n a + \sum_{i=1}^n r^{n-i} g(i)$$

Theorem (First-order Linear Recurrences)

$$T(n) = x_n T(n-1) + y_n \quad \text{for } n > 0 \text{ with } T(0) = 0$$

$$T(n) = y_n + \sum_{1 \leq j < n} y_j x_{j+1} x_{j+2} \cdots x_n$$

$$\begin{aligned} T(n) &= x_n T(n-1) + y_n \\ &= x_n (x_{n-1} T(n-2) + y_{n-1}) + y_n \\ &= x_n x_{n-1} T(n-2) + x_n y_{n-1} + y_n \\ &= x_n x_{n-1} (x_{n-2} T(n-3) + y_{n-2}) + x_n y_{n-1} + y_n \\ &= x_n x_{n-1} x_{n-2} T(n-3) + x_n x_{n-1} y_{n-2} + x_n y_{n-1} + y_n \\ &= \dots \end{aligned}$$

Theorem (First-order Linear Recurrences)

$$T(n) = \textcolor{red}{x}_n T(n-1) + y_n \quad \text{for } n > 0 \text{ with } T(0) = 0$$

$$T(n) = y_n + \sum_{1 \leq j < n} y_j x_{j+1} x_{j+2} \cdots x_n$$

$$\underbrace{\frac{T(n)}{x_n x_{n-1} \cdots x_1}}_{\text{summation factor}} = \frac{T(n-1)}{x_{n-1} \cdots x_1} + \frac{y_n}{x_n x_{n-1} \cdots x_1}$$

$$S(n) \triangleq \frac{T(n)}{x_n x_{n-1} \cdots x_1}$$

$$S(n) = S(n-1) + \frac{y_n}{x_n x_{n-1} \cdots x_1}$$

$$T(n) = \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)T(n-1) + 2 \quad \text{for } n > 1 \text{ with } T(1) = 0$$

$$x_n = 1 + \frac{1}{n} = \frac{n+1}{n} \implies x_n x_{n-1} \cdots x_1 = n+1$$

$$\frac{T(n)}{n+1} = \frac{T(n-1)}{n} + \frac{2}{n+1} \quad \text{for } n > 1$$

$$\frac{T(n)}{n+1} = \frac{T(1)}{2} + 2 \sum_{3 \leq k \leq n+1} \frac{1}{k}$$

$$T(n) = 2(n+1)\left(H_{n+1} - \frac{3}{2}\right) \approx 2n \ln n - 1.846n$$

$$T(n) = \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)T(n-1) + 2 \quad \text{for } n > 1 \text{ with } T(1) = 0$$

$$T(n) = 2(n+1)\left(H_{n+1} - \frac{3}{2}\right) \approx 2n \ln n - 1.846n$$

$$T(n) = (n+1) + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{1 \leq i \leq n} (T(i-1) + T(n-i))$$

for $n > 1$ with $T(0) = T(1) = 0$

average number of comparisons of QUICKSORT

After-class Exercise

$$T(n) = T(n-1) - \frac{2T(n-1)}{n} + 2 \left(1 - \frac{2T(n-1)}{n} \right), n > 0 \text{ with } T(0) = 0$$

“On Random 2-3 Trees”, Andrew C Yao, 1978



Higher-order Linear Recurrences

$$a_n = x_1 a_{n-1} + x_2 a_{n-2} + \cdots + x_t a_{n-t} + g_n \quad \text{for } n \geq t$$

with $a_0, a_1, \cdots, a_{t-1}$

Theorem (Linear Homogeneous Recurrences with Constant Coefficients)

$$a_n = r_1 a_{n-1} + r_2 a_{n-2} + \cdots + r_t a_{n-t} \quad \text{for } n \geq t$$

$$\text{with } a_0, a_1, \cdots, a_{t-1}$$

“Characteristic polynomial”: $q(x) \equiv x^t - r_1 x^{t-1} - r_2 x^{t-2} - \cdots - r_t$

$$\beta_1 (m_1), \beta_2 (m_2), \cdots, \beta_i (m_i), \cdots, \beta_k (m_k)$$

β_i is a root with multiplicity m_i and $m_1 + m_2 + \cdots + m_k = t$

$$a_n = \sum_{0 \leq j < m_1} c_{1j} n^j \beta_1^n + \sum_{0 \leq j < m_2} c_{2j} n^j \beta_2^n + \cdots + \sum_{0 \leq j < m_k} c_{kj} n^j \beta_k^n$$

a_n is a **linear combination** of $n^j \beta^n$ (called “particular solutions”)

$$F_n = F_{n-1} + F_{n-2} \quad \text{for } n > 1 \text{ with } F_0 = 0, F_1 = 1$$

$$\boxed{x^2 - x - 1 = 0} \implies \phi = \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2}, \hat{\phi} = \frac{1 - \sqrt{5}}{2}$$

$$\boxed{F_n = c_1 \phi^n + c_2 \hat{\phi}^n}$$

$$F_0 = 0 = c_1 + c_2$$

$$F_1 = 1 = c_1 \phi + c_2 \hat{\phi}$$

$$\boxed{F_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}(\phi^n - \hat{\phi}^n)}$$

$$a_n = r_1 a_{n-1} + r_2 a_{n-2} + \cdots + r_t a_{n-t} \quad \text{for } n \geq t$$

$$q(x) \equiv x^t - r_1 x^{t-1} - r_2 x^{t-2} - \cdots - r_t$$

$$a_n = \sum_{0 \leq j < m_1} c_{1j} n^j \beta_1^n + \sum_{0 \leq j < m_2} c_{2j} n^j \beta_2^n + \cdots + \sum_{0 \leq j < m_k} c_{kj} n^j \beta_k^n$$

Proof.

Take β ($m = 2$) for example.

$$\beta^n = r_1 \beta^{n-1} + r_2 \beta^{n-2} + \cdots + r_t \beta^{n-t} \quad \text{for } n \geq t$$

$$\beta^{n-t} q(\beta) = 0$$

$$n\beta^n = r_1(n-1)\beta^{n-1} + r_2(n-2)\beta^{n-2} + \cdots + r_t(n-t)\beta^{n-t} \quad \text{for } n \geq t$$

$$\beta^{n-t} ((n-t) q(\beta) + \beta q'(\beta)) = 0$$

$$a_n = r_1 a_{n-1} + r_2 a_{n-2} + \cdots + r_t a_{n-t} \quad \text{for } n \geq t$$

$$q(x) \equiv x^t - r_1 x^{t-1} - r_2 x^{t-2} - \cdots - r_t$$

$$a_n = \sum_{0 \leq j < m_1} c_{1j} n^j \beta_1^n + \sum_{0 \leq j < m_2} c_{2j} n^j \beta_2^n + \cdots + \sum_{0 \leq j < m_k} c_{kj} n^j \beta_k^n$$

Proof Cont.

a_n is a **linear combination** of $n^j \beta^n$

We also need to prove that there are **no** other solutions.



$$a_n = 5a_{n-1} - 6a_{n-2} \quad \text{for } n \geq 2 \text{ with } a_0 = 0, a_1 = 1$$

$$x^2 - 5x + 6 = (x - 2)(x - 3) = 0 \implies x = 2, 3$$

$$a_n = c_1 2^n + c_2 3^n$$

$$a_0 = 0 = c_1 + c_2$$

$$a_1 = 1 = 2c_1 + 3c_2$$

$$a_n = 3^n - 2^n$$

$$a_n = 5a_{n-1} - 8a_{n-2} + 4a_{n-3} \quad \text{for } n \geq 3 \text{ with } a_0 = 0, a_1 = 1, a_2 = 4$$

$$x^3 - 5x^2 + 8x - 4 = 0$$

$$(x-1)(x-2)^2 = 0 \implies x_1 = 1, x_2 = 2, x'_2 = 2$$

$$a_n = c_1 \cdot 1^n + c_2 \cdot 2^n + c'_2 \cdot n2^n$$

$$a_0 = 0 = c_1 + c_2$$

$$a_1 = 1 = c_1 + 2c_2 + 2c'_2$$

$$a_2 = 4 = c_1 + 4c_2 + 8c'_2$$

$$a_n = n2^{n-1}$$

$$a_n = 2a_{n-1} - a_{n-2} + 2a_{n-3} \quad \text{for } n \geq 3 \text{ with } a_0 = 1, a_1 = 0, a_2 = -1$$

$$x^3 - 2x^2 + x - 2 = (x^2 + 1)(x - 2) = 0 \implies x = 2, i, -i$$

$$a_n = c_1 2^n + c_2 i^n + c_3 (-i)^n$$

$$a_0 = 1 = c_1 + c_2 + c_3$$

$$a_1 = 0 = 2c_1 + c_2 i - c_3 i$$

$$a_2 = -1 = 4c_1 - c_2 - c_3$$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{2} i^n (1 + (-1)^n)$$

$$1, 0, -1, 0, 1, 0, -1, 0, 1, 0, -1, 0 \dots$$

$$a_n = 2a_{n-1} - a_{n-2} + 2a_{n-3} \quad \text{for } n \geq 3 \text{ with } a_0, a_1, a_2$$

$$a_n = c_1 2^n + c_2 i^n + c_3 (-i)^n$$

$$a_0 = c_1 + c_2 + c_3$$

$$a_1 = 2c_1 + c_2 i - c_3 i$$

$$a_2 = 4c_1 - c_2 - c_3$$

$$a_0 = 1, a_1 = 0, a_2 = -1 \implies a_n = \frac{1}{2} i^n (1 + (-1)^n)$$

$$a_0 = 1, a_1 = 2, a_2 = 4 \implies a_n = 2^n$$

Pay attention to initial conditions in linear recurrences!

Additional Problem

To give initial conditions a_0, a_1 , and a_2 such that the growth rate of the solution to

$$a_n = 2a_{n-1} - a_{n-2} + 2a_{n-3}, \quad n > 2$$

is (1) constant; (2) exponential; (3) fluctuating in sign.



First-order Linear Non-homogeneous Recurrences

$$a_n = r_1 a_{n-1} + r_2 a_{n-2} + \cdots + r_t a_{n-t} + r \quad \text{for } n \geq t$$

$$a_n = 5a_{n-1} - 6a_{n-2} + 2 \quad \text{for } n \geq 2 \text{ with } a_0 = 0, a_1 = 1$$

$$a_n - 5a_{n-1} + 6a_{n-2} - 2 = 0 \quad \text{for } n \geq 2 \text{ with } a_0 = 0, a_1 = 1$$

$$a_{n-1} - 5a_{n-2} + 6a_{n-3} - 2 = 0 \quad \text{for } n \geq 3 \text{ with } a_2 = 7$$

$$a_n - 6a_{n-1} + 11a_{n-2} - 6a_{n-3} = 0$$

$$x^3 - 6x^2 + 11x - 6 = (x-1)(x-2)(x-3) \implies x_1 = 1, x_2 = 2, x_3 = 3$$

$$a_n = c_1 1^n + c_2 2^n + c_3 3^n$$

$$a_n = 2 \cdot 3^n - 3 \cdot 2^n + 1$$

More Issues about Linear Recurrences

$$a_n = r_1 a_{n-1} + r_2 a_{n-2} + \cdots + r_t a_{n-t} + g(n) \quad \text{for } n \geq t$$

$$a_n = a_n^h + a_n^p$$

How to Find a Particular Solution for a Non-homogeneous Recurrence?

$$a_n = r_1 a_{n-1} + r_2 a_{n-2} + \cdots + r_t a_{n-t} \quad \text{for } n \geq t$$

$$q(x) \equiv x^t - r_1 x^{t-1} - r_2 x^{t-2} - \cdots - r_t$$

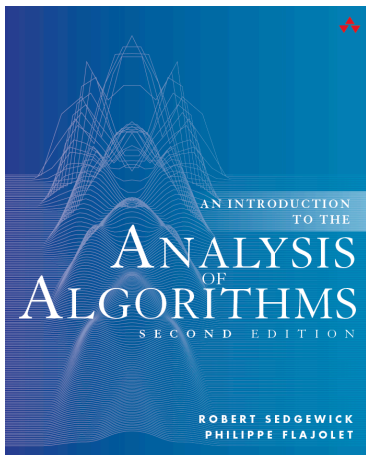
$$a_n = \sum_{0 \leq j < m_1} c_{1j} n^j \beta_1^n + \sum_{0 \leq j < m_2} c_{2j} n^j \beta_2^n + \cdots + \sum_{0 \leq j < m_k} c_{kj} n^j \beta_k^n$$

$$t \geq 5$$

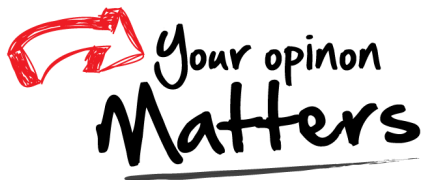
Generating Functions and Asymptotic Analysis

$$a_n = f_1(n)a_{n-1} + f_2(n)a_{n-2} + \cdots + f_t(n)a_{n-t} \quad \text{for } n \geq t$$

Generating Functions



Thank
You!



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