

1. Recursive ↔ Closed formula equivalence

Example

Show that the sequence defined by the recursive formula

$$a_k = a_{k-1} + 2, \text{ where } a_1 = 2, \text{ and for } k \geq 2$$

is equivalently described by the closed formula

$$a_n = 2 \cdot n$$

1. Check equivalence for first element

$$\text{Recursive: } a_1 = 2, \quad \text{Closed: } a_1 = 2 \cdot 1 = 2$$

2. Find a_{m-1} through the closed formula

$$a_{m-1} = 2(m-1) = 2m - 2, \text{ or } a_{m-1} = 2m - 2$$

3. Rewrite the recursive formula in terms of m

$$a_m = a_{m-1} + 2$$

4. Plug in a_{m-1} into the recursive formula from step (3)

$$a_m = a_{m-1} + 2 \rightarrow a_m = 2m - 2 + 2$$

5. Simplify to get the closed formula as the proof

$$a_m = 2m - 2 + 2 \rightarrow a_m = 2m$$

3. Summation ↔ formula equivalence

Use induction to prove that $\sum_{i=1}^n (2i-1) = n^2$ for each $n \geq 1$.

1. Check the first few values:

$$n = 1 \quad \sum_{i=1}^1 (2i-1) = (2 \cdot 1 - 1) = 1, \quad 1^2 = 1$$

$$n = 2 \quad \sum_{i=1}^2 (2i-1) = (2 \cdot 1 - 1) + (2 \cdot 2 - 1) = 1 + 3 = 4, \quad 2^2 = 4$$

$$n = 3 \quad \sum_{i=1}^3 (2i-1) = (2 \cdot 1 - 1) + (2 \cdot 2 - 1) + (2 \cdot 3 - 1) = 1 + 3 + 5 = 9, \quad 3^2 = 9$$

2. Rewrite the summation from 1 to n as the summation from $i = 1$ to $m-1$, plus the final term.

$$\sum_{i=1}^m (2i-1) = \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} (2i-1) + (2m-1)$$

3. Redefine the original proposition in terms of $m-1$

$$\sum_{i=1}^{m-1} (2i-1) = (m-1)^2$$

4. Plug in the summation from $i = 1$ to $m-1$ to the form in step (2), simplify to get the original form of the right-hand side.

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (2i-1) = (m-1)^2 + (2m-1) \rightarrow \dots = m^2 - 2m + 1 + (2m-1)$$

$$\rightarrow \dots = m^2 - 2m + 2m + 1 - 1 \rightarrow \dots = m^2$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (2i-1) = m^2$$

Set 1: Show that the sequence defined by the recursive formula is equivalently described by the closed formula

Practice a

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|---|----------------------------|
| Recursive: $a_k = a_{k-1} + (2k+1)$, where $a_1 = 4$, and for $k \geq 2$ | Closed: $a_n = (n+1)^2$ |
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Practice b

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|---|----------------------------|
| Recursive: $a_k = a_{k-1} + (2k-1)$, where $a_1 = 2$, and for $k \geq 2$ | Closed: $a_n = n^2 + 1$ |
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Practice c

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| Recursive: $a_k = a_{k-1} + 3$, where $a_1 = 2$, and for $k \geq 2$ | Closed: $a_n = 3 \cdot n - 1$ |
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Practice d

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|--|----------------------------------|
| Recursive: $a_k = a_{k-1} + 4$, where $a_1 = 1$, and for $k \geq 2$ | Closed: $a_n = 4 \cdot n - 3$ |
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Practice e

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| Recursive: $a_k = a_{k-1} + 3$, where $a_1 = 3$, and for $k \geq 2$ | Closed: $a_n = 3n$ |
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Set 2: Use induction to prove that the summation and the equation are equivalent.

Practice a

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| $\sum_{i=1}^n (2 \cdot i + 4) = n^2 + 5n$, for each $n \geq 1$ |
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Practice b

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| $\sum_{i=1}^n (2^i) - 1 = 2^{n+1} - n - 2$, for each $n \geq 1$ |
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Practice c

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| $2 \cdot \left(\sum_{i=1}^n 3^{i-1} \right) = 3^n - 1$, for each $n \geq 1$ |
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