

Horner Rule is a Strategy for evaluating a

• The full program is on my P.C.

1. long Horner_Rule (int coeff[], int n, int begin, int x_0)

2. if (begin == n-1)

3. return coeff[begin];

4. else return coeff[begin] + x_0 * Horner_Rule(coeff, n, begin+1, x_0);

5. } 7. • coeff[] stores the coefficients of the polynomial, s.t. $\text{coeff}[i] = a_i$.
• begin indicates the beginning index of the current range of coeff[] to be evaluated, initial value 0.

• n: no. of coefficients, x_0: point of evaluation

Claim: The function Horner_Rule correctly computes the polynomial $a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 x + a_0$ at the point x_0 . The coefficients of the form a_i and x_0 is arbitrary.

Proof: The proof is by mathematical induction on n , the no. of coefficients.

Base Case: $n=1$. begin=0. \because begin=(n-1), we simply return the coefficient ~~coeff~~ $a_0 = \text{coeff}[0]$ on line 4. This correct.

Inductive hyp: Let, for an arbitrary $K=n$, Horner's rule correctly computes the polynomial $a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + a_{n-2} x^{n-2} + \dots + a_1 x + a_0$ at the point x_0 . for arbitrary polynomial coefficients a_i and x_0 .

Induction Step: Now, let $K=n+1$. Initially, begin=0. \because begin \neq n-1
We move to line 6. By induction hypothesis, Horner_Rule(coeff, n , n+1, 1, x_0) returns: $(a_n x_0^{n-1} + a_{n-1} x_0^{n-2} + \dots + a_2 x_0 + a_1)$

We are returning: $\text{coeff}[0] = a_0 + x_0 (a_n x_0^{n-1} + a_{n-1} x_0^{n-2} + \dots + a_2 x_0 + a_1)$
 $= a_n x_0^n + a_{n-1} x_0^{n-1} + \dots + a_2 x_0^2 + a_1 x_0 + a_0$ which should be the case \square