

**Proposition 1.** Given a function  $F : \mathbb{N} \times X \rightarrow X$  and an  $x_0 \in X$  we can construct a function  $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow X$  satisfying the recursion

- $f(0) = x_0$
- $f(k + 1) = F(k, f(k))$

*Proof.* We can start by constructing a family of functions  $f_n : [[n]] \rightarrow X$  where we define  $[[n]] := \{0, \dots, n - 1\}$ . We want to have the fact the  $f_n$  satisfies the above recursion for all  $k + 1 \in [[n]]$ . We can construct  $f_n$  as follows.

- $f_0 : [[0]] \rightarrow X$ . As  $[[0]] = \emptyset$  This is the empty function so we can omit this case
- $f_1 : [[1]] \rightarrow X$ . We can define this as  $f_1(0) = x_0$  and its relation is then given as follows  $f_1 = \{(0, x_0)\}$  This is clearly a function. And satisfies the base case of the recurrence
- Given we already have a function  $f_n$  satisfying the recurrence we may construct  $f_{n+1}$  as follows.

$$f_{n+1}(x) = \begin{cases} f_n(x) & x \in [[n]] \\ F(x - 1, f_n(x - 1)) & x = n \end{cases}$$

. Where its relation is given as follows  $f_{n+1} = f_n \cup \{(n, F(x - 1, f_n(x - 1)))\}$

We now aim to prove that this is a function and then that it does satisfy the recurrence. To prove this is a function we need for every  $x \in [[n + 1]]$  There is exactly one pair  $(x, f_{n+1}(x)) \in f_{n+1}(x)$  Consider two cases for  $x$

- Consider  $x \in [[n]]$ . Due to the fact  $f_n$  is a function there is exactly one pair  $(x, \_) \in f_n$ . And as we know  $x < n$  which tells us  $x \neq n$  we know that then there is exactly one pair  $(x, \_) \in f_n \cup \{(n, F(x - 1, f_n(x - 1)))\} = f_{n+1}$
- Consider  $x \notin [[n]]$ . As  $x$  is restricted to  $[[n + 1]]$  we can say in this case that then  $x = n$ . This means that  $x$  is outside the domain of  $f_n$  so there is no pair containing  $x$  in  $f_n$  so there then is exactly one pair  $(x, \_) \in f_n \cup \{(n, F(x - 1, f_n(x - 1)))\} = f_{n+1}$

As such we can say that if  $f_n$  is a function then so is  $f_{n+1}$ . We now need to show it agrees with the recursion. As  $f_n \subset f_{n+1}$  we can say then that for all  $x \in [[n]]$  that  $f_n(x) = f_{n+1}(x)$ . So as we know that  $f_n$  satisfies the recursion we can say that  $f_{n+1}$  does as well where  $x \in [[n]]$ . If  $x = n$  then we get from the way we extended the function it also satisfies the recurrence

**Lemma 1.** Given an  $x \in \mathbb{N}$  for all  $a, b > x$  we have that  $f_a(x) = f_b(x)$

*Proof.* By the construction we have that  $f_{x+1} \subseteq f_a$  and  $f_{x+1} \subseteq f_b$ . As all of these are functions we then get  $f_a(x) = f_{x+1}(x)$  and  $f_b(x) = f_{x+1}(x)$  so  $f_a(x) = f_b(x)$   $\square$

Now we must find somewhere where all these functions exist. We know that the set  $\mathbb{N} \times X$  must exist as it is given as the domain of  $F$ . Any set  $[[n]] \times X$  is a subset of  $\mathbb{N} \times X$  as  $[[n]] \subset \mathbb{N}$ . For all  $n$ ,  $f_n \subset ([[n]] \times X) \subset (\mathbb{N} \times X)$ . As such we can then say that  $f_n \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N} \times X)$  for all  $n$ . As such we can construct by specification a set  $\hat{f} = \{x = f_n \text{ for some } n \mid x \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N} \times X)\} = \{f_0, f_1, \dots\}$

I now propose that  $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow X = \bigcup \hat{f}$  is a function and that it satisfies the recursion. To show its a function we shall do this in two parts, show there is at least one pair  $(n, \_) \in f$  and then that there is at most one pair.

- Suppose by contradiction that there is an  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that there is no pair  $(n, \_) \in f$ . As we know there is a pair  $(n, \_) \in f_{n+1}$ . This would imply that  $f_{n+1} \not\subseteq f$  which contradicts the construction of  $f$
- The other way it may fail to be a function is that for a given  $n$  there are two pairs  $(n, x), (n, y) \in f$  where  $x \neq y$ . This means there are functions such that  $f_a(n) = x \neq y = f_b(n)$ . This contradicts the above lemma

This concludes that we know that  $f$  is a function. Next we aim to prove that it satisfies the recurrence which will; be done by induction.

- Base case,  $n = 0$  : We have that  $(0, x_0) \in f_1 \subset f$  so we can conclude  $f(0) = x_0$
- Inductive case, for some  $n$  we have that  $f(n)$  satisfies the recurrence : We have that  $(n+1, F(k, f(n))) \in f_{n+2} \subset f$  so we know that  $f(n+1) = F(k, f(n))$  Which satsifies the recurrence.

This concludes the proof of the existence of a function that satisfies the linear recurrence???

Predicate for classifying  $f_n$

$$\Phi(X) = (0, x_0) \in X \wedge ((n+1 < |X| \wedge (n, x) \in X) \implies (n+1, F(n, x)) \in X)$$