

1. {6 marks} Fix $k \geq 1$. Find the generating series for binary strings with no $01^k 0$ substring (where 1^k means k copies of 1). Justify your decomposition and write your generating series as a ratio of polynomials.

Let S be the set of all binary strings with no $01^k 0$ substring

$$\{0, 1\}^* = \{1\}^* \{0\} \{1\}^* \quad 0\text{-decomposition.}$$

$$S = \{1\}^* (\{0\} \{0\}^* (\{1\}^* - \{1\}^k))^* \{0\} \{0\}^* \{1\}^* \cup \{1\}^*$$

It is unambiguous since 0-decomposition is unambiguous.

$$\text{Let } A = \{1\}^* - \{1\}^k$$

By Sum lemma.

$$\phi_{\{1\}^*}(x) = \phi_A(x) + \phi_{\{1\}^k}$$

By Star lemma

$$\phi_A(x) = \phi_{\{1\}^*}(x) - \phi_{\{1\}^k}$$

$$= \frac{1}{1-x} - (1+x^k)$$

$$= \frac{1 - (1-x) - x^k(1-x)}{1-x}$$

$$= \frac{x - x^k + x^{k+1}}{1-x}$$

$$\phi_{\{0\} \{0\}^* A}(x) = \frac{x}{1-x} \cdot \frac{x - x^k + x^{k+1}}{1-x}$$

$$= \frac{x^2 - x^{k+1} + x^{k+2}}{(1-x)^2}$$

$$\phi_{\{0\} \{0\}^* A \{1\}^*}(x) = \frac{1}{1 - \frac{x^2 - x^{k+1} + x^{k+2}}{(1-x)^2}} = \frac{(1-x)^2}{1 - 2x + x^{k+1} - x^{k+2}}$$

$$\phi_S(x) = \frac{1}{1-x} \cdot \frac{(1-x)^2}{1 - 2x + x^{k+1} - x^{k+2}} \cdot x \cdot \frac{1}{1-x} \cdot \frac{1}{1-x} + \frac{1}{1-x}$$

$$= \frac{x}{(1-x + x^{k+1} - x^{k+2})(1-x)} + \frac{1}{1-x}$$



2. {6 marks} Consider the set C of binary strings which includes the empty string and for which every nonempty element w of C , the first bit of w is 0, the last bit of w is 1, and the rest of w consists of a concatenation of zero or more NON-EMPTY elements of C .

Use the recursive decomposition technique to find an equation which the generating series of C satisfies. You do not need to solve your equation for $\Phi_C(x)$.

By the description,

$$C = \{\epsilon\} \cup \{0\} \{C \setminus \{\epsilon\}\}^* \{1\}$$

C is unambiguous, so

$$\phi_C(x) = 1 + x \cdot \frac{1}{1 - (\phi_C(x) - 1)} \cdot x \quad \text{By Star lemma, Product lemma, Sum lemma.}$$

$$\phi_C(x) = 1 + \frac{x^2}{2 - \phi_C(x)}$$

$$(\phi_C(x) - 1)(2 - \phi_C(x)) = x^2$$

$$2\phi_C(x) - \phi_C^2(x) - 2 + \phi_C(x) = x^2$$

$$-\phi_C^2(x) + 3\phi_C(x) - x^2 - 2 = 0$$



3. {5 marks} Solve the recurrence $a_n = -a_{n-1} + 2a_{n-2}$ for $n \geq 2$ with initial conditions $a_0 = 2, a_1 = 3$.

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

The characteristic polynomial is :

$$x^2 + x - 2 = (x-1)(x+2)$$

It has root $x_1 = -2$ with multiplicity 1
 $x_2 = 1$ with multiplicity 1.

$$a_n = A(-2)^n + B(1)^n$$

$$\begin{cases} a_0 = A(-2)^0 + B(1)^0 \\ a_1 = A(-2)^1 + B(1)^1 \end{cases}$$

Since $a_0 = 2, a_1 = 3$.

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} A = -1/3 \\ B = 7/3 \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Thus } a_n = -\frac{1}{3}(-2)^n + \frac{7}{3}$$



4. (5 marks) Solve the recurrence $b_n = -3b_{n-1} + 4b_{n-3}$ for $n \geq 3$ with initial conditions $b_0 = 9, b_1 = -9, b_2 = 18$.

$$b_n + 3b_{n-1} - 4b_{n-3} = 0$$

The characteristic polynomial is

$$x^3 + 3x^2 - 4 = (x-1)(x+2)^2$$

The roots are $x_1 = 1$ with multiplicity 1
 $x_2 = -2$ with multiplicity 2.

$$b_n = (A+Bx)(-2)^n + C(1)^n$$

$$b_0 = (A+B \cdot 0)(-2)^0 + C(1)^0 = 9$$

$$b_1 = (A+B \cdot 1)(-2)^1 + C(1)^1 = -9$$

$$b_2 = (A+B \cdot 2)(-2)^2 + C(1)^2 = 18$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} A = 7 \\ B = -5/2 \\ C = 2 \end{cases}$$

Thus $b_n = (7 - \frac{5n}{2})(-2)^n + 2$ for $n \geq 0$.

