

Homework Assignment No. 3
Due 10:10am, April 28, 2021

Reading: Grimaldi: Sections 10.1 The First-Order Linear Recurrence Relation, 10.2 The Second-Order Linear Homogeneous Recurrence Relation with Constant Coefficients, 10.3 The Nonhomogeneous Recurrence Relation, 9.1 Introductory Examples; 9.2 Definition and Examples: Computational Techniques, 10.4 The Method of Generating Functions.

Problems for Solution:

1. Solve the recurrence relation

$$a_{n+2} + 4a_{n+1} + 8a_n = 0, \quad n \geq 0$$

with initial conditions $a_0 = 0$ and $a_1 = 2$.

2. Solve the recurrence relation

$$a_{n+2} - 6a_{n+1} + 9a_n = 3 \cdot 2^n + 7 \cdot 3^n, \quad n \geq 0$$

with initial conditions $a_0 = 1$ and $a_1 = 4$.

3. In this problem the recurrence relation will be used to find a formula for a_n = the sum of the first n cubes. That is, $a_1 = 1^3$, $a_2 = 1^3 + 2^3$, $a_3 = 1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3$, ... Find the recurrence relation that a_n satisfies (with appropriate initial condition) and then solve for it.
4. Suppose your parents would like to get a mortgage (loan) of C dollars from the bank to buy a new house, at an *annual* interest rate r for a period of N years. The usual practice is to repay the mortgage in equal *monthly* installments of D dollars each. You, as a student of EECS 2060, should be able to compute the value of D , which is a function of C , r , and N , for your parents. Please find the value of D . (*Hint:* An annual interest rate r is equivalent to a monthly interest rate $r/12$, and currently r is around 1.3% to 1.8% for mortgage in Taiwan. There will be a total of $12N$ monthly installments for a period of N years, and N is typically 20 or 30 now in Taiwan. Let a_n represent the *unpaid balance* after n monthly payments have been made. Then just before the $(n+1)$ th payment, the new balance will be $(1+r/12) \cdot a_n$, and just after the $(n+1)$ th payment the unpaid balance will be $(1+r/12)a_n - D$. Thus the sequence $\{a_n\}$ satisfies the recurrence relation: $a_{n+1} = (1+r/12)a_n - D$.)
5. Use the generating function method to solve the recurrence relation

$$a_n - a_{n-1} - 2a_{n-2} = 2^n, \quad n \geq 2$$

with initial conditions $a_0 = 4$ and $a_1 = 12$.

6. Let F_n , $n \geq 0$, be the Fibonacci numbers. The *Lucas numbers* L_n can be defined by

$$L_n = F_{n+1} + F_{n-1}, \text{ for } n \geq 1$$

with $L_0 = 2$. Find the generating function for L_n .

7. Consider the following system of recurrence relations:

$$\begin{aligned} a_n &= -2a_{n-1} - 4b_{n-1} \\ b_n &= 4a_{n-1} + 6b_{n-1} \end{aligned}$$

for $n \geq 1$, with initial conditions $a_0 = 1$ and $b_0 = 0$.

- (a) Find the generating function for a_n and then solve for a_n .
 - (b) Do the same for b_n .
8. Consider the system of recurrence relations in Problem 7.
- (a) Find the recurrence relation that a_n satisfies (with appropriate initial conditions).
 - (b) Do the same for b_n .

Homework Collaboration Policy: I allow and encourage discussion or collaboration on the homework. However, you are expected to write up your own solution and understand what you turn in. Late homework is subject to a penalty of 5% to 40% of your total points.

Generating Functions for Solving Recurrence Relations

Example Fibonacci numbers

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

Let the generating function for F_n be $F(x)$

$$\sum_{n \geq 2} F_n x^n - \sum_{n \geq 2} F_{n-1} x^n - \sum_{n \geq 2} F_{n-2} x^n = 0$$

Example Fibonacci numbers

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$$\sum_{n \geq 2} F_n x^n = F_2 x^2 + F_3 x^3 + \dots = F(x) - F_0 - F_1 x$$

$$\sum_{n \geq 2} F_{n-1} x^n = F_1 x^2 + F_2 x^3 + \dots$$

$$= x(F_1 x + F_2 x^2 + \dots) = x(F(x) - F_0)$$

$$\sum_{n \geq 2} F_{n-2} x^n = F_0 x^2 + F_1 x^3 + \dots$$

$$= x^2(F_0 + F_1 x + \dots) = x^2 F(x)$$

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$$\sum_{n \geq 2} F_{n-2} x^n = F_0 x^2 + F_1 x^3 + \dots$$

$$= x^2(F_0 + F_1 x + \dots) = x^2 F(x)$$

$$\Rightarrow (F(x) - F_0 - F_1 x) - x(F(x) - F_0) - x^2 F(x) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow F(x)(1 - x - x^2) = F_0 + (F_1 - F_0)x = x$$

$$\Rightarrow F(x) = \frac{x}{1 - x - x^2} = \frac{x}{(1 - \lambda_1 x)(1 - \lambda_2 x)}$$

(partial fraction expansion)

$$\frac{x}{\lambda} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{1 - \lambda x}$$

$$\text{where } \lambda_1 = \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \text{ and } \lambda_2 = \frac{1 - \sqrt{5}}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \alpha_1 (1 - \lambda_2 x) + \alpha_2 (1 - \lambda_1 x)$$

$$\text{Let } x = \lambda_1^{-1}, \quad \lambda_1^{-1} = \alpha_1 (1 - \lambda_2 \lambda_1^{-1})$$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha_1 = \frac{1}{\lambda_1 - \lambda_2} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}$$

$$\text{Let } x = \lambda_2^{-1}, \quad \lambda_2^{-1} = \alpha_2 (1 - \lambda_1 \lambda_2^{-1})$$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha_2 = \frac{1}{\lambda_2 - \lambda_1} = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}$$

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$$\Rightarrow \alpha_2 = \frac{1}{\lambda_2 - \lambda_1} = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}$$

$$\Rightarrow (F(x) - F_0 - F_1 x) - x(F(x) - F_0) - x^2 F(x) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow F(x) (1 - x - x^2) = F_0 + (F_1 - F_0)x = x$$

$$\Rightarrow F(x) = \frac{x}{1 - x - x^2} = \frac{x}{(1 - \lambda_1 x)(1 - \lambda_2 x)}$$

$$= \frac{\alpha_1}{1 - \lambda_1 x} + \frac{\alpha_2}{1 - \lambda_2 x} \quad (\text{partial fraction expansion})$$

$$\frac{1}{\lambda} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{1 - \lambda x}$$

$$\text{where } \lambda_1 = \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \text{ and } \lambda_2 = \frac{1 - \sqrt{5}}{2}$$

$$F(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \frac{1}{1 - \lambda_1 x} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \frac{1}{1 - \lambda_2 x}$$

$$\text{Therefore, } F_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \left[\left(\frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^n - \left(\frac{1 - \sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^n \right], \quad n \geq 0.$$

Example

$$a_n - 3a_{n-1} = n, \quad n \geq 1 \quad \text{with } a_0 = 1$$

Let the generating function for a_n be $A(x)$.

$a_n - 3a_{n-1} = n, n \geq 1$ with $a_0 = 1$.
Let the generating function for a_n be $A(x)$.

$$\Rightarrow (A(x) - a_0) - 3x A(x) = \sum_{n \geq 1} n x^n = \frac{x}{(1-x)^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow (1-3x) A(x) = a_0 + \frac{x}{(1-x)^2}$$

$$n x^n \mapsto \frac{x}{(1-x)^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow A(x) = \frac{1}{1-3x} + \frac{x}{(1-x)^2(1-3x)}$$

$$\text{Let } \frac{x}{(1-x)^2(1-3x)} = \frac{\alpha_1}{1-x} + \frac{\alpha_2}{(1-x)^2} + \frac{\alpha_3}{1-3x}$$

$a_n - 3a_{n-1} = n, n \geq 1$ with $a_0 = 1$.
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$$\text{Let } \frac{x}{(1-x)^2(1-3x)} = \frac{\alpha_1}{1-x} + \frac{\alpha_2}{(1-x)^2} + \frac{\alpha_3}{1-3x}$$

$$F(x) = \frac{1}{1-\lambda_1 x} - \frac{1}{1-\lambda_2 x}$$

Therefore, $F_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \left[\left(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^n - \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^n \right], n \geq 0.$

Example $a_n - 3a_{n-1} = n, n \geq 1$ with $a_0 = 1.$

Let the generating function for a_n be $A(x).$

$$\Rightarrow (A(x) - a_0) - 3x A(x) = \sum_{n \geq 1} n x^n = \frac{x}{(1-x)^2}$$

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$$n \lambda^n \mapsto \frac{\lambda x}{(1-\lambda x)^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow A(x) = \frac{1}{1-3x} + \frac{x}{(1-x)^2(1-3x)}$$

$$\text{Let } \frac{x}{(1-x)^2(1-3x)} = \frac{\alpha_1}{1-x} + \frac{\alpha_2}{(1-x)^2} + \frac{\alpha_3}{1-3x}$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \alpha_1(1-x)(1-3x) + \alpha_2(1-3x) + \alpha_3(1-x)^2$$

Let $x=1$. $1 = \alpha_2(1-3) \Rightarrow \alpha_2 = -\frac{1}{2}.$

Let $x = \frac{1}{3}$. $\frac{1}{3} = \alpha_3(1-\frac{1}{3})^2 \Rightarrow \alpha_3 = \frac{3}{4}.$

Let $x=0$. $0 = \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3 \Rightarrow \alpha_1 = -\frac{1}{4}.$

$$\Rightarrow x = \alpha_1(1-x)(1-3x) + \alpha_2(1-3x) + \alpha_3(1-x)$$

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$$\text{Let } x=0. \quad 0 = \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3 \Rightarrow \alpha_1 = -\frac{1}{4}.$$

$$\text{Hence } A(x) = \frac{1}{1-3x} + \frac{-\frac{1}{4}}{1-x} + \frac{-\frac{1}{2}}{(1-x)^2} + \frac{\frac{3}{4}}{1-3x}$$

$$= \frac{\frac{7}{4}}{1-3x} + \frac{-\frac{1}{4}}{1-x} + \frac{-\frac{1}{2}}{(1-x)^2}$$

$$\text{Therefore, } a_n = \frac{7}{4} 3^n - \frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{2}(n+1)$$

$$= \frac{7}{4} 3^n - \frac{1}{2}n - \frac{3}{4}, \quad n \geq 0.$$

$$((n+1)\lambda^n \Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{(1-\lambda x)^2})$$

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Example $a_n - 2a_{n-1} - a_{n-2} + 2a_{n-3} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{for } n=3 \\ 0, & \text{for } n \geq 4 \end{cases}$
 with $a_0 = a_1 = 0, a_2 = 2$.

Let the generating function for a_n be $A(x)$.

$$(A(x) - a_0 - a_1x - a_2x^2) - 2x(A(x) - a_0 - a_1x) - x^2(A(x) - a_0) + 2x^3A(x) = 1 \cdot x^3 + 0 \cdot x^4 + 0 \cdot x^5 + \dots = x^3$$

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$$\Rightarrow A(x)(1 - 2x - x^2 + 2x^3) = 2x^2 + x^3$$

$$\Rightarrow A(x) = \frac{2x^2 + x^3}{1 - 2x - x^2 + 2x^3} = x^2 \cdot \frac{2+x}{1 - 2x - x^2 + 2x^3}$$

$$\text{Let } \frac{2+x}{1 - 2x - x^2 + 2x^3} = \frac{\alpha_1}{1-2x} + \frac{\alpha_2}{1-x} + \frac{\alpha_3}{1+x}$$

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Let $\frac{2+x}{1 - 2x - x^2 + 2x^3} = \frac{\alpha_1}{1-2x} + \frac{\alpha_2}{1-x} + \frac{\alpha_3}{1+x}$

Then $\alpha_1 = \left. \frac{2+x}{(1-x)(1+x)} \right|_{x=\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{\frac{5}{2}}{\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{3}{2}} = \frac{10}{3}$

$$\alpha_2 = \left. \frac{2+x}{(1-2x)(1+x)} \right|_{x=1} = \frac{3}{-1 \cdot 2} = -\frac{3}{2}$$

$$\alpha_3 = \left. \frac{2+x}{(1-2x)(1-x)} \right|_{x=-1} = \frac{1}{3 \cdot 2} = \frac{1}{6}$$

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$$\Rightarrow A(x) = x^2 \left(\frac{\frac{10}{3}}{1-2x} - \frac{\frac{3}{2}}{1-x} + \frac{\frac{1}{6}}{1+x} \right)$$

$$\therefore a_n = \frac{10}{3} 2^{n-2} - \frac{3}{2} + \frac{1}{6} (-1)^{n-2}, \text{ for } n \geq 2.$$

Then

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$$\Rightarrow A(x) = x^2 \left(\frac{\frac{10}{3}}{1-2x} - \frac{\frac{3}{2}}{1-x} + \frac{\frac{1}{6}}{1+x} \right)$$

$$\therefore a_n = \frac{10}{3} 2^{n-2} - \frac{3}{2} + \frac{1}{6} (-1)^{n-2}, \text{ for } n \geq 2.$$

Generating Function for Enumeration

Let A and B be two sets of nonnegative integers.
Suppose n is a nonnegative integer.

Question: How many solutions are there to the equation
 $a + b = n$

Let A and B be two sets of nonnegative integers.
Suppose n is a nonnegative integer.

Question: How many solutions are there to the equation
 $a + b = n$

such that $a \in A$ and $b \in B$.

Example

$$A = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4\}$$

$$B = \{2, 3, 4\}$$

$$2 = 0 + 2$$

$$3 = 0 + 3 = 1 + 2$$

$$4 = 0 + 4 = 1 + 3 = 2 + 2$$

$$5 = 1 + 4 = 2 + 3 = 3 + 2$$

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n	0	1	2	3	4	5	...
g_n	0	0	1	2	3	3	...

Let this number be g_n and the generating function for g_n be

$$G(x) = g_0 + g_1x + g_2x^2 + \dots$$

The generating function for A is

$$G_A(x) = \sum_{a \in A} x^a$$

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and the generating function for B is

$$G_B(x) = \sum_{b \in B} x^b$$

Consider $\left(\sum_{a \in A} x^a \right) \left(\sum_{b \in B} x^b \right)$

A typical term in this product is of the form

$$x^a \cdot x^b = x^{a+b}$$

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$$x^a \cdot x^b = x^{a+b}$$

\therefore The coefficient of x^n in $G_A(x)G_B(x)$ is the number of ways of choosing $a \in A$ and $b \in B$ such that $a+b=n$, i.e., g_n .

Therefore, $G_A(x)G_B(x) = G(x)$.

In general, let g_n denote the number of solutions (in nonnegative integers) to

$$a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_m = n$$

such that $a_i \in A_i$, $i=1, 2, \dots, m$.

Then $G(x) = G_{A_1}(x)G_{A_2}(x)\dots G_{A_m}(x)$

where $G(x)$ is the generating function for g_n

and $G_{A_i}(x)$ is the generating function for A_i , $i=1, 2, \dots, m$.

$$\Rightarrow x = \alpha_1 (1 - \lambda_2 x) + \alpha_2 (1 - \lambda_1 x)$$

$$\text{Let } x = \lambda_1^{-1}, \quad \lambda_1^{-1} = \alpha_1 (1 - \lambda_2 \lambda_1^{-1})$$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha_1 = \frac{1}{\lambda_1 - \lambda_2} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}$$

$$\text{Let } x = \lambda_2^{-1}, \quad \lambda_2^{-1} = \alpha_2 (1 - \lambda_1 \lambda_2^{-1})$$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha_2 = \frac{1}{\lambda_2 - \lambda_1} = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}$$

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$$B = \{2, 3, 4\}$$

$$2 = 0+2$$

$$3 = 0+3 = 1+2$$

$$4 = 0+4 = 1+3 = 2+2$$

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Example (cont.) $A = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4\}$

$$B = \{2, 3, 4\}$$

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

$$G_B(x) = x^2 + x^3 + x^4$$

$$G(x) = G_A(x)G_B(x) = (1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + x^4)(x^2 + x^3 + x^4)$$

$$= x^2 + 2x^3 + 3x^4 + 3x^5 + 3x^6 + 2x^7 + x^8$$

Example Find the number of solutions in nonnegative integers to $z_1 + z_2 + \dots + z_m = n$.

Let this number be g_n .

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 G(x) &= \sum_{n \geq 0} g_n x^n = G_{A_1}(x) G_{A_2}(x) \dots G_{A_m}(x) \\
 &= \left(\frac{1}{1-x}\right)^m \\
 &= (1-x)^{-m} \\
 &= \sum_{n \geq 0} \binom{-m}{n} (-1)^n x^n \\
 &= \sum_{n \geq 0} (-1)^n \binom{m+n-1}{n} (-1)^n x^n = \sum_{n \geq 0} \binom{m+n-1}{n} x^n
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$$\therefore g_n = \binom{m+n-1}{n}, \quad n=0, 1, 2, \dots$$

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Let $A_1 = \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$, $A_2 = \{4, 5, 6, 7\}$
 $A_3 = \{2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$, $A_4 = \{13, 14, 15, \dots\}$

Then $G_{A_1}(x) = 1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + \dots = \frac{1}{1-x}$,
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The generating function for g_n is

$$G(x) = G_{A_1}(x) G_{A_2}(x) G_{A_3}(x) G_{A_4}(x)$$

$$= \frac{x^9 (1+x+x^2+x^3) (1+x+x^2+x^3+x^4)}{(1-x)^2}$$