

Chapter 4: Advanced Counting Techniques

**4.1**

## **Recurrence Relations**

**4.2**

## **Solving Linear Recurrence Relations**

**4.4**

## **Generating Functions**

Dr Patrick Chan

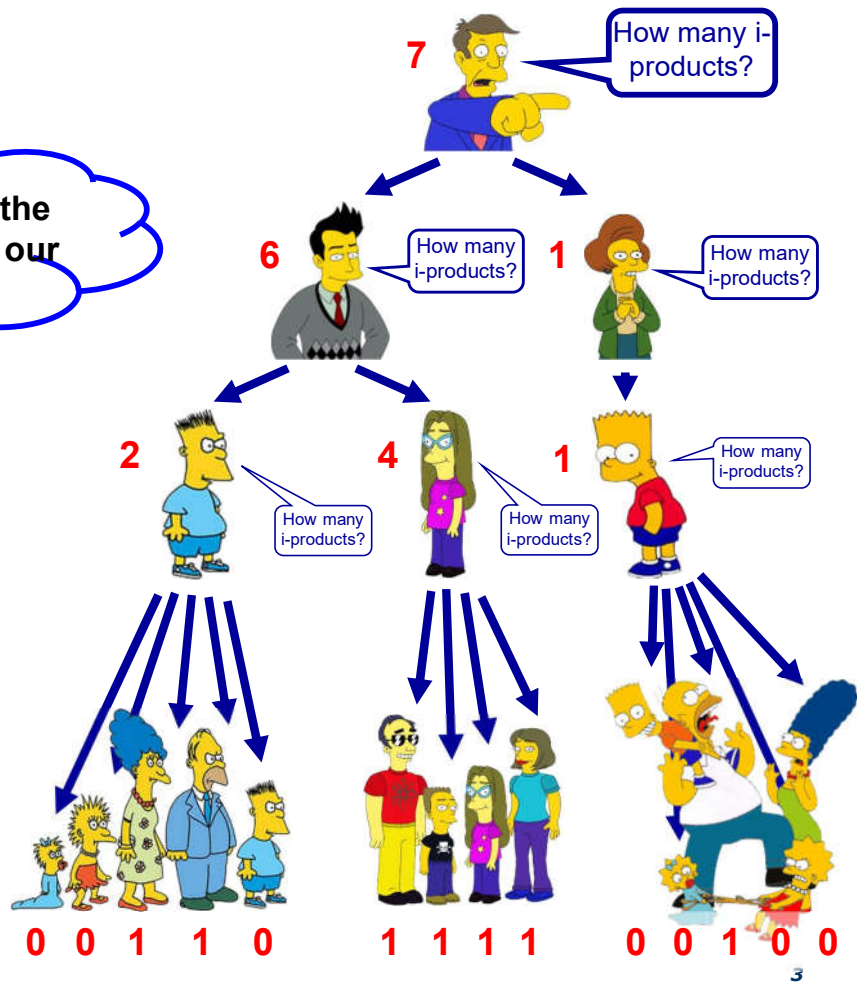
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## **Agenda**

- Recurrence Relations
- Modeling with Recurrence Relations
- Linear Nonhomogeneous Recurrence Relations with Constant Coefficients
- Generating Functions
- Useful Facts About Power Series
- Extended Binomial Coefficient
- Extended Binomial Theorem
- Counting Problems and Generating Functions
- Using Generating Functions to Solve Recurrence Relations

# Recursion

How many i-products the families of students in our school have?



# Recurrence Relations

- A **recurrence relation** for a **sequence**  $\{a_n\}$  is an **equation** that **expresses**  $a_n$  in terms of one or more **previous elements** ( $a_0, \dots, a_{n-1}$ )
- A **sequence** is called a **solution** of a **recurrence relation** **if** its terms **satisfy** the **recurrence relation**



## Example 1

- Let  $\{a_n\}$  be a sequence that satisfies the recurrence relation  $a_n = a_{n-1} - a_{n-2}$  for  $n = 2, 3, 4, \dots$ , and suppose that  $a_0 = 3$  and  $a_1 = 5$ .  
What are  $a_2$  and  $a_3$ ?

- From the recurrence relation:
  - $a_2 = a_1 - a_0 = 5 - 3 = 2$
  - $a_3 = a_2 - a_1 = 2 - 5 = -3$

## Example 2

- Consider the recurrence relation

$$a_n = 2a_{n-1} - a_{n-2}, \text{ where } n \geq 2$$

- Which of the following are solutions?
  - $a_n = 3n$  ✓
    - $2a_{n-1} - a_{n-2} = 2(3(n-1)) - 3(n-2) = 3n = a_n$
  - $a_n = 2^n$  ✗
    - $2a_{n-1} - a_{n-2} = 2(2^{n-1}) - 2^{n-2} = 2^n \neq a_n$
  - $a_n = 5$  ✓
    - $2a_{n-1} - a_{n-2} = 2 \times 10 - 5 = 5 = a_n$

# Recurrence Relations

- The **initial conditions** for a sequence **specify the terms** that **precede** the **first term** where the recurrence relation takes effect
  - For example  
 $a_n = a_{n-1} + a_{n-2}$ , what is the value of  $a_3$ ?  
**Answer depends** on  $a_0$  and  $a_1$  (initial conditions)
    - $a_0 = 3$  and  $a_1 = 5$  :  $a_2 = 8$ ,  $a_3 = 13$
    - $a_0 = 1$  and  $a_1 = 2$  :  $a_2 = 3$ ,  $a_3 = 5$
- A **sequence** is **determined uniquely** by
  - Recurrence relation
  - Initial conditions

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## Modeling with Recurrence Relations

### Compound Interest

- Growth of saving in a bank account with  $r\%$  interest per given period
  - $S_n = S_{n-1} + r \cdot S_{n-1} = (r+1) \cdot S_{n-1}$
- Example:
  - Suppose that a person deposits **\$10,000** in a savings account at a bank yielding **11 % per year** with **interest compounded annually**. **How much will be in the account after 30 years?**
  - $S_{30} = 1.11S_{29} = 1.11(1.11S_{28}) = \dots = (1.11)^{30} 10,000$

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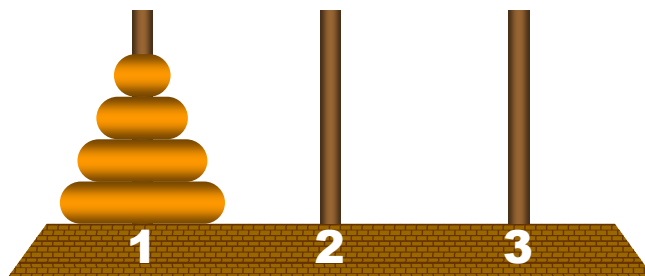
# Tower of Hanoi

## Objective

- Get **all disks** from **peg 1** to **peg 3**

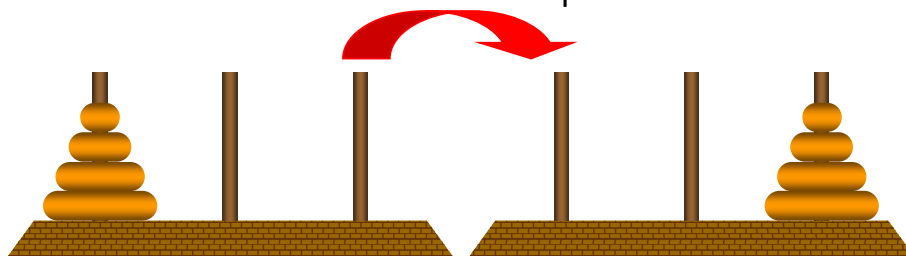
## Rules

- Only **move 1** disk at a time
- Never** put a **larger** disk **on** a **smaller** one

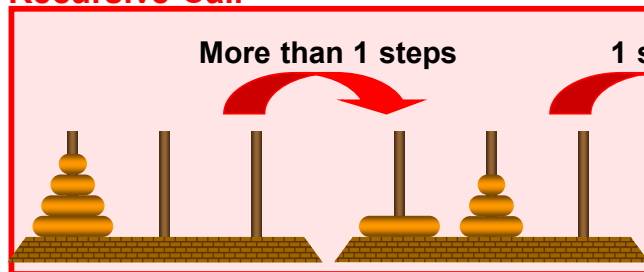


# Tower of Hanoi

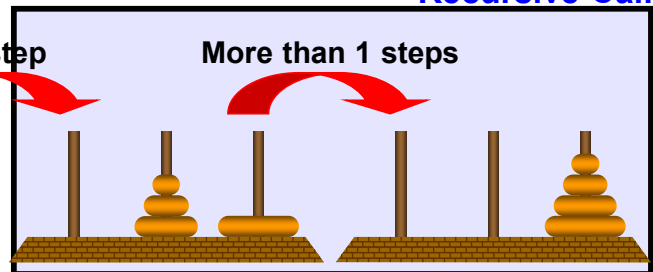
More than 1 steps



Recursive Call

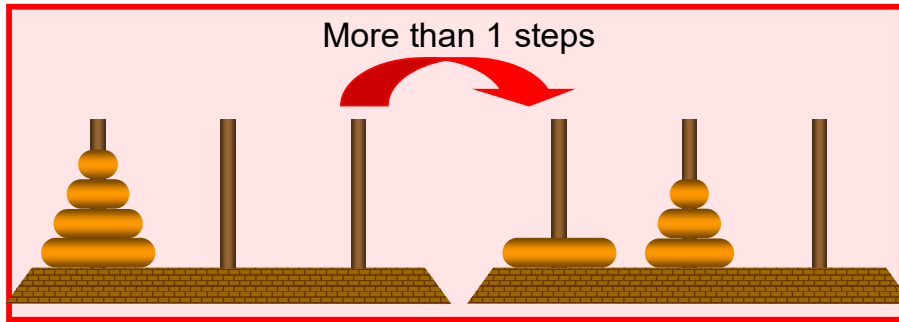


Recursive Call

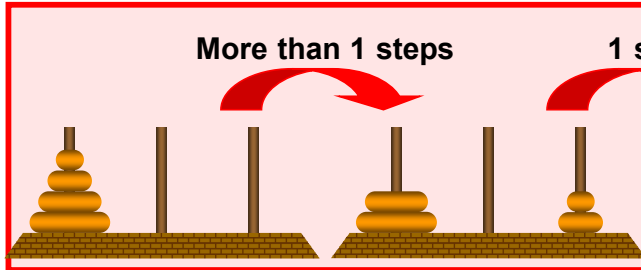


# Modeling with Recurrence Relations

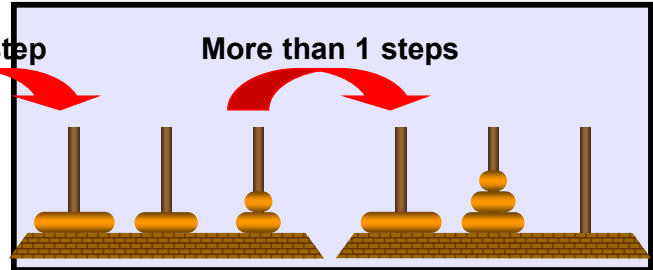
## Tower of Hanoi



Recursive Call

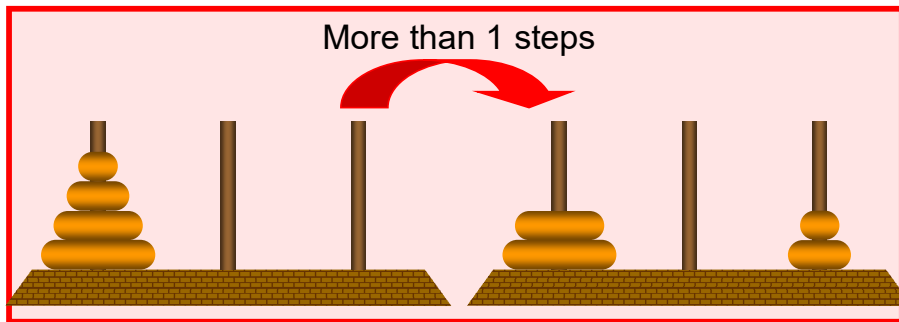


Recursive Call

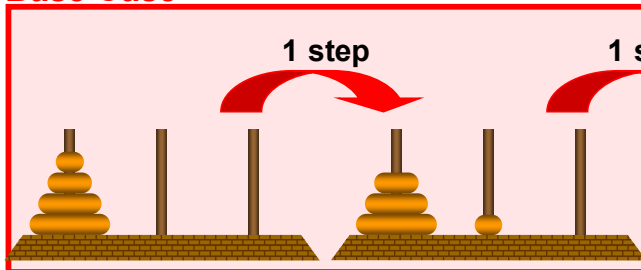


# Modeling with Recurrence Relations

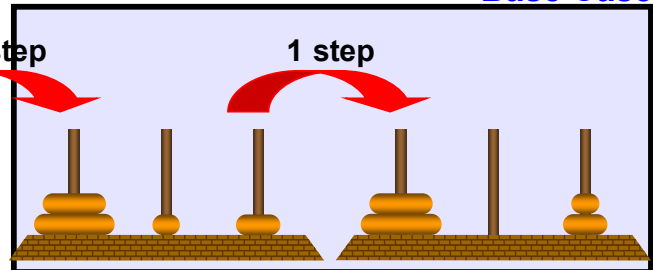
## Tower of Hanoi



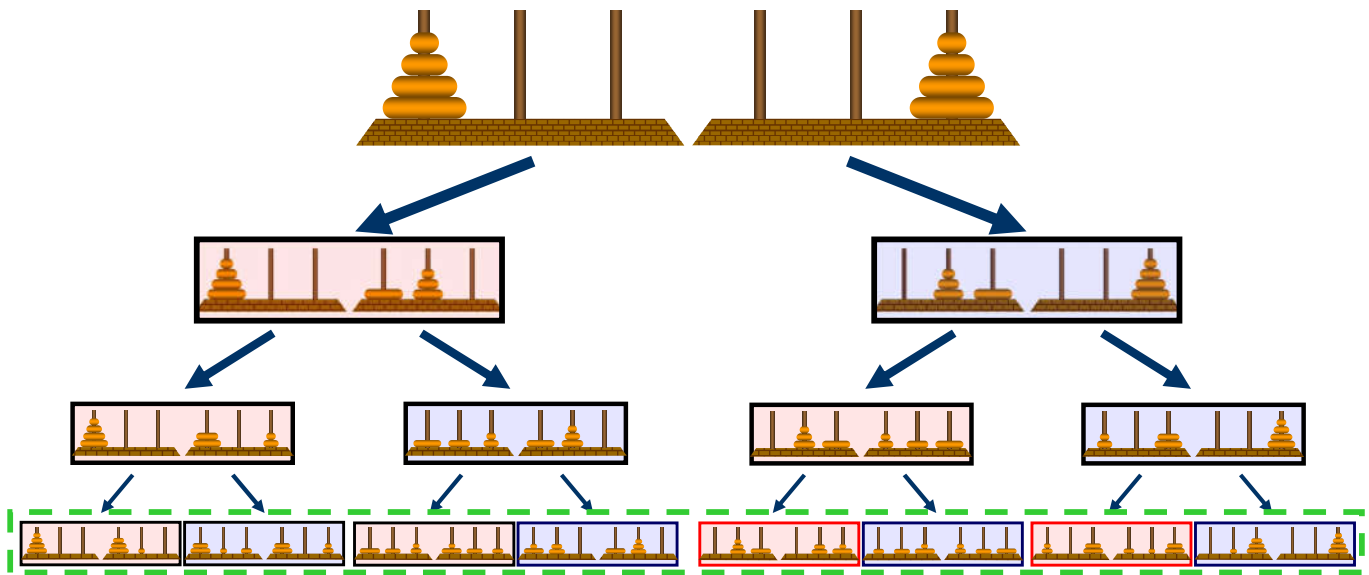
Base Case



Base Case



# Tower of Hanoi



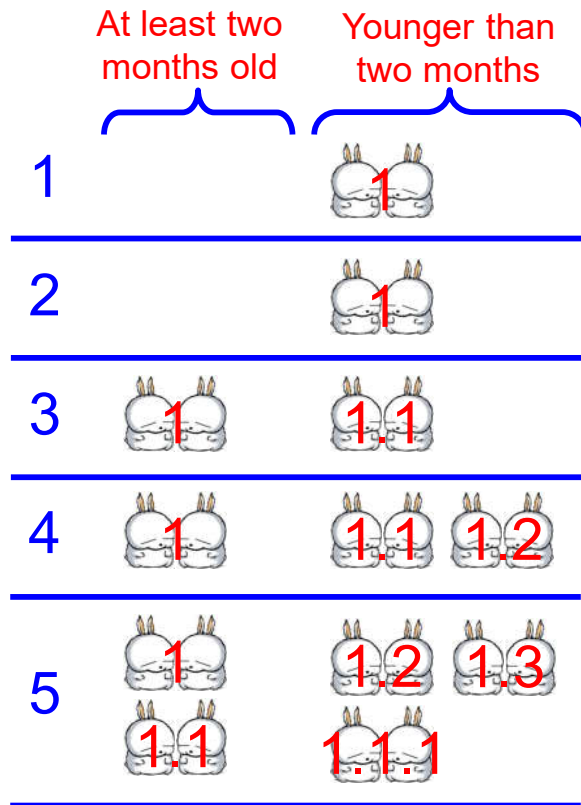
The solution

# Tower of Hanoi

- Let  $H_n$  be the number of moves for a stack of  $n$  disks.
- Strategy:
  - Move top  $n-1$  disks ( $H_{n-1}$  moves)
  - Move bottom disk (1 move)
  - Move top  $n-1$  to bottom disk ( $H_{n-1}$  moves)
- $H_n = 2H_{n-1} + 1$

# Fibonacci (Rabbits) Numbers

- A young pair of rabbits (one of each sex) is placed on an island
- A pair of rabbits does not breed until they are 2 months old
- After they are 2 months old, each pair of rabbits produces another pair each month
- $P_n = P_{n-1} + P_{n-2}$



## Example 1

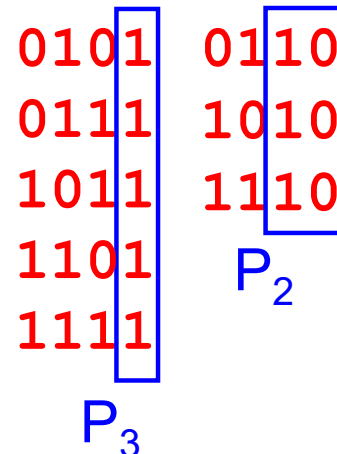
- Find a recurrence relation and give initial conditions for the number of bit strings of length  $n$  that do not have two consecutive 0s.
- Let  $P_n$  denote the number of bit strings of length  $n$  that do not have two consecutive 0s

Any bit string of length  $n - 1$  with no two consecutive 0s  $\boxed{1} P_{n-1}$

Any bit string of length  $n - 2$  with no two consecutive 0s  $\boxed{10} P_{n-2}$

- $P_n = P_{n-1} + P_{n-2}, n \geq 3$
- $P_1 = 2, P_2 = 3$

For  $P_4$





# Example 2

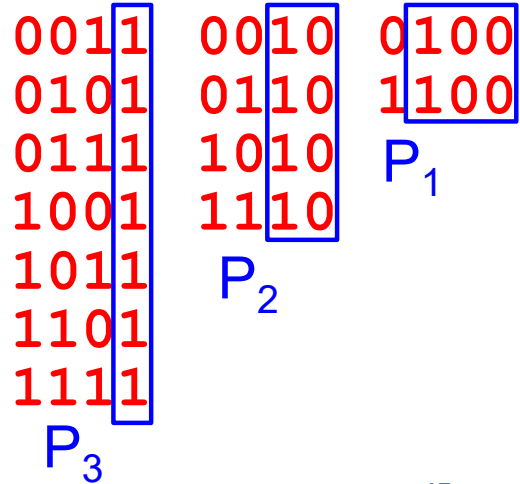
- Find a recurrence relation and give initial conditions for the number of bit strings of length  $n$  that do not have three consecutive 0s.
- Let  $P_n$  denote the number of bit strings of length  $n$  that do not have three consecutive 0s

Any bit string of length  $n - 1$  with no three consecutive 0s  $\boxed{1} P_{n-1}$

Any bit string of length  $n - 2$  with no three consecutive 0s  $\boxed{10} P_{n-2}$

Any bit string of length  $n - 3$  with no three consecutive 0s  $\boxed{100} P_{n-2}$

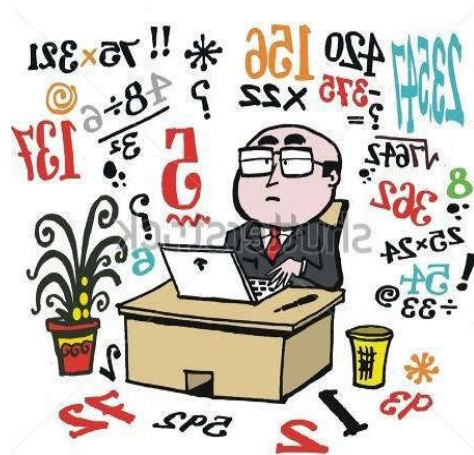
For  $P_4$



- $P_n = P_{n-1} + P_{n-2} + P_{n-3}$ ,  $n \geq 4$
- $P_1 = 2, P_2 = 4, P_3 = 7$

# Solving Linear Recurrence Relations

- Given  $P_n = P_{n-1} + P_{n-2}$ , what is  $P_{100}$ ?
- It is not easy to calculate
- Need a **better solution** which is **not in relation form**  
E.g.  $P_n = n \cdot 10 - 1$



# Solving Linear Recurrence Relations

- Linear Homogeneous Recurrence of Degree  $k$  with Constant Coefficients is a recurrence of the form

$$a_n = c_1 a_{n-1} + \dots + c_k a_{n-k} = \sum_{i=1}^k c_i a_{n-i}$$

where the  $c_i$  are all real numbers, and  $c_k \neq 0$

- Linear**: the power of all  $a_i$  term is one
  - Homogeneous**: no constant term (no term without  $a_i$ )
  - Recurrence**: a sequence  $\{a_n\}$  which  $a_n$  in terms of  $a_{n-1}, a_{n-2}, \dots$
  - Degree  $k$** : refer to  $k$  previous terms  $a_{n-k}$
  - Constant Coefficients**:  $c_1, c_2, \dots$  independent from  $n$
- The short name is “**k-LiHoReCoCo**”

## Solving Linear Recurrence Relations

### Example

- $M_n = M_{n-1} + (1.11)M_{n-1}$

- 1-LiHoReCoCo

- $a_n = a_{n-1} + (a_{n-2})^2$

- Not linear

- $P_n = P_{n-1} + P_{n-2}$

- 2-LiHoReCoCo

- $H_n = 2H_{n-1} + 1$

- Not homogeneous

- $a_n = a_{n-5}$

- 5-LiHoReCoCo

- $B_n = nB_{n-1}$

- Non-constant coefficient  
( $n$  is a variable)

#### k-LiHoReCoCo

- Linear**: the power of all  $a_i$  term is one
- Homogeneous**: no constant term (no term without  $a_i$ )
- Recurrence**: a sequence  $\{a_n\}$  which  $a_n$  in terms of  $a_{n-1}, a_{n-2}, \dots$
- Degree  $k$** : refer to  $k$  previous terms  $a_{n-k}$
- Constant Coefficients**:  $c_1, c_2, \dots$  independent from  $n$

# Solving 2-LiHoReCoCos

- Given 2-LiHoReCoCo:  $a_n = c_1 a_{n-1} + c_2 a_{n-2}$ , and  $a_0 = c$  and  $a_1 = d$
- Assume  $s_n$  and  $t_n$  be the solution,  $a_n = s_n$  and  $a_n = t_n$ 
  - $s_n = c_1 s_{n-1} + c_2 s_{n-2}$  and  $t_n = c_1 t_{n-1} + c_2 t_{n-2}$
- For constants  $w_1$  and  $w_2$ 

$$\underbrace{w_1 s_n + w_2 t_n}_{a_n} = w_1 (c_1 s_{n-1} + c_2 s_{n-2}) + w_2 (c_1 t_{n-1} + c_2 t_{n-2})$$

$$= c_1 \underbrace{(w_1 s_{n-1} + w_2 t_{n-1})}_{a_{n-1}} + c_2 \underbrace{(w_1 s_{n-2} + w_2 t_{n-2})}_{a_{n-2}}$$
- Therefore,  $a_n = w_1 s_n + w_2 t_n$  is a solution

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# Solving 2-LiHoReCoCos

- By considering 1-LiHoReCoCo,  $a_n = c a_{n-1}$
- Obviously, the general solution is  $a_n = c^n a_0$
- Therefore, the solution of the form may be  $a_n = r^n$
- Substitute  $a_n = r^n$  to  $a_n = c_1 a_{n-1} + c_2 a_{n-2}$ , then  $r^2 - c_1 r - c_2 = 0$  or  $r = 0$ 
  - $r = 0$  is a special case since  $a_n = 0$
- $r^2 - c_1 r - c_2$  is called **characteristic equation**

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# Solving 2-LiHoReCoCos

- Given **2-LiHoReCoCo**:  $a_n = c_1 a_{n-1} + c_2 a_{n-2}$ , and  $a_0 = c$  and  $a_1 = d$
- Assume  $a_n = w_1 r_1^n + w_2 r_2^n$  for  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  are **different** and some **constants**  $w_1, w_2$
- We know that  $r_1^2 - c_1 r_1 - c_2 = 0$  and  $r_2^2 - c_1 r_2 - c_2 = 0$
- Characteristic Equation**:  $r^2 - c_1 r - c_2 = 0$
- Characteristic Roots**:  $r_1$  and  $r_2$
- $w_1$  and  $w_2$  can be calculated by using  $c$  and  $d$ 
$$\begin{cases} a_0 = c = w_1 r_1^0 + w_2 r_2^0 \\ a_1 = d = w_1 r_1^1 + w_2 r_2^1 \end{cases}$$

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# Solving 2-LiHoReCoCos

## Theorem

- Consider an arbitrary **2-LiHoReCoCo**:

$$a_n = c_1 a_{n-1} + c_2 a_{n-2}$$

- By substituting  $a_n = r^n$ , we have the **characteristic equation**:

$$r^2 - c_1 r - c_2 = 0$$

- If there has **two different roots**  $r_1$  and  $r_2$ , then

$$a_n = w_1 r_1^n + w_2 r_2^n$$

for  $n \geq 0$  and some constants  $w_1, w_2$

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# Solving 2-LiHoReCoCos

## ■ Proof

Given  $r_1, r_2$  are the characteristic root

$$a_n = c_1 a_{n-1} + c_2 a_{n-2} \Leftrightarrow a_n = w_1 r_1^n + w_2 r_2^n$$

where and  $w_1, w_2$  are constants

## ■ Two steps for the proof

1. Show if  $a_n = w_1 r_1^n + w_2 r_2^n$ ,  $\{a_n\}$  is a **solution** of the recurrence relation
2. Show if  $\{a_n\}$  is the solution of the recurrence relation,  $a_n = w_1 r_1^n + w_2 r_2^n$  for some  $w_1$  and  $w_2$

# Solving 2-LiHoReCoCos

## ■ Step 1

Show if  $a_n = w_1 r_1^n + w_2 r_2^n$ ,  $\{a_n\}$  is a **solution** of the recurrence relation

$$\begin{aligned} c_1 a_{n-1} + c_2 a_{n-2} &= c_1 (w_1 r_1^{n-1} + w_2 r_2^{n-1}) + c_2 (w_1 r_1^{n-2} + w_2 r_2^{n-2}) \\ &= w_1 r_1^{n-2} (c_1 r_1 + c_2) + w_2 r_2^{n-2} (c_1 r_2 + c_2) \\ &= w_1 r_1^{n-2} r_1^2 + w_2 r_2^{n-2} r_2^2 \quad \left[ \begin{array}{l} r_1 \text{ and } r_2 \text{ are the solution of} \\ r^2 - c_1 r - c_2 = 0 \end{array} \right] \\ &= w_1 r_1^n + w_2 r_2^n \\ &= a_n \end{aligned}$$

# Solving 2-LiHoReCoCos

## Step 2

Show if  $\{a_n\}$  is the solution of the recurrence relation,  $a_n = w_1 r_1^n + w_2 r_2^n$  for some  $w_1$  and  $w_2$

- Suppose that  $\{a_n\}$  is a solution of the recurrence relation, and the initial conditions  $a_0 = C_0$  and  $a_1 = C_1$  hold
- We want to show that there are constants  $w_1$  and  $w_2$  such that the sequence  $\{a_n\}$  with  $a_n = w_1 r_1^n + w_2 r_2^n$  satisfies these same initial conditions

$$a_0 = C_0 = w_1 + w_2 \quad \text{and} \quad a_1 = C_1 = w_1 r_1 + w_2 r_2$$

- By solving these two equations:

$$w_1 = \frac{C_1 - C_0 r_2}{r_1 - r_2} \quad w_2 = \frac{C_0 r_2 - C_1}{r_1 - r_2}$$

- When  $r_1 \neq r_2$ ,  $\{a_n\}$  with  $w_1 r_1^n + w_2 r_2^n$  satisfy the 2 initial conditions

# Solving 2-LiHoReCoCos

- We know that  $\{a_n\}$  and  $\{\alpha_1 r_1^n + \alpha_2 r_2^n\}$  are both solutions of the recurrence relation  $a_n = c_1 a_{n-1} + c_2 a_{n-2}$  and both satisfy the initial conditions when  $n = 0$  and  $n = 1$
- Because there is a unique solution of 2-LiHoReCoCo with two initial conditions, it follows that the two solutions are the same, that is,  $a_n = \alpha_1 r_1^n + \alpha_2 r_2^n$  for all nonnegative integers  $n$
- We have completed the proof

## Solving 2-LiHoReCoCos

### Example 1

$$\begin{aligned} \text{2-LiHoReCoCo: } a_n &= c_1 a_{n-1} + c_2 a_{n-2}, \\ \text{Characteristic Equation: } r^2 - c_1 r - c_2 &= 0 \\ a_n &= w_1 r_1^n + w_2 r_2^n \text{ (} r_1 \text{ and } r_2 \text{ are different)} \end{aligned}$$

- Solve the recurrence  $a_n = a_{n-1} + 2a_{n-2}$  given the initial conditions  $a_0 = 2, a_1 = 7$
- Characteristic Equation:  $r^2 - r - 2 = 0$
- Characteristic Root:
  - $r = (1 \pm 3) / 2$
  - $r = 2$  or  $r = -1$
- Therefore,  $a_n = w_1 2^n + w_2 (-1)^n$
- By using  $a_0 = 2, a_1 = 7$ 
  - $a_0 = 2 = w_1 2^0 + w_2 (-1)^0$
  - $a_1 = 7 = w_1 2^1 + w_2 (-1)^1$
  - $w_1 = 3$  and  $w_2 = 1$
- Therefore,  $a_n = 3 \cdot 2^n - (-1)^n$

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

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## Solving 2-LiHoReCoCos

### Example 2

$$\begin{aligned} \text{2-LiHoReCoCo: } a_n &= c_1 a_{n-1} + c_2 a_{n-2}, \\ \text{Characteristic Equation: } r^2 - c_1 r - c_2 &= 0 \\ a_n &= w_1 r_1^n + w_2 r_2^n \text{ (} r_1 \text{ and } r_2 \text{ are different)} \end{aligned}$$

- Find an explicit formula for the Fibonacci numbers
- Recall  $f_n = f_{n-1} + f_{n-2}$ 
  - Characteristic equation:  $r^2 - r - 1 = 0$
  - Characteristic roots:  $r_1 = (1 + \sqrt{5}) / 2$        $r_2 = (1 - \sqrt{5}) / 2$

$$f_n = w_1 \left( \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^n + w_2 \left( \frac{1 - \sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^n$$

- Initial conditions  $f_0 = 0$  and  $f_1 = 1$

$$f_0 = 0 = w_1 + w_2$$

$$f_1 = 1 = w_1 \left( \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \right) + w_2 \left( \frac{1 - \sqrt{5}}{2} \right) \quad w_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \quad w_2 = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}$$

$$f_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \left( \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^n - \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \left( \frac{1 - \sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^n$$

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# Solving 2-LiHoReCoCos with two same roots

## Theorem

- Let  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  be real numbers with  $c_2 \neq 0$ . Suppose that  $r^2 - c_1r - c_2 = 0$  has **only one root**  $r_0$
- A sequence  $\{a_n\}$  is a solution of the recurrence relation  $a_n = c_1a_{n-1} + c_2a_{n-2}$  if and only if  $a_n = w_1r_0^n + w_2nr_0^n$ , for  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ , where  $w_1$  and  $w_2$  are constants

## Solving 2-LiHoReCoCos with Example 1

$$\begin{aligned} \text{2-LiHoReCoCo: } & a_n = c_1a_{n-1} + c_2a_{n-2}, \\ \text{Characteristic Equation: } & r^2 - c_1r - c_2 = 0 \\ & a_n = w_1r_0^n + w_2nr_0^n \end{aligned}$$

- What is the solution** of the recurrence relation  $a_n = 6a_{n-1} - 9a_{n-2}$  with initial conditions  $a_0 = 1$  and  $a_1 = 6$ ?
- Characteristic equation:  $r^2 - 6r + 9 = 0$
- Only one characteristic root:  $r = 3$
- Hence, the solution to this recurrence relation is

$$a_n = w_13^n + w_2n3^n$$

for some constants  $w_1$  and  $w_2$

- By using the initial conditions,  
 $a_0 = 1 = w_1$ ,  $a_1 = 6 = 3w_1 + 3w_2$ , so  $w_1 = 1$  and  $w_2 = 1$
- Consequently,  $a^n = 3^n + n3^n$



# Summary

- Given :  $a_n = c_1 a_{n-1} + c_2 a_{n-2}$  and  $a_0 = c$  and  $a_1 = d$ 
  1. **Characteristic equation:**  $r^2 - c_1 r - c_2 = 0$
  - 2a. **If Characteristic Root ( $r_1$  and  $r_2$ ) are different**
    1.  $a_n = w_1 r_1^n + w_2 r_2^n$  is the solution
    2. Use  $a_0 = w_1 + w_2 = c$  and  $a_1 = w_1 r_1 + w_2 r_2 = d$  to solve  $w_1$  and  $w_2$
  - 2b. **If Characteristic Root ( $r_1$  and  $r_2$ ) are the same**
    1.  $a_n = w_1 r^n + w_2 n r^n$  is the solution
    2. Use  $a_0 = w_1 = c$  and  $a_1 = w_1 r_1 + w_2 r_2 = d$  to solve  $w_1$  and  $w_2$

## 😊 Small Exercise 😊

- **What is the solution** of the recurrence relation  $a_n = -a_{n-1} + 6a_{n-2}$  with initial conditions  $a_0 = 0$  and  $a_1 = 5$ ?
- **What is the solution** of the recurrence relation  $a_n = -2a_{n-1} - a_{n-2}$  with initial conditions  $a_0 = 5$  and  $a_1 = -6$ ?

## 😊 Small Exercise 😊

- the recurrence relation:  $a_n = -a_n + 6a_{n-2}$
- Initial conditions  $a_0 = 0$  and  $a_1 = 5$
- Characteristic Equation:  $r^2 + r - 6 = 0$   
 $(r + 3)(r - 2) = 0$
- Characteristic Root:  $r_1 = -3, r_2 = 2$
- Therefore,  $a^n = w_1 (-3)^n + w_2 (2)^n$
- Using the initial condition
  - $a_0 = 0 = w_1 + w_2$
  - $a_1 = 5 = -3w_1 + 2w_2$
  - $w_1 = -1, w_2 = 1$
- Therefore,  $a^n = -(-3)^n + (2)^n$

## 😊 Small Exercise 😊

- the recurrence relation:  $a_n = -2a_n - a_{n-2}$
- Initial conditions  $a_0 = 5$  and  $a_1 = -6$
- Characteristic Equation:  $r^2 + 2r + 1 = 0$   
 $(r + 1)(r + 1) = 0$
- Characteristic Root:  $r_1 = -1$
- Therefore,  $a^n = w_1 (-1)^n + w_2 n (-1)^n$
- Using the initial condition
  - $a_0 = 5 = w_1$
  - $a_1 = -6 = -w_1 - w_2$
  - $w_1 = 5, w_2 = 1$
- Therefore,  $a^n = 5 (-1)^n + n (-1)^n$

# Solving k-LiHoReCoCos

- **k-LiHoReCoCo**:  $a_n = \sum_{i=1}^k c_i a_{n-i}$

2-kiHoReCoCo

$$a_n = c_1 a_{n-1} + c_2 a_{n-2}$$

- **Characteristic Equation** is:

$$r^k - \sum_{i=1}^k c_i r^{k-i} = 0$$

$$r^2 - c_1 r - c_2 = 0$$

- **Theorem**

If there are  $k$  **distinct roots**  $r_i$ , then the solutions to the recurrence are of the form:

$$a_n = \sum_{i=1}^k w_i r_i^n$$

$$a_n = w_1 r_1^n + w_2 r_2^n$$

for all  $n \geq 0$ , where the  $w_i$  are constants

## Solving k-LiHoReCoCos

### Example

- **Find the solution** to the recurrence relation

$$a_n = 6a_{n-1} - 11a_{n-2} + 6a_{n-3}$$

with the initial conditions  $a_0 = 2$ ,  $a_1 = 5$ , and  $a_2 = 15$ .

- The **characteristic equation** is:

$$r^3 - 6r^2 + 11r - 6 = (r - 1)(r - 2)(r - 3)$$

- The characteristic roots are  $r = 1$ ,  $r = 2$ , and  $r = 3$

- $a_n = w_1 1^n + w_2 2^n + w_3 3^n$

- By using the initial conditions

- $a_0 = 2 = w_1 + w_2 + w_3$
  - $a_1 = 5 = w_1 + w_2 \times 2 + w_3 \times 3$
  - $a_2 = 15 = w_1 + w_2 \times 4 + w_3 \times 9$
  - Therefore,  $w_1 = 1$ ,  $w_2 = -1$  and  $w_3 = 2$

- As a result,  $a_n = 1 - 2^n + 2 \times 3^n$

# Solving k-LiHoReCoCos with same roots

- Let  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_k$  be real numbers
- Suppose that the characteristic equation

$$r^k - c_1 r^{k-1} - \dots - c_k = 0$$

has  $t$  distinct roots  $r_1, r_2, \dots, r_t$  with multiplicities  $m_1, m_2, \dots, m_t$

- i.e.  $r_i$  appear  $m_i$  times
- $m_1 + m_2 + \dots + m_t = k$

# Solving k-LiHoReCoCos with same roots

Special case for  $k=2$ , One distinct root

$$a_n = w_1 r_0^n + w_2 n r_0^n$$

$$a_n = (w_1 + w_2 n) r_0^n$$

- A sequence  $\{a_n\}$  is a solution of the recurrence relation

$$a_n = c_1 a_{n-1} + c_2 a_{n-2} + \dots + c_k a_{n-k}$$

- If and only if

Multiplicities for  $r_i$

$$a_n = \underbrace{\left( (w_{1,0} + w_{1,1}n + \dots + w_{1,m_1-1}n^{m_1-1})r_1^n + (w_{2,0} + w_{2,1}n + \dots + w_{2,m_2-1}n^{m_2-1})r_2^n + \dots + (w_{t,0} + w_{t,1}n + \dots + w_{t,m_t-1}n^{m_t-1})r_t^n \right)}_{\text{No. of distinct roots}}$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^t \left( \sum_{j=0}^{m_i-1} w_{i,j} n^j \right) r_i^n$$

for  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ , where  $w_{i,j}$  are constants for  $1 \leq i \leq t$  and  $0 \leq j \leq m_{i-1}$

# Example

$$a_n = (w_{1,0} + w_{1,1}n + \dots + w_{1,m_1-1}n^{m_1-1})r_1^n + (w_{2,0} + w_{2,1}n + \dots + w_{2,m_2-1}n^{m_2-1})r_2^n + \dots + (w_{t,0} + w_{t,1}n + \dots + w_{t,m_t-1}n^{m_t-1})r_t^n$$

- Find the solution to the recurrence relation

$$H_n = -H_{n-1} + 3H_{n-2} + 5H_{n-3} + 2H_{n-4}$$

with the initial conditions  $H_0 = 1, H_1 = 0, H_2 = 1, H_3 = 2$

- Characteristic equation:**  $x^4 + x^3 - 3x^2 - 5x - 2 = 0$   
 $(x-2)(x+1)^3 = 0$

- Roots:**  $-1, -1, -1, 2$

- Therefore:  $H_n = (c_1 + c_2n + c_3n^2)(-1)^n + c_42^n$

- By initial conditions:

$$\begin{cases} H_0 = c_1 + c_4 = 1 \\ H_1 = -c_1 - c_2 - c_3 + 2c_4 = 0 \\ H_2 = c_1 + 2c_2 + 4c_3 + 4c_4 = 1 \\ H_3 = -c_1 - 3c_2 - 9c_3 + 8c_4 = 2 \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} c_1 = \frac{7}{9}, c_2 = -\frac{1}{3}, c_3 = 0, c_4 = \frac{2}{9} \\ H_n = \frac{7}{9}(-1)^n - \frac{1}{3}n(-1)^n + \frac{2}{9}2^n \end{cases}$$

## Solving k-LiHoReCoCos

# Summary

- Given :  $a_n = \sum_{i=1}^k c_i a_{n-i}$  and  $a_i = c_i$ , where  $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$

- Characteristic equation:**  $r^k - \sum_{i=1}^k c_i r^{k-i} = 0$

- Characteristic Root ( $r_1, r_2, \dots, r_k$ )**

- $a_n = \sum_{i=1}^t \left( \sum_{j=0}^{m_i-1} w_{i,j} n^j \right) r_i^n$  is the solution of k-LiHoReCoCos

where  $m_i$  is the multiplicity of  $r_i$

- solve  $w_i$  by  $a_p = c_p = \sum_{i=1}^t \left( \sum_{j=0}^{m_i-1} w_{i,j} p^j \right) r_i^p$

where  $p = 1, 2, \dots, k$

## 😊 Small Exercise 😊

- What is the solution of the recurrence relation  $a_n = a_{n-1} + a_{n-2} - a_{n-3}$  with initial conditions  $a_0 = 0$ ,  $a_1 = 8$  and  $a_2 = 4$ ?

$$a_n = (w_{1,0} + w_{1,1}n + \dots + w_{1,m_1-1}n^{m_1-1})r_1^n + (w_{2,0} + w_{2,1}n + \dots + w_{2,m_2-1}n^{m_2-1})r_2^n + \dots + (w_{t,0} + w_{t,1}n + \dots + w_{t,m_t-1}n^{m_t-1})r_t^n$$

## 😊 Small Exercise 😊

- the recurrence relation:  $a_n = a_{n-1} + a_{n-2} - a_{n-3}$
- Initial conditions  $a_0 = 0$ ,  $a_1 = 8$  and  $a_2 = 4$
- Characteristic Equation:  $r^3 - r^2 - r + 1 = 0$   
 $(r-1)(r-1)(r+1) = 0$
- Characteristic Root:  $r_1 = 1, r_2 = 1, r_3 = -1$
- Therefore,  $a^n = (c_1 + c_2 n) (1)^n + c_3 (-1)^n$
- Using the initial condition
  - $a_0 = 0 = c_1 + c_3$
  - $a_1 = 8 = c_1 + c_2 - c_3$
  - $a_2 = 4 = c_1 + 2c_2 + c_3$
  - $c_1 = 3, c_2 = -3, c_3 = 2$
- Therefore,  $a^n = 3(1-n)(1)^n + 2(-1)^n$

# Solving LiNoReCoCos

- Linear nonhomogeneous recurrence of degree  $k$  with constant coefficients (k-LiNoReCoCos) contain some terms  $F(n)$  that **depend only on  $n$  but not  $a_i$**
- General form:**

$$a_n = c_1 a^{n-1} + \dots + c_k a^{n-k} + F(n)$$

Associated Homogeneous Recurrence Relation

# Solving LiNoReCoCos

- If  $\{ a_n^{(p)} \}$  is a **particular solution** of the nonhomogeneous linear recurrence relation with constant coefficients

$$a_n = c_1 a_{n-1} + c_2 a_{n-2} + \dots + c_k a_{n-k} + F(n)$$

- Then **every solution** is of the form  $\{ a_n^{(p)} + a_n^{(h)} \}$ , where  $\{ a_n^{(h)} \}$  is a **solution** of the associated homogeneous recurrence relation

$$a_n = c_1 a_{n-1} + c_2 a_{n-2} + \dots + c_k a_{n-k}$$

# Solving LiNoReCoCos

## ■ Proof

- As  $\{a_n^{(p)}\}$  is a particular solution for LiNoReCoCos
- Suppose that  $\{b_n\}$  is an another solution

$$a_n^{(p)} = c_1 a_{n-1}^{(p)} + c_2 a_{n-2}^{(p)} + \dots + c_k a_{n-k}^{(p)} + F(n)$$

$$- \quad b_n = c_1 b_{n-1} + c_2 b_{n-2} + \dots + c_k b_{n-k} + F(n)$$

---


$$b_n - a_n^{(p)} = c_1 (b_{n-1} - a_{n-1}^{(p)}) + c_2 (b_{n-2} - a_{n-2}^{(p)}) + \dots + c_k (b_{n-k} - a_{n-k}^{(p)})$$

$$a_n^{(h)} = c_1 a_{n-1}^{(h)} + c_2 a_{n-2}^{(h)} + \dots + c_k a_{n-k}^{(h)}$$

- $\{b_n - a_n^{(p)}\}$  is a solution of the associated homogeneous linear recurrence, named  $\{a_n^{(h)}\}$
- Consequently,  $b_n = a_n^{(p)} + a_n^{(h)}$  for all  $n$ .

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## Solving LiNoReCoCos

### Example 1

$$\begin{aligned} a_n &= 3a_{n-1} + 2n \\ a_1 &= 3 \end{aligned}$$

- Find all solutions to  $a_n = 3a_{n-1} + 2n$ , which solution has  $a_1 = 3$ ?
- Notice this is a 1-LiNoReCoCo.
- Its associated 1-LiHoReCoCo
  - $a_n = 3a_{n-1}$  and root is 3
  - Solution is  $a_n^{(h)} = c3^n$
- The solutions of LiNoReCoCo are in the form

$$a_n = a_n^{(p)} + a_n^{(h)}$$

Next step

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**Example**

$$\begin{aligned} a_n &= 3a_{n-1} + 2n \\ a_1 &= 3 \end{aligned}$$

- If  $F(n)$  is a degree- $u$  polynomial in  $n$ , a degree- $u$  polynomial should be tried as the particular solution  $a_n^{(p)}$

- Now,  $F(n) = 2n$

- Try  $a_n^{(p)} = cn + d$ ,  $c$  and  $d$  are constants

$$a_n = 3a_{n-1} + 2n$$

$$cn + d = 3(c(n-1) + d) + 2n$$

$$(2c+2)n + (3c-2d) = 0$$

$$c = -1 \text{ and } d = -3/2$$

- Solution is:  $a_n^{(p)} = -n - 3/2$

**Example**

$$\begin{aligned} a_n &= 3a_{n-1} + 2n \\ a_1 &= 3 \end{aligned}$$

- Therefore, we have

$$\begin{aligned} a_n &= a_n^{(p)} + a_n^{(h)} \\ &= -n - \frac{3}{2} + c3^n \end{aligned}$$

$$a_n^{(p)} = -n - \frac{3}{2}$$

$$a_n^{(h)} = c3^n$$

- By using  $a_1 = 3$

- $3 = -1 - 3/2 + 3c$

- $c = 11/6$

- As a result,  $a_n = -n - \frac{3}{2} + \frac{11 \cdot 3^n}{6}$

# Solving LiNoReCoCos

## Particular Solution

- Suppose  $\{a_n\}$  satisfies the LiNoReCoCo  $a_n = \left( \sum_{i=1}^k c_i a_{n-i} \right) + F(n)$  where  $c_i$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ ) are real numbers and

$$F(n) = (b_t n^t + b_{t-1} n^{t-1} + \dots + b_1 n + b_0) s^n$$

where  $b_0, b_1, \dots, b_t$  and  $s$  are real numbers

- When  $s$  is **not a root** of the characteristic equation of the associated linear homogeneous RR, there is a particular solution  $(a_n^{(p)})$  of the form  $(p_t n^t + p_{t-1} n^{t-1} + \dots + p_1 n + p_0) s^n$
- When  $s$  is **a root** of the characteristic equation of the associated linear homogeneous RR with multiplicity  $m$ , there is a particular solution  $(a_n^{(p)})$  of the form  $n^m (p_t n^t + p_{t-1} n^{t-1} + \dots + p_1 n + p_0) s^n$

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## Solving LiNoReCoCos Example

$$F(n) = (b_t n^t + b_{t-1} n^{t-1} + \dots + b_1 n + b_0) s^n$$

$$s \text{ is not a root } (p_t n^t + p_{t-1} n^{t-1} + \dots + p_1 n + p_0) s^n$$

$$s \text{ is a root } n^m (p_t n^t + p_{t-1} n^{t-1} + \dots + p_1 n + p_0) s^n$$

- What form do nonhomogeneous  $a_n = 6a_{n-1} - 9a_{n-2} + F(n)$  have when ...

- Consider the associated homogeneous RR:

$$a_n = 6a_{n-1} - 9a_{n-2}$$

- Characteristic Equation

$$r^2 - 6r + 9 = (r - 3)^2 = 0$$

- Characteristic Root is 3, of multiplicity  $m=2$

- $F(n) = 3^n$

$$n^2 (p_0) 3^n$$

- $F(n) = n 3^n$

$$n^2 (p_1 n + p_0) 3^n$$

- $F(n) = n^2 2^n$

$$(p_2 n^2 + p_1 n + p_0) 2^n$$

- $F(n) = (n^2 + 1) 3^n$

$$n^2 (p_2 n^2 + p_1 n + p_0) 3^n$$

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## Example 2

$$F(n) = (b_t n^t + b_{t-1} n^{t-1} + \dots + b_1 n + b_0) s^n$$

**s is not a root**  $(p_t n^t + p_{t-1} n^{t-1} + \dots + p_1 n + p_0) s^n$

**s is a root**  $n^m (p_t n^t + p_{t-1} n^{t-1} + \dots + p_1 n + p_0) s^n$

- Let  $a_n$  be the sum of the first  $n$  positive integers, so that

$$a_n = \sum_{k=1}^n k$$

- $a_n$  satisfies the linear nonhomogeneous RR

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

- Associated linear homogeneous RR is  $a_n = a_{n-1}$
- Root is 1. The solution is  $a_n^{(h)} = c(1)^n$ ,  $c$  is a constant
- Since  $F(n) = n = n \times (1)^n$ , and  $s = 1$  is a root of degree one of the characteristic equation of the associated linear homogeneous RR
- So the particular solution has the form  $n(p_1 n + p_0)$

## Example 2

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

$$a_n^{(p)} = n(p_1 n + p_0)$$

- By solving

$$p_1 n^2 + p_0 n = p_1 (n-1)^2 + p_0 (n-1) + n$$

- We have  $p_0 = p_1 = 1/2$

- Recall,  $a_n = a_n^{(p)} + a_n^{(h)}$

$$a_n = n(n+1)/2 + c$$

$$a_n^{(h)} = c$$

$$a_n^{(p)} = n(n+1)/2$$

- By using  $a_1 = 1$ , so  $c = 0$
- Therefore,

$$a_n = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$$

# Summary

- **k-LiHoReCoCos with m same roots (without  $F(x)$ )**
  - Find the root of **characteristic equation**
  - $$a_n = (\alpha_{1,0} + \alpha_{1,1}n + \dots + \alpha_{1,m_1-1}n^{m_1-1})r_1^n + (\alpha_{2,0} + \alpha_{2,1}n + \dots + \alpha_{2,m_2-1}n^{m_2-1})r_2^n + \dots + (\alpha_{t,0} + \alpha_{t,1}n + \dots + \alpha_{t,m_t-1}n^{m_t-1})r_t^n$$
  - Use initial terms to find alphas
- **k-LiNoReCoCos with m same roots (with  $F(x)$ )**
  - Find the solution of **characteristic equation** of **Associated linear homogeneous RR**  $a_n^{(h)}$
  - Find the **particular solution** of LiNoReCoCo using 
$$a_n^{(p)} = n^m(p_t n^t + p_{t-1}n^{t-1} + \dots + p_1n + p_0)s^n$$
  - Finally  $a_n^{(p)} + a_n^{(h)}$
  - Use initial terms to find alphas

## ☺ Small Exercise ☺

- **Find all solutions** to  $a_n = 7a_{n-1} + (2n^2 + 2)3^n$ , which solution has  $a_1 = 10$ ?

## ☺ Small Exercise ☺

$$\begin{aligned} a_n &= 7a_{n-1} + (2n^2 + 2)3^n \\ a_0 &= 10 \end{aligned}$$

- Its **associated 1-LiHoReCoCo**

- $a_n = 7a_{n-1}$  and root is 7
- Solution is  $a_n^{(h)} = c7^n$

- The **solutions of 1-LiNoReCoCo** are in the form

$$a_n = a_n^{(p)} + a_n^{(h)}$$

- Need to do is **find one**  $a_n^{(p)}$

## ☺ Small Exercise ☺

$$\begin{aligned} a_n &= 7a_{n-1} + (2n^2 + 2)3^n \\ a_0 &= 10 \end{aligned}$$

- Now,  $F(n) = (2n^2 + 2)3^n$

- $a_n^{(p)} = (an^2 + bn + c)3^n$

$$a_n = 7a_{n-1} + (2n^2 + 2)3^n$$

$$(an^2 + bn + c)3^n = 7(a(n-1)^2 + b(n-1) + c)3^{n-1} + (2n^2 + 2)3^n$$

$$3an^2 + 3bn + 3c = 7an^2 - 14an + 7a + 7bn - 7b + 7c + 6n^2 + 6$$

$$0 = 4an^2 - 14an + 7a + 4bn - 7b + 4c + 6n^2 + 6$$

$$0 = n^2(4a + 6) + n(4b - 14a) + (4c + 7a - 7b + 6)$$

$$4a + 6 = 0 \quad 4b - 14a = 0 \quad 4c + 7a - 7b + 6 = 0$$

$$a = -3/2 \quad b = -21/4 \quad c = -129/16$$

$$a_n^{(p)} = (-3n^2/2 - 21n/4 - 129/6)3^n$$

## ☺ Small Exercise ☺

$$\begin{aligned} a_n &= 7a_{n-1} + (2n^2 + 2)3^n \\ a_0 &= 10 \end{aligned}$$

- Therefore, we have

$$\begin{aligned} a_n &= a_n^{(p)} + a_n^{(h)} & a_n^{(p)} &= (-3n^2/2 - 21n/4 - 129/6)3^n \\ &= (-3n^2/2 - 21n/4 - 129/6)3^n + c7^n & a_n^{(h)} &= c7^n \end{aligned}$$

- By using  $a_0 = 10$ 
  - $a_0 = 10 = -129/6 + c$
  - $c = 189/6$

- As a result,

$$a_n = (-3n^2/2 - 21n/4 - 129/6)3^n + 189 \cdot 7^n / 6$$

## Generating Functions

- **Generating functions** (  $G(x)$  ) are used to represent sequences efficiently by coding the terms of a sequence as coefficients of powers of a variable  $x$  in a formal power series
- **Generating function** for the sequence  $a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k, \dots$  of real numbers is the infinite series

$$G(x) = a_0x^0 + a_1x^1 + \dots + a_kx^k + \dots = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_kx^k$$

# Example

- What is the **generating function** for the following sequence?

- {0, 2, ..., 2k, ...}**

$$0 + 2x + \dots + 2k \cdot x^k + \dots = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} 2^k x^k$$

- {1, 1, 1, 1, 1}**

$$1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + x^4 = \sum_{k=0}^4 x^k$$

## Useful Facts About Power Series

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} x^k = \frac{1}{1-x}$$

- $f(x) = \frac{1}{1-x}$

is **generating function**  
of the sequence  
1, 1, 1, 1, ...

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a^k x^k = \frac{1}{1-ax}$$

- $f(x) = \frac{1}{1-ax}$

is **generating function**  
of the sequence  
1, a, a<sup>2</sup>, a<sup>3</sup>, ...

# Useful Facts About Power Series

■ Given:  $f(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k x^k$        $g(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} b_k x^k$

$$f(x) + g(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (a_k + b_k) x^k$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(x)g(x) &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k x^k \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} b_k x^k \\ &= (a_0 x^0 + a_1 x^1 + \dots)(b_0 x^0 + b_1 x^1 + \dots) \\ &= x^0 (a_0 b_0) + x^1 (a_0 b_1 + a_1 b_0) + \\ &\quad x^2 (a_0 b_2 + a_1 b_1 + a_2 b_0) + \dots \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^k (a_j b_{k-j}) x^k \end{aligned}$$

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## Useful Facts About Power Series

### Example

- Let  $h(x) = \frac{1}{(1-x)^2}$ ,
- Find the coefficients  $a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots$  in the expansion

$$h(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k x^k$$

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{1-x} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} x^k$$

$$f(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k x^k \quad g(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} b_k x^k$$

$$f(x) + g(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (a_k + b_k) x^k$$

$$f(x)g(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^k (a_j b_{k-j}) x^k$$

$$\begin{aligned} h(x) &= \frac{1}{(1-x)^2} = \frac{1}{(1-x)} \frac{1}{(1-x)} \\ &= \left( \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} x^k \right) \left( \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} x^k \right) \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^k x^k \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (k+1) x^k \end{aligned}$$

$$a_k = k+1$$

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# Counting Problems and Generating Functions

- How can we solve the counting problems, including the recurrence relation, by using the Generating Functions?

$$G(x) = a_0x^0 + a_1x^1 + \cdots + a_kx^k + \cdots = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_kx^k$$

## Counting Problems and Generating Functions

### Example 1

- Find the number of solutions of  $e_1 + e_2 + e_3 = n$  when  $n = 17$ , where  $e_1, e_2, e_3$  are nonnegative integers with  $2 \leq e_1 \leq 5$ ,  $3 \leq e_2 \leq 6$ ,  $4 \leq e_3 \leq 7$
- By considering this generating function for the sequence  $\{a_n\}$ , where  $a_n$  is the number of solution for  $n$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k x^k = \left[ \begin{array}{l} (x^2 + x^3 + x^4 + x^5) \cdot \\ (x^3 + x^4 + x^5 + x^6) \cdot \\ (x^4 + x^5 + x^6 + x^7) \end{array} \right]$$

- As  $n = 17$ ,  $a_{17}$ , which is the coefficient of  $x^{17}$ , is the solution
- Answer is 3

## Example 2

- In **how many different ways** can **eight identical cookies** be **distributed** among **three distinct children** if **each child** receives **at least two** cookies and **no more than four** cookies?
- By considering this **generating function** for the **sequence**  $\{a_n\}$ , where  $a_n$  is the number of solution for  $n$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k x^k = (x^2 + x^3 + x^4)(x^2 + x^3 + x^4)(x^2 + x^3 + x^4)$$

- The coefficient of  $x^8$  is **6**

## Example 3

- Solve the recurrence relation  $a_k = 3a_{k-1}$  for  $k=1, 2, 3, \dots$  and initial condition  $a_0=2$
- Let  $G(x)$  be the generating function for the sequence  $\{a_k\}$ , that is

$$G(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k x^k$$

$$G(x) = a_0 + 3xG(x)$$

$$G(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} 3a_{k-1} x^k$$

$$G(x) = \frac{2}{1-3x}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a^k x^k = \frac{1}{1-ax}$$

$$G(x) = a_0 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} 3a_{k-1} x^k$$

$$G(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} 2 \cdot 3^k x^k$$

$$G(x) = a_0 + 3x \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_{k-1} x^{k-1}$$

$$a_k = 2 \cdot 3^k$$

# Example 4

- Solve the recurrence relation  $a_k = -a_{k-1} + 6a_{k-2}$  with initial conditions  $a_0 = 0$  and  $a_1 = 5$
- Let  $G(x)$  be the generating function for the sequence  $\{a_k\}$ , that is

$$G(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k x^k$$

$$G(x) = a_0 x^0 + a_1 x^1 + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} a_k x^k$$

$$G(x) = a_0 + a_1 x + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} (-a_{k-1} + 6a_{k-2}) x^k$$

$$G(x) = a_0 + a_1 x - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} a_{k-1} x^k + 6 \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} a_{k-2} x^k$$

# Example 4

$$G(x) = a_0 + a_1 x - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} a_{k-1} x^k + 6 \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} a_{k-2} x^k$$

$$G(x) = a_0 + a_1 x + a_0 x - a_0 x - x \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} a_{k-1} x^{k-1} + 6x^2 \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} a_{k-2} x^{k-2}$$

$$G(x) = a_0 + a_1 x + a_0 x - x \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_{k-1} x^{k-1} + 6x^2 \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} a_{k-2} x^{k-2}$$

$$G(x) = 5x - xG(x) + 6x^2 G(x)$$

$$a_0 = 0 \text{ and } a_1 = 5$$

$$G(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k x^k$$

$$G(x) = -\frac{5x}{(6x^2 - x - 1)}$$

$$G(x) = -\left(\frac{5x}{(2x - 1)(3x + 1)}\right)$$

## Example 4

$$G(x) = -\left(\frac{5x}{(2x-1)(3x+1)}\right)$$

$$G(x) = -\left(\frac{1}{2x-1} + \frac{1}{3x+1}\right)$$

$$G(x) = \frac{1}{1-2x} - \frac{1}{1+3x}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a^k x^k = \frac{1}{1-ax}$$

$$G(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (2)^k x^k - \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (-3)^k x^k$$

$$G(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left( (2)^k - (-3)^k \right) x^k$$

$$a_k = \left( (2)^k - (-3)^k \right)$$

## Example 5

- Solve the recurrence relation  $a_n = -2a_{n-1} - a_{n-2}$  with initial conditions  $a_0 = 5$  and  $a_1 = -6$
- Let  $G(x)$  be the generating function for the sequence  $\{a_k\}$ , that is

$$G(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k x^k$$

$$G(x) = a_0 x^0 + a_1 x^1 + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} a_k x^k$$

$$G(x) = a_0 + a_1 x + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} (-2a_{k-1} - a_{k-2}) x^k$$

$$G(x) = a_0 + a_1 x - 2 \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} a_{k-1} x^k - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} a_{k-2} x^k$$

# Example 5

$$G(x) = a_0 + a_1x - 2 \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} a_{k-1}x^k - \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} a_{k-2}x^k$$

$$G(x) = a_0 + a_1x + 2a_0x - 2a_0x - 2x \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} a_{k-1}x^{k-1} - x^2 \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} a_{k-2}x^{k-2}$$

$$G(x) = a_0 + a_1x + 2a_0x - 2x \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_{k-1}x^{k-1} - x^2 \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} a_{k-2}x^{k-2}$$

$$G(x) = 5 + 4x - 2xG(x) - x^2G(x) \quad a_0 = 5 \text{ and } a_1 = -6$$

$$G(x) = \frac{5 + 4x}{(x^2 + 2x + 1)}$$

$$G(x) = \frac{5 + 4x}{(1 + x)^2}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a^k x^k = \frac{1}{1 - ax}$$

# Counting Problems and Generating Functions

## Example 5

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a^k x^k = \frac{1}{1 - ax} \quad f(x)g(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^k (a_j b_{k-j}) x^k$$

$$G(x) = \frac{5 + 4x}{(1 + x)^2} \quad \frac{x}{(1 + x)^2} = x \frac{1}{(1 + x)} \frac{1}{(1 + x)}$$

$$G(x) = \frac{5(1 + x) - x}{(1 + x)^2} = x \left( \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (-1)^k x^k \right) \left( \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (-1)^k x^k \right)$$

$$G(x) = \frac{5}{(1 + x)} - \frac{x}{(1 + x)^2} = x \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^k (-1)^k x^k$$

$$G(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} 5(-1)^k x^k - \frac{x}{(1 + x)^2} = x \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (-1)^k (k + 1) x^k$$

$$G(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} 5(-1)^k x^k + \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} k(-1)^k x^k = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (k + 1)(-1)^k x^{k+1}$$

$$G(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (5(-1)^k + k(-1)^k) x^k = - \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (k + 1)(-1)^{k+1} x^{k+1}$$

$$G(x) = - \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} k(-1)^k x^k$$

$$a^n = 5(-1)^n + n(-1)^n$$

## Example 6

- The sequence  $\{a_n\}$  satisfies the recurrence relation

$$a_n = 8a_{n-1} + 10^{n-1}$$

and the initial condition  $a_1 = 9$

- Use generating functions to find an explicit formula for  $a_n$

## Example 6

$$a_n = 8a_{n-1} + 10^{n-1} \quad a_1 = 9$$

$$G(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n$$

$$G(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (8a_{n-1} + 10^{n-1})x^n$$

$$G(x) = a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (8a_{n-1} + 10^{n-1})x^n$$

$$G(x) = a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 8a_{n-1}x^n + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 10^{n-1}x^n$$

$$G(x) = a_0 + 8x \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_{n-1}x^{n-1} + x \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} 10^{n-1}x^{n-1}$$

$$G(x) = a_0 + 8xG(x) + \frac{x}{1-10x}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a^k x^k = \frac{1}{1-ax}$$

# Example 6

$$a_n = 8a_{n-1} + 10^{n-1} \quad a_1 = 9$$

$$a_1 = 8a_0 + 10^{1-1} = 9$$

$$a_0 = 1$$

$$G(x) = a_0 + 8xG(x) + \frac{x}{1-10x}$$

$$G(x) = \frac{1-9x}{(1-8x)(1-10x)}$$

$$G(x) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{1-8x} + \frac{1}{1-10x} \right)$$

$$G(x) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} 8^n x^n + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} 10^n x^n \right)$$

$$G(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2} (8^n + 10^n) x^n$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a^k x^k = \frac{1}{1-ax}$$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{2} (8^n + 10^n)$$