

## Lec 15. Recursion & iteration

A final word on proof by induction

- see page 329 (table of strategy).

- Prove by induction of inequalities

not informative example last class

1) prove  $P(n) := (n < 2^n)$

Can prove directly:

Take  $\log_2$  of both sides:  $\log_2 n < n \log_2 2$

$$\log_2 n < n$$

$$\frac{\log_2 n}{n} < 1$$

True for all  $n \geq 1$ .

2) More interesting is to prove, for instance:

Try proving  $P(n) := (2^n < n!)$

3) From last time

$$n < 2^n$$

$$n+1 < 2^n + 1 < 2^n + 2^n = 2(2^n) = 2^{n+1}$$

↑ since  $2^n > 1$  for  $n \geq 1$ .

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$$\therefore n+1 < 2^{(n+1)}$$

Example recursive fun'cs.

Explicit factorial func:  $f(n) = n \cdot (n-1) \cdot (n-2) \dots 2 \cdot 1$

Recursive factorial func:

base case:  $f(0) = 1$

$\forall n \geq 1$   $f(n) = n \cdot f(n-1)$

4. A very important recursive sequence is the Fibonacci numbers.

Bases cases:  $f_0 = 0$

$f_1 = 1$

$\forall n \geq 1$   $f_n = f_{n-1} + f_{n-2}$

$f = \{0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, \dots\}$

$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f_{n+1}}{f_n} = \left( \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \right) \equiv \phi$  "the golden ratio"

Recursion: start from biggest element  
and work down to base case.

"while" / "if" statements in code/algorithms.

Iteration: start from the base case and build up.

"for" statements in algorithms/code.

We looked at recursive vs iterative  $f(n) = n!$

• Let's consider  $f(a, n) = a^n$

Recursive algorithm.

```
rpow(a, n)
  if n=0
    return 1
  else
    return a * rpow(a, n-1)
```

Iterative algorithm.

```
rpow(a, n)
  x ← 1
  for j = 1, 2, ... n
    x ← a * x
  return x.
```

Lets look at Algorithms 1, 2, 3, 4 of handout 10.

→ Here is an algorithm for iterative binary search with a check for  $x = a_m$ .

Binary search ( $a, x$ )

$i \leftarrow 1$

$j \leftarrow n$

$m \leftarrow \lfloor (i+j)/2 \rfloor$

while  $((i < j) \text{ and } (x \neq a_m))$

if  $x > a_m$

$i \leftarrow m+1$

else

$j \leftarrow m$

endif

$m \leftarrow \lfloor (i+j)/2 \rfloor$

end while

if  $(x = a_m)$

location  $\leftarrow m$

else

location  $\leftarrow 0$

endif

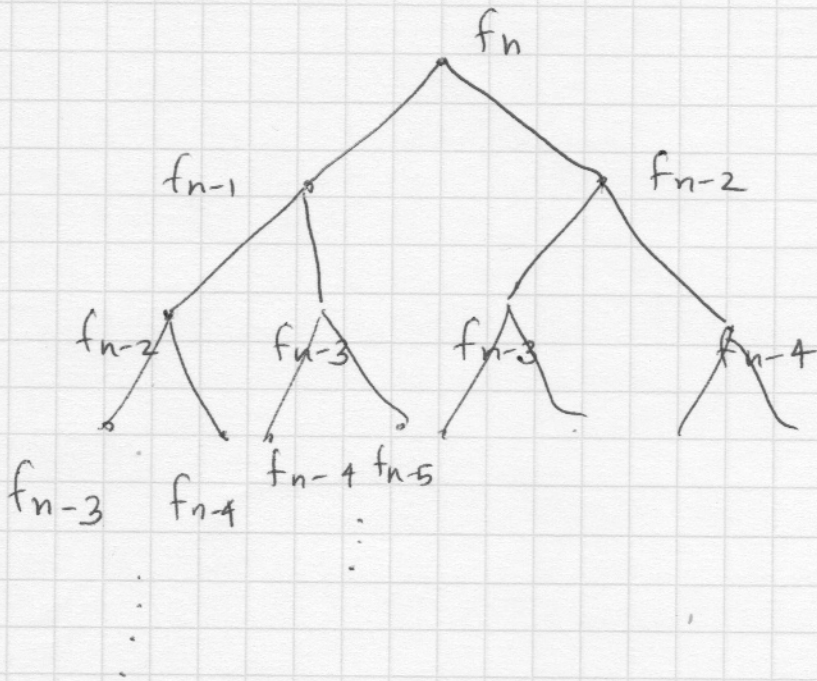
return location.

# Recursive Fibo(n)

if  $n = 0$   
return 0

elseif  $n = 1$   
return 1

else  
return RecursiveFibo( $n-1$ ) + RecursiveFibo( $n-2$ )



recursive is  
exponential  
run time

Next topic

Counting!

Identify the number of possible configurations/outcomes,  
(for a discrete process).

Two basics — Product rule (outcomes multiple)

— Sum rule (outcomes add).

1) Product rule:

If there are  $A_1$  choices for first task

there are  $A_2$  choices for second task

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$\therefore$  there are  $A_1 \cdot A_2$  possible combinations.

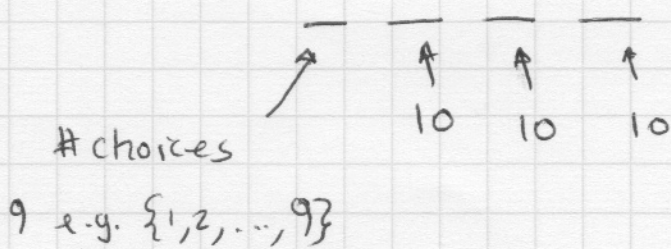
Extended prod rule

$A_1$	choices	for	first
$A_2$	"	"	second
$A_3$	"	"	third
$\vdots$			
$A_n$	"	"	n'th

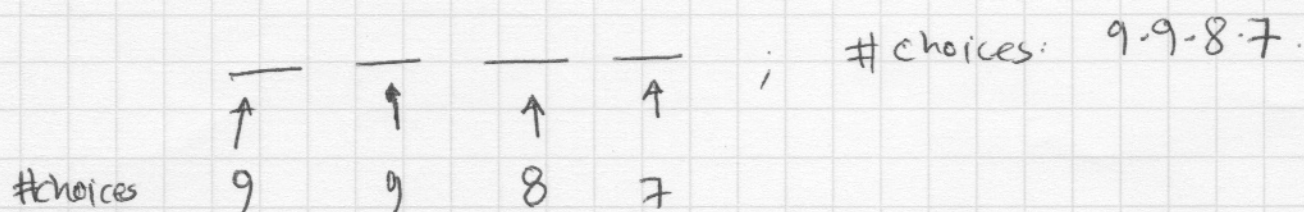
Total # of choices:  $A_1 \cdot A_2 \cdot A_3 \cdots A_n$

a) How many #'s in the range 1000 - 9999?

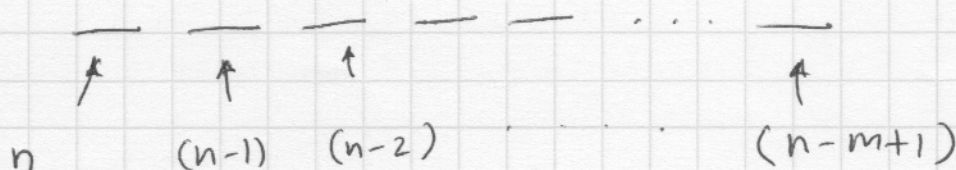
$$\# 9 \cdot 10^3 = 9,000.$$



b) How many don't repeat a digit



c) How many functions are one-to-one from a set  $|A| = m$  to  $|B| = n$ ? (unique a,b pairs)



$$\# \text{ of choices} = \frac{n!}{m!}$$

e). # of telephones #'s of ten digits  $NXX-XX-XXX$

$$N \in \{2, 3, \dots, 9\}, X \in \{0, 1, \dots, 9\}$$