

NDMI011: Combinatorics and Graph Theory 1

HW#1

Irena Penev
Winter 2020/2021

due Monday, October 12, 2020 before midnight (Prague time)

Remark: Please e-mail me (ipenev@iuuk.mff.cuni.cz) your HW as a **PDF attachment** (no other format will be accepted).

Problem 1 (100 points). Use generating functions¹ to find a closed formula of the general term of the following recursively defined sequences.

(a) The sequence $\{a_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ defined recursively as follows:

- $a_0 = 2, a_1 = 3;$
- $a_{n+2} = 3a_n - 2a_{n+1}$ for all integers $n \geq 0$.

(b) The sequence $\{b_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ defined recursively as follows:

- $b_0 = 1;$
- $b_{n+1} = 3b_n + 2^{n+1}$ for all integers $n \geq 0$.

(c) The sequence $\{c_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ defined recursively as follows:

- $c_0 = 1, c_1 = 4;$
- $c_{n+2} = -4c_n + 4c_{n+1}$ for all integers $n \geq 0$.

(d) The sequence $\{d_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ defined recursively as follows:

- $d_0 = 1;$
- $d_{n+1} = d_n + n + 1$ for all integers $n \geq 0$.

Hint for (d): What do you get when you expand $\frac{1}{(1+x)^2}$ and $\frac{1}{(1-x)^2}$ as power series? You'll probably need to recognize one of these at some point in your calculation.

¹Yes, this can be done in other ways as well. However, you are specifically asked to use generating functions.