

# Recurrence relations

Recurrence relations are generally functions defined recursively:

1.  $g(1) = 3$  and  $g(n) = 3 + g(n - 1)$  for  $n \geq 2$
2.  $f(1) = f(2) = 1$  and  $f(n) = f(n - 1) + f(n - 2)$  for  $n \geq 3$ .

Note that  $f(n)$  depends on  $f(n - 1)$  and  $f(n - 2)$ .

Hence you *must* use strong induction for anything you want to prove about  $f(n)$ , but you *could* have used weak induction for  $g(n)$ .

Strong induction is always valid, so practice using it.