5.1. Recurrence Relations 1

Chapter 5. Advanced Counting

**Techniques** 

Section 5.1. Recurrence Relations

**Note.** In this section we define a sequence recursively, similar to the classical

Fibonacci sequence.

**Definition 5.1.1.** A recurrence relation for sequence  $\{a_n\}$  is an equation that

expresses  $a_n$  in terms of one or more of the previous terms of the sequence. A

sequence is a solution of a recurrence relation if its terms satisfy the recurrence

relation. The *initial conditions* for a sequence five the terms that precede the first

term where the recurrence relation takes effect.

Example. Page 311 Example 5.

**Examples.** Page 316 Numbers 4, 10, 18, 56, 58.

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