

# MATHEMATICS FOR INFORMATION SCIENCE

## NO.2 PRIMITIVE RECURSIVE FUNCTION

---

Tatsuya Hagino

[hagino@sfc.keio.ac.jp](mailto:hagino@sfc.keio.ac.jp)

Slides URL

<https://vu5.sfc.keio.ac.jp/slides/>

# So far

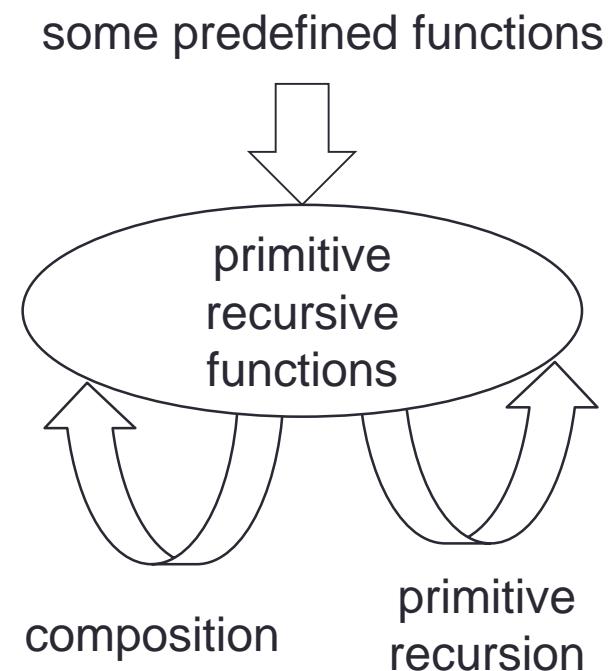
- What is computation?
  - Computation = what computers can calculate
  - Computable functions = mathematical functions which computers can calculate
  - Computability = whether mathematical functions are computable or not
- While program and flow chart are equivalent.
- Any program can be converted into a while program with only one while.

# Primitive Recursive Function

Definition:

- Primitive recursive functions consist of the followings:

1. some predefined functions
2. composition of primitive recursive functions
3. functions defined by primitive recursion



# Predefined Primitive Recursion Functions

- The following three functions are primitive recursive functions:

- $zero : N^0 \rightarrow N$

- $zero() = 0$
- Always return 0

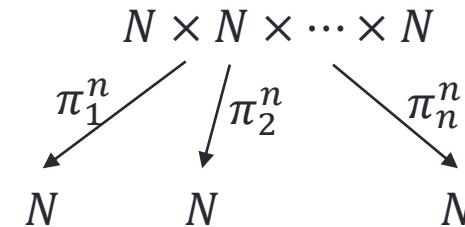
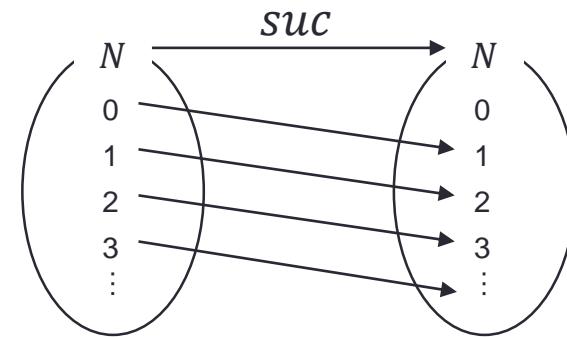
- $N^0 = \{\cdot\}$
- $N^1 = N$
- $N^2 = N \times N = \{(x, y) | x \in N, y \in N\}$
- $N^3 = N \times N \times N$
- $N^n = N \times N \times N \times \cdots \times N$

- $suc : N \rightarrow N$

- $suc(x) = x + 1$
- next number of  $x$
- $suc(2) = 3$
- $suc(100) = 101$

- $\pi_i^n : N^n \rightarrow N$

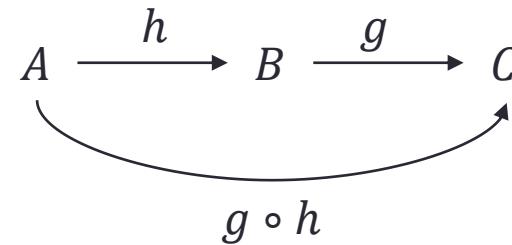
- $\pi_i^n(x_1, \dots, x_n) = x_i$
- $i$ th element of  $n$  given elements
- projection
- $\pi_1^2(x, y) = x$
- $\pi_2^2(x, y) = y$



# Composition of Primitive Recursive Functions

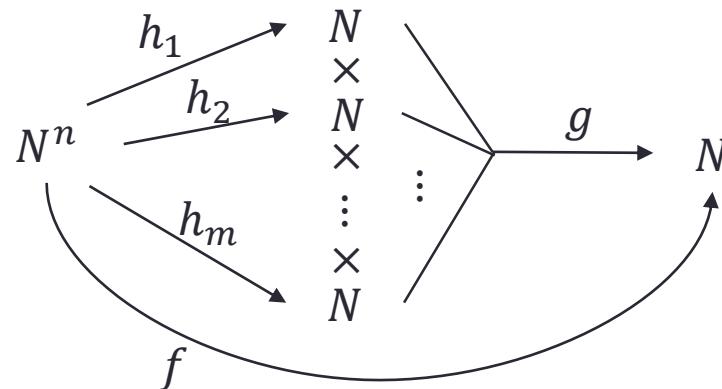
- Function composition

- compose two functions
- $g \circ h(x) = g(h(x))$



- Composition of primitive recursive functions is primitive recursive.

- Given primitive recursive functions  $g : N^m \rightarrow N$  and  $h_i : N^n \rightarrow N$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ ) , the composition  $f : N^n \rightarrow N$  is primitive recursive.
- $f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = g(h_1(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n), \dots, h_m(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n))$



# Example 1. Primitive Recursive Function

- $id(x) = x \quad id : N \rightarrow N$ 
  - The identity function is primitive recursive.
  - $id(x) = \pi_1^1(x)$
- $one() = 1 \quad one : N^0 \rightarrow N$ 
  - Function which always return 1 is primitive recursive.
  - $one() = suc(zero())$
- $two() = 2 \quad two : N^0 \rightarrow N$ 
  - Function which always return a constant is primitive recursive.
- $add2(x) = x + 2 \quad add2 : N \rightarrow N$ 
  - Function which adds 2 is primitive recursive.
  - $add2(x) = suc(suc(x))$

# Primitive Recursion

- Given primitive recursive functions  $g : N^n \rightarrow N$  and  $h : N^{n+2} \rightarrow N$ ,  $f : N^{n+1} \rightarrow N$  is also primitive recursion:
  - $f(x_1, \dots, x_n, 0) = g(x_1, \dots, x_n)$
  - $f(x_1, \dots, x_n, suc(y)) = h(x_1, \dots, x_n, y, f(x_1, \dots, x_n, y))$
- It is called that the function is defined by **primitive recursion**.
- If  $n = 0$ , when  $g : N^0 \rightarrow N$  and  $h : N \times N \rightarrow N$  are primitive recursive,  $f : N \rightarrow N$  is primitive recursive:
  - $f(0) = g()$
  - $f(suc(y)) = h(y, f(y))$
- Define  $f(x)$  when  $x$  is 0 and when  $x$  is not 0:
  - when  $x$  is 0, the value is constant  $g()$
  - when  $x$  is not 0,  $x$  can be written as  $x = suc(y)$ , and  $f(x)$  can be calculate from  $y$  and  $f(y)$  by  $h(y, f(y))$
  - If  $y$  is 0 then  $f(y)$  is  $g()$ , but if not, repeat the case of  $f(suc(y))$  again until  $y$  becomes 0
- $f(1) = f(suc(0)) = h(0, f(0)) = h(0, g())$
- $f(2) = f(suc(1)) = h(1, f(1)) = h(1, h(0, g()))$
- $f(3) = f(suc(2)) = h(2, f(2)) = h(2, h(1, h(0, g())))$

## Example 2. Primitive Recursive Function

- $\text{pred}: N \rightarrow N \quad \text{pred}(x) = x - 1$

- returns previous number (reverse of  $\text{suc}$ )

- $\text{pred}(0) =$

- $\text{pred}(\text{suc}(y)) =$

- $\text{pred}(1) =$

- $\text{pred}(5) =$

Primitive Recursion ( $n = 0$ )

- $f(0) = g()$
- $f(\text{suc}(y)) = h(y, f(y))$

# Example 3. Primitive Recursive Function

- $add: N^2 \rightarrow N$

$$add(x, y) = x + y \quad \text{Addition}$$

- $add(x, 0) =$

- $add(x, suc(y)) =$

- $add(1, 1) =$

- $add(3, 2) =$

Primitive Recursion ( $n = 1$ )

- $f(x, 0) = g(x)$

- $f(x, suc(y)) = h(x, y, f(x, y))$

# Example 4. Primitive Recursive Function

- $sub: N^2 \rightarrow N$        $sub(x, y) = x - y$       Subtraction
  - $sub(x, 0) =$
  - $sub(x, suc(y)) =$

Primitive Recursion ( $n = 1$ )

- $f(x, 0) = g(x)$
- $f(x, suc(y)) = h(x, y, f(x, y))$

- $mul: N^2 \rightarrow N$        $mul(x, y) = x \times y$       Multiplication
  - $mul(x, 0) =$
  - $mul(x, suc(y)) =$

# Primitive Recursive Function

- **Definition:**

- Primitive recursive functions are:
  - The following three functions are primitive recursive functions:
    - $\text{zero} : N^0 \rightarrow N$        $\text{zero}() = 0$
    - $\text{suc} : N \rightarrow N$        $\text{suc}(x) = x + 1$       (next number of  $x$ )
    - $\pi_i^n : N^n \rightarrow N$        $\pi_i^n(x_1, \dots, x_n) = x_i$

For short, we use 0 for  $\text{zero}()$

- Composition of primitive recursive functions are primitive recursive:
  - When  $g : N^m \rightarrow N$  and  $h_i : N^n \rightarrow N$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ ) are primitive recursive,  $f : N^n \rightarrow N$  is also primitive recursive:  

$$f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = g(h_1(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n), \dots, h_m(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n))$$
- Define a function using primitive recursion:
  - When  $g : N^n \rightarrow N$  and  $h : N^{n+2} \rightarrow N$  are primitive recursive,  $f : N^{n+1} \rightarrow N$  is also primitive recursive:

$$f(x_1, \dots, x_n, 0) = g(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

$$f(x_1, \dots, x_n, \text{suc}(y)) = h(x_1, \dots, x_n, y, f(x_1, \dots, x_n, y)))$$

# Summation and Product

- **Lemma:**

- If  $f(x_1, \dots, x_n, y)$  is primitive recursive, the following functions are also primitive recursive:

$$g(x_1, \dots, x_n, y) = \sum_{z=0}^{y-1} f(x_1, \dots, x_n, z)$$

$$h(x_1, \dots, x_n, y) = \prod_{z=0}^{y-1} f(x_1, \dots, x_n, z)$$

- If  $n = 0$ ,
  - $g(y) = f(0) + f(1) + \dots + f(y - 1)$
  - $h(y) = f(0) \times f(1) \times \dots \times f(y - 1)$

- **Proof:**

- $g(x_1, \dots, x_n, 0) =$
- $g(x_1, \dots, x_n, suc(z)) =$

- $h(x_1, \dots, x_n, 0) =$
- $h(x_1, \dots, x_n, suc(z)) =$

# Primitive Recursive Predicate

- **Definition:**

- A predicate  $p(x_1, \dots, x_n): N^n \rightarrow \{T, F\}$  is **primitive recursive**, when its **characteristic function**  $C_p(x_1, \dots, x_n): N^n \rightarrow N$  is primitive recursive.
  - $C_p(x_1, \dots, x_n) = 1$  when  $p(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is  $T$
  - $C_p(x_1, \dots, x_n) = 0$  when  $p(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is  $F$

- **Example:**

- Predicate  $x = 0$  is primitive recursive:

- $C_{=0}(x) =$

- Predicate  $x \leq y$  is primitive recursive:

- $C_{\leq}(x, y) =$

- Predicate  $x = y$  is primitive recursive:

- $C_{=}(x, y) =$

# Logical Formula

- **Lemma:**

- When  $p(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ ,  $q(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ ,  $r(x_1, \dots, x_n, z)$  are primitive recursive predicates, the following predicates are also primitive recursive:
  - $p(x_1, \dots, x_n) \wedge q(x_1, \dots, x_n)$
  - $p(x_1, \dots, x_n) \vee q(x_1, \dots, x_n)$
  - $\neg p(x_1, \dots, x_n)$
  - $\forall z < y (r(x_1, \dots, x_n, z)) \equiv \forall z (z < y \Rightarrow r(x_1, \dots, x_n, z))$
  - $\exists z < y (r(x_1, \dots, x_n, z)) \equiv \exists z (z < y \wedge r(x_1, \dots, x_n, z))$

## Proof:

- $C_{P \wedge Q}(x_1, \dots, x_n) =$
- $C_{\neg P}(x_1, \dots, x_n) =$
- $C_{P \vee Q}(x_1, \dots, x_n) =$
- $C_{\forall R}(x_1, \dots, x_n, y) =$
- $C_{\exists R}(x_1, \dots, x_n, y) =$

# Example

- $x > y$  is primitive recursive:
  - $(x > y) \equiv$
- $\text{divisible}(x, y) \equiv$  `` $x$  is divisible by  $y$ '' is primitive recursive:
  - $\text{divisible}(x, y) \equiv$
- $\text{prime}(x) \equiv$  `` $x$  is a prime number'' is primitive recursive:
  - $\text{prime}(x) \equiv$

# Minimum

- **Lemma:**

- If  $p(x_1, \dots, x_n, z)$  is a primitive recursive predicate, the following function is primitive recursive:

$$\mu_{z < y} p(x_1, \dots, x_n, z) = \min(\{z \mid p(x_1, \dots, x_n, z)\} \cup \{y\})$$

the minimum number  $z$  which makes  $p(x_1, \dots, x_n, z)$  hold and less than  $y$ .

- **Proof:**

- Let  $g(x_1, \dots, x_n, z)$  be the characteristic function of  $\forall v < z (\neg p(x_1, \dots, x_n, v))$ . Then,

$$\mu_{z < y} p(x_1, \dots, x_n, z) = \sum_{z=0}^{y-1} g(x_1, \dots, x_n, z + 1)$$

if  $n = 1$   
 $\mu_{z < y} P(x, z)$

$z$	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	...	$y - 1$	$y$
$P(x, z)$	$F$	$F$	$F$	$T$	$F$	$T$	$T$	...	$F$	$T$
$\neg P(x, z)$	$T$	$T$	$T$	$F$	$T$	$F$	$F$	...	$T$	$F$
$\forall v < z (\neg P(x, v))$	$T$	$T$	$T$	$T$	$F$	$F$	$F$		$F$	$F$
$g(x, z)$	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	...	0	0



$$\mu_{z < y} P(x, z) = \sum_{z=0}^{y-1} g(x, z + 1) = \sum_{z=1}^y g(x, z) = 3$$

# Corollaries

**Corollary:**  $\text{div}(x, y) = x \div y$  is primitive recursive.

- $\text{div}(x, y) = \mu_{z < x} (\text{true if } x < (y \times (z + 1)) \text{ else false})$
- $\text{div}(5, 2) =$

**Theorem:** Arithmetic operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) are primitive recursive.

**Corollary:**  $\text{pr}(x) = ``x\text{th prime number}''$  is primitive recursive.

- $\text{pr}(0) = 2$
- $\text{pr}(\text{suc}(x)) = \mu_{y < \text{pr}(x)!+2} (\text{pr}(x) < y \wedge \text{prime}(y))$

# Summary

- Primitive recursive function
  - *zero*
  - *suc*
  - $\pi_i^n$
  - function composition
  - define by primitive recursion
- Primitive recursive predicate
- Arithmetic operations are primitive recursive.