

1. Define the sequence  $e_0, e_1, e_2, \dots$  as follows:

$$e_0 = 1, e_1 = 4 \text{ and } e_n = 4(e_{n-1} - e_{n-2}) \text{ for } n \geq 2.$$

a What are the first five terms of the sequence (i.e., what are  $e_0, e_1, e_2, e_3$  and  $e_4$ )?

$$e_0 = 1, e_1 = 4, e_2 = 12, e_3 = 32 \text{ and } e_4 = 80.$$

b Prove using mathematical induction (strong version):  
 $e_n = (n + 1)2^n$  for all integers  $n \geq 0$ .

We will use strong induction to show that  $e_n = (n + 1)2^n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

**Basis cases:** When  $n = 0$ ,  $e_0 = 1$  and  $(0 + 1)2^0 = 1 \times 1 = 1$ , as required. When  $n = 1$ ,  $e_1 = 4$  and  $(1 + 1)2^1 = 2 \times 2 = 4$ , as required.

**Strong Induction hypothesis:** Suppose that the formula  $e_n = (n + 1)2^n$  holds for all values of  $n$  from 0 to  $k$ . We need to prove that  $e_{k+1} = [(k + 1) + 1]2^{k+1} = (k + 2)2^{k+1}$ . Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} e_{k+1} &= 4(e_k - e_{k-1}), \text{ by definition} \\ &= 4[(k + 1)2^k - k2^{k-1}], \text{ by the induction hypothesis} \\ &= 2(k + 1)2^{k+1} - k2^{k+1} \\ &= [2(k + 1) - k]2^{k+1} \\ &= (k + 2)2^{k+1} \end{aligned}$$

as required. Therefore by the **principle of mathematical induction, strong version**, the inequality holds for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . QED