

Rna motivation

RNA is made up of strands of four different bases that encode genomic information in specific ways. The bases are elements of the set $B = \{\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{C}, \mathbf{U}, \mathbf{G}\}$.

Formally, to define the set of all RNA strands, we need more than roster method or set builder descriptions.

Recursive sets definition

New! Recursive Definitions of Sets: The set S (pick a name) is defined by:

- Basis Step: Specify finitely many elements of S
- Recursive Step: Give rule(s) for creating a new element of S from known values existing in S , and potentially other values.

The set S then consists of all and only elements that are put in S by finitely many (a nonnegative integer number) of applications of the recursive step after the basis step.

Set recursive examples

Definition The set of nonnegative integers \mathbb{N} is defined (recursively) by:

Basis Step:

Recursive Step:

Examples:

Definition The set of all integers \mathbb{Z} is defined (recursively) by:

Basis Step:

Recursive Step:

Examples:

Definition The set of RNA strands S is defined (recursively) by:

Basis Step: $\mathbf{A} \in S, \mathbf{C} \in S, \mathbf{U} \in S, \mathbf{G} \in S$

Recursive Step: If $s \in S$ and $b \in B$, then $sb \in S$

where sb is string concatenation.

Examples:

Definition The set of bitstrings (strings of 0s and 1s) is defined (recursively) by:

Basis Step:

Recursive Step:

Notation: We call the set of bitstrings $\{0, 1\}^*$.

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