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1. A worker is tiling a road with n square grids, there are two different kinds of bricks available, one is the square brick and the other is the rectangle brick which covers 2 grids. Please count the total different ways the road can be tiled.



Let the no. of ways be denoted by f(n).

The recurrence relation is then f(n) = f(n-1) + f(n-2)

The corresponding characteristic function is  $x^2-x-1=0$ 

The characteristic roots are  $x_1 = \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}$   $x_2 = \frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}$ 

So 
$$f(n) = c_1 \left(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^n + c_2 \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^n$$
  
Initial conditions  $f(1) = 1$ ,  $f(2) = 2$ 

See attached for derivation. Anyhow,  $c_1=\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2\sqrt{5}}$   $c_2=\frac{3-\sqrt{5}}{5-\sqrt{5}}$ 

$$f(n) = \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2\sqrt{5}} \left(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^n + \frac{3-\sqrt{5}}{5-\sqrt{5}} \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^n$$

2. How many different ways to color n grids in a line with red, white or blue colors but no two adjacent grids are colored with red?

Let the no. of ways be denoted by f(n).

If we color the  $n^{th}$  tile red, then there are 2f(n-2) ways to color the remaining n-1 tiles. Otherwise, there are f(n-1) ways to color the remaining n-1 tiles.

The recurrence relation is then f(n) = 2f(n-1) + 2f(n-2)

The corresponding characteristic function is  $x^2-2x-2=0$ 

The characteristic roots are  $x_1 = 1 + \sqrt{3}$   $x_2 = 1 - \sqrt{3}$ 

So 
$$f(n) = c_1(1+\sqrt{3})^n + c_2(1-\sqrt{3})^n$$

Initial conditions f(0) = 1, f(1) = 3

See attached for derivation. Anyhow,  $c_1=\frac{\sqrt{3}+2}{2\sqrt{3}}$   $c_2=\frac{\sqrt{3}-2}{2\sqrt{3}}$ 

$$f(n) = \frac{\sqrt{3} + 2}{2\sqrt{3}} \left(1 + \sqrt{3}\right)^n + \frac{\sqrt{3} - 2}{2\sqrt{3}} \left(1 - \sqrt{3}\right)^n$$

$$f(1) = (1 + \sqrt{15}) + (2 + \sqrt{15}) = 1$$

$$C_1(1+\sqrt{15}) + C_2(1-\sqrt{15}) = 2$$

$$C_1(1+\sqrt{15}) + C_2(1-\sqrt{15}) = 2$$

$$C_1(1+\sqrt{15})^2 + C_2(1-\sqrt{15})^2 = 8$$

$$(1+\sqrt{15})^2 + C_2(1-\sqrt{15})^2 = 8$$

$$(2-C_2(1-\sqrt{15})^2 +$$

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$$X_{1,2} = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} = \frac{2 \pm \sqrt{4 - 4(-2)}}{2}$$

$$= \frac{2 \pm \sqrt{12}}{2} = \frac{14\sqrt{34}}{1 \pm \sqrt{3}}$$

A.

$$f(1) = C_1(1+J_3) + C_2(1-J_3) = 3 - 2$$

$$C_1(1+J_3) + (1-C_1)(1-J_3) = 3$$

$$C_1 + C_1J_3 + 1 - J_3 - C_1 + 3J_3C_1 = 3$$

$$C_1(1+J_3) + (1-J_3) - C_1(1-J_3) = 3$$

(2 = 1 - C1 -

$$C_{1}(2\overline{5}) = 3 - 1 + \overline{5}$$

$$C_{1} = \frac{2+\overline{5}}{2\overline{5}} = \frac{2\overline{5}+3}{6}$$

$$C_{1} = \frac{\overline{5}+2}{2\overline{5}}$$

$$C_{2} = 1 - C_{1} = \frac{2+\overline{5}}{2\overline{5}}$$

$$= 1 - \frac{2+\overline{5}}{2\overline{5}}$$

$$=\frac{15-2}{2\sqrt{5}}$$