

push0 g 0 G

To find Fibonacci sums very quickly, the two results listed below ? can be used.

$$F_n = \frac{\phi^n}{\sqrt{5}}, \quad \phi = \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}.$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n F_i = F_{n+2} - 1.$$

The original equation for the Fibonacci numbers is a recurrence relation defined as

$$F_n = F_{n-1} + F_{n-2}, \quad F_1 = F_2 = 1.$$

However, there exists a closed-form expression called Binet's Formula ? which is the following

$$F_n = \frac{\phi^n - (-\phi)^n}{\sqrt{5}}.$$

One notices that,

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{N} : (-\phi)^n \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} < \frac{1}{2},$$

which implies

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{N} : F_n - \frac{\phi^n}{\sqrt{5}} < \frac{1}{2}.$$

Visually, this can be represented as follows.

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{push0 g 0 G pop } [\text{thick}] (-4, 0) - (4, 0); [\text{thick}] (0, -0.2) - (0, 0.2); \\ \quad \text{at } (-1.5, 0) (; \text{ at } (1.5, 0)); \\ [\text{below}] \text{ at } (0, -0.25) F_n; [\text{below}] \text{ at } (-1.5, -0.25) F_n - \frac{1}{2}; [\text{below}] \text{ at } (1.5, \\ \quad -0.25) F_n + \frac{1}{2}; \\ [\text{thick, ->}] (-1, 0.5) - (-1, 0); \\ [\text{above}] \text{ at } (-1, 0.5) \frac{\phi^n}{\sqrt{5}}; \end{array}$$

This allows to conclude that $\frac{\phi^n}{\sqrt{5}}$ is always within rounding error of the actual Fibonacci number. Hence, by rounding $\frac{\phi^n}{\sqrt{5}}$ we get the n -th Fibonacci number.

This completes our derivation for ??.

We can prove ?? by using an inductive argument.

Argument.

Base case ($n = 1$):

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$$LHS = \sum_{i=1}^1 F_i = F_1 = 1$$

$$RHS = F_{1+2} - 1 = F_3 - 1 = F_2 + F_1 - 1 = 1 + 1 - 1 = 1$$

Hence, the base case holds since $LHS = RHS$.

Inductive case ($n = k$):

Suppose that sum holds for $n = k - 1$.

$$\sum_{i=1}^{k-1} F_i = F_{k-1+2} - 1 = F_{k+1} - 1$$

We are required to show that the sum holds for $n = k$.

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^k F_i &= F_k + \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} F_i \\ &= F_{k+1} + F_k - 1 \\ &= F_{k+2} - 1 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, by induction, ?? holds for all natural numbers.

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