

1. Let  $f_n$  be the  $n^{th}$  Fibonacci number. Prove that, for  $n > 0$ :  $f_1^2 + f_2^2 + \cdots + f_n^2 = f_n f_{n+1}$

**Solution:** By the recursive definition of the Fibonacci sequence:  $f_{n+2} = f_n + f_{n+1}$  or  $f_n = f_{n-1} + f_{n-2}$   
or  $f_{n+1} = f_n + f_{n-1}$

Proof Using Mathematical Induction

$$P(n) : f_1^2 + f_2^2 + \cdots + f_n^2 = f_n f_{n+1} \text{ for } n > 0$$

$$\text{Basis Step: } P(1) : f_1^2 = 1^2 = 1, f_n f_{n+1} = (1)(1) = 1, 1=1 \text{ True}$$

$$\text{Inductive Step: Show } P(k) \implies P(k+1)$$

$$P(k) : f_1^2 + f_2^2 + \cdots + f_k^2 = f_k f_{k+1}$$

$$P(k+1) : f_1^2 + f_2^2 + \cdots + f_k^2 + f_{k+1}^2 = f_{k+1} f_{k+2}$$

We can replace the part of  $P(k+1)$  that is the same as  $P(k)$  with the equivalent to  $P(k)$

$$\text{Now, } f_k f_{k+1} + f_{k+1}^2 = f_{k+1} f_{k+2}$$

$$f_k f_{k+1} + f_{k+1}^2 = f_k f_{k+1} + f_{k+1} f_{k+1} = f_{k+1} (f_k + f_{k+1})$$

By using the definition of the Fib. Seq. we can rewrite  $f_k + f_{k+1}$  as  $f_{k+2}$ . This gives us  $f_{k+1} f_{k+2}$  which equals  $P(k+1)$ , so the inductive step is proved Q.E.D

2. Find  $f(2)$ ,  $f(3)$ ,  $f(4)$ , and  $f(5)$  if  $f$  is defined recursively by  $f(0) = -1$ ,  $f(1) = 2$ , and for  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

(a)  $f(n+1) = f(n) + 3f(n-1)$

**Solution:**

$$f(2) = f(1+1) : f(1) + 3f(0) = 2 + 3(-1) = -1 \quad (n = 1)$$

$$f(3) : f(2) + 3f(1) = -1 + 3(2) = 5 \quad (n = 2)$$

$$f(4) : f(3) + 3f(2) = 5 + 3(-1) = 2 \quad (n = 3)$$

$$f(5) : f(4) + 3f(3) = 2 + 3(5) = 17 \quad (n = 4)$$

(b)  $f(n+1) = (f(n))^2 \cdot f(n-1)$

**Solution:**

$$f(2) : (f(1))^2 \cdot f(0) = 4 * -1 = -4$$

$$f(3) : (f(2))^2 \cdot f(1) = 16 * 2 = 32$$

$$f(4) : (f(3))^2 \cdot f(2) = 32^2 * -4 = -4,096$$

$$f(5) : (f(4))^2 \cdot f(3) = 4096^2 * 32 = 536,870,912$$

(c)  $f(n+1) = 3(f(n))^2 - 4f(n-1)$

**Solution:**

$$f(2) : 16$$

$$f(3) : 760$$

$$f(4) : 1732736$$

$$f(5) : 9007122134048$$

(d)  $f(n+1) = \frac{f(n-1)}{f(n)}$

**Solution:**

$$f(2) : f(0)/f(1) = -1/2 = -0.5$$

$$f(3) : f(1)/f(2) = 2/-0.5 = -4$$

$$f(4) : f(2)/f(3) = -0.5/-4 = 1/8 = 0.125$$

$$f(5) : f(3)/f(4) = -4/0.125 = -32$$

3. You have a locked box which has a five-digit pin. Since this is 2021, it is fair to assume that you will open the box on the very last attempt. How many attempts would it take?

**Solution:**

There are 5 spaces that contain a digit 0-9 which is 10 digits. We can repeat numbers and the order does not matter, so the last attempt will occur at the  $10^5$  th attempt.

4. Suppose you are a minimalist and have only 4 shirts of colors - blue, red, black, orange and pants of colors - blue, black and tan.

- (a) How many combinations of shirts and pants are possible?

**Solution:**  $4 \times 3 = 12$

- (b) How many combinations of shirts and pants are possible if you are cannot wear a pant and a shirt of the same color?

**Solution:** Total possibilities-  $4 \times 3 - 2 = 10$ . Because you cannot wear a combination of blue or black clothes.

5. How many bitstrings of length 5 contain the sub-string 010 or 000?

**Solution:** Let's suppose we have a string  $x$  which can take values of length 3 - 010 and 000. We now have 3 positions to work with. Therefore total number of combinations are  $3 \times 2 \times 2^2 = 24$ , because  $x$  can be at 3 positions and can take on 2 values. But there are some overlap values. For example, 01000 will be counted twice. The possible overlapping cases are 01000, 00010, 00000(*thrice*), 01010, 10000, 00001. Total possible cases  $24 - 7 = 17$ .

6. There are 28 different time periods during which classes at a university can be scheduled per room. If there are 539 different classes, what is the minimum number of different rooms that will be needed?

**Solution:** There exists a time period that will have at least  $\lceil 539/28 \rceil = 20$  classes during it. So 20 different rooms will be needed.

7. Suppose that valid passwords must be strings of length 10 containing only numbers and letters.

- (a) How many passwords exist if uppercase and lowercase letters are indistinguishable from one another?

**Solution:** Each character can be either a number - 0 - 9 or a letter  $a - z$ . Since the case doesn't matter, each character can be chosen from a possible 36 character set. Number of valid passwords -  $36^{10}$ .

- (b) How many passwords exist if uppercase and lowercase letters are distinguishable?

**Solution:** Each character can be either a number - 0 - 9 or a letter  $a - z$ . Since the case does matter, each character can be chosen from a possible 62 character set (Because each letter and its capital are distinct). Number of valid passwords -  $62^{10}$ .

- (c) How many passwords exist if passwords must contain at least one uppercase and at least one lowercase letter?

Hint: Let  $U = \{ \text{Passwords with at-least 1 uppercase letter} \}$ , let  $L = \{ \text{Passwords with at-least 1 lowercase letter} \}$ , let  $T = \{ \text{All possible passwords} \}$ .

**Solution:**

$$|U \cup L| = |U| + |L| - |U \cap L| \text{ (Principle of Inclusion-Exclusion / Subtraction Rule)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} |T| - |U^C| + |T| - |L^C| - |T| + |(U \cup L)^C| & \text{ (Universal set - complement of a set = original set)} \\ & = |T| - |U^C| - |L^C| + |(U \cup L)^C| \text{ (Cancel)} \\ & = 62^{10} - 36^{10} - 36^{10} + 10^{10} \end{aligned}$$