

CECS 328: Program #1

You are familiar with the Fibonacci sequence from various places

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Equ 1} \quad & f(1) = 1 \\ & f(2) = 1 \\ & f(n) = f(n-1) + f(n-2). \end{aligned}$$

Let's define a sum as $S(n) = f(0) + f(1) + \dots + f(n)$. This assignment involves experimenting with various approaches to compute $S(n)$, as well as, demonstrating various algebraic techniques for recursive definition.

Tasks for this assignment

1. Write a program to calculate $S(n)$ by calculating the values of the Fibonacci sequence recursively.
2. Write a non-recursive program to calculate $S(n)$. This second program uses the recurrence definition to calculate and TABULATE the values of the Fibonacci sequence. Then, sum these values to find $S(n)$.
3. *Discrete & Combinatorial Mathematics* by Ralph Grimaldi outlines a method to obtain the solution
$$g(n) = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}\right) \left(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^n - \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}\right) \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^n.$$
Algebraically verify that $g(n)$ is a solution of Equ 1 by substituting $g(n)$ in Equ 1.
4. From task #3, there is now a third method to calculate $S(n)$. Write a third iterative program by summing:
$$S(n) = \sum_{k=0}^n \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}\right) \left(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^k - \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}\right) \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^k.$$
5. Use your preferred program to calculate these values of S for $n = 10, 20, 30$. Also, compute these values of f for $n = 12, 22, 32$.
6. Task #7 suggests that $S(n) = f(n+2) - 1$. Prove this identity (using induction).
7. Finally, there is yet a fourth way to programmatically calculate $S(n)$.
8. Experiment with your programs to estimate the largest n that can be computed successfully by each program.
9. Experiment & run the recursive program for several sufficiently large values of n . Execute the other three programs with the same values of n & compare the execution times of the 4 programs.
10. Write your report and show a demo of your second program. The report should include a summary of your work, a summary & conclusion of your experiments and the results of the experiments, as well as the algebraic work and a printout of your program. What are the advantages or shortcomings of each computation?