

# Answers 5 - Fibonacci

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Week 5

1. 

```
/* Recursive Fibonacci */
int f(int n) {
    if (n==0) return 0;
    if (n==1) return 1;
    else return f(n-1)+f(n-2);
}
```
2. 

```
/* Iterative Fibonacci */
int g(int n) {
    int x=0, y=1;
    while (n>0) {
        int z=x+y;
        x=y;
        y=z;
        n--;
    }
    return x;
}
```
3. The 46'th Fibonacci number, 1836311903, is the largest computed before an integer overflow.
4. **Theorem.**

$$f(n) = \frac{(1 + \sqrt{5})^n - (1 - \sqrt{5})^n}{2^n \sqrt{5}} \text{ for all } n \geq 0$$

*Proof.* By induction on  $n$

Base Cases

First we need to show that the theorem holds for  $n = 0$

$$RHS = \frac{(1 + \sqrt{5})^0 - (1 - \sqrt{5})^0}{2^0 \sqrt{5}} = \frac{1 - 1}{1 \sqrt{5}} = \frac{0}{\sqrt{5}} = 0 = f(0) = LHS$$

Then we need to show that the theorem holds for  $n = 1$

$$\begin{aligned}
RHS &= \frac{(1 + \sqrt{5})^1 - (1 - \sqrt{5})^1}{2^1 \sqrt{5}} = \frac{(1 + \sqrt{5}) - (1 - \sqrt{5})}{2\sqrt{5}} \\
&= \frac{1 + \sqrt{5} - 1 + \sqrt{5}}{2\sqrt{5}} = \frac{2\sqrt{5}}{2\sqrt{5}} = 1 = f(1) = LHS
\end{aligned}$$

Induction Step

Assuming the theorem holds for all  $0 \leq n < k$  for some  $k > 1$ , we need to show that it holds for  $n = k$

$$\begin{aligned}
LHS &= f(k) = f(k-1) + f(k-2) \\
&= \frac{(1 + \sqrt{5})^{k-1} - (1 - \sqrt{5})^{k-1}}{2^{k-1} \sqrt{5}} + \frac{(1 + \sqrt{5})^{k-2} - (1 - \sqrt{5})^{k-2}}{2^{k-2} \sqrt{5}} \\
&= \frac{2^1 (1 + \sqrt{5})^{k-1} - 2^1 (1 - \sqrt{5})^{k-1}}{2^1 2^{k-1} \sqrt{5}} + \frac{2^2 (1 + \sqrt{5})^{k-2} - 2^2 (1 - \sqrt{5})^{k-2}}{2^2 2^{k-2} \sqrt{5}} \\
&= \frac{2(1 + \sqrt{5})^{k-1} - 2(1 - \sqrt{5})^{k-1} + 4(1 + \sqrt{5})^{k-2} - 4(1 - \sqrt{5})^{k-2}}{2^k \sqrt{5}} \\
&= \frac{2(1 + \sqrt{5})(1 + \sqrt{5})^{k-2} - 2(1 - \sqrt{5})(1 - \sqrt{5})^{k-2} + 4(1 + \sqrt{5})^{k-2} - 4(1 - \sqrt{5})^{k-2}}{2^k \sqrt{5}} \\
&= \frac{(2 + 2\sqrt{5})(1 + \sqrt{5})^{k-2} - (2 - 2\sqrt{5})(1 - \sqrt{5})^{k-2} + 4(1 + \sqrt{5})^{k-2} - 4(1 - \sqrt{5})^{k-2}}{2^k \sqrt{5}} \\
&= \frac{(4 + 2 + 2\sqrt{5})(1 + \sqrt{5})^{k-2} - (4 + 2 - 2\sqrt{5})(1 - \sqrt{5})^{k-2}}{2^k \sqrt{5}} \\
&= \frac{(6 + 2\sqrt{5})(1 + \sqrt{5})^{k-2} - (6 - 2\sqrt{5})(1 - \sqrt{5})^{k-2}}{2^k \sqrt{5}} \\
&= \frac{(1 + \sqrt{5})^2 (1 + \sqrt{5})^{k-2} - (1 - \sqrt{5})^2 (1 - \sqrt{5})^{k-2}}{2^k \sqrt{5}} \\
&= \frac{(1 + \sqrt{5})^k - (1 - \sqrt{5})^k}{2^k \sqrt{5}} = RHS
\end{aligned}$$

And this completes the proof by induction.

□

### EXTRAS

1. On my laptop this number was computed recursively in 16 seconds and iteratively in 1 microsecond.
2. 476 Fibonacci numbers are computable using doubles.
3. **Theorem.**

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}^n = \begin{pmatrix} f(n+1) & f(n) \\ f(n) & f(n-1) \end{pmatrix} \text{ for all } n \geq 1$$

*Proof.* By induction on  $n$

Base Case

We need to show that the theorem holds for  $n = 1$

$$\begin{aligned} LHS &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}^1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ RHS &= \begin{pmatrix} f(1+1) & f(1) \\ f(1) & f(1-1) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} f(2) & f(1) \\ f(1) & f(0) \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} f(1) + f(0) & f(1) \\ f(1) & f(0) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1+0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Thus LHS=RHS when  $n = 1$

Induction Step

Assuming the theorem holds for all  $1 \leq n < k$  for some  $k > 1$ , we need to show that it holds for  $n = k$

$$\begin{aligned} LHS &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}^k = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}^{k-1} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} f(k) & f(k-1) \\ f(k-1) & f(k-2) \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} f(k) + f(k-1) & f(k-1) + f(k-2) \\ f(k) & f(k-1) \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} f(k+1) & f(k) \\ f(k) & f(k-1) \end{pmatrix} = RHS \end{aligned}$$

Thus LHS=RHS when  $n > 1$

And this completes the proof by induction. □

4. This simply follows from the fact that  $f(-1) = 1$  and the 0'th power of any square matrix is the identity matrix.