

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \lfloor k\sqrt{2} \rfloor$$

The problem is a sum of a Beatty Sequence, which is a sequence with a positive, irrational  $r$  of the form

$$\lfloor r \rfloor, \lfloor 2r \rfloor, \lfloor 3r \rfloor, \dots$$

Let  $S(\alpha, n)$  be the sum of the first  $n$  terms of a Beatty Sequence with  $r = \alpha$  (in our case, we are concerned with  $S(\sqrt{2}, n)$ , but we'll get to that). There are a few simplifications based on  $\alpha$ :

**Case 0:**  $\alpha = 1$

Technically, this is not a Beatty Sequence, but I'm defining it here to simplify notation later. Obviously, with  $\alpha = 1$  this is just a simple sum of consecutive integers, and so

$$S(1, n) = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$$

**Case 1:**  $\alpha \geq 2$

Let  $\beta = \alpha - 1$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} S(\alpha, n) &= \sum_{k=1}^n \lfloor k\alpha \rfloor \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^n \lfloor k(\beta + 1) \rfloor \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^n \lfloor k\beta + k \rfloor \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^n \lfloor k\beta \rfloor + \sum_{k=1}^n k \\ &= S(\beta, n) + S(1, n) \end{aligned}$$

**Case 2:**  $1 < \alpha < 2$

There is a useful property about Beatty Sequences, known as Raleigh's Theorem. Given an irrational  $r > 1$ , if  $s$  satisfies

$$r^{-1} + s^{-1} = 1$$

then the Beatty Sequences of  $r$  and of  $s$  partition  $\mathbb{N}$ , that is all positive integers are either in the  $r$ -sequence or the  $s$ -sequence. Thus define

$$\beta = \frac{1}{1 - \alpha^{-1}}$$

And  $m = \lfloor \alpha n \rfloor$ , so that the  $\beta$  sum ends at the same point as the  $\alpha$  sum. Then

$$S(\alpha, n) + S(\beta, \lfloor m/\beta \rfloor) = S(1, m)$$

Also,  $\lfloor m/\beta \rfloor = \lfloor m\beta^{-1} \rfloor = \lfloor m(1 - \alpha^{-1}) \rfloor = \lfloor m - m/\alpha \rfloor = m - \lceil m/\alpha \rceil = m - n = \lfloor (\alpha - 1)n \rfloor$   
 Thus

$$S(\alpha, n) = S(1, \lfloor \alpha n \rfloor) - S(\beta, \lfloor (\alpha - 1)n \rfloor)$$

In the case where  $\alpha = \sqrt{2}$ , as  $1 < \sqrt{2} < 2$ ,  $\beta = 2 + \sqrt{2}$ . The solution can thus be simplified as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} S(\sqrt{2}, n) &= S(1, \lfloor \sqrt{2}n \rfloor) - S(2 + \sqrt{2}, \lfloor (\sqrt{2} - 1)n \rfloor) \\ &= S(1, \lfloor \sqrt{2}n \rfloor) - 2S(1, \lfloor (\sqrt{2} - 1)n \rfloor) - S(\sqrt{2}, \lfloor (\sqrt{2} - 1)n \rfloor) \end{aligned}$$

### Complexity Analysis

(Just for fun)

At each level of recursion, there is 1 subproblem and an  $O(1)$  additional computation. The size of the subproblem decreases by a factor of

$$b = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2} - 1} \approx 2.41421356$$

Thus the time complexity for each level of recursion is:

$$T(n) = T\left(\frac{n}{2.41421356}\right) + O(1)$$

By application of the master theorem, the overall time complexity is  $O(\log n)$ , a significant improvement over the  $O(n)$  naive formula.