

# Zeckendorf's Theorem

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## Abstract

This work formalizes Zeckendorf's theorem. The theorem states that every positive integer can be uniquely represented as a sum of one or more non-consecutive Fibonacci numbers. More precisely, if  $N$  is a positive integer, there exist positive integers  $c_i \geq 2$  with  $c_{i+1} > c_i + 1$ , such that

$$N = \sum_{i=0}^k F_{c_i}$$

where  $F_n$  is the  $n$ -th Fibonacci number. This entry formalizes the proof from Gerrit Lekkerkerker's paper [1].

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## 1 Zeckendorf's Theorem

**theory** *Zeckendorf*

**imports**

*Main*

*HOL-Number-Theory.Number-Theory*

**begin**

### 1.1 Definitions

Formulate auxiliary definitions. An increasing sequence is a predicate of a function  $f$  together with a set  $I$ .  $f$  is an increasing sequence on  $I$ , if  $f(x) + 1 < f(x + 1)$  for all  $x \in I$ . This definition is used to ensure that the Fibonacci numbers in the sum are non-consecutive.

**definition** *is-fib* :: *nat*  $\Rightarrow$  *bool* **where**  
*is-fib* *n* = ( $\exists$  *i*. *n* = *fib* *i*)

**definition** *le-fib-idx-set* :: *nat*  $\Rightarrow$  *nat set* **where**  
*le-fib-idx-set* *n* = {*i* . *fib* *i* < *n*}

**definition** *inc-seq-on* :: (*nat*  $\Rightarrow$  *nat*)  $\Rightarrow$  *nat set*  $\Rightarrow$  *bool* **where**  
*inc-seq-on* *f* *I* = ( $\forall$  *n*  $\in$  *I*. *f*(*Suc* *n*) > *Suc*(*f* *n*))

**definition** *fib-idx-set* :: *nat*  $\Rightarrow$  *nat set* **where**  
*fib-idx-set* *n* = {*i*. *fib* *i* = *n*}

## 1.2 Auxiliary Lemmas

**lemma** *fib-values[simp]*:

*fib* 3 = 2  
*fib* 4 = 3  
*fib* 5 = 5  
*fib* 6 = 8  
**by**(*auto simp: numeral-Bit0 numeral-eq-Suc*)

**lemma** *fib-strict-mono*: *i*  $\geq$  2  $\implies$  *fib* *i* < *fib* (*Suc* *i*)  
**using** *fib-mono* **by**(*induct i, simp, fastforce*)

**lemma** *smaller-index-implies-fib-le*: *i* < *j*  $\implies$  *fib*(*Suc* *i*)  $\leq$  *fib* *j*  
**using** *fib-mono* **by** (*induct j, auto*)

**lemma** *fib-index-strict-mono* : *i*  $\geq$  2  $\implies$  *j* > *i*  $\implies$  *fib* *j* > *fib* *i*  
**by**(*induct i, simp, metis Suc-leI fib-mono fib-strict-mono nle-le nless-le*)

**lemma** *fib-implies-is-fib*: *fib* *i* = *n*  $\implies$  *is-fib* *n*  
**using** *is-fib-def* **by** *auto*

**lemma** *zero-fib-unique-idx*: *n* = *fib* *i*  $\implies$  *n* = *fib* 0  $\implies$  *i* = 0  
**using** *fib-neq-0-nat fib-idx-set-def* **by** *fastforce*

**lemma** *zero-fib-equiv*: *fib* *i* = 0  $\longleftrightarrow$  *i* = 0  
**using** *zero-fib-unique-idx* **by** *auto*

**lemma** *one-fib-idxs*: *fib* *i* = *Suc* 0  $\implies$  *i* = *Suc* 0  $\vee$  *i* = *Suc*(*Suc* 0)  
**using** *Fib.fib0 One-nat-def Suc-1 eq-imp-le fib-2 fib-index-strict-mono less-2-cases nat-neq-iff* **by** *metis*

**lemma** *ge-two-eq-fib-implies-eq-idx*: *n*  $\geq$  2  $\implies$  *n* = *fib* *i*  $\implies$  *n* = *fib* *j*  $\implies$  *i* = *j*  
**using** *fib-index-strict-mono fib-mono Suc-1 fib-2 nle-le nless-le not-less-eq* **by** *metis*

**lemma** *ge-two-fib-unique-idx*: *fib* *i*  $\geq$  2  $\implies$  *fib* *i* = *fib* *j*  $\implies$  *i* = *j*  
**using** *ge-two-eq-fib-implies-eq-idx* **by** *auto*

```

lemma no-fib-lower-bound:  $\neg \text{is-fib } n \implies n \geq 4$ 
proof(rule ccontr)
  assume  $\neg \text{is-fib } n \wedge 4 \leq n$ 
  hence  $n \in \{0,1,2,3\}$  by auto
  have is-fib 0 is-fib 1 is-fib 2 is-fib 3
    using fib0 fib1 fib-values fib-implies-is-fib by blast+
  then show False
    using  $\langle \neg \text{is-fib } n \rangle \langle n \in \{0,1,2,3\} \rangle$  by blast
qed

lemma pos-fib-has-idx-ge-two:  $n > 0 \implies \text{is-fib } n \implies (\exists i. i \geq 2 \wedge \text{fib } i = n)$ 
  unfolding is-fib-def by (metis One-nat-def fib-2 fib-mono less-eq-Suc-le nle-le)

lemma finite-fib0-idx: finite( $\{i. \text{fib } i = 0\}$ )
  using zero-fib-unique-idx finite-nat-set-iff-bounded by auto

lemma finite-fib1-idx: finite( $\{i. \text{fib } i = 1\}$ )
  using one-fib-idxs finite-nat-set-iff-bounded by auto

lemma finite-fib-ge-two-idx:  $n \geq 2 \implies \text{finite}(\{i. \text{fib } i = n\})$ 
  using ge-two-fib-unique-idx finite-nat-set-iff-bounded by auto

lemma finite-fib-index: finite( $\{i. \text{fib } i = n\}$ )
  using finite-fib0-idx finite-fib1-idx finite-fib-ge-two-idx by(rule nat-induct2, auto)

lemma no-fib-implies-zero-in-le-idx-set:  $\neg \text{is-fib } n \implies 0 \in \{i. \text{fib } i < n\}$ 
  using no-fib-lower-bound by fastforce

lemma no-fib-implies-le-fib-idx-set:  $\neg \text{is-fib } n \implies \{i. \text{fib } i < n\} \neq \{\}$ 
  using no-fib-implies-zero-in-le-idx-set by blast

lemma finite-smaller-fibs: finite( $\{i. \text{fib } i < n\}$ )
proof(induct n)
  case (Suc n)
    moreover have  $\{i. \text{fib } i < \text{Suc } n\} = \{i. \text{fib } i < n\} \cup \{i. \text{fib } i = n\}$  by auto
    moreover have finite( $\{i. \text{fib } i = n\}$ ) using finite-fib-index by auto
    ultimately show ?case by auto
qed simp

lemma nat-ge-2-fib-idx-bound:  $2 \leq n \implies \text{fib } i \leq n \implies n < \text{fib } (\text{Suc } i) \implies 2 \leq i$ 
  by (metis One-nat-def fib-1 fib-2 le-Suc-eq less-2-cases linorder-not-le not-less-eq)

lemma inc-seq-on-aux:  $\text{inc-seq-on } c \ \{0..k-1\} \implies n - \text{fib } i < \text{fib } (i-1) \implies \text{fib } (c \ k) < \text{fib } i \implies$ 
 $(n - \text{fib } i) = (\sum_{i=0..k. \text{fib } (c \ i)}) \implies \text{Suc } (c \ k) < i$ 
  by (metis fib-mono bot-nat-0.extremum diff-Suc-1 leD le-SucE linorder-le-less-linear not-add-less1 sum.last-plus)

```

**lemma** *inc-seq-zero-at-start*:  $\text{inc-seq-on } c \{0..k-1\} \implies c \ k = 0 \implies k = 0$   
**unfolding** *inc-seq-on-def*  
**by** (*metis One-nat-def Suc-pred atLeast0AtMost atMost-iff less-nat-zero-code not-gr-zero order.refl*)

**lemma** *fib-sum-zero-equiv*:  $(\sum i=n..m::\text{nat} . \text{fib } (c \ i)) = 0 \longleftrightarrow (\forall i \in \{n..m\}. c \ i = 0)$   
**using** *finite-atLeastAtMost sum-eq-0-iff zero-fib-equiv* **by** *auto*

**lemma** *fib-idx-ge-two-fib-sum-not-zero*:  $n \leq m \implies \forall i \in \{n..m::\text{nat}\}. c \ i \geq 2 \implies \neg (\sum i=n..m. \text{fib } (c \ i)) = 0$   
**by** (*rule ccontr, simp add: fib-sum-zero-equiv*)

**lemma** *one-unique-fib-sum*:  $\text{inc-seq-on } c \{0..k-1\} \implies \forall i \in \{0..k\}. c \ i \geq 2 \implies (\sum i=0..k. \text{fib } (c \ i)) = 1 \longleftrightarrow k = 0 \wedge c \ 0 = 2$

**proof**

**assume** *assms*:  $(\sum i = 0..k. \text{fib } (c \ i)) = 1 \text{ inc-seq-on } c \{0..k-1\} \forall i \in \{0..k\}. c \ i \geq 2$   
**hence**  $\text{fib } (c \ 0) + (\sum i = 1..k. \text{fib } (c \ i)) = 1$  **by** (*simp add: sum.atLeast-Suc-atMost*)  
**moreover** **have**  $\text{fib } (c \ 0) \geq 1$  **using** *assms fib-neq-0-nat[of c 0]* **by** *force*  
**ultimately** **show**  $k = 0 \wedge c \ 0 = 2$   
**using** *fib-idx-ge-two-fib-sum-not-zero[of 1 k c] assms add-is-1 one-fib-idxs* **by** (*cases k=0, fastforce, auto*)  
**qed** *simp*

**lemma** *no-fib-betw-fibs*:

**assumes**  $\neg \text{is-fib } n$

**shows**  $\exists i. \text{fib } i < n \wedge n < \text{fib } (\text{Suc } i)$

**proof** –

**have** *finite-le-fib*:  $\text{finite } \{i. \text{fib } i < n\}$  **using** *finite-smaller-fibs* **by** *auto*

**obtain** *i* **where** *max-def*:  $i = \text{Max } \{i. \text{fib } i < n\}$  **by** *blast*

**show**  $\exists i. \text{fib } i < n \wedge n < \text{fib } (\text{Suc } i)$

**proof**(*intro exI conjI*)

**have**  $(\text{Suc } i) \notin \{i. \text{fib } i < n\}$  **using** *max-def Max-ge Suc-n-not-le-n finite-le-fib*

**by** *blast*

**thus**  $\text{fib } (\text{Suc } i) > n$

**using**  $\langle \neg \text{is-fib } n \rangle \text{ fib-implies-is-fib linorder-less-linear}$  **by** *blast*

**qed**(*insert max-def Max-in <neg is-fib n> finite-le-fib no-fib-implies-le-fib-idx-set, auto*)

**qed**

**lemma** *betw-fibs*:

**shows**  $\exists i. \text{fib } i \leq n \wedge \text{fib } (\text{Suc } i) > n$

**proof**(*cases is-fib n*)

**case** *True*

**then** **obtain** *i* **where**  $a: n = \text{fib } i$  **unfolding** *is-fib-def* **by** *auto*

**then** **show** *?thesis*

**by** (*metis fib1 Suc-le-eq fib-2 fib-mono fib-strict-mono le0 le-eq-less-or-eq not-less-eq-eq*)

**qed**(*insert no-fib-betw-fibs, force*)

Proof that the sum of non-consecutive Fibonacci numbers with largest member  $F_i$  is strictly less than  $F_{i+1}$ . This lemma is used for the uniqueness proof.

**lemma** *fib-sum-upper-bound*:

**assumes** *inc-seq-on*  $c \{0..k-1\} \forall i \in \{0..k\}. c\ i \geq 2$

**shows**  $(\sum_{i=0..k} \text{fib}(c\ i)) < \text{fib}(\text{Suc}(c\ k))$

**proof**(*insert assms, induct c k arbitrary: k rule: nat-less-induct*)

**case** 1

**then show** ?*case*

**proof**(*cases c k*)

**case** (*Suc nat*)

**show** ?*thesis*

**proof**(*cases k*)

**case** *k-Suc*: (*Suc -*)

**hence** *ck-bounds*:  $c(k-1) + 1 < c\ k\ c(k-1) < c\ k$

**using** 1(2) **unfolding** *inc-seq-on-def* **by** (*force*)+

**moreover have**  $(\sum_{i=0..k} \text{fib}(c\ i)) = \text{fib}(c\ k) + (\sum_{i=0..k-1} \text{fib}(c\ i))$

**using** *k-Suc* **by** *simp*

**moreover have**  $(\sum_{i=0..(k-1)} \text{fib}(c\ i)) < \text{fib}(\text{Suc}(c\ (k-1)))$

**using** *ck-bounds*(2) 1 **unfolding** *inc-seq-on-def* **by** *auto*

**ultimately show** ?*thesis*

**using** *Suc smaller-index-implies-fib-le* **by** *fastforce*

**qed**(*simp add: fib-index-strict-mono assms*(2))

**qed**(*insert inc-seq-zero-at-start[OF 1(2)], auto*)

**qed**

**lemma** *last-fib-sum-index-constraint*:

**assumes**  $n \geq 2\ n = (\sum_{i=0..k} \text{fib}(c\ i))\ \text{inc-seq-on}\ c\ \{0..k-1\}$

**assumes**  $\forall i \in \{0..k\}. c\ i \geq 2\ \text{fib}\ i \leq n\ \text{fib}(\text{Suc}\ i) > n$

**shows**  $c\ k = i$

**proof** –

**have**  $2 \leq i$  **using** *assms*(1,5,6) *nat-ge-2-fib-idx-bound* **by** *simp*

**have**  $c\ k > i \longrightarrow \text{False}$

**using** *smaller-index-implies-fib-le assms*

**by** (*metis bot-nat-0.extremum leD sum.last-plus trans-le-add1*)

**moreover have**  $c\ k < i \longrightarrow \text{False}$

**proof**

**assume**  $c\ k < i$

**have** *seq*: *inc-seq-on*  $c\ \{0..k-1-1\} \forall i \in \{0..k-1\}. 2 \leq c\ i$

**using** *assms* **unfolding** *inc-seq-on-def* **by** *simp*+

**have**  $k > 0$

**by**(*rule ccontr, insert*  $\langle c\ k < i \rangle$  *assms fib-index-strict-mono leD, auto*)

**hence**  $c(k-1) + 1 < c\ k\ c(k-1) + 3 \leq i$

**using**  $\langle c\ k < i \rangle$  *assms* **unfolding** *inc-seq-on-def* **by** *force*+

**have**  $(\sum_{i=0..k-1} \text{fib}(c\ i)) + \text{fib}(c\ k) = (\sum_{i=0..k} \text{fib}(c\ i))$

**using** *sum.atLeast0-atMost-Suc Suc-pred'[OF*  $\langle k > 0 \rangle$ *]* **by** *metis*

**moreover have**  $\text{fib}(\text{Suc}(c(k-1))) \leq \text{fib}(i-2)$

**using**  $\langle c\ k < i \rangle\ \langle c(k-1) + 1 < c\ k \rangle$  **by** (*simp add: fib-mono*)

**moreover have**  $\text{fib}(c\ k) \leq \text{fib}(i-1)$

```

    using ⟨c k < i⟩ fib-mono by fastforce
    ultimately have (∑ i = 0..k. fib (c i)) < fib (i-1) + fib (i-2)
    using assms ⟨c k < i⟩ ⟨k > 0⟩ fib-sum-upper-bound[OF seq(1) seq(2)] by
simp
    hence (∑ i = 0..k. fib (c i)) < fib i
    using fib.simps(3)[of i-2] assms(4) ⟨c k < i⟩
    by (metis add-2-eq-Suc diff-Suc-1 ⟨2 ≤ i⟩ le-add-diff-inverse)
    then show False
    using assms by simp
  qed
  ultimately show ?thesis by simp
qed

```

### 1.3 Theorem

Now, both parts of Zeckendorf's Theorem can be proven. Firstly, the existence of an increasing sequence for a positive integer  $N$  such that the corresponding Fibonacci numbers sum up to  $N$  is proven. Then, the uniqueness of such an increasing sequence is proven.

**lemma** *fib-implies-zeckendorf*:

```

  assumes is-fib n n > 0
  shows ∃ c k. n = (∑ i=0..k. fib(c i)) ∧ inc-seq-on c {0..k-1} ∧ (∀ i∈{0..k}.
c i ≥ 2)
  proof -
    from assms obtain i where i-def: fib i = n i ≥ 2 using pos-fib-has-idx-ge-two
  by auto
    define c where c-def: (c :: nat ⇒ nat) = (λ n::nat. if n = 0 then i else i + 3)
    from i-def have n = (∑ i = 0..0. fib (c i)) by (simp add: c-def)
    moreover have inc-seq-on c {0..0} by (simp add: c-def inc-seq-on-def)
    ultimately show ∃ c k. n = (∑ i=0..k. fib(c i)) ∧ inc-seq-on c {0..k-1} ∧
(∀ i∈{0..k}. c i ≥ 2)
    using i-def c-def by fastforce
  qed

```

**theorem** *zeckendorf-existence*:

```

  assumes n > 0
  shows ∃ c k. n = (∑ i=0..k. fib (c i)) ∧ inc-seq-on c {0..k-1} ∧ (∀ i∈{0..k}.
c i ≥ 2)
  using assms
  proof(induct n rule: nat-less-induct)
    case (1 n)
    then show ?case
    proof(cases is-fib n)
      case False
      obtain i where bounds: fib i < n n < fib (Suc i) i > 0
      using no-fib-betw-fibs 1(2) False by force
      then obtain c k where seq: (n - fib i) = (∑ i=0..k. fib (c i)) inc-seq-on c
{0..k-1} ∧ i∈{0..k}. c i ≥ 2

```

```

    using 1 fib-neq-0-nat zero-less-diff diff-less by metis
  let ?c' = (λ n. if n = k+1 then i else c n)
  have diff-le-fib: n - fib i < fib(i-1)
    using bounds fib2 not0-implies-Suc[of i] by auto
  hence ck-lt-fib: fib (c k) < fib i
    using fib-Suc-mono[of i-1] bounds by (simp add: sum.last-plus seq)
  have inc-seq-on ?c' {0..k}
    using inc-seq-on-aux[OF seq(2) diff-le-fib ck-lt-fib seq(1)] One-nat-def
    inc-seq-on-def leI seq by force
  moreover have n = (∑ i=0..k+1. fib (?c' i))
    using bounds seq by simp
  moreover have ∀ i ∈ {0..k+1}. ?c' i ≥ 2
    using seq bounds fib2 not0-implies-Suc[of i] atLeastAtMost-iff
    diff-is-0-eq' less-nat-zero-code not-less-eq-eq by fastforce
  ultimately show ?thesis by fastforce
qed(insert fib-implies-zeckendorf, auto)
qed

```

**lemma** *fib-unique-fib-sum*:

```

  fixes k :: nat
  assumes n ≥ 2 inc-seq-on c {0..k-1} ∀ i ∈ {0..k}. c i ≥ 2
  assumes n = fib i
  shows n = (∑ i=0..k. fib (c i)) ⟷ k = 0 ∧ c 0 = i
proof
  assume ass: n = (∑ i = 0..k. fib (c i))
  obtain j where bounds: fib j ≤ n fib(Suc j) > n j ≥ 2
    using betw-fibs assms nat-ge-2-fib-idx-bound by blast
  have idx-eq: c k = j
    using last-fib-sum-index-constraint assms(1-3) ass bounds by simp
  have i = j
    using bounds ass assms
    by (metis Suc-leI fib-mono ge-two-fib-unique-idx le-neq-implies-less linorder-not-le)
  have k > 0 ⟶ fib i = fib i + (∑ i = 0..k-1. fib (c i))
    using ass assms by (metis idx-eq One-nat-def Suc-pred ⟨i = j⟩ add commute
sum.atLeast0-atMost-Suc)
  hence k > 0 ⟶ False
    using fib-idx-ge-two-fib-sum-not-zero[of 0 k-1 c] assms by auto
  then show k = 0 ∧ c 0 = i using ⟨i = j⟩ idx-eq by simp
qed(auto simp: assms)

```

**theorem** *zeckendorf-unique*:

```

  assumes n > 0
  assumes n = (∑ i=0..k. fib (c i)) inc-seq-on c {0..k-1} ∀ i ∈ {0..k}. c i ≥ 2
  assumes n = (∑ i=0..k'. fib (c' i)) inc-seq-on c' {0..k'-1} ∀ i ∈ {0..k'}. c' i ≥
2
  shows k = k' ∧ (∀ i ∈ {0..k}. c i = c' i)
    using assms
proof(induct n arbitrary: k k' rule: nat-less-induct)
  case IH: (1 n)

```

```

consider  $n = 0 \mid n = 1 \mid n \geq 2$  by linarith
then show ?case
proof(cases)
  case 3
  obtain  $i$  where bounds:  $\text{fib } i \leq n \text{ fib } (\text{Suc } i) > n \ 2 \leq i$ 
  using betw-fibs nat-ge-2-fib-idx-bound 3 by blast
  have last-idx-eq:  $c' \ k' = i \ c \ k = i \ c' \ k' = c \ k$ 
  using last-fib-sum-index-constraint[OF 3] IH(6-8) IH(3-5) bounds by
blast+
  then show ?thesis
  proof(cases is-fib n)
    case True
    hence  $\text{fib } i = n$ 
    unfolding is-fib-def using bounds IH(2-8) fib-mono leD nle-le not-less-eq-eq
  by metis
    hence  $k = 0 \ c \ 0 = i \ k' = 0 \ c' \ 0 = i$ 
    using fib-unique-fib-sum 3 IH(3-8) by metis+
    then show ?thesis by simp
  next
  case False
  have  $k > 0$ 
  using IH(3) False unfolding is-fib-def by fastforce
  have  $k' > 0$ 
  using IH(6) False unfolding is-fib-def by fastforce
  have  $0 < n - \text{fib } (c \ k)$  using False bounds last-idx-eq(2) unfolding is-fib-def
  by fastforce
  moreover have  $n - \text{fib } (c \ k) < n$ 
  using bounds last-idx-eq by (simp add: dual-order.strict-trans1 fib-neq-0-nat)
  moreover have  $n - \text{fib } (c \ k) = (\sum i = 0..k-1. \text{fib } (c \ i))$ 
  using sum.atLeast0-atMost-Suc[of  $\lambda i. \text{fib } (c \ i) \ k-1$ ] Suc-diff-1  $\langle k > 0 \rangle$ 
IH(3) by simp
  moreover have  $n - \text{fib } (c' \ k') = (\sum i = 0..k'-1. \text{fib } (c' \ i))$ 
  using sum.atLeast0-atMost-Suc[of  $\lambda i. \text{fib } (c' \ i) \ k'-1$ ] Suc-diff-1  $\langle k' > 0 \rangle$ 
IH(6) by simp
  moreover have  $\text{inc-seq-on } c \ \{0..k-1 - 1\} \ \forall i \in \{0..k-1\}. \ 2 \leq c \ i$ 
  using IH(4,5) unfolding inc-seq-on-def by auto
  moreover have  $\text{inc-seq-on } c' \ \{0..k'-1 - 1\} \ \forall i \in \{0..k'-1\}. \ 2 \leq c' \ i$ 
  using IH(7,8) unfolding inc-seq-on-def by auto
  ultimately have  $k-1 = k'-1 \wedge (\forall i \in \{0..k-1\}. \ c \ i = c' \ i)$ 
  using IH(1) unfolding last-idx-eq by blast
  then show ?thesis
  using IH(1) last-idx-eq by (metis One-nat-def Suc-pred  $\langle 0 < k' \rangle \langle 0 < k \rangle$ 
atLeastAtMost-iff le-Suc-eq)
  qed
qed(insert IH one-unique-fib-sum, auto)
qed
end

```



## References

- [1] C. G. Lekkerkerker. Voorstelling van natuurlijke getallen door een som van getallen van fibonacci. *Stichting Mathematisch Centrum. Zuivere Wiskunde*, (ZW 30/51), 1951.