

SICP Exercise 1.13

Prove: $\text{Fib}(n) = \frac{\phi^n - \psi^n}{\sqrt{5}}$ where $\phi = (1 + \sqrt{5})/2$
 $\psi = (1 - \sqrt{5})/2$

Base case $n = 0$ and $n = 1$:

$$\text{Fib}(0) = \frac{\phi^0 - \psi^0}{\sqrt{5}} = \left(\frac{1-1}{\sqrt{5}} \right) = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Fib}(1) &= \frac{\phi^1 - \psi^1}{\sqrt{5}} = \frac{(1+\sqrt{5})/2 - (1-\sqrt{5})/2}{\sqrt{5}} \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{5}}{\sqrt{5}} = 1\end{aligned}$$

Assumption: Statement is true for 0 to $n-1$

Induction:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Fib}(n) &= \text{Fib}(n-1) + \text{Fib}(n-2) \\ \frac{\phi^n - \psi^n}{\sqrt{5}} &= \frac{\phi^{n-1} - \psi^{n-1}}{\sqrt{5}} + \frac{\phi^{n-2} - \psi^{n-2}}{\sqrt{5}}\end{aligned}$$

$$\phi^n - \psi^n = \phi^{n-1} - \psi^{n-1} + \phi^{n-2} - \psi^{n-2}$$

$$\phi^n - \psi^n = \frac{\phi^n}{\phi} + \frac{\phi^n}{\phi^2} - \frac{\psi^n}{\psi} - \frac{\psi^n}{\psi^2}$$

$$\phi^n - \psi^n = \phi^n \left(\frac{1}{\phi} + \frac{1}{\phi^2} \right) - \psi^n \left(\frac{1}{\psi} + \frac{1}{\psi^2} \right)$$

(Statement is true if both factors are equal to 1)

$$\phi^n - \psi^n = \phi^n \left(\frac{1}{\left(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)} + \frac{1}{\left(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^2} \right) - \psi^n \left(\frac{1}{\left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)} + \frac{1}{\left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^2} \right)$$

$$\phi^n - \psi^n = \phi^n \left(\frac{2}{1+\sqrt{5}} + \frac{4}{(1+\sqrt{5})^2} \right) - \psi^n \left(\frac{2}{1-\sqrt{5}} + \frac{4}{(1-\sqrt{5})^2} \right)$$

$$\phi^n - \psi^n = \phi^n \left(\frac{2+2\sqrt{5}+4}{(1+\sqrt{5})^2} \right) - \psi^n \left(\frac{2-2\sqrt{5}+4}{(1-\sqrt{5})^2} \right)$$

$$\phi^n - \psi^n = \phi^n \left(\frac{6+2\sqrt{5}}{6+2\sqrt{5}} \right) - \psi^n \left(\frac{6-2\sqrt{5}}{6-2\sqrt{5}} \right)$$

$$\phi^n - \psi^n = \phi^n - \psi^n \quad \square$$

Prove: $\text{Fib}(n)$ is the closest integer to $\varphi^n / \sqrt{5}$.

$$\Leftrightarrow \text{Fib}(n) - \frac{\varphi^n}{\sqrt{5}} \leq \frac{1}{2}$$

From previous proof:

$$\text{Fib}(n) = \frac{\varphi^n - \psi^n}{\sqrt{5}} = \frac{\varphi^n}{\sqrt{5}} - \frac{\psi^n}{\sqrt{5}}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \text{Fib}(n) - \frac{\varphi^n}{\sqrt{5}} = -\frac{\psi^n}{\sqrt{5}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Fib}(n) - \frac{\varphi^n}{\sqrt{5}} \leq \frac{1}{2} \Leftrightarrow \frac{\psi^n}{\sqrt{5}} \leq \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \psi^n \leq \frac{\sqrt{5}}{2}$$

$$\text{Since } \psi = \frac{(1 - \sqrt{5})}{2} \approx -0.62 :$$

$$-1 < \psi < 0 \Rightarrow -1 < \psi^2 < 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \psi^n < \frac{\sqrt{5}}{2} \quad \square$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \text{Fib}(n) - \frac{\varphi^n}{\sqrt{5}} \leq \frac{1}{2} \text{ holds.}$$