

Project Euler: Problem 2

<https://projecteuler.net/problem=1>

<https://github.com/oltdaniel/euler>

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"Each new term in the Fibonacci sequence is generated by adding the previous two terms. By starting with 1 and 2, the first 10 terms will be:

1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34, 55, 89, ...

By considering the terms in the Fibonacci sequence whose values do not exceed four million, find the sum of the even-valued terms."

The general idea to solve this, is starting an endless loop, that will break if the current fibonacci number exceeds 4,000,000. During each iteration the numbers before will be added and stored, as well as moving the last Fibonacci number to the memory for the next iteration. The current Fibonacci will be then tested whether they are even or not and added to the sum if they are.

As we already know, that only even fibonacci numbers will be added to the sum, this routine can be optimized by using some existing formulas.

0.1 Basic Idea

The basic idea is to start an endless loop, that calculates the next Fibonacci number, by adding the two previous ones. Followed by that, the new number, and the last one need to be stored for the next operation. After the current Fibonacci number has been proven to be even, it can be added to the final sum.

Complexity: $O(\log(\sqrt{5} * n) \div \log(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}))$

0.2 Memory Optimization

As the above solution requires the use of many memory operations, by moving the numbers around, this step is something that can be optimized with the *Binet's Formula*. This allows us to calculate the n -th Fibonacci number without moving any values in the memory nor remembering any values calculated before. The formula is defined as follows:

$$F_n = \frac{\varphi^n - \psi^n}{\sqrt{5}} = \frac{\frac{(1+\sqrt{5})^n}{2} - \frac{(1-\sqrt{5})^n}{2}}{\sqrt{5}}$$

Complexity: $O(\log(\sqrt{5} * n) \div \log(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}))$

0.3 Reduce Calculation

Based on the optimizations made above, we can now simplify the sequence of numbers we will add in a loop, into a geometric series. This will allow us to calculate the sum with the following formula:

$$S(n) = (F_{n+2} - 1) \div 2$$

However, as we only want even numbers we need to extend this. We know, that a Fibonacci number is only even, if the index of it is a multiple of 3. We also know, that n is the number of Fibonacci numbers under the set limit 4,000,000. In order to calculate n for $S(n \div 3)$ to find s , we can use the following formula based on *Binet's Formula*:

$$n = \log(\sqrt{5} * n) \div \log(\frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2})$$

Followed by that, we can say, that the sum of all even Fibonacci numbers under 4,000,000 is $s = S(n/3)$.

Complexity: $O(1)$