

The Fibonacci Sequence

Suppose rabbits live forever and that every month each pair produces a new pair which becomes productive at age 2 months.

If we start with one newborn pair, how many pairs of rabbits will we have in the n -th month? The answer is

$$f_n = f_{n-1} + f_{n-2}$$

for $n \geq 3$
 Let $a_n = \frac{f_{n+1}}{f_n}$, and show that $a_{n-1} = 1 + \frac{1}{a_{n-2}}$. Assume that $\{a_n\}$ is convergent, find its limit.

$$a_{n-1} = \frac{f_n}{f_{n-1}}$$

$$a_{n-1} = \frac{f_n}{f_{n-1}} = \frac{f_{n-1}}{f_{n-1}} + \frac{f_{n-2}}{f_{n-1}} = 1 + \frac{1}{\frac{f_{n-1}}{f_{n-2}}} = 1 + \frac{1}{a_{n-2}}$$

$$\text{So } a_{n-1} = 1 + \frac{1}{a_{n-2}}$$

a_n is convergent : $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = L$. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_{n+1} = L$ and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_{n-2} = L$

$$L = \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}$$

Golden Ratio

$$L = \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{5}}{2} \Rightarrow \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} \text{ or } \frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}$$