

# The last foobar

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**Problem 1** Write program for computing

$$f(n) = \sum_{i=1}^n \lfloor i\sqrt{2} \rfloor.$$

for  $n \leq 10^{1000}$ .

**Solution:** We use the fact that  $\sqrt{2}$  is irrational real, such that sometimes from non-strict inequality we can conclude strict inequality. Define we functions

$$g(n) = \lfloor \frac{n}{1+\sqrt{2}} \rfloor, \quad h(n) = \sum_{i=1}^n g(i).$$

Holds

$$f(n) = \sum_{i=1}^n \lfloor i + i(\sqrt{2} - 1) \rfloor = \sum_{i=1}^n (i + g(i)) = \frac{n(n+1)}{2} + h(n).$$

For  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  holds

$$\begin{aligned} g(i) = m &\Leftrightarrow m(1 + \sqrt{2}) < i < (m+1)(1 + \sqrt{2}) \\ &\Leftrightarrow 2m + m(\sqrt{2} - 1) < i < 2m + 2 + (\sqrt{2} - 1)(m+1) \\ &\Leftrightarrow 2m + m/(1 + \sqrt{2}) < i < 2m + 2 + (m+1)/(1 + \sqrt{2}) \\ &\Leftrightarrow 2m + 1 + g(m) \leq i \leq 2m + 2 + g(m+1). \end{aligned}$$

There are  $2 + g(m+1) - g(m)$  such numbers  $i$ . However, for  $m = k$  we have to care that  $i \leq n$ , or

$$2k + 1 + g(k) \leq i \leq n,$$

and there are  $n - 2k - g(k)$  such numbers. For

$$k = g(n)$$

holds

$$\begin{aligned} h(n) &= \sum_{m=1}^{k-1} m(2 + g(m+1) - g(m)) + k(n - 2k - g(k)) \\ &= (k-1)k + \sum_{m=1}^{k-1} ((m+1)g(m+1) - mg(m)) - \sum_{m=1}^{k-1} g(m+1) + k(n - 2k - g(k)) \\ &= (k-1)k + k g(k) - h(k) + k(n - 2k - g(k)) \\ &= k(n - k - 1) - h(k). \end{aligned}$$

Because  $k < n/(1 + \sqrt{2})$  we have logarithmically many recursive calls in depth.

Of course,

$$g(1) = h(1) = 0.$$

The value  $g(n)$  can be computed by computing value  $\frac{n}{1+\sqrt{2}}$  in interval arithmetics using greater and greater precision until interval without integers is obtained as result, so that integral part of both interval endpoints is the same.

Another way is discretization of the Newton's tangent method. Holds

$$x = \frac{n}{1 + \sqrt{2}} \Leftrightarrow n - x = \sqrt{2}x \Leftrightarrow x^2 + 2nx - n^2 = 0.$$

We can compute value  $\frac{n}{1+\sqrt{2}}$  by Newton's tangent method. Holds

$$x = \frac{n}{1 + \sqrt{2}} \Leftrightarrow \sqrt{2}x = n - x \Leftrightarrow 2x^2 = n^2 - 2nx + x^2 \Leftrightarrow x^2 + 2nx - n^2 = 0.$$

Because function  $x^2 + 2nx - n^2$  is increasing and convex, holds

$$\frac{n}{1 + \sqrt{2}} < x \Rightarrow \frac{n}{1 + \sqrt{2}} < \frac{x^2 + n^2}{2(x + n)} < x.$$

By this and  $n > \frac{n}{1+\sqrt{2}}$  the sequence

$$x_0 = n, \quad x_{k+1} = x_k - \frac{x_k^2 + 2nx_k - n^2}{2(x_k + n)} = \frac{x_k^2 + n^2}{2(x_k + n)}$$

is decreasing and convergent to  $\frac{n}{1+\sqrt{2}}$ . For  $x \in \mathbb{N}$  is

$$\left\lfloor \frac{x^2 + n^2 - 1}{2(x + n)} \right\rfloor + 1 = \left\lfloor \frac{x^2 + n^2 + 2(x + n) - 1}{2(x + n)} \right\rfloor \geq \frac{x^2 + n^2}{2(x + n)},$$

and holds

$$\frac{n}{1 + \sqrt{2}} < x \Rightarrow \frac{n}{1 + \sqrt{2}} < \left\lfloor \frac{x^2 + n^2 - 1}{2(x + n)} \right\rfloor + 1.$$

Define we the sequence

$$x_0 = n, \quad x_{k+1} = \left\lfloor \frac{x_k^2 + n^2 - 1}{2(x_k + n)} \right\rfloor + 1.$$

$x_n$  is non-increasing sequence of integers that are greater than  $\frac{n}{1+\sqrt{2}}$ . Establish we by what condition is  $x_{k+1} = x_k$ .

$$\begin{aligned} x_{k+1} \geq x_k &\Leftrightarrow \left\lfloor \frac{x_k^2 + n^2 - 1}{2(x_k + n)} \right\rfloor \geq x_k - 1 \\ &\Leftrightarrow \frac{x_k^2 + n^2 - 1}{2(x_k + n)} \geq x_k - 1 \\ &\Leftrightarrow (x_k + n - 1)^2 \leq 2n^2 \\ &\Leftrightarrow x_k - 1 \leq \frac{n}{1 + \sqrt{2}}. \end{aligned}$$

Because  $x_k \in \mathbb{Z}$   $x_k - 1 \leq \frac{n}{1+\sqrt{2}} < x_k$ , holds

$$\left\lfloor \frac{n}{1 + \sqrt{2}} \right\rfloor = x_k - 1, \quad \text{for } k \text{ such that } x_{k+1} = x_k.$$

□

This can be coded in Python <sup>1</sup> as

```
def g(n):
    if n<3:
        return 0
    x = n
    n2 = n*n
    while True:
        xn = (x*x+n2-1)//(2*(x+n))+1
        if xn==x:
            return x-1
        x = xn

def h(n):
    if n<3:
        return 0
    k = g(n)
    return k*(n-k-1)-h(k)

def f(n):
    return n*(n+1)//2+h(n)
```

It is easy to eliminate recursion from *h*.

```
def h(n):
    s = 0
    positive = True
    while n>=3:
        k = g(n)
        if positive:
            s += k*(n-k-1)
        else:
            s -= k*(n-k-1)
        positive = not positive
        n = k
    return s
```

Finally, functions *f* and *h* we can replace by single function.

```
#
def f(n):
    s = n*(n+1)//2
    positive = True
    while n>=3:
        k = g(n)
        if positive:
            s += k*(n-k-1)
        else:
            s -= k*(n-k-1)
```

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<sup>1</sup>Python supports arbitrary integers.

```

        positive = not positive
        n = k
    return s

```

Finally, the complete code is

```

def g(n):
    if n<3:
        return 0
    x = n
    n2 = n*n
    while True:
        xn = (x*x+n2-1)//(2*(x+n))+1
        if xn==x:
            return x-1
        x = xn

def f(n):
    s = n*(n+1)//2
    positive = True
    while n>=3:
        k = g(n)
        if positive:
            s += k*(n-k-1)
        else:
            s -= k*(n-k-1)
        positive = not positive
        n = k
    return s

```