

1. Let $f_0, f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n, \dots$ denote the Fibonacci sequence. By evaluating each of the following expressions for small values of n , conjecture a general formula and then prove it, using mathematical induction and the Fibonacci recurrence:

(a) $f_1 + f_3 + \dots + f_{2n-1}$

$$\emptyset, 1, \cancel{1}, 2, \cancel{2}, 3, 5, \cancel{5}, 8, 13, \cancel{13}, 21, 34, \dots$$

$$1 = 1, \quad 1 + 2 = 3, \quad 1 + 2 + 5 = 8, \quad 1 + 2 + 5 + 13 = 21$$

$$f_{2n} = f_1 + f_3 + \dots + f_{2n-1}$$

proof

We already know the sum for $n = 1$. Lets look at $n > 1$

$$f_1 + f_3 + f_5 + \dots + f_{2n-1} = f_1 + \sum_{k=2}^n f_{2k-1}$$

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

$$f_1 + f_3 + f_5 + \dots + f_{2n-1} = 1 + \sum_{k=2}^n f_{2k-3} + f_{2k-2}$$

$$= 1 + 0 + \sum_{k=1}^{2n-2} f_k = 1 + f_0 + \sum_{k=1}^{2n-2} f_k$$

$$s_n = f_0 + f_1 + f_2 + \dots + f_n = f_{n+2} - 1$$

$$f_1 + f_3 + f_5 + \dots + f_{2n-1} = 1 + s_{2n-2} = 1 + f_{2n-2+2} - 1 = f_{2n}$$

And we have our result. \square

(b) $f_0 + f_2 + \dots + f_{2n}$

$$0, \cancel{1}, 1, \cancel{2}, 3, \cancel{3}, 5, \cancel{5}, 8, \cancel{8}, 13, \cancel{13}, 21, \cancel{21}, 34, 55, \dots$$

$$0 = 0, \quad 0 + 1 = 1 \quad 0 + 1 + 3 = 4 \quad 0 + 1 + 3 + 8 = 12, \quad 0 + 1 + 3 + 8 + 21 = 33$$

$$f_{2n+1} - 1 = f_0 + f_2 + \dots + f_{2n}$$

proof

When looking for the pattern so we established that the formula is true for $n = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4$ which is more than sufficient for a basis.

$$f_0 + f_2 + \dots + f_{2n} = \sum_{k=0}^n f_{2k}$$

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

$$f_0 + f_2 + \dots + f_{2n} = f_0 + \sum_{k=1}^n f_{2k-2} + f_{2k-1}$$

$$= 0 + \sum_{k=0}^{2n-1} f_k$$

$$\begin{aligned}
s_n &= f_0 + f_1 + f_2 + \cdots + f_n = f_{n+2} - 1 \\
f_0 + f_2 + \cdots + f_{2n} &= s_{2n-1} = f_{(2n-1)+2} - 1 \\
&= f_{2n+1} - 1
\end{aligned}$$

And our result is proved. \square

(c) $f_0 - f_1 + f_2 - \cdots + (-1)^n f_n$

$$\begin{aligned}
n = 1 : 0 - 1 &= -1, & n = 2 : 0 - 1 + 1 &= 0, & n = 3 : 0 - 1 + 1 - 2 &= -2 \\
n = 4 : 0 - 1 + 1 - 2 + 3 &= 1, & n = 5 : 0 - 1 + 1 - 2 + 3 - 5 &= -4 \\
f_0 - f_1 + (f_0 + f_1) - (f_1 + f_2) + (f_2 + f_3) - \cdots \\
f_0 - f_1 + f_0 + f_1 - f_1 - f_2 + f_2 + f_3 - \cdots \\
&- f_1 + (-1)^n f_{n-1}
\end{aligned}$$

So our general formula is $-1 + (-1)^n f_{n-1}$

proof

We know that the sum is 0 when $n = 0$ and the sum is -1 when $n = 1$. Let us look at when $n > 1$

$$\begin{aligned}
f_0 - f_1 + f_2 - \cdots + (-1)^n f_n &= \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^k f_k \\
&= f_0 - f_1 + \sum_{k=2}^n (-1)^k f_k \\
&= -1 + \sum_{k=2}^n (-1)^k (f_{k-2} + f_{k-1}) \\
&= -1 + \sum_{k=0}^{n-2} (-1)^k (f_k + f_{k+1}) \\
&= -1 + \sum_{k=0}^{n-2} (-1)^k f_k + \sum_{k=0}^{n-2} (-1)^k f_{k+1} \\
&= -1 + \sum_{k=0}^{n-2} (-1)^k f_k - \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} (-1)^k f_k \\
&= -1 + (-1)^0 f_0 + \sum_{k=1}^{n-2} (-1)^k f_k - \sum_{k=1}^{n-2} (-1)^k f_k - (-1)^{n-1} f_{n-1} \\
&= -1 + (-1)^n f_{n-1}
\end{aligned}$$

And we have our proof. \square

3. Prove the following about the Fibonacci numbers:

(b) f_n is divisible by 3 if and only if n is divisible by 4.

proof

Let $f_n = 3a_n + b_n$ where $a_n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $b_n \in \{0, 1, 2\}$. Lets assume that $b_{n-1} = b_{n-2} = 0$. Then $f_n = 3a_{n-1} + 3a_{n-2}$ which means that for all n , $3 \mid f_n$. Three seconds of scratchwork shows this is clearly not true at least for low values of n . Now lets assume that $3 \nmid f_n$ for all n . But $3 \mid f_0$ and $3 \mid f_4$ so clearly this isn't true. We know now that 3 sometimes divides Fibonacci numbers, but not always. So lets assume that $3 \mid f_n$. Then for $f_{n-1} = 3a_{n-1} + 2$ or $f_{n-1} = 3a_{n-1} + 1$. Note that these cases can be seen at f_4 and f_8 respectively. Also note that $4 \mid 4$ and $4 \mid 8$. Finally notice that these two (four?) facts conveniently provide a basis for the following inductive proof in two cases where $3 \mid f_n$ and $4 \mid n$.

First we look at the case where $f_{n-1} = 3a_{n-1} + 2$. Let the algebra walk the walk.

$$\begin{aligned} f_{n+1} &= 3a_n + 3a_{n-1} + 2 = 3(a_n + a_{n-1}) + 2 = 3a_{n+1} + 2 \\ f_{n+2} &= 3a_{n+1} + 2 + 3a_n = 3a_{n+2} + 2 \\ f_{n+3} &= 3a_{n+2} + 2 + 3a_{n+1} + 2 = 3a_{n+2} + 3a_{n+1} + 3 + 1 = 3a_{n+3} + 1 \\ f_{n+4} &= 3a_{n+3} + 1 + 3a_{n+2} + 2 = 3(a_{n+3} + a_{n+2} + 1) \end{aligned}$$

And because $4 \mid n$ then $4 \mid n + 4$. Further, $3 \mid f_{n+4}$ in this case. Also notice that we have shown the other half of the if and only if. Three does not divide any of f_{n+1}, f_{n+2} , or f_{n+3} .

Now lets examine the case where $f_{n-1} = 3a_{n-1} + 1$. We proceed as above, with maths.

$$\begin{aligned} f_{n+1} &= 3a_n + 3a_{n-1} + 1 = 3a_{n+1} + 1 \\ f_{n+2} &= 3a_{n+1} + 1 + 3a_n = 3a_{n+2} + 1 \\ f_{n+3} &= 3a_{n+1} + 1 + 3a_{n+2} + 1 = 3a_{n+3} + 2 \\ f_{n+4} &= 3a_{n+3} + 2 + 3a_{n+2} + 1 = 3(a_{n+3} + a_{n+2} + 1) \end{aligned}$$

So we see that this case meets all the conditions of the last case.

We have shown that a Fibonacci style recurrence relation is either always divisible by three or is divisible by three only every fourth number. In our case the numbers are not always divisible by three. The index of every fourth number that divides three is itself divided by four. Thus we have proven the assertion. \square

4. Prove that the Fibonacci sequence is the solution of the recurrence relation

$$a_n = 5a_{n-4} + 3a_{n-5}, \quad (n \geq 5),$$

where $a_0 = 0, a_1 = 1, a_2 = 1, a_3 = 2$, and $a_4 = 3$. Then use this formula to show that the Fibonacci numbers satisfy the condition that f_n is divisible by 5 if and only if n is divisible by 5.

proof

Lets just try to wrangle the Fibonacci sequence into the relation shown.

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

$$\begin{aligned}
f_n &= (f_{n-2} + f_{n-3}) + (f_{n-3} + f_{n-4}) \\
f_n &= (f_{n-3} + f_{n-4}) + (f_{n-4} + f_{n-5}) + (f_{n-4} + f_{n-5}) + f_{n-4} \\
f_n &= (f_{n-4} + f_{n-5}) + f_{n-4} + f_{n-4} + f_{n-5} + f_{n-4} + f_{n-5} + f_{n-4} \\
f_n &= 5f_{n-4} + 3f_{n-5}
\end{aligned}$$

Since the relation is the same and the first five numbers are the same, the sequence is the same. \square

The case where $5 \mid f_{n-4}$ and $5 \mid f_{n-5}$ is the trivial case and would mean that five divides all f_n which is clearly not true, so we will just write off that case.

Let $f_n = 5a_n + b_n$ where $a_n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $b_n \in \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4\}$.

Now lets assume that $5 \mid f_{n-5}$ and $5 \nmid f_{n-4}$. In other words $b_{n-5} = 0$ and $b_{n-4} \neq 0$

$$\begin{aligned}
f_n &= 5(5a_{n-4} + b_{n-4}) + 3(5a_{n-5}) \\
f_n &= 5(5a_{n-4} + b_{n-4} + 3a_{n-5})
\end{aligned}$$

So $b_n = 0$ and therefore $5 \mid f_n$ if $5 \mid f_{n-5}$ and $5 \nmid f_{n-4}$.

Now lets check on $5 \mid f_{n-4}$ and $5 \nmid f_{n-5}$

$$\begin{aligned}
f_n &= 5(5a_{n-4}) + 3(5a_{n-5} + b_{n-5}) \\
f_n &= 5(5a_{n-4} + 3a_{n-5}) + 3b_{n-5}
\end{aligned}$$

Since $3b_{n-5} \in \{3, 6, 9, 12\}$ we can say that $5 \nmid 3b_{n-5}$ and therefore $5 \nmid f_n$. And for our last case lets find out what happens if five divides neither f_{n-4} nor f_{n-5} .

$$\begin{aligned}
f_n &= 5(a_{n-4} + b_{n-4}) + 3(5a_{n-5} + b_{n-5}) \\
f_n &= 5(a_{n-4} + b_{n-4} + 3a_{n-5}) + 3b_{n-5}
\end{aligned}$$

As above $5 \nmid 3b_{n-5}$ so $5 \nmid f_n$.

So we see 5 divides f_n only every 5th f_n . Since $f_5 = 5$ we can say that $5 \mid f_n$ if and only if $5 \mid n$.

11. The *Lucas numbers* $l_0, l_1, l_2, \dots, l_n, \dots$ are defined using the same recurrence relation defining the Fibonacci numbers, but with different initial conditions:

$$l_n = l_{n-1} + l_{n-2}, (n \geq 2), l_0 = 2, l_1 = 1.$$

Prove that

$$(a) \ l_n = f_{n-1} + f_{n+1} \text{ for } n \geq 1$$

proof

We can see that $l_1 = 1 = 0 + 1 = f_0 + f_2 = f_{1-1} + f_{1+1}$. Also note that $l_2 = l_1 + l_0 = 1 + 2 = f_1 + f_3 = f_{2-1} + f_{2+1}$. So our assumption holds for $n = 1, 2$. Lets assume it holds for any $n - 1, n - 2$ and verify that it holds for n .

$$\begin{aligned}
l_n &= l_{n-1} + l_{n-2} && \text{by definition of Lucas number} \\
&= (f_{n-2} + f_n) + (f_{n-3} + f_{n-1}) && \text{by assumption}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= (f_n + f_{n-1}) + (f_{n-2} + f_{n-3}) \\
&= f_{n+1} + f_{n-1} \quad \text{by definition of Fibonacci number}
\end{aligned}$$

So the assumption holds for $n \geq 3$ and we have proved our result by induction.
 \square

(b) $l_0^2 + l_1^2 + \cdots + l_n^2 = l_n l_{n+1} + 2$ for $n \geq 0$

proof

So we see that $l_0^2 = 2^2 = 4 = 2 + 2 = (2)(1) + 2 = l_0 l_1$ and $l_0^2 + l_1^2 = 2^2 + 1^2 = 5 = 3 + 2 = (1)(3) + 2 = l_1 l_2 + 2$. Now we know that our idea holds for $n = 0, 1$. Let us assume that our idea holds for all n . Lets see if it holds for $n + 1$.

$$\begin{aligned}
l_0^2 + l_1^2 + \cdots + l_n^2 + l_{n+1}^2 &= l_n l_{n+1} + 2 + l_{n+1}^2 \\
&= l_n l_{n+1} + 2 + l_{n+1}(l_n + l_{n-1}) \\
&= l_n l_{n+1} + 2 + l_{n+1} l_n + l_{n+1} l_{n-1} \\
&= l_{n+1}(l_n + l_n + l_{n-1}) + 2 \\
&= l_{n+1}(l_n + l_{n+1}) + 2 \\
&= l_{n+1} l_{n+2} + 2
\end{aligned}$$

Well, it looks like it holds for $n + 1$ and therefore by induction it holds for all n .
 \square

12. Let $h_0, h_1, h_2, \dots, h_n, \dots$ be the sequence defined by

$$h_n = n^3, (n \geq 0).$$

Show that $h_n = h_{n-1} + 3n^2 - 3n + 1$ is the recurrence relation for the sequence.

$$\begin{aligned}
h_n &= n^3 \\
&= (n - 1 + 1)^3 \\
&= (n - 1)^3 + 3(n - 1)^2 + 3(n - 1) + 1 \\
&= h_{n-1} + 3(n^2 - 2n + 1) + 3n - 3 + 1 \\
&= h_{n-1} + 3n^2 - 6n + 3 + 3n - 3 + 1 \\
&= h_{n-1} + 3n^2 - 3n + 1
\end{aligned}$$

13. Determine the generating function for each of the following sequences:

(c) $\binom{\alpha}{0}, -\binom{\alpha}{1}, \binom{\alpha}{2}, \dots, (-1)^n \binom{\alpha}{n}, \dots$ (α is a real number)

$$\begin{aligned}
\binom{\alpha}{0} - \binom{\alpha}{1}x + \binom{\alpha}{2}x^2 - \cdots + (-1)^n \binom{\alpha}{n}x^n + \cdots &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \binom{\alpha}{n} x^n \\
&= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \binom{\alpha}{n} x^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \binom{\alpha}{n} (-x)^n
\end{aligned}$$

By newton's generalised binomial theorem

$$= (1 - x)^\alpha$$

$$(e) \quad 1, -\frac{1}{1!}, \frac{1}{2!}, \dots, (-1)^n \frac{1}{n!}, \dots$$

$$\begin{aligned} 1 - \frac{1}{1!}x + \frac{1}{2!}x^2 - \dots + (-1)^n \frac{1}{n!}x^n + \dots &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{1}{n!}x^n \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-x)^n}{n!} \\ &= e^{-x} \end{aligned}$$

14. Let S be the multiset $\{\infty \cdot e_1, \infty \cdot e_2, \infty \cdot e_3, \infty \cdot e_4\}$. Determine the generating function for the sequence $h_0, h_1, h_2, \dots, h_n, \dots$, where h_n is the number of n -combinations of S with the following added restrictions:

- (c) The element e_1 does not occur, and e_2 occurs at most once.

$$\begin{aligned} 1 &= (1 + x^2 + x^3 + \dots) - (x + x^2 + x^3 \dots) \\ &= \frac{1}{1-x} - \frac{x}{1-x} = \frac{1-x}{1-x} \\ 1+x &= (1 + x^2 + x^3 + \dots) - (x^2 + x^3 + x^4 \dots) \\ &= \frac{1}{1-x} - \frac{x^2}{1-x} = \frac{1-x^2}{1-x} \\ (1+x+x^2+x^3+\dots)^2 &= \frac{1}{(1-x)^2} \\ g(x) &= \frac{1-x^2}{(1-x)^3} \end{aligned}$$

- (d) The element e_1 occurs 1,3,or 11 times, and the element e_2 occurs 2,4, or 5 times.

$$\begin{aligned} x^n &= 1 + x^2 + x^3 + \dots - 1 - x - x^2 - \dots - x^{n-1} - x^{n+1} - x^{n+2} \dots \\ &= \frac{1}{1-x} - \frac{1-x^{n-1}}{1-x} - \frac{x^{n+1}}{1-x} = \frac{x^{n-1} - x^{n+1}}{1-x} \\ x^1 + x^3 + x^{11} &= \frac{x^0 - x^2}{1-x} + \frac{x^2 - x^4}{1-x} + \frac{x^{10} - x^{12}}{1-x} \\ &= \frac{1 - x^4 + x^{10} - x^{12}}{1-x} \\ x^2 + x^4 + x^5 &= \frac{x^1 - x^3}{1-x} + \frac{x^3 - x^5}{1-x} + \frac{x^4 - x^6}{1-x} \\ &= \frac{x + x^4 - x^5 - x^6}{1-x} \\ g(x) &= \frac{(1 - x^4 + x^{10} - x^{12})(x + x^4 - x^5 - x^6)}{(1-x)^2} \end{aligned}$$

(e) Each e_i occurs at least 10 times.

$$\begin{aligned}(x^{10} + x^{11} + x^{12} + \dots)^4 &= x^{40}(1 + x + x^2 + \dots)^4 \\ &= \frac{x^{40}}{(1-x)^4}\end{aligned}$$

15. Determine the generating function for the sequence of cubes

$$0, 1, 8, \dots, n^3, \dots$$

$$\begin{aligned}0x^0 + 1x^1 + 8x^2 + \dots &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n^3 x^n \\ \frac{1}{1-x} &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n \\ \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{1}{1-x} \right) &= \frac{d}{dx} \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n \right) \\ \frac{1}{(1-x)^2} &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} nx^{n-1} \\ \frac{x}{(1-x)^2} &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} nx^n \\ \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{x}{(1-x)^2} \right) &= \frac{d}{dx} \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} nx^n \right) \\ \frac{1}{(1-x)^2} + \frac{2x}{(1-x)^3} &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n^2 x^{n-1} \\ \frac{x}{(1-x)^2} + \frac{2x^2}{(1-x)^3} &= \frac{x-x^2+2x^2}{(1-x)^3} = \frac{x+x^2}{(1-x)^3} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n^2 x^n \\ \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{x+x^2}{(1-x)^3} \right) &= \frac{d}{dx} \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n^2 x^n \right) \\ \frac{1+2x}{(1-x)^3} + \frac{3x+3x^2}{(1-x)^4} &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n^3 x^{n+1} \\ \frac{1-x+2x-2x^2+3x+3x^2}{(1-x)^4} &= \frac{1+4x+x^2}{(1-x)^4} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n^3 x^{n+1} \\ \frac{x+4x^2+x^3}{(1-x)^4} &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n^3 x^n \\ g(x) &= \frac{x+4x^2+x^3}{(1-x)^4}\end{aligned}$$