

Let  $f_0 = 0$ ,  $f_1 = 1$ , and  $f_{n+1} = f_n + f_{n-1}$  for any positive integer  $n$ . This is called the Fibonacci sequence.

Theorem. Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ . Then for any positive integer  $n$ ,

$$A^n = \begin{bmatrix} f_{n-1} & f_n \\ f_n & f_{n+1} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Proof. We use induction on  $n$ .

Base of induction.  $n=1$ .

$$A^1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} f_0 & f_1 \\ f_1 & f_2 \end{bmatrix}. \quad \checkmark$$

$$f_0 = 0, \quad f_1 = 1, \quad f_2 = 0 + 1 = 1.$$

Inductive step. For any positive integer  $k$ ,

$$A^k = \begin{bmatrix} f_{k-1} & f_k \\ f_k & f_{k+1} \end{bmatrix} \stackrel{?}{\implies} A^{k+1} = \begin{bmatrix} f_k & f_{k+1} \\ f_{k+1} & f_{k+2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A^{k+1} = A^k \cdot A$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} f_{k-1} & f_k \\ f_k & f_{k+1} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

(induction hypothesis)

$$= \begin{bmatrix} f_k & f_{k-1} + f_k \\ f_{k+1} & f_k + f_{k+1} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} f_k & f_{k+1} \\ f_{k+1} & f_{k+2} \end{bmatrix}$$

(definition of  $f_m$ ).

$$\begin{bmatrix} f_{k+1} & f_{k+2} \\ f_k & f_{k+1} \end{bmatrix} \quad \checkmark \quad \blacksquare$$

We get several important properties of the Fibonacci sequence using this.

Corollary For any positive integer  $n$ ,

$$f_{n-1} \cdot f_{n+1} - f_n^2 = (-1)^n.$$

Proof.  $A^n = \begin{bmatrix} f_{n-1} & f_n \\ f_n & f_{n+1} \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \det(A^n) = \det \begin{bmatrix} f_{n-1} & f_n \\ f_n & f_{n+1} \end{bmatrix}$

$$\Rightarrow f_{n-1} \cdot f_{n+1} - f_n^2 = \det \left( \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right)^n = (-1)^n. \quad \blacksquare$$

Corollary. For any positive integers  $m$  and  $n$ ,

$$f_{n+m} = f_{n+1} f_m + f_n f_{m-1}.$$

Proof.  $A^{m+n} = A^m \cdot A^n$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} f_{m+n-1} & f_{m+n} \\ f_{m+n} & f_{m+n+1} \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} f_{m-1} & f_m \\ f_m & f_{m+1} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} f_{n-1} & f_n \\ f_n & f_{n+1} \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} f_{m-1} f_{n-1} + f_m f_n & f_{m-1} f_n + f_m f_{n+1} \\ f_m f_{n-1} + f_{m+1} f_n & f_m f_n + f_{m+1} f_{n+1} \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Compare the 1,2 entry:

$$f_{m+n} = f_{m-1} f_n + f_m f_{n+1}. \quad \blacksquare$$

Proposition. For any positive integers  $m$  and  $n$ ,

$$m|n \iff f_m | f_n.$$

Proof. I prove only  $(\implies)$ .  $(\impliedby)$  will be one of your exercises.

•  $m|n \implies n = mk$  for some integer  $k$ .

Since  $m$  and  $n$  are positive, so is  $k$ .

• So we have to show: for any positive integers  $m$  and  $k$

$$f_m | f_{mk}.$$

We use induction on  $k$ .

Base.  $k=1$ .

It is clear as  $f_m = 1 \times f_m$ .

Inductive step. For any positive integer  $k'$ ,

for any positive integer  $m$ ,  $f_m | f_{mk'} \xrightarrow{?} \text{for any positive integer } m,$   
 $f_m | f_{m(k'+1)}$

$$\begin{aligned} f_{m(k'+1)} &= f_{mk'+m} && \textcircled{\text{I}} \\ &= f_{m-1} f_{mk'} + f_m f_{mk'-1} && \text{(by the previous corollary.)} \end{aligned}$$

$$f_m | f_{mk'} \implies f_{mk'} = f_m \cdot r \quad \textcircled{\text{II}} \text{ for some integer } r.$$

(by induction hypothesis)

$$\textcircled{\text{I}}, \textcircled{\text{II}} \implies f_{m(k'+1)} = f_{m-1} \cdot f_m \cdot r + f_m \cdot f_{mk'-1}$$

$$= T_m \left( \underbrace{T_{m-1} \cdots T_{m(k'-1)}}_{\text{integer}} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow f_m \mid f_{m(k'+1)} \quad \blacksquare$$