

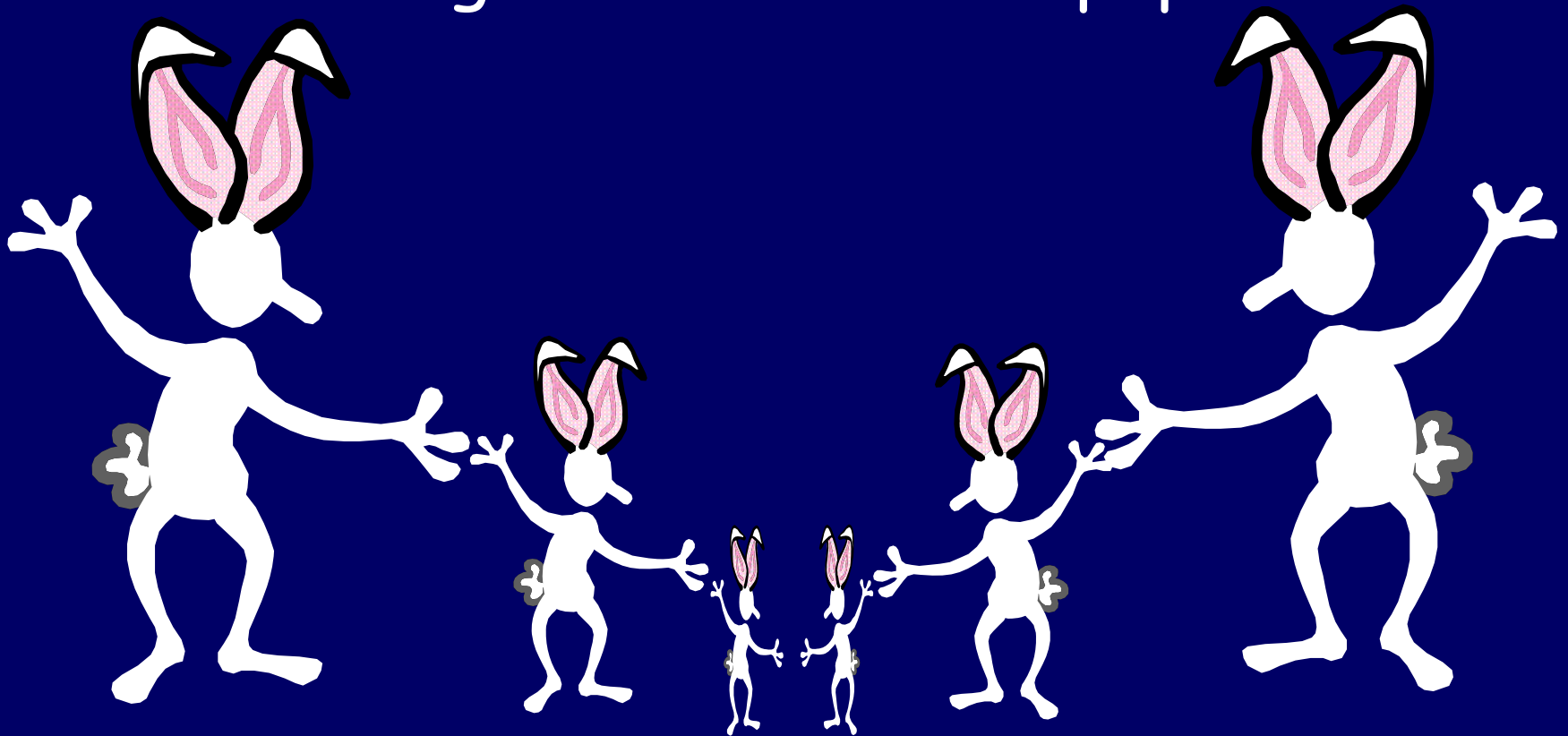
The Golden Ratio, Fibonacci Numbers, And Other Recurrences





Leonardo Fibonacci

In 1202, Fibonacci proposed a problem about the growth of rabbit populations.





Inductive Definition or Recurrence Relation for the Fibonacci Numbers

Stage 0, Initial Condition, or Base Case:
 $\text{Fib}(0) = 0; \text{Fib}(1) = 1$

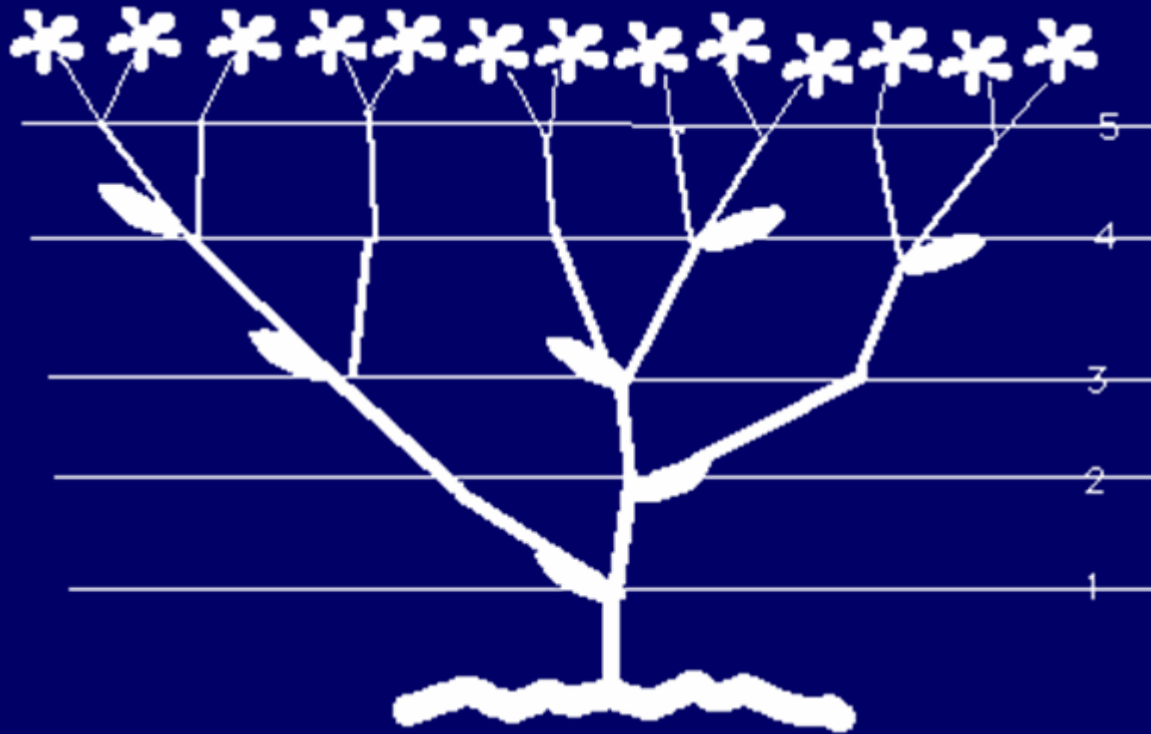
Inductive Rule

For $n > 1$, $\text{Fib}(n) = \text{Fib}(n-1) + \text{Fib}(n-2)$

n	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Fib(n)	0	1	1	2	3	5	8	13



Sneezwort (*Achillea ptarmica*)



Each time the plant starts a new shoot it takes two months before it is strong enough to support branching.

Counting Petals

5 petals: buttercup, wild rose, larkspur,
columbine (aquilegia)

8 petals: delphiniums

13 petals: ragwort, corn marigold, cineraria,
some daisies

21 petals: aster, black-eyed susan, chicory

34 petals: plantain, pyrethrum

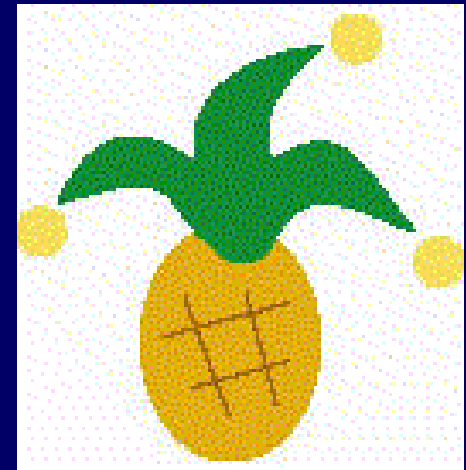
55, 89 petals: michaelmas daisies, the
asteraceae family.

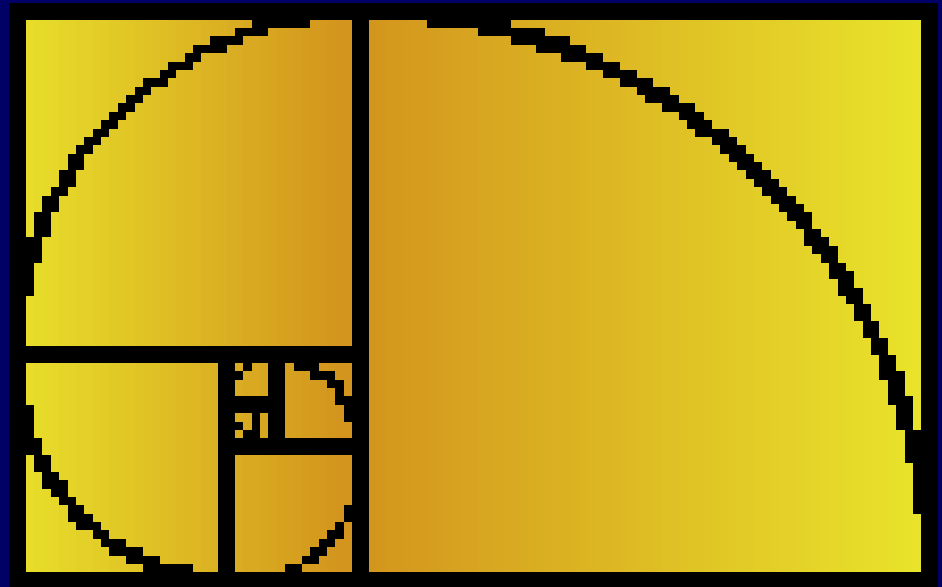
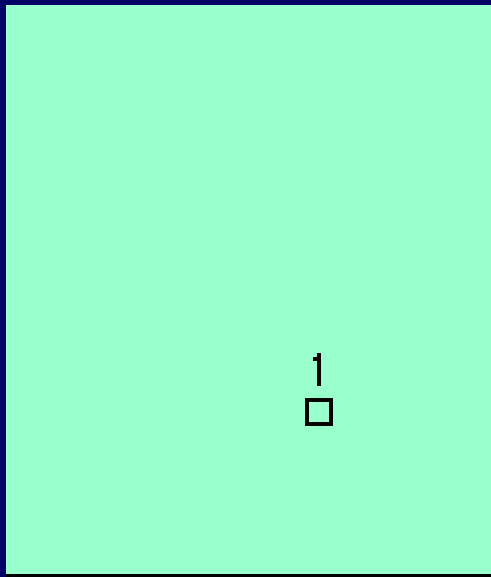


Pineapple whorls

Church and Turing were both interested in the number of whorls in each ring of the spiral.

The ratio of consecutive ring lengths approaches the Golden Ratio.

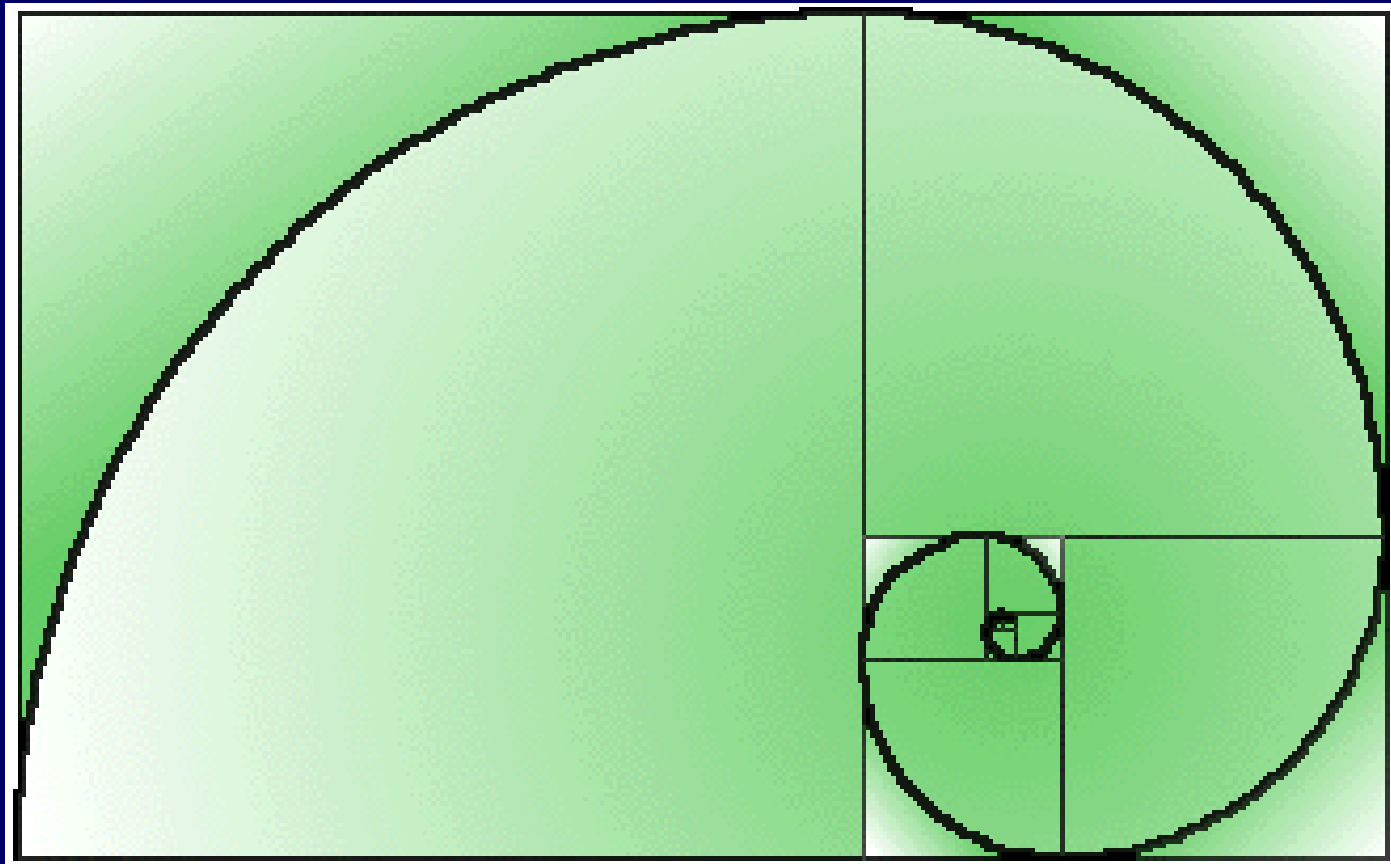






Bernoulli Spiral

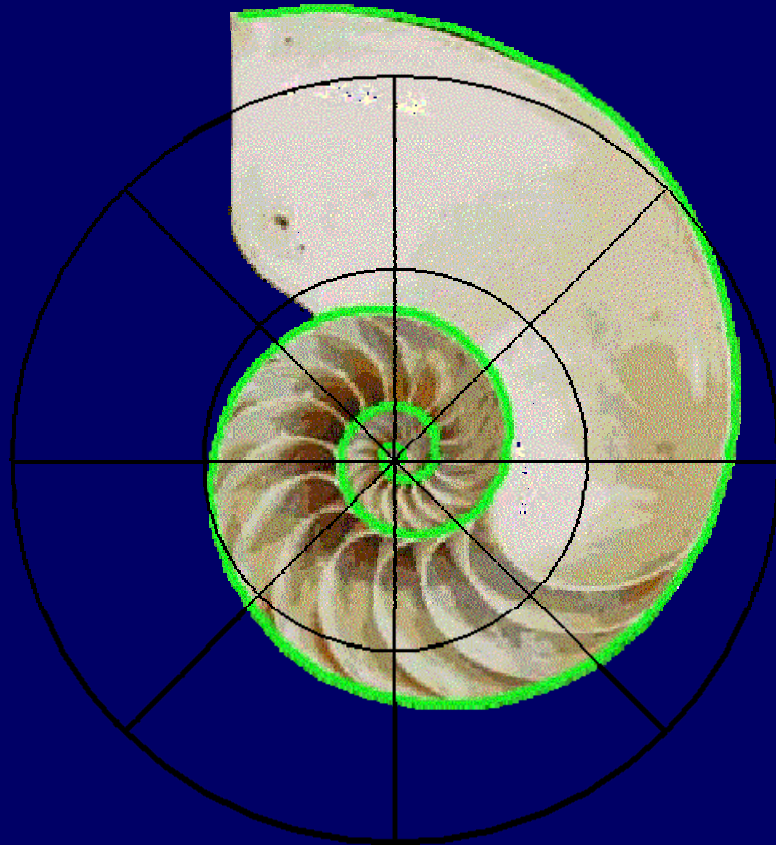
When the growth of the organism is proportional to its size

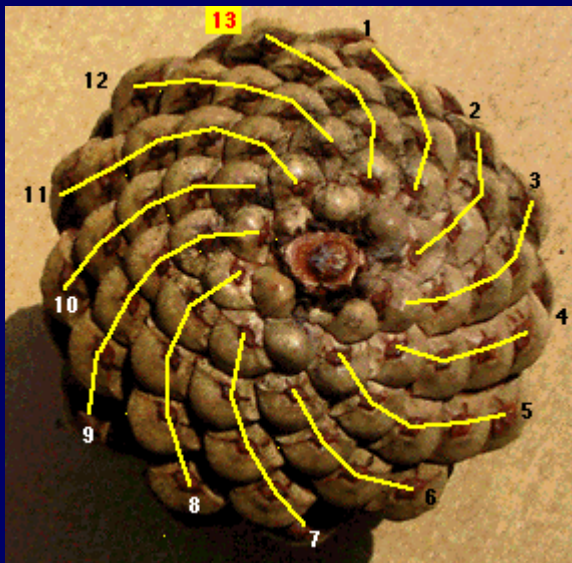
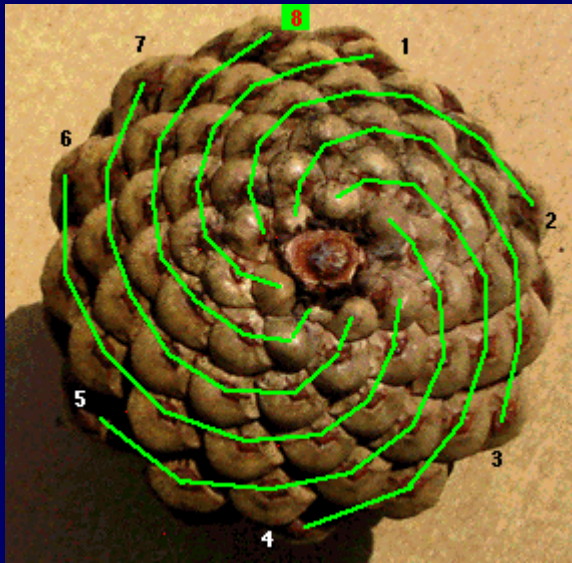


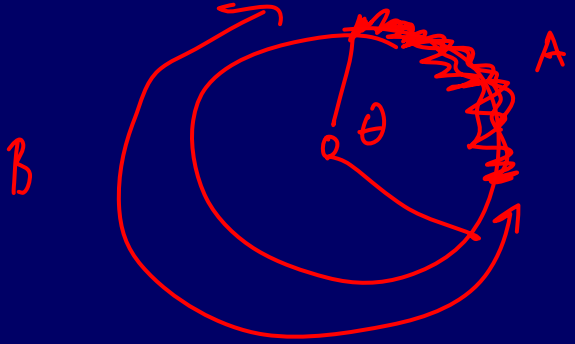


Bernoulli Spiral

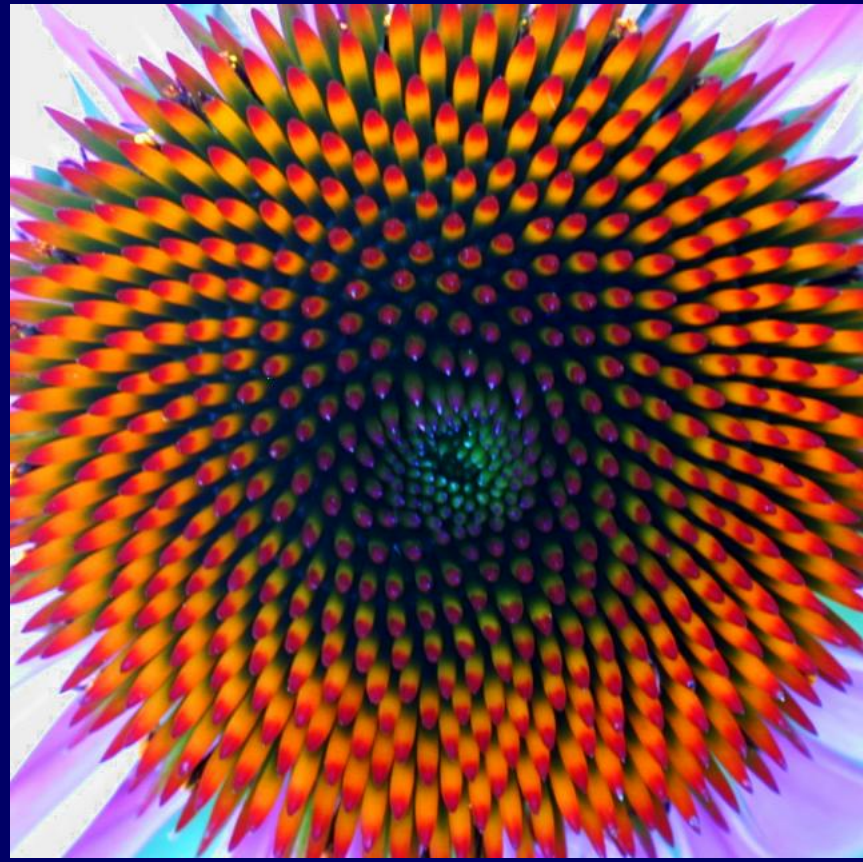
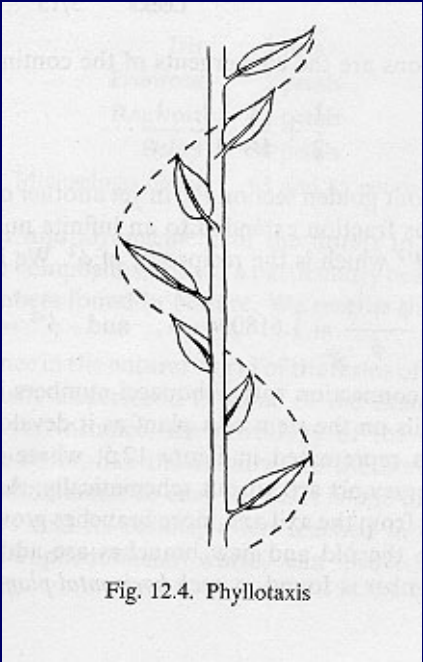
When the growth of the organism is proportional to its size







$$\frac{B}{A} = \phi$$





Is there
life after
 π and e ?

Golden Ratio: the divine proportion

$\phi = 1.6180339887498948482045\dots$

"Phi" is named after the Greek sculptor Phidias

Definition of ϕ (Euclid)

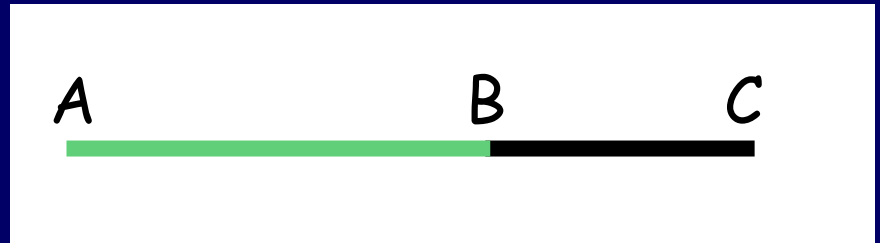
Ratio obtained when you divide a line segment into two unequal parts such that the ratio of the whole to the larger part is the same as the ratio of the larger to the smaller.

$$\phi = \frac{AC}{AB} = \frac{AB}{BC}$$

$$\phi^2 = \frac{AC}{BC}$$

$$\phi^2 - \phi = \frac{AC}{BC} - \frac{AB}{BC} = \frac{BC}{BC} = 1$$

$$\phi^2 - \phi - 1 = 0$$





Expanding Recursively

$$\phi = 1 + \frac{1}{\phi}$$

$$= 1 + \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{\phi}}$$

$$= 1 + \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{\phi}}}$$

Remember?

We already saw the convergents of this CF

$[1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,\dots]$

are of the form

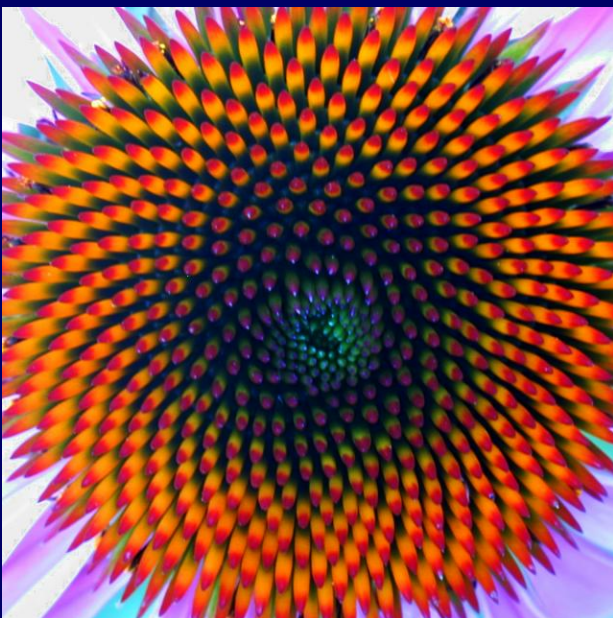
$\text{Fib}(n+1)/\text{Fib}(n)$

$$\text{Hence: } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{F_n}{F_{n-1}} = \phi = \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2}$$



Continued Fraction Representation

$$\phi = 1 + \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{1 + \dots}}}}}}}}$$





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

$$2/1 = 2$$

$$3/2 = 1.5$$

$$5/3 = 1.666\dots$$

$$8/5 = 1.6$$

$$13/8 = 1.625$$

$$21/13 = 1.6153846\dots$$

$$34/21 = 1.61904\dots$$

$$\phi = 1.6180339887498948482045$$

Continued fraction representation of a standard fraction

$$\frac{67}{29} = 2 + \frac{1}{3 + \frac{1}{4 + \frac{1}{2}}}$$



$$\frac{67}{29} = 2 + \frac{1}{\frac{29}{9}} = 2 + \frac{1}{3 + \frac{2}{9}} = 2 + \frac{1}{3 + \frac{1}{4 + \frac{1}{2}}}$$

e.g., $67/29 = 2$ with remainder $9/29$
 $= 2 + 1/(29/9)$



A Representational Correspondence

$$\frac{67}{29} = 2 + \frac{1}{\frac{29}{9}} = 2 + \frac{1}{3 + \frac{2}{9}} = 2 + \frac{1}{3 + \frac{1}{4 + \frac{1}{2}}}$$

Euclid(67,29)	67 div 29 = 2
Euclid(29,9)	29 div 9 = 3
Euclid(9,2)	9 div 2 = 4
Euclid(2,1)	2 div 1 = 2
Euclid(1,0)	



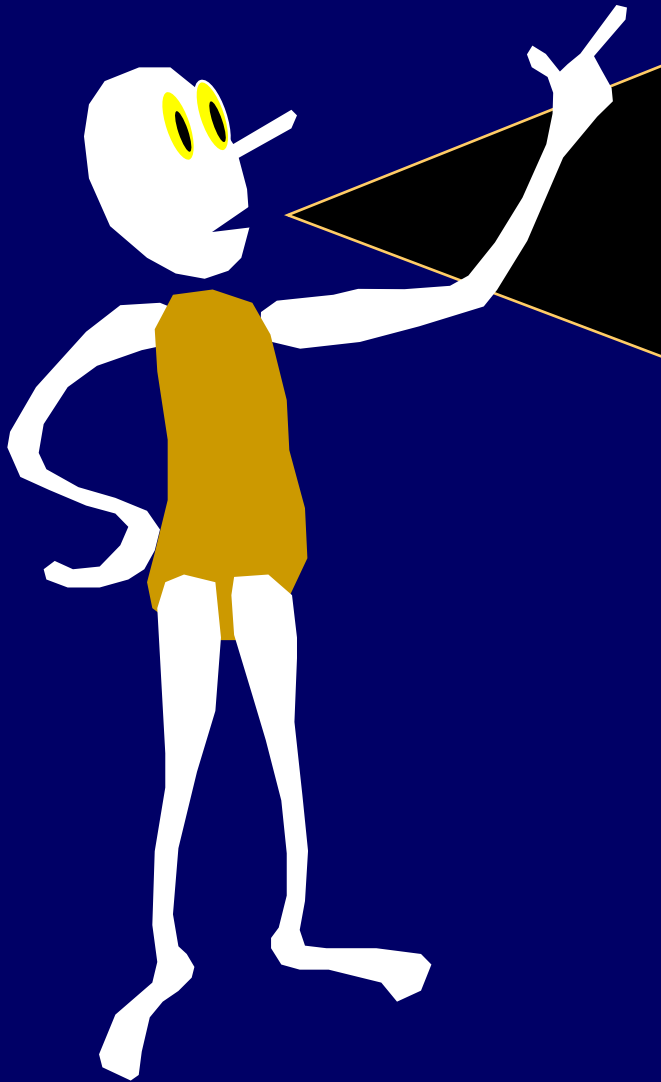
Euclid's GCD = Continued Fractions

$$\frac{A}{B} = \left[\frac{A}{B} \right] + \frac{1}{\frac{A \bmod B}{B}}$$

Euclid(A, B) = Euclid($B, A \bmod B$)

Stop when $B=0$

Theorem: All fractions have finite
continuous fraction expansions



Let us take a slight
detour and look at
a different
representation.



Sequences That Sum To n

Let f_{n+1} be the number of different sequences of 1's and 2's that sum to n .

Example: $f_5 = 5$



Sequences That Sum To n

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Example: $f_5 = 5$

$$\begin{aligned} 4 = & \quad 2 + 2 \\ & \quad 2 + 1 + 1 \\ & \quad 1 + 2 + 1 \\ & \quad 1 + 1 + 2 \\ & \quad 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 \end{aligned}$$



Sequences That Sum To n

Let f_{n+1} be the number of different sequences of 1's and 2's that sum to n .

f_1

f_3

f_2

Sequences That Sum To n

Let f_{n+1} be the number of different sequences of 1's and 2's that sum to n .

$$f_1 = 1$$

0 = the empty sum

$$f_2 = 1$$

$$1 = 1$$

$$f_3 = 2$$

$$2 = 1 + 1$$

$$2$$



Sequences That Sum To n

Let f_{n+1} be the number of different sequences of 1's and 2's that sum to n .

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

Sequences That Sum To n

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

of
sequences
beginning
with a 1

of
sequences
beginning
with a 2



Fibonacci Numbers Again

Let f_{n+1} be the number of different sequences of 1's and 2's that sum to n .

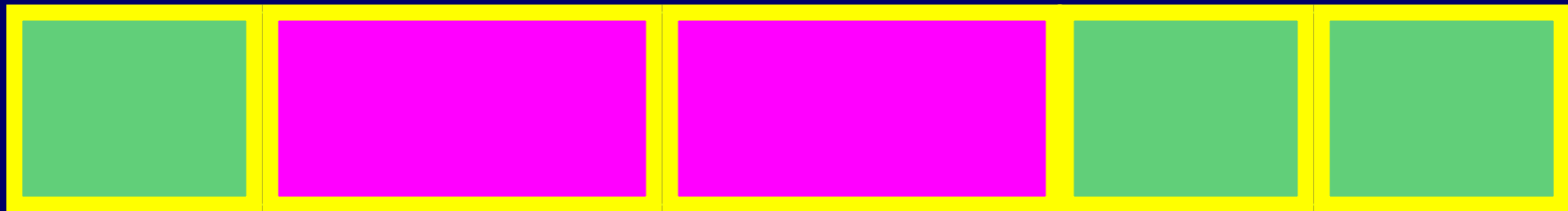
$$f_{n+1} = f_n + f_{n-1}$$

$$f_1 = 1 \quad f_2 = 1$$



Visual Representation: Tiling

Let f_{n+1} be the number of different ways to tile a $1 \times n$ strip with squares and dominoes.





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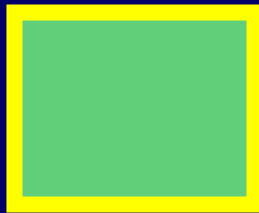




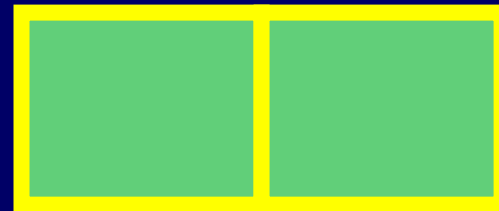
Visual Representation: Tiling

1 way to tile a strip of length 0

1 way to tile a strip of length 1:

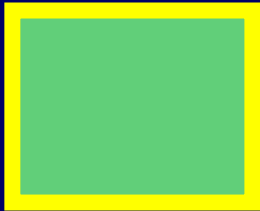


2 ways to tile a strip of length 2:

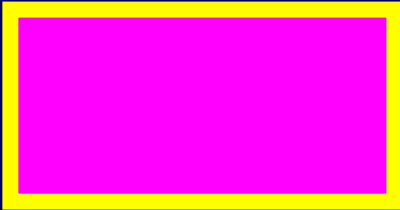


$$f_{n+1} = f_n + f_{n-1}$$

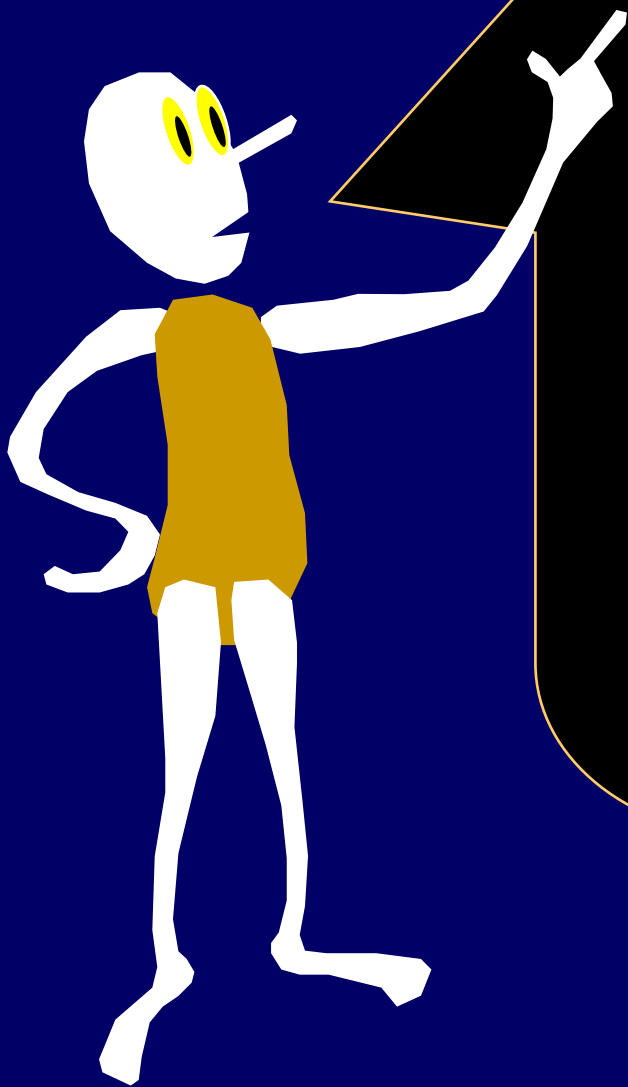
f_{n+1} is number of ways to tile length n .



f_n tilings that start with a square.



f_{n-1} tilings that start with a domino.



Let's use this visual representation to prove a couple of Fibonacci identities.

Fibonacci Identities

Some examples:

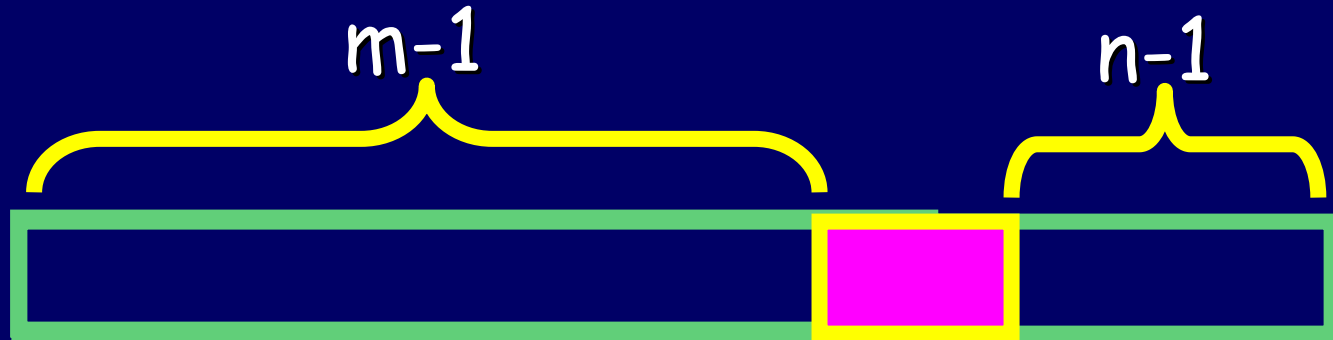
$$F_{2n} = F_1 + F_3 + F_5 + \dots + F_{2n-1}$$

$$F_{m+n+1} = F_{m+1} F_{n+1} + F_m F_n$$

$$(F_n)^2 = F_{n-1} F_{n+1} + (-1)^n$$



$$F_{m+n+1} = F_{m+1} F_{n+1} + F_m F_n$$

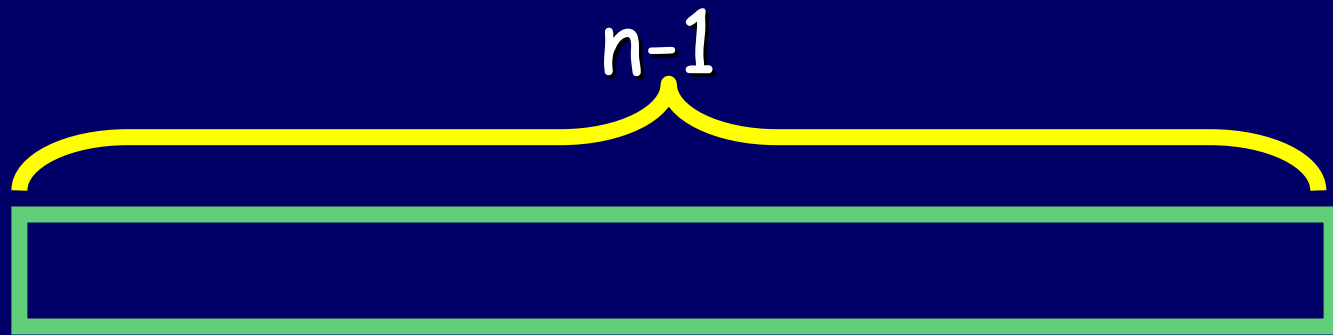




A hand-drawn mathematical equation in yellow ink on a blue background. The equation is $(F_n)^2 = F_{n-1} F_{n+1} + (-1)^n$. The variables F_n , F_{n-1} , and F_{n+1} are written in a slightly irregular, handwritten style. The exponent n in $(-1)^n$ is also handwritten. The equation is centered horizontally in the upper portion of the frame.

$$(F_n)^2 = F_{n-1} F_{n+1} + (-1)^n$$

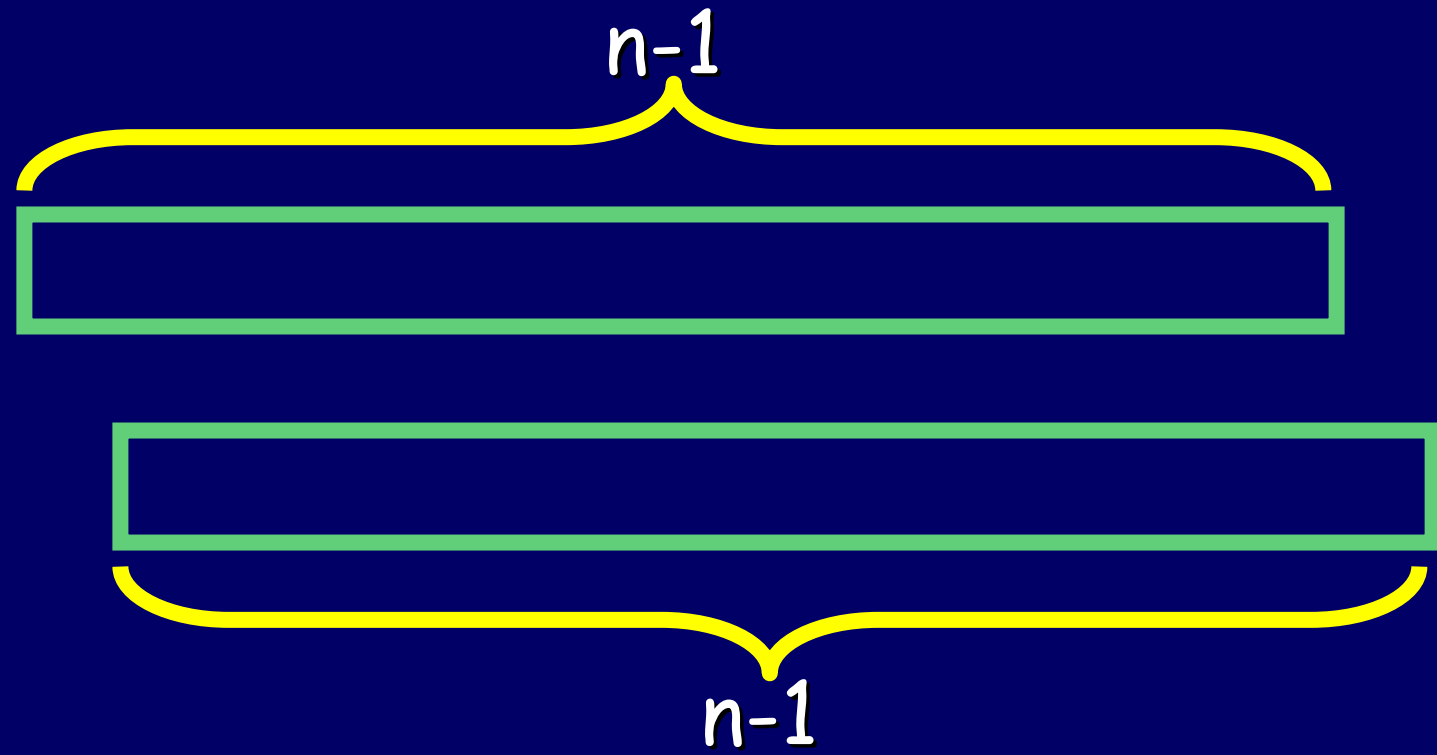
$$(F_n)^2 = F_{n-1} F_{n+1} + (-1)^n$$



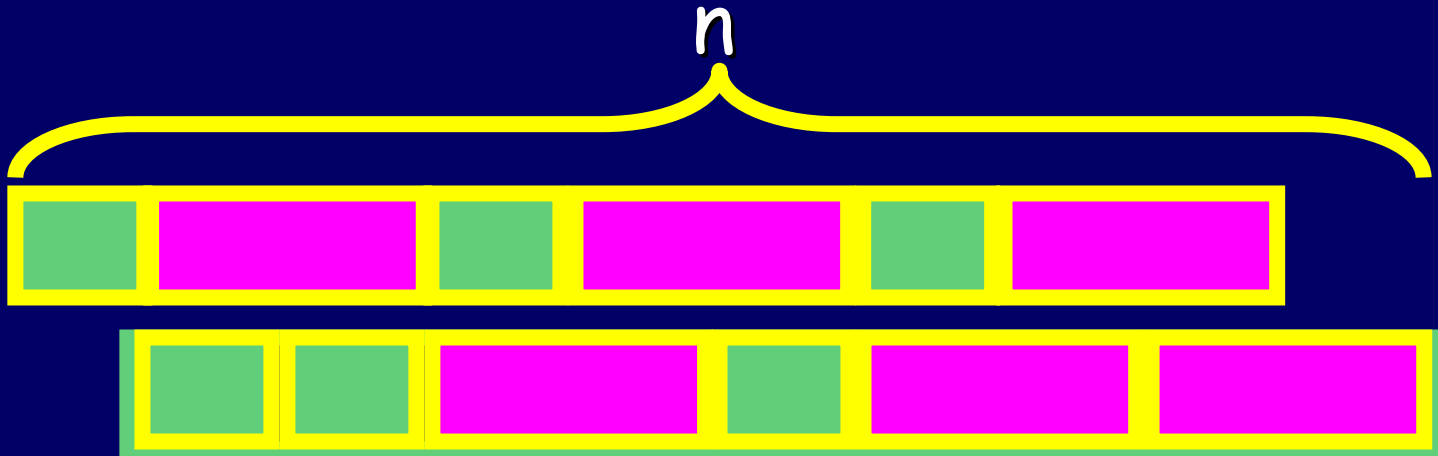
F_n tilings of a strip of length $n-1$



$$(F_n)^2 = F_{n-1} F_{n+1} + (-1)^n$$

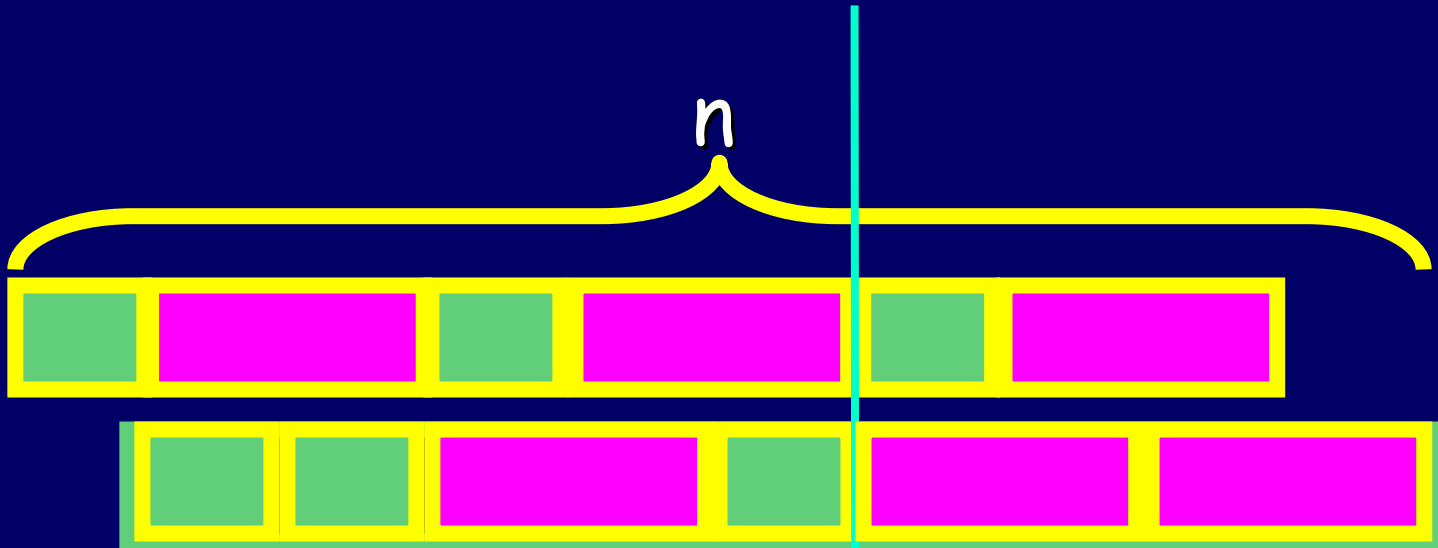


$$(F_n)^2 = F_{n-1} F_{n+1} + (-1)^n$$



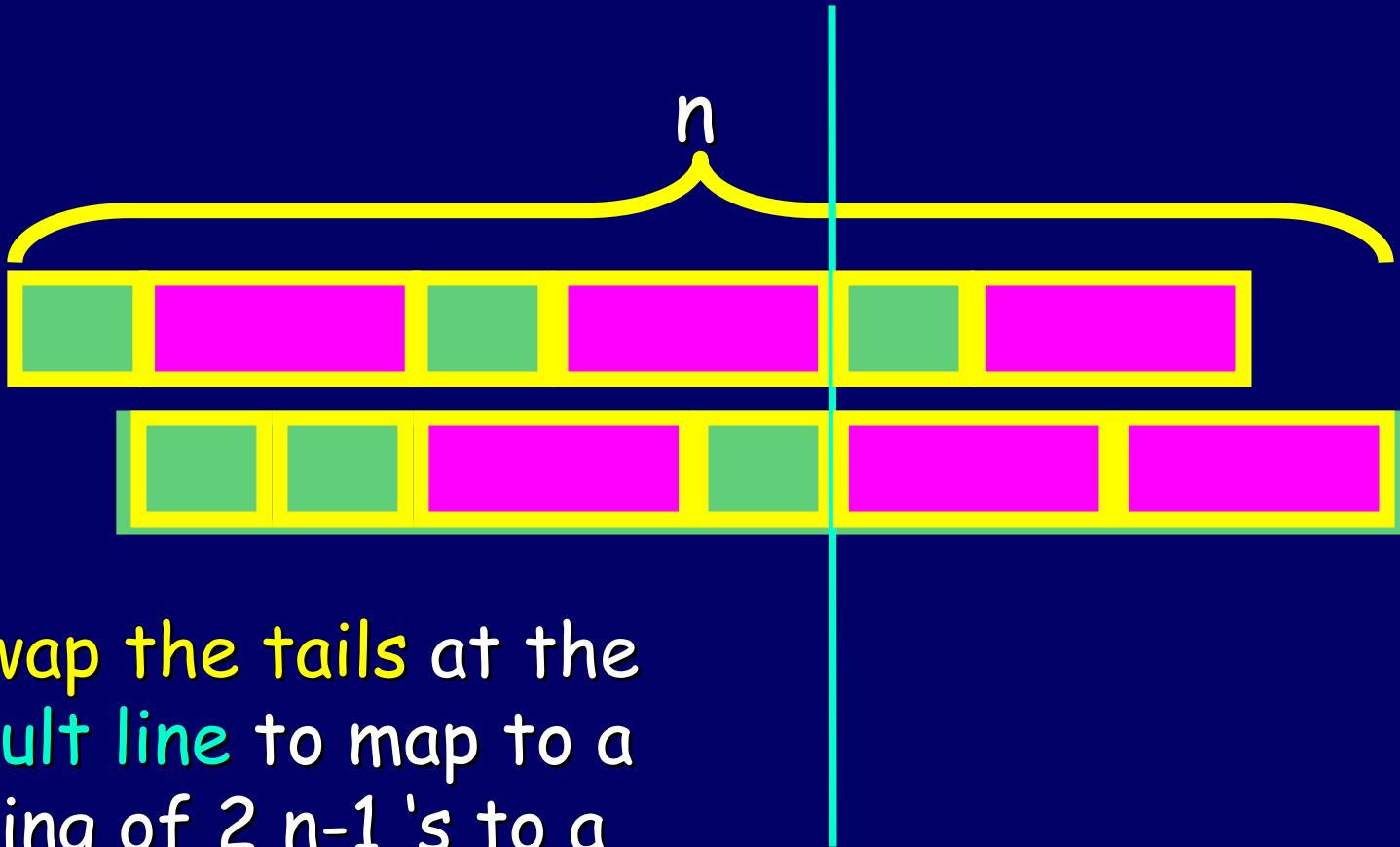
$(F_n)^2$ tilings of two strips of size $n-1$

$$(F_n)^2 = F_{n-1} F_{n+1} + (-1)^n$$



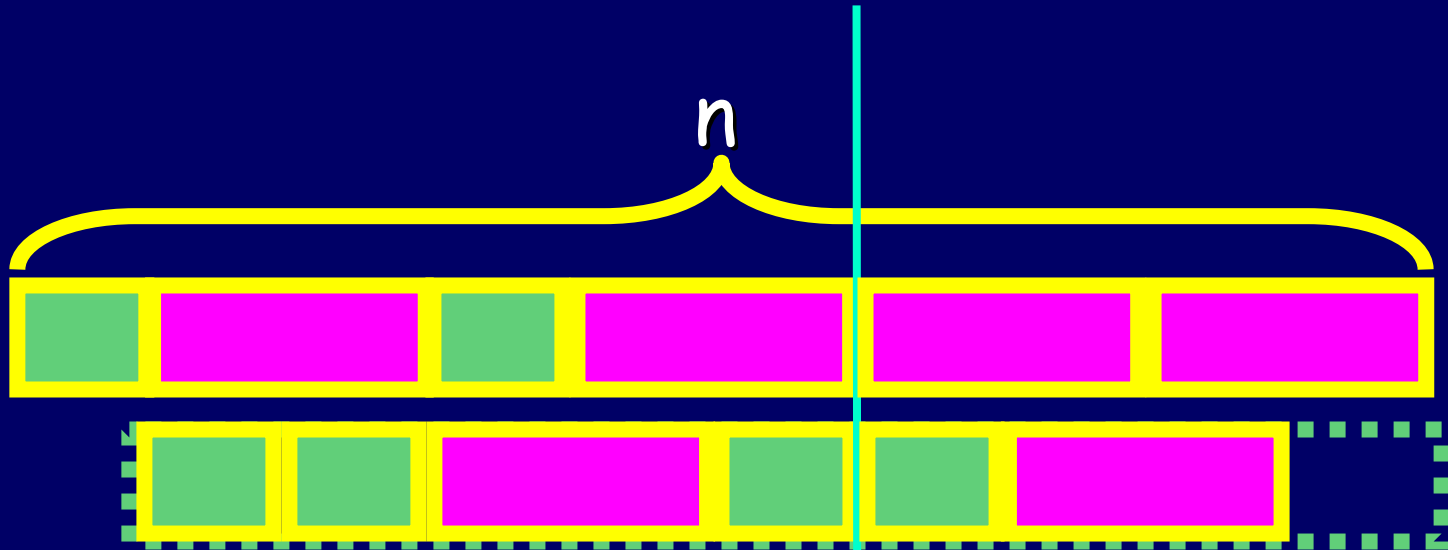
Draw a vertical "fault line" at the **rightmost** position ($<n$) possible without cutting any dominoes

$$(F_n)^2 = F_{n-1} F_{n+1} + (-1)^n$$



Swap the tails at the fault line to map to a tiling of $2n-1$'s to a tiling of an $n-2$ and an n .

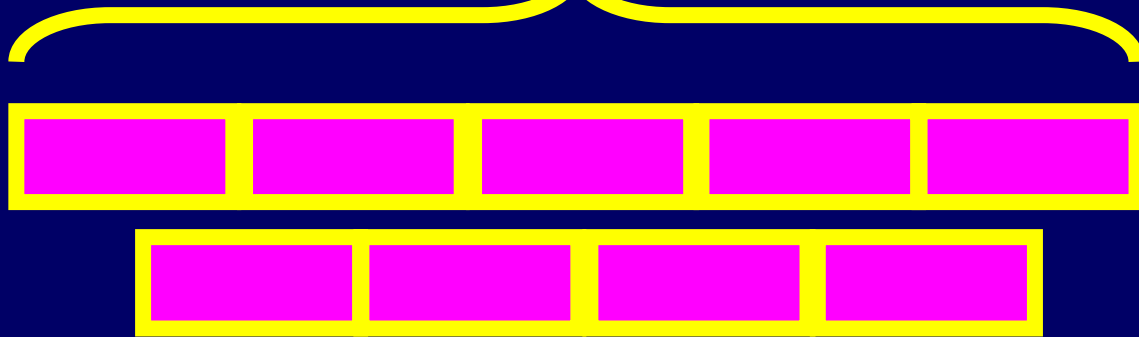
$$(F_n)^2 = F_{n-1} F_{n+1} + (-1)^n$$



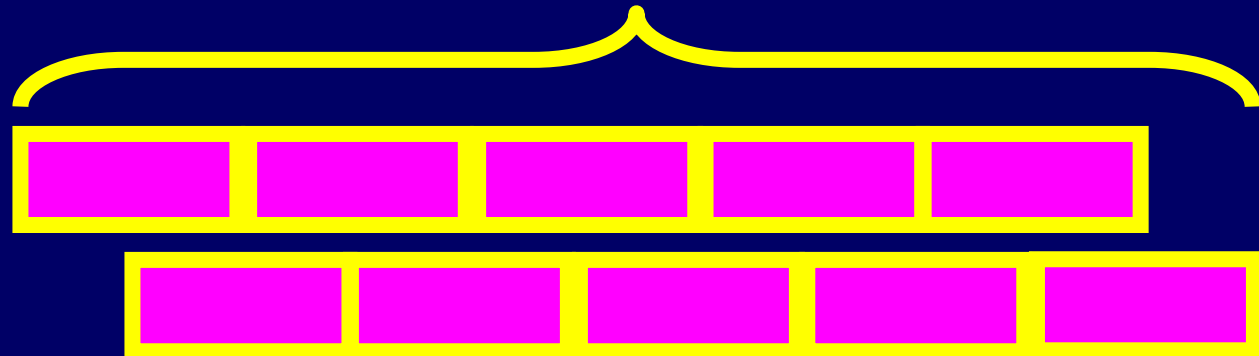
Swap the tails at the fault line to map to a tiling of $2n-1$'s to a tiling of an $n-2$ and an n .

$$(F_n)^2 = F_{n-1} F_{n+1} + (-1)^{n-1}$$

n even



n odd





More random facts

The product of any four consecutive Fibonacci numbers is the area of a Pythagorean triangle.

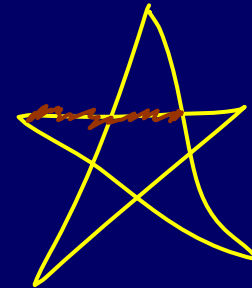
The sequence of final digits in Fibonacci numbers repeats in cycles of 60. The last two digits repeat in 300, the last three in 1500, the last four in 15,000, etc.

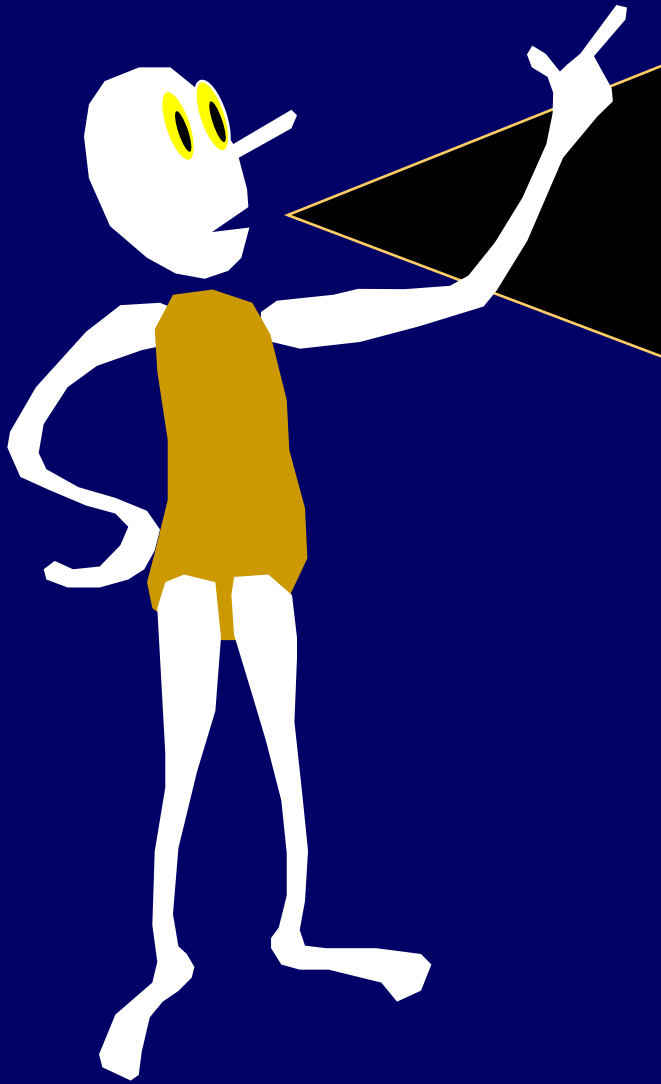
Useful to convert miles to kilometers.

The Fibonacci Quarterly

The Fibonacci Quarterly

Official Publication of The Fibonacci Association






Let's take a break
from the Fibonacci
Numbers in order to
talk about polynomial
division.

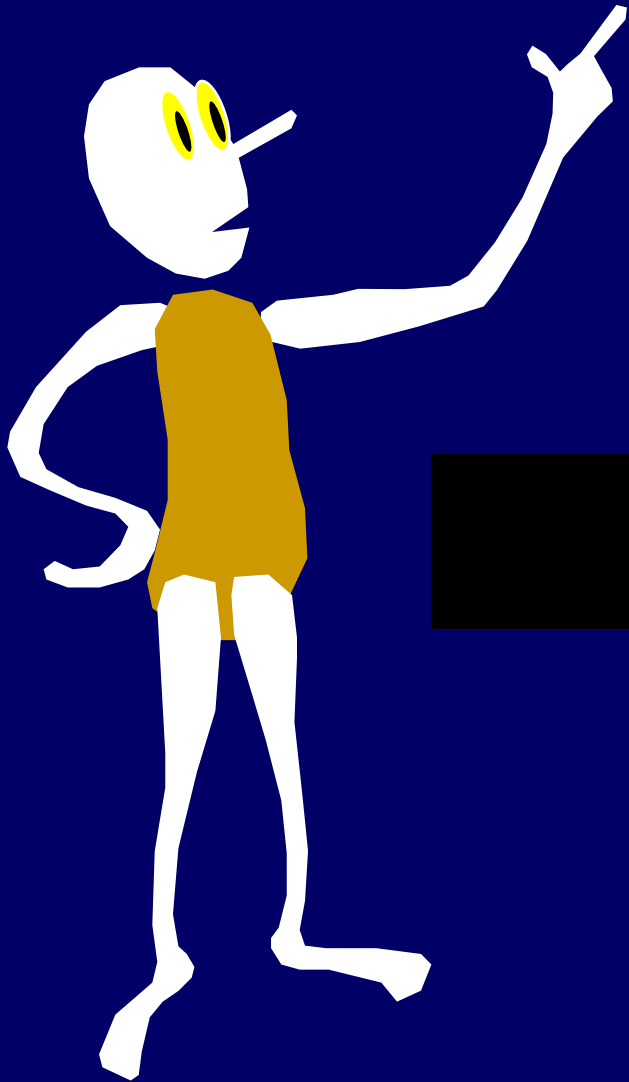
How to divide polynomials?

$$\frac{1}{1-X} ?$$


$$\begin{array}{r} 1 + X + X^2 \\ 1 - X \overline{) 1} \\ \underline{-(1 - X)} \\ X \\ \underline{-(X - X^2)} \\ X^2 \\ \underline{-(X^2 - X^3)} \\ X^3 \\ \dots \end{array}$$

$$= 1 + X + X^2 + X^3 + X^4 + X^5 + X^6 + X^7 + \dots$$


$$1 + X^1 + X^2 + X^3 + \dots + X^{n-1} + X^n = \frac{X^{n+1} - 1}{X - 1}$$

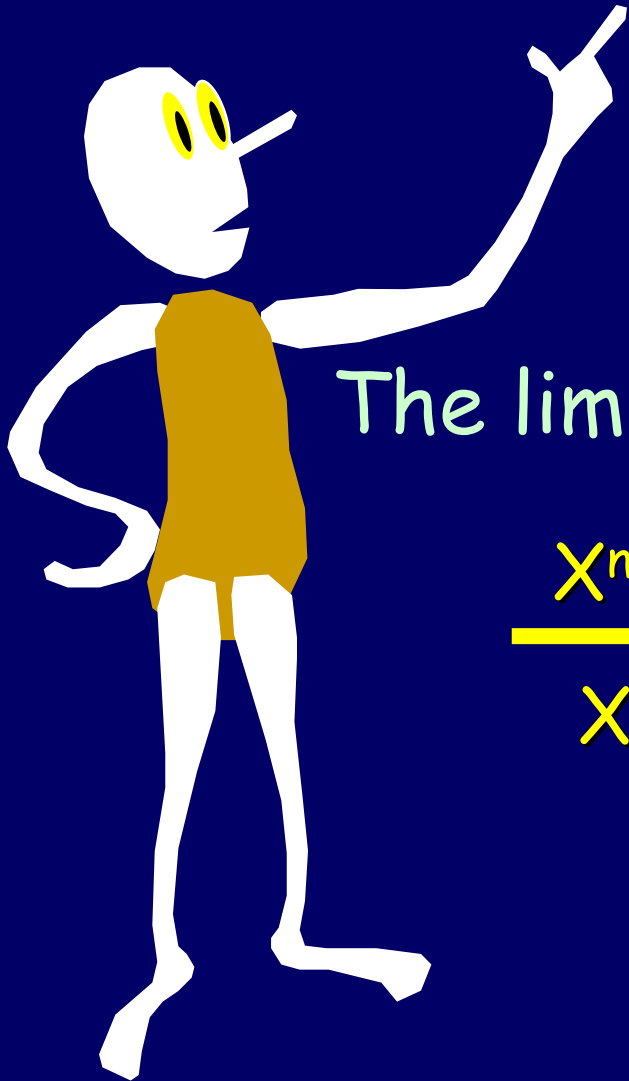



The Geometric Series


$$1 + X^1 + X^2 + X^3 + \dots + X^{n-1} + X^n = \frac{X^{n+1} - 1}{X - 1}$$

The limit as n goes to infinity of

$$\frac{X^{n+1} - 1}{X - 1} = \frac{-1}{X - 1}$$
$$= \frac{1}{1 - X}$$



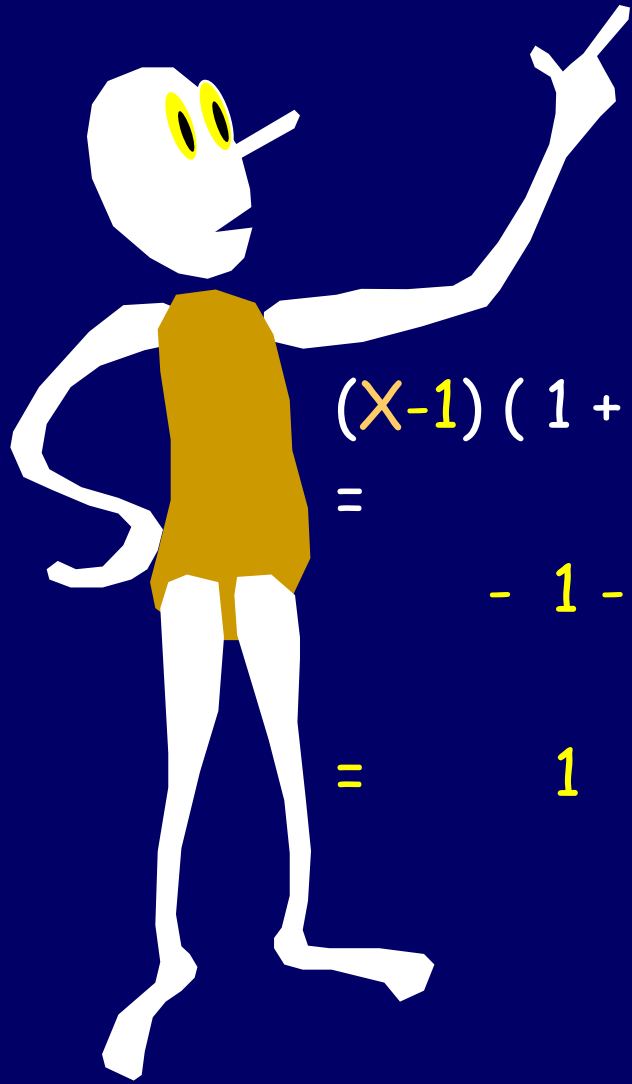

$$1 + X^1 + X^2 + X^3 + \dots + X^n + \dots = \frac{1}{1 - X}$$



The Infinite Geometric Series



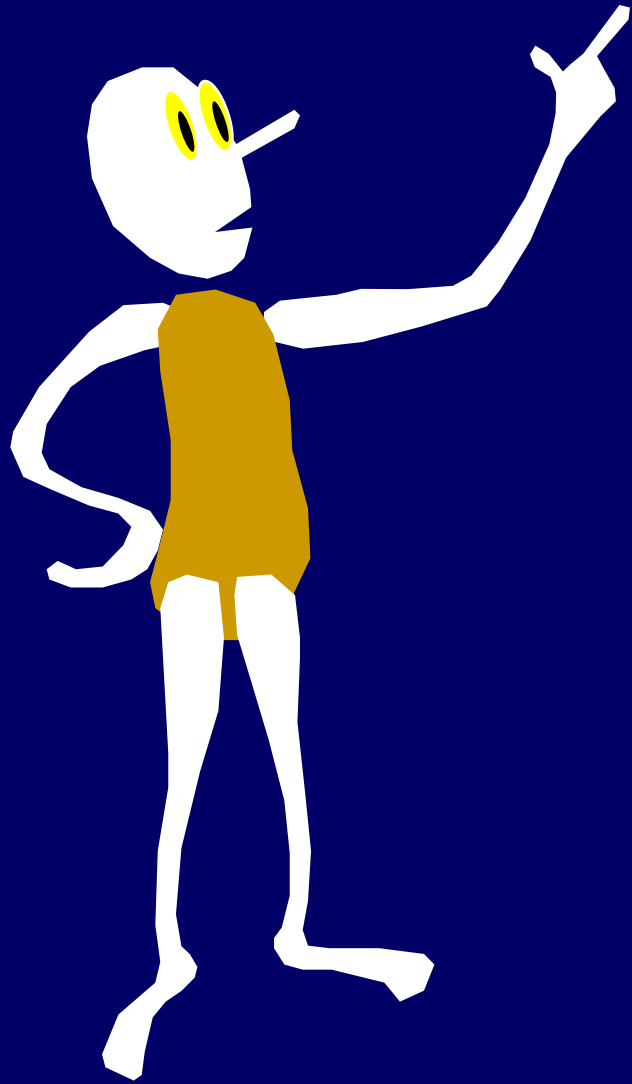
$$1 + X^1 + X^2 + X^3 + \dots + X^n + \dots = \frac{1}{1 - X}$$



$$\begin{aligned} & (X-1) (1 + X^1 + X^2 + X^3 + \dots + X^n + \dots) \\ = & \quad X^1 + X^2 + X^3 + \dots \quad + X^n + X^{n+1} + \dots \\ & - 1 - X^1 - X^2 - X^3 - \dots - X^{n-1} - X^n - X^{n+1} - \dots \\ = & \quad 1 \end{aligned}$$



$$1 + X^1 + X^2 + X^3 + \dots + X^n + \dots = \frac{1}{1 - X}$$



$$\begin{array}{r} 1 + X + X^2 + \dots \\ 1 - X \overline{) 1} \\ \underline{-(1 - X)} \\ X \\ \underline{-(X - X^2)} \\ X^2 \\ \underline{-(X^2 - X^3)} \\ X^3 \dots \end{array}$$



Something a bit more complicated

$$X + X^2 + 2X^3 + 3X^4 + 5X^5 + 8X^6$$

$$1 - X - X^2$$

$$\begin{array}{r} X \\ -(X - X^2 - X^3) \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} X^2 + X^3 \\ -(X^2 - X^3 - X^4) \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2X^3 + X^4 \\ -(2X^3 - 2X^4 - 2X^5) \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 3X^4 + 2X^5 \\ -(3X^4 - 3X^5 - 3X^6) \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 5X^5 + 3X^6 \\ -(5X^5 - 5X^6 - 5X^7) \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 8X^6 + 5X^7 \\ -(8X^6 - 8X^7 - 8X^8) \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} X \\ \hline 1 - X - X^2 \end{array}$$

Hence

$$\frac{x}{1-x-x^2}$$

$$= 0 \times 1 + 1 X^1 + 1 X^2 + 2X^3 + 3X^4 + 5X^5 + 8X^6 + \dots$$

$$= F_0 1 + F_1 X^1 + F_2 X^2 + F_3 X^3 + F_4 X^4 + \\ F_5 X^5 + F_6 X^6 + \dots$$



Going the Other Way

$$F_0 = 0, F_1 = 1$$

$$(1 - X - X^2) \times$$

$$(F_0 1 + F_1 X^1 + F_2 X^2 + \dots + F_{n-2} X^{n-2} + F_{n-1} X^{n-1} + F_n X^n + \dots)$$



Going the Other Way

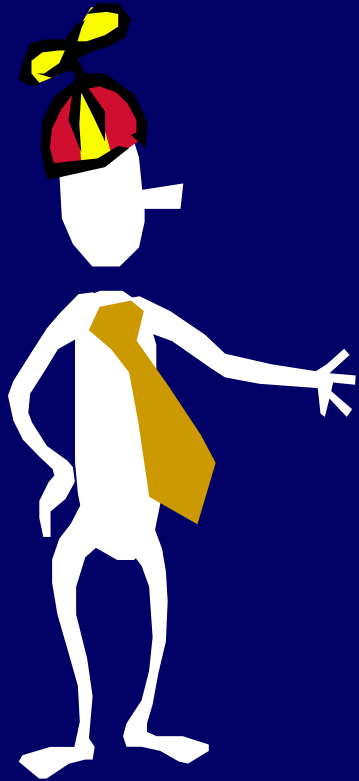
$$\begin{aligned} & (1 - X - X^2) \times \\ & (F_0 1 + F_1 X^1 + F_2 X^2 + \dots + F_{n-2} X^{n-2} + F_{n-1} X^{n-1} + F_n X^n + \dots) \\ &= (F_0 1 + F_1 X^1 + F_2 X^2 + \dots + F_{n-2} X^{n-2} + F_{n-1} X^{n-1} + F_n X^n + \dots \\ & \quad - F_0 X^1 - F_1 X^2 - \dots - F_{n-3} X^{n-2} - F_{n-2} X^{n-1} - F_{n-1} X^n - \dots \\ & \quad - F_0 X^2 - \dots - F_{n-4} X^{n-2} - F_{n-3} X^{n-1} - F_{n-2} X^n - \dots) \\ &= F_0 1 + (F_1 - F_0) X^1 \\ &= X \end{aligned}$$

$$F_0 = 0, F_1 = 1$$

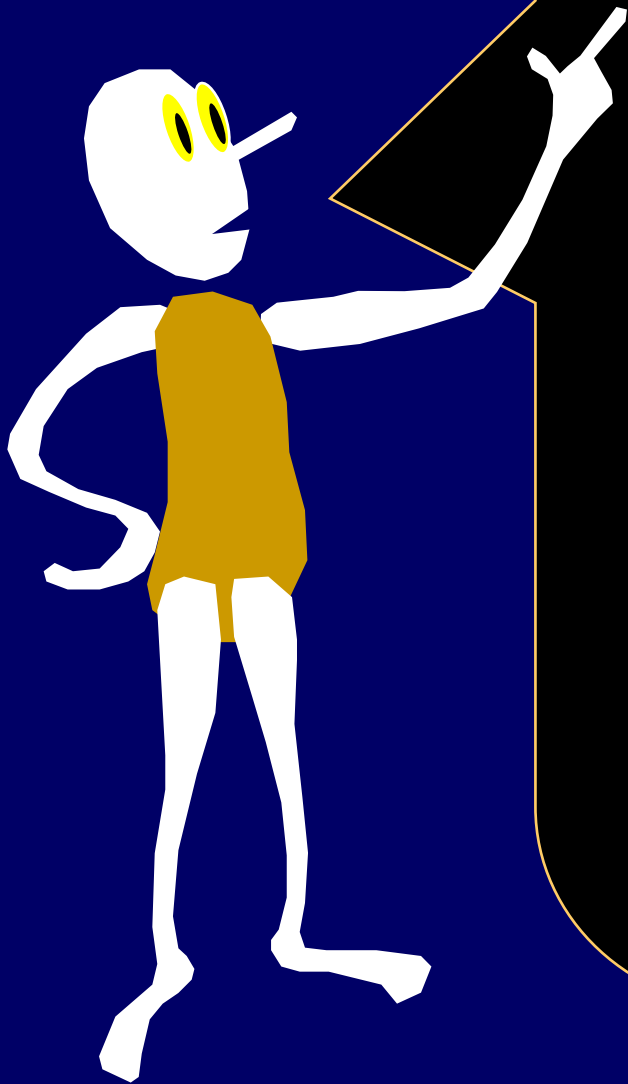


Thus

$$F_0 1 + F_1 X^1 + F_2 X^2 + \dots + F_{n-1} X^{n-1} + F_n X^n + \dots$$



$$= \frac{X}{1 - X - X^2}$$

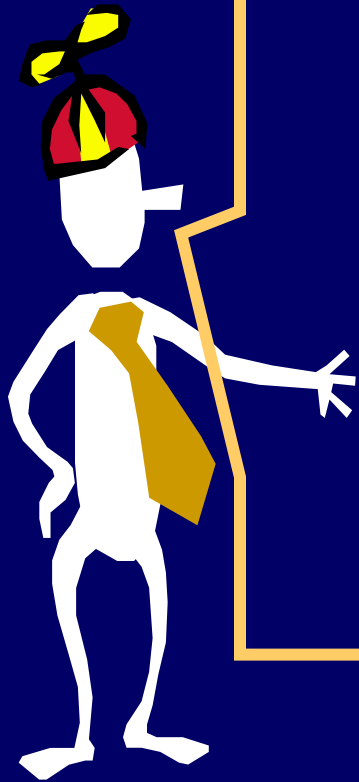


So much for
trying to take a
break from
the Fibonacci
numbers...



What is the Power Series
Expansion of $x/(1-x-x^2)$?

What does this look like
when we expand it as an
infinite sum?



ϕ is root of
 $-\frac{1}{\phi}$

$$x^2 - x - 1 = 0$$

$$\frac{1 \pm \sqrt{5}}{2}$$

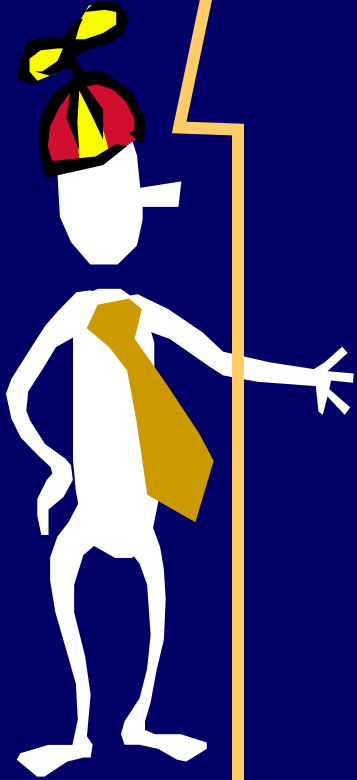
Since the bottom is quadratic we can factor it.

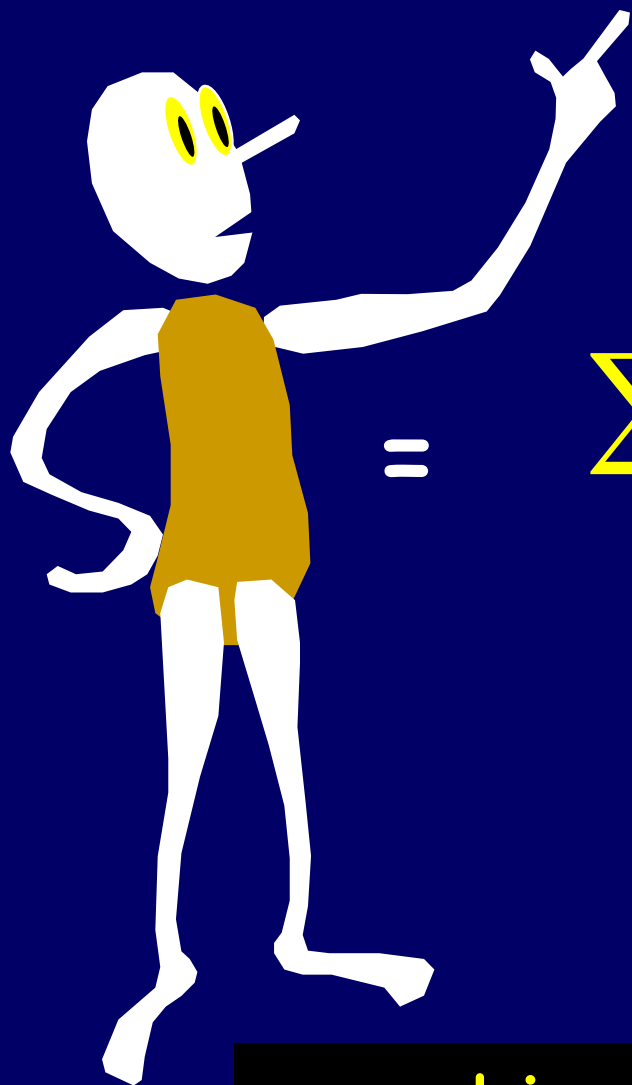
$$X / (1 - X - X^2) =$$

$$X / (1 - \phi X)(1 - (-\phi)^{-1} X)$$

$$\text{where } \phi = \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2}$$

"The Golden Ratio"





$$\frac{X}{(1 - \phi X)(1 - (-\phi)^{-1} X)}$$

$$= \sum_{n=0.. \infty} \quad ? \quad X^n$$

Linear factors on the bottom

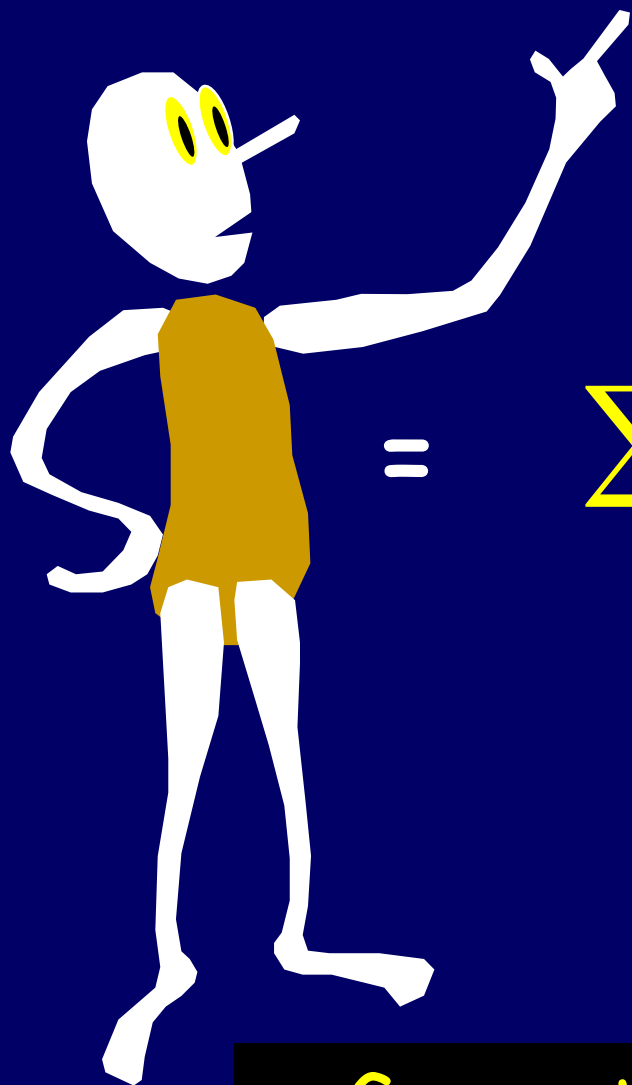


$$(1 + aX^1 + a^2X^2 + \dots + a^nX^n + \dots) (1 + bX^1 + b^2X^2 + \dots + b^nX^n + \dots) =$$

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{1}{1-ax}\right)^2 &= \frac{1}{a} \frac{d}{dx} \frac{1}{1-ax} \\ n a^n & \text{coeff. of } X^{n-1} \end{aligned} \quad = \frac{1}{(1-ax)(1-bx)}$$

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{a^{n+1} - b^{n+1}}{a-b} X^n \quad a \neq b.$$

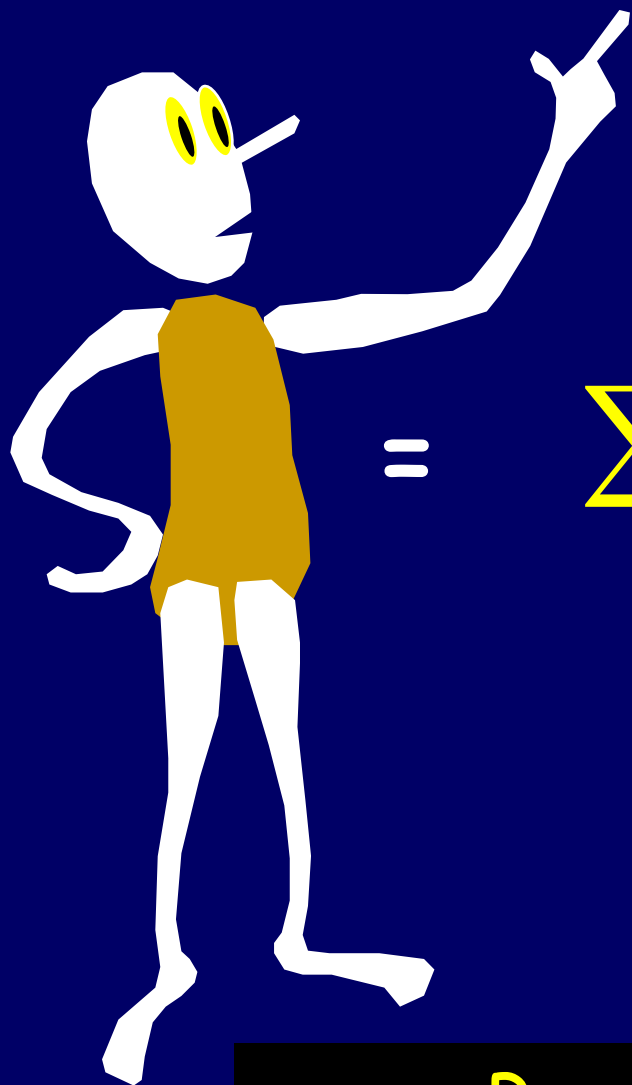
Geometric Series (Quadratic Form)



$$\frac{1}{(1 - \phi X)(1 - (-\phi^{-1} X))}$$

$$= \sum_{n=0.. \infty} \frac{\phi^{n+1} - (-\phi^{-1})^{n+1}}{\sqrt{5}} X^n$$

Geometric Series (Quadratic Form)

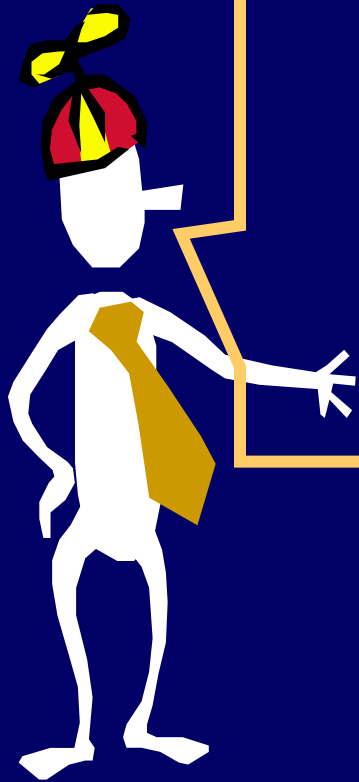


$$\frac{X}{(1 - \phi X)(1 - (-\phi^{-1}X))}$$

$$= \sum_{n=0.. \infty} \frac{\phi^{n+1} - (-\phi^{-1})^{n+1}}{\sqrt{5}} X^{n+1}$$

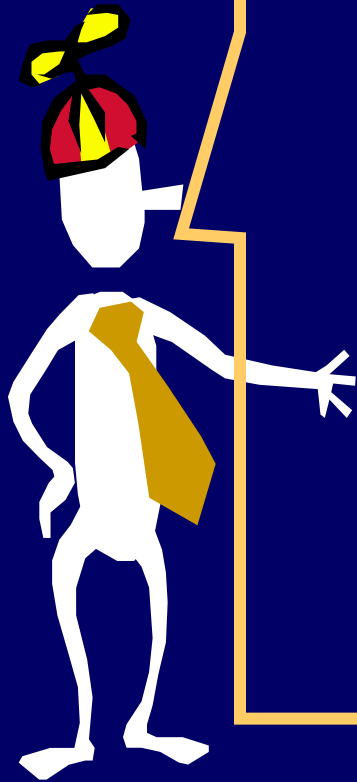
Power Series Expansion of F

$$\frac{x}{1-x-x^2} = F_0x^0 + F_1x^1 + F_2x^2 + F_3x^3 + \dots = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} F_i x^i$$



$$\frac{x}{1-x-x^2} = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \left(\phi^i - \left(-\frac{1}{\phi} \right)^i \right) x^i$$

Leonhard Euler (1765)
J. P. M. Binet (1843)
A de Moivre (1730)



The i^{th} Fibonacci number is:

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \left(\phi^i - \left(-\frac{1}{\phi} \right)^i \right)$$

$$F_n = \frac{\phi^n - \left(\frac{-1}{\phi}\right)^n}{\sqrt{5}} = \frac{\phi^n}{\sqrt{5}}$$

$$-\frac{\left(\frac{-1}{\phi}\right)^n}{\sqrt{5}}$$

≈ 0 for large n

Less than .277

$$F_n = \text{closest integer to } \frac{\phi^n}{\sqrt{5}} = \left[\frac{\phi^n}{\sqrt{5}} \right]$$

$$F_n \approx \frac{\phi^n}{\sqrt{5}}$$



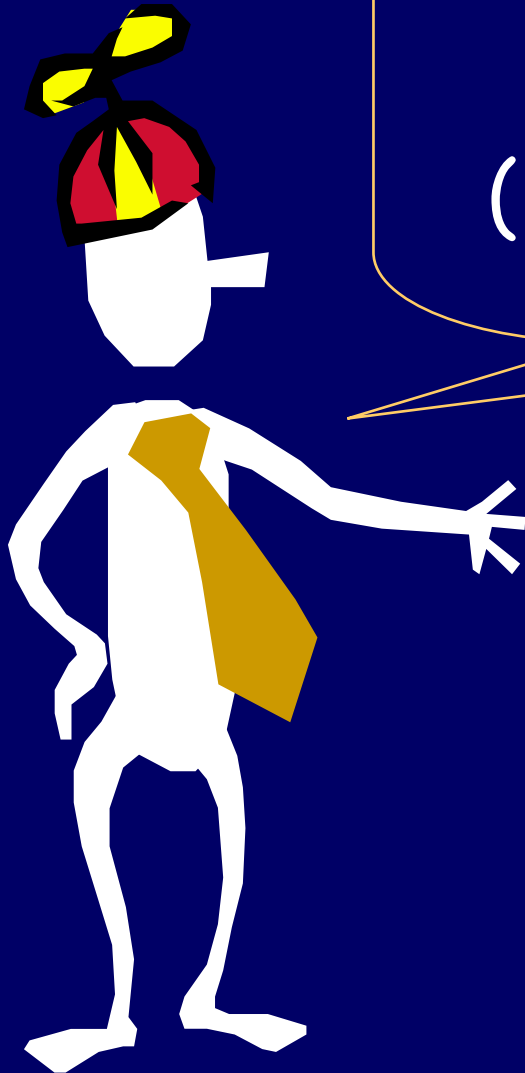
$$\frac{F_n}{F_{n-1}} = \frac{\phi^n - \left(\frac{-1}{\phi}\right)^n}{\phi^{n-1} - \left(\frac{-1}{\phi}\right)^{n-1}} = \frac{\phi^n}{\phi^{n-1} - \left(\frac{-1}{\phi}\right)^{n-1}} + \frac{-\left(\frac{-1}{\phi}\right)^n}{\phi^{n-1} - \left(\frac{-1}{\phi}\right)^{n-1}}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{F_n}{F_{n-1}} = \phi$$



What is the coefficient of X^k in the expansion of:

$$(1 + X + X^2 + X^3 + X^4 + \dots)^n ?$$



Each path in the choice tree for the cross terms has n choices of exponent $e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n, 0$. Each exponent can be any natural number.

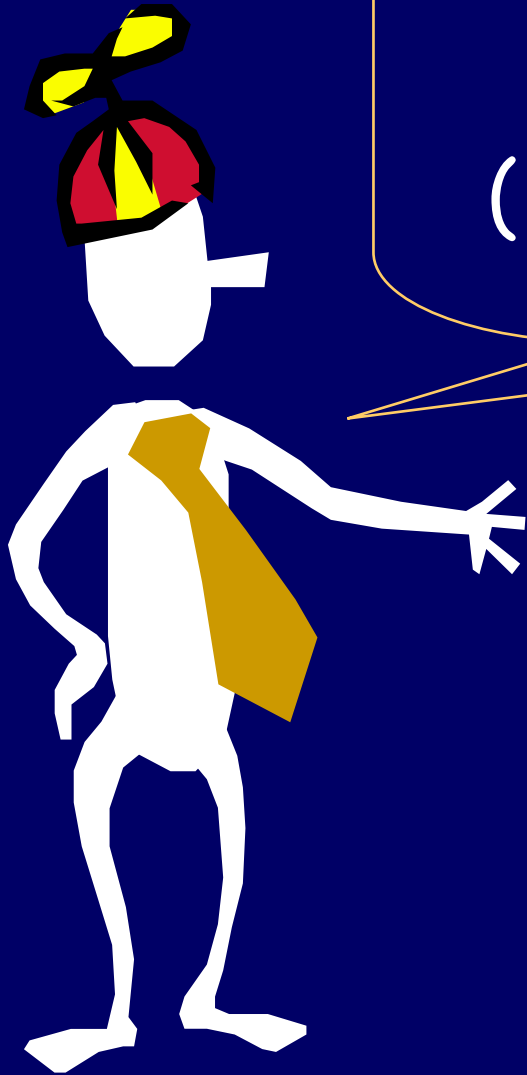
Coefficient of X^k is the number of non-negative solutions to:

$$e_1 + e_2 + \dots + e_n = k$$



What is the coefficient of X^k in the expansion of:

$$(1 + X + X^2 + X^3 + X^4 + \dots)^n ?$$

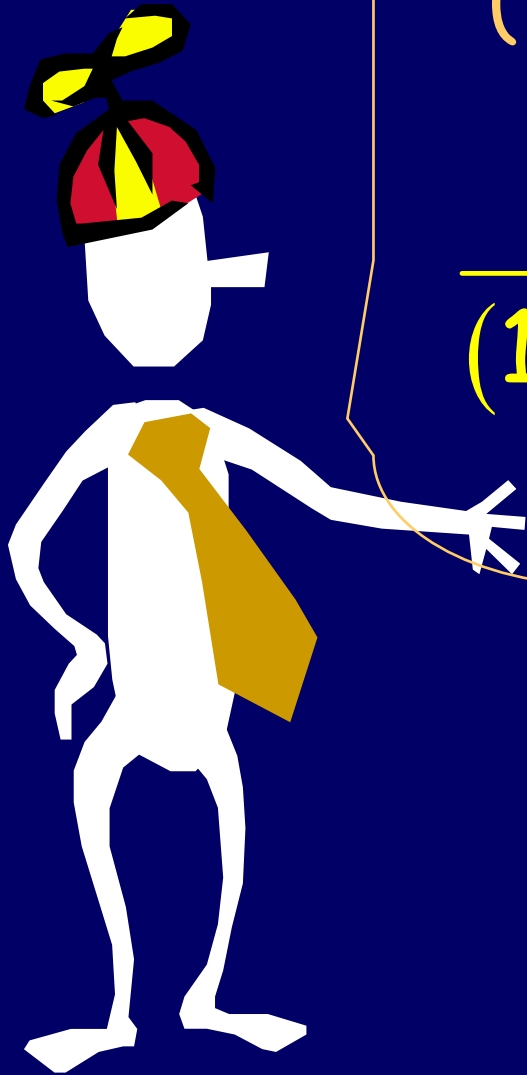


$$\binom{n + k - 1}{n - 1}$$



$$(1 + X + X^2 + X^3 + X^4 + \dots)^n =$$

$$\frac{1}{(1 - X)^n} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \binom{n + k - 1}{n - 1} X^k$$

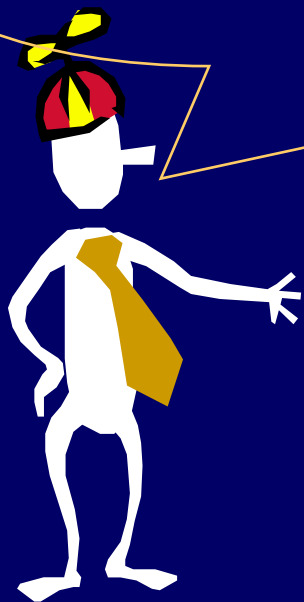




What is the coefficient of X^k in the expansion of:

$$(a_0 + a_1X + a_2X^2 + a_3X^3 + \dots)(1 + X + X^2 + X^3 + \dots)$$

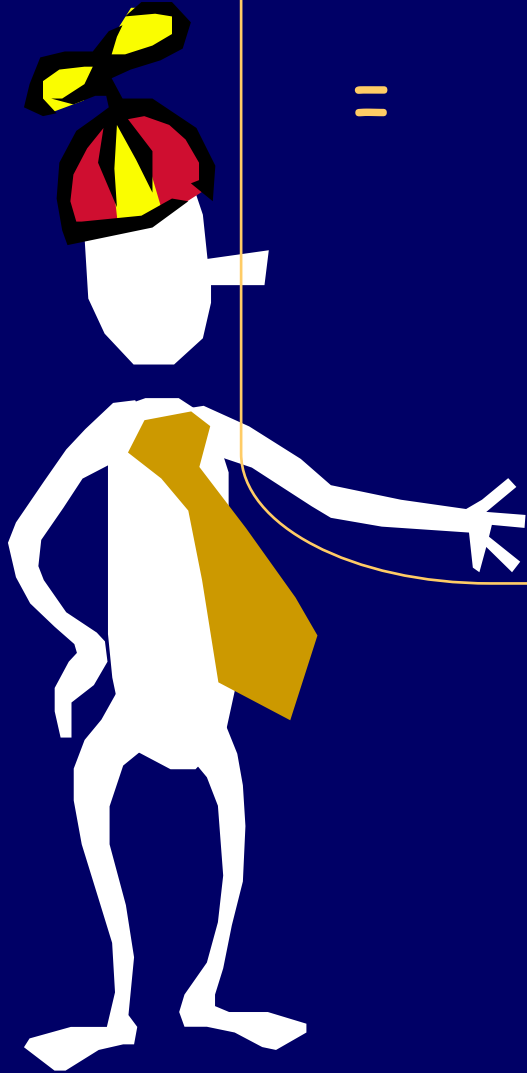
$$= (a_0 + a_1X + a_2X^2 + a_3X^3 + \dots) / (1 - X) \quad ?$$



$$a_0 + a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_k$$

$$(a_0 + a_1X + a_2X^2 + a_3X^3 + \dots) / (1 - X)$$

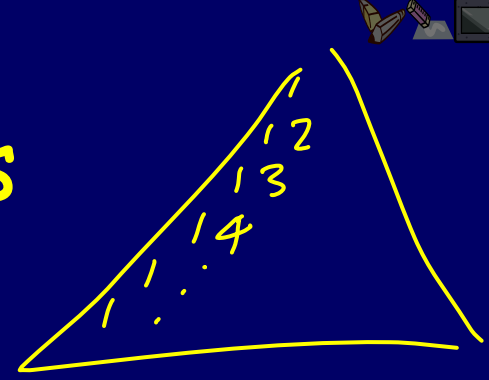
$$= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left(\sum_{i=0}^{i=k} a_i \right) X^k$$





Some simple power series

Al-Karaji's Identities



$$\text{Zero_Ave} = 1/(1-X);$$

$$\text{First_Ave} = 1/(1-X)^2;$$

$$\text{Second_Ave} = 1/(1-X)^3;$$

Output =

$$1/(1-X)^2 + 2X/(1-X)^3$$

$$= (1-X)/(1-X)^3 + 2X/(1-X)^3$$

$$= (1+X)/(1-X)^3$$



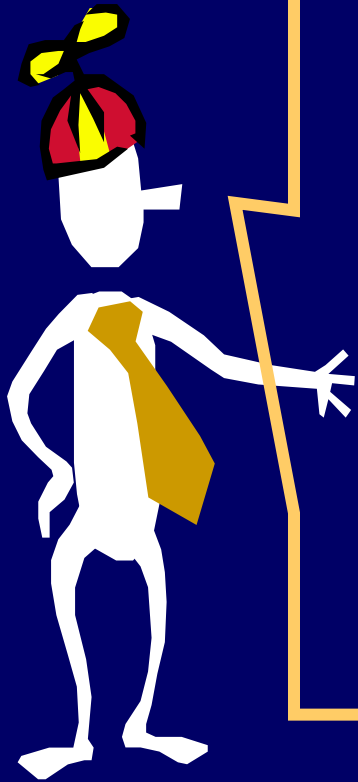
$$(1+X)/(1-X)^3$$

outputs $\langle 1, 4, 9, \dots \rangle$

$$X(1+X)/(1-X)^3$$

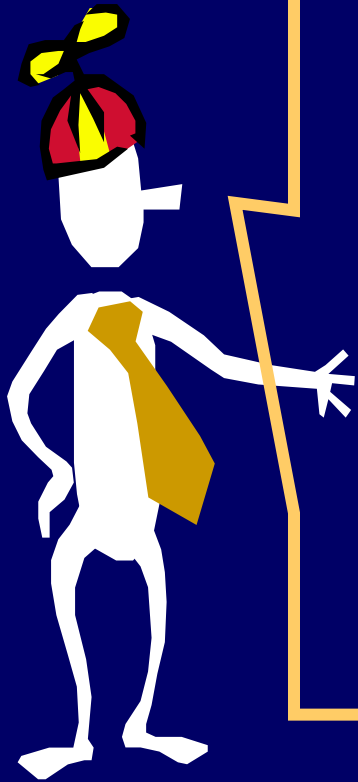
outputs $\langle 0, 1, 4, 9, \dots \rangle$

The k^{th} entry is k^2



$$X(1+X)/(1-X)^3 = \sum k^2 X^k$$

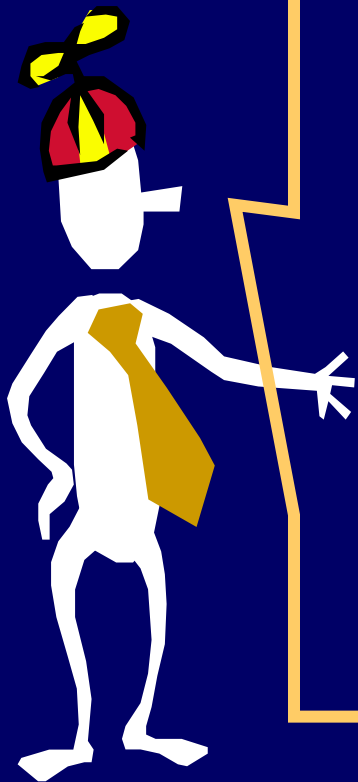
What does $X(1+X)/(1-X)^4$ do?



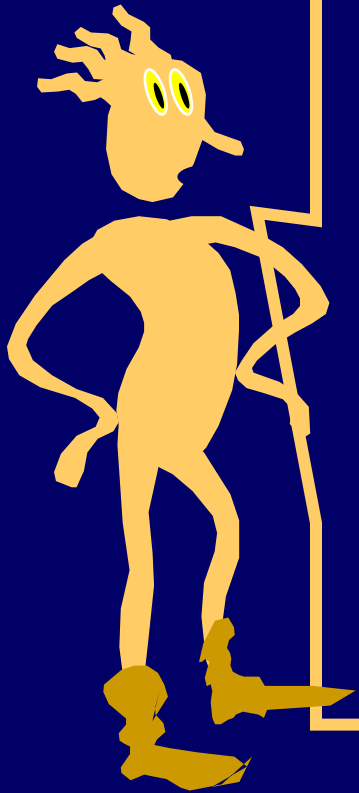
$X(1+X)/(1-X)^4$ expands to :

$$\sum S_k X^k$$

where S_k is the sum of the first k squares



Aha! Thus, if there is an alternative interpretation of the k^{th} coefficient of $X(1+X)/(1-X)^4$ we would have a new way to get a formula for the sum of the first k squares.

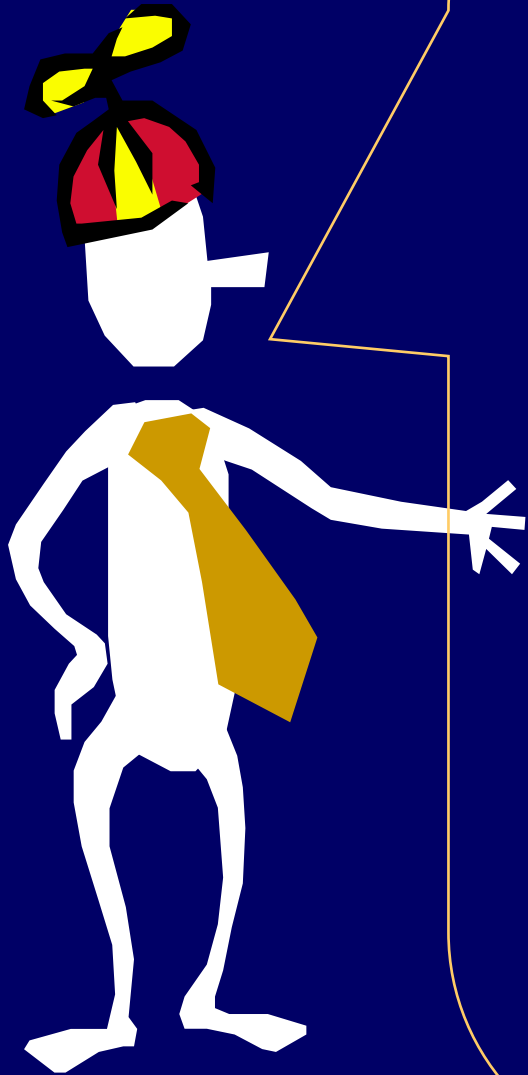


Using pirates and gold we found that:

$$\frac{1}{(1-X)^n} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \binom{n+k-1}{n-1} X^k$$

THUS:

$$\frac{1}{(1-X)^4} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \binom{k+3}{3} X^k$$





Coefficient of X^k in $P_V = (X^2+X)(1-X)^{-4}$ is the sum of the first k squares:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{X^2 + X}{(1 - X)^4} &= (X^2 + X) \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \binom{k + 3}{3} X^k \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left(\binom{k + 2}{3} + \binom{k + 1}{3} \right) X^k\end{aligned}$$



$$\frac{1}{(1 - X)^4} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \binom{k + 3}{3} X^k$$



Polynomials give us closed form expressions

$$\frac{X^2 + X}{(1 - X)^4} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left(\binom{k+2}{3} + \binom{k+1}{3} \right) X^k$$

$$\sum_{i=0}^{i=n} i^2 = \binom{n+2}{3} + \binom{n+1}{3}$$



REFERENCES

Coxeter, H. S. M. ``The Golden Section, Phyllotaxis, and Wythoff's Game.''' *Scripta Mathematica* **19**, 135-143, 1953.

"Recounting Fibonacci and Lucas Identities" by Arthur T. Benjamin and Jennifer J. Quinn, *College Mathematics Journal*, Vol. 30(5): 359--366, 1999.



Study Bee

Fibonacci Numbers

Arise everywhere
Visual Representations
Fibonacci Identities

Polynomials

The infinite geometric series
Division of polynomials
Representation of Fibonacci numbers
as coefficients of polynomials.

Generating Functions and Power Series

Simple operations (add, multiply)
Quadratic form of the Geometric Series
Deriving the closed form for F_n

Pirates and gold
Sum of squares once again!