

# MAT 145, Spring 2020

## Solutions to homework 5

Problems 1-3 are about *Lucas numbers* defined by

$$L_1 = 1, L_2 = 3 \text{ and } L_{n+1} = L_n + L_{n-1}$$

1. (20 points) Prove that  $L_n = 2F_{n+1} - F_n$ .

**Solution:** We prove it by induction in  $n$ .

Base: For  $n = 1$  we get  $2F_2 - F_1 = 2 \cdot 1 - 1 = 1 = L_1$  and for  $n = 2$  we get  $2F_3 - F_2 = 2 \cdot 2 - 1 = 3 = L_2$ .

Step: Suppose that  $L_n = 2F_{n+1} - F_n$  and  $L_{n-1} = 2F_n - F_{n-1}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} L_{n+1} &= L_n + L_{n-1} = 2F_{n+1} - F_n + 2F_n - F_{n-1} = \\ &= 2(F_{n+1} + F_n) - (F_n + F_{n-1}) = 2F_{n+2} - F_{n+1}. \end{aligned}$$

2. (20 points) Prove that

$$L_n = \left( \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^n + \left( \frac{1 - \sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^n$$

**Solution 1:** We use the result of previous problem and the formula for Fibonacci numbers

$$F_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}(\varphi^n - \bar{\varphi}^n), \quad \varphi = \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2}, \quad \bar{\varphi} = \frac{1 - \sqrt{5}}{2}.$$

Then by Problem 1 we have

$$\begin{aligned} L_n &= 2F_{n+1} - F_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}(2\varphi^{n+1} - 2\bar{\varphi}^n - \varphi^n + \bar{\varphi}^n) = \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}((2\varphi - 1)\varphi^n - (2\bar{\varphi} - 1)\bar{\varphi}^n) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}(\sqrt{5}\varphi^n + \sqrt{5}\bar{\varphi}^n) = \varphi^n + \bar{\varphi}^n. \end{aligned}$$

Here we used that  $2\varphi - 1 = \sqrt{5}$  and  $2\bar{\varphi} - 1 = -\sqrt{5}$ .

**Solution 2:** We prove it by induction in  $n$ .

Base: For  $n = 1$  we get  $\varphi + \bar{\varphi} = 1 = L_1$ , and for  $n = 2$  we get

$$\varphi^2 + \bar{\varphi}^2 = \frac{1 + 2\sqrt{5} + 5}{4} + \frac{1 - 2\sqrt{5} + 5}{4} = \frac{1 + 5 + 1 + 5}{4} = 3 = L_2.$$

Step: Suppose that  $L_n = \varphi^n + \bar{\varphi}^n$  and  $L_{n-1} = \varphi^{n-1} + \bar{\varphi}^{n-1}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} L_{n+1} &= L_n + L_{n-1} = \varphi^n + \bar{\varphi}^n + \varphi^{n-1} + \bar{\varphi}^{n-1} = \\ &= (\varphi + 1)\varphi^{n-1} + (\bar{\varphi} + 1)\bar{\varphi}^{n-1} = \varphi^{n+1} + \bar{\varphi}^{n+1}. \end{aligned}$$

Here we used that  $\varphi + 1 = \varphi^2$  and  $\bar{\varphi} + 1 = \bar{\varphi}^2$ .

3. (20 points) A round flower bed has  $n \geq 2$  slots numbered from 1 to  $n$ . Prove that there are  $L_n$  ways to plant tulips and lilies in such a way

that there are no two lilies planted next to each other (but two tulips can be planted next to each other).

**Solution:** Let us label the slots from 1 to  $n$  such that 1 is next to  $n$ . We abbreviate tulips by T and lilies by L.

If we place T at slot 1 then we can fill the slots  $2, \dots, n$  by an arbitrary sequence of L's and T's without LL. The number of such sequences equals  $F_{(n-1)+2} = F_{n+1}$ .

If we place L at slot 1 then both slots 2 and  $n$  should contain T, and we can fill the slots  $3, \dots, n-1$  by an arbitrary sequence of L's and T's without LL. The number of such sequences equals  $F_{(n-3)+2} = F_{n-1}$ .

In total, we get

$$F_{n+1} + F_{n-1} = F_{n+1} + F_{n+1} - F_n = 2F_{n+1} - F_n = L_n$$

options.

4. (20 points) Prove the identity  $F_{a+b+1} = F_{a+1}F_{b+1} + F_aF_b$ .

**Solution 1:** We fix  $a$  and prove it by induction in  $b$ .

Base: For  $b = 0$  we get  $F_{a+1}F_1 + F_aF_0 = F_{a+1} \cdot 1 + F_a \cdot 0 = F_{a+1}$ . For  $b = 1$  we get  $F_{a+1}F_2 + F_aF_1 = F_{a+1} \cdot 1 + F_a \cdot 1 = F_{a+2}$ .

Step: Assume that the identity holds for  $b$  and  $(b-1)$ , that is,

$$F_{a+b+1} = F_{a+1}F_{b+1} + F_aF_b, \quad F_{a+b} = F_{a+1}F_b + F_aF_{b-1}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} F_{a+b+2} &= F_{a+b+1} + F_{a+b} = F_{a+1}F_{b+1} + F_aF_b + F_{a+1}F_b + F_aF_{b-1} = \\ &F_{a+1}(F_{b+1} + F_b) + F_a(F_b + F_{b-1}) = F_{a+1}F_{b+2} + F_aF_{b+1}. \end{aligned}$$

**Solution 2:** We know that  $F_{a+b+1}$  is the number of binary sequences of length  $a+b+1-2 = (a-1)+1+(b-1)$  without 11. Given such a sequence, we can look at its  $a$ th position.

If we have 0 at  $a$ -th position, then to the left and right of it there are two sequences of length  $(a-1)$  and  $(b-1)$  without 11, and the number of such sequences equals  $F_{(a-1)+2}F_{(b-1)+2} = F_{a+1}F_{b+1}$ .

If we have 1 at  $a$ th position, then it must be surrounded by 0 at either side, and we are left with two sequences of length  $(a-2)$  and  $(b-2)$  without 11, the number of such sequences equals  $F_{(a-2)+2}F_{(b-2)+2} = F_aF_b$ .

In total, we get  $F_{a+b+1} = F_{a+1}F_{b+1} + F_aF_b$ .

5. (20 points) Draw all graphs with 2, 3 and 4 vertices.



