

General Recurrence Multidimensional Zeckendorf Representations

Jiarui Cheng^a, Steven J. Miller^b, Sebastian Rodriguez-Labastida^c, Tianyu Shen^d, Alan Sun^e, and Garrett Tresch^f

^aNortheastern University, Boston, MA 02115;

^bDepartment of Mathematics, Williams College, Williamstown, MA 01267;

^cUniversidad Panamericana, CDMX 03920;

^dShanghai University, Shanghai, China, 200444;

^eUniversity of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109;

^fDepartment of Mathematics, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77840

ARTICLE HISTORY

Compiled October 8, 2025

Article type: research

ABSTRACT

We present a multidimensional generalization of Zeckendorf's Theorem (any positive integer can be written uniquely as a sum of non-adjacent Fibonacci numbers) to a large family of linear recurrences. This extends work of Anderson and Bicknell-Johnson in the multi-dimensional case when the underlying recurrence is the same as the Fibonacci one. Our extension applies to linear recurrence relations defined by vectors $\vec{c} = (c_1, c_2, \dots, c_k)$ such that $c_1 \geq c_2 \geq \dots \geq c_k$ and where $c_k = 1$. Under these conditions, we prove that every integer vector in $\mathbb{Z}^{k-1}$ admits a unique $\vec{c}$ -satisfying representation ($\vec{c}$ -SR) as a linear combination of vectors, $(\vec{X}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$ defined for every $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ by initially by zero and standard unit vectors and then the recursion

$$\vec{X}_n := c_1 \vec{X}_{n-1} + c_2 \vec{X}_{n-2} + \dots + c_k \vec{X}_{n-k}.$$

To establish this, we introduce carrying and borrowing operations that use the defining recursion to transform any $\vec{c}$ representation into a $\vec{c}$ -SR while preserving the underlying vector. Then, by establishing bijections with properties of scalar Positive Linear Recurrence Sequences (PLRS), we prove that these multidimensional decompositions inherit various properties, such as the number of summands exhibits Gaussian behavior and summand minimality of $\vec{c}$ -SRs over all $\vec{c}$ -representations.

KEYWORDS

Fibonacci numbers, Zeckendorf decompositions, Positive linear recurrence relations, Multidimensional decompositions.

cheng.jiar@northeastern.edu

sjm1@williams.edu

sebasrodrigo@hotmail.com

1790299332@shu.edu.cn

alansun@umich.edu

treschgd@tamu.edu

Contents

1	Introduction and Preliminaries	2
1.1	Introduction	2
1.2	Preliminary Definitions	3
2	Proofs of Main Results	9
3	Inherited Properties From the Scalar Case	14
3.1	Gaussian Convergence	14
3.2	Summand Minimality	16
4	Illustrations and Further Research	16

1. Introduction and Preliminaries

1.1. Introduction

The Fibonacci numbers have inspired results of enduring interest for over 2000 years. An interesting recent one is Zeckendorf's Theorem [Zeck], which states that every positive integer can be represented uniquely as a sum of non-consecutive Fibonacci¹ numbers $(F_n)_{n=1}^\infty$. Since then, Zeckendorf's theorem has been extended to a large family of recurrence sequences by first specifying a rule to guarantee a unique representation and then deducing the structure of the sequence (see [AB-J, BBILMT, BCCSW, BDEMMTTW, BILMT2, CFHMN1, DDKMMV, DFFHMPP, GTNP, Ha, KKMW, MW1, MW2] and the theorems therein). We take particular interest in linear recurrence sequences (LRS's). Given a vector $(c_1, \dots, c_k) \in \mathbb{Z}^k$ and some proper initial terms, a LRS, $(X_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$, is defined by the relation

$$X_{n+1} = c_1 X_n + \dots + c_k X_{n+1-k}$$

for all $n \geq k$. In this case, we call the underlying vector $\vec{c} = (c_1, \dots, c_k)$ the *recurrence vector*. Freudenkel [Fr] generalized Zeckendorf's result to all linear recurrences with a weakly decreasing recurrence vector (see Definition 1.9). More recently, Miller and Wang [MW1, MW2], and independently Hamlin [Ha], have generalized Zeckendorf's theorem to LRS's with a nonnegative recurrence vectors $\vec{c}$ with the additional restriction that $c_1 \geq 1$. Such recurrence sequences are called *Positive Linear Recurrence Sequences* or simply *PLRS's* (see Definition 1.1). Furthermore, various authors [Ha, CFHMN1, CFHMNPX] have provided evidence that this is the broadest class of LRS's for which one can expect Zeckendorf's theorem to extend in a simple manner. We focus on PLRS's, for which the representation rule is the notion of a *legal decomposition* that formalizes when a representation of a positive integer over the PLRS is not able to be reduced using the underlying recurrence relationship. The restriction to legal representations then allows for unique representations of positive integers over linear combinations of the underlying PLRS.

In [AB-J] Anderson and Bicknell-Johnson transfer Zeckendorf's Theorem into the multidimensional setting. In particular, they define a sequence of vectors $(\vec{X}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$ in

¹We define the Fibonacci numbers by $F_1 = 1, F_2 = 2$, and $F_n = F_{n-1} + F_{n-2}$ for $n \geq 3$.

$\mathbb{Z}^{k-1}$ and show that vectors of $\mathbb{Z}^{k-1}$ can each be uniquely represented as the sum of elements from $(\vec{X}_{-n})_{n=1}^{\infty}$ where this representation does not contain k consecutive elements of $(\vec{X}_{-n})_{n=1}^{\infty}$. We extend these results by transferring PLRS's with weakly decreasing recurrence vectors to the multidimensional setting. However, this multidimensional extension is not a straightforward application of the techniques of [AB-J] to general PLRS's. In fact, Remark 1.5 illustrates that not all of these vectorized PLRS's will produce integer vectors while Example 4.5 demonstrates that not all vectors will have existing representations of the desired form when $\vec{c} = (1, 3, 1)$. The restriction to PLRS's with weakly decreasing recurrence vectors² such that $c_k = 1$ remedies the issues seen in both Remark 1.5 and Example 4.5 as the constraint guarantees the termination of a process that converts an arbitrary multidimensional decomposition over a vectorized PLRS into one that generalizes legal decompositions and shows uniqueness.

1.2. Preliminary Definitions

Throughout this paper, $k \geq 2$ is a fixed integer and $\vec{c} = (c_1, \dots, c_k)$ is an integer vector such that $c_1 > 0$, $c_2, \dots, c_{k-1} \geq 0$ and $c_k = 1$. In addition, we use the notation for sequences, $(a_n)_{n=1}^{\infty}$, and infinite strings, $a_1 a_2 \dots$, interchangeably.

The following definition is identical to that of a Positive Linear Recurrence Sequence (PLRS) coined and studied in [KKMW], though they do not restrict to $c_k = 1$.

Definition 1.1. (PLRS, [KKMW]) *We say $(X_n)_{n=1}^{\infty} \subseteq \mathbb{Z}$ is a $\vec{c}$ -recursive sequence (or $\vec{c}$ -recurrence) if the following conditions hold:*

- (1) $X_1 = 1$ and for all $n = 2, 3, \dots, k$,

$$X_n = c_1 X_{n-1} + c_2 X_{n-2} + \dots + c_{n-1} X_1 + 1, \text{ and}$$

- (2) when $n > k$, the following recurrence is satisfied:

$$X_n = c_1 X_{n-1} + c_2 X_{n-2} + \dots + c_k X_{n-k}.$$

Remark 1.2. Note that in the case that $c_n = 1$ for all n , $(X_n)_{n=1}^{\infty}$ exhibits the k -bonacci recurrence (see [AB-J] where the k -bonacci sequence is defined with slightly different initial terms). In particular, if in addition $k = 2$ then $(X_n)_{n=1}^{\infty}$ is the Fibonacci Sequence.

Example 1.3.

- The Tribonacci Recurrence [$k = 3$, $\vec{c} = (1, 1, 1)$].

◦ Initial terms:

$$\begin{aligned} X_1 &= 1, \\ X_2 &= 1 \cdot 1 + 1 = 2, \\ X_3 &= 1 \cdot 2 + 1 \cdot 1 + 1 = 4. \end{aligned}$$

²These restrictions to weakly decreasing recurrence vectors can be found in many other results related to recurrence sequences. In addition to [Fr], in [CHHMPV1, CHHMPV1] the same constraints are used to guarantee summand minimality (see Section 3.2).

◦ Recurrence for $n > 3$:

$$X_n = X_{n-1} + X_{n-2} + X_{n-3}.$$

◦ Sequence: 1, 2, 4, 7, 13, 24, 44, $\dots$

• A Custom Recurrence $[k = 3, \vec{c} = (2, 1, 1)]$.

◦ Initial terms:

$$\begin{aligned} X_1 &= 1, \\ X_2 &= 2 \cdot 1 + 1 = 3, \\ X_3 &= 2 \cdot 3 + 1 \cdot 1 + 1 = 8. \end{aligned}$$

◦ Recurrence for $n > 3$:

$$X_n = 2X_{n-1} + X_{n-2} + X_{n-3}.$$

◦ Sequence: 1, 3, 8, 20, 51, 130, $\dots$

We generalize the concept of a $\vec{c}$ -recursive sequence to higher dimensional vectors. To do so, we generalize the notion of *k-bonacci vectors* from [AB-J].

Definition 1.4. We define the $\vec{c}$ -recurrence vectors sequence, $(\vec{X}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^{k-1}$, as

- (1) $\vec{X}_0 := \vec{0}$,
- (2) $\vec{X}_{-i} := \vec{e}_i$ for all $1 \leq i \leq k-1$ where $\vec{e}_i$ is the standard basis vector, and
- (3) $\vec{X}_n := c_1 \vec{X}_{n-1} + c_2 \vec{X}_{n-2} + \dots + c_k \vec{X}_{n-k}$ for all $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$.

Since $c_k \neq 0$, we see that after rearranging terms and shifting indices that

$$\vec{X}_n = \frac{\vec{X}_{n+k} - \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} c_i \vec{X}_{n+k-i}}{c_k}, \quad (1.1)$$

which lets us work backwards to define vectors with negative indices. As we assume $c_k = 1$, Equation (1.1) can be simplified to

$$\vec{X}_n = \vec{X}_{n+k} - \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} c_i \vec{X}_{n+k-i}. \quad (1.2)$$

Remark 1.5. Since Equation (1.2) lets us define $\vec{X}_{-n}$ recursively for all $n \geq k$ we can guarantee that for each $n \in \mathbb{Z}$, $\vec{X}_n$ is well defined as an element of $\mathbb{Z}^{k-1}$. However, if $c_k \neq 1$ it is not guaranteed that for every $n < 0$ all terms of $\vec{X}_n$ are integers³.

From this point forward $(\vec{X}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$ represents the $\vec{c}$ -recurrence vector sequence.

³It is important to say that this is not necessary to restrict $c_1 = 1$ to guarantee that all terms in the sequence are well defined. For example, we might ask that $c_k \mid c_i$ for all $1 \leq i \leq k-1$.

Example 1.6. Here, we list several terms of the $\mathbf{c}$ -recurrence vector sequence with $c_1 = 2, c_2 = 1, c_3 = 1$.

$$\begin{aligned}
\vec{\mathbf{X}}_0 &= (0, 0) \\
\vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-1} &= (1, 0) \\
\vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-2} &= (0, 1) \\
\vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-3} &= (-2, -1) \\
\vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-4} &= (3, -1) \\
\vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-5} &= (1, 4) \\
\vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-6} &= (-9, -3) \\
\vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-7} &= (10, -6) \\
\vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-8} &= (9, 16) \\
\vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-9} &= (-38, -7).
\end{aligned}$$

Note how the recurrence $\vec{\mathbf{X}}_n = \vec{\mathbf{X}}_{n+k} - \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} c_i \vec{\mathbf{X}}_{n+k-i}$ from Equation (1.2) generates these vectors backward.

Zeckendorf [Zeck] proved that any positive integer n can be written uniquely as a sum

$$n = \sum_{n \geq 2} d_n F_n$$

such that $d_n \in \{0, 1\}$ for all n , and no string of two consecutive d_n 's equal 1. Equivalently, for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$ there is a unique infinite string of nonnegative integers $(d_2 d_3, \dots)$ with finitely many nonzero terms such that $n = \sum_{n \geq 2} d_n F_n$, no d_n exceeds 1, and no copy of 11 can be found in the string. This result was greatly extended to the more general realm of PLRS's in [MW1] by using similar restrictions on the underlying string of coefficients, as well as in many different settings (for example [AB-J], [CHHMPV2] and [KKMW]). Informally, uniqueness is ensured by restricting both the size of each term and forbidding a copy of the defining PLRS recurrence within this underlying string of coefficients. We exactly match these restrictions in the vector case with the following definition.

Definition 1.7. Let $\vec{\mathbf{v}} \in \mathbb{Z}^{k-1}$ be any vector. We call a sequence $(a_n)_{n=1}^{\infty}$ a **$\vec{\mathbf{c}}$ - satisfying representation** or simply a **$\vec{\mathbf{c}}$ -SR of $\vec{\mathbf{v}}$** if the following conditions hold.

- (1) There exists an $m \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $a_n = 0$ for all $n > m$.
- (2) We have $\vec{\mathbf{v}} = \sum_{n=1}^m a_n \vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-n}$.
- (3) We have $a_m > 0$, and $a_n \geq 0$ for all $1 \leq n \leq m$.
- (4) One of the following holds.
 - We have $m < k$ and $a_n = c_n$ for all $1 \leq n \leq m$.
 - There exists $s \in \{0, \dots, k\}$ such that

$$a_1 = c_1, \dots, a_{s-1} = c_{s-1} \text{ and } a_s < c_s, \quad (1.3)$$

and there exists an $\ell \geq 0$ such that $a_{s+1}, \dots, a_{s+\ell} = 0$, and $(a_{s+\ell+n})_{n=1}^\infty$ is $\vec{c}$ -SR.

We also refer to a finite sequence of nonnegative integers, $(a_n)_{n=1}^m$, as a $\vec{c}$ -SR if the sequence $(b_n)_{n=1}^\infty$ defined by

$$b_n = \begin{cases} a_n, & \text{if } 1 \leq n \leq m; \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

is a $\vec{c}$ -SR.

For example, if $\vec{c} = (4, 2, 1)$ then the finite sequence $2, 4, 2, 0, 1$ is a $\vec{c}$ -SR of the induced vector while this is not the case for either of the finite sequences $2, 4, 2, 1$ (this sequence contains a copy of $4, 2, 1$) or $2, 4, 3$ (as the element 3 is too large).

For each $k \geq 2$, let $\vec{1}_k \in \mathbb{Z}^{k-1}$ denote the $(k-1)$ -vector consisting of all 1's. In our notation, Anderson and Bicknell-Johnson show in [AB-J] that there is a unique vectorized analogue for the k -Fibonacci Zeckendorf Theorem.

Theorem 1.8. ([AB-J], [Theorem 2]) *Every $\vec{v} \in \mathbb{Z}^{k-1}$ has a unique $\vec{1}_k$ -satisfying representation.*

Definition 1.9. *We call a vector $\vec{c} = (c_1, c_2, \dots, c_k)$ **weakly decreasing** if for each $1 \leq n \leq k-1$ we have $c_n \geq c_{n+1}$.*

We are now ready to state our main result, which generalizes Theorem 1.8 to weakly decreasing $\vec{c}$ -recurrence vectors.

Theorem 1.10. *If $\vec{c} = (c_1, c_2, \dots, c_k)$ is weakly decreasing and $c_k = 1$ then every $\vec{v} \in \mathbb{Z}^{k-1}$ has a unique representation of $\vec{c}$ -SR.*

To prove this result, we decompose terms of strings “close” to $\vec{c}$ -SR’s into groups and process them one by one. Thankfully, the definition of a $\vec{c}$ -SR naturally groups coefficient terms into “chunks” that can be separately examined as $\vec{c}$ -SR’s themselves. Indeed, the definition ensures that when reading the string of coefficients from left to right one has distinct “partially completed” copies of $\vec{c}$ followed by zeros. We formalize this notion of *chunks* in the next definition.

Definition 1.11. *Suppose that $a := (a_n)_{n=1}^\infty$ is a $\vec{c}$ -SR and $m \in \mathbb{N}$ is the largest coefficient such that $a_m > 0$. Let $n_1 := 1$; this is the **first element of the first chunk** of a .*

As $(a_n)_{n=n_1}^\infty$ is a $\vec{c}$ -SR, there exists $s_1 \in \{1, \dots, k\}$ such that

$$a_{n_1} = c_1, \dots, a_{n_1+(s_1-1)-1} = c_{s_1-1}, \text{ and } a_{n_1+s_1-1} < c_{s_1}.$$

*Let $A_1 := \{r \geq n_1 + s_1 : a_r \neq 0\}$. If A_1 is a nonempty set we define the **first element of the second chunk** as $n_2 := \min A_1$. Note that, by the definition of a $\vec{c}$ -SR, $(a_n)_{n=n_2}^\infty$ is a $\vec{c}$ -SR as well.*

*Recursively define $A_i := \{r \geq n_i + s_i : a_r \neq 0\}$. If this is a nonempty set, the **first element of the $(i+1)$ st chunk** is defined by $n_{i+1} := \min A_i$.*

As $s_i \geq 1$ it follows that $n_{i+1} \geq n_i + s_i > n_i$ which implies that the n_i 's are distinct. Hence, as it is clear that each $n_i \leq m$, we can insure that this process must terminate and only a finite number of n_i 's arise, say $(n_i)_{i=1}^\ell$.

After this process completes we define ℓ to be the **number of chunks** of the representation, and we denote it by $CH(a)$. Let $n_{\ell+1} = m + 1$, and for each $1 \leq i \leq \ell$ refer to the string $a_{n_i} a_{n_i+1} \dots a_{n_{i+1}-1}$ as the i^{th} **chunk of a** .

Following the ideas of [AB-J], to establish the existence of $\vec{c}$ -SR for each $\vec{v} \in \mathbb{Z}^{k-1}$ we manipulate representations built by adding 1 to a single coefficient of a $\vec{c}$ -SR.

Definition 1.12. A $\vec{c}$ -nearly satisfying representation ($\vec{c}$ -NSR) for $\vec{v} \in \mathbb{Z}^{k-1}$ is a sequence of nonnegative integers $(a_n)_{n=1}^\infty$ such that $\vec{v} = \sum_{n=1}^\infty a_n \vec{X}_{-n}$ and where there exists an integer $i \in \mathbb{N}$ for which the following hold.

- The sequence $(a_n)_{n=1}^\infty$ is not a $\vec{c}$ -SR.
- The sequence $(b_n)_{n=1}^\infty$ defined by

$$b_n = \begin{cases} a_n - 1, & \text{if } n = i; \\ a_n, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

is a $\vec{c}$ -SR.

As in the case of $\vec{c}$ -SR's we refer to finite sequences $(a_n)_{n=1}^m$ as a $\vec{c}$ -NSR if the sequence $(b_n)_{n=1}^\infty$ defined by

$$b_n := \begin{cases} a_n, & \text{if } 1 \leq n \leq m; \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

is a $\vec{c}$ -NSR. If $a = (a_n)_{n=1}^\infty$ is a $\vec{c}$ -NSR, define

$$I(a) := \begin{cases} \max\{j : (a_n)_{n=1}^{j-1} \text{ is a } \vec{c}\text{-SR}\}, & \text{if } (a_n)_{n=1}^1 \text{ is a } \vec{c}\text{-SR}; \\ 1, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

and call $I(a)$ **the first overfilled element of a** . A $\vec{c}$ -NSR, say $(a_n)_{n=1}^m$, is **end complete** if $(b_n)_{n=1}^m$ defined by

$$b_n = \begin{cases} a_n, & \text{if } 1 \leq n \leq m-1; \\ a_n - 1, & \text{if } n = m \end{cases}$$

is a $\vec{c}$ -SR with ℓ chunks such that the ℓ^{th} chunk takes the form $b_{n_\ell} b_{n_\ell+1} \dots b_{n_\ell+k-1}$ and where

$$b_{n_\ell} = c_1, b_{n_\ell+1} = c_2, \dots, b_{n_\ell+k-1} = c_k - 1.$$

To prove our main result we manipulate a given $\vec{\mathbf{c}}$ -NSR of a vector $\vec{\mathbf{v}}$ using operations that, when each is performed, give a representation of $\vec{\mathbf{v}}$.

Definition 1.13. Let $\vec{\mathbf{v}} \in \mathbb{Z}^{k-1}$ be any vector. We call a $\vec{\mathbf{c}}$ -representation of $\vec{\mathbf{v}}$ a sequence $(a_n)_{n=1}^{\infty}$ such that $\vec{\mathbf{v}} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-n}$ and where there exists an $m \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $a_n = 0$ for all $n > m$. Given $i \in \mathbb{N}$ and a $\vec{\mathbf{c}}$ -representation of $\vec{\mathbf{v}}$, say $(a_n)_{n=1}^{\infty}$, we define two processes for obtaining new $\vec{\mathbf{c}}$ -representation of $\vec{\mathbf{v}}$.

- **Carrying into** a_i gives us a new sequence $(b_n)_{n=1}^{\infty}$ defined by

$$b_j = \begin{cases} a_j, & \text{if } j < i \text{ or } j > i + k; \\ a_i + 1, & \text{if } j = i; \\ a_j - c_l, & \text{if } i < j \leq i + k \text{ and } j = i + l. \end{cases}$$

- **Borrowing from** a_i gives us a new sequence $\{d_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ defined by

$$d_n = \begin{cases} a_n, & \text{if } n < i \text{ or } n > i + k; \\ a_i - 1, & \text{if } i = n; \\ a_n + c_l, & \text{if } i < n \leq i + k \text{ and } n = i + l. \end{cases}$$

Note that, due to the $\vec{\mathbf{c}}$ -recurrence, in either case $\vec{\mathbf{v}} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-n} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} d_n \vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-n}$.

More informally,

- (1) *carrying into* a_i increments a_i by 1 and decrements a_{i+j} by c_j for each $j = 1, 2, \dots, k$; and
- (2) *borrowing from* a_i decrements a_i by 1 and increments a_{i+j} by c_j for each $j = 1, 2, \dots, k$.

Step	Operation	Representation	Vector
1	Initial $\vec{\mathbf{c}}$ -SR	$2 \cdot \vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-2} + \vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-3}$	$(-2, 1)$
2	Add $\vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-3}$	$2 \cdot \vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-2} + 2 \cdot \vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-3}$	$(-4, 0)$
3	Borrow from c_3	$2 \cdot \vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-2} + \vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-3} + 2 \cdot \vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-4} + \vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-5} + \vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-6}$	$(-4, 0)$
4	Carry into c_1	$\vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-1} + \vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-4} + \vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-5} + \vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-6}$	$(-4, 0)$
5	Final $\vec{\mathbf{c}}$ -SR	$\vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-1} + \vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-4} + \vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-5} + \vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-6}$	$(-4, 0)$

Table 1.1.: Illustration of carrying/borrowing operations for $\vec{\mathbf{v}} = (-2, 1)$ with recurrence $\vec{\mathbf{X}}_n = 2\vec{\mathbf{X}}_{n-1} + \vec{\mathbf{X}}_{n-2} + \vec{\mathbf{X}}_{n-3}$.

To avoid negative coefficients, we only carry into a_i when $a_{i+j} \geq c_j$ for each $j = 1, 2, \dots, k$ and we only borrow from strictly positive a_i . Table 1.1 shows how carrying and borrowing can be quite useful in going from a $\vec{\mathbf{c}}$ -NSR representation of $\vec{\mathbf{v}}$ to a $\vec{\mathbf{c}}$ -SR representation of $\vec{\mathbf{v}}$.

In proving our main result we prove that a $\vec{\mathbf{c}}$ -NSR can be transformed into $\vec{\mathbf{c}}$ -SR by a finite number of borrowing and carrying operations. In showing that our underlying algorithm that accomplishes this eventually terminates, it is useful to define functions that count the sum of all or of a subset of the coefficients on an eventually zero, infinite string.

Definition 1.14. For each sequence of nonnegative integers $a := (a_n)_{n=1}^\infty$ where there exists an $m \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $a_n = 0$ for all $n > m$, we define $G(a)$ as the sum of elements of a ,

$$G(a) := \sum_{i=1}^m a_i, \quad (1.4)$$

and for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$ define $G_n(a)$ as the sum of every term of index less than n ,

$$G_n(a) := \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} a_i. \quad (1.5)$$

Example 1.15. Given the string $a = 21012100\dots$, we have $G(a) = 2 + 1 + 0 + 1 + 2 + 1 + 0 = 7$ and $G_4(a) = 1 + 2 + 1 + 0 = 4$.

Remark 1.16. Note that for a $\vec{\mathbf{c}}$ -representation of $\vec{\mathbf{v}}$, say $a := (a_n)_{n=1}^\infty$, with $G(a) = R$, if b and d are the $\vec{\mathbf{c}}$ -representations of $\vec{\mathbf{v}}$ resulting from carrying into some a_n and borrowing from some a_n respectively, then $G(b) = R - \sum_{i=1}^m c_i + 1$ and $G(d) = R + \sum_{i=1}^k c_i - 1$.

2. Proofs of Main Results

There is a natural map that transforms linear combinations of truncated $\vec{\mathbf{c}}$ -recurrence vectors into the underlying $\vec{\mathbf{c}}$ -recurrence sequences.

Definition 2.1. For $n \geq k - 2$, $S_n : \mathbb{Z}^{k-1} \rightarrow [0, X_n)$ is the scalar product defined by

$$S_n(\vec{\mathbf{v}}) = \vec{\mathbf{v}} \cdot (X_{n-1}, \dots, X_{n-k+1}) \pmod{X_n}$$

where each X_n is defined as in Definition 1.1.

The following lemma follows by the same argument as in [AB-J]. For the sake of completeness and to highlight our specific case, its proof is included below.

Lemma 2.2. We have $S_n(\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} a_i \vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-i}) = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} a_i X_{n-i}$.

Proof. When $1 \leq i \leq k - 1$, we have $\vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-i} = \vec{\mathbf{e}}_i$, by definition. Therefore,

$$S_n(\vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-i}) = X_{n-i} \pmod{X_n} = X_{n-i}.$$

When $i = k$,

$$\begin{aligned}
S_n(\vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-k}) &= \vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-k} \cdot (X_{n-1}, \dots, X_{n-k+1}) \pmod{X_n} \\
&= \frac{\vec{\mathbf{X}}_0 - \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} c_j \vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-j}}{c_k} \cdot (X_{n-1}, \dots, X_{n-k+1}) \pmod{X_n} \\
&= \frac{0 - \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} c_j X_{n-j}}{c_k} \pmod{X_n} \\
&= \frac{X_n - \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} c_j X_{n-j}}{c_k} \pmod{X_n} \\
&= X_{n-k} \pmod{X_n} \\
&= X_{n-k},
\end{aligned}$$

and when $i = k + 1$,

$$\begin{aligned}
S_n(\vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-k-1}) &= \vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-k-1} \cdot (X_{n-1}, \dots, X_{n-k+1}) \pmod{X_n} \\
&= \frac{\vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-1} - \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} c_j \vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-1-j}}{c_k} \cdot (X_{n-1}, \dots, X_{n-k+1}) \pmod{X_n} \\
&= \frac{X_{n-1} - \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} c_j X_{n-1-j}}{c_k} \pmod{X_n} \\
&= X_{n-k-1} \pmod{X_n} \\
&= X_{n-k-1}.
\end{aligned}$$

When $k + 1 < i \leq n - 1$, according to the conditions previously obtained, it can be concluded through induction that

$$S_n(\vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-i}) = X_{n-i}.$$

Therefore, it's true for all $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$ that $S_n(\vec{\mathbf{X}}_{-i}) = X_{n-i}$. By linearity of S_n , the proof is complete. $\square$

Proposition 2.3. *Each end complete $\vec{\mathbf{c}}$ -NSR can be transformed into a $\vec{\mathbf{c}}$ -SR by a finite sequence of carrying operations. Furthermore, by Remark 1.16, this process only reduces the sum of the coefficients.*

Proof. We proceed by induction over the number of chunks of the representation. Let $a := (a_n)_{n=1}^m$ be an end complete $\vec{\mathbf{c}}$ -NSR with only 1 chunk and define $a_0 = 0$. Note that as $\vec{\mathbf{X}}_0 = \vec{\mathbf{0}}$ we can extend a to $(a_n)_{n=0}^m$. In this case, note that $m = k$ and

$$a_1 = c_1, \dots, a_k = c_k.$$

Then, by carrying into a_0 , we obtain the sequence $(b_n)_{n=0}^m$, where $b_0 = 1$ and $b_i = 0$ for all $1 \leq i \leq m$. Note that $(b_n)_{n=1}^m$ is the zero vector which is, indeed, a $\vec{\mathbf{c}}$ -SR.

Suppose that all end complete $\vec{\mathbf{c}}$ -NSR's with ℓ chunks can be transformed into a $\vec{\mathbf{c}}$ -SR. Let $(a_n)_{n=1}^m$ be an end complete $\vec{\mathbf{c}}$ -NSR with $\ell + 1$ chunks. For each $1 \leq i \leq \ell + 1$ denote a_{n_i} as the first coefficient of the i^{th} chunk as in Definition 1.11. By assumption

we can carry into $a_{n_{\ell+1}-1}$. Let b be the resulting sequence of such carrying operation; then, we have exactly two cases to consider.

Case 1: b is a $\vec{c}$ -SR and we are done, or

Case 2: b is an end complete $\vec{c}$ -NSR and the desired result follows by induction.

Indeed, suppose that Case 1 does not hold; then by Definition 1.7 there must exist $s \in \{1, \dots, k\}$ such that

$$a_{n_{\ell}} = c_1, \dots, a_{n_{\ell}-1+s-1} = c_{s-1}, a_{n_{\ell}-1+s} < c_s$$

and there exists $p \geq 0$ such that $a_{n_{\ell}-1+s+i} = 0$, for all $i \leq p$, and $n_{\ell} - 1 + s + p = n_{\ell+1} - 1$. Notice that, because of Remark 1.16, $b_q = 0$ for all $q \geq n_{\ell+1}$. If $p = 0$ then $n_{\ell+1} - 1 = n_{\ell} + s - 1$, and so $b_{n_{\ell}-1+s} \leq c_s$; otherwise b is exactly

$$(a_1, \dots, a_{n_{\ell}} = c_1, a_{n_{\ell}+1} = c_2, \dots, a_{n_{\ell}-1+s} < c_s, 0, \dots, 0, b_{n_{\ell+1}-1} = 1)$$

which is clearly a $\vec{c}$ -SR. Hence, the only possible way for b not to be a $\vec{c}$ -SR is that $s = k$ and $b_{n_{\ell}-1+s} = c_k$, in other words b is end complete. $\square$

We now prove that weakly decreasing $\vec{c}$ -NSR's can be transformed into satisfying representations. We note that the algorithm utilized in the proof of this result is similar to the algorithm from the appendix of [KKMW] that converts any decomposition of an integer over a PLRS into a legal decomposition. However, as we define the vectors using a backwards recursion, it is not the case that we could eventually borrow into zero terms. In fact, it is very possible in the case where $\vec{c}$ is not weakly decreasing for this process to never terminate (see Example 4.5).

Proposition 2.4. *Every $\vec{c}$ -NSR, where $\vec{c}$ is a weakly decreasing vector and $c_k = 1$, can be transformed into a $\vec{c}$ -SR by a finite number of borrowing and carrying operations.*

Proof. Recall that if $\vec{c}$ is a weakly decreasing vector then $c_{i+1} \leq c_i$ for all $i \in \{1, \dots, k-1\}$. Throughout this proof, the symbol a^i represents the i^{th} iteration of a process that consists of a finite number of borrows and carries. Suppose that $a^0 := (a_n^0)_{n=1}^{\infty}$ is a $\vec{c}$ -NSR and let $c := \sum_{i=1}^k c_i$.

By Definition 1.12 there exist $p_0 \geq 1$ and $0 \leq j_0 < k$ such that $I(a^0) = n_{p_0} + j_0$ and where

$$a_{n_{p_0}} = c_1, \dots, a_{n_{p_0}+j_0-1} = c_{j_0}, a_{n_{p_0}+j_0} \geq c_{j_0+1}. \quad (2.1)$$

Since $n_{p_0} + j_0$ is the first overfilled element of a , we have that $(a_n^0)_{n=1}^{n_{p_0}+j_0-1}$ is a $\vec{c}$ -SR. We now proceed by case analysis to define a^1 .

Case 1: $j_0 = k - 1$. Then $(a_n^0)_{n=1}^{n_{p_0}+j_0}$ is end complete and so by applying Proposition 2.3, a finite sequence of carries transforms $(a_n^0)_{n=1}^{n_{p_0}+j_0}$ into a $\vec{c}$ -SR say $(b_n^0)_{n=1}^{n_{p_0}+j_0}$. Define a^1 by

$$a_n^1 = \begin{cases} b_n^0, & 1 \leq n \leq n_{p_0} + j_0; \\ a_n^0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

In this case we have that $G(a^1) \leq G(a^0) - (c - 1)$.

Case 2: $0 \leq j_0 < k - 1$. Note that in this case, $a_{n_{p_0}+j_0} > c_{j_0+1}$. Borrow from $a_{n_{p_0}+j_0}^0$ to define d^0 . In particular, define

$$d_n^0 = \begin{cases} a_n^0 + c_i, & \text{if } n = n_{p_0} + j_0 + i \text{ for some } 1 \leq i \leq k; \\ a_n^0 - 1, & \text{if } n = n_{p_0} + j_0; \\ a_n^0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Since $\vec{c}$ is weakly decreasing, then for all $1 \leq i \leq k - j_0 - 1$

$$d_{n_{p_0}+j_0+i}^0 \geq c_i \geq c_{j_0+i+1}$$

and, thus,

$$d_{n_{p_0}+j}^0 \geq c_{j+1} \text{ for each } 0 \leq j \leq k - 1. \quad (2.2)$$

Moreover, if we define $(e_n^0)_{n=1}^{n_{p_0}+k-1}$ by

$$e_n^0 = \begin{cases} d_n^0, & \text{if } 1 \leq n < n_{p_0} + j_0 \text{ or } n_{p_0} + k \leq n; \\ c_{i+1}, & \text{if } n = n_{p_0} + i \text{ for some } j_0 \leq i \leq k - 1, \end{cases}$$

then $(e_n^0)_{n=1}^{n_{p_0}+k-1}$ is end complete and so by applying Proposition 2.3, a finite sequence of carries transforms $(e_n^0)_{n=1}^{n_{p_0}+k-1}$ into a $\vec{c}$ -SR, say $f^0 := (f_n^0)_{n=1}^{n_{p_0}+k-1}$. Define a^1 by

$$a_n^1 = \begin{cases} f_n^0, & 1 \leq n < n_{p_0} + j_0; \\ d_n^0 - c_{i+1}, & \text{if } n = n_{p_0} + i \text{ for some } j_0 \leq i \leq k - 1; \\ d_n^0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

In particular, a^1 is obtained from a^0 by a single borrow and then at least one carry. By Remark 1.16 this implies that $G(a^1) \leq G(a^0) - (c - 1) = G(a^0)$.

If a^1 is defined in either case is a $\vec{c}$ -SR, then we are done. If not, then as above there exist $p_1 \geq 1$ and $0 \leq j_1 < k$ such that $I(a^1) = n_{p_1} + j_1$ and where

$$a_{n_{p_1}} = c_1, \dots, a_{n_{p_1}+j_1-1} = c_{j_1}, a_{n_{p_1}+j_1} > c_{j_1+1}. \quad (2.3)$$

There are two important properties we prove.

Claim 1: We have that $n_{p_1} \geq n_{p_0}$ and if $G(a^1) = G(a^0)$ then $G_{n_{p_1}}(a^1) \geq G_{n_{p_0}}(a^0) + 1$.

Proof of Claim 1. If a^1 is constructed through Case 1 then $a_{n_{p_0}+k-1}^1 = a_{n_{p_0}+k-1}^0 - c_k = 0$ and so the claim follows from the fact that $(b_n^0)_{n=1}^{n_{p_0}+j_0} = (a_n^1)_{n=1}^{n_{p_0}+j_0}$

is a $\vec{\mathcal{C}}$ -SR. Note that in Case 1, we have $G(a^0) \neq G(a^1)$.

Suppose instead that a^1 is constructed through Case 2. It is immediate that $n_{p_1} \geq n_{p_0}$ in the case where $n_{p_0} = 1$ and so we may suppose further that $n_{p_0} \geq 2$. If $j_0 = 0$ then $n_{p_1} \geq n_{p_0}$ follows from the fact that $(f_n)_{n=1}^{n_{p_0}-1} = (a_n^1)_{n=1}^{n_{p_0}-1}$ is a $\vec{\mathcal{C}}$ -SR. If $j_0 \neq 0$ then $n_{p_1} \geq n_{p_0}$ follows from the fact that $a_{n_{p_0}+j_0-1}^1 = a_{n_{p_0}+j_0-1}^0 - c_{j_0} = 0$ and since $(f_n)_{n=1}^{n_{p_0}+j_0} = (a_n^1)_{n=1}^{n_{p_0}+j_0}$ is a $\vec{\mathcal{C}}$ -SR.

Note that by Remark 1.16, if $G(a^1) = G(a^2)$ then a^1 is obtained from a^0 by exactly one borrow from $a_{n_{p_0}}^0$ and then one carry into $a_{n_{p_0}-1}^0$ where $n_{p_0} - 1 \geq 1$. Thus, as single borrow from $a_{n_{p_0}}^0$ does not effect $G_{n_{p_0}}$ and a single carry into $a_{n_{p_0}-1}^0$ increases $G_{n_{p_0}}$ by 1, we have that

$$G_{n_{p_1}}(a^1) \geq G_{n_{p_0}}(a^1) = G_{n_{p_0}}(a^0) + 1$$

as desired. $\square$

Since $n_{p_1} + j_1$ is the first overfilled element of a^1 , we have that $(a_n^1)_{n=1}^{n_{p_1}+j_1-1}$ is a $\vec{\mathcal{C}}$ -SR.

Inductively, if a^ℓ is a $\vec{\mathcal{C}}$ -NSR and is defined for some $\ell \geq 1$, then we may define n_{p_ℓ} and j_ℓ such that $n_{p_\ell} + j_\ell$ is the first overfilled element of a^ℓ . Then we have that $(a_n^\ell)_{n=1}^{n_{p_\ell}+j_\ell-1}$ is a $\vec{\mathcal{C}}$ -SR and employ the same case analysis as above to construct $a^{\ell+1}$. If $a^{\ell+1}$ is a $\vec{\mathcal{C}}$ -SR then we are done. Otherwise, we may define $n_{p_{\ell+1}}$ and $j_{\ell+1}$ such that $n_{p_{\ell+1}} + j_{\ell+1}$ is the first overfilled element of a^ℓ and have that $(a_n^\ell)_{n=1}^{n_{p_\ell}+j_\ell-1}$ is a $\vec{\mathcal{C}}$ -SR. Furthermore, by applying Claim 1, $n_{p_{\ell+1}} \geq n_{p_\ell}$ and either $G(a^{\ell+1}) < G(a^\ell)$ or $G_{n_{p_{\ell+1}}}(a^{\ell+1}) > G_{n_{p_\ell}}(a^\ell)$.

Claim 2: There exists a $q \in \mathbb{N}$ such that a^q is a $\vec{\mathcal{C}}$ -SR.

Proof of Claim 2. Suppose not. Let $\alpha = G(a^0)$, $\beta := \lceil \frac{\alpha}{c-1} \rceil$, and $Z := \{i \in \mathbb{N} : G(a^i) < G(a^{i-1})\}$. Note that $|Z| \leq \beta$. Indeed, if $|Z| > \beta$ then there exists a subset $\{z_1, \dots, z_{\beta+1}\} \subset Z$ where $z_j < z_{j+1}$ for each $1 \leq j \leq \beta$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} G(a^{z_{\beta+1}}) &\leq G(a^{z_\beta}) - (c-1) \leq G(a^{z_{\beta-1}}) - 2(c-1) \leq \dots \leq G(a^{z_1}) - \beta(c-1) \\ &\leq \alpha - (\beta+1)(c-1) < 0. \end{aligned}$$

Let $z := \max\{i \in \mathbb{N} : i \in Z\}$ and define $\gamma := G(a^z)$. Note that for all $j > z$ it must be the case that $G(a^j) = G(a^{j-1})$ and $G_{n_{p_j}}(a^j) \geq G_{n_{p_{j-1}}}(a^{j-1}) + 1$. However, if we examine $q = z + \gamma$ then

$$\gamma < G_{n_z}(a^z) + \gamma \leq G_{n_{p_q}}(a^q) \leq G(a^q) \leq G(a^z) = \gamma.$$

Hence, we have the desired contradiction. $\square$

The proof is complete as Claim 2 establishes that process must terminate in a finite number of iterations to a $\vec{\mathcal{C}}$ -SR.

□

We now prove our main result.

Proof of Theorem 1.10. We need to show both existence and uniqueness of the desired representations.

Existence: By definition, $\vec{0} \in \mathbb{Z}^{k-1}$ has a $\vec{c}$ -satisfying representation. By induction we need only to show that if $\vec{v}$ has a $\vec{c}$ -satisfying representation then so does $\vec{v} + \vec{e}_i$ for any $1 \leq i \leq k$. Indeed, all positive vectors can be obtained by adding linear combinations of the basis vectors $\vec{X}_i = \vec{e}_i$ for $1 \leq i \leq k-1$ and then as $\vec{X}_k = \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} -c_i \vec{e}_i$, adding multiples of $\vec{X}_k$ reaches all possible vectors. These inductive steps involve increasing a coefficient in a $\vec{c}$ -satisfying representation by one. Either the resulting representation is already a $\vec{c}$ -satisfying representation and we are done or it is a $\vec{c}$ NSR. Hence, existence follows from Proposition 2.4.

Uniqueness: Similar to the case of [AB-J], Lemma 2.2 implies that S_n is one-to-one in representations satisfying $\vec{c}$ of the form $\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} a_i \vec{X}_{-i}$. Hence, uniqueness follows from the uniqueness of a *legal* decomposition for a PLRS (see [KKMW], Theorem 1.3). □

3. Inherited Properties From the Scalar Case

We extend the probabilistic analysis of Zeckendorf decompositions to the multidimensional setting. By establishing a bijection between vector-valued decompositions and their scalar counterparts, we inherit various probabilistic properties for $\vec{c}$ -SR's.

Definition 3.1. Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$; we define

$$R_n^{\vec{c}} := S_n^{-1} \left[[X_n, X_{n+1}) \right],$$

where X_n is defined as in Definition 1.1, and S_n is as in Definition 2.1.

This definition serves as the natural way of generalizing the interval $[X_n, X_{n+1})$ to higher dimensions; using Remark 4.3, in Figure 4.2 we illustrate $R_1^{\vec{c}}$ to $R_{10}^{\vec{c}}$ for $\vec{c} = (2, 1, 1)$. As expected, many properties that hold for decompositions of elements in $[X_n, X_{n+1})$ also hold in the multidimensional analogue.

For clarity, we provide two concrete examples of properties that our multidimensional Zeckendorf representations inherit through the map S_n . There are many more statistical and probabilistic properties than those mentioned (for example [BBILMT], [BILMT1] and [BBGILM]).

3.1. Gaussian Convergence

Definition 3.2. (Associated Probability Space to a Positive Linear Recurrence Sequence) [MW1]. Let $(H_n)_{n=1}^\infty$ be a PLRS. For each n , consider the discrete outcome space

$$\Omega_n := \{H_n, H_n + 1, \dots, H_{n+1} - 1\}$$

with probability measure

$$\mathbb{P}_n(A) := \sum_{\omega \in A} \frac{1}{H_{n+1} - H_n}, \quad A \subset \Omega_n.$$

In addition, define the random variable K_n by setting $K_n(\omega)$ equal to the number of summands of $\omega \in \Omega_n$.

This definition is extended naturally to higher dimensions in the following way.

Definition 3.3. (Inherited Probability Space to a Positive Linear Recurrence Vector Sequence). Let $\vec{c}$ be a weakly decreasing vector and $c_k = 1$. Consider the discrete outcome space

$$\Omega_n^{\vec{c}} := R_n^{\vec{c}},$$

with probability measure

$$\mathbb{P}_n^{\vec{c}}(B) := \mathbb{P}_n(S_n[B]), \quad B \subset \Omega_n^{\vec{c}};$$

where S_n is defined in Definition 2.1. We define the random variable $K_n^{\vec{c}}$ by setting $K_n^{\vec{c}}(\omega)$ equal to the number of summands of $\omega \in \Omega_n^{\vec{c}}$; equivalently $K_n^{\vec{c}}(\omega) = G(a)$, where a is the unique $\vec{c}$ -SR of ω .

Lemma 3.4. The map $S_n|_{R_n^{\vec{c}}} : R_n^{\vec{c}} \rightarrow [X_n, X_{n+1})$ is a bijection and $K_n^{\vec{c}}(w) = K_n(S_n(w))$.

Proof. By Definition 3.1 we have that $S_n|_{R_n^{\vec{c}}}$ is surjective. Suppose that $\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2 \in R_n^{\vec{c}}$ are such that $S_n|_{R_n^{\vec{c}}}(\vec{v}_1) = S_n|_{R_n^{\vec{c}}}(\vec{v}_2)$. Let $a = (a_n)_{n=1}^{m_1}$ and $b = (b_n)_{n=1}^{m_2}$ the unique representations for $\vec{v}_1$ and $\vec{v}_2$ respectively, that is

$$\vec{v}_1 = \sum_{n=1}^{m_1} a_n \vec{X}_{-n} \quad \text{and} \quad \vec{v}_2 = \sum_{n=1}^{m_2} b_n \vec{X}_{-n}.$$

Then, due to Lemma 2.2, we have that

$$S_n|_{R_n^{\vec{c}}}(\vec{v}_1) = \sum_{n=1}^{m_1} a_n X_{m_1-n} \quad \text{and} \quad S_n|_{R_n^{\vec{c}}}(\vec{v}_2) = \sum_{n=1}^{m_2} a_n X_{m_2-n}.$$

Notice that $(X_n)_{n=1}^{\infty}$ is a PLRS and both $\sum_{n=1}^{m_1} a_n X_{m_1-n}$ and $\sum_{n=1}^{m_2} a_n X_{m_2-n}$ are satisfying representations. Thus, by the uniqueness of a PLRS representation ([MW1], [Theorem 1.1]) we have that $m_1 = m_2$ and $a_n = b_n$ for all $n \leq m_1$. In other words, $a = b$, which proves that the function is indeed injective. With this we have proven that $S_n|_{R_n^{\vec{c}}}$ is bijective. Lastly, let $\vec{v} \in R_n$ and a be its unique $\vec{c}$ -SR. We have

$$K_n^{\vec{c}}(\vec{v}) = G(a) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n,$$

which is exactly the number of summands of $S_n(\vec{v})$. □

In the 1950s, Lekkerkerker [Lekk] answered the question: *On average, how many summands are needed in the Zeckendorf decomposition?*⁴ He later proved that for every $m \in [F_n, F_{n+1})$, as $n \rightarrow \infty$ the average number of summands needed is $n/(\phi^2 + 1)$, where $\phi = \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}$ is the golden ratio. Since Zeckendorf's theorem has been generalized one can naturally ask if Lekkerkerker's theorem still holds for these various generalizations. In [MW1] it was proved that the Gaussian convergence is a property that holds in general for a PLRS. More specifically, $\mathbb{E}[K_n]$ and $\text{Var}(K_n)$ are of order n , and as $n \rightarrow \infty$, K_n converges to a Gaussian (see [KKMW], [BILMT1] and [Lekk]). This result is generalized as follows.

Theorem 3.5. *Let $\{\vec{X}_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$ be a $\vec{c}$ -recurrence for a weakly decreasing vector $\vec{c}$ where $c_k = 1$. Then $\mathbb{E}[K_n^{\vec{c}}]$ and $\text{Var}(K_n^{\vec{c}})$ are of order n , and as $n \rightarrow \infty$, $K_n^{\vec{c}}$ converges to a Gaussian.*

Proof. This follows immediately from Lemma 3.4. □

3.2. Summand Minimality

We call a representation of $\vec{v}$ **summand minimal** if no other representations of $\vec{v}$ uses fewer summands. We say that a Positive Linear Recurrence Vector $\vec{X}$ is **summand minimal** if its $\vec{c}$ -SR is summand minimal for all $\vec{v}$. In [CHHMPV1] it is proved that a PLRS is summand minimal if and only if its recurrence vector is weakly decreasing. This result is now naturally generalizes as follows.

Theorem 3.6. *A $\vec{c}$ -recurrence with recurrence vector $(c_1, \dots, c_k)$ is summand minimal if and only if $c_1 \geq c_2 \geq \dots \geq c_k$; i.e., $\vec{c}$ is weakly increasing.*

Proof. This follows directly from [CHHMPV1], Theorem 1.1. Indeed, all of the $\vec{c}$ -SR translate into legal representations in $\mathbb{Z}$, where the theorem holds. □

4. Illustrations and Further Research

Throughout this section $\vec{c} \in \mathbb{Z}^3$ denotes an arbitrary vector and $(\vec{X}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$ the corresponding $\vec{c}$ -recursive vector sequence as in Definition 1.4.

Definition 4.1. *We define*

$$D_n = \left\{ \vec{v} \in \mathbb{Z}^2 \mid \vec{v} = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \vec{X}_{-i} \right\}.$$

Remark 4.2. *By this definition, $D_n = \cup_{i=1}^n R_i$ and the number of points in D_n is $|D_n| = X_{n+1}$.*

Remark 4.3. *In general⁵, for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, we have that $R_n^{\vec{c}} = D_n \setminus D_{n-1}$.*

⁴Sometimes it takes a while for papers to be widely seen, for example Lekkerkerker's theorem on the number of summands in Zeckendorf decompositions was published 20 years before Zeckendorf's paper!

⁵Definition 4.1 is naturally extended to higher dimensions.

Figures 4.1 and 4.2 demonstrate how, in the case where $\vec{c} = (2, 1, 1)$, each region, D_n , is recursively constructed from D_{n-1} and spirals away from $\vec{0}$.

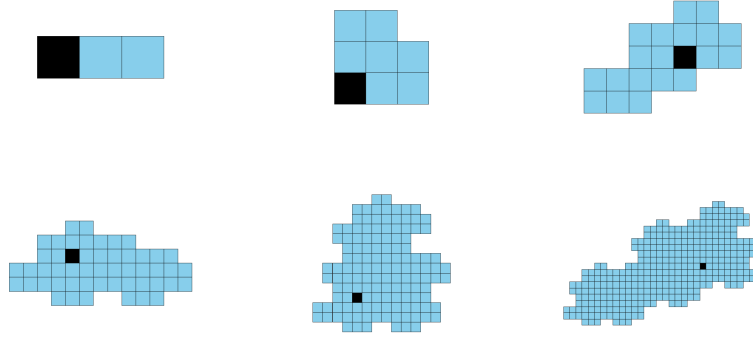


Figure 4.1.: Regions $D_1, \dots, D_6$ for $\vec{c} = (2, 1, 1)$. The black square indicates $\vec{0} \in \mathbb{Z}^2$.

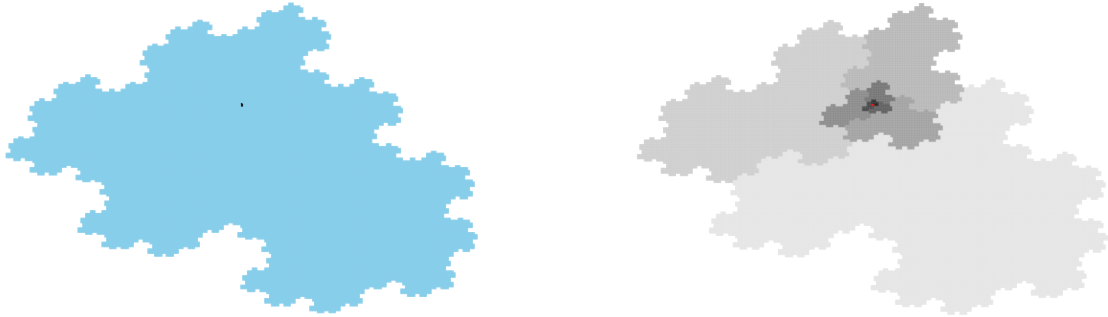


Figure 4.2.: Region D_{10} and regions $R_1, \dots, R_{10}$ for $\vec{c} = (2, 1, 1)$ respectively.

However, in many case where $\vec{c}$ is not weakly decreasing the sets, D_n , display similar behavior. For example, if $\vec{c} = (1, 2, 1)$ then Figures 4.3 and 4.4 also seem to be slowly expanding outward in a spiral seem and eventually encompass all of $\mathbb{Z}^2$. This leads us to our first question.

Question 4.4. Which conditions on the vector $\vec{c}$ characterize when the algorithm in the proof of Theorem 1.10 terminates?

In the case where at least some of the terms of a vector $\vec{c}$ are increasing, the algorithm utilized in the proof of Proposition 2.4 can fail to terminate.

Example 4.5. Let $\vec{c} = (1, 3, 1)$. The string 2 is a $\vec{c}$ -NSR as the string 1 is a $\vec{c}$ -SR. We follow the first few steps in the proof of Proposition 2.4.

- (1) We borrow once from 2 to obtain the string 1131. Note that when reading this string from left to right, the first issue that disallows 1131 from being a $\vec{c}$ -SR is

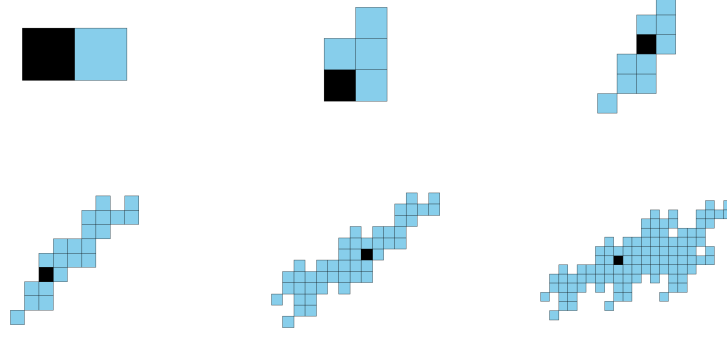


Figure 4.3.: Regions $D_1, \dots, D_6$ for $\vec{c} = (1, 2, 1)$. The black square indicates $\vec{0} \in \mathbb{Z}^2$.

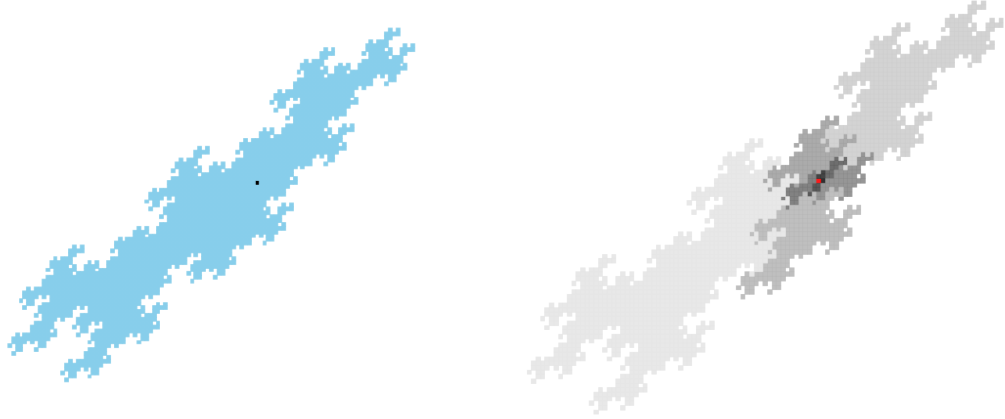


Figure 4.4.: Region D_{10} and regions $R_1, \dots, R_{10}$ for $\vec{c} = (1, 2, 1)$ respectively.

the digit 3. Note how in the case where some of the terms of $\vec{c}$ increase, it is not necessarily so that a carry can always follow a borrow.

- (2) As 11 forms a chunk ($1 \leq 1$ and $1 < 3$) the first digit that presents a problem is 3 which at most can be 1. We borrow twice from 3 into the lower digit. This converts 1131 to 111362. Then we can carry on with the third term and turn 111362 into 120052.
- (3) As in the previous step 1200 forms a chunk and 5 is the first digit that presents a problem since $5 > 1$. We borrow 4 times from 5 and obtain 120016(12)4 and carry once into the fourth term to obtain 120103(11)4 and then carry 3 times into the fifth term to obtain 12013021.
- (4) From left to right we have the chunks 120 and 130 and then the first digit to present a problem is the seventh term as $2 < 1$. We borrow 1 time from the seventh term to obtain 1201301231.
- (5) From left to right we have the chunks 120, 130, and 12 and then the first digit to present a problem is the ninth term as $3 > 1$. We borrow twice from the ninth term to obtain 120130121362 and carry once into the eighth term to obtain 120130130052.

Examining the conversion of the digits 052 from step (2) to (5) we see that the string 052 is replaced by 130130052. Hence, this process never terminates.

Nevertheless, it seems that, if $\vec{c} = (c_1, c_2, c_3)$, $c_3 = 1$ and $c_{j+1} \leq c_j + 1$ for all $1 \leq j < 3$, then the algorithm terminates. However, for vectors of length $k \geq 4$ this no longer appears to be the case. From this we make the following conjecture.

Conjecture 4.6. *If $k = 3$ the algorithm in the proof of Theorem 1.10 terminates if $\vec{c} = (c_1, c_2, c_3)$ is such that $c_i \geq 0$ for all $1 \leq i < 3$, $c_{i+1} - c_i \leq 1$ for all $1 \leq i \leq k-1$, and $c_k = 1$. Furthermore, if there exists $1 \leq i < 3$ such that $c_{i+1} - c_i \geq 2$, then there is a $\vec{c}$ -representation for which the algorithm fails to terminate. If $k \geq 4$ the algorithm in the proof of Theorem 1.10 terminates iff $\vec{c}$ is weakly decreasing.*

It may be the case that Theorem 1.10 holds when some of the c_i 's are 0.

Remark 4.7. *Even in the case where $\vec{c} = (c_1, c_2, \dots, c_{k-1}, 1)$ and where the first $k-1$ terms are arbitrary nonnegative entries, most of the major portions of the Main Theorem still hold.*

- (1) *Since the proof of uniqueness follows from the map S_n being bijective into PLRS's any $\vec{c}$ -SR is unique.*
- (2) *A finite number of the $\vec{c}$ -recurrence vectors still span $\mathbb{Z}^{k-1}$. In particular, if we suppose that z is the maximum number of consecutive zeroes in $\vec{c}$, then for any $\vec{v} \in \mathbb{Z}^{k-1}$ we can find nonnegative integers $(a_n)_{n=1}^{k+z}$ such that*

$$\vec{v} = \sum_{n=1}^{k+z} a_n \vec{X}_{-n}.$$

Proof. Indeed, within the proof of existence for the Main Theorem, this amounts to showing that if $c_j \neq 0$ then the j^{th} element of $\vec{X}_{-k}$ is negative and if $c_j = 0$ and it is a p^{th} consecutive zero in $\vec{c}$ ($c_{j-i} = 0$ for each $1 \leq i \leq p-1$ but $c_{j-p} \neq 0$) for some $1 \leq p \leq z$ then the j^{th} element of $\vec{X}_{-k-p}$ is negative. The first of these desired results follows from the fact that $\vec{X}_{-k} = (-c_1, -c_2, \dots, -c_{k-1})$. Now fix a $1 \leq p \leq z$ and suppose that $c_j = 0$ and it is the p^{th} consecutive zero in $\vec{c}$.

We first show that in this case the j^{th} digits of each vector $\vec{X}_{-k}, \vec{X}_{-k-1}, \dots, \vec{X}_{-k-p+1}$ is zero. Indeed, we may proceed by induction where the base case, $\vec{X}_{-k}$ has been shown above. Suppose this result has been shown for some $0 \leq q < p-1$. Now

$$\vec{X}_{-k-q-1} = \vec{X}_{-q-1} - \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} c_i \vec{X}_{-q-1-i}$$

and the j^{th} digit of $\vec{X}_{-q-1-i}$ is zero unless $i = j - (q+1)$. However, $c_{j-(q+1)} = 0$ since c_j is a p^{th} consecutive zero. The desired result now follows by induction.

Lastly, we note that

$$\vec{X}_{-k-p} = \vec{X}_{-p} - \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} c_i \vec{X}_{-p-i}.$$

Now the j^{th} digit of $\vec{X}_{-p-i}$ is zero unless $i = j - p$, where it is 1 for $\vec{X}_{-j}$. However, $c_{j-p} \neq 0$ and so we see that the j^{th} coefficient of X_{-k-p} is $-c_{j-p} \neq 0$ as desired. $\square$

For those $\vec{c}$ where a $\vec{c}$ -SR exists for each $\vec{v} \in \mathbb{Z}^{k-1}$, it would be interesting find a rate of expansion outward from $\vec{0}$ that is somehow dependent upon $\vec{c}$. One such approach would involve attacking the following question.

Question 4.8. For each $\vec{v} \in \mathbb{Z}^{k-1}$ and $r \in \mathbb{N}$, define B_r^∞ by

$$B_r^\infty(\vec{v}) := \{ \vec{w} \in \mathbb{Z}^{k-1} : \max_{1 \leq i \leq k-1} \{|w_i - v_i|\} \leq r \}.$$

Given a $\vec{c}$ such that the algorithm in the proof of Theorem 1.10 terminates and an $r \in \mathbb{N}$, what is the minimum $n \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $B_r^\infty(\vec{0}) \subset D_n$?

Lastly, there are many other generalizations of Zeckendorf's Theorem that could be explored in the multidimensional case. One such generalization are ***f-decompositions*** introduced by [DDKMMV].

Definition 4.9. Given a function $f : \mathbb{N}_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$ and a sequence of integers $(a_n)_{n=1}^\infty$, a sum $m = \sum_{i=0}^k a_{n_i}$ of terms of $(a_n)_{n=1}^\infty$ is an ***f-decomposition of m using*** $(a_n)_{n=1}^\infty$ if for every a_{n_i} in the *f-decomposition*, the previous $f(n_i)$ terms $(a_{n_i-f(n_i)}, a_{n_i-f(n_i)+1}, \dots, a_{n_i}-1)$ are not in the *f-decomposition*.

Question 4.10. For some family of functions, can one apply a similar strategy as in Theorem 1.10 to generate multidimensional *f* decompositions?

Acknowledgments

We thank our colleagues from the 2025 Polymath Jr program. This work was supported by NSF Grant DMS2341670. It is a pleasure to dedicate this paper to Peter Anderson and Marjorie Bicknell-Johnson, both for their work which inspired this project as part of the 2025 Polymath Jr program, and for their service to the Fibonacci Association.

References

- [AB-J] P. Anderson and M. Bicknell-Johnson, *Multidimensional Zeckendorf Representations, Fibonacci Quarterly*. **49** (2011), no. 1, 4–9.
- [BBILMT] I. Ben-Ari, A. Bower, R. Insoft, S. Li, S.J. Miller and P. Tosteson, *Gaps between summands in generalized Zeckendorf decompositions, Journal of Combinatorial Theory, Series A*. **135** (2015), 130–160

- [BBGILM] O. Beckwith, A. Bower, L. Gaudet, R. Insoft, S. Li, S. J. Miller, and P. Tosteson, *The Average Gap Distribution for Generalized Zeckendorf Decompositions, the Fibonacci Quarterly*. **51** (2013), 13–27
- [BCCSW] E. Burger, D. C. Clyde, C. H. Colbert, G. H. Shin and Z. Wang, *A Generalization of a Theorem of Lekkerkerker to Ostrowski’s Decomposition of Natural Numbers, Acta Arith.* **153** (2012), 217–249.
- [BDEMMTTW] A. Best, P. Dynes, X. Edelsbrunner, B. McDonald, S. J. Miller, K. Tor, C. Turnage-Butterbaugh, M. Weinstein, *Gaussian Distribution of Number Summands in Zeckendorf Decompositions in Small Intervals, Fibonacci Quarterly*. **52** (2014), no. 5, 47–53.
- [BILMT1] A. Bower, R. Insoft, S. Li, S. J. Miller, and P. Tosteson, *The Distribution of Gaps Between Summands in Generalized Zeckendorf Decompositions, Fibonacci Quarterly*. **51** (2013), no. 5, 28–40.
- [BILMT2] A. Bower, R. Insoft, S. Li, S. J. Miller and P. Tosteson, *The Distribution of Gaps between Summands in Generalized Zeckendorf Decompositions (and an appendix on Extensions to Initial Segments with Iddo Ben-Ari), Journal of Combinatorial Theory, Series A* **135** (2015), 130–160.
- [CFHMN1] M. Catral, P. Ford, P. E. Harris, S. J. Miller, and D. Nelson, *Generalizing Zeckendorf’s Theorem: The Kentucky Sequence, Fibonacci Quarterly*. **52** (2014), no. 5, 68–90).
- [CFHMNPX] M. Catral, P. Ford, P.E. Harris, S. J. Miller, and D. Nelson, *Legal Decompositions Arising from Non-Positive Linear Recurrences*, preprint <http://arxiv.org/pdf/1606.09312>.
- [CHHMPV1] K. Cordwell, M. Hlavacek, C. Huynh, S. J. Miller, C. Peterson, and Y. N. Vu, *Summand Minimality and Asymptotic Convergence of Generalized Zeckendorf Decompositions, Research in Number Theory*. **4** (2018), no. 43, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40993-018-0137-7>.
- [CHHMPV2] K. Cordwell, M. Hlavacek, C. Huynh, S. J. Miller, C. Peterson, and Y. N. Vu, *On Summand Minimality of Generalized Zeckendorf Decompositions, Research in Number Theory*. **4** (2018), no. 43, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40993-018-0137-7>
- [DDKMMV] P. Demontigny, T. Do, A. Kulkarni, S. J. Miller, D. Moon, and U. Varma, *Generalizing Zeckendorf’s Theorem to f -decompositions, Journal of Number Theory*. **141** (2014), 136–158, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jnt.2014.01.018>.
- [DFFHMP] R. Dorward, P. Ford, E. Fourakis, P. E. Harris, S. J. Miller, E. Palsson and H. Paugh, *A Generalization of Zeckendorf’s Theorem via Circumscribed m -gons*, to appear in *Involve*, <http://arxiv.org/abs/1508.07531>.
- [Fr] A. S. Fraenkel, *Systems of enumeration, The American Mathematical Monthly* 92.2 (1985), pages 105–114.
- [GTNP] P. J. Grabner, R. F. Tichy, I. Nemes, and A. Pethö, *Generalized Zeckendorf expansions, Appl. Math. Lett.* **7** (1994), no. 2, 25–28.
- [Ha] N. Hamlin, *Representing Positive Integers as a Sum of Linear Recurrence Sequences, Fibonacci Quarterly*. **50** (2012), no. 2, 99–105.
- [KKMW] M. Kologlu, G.S. Kopp, S. J. Miller, Y. Wang, *On the Number of Summands in Zeckendorf Decompositions, Fibonacci Quarterly*. **49** (2011), no. 2, 116–130.
- [Lekk] C. G. Lekkerkerker, *Voorstelling van natuurlyke getallen door een som van getallen van Fibonacci, Simon Stevin*. **29** (1951–1952), 190–195.
- [MW1] S. J. Miller and Y. Wang, *From Fibonacci Numbers to Central Limit*

- Type Theorems*, *Journal of Combinatorial Theory, Series A*. **119** (2012), no. 7, 1398–1413, <https://web.williams.edu/...>
- [MW2] S. J. Miller and Y. Wang, *Gaussian Behavior in Generalized Zeckendorf Decompositions*, *Combinatorial and Additive Number Theory*, CANT 2011 and 2012 (Melvyn B. Nathanson, editor), Springer Proceedings in Mathematics and Statistics (2014), 159–173.
- [Zeck] E. Zeckendorf, *Représentation des nombres naturels par une somme de nombres de Fibonacci ou de nombres de Lucas*, *Bull. Soc. Roy. Sci. Liège*. **41** (1972), 179–182.

MSC2020: 11A67, 11B39, 11B34.