

Multidimensional Zeckendorf Decompositions

Jiarui Cheng¹ Sebastian Rodriguez Labastida²
Tianyu Shen³ Alan Sun⁴

Mentors: Steven J. Miller⁵ Garrett Tresch⁶

¹Northeastern University ²Universidad Panamericana ³Shanghai University
⁴University of Michigan ⁵Williams College ⁶Texas A&M University

The 22nd International Conference on Fibonacci Numbers and Their
Applications

Emails: 1790299332@qq.com (Shen), sjm1@williams.edu (Miller)

Fibonacci and Zeckendorf

Fibonacci Numbers: $F_{n+1} = F_n + F_{n-1}$ with $F_1 = 1, F_2 = 2$.

Fibonacci and Zeckendorf

Fibonacci Numbers: $F_{n+1} = F_n + F_{n-1}$ with $F_1 = 1, F_2 = 2$.

Zeckendorf's Theorem (1972)

Every positive integer can be written uniquely as a sum of non-consecutive Fibonacci numbers.

Fibonacci and Zeckendorf

Fibonacci Numbers: $F_{n+1} = F_n + F_{n-1}$ with $F_1 = 1, F_2 = 2$.

Zeckendorf's Theorem (1972)

Every positive integer can be written uniquely as a sum of non-consecutive Fibonacci numbers.

Example: $51 = 34 + 13 + 3 + 1 = F_8 + F_6 + F_3 + F_1$.

Generalized Recurrences

We can generalize the Fibonacci sequence to **Positive Linear Recurrence Sequences (PLRS)**.

Generalized Recurrences

We can generalize the Fibonacci sequence to **Positive Linear Recurrence Sequences (PLRS)**.

Definition (M. Kologlu, G.S. Kopp, S. J. Miller, Y. Wang, 2011)

For a positive coefficient vector $\vec{c} = (c_1, \dots, c_k) \in \mathbb{Z}^k$, we define a sequence $(X_n) \subseteq \mathbb{Z}$ such that:

- ① $X_1 = 1$;
- ② $X_{n+1} = c_1 X_n + \dots + c_n X_1 + 1$, for $1 \leq n < k$;
- ③ $X_{n+1} = c_1 X_n + \dots + c_k X_{n-k+1}$, for $n \geq k$.

Example

Let $\vec{c} = (2, 1, 1)$.

Example

Let $\vec{c} = (2, 1, 1)$.

- Initial terms:

$$X_1 = 1,$$

$$X_2 = 2 \cdot 1 + 1 = 3,$$

$$X_3 = 2 \cdot 3 + 1 \cdot 1 + 1 = 8.$$

Example

Let $\vec{c} = (2, 1, 1)$.

- Initial terms:

$$X_1 = 1,$$

$$X_2 = 2 \cdot 1 + 1 = 3,$$

$$X_3 = 2 \cdot 3 + 1 \cdot 1 + 1 = 8.$$

- Recurrence for $n > 3$:

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

Example

Let $\vec{c} = (2, 1, 1)$.

- Initial terms:

$$X_1 = 1,$$

$$X_2 = 2 \cdot 1 + 1 = 3,$$

$$X_3 = 2 \cdot 3 + 1 \cdot 1 + 1 = 8.$$

- Recurrence for $n > 3$:

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

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

Multidimensional Extension

Anderson and Bicknell-Johnson first extended this notion to a multidimensional setting, $\mathbb{Z}^{k-1}$.

Multidimensional Extension

Anderson and Bicknell-Johnson first extended this notion to a multidimensional setting, $\mathbb{Z}^{k-1}$.

Definition (AB-J, 2011)

- $\vec{X}_0 := \vec{0}$;
- $\vec{X}_{-i} := \vec{e}_i$, for $i < k$;
- $\vec{X}_n := c_1 \vec{X}_{n-1} + \cdots + c_k \vec{X}_{n-k}$, for $n \in \mathbb{Z}$.

Backward Recursion

Backward Recursion

While we usually move forward, the assumption $c_k = 1$ allows us to define new vectors backwards by the recursion:

Backward Recursion

Backward Recursion

While we usually move forward, the assumption $c_k = 1$ allows us to define new vectors backwards by the recursion:

$$\vec{\mathbf{X}}_n = \vec{\mathbf{X}}_{n+k} - \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} c_i \vec{\mathbf{X}}_{n+k-i}$$

Satisfying Representations

Fibonacci (PLRS with $\vec{c} = (1, 1)$) $\rightarrow$ Non-adjacent

Satisfying Representations

Fibonacci (PLRS with $\vec{c} = (1, 1)$) $\rightarrow$ Non-adjacent

What is a $\vec{c}$ -**satisfying** representation for $v \in \mathbb{Z}^{k-1}$?

Satisfying Representations

Fibonacci (PLRS with $\vec{c} = (1, 1)$) $\rightarrow$ Non-adjacent

What is a $\vec{c}$ -**satisfying** representation for $v \in \mathbb{Z}^{k-1}$?

- Sequence $(a_n)_{n=1}^{\infty} \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^+$;

Satisfying Representations

Fibonacci (PLRS with $\vec{c} = (1, 1)$) $\rightarrow$ Non-adjacent

What is a $\vec{c}$ -**satisfying** representation for $v \in \mathbb{Z}^{k-1}$?

- Sequence $(a_n)_{n=1}^{\infty} \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^+$;
- only consider negative terms, $v = \sum_{n=1}^m a_n \vec{X}_{-n}$;

Satisfying Representations

Fibonacci (PLRS with $\vec{c} = (1, 1)$) $\rightarrow$ Non-adjacent

What is a $\vec{c}$ -**satisfying** representation for $v \in \mathbb{Z}^{k-1}$?

- Sequence $(a_n)_{n=1}^{\infty} \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^+$;
- only consider negative terms, $v = \sum_{n=1}^m a_n \vec{X}_{-n}$;
- cannot replace terms using the recursion; and

Satisfying Representations

Fibonacci (PLRS with $\vec{c} = (1, 1)$) $\rightarrow$ Non-adjacent

What is a $\vec{c}$ -**satisfying** representation for $v \in \mathbb{Z}^{k-1}$?

- Sequence $(a_n)_{n=1}^{\infty} \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^+$;
- only consider negative terms, $v = \sum_{n=1}^m a_n \vec{X}_{-n}$;
- cannot replace terms using the recursion; and
- all coefficients are "bounded" appropriately.

Satisfying Representations

Fibonacci (PLRS with $\vec{c} = (1, 1)$) $\rightarrow$ Non-adjacent

What is a $\vec{c}$ -**satisfying** representation for $v \in \mathbb{Z}^{k-1}$?

- Sequence $(a_n)_{n=1}^{\infty} \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^+$;
- only consider negative terms, $v = \sum_{n=1}^m a_n \vec{X}_{-n}$;
- cannot replace terms using the recursion; and
- all coefficients are "bounded" appropriately.

Example: Consider $\vec{c} = (4, 2, 1)$, then

Satisfying Representations

Fibonacci (PLRS with $\vec{c} = (1, 1)$) $\rightarrow$ Non-adjacent

What is a $\vec{c}$ -**satisfying** representation for $v \in \mathbb{Z}^{k-1}$?

- Sequence $(a_n)_{n=1}^{\infty} \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^+$;
- only consider negative terms, $v = \sum_{n=1}^m a_n \vec{X}_{-n}$;
- cannot replace terms using the recursion; and
- all coefficients are "bounded" appropriately.

Example: Consider $\vec{c} = (4, 2, 1)$, then

- $\vec{v}_1 := 2\vec{X}_{-1} + 4\vec{X}_{-2} + 2\vec{X}_{-3} + 1\vec{X}_{-4} \rightarrow 2, 4, 2, 1$

Satisfying Representations

Fibonacci (PLRS with $\vec{c} = (1, 1)$) $\rightarrow$ Non-adjacent

What is a $\vec{c}$ -**satisfying** representation for $v \in \mathbb{Z}^{k-1}$?

- Sequence $(a_n)_{n=1}^{\infty} \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^+$;
- only consider negative terms, $v = \sum_{n=1}^m a_n \vec{X}_{-n}$;
- cannot replace terms using the recursion; and
- all coefficients are "bounded" appropriately.

Example: Consider $\vec{c} = (4, 2, 1)$, then

- $\vec{v}_1 := 2\vec{X}_{-1} + 4\vec{X}_{-2} + 2\vec{X}_{-3} + 1\vec{X}_{-4} \rightarrow 2, 4, 2, 1$
- $\vec{v}_2 := 0\vec{X}_{-1} + 1\vec{X}_{-2} + 5\vec{X}_{-3} + 1\vec{X}_{-4} + 1\vec{X}_{-5} \rightarrow 0, 1, 5, 1, 1$

Satisfying Representations

Fibonacci (PLRS with $\vec{c} = (1, 1)$) $\rightarrow$ Non-adjacent

What is a $\vec{c}$ -**satisfying** representation for $v \in \mathbb{Z}^{k-1}$?

- Sequence $(a_n)_{n=1}^{\infty} \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^+$;
- only consider negative terms, $v = \sum_{n=1}^m a_n \vec{X}_{-n}$;
- cannot replace terms using the recursion; and
- all coefficients are "bounded" appropriately.

Example: Consider $\vec{c} = (4, 2, 1)$, then

- $\vec{v}_1 := 2\vec{X}_{-1} + 4\vec{X}_{-2} + 2\vec{X}_{-3} + 1\vec{X}_{-4} \rightarrow 2, 4, 2, 1$
- $\vec{v}_2 := 0\vec{X}_{-1} + 1\vec{X}_{-2} + 5\vec{X}_{-3} + 1\vec{X}_{-4} + 1\vec{X}_{-5} \rightarrow 0, 1, 5, 1, 1$
- $\vec{v}_3 := 0\vec{X}_{-1} + 2\vec{X}_{-2} + 1\vec{X}_{-3} + 0\vec{X}_{-4} + 1\vec{X}_{-5} \rightarrow 0, 2, 1, 0, 1$

Anderson and Bicknell-Johnson

Theorem (AB-J)

Every $\vec{v} \in \mathbb{Z}^{k-1}$ has a unique $\vec{c} = (1, \dots, 1)$ -satisfying representation.

Weakly Decreasing Coefficients

Definition (**Weakly decreasing**)

Vector $\vec{c} = (c_1, \dots, c_k)$ is weakly decreasing if $c_n \geq c_{n+1}$.

Weakly Decreasing Coefficients

Definition (Weakly decreasing)

Vector $\vec{c} = (c_1, \dots, c_k)$ is weakly decreasing if $c_n \geq c_{n+1}$.

Theorem (Main Result)

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

Weakly Decreasing Coefficients

Definition (Weakly decreasing)

Vector $\vec{c} = (c_1, \dots, c_k)$ is weakly decreasing if $c_n \geq c_{n+1}$.

Theorem (Main Result)

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

- Prove uniqueness.
- Prove existence.

The Carrying and Borrowing Game

How to turn a *non-satisfying representation* into a satisfying one?

The Carrying and Borrowing Game

How to turn a *non-satisfying representation* into a satisfying one?

- **Borrowing:** If a coefficient is too high, decrease it by expanding the recursion.

The Carrying and Borrowing Game

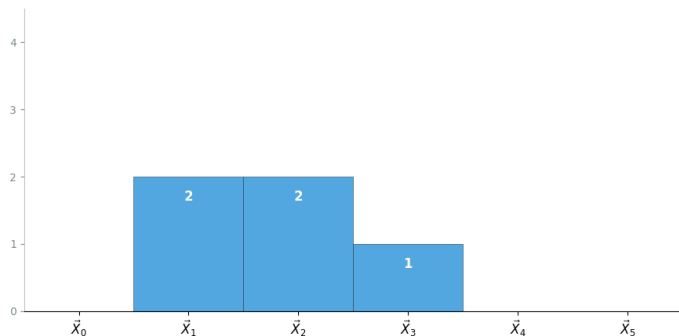
How to turn a *non-satisfying representation* into a satisfying one?

- **Borrowing:** If a coefficient is too high, decrease it by expanding the recursion.
- **Carrying:** If we have a copy of the recursion we can absorb or "condense" it into the previous term.

STEP 0 INITIAL STATE

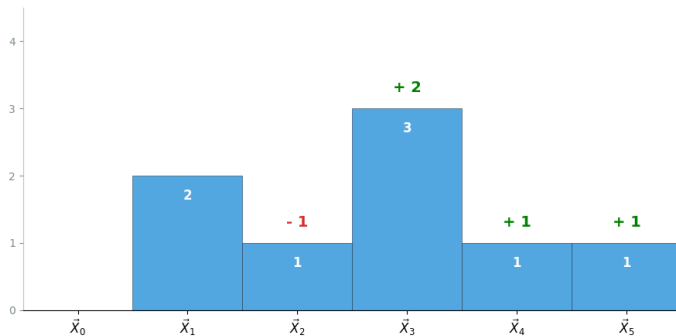
Let $\vec{c} = (2, 1, 1)$.

STEP 0 INITIAL STATE



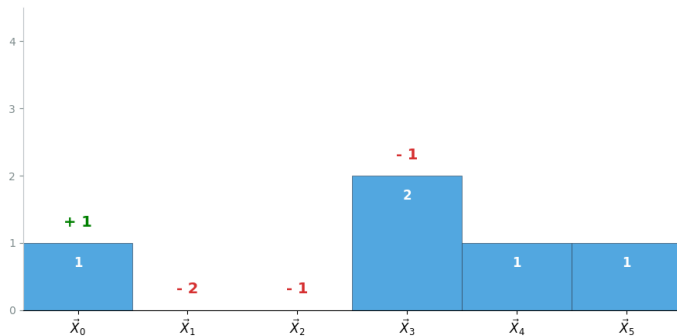
STEP 1 BORROW

STEP 1 BORROW



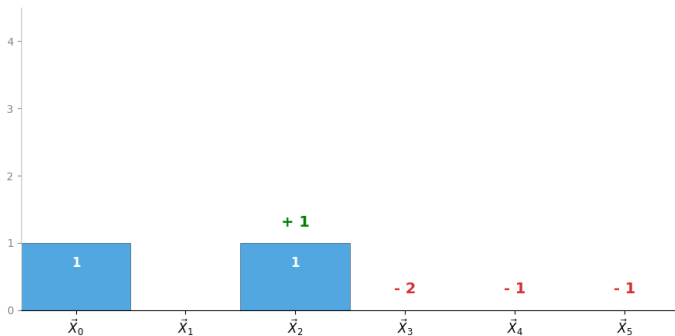
STEP 2 CARRY

STEP 2 CARRY



STEP 3 CARRY

STEP 3 CARRY



Algorithm

In general, how do we go from non-satisfying to satisfying?

Algorithm

In general, how do we go from non-satisfying to satisfying?
Suppose we have a non-satisfying representation.

Algorithm

In general, how do we go from non-satisfying to satisfying?
Suppose we have a non-satisfying representation.

- 1 Start reading from left to right;

Algorithm

In general, how do we go from non-satisfying to satisfying?
Suppose we have a non-satisfying representation.

- 1 Start reading from left to right;
- 2 if you complete a "copy" of the sequence, carry it up;

Algorithm

In general, how do we go from non-satisfying to satisfying?
Suppose we have a non-satisfying representation.

- 1 Start reading from left to right;
- 2 if you complete a "copy" of the sequence, carry it up;
- 3 else, take the first "overfilled" element and borrow from it;

Algorithm

In general, how do we go from non-satisfying to satisfying?
Suppose we have a non-satisfying representation.

- 1 Start reading from left to right;
- 2 if you complete a "copy" of the sequence, carry it up;
- 3 else, take the first "overfilled" element and borrow from it;
- 4 if the result is still non-satisfying, repeat.

Algorithm

In general, how do we go from non-satisfying to satisfying?
Suppose we have a non-satisfying representation.

- 1 Start reading from left to right;
- 2 if you complete a "copy" of the sequence, carry it up;
- 3 else, take the first "overfilled" element and borrow from it;
- 4 if the result is still non-satisfying, repeat.

If the algorithm terminates, we get a $\vec{c}$ -satisfying representation.

Algorithm Termination

Does the algorithm always terminate?

Algorithm Termination

Does the algorithm always terminate? NO.

Algorithm Termination

Does the algorithm always terminate? NO.

Example (Not weakly decreasing)

Let $\vec{c} = (1, 3, 1)$ and consider the representation 0, 2.

Algorithm Termination

Does the algorithm always terminate? NO.

Example (Not weakly decreasing)

Let $\vec{c} = (1, 3, 1)$ and consider the representation 0, 2.

B. 0, 1, 1, 3, 1;

B. 0, 1, 1, 1, 3, 6, 2;

C. 0, 1, 2, 0, 0, 5, 2;

Algorithm Termination

Does the algorithm always terminate? NO.

Example (Not weakly decreasing)

Let $\vec{c} = (1, 3, 1)$ and consider the representation 0, 2.

B. 0, 1, 1, 3, 1;

B. 0, 1, 1, 1, 3, 6, 2;

C. 0, 1, 2, 0, 0, 5, 2;

B. 0, 1, 2, 0, 0, 1, 6, 12, 4;

C. 0, 1, 2, 0, 1, 0, 3, 11, 4;

...eventually we get 0, 1, 2, 0, 1, 3, 0, 1, 3, 0, 0, 5, 2.

Algorithm Termination

Does the algorithm always terminate? NO.

Example (Not weakly decreasing)

Let $\vec{c} = (1, 3, 1)$ and consider the representation 0, 2.

B. 0, 1, 1, 3, 1;

B. 0, 1, 1, 1, 3, 6, 2;

C. 0, 1, 2, 0, 0, 5, 2;

B. 0, 1, 2, 0, 0, 1, 6, 12, 4;

C. 0, 1, 2, 0, 1, 0, 3, 11, 4;

...eventually we get 0, 1, 2, 0, 1, 3, 0, 1, 3, 0, 0, 5, 2.

Observation: The prefix 0, 1, 2, 0 and suffix 0, 5, 2 remain fixed, while the middle gains an extra 1, 3, 0, 1, 3, 0 block each cycle. The algorithm will therefore loop forever, inserting more and more terms in the middle without ever terminating.

Back to Main Theorem

Theorem (Main Theorem)

If $\vec{c} = (c_1, c_2, \dots, c_k)$ is weakly decreasing and $c_k = 1$, then for every vector $\vec{u} \in \mathbb{Z}^{k-1}$ there is always a representation for which the algorithm terminates.

Special Properties

Central Limit Type Theorem (Lekkerkerker, 1952)

As $n \rightarrow \infty$, the distribution of the number of summands in the Zeckendorf decomposition for $m \in [F_n, F_{n+1})$ is **Gaussian**.

Special Properties

Central Limit Type Theorem (Lekkerkerker, 1952)

As $n \rightarrow \infty$, the distribution of the number of summands in the Zeckendorf decomposition for $m \in [F_n, F_{n+1})$ is **Gaussian**.

[Theorem 3.5]

For weakly decreasing $\vec{c}$ with $c_k = 1$: As $n \rightarrow \infty$ the distribution of number of summands in the general Zeckendorf representation for $\vec{v} \in R_n$ (generalized regions) is **Gaussian**.

Illustrations

Illustrations for $\vec{c} = (2, 1, 1)$.



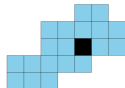
Illustrations

Illustrations for $\vec{c} = (2, 1, 1)$.



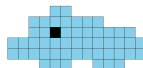
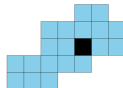
Illustrations

Illustrations for $\vec{c} = (2, 1, 1)$.



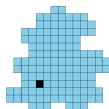
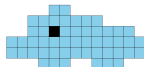
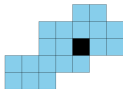
Illustrations

Illustrations for $\vec{c} = (2, 1, 1)$.



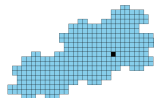
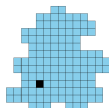
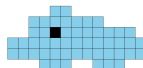
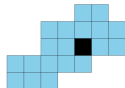
Illustrations

Illustrations for $\vec{c} = (2, 1, 1)$.



Illustrations

Illustrations for $\vec{c} = (2, 1, 1)$.



Illustrations

Illustrations for $\vec{c} = (1, 2, 1)$ (Not weakly decreasing).



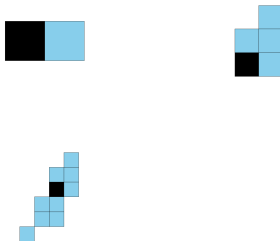
Illustrations

Illustrations for $\vec{c} = (1, 2, 1)$ (Not weakly decreasing).



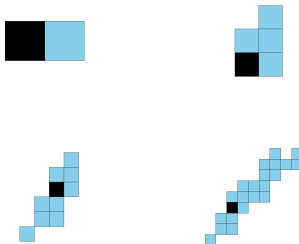
Illustrations

Illustrations for $\vec{c} = (1, 2, 1)$ (Not weakly decreasing).



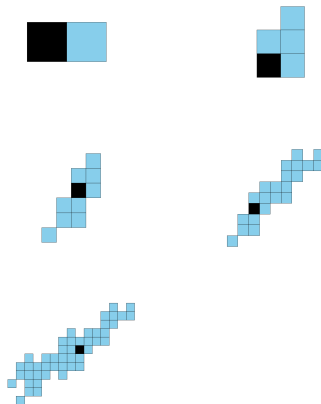
Illustrations

Illustrations for $\vec{c} = (1, 2, 1)$ (Not weakly decreasing).



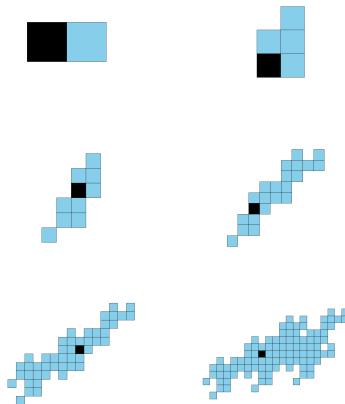
Illustrations

Illustrations for $\vec{c} = (1, 2, 1)$ (Not weakly decreasing).



Illustrations

Illustrations for $\vec{c} = (1, 2, 1)$ (Not weakly decreasing).



Further Research

- 1 Which conditions on the coefficient vector $\vec{c}$ characterize when the "carrying and borrowing game" terminates?

Further Research

- 1 Which conditions on the coefficient vector $\vec{c}$ characterize when the "carrying and borrowing game" terminates?
- 2 How "quickly" do these representations fill the entire space depending on the coefficient vector $\vec{c}$?

Thank you!

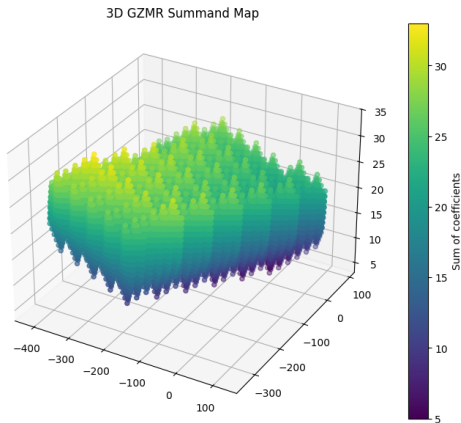
Emails: Tianyu Shen: 1790299332@qq.com
Steven J. Miller: sjm1@williams.edu

Supported by NSF Grant DMS2341670 (Polymath Jr.)

3D illustrations

Let $\vec{c} = (5, 1, 1)$.

3D illustrations



Let $\vec{c} = (5, 1, 1)$.