

Limiting Distributions of Generalized b -bin Zeckendorf Decompositions

Granger Carty (glc2@williams.edu), Alexandre Gueganic (ag15@williams.edu), Yujin H. Kim (yujin.kim@columbia.edu), Alina Shubina (as31@williams.edu), Shannon Sweitzer (sswei001@ucr.edu), Eric Winsor (rcwnsr@umich.edu), Jianing Yang (jyang@colby.edu);

Advisor: Dr. Steven J. Miller

Number Theory and Probability Theory - SMALL 2017 - Williams College

Introduction

- First, recall that the Fibonacci numbers are defined by the following recurrence relation:

$$F_{n+1} = F_n + F_{n-1}.$$

Thus, we have $F_1 = 1, F_2 = 2, F_3 = 3, F_4 = 5$.

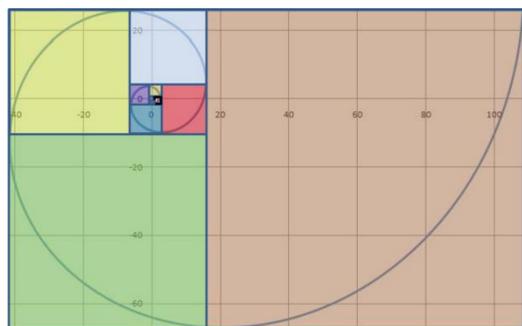


Figure 1: Geometrically, the Fibonacci numbers can be represented by a spiral

<https://timwolverson.wordpress.com/2014/02/08/plot-a-fibonacci-spiral-in-excel/>

- We can compute the generating function for the Fibonacci numbers:

$$g(x) = x/(1-x-x^2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \left(\frac{1}{1-x(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2})} - \frac{1}{1-x(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2})} \right).$$
- Zeckendorf's Theorem.** Every positive integer can be written uniquely as a sum of non-consecutive Fibonacci numbers e.g. $2017 = 1597 + 377 + 34 + 8 + 1 = F_{16} + F_{13} + F_8 + F_5 + F_1$
- Lekkerkerker's Theorem (1952).** The average number of summands in the Zeckendorf decomposition for integers in $[F_n, F_{n+1})$ tends to $\frac{n}{\varphi^2+1} \approx .276n$, where $\varphi = \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}$ is the golden mean.
- Central Limit Type Theorem (KKMW 2010).** As $n \rightarrow \infty$, the distribution of the number of summands in the Zeckendorf decomposition for integers in $[F_n, F_{n+1})$ is Gaussian.

Sequences Expressed in Terms of Bins

Another result by Zeckendorf states that if $\{a_n\}$ is a sequence of integers such that every positive integer can be written uniquely as a sum of nonadjacent terms in the sequence, then this sequence *must* be the Fibonacci sequence.

We can also view this construction as having a rule on what summands we can choose from bins of length 1: that no summands from adjacent bins may be chosen.

$$\underbrace{1} \underbrace{2} \underbrace{3} \underbrace{5} \dots$$

Some natural questions to ask regarding these bin representation of sequences are:

- What happens when we allow the size of the bin to vary?
- What happens when the allowed numbers of summands per bin vary?
- In what situations do we retain uniqueness of decomposition?

Important Result

Let b_i be the number of terms in the i^{th} bin of a sequence, N the number of bins, and Y_i the number of summands chosen from the i^{th} bin. Then if $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{b_i}$ diverges, the distribution of the average number of summands in a decomposition converges to a Gaussian.

Choosing Arbitrarily Many Elements

We can generalize this notion further by choosing arbitrary numbers of elements from each bin. We let $A_i \subseteq \{0, 1, \dots, b_i\}$ be a set of integers so that if $a \in A_i$, we may choose a summands from the i^{th} bin.

Important Result

Suppose $|A_n| \geq 2$. Then the distribution of the number of summands is Gaussian if the bin size b_n grows slower than $n^{\frac{1}{m_n - m'_n}}$.

Sketch of Proof:

The probability of choosing i elements from the n^{th} bin is $p(Y_n = i) = \frac{\binom{b_n}{i}}{\sum_{t \in A_n} \binom{b_n}{t}}$. We then find that

$$\sigma_n^2 = \mathbb{E}[Y_n^2] - \mathbb{E}[Y_n]^2 = \frac{\sum_{i,j \in A_n, i \neq j} (i-j)^2 \binom{b_n}{i} \binom{b_n}{j}}{2 \left(\sum_{t \in A_n} \binom{b_n}{t} \right)^2}$$

$$\rho_n^{2+\delta} = \mathbb{E} \left[|Y_n - \mu_n|^{2+\delta} \right]$$

By asymptotically analyzing σ_n^2 and $\rho_n^{2+\delta}$ and applying the Lyapunov Central Limit Theorem, we find the above restriction for the growth of b_n .

Conclusion and Future Directions

A natural extension of these results is to examine the distribution of the average number of summands when we put adjacency conditions on the bins. However, since our variables Y_1, \dots, Y_n are dependent random variables, we must use a dependent version of the Central Limit Theorem:

Definition:

Let $\{X_i\}$ be a sequence of random variables. Then the i^{th} α -mixing coefficient, α_i is defined to be $\alpha_i := \sup\{|\mathbb{P}(A \cap B) - \mathbb{P}(A)\mathbb{P}(B)| : A \in X_{-\infty}^t, B \in X_{t+i}^{\infty}\}$, where X_a^b is the set of events involving finitely many random variables in the set $\{X_a, \dots, X_b\}$.

We wish to bound α_i for constant bin sizes, essentially showing that the random variables are sufficiently independent when far enough apart.

References

- [1] P. Billingsley, *Probability and Measure* (1979), pages 377-381
- [2] M. Kologlu, G. Kopp, S. J. Miller and Y. Wang, *On the Number of Summands in Zeckendorf Decompositions*. <http://arxiv.org/abs/1008.3204>
- [3] S.J. Miller and Y. Wang, *From Fibonacci Numbers to Central Limit Type Theorems*. <http://arxiv.org/abs/1008.3202>

Acknowledgements

This research was conducted as part of the 2017 SMALL REU program at Williams College. This work was supported by NSF Grant DMS1561945 and DMS1659037, Williams College, and the Finnerty Fund.