

อัตราส่วนของลำดับย่อยของจำนวนฟีโบนัชชีที่มีดัชนี่เป็นเลขชี้กำลัง  $n$ The ratio of the  $n$ -th exponential subsequence of the Fibonacci Sequenceวิภาวี ตั้งใจ<sup>1\*</sup>, กรภัทร ชมสด<sup>2</sup>Wipawee Tangjai<sup>1\*</sup>, Korrapat Chomhod<sup>2</sup>

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## บทคัดย่อ

เป็นที่ทราบกันดีว่าอัตราส่วนของพจน์ที่ติดกันของจำนวนฟีโบนัชชี  $\{F_m\}_{m=0}^{\infty}$  และอัตราส่วนของพจน์ที่ติดกันของจำนวนลูคัส  $\{L_m\}_{m=0}^{\infty}$  ลู่เข้าสู่อัตราส่วนของค่า งานวิจัยนี้ศึกษาลำดับย่อย  $\{F_{m^n}\}_{m=0}^{\infty}$  เมื่อ  $n$  เป็นจำนวนเต็มบวก โดยได้แสดงว่าลิมิตของอัตราส่วนระหว่าง  $\frac{F_{(m+1)^n}}{F_{m^n}}$  และ  $\frac{F_{m^n}}{F_{(m-1)^n}}$  ลู่เข้าก็ต่อเมื่อ  $n \leq 2$  โดยทำการพิสูจน์ลำดับที่เกิดจากความสัมพันธ์เวียนเกิดอันดับสองในรูปแบบทั่วไปที่ครอบคลุมลำดับฟีโบนัชชี นอกจากนี้ยังได้ให้ค่าของลิมิตที่เกิดขึ้น

**คำสำคัญ:** ลำดับฟีโบนัชชี อัตราส่วน การลู่เข้า ความสัมพันธ์เวียนเกิด ลำดับย่อยที่มีดัชนี่เป็นเลขชี้กำลังเป็น  $n$

## Abstract

It is well known that the ratios of the consecutive terms of the Fibonacci numbers  $\{F_m\}_{m=0}^{\infty}$  and those of the Lucas numbers  $\{L_m\}_{m=0}^{\infty}$  converge to the golden ratio. In this work, we study the  $n$ -exponential subsequence  $\{F_{m^n}\}$ , where  $n$  is a positive integer. We show that the limit of the quotient between  $\frac{F_{(m+1)^n}}{F_{m^n}}$  and  $\frac{F_{m^n}}{F_{(m-1)^n}}$  converges if and only if  $n \leq 2$  by proving a more general statement for the sequences satisfying a recurrence relation of order 2 that covers the Fibonacci sequence. We also give the limit of the convergence if it exists.

**Keyword:** Fibonacci sequence, Quotient, Convergence, Recurrence relation,  $n$ -exponential subsequence

## Introduction

The *Fibonacci sequence*  $\{F_m\}_{m=0}^{\infty}$  is defined by the recurrence relation

$$F_m = F_{m-1} + F_{m-2}, \text{ for } m \geq 2, \quad (1)$$

where  $F_0 = 0$  and  $F_1 = 1$ . In 2015, Craciun<sup>1</sup> defined a geometrical generalization of the golden ratio by considering a ratio between two sub-segments and its relation to a homogeneous function  $M$  defined by

$$M : (0, \infty) \times (0, \infty) \rightarrow (0, \infty)$$

satisfying

$$i. \quad x < M(x, y) < y, \text{ for all } 0 < x < y$$

and

$$ii. \quad M(\lambda x, \lambda y) = \lambda M(x, y), \text{ for all } \lambda, x, y \in (0, \infty).$$

The Fibonacci numbers have been generalized in many ways, one of which is the  $k$ -Fibonacci numbers<sup>2</sup> defined by, for a non-zero integer  $k$ ,

$$F_{k,m} = kF_{k,m-1} + F_{k,m-2}, \text{ for } m \geq 2,$$

where  $F_{k,0} = 0$  and  $F_{k,1} = 1$ . It is well known that the ratio of consecutive Fibonacci numbers converges to the golden ratio  $\varphi = \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}$ . If we consider the  $n$ -exponential subsequence  $\{F_{m^n}\}_{m=1}^{\infty}$  of the Fibonacci sequence, it is obvious that the ratio of consecutive terms goes to infinity.

We will study a more generalized form of the Fibonacci and  $k$ -Fibonacci numbers. For a non-zero

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real number  $k$ , we let  $\{a_m\}_{m=0}^\infty$  be a sequence generated by a recurrence relation

$$a_m = ka_{m-1} + a_{m-2}, \text{ for } m \geq 2 \tag{2}$$

where  $a_0 = s$  and  $a_1 = t$ . We assume that  $a_{m^n} \neq 0$ , for all  $m, n \geq 1$ .

The followings are examples of the sequences satisfying (2):

- if  $k = 1, s = 0, t = 1$ , then  $a_n$  is the Fibonacci number  $F_n$ ,
- if  $k = 1, s = 2, t = 1$ , then  $a_n$  is the Lucas number  $L_n$ ,
- if  $k = 2, s = 0, t = 1$ , then  $a_n$  is the Pell number  $P_n$ ,
- if  $k = 2, s = 2, t = 2$ , then  $a_n$  is the Pell-Lucas number  $Q_n$ .

In this paper, we are interested in the growth rate of such ratios which is the quotient of  $\frac{a_{(m+1)^n}}{a_{m^n}}$ . It has been shown that if  $k$  is a positive integer, then<sup>3,4</sup>

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \frac{F_{k,m+p}}{F_{k,m}} = \phi_k^p, \tag{3}$$

where  $p$  is a positive integer and

$\phi_k = \frac{k + \sqrt{k^2 + 4}}{2}$ . By (3), it can be verified that the limit of the quotient of  $\frac{F_{k,(m+1)^n}}{F_{k,m^n}}$  and  $\frac{F_{k,(m-1)^n}}{F_{k,m^n}}$  converges if and only if  $n \leq 2$ , and that if  $n = 2$ , then the limit converges to  $\phi_k^2$ . Considering a more generalized sequence  $\{a_m\}_{m=0}^\infty$  we give a result related to the quotient of  $\frac{a_{(m+1)^n}}{a_{m^n}}$  and  $\frac{a_{m^n}}{a_{(m-1)^n}}$  in

**Theorem 2.1.**

In 2016, R. Euler and J. Sadek<sup>5</sup> showed that

$$a_m = \frac{1}{r_1 - r_2} (\alpha r_1^m - \beta r_2^m), \tag{4}$$

where  $\alpha = s - tr_2, \beta = t - sr_1$  and

$$r_1, r_2 \in \left\{ \frac{k + \sqrt{k^2 + 4}}{2}, \frac{k - \sqrt{k^2 + 4}}{2} \right\} \text{ such that}$$

$|r_1| > |r_2|$ . We note that  $0 < |r_2| < 1$ .

**Main Theorem**

Considering  $\{a_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$  satisfying (2),

we let

$$a_m^{(n)} = \frac{a_{m^n}}{a_{(m-1)^n}}.$$

**Theorem 2.1.**

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_{m+1}^{(n)}}{a_m^{(n)}} = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } n = 1, \\ r_1^2, & \text{if } n = 2, \\ \infty, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

**Proof.** By using the Binet formula of  $a_m$  in (4),

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{a_{m+1}^{(n)}}{a_m^{(n)}} \\ &= \frac{a_{(m+1)^n}}{a_{m^n}} \cdot \frac{a_{(m-1)^n}}{a_{m^n}} \\ &= \frac{\alpha r_1^{(m+1)^n} - \beta r_2^{(m+1)^n}}{\alpha r_1^{m^n} - \beta r_2^{m^n}} \cdot \frac{\alpha r_1^{(m-1)^n} - \beta r_2^{(m-1)^n}}{\alpha r_1^{m^n} - \beta r_2^{m^n}} \\ &= \frac{\alpha^2 r_1^{(m+1)^n + (m-1)^n} - \alpha \beta r_2^{(m-1)^n} r_1^{(m+1)^n}}{(\alpha r_1^{m^n} - \beta r_2^{m^n})^2} \\ & \quad + \frac{-\alpha \beta r_1^{(m-1)^n} r_2^{(m+1)^n} + \beta^2 r_2^{(m+1)^n + (m-1)^n}}{(\alpha r_1^{m^n} - \beta r_2^{m^n})^2} \\ &= \frac{\alpha^2 r_1^{(m+1)^n + (m-1)^n} + \beta^2 r_2^{(m-1)^n + (m-1)^n}}{(\alpha r_1^{m^n} - \beta r_2^{m^n})^2} \\ & \quad - \alpha \beta (r_1 r_2)^{(m-1)^n} \frac{(r_1^{(m+1)^n - (m-1)^n} + r_2^{(m+1)^n - (m-1)^n})}{(\alpha r_1^{m^n} - \beta r_2^{m^n})^2} \\ &= \frac{\alpha^2 r_1^{(m+1)^n + (m-1)^n} + \beta^2 r_2^{(m-1)^n + (m-1)^n}}{(\alpha r_1^{m^n} - \beta r_2^{m^n})^2} \\ & \quad - \alpha \beta (-1)^{(m-1)^n} \cdot \frac{(r_1^{(m+1)^n - (m-1)^n} + r_2^{(m+1)^n - (m-1)^n})}{(\alpha r_1^{m^n} - \beta r_2^{m^n})^2} \\ &= \frac{\alpha^2 r_1^{(m+1)^n + (m-1)^n} - \alpha \beta (-1)^{(m-1)^n} r_1^{(m+1)^n - (m-1)^n}}{(\alpha r_1^{m^n} - \beta r_2^{m^n})^2} \\ & \quad + \frac{\beta^2 r_2^{(m-1)^n + (m-1)^n} - \alpha \beta (-1)^{(m-1)^n} r_2^{(m+1)^n - (m-1)^n}}{(\alpha r_1^{m^n} - \beta r_2^{m^n})^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{\alpha^2 r_1^{(m+1)^n + (m-1)^n - 2m^n} - \alpha\beta(-1)^{(m-1)^n} r_1^{(m+1)^n - (m-1)^n - 2m^2}}{\left(\alpha - \beta \left(\frac{r_2}{r_1}\right)^{m^n}\right)^2} \\
 &+ \frac{\beta^2 r_2^{(m+1)^n + (m-1)^n - 2m^n} - \alpha\beta(-1)^{(m-1)^n} r_2^{(m+1)^n - (m-1)^n - 2m^2}}{\left(\alpha \left(\frac{r_1}{r_2}\right)^{m^n} - \beta\right)^2}.
 \end{aligned} \tag{5}$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\alpha^2 r_1^{(m+1)^n + (m-1)^n - 2m^n} - \alpha\beta(-1)^{(m-1)^n} r_1^{(m+1)^n - (m-1)^n - 2m^2}}{\left(\alpha - \beta \left(\frac{r_2}{r_1}\right)^{m^n}\right)^2} \\
 &= \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } n=1, \\ r_1^2, & \text{if } n=2, \\ \infty, & \text{if } n=3. \end{cases}
 \end{aligned}$$

Since  $0 < |r_2| < 1$  and  $|r_2| < |r_1|$ , it follows that

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\beta^2 r_2^{(m+1)^n + (m-1)^n - 2m^n} - \alpha\beta(-1)^{(m-1)^n} r_2^{(m+1)^n - (m-1)^n - 2m^2}}{\left(\alpha \left(\frac{r_1}{r_2}\right)^{m^n} - \beta\right)^2} = 0.$$

Therefore,

$$\frac{a_{m+1}^{(n)}}{a_m^{(n)}} = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } n=1, \\ r_1^2, & \text{if } n=2, \\ \infty, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

By (5), we can also conclude that

$$\frac{a_{(m+1)^n}^{(n)}}{a_m^{(n)}} \in O(r_1^{2m^{n-2}}).$$

Theorem 2.1 implies that, for any positive integer  $k$ , the growth rate of the ratios of consecutive terms of the  $n$ -exponential subsequence  $\{a_m^{(n)}\}_{m=0}^\infty$  converges if and only if  $n \leq 2$ .

Theorem 2.1 can be generalized to the sequences  $\{b_m\}_{m=0}^\infty$  defined by

$$b_m = k_1 b_{m-1} + k_2 b_{m-2}, \text{ for } m \geq 2 \tag{6}$$

where  $k_1, k_2$  are non-negative integers and  $b_0 = s, b_1 = t$ . If the roots of the characteristic equation of (6) are distinct, then the Binet formula of  $b_m$  is

$$b_m = \frac{1}{l_1 - l_2} \left( (t - sl_2) l_1^m + (sl_1 - t) l_2^m \right), \tag{7}$$

where

$$l_1 = \frac{k_1 + \sqrt{k_1^2 + 4k_2}}{2}$$

and

$$l_2 = \frac{k_1 - \sqrt{k_1^2 + 4k_2}}{2}.$$

If  $1 - k_1 < k_2 < 0$ , then  $0 < l_2 < 1$  and  $l_2 < l_1$ .

So, we are able to extend the same method appearing in Theorem 2.1 to Theorem 2.2.

**Theorem 2.2.** If  $b_m^{(n)}$  is not zero for all  $m, n \geq 1$  and  $1 - k_1 < k_2 < 0$ , in (6), then

$$\frac{b_{m+1}^{(n)}}{b_m^{(n)}} = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } n=1, \\ l_1^2, & \text{if } n=2, \\ \infty, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

As a result, the quotient of the ratios of the  $n$ -exponential subsequence of the Fibonacci sequences converges to the square of the golden ratio.

Let  $F_m, L_m, P_m, Q_m$  be the Fibonacci number, Lucas Number, Pell number and Pell-Lucas number, respectively. Let  $\varphi$  be the golden ratio and  $\delta = 1 + \sqrt{2}$ .

**Corollary 2.3.** The following statements are true:

- $\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \frac{F_m^{(2)}}{F_{m-1}^{(2)}} = \varphi^2$
- $\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \frac{L_m^{(2)}}{L_{m-1}^{(2)}} = \varphi^2$
- $\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \frac{P_m^{(2)}}{P_{m-1}^{(2)}} = \delta^2$
- $\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \frac{Q_m^{(2)}}{Q_{m-1}^{(2)}} = \delta^2$ .

**Corollary 2.4.**

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \frac{F_{k,m}^{(2)}}{F_{k,m-1}^{(2)}} = \begin{cases} \frac{(k + \sqrt{k^2 + 4})^2}{4}, & \text{if } k > 0, \\ \frac{(k - \sqrt{k^2 + 4})^2}{4}, & \text{if } k < 0. \end{cases}$$

Example 2.5 gives an example of the sequences satisfying Theorem 2.2 but not the sequences in Corollary 2.3 and 2.4.

**Example 2.5.** Let  $b_m = 3b_{m-1} + 2b_{m-2}$ , where  $b_0 = 0, b_1 = 1$ . Table 1 shows the value of  $b_m^{(2)}$ , for

$m = 1, \dots, 10$ . By Theorem 2.2,

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \frac{b_{(m+1)^2} b_{(m-1)^2}}{b_{m^2}} = \frac{(3 + \sqrt{17})^2}{4}.$$

**Table 1:**  $b_{m^2}$

$b_{m^2}$	value of $b_{m^2}$
$b_1$	1
$b_4$	39
$b_9$	22363
$b_{16}$	162557031
$b_{25}$	14988571946011
$b_{36}$	1753046890008685335
$b_{49}$	260079179143778066525568571
$b_{64}$	48943657027144499564640559765030311
$b_{81}$	116833133373681561419044674956313653328090043
$b_{100}$	3537646303459605111696665428274832196761996930395731479

**Discussion**

Theorem 2.2 implies that all sequences satisfying the recurrence relation (6) with a condition that  $1 - k_1 < k_2 < 0$ , and  $b_{m^n}$  is non-null real number, for  $m, n \geq 1$ . The growth of the ratios of consecutive terms of the subsequence  $\{b_{m^n}\}$  is  $O(l_1^{2m^{n-2}})$ . It converges if and only if  $n \leq 2$ . Moreover, if  $n = 2$ , then

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \frac{b_{(m+1)^2} b_{(m-1)^2}}{b_{m^2}} = \frac{2k_1^2 + 2\sqrt{k_1^2 + 4k_2} + 4k_2}{4}.$$

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