

# Fibonacci and Lucas numbers via the determinants of tridiagonal matrix

Taras Goy

Department of Mathematics and Informatics  
Vasyl Stefanyk Precarpathian National University  
57 Shevchenko Str., 76018 Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine  
e-mail: tarasgoy@yahoo.com

Received: 12 June 2016

Accepted: 31 January 2018

**Abstract:** Applying the apparatus of triangular matrices, we proved new recurrence formulas for the Fibonacci and Lucas numbers with even (odd) indices by tridiagonal determinants.

**Keywords:** Fibonacci numbers, Lucas numbers, Horadam sequence, Triangular matrix, Parapermanent of triangular matrix.

**AMS Classification:** 11B39, 11C20.

## 1 Triangular matrix and parapermanents of triangular matrix

The functions of triangular matrices are widely used in algebra, combinatorics, number theory and other branches of mathematics [9, 11, 12].

**Definition 1.1.** [11]. A triangular number table

$$A_n = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & & & & \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & & & \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & & \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \cdots & a_{nn} & \end{pmatrix} \quad (1)$$

is called a  $n$ th-order triangular matrix.

Note that a matrix (1) is not a triangular matrix in the usual sense of this term as it is not a square matrix.

The product  $a_{ij} a_{i,j+1} \cdots a_{ii}$  is denoted by  $\{a_{ij}\}$  and is called a *factorial product* of the element  $a_{ij}$ .

**Definition 1.2.** [11]. The parapermanent  $\text{pper}(A_n)$  of a triangular matrix (1) is the number

$$\text{pper}(A_n) \equiv \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & & & & \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & & & \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & & \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \cdots & a_{nn} & \end{bmatrix}_n = \sum_{r=1}^n \sum_{p_1+\dots+p_r=n} \prod_{s=1}^r \{a_{p_1+\dots+p_s, p_1+\dots+p_{s-1}+1}\}, \quad (2)$$

where  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_r$  are positive integers,  $\{a_{ij}\}$  is the factorial product of the element  $a_{ij}$ .

**Example 1.3.** The parapermanent of a 4-th order matrix:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{pper}(A_4) &= \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & & & \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & & \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} & \\ a_{41} & a_{42} & a_{43} & a_{44} \end{bmatrix} = \\ &= a_{41}a_{42}a_{43}a_{44} + a_{31}a_{32}a_{33}a_{44} + a_{21}a_{22}a_{43}a_{44} + a_{21}a_{22}a_{33}a_{44} + \\ &+ a_{11}a_{42}a_{43}a_{44} + a_{11}a_{32}a_{33}a_{44} + a_{11}a_{22}a_{43}a_{44} + a_{11}a_{22}a_{33}a_{44}. \end{aligned}$$

To each element  $a_{ij}$  of a matrix (1) we associate the triangular table of elements of matrix  $A_n$  that has  $a_{ij}$  in the bottom left corner. We call this table a *corner* of the matrix and denote it by  $R_{ij}(A_n)$ . Corner  $R_{ij}(A_n)$  is a triangular matrix of order  $(i-j+1)$ , and it contains only elements  $a_{rs}$  of matrix (1) whose indices satisfy the inequalities  $j \leq s \leq r \leq i$ .

**Theorem 1.4.** [11] (Decomposition of a parapermanent  $\text{pper}(A_n)$  by elements of the last row). The following formula are valid:

$$\text{pper}(A_n) = \sum_{s=1}^n \{a_{ns}\} \text{pper}(R_{s-1,1}(A_n)), \quad (3)$$

where  $\text{pper}(R_{0,1}(A_n)) \equiv 1$ .

**Example 1.5.** Decomposition of a parapermanent  $\text{pper}(A_4)$  by elements of the last row:

$$\text{pper}(A_4) = a_{44}\text{pper}(A_3) + a_{43}a_{44}\text{pper}(A_2) + a_{42}a_{43}a_{44}\text{pper}(A_1) + a_{41}a_{42}a_{43}a_{44}\text{pper}(A_0),$$

where  $\text{pper}(A_1) = a_{11}$ ,  $\text{pper}A_0 \equiv 1$ .

R. Zatorsky and I. Lishchynskyy [10, 13] established connection between the paradeterminants and the lower Hessenberg determinants by formula

$$\text{pper}(A_n) = \begin{vmatrix} \{a_{11}\} & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ -\{a_{21}\} & \{a_{22}\} & 1 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ -\{a_{31}\} & -\{a_{32}\} & \{a_{33}\} & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ -\{a_{n-1,1}\} & -\{a_{n-1,2}\} & -\{a_{n-1,3}\} & \cdots & \{a_{n-1,n-1}\} & 1 \\ -\{a_{n1}\} & -\{a_{n2}\} & -\{a_{n3}\} & \cdots & -\{a_{n,n-1}\} & \{a_{nn}\} \end{vmatrix}, \quad (4)$$

where  $\{a_{ij}\}$  is factorial product of the element  $a_{ij}$ .

## 2 A connection between the Horadam numbers with even (odd) indices and parapermanents

In [5] A. Horadam considered the sequence

$$h_1 = p, h_2 = q, h_n = h_{n-1} + h_{n-2}, n \geq 3,$$

where  $p$  and  $q$  are arbitrary integer numbers. This sequence generalized the Fibonacci sequence:

$$F_1 = 1, F_2 = 1, F_n = F_{n-1} + F_{n-2}, n \geq 3,$$

and the Lucas sequence:

$$L_1 = 2, L_2 = 1, L_n = L_{n-1} + L_{n-2}, n \geq 3.$$

**Proposition 2.1.** *The following formula is valid:*

$$h_{2n-1} = \begin{bmatrix} p \\ \frac{h_2}{1} & 1 \\ 0 & \frac{h_4}{h_1} & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{h_6}{h_3} & 1 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & \frac{h_{2n-4}}{h_{2n-7}} & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & \frac{h_{2n-2}}{h_{2n-5}} & 1 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (5)$$

*Proof.* Expanding the parapermanent (5) by elements of the last row (see (3)), we have

$$h_{2n-1} = 1 \cdot h_{2n-3} + \frac{h_{2n-2}}{h_{2n-5}} \cdot h_{2n-5} = h_{2n-3} + h_{2n-2}.$$

Obtained equality holds by definition of the sequence  $\{h_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ . □

**Proposition 2.2.** *The following formula is valid:*

$$h_{2n} = \begin{bmatrix} q \\ \frac{h_3}{1} & 1 \\ 0 & \frac{h_5}{h_2} & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{h_7}{h_4} & 1 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & \frac{h_{2n-3}}{h_{2n-6}} & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & \frac{h_{2n-1}}{h_{2n-4}} & 1 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (6)$$

*Proof.* Using (3), we have

$$h_{2n} = 1 \cdot h_{2n-2} + \frac{h_{2n-1}}{h_{2n-4}} \cdot h_{2n-4} = h_{2n-2} + h_{2n-1}.$$

□

### 3 Main results

In this section we proved two recurrence formulas expressing the Horadam numbers  $h_n$  by the determinant of tridiagonal matrix. As a consequence we received the corresponding formulas for the Fibonacci and Lucas numbers.

**Proposition 3.1.** *The following formulas are valid:*

$$h_{2n-1} = \frac{1}{h_1 h_3 \cdots h_{2n-5}} \begin{vmatrix} p & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -h_2 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -h_4 & h_1 & h_1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -h_6 & h_3 & h_3 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & -h_{2n-4} & h_{2n-7} & h_{2n-7} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & -h_{2n-2} & h_{2n-5} \end{vmatrix}, \quad (7)$$

$$h_{2n} = \frac{1}{h_2 h_4 \cdots h_{2n-4}} \begin{vmatrix} q & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -h_3 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -h_5 & h_2 & h_2 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -h_7 & h_4 & h_4 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & -h_{2n-3} & h_{2n-6} & h_{2n-6} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & -h_{2n-1} & h_{2n-4} \end{vmatrix}. \quad (8)$$

*Proof.* We prove the formula (7). From (5) using (4), we have

$$h_{2n-1} = \begin{vmatrix} p & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -\frac{h_2}{1} & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -\frac{h_4}{h_1} & 1 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -\frac{h_6}{h_3} & 1 & 1 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & -\frac{h_{2n-4}}{h_{2n-7}} & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & -\frac{h_{2n-2}}{h_{2n-5}} & 1 \end{vmatrix}.$$

After obvious simple transformations, we get (7).

Formula (8) can be proved similarly. □

**Example 3.2.** *Fibonacci numbers with odd indices:*

$$F_{2n-1} = \frac{1}{F_1 F_3 \cdots F_{2n-5}} \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -F_2 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -F_4 & F_1 & F_1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -F_6 & F_3 & F_3 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & -F_{2n-4} & F_{2n-7} & F_{2n-7} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & -F_{2n-2} & F_{2n-5} \end{vmatrix}.$$

**Example 3.3.** *The Fibonacci numbers with even indices:*

$$F_{2n} = \frac{1}{F_2 F_4 \cdots F_{2n-4}} \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -F_3 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -F_5 & F_2 & F_2 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -F_7 & F_4 & F_4 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & -F_{2n-3} & F_{2n-6} & F_{2n-6} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & -F_{2n-1} & F_{2n-4} \end{vmatrix}.$$

**Example 3.4.** *The Lucas numbers with odd indices:*

$$L_{2n-1} = \frac{1}{L_1 L_3 \cdots L_{2n-5}} \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -L_2 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -L_4 & L_1 & L_1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -L_6 & L_3 & L_3 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & -L_{2n-4} & L_{2n-7} & L_{2n-7} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & -L_{2n-2} & L_{2n-5} \end{vmatrix}.$$

**Example 3.5.** *The Lucas numbers with even indices:*

$$L_{2n} = \frac{1}{L_2 L_4 \cdots L_{2n-4}} \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -L_3 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -L_5 & L_2 & L_2 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -L_7 & L_4 & L_4 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & -L_{2n-3} & L_{2n-6} & L_{2n-6} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & -L_{2n-1} & L_{2n-4} \end{vmatrix}.$$

Note, that determinants of matrices, elements of which are classical or generalized Fibonacci numbers, in particular, studied in [1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8].

## 4 Acknowledgements

The author is grateful to professor Roman Zatorsky, Department of Mathematics and Informatics, Vasyl Stefanyk Precarpathian National University (Ukraine), for constant attention to this work and for useful discussions.

## References

- [1] Civciv, H. (2008) A note on the determinant of five-diagonal matrices with Fibonacci numbers, *Int. J. Contemp. Math. Sciences*, 3(9), 419–424.

- [2] İpek, A. (2011) On the determinants of pentadiagonal matrices with the classical Fibonacci, generalized Fibonacci and Lucas numbers, *Eurasian Math. J.*, 2(2), 60–74.
- [3] İpek, A., K. Arı (2014) On Hessenberg and pentadiagonal determinants related with Fibonacci and Fibonacci-like numbers, *Appl. Math. Comput.*, 229, 433–439.
- [4] Jaiswal, D. V. (1969) On determinants involving generalized Fibonacci numbers, *Fibonacci Quart.*, 7(3), 319–330.
- [5] Horadam, A.F. (1961) A generalized Fibonacci Sequence, *Amer. Math. Monthly*, 68, 455–459.
- [6] Koshy, T. (2001) *Fibonacci and Lucas Numbers with Applications*, New York: John Wiley & Sons.
- [7] Kwong, H. (2007) Two determinants with Fibonacci and Lucas entries, *Appl. Math. Comput.*, 194(2), 568–571.
- [8] Tangboonduangjit, A., T. Thanatipanonda (2015) Determinants containing powers of generalized Fibonacci numbers, <http://arxiv.org/pdf/1512.07025.pdf>.
- [9] Zatorsky, R. (2015) Introduction to the theory of triangular matrices (tables). In: I. I. Kyrchei (eds.) *Advances in Linear Algebra Research*, New York: Nova Science Publishers, 185–238.
- [10] Zatorsky, R. A. (2002) On paradeterminants and parapermanents of triangular matrices, *Matematychni Studii*, 17(1), 3–17 (in Ukrainian).
- [11] Zatorsky, R. A. (2007) Theory of paradeterminants and its applications, *Algebra Discrete Math.*, 1, 108–137.
- [12] Zatorsky, R., T. Goy (2016) Parapermanents of triangular matrices and some general theorems on number sequences, *J. Integer Seq.*, 19(2), Article 16.2.2.
- [13] Zatorsky, R. A., I. I. Lishchynskyy (2006) On connection between determinants and paradeterminants, *Matematychni Studii*, 25(1), 97–102 (in Ukrainian).