

# Asymptotic bit frequency in Fibonacci words

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joint work with Jean-Luc Baril and Vincent Vajnovszki

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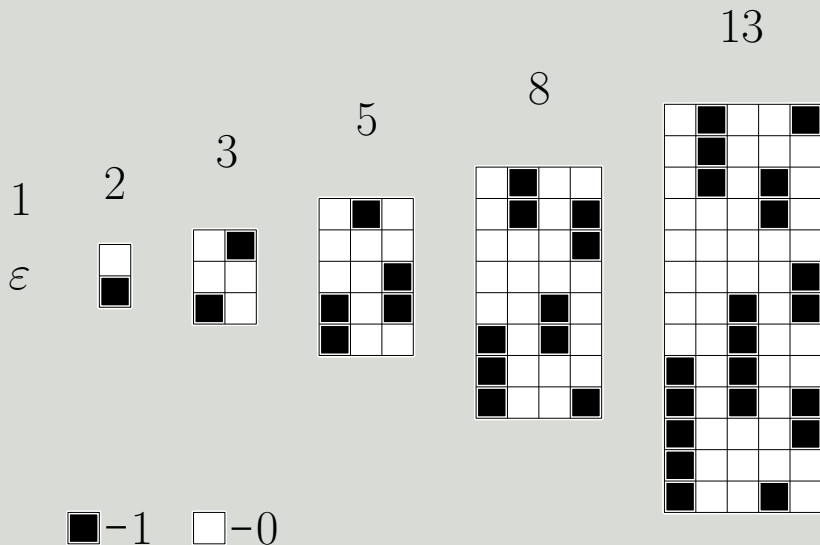
June 13-15, Varese, Villa Toeplitz



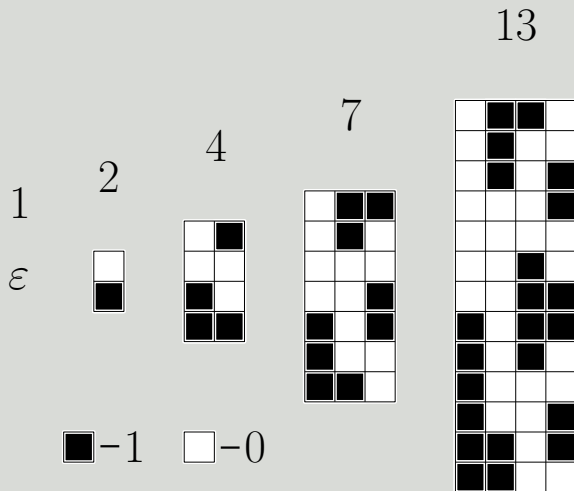
- Words avoiding  $k$  consecutive ones (Fibonacci words) counted by generalized Fibonacci sequence.
- Distribution of ones in these words
- Links to *q-decreasing words*, another kind of binary words counted by (generalized) Fibonacci sequence.

**Our Fibonacci words should  
not be confused with Sturmian Fibonacci words**

# Words avoiding 11 are counted by Fibonacci



# Words avoiding 111 are counted by Tribonacci



## Words avoiding $1^k$ are counted by generalized Fibonacci numbers

Let  $\mathcal{B}_n(1^k)$  be the set of binary words of length  $n$  avoiding  $1^k$ ,

$$|\mathcal{B}_n(1^k)| = f_{n+k,k},$$








where  $f_{n,k}$  is a generalized Fibonacci number defined as

$$f_{n,k} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } 0 \leq n \leq k - 2, \\ 1 & \text{if } n = k - 1, \\ \sum_{i=1}^k f_{n-i,k} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

📄 Generalized Fibonacci numbers and associated matrices, 1960  
E. P. Miles Jr.

📄 Fibonacci-Tribonacci, 1963  
Mark Feinberg

# Fibonacci words and their Gray codes

-  The Art of Computer Programming, Vol. 3: Sorting and Searching, 2 ed. (page 286), 1998, Donald Knuth
-  Matters Computational (Section 14.2), 2010, Jörg Arndt  
<https://www.jjj.de/fxt/fxtbook.pdf>
-  Combinatorial Gray codes—an updated survey, 2022  
Torsten Mütze, <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2202.01280.pdf>
-  Generalized Fibonacci cubes are mostly Hamiltonian  
Jenshiuh Liu, Wen-Jing Hsu, Moon Jung Chung, 1994
-  Gray codes for A-free strings. Matthew B. Squire, 1996
-  A loopless generation of bitstrings without p consecutive ones  
Vincent Vajnovszki, 2001
-  An  $O(1)$  time algorithm for generating Fibonacci strings  
Kenji Mikawa and Ishiro Semba, 2005

# Distribution of ones

## Construction. Example

Let  $\mathcal{B}(1^k) = \bigcup_{n=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{B}_n(1^k)$  be the set of binary words avoiding factors  $1^k$ .

### Example

$\mathcal{B}(111)$  contains the empty word, 1, and 11, and all other words from  $\mathcal{B}(111)$  are constructed as

- $0w$ ,
- $10w$ ,
- $110w$ ,

where  $w$  is another word from  $\mathcal{B}(111)$ .



## Construction. General case

Let  $\mathcal{B}(1^k) = \bigcup_{n=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{B}_n(1^k)$  be the set of binary words avoiding factors  $1^k$ . It respects the following recursive decomposition

$$\mathcal{B}(1^k) = \mathbb{1}_{k-1} \cup \left( \bigcup_{i=0}^{k-1} \left( 1^i 0 \cdot \mathcal{B}(1^k) \right) \right)$$

where  $\mathbb{1}_{k-1} = \bigcup_{i=0}^{k-1} \{1^i\}$  is the set of words in  $\mathcal{B}(1^k)$  containing no 0s, and  $\cdot$  denotes the concatenation. The empty word also lies in  $\mathbb{1}_{k-1}$ .

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Now we can write an equation for the bivariate generating function

$$F_k(x, y) = \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} x^i y^i + F_k(x, y) \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} x^{i+1} y^i.$$

# Distribution of ones in these words

Bivariate generating function

$$F_k(x, y) = \sum_{n, m \geq 0} a_{n, m} x^n y^m = \frac{1 - x^k y^k}{1 - xy - x + x^{k+1} y^k}$$

whose coefficient  $a_{n, m}$  equals the number of words from  $\mathcal{B}_n(1^k)$  containing exactly  $m$  1s.

For example, when  $k = 2$ , we have

$m \backslash n$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2			1	3	6	10	15	21	28
3					1	4	10	20	35
4							1	5	15
5									1

- $P_k(x) = \frac{\partial F_k(x,y)}{\partial y} \Big|_{y=1}$  is the generating function where the coefficient of  $x^n$  is the total number of 1s in  $\mathcal{B}_n(1^k)$ . We have

$$P_k(x) = \frac{x \cdot \sum_{i=0}^{k-2} (i+1)x^i}{(x^k + x^{k-1} + \dots + x^2 + x - 1)^2}.$$

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- $T_k(x) = x \frac{\partial F_k(x,1)}{\partial x}$  is the generating function where the coefficient of  $x^n$  equals the total number of all bits in  $\mathcal{B}_n(1^k)$ . We have

$$T_k(x) = \frac{x \left( \sum_{i=0}^{k-2} (2i+2)x^i + \sum_{i=k-1}^{2k-2} (2k-i-1)x^i \right)}{(x^k + x^{k-1} + \dots + x^2 + x - 1)^2}.$$

- The expected value of a random bit in a random word from  $\mathcal{B}_n(1^k)$  is

$$\frac{[x^n]P_k(x)}{[x^n]T_k(x)}$$

# Random bit in a random word

## Theorem

*The expected value of a random bit in a random word from  $\mathcal{B}_n(1^k)$ , tends to  $\mu_k$ , when  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , where*


$$\mu_k = \frac{kx^k - kx^{k-1} - x^k + 1}{kx^k - kx^{k-1} + x^{2k} - 3x^k + 2} \Big|_{x=1/\varphi_k}$$

*and  $\varphi_k = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_{n+1,k}/f_{n,k}$  is the generalized golden ratio, in particular  $\varphi_2$  is the golden ratio.*

The limit of the expected bit value of binary words avoiding  $k$  consecutive 1s, whose length tends to infinity, approaches  $1/2$  as  $k$  grows:


$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \mu_k = \frac{1}{2}$$

## Proof Ingredients.

- Classical asymptotic analysis, e.g. “Theorem 4.1” from  An introduction to the analysis of algorithms, 2013  
Robert Sedgewick and Philippe Flajolet
- Irreducibility of the Fibonacci polynomial

$$x^k - x^{k-1} - \dots - x^2 - x - 1$$

See, for example, David Wolfram’s paper

-  Solving generalized Fibonacci recurrences, 1998

Links to  $q$ -decreasing  
words



# Definition of $q$ -decreasing words

An  $n$ -length binary word is  $q$ -decreasing,  $q \in \mathbb{N}^+$ , if every of its length maximal factors of the form  $0^a 1^b$  satisfies  $a = 0$  or  $q \cdot a > b$ .

$$\dots 1 \underbrace{000 \dots 00}_a \underbrace{111 \dots 11}_b 0 \dots$$

📄 Gray codes for Fibonacci  $q$ -decreasing words

Jean-Luc Baril, Sk and Vincent Vajnovszki

<https://arxiv.org/abs/2010.09505>

To appear in Theoretical Computer Science.

📄 Qubonacci words, BKV

Presented at Permutations patterns 2021

<https://kirgizov.link/talks/qubonacci.pdf>

# 1-decreasing words

In particular, in a 1-decreasing word every run of 0s is immediately followed by a strictly shorter run of 1s.

$$\dots 1 \underbrace{000\dots\dots 00}_{a} \underbrace{111\dots 11}_{b} 0 \dots \quad a > b$$

Let's count!

$n$	1	2	3	4	...
	2	3	5	8	Fibonacci

				0000	
				0001	
		000		0010	
0	00	001		1000	
	10	100		1001	...
1	11	110		1100	
		111		1110	
				1111	

## 2-decreasing words

$\dots 1 \underbrace{000\dots 00}_a \underbrace{111\dots 11}_b 0 \dots$  where  $2 \cdot a > b$

Let's count!

$n$	1	2	3	4	...
	2	4	7	13	Tribonacci

				0000	
				0001	
				0010	
			000	0011	
			001	0100	
	00		010	0101	
0	01		100	1000	...
1	10		101	1001	
	11		110	1010	
			111	1100	
				1101	
				1110	
				1111	

## Bit distribution in $q$ -decreasing words

The bivariate generating function  $W_q(x, y) = \sum_{n, m \geq 0} w_{n, m} x^n y^m$  where the coefficient  $w_{n, m}$  is the number of  $n$ -length  $q$ -decreasing words containing exactly  $m$  1s is given by:

$$W_q(x, y) = \frac{1 - x^{q+1}y^q}{1 - xy - x + x^{q+2}y^{q+1}}.$$

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Recall that for  $1^k$  avoiding words we have

$$F_k(x, y) = \frac{1 - x^k y^k}{1 - xy - x + x^{k+1} y^k}.$$

Take  $k = q + 1$  and compare them...  
**They are not so different!**

## Mean bit

- In general we have more 1s in  $q$ -decreasing words than in words avoiding  $1^{q+1}$ . Example:

	1-decreasing	avoiding 11
	000	000
	001	001
	100	010
	110	100
	111	101
Mean bit value	7/15	5/15

# Mean bit

- In general we have more 1s in  $q$ -decreasing words than in words avoiding  $1^{q+1}$ . Example:

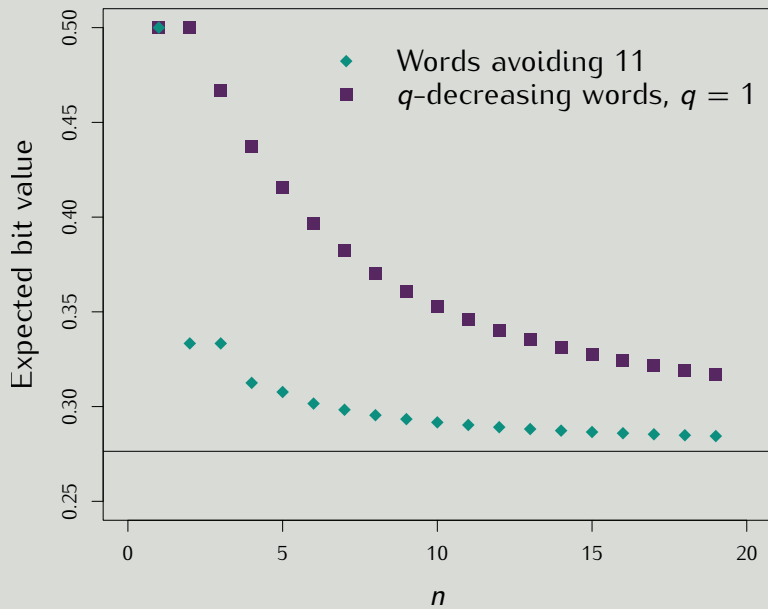
	1-decreasing	avoiding 11
	000	000
	001	001
	100	010
	110	100
	111	101
Mean bit value	7/15	5/15

- However, the mean bit values have common limit !

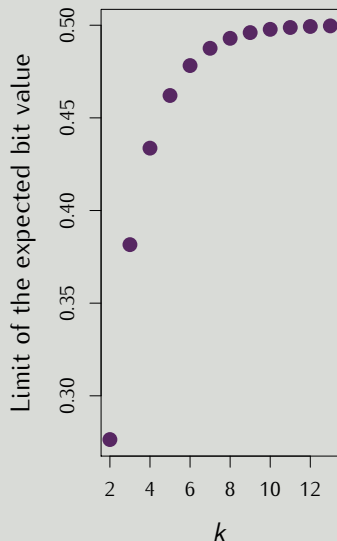
$$\frac{kx^k - kx^{k-1} - x^k + 1}{kx^k - kx^{k-1} + x^{2k} - 3x^k + 2} \Big|_{x=1/\varphi_k} \quad \text{when } n \rightarrow \infty,$$

where  $\varphi_k$  is the generalized golden ratio,  $\varphi_2$  is the golden ratio, and  $k = q + 1$ .

# Compare mean bit values in Fibonacci and $q$ -decreasing words



# Numerical limit of the mean bit value



$k$	Lim. mean bit val.
2	0.2763
3	0.3815
4	0.4336
5	0.4620
6	0.4782
7	0.4875
8	0.4929
9	0.4960
10	0.4977
11	0.4987
12	0.4993
13	0.4996



## More about $q$ -decreasing words

- Bijection between  $q$ -decreasing and Fibonacci words.
- Efficient generation and Gray codes
- Solved Eĝecioĝlu-Irŝiĉ conjecture  
(Hamiltonian path always exists in Fibonacci-run graphs).
- One proposed conjecture :)

📄 Gray codes for Fibonacci  $q$ -decreasing words  
Jean-Luc Baril, Sk and Vincent Vajnovszki  
<https://arxiv.org/abs/2010.09505>  
To appear in Theoretical Computer Science.

## My next talk

will be in Sarajevo, 25–29 July, Bosnia and Herzegovina. At International Conference on Fibonacci Numbers and Their Applications. <http://fibonacci20.pmf.unsa.ba/>

I will investigate what happens with  $q$ -decreasing words and numbers in the case where  $q \in \mathbb{Q}^+$

📄  $Q$ -bonacci words and numbers  
Sergey Kirgizov  
<https://arxiv.org/abs/2201.00782>