

$$F_{n+1} = \alpha F_n + A_n F_n$$

$$\alpha F_n = F_{n+1} - A_n F_n;$$

if  $n$  is odd, from Equation (2),

$$\alpha F_n = F_{n+1} + B_n F_n.$$

These equations show that  $\alpha F_n$  will be less than  $F_{n+1}$  if  $n$  is even, and will be greater than  $F_{n+1}$  if  $n$  is odd.

As  $n$  increases,  $A_n$  and  $B_n$  decrease fast enough that, if  $n \geq 2$ ,  $A_n F_n < 0.5$  and  $B_n F_n < 0.5$ .

Thus, if  $n \geq 2$ , it is possible to determine whether  $n$  is even or odd by multiplying  $F_n$  by  $\alpha$ , then seeing if the product is greater than or less than the nearest integer which will be  $F_{n+1}$ . For example, given that  $F_n = 21$ ,  $21 \times 1.618 = 33.978$ . This is less than the nearest integer, 34, thus  $n$  is even.

*Also solved by the Proposer.*

[Continued from page 437.] When  $X$  and  $Y$  are -ve integers,

$$X = (2 - L_{4k})/5, \quad Y = (X - F_{4k})/2, \quad k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

And the general solution in +ve integers is:

$$X = (2 + L_{4k-2})/5 = F_{2k-1}^2, \quad Y = (X + F_{4k-2})/2 = F_{2k-1} F_{2k}$$

The author found the first set of integral solutions while others were found by Guy Guillotte

#### REFERENCES

1. J. A. H. Hunter, "Fibonacci to the Rescue," Fibonacci Quarterly, Oct. 1970, p. 406.
2. David Ferguson, "Letters to the Editor," Fibonacci Quarterly, Feb. 1970, p. 88.