$$|f(I_n)| = 1 + \left\lceil \frac{3m}{2} \right\rceil = 1 + \left\lceil \frac{6m}{4} \right\rceil = 1 + \left\lceil \frac{3n}{4} \right\rceil.$$

For n = 2m + 1 we have

$$|f(I_n)| = 1 + \left[\frac{3m^2 + 3m + 1}{2m + 1}\right] = 1 + \left[\frac{\frac{12m^2 + 12m + 4}{2m + 1}}{4}\right] = 1 + \left[\frac{\frac{3(2m+1)^2 + 1}{4}}{4}\right] = 1 + \left[\frac{\left[3(2m+1) + \frac{1}{2m+1}\right]}{4}\right] = 1 + \left[\frac{3(2m+1)}{4}\right] = 1 + \left[\frac{3(2m+1)}{4}\right] = 1 + \left[\frac{3n}{4}\right].$$

So,

$$|f(I_n)| = 1 + \left\lceil \frac{3n}{4} \right\rceil.$$

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## W17. (Solution by the proposer.) First we solve the recurrence

$$t_{k+2} - t_{k+1} - t_k = f_k, k \in \mathbb{N}$$
, where  $f_k, k \in \mathbb{N}$  are Fibonacci numbers. (1)

For any sequence  $(t_n)_{n\geq 0}$  we set  $F(t_n):=t_{n+2}-t_{n+1}-t_n$  and call F Fibonacci Operator.

Easy to see that F is linear operator, that is

$$F\left(at_{n}^{\prime}+bt_{n}^{\prime\prime}\right)=aF\left(t_{n}^{\prime}\right)+bF\left(t_{n}^{\prime\prime}\right)\text{ for any }a,b\in\mathbb{R}.$$

Noting that

$$F(nf_n) = (n+2) f_{n+2} - (n+1) f_{n+1} - nf_n =$$

$$= 2f_{n+2} - f_{n+1} = f_{n+1} + 2f_{n}$$

and

$$F(nf_{n-1}) = (n+2) f_{n+1} - (n+1) f_n - nf_{n-1} =$$

$$=2f_{n+2}-f_{n+1}=2f_{n+1}-f_n$$

we obtain

$$2F(nf_n) - F(nf_{n-1}) = 5f_n \iff f_n = F\left(\frac{2nf_n - nf_{n-1}}{5}\right), n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Hence,

(1) 
$$\iff F(t_n) = F\left(\frac{2nf_n - nf_{n-1}}{5}\right) \iff F\left(t_n - \frac{2nf_n - nf_{n-1}}{5}\right) =$$

$$= 0 \iff t_n = \frac{2nf_n - nf_{n-1}}{5} + af_n + bf_{n-1}n \in \mathbb{N}$$

(\* because for any solution  $s_n$  of equation  $F(s_n) = 0$  there is real constants a and b such that  $s_n = af_n + bf_{n-1}, n \in \mathbb{N}$ ).

We determine constant a, b such that

$$\begin{cases} t_1 = x_1 \\ t_2 = x_2 \end{cases} \iff \begin{cases} \frac{2f_1 - f_0}{5} + af_1 + bf_0 = x_1 \\ \frac{2 \cdot 2f_2 - 2f_1}{5} + af_2 + bf_1 = x_2 \end{cases} \iff \begin{cases} \frac{2}{5} + a = x_1 \\ \frac{2}{5} + a + b = x_2 \end{cases} \iff \begin{cases} a = x_1 - \frac{2}{5} \\ b = x_2 - x_1 \end{cases}.$$

Then for

$$t_n = \frac{2nf_n - nf_{n-1}}{5} + \left(x_1 - \frac{2}{5}\right)f_n + (x_2 - x_1)f_{n-1} =$$

$$= \frac{2(n-1)f_n - nf_{n-1}}{5} + x_1f_n + (x_2 - x_1)f_{n-1} =$$

$$= \frac{2(n-1)f_n - nf_{n-1}}{5} + x_1f_{n-2} + x_2f_{n-1}$$

and since  $t_1 = x_1, t_2 = x_2$  then  $t_k = x_k, k = 1, 2, ..., n$  because  $F(t_k) = f_k, k = 1, 2, ..., n - 2$  and in original system  $F(x_k) = f_k, k = 1, 2, ..., n - 2$ . (Since  $t_1 = x_1, t_2 = x_2$  and for any k = 1, 2, ..., n - 2 we have

 $x_{k+1} = t_{k+1}, x_k = t_k \implies x_{k+2} = x_{k+1} + x_k + f_k = t_{k+1} + t_k + f_k = t_{k+2}$ then by Math Induction  $t_k = x_k, k = 1, 2, ..., n$ ). Thus,

$$x_k = \frac{2(k-1)f_k - kf_{k-1}}{5} + x_1f_k + (x_2 - x_1)f_{k-1}, k = 1, 2, ..., n$$

and

$$\begin{cases} x_1 - x_n - x_{n-1} = f_{n-1} \\ x_2 - x_1 - x_n = f_n \end{cases}$$

Noting that  $x_1 = x_n + x_{n-1} + f_{n-1} = t_n + t_{n-1} + f_{n-1} = t_{n+1}$  and  $x_2 = x_1 + x_n + f_n = t_{n+1} + t_n + f_n = t_{n+2}$  we obtain

$$\begin{cases} x_1 = t_{n+1} \\ x_2 = t_{n+2} \end{cases} \iff$$

$$\iff \begin{cases} x_1 = \frac{2nf_{n+1} - (n+1)f_n}{5} + x_1f_{n-1} + x_2f_n \\ x_2 = \frac{2(n+1)f_{n+2} - (n+2)f_{n+1}}{5} + x_1f_n + x_2f_{n+1} \end{cases} \iff$$

$$\begin{cases} x_1 (1 - f_{n-1}) - x_2 f_n = \frac{2n f_{n+1} - (n+1) f_n}{5} \\ -x_1 f_n + x_2 (1 - f_{n+1}) = \frac{2(n+1) f_{n+2} - (n+2) f_{n+1}}{5} \end{cases}$$
(2)

Checked! Since  $f_{n-1}f_{n+1} - f_n^2 = (-1)^n$  (Cassiny Identity) then

$$\det\begin{pmatrix} 1 - f_{n-1} & -f_n \\ -f_n & 1 - f_{n+1} \end{pmatrix} =$$

$$= (1 - f_{n-1})(1 - f_{n+1}) - f_n^2 = 1 + (-1)^n - f_{n-1} - f_{n+1} \neq 0$$

for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and we obtain :

## 1. By elimination $x_2$ :

$$x_1 (1 + (-1)^n - f_{n-1} - f_{n+1}) =$$

$$=\frac{(2nf_{n+1}-(n+1)\,f_n)\,(1-f_{n+1})}{5}+\frac{(2\,(n+1)\,f_{n+2}-(n+2)\,f_{n+1})\,f_n}{5}=$$

$$= \frac{\left(2f_{n+1} - f_n + 2\left(f_n f_{n+2} - f_{n+1}^2\right)\right)n + f_n\left(2f_{n+2} - f_{n+1} - 1\right)}{5} =$$

$$= \frac{\left(f_{n+1} + f_{n-1} + 2\left(-1\right)^{n+1}\right)n + f_n\left(f_{n+2} + f_n - 1\right)}{5} \iff$$

$$x_1 = \frac{\left(f_{n+1} + f_{n-1} + 2\left(-1\right)^{n+1}\right)n + f_n\left(f_{n+2} + f_n - 1\right)}{5\left(1 + \left(-1\right)^n - f_{n-1} - f_{n+1}\right)}$$

and Checked!

## 2. By elimination $x_1$ :

$$x_2 (1 + (-1)^n - f_{n-1} - f_{n+1}) = \frac{(2nf_{n+1} - (n+1)f_n)f_n}{5} + \frac{((2(n+1)f_{n+2} - (n+2)f_{n+1})f_n)(1 - f_{n-1})}{5} =$$

$$= \frac{f_n \left( f_{n+1} - f_n + 2f_{n+2} + f_{n-1}f_{n+1} - 2f_{n-1}f_{n+2} \right) n - f_n \left( f_n + 2f_{n+1} - 2f_{n+2} - 2f_{n-1} \right)}{5}$$

$$= \frac{f_n}{5} \left( \left( f_{n+1} - f_n + 2f_{n+2} + f_{n-1}f_{n+1} - 2f_{n-1}f_{n+2} \right) n - \left( f_n + 2f_{n+1} - 2f_{n+2} - 2f_{n-1}f_{n+1} + 2f_{n-1}f_{n+2} \right) \right).$$

Since

$$f_{n+1} - f_n + 2f_{n+2} + f_{n-1}f_{n+1} - 2f_{n-1}f_{n+2} = 2f_{n+1} + f_{n+2} - f_{n-1} (2f_{n+2} - f_{n+1}) =$$

$$= 2f_{n+1} + f_{n+2} - f_{n-1} (2f_n + f_{n+1})$$

and

$$f_n + 2f_{n+1} - 2f_{n+2} - 2f_{n-1}f_{n+1} + 2f_{n-1}f_{n+2} = -f_n + 2f_{n-1}f_n = f_n (2f_{n-1} - 1)$$

then

$$x_2 = \frac{f_n \left(2f_{n+1} + f_{n+2} - f_{n-1} \left(2f_n + f_{n+1}\right)\right) n - f_n^2 \left(2f_{n-1} - 1\right)}{5 \left(1 + \left(-1\right)^n - f_{n-1} - f_{n+1}\right)}.$$

Thus, solution of the system can be calculated by formulas:

$$x_{1} = \frac{\left(f_{n+1} + f_{n-1} + 2\left(-1\right)^{n+1}\right)n + f_{n}\left(f_{n+2} + f_{n} - 1\right)}{5\left(1 + \left(-1\right)^{n} - f_{n-1} - f_{n+1}\right)},$$

$$x_{2} = \frac{f_{n}\left(2f_{n+1} + f_{n+2} - f_{n-1}\left(2f_{n} + f_{n+1}\right)\right)n - f_{n}^{2}\left(2f_{n-1} - 1\right)}{5\left(1 + \left(-1\right)^{n} - f_{n-1} - f_{n+1}\right)}$$

and

$$x_k = \frac{2(k-1)f_k - kf_{k-1}}{5} + x_1f_k + (x_2 - x_1)f_{k-1}, k = 3, ..., n.$$

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**Second solution.** For every  $k \in [1, n-1]$ , by suming up every line of the system which contains  $x_k$ , we have :

$$-x_k - (n-2)x_{k+1} = S_k,$$

and

$$-x_n - (n-2)x_1 = S_1$$

where  $S_1, ... S_k$  are integers satisfying the relation :

$$\sum_{k=1}^{n} S_k = (n-1) \sum_{k=1}^{n} F_k = (n-1)(F_{n-2} - 1).$$

Now, let  $X := \sum_{k=1}^{n} x_k$ . By suming up all the above equations, we have :

$$-(n-1)X = (n-1)(F_{n+2}-1) \Leftrightarrow X = -(F_{n+2}-1).$$

But on the other side, by suming up all the equation of the initial system, we have :

$$-(n-2)X = F_{n+2} - 1 \Leftrightarrow X = -\frac{F_{n+2} - 1}{n-2}.$$

Hence, the system of equations can be solved if and only if  $F_{n+2} - 1 = \frac{F_{n+2} - 1}{n-2}$ , which means that n = 3.