# Rational Frieze Sequences Associated to a 2x2 Generalized Kronecker Quiver 

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#### Abstract

We obtain, in closed form, a family of frieze sequences that corresponds to a certain type vertex labeling of a generalized version of the classical $2 \times 2$ Kronecker quiver. We also calculate explicitly, for the obtained family of sequences, a rational "PC friendly" subfamily sample, via Mathematica .


Keywords: Frieze, Quiver, Generalized Fibonacci, Linear Recursive Sequence

## 1. Introduction

A quiver is a directed acyclic (possibly multi-edged) graph. When a quiver is given, under a specific and suitable initial condition, a labeling of its vertices can be recursively defined thus leading to a so called frieze associated to the quiver which is a unique (due to the acyclicity ) sequence of labels.For simplicity we will call it a frieze sequence (for a given particular quiver).

A classical example is that of the $2 \times 2$ Kronecker quiver (i.e. two vertices and two edges from one to another): if $V$ is the set of its vertices, starting with the labeling $(v, 0)=v(0) \rightarrow(v, 1)=v(1)$ e.t.c., for each vertex $v \in V$, we obtain as a frieze sequence the even rank Fibonacci numbers (see e.g. [1]). A more general frieze can be produced when $v(0)$ is taken to be a variable and then with the first two labels $v(0)$ and $v(1)$ taken to be a and b, respectively, this $2 \times 2$ Kronecker quiver is associated with the frieze sequence defined through the recursive formula $u_{n+2}=z(a, b) u_{n+1}-u_{n}$ for $u_{0}=a$ and $u_{1}=b, a b \neq 0$, which evidently generalizes the recursion of the even rank Fibonacci numbers.

It has been proved that for $z(a, b)=\left(a^{2}+b^{2}+1\right) / a b$, $a b \neq 0$, (see e.g. [2])

$$
\mathrm{u}_{\mathrm{n}}=\frac{1}{\mathrm{a}^{\mathrm{n}-1} b^{\mathrm{n}-2}}(1, b) \mathrm{M}^{\mathrm{n}-2}\binom{1}{b}, \mathrm{n} \geq 2 \text { with } \mathrm{M}=\left(\begin{array}{cc}
\mathrm{a}^{2}+1 & \mathrm{~b}  \tag{0.1}\\
\mathrm{~b} & b^{2}
\end{array}\right)
$$

## 2. Main description and closed form calculations

Let $\mathrm{M}=\left(\mathrm{a}_{\mathrm{ij}}\right)$ be any $2 \times 2$ matrix. An elementary and direct use of the Cayley-Hamilton theorem gives us the formula
$\mathrm{M}^{2}-(\operatorname{trM}) \mathrm{M}+|\mathrm{M}| \mathrm{I}=\mathrm{O}$
where $\operatorname{tr} M$ and $|M|$ indicate, respectively, the trace and the determinant of $M$ and $O$ the $2 \times 2$ zero matrix. In particular, for ${ }^{a_{11}}=a^{2}+1, a_{12}=a_{21}=b$ and ${ }^{a_{22}}=b^{2}$, with $a$, $b$ real numbers, by repeated use of (1), we obtain with the evident abuse of notation
$\mathrm{M}^{\mathrm{n}}=\omega_{\mathrm{n}} \mathrm{M}-|\mathrm{M}| \omega_{\mathrm{n}-1}$ for $\mathrm{n} \geq 1$ with $\omega_{0}=0, \omega_{1}=1$
where $\omega_{\mathrm{n}+1}=\left(\mathrm{a}^{2}+\mathrm{b}^{2}+1\right) \omega_{\mathrm{n}}-(\mathrm{ab})^{2} \omega_{\mathrm{n}-1}$
The classical theory for recursive sequences of the form $\omega_{\mathrm{n}+1}=\mathrm{c}_{1} \omega_{\mathrm{n}}+\mathrm{c}_{2} \omega_{\mathrm{n}-1}$ (e.g. see [3]) leads to the expression
$\omega_{\mathrm{n}}=\mathrm{A} \lambda_{1}^{\mathrm{n}}+\mathrm{B} \lambda_{2}^{\mathrm{n}}$,
where $\mathrm{A}, \mathrm{B}$ are arbitrary constants and $\lambda_{1}, \lambda_{2}$ the roots of the equation $\lambda^{2}-\left(a^{2}+b^{2}+1\right) \lambda+(a b)^{2}=0$. Note that (1.3) is the appropriate formula here since the discriminant $\Delta$ is nonzero (in fact $\Delta \geq 1$ ).
For $\omega_{0}=0$ and $\omega_{1}=1$ we obtain also that $\mathrm{A}=1 /\left(\lambda_{1}-\lambda_{2}\right)$ and $B=-A$. We conclude that
$\omega_{\mathrm{n}}=\frac{(\mathrm{ab})^{\mathrm{n}-1}}{2^{\mathrm{n}} \sqrt{\gamma}}\left\{(\mathrm{z}+\sqrt{\gamma})^{\mathrm{n}}-(\mathrm{z}-\sqrt{\gamma})^{\mathrm{n}}\right\}$,
where we have set $z=\left(a^{2}+b^{2}+1\right) / a b$ and $\gamma=z^{2}-4$. Note also that $|z|>2$ and due to symmetry, in the rest of our work we will focus only upon the case $a>0, b>0$, a domain where clearly $z=z(a, b)$ lacks minimum but it has infimum=2.

It is now evident that when (1.2) is combined with (1.4) we have a closed form description of $M^{n}$ in terms of $M$, for any given $n$ and any real pair $a, b$, and thus using (0.1), we have a computer friendly formula to work with that can provide the frieze sequence $u_{n}$.

## 3. Ramifications

For reasons that will immediately become clear in the calculations that follow, we parameterize the initial terms $u_{0}=a$ and $u_{1}=b$ (and thus sequences $u_{n}, \omega_{n}$ and the matrix powers $\mathrm{M}^{\mathrm{n}}$ ) via $\mathrm{a}=\frac{\mathrm{p}^{2}+1}{\mathrm{p}^{2}-1}$ and $\mathrm{b}=\frac{2 \mathrm{p}}{\mathrm{p}^{2}-1}$, with $\mathrm{p}>1$. In paragraph 4 we limit ourselves to rational values of $p$ and we provide the image of the surface mesh $z=z(a, b)$ using mainly a sample of rational points in 3D (Appendix A). For this parameterization $\mathrm{z}=\frac{\mathrm{p}^{2}+1}{\mathrm{p}}, \sqrt{\gamma}=\frac{\mathrm{p}^{2}-1}{\mathrm{p}}$ and now (1.4) can be put in to an even more "PC friendly" form:
$\omega_{\mathrm{n}}=\frac{\left(2 \mathrm{p}^{2}+2\right)^{\mathrm{n}-1}\left(\mathrm{p}^{2 \mathrm{n}}-1\right)}{\left(\mathrm{p}^{2}-1\right)^{2 \mathrm{n}-1}}$
We then conclude that, for $n \geq 3$,
$\mathrm{u}_{\mathrm{n}}=\left(\mathrm{p}^{2 \mathrm{n}-2}+1\right) /\left(\mathrm{p}^{2}-1\right) \mathrm{p}^{\mathrm{n}-2}$
Remarks:

1. Note that for $n=2$, as an immediate result of (0.1) combined with our parameterization that leads to $a^{2}=b^{2}+1$, we obtain $u_{2}=a$.
2. One could, evidently, combine the outcome of paragraph 2 and establish a rather cumbersome formula for the sum of the first $N$ terms of $\left\{u_{n}\right\}$. In the frame of the above particular parametric formulation though the sum is simple and we can easily check that, for $N \geq 3$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sum_{\mathrm{n}=0}^{\mathrm{N}} \mathrm{u}_{\mathrm{n}}=\frac{\mathrm{p}^{2 \mathrm{~N}-1}+2 \mathrm{p}^{\mathrm{N}}-\mathrm{p}^{\mathrm{N}-1}-1}{\mathrm{p}^{\mathrm{N}-2}\left(\mathrm{p}^{2}-1\right)(\mathrm{p}-1)} \tag{2.3}
\end{equation*}
$$

4. Numerical (rational) calculations via Mathematica (Tables 1, 2, Appendices A,B)

| $p$ | $u_{0}=a$ | $u_{1}=b$ | $z(a, b)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $11 / 10$ | $221 / 21$ | $220 / 21$ | $221 / 110$ |
| $6 / 5$ | $61 / 11$ | $60 / 11$ | $61 / 30$ |
| $13 / 10$ | $269 / 69$ | $260 / 69$ | $269 / 130$ |
| $7 / 5$ | $37 / 12$ | $35 / 12$ | $74 / 35$ |
| $3 / 2$ | $13 / 5$ | $12 / 5$ | $13 / 6$ |
| $8 / 5$ | $89 / 39$ | $80 / 39$ | $89 / 40$ |
| $17 / 10$ | $389 / 189$ | $340 / 189$ | $389 / 170$ |
| $9 / 5$ | $53 / 28$ | $45 / 28$ | $106 / 45$ |
| $19 / 10$ | $461 / 261$ | $380 / 261$ | $461 / 190$ |

Rational Frieze Sequences Associated to a $2 \times 2$ Generalized Kronecker Quiver

| 2 | 5/3 | 4/3 | 5/2 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 21/10 | 541/341 | 420/341 | 541/210 |
| 11/5 | 73/48 | 55/48 | 146/55 |
| 23/10 | 629/429 | 460/429 | 629/230 |
| 12/5 | 169/119 | 120/119 | 169/60 |
| 5/2 | 29/21 | 20/21 | 29/10 |
| 13/5 | 97/72 | 65/72 | 194/65 |
| 27/10 | 829/629 | 540/629 | 829/270 |
| 14/5 | 221/171 | 140/171 | 221/70 |
| 29/10 | 941/741 | 580/741 | 941/290 |
| 3 | 5/4 | 3/4 | 10/3 |
| 31/10 | 1061/861 | 620/861 | 1061/310 |
| 16/5 | 281/231 | 160/231 | 281/80 |
| 33/10 | 1189/989 | 660/989 | 1189/330 |
| 17/5 | 157/132 | 85/132 | 314/85 |
| 7/2 | 53/45 | 28/45 | 53/14 |
| 18/5 | 349/299 | 180/299 | 349/90 |
| 37/10 | 1469/1269 | 740/1269 | 1469/370 |
| 19/5 | 193/168 | 95/168 | 386/95 |
| 39/10 | 1621/1421 | 780/1421 | 1621/390 |
| 4 | 17/15 | 8/15 | 17/4 |

Table 2: indicative $u_{n}$ for $p=11 / 10$ (rounding up for $n>15$ )

| $n$ | $u_{n}=\frac{1}{a^{n-1} b^{n-2}}(1 \mathrm{~b}) \mathrm{M}^{n-2}\binom{1}{b}=\left(p^{2 n-2}+1\right) /\left(p^{2}-1\right) p^{n-2}$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| 2 | $\frac{522422872400}{4084101}$ |
| 3 | $\frac{30707204213842}{224625555}$ |
| 5 | $\frac{202124980347430361}{1358984607750}$ |
| 10 | $\frac{4464201682802640772535710961}{21886583006274525000000}$ |
| 15 | $0.306412 \times 106$ |
| 20 | $0.479768 \times 106$ |
| 25 | $0.764157 \times 106$ |
| 30 | $1.2254 \times 106$ |
| 40 | $3.17104 \times 106$ |
| 50 | $8.22203 \times 106$ |

Appendix A: Plot of $z=\frac{x^{2}+y^{2}+1}{x y}, x=a, y=b$


Rational Frieze Sequences Associated to a 2x2 Generalized Kronecker Quiver

## Appendix B: Calculations via Mathematica 8

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For[n=2,n<15,n++,
p=11/10;
m=n-1;
a=((p^2+1)/(p^2-1));
b=(2*p/(p^2-1));
wnk=2-1+n (-1+p^2)1-2 *n (1+p^2)-1+n (-1+p2*n);
wnpk=2-1+m (-1+p^2)1-2 *m (1+p^2)-1+m (-1+p2*m);
mat={{a^2+1,b},{b,b^2}};
mati={{1,0},{0,1}};
mn=wnk*mat-(a*b)^2*wnpk*mati;
Print[n ," ",wnk," ",mn //N];
Print[(1/(a^(n-1)* b^(n-2)))*({1,b}.mn.{{1},{b}})];
Print[(1/(a^(n-1)* }\mp@subsup{b}{}{\wedge}(n
2)))*({1,b}.MatrixPower[mat,n].{{1},{b}})];]
```


## References

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