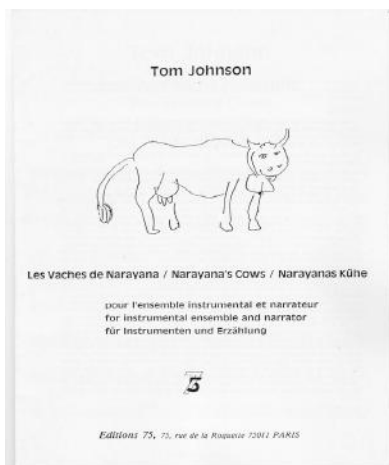
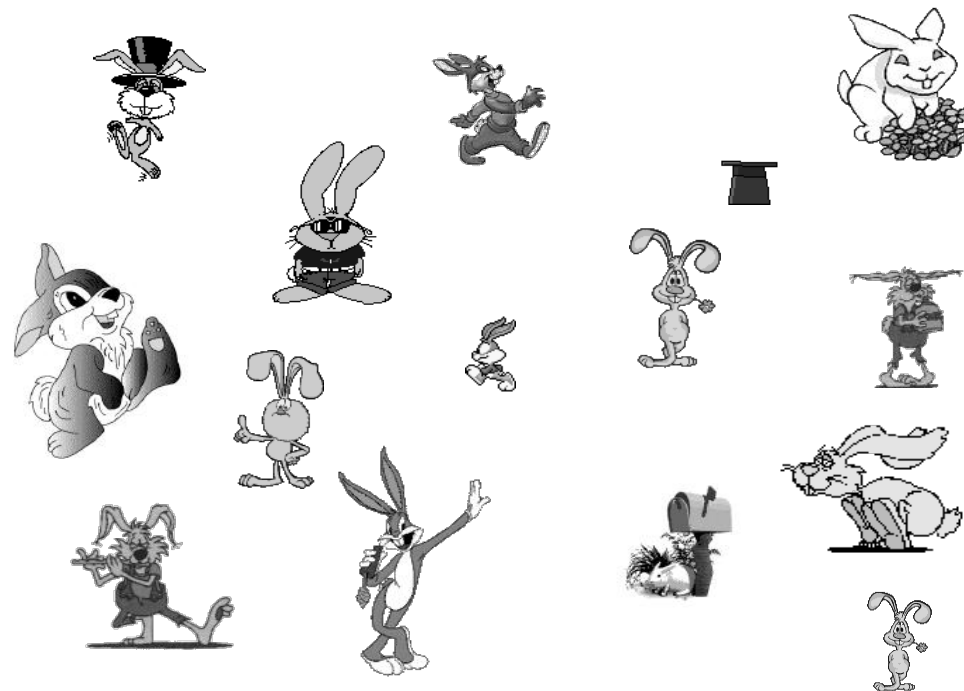


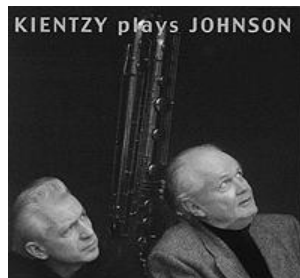
## Some arithmetic problems raised by rabbits, cows and the Da Vinci Code

*Michel Waldschmidt*  
Université P. et M. Curie (Paris VI)

<http://www.imj-prg.fr/~michel.waldschmidt/>



<http://www.pogus.com/21033.html>



### Narayana's Cows

**Music: Tom Johnson**  
**Saxophones: Daniel Kientzy**  
**Realization: Michel Waldschmidt**

<http://www.math.jussieu.fr/~miw/>

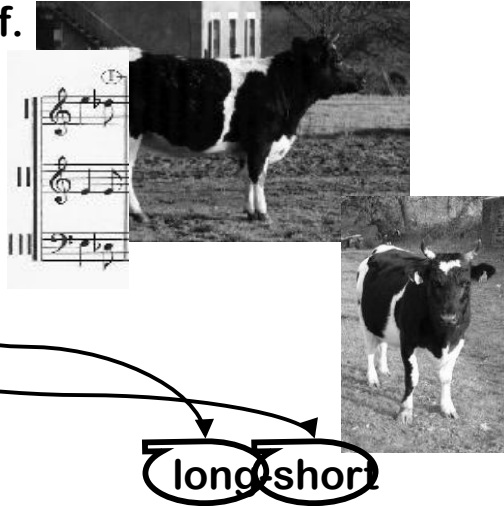
Narayana was an Indian mathematician in the 14th. century, who proposed the following problem:

A cow produces one calf every year.  
Beginning in its fourth year, each calf produces one calf at the beginning of each year.  
How many cows are there altogether after, for example, 17 years?

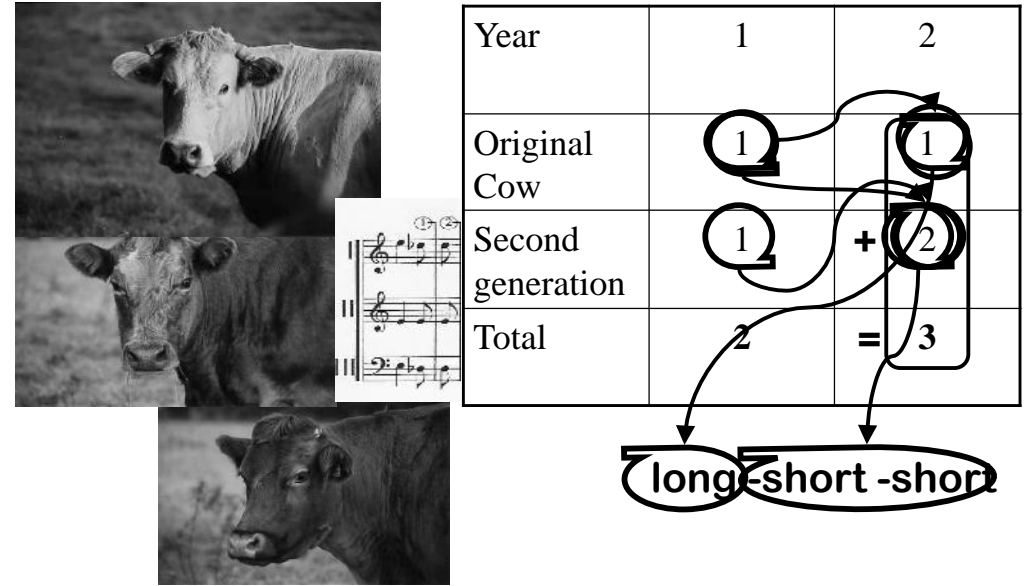
While you are working on that, let us give you a musical demonstration.

The first year there is only the original cow and her first calf.

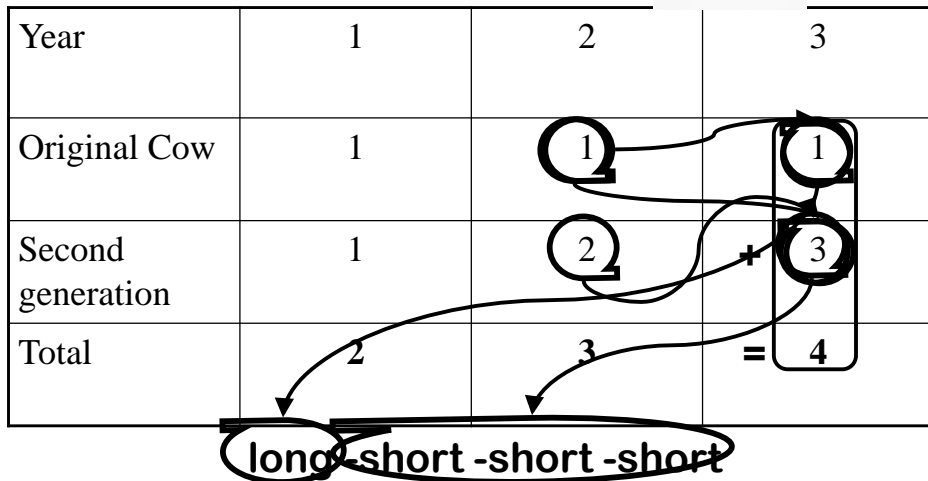
Year	1
Original Cow	1
Second generation	1
Total	2



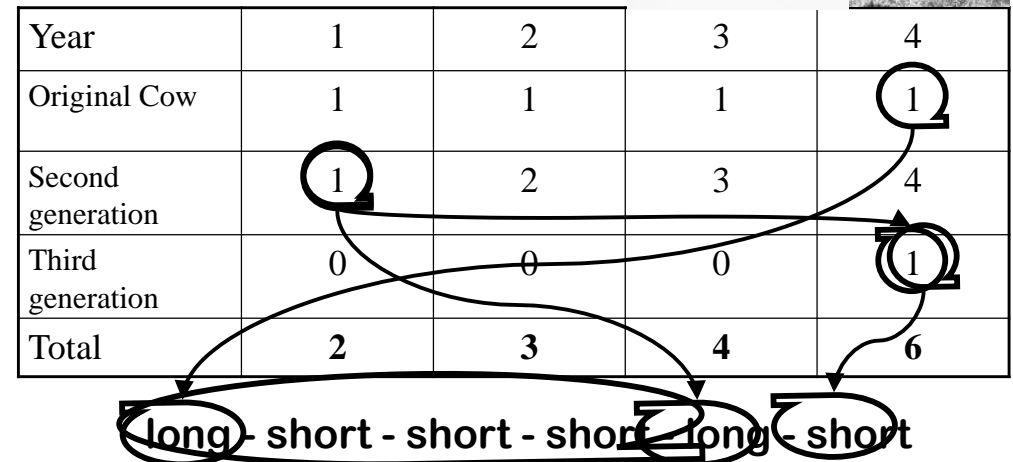
The second year there is the original cow and 2 calves.



The third year there is the original cow and 3 calves.



The fourth year the oldest calf becomes a mother, and we begin a third generation of Naryana's cows.



Year 1      2      3      4

long-short      long-short-short      long-short-short-short      long-short-short-short

long-short      long-short-short-short      long-short

=

The fifth year we have another mother cow and 3 new calves.



Year	1	2	3	4	5	
Original Cow	1	1	1	1	1	
Second generation	1	2	3	4	5	+1
Third generation	0	0	0	1	3	+2
Total	2	3	4	6	9	= +3

Year 2      3      4      5

=

The sixth year we have 4 productive cows, 4 new calves, and a total herd of 13.



Year	1	2	3	4	5	6
Original Cow	1	1	1	1	1	1
Second generation	1	2	3	4	5	6
Third generation	0	0	0	1	3	6
Total	2	3	4	6	9	13

## The sixth year



**4 productive cows = 4 long**

**9 young calves = 9 short**

**Total: 13 cows = 13 notes**

Year	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Original Cow	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Second generation	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Third generation	0	0	0	1	3	6	10	15	21	28	36	45	55	66	78	91	105
Fourth generation	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	10	20	35	56	84	120	165	220	286
Fifth generation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	15	35	70	126	210	330
Sixth generation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	6	21	56	126
Seventh generation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	7
Total	2	3	4	6	9	13	19	28	41	60	88	129	189	277	406	595	872

## Tom Johnson

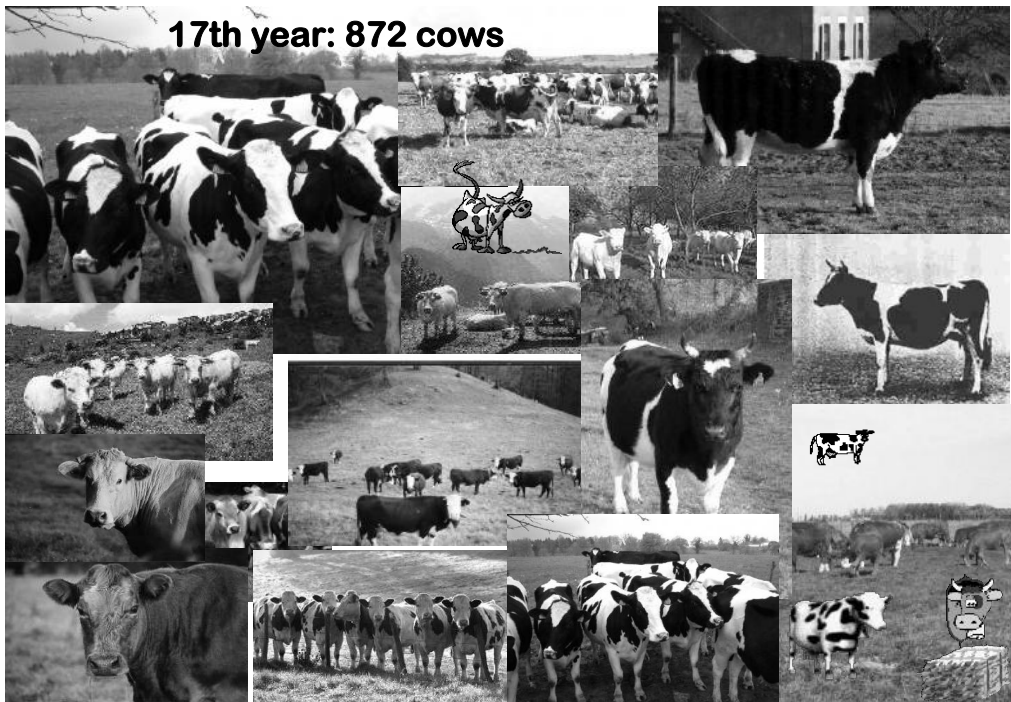
Les Vaches de Narayana  
Narayana's Cows  
Narayanans Kühe  
Las vacas de Narayana



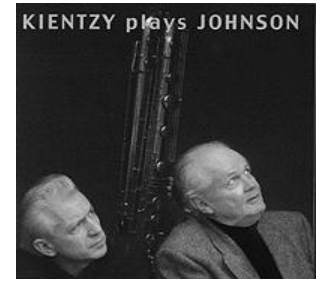
## Tom Johnson

Les Vaches de Narayana  
Narayana's Cows





[http://www.pogus.com/  
21033.html](http://www.pogus.com/21033.html)



## Narayana's Cows

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Narayana was an Indian mathematician in the 14th. century, who proposed the following problem:

A cow produces one calf every year. Beginning in its fourth year, each calf produces one calf at the beginning of each year.

How many cows are there altogether after, for example, 17 years?

While you are working on that, let us give you a musical demonstration.

The first year there is only the original cow and her first calf.

Year	1
Original Cow	1
Second generation	1
Total	2



long-short

The second year there is the original cow and 2 calves.



Year	1	2
Original Cow	1	1
Second generation	1	2
Total	2	3

long -short -short

The third year there is the original cow and 3 calves.



Year	1	2	3
Original Cow	1	1	1
Second generation	1	2	3
Total	2	3	4

long -short -short -short

The fourth year the oldest calf becomes a mother, and we begin a third generation of Naryana's cows.



Year	1	2	3	4
Original Cow	1	1	1	1
Second generation	1	2	3	4
Third generation	0	0	0	1
Total	2	3	4	6

long - short - short - short - long - short

The fifth year we have another mother cow and 3 new calves.



Year	1	2	3	4	5	
Original Cow	1	1	1	1	1	
Second generation	1	2	3	4	5	+1
Third generation	0	0	0	1	3	+2
Total	2	3	4	6	9	+3

The sixth year we have 4 productive cows, 4 new calves, and a total herd of 13.



Year	1	2	3	4	5	6
Original Cow	1	1	1	1	1	1
Second generation	1	2	3	4	5	6
Third generation	0	0	0	1	3	6
Total	2	3	4	6	9	13

Tom Johnson

Les Vaches de Narayana  
Narayana's Cows  
Narayan's Kühe  
Las vacas de Narayana

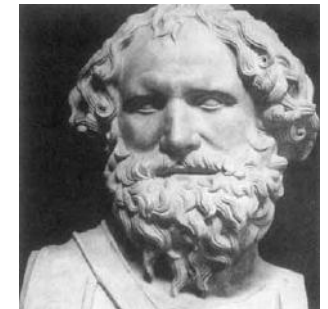
© 1989 by Tom Johnson



## Archimedes cattle problem



## Archimedes



The cattle problem of Archimedes asks to determine the size of the herd of the God Sun.

The sun god had a herd of cattle consisting of bulls and cows, one part of which was white, a second black, a third spotted, and a fourth brown.

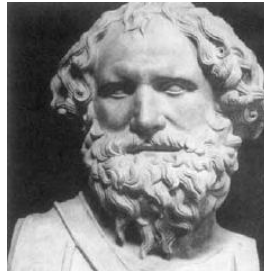
Among the bulls, the number of white ones was one half plus one third the number of the black greater than the brown.

# Archimedes Cattle Problem

*The number of the black, one quarter plus one fifth the number of the spotted greater than the brown.*

*The number of the spotted, one sixth and one seventh the number of the white greater than the brown.*

*Among the cows, the number of white ones was one third plus one quarter of the total black cattle. The number of the black, one quarter plus one fifth the total of the spotted cattle; The number of spotted, one fifth plus one sixth the total of the brown cattle*



# Archimedes cattle problem

There are infinitely many solutions.

The smallest one has 206 545 digits.

This problem was almost solved by a German mathematician, A. Amthor, in 1880, who commented: « Assume that the size of each animal is less than the size of the smallest bacteria. Take a sphere of the same diameter as the size of the milked way, which the light takes ten thousand years to cross. Then this sphere would contain only a tiny proportion of the herd of the God Sun. »

# Number of atoms in the known finite universe

When I was young:  $10^{60}$  atoms  
(1 followed by 60 zeroes)

A few years later (long back):  $10^{70}$

Nowadays: ?



# Solution of Archimedes Problem

A. Amthor

"Das Problema bovinum des Archimedes »  
*Zeitschrift für Math. u. Physik.*

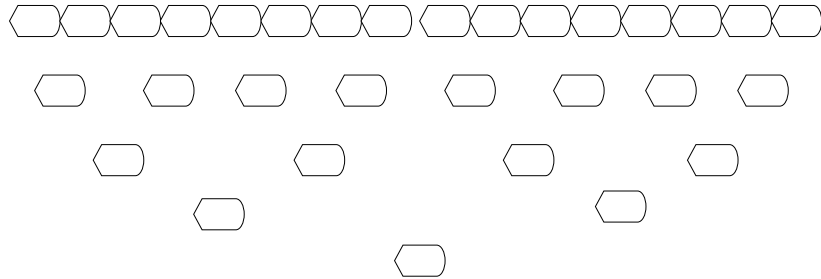
(*Hist.-litt.Abtheilung*) Volume XXV (1880),  
pages 153-171

H.C. Williams, R.A. German and C.R. Zarnke,  
*Solution of the cattle problem of Archimedes,*  
*Math. Comp.*, **19**, 671-674 (1965).

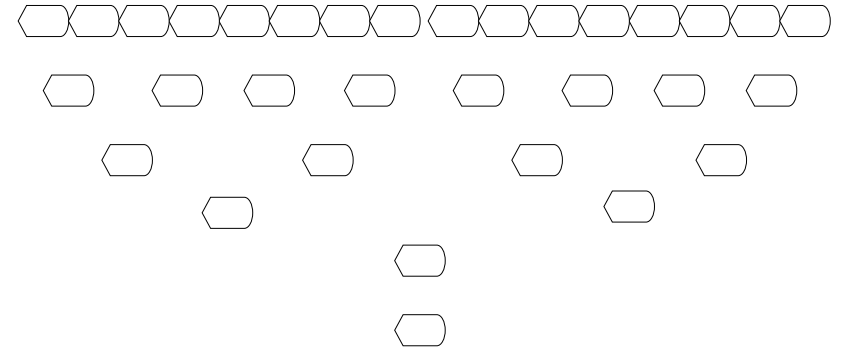


# How many ancestors do we have?

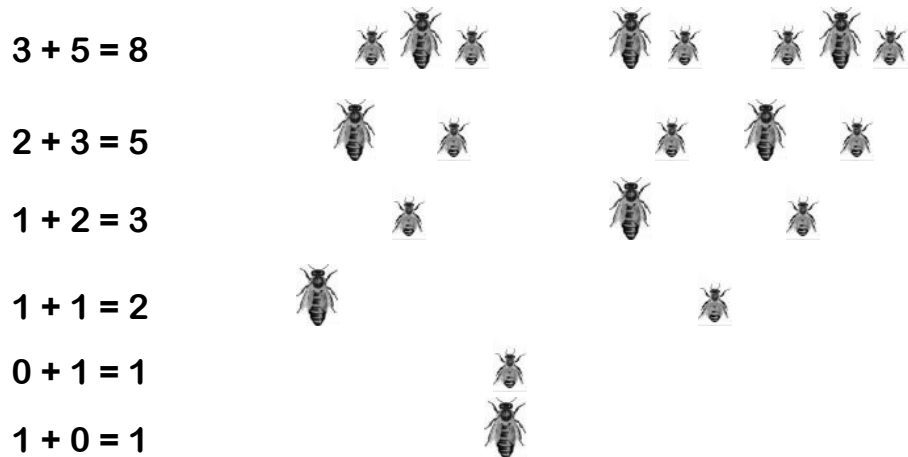
Sequence: 1, 2, 4, 8, 16 ...



# Bees genealogy

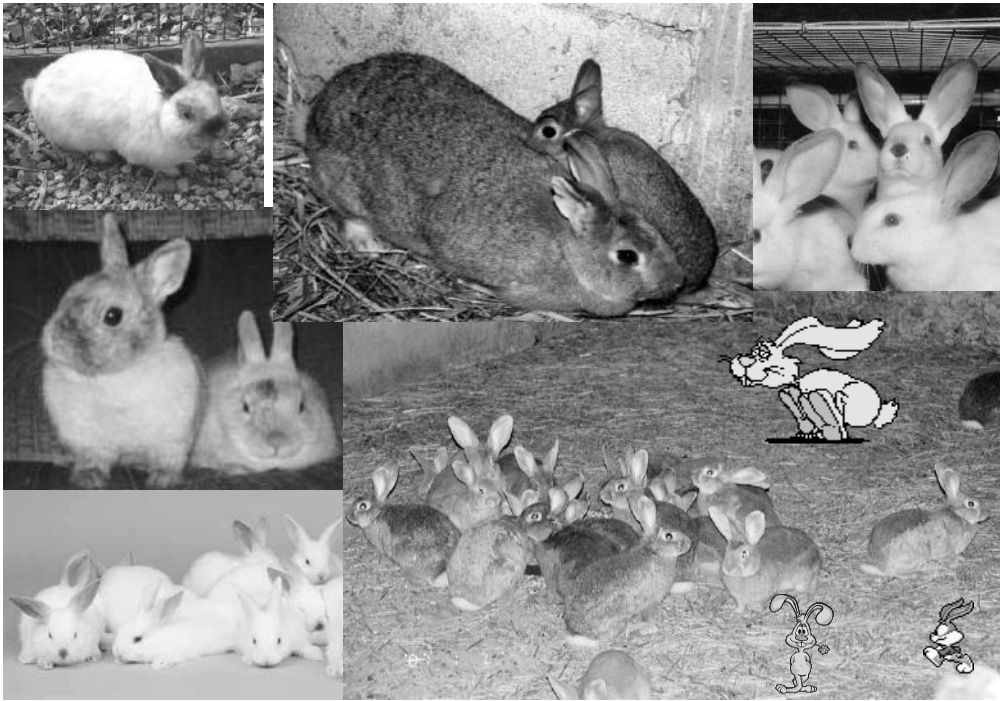


Number of females at a given level =  
 Number of males at a given level =  
 Number of females at the previous level  
 Sequence: 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, ...

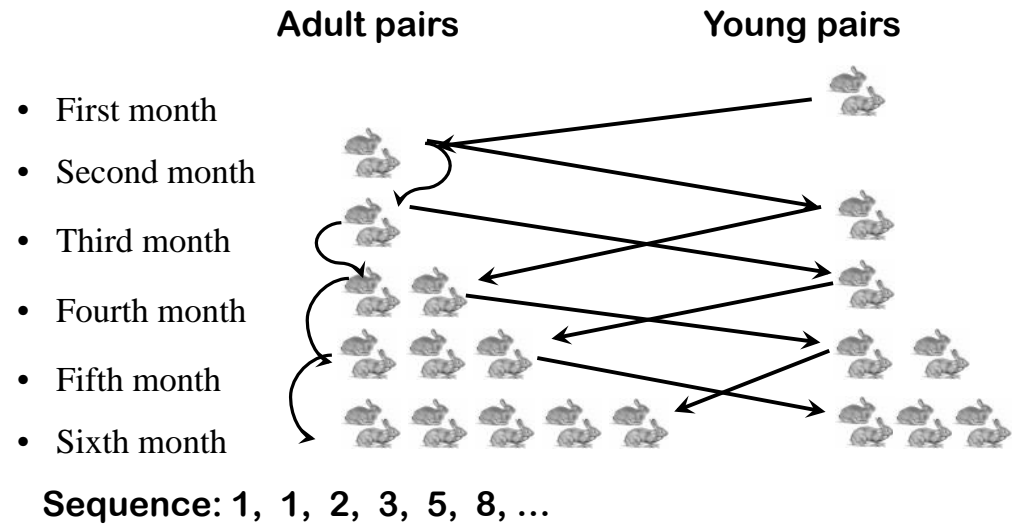


# Fibonacci (Leonardo di Pisa)

- Pisa (Italia)  
 ≈ 1175 - 1250
- Liber Abaci ≈ 1202
- 0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34, 55, ...
- Each term is the sum of the two preceding ones: 21+34=55



## Modelization of a population



## The Fibonacci sequence

1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34, 55, 89, 144, 233, 377, 610,

$$1+1=2$$

$$1+2=3$$

$$2+3=5$$

$$3+5=8$$

$$5+8=13$$

$$8+13=21$$

$$13+21=34$$

$$21+34=55$$

## Narayana cows (back)



année	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Total	2	3	4	6	9	13	19	28	41	60	88	129	189	277	406	595	872

Each term is the sum of the preceding one and the one before the penultimate:  
 $872=595+277$

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 Les Vaches de Narayana  
 Narayana's Cows  
 Narayanas Kühe  
 Las vacas de Narayana

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# Theory of stable populations (Alfred Lotka)

Assume each pair generates a new pair the first two years only. Then the number of pairs who are born each year again follow the Fibonacci rule.

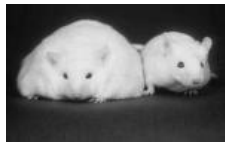
## Arctic trees

In cold countries, each branch of some trees gives rise to another one after the second year of existence only.

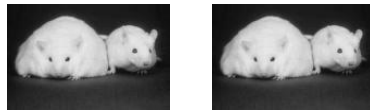
## Exponential sequence



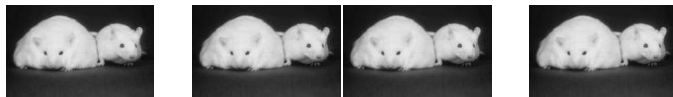
- First month



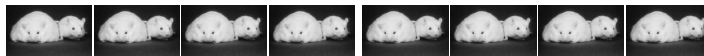
- Second month



- Third month



- Fourth month



Number of pairs: 1, 2, 4, 8, ...

Size of Narayana's herd after 60 years:

**11 990 037 126** (11 digits)

Number of Fibonacci rabbits after 60 months:

**1 548 008 755 920** (13 digits)

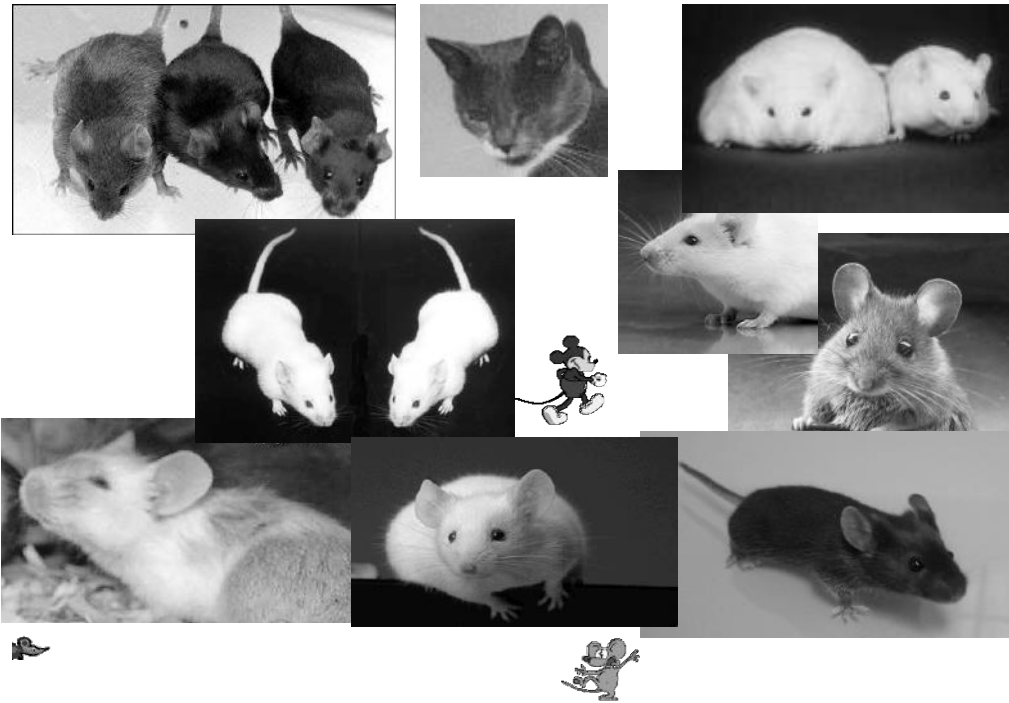
Number of pairs of mice after 60 months:

**1 152 921 504 606 846 976** (19 digits)

## Exponential growth

- Beetle larvas
- Bacteria
- Economy

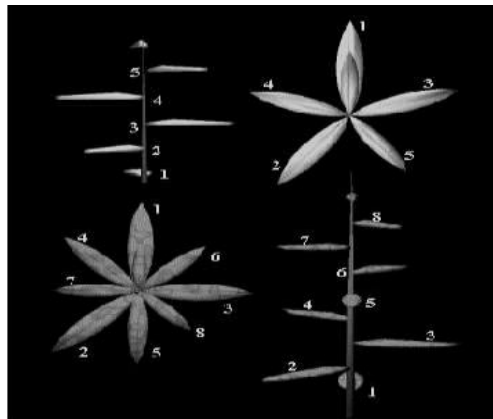




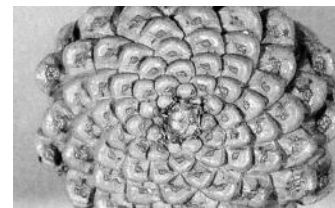
# Phyllotaxy

- Study of the position of leaves on a stem and the reason for them
- Number of petals of flowers: daisies, sunflowers, aster, chicory, asteraceae,...
- Spiral pattern to permit optimal exposure to sunlight
- Pine-cone, pineapple, Romanesco cawliflower, cactus

## Leaf arrangements



- Université de Nice,  
Laboratoire Environnement Marin Littoral,  
Equipe d'Accueil "Gestion de la Biodiversité"



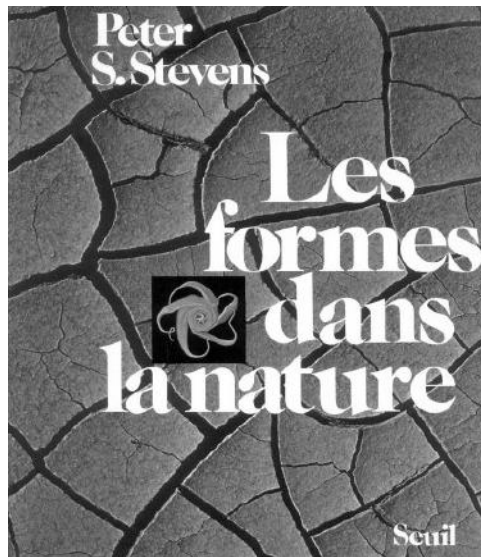
<http://www.unice.fr/LEML/coursJDV/tp/tp3.htm>

# Phyllotaxy



# Phyllotaxy

- J. Kepler (1611) uses the Fibonacci sequence in his study of the dodecahedron and the icosaedron, and then of the symmetry of order 5 of the flowers.
- Stéphane Douady and Yves Couder  
*Les spirales végétales*  
La Recherche 250 (Jan. 1993) vol. 24.



## Effluvia of the daisy petals

~~Love~~ me  
~~A~~ little bit  
~~Be~~ a lot  
~~With~~ passion  
~~With~~ madness  
~~Not~~ at all but

Sequence of the remainders of the division by 6 of the Fibonacci numbers

1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 2, 1, 3, 4, 1, 5, 0, 5, ...

First multiple of 6 : 144

## Division by 6 of the Fibonacci numbers

8 = 6 × 1 + 2	<i>I love you:</i>	+1
13 = 6 × 2 + 1	<i>A little bit :</i>	+2
21 = 6 × 3 + 3	<i>A lot :</i>	+3
34 = 6 × 5 + 4	<i>With passion :</i>	+4
55 = 6 × 9 + 1	<i>With madness :</i>	+5
89 = 6 × 14 + 5	<i>Not at all :</i>	+0
144 = 6 × 24 + 0		

## Division by 2 of the Fibonacci numbers

8 = 2 × 4 + 0	
13 = 2 × 6 + 1	<i>He loves me :</i> +1
21 = 2 × 10 + 1	<i>He loves me not</i> +0
34 = 2 × 17 + 0	
55 = 2 × 27 + 1	
89 = 2 × 44 + 1	
144 = 2 × 72 + 0	

## The Da Vinci Code

### *Five enigmas to be solved*

In the book written by Dan Brown in 2003 one finds some (weak) crypto techniques.

1

The first enigma asks for putting in the right order the integers of the sequence

1 3 - 3 - 2 - 2 1 - 1 - 1 - 8 - 5.

This reordering will provide the key of the bank account.

2

An english anagram

O DRACONIAN DEVIL, OH LAME SAINT

3

A french anagram

SA CROIX GRAVE L'HEURE



## The Da Vinci Code

### *Five enigmas to be solved (continued)*

4

A french poem to be decoded :

élc al tse essegas ed tom xueiv nu snad  
 ééalcé ellimaf as tinuér iuq  
 sreilpmet sel rap éinéb etèt al  
 éélévér ares suov hsabta ceva

5

An old wisdom word to be found.

*Answer for 5: SOPHIA(Sophie Neveu)*



# The Da Vinci Code

*the bank account key involving eight numbers*

The eight numbers of the key of the bank account are:

13 - 3 - 2 - 21 - 1 - 1 - 8 - 5

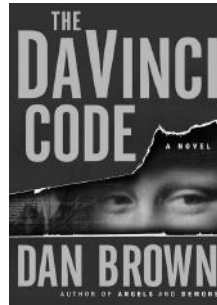
These are the eight first integers of the Fibonacci sequence.

The goal is to find the right order at the first attempt. The right answer is given by selecting the natural ordering:

1 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 5 - 8 - 13 - 21

The total number of solutions is

20 160



# Primitive languages

Given some letters, how many words does one obtain

if one uses each letter exactly once?

With 1 letter a, there is just one word: a.

With 2 letters a,b, there are 2 words, namely ab, ba.

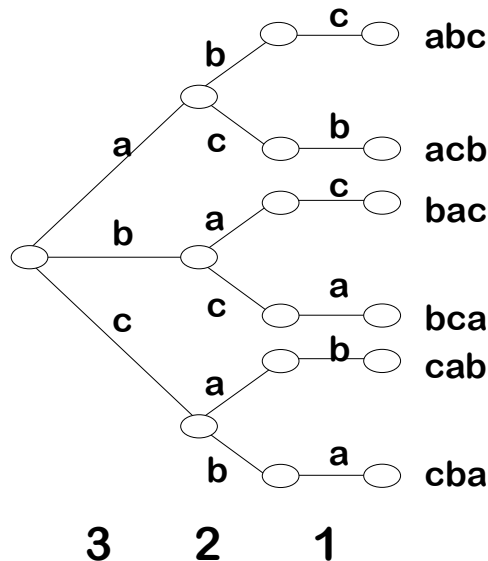
With 3 letters a,b,c : select the first letter (3 choices), once it is selected, complete with the 2 words involving the 2 remaining letters. Hence the number of words is  $3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 = 6$ , namely

abc, acb,  
bac, bca,  
cab, cba.

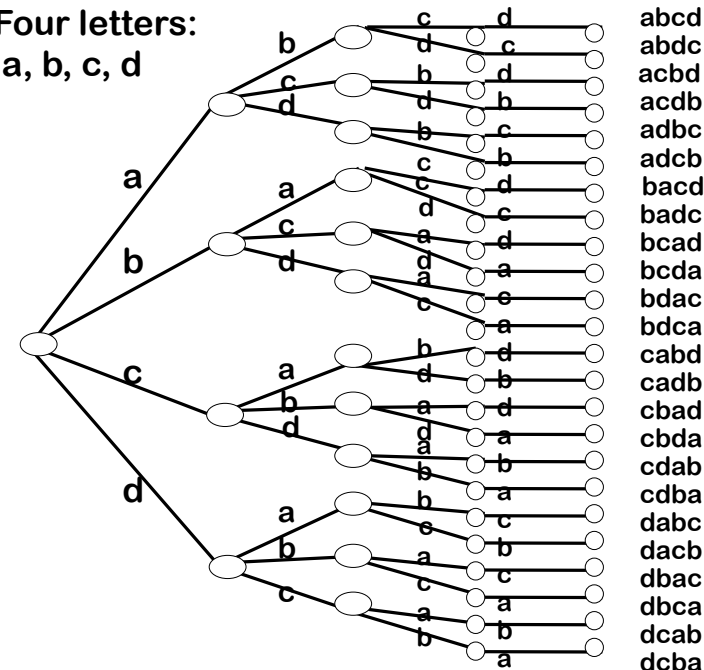
Three letters: a, b, c    First letter    Second    Third    Word

Six words

$3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 = 6$



Four letters:  
a, b, c, d



$4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 = 24$

The sequence 1 3 - 3 - 2 - 2 1 - 1 - 1 - 8 - 5

In the same way, with 8 letters, the number of words is

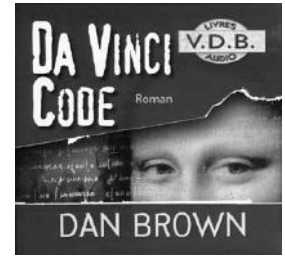
$$8 \cdot 7 \cdot 6 \cdot 5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 = 40\,320.$$

Here the digit 1 occurs twice, this is why the number of orderings is only half:

$$20\,160$$



# The Da Vinci Code



2

An english anagram  
DRACONIAN DEVIL, OH LAME SAINT  
THE MONA LISA LEONARDO DA VINCI

3

A french anagram  
SA CROIX GRAVE L'HEURE  
LA VIERGE AUX ROCHERS

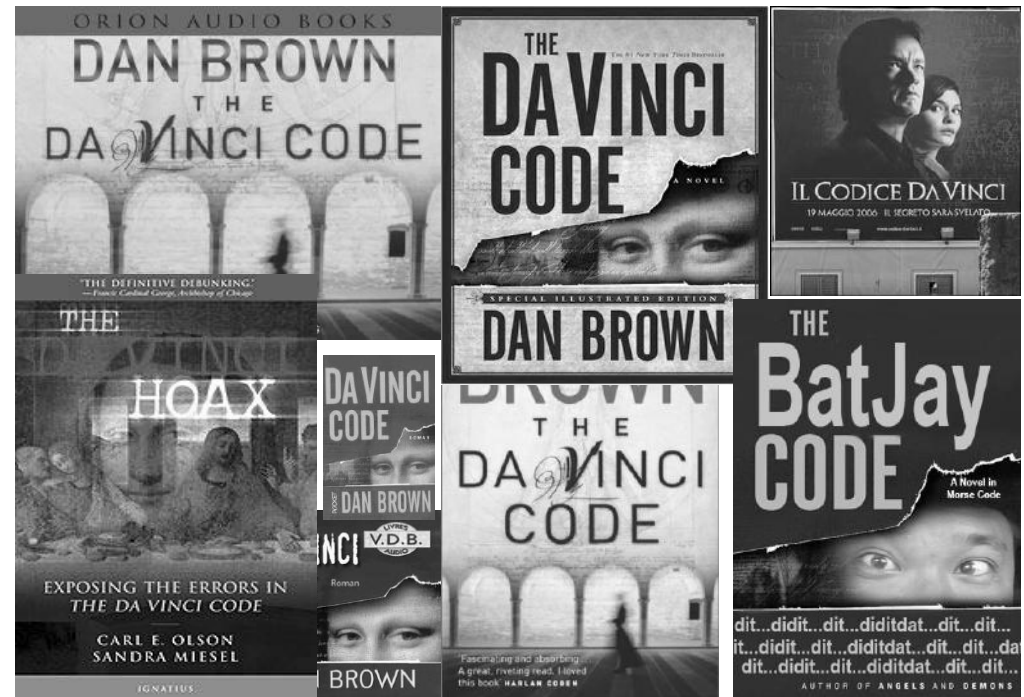
## The Da Vinci Code (continued)

4

A french poem to decode:  
élc al tse essegasedtom xueiv nu snad  
eétalcé ellimaf as tinuér iuq  
sreilpmet sel rap éinéb etèt al  
eélévér ares suov hsabta ceva

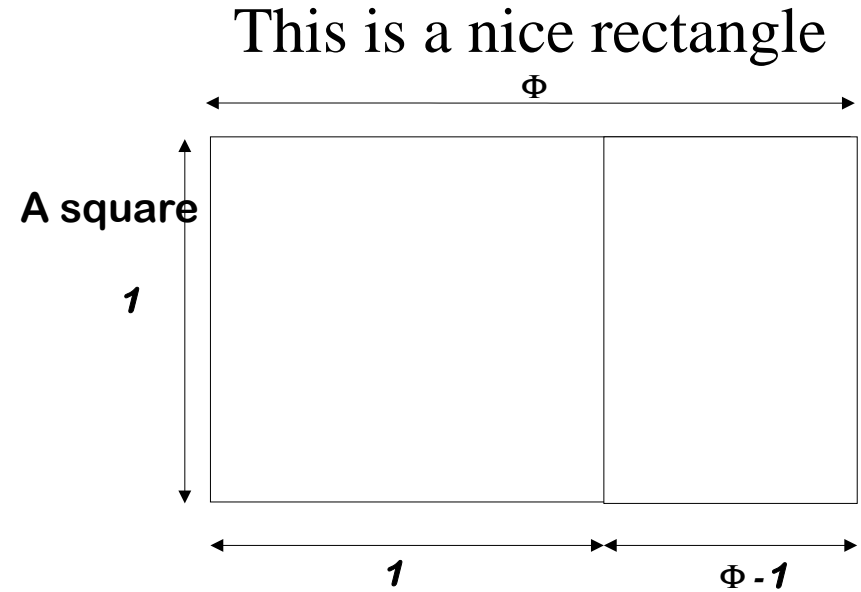
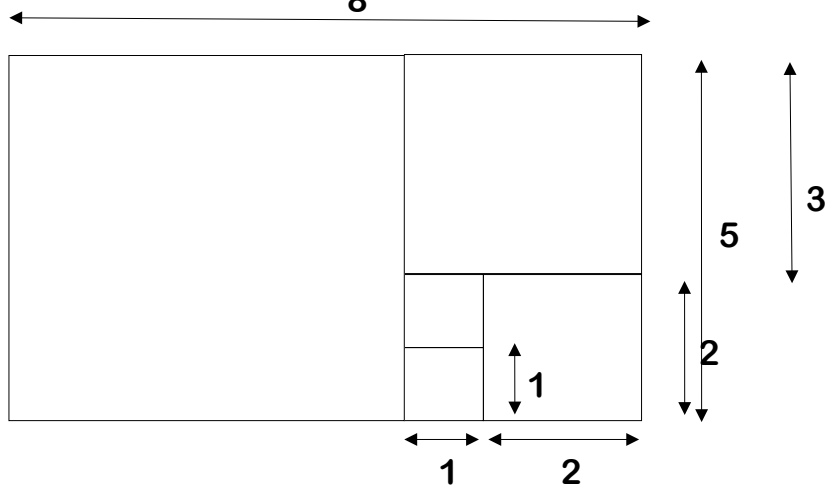
dans un vieux mot de sagesse est la clé  
qui réunit sa famille éclatée  
la tête bénie par les Templiers  
avec Atbash vous sera révélée

« utiliser un miroir pour déchiffrer le code »  
« use a mirror for decoding »





# Geometric construction of the Fibonacci sequence



A  
N  
I  
C  
E  
R  
E  
C  
T  
A  
N  
G  
L  
E

## Golden Rectangle

Sides: **1** and  $\Phi$

Condition:

The two rectangles with sides

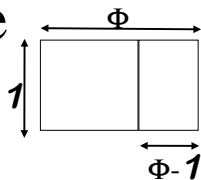
**1** and  $\Phi$  for the big one,

$\Phi - 1$  and **1** for the small one,

have the same proportions.

Proportion of the big one:  $\frac{\Phi}{1} = \Phi$

Proportion of the small one:  $\frac{1}{\Phi - 1}$



## Golden Rectangle

Sides: **1** and  $\Phi = 1.618033\dots$

Condition:  $\Phi = \frac{1}{\Phi - 1}$        $\Phi(\Phi - 1) = 1$

Equation:  $\Phi^2 - \Phi - 1 = 0$        $\Phi - 1 = \frac{1}{\Phi}$

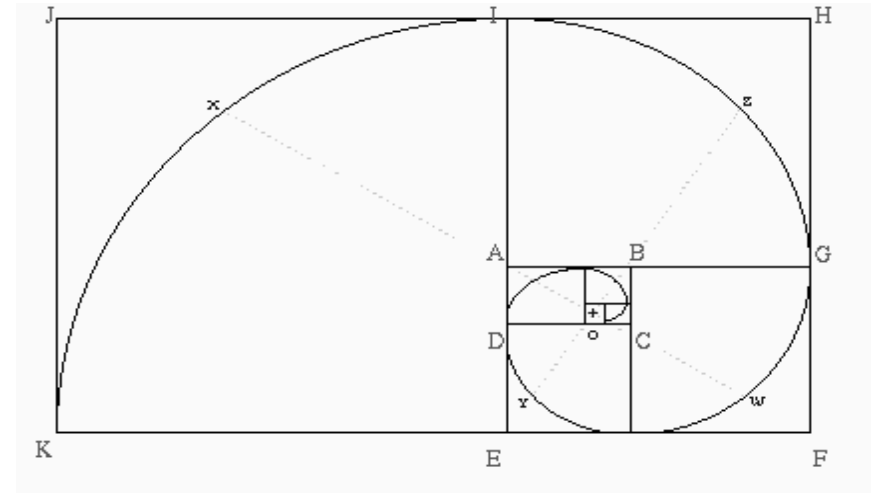
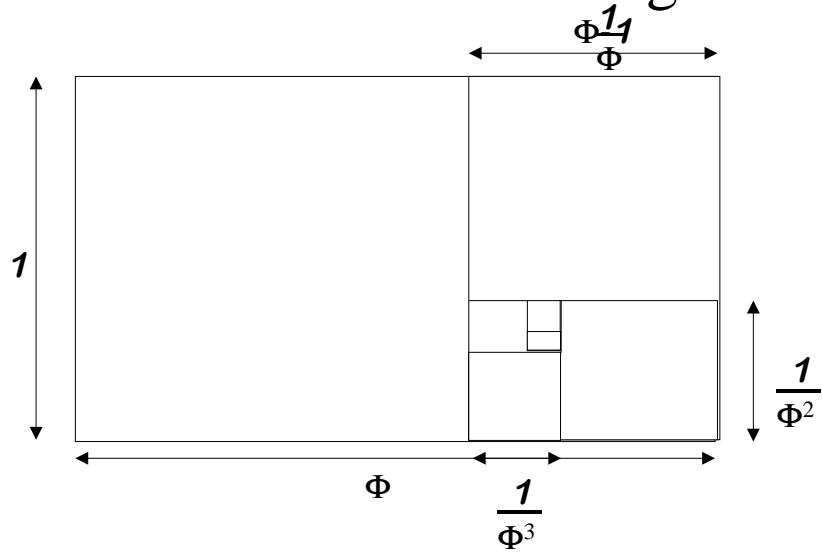
Solution:

$\Phi$  is the **Golden Number**  
**1.618033...**

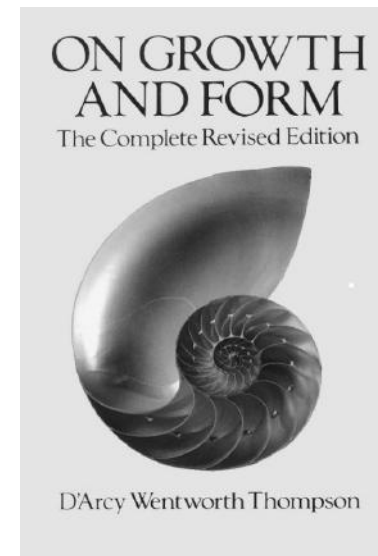
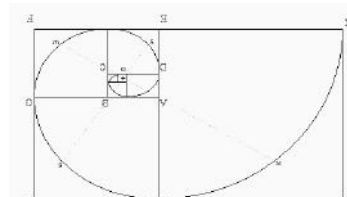
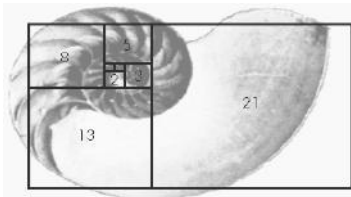
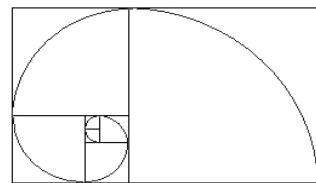
To go from the large rectangle to the small one:  
 divide each side by  $\Phi$

# The Golden Rectangle

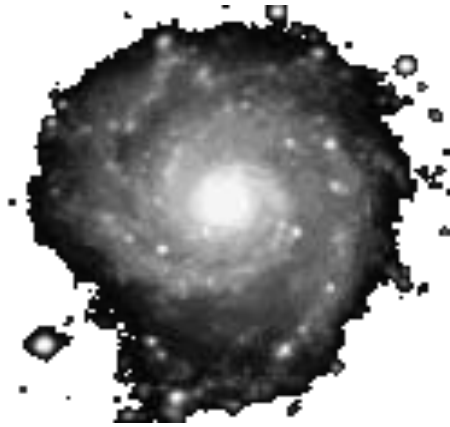
$$\Phi - 1 = \frac{1}{\Phi}$$



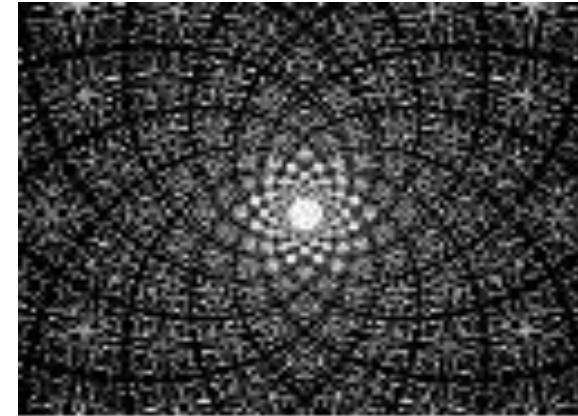
## Ammonite (Nautilus shape)



## *Spirals in the Galaxy*

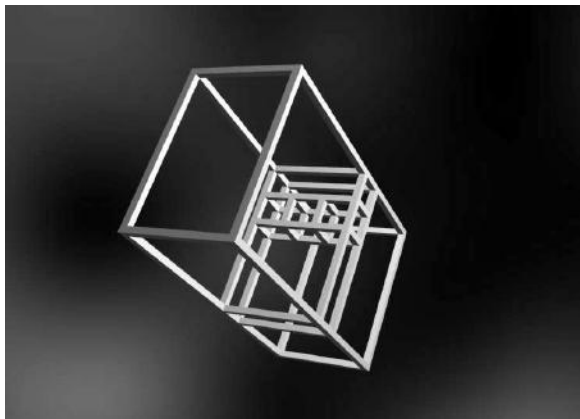


## *The Golden Number in art, architecture,... aesthetics*

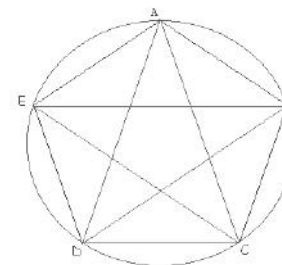


## Kees van Prooijen

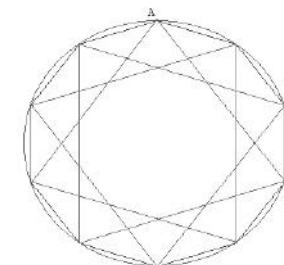
<http://www.kees.cc/gldsec.html>



## Regular pentagons and dodecagons



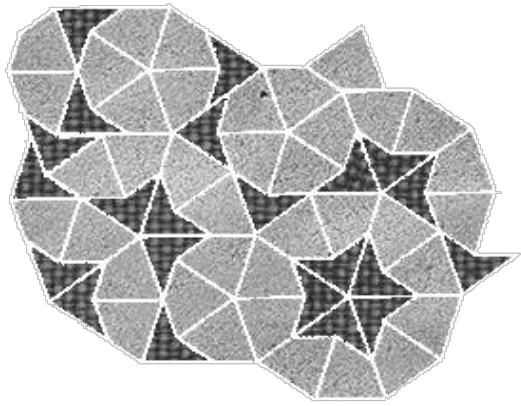
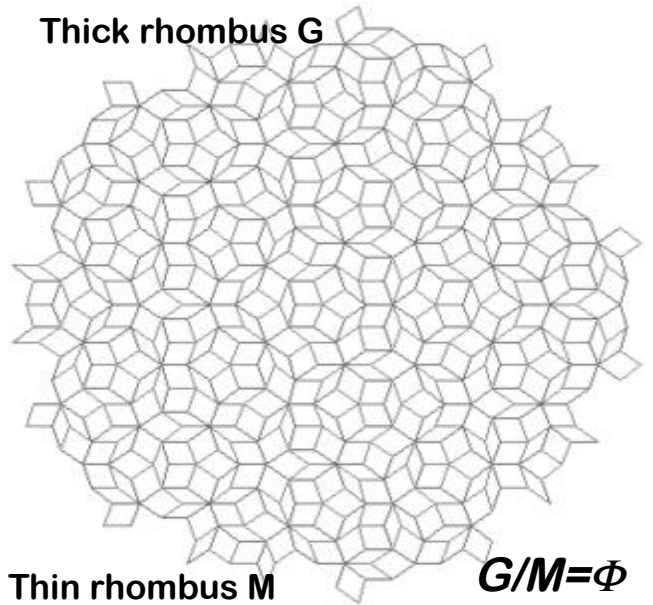
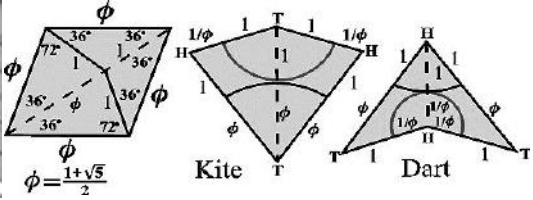
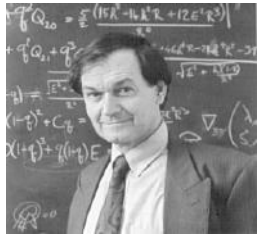
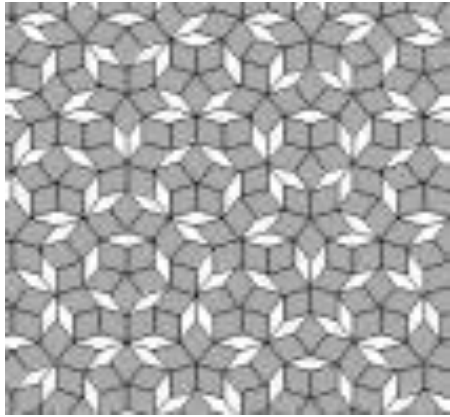
Pentagones réguliers



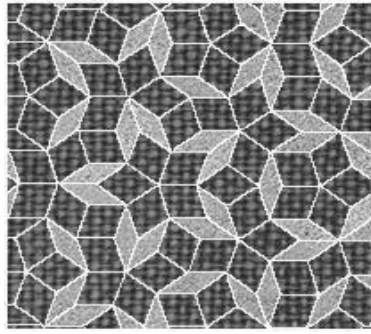
Les décagones réguliers

$$\Phi = 2 \cos(\pi/5)$$

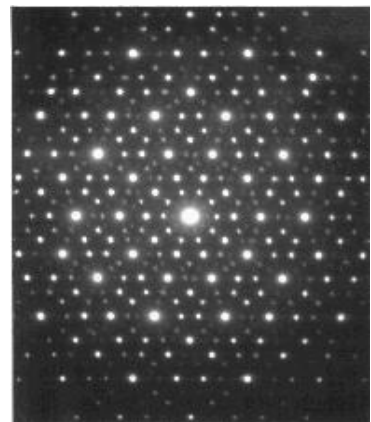
# Penrose non-periodic tiling patterns and quasi-crystals



*proportion=φ*



## Diffraction of quasi-crystals

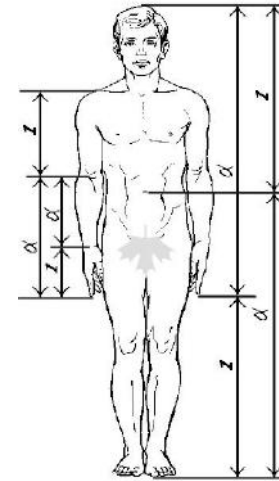


## *Doubly periodic tessalation (lattices) - cristallography*

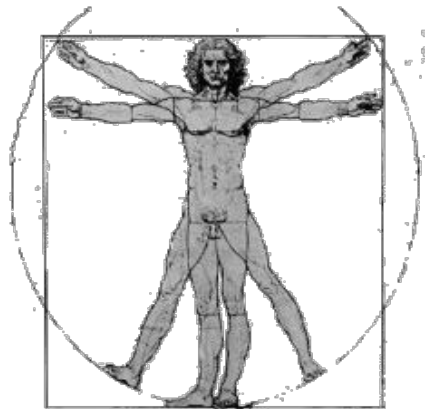


Géométrie d'un champ de lavande  
<http://math.unice.fr/~frou/lavande.html>  
François Rouvière (Nice)

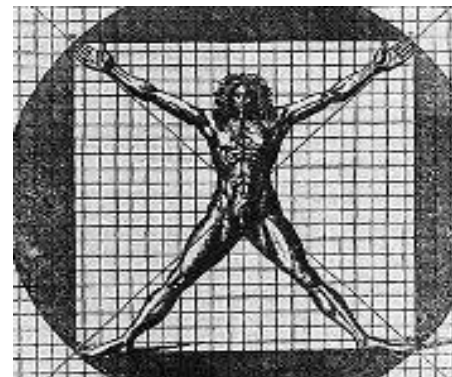
## *The Golden Number and aesthetics*



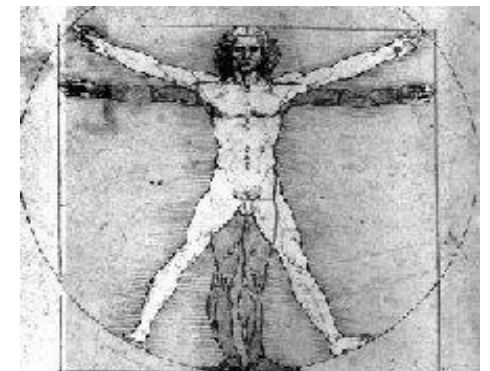
## *The Golden Number and aesthetics*



**Marcus Vitruvius Pollis  
(Vitruve, 88-26 av. J.C.)**



**Léonard de Vinci  
(Leonardo da Vinci,  
1452-1519)**



## *Music and the Fibonacci sequence*

- Dufay, XV<sup>ème</sup> siècle
- Roland de Lassus
- Debussy, Bartok, Ravel, Webern
- Stockhausen
- Xenakis
- **Tom Johnson** *Automatic Music for six percussionists*

## **The quest of the Graal for a mathematician**

**Open problems, conjectures.**

**Example of an unsolved question:**  
*Are there infinitely many primes  
in the Fibonacci sequence?*

## **Example of a recent result**

**Y. Bugeaud, M. Mignotte, S. Siksek (2004):**  
*The only perfect powers (squares, cubes, etc.)  
in the Fibonacci sequence are 1, 8 and 144.*

## **Some applications of Number Theory**

- **Cryptography, security of computer systems**
- **Data transmission, error correcting codes**
- **Interface with theoretical physics**
- **Musical scales**
- **Numbers in nature**

# **Some arithmetic problems raised by rabbits, cows and the Da Vinci Code**

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Université P. et M. Curie (Paris VI)

<http://www.imj-prg.fr/~michel.waldschmidt/>