

We may use this recursion formula to substitute for the last row of the given determinant,  $D_n$ , and then apply standard row operations to get

$$D_n = \begin{vmatrix} F_n^2 & F_{n+1}^2 & F_{n+2}^2 \\ F_{n+1}^2 & F_{n+2}^2 & F_{n+3}^2 \\ 2F_{n+1}^2 + 2F_n^2 - F_{n-1}^2 & 2F_{n+2}^2 + 2F_{n+1}^2 - F_n^2 & 2F_{n+3}^2 + 2F_{n+2}^2 - F_{n+1}^2 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{vmatrix} F_n^2 & F_{n+1}^2 & F_{n+2}^2 \\ F_{n+1}^2 & F_{n+2}^2 & F_{n+3}^2 \\ -F_{n-1}^2 & -F_n^2 & -F_{n+1}^2 \end{vmatrix} = -D_{n-1}.$$

It follows immediately by induction that  $D_n = (-1)^{n-1} D_1$ . Since  $D_1 = 2$ ,  $D_n = 2(-1)^{n-1} = 2(-1)^{n+1}$ .

Also solved by Marjorie Bicknell and Dov Jarden.

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Continued from p. 80, "Elementary Problems and Solutions"

Then

$$F_{k+2} p^{k+1} + F_{k+1} p^{k+2} = (F_{k+1} + F_k) p^{k+1} + (F_k + F_{k-1}) p^{k+2}$$

$$= p(F_{k+1} p^k + F_k p^{k+1}) + p^2(F_k p^{k+1} + F_{k-1} p^k).$$

But

$$p(F_{k+1} p^k + F_k p^{k+1}) + p^2(F_k p^{k+1} + F_{k-1} p^k) \equiv p + p^2 \pmod{p^2 + p - 1}.$$

Since  $F_{k+1} p^k + F_k p^{k+1}$  and  $F_k p^{k-1} + F_{k-1} p^k$  are both congruent to 1 (mod  $p^2 + p - 1$ ) by the induction hypothesis and  $p + p^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{p^2 + p - 1}$ , the desired result follows by induction on  $n$ .

Also solved by Marjorie R. Bicknell and Donna J. Seaman.

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