

Original Article

Formulae of the Frobenius number in relatively prime three Lucas numbers

Ratchanok Bokaew¹, Boonrod Yuttanan², and Sukrawan Mavecha^{3*}

^{1,3} Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Science,
King Mongkut's Institute of Technology Ladkrabang, Lat Krabang, Bangkok, 10520 Thailand

² Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Faculty of Science,
Prince of Songkla University, Hat Yai, Songkhla, 90112 Thailand

Received: 17 May 2019; Revised: 11 July 2019; Accepted: 13 July 2019

Abstract

In this paper, we find the explicit formulae of the Frobenius number for numerical semigroups generated by relatively prime three Lucas numbers L_i, L_{i+2} and L_{i+l} for given integers $i \geq 3, l \geq 4$.

Keywords: Frobenius number, Lucas numbers, Fibonacci numbers

1. Introduction

Let a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n ($n \geq 2$) be integers. Any expression of the form $c_1 a_1 + c_2 a_2 + \dots + c_n a_n$ where c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n are integers, is called a linear combination of a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n . Given positive integers a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n ($n \geq 2$) with $\gcd(a_1, \dots, a_n) = 1$, the Frobenius Problem is a problem to determine the largest positive integer that cannot be representable as a nonnegative integer combination of a_1, \dots, a_n .

Definition The Frobenius number of a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n , denoted by $g(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$, is the largest integer Z such that

$Z \neq c_1 a_1 + c_2 a_2 + \dots + c_n a_n$ for all nonnegative integers c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n .

For example, $g(3, 5) = 7$, $g(6, 9, 20) = 43$.

The Frobenius Problem is well known as the coin problem that asks for the largest monetary amount that cannot be obtained using only coins in the set of coin denominations which has no common divisor greater than 1. This problem is also referred to as the McNugget number problem introduced by Henri Picciotto. There are several applications of the Frobenius Problem, for example, in obtaining upper bounds for the running time of the Shell-sort algorithm, studying partitions of vector spaces and investigating algebraic geometric codes; see Ramres Alfonsn (2005).

The origin of this problem for $n = 2$ was proposed by Sylvester (1884), and this was solved by Sharp (1884) :

$$g(a_1, a_2) = (a_1 - 1)(a_2 - 1) - 1 = a_1 a_2 - a_1 - a_2.$$

*Corresponding author

Email address: sukrawan.ta@kmitl.ac.th

Roberts (1956) found the Frobenius number of an arithmetic sequence:

$$g(a, a + d, \dots, a + kd) = a \left\lfloor \frac{a-2}{k} \right\rfloor + d(a-1).$$

For $n=3$, Selmer and Beyer (1978) solved the Frobenius Problem by a continued fraction algorithm. Then Rödseth (1978) improved their result. Greenberg (1988) found another algorithm.

$$g(F_i, F_{i+2}, F_{i+k}) = \begin{cases} (F_i - 1)F_{i+2} - F_i(rF_{k-2} + 1), & \text{if } r = 0 \text{ or } r \geq 1 \text{ and} \\ & F_{k-2}F_i < (F_i - rF_k)F_{i+2}, \\ (rF_k - 1)F_{i+2} - F_i((r-1)F_{k-2} + 1), & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

where $r = \left\lfloor \frac{F_i - 1}{F_k} \right\rfloor$ for $r, k \geq 3$. Later on, Ýlhan and Kýper (2008) established the Frobenius number involving Lucas numbers

L_n defined by $L_n = L_{n-1} + L_{n-2}$, $n \geq 3$ with $L_1 = 1$ and $L_2 = 3$. They found the following formulae:

$$g(L_i, L_{i+1}, L_{i+k}) = L_i L_{i+1} - L_i - L_{i+1} \quad \text{for } i, k \geq 2,$$

$$g(L_i, L_{i+2}, L_{i+3}) = L_i \left\lfloor \frac{L_i - 2}{2} \right\rfloor + L_{i+1}(L_i - 1) \quad \text{for } i \geq 3,$$

and
$$g(L_{3i}, L_{3i} + 2, 2L_{3i} + 1) = \frac{L_{3i}^2}{2} + L_{3i} - 1 \quad \text{for } i \geq 1.$$

Moreover, Ong and Ponomarenko (2008) solved the Frobenius Problem for sets of the form $\{m^k, m^{k-1}n, m^{k-2}n^2, \dots, n^k\}$, where m, n are relatively prime positive integers:

$$g(m^k, m^{k-1}n, m^{k-2}n^2, \dots, n^k) = n^{k-1}(mn - m - n) + \frac{(n-1)m^2(m^{k-1} - n^{k-1})}{m-n}$$

for any positive integer k . Gil *et al.* (2015) found the Frobenius number of primitive Pythagorean triples:

$$g(m^2 - n^2, 2mn, m^2 + n^2) = (m-1)(m^2 - n^2) + (m-1)(2mn) - (m^2 + n^2).$$

Recently, Tripathi (2017) gave an exact formula for $g(a_1, a_2, a_3)$, where a_1, a_2, a_3 are pairwise coprime positive integers. His results are divided into several cases and are complicated, so we do not record them here.

In a recent paper, we investigate the Frobenius number $g(L_i, L_{i+2}, L_{i+l})$ for integers $i \geq 3$, $l \geq 4$ by using the idea in Marín *et al.* (2007) and generalize the work of Ýlhan and Kýper (2008). Our work needs the well-known Theorem of Brauer and Shockley (1962) stated as follows:

Theorem A. Let $1 < a_1 < \dots < a_n$ be integers such that $\gcd(a_1, \dots, a_n) = 1$.
Let $B = \{a_1x_1 + \dots + a_nx_n \mid x_i \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\} \text{ for all } i = 1, 2, \dots, n\}$. Then

In the 21st century, the Frobenius Problem is still an interesting problem. There are several studies associated with this problem, as follows. Marín *et al.* (2007) investigated the Frobenius number of Fibonacci numbers F_i, F_{i+2}, F_{i+k} for integers $i, k \geq 3$ where F_n is the n^{th} term of the Fibonacci sequence defined by $F_n = F_{n-1} + F_{n-2}$, $n \geq 3$ with $F_1 = 1$ and $F_2 = 1$. They found that

$$g(a_1, \dots, a_n) = \max_{l \in \{1, 2, \dots, a_1-1\}} \{t_l\} - a_1,$$

where t_l is the smallest positive integers congruent to l modulo a_1 and $t_l \in B$.

Note that Theorem A can give the value for $g(a_1, \dots, a_n)$; however, the formula is not in closed form and it is difficult to find t_l for each l . In our work, we are able to give an explicit formula for $g(L_i, L_{i+2}, L_{i+l})$.

2. Necessary Lemmas

Before investigating the value of $g(L_i, L_{i+2}, L_{i+l})$ for $i \geq 3, l \geq 4$, we establish some lemmas. By Theorem A, for fixed integers $i \geq 3, l \geq 4$, we get

$$g(L_i, L_{i+2}, L_{i+l}) = \max_{k \in \{1, 2, \dots, L_i-1\}} \{t_k^*\} - L_i$$

where t_k^* is the smallest positive integer congruent to k modulo L_i and $t_k^* = xL_{i+2} + yL_{i+l}$ for some $x, y \geq 0$. Then we shall construct the Table 1, denoted by T_1 , having entries $t_{x,y} = xL_{i+2} + yL_{i+l}$ for integers $x, y \geq 0$. Since

$$L_{i+l} = L_{i+2}F_{l-1} + L_{i+1}F_{l-2} = L_{i+2}(F_l - F_{l-2}) + (L_{i+2} - L_i)F_{l-2} = F_lL_{i+2} - F_{l-2}L_i,$$

we get

$$t_{x,y} = xL_{i+2} + yL_{i+l} = xL_{i+2} + y(F_lL_{i+2} - F_{l-2}L_i) = (x + yF_l)L_{i+2} - yF_{l-2}L_i.$$

Thus the table T_1 can be represented as the table T_2 .

Table 1. $T_1 : t_{x,y} = xL_{i+2} + yL_{i+l}$ for $x, y \geq 0$

| $x \backslash y$ | 0 | 1 | 2 | ... | r | ... |
|------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----|-------------------------------|-----|
| 0 | 0 | L_{i+l} | $2L_{i+l}$ | ... | rL_{i+l} | |
| 1 | L_{i+2} | $L_{i+2} + L_{i+l}$ | $L_{i+2} + 2L_{i+l}$ | ... | $L_{i+2} + rL_{i+l}$ | |
| 2 | $2L_{i+2}$ | $2L_{i+2} + L_{i+l}$ | $2L_{i+2} + 2L_{i+l}$ | ... | $2L_{i+2} + rL_{i+l}$ | |
| 3 | $3L_{i+2}$ | $3L_{i+2} + L_{i+l}$ | $3L_{i+2} + 2L_{i+l}$ | ... | $3L_{i+2} + rL_{i+l}$ | |
| \vdots | \vdots | \vdots | \vdots | | \vdots | |
| $F_l - 2$ | $(F_l - 2)L_{i+2}$ | $(F_l - 2)L_{i+2} + L_{i+l}$ | $(F_l - 2)L_{i+2} + 2L_{i+l}$ | ... | $(F_l - 2)L_{i+2} + rL_{i+l}$ | |
| $F_l - 1$ | $(F_l - 1)L_{i+2}$ | $(F_l - 1)L_{i+2} + L_{i+l}$ | $(F_l - 1)L_{i+2} + 2L_{i+l}$ | ... | $(F_l - 1)L_{i+2} + rL_{i+l}$ | |
| F_l | F_lL_{i+2} | $F_lL_{i+2} + L_{i+l}$ | $F_lL_{i+2} + 2L_{i+l}$ | ... | $F_lL_{i+2} + rL_{i+l}$ | |
| $F_l + 1$ | $(F_l + 1)L_{i+2}$ | $(F_l + 1)L_{i+2} + L_{i+l}$ | $(F_l + 1)L_{i+2} + 2L_{i+l}$ | ... | $(F_l + 1)L_{i+2} + rL_{i+l}$ | |
| \vdots | \vdots | \vdots | \vdots | | \vdots | |

From now on, we define the set $T_{F_l-1, \infty}$ to contain the first $F_l - 1$ entries of all columns in Table 2: T_2 . That is

$$T_{F_l-1, \infty} = \{ t_{x,y} \mid 0 \leq x \leq F_l - 1 \text{ and } y \geq 0 \}.$$

Table 2. $T_2 : t_{x,y} = (x + yF_l)L_{l+2} - yF_{l-2}L_l$ for $x, y \geq 0$

| $x \backslash y$ | 0 | 1 | 2 | ... | r | ... |
|------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----|--|-----|
| 0 | 0 | $F_l L_{l+2} - F_{l-2} L_l$ | $2F_l L_{l+2} - 2F_{l-2} L_l$ | ... | $rF_l L_{l+2} - rF_{l-2} L_l$ | ... |
| 1 | L_{l+2} | $(1 + F_l)L_{l+2} - F_{l-2} L_l$ | $(1 + 2F_l)L_{l+2} - 2F_{l-2} L_l$ | ... | $(1 + rF_l)L_{l+2} - rF_{l-2} L_l$ | ... |
| 2 | $2L_{l+2}$ | $(2 + F_l)L_{l+2} - F_{l-2} L_l$ | $(2 + 2F_l)L_{l+2} - 2F_{l-2} L_l$ | ... | $(2 + rF_l)L_{l+2} - rF_{l-2} L_l$ | ... |
| 3 | $3L_{l+2}$ | $(3 + F_l)L_{l+2} - F_{l-2} L_l$ | $(3 + 2F_l)L_{l+2} - 2F_{l-2} L_l$ | ... | $(3 + rF_l)L_{l+2} - rF_{l-2} L_l$ | ... |
| \vdots | \vdots | \vdots | \vdots | | \vdots | |
| $F_l - 1$ | $(F_l - 1)L_{l+2}$ | $(2F_l - 1)L_{l+2} - F_{l-2} L_l$ | $(3F_l - 1)L_{l+2} - 2F_{l-2} L_l$ | ... | $((r + 1)F_l - 1)L_{l+2} - rF_{l-2} L_l$ | ... |
| F_l | $F_l L_{l+2}$ | $2F_l L_{l+2} - F_{l-2} L_l$ | $3F_l L_{l+2} - 2F_{l-2} L_l$ | ... | $(r + 1)F_l L_{l+2} - rF_{l-2} L_l$ | ... |
| $F_l + 1$ | $(F_l + 1)L_{l+2}$ | $(2F_l + 1)L_{l+2} - F_{l-2} L_l$ | $(3F_l + 1)L_{l+2} - 2F_{l-2} L_l$ | ... | $((r + 1)F_l + 1)L_{l+2} - rF_{l-2} L_l$ | ... |
| \vdots | \vdots | \vdots | \vdots | | \vdots | |

Throughout the paper, we set $r = \left\lfloor \frac{L_l - 1}{F_l} \right\rfloor$ and $L_l - 1 = rF_l + q$ for some integer $0 \leq q \leq F_l - 1$. Let $T_{F_l - 1, r}$ be the set that contains the first $F_l - 1$ entries of columns $0, 1, 2, \dots, r - 1$ and the first q entries of column r , i.e.,

$$T_{F_l - 1, r} = \{ t_{x,y} \mid 0 \leq x \leq F_l - 1 \text{ and } 0 \leq y \leq r - 1 \} \cup \{ t_{0,r}, t_{1,r}, \dots, t_{q,r} \}.$$

Lemma 1. (i) The set $T_{F_l - 1, r}$ is a complete system of residues modulo L_l .

(ii) In the table T_1 , $t_{m,n} \leq t_{j,k}$ for all $m \leq j$ and $n \leq k$. Moreover, $t_{m+1,n} < t_{m,n+1}$ for all $0 \leq m, n \leq F_l - 2$.

Proof. (i) For each $t_{x,y} = (x + yF_l)L_{l+2} - yF_{l-2}L_l \in T_{F_l - 1, r}$, we have $0 \leq x + yF_l \leq q + rF_l = L_l - 1$. Since

$\gcd(L_l, L_{l+2}) = 1$, $T_{F_l - 1, r}$ is a complete system of residues modulo L_l .

(ii) Recall that $t_{m,n} = mL_{l+2} + nL_{l+1}$ and $t_{j,k} = jL_{l+2} + kL_{l+1}$. It is obvious that for $m \leq j$, $t_{m,n} \leq t_{j,n}$ and for $n \leq k$, $t_{m,n} \leq t_{m,k}$. Therefore, $t_{m,n} \leq t_{j,k}$ for all $m \leq j$ and $n \leq k$. For $0 \leq m, n \leq F_l - 2$, we have $t_{m,n+1} - t_{m+1,n} = (F_l - 1)L_{l+2} - F_{l-2}L_l > 0$.

We define t_x as follows:

$$\begin{matrix} t_0 = t_{0,0} & t_{F_l} = t_{0,1} & t_{2F_l} = t_{0,2} & \dots & t_{rF_l} = t_{0,r} & \dots \\ t_1 = t_{1,0} & t_{F_l+1} = t_{1,1} & t_{2F_l+1} = t_{1,2} & \dots & t_{rF_l+1} = t_{1,r} & \dots \\ t_2 = t_{2,0} & t_{F_l+2} = t_{2,1} & t_{2F_l+2} = t_{2,2} & \dots & t_{rF_l+2} = t_{2,r} & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & \\ t_{F_l-1} = t_{F_l-1,0} & t_{2F_l-1} = t_{F_l-1,1} & t_{3F_l-1} = t_{F_l-1,2} & \dots & t_{(r+1)F_l-1} = t_{F_l-1,r} & \dots \end{matrix}$$

The elements of $T_{F_l - 1, r}$ can be represented as $t_x = xL_{l+2} - \left\lfloor \frac{x}{F_l} \right\rfloor F_{l-2}L_l$ for $x = 0, 1, \dots$.

Lemma 2. Let $t_{u,v}$ be an entry of T_1 and $t_{u,v} \notin T_{F_l - 1, r}$. Then there exist $t_{x,y} \in T_{F_l - 1, r}$ such that $t_{u,v} \equiv t_{x,y} \pmod{L_l}$ and $t_{u,v} > t_{x,y}$.

Proof. By the definition of t_x given above, the set $T_{F_i-1,r}$ can be written as

$$T_{F_i-1,r} = \{t_0, \dots, t_{F_i-1}, t_{F_i}, \dots, t_{2F_i-1}, t_{2F_i}, \dots, t_{3F_i-1}, \dots, t_{rF_i}, \dots, t_{rF_i+q} = t_{L_i-1}\}.$$

We will consider two cases as follows.

Case 1: $t_{u,v} \in T_{F_i-1,\infty} \setminus T_{F_i-1,r}$

Then $t_{u,v} = t_{aL_i+b}$ for some integer $a \geq 1$ and $0 \leq b \leq L_i - 1$. We see that

$$t_{aL_i+b} = (aL_i + b)L_{i+2} - \left\lfloor \frac{aL_i + b}{F_i} \right\rfloor F_{i-2}L_i \equiv bL_{i+2} - \left\lfloor \frac{b}{F_i} \right\rfloor F_{i-2}L_i = t_b \pmod{L_i}.$$

Since $0 \leq b \leq L_i - 1$, $t_b = t_{x,y} \in T_{F_i-1,r}$ for some x, y . That is, $t_{u,v} \equiv t_{x,y} \pmod{L_i}$. Next, we will show that $t_{u,v} > t_{x,y}$, i.e.,

$t_{aL_i+b} > t_b$. Since $t_{aL_i+b} \geq t_{L_i+b}$ for $a \geq 1$, it is enough to show only that $t_{L_i+b} > t_b$. Recall that $r = \left\lfloor \frac{L_i - 1}{F_i} \right\rfloor$ and

$L_i - 1 = rF_i + q$ for some $0 \leq q \leq F_i - 1$. We will consider two subcases depending on the value of r .

Subcase 1.1: If $r = 0$, then $L_i - 1 < F_i$, so $L_i + b \leq 2F_i - 1$. If $0 \leq L_i + b \leq F_i - 1$, then both t_b and t_{L_i+b} are in the first column of the table T_i . By Lemma 1(ii), we obtain $t_{L_i+b} > t_b$.

Suppose that $F_i \leq L_i + b \leq 2F_i - 1$. Then t_b and t_{L_i+b} are in the first and second columns of the table T_i , respectively. If $L_i < \frac{F_i}{2}$, then $L_i + b < \frac{F_i}{2} + \frac{F_i}{2} = F_i$, a contradiction. Hence we have $F_{i-2} \leq \frac{F_i}{2} \leq L_i$. Finally, we have

$$t_{L_i+b} - t_b = L_i L_{i+2} - F_{i-2} L_i = L_i (L_{i+2} - F_{i-2}) > L_i (L_i - F_{i-2}) > 0.$$

Subcase 1.2: Suppose that $r \geq 1$. Consider

$$t_{L_i+b} - t_b = L_i \left(L_{i+2} - F_{i-2} \left(\left\lfloor \frac{L_i + b}{F_i} \right\rfloor - \left\lfloor \frac{b}{F_i} \right\rfloor \right) \right).$$

Write $b = mF_i + n$ where $0 \leq n \leq F_i - 1$. Since $L_i - 1 = rF_i + q$ with $0 \leq q \leq F_i - 1$, it follows that

$$\left\lfloor \frac{L_i + b}{F_i} \right\rfloor - \left\lfloor \frac{b}{F_i} \right\rfloor = \left\lfloor \frac{L_i - 1 + b + 1}{F_i} \right\rfloor - m = \left\lfloor \frac{rF_i + q + mF_i + n + 1}{F_i} \right\rfloor - m \leq r + 1.$$

It is enough to show that $L_{i+2} > (r + 1)F_{i-2}$. To this end, we see that

$$\begin{aligned} L_{i+2} - (r + 1)F_{i-2} &= L_i + L_{i+1} - (r + 1)F_{i-2} \\ &= rF_i + q + 1 + L_{i+1} - (r + 1)F_{i-2} \\ &= r(F_i - F_{i-2}) - F_{i-2} + q + 1 + L_{i+1} \\ &= rF_{i-1} - F_{i-2} + q + 1 + L_{i+1} > 0 \end{aligned}$$

since $r \geq 1$.

Case 2: $t_{u,v} \notin T_{F_l-1,\infty}$

Since $T_{F_l-1,r}$ is a complete system of residues modulo L_l , there exists $t_{x,y} \in T_{F_l-1,r}$ such that $t_{u,v} \equiv t_{x,y} \pmod{L_l}$. Then $0 \leq x \leq F_l-1 < u$. If $v \geq y$, by Lemma 1(ii), $t_{x,y} \leq t_{x,v} < t_{u,v}$. Suppose $v < y$. Then $t_{u,v} \equiv t_{x,y} \pmod{L_l}$ implies $u + vF_l \equiv x + yF_l \pmod{L_l}$. From Lemma 1(i), $0 \leq x + yF_l \leq L_l - 1$, and thus $u + vF_l = m(x + yF_l)$ for some integer $m \geq 1$. Hence $u + vF_l \geq x + yF_l$. Since $-vF_{l-2}L_l > -yF_{l-2}L_l$, we have $t_{u,v} > t_{x,y}$.

3. Main Theorem

Theorem. Let $i \geq 3, l \geq 4$ be integers and $r = \left\lfloor \frac{L_l-1}{F_l} \right\rfloor$. Then

$$g(L_l, L_{l+2}, L_{l+i}) = \begin{cases} (L_l-1)L_{l+2} - (1+rF_{l-2})L_l, & \text{if 1.) } r=0, \\ & \text{or 2.) } r \geq 1 \text{ and } (L_l-rF_l)L_{l+2} > F_{l-2}L_l, \\ (rF_l-1)L_{l+2} - (1+(r-1)F_{l-2})L_l, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Proof. From Theorem A, now we have to consider t_k^* for $k=1,2,\dots,L_l-1$ when t_k^* is the smallest positive integer congruent to k modulo L_l and t_k^* can be written as $xL_{l+2} + yL_{l+i}$ for some integers $x, y \geq 0$. Since $t_x = xL_{l+2} - \left\lfloor \frac{x}{F_l} \right\rfloor F_{l-2}L_l$ for $x=0,1,\dots$

If $r=0$, by Lemma 2, we have that t_x is the smallest positive integer congruent to k modulo L_l for some integer $0 \leq k \leq L_l-1$. And we see that t_x can be represented as a linear combination of L_{l+2} and L_{l+i} . Hence $T_{F_l-1,r} = \{t_k^* \mid k=1,2,\dots,L_l-1\}$. If $r \geq 1$, by Lemma 1(ii), then

$$t_{F_l-1,i} = \max_{0 \leq x \leq F_l-1} \{t_{x,i} \mid t_{x,i} \in T_{F_l-1,r}\} \text{ for each } i=0,1,\dots,r-1,$$

$$t_{F_l-1,r-1} = \max_{0 \leq i \leq r-1} \{t_{F_l-1,i} \mid t_{F_l-1,i} \in T_{F_l-1,r}\},$$

and

$$t_{k,r} = \max_{0 \leq x \leq k} \{t_{x,r} \mid t_{x,r} \in T_{F_l-1,r}\}.$$

We will find the necessary condition for $t_{k,r} > t_{F_l-1,r-1}$. It is true if and only if $(L_l-1)L_{l+2} - F_{l-2}L_l > (rF_l-1)L_{l+2} - (r-1)F_{l-2}L_l$ that is $(L_l-rF_l)L_{l+2} > F_{l-2}L_l$. Hence we can conclude the result of this theorem.

Example 1. Let $i=3$ and $l=5$. Then $r = \left\lfloor \frac{L_5-1}{F_5} \right\rfloor = 0$, and by our main theorem, we have

$$g(L_3, L_5, L_8) = g(4, 11, 47) = (L_3-1)L_5 - (1+(0)F_3)L_3 = 3(11) - 1(4) = 29.$$

We would like to confirm the value of $g(4,11,47)$ by the well-known Theorem A. Since $g(L_3, L_5, L_8) = g(4,11,47) = \max_{k \in \{1,2,3\}} \{t_k^*\} - 4$. Then we have to find t_k^* for each $k=1,2,3$, that t_k^* is the smallest positive integer congruent to k modulo

$L_3 = 4$ and $t_k^* \in B$. We get $t_1^* = 33, t_2^* = 22$ and $t_3^* = 11$. Thus $g(L_3, L_5, L_8) = \max\{33, 22, 11\} - 4 = 29$ which is the same value obtained by our result.

Example 2. Take $i = 4$ and $l = 4$. Then $r = \left\lfloor \frac{L_4 - 1}{F_4} \right\rfloor = 2$,

and $(L_4 - 2F_4)L_6 > F_2L_4$. Thus

$$g(L_4, L_6, L_8) = g(7, 18, 47) = (L_4 - 1)L_6 - (1 + 2F_2)L_4 = 87.$$

On the other hand, by using Theorem A,

$$g(L_4, L_6, L_8) = g(7, 18, 47) = \max_{k \in \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}} \{t_k^*\} - 7.$$

We get $t_1^* = 36, t_2^* = 65, t_3^* = 94, t_4^* = 18, t_5^* = 47$ and $t_6^* = 83$. Thus $g(L_4, L_6, L_8) = \max\{36, 65, 94, 18, 47, 83\} - 7 = 87$ which is the same value as above.

Acknowledgements

The authors would like to thank the referees for reading the manuscript very carefully and for valuable suggestions.

References

- Brauer, A., & Shockley, J. E. (1962). On a problem of Frobenius. *Journal für Reine und Angewandte. Mathematik*, 211, 215–220.
- Curran Sharp, W. J. (1884). Solution to problem 7382 (Mathematics). *Educational Time*, 41.
- Gil, B. K., Han, J. W., Kim, T. H., Koo, R. H., Lee, B. W., Lee, J., . . . Park, P. S. (2015). Frobenius numbers of Pythagorean triples. *International Journal of Number Theory*, 11(2), 613-619.
- Greenberg, H. (1988). Solution to a diophantine equation for nonnegative integers. *Journal of Algorithms*, 9(3), 343–353.
- Marín, J. M., Ramíres Alfonsín, J. L., & Revuelta, M. P. (2007). On the Frobenius number of Fibonacci numerical semigroups. *Integers*, 7(1), 1-7.
- Ong, D. C., & Ponomarenko, V. (2008). The Frobenius number of geometric sequences. *Integers*, 8(1), 1-3.
- Ramíres Alfonsín, J. L. (2005). *The diophantine Frobenius problem*, New York, NY: Oxford University Press.
- Rödseth, Ö. J. (1978). On a linear diophantine problem of Frobenius, *Journal für Reine und Angewandte. Mathematik*, 301, 171–178.
- Roberts, J. B. (1956). Note on linear forms. *Proceedings of the American Mathematical Society*, 7, 465–469.
- Selmer, E. S., & Beyer, Ö. (1978). On the linear diophantine problem of Frobenius in three variables. *Journal für Reine und Angewandte Mathematik*, 301, 161–170.
- Sylvester, J. J. (1884). Problem 7382, *Mathematical Questions from the Educational Times*, 41, 21.
- Tripathi, A. (2017). Formulae for the Frobenius number in three variables, *Journal of Number Theory*, 170, 368-389.
- Ýlhan, S., & Kýper, R. (2008). On the Frobenius number of some Lucas numerical semigroups. *Acta Universitatis Apulensis*, 16, 179-183.