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Fixed Points and Upper Bounds for the Rank of Appearance in Lucas Sequences,

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Abstract

Let U(P,Q) denote the Lucas sequence satisfying the recursion relation

$$U_{n+2} = PU_{n+1} - QU_n,$$

where $U_0 = 0$, $U_1 = 1$, and P and Q are integers. Let z(n), called the rank of appearance of n in U(P,Q), denote the least positive integer m such that $U_m \equiv 0 \pmod{n}$. We find all fixed points n for the rank of appearance such that z(n) = n. We also show that $z(n) \leq 2n$ when z(n) exists. This paper improves results considered by Diego Marques regarding the Fibonacci sequence.