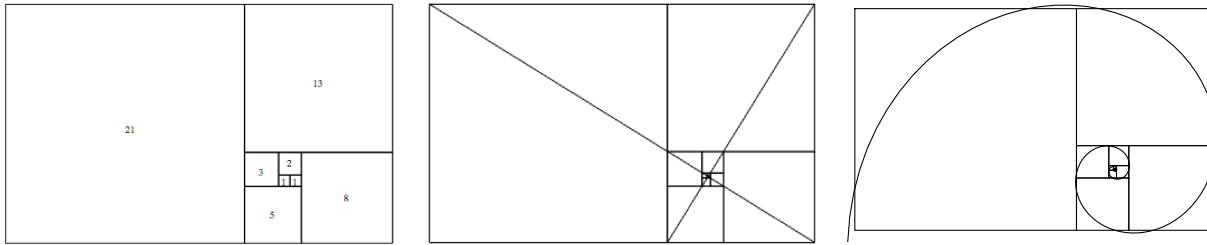


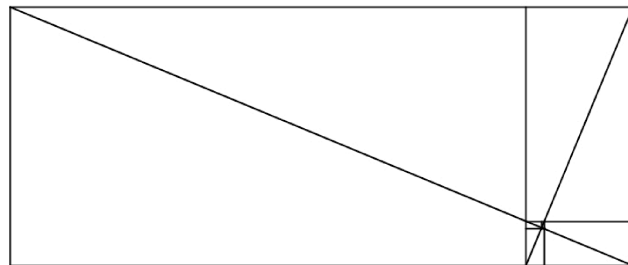
The Euclidean Algorithm from a Geometric Viewpoint

Ted Courant
 Berkeley Math Circle
 January 11, 2011
tcourant@bentleyschool.net

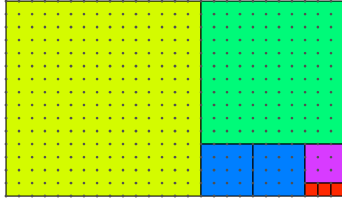
1. Use the Euclidean algorithm to find $\gcd(97,56)$; repeat for $\gcd(99,70)$.
2. Recall that $t_n = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$ is the n -th triangular number. Show that t_8 is a square; find another square triangular number.
3. Prove that $f_1^2 + f_2^2 + f_3^2 + \dots + f_n^2 = f_n \cdot f_{n+1}$
4. Prove that $9t_n + 1$ is a triangular number (Fermat), as are $25t_n + 3$ and $49t_n + 6$ (Euler).



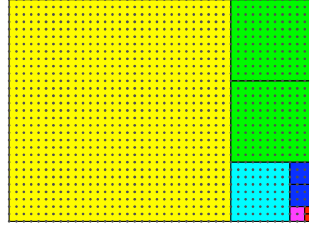
Spiral of 2 by 1 rectangles



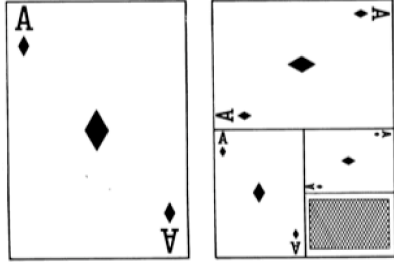
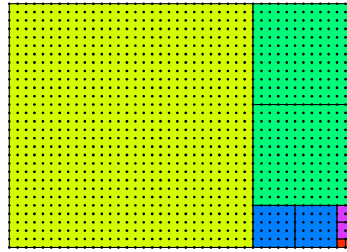
26×15



41×30



41×29



Sources

Excursions in Number Theory by C. Stanley Ogilvy (Dover Book republication (1988))

Fascinating Fractions, by N. M. Beskin (MIR Publishers, The Little Mathematics Library)

Real Numbers and Fascinating Fractions (based on Beskin's book, above: URL: kr.cs.ait.ac.th/~radok/math/mat4/start.htm)

Continued Fractions, by C. D. Olds (New Mathematics Library, MAA)

A Problem of Astronomical Proportion, by P. Harvey, The Mathematical Gazette vol 60, number 414, (1976)

A Theorem of Gabriel Lamé, *Mathematical Gems II* by Ross Honsberger, Chapter 7 (Dolciani Mathematical Expositions)