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# The ratio log-concavity of the Cohen numbers

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**Abstract**

Let  $U_n$  denote the  $n$ th Cohen number. Some combinatorial properties for  $U_n$  have been discovered. In this paper, we prove the ratio log-concavity of  $U_n$  by establishing the lower and upper bounds for  $\frac{U_n}{U_{n-1}}$ .

**MSC:** 05A20; 11B83**Keywords:** the Cohen number; log-concavity; ratio log-concavity

## 1 Introduction

An infinite sequence  $\{a_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  is said to be log-concave (respectively, log-convex) if for any positive integer  $n$ ,

$$a_n^2 \geq a_{n+1}a_{n-1} \quad (\text{respectively, } a_n^2 \leq a_{n+1}a_{n-1}).$$

Furthermore, a positive sequence  $\{a_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  is said to be ratio log-concave if the sequence  $\{\frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n}\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  is log-concave. The aim of this paper is to prove the ratio log-concavity of the Cohen numbers. The  $n$ th Cohen number was first introduced by Cohen [1] which is defined by

$$U_n = h(n)U_{n-1} + g(n)U_{n-2} \quad (n \geq 2) \quad (1.1)$$

with  $U_0 = 1$  and  $U_1 = 12$ , where

$$h(n) = \frac{3(2n-1)(3n^2-3n+1)(15n^2-15n+4)}{n^5} \quad (1.2)$$

and

$$g(n) = \frac{3(n-1)^3(3n-4)(3n-2)}{n^5}. \quad (1.3)$$

In [2], Zudilin proved that  $D_n U_n$  is an integer where  $D_n$  is the least common multiple of  $1, 2, \dots, n$ . Moreover, he conjectured some stronger inclusions that were finally proved by

Krattenthaler and Rivoal [3]. In particular, they proved that

$$U_n = \sum_{i,j} \binom{n}{i}^2 \binom{n}{j}^2 \binom{n+j}{n} \binom{n+j-i}{n} \binom{2n-i}{i},$$

where the binomial coefficients  $\binom{a}{b}$  are zero if  $b < 0$  or  $a < b$ ; see also [4].

Recently, the combinatorial properties of  $U_n$  were considered. Employing a criterion due to Xia and Yao [5], it is easy to prove the log-convexity of  $U_n$ . Chen and Xia [6] proved the 2-log-convexity of  $U_n$ , that is,

$$(U_{n-1}U_{n+1} - U_n^2)(U_{n+1}U_{n+3} - U_{n+2}^2) > (U_nU_{n+2} - U_{n+1}^2)^2.$$

In this paper, we prove the ratio log-concavity of  $U_n$ . The main results of the paper can be stated as follows.

**Theorem 1.1** *The sequence  $\{U_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$  is ratio log-concave, namely, for  $n \geq 2$ ,*

$$\frac{U_n^2}{U_{n-1}^2} > \frac{U_{n+1}}{U_n} \frac{U_{n-1}}{U_{n-2}}. \tag{1.4}$$

**2 Lower and upper bounds for  $\frac{U_n}{U_{n-1}}$**

In order to prove Theorem 1.1, we first establish the lower and upper bounds for  $\frac{U_n}{U_{n-1}}$ .

**Lemma 2.1** *For  $n \geq 5$ ,*

$$l(n) < \frac{U_n}{U_{n-1}}, \tag{2.1}$$

where

$$l(n) = 135 + 78\sqrt{3} - \frac{675 + 390\sqrt{3}}{2n} + \frac{9,737\sqrt{3} + 16,848}{48n^2} - \frac{3,497\sqrt{3} + 6,045}{32n^3}. \tag{2.2}$$

*Proof* We are ready to prove Lemma 2.1 by induction on  $n$ . It is easy to check that (2.1) is true when  $n = 5$  and  $n = 6$ . Suppose that Lemma 2.1 holds when  $n = m \geq 5$ , that is,

$$l(m) < \frac{U_m}{U_{m-1}}. \tag{2.3}$$

In order to prove Lemma 2.1, it suffices to prove that this lemma holds when  $n = m + 2$ , that is,

$$l(m + 2) < \frac{U_{m+2}}{U_{m+1}}. \tag{2.4}$$

Based on (1.1) and (2.3),

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{U_{m+2}}{U_{m+1}} &= h(m + 2) + g(m + 2) \frac{1}{\frac{U_{m+1}}{U_m}} = h(m + 2) + g(m + 2) \frac{1}{h(m + 1) + g(m + 1) \frac{U_{m-1}}{U_m}} \\ &> h(m + 2) + g(m + 2) \frac{1}{h(m + 1) + \frac{g(m+1)}{l(m)}}, \end{aligned} \tag{2.5}$$

where  $h(n)$ ,  $g(n)$ , and  $l(n)$  are defined by (1.2), (1.3), and (2.2), respectively. Thanks to (2.5),

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{U_{m+2}}{U_{m+1}} - l(m+2) \\ & > h(m+2) + g(m+2) \frac{1}{h(m+1) + \frac{g(m+1)}{l(m)}} - l(m+2) \\ & = \frac{13(542,921 - 313,428\sqrt{3})\alpha(m)}{830,059,024(m+2)^5\beta(m)}, \end{aligned} \tag{2.6}$$

where  $\alpha(m)$  and  $\beta(m)$  are defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha(m) = & 121,396,132,260m^9 - 257,880,671,236\sqrt{3}m^8 + 675,703,429,830m^8 \\ & + 2,176,536,150,666m^7 - 1,330,058,753,240\sqrt{3}m^7 + 4,927,389,297,804m^6 \\ & - 2,983,584,697,467\sqrt{3}m^6 - 4,066,074,230,366\sqrt{3}m^5 \\ & + 7,060,751,181,826m^5 - 3,674,684,488,924\sqrt{3}m^4 \\ & + 6,286,428,416,954m^4 + 3,481,214,050,452m^3 \\ & - 2,206,793,212,277\sqrt{3}m^3 + 1,169,733,232,808m^2 - 845,639,850,544\sqrt{3}m^2 \\ & - 187,272,537,764\sqrt{3}m + 218,478,614,224m \\ & - 18,263,322,480\sqrt{3} + 17,360,076,864 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \beta(m) = & 864m^8 - 96m^6 - 468\sqrt{3}m^6 + 468\sqrt{3}m^5 - 810m^5 - 2,206,269\sqrt{3}m^4 \\ & + 3,821,499m^4 + 6,665,166m^3 - 3,848,598\sqrt{3}m^3 - 2,680,756\sqrt{3}m^2 \\ & + 4,642,290m^2 - 875,459\sqrt{3}m + 1,515,969m + 194,220 - 112,164\sqrt{3}. \end{aligned}$$

By (2.6) and the fact that  $\alpha(m)\beta(m) > 0$  for  $m \geq 5$ , we obtain (2.4). This completes the proof of Lemma 2.1 by induction.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.2** For  $n \geq 5$ ,

$$\frac{U_n}{U_{n-1}} < u(n), \tag{2.7}$$

where

$$u(n) = 135 + 78\sqrt{3} - \frac{675 + 390\sqrt{3}}{2n} + \frac{9,737\sqrt{3} + 16,848}{48n^2} - \frac{6,994\sqrt{3} + 6,045}{64n^3}. \tag{2.8}$$

*Proof* We also prove Lemma 2.2 by induction on  $n$ . It is easy to verify that (2.7) holds for  $n = 5$  and  $n = 6$ . Assume that Lemma 2.2 is true for  $n = m \geq 5$ , that is,

$$\frac{U_m}{U_{m-1}} < u(m), \tag{2.9}$$

where  $u(m)$  is defined by (2.8). In order to prove Lemma 2.2, it suffices to prove that Lemma 2.2 is true when  $n = m + 2$ , namely,

$$\frac{U_{m+2}}{U_{m+1}} < u(m + 2). \tag{2.10}$$

Based on (1.1) and (2.9),

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{U_{m+2}}{U_{m+1}} &= h(m + 2) + g(m + 2) \frac{1}{\frac{U_{m+1}}{U_m}} \\ &= h(m + 2) + g(m + 2) \frac{1}{h(m + 1) + g(m + 1) \frac{U_{m-1}}{U_m}} \\ &< h(m + 2) + g(m + 2) \frac{1}{h(m + 1) + \frac{g(m+1)}{u(m)}}, \end{aligned} \tag{2.11}$$

where  $h(n), g(n)$ , and  $u(n)$  are defined by (1.2), (1.3), and (2.8), respectively. Thanks to (2.11),

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{U_{m+2}}{U_{m+1}} - u(m + 2) &< h(m + 2) + g(m + 2) \frac{1}{h(m + 1) + \frac{g(m+1)}{u(m)}} - u(m + 2) \\ &= \frac{13(2,340 - 1,351\sqrt{3})\varphi(m)}{192(m + 2)^5\psi(m)} < 0, \end{aligned} \tag{2.12}$$

where  $\varphi(m)$  and  $\psi(m)$  are defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(m) &= 3,760,473,600m^{10} + 24,236,858,880m^9 - 7,725,471,840\sqrt{3}m^9 \\ &\quad + 84,297,090,576m^8 - 46,822,426,128\sqrt{3}m^8 - 123,822,624,402\sqrt{3}m^7 \\ &\quad + 204,386,453,088m^7 - 194,450,024,349\sqrt{3}m^6 + 336,953,792,124m^6 \\ &\quad - 203,475,797,950\sqrt{3}m^5 + 365,977,131,864m^5 + 260,362,891,056m^4 \\ &\quad - 147,457,384,610\sqrt{3}m^4 - 73,568,487,135\sqrt{3}m^3 + 119,994,653,508m^3 \\ &\quad - 24,169,674,728\sqrt{3}m^2 + 34,436,526,528m^2 + 5,563,246,416m \\ &\quad - 4,710,672,460\sqrt{3}m + 382,180,032 - 412,780,368\sqrt{3} \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \psi(m) &= 1,728m^8 - 936\sqrt{3}m^6 - 192m^6 + 2,205,033,030m^5 - 1,273,076,064\sqrt{3}m^5 \\ &\quad + 5,520,229,623m^4 - 3,187,105,038\sqrt{3}m^4 - 3,317,697,396\sqrt{3}m^3 \\ &\quad + 5,746,420,422m^3 - 1,787,669,312\sqrt{3}m^2 + 3,096,333,090m^2 \\ &\quad + 860,545,413m - 496,836,418\sqrt{3}m - 56,805,528\sqrt{3} + 98,389,980. \end{aligned}$$

By (2.12) and the fact that  $\varphi(m)\psi(m) > 0$  for  $m \geq 5$ , we arrive at (2.10). This completes the proof of Lemma 2.2 by induction. □

### 3 Proof of Theorem 1.1

In this section, we present a proof of Theorem 1.1.

**Lemma 3.1** For  $n \geq 5$ ,

$$\frac{U_{n+1}U_{n-1}}{U_n^2} < f(n), \tag{3.1}$$

where

$$f(n) = \frac{(144n^2 - 216n + 298 - 39\sqrt{3})(2n - 1)^2}{(144n^2 - 504n + 658 - 39\sqrt{3})(2n + 1)^2}. \tag{3.2}$$

*Proof* Let  $h(n)$  and  $g(n)$  be defined by (1.2) and (1.3), respectively. It is easy to verify that, for  $n \geq 5$ ,

$$h^2(n + 1) + 4f(n)g(n + 1) = \frac{3a(n)}{(144n^2 - 504n + 658 - 39\sqrt{3})(n + 1)^{10}(2n + 1)^2} > 0, \tag{3.3}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} a(n) = & 14,017,536n^{14} + 35,043,840n^{13} - 3,796,416\sqrt{3}n^{12} + 3,796,416n^{12} \\ & - 22,767,264\sqrt{3}n^{11} - 35,430,048n^{11} - 63,335,220\sqrt{3}n^{10} + 136,740,296n^{10} \\ & - 108,042,324\sqrt{3}n^9 + 585,572,912n^9 + 1,001,472,846n^8 - 125,838,297\sqrt{3}n^8 \\ & - 105,379,248\sqrt{3}n^7 + 1,047,661,216n^7 - 65,023,608\sqrt{3}n^6 + 749,372,512n^6 \\ & - 29,770,650\sqrt{3}n^5 + 381,561,324n^5 + 139,393,232n^4 - 10,033,296\sqrt{3}n^4 \\ & + 35,929,568n^3 - 2,426,892\sqrt{3}n^3 - 399,789\sqrt{3}n^2 + 6,231,942n^2 \\ & + 654,864n - 40,248\sqrt{3}n + 31,584 - 1,872\sqrt{3}. \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, it is easy to check that, for  $n \geq 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & 2f(n)l(n) - h(n + 1) \\ & = \frac{\sqrt{3}b(n)}{48n^3(144n^2 - 504n + 658 + 39\sqrt{3})(2n + 1)^2(n + 1)^5} > 0 \end{aligned} \tag{3.4}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} & (2f(n)l(n) - h(n + 1))^2 - (h^2(n + 1) + 4f(n)g(n + 1)) \\ & = \frac{(1,351 + 780\sqrt{3})(2n - 1)^2(144n^2 - 216n + 298 - 39\sqrt{3})c(n)}{384n^6(144n^2 - 504n + 658 + 39\sqrt{3})(2n + 1)^4(n + 1)^5} > 0, \end{aligned} \tag{3.5}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} b(n) = & 4,313,088n^{12} - 10,048,896n^{10} - 1,168,128\sqrt{3}n^{10} + 2,134,080\sqrt{3}n^9 \\ & + 18,944,640n^9 + 25,025,104n^8 - 18,411,096\sqrt{3}n^8 - 23,385,908n^7 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & - 52,175,844\sqrt{3}n^7 - 856,596n^6 - 24,604,446\sqrt{3}n^6 + 30,202,523n^5 \\
 & + 8,838,489\sqrt{3}n^5 - 10,242,333\sqrt{3}n^4 - 14,907,529n^4 - 17,776,278n^3 \\
 & - 10,403,322\sqrt{3}n^3 + 6,462,024\sqrt{3}n^2 + 11,237,434n^2 + 2,501,109\sqrt{3}n \\
 & + 4,336,111n - 2,419,053 - 1,392,261\sqrt{3}
 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 c(n) = & 59,719,680n^{12} - 106,074,695,808n^{11} + 61,088,601,600\sqrt{3}n^{11} \\
 & - 46,198,518,912\sqrt{3}n^{10} + 80,016,457,536n^{10} + 143,774,162,864n^9 \\
 & - 82,704,126,024\sqrt{3}n^9 + 283,349,090,856\sqrt{3}n^8 - 491,163,569,992n^8 \\
 & - 1,030,144,421,232n^7 + 594,612,735,990\sqrt{3}n^7 + 478,140,044,616\sqrt{3}n^6 \\
 & - 827,484,760,322n^6 + 199,910,945,130\sqrt{3}n^5 - 346,327,459,907n^5 \\
 & - 74,608,485,009n^4 + 42,928,060,188\sqrt{3}n^4 - 6,144,385,390n^3 \\
 & + 3,678,965,082\sqrt{3}n^3 - 499,917,028n^2 + 293,762,352\sqrt{3}n^2 - 191,636,367n \\
 & + 71,139,198\sqrt{3}n - 55,991,052\sqrt{3} + 115,716,159.
 \end{aligned}$$

It follows from (3.3)-(3.5) that, for  $n \geq 0$ ,

$$2f(n)l(n) - h(n + 1) > \sqrt{h^2(n + 1) + 4f(n)g(n + 1)}$$

and thus

$$l(n) > \frac{h(n + 1) + \sqrt{h^2(n + 1) + 4f(n)g(n + 1)}}{2f(n)}. \tag{3.6}$$

In view of (2.1) and (3.6),

$$\frac{U_n}{U_{n-1}} > \frac{h(n + 1) + \sqrt{h^2(n + 1) + 4f(n)g(n + 1)}}{2f(n)}, \tag{3.7}$$

which implies that, for  $n \geq 5$ ,

$$f(n)\left(\frac{U_n}{U_{n-1}}\right)^2 - h(n + 1)\frac{U_n}{U_{n-1}} - g(n + 1) > 0. \tag{3.8}$$

Thanks to (1.1),

$$f(n)U_n^2 - U_{n-1}U_{n+1} = U_n^2\left(f(n)\left(\frac{U_n}{U_{n-1}}\right)^2 - h(n + 1)\frac{U_n}{U_{n-1}} - g(n + 1)\right). \tag{3.9}$$

Lemma 3.1 follows from (3.8) and (3.9). This completes the proof. □

**Lemma 3.2** For  $n \geq 5$ ,

$$\frac{U_{n+1}U_{n-1}}{U_n^2} > f(n + 1), \tag{3.10}$$

where  $f(n)$  is defined by (3.2).

*Proof* It is easy to check that, for  $n \geq 5$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 & h^2(n+1) + 4f(n+1)g(n+1) \\
 &= \frac{3(2n+1)^2 d(n)}{(n+1)^{10}(144n^2 - 216n + 298 - 39\sqrt{3})(2n+3)^2} > 0
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.11}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 & 2f(n+1)l(n) - h(n+1) \\
 &= \frac{\sqrt{3}(2n+1)e(n)}{48n^3(144n^2 - 216n + 298 - 39\sqrt{3})(2n+3)^2(n+1)^5} > 0,
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.12}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
 d(n) &= 3,504,384n^{12} + 19,274,112n^{11} + 45,630,000n^{10} - 949,104\sqrt{3}n^{10} \\
 &\quad - 6,640,920\sqrt{3}n^9 + 71,887,752n^9 + 109,395,878n^8 - 20,342,049\sqrt{3}n^8 \\
 &\quad + 166,770,736n^7 - 36,215,400\sqrt{3}n^7 - 41,834,832\sqrt{3}n^6 + 203,641,520n^6 \\
 &\quad - 32,969,274\sqrt{3}n^5 + 177,081,116n^5 + 106,446,904n^4 - 18,035,004\sqrt{3}n^4 \\
 &\quad - 6,785,376\sqrt{3}n^3 + 43,438,424n^3 + 11,552,574n^2 - 1,684,917\sqrt{3}n^2 \\
 &\quad - 249,912\sqrt{3}n + 1,816,272n + 128,736 - 16,848\sqrt{3}, \\
 e(n) &= 2,156,544n^{11} + 7,547,904n^{10} + 9,532,224n^9 - 584,064\sqrt{3}n^9 \\
 &\quad - 6,029,856\sqrt{3}n^8 + 6,413,472n^8 - 17,305,116\sqrt{3}n^7 + 3,738,488n^7 \\
 &\quad - 849,238n^6 - 23,508,972\sqrt{3}n^6 - 7,884,539n^5 - 19,078,677\sqrt{3}n^5 \\
 &\quad - 15,177,045n^4 - 13,428,969\sqrt{3}n^4 - 21,962,902n^3 - 13,234,830\sqrt{3}n^3 \\
 &\quad - 11,506,974\sqrt{3}n^2 - 20,028,320n^2 - 5,355,441\sqrt{3}n - 9,314,279n \\
 &\quad - 1,663,701 - 957,021\sqrt{3}.
 \end{aligned}$$

By (3.11) and (3.12),

$$-\sqrt{h^2(n+1) + 4f(n+1)g(n+1)} < 2f(n+1)l(n) - h(n+1)$$

and thus

$$\frac{h(n+1) - \sqrt{h^2(n+1) + 4f(n+1)g(n+1)}}{2f(n+1)} < l(n). \tag{3.13}$$

Furthermore, it is easy to check that, for  $n \geq 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 & 2f(n+1)u(n) - h(n+1) \\
 &= \frac{\sqrt{3}(2n+1)r(n)}{96n^3(144n^2 - 216n + 298 - 39\sqrt{3})(2n+3)^2(n+1)^5} > 0
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.14}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} & (h^2(n+1) + 4f(n+1)g(n+1)) - (2f(n+1)u(n) - h(n+1))^2 \\ &= \frac{(32,424 + 13,481\sqrt{3})(144n^2 + 72n + 226 - 39\sqrt{3})(2n+1)^2s(n)}{1,554,750,544,896n^6(2n+3)^4(n+1)^5(144n^2 - 216n + 298 - 39\sqrt{3})^2} > 0, \end{aligned} \tag{3.15}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} r(n) &= 4,313,088n^{11} + 15,095,808n^{10} + 19,064,448n^9 - 1,168,128\sqrt{3}n^9 \\ &\quad - 10,318,752\sqrt{3}n^8 + 12,826,944n^8 - 24,164,472\sqrt{3}n^7 + 7,476,976n^7 \\ &\quad - 3,113,006n^6 - 17,735,964\sqrt{3}n^6 - 23,548,993n^5 + 13,865,916\sqrt{3}n^5 \\ &\quad - 48,035,715n^4 + 37,763,112\sqrt{3}n^4 - 65,143,754n^3 + 29,313,600\sqrt{3}n^3 \\ &\quad + 8,226,612\sqrt{3}n^2 - 54,201,940n^2 - 712,452\sqrt{3}n - 23,579,413n \\ &\quad - 4,034,667 - 547,872\sqrt{3}, \\ s(n) &= 10,074,783,530,926,080n^{12} - 7,734,966,108,060,672\sqrt{3}n^{11} \\ &\quad + 26,936,680,137,670,656n^{11} + 26,619,191,006,206,464n^{10} \\ &\quad - 23,315,086,010,211,840\sqrt{3}n^{10} - 33,744,534,523,380,928\sqrt{3}n^9 \\ &\quad + 41,557,278,922,739,904n^9 - 43,703,007,806,729,856\sqrt{3}n^8 \\ &\quad + 98,524,492,003,096,704n^8 + 111,734,337,079,096,644n^7 \\ &\quad - 47,522,128,660,057,480\sqrt{3}n^7 - 24,419,890,979,639,584\sqrt{3}n^6 \\ &\quad + 24,142,153,127,323,080n^6 - 69,518,699,851,789,311n^5 \\ &\quad + 24,355,619,096,164,226\sqrt{3}n^5 - 90,260,471,288,625,639n^4 \\ &\quad + 57,503,789,690,970,194\sqrt{3}n^4 - 66,508,795,463,791,122n^3 \\ &\quad + 46,318,086,975,242,316\sqrt{3}n^3 + 17,867,770,385,080,772\sqrt{3}n^2 \\ &\quad - 35,327,233,535,891,622n^2 + 2,975,211,060,929,562\sqrt{3}n \\ &\quad - 11,558,904,059,737,827n + 111,646,193,915,178\sqrt{3} \\ &\quad - 1,615,722,383,317,419. \end{aligned}$$

Combining (3.11), (3.14), and (3.15) yields

$$u(n) < \frac{h(n+1) + \sqrt{h^2(n+1) + 4f(n+1)g(n+1)}}{2f(n+1)}. \tag{3.16}$$

It follows from (2.1), (2.7), (3.13), and (3.16) that, for  $n \geq 5$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{h(n+1) - \sqrt{h^2(n+1) + 4f(n+1)g(n+1)}}{2f(n+1)} \\ & < l(n) < \frac{P_n}{P_{n-1}} < u(n) < \frac{h(n+1) + \sqrt{h^2(n+1) + 4f(n+1)g(n+1)}}{2f(n+1)}, \end{aligned}$$



which yields

$$f(n+1)\left(\frac{U_n}{U_{n-1}}\right)^2 - h(n+1)\frac{U_n}{U_{n-1}} - g(n+1) < 0. \tag{3.17}$$

In view of (1.1),

$$f(n+1)U_n^2 - U_{n-1}U_{n+1} = P_n^2\left(f(n+1)\left(\frac{U_n}{U_{n-1}}\right)^2 - h(n+1)\frac{U_n}{U_{n-1}} - g(n+1)\right). \tag{3.18}$$

Lemma 3.2 follows from (3.17) and (3.18). This completes the proof. □

Now, we turn to the proof of Theorem 1.1.

*Proof of Theorem 1.1* Replacing  $n$  by  $n - 1$  in (3.10), we deduce that, for  $n \geq 6$ ,

$$\frac{U_n U_{n-2}}{U_{n-1}^2} > f(n). \tag{3.19}$$

In view of (3.1) and (3.19), we deduce that, for  $n \geq 6$ ,

$$\frac{U_n^2}{U_{n-1}^2} > \frac{U_{n+1}}{U_n} \frac{U_{n-1}}{U_{n-2}}. \tag{3.20}$$

It is easy to verify that (3.20) also holds for  $2 \leq n \leq 5$ . This completes the proof of Theorem 1.1. □

**Competing interests**

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

**Authors' contributions**

All authors contributed equally to the writing of this paper. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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