

139. A Problem of Number Theory

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In this paper we shall consider a problem of number theory. In his recent book, *Sto Zadan* (in Polish), Prof. H. Steinhaus has solved an interesting problem on number theory: For any natural number

$$\alpha = 10^{n-1}a_n + 10^{n-2}a_{n-1} + \cdots + 10^2a_3 + 10a_2 + a_1$$

expressed in the decimal system, we calculate the sum of the squares of its digit of α ,

$$\alpha_1 = a_n^2 + a_{n-1}^2 + \cdots + a_3^2 + a_2^2 + a_1^2.$$

For the number α_1 , we calculate the sum of squares of all digits contained in α_1 . We repeat the same processes. If we do not reach 1, then we have a cyclic finite sequence:

$$145, 42, 20, 4, 16, 37, 58, 89.$$

This problem is generalised in the following forms: *Let k be a fixed positive integer, for any natural number*

$$\alpha = 10^{n-1}a_n + 10^{n-2}a_{n-1} + \cdots + 10^2a_3 + 10a_2 + a_1$$

we calculate

$$\alpha_1 = a_n^k + a_{n-1}^k + \cdots + a_3^k + a_2^k + a_1^k$$

and for the integer α_1 , we calculate the sum of k -powers of all digits a_i of α_1 . We repeat the processes. We should like to know all cyclic parts appeared except the trivial case.

If such a cyclic part has the sequence with l -terms, we call it a cyclic sequence of the length l for power k . Then the results by H. Steinhaus are stated as follows: For $k=2$, there appear a cyclic sequence of the length 8 and a trivial sequence of the length 1.

We can prove *theoretically* that there exist finite numbers of cyclic sequences for each power k . We can not find these *individual* cyclic parts by theoretic methods, and this difficulty is therefore purely technical.

Here, we shall decide all cyclic sequences for $k=3$. The detail result will be found in the table, and its calculation was done by a small desk calculator. For $k=3$, it is seen from an easy calculation (see H. Steinhaus, loc. cit.) that we must find all cyclic sequences of numbers less than 2000, and as we can check that new cyclic sequences between 1000 and 2000 do not appear by a trivial verification, the table shows all cyclic parts from 1 to 999.

1	1							
2	8	512	134	92	737	713	371	
3	27	351	153					
4	64	280	520	133	55	250	133	
5	125	134	92	737	713	371		
6	216	225	141	66	432	99	1458	
	702	351	153					
7	343	118	514	190	730	370		
8	512	(2)	371					
9	729	1080	513	153				
11	2	(2)	371					
12	9	(9)	153					
13	28	520	133	55	250	133		
14	65	341	92	737	713	371		
15	125	225	(6)	153				
16	217	352	160	217	352			
17	344	155	251	134	(2)	371		
18	513	153						
19	730	370						
22	16	(16)	217	352	160			
23	35	152	134	(2)	371			
24	72	351	153					
25	133	55	250	133				
26	224	80	512	371				
27	351	153						
28	520	133	55	250	133			
29	737	713	371					
33	54	189	1242	153				
34	91	730	370					
35	152	371						
36	243	99	1458	702	153			
37	370							
38	539	881	1025	134	371			
39	756	684	792	1080	(18)	153		
44	128	512	134	371				
45	189	1242	81	(18)	153			
46	280	(28)	55	250	133			
47	407							
48	576	684	792	1080	(18)	153		
49	793	1099	1459	919	1459			
55	250	133	(4)	55	250	133		
56	341	371						
57	468	792	1080	(18)	153			
58	637	586	853	496	1009	(19)	370	
59	854	701	(17)	371				
66	432	99	1458	702	351	153		
67	559	979	1801	514	190	(19)	370	
68	728	863	755	593	881	1025	134	371
69	945	918	1242	81	(18)	153		
77	686	944	857	980	1241	74	(47)	407
78	855	762	567	684	792	1080	(18)	153
79	1072	352	160	217	352			
88	1024	73	370					

89	1241	74	407				
99	1458	702	351	153			
111	3	(3)	153				
112	10	(1)	1				
113	29	(29)	371				
114	66	(66)	153				
115	127	217	352	160	217	352	
116	218	512	125	371			
117	345	216	(6)	153			
118	(7)	370					
119	731	371					
122	17	(17)	371				
123	36	(36)	153				
124	73	(37)	370				
125	(5)	371					
126	225	(6)	153				
127	352	160	217	352			
128	512	125	(5)	371			
129	736	153					
133	55	250	133	55			
134	92	(29)	371				
135	153						
136	244	136	244				
137	371						
138	540	(45)	153				
139	757	811	(118)	370			
144	129	(128)	371				
145	370						
146	281	(128)	371				
147	408	(48)	153				
148	577	811	(118)	370			
149	794	1136	245	197	1073	371	
155	251	(5)	371				
156	342	(6)	153				
157	469	370					
158	638	755	593	881	1025	134	371
159	855	762	567	684	792	(57)	153
166	433	(7)	370				
167	560	(56)	371				
168	729	(9)	153				
169	946	370					
177	687	1071	345	216	(6)	153	
178	856	853	664	496	1009	(19)	370
179	1073	371					
188	1025	(125)	371				
189	1242	81	(18)	153			
199	1459	919	1459				
222	24	(24)	153				
223	43	(34)	370				
224	80	(8)	371				
225	141	(114)	153				
226	232	(223)	370				
227	359	881	(188)	371			

228	528	645	405	(45)	153			
229	745	532	160	217	234			
233	62	(26)	371					
234	99	(99)	153					
235	160	217	235					
236	251	(125)	371					
237	378	882	1032	(123)	153			
238	547	(229)	160	217	235			
239	764	623	(236)	371				
244	136	244	136					
245	(149)	371						
246		(237)	153					
247	415	(145)	370					
248	584	701	(17)	371				
249	801	(18)	153					
255	258	645	405	(45)	153			
256	349	820	(28)	55	250	133		
257	476	623	(236)	371				
258	645	405	(45)	153				
259	862	736	586	853	664	496	1009	
	(19)	370						
266	440	(44)	371					
267	567	684	792	1080	(18)	153		
268	736	586	853	664	496	1009	(19)	370
269	953	881	(188)	371				
277	694	1009	(19)	370				
278	863	(158)	371					
279	1080	(18)	153					
288	1032	(123)	153					
289	1249	802	(28)	55	250	133		
299	1466	497	(149)	371				
333	81	(18)	153					
334	(7)	370						
335	179	1073	371					
336	270	(27)	153					
337	397	1099	(199)	919	1459			
338	566	557	593	881	(188)	371		
339	783	882	(288)	153				
344	(17)	371						
345	153							
346	307	(37)	370					
347	434	(344)	371					
348	603	(36)	153					
349	820	(28)	55	250	133			
355	277	(277)	370					
356	368	(158)	371					
357	495	918	1242	81	(18)	153		
358	664	496	1009	(19)	370			
359	881	(188)	371					
366	459	918	1242	81	(18)	153		
367	586	853	664	496	1009	(19)	370	
368	(158)	371						
369	972	(279)	153					

377	713	371					
378	882	(288)	153				
379	1099	(199)	919	1459			
388	1051	(115)	217	352	160		
389	1268	737	(377)	371			
399	1485	702	(27)	153			
444	192	(129)	153				
445	253	(235)	160	217	235		
446	344	(344)	371				
447	471	(147)	153				
448	640	(46)	55	250	133		
449	857	980	(89)	407			
455	314	(134)	371				
456	405	(45)	153				
457	(229)	160	217	235			
458	701	(17)	371				
459	918	1242	81	(18)	153		
466	496	1009	(19)	370			
467	623	(236)	371				
468	792	1080	(18)	153			
469	1009	(19)	370				
477	750	(57)	153				
478	919	(199)	919	1459			
479	1136	(149)	371				
488	1088	(188)	371				
489	1305	(135)	153				
499	1522	142	73	(37)	370		
555	375	495	918	1242	81	(18)	153
556	466	(466)	370				
557	593	881	(188)	371			
558	762	567	684	792	1080	(18)	153
559	979	1801	514	190	(19)	370	
566	557	(557)	371				
567	684	792	1080	(18)	153		
568	853	664	496	1009	(19)	370	
569	1070	344	155	251	371		
577	811	(118)	370				
578	980	(89)	407				
579	1197	1074	408	576	(567)	153	
588	1149	795	1197	1074	408	(48)	153
589	1366	460	(46)	55	250	133	
599	1583	665	(566)	371			
666	648	792	1080	(18)	153		
667	775	811	514	190	(19)	370	
668	944	857	980	(89)	407		
669	1161	219	882	1032	36	(36)	153
677	902	(29)	153				
678	1071	345	216	(6)	153		
679	1288	1033	55	250	133		
687	1071	(117)	153				
688	1240	(124)	370				
689	1457	533	179	1073	371		
699	1674	624	251	134	371		

777	1029	738	882	1032	36	(36)	153
778	1198	1243	100	1			
779	1415	191	731	371			
788	1367	587	980	(89)	407		
789	1584	702	(27)	153			
799	1801	514	190	(19)	370		
888	1536	369	972	1080	(18)	153	
889	1753	496	1009	(19)	370		
899	1970	1073	371				
999	2187	864	792	1080	(18)	153	

Therefore, from the table, we have the following cyclic sequences for $k=3$, self-closed sequences (with length 1) are:

1, 153, 370, 371, 407,

cyclic sequences with length 2 are:

136, 244; 919, 1459,

and cyclic sequences with length 3 are:

55, 250, 133; 160, 217, 352.

We are now planning the calculations for the finding of cyclic parts for $k=4, 5, \dots$. As the calculation is very much complicated, we shall use high-speed automatic computers for the purpose. Its detail will appear in later papers with K. Chikawa and T. Kusakabe.