

Few types of chains of primes arising in the study of pseudoprimes

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Abstract. While studying Fermat pseudoprimes I met few interesting generic forms of numbers that have the property to generate chains of primes and pseudoprimes. I list in this paper few such types of chains.

I. Recurrent chains

I.1.

Chains of primes of the form $P_0, P_1 = P_0 * n - n + 1, P_2 = P_1 * n - n + 1, \dots, P_k = P_{k-1} * n - n + 1$, where P_0, P_1, \dots, P_k are primes and n is a positive integer, $n > 1$.

Note: For $n = 2$, we obtain the Cunningham chain of the second kind, i.e. $P_{i+1} = 2 * P_i - 1$.

For instance:

A chain of primes of length 6, for $n = 3$, should have the form: $p, 3p - 2, 9p - 8, 27p - 26, 81p - 80, 243p - 242$. It can be seen that p must be of the form $10k + 1$ for a chain of length bigger than 3. Such a chain, of length 5, is: 61, 181, 541, 1621, 4861.

A chain of primes of length 5, for $n = 4$, should have the form: $p, 4p - 3, 16p - 15, 64p - 63, 256p - 255$. It can be seen that p can't be of the form $10k + 7$. Such a chain, of length 4, is: 23, 89, 353, 1409.

Notes:

The formula $P_{i+1} = P_i * n - n + 1$ can lead to the formation of chains of Fermat pseudoprimes, for instance for Carmichael numbers $[P_0, P_1] = [1729, 46657]$ and $n = 27$.

The formula $P_{i+1} = P_i * (P_i * n - n + 1)$ can also lead to the formation of chains of Fermat pseudoprimes; for instance, for $n = 2$, $P_{i+1} = P_i * (2 * P_i - 1)$ leads to the formation of the following Poulet numbers $[P_0, P_1]$: $[645, 831405]$, $[1729, 5977153]$ etc.; for $n = 3$, $P_{i+1} = P_i * (3 * P_i - 2)$ leads

to the formation of the following Poulet numbers $[P_0, P_1]$:
[341,348161], [645,1246785] etc. (see the sequence
A215343 in OEIS).

I.2.

Chains of primes of the form $P_0, P_1 = P_0*n - n - 1, P_2 = P_1*n - n - 1, \dots, P_k = P_{k-1}*n - n - 1$, where P_0, P_1, \dots, P_k are primes and n is a positive integer, $n > 1$.

For instance:

A chain of primes of length 6, for $n = 2$, should have the form: $p, 2p - 3, 4p - 9, 8p - 21, 16p - 45, 32p - 93$. It can be seen that p must be of the form $10k + 3$ for a chain of length bigger than 3. Such a chain, of length 4, is: 113, 223, 443, 883.

A chain of primes of length 5, for $n = 3$, should have the form: $p, 3p - 4, 9p - 16, 27p - 52, 81p - 160$. It can be seen that p must be of the form $10k + 7$ for a chain of length bigger than 3. Such a chain, of length 4, is: 7, 17, 47, 137.

Note: I met this type of numbers in the study of Fermat pseudoprimes to base 2 with three prime factors (see the sequence A215672 in OEIS). Most of them can be written as $p*(p*n - n + 1)*(p*m - m + 1)$ or as $p*(p*n - n - 1)*(p*m - m - 1)$.

I.3.

Chains of primes of the form $P_0, P_1 = P_0*n + n - 1, P_2 = P_1*n + n - 1, \dots, P_k = P_{k-1}*n + n - 1$, where P_0, P_1, \dots, P_k are primes and n is a positive integer, $n > 1$.

Note: For $n = 2$, we obtain the Cunningham chain of the first kind, i.e. $P_{i+1} = 2*P_i + 1$.

For instance:

A chain of primes of length 6, for $n = 3$, should have the form: $p, 3p + 2, 9p + 8, 27p + 26, 81p + 80, 243p + 242$. It can be seen that p must be of the form $10k + 9$ for a chain of length bigger than 3. Such a chain, of length 4, is: 29, 89, 269, 809.

I.4.

Chains of primes of the form $P_0, P_1 = P_0*n + n + 1, P_2 = P_1*n + n + 1, \dots, P_k = P_{k-1}*n + n + 1$, where P_0, P_1, \dots, P_k are primes and n is a positive integer, $n > 1$.

For instance:

A chain of primes of length 6, for $n = 2$, should have the form: $p, 2p + 3, 4p + 9, 8p + 21, 16p + 45, 32p + 93$. It can be seen that p must be of the form $10k + 7$ for a chain of length bigger than 3. Such a chain, of length 6, is: 47, 97, 197, 397, 797, 1597.

I.5.

Chains of primes of the form $P_0, P_1 = P_0*n - d*n + d, P_2 = P_1*n - d*n + d, \dots, P_k = P_{k-1}*n - d*n + d$, where P_0, P_1, \dots, P_k are primes, d is also a prime number and n is a positive integer, $n > 1$.

For instance:

A chain of this type of primes of length 6, for $n = 2$ and $d = 7$, should have the form: $p, 2p - 7, 4p - 21, 8p - 49, 16p - 105, 32p - 217$. It can be seen that p must be of the form $30k + 7$ for a chain of length bigger than 3.

A chain of this type of primes of length 6, for $n = 2$ and $d = 13$, should have the form: $p, 2p - 13, 4p - 39, 8p - 91, 16p - 195, 32p - 403$. It can be seen that p must be of the form $30k + 13$ for a chain of length bigger than 3. Such a chain, of length 4, is 163, 313, 613, 1213.

Note: I met this type of numbers in the study of Fermat pseudoprimes to base 2 with two prime factors (see the sequence A214305 in OEIS); for instance, for $n = 3$ and $d = 73$, $P_{i+1} = 3*P_i - 2*73$ leads to the formation of the following Poulet numbers $[P_0, P_1]$: [2701, 7957] etc.; for $n = 4$ and $d = 73$, $P_{i+1} = 4*P_i - 3*73$ leads to the formation of the following Poulet numbers $[P_0, P_1]$: [2701, 10585] etc.

II. Non-recurrent chains

II.1.

Chains of primes of the form $30*a*n - (a*p + a - 1)$, where p and $a*p + a - 1$ are primes and n has successive values of integers.

For instance:

For $p = 11, a = 2, n$ from -1 to 3 we have, in absolute value, the following chain of primes of length 5: 83, 23, 37, 97, 157.

For $p = 23$, $a = 2$, n from -3 to 2 we have, in absolute value, the following chain of primes of length 6: 227, 167, 107, 47, 13, 73.

For $p = 7$, $a = 3$, n from -1 to 2 we have, in absolute value, the following chain of primes of length 4: 113, 23, 67, 157.

Note: I met this type of numbers in the study of Carmichael numbers of the form $C = ((30*a*n - (a^p + a - 1)) * ((30*b*n - (b^p + b - 1)) * ((30*c*n - (c^p + c - 1))))$, where p , $a^p + a - 1$, $b^p + b - 1$ and $c^p + c - 1$ are all primes. Many Carmichael numbers can be written in this form (see the sequence A182416 in OEIS).

II.2.

Chains of primes of the form $30*a*n + (a^p + a - 1)$, where p and $a^p + a - 1$ are primes and n has successive values of integers.

For instance:

For $p = 19$, $a = 3$, n from -1 to 2 we have, in absolute value, the following chain of primes of length 4: 31, 59, 149, 239.

Note: I met this type of numbers in the study of Carmichael numbers of the form $C = ((30*a*n + (a^p - a + 1)) * ((30*b*n + (b^p - b + 1)) * ((30*c*n + (c^p - c + 1))))$, where p , $a^p + a - 1$, $b^p + b - 1$ and $c^p + c - 1$ are all primes. Many Carmichael numbers can be written in this form (see the sequence A182416 in OEIS).

II.3.

Chains of primes of the form $2*p^n - 2^n + p$, where p and $2p - 1$ are primes and n has successive values of integers.

For instance:

For $p = 7$, n from -5 to 3 we have, in absolute value, the following chain of primes of length 9: 53, 41, 29, 17, 5, 7, 19, 31, 43.

Note: I met this type of numbers in the study of Carmichael numbers of the form $C = p*(2^p - 1)*(2^p*n - 2^n + p)$. I conjecture that all Carmichael numbers divisible with p and $2p - 1$, where p and $2p - 1$ are primes, can be written in this form (see the sequence A182207 in OEIS).