

**Observation on the length of the period of the  
rational number which is the sum of  $1/(p_i - 1)$  where  $p_i$   
are the 2-Poulet numbers**

**Abstract.** In this paper I make the following observation: let  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_i$  be the ordered set of the 2-Poulet numbers; then the length of the period of the rational number which is the sum  $1/(p_1 - 1) + 1/(p_2 - 1) + \dots + 1/(p_i - 1)$  seems to be always (for any  $i > 2$ ) divisible by 240. This is not the fact when the numbers  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_i$  are not the ordered set of 2-Poulet numbers but few randomly taken (even consecutive) 2-Poulet numbers. For a related topic see my previous paper "A pattern that relates Carmichael numbers to the number 66" where I noticed that the length of the period of the rational number which is the sum  $1/(c_1 - 1) + 1/(c_2 - 1) + \dots + 1/(c_i - 1)$ , where  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_i$  is the ordered set of Carmichael numbers, seems to be always divisible by 66.

**Observation:**

Let  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_i$  be the ordered set of the 2-Poulet numbers; then the period of the rational number which is the sum  $1/(p_1 - 1) + 1/(p_2 - 1) + \dots + 1/(p_i - 1)$  seems to be always (for any  $i > 2$ ) divisible by 240. This is not the fact when the numbers  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_i$  are not the ordered set of 2-Poulet numbers but few randomly taken (even consecutive) 2-Poulet numbers.

**Note:**

For the sequence of 2-Poulet numbers see A214305 on OEIS. The sequence is: 341, 1387, 2047, 2701, 3277, 4033, 4369, 4681, 5461, 7957, 8321, 10261, 13747 (...).

**Verifying the observation:**

(true up to  $i = 13$ )

- : for  $p_1 = 341, p_2 = 1387$  and  $p_3 = 2047$  we have the length of the period of the number  $1/340 + 1/1386 + 1/2046$  equal to 240;
- : for  $p_4 = 2701$  we have the length of the period of the number  $1/340 + 1/1386 + 1/2046 + 1/2700$  equal to 240;
- : for  $p_5 = 3277$  we have the length of the period of the number  $1/340 + 1/1386 + 1/2046 + 1/2700 + 1/3276$  equal to 240;
- : for  $p_6 = 4033$  we have the length of the period of the number  $1/340 + 1/1386 + 1/2046 + 1/2700 + 1/3276 + 1/4032$  equal to 240;

- : for  $p_7 = 4369$  we have the length of the period of the number  $1/340 + 1/1386 + 1/2046 + 1/2700 + 1/3276 + 1/4032 + 1/4368$  equal to 240;
- : for  $p_8 = 4681$  we have the length of the period of the number  $1/340 + 1/1386 + 1/2046 + 1/2700 + 1/3276 + 1/4032 + 1/4368 + 1/4680$  equal to 240;
- : for  $p_9 = 5461$  we have the length of the period of the number  $1/340 + 1/1386 + 1/2046 + 1/2700 + 1/3276 + 1/4032 + 1/4368 + 1/4680 + 1/5460$  equal to 240;
- : for  $p_{10} = 7957$  we have the length of the period of the number  $1/340 + 1/1386 + 1/2046 + 1/2700 + 1/3276 + 1/4032 + 1/4368 + 1/4680 + 1/5460 + 1/7956$  equal to 240;
- : for  $p_{11} = 8321$  we have the length of the period of the number  $1/340 + 1/1386 + 1/2046 + 1/2700 + 1/3276 + 1/4032 + 1/4368 + 1/4680 + 1/5460 + 1/7956 + 1/8320$  equal to 240;
- : for  $p_{12} = 10261$  we have the length of the period of the number  $1/340 + 1/1386 + 1/2046 + 1/2700 + 1/3276 + 1/4032 + 1/4368 + 1/4680 + 1/5460 + 1/7956 + 1/8320 + 1/10260$  equal to  $720 = 3 \cdot 240$ ;
- : for  $p_{13} = 13747$  we have the length of the period of the number  $1/340 + 1/1386 + 1/2046 + 1/2700 + 1/3276 + 1/4032 + 1/4368 + 1/4680 + 1/5460 + 1/7956 + 1/8320 + 1/10260 + 1/13746$  equal to  $65520 = 273 \cdot 240$ .

**Note:**

As I mentioned in Abstract, the observation doesn't apply when the numbers  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_i$  are not the ordered set of 2-Poulet numbers but few randomly taken (even consecutive) 2-Poulet numbers. Examples:

- : for  $[p_1, p_2, p_3] = [1387, 2047, 2701]$  we have the length of the period of the number  $1/(p_1 - 1) + 1/(p_2 - 1) + 1/(p_3 - 1)$  equal to 30 which is not divisible by 240;
- : for  $[p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4] = [1387, 2047, 2701, 3277]$  we have the length of the period of the number  $1/(p_1 - 1) + 1/(p_2 - 1) + 1/(p_3 - 1) + 1/(p_4 - 1)$  equal to 30 which is not divisible by 240;
- : for  $[p_1, p_2, p_3] = [2701, 3277, 4033]$  we have the length of the period of the number  $1/(p_1 - 1) + 1/(p_2 - 1) + 1/(p_3 - 1)$  equal to 6 which is not divisible by 240.

**Note:**

For a related topic see my previous paper "A pattern that relates Carmichael numbers to the number 66" where I noticed that the length of the period of the rational number which is the sum  $1/(c_1 - 1) + 1/(c_2 - 1) + \dots + 1/(c_i - 1)$ , where  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_i$  is the ordered set of Carmichael numbers, seems to be always divisible by 66.