

## An unusual operation on a set of Poulet numbers which conducts to another set of Poulet numbers

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**Abstract.** In this paper I make the following conjecture on Poulet numbers: There exist an infinity of Poulet numbers  $P_2$  obtained from Poulet numbers  $P_1$  in the following way: let  $d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n$  be the (not distinct) prime factors of the number  $P_1 - 1$ , where  $P_1$  is a Poulet number; than there exist an infinity of Poulet numbers  $P_2$  of the form  $(d_1 + 1) \cdot (d_2 + 1) \cdot \dots \cdot (d_n + 1) + 1$ . Example: for Poulet number  $P_1 = 645$  is obtained through this operation Poulet number  $P_2 = 1729$  ( $644 = 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 7 \cdot 23$  and  $3 \cdot 3 \cdot 8 \cdot 24 + 1 = 1729$ ). Note that from more than one Poulet number  $P_1$  can be obtained the same Poulet number  $P_2$  (from both 1729 and 6601 is obtained 46657).

### Conjecture:

There exist an infinity of Poulet numbers  $P_2$  obtained from Poulet numbers  $P_1$  in the following way: let  $d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n$  be the (not distinct) prime factors of the number  $P_1 - 1$ , where  $P_1$  is a Poulet number; than there exist an infinity of Poulet numbers  $P_2$  of the form  $(d_1 + 1) \cdot (d_2 + 1) \cdot \dots \cdot (d_n + 1) + 1$ .

### The set of Poulet numbers $P_2$ :

(ordered by the size of  $P_1$ )

- : 1729, obtained from  $P_1 = 645$  ( $644 = 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 7 \cdot 23$  and  $3 \cdot 3 \cdot 8 \cdot 24 + 1 = 1729$ );
- : 46657, obtained from  $P_1 = 1729$  ( $1728 = 2^6 \cdot 3^3$  and  $3^6 \cdot 4^3 + 1 = 46657$ );
- : 46657, obtained from  $P_1 = 6601$  ( $6600 = 2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 11$  and  $3^3 \cdot 4 \cdot 6^2 \cdot 12 + 1 = 46657$ );  
(...)

Note that from more than one Poulet number  $P_1$  can be obtained the same Poulet number  $P_2$  (from both 1729 and 6601 is obtained 46657).

Note that the operation presented conducts sometimes to squares of primes which attests a special relation that I have often highlighted between the

nature of Poulet numbers and the nature of squares of primes; example: from  $3277 - 1 = 3276 = 2^2 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 13$  is obtained  $3^2 \cdot 4^2 \cdot 8 \cdot 14 + 1 = 16129 = 127^2$ .

**Observation:**

Reversing the operation presented above (and allowing for  $d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n$  to be not prime factors but complementary divisors), there seem to exist special numbers that are "roots" in obtaining multiple Poulet numbers. Example: such number is 36289 (not a Poulet number itself):

:  $36289 - 1 = 36288 = 2^6 \cdot 3^4 \cdot 7$ , which can be written as:

:  $2^3 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 24$  which conducts to  $1^3 \cdot 2^3 \cdot 6 \cdot 23 + 1 = 1105$ , a Poulet number;

:  $3^4 \cdot 4 \cdot 8 \cdot 14 + 1$ , which conducts to  $2^4 \cdot 3 \cdot 7 \cdot 13 + 1 = 4369$ , a Poulet number;

:  $3^3 \cdot 4^2 \cdot 6 \cdot 14 + 1$ , which conducts to  $2^3 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 13 + 1 = 4681$ , a Poulet number;

:  $3^2 \cdot 4^2 \cdot 14 \cdot 18 + 1$ , which conducts to  $2^2 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 13 \cdot 17 + 1 = 7957$ , a Poulet number.