

Proof of Collatz Conjecture Using Division Sequence III

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Abstract

This paper is positioned as an extra edition of [1]. First, as in [1], define "division sequence", "complete division sequence", and "star conversion". Next, we consider loops and divergences in the Collatz conjecture, respectively. Theorem Proving is not used in this paper.

1 Introduction

1.1 Collatz Conjecture

The Collatz conjecture poses the question: “What happens if one repeats the operations of taking any positive integer n ,

- Divide n by 2 if n is even, and
- Multiply n by 3 and then add 1 if n is odd

The Collatz conjecture affirms that “for any initial value, one always reaches 1 (and enters a loop of 1 to 4 to 2 to 1) in a finite number of operations.”

We call “**(one) Collatz operation**” an operation of performing $(3x+1)$ on an odd number and dividing by 2 as many times as one can.

The “**initial value**” is the number on which the Collatz operation is performed. This initial value is called the “**Collatz value**.”

1.2 Division Sequence and Complete Division Sequence

Definition 1.1 A division sequence is the sequence given by arranging the numbers of division by 2 in each operation when the Collatz operation is continuously performed with a positive odd number, n , as the initial value.

For example, in the case of 9, the arrangement of numbers given by continuously performing $3x + 1$, and dividing by 2 provides

9,28,14,7,22,11,34,17,52,26,13,40,20,10,5,16,8,4,2,1 (stops when 1 is reached).

Therefore, the division sequence of 9 is [2,1,1,2,3,4].

The division sequence of 1 is an empty list []. Further, [6] is a division sequence of 21, but [6,2] and [6,2,2] ... that repeat the loop of 1 to 4 to 2 to 1 are not division sequences.

When the division sequence is finite, it is equivalent to reaching 1 in a series of Collatz operations.

When the division sequence is infinite, it does not reach 1 in a series of Collatz operations.

It is equivalent to entering a loop other than 4-2-1 or increasing the Collatz value endlessly.

Definition 1.2 A complete division sequence is a division sequence of multiples of 3.

- $9[2,1,1,2,3,4]$ is a complete division sequence of 9.
- $7[1,1,2,3,4]$ is a division sequence of 7.

Definition 1.3 Supposing that only one element exists in the division sequence of n , no Collatz operation can be applied to n .

Theorem 1.1 When the Collatz operation is applied to x in the complete division sequence of x (two or more elements), (some) y and its division sequence are obtained.

Proof: This follows the Collatz operation and definition of a division sequence. \square

Theorem 1.2 When the Collatz operation is applied to y in the division sequence of y (two or more elements), (some) y and its division sequence are obtained.

Proof: It is self-evident from the Collatz operation and definition of a division sequence. \square

1.3 One Only Looks at Odd Numbers of Multiples of 3

There is no need to look at even numbers.

By continuing to divide all even numbers by 2, one of the odd numbers is achieved.

Therefore, it is only necessary to check “whether all odd numbers reach 1 by the Collatz operation.”

One only needs to look at multiples of 3.

For a number x that is not divisible by 3, the Collatz inverse operation is defined as

obtaining a positive integer by $(x \times 2^k - 1)/3$. Multiple numbers can be obtained using the Collatz reverse operation.

Here, we consider the Collatz reverse operation on x .

The remainder of dividing x by 9 is one of 1,2,4,5,7,8, i.e.:

$$1 \times 2^6 \equiv 1$$

$$2 \times 2^5 \equiv 1$$

$$4 \times 2^4 \equiv 1$$

$$5 \times 2^1 \equiv 1$$

$$7 \times 2^2 \equiv 1$$

$$8 \times 2^3 \equiv 1 \pmod{9}$$

This indicates that multiplying any number by 2 appropriate number of times provides an even number with a remainder of 1 when divided by 9.

By subtracting 1 from this and dividing by 3, we get an odd number that is a multiple of 3.

Performing the Collatz reverse operation once from x provides an odd number y that is a multiple of 3.

If y reaches 1, then x , which was once given by the Collatz operation of y , also reaches 1.

Therefore, the following can be stated.

Theorem 1.3 One only needs to check “whether an odd number that is a multiple of 3 reaches 1 by the Collatz operation.”

2 Star Conversion

A star conversion is defined for a complete division sequence.

A complete division sequence of length, n , is copied to a complete division sequence of length, n or $n+1$.

The remainder, which is given by dividing the Collatz value x by 9 is

$$x \equiv 3 \pmod{9}$$

The conversion to copy a finite or infinite sequence $[a_1, a_2, a_3\dots]$ to a sequence $[6, a_1 - 4, a_2, a_3\dots]$ is described as A $[6, -4]$.

The conversion to copy a finite or infinite sequence $[a_1, a_2, a_3\dots]$ to a sequence $[1, a_1 - 2, a_2, a_3\dots]$ is described as B $[1, -2]$.

$$x \equiv 6 \pmod{9}$$

The conversion to copy a finite or infinite sequence $[a_1, a_2, a_3\dots]$ to a sequence $[4, a_1 - 4, a_2, a_3\dots]$ is described as C $[4, -4]$.

The conversion to copy a finite or infinite sequence $[a_1, a_2, a_3\dots]$ to a sequence $[3, a_1 - 2, a_2, a_3\dots]$ is described as D $[3, -2]$.

$$x \equiv 0 \pmod{9}$$

The conversion to copy a finite or infinite sequence $[a_1, a_2, a_3\dots]$ to a sequence $[2, a_1 - 4, a_2, a_3\dots]$ is described as E $[2, -4]$.

The conversion to copy a finite or infinite sequence $[a_1, a_2, a_3\dots]$ to a sequence $[5, a_1 - 2, a_2, a_3\dots]$ is described as F $[5, -2]$.

Furthermore, the conversion to copy a finite or infinite sequence $[a_1, a_2, a_3\dots]$ to a sequence $[a_1 + 6, a_2, a_3\dots]$ is described as $G [+6]$.

Conversions in which the elements of the division sequence are 0 or negative are prohibited. If the original first term is 0 or negative, $G [+6]$ is performed in advance.

Example

$117 \equiv 0 \pmod{9}$, $117[5,1,2,3,4]$

can be converted to $E [2, -4] \rightarrow 9[2, 5-4, 1, 2, 3, 4]$ and $F [5, -2] \rightarrow 309[5, 5-2, 1, 2, 3, 4]$.

Table 1 shows the functions corresponding to each star conversion.

The function represents a change in the Collatz value.

Table 1. Star conversion in mod 9.

| When | star conversion 1 | star conversion 2 |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| $x \equiv 3 \pmod{9}$ | A $[6, -4]$ $y = 4x/3 - 7$ | B $[1, -2]$ $y = x/6 - 1/2$ |
| $x \equiv 6 \pmod{9}$ | C $[4, -4]$ $y = x/3 - 2$ | D $[3, -2]$ $y = 2x/3 - 1$ |
| $x \equiv 0 \pmod{9}$ | E $[2, -4]$ $y = x/12 - 3/4$ | F $[5, -2]$ $y = 8x/3 - 3$ |
| Always | G $[+6]$ $y = 64x + 21$ | none |

3 About loops

Since the elements of the division sequence are positive, for example, B $[1, -2]$ cannot be placed after E $[2, -4]$. This is expressed in Fig 1 in the transition diagram. Here we assume that G $[+6]$ is not used.

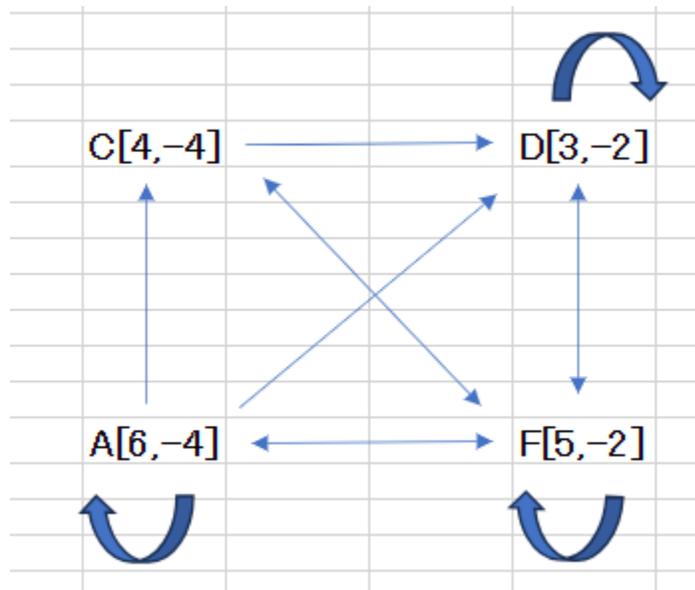


Fig 1. Restriction transition diagram for star conversion.

Using this figure, a loop is expressed, for example, in the following form.

- Dx
- $CFDx$

- AFD_x
- CAFD_x

.....

In other words, the Collatz conjecture constraints the possible loops.

4 About divergence

For divergence, we assume that G [+6] is not used as well as loops. Then, the flow of Fig 1 will continue to go on and on.

For example, considering AFDC_x circling the flow once, the transition equation is $y = (64x - 1563)/81$. Considering AFDCAFDC_x that circles the flow twice, the transition equation is $y = (4096x - 226635)/6561$. I used Egison to calculate.

Subtraction in the equation constrained x, but it could not be further developed.

5 Summary

In the Collatz conjecture, for loops, assuming G [+6] is not used, the shape of the loop could be constrained. As for divergence, we didn't get very good results.

References

- [1] Furuta, Masashi. "Proof of Collatz Conjecture Using Division Sequence." *Advances in Pure Mathematics* 12.2 (2022): 96-108. DOI: 10.4236/apm.2022.122009
- [2] Furuta, Masashi. "collatzProof_DivSeq" https://github.com/righ1113/collatzProof_DivSeq
- [3] Furuta, Masashi. "divseq2" <https://github.com/righ1113/divseq2>