

# Proof of Collatz conjecture

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## Abstract

In this paper we try to prove the Collatz conjecture also known as the  $3x+1$  problem.

### The conjecture :

Let  $a_0$  be a strictly positive integer and consider the recursive sequence  $(a_n)_{n \geq 0}$

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad a_{(n+1)} = \begin{cases} \frac{a_n}{2} & , \text{if } a_n = 2k, k \in \mathbb{N} \\ 3a_n + 1 & , \text{if } a_n = 2k + 1, k \in \mathbb{N} \end{cases}$$

So there exist  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $a_{n_0} = 1$ .

$$\text{Therefore } \forall k \in \mathbb{N} \quad \begin{cases} a_{(n_0+3k)} = 1 \\ a_{(n_0+3k+1)} = 4 \\ a_{(n_0+3k+2)} = 2 \end{cases}$$

The sequence  $(a_n)_{n \geq n_0}$  is the cycle (1,4,2)

Let  $(u_n)_{n \geq 0}$  be the subsequence of  $(a_n)_{n \geq 0}$  such that :

$$u_0 = a_0$$

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad u_{(n+1)} = \begin{cases} \frac{u_n}{4} & , \text{if } u_n = 4k, k \in \mathbb{N} \\ \frac{u_n}{2} & , \text{if } u_n = 4k + 2, k \in \mathbb{N} \\ 3u_n + 1 & , \text{if } u_n = 4k + 1 \text{ or } u_n = 4k + 3, k \in \mathbb{N} \end{cases}$$

Remark : the terms of the sequences  $(a_n)_{n \geq 0}$  and  $(u_n)_{n \geq 0}$  are strictly positive integers because  $a_0$  is a strictly positive integer

### Lemma1 :

There exist no integer  $n_0$  such that  $\forall n \geq n_0$   $u_n$  is a multiple of 5

### Proof :

Suppose that there exist an integer  $n_0$  such that  $\forall n \geq n_0$   $u_n$  is a multiple of 5

take  $u_{n_0}$  and write  $u_{n_0} = 5 \times 2^p q$  with  $p \in \mathbb{N}, q \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $q$  odd

if  $p = 2k$  we have  $u_{(n_0+k)} = 5q$  then  $u_{(n_0+k+1)} = 15q + 1$  which is not a multiple of 5

if  $p = 2k + 1$  we have  $u_{(n_0+k+1)} = 5q$  then  $u_{(n_0+k+2)} = 15q + 1$  which is not a multiple of 5

this is a contradiction

so there exist no integer  $n_0$  such that  $\forall n \geq n_0$   $u_n$  is a multiple of 5

let the sequence  $(v_n)_{n \geq 0}$  such that :

$$v_0 = u_0 = a_0$$

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad v_{(n+1)} = \begin{cases} \frac{v_n}{4} & ,if \ v_n=4k \ , \ k \in \mathbb{N} \\ 3v_n+10 & ,if \ v_n=4k+2 \ , \ k \in \mathbb{N} \\ 3v_n+1 & ,if \ v_n=4k+1 \ , \ k \in \mathbb{N} \\ 3v_n+11 & ,if \ v_n=4k+3 \ , \ k \in \mathbb{N} \end{cases}$$

Lemma2 :

there exist an integer  $n_0$  such that  $\forall n \geq n_0$  The sequence  $(v_n)_{n \geq n_0}$  is the cycle (1,4) or the cycle(10,40) or the cycle(11,44).

Proof :

Let's consider the subsequence  $(w_n)_{n \geq 0}$  of  $(v_n)_{n \geq 0}$  such that :

$$w_0 = v_0 = a_0$$

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad w_{(n+1)} = \begin{cases} \frac{w_n}{4} & ,if \ w_n=4k \ , \ k \in \mathbb{N} \\ \frac{3w_n+10}{4} & ,if \ w_n=4k+2 \ , \ k \in \mathbb{N} \\ \frac{3w_n+1}{4} & ,if \ w_n=4k+1 \ , \ k \in \mathbb{N} \\ \frac{3w_n+11}{4} & ,if \ w_n=4k+3 \ , \ k \in \mathbb{N} \end{cases}$$

Remark :the terms of the sequences  $(v_n)_{n \geq 0}$  and  $(w_n)_{n \geq 0}$  are strictly positive integers because  $a_0$  is a strictly positive integer

$$\text{We have } \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad w_{(n+1)} \leq \frac{3w_n+11}{4}$$

$$\text{So } \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad 4w_{(n+1)} \leq 3w_n + 11$$

$$\text{So } \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad 4(w_{(n+1)} - 11) \leq 3(w_n - 11)$$

$$\text{So } \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad (w_{(n+1)} - 11) \leq \frac{3(w_n-11)}{4}$$

So if  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad w_n > 11$  the sequence  $(z_n)_{n \geq 0}$  where  $z_n = w_n - 11$  satisfies :

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad z_n \geq 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad z_{(n+1)} < z_n \quad (\text{because } \frac{3(w_n-11)}{4} < w_n - 11)$$

the sequence of integers  $(z_n)_{n \geq 0}$  is increasing strictly so it will reach 0 .this is a contradiction

we deduce that There exist  $n_0$  such that  $w_{n_0} \leq 11$

$$(\text{we can also use } \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad (w_n - 11) \leq \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^n (w_0 - 11))$$

- 1) If  $w_{n_0} = 1$  The sequence  $(w_n)_{n \geq n_0}$  is 1,1,1 ... so  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad n \geq n_0 \quad w_n = 1$
- 2) If  $w_{n_0} = 2$  The sequence  $(w_n)_{n \geq n_0}$  is 2,4,1,1,1 ... so  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad n \geq (n_0 + 2) \quad w_n = 1$
- 3) If  $w_{n_0} = 3$  The sequence  $(w_n)_{n \geq n_0}$  is 3,5,4,1,1,1 ... so  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad n \geq (n_0 + 3) \quad w_n = 1$
- 4) If  $w_{n_0} = 4$  The sequence  $(w_n)_{n \geq n_0}$  is 4,1,1,1 ... so  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad n \geq (n_0 + 1) \quad w_n = 1$
- 5) If  $w_{n_0} = 5$  The sequence  $(w_n)_{n \geq n_0}$  is 5,4,1,1,1 ... so  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad n \geq (n_0 + 2) \quad w_n = 1$
- 6) If  $w_{n_0} = 6$  The sequence  $(w_n)_{n \geq n_0}$  is 6,7,32,8,2,4,1,1,1 ... so  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad n \geq (n_0 + 6) \quad w_n = 1$
- 7) If  $w_{n_0} = 7$  The sequence  $(w_n)_{n \geq n_0}$  is 7,32,8,2,4,1,1,1 ... so  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad n \geq (n_0 + 5) \quad w_n = 1$
- 8) If  $w_{n_0} = 11$  The sequence  $(w_n)_{n \geq n_0}$  is 11,11,11 ... so  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad n \geq n_0 \quad w_n = 11$

- 9) If  $w_{n_0} = 8$  The sequence  $(w_n)_{n \geq n_0}$  is 8,2,4,1,1,1 ... so  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N} n \geq (n_0 + 3) w_n = 1$   
 10) If  $w_{n_0} = 9$  The sequence  $(w_n)_{n \geq n_0}$  is 9,7,32,8,2,4,1,1,1 ... so  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N} n \geq (n_0 + 6) w_n = 1$   
 11) If  $w_{n_0} = 10$  The sequence  $(w_n)_{n \geq n_0}$  is 10,10,10 ... so  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N} n \geq n_0 w_n = 10$

Let  $m_0 = n_0 + 6$

So we have  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N} n \geq m_0 w_n = 1$  or  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N} n \geq m_0 w_n = 10$  or  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N} n \geq m_0 w_n = 11$

Since  $(w_n)_{n \geq 0}$  is a subsequence of  $(v_n)_{n \geq 0}$

We deduce that :

there exist an integer  $p_0$  such that The sequence  $(v_n)_{n \geq p_0}$  is the cycle (1,4) or the cycle(10,40)

or the cycle(11,44).

Lemma3 :

in  $\mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z} \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad \overline{u_n} = \overline{v_n}$

Proof :

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad 4u_{(n+1)} = \begin{cases} u_n & , \text{if } u_n = 4k, k \in \mathbb{N} \\ 2u_n & , \text{if } u_n = 4k+2, k \in \mathbb{N} \\ 4(3u_n+1) & , \text{if } u_n = 4k+1 \text{ or } u_n = 4k+3, k \in \mathbb{N} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{So } \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad \overline{4u_{(n+1)}} = \begin{cases} \overline{u_n} & , \text{if } u_n = 4k, k \in \mathbb{N} \\ \overline{2u_n} & , \text{if } u_n = 4k+2, k \in \mathbb{N} \\ \overline{4(3u_n+1)} & , \text{if } u_n = 4k+1 \text{ or } u_n = 4k+3, k \in \mathbb{N} \end{cases}$$

We multiply by  $\overline{4}$

$$\text{So } \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad \overline{16u_{(n+1)}} = \begin{cases} \overline{4u_n} & , \text{if } u_n = 4k, k \in \mathbb{N} \\ \overline{8u_n} & , \text{if } u_n = 4k+2, k \in \mathbb{N} \\ \overline{16(3u_n+1)} & , \text{if } u_n = 4k+1 \text{ or } u_n = 4k+3, k \in \mathbb{N} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{So } \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad \overline{u_{(n+1)}} = \begin{cases} \overline{4u_n} & , \text{if } u_n = 4k, k \in \mathbb{N} \\ \overline{3u_n} & , \text{if } u_n = 4k+2, k \in \mathbb{N} \\ \overline{(3u_n+1)} & , \text{if } u_n = 4k+1 \text{ or } u_n = 4k+3, k \in \mathbb{N} \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad v_{(n+1)} = \begin{cases} \frac{v_n}{4} & , \text{if } v_n=4k, k \in \mathbb{N} \\ 3v_n+10 & , \text{if } v_n=4k+2, k \in \mathbb{N} \\ 3v_n+1 & , \text{if } v_n=4k+1, k \in \mathbb{N} \\ 3v_n+11 & , \text{if } v_n=4k+3, k \in \mathbb{N} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{So } \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad 4v_{(n+1)} = \begin{cases} v_n & , \text{if } v_n=4k, k \in \mathbb{N} \\ 4(3v_n+10) & , \text{if } v_n=4k+2, k \in \mathbb{N} \\ 4(3v_n+1) & , \text{if } v_n=4k+1, k \in \mathbb{N} \\ 4(3v_n+11) & , \text{if } v_n=4k+3, k \in \mathbb{N} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{So } \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad \overline{4v_{(n+1)}} = \begin{cases} \overline{v_n} & , \text{if } v_n=4k, k \in \mathbb{N} \\ \overline{4(3v_n+10)} & , \text{if } v_n=4k+2, k \in \mathbb{N} \\ \overline{4(3v_n+1)} & , \text{if } v_n=4k+1, k \in \mathbb{N} \\ \overline{4(3v_n+11)} & , \text{if } v_n=4k+3, k \in \mathbb{N} \end{cases}$$

We multiply by  $\bar{4}$

$$\text{So } \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad \overline{16v_{(n+1)}} = \begin{cases} \frac{\overline{4v_n}}{16(3v_n+10)} & ,if \ v_n=4k, \ k \in \mathbb{N} \\ \frac{\overline{4v_n}}{16(3v_n+1)} & ,if \ v_n=4k+2, \ k \in \mathbb{N} \\ \frac{\overline{4v_n}}{16(3v_n+11)} & ,if \ v_n=4k+1, \ k \in \mathbb{N} \\ & ,if \ v_n=4k+3, \ k \in \mathbb{N} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{So } \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad \overline{v_{(n+1)}} = \begin{cases} \frac{\overline{4v_n}}{3v_n} & ,if \ v_n=4k, \ k \in \mathbb{N} \\ \frac{\overline{4v_n}}{(3v_n+1)} & ,if \ v_n=4k+2, \ k \in \mathbb{N} \\ \frac{\overline{4v_n}}{(3v_n+1)} & ,if \ v_n=4k+1, \ k \in \mathbb{N} \\ \frac{\overline{4v_n}}{(3v_n+1)} & ,if \ v_n=4k+3, \ k \in \mathbb{N} \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

Since  $\overline{u_0} = \overline{v_0}$  we deduce from (1) and (2) that the sequences  $(\overline{u_n})_{n \geq 0}$  and  $(\overline{v_n})_{n \geq 0}$  are equal

So in  $\mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z} \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad \overline{u_n} = \overline{v_n}$

So there exist a sequence  $(s_n)_{n \geq 0}$  with  $s_n \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad u_n = v_n + 5s_n$

1) if The sequence  $(v_n)_{n \geq n_0}$  is the cycle (4,1)

$$\text{we have } \forall p \in \mathbb{N} \quad \begin{cases} u_{(n_0+2p)} = 4 + 5q_p \\ u_{(n_0+2p+1)} = 1 + 5Q_p \end{cases} \quad \text{where } q_p \text{ and } Q_p \in \mathbb{Z}$$

2) if The sequence  $(v_n)_{n \geq n_0}$  is the cycle (40,10)

$$\text{we have } \forall p \in \mathbb{N} \quad \begin{cases} u_{(n_0+2p)} = 40 + 5q_p \\ u_{(n_0+2p+1)} = 10 + 5Q_p \end{cases} \quad \text{where } q_p \text{ and } Q_p \in \mathbb{Z}$$

3) if The sequence  $(v_n)_{n \geq n_0}$  is the cycle (44,11)

$$\text{we have } \forall p \in \mathbb{N} \quad \begin{cases} u_{(n_0+2p)} = 44 + 5q_p \\ u_{(n_0+2p+1)} = 11 + 5Q_p \end{cases} \quad \text{where } q_p \text{ and } Q_p \in \mathbb{Z}$$

in the case 2) we have  $\forall n \geq n_0 \quad u_n$  is a multiple of 5 so it is not possible.

$$\text{in the case 3) we have } \forall p \in \mathbb{N} \quad \begin{cases} u_{(n_0+2p)} = 4 + 5(q_p + 8) \\ u_{(n_0+2p+1)} = 1 + 5(Q_p + 2) \end{cases} \quad \text{where } q_p \text{ and } Q_p \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\text{so } \forall p \in \mathbb{N} \quad \begin{cases} u_{(n_0+2p)} = 4 + 5q'_p \\ u_{(n_0+2p+1)} = 1 + 5Q'_p \end{cases} \quad \text{where } q'_p \text{ and } Q'_p \in \mathbb{Z}$$

so we are in the case 1)

we deduce that :

$$\forall p \in \mathbb{N} \quad \begin{cases} u_{(n_0+2p)} = 4 + 5q_p \\ u_{(n_0+2p+1)} = 1 + 5Q_p \end{cases} \quad \text{where } q_p \text{ and } Q_p \in \mathbb{Z}$$

the sequence  $(u_n)_{n \geq n_0}$  is in the form

$4 + 5q_0, 1 + 5Q_0, 4 + 5q_1, 1 + 5Q_1, 4 + 5q_2, 1 + 5Q_2, \dots \dots \dots$

1) if  $q_p = 4k_p$

$$u_{(n_0+2p)} = 4 + 5q_p = 4 + 20k_p$$

$$\text{So } u_{(n_0+2p+1)} = \frac{u_{(n_0+2p)}}{4} = 1 + 5k_p \quad \text{wich is of the form } 1 + 5Q_p$$

2) if  $q_p = 4k_p + 1$

$$u_{(n_0+2p)} = 4 + 5q_p = 4 + 5(4k_p + 1) = 9 + 20k_p$$

$$\text{So } u_{(n_0+2p+1)} = 3u_{(n_0+2p)} + 1 = 3(9 + 20k_p) + 1 = 28 + 60k_p = 3 + 5(5 + 12k_p)$$

wich is not of the form  $1 + 5Q_p$

So  $q_p \neq 4k_p + 1$

3) if  $q_p = 4k_p + 2$

$$u_{(n_0+2p)} = 4 + 5q_p = 4 + 5(4k_p + 2) = 14 + 20k_p$$

$$\text{So } u_{(n_0+2p+1)} = \frac{u_{(n_0+2p)}}{2} = 7 + 10k_p = 2 + 5(1 + 2k_p) \text{ wich is not of the form } 1 + 5Q_p$$

So  $q_p \neq 4k_p + 2$

4) if  $q_p = 4k_p + 3$

$$u_{(n_0+2p)} = 4 + 5q_p = 4 + 5(4k_p + 3) = 19 + 20k_p$$

$$\text{So } u_{(n_0+2p+1)} = 3u_{(n_0+2p)} + 1 = 3(19 + 20k_p) + 1 = 58 + 60k_p = 3 + 5(11 + 12k_p)$$

wich is not of the form  $1 + 5Q_p$

So  $q_p \neq 4k_p + 3$

we deduce that  $\forall p \in \mathbb{N} \quad q_p = 4k_p$

So

$$\forall p \in \mathbb{N} \quad \begin{cases} u_{(n_0+2p)} = 4 + 20k_p \\ u_{(n_0+2p+1)} = 1 + 5k_p \end{cases} \text{ where } k_p \in \mathbb{Z}$$

the sequence  $(u_n)_{n \geq n_0}$  is in the form

$$4 + 20k_0, 1 + 5k_0, 4 + 20k_1, 1 + 5k_1, 4 + 20k_2, 1 + 5k_2, \dots \dots \dots$$

By the same way

1) if  $k_p = 4k'_p$

$$u_{(n_0+2p+1)} = 1 + 5k_p = 1 + 20k'_p$$

$$\text{So } u_{(n_0+2p+2)} = 3u_{(n_0+2p+1)} + 1 = 3(1 + 20k'_p) + 1 = 4 + 60k'_p \text{ wich is of the form } 4 + 20k_{(p+1)}$$

2) if  $k_p = 4k'_p + 1$

$$u_{(n_0+2p+1)} = 1 + 5k_p = 1 + 5(4k'_p + 1) = 6 + 20k'_p$$

$$\text{So } u_{(n_0+2p+2)} = \frac{u_{(n_0+2p+1)}}{2} = 3 + 10k'_p$$

$$* \text{ if } k'_p = 2k''_p \text{ we have } u_{(n_0+2p+2)} = 3 + 20k''_p$$

$$* \text{ if } k'_p = 2k''_p + 1 \text{ we have } u_{(n_0+2p+2)} = 13 + 20k''_p$$

So  $u_{(n_0+2p+2)}$  is not of the form  $4 + 20k_{(p+1)}$

So  $k_p \neq 4k'_p + 1$

3) if  $k_p = 4k'_p + 2$

$$u_{(n_0+2p+1)} = 1 + 5k_p = 1 + 5(4k'_p + 2) = 11 + 20k'_p$$

$$\text{So } u_{(n_0+2p+2)} = 3u_{(n_0+2p+1)} + 1 = 3(11 + 20k'_p) + 1 = 34 + 60k'_p = 14 + 20(1 + 3k'_p)$$

wich is not of the form  $4 + 20k_{(p+1)}$

So  $k_p \neq 4k'_p + 2$

4) if  $k_p = 4k'_p + 3$

$$u_{(n_0+2p+1)} = 1 + 5k_p = 1 + 5(4k'_p + 3) = 16 + 20k'_p$$

$$\text{So } u_{(n_0+2p+2)} = \frac{u_{(n_0+2p+1)}}{4} = 4 + 5k'_p$$

Since  $u_{(n_0+2p+2)}$  is in the form  $4 + 20k_{(p+1)}$  we have  $k'_p = 4k''_p$

So  $k_p = 16k''_p + 3$

$$\text{Since } \forall p \in \mathbb{N} \begin{cases} u_{(n_0+2p)} = 4 + 20k_p \\ u_{(n_0+2p+1)} = 1 + 5k_p \end{cases} \text{ where } k_p \in \mathbb{Z}$$

We deduce that we have the following two cases :

1) if  $k_p = 4k'_p$  we have:

$$\forall p \in \mathbb{N} \begin{cases} u_{(n_0+2p)} = 4 + 80k'_p \\ u_{(n_0+2p+1)} = 1 + 20k'_p \end{cases} \text{ where } k'_p \in \mathbb{Z}$$

2) if  $k_p = 16k''_p + 3$  we have :

$$\forall p \in \mathbb{N} \begin{cases} u_{(n_0+2p)} = 64 + 320k''_p \\ u_{(n_0+2p+1)} = 16 + 80k''_p \end{cases} \text{ where } k''_p \in \mathbb{Z}$$

Case 1 :

$$\forall p \in \mathbb{N} \begin{cases} u_{(n_0+2p)} = 4 + 80k'_p \\ u_{(n_0+2p+1)} = 1 + 20k'_p \end{cases} \text{ where } k'_p \in \mathbb{Z}$$

So  $u_{(n_0+1)} = 1 + 20k'_0$

Suppose that  $k'_0 \neq 0$  we can write  $k'_0 = 4^r \times d_0$  with  $r \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $d_0 \in \mathbb{Z}$  and 4 does not divide  $d_0$

$$\text{So } u_{(n_0+1)} = 1 + 20 \times 4^r \times d_0$$

$$\text{Then } u_{(n_0+2)} = 4 + 3 \times 20 \times 4^r \times d_0 \text{ and } u_{(n_0+3)} = 1 + 3 \times 20 \times 4^{(r-1)} \times d_0$$

$$\text{Then } u_{(n_0+4)} = 4 + 3^2 \times 20 \times 4^{(r-1)} \times d_0 \text{ and } u_{(n_0+5)} = 1 + 3^2 \times 20 \times 4^{(r-2)} \times d_0$$

⋮

⋮

Then  $u_{(n_0+2r)} = 4 + 3^r \times 20 \times 4 \times d_0$  and  $u_{(n_0+2r+1)} = 1 + 3^r \times 20 \times d_0$

Then  $u_{(n_0+2r+2)} = 4 + 3^{(r+1)} \times 20 \times d_0$  and  $u_{(n_0+2r+3)} = 1 + 3^{(r+1)} \times 5 \times d_0$

The term  $u_{(n_0+2r+3)} = 1 + 3^{(r+1)} \times 5 \times d_0$  must be in the form  $1 + 20k'_{(r+1)}$

So 20 divide  $3^{(r+1)} \times 5 \times d_0$

So 4 divide  $d_0$ . This is a contradiction

So  $k'_0 = 0$

Thus  $u_{(n_0+1)} = 1$

Case 2 :

$$\forall p \in \mathbb{N} \begin{cases} u_{(n_0+2p)} = 64 + 320k''_p \\ u_{(n_0+2p+1)} = 16 + 80k''_p \end{cases} \text{ where } k''_p \in \mathbb{Z}$$

So  $u_{(n_0+1)} = 16 + 80k''_0$

Then  $u_{(n_0+2)} = 4 + 20k''_0$  and  $u_{(n_0+3)} = 1 + 5k''_0$

We have  $u_{(n_0+3)} = 16 + 80k''_1$  so  $1 + 5k''_0 = 16 + 80k''_1$  so  $k''_0 = 3 + 16k''_1$

$$u_{(n_0+3)} = 1 + 5k''_0 = 16 + 80k''_1$$

Then  $u_{(n_0+4)} = 4 + 20k''_1$  and  $u_{(n_0+5)} = 1 + 5k''_1$

We have  $u_{(n_0+5)} = 16 + 80k''_2$  so  $1 + 5k''_1 = 16 + 80k''_2$  so  $k''_1 = 3 + 16k''_2$

$$u_{(n_0+5)} = 16 + 80k''_2$$

We repeat the process

:

The sequence of integers  $(k''_n)_{n \geq 0}$  satisfies the equality :  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad k''_n = 3 + 16k''_{(n+1)}$

$$\text{So } \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad \left(k''_n + \frac{1}{5}\right) = 16 \left(k''_{(n+1)} + \frac{1}{5}\right)$$

$$\text{So } \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad \left(k''_{(n+1)} + \frac{1}{5}\right) = \frac{1}{16} \left(k''_n + \frac{1}{5}\right)$$

$$\text{So } \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad \left(k''_n + \frac{1}{5}\right) = \frac{1}{16^n} \left(k''_0 + \frac{1}{5}\right)$$

So  $\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} k''_n = \frac{-1}{5}$  which is impossible because the terms  $k''_n$  are integers

So we have only case 1

We have  $u_{(n_0+1)} = 1$

Since  $(u_n)_{n \geq 0}$  is a subsequence of  $(a_n)_{n \geq 0}$  we deduce that there exist  $N_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $a_{N_0} = 1$

So The sequence  $(a_n)_{n \geq N_0}$  is the cycle (1,4,2).