## How Pusheen uses computer to do mathematics

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1089 and 2178, the magic numbers!



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• We observed that if n is a palindromic number then

 $rev_{10}(n) = 1 \times n$ 



where  $rev_{10}(n)$  denotes the reverse order number *n* in the decimal base, i.e.,

if  $n = (\alpha_N \dots \alpha_1 \alpha_0)_{10}$ , then  $\operatorname{rev}_{10}(n) = (\alpha_0 \alpha_1 \dots \alpha_N)_{10}$ .

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Conjecture (N. J. A. Sloane?): "If k<sup>4</sup> is a palindrome, then k = 100...001."

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- ... so, we write a program!



• Between numbers 1 - 999 we find **no** (10, k)-reverse multiples (with k > 1).

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Lets take a look to another numbers...



219999978 217802178

• 10-digit:

219999978 217802178

• 10-digit:

2199999978 2178002178 2197821978

• 11-digit:

21<mark>99999</mark>78 2178<mark>0</mark>2178

• 10-digit:

2199999978 2178002178 2197821978

• 11-digit:

21999999978 21780002178 21978021978 • 12-digit:

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• Are you still able to follow the pattern?

• 12-digit:



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...and similarly for the case of (10,9)-reverse multiples with numbers 1089.

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#### **References:**

- A. L. Young: *Trees For k-Reverse Multiples*, Fib. Quart. 30 (1992).
- R. Webster, G. Williams: *On the Trail of Reverse Divisors: 1089 and All that Follow*, Math. Spec. 45 (2013).
- N. J. A. Sloane: 2178 And All That, Fib. Quart. 52 (2014).

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• Thus, there is an infinite number of solutions: numbers which are factorials of an integer.

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• Question: What can be said about the set

 $\mathcal{A} = \{n \in \mathbb{N} \mid \exists m, k \in \{2, 3, \dots, n-2\} \text{ such that } n! = m! \cdot k!\}$ ?

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- There are few more statements concerning the factors *m* and *k*. These results, however, only slightly restrict the set of possible solutions.
- For example, it can be shown (and it is not very hard) that if  $n \in A$ , then m + k > n + 1.

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... a hero came!

• TK improved the above result for numbers:  $1 \le n \le 30000$  !

- ... with the aid of computer one could possible disprove the Satan conjecture.
- At the begging of 90's, J. Shallit and M. Easter showed that between numbers

only the number 10 belongs to  $\mathcal{A}$ . They investigate, however, a somewhat more general problem.

But then ...



... a hero came!

• TK improved the above result for numbers:  $1 \le n \le 30000$  !

Can you do that better?

# Computational Contest 2015



- Can you significantly improve the range of numbers that do (not) belong to A?
- Can you disprove the Satan conjecture? What is the respective formula x!y! = z!?
- Apart from the computational properties, can you show something mathematically interesting about *A*?

## Starring:

## Starring:



Pusheen

## Starring:



Pusheen



ΤK

## Starring:



Pusheen



ΤK



Unhappy cat

#### Starring:



## Thank you for your attention!