# On a Concatenation Problem 

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#### Abstract

This article has been inspired by questions asked by Charles Ashbacher in the Journal of Recreational Mathematics, vol. 29.2. It concerns the Smarandache Deconstructive Sequence. This sequence is a special case of a more general concatenation and sequencing procedure which is the subject of this study. Answers are given to the above questions. The properties of this kind of sequences are studied with particular emphasis on the divisibility of their terms by primes.


## 1. Introduction

In this article the concatenation of a and b is expressed by a _ b or simply ab when there can be no misunderstanding. Multiple concatenations like abcabcabc will be expressed by 3(abc).
We consider n different elements (or n objects) arranged (concatenated) one after the other in the following way to form:

$$
\mathrm{A}=\mathrm{a}_{1} \mathrm{a}_{2} \ldots \mathrm{a}_{\mathrm{n}}
$$

Infinitely many objects A, which will be referred to as cycles, are concatenated to form the chain:

$$
B=a_{1} a_{2} \ldots a_{n} a_{1} a_{2} \ldots a_{n} a_{1} a_{2} \ldots a_{n} \ldots
$$

$B$ contains identical elements which are at equidistant positions in the chain. Let's write B as
$B=b_{1} b_{2} b_{3}, \ldots b_{k} \ldots .$. where $b_{k}=a_{j}$ when $j \equiv k(\bmod n), ~<j \leq n$.
An infinite sequence $\mathrm{C}_{1}, \mathrm{C}_{2}, \mathrm{C}_{3}, \ldots \mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{k}}, \ldots$. is formed by sequentially selecting $1,2,3$, ...k, ... elements from the chain B:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& C_{1}=b_{1}=a_{1} \\
& C_{2}=b_{2} b_{3}=a_{2} a_{3} \\
& C_{3}=b_{4} b_{5} b_{6}=a_{4} a_{5} a_{6}\left(\text { if } n \leq 6, \text { if } n=5 \text { we would have } C_{3}=a_{4} a_{5} a_{1}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

The number of elements from the chain $B$ used to form first $k-1$ terms of the sequence C is $1+2+3+\ldots+\mathrm{k}-1=(\mathrm{k}-1) \mathrm{k} / 2$. Hence

$$
\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{k}}=\mathrm{b}_{\frac{(\mathrm{k}-1) \mathrm{k}}{2}+1} \mathrm{~b}_{\frac{(\mathrm{k}-1) \mathrm{k}}{2}+2} \cdots \mathrm{~b}_{\frac{\mathrm{k}(\mathrm{k}+1)}{2}}
$$

However, what is interesting to see is how $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{k}}$ is expressed in terms of $\mathrm{a}_{1}, \ldots, \mathrm{a}_{\mathrm{n}}$. For sufficiently large values of $\mathrm{k} \mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{k}}$ will be composed of three parts:

The first part $\mathrm{F}(\mathrm{k})=\mathrm{a}_{\mathrm{u}} \ldots \mathrm{a}_{\mathrm{n}}$
The middle part $\mathrm{M}(\mathrm{k})=\mathrm{AA} . . . \mathrm{A}$ The number of concatenated As depends on k .
The last part $\mathrm{L}(\mathrm{k})=\mathrm{a}_{1 \mathrm{a}_{2} \ldots \mathrm{a}_{\mathrm{w}}}$
Hence

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{k}}=\mathrm{F}(\mathrm{k}) \mathrm{M}(\mathrm{k}) \mathrm{L}(\mathrm{k}) . \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

The number of elements used to form $C_{1}, C_{2}, \ldots C_{k-1}$ is $(k-1) k / 2$. Since the number of elements in A is finite there will be infinitely many terms $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{k}}$ which have the same first element $\mathrm{a}_{\mathrm{u}}$. u can be determined from $\frac{(\mathrm{k}-1) \mathrm{k}}{2}+1 \equiv \mathrm{u}(\bmod \mathrm{n})$. There can be at most $n^{2}$ different combinations to form $F(k)$ and $L(k)$. Let $C_{j}$ and $C_{i}$ be two different terms for which $F(i)=F(j)$ and $L(i)=L(j)$. They will then be separated by a number $m$ of complete cycles of length $n$, i.e.

$$
\frac{(\mathrm{j}-1) \mathrm{j}}{2}-\frac{(\mathrm{i}-1) \mathrm{i}}{2}=\mathrm{mn}
$$

Let's write $j=i+p$ and see if $p$ exists so that there is a solution for $p$ which is independent of i .

$$
\begin{aligned}
& (i+p-1)(i+p)-(i-1) i=2 m n \\
& i^{2}+2 i p+p^{2}-i-p-i^{2}+i=2 m n \\
& 2 i p+p^{2}-p=2 m n \\
& p^{2}+p(2 i-1)=2 m n
\end{aligned}
$$

If $n$ is odd we will put $p=n$ to obtain $n+2 i-1=2 m$, or $m=\frac{n+2 i-1}{2}$. If $n$ is even we put $\mathrm{p}=2 \mathrm{n}$ to obtain $\mathrm{m}=2 \mathrm{n}+2 \mathrm{i}-1$. From this we see that the terms $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{k}}$ have a peculiar periodic behavior. The periodicity is $\mathrm{p}=\mathrm{n}$ for odd n and $\mathrm{p}=2 \mathrm{n}$ for even n . Let's illustrate this for $\mathrm{n}=4$ and $\mathrm{n}=5$ for which the periodicity will be $\mathrm{p}=8$ and $\mathrm{p}=5$ respectively.

Table 1. $\mathrm{n}=4$. $\mathrm{A}=$ abcd. $\mathrm{B}=$ abcdabcdabcdabcdabcd. $\ldots .$.

| i | $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{i}}$ | Period\# | F(i) | M(i) | L(i) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | a |  | a |  |  |
| 2 | bc |  | bc |  |  |
| 3 | dab | 1 | d |  | ab |
| 4 | cdab | 1 | cd |  | ab |
| 5 | cdabc | 1 | cd |  | abc |
| 6 | dabcda | 1 | d | abcd | a |
| 7 | bcdabcd | 1 | bcd | abcd |  |
| 8 | abcdabcd | 1 |  | 2(abcd) |  |
| 9 | abcdabcda | 1 |  | 2(abcd) | a |
| 10 | bcdabcdabc | 1 | bcd | abcd | abc |
| 11 | dabcdabcdab | 2 | d | 2(abcd) | ab |
| 12 | cdabcdabcdab | 2 | cd | 2(abcd) | ab |
| 13 | cdabcdabcdabc | 2 | cd | 2(abcd) | abc |
| 14 | dabcdabcdabcda | 2 | d | 3(abcd) | a |
| 15 | bcdabcdabcdabcd | 2 | bcd | 3(abcd) |  |
| 16 | abcdabcdabcdabcd | 2 |  | 4(abcd) |  |
| 17 | abcdabcdabcdabcda | 2 |  | 4(abcd) | a |
| 18 | bcdabcdabcdabcdabc | 2 | bcd | 3(abcd) | abc |
| 19 | dabcdabcdabcdabcdab | 3 | d | 4(abcd) | ab |
| 20 | cdabcdabcdabcdabcdab | 3 | cd | 4(abcd) | ab |

It is seen from table 1 that the periodicity starts for $\mathrm{i}=3$.
Numerals are chosen as elements to illustrate the case $\mathrm{n}=5$. Let's write $\mathrm{i}=\mathrm{s}+\mathrm{k}+\mathrm{pj}$, where s is the index of the term preceding the first periodical term, $\mathrm{k}=1,2, \ldots, \mathrm{p}$ is the index of members of the period and j is the number of the period (for convenience the first period is numbered 0 ). The first part of $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{i}}$ is denoted $\mathrm{B}(\mathrm{k})$ and the last part $\mathrm{E}(\mathrm{k})$. $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{i}}$ is now given by the expression below where q is the number of cycles concatenated between the first part $\mathrm{B}(\mathrm{k})$ and the last part $\mathrm{E}(\mathrm{k})$.

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{i}}=\mathrm{B}(\mathrm{k}) \_\mathrm{qA} \_\mathrm{E}(\mathrm{k}) \text {, where } \mathrm{k} \text { is determined from } \mathrm{i}-\mathrm{s} \equiv \mathrm{k}(\bmod \mathrm{p}) \tag{2}
\end{equation*}
$$

Table 2. $\mathrm{n}=5 . \mathrm{A}=12345 . \mathrm{B}=123451234512345 \ldots \ldots \ldots$

| i | $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{i}}$ | k | q | $\mathrm{F}(\mathrm{i}) / \mathrm{B}(\mathrm{k})$ | $\mathrm{M}(\mathrm{i})$ | $\mathrm{L}(\mathrm{i}) / \mathrm{E}(\mathrm{k})$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 1 |  |  | 1 |  |  |
| $\mathrm{~s}=2$ |  | 23 |  |  | 23 |  |
|  | $\mathrm{j}=0$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3 |  | 451 | 1 | 0 | 45 |  |
| 4 |  | 2345 | 2 | 0 | 2345 |  |
| 5 |  | 12345 | 3 | 1 |  | 12345 |
| 6 |  | 123451 | 4 | 1 |  | 12345 |
| 7 |  | 2345123 | 5 | 0 | 2345 |  |
|  | $\mathrm{j}=1$ |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $3+5 \mathrm{j}$ |  | 45123451 | 1 | j | 45 | 1 |
| $4+5 \mathrm{j}$ |  | 234512345 | 2 | j | 2345 | 12345 |
| $5+5 \mathrm{j}$ |  | 1234512345 | 3 | $\mathrm{j}+1$ |  | $2(12345)$ |
| $6+5 \mathrm{j}$ |  | 12345123451 | 4 | $\mathrm{j}+1$ |  | $2(12345)$ |
| $7+5 \mathrm{j}$ | 234512345123 | 5 | j | 2345 | 12345 | 1 |
|  | $\mathrm{j}=2$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| $3+5 \mathrm{j}$ |  | 4512345123451 | 1 | j | 45 | $2(12345)$ |
| $4+5 \mathrm{j}$ | 23451234512345 | 2 | j | 2345 | $2(12345)$ | 1 |
| $\ldots \ldots$ |  |  |  |  |  | 1 |

## 2. The Smarandache Deconstructive Sequence

The Smarandache Deconstructive Sequence of integers [1] is constructed by sequentially repeating the digits $1-9$ in the following way:

$$
1,23,456,789123,4567891,23456789,123456789,1234567891, \ldots
$$

The sequence was studied in a booklet by Kashihara [2] and a number of questions on this sequence were posed by Ashbacher [3]. In thinking about these questions two observations lead to this study.

1. Why did Smarandache exclude 0 from the integers used to create the sequence? After all 0 is indispensable in all arithmetics most of which can be done using 0 and 1 only.
2. The process used to create the Deconstructive Sequence is a process that applies to any set of objects as has been shown in the introduction.

The periodicity and the general expression for terms in the "generalized deconstructive sequence" shown in the introduction may be the most important results of this study. These results will now be used to examine the questions raised by Ashbacher. It is worth noting that these divisibility questions are dealt with in base 10 although only the nine digits $1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9$ are used to express numbers. In the last part of this article questions on divisibility will be posed for a deconstructive sequence generated from $\mathrm{A}=$ " 0123456789 ".

For $\mathrm{i}>5$ ( $\mathrm{s}=5$ ) any term $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{i}}$ in the sequence is composed by concatenating a first part $B(k)$, a number $q$ of cycles $A=" 123456789$ " and a last part $E(k)$, where $i=5+k+9 j$, $\mathrm{k}=1,2, \ldots 9, \mathrm{j} \geq 0$, as expressed in (2) and $\mathrm{q}=\mathrm{j}$ or $\mathrm{j}+1$ as shown in table 3.

Members of the Smarandache Deconstructive Sequence are now interpreted as decimal integers. The factorization of $\mathrm{B}(\mathrm{k})$ and $\mathrm{E}(\mathrm{k})$ is shown in table 3. The last two columns of this table will be useful later in this article.

Table 3. Factorization of Smarandache Deconstructive Sequence

| i | k | $\mathrm{B}(\mathrm{k})$ | q | $\mathrm{E}(\mathrm{k})$ | Digit sum | $3 \mid \mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{i}} ?$ |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :---: | :--- | :--- | :---: |
| $6+9 \mathrm{j}$ | 1 | $789=3 \cdot 263$ | j | $123=3 \cdot 41$ | $30+\mathrm{j} 45$ | 3 |
| $7+9 \mathrm{j}$ | 2 | $456789=3 \cdot 43 \cdot 3541$ | j | 1 | $40+\mathrm{j} 45$ | No |
| $8+9 \mathrm{j}$ | 3 | 23456789 | j |  | $44+\mathrm{j} 45$ | No |
| $9+9 \mathrm{j}$ | 4 |  | $\mathrm{j}+1$ |  | $(\mathrm{j}+1) \cdot 45$ | $9 \cdot 3^{2} *$ |
| $10+9 \mathrm{j}$ | 5 |  | $\mathrm{j}+1$ | 1 | $1+(\mathrm{j}+1) \cdot 45$ | No |
| $11+9 \mathrm{j}$ | 6 | 23456789 | j | $123=341$ | $50+\mathrm{j} 45$ | No |
| $12+9 \mathrm{j}$ | 7 | $456789=3 \cdot 43 \cdot 3541$ | j | $123456=2^{6} 3 \cdot 643$ | $60+\mathrm{j} 45$ | 3 |
| $13+9 \mathrm{j}$ | 8 | $789=3 \cdot 263$ | $\mathrm{j}+1$ | 1 | $25+(\mathrm{j}+1) \cdot 45$ | No |
| $14+9 \mathrm{j}$ | 9 | 23456789 | j | $123456==^{6} 3 \cdot 643$ | $65+\mathrm{j} 45$ | No |

*) where $z$ depends on $j$.
Together with the factorization of the cycle $A=123456789=3^{2} \cdot 3607 \cdot 3803$ it is now possible to study some divisibility properties of the sequence. We will first find expressions for $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{i}}$ for each of the 9 values of k . In cases where $\mathrm{E}(\mathrm{k})$ exists let's introduce $\mathrm{u}=1+\left[\log _{10} \mathrm{E}(\mathrm{k})\right]$. We also define the function $\delta(\mathrm{j})$ so that $\delta(\mathrm{j})=0$ for $\mathrm{j}=0$ and $\delta(\mathrm{j})=1$ for $\mathrm{j}>0$. It is possible to construct one algorithm to cover all the nine cases but more functions like $\delta(\mathrm{j})$ would have to be introduced to distinguish between the numerical values of the strings "" (empty string) and " 0 " which are both evaluated as 0 in computer applications. In order to avoid this four formulas are used.

For $\mathrm{k}=1,2,6,7$ and 9 :

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{C}_{5+\mathrm{k}+9 \mathrm{j}}=\mathrm{E}(\mathrm{k})+\delta(\mathrm{j}) \cdot \mathrm{A} \cdot 10^{\mathrm{u}} \cdot \sum_{\mathrm{r}=0}^{\mathrm{j}-1} 10^{9 \mathrm{r}}+\mathrm{B}(\mathrm{k}) \cdot 10^{9 \mathrm{j}+\mathrm{u}} \tag{3}
\end{equation*}
$$

For $\mathrm{k}=3$ :

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{C}_{5+k+9 \mathrm{j}}=\delta(\mathrm{j}) \cdot \mathrm{A} \cdot \sum_{\mathrm{r}=0}^{\mathrm{j}-1} 10^{9 \mathrm{r}}+\mathrm{B}(\mathrm{k}) \cdot 10^{9 \mathrm{j}} \tag{4}
\end{equation*}
$$

For $\mathrm{k}=4$ :

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{C}_{5+k+9 \mathrm{j}}=\mathrm{A} \cdot \sum_{\mathrm{r}=0}^{\mathrm{j}} 10^{9 \mathrm{r}} \tag{5}
\end{equation*}
$$

For $\mathrm{k}=5$ and 8 :

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{C}_{5+\mathrm{k}+9 \mathrm{j}}=\mathrm{E}(\mathrm{k})+\mathrm{A} \cdot 10^{\mathrm{u}} \cdot \sum_{\mathrm{r}=0}^{\mathrm{j}} 10^{9 \mathrm{r}}+\mathrm{B}(\mathrm{k}) \cdot 10^{9(\mathrm{j}+1)+\mathrm{u}} \tag{6}
\end{equation*}
$$

Before dealing with the questions posed by Ashbacher we recall the familiar rules: An even number is divisible by 2 ; a number whose last two digit form a number which is divisible by 4 is divisible by 4 . In general we have the following:

Theorem. Let N be an $n$-digit integer such that $\mathrm{N}>2^{\alpha}$ then N is divisible by $2^{\alpha}$ if and only if the number formed by the $\alpha$ last digits of N is divisible by $2^{\alpha}$.

Proof. To begin with we note that
If x divides a and x divides b then x divides $(\mathrm{a}+\mathrm{b}$ )
If $x$ divides one but not the other of $a$ and $b$ then $x$ does not divide $(a+b)$
If x does not divides neither a nor b then x may or may not divide $(\mathrm{a}+\mathrm{b})$
Let's write the n -digit number in the form $\mathrm{a} \cdot 10^{\alpha}+\mathrm{b}$. We then see from the following that $\mathrm{a} \cdot 10^{\alpha}$ is divisible by $2^{\alpha}$.
$10 \equiv 0(\bmod 2)$
$100 \equiv 0(\bmod 4)$
$1000=2^{3} \cdot 5^{3} \equiv 0\left(\bmod 2^{3}\right)$
$\cdots$
$10^{\alpha} \equiv 0\left(\bmod 2^{\alpha}\right)$
and then
$\mathrm{a} \cdot 10^{\alpha} \equiv 0\left(\bmod 2^{\alpha}\right)$ independent of a .
Now let b be the number formed by the $\alpha$ last digits of N we then see from the introductory remark that N is divisibe by $2^{\alpha}$ if and only if the number formed by the $\alpha$ last digits is divisibele by $2^{\alpha}$.

Question 1. Does every even element of the Smarandache Deconstructive Sequence contain at least three instances of the prime 2 as a factor?

Question 2. If we form a sequence from the elements of the Smarandache Deconstructive Sequence that end in a 6, do the powers of 2 that divide them form a montonically increasing sequence?
These two questions are realated and are dealt with together. From the previous analysis we know that all even elements of the Smarandache Deconstructive Sequence end in a 6 . For $i \leq 5$ they are:
$\mathrm{C}_{3}=456=57 \cdot 2^{3}$
$\mathrm{C}_{5}=23456=733 \cdot 2^{5}$
For $\mathrm{i}>5$ they are of the forms:
$\mathrm{C}_{12+9 \mathrm{j}}$ and $\mathrm{C}_{14+9 \mathrm{j}}$ which both end in ... 789123456 .
Examining the numbers formed by the 6,7 and 8 last digits for divisibility by $2^{6}, 2^{7}$ and $2^{8}$ respectively we have:
$123456=2^{6} 3.343$
$9123456=2^{7} \cdot 149.4673$
89123456 is not divisible by $2^{8}$
From this we conclude that all even Smarandache Deconstructive Sequence elements for $\geq 12$ are divisible by $2^{7}$ and that no elements in the sequence are divisible by higher powers of 2 than 7 .

## Answer to Qn 1. Yes <br> Answer to Qn 2. The sequence is monotonically increasing for $i \leq 12$. For $i \geq 12$ the powers of 2 that divide even elements remain constant $=2^{7}$.

Question 3. Let $x$ be the largest integer such that $3^{x} \mid i$ and $y$ the largest integer such that $3^{y} \mid \mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{i}}$. Is it true that x is always equal to y ?

From table 3 we se that the only elements $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{i}}$ of the Smarandache Deconstructive Sequence which are divisible by powers of 3 correspond to $\mathrm{i}=6+9 \mathrm{j}, 9+9 \mathrm{j}$, or $12+9 \mathrm{j}$. Furthermore, we see that $\mathrm{i}=6+9 \mathrm{j}$ and $\mathrm{C}_{6+9 \mathrm{j}}$ are divisible by 3 no more no less. The same is true for $\mathrm{i}=12+9 \mathrm{j}$ and $\mathrm{C}_{12+9 \mathrm{j}}$. So the statement holds in these cases. From the conguences
$9+9=0\left(\bmod 3^{x}\right)$ for the index of the element
and
$45(1+\mathrm{j}) \equiv 0\left(\bmod 3^{y}\right)$ for the corresponding element
we conclude that $\mathrm{x}=\mathrm{y}$.
Answer: The statement is true. It is interesting to note that, for example the 729 digit number $\mathrm{C}_{729}$ is divisible by 729 .

Question 4. Are there other patterns of divisibility in this sequence?
A search for other patterns would continue by examining divisibility by the next lower primes $5,7,11, \ldots$ It is obvious from table 3 and the periodicity of the sequence that there are no elements divisible by 5 . The algorithms will prove very useful. For each value of k the value of $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{i}}$ depends on j only. The divisibility by a prime p is therefore determined by finding out for which values of j and k the congruence $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{i}} \equiv 0(\bmod \mathrm{p})$
holds. We evaluate $\sum_{\mathrm{r}=0}^{\mathrm{j}-1} 10^{9 \mathrm{r}}=\frac{10^{9 \mathrm{j}}-1}{10^{9}-1}$ and introduce $\mathrm{G}=10^{9}-1$. We note that $G=3^{4} \cdot 37 \cdot 333667$. From formulas (3) to (6) we now obtain:

For $\mathrm{k}=1,2,6,7$ and 9 :

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{i}} \cdot \mathrm{G}=10^{\mathrm{u}} \cdot(\delta(\mathrm{j}) \cdot \mathrm{A}+\mathrm{B}(\mathrm{k}) \cdot \mathrm{G}) \cdot 10^{9 \mathrm{j}}+\mathrm{E}(\mathrm{k}) \cdot \mathrm{G}-10^{\mathrm{u}} \cdot \delta(\mathrm{j}) \cdot \mathrm{A} \tag{3'}
\end{equation*}
$$

For $\mathrm{k}=3$ :

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{i}} \cdot \mathrm{G}=\left((\delta(\mathrm{j}) \cdot \mathrm{A}+\mathrm{B}(\mathrm{k}) \cdot \mathrm{G}) \cdot 10^{9 \mathrm{j}}-\delta(\mathrm{j}) \cdot \mathrm{A}\right. \tag{4'}
\end{equation*}
$$

For $\mathrm{k}=4$ :

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{i}} \cdot \mathrm{G}=\mathrm{A} \cdot 10^{9 \mathrm{j}}-\mathrm{A} \tag{5’}
\end{equation*}
$$

For $\mathrm{k}=5$ and 8 :

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{i}} \cdot \mathrm{G}=10^{u+9}(\mathrm{~A}+\mathrm{B}(\mathrm{k}) \cdot \mathrm{G}) \cdot 10^{9 j}+\mathrm{E}(\mathrm{k}) \cdot \mathrm{G}-10^{u} \cdot \mathrm{~A} \tag{6'}
\end{equation*}
$$

The divisibility of $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{i}}$ by a prime p other than 3,37 and 333667 is therefore determined by solutions for j to the congruences $\mathrm{CG} \mathrm{G}=0(\bmod \mathrm{p})$ which are of the form

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{a} \cdot\left(10^{9}\right)^{\mathrm{j}}+\mathrm{b} \equiv 0(\bmod \mathrm{p}) \tag{7}
\end{equation*}
$$

Table 4 shows the results from computer implementation of the congruences. The appearance of elements divisible by a prime $p$ is periodic, the periodicity is given by $j=j_{1}+m d, m=1,2,3, \ldots$. The first element divisible by $p$ appears for $i_{1}$ corresponding to $j_{1}$. In general the terms $C_{i}$ divisible by $p$ are $C_{5+\mathrm{k}+9\left(\mathrm{j}_{\mathrm{j}}+\mathrm{md}\right)}$ where d is specific to the prime $p$ and $m=1,2,3, \ldots$. We note from table 4 that $d$ is either equal to $p 1$ or a divisor of $\mathrm{p}-1$ except for the case $\mathrm{p}=37$ which as we have noted is a factor of A. Indeed this periodicity follows from Euler's extension of Fermat's little theorem because if we write $(\bmod p)$ :

$$
\mathrm{a} \cdot\left(10^{9}\right)^{\mathrm{j}}+\mathrm{b}=\mathrm{a} \cdot\left(10^{9}\right)_{1}^{\mathrm{j}}+\mathrm{md}+\mathrm{b} \equiv \mathrm{a} \cdot\left(10^{9}\right)^{\mathrm{j}}{ }_{1}+\mathrm{b} \text { for } \mathrm{d}=\mathrm{p}-1 \text { or a divisor of } \mathrm{p}-1 .
$$

Finally we note that the periodicity for $\mathrm{p}=37$ is $\mathrm{d}=37$.
Question: Table 4 indicates some interesting patterns. For instance, the primes 19, 43 and 53 only divides elements corresponding to $\mathrm{k}=1,4$ or 7 for $\mathrm{j}<150$ which was set as an upper limit for this study. Similarly, the primes 41, 73, 79 and 91 only divides elements corresponding to $\mathrm{k}=4$. Is 5 the only prime that cannot divide an element of the Smarandache Deconstructive Sequence?

Table 4.Smarandache Deconstructive Sequence elements divisible by p:

| p | k | $\mathrm{i}_{1}$ | ${ }^{1} 1$ | d | p | k | $\mathrm{i}_{1}$ | $j_{1}$ | d |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 7 | 4 | 18 | 1 | 2 | 47 | 1 | 150 | 16 | 46 |
| 11 | 4 | 18 | 1 | 2 | 47 | 2 | 250 | 27 | 46 |
| 13 | 4 | 18 | 1 | 2 | 47 | 3 | 368 | 40 | 46 |
| 13 | 8 | 22 | 1 | 2 | 47 | 4 | 414 | 45 | 46 |
| 13 | 9 | 14 | 0 | 2 | 47 | 5 | 46 | 4 | 46 |
| 17 | 1 | 6 | 0 | 16 | 47 | 6 | 164 | 17 | 46 |
| 17 | 2 | 43 | 4 | 16 | 47 | 7 | 264 | 28 | 46 |
| 17 | 3 | 44 | 4 | 16 | 47 | 8 | 400 | 43 | 46 |
| 17 | 4 | 144 | 15 | 16 | 47 | 9 | 14 | 0 | 46 |
| 17 | 5 | 100 | 10 | 16 | 53 | 1 | 24 | 2 | 13 |
| 17 | 6 | 101 | 10 | 16 | 53 | 4 | 117 | 12 | 13 |
| 17 | 7 | 138 | 14 | 16 | 53 | 7 | 93 | 9 | 13 |
| 17 | 8 | 49 | 4 | 16 | 59 | 1 | 267 | 29 | 58 |
| 17 | 9 | 95 | 9 | 16 | 59 | 3 | 413 | 45 | 58 |
| 19 | 1 | 15 | 1 | 2 | 59 | 5 | 109 | 11 | 58 |
| 19 | 4 | 18 | 1 | 2 | 59 | 6 | 11 | 0 | 58 |
| 19 | 7 | 21 | 1 | 2 | 59 | 7 | 255 | 27 | 58 |
| 23 | 1 | 186 | 20 | 22 | 59 | 8 | 256 | 27 | 58 |
| 23 | 2 | 196 | 21 | 22 | 59 | 9 | 266 | 28 | 58 |
| 23 | 3 | 80 | 8 | 22 | 61 | 2 | 79 | 8 | 20 |
| 23 | 4 | 198 | 21 | 22 | 61 | 4 | 180 | 19 | 20 |
| 23 | 5 | 118 | 12 | 22 | 61 | 6 | 101 | 10 | 20 |
| 23 | 6 | 200 | 21 | 22 | 67 | 4 | 99 | 10 | 11 |
| 23 | 7 | 12 | 0 | 22 | 67 | 8 | 67 | 6 | 11 |
| 23 | 8 | 184 | 19 | 22 | 67 | 9 | 32 | 2 | 11 |
| 23 | 9 | 14 | 0 | 22 | 71 | 1 | 114 | 12 | 35 |
| 29 | 1 | 24 | 2 | 28 | 71 | 3 | 53 | 5 | 35 |
| 29 | 2 | 115 | 12 | 28 | 71 | 4 | 315 | 34 | 35 |
| 29 | 3 | 197 | 21 | 28 | 71 | 5 | 262 | 28 | 35 |
| 29 | 4 | 252 | 27 | 28 | 71 | 7 | 201 | 21 | 35 |
| 29 | 5 | 55 | 5 | 28 | 73 | 4 | 72 | 7 | 8 |
| 29 | 6 | 137 | 14 | 28 | 79 | 4 | 117 | 12 | 13 |
| 29 | 7 | 228 | 24 | 28 | 83 | 1 | 348 | 38 | 41 |
| 29 | 8 | 139 | 14 | 28 | 83 | 2 | 133 | 14 | 41 |
| 29 | 9 | 113 | 11 | 28 | 83 | 4 | 369 | 40 | 41 |
| 31 | 3 | 26 | 2 | 5 | 83 | 6 | 236 | 25 | 41 |
| 31 | 4 | 45 | 4 | 5 | 83 | 7 | 21 | 1 | 41 |
| 31 | 5 | 19 | 1 | 5 | 83 | 8 | 112 | 11 | 41 |
| 37 | 1 | 222 | 24 | 37 | 83 | 9 | 257 | 27 | 41 |
| 37 | 2 | 124 | 13 | 37 | 89 | 2 | 97 | 10 | 44 |
| 37 | 3 | 98 | 10 | 37 | 89 | 4 | 396 | 43 | 44 |
| 37 | 4 | 333 | 36 | 37 | 89 | 6 | 299 | 32 | 44 |
| 37 | 5 | 235 | 25 | 37 | 97 | 1 | 87 | 9 | 32 |
| 37 | 6 | 209 | 22 | 37 | 97 | 2 | 115 | 12 | 32 |
| 37 | 7 | 111 | 11 | 37 | 97 | 3 | 107 | 11 | 32 |
| 37 | 8 | 13 | 0 | 37 | 97 | 4 | 288 | 31 | 32 |
| 37 | 9 | 320 | 34 | 37 | 97 | 5 | 181 | 19 | 32 |
| 41 | 4 | 45 | 4 | 5 | 97 | 6 | 173 | 18 | 32 |
| 43 | 1 | 33 | 3 | 7 | 97 | 7 | 201 | 21 | 32 |
| 43 | 4 | 63 | 6 | 7 | 97 | 8 | 202 | 21 | 32 |
| 43 | 7 | 30 | 2 | 7 | 97 | 9 | 86 | 8 | 32 |

## 3. $A$ Deconstructive Sequence generated by the cycle $\mathbf{A}=\mathbf{0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9}$.

Instead of sequentially repeating the digits 1-9 as in the case of the Smarandache Deconstructive Sequence we will use the digits 09 to form the corresponding sequence:

0,12,345,6789,01234,567890,1234567,89012345,678901234, 5678901234, 56789012345,678901234567, ...

In this case the cycle has $n=10$ elements. As we have seen in the introduction the sequence then has a period $=2 n=20$. The periodicity starts for $\mathrm{i}=8$. Table 5 shows how for $\mathrm{i}>7$ any term $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{i}}$ in the sequence is composed by concatenating a first part $\mathrm{B}(\mathrm{k})$, a number q of cycles $\mathrm{A}=$ " 0123456789 " and a last part $\mathrm{E}(\mathrm{k})$, where $\mathrm{i}=7+\mathrm{k}+20 \mathrm{j}$, $k=1,2, \ldots 20, \mathfrak{\gtrless}$, as expressed in (2) and $q=2 j, 2 j+1$ or $2 j+2$. In the analysis of the sequence it is important to distinguish between the cases where $\mathrm{E}(\mathrm{k})=0, \mathrm{k}=6,11,14,19$ and cases where $\mathrm{E}(\mathrm{k})$ does not exist, i.e. $\mathrm{k}=8,12,13,14$. In order to cope with this problem we introduce a function $u(k)$ which will at the same time replace the functions $\delta(\mathrm{j})$ and $\mathrm{u}=1+\left[\log _{10} \mathrm{E}(\mathrm{k})\right]$ used previously. $\mathrm{u}(\mathrm{k})$ is defined as shown in table 5. It is now possible to express $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{i}}$ in a single formula

$$
\begin{equation*}
C_{i}=C_{7+k+20 \mathrm{j}}=E(k)+\left(A \cdot \sum_{r=0}^{q(k)+2 j-1}\left(10^{10}\right)^{r}+B(k) \cdot\left(10^{10}\right)^{q(k)+2 j}\right) \cdot 10^{u(k)} \tag{8}
\end{equation*}
$$

The formula for $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{i}}$ was implemented modulus prime numbers less then 100 . The result is shown in table 6 . Again we note that the divisibility by a prime $p$ is periodic with a period $d$ which is equal to $p-1$ or a divisor of $p-1$, except of $p=11$ and $p=41$ which are factors of $10^{10}-1$. The cases $\mathrm{p}=3$ and 5 have very simple answers and are not included in table 6.

Table 5. n=10, A=0123456789

| i | k | $\mathrm{B}(\mathrm{k})$ | q | $\mathrm{E}(\mathrm{k})$ | $\mathrm{u}(\mathrm{k})$ |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :---: | :--- | :---: |
| $8+20 \mathrm{j}$ | 1 | 89 | 2 j | $012345=3 \cdot 5 \cdot 823$ | 6 |
| $9+20 \mathrm{j}$ | 2 | $6789=3 \cdot 31 \cdot 73$ | 2 j | $01234=2 \cdot 617$ | 5 |
| $10+20 \mathrm{j}$ | 3 | $56789=109 \cdot 521$ | 2 j | $01234=2 \cdot 617$ | 5 |
| $11+20 \mathrm{j}$ | 4 | $56789=109 \cdot 521$ | 2 j | $012345=3 \cdot 5 \cdot 823$ | 6 |
| $12+20 \mathrm{j}$ | 5 | $6789=3 \cdot 31 \cdot 73$ | 2 j | $01234567=127 \cdot 9721$ | 8 |
| $13+20 \mathrm{j}$ | 6 | 89 | $2 \mathrm{j}+1$ | 0 | 1 |
| $14+20 \mathrm{j}$ | 7 | $123456789=3^{2} \cdot 3607 \cdot 3803$ | 2 j | $01234=2 \cdot 617$ | 5 |
| $15+20 \mathrm{j}$ | 8 | $56789=109 \cdot 521$ | $2 \mathrm{j}+1$ |  | 0 |
| $16+20 \mathrm{j}$ | 9 |  | $2 \mathrm{j}+1$ | $012345=3 \cdot 5 \cdot 823$ | 6 |
| $17+20 \mathrm{j}$ | 10 | $6789=3 \cdot 31 \cdot 73$ | $2 \mathrm{j}+1$ | $012=2^{2} \cdot 3$ | 3 |
| $18+20 \mathrm{j}$ | 11 | $3456789=3 \cdot 7 \cdot 97 \cdot 1697$ | $2 j+1$ | 0 | 1 |
| $19+20 \mathrm{j}$ | 12 | $123456789=3^{2} \cdot 3607 \cdot 3803$ | $2 \mathrm{j}+1$ |  | 0 |
| $20+20 \mathrm{j}$ | 13 |  | $2 \mathrm{j}+2$ |  | 0 |
| $21+20 \mathrm{j}$ | 14 |  | $2 \mathrm{j}+2$ | 0 | 1 |
| $22+20 \mathrm{j}$ | 15 | $123456789=3^{2} \cdot 3607 \cdot 3803$ | $2 \mathrm{j}+1$ | $012=2^{2} \cdot 3$ | 3 |
| $23+20 \mathrm{j}$ | 16 | $3456789=3 \cdot 7 \cdot 97 \cdot 1697$ | $2 \mathrm{j}+1$ | $012345=3 \cdot 5 \cdot 823$ | 6 |
| $24+20 \mathrm{j}$ | 17 | $6789=3 \cdot 31 \cdot 73$ | $2 \mathrm{j}+2$ |  | 0 |
| $25+20 \mathrm{j}$ | 18 |  | $2 \mathrm{j}+2$ | $01234=2 \cdot 617$ | 5 |
| $26+20 \mathrm{j}$ | 19 | $56789=109 \cdot 521$ | $2 \mathrm{j}+2$ | 0 | 1 |
| $27+20 \mathrm{j}$ | 20 | $123456789=3^{2} \cdot 3607 \cdot 3803$ | $2 \mathrm{j}+1$ | $01234567=127 \cdot 9721$ | 8 |

Table 6a. Divisibility of the 10 cycle destructive sequence by primes $7 \leq p \leq 37$

| p | k | $\mathrm{i}_{1}$ | $\mathrm{j}_{1}$ | d | p | k | $\mathrm{i}_{1}$ | $\mathrm{j}_{1}$ | d |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 7 | 3 | 30 | 1 | 3 | 19 | 1 | 128 | 6 | 9 |
| 7 | 6 | 13 | 0 | 3 | 19 | 2 | 149 | 7 | 9 |
| 7 | 7 | 14 | 0 | 3 | 19 | 3 | 90 | 4 | 9 |
| 7 | 8 | 15 | 0 | 3 | 19 | 4 | 31 | 1 | 9 |
| 7 | 11 | 38 | 1 | 3 | 19 | 5 | 52 | 2 | 9 |
| 7 | 12 | 59 | 2 | 3 | 19 | 10 | 117 | 5 | 9 |
| 7 | 13 | 60 | 2 | 3 | 19 | 12 | 179 | 8 | 9 |
| 7 | 14 | 61 | 2 | 3 | 19 | 13 | 180 | 8 | 9 |
| 7 | 15 | 22 | 0 | 3 | 19 | 14 | 181 | 8 | 9 |
| 7 | 18 | 45 | 1 | 3 | 19 | 16 | 63 | 2 | 9 |
| 7 | 19 | 46 | 1 | 3 | 23 | 1 | 168 | 8 | 11 |
| 7 | 20 | 47 |  | 3 | 23 | 2 | 149 | 7 | 11 |
| 11 | 1 | 88 | 4 | 11 | 23 | 3 | 110 | 5 | 11 |
| 11 | 2 | 9 | 0 | 11 | 23 | 4 | 71 | 3 | 11 |
| 11 | 3 | 110 | 5 | 11 | 23 | 5 | 52 | 2 | 11 |
| 11 | 4 | 211 | 10 | 11 | 23 | 10 | 217 | 10 | 11 |
| 11 | 5 | 132 | 6 | 11 | 23 | 12 | 219 | 10 | 11 |
| 11 | 6 | 133 | 6 | 11 | 23 | 13 | 220 | 10 | 11 |
| 11 | 7 | 74 | 3 | 11 | 23 | 14 | 221 | 10 | 11 |
| 11 | 8 | 35 | 1 | 11 | 23 | 16 | 223 | 10 | 11 |
| 11 | 9 | 176 | 8 | 11 | 29 | 2 | 129 | 6 | 7 |
| 11 | 10 | 137 | 6 | 11 | 29 | 4 | 11 | 0 | 7 |
| 11 | 11 | 18 | 0 | 11 | 29 | 10 | 97 | 4 | 7 |
| 11 | 12 | 219 | 10 | 11 | 29 | 12 | 139 | 6 | 7 |
| 11 | 13 | 220 | 10 | 11 | 29 | 13 | 140 | 6 | 7 |
| 11 | 14 | 221 | 10 | 11 | 29 | 14 | 141 | 6 | 7 |
| 11 | 15 | 202 | 9 | 11 | 29 | 16 | 43 | 1 | 7 |
| 11 | 16 | 83 | 3 | 11 | 31 | 3 | 30 | 1 | 3 |
| 11 | 17 | 44 | 1 | 11 | 31 | 9 | 56 | 2 | 3 |
| 11 | 18 | 185 | 8 | 11 | 31 | 12 | 59 | 2 | 3 |
| 11 | 19 | 146 | 6 | 11 | 31 | 13 | 60 | 2 | 3 |
| 11 | 20 | 87 | 3 | 11 | 31 | 14 | 61 | 2 | 3 |
| 13 | 2 | 49 | 2 | 3 | 31 | 17 | 64 | 2 | 3 |
| 13 | 3 | 30 | 1 | 3 | 37 | 2 | 9 | 0 | 3 |
| 13 | 4 | 11 | 0 | 3 | 37 | 3 | 30 | 1 | 3 |
| 13 | 12 | 59 | 2 | 3 | 37 | 4 | 51 | 2 | 3 |
| 13 | 13 | 60 | 2 | 3 | 37 | 12 | 59 | 2 | 3 |
| 13 | 14 | 61 | 2 | 3 | 37 | 13 | 60 | 2 | 3 |
| 17 |  | 48 | 2 | 4 | 37 | 14 | 61 | 2 | 3 |
| 17 | 5 | 32 | 1 | 4 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 17 | 10 | 37 | 1 | 4 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 17 | 12 | 79 | 3 | 4 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 17 | 13 | 80 | 3 | 4 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 17 | 14 | 81 | 3 | 4 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 17 | 16 | 43 | 1 | 4 |  |  |  |  |  |

Table 6b. Divisibility of the 10 -cycle destructive sequence by primes $41 \leq p \leq 67$

| p | k | $\mathrm{i}_{1}$ | $\mathrm{j}_{1}$ | d | p | k | $\mathrm{i}_{1}$ | $\mathrm{j}_{1}$ | d |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 41 | 1 | 788 | 39 | 41 | 53 | 3 | 130 | 6 | 13 |
| 41 | 2 | 589 | 29 | 41 | 53 | 12 | 259 | 12 | 13 |
| 41 | 3 | 410 | 20 | 41 | 53 | 13 | 260 | 12 | 13 |
| 41 | 4 | 231 | 11 | 41 | 53 | 14 | 261 | 12 | 13 |
| 41 | 5 | 32 | 1 | 41 | 59 | 2 | 269 | 13 | 29 |
| 41 | 6 | 353 | 17 | 41 | 59 | 3 | 290 | 14 | 29 |
| 41 | 7 | 614 | 30 | 41 | 59 | 4 | 311 | 15 | 29 |
| 41 | 8 | 615 | 30 | 41 | 59 | 7 | 474 | 23 | 29 |
| 41 | 9 | 436 | 21 | 41 | 59 | 8 | 395 | 19 | 29 |
| 41 | 10 | 117 | 5 | 41 | 59 | 9 | 496 | 24 | 29 |
| 41 | 11 | 678 | 33 | 41 | 59 | 10 | 297 | 14 | 29 |
| 41 | 12 | 819 | 40 | 41 | 59 | 11 | 78 | 3 | 29 |
| 41 | 13 | 820 | 40 | 41 | 59 | 12 | 579 | 28 | 29 |
| 41 | 14 | 821 | 40 | 41 | 59 | 13 | 580 | 28 | 29 |
| 41 | 15 | 142 | 6 | 41 | 59 | 14 | 581 | 28 | 29 |
| 41 | 16 | 703 | 34 | 41 | 59 | 15 | 502 | 24 | 29 |
| 41 | 17 | 384 | 18 | 41 | 59 | 16 | 283 | 13 | 29 |
| 41 | 18 | 205 | 9 | 41 | 59 | 17 | 84 | 3 | 29 |
| 41 | 19 | 206 | 9 | 41 | 59 | 18 | 185 | 8 | 29 |
| 41 | 20 | 467 | 22 | 41 | 59 | 19 | 106 | 4 | 29 |
| 43 | 2 | 109 | 5 | 21 | 61 | 12 | 59 | 2 | 3 |
| 43 | 3 | 210 | 10 | 21 | 61 | 13 | 60 | 2 | 3 |
| 43 | 4 | 311 | 15 | 21 | 61 | 14 | 61 | 2 | 3 |
| 43 | 6 | 173 | 8 | 21 | 67 | 1 | 328 | 16 | 33 |
| 43 | 10 | 217 | 10 | 21 | 67 | 2 | 509 | 25 | 33 |
| 43 | 12 | 419 | 20 | 21 | 67 | 3 | 330 | 16 | 33 |
| 43 | 13 | 420 | 20 | 21 | 67 | 4 | 151 | 7 | 33 |
| 43 | 14 | 421 | 20 | 21 | 67 | 5 | 332 | 16 | 33 |
| 43 | 16 | 203 | 9 | 21 | 67 | 6 | 273 | 13 | 33 |
| 43 | 20 | 247 | 11 | 21 | 67 | 7 | 234 | 11 | 33 |
| 47 | 1 | 28 | 1 | 23 | 67 | 8 | 95 | 4 | 33 |
| 47 | 2 | 69 | 3 | 23 | 67 | 9 | 56 | 2 | 33 |
| 47 | 3 | 230 | 11 | 23 | 67 | 10 | 557 | 27 | 33 |
| 47 | 4 | 391 | 19 | 23 | 67 | 11 | 378 | 18 | 33 |
| 47 | 5 | 432 | 21 | 23 | 67 | 12 | 659 | 32 | 33 |
| 47 | 6 | 113 | 5 | 23 | 67 | 13 | 660 | 32 | 33 |
| 47 | 7 | 214 | 10 | 23 | 67 | 14 | 661 | 32 | 33 |
| 47 | 8 | 15 | 0 | 23 | 67 | 15 | 282 | 13 | 33 |
| 47 | 9 | 376 | 18 | 23 | 67 | 16 | 103 | 4 | 33 |
| 47 | 12 | 459 | 22 | 23 | 67 | 17 | 604 | 29 | 33 |
| 47 | 13 | 460 | 22 | 23 | 67 | 18 | 565 | 27 | 33 |
| 47 | 14 | 461 | 22 | 23 | 67 | 19 | 426 | 20 | 33 |
| 47 | 17 | 84 | 3 | 23 | 67 | 20 | 387 | 18 | 33 |
| 47 | 18 | 445 | 21 | 23 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 47 | 19 | 246 | 11 | 23 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 47 | 20 | 347 | 16 | 23 |  |  |  |  |  |

Table 6c. Divisibility of the 10 -cycle destructive sequence by primes $71 \leq p \leq 97$


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