

PROOF OF COLLATZ CONJECTURE.

Niceto Valcárcel Yeste. Graduate in C.C. Physical.

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1 Introduction.

The Collatz Conjecture states that, given any natural number n , we will always reach the number 1 by applying the following function f to n as many times as necessary- If $f(n)$ is even, divide n by 2, and if $f(n)$ is odd, multiply n by 3 and add 1.

The method used is to have found a counterexample, it is, a value for which the Conjecture does not hold.

2 Demonstration.

Let the number $2^n - 1$ where n is a natural number, and $2^n - 1$ is an odd natural number.

Then:

$$3(2^n - 1) + 1 = 3(2^n) - 2, \text{ a number divisible by 2.}$$

Dividing by 2 we obtain the number:

$$3(2^{n-1}) - 1, \text{ which is an odd number.}$$

Then:

$$3(3 \cdot 2^{n-1} - 1) + 1 = 3^2 2^{n-1} - 2, \text{ a number divisible by 2.}$$

Dividing by 2 we obtain the number:

$$3^2(2^{n-2}) - 1, \text{ which is an odd number.}$$

Performing this operation n times we obtain the even number:

$$3^n - 1.$$

On the other hand, making

$$n = 2t - 1 \text{ we obtain:}$$

$$3(2t - 1) + 1 = 6t - 2 = 2(3t - 1)$$

$$\text{Let } t = 3^4$$

$$2(3^5 - 1) = 484$$

$$\frac{484}{2} = 242. \implies \frac{242}{2} = 121$$

$$2(3 \cdot 121 - 1) = 724 \implies \frac{724}{2^2} = 181$$

$$2(3 \cdot 181 - 1) = 1084 \implies \frac{1084}{2^2} = 271$$

$$2(3 \cdot 271 - 1) = 1624 \implies \frac{1624}{2^3} = 203.$$

$$2(3 \cdot 203 - 1) = 608 \implies \frac{608}{2^5} = 19.$$

$$2(3 \cdot 19 - 1) = 112 \implies \frac{112}{2^4} = 7$$

$$2(3x7 - 1) = 40 \Rightarrow \frac{40}{2^3} = 5$$

$$2(3x5 - 1) = 28 \Rightarrow \frac{28}{2} = 7$$

$$2(3x7 - 1) = 20 \Rightarrow \frac{20}{2^2} = 5$$

The orbit is periodic.

3 My e-mail.

nicetovalcarcel@gmail.com