

Everything you need under one cover

ON
SALE
NOW!
See
page
120



Personal Computer World

June 1996 £2.95

Overseas Price £3.95
Germany DM 20.00 Italy 16,000 Lire
Spain 1,226 Ptas Malta Lm 2,850
Netherlands Hfl 17.95 Belgium 364.00 Bfr
Finland Fim 49.50 Canada Cdn\$12.95

VNU Business Publications

<http://www.vnu.co.uk/hc/pcw>

Windows Accelerators
15 GRAPHICS CARDS

TOP 50 Utilities



**Fast
workers**

4 Pentium 166s

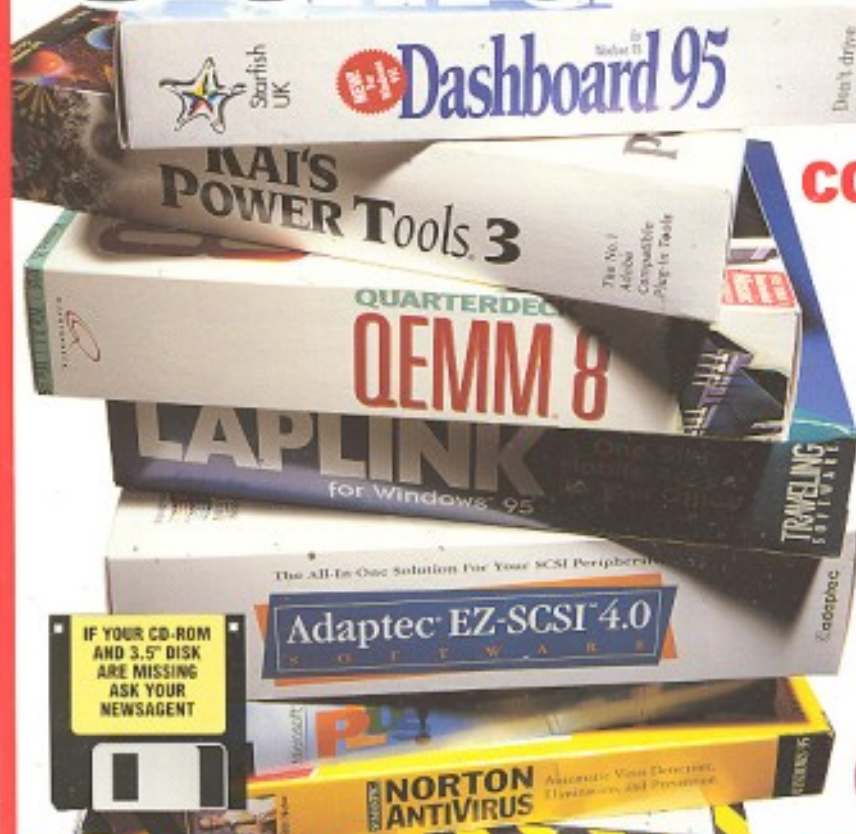
**Super
communicator**



Nokia 9000

fax - web - phone
and organiser in one

Battle of the browsers
Explorer 3 v Netscape 3



DOUBLE DISK PACK

PRAIRIE DOG HUNT PRO
12 of our top utilities



PERSONAL COMPUTER WORLD

JUNE 1996

HANDS ON • NUMBERS COUNT

Sequence of events

Descriptive Number Sequences,
presented by Mike Mudgec

HIS APPARENTLY NEW AND
certainly fascinating topic has been
suggested by Jonathan Ayres of Leeds.
The sequences are denoted by $dsn(m)$
where n is the index of the sequence and
 m is the original number. There is a
simplified version of the
GLEICHNISZHLEN-RIEHE sequence
with the property that the next number in
the sequence describes the number of
each digit in the previous number.

So, taking the case of $ds(0)$ in Fig 1.

This leads to my first question:

(1) Is this an exhaustive list of self-
descriptive numbers?

Sequences which do not lead to self-descriptive numbers instead lead to amicable descriptive sequences. For example, in the case of $ds(4)$, see Fig 2.

$ds_{10}(40) = ds_{12}(40)$, so this sequence has entered into a recurring sequence of numbers with a period of 2, because $ds_n(40) = ds_{n+2}(40)$, $n \geq 10$.

104122232415 and 103142132415

Fig 1

Gleichniszhlen-Riehe sequence for $ds(0)$

$ds^0 = 10$ (1 zero in previous number, 1 is the digit

number and 0 is the occurrence number)

$ds_2(0) = 1011$ (1 zero and 1 one in previous number)

$ds_3(0) = 1031$ (1 zero and 3 ones in previous number)

$ds_4(0) = 102113$ (NB. Because there are no twos in previous number the 0

twos are not listed, so $ds_4(0) = 102113$ instead of 10210213.

(I will deal with this case later.)

$$ds5(0) = 10311213$$

$$ds6(0) = 10411223$$

$$ds7(0) = 1031221314$$

$$ds8(0) = 1041222314$$

$$ds9(0) = 1031321324$$

$$ds10(0) = 1031223314$$

$$ds_{\infty}(0) = 1031223314, \text{ and so on}$$

After $ds_1(0)$ all further numbers in the sequence are equal to 1031223314. This is a self-descriptive number, i.e. it describes itself. For example, 1031223314 is composed of 1 zero, 3 ones, 2 twos, 3 threes and 1 four = 1031223314.

Fig 2

Amicable descriptive sequences for $ds(40)$

$$ds1(40) = 1014$$

$$ds2(40) = 103114$$

$$ds3(40) = 10311214$$

$$ds4(40) = 1041121314$$

$$ds5(40) = 1051121324$$

$$ds6(40) = 104122131415$$

$$ds7(40) = 105122132415$$

$$ds8(40) = 104132131425$$

$$ds9(40) = 104122232415$$

$$ds10(40) = 103142132415$$

$$ds11(40) = 104122232415$$

$$ds12(40) = 103142132415, \text{ and so on}$$

From my investigations the self-

descriptive numbers are:

are known as an amicable descriptive pair
of numbers, because

22

10311233

21322314, 21322315, 21322316,
21322317, 21322318, 21322319
31123314, 31123315, 31123316,
31123317, 31123318, 31123319 *
1031223314, 1031223315, 1031223316,
1031223317, 1031223318, 1031223319
3122331415, 3122331416, 3122331417,
3122331418, 3122331419 *

The asterisked lines are related
families because the final \ln is not
important as n is not involved with the
rest of the number.

$ds1(104122232415) = 103142132415$

and $ds1(103142132415) = 104122232415$

There are also amicable descriptive

triplets such as

10414213142516 - 10512213341516 -
10412223142516

which have a period of 3. The amicable
descriptive sequences are shown in Fig 3.

From this I define $ds(x)$ to be the
lowest recurring value of $dsn(x)$, so that
 $ds(x)$ is either a self-descriptive number
or $ds(x)$ is the lowest member of an
amicable sequence, i.e. $ds(0) =$
1031223314.

Fig 3

Amicable descriptive sequences for triplets

Period 2

103142132415 - 104122232415
314213241516 - 412223241516,
314213241517 - 412223241517,
314213241518 - 412223241518,
314213241519 - 412223241519

41421314251617 - 51221334151617,
41421314251618 - 51221334151618,
41421314251619 - 51221334151619

1051421314152617 - 1061221324251617,
1051421314152618 - 1061221324251618,
1051421314152619 - 1061221324251619

5142131415261718 - 6122132425161718,
5142131415261719 - 6122132425161719
106142131415162718 -
107122132415261718,
106142131415162719 -
107122132415261719,
614213141516271819 -
712213241526171819,
10714213141516172819 -
10812213241516271819

Period 3

10414213142516
10512223142516
10414213142517
10512223142517
10414213142518
10512223142518
10414213142519
10512223142519

41421314251617

51222314251617

41421314251618

51222314251619

41421314251619

51222314251619

10512213341516 -

10512213341517 -

10512213341518 -

10512213341519 -

51221334151617 -

51221334151618 -

51221334151619 -

(2) Is this a complete list of the
amicable descriptive sequences?

(3) Are there any of higher period?

Any investigations of these three
questions may be sent to Mike Mudge,
22 Gors Fach, Pwll-Trap, St. Clears,
Carmarthenshire SA334 AQ, tel 01994
231 1 21, to arrive by 1 st September 1996.
All material received will be judged using
suitable subjective criteria and a prize will
be awarded to the "best" response
arriving by the closing date. ml