

How to proof the Collatz conjecture - an approach by reversing the sequences

Explanation for up and down and 4 rules for reversing Collatz sequences

The behaviour of up and down of a Collatz sequence can be explained by using the binary system and $n+(n+1)/2$ instead of $(3n+1)/2$

Example 255 (with mod 4 = 3):

$$\begin{array}{r} n = 11111111 \text{ (255) mod } 4 = 3 \\ + (n+1)/2 = 1000000 \text{ (128) number to add} \\ \hline \text{Result} = 10111111 \text{ (383) mod } 4 = 3 \end{array}$$

Example 27 (mod 4 = 3):

$$\begin{array}{r} n = 11011 \text{ (27) mod } 4 = 3 \\ + (n+1)/2 = 1110 \text{ (14) number to add} \\ \hline \text{Result} = 101001 \text{ (41) mod } 4 = 1 \end{array}$$

Next iteration (with 41 mod 4 = 1):

$$\begin{array}{r} n = 101001 \text{ (41) mod } 4 = 1 \\ + (n+1)/2 = 10101 \text{ (21) number to add} \\ \hline \text{Result} = 111110 \text{ (62) mod } 4 = 2 \rightarrow \text{halving: } 11111 \text{ (31) mod } 4 = 3 \end{array}$$

We can say:

- $n \bmod 4 = 3$ let the net result (the number divided by 2 until it is odd) grow, until the iteration reach a number with mod 4 = 3
- $n \bmod 4 = 1$ let the net result (the number divided by 2 until it is odd) shrink, until the iteration reach a number with mod 4 = 3 (or the number is 1)

Additionally, there are 4 rules for reversing the Collatz sequences:

1. Any number n , which leads with the Collatz-rules to the end loop 4-2-1, multiplied by 2^x (x from 1 to ∞), will also lead to 4-2-1; the result will be even and you can either repeat this instruction or, if the result's mod 6 = 4, you can subtract 1 and divide its result by 3 for a new number (which will be odd, thus, this instruction or instruction 2 can be applied, or depending on the result's mod 3, instruction 3 or 4)
2. Any odd number n , which leads with the Collatz-rules to the end loop 4-2-1, multiplied by 4 and then added 1, will also lead to 4-2-1; and because the result is again an odd number, this instruction or instruction 1 can be applied, or depending on the result's mod 3, instruction 3 or 4
3. Any odd number n with $n \bmod 3 = 2$, which leads with the Collatz-rules to the end loop 4-2-1, subtracted $(n+1)/3$, will also lead to 4-2-1; and because the result is again an odd number, instruction 1 or 2 can be applied or, depending on the result's mod 3, this instruction or instruction 4
4. Any odd number n with $n \bmod 3 = 1$, which leads with the Collatz-rules to the end loop 4-2-1, added $(n-1)/3$, will also lead to 4-2-1; and because the result is again an odd number, instruction 1 or 2 can be applied or, depending on the result's mod 3, this instruction or instruction 3

Source: [How to proof the Collatz conjecture - an approach by reversing the sequences](#)

