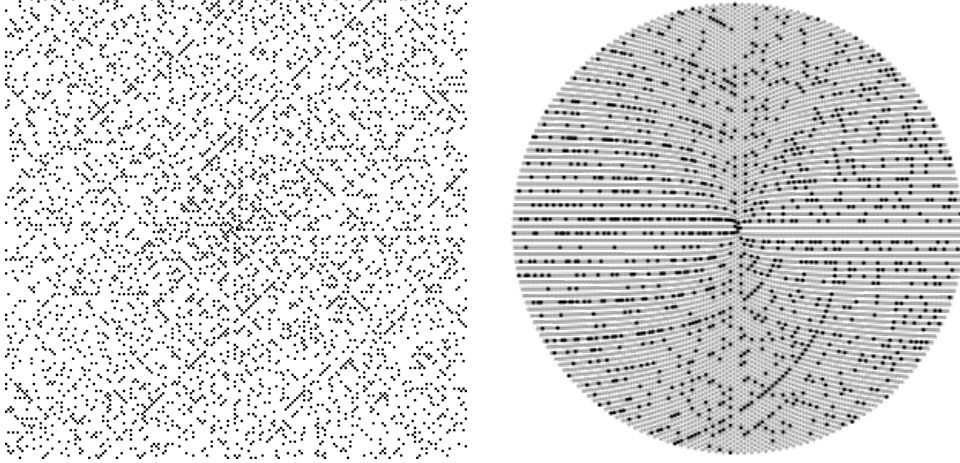


Some motivational problems in number theory

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For each problem, indicate whether you think the answer is YES or NO. Then indicate how hard you think it is: (E)asy, (M)edium, (H)ard, (U)nsolved.

- 0.1. Are there infinitely many primes?
- 0.2. Is there a closed formula for the n -th prime? Let's say a function of n a calculus student could read.
- 0.3. Is there a (possibly multivariate) polynomial that gives only primes when evaluated on all integer inputs?
- 0.4. Are there infinitely many primes of the form $4n + 1$?
- 0.5. If you know the n th prime ends in a particular digit, is the final digit for the $(n + 1)$ -st prime equally likely to be any of the four possibilities 1, 3, 7, 9?
- 0.6. Are there infinitely many primes of the form $n^2 + 1$?
- 0.7. Are there infinitely many primes p for which $p + 2$ is prime?
- 0.8. Up to N , are there always more natural numbers with an odd number of prime factors than with an even number of prime factors?
- 0.9. Does $x^2 - 1141y^2 = 1$ have any solutions? Note: if you ask the computer to check up to 25 digits, it will find none.
- 0.10. Does $x^3 - y^2 = 1$ have any integer solutions besides $(1, 0)$?
- 0.11. Does $x^n + y^n = z^n$ have any integer solutions for integers $n > 2$?
- 0.12. Is there an algorithm to determine if a given polynomial equation in any number of variables has an integer solution?
- 0.13. Are there any quadratic forms with integer coefficients which represent all positive integers?
- 0.14. Does there exist a deterministic polynomial-time algorithm (in the number of digits) to determine if n is prime?
- 0.15. Can we factor numbers in deterministic polynomial time?
- 0.16. For any irrational number α , are there infinitely many rational numbers p/q such that $|\alpha - p/q| < 1/q^2$?
- 0.17. Given n , if it is even, divide by 2 and if it is odd, return $3n + 1$; if we iterate this rule, must we eventually reach the loop $1 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 1$?
- 0.18. Given a real number $\alpha > 0$, if it is > 1 , then subtract 1 and if it is < 1 , then invert it; if we iterate this rule, must we eventually reach a loop?



Images from Wikipedia.

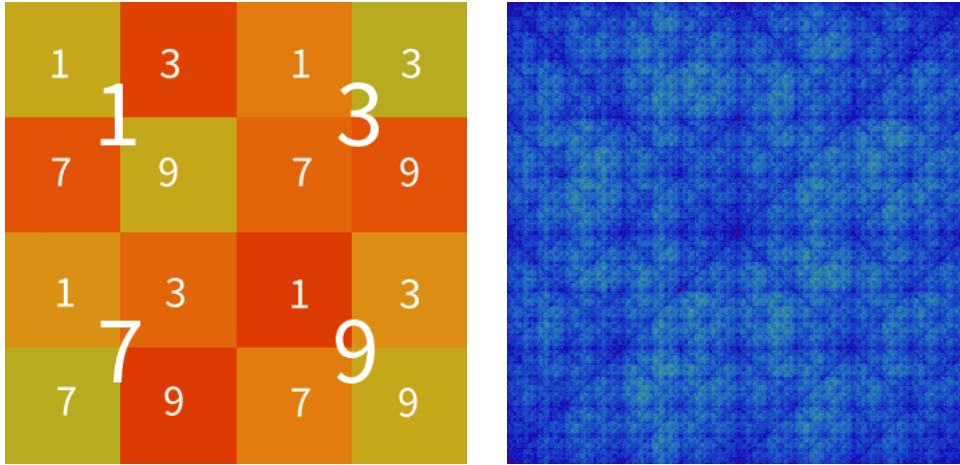


Image from matthen.com.

$$\begin{aligned}
 & (k+2)(1 - [wz + h + j - q]^2 - [(gk + 2g + k + 1)(h + j) + h - z]^2 - \\
 & [16(k+1)^3(k+2)(n+1)^2 + 1 - f^2]^2 - [2n + p + q + z - e]^2 - \\
 & [e^3(e+2)(a+1)^2 + 1 - o^2]^2 - [(a^2 - 1)y^2 + 1 - x^2]^2 - \\
 & [16r^2y^4(a^2 - 1) + 1 - u^2]^2 - [n + l + v - y]^2 - \\
 & [(a^2 - 1)l^2 + 1 - m^2]^2 - [ai + k + 1 - l - i]^2 - \\
 & [((a + u^2(u^2 - a))^2 - 1)(n + 4dy)^2 + 1 - (x + cu)^2]^2 - \\
 & [p + l(a - n - 1) + b(2an + 2a - n^2 - 2n - 2) - m]^2 - \\
 & [q + y(a - p - 1) + s(2ap + 2a - p^2 - 2p - 2) - x]^2 - \\
 & [z + pl(a - p) + t(2ap - p^2 - 1) - pm]^2)
 \end{aligned}$$