

Ten prime-generating quadratic polynomials

Marius Coman
Bucuresti, Romania
email: mariuscoman13@gmail.com

Abstract. In two of my previous papers I treated quadratic polynomials which have the property to produce many primes in a row: in one of them I listed forty-two such polynomials which generate more than twenty-three primes in a row and in another one I listed few generic formulas which may conduct to find such prime-producing quadratic polynomials. In this paper I will present ten such polynomials which I discovered and posted in OEIS, each accompanied by its first fifty terms and some comments about it.

I.

The polynomial $16n^2 - 300n + 1447$.

Its first fifty terms:

1447, 1163, 911, 691, 503, 347, 223, 131, 71, 43, 47,
83, 151, 251, 383, 547, 743, 971, 1231, 1523, 1847,
2203, 2591, 3011, 3463, 3947, 4463, 5011, 5591, 6203,
6847, 7523, 8231, 8971, 9743, 10547, 11383, 12251,
13151, 14083, 15047, 16043, 17071, 18131, 19223, 20347,
21503, 22691, 23911, 25163, 26447.

Comments:

This polynomial generates 30 primes in a row starting from $n = 0$.

The polynomial $16n^2 - 628n + 6203$ generates the same primes in reverse order.

I found in the same family of prime-generating polynomials (with the discriminant equal to $-163 \cdot 2^p$, where p is even), the polynomials $4n^2 - 152n + 1607$, generating 40 primes in row starting from $n = 0$ (20 distinct ones) and $4n^2 - 140n + 1877$, generating 36 primes in row starting from $n = 0$ (18 distinct ones).

The following 5 (10 with their "reversal" polynomials) are the only ones I know from the family of Euler's polynomial $n^2 + n + 41$ (having their discriminant equal to a multiple of -163) that generate more than 30 distinct primes in a row starting from $n = 0$ (beside the Escott's polynomial $n^2 - 79n + 1601$):

- (1) $4n^2 - 154n + 1523$ ($4n^2 - 158n + 1601$);
- (2) $9n^2 - 231n + 1523$ ($9n^2 - 471n + 6203$);
- (3) $16n^2 - 292n + 1373$ ($16n^2 - 668n + 7013$);
- (4) $25n^2 - 365n + 1373$ ($25n^2 - 1185n + 14083$);
- (5) $16n^2 - 300n + 1447$ ($16n^2 - 628n + 6203$).

II.

The polynomial $2n^2 - 108n + 1259$.

Its first fifty terms:

1259, 1153, 1051, 953, 859, 769, 683, 601, 523, 449,
 379, 313, 251, 193, 139, 89, 43, 1, -37, -71, -101, -
 127, -149, -167, -181, -191, -197, -199, -197, -191, -
 181, -167, -149, -127, -101, -71, -37, 1, 43, 89, 139,
 193, 251, 313, 379, 449, 523, 601, 683, 769.

Comments:

This polynomial generates 92 primes (66 distinct ones) for n from 0 to 99 (in fact the next two terms are still primes but we keep the range 0-99, customary for comparisons), just three primes less than the record held by the Euler's polynomial for $n = m - 35$, which is $m^2 - 69m + 1231$, but having six distinct primes more than this one.

The non-prime terms in the first 100 are: 1 (taken twice), $1369 = 37^2$, $1849 = 43^2$, $4033 = 37 \cdot 109$, $5633 = 43 \cdot 131$, $7739 = 71 \cdot 109$ and $8251 = 37 \cdot 223$.

For $n = 2m - 34$ we obtain the polynomial $8m^2 - 488m + 7243$, which generates 31 primes in a row starting from $m = 0$.

For $n = 4m - 34$ we obtain the polynomial $32m^2 - 976m + 7243$, which generates 31 primes in row starting from $m = 0$.

III.

The polynomial $2n^2 - 212n + 5419$.

Its first fifty terms:

5419, 5209, 5003, 4801, 4603, 4409, 4219, 4033, 3851,
 3673, 3499, 3329, 3163, 3001, 2843, 2689, 2539, 2393,
 2251, 2113, 1979, 1849, 1723, 1601, 1483, 1369, 1259,
 1153, 1051, 953, 859, 769, 683, 601, 523, 449, 379,
 313, 251, 193, 139, 89, 43, 1, -37, -71, -101, -127, -
 149, -167, -181.

Comments:

This polynomial generates 92 primes (57 distinct ones) for n from 0 to 99 (in fact the next seven terms are still primes but we keep the range 0-99, customary for comparisons), just three primes less than the record held by the Euler's polynomial for $n = m - 35$, which is $m^2 - 69m + 1231$.

The non-prime terms in the first 100 are: 1, $1369 = 37^2$, $1849 = 43^2$, $4033 = 37 \cdot 109$ (all taken twice).

For $n = 2m + 54$ we obtain the polynomial $8m^2 + 8m - 197$, which generates 31 primes in a row starting from $m = 0$ (the polynomial $8m^2 - 488m + 7243$ generates the same 31 primes, but in reverse order).

IV.

The polynomial $25n^2 - 1185n + 14083$.

Its first fifty terms:

14083, 12923, 11813, 10753, 9743, 8783, 7873, 7013, 6203, 5443, 4733, 4073, 3463, 2903, 2393, 1933, 1523, 1163, 853, 593, 383, 223, 113, 53, 43, 83, 173, 313, 503, 743, 1033, 1373, 1763, 2203, 2693, 3233, 3823, 4463, 5153, 5893, 6683, 7523, 8413, 9353, 10343, 12473, 13613, 14803, 16043, 17333.

Comments:

The polynomial generates 32 primes in row starting from $n = 0$.

The polynomial $25n^2 - 365n + 1373$ generates the same primes in reverse order.

This family of prime-generating polynomials (with the discriminant equal to $-4075 = -163 \cdot 5^2$) is interesting for generating primes of same form: the polynomial $25n^2 - 395(n + 1601)$ generates 16 primes of the form $10k + 1$ (1601, 1231, 911, 641, 421, 251, 131, 61, 41, 71, 151, 281, 461, 691, 971, 1301) and the polynomial $25n^2 + 25n + 47$ generates 16 primes of the form $10k + 7$ (47, 97, 197, 347, 547, 797, 1097, 1447, 1847, 2297, 2797, 3347, 3947, 4597, 5297, 6047).

Note:

All the polynomials of the form $25n^2 + 5n + 41$, $25n^2 + 15n + 43, \dots, 25n^2 + 5(2k + 1)n + p, \dots, 25n^2 + 5 \cdot 79n + 1601$, where p is a (prime) term of the Euler's polynomial $p = k^2 + k + 41$, from $k = 0$ to $k = 39$, have their discriminant equal to $-4075 = -163 \cdot 5^2$.

V.

The polynomial $16n^2 - 292n + 1373$.

Its first fifty terms:

1373, 1097, 853, 641, 461, 313, 197, 113, 61, 41, 53,
97, 173, 281, 421, 593, 797, 1033, 1301, 1601, 1933,
2297, 2693, 3121, 3581, 4073, 4597, 5153, 5741, 6361,
7013, 7697, 8413, 9161, 9941, 10753, 11597, 12473,
13381, 14321, 15293, 16297, 17333, 18401, 20633,
21797, 22993, 24221, 25481, 26773.

Comments:

The polynomial generates 31 primes in row starting from $n = 0$.

The polynomial $16*n^2 - 668*n + 7013$ generates the same primes in reverse order.

Note:

All the polynomials of the form $p^2*n^2 \pm p*n + 41$, $p^2*n^2 \pm 3*p*n + 43$, $p^2*n^2 \pm 5*p*n + 47$, ..., $p^2*n^2 \pm (2k+1)*p*n + q$, ..., $p^2*n^2 \pm 79*p*n + 1601$, where q is a (prime) term of the Euler's polynomial $q = k^2 + k + 41$, from $k = 0$ to $k = 39$, have their discriminant equal to $-163*p^2$; the demonstration is easy: the discriminant is equal to $b^2 - 4*a*c = (2*k + 1)^2*p^2 - 4*q*p^2 = -p^2 ((2*k + 1)^2 - 4*q) = -p^2*(4*k^2 + 4*k + 1 - 4*k^2 - 4*k - 164) = -163*p^2$.

Observation:

Many of the polynomials formed this way have the capacity to generate many primes in row. Examples:

- : $9*n^2 + 3*n + 41$ generates 27 primes in row starting from $n = 0$ (and 40 primes for $n = n - 13$);
- : $9*n^2 - 237*n + 1601$ generates 27 primes in row starting from $n = 0$;
- : $16*n^2 + 4*n + 41$ generates, for $n = n - 21$ (that is $16*n^2 - 668*n + 7013$) 31 primes in row.

VI.

The polynomial $4*n^2 - 284*n + 3449$.

Its first fifty terms:

3449, 3169, 2897, 2633, 2377, 2129, 1889, 1657, 1433,
1217, 1009, 809, 617, 433, 257, 89, -71, -223, -367, -
503, -631, -751, -863, -967, -1063, -1151, -1231, -
1303, -1367, -1423, -1471, -1511, -1543, -1567, -1583,
-1591, -1591, -1583, -1567, -1543, -1511, -1471, -1367,
-1303, -1231, -1151, -1063, -967, -863, -751.

Comments:

The polynomial successively generates 35 primes or negative values of primes starting at $n = 0$.

This polynomial generates 95 primes in absolute value (60 distinct ones) for n from 0 to 99, equaling the record held by the Euler's polynomial for $n = m - 35$, which is $m^2 - 69m + 1231$.

The non-prime terms (in absolute value) up to $n = 99$ are: $1591 = 37 \cdot 43$, $3737 = 37 \cdot 101$, $4033 = 37 \cdot 109$; $5633 = 43 \cdot 131$; $5977 = 43 \cdot 139$; $9017 = 71 \cdot 127$.

The polynomial $4n^2 + 12n - 1583$ generates the same 35 primes in row starting from $n = 0$ in reverse order.

Note:

In the same family of prime-generating polynomials (with the discriminant equal to $199 \cdot 2^p$, where p is odd) there are the polynomial $32n^2 - 944n + 6763$ (with its "reversed polynomial" $32m^2 - 976m + 7243$, for $m = 30 - n$), generating 31 primes in row, and the polynomial $4n^2 - 428n + 5081$ (with $4m^2 + 188m - 4159$, for $m = 30 - n$), generating 31 primes in row.

VII.

The polynomial $n^2 + 3n - 167$.

Its first fifty terms:

-167, -163, -157, -149, -139, -127, -113, -97, -79, -59, -37, -13, 13, 41, 71, 103, 137, 173, 211, 251, 293, 337, 383, 431, 481, 533, 587, 643, 701, 761, 823, 887, 953, 1021, 1091, 1163, 1237, 1313, 1391, 1471, 1553, 1637, 1723, 1811, 1901, 1993, 2087, 2183, 2381, 2483.

Comments:

The polynomial generates 24 primes in absolute value (23 distinct ones) in row starting from $n = 0$ (and 42 primes in absolute value for n from 0 to 46).

The polynomial $n^2 - 49n + 431$ generates the same primes in reverse order.

Note:

We found in the same family of prime-generating polynomials (with the discriminant equal to 677) the polynomial $13n^2 - 311n + 1847$ ($13n^2 - 469n + 4217$) generating 23 primes and two noncomposite numbers (in absolute value) in row starting from $n = 0$ (1847, 1549, 1277, 1031, 811, 617, 449, 307, 191, 101, 37, -1, -13, 1, 41, 107, 199, 317, 461, 631, 827, 1049, 1297, 1571, 1871).

Note:

Another interesting algorithm to produce prime-generating polynomials could be $N = m \cdot n^2 + (6m + 1)n + 8m + 3$, where m , $6m + 1$ and $8m + 3$ are primes. For

$m = 7$ then $n = t - 20$ we get $N = 7*t^2 - 237*t + 1999$, which generates the following primes: 239, 163, 101, 53, 19, -1, -7, 1, 23, 59, 109, 173, 251 (we can see the same pattern: ..., -1, -m, 1, ...).

VIII.

The polynomial $81*n^2 - 2247*n + 15383$.

Its first forty terms:

15383, 13217, 11213, 9371, 7691, 6173, 4817, 3623, 2591, 1721, 1013, 467, 83, -139, -199, -97, 167, 593, 1181, 1931, 2843, 3917, 5153, 6551, 8111, 9833, 11717, 13763, 15971, 18341, 20873, 23567, 26423, 29441, 32621, 35963, 39467, 43133, 46961, 50951.

Comments:

The polynomial generates 33 primes/negative values of primes in row starting from $n = 0$.

The polynomial $81*n^2 - 2937*n + 26423$ generates the same primes in reverse order.

Note:

We found in the same family of prime-generating polynomials (with the discriminant equal to $64917 = 3^2*7213$) the polynomial $27*n^2 - 753*n + 4649$ (with its "reversed polynomial" $27*n^2 - 921*n + 7253$), generating 32 primes in row and the polynomial $27*n^2 - 741*n + 4483$ ($27*n^2 - 1095*n + 10501$), generating 35 primes in row, if we consider that 1 is prime (which seems to be constructive in the study of prime-generating polynomials, at least).

Note:

The polynomial $36*n^2 - 810*n + 2753$, which is the known quadratic polynom that generates the most distinct primes in row (45), has the discriminant equal to $259668 = 2^2*3^2*7213$.

IX.

The polynomial $4*n^2 + 12*n - 1583$.

Its first forty terms:

-1583, -1567, -1543, -1511, -1471, -1423, -1367, -1303, -1231, -1151, -1063, -967, -863, -751, -631, -503, -367, -223, -71, 89, 257, 433, 617, 809, 1009, 1217, 1433, 1657, 1889, 2129, 2377, 2633, 2897, 3169, 3449, 3737, 4033, 4337, 4649, 4969.

Comments:

The polynomial generates 35 primes/negative values of primes in row starting from $n = 0$.

The polynomial $4*n^2 - 284*n + 3449$ generates the same primes in reverse order.

Note:

Other related polynomials are:

: For $n = 6*n + 6$ than $n = n - 11$ we get $144*n^2 - 2808*n + 12097$ which generates 16 primes in row starting from $n = 0$ (with the discriminant equal to 2^9*3^2*199);

: For $n = 12*n + 12$ than $n = n - 15$ we get $576*n^2 - 15984*n + 109297$ which generates 17 primes in row starting from $n = 0$ (with the discriminant equal to $2^{11}*3^2*199$).

Note:

So this polynomial opens at least two directions of study:

(1) polynomials of type $4*n^2 + 12*n - p$, where p is prime (could be of the form $30*k + 23$);

(2) polynomials with the discriminant equal to 2^n*3^m*199 , where n is odd and m is even (an example of such a polynomial, with the discriminant equal to 2^5*3^4*199 , is $36*n^2 - 1020*n + 3643$ which generates 32 primes for values of n from 0 to 34).

x.

The polynomial $4*n^2 - 482*n + 14561$.

Its first forty terms:

14561, 14083, 13613, 13151, 12697, 12251, 11813, 11383, 10961, 10547, 10141, 9743, 9353, 8971, 8597, 8231, 7873, 7523, 7181, 6847, 6521, 6203, 5893, 5591, 5297, 5011, 4733, 4463, 4201, 3947, 3701, 3463, 3233, 3011, 2797, 2591, 2393, 2203, 2021, 1847.

Comments:

This polynomial generates 88 distinct primes for n from 0 to 99, just two primes less than the record held by the polynomial discovered by N. Boston and M. L. Greenwood, that is $41*n^2 - 4641*n + 88007$ (this polynomial is sometimes cited as $41*n^2 + 33*n - 43321$, which is the same for the input values $[-57, 42]$).

Note:

The non-prime terms in the first 100 are: $10961 = 97*113$; $10547 = 53*199$; $9353 = 47*199$; $7181 = 43*167$; $6847 = 41*167$; $5893 = 71*83$; $3233 = 53*61$; $2021 = 43*47$; $1681 = 41^2$; $1763 = 41*43$; $2491 = 47*53$; $4331 = 61*71$.

Note:

For $n = m + 41$ we obtain the polynomial $4*m^2 - 154*m + 1523$, which generates 40 primes in a row starting from $m = 0$.