

Conjecture on a subset of Woodall numbers divisible by Poulet numbers

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Abstract. The Woodall numbers are defined by the formula $W(n) = n \cdot 2^n - 1$ (see the sequence A003261 in OEIS). In this paper I conjecture that any Woodall number of the form $2^k \cdot 2^{(2^k)} - 1$, where $k \geq 3$, is either prime either divisible by a Poulet number.

Conjecture:

Any Woodall number of the form $2^k \cdot 2^{(2^k)} - 1$, where $k \geq 3$, is either prime either divisible by a Poulet number.

Note: see the sequence A003261 in OEIS for Woodall numbers $n \cdot 2^n - 1$ up to $n = 300$).

Verifying the conjecture:

(for the first seven such Woodall numbers)

- : $W(2^3) = W(8) = 2047 (= 23 \cdot 89)$ which is a Poulet number;
- : $W(2^4) = W(16) = 1048575 (= 3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 11 \cdot 31 \cdot 41)$ which is divisible by 341 ($= 11 \cdot 31$) and 13981 ($= 11 \cdot 31 \cdot 41$), both Poulet numbers;
- : $W(2^5) = W(32) = 137438953471 (= 223 \cdot 616318177)$ which is a Poulet number;
- : $W(2^6) = W(64) = 1180591620717411303423 (= 3 \cdot 11 \cdot 31 \cdot 43 \cdot 71 \cdot 127 \cdot 281 \cdot 86171 \cdot 122921)$ which is divisible at least by 341 ($= 11 \cdot 31$), 5461 ($= 43 \cdot 127$), 19951 ($= 71 \cdot 281$), 24214051 ($= 281 \cdot 86171$), all four Poulet numbers;
- : $W(2^7) = W(128) = 43556142965880123323311949751266331066367 (= 7 \cdot 31 \cdot 73 \cdot 151 \cdot 271 \cdot 631 \cdot 23311 \cdot 262657 \cdot 348031 \cdot 49971617830801)$ which is divisible at least by 4681 ($= 31 \cdot 151$) and 15841 ($= 7 \cdot 31 \cdot 73$), both Poulet numbers;
- : $W(2^8) = W(256) = 29642774844752946028434172162224104410437116074403984394101141506025761187823615 (=$

$3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 13 \cdot 17 \cdot 23 \cdot 67 \cdot 89 \cdot 241 \cdot 353 \cdot 397 \cdot 683 \cdot 2113 \cdot 7393 \cdot 208$
 $57 \cdot 312709 \cdot 599479 \cdot 4327489 \cdot 1761345169 \cdot 2931542417 \cdot 98618$
 273953) which is divisible at least by 2047 (= $23 \cdot 89$), 137149 (= $23 \cdot 67 \cdot 89$), 745889 (= $353 \cdot 2113$), 8280229 (= $397 \cdot 20857$), 15621409 (= $2113 \cdot 7393$), all five Poulet numbers;

: $W(2^9) = W(512)$ is a number with 157 digits which is prime (see the sequence A002234 in OEIS: "Numbers n such that the Woodall number $n \cdot 2^n - 1$ is prime").