

Cody Problem 69. Find the peak $3n+1$ sequence value

A Collatz sequence is the sequence where, for a given number n , the next number in the sequence is either $n/2$ if the number is even or $3n+1$ if the number is odd. See [Problem 21](#)

for more information.

Let $c(n)$ be the sequence for n , and $p(n)$ be the peak value of that sequence. For a given threshold n_{\max} , find the highest peak value $\max(p(n))$ for all Collatz sequences starting with integers between 1 and n_{\max} .

Scratch Pad

```
nmax = 5;  
  
peakOfPeaks(nmax)
```

```
ans = 16
```

```
nmax = 10;  
  
peakOfPeaks(nmax)
```

```
ans = 52
```

Solution

```
function pmax = peakOfPeaks(nmax)  
  
    pmax = 0;  
    for i = 1:nmax  
        max_c = max(Collatz(i));  
        if max_c > pmax  
            pmax = max_c;  
        end  
    end  
  
    function c = Collatz(n)  
        c = [n];  
        buff = n;  
        while buff ~= 1  
            if mod(buff, 2) == 0  
                buff = buff/2;  
                c = [c, buff];  
            else  
                buff = 3*buff+1;  
                c = [c, buff];  
            end  
        end  
    end  
end
```

end