## advent of code day 11

December 18, 2021

## 1 Advent of Code

```
[]: # set up the environment import numpy as np
```

Day 11: Dumbo Octopus —

You enter a large cavern full of rare bioluminescent dumbo octopuses! They seem to not like the Christmas lights on your submarine, so you turn them off for now.

There are 100 octopuses arranged neatly in a 10 by 10 grid. Each octopus slowly gains **energy** over time and **flashes** brightly for a moment when its energy is full. Although your lights are off, maybe you could navigate through the cave without disturbing the octopuses if you could predict when the flashes of light will happen.

Each octopus has an **energy level** - your submarine can remotely measure the energy level of each octopus (your puzzle input). For example:

The energy level of each octopus is a value between 0 and 9. Here, the top-left octopus has an energy level of 5, the bottom-right one has an energy level of 6, and so on.

You can model the energy levels and flashes of light in steps. During a single step, the following occurs:

- First, the energy level of each octopus increases by 1.
- Then, any octopus with an energy level greater than 9 flashes. This increases the energy level of all adjacent octopuses by 1, including octopuses that are diagonally adjacent. If this causes an octopus to have an energy level greater than 9, it also flashes. This process continues as long as new octopuses keep having their energy level increased beyond 9. (An octopus can only flash at most once per step.)

• Finally, any octopus that flashed during this step has its energy level set to 0, as it used all of its energy to flash.

Adjacent flashes can cause an octopus to flash on a step even if it begins that step with very little energy. Consider the middle octopus with 1 energy in this situation:

Before any steps: After step 1: **000**5 After step 2: 

An octopus is **highlighted** when it flashed during the given step.

Here is how the larger example above progresses:

After step 2:

 $88\boldsymbol{0}7476555$ 

89**0**87**0**54

 $85978896\mathbf{0}8$ 

**00** 

**0000**5943

After step 3:

 $791125\mathbf{000}9$ 

**0000** 

 $\mathbf{0}421125\mathbf{000}$ 

21119**000** 

After step 4:

**0**31977

923**0**31697

3222115**0** 

 $\mathbf{00}41111163$ 

76191174

 $\mathbf{00}53411122$ 

4236112**0** 

 $113223\mathbf{0}211$ 

After step 5:

 $4484144\mathbf{000}$ 

After step 6:

 $33644446\mathbf{0}5$ 

After step 7:

 $34966557\mathbf{0}9$ 

 $35\mathbf{00}6256\mathbf{0}9$ 

 $35\mathbf{0}9955566$ 

 $486558\mathbf{0}644$ 

After step 8:

 $46\mathbf{0}876683\mathbf{0}$ 

 $474\mathbf{00}97688$ 

 $\mathbf{000000}9666$ 

 $68 \boldsymbol{00007755}$ 

After step 9:

 $9\mathbf{0}6\mathbf{0}\mathbf{0}\mathbf{0}644$ 

**00000**976

**00000**82

**0000**93

 $\mathbf{80}2125\mathbf{000}9$ 

**000**9

**0**97

After step 10:

After step 10, there have been a total of 204 flashes. Fast forwarding, here is the same configuration every 10 steps:

After step 20:

 $56865568\mathbf{0}6$ 

**0** 

**00**86577

9896

**0000**9543

After step 30:

643334118

After step 40:

421111119

42111115

 $\mathbf{000}3111115$ 

 $\mathbf{000}3111116$ 

 $\mathbf{00}656111111$ 

532351111

After step 50:

 $48655568\mathbf{0}5$ 

**0** 

 $445865558\mathbf{0}$ 

**0** 

**0000**633

 $568 \boldsymbol{0000} 538$ 

After step 60:

**00** 

**0** 

After step 70:

421111166

 $\mathbf{00}42111114$ 

4211115

211116

532351111

After step 80:

 $59655556\mathbf{0}9$ 

 $445865558\mathbf{0}$ 

After step 90:

```
2264333458
2226433337
2222433338
2287833333
2854573333
4854458333
3387779333
3333333333
After step 100:
0397666866
0749766918
0053976933
0004297822
0004229892
0053222877
0532222966
9322228966
7922286866
6789998766
```

After 100 steps, there have been a total of 1656 flashes.

Given the starting energy levels of the dumbo octopuses in your cavern, simulate 100 steps. **How** many total flashes are there after 100 steps?

## 1.0.1 Note

The solution below is a bit unelegent walking the map and propagating the flashes - should be removed to a separate function and tidied up. But hey, it works, and is probably as fast as moving it to it's own function.

```
[]: with open("data/octopus.dat") as file:
    problem_map = file.read().splitlines()
problem_map = np.array([[int(i) for i in x] for x in problem_map], dtype=int)

test_map = [
    "5483143223",
    "2745854711",
    "5264556173",
    "6141336146",
    "6357385478",
    "4167524645",
    "2176841721",
    "6882881134",
    "4846848554",
    "5283751526",
]
test_map = np.array([[int(i) for i in x] for x in test_map], dtype=int)
```

```
octopus_data = problem_map.copy()
max_rows, max_cols = octopus_data.shape
print(f"Before any steps \n{octopus_data}\n")
total_flashes = 0
for steps in range(100):
    octopus data += 1
    flashed = True if np.count_nonzero(octopus_data > 9) > 0 else False
    total_flashes += np.count_nonzero(octopus_data > 9)
    octopus_data = np.where(octopus_data > 9, 0, octopus_data)
    already_flashed = np.full_like(octopus_data, False)
    print(f"After step {steps +1} \n{octopus_data}\n")
    while flashed:
        flashed = False
        flashing = (octopus_data == 0) - already_flashed
        flashing_locations = np.where(flashing == True)
        for location in range(flashing_locations[0].size):
            x = flashing_locations[0][location]
            y = flashing_locations[1][location]
            if x == 0:
                if y == 0:
                    octopus data[x, y + 1] += 1
                    octopus_data[x + 1, y] += 1
                    octopus_data[x + 1, y + 1] += 1
                else:
                    if y == 9:
                        octopus_data[x, y - 1] += 1
                        octopus_data[x + 1, y] += 1
                        octopus_data[x + 1, y - 1] += 1
                    else:
                        octopus_data[x, y + 1] += 1
                        octopus_data[x + 1, y] += 1
                        octopus_data[x + 1, y + 1] += 1
                        octopus_data[x, y - 1] += 1
                        octopus_data[x + 1, y - 1] += 1
            else:
                if x == 9:
                    if y == 0:
                        octopus_data[x, y + 1] += 1
                        octopus_data[x - 1, y] += 1
                        octopus_data[x - 1, y + 1] += 1
                    else:
                        if y == 9:
                            octopus_data[x, y - 1] += 1
                            octopus_data[x - 1, y] += 1
```

```
octopus_data[x - 1, y - 1] += 1
                        else:
                            octopus_data[x, y + 1] += 1
                            octopus_data[x - 1, y] += 1
                            octopus_data[x - 1, y + 1] += 1
                            octopus_data[x, y - 1] += 1
                            octopus_data[x - 1, y - 1] += 1
                else:
                    if y > 0:
                        octopus_data[x - 1, y - 1] += 1
                        octopus_data[x, y - 1] += 1
                        octopus_data[x + 1, y - 1] += 1
                    if y < 9:
                        octopus_data[x - 1, y + 1] += 1
                        octopus_data[x, y + 1] += 1
                        octopus_data[x + 1, y + 1] += 1
                    octopus_data[x - 1, y] += 1
                    octopus_data[x + 1, y] += 1
        already_flashed = (
            already_flashed + flashing
        ) # add the current flashing locations to already_flashed
        octopus_data = np.where(
            already flashed == True, 0, octopus data
        ) # reset any flashing octopi that may have been increased to zero
        if np.count_nonzero(octopus_data > 9) > 0:
            flashed = True
        total_flashes += np.count_nonzero(octopus_data > 9)
        octopus_data = np.where(octopus_data > 9, 0, octopus_data)
    # print(f"Step {steps+1}\n{octopus_data}\n")
print(f"Step {steps}\n{octopus_data}\n")
print(f"total_flashes: {total_flashes}")
```

## Part Two ##

It seems like the individual flashes aren't bright enough to navigate. However, you might have a better option: the flashes seem to be **synchronizing!** 

In the example above, the first time all octopuses flash simultaneously is step 195:

```
777777777
777777777
777777777
After step 194:
698888888
998888888
88888888
88888888
88888888
88888888
88888888
888888888
88888888
888888888
After step 195:
000000000
000000000
000000000
000000000
000000000
000000000
000000000
000000000
000000000
000000000
```

If you can calculate the exact moments when the octopuses will all flash simultaneously, you should be able to navigate through the cavern. What is the first step during which all octopuses flash?

```
[]: with open("data/octopus.dat") as file:
    problem_map = file.read().splitlines()
problem_map = np.array([[int(i) for i in x] for x in problem_map], dtype=int)

test_map = [
    "5483143223",
    "2745854711",
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    "6141336146",
    "6357385478",
    "4167524645",
    "2176841721",
    "6882881134",
    "4846848554",
    "5283751526",
]
test_map = np.array([[int(i) for i in x] for x in test_map], dtype=int)
```

```
octopus_data = problem_map.copy()
max_rows, max_cols = octopus_data.shape
octopus_population = octopus_data.size
# print(f"Before any steps \n{octopus_data}\n")
total_flashes = 0
all flashed = False
max_iterations = 400 # set a limit just in case
step = 0
while not all_flashed:
    step += 1
    octopus_data += 1
    flashed = True if np.count_nonzero(octopus_data > 9) > 0 else False
    total_flashes += np.count_nonzero(octopus_data > 9)
    octopus_data = np.where(octopus_data > 9, 0, octopus_data)
    already_flashed = np.full_like(octopus_data, False)
    while flashed:
        flashed = False
        flashing = (octopus_data == 0) - already_flashed
        flashing_locations = np.where(flashing == True)
        for location in range(flashing_locations[0].size):
            x = flashing locations[0][location]
            y = flashing_locations[1][location]
            if x == 0:
                if y == 0:
                    octopus_data[x, y + 1] += 1
                    octopus_data[x + 1, y] += 1
                    octopus_data[x + 1, y + 1] += 1
                else:
                    if y == 9:
                        octopus_data[x, y - 1] += 1
                        octopus_data[x + 1, y] += 1
                        octopus_data[x + 1, y - 1] += 1
                    else:
                        octopus_data[x, y + 1] += 1
                        octopus_data[x + 1, y] += 1
                        octopus_data[x + 1, y + 1] += 1
                        octopus_data[x, y - 1] += 1
                        octopus_data[x + 1, y - 1] += 1
            else:
                if x == 9:
                    if y == 0:
                        octopus_data[x, y + 1] += 1
                        octopus_data[x - 1, y] += 1
                        octopus_data[x - 1, y + 1] += 1
```

```
else:
                        if y == 9:
                            octopus_data[x, y - 1] += 1
                            octopus_data[x - 1, y] += 1
                            octopus_data[x - 1, y - 1] += 1
                        else:
                            octopus_data[x, y + 1] += 1
                            octopus_data[x - 1, y] += 1
                            octopus_data[x - 1, y + 1] += 1
                            octopus_data[x, y - 1] += 1
                            octopus_data[x - 1, y - 1] += 1
                else:
                    if y > 0:
                        octopus_data[x - 1, y - 1] += 1
                        octopus_data[x, y - 1] += 1
                        octopus_data[x + 1, y - 1] += 1
                    if y < 9:
                        octopus_data[x - 1, y + 1] += 1
                        octopus_data[x, y + 1] += 1
                        octopus_data[x + 1, y + 1] += 1
                    octopus_data[x - 1, y] += 1
                    octopus_data[x + 1, y] += 1
        already flashed = (
            already_flashed + flashing
        ) # add the current flashing locations to already flashed
        octopus_data = np.where(
            already_flashed == True, 0, octopus_data
        ) # reset any flashing octopi that may have been increased to zero
        if np.count_nonzero(octopus_data > 9) > 0:
            flashed = True
        total_flashes += np.count_nonzero(octopus_data > 9)
        octopus_data = np.where(octopus_data > 9, 0, octopus_data)
    # print(f"After step {step} \n{octopus_data}\n")
    if np.count_nonzero(octopus_data == 0) == octopus_population:
        all_flashed = True
print(f"On step {step} all the octopus population flashed")
print(f"total_flashes: {total_flashes}")
```

On step 354 all the octopus population flashed total\_flashes: 5607

## 1.0.2 Note

This one was a real devil as it kept giving the wrong answer although I couldn't find a fault in my logic. Turned out I was checking for the octopi all flasing at the start of the run instead of at the

end so was missing the octopi that flashed due to a neighbour flashing.