

A Humble Offering



DIGITAL ROOTS

By Ilhan M. Izmirli

Dept of statistics, George Mason University, USA

CONTENTS

- 1.Introduction
- 2.Properties
- 3.Digital values
- 4.Python program
- 5.Conclusion
- 6.References

Introduction

- The digital root concept is the idea that any number greater than 9 can be reduced to a single digit.
- The digital root of a natural number is obtained by computing the sum of the digits, then computing the sum of the digits of the resulting number, and so on, till a single digit number is obtained.
- In Vedic Mathematics the digital root is known as Beejank.
- It is denoted by $B(n)$.
- The concept of digital root has been known for sometime before the development of computer devices.
- This idea was mostly used by accountants to check their results.
- It is a well established and useful part of recreational mathematics which materializes in as diverse applications as computer programming.

- In recreational number theory A.Grey was the first to apply digital root.
- Let n be a natural number and let $S(n)$ denote the sum of the digits of n . In a finite number of steps, the sequence $S(n), S(S(n)), S(S(S(n))), \dots$ becomes a constant which is called digital root.

- We define digital root of a number as

$B : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow D$ where \mathbb{N} is the set of natural numbers and $D = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\}$ and $B(a) = \text{sum of the digits of the number until single digit is obtained.}$

$$\text{e.g. } B(123) = 1 + 2 + 3 = 6$$

- To show that the function is well defined

Let $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$ and $a = b$

therefore the sum of the digits of $a = \text{the sum of the digits of } b$.

- Two numbers a and b are equivalent if and only if both have same digital root.

$$a \sim b \Leftrightarrow B(a) = B(b).$$

Digital root partition the set of non negative integers

➤ Let the relation be defined as $aRb \Leftrightarrow a \sim b$

R is reflexive

$$B(a)=B(a) \Leftrightarrow a \sim a \Leftrightarrow aRa$$

R is symmetric

$$aRb \Rightarrow B(a)=B(b) \Rightarrow B(b)=B(a) \Rightarrow b \sim a \Rightarrow bRa$$

R is transitive

$$aRb \text{ and } bRc \Rightarrow B(a)=B(b) \text{ and } B(b)=B(c) \Rightarrow B(a)=B(b)=B(c) \Rightarrow B(a)=B(c) \Rightarrow a \sim c \Rightarrow aRc$$

So it is an equivalence relation and it partitions the set of non negative integers.

Properties of Digital roots

1. If $1 \leq n \leq 9$ then $B(n) = n$.

2. $B(n) = n - 9 \left\lfloor \frac{n}{9} \right\rfloor$ where $\lfloor x \rfloor$ stands for the greatest integer less than or equal to x .

3. $B(n) = \begin{cases} 9 & \text{if } n \bmod 9 = 0 \\ n \bmod 9 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

e.g. $998 \rightarrow 8$, $3198 \rightarrow 3$, $6566 \rightarrow 5$

4. The difference between n and $B(n)$ is a multiple of 9; i.e., $n - B(n) = 9k$ for some non-negative integer k .

It suffices to show that the difference between n and $S(n)$ is a multiple of 9, where

$S(n)$ is a sum of digits of n .

$$n = a_0 + 10a_1 + 10^2a_2 + 10^3a_3 + \dots,$$

$$S(n) = a_0 + a_1 + a_2 + \dots,$$

$$n - S(n) = (10-1)a_1 + (10^2 - 1)a_2 + (10^3 - 1)a_3 + \dots$$

therefore $n - S(n)$ is a multiple of 9.

➤ The difference between n and $B(n)$ is a multiple of 3.

➤ A number having digital root 'a' can be represented as $a+(9*j) : j=0,1,2,3,-----$

5. For all pairs m, n we have

$$(i) B(m+n) = B(B(m)+B(n))$$

$$(ii) B(mn) = B(B(m)B(n))$$

$$\begin{aligned} B(B(m)+B(n)) &= B(m)+B(n)-(9*s) \\ &= m-(9*k)+n-(9*l)-(9*s) \\ &= m+n-9*(k+l+s) \\ &= B(m+n) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} B(B(m).B(n)) &= B(m).B(n)-(9*s) \\ &= (m-(9*k)).(n-(9*l))-(9*s) \\ &= mn-9ml-9kn+81kl-9s \\ &= mn-9*(ml+kn-9kl+s) \\ &= B(mn) \end{aligned}$$

$$7. B(m+n) = B(m' + n')$$

$$B(mn) = B(m'n')$$

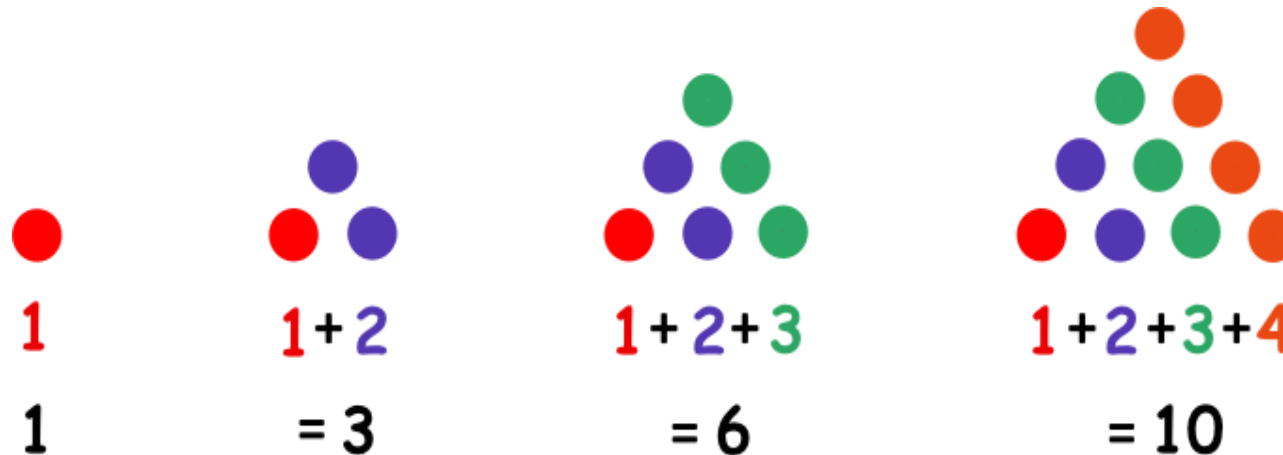
Where m, m' leave the same remainder under division by 9, and n, n' leave the same remainder under division by 9.

8. A prime number exceeding 3 cannot have a digital root equal to 3, 6 or 9.

9. The digital root of a triangular number is one of the following numbers: 1, 3, 6, 9

Triangular number : It counts the objects arranged in an equilateral triangle.

The n^{th} triangular number is the number of dots in the triangular arrangement with n dots on each side, and is equal to the sum of the n natural numbers from 1 to n .



The triangular numbers are 0,1,3,6,10,15,21,-----

$$T_n = \sum_{k=1}^n k = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$$

We consider different forms that a triangular number $n = \frac{m(m+1)}{2}$ can have , depending upon the remainder that m leaves under division by 6.

The different forms of m are $6k, 6k+1, 6k+2, 6k+3, 6k+4, 6k+5$

If $m=6k$ or $6k+2$ or $6k+3$ or $6k+5$ the product $\frac{m(m+1)}{2}$ is a multiple of 3. hence the digital root of it will be one of the numbers 3,6,9. If $m=6k+1$ or $6k+4$ then the product $\frac{m(m+1)}{2}$ is of the form $9m+1$.hence the digital root is 1.

10. If n is a perfect square then $B(n) \in \{1, 4, 7, 9\}$

We consider different forms of a perfect square $n = m^2$ can have depending on the remainder that m leaves under division by 9. The different forms for m are :
 $9k, 9k \pm 1, 9k \pm 2, 9k \pm 3, 9k \pm 4$.

we find that $B(n) \in \{1, 4, 7, 9\}$.

11. If n is a perfect cube, then $B(n) \in \{1, 8, 9\}$.

12. If n is a perfect sixth power, then $B(n) \in \{1, 9\}$.

13. Digital root of an even perfect number (except 6) is 1

Every even perfect number m is of the form $m = 2^{p-1}(2^p - 1)$

by putting $x = 2^{p-1}$, we have $B(n) = B(2x^2 - x) = 2B(x)B(x) - B(x)$

$B(x) = 4, 7, 1, 7, 1, \dots$

$2B(x)B(x) = 5, 8, 2, 8, 2, \dots$

therefore the digital root is 1.

Multiplication table

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18
3	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27
4	4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32	36
5	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45
6	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54
7	7	14	21	28	35	42	49	56	63
8	8	16	24	32	40	48	56	64	72
9	9	18	27	36	45	54	63	72	81

Vedic square

[illegible]

Theorem :Let $p(x)$ be any n degree polynomial whose roots are only integers , If a be its root then $B(p(B(a)))=9$.

Proof: Let $p(x)$ is n degree polynomial and has only integral root.

Then let $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \dots, \alpha_n$ be n roots then $p(x)=(x-\alpha_1)(x-\alpha_2)(x-\alpha_3)\dots(x-\alpha_n)$.

now $B(\alpha_1)-\alpha_1$ must be a multiple of 9

Therefore $B(p(B(\alpha_1)))=B[(B(\alpha_1)-\alpha_1)(B(\alpha_1)-\alpha_2)(B(\alpha_1)-\alpha_3)\dots(B(\alpha_1)-\alpha_n)]$
 $=9$

Inverse of the theorem is not true.

Significance : Let us suppose a polynomial $p(x)$ of n degree is given whose roots are integers.Let us check the digital roots of $p(1),p(2),p(3),\dots,p(9)$.If $B(p(d)) \neq 9$ for some $d \in D$ then any number lying in the equivalence class of d , can never satisfy $p(x)$ and if $B(p(d))=9$ for some $d \in D$ then numbers equivalent to d can be its root.

Digital Roots of powers of numbers in an Arithmetic Progression

Let k, m and n be three consecutive terms in an arithmetic progression with common difference d . Let $x = k^3 + m^3 + n^3$. If d is not a multiple of 3, then $B(x) = 9$

Proof: Let $k = m - d$ and $n = m + d$. Then $x = k^3 + m^3 + n^3 = 3m^3 + 6md^2 = 3m(m^2 + 2d^2)$

We must prove $m(m^2 + 2d^2)$ is divisible by 3 for any natural number m and for any natural number d that is not a multiple of 3.

if m is divisible by 3 then result follows

Case 1: $m = 3r + 1$

$$m(m^2 + 2d^2) = (3r + 1)(9r^2 + 6r + 1 + 2d^2)$$

$$d = 3s \pm 1$$

$$2d^2 = 18s^2 \pm 12s + 2$$

$$\text{Thus } m(m^2 + 2d^2) = 3(3r + 1)(3r^2 + 2r + 6s^2 \pm 4s + 1)$$

Case 2: $m=3r+2$

$$m(m^2 + 2d^2) = (3r+2)(9r^2 + 12r + 4 + 2d^2)$$

By substituting $2d^2 = 18s^2 \pm 12s + 2$

$$m(m^2 + 2d^2) = 3(3r+2)(3r^2 + 4r + 6s^2 \pm 4s + 2)$$

therefore $B(x)=9$

Application: Prove that $1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + \dots + 50^3$ is divisible by 9?

$$(50^3 + 49^3 + 48^3) + (47^3 + 46^3 + 45^3) + \dots + (5^3 + 4^3 + 3^3) + 2^3 + 1.$$

Theorem

Let q be a multiple of three. Let $n_1, n_2, n_3, \dots, n_q$ be any q consecutive terms of an arithmetic progression whose common difference d is not multiple of three. Let

$$x = n_1^3 + n_2^3 + \dots + n_q^3 \text{ Then , } B(x)=9.$$

Theorem : Let $n_1, n_2, n_3, \dots, n_9$ be nine consecutive terms in an arithmetic progression with common difference d . Let $X = n_1^9 + n_2^9 + \dots + n_9^9$ then $B(x)=9$

Proof :

$$n_1 = n_5 - 4d$$

$$n_2 = n_5 - 3d$$

$$n_3 = n_5 - 2d$$

$$n_4 = n_5 - d$$

$$n_6 = n_5 + d$$

$$n_7 = n_5 + 2d$$

$$n_8 = n_5 + 3d$$

$$n_9 = n_5 + 4d$$

$$X = n_1^9 + n_2^9 + \dots + n_9^9 = 9(n_5^9 + 240n_5^7d^2 + \dots + 144,708 n_5d^8)$$

Therefore $B(n)=9$

Let q be a multiple of 9 .Let $n_1, n_2, n_3, \dots, n_q$ be any q consecutive terms of an arithmetic progression whose common difference d . Let

$$x = n_1^9 + n_2^9 + \dots + n_q^9 \text{ Then } B(x)=9.$$

Digital roots of Fermat Numbers

Fermat number : It is defined as $F_n = 2^{2^n} + 1$, $n \geq 1$

$$F_{n-1} = 2^{2^{n-1}} + 1$$

$$F_n = F_{n-1}^2 - 2 F_{n-1} + 2$$

$$F_0 = 3, F_1 = 5, F_2 = 17, F_3 = 257, F_4 = 65537, \dots$$

Theorem : Let F_n be the n^{th} Fermat number , Then,

$$B(F_n) = \begin{cases} 5 & \text{if } n \text{ is odd} \\ 8 & \text{if } n \text{ is even} \end{cases}$$

Proof : We will prove by induction

It is true for $n \leq 2$, Assume it is true for $n-1$. Then ,

$$\begin{aligned} B(F_n) &= B(F_{n-1}^2 - 2 F_{n-1} + 2) \\ &= B(B(F_{n-1}^2) - B(2 F_{n-1}) + B(2)) \\ &= B(B(B(F_{n-1})B(F_{n-1})) - 2B(F_{n-1}) + 2) \end{aligned}$$

Suppose $n-1$ is odd . Then $B(F_n) = B(B(5^2) - 2 * 5 + 2) = 8 \bmod 9$

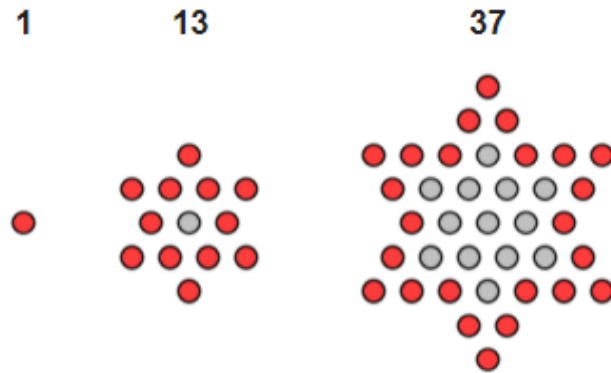
Suppose $n-1$ is even . Then $B(F_n) = B(B(8^2) - 2 * 8 + 2) = 5 \bmod 9$

Digital roots of star numbers

The j^{th} star number is given by the formula $s_j = 6j(j-1) + 1$ for $j=1, 2, 3, \dots$

So, $s_1=1$, $s_2=13$, $s_3=37$, $s_4=73$, $s_5=121$,-----and so on.

$$s_{j+1} = s_j + 12j \quad \text{for } j=1, 2, 3, \dots$$



$B(s_1)=1$, $B(s_2)=4$, $B(s_3)=1$, $B(s_4)=1$, $B(s_5)=4$, $B(s_6)=1$,-----

Therefore the digital root of the star number is always 1 or 4.

Digital roots of a natural number in a given base

Let n be a natural number . For base $b > 1$, we define the digital sum

$$F_b : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$$

$$F_b(n) = \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} d_i \quad \text{where } k \text{ is the number of digits in the number in base } b, \text{ and}$$

$$d_i = \frac{n \bmod b^{i+1} - n \bmod b^i}{b^i} \quad \text{is the value of the each digit of the number.}$$

$$\text{If } n \geq b, \text{ then } n = \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} d_i b^i \text{ and therefore } F_b(n) = \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} d_i < \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} d_i b^i = n \text{ (} b > 1 \text{)}$$

$$\text{If } n < b \text{ then } F_b(n) = n$$

therefore the only possible digital roots are the natural numbers $0 < n < b$

Example:

In base 12, 8 is the digital root of the base 10 number 3110,

$$d_0 = \frac{3110 \bmod 12^{0+1} - 3110 \bmod 12^0}{12^0} = \frac{3110 \bmod 12 - 3110 \bmod 1}{1} = \frac{2 - 0}{1} = \frac{2}{1} = 2$$

$$d_1 = \frac{3110 \bmod 12^{1+1} - 3110 \bmod 12^1}{12^1} = \frac{3110 \bmod 144 - 3110 \bmod 12}{12} = \frac{86 - 2}{12} = \frac{84}{12} = 7$$

$$d_2 = \frac{3110 \bmod 12^{2+1} - 3110 \bmod 12^2}{12^2} = \frac{3110 \bmod 1728 - 3110 \bmod 144}{144} = \frac{1382 - 86}{144} = \frac{1296}{144} = 9$$

$$d_3 = \frac{3110 \bmod 12^{3+1} - 3110 \bmod 12^3}{12^3} = \frac{3110 \bmod 20736 - 3110 \bmod 1728}{1728} = \frac{3110 - 1382}{1728} = \frac{1728}{1728} = 1$$

$$F_{12}(3110) = \sum_{i=0}^{4-1} d_i = 2 + 7 + 9 + 1 = 19$$

To find digital root of 19

$$d_0 = \frac{19 \bmod 12^{0+1} - 19 \bmod 12^0}{12^0} = \frac{19 \bmod 12 - 19 \bmod 1}{1} = \frac{7 - 0}{1} = \frac{7}{1} = 7$$

$$d_1 = \frac{19 \bmod 12^{1+1} - 19 \bmod 12^1}{12^1} = \frac{19 \bmod 144 - 19 \bmod 12}{12} = \frac{19 - 7}{12} = \frac{12}{12} = 1$$

$$F_{12}(19) = \sum_{i=0}^{2-1} d_i = 1 + 7 = 8$$

Direct formula

The formula in base b is :

$$F_b(n) = \begin{cases} b - 1 & \text{if } n \equiv 0 \pmod{b - 1} \\ n \pmod{b - 1} & \text{if } n \not\equiv 0 \pmod{b - 1} \end{cases}$$

(or)

$$F_b(n) = n - (b - 1) \left\lfloor \frac{n - 1}{b - 1} \right\rfloor$$

$$F_b(a_1 + a_2) = F_b(F_b(a_1) + F_b(a_2))$$

$$F_b(a_1 a_2) = F_b(F_b(a_1) F_b(a_2))$$

$$F_b(-n) = -F_b(n) \pmod{b - 1}$$

Digital values

- Every number real or imaginary is assigned a digital value.
- The digital values are mostly 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,or 9.
- If the number is natural number the digital value is called digital root.
- Digital value is denoted by $//x//$ or by $dval(x)$.
- $//0// = 9$
 $//-1// = 8$
 $//-2// = 7$
 $//-3// = 6$ and so on.
- A simple way to find out the digital value of a negative integer is to subtract the absolute value of the integer from 9.

Number	Digital value
267	6
266	5
265	4
264	3
263	2
262	1
261	9
260	8
259	7
258	6
257	5
256	4
255	3
254	2
253	1

Some properties of digital values

- $//a+b// = // //a// + //b// //$
- $//a-b// = // //a// - //b// //$
- $//a * b// = // //a// * //b// //$
- $// //a+b// +c// = //a+//b+c////$
- $//9a// = 9$
- $//8*a// = //-a//$
- $//9a+b// = //b//$
- $//a^b// = ////a//^b//$
- $//a/b// = ////a/////b////$

So the digital value for any decimal number which is terminating can be found

e.g. $//12.321// = //12321/1000// = ////12321/////1000//// = //9/1// = 9$

Digital values of irrational number

To find this we will use $//a^b// = ///a//^b//$ where a, b are real numbers

e.g. $//13^{0.5}// = //4^{0.5}// = //2//$ or $// -2// = 2$ or 7

Let A be another number such that $//a// = //A//$

$$//a^b// = ///a//^b//$$

and $//A^b// = ///A//^b// = ///a//^b//$

therefore $//a^b// = //A^b//$

e.g. $//\text{square root of } 7// = //\text{square root of } 16// = //4//$ or $// -4// = 4$ or 5

Digital values of Imaginary numbers

$$//a^b// = //A^b// \text{ when } //a// = //A//$$

e.g., $b=0.5, a=-1, A=8$

$$//i// = //(-1)^{0.5}// = //8^{0.5}//$$

$$//(-5)^{0.5}// = //4^{0.5}// = 2 \text{ or } 7$$

$$= //5^{0.5} * i//$$

$$= //5^{0.5} * 8^{0.5}//$$

$$= //(40)^{0.5}//$$

$$= //40^{0.5}//$$

$$= //4^{0.5}//$$

$$= 2 \text{ or } 7$$

Digital value in functions

$$//f(x)// = //f(//x//)//$$

If two systems of equations have equal digital values of corresponding coefficients of corresponding equations , then the corresponding roots have equal digital values

$$a_{11}x + b_{11}y + c_{11} = 0$$

$$a_{12}x + b_{12}y + c_{12} = 0$$

And

$$a_{21}x + b_{21}y + c_{21} = 0$$

$$a_{22}x + b_{22}y + c_{22} = 0$$

Will have same digital values of x as well as y if

$$// a_{11}// = // a_{21}//$$

$$// b_{11}// = // b_{21}//$$

$$// c_{11}// = // c_{21}//$$

Python program to find digital root

Spyder (Python 3.8)

File Edit Search Source Run Debug Consoles Projects Tools View Help

C:\Users\Sahithi Chowdary\digital roots.py

```
1  # -*- coding: utf-8 -*-
2  """
3  Created on Sun Dec  5 15:08:08 2021
4
5  @author: Sahithi Chowdary
6  """
7  import math
8  def dr(n):
9      if(n=="0"):
10         return 0
11     else:
12         if(n%9==0):
13             return 9
14         else:
15             return (n%9)
16 n=int(input("Enter the number"))
17 print(dr(n))
```

Usage

Here you can get help of any object by pressing **Ctrl+I** in front of it, either on the Editor or the Console.

Help can also be shown automatically after writing a left parenthesis next to an object. You can activate this behavior in *Preferences > Help*.

New to Spyder? Read our [tutorial](#)

Variable explorer Help Plots Files Find

Console 3/A

Python 3.8.5 (default, Sep 3 2020, 21:29:08) [MSC v.1916 64 bit (AMD64)]
Type "copyright", "credits" or "license" for more information.

IPython 7.19.0 -- An enhanced Interactive Python.

In [1]: runfile('C:/Users/Sahithi Chowdary/digital roots.py', wdir='C:/Users/Sahithi Chowdary')

Enter the number123
6

In [2]: runfile('C:/Users/Sahithi Chowdary/digital roots.py', wdir='C:/Users/Sahithi Chowdary')

Enter the number65785412
2

In [3]: runfile('C:/Users/Sahithi Chowdary/digital roots.py', wdir='C:/Users/Sahithi Chowdary')

Enter the number1999999999999999
1

In [4]:

LSP Python: ready conda: base (Python 3.8.5) Line 17, Col 18 UTF-8 CRLF RW Mem 54%

Conclusion

- Digital roots are used to identify whether the number is divisible by 3 or 9 quickly.
- To crosscheck our answers in addition , subtraction, multiplication , and division.

$736 + 245 = 981$ $7 + 2 = 9$	$954 - 476 = 478$ $9 - 8 = 1$	$13 \times 14 = 182$ $4 \times 5 = 20 = 2$	$256 \div 9$ $B(Q \times D + R) = B(dvd)$ $B(28 \times 9 + 4) = B(256)$ $1 \times 9 + 4 = 2 + 5 + 6$ $13 = 13$ $4 = 4$
----------------------------------	----------------------------------	---	---

- Digital roots are used to verify square roots and cube roots.
- Digital roots are not applicable to approximate values.
- Digital values help us verifying calculations involving not only integers but also complex numbers.

References

- <https://people.revoledu.com/kardi/tutorial/DigitSum/significant-digital-root.html>
- <https://brilliant.org/wiki/digital-root/>
- <https://www.instructables.com/Mental-Math-Digital-Root-Extraction/>
- <http://blogannath.blogspot.com/2009/09/vedic-mathematics-lesson-19-digital.html?m=1>
- https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Digital_root#:~:text=The%20digital%20root%20
- <https://www.freeonlineresearchpapers.com/digital-values/>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5AyNJK-OPi0>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IhQCknCrAsg&t=1513s>
- <https://www.hitbullseye.com/Quant/Digital-Root-or-Seed-Number.php>

THANK YOU