

# Distinct powers

## Problem 29

Consider all integer combinations of  $a^b$  for  $2 \leq a \leq 5$  and  $2 \leq b \leq 5$ :

$$\begin{array}{llll} 2^2=4, & 2^3=8, & 2^4=16, & 2^5=32 \\ 3^2=9, & 3^3=27, & 3^4=81, & 3^5=243 \\ 4^2=16, & 4^3=64, & 4^4=256, & 4^5=1024 \\ 5^2=25, & 5^3=125, & 5^4=625, & 5^5=3125 \end{array}$$

If they are then placed in numerical order, with any repeats removed, we get the following sequence of 15 distinct terms:

$$4, 8, 9, 16, 25, 27, 32, 64, 81, 125, 243, 256, 625, 1024, 3125$$

How many distinct terms are in the sequence generated by  $a^b$  for  $2 \leq a \leq 100$  and  $2 \leq b \leq 100$ ?

## Solution

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In [1]: ▶ print(len(set(a**b for a in range(2, 101) for b in range(2, 101)))  
9183
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