Canonical Code: Project Euler Challenge

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# To handle prime numbers, I keep a global prime list:
global_primes = [2, 3]
# ...and a next_prime function to append the next prime to the list, testing consecutive odds until success:
def next prime():
    test = global_primes[-1] + 2
    while not is_prime(test):
        test += 2
    global_primes.append(test)
# ...and an is_prime function that makes sure the prime list is complete up to the square root of the desired
# number, then tests every prime in that range against it. Dual recursion!
def is prime(x):
    while global_primes[-1] ** 2 < x:</pre>
       next_prime()
    for prime in global_primes:
        if x \% prime == 0:
           return False
        if prime ** 2 >= x:
           return True
    return True
#1: List comprehension!
print("#1: %s" % sum([x for x in range(1000) if x % 3 == 0 or x % 5 == 0]))
#2: An iterative Fibonacci implementation, for speed; note that the comprehension ignores the last number in the fib list
fib = [1, 1]
while fib[-1] < 4000000:
   fib.append(fib[-1] + fib[-2])
print("#2: %s" % sum([x for x in fib[:-1] if x % 2 == 0]))
#3: One line, given is prime above; note the [-1] at the end that only prints the last number in the list
print("#3: %s" % [x for x in range(2, int(600851475143 ** 0.5) + 1) if 600851475143 % x == 0 and is_prime(x)][-1])
#4: This solution relies on knowing that successive differences of squares are smaller, so it's guaranteed to search
# largest to smallest; also note that the is_pal function at the top is unnecessary, but I think it's cleaner looking
   code to separate it out and it means I don't have to convert low * high to a string twice
def is_pal(string):
    return string == ''.join(reversed(string))
def find_pal():
    for target in range(999, 100, -1):
        low, high = target, target
        while high <= 999:
            if is pal(str(low * high)):
               return low*high
            low -= 1
            high += 1
print("#4: %s" % find_pal())
#5: One of the optional challenges, implemented as directed on the paper
def gcd(x, y):
    while y != 0:
        (x, y) = (y, x % y) # see Wikipedia article for Euclidean Algorithm; also, note tuple packing/unpacking!
   return x
answer = 1
for num in range(1, 21):
   answer = answer * num // gcd(answer, num) # because lcm(x, y) = x * y // gcd(x, y)
print("#5: %s" % answer)
#6: One of the optional challenges; in Python, this is almost too easy
print("#6: %s" % (sum([x for x in range(1, 101)])**2 - sum([x**2 for x in range(1, 101)])))
#7: See the next_prime function above
while len(global_primes) < 10001:</pre>
    next_prime()
print("#7: %s" % global_primes[10000])
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#8: Not much unique here, but note the use of "max" and note \ to make single-line statements multiline for readability
num_string = "731671765313306249192251196744265747423553491949349698352031277450632623957831801698480186947885184385" +\
             "861560789112949495459501737958331952853208805511125406987471585238630507156932909632952274430435576689" +\
             "664895044524452316173185640309871112172238311362229893423380308135336276614282806444486645238749303589" +\
             "072962904915604407723907138105158593079608667017242712188399879790879227492190169972088809377665727333" +\
             "001053367881220235421809751254540594752243525849077116705560136048395864467063244157221553975369781797" +\
             "784617406495514929086256932197846862248283972241375657056057490261407972968652414535100474821663704844" +\
             "031998900088952434506585412275886668811642717147992444292823086346567481391912316282458617866458359124" +\
             "566529476545682848912883142607690042242190226710556263211111093705442175069416589604080719840385096245" +\
             "544436298123098787992724428490918884580156166097919133875499200524063689912560717606058861164671094050" +\
             "7754100225698315520005593572972571636269561882670428252483600823257530420752963450"
biggest_prod = 1
for count in range(len(num_string)-12):
   nums = [int(x) for x in num_string[count:count + 13]]
    prod = 1
    for num in nums:
       prod *= num
    biggest_prod = max(prod, biggest_prod)
print("#8: %s" % biggest_prod)
#9: Note c can be defined in relation to a and b, so we only need two loops, not three; also, counting down is faster if
   you're looking for the biggest answer
def find_trip():
    for a in range(998, 0, -1):
        for b in range(999 - a, 0, -1):
            c = 1000 - a - b
            if a**2 + b**2 == c**2:
                return a * b * c
print("#9: %s" % find trip())
#10: An optional challenge; not especially efficient - to do this really fast you need more advanced prime detection
while global_primes[-1] < 2000000:</pre>
   next_prime()
index = 1
while global_primes[index] < 2000000: #I need this loop in case global_primes is already longer than needed
   index += 1
print("#10: %s" % sum(global_primes[:index]))
#29: Solution presented just to give an example of a set comprehension; this works because sets remove duplicates
print("#29: %s" % len({a**b for a in range(2, 101) for b in range(2, 101)}))
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