

# Ponder This

**October 2014**

[<<September](#) **October** [November>>](#)

---

**Ponder This Challenge:**

What are the last 10 decimal digits of  $2^{(3^{(4^{(5^{(6^{(7^{(8^9))}}))})})})}$ ?

This challenge is easily handled with Wolfram Alpha which gives the answer: 8170340352

This can also be done using Wolfram Alpha and a sequence of reductions mod  $10^{10}$  as follows:

$$7^{(8^9)} \bmod 10^{10} = 6763596801$$

$$6^{6763596801} \bmod 10^{10} = 6763596801$$

$$5^{6763596801} \bmod 10^{10} = 1064453125$$

$$4^{1064453125} \bmod 10^{10} = 8212890624$$

$$3^{8212890624} \bmod 10^{10} = 4919828481$$

$$2^{4919828481} \bmod 10^{10} = 8170340352$$