

# Minimal elements for the base $b$ representations of the primes which are $> b$

## Introduction

A [string](#)  $x$  is a [subsequence](#) of another string  $y$ , if  $x$  can be obtained from  $y$  by deleting zero or more of the [characters](#) (in this article, [digits](#)) in  $y$  (this should not to be confused with [substring](#), a substring is a contiguous sequence of characters within a string, they are related to two hard problems: [longest common subsequence problem](#) and [longest common substring problem](#), respectively). For example, 514 is a subsequence of 352148. The [empty string](#)  $\lambda$  is a subsequence of every string. There are  $2^n$  subsequences of a string with length  $n$ , e.g. the subsequences of 123456 are (totally  $2^6 = 64$  subsequences)

$\lambda$ , 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 23, 24, 25, 26, 34, 35, 36, 45, 46, 56, 123, 124, 125, 126, 134, 135, 136, 145, 146, 156, 234, 235, 236, 245, 246, 256, 345, 346, 356, 456, 1234, 1235, 1236, 1245, 1246, 1256, 1345, 1346, 1356, 1456, 2345, 2346, 2356, 2456, 3456, 12345, 12346, 12356, 12456, 13456, 23456, 123456

(in this article, we only consider the subsequences with length  $\geq 2$ , and not consider the subsequences [beginning with 0](#) and/or [ending with 0](#), e.g. for the string 123456, we have these subsequences: 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 23, 24, 25, 26, 34, 35, 36, 45, 46, 56, 123, 124, 125, 126, 134, 135, 136, 145, 146, 156, 234, 235, 236, 245, 246, 256, 345, 346, 356, 456, 1234, 1235, 1236, 1245, 1246, 1256, 1345, 1346, 1356, 1456, 2345, 2346, 2356, 2456, 3456, 12345, 12346, 12356, 12456, 13456, 23456, 123456, totally 57 substrings, and for a string with length  $n$  with no character 0, there are  $2^n - n - 1$  substrings)

Two strings  $x$  and  $y$  are [comparable](#) if either  $x$  is a subsequence of  $y$ , or  $y$  is a subsequence of  $x$ . A surprising result from [formal language theory](#) is that every set of pairwise incomparable strings is finite. This means that from any set of strings we can find its [minimal elements](#). A string  $x$  in a set of strings  $S$  is a minimal string if whenever  $y$  (an element of  $S$ ) is a subsequence of  $x$ , we have  $y = x$ .

The set of all minimal strings of  $S$  is denoted  $M(S)$ , the set  $M(S)$  must be [finite](#)! Even if  $S$  is an [infinite set](#), such as the set of [prime number](#) strings with length  $\geq 2$  in [decimal](#) ([proofs for that this set is infinite](#)) and the set of [square number](#) strings with length  $\geq 2$  in [decimal](#), although the set of the minimal strings of the latter set is not known and extremely difficult to compute. The set of the minimal strings of the former set has exactly 77 elements, and it is {11, 13, 17, 19, 23, 29, 31, 37, 41, 43, 47, 53, 59, 61, 67, 71, 73, 79, 83, 89, 97, 227, 251, 257, 277, 281, 349, 409, 449, 499, 521, 557, 577, 587, 727, 757, 787, 821, 827, 857, 877, 881, 887, 991, 2087, 2221, 5051, 5081, 5501, 5581, 5801, 5851, 6469, 6949, 8501, 9001, 9049, 9221, 9551, 9649, 9851, 9949, 20021, 20201, 50207, 60649, 80051, 666649, 946669,



Theorem: For every language  $L$ , there are only finitely many minimal strings.

Indeed, we have  $\text{sup}(L) = \text{sup}(M(L))$  and  $\Sigma^* - \text{sub}(L) = \text{sup}(M(\Sigma^* - \text{sub}(L)))$ , and the superword language of a finite language is regular, since  $\text{sup}(\{w_1, \dots, w_n\}) = \bigcup_{i=1}^n \Sigma^* w_{i,1} \Sigma^* \dots \Sigma^* w_{i,|w_i|} \Sigma^*$  where  $w_i = w_{i,1} \dots w_{i,|w_i|}$  with  $w_{i,j} \in \Sigma$ .

Although the set  $M(S)$  of minimal strings is necessarily [finite](#), determining it explicitly for a given  $S$  can be a difficult computational problem. We use some [numbertheoretic heuristics](#) to [compute](#)  $M(L_b)$ , where  $L_b$  is the language of [base- \$b\$](#)  representations of the [prime numbers](#) which are  $> b$ , for  $2 \leq b \leq 16$ . (Also, I left as a challenge to readers the task of computing  $M(L_b)$  for  $17 \leq b \leq 36$ )

## Notation

In what follows, if  $x$  is a string of symbols over the [alphabet](#)  $\Sigma_b := \{0, 1, \dots, b-1\}$  we let  $[x]_b$  denote the evaluation of  $x$  in the [positional numeral system](#) with [base \(or radix\)](#)  $b$  (starting with the [most significant digit](#)), and  $[\lambda]_b := 0$  where  $\lambda$  is the empty string. This is extended to languages as follows:  $[L]_b := \{[x]_b : x \in L\}$ . We use [the convention](#) that  $A := 10$ ,  $B := 11$ ,  $C := 12$ , ...,  $Z := 35$ , to conveniently represent strings of symbols in base  $b > 10$ . We let  $(x)_b$  be the [canonical representation](#) of  $x$  in base  $b$ , that is, the representation without [leading zeros](#). Finally, as usual, for a language  $L$  we let  $L^n := LLL\dots LLL$  with  $n$   $L$ s and  $L^* := \bigcup_{i \geq 0} L^i$ .

This is a list for  $L_b$  for bases  $2 \leq b \leq 36$ .

$b$	$L_b$ (using A–Z to represent digit values 10 to 35)
<a href="#">2</a>	11, 101, 111, 1011, 1101, 10001, 10011, 10111, 11101, 11111, 100101, 101001, 101011, 101111, 110101, 111011, 111101, 1000011, 1000111, 1001001, 1001111, 1010011, 1011001, 1100001, 1100101, 1100111, 1101011, 1101101, 1110001, 1111111, 10000011, 10001001, 10001011, 10010101, 10010111, 10011101, 10100011, 10100111, 10101101, 10110011, 10110101, 10111111, 11000001, 11000101, 11000111, 11010011, 11011111, 11100011, 11100101, 11101001, 11101111, 11110001, 11111011, 100000001, 100000111, 100001101, 100001111, 100010101, 100011001, 100011011, 100100101, 100110011, 100110111, 100111001, 100111101, 101001011, 101010001, 101011011, 101011101, 101100001, 101100111, 101101111, 101110101, 101111011, 101111111, 110000101, 110001101, 110010001, 110011001, 110100011, 110100101, 110101111, 110110001, 110110111, 110111011, 111000001, 111001001, 111001101, 111001111, 111010011, 111011111, 111100111, 111101011, 111110011, 111110111, 111111101, 1000001001, 1000001011, 1000011101, 1000100011, ...
<a href="#">3</a>	12, 21, 102, 111, 122, 201, 212, 1002, 1011, 1101, 1112, 1121, 1202, 1222, 2012, 2021, 2111, 2122, 2201, 2221, 10002, 10022, 10121, 10202, 10211, 10222, 11001, 11012, 11201, 11212, 12002, 12011, 12112, 12121, 12211, 20001, 20012, 20102, 20122, 20201, 21002, 21011, 21022, 21101, 21211, 22021, 22102, 22111, 22122, 22212, 22221, 100022, 100112, 100202,

	100222, 101001, 101021, 101102, 101111, 101212, 102101, 102112, 102121, 102202, 110021, 110111, 110212, 110221, 111002, 111022, 111121, 111211, 112001, 112012, 112102, 112201, 112212, 120011, 120112, 120121, 120222, 121001, 121021, 121102, 121122, 121221, 122002, 122011, 122022, 122202, 200001, 200012, 200111, 200122, 200212, 201022, 201101, 202001, 202021, 202122, ...
<a href="#"><u>4</u></a>	11, 13, 23, 31, 101, 103, 113, 131, 133, 211, 221, 223, 233, 311, 323, 331, 1003, 1013, 1021, 1033, 1103, 1121, 1201, 1211, 1213, 1223, 1231, 1301, 1333, 2003, 2021, 2023, 2111, 2113, 2131, 2203, 2213, 2231, 2303, 2311, 2333, 3001, 3011, 3013, 3103, 3133, 3203, 3211, 3221, 3233, 3301, 3323, 10001, 10013, 10031, 10033, 10111, 10121, 10123, 10211, 10303, 10313, 10321, 10331, 11023, 11101, 11123, 11131, 11201, 11213, 11233, 11311, 11323, 11333, 12011, 12031, 12101, 12121, 12203, 12211, 12233, 12301, 12313, 12323, 13001, 13021, 13031, 13033, 13103, 13133, 13213, 13223, 13303, 13313, 13331, 20021, 20023, 20131, 20203, 20231, ...
<a href="#"><u>5</u></a>	12, 21, 23, 32, 34, 43, 104, 111, 122, 131, 133, 142, 203, 214, 221, 232, 241, 243, 304, 313, 324, 342, 401, 403, 412, 414, 423, 1002, 1011, 1022, 1024, 1044, 1101, 1112, 1123, 1132, 1143, 1204, 1211, 1231, 1233, 1242, 1244, 1321, 1343, 1402, 1404, 1413, 1424, 1431, 2001, 2012, 2023, 2034, 2041, 2102, 2111, 2113, 2133, 2212, 2221, 2223, 2232, 2311, 2322, 2342, 2344, 2403, 2414, 2432, 2443, 3004, 3013, 3024, 3042, 3101, 3114, 3134, 3141, 3211, 3213, 3224, 3233, 3244, 3312, 3321, 3323, 3332, 3404, 3422, 3431, 3444, 4003, 4014, 4041, 4043, 4131, 4142, 4212, 4223, ...
<a href="#"><u>6</u></a>	11, 15, 21, 25, 31, 35, 45, 51, 101, 105, 111, 115, 125, 135, 141, 151, 155, 201, 211, 215, 225, 241, 245, 251, 255, 301, 305, 331, 335, 345, 351, 405, 411, 421, 431, 435, 445, 455, 501, 515, 521, 525, 531, 551, 1011, 1015, 1021, 1025, 1035, 1041, 1055, 1105, 1115, 1125, 1131, 1141, 1145, 1151, 1205, 1231, 1235, 1241, 1245, 1311, 1321, 1335, 1341, 1345, 1355, 1411, 1421, 1431, 1435, 1445, 1501, 1505, 1521, 1535, 1541, 1555, 2001, 2011, 2015, 2025, 2041, 2045, 2051, 2055, 2115, 2131, 2135, 2151, 2155, 2205, 2225, 2231, 2301, 2311, 2325, 2335, ...
<a href="#"><u>7</u></a>	14, 16, 23, 25, 32, 41, 43, 52, 56, 61, 65, 104, 113, 115, 124, 131, 133, 142, 146, 155, 166, 203, 205, 212, 214, 221, 241, 245, 254, 256, 302, 304, 313, 322, 326, 335, 344, 346, 362, 364, 401, 403, 421, 436, 443, 445, 452, 461, 463, 506, 515, 524, 533, 535, 544, 551, 553, 566, 616, 623, 625, 632, 652, 661, 1004, 1006, 1013, 1022, 1033, 1042, 1051, 1055, 1064, 1105, 1112, 1123, 1136, 1141, 1154, 1156, 1165, 1202, 1211, 1222, 1226, 1231, 1235, 1253, 1264, 1301, 1312, 1316, 1325, 1343, 1345, 1402, 1411, 1424, 1433, 1442, ...
<a href="#"><u>8</u></a>	13, 15, 21, 23, 27, 35, 37, 45, 51, 53, 57, 65, 73, 75, 103, 107, 111, 117, 123, 131, 141, 145, 147, 153, 155, 161, 177, 203, 211, 213, 225, 227, 235, 243, 247, 255, 263, 265, 277, 301, 305, 307, 323, 337, 343, 345, 351, 357, 361, 373, 401, 407, 415, 417, 425, 431, 433, 445, 463, 467, 471, 475, 513, 521, 533, 535, 541, 547, 557, 565, 573, 577, 605, 615, 621, 631, 643, 645, 657, 661, 667, 673, 701, 711, 715, 717, 723, 737, 747, 753, 763, 767, 775, 1011, 1013, 1035, 1043, 1055, 1063, 1071, ...
<a href="#"><u>9</u></a>	12, 14, 18, 21, 25, 32, 34, 41, 45, 47, 52, 58, 65, 67, 74, 78, 81, 87, 102, 108, 117, 122, 124, 128, 131, 135, 151, 155, 162, 164, 175, 177, 184, 201, 205,

	212, 218, 221, 232, 234, 238, 241, 254, 267, 272, 274, 278, 285, 287, 308, 315, 322, 328, 331, 337, 342, 344, 355, 371, 375, 377, 382, 407, 414, 425, 427, 432, 438, 447, 454, 461, 465, 472, 481, 485, 504, 515, 517, 528, 531, 537, 542, 548, 557, 562, 564, 568, 582, 601, 605, 614, 618, 625, 638, 641, 661, 667, 678, 685, 702, ...
<a href="#">10</a>	11, 13, 17, 19, 23, 29, 31, 37, 41, 43, 47, 53, 59, 61, 67, 71, 73, 79, 83, 89, 97, 101, 103, 107, 109, 113, 127, 131, 137, 139, 149, 151, 157, 163, 167, 173, 179, 181, 191, 193, 197, 199, 211, 223, 227, 229, 233, 239, 241, 251, 257, 263, 269, 271, 277, 281, 283, 293, 307, 311, 313, 317, 331, 337, 347, 349, 353, 359, 367, 373, 379, 383, 389, 397, 401, 409, 419, 421, 431, 433, 439, 443, 449, 457, 461, 463, 467, 479, 487, 491, 499, 503, 509, 521, 523, 541, 547, 557, 563, 569, ...
<a href="#">11</a>	12, 16, 18, 21, 27, 29, 34, 38, 3A, 43, 49, 54, 56, 61, 65, 67, 72, 76, 81, 89, 92, 94, 98, 9A, A3, 106, 10A, 115, 117, 126, 128, 133, 139, 142, 148, 153, 155, 164, 166, 16A, 171, 182, 193, 197, 199, 1A2, 1A8, 1AA, 209, 214, 21A, 225, 227, 232, 236, 238, 247, 25A, 263, 265, 269, 281, 287, 296, 298, 2A1, 2A7, 304, 30A, 315, 319, 324, 331, 335, 342, 351, 353, 362, 364, 36A, 373, 379, 386, 38A, 391, 395, 3A6, 403, 407, 414, 418, 423, 434, 436, 452, 458, 467, 472, 478, 47A, ...
<a href="#">12</a>	11, 15, 17, 1B, 25, 27, 31, 35, 37, 3B, 45, 4B, 51, 57, 5B, 61, 67, 6B, 75, 81, 85, 87, 8B, 91, 95, A7, AB, B5, B7, 105, 107, 111, 117, 11B, 125, 12B, 131, 13B, 141, 145, 147, 157, 167, 16B, 171, 175, 17B, 181, 18B, 195, 19B, 1A5, 1A7, 1B1, 1B5, 1B7, 205, 217, 21B, 221, 225, 237, 241, 24B, 251, 255, 25B, 267, 271, 277, 27B, 285, 291, 295, 2A1, 2AB, 2B1, 2BB, 301, 307, 30B, 315, 321, 325, 327, 32B, 33B, 347, 34B, 357, 35B, 365, 375, 377, 391, 397, 3A5, 3AB, 3B5, 3B7, ...
<a href="#">13</a>	14, 16, 1A, 23, 25, 2B, 32, 34, 38, 41, 47, 49, 52, 56, 58, 61, 65, 6B, 76, 7A, 7C, 83, 85, 89, 9A, A1, A7, A9, B6, B8, C1, C7, CB, 104, 10A, 10C, 119, 11B, 122, 124, 133, 142, 146, 148, 14C, 155, 157, 164, 16A, 173, 179, 17B, 184, 188, 18A, 197, 1A8, 1AC, 1B1, 1B5, 1C6, 1CC, 209, 20B, 212, 218, 223, 229, 232, 236, 23C, 247, 24B, 256, 263, 265, 272, 274, 27A, 281, 287, 292, 296, 298, 29C, 2AB, 2B6, 2BA, 2C5, 2C9, 302, 311, 313, 328, 331, 33B, 344, 34A, 34C, 355, ...
<a href="#">14</a>	13, 15, 19, 21, 23, 29, 2D, 31, 35, 3B, 43, 45, 4B, 51, 53, 59, 5D, 65, 6D, 73, 75, 79, 7B, 81, 91, 95, 9B, 9D, A9, AB, B3, B9, BD, C5, CB, CD, D9, DB, 101, 103, 111, 11D, 123, 125, 129, 131, 133, 13D, 145, 14B, 153, 155, 15B, 161, 163, 16D, 17D, 183, 185, 189, 199, 1A1, 1AB, 1AD, 1B3, 1B9, 1C3, 1C9, 1D1, 1D5, 1DB, 205, 209, 213, 21D, 221, 22B, 22D, 235, 239, 241, 249, 24D, 251, 255, 263, 26B, 271, 279, 27D, 285, 293, 295, 2A9, 2B1, 2BB, 2C3, 2C9, 2CB, 2D3, ...
<a href="#">15</a>	12, 14, 18, 1E, 21, 27, 2B, 2D, 32, 38, 3E, 41, 47, 4B, 4D, 54, 58, 5E, 67, 6B, 6D, 72, 74, 78, 87, 8B, 92, 94, 9E, A1, A7, AD, B2, B8, BE, C1, CB, CD, D2, D4, E1, ED, 102, 104, 108, 10E, 111, 11B, 122, 128, 12E, 131, 137, 13B, 13D, 148, 157, 15B, 15D, 162, 171, 177, 182, 184, 188, 18E, 197, 19D, 1A4, 1A8, 1AE, 1B7, 1BB, 1C4, 1CE, 1D1, 1DB, 1DD, 1E4, 1E8, 1EE, 207, 20B, 20D, 212, 21E, 227, 22B, 234, 238, 23E, 24B, 24D, 261, 267, 272, 278, 27E, 281, 287, ...
<a href="#">16</a>	11, 13, 17, 1D, 1F, 25, 29, 2B, 2F, 35, 3B, 3D, 43, 47, 49, 4F, 53, 59, 61, 65,

	67, 6B, 6D, 71, 7F, 83, 89, 8B, 95, 97, 9D, A3, A7, AD, B3, B5, BF, C1, C5, C7, D3, DF, E3, E5, E9, EF, F1, FB, 101, 107, 10D, 10F, 115, 119, 11B, 125, 133, 137, 139, 13D, 14B, 151, 15B, 15D, 161, 167, 16F, 175, 17B, 17F, 185, 18D, 191, 199, 1A3, 1A5, 1AF, 1B1, 1B7, 1BB, 1C1, 1C9, 1CD, 1CF, 1D3, 1DF, 1E7, 1EB, 1F3, 1F7, 1FD, 209, 20B, 21D, 223, 22D, 233, 239, 23B, 241, ...
17	12, 16, 1C, 1E, 23, 27, 29, 2D, 32, 38, 3A, 3G, 43, 45, 4B, 4F, 54, 5C, 5G, 61, 65, 67, 6B, 78, 7C, 81, 83, 8D, 8F, 94, 9A, 9E, A3, A9, AB, B4, B6, BA, BC, C7, D2, D6, D8, DC, E1, E3, ED, F2, F8, FE, FG, G5, G9, GB, 104, 111, 115, 117, 11B, 128, 12E, 137, 139, 13D, 142, 14A, 14G, 155, 159, 15F, 166, 16A, 171, 17B, 17D, 186, 188, 18E, 191, 197, 19F, 1A2, 1A4, 1A8, 1B3, 1BB, 1BF, 1C6, 1CA, 1CG, 1DB, 1DD, 1EE, 1F3, 1FD, 1G2, 1G8, 1GA, 1GG, 209, ...
<a href="#">18</a>	11, 15, 1B, 1D, 21, 25, 27, 2B, 2H, 35, 37, 3D, 3H, 41, 47, 4B, 4H, 57, 5B, 5D, 5H, 61, 65, 71, 75, 7B, 7D, 85, 87, 8D, 91, 95, 9B, 9H, A1, AB, AD, AH, B1, BD, C7, CB, CD, CH, D5, D7, DH, E5, EB, EH, F1, F7, FB, FD, G5, H1, H5, H7, HB, 107, 10D, 115, 117, 11B, 11H, 127, 12D, 131, 135, 13B, 141, 145, 14D, 155, 157, 15H, 161, 167, 16B, 16H, 177, 17B, 17D, 17H, 18B, 191, 195, 19D, 19H, 1A5, 1AH, 1B1, 1C1, 1C7, 1CH, 1D5, 1DB, 1DD, 1E1, 1EB, ...
19	14, 1A, 1C, 1I, 23, 25, 29, 2F, 32, 34, 3A, 3E, 3G, 43, 47, 4D, 52, 56, 58, 5C, 5E, 5I, 6D, 6H, 74, 76, 7G, 7I, 85, 8B, 8F, 92, 98, 9A, A1, A3, A7, A9, B2, BE, BI, C1, C5, CB, CD, D4, DA, DG, E3, E5, EB, EF, EH, F8, G3, G7, G9, GD, H8, HE, I5, I7, IB, IH, 106, 10C, 10I, 113, 119, 11H, 122, 12A, 131, 133, 13D, 13F, 142, 146, 14C, 151, 155, 157, 15B, 164, 16C, 16G, 175, 179, 17F, 188, 18A, 199, 19F, 1A6, 1AC, 1AI, 1B1, 1B7, 1BH, 1C4, ...
<a href="#">20</a>	13, 19, 1B, 1H, 21, 23, 27, 2D, 2J, 31, 37, 3B, 3D, 3J, 43, 49, 4H, 51, 53, 57, 59, 5D, 67, 6B, 6H, 6J, 79, 7B, 7H, 83, 87, 8D, 8J, 91, 9B, 9D, 9H, 9J, AB, B3, B7, B9, BD, BJ, C1, CB, CH, D3, D9, DB, DH, E1, E3, ED, F7, FB, FD, FH, GB, GH, H7, H9, HD, HJ, I7, ID, IJ, J3, J9, JH, 101, 109, 10J, 111, 11B, 11D, 11J, 123, 129, 12H, 131, 133, 137, 13J, 147, 14B, 14J, 153, 159, 161, 163, 171, 177, 17H, 183, 189, 18B, 18H, 197, 19D, ...
21	12, 18, 1A, 1G, 1K, 21, 25, 2B, 2H, 2J, 34, 38, 3A, 3G, 3K, 45, 4D, 4H, 4J, 52, 54, 58, 61, 65, 6B, 6D, 72, 74, 7A, 7G, 7K, 85, 8B, 8D, 92, 94, 98, 9A, A1, AD, AH, AJ, B2, B8, BA, BK, C5, CB, CH, CJ, D4, D8, DA, DK, ED, EH, EJ, F2, FG, G1, GB, GD, GH, H2, HA, HG, I1, I5, IB, IJ, J2, JA, JK, K1, KB, KD, KJ, 102, 108, 10G, 10K, 111, 115, 11H, 124, 128, 12G, 12K, 135, 13H, 13J, 14G, 151, 15B, 15H, 162, 164, 16A, 16K, 175, ...
22	11, 17, 19, 1F, 1J, 1L, 23, 29, 2F, 2H, 31, 35, 37, 3D, 3H, 41, 49, 4D, 4F, 4J, 4L, 53, 5H, 5L, 65, 67, 6H, 6J, 73, 79, 7D, 7J, 83, 85, 8F, 8H, 8L, 91, 9D, A3, A7, A9, AD, AJ, AL, B9, BF, BL, C5, C7, CD, CH, CJ, D7, DL, E3, E5, E9, F1, F7, FH, FJ, G1, G7, GF, GL, H5, H9, HF, I1, I5, ID, J1, J3, JD, JF, JL, K3, K9, KH, KL, L1, L5, LH, 103, 107, 10F, 10J, 113, 11F, 11H, 12D, 12J, 137, 13D, 13J, 13L, 145, 14F, 14L, ...
23	16, 18, 1E, 1I, 1K, 21, 27, 2D, 2F, 2L, 32, 34, 3A, 3E, 3K, 45, 49, 4B, 4F, 4H, 4L, 5C, 5G, 5M, 61, 6B, 6D, 6J, 72, 76, 7C, 7I, 7K, 87, 89, 8D, 8F, 94, 9G, 9K, 9M, A3, A9, AB, AL, B4, BA, BG, BI, C1, C5, C7, CH, D8, DC, DE, DI, E9, EF, F2, F4, F8, FE, FM, G5, GB, GF, GL, H6, HA, HI, I5, I7, IH, IJ, J2, J6, JC, JK, K1, K3, K7, KJ, L4, L8, LG, LK, M3, MF, MH, 10C, 10I, 115, 11B, 11H, 11J, 122, 12C, 12I, 131, ...

<a href="#">24</a>	15, 17, 1D, 1H, 1J, 1N, 25, 2B, 2D, 2J, 2N, 31, 37, 3B, 3H, 41, 45, 47, 4B, 4D, 4H, 57, 5B, 5H, 5J, 65, 67, 6D, 6J, 6N, 75, 7B, 7D, 7N, 81, 85, 87, 8J, 97, 9B, 9D, 9H, 9N, A1, AB, AH, AN, B5, B7, BD, BH, BJ, C5, CJ, CN, D1, D5, DJ, E1, EB, ED, EH, EN, F7, FD, FJ, FN, G5, GD, GH, H1, HB, HD, HN, I1, I7, IB, IH, J1, J5, J7, JB, JN, K7, KB, KJ, KN, L5, LH, LJ, MD, MJ, N5, NB, NH, NJ, 101, 10B, 10H, 10N, ...
25	14, 16, 1C, 1G, 1I, 1M, 23, 29, 2B, 2H, 2L, 2N, 34, 38, 3E, 3M, 41, 43, 47, 49, 4D, 52, 56, 5C, 5E, 5O, 61, 67, 6D, 6H, 6N, 74, 76, 7G, 7I, 7M, 7O, 8B, 8N, 92, 94, 98, 9E, 9G, A1, A7, AD, AJ, AL, B2, B6, B8, BI, C7, CB, CD, CH, D6, DC, DM, DO, E3, E9, EH, EN, F4, F8, FE, FM, G1, G9, GJ, GL, H6, H8, HE, HI, HO, I7, IB, ID, IH, J4, JC, JG, JO, K3, K9, KL, KN, LG, LM, M7, MD, MJ, ML, N2, NC, NI, NO, ...
<a href="#">26</a>	13, 15, 1B, 1F, 1H, 1L, 21, 27, 29, 2F, 2J, 2L, 31, 35, 3B, 3J, 3N, 3P, 43, 45, 49, 4N, 51, 57, 59, 5J, 5L, 61, 67, 6B, 6H, 6N, 6P, 79, 7B, 7F, 7H, 83, 8F, 8J, 8L, 8P, 95, 97, 9H, 9N, A3, A9, AB, AH, AL, AN, B7, BL, BP, C1, C5, CJ, CP, D9, DB, DF, DL, E3, E9, EF, EJ, EP, F7, FB, FJ, G3, G5, GF, GH, GN, H1, H7, HF, HJ, HL, HP, IB, IJ, IN, J5, J9, JF, K1, K3, KL, L1, LB, LH, LN, LP, M5, MF, ML, N1, ...
<a href="#">27</a>	12, 14, 1A, 1E, 1G, 1K, 1Q, 25, 27, 2D, 2H, 2J, 2P, 32, 38, 3G, 3K, 3M, 3Q, 41, 45, 4J, 4N, 52, 54, 5E, 5G, 5M, 61, 65, 6B, 6H, 6J, 72, 74, 78, 7A, 7M, 87, 8B, 8D, 8H, 8N, 8P, 98, 9E, 9K, 9Q, A1, A7, AB, AD, AN, BA, BE, BG, BK, C7, CD, CN, CP, D2, D8, DG, DM, E1, E5, EB, EJ, EN, F4, FE, FG, FQ, G1, G7, GB, GH, GP, H2, H4, H8, HK, I1, I5, ID, IH, IN, J8, JA, K1, K7, KH, KN, L2, L4, LA, LK, LQ, M5, ...
28	11, 13, 19, 1D, 1F, 1J, 1P, 23, 25, 2B, 2F, 2H, 2N, 2R, 35, 3D, 3H, 3J, 3N, 3P, 41, 4F, 4J, 4P, 4R, 59, 5B, 5H, 5N, 5R, 65, 6B, 6D, 6N, 6P, 71, 73, 7F, 7R, 83, 85, 89, 8F, 8H, 8R, 95, 9B, 9H, 9J, 9P, A1, A3, AD, AR, B3, B5, B9, BN, C1, CB, CD, CH, CN, D3, D9, DF, DJ, DP, E5, E9, EH, ER, F1, FB, FD, FJ, FN, G1, G9, GD, GF, GJ, H3, HB, HF, HN, HR, I5, IH, IJ, J9, JF, JP, K3, K9, KB, KH, KR, L5, LB, ...
29	12, 18, 1C, 1E, 1I, 1O, 21, 23, 29, 2D, 2F, 2L, 2P, 32, 3A, 3E, 3G, 3K, 3M, 3Q, 4B, 4F, 4L, 4N, 54, 56, 5C, 5I, 5M, 5S, 65, 67, 6H, 6J, 6N, 6P, 78, 7K, 7O, 7Q, 81, 87, 89, 8J, 8P, 92, 98, 9A, 9G, 9K, 9M, A3, AH, AL, AN, AR, BC, BI, BS, C1, C5, CB, CJ, CP, D2, D6, DC, DK, DO, E3, ED, EF, EP, ER, F4, F8, FE, FM, FQ, FS, G3, GF, GN, GR, H6, HA, HG, HS, I1, IJ, IP, J6, JC, JI, JK, JQ, K7, KD, KJ, KL, ...
30	11, 17, 1B, 1D, 1H, 1N, 1T, 21, 27, 2B, 2D, 2J, 2N, 2T, 37, 3B, 3D, 3H, 3J, 3N, 47, 4B, 4H, 4J, 4T, 51, 57, 5D, 5H, 5N, 5T, 61, 6B, 6D, 6H, 6J, 71, 7D, 7H, 7J, 7N, 7T, 81, 8B, 8H, 8N, 8T, 91, 97, 9B, 9D, 9N, A7, AB, AD, AH, B1, B7, BH, BJ, BN, BT, C7, CD, CJ, CN, CT, D7, DB, DJ, DT, E1, EB, ED, EJ, EN, ET, F7, FB, FD, FH, FT, G7, GB, GJ, GN, GT, HB, HD, I1, I7, IH, IN, IT, J1, J7, JH, JN, JT, K1, ...
31	16, 1A, 1C, 1G, 1M, 1S, 1U, 25, 29, 2B, 2H, 2L, 2R, 34, 38, 3A, 3E, 3G, 3K, 43, 47, 4D, 4F, 4P, 4R, 52, 58, 5C, 5I, 5O, 5Q, 65, 67, 6B, 6D, 6P, 76, 7A, 7C, 7G, 7M, 7O, 83, 89, 8F, 8L, 8N, 8T, 92, 94, 9E, 9S, A1, A3, A7, AL, AR, B6, B8, BC, BI, BQ, C1, C7, CB, CH, CP, CT, D6, DG, DI, DS, DU, E5, E9, EF, EN, ER, ET, F2, FE, FM, FQ, G3, G7, GD, GP, GR, HE, HK, HU, I5, IB, ID, IJ, IT, J4, JA, JC, JI, ...



<a href="#">32</a>	15, 19, 1B, 1F, 1L, 1R, 1T, 23, 27, 29, 2F, 2J, 2P, 31, 35, 37, 3B, 3D, 3H, 3V, 43, 49, 4B, 4L, 4N, 4T, 53, 57, 5D, 5J, 5L, 5V, 61, 65, 67, 6J, 6V, 73, 75, 79, 7F, 7H, 7R, 81, 87, 8D, 8F, 8L, 8P, 8R, 95, 9J, 9N, 9P, 9T, AB, AH, AR, AT, B1, B7, BF, BL, BR, BV, C5, CD, CH, CP, D3, D5, DF, DH, DN, DR, E1, E9, ED, EF, EJ, EV, F7, FB, FJ, FN, FT, G9, GB, GT, H3, HD, HJ, HP, HR, I1, IB, IH, IN, IP, IV, ...
33	14, 18, 1A, 1E, 1K, 1Q, 1S, 21, 25, 27, 2D, 2H, 2N, 2V, 32, 34, 38, 3A, 3E, 3S, 3W, 45, 47, 4H, 4J, 4P, 4V, 52, 58, 5E, 5G, 5Q, 5S, 5W, 61, 6D, 6P, 6T, 6V, 72, 78, 7A, 7K, 7Q, 7W, 85, 87, 8D, 8H, 8J, 8T, 9A, 9E, 9G, 9K, A1, A7, AH, AJ, AN, AT, B4, BA, BG, BK, BQ, C1, C5, CD, CN, CP, D2, D4, DA, DE, DK, DS, DW, E1, E5, EH, EP, ET, F4, F8, FE, FQ, FS, GD, GJ, GT, H2, H8, HA, HG, HQ, HW, I5, I7, ID, ...
34	13, 17, 19, 1D, 1J, 1P, 1R, 1X, 23, 25, 2B, 2F, 2L, 2T, 2X, 31, 35, 37, 3B, 3P, 3T, 41, 43, 4D, 4F, 4L, 4R, 4V, 53, 59, 5B, 5L, 5N, 5R, 5T, 67, 6J, 6N, 6P, 6T, 71, 73, 7D, 7J, 7P, 7V, 7X, 85, 89, 8B, 8L, 91, 95, 97, 9B, 9P, 9V, A7, A9, AD, AJ, AR, AX, B5, B9, BF, BN, BR, C1, CB, CD, CN, CP, CV, D1, D7, DF, DJ, DL, DP, E3, EB, EF, EN, ER, EX, FB, FD, FV, G3, GD, GJ, GP, GR, GX, H9, HF, HL, HN, HT, ...
35	12, 16, 18, 1C, 1I, 1O, 1Q, 1W, 21, 23, 29, 2D, 2J, 2R, 2V, 2X, 32, 34, 38, 3M, 3Q, 3W, 3Y, 49, 4B, 4H, 4N, 4R, 4X, 54, 56, 5G, 5I, 5M, 5O, 61, 6D, 6H, 6J, 6N, 6T, 6V, 76, 7C, 7I, 7O, 7Q, 7W, 81, 83, 8D, 8R, 8V, 8X, 92, 9G, 9M, 9W, 9Y, A3, A9, AH, AN, AT, AX, B4, BC, BG, BO, BY, C1, CB, CD, CJ, CN, CT, D2, D6, D8, DC, DO, DW, E1, E9, ED, EJ, EV, EX, FG, FM, FW, G3, G9, GB, GH, GR, GX, H4, H6, HC, ...
<a href="#">36</a>	11, 15, 17, 1B, 1H, 1N, 1P, 1V, 1Z, 21, 27, 2B, 2H, 2P, 2T, 2V, 2Z, 31, 35, 3J, 3N, 3T, 3V, 45, 47, 4D, 4J, 4N, 4T, 4Z, 51, 5B, 5D, 5H, 5J, 5V, 67, 6B, 6D, 6H, 6N, 6P, 6Z, 75, 7B, 7H, 7J, 7P, 7T, 7V, 85, 8J, 8N, 8P, 8T, 97, 9D, 9N, 9P, 9T, 9Z, A7, AD, AJ, AN, AT, B1, B5, BD, BN, BP, BZ, C1, C7, CB, CH, CP, CT, CV, CZ, DB, DJ, DN, DV, DZ, E5, EH, EJ, F1, F7, FH, FN, FT, FV, G1, GB, GH, GN, GP, GV, ...

The primes in  $M(L_b)$  are called **minimal prime base  $b$**  in this article, although in fact this name should be used for  $L_b$  is the language of base- $b$  representations of the prime numbers, where primes  $> b$  is not required, this problem is an extension of the [original minimal prime problem](#) to include [CRUS Sierpinski/Riesel](#) conjectures base  $b$  with  $k$ -values  $< b$ , i.e. the smallest prime of the form  $k*b^n+1$  and  $k*b^n-1$  for all  $k < b$ . The original minimal prime base  $b$  puzzle does not cover CRUS Sierpinski/Riesel conjectures base  $b$  with  $CK < b$ , since in Riesel side, the prime is not minimal prime in original definition if either  $k-1$  or  $b-1$  (or both) is prime, and in Sierpinski side, the prime is not minimal prime in original definition if  $k$  is prime (e.g.  $25*30^{34205}-1$  is not minimal prime in base 30 in original definition, since it is  $OT^{34205}$  in base 30, and  $T (= 29$  in decimal) is prime, but it is minimal prime in base 30 if only primes  $> \text{base}$  are counted), but this extended version of minimal prime base  $b$  problem does, this requires a restriction of prime  $> b$ , and the primes  $\leq b$  (including the  $k-1$ ,  $b-1$ ,  $k$ ) are not allowed, in fact, to include these conjectures, we only need to exclude the single-digit primes (i.e. the primes  $< b$ ), also, in fact, I create this problem because I think that the single-digit primes are [trivial](#), thus I do not count them, however, including the base ( $b$ ) itself results in automatic elimination of all possible extension numbers with "0 after 1" from the set (when the base is prime, if the base is composite, then there is no difference to include the base ( $b$ ))



[illegible]

For example, 857 is a minimal prime in decimal because there is no prime  $> 10$  among the shorter subsequences of the digits: 8, 5, 7, 85, 87, 57. The subsequence does not have to consist of consecutive digits, so 149 is not a minimal prime in decimal (because 19 is prime and  $19 > 10$ ). But it does have to be in the same order; so, for example, 991 is still a minimal prime in decimal even though a subset of the digits can form the shorter prime  $19 > 10$  by changing the order.

A summary of the results of our [algorithm](#) is presented in the table in the next section, I completely solved all bases up to 16 except for bases 14, 16, and the odd bases  $>6$  (the [proofs](#) are at the end of this article), for bases 14, 16, and the odd bases  $>6$ , I only found all minimal primes up to certain limit (about  $2^{32}$ ) and some larger minimal primes (such as  $3^{161}$  in base 7 and  $54^{11}$  in base 9). I left as a challenge to readers the task of solving (finding all minimal primes and proving that these are all such primes) bases 7, 9, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, and bases 17 through 36 (this will be a hard problem, e.g. base 23 has a minimal prime  $9E^{800873}$ , and base 30 has a minimal prime  $OT^{34205}$ ).

Problems about the digits of prime numbers have a long history, and many of them are still [unsolved](#). For example, are there infinitely many primes, all of whose base-10 digits are 1? Currently, there are only five such “[repunits](#)” known, corresponding to  $(10^p - 1)/9$  for  $p \in \{2, 19, 23, 317, 1031\}$ . It seems likely that four more are given by  $p \in \{49081, 86453, 109297, 270343, 5794777, 8177207\}$ , but this has not yet been [rigorously proven](#). This problem also exists for other bases, e.g. for base 12, there are only nine proven such numbers, corresponding to  $(12^p - 1)/11$  for  $p \in \{2, 3, 5, 19, 97, 109, 317, 353, 701\}$ . It seems likely that five more are given by  $p \in \{9739, 14951, 37573, 46889, 769543\}$ , but this has not yet been [rigorously proven](#). However, for some bases there exists no such primes, these bases are 9, 25, 32, 49, 64, 81, 121, 125, 144, ..., this is because the numbers with all digits 1 in these bases can be factored algebraically (this strategy (algebraic factorization) will also be used in our problem, to show that some families (such as  $10^n - 1$  in base 8 and  $38^n - 1$  in base 9) contains no primes  $>$  base). Some positive integers  $n$  are repunit in some base  $2 \leq b \leq n-2$  (every integer  $n \geq 3$  are trivially repunit in base  $b = n-1$  since  $n$  is written “11” in base  $b = n-1$ , but

every integer  $n \geq 2$  are not repunit in any base  $b \geq n$  since  $n$  is written “10” in base  $b = n$  and  $n$  is single-digit number (and this digit is not 1) in any base  $b > n$ ), they are called [Brazilian numbers](#), all integers  $>6$  which are neither primes nor squares of primes are Brazilian numbers, but it is unknown whether there are infinitely many primes which are also Brazilian numbers (however, it is known that every squares of primes except  $121 = “11111”$  in base 3 are not Brazilian numbers). Another unsolved problem about the digits of prime numbers is whether there are infinitely many [palindromic primes](#) (primes which remain the same when their digits are reversed, such as 151 and 94849) in base 10? So far, the largest known such prime is [10<sup>1234567</sup> – 20342924302 \\* 10<sup>617278</sup> – 1](#), this number has 1234567 digits, can also be written as  $9^{617278}796570756979^{617278}$ , and the largest 20 known such primes are listed in [this page](#). Of course, this problem also exists for other bases, there is no single bases for which it is known whether there are infinitely many [palindromic primes](#). Some positive integers  $n$  are not palindromic in any base  $2 \leq b \leq n-2$  (every integer  $n \geq 3$  are trivially palindromic in base  $b = n-1$  since  $n$  is written “11” in base  $b = n-1$ , also every positive integer  $n$  are trivially palindromic in any base  $b > n$  since  $n$  is single-digit number in any base  $b > n$ , but every integer  $n \geq 2$  are not palindromic in base  $b = n$  since  $n$  is written “10” in base  $b = n$ ), they are called [strictly non-palindromic numbers](#), all such integers  $> 6$  are primes, since all composites  $n > 6$  is either “product of two numbers  $k$  and  $m$  with  $m-k \geq 2$ ” (in this case,  $n$  is written “ $kk$ ” in base  $b = m-1$ ) or “square of prime  $p$ ” (in this case,  $n$  is written “121” in base  $b = p-1$  if  $p > 3$ , or written “1001” in base  $b = 2$  if  $p = 3$ ), it is also unknown whether there are infinitely many such integers, but it is [known](#) that in every base, [almost all](#) palindromic numbers are [composite](#) (neither 1 nor prime).

## Table

In the “ $\max(x, x \in L_b)$ ” column,  $xy^n z$  means  $xyyy\dots yyyz$  with  $n$   $y$ 's (the  $n$ -value is written in decimal), not  $y$  to the  $n$ th power.

$b$	$ M(L_b) $	$\max(x, x \in M(L_b))$	$\max( x , x \in M(L_b))$	Algebraic form of $\max(x, x \in M(L_b))$
2	1	11	2	3
3	3	111	3	13
4	5	221	3	41
5	22	10 <sup>93</sup> 13	96	5 <sup>95</sup> +8
6	11	40041	5	5209
7 <sup>①</sup>	$\geq 71$	3 <sup>16</sup> 1	17	$\frac{7^{17} - 5}{2}$
8	75	4 <sup>220</sup> 7	221	$\frac{4 \cdot 8^{221} + 17}{7}$
9 <sup>①</sup>	$\geq 149$	30 <sup>1158</sup> 11	1161	3*9 <sup>1160</sup> +10
10	77	50 <sup>28</sup> 27	31	5*10 <sup>30</sup> +27

11 <sup>①</sup>	≥914	$557^{1011}$ or $57^n$ with $n>50000$	1013	$\frac{607 \cdot 11^{1011} - 7}{10}$
12	106	$40^{39}77$	42	$4 \cdot 12^{41} + 91$
13 <sup>①②</sup>	≥2497	$80^{32017}111$ or $95^n$ with $n>50000$ or $A3^nA$ with $n>50000$	32021	$8 \cdot 13^{32020} + 183$
14 <sup>①</sup>	≥606	$4D^{19698}$	19699	$5 \cdot 14^{19698} - 1$
15 <sup>①</sup>	≥1171	$7^{155}97$	157	$\frac{15^{157} + 59}{2}$
16 <sup>①②</sup>	≥2044	$DB^{32234}$	32235	$\frac{206 \cdot 16^{32234} - 1}{15}$

Notes:

① I have not proved these bases, these are the largest elements in  $M(L_b)$  known to me, and they are just the [lower bounds](#).

② Data based on results of strong [probable primality tests](#), i.e. at least one element in the set  $M(L_b)$  is only [strong probable prime](#) (i.e. numbers which passed the [Miller–Rabin primality tests](#) to first few prime bases, for the smallest *composite* number which passed the Miller–Rabin primality test to first  $n$  prime bases, see <https://oeis.org/A014233>) and not [provable prime](#), thus we cannot definitely say that the corresponding families can be removed from the list of unsolved families, and we cannot definitely [compute](#) this part of the [set](#)  $M(L_b)$ , e.g. since  $80^{32017}111$  (base 13) is only strong probable prime and it is the smallest (probable) prime in family  $8\{0\}111$  in base 13, we cannot definitely say that the family  $8\{0\}111$  (base 13) can be removed from the list of unsolved families, and since  $DB^{32234}$  (base 16) is only strong probable prime and it is the smallest (probable) prime in family  $D\{B\}$  in base 16, we cannot definitely say that the family  $D\{B\}$  (base 16) can be removed from the list of unsolved families.

## Data

The [data](#) of [bases](#) 14, 16, and the odd bases  $>6$  are possibly not complete, only tested to the test limit in the discussion of these bases and found the smallest (probable) prime in some unsolved [families](#) of these bases, but there may be more unsolved families not found by me.

There are five unsolved families found by me and searched to length 50000 with no (probable) prime found.

$b$	Unsolved family	Algebraic form
11	$57^n$	$\frac{57 \cdot 11^n - 7}{10}$



base 8

[illegible]

base 9 (not proved, only checked to the prime 833333335)

[illegible]

base 10

base 11 (not proved, only checked to the prime 1500000001)

12, 16, 18, 21, 27, 29, 34, 38, 3A, 43, 49, 54, 56, 61, 65, 67, 72, 76, 81, 89, 92, 94, 98, 9A, A3, 10A, 115, 117, 133, 139, 153, 155, 171, 193, 197, 199, 1AA, 225, 232, 236, 25A, 263, 315, 319, 331, 335, 351, 353, 362, 373, 379, 391, 395, 407, 414, 452, 458, 478, 47A, 485, 4A5, 4A7, 502, 508, 511, 513, 533, 535, 539, 551, 571, 579, 588, 595, 623, 632, 70A, 711, 715, 731, 733, 737, 755, 759, 775, 791, 797, 7AA, 803, 847, 858, 85A, 874, 885, 887, 913, 919, 931, 937, 957, 959, 975, 995, A07, A1A, A25, A45, A74, A7A, A85, AA1, AA7, 1101, 11A9, 1305, 1451, 1457, 15A7, 175A, 17A5, 17A9, 2023, 2045, 2052, 2083, 20A5, 2333, 2A05, 2A52, 3013, 3026, 3059, 3097, 3206, 3222, 3233, 3307, 3332, 3505, 4025, 4151, 4157, 4175, 4405, 4445, 4487, 450A, 4575, 5017, 5031, 5059, 5075, 5097, 5099, 5105, 515A, 517A, 520A, 5301, 5583, 5705, 577A, 5853, 5873, 5909, 5A17, 5A57, 5A77, 5A8A, 6683, 66A9, 7019, 7073, 7079, 7088, 7093, 7095, 7309, 7451, 7501, 7507, 7578, 757A, 75A7, 7787, 7804, 7844, 7848, 7853, 7877, 78A4, 7A04, 7A57, 7A79, 7A95, 8078, 8245, 8333, 8355, 8366, 8375, 8425, 8553, 8663, 8708, 8777, 878A, 8A05, 9053, 9101, 9107, 9305, 9505, 9703, A052, A119, A151, A175, A515, A517, A575, A577, A5A8, A719, A779, A911, AAA9, 10011, 10075, 10091, 10109, 10411, 10444, 10705, 10709, 10774, 10901, 11104, 11131, 11144, 11191, 1141A, 114A1, 13757, 1411A, 14477, 144A4, 14A04, 14A11, 17045, 17704, 1774A, 17777, 177A4, 17A47, 1A091, 1A109, 1A114, 1A404, 1A411, 1A709, 20005, 20555, 22203, 25228, 25282, 25552, 25822, 28522, 30037, 30701, 30707, 31113, 33777, 35009, 35757, 39997, 40045, 4041A, 40441, 4045A, 404A1, 4111A, 411A1, 42005, 44401, 44474, 444A1, 44555, 44577, 445AA, 44744, 44A01, 47471, 47477, 47701, 5057A, 50903, 5228A, 52A22, 52A55, 52A82, 55007, 550A9, 55205, 55522, 55557, 55593, 55805, 57007, 57573, 57773, 57807, 5822A, 58307, 58505, 58A22, 59773, 59917, 59973, 59977,

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base 14 (not proved, only checked to the prime 108000000D)

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base 15 (not proved, only checked to the prime 555555557)

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## Proof

An algorithm to solve this problem, for example, would allow us to decide if there are any additional **Fermat primes** (of the form  $2^{2^n} + 1$ ) other than the known ones (corresponding to

$n = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4$ ). To see this, take  $b = 2$ ,  $x = 1$ ,  $y = 0$ , and  $z = 0^{16}1$ . Since if  $2^n + 1$  is prime then  $n$  must be a power of two, a prime of the form  $(xy^*z)_b$  must be a new Fermat prime. Besides, it would allow us to decide if there are infinitely many [Mersenne primes](#) (of the form  $2^p - 1$  with prime  $p$ ). To see this, take  $b = 2$ ,  $x = \lambda$  (the empty string),  $y = 1$ , and  $z = 1^{n+1}$ , where  $n$  is the exponent of the Mersenne prime which we want to know whether it is the largest Mersenne prime or not. Since if  $2^n - 1$  is prime then  $n$  must be a prime, a prime of the form  $(xy^*z)_b$  must be a new Mersenne prime. Also, it would allow us to decide if 21181 is a [Sierpinski number](#) (take  $b = 2$ ,  $x = 101001010111101$ ,  $y = 0$ , and  $z = 1$ ) and if 23669 is a [Riesel number](#) (take  $b = 2$ ,  $x = 101110001110100$ ,  $y = 1$ , and  $z = \lambda$  (the empty string)).

Therefore, in practice, we are forced to try to rule out prime representations based on [heuristics](#) such as [modular techniques](#) and [factorizations](#).

It will be necessary for our algorithm to determine if families of the form  $(xy^*z)_b$  contain a prime  $> b$  or not. We use two different heuristic strategies to show that such families contain no primes  $> b$ .

In the first strategy, we mimic the well-known technique of “[covering congruences](#)”, by finding some finite set  $S$  of primes  $p$  such that every number in a given family is divisible by some element of  $S$  (this is equivalent to finding some integer  $N$  such that all numbers in a given family are not [coprime](#) to  $N$ ). In the second strategy, we attempt to find an [algebraic factorization](#), such as [difference-of-two-squares factorization](#), [sum/difference-of-two-cubes factorization](#), and [Aurifeuillian factorization](#) for  $x^4 + 4y^4$ .

Examples of the first strategy: (we can show that the corresponding numbers are  $>$  all elements in  $S$ , if  $n$  makes corresponding numbers  $> b$  (i.e.  $n \geq 1$  for  $51^n$  in base 9 and  $25^n$  in base 11 and  $4^nD$  in base 16 and  $8^nF$  in base 16,  $n \geq 0$  for other examples), thus these factorizations are nontrivial)

- \* In base 10, all numbers of the form  $46^n9$  are divisible by 7
- \* In base 6, all numbers of the form  $40^n1$  are divisible by 5
- \* In base 15, all numbers of the form  $96^n8$  are divisible by 11
- \* In base 9, all numbers of the form  $51^n$  are divisible by some element of  $\{2,5\}$  (note: the prime 5 is not allowed since the prime must be  $>$  base)
- \* In base 11, all numbers of the form  $25^n$  are divisible by some element of  $\{2,3\}$  (note: the prime 2 is not allowed since the prime must be  $>$  base)
- \* In base 14, all numbers of the form  $B0^n1$  are divisible by some element of  $\{3,5\}$
- \* In base 8, all numbers of the form  $64^n7$  are divisible by some element of  $\{3,5,13\}$
- \* In base 13, all numbers of the form  $30^n95$  are divisible by some element of  $\{5,7,17\}$
- \* In base 16, all numbers of the form  $4^nD$  are divisible by some element of  $\{3,7,13\}$  (note: the prime D is not allowed since the prime must be  $>$  base)
- \* In base 16, all numbers of the form  $8^nF$  are divisible by some element of  $\{3,7,13\}$

Examples of the second strategy: (we can show that both factors are  $> 1$ , if  $n$  makes corresponding numbers  $> b$  (i.e.  $n \geq 2$  for  $1^n$  in base 9,  $n \geq 0$  for  $10^n1$  in base 8 and  $B4^n1$  in base 16,  $n \geq 1$  for other examples), thus these factorizations are nontrivial)

- \* In base 9, all numbers of the form  $1^n$  factored as  $(3^n - 1) * (3^n + 1) / 8$

- \* In base 8, all numbers of the form  $10^n$  factored as  $(2^{n+1}+1) * (4^{n+1}-2^{n+1}+1)$
- \* In base 9, all numbers of the form  $38^n$  factored as  $(2*3^n-1) * (2*3^n+1)$  (note: the prime 3 is not allowed since the prime must be  $>$  base)
- \* In base 16, all numbers of the form  $8F^n$  factored as  $(3*4^n-1) * (3*4^n+1)$
- \* In base 16, all numbers of the form  $F^7$  factored as  $(4^{n+1}-3) * (4^{n+1}+3)$  (note: the prime 7 is not allowed since the prime must be  $>$  base)
- \* In base 9, all numbers of the form  $31^n$  factored as  $(5*3^n-1) * (5*3^n+1) / 8$  (note: the prime 3 is not allowed since the prime must be  $>$  base)
- \* In base 16, all numbers of the form  $4^n$  factored as  $(2*4^{n+1}-7) * (2*4^{n+1}+7) / 15$
- \* In base 16, all numbers of the form  $15^n$  factored as  $(2*4^n-1) * (2*4^n+1) / 3$
- \* In base 16, all numbers of the form  $C^D$  factored as  $(2*4^{n+1}-2*2^{n+1}+1) * (2*4^{n+1}+2*2^{n+1}+1) / 5$  (note: the prime D is not allowed since the prime must be  $>$  base)
- \* In base 16, all numbers of the form  $B4^n$  factored as  $(13*4^{n+1}-7) * (13*4^{n+1}+7) / 15$

Examples of combine of the two strategies: (we can show that for the part of the first strategy, the corresponding numbers are  $>$  all elements in  $S$ , and for the part of the second strategy, both factors are  $> 1$ , if  $n$  makes corresponding numbers  $> b$  (i.e.  $n \geq 0$  for  $B^9B$  in base 12,  $n \geq 1$  for other examples), thus these factorizations are nontrivial)

- \* In base 14, numbers of the form  $8D^n$  are divisible by 5 if  $n$  is odd and factored as  $(3*14^{n/2}-1) * (3*14^{n/2}+1)$  if  $n$  is even
- \* In base 12, numbers of the form  $B^9B$  are divisible by 13 if  $n$  is odd and factored as  $(12^{(n+2)/2}-5) * (12^{(n+2)/2}+5)$  if  $n$  is even
- \* In base 14, numbers of the form  $D^5$  are divisible by 5 if  $n$  is even and factored as  $(14^{(n+1)/2}-3) * (14^{(n+1)/2}+3)$  if  $n$  is odd (note: the prime 5 is not allowed since the prime must be  $>$  base)
- \* In base 17, numbers of the form  $19^n$  are divisible by 2 if  $n$  is odd and factored as  $(5*17^{n/2}-3) * (5*17^{n/2}+3) / 16$  if  $n$  is even
- \* In base 19, numbers of the form  $16^n$  are divisible by 5 if  $n$  is odd and factored as  $(2*19^{n/2}-1) * (2*19^{n/2}+1) / 3$  if  $n$  is even

As previously mentioned, in practice to [compute](#)  $M(L_b)$  one works with an underapproximation  $M$  of  $M(L_b)$  and an overapproximation  $L$  of  $L_b - \sup(M)$ . One then refines such approximations until  $L = \emptyset$  from which it follows that  $M = M(L_b)$ .

For the initial approximation, note that every minimal prime in base  $b$  with at least 4 digits is of the form  $xY^*z$ , where  $x \in \{x \mid x \text{ is base-}b \text{ digit, } x \neq 0\}$ ,  $z \in \{z \mid z \text{ is base-}b \text{ digit, } \gcd(z, b) = 1\}$ , and  $Y^*$  (for this  $(x, z)$  pair) =  $\{y \mid xy, xz, yz, xyz \text{ are all composites}\}$ . (Of course, if  $xz$  is prime, then the  $Y^*$  set for this  $(x, z)$  pair is  $\emptyset$ )

Making use of this, our algorithm sets  $M$  to be the set of base- $b$  representations of the minimal primes with at most 3 digits (which can be found simply by brute force) and  $L$  to be  $\bigcup_{x,z} (xY^*z)$  as described above.

All remaining minimal primes are members of  $L$ , so to find them we explore the families in  $L$ . During this process, each family will be decomposed into possibly multiple other families. For example, a simple way of exploring the family  $xY^*z$  where  $Y = \{y_1, \dots, y_n\}$  is to decompose it

into the families  $xY^*y_1z, \dots, xY^*y_nz$ . If the smallest member (say  $xy_iz$ ) of any such family happens to be prime, it can be added to  $M$  and the family  $xY^*y_iz$  removed from consideration. Furthermore, once  $M$  has been updated it may be possible to simplify some families in  $L$ . In this case,  $xY^*y_jz$  (for  $j \neq i$ ) can be simplified to  $x(Y-y_i)^*y_jz$  since no minimal prime contains  $xy_iz$  as a proper subsequence.

We call families of the form  $xy^*z$  (where  $x, z \in \Sigma_b^*$  and  $y \in \Sigma_b$ ) *simple families*. Our algorithm then proceeds as follows:

1. Let

$M := \{\text{minimal primes in base } b \text{ of length } \leq 3\}$

$L := \bigcup_{x,z \in \Sigma_b^*} (xY^*z)$

where  $x \neq 0$  and  $Y$  is the set of digits  $y$  such that  $xyz$  has no subword in  $M$ .

2. While  $L$  contains non-simple families:

- (a) Explore each family of  $L$ , and update  $L$ .
- (b) Examine each family of  $L$ :

- i. Let  $w$  be the shortest string in the family. If  $w$  has a subword in  $M$ , then remove the family from  $L$ . If  $w$  represents a prime, then add  $w$  to  $M$  and remove the family from  $L$ .
- ii. If possible, simplify the family.
- iii. Check if the family can be proven to contain no primes  $>$  base, and if so then remove the family from  $L$ .

(c) As much as possible and update  $L$ ; after each split examine the new families as in (b).

At the conclusion of the algorithm described,  $L$  will consist of simple families (of the form  $xy^*z$ ) which have not yet yielded a prime, but for which there is no obvious reason why there can't be a prime of such a form. In such a case, the only way to proceed is to test the primality of larger and larger numbers of such form and hope a prime is eventually discovered (we usually [conjecture](#) that there must be a prime at some point if it cannot be [proved](#) that there can't be a prime, by covering congruence, algebra factorization, or combine of them, since by the [prime number theorem](#), the [chance](#) that a [random](#)  $n$ -digit base  $b$  number is prime is [approximately](#)  $1/n$  ([reference](#)) (also see [this page](#), the chance is approximately  $\frac{b-1}{\ln(b)} \cdot \frac{b^{n-1}}{n}$ , where  $\ln$  is the [natural logarithm](#)). If one conjectures the numbers

$xy^*z$  behave similarly you would [expect](#)  $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} = \infty$  (see [this page](#)) primes of the form  $xy^*z$ , of course, this does not always happen, since some  $xy^*z$  families can be proven to contain no primes  $>$  base, and every  $xy^*z$  family has its own [Nash weight](#) (or [difficulty](#)),  $xy^*z$  families which can be proven to contain no primes  $>$  base have Nash weight (or difficulty) 0, thus  $xy^*z$  families are not "completely" random. They are random enough that the prime number theorem can be used to predict their primality, but divisibility by small primes is not as random and can easily be predicted: Once one candidate is found to be divisible by a prime  $p$  or to have an algebraic factorization (e.g. difference-of-two-squares factorization, sum/difference-of-two-cubes factorization, Aurifeuillian factorization for  $x^4+4y^4$ ), another

predictable candidate will also be divisible by  $p$  or also have the same algebraic factorization. This decreases the probability of expected primes. Sometimes though, the candidates will never be divisible by a prime  $p$ , which increases the probability of expected primes. However, it is at least a reasonable conjecture in the absence of evidence to the contrary, the numbers in simple families are of the form  $\frac{a \cdot b^{n+c}}{\gcd(a+c, b-1)}$  for some fixed integer triple  $(a, b, c)$ , where  $a \geq 1$ ,  $b \geq 2$  ( $b$  is the base),  $c \neq 0$ ,  $\gcd(a, c) = 1$ ,  $\gcd(b, c) = 1$ , this is an [exponential sequence](#), there is also a similar conjecture for [polynomial sequence](#): the [Bunyakovsky conjecture](#), the condition is similar to our conjecture in this article, both are the small prime factors and the algebraic factors, the main difference is that polynomial sequence cannot have a covering set with  $>1$  primes, however, unlike our conjecture (the analog of [Bunyakovsky conjecture](#) for [exponential sequences](#)), the analog of [Dickson's conjecture](#) and [Schinzel's hypothesis H](#) for [exponential sequences](#) is widely believed to be false, e.g. for all integer  $k$  divisible by 3, it is widely believed that there are only finitely many integers  $n \geq 1$  such that  $k \cdot 2^n \pm 1$  are [twin primes](#), another example is that it is widely believed that 127 is the largest number  $n$  such that the [Mersenne number](#)  $2^n - 1$  and the [Wagstaff number](#)  $(2^n + 1)/3$  are both primes (see [New Mersenne Conjecture](#) and its [status page](#)) (in fact, if  $n$  is [even number](#), then  $(2^n + 1)/3$  is not integer, thus we only need to consider [odd](#)  $n$ , and for odd number  $n = 2^m + 1$ ,  $(2^n + 1)/3 = (2^{2^m + 1} + 1)/3$ , thus it can be written as the form  $\frac{a \cdot b^{n+c}}{\gcd(a+c, b-1)}$ , with  $(a, b, c) = (2, 4, 1)$ , thus is included in this conjecture, also, if  $n$  is odd composite, then  $2^n - 1$  and  $(2^n + 1)/3$  are both composites, thus we only need to consider odd prime  $n$ ), another example is that it is widely believed that there are only finitely many integers  $n$  such that  $n$  and  $n \pm 1$  all have [primitive roots](#), and  $3^{541} - 1$  may be the largest such  $n$ , since it is widely believed that there are only finitely many integers  $n \geq 1$  such that the given pair of [exponential sequences](#) both produce primes:  $(2 \cdot 3^n - 1, 2 \cdot 3^n + 1)$ ,  $(3^n + 1)/2, 3^n + 2$ ,  $(3^n - 1)/2, 3^n - 2$ , see <https://oeis.org/A305237>). For example, the base 11 family  $57^n$ , this family have already been searched to length 50000 with no prime or [PRP](#) found, however the algebraic form of this family is  $(57 \cdot 11^n - 7)/10$ , and there is no  $n$  satisfying that  $57 \cdot 11^n$  and 7 are both  $r$ -th powers for some  $r > 1$  to make this number have [difference-of-two-r-th powers factorization](#) (since 7 is not [perfect power](#)), nor there is  $n$  satisfying that  $57 \cdot 11^n$  and  $-7$  are (one is 4th power, another is of the form  $4^m \cdot 4$ ) to make this number have [Aurifeuillian factorization](#) for  $x^4 + 4y^4$  (since  $-7$  is neither [4th power](#) nor of the form  $4^m \cdot 4$ ), thus, base 11 family  $57^n$  has no algebraic factorization for any  $n$ , thus  $57^n$  eventually should yield a prime unless it can be proven to contain no primes  $>$  base using covering congruence, and we have:

$57^n$  is divisible by 2 for  $n \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$   
 $57^n$  is divisible by 13 for  $n \equiv 2 \pmod{12}$   
 $57^n$  is divisible by 17 for  $n \equiv 4 \pmod{16}$   
 $57^n$  is divisible by 5 for  $n \equiv 0 \pmod{5}$   
 $57^n$  is divisible by 23 for  $n \equiv 6 \pmod{22}$   
 $57^n$  is divisible by 601 for  $n \equiv 8 \pmod{600}$   
 $57^n$  is divisible by 97 for  $n \equiv 12 \pmod{48}$   
 $57^n$  is divisible by 1279 for  $n \equiv 16 \pmod{426}$   
 ...

and it does not appear to be any covering set of primes (and its Nash weight (or difficulty) is positive, and it has prime candidate), so there must be a prime at some point.

The [multiplicative order](#) of  $b \bmod p$  is important in this problem, since if a prime  $p$  divides the number with  $n$  digits in a family in base  $b$ , then  $p$  also divides the number with  $k \cdot r + n$  digits in the same family in base  $b$  for all nonnegative integer  $k$ , where  $r$  is the multiplicative order of  $b \bmod p$  (unless the multiplicative order of  $b \bmod p$  is 1, i.e.  $p$  divides  $b-1$ , in this case  $p$  also divides the number with  $k \cdot p + n$  digits in the same family in base  $b$  for all [nonnegative integer](#)  $k$ ), the primes  $p$  such that the multiplicative order of  $b \bmod p$  is  $n$  are exactly the primes  $p$  dividing  $Z_s(n, b, 1)$ , where  $Z_s$  is the [Zsigmondy number](#), i.e.  $Z_s(n, b, 1)$  is the greatest divisor of  $b^n - 1$  that is coprime to  $b^m - 1$  for all positive integers  $m < n$ , with  $b \geq 2$  and  $n \geq 1$ , if (and only if) there is only one such prime, then this prime is [unique prime](#) in base  $b$ , see [list of the multiplicative order of  \$b \bmod p\$  for  \$b \leq 128\$  and primes  \$p \leq 4096\$](#) , [list of primes  \$p\$  such that the multiplicative order of  \$b \bmod p\$  is  \$n\$  for  \$2 \leq b \leq 64\$  and  \$1 \leq n \leq 64\$](#) , [smallest prime  \$p\$  such that  \$\text{znorder}\(\text{Mod}\(m, p\)\) = \(p-1\)/n\$  for  \$2 \leq m \leq 128\$  and  \$1 \leq n \leq 128\$](#) , [bases  \$b\$  such that  \$\Phi\(n, b\)\$  \(where  \$\Phi\$  is cyclotomic polynomial\) has algebra factors or small prime factors](#), [bases  \$b\$  such that there is unique prime with period length  \$n\$](#) , [unique period length in base  \$b\$](#) , also see factorization of  $b^n \pm 1$  (which is equivalent to factorization of  $Z_s(n, b, 1)$ ) with [b ≤ 12](#) [13 ≤ b ≤ 99](#) [b = 10](#) [any b](#) [any b](#).

The numbers in simple families are of the form  $\frac{a \cdot b^{n+c}}{\gcd(a+c, b-1)}$  for some fixed integers  $a, b, c$  where  $a \geq 1, b \geq 2$  ( $b$  is the base),  $c \neq 0, \gcd(a, c) = 1, \gcd(b, c) = 1$ . Except in the special case  $c = \pm 1$  and  $\gcd(a+c, b-1) = 1$ , when  $n$  is large the known [primality tests](#) for such a number are too inefficient to run (since this special case  $c = \pm 1$  and  $\gcd(a+c, b-1) = 1$  is the only case which  $N-1$  and/or  $N+1$  is [smooth](#), i.e. the case  $c = 1$  and  $\gcd(a+c, b-1) = 1$  (corresponding to generalized [Proth prime](#) base  $b: a \cdot b^n + 1$ , they are related to [generalized Sierpinski conjecture base  \$b\$](#) ) can be easily proven prime using Pocklington [N-1 method](#), and the case  $c = -1$  and  $\gcd(a+c, b-1) = 1$  (corresponding to generalized [Riesel prime](#) base  $b: a \cdot b^n - 1$ , they are related to [generalized Riesel conjecture base  \$b\$](#) ) can be easily proven prime using Morrison [N+1 method](#)). In this case one must resort to a [probable primality test](#) such as a [Miller–Rabin primality test](#) or a [Baillie–PSW primality test](#), unless a [divisor](#) of the number can be found. Since we are testing many numbers in an [exponential sequence](#), it is possible to use a [sieving process](#) (such as *srsieve* software) to find divisors rather than using [trial division](#), i.e. we will remove the integers  $n$  such that  $\frac{a \cdot b^{n+c}}{\gcd(a+c, b-1)}$  either has a [prime factor](#) less than certain limit (say  $2^{32}$ ) or has algebraic factorization, and [test the primality](#) of  $\frac{a \cdot b^{n+c}}{\gcd(a+c, b-1)}$  for other integers  $n$ .

To do this, we made use of Geoffrey Reynolds' [srsieve](#) software. This program uses the [baby-step giant-step](#) algorithm to find all primes  $p$  which divide  $a \cdot b^n + c$  where  $p$  and  $n$  lie in a specified [range](#). Since this program cannot handle the [general case](#)  $\frac{a \cdot b^{n+c}}{\gcd(a+c, b-1)}$  when  $\gcd(a+c, b-1) > 1$  we only used it to sieve the sequence  $a \cdot b^n + c$  for primes  $p$  not dividing  $\gcd(a+c, b-1)$ , and initialized the list of candidates to not include  $n$  for which there is some prime  $p$  dividing  $\gcd(a+c, b-1)$  for which  $p$  divides  $\frac{a \cdot b^{n+c}}{\gcd(a+c, b-1)}$ . The program had to be



modified slightly to remove a check which would prevent it from running in the case when  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  were all [odd](#) (since then 2 divides  $a \cdot b^n + c$ , but 2 may not divide  $\frac{a \cdot b^n + c}{\gcd(a+c, b-1)}$ ).

Once the numbers with small divisors had been removed, it remained to test the remaining numbers using a probable primality test. For this we used the software [LLR](#) by Jean Penné. Although undocumented, it is possible to run this program on numbers of the form

$\frac{a \cdot b^n + c}{\gcd(a+c, b-1)}$  when  $\gcd(a+c, b-1) > 1$ , so this program required no modifications (also, [LLR](#) can [prove the primality](#) for numbers of the form  $a \cdot b^n \pm 1$  (i.e. the special case  $c = \pm 1$  and  $\gcd(a+c, b-1) = 1$ ) with  $b^n > a$ ). A script was also written which allowed one to run *srsieve* while *LLR* was testing the remaining candidates, so that when a divisor was found by *srsieve* on a number which had not yet been tested by *LLR* it would be removed from the list of candidates. In the cases where the elements of  $M(L_b)$  could be proven prime rigorously, we employed [PRIMO](#) by Marcel Martin, an [elliptic curve primality proving](#) implementation (for the primes of the form  $\frac{a \cdot b^n + c}{\gcd(a+c, b-1)}$ , with  $c \neq \pm 1$  and/or  $\gcd(a+c, b-1) \neq 1$ , we cannot use the [classical tests](#) (including the tests of  $N-1$ ,  $N+1$ ,  $N^2+1$ ,  $N^2+N+1$ ,  $N^2-N+1$  (see [this page](#)), and the [combined tests](#)), since for these primes, none of them is at least  $1/3$  [factorable](#) ([Brillhart-Lehmer-Selfridge primality test](#)) (see [this page](#)), i.e. they are [ordinary primes](#), and if the prime is not large (say less than  $10^{25000}$ ), we can use [elliptic curve primality proving](#) to proof (see [PRIMO top 20 records](#) and [elliptic curve primality proving top 20 records](#) and [top primes proven by Francois Morain's programs](#)) and make [primality certificate](#), but if the prime is very large (say  $> 10^{25000}$ ), the known [primality tests](#) for such a number are too inefficient to run, thus we can only resort to a [probable primality test](#) such as [Miller–Rabin primality test](#) and [Baillie–PSW primality test](#), unless a [divisor](#) of the number can be found, and hence we cannot [prove the primality](#) of this number, thus we cannot definitely say that the corresponding families can be removed from the list of unsolved families, and we cannot definitely [compute](#) this part of the [set](#)  $M(L_b)$ .

Some families  $xy^*z$  could not be ruled out as containing no primes  $>$  base, but no primes  $>$  base could be found in the family, even after searching through numbers with over 50000 digits. Many  $xy^*z$  families contain no small primes even though they do contain very large primes, for example:

- \* In base 5, the smallest prime in the family  $10^n 13$  is  $10^{93} 13$
- \* In base 8, the smallest prime in the family  $4^n 7$  is  $4^{220} 7$  (the prime 7 is not counted since the prime must be  $>$  base)
- \* In base 9, the smallest prime in the family  $30^n 11$  is  $30^{1158} 11$
- \* In base 9, the smallest prime in the family  $27^n 07$  is  $27^{686} 07$
- \* In base 11, family  $57^n$  can not be ruled out as containing no primes  $>$  base but no primes  $>$  base found in the family after searching to length 50000 (the prime 5 is not counted since the prime must be  $>$  base)
- \* In base 13, the smallest prime in the family  $80^n 111$  is  $80^{32017} 111$  (this prime is only a probable prime, i.e. not proven prime)
- \* In base 13, the smallest prime in the family  $2B30^n 1$  is  $2B3^{15197} 1$
- \* In base 13, the smallest prime in the family  $B0^n BBA$  is  $B0^{6540} BBA$  (this prime is only a probable prime, i.e. not proven prime)
- \* In base 13, the smallest prime in the family  $390^n 1$  is  $390^{6266} 1$



- \* In base 13, the smallest prime in the family  $720^n 2$  is  $720^{2297} 2$
- \* In base 13, family  $95^n$  can not be ruled out as containing no primes  $>$  base but no primes  $>$  base found in the family after searching to length 50000
- \* In base 13, family  $A3^n A$  can not be ruled out as containing no primes  $>$  base but no primes  $>$  base found in the family after searching to length 50000
- \* In base 14, the smallest prime in the family  $4D^n$  is  $4D^{19698}$
- \* In base 16, family  $3^n AF$  can not be ruled out as containing no primes  $>$  base but no primes  $>$  base found in the family after searching to length 50000
- \* In base 16, family  $4^n DD$  can not be ruled out as containing no primes  $>$  base but no primes  $>$  base found in the family after searching to length 50000
- \* In base 16, the smallest prime in the family  $DB^n$  is  $DB^{32234}$  (this prime is only a probable prime, i.e. not proven prime) (the prime D is not counted since the prime must be  $>$  base)

For any given base  $b$ , we find all  $(x,z)$  digits-pair such that  $x \neq 0$  and  $\gcd(z,b) = 1$ , and find the corresponding sets  $Y^*$ , see below.

**Bold** for minimal primes in base  $b$ , i.e. elements of the set  $M(L_b)$

## base 2

The possible (first digit,last digit) for an element with  $\geq 3$  digits in the minimal set of the strings for primes with at least two digits are:

(1,1)

\* Case (1,1):

\*\* **11** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

## base 3

The possible (first digit,last digit) for an element with  $\geq 3$  digits in the minimal set of the strings for primes with at least two digits are:

(1,1), (1,2), (2,1), (2,2)

\* Case (1,1):

\*\* Since 12, 21, **111** are primes, we only need to consider the family  $1\{0\}1$  (since any digits 1, 2 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $1\{0\}1$  are divisible by 2, thus cannot be prime.

\* Case (1,2):

\*\* **12** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (2,1):

**\*\* 21** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (2,2):

**\*\*** Since 21, 12 are primes, we only need to consider the family  $2\{0,2\}^2$  (since any digits 1 between them will produce smaller primes)

**\*\*\*** All numbers of the form  $2\{0,2\}^2$  are divisible by 2, thus cannot be prime.

## base 4

The possible (first digit,last digit) for an element with  $\geq 3$  digits in the minimal set of the strings for primes with at least two digits are:

(1,1), (1,3), (2,1), (2,3), (3,1), (3,3)

\* Case (1,1):

**\*\* 11** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (1,3):

**\*\* 13** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (2,1):

**\*\*** Since 23, 11, 31, **221** are primes, we only need to consider the family  $2\{0\}^1$  (since any digits 1, 2, 3 between them will produce smaller primes)

**\*\*\*** All numbers of the form  $2\{0\}^1$  are divisible by 3, thus cannot be prime.

\* Case (2,3):

**\*\* 23** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (3,1):

**\*\* 31** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (3,3):

**\*\*** Since 31, 13, 23 are primes, we only need to consider the family  $3\{0,3\}^3$  (since any digits 1, 2 between them will produce smaller primes)

**\*\*\*** All numbers of the form  $3\{0,3\}^3$  are divisible by 3, thus cannot be prime.

base 5

The possible (first digit,last digit) for an element with  $\geq 3$  digits in the minimal set of the strings for primes with at least two digits are:

$(1,1), (1,2), (1,3), (1,4), (2,1), (2,2), (2,3), (2,4), (3,1), (3,2), (3,3), (3,4), (4,1), (4,2), (4,3), (4,4)$

\* Case (1,1):

\*\* Since 12, 21, **111**, **131** are primes, we only need to consider the family  $1\{0,4\}1$  (since any digits 1, 2, 3 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $1\{0,4\}1$  are divisible by 2, thus cannot be prime.

\* Case (1,2):

**\*\* 12 is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.**

\* Case (1,3):

\*\* Since 12, 23, 43, **133** are primes, we only need to consider the family  $1\{0,1\}3$  (since any digits 2, 3, 4 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\* Since 111 is prime, we only need to consider the families  $1\{0\}3$  and  $1\{0\}1\{0\}3$  (since any digit combo 11 between (1,3) will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $10^3$  are divisible by 2, thus cannot be prime.

\*\*\*\* For the  $1\{0\}1\{0\}3$  family, since **10103** is prime, we only need to consider the families  $1\{0\}13$  and  $11\{0\}3$  (since any digit combo 010 between (1,3) will produce smaller primes)

[illegible]

\*\*\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $11\{0\}3$  are divisible by 3, thus cannot be prime.

\* Case (1,4):

\*\* Since 12, 34, **104** are primes, we only need to consider the families 1{1,4}4 (since any digits 0, 2, 3 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\* Since 111, 414 are primes, we only need to consider the family  $1\{4\}4$  and  $11\{4\}4$  (since any digit combo 11 or 41 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $1\{4\}4$  is **14444**.

\*\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $11\{4\}4$  are divisible by 2, thus cannot be prime.

\* Case (2,1):

**\*\* 21** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (2,2):

**\*\*** Since 21, 23, 12, 32 are primes, we only need to consider the family  $2\{0,2,4\}2$  (since any digits 1, 3 between them will produce smaller primes)

**\*\*\*** All numbers of the form  $2\{0,2,4\}2$  are divisible by 2, thus cannot be prime.

\* Case (2,3):

**\*\* 23** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (2,4):

**\*\*** Since 21, 23, 34 are primes, we only need to consider the family  $2\{0,2,4\}4$  (since any digits 1, 3 between them will produce smaller primes)

**\*\*\*** All numbers of the form  $2\{0,2,4\}4$  are divisible by 2, thus cannot be prime.

\* Case (3,1):

**\*\*** Since 32, 34, 21 are primes, we only need to consider the family  $3\{0,1,3\}1$  (since any digits 2, 4 between them will produce smaller primes)

**\*\*\*** Since 313, 111, 131, **3101** are primes, we only need to consider the families  $3\{0,3\}1$  and  $3\{0,3\}11$  (since any digit combo 10, 11, 13 between (3,1) will produce smaller primes)

**\*\*\*\*** For the  $3\{0,3\}1$  family, we can separate this family to four families:

**\*\*\*\*\*** For the  $30\{0,3\}01$  family, we have the prime **30301**, and the remain case is the family  $30\{0\}01$ .

**\*\*\*\*\*** All numbers of the form  $30\{0\}01$  are divisible by 2, thus cannot be prime.

**\*\*\*\*\*** For the  $30\{0,3\}31$  family, note that there must be an even number of 3's between (30,31), or the result number will be divisible by 2 and cannot be prime.

**\*\*\*\*\*** Since 33331 is prime, any digit combo 33 between (30,31) will produce smaller primes.

**\*\*\*\*\*** Thus, the only possible prime is the smallest prime in the family  $30\{0\}31$ , and this prime is **300031**.

**\*\*\*\*\*** For the  $33\{0,3\}01$  family, note that there must be an even number of 3's between (33,01), or the result number will be divisible by 2 and cannot be prime.

**\*\*\*\*\*** Since 33331 is prime, any digit combo 33 between (33,01) will produce smaller primes.

**\*\*\*\*\*** Thus, the only possible prime is the smallest prime in the family  $33\{0\}01$ , and this prime is **33001**.

**\*\*\*\*\*** For the  $33\{0,3\}31$  family, we have the prime **33331**, and the remain case is the family  $33\{0\}31$ .

\*\*\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $33\{0\}31$  are divisible by 2, thus cannot be prime.

\*\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $3\{0,3\}11$  are divisible by 3, thus cannot be prime.

\* Case (3,2):

\*\* **32** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (3,3):

\*\* Since 32, 34, 23, 43, **313** are primes, we only need to consider the family  $3\{0,3\}3$  (since any digits 1, 2, 4 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $3\{0,3\}3$  are divisible by 3, thus cannot be prime.

\* Case (3,4):

\*\* **34** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (4,1):

\*\* Since 43, 21, **401** are primes, we only need to consider the family  $4\{1,4\}1$  (since any digits 0, 2, 3 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\* Since 414, 111 are primes, we only need to consider the family  $4\{4\}1$  and  $4\{4\}11$  (since any digit combo 14 or 11 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $4\{4\}1$  is **44441**.

\*\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $4\{4\}11$  are divisible by 2, thus cannot be prime.

\* Case (4,2):

\*\* Since 43, 12, 32 are primes, we only need to consider the family  $4\{0,2,4\}2$  (since any digits 1, 3 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $4\{0,2,4\}2$  are divisible by 2, thus cannot be prime.

\* Case (4,3):

\*\* **43** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (4,4):

\*\* Since 43, 34, **414** are primes, we only need to consider the family  $4\{0,2,4\}4$  (since any digits 1, 3 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $4\{0,2,4\}4$  are divisible by 2, thus cannot be prime.

## base 6

The possible (first digit,last digit) for an element with  $\geq 3$  digits in the minimal set of the strings for primes with at least two digits are:

(1,1), (1,5), (2,1), (2,5), (3,1), (3,5), (4,1), (4,5), (5,1), (5,5)

\* Case (1,1):

\*\* **11** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (1,5):

\*\* **15** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (2,1):

\*\* **21** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (2,5):

\*\* **25** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (3,1):

\*\* **31** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (3,5):

\*\* **35** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (4,1):

\*\* Since 45, 11, 21, 31, 51 are primes, we only need to consider the family  $4\{0,4\}1$  (since any digits 1, 2, 3, 5 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\* Since **4401** and **4441** are primes, we only need to consider the families  $4\{0\}1$  and  $4\{0\}41$  (since any digits combo 40 and 44 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $4\{0\}1$  are divisible by 5, thus cannot be prime.

\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $4\{0\}41$  is **40041**

\* Case (4,5):

\*\* **45** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (5,1):

**\*\* 51** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (5,5):

**\*\*** Since 51, 15, 25, 35, 45 are primes, we only need to consider the family  $5\{0,5\}5$  (since any digits 1, 2, 3, 4 between them will produce smaller primes)

**\*\*\*** All numbers of the form  $5\{0,5\}5$  are divisible by 5, thus cannot be prime.

## base 8

The possible (first digit,last digit) for an element with  $\geq 3$  digits in the minimal set of the strings for primes with at least two digits are:

(1,1), (1,3), (1,5), (1,7), (2,1), (2,3), (2,5), (2,7), (3,1), (3,3), (3,5), (3,7), (4,1), (4,3), (4,5), (4,7), (5,1), (5,3), (5,5), (5,7), (6,1), (6,3), (6,5), (6,7), (7,1), (7,3), (7,5), (7,7)

\* Case (1,1):

**\*\*** Since 13, 15, 21, 51, **111**, **141**, **161** are primes, we only need to consider the family  $1\{0,7\}1$  (since any digits 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 between them will produce smaller primes)

**\*\*\*** Since 107, 177, 701 are primes, we only need to consider the number 171 and the family  $1\{0\}1$  (since any digits combo 07, 70, 77 between them will produce smaller primes)

**\*\*\*\*** 171 is not prime.

**\*\*\*\*** All numbers of the form  $1\{0\}1$  factored as  $10^n+1 = (2^n+1) * (4^n-2^n+1)$ , thus cannot be prime.

\* Case (1,3):

**\*\* 13** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (1,5):

**\*\* 15** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (1,7):

**\*\*** Since 13, 15, 27, 37, 57, **107**, **117**, **147**, **177** are primes, we only need to consider the family  $1\{6\}7$  (since any digits 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 between them will produce smaller primes)

**\*\*\*** The smallest prime of the form  $1\{6\}7$  is 16667 (not minimal prime, since 667 is prime)

\* Case (2,1):

**\*\* 21** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (2,3):

**\*\* 23** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (2,5):

\*\* Since 21, 23, 27, 15, 35, 45, 65, 75, **225**, **255** are primes, we only need to consider the family  $2\{0\}5$  (since any digits 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $2\{0\}5$  are divisible by 7, thus cannot be prime.

\* Case (2,7):

\*\* **27** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (3,1):

\*\* Since 35, 37, 21, 51, **301**, **361** are primes, we only need to consider the family  $3\{1,3,4\}1$  (since any digits 0, 2, 5, 6, 7 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\* Since 13, 343, 111, 131, 141, 431, **3331**, **3411** are primes, we only need to consider the families  $3\{3\}11$ ,  $33\{1,4\}1$ ,  $3\{3,4\}4\{4\}1$  (since any digits combo 11, 13, 14, 33, 41, 43 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $3\{3\}11$  are divisible by 3, thus cannot be prime.

\*\*\*\* For the  $33\{1,4\}1$  family, since 111 and 141 are primes, we only need to consider the families  $33\{4\}1$  and  $33\{4\}11$  (since any digits combo 11, 14 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $33\{4\}1$  is **3344441**

\*\*\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $33\{4\}11$  are divisible by 301, thus cannot be prime.

\*\*\*\* For the  $3\{3,4\}4\{4\}1$  family, since 3331 and 3344441 are primes, we only need to consider the families  $3\{4\}1$ ,  $3\{4\}31$ ,  $3\{4\}341$ ,  $3\{4\}3441$ ,  $3\{4\}34441$  (since any digits combo 33 or 34444 between (3,1) will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $3\{4\}1$  are divisible by 31, thus cannot be prime.

\*\*\*\*\* Since 4443 is prime, we only need to consider the numbers 3431, 34431, 34341, 344341, 343441, 3443441, 3434441, 34434441 (since any digit combo 444 between (3,3{4}1) will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\*\*\* None of 3431, 34431, 34341, 344341, 343441, 3443441, 3434441, 34434441 are primes.

\* Case (3,3):

\*\* Since 35, 37, 13, 23, 53, 73, **343** are primes, we only need to consider the family  $3\{0,3,6\}3$  (since any digits 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $3\{0,3,6\}3$  are divisible by 3, thus cannot be prime.

\* Case (3,5):

\*\* **35** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.



\* Case (3,7):

\*\* **37** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (4,1):

\*\* Since 45, 21, 51, **401**, **431**, **471** are primes, we only need to consider the family  $4\{1,4,6\}1$  (since any digits 0, 2, 3, 5, 7 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\* Since 111, 141, 161, 661, **4611** are primes, we only need to consider the families  $4\{4\}11$ ,  $4\{4,6\}4\{1,4,6\}1$ ,  $4\{4\}6\{4\}1$  (since any digits combo 11, 14, 16, 61, 66 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $4\{4\}11$  is 44444444444444411 (not minimal prime, since 444444441 is prime)

\*\*\*\* For the  $4\{4,6\}4\{1,4,6\}1$  family, we can separate this family to  $4\{4,6\}41$ ,  $4\{4,6\}411$ ,  $4\{4,6\}461$

\*\*\*\*\* For the  $4\{4,6\}41$  family, since 661 and 6441 are primes, we only need to consider the families  $4\{4\}41$  and  $4\{4\}641$  (since any digits combo 64 or 66 between (4,41) will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $4\{4\}41$  is **444444441**

\*\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $4\{4\}641$  is **444641**

\*\*\*\*\* For the  $4\{4,6\}411$  family, since 661 and 6441 are primes, we only need to consider the families  $4\{4\}411$  and  $4\{4\}6411$  (since any digits combo 64 or 66 between (4,411) will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $4\{4\}411$  is **444444441**

\*\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $4\{4\}6411$  is 4444444444444446411 (not minimal prime, since 444444441 and 444641 are primes)

\*\*\*\*\* For the  $4\{4,6\}461$  family, since 661 is prime, we only need to consider the family  $4\{4\}461$

\*\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $4\{4\}461$  is 44444444461 (not minimal prime, since 444444441 is prime)

\*\*\*\* For the  $4\{4\}6\{4\}1$  family, since 6441 is prime, we only need to consider the families  $4\{4\}61$  and  $4\{4\}641$  (since any digits combo 44 between (4{4}6,1) will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $4\{4\}61$  is 44444444461 (not minimal prime, since 444444441 is prime)

\*\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $4\{4\}641$  is **444641**

\* Case (4,3):

\*\* Since 45, 13, 23, 53, 73, **433**, **463** are primes, we only need to consider the family  $4\{0,4\}3$  (since any digits 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7 between them will produce smaller primes)

\* Case (5,5):

\*\*\*\*\* For the  $6\{0,7\}41$  family, since **60741** is prime, we only need to consider the family  $6\{7\}\{0\}41$

\*\*\*\*\* Since 6777 is prime, we only need to consider the families  $6\{0\}41$ ,  $67\{0\}41$ ,  $677\{0\}41$

\*\*\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $6\{0\}41$  are divisible by 3, thus cannot be prime.

\*\*\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $67\{0\}41$  are divisible by 13, thus cannot be prime.

\*\*\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $677\{0\}41$  are divisible by 3, thus cannot be prime.

\*\*\*\*\* For the  $6\{0,7\}411$  family, since **60411** is prime, we only need to consider the family  $6\{7\}411$

\*\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $6\{7\}411$  is 67777411 (not minimal prime, since 6777 is prime)

\*\*\* Numbers not containing 4:

\*\*\*\* The form is  $6\{0,1,7\}1$

\*\*\*\* Since 111 is prime, we only need to consider the families  $6\{0,7\}1$  and  $6\{0,7\}1\{0,7\}1$

\*\*\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $6\{0,7\}1$  are divisible by 7, thus cannot be prime.

\*\*\*\*\* For the  $6\{0,7\}1\{0,7\}1$  family, since 711 and **6101** are primes, we only need to consider the family  $6\{0\}1\{7\}1$

\*\*\*\*\* Since **60171** is prime, we only need to consider the families  $6\{0\}11$  and  $61\{7\}1$

\*\*\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $6\{0\}11$  are divisible by 3, thus cannot be prime.

\*\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $61\{7\}1$  is 617771 (not minimal prime, since 6777 is prime)

\* Case (6,3):

\*\* Since 65, 13, 23, 53, 73, **643** are primes, we only need to consider the family  $6\{0,3,6\}3$  (since any digits 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $6\{0,3,6\}3$  are divisible by 3, thus cannot be prime.

\* Case (6,5):

\*\* **65** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (6,7):

\*\* Since 65, 27, 37, 57, **667** are primes, we only need to consider the family  $6\{0,1,4,7\}7$  (since any digits 2, 3, 5, 6 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\* Since 107, 117, 147, 177, 407, 417, 717, 747, **6007**, **6477**, **6707**, **6777** are primes, we only need to consider the families  $60\{1,4,7\}7$ ,  $6\{0\}17$ ,  $6\{0,4\}4\{4\}7$ ,  $6\{0\}77$  (since any digits combo 00, 10, 11, 14, 17, 40, 41, 47, 70, 71, 74, 77 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $6\{0\}17$  or  $6\{0\}77$  are divisible by 3, thus cannot be prime.

\*\*\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $7\{7\}444441$  are divisible by 7, thus cannot be prime.

\*\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $7\{7\}4444441$  is **77774444441**

\*\*\*\*\* Since this prime has just 4 7's, we only need to consider the families with  $\leq 3$  7's

\*\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $7\{4\}1$  is **744444441**

\*\*\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $77\{4\}1$  are divisible by 5, thus cannot be prime.

\*\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $777\{4\}1$  is 777444444444441 (not minimal prime, since 444444441 and 744444441 are primes)

\* Case (7,3):

\*\* **73** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (7,5):

\*\* **75** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (7,7):

\*\* Since 73, 75, 27, 37, 57, **717**, **747**, **767** are primes, we only need to consider the family  $7\{0,7\}7$  (since any digits 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $7\{0,7\}7$  are divisible by 7, thus cannot be prime.

## base 10

The possible (first digit,last digit) for an element with  $\geq 3$  digits in the minimal set of the strings for primes with at least two digits are:

(1,1), (1,3), (1,7), (1,9), (2,1), (2,3), (2,7), (2,9), (3,1), (3,3), (3,7), (3,9), (4,1), (4,3), (4,7), (4,9), (5,1), (5,3), (5,7), (5,9), (6,1), (6,3), (6,7), (6,9), (7,1), (7,3), (7,7), (7,9), (8,1), (8,3), (8,7), (8,9), (9,1), (9,3), (9,7), (9,9)

\* Case (1,1):

\*\* **11** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (1,3):

\*\* **13** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (1,7):

\*\* **17** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (1,9):

\*\* **19** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (2,1):

\*\* Since 23, 29, 11, 31, 41, 61, 71, **251**, **281** are primes, we only need to consider the family  $2\{0,2\}1$  (since any digits 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\* Since **2221** and **20201** are primes, we only need to consider the families  $2\{0\}1$ ,  $2\{0\}21$ ,  $22\{0\}1$  (since any digits combo 22 or 020 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $2\{0\}1$  are divisible by 3, thus cannot be prime.

\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $2\{0\}21$  is **20021**

\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $22\{0\}1$  is **22000001**

\* Case (2,3):

\*\* **23** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (2,7):

\*\* Since 23, 29, 17, 37, 47, 67, 97 **227**, **257**, **277** are primes, we only need to consider the family  $2\{0,8\}7$  (since any digits 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\* Since 887 and **2087** are primes, we only need to consider the families  $2\{0\}7$  and  $28\{0\}7$  (since any digit combo 08 or 88 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $2\{0\}7$  are divisible by 3, thus cannot be prime.

\*\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $28\{0\}7$  are divisible by 7, thus cannot be prime.

\* Case (2,9):

\*\* **29** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (3,1):

\*\* **31** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (3,3):

\*\* Since 31, 37, 13, 23, 43, 53, 73, 83 are primes, we only need to consider the family  $3\{0,3,6,9\}3$  (since any digits 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $3\{0,3,6,9\}3$  are divisible by 3, thus cannot be prime.

\* Case (3,7):

\*\* **37** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (3,9):

\*\* Since 31, 37, 19, 29, 59, 79, 89, **349** are primes, we only need to consider the family  $3\{0,3,6,9\}9$  (since any digits 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $3\{0,3,6,9\}9$  are divisible by 3, thus cannot be prime.

\* Case (4,1):

\*\* **41** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (4,3):

\*\* **43** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (4,7):

\*\* **47** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (4,9):

\*\* Since 41, 43, 47, 19, 29, 59, 79, 89, **409, 449, 499** are primes, we only need to consider the family  $4\{6\}9$  (since any digits 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $4\{6\}9$  are divisible by 7, thus cannot be prime.

\* Case (5,1):

\*\* Since 53, 59, 11, 31, 41, 61, 71, **521** are primes, we only need to consider the family  $5\{0,5,8\}1$  (since any digits 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\* Since 881 is prime, we only need to consider the families  $5\{0,5\}1$  and  $5\{0,5\}8\{0,5\}1$  (since any digit combo 88 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\*\* For the  $5\{0,5\}1$  family, since **5051** and **5501** are primes, we only need to consider the families  $5\{0\}1$  and  $5\{5\}1$  (since any digit combo 05 or 50 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $5\{0\}1$  are divisible by 3, thus cannot be prime.

\*\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $5\{5\}1$  is **55555555551**

\*\*\*\* For the  $5\{0,5\}8\{0,5\}1$  family, since **5081, 5581, 5801, 5851** are primes, we only need to consider the number 581

\*\*\*\*\* 581 is not prime.

\* Case (5,3):

\*\* **53** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (5,7):



\*\* Since 53, 59, 17, 37, 47, 67, 97, **557**, **577**, **587** are primes, we only need to consider the family  $5\{0,2\}7$  (since any digits 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\* Since 227 and **50207** are primes, we only need to consider the families  $5\{0\}7$ ,  $5\{0\}27$ ,  $52\{0\}7$  (since any digits combo 22 or 020 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $5\{0\}7$  are divisible by 3, thus cannot be prime.

\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $5\{0\}27$  is **500000000000000000000000000027**

\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $52\{0\}7$  is **5200007**

\* Case (5,9):

\*\* **59** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (6,1):

\*\* **61** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (6,3):

\*\* Since 61, 67, 13, 23, 43, 53, 73, 83 are primes, we only need to consider the family  $6\{0,3,6,9\}3$  (since any digits 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $6\{0,3,6,9\}3$  are divisible by 3, thus cannot be prime.

\* Case (6,7):

\*\* **67** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (6,9):

\*\* Since 61, 67, 19, 29, 59, 79, 89 are primes, we only need to consider the family  $6\{0,3,4,6,9\}9$  (since any digits 1, 2, 5, 7, 8 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\* Since 449 is prime, we only need to consider the families  $6\{0,3,6,9\}9$  and  $6\{0,3,6,9\}4\{0,3,6,9\}9$  (since any digit combo 44 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $6\{0,3,6,9\}9$  are divisible by 3, thus cannot be prime.

\*\*\*\* For the  $6\{0,3,6,9\}4\{0,3,6,9\}9$  family, since 409, 43, **6469**, 499 are primes, we only need to consider the family  $6\{0,3,6,9\}49$

\*\*\*\*\* Since 349, **6949** are primes, we only need to consider the family  $6\{0,6\}49$

\*\*\*\*\* Since **60649** is prime, we only need to consider the family  $6\{6\}\{0\}49$  (since any digits combo 06 between  $\{6,49\}$  will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $6\{6\}49$  is **666649**

\*\*\*\*\* Since this prime has just 4 6's, we only need to consider the families with  $\leq 3$  6's



\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $8\{0\}7$  are divisible by 3, thus cannot be prime.

\* Case (8,9):

\*\* **89** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (9,1):

\*\* Since 97, 11, 31, 41, 61, 71, **991** are primes, we only need to consider the family  $9\{0,2,5,8\}1$  (since any digits 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\* Since 251, 281, 521, 821, 881, **9001**, **9221**, **9551**, **9851** are primes, we only need to consider the families  $9\{2,5,8\}0\{2,5,8\}1$ ,  $9\{0\}2\{0\}1$ ,  $9\{0\}5\{0,8\}1$ ,  $9\{0,5\}8\{0\}1$  (since any digits combo 00, 22, 25, 28, 52, 55, 82, 85, 88 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\*\* For the  $9\{2,5,8\}0\{2,5,8\}1$  family, since any digits combo 22, 25, 28, 52, 55, 82, 85, 88 between (9,1) will produce smaller primes, we only need to consider the numbers 901, 9021, 9051, 9081, 9201, 9501, 9801, 90581, 95081, 95801

\*\*\*\*\* 95801 is the only prime among 901, 9021, 9051, 9081, 9201, 9501, 9801, 90581, 95081, 95801, but it is not minimal prime since 5801 is prime.

\*\*\*\* For the  $9\{0\}2\{0\}1$  family, since 9001 is prime, we only need to consider the numbers 921, 9201, 9021

\*\*\*\*\* None of 921, 9201, 9021 are primes.

\*\*\*\* For the  $9\{0\}5\{0,8\}1$  family, since 9001 and 881 are primes, we only need to consider the numbers 951, 9051, 9501, 9581, 90581, 95081, 95801

\*\*\*\*\* 95801 is the only prime among 951, 9051, 9501, 9581, 90581, 95081, 95801, but it is not minimal prime since 5801 is prime.

\*\*\*\* For the  $9\{0,5\}8\{0\}1$  family, since 9001 and 5581 are primes, we only need to consider the numbers 981, 9081, 9581, 9801, 90581, 95081, 95801

\*\*\*\*\* 95801 is the only prime among 981, 9081, 9581, 9801, 90581, 95081, 95801, but it is not minimal prime since 5801 is prime.

\* Case (9,3):

\*\* Since 97, 13, 23, 43, 53, 73, 83 are primes, we only need to consider the family  $9\{0,3,6,9\}3$  (since any digits 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $9\{0,3,6,9\}3$  are divisible by 3, thus cannot be prime.

\* Case (9,7):

\*\* **97** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (9,9):

\*\* Since 97, 19, 29, 59, 79, 89 are primes, we only need to consider the family  $9\{0,3,4,6,9\}9$  (since any digits 1, 2, 5, 7, 8 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\* Since 449 is prime, we only need to consider the families  $9\{0,3,6,9\}9$  and  $9\{0,3,6,9\}4\{0,3,6,9\}9$  (since any digit combo 44 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $9\{0,3,6,9\}9$  are divisible by 3, thus cannot be prime.

\*\*\*\* For the  $9\{0,3,6,9\}4\{0,3,6,9\}9$  family, since **9049**, 349, **9649**, **9949** are primes, we only need to consider the family  $94\{0,3,6,9\}9$

\*\*\*\*\* Since 409, 43, 499 are primes, we only need to consider the family  $94\{6\}9$  (since any digits 0, 3, 9 between (94,9) will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $94\{6\}9$  is **946669**

## base 12

The possible (first digit,last digit) for an element with  $\geq 3$  digits in the minimal set of the strings for primes with at least two digits are:

(1,1), (1,5), (1,7), (1,B), (2,1), (2,5), (2,7), (2,B), (3,1), (3,5), (3,7), (3,B), (4,1), (4,5), (4,7), (4,B), (5,1), (5,5), (5,7), (5,B), (6,1), (6,5), (6,7), (6,B), (7,1), (7,5), (7,7), (7,B), (8,1), (8,5), (8,7), (8,B), (9,1), (9,5), (9,7), (9,B), (A,1), (A,5), (A,7), (A,B), (B,1), (B,5), (B,7), (B,B)

\* Case (1,1):

\*\* **11** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (1,5):

\*\* **15** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (1,7):

\*\* **17** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (1,B):

\*\* **1B** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (2,1):

\*\* Since 25, 27, 11, 31, 51, 61, 81, 91, **221**, **241**, **2A1**, **2B1** are primes, we only need to consider the family  $2\{0\}1$  (since any digits 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, A, B between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $2\{0\}1$  is **2001**

\* Case (2,5):

\*\* **25** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (2,7):

\*\* **27** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (2,B):

\*\* Since 25, 27, 1B, 3B, 4B, 5B, 6B, 8B, AB, **2BB** are primes, we only need to consider the family  $2\{0,2,9\}B$  (since any digits 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, A, B between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\* Since 90B, **200B**, **202B**, **222B**, **229B**, **292B**, **299B** are primes, we only need to consider the numbers 20B, 22B, 29B, 209B, 220B (since any digits combo 00, 02, 22, 29, 90, 92, 99 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\*\* None of 20B, 22B, 29B, 209B, 220B are primes.

\* Case (3,1):

\*\* **31** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (3,5):

\*\* **35** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (3,7):

\*\* **37** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (3,B):

\*\* **3B** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (4,1):

\*\* Since 45, 4B, 11, 31, 51, 61, 81, 91, **401**, **421**, **471** are primes, we only need to consider the family  $4\{4,A\}1$  (since any digit 0, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, B between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\* Since A41 and **4441** are primes, we only need to consider the families  $4\{A\}1$  and  $44\{A\}1$  (since any digit combo 44, A4 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $4\{A\}1$  are divisible by 5, thus cannot be prime.

\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $44\{A\}1$  is **44AAA1**

\* Case (4,5):

\*\* **45** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (4,7):

\*\* Since 45, 4B, 17, 27, 37, 57, 67, 87, A7, B7, **447**, **497** are primes, we only need to consider the family  $4\{0,7\}7$  (since any digit 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, A, B between them will produce smaller primes)

\* Case (6,B):

**\*\* 6B** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (7,1):

**\*\* Since 75, 11, 31, 51, 61, 81, 91, 701, 721, 771, 7A1** are primes, we only need to consider the family  $7\{4,B\}1$  (since any digits 0, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, A between them will produce smaller primes)

**\*\*\* Since 7BB, 7441 and 7B41** are primes, we only need to consider the numbers 741, 7B1, 74B1

**\*\*\*\* None of 741, 7B1, 74B1** are primes.

\* Case (7,5):

**\*\* 75** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (7,7):

**\*\* Since 75, 17, 27, 37, 57, 67, 87, A7, B7, 747, 797** are primes, we only need to consider the family  $7\{0,7\}7$  (since any digits 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, A, B between them will produce smaller primes)

**\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $7\{0,7\}7$**  are divisible by 7, thus cannot be prime.

\* Case (7,B):

**\*\* Since 75, 1B, 3B, 4B, 5B, 6B, 8B, AB, 70B, 77B, 7BB** are primes, we only need to consider the family  $7\{2,9\}B$  (since any digits 0, 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, A, B between them will produce smaller primes)

**\*\*\* Since 222B, 729B** is prime, we only need to consider the families  $7\{9\}B$ ,  $7\{9\}2B$ ,  $7\{9\}22B$  (since any digits combo 222, 29 between them will produce smaller primes)

**\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $7\{9\}B$  is 7999B**

**\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $7\{9\}2B$  is 79992B** (not minimal prime, since 992B and 7999B are primes)

**\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $7\{9\}22B$  is 79922B** (not minimal prime, since 992B is prime)

\* Case (8,1):

**\*\* 81** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (8,5):

**\*\* 85** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (8,7):

**\*\* 87** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (8,B):

**\*\* 8B** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (9,1):

**\*\* 91** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (9,5):

**\*\* 95** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (9,7):

**\*\* Since 91, 95, 17, 27, 37, 57, 67, 87, A7, B7, 907** are primes, we only need to consider the family  $9\{4,7,9\}7$  (since any digit 0, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, A, B between them will produce smaller primes)

**\*\*\* Since 447, 497, 747, 797, 9777, 9947, 9997** are primes, we only need to consider the numbers 947, 977, 997, 9477, 9977 (since any digits combo 44, 49, 74, 77, 79, 94, 99 between them will produce smaller primes)

**\*\*\*\* None of 947, 977, 997, 9477, 9977 are primes.**

\* Case (9,B):

**\*\* Since 91, 95, 1B, 3B, 4B, 5B, 6B, 8B, AB, 90B, 9BB** are primes, we only need to consider the family  $9\{2,7,9\}B$  (since any digit 0, 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, A, B between them will produce smaller primes)

**\*\*\* Since 27, 77B, 929B, 992B, 997B** are primes, we only need to consider the families  $9\{2,7\}2\{2\}B$ ,  $97\{2,9\}B$ ,  $9\{7,9\}9\{9\}B$  (since any digits combo 27, 29, 77, 92, 97 between them will produce smaller primes)

**\*\*\*\* For the  $9\{2,7\}2\{2\}B$  family, since 27 and 77B are primes, we only need to consider the families  $9\{2\}2\{2\}B$  and  $97\{2\}2\{2\}B$  (since any digits combo 27, 77 between  $(9,2\{2\}B)$  will produce smaller primes)**

**\*\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $9\{2\}2\{2\}B$  is 9222B (not minimal prime, since 222B is prime)**

**\*\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $97\{2\}2\{2\}B$  is 972222222222B (not minimal prime, since 222B is prime)**

**\*\*\*\* For the  $97\{2,9\}B$  family, since 729B and 929B are primes, we only need to consider the family  $97\{9\}\{2\}B$  (since any digits combo 29 between  $(97,B)$  will produce smaller primes)**

**\*\*\*\*\* Since 222B is prime, we only need to consider the families  $97\{9\}B$ ,  $97\{9\}2B$ ,  $97\{9\}22B$  (since any digit combo 222 between  $(97,B)$  will produce smaller primes)**

**\*\*\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $97\{9\}B$  are divisible by 11, thus cannot be prime.**

**\*\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $97\{9\}2B$  is 979999992B (not minimal prime, since 9999B is prime)**

**\*\*\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $97\{9\}22B$  are divisible by 11, thus cannot be prime.**



\*\*\*\* For the  $9\{7,9\}9\{9\}B$  family, since 77B and 9999B are primes, we only need to consider the numbers 99B, 999B, 979B, 9799B, 9979B

\*\*\*\*\* None of 99B, 999B, 979B, 9799B, 9979B are primes.

\* Case (A,1):

\*\* Since A7, AB, 11, 31, 51, 61, 81, 91, **A41** are primes, we only need to consider the family  $A\{0,2,A\}1$  (since any digits 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, B between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\* Since 221, 2A1, **A0A1**, **A201** are primes, we only need to consider the families  $A\{A\}\{0\}1$  and  $A\{A\}\{0\}21$  (since any digits combo 0A, 20, 22, 2A between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\*\* For the  $A\{A\}\{0\}1$  family:

\*\*\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $A\{0\}1$  are divisible by B, thus cannot be prime.

\*\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $AA\{0\}1$  is **AA000001**

\*\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $AAA\{0\}1$  is **AAA0001**

\*\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $AAAA\{0\}1$  is **AAAA1**

\*\*\*\*\* Since this prime has no 0's, we do not need to consider the families  $\{A\}1$ ,  $\{A\}01$ ,  $\{A\}001$ , etc.

\*\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $A\{A\}\{0\}21$  are divisible by 5, thus cannot be prime.

\* Case (A,5):

\*\* Since A7, AB, 15, 25, 35, 45, 75, 85, 95, B5 are primes, we only need to consider the family  $A\{0,5,6,A\}5$  (since any digits 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, B between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\* Since 565, 655, 665, **A605**, **A6A5**, **AA65** are primes, we only need to consider the families  $A\{0,5,A\}5$  and  $A\{0\}65$  (since any digits combo 56, 60, 65, 66, 6A, A6 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $A\{0,5,A\}5$  are divisible by 5, thus cannot be prime.

\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $A\{0\}65$  is **A00065**

\* Case (A,7):

\*\* **A7** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (A,B):

\*\* **AB** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (B,1):

\*\* Since B5, B7, 11, 31, 51, 61, 81, 91, **B21** are primes, we only need to consider the family  $B\{0,4,A,B\}1$  (since any digits 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\* Since 4B, AB, 401, A41, **B001**, **B0B1**, **BB01**, **BB41** are primes, we only need to consider the families  $B\{A\}0\{4,A\}1$ ,  $B\{0,4\}4\{4,A\}1$ ,  $B\{0,4,A,B\}A\{0,A\}1$ ,  $B\{B\}B\{A,B\}1$  (since any digits combo 00, 0B, 40, 4B, A4, AB, B0, B4 between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\*\* For the  $B\{A\}0\{4,A\}1$  family, since A41 is prime, we only need consider the families  $B0\{4\}\{A\}1$  and  $B\{A\}0\{A\}1$

\*\*\*\*\* For the  $B0\{4\}\{A\}1$  family, since **B04A1** is prime, we only need to consider the families  $B0\{4\}1$  and  $B0\{A\}1$

\*\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $B0\{4\}1$  is B04441 (not minimal prime, since 4441 is prime)

\*\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $B0\{A\}1$  is B0AAAAA1 (not minimal prime, since AAAA1 is prime)

\*\*\*\*\* For the  $B\{A\}0\{A\}1$  family, since A0A1 is prime, we only need to consider the families  $B\{A\}01$  and  $B0\{A\}1$

\*\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $B\{A\}01$  is **BAA01**

\*\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $B0\{A\}1$  is B0AAAAA1 (not minimal prime, since AAAA1 is prime)

\*\*\* For the  $B\{0,4\}4\{4,A\}1$  family, since 4441 is prime, we only need to consider the families  $B\{0\}4\{4,A\}1$  and  $B\{0,4\}4\{A\}1$

\*\*\*\*\* For the  $B\{0\}4\{4,A\}1$  family, since B001 is prime, we only need to consider the families  $B4\{4,A\}1$  and  $B04\{4,A\}1$

\*\*\*\*\* For the  $B4\{4,A\}1$  family, since A41 is prime, we only need to consider the family  $B4\{4\}\{A\}1$

\*\*\*\*\* Since 4441 and BAAA1 are primes, we only need to consider the numbers B41, B441, B4A1, B44A1, B4AA1, B44AA1

\*\*\*\*\* None of B41, B441, B4A1, B44A1, B4AA1, B44AA1 are primes.

\*\*\*\*\* For the  $B04\{4,A\}1$  family, since **B04A1** is prime, we only need to consider the family  $B04\{4\}1$

\*\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $B04\{4\}1$  is B04441 (not minimal prime, since 4441 is prime)

\*\*\*\*\* For the  $B\{0,4\}4\{A\}1$  family, since 401, 4441, B001 are primes, we only need to consider the families  $B4\{A\}1$ ,  $B04\{A\}1$ ,  $B44\{A\}1$ ,  $B044\{A\}1$  (since any digits combo 00, 40, 44 between  $(B,4\{A\}1)$  will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $B4\{A\}1$  is B4AAA1 (not minimal prime, since BAAA1 is prime)

\*\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $B04\{A\}1$  is **B04A1**

\*\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $B44\{A\}1$  is B44AAAAAA1 (not minimal prime, since BAAA1 is prime)

\*\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $B044\{A\}1$  is B044A1 (not minimal prime, since B04A1 is prime)

\*\*\*\* For the  $B\{0,4,A,B\}A\{0,A\}1$  family, since all numbers in this family with 0 between (B,1) are in the  $B\{A\}0\{4,A\}1$  family, and all numbers in this family with 4 between (B,1) are in the  $B\{0,4\}4\{4,A\}1$  family, we only need to consider the family  $B\{A,B\}A\{A\}1$

\*\*\*\*\* Since **BAAA1** is prime, we only need to consider the families  $B\{A,B\}A1$  and  $B\{A,B\}AA1$

\*\*\*\*\* For the  $B\{A,B\}A1$  family, since AB and **BAAA1** are primes, we only need to consider the families  $B\{B\}A1$  and  $B\{B\}AA1$

\*\*\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $B\{B\}A1$  are divisible by B, thus cannot be prime.

\*\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $B\{B\}AA1$  is **BBBAA1**

\*\*\*\*\* For the  $B\{A,B\}AA1$  family, since **BAAA1** is prime, we only need to consider the families  $B\{B\}AA1$

\*\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $B\{B\}AA1$  is **BBBAA1**

\*\*\*\* For the  $B\{B\}B\{A,B\}1$  family, since AB and BAAA1 are primes, we only need to consider the families  $B\{B\}B1$ ,  $B\{B\}BA1$ ,  $B\{B\}BAA1$  (since any digits combo AB or AAA between ( $B\{B\}B,1$ ) will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $B\{B\}B1$  is **BBBB1**

\*\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $B\{B\}BA1$  are divisible by B, thus cannot be prime.

\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $B\{B\}BAA1$  is **BBBAA1**

\* Case (B,5):

\*\* **B5** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (B,7):

\*\* **B7** is prime, and thus the only minimal prime in this family.

\* Case (B,B):

\*\* Since B5, B7, 1B, 3B, 4B, 5B, 6B, 8B, AB, **B2B** are primes, we only need to consider the family  $B\{0,9,B\}B$  (since any digits 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, A between them will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\* Since 90B and 9BB are primes, we only need to consider the families  $B\{0,B\}\{9\}B$

\*\*\*\* Since 9999B is prime, we only need to consider the families  $B\{0,B\}B$ ,  $B\{0,B\}9B$ ,  $B\{0,B\}99B$ ,  $B\{0,B\}999B$

\*\*\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $B\{0,B\}B$  are divisible by B, thus cannot be prime.

\*\*\*\*\* For the  $B\{0,B\}9B$  family:

\*\*\*\*\* Since **B0B9B** and **BB09B** are primes, we only need to consider the families  $B\{0\}9B$  and  $B\{B\}9B$  (since any digits combo 0B, B0 between (B,9B) will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $B\{0\}9B$  is **B0000000000000000000000000009B**

\*\*\*\*\* All numbers of the form  $B(B)9B$  is either divisible by 11 (if totally number of B's is even) or factored as  $10^{(2*n)} - 21 = (10^n - 5) * (10^n + 5)$  (if totally number of B's is odd number  $2*n - 1$ ), thus cannot be prime.

\*\*\*\*\* For the B{0,B}99B family:

\*\*\*\*\* Since B0B9B and BB09B are primes, we only need to consider the families B{0}99B and B{B}99B (since any digits combo 0B, B0 between (B,99B) will produce smaller primes)

\*\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $B\{0\}99B$  is **B00099B**

```
***** The smallest prime of the form B{B}99B is BBBBBB99B
```

\*\*\*\*\* For the B{0,B}999B family:

\*\*\*\*\* Since B0B9B and BB09B are primes, we only need to consider the families B{0}999B and B{B}999B (since any digits combo 0B, B0 between (B,999B) will produce smaller primes)

```
***** The smallest prime of the form B{0}999B is
```

[illegible]

\*\*\*\*\* The smallest prime of the form  $B\{B\}999B$  is

[illegible]

written as B244999B and equal the prime  $12^{248-3769}$  (not minimal prime, since BBBBBB99B is prime)

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For list of more references, see

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