

First we show that for $k \geq 2$ the decimal representation of $\frac{1}{3^k}$ has a periodicity divisor or equal to 3^{k-2}

As by recurrence 3^k divide $10^{3^{k-2}} - 1$ (True for $k=2$) and :

$$10^{3^{k-1}} - 1 = 10^{3^{k-2} \times 3} - 1 = (10^{3^{k-2}})^3 - 1 = (10^{3^{k-2}} - 1)(10^{2 \times 3^{k-2}} + 10^{3^{k-2}} + 1)$$

by recurrence $(10^{3^{k-2}} - 1) \equiv 0 \pmod{3^k}$ and $(10^{2 \times 3^{k-2}} + 10^{3^{k-2}} + 1) \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$

For $\frac{1}{3^k} < (N - nb)$ the nb decimal digits beginning at the Nth are identical

to digits beginning at $N \pmod{3^{k-2}}$ and also beginning at $N \pmod{3^{k-2+i}}$, $i \geq 0$

As 3^k is a multiple of the period 3^{k-2} the nb decimal digits are the same for $\frac{1}{3^k 10^{3^k}}$

$$\text{For } K = 33 : \frac{1}{3^K} < (10^{16} - nb) < 10^{16} < \frac{1}{3^{K+1}}$$

we need to compute nb digits beginning at 10^{16} or $\Delta = (10^{16} \pmod{3^{K-2}})$ of

$$\sum_{k=1}^K \frac{1}{3^k} = \frac{1 - (\frac{1}{3})^{K+1}}{1 - \frac{1}{3}} - 1 = \frac{1 - \frac{1}{3^K}}{2}$$

as we can compute digits for $\frac{1}{3^K}$ by recursion : $R_0 = 1$; $d_{n+1} = \lfloor \frac{R_n}{3^K} \rfloor$; $R_{n+1} = R_n - d_{n+1} \times 3^K$

to skip Δ digits we compute $R_\Delta = (10^\Delta \pmod{3^K})$ by fast exponentiation.

Remark : to implement the division by 2, we compute $R_{\Delta-1}$