

STEP II, 2020, Q5

- 5 If x is a positive integer, the value of the function $d(x)$ is the sum of the digits of x in base 10. For example, $d(249) = 2 + 4 + 9 = 15$.

An n -digit positive integer x is written in the form $\sum_{r=0}^{n-1} a_r \times 10^r$, where $0 \leq a_r \leq 9$ for all $0 \leq r \leq n-1$ and $a_{n-1} > 0$.

(i) Prove that $x - d(x)$ is non-negative and divisible by 9.

(ii) Prove that $x - 44d(x)$ is a multiple of 9 if and only if x is a multiple of 9.

Suppose that $x = 44d(x)$. Show that if x has n digits, then $x \leq 396n$ and $x \geq 10^{n-1}$, and hence that $n \leq 4$.

Find a value of x for which $x = 44d(x)$. Show that there are no further values of x satisfying this equation.

(iii) Find a value of x for which $x = 107d(d(x))$. Show that there are no further values of x satisfying this equation.



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