The Virtual Learning Environment for Computer Programming

Multiples of three

P61930_en

A well-kown mathematical property states that a natural number is a multiple of three if and only if the sum of its digits is also a multiple of three. For instance, the sum of the digits of 8472 is 8 + 4 + 7 + 2 = 21, which is a multiple of three. Therefore, 8472 is also a multiple of three.

Implement a recursive function that tells if a strictly positive natural number n is a multiple of three or not.

```
bool is_multiple_3 (int n);
```

Interface

```
C++ bool is_multiple_3 (int n);
C int is_multiple_3 (int n);
Java public static boolean isMultiple3(int n);
Python is_multiple_3 (n) # returns bool
is_multiple_3 (n: int) \rightarrow bool
```

Solve this problem using a recursive function to return the sum of the digits of a natural number n.

```
int sum_of_digits (int n);
```

Interface

```
C++ int sum\_of\_digits (int n);
C int sum\_of\_digits (int n);
Java public static int sumOfDigits(int n);
Python sum\_of\_digits (n) # returns int sum\_of\_digits (n: int) \rightarrow int
```

Observation

Here, you are allowed to use the operations of division and integer remainder only with the number 10. Otherwise, this exercise would be totally trivial!

Problem information

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