

## Problem of the Week Problem D

## **Digit Calculator**

The *digit sum* of a number is found by, first, summing its digits. If the sum is greater than 9, then the digits of the sum are added. This process is repeated until a single digit number is obtained.

The digit sum of 602 is 8 since 6 + 0 + 2 = 8, and 8 is a single digit number.

The digit sum of 897 is 6. However, it takes two steps to reach this sum. First, 8 + 9 + 7 = 24, which is not a single digit number. Second, 2 + 4 = 6, which is a single digit number and the process stops after the two steps.

- a) How many three-digit numbers have a digit sum of 5 that is reached in one step?
- b) How many three-digit numbers have a digit sum of 5 that is reached in two steps?
- c) How many three-digit numbers have a digit sum of 5 that is reached in three steps?



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