

## Re: Cheque clearing

**Source:** <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.math/2004-06/6582.html>

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**From:** Peter Hucker ([hucker\\_at\\_clara.co.uk](mailto:hucker_at_clara.co.uk))

**Date:** 06/28/04

Date: Mon, 28 Jun 2004 15:20:20 +0100

On Mon, 28 Jun 2004 09:43:20 +0100, Dave <[recneps.w.divad@elcaro.moc](mailto:recneps.w.divad@elcaro.moc)> wrote:

>  
>  
> *Peter Hucker wrote:*  
>> *Is there an easy way to work out what cheques have cleared and what*  
>> *haven't? For example this is the latest part of my online banking*  
>> *statement <http://www.hucker.plus.com/temp/statement.jpg>, and I'm told*  
>> *that the available balance is £100.32 lower than the account balance*  
>> *(which means £100.32 of paid ins minus paid outs have not cleared). Can*  
>> *anyone see what matches £100.32 in the picture? If so how do you do it?*  
>>  
>> *And no the bank have no idea what's cleared or not, I asked them.*  
>>  
>  
> *There are 18 entries in the list. Match each entry to a bit in an*  
> *18-bit number (e.g. 29.99 corresponds to bit 0).*  
> *Count from 1 to  $2^{18}-1$ , and add up the entries for which the*  
> *corresponding bit in the count variable is 1. (Count paid-in as*  
> *positive and paid-out as negative.)*  
>  
> *If the sum is 100.32 then you know which items have cleared and which*  
> *haven't.*  
> *If you're optimistic about multiple solutions, bail out. If not, don't.*  
> *Shouldn't take too long to run on a modern computer.*

Now that's much less clumsy than the way I was trying to tackle it! Thanks!

When using computers, think binary (slaps self in face).

--

13 parrots and rising <http://www.petersparrots.com>

93 silly video clips <http://www.insanevideoclips.com>

1259 digital photos <http://www.petersphotos.com>

Served from a watercooled dual 3.2GHz silent Athlon with 512GB of watercooled Raid.

A man walks into a bar with a slab of asphalt under his arm and says, "A beer please, and one for