

Response to Section IV Narrative of Activities

The applicant organization, The OEIS Foundation Inc. has been formed as a charitable organization with three main goals:

1. To own the intellectual property known as "The On-Line Encyclopedia of Integer Sequences" (or "OEIS").
2. To maintain the OEIS as an educational service that is freely accessible by the general public.
3. To collect funds in order to carry out the above goals.

Description of the OEIS

The OEIS is the 2009 version of a collection of integer sequences.

A conventional dictionary is a collection of words, together with explanations of their meanings, hints for their pronunciation, pictures illustrating particular words, examples showing how the words have been used in books and newspapers, and so on.

The OEIS is a collection of sequences of numbers (such as 1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 32, 64, 128, ...) together with, for each sequence, a list of items such as:

- the first 10, or 100, or sometimes 500,000 terms of the sequence
- a definition or description of the sequence
- comments explaining further properties of the sequence
- formulae for generating the sequence
- computer programs for generating the sequence
- references to books and articles where the sequence has appeared
- links to web pages on the Internet where the sequence has appeared
- cross-references to related entries in the OEIS

The main use for the OEIS is to identify a number sequence that you have come across, perhaps in your work, while reading a book, or in a quiz, etc. For example, you discover what you think may be a new algorithm for checking that a file of medical records is in the correct order. (Perhaps you are a computer scientist or someone working in information science.)

To handle files of 1, 2, 3, 4, ... records, your algorithm takes 0, 1, 3, 5, 9, 11, 14, 17, 25, ... steps.

How can you check if someone has discovered this algorithm before? You decide to ask the OEIS if this sequence has appeared before in the scientific literature.

You go the OEIS web site, enter the numbers you have calculated, and click "Submit".

History of the OEIS

The collection was begun by N. J. A. Sloane (henceforth, "NJAS") in 1965 when he was a graduate student at Cornell University in Ithaca NY. He had encountered a sequence of numbers while working on his dissertation, namely 1, 8, 78, 944, ... (now entry A435 in the OEIS), and was looking for a formula for the n -th term, in order to determine the rate of growth of the terms.

He noticed that although several books in the Cornell library contained sequences somewhat similar to this, this particular sequence was not mentioned. In order to keep track of the sequences in these books, NJAS started recording them on file cards, which he sorted into lexicographic order.

The sequences were transferred to punched cards in 1967, and were made into a book in 1973 ("A Handbook of Integer Sequences", by NJAS, Academic Press, NY).

NJAS joined AT&T Bell Laboratories in 1969. Following the publication of the book, a large amount of correspondence ensued, with suggestions for further sequences and updates to the existing entries. Many people remarked how useful they found the book, and how surprising it was that no one had published such a collection before.

A second book was published in 1995 and the OEIS continued to grow. In 1996, NJAS launched the "On-Line Encyclopedia of Integer Sequences" on the Internet.

Since then, the collection has grown by at least 10,000 entries per year. As of March 2009 there were over 150,000 entries. If it were to be published in book form today, it would require over 750 volumes, each of at least 500 pages.

Starting in 2002, NJAS added a group of associate editors to help process submissions to the OEIS. However, because they do not have access to the computer where the OEIS is maintained, almost all the work of updating it has been done single-handedly by NJAS. This involves processing 100 or 200 emails every day, and is getting to be beyond what one person can handle.

In 2009, therefore, it was decided to make a drastic change. Later this year, NJAS and the associate editors decided to convert the OEIS into a moderated "wiki" format, somewhat along the lines of the well-known Wikipedia.

Access to the OEIS will be free to everyone.

However, only registered users will be able to suggest new sequences or modifications to existing entries, and these suggestions will not become a permanent part of the OEIS until they have been approved by a member of the Editorial Board.

One of the responsibilities of The OEIS Foundation Inc will be to keep the "wiki" (or, in future years, whatever replaces it) up and running 24 hours a day, seven days a week. This will require maintaining all the many computer programs that analyze queries, format the results from such queries, process suggestions for new sequences, and so on.

It is hoped that the OEIS will survive into the distant future, and the Trustees of The OEIS Foundation Inc are charged with taking "the long view". This will include evolving the medium in which the OEIS is stored when that becomes necessary. Over the past 45 years the medium in which the OEIS has been stored has changed from file cards to punched cards to magnetic tape to magnetic disks, and no doubt further changes will be required in the future.

Collection of contributions and other funds will be necessary for the continued upkeep and management of the OEIS. Many users of the OEIS, professors and other academics, and foundations have expressed interest in supporting the maintenance of the OEIS.

Response to Part V, Line 1a:

Name	Title	Mailing address	Compensation Amount
Neil James Alexander Sloane	President	11 South Adelaide Avenue Highland Park, NJ 08904	none
David L. Applegate	Vice President	626 Prospect St Maplewood, NJ 07040	none
Susanna Stevens Cuyler	Secretary	11 South Adelaide Avenue Highland Park, NJ 08904	none
Antonie Daniel Noe	Treasurer	14025 N.W. Harvest Lane Portland, OR 97229	none
Ray Chandler	Trustee	7000 Briercliff Ct Fort Worth, TX 76132	none
Russ Cox	Trustee	PO Box 1560 Mountain View, CA 94042	none
Ronald L. Graham	Trustee	1555 Coast Walk La Jolla, CA 92037	none
Richard K. Guy	Trustee	Dept. of Math. & Statist., University of Calgary 2500 University Dr NW, Calgary, Alberta, CANADA T2N 1N4	none
David S. Johnson	Trustee	50 Prospect Street Madison, NJ 07940	none
Marc LeBrun	Trustee	345 Park Ave. San Jose, CA 95110-2704	none
Simon Plouffe	Trustee	Château Bois Briand 10 Rue du Bois Briand 44300 Nantes, FRANCE	none

Response to Part V, Line 2a:

The Applicant Organization responded “yes” to Line 2a because the President and Secretary of the Applicant Organization, Neil James Alexander Sloane and Susanna Stevens Cuyler, are married.

Response to Part V, Line 2b:

The Applicant Organization responded “yes” to Line 2b because Neil Sloane, David Applegate and David Johnson are colleagues at AT&T Research Labs.

Response to Part V, Line 3a:

Name	Qualifications	Hours Worked	Duties
Neil James Alexander Sloane	Creator of the OEIS	Several hours per day	President; Updating and maintenance of the OEIS; fundraising
David L. Applegate	Distinguished computer scientist	Several hours per week	Vice President; Maintaining Wiki version of OEIS
Susanna Stevens Cuyler	Expert typist	Several hours per month	Secretary
Antonie Daniel Noe	Long-tim participant in the OEIS	Unknown	Treasurer
Ray Chandler	Long-tim participant in the OEIS	Unknown	Trustee; maintaining and editing Wiki
Russ Cox	Long-tim participant in the OEIS	Unknown	Trustee; maintaining and editing Wiki
Ronald L. Graham	Distinguished mathematician	Unknown	Trustee; general advice; fundraising
Richard K. Guy	Distinguished mathematician	Unknown	Trustee; general advice; fundraising
David S. Johnson	Distinguished computer scientist	Unknown	Trustee; general advice; fundraising
Marc LeBrun	Long-tim participant in the OEIS	Unknown	Trustee; maintaining and editing Wiki
Simon Plouffe	Long-tim participant in the OEIS	Unknown	Trustee; maintaining and editing Wiki

Response to Part V, Line 5a:

The Conflict of Interest policy was adopted by Applicant Organization [will need to adopt and fill this in] See Exhibit C.

Response to Part V, Lines 6(a) and 6(b):

The Applicant Organization responded “No” to Lines 6 (a) and (b) because the Organization does not currently have any paid employees, and does not have any current plans to compensate employees, officers, directors, trustees or highly compensated employees or independent contractors through discretionary payments such as bonuses or revenue-based payments. In the future, however, such payments may be utilized. If so, the Organization will determine the appropriateness of compensation based on a process similar to that used for approval of regular compensation: the reasonableness of the compensation will be evaluated by the trustees in connection with the budget approval process or another process where a determination will be made that the compensation is reasonable and not excessive. Such determinations would be documented.

Response to Part V, Lines 7(a) and (b):

The Applicant Organization responded “No” to Lines 7(a) and (b) because the Organization does not currently and has no current plans to sell or to purchase goods or services from trustees, officers, directors, employees or highly paid independent contractors. However, in the future it is possible that such transactions will occur. If so, the Organization would follow practices to ensure appropriate compensation such as by: negotiating at arms length and determining the appropriateness of compensation for such goods/services; making an evaluation of the fair market value of similar goods/services, and of whether purchasing the goods/services from the trustee, officer, director, employee or highly compensated independent contractor is in the best interests of the Organization.

Response to Part VI, Lines 1a and 1b:

The Applicant Organization was formed to provide public access to the Online Encyclopedia of Integer Sequencing. Access will be provided to individuals and to organizations at no cost.

Response to Part VI, Line 3:

Members of the public who access the OEIS may have business or family relationships with the Trustees of Applicant Organization.

Response to Part VIII, Line 4a:

The Applicant Organization responded “Yes” to several options in Part VIII, Line 4a because at this stage the Applicant Organization does not have a formal fundraising program in place and may in the future undertake any or all of the activities listed in response to 4a.

While future fundraising activities are not yet known, it is likely that the Organization will seek contributions from the public (gifts from individuals), grants from governmental entities, grants from corporate and private foundations, and corporate contributions. The extent of fundraising activities using the internet is unknown and undetermined at this time.

Response to Part VIII, Line 4d:

Applicant Organization will conduct fundraising activities in the State of New Jersey and possibly in other states. Applicant Organization will comply with applicable rules and regulations for conducting fundraising activities in each state in which it conducts such activities.

Response to Part VIII, Line 4e

The Applicant Organization responded “No” to Part VIII, Line 4e because it does not intent to accept any donor advised funds.

Response to Part VIII, Line 10:

The Applicant Organization responded “Yes” to Part VIII, Line 10, because it will own and maintain the Online Encyclopedia of Integer Sequencing and provide it to the public in a moderated wiki format via the internet. The Applicant Organization will not charge fees for use of the OEIS. The intellectual property constituting the OEIS is to be transferred to the Applicant Organization by its creator and owner, the President of the Corporation, at no cost to the Applicant Organization.

Response to Part VIII, Line 11:

The Applicant Organization responded “Yes” to Part VIII, Line 11 because it is possible that at some point in the future the Applicant Organization will accept some or all of the goods/assets listed in Line 11. However, at this point in time, the Applicant Organization has no intentions of accepting such goods/assets on a regular basis, other than those described in the response to part VIII, Line 10, above.

It is likely that should the Applicant Organization accept such goods/assets, acceptance by the Applicant Organization would be subject to a written gift agreement.

Response to Part IX, Line 7:

The Applicant Organization will receive a gift of intellectual property constituting the Online Encyclopedia of Integer Sequencing from its President in order for the Applicant Organization to fulfill its purpose of owning and maintaining the OIES. Determining the monetary value of the intellectual property that constitutes the OEIS is not feasible.

Response to Part IX, Line 23:

2009

Application for tax-exemption	\$300
Web hosting fees	\$2,400
Software package and license	\$2,400
Total	\$5,100

2010 and 2011

Web hosting fees	\$2,400
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EXHIBIT A
ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF
THE OEIS FOUNDATION INC.

EXHIBIT B
BYLAWS OF
THE OEIS FOUNDATION INC.

EXHIBIT C
CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY FOR
THE OEIS FOUNDATION INC.