

# The end of Tiny ToCS is nigh

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## ABSTRACT

Tiny Transactions on Computer Science, or Tiny ToCS, is a recently opened periodical with a publication size limit of 140 characters. Compared to traditional journals, this limit severely constrains the number of syntactically possible publications, let alone semantically meaningful and interesting ones. Through research with discrete number techniques, we found out that in fact authors will eventually hit this limit for relatively small values of "eventually"! Our methodology leverages old wisdom about the characteristics of printable characters in the character set ASCII [2], about computable elementary combinatorics [1], and about the human-pronounceable names of very large numbers in their American English flavour [3].

## BODY

*The upper bound for meaningful distinct Tiny ToCS articles, assuming ASCII encoding, is  $95^{140}$  - just above 7.6 unnonagintillion ( $10^{276}$ ).*

## REFERENCES

- [1] G. Ehrlich. Loopless Algorithms for Generating Permutations, Combinations, and Other Combinatorial Configurations. *Journal of the ACM*, 20(3):500–513, July 1973.
- [2] M. Keary. Printable Characters: How Many? PC Update - The magazine of the Melbourne PC User Group, July 2003.
- [3] O. van Vlijmen. How to name large numbers. Online: <http://home.kpn.nl/vanadovv/BignumberN.html>, June 2003.

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