

NAME

factor – discover prime factors of a number

SYNOPSIS

factor

DESCRIPTION

When *factor* is invoked, it types out 'Enter:' at you. If you type in a positive number less than 2^{56} (about 7.2×10^{16}) it will repeat the number back at you and then its prime factors each one printed the proper number of times. Then it says 'Enter:' again. To exit, feed it an EOT or a delete.

Maximum time to factor is proportional to \sqrt{n} and occurs when n is prime. It takes 1 minute to factor a prime near 10^{13} .

DIAGNOSTICS

'Ouch.' for input out of range or for garbage input.

BUGS