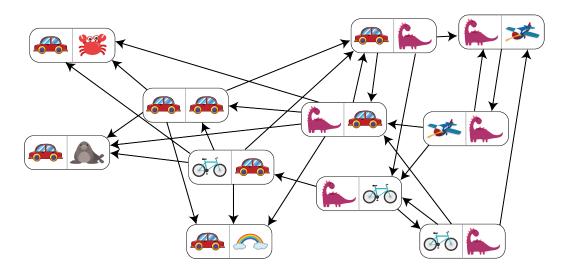


Problem of the Week Problem D Arranging Cards

Delphine has cards that each contain two pictures; one on the left side of the card and one on the right side of the card. Delphine arranges some of these cards in a row according to the following rules.

- 1. The picture on the right side of any card in the row is the same as the picture on the left side of the card to its right.
- 2. Cards can not be rotated.

The following diagram shows all of Delphine's cards. Arrows out of a card indicate the possible card(s) that could be placed to its right.



By following the rules, what is the maximum number of cards Delphine can arrange in a row?

This problem was inspired by a past Beaver Computing Challenge (BCC) problem.