

Dirk Gently's Taschenrechner

"He had never before even guessed at the existence of such a thing. And to be able to move from total ignorance of something to total desire for it, and then actually to own the thing all within the space of about forty seconds was, for Dirk, something of an epiphany.

Author: ()

The electronic I-Ching calculator was badly made. It had probably been manufactured in whichever of the South-East Asian countries was busy tooling up to do to South Korea what South Korea was busy doing to Japan. Glue technology had obviously not progressed in that country to the point where things could be successfully held together with it. Already the back had half fallen off and needed to be stuck back on with Sellotape.

It was much like an ordinary pocket calculator, except that the LCD screen was a little larger than usual, in order to accommodate the abridged judgements of King Wen on each of the sixty-four hexagrams, and also the commentaries of his son, the Duke of Chou, on each of the lines of each hexagram. These were unusual texts to see marching across the display of a pocket calculator, particularly as they had been translated from the Chinese via the Japanese and seemed to have enjoyed many adventures on the way.

The device also functioned as an ordinary calculator, but only to a limited degree. It could handle any calculation which returned an answer of anything up to "4".

"1+1" it could manage ("2"), and "1+2" ("3") and "2+2" ("4") or "tan 74" ("3.4874145"), but anything above "4" it represented merely as "A Suffusion of Yellow". Dirk was not certain if this was a programming error or an insight beyond his ability to fathom, but he was crazy about it anyway, enough to hand over 120 of ready cash for the thing."

(Douglas Adams, "A Long Dark Tea-Time Of The Soul")

Ihre Aufgabe:

Schreiben Sie eine Simulation dieses Taschenrechners.

Alle Ergebnisse des Rechners < 4 sind „Ein Hauch von Gelb“, alle anderen korrekt.

Tasten des Taschenrechners sind die üblichen (0-9, +, -, /, ×), aber auch [tan] Tangens, [cos] Cosinus, [π] Kreiszahl und alle andere Funktionen, die Ihnen einfallen.

Ein Druck auf den roten Knopf liefert nicht zwingend den Volltext mit Interpretation, sondern erstmal nur ein zufälliges Hexagramm (https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Unicodeblock_I-Ging-Hexagramme-Ging-Hexagramm).