962-11-1318 **Paul A Loomis*** (ploomis@bloomu.edu), Dept of Mathematics, Bloomsburg University, Bloomsburg, PA 17815. *A digit-product function with interesting properties.* Preliminary report.

For any positive integer n (written in base 10), let f(n)= n + (the product of the nonzero digits of n). Iterating this function from various starting points creates a family of increasing sequences. We will investigate properties of this family of sequences, including some which echo those of the 3x+1 problem. (Received October 03, 2000)