1689. Partitioning Into Minimum Number Of Deci-Binary Numbers

Medium Greedy String

Leetcode Link

Problem Description

This LeetCode problem defines a term "deci-binary" which refers to a number that comprises only `0` and `1` digits. A deci-binary number does not contain any digits other than `0` and `1` and should not have leading zeros. The task is to determine the minimum quantity of deci-binary numbers that can be summed together to equal a given positive decimal number `n`. The input `n` is provided as a string representation of a decimal integer, and the expected output is an integer representing the minimum number of deci-binary numbers required to sum up to `n`.

Intuition

The intuition behind the solution is that the minimum number of deci-binary numbers required is determined by the largest digit in the original number `n`. Since deci-binary numbers can only have the digits `0` or `1`, and no leading zeroes are allowed, each deci-binary number can only contribute a `1` towards a single decimal place in the sum.

To build the original number `n` using deci-binary numbers, you would start by placing a `1` in the position of the largest digit of `n`, and then subtract `1` from this digit. You would repeat this process, placing a `1` in the position of the current largest digit after subtraction, until all the digits in the original number are reduced to `0`.

For example, if `n = "123"`, we would need a `1` in the hundreds place, tens place, and ones place to start, and then continue placing `1`s in the tens and ones place until the number is exhausted. It would take three deci-binary numbers to reduce the hundreds place, two to reduce the tens, and three to reduce the ones place, resulting in a total of three deci-binary numbers (`3` being the largest digit in `n`).

Therefore, the solution is as simple as finding the maximum digit in the string `n`, as this will dictate how many times a `1` needs to be placed in the position of this digit across all deci-binary numbers. The Python code `int(max(n))` efficiently finds the largest digit and converts it to an integer, which is the minimum number of deci-binary numbers needed.

Solution Approach

The implementation of the solution is remarkably straightforward and doesn't require complex algorithms or data structures. It also doesn't involve a pattern recognition exercise typical for many combinatorial problems; rather, it simply relies on a characteristic of the given decimal number—the value of its highest digit.

The core of the solution approach lies in understanding that, since we can only use deci-binary numbers (numbers with digits `0` or `1` only), the maximum number one such number can contribute to any digit place of the original number `n` is `1`. That's because having any digit greater than `1` would violate the definition of deci-binary.

The algorithm is as follows:

1. Iterate through each character in the string `n`. This represents each digit of the decimal number.
2. Convert each character to an integer.
3. Keep track of the maximum integer value found during the iteration.

Since we are given the number in the form of a string, no conversion to a number is needed to find the maximum digit value. This is because the characters `'0'` to `'9'` have increasing ASCII values, so comparing them as characters yields the same result as comparing their numerical values.

In terms of the solution code provided:

```
class Solution:
    def minPartitions(self, n: str) -> int:
        return int(max(n))
```

`max(n)` gets the character with the highest ASCII value in the string `n`, which corresponds to the highest digit in the decimal number. Converting this character back to an integer with `int()` gives us the minimum number of deci-binary numbers needed. The reason for this conversion is that the `max()` function would give us the maximum character (i.e., digit in the form of a string), but the problem requires us to return an integer.

No additional data structures are required because we only need to determine the maximum digit, which is a single value, and no additional computation or storage is necessary. The algorithm's time complexity is O(m), where m is the number of digits in the string representation of the number `n`, because it requires a single pass through all the digits to find the maximum one. The space complexity is O(1) as it only uses a constant amount of additional memory.

Example Walkthrough

Let's illustrate the solution approach using the example `n = "82734"`. We want to find the minimum number of deci-binary numbers that sum up to this number.

1. The first step is to examine each digit of `n`. We check `8`, `2`, `7`, `3`, and `4`.
2. We find that the largest digit in this number is `8`.
3. Knowing that a deci-binary number only consists of `0`s and `1`s, the largest number it can contribute to any single digit is `1`.
4. Therefore, we would need at least eight deci-binary numbers to contribute to the digit `8` in the thousands place.
5. No other digit in the number `82734` is larger than `8`, so no more than eight deci-binary numbers will be needed for any other digit.
6. Hence, the answer is `8`, which indicates that eight deci-binary numbers would be enough to add up to `82734`.

To visualize this, we can represent the deci-binary numbers and their sum like so:

```
Deci-binary numbers that sum to 82734:
 11111
 11111
 11111
 11111
 11111
 11111
 11111
 11111
 10000
 --------
 82734
```

As you can see, each deci-binary number contributes a `1` to every position but in the last deci-binary number, we only need to contribute to the thousands place to make the sum equal to `82734`. It takes eight such numbers to match the maximum digit `8` in the original number.

By executing the line `int(max(n))`, we take the maximum digit character, which is `'8'`, and convert it into an integer, giving us the final answer, `8`.

Python Solution

```
class Solution:
    def minPartitions(self, n: str) -> int:
        # Find the maximum digit in the string representation of the number
        max_digit = max(n)

        # Convert the maximum digit from string to integer
        min_partitions = int(max_digit)

        # Return the minimum number of partitions required
        return min_partitions

# Explanation: The provided method minPartitions is used to find the minimum number of
# decimal digits needed to write down the number n in such a way that each digit is
# used only once. The input is a string representation of a non-negative integer n,
# and the method returns an integer representing the answer. The logic simply finds
# the maximum digit in the string, as this will be the minimum number needed. For
# example, for input '82734', the maximum digit is '8', so you would need at least
# 8 partitions (since the number must be decomposable into a sum of numbers containing
# each digit at most once).

```

Java Solution

```
class Solution {
    // Method to find the minimum number of partitions required
    public int minPartitions(String n) {
        // Initialize the variable to store the maximum digit in the string
        int maxDigit = 0;

        // Loop through each character of the string representing the number
        for (int i = 0; i < n.length(); ++i) {
            // Find the numeric value of the current digit
            int currentDigit = n.charAt(i) - '0';

            // Update maxDigit if the current digit is greater than the maxDigit so far
            maxDigit = Math.max(maxDigit, currentDigit);

            // If the maximum digit is 9, we can return it immediately as it's the highest possible digit
            if (maxDigit == 9) {
                break;
            }
        }

        // Return the maximum digit as the minimum number of partitions required
        return maxDigit;
    }
}

```

C++ Solution

```
class Solution {
public:
    // Function to calculate the minimum number of decimal digits
    // one must add to decompose the given string of digits
    int minPartitions(string n) {
        // Initialize the answer to zero
        int maxDigit = 0;

        // Iterate over each character in the string
        for (const char& digitChar : n) {
            // Convert the character to the corresponding integer digit
            int digit = digitChar - '0';

            // Update the maximum digit found so far
            maxDigit = std::max(maxDigit, digit);
        }

        // Return the highest digit as the minimum number of partitions needed
        return maxDigit;
    }
};

```

Typescript Solution

```
// Function to find the minimum number of deci-binary numbers
// needed such that they sum up to the string n.
// A deci-binary number is a number base-10 that each of its digits
// is either 0 or 1 without any leading zeros.
function minPartitions(n: string): number {
    // Split the input string into an array of its characters,
    // then map each character to its integer representation
    let digits = n.split('').map(digit => parseInt(digit));

    // Find the maximum digit in the array, as this will be the
    // minimum number of deci-binary numbers needed
    let maxDigit = Math.max(...digits);

    // Return the maximum digit, which represents the answer
    return maxDigit;
}

```

Time and Space Complexity

Time Complexity

The time complexity of the function is determined by finding the maximum digit in the string `n`. Since the `max()` function iterates through each character in the string once, the time complexity is `O(d)`, where `d` is the length of the input string `n`.

Space Complexity

The space complexity of the function is `O(1)`. This is because it only uses a fixed amount of additional space to store the maximum digit found in the string, regardless of the length of the input.