

Problem Statement:

In England the currency is made up of pound, £, and pence, p, and there are eight coins in general circulation:

1p, 2p, 5p, 10p, 20p, 50p, £1 (100p) and £2 (200p).

It is possible to make £2 in the following way:

$1 \times £1 + 1 \times 50p + 2 \times 20p + 1 \times 5p + 1 \times 2p + 3 \times 1p$

How many different ways can £2 be made using any number of coins?

Solution:

Based on the possible ways mentioned in the problem, I created a sequence of combinations of currencies available in general circulation.

=> For 1P

combination

=> $1 * 1p$

combination

=> $2 * 1p$

combination

=> $3 * 1p$

...and that goes for other value pence(5p, 20p...)

=> For 2P

combination

$$\Rightarrow 1 * 2p$$

combination

$$\Rightarrow 2 * 1p$$

combination

$$\Rightarrow (2 * 1p) + 1p$$

At the end (as we go higher with the currencies-> 5p, 10p) I realize ultimately we would end up in the same combination once we start breaking down these coins into 1penny , 2 pennies etc.

For example:

\Rightarrow For 5P

combination

$$\Rightarrow 5p$$

combination

$$\Rightarrow 2 \times 2p + 2 \times 2p$$

combination

$$\Rightarrow 5 \times 1p$$

combination

$$\Rightarrow 1 \times 2p + 1 \times 2p + 1p$$

combination

$$\Rightarrow 2 \times 1p + 1p$$

With this I thought of iterating over the general circulation currency available that would help determine whether there is a combination possible.

I started with storing all currency in array :

```

var currency= [1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 200];
var combinations = 0;

for (var i of currency) {
    // iterate over the currency
}

```

Based on the combination list, I thought of iterating over every currency one by one starting with smallest(i.e 1) and then incrementing it as we go.

(I recollect Depth first search uses similar approach- where we traverse one side of the tree- go deep through it until we reach the last element and then come back to the top.)

I tried using similar approach here- where we iterate through one set of currencies until we reach to the end of the currencies combination.

however I had to look up to see the DFS wiki page to see possible params it takes for iteration.

I came up with this:

Reference:

<https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/depth-first-search-or-dfs-for-a-graph/>

```

if (start - i >= 0 && i <= end) {
    combinations = combinations + getCombinations    (start
- i, i); // recursive function

```

```
}
```

Final solution:

```
function getCombinations(start, end) {  
  if (start === 0){  
    return 1; // only 1 combination present – i.e with itself  
  }  
  
  var currency = [1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 200];  
  let combinations = 0;  
  for (var i of currency) { // iterate over the coins  
    if (start - i >= 0 && i <= end) {  
  
      combinations = combinations + getCombinations (start –  
i, i); // recursive  
    }  
  }  
  return combinations;  
}
```

Sources:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Depth-first_search

<https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/depth-first-search-or-dfs-for-a-graph/>

HackerRank discussion board to check if I was thinking correctly or completely in wrong direction

Sample Out:

<https://jsfiddle.net/L2yxh1m3/2/>

Time taken:

~8-10 hours