

Evaluate Division

For this problem we can model it as a graph traversal problem.

Key Insight:

- Each equation $A_i / B_i = \text{value}$ can be seen as a directed edge:
 - $A_i \rightarrow B_i$ with weight value
 - $B_i \rightarrow A_i$ with weight $1 / \text{value}$
- To solve a query C_j / D_j :
 - Check if both variables exist; otherwise return -1.0.
 - Perform a graph traversal (DFS or BFS) to find a path from C_j to D_j .
 - Multiply the weights along the path to get the result.

Steps:

- Build Graph:
 - Use a hash map where each variable maps to neighbors and their weights.
 - Example: $a / b = 2.0 \rightarrow$ edges: $a \rightarrow b (2.0)$
 $b \rightarrow a (0.5)$
- Query Evaluation:
 - For each query (start, end):
 - If start or end is missing, return -1.0.
 - If start == end, return 1.0.
 - Otherwise, use DFS/BFS to find a path:
 - Keep a visited set to avoid cycles.
 - Multiply edge weights along the path.
- Return results for all queries.

Complexity:

- Time: building graph: $O(N)$ where N = number of equations
- each query: $O(V+E)$ worst case traversal (but small constraint: max 20 equations).
- Space: $O(V+E)$ for graph and recursion / queue.