

Problem 20. $n!$ means $n \times (n - 1) \times \dots \times 3 \times 2 \times 1$.

For example $10! = 10 \times 9 \times \dots \times 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 3628800$,

and the sum of all digits of $10!$ is $3 + 6 + 2 + 8 + 8 + 0 + 0 = 27$.

Find the sum of digits in the number $100!$

Knowledge required How to multiply two numbers using elementary school method

Solution Outline This problem can be solved in programming languages that support Big-Int library like Java, Python etc. The brute-force solution that I wrote works under 1sec. But let us understand how Big-Int multiplication might be implemented underneath. The basic strategy is to have a dynamically growing list which has only 1 at the start, now when we want to multiply it with a number we will follow the elementary school multiplication as we multiply from 1 to n the list will grow and finally we just sum the elements in the list.

```
1 factNum = [1]
2
3 def multiply(x):
4     # multiplies the number represented
5     # as a list with x using the elementary
6     # school multiplication method
7     carry = 0
8     for i in range(len(factNum)):
9         current = carry + factNum[i] * x
10        factNum[i] = current % 10
11        carry = current // 10
12
13    # if carry is left append it
14    while carry:
15        factNum.append(carry % 10)
16        carry //= 10
17
18 N = 10000
19 for i in range(1, N):
20     multiply(i)
21
22 digSum = sum(el for el in factNum)
23 print(digSum)
```
