

Trailing zeros in Factorial:

$$\text{I/P} = n = 5$$

$$1 \times 2 \times 3 \times 4 \times 5 = 120$$

$$\text{O/P} = 1$$

$$\text{I/P} = n = 10$$

$$1 \times 2 \times 3 \times \dots \times 9 \times 10$$

$$= 3628800$$

$$\text{O/P} = 2$$

$$\text{I/P} = n = 100$$

$$\text{O/P} = 24$$

Mathematical logic:

first we must understand:

i) How are zeros made:

A trailing zero is produced by multiplying a number by 10.

$$\text{Ex: } 9 \times 10 = 90 \quad \text{one trailing zero}$$

ii) Prime factors:

$$\text{Since } 10 = 2 \times 5$$

every pair of prime factors (2,5) in the factorial expansion adds one trailing zero.

Ex:  $5!$

$$1 \times 2 \times 3 \times 4 \times \underline{5}$$

one pair of  $(2, 5)$   
So 1 trailing zero

$$\Rightarrow 120$$

$\hookrightarrow$  1 trailing zero

$$10!$$

$$1 \times \underline{2} \times 3 \times 4 \times \underline{5} \times 6 \times 7 \times 8 \times 9 \times \boxed{10}$$

$\downarrow$   
 $\underline{2} \times \underline{5}$

two pairs of  $(2, 5)$  So two trailing zeros

$$10! = 36288 \underline{00}$$

2 trailing zeros

Hence logic is proved.

(ii) Limiting Factor:

In any factorial there are plenty  
of plenty of even numbers (multiples of 2)  
but multiples of 5 are much rarer.

Ex: In  $20!$

$$2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20$$

i.e. multiples of 2

But only  $2^3$  multiples of 5 ( $10, 20$ )

Hence factors of 5 are bottleneck

We only need to count how many times 5 appears as a factor in the numbers from 1 to  $n$ . The number of 2s will always suffice to match them.

Trap:

We might think we just need to divide  $n$  by 5 to find the multiples of 5.

However some numbers contribute more than one 5

EX:

5, 10, 15, 20  $\rightarrow$  Each contribute one 5  
( $1 \times 5, 2 \times 5, 3 \times 5, 4 \times 5$ )

25 ( $5 \times 5$ )  $\rightarrow$  contribute 2 5's

125 ( $5 \times 5 \times 5$ )  $\rightarrow$  contribute 3 5's

So Count =  $\left\lfloor \frac{n}{5} \right\rfloor + \left\lfloor \frac{n}{25} \right\rfloor + \left\lfloor \frac{n}{125} \right\rfloor + \dots$

Code :

```
int trailingZeros (int n)
{
    int count = 0;
    for (int i = 5 ; i <= n ; i = i * 5)
    {
        count = count + n/i ;
    }
    return count ;
}
```

Code Tracing :

Since in our logic

to get count we use the formula

$$\left\lfloor \frac{n}{5} \right\rfloor + \left\lfloor \frac{n}{25} \right\rfloor + \left\lfloor \frac{n}{125} \right\rfloor + \dots$$

we will implement this formula  
using for loop

for (int i = 5 ; i <= n ; i = i \* 5)

i) we will start initialization with 5

ii) Instead of incrementing by 1 we  
will increment by multiply 5

next power of 5

i.e.  $i = 5$  (First initialization)

$$i = i \times 5$$

$$(5 \times 5) = 25$$

$$i = 25 \times 5$$

$$= 125$$

ii) Condition:  $i \leq n$

The loop continues as long as the power of 5 is less than or equal to  $n$

EX: If  $n = 14$

$\times 9 \times 10$

$$i \leq n$$

2

$$5 \leq 14 \checkmark$$

$$25 \leq 14 \times$$

So loop will run one time

If  $n = 4$

$$i \leq n$$

$$5 \leq 4 \times$$

Condition is not satisfied so loop will not be executed

In that case we have initialized Count = 0 in the code

Count will remain as 0

calculation part:

Inside the for loop

$$\text{count} = \text{count} + n/i$$

Initially  $\text{count} = 0$

for first iteration  $i = 5$

$n/5$  count how many numbers

contains at least one factor of 5

for second iteration  $i = 25$

$n/25$  counts how many numbers

contains second factor of 5

And this goes on until the  
condition  $i \leq n$  is  
satisfied.

Ex 1:

$$n = 14$$

$$\text{count} = 0$$

$$i = 5$$

1st Iteration

Second Iteration

$$n = 14$$

$$5 \leq 14 \quad \checkmark$$

$$5 \times 5 \leq 14 \quad \times$$

$$C = 0 + 14/5$$

condition false

$$C = 0 + 2$$

loop ends

$$C = 2$$

$$\text{count} = 2$$

EX 2:

$$n = 100$$

$$\text{Count} = \cancel{0} \cancel{20} 24$$

$$i = 5$$

$$n = 100$$

1st

$$5 \leq 100 \checkmark$$

$$C = 0 + \frac{100}{5}$$

$$= 20$$

2nd

$$25 \leq 100 \checkmark$$

$$C = 20 + \frac{\cancel{100}}{\cancel{25}}$$

$$= 24$$

3rd

$$125 \leq 100 \times$$

Loop ends

$$\text{Count} = 24$$