



NOTES on "Remove Digits" (DP + Recursion + Memoization)



Problem Summary

Tumhe ek number n diya hota hai.

Har step me tum n ka koi ek non-zero digit (jaise 1,2,3,4,5...9) subtract kar sakte ho.

Goal:

👉 **Minimum steps** find karo to make the number **0**.

Example:

$n = 27$

Digits: 2,7

$27 \rightarrow 20 \rightarrow 18 \rightarrow 10 \rightarrow 9 \rightarrow 0$ (5 steps)



Code Explanation



1. `getdigits(n)`

Ye function n ke andar se **non-zero digits** nikaal kar vector me daal deta hai.

Working:

- $n \% 10$ se last digit milti hai.
- Agar digit 0 nahi ho \rightarrow vector me push.
- Fir `$n = n/10$` karke next digit.

Example:

$n = 4057$

Digits $\rightarrow \{7, 5, 4\}$

◆ 2. Memoization Array **memo**

memo[n] store karega:

👉 **minimum steps required to make $n \rightarrow 0$**

Initial values $\rightarrow -1$ means not calculated yet.

◆ 3. **f(n)** — Main Recursion + DP

Base Case:

```
if(n == 0) return 0;
```

0 ko 0 banane ke zero operations chahiye.

Memoization Check:

```
if(memo[n] != -1) return memo[n];
```

Agar answer pehle se calculated hai \rightarrow directly return.

Main Logic:

```
vector<int> dp = getdigits(n);  
int result = INT_MAX;  
  
for each digit d in dp:  
    result = min(result, 1 + f(n - d))
```

Har digit subtract karke dekho

\rightarrow jo bhi minimum steps deta hai wahi answer.

Finally store:

```
return memo[n] = result;
```

◆ 4. `main()`

- n input lete hain.
- Memo (size n+1) ko -1 se initialize.
- f(n) call karke print.

Time Complexity

- Har number 1 se n tak sirf **once** calculate hota hai.
- Har step me approx 1–9 digits check.

👉 **$O(n \times \text{digits}) \approx O(9n) \rightarrow O(n)$**

(kaafi fast hai)

Final Notes

- ✓ Problem digit DP + memoization ka classic example hai
- ✓ Har step me number ka non-zero digit subtract hota hai
- ✓ Memoization guarantee karta hai ki har state ek hi baar solve hogi